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Aerobic Pd-Catalyzed sp^3 C–H Olefination: A Route to Both N-Heterocyclic Scaffolds and Alkenes

J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2011**, 133, 6541–6544.

Pd-Catalyzed Pyridine-Directed Aerobic Olefination of Unactivated sp^3 C–H Sites

$\text{R}^1 = \text{Ph, Me, OMe, CF}_3$
 $\text{R}^2 = \text{CO}_2\text{Et, CO}_2\text{Bu, CO}_2\text{Bn, CO}_2\text{H, CONMe}_2, \text{COEt}$
 $\text{X} = \text{OAc, OTf, BF}_4$

Selected examples:

Significance: A new palladium/polyoxometalate-catalyzed aerobic olefination of unactivated sp^3 C–H bonds has been developed. Nitrogen-containing heterocycles act as directing groups and the products undergo reversible intramolecular Michael addition to form bicyclic nitrogen-containing scaffolds.

Comment: The cationic bicyclic products undergo further synthetic transformations. For example, PtO_2 -catalyzed hydrogenation yields piperidines, and reduction with NaBH_4 gives 1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridines. The pyridinium products can also be converted into the corresponding alkenes under basic conditions.

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Synfacts 2011, 7, 0765–0765 Published online: 17.06.2011
DOI: 10.1055/s-0030-1260502; **Reg-No.:** P06911SF