

## Palladium-Catalyzed Coupling of Pyrazoles with 2,6-Dibromopyridine

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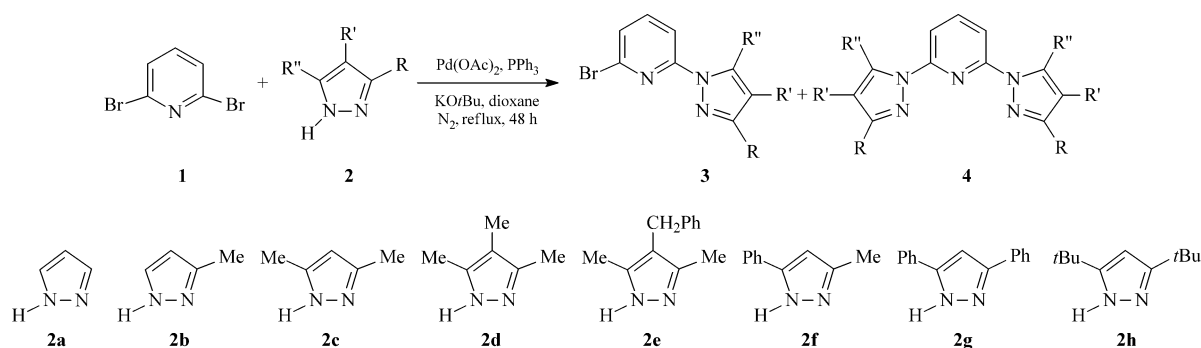
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A rich chemistry involving pyrazoles<sup>[1]</sup> and pyrazolato ligands<sup>[2]</sup> has evolved since pyrazoles were first prepared in 1968<sup>[3]</sup>, due to the potential bioactivity of pyrazole derivatives and their use as ligands. Phosphorus-based ligands play a very important role in organic synthesis and catalysis. Recently, new classes of ligands with donor atoms other than phosphorus, particularly nitrogen donor ligands, have been paid more and more attention because phosphine ligands easily undergo degradation, and organometallic complexes bearing nitrogen donor ligands show high activity. 2,6-Bis(*N*-pyrazolyl)pyridines (**4**) were first

prepared from the reactions of 2,6-dihalopyridines and potassium pyrazolates under harsh conditions<sup>[4]</sup>, and have been paid little attention<sup>[5]</sup>. The CuI-catalyzed *N*-arylation of 3-bromopyridine and aromatic halides with **2a**~**2c** or other less bulky pyrazoles was reported in Ref[6].

In order to synthesize **4**, the coupling reactions of 2,6-dibromopyridine (**1**) and pyrazoles (**2**) catalyzed by Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> in the presence of a base were studied under the mild conditions, and the preliminary results are reported here, the synthesis route used is shown in Scheme 1.



Scheme 1 Synthesis of 2,6-bis(*N*-pyrazolyl)pyridines

Pyrazoles **2a**~**2h** were used, and the steric hindrance of the substituents on the corresponding pyrazolato ring follows the order: **2a** < **2b** < **2c** < **2d** < **2e** < **2f** < **2g** < **2h**. Using Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> as the catalyst and PPh<sub>3</sub> as the ligand, **1** reacted with **2** in the presence of the base, potassium *tert*-butoxide, in dioxane at the refluxing temperature of 102 °C for 48 h. Compounds **3** and/or **4** were collected by silica gel column chromatography.

Table 1 shows the coupling result of **1** and **2** in the molar ratio of 1:2.4. Surprisingly, **4** was the minor product in the presence of the catalyst except that **2a** was used, but it was the major product in the most cases without catalyst. In the case of **2a**, **4** was the major product with the yield of 69.2%. In other cases, **3** was the major product. It is noteworthy that the most steric pyrazole **2h** did not react with **1** to form **3** nor **4**, and the second most steric pyrazole **2g**

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**Table 1** Coupling of compounds **1** and **2** in the molar ratio of 1:2.4

Pyrazole	With catalyst <sup>a</sup>		Without catalyst	
	Y( <b>3</b> )/%	Y( <b>4</b> )/%	Y( <b>3</b> )/%	Y( <b>4</b> )/%
<b>2a</b>	28.9 <sup>b</sup>	69.2 <sup>b</sup>	45.5	54.5
<b>2b</b>	64.0 <sup>c</sup>	35.2 <sup>c</sup>	36.1 <sup>c</sup>	62.5 <sup>c</sup>
<b>2c</b>	57.4 <sup>b</sup>	34.7 <sup>b</sup>	36.8	54.1
<b>2d</b>	58.3 <sup>b</sup>	30.3 <sup>b</sup>	40.2	59.2
<b>2e</b>	66.3	25.0	42.7	54.8
<b>2f</b>	64.9	29.6	58.3	41.6
<b>2g</b>	28.6	0	32.9	0
<b>2h</b>	0	0	0	0

<sup>a</sup> 10mol% Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> and 20mol% PPh<sub>3</sub> were used unless stated otherwise.

<sup>b</sup> 5mol% Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> and 10mol% PPh<sub>3</sub> were used.

<sup>c</sup> Two regioisomers were detected by <sup>1</sup>H NMR.

The yield was calculated on the basis of compound **1**.

Reaction conditions: *n*(**1**) = 2.0 mmol, *n*(**2**) = 4.8 mmol, *n*(KOtBu) = 5.0 mmol, V(dioxane) = 10 ml, *θ* = 102 °C, *t* = 48 h, the same below unless stated otherwise.

only gave the mono-substituted product **3** with low yield. Without the presence of Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>/PPh<sub>3</sub>, **4** was the major product except in the cases of **2f**~**2g**.

The coupling of **1** and **2** in the molar ratio of 1:1 (shown in Table 2) selectively produced **3** with high

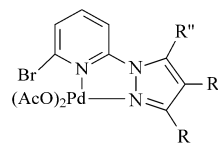
**Table 2** Coupling of compounds **1** and **2** in the molar ratio of 1:1

Pyrazole	With catalyst <sup>a</sup>		Without catalyst	
	Y( <b>3</b> )/%	Y( <b>4</b> )/%	Y( <b>3</b> )/%	Y( <b>4</b> )/%
<b>2a</b>	72.6 <sup>b</sup>	2.1 <sup>b</sup>	72.8	5.1
<b>2b</b>	76.0 <sup>c</sup>	trace	66.3 <sup>c</sup>	trace
<b>2c</b>	41.9 <sup>b</sup>	trace	68.7	trace
<b>2d</b>	53.7 <sup>b</sup>	trace	56.8	trace
<b>2e</b>	43.1	trace	59.3	trace
<b>2f</b>	76.0	trace	82.3	trace
<b>2g</b>	11.4	0	19.1	0
<b>2h</b>	0	0	0	0

Reaction conditions: *n*(**1**) = 2.0 mmol, *n*(**2**) = 2.0 mmol, *n*(KOtBu) = 2.0 mmol.

yield and only a small or trace amount of **4** was detected in the reaction mixtures. During the reaction, both the coordination of the N-H of **2** and C-Br of **1** or **3** to the metal center led to the coupling of **1** and **2** to form **3**, and then **3** and **2** to form **4**, subsequently, the pyrazolate anions, which generated from the competitive deprotonation of the N-H of **2** by the potassium *tert*-butoxide, attacked **1** and/or **3**, to give **3** and/or **4**, respectively.

The possible formation of **5** by the reaction of Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> and **3** as shown in Scheme 2 decreased the coordination of the N-H of **2** and C-Br of **3** to the metal, which increased the steric hindrance around the C-Br bond, and thus inhibited the catalytic activity of the Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>/PPh<sub>3</sub> system.

**Scheme 2** Structure of compound **5**

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## 钯催化下吡啶与 2,6-二溴吡啶的偶联反应

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**摘要:** 在相对温和的反应条件以及 PPh<sub>3</sub> 和 KOtBu 存在的情况下, Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> 催化吡啶与 2,6-二溴吡啶(摩尔比 1:2.4)的偶联反应主要生成单吡啶基取代的 2-溴-6-吡啶基吡啶。在无 Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>/PPh<sub>3</sub> 存在的情况下, 则主要生成双吡啶基取代的 2,6-二吡啶基吡啶。Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> 与 2-溴-6-吡啶基吡啶反应生成的配合物中间体可能抑制了双吡啶基取代产物的生成, 从而影响产物分布。

**关键词:** 钯, 吡啶, 2,6-二溴吡啶, 偶联, 叔丁醇钾