Palladium-Catalyzed Annulation of Arylalkynes with Norbornenes via the C–H Bond Cleavage

(¹Graduate School of Engineering, Osaka University, ²ICS-OTRI, Osaka University, ³Faculty of Engineering, Kindai University) Osakura Takahashi, ¹Mamoru Tobisu, ^{1,2} Yusuke Ano³ **Keywords**: Palladium Catalyst; Alkyne; Cycloaddition; C–H Bond Activation; Norbornene

The catalytic annulation of phenylacetylene derivatives with alkenes is a straightforward and useful method for constructing ring structures of diverse sizes, depending on the reaction site of the phenylacetylene. Catalytic (4+2) cycloaddition of phenylacetylenes with alkenes to form six-membered rings has been extensively studied as intramolecular reactions employing gold or silver catalysts. Miura also reported a rhodium-catalyzed (4+2) cycloaddition of diphenylacetylene with norbornene or maleimide, providing the dihydronaphthalene derivatives.¹ In contrast, catalytic (3+2) cycloadditions between phenylacetylenes and alkenes, which yield a five-membered ring, have been less explored. For example, Catellani reported a palladium-catalyzed three-component cascade reaction of diphenylacetylene, norbornene, and aryl halides.² Subsequent reports of catalytic (3+2) cycloaddition also required halogenated substrates.³ Herein, we will present a palladium-catalyzed (3+2) cycloaddition reaction of phenylacetylene derivatives with norbornene via *ortho*-C-H activation, in which no extra halogen group is needed.

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