H. TOKUYAMA, S. YOKOSHIMA, T. YAMASHITA, T. FUKUYAMA* (THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO, JAPAN)

A Novel Ketone Synthesis by a Palladium-Catalyzed Reaction of Thiol Esters and Organozinc Reagents *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1998**, 39, 3189–3192, DOI: 10.1016/S0040-4039(98)00456-0.

The Fukuyama Cross-Coupling Reaction

Proposed catalytic cycle:

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathsf{PdCl_2}(\mathsf{PPh_3})_2 \\ \downarrow (\mathsf{slow}) \\ \mathsf{Pd^0L_2} \\ \mathsf{L-Pd^{\parallel}-COR^1} \\ \mathsf{R^3} \\ \mathsf{R^3-Pd^{\parallel}-COR^1} \\ \mathsf{R^3Znl} \\ \end{array}$$

Selected examples:

Significance: Fukuyama and co-workers reported a palladium-catalyzed cross-coupling between thioesters and organozinc reagents to afford the corresponding ketone products. The reaction proceeds under mild conditions, shows good functional group tolerance, and affords access to the product in excellent yields.

Comment: The reaction tolerates the presence of sensitive functional groups within the thioester, including aldehydes, ketones, acetates, and even aryl bromides/chlorides. The selectivity supports a faster rate of oxidation into the C–S bond, versus oxidative addition into the aryl halides, or nucleophilic addition to aldehydes.

Review: J. Lou, Q. Wang, P. Wu, H. Wang, Y.-G. Zhou, Z. Yu *Chem. Soc. Rev.* **2020**, *49*, 4307–4359.

SYNFACTS Contributors: Mark Lautens, Randy Sanichar Synfacts 2021, 17(05), 0541 Published online: 20.04.2021 **DOI:** 10.1055/s-0040-1719710; **Reg-No.:** L03521SF

Metals in Synthesis

Key words

palladium catalysis

Fukuyama crosscoupling

thioesters

alkylzinc

