

Rh(III)-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling Reaction of 8-Methylquinolines with Maleimides

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Abstract : Transition-metal-catalyzed C-H bond activation and its subsequent functionalization has been one of the most attractive topics in organic synthesis because of its remarkable potential for atom economy and environmental sustainability. In this addition, a variety of C(sp²)-H functionalization has been developed under metal catalysis in the past decade. Recently, much attention has been moved towards the C(sp³)-H functionalization events, which continue to be a challenging issue. In this area, directing group assisted sp³ C-H functionalization has been explored by use of amides, carboxylic acids, oximes, N-heterocycles, and etc. In particular, 8-methylquinolines have been found as good substrates for sp³ C-H functionalization due to its ability to form cyclometalated complexes. Succinimides have been recognized as privileged structural cores found in a number of bioactive natural products, pharmaceuticals, and functional materials. Furthermore, the reduced derivatives such as pyrrolidines and γ -lactams have been also found in a large number of pharmaceutical relevant molecules, thus making them one of the most important and promising compounds. We herein describe the first C(sp³)-H activation of 8-methylquinolines and subsequent functionalization with maleimides to afford various succinimide derivatives.

Keywords : C(sp³)-H activation, 8-methylquinolines, maleimides, succinimides

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