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ARTICLE TYPE

Polystyrene resin supported palladium(0) (Pd@PR) nanocomposite mediated regioselective synthesis of 4-aryl-1-alkyl/(2-haloalkyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazoles and their *N*-vinyl triazole derivatives from terminal alkynes‡

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An efficient general methodology has been developed for sequential one-pot synthesis of 4-aryl-1-alkyl-1H-1,2,3-10 triazoles influenced by polystyrene resin supported palladium(0) (Pd@PR) nanocomposite as heterogeneous catalyst. The present work particularly emphasizes on the synthesis of 4-aryl-1-(2-haloalkyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazoles through the selective mono-azidation of 1,2-dihaloethane and 15 subsequent Pd@PR mediated 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition with terminal aryl alkynes. Potassium carbonate promoted dehydrohalogenation of synthesized 4-aryl-1-(2-haloalkyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazoles gave the corresponding N-vinyl derivatives (often used as building block for polymers) which further 20 utilized in the synthesis of 4-aryl-1-(2-arylalkenyl)-1H-1,2,3triazoles following Pd@PR catalyzed Heck coupling approach. Furthermore, microwave assisted one pot dehydrochlorination and Heck strategy was adopted to afford 4-phenyl-1-styryl-1H-1,2,3-triazole under Pd@PR catalyzed 25 condition using iodobenzene as phenylating agent.

1. Introduction

Substituted 1,2,3-triazoles are the ubiquitous structural motif found in a wide range of potent pharmaceutical compounds and ³⁰ advanced materials (Fig. 1a), and have shown growing interest in diversified research areas.¹ In spite of remarkable metabolic stability, 1,2,3-triazoles have proved amazing medicinal efficacy as non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (Fig. 1b), anticancer (Fig. 1c) and anti-HIV (Fig. 1d) agent.² In recent years, the ³⁵ cutting age *intra* as well as *trans*-disciplinary demands have triggered a major thrust for the development of efficient methodologies for the synthesis of naturally non-occurring 1,2,3triazole derivatives. The syntheses are mainly based on Huisgen's

- 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition between organic azides and substituted ⁴⁰ alkynes.³ But the major challenge relies on the regio-selective control over the thermal [3+2] cycloaddition reaction which often gives apparently inseparable mixture of unsymmetrical regioisomers. However, copper⁴ and ruthenium⁵ complexes catalyzed azide-alkyne 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reaction (Cu-
- ⁴⁵ AAC and Ru-AAC) were accomplished with improved regioselectivity to procure either 1,4- or 1,5-disubstituted 1,2,3-



Fig. 1 1,2,3-trizole motif containing value added products

triazoles exclusively. Recently, charcoal impregnated Zn was 50 efficiently applied in cycloaddition of arylazides and alkynes to synthesise 1,4-disubstituted 1,2,3- triazoles.⁶ The transition metal catalyzed regioselective 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reaction have established the basis of the 'click chemistry' and set a wonderful platform for the application in post-synthetic modifications of the 55 1,2,3-triazole functional scaffolds.^{1,7} Moreover, inadequate commercial availability of organic azides and the fact that low molecular weight organic azides having low carbon to nitrogen ratio are considered to be potential explosive, have significantly restricted their application in direct azide-alkyne cycloaddition. 60 Ligand aided Pd-catalysts were successfully employed for the synthesis of 1,2,3-triazoles starting from vinyl halides and sodium azide.8 Nevertheless, the developed homogeneous transition metal catalyzed methodologies bear the inherent drawbacks such as use of costly air sensitive ligands/catalysts, recyclability and 65 metal contamination along with the product.

However, terminal alkynes in presence of heterogeneous palladium are the most unexplored catalytic candidate for azidealkyne cycloaddition reaction with *in situ* generated alkyl azides. On the other hand the multistep synthetic approaches have been 70 targeted to derive *N*-vinyl and *N*-styryl-1,2,3-triazoles via pyrolytic elimination of polymer supported organo-sulphoxides or selenides.⁹ Whereas *N*-vinyl substituted 1,2,3-triazole



Scheme 1. Synthesis of (A) 1, 4-disubstituted 1, 2, 3-triazoles, (B) 1-styryl-1,4-disubstituted 1, 2, 3-triazoles

- derivatives are the precursors for industrially important 5 functionalized polymers. The facile polymerization of *N*-vinyl-1,2,3-triazoles under free radical condition motivated chemists for large scale production of the electron rich polymers.^{9a,b}
- As a part of our continuing efforts to broaden the applicability of developed heterogeneous nanocatalysts,¹⁰ herein, we describe ¹⁰ Pd@PR nanocomposite catalyzed facile sequential one-pot process for the regio-selective synthesis of 4-aryl-1-alkyl-1*H*-1,2,3-triazoles starting from terminal aryl alkynes, primary alkyl halides and sodium azide. The synthesized 4-aryl-1-(2-haloalkyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazoles were quantitatively converted to the ¹⁵ corresponding 4-aryl-1-vinyl-1*H*-1,2,3-triazoles which further utilized in Heck coupling reaction under the same catalytic condition to afford 4-aryl-1-(2-arylethenyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazoles.

2. Results and discussion

²⁰ Pd@PR nanocomposite (earlier known as SS-Pd) was previously developed and well characterized in our laboratory.^{10c-f} The straightforward preparation procedure of Pd@PR nanocomposite encompasses *in situ* reduction of Pd(II) precursor to Pd(0) and

²⁵ their simultaneous deposition over the polystyrene matrix (Experimental section).

Initially, the optimization study for azide-alkyne cycloaddition (AAC) reaction among phenyl acetylene, dichloro ethane (DCE) and sodium azide as test substrates was carried out under Pd-

- 30 catalyzed condition by varying solvents, catalyst loading, temperature and reaction time, and the results were summarized in Table 1. Increasing catalyst loading as well as NaN₃ quantity in different solvents led to higher conversion, unlike CH₃CN. Among the solvents tested, DMF gave highest yield of the
- ³⁵ product 1 when employed with Pd@PR (3 mol% Pd) and 3 equiv. of NaN₃ with in minimum reaction time 8 h (Table 1, entry 10), and considered as optimized reaction condition. Whereas, Pd(OAc)₂ and heterogeneous Pd/C were found to be lesser reactive than Pd@PR. However, catalyst free reaction

⁴⁰ Table 1 Optimization of reaction condition for one-pot azide-alkyne cycloaddition reaction

						Cl
	+ NaN ₃ -	Pd-Ca (CH ₂) ₂ O Solven	ntalyst Cl ₂ (8 equiy.) t, Temp.			-N , N N
Entry	Pd-Catalyst [mol%]	t NaN ₃ [equiv.]	Solvent	Гетр. [°C]	Time [h]	% Yield ^a
1	Pd@PR [2]	2	1, 4-Dioxane	e 90	10	42
2		3	1, 4-Dioxane	e 90	12	trace
3	Pd@PR[3]	3	$(CH_2)_2Cl_2$	100	12	trace
4		3	DMF	100	8	26
5	Pd@PR[3]	3	1, 4-Dioxane	e100	8	51
6	Pd@PR [2]	2	PEG-400	100	8	47
7	Pd@PR[3]	3	Toluene	100	8	53
8	Pd@PR [4]	4	Toluene	100	8	55
9	Pd@PR [3]	2	CH ₃ CN	90	8	38
10	Pd@PR [3]	3	DMA	100	8	58
11	Pd@PR [2]	3	DMF	100	8	62
12	Pd@PR [3]	3	DMF	100	8	68
13	Pd@PR [2]	2	DMF	100	8	52
14	Pd@PR[2]	2	DMF	110	8	60
15	$Pd(OAc)_2$ [3]] 3	DMF	100	10	57
16	Pd/C [3]	3	DMF	100	10	53

^a Isolated yields

proceeded to afford traces or lower yield of the product **1** (Table 1, entries 2, 3 and 4), which further confirmed the role of Pd@PR catalyst for the conversion. The Pd@PR catalyst could be reused up to five times with negligible loss of catalytic activity (first run, 5 68% yield; fifth run, 58% yield) (Supplementary information).

The set reaction condition was further explored for the sequential one-pot [3+2] AAC reaction between alkynes and *in situ* produced alkyl or benzyl azides (CAUTION! The small molecular weight azides may cause explosion for higher scale

- ¹⁰ reactions) as outlined in Table 2. First, we attempted DCE as alkyl halide source which underwent selective mono-azidation. The aryl alkynes containing both the electron releasing as well as electron withdrawing functional groups gave comparably good yields (61-78%) of the desired 4-aryl-1-(2-chloroethyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-
- ¹⁵ triazoles **2-8** (Table 2, entries 1-7). The regio-selectivity i.e., 1,4disubstitution pattern of the product was confirmed by 2D NMR spectral analysis of the product **2** (Supplementary Information). Propargyl benzoate participated smoothly under the standard reaction condition to produce the corresponding 1,2,3-triazole **9**
- ²⁰ in 73% yield (Table 2, entry 8). Both the heteroaromatic and polyaromatic alkynes were found remarkably reactive for the present PdAAC reaction to afford the desired 4-aryl-1-(2-chloroethyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazoles **10** and **11** in good yields (Table 2, entry 9 and 10). Then we successfully tried 1-bromo-2-
- ²⁵ chloroethane in place of DCE under the similar reaction condition to obtain **12**, **13**, and **14** in moderate yields (Table 2, entries 11 to 13) in apparently inseparable mixture of corresponding chloro and bromo derivatives. However formation of higher percentage of chloro-derivatives in all the three cases indicates the expected
- ³⁰ more prevalent SN² at C-Br centre. In continuation to our effort to synthesise 4-aryl-1-(2-haloalkyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazoles, we further extended the optimized methodology to achieve 1-(2hydroxyethyl) and 4-aryl-1-benzyl-1*H*-1,2,3-triazoles (15-20) in satisfactory yields utilizing 2-bromoethanol and benzyl bromide ³⁵ respectively (Table 2, entries 14 to 19).

Mechanistically it is presumed that both the pathways A and B (Scheme 2) might follow to give the desired product VI. Surface bound Pd-alkyne π -complex II collapses to form σ -complex III which could lead through either pathway A or pathway B 40 analogous to the reported similar catalytic cycles.^{4b} These pathways are distinguished by their earlier (pathway A) and later (pathway B) substitution reaction (SN²) step involving organo halide. However, treatment of commercially available 4-phenyl-1*H*-1,2,3-triazole with 1,2-dichloroethane under the similar 45 reaction condition did not produce 1-(2-chloroethyl)-4-phenyl-

1H-1,2,3-triazole **1**, which ruled out pathway A.

The reported tedious synthetic procedures¹¹ for *N*-vinyl-1*H*-1,2,3-triazoles have urged us to develop an alternative route (Table 3). Here we utilized the synthesized 4-aryl-1-(2-

- ⁵⁰ haloethyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazoles (Table 2) in milder base K_2CO_3 promoted facile dehydrochlorination to obtain corresponding 4aryl-1-ethenyl-1*H* -1,2,3-triazoles (**21-29**) in good to excellent yields (Table 3).
- Thus the synthesized *N*-vinyl-1*H*-1,2,3-triazole derivatives ⁵⁵ further open up a spurring opportunity for us to develop an alternative method of Heck coupling strategy to synthesize 4aryl-1-(2-arylethenyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazoles employing Pd@PR catalyst (Table 3). Whereas, in previous reports costly organo S or Se precursors and tiresome procedures greatly obstructed their ⁶⁰ synthesis (Scheme 1(B)).¹² The differently substituted electron







 ^a All are Isolated yields; Reaction conditions: Alkyne (100 mg),
 ⁵ dichloroethane (DCE) (8 equiv.), NaN₃ (3 equiv.), Pd@PR (3 mol% Pd), DMF, 100 °C;
 ^b Reaction conditions: Alkyne (100 mg), 1-bromo-2chloroethane (8 equiv.), NaN₃ (3 equiv.), Pd@PR (3 mol% Pd), DMF, 100 °C, the product ratio of chloro and bromo derivatives were calculated on the basis of ¹H NMR;
 ^c Reaction conditions: Alkyne (100 mg), 2-¹⁰ bromoethanol (5 equiv.), NaN₃ (3 equiv.), Pd@PR (3 mol% Pd), DMF, 100 °C;
 ^d Reaction conditions: Akyne (100 mg), benzylbromide (3 equiv.), NaN₃ (3 equiv.), Pd@PR (3 mol% Pd), DMF, 100 °C.



15 Scheme 2. Plausible mechanistic pathways for Pd-catalyzed azide-alkyne cycloaddition reaction

 Table 3 Dehydrohalogenation of 4-aryl-1-(2-haloalkyl)-1H-1,2,3-trizoles to N-vinyl derivatives^a



 $_{20}$ ^a All are isolated yields; Reaction conditions: 4-aryl-1-(2-chloroethyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazole (100 mg), K₂CO₃ (2 equiv.), DMF(2 mL), 110 °C, 3h.

 Table 4 Pd@PR
 catalyzed Heck coupling for the synthesis of 4-aryl-1-(2-arylalkenyl)-1H-1,2,3-trizoles^a



^a All are isolated yields; Reaction conditions: 4-aryl-1-vinyl-1,2,3-triazole (100 mg), aryl iodide (1.5 equiv.), Pd@PR (5 mol% Pd), K_2CO_3 (3 equiv.), DMF (2 mL), 120 °C, 20 h; *E/Z* ratio was calculated on the basis of ¹H NMR.

rich aryl iodides easily participated in the set protocol of Heck coupling reaction with 4-phenyl-1-vinyl-1H-1,2,3-triazole following regio-selective terminal arylation to furnish moderate to good yields of the products **30-37** (Table 4) with high *E* 10 selectivity (Confirmed by ¹H NMR).



Scheme 3. Microwave assisted one-pot synthesis of 4-phenyl-1-vinyl-1,2,3-triazole

¹⁵ Further, we also targeted a sequential one-pot approach for dehydro-halogenation and Heck coupling on 1-(2-chloroethyl)-4-phenyl-1*H*-1,2,3-triazole (1) with iodobenzene under microwave irradiation to procure 4-phenyl-1-styryl-1*H*-1,2,3-triazole **30** in 51% yield (Scheme 3).

20

3. Conclusion

In summary, we have developed Pd@PR nanocomposite catalyzed general single pot strategy for azide-alkyne 25 cyloaddition (AAC) reaction to synthesise 1,4-disubstituted-1,2,3-triazoles in a regio-selective manner. The developed unprecedented PdAAC approach was specially moved towards 4aryl-1-(2-haloethyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazole derivatives synthesis. However, other N-alkyl, benzyl substituted surrogates were also 30 procured either by extension or slight variation of the standard The prepared 4-aryl-1-(2-chloroethyl)-1H-1,2,3protocol. triazoles were utilized in a facile K₂CO₃ promoted dehydrochlorination to obtain the corresponding N-vinyl derivatives as industrially consumable polymer precursor. The 35 terminally vacant vinyl functionality were successfully utilized

- for Pd@PR catalysed Heck coupling with aryl iodides to give a series of 4-aryl-1-(2-arylethenyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazole derivatives. In continuation Pd@PR catalysed microwave assisted one pot dehydrohaloginative Heck coupling also opened a new scope to
- ⁴⁰ access *N*-vinyl-1*H*-1,2,3-triazole analogues. The combined results provide an outstanding example of catalytic efficiency and selectivity of Pd@PR nanocomposite, and could find academic as well as industrial interest.

45 4. Experimental Section

General methods: Reagents of high quality were purchased from Sigma Aldrich and Loba Cheime. Amberlite[®] IRA 900 Cl⁻ resin used as solid support was purchased from Acros Organics. Silica

⁵⁰ gel (60-120 mesh size) for column chromatography was procured from Sd Fine-chem Ltd. Commercial reagents and solvents were of analytical grade and were purified by standard procedures prior

to use. Thin layer chromatography was performed using pre coated silica gel plates 60 F₂₅₄ (Merck) in UV light detector. 55 Some experiments were performed on CEM Discover focused microwave (2450 MHz, 300W). The temperature of reactions in monomode microwave experiments was measured by an inbuilt infrared temperature probe that determined the temperature on the surface of reaction flask. The sensor is attached in a feedback 60 loop with an on-board microprocessor to control the rate of temperature rise. All the melting points are uncorrected and were determined on a Barnstead Electrothermal 9100 capillary melting point apparatus. ESIMS spectra were determined using Waters Micromass Q-TOF Ultima Spectrometer. ¹H and ¹³C NMR 65 spectra were recorded using a Bruker Avance 600 spectrometer operating at 600 MHz (¹H) and 150 MHz (¹³C). Spectra were recorded at 25 °C in CDCl3 [residual CHCl3 (δ_H 7.26 ppm) or CDCl₃ (δ_C 77.00 ppm) and MeOD (δ_H 3.30, 4.78 ppm) or (δ_C 49.0 ppm) [residual (as international standard)] with TMS as 70 internal standard. Chemical shifts were calculated according to the residual solvents' standard peaks. Chemical shifts were recorded in δ (ppm) relative to the TMS and NMR solvent signal, coupling constants (J) are given in Hz and multiplicities of signals are reported as follows: s, singlet; d, doublet; dd, double ⁷⁵ doublet; t, triplet; q, quartet; m, multiplet.

Preparation of Pd@PR nanocomposite: The solution of 25 mg of NaBH₄ in 10 mL of water (0.065 (M) solution) was added to 1 g of polystyrene resin (Amberlite IRA 900 Cl⁻ form) in a 25 mL round bottom flask. The mixture was stirred for 4 h at room temperature. Then the resin was washed with water till the pH became neutral and then with acetone to remove water from the solid surface. The partially borohydride exchanged resin beads were dried under reduced pressure. The dried borohydride exchanged resin beads were added into the warm (100 °C) ss solution of palladium acetate (10 mg) in dry DMF (3 mL) and the mixture was stirred for 1 h or till the brown colored solution changed to colorless and simultaneously white solid beads turned black. After cooling, the beads were filtered through a cotton bed, washed with water and acetone, and dried under reduced ⁹⁰ pressure.

General experimental procedure for 4-aryl-1-(2-haloethyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazole (1-20) synthesis: A mixture of aryl alkyne (100 mg), sodium azide (3 equiv.), 1,2-dihaloethane (8 equiv.) and Pd@PR (3 mol% Pd) were taken in an oven dried 40 mL ⁹⁵ reaction vial with screw cap. Equal volume (as compared to 1,2dihaloethane) of dry DMF was added into it. The reaction mixture was then stirred under nitrogen in a pre heated oil bath of temperature 100 °C. Progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC. On completion, the cooled reaction mixture was extracted ¹⁰⁰ with ethyl acetate (3×5 mL) by addition of 2 mL of water and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. Evaporation of the combined organic layer followed by column chromatography (Hexane-ethyl acetate gradient) over silica gel (mesh 60-200) afforded 4-aryl-1-(2-haloethyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazoles (1-14). Products 15-20 were also ¹⁰⁵ synthesised applying similar procedure.

General experimental procedure for 4-aryl-1-vinyl-1*H*-1,2,3triazole (21-29) synthesis: To a mixture of 4-aryl-1-(2haloethyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazole (100 mg) and K₂CO₃ (2 equiv.) in an oven dried 40 mL reaction vial was added 2 mL of dry DMF. The ¹¹⁰ reaction mixture was then stirred under nitrogen in a pre heated oil bath of temperature 110 °C for 3 hours. Progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC. On completion, the cooled reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (3×3 mL) by addition of 2 mL of water and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. ¹¹⁵ Evaporation of the combined organic layer followed by column chromatography (Hexane-ethyl acetate gradient) over silica gel (mesh 60-200) afforded 4-aryl-1-vinyl-1*H*-1,2,3-triazoles (**21-29**).

General experimental procedure for 4-aryl-1-(2-arylvinyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazoles (30-37) synthesis: To a mixture of 4-aryl-1-⁵ vinyl-1,2,3-triazole (100 mg), aryl iodide (1.5 equiv.), K₂CO₃ (2 equiv.) and Pd@PR (5 mol% Pd) in an oven dried 40 mL reaction vial was added 2 mL of dry DMF. The reaction mixture was then stirred under nitrogen in a pre heated oil bath of temperature 120 °C for 20 hours. Progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC.

¹⁰ On completion, the cooled reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (3×5 mL) by addition of 2 mL of water and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. Evaporation of the combined organic layer followed by column chromatography (Hexane-ethyl acetate gradient) over silica gel (mesh 60-200) afforded 4-aryl-1-(2w arydyinyl)-1H-1 2 3-triazoles (30.37)

15 arylvinyl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazoles (**30-37**).

Typical experimental procedure for the one pot synthesis of 4-phenyl-1-styryl-1*H*-1,2,3-triazole (30) synthesis: A mixture of 1-(2-chloroethyl)-4-phenyl-1,2,3-triazole (100 mg, 0.483 mmol), iodobenzene (147.69 mg, 0.724 mmol), K₂CO₃ (200 mg, ²⁰ 1.449 mmol) and Pd@PR (324 mg, 5 mol% Pd) in 2 mL of dry

- DMF was irradiated with focused MW at 120 °C (100 W, 100 psi) for 45 minute in a closed vessel equipped with automated pressure device. On completion, the cooled reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (3×5 mL) by addition of 2 mL of
- ²⁵ water and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. Evaporation of the combined organic layer followed by column chromatography (Hexane: ethylacetate = 90: 10) over silica gel (mesh 60-200) afforded **30** as white solid (73.67 mg, 51%). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) & 7.18-7.20 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.50 (m, 9H), 7.80-
- ³⁰ 7.83 (d, J = 15 Hz, 1H), 7.88-7.90 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 8.09 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 116.48, 121.57, 123.07, 125.88 (2C), 126.72 (2C), 128.51, 128.80, 128.92, 129.04 (2C), 130.04, 133.58, 148.04. ESIMS data: m/z calc. for [M+H]⁺ C₁₆H₁₄N₃ 248.1187, obsd. 248.1178.

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- ⁵⁰ † Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) available: [Graphical representation of Pd@PR catalyst preparation, recyclability experiment, typical experimental procedures, 2D NMR spectral analysis of product 2 and copies of ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, and ESIMS spectra.]. See DOI: 10.1039/b000000x/
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