Synthesis of Nitrogen Heterocycles by Palladium(0)-Catalyzed C(sp³)–H Activation

Ronan Rocaboy, Olivier Baudoin*

Department of Chemistry, University of Basel, St. Johanns-Ring 19, 4056 Basel, Switzerland ronan.rocaboy@unibas.ch, olivier.baudoin@unibas.ch

Nitrogen heterocycles are omnipresent in small-molecule pharmaceuticals, representing almost 60 % of drugs recently approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. In the last decades, synthetic methods have been widely developed to access these building blocks, notably through the use of a metal catalyst. In particular, methods based on $C(sp^3)$ -H activation have been introduced, including by our group, to access N-heterocycles in a straightforward manner from easily accessible precursors. Herein, we report the synthesis of β -lactams and benzoxazines, with the latter arising from the electrocyclic rearrangement of benzazetidine intermediates, via palladium(0)-catalyzed intramolecular $C(sp^3)$ -H activation.

Pd⁰/L cat. RCO₂⁻ cat., heating
$$R_1$$
 R_2 R_3 R_4 R_4 R_4 R_4 R_4 R_4 R_4 R_4 R_5 R_4 R_5 R_5 R_6 R_6

1. E. Vitaku, D. T. Smith, J. T. Njardarson, J. Med. Chem. 2014, 57, 10257; 2. O. Baudoin, Acc. Chem.