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Objective

Exploration of new reactivity of catalytic Ru carbenes, in particular, Csp^3 -H functionalization.



X, Z = C, N, O
Y = TMS, CO₂Et, ...

Alkynyl Acetals

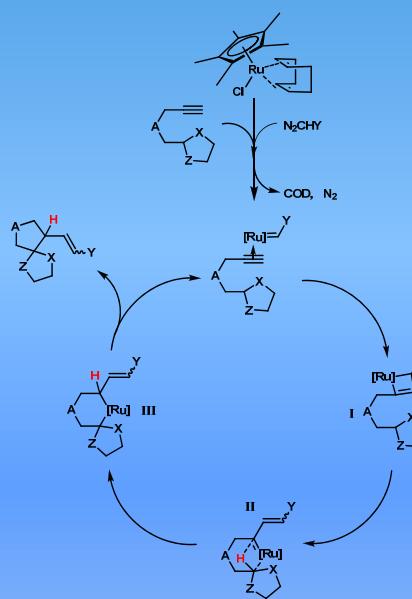
ENTRY	SUBSTRATE	CONDITIONS	YIELD (%)	PRODUCTS
1		DIOXANE, 60°C	61	
		ETHER, r.t.	40	
2		DIOXANE, 60°C	40	
		ETHER, r.t.	30	
3		DIOXANE, 60°C	40/51	
		ETHER, r.t.	80/TRACEs	
4		DIOXANE, 60°C	20/70	
		ETHER, r.t.	21/63	
5		DIOXANE, 60°C	90	
		ETHER, r.t.	81	
6		DIOXANE, 60°C	51	
		ETHER, r.t.	60	
7		DIOXANE, 60°C	50	
		ETHER, r.t.	60	
8		DIOXANE, 60°C	SM	
		ETHER, r.t.	SM	
9		DIOXANE, r.t.	65	
10		ETHER, r.t.	25/11	

Alkynyl Ethers

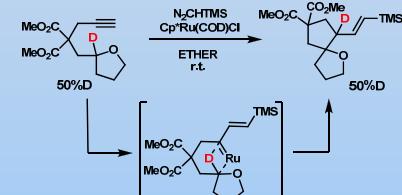
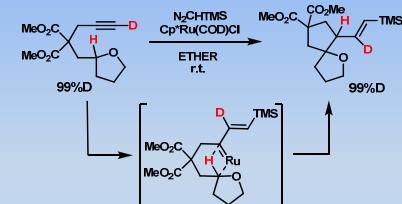
ENTRY	SUBSTRATE	SOLVENT	YIELD (%)	PRODUCT
1		ETHER	79%	
2		ETHER	40%	
3		ETHER	51%	
4		ETHER	78%	
5		ETHER	85%	

Mechanism

The catalytic transformation of alkynyl acetals/ethers in the presence of Cp*Ru(COD)Cl can be understood supposing the initial formation of Cp*RuCl(=CHY) as the catalytic species, which first reacts with the terminal triple bond to give the intermediate I, that evolves to the vinylcarbene II. Hydride transfer by Csp^3 -H activation gives ruthenacycle III, that after reductive elimination furnishes the bicyclic products.



Labelling Studies



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