Hydrostannation of C–C multiple bonds with Bu₃SnH prepared *in situ* from Bu₃SnCl and Et₃SiH in the presence of Lewis acid catalysts

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A number of alkynes 5, allene 11 and alkene 13 smoothly underwent hydrostannation with tributyltin hydride 1, prepared *in situ* from tributylchlorostannane 6 and triethylsilane 7 in the presence of catalytic amounts of Lewis acids.

Since the first synthesis of tributyltin hydride 1 by Finholt *et al.* in 1947,¹ this compound has become one of the most frequently used organometallic reagents in organic synthesis.² Along with wide applicability as a hydrogen source in various kinds of reductions,² Bu₃SnH is the most popular hydrostannation agent for the synthesis of vinyl-3 and allyl-stannanes.4 The latter, due to their great versatility as building blocks, are of increasing importance in modern synthetic organic chemistry.5 Recently we reported regio- and stereo-selective methods for the synthesis of vinyl- and allyl-tributylstannanes via Lewis acidcatalyzed trans-hydrostannation of acetylenes6 and allenes.7 Although Bu₃SnH is commercially available, it gradually decomposes after storage in a refrigerator for a prolonged period of time;⁸ consequently, distillation is needed before use. It occurred to us that in situ generation of 1 from stable precursors would be synthetically more convenient for the hydrostannation reaction. The generation of Bu₃SnH in situ from more stable stannyl precursors and hydride sources could serve this purpose.9 In general, the preparation of commercially available tributyltin hydride 1 is carried out by the reduction of tributyltin oxide 2 with hydrosiloxane 3 [reaction (1)].¹⁰

$$n (Bu_3Sn)_2O + 2 (MeSiHO)_n \xrightarrow{heat} 2n Bu_3SnH + 2 (MeSiO_{1.5})_n$$
 (1)
2 3 1 4

Accordingly, we attempted to employ this method for the *in situ* preparation of **1** under the conditions of the Lewis acidcatalyzed hydrostannation reaction.^{6,7} However, no hydrostannation products were detected, instead the starting alkynes were recovered quantitatively. It is probable that, due to the strong affinity of the Lewis acid for the oxygen of either the reactants (**2** and/or **3**) or of the byproduct **4**, it is deactivated and thus not effective as a catalyst in the hydrostannation reaction. Hence, a non-oxygen containing precursor should be employed for the *in situ* preparation of **1**.

Herein we report the first example of the Lewis acidcatalyzed hydrostannation reaction of alkynes with tributyltin hydride 1, prepared *in situ* from Bu₃SnCl 6 and Et₃SiH 7 [reactions (2) and (4)].

$$Ph \longrightarrow H Bu_3SnCl + Et_3SiH \xrightarrow{ZrCl_4 (20 \text{ mol}\%)} Ph \xrightarrow{SnBu_3} (2)$$

5d 6 7 8d

In our initial experiments we found that simple mixing of **6** and **7** in toluene at room temperature did not produce any detectable amount of tin hydride **1**. In contrast, a redistribution took place by the addition of 20 mol% $ZrCl_4^{11}$ to the same reaction mixture and noticeable amounts of **1** were detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the reaction mixture after one hour [reaction (3)]. Although the mixture contained a large amount of



silyl hydride 7 [reaction (3)], it was presumed that, due to the fact that $ZrCl_4$ is not a strong enough Lewis acid to the catalyze hydrosilylation alkynes,¹² this reaction would not compete with the desired hydrostannation process. Motivated by that we applied this method for the *in situ* preparation of 1 and subsequent $ZrCl_4$ -catalyzed hydrostannation product (*Z*)- β -(tributylstannyl)styrene 8d was formed in 52% yield (by ¹H NMR analysis). A brief search for a more efficient Lewis acid catalyst pointed to $B(C_6F_5)_3$. We found that 10 mol% of $B(C_6F_5)_3$ effectively catalyzed the hydrostannation of various alkynes 5 with tributylstannane 1, generated *in situ* from 6 and 7, producing the hydrostannation products 8 and 10 in excellent chemical yields [reaction (4), Table 1]. The hydrostannation of



all the monosubstituted alkynes tested (5a-f) proceeded in a regiospecific manner affording the β -hydrostannation products (8a-f, 10) exclusively (entries 1-6, Table 1). Except for the reactions with 5b and 5g in which small amounts of the cisaddition products were formed (entries 2,7), the reaction was also trans-stereoselective (entries 1,3-6,8, Table 1) as was reported for the conventional method for the Lewis acidcatalyzed hydrostannation of alkynes.⁶ The preparation of 8a from 5a is representative. Tributylstannyl chloride 6 (1.5 mmol), triethylsilane 7 (1.0 mmol) and 5a (1 mmol) were consecutively added at 0 °C to a solution of B(C₆F₅)₃ (0.1 mmol) in dry toluene (0.25 ml) under an argon atmosphere. After being stirred for 40 min at 0 °C the reaction temperature was allowed to warm to 25 °C and the mixture was stirred for another 3 h. The reaction was quenched by adding Et₃N (0.5 mmol) at ambient temperature. Hexane was added and the resulting mixture was filtered through Celite and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification by column chromatography (aluminium oxide, 90 mesh, n-hexane as eluent) gave 220 mg (78%) of 8a.

Finally, we disclose our initial experiments on the application of this method for the hydrostannation of an allene and alkene. We reported recently that tributyltin hydride **1** in the presence of Lewis acids reacted with a number of allenes affording the corresponding vinylstannanes in good chemical yields.⁷ We found that **1**, prepared *in situ* from **6** and **7** in the presence of 10 mol% of B(C_6F_5)₃, smoothly reacted with phenylallene **11**

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Table 1 B(C₆F₅)₃-catalyzed hydrostannation of alkynes with Bu₃SnH generated in situ from Bu₃SnCl and Et₃SiH

Entry	R	R ¹		Conditions	Yield of 8 + 10 ^{<i>a</i>} (%)	Ratio 8:10 ^b
1	C ₆ H ₁₃	Н	5a	40 min/0 °C 3 h/rt ^c	78	>95:5
2	Cyclohexenyl	Н	5b	2 h/0 °C	85	86:14
3	PhCH ₂	Н	5c	4 h/0 °C	85	>95:5
4	Ph	Н	5d	2.5 h/0 °C	77	>95:5
5	p-MeC ₆ H ₄	Н	5e	2.5 h/0 °C	89	>95:5
6	p-MeOC ₆ H ₄	Н	5f	1.5 h/−35 °C	70	>95:5
7	Pentyl	Pentyl	5g	40 min/0 °C		
8	Ph	Ph	5h	3 h/rt 40 min/0 °C	90	80:20
				3 h/rt	71	>95:5

^{*a*} Isolated yield. ^{*b*} Determined by ¹H NMR analysis of crude reaction mixtures. ^{*c*} rt = room temp.

affording the vinylstannane **12** in 51% yield [reaction (5)]. In addition, the same method could be employed for the hydrostannation of alkenes: styrene **13** was converted into the corresponding alkylstannane **14** in 70% isolated yield [reaction (6)]. To the best of our knowledge, reaction (6) is the first

$$Ph \xrightarrow{} + Bu_{3}SnCl + Et_{3}SiH \xrightarrow{B(C_{6}F_{5})_{3} (10 \text{ mol}\%)}_{toluene} Ph \xrightarrow{} SnBu_{3} (6)$$
13 6 7 14

example of the Lewis acid-catalyzed hydrostannation of alkenes.

In conclusion, a synthetically useful and convenient method for the Lewis acid-catalyzed hydrostannation of carbon–carbon multiple bonds with tributyltin hydride **1**, prepared *in situ* from easily handled and cheap chlorostannane **6** and hydrosilane **7**, has been developed. The first example of the Lewis acidcatalyzed hydrostannation of an alkene has been demonstrated.

Footnote and References

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