

Organotin Iodide Hydride: Chemoselective 1,4-Hydrostannations of Conjugated Enones in the Presence of Aldehydes and Subsequent Intermolecular Aldol Reactions

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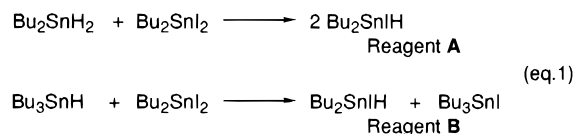
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The 1,2- and 1,4- regiochemistry of the reduction of conjugated enones has been intensively investigated with a variety of reductants.¹ Recently, efforts have been directed toward chemoselective reductions of conjugated enones with tolerance by susceptible functional groups. As exhibited in the reductions with NaBH₄, a general order of reactivity among carbonyl groups is conjugated enones < ketones < conjugated enals < aldehydes.^{2,3} Not in keeping with this general reactivity order of aldehydes and conjugated enones, it is notable that the Luche reagent (NaBH₄/LnCl₃),⁴ even in the presence of aldehydes, can reduce conjugated enones to furnish allylic alcohols in 1,2-fashion.⁵ No selective 1,4-reduction of conjugated enones in the presence of aldehydes has been demonstrated, to our knowledge, although reductions by copper hydride tolerate the presence of ketone moieties in the same substrate.⁶ If the 1,4-hydrometalation of

conjugated enones could be accomplished in preference to the reduction of aldehydes, the subsequent aldol reaction of the resulting metal enolates could be expected. Organotin hydrides appear to be good candidates for this. They appear to act as soft Lewis acids leading to 1,4-addition,^{7,8} and the resulting tin enolates can be expected to show pronounced reactivity toward aldehydes.⁹ Quite recently, Enholm and co-workers have reported the selective 1,4-hydrostannation of cyclic enones by Bu₃SnH under free radical conditions and a subsequent intramolecular aldol reaction.¹⁰ In this paper, we demonstrate that Bu₂SnIH reagents accomplish the selective 1,4-reduction of conjugated enones **1**, irrespective of coexistent aldehydes, and a subsequent diastereoselective intermolecular aldol reaction.

Tin iodide hydride reagents can be prepared by the two methods shown in eq 1, to obtain pure Bu₂SnIH (reagent A)¹¹ or an equimolar mixture of Bu₂SnIH and Bu₃SnI (reagent B).¹² The former (1 mmol) was synthesized by mixing Bu₂SnH₂ (0.5 mmol) and Bu₂SnI₂ (0.5 mmol) at room temperature in THF (1 mL). The latter (1 mmol) was prepared by mixing Bu₃SnH (1 mmol) and Bu₂SnI₂ (1 mmol) at room temperature in THF (1 mL). The complete formation of the Bu₂SnIH species was spectroscopically confirmed by ¹H, ¹³C, and ¹¹⁹Sn NMR.



(1) The selective 1,2-reduction of conjugated enones has been carried out by aluminum hydrides such as LiAlH₄^{a,b} and DIBAL-H,^{c-f} and boron hydrides such as 9-BBN-H^{g,h} and NaBH₄.^{i,j} On the other hand, the selective 1,4-reductions have been accomplished by silicon hydrides,^{k-n} copper hydrides,^{o-r} iron hydrides,^{s-v} and organoborohydrides such as L- and K-Selectride.^{w,x} (a) Hudlicky, M. *Reductions in Organic Chemistry*; John Wiley & Sons, Inc.: New York, 1984; pp 119–121. (b) Balachander, N.; Wang, S. S.; Sukenik, N. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1986**, 27, 4849–4852. (c) Wilson, K. E.; Seidner, R. T.; Masamune, S. *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* **1970**, 213–214. (d) Ashby, E. C.; Lin, J. J. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1976**, 3865–3868. (e) Antus, S.; Gottsegen, A.; Nogradi, M. *Synthesis* **1981**, 574–576. (f) Zoretic, P.; Golen, J. A. *J. Org. Chem.* **1981**, 46, 3555–3558. (g) Krishnamurthy, S.; Brown, H. C. *J. Org. Chem.* **1975**, 40, 1864–1865. (h) Krishnamurthy, S.; Brown, H. C. *J. Org. Chem.* **1977**, 42, 1197–1201. (i) Johnson, M. R.; Rickborn, B. *J. Org. Chem.* **1970**, 35, 1041–1045. (j) Komiya, S.; Tsutsumi, O. *Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn.* **1987**, 60, 3423–3424. (k) Ojima, I.; Nihonyanagi, M.; Kogure, T.; Kumagai, M.; Horiuchi, S.; Nakatsugawa, K. *J. Organomet. Chem.* **1975**, 94, 449–461. (l) Keinan, E.; Greenspoon, N. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1985**, 26, 1353–1356. (m) Keinan, E.; Greenspoon, N. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1986**, 108, 7314–7325. (n) Schmidt, T. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1994**, 35, 3513–3516. (o) Boeckman, J. R. K.; Michalak, R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1974**, 96, 1623–1625. (p) Semmelhack, M. F.; Stauffer, R. D. *J. Org. Chem.* **1975**, 40, 3619–3621. (q) Semmelhack, M. F.; Stauffer, R. D.; Yamashita, A. *J. Org. Chem.* **1977**, 42, 3180–3188. (r) Tsuda, T.; Fujii, T.; Kawasaki, K.; Saegusa, T. *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* **1980**, 1013–1014. (s) Noyori, R.; Umeda, I.; Ishigami, T. *J. Org. Chem.* **1972**, 37, 1542–1545. (t) Collman, J. P.; Finke, R. G.; Matlock, P. L.; Wahren, R.; Brauman, J. I. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1970**, 92, 4685–4687. (u) Collman, J. P.; Finke, R. G.; Matlock, P. L.; Wahren, R.; Komoto, R. G.; Brauman, J. I. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1978**, 100, 1119–1140. (v) Boldrini, G. P.; Umani-Ronchi, A. *J. Organomet. Chem.* **1979**, 171, 85–88. (w) Ganem, B. *J. Org. Chem.* **1975**, 40, 146–147. (x) Fortunato, J. M.; Ganem, B. *J. Org. Chem.* **1976**, 41, 2194–2200.

(2) (a) Adams, C. *Synth. Commun.* **1984**, 14, 1349–1353. (b) Ward, D. E.; Rhee, C. K. *Can. J. Chem.* **1989**, 67, 1206–1211.

(3) Zn(BH₄)₂ cannot reduce conjugated enones but conjugated enals and ketones: Sarkar, D. C.; Das, A. R.; Ranu, B. C. *J. Org. Chem.* **1990**, 55, 5799–5801.

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(5) Gemal, A. L.; Luche, J. L. *J. Org. Chem.* **1979**, 44, 4187–4189.

(6) (a) Tsuda, T.; Hayashi, T.; Satomi, H.; Kawamoto, T.; Saegusa, T. *J. Org. Chem.* **1986**, 51, 537–540. (b) Lipshuts, B. H.; Ung, C. S.; Sengupta, S. *Synlett* **1970**, 64–66.

The selective 1,4-reduction of conjugated enone **1a** took place with either of these reagents (entries 1 and 2 in Table 1). Moreover, good enhancement of yield was achieved with reagent B, possibly because of the assistance of a soft Lewis acid, Bu₃SnI.¹³ As shown in Table 1, these results are in sharp contrast with the original tin hydrides, Bu₂SnH₂ and Bu₃SnH. The former showed a lack of regioselectivity (entry 4), and the latter had poor reducing ability toward **1a** (entry 5). Other dibutyltin halide hydrides prepared in a manner similar to reagent B also effected the selective 1,4-reduction (entries 6 and 7), although the corresponding fluoride reagent predominantly promoted 1,2-reduction to furnish the allylic alcohol **3a** in 36% yield (entry 8). When 1,4-dinitrobenzene (DNB) was added as a radical scavenger, little effect on the 1,4-reduction of **1a** was observed (entry 3). This suggests that 1,4-hydrostannation by organotin iodide hydride proceeds by an ionic reaction path.

Table 2 lists the reductions of conjugated enones **1b–e** with reagent B in THF at ambient temperature. All runs demonstrated complete 1,4-selectivity to provide the

(7) For example: Lefout, J. M. *Tetrahedron* **1978**, 34, 2597–2605.

(8) The palladium-catalyzed tributyltin hydride reduction of conjugated carbonyl compounds provided saturated ketones. (a) Keinan, E.; Gleize, P. A. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1982**, 23, 477–480. (b) Four, P.; Guibe, F. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1982**, 23, 1825–1828.

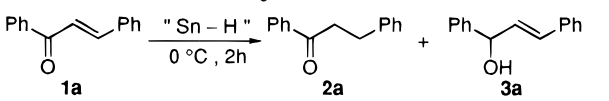
(9) (a) Stille, J. K.; Shenvi, S. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1982**, 23, 627–630. (b) Kobayashi, K.; Kawanisi, M.; Hitomi, T.; Kozima, S. *Chem. Lett.* **1983**, 851–854.

(10) Enholm, E. J.; Xie, Y.; Abboud, A. *J. Org. Chem.* **1995**, 60, 1112–1113.

(11) Neumann, W. P.; Pedain, J. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1964**, 2461–2465. (b) Sawyer, A. K.; Brown, J. E.; Hanson, E. L. *J. Organomet. Chem.* **1965**, 3, 464–471.

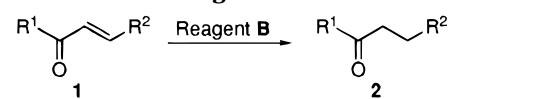
(12) Sawyer, A. K.; Brown, J. E. *J. Organomet. Chem.* **1966**, 5, 438–445.

(13) In the reaction with Bu₃SnH/Pd(PPh₃)₄, the yield increased using ZnCl₂ as the coactivating Lewis acid catalyst.^{8b}

Table 1. Reductions of Chalcone 1a by Various Tin Hydrides


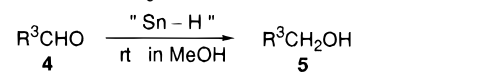
entry	"Sn-H"	yield, %	
		2a	3a
1	Reagent A ^a	69	0
2	Reagent B ^b	91	0
3	Reagent B–DNB ^{b,c}	77	0
4	Bu ₂ SnH ₂	18	45
5	Bu ₃ SnH	19	0
6	Bu ₂ SnBrH–Bu ₃ SnBr ^b	53	0
7	Bu ₂ SnClH–Bu ₃ SnCl ^b	86	0
8	Bu ₂ SnFH–Bu ₃ SnF ^b	5	36

^a Chalcone **1a** 1 mmol, Bu₂SnH₂ 0.5 mmol, Bu₂SnI₂ 0.5 mmol, THF 1 mL. ^b Chalcone **1a** 1 mmol, Bu₃SnH 1 mmol, Bu₂SnX₂ 1 mmol, THF 1 mL. ^c DNB 0.1 mmol.

Table 2. Reductions of Various Conjugated Enones by Reagent B^a


entry	R ¹	R ²	1	conditions	yield %
1	Ph	Me	1b	rt, 2 h	2b , 72
2	Me	Ph	1c	rt, 2.5 h	2c , 67
3	Ph	H	1d	rt, 1 h	2d , 63
4	<i>cis</i> -cyclohexenone		1e	rt, 2 h	2e , 42 (4) ^b

^a Enone **1** 1 mmol, Bu₃SnH 1 mmol, Bu₂SnI₂ 1 mmol, THF 1 mL. ^b Cyclohexanol.

Table 3. Reductions of Aldehydes 4 by Various Tin Hydrides^a


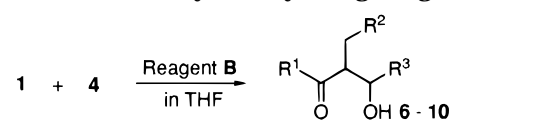
entry	aldehyde 4	"Sn-H"	yield of 5, %
1	R ³ = Ph (4a)	Reagent A	5a , 5
2	R ³ = Ph (4a)	Reagent B	5a , 6
3	R ³ = Ph (4a)	Bu ₃ SnH	5a , 93
4	R ³ = Ph (4a)	Bu ₂ SnH ₂	5a , 100
5	R ³ = <i>c</i> -hex (4b)	Reagent B	5b , 31
6	R ³ = <i>i</i> -Pr (4c)	Reagent B	5c , 17

^a Aldehyde **4** 1 mmol, SnH reagent 1 mmol, MeOH 1 mL.

corresponding ketones **2b–e**; no allylic alcohols arising from 1,2-reduction were detected. In the case of cyclohexenone **1e** (entry 4), 4% of cyclohexanol was formed, plausibly generated by further reduction of the 1,4-reduction product.

Next we examined the reduction of aldehydes by these tin reagents. As shown in Table 3, the reagents A and B showed quite low reducing ability (entries 1 and 2), while either Bu₃SnH or Bu₂SnH₂ readily reduced benzaldehyde **4a** to benzyl alcohol **5a** (entries 3 and 4). Reagent B also exhibited poor reactivity toward cyclohexanecarboxaldehyde **4b** and isobutyraldehyde **4c** (entries 5 and 6).

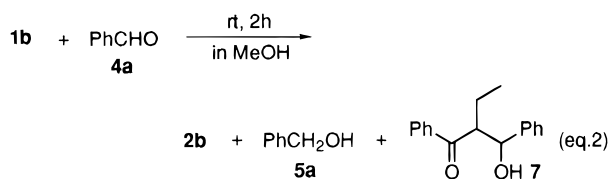
This interesting outcome prompted us to try a competitive reduction of a conjugated enone and an aldehyde. When an equimolar mixture of **1b** (1 mmol) and benzaldehyde **4a** (1 mmol) was treated with reagent B in MeOH (1 mL) at ambient temperature, the selective 1,4-reduction of **1b** produced ketone **2b** in 61% yield without any 1,2-reduction, while benzyl alcohol **5a** was furnished in only 9% yield (eq 2). Surprisingly, the aldol product **7** was also obtained in spite of the MeOH solvent—the tin

Table 4. Intermolecular Aldol Reactions of Conjugated Enones 1 with Aldehydes 4 by Using Reagent B^a


entry	enone 1	aldehyde 4	conditions	yield, %	syn:anti ^b
1	1a	4a	rt, 2 h	6 , 68	38:62
2	1a	4a	–30 °C → rt, 3 h	6 , 47	80:20
3	1b	4a	–30 °C → rt, 3 h	7 , 53	91:9
4	1d	4a	–30 °C → rt, 3 h	8 , 74	89:11
5 ^c	1d	4a	–30 °C → rt, 3 h	8 , 55	90:10
6	1d	4b	–30 °C → rt, 3 h	9 , 74	>99:1
7	1d	4c	–30 °C → rt, 3 h	10 , 67	92:8

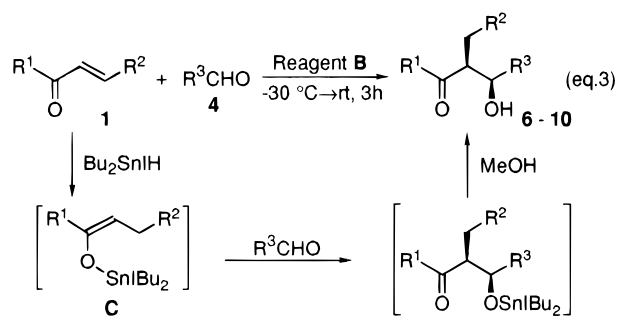
^a Enone **1** 1 mmol, aldehyde **4** 1 mmol, Bu₃SnH 1 mmol, Bu₂SnI₂ 1 mmol, THF 1 mL. ^b Determined by 400 MHz ¹H NMR. ^c **1d** 1 mmol, **4a** 1 mmol, Bu₂SnH₂ 0.5 mmol, Bu₂SnI₂ 0.5 mmol, THF 1 mL.

enolate had been expected to be quenched. In contrast, Bu₃SnH reduced aldehyde **4a** to **5a** in 80% yield (eq 2).



Reagent B	61 %	9 %	8 %
Bu ₃ SnH	19 %	80 %	0 %

These results suggested that reagent B would be a good candidate for an intermolecular aldol reaction by the tin enolate (C), as illustrated in eq 3. As expected, when a mixture of **1a** and **4a** was treated with Bu₂SnI₂ and Bu₃SnH in THF at ambient temperature, aldol product **6** was obtained in 68% yield (entry 1 in Table 4). However, the



diastereoselectivity obtained at ambient temperature was not satisfactory (*syn:anti* = 38:62). The striking dependency of the diastereoselectivity on reaction temperature is indicated in entries 1 and 2 (Table 4). Excellent *syn*-selectivity was observed at –30 °C → rt (entry 2). This diastereoselectivity is not due to the Lewis acid, Bu₃SnI in reagent B, because the alternative use of reagent A also gave **8** with high *syn*-selectivity (entry 5).¹⁴ It can be presumed that a (*Z*)-enolate is generated by the 1,4-hydrostannation of **1d** when in an *s-cis* conformation¹⁵ and that the resulting (*Z*)-enolate gives the *syn* aldol

(14) It has been reported that the reaction of tributylstannyl enolate, analogous to the tin enolate C arising from 1,4-hydrostannation of **1c**, with **4a** gave moderate *anti*-selectivity at low temperature.⁹

(15) (a) Boldrini, G. P.; Mancini, F.; Tagliavini, E.; Trombini, C.; Ronchi, A. U. *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* **1990**, 1680–1681. (b) Boldrini, G. P.; Bortolotti, M.; Mancini, F.; Tagliavini, E.; Trombini, C.; Ronchi, A. U. *J. Org. Chem.* **1991**, *56*, 5820–5826.

product under conditions of kinetic control.¹⁶ The enones **1b** and **1d** also provided the aldol products **7** and **8**, respectively, with high *syn*-selectivities (entries 3 and 4). Moreover, cyclohexanecarboxaldehyde **4b** and isobutyraldehyde **4c** behaved similarly (entries 6 and 7).

In conclusion, Bu₂SnIH reagents selectively reduce conjugated enones **1** in the presence of aldehydes at ambient temperature. In addition, a subsequent aldol reaction proceeds with *syn*-selectivity at -30 °C. Further work on related systems including the characterization of the tin enolates C is underway.

Experimental Section

Analysis. ¹H, ¹³C, and ¹¹⁹Sn NMR spectra were recorded at 400, 100, and 149 MHz, respectively. Samples for ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of produced ketones and aldols were examined in deuteriochloroform (CDCl₃) containing 0.03% (w/v) of tetramethylsilane. Samples for ¹H, ¹³C, and ¹¹⁹Sn NMR spectra of tin hydrides were examined in tetrahydrofuran-*d*₈ containing tetramethyltin. GLC analyses were performed using FFAP and OV-1 (2-m x 3-mm) columns. Column chromatography was performed by using Wakogel C-200 mesh silica gel. Preparative TLC was carried out on Wakogel B-5F silica gel. Yields were determined by ¹H NMR or GLC using internal standards.

Materials. Tributyltin hydride (Bu₃SnH) and dibutyltin dihydride (Bu₂SnH₂) were, respectively, prepared by the reduction of tributyltin chloride (Bu₃SnCl) and dibutyltin dichloride (Bu₂SnCl₂) with LiAlH₄.¹⁷ THF and toluene were freshly distilled over sodium benzophenone ketyl. All reactions were carried out under dry nitrogen.

Preparation of Organotin Iodide Hydrides. Reagent A (1 mmol) was synthesized by mixing Bu₂SnH₂ (0.5 mmol) and Bu₂SnI₂ (0.5 mmol) in THF. Reagent B (1 mmol) was prepared by mixing Bu₃SnH (1 mmol) and Bu₂SnI₂ (1 mmol) in THF. We spectroscopically confirmed that these reagents were immediately formed even at -50 °C.

Reagent A (8.00 M in THF-*d*₆): ¹H NMR (rt) δ 6.41 (Sn-H, ¹J(¹¹⁹Sn-¹H) = 2060 Hz, ¹J(¹¹⁷Sn-¹H) = 1968 Hz); ¹³C NMR (rt) δ 14.1, 17.3 (¹J(¹¹⁹Sn-¹³C_α) = 408 Hz, ¹J(¹¹⁷Sn-¹³C_α) = 390 Hz), 26.7 (³J(Sn-¹³C_γ) = 74 Hz), 29.7 (²J(Sn-¹³C_β) = 29 Hz); ¹¹⁹Sn NMR (rt) δ -76.3 (d).

Reagent B (8.00 M in THF-*d*₆): ¹H NMR (rt) Bu₂SnIH δ 6.37 (Sn-H, ¹J(¹¹⁹Sn-¹H) = 2046 Hz, ¹J(¹¹⁷Sn-¹H) = 1955 Hz); ¹³C NMR (rt) Bu₂SnIH δ 14.2, 17.2 (¹J(¹¹⁹Sn-¹³C_α) = 404 Hz, ¹J(¹¹⁷Sn-¹³C_α) = 387 Hz), 26.8 (³J(¹¹⁹Sn-¹³C_γ) = 74 Hz, ³J(¹¹⁷Sn-¹³C_γ) = 70 Hz), 29.8 (²J(Sn-¹³C_β) = 29 Hz); Bu₃SnI δ 14.2, 17.4 (¹J(¹¹⁹Sn-¹³C_α) = 325 Hz, ¹J(¹¹⁷Sn-¹³C_α) = 311 Hz), 27.2 (³J(¹¹⁹Sn-¹³C_γ) = 66 Hz, ³J(¹¹⁷Sn-¹³C_γ) = 63 Hz), 29.8 (²J(Sn-¹³C_β) = 24 Hz); ¹¹⁹Sn NMR (rt) Bu₂SnIH δ -76.3 (d); Bu₃SnI δ 80.5 (s).

Representative Procedure for the 1,4-Selective Reduction of Enones. To the solution of Bu₂SnI₂ (1 mmol) in 1 mL of THF was added Bu₃SnH (1 mmol). The mixture was stirred at rt for 10 min. Conjugated enone **1a** (1 mmol) was added, and the solution was stirred until the Sn-H absorption disappeared in the IR spectra. After quenching the reaction with MeOH (5 mL), volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was subjected to column chromatography eluting with hexane-EtOAc (9:1) to give the product **2a**. Further purification was performed by TLC eluting with hexane-EtOAc (10:1).

1,3-Diphenylpropanone (2a): white solid; mp 68.7–70.3 °C; IR (KBr) 1665 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 3.07 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.32 Hz), 3.30 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.32 Hz), 7.18–7.97 (m, 10H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 30.1, 40.4, 126.1, 128.0, 128.4, 128.5, 128.6, 133.0, 136.8, 141.3, 199.2; HRMS calcd for C₁₅H₁₄O 210.1045, found 210.1024.

1,3-Diphenyl-2-propenol (3a): colorless liquid, purified by TLC eluting with hexane-EtOAc (4:1); IR (neat) 3200 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.12 (br, 1H), 5.37 (dd, 1H, *J* = 6.35 and 2.44

Hz), 6.38 (dd, 1H, *J* = 16.11 and 6.35 Hz), 6.68 (d, 1H, *J* = 16.11 Hz), 7.20–7.44 (m, 10H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 75.1, 126.3, 126.6, 127.8, 127.8, 128.5, 128.6, 130.5, 131.5, 136.5, 142.8; HRMS calcd for C₁₅H₁₄O 210.1045, found 210.1038.

Butyrophenone (**2b**) [495-40-9], 4-phenyl-2-butanone (**2c**) [2550-26-7], propiophenone (**2d**) [93-55-0], cyclohexanone (**2e**) [108-94-1], cyclohexanol [108-93-0] were identified in comparison with commercially available samples.¹⁸

Procedure for the Competitive Reaction between Enones and Aldehydes. To the solution of Bu₂SnI₂ (1 mmol) in 1 mL of MeOH were added **1b** (1 mmol) and **4a** (1 mmol). Bu₃SnH (1 mmol) was added, and the solution was stirred for 2 h. After quenching with MeOH (5 mL), volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was subjected to column chromatography, eluting with hexane-EtOAc (9:1) to give mainly ketone **2b** (61%); benzyl alcohol **5a** (9%) and aldol product **7** (8%) were also detected.

Representative Procedure for the Aldol-Type Reaction. To the solution of Bu₂SnI₂ (1 mmol) in 1 mL of THF were added conjugated enone **1** (1 mmol) and aldehyde **4** (1 mmol). Bu₃SnH (1 mmol) was added at -30 °C, and the solution was stirred for 3 h with warming to room temperature. After quenching with MeOH (5 mL), volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was subjected to column chromatography eluting with hexane-EtOAc (1:2) to give the corresponding products **6–10**. Further purification was performed by TLC eluting with hexane-EtOAc (1:1).

***syn*- and *anti*-2-Benzyl-1,3-diphenyl-3-hydroxypropan-1-one (6):** colorless liquid, purified by TLC with hexane-EtOAc (1:1); IR (neat) 3400 and 1658 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) *syn* δ 3.07 (dd, 1H, *J* = 3.90 and 13.67 Hz), 3.18 (dd, 1H, *J* = 10.74 and 13.67 Hz), 3.35 (d, 1H, *J* = 1.47 Hz), 4.00–4.07 (m, 1H), 5.08 (d, 1H, *J* = 4.39 Hz), 6.93–7.95 (m, 15H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) *syn* δ 33.5, 55.6, 74.0, 126.0, 126.2, 127.6, 128.1, 128.2, 128.2, 128.3, 128.9, 133.0, 137.3, 139.3, 141.6, 205.5; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) *anti* δ 2.87 (dd, 1H, *J* = 6.35 and 13.68 Hz), 3.03 (dd, 1H, *J* = 8.79 and 13.68 Hz), 3.52 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.84 Hz), 4.07–4.12 (m, 1H), 4.95 (dd, 1H, *J* = 5.86 and 6.84 Hz), 6.94–7.94 (m, 15H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) *anti* δ 36.6, 54.7, 75.4, 126.1, 126.3, 127.7, 128.1, 128.3, 128.4, 128.9, 133.0, 138.0, 138.5, 142.6, 204.7.

¹H and ¹³C NMR data of *syn*-**6** were consistent with the ones reported previously: Boldrini, G. P.; Bortolotti, M.; Mancini, G.; Tagliavini, E.; Trombini, C.; Umani-Ronchi, A. *J. Org. Chem.* **1991**, *56*, 5820–5826. Registry No. *syn*-**6**, 132455-70-0; *anti*-**6**, 135414-46-9.¹⁸

***syn*- and *anti*-1,3-Diphenyl-2-ethyl-3-hydroxypropan-1-one (7):** colorless liquid, purified by TLC with hexane-EtOAc (1:1); IR (neat) 3250 and 1640 cm⁻¹; HRMS calcd for C₁₇H₁₈O₂ 254.1307, found 254.1304; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) *syn* δ 0.77 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.57 Hz), 1.72–1.99 (m, 2H), 3.39 (br, 1H), 3.74 (m, 1H), 5.37 (d, 1H, *J* = 4.88 Hz), 7.16–7.86 (m, 10H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) *syn* δ 12.0, 20.6, 54.2, 73.8, 126.1, 127.3, 127.7, 128.1, 128.2, 128.5, 137.4, 142.1, 205.0; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) *anti* δ 0.78 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.33 Hz), 1.46–1.75 (m, 2H), 3.29 (br, 1H), 3.76 (m, 1H), 4.99 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.33 Hz), 7.16–7.92 (m, 10H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) *anti* δ 11.5, 23.6, 54.3, 75.6, 126.3, 127.7, 128.2, 128.3, 128.5, 133.1, 138.2, 142.7, 205.6.

***syn*- and *anti*-1,3-Diphenyl-3-hydroxy-2-methylpropan-1-one (8):** colorless liquid, purified by TLC with hexane-EtOAc (1:1); IR (neat) 3000 and 1705 cm⁻¹; HRMS calcd for C₁₆H₁₆O₂ 240.1151, found 240.1148; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) *syn* δ 1.12 (d, 3H, *J* = 7.33 Hz), 3.63 (qd, 1H, *J* = 7.33 and 2.93 Hz), 5.17 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.93 Hz), 7.25–7.95 (m, 10H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) *syn* δ 11.1, 47.0, 73.1, 126.0, 127.3, 128.2, 128.5, 128.8, 133.6, 135.6, 141.8, 205.8; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) *anti* δ 1.00 (d, 3H, *J* = 7.32 Hz), 3.88–4.07 (m, 1H), 4.93 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.81 Hz), 7.25–7.99 (m, 10H).

¹H NMR data of *syn*- and *anti*-**8** were consistent with the ones reported previously: Noyori, R.; Nishida, I.; Sakata, J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1983**, *105*, 1598–1608. Registry No. *syn*-**8**, 71908-03-7; *anti*-**8**, 71908-02-6.¹⁸

***syn*-3-Cyclohexyl-3-hydroxy-2-methyl-1-phenylpropan-1-one (9):** colorless liquid, purified by TLC with hexane-EtOAc (1:1); IR (neat) 3200 and 1630 cm⁻¹; HRMS calcd for C₁₆H₂₂O₂ 246.1621, found 246.1623; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) *syn* δ 0.88–1.79 (m, 10H), 1.24 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.84 Hz), 2.06–2.15 (m, 1H), 3.10 (br,

(16) For example: Evans, D. A.; Nelson, J. V. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1979**, *101*, 6120–6123.

(17) (a) Finholt, A. E.; Bond, A. C., Jr.; Wilzbach, K. E.; Schlesinger, H. I. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1947**, *69*, 2692–2696. (b) Kerk, G. J. M.; Noltes, J. G.; Lujtjen, J. G. A. *J. Appl. Chem.* **1957**, *7*, 366–369.

(18) Registry numbers are provide by the author.

1H), 3.64–3.71 (m, 2H), 7.26–7.97 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) *syn* δ 10.5, 25.8, 26.1, 26.3, 29.2, 29.4, 40.2, 41.3, 75.4, 128.4, 128.8, 133.4, 135.9, 205.9.

***syn*- and *anti*-3-Isopropyl-3-hydroxy-2-methyl-1-phenylpropan-1-one (10):** colorless liquid, purified by TLC with hexane–EtOAc (1:1); IR (neat) 3350 and 1640 cm⁻¹; HRMS calcd for C₁₃H₁₈O₂ 206.1307, found 206.1301; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) *syn* δ 0.96 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.35 Hz), 1.03 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.35 Hz), 1.25 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.83 Hz), 1.74–1.83 (m, 1H), 3.15 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.44 Hz), 3.62–3.71 (m, 2H), 7.45–7.98 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) *syn* δ 10.8, 18.9, 19.1, 30.7, 41.9, 76.6, 128.4, 128.7, 133.3, 135.9, 205.7; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) *anti* δ 0.94 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.84 Hz), 1.00 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.84 Hz), 1.27 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.84 Hz), 1.74–1.85 (m, 1H), 1.89 (br, 1H), 2.97–3.00 (m, 1H), 3.56–3.62 (m, 1H), 7.45–7.98 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) *anti* δ 15.9, 16.9, 19.9, 31.2, 42.4, 79.1, 128.5, 128.7, 132.8, 136.7, 206.2.

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Supporting Information Available: Experimental procedures and ¹H and ¹³C NMR and HRMS spectral data for the products **2a**, **3a**, **6–10** (21 pages). This material is contained in libraries on microfiche, immediately follows this article in the microfilm version of the journal, and can be ordered from the ACS; see any current masthead page for ordering information.

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