

Synthesis of (S)-Imperanene by Using Allylic Substitution

Yuji Takashima and Yuichi Kobayashi*

Department of Biomolecular Engineering, Tokyo Institute of Technology, 4259 Nagatsuta-cho, Midori-ku, Yokohama 226-8501, Japan

ykobayas@bio.titech.ac.jp

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Synthesis of (*S*)-imperanene (1) was studied by using copper-assisted allylic substitution of ArCH=CHCH(L)CH₂Ar (L: leaving group) and (*i*-PrO)Me₂SiCH₂MgCl. Preliminary substitution between PhCH=CHCH(L)Me (L = AcO, PivO, MeOCO₂, (2-Py)CO₂) and Bu copper reagents derived from BuMgX (X = Br, Cl) and CuBr·Me₂S or CuClin 1:1-40:1 ratios suggested acetate **28** as the best substrate. To prepare **28**, kinetic resolution of racemic (*E*)-TMSCH=CHCH(OH)CH₂Ar² (Ar² = (*p*-TBSO)(*m*-MeO)C₆H₃) carried out by using the asymmetric epoxidation with (-)-DIPT afforded the corresponding epoxy alcohol and (*S*)-allylic alcohol. After separation by chromatography, these products were converted to (*S*,*E*)-Bu₃SnCH=CHCH(OH)CH₂Ar², which upon palladium-catalyzed coupling with Ar²-I followed by acetylation gave **28** (95–98% ee). Substitution of **28** with (*i*-PrO)Me₂SiCH₂MgCl and CuBr·Me₂S in a 4:1 ratio at 0 °C proceeded cleanly to produce **29** with 100% inversion in 92% yield. Finally, Tamao oxidation furnished **1**.

Introduction

In the past decade allylic substitution of secondary (optically active) allylic alcohol derivatives with copper reagents has much progressed with the finding of reactive leaving groups such as C₆F₅CO₂, o-(Ph₂P)C₆H₄CO₂, o-(Ph₂PO)C₆H₄CO₂, (RO)₂P(O)O, and (2-Py)CO₂. With these groups a wide range of allylic substrates have been shown to undergo γ -substitution with high efficiency in yield and in regio- and stereoselectivities.¹ However, there are a class of substrates that suffer from low regioselectivity by steric and/or electronic reason. For example, the γ -aryl allylic alcohol derivatives afford a mixture of regioisomers in varying ratios depending on copper reagents and reaction conditions.² Somewhat low percent inversion³ for

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 S_N 2-type product observed with alkyl copper reagent is another problem to be solved.



(S)-(+)-imperanene (1)

To advance in this area, we have become interested in the synthesis of (*S*)-imperanene (1) by using γ - and α -selective allylic substitutions of esters **2** and **3** with masked "HOCH₂" copper reagents derived from (*i*-PrO)Me₂SiCH₂MgCl⁴ and CuX to give **4**, which would furnish alcohol **5** by oxidation (Scheme 1). This target, isolated from *Imperata cylindrica* by Ohizumi,⁵ inhibit platelet aggregation. Recently, inhibition

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SCHEME 1. Two Approaches to Imperanene^{*a*}

^{*a*}Ar = (m-MeO)(p-R^{²O)C₆H₃ (R² = PMB, TBS, TBDPS, Ts).}

of tyrosinase activity was newly reported.⁶ Four syntheses⁷ of **1** and one synthesis⁸ of the enantiomer have been reported to date. The key to the success in these syntheses was the proper control of the reactive oxygen-containing functional groups and suppression of side reactions induced by these groups. Herein, we report a different approach to **1** using allylic substitution.

Results and Discussion

The first approach to 4 from 2 was examined by using our protocol,9 in which a cis allylic picolinate is required for high γ -selectivity. Thus, picolinate 9 with (*m*-MeO)(*p*-PMBO)C₆H₃ (abbreviated to Ar^1) was chosen as 2, and synthesized in a racemic form by the method summarized in Scheme 2. Coupling of acetylene 6 and Ar¹CH₂Cl was accomplished with the Pd/XPhos catalyst to afford 7 in 94% yield.¹⁰ Other attempts by using catalysts such as $Co(acac)_3^{11}$ and CuCN and by conducting the reaction in HMPA did not afford the product. Conversion of 7 to picolinate 9 proceeded well. Allylic substitution of picolinate 9 with ((i-PrO)Me₂SiCH₂)₂CuMgCl, synthesized from (*i*-PrO)Me₂-SiCH₂MgCl (2 equiv) and CuBr·Me₂S (1 equiv) at 0 °C (30 min), proceeded smoothly to afford the γ -substitution product 10 regioselectively in good yield. Oxidation of 10 under the reported conditions successfully produced alcohol 11 in 61% yield. Finally, removal of the PMB group was

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11, **12**
$$// \rightarrow$$
 1, R¹ = H, R² = H
13, R¹ = H, R² = Ac

^aXPhos: 2-dicyclohexylphosphino-2',4',6'-triisopropylbiphenyl.

attempted with DDQ in wet CH_2Cl_2 ,¹² CF_3CO_2H in CH_2Cl_2 ,¹³ NaB(CN)H_3/BF_3·Et_2O in THF at 80 °C,¹⁴ Ph_3CBF_4 in CH_2Cl_2,¹⁵ and Dowex in MeOH/THF.¹⁶ However, these reagents unfortunately gave a mixture of unidentified products. Another attempt on acetate **12** derived from **11** with CF_3CO_2H in CH_2Cl_2¹³ and ClSO_2NCO in CH_2Cl_2¹⁷ produced a mixture. Next, the transformation of Scheme 2 was examined with compounds possessing the TBS, TBDPS, or Ts protective group in place of the PMB group. However, Pd/XPhos-catalyzed coupling of these acetylenes with ArCH_2Cl was unsuccessful, yielding < 26% of the desired product or a mixture of unidentified products.

The second approach of Scheme 1 through the S_N^2 -type substitution (i.e., 3 to 4) was investigated next. Allylic substitution of racemic ArCH=CHCH(L)R, which has the same structural type as 3, has been well documented,¹ whereas reactions of the optically active substrates have been reported a little.² Unfortunately, percent inversion is at the 90% level with varying regioselectivity depending on the

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reagents and reaction conditions as summarized in eq 1.¹⁸ Due to this reason, we explored substitution between PhCH=CHCH(L)Me (L = AcO, PivO, MeOCO₂, (2-Py)-CO₂) and Bu copper reagents derived from BuMgX (X = Cl, Br) and CuBr·Me₂S or CuCl in 1:1-40:1 ratios (eq 2). As summarized in Table 1, the reaction of *rac*-14a-c with the copper reagents in > 4:1 ratios in THF at 0 °C for 1 h was highly α -selective irrespective of the leaving groups (entries 3-8, 10, and 14), whereas substitution with the 1:1 reagent was γ -selective, but proceeded slowly (entries 1, 2, 11, and 12). Both BuMgBr and BuMgCl showed essentially the same regioselectivity and reactivity in reactions with acetate *rac*-14a. On the other hand, picolinate *rac*-14d was highly reactive with the 1:1 reagent, and gave the γ -product efficiently (entries 15 and 16).



(18) The copper catalyst used in ref 2c (CuX) is uncertain because of inconsistent description (Table 3, entry 2 and SI, CuCl vs. CuBr·Me₂S). As shown in Table 1 of the present MS, we confirmed essentially no difference between CuCl and CuBr·Me₂S.

TABLE 1. Preliminary Study of Allylic Substitution^a

			Bu	ıMgX		
entry	substrate	L	Х	equiv	CuBr·Me ₂ S equiv	15:16:17:SM ^b
1	rac-14a	AcO	Cl	2.0	2.2	0:18 ^c :0:82
2	rac-14a	AcO	Br	2.0	2.3	0:29 ^c :0:71
3	rac-14a	AcO	Cl	4.0	1.0	92: < 1:7:0
4	rac-14a	AcO	Br	4.0	1.0	94: < 2:4:0
5	rac-14a	AcO	Cl	4.0	0.4	92: < 1:7:0
6	rac-14a	AcO	Cl	4.0	0.1	94: < 1:6:0
7	rac-14a	AcO	Cl	1.4	$CuCl,^d 0.2$	98: < 2:0:0
8	rac-14a	AcO	Br	1.4	CuCl, ^d 0.2	97: < 2: < 1:0
9	rac-14b	PivO	Cl	2.0	2.3	0:0:0:100
10	rac-14b	PivO	Cl	4.0	1.0	91:9:0:0
11	rac-14c	MeOCO ₂	Cl	2.0	2.3	0:15 ^e :0:85
12	rac-14c	MeOCO ₂	Br	2.0	2.3	2:64 ^e :0:34
13	rac-14c	MeOCO ₂	Cl	4.0	1.0	89:11 ^e :7:0
14	<i>rac</i> -14c	MeOCO ₂	Br	4.0	1.0	99: < 1:0:0
15	rac-14d	(2-Py)CO ₂	Cl	2.0	2.3	4:96 ^e :0:0
16	rac-14d	$(2-Py)CO_2$	Br	2.0	2.2	4:96 ^e :0:0
17	rac-14d	$(2-Py)CO_2$	Cl	4.0	1.0	64:29 ^e :7:0
18	rac-14d	(2-Py)CO ₂	Br	4.0	1.0	53:41 ^e :6:0
^a Reactions were carried out at 0 °C for 1 h unless otherwise noted.						

^aReactions were carried out at 0 ^aC for 1 h unless otherwise noted. ^bStarting material. ^cCis:trans = ca. 1:2 by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. ^dAt -20 ^aC for 2 h. ^eCis:trans = ca. 2:1 by ¹H NMR spectroscopy.

With the above results in hand, we prepared optically active esters (S)-14a (>99% ee) and (S)-14c (81% ee) from the corresponding alcohol¹⁹ of >99% ee (for (S)-14a, Ac₂O, DMAP, pyridine, CH₂Cl₂, rt, 100%; for (S)-14c, ClCO₂Me, pyridine, CH₂Cl₂, 0 °C-rt, 85%), though substantial drop in ee was observed with (S)-14c. These esters upon reaction with $BuMgBr/CuBr \cdot Me_2S$ (>4:1) under the optimized conditions produced (S)-15 in good yields with high percent inversion and regioselectivity (eq 3). Similarly, reactions with (*i*-PrO)Me₂SiCH₂MgCl/ $CuBr \cdot Me_2S$ (4:1) proceeded well to produce 18 quite efficiently (eq 4). On the basis of these results and the ee of (S)-14a and (S)-14c mentioned above, we decided to use acetate 28 with $(p-TBSO)(m-MeO)C_6H_3$ as Ar^2 in the real synthesis of imperanene (1) as shown in Scheme 3. In addition, we are pleased to conclude that highly efficient allylic substitution of ArCH= CHCH(OAc)R with R'MgBr/CuBr·Me₂S is now established.20

Successful synthesis of 1 and unsuccessful attempts for the preparation of intermediates are summarized in Schemes 3 and 4. TBS ether 20 was converted to homologue 21 and Ar^2 -CCH (31) through the Wittig reaction and the Corey–Fuchs reaction, respectively, in good yields. An attempted asymmetric addition of 31 to 21 according to the literature

(20) Additional example of successful substitution:



⁽¹⁹⁾ Itoh, T.; Matsushita, Y.; Abe, Y.; Han, S.-H.; Wada, S.; Hayase, S.; Kawatsura, M.; Takai, S.; Morimoto, M.; Hirose, Y. *Chem. Eur. J.* 2006, *12*, 9228–9237.

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SCHEME 3. Synthesis of (S)-Imperanene



methods²¹ was, however, unsuccessful, giving unidentified products (Scheme 4, attempt 1) probably due to the enolizable methylene moiety as suggested by Trost in his similar case.^{22,23} In contrast, addition of the lithium anion of **31** to aldehyde **21** proceeded cleanly to produce racemic alcohol *rac*-**32**, which was subjected to oxidation in order to obtain ketone **33** for asymmetric hydrogen transfer reaction. However, oxidations with PCC, Dess-Martin, TPAP, SO₃·Py resulted in formation of complex mixtures (attempt 2). In contrast, oxidation of racemic alcohol *rac*-**22** derived from **21** and TMS acetylene successfully afforded ketone **34** (attempt 3). Unfortunately, asymmetric hydrogen transfer

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(23) In contrast, the following reaction was successfully executed by the authors to produce **ii**, which was converted to (*S*)-**6** for the first approach (Scheme 2).



(24) Reaction at 35 °C produced a mixture of (S)-22 and unidentified products.

(25) In contrast, asymmetric hydrogen transfer reduction of ketones iii and iv executed by the authors gave alcohols v (90%, 98% ee) and vi (86%), respectively.



reduction of **34** was quite slow, affording alcohol (*S*)-**22** in 24% yield after 24 h (attempt 3).^{24,25}

Next, kinetic resolution of racemic allylic alcohol rac-23 by asymmetric epoxidation²⁶ was investigated to create the asymmetric center for the allylic substitution. Under the reported conditions,²⁷ asymmetric epoxidation of *rac*-23, synthesized from rac-22 by Red-Al reduction, afforded (S)-23 and epoxide 24 in reasonable yields. Both of the products were separated by chromatography on silica gel, and converted to alcohol 27 separately. Epoxidation of (S)-23 was followed by Mitsunobu inversion to afford 25 in 88% yield. Peterson reaction of 25 with Bu₃SnLi (prepared from Bu₃SnH and LDA) proceeded well to furnish γ -stannyl alcohol 26 stereoselectively in good yield. Palladium-catalyzed Stille coupling of 26 with (p-TBSO)(m-MeO)C₆H₃I (27, abbreviated to Ar^2 -I)²⁸ was successful under modified conditions of Farina²⁹ with use of Pd₂dba₃·CHCl₃ (5 mol %), AsPPh₃ (20 mol %), and LiCl (4 equiv) in NMP at rt to afford alcohol 28 (99% ee) in 78% yield.³⁰ In a similar manner, epoxide 24 was converted to 28 (98% ee) via vinylstannane 26 in two steps. Finally, acetylation of alcohol 28 with

(27) Kinetic resolution of γ-silylallylic alcohols: Kitano, Y.; Matsumoto, T.; Sato, F. *Tetrahedron* **1988**, 44, 4073–4086.

(28) Prepared as presented below. See the Experimental Section.



(29) Farina, V.; Krishnan, B. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1991, 113, 9585–9595.
(30) Other conditions (Pd₂dba₃·CHCl₃/AsPPh₃ in THF at 50 °C, Pd-(PPh₃)₄/CuI/CsF in DMF at 50 °C, and Pd(PPh₃)₄/LiCl in refluxing toluene) were unsuccessful, in our hand.

^{(26) (}a) Martin, V. S.; Woodard, S. S.; Katsuki, T.; Yamada, Y.; Ikeda, M.; Sharpless, K. B. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1981**, *103*, 6237–6240. (b) Gao, Y.; Hanson, R. M.; Klunder, J. M.; Ko, S. Y.; Masamune, H.; Sharpless, K. B. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1987**, *109*, 5765–5780.

SCHEME 4. Attempted Preparation of Intermediates^{*a*}

attempt 1



 ${}^{a}\text{Ar}^{2} = (p-\text{TBSO})(m-\text{MeO})\text{C}_{6}\text{H}_{3}$. Ru cat. = Ru[(S,S)-TsDPEN](p-cymene).

Ac₂O and DMAP in CH₂Cl₂ afforded allylic acetate **29** in 95% yield, which was 95% ee by chiral HPLC. The coupling reaction of **29** with (*i*-PrO)Me₂SiCH₂MgCl/CuBr·Me₂S (4:1) at 0 °C completed within 1 h to furnish the α -substitution product **30** regioselectively in 92% yield. Finally, oxidation of **30** under the given conditions proceeded with concomitant desilylation of the TBS ether to produce (*S*)-imperanene (**1**) in 73% yield: 95% ee by chiral HPLC, [α]²⁵_D +98 (*c* 0.70, CHCl₃); lit. [α]²⁵_D +97 (*c* 0.68, CHCl₃) and [α]²⁵_D +103 (*c* 1.7, CHCl₃).^{7b}

Conclusions

In summary, we have achieved the synthesis of (S)-imperanene (1) through α -selective allylic substitution of acetate **29** with the copper reagent derived from (*i*-PrO)Me₂ SiCH₂MgCl/CuBr·Me₂S (4:1) under the reaction conditions established herein. Furthermore, several results unexpectedly encountered during the synthesis are disclosed as useful information for future study of transforming highly oxygenated aromatic compounds.

Experimental Section

1-(4-(*tert***-Butyldimethylsilyloxy)-3-methoxyphenyl)-4-(trimethylsilyl)but-3-yn-2-ol (***rac***-22). To a solution of vanillin (5.01 g, 32.9 mmol) and imidazole (4.52 g, 66.4 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (70 mL) was added TBSCl (7.58 g, 50.3 mmol). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h and poured into saturated NH₄Cl. The product was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ twice. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated in vacuo to afford a residual oil, which was chromatographed on silica gel with hexane/EtOAc (from 1:0 to 20:1) to afford the known silyl ether 20**³¹ (8.25 g, 94%) as a colorless oil.

To an ice-cold solution of (methoxymethyl)triphenylphosphonium chloride (3.12 g, 9.10 mmol) in THF (40 mL) was added NaN(TMS)₂ (9.00 mL, 1.0 M in THF, 9.00 mmol) under an argon atmosphere. After 20 min at 0 °C, a solution of **20** (2.04 g, 7.66 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added to the reaction mixture. The mixture was allowed to warm slowly to ambient temperature, stirred for 14 h, and poured into saturated NH₄Cl. The product was extracted with EtOAc twice. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated in vacuo to afford a residual oil, which was chromatographed on silica gel with hexane/EtOAc (from 1:0 to 20:1) to afford the corresponding enol ether (2.14 g, 95%) as a 65:35 mixture of trans and cis isomers: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.14 (s, 6 H), 0.99 (s, 9 H), 3.66 (s, 2 H), and 3.77 (s, 1 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 5.16 (d, J = 7 Hz, 0.35 H), and 5.76 (d, J = 13 Hz, 0.65 H), 6.05 (d, J = 7 Hz, 0.35 H), and 6.94 (d, J = 13 Hz, 0.65 H), 6.66–6.78 (m, 3 H).

To a solution of the above enol ether (114 mg, 0.387 mmol) and NaI (63 mg, 0.42 mmol) in MeCN (7 mL) was added TMSCl (0.043 mL, 0.34 mmol) at -18 °C under an argon atmosphere. After 30 min at -18 °C, the reaction mixture was poured into aqueous Na₂S₂O₃. The product was extracted with EtOAc twice. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated in vacuo to afford a residual oil, which was chromatographed on silica gel with hexane/EtOAc (from 1:0 to 20:1) to afford aldehyde **21** (78 mg, 72%) as a colorless oil: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.15 (s, 6 H), 0.99 (s, 9 H), 3.60 (d, J=2.5 Hz, 2 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 6.63–6.70 (m, 2 H), 6.84 (d, J=8 Hz, 1 H), 9.71 (t, J=2.5 Hz, 1 H).

To a solution of trimethylsilylacetylene (0.62 mL, 4.39 mmol) in THF (12 mL) was added n-BuLi (2.73 mL, 1.55 M in THF, 4.23 mmol) at -78 °C under an argon atmosphere. After 0.5 h of stirring at -78 °C, a solution of aldehyde 21 (948 mg, 3.38 mmol) in THF (8 mL) was added to the solution. After 2 h of stirring at -50 °C, the mixture was poured into saturated NH₄Cl. The product was extracted with EtOAc twice. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated in vacuo to afford a residual oil, which was purified by chromatography on silica gel with hexane/EtOAc (from 1:0 to 20:1) to afford propargyl alcohol rac-22 (931 mg, 73%) as a colorless oil: IR (neat) 3393, 1516, 1251, 1041, 841 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) & 0.15 (s, 6 H), 0.16 (s, 9 H), 0.99 (s, 9 H), 2.91 (dd, J=13, 6 Hz, 1 H), 2.94 (dd, J=13, 6 Hz, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 4.53 (t, J=6 Hz, 3 H), 6.69–6.73 (m, 1 H), 6.71–6.80 (m, 2 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -4.5 (-), -0.08 (-), 18.5 (+), 25.8 (-), 43.8 (+), 55.5 (-), 63.7 (-), 90.3 (+), 106.1 (+), 113.8(-), 120.8(-), 122.2(-), 129.8(+), 144.1(+), 150.8(+);HRMS (FAB) calcd for $C_{20}H_{34}O_3Si_2Na [(M + Na)^+] 401.1944$, found 401.1943.

(E)-1-(4-(tert-Butyldimethylsilyloxy)-3-methoxyphenyl)-4-(trimethylsilyl)but-3-en-2-ol (rac-23). To an ice-cold solution of propargyl alcohol rac-22 (1.30 g, 3.43 mmol) in Et₂O (35 mL) was added Red-Al (1.91 mL, 70% toluene solution, 6.85 mmol) under an argon atmosphere. After 1 h of stirring at room temperature, the mixture was poured into saturated 1 N HCl with vigorous stirring. The product was extracted with EtOAc twice. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated in vacuo to afford a residual oil, which was chromatographed on silica gel with hexane/EtOAc (from 1:0 to 10:1) to afford allylic alcohol rac-23 (1.21 g, 92%) as a colorless oil: IR (neat) 3393, 1517, 1281, 1125, 839 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.06 (s, 9 H), 0.15 (s, 6 H), 0.99 (s, 9 H), 1.71 (br s, 1 H), 2.68 (dd, J=13.5, 8 Hz, 1 H), 2.82 (dd, J=13.5, 5 Hz, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 4.24–4.34 (m, 1 H), 5.85 (dd, J = 19, 1 Hz, 1 H), 6.09 (dd, J=19, 5 Hz, 1 H), 6.65 (dd, J=8, 2 Hz, 1 H), 6.70 (d, J = 2 Hz, 1 H), 6.79 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR $(75 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3) \delta - 4.5 (-), -1.2 (-), 18.5 (+), 25.8 (-),$ 43.5 (+), 55.5 (-), 75.0 (-), 113.5 (-), 120.9 (-), 121.8 (-), 129.6 (-), 131.0 (+), 143.8 (+), 147.5 (-), 150.9 (+); HRMS (FAB) calcd for $C_{20}H_{36}O_3Si_2Na$ [(M + Na)⁺] 403.2101, found 403.2097.

⁽³¹⁾ Rao, P. N. P.; Chen, Q.-H.; Knaus, E. E. J. Med. Chem. 2006, 49, 1668–1683.

(R)-2-(4-(tert-Butyldimethylsilyloxy)-3-methoxyphenyl)-1-((2R,3R)-3-(trimethylsilyl)oxiran-2-yl)ethanol (24) and (E,R)-1-(4-(tert-Butyldimethylsilyloxy)-3-methoxyphenyl)-4-(trimethylsilyl)but-3-en-2-ol ((S)-23). To a solution of Ti(O-i-Pr)₄ (0.88 mL, 2.97 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (22 mL) was added (-)-DIPT (0.74 mL, 3.53 mmol) at -10 °C under an argon atmosphere. After 50 min of stirring at -10 °C, a solution of allylic alcohol *rac*-23 (1.13 g, 2.97 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (8 mL) was added to the solution. After 50 min of stirring at -10 °C, the solution was cooled to -40 °C, and t-BuOOH (0.56 mL, 5.86 M in CH₂Cl₂, 3.28 mmol) was added. The solution was stirred at -20 °C for 7 h, and Me₂S (0.24 mL, 3.27 mmol) was added. The solution was stirred at room temperature for 0.5 h, and 10% aqueous tartaric acid (0.5 mL) and NaF (174 mg, 4.14 mmol) were added. The resulting mixture was stirred for 30 min and filtered through a pad of Celite. The filtrate was concentrated in vacuo to afford a residual oil, which was chromatographed on silica gel with hexane/EtOAc (from 100:1 to 4:1) to afford allylic alcohol (S)-23 (572 mg, 51%) and epoxy alcohol 24 (525 mg, 44%) as a colorless oil. Epoxy alcohol 24: $[\alpha]_{D}^{27}$ – 3.7 (*c* 0.22, CHCl₃); IR (neat) 3447, 1516, 1282, 1250, 841 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.06 (s, 9 H), 0.14 (s, 6 H), 0.99 (s, 9 H), 1.95 (d, J = 2 Hz, 1 H), 2.36 (d, J=4 Hz, 1 H), 2.77–2.81 (m, 2H), 2.85 (t, J= 4 Hz, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 3.96–4.04 (m, 1 H), 6.67 (dd, J=8, 2 Hz, 1 H), 6.74 (d, J = 2 Hz, 1 H), 6.78 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR $(75 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3) \delta - 4.6 (-), -3.6 (-), 18.5 (+), 25.8 (-), 40.2$ (+), 48.0 (-), 55.5 (-), 57.9 (-), 70.6 (-), 113.3 (-), 120.9 (-), 121.6 (-), 130.6 (+), 143.8 (+), 151.0 (+); HRMS (FAB) calcd for $C_{20}H_{36}O_4Si_2Na$ [(M + Na)⁺] 419.2050, found 419.2045. Allylic alcohol (S)-**23**: $[\alpha]^{23}{}_D$ -9.3 (c 0.56, CHCl₃).

(S)-2-(4-(tert-Butyldimethylsilyloxy)-3-methoxyphenyl)-1-((2S,3S)-3-(trimethylsilyl)-oxiran-2-yl)ethanol (ent-24). To a solution of Ti(O-*i*-Pr)₄ (0.45 mL, 1.52 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) was added (+)-DIPT (0.38 mL, 1.82 mmol) at -10 °C under an argon atmosphere. After 30 min of stirring at -10 °C, a solution of allylic alcohol (S)-23 (577 mg, 1.52 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) was added to the solution. After 45 min of stirring at -20 °C, the solution was cooled to -30 °C, and t-BuOOH (0.29 mL, 5.86 M in CH₂Cl₂, 1.70 mmol) was added. The solution was stirred at -20 °C for 13 h, and Me₂S (0.12 mL, 1.63 mmol) was added. The solution was stirred at room temperature for 0.5 h, and 10% aqueous tartaric acid (0.3 mL) and NaF (0.114 g, 2.74 mmol) were added. The resulting mixture was stirred for 30 min and filtered through a pad of Celite. The filtrate was concentrated in vacuo to afford a residual oil, which was chromatographed on silica gel with hexane/EtOAc (from 100:1 to 4:1) to afford epoxy alcohol *ent*-**24** (0.505 g, 84%) as a colorless oil: $[\alpha]^{25}_{D}$ +3.5 (*c* 0.63, CHCl₃).

(R)-2-(4-(tert-Butyldimethylsilyloxy)-3-methoxyphenyl)-1-((2S,3S)-3-(trimethylsilyl)-oxiran-2-yl)ethanol (25). To an ice-cold solution of epoxy alcohol ent-24 (99 mg, 0.25 mmol), PPh₃ (104 mg, 0.397 mmol), and ClCH₂COOH (31 mg, 0.31 mmol) in THF (1.5 mL) was added DIAD (0.15 mL, 0.305 mmol) dropwise. After 3 h of stirring at 0 °C, the mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature over 13 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo to afford a residual oil, which was chromatographed on silica gel with hexane/EtOAc (from 1:0 to 20:1) to afford the corresponding chloroacetate (106 mg, 90%) as a colorless oil: ¹H NMR $(300 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3) \delta 0.00 \text{ (s, 9 H)}, 0.14 \text{ (s, 6 H)}, 0.99 \text{ (s, 9 H)},$ 1.95 (d, J = 3 Hz, 1 H), 2.89 (dd, J = 14, 8 Hz, 1 H), 2.94 (dd, J = 6, 3 Hz, 1 H), 3.01 (dd, J=14, 6 Hz, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 4.05 (d, J= 15 Hz, 1 H), 4.10 (d, J=15 Hz, 1 H), 4.84 (dt, J=6, 8 Hz, 1 H), 6.63 (dd, J=8, 2 Hz, 1 H), 6.72 (d, J=2 Hz, 1 H), 6.77 (d, J=8 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -4.6 (-), -3.7 (-), 18.5 (+), 25.8 (-), 37.7(+), 41.0(+), 49.8(-), 55.5(-), 56.2(-), 79.4(-), 113.0-), 121.0 (-), 121.7 (-), 129.2 (+), 144.1 (+), 151.0 (+), 166.7 (+).

To an ice-cold solution of the above chloroacetate (327 mg, 0.691 mmol) in MeOH (3 mL) was added n-PrNH₂ (0.06 mL, 0.73 mmol). After 1.5 h of stirring at 0 °C, the mixture was

poured into saturated NH₄Cl. The product was extracted with EtOAc twice. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated in vacuo to afford a residual oil, which was chromatographed on silica gel with hexane/EtOAc (from 10:1 to 4:1) to afford epoxy alcohol **25** (269 mg, 98%) as a colorless oil: $[\alpha]^{24}_{D} - 29$ (*c* 0.18, CHCl₃); IR (neat) 3394, 1513, 1281, 1250, 841 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.02 (s, 9 H), 0.14 (s, 6 H), 0.99 (s, 9 H), 2.00 (d, *J* = 5 Hz, 1 H), 2.13 (d, *J* = 4 Hz, 1 H), 2.79 (dd, *J* = 13, 7 Hz, 1 H), 2.84–2.96 (m, 2 H), 3.59–3.69 (m, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 6.66 (dd, *J* = 8, 2 Hz, 1 H), 6.72 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1 H), 6.78 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ –4.6 (–), –3.6 (–), 18.5 (+), 25.8 (–), 40.7 (+), 49.7 (–), 55.6 (–), 58.7 (–), 74.3 (–), 113.3 (–), 120.9 (–), 121.6 (–), 130.7 (+), 143.8 (+), 151.0 (+); HRMS (FAB) calcd for C₂₀H₃₆O₄Si₂Na [(M + Na)⁺] 419.2050, found 419.2061.

(R, E)-1-(4-(tert-Butyldimethylsilyloxy)-3-methoxyphenyl-4-(tributylstannyl)but-3-en-2-ol (26). From 25:. To an ice-cold solution of i-Pr₂NH (0.32 mL, 2.28 mmol) in THF (4 mL) was added n-BuLi (1.14 mL, 1.55 M in THF, 1.77 mmol) under an argon atmosphere. After 0.5 h of stirring at 0 °C, Bu₃SnH (0.20 mL, 0.744 mmol) and, after 0.5 h at 0 °C, a solution of epoxy alcohol 25 (260 mg, 0.655 mmol) in THF (2.5 mL) were added to the solution. Stirring was continued at 0 °C for 1 h and at room temperature for 4 h. The solution was poured into saturated NH₄Cl. The product was extracted with EtOAc twice. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated in vacuo to afford a residual oil, which was chromatographed on silica gel with hexane/EtOAc (from 1:0 to 20:1) to afford γ -stannyl alcohol **26** (330 mg, 84%) as an yellow oil: $[\alpha]_{D}^{23} - 8.7 (c \, 0.62, \text{CHCl}_3)$; IR (neat) 3360, 1515, 1282, 840 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) & 0.15 (s, 6 H), 0.84-0.94 (m, 15 H), 0.99 (s, 9 H), 1.23–1.37 (m, 6 H), 1.43–1.53 (m, 6 H), 1.67 (d, J=4 Hz, 1 H), 2.70 (dd, J = 14, 8 Hz, 1 H), 2.82 (dd, J = 14, 5 Hz, 1 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 4.23-4.32 (m, 1 H), 6.05 (dd, J = 19, 5 Hz, 1 H; $J_{\text{Sn-H(cis)}} = 65 \text{ Hz}$, 6.17 (dd, $J = 19, 0.6 \text{ Hz}, 1 \text{ H}; J_{\text{Sn-H(gem)}} =$ 71 Hz), 6.65 (dd, J=8, 2.5 Hz, 1 H), 6.70–6.73 (m, 1 H), 6.75– 6.81 (m, 1 H); 13 C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -4.6 (-), 9.5 (+), 13.8 (-), 18.5 (+), 25.8 (-), 27.4 (+), 29.1 (+), 43.7 (+), 55.5 (-), 75.9 (-), 113.5 (-), 120.9 (-), 121.8 (-), 128.1 (-), 131.3 (+), 143.7 (+), 149.8 (-), 150.9 (+). From 24: To an ice-cold solution of i-Pr₂NH (0.70 mL, 4.99 mmol) in THF (5 mL) was added n-BuLi (2.51 mL, 1.55 M in THF, 3.89 mmol) under an argon atmosphere. After 0.5 h of stirring at 0 °C, Bu₃SnH (0.43 mL, 1.60 mmol) and, after 0.5 h at 0 °C, a solution of epoxy alcohol 24 (572 mg, 1.44 mmol) in THF (3 mL) were added to the solution. Stirring was continued at 0 °C for 1 h and at room temperature for 4 h. The solution was poured into saturated NH₄Cl. The product was extracted with EtOAc twice and purified as above to afford alcohol 26 (646 mg, 75%) as an yellow oil.

1-(*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyloxy)-4-iodo-2-methoxybenzene (27). To a solution of phenol 2-methoxyphenol (103 mg, 0.83 mmol) and NaOH (61 mg, 1.53 mmol) in MeOH (2 mL) was added I₂ (215 mg, 0.847 mmol) at -4 °C. The mixture was stirred at -4 °C for 1 h and poured into H₂O. The product was extracted with EtOAc twice. The combined organic layers were washed with aqueous Na₂S₂O and brine, dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated in vacuo to afford a residual oil, which was chromatographed on silica gel with hexane/EtOAc (from 1:0 to 10:1) to afford 4-iodo-2-methoxyphenol (120 mg, 70%) as a colorless oil: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.88 (s, 3 H), 5.57 (s, 1 H), 6.68 (d, J=8 Hz, 1 H), 7.13 (d, J=2 Hz, 1 H), 7.18 (dd, J=8, 2 Hz, 1 H). The ¹H NMR spectrum was identified with that reported.³²

⁽³²⁾ Fryatt, T.; Botting, N. P. J. Labelled Compd. Radiopharm. 2005, 48, 951–969.

A solution of the above iodide (404 mg, 1.84 mmol), TBSCl (369 mg, 2.45 mmol), and imidazole (203 mg, 2.98 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 12 h and poured into saturated NH₄Cl. The product was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ twice. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated in vacuo to afford a residual oil, which was chromatographed on silica gel with hexane to afford **27** (454 mg, 74%) as a colorless oil: IR (neat) 1581, 1496, 1256, 1224, 831 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.14 (s, 6 H), 0.98 (s, 9 H), 3.78 (s, 3 H), 6.59 (d, *J*=8 Hz, 1 H), 7.10 (d, *J*=2.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.12 (dd, *J*=8, 2.5 Hz, 1 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -4.6 (-), 18.5 (+), 25.7 (-), 55.7 (-), 83.4 (+), 121.2 (-), 122.9 (-), 130.0 (-), 145.3 (+), 152.0 (+).

(R,E)-1,4-Bis(4-(tert-butyldimethylsilyloxy)-3-methoxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-ol (28). To a solution of the above iodide (224 mg, 0.615 mmol), LiCl (69 mg, 1.63 mmol), Ph₃As (26 mg, 0.085 mmol), and Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (21 mg, 0.020 mmol) in NMP (1 mL) was added a solution of γ -stannyl alcohol 26 (250 mg, 0.418 mmol) in NMP (3 mL) under an argon atmosphere. After 11 h of stirring at room temperature, the mixture was poured into saturated NH₄Cl. The product was extracted with EtOAc twice. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated in vacuo to afford a residual oil, which was purified by chromatography on silica gel with hexane/ EtOAc (from 1:0 to 10:1) to afford allylic alcohol 28 (207 mg, 91%) as an yellow oil: >99% ee by HPLC analysis (Chiralcel OD-H, hexane/i-PrOH = 98/2, 0.3 mL/min, 40 °C; $t_{\rm R}/{\rm min} = 51.7 (S), 55.2 (R); [\alpha]_{\rm D}^{23} - 22.7 (c \, 1.09, {\rm CHCl}_3); {\rm IR}$ (neat) 3373, 1513, 1281, 1125, 903 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) & 0.146 (s, 6 H), 0.152 (s, 6 H), 0.99 (s, 18 H), 2.78 (dd, J = 14, 8 Hz, 1 H), 2.90 (dd, J = 14, 5 Hz, 1 H), 3.77 (s, 3 H), 3.81 (s, 3 H), 4.41 - 4.50 (m, 1 H), 6.13 (dd, J = 16, 7 Hz, 1 H),6.50 (d, J = 16 Hz, 1 H), 6.68–6.90 (m, 6 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -4.6 (-), 18.6 (+), 25.8 (-), 44.1 (+), 55.50 (-), 55.53 (-), 73.7 (-), 109.9 (-), 113.6 (-), 119.6 (-), 120.96 (-), 121.01 (-), 121.8 (-), 129.6 (-), 130.4 (-), 130.7 (+), 131.1 (+), 143.9 (+), 145.0 (+), 150.9 (+), 151.1 (+); HRMS (FAB) calcd for $C_{30}H_{48}O_5Si_2Na[(M+Na)^+]$ 567.2938, found 567.2940.

(*R*,*E*)-1,4-Bis(4-(*tert*-butyldimethylsilyloxy)-3-methoxyphenyl)but-3-en-2-yl Acetate (29). To a solution of allylic alcohol 28 (55 mg, 0.0937 mmol) and DMAP (14.5 mg, 0.119 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (0.5 mL) was added a solution of Ac₂O (0.011 mL, 0.12 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (0.7 mL) at -18 °C under an argon atmosphere. After 2 h of stirring at -18 °C, the mixture was poured into saturated NaHCO₃. The product was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ twice. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated in vacuo to afford a residual oil, which was purified by chromatography on silica gel with hexane/ EtOAc (from 1:0 to 30:1) to afford acetate **29** (52 mg, 95%) as an yellow oil: 95% ee by HPLC analysis (Chiralcel OD-H, hexane/*i*-PrOH = 99/1, 0.3 mL/min, 40 °C; t_R /min = 24.1 (R), 38.7 (S)); $[\alpha]_{D}^{25} - 12$ (c 0.93, CHCl₃); IR (neat) 1735, 1508, 1281, 1235, 903 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.13 (s, 6 H), 0.14 (s, 6 H), 0.98 (s, 9 H), 0.99 (s, 9 H), 2.02 (s, 3 H), 2.88 (dd, J = 14, 6 Hz, 1 H), 2.97 (dd, J = 14, 7 Hz, 1 H), 3.75(s, 3 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 5.56 (q, J=7 Hz, 1 H), 5.99 (dd, J=16, 7 Hz, 1 H), 6.46 (d, J = 16 Hz, 1 H), 6.64–6.85 (m, 6 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -4.6 (-), 18.52 (+), 18.54 (+), 21.4 (-), 25.79 (-), 25.80 (-), 41.1 (+), 55.50 (-), 55.51 (-), 73.5 (-), 110.1 (-), 113.6 (-), 119.7 (-), 120.8 (-), 121.0 (-), 121.9(-), 125.1(-), 130.3(+), 130.5(+), 132.7(-), 143.7(+),

145.3 (+), 150.7 (+), 151.0 (+), 170.2 (+); HRMS (FAB) calcd for $C_{32}H_{50}O_6Si_2Na\ [(M\ +\ Na)^+]$ 609.3044, found 609.3045.

(R,E)-1,4-Bis(4-(tert-butyldimethylsilyloxy)-3-methoxyphenyl)-3-(isopropyloxydimethylsilyl)methylbut-3-en (30). To an ice-cold suspension of CuBr·Me₂S (32 mg, 0.156 mmol) in THF (2.4 mL) was added (i-PrO)Me₂SiCH₂MgCl (0.75 mL, 0.85 M in THF, 0.64 mmol) dropwise. After 0.5 h of stirring at 0 °C, a solution of acetate 29 (94 mg, 0.16 mmol) in THF (1.6 mL) was added to the mixture dropwise. After 1 h of stirring at 0 °C, the mixture was diluted with EtOAc and saturated NH₄Cl with vigorous stirring. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc twice. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated in vacuo to afford a residual oil, which was chromatographed on silica gel with hexane/EtOAc (from 1:0 to 30:1) to afford olefin 30 (97.5 mg, 92%) as a colorless oil: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.01– 0.19 (m, 2H), 0.09 (s, 6 H), 0.12 (s, 6 H), 0.14 (s, 6 H), 0.98 (s, 9 H), 0.99 (s, 9 H), 1.10 (d, J=6 Hz, 1 H), 1.12 (d, J=6 Hz, 1 H), 2.48-2.72 (m, 3 H), 3.70 (s, 3 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 3.88-4.00 (m, 1 H), 5.86 (dd, *J* = 16, 8 Hz, 1 H), 6.09 (d, *J* = 16 Hz, 1 H), 6.56-6.63 (m, 2 H), 6.72-6.79 (m, 4 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -4.60 (-), -4.57 (-), -0.58 (-), -0.08 (-), 18.52 (+), 18.54 (+), 22.8 (+), 25.8 (-), 25.9 (-), 40.9 (-), 45.4 (+), 55.5 (-), 64.8 (-), 109.7 (-), 113.7 (-), 118.8 (-), 120.5 (-), 120.9 (-), 121.7 (-), 128.6 (-), 131.9 (+), 133.8 (-), 134.2 (+), 134.3 (-), 143.0 (+), 144.3 (+), 150.4 (+), 150.9 (+).

(S)-Imperanene (1). To a solution of olefin 30 (97.5 mg, 0.148 mmol), KF (65.5 mg, 1.13 mmol), and KHCO₃ (95,6 mg, 0.955 mmol) in THF/MeOH (1:1, 4 mL) was added 35% $\rm H_2O_2$ (0.43 mL, 4.94 mmol) dropwise at 60 °C. After 2 h of stirring at 60 °C, the reaction mixture was poured into aqueous $Na_2S_2O_3$. The product was extracted with EtOAc twice. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated in vacuo to afford a residual oil, which was chromatographed on silica gel with hexane/EtOAc (from 20:1 to 1:1) to afford (S)-imperanene (1) (35.7 mg, 73%) as a colorless oil: 95% ee by HPLC analysis (Chiralcel OD-H, hexane/*i*-PrOH = 70/30, 0.3 mL/min, rt; $t_{\rm R}$ /min = 51.8 (*R*), 60.6 (*S*)); $[\alpha]^{25}{}_{\rm D}$ +97.7 (*c* 0.70, CHCl₃); $[\alpha]^{25}{}_{\rm D}$ +104 (*c* 0.010, CHCl₃), $[\alpha]^{25}{}_{\rm D}$ +97 (*c* 0.68, CHCl₃); ^{7b,7d} ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CHCl₃); $[\alpha]^{25}{}_{\rm D}$ +97 (*c* 0.68, CHCl₃); ^{7b,7d} ¹H NMR (300 MHz), ^{7b,7d} ¹H NMR (300 MLz), ^{7b,7d} ¹ $CDCl_3$) δ 1.77 (br s, 1 H), 2.56–2.78 (m, 3 H), 3.55 (dd, J=11, 7 Hz, 1 H), 3.66 (dd, J=11, 4 Hz, 1 H), 3.81 (s, 3 H), 3.87 (s, 3 H), 5.62 (s, 1 H), 5.78 (s, 1 H), 5.92 (dd, *J*=16, 8 Hz, 1 H), 6.34 (d, J = 16 Hz, 1 H), 6.65–6.69 (m, 2 H), 6.78–6.86 (m, 4 H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 37.7 (+), 47.6 (–), 55.9 (–), 65.3 (+), 108.3 (-), 111.8 (-), 114.2 (-), 114.5 (-), 119.7 (-), 121.9 (-), 128.4(-), 129.7(+), 131.6(-), 132.2(-), 143.9(+), 145.3(+), 146.4(+), 146.7(+). These ¹H and ¹³C MMR spectra were identical with those reported.^{7b,7d}

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Supporting Information Available: Experimental procedures and spectral data of compounds described herein. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http:// pubs.acs.org.