

Asymmetric Propargylation/Allylation/ Pauson–Khand Cyclization of a Planar Chiral Anisole Tricarbonylchromium Complex

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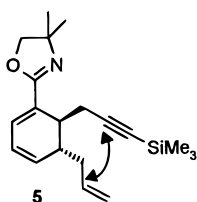
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Received December 10, 1996

Reactions that transform benzene and substituted benzenes into functionalized hydrobenzenes with concomitant regio- and stereoselective C–C bond formation are scarce.¹ Two complementary transition metal mediated approaches for activating arenes for this reaction have been developed. The Harman group has shown that regioselective η^2 -coordination of phenols and anilines to $\text{Os}(\text{NH}_3)_5^{2+}$ results in partial localization of the π -electron density and enhances the nucleophilic reactivity of the arenes.² Conversely, activation of arenes to C nucleophile addition results from η^6 -coordination to electrophilic transition metal groups. The $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_3$ fragment has proven particularly efficient with both benzene and condensed aromatic ring systems.³ Regioselective addition of carbanions followed by reaction with C electrophiles affords *trans*-disubstituted cyclohexadienes. Incorporation of CO in this sequence depends on the nature of the arene and the migratory aptitude of R'' (Scheme 1).⁴

Asymmetric versions of this methodology include the use of chiral *o*-directing auxiliaries (e.g., $\text{R} =$ chiral oxazoline,^{5a} SAMP-hydrazone^{5b}), chiral nucleophiles ($\text{R}'\text{Li}/\text{L}^*$),^{5c} and chiral ligands on chromium,^{5d} with the first two procedures being the most successful.

We here report a new approach that involves the generation of two stereogenic centers from an arene complex of planar chirality.⁶ Other new features reported here are the use of propargyllithium as nucleophile in an arene addition reaction, the regioselectivity of the allylation, and the combination of the above methodology with a highly diastereoselective Pauson–Khand reaction.⁷



We reasoned that products **3** with an appropriate group R' could be used for the preparation of *trans*-fused ring systems. First attempts at intramolecular cyclization of the oxazoline

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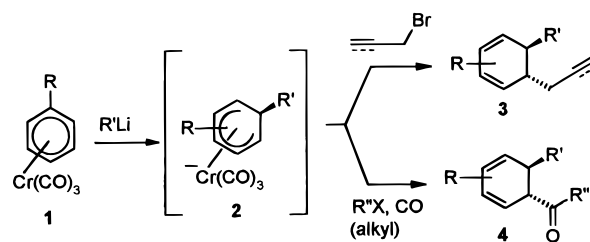
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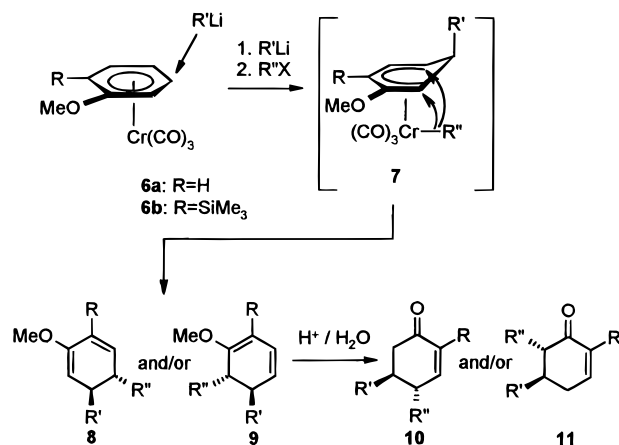
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Scheme 1



Scheme 2



cyclohexadiene **5** via Co- or Zr-mediated reactions did not meet with success, though, presumably because of the rigid *trans*-diaxial disposition of the two side chains in cyclohexadiene **5**.

However, anisole complexes **6** offer a convenient solution to this problem. Cyclohexadienes **8** or **9** should be readily hydrolyzed to the more flexible enones (**10** or **11**) (Scheme 2). Predominant *meta*-regioselectivity in nucleophilic additions to anisole complexes **6a** and **6b** is well documented⁸ but the practicality of the formation of the cyclohexadienyl intermediate **7** and the regioselectivity of the ensuing reductive elimination to give **8** and/or **9** had not been investigated previously. The planar chirality of an *ortho*-substituted anisole complex also offered the possibility for the diastereoselective generation of two new stereogenic centers in the products.

Highly enantioenriched 1(*S*),2(*R*)-**6b**, obtained by enantioselective lithiation/electrophile addition of the anisole complex **6a** following Simpkins *et al.* procedure,⁹ was treated sequentially with (3-(trimethylsilyl)propargyl)lithium ($-78 \rightarrow 0$ °C, THF, 3 h) and allyl bromide (10 equiv, $-78 \rightarrow 20$ °C) to afford cyclohexadiene **8b** (Scheme 3). *In situ* hydrolysis yielded the *trans*-disubstituted cyclohexene **10** as a single regioisomer.¹⁰ Desilylated product **12** was a side product. Modification of

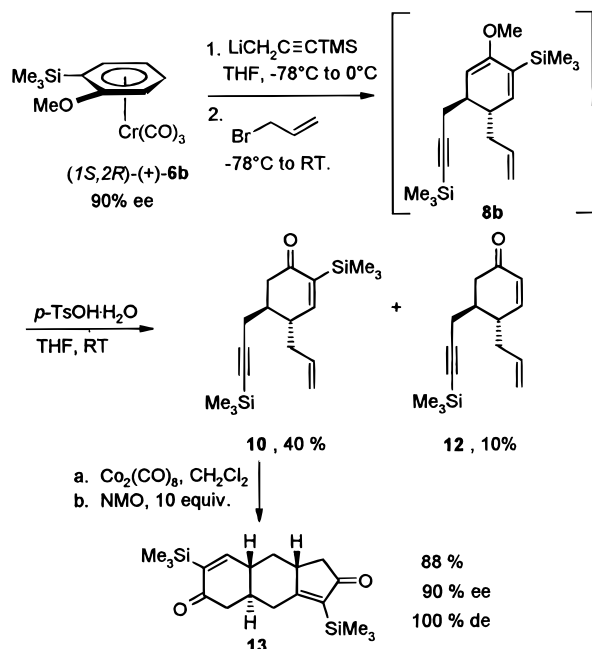
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Scheme 3



hydrolysis conditions aimed at the suppression of **12** has not yet met with success.

A sizable body of literature exists dealing with the synthesis of bicyclo[3.3.0]octan-3-ones by intramolecular Pauson–Khand cyclization of 1,6-enynes.¹¹ The analogous construction of bicyclo[4.3.0]octan-3-ones is not as well documented,¹² and we are not aware of the use of this reaction in the preparation of enantioenriched tricyclic molecules having a *trans* disposition of the substituents participating in the cyclization step.¹³

Coordination of the alkyne of **10** to the $\text{Co}_2(\text{CO})_6$ fragment followed by *in situ* treatment with *N*-methylmorpholine *N*-oxide (NMO) gave the expected tricyclic diketone **13** in good yield.¹⁴ ^1H NMR and GC analyses of the crude product indicated **13** to be formed as a single diastereomer and chiral GC showed **13** to have an enantiomeric excess (ee) of 90%.¹⁴ Both the nucleophile addition/allylation step and the Pauson–Khand reaction had thus occurred with complete diastereoselectivity. The sequence demonstrates the efficient transfer of the planar chirality in **6b** to the three new stereogenic centers in **13**.

(10) Separation of **10** from **12** by chromatography (hexane/EtOAc 100:3). Yield of **10**: 40%.

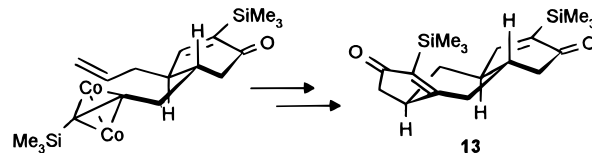
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(14) The enantiomeric excess of **13** was determined by GC analysis on the chiral column MN FS-Lipodex-E: H_2 , 200°C isotherm, $t_1 = 26.6$ min (95%), $t_2 = 27.2$ min (5%).

Scheme 4



The relative stereochemistry of the single diastereomer formed was determined by X-ray analysis of *rac*-**13**.¹⁵ This structural analysis also served to confirm the regioselectivity of the sequential nucleophilic/electrophilic addition.

A rationale for the formation of **13** is presented in Scheme 4. The cyclohexenone side chains are in a diequatorial conformation. A chair-like arrangement for **10** then places the alkene in a pseudoequatorial position. Coordination to Co and insertion into the Co–C(alkyne) bond then leads to the diastereoisomer **13**.

Thus, we have shown that the highly regio- and stereoselective sequential addition of a propargyllithium reagent and of allyl bromide to the planar chiral anisole complex **66** followed by an efficient metal-mediated cyclocarbonylation provides a rapid access to the highly enantioenriched tricyclic **13**. This forcefully demonstrates the synthetic potential of planar chiral arene complexes in the synthesis of enantioenriched alicyclic systems.

Acknowledgment. Financial support of this work by the Swiss National Science Foundation (grant no. 20-45'291.95) is gratefully acknowledged.

Supporting Information Available: Descriptions of syntheses, experimental details and characterization data for **10**, **12**, and (+)-**13** and details of the single-crystal X-ray analysis and perspective view of *rac*-**13** (9 pages). See any current masthead page for ordering and Internet access instructions.

JA964256+

(15) *Rac*-**13** was obtained by the same sequence starting with *rac*-**6b**. Crystal structure determination of *rac*-**13**: $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{30}\text{O}_2\text{Si}_2$, $M_r = 346.6$; $\mu = 1.58$ mm^{-1} , $F(000) = 752$, $d_x = 1.10$ g cm^{-3} , triclinic, $P1$, $Z = 4$, $a = 6.8483(5)$, $b = 14.531(2)$, and $c = 22.560(2)$ Å, $\alpha = 106.602(6)^\circ$, $\beta = 93.405(5)^\circ$, $\gamma = 101.127(5)^\circ$, $V = 2095.3(4)$ Å³, from 22 reflections ($43^\circ < 2\theta < 67^\circ$), colorless prism $0.15 \times 0.30 \times 0.37$ mm. Cell dimensions and intensities were measured at room temperature on a Nonius CAD4 diffractometer with graphite-monochromated Cu K α radiation ($\lambda = 1.5418$ Å), $\omega - 2\theta$ scans, scan width $1.5^\circ + 0.14 \tan \theta$, and scan speed $0.092^\circ/\text{s}$. Two reference reflections measured every 30 min showed variation of about 5.5%, all intensities were corrected for this drift: $-7 < h < 7$; $-14 < k < 15$; $0 < l < 23$; 5255 measured unique reflections of which 4375 were observables ($|F_o| > 4\sigma(F_o)$). Data were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects and for absorption^{16a} (A^* min, max = 1.268, 1.725). The structure was solved by direct methods using MULTAN 87^{16b} all other calculations used XTAL^{16c} system and ORTEP^{16d} programs. Full-matrix least-squares refinement based on F using weight of $1/\sigma^2(F_o)$ gave final values $R = 0.076$, $R_w = 0.052$ for 488 variables and 4375 contributing reflections. Hydrogen atoms (excepted these of the methyl groups, which are calculated) were observed and refined with a fixed value of isotropic displacement parameters ($U = 0.05$ Å²). The final difference electron density map showed a maximum of $+0.36$ and a minimum of -0.46 eÅ⁻³. The two molecules of the asymmetric unit are similar and only differ by the orientation of the trimethylsilyl substituent bound to the five-membered ring.

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