Stereoselective Synthesis of Secondary Organozinc Reagents and Their Reaction with Heteroatomic Electrophiles

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ABSTRACT



E = PPh2, SnR3, Br, SMe

Various trisubstituted olefins were converted to configurationally stable diorganozinc compounds with high diastereoselectivity. Their reaction with various electrophiles centered on tin, sulfur, bromine, and phosphorus provided the desired substitution products with retention of configuration. Novel, functionalized organocopper reagents such as 4 and chiral diphosphine 5 have been prepared.

The use of chiral organometallic reagents such as **1** in organic synthesis has been limited by the availability of configurationally stable organometallics.¹ Whereas unstabilized secondary alkyllithiums and -magnesiums² have moderate configurational stability,³ secondary alkylzincs are configurationally stable at temperatures up to 25 °C in the absence of zinc halides.⁴ After transmetalation to the corresponding

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copper reagent of type 2, reactions with electrophiles such as allylic or propargylic bromides were found to proceed with high retention of configuration (up to 99%), leading to products of type 3; Scheme 1.



Herein, we wish to report a significant extension of the scope of this reaction. We have found that several heteroatomic electrophiles centered on tin, sulfur, bromine, and phosphorus react with high stereoselectivity with diastereomerically enriched cyclic and acyclic secondary organozinc

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reagents. Remarkably, all reactions occur with retention of configuration.⁵ These results have been applied to the synthesis of new functionalized copper reagent 4 and the new chiral diphosphine 5.

Thus, the hydroboration of trisubstituted cyclic olefins of type **6** with Et_2BH^6 (50 °C, 12–16 h) furnishes an intermediate organoborane which undergoes a smooth boron-zinc exchange upon reaction with Zni-Pr₂ at room temperature. The resulting mixed diorganozinc species were further transmetalated to the corresponding copper reagents. These organometallics react with various heteroatomic electrophiles, leading to products **9–11** (Scheme 2). The reaction with



^{*a*} (a) Et₂BH (3 equiv), 50 °C, 16 h; (b) Zn*i*-Pr₂ (3 equiv), 25 °C, 5 h; (c) CuCN·2LiCl (1 equiv), -78 °C, 0.5 h; (d) ClPPh₂ (4 equiv), 25 °C, 4 d, then 30% H₂O₂; (e) R₃SnCl (3 equiv), -40 °C, 16 h; (f) MeSSO₂Me (3 equiv), -40 °C, 16 h; (g) BrCl₂CCCl₂Br (3 equiv), -40 °C, 16 h.

ClPPh₂ followed by oxidation with H_2O_2 provides phosphine oxide **8** (entry 1 of Table 1) directly from the zinc reagent without the need of further transmetalation to copper. Although the reaction requires 4 d at 25 °C for completion, it affords **8** exclusively as the *trans* isomer (> 99%), showing that the reaction of the intermediate diorganozinc of type **7** proceeds with complete retention of configuration. The intermediate phosphine was oxidized directly with 30% aqueous H_2O_2 before workup (Scheme 2 and Table 1). Chlorotrialkylstannanes react more readily (-40 °C, 12 h), furnishing the expected stannanes (9a-d) with excellent *trans* selectivities (95-99% trans; see entries 2-5 of Table 1).

Interestingly, the alkenylsilane **6d** is hydroborated with excellent regioselectivity (only 1-2% of the other regioisomer was observed). After the usual transmetalation sequence (B–Zn–Cu), the resulting copper β -silvl bimetallic reagent reacts with Bu₃SnCl, providing the 1,2-bimetallic product 9c (entry 4) in 50% yield (97% trans). Also, the fully diastereoselective hydroboration of the allylic ether 6e $(dr_{(1,2)} = 99:1)$ affords, after stannylation with Me₃SnCl, the tin derivative 9d (97% trans) in 58% overall yield (entry 5). A similar level of stereoselectivity has also been achieved in open-chain systems. Thus, the reaction of the Z- and E-styrenes Z-12 and E-12 furnishes, after the hydroborationtransmetalation sequence using (-)-IpcBH₂,⁷ respectively, the *anti*-copper species *anti*-13 and the *syn*-copper species syn-13. After reaction with Me₃SnCl, the diastereomeric stannane products anti-14 (anti:syn ratio = 92:8) and syn-14 (syn:anti ratio = 90:10) confirm the excellent stereoselectivity in the conversion of olefins to organostannanes: a process formally equivalent to a stereo- and regioselective alkene hydrostannation (Scheme 3). The enantioselectivity



^{*a*} (a) (-)-IpcBH₂ (1 equiv), -35 °C, 48 h; (b) Et₂BH (5 equiv), 50 °C, 16 h; (c) Zn*i*-Pr₂ (5 equiv), 25 °C, 5 h; (d) CuCN·2LiCl (1 equiv), -78 °C, 0.5 h; (e) Me₃SnCl (5 equiv), -40 °C, 16 h.

of the hydroboration of Z-12 and E-12 with (–)-IpcBH₂ lies between 46 and 74% ee.^{3f}

The conversion of the copper reagent derived from **7** to thioethers of type **10** can be achieved with MeSSO₂Me (-40 °C, 12 h); entries 6–9 of Table 1. The diastereoselectivities of the thioethers range from 94 to 99%. Furthermore, a diastereoselective bromination can be performed with 1,2-dibromotetrachlorethane (-40 °C, 12 h), leading to the *trans*-bromide **11** in 51% yield (95% *trans*) (Scheme 2; entry 10 of Table 1). This methodology can also be applied to functionalized olefins such as the unsaturated acetal **15**. For example, following the usual procedure, the functionalized

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⁽⁵⁾ The relative configuration was determined by NOE experiments and by evaluation of the coupling constants in ¹H NMR experiments.

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entry	olefin of type 6	electrophile	product of type 8-11	trans : cis ratio	yield(%)°
1	Br 6b	CIPPh ₂	Br , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	> 99 : < 1 ^a	45
2	Ph 6a	Bu ₃ SnCl	8 Ph _{wsnBu3} 9a	95 : 5	65
3	Ph 6c	Me ₃ SnCl	Ph ,,,SnMe ₃ 9b	> 99 : < 1	41
4	SiMe ₂ Ph 6d	Bu ₃ SnCl	SiMe ₂ Ph SnBu ₃ 9c	97:3	50
5	OCH ₂ OEt Ph 6e	Me ₃ SnCl	OCH ₂ OEt ¹ ² Ph ³ / ⁴ SnMe ₃ 9d	97 : 3 (99 : 1) ^b	58
6	6a	MeSO 2SMe	Ph ""SMe 10a	94 : 6	59
7	6c	MeSO 2SMe	Ph "SMe 10b	> 99 : < 1	51
8	6d	MeSO 2SMe	SiMe ₂ Ph "SMe 10c	95 : 5	58
9	бе	MeSO 2SMe	OCH ₂ OEt Ph "%SMe 10d	96 : 4 (99 : 1) ^b	53
10	6a	BrCl ₂ CCCl ₂ Br	Ph "Br 11	95 : 5	51

Table 1.	Generation	of Intermediat	te Chiral Zi	inc and Coppe	r Reagents a	and Their	Stereoselective	Reaction	with	Heteroatomic
Electrophi	es Leading	to Phosphine	Oxide 8. S	tannanes 9a –6	I. Thioethers	s 10a-d.	and Bromide 1	1		

^{*a*} The crude phosphine was oxidized to the corresponding phosphine oxide by aqueous 30% H_2O_2 . ^{*b*} Diastereometric ratio between centers C(1) and C(2). ^{*c*} Overall yield of analytically pure product.

organocopper species **4** is formed. Its stannylation with Me₃-SnCl gives the *trans*-tin derivative **16** (71%, 95% *trans*),⁸

whereas its reaction with MeSO₂SMe furnishes the thioether **17** (61%; 99% *trans*), Scheme 4.

Finally, the hydroboration of olefin **6b**, using (-)-IpcBH₂ as the hydroborating agent, allows the preparation of

⁽⁸⁾ **Typical procedure: preparation of 16.** A flame-dried 25 mL flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar, an argon inlet, and a septum was charged with alkene **15** (154 mg, 1 mmol). Et₂BH (0.4 mL, 7.3 M in Me₂S, 3 equiv) was added, and the resulting mixture was stirred for 16 h at 50 °C. After pumping off the volatiles (0.1 mmHg, 25 °C, 2 h), Zni-Pr₂ (0.6 mL, 5 M in Et₂O, 3 equiv) was added and the mixture was stirred for 5 h at 25 °C. The boron–zinc exchange was ca. 85% as monitored by GC analysis of oxidized aliquots (aqueous 3 M NaOH/aqueous 30% H₂O₂). The volatiles were pumped off (0.1 mmHg, 25 °C, 0.5 h), and the gray-black residue was diluted with THF (2 mL) and cooled to -78 °C. A freshly

prepared solution of CuCN•2LiCl (1 mL, 1 M in THF, 1 equiv) was added over 30 min and the mixture was stirred for 30 min at -78 °C. Then, Me₃-SnCl (3 mL, 1 M in THF, 3 mmol, 3 equiv) was slowly added (30 min). After stirring for 30 min at -78 °C, the mixture was allowed to warm to -40 °C and stirred at this temperature for 16 h. The reaction mixture was then poured into an aqueous saturated KF solution (100 mL). After extraction with Et₂O and normal workup, column chromatography (SiO₂, hexanes: Et₂O = 24:1) afforded 227 mg (71%) of **16** as a colorless oil.



 a (a) Et₂BH (3 equiv), 50 °C, 16 h; (b) Zn*i*-Pr₂ (3 equiv), 25 °C, 5 h; (c) CuCN-2LiCl (1 equiv), -78 °C, 0.5 h; (d) Me₃SnCl (3 equiv), -40 °C, 16 h; (e) MeSSO₂Me (3 equiv), -40 °C, 16 h.

chiral phosphine oxide **8** in 45% yield, 82% ee, and > 99% *trans* selectivity. Compound **8** has been converted to the borane-protected diphosphine **5** as indicated in Scheme $5.^9$

In summary, we have prepared a range of new diastereomerically well-defined zinc—copper secondary alkyl organometallics and have demonstrated that they react with retention of configuration with various heteroatomic electrophiles. The new chiral diphosphine **5** has been prepared by this method. Further applications of secondary chiral alkylzinc reagents in asymmetric catalysis and natural product synthesis are currently underway.

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^{*a*} (a) (-)-IpcBH₂ (1 equiv), -35 °C, 48 h; (b) Et₂BH (5 equiv), 50 °C, 16 h; (c) Zn*i*-Pr₂ (5 equiv), 25 °C, 5 h; (d) ClPPh₂ (5 equiv), 25 °C, 4 d, then 30% H₂O₂; (e) Cl₃SiH (5 equiv), 120 °C, 12 h; (f) *n*-BuLi, (1.2 equiv), -78 °C, 2 h; (g) PPh₂Cl (1.2 equiv), -78 °C to 25 °C, 7 h; (h) BH₃·DMS (5 equiv), 25 °C, 12 h.

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Supporting Information Available: All analytical data for compounds of Table 1 and Schemes 3, 4, and 5 and procedures. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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