Yb(OTf)₃-Catalyzed Oxymercuration of Homoallylic Alcohol-Derived Hemiacetals and Hemiketals

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Supporting Information

General Information. All reactions were carried out under an atmosphere of nitrogen in flame-dried glassware with magnetic stirring unless otherwise indicated. Flash chromatography was performed as described by Still¹ on EM silica gel 60 (230-240 mesh). Acetone was dried over CaSO₄ and then distilled from fresh CaSO₄. Benzaldehyde was distilled prior to use. All other commercially obtained reagents were used as received. HgCl(OAc) was prepared as described previously.² Melting points were obtained on a Büchi melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DRX-400 (400 MHz) or a Bruker DPX-300 (300 MHz) spectrometer and are reported in ppm from internal tetramethylsilane. Data are reported as follows: (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br = broad; integration; coupling constant(s) in Hz). Proton decoupled ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DPX-300 (75 MHz) spectrometer using CDCl₃ (77.0 ppm) as internal standard. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Perkin Elmer Paragon 1000 FT-IR spectrometer. High resolution mass spectra were obtained on a JEOL HX110 mass spectrometer in the Columbia University Mass Spectrometry Laboratory.

General procedure for the oxymercuration with acetone. To a solution of $Yb(OTf)_3$ (31 mg, 0.050 mmol) and HgCl(OAc) (325 mg, 1.1 mmol) in acetone (8 mL) at 0 °C is added the

⁽¹⁾ Still, W.C.; Kahn, M.; Mitra, A. J. Org. Chem. 1978, 43, 2923-2925.

⁽²⁾ Sarraf, S.T.; Leighton, J.L. Org. Lett. 2000, 2, 403-405.

homoallylic alcohol (1.0 mmol) via cannula. The reaction mixture is allowed to stir 20 min at 0 °C, then 1.5 h at rt. The mixture is then poured into a separatory funnel containing 5 mL of saturated aqueous NaHCO₃. The aqueous layer is extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3 × 10 mL). The combined organic layers are dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated. Flash chromatography (EtOAc:hexanes) affords the product organomercury chlorides.

General procedure for the oxymercuration with benzaldehyde. To a solution of Yb(OTf)₃ (31 mg, 0.050 mmol) and HgCl(OAc) (325 mg, 1.1 mmol) in benzaldehyde (305 μ L, 3.0 mmol) at 0 °C is added the homoallylic alcohol (1.0 mmol). Upon completion of the addition, the reaction is warmed to rt and stirred for 30 min. The mixture is then poured into a separatory funnel containing 5 mL of saturated aqueous NaHCO₃. The aqueous layer is extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 × 10 mL). The combined organic layers are dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated. Flash chromatography (EtOAc:hexanes) affords the product organomercury chlorides.

2,2-Dimethyl-*cis***-4-chloromercurymethyl-6-isobutyl-1,3-dioxane** (**Table 2, entry 1**). White crystalline solid: m.p. 89-91 °C; $R_f = 0.33$ (20% EtOAc:hexanes); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.25 (m, 1H), 3.88 (m, 1H), 2.29 (ABq, 1H, J = 5.0, 11.9 Hz), 2.05 (ABq, 1H, J = 5.9, 11.9 Hz), 1.76 (m, 1H), 1.62 (dt, 1H, J = 2.4, 12.8 Hz), 1.48 (m, 1H), 1.43 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 3H), 1.16 (m, 1H), 1.06 (m, 1H, J = 11.3, 12.7 Hz), 0.90 (d, 3H, J = 5.4 Hz), 0.88 (d, 3H, J = 5.4 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 98.8, 68.0, 66.7, 45.2, 41.6, 39.7, 30.4, 23.8, 23.0, 22.2, 20.0; IR (CCl₄) 2989, 2954, 2873, 1467, 1382, 1270, 1199, 1176, 1118, 1051, 1020, 957, 926, 872 cm⁻¹; HRMS (FAB+) calc'd. for C₁₁H₂₂ClHgO₂ [M+H]⁺ 423.1006, found 423.0998.

2,2-Dimethyl-*cis***-4-chloromercurymethyl-6-(2-benzyloxy)ethyl-1,3-dioxane (Table 2, entry 2).** Clear, colorless oil: $R_f = 0.21$ (20% EtOAc:hexanes); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33 (m, 5H), 4.50 (m, 2H), 4.25 (m, 1H), 4.04 (m, 1H), 3.54 (m, 2H), 2.28 (ABq, 1H, J = 5.0,

11.9 Hz), 2.03 (ABq, 1H, J = 5.8, 12.0 Hz), 1.75 (m, 2H), 1.63 (m, 1H, J = 2.4, 12.8 Hz), 1.42 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 3H), 1.09 (m, 1H, J = 11.4 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 138.4, 128.4, 127.7, 127.6, 99.0, 73.0, 67.9, 66.0, 65.8, 41.1, 39.6, 36.4, 30.3, 20.2; IR (thin film) 2989, 2937, 2864, 1457, 1379, 1259, 1202, 1109, 1021, 953, 870, 741, 699 cm⁻¹; HRMS (FAB+) calc'd. for C₁₆H₂₃ClHgO₃Na [M+Na]⁺ 519.0901, found 519.0904.

2,2-Dimethyl-cis-4-chloromercurymethyl-6-(2-tert-butyldimethylsilyloxy)ethyl-1,3-

dioxane (Table 2, entry 3). Clear colorless oil: $R_f = 0.74$ (50% EtOAc:hexanes); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.27 (m, 1H), 4.04 (m, 1H), 3.73 (m, 1H), 3.66 (m, 1H), 2.30 (ABq, 1H, J = 5.0, 11.9 Hz), 2.05 (ABq, 1H, J = 5.9, 11.9 Hz), 1.65 (m, 3H), 1.43 (s, 3H), 1.37 (s, 3H), 1.10 (m, 1H, J = 11.4 Hz), 0.89 (s, 9H), 0.05 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 99.4, 68.4, 65.7, 59.1, 41.7, 40.1, 39.7, 30.8, 26.4, 20.6, 18.7, -4.9, -4.9; IR (thin film) 2938, 2854, 1471, 1377, 1256, 1204, 1162, 1114, 1093, 1020, 957, 836, 778 cm⁻¹; HRMS (FAB+) calc'd. for C₁₅H₃₂O₃HgSi [M+H-Cl]⁺ 490.1902, found 490.1888.

2,2-Dimethyl-*cis***-4-chloromercurymethyl-***cis***-5-methyl-6-isopropyl-1,3-dioxane (Table 2, entry 4).** The reaction was run for 3 h at RT. White crystalline solid: m.p. 85-87 °C; $R_f = 0.41$ (20% EtOAc:hexanes); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.20 (dt, 1H, J = 1.9, 5.9 Hz), 3.28 (dd, 1H, J = 9.6 Hz), 2.12 (d, 2H, J = 6.0 Hz), 1.68 (m, 1H), 1.54 (m, 1H), 1.39 (s, 3H), 1.39 (s, 3H), 0.94 (d, 3H, J = 6.4 Hz), 0.88 (d, 3H, J = 6.8 Hz), 0.80 (d, 3H, J = 6.7 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 99.2, 79.3, 71.8, 35.7, 35.1, 30.0, 29.2, 19.9, 19.8, 17.4, 4.3; IR (CCl₄) 2968, 2873, 1462, 1382, 1264, 1198, 1103, 1013, 975, 914 cm⁻¹; HRMS (FAB+) calc'd. for C₁₁H₂₂ClHgO₂ [M+H]⁺ 419.0976, found 419.0965.

2,2-Dimethyl-cis-4-chloromercurymethyl-trans-5-methyl-6-(2-tert-

butyldiphenylsilyloxy)ethyl-1,3-dioxane (Table 2, entry 5). The reaction was run from -78 °C to rt instead of 0 °C to RT. Clear tacky oil: $R_f = 0.51$ (20% EtOAc:hexanes); ¹H NMR (400 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ 7.67 (m, 4H), 7.39 (m, 6H), 3.90 (m, 1H), 3.84 (m, 1H), 3.73 (m, 2H), 2.35 (ABq, 1H, J = 4.2, 12.0 Hz), 2.14 (ABq, 1H, J = 6.1, 12.0 Hz), 1.93 (m, 1H), 1.48 (m, 1H), 1.41 (s, 3H), 1.34 (s, 3H), 1.12 (m, 1H), 1.04 (s, 9H), 0.83 (d, 3H, J = 6.6 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 135.5, 133.9, 129.5, 129.5, 127.6, 127.6, 98.3, 73.6, 70.4, 59.6, 43.8, 38.2, 36.0, 30.3, 26.8, 20.0, 19.2, 12.8; IR (CCl₄) 3067, 2933, 2866, 1468, 1430, 1387, 1263, 1201, 1111, 959, 699, 616, 507 cm⁻¹; HRMS (FAB+) calc'd. for C₂₆H₃₇ClHgO₃SiNa [M+Na]⁺ 681.1766, found 681.1775.

2,2-Dimethyl-*cis***-4-chloromercurymethyl-6-***E***-isopentenyl-1,3-dioxane (Table 2, entry 6).** The reaction was run at 0 °C for 30 min. White crystalline solid: m.p. 82-84 °C; $R_f = 0.41$ (20% EtOAc:hexanes); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.67 (dd, 1H, J = 6.3, 15.6 Hz), 5.37 (dd, 1H, J = 6.4, 15.6 Hz), 4.30 (m, 2H), 2.30 (m, 2H), 2.06 (ABq, 1H, J = 5.9, 11.9 Hz), 1.67 (dt, 1H, J = 2.3, 12.9 Hz), 1.47 (s, 3H), 1.42 (s, 3H), 1.22 (m, 1H), 0.99 (d, 6H, J = 6.8 Hz); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 139.9, 127.1, 99.0, 70.0, 67.6, 41.3, 39.5, 30.6, 30.4, 22.0, 22.0, 20.1; IR (CCl₄) 2989, 2968, 2864, 1462, 1379, 1265, 1197, 1026, 969, 927, 876 cm⁻¹; HRMS (FAB+) calc'd. for C₁₂H₂₂HgO₂ [M+H-Cl]⁺ 396.1226, found 396.1200.

 Table 2, entry 7. This compound is an intermediate in our total synthesis of *Tolypothrix*

 pentaether. Experimental details and spectral data will be disclosed elsewhere.³

cis-2-Phenyl-*cis*-4-chloromercurymethyl-6-octyl-1,3-dioxane (Table 2, entry 8). Offwhite, crystalline solid: m.p. 76-78 °C; R_f = 0.44 (20% EtOAc:hexanes); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.30-7.50 (m, 5H), 5.55 (s, 1H), 4.22 (m, 1H), 3.79 (m, 1H), 2.36 (ABq, 1H, *J* = 5.0, 12.0 Hz), 2.16 (ABq, 1H, *J* = 6.6, 12.0 Hz), 1.27-1.79 (m, 16H), 0.88 (t, 3H, *J* = 6.2 Hz); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 137.9, 128.3, 126.1, 100.6, 76.7, 75.4, 40.9, 38.4, 35.8, 31.8, 29.5, 29.5, 29.2, 25.0, 22.6, 14.1; IR (CDCl₃) 2926, 2843, 1457, 1376, 1338, 1213, 1121, 1060, 1020,

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904, 836, 747, 699 cm⁻¹; HRMS (FAB+) calc'd. for $C_{19}H_{29}ClHgO_2Na$ [M+Na]⁺ 545.1421, found 545.1403.

cis-2-Phenyl-*cis*-4-chloromercurymethyl-6-*E*-isopentenyl-1,3-dioxane (Table 2, entry 9). The reaction was run for 15 min from -78 °C to rt instead of 0 °C to rt. Off-white crystalline solid: m.p. 91-93 °C; $R_f = 0.41$ (20% EtOAc:hexanes); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.30-7.50 (m, 5H), 5.71-5.77 (dd, 1H, J = 6.4, 15.6 Hz), 5.6 (s, 1H), 5.50-5.61 (ddd, 1H, J = 1.1, 6.2, 15.6 Hz), 4.28 (m, 2H), 2.35 (ABq, 1H, J = 5.1, 12.1 Hz), 2.30 (m, 1H), 2.18 (ABq, 1H, J = 6.4, 12.1 Hz), 1.83 (dt, 1H, J = 2.4, 13.1 Hz), 1.50 (m, 1H), 1.00 (d, 6H, J = 6.8 Hz); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 140.0, 137.9, 128.9, 128.3, 126.3, 100.8, 77.2, 75.3, 41.1, 38.3, 30.7, 22.0; IR (liquid film) 3035, 2957, 2865, 2720, 1671, 1458, 1394, 1330, 1261, 1215, 1010, 907, 839, 752, 702 cm⁻¹; HRMS (FAB+) calc'd. for C₁₆H₂₁ClHgO₂Na [M+Na]⁺ 501.0795, found 501.0790.

Stereochemical proofs. The stereochemistry of the acetonides were demonstrated to be *cis* by employing the ¹³C NMR method of Rychnovsky.⁴ The stereochemistry of the benzylidene acetals were determined to be all-*syn* by the illustrated selective 1D NOESY experiments (Figure 1).



Figure 1. Observed selective 1D NOESY enhancements to establish the all *cis* stereochemistry of the benzylidene acetals.

^{(4) (}a) Rychnovsky, S.D.; Skalitzky, D.J. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1990, *31*, 945-948. (b)
Rychnovsky, S.D.; Rogers, B.; Yang, G. J. Org. Chem. 1993, 58, 3511-3515.

¹H NMR Spectra.































Determination of diastereoselectivity. By stopping the reactions at early reaction times, mixtures of the *syn* and *anti* diastereomers could be obtained. Comparison of these reactions to the reactions run under the optimized conditions allowed an assessment of the diastereoselectivity by ¹H NMR analysis. This is demonstrated for entries 2 and 5 in Table 2:

In Figure 2, a detail from the ¹H NMR spectrum of a 1:1.5 mixture of **2**-*syn*:**2**-*anti* is shown. Two sets of singlets for the acetonide methyl groups are clearly visible. In Figure 3, a detail from the ¹H NMR spectrum of the unpurified reaction mixture of entry 2, Table 2 is shown. Integration reveals a 54:1 ratio of **2**-*syn*:**2**-*anti*. Since there is clearly a large error associated with this measurement, we simply claim a conservative lower limit of >20:1.

In Figure 4, a detail from the ¹H NMR spectrum of a 6:1 mixture of **7**-*syn*:**7**-*anti* is shown. Two sets of singlets for the acetonide methyl groups are clearly visible as well as two doublets for the C(5) methyl group. In Figure 5, a detail from the ¹H NMR spectrum of the unpurified reaction mixture of entry 5, Table 2 is shown. Integration of the methyl doublets reveals a 62:1 ratio of **7**-*syn*:**7**-*anti*. Since there is clearly a large error associated with this measurement, we simply claim a conservative lower limit of >20:1.

For all other reactions in Table 2, similar analyses of the ¹H NMR spectra of the unpurified reaction mixtures revealed no peaks attributable to the *anti* diastereomer in any quantity approaching 5%. We therefore conclude that all reactions in Table 2 proceed with >20:1 diastereoselectivity except entry 4 as noted in the text.







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Figure 4. Detail of the 'H NMR spectrum of a 6:1 mixture of 7-syn:7-anti.



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