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TETRAHEDRON: ASYMMETRY

## Cycloaddition reactions of carbohydrate derivatives. Part 7: [3+2] cycloadditions of chiral nitrilimines

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## Abstract

The diastereoselective 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reactions of chiral alkenes with a nitrilimine derived from D-galactose phenylhydrazone were studied. The best stereoselectivity was observed with *N*-acryloyl-(-)-camphor sultam **9**, as the chiral inductor, to produce compound **8**. © 1998 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

Although nitrilimines represent an intensively studied class of 1,3-dipoles,<sup>1</sup> until very recently no data on their diastereoselective cycloaddition reactions have been reported, and chiral nitrilimines have not been prepared.<sup>2</sup> After completing the present work, the first diastereoselective cycloaddition reaction of an achiral nitrilimine with a chiral dipolarophile was described.<sup>3</sup> When the preparation of this manuscript was finished, a paper on the diastereoselective [3+2] cycloaddition of nitrilimines with Fisher carbene complexes<sup>16</sup> appeared. In continuation of our studies on the cycloaddition reactions of carbohydrates<sup>4</sup> it was decided to study the preparation and investigation of sugar-derived nitrilimines, as potential precursors to the analogs of some important alkaloid antibiotics.

The simplest access to nitrilimines is based on the dehydrohalogenation of hydrazonoyl halides.<sup>5</sup> For the generation of the carbohydrate-derived hydrazonoyl bromide **2**, D-galactose phenylhydrazone penta-O-acetate<sup>6</sup> **1** was treated with an excess of *N*-bromosuccinimide and dimethyl sulfide (Corey–Kim reagent<sup>7</sup>) according to the method of Patel et al.<sup>8</sup> (Fig. 1). Dehydrohalogenation of **2** with triethylamine in the presence of methyl acrylate gave the nitrilimine **3**, which was immediately transformed into the 4-bromophenylpyrazoline **4** as a 1:1 mixture of diastereomers, and one of them could be isolated by crystallization from ether/hexane. Compound **4** could also be obtained from the 4-bromophenylhydrazone **10** with the same reaction sequence. Interestingly enough, Patel et al.<sup>8</sup> did not report on the aromatic bromination of the phenylhydrazones of aryl or aralkyl aldehydes when the reagent was employed in excess.

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We expected to enhance the stereoselectivity of the cycloadditions of **3** with the use of chiral acrylic esters and amides as dipolarophiles<sup>9</sup> (Fig. 3). Thus, reaction with (–)-menthyl acrylate<sup>10</sup> gave an isomeric mixture of **5** (double stereoselection of a mismatching pair of reagents), while the corresponding enantiomer ensured higher diastereoselectivity (**6**, matching pair). With (1*R*)-*endo*-fenchyl acrylate<sup>11</sup> a mixture of isomers (**7**) was also obtained. In the latter three cases, the ratios of diastereoisomers were determined by HPLC.

Contrary to the above results, when the Oppolzer's camphor sultam derivative<sup>12,13</sup> **9** was applied as the chiral inductor, compound **8** was detectable exclusively in the reaction mixture, the structure of the adduct being elucidated by X-ray crystallography<sup>14</sup> (Fig. 2). The observed selectivity of this latter reaction is in good accordance with the model of Kim and Curran for asymmetric nitrone cycloadditions.<sup>15</sup>

As expected, N-acryloyl-(+)-camphor sultam had a poorer selectivity (constituting a mismatching pair



Fig. 2. X-Ray structure of 8.

with 9), and in fact two diastereomers 11 were isolated in an 8:2 ratio (Fig. 3). To estimate the extent of chiral induction exerted by the sugar moiety, the achiral benzaldehyde *p*-bromophenylhydrazone 12 was selected as the nitrilimine source (Fig. 4) and a d.e. of 54% 13 was observed. This finding suggests that the contribution of the sugar portion to the stereocontrol is smaller than that of an appropriate chiral inductor built in the alkene reaction partner. It is interesting to note that despite its close structural analogy with the camphor grouping, the fenchyl group is not an efficient inductor at all, as yields for the three-and four-step one-pot reaction sequences leading to the chiral pyrazolines were in the range of 30-40% (60–70% for each step). Further chemical transformations of the cycloadducts are being studied.







Fig. 4.

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using the SIR-92 software (Altomare, A.; Cascarano, G.; Giacovazzo, C.; Guagliardi, A. J. Appl. Cryst. 1993, **26**, 343–350) and refined on  $F^2$  using the SHELX-97 program (Sheldrick, G. M. SHELXL-93, Universität Göttingen, Germany, 1993), R(F)=0.0466 and  $wR(F^2)=0.0992$  for 4022 reflections, 478 parameters, H atoms were fixed, Flack parameter: -0.00(1) (Flack, H. D. Acta Cryst. A 1983, **39**, 876–881).

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