STANNANES IN SYNTHESIS: A NEW ROUTE TO 2-SUBSTITUTED-1,3-BUTADIENES VIA STEREOSELECTIVE ALLYLTIN FORMATION UNDER HOMOLYTIC CONDITIONS¹

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Summary: α -(Hydroxymethyl)allyl tolylsulfones reacted with tributyltin hydride in the presence of azobisisobutyronitrile(AIBN) in refluxing benzene to give a allyltin derivatives which subsequently gave 2-substituted-1,3-butadienes upon distillation in good yield.

In general, radical reactions are not so effective to achieve stereocontrolled transformations. During our studies on the desulfurizative stannylation,² we found a highly stereoselective allyltin formation under homolytic conditions. We wish to report here a new efficient route to 2substituted-1,3-butadienes(2), and provide a first clear-cut example for the stereoselective allyltin formation under homolytic conditions.

TolSO₂
R

$$\frac{1}{2}$$
 (CH₂O)_n TolSO₂
HO
R
 $\frac{1}{2}$ distillation
 $\frac{1}{2}$ distillation

First, we observed that α -(hydroxymethyl)allyl sulfones(1), easily prepared by alkylation^{2d} of anion of allyl tolyl sulfone with alkyl halides(RX) followed by hydroxymethylation with paraformaldehyde (Table 1), reacted with tri-n-butyltin hydride in the presence of catalytic amount of azobisisobutyronitrile(AIBN) as a radical initiator in refluxing benzene for 2h. Direct distillation from the reaction mixture afforded 2-substituted-1,3-butadienes(2) in good yield (Table 1). Related olefin synthesis from β -hydroxy sulfone has been carried out by electrochemical or sodium-amalgam reduction.³

Careful isolation of the intermediate before distillation revealed the stereoselective allyltin formation, i.e., Z-isomer(3) was formed predominantly.⁴

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	Sulfones(1)	Yield(%)		1,3-Butadienes(2)	bp(°C) ^a	Yield(%)
la	HO_	95	2a		160-2 (15mmHg)	92
1b	HO_	92	2b		190-200	63
lc	HO	96	2c	$\square \land \land \land$	170-80	53
lđ	HO Ph	88	2đ	Ph	192-6 (13mmHg)	100
le	HO-	95	2e	₹ }	163-7 (15mmHg)	85
lf	Tols02 OH	58	2f		185-90 (8mmHg)	62

Table 1. Hydroxymethylated Sulfones(1) and 1,3-Butadienes(2)⁵

a Kugelrohr distillation

For example, in the case of la, Z/E ratio of the resulting allyltin having hydroxymetheyl group is determined to be 96/4 from both ^{13}C -NMR and ^{1}H -NMR



analyses.⁶ Both allyltins 3a and 4a were stable at 80°C and no isomerization $(3a \rightleftharpoons 4a)$ was observed by controlled experiments.⁷

In the case of the allyltin starting from 1b, rather lower stereoselectivity (Z/E = 88/12) was observed.

These high stereoselectivities are very unusual results in comparison with similar stannylations using allyl sulfones without hydroxymethyl substituent.⁸

This indicates the presence of hydroxy group is a crucial factor to control the stereochemistry of allyltins. This transformation is a first example of stereoselective allyltin formation under homolytic conditions.⁹

Differential thermal analysis (DTA) study revealed the clean fragmentation of the above allyltins ocurred at about 160°C to result in the formation of butadienes(2).

These results suggest the following reaction scheme.



Thus, the co-ordination from the oxygen lone-pair to tin atom in the initial adduct(5) seems to fix the conformation to result in the formation of predominant Z-isomers(3).

Z-Isomer(3) should be a precursor to the butadiene(2). That is, a new type of fragmentation from Z-isomer might be taken place at 160°C by concerted mechanism with elimination of tributyltin hydroxide. In fact, bis(tributyltin)oxide was isolated from the reaction mixture.¹⁰ It seems to be highly difficult that E-isomer(4) cleaves concertedly or through the intermolecular co-ordination to butadienes, since usual allyltins resist alcoholysis.¹¹

Somewhat lower stereoselectivity in the case of 1b as a starting sulfone corresponds to the lower yield of the resulting butadiene(2b). In some cases, small amounts of stable allyltins having hydroxymethyl group, presumably E-isomers, were isolated by high temperature distillation (>200°C) without fragmentation to butadienes.

A typical procedure is as follows. To a solution of 3-tolylsulfonylundeca-1-ene (1.0g, 3.24mmol) and TMEDA (0.49ml, 3.24mmol) in THF (15ml), a solution of n-butyllithium (2.1ml, 3.24mmol) in hexane was added at -70°C under a nitrogen atomosphere. After 1h, paraformaldehyde (0.12g, 3.24mmol, 85% purity) was added and stirring was continued for additional 1h at -70°C, then at room temperature for 3h. After usual workup, purification by column chromatography gave pure 3-hydroxymethyl-3-tolylsulfonylundeca-1-ene (1a) in 95% yield.

A mixture of la (0.75g, 2.23mmol), tri-n-butyltin hydride (l.30g, 4.46mmol), and AIBN (~10mg) in dry benzene (3ml) was refluxed for 2h. Direct Kugelrohr distillation gave 2-octyl-1,3-butadiene (2a) in 92% yield. bp. $160-162^{\circ}C$ (15mmHg); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃, δ) 0.65-1.85(m,15H), 2.00-2.50(m,2H), 4.85-5.45(m,4H), and 5.95-6.56(m,1H).

References and footnotes

- Synthetic Reactions using Organotin and Sulfur Compounds. Part 7.
 For part 6. Y.Ueno, H.Sano, M.Okawara, Synthesis, 1011 (1980).
- 2) (a) Y.Ueno, M. Ohta, M. Okawara, J. Organometal. Chem., <u>197</u>, C 1 (1980);
 (b) Y.Ueno, S. Aoki, M. Okawara, J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun., 683 (1980);
 (c) Y.Ueno, H. Sano, M. Okawara, Tetrahedron Lett., <u>21</u>, 1767 (1980);
 (d) Y.Ueno, S. Aoki, M. Okawara, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 101, 5414 (1979).
- T. Shono, Y. Matsumura, S. Kashima, Chem. Lett., <u>1978</u> 69, and references cited therein.
- Allyltins were isolated by column chromatography (silica gel, eluted with dry benzene); 1-Tributylstannyl-3-hydroxymethylundeca-2-ene (3a+4a) (41%), 1-Tributylstannyl-3-hydroxymethylnona-2-ene (61%).
- 5) All new compounds obtained here had satisfactory spectral and analytical data.
- 6) ¹H-NMR was measured in the presence of $[Eu(fod)_3]$.
- 7) The high stability of allyltin derivatives having longer alkyl chain except crotyltrimethyltin is reported.

H. Yatagai, Y. Yamamoto, K. Maruyama, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 102, 4548 (1980).

8) For example, poor E/Z ratios were observed in the following compounds;

$$NC \bigvee SnBu_{3}$$

$$E/Z = 54/46$$

$$E/Z = 67/33$$

See, ref. 2a and 2d.

- 9) Stereoselective allyltin formation in polar reaction, see ref. 7.
- 10) Tributyltin hydroxide is easily dehydrated to bis(tributyltin)oxide.

R. C. Poller, "The Chemistry of Organotin Compounds", Logos Press, London, England, 1970, p. 69.

11) For example, allyltributyltin is stable in refluxing ethanol.

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