

ASYMMETRIC HALOGENATION OF CAMPHOR-10-SULFONIC ACID DERIVED ESTERS:  
AN EFFICIENT NEW ROUTE TO ENANTIOMERICALLY PURE HALOHYDRINS AND EPOXIDES.

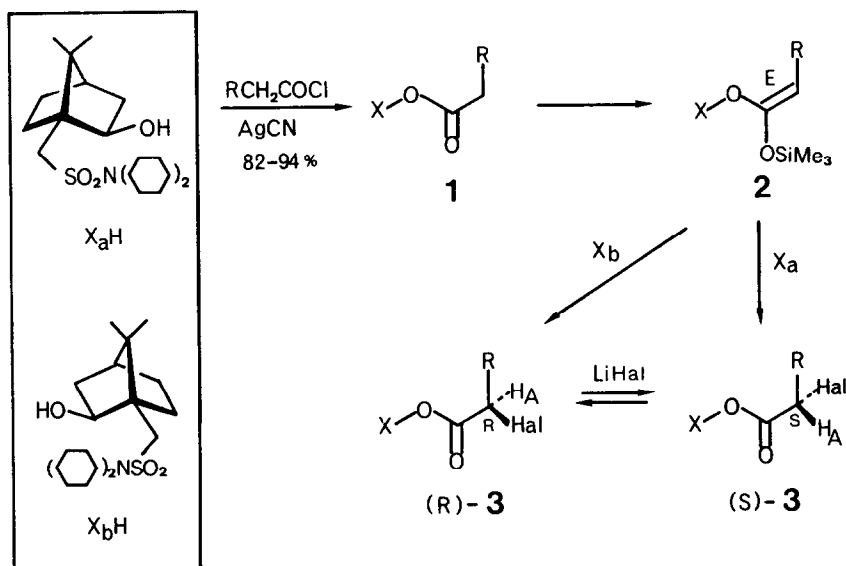
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*Abstract:* Successive treatment of chiral esters **1** with LDA/Me<sub>3</sub>SiCl and NBS or NCS gave crystalline  $\alpha$ -haloesters **3** which furnished halohydrins **4** and terminal epoxides **5** in high e.e..

The practical, chiral auxiliaries X<sub>a</sub> and X<sub>b</sub> (Scheme 1) confer high  $\Pi$ -face differentiation to Diels-Alder-<sup>1</sup> and organocopper additions of conjugated enoates<sup>2</sup> as well as  $\alpha$ -alkylations<sup>3</sup> and -acetoxylation<sup>3</sup> of enolates.

Scheme 1



In conjunction with this work we report here a straightforward conversion of esters to enantiomerically pure halohydrins and terminal epoxides<sup>4</sup> which features an analogous  $\Pi$ -face selective halogenation process.

Acylation of auxiliary alcohols XH with acid chlorides in the presence of AgCN<sup>5</sup> furnished esters **1** in excellent yields. Kinetically controlled deprotonation/ $\alpha$ -silylation<sup>6</sup> of esters **1** furnished silyl ketene acetals **2** which were then treated with N-bromosuccinimide in DME (method A) or in toluene (method B) at -78°<sup>7</sup>. Our results are summarized in Scheme 1 and Table 1<sup>8</sup>.

Table 1: Asymmetric Ester Halogenation  $\underline{1} \rightarrow (\underline{2}) \rightarrow \underline{3}$ <sup>9</sup>

Entry	R	Hal Method <sup>a</sup>	Product $\underline{3}$				Config. <sup>b)</sup> at C $\alpha$
			yield % crude	d.e.% <sup>a)</sup> crude	yield % cryst.	d.e.% <sup>a)</sup> cryst.	
1	CH <sub>3</sub>	X <sub>a</sub> Cl C	92	95	77	98	(S)
2	<i>n</i> C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub>	X <sub>a</sub> Br A	84	~90	68	>96	(S)
3	<i>n</i> C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub>	X <sub>a</sub> Cl C	83	95	67	>96	(S)
4	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	X <sub>a</sub> Cl C	68	94	54	>96	(S)
5	(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CHCH <sub>2</sub>	X <sub>a</sub> Br A	97	92	66	>96	(S)
6	(S)- <i>n</i> C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> CH(Me) <sup>c)</sup>	X <sub>a</sub> Br B	83	76	59	>96	(S)
7	<i>n</i> C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>17</sub>	X <sub>b</sub> Br C	91	84	68	>96	(R)
8	<i>n</i> C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>17</sub>	X <sub>a</sub> Cl C	71	96	62	>99	(S)

a) <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (360 MHz) of H<sub>A</sub>-signal and HPLC analysis (*Merek*, Lichrosorb Si 60 (5 $\mu$ ), either hexane/2-propanol 270:1 or hexane/ethylacetate 20:1) by comparison with the epimer mixture obtained on treatment of  $\underline{3}$  with LiBr or LiCl, respectively. b) assignment based on correlation with oxiranes **5**; c) starting ester  $\underline{1}$  prepared by addition of *n*C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>Cu. BF<sub>3</sub> to (E)-MeCH=CH-C(O)-X<sub>a</sub>.

Thus,  $\alpha$ -bromoesters  $\underline{3}$  were efficiently obtained in high diastereomeric excess as determined directly by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR- and HPLC analyses of the product mixtures. Furthermore, crystallization provided routinely the preferred diastereoisomer in virtually quantitative diastereomeric excess. As expected, the absolute configuration of  $\underline{3}$  was reversed when using the antipodal inductor X<sub>b</sub> (entry 7). The controlled generation of two contiguous centers of asymmetry using the same auxiliary is exemplified by entry 6 where C $\beta$  has been first created by addition of *n*PrCu to the (E)-crotonate of X<sub>a</sub>H prior to  $\alpha$ -bromination.

The analogous  $\alpha$ -chlorinations (entries 1,3,4,8) proceeded reliably with high diastereoface differentiation using an even more convenient one-pot procedure. Thus, successive addition of Me<sub>3</sub>SiCl, ester  $\underline{1}$  and NCS to a solution of LDA in THF at -78<sup>o</sup>  $\rightarrow$  0<sup>o</sup> (method C) furnished the crystalline chloroesters  $\underline{3}$  in good yields.

Reduction of both bromo- and chloroesters with Ca(BH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> in THF<sup>10</sup> followed by flash chromatography afforded the corresponding halohydrins  $\underline{4}$  and the recovered auxiliary XH (> 90%) Scheme 2, Table 2). Cyclization of  $\underline{4}$  with NaOMe (1.2 eq, MeOH, r.t. 0.5 to 2h, extraction with pentane/water gave epoxides  $\underline{5}$ . Their high enantiomeric purities (Table 2) as determined most reliably by complexation GC<sup>hc</sup> (entries 1,2,3,6) match perfectly the d.e. values of  $\alpha$ -haloesters  $\underline{3}$  (Table 1) which indicates clean retention and inversion for the steps  $\underline{3} \rightarrow \underline{4}$  and  $\underline{4} \rightarrow \underline{5}$ , respectively.

## Scheme 2

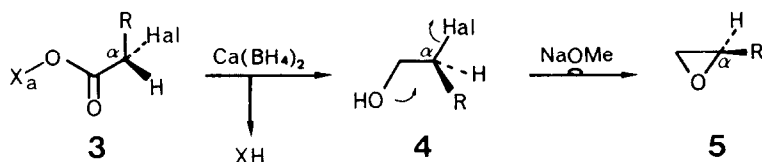


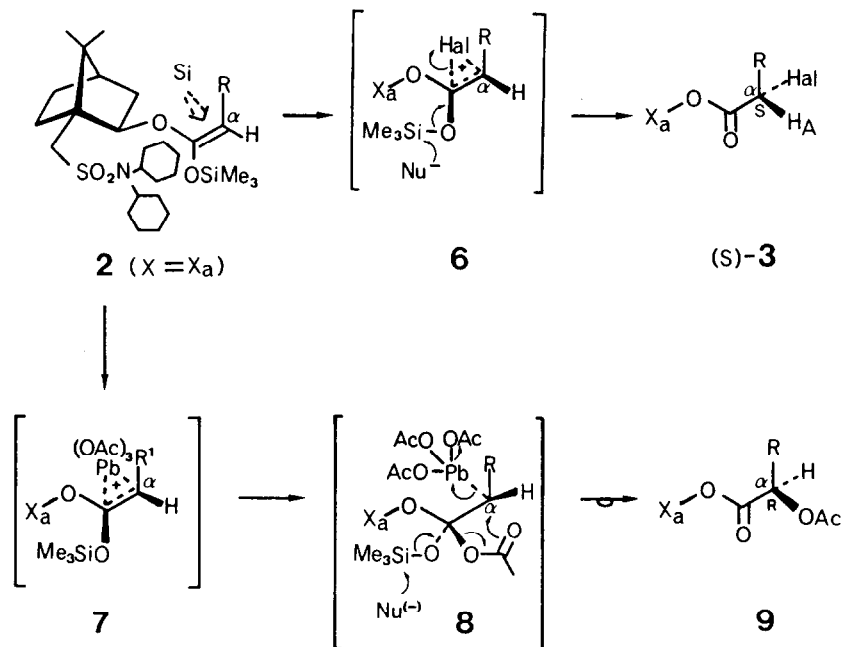
Table 2: Conversion of  $\alpha$ -Haloesters **3** to Halohydrins **4** and Epoxides **5**<sup>9</sup>

Entry	R	X	Hal	Halohydrin <b>4</b>		E p o x i d e <b>5</b>	
				yield %	yield % <sup>a)</sup>	e.e. %	Config. <sup>b,c)</sup>
1	CH <sub>3</sub>	Xa	Cl	40	-d)	96b)	(R)
2	nC <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub>	Xa	Br	73	-d)	>98b)	(R)
3	nC <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub>	Xa	Cl	85	54	>98b)	(R)
4	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	Xa	Cl	95	67	>90c)	(R)
5	(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CHCH <sub>2</sub>	Xa	Br	70	86	>96c)	(R)
6	(S)-nC <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> CH(Me)	Xa	Br	72	72	98b,c,e)	(2R,3S)
7	nC <sub>8</sub> H <sub>17</sub>	Xb	Br	73	58	>96c)	(S)

a) After bulb-to-bulb distillation. b) Complexation GC<sup>4C</sup> (Fused silica column, CHIRA METAL Ni-R-CAM/SE 54, Helium). c) Chiroptic comparison<sup>11</sup>. d) Yield not determined. e) GC-determination of the (R\*,S\*)/(R\*,R\*) ratio of the corresponding bromohydrin **4** e.e. at C(3) = >99%.

Mechanistically, this assignment is consistent with an attack of "Hal<sup>+</sup>" from the less hindered C $\alpha$ -Si-face **2** (X=Xa)  $\rightarrow$  **6**  $\rightarrow$  (S)-**3** (Scheme 3). Furthermore, this supports our postulated topicity for the lead tetraacetate provoked  $\alpha$ -acetoxylation of **2** (X=Xa)  $\rightarrow$  **7**  $\rightarrow$  **8**  $\rightarrow$  **9**<sup>3</sup> which involves electrophilic addition of the metal to the C $\alpha$ -Si face.

Scheme 3



In summary we have described herein a novel and practical enantioselective entry to halohydrins and terminal epoxides which are versatile chiral building blocks in organic synthesis<sup>4b,4e</sup>. Further applications and extensions of this methodology such as the preparation of enantiomerically pure  $\alpha$ -amino acids are presently being explored.

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- <sup>8</sup> The following experimental procedures (carried out under argon) are representative: **Method A:**  $\text{Me}_3\text{SiCl}$  (14 mmol) and ester **1** (8mmol) in THF (25 ml) were added successively to a solution of LDA (prepared from diisopropylamine (8.8 mmol) and 1.6N  $n\text{BuLi}$  (hexane, 5.5 ml)) in THF (25 ml) at  $-78^\circ$ . The mixture was stirred at  $-78^\circ$  for 1h and then evaporated *in vacuo* at r.t. (or alternatively, used directly as described in method C). Extraction of the residue with pentane, filtration and evaporation of the pentane solution furnished crude **2**. Solid N-bromosuccinimide (8.4 mmol) was added portionwise over 10 min. to a solution of crude **2** in dry DME (80 ml) at  $-78^\circ$  with vigorous mechanical stirring. Stirring of the mixture at  $-78^\circ$  for 30 min. followed by aq. work-up and flash chromatography gave crude haloester **3** which was crystallized (3x) from hexane. **Method B:** Analogous to method A but the bromination was carried out in toluene at  $-78^\circ$  over 3h to 36h until completion. **Method C:** Solid N-bromo- or N-chloro succinimide (8.4 mmol) was added in one portion to the stirred solution of *in situ*-prepared **2** in THF (as described in method A) at  $-78^\circ$ . Warming up of the mixture to  $0^\circ$  over 3h, stirring at  $0^\circ$  for 30 min., work-up, flash chromatography and crystallization (2x hexane) gave pure haloester **3**.
- <sup>9</sup> All new compounds were characterized by IR,  $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (360MHz) and MS.
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- <sup>11</sup> Observed  $[\alpha]_D^{210}$  to  $250$  values (solvent,  $c = \text{g}/100 \text{ ml}$ ) of isolated epoxides **5**. R, (absolute configuration), lit. ref. for comparison:  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5(\text{R})$ , ref. [4p]:+ 41.6 $^\circ$ ( $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6$ , 4.8);  $(\text{Me})_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2(\text{R})$ , ref. [4a]:+ 18.1 $^\circ$  (EtOH, 1.9);  $n\text{C}_3\text{H}_7\text{CH}(\text{Me})(2\text{R}, 3\text{S})$ , ref. [4b]:+ 4.2 $^\circ$ ( $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ , 1.0);  $n\text{C}_8\text{H}_{17}(\text{S})$ , ref. [4e]: -13.9 $^\circ$  ( $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ , 1.2).

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