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CONTROLLED BETA-HYDRIDE ELIMINATION DURING TETRAHYDROPYRAN FORMATION WITH Pd(II); DIASTEREOSELECTIVE FORMATION OF THE TETRAHYDROPYRAN RING OF TETRONOMYCIN

M. F. Semmelhack*, Chung Ryeol Kim, Walter Dobler, and Michael Meier Department of Chemistry, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 08544

Summary: The use of DMSO solvent allows control of beta-hydride elimination following alkoxy-palladation of alkenes, producing a side chain *trans* alkene unit on 2,6-disubstituted tetrahydropyrans. The method is applied towards the synthesis of tetronomycin.

The intramolecular version of palladium-catalyzed alkoxy-carbonylation of alkenes is a general method for the synthesis of 2,5-disubstituted tetrahydrofurans and 2,6-disubstituted tetrahydropyrans (eq. I, path a).¹ In these examples, CO trapping of a transient alkyl-Pd(II) intermediate is faster than β -hydride elimination to give an alkene (eq. I, path b). The elimination process has been observed in the absence of CO, usually including equilibration of the alkene position to the more stable location.² In one case, with Pd(OAc)₂ in place of PdCl₂, equilibration was minimized (5% of the more stable product compared to 20%)²c



Interesting structures such as tetronomycin $(1)^3$ contain tetrahydrofuran and -pyran rings, and might be approached using the palladium activation of an appropriate hydroxy-alkene. In particular, the tetrahydropyran ring in 1 could arise from the cyclization/elimination of synthon A (Scheme 1). The plan brings up new questions about functional group compatibility (e.g., the allylic alcohol in A), the effect on stereoselectivity of nearby substituents (e.g., the methyl group adjacent to the secondary hydroxyl in A), and the selectivity in the position and geometry of the new double bond. These issues are the subject of this note. The new developments are demonstrated in the model (2) for tetronomycin (Scheme 2).



The simple test case 3 showed that the usual conditions $(PdCl_2 (0.2), CuCl_2 (3.0), MeOH, 24^0)^1$ for alkoxycarbonylation, but under argon instead of a CO atmosphere, gave none of the direct B-hydride elimination product, 4. Instead, the product (5) from migration of the alkene unit and one labile product (ratio 2:1) were obtained in ca. 90% yield together. When the MeOH is replaced with acetonitrile, significant amounts of two chloride containing products (6,7) are also obtained (conditions c). Other solvents (THF, DME, etc) gave similarly complex mixtures and none of 4. Using one mol-eq of $Pd(OAc)_2$ and no $CuCl_2$ in an effort to avoid complications due to chloride ligands, reaction in acetonitrile led to 5 as the only product (90% conversion in 2 hr).



Conditions: (a) PdCl₂ (0.2), CuCl₂ (3.0), MeOH, CO (1.1 atm), 24⁰, 3.0 hr; (b) no CO; argon atmosphere. (c) Same as b except MeCN in place of MeOH; (d) same as c but Pd(OAc)₂ (1.0) in place of PdCl₂ and CuCl₂.

A more complete solvent effect study was carried out with substrate 8, using one mol-eq of Pd(OAc)₂. Five isomeric products were detected by GC/MS analysis. The two major products were isolated by preparative GC and fully characterized as 9 and 10.⁴ Table 1 displays the results with seven solvents under similar conditions. The reaction mixture in DMSO was strikingly simple with none of the isomerized product (9) detected.

Table 1. Solvent effect on the distribution of hydride elimination products.



(a) Pd(OAc)₂ (1.0), alcohol 8 (1.0), 24^o, 14-18 hr. (b) The numbers are peak area ratios from flash distilled product mixtures; five components in addition to unreacted starting material were generally observed. Only two were identified fully in this series.

Substrates 11-15 (Table 2) show the effect of DMSO is consistent. Substrate 11, which brings in the question of the effect of a methyl substituent, is converted with $Pd(OAc)_2$ (1.0 mol-eq) in DMSO into a mixture of the 2,5-*cis* (16a, 2%) and the *trans* isomer (16b, 98%), with the *trans* configuration of the new double bond. No double bond isomerization was detected; the yield of 16b after purification by flash chromatography was 79%. With each substrate, the main products have the new double bond positioned adjacent to the ring, and with a *trans* geometry when relevant. The 2,6-*cis* arrangement is preferred, although not strongly unless all three substituents can be equatorial (17,⁵ 19). In certain cases (substrates 12, 14, and 15) the reaction was slower and the formation of ketone became significant (10-16% yields).⁶ A further test of chemo- and stereoselectivity is presented by the model (2) for the key tetrahydropyran ring in tetronomycin.



Table 2. Examples of selectivity with 2-methyl substituted 1-hydroxy-5-alkenes.

(a) The alcohol (1.00 mmol) was mixed with 1.1 mmol of Pd(OAc)₂ and allowed to stir at 24^o for up to 24 hr. After aqueous extraction, the ether solution was concentrated and the residue was short path distilled at oil pump vacuum. The distillate was analyzed by GLPC. The numbers under the product structures are peak area ratios.
(b) Mass recovery of combined products after short path distillation. (c) Degree of conversion.

The preparation of 2 and cyclization with Pd(II) is summarized in Scheme 2. Treatment of (E)-2-bromo-3-cyclohexylallyl alcohol (20)⁷ in ether with 2.2 mol-eq of tert-butyllithium at -78° to 24° followed by reaction of the resulting O.2-dilithic derivative⁸ with aldehyde 21⁹ provided an inseparable mixture of diols 22 (anti/syn mixture, 71%), which was directly subjected to monosilyl protection (1.0 mol-eq of EtaN, 1.0 mol-eq of TBDMSCI, cat. DMAP, CH₂Cl₂ 24⁰) to furnish the desired hydroxyalkene 2 (29%)¹⁰ and its diastereomer 23(41%) as well as recovery of starting diols (27%). The diastereomeric ratio of anti/syn in diols 22 was determined by ¹H NMR spectral analysis after monosilyl protection. The ratio was 1:1.4 (anti/syn) based on the integration of the peaks assigned to the H geminal to the secondary hydroxy group. The result is consistent with the ratio of yields after isolation of 2 (anti) and 23 (syn). Oxidation of 23 to the α , β -unsaturated ketone 24 (PDC, 91%)¹¹ followed by reduction with L-selectride¹² at -78° provided the hydroxyalkenes 2 (50%) and 23 (33%). The key Pd(II)-promoted cyclization of 2 was carried out with Pd(OAc)2 (1.1 mol-eg) in DMSO for 24 h at 24° and provided the 2,6-cis-tetrahydropyran 25 in 72% yield along with the oxidation product 24 (8%).13 No 2,6-trans pyran was obtained and the geometry of the resulting double bond in the C-6 position substitutent was exclusively trans. Identical reaction conditions starting from diastereomer 23 led in a slower reaction to the diastereomeric tetrahydropyran 26 (48% yield) which is a useful comparison compound in the structure proof of 25.14 Development of a catalytic cyclization process, modification to avoid oxidation, and application to the total synthesis of tetronomycin are under investigation.



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- 4. Characterization of 9: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 4.43 (m, 1H, H-3), 3.87 (m, 1H, H-6), 2.1-1.9 (m, 2H, H-4), 1.95 (td, 2H, J_{8.9} = 7.5 Hz, J_{8.3} = 1.0 Hz, H-8), 1.55-1.40 (m, 4H, H-9, H-5), 1.26 (d, 3H, J_{6.7} = 8.4 Hz, H-7), 0.89 (t, 3H, J_{9.10} = 7.4 Hz, H-10); Low resolution MS (EI): m/e 140 (22%, M⁺), 125 (7%), 112 (45%), 99 (19%), 97 (22%), 83 (23%), 71 (29%), 55 (100%). Characterization of **10**: IR (neat) 3025, 2972, 2938, 2859, 2844, 1678, 1442, 1202, 1074, 1033, 959 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 5.72-5.63 (m, 1H, H-8), 5.54-5.44 (m, 1H, H-9), 3.79-3.72 (m, 1H, H-2), 3.50-3.43 (ddq, 1H, H-6), 1.82-1.77 (m, 1H, H-5), 1.69-1.64 (dm, 3H, H-10), 1.59-1.47 (m, 3H, H-5, H-3), 1.31-1.23 (m, 2H, H-4), 1.18 (d, 3H, J_{6.7} = 6.2 Hz, H-7); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 132.5, 126.5, 78.3, 73.6, 33.1, 31.4, 23.6, 22.2, 17.7; Anal. calculated for CgH₁₆O: C 77.06, H 11.49 %, found: C 76.63, H 11.45 %; Low resolution MS (EI): m/e 140 (parent).
- 5. Characterization of 17: IR (neat) 3025, 2970, 2930, 2880, 1670, 1450, 1360 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 5.66 (dq, 1H, Jg₁₀ = 15.4 Hz, J_{10,11} = 6.0 Hz, H-10), 5.50 (dq, 1H, J₂g = 6.0 Hz, Jg₁₀ = 15.4 Hz, H-9), 3.75 (m, 1H, H-2), 3.10 (dq, 1H, J₅₆ = 9.0 Hz, J₆₇ = 6.5 Hz, H-6), 1.69 (d, 3H, J_{10,11} = 6.0 Hz, H-11), 1.21 (d, 3H, J_{6,7} = 6.5 Hz, H-7), 1.80-1.15 (m, 5H, H-3, H-4, H-5), 0.83 (d, 3H, J₅₈ = 7.0 Hz, H-8): NOE enhancement experiment: irr at H-2 (δ 3.75) enhances H-6 (δ 3.10); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 132.8, 126.9 (C-9, C-10), 79.6, 78.4 (C-2, C-6), 37.1 (C-5), 32.8, 32.5 (C-3, C-4), 19.9, 18.1, 18.0 (C-7, C-8, C-11); Exact mass calculated for C₁₀H₁₇O (parent-H) 153.1279, found: 153.1270.
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- 10. Characterization of **2**: IR (CHCl₃) 3367(br), 2927, 2854, 1643, 1449, 1254, 1023 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 5.34-5.24 (m, 3H, H-1, H-7, H-8), 4.37 (d, 1H, $J_{gem} = 11.7$ Hz, -CH₂OSi-), 4.20 (d, 1H, $J_{gem} = 11.7$ Hz, -CH₂OSi-), 3.59 (dd, 1H, $J_{3 OH} = 6.9$ Hz, $J_{3,4} = 9.3$ Hz, H-3), 3.00 (d, 1H, $J_{OH,3} = 6.9$ Hz, -OH), 2.30-1.79 (m, 5 H, H-1', H-6, H-9), 1.69-1.48 (m, 6H, H-2', H-4, one of H-5), 1.32-1.00 (m, 7H, H-3', H-4', one of H-5), 0.94 (t, 3 H, J = 7.3 Hz, H-10), 0.88 (s, 9H, ¹BuSi-), 0.73 (d, 3H, J = 6.6 Hz, CH₃-C4), 0.08 (d, 6H, J = 1.0 Hz, CH₃Si-); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 137.1 (C-1), 135.4 (C-2), 131.4 (C-7), 129.5 (C-8), 82.9 (C-3), 59.9 (C-OSi), 36.8, 36.7 (C-4, C-1'), 33.5, 33.1, 32.5 (C-2', C-3', C-5), 25.84 (CH₃ in ¹BuSi-), 25.76 (C-4'), 24.6 (C-6), 20.5 (C-9), 18.1 (CMe₃Si-), 16.3 (CH₃-C4), 14.4 (C-10), -5.5 (CH₃Si-); exact mass calculated for C₂₄H₄₆O₂Si (M⁺) 394.3267, found: 394.3270.
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- 13. Cyclization of 2 to tetrahydropyran 25. The mixture of 2 (35.0 mg, 0.089 mmol) and Pd(OAc)₂ (22.0 mg, 0.098 mmol, 1.1 mol-eq) in DMSO (0.6 mł) was stirred at 24^o for 24 h. The black reaction mixture was diluted by additon of CH₂Cl₂ (2 ml), fitered through a short pipet column packed with silica gel (ca. 10 cm) washing with CH₂Cl₂ (20 ml), and concentrated in vacuo to give a black residue. Separation by flash chromatography (eluted with 50:1 hexane/ether) gave the cyclized tetrahydropyran 25 (25.0 mg, 72%) and the oxidized byproduct 24 (2.8 mg, 8%)

The Oxforzed byproduct 24 (2.6 mg, 5%) Characterization of 25: IR (CHCl₃) 2928, 2851, 1643, 1451, 1254, 1053 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 5.67-5.43 (m, 2H, H-15, H-16), 5.29 (d, 1H, J = 9.6 Hz, H-18), 4.15 (d, 1H, $J_{gem} = 12.9$ Hz, H-13), 4.10 (d, 1H, $J_{gem} = 12.9$ Hz, H-13), 3.77-3.68 (m, 1H, H-6), 3.32 (d, 1H, J = 9.9 Hz, H-2), 2.36-2.30 (m, 1H, H-9), 1.84-0.94 (m, 18H), 0.86 (s, 9H, ¹BuSi-), 0.72 (d, 3H, J = 6.6 Hz, H-14), 0.05 (d, 6H, J = 2.0 Hz, CH₃Si-); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 139.7 (C-8), 134.9 (C-7), 132.9 (C-15), 126.3 (C-16), 89.1 (C-2), 78.3 (C-6), 57.7 (C-13), 36.8 (C-9), 33.5,33.0,32.9, 32.6, 26.1,25.9 (C-3, C-4, C-5, C-10, C-11, C-12), 25.8 (CH₃ in ¹BuSi-), 18.2 (C-14), 18.1 (CMe₃Si-), 17.8 (C-17), -5.5 (CH₃Si-); Exact mass calculated for C₂₃H₄₁O₂Si (M⁺-CH₃) 377.2876, found: 377. 2866, C₂₀H₃₅O₂Si (M⁺⁻¹Bu) 335.2406, found: 335.2411.

14. The all-equatorial arrangement around the tetrahydropyran ring in 25 is supported by the coupling constant for H-2/H-3 (9.9 Hz; trans diaxial) and NOE experiments: irradiation of H-2 enhances H's at H-6 and H-8. Irradiation of H's of H-14 enhances H-2. In contrast, the parallel coupling constant for 26 is less than 0.5 Hz (H-2 appears as a slightly broadened singlet). Irradiation of H-2 gave enhancement of H-6 only. The chemical shift of an axial H-2 (δ 3.32) in 25 is substantially upfield of the signal for H-2 (δ 4.12) in 26.