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Enantioselective Michael-Mukaiyama Additions of Silylketene acetals to 2-Carboxycyclopentenones Promoted by Chiral Ti Complexes.

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Abstract: The conjugate addition of t-butylpropionate silylketeneacetal 2 to 2-carboxycyclopentenones 3a-b promoted by TADDOL-derived Ti chlorides gives the ketoacid 6 with excellent d.e. and e.e. up to 47%.

The conjugate addition of enolates and their analogues to activated double bonds (Michael addition) is among the most useful carbon-carbon bond forming reactions. Asymmetric versions of this reaction employing chiral auxiliaries on either donor or acceptor molecules have been described. Some catalytic asymmetric Michael reactions of malonate-type donors have been achieved in the presence of chiral crown ether-KOtBu complexes, the Rb salt of proline, or a chiral La complex. Cyanopropionates give enantioselective conjugate additions in the presence of a Rh catalyst with a chiral (ferrocenyl)diphosphine ligand. Recently Mukaiyama has reported that the conjugate addition of thiolacetate silylketeneacetals can be catalyzed by a chiral oxotitanium complex with e.e. up to 90%.

In this paper we report our results on the enantioselective Michael addition of silylketeneacetals 1 and 2 to 2-carboxycyclopentenones 3a-b in the presence of TADDOL-derived titanium chlorides (Scheme). To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time that an acid catalyzed conjugate addition of simple propionates is found to proceed in excellent d.e. and fair e.e. in the presence of a chiral activator.

$$\begin{array}{c} 3a \text{ R'=Et} \\ + 3b \text{ R'=Me} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 1. \text{ TiCl}_2(\text{OiPr})_2, \\ 4. 4\mathring{A} \text{ MS} \\ 2. \text{ HCl, reflux.} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} O \\ + 3b \text{ R'=Me} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 4. 4\mathring{A} \text{ MS} \\ 2. \text{ HCl, reflux.} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} O \\ + 3b \text{ R'=Me} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} O \\ + 3b$$

Scheme. Michael addition of silylketeneacetal 1 and 2 to 3 promoted by chiral Ti complexes.

The chiral Lewis acids were prepared in situ by stirring a solution of TiCl₂(OiPr)₂ with 1 mol equiv of the appropriate diol 4 over night at RT in the presence of 4Å MS.⁸ Addition of 1 to 3a in toluene in the presence of 4a·TiCl₂ gave a mixture of ketoester and silylated material. After water quenching, the chiral diol was recovered by filtration from hexane, and the crude was treated in refluxing HCl⁹ to give ketoacid 5 with 12% e.e., as determined by ¹H-NMR of ketoester 7 in the presence of Eu(hfc)₃ (Table, Entry 1). The configuration of the

major enantiomer was found to be (R) by comparison of the optical rotation of 5 and 7 with literature data.9

With the propionate acetal 2 the same procedure afforded the syn ketoacid 6 in moderate yield and excellent diastereomeric ratios (Table, Entry 2). 10 The e.e. of 6 was determined either by 1H-NMR of 8 in the presence of Eu(hfc)₃ or by reaction of 6 with (R)-methylmandelate and integration of the benzyl proton signals of 9.11 The absolute configuration of the major enantiomer was assumed to be (3R) by analogy with what found for 5. Toluene was found to be the solvent of choice for this reaction: both yield and selectivity dropped when the reaction was performed in CH₂Cl₂ (Entry 3). CH₃CN, CH₃CH₂CN and CH₃NO₂ were also tested: in all cases yields and selectivity were disappointing compared to toluene. Using diol 4a a dramatic increase of enantioselectivity was observed when the substrate was changed from 2-carbethoxycyclopentanone 3a (Entry 2, 16% e.e.) to the corresponding methyl ester 3b (Entry 4). Starting from the latter, the acid 6 was isolated in 43% e.e. Use of the α -naphthyl substituted diol 4b (Entry 5) improved the e.e. to 47%. ¹²

Table. Michael addition of silylketeneacetal 2 to 1 promoted by chiral Ti complexes.²

Entry	R	R'	Diol	Solvent	syn : anti ^b	e.e. (%) ^c	Yield (%) ^d
1	Н	Et	4 a	Toluene	=	10e	25
2	Me	Et	4 a	Toluene	96:4	16 ^e	55
3	Me	Et	4 a	CH ₂ Cl ₂	92:8	11e	21
4	Me	Me	4 a	Toluene	97:3	43f	38
5	Me	Me	4 b	Toluene	98:2	47 ^f	50

a. All reactions were run for 5 h at -78°C in 0.1M solution, using 1.0 mol equiv of Ti complex, 2 mol equiv of silylketene acetal, and 100 mg/mmol of 4Å MS. b. By GC of 8. c. Configuration of major enantiomer (3R); see ref. 9. d. Of the isolated acids 5 or 6. e. Eu(hfc)3 of Me esters 7 or 8 in C₆D₆ f. 1H-NMR of 9 in CaDa.

Further studies to clarify the reaction mechanism and to improve selectivities are in progress.

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