

Preparation and Use of Chiral (Z)-Enol Ethers in Asymmetric Bradsher Cycloaddition

Olivia Sageot, Daphnée Monteux, Yves Langlois*

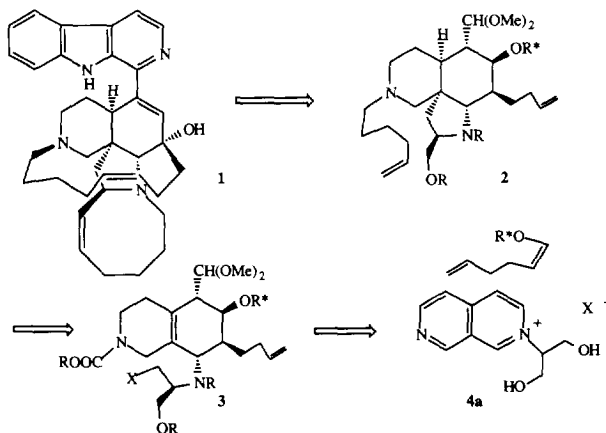
Laboratoire de Synthèse des Substances Naturelles,
Laboratoire des Réactions Sélectives sur Supports
Associés au CNRS, Bâtiment 410, Université de Paris-Sud, 91405, Orsay, France.

Claude Riche, Angèle Chiaroni.

Institut de Chimie des Substances Naturelles, CNRS,
91190, Gif sur Yvette, France

Abstract: Chiral (Z)-enol ethers **7a-7p** have been prepared in two steps. Bradsher cycloaddition between such compounds and 2,7-naphthyridinium salt **4b** in water or in *tert*-butanol-water afforded, in some cases with good yield and diastereoselectivity, highly functionalized isoquinoline derivatives, potential intermediates in Manzamine A **1** total synthesis. X-Ray analysis secured the direction of asymmetric induction with enol ether **7l**. Copyright © 1996 Published by Elsevier Science Ltd

During the course of preliminary studies toward the total synthesis of cytotoxic alkaloid Manzamine A **1**, we recently demonstrated² the synthetic potential of a Bradsher cycloaddition³ strategy. An extension of this reaction to its asymmetric counterpart could give rise in few steps to highly functionalized isoquinoline derivative **3**, potential precursor of Manzamine A **1** according to the retrosynthetic scheme (Scheme 1).

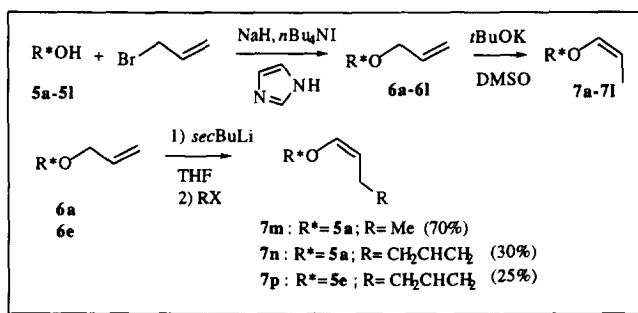
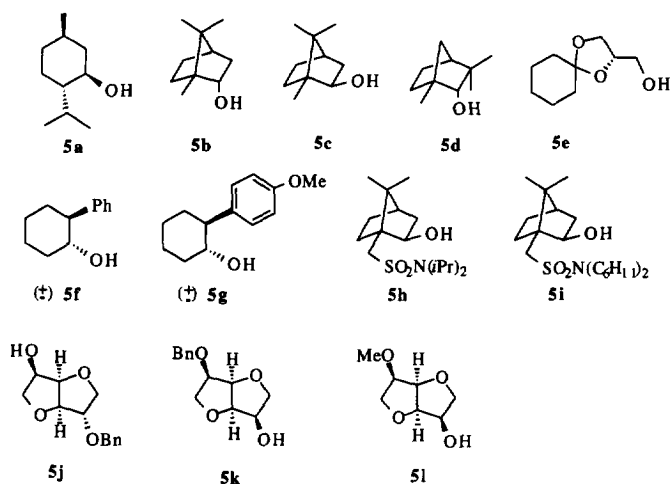


Scheme 1

Asymmetric Bradsher cycloadditions between unsubstituted enol ethers and an isoquinolinium salt have already been reported in literature⁴. In the present communication, we describe a versatile preparation of enantiomerically pure (Z)-enol ethers from the corresponding allylic ethers and their use in asymmetric Bradsher cycloaddition with 2,7-naphthyridinium salt **4b** as diene.

Chiral (Z)-1,2-disubstituted enol ethers were prepared in two steps starting from alcohols **5a-5l**. Classical *O*-alkylation with allyl bromide gave rise to the corresponding allylic ethers **6a-6l** (Scheme 2, table

1). Isomerisation of the double bond in the presence of potassium *ter*-butylate in DMSO⁵ at 60°C afforded geometrically pure (*Z*)-enol ethers **7a-7l** generally in good yields⁶. However, deprotonation of allylic ether **6f** induced a β -elimination producing phenyl cyclohexene. This side reaction was partially suppressed by using THF and *sec*-butyl lithium as the base at -78°C⁷. Under these conditions, (*Z*)-enol ether **7f** was obtained in 20% yield, with 21% of starting allylic alcohol **6f**, and 10% of phenyl cyclohexene. Moreover, this inconvenience has been overcome using the 4-methoxyphenyl cyclohexanol **5g**. For further synthetic elaborations, a tandem isomerisation-alkylation sequence of reactions has also been studied with the *sec*-BuLi-THF system and methyl iodide or allyl bromide as electrophiles. Alkylated (*Z*)-enol ethers **7m-7p** were thus obtained in moderate to good yields.

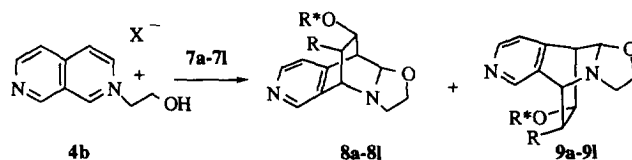


Scheme 2

Entry	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Starting material	5a	5b	5c	5d	5e	5f	5g	5h	5i	5j	5k	5l
Alkylation Yield %	95	68	40	60	99	90	85	54	68	93	98	90
Isomerisation Yield %	90	46	75	90	70	20	90	96	70	95	98	65

Table 1

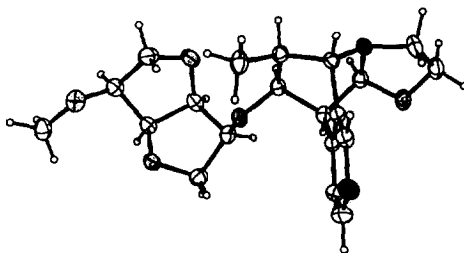
Bradsher cycloadditions between enol ethers **7a-7n** and naphthyridinium salt **4b** were studied, the most significant results are reported in table 2. The use of the Bradsher cycloaddition conditions developed in our preliminary study² (dichloromethane-methanol 9:1, CaCO₃) gave rather poor results with dienophile **7a** and naphthyridinium salt **4b**. Adduct **8a** as a mixture of diastereomers was isolated in 15% yield after 48 hours at room temperature. Only starting materials were recovered with other solvents such as *ter*-butanol, *N,N*-dimethylformamide or 1,4-dioxan. Fortunately, when the reaction was performed in water⁸, a faster cycloaddition was observed and adduct **8a** was isolated in 55% yield after 9 hours at room temperature with a diastereoselectivity of 20% (Table 2, entry 1). Other cycloadditions with dienophiles **7b-7i** were performed under the same conditions with or without cobalt (II) nitrate as an additive⁹. Finally the best results were obtained with isosorbide enol ether derivative **7j** and isomannide derivatives **7k** and **7l**¹⁰ in a mixture of *ter*-butanol-water as solvent (entries 8, 9 and 10). These compounds gave interesting results for both yield and diastereoselectivity¹¹. As previously observed with Bradsher cycloadditions³, these reactions were highly *exo* selective¹². Diastereoselectivities were measured by ¹H NMR¹². However, the direction of the asymmetric induction could not be easily deduced from the examination of the NMR spectra and a crystal of adduct **8l** (or **9l**) has been submitted to an X-ray analysis¹³. As shown in figure 1, the absolute configuration does agree with structure **8l** which fit well for further use of such adduct in asymmetric synthesis of Manzamine A **1**.



Scheme 3

Entry	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Dienophile	7a	7a	7b	7b	7c	7f	7g	7j	7k	7l
Solvent										
+ Additive	a	b	a	c	c	c	c	b	b	b
Time (Hour or day)	9 h	5 d	4 h	5 h	5 h	6 h	5 h	4 d	2 d	3 d
Yield %	55	62	40	70	58	52	48	90	90	63
d. e. %	20	20	37		20	69	80	80	80	80

Table 2 : Reaction condition : **4b** (1 equiv.), 20°C, CaCO₃ (1.5 equiv.), **7a-7f** (10 equiv.), **7j-7l**: (5 equiv.).
a: H₂O. b: H₂O-*tert* butanol = 2:1. c: H₂O, Co(NO₃)₂ (0.025 equiv.)

Figure 1 X-Ray structure of **8l**

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- 12) The *exo* selectivity of these cycloadditions was deduced from nOe experiments showing the spatial proximity between N-CH-O and R*O-CH. Moreover, a cycloaddition performed with (*E*) **7f** afforded a mixture of diastereomeric *endo-exo* adducts. For further discussion, see ref. 3d. The diastereoselectivity of these cycloadditions was measured by integration of the signal attributed to N-CH-O which appeared as a doublet between 4.8 and 5 ppm.
- 13) Crystal data: C₂₀H₂₆N₂O₅, M_w = 374.44, crystal of 0.33 x 0.37 x 0.46 mm, monoclinic, space group P 2₁, Z = 2, a = 7.938(5), b = 8.129(7), c = 14.287(8) Å, β = 98.95(2)°, V = 910 (1) Å³, d_{calc} = 1.37 g cm⁻³, F(000) = 400, λ (Cu Kα) = 1.5418 Å, μ = 0.76 mm⁻¹. Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer, (θ-2θ) scan technique up to θ = 65°; 6296 collected reflexions (h: -9 to 9, k: -9 to 9, l: -16 to 16), 3099 unique reflexions (R_{int} = 0.023), 3063 observed having I ≥ 3 σ(I). R = 0.037 and R_w = 0.051 (with R_w = {Σw(Fo-|Fc|)² / ΣwFo²}^{1/2} and w = 1/[σ²(Fo) + 0.0034 Fo²]). Residual electron density: -0.32 and 0.49 e Å⁻³. The structure was solved by direct methods using SHELXS86 and refined by full matrix least squares with SHELXL76, minimizing the function Σw(Fo-|Fc|)². The coordinates of the hydrogen atoms were refined with an isotropic thermal factor equivalent to that of the bonded carbon atom, plus 10%. Atomic coordinates, bond lengths, bond and torsion angles, and thermal parameters at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, UK.