

Catalytic Asymmetric Hydrosilylation of Butadiynes: A New Synthesis of Optically Active Allenes

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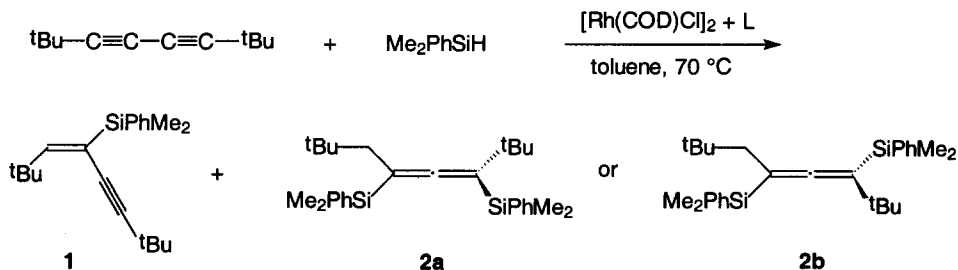
Dedicated to Professor Rüdiger Selke on the occasion of his 65th birthday

Abstract: The Rh-catalyzed hydrosilylation of butadiynes to chiral allenenes in the presence of chiral phosphine ligands is described. For the first time an enantiomeric excess of 22% was achieved using PPM ligand ((2*S*,4*S*)-(-)-4-(diphenylphosphino)-2-(diphenylphosphinomethyl)-pyrrolidine).

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Allenenes are of great importance in organic chemistry, their synthesis and application are described in detail in the literature.¹ Many syntheses of chiral allenenes of high enantiomeric purity start from chiral precursors, but relatively few syntheses are known in which the chirality is induced by a chiral catalyst.² To the best of our knowledge the palladium-catalyzed cross-coupling reaction of 4,4-dimethyl-1,2-pentadiene and iodobenzene in the presence of chiral phosphine ligands is the only example of a transition metal catalyzed enantioselective allene synthesis.³ Here we report on a further example of a transition metal catalyzed synthesis of chiral allenenes *via* asymmetric hydrosilylation. In general, allenenes can be synthesized in high yields by hydrosilylation of butadiynes in the presence of achiral catalysts such as Rh-, Pt-⁴ and Ni-complexes.⁵ Among the various possible catalysts chiral Rh-phosphine complexes turned out to be the best catalysts so far for the asymmetric hydrosilylation of butadiynes (Scheme 1).



L = chiral phosphine ligands

Scheme 1

As a model reaction the hydrosilylation of 2,2,7,7-tetramethyl-3,5-octadiyne with dimethylphenylsilane was

studied. Depending on the reaction conditions the hydrosilylation gives two reaction products, the monohydrosilylation product **1** and the dihydrosilylation product (allene) **2**. With diphenylsilane we observed the formation of disilane under hydrogen elimination, but no reaction to allene **2**. The following chiral ligands were tested with $[\text{Rh}(\text{COD})\text{Cl}]_2$ *in situ* as catalysts: monophosphine ((*S*)-NMDPP⁶) and chelate diphosphine ligands ((2*S*,3*S*)-Norphos,⁶ (2*S*,3*S*)-Chiraphos,⁶ (2*S*,3*S*,4*S*,5*S*)-Rophos-benzene,⁷ (3*R*,4*R*)-Pyrphos,⁶ (2*S*,3*S*)-BDPP,⁶ (4*R*,5*R*)-DIOP,⁶ (*R*)-BINAP,⁶ (2*S*,4*S*)-BPPM,⁶ (2*S*,4*S*)-PPM,⁶ (3*R*,4*R*)-POP-BZ⁶). The results are given in Table 1. Monophosphine and five- and six-membered chelates favour the formation of **1**. Allene **2** is obtained by using ligands forming seven-membered chelates. For the first time an enantiomeric excess of 22% was obtained in the presence of ligand PPM. In contrast to PPM no enantioselection was obtained with BPPM, a ligand with an electron-withdrawing substituent at the pyrrolidine nitrogen atom. The role of this *N*-substituents must still be clarified. The yield of allene was drastically lowered, if THF or CHCl_3 are used as solvents compared to toluene. In contrast, an addition of Et_3N increased the yield up to 41%, but the extent of chiral induction was not affected. In conclusion, we developed a new catalytic asymmetric synthesis of allenes. Further work to elaborate scope and limitation of this method as well as to optimize the enantioselectivity is in progress.

Table 1. Results of catalytic hydrosilylation^a of ${}^t\text{Bu}-\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-{}^t\text{Bu}$ with Me_2PhSiH

| Entry | Ligand | Yield ^b [%] | | <i>ee</i> ^c [%] |
|-------|------------------------------------|------------------------|----------|----------------------------|
| | | 1 | 2 | (Conf.) ^d |
| 1 | (3 <i>R</i> , 4 <i>R</i>)-Pyrphos | 67 | 4 | n. d. |
| 2 | (4 <i>R</i> ,5 <i>R</i>)-DIOP | 53 | 25 | rac. |
| 3 | (<i>R</i>)-BINAP | 41 | 30 | rac. |
| 4 | (2 <i>S</i> ,4 <i>S</i>)-BPPM | 56 | 21 | rac. |
| 5 | (2 <i>S</i> ,4 <i>S</i>)-PPM | 66 | 27 | 22 |
| 6 | (<i>R,R</i>)-POP-BZ | 56 | 35 | 5 |

a) General procedure: under inert atmosphere, a mixture of 1 mmol of butadiyne, 0.02 mmol of the ligand and 0.01 mmol of $[\text{Rh}(\text{COD})\text{Cl}]_2$ were dissolved in 1 ml of toluene and stirred for 10 min at r. t.. Then 4 mmol of silane were added and the mixture was stirred for 24 h at 70 °C. Afterwards toluene and silane were removed *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by column chromatography (eluent: *n*-hexane; silica gel 60 (Merck)). b) The yield was determined by GC using an internal standard (dodecane). c) The *ee* values were determined by NMR using chiral lanthanide shift reagents ($\text{Yb}(\text{hfc})_3/\text{Ag}(\text{fod})$). d) The absolute configuration was not determined; optical rotation sign of crude product: (-) (THF).

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