

Synthesis, resolution and applications of 3,3'-bis(RO)-MeO-BIPHEP derivatives[☆]

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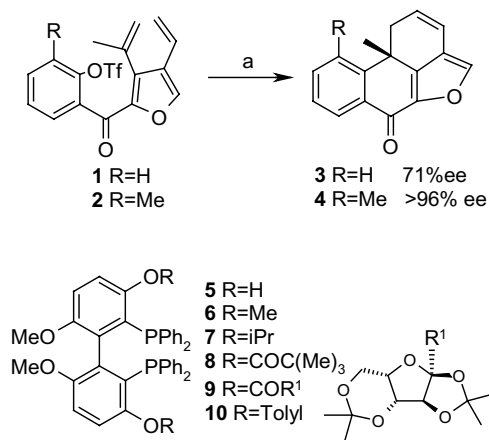
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Abstract—A series of optically pure 3,3'-bis(RO)-MeO-BIPHEP derivatives are prepared and used in palladium catalyzed asymmetric transformations. The phosphine oxide of (\pm)-**5** is prepared in four steps from *p*-methoxyphenol and resolved using the novel resolving reagent chloro(*L*-menthoxy)dimethylsilane. Subsequent conversions provide catalysts **8** and **9**. Ligands **6**, **7** and **10** are prepared in six steps from *p*-methoxyphenol and the phosphine oxides of **6** and **7**, and **10** are resolved using di-*p*-toluoyl- and dibenzoyl-*L*-tartaric acid, respectively. (*R*)-3,3'-Bispivalate **8** is superior to the other catalysts in asymmetric Heck reaction with 2,3-dihydrofuran while (*R*)-(+)-bis(tolyloxy) **10** and (+)-(*R*)-sugar derivative **9** are better in the Pd-catalyzed polyene cyclization; however, the absolute sense of chirality in the product from the polyene cyclization was reversed to that obtained when (*R*)-(+)-BINAP and (*R*)-(+)-MeO-BIPHEP were used.

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Since we reported the synthesis of (+)-xestoquinone in 1996 in 68% ee using an asymmetric palladium catalyzed polyene cyclization (PCPC) as the key step,¹ we have been interested in finding methods for increasing the enantioselectivity in palladium catalyzed polyene cyclizations **1** → **3**.^{2,3} While investigating the effect of substituents on the PCPC we found that the placement of a methyl group *ortho* to the triflate, that is, **2** (Scheme 1) resulted in the formation of **4** in >96% ee when compared to 71% ee with the reaction of **1** → **3**. PM3(tm) semi-empirical calculations⁴ indicated that group *ortho* to the triflate in **2** might be interacting strongly with one of the 3' hydrogen atoms in (*S*)-BINAP after oxidative insertion of the Pd atom leading to (*S*)-**4**, while the same interaction is not observed in the isomer leading to (*R*)-**4**. Hence the %ee in the PCPC of **2** → **4** was higher than that of **1** → **3**. From these calculation and experimental results, we rationalized that if the above hypothesis is true that placement of a group other than hydrogen in the 3- and 3'-positions of BINAP should also result in an



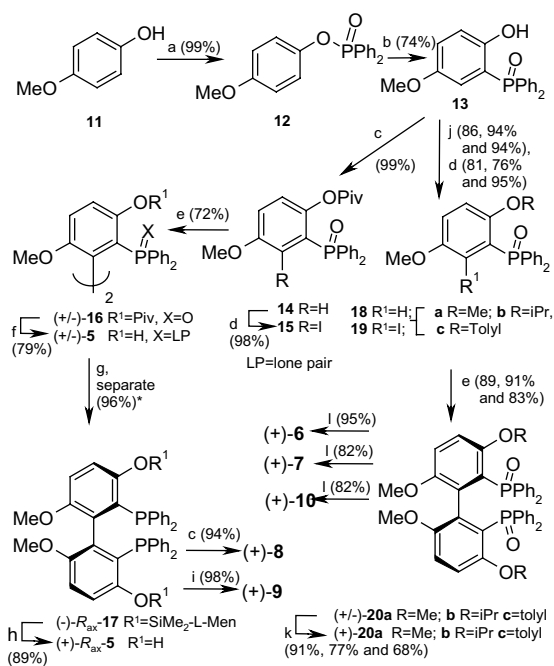
Scheme 1. Reagents and conditions: (a) Pd₂(dba)₃, (*S*)-BINAP, PMP, toluene, 110 °C.

increase in the %ee in the PCPC of **1** → **3**. As the placement of substituents in the 3- and 3'-position of BINAP is not a trivial exercise,⁵ we decided to focus on the development of a series 3,3'-bis(substituted)-MeO-BIPHEP⁶ derivatives (**5**–**10**) in which we could systematically adjust the size of the group easily in the 3- and 3'-positions.^{7,8} We herein report the synthesis, resolution and asymmetric applications of a series of new 3,3'-bis(substituted)-MeO-BIPHEP derivatives **5**–**10**.

Keywords: Asymmetric Heck; Asymmetric polyene cyclizations; Palladium; 3,3'-Disubstituted BIPHEP derivatives.

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Scheme 2. Reagents and conditions: (a) $\text{Ph}_2\text{P}(\text{O})\text{Cl}$, Et_3N , DCM, rt, 12 h, H_2O_2 ; (b) LDA, THF, -60°C , 6 h; (c) pivalyl chloride, Et_3N , DCM; (d) LDA, THF, -75°C , 2 h, then I_2 , rt, 1 h; (e) Cu powder, DMF, 100°C , 1.5 h; (f) AlH_3 , THF, 67°C , 12 h (79%); (g) L-menthyl- Me_2SiCl , Et_3N , DCM, 0°C , 1 d; (h) HF-pyr, THF, -70°C to rt, 1 h; (i) 2,3:4,6-di-*O*-isopropylidene-2-keto-L-gulonyl chloride, Et_3N , DMAP, DCM, rt, 30 min; (j) MeI, DMF, K_2CO_3 , rt, 24 h or *i*-PrBr, DMF, K_2CO_3 , 45°C , 6 h or 4-iodotoluene, Cs_2CO_3 , pyr, CuBr, 115°C , 1 d (94%); (k) D-(+)-DTTA, 95% EtOH, separate or D-(+)-DTTA, CH_3CN , separate or L-(−)-DBTA, CHCl_3 , separate; (l) HSiCl_3 , xylene, 48 h, 145°C ; *48% of each diastereomer.

4-Methoxyphenol (**11**) was treated with ClPPh_2 ⁹ followed by H_2O_2 ¹⁰ to give **12** that was subsequently migrated to the *ortho*-position by treatment with LDA giving **13** (Scheme 2).¹¹ Protection of the hydroxyl group as a pivalate and introduction of an iodine atom between the methoxyl and diphenylphosphonyl groups provided **15**.⁶ Ullmann coupling^{6,12} of **15** gave (\pm)-**16**, which was reduced with AlH_3 ¹³ to give (\pm)-**5**. Resolution of (\pm)-**5** or the corresponding phosphine oxide using reported methods for BINAP¹⁴ or MeO-BIPHEP⁶ did not work and led us to develop a new resolution method for biaryl systems containing hydroxyl groups. Treatment of (\pm)-**5** with chloro(L-menthyloxy)dimethylsilane¹⁵ gave two diastereomers (−)- R_{ax} -**17** (R_f 0.23) and (−)- S_{ax} -**17** (R_f 0.20) that were separated by silica gel column chromatography (hexanes/ Et_2O , 20:1). The latter diastereomer crystallized from hexanes and the absolute stereochemistry was found to be S_{ax} from the X-ray crystal structure (Fig. 1).[†] Removal of the silyl group from (−)- R_{ax} -**17** and (−)- S_{ax} -**17** provided (+)- R_{ax} -**5** and (−)- S_{ax} -**5**, respectively. (+)- R_{ax} -**5** was subsequently converted into (+)-**8** and **9** using standard procedures.

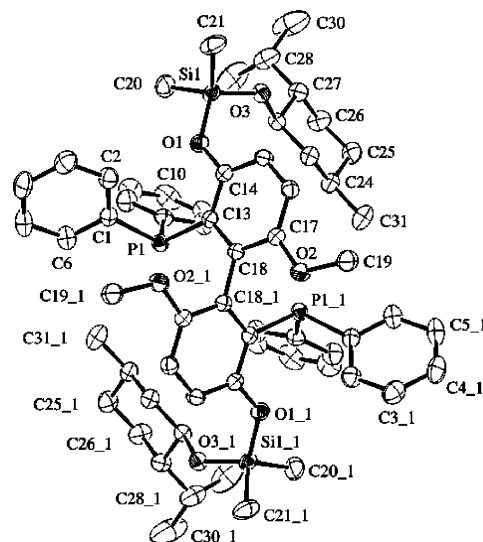


Figure 1. ORTEP diagram of (−)- S_{ax} -**17** drawn with 30% probability ellipsoids. Hydrogen atoms are represented as spheres of arbitrary size.

Compounds (+)-**6**, (+)-**7** and (+)-**10** were prepared by either alkylation of **13** with MeI or *i*-PrBr or by treatment with 4-iodotoluene in the presence of CuBr and caesium carbonate in refluxing pyridine to give **18a–c**, respectively (Scheme 2).¹⁶ Introduction of an iodine atom (LDA, I_2) gave **19a–c**, which was subsequently Ullmann coupled to give (\pm)-**20a–c**. Co-crystallization of (\pm)-**20a** and **20b** first with di-*p*-toluoyl-D-tartaric acid (D-(+)-DTTA), filtering and a subsequent co-crystallization of the remaining mother liquor with L-(−)-DTTA in CHCl_3 provided (−)-**20a** and (+)-**20b**, respectively. A similar resolution on (\pm)-**20c** using dibenzoyl-L-tartaric acid (L-(−)-DBTA) gave (+)-**20c**. Subsequent reduction with trichlorosilane¹⁷ gave (+)-**6**, (+)-**7** and (+)-**10**.[‡]

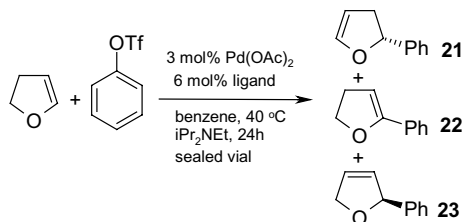
The enantiomeric purity of compounds **6**, **7** and **10** was determined by integrating the MeO signals in the ^1H NMR spectrum of the corresponding L-(−)-DBTA complex with the corresponding bisphosphine oxides. The enantiopurity of **5** was determined in a similar manner by examination of the ^1H NMR of (+)- and (−)-**17**.

With (+)-**5–10** in hand we compared the efficacy of these ligands in the asymmetric Heck arylation of 2,3-dihydrofuran and compared the results to those obtained with (+)-BINAP¹⁸ and (+)-MeO-BIPHEP⁶ (Table 1). In our hands Hayashi's reaction conditions¹⁹ reported with (+)-BINAP and Hunig's base at 40°C for 24 h afforded lower product conversion and provided **21** and **23** in similar ratio and %*ee*[§] to that reported by Hayashi. (+)-MeO-

[‡] All compounds gave spectral data and/or elemental analyses in accordance with their structures.

[§] Enantiomeric excesses of **21** and **23** were determined from a Cyclodex-B column (30 m × 0.32 mm i.d.), which provided base line separation for each enantiomer. The retention times for (\pm)-**21**, **22** and (\pm)-**23** were 26.5/26.9, 29.1 and 31.5/31.9 min, respectively.

[†] Compound (−)- S_{ax} -**17**: monoclinic C_2 ; $a = 28.3813(7) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 9.6063(2) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 11.1778(4) \text{ \AA}$, $\beta = 105.3695(10)^\circ$, $V = 2938.52(14) \text{ \AA}^3$; $Z = 2$; $R = 0.042$; $R_w = 0.083$.

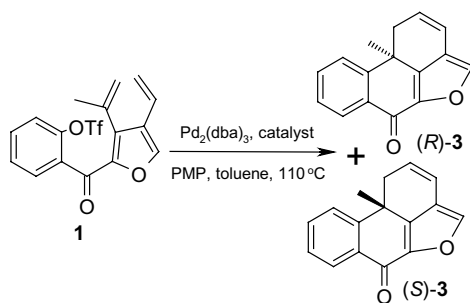
Table 1. Asymmetric Heck reactions with ligands **5–10**

	Ligand	Conversion (%)	Ratio of products		
			21 (%ee)	22	23 (%ee)
1	(+)-(R)-BINAP	41	91 (80)	0	9 (61)
2	(+)-(R)-MeO-BIPHEP	65	83 (92)	7	10 (63)
3	(+)-(R)- 5	No rxn	—	—	—
4	(+)-(R)- 6	6	100 (9)	0	0
5	(+)-(R)- 7	37	93 (77)	0	7 (0)
6	(+)-(R)- 8	100	99 (90)	0	1 (10)
7	(+)-(R)- 9	48	94 (81)	0	6 (53)
8	(+)-(R)- 10	57	97 (20)	0	3 (85)

BIPHEP provided a slightly higher % conversion and %ee of **21** when compared to BINAP (entry 2). Trace amounts of conjugated isomer **22** were also observed with (+)-MeO-BIPHEP.^{20,21} No reaction was observed with bisphenol ligand (+)-**5** (entry 3) due to its low solubility in benzene at 40 °C and bismethoxy ligand (+)-**6** proved equally disappointing although solubility in benzene was not an issue with this ligand (entry 4). Ligands (+)-**7** (bis-*i*-PrO), **9** (bis-(sugarC=O)O) and **10** (bis-tolylO) provided similar % conversions as BINAP and MeO-BIPHEP (entries 5, 7 and 8) however the %ee of **21** was slightly lower with ligands **7** and **9** while ligand **10** gave a disappointing 20% ee of **21**. The increase in the ratio of **21/23** with ligands **7**, **9** and **10** is noteworthy and longer reaction times might have provided better % conversion to products. To our gratification, ligand **8** out performed

both BINAP and MeO-BIPHEP by providing 100% conversion to products after only 24 h and a much-improved ratio of **21/23**. The %ee of **21** was similar to those obtained with BINAP and BIPHEP. Interestingly, ligands **6–10** suppressed the formation of conjugated isomer **22**.²⁰

Ligands (+)-(R)-**5–10** were then tried in the palladium catalyzed polyene cyclization (**1** → **3**) and compared to the results obtained with (+)-(R)-BINAP and (+)-(R)-MeO-BIPHEP (Table 2). (+)-(R)-BINAP and (+)-(R)-MeO-BIPHEP afforded (*S*)-**3** in 68% and 72% ee, respectively, although the % yield with (+)-(R)-MeO-BIPHEP was lower than that obtained with (+)-(R)-BINAP (entries 1 and 2). As above in the Hayashi reaction, ligand (+)-(R)-**5** did not promote the reaction

Table 2. Asymmetric Pd-catalyzed polyene cyclization results with ligands **5–10**

	Catalyst	Yield (%)	Ratio of enantiomers		Ee (%)
			(R)- 3	(S)- 3	
1	(+)-(R)-BINAP	81	84	16	68
2	(+)-(R)-MeO-BIPHEP	53	86	14	72
3	(+)-(R)- 5	No rxn	—	—	—
4	(+)-(R)- 6	69	26	74	48
5	(+)-(R)- 7	76	30	70	40
6	(+)-(R)- 8	67	54	46	8
7	(+)-(R)- 9	59	18	82	64
8	(+)-(R)- 10	71	14	86	72

due to solubility problems in toluene at 110 °C (entry 3). The use of pivalate ligand (+)-(R)-**8** was disappointing as it afforded essentially a racemic mixture of **3**. This reaction was repeated and when a similar %ee was obtained the enantiopurity of ligand (+)-(R)-**8** was checked but was found to a %ee of >97%. Ligands (+)-(R)-**6** and (+)-(R)-**7** provided **3** in a disappointing ee of 48% and 40%, respectively. Upon closer examination of the HPLC trace;[†] however, it was noticed that the major isomer of the reaction in both cases was the R-isomer of **3** and not the expected S-isomer when using a biaryl ligands with absolute stereochemistry R_{ax} (cf. entries 1 and 2, Table 2). This unexpected reversal of absolute stereochemistry in **3** was also observed with ligands (+)-(R)-**9** and **10** but in these cases the %ee increased to 64% and 72%, respectively (entries 7 and 8). So contrary to the expected result from PM3 semi-empirical calculations, the use of a variety of (+)-(R)-3,3'-bis(substituted)-MeO-BIPHEP ligands **6**, **7**, **9** and **10** did not increase the %ee of the polyene cyclization but instead provided similar %ee's of **3** as those obtained with (+)-(R)-BINAP and MeO-BIPHEP but with the opposite sense of chirality.**

We have shown that a variety of 3,3'-bis(substituted)-MeO-BIPHEP derivatives can be easily prepared and resolved. (+)-(R)-**8** proved better than BINAP and MeO-BIPHEP in the Heck reaction between phenyltriflate and 2,3-dihydrofuran while (+)-(R)-**6**, **7**, **9** and **10** unexpectedly provided (S)-**3** in the intramolecular polyene cyclization. Work is continuing to rationalize the observed reversal of absolute stereochemistry and to use ligands **5–10** in other transition metal catalyzed processes.

Supplementary material

Methods for double checking the assignment of absolute stereochemistry to ligands **5–10** is provided along with general procedures for the Heck and intramolecular polyene cyclizations.

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[†] The enantiomeric excesses were unequivocally determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiralcel OD-H column using *n*-hexane/isopropanol (90:10).

** The reversal of absolute stereochemistry in product **3** resulted in us double-checking the absolute stereochemistry assigned to ligands **5–10**. See the supplemental information for more details.

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