



Allylic substitution on the pyran ring

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ABSTRACT

Allylic substitution of pyrans **10** and **15** possessing the picolinoyloxy leaving group with several alkyl and aryl copper reagents derived from RMgBr and CuBr·Me₂S was studied. First, reaction of **10** with three copper reagents derived from EtMgBr (2 equiv) and different equivalents of CuBr·Me₂S (2, 1, and 0.5 equiv, respectively) was examined in THF at –20 °C for 1 h to afford *anti* S_N2' product **16a** in high yields in all cases. Under these reaction conditions Me, *i*-Pr, Ph, *o*-MeC₆H₄, and *o*-MeOC₆H₄ were installed on the pyran ring of **10** successfully. Similar results were also obtained with pyran **15**.

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Substituted pyrans are a class of biologically active compounds,¹ while such a structure has been used as a mimic of specific amino acids in peptides.² To install substituent on the pyran ring Claisen rearrangement,³ BF₃-catalyzed allylation,⁴ Indium-mediated reaction with carbonyl compounds,⁵ Pd-catalyzed [3+2] cyclization,⁶ Pd-catalyzed allylic substitution with soft nucleophiles,⁷ allylic substitution with copper reagents as hard nucleophiles,⁸ etc.⁹ have been studied so far. Among these reactions we were attracted by the last type because various types of alkyl and aryl groups are installed in principle.¹⁰ This possibility, however, has limitedly been studied using pyrans possessing the acetoxy and pivaloxy (*t*-BuCO₂) leaving groups and organocopper reagents derived from RLi and CuX to afford *anti* S_N2' products **2** in moderate to good yields^{8b,c} (Fig. 1). In contrast, reaction of BTZ ethers with copper reagents derived from Grignard reagents produces *syn* or *anti* S_N2' products depending on the nature of R in (R₂Cu)MgBr: that is, *syn* products **3** from Me, *n*-Bu, *i*-Pr cuprates; *anti* product **2** from the Ph cuprate.^{8d,e} Interestingly, the corresponding thio ethers afford *syn* S_N2' products independent of the R group in (R₂Cu)MgBr.

Recently, (2-Py)CO₂ has been reported by us as a new leaving group for allylic substitution with copper reagents as illustrated in Scheme 1.^{11,12} Although the leaving group is quite stable for purification by chromatography, MgBr₂ formed in situ from R³MgBr and CuBr·Me₂S or added from outside activates this group through chelation, thus attaining high *anti* S_N2' selectivity even with aryl and alkenyl coppers, which are less selective in the reaction with allylic esters such as acetates and pivalates due to the low reactivity.¹⁰ With these findings in mind, we studied the allylic substitution shown in Figure 1 with a hope that the picolinates will

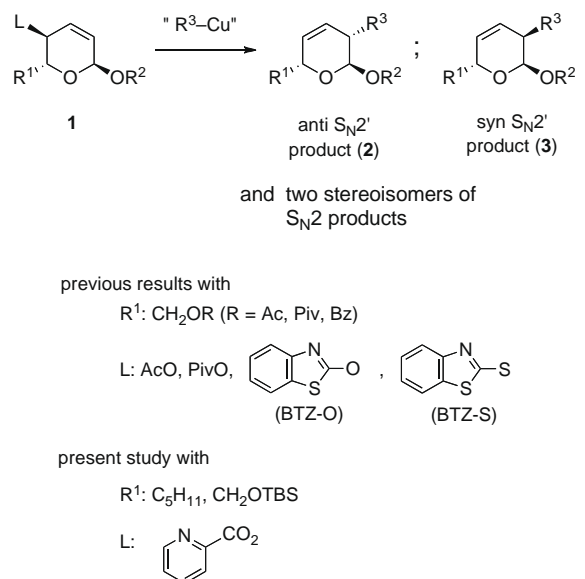
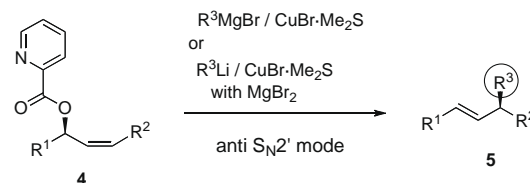


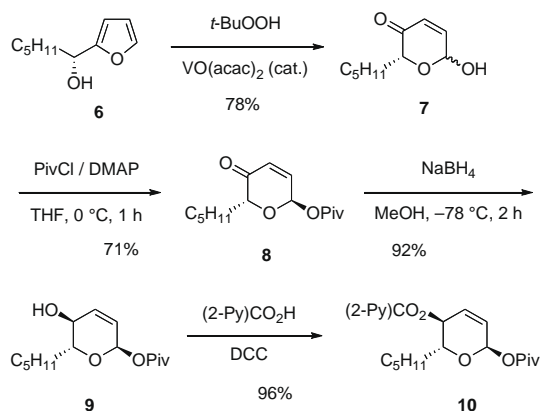
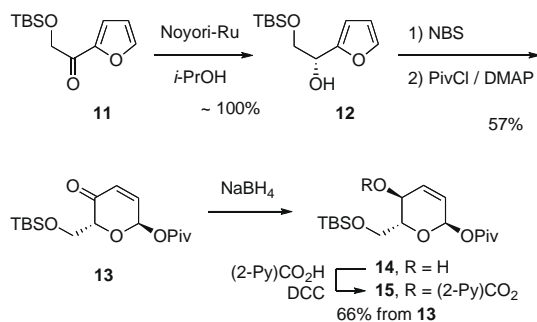
Figure 1. Allylic substitution of pyrans **1** and possible stereo- and regioisomers.



Scheme 1. Allylic substitution using (2-Py)CO₂ as a leaving group.

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Scheme 2. Synthesis of pyran **10**.Scheme 3. Synthesis of pyran **15**.

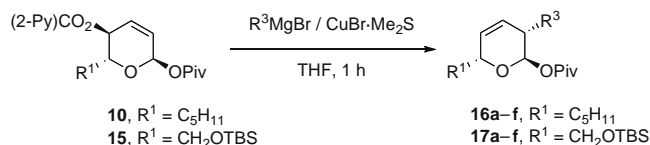
expand the scope of the copper reagents. Herein, we present results of this study.

As typical examples we chose picolates **10** and **15**, in which the anomeric hydroxyl group was protected as the pivaloxy group. Although the pivaloxy group constitutes another allylic moiety, we expected almost no allylic substitution at the allylic pivalate moiety because of the higher reactivity of the picolinoxy leaving group than the pivaloxy group and because of the low reactivity of this

moiety to form *p*-allyl Pd complexes.¹³ The picolates were synthesized by the methods delineated in Schemes 2 and 3, respectively. In brief, alcohol **6** ($[\alpha]_D^{24} +14.3$ (c 0.61, CHCl₃); lit. $[\alpha]_D^{25} +13.8$ (c 1.07, CHCl₃)) was synthesized efficiently (45% yield) by the kinetic resolution of the racemic alcohol under the asymmetric epoxidation conditions according to the literature¹⁴ (*t*-BuOOH, L-(+)-DIPT, Ti(OPr)₄) and oxidatively converted to pyranone hemiacetal **7** as a 2:1 anomeric mixture. The anomeric hydroxyl group of **7** was protected as a Piv ester with 93% stereoselectivity under the conditions disclosed. The minor stereoisomer was separated easily by chromatography. Reduction of the ketone **8** with NaBH₄ in MeOH at -78 °C was stereoselective and subsequent esterification of the resulting alcohol **9** with (2-Py)CO₂H and DCC produced picolate **10**¹⁵ in high yield. As for picolate **15**, asymmetric reduction of ketone **11** with the Ru diamine catalyst developed by Noyori¹⁶ produced alcohol **12**,¹⁷ which was 94% ee by chiral HPLC (chiral AD-H). NBS oxidation of **12** afforded an anomeric mixture of the pyranone (3:2 ratio). Subsequent Piv protection under the conditions reported¹⁸ was quite slow (DMAP (cat.), Et₃N, CH₂Cl₂, -78 °C), whereas the conditions used above gave the Piv-protected pyranone **13** and its diastereoisomer in a 75:25 ratio. Fortunately, **13** was purified easily by chromatography. Further transformation was carried out successfully to afford picolate **15**¹⁵ in good yield.

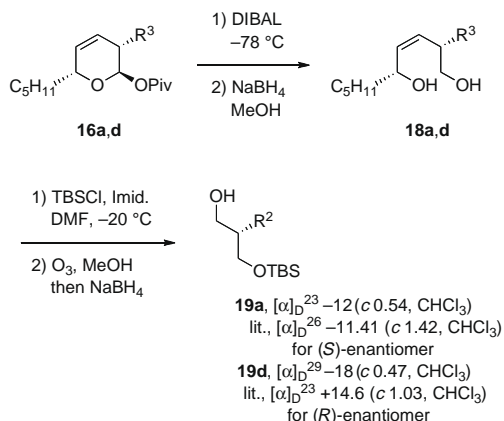
According to the previous success for *anti* S_N2' reaction with the three types of reagents derived from RMgBr and CuBr·Me₂S in the ratios of 1, 2, and 4:1, three reagents derived from EtMgBr (2 equiv) and CuBr·Me₂S (2, 1, or 0.5 equiv) at 0 °C for 30 min in THF were subjected to reaction with **10** at -20 °C for 1 h (Table 1, entries 1, 2, and 4). The product **16a** (*anti* S_N2' product) was obtained in high yields, whereas the stereoisomer of **16a** (*syn* S_N2' product), the regioisomer, and the product(s) that reacted at the α and/or γ position of the allylic pivalate moiety were not detected by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. For determination of the regio- and stereochemistries of **16a**, the product was transformed to the known compound **19a**¹⁹ as shown in Scheme 4 since the coupling constants between the protons on the pyran ring were not decisive for determination. In another experiment at -40 °C, a mixture of **16a** and a small amount of alcohol **9** were produced (entry 3). On the basis of these results, following reactions were conducted at -20 °C for 1 h.²⁰ The Me and *i*-Pr copper reagents of the 2:1 ratio underwent smooth reaction to produce the desired *anti* S_N2'

Table 1
Allylic substitution of pyrans **10** and **15** with alkyl and aryl copper reagents^a



Entry	Substrate	Reagent	R ³ /Cu ratio	Temp (°C)	Major product	R ³	Isolated yield (%)
1	10	EtCu·MgBr ₂	1:1	-20	16a	Et	93
2	10	Et ₂ CuMgBr·MgBr ₂	2:1	-20	16a	Et	97
3	10	Et ₂ CuMgBr·MgBr ₂	2:1	-40	16a	Et	80
4	10	EtMgBr/CuBr·Me ₂ S	4:1	-20	16a	Et	93
5	10	Me ₂ CuMgBr·MgBr ₂	2:1	-20	16b	Me	93
6	10	<i>i</i> -Pr ₂ CuMgBr·MgBr ₂	2:1	-20	16c	<i>i</i> -Pr	92
7	10	PhCu·MgBr ₂	1:1	-20	16d	Ph	94
8	10	Ph ₂ CuMgBr·MgBr ₂	2:1	-20	16d	Ph	95
9	10	(<i>o</i> -MeC ₆ H ₄) ₂ CuMgBr·MgBr ₂	2:1	-20	16e	<i>o</i> -MeC ₆ H ₄	95
10	10	(<i>o</i> -MeOC ₆ H ₄) ₂ CuMgBr·MgBr ₂	2:1	-20	16f	<i>o</i> -MeOC ₆ H ₄	92
11	15	Et ₂ CuMgBr·MgBr ₂	2:1	-20	17a	Et	80
12	15	Me ₂ CuMgBr·MgBr ₂	2:1	-20	17b	Me	94
13	15	Ph ₂ CuMgBr·MgBr ₂	2:1	-20	17d	Ph	71
14	15	(<i>o</i> -MeC ₆ H ₄) ₂ CuMgBr·MgBr ₂	2:1	-20	17e	<i>o</i> -MeC ₆ H ₄	91
15	15	(<i>o</i> -MeOC ₆ H ₄) ₂ CuMgBr·MgBr ₂	2:1	-20	17f	<i>o</i> -MeOC ₆ H ₄	89

^a Reactions were carried out with the indicated reagent (2 equiv) at -20 °C for 1 h in THF.



Scheme 4. Transformation of **16a** and **16d** to the known compounds. R³ for **16**, **18**, **19**: a, Et; d, Ph.

products **16b** and **16c**, respectively, in high yield (entries 5 and 6). No isomers were detected as well. However, *t*-Bu₂CuMgBr-MgBr₂ afforded a complex mixture (no entry given). Next, the Ph reagents of PhCu-MgBr₂ and Ph₂CuMgBr-MgBr₂ were subjected to the reaction to afford **16d** in good yields (entries 7 and 8). The structure of **16d** was confirmed by transformation to the known alcohol **19d**²¹ as shown in **Scheme 4**. Reaction with sterically more hindered reagents given in entries 9 and 10 proceeded without a hitch to afford **16e** and **16f**, respectively.

In a similar way, reaction of the other picolinate **15** with the Me, Et, and Ph copper reagents at -20 °C in THF was examined under the conditions established above to afford the corresponding products **17a,b,d** regio- and stereoselectively in high yields: cf. 50–74% yields for the BTZ ether **1**.^{8e} Further experimentation with *o*-MeC₆H₄ and *o*-MeOC₆H₄ reagents furnished the products **17e** and **17f** efficiently.

In summary, allylic substitution with the picolinoxy leaving group was established to be an efficient method to install alkyl and aryl groups on the pyran ring. The groups investigated were Me, Et, *i*-Pr, Ph, *o*-MeC₆H₄, and *o*-MeOC₆H₄, and these results would be a good guideline for designing substituted pyrans.

Acknowledgments

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- Spectral data: Compound 10*: [α]_D²³ +79 (c 0.65, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.85 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H), 1.24 (s, 9H), 1.20–1.74 (m, 8H), 4.10 (dt, J = 9, 2 Hz, 1H), 5.54 (dq, J = 9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 5.87 (ddd, J = 10, 3, 2 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (dt, J = 10, 1 Hz, 1H), 6.33 (br s, 1H), 7.53 (ddd, J = 8, 5, 1 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (dt, J = 8, 2 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (dt, J = 8, 1 Hz, 1H), 8.81 (dm, J = 5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.0 (–), 22.6 (+), 24.7 (+), 27.1 (–), 31.4 (+), 31.5 (+), 39.0 (+), 70.3 (–), 70.7 (–), 88.0 (–), 125.5 (–), 126.4 (–), 127.3 (–), 131.1 (–), 137.1 (–), 147.6 (+), 150.1 (–), 164.7 (+), 177.4 (+); HRMS (FAB) calcd for C₂₁H₃₀NO₅ [(M+H)⁺] 376.2124, found 376.2128. *Compound 15*: [α]_D²⁵ +49 (c 1.20, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -0.02 (s, 6H), 0.83 (s, 9H), 1.22 (s, 9H), 3.79–3.85 (m, 2H), 4.21 (dt, J = 10, 4 Hz, 1H), 5.72 (dq, J = 10, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 5.87 (ddd, J = 10, 3, 2 Hz, 1H), 6.14 (d, J = 10 Hz, 1H), 6.36 (br s, 1H), 7.51 (ddd, J = 8, 4.5, 1 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (dt, J = 1.5, 8 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (dt, J = 8, 1 Hz, 1H), 8.79 (dm, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -5.4 (–), 5.3 (–), 18.4 (+), 25.9 (–), 27.1 (–), 39.0 (+), 62.7 (+), 66.5 (–), 71.7 (–), 88.1 (–), 125.1 (–), 126.4 (–), 127.2 (–), 130.5 (–), 137.1 (–), 147.7 (+), 150.1 (–), 164.5 (+), 177.3 (+).
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- Typical procedure*: To an ice-cold suspension of CuBr·Me₂S (252 mg, 1.23 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added EtMgBr (2.34 mL, 1.05 M in THF, 2.46 mmol) dropwise. After 30 min of stirring, the resulting mixture was cooled to -20 °C, and a solution of **10** (230 mg, 0.613 mmol) in THF (5 mL) was added to the mixture dropwise. The resulting mixture was stirred at -20 °C for 1 h, and diluted with hexane and saturated NH₄Cl with vigorous stirring. The crude product thus obtained was purified by chromatography on silica gel (hexane/EtOAc) to afford **16a** (168 mg, 97%); [α]_D²² +86 (c 0.92, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.88 (t, J = 7 Hz, 3H), 0.99 (t, J = 7 Hz, 3H), 1.21 (s, 9H), 1.20–1.62 (m, 10H), 1.89–1.98 (m, 1H), 4.25 (br s, 1H), 5.68 (d, J = 11 Hz, 1H), 5.76 (ddt, J = 11, 5, 2 Hz, 1H), 6.01 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 11.3 (–), 14.1 (–), 22.6 (+), 24.5 (+), 26.4 (+), 27.1 (–), 31.9 (+), 34.8 (+), 39.0 (+), 39.4 (–), 69.3 (–), 94.2 (–), 125.3 (–), 128.2 (–), 177.3 (+).
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