



# The asymmetric synthesis of cyclopentane derivatives by palladium-catalyzed coupling of prochiral alkylboron compounds

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## Abstract

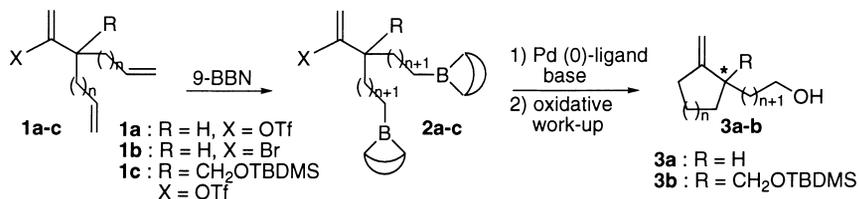
Treatment of the prochiral triflate **2a** with  $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3 \cdot \text{CHCl}_3$ , (*S*)-(*R*)-BPPFOAc and  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$ , in THF at 40°C, gave the cyclopentane derivative **10** in 58% yield and in 28% ee after oxidative work-up and benzylation. Moreover, reaction of the prochiral triflate **2c** with  $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3 \cdot \text{CHCl}_3$ , (*S*)-(*R*)-PPFA and  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$ , in THF at 40°C, afforded the cyclopentane derivative **3b**, with a quaternary carbon center, in 42% yield and in 31% ee after oxidative work-up. © 1998 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

Palladium-catalyzed coupling reactions of organic halides or organic triflates with organoboron compounds, generally referred to as Suzuki–Miyaura reactions,<sup>1</sup> are powerful methods for various carbon–carbon bond-forming reactions. However, only limited attention has been paid to an asymmetric Suzuki–Miyaura reaction,<sup>2</sup> which would provide an efficient method for the synthesis of a variety of optically active carbon centers that would be difficult to obtain by other methods. Using our experience in the field of palladium-catalyzed asymmetric Heck reactions,<sup>3</sup> we focused on an asymmetric design of a palladium-catalyzed Suzuki–Miyaura reaction. In this paper we report a catalytic asymmetric synthesis of cyclopentane derivatives by palladium-catalyzed coupling of prochiral alkylboron compounds.

Our basic strategy involves enantiotopic group selective ring closure of the prochiral triflates **2a** and **2c**, and bromide **2b**. This closure, catalyzed by a palladium complex with an asymmetric ligand, would lead to the optically active cyclopentane derivatives **3a** and **3b** after oxidative work-up. Prochiral substrates **2a**, **2b** and **2c** were expected to be readily prepared from the corresponding substrates, with two olefinic moieties, using hydroboration (Scheme 1). Initially, the feasibility of an asymmetric coupling of **2a** promoted by a palladium complex with an asymmetric ligand, was examined in detail, and this allowed the development of an efficient synthetic route to **1a** (shown in Scheme 2). Thus, ethyl acetoacetate **4** was converted to the alkenyl triflate **1a**, which possesses two olefinic moieties, in 40% overall yield for the three steps. Hydroboration of **1a** was carried out using 2.5 mol equivalents of 9-BBN (THF, 40°C, 1 h), because this convenient reagent readily allowed the preparation of a variety of functionalized alkylboron derivatives from their corresponding terminal alkenes. The resulting THF solution of the

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alkylboron compound **2a** was degassed three times (freeze–pump–thaw cycle method (FPT method)) before coupling was attempted. After several attempts at coupling, it was found that the use of the  $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3 \cdot \text{CHCl}_3$  complex as a palladium source, and  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  as a base were the most effective. Many asymmetric couplings were carried out as follows.

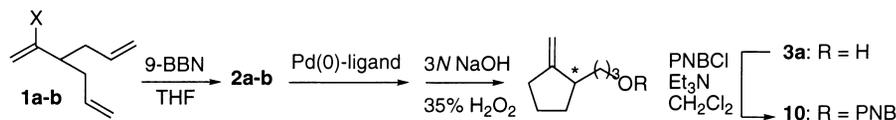


Scheme 1.

A stirred suspension of  $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3 \cdot \text{CHCl}_3$  (10 mol%), an asymmetric ligand (20 mol%) and  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  (5 mol equiv.), in THF, was degassed three times (FPT method), and the suspension was stirred at  $40^\circ\text{C}$  for 1 h. To this suspension was added the degassed THF solution of **2a**, and the resulting reaction mixture was stirred at  $40^\circ\text{C}$  for 12 h. Oxidative work-up with 3 N NaOH and 35%  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ , at  $0^\circ\text{C}$ , gave the cyclopentane derivative **3a**. As shown in Table 1, the use of (*R*)-BINAP gave no product **3a** (entry 1, Table 1). However, the use of monodentate ligands<sup>4</sup> such as (*R*)-MOP( $\text{OCH}_3$ ), (*R*)-MOP(*O*-*i*-Pr) and (*R*)-MOP(OH), resulted in the formation of **3a** in good yields albeit with low ees (up to 14% ee) (entries 2 and 3, Table 1). To the best of our knowledge, this is the first reported example of an intramolecular asymmetric Suzuki–Miyaura reaction. The use of the bidentate ligand (*S*)-(*R*)-BPPFOAc<sup>5</sup> afforded the desired product **10** in 58% yield and 28% ee (entry 5, Table 1).

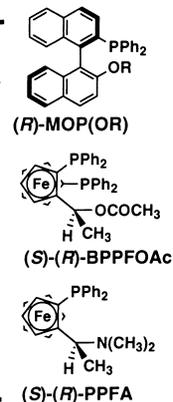
In an attempt to further improve the above result, solvent effects were investigated ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  or DMF were used); however, THF was found to be the best solvent for the present asymmetric Suzuki–Miyaura reaction. The ee of **3a** was determined at the stage of the benzonate **10** by HPLC analysis using a chiral stationary column (Chiralpak OJ, hexane:isopropanol 5000:1). We further continued to improve an intramolecular asymmetric Suzuki–Miyaura reaction. The precise mechanism for the coupling between

Table 1  
Asymmetric cross-coupling reaction of alkenyl triflate **2a** and bromide **2b**<sup>a</sup>

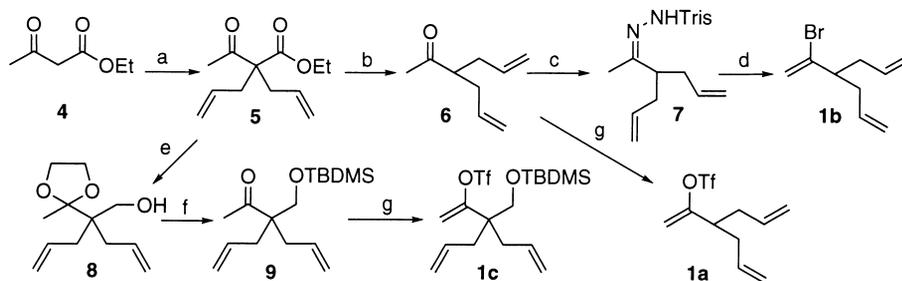


entry	substrate (X=OTf, Br)	ligand	base	solvent	yield of <b>10</b> (%)	ee of <b>10</b> (%) (abs. config)
1	OTf	( <i>R</i> )-BINAP	$\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$	THF	NR	
2	OTf	( <i>R</i> )-MOP(OMe)	$\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$	THF	67	14( <i>S</i> )
3	OTf	( <i>R</i> )-MOP(OH)	$\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$	THF	59	6( <i>S</i> )
4	OTf	( <i>S</i> )-( <i>R</i> )-PPFA	$\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$	THF	48	20( <i>S</i> )
5	OTf	( <i>S</i> )-( <i>R</i> )-BPPFOAc	$\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$	THF	58	28( <i>R</i> )
6	OTf	( <i>S</i> )-( <i>R</i> )-BPPFOAc	$\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$	$\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$	33	8( <i>R</i> )
7	OTf	( <i>S</i> )-( <i>R</i> )-BPPFOAc	$\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$	DMF	17	12( <i>R</i> )
8	OTf	( <i>S</i> )-( <i>R</i> )-BPPFOAc	$\text{Cs}_2\text{CO}_3$	THF	50	10( <i>R</i> )
9 <sup>b</sup>	OTf	( <i>S</i> )-( <i>R</i> )-BPPFOAc	<i>i</i> -Pr <sub>2</sub> NEt	THF	60	4( <i>R</i> )
10	Br	( <i>S</i> )-( <i>R</i> )-BPPFOAc	$\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$	THF	41	10( <i>S</i> )
11	Br	( <i>R</i> )-BINAP	$\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$	THF	trace	
12	Br	( <i>R</i> )-BINAs <sup>c</sup>	$\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$	THF	37	0
13	Br	( <i>R</i> )-BINAPAs <sup>d</sup>	$\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$	THF	10	2( <i>R</i> )

a: Unless otherwise stated, reactions were carried out by using 10 mol %  $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3$ , 20 mol % ligand 5 mol equiv base,  $40^\circ\text{C}$ . b: 3 equiv *i*-Pr<sub>2</sub>NEt was used, c: See ref. 12, d: See ref. 13, NR: No reaction.



organic triflates or organic halides with organoboron compounds, particularly the transmetalation step, has not been fully elucidated,<sup>1</sup> and so we also examined the use of an alkenyl bromide with two olefinic moieties for an intramolecular asymmetric coupling. As shown in Scheme 2, the bromide **1b** was prepared from **6**, by a modified Shapiro reaction, using 2,4,6-triisopropylbenzenesulfonyl hydrazide.<sup>6</sup> However, as shown in Table 1 (entries 10–13), less satisfactory results were obtained for the asymmetric coupling.

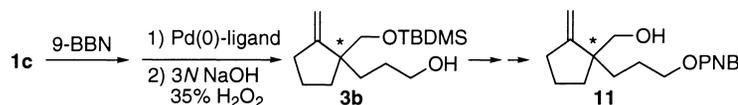


Scheme 2. (a) Allyl chloride (2.5 equiv.),  $\text{BnEt}_3\text{NCl}$ ,  $\text{KOH}_{\text{aq}}$ , benzene, rt, 65%. (b)  $\text{LiCl}$ , DMF, reflux, 90%. (c) 2,4,6-Triisopropylsulfonil hydrazide, MeOH,  $\text{H}^+$ , 70%. (d) (1) 2 Equiv.  $\text{BuLi}$ ,  $-78^\circ\text{C}$ – $0^\circ\text{C}$ , TMEDA/pentane, (2)  $\text{BrCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Br}$ ,  $0^\circ\text{C}$ , 50%. (e) (1) Ethylene glycol, TsOH, benzene, reflux, (2)  $\text{LiAlH}_4$ ,  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ , 2 steps 90%. (f) (1) TBDMSCl, imidazole, DMF, (2)  $\text{FeCl}_3 \cdot \text{SiO}_2$ , acetone, 2 steps 95%. (g)  $\text{KHMDS}$ ,  $\text{PhNTf}_2$ , THF,  $-78^\circ\text{C}$ , 66–68%

Although the highest ee of **3a** was still low, we next investigated the catalytic asymmetric construction of a quaternary carbon center<sup>7</sup> using the alkenyl triflate **1c**. The requisite triflate **1c** was prepared as shown in Scheme 2, and, after hydroboration under the standard conditions, an intramolecular asymmetric coupling was attempted using the resulting organoboron compound **2c**. The results are summarized in Table 2. When the reaction was carried out using (*S*)-(*R*)-BPPFOAc as the asymmetric ligand, the coupling proceeded smoothly giving the cyclopentane derivative **3b** after oxidative work-up in 65% yield but only 2% ee. However, it was found that the use of (*R*)-BINAP mono-oxide,<sup>8</sup> prepared in situ, resulted in the formation of **3b** in 60% yield and 16% ee. In an attempt to improve this result, ligand effects were further examined. (*S*)-(*R*)-PPFA<sup>9</sup> proved to be the best ligand for this asymmetric coupling reaction, giving the coupling product **3b** in 31% ee and 42% yield. The ee of **11** was determined by HPLC analysis using a chiral stationary column (Chiralpak OJ, hexane:isopropanol 9:1).

The absolute configuration of coupling products **3a** and **3b** could be easily determined as follows (Scheme 3). The product **3a** was converted into the corresponding tosylate, and then further transformed into the known alkyl ketone **13**,<sup>10</sup> by a substitution reaction with a copper reagent followed by ozonolysis

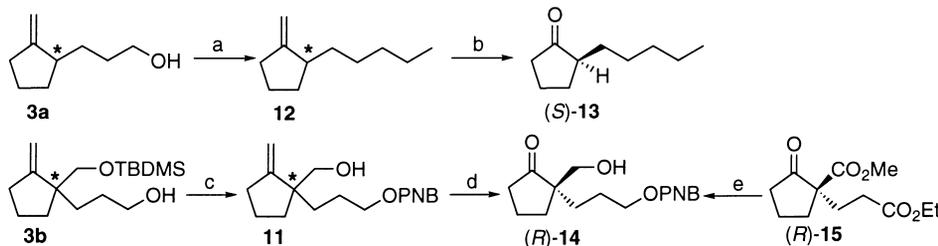
Table 2  
Asymmetric cross-coupling reaction of alkenyl triflate **2c**<sup>a</sup>



entry	ligand	time (h)	yield of <b>3b</b> (%)	ee of <b>11</b> (%) (abs. config)
1	( <i>R</i> )-BINAP	24	trace	
2	( <i>R</i> )-BINAs	24	NR	
3	( <i>R</i> )-BINAPAs	12	57	11( <i>S</i> )
4	( <i>S</i> )-( <i>R</i> )-BPPFOAc	12	65	2( <i>S</i> )
5	( <i>S</i> )-( <i>R</i> )-PPFA	12	42	31( <i>R</i> )
6	( <i>R</i> )-MOP(O- <i>i</i> Pr)	12	90	9( <i>R</i> )
7 <sup>b</sup>	( <i>R</i> )-BINAP(mono oxide)	24	60	16( <i>S</i> )

a: Unless otherwise stated, reactions were carried out by using 10 mol%  $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3$ , 20 mol% ligand, 5 equiv  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$ ,  $40^\circ\text{C}$ . b: 20 mol%  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ , 20 mol% ligand were used.

of the resulting *exo*-olefin, in 35% overall yield. The absolute configuration of **3a** was determined as (*R*) by comparison of the optical rotation with published data. The absolute configuration of coupling product **3b** was determined using the HPLC analysis of compound **14**. Ozonolysis of the *exo*-olefin functionality of 4-nitrobenzoate **11**, in methanol at 0°C for 2 h, gave dialkyl ketone **14** in 30% yield. In contrast, optically active  $\alpha,\alpha'$ -disubstituted  $\beta$ -keto ester **15**,<sup>11</sup> obtained from the Michael addition of chiral  $\beta$ -enamino esters to ethyl acrylate, was converted to **14** in 59% yield. This was achieved by the protection of the ketone, reduction with LAH, mononitrobenzoylation and then deprotection. The absolute configuration of **3b** was determined by comparison of HPLC analysis with **14**. Therefore, the absolute configuration of the coupling product **3b** was determined as the (*R*)-form.



Scheme 3. (a) (1) TsCl, py, (2) Et<sub>2</sub>CuLi·LiBr, 2 steps 55%. (b) O<sub>3</sub>, Me<sub>2</sub>S, 60%. (c) (1) Bu<sub>4</sub>NF/THF, (2) PNBCl, Et<sub>3</sub>N, 2 steps 90%. (d) O<sub>3</sub>, Me<sub>2</sub>S, 36%. (e) (1) KHMDS, TBDMSCl, -78°C, (2) LiAlH<sub>4</sub>/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 0°C, (3) PNBCl, Et<sub>3</sub>N, (4) Bu<sub>4</sub>NF, AcOH, 4 steps 46%

In conclusion, we have succeeded in carrying out the first example of an intramolecular asymmetric Suzuki–Miyaura reaction, leading to cyclopentane derivatives either with a tertiary or quaternary carbon center. Although enantiomeric excesses of products are still low to moderate, we believe that the present results will pave the way for further progress.

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