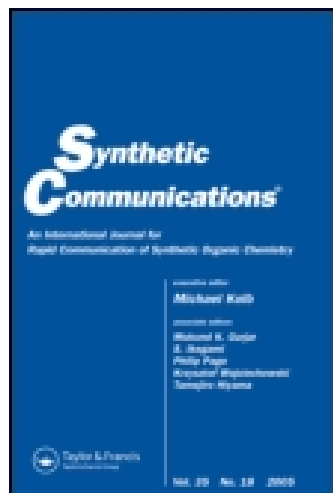




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Mukaiyama Aldol Reactions of Silyl Enolates Catalyzed by Iodine

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ABSTRACT

Iodine catalyzed Mukaiyama aldol reaction of silyl enol ethers and silyl ketene acetal with aldehydes, ketones and acetals in good yield with preferential antiselectivity has been described.

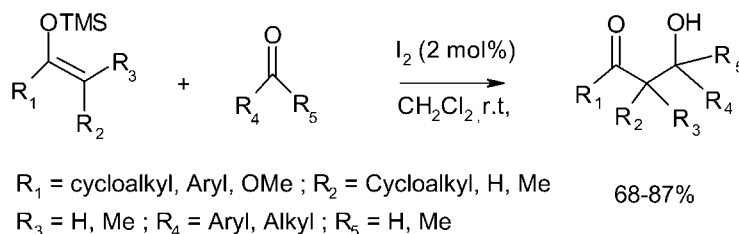
Key Words: Iodine; Mukaiyama aldol; Silyl enol ether; Silyl ketene acetal; Aldehydes; ketones.

The aldol addition reaction has long been considered as one of the most versatile carbon–carbon bond forming reactions in organic synthesis. In particular, cross aldol reactions of silyl enol ethers which proceed in a highly regioselective manner to afford adducts in high yield. Since the discovery of Mukaiyama aldol reaction^[1] promoted by TiCl₄, a variety of catalysts have been used to activate this process.^[2] Many catalysts are fraught with

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limitations such as the use of stoichiometric amount of catalyst, moisture sensitivity of the catalyst, expensive reagents etc. Although recent reports claimed significant improvement circumventing these drawbacks, new methods are still desirable. Recently, Li and co-workers reported^{2k} the use of $\text{Et}_2\text{O}:\text{MgI}_2$ as a catalyst for aldol reactions, however this method suffers from a draw back related to stringent dry reaction medium. In recent times, iodine has been emerging as an effective catalyst for various organic transformations.^[3] The advantages in the use of iodine are (1) mild neutral condition (2) inexpensive reagent (3) no stringent dry conditions required. We describe herein an efficient and convenient procedure for Mukaiyama aldol reactions in the presence of a catalytic amount of iodine (Sch. 1).

The catalytic effect of iodine was evaluated for three representative silyl enol ethers *viz.* 1-[(trimethylsilyl)oxy]-1-cyclohexene, 1-[(trimethylsilyl)oxy]-1-phenylethylene and 1-methoxy-2-methyl-1-(trimethylsilyloxy)-1-propene with various carbonyl compounds (Sch. 1). Reaction proceeds well with different carbonyl compounds such as aldehyde, ketones, and acetals with good yields (Table 1). The optimum amount of iodine needed to catalyze the reaction is only 2 mol% based on the electrophile used. Initially, the reaction was performed with 1-[(trimethylsilyl)oxy]-1-cyclohexene and benzaldehyde. In a typical procedure, the enol ether, electrophile and iodine were stirred in dichloromethane at room temperature for appropriate time. In general, the crude product contains alcohol in a major amount and the trimethyl silyl ether compound in a minor amount. After completion of the reaction, methanol was added to ensure complete deprotection of the silyl group.^[4] Selectivity is temperature dependent as seen from the Table 1 (entry 2 and 3). The ratio of the stereo-isomers (syn/anti) was determined by comparing the intensities of the methine proton signal ($-\text{CH}-\text{O}$) in the ^1H -NMR spectrum of the crude product and matching the data reported^[2] elsewhere. As expected, aromatic aldehydes react faster than aliphatic one. From the results, it could be observed that there is a general trend for antiselectivity, irrespective of the nature of aldehydes. The aldol reaction was



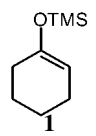
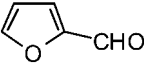
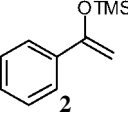
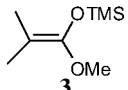
Scheme 1.



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Table 1. Iodine catalysed Mukaiyama aldol reactions of different silyl enolates with electrophiles.

Entry	Enol ether	Electrophiles	Time (h)	Yield (%) ^a	Syn/anti ^{b,c}
1.		PhCHO	1.5	84	24 : 76 ^d
2.	1	PhCHO	1.5	84	30 : 70 ^e
3.	1	PhCHO	2	87	48 : 52 ^f
4.	1	<i>p</i> -MeO-PhCHO	1.5	78	28 : 72 ^g
5.	1	<i>p</i> -NO ₂ -PhCHO	1.5	79	30 : 70 ^h
6.	1	<i>p</i> -Cl-PhCHO	1.5	79	30 : 70 ⁱ
7.	1		1.5	82	25 : 75 ^j
8.	1	(CH ₃) ₂ CHCHO	2	73	34 : 66 ^k
9.		PhCHO	1.5	87	—
10.	2	(CH ₃) ₂ CHCHO	2	75	—
11.	2	HCH(OMe) ₂	1.5	68	—
12.	2	PhCH(OMe) ₂	1.5	78	—
13.	2	CH ₃ COCH ₃	5	71	—
14.	2	CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₂ COC	5	68	—
15.		PhCHO	2.5	80	—
16.	3	<i>p</i> -NO ₂ -PhCHO	2.5	80	—
17.	3	<i>p</i> -Cl-PhCHO	2.5	77	—
18.	3	(CH ₃) ₃ CH ₂ CHO	3	70	—

^aIsolated yield after chromatographic purification.

^bProducts are characterized by ¹H, ¹³C NMR, IR spectroscopy and mass spectrometry.

^cStereoisomer ratios are determined by ¹H NMR analysis.

^dRef. [1b,2b,2l,2m].

^eTemp. 0°C.

^fTemp. -78°C.

^gRef. [2g,2l].

^hRef. [2g,2l].

ⁱRef. [2g,2l].

^jRef. [2b,2m].

^kRef. [1b,2b].



also performed with acetal (Table 1, entry 11, 12) and ketones (Table 1, entry 13, 14). Reaction proceeds well with acetals as well as ketones in good yield.

Mechanism of the reaction is not yet studied. There are two mechanisms known^[1b,5] in the literature in case of metal catalyzed aldol reaction. The most well accepted mechanism is the formation of a six-membered transition state at the intermediate stage.^[1b] The second pathway was observed by Seto^[5] which proceeds via an initial electron transfer from the enol-ether to the coordinated metal. In our case, the second pathway is most likely wherein the reaction proceeds via initial co-ordination of iodine with aldehyde and then electron transfer between silyl enol ether and iodine.

In conclusion, a simple process for aldol reactions catalyzed by iodine has been demonstrated.

EXPERIMENTAL

Iodine was purified by sublimation before use. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded in Bruker 400 MHz instrument in CDCl₃, using TMS as internal standard. IR spectra were recorded in Perkin-Elmer Spectrum RXI FT-IR spectrometer. Mass spectra were recorded on a Finnigan mass spectrometer using ionization energy of 70 eV and elemental analysis was carried out in Perkin-Elmer 2400 Series II elemental analyzer.

Typical Procedure

Silyl enol ether (1.1 mmol) in dichloromethane (1 mL) was added to a solution of aldehyde (1 mmol), and iodine (0.02 mmol) in dichloromethane (1 mL) and stirred at room temperature. After completion of reaction (TLC), of methanol (10 mL) was added and stirred for 1 hr. Sodium thiosulfate (20 mg) was added, the reaction mixture stirred for 10 min and evaporated. The residue was taken up in ether, washed with brine, dried (Na₂SO₄) and concentrated. Purification of the crude product by flash chromatography on silica gel (230–400 mesh) with petroleum ether – EtOAc as eluent gave the pure product (70–87%).

3-Hydroxy-3-methyl-1-phenyl-1-hexanone. IR (neat): 3492, 2960, 2933, 1670, 1597, 1449, 1374, 1213 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): 0.91 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 1.31–1.47 (m, 2H), 1.52–1.61 (m, 2H), 3.11 (dd, *J* = 23.6, 17.1 Hz), 4.1 (s, 1H), 7.45 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): 14.57, 17.33, 27.03, 44.7, 46.9, 71.97, 128.04, 128.68, 133.56, 137.35, 202.06. MS: (*m/z*, % rel. intensity) 191(4), 163(31), 145(2), 129(5), 120(20), 105 (100), 91 (3), 77 (38), 71 (20), 43 (42).



Analysis: $C_{13}H_{18}O_2$ requires C, 75.69 and H, 8.79 %; found: C, 75.64 and H, 8.72%.

Methyl 3-hydroxy-2,2-dimethyl-3-(4-nitrophenyl)propanoate. Mp. 115–117°C (Lit⁶ 114–116°C); IR ($CHCl_3$, cm^{-1}): 3461, 3055, 2986, 1732, 1606, 1523, 1470, 1435, 1349, 1265. 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): 1.11(s, 3H), 1.12(s, 3H), 3.43 (bs, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 4.99 (s, 1H), 7.47 (d, $J = 8.59$ Hz, 2H), 8.16 (d, $J = 8.84$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$): 19.13, 22.74, 47.60, 52.36, 77.69, 122.9, 128.56, 174.23, 174.47, 177.74. MS: (m/z , % rel. intensity): 254 (68), 236 (77), 194 (2), 180 (6), 166 (8), 128 (4), 115 (11), 105 (26), 102 (100), 87 (34), 73 (24).

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