

Optically Active Sulfoximines in Enantioselective Palladium Catalysis

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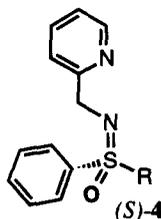
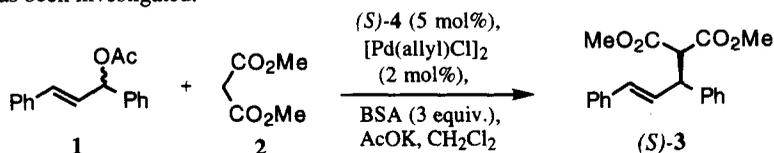
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Abstract: Chiral sulfoximine/Pd-complexes catalyze enantioselective allylic alkylations. The corresponding products have been obtained in good yields with moderate enantioselectivities (up to 73% *ee*). The crystal structure of an allyl/Pd(II)-complex bearing a chelating sulfoximine is reported. Copyright © 1996 Elsevier Science Ltd

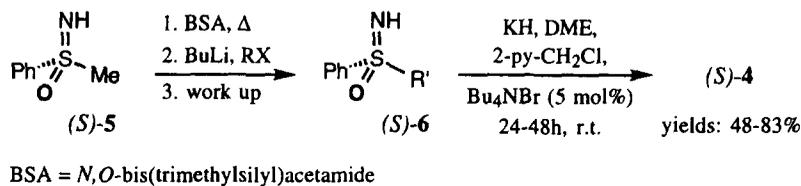
Various chelators have successfully been used as chiral ligands in palladium-catalyzed enantioselective allylic substitution reactions.¹ Among them, C₂-symmetric diphosphines² and P,N-oxazolines³ gave the highest enantioselectivities. The use of dinitrogen-containing compounds⁴ in palladium catalysis has also been studied.⁵ The two nitrogens in these N,N-ligands were either identical (C₂-symmetric compounds) or their stereoelectronic properties were comparable. In this letter, we describe novel sulfoximine derivatives **4** having two significantly different donor atoms. Their ability to control enantioselective Pd-catalyzed allylic substitutions has been investigated.



- 4a: R = -CH₃
- 4b: R = -C₁₉H₃₉
- 4c: R = -CH(CH₃)₂
- 4d: R = -C(CH₃)₃
- 4e: R = -CH₂CH₂C₆H₅
- 4f: R = -CH₂CH₂-*o*-(CH₃O)C₆H₄
- 4g: R = -CH₂CH₂-*o*-(HO)C₆H₄
- 4h: R = -CH₂C(OH)(CH₃)₂

Based on our previous results,^{6,7} we expected sulfoximines **4** to bind to metals through the two nitrogens in a bidentate fashion. Selective coordination of the allyl fragment followed by its site-specific nucleophilic attack would then lead to the formation of optically active products.

We developed a reaction sequence by which both antipodes of **4** became available. Optically active **5** can be readily obtained by resolution of asymmetric synthesis.⁸ N-silylation⁹ of (*S*)-**5** followed by sequential C- and N-alkylation^{8,10} gave (*S*)-**4** in moderate to good yields.



The metal binding capability of sulfoximines of type **4** was revealed by the reaction of **4a** with [Pd(allyl)Cl]₂. A Pd(II)- π -allyl complex with one sulfoximine ligand was formed (with PF₆⁻ as counter ion). The molecular structure of this complex was unambiguously established by X-ray crystal structure determination.¹¹

Figure 1. X-ray crystal structure of the Pd complex derived from **4a**.

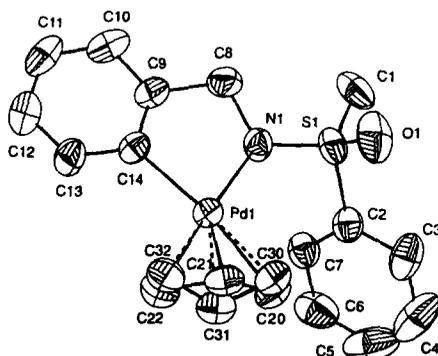


Table 1. Selected bond distances [Å].

Pd - C(20)	2.131(8)
Pd - C(21)	2.073(6)
Pd - C(22)	2.121(8)
Pd - C(30)	2.11(2)
Pd - C(31)	2.10(1)
Pd - C(32)	2.14(2)

The solid state structure of the disordered crystals shows two diastereomeric complexes which differ by the orientation of the allyl fragment (*endo* and *exo*). Both nitrogens are coordinated to the palladium center.¹² The dihedral angle between C8-N1-S1-C1 is -37.56° indicating that the orientation of the sulfoximine moiety brings the S-methyl and the N-methylene groups into close proximity.¹³ The Pd-N bond lengths differ only slightly [Pd-N1: 2.096(4)Å; Pd-N2: 2.080(4)Å]. The Pd-to-C distances are listed in Table 1.

Next, we investigated the catalytic properties of the palladium complexes formed *in situ* from sulfoximines **4** and [Pd(allyl)Cl]₂. In the presence of 5 mol% of (*S*)-**4** and 2 mol% of the Pd- π -allyl-dimer, the reaction of 1,3-diphenyl-2-propenyl acetate (**1**) and the nucleophile generated from dimethyl malonate (**2**) by treatment with BSA and a small quantity of potassium acetate¹⁴ afforded substitution product (*S*)-**3** in good yield with moderate enantiomeric excess (*ee*) (Table 2).

In all cases, the (*S*)-configured product was obtained in excess. The enantioselectivity in the formation of **3** depends on various parameters: 1. *The substituent R at sulfur.* Linear and α -branched aliphatic R-groups (Table 2, entries 1-4) gave only low *ee* values (20-45%). The use of phenylethyl and substituted derivatives

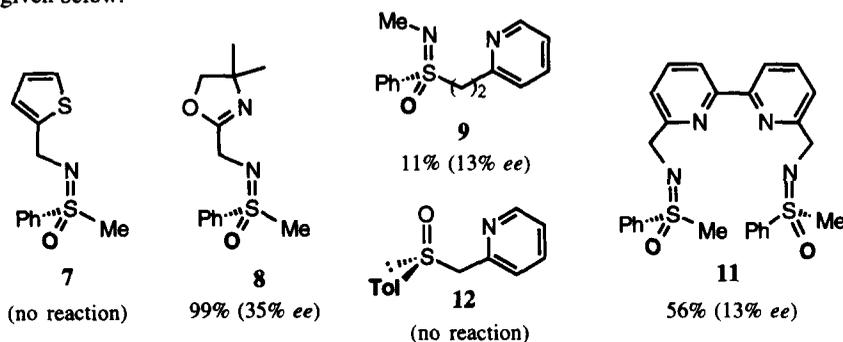
Table 2. Enantiomeric excesses of **3** resulting from asymmetric allylic alkylations of **1** using various sulfoximine/Pd(II)-complexes.

Entry	Sulfoximine	Temp. [°C]	Solvent	% Yield ^a	% <i>Ee</i> ^b	Config ^c
1	(<i>S</i>)- 4a	r. t.	CH ₂ Cl ₂	89	39	(<i>S</i>)
2	(<i>S</i>)- 4b	r. t.	CH ₂ Cl ₂	90	45	(<i>S</i>)
3	(<i>S</i>)- 4c	r. t.	CH ₂ Cl ₂	65	39	(<i>S</i>)
4	(<i>S</i>)- 4d	r. t.	CH ₂ Cl ₂	24	20	(<i>S</i>)
5	(<i>S</i>)- 4e	r. t.	CH ₂ Cl ₂	80	52	(<i>S</i>)
6	(<i>S</i>)- 4f	r. t.	CH ₂ Cl ₂	73	51	(<i>S</i>)
7	(<i>S</i>)- 4f	r. t.	toluene	82	54	(<i>S</i>)
8	(<i>S</i>)- 4f	-20	toluene	22	63	(<i>S</i>)
9	(<i>S</i>)- 4g	r. t.	toluene	50	65	(<i>S</i>)
10	(<i>S</i>)- 4g	-5	toluene	77	73	(<i>S</i>)
11	(<i>S</i>)- 4h	r. t.	CH ₂ Cl ₂	62	56	(<i>S</i>)

^a Isolated by column chromatography. ^b *Ee* determ. by HPLC analysis using a chiral column (Chiralcel OD-H). ^c Abs. configuration determ. by comparison of optical rotations with literature value.

of this kind lead to better enantioselectivities (entries 5-11). The highest *ee* value was obtained with sulfoximine **4g** bearing a phenolic hydroxyl group.¹⁵ Compared to that result the tertiary alcohol **4h** showed reduced enantioselectivity. 2. *The reaction temperature.* Most reactions were performed at room temperature. A decrease in temperature to -20°C led to an improved enantioselectivity, however, the product yield was lower due to reduced conversion of the starting materials. The best result (entry 10) was achieved in a reaction run at -5°C using **4g** as ligand. 3. *The solvent.* Reactions in toluene gave better results than those performed in dichloromethane or acetonitrile (For **4f**: 54%, 51%, 49% *ee*, respectively). 4. *The ligand-to-palladium ratio.* This effect is minor. Increasing the ratio of sulfoximine **4h** and Pd from 1:1 to 10:1 gave almost identical results (82% yield / 54% *ee* versus 88% yield / 56% *ee*).

We also tested other sulfur-containing compounds such as sulfoximines **7-11** and sulfoxide **12** in this catalysis.^{16,17} The *in situ* generated complexes were either inactive or gave **3** with very low *ee*. Yields and *ee* values are given below.



In conclusion, we have demonstrated that sulfoximines of type **4** can be used as chiral ligands in Pd-catalyzed allylic substitution reactions giving the product with moderate to good enantiomeric excess.

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