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# The Use of tert-Butyl Vinyl Ether in Stepwise Electrophilic Addition Reactions

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### THE USE OF tert-BUTYL VINYL ETHER IN STEPWISE ELECTROPHILIC ADDITION REACTIONS

Leonid N. Koikov, Mingming Han, Dawn M. Wellman<sup>a</sup>, Jim A. Kelly<sup>a</sup>, and Irina P. Smoliakova<sup>a</sup>

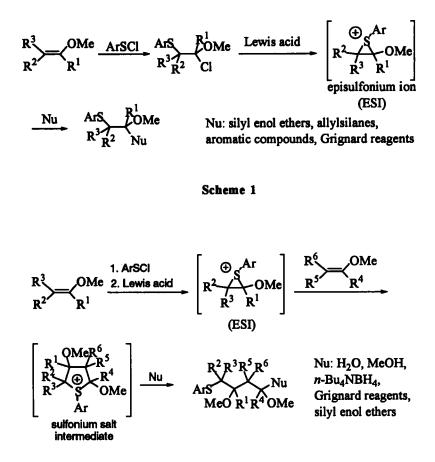
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Abstract: tert-Butyl vinyl ether (1) reacts with p-TolSCl to give 2-tert-butoxy-2chloroethyl p-tolyl sulfide (2). In the presence of SnCl<sub>4</sub>, 2 reacts with silyl enol ethers, allyltrimethylsilane, and vinyl ethers to form a C-C bond. In the case of vinyl ethers, the reaction proceeds through the formation of the 5-membered sulfonium salt intermediate which in turn can react with H<sub>2</sub>O, TMSCN, allyltrimethylsilane, and Grignard reagents.

It has been reported that vinyl ethers are excellent substrates for stepwise electrophilic addition proceeding through episulfonium ions (ESIs) as intermediates (Scheme 1).<sup>1</sup> We have also described that vinyl ethers can be used as nucleophiles (Nu) in the reactions with ESIs.<sup>1,2</sup> In this case, the reaction takes place through a five-membered sulfonium salt intermediate, the structure of which was established by X-ray crystallographic analysis.<sup>3</sup> The intermediate reacts with a number of nucleophiles including H<sub>2</sub>O, MeOH, n-Bu<sub>4</sub>NBH<sub>4</sub>, Grignard reagent, and silyl enol ethers (Scheme 2).<sup>1,3</sup> So far, among acyclic derivatives, only methyl vinyl ethers have been employed in both steps of the reaction.

<sup>\*</sup> NSF-REU program participants

<sup>\*</sup> To whom correspondence should be addressed

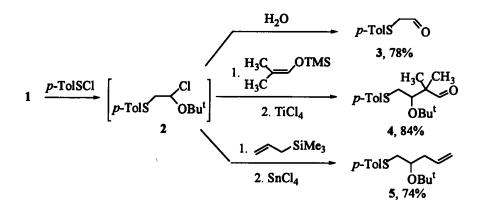


Scheme 2

*tert*-Butyl vinyl ether (1) is a valuable and versatile reagent for a number of reasons. The presence of bulky groups, e.g., the *tert*-butyl group, often improves the regio- and stereoselectivity of reactions.<sup>4</sup> Also, *tert*-butoxy substituted compounds can be converted to the corresponding hydroxy derivatives by removal of the *tert*-butyl group.<sup>5</sup> Compared to methyl vinyl ether, 1 is easier to handle because it is a liquid at room temperature. In spite of these advantages, 1 has been used preferentially in cycloaddition reactions, including Diels-Alder reactions,<sup>6</sup> and

in the synthesis of a number of polymers.<sup>7</sup> There are only limited data on electrophilic addition of ethanol, bromine, and carboxylic acids to the vinyl ether.<sup>8</sup> In this paper, we disclose our results on the use of 1 in stepwise electrophilic addition reactions.

We have found that 1 readily reacted with p-TolSCl in  $CH_2Cl_2$  at -78 °C to afford 2-*tert*-butoxy-2-chloroethyl p-tolyl sulfide (2) in quantitative yield (<sup>1</sup>H NMR data). This compound is stable in  $CH_2Cl_2$  at -78 °C for several hours, but it quickly decomposes at room temperature. Reaction of 2 with H<sub>2</sub>O afforded 2-(ptolylthio)ethanal (3) in 78% yield. In the presence of a Lewis acid, adduct 2 was capable of reacting with 2-methyl-1-(trimethylsilyloxy)-1-propene and allyltrimethylsilane to form compounds 4 and 5 in yields of 84% and 74%, respectively (Scheme 3).



Scheme 3

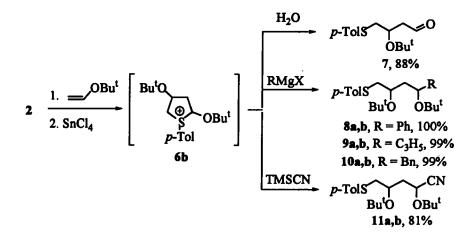
As expected, adduct 2 reacted with vinyl ethers as well. Thus, compound 4 was synthesized using 1-methoxy-2-methyl-1-propene as a C-Nu and  $H_2O$  as a quenching nucleophile (Scheme 4). By analogy with the known reactions of methyl

vinyl ether,<sup>2,3</sup> we suggest that the reaction proceeds through formation of a sulfurstabilized cyclic intermediate (6a). In the presence of SnCl<sub>4</sub>, adduct 2 also reacted with 1. The intermediate was quenched with a number of different nucleophiles: H<sub>2</sub>O, PhMgBr, allylmagnesium bromide, BnMgCl, and TMSCN (Scheme 5). In contrast to the previously studied reactions of less sterically hindered cyclic sulfonium salts,<sup>24,6</sup> Grignard reagents reacted not only with the bulky 6b but also with SnCl<sub>4</sub> to form Ph<sub>3</sub>SnOH or Bn<sub>4</sub>Sn. The use of 6 molar excess of Grignard reagents in the reactions with 6b lead to the preparation of desired compounds 8-10 in quantitative yield. When the reaction mixtures were quenched with a mixture of aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and ether, a partial deprotection of the *tert*-butyl groups occurred and the mixtures of di- and mono-*tert*-butyl derivatives were formed. The change of ether for less water miscible CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> allowed the preparation of 8-11 in quantitative yield.

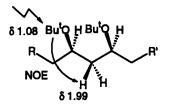
$$2 \quad \frac{1. \underbrace{Me}_{Me}}{2. \operatorname{SnCl}_4} \begin{bmatrix} \operatorname{Bu}^{t} O & \operatorname{Me}_{Me} \\ \textcircled{G} & O \\ p-\operatorname{Tol} \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{H_2O} 4,80\%$$

#### Scheme 4

Compounds 8, 9, and 10 were isolated as stereoisomeric mixtures of *erythro* and *threo* isomers (1.3:1, 5.4:1, and 1.9:1, respectively). In all the cases the isomers were separated by column chromatography. The relative configurations



Scheme 5



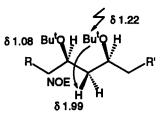


Figure 1. Results of two NOE experiments for erythro-10.

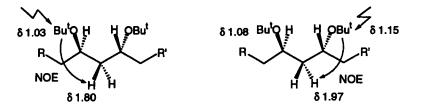
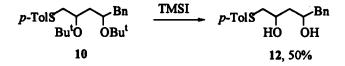


Figure 2. Results of two NOE experiments for threo-10.

Nitrile 11 also was obtained as a stereoisomeric mixture (1:7) with the major isomer (*threo-11*) having a lower value of  $R_t$ . In a solution of CDCl<sub>3</sub>, *erythro-11* and *threo-11* each isomerized back to the 1:7 stereoisomeric mixture. Thus, the 1:7 ratio reflects relative thermodynamic stability of the isomers in this solvent.

The use of other Lewis acids,  $TiCl_4$ ,  $CuBr_2$ , and  $ZnCl_2$ , did not significantly improve the stereoselectivity of the reactions depicted in Scheme 5.

Synthesis of 1,3-diols from the di-*tert*-butoxy derivatives turned out to be troublesome. The use of CF<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H, 5% CF<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and FeCl<sub>3</sub> in acetone provided the mixtures of 1,3-diols and their monoprotected derivatives which were unstable during chromatographic separation. Treatment of pure *erythro*-10 and *threo*-10 with TMSI provided the corresponding *erythro* and *threo* 1,3-diols (*erythro*-12 and *threo*-12) in a yield of 50% for each reaction after chromatographic separation. Control of time and temperature of the reaction were important. Thus, the reaction of TMSI with *erythro*-10 at -20 °C was complete within 10-15 min. Increased reaction time significantly reduced the yield of diols. When the reaction was carried out at -78 °C, only traces of the products were detected after one hour. Our attempt to deprotect the mixture of *erythro*-10 and *threo*-12 and *threo*-12 were the same.



Scheme 6

In summary, we have shown that *tert*-butyl vinyl ether can be successfully used in stepwise electrophilic addition reactions proceeding through episulfoniumlike or sulfonium-like intermediates. The latter react with Grignard reagents to afford isomeric mixtures of 1,3-di-*tert*-butoxyalkane derivatives in quantitative yield. These isomers can be easily separated and converted to the corresponding 1,3-diols using TMSI.

### Experimental

<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra (300 and 75 MHz, respectively) were recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub>. Coupling constants, *J*, are reported in Hz. IR spectra (neat) were recorded on an ATI Mattson Genesis Series FTIR spectrometer. DCI-HRMS were obtained on a VG 7070 high resolution mass spectrometer. Preparative TLC were carried out by using glass plates, 200 x 200 mm, with an unfixed layer (2.5 mm) of Merck silica gel 60 (230-400 mesh). Analytical TLC and flash chromatography were performed on Whatman PE Sil G/UV plates and silica gel 60, respectively. All of the reactions were carried out under an atmosphere of dry nitrogen using flame-dried glassware and freshly distilled and dried solvents.

*p*-Tolylsulfenyl chloride was obtained from the corresponding thiophenol using  $SO_2Cl_2$ .<sup>9</sup> Methyl vinyl ether was synthesized from *n*-butyl vinyl ether and MeOH in the presence of  $Hg(OAc)_2$ .<sup>10</sup> 1-Methoxy-2-methyl-1-propene was prepared by pyrolysis of 1,1-dimethoxy-2-methylpropane using *p*-toluenesulfonic acid as a catalyst.<sup>11</sup> Other reagents were supplied by Aldrich Chemical Co.

3-tert-Butoxy-2,2-dimethyl-4-(p-tolylthio)butanal (4). To a solution of 0.317 g (2 mmol) p-TolSCl in 20 mL CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at -78 °C was added 0.28 mL (2 mmol) tert-butyl vinyl ether. Then 0.5 mL (4 mmol) 2-methyl-1-(trimethylsilyloxy)-1-propene and 2.4 mL of 1 M solution (2.4 mmol) of SnCl<sub>4</sub> in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> were introduced sequentially. The mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 1 h,

quenched with aqueous saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and dried over K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>. After solvent removal, preparative TLC (ether/hexane, 1:7) afforded pure compound **4** as colorless oil (0.493 g, 84%). This compound was obtained in a yield of 80% following the same procedure but using 1-methoxy-2-methyl-1-propene instead of 2-methyl-1-(trimethylsilyloxy)-1-propene. In both reactions, a small amount (up to 5%) of 2,2-dimethyl-3-hydroxy-4-(*p*-tolylthio)butanal was isolated as well. Data for **4**: R<sub>r</sub> 0.36 (hexane/ethyl acetate, 7:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR ( $\delta$ , 200 MHz): 1.04 (s, 6H), 1.13 (s, 9H), 2.29 (s, 3H), 2.99, 3.07 (2 dd,  $J_1$  = 3.9,  $J_2$  = 6.3,  $J_3$  = 13.7), 3.77 (dd, 1H,  $J_1$  = 3.9,  $J_2$  = 6.3), 7.16 (m, 4H), 9.65 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR ( $\delta$ , 50 MHz): 18.0, 18.6, 18.6, 27.9, 37.8, 49.6, 73.8, 74.0, 129.0, 129.9, 131.8, 135.8, 203.7. IR (neat): 1716 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>26</sub>SO<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) m/z 294.1653, found 294.1651.

**4-tert-Butyl-5-(p-tolylthio)-1-pentene** (5) was synthesized according to the procedure given for compound 4 using allyltrimethylsilane (4 mmol) and TiCl<sub>4</sub> (2.2 mmol). Yield is 0.445 g (74%). Up to 10% of 4-hydroxy-5-(*p*-tolylthio)-1-pentene was isolated as well. Data for **5**:  $R_r$  0.65 (hexane/ethyl ether, 5:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR ( $\delta$ , 200 MHz): 1.05 (s, 6H), 1.13 (s, 9H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 2.21 (m, 2H), 2.85, 2.87 (2 dd, 2H,  $J_1 = 5.3$ ,  $J_2 = 7.0$ ,  $J_3 = 13.2$ ), 3.57 (m, 1H), 4.98 (m, 2H), 5.74 (m, 1H), 7.16 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR ( $\delta$ , 50 MHz): 20.9, 28.5, 39.7, 39.9, 70.0, 74.0, 117.2, 129.5, 130.0, 133.0, 134,6, 135.9, 203.7. IR (neat): 1640 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>24</sub>SO (M<sup>+</sup>) m/z 264.1548, found 264.1550.

3-tert-Butoxy-4-(p-tolylthio)butanal (7). To a solution of 0.079 g (0.5 mmol) p-TolSCl in 10 mL CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at -78 °C were sequentially added 1.25 mL of 1 M solution of tert-butyl vinyl ether (0.125 g, 1.25 mmol) and 0.6 mL of 1 M solution of SnCl<sub>4</sub> (0.6 mmol). The mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 3 h, quenched with a mixture of 5% aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and

dried over  $K_2CO_3$ . After solvent removal, flash chromatography (hexane/ether, 8.5:1) afforded pure compound 7 as colorless oil (0.117 g, 88%).  $R_r$  0.63 (toluene/ether, 1:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR ( $\delta$ , 300 MHz): 1.09 (s, 9H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 2.60, 2.78 (2 ddd, 2H,  $J_1 = 1.9$ ,  $J_2 = 2.4$ ,  $J_3 = 5.5$ ,  $J_4 = 6.0$ ,  $J_5 = 16.1$ ), 2.87, 3.09 (2 dd, 2H,  $J_1 = 4.5$ ,  $J_2 = 8.4$ ,  $J_3 = 13.5$ ), 4.09 (m, 1H), 7.16 (m, 4H), 9.72 (br. t, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR ( $\delta$ , 50 MHz): 20.6, 28.0, 40.7, 49.0, 63.1, 74.4, 129.4, 130.3, 131.7, 136.2, 200.6. IR (neat): 1728 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS: calcd. for  $C_{15}H_{22}SO_2$  (M<sup>+</sup>) m/z 266.1340, found 266.1342.

threo-1,3-Di-tert-butoxy-1-phenyl-4-(perythroand tolylthio)butane (erythro-8 and threo-8). To a solution of 0.159 g (1 mmol) p-TolSCl in 20 mL CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at -78 °C were sequentially added 2.5 mL of 1 M solution of tert-butyl vinyl ether (2.5 mmol) and 1.2 mL of 1 M solution of SnCl<sub>4</sub> (1.2 mmol). After 30 min, 2 mL of 3 M solution of PhMgBr (6 mmol) diluted with 4 mL of anhydrous ether<sup>b</sup> was added. The mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 3 h and then left overnight at room temperature. After cooling to 0 °C, the mixture was quenched with 5% aqueous NaHCO3, extracted with CH2Cl2, and dried over K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>. After CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> removal, the residue was extracted with hexane to remove Ph<sub>3</sub>SnOH as a colorless solid, m.p. 113-115 °C (lit.<sup>12</sup> m.p. 118 °C). After hexane removal, the crude product was purified by column chromatography (hexane/ether, 20:1) providing 0.384 g (quantitative yield) of the mixture of erythro-8 and threo-8 in a ratio of 1.3:1, respectively (<sup>1</sup>H NMR data). The use of TiCl<sub>4</sub> (0.114 g, 1.2 mmol) instead of SnCl, gave the mixture of erythro-8 and threo-8 (0.179 g, 92%) in a ratio of 2.6:1, respectively (<sup>1</sup>H NMR data). R, (hexane/ether, 15:1) 0.46 and 0.32, respectively. Data for erythro-8: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (δ, 300 MHz): 1.12, 1.16 (2 s, 18H), 2.01 (m, 2H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 3.10, 3.22 (2 dd, 2H,  $J_1 = 5.1$ ,  $J_2 = 5.1$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Without dilution of the viscous solution of the Grignard reagent with diethyl ether, erythro-8 (0.133 g, 34%), threo-8 (0.103 g, 20%), and 7 (0.037 g, 14%) were isolated.

6.2,  $J_3 = 13.0$ ), 3.82° (m, 2H), 4.65 (dd, 1H,  $J_1 = 4.8$ ,  $J_2 = 7.5$ ), 7.20 (m, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR ( $\delta$ , 50 MHz): 20.5, 28.1, 28.2, 40.8, 45.8, 67.4, 71.1, 73.3, <sup>c</sup> 125.6, 127.4, 128.8, 129.6, 132.2, 135.1, 145.2, 145.6. HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>36</sub>SO<sub>2</sub> (M\*) m/z 400.2436, found 400.2442. Data for *threo*-8: <sup>1</sup>H NMR ( $\delta$ , 300 MHz): 1.10, 1.11 (2 s, 18H), 1.94, 2.11 (2 ddd, 1H,  $J_1 = 3.6$ ,  $J_2 = 6.5$ ,  $J_3 = 14.1$  and 1H,  $J_1 = J_2 = 7.0$ ,  $J_3 = 14.1$ ), 2.30 (s, 3H), 2.92, 3.01 (2 dd, 2H,  $J_1 = 4.8$ ,  $J_2 = 6.3$ ,  $J_3 = 12.9$ ), 3.68° (m, 2H), 4.61 (t, 1H, J = 6.7), 7.25 (m, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR ( $\delta$ , 75 MHz): 21.0, 28.8, 28.9, 41.8, 46.9, 68.6, 72.2, 74.0, 74.3, 126.5, 126.9, 128.1, 129.5, 130.2, 133.8, 135.8, 146.0. HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>36</sub>SO<sub>2</sub> (M\*) m/z 400.2436, found 400.2438.

erythro- and threo-4,6-Di-tert-butoxy-7-(p-tolylthio)-1-heptene (erythro-9 and threo-9). were synthesized using 3 mmol (3 mL of 1 M solution) allylmagnesium bromide by the method described for 8. Yield is 0.125 g (84%) of erythro-9 and 0.023 g (15%) of threo-9. R, 0.35 and 0.26 (hexane/ether, 15:1), respectively. Data for erythro-9: <sup>1</sup>H NMR ( $\delta$ , 300 MHz): 1.16, 1.18 (2 s, 18H), 1.70, 1.91 (2 ddd, 2H,  $J_1 = J_2 = 5.4$ ,  $J_3 = 14.0$ ,  $J_4 = J_5 = 14.0$ 6.8), 2.23 (m, 2H), 2.30 (s, 3H); 2.94, 3.05 (2 dd, 2H,  $J_1 = 4.7$  Hz,  $J_2 = 6.8$ ,  $J_3$ = 13.0), 3.60, 3.70 (2 m, 2H), 5.02 (m, 2H), 5.85 (m, 1H), 7.18 (m, 4H).  $^{13}C$ NMR ( $\delta$ , 50 MHz): 20.9, 28.8, 41.1, 41.5, 42.6, 68.5, 69.2, 73.5, 74.0, 116.6, 129.5, 130.4, 133.4, 135.4, 136.0. HRMS: calcd. for C22H36SO2 (M\*) m/z 364.2436, found 364.2419. Data for threo-9: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (8, 300 MHz): 1.16, 1.18 (2 s, 18H), 1.78, 1.88 (2 m, 2H), 2.25 (m, 2H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 3.02, 3.04 (2 m, 2H), 3.60, 3.70 (2 m, 2H), 5.02 (m, 2H), 5.85 (m, 1H), 7.16 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (8, 75 MHz): 21.1, 28.9, 29.0, 41.6, 41.8, 43.5, 69.2, 69.3, 73.7, 74.2, 116.8, 129.6, 130.3, 133.7, 135.5, 136.0. HRMS: calcd. for  $C_{22}H_{37}SO_2$  (MH<sup>+</sup>) m/z 365.2514, found 365.2507.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>e</sup> overlapping signal

ervthroand threo-2,4-Di-tert-butoxy-1-phenyl-5-(ptolylthio)pentane (erythro-10 and threo-10). were synthesized using 6 mmol (6 mL of 1 M solution) BnMgCl by the method described for 8. Combined yield of erythro-10 and threo-10 is 99% in a ratio of 1.9:1, respectively, R. 0.57 and 0.48 (hexane/ether, 7:1), respectively. The use of 2 mmol (2 mL of 1M solution) BnMgCl provided 0.188 g (78%) Bn<sub>4</sub>Sn (R, 0.75, hexane/ether, 7:1, m.p. 40-42 °C, lit.<sup>12</sup> m.p. 42-44 °C), 0.040 g (10%) of the mixture of erythro-10 and threo-10 in a ratio of 2:1 (<sup>1</sup>H NMR data), and 0.156 g (58%) of 7. Data for erythro-10: <sup>1</sup>H NMR ( $\delta$ , 300 MHz): 1.08, 1.22 (s, 18H), 1.80, 1.99 (m, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.75, 2.83 (2 dd, 2H,  $J_1 = 5.4$ ,  $J_2 = 7.3$ ,  $J_3 = 13.6$ ), 2.95, 3.07 (2 dd, 2H,  $J_1 = 4.5$ ,  $J_2 = 7.2$ ,  $J_3 = 13.1$ ), 3.78° (m, 2H), 7.20 (m, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR ( $\delta$ , 50 MHz): 20.3, 28.0, 28.2, 41.0, 42.4, 42.6, 68.3, 69.7, 73.4, 73.8, 125.3, 127.3, 128.9, 129.3, 129.9, 132.7, 135.5, 139.1. HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>34</sub>SO<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>\*</sup>) m/z 414.2592, found 414.2588. Data for *threo-10* <sup>1</sup>H NMR ( $\delta$ , 500 MHz): 1.03, 1.15 (2 s, 18H), 1.80, 1.97 (m, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.71, 2.85 (2 dd, 2H, J<sub>1</sub> = 4.9,  $J_2 = 7.4$ ,  $J_3 = 13.5$ ), 3.04, 3.07 (2 dd, 2H,  $J_1 = 5.5$ ,  $J_2 = 5.6$ ,  $J_3 = 13.2$ ), 3.73 (m, 2H), 7.20 (m, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR ( $\delta$ , 75 MHz): 21.0, 28.6, 28.8, 41.8, 43.6, 44.1, 69.5, 71.2, 73.7, 74.1, 126.0, 128.0, 129.6, 129.9, 130.2, 133.6, 136.0, 139.5. HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>38</sub>SO<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) m/z 414.2592, found 414.2590.

erythroand threo-2,4-Di-tert-butoxy-5-(ptolylthio)pentanenitrile (erythro-11 and threo-11). were prepared using 0.8 mmol of TMSCN by the method described for 8. Yield is 0.017 g (10%) of erythro-11 and 0.12 g (71%) of threo-11.  $R_f$  0.47 and 0.38 (hexane/ether, 7:1), respectively. Data for a mixture of erythro-11 and threo-11 (ca. 2:1, respectively): <sup>1</sup>H NMR ( $\delta$ , 300 MHz): 1.13, 1.14, 1.27,<sup>c</sup> 1.29<sup>c</sup> (2 s, 18H), 1.98, 2.13<sup>c</sup>, 2.29<sup>c</sup> (m, 2H), 2.31<sup>c</sup> (s, 3H), 2.88, 2.94,<sup>c</sup> 3.06, 3.09<sup>c</sup> (2 dd, 2H,  $J_i = 5.2$ ,  $J_2 = 7.8$ ,  $J_3 = 13.6$ ), 3.79<sup>c</sup> (m, 1H), 4.41<sup>c</sup> (m, 1H), 7.21 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR ( $\delta$ , 75 MHz): 21.2,° 27.8, 27.9,° 28.7, 28.8,° 40.3, 41.2,° 41.3,° 41.4, 58.1,° 58.7, 67.1, 74.8, 76.8, 121.2,° 129.8,° 129.9, 131.3,° 131.5, 132.2, 137.0. IR (neat): 2236 cm<sup>-1</sup>. HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>32</sub>SNO<sub>2</sub> (MH<sup>\*</sup>) m/z 350.2154, found 350.2138.

*erythro*-1-Phenyl-5-(p-tolylthio)-2,4-pentanediol (*erythro*-12). A solution of TMSI (0.21 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 mL) was added to a solution of *erythro*-10 (0.08 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (15 mL) at -20 °C. The mixture was stirred for 15 min and quenched with 5% aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, and dried over K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>. Column chromatography (step gradient elution, hexane : ether : CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> 10:1:2, 5:1:2, and 3:1:2) afforded 0.012 g (50%) of *erythro*-12 and 0.001 g (3%) of *erythro*-10. R<sub>t</sub> 0.65 (hexane/ether, 5:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR ( $\delta$ , 500 MHz): 1.57, 1.76 (2 dt, 2H,  $J_1 = J_2 = 10.0$ ,  $J_3 = 14.3$ ,  $J_4 = J_5 = 2.4$ ), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.73, 2.78 (2 dd, 2H,  $J_1 = 5.8$ ,  $J_2 = 7.2$ ,  $J_5 = 13.5$ ), 2.86, 2.99 (2 dd, 2H,  $J_1 = 4.6$ ,  $J_2 =$ 8.0,  $J_5 = 13.6$ ), 3.12, 3.48 (2 s, 2H), 3.85, 4.04 (2 m, 2H), 7.20 (m, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR ( $\delta$ , 83.3 MHz): 21.4, 41.6, 43.0, 44.7, 70.7, 73.6, 126.9, 129.0, 129.9, 130.3, 131.3, 137.4, 138.4. HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>22</sub>SO<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>) m/z 302.1340, found 302.0877.

*threo*-1-Phenyl-5-(p-tolylthio)-2,4-pentanediol (*threo*-12) was synthesized from *threo*-10 by the method described for *erythro*-12. Yield is 50%.  $R_r$  0.65 (hexane/ether, 5:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR ( $\delta$ , 300 MHz): 1.72 (m, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.75, 2.89, 3.06 (3 m, 4H), 3.99, 4.15 (m, 2H), 7.25 (m, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (83.3 MHz): 21.4, 41.3, 42.9, 44.5, 67.4, 70.4, 127.0, 129.0, 129.8, 130.3, 131.6, 137.4, 138.5. HRMS: calcd. for  $C_{18}H_{22}SO_2$  (M<sup>\*</sup>) m/z 302.1340, found 302.1162.

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