## Highly *anti*-Selective S<sub>N</sub>2' Substitutions of Chiral Cyclic 2-Iodo-Allylic Alcohol Derivatives with Mixed Zinc–Copper Reagents

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M. Isabel Calaza, Eike Hupe, and Paul Knochel\*

Department Chemie, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Butenandtstrasse 5-13, 81377 München, Germany paul.knochel@cup.uni-muenchen.de

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## ABSTRACT



Functionalized allylic electrophilic reagents such as chiral 2-iodo-1-cyclohexenyl and -cyclopentenyl phosphates undergo highly stereoselective *anti*- $S_N2'$ -allylic substitution reactions with a wide range of organozinc reagents ( $R_2Zn$  and RZnl) leading to chiral products with a transfer of the chiral information >95%. The use of functionalized organozinc iodides allows preparation of the bicyclic enones 8 and 9 in  $\geq$ 93% ee.

Functionalized allylic electrophiles are useful multicoupling reagents<sup>1</sup> for the expeditive formation of carbon–carbon bonds in a selective way. A variety of organometallic compounds undergo nucleophilic substitutions on allylic systems. Especially interesting are organocopper compounds<sup>2</sup> which are known to undergo  $S_N2'$  substitutions with various allylic electrophiles with high *anti*-selectivity.<sup>3,4</sup> Although catalytic allylic substitutions have also been reported,<sup>5</sup> the transfer of chirality with use of chiral allylic precursors has the advantage of being highly predictable. The required

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allylic alcohols are readily available by a range of asymmetric syntheses.<sup>6,7</sup> In the allylation reactions zinc-based organocoppers show high  $S_N2'$  selectivities.<sup>8,9</sup> Herein, we wish to report a highly *anti*- $S_N2'$  substitution of chiral 2-iodo-

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cycloallylic alcohol derivatives of type **1** or **2** (n = 1, 2) with various functionalized zinc reagents (FG-R)<sub>2</sub>Zn or FG-RZnI)<sup>10</sup> in the presence of CuCN•2LiCl<sup>11</sup> leading to products of type **3** which can be converted to chiral bicyclic products of type **4** with  $\geq$ 93% ee, if the functional group FG is an ester or nitrile (Scheme 1).



First, we have studied the substitution reaction using various unfunctionalized diorganozinc reagents ( $R_2Zn$ ). Chiral (R)-2-iodocyclopentenol (**5**, 94% ee) and (R)-2-iodocyclohexenol (**6**, 94% ee) were converted into the corresponding phosphates **1** (76%) and **2a** (87%), which give  $S_N2'$  products when reacting with organocoppers.<sup>12</sup> The alcohol **6** was also converted into the pentafluorobenzoate **2b** in 93% yield (Scheme 2).



Both the allylic phosphates and pentafluorobenzoates (1, 2) reacted with diorganozincs in the presence of CuCN·2LiCl (1.1 equiv) in a 3:1 mixture of THF:*N*-methylpyrrolidinone (NMP)<sup>13</sup> at -30 to -10 °C in 14 h furnishing the *anti*-S<sub>N</sub>2' products **3a**-**e**. Primary as well as secondary diorganozincs undergo the substitution reaction in good yields (70–91%, Table 1).





<sup>*a*</sup> Yield of analytically pure product. <sup>*b*</sup> The enantiomeric excess was determined by capillary GC analysis on products **3** or derivatives of them (see Supporting Information). <sup>*c*</sup> The reaction was performed in THF at -50 °C for 16 h.

The enantiomeric excess (% ee) determined by capillary GC (see Supporting Information) was 91-94% ee, showing a high transfer of the stereochemical information.<sup>14</sup> The *anti*-selectivity was determined by converting vinylic iodide **3a** into ketone **7** of known configuration (Scheme 2).<sup>15</sup>

Thus, the reaction of **3a** with *t*-BuLi (2 equiv, THF, -78 °C, 20 min) followed by reaction with CuCN·2LiCl (1.0 equiv, THF, 0 °C, 10 min) and CH<sub>3</sub>COCl (2 equiv, 0 °C, 30 min) furnishes ketone **7** in 95% yield and 94% ee. Comparison with the optical rotation of **7** and the literature indicates that an *anti*-S<sub>N</sub>2' substitution has taken place. The complete transfer of the stereochemical information from **1** 

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<sup>(13)</sup> We have observed that NMP strongly enhances the reactivity of these zinc-copper reagents, especially those of the copper species prepared from RZnI.

<sup>(14) (</sup>a) We have compared the reactivity of cuprates MeCu(CN)Li, MeMgBr·CuCN, and Me<sub>2</sub>CuLi with the one derived from Me<sub>2</sub>Zn toward phosphate **1**. The first two organocoppers undergo also a highly stereose-lective *anti*-S<sub>N</sub>2' substitution to afford **3a** with 94% ee in good unoptimized yields (70 and 76%), whereas Me<sub>2</sub>CuLi gives **3a** in only 18% ee and 74% yield. (b) The use of catalytic CuCN•2LiCl for the preparation of mixed zinc-copper reagents lowers yields by ca. 20-30%.

to **3a** shows also that neither a *syn*- $S_N 2'$  substitution nor an  $S_N 2$  substitution had occurred since these reaction pathways would lower the enantiomeric purity of **3a**. Remarkably, a range of functionalized zinc reagents undergo the  $S_N 2'$  substitution with comparable selectivities and yields (Table 2).

Table 2.	Products <b>3f-m</b> Obtained by Reaction of
Functional	ized Organozinc Halides with the Chiral Phosphates 1
and <b>2a</b>	

entry	allylic reagent <b>1</b> or <b>2a</b>	RZnl (R)	product of type <b>3</b>	yield (%) <sup>a</sup>	<i>ee</i> (%) <sup>b</sup>
1	1	(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> Et	<b>3f</b> : n = 1	81	93 (96) <sup>c</sup>
2	2a	(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> Et	<b>3g</b> : n = 2	68	94 (94) <sup>d</sup>
			OAc		
3	1	(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> OAc	<b>3h</b> : n = 1	91	94 (96) <sup><i>c</i></sup>
4	2a	(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> OAc	<b>3i</b> : n = 2	84	97 (98) <sup>d</sup>
		H₂C ∽_−Q			
5	1		<b>3j</b> : n = 1	77	94 (94) <sup><i>c</i></sup>
6	2a	H <sub>2</sub> C O	<b>3k</b> : n = 2	62	97 (98) <sup>d</sup>
7	1	(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CN	<b>3I</b> : n = 1	90	91 (96) <sup>c</sup>
8	2a	(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CN	<b>3m</b> : n = 2	84	95 (98) <sup>d</sup>

<sup>*a*</sup> Yield of analytically pure product. <sup>*b*</sup> The enantiomeric excess was determined by capillary GC analysis on **3** (see Supporting Information). <sup>*c*</sup> Enantiomeric excess of **1**. <sup>*d*</sup> Enantiomeric excess of **2a**.

Only zinc-copper reagents made from equimolecular amounts of zinc reagents and copper salts have been examined.<sup>16</sup>

Thus, the reaction of 3-carboethoxypropylzinc iodide (2 equiv) with 1 (or 2a) in the presence of CuCN·2LiCl (2 equiv) proceeds in THF:NMP (3:1) at -30 to 25 °C within 12 h affording the functionalized substituted products 3f and 3g respectively in 81% and 68% yield and 93–94% ee (entries 1 and 2 of Table 2). Similarly the reaction of allylic phosphates 1 and 2a with 3-acetoxypropylzinc iodide provides the products 3h and 3i respectively in 91% (94% ee) and 84% (97.8% ee) (entries 3 and 4). Organozincs bearing an acetal function (entries 5 and 6) or a nitrile (entries 7 and 8) react with high *anti*-S<sub>N</sub>2' selectivity affording the products 3j-m in 91–97% ee and 62–90% yield (entries 5–8). The functionalized cyclohexenyl iodides 3g and 3m

can be converted into bicyclic ketones  $8^{17}$  and  $9^{18}$  respectively in 75 and 52% yield and 93–95% ee by reaction with *n*-BuLi (1.2 equiv) and TMSCl (1.5 equiv) in THF at -70 °C for 2 h (Scheme 3).



In summary, we have described highly enantioselective *anti*- $S_N2'$ -allylic substitutions of cyclic 2-iodoallylic alcohols with a wide range of zinc—copper reagents and have shown their utility for preparing chiral bicyclic ketones such as **8** and **9** in  $\geq$ 93% ee. Applications to the preparation of natural products are currently underway.<sup>19</sup>

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**Supporting Information Available:** Experimental procedures and analytical data. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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<sup>(19)</sup> Typical Procedure: Preparation of 3j. A flame-dried 25-mL flask equipped with a magnetic stirring bar, an argon inlet, and a septum was charged with a solution of CuCN-2LiCl (1 M solution in THF; 1.7 mL, 1.7 mmol, 2.0 equiv) and cooled to -30 °C. The freshly prepared alkylzinc halide reagent (1.5 M solution in THF, 1.2 mL, 1.7 mmol, 2.0 equiv) was added dropwise and the resulting mixture was stirred 0.5 h at -30 °C. Then (R)-2-iodo-2-cyclopenten-1-yl diethyl phosphate 1 (94% ee; 0.300 g, 0.87 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added dropwise as a solution in NMP (sufficient to give an overall ratio of THF:NMP of 3:1) and the reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 16 h while warming up to 25 °C. Saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution (20 mL) was added followed by 25% aqueous ammonia solution (1 mL), then the reaction mixture was stirred at 25 °C until the copper salts had dissolved. The mixture was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O ( $3 \times 20$ mL). The combined extracts were washed with brine and dried over Na2-SO<sub>4</sub>. Evaporation of the solvents and purification by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, pentane:Et<sub>2</sub>O 9:1) afforded 198 mg (77% yield, 94% ee) of **3j** as a colorless oil.