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## 1,4-Asymmetric Induction in Palladium(II)-catalyzed Intramolecular N-Alkylation Reaction. Construction of 2-Functionalized 5-Hydroxypiperidine

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Palladium(II)-catalyzed cyclization of optically active urethanes containing an allylic alcohol moiety was examined. Efficient 1,4-asymmetric induction was found in this reaction. The cycloadducts were converted to pseudoconhydrine.

Intramolecular amino cyclization<sup>1</sup> is one of the most important methodologies for stereo-controlled construction of functionalized nitrogen heterocycles, which form the skeletons of a number of biologically active natural products and related We recently developed the intramolecular compounds. substitution of an allylic alcohol by a heteroatom using a palladium(II) catalyst<sup>2</sup> without activation of the allylic hydroxy group and reported its application to the synthesis of (-)bulgecinine and (+)-coniine.<sup>3</sup> In connection with our current investigation of the synthetic utility of this palladium-catalyzed N-alkylation, we became interested in 1,4-asymmetric induction. We describe here the stereocontrolled construction of 2functionalized 5-hydroxypiperidine by a palladium(II)-catalyzed intramolecular  $N \to \pi$  cyclization and its application to the synthesis of pseudoconhydrine, one of the hemlock alkaloids.<sup>4</sup>

The substrate 8 for palladium(II)-catalyzed cyclization was prepared in a straightforward fashion from (R)-O-tbutylsilylglycidol (1). Regio- and stereoselective cleavage of the oxirane ring was achieved by exposure of 1 to sodium azide in DMF in the presence of ammonium chloride to give the azide 3 in 45% yield, with the regio-isomer 2 (15% yield).<sup>5</sup> After protection of the secondary alcohol of 3 with benzyl bromide, the azide group was reduced with LiAlH<sub>4</sub> to give the amino-alcohol 4, and it's primary amino group was protected with di-t-butyl dicarbonate (Boc<sub>2</sub>O) to give the urethane 5. The Swern oxidation of 5 and subsequent Wittig reaction gave the  $\alpha,\beta$ unsaturated ester, which was subjected to catalytic hydrogenation to afford the ester 6 in 55% in 3 steps. Diisobutylaluminum hydride (DIBAL) reduction of 6 and subsequent Swern oxidation gave the cyclic alcohol 7. Treatment of 7 with methyl (triphenylphosphoranylidene)acetate in benzene at 80 °C followed by reduction with DIBAL afforded the desired allyl alcohol 8 in 67% yield from **6**.

The intramolecular cyclization of **8** was effected by treatment with bis(acetonitrile)palladium(II) chloride (30 mol%) [PdCl<sub>2</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>2</sub>] in tetrahydrofuran (THF) to give a product consisting predominantly of the piperidine **9a** and its stereoisomer **9b** in a ratio of 8:1. The stereoselective formation of **9a** could be explained by assuming the transition state **A**. The transition state **B**, which leads to **9b**, would be disadvantageous because of non-bonding interaction between the carbamate moiety and  $\pi$ -allyl-oxy palladium complex.

Next, we examined the conversion of 9a and 9b to (-)-epipseudoconhydrine (11) and (+)-pseudoconhydrine (12), respectively. Ozonolysis of 9 followed by Wittig reaction with (ethyl)triphenylphosphonium bromide and subsequent catalytic

Scheme 1. a) NaN<sub>3</sub>, NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, DMF (60%, 2:3=1:3); b) BnBr, NaH, Bu<sub>4</sub>NI, THF (94%); c) LAH, Et<sub>2</sub>O (76%); d) (Boc)<sub>2</sub>O, Et<sub>3</sub>N, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (70%); e) (COCl)<sub>2</sub>, DMSO, Et<sub>3</sub>N, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, (84%); f) Ph<sub>3</sub>P=CHCO<sub>2</sub>Me, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (68%); g) H<sub>2</sub>/Pd-C, AcOEt (97%); h) DIBAL, THF, -78°C (79%); i) (COCl)<sub>2</sub>, DMSO, Et<sub>3</sub>N, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (98%); j) Ph<sub>3</sub>P=CHCO<sub>2</sub>Me, benzene, refl. (91%); k) DIBAL, THF, -78°C (95%); l) 30 mol%-PdCl<sub>2</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>2</sub>, THF (81%, 9a:9b=8:1).

hydrogenation with Pd-C gave 10a,  $[\alpha]^{26}_D$  -2.7° (CHCl<sub>3</sub>), and 10b ,  $[\alpha]^{27}_D$  +9.4° (CHCl<sub>3</sub>), in 42% and 6% yield, which were easily separated by silica gel column chromatography. The carbamate group of 10a and 10b was removed by treatment with

**Scheme 2.** a)  $O_3$  and then  $Me_2S$ ,  $CH_2Cl_2$  (85%); b)  $Ph_3P^+CH_2CH_3Br^-$ , n-BuLi, THF (61%); c)  $H_2$ , Pd-C, MeOH (58%); d)  $CF_3CO_2H$ ,  $CH_2Cl_2$  (80%); e)  $CF_3CO_2H$ ,  $CH_2Cl_2$  (95%); f) diethyl azodicarboxylate,  $PhCO_2H$ ,  $Ph_3P$ , benzene (52%); g)  $K_2CO_3$ , MeOH (40%); h)  $CF_3CO_2H$ ,  $CH_2Cl_2$  (90%).

CF<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H (TFA) to provide **11** and **12**, respectively.<sup>6</sup> The physical data for the synthetic product **12**,  $[\alpha]^{27}_D$  +10.5° (c 0.1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>), were in accordance with those reported for natural pseudoconhydrine.<sup>4,6d</sup>

Compound 10a was also converted to (-)-pseudoconhydrine (14). The inversion of the alcohol moiety of 10a under Mitsunobu condituions followed by debenzoylation of the resulting benzoate with aq.  $K_2CO_3$  gave 13, which was treated with TFA to furnish 14.7

In conclusion, efficient 1,4-asymmetric induction was found in a palladium-catalyzed intramolecular *N*-alkylation reaction. The scope and limitations, as well as further applications, of the present methodology are under investigation.

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