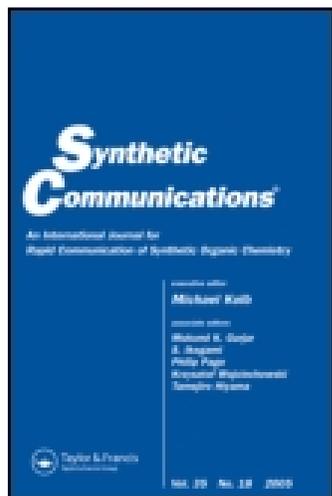


This article was downloaded by: [Stony Brook University]

On: 29 October 2014, At: 21:55

Publisher: Taylor & Francis

Informa Ltd Registered in England and Wales Registered Number: 1072954
Registered office: Mortimer House, 37-41 Mortimer Street, London W1T 3JH,
UK



Synthetic Communications: An International Journal for Rapid Communication of Synthetic Organic Chemistry

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/lcyc20>

Chemoselective Removal of Acyloxy in 1-(Benzotriazole-1-yl)alkyl Esters and Its Application in the Preparation of β -(Benzotriazole-1-yl)alcohols

Xiaoxia Wang^a, Hui Mao^a, Guanqun Xie^a & Jingxing Du^a

^a Zhejiang Key Laboratory for Reactive Chemistry on Solid Surfaces, College of Chemistry and Life Sciences, Zhejiang Normal University, Jinhua, China

Published online: 28 Aug 2008.

To cite this article: Xiaoxia Wang, Hui Mao, Guanqun Xie & Jingxing Du (2008) Chemoselective Removal of Acyloxy in 1-(Benzotriazole-1-yl)alkyl Esters and Its Application in the Preparation of β -(Benzotriazole-1-yl)alcohols, Synthetic Communications: An International Journal for Rapid Communication of Synthetic Organic Chemistry, 38:17, 2908-2918, DOI: [10.1080/00397910801993735](https://doi.org/10.1080/00397910801993735)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00397910801993735>

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN FOR ARTICLE

Taylor & Francis makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of all the information (the "Content") contained in the publications on our platform. However, Taylor & Francis, our agents, and our licensors make no representations or warranties whatsoever as to the accuracy, completeness, or suitability for any purpose of the Content. Any opinions and views expressed in this publication are the opinions and views of the authors, and are not the views of or endorsed by Taylor & Francis. The accuracy of the Content should not be relied upon and should be independently verified with primary sources of information. Taylor and Francis shall not be liable for any losses, actions, claims, proceedings, demands, costs, expenses, damages, and other liabilities whatsoever or howsoever caused arising directly or indirectly in connection with, in relation to or arising out of the use of the Content.

This article may be used for research, teaching, and private study purposes. Any substantial or systematic reproduction, redistribution, reselling, loan, sub-licensing, systematic supply, or distribution in any form to anyone is expressly forbidden. Terms & Conditions of access and use can be found at <http://www.tandfonline.com/page/terms-and-conditions>

Chemoselective Removal of Acyloxy in 1-(Benzotriazole-1-yl)alkyl Esters and Its Application in the Preparation of β -(Benzotriazole-1-yl)alcohols

Xiaoxia Wang, Hui Mao, Guanqun Xie, and Jingxing Du

Zhejiang Key Laboratory for Reactive Chemistry on Solid Surfaces, College of Chemistry and Life Sciences, Zhejiang Normal University, Jinhua, China

Abstract: Mediated by samarium diiodide, 1-(benzotriazole-1-yl)alkyl esters **1** underwent cross-coupling with aldehydes or ketones to afford β -(benzotriazole-1-yl)-alcohols **2** exclusively with the selective removal of acyloxy over benzotriazolyl.

Keywords: 1-(Benzotriazole-1-yl)alkyl esters, carbonyl compounds, chemoselective reduction, cross-coupling, samarium diiodide

Bifunctional derivatives in which two leaving groups with different reactivity attach to the same carbon (containing X-C-Y structure, where X, Y is the leaving group) constitute a class of useful substrates for the construction of multifunctional groups based on selective elimination of one of the leaving groups. The breaking of either the C-X or C-Y bond can usually be distinguished by a reducing agent. For example, the reductive cleavage of the C-halogen bond occurred preferably over the C-P bond when α -haloalkylphosphonates were treated with Bu_3SnH .^[1] The Br-C-OAc structure underwent a reductive cleavage of the C-Br bond and underwent cross-coupling with ketones by treatment with SmI_2 -HMPA.^[2] Reductive lithiation of α -aminosulfides $\text{R}_2\text{N-C-SPh}$ could afford nonstabilized α -aminocarbanions with the sulfenyl group

Received December 23, 2007.

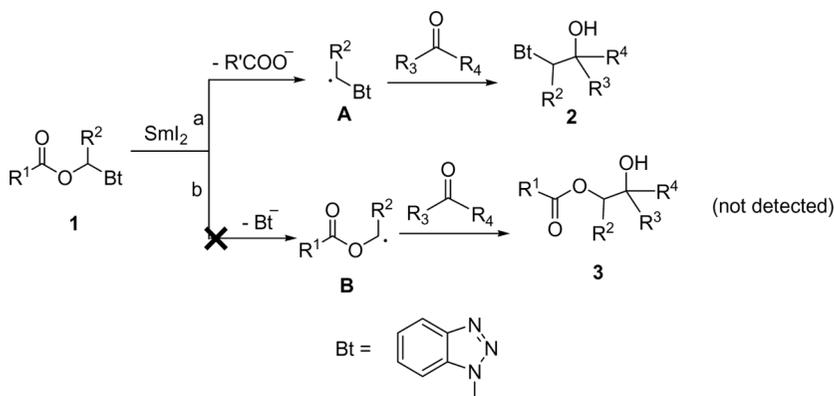
Address correspondence to Xiaoxia Wang, Zhejiang Key Laboratory for Reactive Chemistry on Solid Surfaces, College of Chemistry and Life Sciences, Zhejiang Normal University, Jinhua 321004, China. E-mail: wangxiaoxia@zjnu.cn

being cleaved first.^[3a] The selective removal of the sulfenyl has also been observed in the reduction of O,S-acetals^[3b] (RO-C-SPh) by SmI₂ in benzene–HMPA solution with *t*-BuOH as an additive.

Compounds with a benzotriazolyl group (Bt) attached to an α -heteroatom carbon no doubt constitute a fairly considerable part of such building blocks (Bt-C-X, X = halogen, NR₂, alkoxy [OR], sulfenyl [SR], etc.).^[4] Likewise, the C-Bt bond could be selectively cleaved and used for different synthetic purposes. SmI₂ causes the C-Bt bond cleavage in *N*-[(*N,N*-dialkylamino)-alkyl]-benzotriazoles (Bt-C-NR₂) to form a variety of compounds such as tertiary vicinal diamines,^[5a] *N*-cycloalkylamines,^[5b] and 1,2-amino alcohols.^[5c] We previously reported the cleavage of C-Bt bonds in *N*-(α -benzotriazol-1-ylalkyl)amides (Bt-C-NHCOR) and *N*-(α -benzotriazol-1-ylalkyl)sulfonamides (Bt-C-NHTs) to synthesize vicinal diamides, vicinal disulfamides, and α -hydroxyalkylated sulfonamides.^[6]

Herein we report the chemoselective reduction of Bt-C-OCOR compounds [1-(benzotriazole-1-yl)alkyl esters **1**] and their cross-coupling with carbonyl compounds. It should be noted that compounds **1** contain two good leaving groups, namely the acyloxy and benzotriazolyl groups. The selective elimination of either of the leaving groups from the bifunctional derivatives followed by a cross-coupling with carbonyl compounds can provide a useful protocol for the construction of β -heteroatom-substituted alcohols via hydroxyalkylation.^[7]

Thus, a mixture of **1** and a carbonyl compound (aldehyde or ketone) was added simultaneously to a SmI₂-THF solution at room temperature with an expectation to produce two kinds of coupling products corresponding to the two cleavage pathways (Scheme 1). Path A involves the



Scheme 1. Two possible pathways for the reductive coupling of **1** with carbonyl compounds.

reductive cleavage of the acyloxy by SmI_2 , and the resulting radical **A** then attacks the carbonyl or ketyl^[8] to give product **2**, whereas in path **B** the benzotriazolyl was cleaved to produce radical **B**, which coupled with carbonyl or ketyl to afford compound **3**.

Surprisingly, though the benzotriazolyl moiety in the Bt-C-OCOR compounds could be selectively substituted by an alkyl, alkenyl, or aryl group in organozinc reagents to afford carboxylic esters,^[9] exclusive removal of the acyloxy was observed (only path **A** was followed) under the reductive conditions here. Correspondingly, the corresponding cross-coupling products β -(benzotriazole-1-yl)alcohols **2** were obtained in good to excellent yields. The results are listed in Table 1. The type of product **3** was not detected in all the cases of the reductive coupling reaction, indicating path **B** was not followed at all.

As can be summarized from Table 1, both aliphatic aldehydes and ketones underwent the reductive coupling smoothly. Diphenylmethanone also gave satisfactory yields (Table 1, entries 6 and 12). Aromatic aldehyde such as benzaldehyde mainly afforded pinacols as in the other cross-coupling reaction.^[7a] Generally, the yields of the cross-coupling products resulting from ketones were higher than those from aldehydes. The lower efficiency of the coupling involving aldehydes may result from the side reactions such as simple reduction and pinacol coupling, to which the aldehydes were prone.^[11]

Under the reaction conditions, the removal of the acyloxy over the benzotriazolyl group was always observed, no matter if R^1 was an alkyl or aryl. Theoretically, an electron-withdrawing group (such as chloro) present in R^1 could facilitate the leaving tendency of the corresponding acyloxy (Table 1, entries 12 and 13); however, the electron-donating group (methoxy) at the aryl in the acyloxy moiety does not diminish the leaving ability to a remarkable extent (Table 1, entries 7–11).

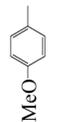
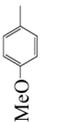
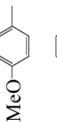
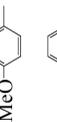
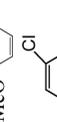
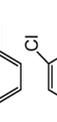
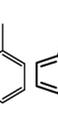
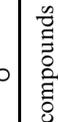
R^2 can be an alkyl or aryl and therefore broaden the scope for the synthesis of compounds **2**. Although β -(benzotriazole-1-yl)alcohols with the structure $\text{Bt}-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}(\text{OH})\text{R}^1\text{R}^2$ could be smoothly prepared,^[7i,j] their homologues with a substituent at the methylene carbon could not be obtained because of the limited substrates ($\text{Bt}-\text{CH}_2-\text{X}$). The Katritzky group reported the preparation of such compounds from *N*-allyl- or *N*-benzyl benzotriazoles by treatment with *n*-butyllithium at -78°C followed by the nucleophilic attack on aldehydes and ketones.^[12] However, the compounds with common substituents other than benzyl and allyl remained unexplored, to which difficult lithiation may be ascribed. Therefore, the cross-coupling between easily available 1-(benzotriazole-1-yl)alkyl esters **1** and carbonyl compounds mediated by SmI_2 provides a general and highly efficient method for the preparation of a variety of β -(benzotriazole-1-yl)alcohols though the diastereoselectivities are not satisfactory at this stage.

Table 1. Samarium diiodide-promoted reductive coupling between 1-(benzotriazole-1-yl)alkyl esters **1** and carbonyl compounds to prepare β -(benzotriazole-1-yl)alcohols **2**

Entry	R ¹	R ²	Substrates 1	R ³	R ⁴	Products 2 ^b	Time (h)	Yields (%) ^c	D.r. ^d
1	n-C ₃ H ₇ -	C ₂ H ₅ -	1a'	CH ₃ -	CH ₃ -	2a	0.5	82	—
2	n-C ₃ H ₇ -	C ₂ H ₅ -	1a	C ₂ H ₅ -	C ₂ H ₅ -	2b	0.5	92	—
3	C ₂ H ₅ -		1b	n-C ₃ H ₇ -	H	2c	0.5	80	70:30
4		C ₂ H ₅ -	1c	CH ₃ -	CH ₃ -	2a	1	86	—
5		C ₂ H ₅ -	1c	CH ₃	C ₂ H ₅ -	2d	1	83	53:47
6		C ₂ H ₅ -	1c	Ph-	Ph-	2e	1	75	—

(Continued)

Table 1. Continued

Entry	R ¹	R ²	Substrates 1	R ³	R ⁴	Products 2 ^b	Time (h)	Yields (%) ^c	D.r. ^d
7			1d	CH ₃ -	CH ₃ -	2f	1	85	—
8			1d	CH ₃ -	H	2g	1	64	52:48
9			1e	CH ₃ -	H	2h	1	76	53:47
10			1e	CH ₃ -	CH ₃ -	2i	1	87	—
11			1e	C ₂ H ₅ -	C ₂ H ₅ -	2j	1	79	—
12			1f	Ph-	Ph-	2k	1	78	—
13			1f	CH ₃ -	CH ₃ -	2l	1	83	—
14			1g	CH ₃ -	C ₂ H ₅ -	2d	1	86	53:47

^aNovel compounds prepared according to Ref.^[10].^bThe products were characterized by ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, IR, and elemental analysis.^cIsolated yields.^dD.r. = diastereoselective ratio. Determined by ¹H NMR.

In summary, mediated by SmI_2 in THF at room temperature, the reductive elimination of acyloxy over benzotriazolyl in a variety of 1-(benzotriazole-1-yl)alkyl esters occurred preferentially in the cross-coupling reaction with carbonyl compounds. Good yields of a variety of β -(benzotriazole-1-yl)alcohols can be prepared this way.

It was reported that different additives could alter the reductive removal sequence of sulfenyl and alkoxy in monothioacetals^[3b] with SmI_2 as the reducing agent. With the potential good leaving ability of benzotriazolyl,^[13] the possibility of reversing the reductive removal sequence of acyloxy and benzotriazolyl in 1-(benzotriazole-1-yl)alkyl esters is worth exploring further.

EXPERIMENTAL

Tetrahydrofuran was distilled from sodium benzophenone immediately prior to use. Melting points are uncorrected. ^1H NMR (400-MHz) spectra were recorded on a Bruker AV400 NMR instrument as CDCl_3 solutions using TMS as internal standard. Chemical shifts (δ) are reported in parts per million (ppm) and coupling constants J are given in hertz. IR spectra were recorded in film or using KBr disks with a Nicolet Nexus 670 FT-IR spectrometer. Mass spectra were recorded on an HP 5989B MS spectrometer (70 eV). Elemental analyses were performed on a Vario-ELIII instrument.

General Procedure for the Reductive Tandem Deacyloxy and Cross-Coupling Reaction

1-(Benzotriazole-1-yl)alkyl esters **1** (1 mmol) dissolved in dry THF (10 mL) were added at room temperature to 2.2 mmol of SmI_2 dissolved in THF (20 mL) under nitrogen. The resulting solution turned yellow in 0.5–1 h. Dilute hydrochloric acid (0.5 M, 5 mL) was added, and the resulting mixture was extracted with diethyl ether (3×20 mL). The combined organic layer was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and concentrated under reduced pressure to give a residue, which was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with ethyl acetate and cyclohexane (1:6) as eluent to afford the β -(benzotriazole-1-yl) alcohols **2**.

DATA

Compound **1a**: colorless oil. $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{film})/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 2971, 2939, 2819, 1748 (C=O), 1614 (N=N). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.08 (1H, d, J

8.4 Hz), 7.79 (1H, d, J 8.4 Hz), 7.54 (1H, t, J 7.6 Hz), 7.40 (1H, t, J 7.6 Hz), 7.22 (1H, t, J 7.2 Hz, CH), 2.50–2.58 (2H, m, CH₂), 2.28–2.38 (2H, m, CH₂), 1.59–1.64 (2H, m, CH₂), 0.97 (3H, t, J 7.2 Hz, CH₃), 0.88 (3H, t, J 7.2 Hz, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.3 (C=O), 145.9, 132.5, 127.9, 124.3, 120.0, 110.3, 80.5, 35.7, 26.5, 18.1, 13.4, 9.2. Anal. calcd. for C₁₃H₁₇N₃O₂: C, 63.14; H, 6.93; N, 16.99. Found: C, 62.98; H, 6.95; N, 16.93%.

Compound **2a**: colorless oil. $\nu_{\max}(\text{film})/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3390 (OH), 2975, 2834, 1614 (N=N), 1453, 747. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.88 (d, J 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, J 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (t, J 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (t, J 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.43 (dd, J 2.8, 12 Hz, 1H), 3.52 (br, s, 1H), 2.38–2.43 (m, 1H), 2.07–2.13 (m, 1H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.06 (s, 3H), 0.53 (t, J 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 145.1, 134.8, 127.3, 124.0, 119.6, 110.5, 71.3, 70.6, 29.2, 27.5, 22.1, 11.0. m/z (%): 221 (M⁺ + 2, 1.3), 161 (100), 132 (81.6), 104 (71.9), 77 (49.8), 59 (82.5). Anal. calcd. for C₁₂H₁₇N₃O: C, 65.73; H, 7.81; N, 19.16. Found: C, 65.87; H, 7.80; N, 19.27%.

Compound **2b**: colorless oil. $\nu_{\max}(\text{film})/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3396 (OH), 3062, 2971, 2881, 1615 (N=N), 1453, 747. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.88 (d, J 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (d, J 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (t, J 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (t, J 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (dd, J 3.2, 12 Hz, 1H), 3.41 (br, s, 1H), 2.34–2.37 (m, 1H), 1.97–2.02 (m, 1H), 1.60–1.71 (m, 2H), 1.04–1.08 (m, 1H), 0.95–0.98 (m, 1H), 0.83 (t, J 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.66 (t, J 7.6 Hz, 3H), 0.44 (t, J 7.6 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 145.3, 134.4, 127.3, 123.9, 119.6, 111.0, 77.0, 67.6, 28.2, 27.3, 21.4, 10.8, 7.9, 7.5. m/z (%): 248 (M⁺ + 1, 2.5), 161 (100), 146 (75.0), 132 (50.3), 104 (31.7), 87 (28.3), 77 (27.9). Anal. calcd. for C₁₄H₂₁N₃O: C, 67.98; H, 8.56; N, 16.99. Found: C, 67.85; H, 8.58; N, 17.05%.

Compound **2c**: colorless oil. $\nu_{\max}(\text{film})/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3361 (OH), 2932, 2857, 1620 (N=N), 1453, 744. Major: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.94 (d, J 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24–7.40 (m, 8H), 5.57 (d, J 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.96–4.96 (m, 1H), 3.97 (br, s, 1H), 1.39–1.53 (m, 2H), 1.22–1.26 (m, 2H), 0.87 (t, J 7.2 Hz, 3H). Minor: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.94 (d, J 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24–7.40 (m, 8H), 5.57 (d, J 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.96–4.96 (m, 1H), 3.97 (br, s, 1H), 1.86–1.87 (m, 1H), 1.65–1.70 (m, 1H), 1.39–1.53 (m, 2H), 1.22–1.26 (m, 3H). m/z (%): 281 (M⁺, 2.3), 208 (29.9), 180 (100), 91 (13.1), 77 (15.4). Anal. calcd. for C₁₇H₁₉N₃O: C, 72.57; H, 6.81; N, 14.94. Found: C, 72.66; H, 6.83; N, 14.89%.

Compound **2d**: colorless oil. $\nu_{\max}(\text{film})/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3405 (OH), 2953, 2863, 1615 (N=N), 1445, 742. Major: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.10–8.12 (m, 1H), 7.59–7.62 (m, 1H), 7.47–7.53 (m, 1H), 7.40 (t, J 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.50–4.56 (m, 1H), 2.49–2.53 (m, 1H), 2.16–2.19 (m, 1H), 1.70–1.75 (m, 1H), 1.25 (q, J 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.01 (t, J 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.96 (s, 3H), 0.65 (t, J 7.2 Hz, 3H). Minor: ¹H NMR (400 MHz,

CDCl_3): δ 8.10–8.12 (m, 1H), 7.59–7.62 (m, 1H), 7.47–7.53 (m, 1H), 7.40 (t, J 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.50–4.56 (m, 1H), 2.49–2.53 (m, 1H), 2.16–2.19 (m, 1H), 1.70–1.75 (m, 1H), 1.36 (s, 3H), 1.25 (q, J 7.2 Hz, 1H), 0.87 (s, 3H), 0.65 (t, J 7.2 Hz, 3H). m/z (%): 233 (M^+ , 1.3), 218 (1.8), 161 (100), 146 (73.5), 132 (69.2), 104 (49.8), 77 (34.7), 73 (53.8). Anal. calcd. for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_3\text{O}$: C, 66.92; H, 8.21; N, 18.01. Found: C, 66.81; H, 8.19; N, 18.05%.

Compound **2e**: colorless oil. $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{film})/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3402, 2963, 2875, 1623 (N=N), 1448, 745. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.09–8.14 (m, 3H), 7.74–7.77 (m, 3H), 7.55–7.65 (m, 2H), 7.42–7.51 (m, 6H), 5.77 (dd, J 6.4, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 2.81–2.89 (m, 1H), 2.53–2.61 (m, 1H), 0.93 (t, J 7.2 Hz, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 146.1, 143.6, 137.5, 137.2, 133.5, 132.7, 130.7, 130.1, 128.45, 128.40, 127.5, 126.8, 124.4, 120.1, 109.7, 65.1, 28.1, 11.3. m/z (%): 343 (M^+ , 1.0), 183 (71.8), 161 (100), 146 (63.7), 132 (45.3), 104 (43.6), 77 (38.1). Anal. calcd. for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_3\text{O}$: C, 76.94; H, 6.16; N, 12.24. Found: C, 76.86; H, 6.15; N, 12.30%.

Compound **2f**: white solid, mp 147–149 °C. $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{film})/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3457 (OH), 2975, 1614 (N=N), 1452, 741. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.07 (d, J 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, J 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.36–7.44 (m, 2H), 7.30–7.36 (m, 4H), 5.54 (s, 1H), 4.22 (s, 1H, OH), 1.36 (s, 3H), 1.32 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): 145.0, 135.8, 133.8, 128.9, 128.5, 128.4, 127.8, 124.4, 120.1, 109.6, 73.5, 71.4, 28.7, 27.3. m/z (%): 252 ($\text{M}^+ - 15$, 1.2), 209 (35.7), 180 (100), 104 (20.8), 77 (14.3), 59 (22.8). Anal. calcd. for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_3\text{O}$: C, 71.89; H, 6.41; N, 15.72. Found: C, 72.01; H, 6.38; N, 15.67%.

Compound **2g**: colorless oil. $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{film})/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3450 (OH), 2971, 1621 (N=N), 1442, 748. Major: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.96 (d, J 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.28–7.41 (m, 8H), 5.49–5.52 (m, 1H), 5.09–5.16 (m, 1H), 1.26 (d, J 6.0 Hz, 3H). Minor: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.03 (d, J 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.28–7.41 (m, 8H), 5.49–5.52 (m, 1H), 5.09–5.16 (m, 1H), 1.26 (d, J 6.0 Hz, 3H). m/z (%): 253 (M^+ , 0.9), 209 (35.8), 180 (100), 152 (24.1), 104 (21.9), 91 (6.7), 77 (16.4). Anal. calcd. for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_3\text{O}$: C, 71.13; H, 5.97; N, 16.59. Found: C, 71.22; H, 5.99; N, 16.55%.

Compound **2h**: colorless oil. $\nu_{\text{max}}(\text{film})/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3461 (OH), 2953, 1619 (N=N), 1450, 743. Major: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.96 (d, J 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14–7.34 (m, 5H), 7.10–7.12 (m, 2H), 5.45–5.48 (m, 1H), 5.07–5.13 (m, 1H), 3.50 (s, 1H, OH), 2.29 (s, 3H), 1.23 (d, J 6.4 Hz, 3H). Minor: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.05 (d, J 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14–7.34 (m, 5H), 7.10–7.12 (m, 2H), 5.45–5.48 (m, 1H), 5.07–5.13 (m, 1H), 3.90 (s, 1H, OH), 2.29 (s, 3H), 1.23 (d, J 6.4 Hz, 3H). m/z (%): 269 ($\text{M}^+ + 2$, 1.5), 223 (100), 194 (77.3), 180 (65.8), 118 (26.1), 104

(19.5), 77 (14.6). Anal. calcd. for $C_{16}H_{17}N_3O$: C, 71.89; H, 6.41; N, 15.72. Found: C, 71.84; H, 6.38; N, 15.75%.

Compound **2i**: colorless oil. $\nu_{\max}(\text{film})/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3441 (OH), 2979, 2930, 1627 (N=N), 1452, 744. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.03 (d, J 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.32–7.47 (m, 5H), 7.10 (d, J 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.57 (s, 1H), 4.30 (s, 1H, OH), 2.27 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 3H). m/z (%): 281 (M^+ , 2.5), 223 (100), 194 (74.1), 180 (69.0), 118 (24.8), 104 (21.6), 77 (17.2). Anal. calcd. for $C_{17}H_{19}N_3O$: C, 72.57; H, 6.81; N, 14.94. Found: C, 72.53; H, 6.84; N, 14.88%.

Compound **2j**: colorless oil. $\nu_{\max}(\text{film})/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3492 (OH), 2969, 2941, 1613 (N=N), 1452, 745. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.03 (d, J 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, J 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, J 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.30–7.45 (m, 2H), 7.09–7.17 (m, 3H), 5.68 (s, 1H), 4.30 (s, 1H, OH), 2.25 (s, 3H), 1.42–1.58 (m, 4H), 0.93–0.97 (m, 3H), 0.82 (t, J 7.2 Hz, 3H). m/z (%): 309 (M^+ , 2.1), 252 (4.2), 223 (100), 194 (68.3), 180 (53.1), 118 (28.4), 104 (21.6), 87 (11.4), 77 (9.6). Anal. calcd. for $C_{19}H_{23}N_3O$: C, 73.76; H, 7.49; N, 13.58. Found: C, 73.70; H, 7.45; N, 13.61%.

Compound **2k**: colorless oil. $\nu_{\max}(\text{film})/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3408 (OH), 2965, 2929, 1659 (N=N), 1450, 743. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.07 (d, J 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (t, J 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.65 (d, J 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.54–7.57 (m, 2H), 7.43–7.48 (m, 4H), 7.36 (t, J 7.6 Hz, 1H), 5.33 (d, J 10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.25–3.31 (m, 1H), 1.02 (d, J 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.95 (d, J 6.4 Hz, 3H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 145.8, 142.7, 137.6, 137.2, 133.3, 132.6, 130.5, 130.0, 128.3, 127.8, 127.4, 124.0, 120.1, 109.3, 70.4, 32.9, 20.4, 20.3. m/z (%): 357 (M^+ , 0.7), 183 (47.6), 161 (100), 146 (61.3), 132 (57.1), 104 (49.6), 77 (36.5). Anal. calcd. for $C_{23}H_{23}N_3O$: C, 77.28; H, 6.49; N, 11.76. Found: C, 77.35; H, 6.46; N, 11.79%.

Compound **2l**: colorless oil. $\nu_{\max}(\text{film})/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3404 (OH), 2956, 2864, 1619 (N=N), 1451, 743. $^1\text{H NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.11 (d, J 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50–7.56 (m, 2H), 7.41 (t, J 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.41 (d, J 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.76–2.84 (m, 1H), 1.03 (s, 3H), 0.97–0.99 (m, 6H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 144.6, 135.3, 127.8, 124.2, 120.0, 109.8, 74.1, 71.8, 29.8, 28.7, 27.6, 23.0, 18.9. m/z (%): 234 ($M^+ + 1$, 1.7), 161 (100), 146 (70.2), 132 (56.1), 104 (45.7), 77 (41.9). Anal. calcd. for $C_{13}H_{19}N_3O$: C, 66.92; H, 8.21; N, 18.01. Found: C, 66.87; H, 8.25; N, 18.05%.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are grateful to the Natural Science Foundation of Zhejiang Province (Project No. Y405035) for financial support.

REFERENCES

1. Baczewski, P.; Mikoajczyk, M. Free radical reaction of α -haloalkylphosphonates with alkenes and alkynes: A new approach to modified phosphonates. *Synthesis* **1995**, 392–396.
2. Enholm, E. J.; Satici, H. A direct preparation of 1,2-diacetates from aldehydes and ketones promoted by samarium diiodide. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1991**, 32, 2433–2436.
3. (a) Tsunoda, T.; Fujiwara, K.; Yamamoto, Y.-I.; Itô, S. Site-specific generation of nonstabilized α -aminocarbanions: A novel methodology toward the synthesis of 2-aminoalcohols. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1991**, 32, 1975–1978; (b) Nakata, D.; Kusaka, C.; Tani, S.; Kunishima, M. Reduction of monothioacetals with SmI_2 : Application to [2,3]-Wittig rearrangement. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2001**, 42, 415–418.
4. (a) Katritzky, A. R.; Manju, K.; Singh, S. K.; Meher, N. K. Benzotriazole mediated amino-, amido-, alkoxy- and alkylthio-alkylation. *Tetrahedron* **2005**, 61, 2555–2581; (b) Katritzky, A. R.; Lan X.; Yang, J. Z.; Denisko, O. Properties and synthetic utility of *N*-substituted benzotriazoles. *Chem. Rev.* **1998**, 98, 409–548; (c) Katritzky, A. R.; Bachwal, S.; Caster, K. C.; Mahni, F.; Law, K. W.; Rubio, O. The chemistry of *N*-substituted benzotriazoles, part 2: Reactions of benzotriazole with aldehydes and aldehyde derivatives: 1-(α -Hydroxyalkyl)-, 1-(α -alkoxyalkyl)-, and 1-(α -acyloxyalkyl)benzotriazoles. *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans.* **1987**, 1, 791–798.
5. (a) Aurrecochea, J. M.; Fernandez-Acebes, A. Synthesis of vicinal diamines by SmI_2 -promoted reduction of *N*-(*N*',*N*'-dialkylaminoalkyl)benzotriazoles. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1992**, 33, 4763–4766; (b) Fernandez-Acebes, A.; Aurrecochea, J. M. Cyclization reactions of α -amino radicals derived from *N*-(*N*',*N*'-dialkylaminoalkenyl)benzotriazoles and samarium diiodide. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1993**, 34, 549–552; (c) Katritzky, A. R.; Qi, M.; Feng, D. M.; Nichols, D. A. *N*-(α -Aminoalkyl)benzotriazoles: Novel “nonstabilized” α -aminocarbanion synthons. *J. Org. Chem.* **1997**, 62, 4121–4124.
6. Wang, X.; Liu, Y.; Zhang, Y. Elimination of benzotriazolyl group in *N*-(α -benzotriazol-1-ylalkyl)amides and *N*-(α -benzotriazol-1-ylalkyl)sulfonamides: Their self-coupling and cross-coupling reactions with carbonyl compounds. *Tetrahedron* **2003**, 59, 8257–8263.
7. (a) Concellon, J. M.; Concellon, C. Aldol-type reactions of unmasked iodoacetic acid with carbonyl compounds promoted by samarium diiodide: Efficient synthesis of carboxylic 3-hydroxyacids and their derivatives. *J. Org. Chem.* **2006**, 71, 4428–4432; (b) Kabata, M.; Suzuki, T.; Takabe, K.; Yoda, H. SmI_2 -promoted novel tandem elimination and coupling reactions of aliphatic imides with carbonyl compounds: Application to the synthesis of dl-isoretronecanol. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2006**, 47, 1607–1611; (c) Sawant, K. B.; Ding, F.; Jennings, M. P. An efficient synthesis of the C_1 - C_{14} subunit of (–)-lasonolide A via a target oriented β -C-glycoside formation sequence. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2006**, 47, 939–942; (d) Orsini, F.; Lucci, E. M. Reformatsky reactions with SmI_2 in catalytic amount. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2005**, 46,

- 1909–1911; (e) Blakskjær, P.; Gavrilă, A.; Andersen, L.; Skrydstrup, T. An improved protocol for the SmI₂-promoted C-alkylation of peptides: Degradation and functionalization of serine residues in linear and cyclic peptides. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2004**, *45*, 9091–9094; (f) Orsini, F.; Caselli, A. A new entry to β-hydroxyphosphonates: The SmI₂-mediated reaction of diethyl iodo-methylphosphonate with carbonyl compounds. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2002**, *43*, 7255–7257; (g) Yoda, H.; Ujihara, Y.; Takabe, K. SmI₂-promoted tandem desulfurization and reductive coupling reactions of aromatic lactams with carbonyl compounds. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2001**, *42*, 9225–9228; (h) Ricci, M.; Blakskjær, P.; Skrydstrup, T. Selective side chain introduction onto small peptides mediated by samarium diiodide: A potential route to peptide libraries. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2000**, *122*, 12413; (i) Li, Z.; Zhang, Y. Samarium diiodide-mediated reductive addition reaction of 1-(phenylsulfonylmethyl) benzotriazole and 1-(benzoyloxymethyl) benzotriazole to aldehydes and ketones. *J. Chem. Res., Synop.* **2001**, 522–524; (j) Huang, Z. Z.; Jin, H. W.; Duan, D. H.; Huang, X. The Barbier reaction of 1-(chloromethyl)benzotriazole with aldehydes and ketones mediated by samarium diiodide. *J. Chem. Res., Synop.* **1999**, 564–566.
8. (a) Namy, J. L.; Soupe, J.; Kagan, H. B. Efficient formation of pinacols from aldehydes or ketones mediated by samarium diiodide. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1983**, *24*, 765–766; (b) Riber, D.; Hazell, R.; Skrydstrup, T. Studies on the SmI₂-promoted pinacol-type cyclization: Synthesis of the hexahydroazepine ring of balanol. *J. Org. Chem.* **2000**, *65*, 5382–5390; (c) Prasad, E.; Flowers, R. A. Mechanistic study of β-substituent effects on the mechanism of ketone reduction by SmI₂. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2002**, *124*, 6357–6361.
 9. Katritzky, A. R.; Rachwal, S.; Rachwal, B. A novel synthesis of esters via substitution of the benzotriazolyl group in 1-(benzotriazol-1-yl)alkyl esters with organozinc reagents. *Synthesis* **1991**, 69–73.
 10. Katritzky, A. R.; Pastor, A.; Voronkov, M. V. Efficient general synthesis of 1-(benzotriazol-1-yl)alkyl esters. *J. Heterocycl. Chem.* **1999**, *36*, 777–781.
 11. Holemann, A.; Reissig, H.-U. Samarium diiodide-induced couplings of carbonyl compounds with methoxyallene leading to 4-hydroxy 1-enol ethers. *Org. Lett.* **2003**, *5*, 1463–1466.
 12. (a) Katritzky, A. R.; Li, J. Stereoselective olefination of carbonyl compounds with *N*-benzyl- and *N*-allylbenzotriazoles by low-valent titanium-promoted dehydroxybenzotriazolylolation. *J. Org. Chem.* **1997**, *62*, 238–239; (b) Katritzky, A. R.; Cheng, D.; Henderson, S. A.; Li, J. *trans*-Selective olefination of carbonyl compounds by low-valent titanium-mediated dehydroxybenzotriazolylolation. *J. Org. Chem.* **1998**, *63*, 6704–6709.
 13. During the preparation of this article, a report concerning the substitution of benzotriazolyl in 1-(benzotriazol-1-yl)alkyl esters with cyanide anion was published. See Katritzky, A. R.; Abdel-Fattah, A. A. A.; Idzik, K. R.; El-Gendy, B. E.-D. M.; Soloduchko, J. Benzotriazole-mediated alkoxyalkylation and acyloxyalkylation. *Tetrahedron* **2007**, *63*, 6477–6484.