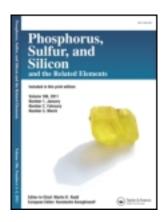
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Dimenthoxyphosphorylimino-3,3,3trifluoropropionate as a Novel Chiral Building Block in Asymmetric Synthesis of Fluorinated a-Amino Acids Derivatives

Yuliya V. Rassukana $^{\rm a}$, Yaroslav Y. Khomutnyk $^{\rm a}$, Anatoly D. Synytsya $^{\rm a}$ & Petro P. Onys'ko $^{\rm a}$

^a Institute of Organic Chemistry, NAS of Ukraine, Kyiv, Ukraine

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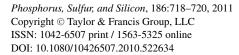
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DIMENTHOXYPHOSPHORYLIMINO-3,3,3-TRIFLUOROPROPIONATE AS A NOVEL CHIRAL BUILDING BLOCK IN ASYMMETRIC SYNTHESIS OF FLUORINATED α-AMINO ACIDS DERIVATIVES

Yuliya V. Rassukana, Yaroslav Y. Khomutnyk, Anatoly D. Synytsya, and Petro P. Onys'ko Institute of Organic Chemistry, NAS of Ukraine, Kyiv, Ukraine

Abstract A convenient method for the preparation of dimenthoxyphosphoryliminotrifluoropropionate, bearing the stereodirecting dimenthoxy-phosphoryl group at the nitrogen atom, was developed. The synthetic potential of this novel chiral building block for diastereoselective synthesis of trifluoromethyl containing amino acid derivatives was demonstrated.

Keywords Amidophosphates; amino acids; asymmetric synthesis; chiral auxiliary; trifluo-ropyruvate imines

INTRODUCTION

The occurrence of α -amino acids in biological systems underlies the importance of new methods for their synthesis in enantiomerically pure forms. Fluorine is a unique tool for modifying bioactivity. Consequently, there is a growing interest in the synthesis of chiral fluorine containing building blocks.

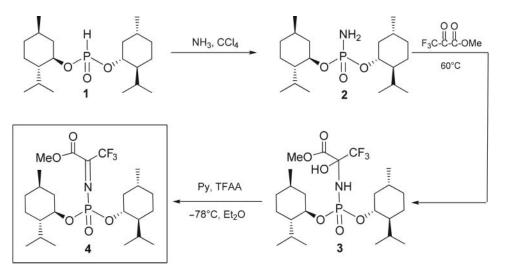
RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

We have developed a convenient method for the preparation of trifluoroiminopyruvate **4** bearing the stereodirecting dimenthoxy-phosphoryl group at the nitrogen atom (Scheme 1).

Dimenthyl phosphite **1** was obtained with the use of commercially available (*L*)menthol according to the described procedure¹ and was transformed into amidophosphate **2** by the Atherton–Todd reaction, yield 85%, $[\alpha]_D = -91.6^\circ$. The reaction of amidophosphate **2** with methyl trifluoropyruvate and subsequent dehydration of intermediate addition product **3** afforded the target imine **4** bearing a stereodirecting and at the same time activating dimenthoxyphosphoryl group at the nitrogen atom.

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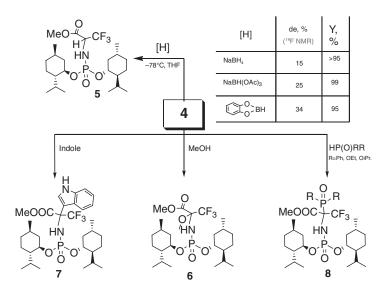
Address correspondence to Petro P. Onys'ko, Institute of Organic Chemistry, NAS of Ukraine, 5 Murmans'ka St., 02660 Kyiv, Ukraine. E-mail: onysko@rambler.ru



Scheme 1 Preparation of trifluoroiminopyruvate 4, bearing chiral auxiliary at the nitrogen atom.

The synthetic potential of imine **4** is demonstrated in Scheme 2. In particular, the high reactivity of the compound allows its easy functionalization even with weak C-, O-, S-, and P-centered nucleophiles to afford various chiral trifluoroalanine derivatives bearing the hydrogen (**5**), an alkoxy group (**6**), a heterocyclic moiety (**7**), or a phosphinoyl residue (**8**) at the α -atom.

It should be noted that in spite of moderate de in the reactions studied, they can be used for preparative asymmetric synthesis; crystalline compounds **5–8** can be easily



Scheme 2 Diastereoselective functionalization of trifluoroiminopyruvate 4.

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enriched by simple recrystallization. Thus, after only one crystallization from petroleum ether, protected trifluoroalanine 5 was obtained with *de* exceeding 99%.

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