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Iridium Catalyzed *anti*-Diastereo- and Enantioselective Carbonyl (Trimethylsilyl)allylation from the Alcohol or Aldehyde Oxidation Level

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Abstract

Using the *ortho*-cyclometallated π -allyl iridium precatalyst (*R*)-**1** derived from [Ir(cod)Cl]₂, 4-cyano-3-nitrobenzoic acid, (*R*)-SEGPPOS and allyl acetate, enantioselective transfer hydrogenation of α -(trimethylsilyl)allyl acetate in the presence of aldehydes **2a–2i** mediated by isopropanol delivers products of (trimethylsilyl)allylation **4a–4i** in good isolated yields and with exceptional levels of *anti*-diastereoselectivity and enantioselectivity (90–99% ee). In the absence of isopropanol, but under otherwise identical reaction conditions, carbonyl (trimethylsilyl)allylation is achieved directly from alcohol oxidation level to furnish an equivalent set of adducts **4a–4i** with roughly equivalent isolated yields and stereoselectivities. To evaluate the synthetic utility of the reaction products **4a–4i**, adduct **4g** was converted to the 1,4-ene-diol **5g** via dioxirane mediated oxidative desilylation with allylic transposition, the allylic alcohol **6g** via protodesilylation with allylic transposition, and the γ -lactam **7g** via chlorosulfonyl isocyanate mediated cycloaddition.

Introduction

In connection with studies aimed at the discovery of hydrogen-mediated reductive C-C bond formations beyond hydroformylation, we recently uncovered a broad family of C-C bond forming transfer hydrogenations promoted by iridium and ruthenium catalysts.¹ A remarkable feature of these processes resides in the ability to achieve carbonyl addition from the aldehyde or alcohol oxidation level. In the former case, isopropanol or formic acid mediate reductive C-C coupling. In the latter case, dehydrogenation of the primary alcohol reactants generates aldehyde electrophiles, while simultaneously driving reductive generation of nucleophilic organometallics from unsaturated reactants. Using *ortho*-cyclometallated iridium catalysts, highly enantioselective protocols for carbonyl allylation, ^{2a,b,e–h,j} crotylation^{2c,f,j} and *tert*-prenylation^{2d,f,j} from the alcohol or aldehyde oxidation level were devised. More recently, related catalytic enantioselective methods carbonyl (hydroxy)allylation and (hydroxymethyl)allylation were developed.³ Unlike conventional methods for carbonyl allylation,⁴ these processes circumvent use of premetallated nucleophiles and metallic reductants.^{1–3}

Here, using the isolated *ortho*-cyclometallated π -allyl iridium precatalyst derived from [Ir(cod)Cl]₂, 4-cyano-3-nitrobenzoic acid, (*R*)-SEGPPOS⁵ and allyl acetate, we report that α -(trimethylsilyl)allyl acetate⁶ **1a** couples to carbonyl compounds from the aldehyde or alcohol oxidation level, respectively, with exceptional levels of regio-, *anti*-diastereo- and

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Supporting Information Available: Experimental procedures and spectral data for all new compounds (¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, IR, HRMS). This material is available free of charge via the internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

enantioselectivity (Scheme 1). In this fashion, α -(trimethylsilyl)allyl acetate serves as an alternative to previously reported silicon-containing 1,3- or 1,1-bimetallic allyl transfer agents.^{7–11} As demonstrated in the case of adduct **4g**, the products of (trimethylsilyl)allylation are readily converted to 1,4-ene-diols upon DMDO oxidation.^{8h,i} Additionally, conditions for proto-desilylation with allylic transposition have been identified in the absence of a hydroxyl protecting group. Finally, upon exposure to chlorosulfonyl isocyanate, formal [3+2] cycloaddition occurs to deliver γ -lactams possessing 3 contiguous stereogenic centers as single diastereomers.

Results and Discussion

Our study began with the attempted (trimethylsilyl)allylation of benzyl alcohol **3a**. Using the *ortho*-cyclometallated catalyst generated *in situ* from [Ir(cod)Cl]₂, 4-cyano-3-nitrobenzoic acid, (*R*)-SEGP₅⁵ and allyl acetate, neither the desired (trimethylsilyl)allylation product **4a** or resulting Peterson olefination product were detected. Using the isolated π -allyl iridium precatalyst (*R*)-**I** in the presence of cesium carbonate, the desired (trimethylsilyl)allylation product **4a** was formed along with substantial quantities Peterson olefination product. After screening various inorganic bases, it was found that Peterson olefination is suppressed using K₃PO₄ (1.0 equiv.) in the presence of water (5.0 equiv.) for reactions conducted at 70 °C. Under these conditions, α -(trimethylsilyl)allyl acetate **1a** was coupled to a structurally diverse set of aldehydes **2a–2i** (Table 1). In each case, good isolated yields were accompanied by exceptional levels of diastereo- and enantioselectivity. In the absence of isopropanol, but under otherwise identical conditions, (trimethylsilyl)allylation occurs directly from the alcohol oxidation level to furnish an identical set of adducts **4a–4i** (Table 2). Again, good isolated yields were accompanied by exceptional levels of diastereo- and enantioselectivity. Thus, unlike corresponding protocols involving allylmethyl reagents,^{7–11} carbonyl (trimethylsilyl)allylation occurs with equal facility from the alcohol or aldehyde oxidation level.

The mechanism for catalytic carbonyl (trimethylsilyl)allylation is analogous to that previously proposed for related crotylations.^{2c} However, complete levels of *anti*-diastereoselectivity are observed in nearly all cases, suggesting carbonyl addition occurs exclusively from the (*E*)- σ -allyl through a chair-like transition structure. Notably, although the catalyst dehydrogenates primary alcohols **2a–2i**, the reaction products **4a–4i**, which are homo-allylic alcohols, are not oxidized under the coupling conditions and, hence, do not experience any erosion of enantiomeric purity by way of redox equilibration. This result is remarkable as 2-propanol, a secondary alcohol, is oxidized under the coupling conditions when aldehydes **3a–3i** are employed as reactants. As indicated in the proposed catalytic mechanism (Scheme 2), coordination of iridium to the homoallylic olefin of reaction products **4a–4i** provides a hexa-coordinate, 18-electron complex that cannot engage in β -hydride elimination due to the absence of an open coordination site.

To evaluate the utility of the coupling products **4a–4i**, adducts **4a**, **4f**, **4g** and **4i** were subjected to DMDO-mediated oxidative elimination.^{8h,i} The 1,4-ene-diols **5a**, **5f**, **5g** and **5i** were produced in excellent yield with high levels of *E:Z* selectivity (Scheme 3). Proto-desilylation was attempted next. Under nearly all conditions assayed, exclusive formation of Peterson olefination products was observed. However, upon exposure of adduct **4g** to TiCl₄ in the presence of exogenous aldehyde, the product of proto-desilylation **6g** is generated in 73% yield with complete *E:Z* selectivity (Scheme 3). In the absence of aldehyde, Peterson olefination is again the exclusive reaction product, suggesting exogenous aldehyde protects the hydroxyl moiety of **4g** through formation of a titanium bound hemi-acetal. Notably, compound **6g** was previously prepared in 7-steps from malic acid.¹² Thus far, the protodesilylation is most efficient for the benzyl-ether containing adduct **4g** (Scheme 4).

Finally, under conditions similar to those described by Woerpel,¹³ exposure of **4g**-OAc to chlorosulfonyl isocyanate delivers the product of [3+2] cycloaddition, the 4,5-*trans*-disubstituted pyrrolidinone **7g**, as a single diastereomer. Lactone formation was not observed. Formation of the **7g** suggests a mechanism involving stereoselective addition of chlorosulfonyl isocyanate to the allylsilane anti-periplanar with respect to the silyl group to generate the indicated β -silyl carbocation. Exclusive *N*-cyclization accompanied by 1,2-silyl migration delivers the 4,5-*trans*-substituted pyrrolidinone **7g**. In the absence of NaHCO₃, a mixture of lactone and lactam products are observed. These data suggest that partitioning of the *N*- and *O*-cyclization pathways is not dictated primarily by steric factors as proposed by Woerpel,^{13b} but that the acidity of the medium plays a dominant role (Scheme 5).

Summary

In summary, we report a highly *anti*-diastereo- and enantioselective carbonyl (trimethylsilyl)allylation under the conditions of iridium catalyzed transfer hydrogenation employing a single-component catalyst, the *ortho*-cyclometallated complex (*R*)-**I**. Notably, identical sets of adducts **4a–4i** are formed with comparable levels of selectivity from the aldehyde or alcohol oxidation level in the absence of Peterson olefination. Oxidative desilylation of adducts **4a**, **4f**, **4g** and **4i** employing DMDO provides access to highly enantiomerically enriched 1,4-ene-diols **5a**, **5f**, **5g** and **5i**.^{8h,i} Conditions for proto-desilylation with allylic transposition have been identified for adduct **4g** in the absence of a hydroxyl protecting group. Finally, exposure of adduct **4g** to chlorosulfonyl isocyanate delivers 4,5-*trans*-disubstituted pyrrolidinone **7g** as a single diastereomer. Future studies will focus on the development of related alcohol-unsaturated C-C couplings and related imine additions from the amine oxidation level.

Supplementary Material

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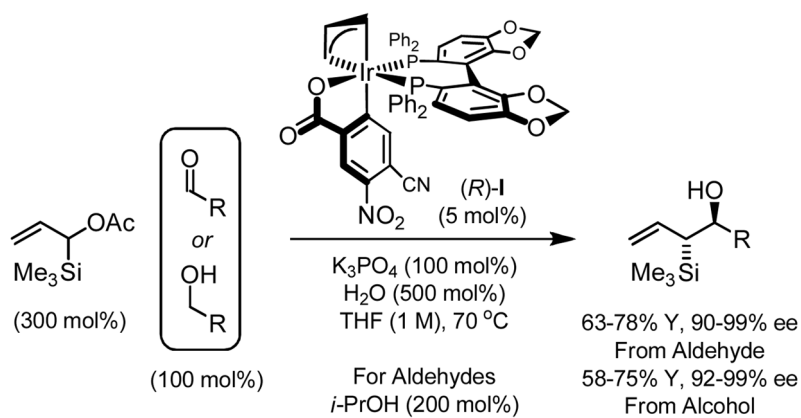
Acknowledgments

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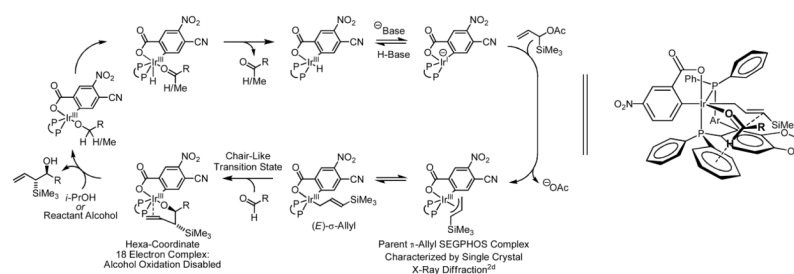
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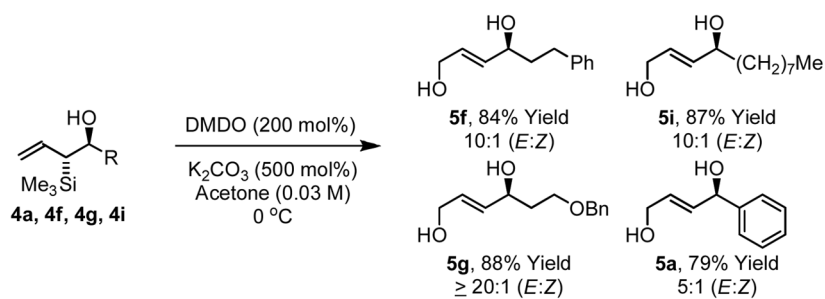
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**Scheme 1.**

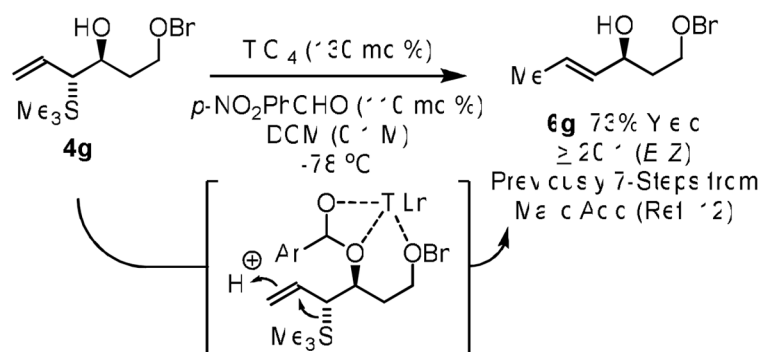
Iridium catalyzed *anti*-diastereo- and enantioselective carbonyl (trimethylsilyl)allylation from the alcohol or aldehyde oxidation Level.

**Scheme 2.**

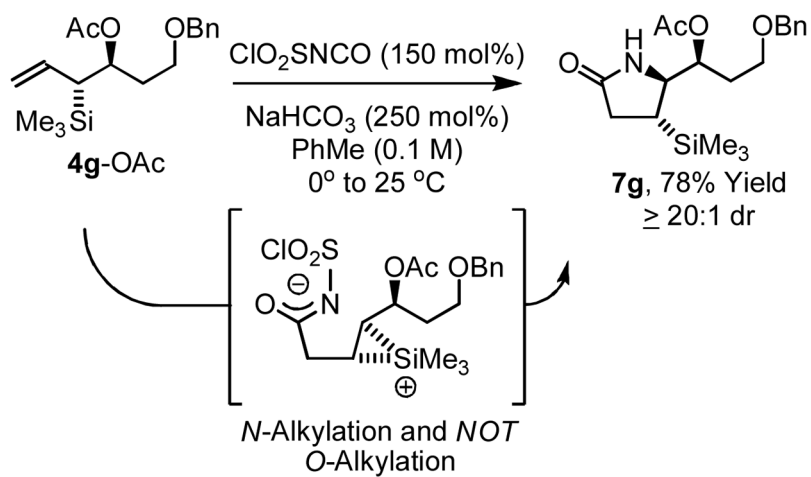
Proposed catalytic mechanism and stereochemical model for carbonyl (trimethylsilyl)allylation from the alcohol or aldehyde oxidation level.

**Scheme 3.**

Dioxirane mediated oxidative desilylation of adducts **4a**, **4f**, **4g** and **4i** to furnish the corresponding 1,4-ene-diols **5a**, **5f**, **5g** and **5i**.



Scheme 4.
Protodesilylation of **4g** requires exogenous aldehyde to suppress Peterson olefination.

**Scheme 5.**

Reaction of adduct **4g** with chlorosulfonyl isocyanate to furnish the product of formal [3+2] cycloaddition **7g**.

Enantioselective α -(trimethylsilyl)allylation from the aldehyde oxidation level.^a

^aYields are of material isolated by silica gel chromatography. Enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral stationary phase HPLC analysis. See Supporting Information for further details.

Table 2

Enantioselective α -(trimethylsilyl)allylation from the alcohol oxidation level.^a

Reaction scheme: CH2=CH-CH2-OTf + R-OH >> CH2=CH-CH2-CH(OH)-R
 Reagents: $(R)-1$ (5 mol %), K_2PO_4 (1.1 equiv), H_2O (50 vol %), THF (1.1 equiv), 70 °C, 48 hr.

Entry	Alcohol	Product	Yield, dr, ee %
1			65% yield, 95:5 dr, 95% ee
2			72% yield, 95:5 dr, 95% ee
3			75% yield, 95:5 dr, 95% ee
4			70% yield, 95:5 dr, 92% ee ^b
5			55% yield, 95:5 dr, 95% ee
6			65% yield, 95:5 dr, 97% ee
7			61% yield, 95:5 dr, 95% ee
8			65% yield, 95:5 dr, 95% ee
9			67% yield, 95:5 dr, 95% ee

^a As described for Table 1.^b The complex modified by (R) -C3-TUNEPHOS was used as precatalyst.