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ARTICLE in CHEMINFORM · JULY 2010

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Copper(I)-Catalyzed Asymmetric Monoborylation of 1,3-Dienes: Synthesis of Enantioenriched Cyclic Homoallyl- and Allylboronates

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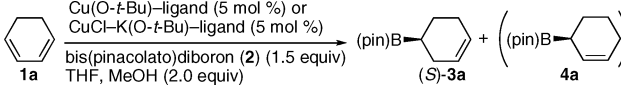
Received November 13, 2009; E-mail: hajito@sci.hokudai.ac.jp

The synthesis of enantioenriched α -chiral organoboron compounds has attracted considerable attention in organic synthesis because C–B bonds can be converted to C–O, C–N, or C–C bonds in a stereospecific manner.¹ Asymmetric hydroboration of alkenes is one of the most important methods used for the preparation of such compounds; however, the reaction with an asymmetric catalysis is limited to aromatic alkenes, alkenes with an amide directing group, and cyclopropenes.^{2,3} Asymmetric hydroboration of 1,3-dienes provides homoallylic (1,2-addition) or allylic (1,4-addition) boron compounds. These synthesized compounds are highly useful, if they can be prepared in a regio- and enantioselective manner, because further derivatization using the remaining alkene moiety as well as the boron group easily leads to multifunctional chiral compounds. Although the stoichiometric asymmetric reaction of 1,3-diene using diisopinocampheylborane (Ipc₂BH) was pioneered by H. C. Brown a quarter of a century ago,^{3b} the asymmetric catalytic hydroboration of 1,3-dienes with high enantio- and diastereoselectivities has not been reported.^{4,5}

Here, we report the first asymmetric catalytic monoborylation of 1,3-dienes with a copper(I) catalyst. This reaction produced unprecedented cyclic optically active homoallylboronates with high regio- and enantioselectivity.⁶ In addition, a drastic change of product preference between homoallyl- and allylboronates was found for the reaction of 1,3-cyclopentadiene and 1,3-cycloheptadiene. Enantioenriched cyclic allylboronates, which are useful synthetic reagents but difficult to prepare, were also synthesized.⁶

A number of asymmetric copper(I)-catalyzed reactions with diboron have been reported.^{2d,7–9} Yun reported the acceleration effect of proton sources,⁸ and the importance of the low LUMO levels of the substrate has also been reported.^{2d,9,10} Guided by these findings, we anticipated that 1,3-dienes can also be used in the copper(I)-catalyzed borylation in combination with an appropriate proton source. The reaction was first carried out by the addition of 2.0 equiv of methanol to a mixture of 1,3-cyclohexadiene (**1a**), 1.5 equiv of bis(pinacolato)diboron (**2**), 5 mol % of Cu(O-*t*-Bu), and (*R,R*)-Me-Duphos in THF at room temperature. The reaction reached completion within 3 h to afford homoallylboronate (*S*)-**3a** in 96% yield with 87% ee (Table 1, entry 1). No allylboronate (**4a**) and multiborylated products were detected. Using other chiral ligands resulted in moderate to high yields with lower enantio- and regioselectivities (69–97% yield, 61–86% ee, **3a/4a** 96:4–>99:1, entries 2–5). The enantioselectivity was improved to 94% ee with (*R,R*)-Me-Duphos at –20 °C (92% yield, entry 6). The reaction with a mixture of CuCl and K(O-*t*-Bu), which is more readily available than Cu(O-*t*-Bu), gave almost comparable results, but the regioselectivity was slightly decreased (entry 7).

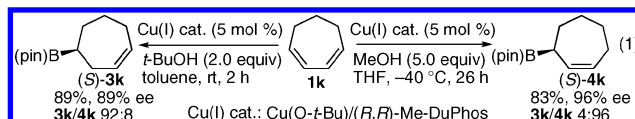
Table 1. Copper(I)-Catalyzed Monoborylation of 1,3-Cyclohexadiene^a

						
entry	ligand	time (h)	temp	3a/4a ratio ^b	yield ^c (%)	ee ^b (%)
1	(<i>R,R</i>)-Me-Duphos	3	rt	>99:1	96	87
2	(<i>R,R</i>)-QuinoxP*	3	rt	98:2	97	86
3	(<i>R</i>)-BINAP	3	rt	>99:1	69	61
4	(<i>R</i>)-Segphos	3	rt	96:4	70	67
5	(<i>R,R</i>)- <i>i</i> -Pr-DuPhos	3	rt	97:3	92	83
6	(<i>R,R</i>)-Me-DuPhos	24.5	–20 °C	>99:1	92	94
7 ^d	(<i>R,R</i>)-Me-DuPhos	26	–20 °C	98:2	97	94

^a Conditions: **1a** (0.25 mmol), **2** (0.375 mmol), Cu(O-*t*-Bu) (5 mol %, 0.0125 mmol), ligand (5 mol %, 0.0125 mmol), THF (0.25 mL), and methanol (2.0 equiv). ^b The ee and **3/4** ratio values were determined by HPLC analysis of the benzoate ester of the homoallylic alcohol obtained after H₂O₂/NaOH oxidation of **3a**. ^c Isolated yield. ^d The reaction was carried out at 0.5 mmol scale with 5 mol % CuCl and 20 mol % of K(O-*t*-Bu) in THF (0.7 mL).

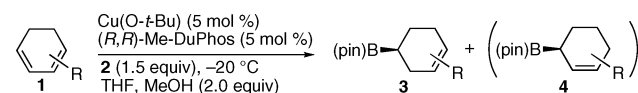
The scope of the reaction was subsequently examined (Table 2). 1,3-Cyclohexadiene derivatives **1b–e** were converted into the corresponding optically active homoallylboronates **3b–e** in high yields with high ee values (90–97%, 93–95% ee, entries 1–4). The reaction of **1f** also gave **3f** (99%, 88% ee, entry 5), which has silyl enol ether functionality. The attempted reaction of **1g** failed probably due to the large steric hindrance (entry 6). The reaction with acyclic 1,3-dienes gave homoallylboronates with high regioselectivity (entries 7 and 8), but a poor ee value was observed in **3i** (42% ee).

The reactions of **1a** predominantly afforded the homoallylboronate **3a** at room temperature and at –20 °C (Table 1). Conversely, the regioisomeric preferences in the reaction of 1,3-cyclopentadiene (**1j**) and 1,3-cycloheptadiene (**1k**) were switched by changing the reaction temperature (Table 3).¹⁰ The copper(I)-catalyzed reaction of **1j** at a low temperature of –40 °C using methanol in THF predominantly gave allylboronate (*S*)-**4j** with a high ee (entry 1, 87%, 96% ee, **3j/4j** 7:93). At room temperature, the major product was homoallylboronate **3j** (entry 2, 73%, **3j/4j** 71:29). The regioselectivity of **3j** at room temperature was improved by using *tert*-butanol in toluene (entry 3, 77%, **3j/4j** 92:8). The reaction with *tert*-butanol in toluene at –40 °C gave predominantly (*S*)-**4j**, indicating the reaction temperature is the most important factor in controlling the **3j/4j** selectivity (entry 4, 86%, 97% ee, **3j/4j** 6:94). A similar condition-dependent selectivity profile was also observed in the reaction of **1k** with high regio- and enantioselectivities (eq 1).



[†] Hokkaido University.

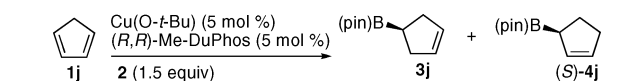
[‡] JST.

Table 2. Substrate Scope^a

entry	diene	time (h)	product	3/4 ratio ^b	yield ^c (%)	ee ^d (%)
1		17		>20:1	90	95
2		17		>20:1	97	95
3 ^e		25		94:6	95	95
4		22.5		>20:1	91	93
5		16		>20:1	99	88
6		24		—	0	—
7 ^f		1.5		>20:1	97	—
8 ^g		20		91:9	78	42

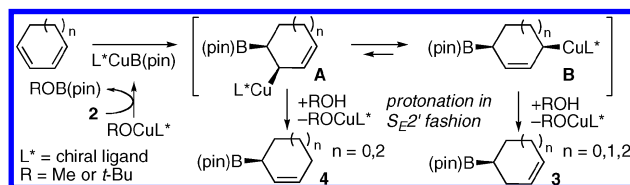
^a Conditions: **1** (0.5 mmol), **2** (0.75 mmol), Cu(O-*t*-Bu) (5 mol %), 0.025 mol), ligand (5 mol %, 0.025 mmol) in THF (0.5 mL).

^b Determined by ¹H NMR or HPLC. ^c Isolated yield. ^d Determined by HPLC analysis. ^e 0.25 mmol scale. ^f 1.1 equiv of **2** was used. ^g The reaction was carried out on 0.25 mmol scale at 0 °C with 10 mol % of Cu(O-*t*-Bu) and ligand.

Table 3. Product Switch in Copper(I)-Catalyzed Monoborylation of 1,3-Dienes^a

entry	solvent	alcohol	temp	time (h)	3/4 ratio ^b	yield ^c (%)	ee ^d (%)
1 ^e	THF	MeOH	−40 °C	27	7:93	87	96 (4j)
2 ^f	THF	MeOH	rt	5	71:29	73	—
3 ^f	toluene	<i>t</i> -BuOH	rt	5	92:8	77	—
4 ^e	toluene	<i>t</i> -BuOH	−40 °C	26	6:94	86	97 (4j)

^a Conditions: **1** (0.5 mmol), **2** (0.75 mmol), Cu(O-*t*-Bu) (5 mol %, 0.025 mol), ligand (5 mol %, 0.025 mmol), solvent (0.5 mL), and alcohol. ^b Determined by GC or HPLC. ^c Isolated yield. ^d Determined by HPLC analysis. ^e 5.0 equiv of alcohol were used. ^f 2.0 equiv of alcohol were used.

Scheme 1. Possible Reaction Mechanism

A possible reaction mechanism is depicted in Scheme 1.^{11,12} The borylcopper(I) formed from copper(I) alkoxide, and diboron **2** undergoes a *syn*-addition across one of the carbon–carbon double bonds to form a σ -allylcopper species **A**. Protonation of the kinetic

product **A** at the lower temperature proceeded in an S_E2' fashion to provide allylboronate **4**. At higher temperatures, **A** rapidly isomerizes to thermodynamically stable **B** and slow protonation of **B** gives homoallylboronate **3**. The slower protonation rate under the *tert*-butanol/toluene conditions is assumed to be responsible for the higher regioselectivity (Table 3). **3a** was only obtained in the reaction of **1a** (Table 1). This observation can be explained by the very rapid isomerization from **A** to **B** even at a low temperature.

In summary, we have shown the regio- and enantioselective monoborylation of 1,3-dienes through a copper(I)-catalyzed reaction. This should be a versatile method to obtain optically active cyclic homoallyl- and allylboronates, which were inaccessible by other catalytic methods. Further studies concerning the reaction mechanism and the expansion of the reaction scope are underway.

Acknowledgment. This work was supported by a Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (B) (MEXT), the Global COE Program (No. B01, MEXT) and the PRESTO program (JST).

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

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JA909640B