DOI: 10.1002/adsc.200800324

Synthesis of Stereodefined Substituted Cycloalkenes by a One-Pot Catalytic Boronation–Allylation–Metathesis Sequence

Nicklas Selander^a and Kálmán J. Szabó^{a,*}

^a Department of Organic Chemistry; Stockholm University, Arrhenius Laboratory; 106 91 Stockholm, Sweden Fax: +46-8-15-4908; e-mail: kalman@organ.su.se

Received: May 23, 2008; Published online: August 19, 2008

Supporting information for this article is available on the WWW under http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/adsc.200800324.

Abstract: Stereodefined cyclohexene and cyclopentene derivatives were prepared by the coupling of allylic alcohols and other allylic precursors with unsaturated aldehydes. These reactions are based on a multicatalytic one-pot approach involving palladium pincer complex-catalyzed boronation, allylation and ring-closing metathesis reactions. This reaction sequence can be performed in an operationally simple procedure affording the cycloalkene products in high overall yields and excellent regio- and stereoselectivities. The presented procedure has a broad synthetic

scope and high functional group tolerance, which allows the synthesis of bicyclic lactone and spirane skeletons and various substitution patterns including hydroxy, silyl, vinyl, allyl, and sulfonyl groups. The studied catalytic one-pot reactions involve up to three individual processes performed by up to four acid- and transition metal-catalyzed events.

Keywords: allylation; boronation; homogenous catalysis; metathesis; palladium pincer complexes; stereoselectivity

Introduction

One-pot, multi-step catalytic reactions represent one of the most important approaches for development of sustainable and cost-efficient synthetic procedures.[1-4] In this approach, the transition metal-catalyzed processes ensure a high level of atom economy, [5] while the performance of several cooperative processes sharing the same solvent and reaction vessel ensures that energy- and labor-intensive purification processes can be avoided. Our recent efforts^[6-8] have been focused on the design of such one-pot, multi-step reactions involving the palladium- and iridium-catalyzed generation of organoboronates. Organoboronates^[9] are often stabile compounds, however, many functionalized allylboronates are unstable and cannot be isolated without considerable purification losses.[10-12] On the other hand, allylboronates are remarkably air- and moisturestable in solution, which allows their in situ application in various multi-step one-pot reactions. [6-8,13-22]

In previous studies, we have shown^[6–8] that allylboronates generated *in situ* from allylic alcohols (such as **1a–f**), acetates (such as **1g**, **h**) and other precursors (such as **1i**) by palladium-catalyzed processes readily react with aldehyde, acetal, ketone and imine substrates in a one-pot sequence.

Results and Discussion

Now, we have found (Figure 1 and Table 1) that by appropriate choice of the aldehyde (2a) or acetal (2b) component, stereodefined dienes and trienes can be generated, which undergo ring-closing metathesis [23] (RCM) in a one-pot sequence with the catalytic boronation and the allylation reaction. In this way, complex regio- and stereodefined cyclohexene and cyclopentene derivatives (7a-j) can be prepared from simple precursors in an operationally simple and efficient one-pot reaction. In this study, we disclose our results on the synthetic scope of this process, discuss the possibilities of the selective ring-closing metathesis of intermediate dienes and trienes as well as further reactions triggered by the allylation and cyclization processes.

Synthetic Scope

In a typical experiment (Figure 1), the boronation and allylation reactions were performed in a single operational step by mixing allyl precursor 1, aldehyde 2a, diboronate reagent 4, catalytic amounts (5 mol%) of pincer complex catalyst 3 and *para*-toluenesulfonic



Figure 1. One-pot approach for synthesis of cycloalkenes (7) from allylic substrates (1) and aldehydes (2) using palladium (3) and ruthenium (8) catalysts.

acid (p-TsOH) in a mixture of DMSO and methanol (1:1). After the boronation reaction was completed (50°C/16–36 h), Hoveyda–Grubbs catalyst^[23,24] **8** in dichloromethane was added to the reaction mixture of the coupling reaction (without removal of the solvent) and the metathesis reaction was furnished in 20 h. Addition of **8** in the beginning of the one-pot process led to inhibition of the RCM reaction, and therefore unsatisfactory termination ($6 \rightarrow 7$) of the one-pot sequence. On the other hand, the sequential treatment does not involve any inconvenience and by using it, the interference between the catalyst actions can be completely avoided.

Simple primary (1a) and secondary alcohols (1b) reacted smoothly, providing syn-substituted hydroxycyclohexene derivatives 7a and 7b as single stereoisomers (entries 1 and 2). These reactions proceeded with relatively high overall yield (68%) considering the fact that the one-pot sequence involves at least three individual chemical processes. The reaction of dienyl alcohol 1c with 2a or 2b is particularly interesting from a selectivity point of view. In the coupling reaction of 1c and 2a (entry 3) the in situ formed intermediate product 6c is a triene (Figure 2). This compound may undergo RCM to either syn-substituted cyclohexene derivative 7c or anti-substituted cycloheptene derivative 9. However, the RCM reaction led to exclusive formation of the six-membered ring product **7c**. It is well-known^[25] that formation of six-membered rings is faster with RCM than formation of seven-membered rings, however, the anti-sterochemistry of the vinyl and hydroxy substituents (9) is expected to be thermodynamically more stabilizing than the syn interaction of the allyl and hydroxy groups in the six-membered ring product 7c. Apparently, the stereoselectivity has much less influence on the rate of the RCM reaction than the ring size of the product.

Figure 2. Selective formation of cyclohexenyl derivative **7c** *via* RCM of triene **6c**.

Using 2b as aldehyde precursor, another cyclic diene (7d) can be prepared via triene 6d (entry 4). In this process, highly reactive acrylaldehyde was used as the coupling component. This aldehyde was generated in situ from acetal 2b, which was added after completion of boronation of 1c. Acetal 2b was smoothly hydrolyzed^[8] in the reaction mixture in the presence of catalytic amounts of p-TsOH and water. Thus, the overall reaction is a quadruple catalytic system, in which p-TsOH catalyzes two reactions: hydrolysis of **2b** and the boronation^[12] of allylic alcohol **1c**, while palladium pincer complex 3 catalyzes the boronation process^[12] and ruthenium catalyst **8** the RCM reaction. There is a theoretical possibility that triene 6d cyclizes to the cyclobutene derivative 10, however, the expected product in this process is *anti*-substituted cyclopentene derivative 7d, which was obtained in 63% overall yield as the only product (Figure 3). The above methods represent a useful alternative (entry 3) or a complementary (entry 4) approach to

Table 1. Coupling of allylic substrates with aldehyde **2a** and acetal **2b** followed by ring closing metathesis in a one-pot sequence. [a]

Entry	Substra	ates	Product	Yield [%] ^[b]
1	BnO OH	0	OBn	68
2	1a OH	2a 2a	7a C ₅ H ₁₁ OH	68
	C ₅ H ₁₁ 1b		7b	
3 ^[c]	OH 1c	2 a	ОН	78
4 ^[c,d]	1c	OMe MeO 2b	7c OH 7d	63
5	COOMe		H ₀	68
6	1d OH 1e	2 a	7e OH	82
7	OH 1f	2a	OH 7g	72
8 ^[e]	OAc SiMe ₃	2a	SiMe ₃	63
9 ^[e,f]	1g OAc OAc 1h	2 a	7h OH OH 7i	69
10	SO ₂ Ph	2a	SO ₂ Ph SO ₂ Pr OH	80
	1i		7 j	

[[]a] Unless otherwise stated, substrate 1 and 2a were dissolved in a DMSO/MeOH mixture in the presence of the diboronic reagent 4a (1.2 equiv.), palladium catalyst 3a (5 mol%), p-TsOH (10 mol%) and water (8.0 equiv.). After stirring at 50°C for 16–36 h, a DCM solution of ruthenium catalyst 8 (5 mol%) was added and the solution was refluxed for another 20 h.

- [b] Isolated yield of the overall process.
- [c] RCM was performed in only 2–4 h.
- [d] Acetal **2b** was added after 16 h.
- [e] The boronation reaction was conducted without addition of *p*-TsOH and water.
- This product was obtained after hydrolysis.

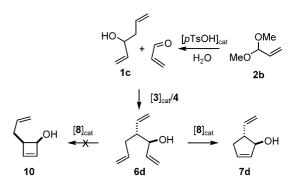


Figure 3. One-pot, multi-step synthesis of cylopentene derivative 7d via RCM of triene 6d.

the carbometallation procedure of cyclic dienes reported by Singleton and co-workers.^[26,27]

Carboxy functionalized allylic alcohol **1d** (entry 5) undergoes boronation and coupling reaction to form **6e**, which is followed by immediate lactonization providing **6e'**. The RCM process of **6e'** can be smoothly performed affording bicyclic lactone **7e**, which is a useful building block in natural product synthesis. [28,29] Together with the lactonization, this one-pot procedure (**1d** \rightarrow **7e**) involves four discrete reactions (Figure 4).

Cyclohexene derivatives with quaternary carbons are important synthetic intermediates in the preparation of steroids and related bioactive species. Starting from allylic alcohols **1e**, **f** (entries 6 and 7), these structural motifs can easily be created by the presented one-pot reaction (Figure 1). The presence of a quaternary carbon does not affect the regiochemistry of the allylation reaction, which affords the branched product selectively. The RCM reaction also proceeds smoothly in the presence of the quaternary carbon to give dimethylcyclohexenol **7f** and bicyclic spirane **7g**.

Usually, the preferred substrates of the catalytic boronation reactions are inexpensive allylic alcohols. However, there are a few exceptions, when the allylic alcohols are unstable under the applied reaction conditions (entries 8 and 9) or when the requisite alcohols are more difficult to access than other derivatives (entry 10). Compound **1g** (and the corre-

OH COOMe
$$[3]_{cat}$$
 (HO)₂B COOMe $[8]_{cat}$ COOMe $[8]_{cat}$

Figure 4. Synthesis of bicyclic lactone **7e** in a one-pot sequence.

Figure 5. Efficient synthesis of dihydroxycyclohexene derivative 7i from 1h and 2a.

sponding allylic alcohol) is highly unstable under acidic conditions. Even in the presence of 5 mol% of *p*-TsOH, **1g** undergoes rapid Peterson elimination to give butadiene. Therefore, the boronation had to be carried out under neutral conditions to obtain the corresponding silylated allylboronate, [10] which readily reacted with **2a** under one-pot conditions. Subsequent addition of catalytic amounts of **8** to the reaction mixture of the coupling reaction resulted in **7h**. Because of the mild, neutral reaction conditions of this one-pot reaction of three discrete processes, the desilylation reaction could be completely avoided.

Dihydroxycyclohexene derivative 7i is an important intermediate in synthesis of carbosugars and sugar mimics. [31-34] A straightforward stereoselective synthesis of 7i can easily be performed using the presented one-pot procedure (entry 9, Figure 5). The synthesis can be achieved using easily available diacetate 1h. which is first boronated and then coupled with 2a affording coupling product 6g. In 6g, the acetate functionality is located on the allylic hydroxy group. However, after one-pot RCM reaction of 6g, in the cyclized product (7i') the acetate group has partially migrated to the homoallylic hydroxy group. One possible reason for the acetate migration can be the close vicinity of the syn hydroxy groups in 7i', which is imposed by the six-membered ring framework. This close vicinity is probably not realized in the acyclic precursor **6g** because of free rotation of the carboncarbon bonds. The final product **7i** was isolated after acetate hydrolysis of **7i**'.

The one-pot reactions do not necessarily require allylic alcohol and acetate precursors. For example, activated vinylcyclopropane derivative **1i** readily underwent the boronation, allylation followed by RCM reaction providing **7j**. The excellent selectivity of the cooperative processes ensures that the bulky sulfone substituent and the hydroxy group have a *syn* geometry in the single diastereomeric product (**7j**) of the reaction sequence.

Mechanistic Aspects

The overall one-pot reaction is based on the cooperative action of palladium-catalyzed borylation, subsequent allylation and ruthenium-catalyzed metathesis reaction (Figure 6). The optimized conditions of the boronation reactions involve application of pincer complex catalysts **3a** or **3b**, boronate source **4a** or **4b** in a mixture of DMSO and methanol. [6,10,12] The boronation reaction is accelerated by application of *p*-TsOH (5 mol%), [12] however, the reaction can also be carried out under neutral conditions (e.g., entry 8) [10] when diboronic acid **4b** is used as boronate source. On the other hand, when **4a** is used as a boronate

Figure 6. Mechanistic overview of the one-pot sequence.

source, addition of p-TsOH is required for the efficient boronation process. As $\mathbf{4a}$ is less expensive and more accessible, than $\mathbf{4b}$, we used this boronate source whenever it was possible together with catalytic amounts of p-TsOH.

The coupling reaction between allylboronate 5 and aldehyde 2, providing 6 proceeds smoothly under the reaction conditions of the boronation. The high diastereoselectivity of the allylation arises from the compact, highly ordered, six-membered ring TS of the process. [35] The allylation process is probably also facilitated in the presence of catalytic amounts of a Brønsted acid, such as p-TsOH. [36,37] Most importantly, the metathesis reaction performed by addition of 8 in dichloromethane could be performed smoothly in the presence of the solvents (DMSO, MeOH), catalysts (3 and p-TsOH) and waste products (water, boric acid and its esters) of the boronation reaction. This is due to the exceptional robustness of catalyst 8, which allows performance of RCM reactions as the terminating catalytic step of one-pot multi-step reactions.[38] The overall one-pot procedure involves typically three individual reactions (borylation, allylation and metathesis) incorporating three catalytic events: palladium (3) and a sulfonic acid (p-TsOH) catalyzed boronation and ruthenium (8) catalyzed RCM reaction.

Conclusions

In this study, we have shown that allylic alcohols and other allylic substrates can be transformed to stereodefined functionalized cyclohexene and cyclopentene derivatives in a multicatalytic one-pot sequence. This transformation is based on palladium pincer complex based boronation of the allylic precursors, which is followed by highly diastereoselective coupling with unsaturated aldehydes and terminated by ring-closing metathesis. The procedure is operationally simple, providing the corresponding products in a high overall yield (63–82%) with excellent diastereo- and regioselectivity. The presented method has a broad synthetic scope including functionalized allylic alcohols, acetates and vinylcyclopropane substrates. The overall process may involve up to four individual reactions (entries 4 and 5), in which three or four catalytic events take place. The products are useful building blocks in advanced organic synthesis and natural product synthesis. [26-34,39-41]

Experimental Section

The ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ (internal standard: 7.26 ppm, ¹H; 77.0 ppm, ¹³C) at room temperature using a 400 MHz NMR spectrometer. High res-

olution mass data were obtained using the ESI technique. The applied chemicals were obtained from commercial sources or synthesized according to literature procedures: **1d**,^[42] **1g**,^[43] **1i**,^[44] **3a**,^[6] and **3b**.^[45]

General Procedure

Substrates 1 (0.15 mmol) and 2a (2.0 equiv.) were dissolved in a DMSO/MeOH (0.2/0.2 mL) mixture followed by addition of the diboronic reagent 4a (1.2 equiv.), palladium catalyst 3a (5 mol%), p-toluenesulfonic acid (10 mol%) and water (8.0 equiv.). The mixture was stirred at 50°C for 20 h. Subsequently, ruthenium catalyst 8 (5 mol%) in dichloromethane (20 mL) was added, and this mixture was refluxed under argon for 20 h. Thereafter, the reaction mixture was quenched by water and the phases separated. After evaporation of the organic phase, product 7 was purified by silica gel chromatography.

2-[(Benzyloxy)methyl]-3-cyclohexen-1-ol (7a): This compound was prepared according to the above general procedure from **1a** and **2a**, affording **7a** in 68% yield. The NMR data obtained for **7a** are in agreement with the previously reported^[6] values. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ =7.32 (m, 5H), 5.78 (m, 1H), 5.43 (m, 1H), 4.55 (s, 2H), 4.15 (m, 1H), 3.62 (m, 2H), 2.99 (d, J=5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (m, 1H), 2.21 (m, 1H), 2.05 (m, 1H), 1.79 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ =137.8, 129.0, 128.5, 127.8, 127.7, 124.8, 73.4, 71.5, 68.1, 40.2, 27.9, 22.4; HR-MS (ESI): m/z=241.1202, calcd. for $[C_{14}H_{18}O_2+Na]^+$: 241.1199.

2-Pentyl-3-cyclohexen-1-ol (7b): This compound was prepared according to the above general procedure from **1b** and **2a** except that the borylation based allylation was conducted for 36 h, affording **7b** in 68% yield. The NMR data obtained for **7b** are in agreement with the previously reported^[6] values. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ =5.69 (m, 1H), 5.47 (m, 1H), 4.00 (m, 1H), 2.17 (m, 2H), 2.05 (m, 1H), 1.89 (m, 1H), 1.68 (m, 1H), 1.54 (m, 1H), 1.35 (m, 8H), 0.89 (t, J=6.6 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ =128.9, 126.5, 67.6, 40.1, 32.1, 31.0, 28.5, 26.7, 22.6, 21.4, 14.1; HR-MS (ESI): m/z=191.1405, calcd. for $[C_{11}H_{20}O+Na]^+$: 191.1406.

2-Allyl-3-cyclohexen-1-ol (**7c**): This compound was prepared according to the above general procedure from **1c** and **2a**, except that the ring-closing metathesis was conducted for 2 h, affording **7c** in 78% yield. The NMR data obtained for **7c** are in agreement with the previously reported^[26] values. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ =5.88 (dddd, J=7.0, 7.0, 10.3, 17.0 Hz, 1H), 5.72 (m, 1H), 5.47 (m, 1H), 5.11 (d, J=17.0 Hz, 1H), 5.06 (d, J=10.3 Hz, 1H), 4.01 (m, 1H), 2.17 (m, 5H), 1.79 (m, 2H), 1.51 (br, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ =137.0, 128.0, 126.9, 116.3, 67.6, 40.0, 35.6, 28.4, 21.3; HR-MS (ESI): m/z=161.0937, calcd. for [C₉H₁₄O+Na]⁺: 161.0929.

5-Vinyl-2-cyclopenten-1-ol (7d): This compound was prepared according to the above general procedure from **1c** and **2b**, except that **2b** was added after 16 h. The mixture was thereafter stirred for another 6 h. The ring-closing metathesis was conducted for 4 h, affording **7d** in 63% yield. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ =5.88 (m, 1H), 5.86 (ddd, J=7.9, 10.3, 17.3 Hz, 1H), 5.76 (m, 1H), 5.11 (d, J=17.3 Hz, 1H), 5.02 (d, J=10.3 Hz, 1H), 4.59 (m, 1H), 2.62 (m, 2H), 2.15 (m, 1H), 2.03 (br, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ =140.2, 133.1,

133.0, 114.7, 82.8, 52.9, 37.3; HR-MS (ESI): m/z = 133.0620, calcd. for $[C_7H_{10}O+Na]^+$: 133.0624.

7-Oxabicyclo[4.3.0]-2-nonen-8-one (7e): This compound was prepared according to the above general procedure from **1d** and **2a**, except that instead of **3a**, catalyst **3b** was used, affording **7e** in 68% yield. The NMR data obtained for **7e** are in agreement with the previously reported^[28] values. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 5.88 (m, 1H), 5.47 (m, 1H), 4.76 (ddd, J=2.7, 5.6, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.00 (m, 1H), 2.76 (m, 1H), 2.30 (m, 1H), 2.10 (m, 3H), 1.78 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 176.8, 128.8, 125.6, 78.1, 35.8, 34.5, 24.6, 19.2; HR-MS (ESI): m/z=161.0574, calcd. for $[C_8H_{10}O_2+Na]^+$: 161.0573.

2,2-Dimethyl-3-cyclohexen-1-ol (**7f**): This compound was prepared according to the above general procedure from **1e** and **2a**, affording **7f** in 82% yield. 1 H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 5.51 (m, 1H), 5.36 (m, 1H), 3.57 (m, 1H), 2.10 (m, 2H), 1.73 (m, 2H), 1.44 (br, 1H), 1.05 (s, 3H), 0.98 (s, 3H); 13 C NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 136.2, 124.0, 75.2, 36.7, 28.1, 26.9, 23.8, 22.7; HR-MS (ESI): m/z = 149.0936, calcd. for $[C_8H_{14}O+Na]^+$: 149.0937.

Spiro[5.5]undec-4-en-1-ol (7g): This compound was prepared according to the above general procedure from 1f and 2a, affording 7g in 72% yield. ^1H NMR (CDCl₃): δ =5.71 (d, J=10.3 Hz, 1H), 5.62 (ddd, J=3.4, 3.4, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 3.65 (m, 1H), 2.11 (m, 2H), 1.79 (m, 2H), 1.43 (m, 11H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl₃): δ =132.5, 125.1, 73.2, 38.7, 36.4, 32.2, 26.2, 25.4, 22.3, 21.6, 21.3; HR-MS (ESI): m/z=189.1251, calcd. for [C₁₁H₁₈O+Na]⁺: 189.1250.

2-[(1,1,1-Trimethylsilyl)methyl]-3-cyclohexen-1-ol (7h): This compound was prepared according to the above general procedure from **1g** and **2a**, except that **3b** was used as catalyst and **4b** was employed as boronate source. In addition, this reaction was performed in the absence of *p*-TsOH and added water conducting the boronation step for 16 h, affording **7h** in 63% yield. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ =5.62 (m, 1H), 5.47 (m, 1H), 3.86 (m, 1H), 2.37 (m, 1H), 2.10 (m, 2H), 1.76 (m, 2H), 1.51 (br, 1H), 0.66 (m, 2H), 0.05 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ =130.6, 125.9, 69.6, 36.7, 27.8, 21.9, 17.8, -0.7; HR-MS (ESI): m/z=207.1176, calcd. for [C₁₀H₂₀OSi+Na]⁺: 207.1176.

3-Cyclohexen-1,2-diol (7i): This compound was prepared by a modified version of the above general procedure. Thus, 1h (0.15 mmol) was stirred with diboronic reagent 4b (1.2 equiv.), molecular sieves (4 Å, 15 mg) and palladium catalyst 3b (5 mol%), in DMSO (0.4 mL) for 36 h at 40°C.[10] Thereafter, aldehyde 2a was added and the stirring continued for another 24 h. To this mixture ruthenium catalyst 8 (5 mol%) in dichloromethane (20 mL) was added and refluxed under argon for 20 h. Thereafter, the reaction mixture was quenched by water and the phases separated. After evaporation of the organic phase 7i' was purified by silica gel chromatography. After hydrolysis of 7i' (by 20 mol% Na₂CO₃ in MeOH at room temperature for 4 h followed by filtration through a plug of silica), diol 7i was obtained in 69% yield. The NMR data obtained for 7i are in agreement with the previously reported^[32] values. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 5.89$ (m, 1H), 5.74 (m, 1H), 4.14 (m, 1H), 3.83 (m, 1H), 2.28 (br, 2H), 2.14 (m, 2H), 1.76 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 131.5$, 126.9, 68.8, 66.5, 25.9, 23.5; HR-MS (ESI): m/z = 137.0571, calcd. for $[C_6H_{10}O_2+Na]^+$: 137.0573.

2-[2,2-Di(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl]-3-cyclohexen-1-ol (7j): This compound was prepared according to the above general procedure from **1i** and **2a**, except that instead of **3a**, catalyst **3b** was used, affording **7j** in 80% yield. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ =7.96 (m, 4H), 7.70 (m, 2H), 7.58 (m, 4H), 5.68 (m, 1H), 5.33 (m, 1H), 4.98 (dd, J=3.6, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 4.02 (m, 1H), 2.63 (m, 1H), 2.43 (m, 1H), 2.09 (m, 3H), 1.95 (d, J=6.0 Hz, 1H), 1.70 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ =137.8, 137.6, 134.6, 134.5, 129.7, 129.6, 129.1, 129.0, 128.1, 126.8, 81.5, 67.8, 38.0, 27.3, 26.6, 22.6; HR-MS (ESI): m/z=429.0798, calcd. for [C₂₀H₂₂O₃S₂+Na]⁺: 429.0801.

Acknowledgements

This work was mainly supported by the Swedish Natural Science Research Council (VR). The authors are indebted to the Alice and Knut Wallenberg Foundation for funding a UPLC instrument.

References

- [1] J. Zhu, H. Bienaymé, *Multicomponent Reactions*, Wiley-VCH, Weinheim, **2005**.
- [2] J.-C. Wasilke, S. J. Obrey, R. T. Baker, G. C. Bazan, Chem. Rev. 2005, 105, 1001.
- [3] D. E. Fogg, E. N. d. Santos, Coord. Chem. Rev. 2004, 248, 2365.
- [4] J. Min, Y. Na, H. Han, S. Chang, Chem. Soc. Rev. 2004, 33, 302.
- [5] B. M. Trost, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl. 1995, 34, 259.
- [6] N. Selander, A. Kipke, S. Sebelius, K. J. Szabó, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2007, 129, 13723.
- [7] V. J. Olsson, K. J. Szabó, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2007, 46, 6891.
- [8] N. Selander, K. J. Szabó, Chem. Commun. 2008, 3420.
- [9] D. G. Hall, Boronic Acids, Wiley, Weinheim, 2005.
- [10] S. Sebelius, V. J. Olsson, K. J. Szabó, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2005, 127, 10478.
- [11] S. Sebelius, V. J. Olsson, O. A. Wallner, K. J. Szabó, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2006, 128, 8150.
- [12] V. J. Olsson, S. Sebelius, N. Selander, K. J. Szabó, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2006, 128, 4588.
- [13] H. E. Burks, J. P. Morken, Chem. Commun. 2007, 4717.
- [14] N. F. Pelz, A. R. Woodward, H. E. Burks, J. D. Sieber, J. P. Morken, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2004, 126, 16328.
- [15] A. R. Woodward, H. E. Burks, L. M. Chan, J. P. Morken, Org. Lett. 2005, 7, 5505.
- [16] J. D. Sieber, J. P. Morken, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2006, 128, 74.
- [17] N. F. Pelz, J. P. Morken, Org. Lett. 2006, 8, 4557.
- [18] J.-E. Lee, J. Yun, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2008, 47, 145.
- [19] S. Mun, J.-E. Lee, J. Yun, Org. Lett. 2006, 8, 4887.
- [20] S. D. Goldberg, R. H. Grubbs, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2002, 41, 807.
- [21] J. A. Jernelius, R. R. Schrock, A. H. Hoveyda, *Tetrahedron* 2004, 60, 7345.
- [22] G. W. Kabalka, B. Venkataiah, G. Dong, J. Org. Chem. 2004, 69, 5807.
- [23] T. M. Trnka, R. H. Grubbs, Acc. Chem. Res. 2001, 34,

2050

- [24] S. B. Garber, J. S. Kingsbury, B. L. Gray, A. H. Hovey-da, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2000, 122, 8168.
- [25] S. Randl, S. J. Connon, S. Blechert, *Chem. Commun.* 2001, 1796.
- [26] D. E. Frantz, D. A. Singleton, Org. Lett. 1999, 1, 485.
- [27] D. A. Singleton, S. C. Waller, Z. Zhang, D. E. Frantz, S.-W. Leung, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1996, 118, 9986.
- [28] H. Bhandal, V. F. Patel, G. Pattenden, J. J. Russell, J. Chem. Soc. Perkin Trans. 1 1990, 2691.
- [29] R. C. Larock, D. E. Stinn, Tetrahedron Lett. 1989, 30, 2767.
- [30] Y. Lu, G. Barth, K. Kieslich, P. D. Strong, W. L. Duax, C. Djerjassi, J. Org. Chem. 1983, 48, 4549.
- [31] R. Angelaud, O. Babot, T. Charvat, Y. Landais, J. Org. Chem. 1999, 64, 9613.
- [32] D. R. Boyd, N. D. Sharma, N. I. Bowers, I. N. Brannigan, M. R. Groocock, J. F. Malone, G. McConville, C. C. R. Allen, Adv. Synth. Catal. 2005, 347, 1081.
- [33] S. Takano, T. Yoshimitsu, K. Ogasawara, J. Org. Chem. 1994, 59, 54.
- [34] M. Koreeda, M. A. Ciufolina, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1982, 104, 2308.

- [35] R. W. Hoffmann, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl. 1982, 21, 555.
- [36] V. Rauniyar, D. G. Hall, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2006, 45, 2426.
- [37] D. G. Hall, Synlett 2007, 1644.
- [38] C. Kammer, G. Prestat, T. Gaillard, D. Madec, G. Poli, Org. Lett. 2008, 10, 405.
- [39] L. Jiao, E. Hao, F. R. Fronczek, M. G. H. Vincente, K. M. Smith, *Chem. Commun.* 2006, 3900.
- [40] S. Kotha, V. R. Shah, K. Mandal, Adv. Synth. Catal. 2007, 349, 1159.
- [41] S. Kotha, V. R. Shah, Eur. J. Org. Chem. 2008, 1054.
- [42] T. Ling, C. Chowdhury, B. A. Kramer, B. G. Vong, M. A. Palladino, E. A. Theodorakis, *J. Org. Chem.* 2001, 66, 8843.
- [43] J. S. Panek, M. A. Sparks, *Tetrahedron: Asymmetry* **1990**, 1, 801.
- [44] R. N. Saicic, R. Matovic, Z. Cekovic, Gazz. Chim. Ital. 1991, 121, 325.
- [45] J. Aydin, K. S. Kumar, L. Eriksson, K. J. Szabó, Adv. Synth. Catal. 2007, 349, 2585.