Asymmetric Synthesis of Medium-Sized Rings by Intramolecular Au(I)-Catalyzed Cyclopropanation

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n= 0 to 3 up to 92% ee

Christopher Rosenker Wipf Group - Current Literature February 14, 2009

Medium-sized rings



• Synthetically obtained generally through various cycloaddition combinations; LA, radical, transition metal catalyzed cyclizations; and oxidative/reductive processes.

•Cyclization strategies for medium sized rings are difficult due to entropic factors and transannular interactions.

Mehta, G. & Singh, V. Chem. Rev. **1999**, 99, 881 Yet, L. Chem. Rev. **2000**, 100, 2963.

Enantioselective synthesis of medium-sized rings



Enantioselective synthesis of medium-sized rings

Cu(I) catalyzed cyclopropanation to form macrocycles



Asymmetric tandem cyclopropanation/Cope rearrangement



Davies, H. M. L. Tet. Let.. 1996, 37, 3967.

Intramolecular enyne cycloisomerizations



Au' catalyzed cyclopropanation of olefins

Tandem cyclopropanation/hydroarylation: formal [4 +3]-annulation



Toste, F. D. J.Am. Chem. Soc. 2006. 128, 14480.

Intermolecular Stereoselective Olefin Cyclopropanation



Toste, F. D. J.Am. Chem. Soc. 2005. 127, 18002.

Initial Substrate Scope



- Secondary proparglylic esters cyclized in decreased yields for n = 1 and not at all for n = 2.
- Vinylic substitution generally decreases yield
- In the presence of I,I-diphenylethylene, tertiary propargylic esters prefer intramolecular cyclization, where as secondary propargylic esters prefer intermolecular cyclopropanation.



Entry	R	Ligand	T (°C)	ee (%)
I	Ac	(R)-DTBM-SEGPHOS	rt	3
2	Ac	(R)-xylyl-BINAP	rt	80
3	Piv	(R)-xylyl-BINAP	rt	49
4	Ac	(R)-xylyl-BINAP	-25	92

- Entry I conditions work well for intermolecular cyclpropanation
- Ligand screening showed (R)-xylyl-BINAP had best ee
- Acetate ester showed higher ee than pivaloate (49) and benzoate (63) esters (contrary to intermolecular cyclopropanation).
- Solvent screening included MeCN (69), CH_2CI_2 (64), $CDCI_3$ (57), PhMe (20), THF (24), and EtOAc (29).
- Altering the rations of gold to silver has no significant impact on ee (%).



2.5 mol% (*R*)-xylyl-BINAP(AuCl)₂, 5 mol% AgSbF₆ ►

 $CH_3NO_2,\ \text{-}25\ ^\circ C$

Entry	R'	R²	Yield	ee (%)
I	Me	Н	94	92
2	Et	н	91	92
3	Allyl	н	98	90
4	$(CH_2)_2Ph$	н	80	90
5	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	н	96	90
6*	Me	Me	88	75

* L = (R)-Difluorophos(AuCl)₂; -25 °C

- Substitution at R¹ is tolerated with out erosion of enantioselectivity
- In entry 3 preferential 8-member ring formation over 5-member ring.
- \bullet Substitution at R^2 causes decrease in enantioselectivity and alternate conditions

Watson, Ritter, Toste. J. Am. Chem. Soc. ASAP. doi: 10.1021/ja8085005

 \mathbf{R}^{1}

OAc

R²



5 mol% L*AuCl / AgSbF₆, CH₃NO₂ [0.1 M], T, 5 min



Entry	R	Ligand	ee (%)
	Ac	(R)-xylyl-BINAP	49
2	Piv	(R)-xylyl-BINAP	44
3	Bz	(R)-xylyl-BINAP	42

- Change in R has little effect on ee
- Various chiral (L*) gold(I) chloride complexes were investigated including (R)-BINAP, (R)-DTBM-Segphos, and (R)-CI-MeO-Biphep giving lower ee
- Lowering the reaction temperature does not have an impact on enantioselectivity.

•Much lower ee obtained compared to 8-member ring formation



• Various chiral (L*) gold(I) chloride complexes were investigated including (R)-BINAP, (R)-DTBM-Segphos, and (R)-CI-MeO-Biphep (better for Ac, 37) giving decreased enantioselectivity compared to (R)-xylyl-BINAP.

- Change of R has dramatic effect on ee, R = Ac (21); Piv (85)
- No product is isolated a lower temperatures due to decomposition.

Isomeric Carbeniod Intermediates



- Selective intramolecular cyclopropanation is observed to form 7membered ring without 1,1-diphenylethylene
- In the presence of I,I-diphenylethylene the intermolecular product occurs exclusively
- Results indicate that Au(I)-stabilized vinyl carbenoids are "fluxional" and may even react through the thermodynamically disfavored isomer

Substrate synthesis



- Commercially available starting material (1-2\$ / gram)
- Straight forward synthesis that allows for various points of derivation
 Although the reaction does not appear to be tolerant towards complex substitution

Conclusion

• Minor changes in substrate and/or ligand can have profound effects on the result

- ie. Piv/Ac, 2° vs 3° propargylic esters, and ring size
- usually involves ligand screening for every substrate

• The title paper extends the scope of the current methodology by performing asymmetric intramolecular cylopropanation of enynes to form medium sized rings.

• Supports the notion of the fluxional nature of Au(I) stabilized vinyl carbeniod intermediates

