Enantioselective Michael Additions in Natural Products Synthesis

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Introduction

Definition of Michael addition:



- Carbon-carbon bond-forming reaction
- Addition of a compound with an electron-withdrawing group (Z) to an activated C-C multiple bond
- Excludes metal-mediated 1,4-conjugate addition (cuprates, Grignards, lithiates, etc.)
- Excludes heteroatom conjugate addition

Representative Michael donors:



Representative Michael acceptors:



■ The same functional groups serve to activate either the nucleophile or the electrophile

A wide variety of functional handles that can be further elaborated in synthesis

Early Examples of Enantioselective Michael Reactions



Inouye, Y.; Inamasu, S.; Ohno, M.; Sugita, T.; Walborsky, H. M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1961, 83, 2962.

Chiral base catalyzed Michael addition forms chiral quaternary center:



optically active product of undetermined stereochemistry

Langstrom, B.; Bergson, G. Acta Chem. Scand. 1973, 27, 3118.

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Oppolzer's synthesis of (-)-khusimone:





■ Alpha face of enolate is shielded by the auxiliary

Enantiofacial discrimination of the enone determined by sterics and chelating factors which favor model A.

Oppolzer, W.; Pitteloud, R.; Bernardinelli, G.; Baettig, K. Tetrahedron Lett. 1983, 45, 4975.

Auxiliary Control: Enantioselective Robinson Annulation

Taber's synthesis of (+)-o-methyljoubertiamine



Taber, D. F.; Mack, J. F.; Rheingold, A. L.; Geib, S. J. J. Org. Chem. 1989, 54, 3831.

Auxiliary Control: RAMP and SAMP Technology

- (*<u>R</u>*)- or (<u>*S*</u>)-1-<u>a</u>mino-2-<u>m</u>ethoxymethyl<u>p</u>yrrolidines
- Developed by Enders and coworkers
- Commercially available or easily prepared from (S)-prolinol or (R)-glutamic acid
- Form hydrazones in quantitative yield, even from sterically hindered ketones
- Anions are often more reactive than aldehyde or ketone enolates
- Auxiliary is easily cleaved and recycled



Seyden-Penne, J. Chiral Auxiliaries and Ligands in Aymmetric Synthesis; John Wiley & Sons: New York, 1995.

Application in the synthesis of ant pheromones:



Enders, D.; Rendenbach, B. E. M. Tetrahedron 1986, 42, 2235.

Auxiliary Control: Total Synthesis of (-)-Secodaphniphylline

Asymmetric induction using a C2-symmetric N-acyl pyrrolidine



■ Initial Michael addition-alkylation sets three contiguous stereocenters

Stereochemistry of substituents on cyclopentane determine sterechemistry of methyl homosecodaphniphyllate

Evans Oxazolidinone

Evans acyl oxazolidone addition to nitroalkenes – α -amino stereocenter:



Mulzer, J.; Zuhse, R.; Schmiechen, R. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl. 1992, 31, 870.

C₂₆-C₃₂ fragment of calyculin A – 1,4-functionality via Curtius rearrangement:



Yamaguchi, M.; Hasebe, K.; Tanaka, S.; Minami, T. Tetrahedron Lett. 1986, 27, 959.

Chiral Imines and Enamines

(R)- or (S)-phenethylamine as a source of chiral induction:

- Effects conversion of racemic stereocenters into enantiomerically enriched products.
- Construction of asymmetric quaternary carbon centers.
- Chiral amine is inexpensive (< \$1/g).
- Amine is easily recovered with no loss of optical purity.

Regio- and stereoselectivity affected by cyclic transition state – *syn* approach of substituents:



■ Internal proton transfer only allowed for the more substituted enamine:



Only enamine A has syn orientation of enamine and proton

A review on chiral imines in Michael additions: d'Angelo, J.; Desmaele, D.; Dumas, F.; Guingant, A. Tetrahedron: Asymm. 1992, 3, 459.

Chiral Imines and Enamines

Application in the synthesis of (+)-valencenol via Robinson annulation:



Pfau, M.; Revial, G.; Guingant, A.; d'Angelo, J. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1985**, *107*, 273. Revial, G.; Jabin, I.; Redolfi, M.; Pfau, M. *Tetrahedron: Asymm.* **2001**, *12*, 1683.

Application to alkaloid synthesis:



Costa, P. R. R.; Castro, R. N.; Farias, M. C.; Antunes, O. A. C.; Bergter, L. *Tetrahedron: Asymm.* **1993**, *4*, 1499. Total synthesis: a) Heathcock, C. H.; Norman, M. H.; Dickman, D. A. *J. Org. Chem.* **1990**, *55*, 798. b) Dickman, D. A.; Heathcock, C. H. *J. Chem. Soc.* **1989**, *111*, 1528.



Chiral Imines and Enamines





d'Angelo, J.; Revial, G.; Volpe, T.; Pfau, M. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1988**, *35*, 4427. For a racemic steroid synthesis see: Cornforth, J. W.; Kauder, O.; Pike, J. E.; Robinson, R. *J. Chem. Soc.* **1955**, 3348.

Synthesis of spirocycles:



Asymmetric entry into alkaloid synthesis:



Proposed stereochemical rationale for selective reduction:



Me

Me

Factors governing stereoselectivity:

- Hydride delivery occurs from the less hindered face, resulting in overall *syn* selectivity.
- Delivery of a proton from the coordinated acid creates a stereocenter adjacent to the bulky sulfinyl group.

Steric interference between aryl protons and vicinal protons favor conformation **A**.

Hua, D. H.; Bharathi, S. N.; Panangadan, A. K.; Tsujimoto, A. J. Org. Chem. 1991, 56, 6998.



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Chiral Sulfinyl Imines: Functionalized Electrophiles



\blacksquare Methyl α -amidoacrylate does not react with organocuprate reagents.

Poor selectivities limit the utility of this methodology.

Stereochemical rationale:



Hua, D. H.; Park, J.-G.; Katsuhira, T.; Bharathi, S. N. J. Org. Chem. 1993, 58, 2144.

First reported in literature in 1971:



Abbott, D. J.; Colonna, S.; Stirling, C. J. M. Chem. Comm. 1971, 471.

Application in total synthesis:



"of extremely high enantiomeric purity"

Posner, G. H.; Asirvatham, E. J. Org. Chem. 1985, 50, 2589.

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Chiral Vinyl Sulfoxides: Tandem Hetero-Michael-Michael reaction

A new twist on Posner:



Paquette, L. A.; Tae, J.; Arrington, M. P.; Sadoun, A. H. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2000, 122, 2742.

Camphor-derived chiral sulfoxides:



Binns, M. R.; Goodridge, R. J.; Haynes, R. K.; Ridley, D. D. Tetrahedron Lett. 1985, 51, 6381.

Hanessian's chiral phosphonamides:



• Phosphonamide anion adds to a variety of α,β -unsaturated enones, lactams, lactones and esters





Phase-Transfer Catalysis: Chiral Quaternary Ammonium Salt

Early example of cinchona alkaloid catalyzed Michael addition:



Hermann, K.; Wynberg, H. J. Org. Chem. 1979, 44, 2238.



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Using an epimeric cinchonidine catalyst, the opposite enantiomer can be obtained, but only with modest selectivity:



Phase-Transfer Catalysis: The Corey Approach



- Used in enolate alkylations, epoxidations, conjugate additions
- Shielding of three quadrants formed by tetrahedral ammonium ion
- Close ion pairing of the substrate in remaining quadrant provides selectivity
- Limited by strict substrate specificity

Corey, E. J.; Xu, F.; Noe, M. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1997**, *119*, 12414. Corey, E. J.; Bo, Y.; Busch-Petersen, J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1998**, *120*, 13000. Corey, E. J.; Zhang, F.-Y. *Org. Lett.* **1999**, *1*, 1287.

Asymmetric Michael addition of Schiff base:



Corey, E. J.; Zhang, F.-Y. Org. Lett. 2000, 2, 1097.

Phase-Transfer Catalysis: Robinson Annulation



Stereochemical rationale:



- Enolate is contact ion paired with N⁺
- $\blacksquare \ \alpha,\beta$ -enone is wedged between ethyl and quinoline substituents
- Carbonyl poised for ion pairing in enolate transition state

Phase Transfer Catalysis

Synthesis of a chiral y-amino acid:



Corey, E. J.; Zhang, F.-Y. Org. Lett. 2000, 2, 4257.

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Heterobimetallic Catalysts

- Developed by Shibasaki and coworkers
- Catalysts function as both Brønsted base and Lewis acid and can catalyze a variety of reactions
- Complex between alkali metal (Na, Li) and either rare-earth (La, Eu, Pr, Ld) or Group 13 (Al, Ga)

Structures of complexes:



Acronyms: LnMB Ln = rare-earth metal M = alkali metal B = tris(binaphtoxide) ALB A = Al, L = Li

Heterobimetallic Catalysts: Asymmetric Michael Reaction



- LSB (Lithium sodium tris(binapthoxide)) is the best complex for these transformations
- Excellent yields and good ee's (74-91%) for a range of substrates
- Proposed catalytic cycle:



Shibasaki, M.; Sasai, H.; Arai, Y. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl. 1997, 36, 1236.

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ALB catalysts in Michael Additions

Prepared from BINOL and LiAIH₄:



- Electropositive lithium should form lithium enolate preferentially over aluminum enolate
- NMR studies with ALB and 3 equiv. of cyclohexenone show that enones coordinate to aluminum center
- ALB acts as a multifunctional catalyst
- Reaction of lithium enolate with enone should generate aluminum enolate potential for three-component coupling



64% yield, 91% ee single diastereomer



ALB: Application to Total Synthesis

Three-component coupling as key step in synthesis of 11-deoxy-PGF_{1 α}



Yamada, K.; Arai, T.; Sasi, H.; Shibasaki, M. J. Org. Chem. 1998, 63, 3666.

ALB: Addition of Horner–Wadsworth–Emmons Reagents

First catalytic asymmetric 1,4-addition of HWE reagent to enones



Arai, T.; Sasai, H.; Yamaguchi, K.; Shibasaki, M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1998**, *120*, 441. For racemic and enantioselective total syntheses of coronfacic acid see: Nara, S.; Toshima, H.; Ichihara, A. *Tetrahedron*, **1997**, *53*, 9509.

Summary

- The Michael reaction is one of the most powerful carbon-carbon bond-forming reactions in organic synthesis
- Both the Michael donor and Michael acceptor have activating groups that can serve as functional handles
- Asymmetric induction can originate from either the donor or acceptor
- Enolate intermediate opens pathways for tandem Michael–electrophile trapping reactions
- Facile construction of vicinal and quaternary stereocenters, including spirocyclic and polycyclic structures
- Few examples of catalytic asymmetric reactions in total synthesis
- A great deal of potential remains for the asymmetric Michael reaction to be used as a powerful tool in synthesis