Use of Chiral 1,3-Oxazolidine-2-thiones in the Diastereoselective Synthesis of Aldols

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A useful diastereoselective synthesis of aldols using chiral 3-acyl-1,3-oxazolidine-2-thiones, (1), (4), (7), and (9), is reported and its application to the synthesis of a chiral azetidinone (11) is described.

In a series of studies on the development of new reactions using functional five-membered heterocycles, we have prepared chiral 4(R)-methyl-5(S)-phenyl- and 4(S)-ethyl-1,3-oxazolidine-2-thiones, 4(R),5(S)-MPOT and 4(S)-EOT, respectively. We now report a useful stereoselective synthesis of aldols employing 4(R),5(S)-MPOT and 4(S)-EOT as chiral reagents and tin(11) trifluoromethanesulphonate and N-ethylpiperidine as enolating reagents.

Thus, N-ethylpiperidine (1.6 mmol) was added to a suspension of tin(II) trifluoromethanesulphonate (1.5 mmol) in anhydrous CH_2Cl_2 (3.3 ml) at -50 °C under Ar. After addition of a solution of 3-acetyl-4(R),5(S)-MPOT (1) (1 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (1.2 ml), the mixture was stirred at ca. -50 to -40 °C for 3 h to complete the tin–enolate formation. Then, a solution of isobutyraldehyde (1.2 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (1.2 ml) was added at -78 °C and the mixture was stirred at

$$X \longrightarrow Me \xrightarrow{i} ii$$

$$0 \longrightarrow H$$

$$0 \longrightarrow$$

MPOT =
$$A$$
:

 A :

Scheme 1. Reagents and conditions: i, Sn(O₃SCF₃)₂-N-ethylpiperidine, CH₂Cl₂, ca. -50 to -40 °C; ii, RCHO -78 °C.

the same temperature for 20 min. Usual work-up4 of the reaction mixture gave a mixture of diastereoisomers (2b) and (3b), the ratio of which was readily checked by h.p.l.c. equipped with a u.v. detector.² Chromatographic separation of each diastereoisomer gave optically pure compounds (2b) $\{68\% \text{ yield, colourless oil, } [\alpha]_{D^{25}} + 36.60^{\circ} (c \ 1.0, \text{ CHCl}_3)\}$ and (3b) {7.3% yield, colourless oil $[\alpha]_D^{25} + 106.05^{\circ}$ (c 0.48, CHCl₃). Similar chiral aldol reactions using compound (1), 3-acetyl-4(S)-EOT (4), 3-propanoyl-4(R),5(S)-MPOT (7), and 3-propanoyl-4(S)-EOT (9) gave also fairly high diastereoselectivity (see Scheme 1 and Table 1). Absolute configuration was confirmed by comparison of the physical data of β-hydroxycarboxylic acids (or their methyl esters) derived from the corresponding aldol products with those of the authentic samples⁵ or by chemical correlation with a compound⁶ whose stereochemistry had been confirmed by X-ray analysis.

All chiral recognition data listed in Table 1 can be rationalised by an assumed transition state (I). Comparison of this transition state with that in the Evans case (II)⁷ shows a remarkable contrast.

Table 1. Diastereoselective synthesis of aldols using chiral 3-acyl-1.3-thiazolidine-2-thiones (AOT).

AOT	Aldehyde	Diastereoisomer selectivity ^a			Isolated yield of major product/%
(1)	MeCHO		:	23.7	62(2a)
, ,		(2a)		(3a)	
(1)	Me ₂ CHCHO	89.0	:	11.0	68(2b)
		(2b)		(3b)	
(1)	Me ₂ CHCH ₂ CHO	81.8	:	18.2	64(2c)
		(2c)		(3c)	
(4)	Me ₂ CHCHO	91.4	:	8.6	60(6b)
		(6b)		(5b)	
(7)	Me ₂ CHCHO	90.5	:	9.5b	71(8b)
		(8b)			
(7)	PhCHO	83.7	:	16.3b	65(8d)
		(8d)			
(9)	Me ₂ CHCHO	85.6	:	14.4b	74(10b)
	**	(10b)			

^a Determined by h.p.l.c. analysis (ref. 2). ^b Total number of other diastereoisomers.

Finally, we applied this aldol reaction to the synthesis of a chiral azetidinone (11).³ Alcohol (2a), after protection to give (12) (83.9% yield), was converted into amide (13) by aminolysis (56.8%) with *O*-benzylhydroxylamine in CHCl₃. Treatment of (13) with Bun₄N+F⁻ in tetrahydrofuran (THF) gave *N*-benzyloxy-3(*R*)-hydroxybutyramide (14) {m.p. 92—93 °C (AcOEt-hexane), $[\alpha]_D^{17}$ –28.0° (*c* 0.46, CHCl₃)} in 81.5% yield. Compound (14) was allowed to react with diethyl azodicarboxylate and triphenylphosphine⁸ in THF to afford optically pure 1-benzyloxy-4(*S*)-methyl-2-azetidinone (11) {colourless oil, $[\alpha]_D^{17}$ –26.3° (*c* 1.0, CHCl₃)} in 84.1% yield.

The absolute configuration and optical purity of (11) were confirmed by chemical correlation with ethyl 3(R)-hydroxybutyrate (15).

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