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The cover picture shows the cationic antimicrobial peptide Gramicidin S (GS, left structure), which disrupts the bacterial membrane, however with little selectivity over the erythrocytic membrane. This mode of action is explained by the amphiphilic β sheet structure of GS. Three new analogues of GS were designed in which one ^DPhe-Pro β-turn motif has been replaced by different sugar amino acids (1,2 and 3 in the right structures). The solution structures of these new analogues were assessed by 1D and 2D NMR spectroscopy, which shows a slightly altered backbone conformation. The antibacterial and hemolytic activities of all analogues were also determined in this study. Details are discussed in the article by M. Overhand et al. on p. 4231ff.



MICROREVIEW

Selective Lithiating Agents

P. C. Gros,* Y. Fort* 4199-4209

Combinations of Alkyllithiums and Lithium Aminoalkoxides for Generation of Functional Pyridine Organometallics and Derivatives

Keywords: Metalation / Lithium / Lithiation / N heterocycles / Pyridines / Electrophilic substitution / Regioselectivity / Ligands

CHEMO- AND REGIOSELECTIVE DEPROTONATION AND Br-Li EXCHANGE

The current status of selective lithiation of pyridine derivatives by use of RLi/lithium aminoalkoxide combinations is covered. Transmetallations Cross-couplings

FG1 FG1 FG1 Het(Ar)

This review updates the previous one on the *n*BuLi/LiDMAE reagent with focus on synthetic applications.

SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

Selenium Amino Acids

E. E. Alberto, L. C. Soares, J. H. Sudati, A. C. A. Borges, J. B. T. Rocha,*

A. L. Braga* 4211-4214



Efficient Synthesis of Modular Amino Acid Derivatives Containing Selenium with Pronounced GPx-Like Activity

Keywords: Selenium / Amino acids / Biological activity / Chalcogens

In a concise and flexible synthetic route, a series of new amino acid derivatives containing selenium was prepared. These compounds showed high efficiency as GPx mimics, destroying $\rm H_2O_2$ at the expense of PhSH.

Sialylation Reactions

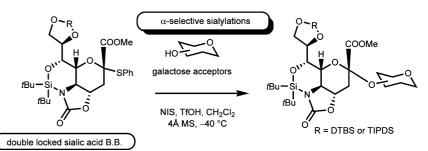
S. Hanashima,* K.-i. Sato, Y. Ito,

Y. Yamaguchi 4215-4220



Silylene/Oxazolidinone Double-Locked Sialic Acid Building Blocks for Efficient Sialylation Reactions in Dichloromethane

Keywords: Glycosylation / Silicon / Sialic acids / Oxygen heterocycles



Efficient stereoselective α -sialylation reactions with the use of ring-fixed sialic acid building blocks in CH_2Cl_2 are demonstrated. The building blocks are locked by

5,7-silylene and 4,5-oxazolidinone protection with 8,9-di-*tert*-butylsiloxanylidene or -tetraisopropyldisiloxanylidene protection.



Asymmetric Azasugar Synthesis

The asymmetric synthesis of (+)-1-deoxynojirimycin has been accomplished by using a one-pot enol ether metathesis/hydro-

boration/oxidation sequence — an efficient approach for the selective formation of the all-*trans* cyclic triol.

Stereocontrolled Total Synthesis of (+)-1-Deoxynojirimycin



Keywords: Total synthesis / Synthetic methods / Metathesis / Natural products / Azasugars

Synthesis of Natural Lignans

An efficient and stereoselective synthesis of natural lignans with three contiguous stereocenters, using a rhodium-catalyzed, microwave-assisted conjugate addition was developed.

Efficient Rhodium-Catalyzed Conjugate Addition of Arylboronic Acids to Unsaturated Furano Esters for the Highly Stereoselective Synthesis of Four Natural Trisubstituted Furanolignans

Keywords: Lignans / Rhodium / Conjugate addition / Boronic acids / Microwave chemistry

FULL PAPERS

Sugar amino acids are used as dipeptide isosters in cationic antimicrobial peptides. The solution structure of these derivatives is assessed by NMR analysis and the activity against several bacterial strains as well as human erythrocytes is described.

Structural and biological evaluation

β-Turn Mimetics

A. W. Tuin, D. K. Palachanis, A. Buizert,

G. M. Grotenbreg, E. Spalburg,

A. J. de Neeling, R. H. Mars-Groenendijk,

D. Noort, G. A. van der Marel,

H. S. Overkleeft.

M. Overhand* 4231-4241

Synthesis and Biological Evaluation of Novel Gramicidin S Analogues

Keywords: Antibiotics / Peptidomimetics / Sugar amino acid / Conformation analysis

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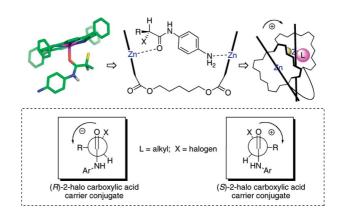
Absolute Stereochemical Determination

M. Tanasova, Q. Yang, C. C. Olmsted, C. Vasileiou, X. Li, M. Anyika,

B. Borhan* 4242-4253

An Unusual Conformation of α-Haloamides Due to Cooperative Binding with Zincated Porphyrins

Keywords: Circular dichroism / Chirality / Amides / Lactams / Porphyrin tweezers / Conformation analysis



A new working mnemonic has been developed for the determination of the absolute stereochemistry of 1,4-phenylenediaminederivatized α-halocarboxylic acids by using the Zn-porphyrin tweezer-ECCD method.

All spectroscopic evidence suggests the presence of a halogen-porphyrin interaction that favors the final, ECCD-active, conformation.

Metathesis

H. Clavier, F. Caijo, E. Borré, D. Rix, F. Boeda, S. P. Nolan,* M. Mauduit* 4254-4265

Towards Long-Living Metathesis Catalysts by Tuning the N-Heterocyclic Carbene (NHC) Ligand on Trifluoroacetamide-Activated Boomerang Ru Complexes

Keywords: Boomerang catalysts / Metathesis / Carbene ligands / Heterocycles / Recycling / Ruthenium

The synthesis, characterization, and catalytic performance of novel trifluoromethylamido-containing "boomerang" precatalysts bearing various NHCs are presented. The reaction profiles show a matched effect between the activating function and the NHC ligand SIPr that also results in enhanced complex stability.

Hybrid Tröger's Bases

M. Faroughi, K.-X. Zhu, P. Jensen, D. C. Craig, A. C. Try* 4266-4272

One-Step Synthesis of Tröger's Base Hybrids Containing at Least One Halogen Atom

Keywords: Tröger's base / Chirality / Aromatic substitution / Haloanilines / X-ray diffraction

$$\begin{array}{c|ccccc} NH_2 & NH_2 & & & \\ \hline R^1 & R^3 & & & & \\ R^3 & & Ar atm. / & & \\ Aniline A & Aniline B & & & \\ \end{array}$$

A range of non-symmetric halo-substituted Tröger's base analogues were prepared in a one-step reaction involving two anilines.

Amide Bond Cleavage

R. A. Kramer, M. C. Bröhmer, N. V. Forkel, W. Bannwarth* ... 4273-4283

A New Robust and Versatile Tetradentate Linker for Amides To be Cleaved under Mild Conditions by Unusual Complexation of the Amide Nitrogen to Cu⁺⁺

Keywords: Solid-phase synthesis / Tetradentate linkers / Amides / Cleavage reactions / Copper

The concept of weakening amide bonds by the complexation of the nitrogen to Cu⁺⁺ not limited to tridentate gands and was extended in this work to tetradentate ligands as well. The use of an open-chain tetradentate ligand allowed a mild and more efficient methanolysis reaction. The new linker was applied to a whole plethora of different types of reactions.



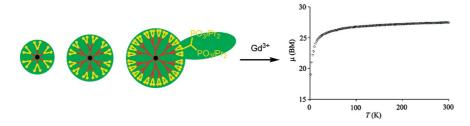
Nitrogen-Rich Compounds

The general, high-yielding synthesis of highly dangerous alkylated bis-5-azidotetrazoles is presented. The synthesis is suitable for a safe, large-scale preparation of bis-5-azidotetrazoles. The crystal structure of 1,2-bis(5-azido-1*H*-tetrazol-1-yl)ethane was determined by single-crystal Xray diffraction.

Alkyl-Bridged Bis-5-azidotetrazoles: A Safe Way of Preparation

Keywords: Azides / Nitrogen heterocycles / Synthetic methods

gem-Bisphosphonate Dendrimers



G. Franc, C.-O. Turrin, E. Cavero, J.-P. Costes,* C. Duhayon, A.-M. Caminade,* J.-P. Majoral* 4290-4299

gem-Bisphosphonate-Ended Group Dendrimers: Design and Gadolinium Com-

plexing Properties

Keywords: Dendrimers / Gadolinium / Magnetic properties / Michael addition / Bisphosphonate

An efficient multistep synthesis of phosphorus dendrimers of different generations capped with gem-bisphosphonate groups is reported. Their ability to complex Gd ions is demonstrated.

Vinylic Arylations

M. L. N. Rao,* D. N. Jadhav, V. Venkatesh 4300-4306

Atom-Efficient Vinylic Arylations with Triarylbismuths as Substoichiometric Multicoupling Reagents under Palladium Catalvsis

Keywords: Arylation / Bismuth / Palladium / Atom efficiency / Cross-coupling

The arylation of vinylic iodides with triarylbismuths was reported under palladium catalysis. Couplings of α-iodoalkenes, 4-iodo-1,2-dihydronaphthalene, and cycloalkenyl iodides with various elec-

Thienylazulenes 3-6 were prepared from

the corresponding haloazulenes and thien-

ylmagnesium ate complexes, which were

prepared from the corresponding bromo-

thiophenes in the presence of palladium.

tronically divergent triarylbismuths were found to be efficient. In these reactions, substoichiometric amounts of triarylbismuths were utilized as multicoupling reagents.

The reaction of 3-6 with sulfoxides in the

presence of Tf2O, followed by treatment

Azulene Chemistry

1)
$$(nBu)_3MgLi$$

2) Br S
3) $PdCl_2(PPh_3)_2$
Et₂O

SR

1) Tf_2O , sulfoxide
2) Et_3N , reflux

R = Me, Ph SR

T. Shoji,* S. Ito,* K. Toyota, T. Iwamoto, M. Yasunami, N. Morita* 4307-4315

Synthesis and Redox Behavior of 1,3-Bis-(methylthio-) and 1,3-Bis(phenylthio)azulenes Bearing 2- and 3-Thienyl Substituents by Palladium-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling Reaction of 2- and 6-Haloazulenes with Thienylmagnesium Ate Complexes

with Et₃N afforded the corresponding 1,3bis(methylthio)- and 1,3-bis(phenylthio)thienylazulenes in good vields.

Keywords: Arenes / Cross-coupling / Electrophilic substitution / Cyclic voltammetry

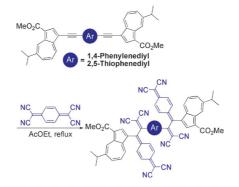
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Azulene Chemistry

T. Shoji,* S. Ito,* K. Toyota, T. Iwamoto, M. Yasunami, N. Morita 4316-4324

Reactions between 1-Ethynylazulenes and 7,7,8,8-Tetracyanoquinodimethane (TCNQ): Preparation, Properties, and Redox Behavior of Novel Azulene-Substituted Redox-Active Chromophores

Keywords: Azulenes / Cycloaddition / Donor-acceptor systems / Electrochromism / Redox chemistry



[2+2] cycloaddition/cycloreversion reactions between TCNQ and mono- or bis[2-(azulen-1-yl)ethynyl]benzene or -thiophene derivatives were examined: the corresponding TCNQ adducts, novel azulene-substituted redox-active chromophores, were produced in excellent yields. TCNE/TCNQ double adducts were also prepared both by stepwise and by one-pot cascade reactions.

Lithiation of Arylboronic Esters

Functionalization of Dihalophenylboronic Acids by Deprotonation of Their *N*-Butyldiethanolamine Esters

Keywords: Lithiation / Boron / Substituent effects

 $X, Y = F, Cl, Br, CF_3$

Protected halogenated arylboronic acids were subjected to deprotonation with lithium amide bases to form bimetallic boronEl = COOMe, SiMe₃, CHO, I, B(OH)₂

lithium intermediates, which were subsequently treated with electrophiles to give functionalized arylboronic acids.

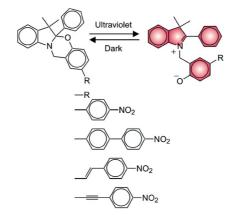
Fast Photochromic Switches

M. Å. Petersen, E. Deniz, M. B. Nielsen,* S. Sortino,* F. M. Raymo* 4333–4339



Photochromic Oxazines with Extended Conjugation

Keywords: Heterocycles / Photolysis / Molecular devices / Oxazines / Photochromism / Laser chemistry



The ultraviolet irradiation of photochromic 1,3-oxazines results in the formation of zwitterionic isomers after the cleavage of a C-O bond. The photogenerated species incorporate a phenolate chromophore able to absorb in the visible region of the electromagnetic spectrum and revert spontaneously to the original species on a nanosecond timescale.

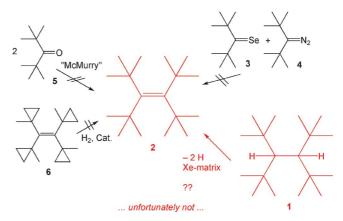
Strained Molecules

G. Bucher* 4340-4345



Computational and Matrix Isolation Studies of Tetra-*tert*-butylethane

Keywords: Matrix isolation / Xenon / Alkanes / Thermochemistry / Strained molecules / Computer chemistry

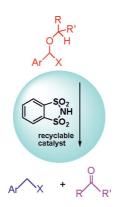


Tetra-tert-butylethane (1) can be pyrolysed in a xenon matrix at T = 10 K if the matrix is excited by a 248 nm excimer laser. This reaction failed to yield the long-sought-after alkene 2. Whereas the recent M05-2X

method describes 1 well, the popular B3LYP and MP2 methods do not reproduce the experimental thermochemical data available for 1.



The disproportionation reactions of various dialkyl diarylmethyl ethers, catalyzed by o-benzenedisulfonimide, are described. The theoretical study confirmed that the reaction proceeds in two steps: The formation of a carbocation from the protonated ether followed by hydride transfer.



Disproportionation of Protonated Ethers

M. Barbero, S. Bazzi, S. Cadamuro, S. Dughera,* G. Ghigo* 4346–4351

Synthetic and Mechanistic Aspects of Acid-Catalyzed Disproportionation of Dialkyl Diarylmethyl Ethers: A Combined Experimental and Theoretical Study

Keywords: Homogeneous catalysis / Ethers / Density functional calculations / Disproportionation / Reaction mechanisms

3-[Acyl(ethoxycarbonyl)]methylidene-, 3-diethoxycarbonylmethylidene-, and 3-diacylmethylidene-1,2-diferrocenylcyclopropenes demonstrated high activity towards reaction with hydrazine at 80–85 °C, giving 3,4,5,6-tetrasubstituted 5-acyl- or (5-ethoxycarbonyl)ferrocenylpyridazines in 65–70% yield.

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Functional Ferrocenylpyridazines

A Novel Synthesis of Ferrocenylpyridazines

Keywords: Metallocenes / Cations / Nitrogen heterocycles / Structure elucidation

Amino Thiols and Their Disulfides

G. Mercey, J.-F. Lohier, A.-C. Gaumont, J. Levillain,* M. Gulea* 4357–4364

Versatile Synthesis of Secondary 2-Amino Thiols and/or Their Disulfides via Thiazolinium Salts

Keywords: Amino Thiols / Heterocycles / Sulfur / Alkylation / Amino alcohols

Various secondary β-amino thiols and/or their disulfides have been prepared starting from commercially available primary or secondary β -amino alcohols and methyl dithioacetate via thiazolinium salts and thiazolidine intermediates.

* Author to whom correspondence should be addressed.

Supporting information on the WWW (see article for access details).

If not otherwise indicated in the article, papers in issue 24 were published online on August 4, 2009