

# Double Phosphinylation of Propargylic Alcohols: A Novel Synthetic Route to 1,2-Bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane Derivatives<sup>†</sup>

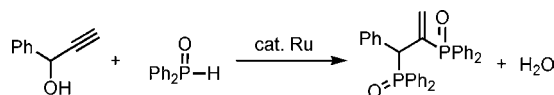
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## ABSTRACT

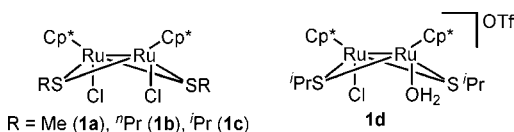


Double phosphinylation of propargylic alcohols with diphenylphosphine oxide in the presence of a thiolate-bridged diruthenium complex as catalyst gives the corresponding 2,3-bis(diphenylphosphinyl)-1-propenes in high yields with a complete selectivity.

Recently, we have disclosed the ruthenium-catalyzed efficient propargylic substitution reactions of propargylic alcohols with a variety of heteroatom- and carbon-centered nucleophiles to give the corresponding functionalized propargylic products in high yields with a complete regioselectivity.<sup>1</sup> It is noteworthy that the reactions are catalyzed only by thiolate-bridged diruthenium complexes such as [Cp<sup>\*</sup>RuCl(μ<sub>2</sub>-SR)<sub>2</sub>RuCp<sup>\*</sup>Cl] (Cp<sup>\*</sup> = η<sup>5</sup>-C<sub>5</sub>Me<sub>5</sub>; R = Me (**1a**), <sup>n</sup>Pr (**1b**), <sup>i</sup>Pr (**1c**)), and [Cp<sup>\*</sup>RuCl(μ<sub>2</sub>-S<sup>i</sup>Pr)<sub>2</sub>RuCp<sup>\*</sup>(OH<sub>2</sub>)]OTf (OTf = OSO<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>) (**1d**) (Scheme 1).<sup>2</sup> During our continuous study

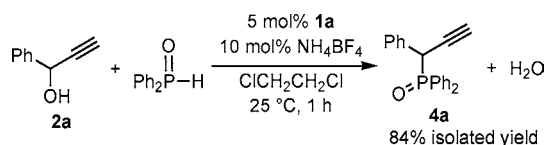
in the presence of 5 mol % of **1a** at higher temperature afforded the corresponding 2,3-bis(diphenylphosphinyl)-3-phenyl-1-propene (**3a**) as a major product together with a small amount of 3-diphenylphosphinyl-3-phenyl-1-propyne (**4a**). This finding prompted us to investigate the double phosphinylation of propargylic alcohols in detail because this double phosphinylation provides a novel synthetic route to 1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane derivatives, which work as suitable ligands for various transition metals. Preliminary results are described here.

Scheme 1



on the propargylic substitution reactions of propargylic alcohols with diphenylphosphine oxide (Scheme 2),<sup>3</sup> we came across the phenomenon that a prolonged reaction of 1-phenyl-2-propyn-1-ol (**2a**) with diphenylphosphine oxide

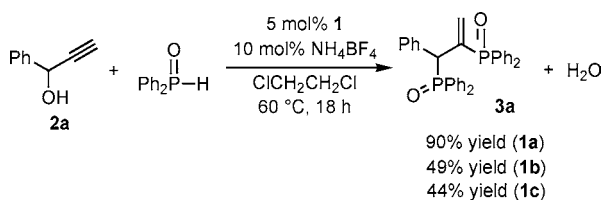
Scheme 2



Treatment of **2a** with diphenylphosphine oxide in the presence of methanethiolate-bridged diruthenium complex (**1a**) (5 mol %) and NH<sub>4</sub>BF<sub>4</sub> (10 mol %) in 1,2-dichloroethane (ClCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Cl) at 60 °C for 18 h afforded **3a** in 90% isolated yield (Scheme 3). Neither other products nor regioisomers of **3a** were detected by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. The molecular

<sup>†</sup> Dedicated to Professor Iwao Ojima on the occasion of his 60th birthday.

Scheme 3



structure of **3a** was unambiguously clarified by preliminary X-ray analysis. An ORTEP drawing of **3a** is shown in Supporting Information as Figure S1. When **1b** or **1c** was used as catalyst in place of **1a**, **3a** was obtained in only 49% or 44% isolated yield, respectively, together with the formation of **4a** in 29 or 30% isolated yield. In the reaction at room temperature for 18 h, **4a** and **3a** were obtained in 77% and 8% isolated yields. Separately, we confirmed that no reaction occurred at all in the absence of **1a**. We have also investigated the reactions of **2a** with diethyl phosphite or diphenyl phosphite under the same reaction conditions, but they resulted in a formation of only some unidentified products unfortunately.

Reactions of various 1-aryl-2-propyn-1-ols (**2**) with diphenylphosphine oxide were carried out in the presence of **1a** (5 mol %) and  $\text{NH}_4\text{BF}_4$  (10 mol %) at 60 °C for 18 h. Typical results are shown in Table 1. A *p*-halogeno substituent such as fluoro, chloro, or bromo to the benzene ring was tolerant of the catalytic reaction (Table 1, runs 2–4). In sharp contrast, introduction of an electron-donating group such as methyl or methoxy substituent to the benzene ring decreased the yield of double-phosphinylated products (**3**) (Table 1, runs 5–7). In particular, no double phosphinylation occurred when 1-*o*-tolyl-2-propyn-1-ol was used as substrate (Table 1, run 8). In these cases, the corresponding propargylic diphenylphosphine oxides (**4**) were obtained in moderate to good isolated yields. These results indicate that the kind of substituent on the benzene ring has a dramatic influence on the reactivity. Unfortunately, the reaction of 1-cyclohexyl-2-propyn-1-ol did not proceed at all. When other terminal alkynes such as 1-octyne, phenylacetylene, ethyl propiolate, and 4-phenyl-5-hexyn-2-one were used in place of propargylic alcohols, no reaction occurred at all in all cases.

To obtain some information of the reaction mechanism, we monitored the reaction of **4a** with diphenylphosphine

**Table 1.** Ru-Catalyzed Double Phosphinylation of Propargylic Alcohols (**2**) with Diphenylphosphine Oxide Affording Double-Phosphinylated Compounds (**3**)<sup>a</sup>

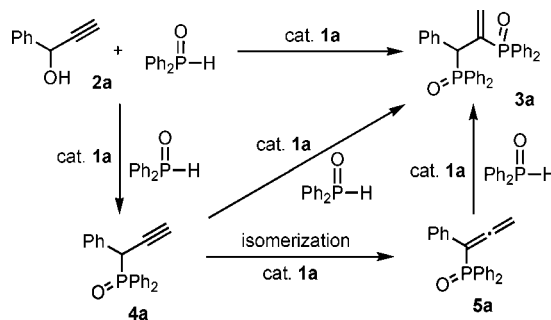
| run | propargylic alcohol ( <b>2</b> ) | double phosphinylated product ( <b>3</b> ) | yield (%) <sup>b</sup> |
|-----|----------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| 1   | <b>2a</b>                        | <b>3a</b>                                  | 90                     |
| 2   | <b>2b</b> X = F                  | <b>3b</b>                                  | 71                     |
| 3   | <b>2c</b> X = Cl                 | <b>3c</b>                                  | 96                     |
| 4   | <b>2d</b> X = Br                 | <b>3d</b>                                  | 88                     |
| 5   | <b>2e</b> R = <i>p</i> -OMe      | <b>3e</b>                                  | 15 <sup>c</sup>        |
| 6   | <b>2f</b> R = <i>p</i> -Me       | <b>3f</b>                                  | 54 <sup>d</sup>        |
| 7   | <b>2g</b> R = <i>m</i> -Me       | <b>3g</b>                                  | 46 <sup>e</sup>        |
| 8   | <b>2h</b> R = <i>o</i> -Me       | <b>3h</b>                                  | 0 <sup>f</sup>         |
| 9   | <b>2i</b>                        | <b>3i</b>                                  | 80                     |

<sup>a</sup> All the reactions of propargylic alcohol **2** (0.60 mmol) with diphenylphosphine oxide (3.00 mmol) were carried out in the presence of **1a** (0.03 mmol) and  $\text{NH}_4\text{BF}_4$  (0.06 mmol) in  $\text{ClCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$  at 60 °C for 18 h.

<sup>b</sup> Isolated yield. <sup>c</sup> The corresponding propargylic substituted product (**4e**) was obtained in 72% isolated yield. <sup>d</sup> **4f** in 28% isolated yield. <sup>e</sup> **4g** in 31% isolated yield. <sup>f</sup> **4h** in 79% isolated yield.

oxide in the presence of **1a** (5 mol %) in  $\text{ClCD}_2\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}$  at 60 °C for 50 h by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR. The conversion of **4a** into an intermediate was observed, and the intermediate was then converted into the double phosphinylated product **3a**. Interestingly, the intermediate was actually isolated in 72% yield in a separate experiment by heating **4a** in the presence of **1a** at 60 °C for 50 h (eq 1), which was characterized as an allenylidiphenylphosphine oxide (**5a**).<sup>5</sup> Separately, we confirmed the transformation of **4a** into **3a** in the presence of **1a** (5 mol %) in  $\text{ClCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$  at 60 °C for 18 h, **3a** being obtained in 85% isolated yield (eq 2). The addition of diphenylphosphine oxide to the isolated **5a** was also confirmed by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR, **3a** being formed in quantitative yield (eq 3).<sup>6</sup> These results clearly show that the double phosphinylation of **2a** proceeds via pathways shown in Scheme 4.

Scheme 4



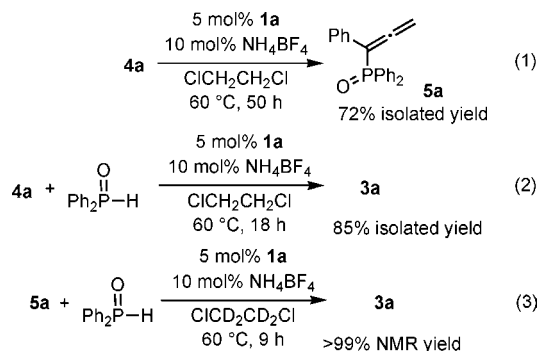
At first, **2a** is transformed rapidly into propargylic substituted product **4a** by the catalysis of **1a**. Isomerization from **4a** into

(1) (a) Nishibayashi, Y.; Wakiji, I.; Hidai, M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2000**, *122*, 11019. (b) Nishibayashi, Y.; Onodera, G.; Inada, Y.; Hidai, M.; Uemura, S. *Organometallics* **2003**, *22*, 873. (c) Nishibayashi, Y.; Imajima, H.; Onodera, G.; Hidai, M.; Uemura, S. *Organometallics* **2004**, *23*, 26. (d) Nishibayashi, Y.; Yoshikawa, M.; Inada, Y.; Hidai, M.; Uemura, S. *J. Org. Chem.* **2004**, *69*, 3408.

(2) (a) The thiolate-bridged diruthenium complexes (**1**) were found to provide an unique bimetallic reaction site for activation and transformation of various terminal alkynes; see: Nishibayashi, Y.; Yamanashi, M.; Wakiji, I.; Hidai, M. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2000**, *39*, 2909 and references therein. (b) The methanethiolate-bridged diruthenium complex  $[\text{Cp}^*\text{RuCl}(\mu_2\text{-SMe})_2\text{-RuCp}^*\text{Cl}]$  (**1a**) is commercially available from Wako Pure Chemical Industries (Japan) as met-DIRUX (methanethiolate-bridged diruthenium complex) (130-14581).

(3) Nishibayashi, Y.; Milton, M. D.; Inada, Y.; Yoshikawa, M.; Wakiji, I.; Hidai, M.; Uemura, S. *Chem. Eur. J.*, in press.

**5a** occurs, and then the addition of another diphenylphosphine oxide to **5a** catalyzed by **1a** gives **3a**.



The direct addition of diphenylphosphine oxide to **4a** catalyzed by **1a** might also be considered as another pathway for this catalytic reaction although we have already confirmed that no catalytic reaction of other terminal alkynes such as 1-octyne and phenylacetylene with diphenylphosphine oxide proceeded even in the presence of catalyst **1a**.

As a preliminary result, we have already found the optical resolution of racemic **3a** by using optically active (2*S*,3*S*)-(+)-2,3-*O*-dibenzoyltartaric acid ((+)-DBTA) as a resolving agent.<sup>7</sup> The result of X-ray analysis of the complex with (+)-DBTA indicates that the absolute configuration of optically active **3a** in the complex is *S*. An ORTEP drawing of (*S*)-**3a**·(+)-DBTA is shown in the Supporting Information as Figure S2. Unfortunately, we have not yet succeeded in practical preparation of the optically active (*S*)-**3a** by using this method. Detailed experimental results will be reported in due course.

In summary, we have found the ruthenium-catalyzed double phosphinylation of propargylic alcohols with diphenylphosphine oxide to give the corresponding 2,3-bis(diphenylphosphinyl)-1-propenes in high yields with a

complete selectivity. Although transition metal-catalyzed addition of phosphorus-centered nucleophiles to an alkyne or alkene is known as a synthetic method for the preparation of the compounds with carbon–phosphorus single bond,<sup>8</sup> the double phosphorylation and phosphinylation of alkynes are limited to only a few cases reported by Lin and co-workers.<sup>9</sup> The method reported here provides a more convenient route to the double phosphinylated products from propargylic alcohols and diphenylphosphine oxide.<sup>10</sup> The double phosphinylated products are considered to be precursors of modified chiraphos<sup>11</sup> (2,3-bis(diphenylphosphinyl)-butane derivatives), which have a potential to work as new types of chiral bidentate ligands for asymmetric synthesis. Further studies on the reduction of optically active **3a** into the corresponding 1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)propanes are currently in progress and the detailed results will be reported in due course.

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**Supporting Information Available:** Experimental procedures and spectral data for all new compounds. Crystallographic data (CIF). This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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(4) 2-Bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane (dppe) has been used as a typical bidentate ligand for various transition metals, see some recent examples: (a) Arisawa, M.; Yamaguchi, M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2003**, *125*, 6624. (b) Maleczka, R. E.; Shi, F.; Holmes, D.; Smith, M. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2003**, *125*, 7792. (c) Kuwano, R.; Kondo, Y.; Matsuyama, Y. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2003**, *125*, 12104.

(5) Representative spectral data of **5a**: IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 1929, 1953; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 4.72 (d, 2H, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>PH</sub> = 10.9 Hz), 7.02–7.12 (m, 3H), 7.27–7.33 (m, 6H), 7.51 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.60–7.68 (m, 4H); <sup>31</sup>P NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 26.4 (s); HRMS calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>17</sub>OP [M] 316.1017, found 316.1015.

(6) (a) Denmark, S. E.; Marlin, J. E. *J. Org. Chem.* **1991**, *56*, 1003. (b) Pravia, K.; White, R.; Fodda, R.; Maynard, D. F. *J. Org. Chem.* **1996**, *61*, 6031.

(7) Takaya, H.; Mashima, K.; Koyano, K.; Yagi, M.; Kumobayashi, H.; Taketomi, T.; Akutagawa, S.; Noyori, R. *J. Org. Chem.* **1986**, *51*, 629.

(8) Some recent examples: (a) Han, L.-B.; Zhang, C.; Yazawa, H.; Shimada, S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2004**, *126*, 5080. (b) Jérôme, F.; Monnier, F.; Lawicka, H.; Dérien, S.; Dixneuf, P. H. *Chem. Commun.* **2003**, 696. (c) Depréle, S.; Montchamp, J.-L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2002**, *124*, 9386. (d) Han, L.-B.; Zhao, C.-Q.; Tanaka, M. *J. Org. Chem.* **2001**, *66*, 5929. (e) Han, L.-B.; Mirzaei, F.; Zhao, C.-Q.; Tanaka, M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2000**, *122*, 5407. (f) Han, L.-B.; Choi, N.; Tanaka, M. *Organometallics* **1996**, *15*, 3259. (g) Han, L.-B.; Tanaka, M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1996**, *118*, 1571.

(9) (a) Palladium-catalyzed bisphosphorylation of alkynes with dialkyl phosphites to give the corresponding 1,2-bisphosphonates has been reported: Allen, A., Jr.; Manke, D. R.; Lin, W. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2000**, *41*, 151. (b) Palladium-catalyzed bisphosphinylation of alkynes with diphenylphosphine oxide to give the corresponding 1,2-bisphosphine oxides has been reported: Allen, A., Jr.; Ma, L.; Lin, W. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2002**, *43*, 3707.

(10) A related Ni-catalyzed phosphinylation of propargylic alcohols with diphenylphosphine oxide to give the corresponding phosphoroyl-substituted 1,3-butadienes has been reported; Han, L.-B.; Yazawa, H. The 84th Annual Meeting of the Chemical Society of Japan, Kobe, March 2004, Abstract 3PC-193.

(11) Chiraphos (2,3-bis(diphenylphosphinyl)butane) has been widely used as a chiral bidentate ligand for various transition metals. For some recent examples, see: (a) Kimmich, B. F. M.; Somsook, E.; Landis, C. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1998**, *120*, 10115. (b) Wicht, D. K.; Zhuravel, M. A.; Gregush, R. V.; Glueck, D. S.; Guzei, I. A.; Liable-Sands, L. M.; Rheingold, A. L. *Organometallics* **1998**, *17*, 1412. (c) Casado, M. A.; Perez-Torrente, J. J.; Ciriano, M. A.; Oro, L. A.; Orejon, A.; Claver, C. *Organometallics* **1999**, *18*, 3035. (d) Kuwano, R.; Sato, K.; Kurokawa, T.; Karube, D.; Ito, Y. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2000**, *122*, 7614.