

# An Anionic Strategy for Three- and Four-Component Coupling Reactions Leading to Ketone Frameworks Based on Vinylogous Conversion of Dilithio Ketone $\alpha,\beta$ -Dianions

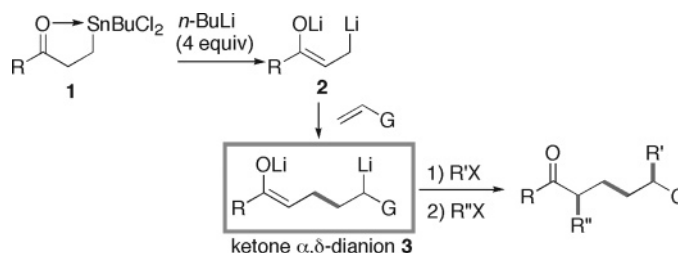
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Received April 14, 2005

## ABSTRACT



Ketone  $\alpha,\delta$ -dianions are generated by vinylogous extension of ketone  $\alpha,\beta$ -dianions with alkenes such as vinylarenes, vinylsilanes, and vinyl sulfides, which then undergo reactions at the  $\delta$  and  $\alpha$  positions with different electrophiles, creating ketone frameworks. This work represents a cascade-type anion method that achieved three- and four-carbon component assembly reactions leading to ketones.

The ubiquitous nature of ketones in the structures of a wide variety of pharmaceutical and material science target molecules has resulted in extensive efforts to uncover efficient cascade strategies for their synthesis.<sup>1</sup> We report herein a unique dianionic strategy,<sup>2,3</sup> which is based on the vinylogous extension reaction of dilithio ketone  $\alpha,\beta$ -dianions to dilithio

$\alpha,\delta$ -dianions as a platform for the construction of ketone frameworks.

We have recently shown that dilithio ketone  $\alpha,\beta$ -dianions, having enolate/allyl anion structure **2** with *Z* geometry, can be conveniently generated by treating  $\beta$ -dichlorobutylstannyl ketones **1** with 4 equiv of *n*-BuLi.<sup>4</sup> Once prepared, these structures participate in a variety of synthetic transformations.<sup>4,5</sup> We believed that ketone  $\alpha,\beta$ -dianions **2** thus formed would also serve as precursors for ketone  $\alpha,\delta$ -dianions, whose synthetic potential is yet to be explored.<sup>6</sup> If the ketone  $\alpha,\beta$ -dianion **2** would undergo carbolithiation to alkenes,<sup>7</sup> the envisaged ketone  $\alpha,\delta$ -dianion **3** would be formed (Scheme

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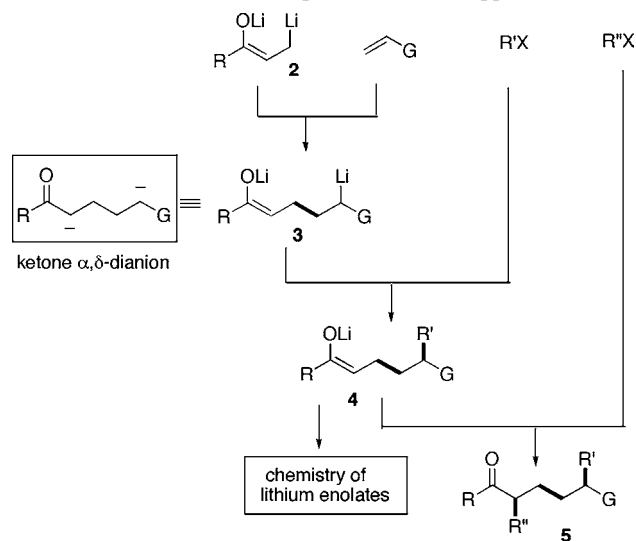
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**Scheme 1.** Concept for Ketone Framework Construction by an Anionic Four-Component Cascade Approach



1). If carbon electrophiles attack the  $\delta$  position of the resulting dianions preferentially, the Z-lithium enolate **4**

**Table 1.** Conversion of Ketone  $\alpha,\beta$ -Dianions **2** to Ketone  $\alpha,\delta$ -Dianions **3** by Vinyllogous Extension<sup>a</sup>

entry	$\alpha,\beta$ -dianion	conditions	$\alpha,\delta$ -dianion	product (yield <sup>b</sup> )
1	<b>2a</b> (R = <i>t</i> -Bu)	1) $\text{CH}_2=\text{CHSiPh}_3$ (0 °C) 2) $\text{Me}_3\text{SiCl}$ (-78 to 0 °C)	<b>3a</b>	<b>4</b> (70%)
2	<b>2b</b> (R = <i>sec</i> -Bu)	1) $\text{CH}_2=\text{CHSPh}$ (0 °C) 2) $\text{Me}_3\text{SiCl}$ (-78 to 0 °C)	<b>3b</b>	<b>5</b> (61%)
3	<b>2c</b> (R = Ph)	1) $\text{CH}_2=\text{CHSPh}$ (0 °C) 2) $\text{Me}_3\text{SiCl}$ (-78 to 0 °C)	<b>3c</b>	<b>6</b> (59%)
4	<b>2d</b> (R = <i>n</i> -Hex)	1) $\text{CH}_2=\text{CHSPh}$ (0 °C) 2) $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (0 °C)	<b>3d</b>	<b>7</b> (65%)
5	<b>2a</b>	1) $\text{CH}_2=\text{CHPh}$ (-78 to 0 °C) 2) $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (0 °C)	<b>3e</b>	<b>8</b> (61%)
6	<b>2a</b>	1) $\text{CH}_2=\text{CHPh}$ (0 °C) <sup>c</sup> 2) $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (0 °C)	<b>3f</b>	<b>9</b> (70%)
7	<b>2a</b>	1) $\text{Me}_3\text{SiCH}_2\text{CH=CHPh}$ (0 °C) 2) $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (0 °C)	<b>3g</b>	<b>10</b> (75%)
			<b>3g'</b>	<b>10'</b> (15%)

<sup>a</sup> Reactions were conducted on a 1 mmol scale. <sup>b</sup> Isolated yield by column chromatography on silica gel. <sup>c</sup> Generated in situ from  $\beta$ -(hydroxymethyl)styrene and *n*-BuLi.

**Table 2.** Three- and Four-Carbon Component Coupling Reactions Based on Ketone Dianions<sup>a</sup>

entry	$\alpha,\delta$ -dianion	electrophile (conditions)	product (yield <sup>b</sup> )
1	<b>3a</b>	1) $\text{CH}_2=\text{CHBr}$ (1.2 equiv) (-78 °C) 2) $\text{Me}_3\text{SiCl}$ (1.2 equiv) (-78 to 0 °C)	<b>11</b> (63%)
2	<b>3a</b>	1) <i>n</i> -Hex-Br (2 equiv) (-78 to -20 °C) 2) $\text{MeOH}$ (-20 °C)	<b>12</b> (63%) G = $\text{Ph}_3\text{Si}$ <b>13</b> (88%) G = OH
3	<b>3a</b>	1) <i>n</i> -Hex-Br (2 equiv) (-78 to -20 °C) 2) $\text{CH}_2=\text{CHBr}$ (3 equiv) HMPA (-78 to 20 °C)	<b>14</b> (62%) (60/40) G = $\text{Ph}_3\text{Si}$ <b>15</b> (70%) (60/40) G = OH
4	<b>3h</b>	1) CO (1 atm) (20 °C) 2) $\text{Me}_3\text{SiCl}$ (2.2 equiv) (-78 to 0 °C)	<b>16</b> (53%)
5	<b>3a</b>	1) $\text{Me}_2\text{NCHO}$ (1.1 equiv) (-78 to 0 °C) 2) $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (0 °C)	<b>17</b> (53%)

<sup>a</sup> Reactions were conducted on a 1 mmol scale. <sup>b</sup> Isolated yield by column chromatography on silica gel. <sup>c</sup> (1)  $\text{Bu}_4\text{NF}$  (5 equiv), THF, reflux, 1.5 h; (2)  $\text{KF}$  (2 equiv),  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (3 equiv),  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  (1 equiv), THF/MeOH = 1/1, reflux, 2 h.

would then result. This structure can then participate in the rich metal enolate based synthetic chemistry.<sup>8</sup> Alkylation of the enolate **4** would lead to four-component coupling product **5**. Thus, we launched this study in the hope of exploring a novel anionic cascade-type strategy available for the construction of ketone frameworks.

We began by studying the carbolithiation reactions of ketone  $\alpha,\delta$ -dianions **2** with several alkenes, such as vinyl-

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arenes, vinyl sulfides, and vinylsilanes, as described in Table 1. The reaction of **2a** with trimethylvinylsilane was problematic, since abstraction of a methyl proton competed to some extent. However, triphenylvinylsilane worked without difficulty. Thus, when 1 equiv of triphenylvinylsilane was treated with a THF solution containing **2a** at 0 °C for 1 h and the resulting reaction mixture was quenched with 2.2 molar equiv of trimethylchlorosilane, the corresponding bis-silylated product **4**, a *Z*-enol silyl ether, was obtained in 70% isolated yield (entry 1). This result suggests that dianion **2a** underwent efficient carbolithiation to vinylsilane to give the envisaged  $\delta$ -silyl- $\alpha,\delta$ -dianion **3a**. Addition of  $\alpha,\beta$ -dianion **2b** (*R* = *sec*-Bu) to vinyl phenyl sulfide also took place to give  $\delta$ -sulfur functionalized  $\alpha,\delta$ -dianion **3b**, which was transformed into the corresponding bis-silylated product **5** after quenching with chlorosilane (entry 2). Although treatment of dianion **2a** with styrene caused anionic polymerization, substituted vinylarenes, such as 1,1-diphenylethylene and 2-hydroxymethylstyrene, underwent smooth carbolithiation to give the corresponding ketone  $\alpha,\delta$ -dianions (entries 5 and 6). When a styrylsilane was used as the alkene component, an 83:17 mixture of regioisomeric dianions was formed in favor of phenyl-stabilized dianion **3g** (entry 7).

With this vinylogous route to ketone  $\alpha,\delta$ -dianions optimized, we then focused our attention on C–C bond formation at  $\delta$  and  $\alpha$ . We employed  $\delta$ -silicon functionalized  $\alpha,\delta$ -dianions as models, with the results summarized in Table 2. Treatment of  $\alpha,\delta$ -dianion **3a** with allyl bromide at –78 °C resulted in  $\delta$ -selective allylation to yield a lithium enolate, which was then transformed to an enol silyl ether **11** through treatment with trimethylchlorosilane (entry 1). Similarly selective alkylation by hexyl bromide took place exclusively at the  $\delta$ -position (entry 2). In this case, the resulting enolate was quenched by methanol to give **12**. The treatment of thus generated enolate with allyl bromide/HMPA gave a four-component coupling product **14** as a 60/40 mixture of

diastereomers (entry 3). In all cases, the C–Si bond was easily converted to a C–OH bond by Tamao–Fleming oxidation.<sup>9</sup>

One-carbon extension reactions using carbon monoxide<sup>10</sup> and DMF were also examined (entries 4 and 5). Thus, the reaction of a  $\delta$ -silicon-functionalized ketone  $\alpha,\delta$ -dianion, derived from dianion **2e** (*R* = *i*-Pr) and vinyltriphenylsilane, with carbon monoxide gave the corresponding bis(lithium enolate), whose stereochemistry was *Z* for the ketone enolate portion and *E* for the acylsilane enolate portion (entry 4). On the other hand, reaction with DMF resulted in selective  $\delta$ -formylation without a silicon shift (entry 5).

In summary, we have shown that a new class of ketone  $\alpha,\delta$ -dianions **3** are easily accessible by vinylogous extension reactions of ketone  $\alpha,\beta$ -dianions **2**. Based on this key transformation, an unprecedented anionic method for assembling three- or four-carbon components to construct diverse ketone structures was achieved. Further work on ketone dianion chemistry is now ongoing in this laboratory.

**Acknowledgment.** I.R. is grateful for a Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research on Priority Areas (A) “Reaction Control of Dynamic Complexes” from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan, for financial support.

**Supporting Information Available:** Experimental procedure and spectral data for all products. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

OL050813Y

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