

## Asymmetric Synthesis of Chiral 2-Fluorinated 1,3-Propanediols and Its Application to the Preparation of Monofluorinated Chiral Synthon<sup>1)</sup>

Hajime Yokoyama†, Ryo Hyodo†, Akiko Nakada†, Seiji Yamaguchi†, Yoshiro Hirai†\*,  
Tadashi Kometani‡, Michimasa Goto†, Norio Shibata§ and Yoshio Takeuchi§<sup>1)</sup>

†Department of Chemistry, Toyama University, Gofuku 3190, Toyama 930-8555, Japan

‡Toyama National College of Technology, Hongo 13, Toyama 930-8630, Japan

§Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Toyama Medical and Pharmaceutical University, Sugitani 2630, Toyama 930-0194, Japan

Received 17 July 1998; revised 6 August 1998; accepted 7 August 1998

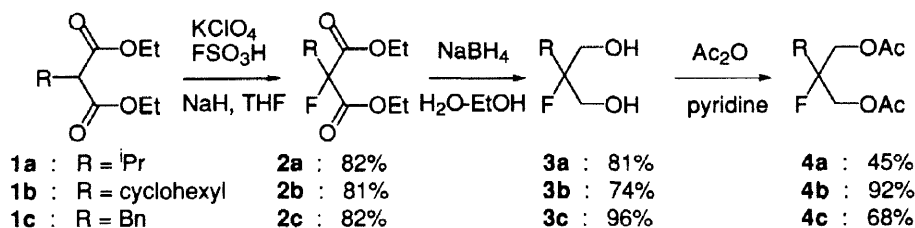
**Abstract:** Asymmetric synthesis of optically active 2-fluorinated 1,3-propanediols was achieved by enzymatical resolution and applied to obtain a chiral monofluorinated synthon for lignan derivatives.

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Since significant physical and biological properties are shown by compounds possessing a fluorine atom, the synthesis of fluorinated derivatives of biologically active natural products is of interest<sup>2)</sup>. Synthetic studies have been directed toward syntheses by chiral building blocks<sup>3)</sup> as the current topics for research. Especially chiral 1,3-propanediol<sup>4,10)</sup> are useful synthon for the synthesis of interested compounds. We are currently interested in the construction of chiral 2-fluorinated propanediols, as building blocks for the synthesis of antitumor lignan derivatives<sup>5)</sup>. We report here an asymmetric construction of chiral 2-fluorinated propanediols via enzymatic resolution of a  $\sigma$ -symmetrical diol system and its application to the synthesis of an optically active fluorinated lactone as a synthon.

The diesters **1a-c**, which were easily prepared from the corresponding malonate esters, were fluorinated using  $\text{FCIO}_3$  to give the corresponding fluorinated diesters **2a-c** in 81–82% yields<sup>6)</sup>. The fluorinated diesters **2a-c** were converted to the diols **3a-c** by reduction ( $\text{NaBH}_4$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O-EtOH}$ , rt) and then acetylation with acetic anhydride afforded the diacetates **4a-c** (Scheme 1).

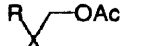
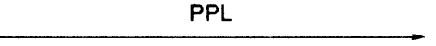
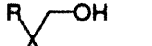
**Scheme 1**



Next we examined the dissymmetrization of the glycol system, by enantioselective enzymatic hydrolysis of the diacetates **4** and by lipase-catalyzed transesterification of the diols **3** based on our previous work<sup>7)</sup>. PPL-catalyzed hydrolysis of the 2-fluorinated diacetates **4** proceeded smoothly in a mixed solution<sup>8)</sup> (pH 8 phosphate buffer : diisopropylether = 1 : 1) to afford the optically active monoalcohols **5**. It is noteworthy that all the 2-

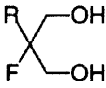

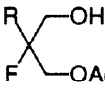
fluorinated diacetates **4** gave the corresponding monoalcohols **5** in 76-96%ee. The results are summarized in Table 1.

**Table 1 Enantioselective Hydrolysis of the Diacetates 4**

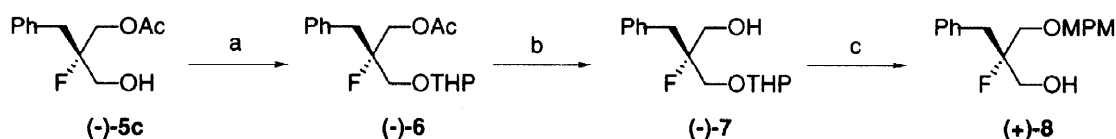
 <b>4</b>				 <b>5</b>	
Substrate	Reaction Time	Product	Yield (%)	Optical Purity [%ee]	$[\alpha]_D$ (c in $\text{CHCl}_3$ )
<b>4a</b> R = <i>i</i> Pr	5.5 h	<b>5a</b>	55	76	+10.1° (c 0.82)
<b>4b</b> R = cyclohexyl	1.5 h	<b>5b</b>	57	96	+9.8° (c 0.50)
<b>4c</b> R = Bn	1 h	<b>5c</b>	65	80	-7.1° (c 1.04)

Next enzymatic acetylation of the diols **3** was carried out using Lipase PS. These results are summarized in Table 2. The enzymatic acetylation afforded the monoalcohols **5** with high enantioselectivity except in the acetylation of **3a**.

**Table 2 Lipase-catalyzed Transesterification of the Diols 3**

 <b>3</b>		<p>Lipase PS, vinyl acetate 2,6-di-<i>tert</i>-butyl-4-methylphenol <math>i\text{Pr}_2\text{O} : \text{H}_2\text{O} = 1000 : 1</math></p> 		 <b>5</b>	
Substrate	Reaction Time	Product	Yield (%)	Optical Purity [%ee]	$[\alpha]_D$ (c in $\text{CHCl}_3$ )
<b>3a</b> R = <i>i</i> Pr	3.5 h	<b>5a</b>	34	6	+0.4° (c 0.90)
<b>3b</b> R = cyclohexyl	4 h	<b>5b</b>	67	91	-8.0° (c 1.20)
<b>3c</b> R = Bn	1 h	<b>5c</b>	91	95	-8.8° (c 0.98)

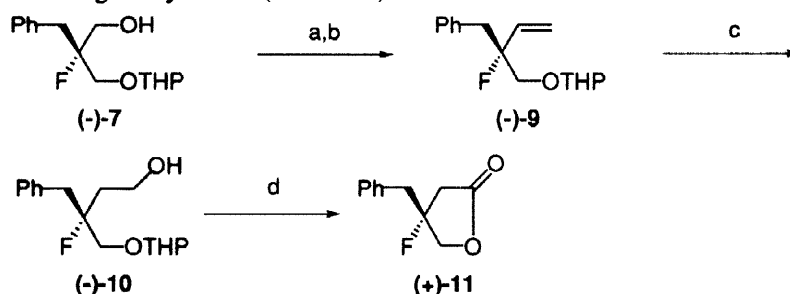
The absolute configuration of the (-)-monoalcohol **5c** was determined by correlation with a known compound as follows<sup>9,10</sup> (Scheme 2). The (-)-monoalcohol **5c** (95%ee) was converted into the monoalcohol **8** in 3 steps. A comparison of the specific rotation of **8** thus obtained with the reported value of the (*R*)-isomer indicated that our synthetic product **8** has (*S*)-configuration.



**Scheme 2** a) DHP, *p*-TsOH,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 99%, b)  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$ , MeOH, 91%, c) MPMCl, NaH,  $n\text{Bu}_4\text{NI}$ , THF, 74 %.

In order to demonstrate the usefulness of the optically active 2-fluorinated propanediols **5** as chiral building blocks for the synthesis of biologically active chiral compounds, the mono alcohol **7** was converted to the optically pure lactone **11**. Swern oxidation of the monoalcohol **7** followed by Wittig reaction provided the alkene **9** in 2 steps in 78% yield. Hydroboration-oxidation reaction of the alkene **9** using diborane and

subsequent oxidation of the resulting alcohol **10** with PCC afforded the desired lactone **11**<sup>11)</sup>, which is an important synthon for the lignan synthesis (Scheme 3).



**Scheme 3** a) DMSO, (COCl)<sub>2</sub>, NEt<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, b) MeP<sup>+</sup>Ph<sub>3</sub>I<sup>-</sup>, KHMDS, THF, 2 steps 78%, c) BH<sub>3</sub>·THF and then H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, NaOH, 55%, d) PCC, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 51%.

Thus we have developed an efficient synthesis of chiral 2-fluorinated 1,3-propanediols and its application to synthon for the synthesis of lignans. Further studies on total synthesis of various lignan derivatives with the use of these synthons are under way.

**Acknowledgment.** This work was financially supported by Grant-in Aid for Scientific Research (No. 090 442 77) from the Ministry of Education, Science, Sports, and Culture of Japan.

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- 8) Typical procedure for asymmetric hydrolysis of the diacetates **4** is as follows.

To a mixture of the diacetate **4c** (38 mg, 0.142 mmol) in isopropyl ether (8.9 mL) and phosphate buffer solution (pH 8, 8.9 mL) was added PPL (19 mg) at 30°C. After having been stirred for 1 hr, the reaction mixture was filtered through a sintered glass filter with a Celite pad. The filtrate was diluted with ethyl acetate. The filtrate was washed with brine. The organic layer was dried and evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel (hexane : ethyl acetate = 75 : 15) to afford a monoalcohol **5c** (21 mg, 65 %) as a colorless oil; IR (neat) 3456, 1747  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ );  $\delta$  = 2.13 (3H, s), 2.29 (1H, brs), 3.05 (2H, d,  $J$  = 21.5 Hz), 3.61 (2H, d,  $J$  = 15.9 Hz), 4.12 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 15.9, 12.2 Hz), 4.24 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 19.0, 12.2 Hz), 7.15-7.34 (5H, m). The optical purity of **5c** was determined by HPLC analysis (Chiralcel OJ-R, pH 2 phosphate buffer /  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ).

Monoalcohols **5a** and **5b** were prepared similarly.

**5a**: IR (neat) 3444, 1747  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ );  $\delta$  = 1.01 (6H, d,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz), 1.68 (1H, brs), 2.12 (3H, s), 2.08-2.28 (1H, m), 3.74 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 23.4, 12.7 Hz), 3.78 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 19.8, 12.7 Hz), 4.30 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 13.7, 12.4 Hz), 4.35 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 16.3, 12.4 Hz).

The optical purity of **5a** was determined by HPLC analysis (Chiralcel OJ, 2-propanol / hexane) after tosylation of the hydroxyl group and hydrolysis of the acyl group.

**5b**: IR (neat); 3466, 1748  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ );  $\delta$  = 1.08-1.35 (5H, m), 1.67-1.95 (6H, m), 2.12 (3H, s), 3.73 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 16.6, 12.4 Hz), 3.77 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 14.6, 12.4 Hz), 4.29 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 14.9, 12.4 Hz), 4.34 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 17.8, 12.4 Hz). The optical purity was determined by HPLC analysis (Chiralcel OJ, 2-propanol / hexane) after tosylation of the hydroxyl group and hydrolysis of the acyl group.

- 9) (*S*)-(+)-**8**:  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}} + 6.6^\circ$  (c 1.33, in  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ), (lit.<sup>10</sup>) - 5.3° (*R*)
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- 11) (*R*)-(+)-**11**:  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{29} + 29.9^\circ$  (c 0.55 in  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ); IR (neat) 1791  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ );  $\delta$  = 2.63-2.80 (2H, m), 3.12 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 23.0, 14.4 Hz), 3.18 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 21.7, 14.4 Hz), 4.30 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 40.5, 11.0 Hz), 4.36 (1H, dd,  $J$  = 29.3, 11.0 Hz), 7.22-7.38 (5H, m);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) 39.11 and 39.38 (d,  $J$  = 26.5 Hz), 41.16 and 41.40 (d,  $J$  = 24.0 Hz), 75.39 and 75.67 (d,  $J$  = 27.3 Hz), 98.13 and 99.94 (d,  $J$  = 182.0 Hz), 127.71, 128.85, 129.82, 133.83 and 133.86 (d,  $J$  = 2.48 Hz), 173.61;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3 + \text{C}_6\text{F}_6$ ) - 146.20 (m).