



Synthesis of C₂-symmetric P-chiral bis(phosphine borane)s and their application in rhodium(I) catalyzed asymmetric transformation
by Holly Ann Heath

A dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry
Montana State University
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Abstract:

A new development for the synthesis C₂-Symmetric P-Chiral Bis(phosphine borane) ligands is reported, These ligands are based on the asymmetric induction of prochiral phosphine ligands with organolithium/chiral diamine complexes. These ligands have been evaluated in asymmetric rhodium(I) catalyzed hydrogenation and [4 + 2] cycloisomerization reactions. Enantiomeric excesses as high as 99% were obtained for ene-diene cycloadditions.

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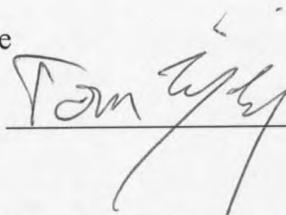
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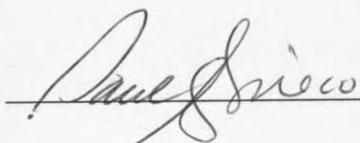
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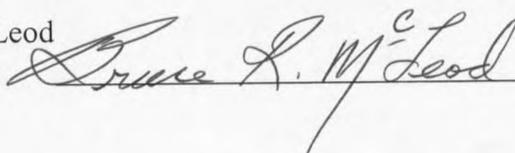
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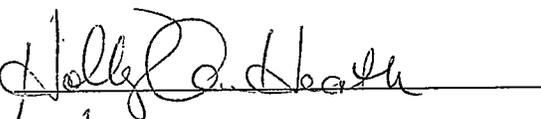


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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION	1
2. BACKGROUND.....	3
Organolithium/Chiral Diamine Complexes.....	3
Chiral Phosphine Ligands.....	8
Catalytic Asymmetric Hydrogenation.....	16
Transition Metal-Catalyzed [4 + 2] Cycloadditions.....	22
3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION.....	33
Organolithium/Chiral Diamine Complexes.....	33
Chiral Bisphosphine Ligands.....	39
Asymmetric Rhodium(I) Catalyzed Hydrogenation.....	50
Asymmetric Rhodium(I) Catalyzed [4 + 2] Cycloaddition.....	54
4. CONCLUSION.....	69
5. EXPERIMENTAL.....	70
PHOSPHINE LIGAND SYNTHESIS.....	72
Chloro-P,P-dimethylphosphinoborane (100).....	72
P,P-Dimethyl(bisethylammino)phosphinoborane (101).....	73
P,P-Dimethylphenylphosphine borane (57).....	74
P,P-Dihalide-2-(trifluoromethyl)phenylphosphine borane (halide = Br or Cl) (102).....	76
P,P-Dimethyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)phenylphosphine borane (59).....	77
P,P-Dimethylferrocenylphosphine borane (62).....	79
P,P-Dimethyl-2,6-(dimethoxyphenyl)phosphine borane (60).....	80
(<i>R_P,R_P</i>)-Bis[(ferrocenylmethylphosphine borane)- methyl]dimethylsilane (83).....	82
(<i>R_P,R_P</i>)-Bis[methyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl- phosphine borane]ethane (80).....	83
(<i>R_P,R_P</i>)-Bis {[methyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl- phosphine borane]methyl} dimethylsilane (85).....	85
(<i>R_P,R_P</i>)-Bis {[methyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl- phosphine borane]methyl} diisopropylsilane (87).....	87

(<i>R_P,R_P</i>)-Bis {[methyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl- phosphine borane]methyl} dicyclohexylsilane (88).....	89
(<i>R_P,R_P</i>)-Bis {[methyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl- phosphine borane]methyl} diphenylsilane (89).....	90
(<i>R_P,R_P</i>)-2,6-Bis {[methyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl- phosphine borane]ethyl}pyridine (76).....	93
(<i>R_P,R_P</i>)-Bis {[methyl-2,6-(dimethoxy)phenyl- phosphine borane]methyl}bis(dimethylsilane) (103).....	95
Deprotection of Phosphine Boranes.....	97
P,P-Dimethyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)phenylphosphine (104).....	98
(<i>R_P,R_P</i>)-Bis[methyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl- phosphine]ethane (105).....	98
(<i>R_P,R_P</i>)-Bis {[methyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl- phosphine]methyl} dimethylsilane (106).....	99
(<i>R_P,R_P</i>)-Bis {[methyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl- phosphine]methyl} diisopropylsilane (107).....	100
(<i>R_P,R_P</i>)-Bis {[methyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl- phosphine]methyl} dicyclohexylsilane (108).....	101
(<i>R_P,R_P</i>)-Bis {[methyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl- phosphine]methyl} diphenylsilane (109).....	102
(<i>R_P,R_P</i>)-2,6-Bis {[methyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl- phosphine]ethyl}pyridine (110).....	103
Substrate Synthesis: Ene-dienes and Dien-yne.....	104
2-Methyl-(<i>E</i>)-2,4-pentadien-1-ethyl ester (111).....	104
N-(<i>E,E</i>)-2,4-hexadienyl-N-[(<i>E</i>)-but-2-enyl]- 4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (92).....	105
N-[2-methyl-(<i>E</i>)-2,4-pentadienyl]-N-(prop-2-enyl)-4- methylbenzenesulfonamide (96).....	106
N-(<i>E,E</i>)-2,4-hexadienyl-N-(prop-2-ynyl-3-trimethylsilyl)-4- methylbenzenesulfonamide (98).....	108
4-Oxo-(<i>E,E</i>)-6,8-decadien-1-yne (52).....	109
4-Oxo-1,6(<i>E</i>),8(<i>E</i>)-decatriene (49).....	110
Rhodium(I) Catalyzed [4 + 2] Cycloadditions.....	112
Catalyst Synthesis.....	112
Cycloaddition.....	112
<i>Cis</i> -2,3,3a-(<i>R,S</i>)-6,7,7a-hexahydro-6- <i>trans</i> -methyl-2- (4-methylbenzenesulfonamido)-1H-isoindole (47).....	113
<i>Cis</i> -2,3,3a-(<i>R,S</i>)-6,7,7a-hexahydro-6- <i>trans</i> -7- <i>cis</i> -dimethyl- 2-(4-methylbenzenesulfonamido)-1H-isoindole (93).....	114
REFERENCES CITED.....	116

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
1. Enantioselective <i>Ortho</i> Lithiation of Phenylcarbamate Chromium Complexes.....	6
2. Asymmetric Hydrogenation of Dehydro- α -Acylamino Acids.....	21
3. Enantioselective Rh(I) Catalyzed [4 + 2] Cycloisomerization Using (+)-DIOP Related Ligands.....	26
4. Counterion Effect of Enantioselective Cyclization.....	28
5. Asymmetric Induction of Triene 49	30
6. Asymmetric Induction of Dienyne 52	32
7. Benzophenone Trapped Asymmetric Lithiation using Chiral Diamines 54 – 56 of Dimethylphenylphosphine borane.....	36
8. Benzophenone Trapped Lithiation Using of Phosphine boranes 59 – 62 Using (-)-Sparteine.....	42
9. Asymmetric Hydrogenation of Z- α -Acylaminoacrylic Acid Derivative 77 with Catalyst Complex 79	52
10. Asymmetric Rhodium(I) Catalyzed Cycloaddition of Ene-diene 46 with Cl^- as the Counterion.....	57
11. Asymmetric Rhodium(I) Catalyzed Cycloaddition of Ene-diene 46 with SbF_6^- as the Counterion.....	58
12. Asymmetric Rhodium(I) Catalyzed Cycloaddition of Ene-diene 92 with SbF_6^- as the Counterion.....	63

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Page
1. Prochiral Aryldimethylphosphine.....	2
2. Chiral Diamine (-)-Sparteine (1).....	3
3. Proposed Prelithiation Complexes of (1).....	5
5. Chiral Bisphosphines.....	6
6. (+)-DIOP Derivatives.....	25
7. <i>Trans</i> -cyclohexanediamine Derivatives and Their Antipodes.....	35
8. General Type of <i>P</i> -Chiral Bisphosphine Ligands.....	43
9. General Type of <i>P</i> -Chiral Tridentate Ligands.....	46
10. C_2 -Symmetric <i>P</i> -Chiral Bis(phosphine borane)s.....	51
11. Ene-diene and Diene-yne Substrates for Metal Catalyzed Cycloadditions.....	54
12. Disubstituted Silyltethered C_2 -Symmetric <i>P</i> -Chiral Bis(phosphine borane)s.....	55
13. Possible Conformation of Rhodium(I)/Ligand Complexes 80a and 85a , Front View.....	59
14. Possible Conformation of Rhodium(I)/Ligand Complexes 80a and 85a , Side View.....	60
15. Possible Conformation of Rhodium(I)/Ligand Complexes 87a – 89a , Front View.....	62

LIST OF SCHEMES

Scheme	Page
1. Asymmetric Deprotonation of Boc-Pyrrolidine (2).....	4
2. Asymmetric Synthesis of <i>P</i> -Chiral Phosphine Using Oxazaphospholidine Borane.....	10
3. Synthesis of C_2 -Symmetric <i>P</i> -Chiral Phosphines 26 and 27	11
4. Introduction of Dilithioaryl Species to Cleave P-O Bond of an Oxazaphospholidine Derivative 28	12
5. Synthetic Pathway Toward Ferrocenyl Tethered <i>P</i> -Chiral Phosphine Ligands.....	13
6. Two Step Process Approach to C_2 -Symmetric <i>P</i> -Chiral Diphosphines.....	14
7. Preparation of 1,2-Bis(trialkylphosphino)ethanes.....	14
8. Mechanistic Scheme for Olefin Hydrogenation.....	17
9. Asymmetric Catalytic Cycle for Hydrogenation of Olefins.....	18
10. Parallel Reaction Paths for Asymmetric Hydrogenation of Olefins.....	20
11. Possible Paths of Metal Catalyzed [4 + 2] Cycloisomerization.....	23
12. Benzophenone Trapped Asymmetricly Lithiated Dimethylphosphine Borane with Chiral Diamines 54 – 56	36
13. Benzophenone Trapped Asymmetricly Lithiated Phosphine Boranes 59 – 62 with (-)-Sparteine.....	42
14. Oxidative Coupling to Give C_2 -Symmetric <i>P</i> -Chiral Bis(phosphine borane)s.....	44

15. Silylative Coupling to Give C_2 -Symmetric <i>P</i> -Chiral Bis(phosphine borane)s.....	45
16. Bonding Property of Tridentate Ligand with $\text{Mo}(\text{CO})_6$	47
17. Bis-Alkylations Involving Dynamically Resolved <i>t</i> -Butylphenylphosphine Borane.....	48
18. Bis-Alkylation to give PNP Ligand 76	49
19. Asymmetric Hydrogenation of <i>Z</i> - α -Acylaminoacrylic Acid Derivative 77 with Catalyst Complex 79	50
20. Asymmetric Rhodium(I) Catalyzed Cycloaddition of Ene-diene 46 with Cl^- as the Counter Ion.....	56
21. Asymmetric Rhodium(I) Catalyzed Cycloaddition of Ene-diene 46 with SbF_6^- as the Counter Ion.....	57
22. Asymmetric Rhodium(I) Catalyzed Cycloaddition of Ene-diene 92 with SbF_6^- as the Counter Ion.....	63
23. Asymmetric Rhodium(I) Catalyzed Cycloaddition of Ene-diene 96 with SbF_6^- as the Counter Ion.....	66
24. Asymmetric Rhodium(I) Catalyzed Cycloaddition of Diene-yne 98 with SbF_6^- as the Counter Ion.....	66
25. Asymmetric Rhodium(I) Catalyzed Cycloaddition of Ene-Diene 49 with SbF_6^- as the Counter Ion.....	67
26. Asymmetric Rhodium(I) Catalyzed Cycloaddition of Diene-yne 52 with SbF_6^- as the Counter Ion.....	67

ABSTRACT

A new development for the synthesis C_2 -Symmetric *P*-Chiral Bis(phosphine borane) ligands is reported. These ligands are based on the asymmetric induction of prochiral phosphine ligands with organolithium/chiral diamine complexes. These ligands have been evaluated in asymmetric rhodium(I) catalyzed hydrogenation and [4 + 2] cycloisomerization reactions. Enantiomeric excesses as high as 99% were obtained for ene-diene cycloadditions.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Enantiomerically pure substances are of economic importance in industry. The need for efficient enantioselective syntheses remains a constant challenge. One of the most common methods to obtain stereoisomerically pure compounds involves the use of a stoichiometric quantity of a chiral resolving agent. This method, however, requires the recovery of the resolving agent which can be time consuming and costly. Hence, the development of chiral catalysis is of great interest because of its potential to be more economically feasible and efficient.

Chiral phosphine ligands have been used in transition metal complexes as catalysts for production of enantiomerically pure compounds. There are a variety of reactions where these ligands are not efficient in their reactivity or selectivity and a continued search for well designed chiral ligands remain an important goal. The objective of the research described herein was to design new C_2 -symmetric *P*-chiral phosphine ligands for use as enantiocontrollers in asymmetric rhodium(I) catalyzed [4 + 2] cycloisomerizations of olefins. These new ligands were also evaluated to determine their efficacy in asymmetric reduction of C=C linkages.

The synthesis and application of new chiral diphosphine ligands are reported herein. A key feature of these ligands is that the chirality is at the phosphorus atom. In catalytic processes involving phosphine ligands reactivity can be fine-tuned by altering

the environment surrounding the phosphorus atom. These alterations result in a change in the steric and/or electronic environment around the phosphorus. Therefore, the reactivity of phosphorus ligands were studied by preparing a number of chiral phosphine-borane ligands starting with prochiral phosphine-borane (Figure 1).

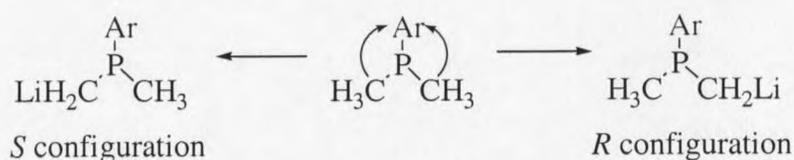


Figure 1. Prochiral Aryldimethylphosphine.

A new method to prepare chiral phosphine-borane ligands was achieved by starting with prochiral phosphine-borane (Figure 1). Asymmetric induction of prochiral phosphine ligands with organolithium/chiral diamine complexes allowed for an efficient method for asymmetric synthesis of new phosphine-borane ligands. The fundamental concepts of organolithium/chiral diamine complexes for asymmetric induction of prochiral phosphine ligands will be discussed. An overview will be given of the use and versatility of these complexes.

The logic behind the design and development of homochiral phosphine ligands during the course of this research will be discussed as well as the evaluation of these ligands in asymmetric catalytic hydrogenation and rhodium(I) catalyzed [4 + 2] cycloisomerization reactions.

CHAPTER 2

BACKGROUND

Organolithium/Chiral Diamine Complexes

The use of complexes formed between organolithium reagents and enantiopure ligands in asymmetric chemistry offers convenient approaches to syntheses of enantioenriched compounds.

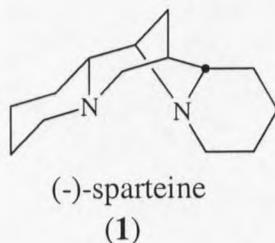
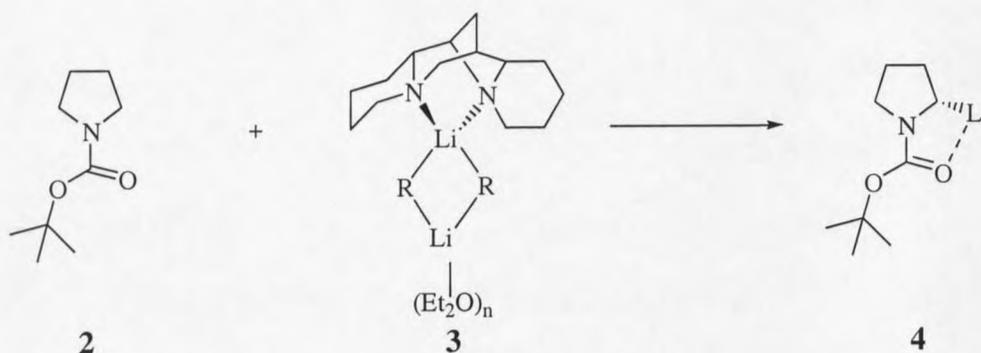


Figure 2. Chiral Diamine (-)-Sparteine (1).

Hoppe and co-workers reported that *sec*-BuLi and the C_1 symmetric diamine (-)-sparteine (1) (Figure 2) form a complex that can be used to lithiate a nonconjugated oxygen-substituted system.^{1,2,3} Beak and co-workers later reported a highly enantioselective deprotonation using **3** for a nonconjugated nitrogen system (Scheme 1).⁴ Complex **3** was determined to be configurationally stable at -78 °C and to react with

electrophiles with retention of configuration.⁵ NMR spectroscopy established the structure of RLi/(-)-sparteine to be an unsymmetrical dimer in which one of the lithium atoms is complexed by (-)-sparteine and the other lithium atom is complexed by Et₂O. Asymmetric deprotonation of Boc-pyrrolidine (**2**) with **3** resulted in a configurationally stable lithiated species **4** which could be trapped with various electrophiles to give 2-substituted Boc-pyrrolidines in high enantioenrichment (Scheme 1)⁴.



Scheme 1. Asymmetric Deprotonation of Boc-pyrrolidine (**2**).

A kinetic investigation of the reaction strongly suggests that deprotonation is the rate-determining step and that the complexation/decomplexation equilibrium is fast relative to the deprotonation reaction. The predominant species in solution is the prelithiation complex and though the structure is speculative there are three possibilities (Figure 3).⁴ Complex **5** is consistent with the kinetic investigation data; however, the distance between the substrate and (-)-sparteine makes it difficult to envision how asymmetric induction occurs. Complex structures **6**⁴ and **7**,⁶ however, allow the substrate

to be in closer proximity to the chirality introduced by the (-)-sparteine. There has been support for both complexes **6** and **7**. While Beak suggests a transition state that would proceed from the monomeric **6**,⁴ Collum proposes a linear dimer **7** based on the lithium dialkylamide transition states.⁶

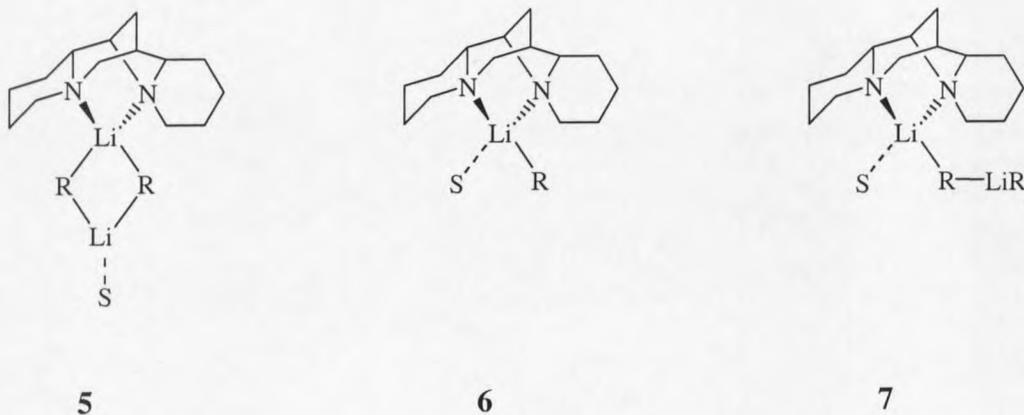


Figure 3. Proposed Pre-lithiation Complexes of (**1**).

A variety of ligand systems including (-)-sparteine (**1**) were investigated by Beak, of particular interest were, (-)-isosparteine (**8**), 3-benzyl-6-methyl-3,6-diazabicyclo[3.2.1]octane (**9**), and trans-1,2-bis(dimethylamino)cyclohexane (**10**) (Figure 4). Beak found ligands **8** and **9** provided useful enantiomeric excess (ee) with low conversion to product, while **10** gave no enantioselectivity but provided a good conversion to product (~90%).⁵

