

Chiral organophosphorus ligands derived from the levopimaric acid–maleic anhydride adduct

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The levopimaric acid–maleic anhydride adduct **1** has been used as a starting compound to synthesize chiral organophosphorus ligands **11–13** and **15–17** for transition metal complexes.

Asymmetric transformations catalysed by transition metal complexes with chiral organoelement (P-, N-, S-donor) ligands are of common knowledge.^{1,2} A great number of optically active compounds capable of catalysing the processes of hydrogenation³ and isomerization⁴ of prochiral substrates to provide high chemical and optical yields of products have been obtained to date. For this purpose a number of organophosphorus ligands based on esters of L-, D-tartaric acids,⁵ carbohydrates,^{6,7} amino acids,⁸ monoterpenes,⁹ binaphthyl derivatives,¹⁰ *etc.* have been synthesized. Even with impressive progress in this field, the synthesis of chiral ligands, which combine availability with high selectivity of catalysts based thereon, is still a pressing problem.

While making studies in the field, we paid attention to the adduct of levopimaric acid with maleic anhydride **1**.^{11,12} Owing to its enantiomeric purity, specific molecular structure and ease of preparation, it is an attractive substrate to be transformed to chiral compounds. A retrosynthetic analysis allowed us to define three principal routes for transformation of maleopimaric acid **1** to phosphorus-containing ligands (see Scheme 1).

Trimethyl ester **2**¹³ was produced *via* route A (Scheme 2); the ester was reduced by LiAlH₄ to 5a,8-dimethyl-12-isopropyl-1,2,8-trihydroxymethyl-4,4a,5,5a,6,7,8,8a,9,10-decahydro-3,10a-ethenophenanthrene **3** (80%) which reacted with benzaldehyde dimethoxyacetal to produce a benzylidenedioxy derivative **4** (95%). The latter was transformed to monobenzyl ether **5** (56%) under the action of benzyl chloride in the presence of KOH. Reaction of **4** with 2-methoxyethoxy-

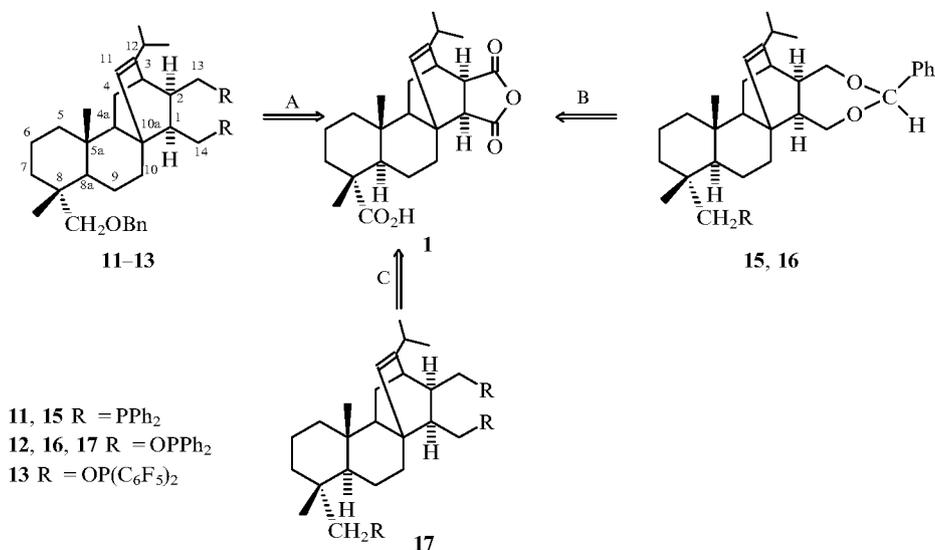
methylchloride (MEMCl) in a solution of di(isopropyl)ethylamine was used as an alternative to selectively protect the CH₂OH group at the C-8 atom. The yield of the MEM ether **6** was 90%.

However, it seemed reasonable to use a sample of monobenzyl ether **5** since, apart from the desired deprotection of the 1,2-oxymethyl groups, treatment of compound **6** with *p*-toluenesulfonic acid in methanol resulted in partial hydrolysis of the MEM-protecting function to form the starting triol **3** (40%). Hydrolysis of ether **5** allowed a quantitative yield of diol **7** to be obtained. Along with expected ditosylate **8** (75%), a product **10** from dehydration (25%) was formed upon interaction of **7** with TsCl in a pyridine solution at –5 °C. Compound **10** predominated in the reaction mixture (65%) when the reaction was conducted at room temperature.

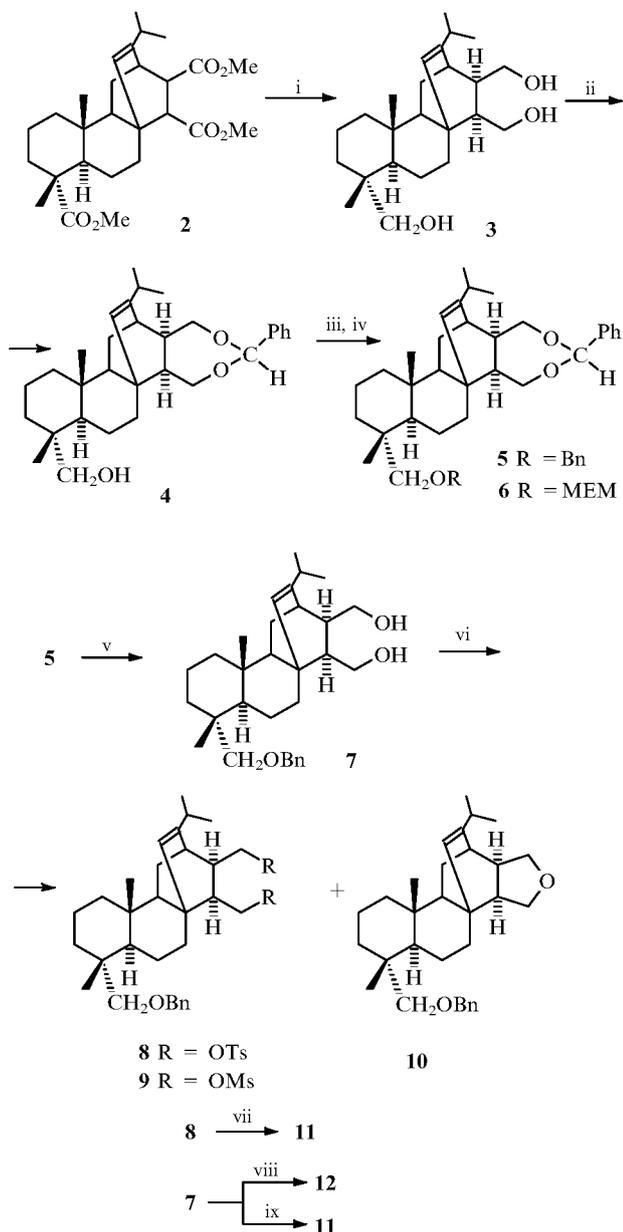
We succeeded in obtaining the target bis(phosphine) **11** in 45% yield through interaction of ditosylate **8** with PPh₂Na; the latter was prepared *in situ* according to ref. 14. To enhance the yield of the target product, we tried to involve dimesylate **9** which was synthesized in its turn from monobenzyl ether **7**. Unfortunately, reaction of **9** with a nucleophilic reactant produced a mixture of polar products, among which only diol **7** was isolated and identified.

Optically active phosphinites **12** (62%) and **13** (75%) were synthesized *via* interaction of diol **7** with PPh₂Cl and (C₆F₅)₂POCl, respectively, in the presence of equimolar amounts of pyridine in a solution of anhydrous THF. The formation of substituted tetrahydrofuran **10** (≈ 12%) along with the target products was observed in both cases.

To obtain monophosphine **15** (route B, Scheme 3), transformation of acetone **4** to the corresponding monotosylate **14** (70%) followed by interaction of the latter with



Scheme 1

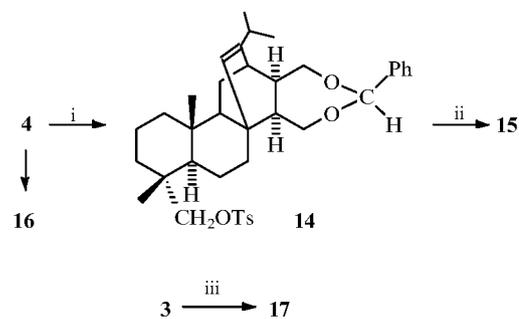


Scheme 2 Reagents and conditions: i, LiAlH_4 , Et_2O , 35°C , 48 h; ii, $(\text{MeO})_2\text{CHPh}$, $p\text{-TsOH}$, CH_2Cl_2 , 20°C , 10 h; iii, BnCl , KOH , DMSO , 25°C , 24 h; iv, MEMCl , Pr^i_2EtN , 25°C , 12 h; v, $p\text{-TsOH}$, MeOH , 25°C , 2.5 h; vi, TsCl , Py , -5°C , 48 h or MsCl , Et_3N , -5°C , 3 h; vii, PPh_2Na , 1,4-dioxane-THF, 25°C , 3 h; viii, PPh_2Cl , Py , THF , 25°C , 12 h; ix, $(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_2\text{PCl}$, Py , THF , 25°C , 12 h.

PPh_2Na under the conditions reported in ref. 14 were needed. The yield of phosphine **14** was not higher than 32%. Chiral ligand **16** (65%) was prepared *via* treatment of **4** with PPh_2Cl in a solution of anhydrous pyridine.

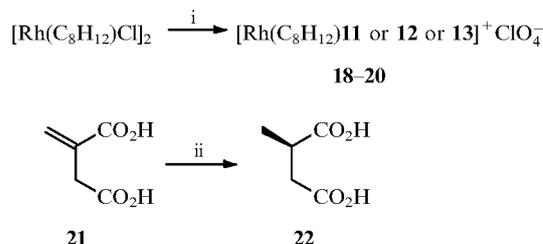
Phosphinite **17** originating from a family of tridentate organophosphorus ligands (route C) was synthesized from triol **3** using a conventional procedure (see Scheme 3). The structures of all the final and intermediate compounds are supported by spectral and elemental analytical data.[‡]

Chiral complexes **18** to **20** were obtained through the interaction of bidentate ligands **11** to **13** with di- μ -chlorobis(cyclooctadiene)dirhodium and NaClO_4 in acetone solution. We studied their catalytic activities and enantioselectivities with hydrogenation and isomerization of some prochiral substrates as examples. Hydrogenation of itaconic acid **21** in the presence of Et_3N in a solution of THF catalysed by $[\text{Rh}(\text{C}_8\text{H}_{12})\mathbf{11}]^+\text{ClO}_4^-$ (**18** (0.1 mmol of catalyst; 0.6 mmol



Scheme 3 Reagents and conditions: i, TsCl , Py , 20°C , -5°C , 24 h; ii, PPh_2Na , 1,4-dioxane-THF, 25°C ; iii, PPh_2Cl , Py , 20°C , 3 h.

of Et_3N ; 10 mmol of olefinic acid) produced (*R*)-methylsuccinic acid **22**, $[\alpha]_D^{22} + 1.27^\circ$ (c 0.4, EtOH), e.e. 7.5%, in 85% yield.



Scheme 4 Reagents and conditions: i, NaClO_4 , **11** or **12** or **13**, Me_2CO , 20°C , 0.5 h; ii, $[\text{Rh}(\text{C}_8\text{H}_{12})\mathbf{11}]^+\text{ClO}_4^-$, Et_3N , 1 atm. of H_2 , THF , 25°C , 1.5 h.

A detailed discussion of the results of enantioselective transformations involving the new Rh^I -based catalysts will follow.

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[‡] Spectral data for **11**: mp $102\text{--}104^\circ\text{C}$ (MeOH), $[\alpha]_D^{20} - 20.3^\circ$ (c 0.7, CHCl_3); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3) δ 15.61 (CH_3), 17.28 (C-6), 18.20 (CH_3CH), 19.44 (C-9), 20.30 (CH_3CH), 21.45 (CH_3), 29.87 (C-4), 32.61 (C-10), 33.16 (C-3), 35.80 (C-5), 36.42 (C-7), 36.89 (C-10a), 37.32 (C-4a), 38.34 (C-8), 38.50 (C-5a), 41.12 (C-13), 42.43 (C-14), 46.12 (C-8a), 48.00 [$\text{HC}(\text{CH}_3)_2$], 48.36 (C-2), 51.19 (C-1), 73.18 (CH_2OBn), 79.82 (OCH_2Ph), 124.63 (C-11), 148.12 (C-12), 127.21, 127.06, 128.21, 128.28, 128.37, 128.42, 128.56, 130.33, 130.50, 130.62, 130.89, 131.13, 131.34, 131.54, 131.66, 131.79, 132.01, 132.14, 133.28, 133.86, 135.07, 136.37 [$\text{CH}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$, $2\text{P}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_2$].

13: $[\alpha]_D^{25} - 3.8^\circ$ (c 0.35, CHCl_3); ^{19}F NMR (CCl_4) δ 2.68 [m, 8F, $2\text{P}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_2$], 17.17 [m, 4F, $2\text{P}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_2$], 32.16 [m, 8F, $2\text{P}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_2$]; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 0.54 (s, 3H, CH_3), 0.72 (c, 3H, CH_3), 0.96 (d, 3H, CH_3CH , J 6.8 Hz), 0.99 (d, 3H, CH_3CH , J 6.8 Hz); 2.18 [m, 1H, $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$], 2.88 (d, 1H, CH_2OBn , J 8.9 Hz), 3.19 (d, 1H, CH_2OBn , J 8.9 Hz), 3.42–3.75 (m, 2H, 13-Ha, 14-Ha), 4.36–4.56 (m, 2H, OCH_2Ph , 2H, 13-Hb, 14-Hb), 5.32 (s, 1H, 11-H), 7.48 (m, 5H, Ph).

16: $[\alpha]_D^{19} + 20.8^\circ$ (c 0.65, CHCl_3); ^1H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 0.57 (s, 3H, CH_3), 0.79 (s, 3H, CH_3), 1.03 (d, 3H, CH_3CH , J 7 Hz), 1.05 (d, 3H, CH_3CH , J 7 Hz), 2.43 [m, 1H, $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$], 3.39 (d, 1H, CH_2OPPh_2 , J 9.0 Hz), 3.57 (dd, 1H, 13-Ha, $J_{\text{hem}} 12.0$, $J_{13a,2} 4.9$ Hz), 3.70 (dd, 1H, 14-Ha, $J_{\text{hem}} 12.5$, $J_{14a,1} 4.7$ Hz), 3.94 (dd, 1H, 13-Hb, $J_{\text{hem}} 12.0$, $J_{13b,2} 4.9$ Hz), 4.09 (d, 1H, CH_2OBn , J 8.9 Hz), 4.22 (dd, 1H, 14-Hb, $J_{\text{hem}} 12.0$ Hz, $J_{14b,1} 4.9$ Hz), 5.19 (s, 1H, CHPh), 5.38 (s, 1H, 11-H), 7.47 and 7.79 (m, 15H, PPh_2 , CHPh).

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