Enantioselective Reactions of Oxocarbenium Ions

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# Contents



# Introduction

#### Oxocarbenium ions

An oxocarbenium ion is a canonical form of a carbocation, real or hypothetical, which places a formal positive charge on an oxygen atom. They are common transition states for the hydrolysis of glycosidic bonds, and are a commonly used strategy for chemical glycosylation. These ions have since been proposed as transition states of a wide range of chemical transformations, and have been utilized in the total synthesis of several natural products.



From wikipedia

# Introduction

#### Oxocarbenium ions: formation & challenge



#### Ti (IV)-catalyzed DYKAT of acetals



Loading of 3 (%)	Yield (%)	Ee (%)	
10	75	54	
200	82	79	

Braun, M. et al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2004, 43, 514.

#### Thiourea-catalyzed addition of enolates



Jacobsen, E. N. et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2008, 130, 7198.

#### Chiral BA/LA -catalyzed addition of boronates



Schaus, S. E. et al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2010, 49, 7096.

### **Optimization of reaction conditions**



# Exploration of reaction mechanism



## Exploration of reaction mechanism



# Proposed reaction mechanism



Au(I)-catalyzed tandem acetalization/cycloisomerization



Synthesis of Au(I) acyclic diaminocarbene catalyst

Slaughter, L. M. et al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2012, 51, 2912.

# Catalytic alkynybenzaldehyde cyclization

$ \begin{array}{c}                                     $								
Entry	R	Catalyst	T (°C)	t (h)	Yield (%)	Ee (%)		
1	<i>i</i> Pr	3a	25	37	12	8		
2	<i>i</i> Pr	3b	25	36	28	61		
3	<i>i</i> Pr	3c	25	12	68	84		
4	<sup>c</sup> Hex	3c	60	36	65	98		
5	<sup>#</sup> Bu	3c	60	36	66	96		
6	benzyl	3c	60	28	68	98		
7	<sup>n</sup> Oct	3c	60	36	87	99		
8	<i>⁰</i> Bu	3c	60	36	12	ND		
9	<i><sup>n</sup></i> Pr	3c	25	36	5	69		
10	<sup>n</sup> Bu	4	60	36	59	92		
11	<i>n</i> Pr	4	25	36	67	89		
12	<sup>i</sup> Pr	4	25	18	70	> 99		

#### DFT-calculated relative energies of rotamers of 3b and 3c



Typical cation- $\pi$  interactions exist in 3c and 4

Copper-catalyzed alkynylation of isochroman acetals



Watson, M. P. et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 17142.



Watson, M. P. et al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2015, 54, 14154.

Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>/(S)-Trip-catalyzed cascade annulation



Yao, Z. -J. et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2013, 135, 11402.

# Screening of binary catalyst combination



Entry	BA	[M]	T (°C)	Yield (%)	Ee (%)
1	P-1		reflux	88	10
2	P-1	AgOTf	rt	97	0
3	P-1	AuCl <sub>3</sub>	rt	63	0
4	P-1	PtCl <sub>2</sub>	rt	96	0
5	P-1	Cu(OTf) <sub>2</sub>	rt	20	20
6	P-1	Zn(OTf) <sub>2</sub>	rt	12	0
7	P-1	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	rt	96	26
8	P-2	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	rt	85	43
9	P-3	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	rt	73	15
10	P-4	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	rt	75	79

## **Optimization of reaction conditions**



#### Substrate scope





## Proposed reaction mechanism



CPA-catalyzed cycloaddition with boronates



Sun, J. et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2015, 137, 560.

### Asymmetric reduction reactions

Rh/CPA relay catalysis



Terada, M. et al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2012, 51, 2093.

## Proposed catalytic cycle



#### Asymmetric reduction reactions



Akiyama, T. et al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2013, 52, 13284.



Terada, M. et al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2014, 53, 235.

# Summary



Boronates exhibit wide-ranging utility in synthesis. As carbon donors in cross-coupling reactions and metal-based nucleophiles in  $\pi$  addition reactions, their utility is characterized by their ease of preparation, stability towards isolation and storage, and predictable reactivity patterns to afford valuable products. In a seminal discovery, Petasis and coworkers demonstrated how boronates could be activated towards addition to iminiums. However, an elusive area of reactivity is the addition of vinyl and aryl boronates to carbonyl and oxonium compounds. While less reactive than imines and iminium compounds, carbonyl-based electrophiles would significantly expand the utility of boronates in synthesis. Coincident with our interest in new reaction methodology, we sought to expand the repertoire of nucleophilic boronate reactions to enantioselective addition to acetals.

In summary, we have developed a dual catalyst system for the enantioselective addition of boronates to oxoniums. The catalyst system is a tartaric acid derived Brønsted acid used in conjunction with a lanthanide triflate Lewis acid used in catalytic amounts to promote the enantioselective addition of alkenyl and aryl boronates to chromene acetals. The reaction was optimized for a range of chromene acetals possessing both electron-deficient and electron-rich substitution patterns. Mechanistic studies demonstrate an exchange process leading to a reactive dioxoborolane intermediate. Ongoing studies include further mechanistic investigations, expansion of the scope, and utility for the synthesis of natural products.