Atroposelective Synthesis of PINAP via Dynamic Kinetic Asymmetric Transformation

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Abstract: The atroposelective synthesis of PINAP ligands has been accomplished via a palladium-catalyzed C–P coupling process through dynamic kinetic asymmetric transformation. These catalytic conditions allow access to a wide variety of alkoxy- and benzyloxy-substituted PINAP ligands in high enantiomeric excess. The methods described in this communication afford valuable P,N ligands in good yields and high enantioselectivity using low catalyst loading.

Keywords: PINAP; Dynamic kinetic asymmetric transformation; Atroposelective synthesis; P,N ligands

The unique properties of the axially chiral P,N ligand QUINAP (1) have been employed widely for various transition metal catalyzed asymmetric reactions.[1] Thus, approaches to the synthesis of QUINAP ligands in high enantiomeric purity have been developed.[2,3]

In 2013, our laboratories explored the palladium-catalyzed atroposelective synthesis of QUINAP and its derivatives via kinetic resolution and dynamic kinetic asymmetric transformation.[4] With a robust method for the synthesis of chiral QUINAP in hand, we turned our attention to the architecturally related PINAP ligands (2).[5] PINAP ligands (2a and 2b), which possess analogous ligation reactivity to QUINAP, were first developed by the Carreira group in 2004.[6] Carreira and co-workers separated the two atropoisomeric diastereomers through column chromatography by preparing chiral ether- or amine-substituted PINAP scaffolds. Herein, we disclose synthetic methods for accessing enantiomerically enriched PINAP ligands via dynamic kinetic asymmetric transformation (2a, 2c).

Our initial attempts to apply the standard QUINAP dynamic kinetic asymmetric transformation conditions,[4] 3.0 mol% of Pd[(o-tol)3]P and 4.5 mol% of (S, RFc)-Josiphos at 80 °C, to aryl triflate 3 afforded various alkyl- or benzyl-substituted PINAP ligands (Table 1). Asymmetric C–P couplings via dynamic kinetic asymmetric transformation on substrates incorporating methoxy, ethoxy, and isoproxy groups furnished the corresponding PINAP ligands in good yields and selectivities (4a, 4b, 4c). Cyclohexyl, 3,3-dimethyl-1-butyl, and homoallyl ether groups were also well tolerated under the reaction conditions to give the desired products (4d, 4e, 4f). Additionally, 3,5-dimethyl benzyloxy-substituted PINAP was obtained in good yield and moderate selectivity (4g). Although these initial results were exciting, it was clear that additional optimization was needed to improve the enantioselectivities in the synthesis of these PINAP ligands.

Figure 1. QUINAP (1) and PINAP (2).
In order to allow more time for the isomerization of the presumed arylpalladium complex before its subsequent phosphination, diphenylphosphine (1.0 M solution in dioxane) was added slowly.\[^{[7]}\] In addition, we used pre-stirred 1.0 mol% of Pd([\(\sigma\)-tol]),P\(_2\)] and 1.5 mol% of ([\(\sigma\),\(\sigma\)]-Josiphos) solutions in dioxane. Interestingly, improved enantioselectivity was observed with reduced palladium and Josiphos ligand loadings (1.0 mol% and 1.5 mol%, respectively) (Table 2, entries 1 and 2). We were pleased to find that higher enantioselectivities were obtained at lower temperatures (Table 2, entries 2–4). However, the conversion rate was dramatically diminished at 50 °C (Table 2, entry 5).

With the optimized conditions in hand, we investigated the substrate scope of the reaction (Table 3). Several alkoxy- and benzylxoy-substituted PINAP ligands were furnished in improved enantioselectivities under the optimized conditions (4a–4h, 57–80% yields and 82–96% ee). Even PINAP 4g, which had been our worst example under our initial conditions, could now be prepared in 60% yield and 94% ee. Applying our optimized conditions to a (\(R\))-phenylethoxy-substituted substrate, which was previously prepared by the Carreira group by chromatographic separation, generated the corresponding PINAP product in 95% de (4i). Interestingly, diastereomeric PINAP 2a was produced by our method with lower selectivity using the ([\(R\),\(R\)])-Josiphos ligand indicating some balance between substituent and catalyst in the process (e.g., mismatched pair). Thankfully, nearly enantiopure PINAP 2a was obtained after recrystallization.\[^{[8]}\] Unfortunately, in the case of (\(R\))-\(\alpha\)-phenethylamine substituted PINAP, only moderate selectivity was observed (4j). Additionally, application of our conditions to the reaction of triflate 3a with diphenylphosphine oxide or (\(p\)-CF\(_3\)-C\(_6\)H\(_4\))-Josiphos ligand was unsuccessful, and only low yield and selectivities were observed.\[^{[9,10]}\]

We applied PINAP ligand 4a (96% ee) to two different reactions (Scheme 1). Copper catalyzed asymmetric phenylacetylene addition to isoquinoline iminium 5 with PINAP ligand 4a afforded propargylamine 6 in 98% yield and 96% ee (Scheme 1a).\[^{[11,12]}\] In addition, rhodium-catalyzed enantioselective diboration and oxidation of trans-\(\beta\)-methylstyrene 7 with PINAP 4a produced diol 8 in 71% yield and 88% ee (Scheme 1b).\[^{[13,14]}\] The enantioselectivities and yields with PINAP ligand 4a are parallel to those with QUINAP 1.

In conclusion, the atroposelective synthesis of various achiral alkyl- or benzylxoy-substituted PINAP ligands via dynamic kinetic asymmetric transformation has been developed. The asymmetric PINAP ligands formed in this communication are envisioned to be useful in several important asymmetric reactions.
Experimental Section

(This reaction was performed in a nitrogen-filled glovebox.) Pd[(o-tol)P]₂ (10.8 mg, 0.0151 mmol) and (S,R_{R})-Josiphos (13.7 mg, 0.0226 mmol) in dioxane (0.302 mL) were pre-stirred in a vial until all the solids were dissolved. To a solution of triflates 3 (0.211 mmol, 1.00 equiv.) in dioxane (1.06 mL) was added DMAP (0.844 mmol, 4.00 equiv.) and pre-stirred Pd[(o-tol)P]₂ and (S,R_{R})-Josiphos (0.05 M in dioxane; 0.00211 mmol, 0.01 equiv.) at 23 °C. The mixture was placed in a reaction well preheated to 60 °C. A solution of Ph₂PH (1.00 M in dioxane; 0.317 mmol, 1.50 equiv.) was added to the reaction mixture in 20 µL portions every 30 minutes manually. After completion of the addition (8 hours), the reaction was stirred for further 7 hours at which point complete consumption of the starting material was observed. The reaction was cooled, removed from the glovebox and diluted with EtOAc (1.50 mL) and water (2.00 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 1.50 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with brine, dried with MgSO₄ and concentrated. The crude material was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to afford the corresponding PINAP 4i.

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References

To demonstrate the scope of our methodology, the enantioselective synthesis of Quinazolinap from triflate 10 was attempted, but our reaction conditions led to poor conversion. Moreover, treatment of triflate 12 with the optimized conditions for PINAP provided the QUINAP ligand in diminished selectivity compared to that with the original reaction conditions.\[10\]