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S_N2' Substitutions of 1,3-Dichloropropenes with the Functionalized Copper-Zinc Reagents RCu(CN)ZnX

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Summary: The addition of benzenesulfenyl (or benzeneselenyl) chlorides to propargylic chlorides affords regio- and stereospecifically (E)-1,3-dichloro-2-phenylsulfenyl (or phenylselenyl) propenes (**2a-c**). These new reagents were found to react with excellent $S_N 2'$ selectivity with the highly functionalized copper-zinc reagents RCu(CN)ZnX, affording polyfunctional vinylic-thioethers or -selenides of type 3. The acidic hydrolysis of 3 furnishes symmetrical ketones in good yields.

Many functionalized allylic compounds have proven to be versatile reagents for organic synthesis.¹ 1,3-Dihalopropenes are potentially interesting multicoupling² reagents, since two successive $S_N 2'$ substitutions would allow a 1,3-*bis*-functionalization of the allylic system. Unfortunately a comprehensive literature search shows that 1,3-dihalopropenes usually undergo only $S_N 2$ substitutions leading to terminal vinylic halides which are unreactive towards further substitution.³ We have found during a general study on the reactivity of the functionalized copper-zinc organometallics RCu(CN)ZnX⁴ 1 that these copper derivatives⁵ react with a high $S_N 2'$ selectivity (> 98%) with various 1,3-dichloropropenes 2 to afford functionalized olefins of type 3^6 (see Scheme I and Table I). Typically the 1,3-dichloropropenes 3^6 (see Scheme I and Table I).



Y = SePh, SPh; $R^1 = Me$ or H

propene (1.0 equiv.) was added at -78 °C to a THF solution of RCu(CN)ZnX (2.5 equiv.). The reaction mixture was warmed to 25 °C (to -10 °C in the case of benzylic copper-zinc reagents). The monitoring of the reaction (GLC analysis) indicates its completion after 3-22 h (see Table I). Besides the desired 1,3-disubstituted allylic products $R-CH=C(Y)-CH_2-R$ 3, less than 3% of 1,1-disubstituted allylic derivatives of type 5 ($R_2CH-C(Y)=CH_2$) was detected in the crude reaction mixture. In strong contrast, the use of 1,3-dibromopropene leads to the formation of appreciable amounts of compounds 5 (6-30%). This behaviour may be explained by the easy isomerization of the intermediate allylic bromide (compare with 4; Scheme I) rather than by a low regioselectivity of the reaction of RCu(CN)ZnX with allylic bromides. The 1,3-dichloro allylic compounds 2a-c were prepared⁶ by the addition of benzenesulfenyl chloride⁷ or benzeneselenyl chloride⁸ to propargylic chlorides⁹ in a mixture of dichloromethane and acetonitrile (3-10 h; 25 °C)⁶. These additions are regio- and stereospecific, affording only the (*E*)-isomers in high yields (76-90%); see Scheme II.



As shown in Table I, a variety of functionalized zinc-copper reagents RCu(CN)ZnX containing ester-, nitrile- or phosphonate groups react in high yields. The reaction can be extended to the more reactive and thermally less stable benzylic and heterocyclic copper-zinc reagents by performing the coupling reactions between -20 °C and -10 °C (see entries 7,8,11,14, and 15). The alkenyl thio- and seleno-ethers produced have predominantly the (Z) configuration, whereas mainly (E)-olefins result from the addition of RCu(CN)ZnX to 1,3-dichloropropene.¹⁰ Remarkably, benzylic and heterobenzylic copper-zinc reagents afford almost exclusively one double bond isomer (see entries 7,8,11,14 and 15). Several of the functionalized vinylic thioethers and selenides can be converted under various reaction conditions¹¹ to ketones by using formic or trifluoroacetic acid as solvent. A mixture of iodoacetic and formic acid was found especially efficient for the hydrolysis of the selenium derivative 3j to the ketone 6b (see Scheme III). The new allylic 1,3-dichlorides 2a-2c belong to a new class of useful $a^2/a^{2'}$ multicoupling reagents^{2,12} allowing a highly regioselective 1,3-difunctionalization of allylic systems. Extensions of this methodology are currently underway in our laboratories.

Scheme III



Reaction conditions: Method A: CF_3CO_2H , 25 °C, 6 days; Method B: HCO_2H/CH_2Cl_2 , $Hg(OAc)_2$ (1 eq.), 25 °C, 4 days; Method C: CF_3CO_2H , 25 °C, 24 h; Method D: HCO_2H/ICH_2CO_2H , 25 °C, 1 h.

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Entry	RCu(CN)ZnX	1,3-dichloro- derivative	Reaction Conditions (temp (°C)/time (h)	Product of Type 3	E/Z ratio	Yield (%) ^a
		SPh Cl		SPh R R		
1	EtO2C-(CH2)3-Cu(CN)ZnI	CI 2a	(25/18)	3a: $R = (CH_2)_3 CO_2 Et$	21/79	88
2	c-HexCu(CN)ZnI	2a	(25/22)	3b : $R = c$ -Hex	44/56	88
3	BuCu(CN)ZnI	2a	(25/14)	3c : R = Bu	40/60	89
4	NC(CH ₂) ₃ Cu(CN)ZnI	2a	(25/15)	3d : $R = (CH_2)_3 CN$	8/92	85
5	AcO(CH ₂) ₆ Cu(CN)ZnI	2a	(25/15)	3e : $R = (CH_2)_6 OAc$	45/55	76
6	(EtO)2P(O)CH2CH2Cu(CN)2	ZnBr 2a	(25/3)	3f : $R = (CH_2)_2 P(O)(OEt)_2$	2 8/92	90
7	PhCH ₂ Cu(CN)ZnBr	2a	(-10/20)	$3g: R = CH_2Ph$	0/100	78
8	Cu(CN)ZnBr	2a CDb	(-10/16)	H_2C $3h: R =$ SPh	0/100	7 9
9	S EtO ₂ C(CH ₂) ₃ Cu(CN)ZnI	Cl Me 2b	(25/12)	$R \rightarrow R R R$ H Me 3i: R = (CH ₂) ₃ CO ₂ Et	11 /89	89
10	EtO2C(CH2)3Cu(CN)ZnI	SePh Cl Cl 2c	(25/7)	SePh R $R3j: R = (CH_2)_3CO_2Et$	20/80	89
11	PhCH ₂ Cu(CN)ZnBr	2c	(-20/14)	$3\mathbf{k}$: $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{CH}_2\mathbf{Ph}$	3/97	94
12	NC(CH ₂) ₃ Cu(CN)ZnI	CI H 2d	(25/14)	$\mathbf{R} \qquad \mathbf{R}$ 31: $\mathbf{R} = (CH_2)_3 CN$	87/13	88
13	AcO(CH ₂) ₆ Cu(CN)ZnI	2d	(25/14)	3m : R = (CH ₂) ₆ OAc	70/30	80
14	PhCH2Cu(CN)ZnBr	2d	(-10/16)	$3n: R = CH_2Ph$	100/ 0	94
15	Cu(CN)ZnBr	2d	(-10/15)	30: R =	100/0	84

Table I. Products of Type 3 Obtained by the Reaction of the 1,3-Dichloropropenes 2a-d with the Copper-Zinc Reagents RCu(CN)ZnX.

^a All yields refer to isolated yields of analytically pure products. Satisfactory spectral data (IR, ¹H and ¹³C NMR, mass spectra and high resolution mass spectra) were obtained for all new compounds.

- 1,3-Dihalopropenes (X = Cl or Br) are known to undergo substitution reactions with various nucleophiles. However, only the S_N2 substitution products are usually obtained: (a) Julia, M; Blasioli, C. Bull. Soc. Chim. Fr. (Part 2) 1976, 1941; (b) LeBorgne, J.-F. J. Organomet. Chem. 1976, 122, 129; (c) Larcheveque, M.; Valette, G.; Cuvigny, T. Tetrahedron 1979, 35, 1745; (d) Savignac, P.; Breque, A.; Mathey, F.; Varlet, J.-M.; Collignon, N. Synth. Comm. 1979, 9, 287; (e) Ochiai, M.; Fujita, E. J. Chem. Soc. Chem. Comm. 1980, 1118; (f) Schulze, K.; Richter, F.; Weisheit, R.; Krause, R.; Muhlstadt, M. J. Prakt. Chem. 1980, 322, 629; (g) Alexakis, A.; Chapdelaine, M.J.; Posner, G.H.; Runquist, A.W. Tetrahedron Lett. 1978, 4205; (h) Nishiyama, H.; Narimatsu, S.; Itoh, K. Tetrahedron Lett. 1981, 22, 5289; (i) Reich, H.J.; Clark, M.C.; Willis, Jr., W.W. J. Org. Chem. 1982, 47, 1618; (j) Schuda, P.F.; Heimann, M.R. J. Org. Chem. 1982, 47, 2484; (k) Gawley, R.E.; Termine, E.J. J. Org. Chem. 1984, 49, 1946; (l) Magnus, P.; Gallagher, T.; Brown, P.; Huffman, J.C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1984, 106, 2105; (m) Singh, R.K. Synthesis 1985, 54.
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- An alternative mechanism consisting of two successive S_N2 substitutions: the first at an allylic position and the second at a vinylic position can be ruled out, since we observed that vinylic chlorides are inert toward a substitution with the reagents RCu(CN)ZnX. However alkenyl iodides react slowly at higher temperatures (40-50 °C; C. Retherford, P. Knochel, work in progress). S_N2' allylation reactions of organozine compounds in the presence of a catalytic amount of a copper (I) salt have been reported: (a) Nakamura, E.; Aoki, S.; Sekiya, K.; Oshino, H.; Kuwajima, I. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1987, 109, 8056; (b) Ochiai, H.; Tamaru, Y.; Tsubaki, K.; Yoshida, Z. J. Org. Chem. 1987, 52, 4418; (c) Sekiya, K.; Nakamura, E. Tetrahedron Lett. 1988, 29, 5155.
- 6. Typical Procedure. (a) Preparation of 1,3-dichloro-2-phenylselenyl-1-propene 2c. A solution of 2.2 g (11.5 mmol) of benzeneselenyl chloride (Aldrich) in 10 mL of dry CH₂Cl₂ was added at -20 °C to 1.05 g (14 mmol) of propargyl chloride in 20 mL of dry acetonitrile. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to 25 °C and was stirred for 3 h. After the addition of 200 mL of ether, the reaction mixture was sequentially washed with a sat. NH₄Cl solution and brine and dried over MgSO₄. Evaporation of the solvents affords 2.608 g (85% yield) of a pure yellow-orange oil which has a purity greater than 98% (contains 1.6% of diphenyldiselenide) and was used directly in the next step. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 360 MHz) δ 7.52 (m, 2H); 7.32 (m, 3H); 6.54 (s, 1H); 4.30 (s, 2H).

(b) Addition of $EtO_2C(CH_2)_3Cu(CN)ZnI$ to 2c (entry 10 of Table I). A THF solution of 3-carboethoxypropylzinc iodide⁴ (4.6 mL, 8 mmol) was added at -30 °C to 6 mL of a THF solution containing 720 mg (8 mmol) of copper cyanide and 680 mg (16 mmol) of lithium chloride. The resulting yellow-grey solution was stirred 5 min at 0 °C and cooled back to -78 °C. A solution of 1.06 g (4 mmol) of 2c in 2 mL of THF was added and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to 25 °C. The reaction was monitored by GLC analysis which indicated its completion after 6 h. After a standard work-up procedure the resulting crude oil, which contained 1% of the 1,1-disubstitution product of type 5, was purified by flash chromatography to afford 1.50 g (89% yield) of the desired 1,3-disubstitution product 3j (see entry 10 of Table I).

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- 9. 3-Chloro-1-butyne has been prepared in two steps from 3-butyne-2-ol: (i) TsCl, KOH, ether (79%); (ii) LiCl, DMSO (65%) see: Brandsma, L. Preparative Acetylenic Chemistry, **1988**, Elsevier, Amsterdam, Oxford, New York.
- 10. The stereochemistry of the double bond of compounds 3i, 3j and 3n has been established by NOE experiments. See also: Corey, E.J.; Shulman, J.I. J. Org. Chem. 1970, 35, 777.
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