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Asymmetric Reactions of (Arene)tricarbonylchromium Acetal Complexes

by

Maurice Kevin McKay

A dissertation

submitted to the College of Graduate Studies and Research
through the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry
in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy
at the University of Windsor

Windsor, Ontario, Canada May 1999



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ABSTRACT

Chapter 1

The nucleophilic addition of alkyl and arylmetals to 1 was examined. When the reaction was mediated by Ti(OⁱPr)₄, diastereomeric excesses ranged from 77% to >94%. X-ray crystallography suggested that the major diastereomer had the absolute configuration of S. Conjugate addition of alkylmetal nucleophiles was attempted on 2 and 3 without success.

MeO OMe MeO OMe OMe OMe OMe OF
$$Cr(CO)_3$$
 $Cr(CO)_3$ $Cr(CO)_3$ $Cr(CO)_3$ $Cr(CO)_3$

Chapter 2

The preparation of meta-disubstituted arenechromium tricarbonyl complexes was attempted. The initial phase of this research involved the directed ortho lithiation of 4, with thioether directing groups. In the case of the 4, carrying out the reaction in Et₂O led

to the metallation in the *ortho*' position. In THF lithiation occurred in both the *meta* and *ortho*' position. Desulfurization was attempted on the unsubstituted thiophenyl complex

4. The use of both Raney Nickel and Nickel Boride led to the formation of the desulfurized complex and its decomplexed analogue in equal proportions.

Chapter 3

A series of chromium tricarbonyl complexes with benzylic and non-benzylic alcohol functionalities were subjected to DMSO-TFAA and DMSO/SO₃-pyridine. Yields of carbonyl complexes ranged from 61-80% for the DMSO-TFAA oxidation and from 60-81% for the DMSO/SO₃-pyridine oxidation.

V

The most exciting phrase to hear in science, the one that heralds new discoveries, is not
'Eureka!" (I found it!) but "That's funny"
Isaac Asimov

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

normal butyllithium ⁿBuLi secondary butyllithium *BuLi tertiary butyllithium 'BuLi degrees Celsius °C deuterated chloroform CDCl₃ dichloromethane CH₂Cl₂ cm⁻¹ wavenumbers (IR) doublet (NMR) d diastereomeric excess de dimethyl sulfoxide **DMSO** enantiomeric excess ee electron e⁻ diethyl ether Et₂O ethyl acetate **EtOAc** equivalents equiv g grams hours h hertz Hz infrared IR lithium diisopropylamide LDA

m

multiplet (NMR)

moles per litre M megahertz MHz minutes min millilitres mL millimoles mmol mass spectrometer MS melting point mp nuclear magnetic resonance **NMR** phenyl Ph parts per million ppm quartet (NMR) q singlet (NMR) S triplet (NMR) t trimethylsilyl TMS tetrahydrofuran THF

TLC

TMEDA

thin layer chromatography

tetramethylethylenediamine

Chapter 1

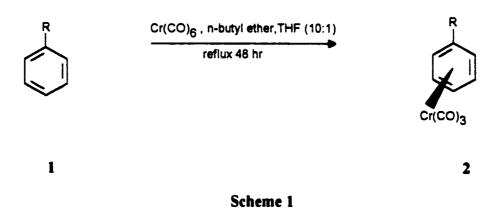
1.1 Introduction

Much attention has been focused on the use of arenechromium tricarbonyl complexes in organic synthesis¹. They are easily prepared and handled and complexation of the chromium tricarbonyl moiety imparts unique reactivity properties to the arene. The steric effect of the chromium tricarbonyl group on one face of the arene ring can be exploited in the induction of asymmetry.

1.1a Ease of Preparation

(η⁶-Arene)Cr(CO)₃ complexes are prepared by several convenient methods under rather mild conditions. The simplest and most widely used method is direct ligand exchange with Cr(CO)₆. This process takes place best in the presence of a donor solvent. The most effective solvent for this reaction has been found to be a 10:1 mixture of n-

butyl ether and THF 2 (Scheme 1). Other methods of complexation include thermolysis of $Cr(CO)_3L_3$ [$L=NH_3^3$, RCN (R=Me, Et^4), or pyridine 5] with the arene or arene exchange with (naphthalene)chromium tricarbonyl 6 . Complexation of chromium tricarbonyl to an aromatic ring is affected by substituents on the ring 6 . Strongly electron-withdrawing groups such as NO_2 and CN are incompatible with complexation. π -Electron withdrawing substituents (CHO, CO_2H and CO_2R) inhibit complexation and should be protected prior to complexation. Electron donating substituents increase the rate of complexation 7,8 .



1.1b Unique Properties

Complexation of the chromium tricarbonyl complex to an aromatic ring imparts unique reactivity properties to the ring (Figure 1). The effect of the complexation is the net lowering of electron density in the ring. There is an increased ability of the ring to undergo both ring and benzylic deprotonation, and nucleophilic addition (or substitution

if a leaving group is present⁹). Spatially, the metal occupies one face of the ring and the attack of any reagent on the ring is restricted to an approach only from the side *anti* to the metal¹⁰. Additionally, ionization of a benzylic leaving group occurs antiperiplanar to the metal atom.

Figure 1: Unique Reactivity of Arene as a Result of Complexation

1.1c Chirality in Arene Chromiumtricarbonyl Complexes

Many naturally occurring compounds are chiral and optically pure and the biological activity of one enantiomer is completely different from that of its mirror image. Examples of this include the terpene, carvone, whose (+) enantiomer has the odor of spearmint, whereas the (-) enantiomer has the odor of caraway seed. The R enantiomer of asparagine is bitter, while the S enantiomer is sweet. The most dramatic example of the differing effects was seen in the case of thalidomide. The S form was found to be extremely teratogenic while the R form could have been administered to pregnant women without adverse effect. It is necessary to produce many substances in their optically pure form. Drugs, food additives, flavouring agents, pheromones and pesticides are examples of this.

Figure 2: Enantiomers of Thalidomide

Since the chromium tricarbonyl moiety destroys the symmetry that lies in the plane of the aromatic ring, it is possible for *ortho* and *meta* disubstituted arene chromiumtricarbonyl complexes to exist as pairs of enantiomers (assuming the substituents do not contain a chiral center)

Scheme 2

That the products are enantiomers may not be immediately evident, since the chiral centers in these compounds are not of classical tetrahedral geometry. In fact each of the two compounds are mirror images and each of the substituted arene carbons can be thought of as tetrahedral (Figure 3). To assign R and S stereodescriptors, the same method used for classical carbons is applied; thus the arene carbon bearing the methoxy group would be designated R.

5

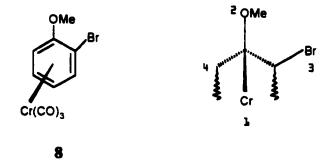


Figure 3: Assignment of Stereochemistry in Chromium Complexes

1.1.2 Asymmetry in Reactions of (Arene) Chromium Tricarbonyl Complexes

Arenechromium tricarbonyl complexes have been found useful for the introduction of asymmetry into a reaction. The relatively large steric demands of the chromium tricarbonyl moiety have been exploited for the stereoselectivity in cycloadditions, biaryl cross-coupling and addition of nucleophiles to benzylic sites. The tendency for the chromium tricarbonyl group to stabilize benzylic anions, cations and radicals as well as the addition of some rigidity to the transition state has also been widely utilized. Following, is a description of asymmetric reactions involving arene chromium tricarbonyl complexes.

1.1.2a Diastereoselective Complexation

It is possible to prepare chiral chromium tricarbonyl complexes by the complexation of the chromium tricarbonyl to one of the diastereotopic faces of an arene. For an aromatic molecule bearing a chiral substituent, facial selectivity is governed by steric and electronic effects¹¹.

The steric effect is evident in the complexation of N-methyl-1-isopropyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (9) to chromium tricarbonyl (Scheme 3)¹². This reaction yields a single diastereomer where the isopropyl group and the chromium tricarbonyl group are on opposite faces of the molecule.

Scheme 3

There have been numerous reports of benzyl alcohol derivatives favoring the addition of chromium tricarbonyl on the same face as the hydroxyl (or ether) group^{13,14,15,16}. A mechanism has been proposed ^{17,18} for this preference in which the first step is coordination of the chromium to an oxygen lone pair. The chromium tricarbonyl is then delivered to the nearest face of the arene (Figures 4,5).

Figure 4: Diastereoselective Complexation via Coordination

Figure 5: A Diastereoselective Complexation

1.1.2b Benzylic Cations

Reactions of nucleophiles with benzylic cations of (arene)tricarbonylchromium complexes take place with a high degree of stereoselectivity. For example, the reactivity of the chromium tricarbonyl complexes of *ortho*-methoxy-substituted benzyl acetates with alkylaluminum nucleophiles to generate and trap the benzylic cation intermediates has been studied (Scheme 4)¹⁹. It was found that the reaction proceeded with the formation of a single diastereomer. Loss of the acetate group from the *exo* face of the complex shown below yielded a cation in the *syn* conformation. (The use of the other diastereomer of the complex yielded a cation in the *anti* conformation.) The formation of a single conformation of the cation intermediate can be attributed to two factors. First, the leaving group must be in an orientation *anti* to the chromium-arene centroid axis.

Secondly, the cation is stabilized by delocalization of the positive charge by overlap of the filled d-orbitals of the metal and the empty p-orbital of the benzylic carbon. This can be represented by a resonance structure in which there is substantial exocyclic double bond character, which implies hindered rotation about the C_{α} - C_{ipso} bond.

Scheme 4

Typically, the substrates used to generate benzylic carbocations have hydroxyl groups in the benzylic position. Other benzylic leaving groups include acetates, halides and acetal alkoxy groups. Generation of the cations occurs in the presence of various Brönsted and Lewis acids. The range of nucleophiles used to capture these benzylic cations includes thiols²⁰, alcohols²¹, amines²², Grignard reagents²³, electron-rich arenes and β -dicarbonyl compounds¹⁹.

This method has been used to prepare several pharmacologically important compounds, including tetrahydroquinoline (16) via the cyclization reaction of the chromium tricarbonyl complex of a chiral benzylic alcohol (15) (Scheme 5)²⁴.

Scheme 5

1.1.2c Asymmetric Cycloadditions

(Arene)tricarbonylchromium compounds have been successfully utilized as chiral auxiliaries in stereoselective cycloaddition reactions. Asymmetric [2 + 2] cycloadditions, 1,3-dipolar cycloadditions and Diels-Alder reactions have been performed in this manner.

Buttero *et al* has used the [2+2] cycloaddition between the chromium tricarbonyl complexes of *ortho*-substituted aryl imines (17) and ketenes to synthesize chiral β -lactams (18) (Scheme 6)²⁵.

Scheme 6

Using the asymmetric Diels-Alder cycloaddition between chiral chromium tricarbonyl complexes of *ortho*-substituted benzylimine (19) and Danishefsky's diene (20), Maiorana and co-workers were able to achieve the stereoselective synthesis of 2,3-dihydro-4-pyridone derivatives (21) (Scheme 7) ²⁶.

Scheme 7

Hanaoka used the 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reaction for the preparation of *cis*-3,5-disubstituted isoxazolidines (23). Electron rich olefins were reacted with chromium tricarbonyl complexed aryl nitrones (22) to afford the corresponding cycloadducts (Scheme 8). *Cis-trans* ratios were typically in the 98:2 range²⁷. Selectivity has been rationalized on the basis of a concerted mechanism via a transition state that places the electron releasing substituent of the dipolarophile close to the electron-deficient aromatic ring. In such a position, it was postulated that there was an attractive effect between the two groups.

Scheme 8

1.1.2d Asymmetric Biaryl Cross-Coupling Reactions

Palladium(0) catalyzed cross coupling reactions of (arylhalide)tricarbonyl-chromium complexes with arylmetals provide an efficient route to mono-chromium tricarbonyl complexes of biphenyl compounds in good yields. *Ortho*-chloro and *ortho*-bromo substituted (anisole)tricarbonylchromium complexes were reacted with phenyl Grignard reagents, phenylboronic acids and phenylzinc chlorides with yields ranging from 53% to 86% (Scheme 9)²⁸.

Scheme 9

In the cross coupling reactions between *ortho* disubstituted (haloarene)tricarbonyl chromium complexes with *ortho* substituted arylboronic acids, mono-Cr(CO)₃ complexes of biphenyl compounds are obtained which have hindered rotation about the aryl-aryl bond. This results in the product having both planar and axial chirality. The coupling reaction between (2-methoxy-3-formyl-bromobenzene)Cr(CO)₃ (27) and *ortho*-

methylphenylboronic acid (28) gave the coupling product (29) in 82% yield as a single stereoisomer (Scheme 10)²⁸.

1.1.2e Samarium Iodide Mediated Couplings

Uemura *et al* have reported the samarium iodide mediated coupling reactions of the planar chiral chromium tricarbonyl complexes of benzaldehyde and benzaldimine to give the corresponding *threo* 1,2-diols or 1,2-diamines, respectively²⁹. Chromium tricarbonyl complexes of *ortho* substituted benzaldehydes and acetophenones (30) were coupled with methyl acrylate in the presence of samarium iodide to give a single diastereomer of γ -butyrolactones (31) in moderate to good yields (Scheme 12). Stereoselection has been rationalized on the basis of a proposed ketyl radical intermediate that possesses considerable exocyclic double bond character. Rotation about the C_{α} - C_{ipso} bond is hindered and the radical intermediate reacts with the acrylate approaching from the face opposite the chromium tricarbonyl group.

Scheme 12

1.1.2f Asymmetric Nucleophilic Additions to Arene Rings

It is well established that nucleophiles will add to electron-poor aromatic rings³⁰. The complexation of the electron withdrawing chromium tricarbonyl group to an aromatic ring also renders that ring susceptible to nucleophilic substitution. Chiral alkoxy groups have been exploited as auxiliaries in the asymmetric addition of nucleophiles to arene chromium tricarbonyl complexes^{31,32}. Addition of 2-methylpropionitrile to the chromium tricarbonyl complex of 8-phenylmenthylphenyl ether (32) gave 1,5 disubstituted cyclohexadienes (34) in up to 48% de (Scheme 13).

Scheme 13

Using oxazolines as chiral auxiliaries, it is possible to get regio and stereoselective transformation of arenes into *trans* disubstituted cyclohexadienes ^{33,34}. The combined effects of the *ortho* directing oxazoline group and the electron withdrawing chromium tricarbonyl result in the addition of the nucleophile in the *ortho* position on the arene ring (Scheme 14). The subsequent addition of an electrophile to the resulting cyclohexadienyl complex results in the formation of a *trans*-disubstituted cyclohexadiene. Initial coordination of the electrophile to the chromium atom followed by delivery to the proximal face of the cyclohexadienyl unit provides the *trans*-orientation of the two substituents. A variation on this methodology involves the addition of nucleophiles to the arene in the presence of chiral ligands such as sparteine and some C₂ symmetric vicinal diols³⁵.

$$R_1$$
Li, THF

 R_2 X, HMPA

 R_2 X, HMPA

Scheme 14

1.1.2g Asymmetric Addition of Nucleophiles to Aryl Carbonyl Groups

The chromium tricarbonyl group on these complexes can be used to cause stereochemical bias by blocking one face of the molecule from the approach of a reagent. One of the most common uses of this tactic is the addition to an electrophilic benzylic site of a chromium tricarbonyl complex. Typically, the electrophilic site is an aldehyde carbonyl group, although imines have been used in this role. A wide variety of aldol-type reactions have been successfully carried out in a stereoselective manner.

In an effort to synthesize ephedrine analogues, Solladié- Cavallo *et al* have investigated the reaction of nitroalkanes with o-substituted benzaldehyde chromium tricarbonyl complexes. Using (o-fluorobenzaldehyde)chromium tricarbonyl complex (38) with nitromethane in the presence of potassium fluoride, a quantitative yield of β -nitroalcohol (39) was obtained with a de of 86% ³⁶ (Scheme 15). With (o-

methylbenzaldehyde)chromium tricarbonyl as the substrate, the β -nitroalcohol was formed in 90% yield with 94% de ³⁷.

Scheme 15

Brocard *et al* have studied the addition of the lithium enolates of methyl ketones and esters with the chromium tricarbonyl complexes of *ortho* substituted benzaldehydes

38. Diastereomeric excesses (de) ranged from a low value of 78% to 98%, the higher stereoselection observed with the use of LDA in diethyl ether at -78°C. The reaction of acetophenone with (*o*-methoxybenzaldehyde)chromium tricarbonyl in the presence of LDA gave the addition product in 98% de (Scheme 16).

Scheme 16

In the syntheses of (+)-Goniofurone 39 , a titanium enolate of a thioester was added to a chromium tricarbonyl complexed benzaldehyde in a selective manner. (o-Trimethylsilylbenzaldehyde) chromium tricarbonyl (40) was treated with the titanium enolate of t-butyl ethanethioate (41) to afford the *anti* aldol condensation product. (Scheme 17). The same methodology was applied successfully in the synthesis of (2R,3S)-(-)-N-benzoyl-3-phenylisoserine methyl ester (42), a taxol side chain analogue 40 .

Scheme 17

The high π -facial selectivity of arene chromium tricarbonyl complexes has been exploited by Mukai and Hanaoka in imparting asymmetry on the Lewis acid mediated addition of silyl enol ethers to o-substituted benzaldehydes. ^{41, 42} It was found that high *erythro* selectivity was obtained for the addition of cyclic silyl enol ethers with (o-trimethylsilylbenzaldehyde)chromium tricarbonyl complexes. For the reaction between with (o-trimethylsilylbenzaldehyde) chromium tricarbonyl (43) and trimethylsilyloxycycloheptane (44), a 98:2 *syn:anti* ratio was obtained. Changing the ring size of the nucleophile had little effect on *syn* selectivity. Varying the *para*-substituent on the aldehyde also had little effect on isomer ratios (Scheme 18).

Scheme 18

Selectivity for this type of reaction is a consequence of two factors. First, the nucleophile must approach the carbonyl group from the face opposite the chromium tricarbonyl group. The coordination of the Lewis acid to both the trimethylsilyl group and the carbonyl oxygen causes the carbonyl group to adopt the rotational conformation that places the carbonyl oxygen close to the *ortho* substituent. Also, the orientation of the nucleophile determines which isomer is produced. **Figure 6** shows transition states to depict the addition of the silyl enol ether to the Lewis acid-catalyzed carbonyl group. Transition state **A** shows the nucleophile situated in such a manner that the trimethylsiloxy group is held away from other fragments. Transition state **B** depicts the nucleophile adopting an orientation such that the trimethylsiloxy group is in relatively close proximity to other substituents, which through steric interactions between the aldehyde function and the silyl enol ether would destabilize the transition state.

Figure 6: Proposed Transition States to Rationalize *Erytho* Selectivity in the Addition of Cyclic Silyl Enol Ethers to *o*-substituted Benzaldehydes

Mukai et al extended their study to include the examination of cyclic silyl ketene acetals as nucleophiles⁴³. (Scheme 18)

Scheme 18

The addition reaction exhibited highest selectivity when the *ortho* substituent on the aldehyde was a silyl group. Seven-membered silyl ketene acetals added to the aldehydes in the most *erythro* selective manner. Transition states that explain the diminished selectivity as compared to the silyl enol ethers have been proposed. (**Figure 7**). In a manner similar to the case of the silyl enol ethers, the preferred conformations for both the *threo* and *erythro* additions have hydrogen atom on the double bond on the nucleophile in the most sterically demanding position. Since it is the smallest substituent, repulsive interaction with the bulky TMS group is minimized. With silyl ketene acetals, there is another factor that must be considered. There may be an unfavorable dipoledipole interaction between the ether oxygen of the nucleophile and the aldehyde oxygen. It is more likely, than with the silyl enol ethers, that the addition of the silyl ketene acetals may proceed through other transition states less affected by this dipole-dipole interaction.

Figure 7: Proposed Transition States to Rationalize Erytho Selectivity in the Addition of Cyclic Silyl Ketene Acetals to o-substituted Benzaldehydes

Isocyanide additions to aldehydes

Solladié-Cavallo *et al* have examined the reaction of tosylmethyl isocyanide with *ortho* substituted benzaldehyde chromium tricarbonyl complexes (51) as a method to prepare optically pure β -amino alcohols (52), en route to their synthesis of halostachin^{44,45}. It was found that a single diastereomer of the oxazoline was formed from the reaction of (o-tolualdehyde)chromium tricarbonyl with tosylmethyl isocyanide. Upon decomplexation and reduction, (+)-halostachin was obtained. (Scheme 19)

Scheme 19

The anion of ethyl cyanoacetate has also been added to *ortho* substituted benzaldehyde chromium tricarbonyl complexes to give carboxylate-substituted oxazolines⁴⁶ (Scheme 20). When ethyl cyanoacetate was reacted with (o-anisaldehyde) chromium tricarbonyl (53), in the presence of LDA at -78°C, one diastereomer was produced predominantly. Upon decomplexation and reduction, optically pure α-amino-β-hydroxyacids (54) were obtained.

Scheme 20

Darzens' condensation reactions

The Darzens' condensation reaction between the chromium tricarbonyl complexes of o-substituted benzaldehydes with α -halo nucleophiles has been used in the preparation of chiral epoxides ^{47,48}. Using *ortho*-methoxy and *ortho*-chlorobenzaldehyde(tricarbonyl)

chromium complexes (55), Baldoli *et al* obtained very high ee values of styrene oxides (56) following decomplexation (Scheme 21).

Scheme 21

Reformatsky Reactions

Zinc ester, nitrile and ketone enolates have been used as nucleophiles in the addition to chromium tricarbonyl complexes of *ortho*-substituted benzaldehyde ^{49,50}. The reaction of methyl-2-bromo-2-methylpropanoate with (o-methoxybenzaldehyde) chromium

tricarbonyl (57) afforded the corresponding β -hydroxyester (58) with good diastereoselectivity (Scheme 22). The examples exhibiting the best selectivity are those in which there is an *ortho* methoxy substituent. Regardless of the nature of the electron withdrawing group or the α -substituent on the nucleophile, complete diastereoselectivity was observed. Transition states have been proposed in which there is coordination of the zinc atom to both the aldehyde carbonyl and the enolate heteroatom. The rotational conformation of the formyl group is such that the carbonyl oxygen is oriented away from the methoxy substituent.

Baldoli *et al* used Reformatsky methodology in their attempts to prepare optically active β -lactams ⁵¹ (Scheme 23). In this investigation, the electrophilic species were arylimino derivatives of chromium tricarbonyl complexes of *ortho*-substituted benzaldehydes.

Preparation of the zinc enolate of the ester was assisted by the use of ultrasound. Reaction of ethyl 2-bromopropionate with [N-(2-methoxybenzylidene)aniline]chromium tricarbonyl (59) in the presence of zinc afforded a mixture of the corresponding β-lactam and β-aminoester (60) (Scheme 23.) The β-lactam was obtained in a 40:18 cis: trans ratio. Upon decomplexation, the aminoester was converted to the β-lactam (61) in the presence of LDA in a 39:17 cis:trans ratio.

Aminoalcohol Chiral Catalysts

An arene chromium tricarbonyl based chiral catalyst has been developed for the addition of dialkylzines to aldehydes ^{52,53}. Its structure, at the active species, is a zine

alkoxide, derived from one of a series of chromium tricarbonyl complexed amino alcohols (62) (Figure 8). It has been effective in mediating the addition of dialkyl zincs to aldehydes giving alcohols in up to 99% ee (Scheme 24)^{54.} For catalysts without chromium tricarbonyl fragments, inferior selectivities were observed.

Figure 8: Jones' β-Amino Alcohol Based Catalysts

Scheme 24

Jones has also developed a series of chromium complexed tricyclic oxazaborolidine catalysts ⁵⁵ (65) (Figure 9). These catalysts have found application in the borane reduction of ketones. Enantiomeric excesses of up to 91% have been observed for the reduction of ketones.

Enantioselectivity is a function of the preference of the larger of the substituents on the carbonyl carbon to adopt an orientation *anti* to the bulky upper portion of the catalyst; thereby inducing intramolecular delivery to one enantiotopic face of the ketone.

Figure 9: Jones' Oxazaborolidine Catalyst

Alkylmetals as Nucleophiles

Alkyllithiums have been found to add stereoselectively to a carbonyl bearing arenechromium tricarbonyl complexes. Early research in this area demonstrated that KBH₄ reductions of chromium tricarbonyl complexes of indanones and tetralones (Scheme 25) ^{56, 57, 58} gave exclusively *endo* indanols and tetralols respectively. For the case of these bicyclic ketones, with its skeleton imposing high conformational restriction, it is not surprising that almost total stereoselectivity has been realized. Grignard reagents as well as alkyllithiums have also been successfully used to alkylate indanones⁵⁹, resulting in the formation of *endo* indanols (Scheme 26).

Arene chromium tricarbonyl complexes bearing aldehyde functionality have also been used as substrates for nucleophilic additions. With the appropriate *ortho* substituent, highly stereoselective nucleophilic additions are possible. The *ortho* methoxy group has been utilized to this end. For example, Solladié-Cavallo *et al* have made extensive use of the *ortho* methoxy-arenechromiumtricarbonyl compounds as substrates for asymmetric alkylations with alkyllithium and alkyl Grignard nucleophiles ⁶⁰. Perfluoroalkyllithiums and perfluoroalkylzinc nucleophiles have also been used by the Solladié-Cavallo group ^{60,61}. Other *ortho* substituents that have been included on the substrate include fluoro, methyl and trifluoromethyl. Addition of lithium acetylides and Grignards to chiral *ortho*-substituted benzaldehyde tricarbonyl chromium complexes provide a stereoselective route to optically pure propargyl alcohols ⁶².

Davies et al has shown that the incorporation of the trimethylsilyl group in the ortho position of the chromium tricarbonyl complex of benzaldehyde also leads to stereoselective nucleophilic additions to the carbonyl ⁶³ (Scheme 27). Pre-treatment of the aldehyde with MgBr₂·Et₂O ensured that there was a sufficient bias in the rotation of the carbonyl group such that nucleophilic addition occurred predominantly on the preferred rotamer which has the carbonyl oxygen pointing away from the TMS group.

Scheme 27

With the numerous examples of nucleophilic additions are nechromium tricarbonyl complexes bearing prochiral benzylic carbonyl groups, there seemed ample precedent to predict asymmetric nucleophilic additions to the carbonyl group of the *ortho*-formyl complex (**Figure 10**). This compound is readily prepared with methodology developed in this research group⁶⁴

1.2 Results and Discussion

The recent development of tartrate-derived benzaldehyde acetal tricarbonylchromium complexes as substrates for highly stereoselective *ortho* substitution reactions has revealed the unit to be promising in the field of asymmetric synthesis ⁶⁴. As such, the systematic investigation of the reactions of prochiral centers attached to the ring is warranted. In the field of *ortho*-disubstituted arenetricarbonylchromium complexes, study of the additions to the aldehyde function has become the standard of this ability therefore *ortho*-benzaldehyde complex (72) was chosen for this examination.

Figure 10: o-Formyl Complex

1.2.1 Preparation of the o-Formyl Complex (72)

The chiral acetal was selected for the ease of preparation of the acetal unit and its demonstrated ability in directing asymmetric lithiations. The *ortho* formyl complex was

prepared via the following synthetic pathway. A modification of the previously reported procedure was found to be more straightforward for the preparation of the acetal. First, benzaldehyde was protected as an acetal using diethyl tartrate and pTsOH (Scheme 28). This reaction was a modification of an existing procedure in which the diethyl acetal of benzaldehyde was prepared in situ using triethyl orthoformate⁶⁵. It was found that preparing the tartrate acetal directly had no deleterious effect on yield. It was also found that it was not necessary to separate the product using Kugelrohr distillation as prescribed by literature. It was sufficient to remove any remaining starting materials by filtration since they are liquids.

Scheme 28

The resulting acetal (74), which bears two ethyl esters, was treated with excess methylmagnesium iodide to convert the esters to tertiary alcohols (75) (Scheme 29).

Deprotonation of these alcohols followed by reaction with iodomethane gave the bis(dimethyl ether) compound (76)

Scheme 29

Thermolysis of the diether (76) with chromium hexacarbonyl led to the formation of the chiral acetal chromium complex (77) (Scheme 30). Yields of complexation products were typically in the 60-70% range after chromatography. Unreacted compound was easily recovered by column chromatography. During the course of the reaction it was necessary to remove sublimed chromium hexacarbonyl from the inside of the reflux condenser. Failure to do so resulted in an accumulation of solvent above the blockage in

the reflux condenser and thus a loss of solvent in the reaction flask. The reaction failed outright under such circumstances.

Scheme 30

Using the directed metallation methodology developed for this particular substrate⁶⁴, it was possible to introduce a formyl group exclusively into one of the *ortho* positions of the ring by *pro*-R deprotonation (Scheme 31). The chiral acetal (77) was lithiated at -35° C in Et₂O by the addition of n-BuLi over 1.5 h, using a syringe pump, followed by stirring for 3 h at -35° C. After the addition of the electrophile, the reaction was allowed to stir for an additional hour at which point it was quenched with H₂O. Initially, DMF was used as the electrophile and yields of 70 % were typical of this reaction. Use of N-methylformanilide as the electrophile led to an improvement in yield to approximately 80 %. The ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude product showed no evidence of a minor diastereomer; thus the de for the reaction was estimated at > 94%. The stereochemical assignment at the ring carbons of R for the carbon bearing the acetal and S for the carbon bearing the formyl group, as depicted in Scheme 31, is based on the

known stereochemical disposition of this reaction with other electrophiles. An additional benefit of this modification was that it was unnecessary to distill the electrophile prior to its use in the reaction.

Scheme 31

1.2.2 Nucleophilic Addition to the o-Formyl Complex (72)

With the diastereomerically and enantiomerically pure aldehyde (72) in hand, its electrophilic reactivity was examined. The nucleophiles used for this phase of the study are shown below (Figure 11). Two criteria were considered when selecting potential nucleophiles; ready availability and ease of preparation. Methyllithium, n-butyllithium, t-butyllithium, phenyllithium and 2-propylmagnesium chloride were commercially available as solutions and were used as received. Methylmagnesium iodide, ethylmagnesium iodide, phenylmagnesium bromide and 2-bromomagnesiothiophene were prepared from the corresponding halide and magnesium metal in diethyl ether. 1-Hexynyllithium was prepared by the reaction of 1-hexyne with n-butyllithium⁶⁶. The commercially available lithium nucleophiles were titrated with 2,5-

dimethoxybenzylalcohol⁶⁷ whereas the preparation of the Grignard reagents was assumed to be near quantitative.

Figure 11: Nucleophiles Chosen For Study

The initial phase of this research involved the optimization of the conditions for nucleophilic addition to the o-formyl complex. Methyllithium was chosen for this purpose based on its ready availability and anticipated success in reactions of this type. The reaction was typically performed by the dropwise addition of three equivalents of methyllithium to a cooled solution of the o-formyl complex (72). The colour of the solution underwent a change from dark orange to yellow, indicating that the conjugation between the aromatic ring and the formyl group had been interrupted, as in the

conversion of the carbonyl group to an alkoxide. The reaction was stirred for 3 h, at which time it was quenched with water.

Scheme 32

To choose a suitable solvent for the reaction, the addition was carried out in THF and diethyl ether at -78°C. (Scheme 32) It was found that in both solvents, the colour of the solution changed almost immediately, indicating a very rapid reaction. Chemical yields were similar for these reactions, typically 75% after chromatography.

Determination of the diastereomeric excess was determined by examination of the ^{1}H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction products. In all cases, it was possible to determine the ratio of diastereomers by comparing the integrations of the signals from the acetal protons that typically occurred at about 6 ppm. The resonance for the minor diastereomer occurred slightly downfield from the resonance from the major diastereomer. For the reaction of methyllithium with the aldehyde (72), the peak for the acetal proton of the major diastereomer occurred at δ 6.02 whereas the corresponding peak for the minor diastereomer occurred at δ 6.26.

Superior diastereoselectivity was observed for the addition using diethyl ether as a solvent. At -78°C, the diastereomeric ratio for the addition of methyllithium was 4.6:1 in Et₂O as opposed to 2.9:1 in THF. This may be attributed to the fact that as a better coordinating solvent, THF is better able to facilitate the formation of lower order oligomers of lithium base/ solvent composition ⁶⁸. In other words, the reacting species in the case of the THF solvent is smaller in size than the reacting species in the diethyl ether. The smaller reactive THF/alkyllithium aggregate species should be more reactive and thus less selective than the Et₂O/alkyllithium aggregate.

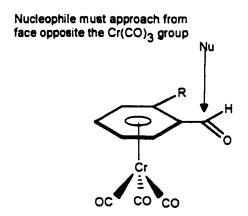


Figure 12: Factors Governing the Stereoselectivity of Nucleophilic Addition to

Carbonyl Group

Reaction temperature was the next parameter to be examined. Methyllithium was added to the substrate in diethyl ether at -35°C, -78°C and -110°C. At -35°C and -78°C, the addition of the nucleophile was almost instantaneous, whereas at -110°C the colour change of the solution took approximately 1 min. After 3 h, the reactions were quenched with water. Not surprisingly, the best selectivity was observed with decreased

temperatures. At -35°C the ratio was 2.41:1, at -78°C there was a 4.6: 1 ratio of diastereomers and at -110°C the ratio was 4.9:1. This can be explained by considering the origin of the minor diastereomer. It is assumed that the nucleophile attacks the aldehyde from the face opposite the chromium tricarbonyl group and that there is a preferred rotational conformer that places the aldehyde oxygen in a position away from the bulky acetal group. (Figure 13) The less favoured rotamer places the aldehyde oxygen close to the acetal group.

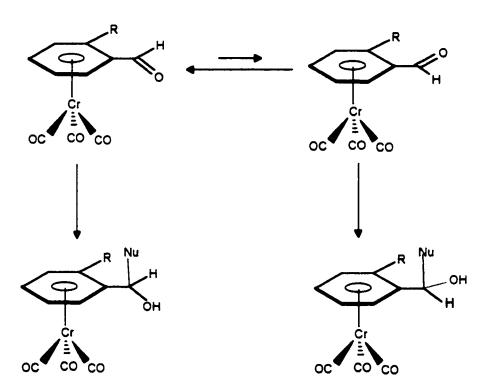
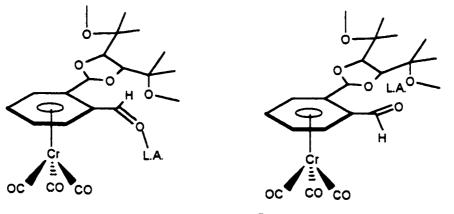


Figure 13: Rotamer Effect on Stereochemistry of Addition Product

A study of the effect of the mediation of Lewis acids on the addition of nucleophiles to the aldehyde was undertaken. It was expected that the Lewis acid would affect the reaction in two ways (Figure 14). First, it was anticipated that the reaction rate

would increase due to the ability of the Lewis acid to coordinate to the aldehyde oxygen and increase the polarization of the carbonyl bond. It was also envisioned that it might be possible to reverse the stereochemistry of the nucleophilic addition by shifting the rotamer population. In principle it is possible for the metal center of some Lewis acids to bind to more than one oxygen atom on the substrate. By participating in bidentate coordiation, the Lewis acid would require the aldehyde to adopt the previously "less favoured" conformation. Successful additions to the aldehyde under these conditions would lead to the formation the "minor diastereomer" and thus access to both isomers would be possible.



Monodentate chelation to o-formyl complex allows for favoured conformation of carbonyl

Bidentate chelation to o-formyl complex places carbonyl group in "less favoured" comformation

Figure 14: Possible Modes of Lewis Acid Coordination

The Lewis acids chosen for this study were BF₃ etherate, titanium(IV) isopropoxide, titanium(IV) *n*-propoxide and zinc chloride. No addition products were detected when BF₃ etherate was used to mediate the reaction of methyllithium and the oformyl complex; the effect of BF₃ etherate on the reaction was the complete decomplexation of the *o*-formyl compound. Using ZnCl₂ to mediate the reaction led to

the formation of the major diastereomer found in the unmediated reaction. The yield was somewhat diminished due to the presence of decomplexed substrate. That there was decomplexation of the substrate was not especially surprising since previous studies in our group have demonstrated that the presence of halide ion in an acidic medium leads to the removal of chromium tricarbonyl groups in donor solvents, such as ether and THF. possibly through a ligand exchange mechanism. Fortunately, the addition of methyllithium to the substrate was successfully accomplished in the presence of titanium(IV) isopropoxide and titanium(IV) n-propoxide. With the use of both Lewis acids, chemical yields improved slightly over the non-mediated reaction and diastereoselectivity improved significantly toward the formation of the major diastereomer. With Ti(O'Pr)₄ mediating the MeLi reaction at -78°C, the ratio of isomers was 16:1 or 88% de. Although both of theses Lewis acids had similar effect on the reaction and it would be incorrect to state that one was better than the other consistently, titanium(IV) isopropoxide was chosen since it was easier to handle. Titanium (IV) npropoxide had a higher viscosity than titanium(IV) isopropoxide and was more difficult to transfer. This is not a trivial consideration since exposure to the air and especially atmospheric moisture has a detrimental effect on reactions involving alkyllithiums.

Having chosen the proper temperature, solvent and additive, we endeavoured to expand the range of nucleophiles that could be added to the o-formyl complex in a highly diastereoselective manner. The results are summarized in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Results of Nucleophilic Addition to o-Formyl Complex 72 in the Presence of Ti(O¹Pr)₄

Nucleophile	Yield (%)	Diastereomeric excess (%)
MeLi (89a,b)	75	88
EtLi (90a,b)	73	85
n-PrMgBr (91a,b)	77	87
i-PrMgI (92)	56	reduction
n-BuLi (93a,b)	72	86
t-BuLi (94a,b)	61	85
1-hexynyllithium (95a,b)	Not isolated	94
Phenyllithium (96 a,b)	60	77
PhenylMgBr (96a,b)	63	82
2-bromomagnesiothiophene	70	86
(97a,b)		

The optimized conditions for the addition of methyllithium to (72) did not prove to be the best for all nucleophiles. While the small alkyllithiums and Grignard reagents exhibited good reactivity and diastereoselectivity under the conditions developed for

methyllithium, the aryl nucleophiles and the 2° and 3° alkylmetals reacted relatively sluggishly. For example, very little t-BuLi reacted by the end of three hours at -78°C as observed by TLC. It was necessary to allow the reaction to proceed overnight while warming to room temperature. For these longer reactions, it was necessary to protect the reaction flask from light; or else there was significant decomplexation of the chromium tricarbonyl complexes.

Several of the benzyl alcohols proved to be unstable under 'normal conditions'. Some compounds such as the methyl and n-butyl derivatives proved to be extremely robust and survived storage for several months. Others, such as the phenyl derivative decomplexed during purification unless strict control was exerted over temperature and light. It was necessary to carry out TLC at 0° C. Even more fragile was the hexynyl derivative which decomplexed during purification regardless of the precautions taken. The 1 H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction material was much cleaner than that of the post chromatographic fractions, the latter of which exhibit peaks in the δ 7.0 to 7.5 region. Decomplexation of the chromium complexes can be detected in two ways: the appearance of green precipitate in the solution and the appearance of extraneous peaks in the 1 H NMR spectrum in the δ 7 range (protons on complexed aromatic rings appear at approximately δ 5). In general, the chromium tricarbonyl complexes that were crystalline were less susceptible to decomplexation than those that were oils.

In the attempted addition of 2-propylmagnesium chloride to the o-formyl complex, the only product recovered was the alcohol (92) resulting from the reduction of the aldehyde function (Scheme 33). The alcohol proved to be very unstable, rapidly decomplexing while in CDCl₃ solution as an NMR sample.

Scheme 33

It was possible to crystallize the addition product between n-butyllithium and the o-formyl complex (93a) in order to determine the crystal structure by X-ray diffraction. It is apparent from the ORTEP diagram of the crystal structure (Figure 15) that the newly formed chiral center at the benzylic carbon is of the (S)-configuration. This is consistent with the addition of the nucleophile to an aldehyde function with the oxygen atom anti to the acetal unit, and from the face anti to the tricarbonylchromium unit. Based on this and the precedented pattern of the reactivity of other ortho- substituted arylaldehyde tricarbonyl chromium complexes, the analogous stereochemical assignments have been made to the other addition products (89a-97a).

The observed stereoselectivies also imply that the added $Ti(OiPr)_4$ is complexed solely in the transition state to the carbonyl oxygen, and does not coordinate with any of the oxygen atoms of the acetal moiety (see Figure 14). In the process, the effective size of the carbonyl group is increased such that the conformational bias in favour of that *anti* to the tartrate is enhanced. For the n-alkylmetals and alkynylmetals, the observed stereoselectivities also give a preference for the most favoured transition state of 4.1 - 5.6 kJ/ mol (1.0 - 1.4 kcal/mol) over the closest alternative favouring the minor diastereomer. Such an analysis is not possible with the other nucleophiles given the uncertainty of the temperature at which the reaction occurs. This and the lower aggregation states for more bulky organolithium reagents, makes a discussion of de versus nucleophile size difficult.

Other alternatives are possible for the role that is played by the titanium. Aside from acting as a Lewis acid merely coordinating to the oxygen of the aldehyde carbonyl, there exists the possibility of the intervention of either a titanium ate complex ([RTi(OⁱPr₎₄]) or an alkyltitanium triisopropoxide (RTi(OⁱPr)₃) in the reaction. In order to evaluate this, CH₃Ti(OⁱPr)₃ was prepared by reacting MeLi with ClTi(OiPr)₃ ⁶⁹. (Scheme 34) Addition of an ether solution of the CH₃Ti(OⁱPr)₃ to a solution of the oformyl complex under the usual reaction conditions (i.e. -78°C, stirring for 3 h followed by quenching at -78°C) showed no evidence of addition taking place (Scheme 35). The

Scheme 34

Scheme 35

Similar results were obtained when the o-formyl complex (72) was reacted with the titanium ate complex, CH₃Ti(OⁱPr)₄Li. Addition of Ti(OⁱPr)₄ to an ether solution of methyllithium produced the clear yellow solution of the ate complex at -30°C ⁷⁰. Addition of an ether solution of the o-formyl complex to the solution of the ate complex also resulted in no addition to the carbonyl group of the o-formyl complex. (Scheme 36) Failure of either the methyltitanium triisopropoxide or the methyl titanium atc complex to add to the aldehyde is dramatically different from the rapid reaction of methyllithium with the o-formyl complex in the presence of Ti(OⁱPr)₄. It can be deduced that the formation of either the methyl titanium ate complex of the titanated methyl anion does not occur to a significant extent during the Ti(OⁱPr)₄ mediated addition of methyllithium to the o-formyl complex. Further discounting formation of the ate complex is the necessity for its formation at -30°C.

Scheme 36

1.2.3 Investigation of 1,4 Additions

With the nature of the 1,2-additions at the benzylic site of compound 72 established, the possibility of other asymmetric, Michael-type, additions at other prochiral benzylic sites of arylacetal chromium tricarbonyl complexes was investigated. Substrates chosen for the conjugate addition studies were the cinnamate 98 and the stilbene 107 are shown below. The cinnamate was selected more for its structural features than its ease of preparation. For arene chromium tricarbonyl complexes bearing an α , β -unsaturated ester, there are four potential sites for nucleophilic attack: i), the carbonyl carbon of the ester function; ii), the aromatic ring; iii) the carbon in the α position of the ester; iv), the benzylic carbon which is β to the ester. Nucleophilic addition to this compound was considered interesting since there was precedent to support the prediction that attack would occur in the β - position, as is customary for Michael additions⁷¹. It is also known that arene chromium tricarbonyl complexes stabilize negative charges in the benzylic position ⁷²; such a situation would result from addition of a nucleophile to the

 α - carbon of the ester. (Scheme 37) Therefore there were regiochemical issues that needed to be addressed as well as stereochemical ones.

Scheme 37

Preparation of compound 98 was attempted initially by Peterson olefination ⁷³, using ethyl trimethylsilylacetate and LDA. This technique was chosen for its relatively mild conditions, as it was thought that heating solutions of arene chromium tricarbonyl complexes would lead to rapid decomplexation. Unfortunately, the Peterson olefination gave mixtures of the intended product and starting material, usually at approximately a 45% conversion rate as determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. Although the mixtures

were separable by column chromatography, a more efficient preparation was sought. It was decided to try Horner Emmons methodology⁷⁴ to prepare the substrate. Triethyl phosphonoacetate, lithium hydroxide and the o-formyl complex were heated under reflux under phase transfer conditions to afford 98 in quantitative yield (Scheme 38)⁷⁵. There was no evidence of decomplexation of either the o-formyl complex or the product. The E-configuration of the olefin double bond was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy, with coupling constants for olefinic protons of 16 Hz.

Scheme 38

With the cinnamate complex (98) in hand, a study of its electrophilic properties was undertaken. The addition of methyllithium was attempted. Methyllithium was added to diethyl ether solutions of the cinnamate complex at -78°C, -35°C and 0°C. In all cases there was only starting material recovered. In an attempt to increase the electrophilicity of the substrate, $Ti(O^iPr)_4$ was incorporated. It was expected that the complexation of the Lewis acid to the α,β -unsaturated ester would increase the polarization of the carbonyl bond. Adding three equivalents of the Lewis acid to the reaction mixture did not result in the addition of methyllithium under any circumstances and only starting material was recovered. It was suspected that the inability for the nucleophiles to react with the

cinnamate complex was due to the extreme steric bulk of the β-substituent of the olefin double bond; the chromium tricarbonyl complexed arene ring bearing the chiral acetal. To lessen this effect on the system compound 103 was prepared using the same method as with the preparation of 98 (Scheme 39).

Scheme 39

Using 103 as a substrate for nucleophilic additions gave similar results to those obtained with the use of 98 as a substrate. No nucleophilic addition was observed under any conditions attempted. Apparently the steric bulk of the arene chromium tricarbonyl substituent on the β -carbon rendered nucleophilic addition to the double bond impossible.

Attention was then turned to organocuprates as nucleophiles. The cuprates are softer nucleophiles and thus the expected mode of reactivity for these compounds with α,β -unsaturated carbonyl systems is at the softer β carbon. Lithium dimethylcuprate

was the first organocopper nucleophile to be investigated (Scheme 40). Addition of this reagent to cinnamate 98 did result in a reaction but gave multiple reaction products, including those involving decomplexation, as evidenced by analytical TLC and ¹H NMR spectroscopy. Chromatographic separation of these products was not successful.

Scheme 40

The lithium cyanocuprate Me₂Cu(CN)Li₂ was then investigated in its reaction with 98. Here the reaction pathway was cleaner. In this case, the nucleophile apparently ignored the β- site of the cinnamate, preferring the ester carbonyl instead, and an approximately 40% yield of methyl ketone 104 could be isolated (Scheme 41). Apparently, the (areneacetal)tricarbonylchromium group imposes enough steric hindrance at the β-site of the cinnamate to preclude nucleophilic attack there. What is also curious is that, in the presence of five equivalents of cyanocuprate nucleophile, only one methyl group added to the ester, and that the ketone did not undergo further nucleophilic attack to afford a tertiary alcohol.

Scheme 41

This feature is reminiscent of the reaction patterns of N-methoxy-N-methyl amides, or 'Weinreb amides', in which the tetrahedral intermediate stemming from nucleophilic attack 105 is stabilized by chelation of the metal cation by the alkoxide oxygen and the N-methoxy oxygen atoms (Scheme 42). As a result, the tetrahedral intermediate does not collapse until aqueous workup, and over-alkylation can be avoided. In the case of cinnamate complex 98, it is conceivable that the tetrahedral intermediate would be stabilized by chelation involving one or more oxygen atoms of the acetal unit, again preventing ketone formation prior to workup and thus preventing tertiary alcohol formation. The exact nature of this chelate is not known, and it must be recognized that the chelate must be a minimum of a nine membered ring 106 (Scheme 43).

Tetrahedral intermediate stabilized by coordination to cation

105

Scheme 42

Scheme 43

In view of the apparent difficulty in Michael-type additions in these systems, a substrate was chosen that did not possess the same competitive polarization on the side chain. With this in mind it was decided to prepare the stilbene derivative. With the

knowledge that heating the complex did not necessarily lead to decomplexation, preparation of the stilbene derivative was attempted using Horner-Emmons methodology under phase-transfer conditions. (Scheme 44) Refluxing a hexane solution o-formyl complex with diethylbenzylphosphonate in the presence of 40% aqueous NaOH and Aliquat 336 (a phase-transfer catalyst) gave the 107 in quantitative chemical yield.

benzyldiethyphosphonate

40% NaOH, hexane
Aliquat 336,
$$\Delta$$

(CO)₃Cr 107

Scheme 44

Nucleophilic additions to 107 were attempted under a number of conditions including MeLi, MeLi in the presence of Ti(OⁱPr)₄, lithium dimethylcuprate and lithium methylcyanocuprate. No addition product was observed in any of these cases therefore this area was no longer investigated.

Having met with little success performing conjugate additions on the vinyl substituted arenechromium tricarbonyl complexes, attention was turned to the addition of nucleophiles to benzylimine derivative of 72. The benzylimine derivative of the o-formyl compound 108 was prepared simply by refluxing the o-formyl complex with the benzylamine in the presence of 3Å molecular sieves. (Scheme 45) The benzylimine derivative was formed in relatively high purity as indicated by the lack of extra peaks in the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude product. This was fortunate since the benzylimine proved to be incompatible with silica gel chromatographic conditions; attempted chromatography gave back the aldehyde and benzylamine.

Scheme 45

Attempts were made to add nucleophiles to the imino derivative 108. Using the same approach as with the stilbene and the cinnamate, the initial attempts at addition were with methyllithium. Regardless of reaction times and temperatures, there was no evidence for addition of methyllithium to the imine. In order to increase the polarity and thus the electrophilicity of the double bond, the addition of Ti(OⁱPr)₄ to mediate the

reaction was examined. Again there was no evidence of addition. Only starting material was recovered. Failure of the imines to react with nucleophiles and to stay intact was surprising given the extreme tendency toward hydrolysis on silica gel.

Future Work

A possible application of the research is the preparation of optically active phthalides. The phthalide skeleton is found in many natural products, many of which exhibit pharmacological activity. The 3-butyl derivative, a component of celery oil, is used as a flavouring agent and in Korea it has found use in the treatment of anemia. The 3-alkylidenyl phthalides include antispasmodic, herbicidal and insecticidal activities. 3-Arylidines have also been used extensively as intermediates in the synthesis of drugs and naturally occuring compounds⁷⁷. Phthalide-isoquinoline alkaloids have been investigated for their potential as GABA antagonists⁷⁸.

The diastereospecific addition of a nucleophile to the carbonyl group of the o-formyl complex results in the formation of optically active benzyl alcohols. Deprotection of the masked aldehyde group by hydrolysis of the tartrate acetal would lead to a compound that upon ring closure would form a lactol. Oxidation of this lactol to a lactone yields the phthalides (Scheme 46)

58

Scheme 46

A problem that needs to be addressed is inherent in the removal of the tartrate acetal. Typically, acetal removal is accomplished by acid catalyzed hydrolysis and it is a possibility that under acidic conditions the alcohol function may epimerize. This is a probable since arene chromium tricarbonyl complexes are known to stabilize benzylic cations. To circumvent this occurrence it may be possible to decomplex the alcohol prior to acetal removal to minimize the possibility of ionization of the alcohol. It is the influence of the chromium tricarbonyl group that enhances the rate of ionization relative to the non-complexed analogues by stabilizing the resulting cation.

This research could be extended to include the study of the electrophilic behavior of the α,β - unsaturated aldehyde derivative of the chiral acetal arenechromium tricarbonyl complexes. (Figure 17) A study of the electrophilic behavior of this substrate would provide information regarding the ability of the $Cr(CO)_3$ moiety to induce asymmetry γ - to the aromatic ring.

Figure 17: γ-Asymmetric Induction

1.3 Experimental

General Methods

All solvents were used after distillation from the appropriate drying agent. Diethyl ether and tetrahydrofuran were distilled from benzophenone ketyl immediatedly prior to use. Butyl ether and dichloromethane were distilled from calcium hydride.

All column chromatography was performed using Merck Kieselgel 230-400 mesh silica gel, while all preparative thin layer chromatography was performed using Uni-Plate* 1000 micron silica gel GF plates. Analytical thin layer chromatography was performed using Merck precoated silica gel 60 F254 aluminium sheets. Flash chromatography followed the protocol described by Still ⁷⁹.

Infrared spectra were run on a Nicolet 5DX Spectrometer or a Bomem Michelson 100. NMR spectra, chemical shifts given in ppm and coupling constants given in Hz, were run on a Bruker AC300 spectrometer at 300 MHz for ¹H and 75 MHz for ¹³C, or on a Bruker Avance 500 spectrometer at 500 MHz for ¹H and 125 MHz for ¹³C, in CDCl₃ solution at 25 °C. Mass spectra were run on a Varian Kratos Profile instrument in electron impact mode. Gas chromatographic analyses were performed on a Shimadzu GC-9A instrument using a fused silica glass capillary column and a Shimadzu C-R6A recorder.

Melting points were obtained from a Thomas-Hoover, Uni-Melt* capillary melting point apparatus. Boiling points refer to bulb to bulb distillation.

A standard aqueous work-up refers to extraction of the organic product from the aqueous phase with three portions of diethyl ether or dichloromethane, drying the combined layers with anhydrous magnesium sulfate followed by filtration and evaporation of the solvent under reduced pressure to afford the crude product.

All reactions were performed under nitrogen or argon unless otherwise noted.

Diastereomeric ratios were determined by integration of the relevant ¹H NMR resonances of the crude reaction products.

Diethyl (4R, 5R)-2-phenyl-1,3-dioxolane-4,5-dicarboxylate (74)

A mixture of benzene (150 mL), benzaldehyde (15 g, 0.14 mol), (+)-diethyl tartrate (22 g, 0.14 mol) and pTsOH (250 mg) was placed in a 250 mL round bottomed flask fitted with a Dean Stark apparatus. The solution was maintained at reflux for 20 h. After cooling, the solution was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and washed with 1M NaHCO_{3(aq)} (30 mL x 2). The aqueous layer was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ and the combined organic layer was dried over MgSO₄. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the resulting residue was distilled under reduced pressure (1.2 Torr, 155°C). The distillate crystallized to afford 74, (36.704 g, 0.1247 mol 88%), which was found to be spectroscopically identical to literature ⁶⁵.

(4R,5R)-4,5-Bis(1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl)-2-phenyl-1,3-dioxolane (75)

Magnesium turnings (11.9 g, 0.49 mol, 12 equiv) were placed in an oven dried 500mL 2- necked round bottomed flask fitted with a septum and a reflux condenser under nitrogen. The flask was charged with 150 mL of freshly distilled diethyl ether and the flask was immersed in a cooling bath containing ice water and NaCl. Iodomethane (69.5 g, 0.49 mol, 12 equiv) was added dropwise to the flask at such a rate that the reaction mixture did not overflow the condenser. After the addition of the iodomethane was complete, the flask was removed from the cooling bath and the reaction was allowed to proceed for 30 min at room temperature at which time the magnesium was completely consumed. A diethyl ether solution (60 mL) containing 74 (12.00 g, 40.1 mmol) was added dropwise to the reaction flask. After the addition of the ether solution, the reaction was heated to reflux for 24 h. The contents of the flask were poured slowly over a mixture of ice and water. Aqueous 3M HCl was added to the flask until all of the solids were dissolved. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with three 50 mL portions of diethyl ether. The ether layers were combined and washed with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution and distilled water. The ether layer was dried over magnesium sulfate and then concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 75 (9.94g.

92%) as a white solid which was spectroscopically identical to literature . mp 103-104°C (lit. 80 105-106°C). This solid was used without further purification.

(4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-phenyl-1,3-dioxolane] (76)

Sodium hydride (60% suspension in mineral oil) (6.02 g, 0.15 mol, 4 equiv) was placed in a 500 mL 2-necked round bottomed flask fitted with a septum and a reflux condenser. The sodium hydride was washed with three 20 mL portions of diethyl ether to remove mineral oil. The flask was charged with 150 mL of freshly distilled THF. A THF solution (60 mL) containing 75 (10 g, 0.042mol) was added dropwise to the reaction flask. The reaction was allowed to proceed for 30 min at room temperature. Iodomethane (21 g, 0.15 mol, 4 equiv) was added to the flask and the reaction was refluxed for 24 hr. The reaction was cooled to room temperature and the THF was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in 75 mL of CH₂Cl₂. Distilled water (75 mL) was added and the layers were separated. The aqueous layer was extracted three times with CH₂Cl₂ and the organic layers were combined and dried over magnesium sulfate. The CH₂Cl₂ was removed under reduced pressure and the residue crystallized to give 76

(8.72g, 79%) as colourless prisms, which were found to be identical to literature mp.75-78°C (lit. 80 78-79°C).

(4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-phenyl-1,3-dioxolane] tricarbonylchromium(0) (77)

Compound 77 was prepared according to the literature⁶⁴ procedure in 63% yield, mp 80-82°C, (lit.⁸¹ 81-83°C).

$(1^{2}R,2^{3}S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(2^{3}-formyl)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane]tricarbonylchromium(0) (72)$

Chiral acetal 77 (1.50 g, 3.49 mmol) was placed in an oven dried two necked 250 mL round bottomed flask fitted with a septum and gas adapter. Freshly distilled diethyl ether (150 mL) was added and the flask was cooled to -35°C in a dry ice/ ethanol-water (1:1) cooling bath. n-BuLi (3.78 mL, 2.21M, 8.364 mmol, 2.4 equiv) was added to the flask over 90 min using a syringe pump. After addition of the n-BuLi, the reaction was kept at -35°C for 3h, at which point N-methylformanilide (1.03 mL, 8.36 mmol, 2.4 equiv) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred for another 60 min. Standard aqueous workup afforded a red viscous oil which was purified by column chromatography using petroleum ether:ethyl acetate (5:1) as the eluent to afford 72 (1.246g, 78 %) as a red crystalline solid, mp=104-105°C (hexanes), $[\alpha]_D$ =296° (C=0.6, Et₂O), IR (KBr pellet) v_{max} 2987, 2934, 2830, 1984, 1924, 1692 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 9.91 (s, 1H), 6.42 (s, 1H), 6.06 (d, 1H, J = 6.5 Hz), 5.63 (m, 2H), 5.26 (t, 1H, J = 6.0 Hz), 4.22, (d, 1H, J = 3.3 Hz,), 4.05 (d, 1H, J=3.3 Hz), 3.22 (s, 3H), 3.13 (s, 3H), 1.31 (s. 3H), 1.14 (s, 3H), 1.12 (s, 3H), 1.03 (s, 3H); 13 C NMR δ 230.1, 187.2, 110.9, 99.7, 94.1, 93.6, 92.4, 92.3, 88.6, 86.7, 85.0, 83.1, 75.3, 49.3, 49.2, 22.1, 21.1, 20.9, 19.3; MS m/e 458 (M+); HRMS m/e for C₂₁H₂₆O₈Cr calculated 458.1032 found 458.1031.

Nucleophilic Additions to the o-Formyl Complex (72)

Standard Nucleophilic Additions Procedure (I)

o-Formyl complex 72 (0.075g – 0.100g) was placed in an oven-dried 50 mL round bottomed flask containing a stirring bar and fitted with a septum. After 6 h under high vacuum, the flask was flushed with nitrogen. Freshly distilled Et₂O (10 mL) was added to the flask and the solution was cooled to –78°C. Ti(OⁱPr)₄ (3 equiv) was added and the solution was allowed to stir for 20 min. The nucleophile (3 equiv) was added dropwise by syringe and stirring was continued for 3 h at –78°C. The reaction was quenched by the addition of distilled water (approx. 2 mL). A standard aqueous work-up resulted in a crude product whose ¹H NMR spectrum was examined to determine the diastereomeric ratio.

Reaction of o-Formyl complex 72 with Titanium-Based Nucleophiles

Preparation of ClTi(O'Pr)3

A two-necked 50 mL round-bottomed flask was fitted with a septum and gas adapter. The flask was charged with Ti(OⁱPr)₄ (5.0 mL, 4.809 g, 17 mmol, 3 equiv) and cooled to 0°C. TiCl₄ (1.062g, 5.599mmol) was added to the flask dropwise. The flask was allowed to warm to room temperature. The reaction mixture was distilled to give ClTi(OiPr)₃ as a viscous white oil (3.16g, 12.12 mmol, 72% yield). Bp 72-75°C at 0.3 torr (lit.⁸² 65°C at 0.1 torr)

Preparation of CH₃Ti(OⁱPr)₃

A two-necked 50 mL round bottomed flask was fitted with a gas adapter and a septum. ClTi(OiPr)₃ (2.00 g, 7.69 mmol) was added to the flask and the flask was cooled to 40°C. Methyllithium (7.69 mL, 1.00 M, 7.69 mmol, 1 equiv) was added to the flask dropwise and the reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature. The result was a 0.40 M solution of CH₃Ti(OiPr)₃ in diethyl ether that was used without further treatment for nucleophilic additions.

Addition of CH₃Ti(OⁱPr)₃ to o-formyl complex 72

The o-formyl complex 72 (0.100g, 0.2183mmol) was placed in a two-necked 50 mL round-bottomed flask was fitted with a gas adapter and a septum. The flask was flushed

with nitrogen and diethyl ether was added (10 mL). The solution was cooled to -78°C and allowed to stir for 15 min. CH₃Ti(OiPr)₃ (1.64 mL, 0.40 M in Et₂O, 0.66 mmol, 3 equiv) was added as an ether solution in a dropwise manner. The reaction was allowed to proceed for 3 h, at which time H₂O (10 mL) was added. A standard aqueous work-up afforded a red residue (0.084g) which was determined to be starting material, 72.

Addition of the ate complex [CH₃Ti(OⁱPr)₄Li] to o-formyl complex 72

THF (10 mL) was placed in a 2-necked round bottomed flask fitted with a septum and gas adapter. The flask was cooled to -78°C and MeLi (0.66 mL, 1.0 M, 0.66 mmol, 3 equiv) was added. The solution was allowed to stir for 30 min and then Ti(O'Pr)₄ (0.19 mL, 0.66 mmol, 3 equiv) was added dropwise. After 30 min, The o-formyl complex 72 (0.100 g, 0.218 mmol)was added as a solution in THF (2.0mL). The solution was warmed to -30°C and allowed to stir for 1 h, at which point distilled water (10 mL) was added. A standard aqueous work-up afforded a red residue (0.075g) which was determined to be 72.

(1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(2"-(S-1-hydroxyethyl)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane]tricarbonylchromium(0) (89) (methyl derivative)

o-Formyl complex 72 (0.0983 g, 0.2146 mmol) was subjected to procedure (I) with MeLi (0.43 mL, 1.5 M, 0.64 mmol, 3 equiv) as the nucleophile. A standard aqueous work-up resulted in a crude product whose 1 H NMR spectrum revealed a resonance at δ 5.99 **89a** and δ 6.26 **89b** with a relative integral of 15.6:1 (88% de). Purification by silica gel chromatography using petroleum ether:ethyl acetate (5:1) as eluent gave **89a** (76mg, 75%) as a yellow solid. Mp 77-78 °C (pentane); [α]_D = -36° (C=0.5, Et₂O); IR (KBr pellet) v_{max} 3436, 1966, 1886 cm⁻¹; 1 H NMR, δ, 5.99 (s, 1H), 5.73 (d, 1H, J=6.0 Hz), 5.66 (d, 1H, J=6.1 Hz), 5.34 (m, 2H), 4.82 (q, 1H, J=2.7 Hz), 4.16 (d,1H, J=3.2 Hz), 3.98 (d, 1H, J=3.2 Hz), 3.22 (s, 3H), 3.16 (s, 3H), 2.02 (s, 1H), 1.48 (d, 3H, J=6.3 Hz), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.17 (s, 3H), 1.13 (s, 3H), 1.03 (s, 3H); 13 C NMR, δ, 232.9, 117.6, 105.6, 99.7, 92.4, 91.8, 90.1, 89.0, 84.7, 82.7, 75.5, 64.5, 49.6, 49.4, 25.9, 22.4, 21.2, 19.2; MS m/e 474 (M+); HRMS m/e calcd for C₂₂H₃₀CrO₈ (M+) 474.1346, found 474.1357

(1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(2"-(S-1-hydroxypropyl)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane]tricarbonylchromium(0) (90) (ethyl derivative)

o-Formyl complex 72 (0.0890g, 0.1943 mmol) was subjected to procedure (I) with EtLi (0.49 mL, 1.2 M, 0.58mmol, 3 equiv) as the nucleophile. A standard aqueous work-up resulted in a crude product whose 1 H NMR spectrum revealed a resonance at δ 6.00 (90a) and δ 6.26 (90b) with a relative integral of 12.4:1 (85% de). Purification by silica gel chromatography using petroleum ether:ethyl acetate (5:1) as eluent gave 90a (77mg, 73%). [α]_D = -40.4° (C = 0.54, Et₂O); IR (NaCl, neat) v_{max} 3452, 1966, 1892 cm⁻¹; 1 H NMR, δ, 6.00 (s, 1H), 5.77 (d, 1H, J=5.9 Hz), 5.61 (d, 1H, J=5.9 Hz), 5.33 (m, 2H), 4.61 (d, 1H, J=6.0 Hz), 4.17 (d, 1H, J=3.1 Hz), 3.98 (d, 1H, J=3.1 Hz), 3.23 (s, 3H), 3.17 (s, 3H), 1.94 (m, 3H), 1.31 (s, 3H), 1.14 (s, 3H), 1.12 (s, 3H), 1.03 (m, 6H); 13 C NMR, δ, 232.9, 116.8, 106.0, 99.6, 91.6, 90.4, 89.3, 84.7, 82.7, 75.5, 69.3, 49.6, 49.4, 32.5, 22.5,

21.3, 19.3, 10.5; MS m/e 488 (M+); HRMS m/e calcd for C₂₃H₃₂CrO₈ (M+) 488.1502, found 488.1517

(1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(2"-(S-1-hydroxybutyl)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane]-tricarbonylchromium(0) (91) (*propyl derivative)

o-Formyl complex 72 (0.1102 g, 0.2406 mmol) was subjected to procedure (I) with PrMgBr (0.56 mL, 1.14 M, 0.63 mmol, 3 equiv) as the nucleophile. A standard aqueous work-up resulted in a crude product whose ¹H NMR spectrum revealed a resonance at δ 6.00 (91a) and δ 6.24 (91b) with a relative integral of 14.4:1 (87% de). Purification by silica gel chromatography using petroleum ether ethyl acetate (5:1) as eluent gave 91a (92mg, 77%). [α]_D = -55° (C=0.50, Et₂O), IR (NaCl, neat) ν _{max} 3457, 1966, 1886 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR, δ , 6.00 (s, 1H), 5.77 (d, 1H, J=6.7Hz), 5.61 (d, 1H, J=6.4Hz), 5.33 (m, 2H), 4.67 (d, 1H, J=8.6Hz), 4.17(d, 1H, J=3.3Hz), 3.97 (d, 1H, J=3.3Hz), 3.22

(s, 3H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 1.93 (s, 1H), 1.57 (m, 2H), 1.47 (m, 2H), 1.31 (s, 3H), 1.22 (s, 3H), 1.12(s, 3H), 1.06 (s, 3H), 0.92 (t, 3H, J=4.4 Hz); 13 C NMR, δ , 232.9, 117.1, 105.8, 99.5, 92.3, 91.6, 90.3, 89.2, 84.7, 82.6, 75.5, 67.9, 65.9, 49.6, 49.4, 41.7, 22.5, 21.3, 19.5, 19.3, 15.4, 13.8; MS m/e 502 (M+); HRMS m/e calcd for $C_{24}H_{34}CrO_8$ (M+) 502.1659, found 502.1667

o-Formyl complex with PrMgCl

o-Formyl complex 72 (0.1102g, 0.2406 mmol) was subjected to procedure (I) with ⁱPrMgBr (0.63mL, 1.14 M, 0.6332 mmol, 3 equiv) as the nucleophile. A standard aqueous work-up resulted in a crude product whose ¹H NMR spectrum revealed a resonance at δ 6.6. Purification by silica gel chromatography using petroleum ether:ethyl acetate (5:1) as eluent gave 92 (72mg, 70%) which was identified spectroscopically. IR (NaCl, neat) v_{max} 3461, 1967, 1890 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR, δ, 6.12 (s, 1H), 5.76 (m, 1H), 5.39 (m, 1H), 5.32 (m, 2H), 4.67 (dd, 2H, J=12.9, 3.0 Hz), 4.14(d, 1H, J=3.3 Hz) 4.00 (d, 1H, J=3.3 Hz) 3.25 (s, 3H), 3.17 (s, 3H), 2.04 (s, 1H), 1.31 (s, 3H), 1.19 (s, 3H), 1.09 (s, 3H) 1.06 (s, 3H), ¹³C NMR, δ, 232.2,108.1, 106.5, 100.9, 93.8, 92.3, 90.8, 90.4, 85.0, 82.6, 75.5, 62.0, 60.4, 49.3, 21.8, 21.3, 21.0, 20.7, 19.5; MS m/e 461 (M+)

(1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(2'-(S-1-hydroxy-2,2-pentyl)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane]tricarbonylchromium(0) (93) (*butyl derivative)

o-Formyl complex **72** (0.0823g, 0.1797 mmol) was subjected to procedure (1) with n-BuLi (0.24mL, 2.21 M, 0.54 mmol, 3 equiv) as the nucleophile. A standard aqueous work-up resulted in a crude product whose 1 H NMR spectrum revealed a resonance at δ 5.99 (**93a**) and δ 6.26 (**93b**) with a relative integral of 13.2:1 (86% de). Purification by silica gel chromatography using petroleum ether:ethyl acetate (5:1) as eluent gave **93a** (67mg, 72%). Mp 93-94 $^{\circ}$ C (pentane); [α]_D = -50.6 (C=0.48, Et₂O) IR (KBr pellet) v_{max} 3489, 1968, 1893 cm⁻¹, 1 H NMR, δ, 5.99 (s,1H), 5.77 (d, 1H, J=6.7 Hz), 5.62 (d, 1H, J=8.1 Hz), 5.34 (m, 2H), 4.66 (m, 1H), 4.16 (d, 1H, 3.3), 3.98 (d, 1H, J=3.3), 3.22 (s, 3H), 3.17 (s, 3H) 1.98 (s, 1H),1.47 (m, 6H), 1.35 (s, 3H),1.14 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 1.04(s, 3H), 0.88 (m, 3H); 13 C NMR, δ, 233.0, 117.1, 105.8, 99.5, 92.3, 91.6, 90.3, 89.2, 84.7, 82.6, 75.5, 68.1, 49.6, 49.4, 39.3, 28.3, 22.5, 21.3, 19.3, 14.0; MS m/e 516 (M+); HRMS m/e calcd for C₂₅H₃₆CrO₈ (M+) 516.1815, found 516.1812

(1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(2'-(S-1-hydroxy-2,2-dimethylpropyl)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane]tricarbonylchromium(0) (94) (t-butyl derivative)

o-Formyl complex 72 (0.0753g, 0.1644 mmol) was subjected to procedure (I) with t-BuLi (0.22 mL, 1.5 M, 0.49 mmol, 3 equiv) as the nucleophile. A standard aqueous work-up resulted in a crude product whose 1 H NMR spectrum revealed a resonance at δ 6.12 (94a) and δ 6.48 (94b) with a relative integral of 12.3:1 (85% de). Purification by silica gel chromatography using petroleum ether:ethyl acetate (5:1) as eluent gave 94a (52mg, 61%). [α]_D = -14.7° (C = 0.3, Et₂O); IR (NaCl, neat) ν _{max} 3480, 1968, 1891 cm⁻¹; H NMR, δ, 6.12 (s, 1H), 5.74 (d, 1H, J=5.9 Hz), 5.58 (d, 1H, J=6.6 Hz), 5.33 (m, 2H), 4.57 (d, 1H, J=2.0 Hz), 4.16 (d, 1H, J=3.6Hz), 3.94 (d, 1H, J=3.7 Hz), 3.22 (s, 3H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 1.67 (s, 1H), 1.34 (s, 3H), 1.17 (s, 3H), 1.14 (s, 3H), 1.10 (s, 3H), 0.97 (s, 9H); 13 C NMR, δ, 232.7, 115.9, 99.3, 92.6, 91.3, 90.6, 90.5, 84.7, 82.3,

75.7, 73.7, 65.9, 49.4, 49.3, 36.7, 26.5, 22.8, 21.7, 21.1, 19.2, 15.3; MS m/e 516 (M+); HRMS m/e calcd for C₂₅H₃₆CrO₈ (M+) 516.1815, found 516.1838

(1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(2'-(S-1-hydroxy-2-heptynyl)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane]-tricarbonylchromium(0) (95) (hexynyl derivative)

o-Formyl complex 72 (0.124 g, 0.2707 mmol) was subjected to procedure (I) with hexynyllithium (0.50 mL, 1.64 M, 0.81 mmol, 3 equiv) as the nucleophile. A standard aqueous work-up resulted in a crude product whose ¹H NMR spectrum revealed a resonance at δ 6.52 (95a) and δ 6.71 (95b) with a relative integral of 15.6:1 (88 % de). Purification attempts by silica gel chromatography using petroleum ether:ethyl acetate (5:1) as eluent resulted in post chromatographic fractions exhibiting extensive decomplexation. Further isolation was not possible ¹H NMR δ 6.52 (s, 1H), 5.68 (d, 1H, J=6.4 Hz), 5.63 (d, 1H, J=6.4 Hz), 5.35 (t, 2H, J=6.3 Hz), 5.26 (d, 1H, J=8.1 Hz), 5.20

(t, 1H, J=6.5 Hz), 4.23 (d, 1H, J=3.3 Hz), 4.02 (d, 1H, J=3.4), 3.21 (s, 3H), 3.15 (s, 3H) 2.21 (t, 2H, J=6.8Hz), 1.35-1.57 (m, 4H), 1.30 (s, 3H), 1.15 (s, 3H), 1.13 (s, 3H), 1.06 (s, 3H), 0.87 (t, 3H, J=7.4 Hz)

(1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(2'-(S-1-hydroxy-1-thiophene-1-ylmethyl)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane]-tricarbonylchromium(0) (96) (thiophene derivative)

o-Formyl complex 72 (0.0763 g, 0.1666 mmol) was subjected to procedure (I) with Bromomagnesiothiophene (0.47mL, 1.14 M, 0.50 mmol, 3 equiv) as the nucleophile. A standard aqueous work-up resulted in a crude product whose ¹H NMR spectrum revealed a resonance at δ 6.32 (97a) and δ 6.48 (97b) with a relative integral of 13.3:1 (86% de). Purification by silica gel chromatography using petroleum ether:ethyl acetate (5:1) as eluent gave 13a (77mg, 73%). [α]_D = 128.9° (C = 0.58, Et₂O); IR (NaCl, neat) ν _{max} 3480, 3076, 1971, 1897 cm⁻¹; 1H NMR, δ , 7.50 (d,1H,J=4.1 Hz), 7.30 (m, 2H), 6.32 (s, 1H), 5.8 (d, 1H, J=6.5), 5.63 (d, 1H, J=6.6), 5.20 (m, 2H) 5.11 (d, 1H, J=6.3), 4.20 (d, 3H,

J=3.5), 4.04 (d, 1H, J=3.5), 3.24 (s, 3H), 3.17 (s, 3H) 1.32 (m, 3H) 1.15 (s, 3H), 1.13 (s, 3H), 1.09 (s, 3H); 13 C NMR, δ 232.0, 132.9, 129.4, 128.4, 107.8, 101.0, 95.4, 91.8, 90.4, 90.0, 84.7, 83.0, 76.7, 75.6, 49.5, 49.5, 22.3, 21.5, 21.0, 19.7 MS m/e 406 (M – Cr(CO)₃); HRMS m/e calcd for C₂₅H₃₀CrO₈S (M+) 537.1039, found 537.1026

(1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(2'-(S-1-hydroxy-1-phenylmethyl)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane]tricarbonylchromium(0) (97) (phenyl derivative)

ortho-Formyl complex 72 (0.0924g, 0.2017 mmol) was subjected to procedure (1) with phenylmagnesium bromide (0.42mL, 1.44 M, 0.61 mmol, 3 equiv) as the nucleophile. A standard aqueous work-up resulted in a crude product whose 1H NMR spectrum revealed a resonance at δ 6.11 (96a) and δ 6.32 (96b) with a relative integral of

7.7:1 (77 % de). Purification by silica gel chromatography using petroleum ether:ethyl acetate (5:1) as eluent gave 96a (67mg, 62%). [α]_D = -49.4° (C = 0.56, Et₂O); IR (NaCl, neat) ν_{max} 3421, 1966, 1887 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR, δ , 7.45 (d, 2H, J=7.0 Hz), 7.29 (m, 3H), 6.11 (s, 1H), 5.88 (s, 1H), 5.73 (m, 2H), 5.32 (t, 2H, J=7.6 Hz), 4.11 (d, 1H, J=3.0 Hz), 3.98 (d, 1H, J=3.0 Hz), 3.21 (s, 3H), 3.15 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 1H), 1.34 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 3H), 1.08 (s, 3H), 1.04 (s, 3H); MS m/e 536 (M+); HRMS m/e calcd for C₂₇H₃₂CrO₈ (M+) 536.1502, found 536.1492

(1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(2'-(2-carboxyethyl-E-ethenyl)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane]tricarbonylchromium(0) (98)

o-Formyl complex 72 (0.250 g, 0.5459 mmol) of was placed in a 50 mL round bottomed flask fitted with a reflux condenser. Triethylphosphonoacetate (0.11 mL, 0.55 mmol, 1 equiv), lithium hydroxide monohydrate (0.0229 g, 0.55 mmol, 1 equiv) and THF (10mL) were added to the flask and solution was allowed to reflux for 3 h.1M HCl (10 mL) was added to the flask. Diethyl ether (5 mL) was added and the layers were separated. A standard aqueous workup afforded a red solid which was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel using petroleum ether:ethyl acetate (5:1) as the eluent Recrystallization from hexanes afforded a red crystalline solid (246 mg, 97%) which was identified spectroscopically as 98 mp 143-144°C IR (NaCl, neat) 1970, 1896, 1712 cm⁻¹; 1H NMR, δ , 7.62 (d,1H, J=15.7), 6.29 (d, 1H, J=15.7), 6.08 (s, 1H), 5.75 (d, 1H, J=6.5), 5.56 (d, 1H, J=6.5), 5.43 (t, 1H, J=6.2) 5.28 (t, 1H, J=6.4), 4.23 (m, 3H), 4.02 (d, 1H, J=3.5), 3.23 (s, 3H), 3.16 (s, 3H) 1.29 (m, 6H) 1.15 (s, 3H), 1.14 (s, 3H), 1.06 (s, 3H); 13 C NMR, δ , 231.6, 121.3, 107.9, 99.9, 98.9, 91.9, 90.7, 90.2, 88.9, 87.7, 84.9, 82.7, 75.5, 60.7, 49.3, 49.2, 22.1, 21.2, 20.9, 19.4, 14.2; MS m/e 528 (M+); HRMS m/e calcd for C₂₅H₃₂CrO₉ (M+) 528.1451, found 528.1452

Alkylation attempts on the cinnamate complex (98)

Alkylation with MeLi (Method 1)

Cinnamate complex 98 (0. 0750 g, 0.142 mmol), was weighed into a 50 mL round bottomed flask fitted with a septum and gas adapter. The flask was flushed with nitrogen and charged with 10mL of diethyl ether. The reaction flask was cooled to -78°C and then MeLi (0.28 mL, 1.5M, 0.43 mmol, 3 equiv) was added over 10 min. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 3 h at -78°C. Addition of 5mL of saturated NH₄Cl_(aq) solution was followed by a standard aqueous workup that resulted in a red residue. This residue was identified as 98.

Alkylation with MeLi and Lewis Acid (Method 2)

Cinnamate complex 98 (0.0782 g, 1.481 mmol) was weighed into a 50 mL round bottomed flask fitted with a septum and gas adapter. The flask was flushed with nitrogen and then charged with diethyl ether (10 mL). The reaction flask was cooled to -78°C and Ti(OiPr)₄ (0.050 mL, 0.042g, 0.44 mmol, 3 equiv) was added. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 20 min and then MeLi (0.30 mL, 1.5 M, 0.444 mmol, 3 equiv) was added over 10 min. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 3 h at -78°C. Addition of 5mL of saturated NH₄Cl_(aq) solution was followed by a standard aqueous workup that resulted in a red residue which was identified as 98.

Alkylation with lithium dimethylcuprate (Method 3)

Cu(I)I (0.100 g, 0.5251 mmol, 2 equiv with respect to substrate) was placed in 50 mL round bottomed flask fitted with a septum and charged with nitrogen. Diethyl ether (10 mL) was added to the flask and the flask was cooled to 0°C. MeLi (0.700 mL, 1.5 M in Et₂O 1.05 mmol, 4 equiv) was added to the flask over 1 h. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 2 h. Cinnamate 98 (0.139 g, 0.263 mmol) was added as a diethyl ether solution (5mL). The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to ambient temperature for 6 h. The addition of 2mL of saturated NH₄Cl_(aq) solution was followed by a standard aqueous workup that resulted in a red residue. The residue was identified as 98.

Alkylation with Methylcyanocuprate (Method 4)

Preparation of methyl ketone (104)

CuCN (0.0283 g, 0.316 mmol, 2 equiv with respect to substrate) was weighed into a 50 mL round bottomed flask. THF (20 mL) was added and the flask was cooled to -78°C. MeLi (0.42 mL, 1.5 M in diethyl ether, 0.63 mmol, 4 equiv) was added to the flask over 1 h. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 2 h at -78°C. The cinnamate complex 98 (0.0835 g, 0.1581 mmol) was added as a THF solution. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to -20°C. Addition of saturated NH₄Cl_(aq) (5 mL) was followed by a standard

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aqueous workup that resulted in a red residue. The residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel using petroleum ether: ethyl acetate (5:1) as an eluent to afford 104 (31 mg, 39%) as a yellow oil which was evidenced by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. ¹H NMR δ 7.65 (d, 1H, J=16.1 Hz), 6.53 (d, 1H, J=16.1 Hz), 6.10 (s, 1H), 5.76 (d, 1H, J=6.4 Hz), 5.57 (d, 1H, 6.5 Hz), 5.46 (t, 1H, J=6.0 Hz), 5.29 (t, 1H, J=6.2 Hz), 4.17 (d, 1H, 3.0Hz), 3.98 (d, 1H, 3.0 Hz), 3.22 (s, 3H), 3.18 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.32 (s, 3H), 1.15 (s, 3H), 1.13 (s, 3H), 1.09 (s, 3H)

Preparation and Conjugate Addition Trials of Stilbene Complex 107

(1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(2'-((E)-2-phenyl-ethenyl)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane[tricarbonylchromium(0) (107)

o-Formyl complex 72 (0.250 g, 0.546 mmol), diethyl benzylphosphonate (0.11 mL 0.1245g, 0.55 mmol, 1 equiv), tricaprylmethylammonium chloride (0.050 g), hexane (2 mL) and 40% NaOH_(so) solution (1.2 mL) were placed in a 25 mL round bottomed flask fitted with a reflux condenser. The flask was heated to reflux for 3 h. The addition of 5 mL of saturated NH₄Cl_(aq) was followed by a standard aqueous workup. Purification by silica gel chromatography using petroleum ether:ethyl acetate (5:1) as an eluent followed by recrystallization from hexane gave 107 (0.272g, 94%) as red needles. Mp = $175-176^{\circ}$ C; $[\alpha]_D = 303^{\circ}$ (C = 0.5, Et₂O); IR v_{max} 3059, 2974, 2910, 1959, 1861, 1496, 1462 cm⁻¹;1H NMR δ , 7.46 (d, 2H, J=7.2), 7.35-7.29 (m, 3H), 7.02 (s, 2H), 6.11 (s, 1H), 5.85 (d, 1H, J=6.6 Hz), 5.62 (d, 1H, J= 6.6 Hz), 5.38 (t, 1H, J=6.0 Hz), 5.30 (t, 1H, J=6.1 Hz), 4.22 (d, 1H, J=3.4 Hz), 4.03 (d, 1H, J=3.5 Hz), 3.22 (s, 3H), 3.17 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 3H), 1.18 (s, 3H), 1.15 (s, 3H), 1.09 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR, δ, 232.8, 136.4, 133.3, 128.8, 128.5, 127.1, 122.5, 100.4, 92.0, 90.6, 89.9, 84.8, 82.7, 75.7, 65.9, 49.5, 22.3, 21.4, 21.2, 19.6, 15.4; MS m/e 532 (M+); HRMS m/e calcd for C₂₈H₃₂CrO₇ (M+) 532.1554, found 532.1551

Alkylation attempts on the Stilbene complex 107

Alkylation with MeLi

Stilbene complex 107 (0.065g, 0.1222mmol) was weighed into a 50 mL round bottomed flask fitted with a septum and gas adapter. The flask was flushed with nitrogen and then charged with diethyl ether (10 ml). The reaction flask was cooled to -78°C and the MeLi

(0.24 mL, 1.5 M, 0.37 mmol, 3 equiv) was added over 10 min. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 3 h at -78°C. Addition of saturated NH₄Cl_(aq) solution (5mL) was followed by a standard aqueous workup that afforded a red residue identified as 107.

Alkylation with MeLi and Lewis Acid

Stilbene complex 107 (0.0763g, 0.1434 mmol) was weighed into a 50 mL round bottomed flask fitted with a septum and gas adapter. The flask was flushed with nitrogen and then charged with 10mL of diethyl ether. The reaction flask was cooled to -78°C and Ti(OiPr)4 (0.13 mL, 0.12 g 0.43 mmol, 3 equiv) was added. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 20 min and then MeLi (0.29 mL, 1.5 M, 0.43 mmol, 3 equiv) was added over 10 min. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 3 h at -78°C. Addition of saturated NH4Cl_(aq) solution (5 mL) was followed by a standard aqueous workup that resulted in a red residue which was identified as 107.

Alkylation with lithium dimethylcuprate

Cu(I)I (0.0823g, 0.4323 mmol, 2 equiv) was placed in 50 mL round bottomed flask fitted with a septum and charged with nitrogen. Diethyl ether (10 mL) was added to the flask and the flask was cooled to 0°C. MeLi (0.58 mL, 1.5M 0.86 mmol, 4 equiv) was added to the flask over 1 h. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 2 h. Stilbene complex 107 (0.115 g, 0.2162 mmol) was added as an ether solution (5 mL). The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature for 6 h. The addition of 2 mL of saturated NH₄Cl_(aq) solution was followed by a standard aqueous workup that afforded a brown oil which was found to be an inseparable mixture of compounds.

Alkylation with lithium methylcyanocuprate

CuCN (0.0357g, 0.400 mmol, 2 equiv) was weighed into a 50 mL round bottomed flask. THF (20 mL) was added and the flask was cooled to -78°C. MeLi (0.53 mL, 1.5M in diethyl ether, 0.80 mmol, 4 equiv) was added to the flask over 1 h. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 2 h at -78°C. The stilbene complex 107 (0.1063 g, 0.1998 mmol) was added as a THF solution. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to -20°C. Addition of saturated NH₄Cl_(aq) (5 mL) was followed by a standard aqueous workup that resulted in a red residue that was found to contain an inseparable mixture of compounds.

(1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(2'-phenylmethylimino)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane]tricarbonylchromium(0) (108)

o-Formyl complex 72 (0.250 g, 0.546 mmol), benzylamine (0.058g, 0.060mL, 0.55mmol, 1equiv), p-TsOH (10 mg, cat.), 4Å molecular sieves (1 g) and hexane (10 mL) were placed in a 50 mL round-bottomed flask fitted with a reflux condenser. The reaction mixture was heated to reflux for 3 h. After cooling to room temperature and filtration, the solution was subjected to a standard aqueous workup that afforded a red solid (0.281g,

94%). This solid was identified spectroscopically as 108; [α]_D = -50.6 (C=0.48, Et₂O) IR (NaCl, neat) ν_{max} 3489, 1979, 1886, 1672 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR, δ , 8.36 (s, 1H), 7.35-7.24 (m, 5H), 6.22 (s, 1H), 5.72 (d, 1H, 6.1 Hz), 5.45 (t, 1H, J=6.0 Hz), 5.30 (t, 2H, J=6.2 Hz), 4.79 (d, 2H, J=4.2 Hz), 4.19 (d, 1H, J=3.2 Hz), 4.03 (d,1H, J= 3.2 Hz), (s, 3H), 3.14 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 3H), 1.21 (s, 3H), 1.19 (s, 3H), 1.04 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR, δ , 232.0,156.4, 138.9, 128.6, 128.0, 127.2, 108.6, 100.1, 99.2, 92.7, 91.3, 90.7, 88.4, 85.1, 83.0, 75.6, 65.9, 64.7, 49.5, 22.2, 21.3, 21.1, 19.4; MS m/e 547 (M+); HRMS m/e calcd for C₂₈H₃₃CrO₇N (M+) 547.1662, found 547.1651

Alkylation attempts on the Benzylimine complex (108)

Alkylation with MeLi

Benzylimine complex 108 (0.128g, 0.2340 mmol) was weighed into a 50 mL round bottomed flask fitted with a septum and gas adapter. The flask was flushed with nitrogen and then charged with diethyl ether (10 mL). The reaction flask was cooled to -78°C and the MeLi (0.47 mL, 1.5 M, 0.7020 mmol, 3 equiv) was added over 10 min. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 3 h at -78°C. Addition of 5 mL of saturated NH₄Cl_(aq) solution was followed by a standard aqueous workup resulted in a brown residue that was identified as 108.

Alkylation with MeLi and Lewis Acid

Benzylimine complex 108 (0.0932g, 0.1704 mmol) was weighed into a 50 mL round bottomed flask fitted with a septum and gas adapter. The flask was flushed with nitrogen

and then charged with diethyl ether (10 mL). The reaction flask was cooled to -78°C and Ti(OiPr)₄ (0.15 mL, 0.15 g, 0.51 mmol, 3 equiv) was added. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 20 min and then MeLi (0.34 mL, 1.5 M, 0.51 mmol, 3 equiv) was added over 10 min. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 3 h at -78°C. Addition of saturated NH₄Cl_(aq) solution (5mL) was followed by a standard aqueous workup that resulted in a brown residue that was identified as 108

Alkylation with lithiumdimethylcuprate

Cu(I)I (0.0791g, 0.415 mmol, 2 equiv) was placed in 50 mL round bottomed flask fitted with a septum and charged with nitrogen. 10 mL of diethyl ether was added to the flask and the flask was cooled to 0°C. MeLi (0.55 mL, 1.5 M in Et₂O 0.83 mmol, 4 equiv) was added to the flask over 1 h. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 2 h. Benzylimine complex 108 (0.1136 g, 0.2076 mmol) was added as a solution in ether (5 mL). The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to ambient temperature for 6 h. The addition of saturated NH₄Cl_(aq) (2 mL) was followed by a standard aqueous workup which resulted in a brown residue of inseparable products.

Alkylation with methylcyanocuprate

CuCN (0.0345g, 0.385 mmol, 2 equiv with respect to substrate) was weighed into a 50 mL round bottomed flask. 20 mL THF was added and the flask was cooled to -78°C.

MeLi (0.51 mL, 1.5 M in diethyl ether, 0.77 mmol, 4 equiv) was added to the flask over 1 h. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 2 h at -78°C. The benzylimine complex 108 (0.1053g, 0.1925 mmol) was added as a THF solution (5 mL). The reaction mixture

was allowed to warm to -20°C. Addition of 5 mL of saturated NH₄Cl_(aq) was followed by a standard aqueous workup that resulted in a reddish-brown residue identified as 108

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Chapter 2

2.1 Introduction

There are many methods at the modern synthetic chemist's disposal for the *ortho* functionalization of substituted aromatic compounds based on directed *ortho*-metallation (DOM) followed by the reaction of the metallated aromatic ring with electrophiles^{1,2}. Preparation of enantiomerically pure *meta*-disubstituted aromatic compounds is less straightforward. The goal of this part of the project was to develop a technique for the preparation of enantiomerically pure *meta* substituted chromium tricarbonyl complexes of aromatic aldehydes (Scheme 1). The general strategy involves the preparation of an optically pure *ortho*-thioether derivative of the chromium tricarbonyl complex of a diethyl tartrate acetal protected benzaldehyde. Next, the thioether group will be used as an *ortho* director in a second metallation of the chromium complex. The final stage of this strategy involves the removal of the thioether substituent, resulting in a *meta* disubstituted compound.

2.1.1 Directed Ortho Metallation (DOM)

The DOM process involves the deprotonation of a site *ortho* to a heteroatom containing directed metallation group (DMG) 1 by a strong base, normally an alkyllithium reagent, leading to an *ortho* lithiated species 2. This aryllithium species, upon treatment with an electrophile, yields 1,2-disubstituted products 3. (Scheme 1)

Typically the pKa's of the *ortho* protons on the aromatic ring are in the 36-42 range, and thus the DOM process occurs in the presence of alkyllithium bases. In organic solvents in which alkyllithiums exhibit high solubility there is a tendency to form aggregates, typically hexamers (in hydrocarbons) or tetramers-dimers (in basic solvents)¹. Coordinating solvents such as THF and diethyl ether cause dissociation of the alkyllithium aggregates. THF coordination to (n-BuLi)₆ gives solvated (n-BuLi)₄. The addition of TMEDA, a bidentate ligand, breaks down aggregates to form monomers and dimers in solution, thus increasing their kinetic basicity³². n-Butyllithium, s-butyllithium, t-butyllithium and methyllithium have all been used extensively for DOM reactions.

Scheme 2

Regiospecific deprotonation of aromatic compounds is directed by the *ortho* substituent that typically contains a heteroatom. (Exceptions to this include the acetylide anion and the phenyl group.)¹ There are two ways in which the DOM group exerts its influence on the reaction; through induction (CF₃ or F) or coordination (OMe, NR₂). With the most effective DOM groups, both effects enhance the deprotonation (CONR₂, SO₂NR₂). Table 1 lists examples of DOM groups, categorized according to their directing abilities. pKa determinations reflecting mainly inductive effects show little variation and given the difference in DMG abilities, this suggest that coordination ability of the DMG under the kinetic conditions normally used in synthesis is a key factor in determining its relative metallation ability.

Table 1: DOM Groups

1	pKa
N'COR	≥40.5
N'CO₂R	
 OCONR ₂	37.2
OTHP	40.0
Oph	38.5
NR ₂	≥40.3
 Ome	39
OCH ₂ =CH ₂	
F	
Cl	
0	(≥40.5)
S ⁻	
	N°CO ₂ R OCONR ₂ OTHP Oph NR ₂ Ome OCH ₂ =CH ₂ F Cl

To a lesser extent, lithium amides have also seen use as bases in DOM reactions (Scheme 3)⁴. Lithium diisopropylamide (LDA) is the most commonly used lithium amide for DOM reactions, although it has found greater use in remote metallations.

Scheme 3

Recently there has been use of the "super-bases" LICKOR (RLi + KOR)⁵ and LIDAKOR (LDA + KOR)⁶ (Scheme 4), although these have been more extensively utilized for benzylic lithiations.

Scheme 4

The coordination of an aromatic ring to a chromium tricarbonyl complex greatly increases the acidity of the ring protons. For example, the pKa of the *ortho* proton of ansiole is 39.0², whereas the pKa of the chromium tricarbonyl complex of anisole is 33.0⁷; thus it is not suprising that arenechromium tricarbonyl complexes are suitable substrates for DOM reactions, and have seen extensive use in this capacity⁸.

2.1.2 Asymmetric Deprotonations of Arenechromium Tricarbonyl Complexes

Since it is desirable to have a route to obtain a single enantiomer of an arenechromium tricarbonyl complex, several techniques have been developed in which one of the *ortho* protons is abstracted preferentially over the other. Three general strategies have been developed to facilitate diastereoselective *ortho* lithiation of arenechromium tricarbonyl complexes; use of a chiral base for deprotonation, the incorporation of a chiral additive and attachment of a chiral auxiliary to the arene.

2.1.2a Chiral Bases

Using a chiral base for stereoselective deprotonation is an approach used by many research groups. The selectivity stems from the fact that the transition states for the *ortho* and *ortho* deprotonation with a chiral base are diastereomeric.

Chiral lithium amides have been utilized to prepare optically pure arenechromium tricarbonyl complexes. Simpkins has used chiral lithium diphenethylamide to deprotonate (anisole)chromium tricarbonyl (Scheme 5)^{9,10}. Upon quenching with TMSCl, the mono silylated product was obtained in 50% yield with >97% de. Aldehydes have been used as electrophiles in this system, although stereoselectivity was found to be modest.

Kundig has employed the same base for the deprotonation of chromium tricarbonyl complexes of acetals of benzaldehyde. With the ethylene glycol derived acetal of benzaldehyde, mostly benzylic deprotonation occurred with the lithium di(phenethyl)amide. Use of a camphor derived lithium amide (Scheme 6) resulted in a modest improvement. The proportion of benzyl deprotonation diminished as Kundig employed a technique in which the electrophile was in solution while the deprotonation was taking place. Good levels of regioselectivity and enantioselectivity were never achieved for the deprotonation of acetals with Kundig's lithium amides.

Kundig focused on phenyl carbamates as deprotonation substrates (Scheme 6)¹¹. With both bases, moderate selectivity (64% to 73% ee) and good yields were observed. With no benzylic proton on the phenyl carbamates, benzylic deprotonation was not an issue.

Chiral alkyllithiums have been investigated for their effectiveness in stereoselective deprotonations. Organolithium bases derived from (R)-menthyl chloride and (R)-8-phenylmenthyl chloride were used to deprotonate the chromium tricarbonyl complex of the dimethyl acetal of benzaldehyde (Scheme 7)¹². Both of the bases were somewhat selective in the deprotonation. In the case of the menthyllithium base, the pro-R proton was abstracted, while the 8-phenylmenthyllithium abstracted the pro-S proton, providing a route to both enantiomers of *ortho* disubstituted arene complexes.

Scheme 7

2.1.2b Chiral Additives

By the addition of a chiral diamine to the aldehyde carbonyl group, Alexakis has made use of a method originated by the Comins group in which the aldehyde is temporarily protected as an amino alcoholate¹³. In principle, the second nitrogen atom in the appendage acts as a coordination site for the lithium base and by doing so, facilitates ortho lithiation of the chromium complex. Several pseudo C₂ symmetric diamines were used as additives in the deprotonation. With most of the diamines, complete regioselectivity was not observed. In most cases there was a significant amount of meta lithiation that accompanied the ortho lithiation. This is evidence that the steric bulk of the nitrogen side chains somewhat interfered with the coordinating effect of the nitrogen atom. When the side chains on the nitrogen contained methoxy groups, there was another

potential chelation site and complete regioselectivity was observed. Stereoselectivity was only about 70% ee (Scheme 8).

Uemura et al have used chiral diamines as additives in the deprotonation of the chromium tricarbonyl complexes of phenyl carbamates bearing oxazolidine groups (Scheme 9)¹⁴. Promising results were obtained with the use of the additive N, N,N',N'-tetramethyl-1,2-diphenylethylenediamine. With methyl chloroformate as an electrophile, an enantiomeric excess of 82% was achieved. The authors contend that in hydrocarbon solvent, the oligomeric structure of alkyllithium, upon the addition of a diamine, changes to a less bulky dimeric structure that abstracts the pro-R proton. In diethyl ether, lower enantioselectivities were obtained for the lithiation, due to the fact that butyllithium can coordinate with both the ether oxygen and nitrogen, disrupting the structure of the alkyllithium/ diamine aggregate.

The chiral diamine additive approach was applied to the chromium tricarbonyl complex of N-methyl-N-Boc-aniline. It is known that N,N-dimethylaniline undergoes deprotonation primarily at the *meta* position with minor amounts of *ortho* and *para* deprotonation. In spite of having the bulky Boc group, in the presence of chiral diamine,

N-methyl-N-Boc-aniline deprotonation is highly *ortho* selective. Stereoselectivity was poor to fair, typically in the 50%-60% range.

Scheme 9

2.1.2c Chiral Auxiliaries

2.1.2c.i Chiral Ethers

As part of an effort to prepare optically active biaryl alcohols, Davies et al has made use of phenethanol based ethers as chiral auxiliaries in the *ortho* lithiation of (arene)chromium tricarbonyl complexes¹⁵. Deprotonation of the chromium tricarbonyl was achieved with LDA in THF at -78°C and the lithium species was reacted with a series of electrophiles which included benzoyl chloride (67% yield, one diastereomer), DMF (82% yield, single diastereomer) and benzaldehyde (33% de) (Scheme 10).

Scheme 10

2.1.2c.ii Chiral Sulfoxides

Davies et al has successfully exploited the ability of the phenyl sulfoxide group to induce asymmetry in the deprotonation of (arene)chromium tricarbonyl complexes¹⁶.

Reaction of diphenyl sulfoxide chromium tricarbonyl with LDA in THF at -78°C followed by quenching of the anion with CD₃OD gave the mono ortho-deuterated complex as a single diastereomer (Scheme 11). It was possible to add an electrophile to the other ortho position via the intermediacy of a dianion, which was formed upon the

addition of three equivalents of LDA. Both deprotonations were *ortho*-regioselective with the first being completely stereoselective. Addition of one equivalent of electrophile resulted in the formation of the diastereomer not formed as a result of mono-lithiation.

Scheme 11

2.1.2c.iii Chiral Acetals

Green et al have successfully used chiral acetals as for the preparation of optically enriched 1,2-disubstituted (arene)chromium tricarbonyl complexes¹⁷. A modified diethyl tartrate derived acetal of benzaldehyde served the dual purposes of protecting the aldehyde functionality and preferentially directing metallation to one of the ortho protons. Deprotonation of the chromium complex with 2.4 equivalents of n-butyllithium resulted in the removal of the pro-R proton. This anionic species was quenched with a wide variety of electrophiles in good yields and de's typically in the 85% to 95% range (Scheme 12). Deprotection of the aldehyde was achieved by acid catalysed hydrolysis, but is efficient only for small ortho substituents.

Scheme 12

The deprotonation of the chromium tricarbonyl complexes of chiral ketals of acetophenone was examined by Aubé¹⁸. Functionalized derivatives of ethylene glycol were used to prepare a series of ketals bearing side chains in the 4 and 5 positions.

Impressive levels of stereoselectivity were achieved for ketals bearing the side chains CH₂N(CH₃)₂ in the 4 and 5 position of the ketal ring. Carrying out the deprotonation with t-BuLi in THF at -78°C, and quenching with TMSCl gave the mono-silylated product in 88% de (Scheme 13). Ketals with methoxymethyl side chains were also deprotonated although the stereoselectivity was somewhat diminished (~50% de). In the cases with small *ortho* substituents, efficient removal of the auxiliaries was accomplished by acid catalysed hydrolysis to give the optically pure o-substituted benzaldehyde chromium complexes.

Scheme 13

2.1.2c.iv Chiral Aminals

Chiral aminals have been examined as directing groups in the selective *ortho*-lithiation of (arene)chromium tricarbonyl complexes. Alexakis *et al* have prepared a series of aminals by the reaction of (benzaldehyde)chromium tricarbonyl and a series of chiral diamines (Scheme 14)¹⁹. The deprotonations were done in THF at -30 °C and it was found that the regioselectivity depended on the nature of the side chains of the imidazoline nitrogen. Deprotonations performed on aminals with nitrogens having alkyl or aryl side chains occurred preferentially in the *meta* position. The steric bulk of the side chains on nitrogen outweighed the coordinative effect of the nitrogen atom of the imidazoline on the lithium atom. The addition of the methoxy group as part of the nitrogen side chain allows for tight chelation of the metal, thus deprotonations on this compound were *ortho*-selective. Stereoselectivity was greater than 99% *ee* in all cases. Removal of the auxiliary was achieved by acid catalyzed hydrolysis and appeared to occur more readily than for the acetals.

Scheme 14

Despite the increasing number of methods for preparation of chiral *ortho*-disubstituted (arene)chromium tricarbonyl complexes, there has been little emphasis on the preparation of enantiomerically pure *meta*-disubstituted complexes. Using the metallation of an aromatic ring bearing the tartrate acetal derived chiral auxiliary, it was possible to obtain optically pure chiral acetals bearing thioether substituents *ortho* to the chiral directing group. It has been found that the thioether groups are capable of directing metallation to its position *ortho* position²⁰⁻²³. Also it is known that compounds 34 and 35 do not lithiate readily in the *ortho* 'position²⁴, suggesting that lithiation of the thioether complexes would occur primarily next to the thioether (Scheme 15).

Scheme 15

Further metallation of such compounds followed by reaction with electrophiles would, in principle afford 1,2,3-trisubstituted aromatic rings. Removal of the thioether substituent from the aromatic ring would, in principal give a *meta*-substituted compound (Scheme 16). There are several methods available for the removal of thiophenyl groups from aromatic rings. It was deemed useful to pursue an investigation based on this strategy.

Scheme 16

2.1.3 Desulfurization of Organic Compounds

One of the primary uses of organosulfur compounds in organic chemistry is based on the role of the sulfur moiety which can serve as an auxiliary group that can be removed once it has fulfilled its function. There are therefore a wide variety of methods that have been developed to reduce the carbon-sulfur bond to a carbon-hydrogen bond.²⁴⁻

2.1.3a Raney Nickel Desulfurization

Several transition metal compounds have proven to be extremely thiophilic. A classical heterogeneous technique for the reduction of organosulfur compounds involves the use of Raney Nickel²⁸. Raney Nickel desulfurization involves the breaking of a carbon-sulfur bond and the formation of at least one new carbon hydrogen bond (Scheme 17).

$$R-SH \xrightarrow{Ni(H)} R-H$$

$$R-S-R' \xrightarrow{Ni(H)} R-H + R'-H$$

Scheme 17

It has been suggested, the first step of the reaction is the oxidative addition of nickel in the carbon-sulfur bond to form a nickel mercaptide which undergoes hydrogenolysis to form nickel sulfide and a hydrocarbon (Scheme 18). The source of hydrogen is the Raney Nickel, which contains large amounts of hydrogen as it is ordinarily prepared. A free radical mechanism for Raney Nickel reduction has also been proposed²⁸.

Scheme 18

2.1.3b Nickel Boride Desulfurization

An in situ technique for the generation of a reactive nickel compound has been utilized for the desulfurization²⁹ and deselenization³⁰ of organic compounds (Scheme 19). The reduction of nickel(II) chloride hexahydrate with sodium borohydride yields nickel boride. Nickel boride prepared this way has a Ni:B ratio of ~2:1, contains adsorbed hydrogen in consistent with the formula (Ni₂B)₂H₃ and functions as a hydrogenation catalyst. The mechanism of metal boride reduction has not yet been fully elucidated.

Scheme 19

2.1.3c Molybdenum Hexacarbonyl Desulfurization

By using molybdenum hexacarbonyl to generate molybdenum(II) species in situ,
Luh et al has been successful in the reduction of sulfides³¹. Reactive carbon-sulfur bonds
such as benzylic or α to a carbonyl undergo reductive cleavage with molybdenum
carbonyl in refluxing THF (Scheme 20). It is possible to reduce allylic sulfides by
reaction with Mo(CO)₆ in dioxane. Tungsten carbonyl has also been used for the
reduction of sulfides. With W(CO)₆, the reduction proceeds via a free radical
mechanism³².

Scheme 20

2.1.3d Radical Anion Desulfurization

Cohen et al has made use of radical anion chemistry in the desulfurization of organic compounds³³. The focus of Cohen's work is the conversion of phenylthioethers to organolithium compounds by their reaction with LDMAN (lithium - (dimethylamino)-naphthlenide)) ³⁴ (Scheme 21) or with LDBB (lithium p,p'-dibutylbiphenylide). Once the

organolithium compound is formed it can be trapped with a variety of electrophiles. The mechanism of reduction most likely involves two one-electron transfers from the LDMAN to the carbon bearing the thiophenyl group.

Given the abundance of techniques for desulfurization, especially those targeted to the thiophenyl group, it seemed likely that a suitable method would be found to remove the sulfur-containing DOM group of the substituted thioether derivatives to achieve the goal of this phase of research (Scheme 22).

Scheme 21

Scheme 22

Results and Discussion

With the rapidly evolving set of auxiliaries and protocols for the synthesis of enantiomerically enriched ortho disubstituted arenetricarbonylchromium complexes, we deemed it important to address the question of the synthesis of their rarely encountered *meta*-disubstituted counterparts. The intended strategy involved the exploitation of a removable sulfur-containing group in the *ortho* position with respect to the chiral acetal previously demonstrated to be an effective directed *ortho* metallation group²⁴. (Scheme 21) Thioether groups have had limited use in directing *ortho* metallation ^{35,36,37}. Two such thioethers were investigated as removable directing groups; thiophenyl and thiomethyl ethers. In principle, lithiation of the *ortho*-thioether derivatives 44 of the compounds, followed by quenching with an electrophile leads to a 1,2,3-substitution pattern on the chromium complexed aromatic ring 42. With such a trisubstituted species in hand, removal of the sulfur-containing fragment from between the flanking substituents would result in a *meta*-disubstituted compound 43.

Scheme 21

Preparation of the thioether substrates required some modification of the conditions for chiral acetal-directed lithiation reactions developed in our laboratory. Initial attempts at the synthesis of the thiophenyl derivative (45) made using the standard methodology (-35 °C, Et₂O) failed to give any of the intended compound. The addition of a volume of THF equal to the volume of Et₂O, followed by the addition of diphenyl disulfide as a THF solution, led to the formation of thiophenyl ether 45 in 82% yield after chromatographic purification. This phenomenon has been observed before in directed lithiation reactions³⁸ and in our system previously with MeI as the electrophile. The thiomethyl derivative 46 was prepared in an analogous manner in 66% yield, with dimethyl disulfide added as a neat liquid to the THF/Et₂O solution of the lithioarene.

Scheme 22

The initial segment of this phase of the research involved the evaluation of the phenylthio ether substituent to act in the role of DOM group. There exists a potential site for competitive lithiation, at the remaining *ortho* position to the acetal unit (referred to as the *ortho*' site henceforth) (**Figure 1**). Deprotonation at this site, however, was found to be exceedingly difficult for both the *ortho*- Me₃Si and *ortho*- methyl compounds.³⁹ this is not surprising based on two factors governing the course of the reaction.

Figure 1: Possible Sites for Deprotonation of Thiophenyl Complex 45

First, in order for the tartrate acetal to operate otimally as an *ortho* director, we believe that there is a necessity for the acetal to adopt a conformation that places the ether oxygen of the dioxolane ring slightly below the plane of the ring. In this conformation, an ether oxygen is also in a position to coordinate to the incoming alkyllithium reagent.

(Figure 2)

Figure 2: Conformation Favouring o-Deprotonation

In order for the acetal to direct to the *ortho'* site, it is necessary for the acetal to undergo rotation to place a methyl ether in proximity to that *ortho'* proton. This rotation would be hindered due to interference by the Cr(CO)₃ unit. Furthermore, even if the rotation could occur, the dioxolane oxygen would then be unable to participate in coordination of the alkyllithium reagent while bringing it near the *ortho'* oxygen. (Figure 3). Therefore, it was predicted that even a weak directing group such as thioalkyl or thioaryl should direct preferentially into its *ortho* position, or the *meta* position relative to the acetal.

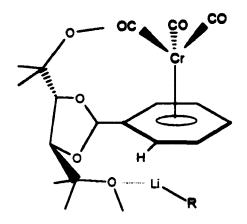


Figure 3: Conformation Necessary for o'-Deprotonation

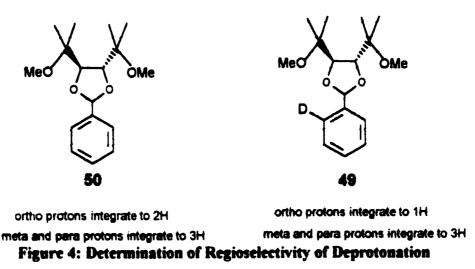
In the case of the thiophenyl substrate 45, a number of sets of conditions were investigated, using deuteration with MeOD as a probe. The most effective lithiation was found to occur with slow addition of 2.5 equiv of n-BuLi at -35 °C in Et₂O. (Scheme 23) This resulted in a single regioisomer of deuterated material, in 86% yield. Unfortunately, the disappearance of the furthest downfield arene-Cr(CO)₃ resonance in the ¹H NMR spectrum (δ 5.80 ppm) suggested this was the product of deuteration *ortho*- to the acetal group.

Scheme 23

Deuterium was incorporated in the *ortho'* position to an 86% extent as determined by ¹H NMR integration.(Scheme 24) This regiochemical assignment was based on examination of the aromatic region of the ¹H NMR spectrum. That the complex was mono-deuterated, was determined by the disappearance of the double at δ 5.83 which integrated to 1H in the unsubstituted thiophenyl complex 45. To determine which proton was abstracted, the deutero-substituted thiophenyl complex 48 was subjected to Raney-Nickel desulfurization. This process resulted in both the removal of the thiophenyl group and the Cr(CO)₃ group to afford (49) (Scheme 25).

Scheme 25

The aromatic region of the ¹H NMR spectrum of 49 was compared to that of its non-deuterated counterpart 50. The downfield signal (8 7.5-7.45) integrated to 1 proton whereas the upfield resonance (8 7.40-7.32) integrated to 3 protons. This indicated that the deuterium was incorporated at the *ortho*' position (Figure 4). Also, if the deuterium had been incorporated in the meta position, next to the thiophenyl substituent, the desulfurized complex would exhibit a different splitting pattern in the aromatic region. (Figure 5). Homodecoupling confirmed that the deuterium was incorporated in the *ortho*' position.



MeO OMe

doublet singlet

multiplet

doublet

multiplet

50

MeO OMe

doublet

multiplet

doublet

multiplet

Figure 5: Multiplicity in Aromatic Resonances of o & m-Deuterated Compouds

The *ortho*' lithioarene was successfully reacted with allyl iodide, N-methylformanilide and dibromotetrafluoroethane to give the compounds depicted below (Scheme 26).

Electrophile	E (% yield)	
Dibromotetrafluoroethane	Br (77%) (51)	
N-methylformanilide	CHO (61%) (52)	
Allyl Iodide	Allyl (32%) (53)	

Scheme 26

Carrying out the lithiation in Et₂O in the presence of TMEDA, followed by reaction of the lithioarene with allyl iodide, afforded a 1:1 mixture of *ortho'* (53) and *meta* (54) allyl substituted thiophenyl complexes (Scheme 27).

Scheme 27

Somewhat surprising results were obtained with the use of trimethylsilyl chloride as an electrophile. Lithiation of the thiophenyl compound followed by the reaction of he lithiated arene with trimethylsilyl chloride led to the formation of primarily the *para* TMS derivative 55 (Figure 6) In other words, the thiophenyl group acted as a *meta*-director for lithiation of the aromatic ring. *Meta* direction of lithiation is quite uncommon for metallation directing groups, having been observed in very few cases for arenechromium tricarbonyl complexes. Widdowson observed *meta*-direction of lithiation by the triisopropyl ether group⁴⁰. Fukui used the N-methyl-N TBDMS group to cause lithiation at the *meta* site⁴¹. Assignment of the *para* trimethylsilyl regioisomer was based on the singlet at δ 5.29 representing the *meta* proton and the doublets at δ 5.41 and δ 5.60 representing the *meta* and *ortho* protons respectively.

Figure 6: p-TMS Thiophenyl Complex 55

Incorporation of other electrophiles was attempted but in the remaining cases, the ¹H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction material showed multiple products. For most of the cases, this was determined by the abundance of peaks in the acetal region (δ 6). The unsuccessful electrophiles included CO₂, Bu₃SnCl, Ph₂PCl, diphenyl disulfide, diethylcarbamoyl chloride and iodomethane.

Lithiation of the thiophenyl complex in THF at -35°C leads to the formation of a dilithioarene species which, upon reacting with dibromotetrafluoroethane, led to the formation of the *m*, o'-dibrominated compound 56 (Figure 7). The assignment of the regioisomer was based on the disappearance of the aromatic resonances furthest upfield (\delta 5.8) and furthest downfield (\delta 5.1) representing the *meta'* and *para* protons respectively. The remaining peaks from the aromatic region simplified to two doublets with coupling constants of 6.7 Hz, indicating an *ortho* orientation. Mass Spectrometry verified that there were two bromine atoms added to the ring, by giving an M-3(CO) peak at 610.

Figure 7: m,o'-Dibrominated Thiophenyl Complex 49

Although the lithiation conditions examined for the thiophenyl complex did not give the expected regioisomeric outcome, a route was developed by which it is possible to functionalize the chiral acetal by replacement of he pro-S proton. Green et al have developed lithiation conditions that result in the replacement of the pro-R proton and the work in this chapter provides a complementary route through which the "opposite" regioisomer may be obtained (after desulfurization) (Figure 8).

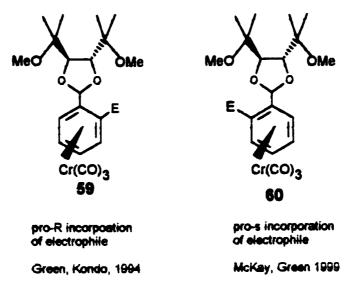


Figure 8: Formation of Both the Ortho and Ortho Derivatives

For the attempted lithiation of the *ortho*-thiomethyl complex 46 in Et₂O the thiomethyl ether was not effective as a DOM group. Even with the use of CH₃OD as an electrophile, a negligible amount of deuterium was incorporated anywhere on the ring. incorporated *ortho* to the thiomethyl group. This was apparent as the relative integrals of the acetal proton and the *meta* proton did not change appreciably after the attempted reaction. It was only apparent from the mass spectrum that the deuterium was incorporated into the molecule.

For the reaction between the lithiated thiomethyl compound and Me₃SiCl, several inseparable compounds were formed, although there was ^{1}H NMR evidence for the predominant formation of two compounds. In the aromatic region, there were doublets observed at δ 5.55 and δ 5.30 as well as a singlet at δ 5.52. It is reasonable to assign these signals to the protons of the *para* TMS compound 59 (Figure 9). This is another example of a thioether acting as a *meta* directing group.

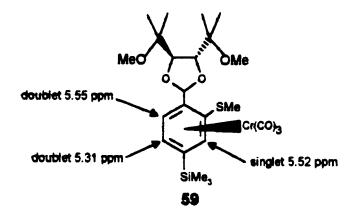


Figure 9: p-TMS Thiomethyl Complex 59

Another feature of the crude ${}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum that proved informative was the disappearance of the singlet at δ 2.44 from the thiomethyl ether group. In its place was (among other peaks) was an AB quartet at δ 2.10 and δ 2.20. It is reasonable to attribute this signal to the product derived from the incorporation of the trimethylsilyl group on the thiomethyl substituent as a result of lithiation of the thiomethyl group 60. (Figure 10).

Figure 10: Lithiation of Thiomethyl Methyl Group

The lithiation of the thiomethyl methyl group was not completely unexpected. Although the thiomethethyl group is known to direct deprotonation initially to the *ortho* site with lithium bases in the case of thioanisole, the ortho lithiated species quickly forms the methyl-metallated species (Scheme 28). In the case of chromium tricarbonyl complexed aromatic compounds, the aromatic protons are much more acidic than those in non-complexed aromatic rings. It was anticipated that given the increased acidity of the aromatic protons, the equilibrium between the *ortho* lithiated (62) and the thiomethyl lithiated compound (63) would favour the *ortho* lithiated species rather than the thiomethyl lithiated species.

Scheme 28

With electrophiles including dibromotetrafluoroethane, N-methylformanilide and allyl iodide, ¹H NMR showed the presence of several inseparable products resulting from the lithiation and subsequent quenching of the lithiated thiomethyl complex.

With an albeit limited number of electrophiles incorporated into the ring ,attention was turned to the desulfurization of the system. As a model, compound 45 was chosen for study. One of the most common desulfurization reagents, Lithium di-tert-butylbiphenylide (LiDBB)⁴⁴, is not compatible with the acetal function in 45. As a result, the use of Raney Nickel⁴⁵, cobalt boride⁴⁶, nickel boride⁴⁶, (Ph₃P) ₂NiCl₂-BuMgCl⁴⁷, Et₃SiH-Pd/C⁴⁸, and lithium naphthalenide⁴⁹ were tested. The results of this study are collected in Table 2.

Table 1: Desulfurization Trials

Desulfurization Technique	Comments		
Raney Nickel	80% desulfurization, 1:1 A:B		
Et ₃ SiH, Pd-C	No reaction		
Nickel Boride	80% desulfurization, 1:1 A:B		
Cobalt Boride	No reaction		
LiDBB	Inseparable mixture		
(PPh ₃) ₂ NiCl ₂ , 'BuMgCl	No reaction		
Mo(CO) ₆ on SiO ₂	Slow decomplexation		
	\		

A=desulfurized complex, B=decomplexed, desulfurized complex

The most successful of the reagents was Raney Nickel. With this reagent, it was possible to remove the phenylthio group. Unfortunately, decomplexation competed with this process; at 80% conversion, a 1:1 ratio of the aryl acetal complex 28 and decomplexed aryl acetal 53 resulted. Nickel boride (prepared *in situ* by the reaction of NiCl₂-6H₂O with NaBH₄) also caused desulfurization of 45 in competition with

decomplexation to the same extent. The other methods gave either no reaction whatsoever (triethylsilane-Pd/C) or slow decomplexation without desulfurization (molybdenum carbonyl⁵⁰, ((PPh₃)₂NiCl₂- ⁱBuMgBr, cobalt boride, and Li naphthalenide).

With the failure of the attempts to cleanly remove the thiophenyl function from 45, and with limited success of lithiation reactions of 45 and 46, it was decided that it would not be profitable to attempt the desulfurization of the substituted thiophenyl complexes.

Attempts to further this research would involve the use of a more easily removable directed metallation group *ortho* to the acetal. Possible candidates for this role would silicon-based directing groups. It has been demonstrated that phenylsilanes containing the trimethylethylenediamino group exhibit a strong directing effect for specific ortho lithiation⁵¹. (Scheme 29) Sieburth *et al* have exploited the silanoate group as a metallation-directing group, albeit with considerable deprotonation of the alkyl groups on the silicon atom⁵². This problem should be alleviated somewhat in the case of chromium tricarbonyl complexes due to the greatly enhanced acidity of the ring protons. Silyl groups are readily removed by fluoride ion, including in the presence of (arene)tricarbonylchromium groups⁵³. As such, these routes are promising for the synthesis of meta-substituted enantiomerically pure complexes 66.

Scheme 30

2.2 Experimental

(1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-{4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(2'-phenylthio)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane|tricarbonylchromium(0) (45)

Compound 28 (2.000 g, 4.647 mmol) was placed in an oven dried 250 mL two-necked round-bottom flask fitted with a gas adaptor and a septum. The flask was flushed with nitrogen and 80 mL of freshly distilled diethyl ether was added. The solution was cooled to -30°C and n-BuLi (5.06 mL, 2.21 M, 11.15 mmol, 2.4 equiv) was added over 1.5 h by the use of a syringe pump. The solution was allowed to stir for 3 h at -30°C and 80 mL of freshly distilled THF was added to the flask over 20 minutes. The solution was allowed to stir for 30 minutes and PhSSPh (2.435g, 11.2 mmol, 2.4 equiv) was added as a THF (10 mL) solution. The solution was kept at -30°C for 1 h, and 25 mL of H₂O was added subsequently. A standard aqueous work-up afforded a yellow solid. The solid was

purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent 5:1 petroleum ether:ethyl acetate) to provide the product as a yellow solid. Recrystallization from hexane afforded yellow needles (1.823g, 3.392 mmol, 73%) mp140-142°C, (Lit²⁴142-143°C).

Preparation of (1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(2'-methylthio)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane]tricarbonylchromium(0) (46)

Compound 3 (1.500g, 3.485 mmol) was placed in an oven dried 250 mL two-necked round-bottom flask fitted with a gas adaptor and a septum. The flask was flushed with nitrogen and 50 mL of freshly distilled diethyl ether was added. The solution was cooled to -30°C and n-BuLi (3.78 mL, 2.21 M, 8.364 mmol, 2.4 equiv) was added over 1.5 h by the use of a syringe pump. The solution was allowed to stir for 3 h at -30°C and 80 mL of freshly distilled THF was added to the flask over 20 minutes. The solution was allowed to stir for 30 minutes and MeSSMe (0.614 mL, 0.520g, 8.364 mmol, 2.4 equiv) was added.

The solution was kept at -30°C for 1 h, and 25 mL of H₂O was added subsequently. A standard aqueous work-up afforded a yellow solid. The solid was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent 5:1 petroleum ether:ethyl acetate) to provide the product as a yellow solid. Recrystallization from hexane afforded 46 as yellow needles (1.158g, 2.430 mmol, 69%) mp 104-5 °C (hexanes); IR (NaCl, neat) 3092, 1966, 1890 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 6.21 (s, 1H), 5.83 (d, 1H, J=6.4), 5.32 (d, 1H, J=3.0), 5.19 (m, 2H), 4.21 (d, 1H, J=2.88), 4.03 (d, 1H, J=2.90) 3.24 (s, 3H), 3.15 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.31 (s, 3H), 1.19 (s, 3H) 1.15 (s, 3H) 1.06 (s, 3H), ¹³C NMR δ 232.2, 107.9, 100.8, 91.8, 90.7, 89.4, 82.9, 77.1, 75.4, 49.3, 22.1, 21.3, 20.7, 19.5, 17.9; MS m/e 476 (M⁻); HRMS m/e calcd for C₂₁H₂₈CrO₇S (M+) 476.5049, found 476.0958

Conditions for Lithiation of Thioether Complexes (45,46)

Method 1

To a solution of 45(or 46) (0.100-0.120g) in freshly distilled Et₂O (10 mL) at -35°C was added n-BuLi (2.4 equiv) over a period of 1.5 h using a syringe pump. The solution was stirred at -35°C for 3 h. Following the addition of an electrophile (3 equiv) the solution was stirred for 1 h at -35°C and 5 mL of H₂O was added subsequently. A standard aqueous workup resulted in a and the residue diluted with brine and extracted with Et₂O. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure.

Method 2

To a solution of 45(or 46) (0.100-0.120g) in freshly distilled THF (10 mL) at -35°C was added n-BuLi (2.4 equiv) over a period of 1.5 h using a syringe pump. The solution was stirred at -35°C for 3 h. Following the addition of an electrophile (3 equiv) the solution was stirred for 1 h at -35°C and 5 mL of H₂O was added subsequently. A standard aqueous workup resulted in a and the residue diluted with brine and extracted with Et₂O. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure.

Method 3

To a solution of 45(or 46) (0.100-0.120g) in freshly distilled Et₂O (10 mL) at -35°C was added TMEDA (3 equiv).n-BuLi (2.4 equiv) was added over a period of 1.5 h using a syringe pump. The solution was stirred at -35°C for 3 h. Following the addition of an electrophile (3 equiv) the solution was stirred for 1 h at -35°C and 5 mL of H₂O was added subsequently. A standard aqueous workup resulted in a and the residue diluted

with brine and extracted with Et₂O. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure.

(1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(6'-deuterio 2'-phenylthio)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane]-tricarbonylchromium(0) (48)

Addition of CH₃OD (0.03mL, 0.022g, 0.670 mmol, 3 equiv) to a solution of the lithiated phenylthio compound 45 (0.120g, 0.223 mmol), generated by Method 1, followed by a standard aqueous workup resulted in crude solid. Purification of this solid, by column chromatography (eluent 5:1 petroleum ether:ethyl acetate) followed by recrystallization from hexane afforded 48 yellow needles (0.103g, 0.191mmol, 86%) which was identified as . IR (KBr, neat) ν_{max} 1970, 1905, cm⁻¹,1H NMR δ 7.50-7.3 (m, 2H), 7.26-7.37 (m, 3H), 6.43 (s, 1H), 5.19-5.28 (m, 2H), 5.13 (d, 1H, J=6.3), 4.22 (d, 1H, J=3.4), 4.06 (d, 1H, J=3.4), 3.26 (s, 3H), 3.19 (s, 3H), 1.32 (s, 3H), 1.15 (s, 3H), 1.14 (s, 3H), 1.09

(s, 3H); ¹³C NMR d 232.0, 133.6, 132.8, 130.3, 128.3, 108.1, 107.6, 100.8, 95.3, 91.8, 90.3, 89.9, 84.6, 82.9, 77.2, 75.5, 49.4, 22.2, 21.4, 20.9, 19.6; MS *m/e* 539 (M⁺)

(1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(6'-bromo-2'-phenylthio)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane]-tricarbonylchromium(0) (51)

Subjecting 0.0324 g of starting material 45 to Method 1, with dibromotetrafluoroethane as the electrophile gave 0.0284 g (77%) of product 51. $[\alpha]^{24}$ +218 (c 0.0055, Et₂O); IR (KBr, neat) v_{max} 1975, 1909 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.45 (m, 3H), 6.39 (s, 1H), 5.32 (d, 1H, J = 6.2,), 5.26 (apparent t, 1H, J = 6.4), 4.59 (d, 1H, J = 6.4,), 4.26 (d, 1H, J = 6.0), 4.05 (d, 1H, J = 6.0), 3.29 (s, 3H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 1.40 (s, 3H), 1.37 (s, 3H),

1.36 (s, 3H), 1.23 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR δ 231.0, 135.2, 131.2, 129.8, 129.6, 116.8, 102.3, 102.1, 97.5, 92.8, 91.9, 87.6, 83.1, 83.0, 75.5, 49.4, 49.0, 23.1, 21.9, 21.8, 20.6; MS m/e 618 and 616 (M⁺), 534 and 532 (M⁺-3CO); HRMS m/e for C₂₆H₂₉Br⁷⁹CrO₇S calcd (M⁺) 616.0222 found 616.0244.

(1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(6'-formyl-2'-phenylthio)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane]-tricarbonylchromium(0) (52)

Subjecting 0.0302 g of starting material 45 to Method 1, with N-methylformanilide as the electrophile, gave 0.0193 g of product 52 (61%) and 0.0058 g of starting material 45 (19%). [α]²³ –34 (c 0.0011, Et₂O); IR (KBr, neat) ν_{max} 2872, 2832, 1983, 1920, 1680 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 10.59 (s, 1H), 7.57 (m, 2H), 7.30-7.42 (m, 3H), 6.82 (s, 1H), 5.97 (d, 1H, J = 6.5), 5.41 (dd, 1H, J = 1.1, 6.5,), 5.24 (apparent t, 1H, J = 6.5), 4.22 (d, 1H, J = 4.4), 4.11 (d, 1H, J = 4.4), 3.28 (s, 3H), 3.16 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 3H), 1.22 (s, 3H), 1.16 (s, 3H), 1.13 (s, 3H)); ¹³C NMR δ 229.9, 191.6, 133.4, 133.0, 129.5, 128.7, 107.8, 106.7, 102.9,

96.9, 96.8, 91.3, 89.0, 84.5, 83.2, 74.9, 49.3, 49.0, 22.4, 22.1, 20.8, 20.6; MS m/e 566 (M⁺), 482 (M⁺ - 3CO); HRMS m/e for C₂₇H₃₀CrO₈S calcd (M⁺) 566.1066, found 566.1069.

(1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(6'-allyl-2'-phenylthio)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane|-tricarbonylchromium(0) (53)

Subjecting 0.0336 g of starting material to Method 1, with allyl bromide as the electrophile, gave 0.0114 g of product 53 (32%) and 0.0151 g of recovered starting material 45 (45%).

 $[\alpha]^{24}$ +34 (c 0.0021, Et₂O); IR (KBr, neat) ν_{max} 1968, 1898, 1638 cm⁻¹; δ 7.52 (dd, 2H, J = 1.4, 7.9), 7.30-7.40 (m, 3H), 6.56 (s, 1H), 5.96 (m, 1H), 5.32 (apparent t, 1H, J = 6.5), 5.13 (d, 1H, J = 16.9), 5.12 (d, 1H, J = 11), 5.04 (d, 1H, J = 6.0), 4.91 (d, 1H, J = 6.6),

4.18 (d, 1H, J = 5.5), 3.99 (d, 1H, J = 5.5), 3.86 (dd, 1H, J = 6.6, 15.8), 3.54 (dd, 1H, J = 7.6, 15.8), 3.28 (s, 3H), 3.20 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 3H), 1.223 (s, 3H), 1.216 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR δ 232.2, 136.7, 133.5, 129.5, 128.7, 117.2, 112.6, 105.3, 103.2, 101.3, 93.1, 91.7, 90.8, 83.8, 82.3, 75.03, 74.95, 49.3, 49.1, 34.8, 22.8, 22.4, 21.4, 20.7.; MS *m/e* 578 (M⁺), 494 (M⁺- 3CO); HRMS *m/e* for C₂₉H₃₄CrO₇S calcd (M⁻) 578.1430, found 578.1422.

(1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(2'-phenylthio-4'-trimethylsilyl)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolanel-tricarbonylchromium(0) (55)

Addition of TMSC1 (0.071 mL, 0.089g, 0.819 mmol, 3 equiv)to a solution of the lithiated phenylthio compound 45 (0.110g, 0.204 mmol) generated by Method 1, followed by a standard aqueous workup resulted in crude yellow oil. Preparative TLC (eluent 5:1 petroleum ether:ethyl acetate) afforded a yellow oil which contained a mixture of products which proved to be was identified.non-separable. The following

spectral data suggested the presence of the *para* (55) isomer. Relevant ¹H NMR resonances in the aromatic region include d 5.60 (d, 1H, J=6), 5.41 (d, 1H, J=6), 5.29 (s, 1H).

(1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(3',6'-dibromo 2'-phenylthio)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane]-tricarbonylchromium(0) (56)

Addition of BrCF₂CF₂Br (0.133 mL, 0.290g, 1.116 mmol, 3 equiv)to a solution of the lithiated phenylthio compound 45 generated by method 3 (0.200g, 0.372 mmol) followed by a standard aqueous workup resulted in crude yellow oil. Preparative TLC (eluent 5:1 petroleum ether:ethyl acetate) afforded a yellow oil (0.103g, 0.151 mmol, 41%) which was identified spectroscopically as the dibromo compound 56. IR (KBr, neat) v_{max} 1970, 1905, cm⁻¹, 1H NMR & 7.34 (d, 2H, J=8.3), 7.25-7.17 (m, 3H), 6.75 (s, 1H), 5.68 (d, 2H, J=6.7), 5.62 (d, 1H, J=6.7), 4.08 (d, 1H, J=3.8), 3.88 (d, 1H, J=3.8), 3.24 (s, 3H), 3.14 (s, 3H), 1.37 (s, 3H), 1.21 (s, 3H), 1.15 (s, 3H), 1.12 (s, 3H); MS m/e 610 (M⁻-3CO)

(1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(2'-methylthio-4'-trimethylsilyl)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolanel-tricarbonylchromium(0) (59)

Preparation of (1'R,2'S,4R,5R)-[4,5-Bis(1-methoxy-1-methylethyl)-2-(2'-trimethylsilylmethylthio)phenyl)-1,3-dioxolane[tricarbonylchromium(0) (60)

Addition of Me₃SiCl (0.026mL, 0.022g, 0.670 mmol, 3 equiv)to a solution of the lithiated methylthio compound 46 (0.120g, 0.223 mmol) followed by a standard aqueous workup resulted in crude yellow oil.(mixture of p-TMS 59 and methylthiomethyl TMS 60). The following spectral data suggest the presence of 59. Relevant 1H NMR peaks in the aromatic region include δ 5.55 (d, 1H, J=6), 5.52 (s, 1H), 5.31 (d, 1H, J=6). Indicative of the presence of 60, is an AB quartet at δ 2.21 and δ 2.20.

Desulfurization Trials

Triethylsilane reduction of 45

Phenylthio complex 45 (0.0684g, 0.144mmol) and 5% Pd/C (0.0278g, 7.18 x 10⁻⁶ mol, 5 mol %) were weighed into a 50 mL round bottomed flask fitted with a septum and a gas adaptor. The flask was flushed with argon and then 10 mL of freshly distilled CH₂Cl₂ was added to the flask. Et₃SiH was added to the flask and the reaction was allowed to proceed for 12 h. A standard aqueous workup produced a yellow oil which was identified as the starting phenylthio complex 45. No reduction had taken place.

Molybdenum Carbonyl Reduction of 45

Mo(CO)₆ (0.250g, 0.95 mmol) and silica gel (0.057g, 0.95mmol) were placed in a 50 mL round bottomed flask fitted with a gas adaptor and a septum. The flask was flushed with nitrogen and then heated for 90 min at 110-125°C. The flask was allowed to cool to ambient temperature and the phenylthio ether 45 (0.060g, 0.111mmol) was added as a THF solution. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 12 h then the reaction mixture was filtered through Celite[®]. A standard aqueous workup resulted in a yellow oil which was shown to contain primarily starting material 45 and a trace of its decomplexed analogue.

Raney Nickel Reduction of Phenylthio Compound 45

Raney® Nickel (0.400g, 50% suspension in H₂O) was placed in a 50 mL round bottomed flask fitted with a gas adaptor and septum. The flask was flushed with nitrogen and then 8mL of EtOH and was added. The phenylthio ether 45 (0.040g, 0.0743mmol) was added to the flask as an Et₂O solution. The reaction was allowed to proceed for 12 h. The reaction mixture was filtered through Celite® and after a standard aqueous work-up a yellow oil was obtained. H NMR spectrum of the crude product showed 80% desulfurization of the thioether 45 to yield a 1:1 mixture of the chiral acetal 28 and its decomplexed analogue 53, which were separated by chromatography on silica gel using petroleum ether: ethyl acetate (5:1) as eluent..

Nickel Boride Reduction of 45

Phenylthio complex 45 (0.057g, 0.11 mmol) and NiCl₂(H₂O)₆ (0.176g, 0.738 mmol, 7 equiv) were placed in a round bottomed flask fitted with a septum and a gas adaptor. The flask was flushed with nitrogen and then 10mL of a 3:1 MeOH:THF mixture were added to the flask. The flask was cooled to 0°C and under positive nitrogen pressure, NaBH₄ (0.084g, 2.2 mmol, 21 equiv) was added to the flask in four portions. The reaction was allowed to proceed for 12 h at 0°C at which time the contents of the flask were filtered through Celite²⁶ and subjected to a standard aqueous workup which gave a viscous yellow oil. This product was examined by ¹H NMR and determined to contain a 1:1 ratio of the

desulfurized chiral acetal 28 and the decomplexed chiral acetal 53, which were separated by chromatography on silica gel using petroleum ether:ethyl acetate (5:1) as eluent,

Cobalt Boride method of Desulfurization of 45

Phenylthio complex 45 (0.057 g, 0.11 mmol) and CoCl₂(H₂O)₆ (0.176 g, 0.739mmol, 7 equiv) were placed in a round bottomed flask fitted with a septum and a gas adaptor. The flask was flushed with nitrogen and then 10mL of a 3:1 MeOH:THF mixture were added to the flask. The flask was cooled to 0°C and under positive nitrogen pressure, NaBH₄ (0.084g, 2.2 mmol, 21 equiv) was added to the flask in four portions. The reaction was allowed to proceed for 12 h at 0°C at which time the contents of the flask were filtered through Celite[®] and subjected to a standard aqueous workup which gave a viscous yellow oil. The oil was identified as 45 by NMR spectroscopy.

(PPh₃)₂Ni₂Cl₂ + 2-bromomagnesiobutane mediated Desulfurization of 45
(Ph₃P)₂NiCl₂ (0.098 g, 0.150 mmol) was placed in a 2-necked 50mL round bottomed flask fitted with a septum and a reflux condenser. THF (10mL), 2-bromomagnesiobutane (2.34 mL, 0.300 mmol, 2 equiv), and 45 (0.080 g, 0.149 mmol) in THF (2 mL) were added to the flask. The solution was allowed to reflux for 6 h. After filtration, a standard aqueous work-up afforded a yellow residue that was identified as 45 by ¹H NMR spectroscopy.

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Chapter 3

Oxidation of Benzylic and non-Benzylic Alcohols

3.1 Introduction

Oxidations of chromium tricarbonyl complexes of non-benzylic alcohols is a synthetic goal that has not yet been achieved. The more reactive benzylic alcohols have been oxidized by MnO₂¹, and by acetic anhydride-DMSO² conditions. Jaouen *et al* were able to successfully oxidize the chromium complexes of indanols and tetrolols to the corresponding indanones and tetralones using MnO₂ in good yields (70%) (Scheme 1). An important requirement for these reactions is not only the transformation of the hydroxyl group to the corresponding carbonyl compound, but also to avoid decomplexation.

1 2

Scheme 1

Levine et al were able to improve the yields of these reactions by using a mixture of acetic anhydride and DMSO. This reagent is a member of the class of reagents referred to as 'activated DMSO' reagents³. The nature of this activation stems from the electrophilic attack of the oxygen of the DMSO, which renders subsequent nucleophilic attack on the sulfur atom by an alcohol more facile (Scheme 2).

Scheme 2

Reagents which are capable of activating DMSO in this manner include trifluoroacetic anhydride, thionyl chloride, oxalyl chloride, butyl hypochlorite, chlorine-

acetic anhydride, acetyl chloride, benzoyl methanesulfonyl and toluenesulfonyl chlorides, carbonochloridates, sulfur trioxide/ pyridine, trifluoromethanesulfonic acid, bromine, ethoxyacetylene and diphenylketen-N-p-tolylimine³. Aside from the aforementioned, alcohols, phenols, enols, amines and oxides are possible nucleophiles. A general pathway for the oxidation of an alcohol by activated DMSO reagents is given in **Scheme 3**.

Scheme 3

Typical oxidizing agents such as the Jones reagent (CrO₃/H₂SO₄/H₂O/acetone) or the Swern reagent (DMSO/oxalyl chloride/triethylamine) cause removal of the chromium tricarbonyl fragment from the chromium complex; therefore it was deemed useful to develop a technique to oxidize non-benzylic alcohols that would leave the chromium tricarbonyl fragment attached to the aromatic ring. It is thought that the failure of the conventional Swern oxidation conditions is attributable to the presence of chloride ions, either as Bronsted or Lewis acid, which cause rapid decomplexation of (arene)tricarbonylchromium complexes⁴.

DMSO/SO₃/pyridine has been used successfully to oxidize tricarbonyl (7-norbornadienol)iron to tricarbonyl (7-norbornadienone)iron without decomplexation.

(Scheme 4). The success of this reagent indicated that it might also work on other metal carbonyl complexes. Additionally, DMSO/TFAA (trifluoroacetic anhydride) is a halidefree oxidant that has demonstrated effectiveness for many oxidations at low temperatures. Thus, these two reagent systems were chosen for study in the oxidations of (hydroxyarene)tricarbonylchromium complexes.

Scheme 4

3.2 Results and Discussion

In order to examine the effectiveness of the two reagent systems, several non-benzylic (hydroxyarene)tricarbonyl chromium complexes were prepared, as well as a diol which would illustrate the competitive reactivity of the benzylic and non-benzylic sites. Therefore, the alcohols in Figure 1 were prepared in the yields shown. The experiments involved in this project were a collaborative effort between Dr. Jim Green (experiments on chloride ion effects and reagent stoichiometry optimizations), Michael Siwek (compounds 15-18) and this author (compounds 11-14), with all of the results presented here. The complexes were prepared in good yields, by the method described in the Experimental section, and were readily purified by column chromatography.

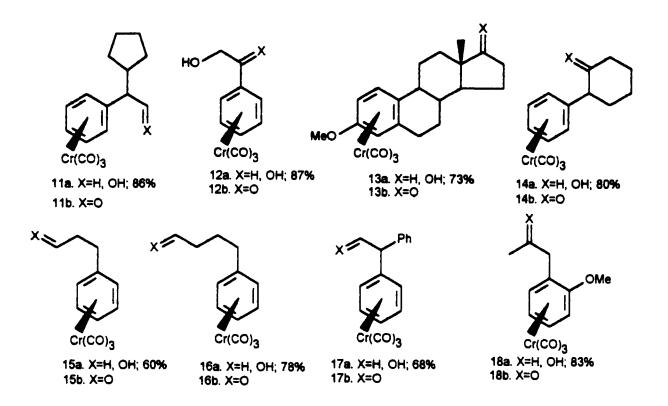


Figure 1: Oxidation Substrates and products

The DMSO/SO₃/pyridine oxidations were performed by adding the substrate to the reagent at 0 °C, followed by warming to room temperature for 30 min. Using these conditions, it was found that 5 equivalents of reagent were necessary to give complete oxidation. The DMSO/TFAA reagent is not stable above -30 °C thus; the preparation of this reagent and the oxidations were performed at -78 °C. With this reagent, 2.5 equivalents gave optimal results for the oxidations while using greater than three equivalents lead to significant decomplexation.

The results for the oxidations of the alcohols 11a-18a, by both reagents, are given in Table 1. In all cases, respectable amounts of the corresponding carbonyl compound, whether ketone or aldehyde, were observed. The efficiency with which the two reagents carried out the oxidations was generally the same, except for the diol 12a, which was oxidized much more selectively with the SO₃/ pyridine reagent. Both reagents oxidized the benzylic site preferentially to give the corresponding ketone.

There were two side products which accompanied these oxidations, one being the formation of the methythiomethyl ether and the other being the decomplexed arene. The decomplexation occurred in only trace amounts when either reagent was used properly, but became substantial (ca. 20%) with DMSO/TFAA if the stoichiometry of this reagent system was not carefully controlled. The methylthiomethyl ethers accounted for <10% of the crude reaction product in the oxidations of the primary alcohols 11a and 12a as indicated by the ¹H NMR spectra (singlet at ~4.6 ppm).

Table 1: Oxidation Results

Entry Alcoho	Alcohol	Product	Yield (%)	Yield (%)
			TFAA	SO pyridine
1	ila	116	75	72
2	12a	<u>12b</u>	61	85
3**	<u>13a</u>	<u>13b</u>	61	61
4	<u>14a</u>	<u>14b</u>	64	60
5*	<u>15a</u>	<u>15b</u>	80	75
6*	<u>16a</u>	<u>16b</u>	73	76
7*	<u>17a</u>	<u>17b</u>	72	71
8*	<u>18a</u>	<u>18b</u>	80	81

^{*}Theses entries represent compounds examined by M.J. Siwek

In an attempt to illustrate the effect of halide ion on decomplexation, various sources of halide ion (LiI, ZnCl₂, SnCl₂) were added (equimolar to the oxidizing reagent) to each reagent mixture, prior to the addition of the alcohol 11a, and the oxidation reactions conducted in the usual manner. For the reactions involving DMSO/SO₃/pyridine, the extent of decomplexation was about one third, while for the reagent DMSO/TFAA, the extent was roughly one half. The extent of the decomplexation was determined by

^{**}Joint effort by M.K. McKay and M.J. Siwek

integration of the complexed and uncomplexed aromatic regions. It is therefore evident that the presence of halide ion is a source of decomplexation, although the exact mechanism has not been elucidated.

Two reagents have been found to successfully oxidize both benzylic and non-benzylic (hydroxyarene)tricarbonylchromium complexes, with structural variety, in respectable yields. Side reactions such as decomplexation or methylthiomethyl ether formation can be kept to a minimal level.

3.3 Experimental

Melting points were measured with a Thomas Hoover capillary melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. ¹H HMR spectra and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ on a Bruker AC-300 spectrometer operated at 300 MHz and 75 MHz respectively. *J* values are given in Hertz. Infrared spectra were recorded on Nicolet 5DX FT-IR and Bomem Michelson 100 spectrometers, using neat films on NaCl or KBr plates. Elemental analyses were performed by M-H-W Laboratories, Phoenix AZ. Mass spectra were recorded on a Kratos Profile mass spectrometer.

The experimental results presented here represents only the compounds that were prepared for this thesis.

The general complexation methods for this section are identical to those of Chapter 1.

General Procedure DMSO-TFAA Oxidations (Method 1)

To a solution of DMSO (0.14 mL, 3 equiv.) in CH₂Cl₂ at -78°C under nitrogen was added trifluoroacetic anhydride (0.24 mL, 2.5 equiv) over a period of 1 min. The solution was stirred for 5 min. at -78°C and a solution of 11a (0.221g, 0.677mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (1mL) was added over a 2 min period. After stirring the reaction for 30 min., NEt₃ (0.5 mL) was added and the solution was allowed to warm to room temperature. Water was added and the mixture was extracted several times with CH₂Cl₂. The combined CH₂Cl₂ layers were dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. Preparative TLC (1:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) afforded 11b (0.165g 75% yield).

General Procedure DMSO/SO₃ Oxidations (Method 2)

To a vigorously stirred solution of 11a (0.128g, 0.394mmol) in DMSO (2 mL) and NEt₃ (0.27 ml, 5 equiv) under nitrogen at 0°C was added a solution of SO₃-pyridine (0.314 ml, 5equiv) in DMSO (2mL) over a period of 5 min. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir for 30 min, at which time water was added and the mixture was subjected to a work-up identical to that for the DMSO-TFAA procedure. Preparative TLC (1:1 petroleum ether: ethyl acetate) afforded 11b (0.096g, 72% yield).

[(1-Cyclopentyl-2-hydroxyethyl)benzeneltricarbonylchromium (0) (11a)

Prepared in 86% yield by standard literature procedure ⁵. oil; IR (NaCl) v_{max} 3415 (br), 1968, 1961, 1881 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 5.72 (d, 1H, J=6.8), 5.44 (apparent t, 1H, J=6.3), 5.35 (d, 1H, J=6.5), 5.23 (m, 2H), 3.92 (m, 2H), 1.1 - 2.2 (m, 11H); ¹³C NMR δ 233.5, 115.3, 97.4, 95.0, 94.6, 91.1, 90.6, 66.1, 50.9, 43.4, 31.6, 31.4, 25.0, 24.9; HRMS m/e calculated for $C_{16}H_{18}CrO_4$ (M+) 326.0610, found 326.0603.

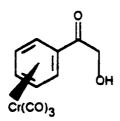
[(1-Cyclopentyl-2-oxoethyl)benzene]tricarbonylchromium (0) (11b)

Prepared from 11a in 75% yield by Method 1 and 72 % yield by Method 2 oil; IR (NaCl) v_{max} 1966, 1877, 1722 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 9.70 (d, 1H, J=1.7), 5.45 (m, 1H), 5.24 (m, 4H), 3.01 (d, 1H, J=9.8), 2.29 (m, 2H), 1.92 (m, 1H), 1.1-1.7 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR δ 232.4, 196.8, 102.7, 96.1, 93.9, 93.6, 91.4, 91.0, 60.6, 42.4, 31.2, 30.9, 25.1, 24.7; MS m/e 324 (MT), 240 (MT - 3CO); HRMS m/e calculated for C₁₆ H₁₆CrO₄ (MT) 324.0454, found 324.0449.

[(1.2-Dihydroxyethyl)benzeneltricarbonylchromium (0) (12a)

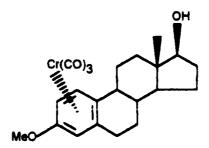
Prepared in 73% yield by the standard literature procedure⁵.mp 84-86 °C (hexanes); ¹H NMR δ 5.59 (d, 1H, J=6.3), 5.2 - 5.43 (m, 4H), 4.49 (dd, 1H, J=7.0, 3.3), 3.82 (dd, 1H, J=11.3, 3.3), 3.66 (dd, 1H, J=11.3, 7.0), 2.66 (br s, 1H), 2.28 (br s, 1H), ¹³C NMR δ 232.6, 111.4, 92.5, 92.4, 92.3, 91.4, 90.1, 72.5, 67.6; MS m/e 274 (M⁺); Anal. Calculated for C₁₁H₁₀CrO₅: C, 48.19; H, 3.67. Found 48.17; H, 3.67.

[2-Hydroxy-1-oxoethyl)benzeneltricarbonylchromium (0) (12b)



Prepared from 12a in 61% yield by Method 1 and 85 % yield by Method 2 mp 74 - 76°C (hexanes); IR (NaCl) v_{max} 3250 (br), 1972, 1890, 1685, cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 6.05 (d, 2H, J=6.3), 5.71 (apparent t, 1H, J=6.2), 5.28 (apparent t, 2H, J=6.5), 4.70 (d, 2H J=4.7), 3.26 (t, 1H, J=4.7); ¹³C NMR δ 229.8, 196.2, 95.7, 93.3, 90.8, 88.7, 64.4; MS m/e 272 (M⁺). Anal, Calculated for C₁₁H₈CrO₅: C, 48.54; H, 2.96. Found C, 48.29; 3.00.

α-[Estradiol-3-methyl etherltricarbonylchromium (0) (13a)



Prepared in 48% yield by the standard literature procedure⁵. mp 152-153 °C (hexanes); IR (NaCl) v_{max} 3307 (br), 1953, 1865 cm⁻¹, ¹H NMR δ 5.79 (d, J=7.1, 1H), 5.13 (dd, 1H, J=7.1, 2.2) 4.99 (d, 1H, J=2.2,), 3.71 (m, obscured, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H) 2.75 - 3.0 (m, 2H), 2.05 - 2.20 (m, 3H), 1.80 - 2.00 (m, 2H), 1.1 - 1.75 (m, 9H), 0.77 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR δ 233.9, 142.5, 111.2, 105.0, 93.5, 81.5, 78.3, 77.2, 55.5, 49.2, 43.1, 43.0, 39.0, 36.3, 30.5, 30.1, 26.5, 25.7, 22.9, 11.0; MS m/e 422 (M⁻); HRMS m/e calculated for C₂₂H₂₆CrO₅ (M⁻) 422.1185 found 422.1177. The assignment of the α- stereochemistry was based on comparison of the ¹³C NMR chemical shifts with closely related estradiol derivatives⁶.

[Estrone-3-methyl etherltricarbonylchromium (0) (13b)

Prepared from 13a in 61% yield by Method 1 and 61 % yield by Method 2 mp 159-160 °C (pentane); lit 6 160 - 1 °C.

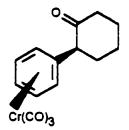
trans-[2-Phenyl-1-cyclohexanol]tricarbonylchromium (0) (14a)

Prepared in 60% yield by the standard literature procedure⁵. oil; IR (NaCl) v_{max} 3339 (br), 1962, 1883, 1856 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 5.47 (d, 2H, J=6.9), 5.36 (m, 3H), 3.37 (m, 1H), 1.9 - 2.2 (m, 3H), 1.65-1.9 (m, 3H), 1.2 - 1.45 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR δ 233.1, 114.4, 96.9, 93.5,

166

92.3, 91.3, 90.0, 75.3, 50.1, 35.7, 31.5, 25.7, 24.8; MS m/e 312 (M⁺); HRMS m/e calculated for C₁₅H₁₆CrO₄312.0454, found 312.0447.

[2-Phenyl-1-cyclohexanoneltricarbonylchromium (0) (14b)



Prepared from 14a in 61% yield by Method 1 and 61 % yield by Method 2 mp 134-136 °C (hexanes-Et₂O); IR (NaCl) v_{max} 1962, 1857, 1707 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 5.32 (m, 3H), 5.19 (apparent t, 2H, J=7.3), 3.32 (dd, 1H, J=5.1, 12.3), 2.38 - 2.52 (m, 3H), 2.17 (m, 1H), 2.05 (m, 1H), 1.74 - 1.88 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR 233.2, 209.4, 109.1, 96.4, 93.0, 92.2 (2 resonances, incidental overlap), 92.1, 55.6, 42.4, 32.9, 27.9, 25.5; HRMS m/e calculated for $C_{15}H_{14}CrO_4$ (M⁺) 310.0297, found 310.0294.

3.4 References

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Summary of Results

Chapter 1

The nucleophilic addition of alkyl and arylmetals to 1 was examined. When the reaction was mediated by Ti(OⁱPr)₄, diastereomeric excesses ranged from 77% to >94%. X-ray crystallography suggested that the major diastereomer had the absolute configuration of S. Conjugate addition of alkylmetal nucleophiles was attempted on 2 and 3 without success.

Chapter 2

The preparation of meta-disubstituted arenechromium tricarbonyl complexes was attempted. The initial phase of this research involved the directed ortho lithiation of 4,

with thioether directing groups. In the case of the 4, carrying out the reaction in Et₂O led to the metallation in the *ortho*' position. In THF lithiation occurred in both the *meta* and *ortho*' position. Desulfurization was attempted on the unsubstituted thiophenyl complex 4. The use of both Raney Nickel and Nickel Boride led to the formation of the

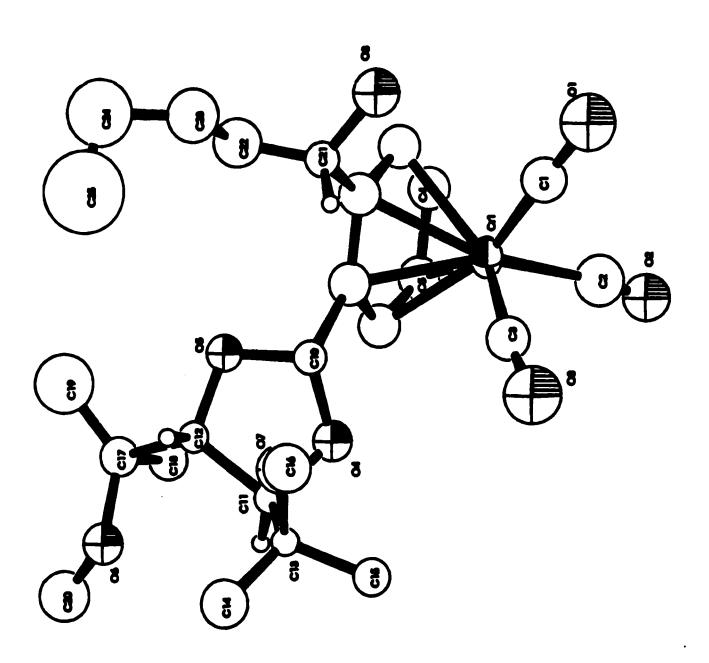
desulfurized complex and its decomplexed analogue in equal proportions.

Chapter 3

A series of chromium tricarbonyl complexes with benzylic and non-benzylic alcohol functionalities were subjected to DMSO-TFAA and DMSO/SO₃-pyridine. Yields of carbonyl complexes ranged from 61-80% for the DMSO-TFAA oxidation and from 60-81% for the DMSO/SO₃-pyridine oxidation.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: ORTEP of 93a



Appendix B. Relevant X-Ray Parameters Used in Calculating the Structure of 93a

rystal Data
C ₂₅ H ₃₆ CrO ₈
516.55
Yellow plate
Orthorhombic
primitive
25 (10.5-22.9°)
0.20°
a=11.303(4) Å
b=11.295(1) Å
c=21.528(2) Å
V=2748.4(9) Å ³
P2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 ₁ (#19)
4

Intensity Measurements		
Rigaku AFC6S		
Mo-K α (λ=0.71069 Å)		
6.0°		
6.0 mm horizontal		
6.0 mm vertical		
285 mm		
23.0 °C		
ω-2θ		
$(0.73 + 0.00 \tan \theta)^{\circ}$		
50.0°		
Total: 2778		
Lorentz-polarization Adsorption		

Structure Solution and Refinement		
Structure Solution	Direct Methods	
Refinement	Full-matrix least-squares	
Function Minimized	$\sum w(F_o - F_c)^2$	
p-factor	0.005	
Anomalous Dispersion	All non-hydrogen atoms	
No. of Observations (I>3.00σI)	681	
No. Variables	125	
Reflection/Parameter Ratio	5.45	
Residuals: R; R _w	0.089; 0.071	
Goodness of Fit Indicator	2.30	
Max Shift/Error in Final Cycle	0.05	
Maximum Peak in Final Difference Map	0.38 e ⁻ /Å ³	
Minimum Peak in Final Difference Map	-0.38 e ⁻ /Å ³	

Positional parameters

atom	X	у	Z
Cr(1)	0.6106(5)	0.2217(4)	0.0460(2)
O(1)	0.790(2)	0.140(2)	0.140(1)
O(2)	0.672(2)	0.008(2)	-0.0272(8)
O(3)	0.427(2)	0.088(2)	0.114(1)
O(4)	0.859(2)	0.425(1)	0.1036(7)
O(5)	0.735(2)	0.585(2)	0.1129(8)
O(6)	0.880(2)	0.499(2)	0.234(1)
O(7)	1.002(2)	0.752(2)	0.0956(9)
O(8)	0.372(2)	0.373(2)	0.1426(9)
C (1)	0.714(3)	0.175(2)	0.104(1)
C(2)	0.643(3)	0.084(3)	0.003(1)
C(3)	0.508(3)	0.139(3)	0.088(1)
C(4)	0.656(2)	0.409(1)	0.0658(7)
C(5)	0.533(2)	0.398(1)	0.0713(6)
C(6)	0.467(1)	0.352(2)	0.022(1)
C(7)	0.523(2)	0.317(1)	-0.0323(7)
C(8)	0.646(2)	0.328(1)	-0.0378(7)
C(9)	0.712(1)	0.374(2)	0.011(1)
C (10)	0.742(3)	0.455(2)	0.117(1)
C(11)	0.932(2)	0.520(3)	0.129(1)
C(12)	0.854(3)	0.627(2)	0.126(1)
C(13)	0.985(3)	0.490(3)	0.196(1)
C(14)	1.038(3)	0.367(3)	0.195(1)
C(15)	1.073(3)	0.582(3)	0.215(1)
C(16)	0.890(5)	0.477(4)	0.299(2)
C(17)	0.890(3)	0.724(3)	0.077(1)
C(18)	0.800(4)	0.823(3)	0.080(1)
C(19)	0.885(3)	0.665(2)	0.013(1)
C(20)	1.069(3)	0.829(3)	0.058(2)
C(21)	0.473(3)	0.441(3)	0.133(1)
C(22)	0.449(3)	0.570(3)	0.126(2)
C(23)	0.403(5)	0.626(4)	0.189(2)
C(24)	0.392(8)	0.764(8)	0.199(4)
C(25)	0.499(8)	0.793(9)	0.202(4)
H(1)	0.3838	0.3447	0.0259 -0.0657
H(2)	0.4 7 86 0.6846	0.2849 0.3030	-0.0037 -0.0750
H(3)	0.0840	0.3030	0.0074
H(4) H(5)	0.7937	0.3809	0.0074
H(6)	0.7201	0.4281	0.1308
H(7)	0.8537	0.5528	0.1660
H(8)	0.8337	0.3134	0.1798
H(9)	1.1053	0.3661	0.1798
**(>)	1.1000	0.5001	0.1710

	Positional	parameters	
atom	x	у	Z
H(10)	1.0559	0.3452	0.2373
H(11)	1.0932	0.5713	0.2577
H(12)	1.1424	0.5743	0.1904
H(13)	1.0405	0.6588	0.2095
H(14)	0.8158	0.4854	0.3182
H(15)	0.9187	0.3982	0.3049
H(16)	0.9451	0.5313	0.3160
H(17)	0.8051	0.8607	0.1198
H(18)	0.8171	0.8796	0.0487
H(19)	0.7228	0.7928	0.0745
H(20)	0.8072	0.6430	0.0034
H(21)	0.9149	0.7187	-0.0171
H(22)	0.9347	0.5959	0.0135
H(23)	1.1443	0.8410	0.0761
H(24)	1.0785	0.7946	0.0178
H(25)	1.0289	0.9024	0.0540
H(26)	0.5299	0.4324	0.1657
H(27)	0.5174	0.6125	0.1144
H(28)	0.3881	0.5812	0.0967
H(29)	0.3265	0.5954	0.1975
H(30)	0.4556	0.5992	0.2218
H(31)	0.3509	0.8027	0.1676
H(32)	0.3547	0.7840	0.2390
H(33)	0.5365	0.7543	0.2349
H(34)	0.5340	0.7684	0.1633
H(35)	0.5059	0.8760	0.2056

Intramolecular Bond Angles Involving the Nonhydrogen Atoms

atom	atom atom	angle	atom	atom	atom	angle
C(1)	Cr(1) C(2)	89(1)	C(5)	Cr(1)	C(6)	36.1(7)
C(1)	Cr(1) C(3)	85(2)	C(5)	Cr(1)	C(7)	65.3(6)
C(1)	Cr(1) C(4)	90(1)	C(5)	Cr(1)	C(8)	77.7(6)
C(1)	Cr(1) C(5)	110(1)	C(5)	Cr(1)	C(9)	65.9(7)
C(1)	Cr(1) C(6)	145(1)	C(6)	Cr(1)	C(7)	36.3(7)
C(1)	Cr(1) C(7)	164(1)	C(6)	Cr(1)	C(8)	65.7(7)
C(1)	Cr(1) C(8)	128(1)	C(6)	Cr(1)	C(9)	77.7(6)
C(1)	Cr(1) C(9)	98(1)	C(7)	Cr(1)	C(8)	36.7(7)
C(2)	Cr(1) C(3)	87(2)	C(7)	Cr(1)	C(9)	66.2(7)
C(2)	Cr(1) C(4)	149(1)	C(8)	Cr(1)	C(9)	37.0(7)
C(2)	Cr(1) C(5)	161(1)	C(10)	0(4)	C(11)	106(2)

C(2)	Cr(1) C(6)	125(1)	C(10)	O(5)	C(12)	105(2)
C(2)	Cr(1) C(7)	96(1)	C(13)	O (6)	C(16)	118(3)
C(2)	Cr(1) C(8)	90(1)	C(17)	O(7)	C(20)	118(2)
C(2)	Cr(1) C(9)	112(1)	Cr(1)	C(1)	O(1)	174(3)
C(3)	Cr(1) C(4)	124(1)	Cr(1)	C(2)	O(2)	172(3)
C(3)	Cr(1) C(5)	95(1)	Cr(1)	C(3)	O(3)	173(3)
C(3)	Cr(1) C(6)	89(1)	O(4)	C(10)	O(5)	107(2)
C(3)	Cr(1) $C(7)$	111(1)	O(4)	C(10)	C(4)	112(2)
C(3)	Cr(1) C(8)	147(1)	O(5)	C(10)	C(4)	105(2)
C(3)	Cr(1) C(9)	161(1)	O(4)	C (11)	C(12)	104(2)
C(4)	Cr(1) C(5)	36.4(9)	O(4)	C (11)	C(13)	114(2)
C(4)	Cr(1) C(6)	65.4(8)	C(12)	C(11)	C(13)	116(2)
C(4)	Cr(1) C(7)	77.7(6)	O(5)	C(12)	C(11)	107(2)
C(4)	Cr(1) C(8)	66.3(6)	O(5)	C(12)	C(17)	110(2)
C(4)	Cr(1) C(9)	36.9(7)	C(11)	C(12)	C(17)	116(2)

Intramolecular Bond Angles Involving the Nonhydrogen Atoms cont

atom atom atoin	angle	atom atom atom	angle
atom atom atom O(6) C(13) C(11) O(6) C(13) C(14) O(6) C(13) C(15) C(11) C(13) C(14) C(11) C(13) C(15) C(14) C(13) C(15) C(14) C(13) C(15) O(7) C(17) C(12) O(7) C(17) C(18) O(7) C(17) C(18) C(12) C(17) C(18) C(12) C(17) C(19) C(18) C(17) C(19) O(8) C(21) C(22) O(8) C(21) C(5)	angle 100(2) 113(2) 111(2) 109(2) 111(2) 112(3) 102(2) 116(3) 113(3) 108(3) 107(2) 110(3) 114(3) 108(2)	atom atom atom Cr(11) C(5) C(6) C(21) C(5) C(4) C(21) C(5) C(6) C(4) C(5) C(6) Cr(1) C(6) C(5) Cr(1) C(6) C(7) C(5) C(6) C(7) Cr(1) C(7) C(6) Cr(1) C(7) C(8) C(6) C(7) C(8) Cr(1) C(8) C(7) Cr(1) C(8) C(7) Cr(1) C(8) C(9) C(7) C(8) C(9) C(7) C(8) C(9) Cr(1) C(9) C(4)	72(1) 119(2) 121(2) 120(2) 72(1) 71(1) 120(2) 73(1) 71(1) 120(2) 72.8(9) 71(1) 120(1) 72(1)
O(8) C(21) C(5) C(22) C(21) C(5) C(21) C(22) C(23) C(22) C(23) C(24) C(23) C(24) C(25) Cr(1) C(4) C(10) Cr(1) C(4) C(5) Cr(1) C(4) C(9) C(10) C(4) C(5) C(10) C(4) C(9) C(5) C(4) C(9) Cr(1) C(5) C(21)	108(2) 108(2) 112(3) 123(4) 101(8) 127(1) 73(1) 71(1) 126(2) 114(2) 120(2) 131(2)	Cr(1) C(9) C(4) Cr(1) C(9) C(8) C(4) C(9) C(8) Cr(1) C(5) C(4)	72(1) 72(1) 120(2) 71(1)

Intramolecular Distances Involving the Nonhydrogen Atoms

atom	atom	distance	atom	atom	distance
Cr(1)	C(1)	1.80(3)	O(8)	C(21)	1.39(4)
Cr(1)	C(2)	1.85(3)	C (10)	C(4)	1.56(3)
Cr(1)	C(3)	1.74(4)	C (11)	C(12)	1.50(4)
Cr(1)	C(4)	2.22(2)	C(11)	C(13)	1.59(4)
Cr(1)	C(5)	2.25(2)	C(12)	C(17)	1.57(4)
Cr(1)	C(6)	2.25(2)	C(13)	C(14)	1.51(4)
Cr(1)	C(7)	2.23(2)	C(13)	C(15)	1.49(4)
Cr(1)	C(8)	2.20(2)	C(17)	C(18)	1.52(5)
Cr(1)	C(9)	2.20(2)	C(17)	C(19)	1.53(4)
O(1)	C(1)	1.21(4)	C(21)	C(22)	1.48(5)
O(2)	C(2)	1.12(4)	C(21)	C(5)	1.57(4)
O(3)	C(3)	1.23(4)	C(22)	C(23)	1.59(6)
O(4)	C(10)	1.39(4)	C(23)	C(24)	1.6(1)
O(4)	C(11)	1.46(3)	C(24)	C(25)	1.3(1)
O(5)	C(10)	1.47(3)	C(4)	C(5)	1.40(3)
O(5)	C(12)	1.45(4)	C(4)	C(9)	1.40(3)
O(6)	C(13)	1.45(4)	C(5)	C(6)	1.40(3)
O(6)	C(16)	1.43(5)	C(6)	C(7)	1.40(3)
O(7)	C(17)	1.36(4)	C(7)	C(8)	1.40(3)
O(7)	C(20)	1.41(4)	C(8)	C(9)	1.40(3)

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