Understanding the Stability and Reactivity of Functionalised Organozinc Reagents: Applications to Amino Acid and Cyclic Peptide Synthesis

> R F W Jackson University of Sheffield

#### Amino Acid Disconnections



#### Instability of β-Amino Anions



#### Reactions of Simple Organozinc Reagents



Y. Tamaru, H. Ochiai, T. Nakamura and Z.-i. Yoshida, Org. Synth. 1988, 67, 98

#### Amino Acid Derived Zinc Reagents



Synthesis of Phenylalanine Derivatives



J. Med. Chem., 1996, 39, 1991 Synlett, 1997, 169

Biorg. Med. Chem. Lett., 1996, 6, 1635

### Synthesis of Macrocyclic Tripeptides





OF4949-III

Retrosynthesis for OF4949-III



#### Synthesis of O-Aryltyrosine



#### Synthesis of OF4949-III









Retrosynthesis for K-13





#### Synthesis of the Macrocyclic Precursor







### Serine-Derived Reagent in THF



#### **Solvent Dependence of NMR Spectra**



#### Interpretation of <sup>1</sup>H NMR data

#### THF

- Broad signals
- Large chemical shift difference
- Different values for  $J_{\rm AX}$  and  $J_{\rm BX}$

DMF

Sharp signals Small chemical shift difference Similar values for  $J_{AX}$  and  $J_{BX}$ 





Aspartic Acid-Derived Reagent in DMF



#### Kinetics of Decomposition



Znl CO<sub>2</sub>Me

• Faster decomposition in THF than in DMF

 $\Delta H^{\ddagger} = \Delta S^{\ddagger}$ 

kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> J K<sup>-1</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>

- Simple first order kinetics in both THF and DMF
- Large negative ΔS<sup>#</sup> in THF indicating a highly ordered transition state

 $THF-d_8 + 70 - 85$ 

 $DMF-d_7 + 90 - 31$ 

#### Tentative Mechanism for Elimination



- Elimination proceeds *via* coordination of carbamate group to zinc, to give a highly ordered transition structure, hence the negative *entropy* of activation.
- THF interacts more weakly with the zinc than does DMF, as indicated by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. Thus, the disruption of DMF coordination to zinc in forming the transition structure also accounts for the higher *enthalpy* of activation in this solvent.
- The release of coordinated DMF partially compensates for the formation of the highly ordered transition structure, so the *entropy* of activation is less negative in this solvent.

### Internal Coordination in Functionalised Organozinc Halides



#### <sup>13</sup>C NMR Data

• Chemical shift differences of the carbonyl groups of the  $\beta$ -amino zinc reagents in d<sub>8</sub>-THF relative to the parent iodides.

$\Delta\delta \left( \delta_{(R-ZnI)} - \delta_{(R-I)} \right)$	MeO <sub>2</sub> C Znl		NHBoc 
Ester	+5.347	+1.464	+0.675
Carbamate	+ 2.711	+3.747	+3.923

#### <sup>13</sup>C NMR Data

• Chemical shift differences of the carbonyl groups of the  $\beta$ -amino zinc reagents in d<sub>7</sub>-DMF relative to the parent iodides.

$\Delta\delta \left( \delta_{(R-ZnI)} - \delta_{(R-I)} \right)$	MeO <sub>2</sub> C Znl	NHBoc E Znl CO-Me	NHBoc Znl
Ester	+5.786	+0.872	CO <sub>2</sub> Me
Carbamate	-0.868	-0.535	-0.687

Unique Stability of Serine-Derived Reagent

• For the serine-derived reagent in all solvents, co-ordination of ester to zinc occurs.



#### How to Minimise the Elimination

- The elimination reaction appears to be dependent on the Lewis basicity of the carbonyl function, not its ability as a leaving group.
- Therefore, we need to choose a group in which Lewis basicity is minimised.



#### N-TFA Asp(OMe)-ZnI in d<sub>7</sub>-DMF



4.6 1.1 4.2 4.0 3.8 3.6 3.4 3.2 2.2 2.0 3.0 2.8 2.4 1.8 1.6 1.4 1.2 2.6 1.0 0.8 0.6 0.4 (ppm)

## Comparison of CH<sub>2</sub>ZnI signals

Methylene protons for N-Boc Asp(OMe)-ZnI in DMF

0.50 0.30 0.40 (ppm)

Methylene protons for N-TFA Asp(OMe)-ZnI in DMF



Decomposition of Organozinc Reagents



# Yields from Palladium-Catalysed Cross Coupling of $\beta$ -Amidozinc Reagents

CO 2Me	DMF	Znl CO 2Me	$\frac{\text{Ar-I}}{\text{Pd}_2\text{dba}_3 / \text{P}(o\text{-tol})_3}$	Ar CO 2 Me
	Ar	P = Boc Yield (%)	P = TFA Yield (%)	
	4-Me-Ph	73	64	
	4-MeO-Ph	68	69	
	Ph	73	72	
	4-CN-Ph	-	77	
	1-Naphthyl	61	70	
	4-Br-Ph	58	53	

Jackson, R. F. W.; Rilatt, I. and Murray, P. J., Chem. Commun., 2003, 1242-1243.

#### Kinetic Behaviour of Organozinc Reagents

Organozinc Reagent	Rate of Decomposition (x 10 <sup>-5</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	Rate of Coupling (x 10 <sup>-4</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	Isolated Yield (%)
MeO NHBoc Znl	0.87	Too fast to measure	63
MeO NHTFA	0.31	20.6	65
	2.84	41.3	70
MeO Znl	0.33	62.5	88

# Palladium-Catalysed Cross Coupling of $\beta$ -Amidozinc Reagents



#### Reactivity of Organozinc Reagents

Organozinc Reagent	Rate of Decomposition (x 10 <sup>-5</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	Rate of Coupling (x 10 <sup>-5</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	Isolated Yield (%)
Ph Znl	1.1	Too fast to measure	74
Ph Znl	0.42	Too fast to measure	83
MeO ZnI	0.2	8.5	44

# Applications of Reagents







R	Solvent	Reaction Rate (x 10 <sup>-5</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	<b>Reaction</b> Time	Isolated Yield (%)
Ph	DMF	0.5	> 16 h	65
Ph	THF/DMF(6 eq)	1.0	~ 16 h	72
$C_6F_5$	DMF	1.7	~ 8 h	81
C <sub>6</sub> F <sub>5</sub>	THF/DMF(6 eq)	5.2	~ 3 h	94

## Conclusions

- TFA reagents more stable to elimination
- · Ester coordination critical factor in reactivity
- · Glutamic acid trifluoroacetamide a superior reagent
- More acidic proton of the trifluoroacetamide tolerated



F. G. Bordwell, Acc. Chem. Res, 1988, 21, 456-463





Org. Biomol. Chem., 2004, 2, 110 - 113.

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