# Brook Rearrangement as Trigger for Carbene Generation: Synthesis of Stereodefined and Fully Substituted Cyclobutenes

F. Ahang and Ilan Marek J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2017, 139, 8364-8370. 06/24/17 Mike Frasso

## **General Brook Rearrangement**







- If catalytic base used, stronger Si-O determines equilibrium
  - Si-O = 120-130 kcal/mol, Si-C = 75-85 kcal/mol
- If stoichiometric base used, anion stability determines equilibrium
  - R' = EWG, polar aprotic solvents, chelating agents, and M = Na,
    K (but not Li) all favor Si-O bond formation

Tetrahedron, 2001, 57, 2065-2084.

#### General Brook Rearrangement



### Brook Rearrangement: Formal [4+3]



*Tetrahedron,* **2001**, *57*, 2065-2084. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1998**, *120*, 4947.

### Allenyl-Zn Brook Rearrangement



- Ligand has no effect on stereochemistry after alkyne addition
- Believed to proceed directly to allenyl-Zn (configurationally stable)
  - No traditional 1,2-Brook rearrangement (alkyl-Zn not configurationally stable)

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2013, 52, 13717–13721.

### Allenyl-Zn Brook Rearrangement



Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2013, 52, 13717–13721.

### Allyl-Zn Brook Rearrangement



- Complete chirality transfer from starting alcohol
- 60-96% yield
- MeMgBr could also be used, but with decrease yield
- Smaller silyl groups (TMS) give O-acylation

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2016, 55, 6057-6061.

#### Allyl-Zn Brook Rearrangement



Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2016, 55, 6057-6061.

#### Allyl-Zn Brook Rearrangement



Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2016, 55, 6057-6061.

#### **Title Work: Multiple Reaction Pathways**



*J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2017**, *139*, 8364–8370. *Org. Bio. Mol. Chem.* **2004**, *4*, 3006–3017. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2016**, *55*, 714–718.

#### **Title Work: Multiple Reaction Pathways**



#### Title Work: Carbometallation/Acyl Silane Addition



### **Title Work: Ring Expansion**



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#### **Title Work: Ring Expansion**



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### Probing the Mechanism



- Different diastereomers give same product
  - Suggests that carbene pathway possible
- PTSA reaction: Test if cationic reaction pathway is operative

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### Probing the Mechanism



J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2017, 139, 8364-8370. Org. Bio. Mol. Chem. 2004, 4, 3006-3017.

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fail

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#### **Other Cyclobutene Methods**



*Org. Lett.*, **2010**, *17*, 3780-3783. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, *48*, 7569-7572. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, *49*, 5762-5766.

## Conclusion

- One-pot synthesis of cyclobutenes from cylcopropenes was developed
- Good diastereoselectivity
- Simple protocol