Absolute Asymmetric Photocyclization of Isopropylbenzophenone Derivatives Using a Cocrystal Approach Involving Single-Crystal-to-Single-Crystal Transformation



H. Koshima, H. Kawanishi, M. Nagano, H. Yu, M. Shiro, T. Hosoya, H. Uekusa, Y. Ohashi

Journal of Organic Chemistry, 2005, 70, 4490-4497.

Markus Furegati Current Literature June 4th 2005

# **Chiral Solid-State Photochemistry**

- Since early 1970s
- Asymmetric photochemistry in solution and in the solid state are still in the area of basic research
- In general: crystalline state photoreactions can lead to high enantio- and diastereodifferentiation

## Analytics for solid phase samples

- X-ray crystallography
- Solid state circulardichroism (CD) in Nujol mull or KBr-disc Kuroda R., In *Chiral Photochemistry*; Inoue Y., Ramamurthy V., Eds.; Marcel Dekker, Inc.; NY, 2004, p. 385.
- IR, X-ray powder diffractometry, DSC (distinction of polymorphs)

Marku Furegati @ Wipf Group

## **Classification of Solid-State Asymmetric Photoreactions**

Reactant Medium	Chiral Source	Optical differentiation					
Chiral crystal from chiral molecule	Chiral molecule	moderate - high	diastereodifferentiation				
Supramolecular approach [1]							
Host-guest crystal	Chiral host molecule	moderate - high	enantiodifferentiation				
Salt crystal	Chiral acid or base	moderate - high	enantiodifferentiation				
Cocrystal	Chiral molecule	moderate - high	enantiodifferentiation				
Modified zeolite	Chiral molecule	low - moderate	enantiodifferentiation				
Spontaneous chiral crystallization approach [2]							
Chiral crystal from achiral molecule	Chiral crystal lattice	moderate - high	enantiodifferentiation				
Table from: Koshima H. In Chiral Photochemistry, Inoue Y.,							

Ramamurthy V., Eds.; Marcel Dekker, Inc.; NY, 2004, p. 485.

[1] Toda F. Acc. Chem. Res. **1995**, 28, 480.

[2] Schaffaku FBregeti Champf Basu 1996, 29, 203.

## Absolute Asymmetric Photoreactions by the Spontaneous Chiral Crystallization Approach

The spontaneous chiral crystallization approach is the best methodology for asymmetric synthesis without any external chiral source.

-> Problem: spontaneous chiral crystallization cannot be predicted at present.

The statistical probability for the chiral crystallization of achiral compounds was around 8% (190'000 structures from Cambridge Structural Database)

Around 20 absolute asymmetric photoreactions in the solid state have been reported. Most of them are intramolecular and include:

- Photocyclizations [4+2], [2+2]
- Di- $\pi$ -methane photorearrangement
- Norrish type II photocyclization

# Examples I

First absolute asymmetric intermolecular [2+2] photodimerization of butadiene derivatives in mixed crystals.





Irradiation of powdered large mixed single crystal gave dextro- or levorotatory material.

90% of dimeric material, no optical yield given

Schmidt G. M. J. *et al. JACS* **1973**, *95*, 2058. racemic [2+2] photoreaction: Schmidt G. M. J. *et al. J. Chem Soc.* **1964**, 1996. Schmidt G. M. J. *et al. ACIEE* **1969**, *8*, 608.

# **Examples II**

Stereospecific di- $\pi$ -methane photorearrangement of dibenzobarrelene diisopropylester **1** to the dibenzosemibullvalene derivative **4**.



## Examples III

Absolute Asymmetric Photocyclization of Isopropylbenzophenone Derivatives Using a Cocrystal Approach Involving Single-Crystal-to-Single-Crystal Transformation.



Marku Furegati @ Wipf Group

### Norrish Type II Reaction



- R. G. W. Norrish *Trans. Faraday Soc.* **1937**, 33, 1521.
- Norrish Type II Cleavage: Reaction originating from the nπ\* excited state of aldehydes and ketones that involves intramolecular γ-hydrogen abstraction via 6-membered transition state followed by cleavage of the resulting diradical to an olefin and an enol.
- Only a few applications, mostly of mechanistic interest.

## Norrish Type II Reaction – Occurrence and Applications

- Analogy in mass spectrometry: McLafferty fragmentation (F. W. McLafferty, Anal. Chem. 1959, 31, 82)
- Photochemistry without light:



G. Cilento et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 1994, 91, 410.

- Photodegradation of polymers -> Insertion of carbonyls into the polymer molecule leads to fragmentation a) J. E. Guillet, Y. Amerik *Macromolecules* 1971, *4*, 375.
  b) P. Hrdlovic, I. Lukac *Dev. Polym. Degrad.* 1982, *4*, 101.
- Photoisomerization of *o*-nitrobenzaldehyde to *o*-nitrosobenzoic acid *Journal of Antibiotics* **1986**, *39* 864.



Marku Furegati @ Wipf Group

## **Experimental**

Irradiation of pulverized crystals using high-pressure mercury lamp at r.t. under Ar. Treatment of the mixture with  $CH_2N_2$ , analysis by HPLC.



		irradiation	conversion (%)	3		4		5	
entry	$\operatorname{crystal}$	time (min)		yield (%)	ee (%)	yield (%)	ee (%)	yield (%)	ee (%)
1	<i>P</i> -1∙a	45	28	18	(S,S) 86	7	(S) 80	2	(S) 79
$^{2}$	<i>P</i> -1∙a	90	81	46	(S,S) 87	23	(S) 82	7	(S) 85
3	<i>P</i> -1∙a	180	91	56	(S,S) 86	27	(S) 80	8	(S) 83
4	<i>M</i> -1∙a	45	28	17	(R,R) 80	7	(R) 78	4	(R) 80
5	$M-1 \cdot a$	90	75	43	(R,R) 83	21	(R) 84	8	(R) 83
6	$M-1\cdot a$	180	85	52	(R,R) 86	25	(R) 85	7	(R) 81

## **Experimental**

Irradiation of a single crystal at 350 nm for 1 month at r.t. 1.86% increase in volume of the unit cell. Analysis: 3 : 1 = 7 : 3, no 4 or 5 detected by HPLC.



• The Xray structure could not be resolved properly to determine the position of the  $\gamma$ -H. (both H's are shown)

• Slow conversion by the excitation of the absorption edge keeps the crystal from deteriorating due to the irradiation.

Marku Furegati @ Wipf Group

# Summary

#### Absolute asymmetric solid-state photoreactions:

The only chiral element is the enantiomorphic space group of the crystal. Ideally, the solid-state reaction should transfer the crystal chirality to the product permanently in the form of new chemical bonds.

moderate to high enantioselectivities, especially for intramolecular reactions

promising methodology even if spontaneous chiral crystallization cannot be predicted at present

### Title paper:

Synthesis of 3 chiral crystals derived from achiral acids/bases.

Irradiation at 350 nm gave mainly the cyclopentenol 3 in high enantioselectivities.

The selectivity for the formation of **3**, **4** and **5** at >290 nm and only **3** at 350 nm cannot be explained at the present time.