# The $\alpha$-Heteroarylation of Esters, Lactones, Amides and Lactams by Nucleophilic Aromatic Substitution 

Hong C. Shen,* Fa-Xiang Ding and Steven L. Colletti<br>Department of Medicinal Chemistry<br>Merck Research Laboratories

Merck \& Co., Inc.
P. O. Box 2000

Rahway, NJ 07065-0900
hong_shen@merck.com

All experiments were carried out in oven-dried glassware under an atmosphere of dry nitrogen with magnetic stirring. Anhydrous solvents were transferred by oven-dried syringe. Anhydrous toluene, THF, diethyl ether and dioxane were purchased from Aldrich and used as received.

Flash chromatography was performed with biotage system using $\mathrm{Si} 25 \mathrm{~S} / \mathrm{M}$ cartriges. Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed with EM Reagent 0.25 mm silica gel $60-\mathrm{F}$ commercial silica gel plates. Visualization was accomplished with UV light and potassium permanganate stain, followed by heating.

LC/MS data were recorded by the Agilent 1100 series and Waters Micromass ZQ system.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were recorded on Varian UI-500 ( 500 MHz ) spectrometers. The chemical shifts are reported in PPM with $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}(\delta=7.24)$ or TMS $(\delta=0.00)$ as the internal standard unless otherwise noted.

General Procedures:
A (for $\alpha$-arylation): The solution of $\mathbf{1 0}(111 \mathrm{mg}, 0.65 \mathrm{mmol})$ and $t$-butyl propionate ( $86 \mathrm{mg}, 0.65 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) in 3 mL of toluene was degassed with nitrogen for 5 min . To this solution at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ was slowly added $\mathrm{NaHMDS}(1.3 \mathrm{mmol}, 2.2 \mathrm{~mL}, 0.6$ M in toluene). After 2 h , the resulting solution was warmed to rt and stirred for 12 h before the mixture was quenched with ammonium chloride aqueous solution $(10 \mathrm{~mL}, 1 \mathrm{~N})$. Extracted the mixture with ethyl acetate ( 20 mL x 2 ). The organic layers were combined and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by biotage eluting with $5-25 \%$ ethyl acetate in hexanes to give $\mathbf{1 4}(156 \mathrm{mg}, 0.59 \mathrm{mmol}, 91 \%)$ as a colorless oil.

B (for tandem $\alpha$-arylation and $\alpha$-hydroxylation): The solution of $\mathbf{1 0}$ ( $111 \mathrm{mg}, 0.65 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and $t$-butyl propionate ( 86 mg , 0.65 mmol ) in 3 mL of toluene was degassed with nitrogen for 5 min . To this solution at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ was slowly added NaHMDS ( $1.3 \mathrm{mmol}, 2.2 \mathrm{~mL}, 0.6 \mathrm{M}$ in toluene). The reaction mixture was warmed to rt and stirred under nitrogen. After 2 h , the the resulting solution was exposed to air for 12 h before the mixture was quenched with ammonium chloride aqueous solution $(10 \mathrm{~mL}, 1 \mathrm{~N})$. Extracted the mixture with ethyl acetate ( $20 \mathrm{~mL} x 2$ ). The organic layers were combined and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by biotage eluting with $10-25 \%$ ethyl acetate in hexanes to give $\mathbf{1 5}$ ( $152 \mathrm{mg}, 0.54 \mathrm{mmol}$, $84 \%$ ) as a colorless oil.

A medium scale reaction (Preparation of compound 9): The solution of $\mathbf{8}(1.00 \mathrm{~g}, 5.09 \mathrm{mmol})$ and $t$-butyl propionate $(1.77 \mathrm{~g}, 2.1 \mathrm{~mL}, 15.3 \mathrm{mmol})$ in 20 mL of toluene was degassed with nitrogen for 5 min . To this solution at $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ was slowly added NaHMDS ( $25.5 \mathrm{~mL}, 15.3 \mathrm{mmol}, 0.6 \mathrm{M}$ in toluene). After 5 h , the resulting solution was warmed to rt and stirred for 12 h before the mixture was quenched with ammonium chloride aqueous solution $(50 \mathrm{~mL}, 1 \mathrm{~N})$. Extracted the mixture with ethyl acetate ( $200 \mathrm{~mL} x 2$ ). The organic layers were combined and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by biotage eluting with $5-15 \%$ ethyl acetate in hexanes to give $9(1.11 \mathrm{~g}, 4.02 \mathrm{mmol}, 79 \%)$ as a colorless oil.

Appendix: (The H-NMR and LC/MS of new compounds)

3











| c Chemistry Open Access LC/MS Report |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| ple ID:RY8004_005199-1 | Instrument: | Submitter:Shen, Hong $\times 1755$ (SHENHO) |
| $: 17-$ Nov-2005 | Time:13:28:35 | Filename:RY800_04_0006742 |






ic Chemistry Open Access LC/MS Report iple ID:RY8004_005290-1 :22-Nov-2005
1od:C:MMassLynx\LC2M_Low_Pos.olp




11



JAD: 254

1. $9 \mathrm{e}+006$








15




15

c Unemistry Upen Access LU/MS Keport ple ID:RY8004_005408-1 :01-Dec-2005
iod:C:MassLynxiLC2M Low.Pos.olp
wS ES+ :TIC Smooth (Mn, 1x1 Time:17:40:44

Submitter:Shen, Hong x1755 (SHENHO) Filename:RY800_04_0007022


DAD: 254
$2.8 e+005$






|  |
| :---: |
|  |  |
|  |  |


c Chemistry Open Access LC/MS Report ple ID:RY8007_3172-1 :29-Nov-2005 od:C:MassLynx\LC2M_Low_Pos.olp

IAD: 254




21



23




23


25
ıod:C:MassLynx\LC2M_Low_Pos.olp


JAD: 254
$3.8 e+005$




25






| c Chemistry Open Access LC/MS Report |  | - Page 1 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| ple ID:RY8004_005568-1 | Instrument: | Submitter:Shen, Hong x1755 (SHENHO) |
| :07-Dec-2005 | Time:12:43:54 | Filename:RY800_04_0007252 |
| Iod:C:MassLynx\LC2M_Low_Pos.olp |  |  |







29









33

: Chemistry Open Access LC/MS Report
Jle ID:RY8004_005501-1 Instrument:
Time:18:34:46
っd:C:\MassLynx\LC2M_Low_Pos.olp





35

c Chemistry Open Access LC/MS Report ple ID:RY8004_005373-1 :30-Nov-2005 30-Nov-2005

Instrument: Time:17:37:09




36

c Chemistry Open Access LC/MS Report pie ID:RY8004_005540-1 :06-Dec-2005 od:C:MassLynx $\backslash$ LC2M_Low_Pos.olp

Instrument: Time:16:24:21

Submitter:Shen, Hong x1755 (SHENHO) Filename:RY800_04_0007215


JAD: TIC





39



42



42

ic Chemistry Open Access LC/MS Report iple ID:RY8004_005374-1 :30-Nov-2005
1od:C:\MassLynx\LC2M_Low_Pos.olp


DAD: TIC


MS ES+ :TIC Smooth (Mn, $1 \times 1$ Filename:RY800_04_0006979
Time:17:58:28
$\qquad$
1.22
2.00
$7.4 e+007$
$7.4 e+007$

DAD: 254
$8.7 e+005$






sic Chemistry Open Access LC/MS Report
nple ID:RY8004_005376-1
te:30-Nov-2005
thod:C:IMassLynxILC2M_Low_Pos.olp

DAD: TIC 3.2 e+007







