Supplementary Information

Deep Eutectic Solvents-Catalyzed Meyer-Schuster Rearrangement of Propargylic Alcohols under Mild and Bench Reaction Conditions

Nicolás Ríos-Lombardía,^a Luciana Cicco,^{b,c} Kota Yamamoto,^a José A. Hernández-

Fernández,^b Francisco Morís,^a Vito Capriati,^c Joaquín García-Álvarez^{*,b} and Javier

González-Sabín*,a

^a EntreChem SL, Vivero Ciencias de la Salud. Santo Domingo de Guzmán, 33011, Oviedo, Spain.

^b Departamento de Química Orgánica e Inorgánica (IUQOEM), Centro de Innovación en Química Avanzada (ORFEO-CINQA), Facultad de Química, Universidad de Oviedo, E-33071, Oviedo, Spain.

^c Dipartimento di Farmacia-Scienze del Farmaco, Università di Bari "Aldo Moro", Consorzio C.I.N.M.P.I.S., Via E. Orabona 4, I-70125 Bari, Italy

Table of Contents

1 General Methods	S2
2 Protocols	S 3
3 Mechanism of the Meyer Schuster rearrangement	S10
4 Optimization of downstream processing	S11
5 NMR spectra	S14
6 HPLC analytical data	S34
7Copy of HPLC chromatograms	S36

1. General Methods

All reagents were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Deep eutectic solvents [FeCl₃·6H₂O/glycerol (*Gly*) (3:1 mol mol⁻¹); $ZnCl_2/Glv$ (2:1 mol mol⁻¹); $MnCl_2/Glv$ (2:1 mol mol⁻¹); $CuCl_2 \cdot 2H_2O/Glv$ (2:1 mol mol⁻¹) ¹); *ChCl* (choline chloride)/FeCl₃·6H₂O (1:2 mol mol⁻¹); *ChCl*/ZnCl₂ (1:2 mol mol⁻¹); *ChCl*/MnCl₂·4H₂O (1:2 mol mol⁻¹); *ChCl*/CuCl₂·2H₂O (1:2 mol mol⁻¹); *ChCl*/H₂O (1:2 mol mol⁻¹), ChCl/Gly (1:2 mol mol⁻¹), FeCl₃·6H₂O/mono-ethylene glycol (MEG) (2:1 mol mol⁻¹)] were prepared by heating under stirring up to 75 °C for 10–30 min the corresponding individual components until a clear solution was obtained. All these DESs are stable at room temperature and reaction conditions. ESI⁺ experiments were carried out to record mass spectra on a Hewlett-Packard 1100 HPLC/MS (electrospray) instrument. ¹H-NMR spectra (CDCl₃ and MeOD) were obtained using a Bruker DPX-300 (¹H, 300.13 MHz; ¹³C{¹H}, 75.4 MHz) spectrometer and employing the δ scale (ppm) for chemical shifts. Calibration was made on the signal of the solvent (¹H: CDCl₃, 7.26 ppm; ¹³C: CDCl₃, 77.0 ppm). HPLC analyses to determine the degree of conversion were carried out on an Agilent RR1200 HPLC system, using a reversed phase column (Zorbax Eclipse XDB-C18, RR, 18µm, 4.6 x 50 mm, Agilent). Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on pre-coated 0.25 mm thick plates of Kieselgel 60 F254; visualization was accomplished by UV light (254 nm) or by spraying with a solution of 5 % (w/v) ammonium molybdate and 0.2 % (w/v) cerium(III) sulfate in 100 mL 17.6 % (w/v) aq. sulfuric acid and heating to 473 K until blue spots appear. Chromatography was conducted by using silica gel 60 with a particle size distribution 40–63 µm and 230–400 ASTM.

2. Protocols

2.1 General procedure for the catalytic propargylic isomerization of 1,1-diphenyl-2-propyn-1-ol (1a) in *LADESs*

In a typical experiment, **1a** (0.2 mmol) and 0.8 mL of *LADES* were loaded into a glass open vial and stirred at room temperature for the required time (Table 1). The course of the reaction was monitored by regular sampling and analysis by TLC and HPLC. After completion of the reaction, the obtained crude was extracted with cyrene (2 x 400 μ L). The organic layers were separated by centrifugation (90 s, 13000 rpm), combined, and finally dried over Na₂SO₄. The crude was filtered through silica gel (hexane-ethyl acetate 10:1).

3,3-diPhenylpropenal (1b): Light yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 6.63 (d, *J* 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.55 (m, 10 H), 9.56 (d, *J* 7.5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 127.3 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 128.6 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 129.5 (CH), 130.5 (CH), 130.7 (CH), 136.7 (C), 139.7 (C), 162.3 (C), 193.5 (C=O). NMR data are in good agreement with those reported in: A. Antiñolo, F. Carrillo-Hermosilla, V. Cadierno, J. García-Álvarez, A. Otero, *ChemCatChem* 2012, **4**, 123.

2.2 General procedure for the catalytic isomerization of propargylic alcohols (1a-14a) in FeCl₃·6H₂O/*Gly* (2:1)

In a typical experiment, the specific propargylic alcohol **1a**–**14a** (0.2 mmol) and 0.8 mL of FeCl₃·6H₂O/*Gly* (3:1) were loaded into a glass open vial and stirred at the specified temperature (RT or 40 °C) for the required time (Table 2). The course of the reaction was monitored by regular sampling and analysis by TLC and HPLC. After completion of the reaction, the obtained crude was extracted with cyrene (2 x 400 μ L). The organic layers were separated by centrifugation (90 s, 13000 rpm), combined, and finally dried over Na₂SO₄. The crude of the reaction was filtered through silica gel (hexane-ethyl acetate mixtures). **3-Phenylbut-2-enal (2b), mixture** *E*/*Z* **of isomers:**¹ Light yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): For *E* isomer: 10.21 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.10-7.60 (m, 5 H), 6.42 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (s, 3H); For *Z*-isomer: 9.50 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.10-7.60 (m, 5 H), 6.15 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H). NMR data are in good

¹ The reported E/Z ratio was 86:14 (see Table 2, entry 2).

agreement with those reported in: A. Antiñolo, F. Carrillo-Hermosilla, V. Cadierno, J. García-Álvarez, A. Otero, *ChemCatChem* 2012, **4**, 123.

(*E*)-Cinnamaldehyde (3b): Light yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 9.72 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.55 (m, 6 H), 6.71 (dd, J = 16.0 and 7.5 Hz, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 128.5 (CH), 128.6 (CH), 129.1 (CH), 131.3 (CH), 134.0 (CH), 152.9 (C), 194.2 (C=O). NMR data are in good agreement with those reported in: A. Antiñolo, F. Carrillo-Hermosilla, V. Cadierno, J. García-Álvarez, A. Otero, *ChemCatChem* 2012, **4**, 123.

3,3-Bis(4-methylphenyl)acrylaldehyde (4b): Light yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 6.57 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.35 (m, 4 H), 9.55 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 21.4 (CH₃), 126.5 (CH), 128.8 (CH), 129.0 (CH), 129.3 (CH), 130.8 (CH), 133.9 (C), 137.1 (C), 140.0 (C), 141.0 (C), 162.5 (C), 193.7 (C=O). NMR data are in good agreement with those reported in: A. Antiñolo, F. Carrillo-Hermosilla, V. Cadierno, J. García-Álvarez, A. Otero, *ChemCatChem* 2012, **4**, 123.

3,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)acrylaldehyde (5b): Light yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 6.58 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.20-7.35 (m, 4 H), 7.46 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 9.54 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 127.7 (CH), 128.9 (CH), 129.1 (CH), 129.8 (CH), 131.9 (CH), 134.6 (C), 136.0 (C), 137.0 (C), 137.8 (C), 159.4 (C), 192.6 (C=O). NMR data are in good agreement with those reported in: A. Antiñolo, F. Carrillo-Hermosilla, V. Cadierno, J. García-Álvarez, A. Otero, *ChemCatChem* 2012, **4**, 123.

3,3-Bis(4-methoxyphenyl)acrylaldehyde (6b): Light yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 6.51 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, J = 9.0 Hz), 2H), 6.98 (d, J = 9.0 Hz), 7.26 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 9.51 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H). NMR data are in good agreement with those reported in: A. Antiñolo, F. Carrillo-Hermosilla, V. Cadierno, J. García-Álvarez, A. Otero, *ChemCatChem* 2012, **4**, 123.

3,3-Bis([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)acrylaldehyde (7b): Light yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 6.71 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.30-7.60 (m, 10 H), 7.65-7.80 (m, 8H), 9.66 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 127.1 (CH), 127.1 (CH), 127.2 (CH), 127.3 (CH), 127.9 (CH), 128.0 (CH), 129.0 (CH), 129.3 (CH), 131.4 (CH), 135.5 (C), 138.6 (C), 140.0 (C), 140.1 (C), 142.4 (C), 143.4 (C), 161.5 (C), 193.4 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) *m/z* (rel. intensity): 361.2 [(M+H)⁺, 100], 383.2 [(M+Na)⁺, 10].

3-Isopropyl-4-methylpent-3-en-2-one (8b): Light yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 1.07 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 6H), 1.65 (s, 3H), 1.71 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 2.81 (heptet, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 19.2 (CH₃), 21.3 (CH₃), 22.0 (CH₃), 28.7 (CH₃), 33.3 (CH₃), 127.1 (C), 143.4 (C), 209.7 (C=O). NMR data are in good agreement with those reported in: V. Cadierno, S. E. Garrido, J. Gimeno, *Adv. Synth. Catal.* 2006, **348**, 101.

1-Acetylcyclohexene (9b): Light yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 1.55-1.65 (m, 4H), 2.15-2.25 (m, 4H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 6.91 (s, 3H); ¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 21.5 (CH₂), 21.9 (CH₂), 23.0 (CH₂), 24.0 (CH₂), 25.2 (CH₃), 139.7 (CH), 140.9 (C), 199.4 (C=O). NMR data are in good agreement with those reported in: V. Cadierno, S. E. Garrido, J. Gimeno, *Adv. Synth. Catal.* 2006, **348**, 101.

1-Acetylcycloheptene (10b): Light yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 1.40-1.60 (m, 4H), 1.70-1.85 (m, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.35-2.40 (m, 2H), 2.50-2.55 (m, 2H), 7.10 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 25.3 (CH₃), 25.4 (CH₂), 25.8 (CH₂), 26.1 (CH₂), 29.1 (CH₂), 32.3 (CH₂), 145.6 (CH), 146.6 (C), 192.0 (C=O). NMR data are in good agreement with those reported in: V. Cadierno, S. E. Garrido, J. Gimeno, *Adv. Synth. Catal.* 2006, **348**, 101.

1,3,3-Triphenylprop-2-en-1-one (11b): Yellow pale solid. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.17 (s, 1H), 7.20-7.25 (m, 2H), 7.25-7.30 (m, 3H), 7.30-7.45 (m, 7H), 7.45-7.50 (m, 1H), 7.97 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 124.1 (CH), 128.1 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 128.5 (CH), 128.6 (CH), 128.8 (C), 129.4 (CH), 129.8 (CH), 132.7 (CH), 138.3 (C), 139.1 (C), 141.4 (C), 154.7 (C), 192.7 (C=O). NMR data are in good agreement with those reported in: A. Antiñolo, F. Carrillo-Hermosilla, V. Cadierno, J. García-Álvarez, A. Otero, *ChemCatChem* 2012, **4**, 123.

1-Phenyl-3,3-di-*p*-tolylprop-2-en-1-one (12b): Yellow pale solid. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 7.05–7.10 (m, 5H), 7.15–7.20 (m, 2H), 7.26–7.30 (m, 2H), 7.35–7.40 (m, 2H), 7.45–7.50 (m, 1H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H 2H); ¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 21.3 (CH₃), 21.4 (CH₃), 122.7 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 128.6 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 128.8 (CH), 129.1 (CH), 129.8 (CH), 132.5 (CH), 136.3 (C), 138.2 (C), 138.6 (C), 138.9 (C), 139.6 (C), 155.3 (C), 192.5 (C=O). NMR data are in good agreement with those reported in: S. Tanaka, T. Kunisawa, Y. Yoshii, T. Hattori, *Org. Lett.* 2019, **21**, 8509.

(3,3)-Bis(4-fluorophenyl)-1-phenylprop-2-en-1-one (13b): Yellow pale solid. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 6.95-7.20 (m, 7H), 7.35-7.45 (m, 4H), 7.50-7.55 (m,

1H), 7.92 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 115.3 (2CH, $J_{CF}=$ 22 Hz), 115.6 (2CH, $J_{CF}=$ 22 Hz), 124.0 (CH), 128.5 (2CH), 128.7 (2CH), 130.4 (2CH, $J_{CF}=$ 8 Hz), 131.6 (2CH, $J_{CF}=$ 8 Hz), 132.9 (CH), 134.7 (C, $J_{CF}=$ 3 Hz), 137.4 (C, $J_{CF}=$ 3 Hz), 138.1 (C), 152.6 (C), 162.8 (C, $J_{CF}=$ 248 Hz), 163.6 (C, $J_{CF}=$ 250 Hz), 192.3 (C=O). NMR data are in good agreement with those reported in: N. Naveen, G. Ramesh, R. Balamurugan, *Chemistry Select* 2019, **4**, 13610.

1,1-Bis(4-fluorophenyl)hept-1-en-3-one (14b): Light yellow oil. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 0.86 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.20-1.30 (m, 2H), 1.45-1.60 (m, 2H), 2.33 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 6.56 (s, 1H), 7.00-7-15 (m, 4H), 7.16-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.25-7.32 (m, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 13.8 (CH₃), 22.3 (CH₂), 26.4 (CH₂), 43.3 (CH₂), 115.3 (2CH, $J_{CF}= 22$ Hz), 115.5 (2CH, $J_{CF}= 22$ Hz), 126.2 (CH), 130.2 (2CH, $J_{CF}= 8$ Hz), 131.30 (2CH, $J_{CF}= 8$ Hz), 134.6 (C), 137.1 (C), 151.2 (C), 164.6 (C), 165.2 (C), 201.6 (C=O). MS (ESI⁺) *m/z* (rel. intensity): 301.2 [(M+H)⁺, 100].

2.3 General procedure for the catalytic hydration of phenylacetylene (15) in FeCl₃·6H₂O/*Gly* (2:1)

Phenylacetylene (15, 0.3 mmol) and 1.0 mL of FeCl₃·6H₂O/Gly (3:1) were loaded into a glass open vial and stirred at 45 °C over 18 h. The course of the reaction was monitored by regular sampling and analysis by HPLC. After completion of the reaction, the resulting crude was extracted with cyrene (2 x 400 μ L). The organic layers were separated by centrifugation (90 s, 13000 rpm), combined, and finally dried over Na₂SO₄. The crude product was finally filtered through silica gel yielding pure acetophenone (16, >95% yield).

Acetophenone (16): Colorless liquid. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 2.60 (s, 3H), 7.35-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.45-7.55 (m, 1H), 7.85-7.95 (m, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 26.6 (CH₃), 128.3 (CH), 128.6 (CH), 133.1 (CH), 137.1 (C), 198.1 (C=O). NMR data are in good agreement with those reported in: J. R. Cabrero-Antonino, A. Leyva-Pérez, A. Corma, *Chem. Eur. J.*, 2012, **18**, 11107.

The *LADES*-based catalytic system was recycled for 4 runs following the procedure described in the Section 3.3.1 (Figure S1).



Figure S1. FeCl₃·6H₂O/*Gly*-catalyzed hydration of 15.

2.4 General procedure for the catalytic cyclization of *N*-prop-2-ynylbenzamide (17) into 5-methyl-2-phenyloxazole (18) in FeCl₃·6H₂O/*Gly* (2:1)

N-prop-2-ynylbenzamide (**17**, 0.2 mmol) and 1.0 mL of FeCl₃·6H₂O/*Gly* (3:1).were loaded into a glass open vial and stirred at 40 °C over 4 h. The course of the reaction was monitored by regular sampling and analysis by TLC and HPLC. After completion of the reaction (c >99%), the obtained crude was extracted with cyrene (2 x 400 μ L). The organic layers were separated by centrifugation (90 s, 13000 rpm), combined, and finally dried over Na₂SO₄. The resulting product was filtered through silica gel yielding pure 5-methyl-2-phenyloxazole (**18**, 60% yield). It should be noted that the high volatility of **18** decreased the isolated yield.

5-methyl-2-phenyloxazole (18): Colorless liquid. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 2.42 (s, 3H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 7.25-7.45 (m, 3H), 8.00-8.05 (m, 2H). NMR data are in good agreement with those reported in: G. C. Senadi, W.-P. Hu, J.-S. Hsiao, J. K. Vandavasi, C.-Y. Chen, J. J. Wang, *Org. Lett.*, 2012, **14**, 4478.

The *LADES*-based catalytic system was recycled for 5 runs following the procedure described in the Section 3.3.1 (Figure S2).



Figure S2. FeCl₃·6H₂O/*Gly*-catalyzed cyclization of 17.

2.5 General procedure for the catalytic hydrolysis of substituted methyl benzoates (19–22) in FeCl₃·6H₂O/*Gly* (2:1)

Methyl benzoate (**19**, 0.4 mmol) and 1.0 mL of FeCl₃·6H₂O/*Gly* (3:1) were loaded into a glass open vial and stirred at 70 °C over 14 h. The course of the reaction was monitored by regular sampling and analysis by HPLC. After completion of the reaction, the obtained crude was extracted with cyrene (2 x 400 μ L). The organic layers were separated by centrifugation (90 s, 13000 rpm), combined, and finally dried over Na₂SO₄. The resulting product was filtered through silica gel yielding pure benzoic acid (**23**, *c* >99%, 95% yield).

Benzoic acid (23): White solid. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 7.47 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (t, J = 7.5 Hz,1H), 8.16 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 128.5 (CH), 129.3 (C), 130.2 (CH), 133.8 (CH), 172.1 (C=O). NMR data are in good agreement with those reported in: X. Lian, S. Fu, T. Ma, S. Li, W. Zeng, *Appl. Organometal. Chem.* 2011, **25**, 443.

The *LADES* catalytic system was recycled for 5 runs following the procedure described in the Section 3.3.1 (Figure S3).



Figure S3. FeCl₃·6H₂O/*Gly*-catalyzed hydrolysis of 19.

The hydrolysis of methyl esters of *m*-methylbenzoate (20), *p*-nitrobenzoate (21) and *p*cyanobenzoate (22) was accomplished under identical reactions conditions with yields higher than 85%.

3-Methylbenzoic acid (24): 93% yield. White solid. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, MeOD) δ (ppm): 2.39 (s, 3H), 7.30-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.75-7.90 (m, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, MeOD) δ (ppm): 126.5 (CH), 128.0 (CH), 129.8 (CH), 130.4 (C), 133.3 (CH), 138.0 (C), 172.1 (C=O). NMR data are in good agreement with those reported in: K. Kobayashi, Y. Kondo, *Org. Lett.* 2009, **11**, 2035.

4-Nitrobenzoic acid (25): 90% yield. White solid. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, MeOD) δ (ppm): 8.25 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 8.34 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, MeOD) δ (ppm): 123.1 (CH), 130.5 (CH), 129.8 (CH), 136.2 (C), 150.5 (C), 166.2 (C=O). NMR data are in good agreement with those reported in: M. Yoshida, Y. Katagiri, W.-B. Zhu, K. Shishido, *Org. Biomol. Chem.* 2009, 7, 4062.

4-Cyanobenzoic acid (26): 85% yield. White solid. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, MeOD) δ (ppm): 7.87 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (75.5 MHz, MeOD) δ (ppm): 115.8 (C), 1117.6 (C), 129.9 (CH), 132.0 (CH), 134.8 (C), 166.5 (C=O). NMR data are in good agreement with those reported in: A. Littke, M. Soumeillant, R, F. Kaltenbach, R. J. Cherney, C. M. Tarby, S. Kian, *Org. Lett.* 2007, **9**, 1711.

3. Mechanism of the Meyer-Schuster rearrangement

Gimeno and coworkers reviewed the catalytic isomerization of allylic alcohols which occurs through three different reaction pathways, namely Meyer-Schuster and Rupe rearrangements and the redox-type isomerization (*Dalton Trans.*, *2010*, *39*, 4015-4031). As FeCl₃ and InCl₃ exhibit a similar reactivity as Lewis acids (*Chem. Eur. J.* 2000, **6**, 3491), we envision that a similar pathway may be also followed for the described FeCl₃-catalyzed MS and Rupe rearrangements.

Meyer-Schuster rearrangement



4. Optimization of downstream processing

4.1 Study of miscibility of FeCl₃·6H₂O/Gly (2:1) and organic solvents

To several vials containing 1 mL of $FeCl_3 \cdot 6H_2O/Gly$ (3:1), 1 mL of different organic solvents was added and the mixture was shaken vigorously and subjected to centrifugation (Figure S4). The following results were obtained:

<u>1- Solvents leading to miscible solutions:</u> THF, 2-Me-THF, 1,4-dioxane, MTBE, CPME, MEK, MIBK, DMI

2-Solvents leading to immiscible solutions:

n-Hexane, n-heptane, cyclohexane, EtOAc, iPrOAc, toluene, CHCl₃, CH₂Cl₂, cyrene



Figure S4

4.2 Study on the extraction of products from FeCl₃·6H₂O/Gly (2:1)

A set of 9 vials containing **1a** (0.2 mmol) and $\text{FeCl}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}/Gly$ (3:1) (0.8 mL) were enabled to react according to the conditions reported in Table 1 (entry 6). After 15 min, the reaction mixtures were extracted (2 x 0.5 mL) with the nine solvents leading to immiscible solutions reported in Section 3.1. EtOAc and *i*PrOAc were discarded due to partial leaching of FeCl₃. The resulting **1b** was poorly extracted in *n*-hexane, *n*-heptane and cyclohexane (determined by TLC and HPLC). Conversely, toluene, cyrene, CH₂Cl₂ and CHCl₃ led to quantitative extraction of **1b**.

4.3. Recycling of the catalytic system in the *CDES*-mediated Meyer Schuster isomerization

4.3.1. Recycling procedure based on extractive workup

1a (0.2 mmol) and 0.8 mL of FeCl₃·6H₂O/*Gly* (3:1) were loaded into a glass open vial and stirred at RT over 10 min. Then, the reaction was extracted with cyrene (2 x 400 μ L). The upper organic phases were successively separated by centrifugation (90 s, 13000 rpm), combined, and finally dried over Na₂SO₄. The conversion was assessed by HPLC analysis. The remaning lower phase (FeCl₃·6H₂O/*Gly*) was supplemented with **1a** (0.2 mmol) to start the second cycle, and so on. Results are collected in Figure S5.



Figure S5. FeCl₃·6H₂O/*Gly*-catalyzed Meyer-Schuster isomerization of 1a.

4.3.2. Recycling procedure based on filtration/precipitation workup

11a (0.2 mmol) and 0.8 mL of FeCl₃·6H₂O/*Gly* (3:1) were loaded into a glass open vial and stirred at RT. Almost immediately, the formation of a precipitate was observed and the stirring was maintained over 30 min. After this time, the reaction mixture was diluted with 1 mL of water and stirred vigorously for a few seconds. Then, the solid was filtered off and washed twice with water (2 x 1.0 mL), providing pure **11b**. The *LADES* was reconstituted from the filtrate by evaporation of water under reduced pressure so as to be be ready for a new reaction cycle. Results are collected in Table S6.



Figure S6. FeCl₃·6H₂O/*Gly*-catalyzed Meyer-Schuster isomerization of 11a.



Figure S1. ¹H-NMR full chart for 1b in CDCl₃.



Figure S2. ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ -NMR full chart for 1b in CDCl₃.



Figure S3. ¹H-NMR full chart for 2b in CDCl₃.



501 176



Figure S4. ¹H-NMR full chart for 3b in CDCl₃.





Figure S5. $^{13}C{^{1}H}$ -NMR full chart for 3b in CDCl₃.

3 S



~2.45 ~2.41





Figure S7. $^{13}C{^{1}H}$ -NMR full chart for 4b in CDCl₃.





Figure S8. ¹H-NMR full chart for 5b in CDCl₃.



Figure S9. $^{13}C{^{1}H}$ -NMR full chart for 5b in CDCl₃.



Figure S10. ¹H-NMR full chart for 6b in CDCl₃.





Figure S11. ¹H-NMR full chart for 7b in CDCl₃.



Figure S12. ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ -NMR full chart for 7b in CDCl₃.

2.38 2.39 2.39 2.77 2.77 7.1.71 7.1.05 7.1.05



Figure S13. ¹H-NMR full chart for 8b in CDCl₃.



Figure S14. $^{13}\mathrm{C}\{^{1}\mathrm{H}\}\text{-NMR}$ full chart for 8b in CDCl₃.



Figure S15. ¹H-NMR full chart for 9b in CDCl₃.



Figure S16. $^{13}\mathrm{C}\{^{1}\mathrm{H}\}\text{-NMR}$ full chart for 9b in CDCl₃.



Figure S17. ¹H-NMR full chart for 10b in CDCl₃.



Figure S18. $^{13}\mathrm{C}\{^{1}\mathrm{H}\}\text{-NMR}$ full chart for 10b in CDCl₃.



Figure S20. $^{13}\mathrm{C}\{^{1}\mathrm{H}\}\text{-NMR}$ full chart for 11b in CDCl₃.



~2.48 ~2.38

Figure S21. ¹H-NMR full chart for 12b in CDCl₃.



Figure S22. ¹³C{¹H}-NMR full chart for 12b in CDCl₃.



Figure S24. ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ -NMR full chart for 13b in CDCl₃.



Figure S25. ¹H-NMR full chart for 14b in CDCl₃.



Figure S26. ¹³C{¹H}-NMR full chart for 14b in CDCl₃.



----2.60





Figure S28. $^{13}\mathrm{C}\{^{1}\mathrm{H}\}\text{-NMR}$ full chart for 16 in CDCl₃.





---2.42

Figure S29. ¹H-NMR full chart for 18 in CDCl₃.



Figure S30. ¹H-NMR full chart for 23 in CDCl₃.



Figure S31. ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ -NMR full chart for 23 in CDCl₃.



Figure S32. ¹H-NMR full chart for 24 in MeOD.



Figure S33. $^{13}\mathrm{C}\{^{1}\mathrm{H}\}\text{-NMR}$ full chart for 24 in MeOD.



Figure S35. $^{13}\mathrm{C}\{^{1}\mathrm{H}\}\text{-NMR}$ full chart for 25 in MeOD.

28.32 78.25 78.25



Figure S37. ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ -NMR full chart for 26 in MeOD.

~8.19 ~8.16 ~7.88

6. HPLC analytical data

6.1. Analytical data for the determination of the degree of conversion (c) in Meyer Schuster and Rupe rearrangements

Apparent conversions of substrates 1a-14a to products 1b-14b were determined based on the % peak area of product and substrate. In the first instance, complete conversion was qualitatively assessed for all the reactions included in Table 2 by TLC. The propargylic alcohols 1a-14a showed significant differences in R_f from the corresponding α , β -unsaturated carbonyl compounds 1b-14b. Likewise, alcohols 1a-14a underwent oxidation much more intensely than products when treated with KMnO₄. After work up described in Section 2, the apparent conversion was established by HPLC. In all cases, and in good agreement with TLC analysis, complete disappearance of the starting product 1a-14a was assessed. As a result, calibration experiments for determining the response factors of propargylic alcohols and α , β -unsaturated carbonyl compounds were discarded.

<u>HPLC Method for 1a–14a</u>: HPLC analyses were carried out on an Agilent chromatographic system, using a reversed phase column (Zorbax Eclipse XDB-C18, RR, 1.8 μ m, 4.6 x 50 mm, Agilent) and acetonitrile (MeCN) and 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) in water as solvents. Samples were eluted with three linear gradients from 10% to 60% MeCN during 5.70 min, followed by another from 60% to 100% MeCN during 0.5 min and a third gradient from 100% to 10% MeCN during 1.90 min, at flow rate of 2 ml/min. Detection and spectral characterization of peaks were performed at 210 and 278 nm with a diode array detector and ChemStation Rev.B.03.01 software (Agilent).

Retention time (<i>t</i> _R , min)			
Propargylic alcohol	t _R	Products	t _R
1 a	4.9	1b	5.9
2a	3.2	2b	4.0
3a	2.5	3 b	3.6
4a	6.3	4b	6.7
5a	6.4	5b	6.7
6a	4.8	6b	5.5
7a	6.7	6b	7.0
8a	4.5	7b	4.7
9a	2.7	9b	3.5
10a	3.3	10b	4.4
11a	6.5	11b	6.7
12a	6.8	12b	6.9
13 a	6.6	13b	6.7
14a	6.7	14b	6.8

Table S3. Analytical data for the determination of c (%) in Meyer Schuster and Rupe rearrangements.

7. Copy of HPLC chromatograms

Attachment S1. In process HPLC monitoring for the isomerization of 1a into 1b (Table 2, entry 1)



Attachment S2. In process HPLC monitoring for the isomerization of 2a into 2b (Table 2, entry 2)



Attachment S3. In process HPLC monitoring for the isomerization of 3a into 3b (Table 2, entry 3)



Attachment S4. In process HPLC monitoring for the isomerization of 4a into 4b (Table 2, entry 4)



Attachment S5. In process HPLC monitoring for the isomerization of 5a into 5b (Table 2, entry 5)



Attachment S6. In process HPLC monitoring for the isomerization of **6a** into **6b** (Table 2, entry 6)



Attachment S7. In process HPLC monitoring for the isomerization of 7a into 7b (Table 2, entry 7)



Attachment S8. In process HPLC monitoring for the isomerization of 8a into 8b (Table 2, entry 8)



Attachment S9. In process HPLC monitoring for the isomerization of 9a into 9b (Table 2, entry 9)



Attachment S10. In process HPLC monitoring for the isomerization of 10a into 10b (Table 2, entry 10).



Attachment S11. In process HPLC monitoring for the isomerization of 11a into 11b (Table 2, entry 11).



Attachment S12. In process HPLC monitoring for the isomerization of 12a into 12b (Table 2, entry 12)



Attachment S13. In process HPLC monitoring for the isomerization of 13a into 13b (Table 2, entry 13)



Attachment S14. In process HPLC monitoring for the isomerization of 14a into 14b (Table 2, entry 14)



Attachment S15. In process HPLC monitoring for the hydration of 15 into 16 (Scheme 3)



Attachment S16. In process HPLC monitoring for the cyclization of 17 into 18 (Scheme 3)





Attachment S17. In process HPLC monitoring for the hydrolysis of 19 into 23 (Scheme 3)

Attachment S18. In process HPLC monitoring for the hydrolysis of 20 into 24 (Scheme 3)





Attachment S19. In process HPLC monitoring for the isomerization of 11a into 11b. Recycling studies of *CDES* through extraction workup with cyrene.