# Design and Synthesis of Distereogenic Chiral Ionic Liquids and Their Use as

## Solvents for Asymmetric Baylis-Hillman Reactions

Satish Garre, Erica Parker, Bukuo Ni\* and Allan D. Headley\*

Department of Chemistry, Texas A&M University-Commerce

Commerce, TX 75429-3001, USA

E-mail: bukuo ni@tamu-commerce.edu; allan headley@tamu-commerce.edu

# **Experimental section:**

### (1) Synthesis of compound 1



To a solution of 1-methyl-2-imidazolecarboxaldhyde (0.78g, 7.0 mmol) in methanol (25ml) was added (1S, 2R) norephedrine (1.06g, 7.0 mmol) and 4Å molecular sieves (2.1 g). The reaction mixture was stirred under reflux for 24 h with exclusion of moisture and then cooled to room temperature. To the resulting solution of Schiff base was added NaBH<sub>4</sub> (0.26g, 7.0 mmol) and stirred for 2 h at room temperature. The reduction mixture was quenched by slow and dropwise addition of concentrated HCl (0.4 ml) to the mixture and subsequent neutralization with solid Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (1.00 g, 10.0 mmol). The resulting mixture was filtered over celite to remove any solids; the filtrate was evaporated to dryness purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/ MeOH = 10 : 1)

to give pale yellow viscous liquid **1** (1.48 g, 86%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  7.32-7.18 (5H, m), 6.94 (1H, d, J = 1.2 Hz), 6.82 (1H, d, J = 1.2 Hz), 4.85 (2H, br), 4.58 (1H, d, J = 5.6 Hz), 3.83 (2H, dd, J = 36.8 and 14.4 Hz), 3.51 (3H, s), 2.85-2.77 (1H, m), 1.00 (3H, d, J = 6.4 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  146.6, 141.5, 128.1, 128.0, 127.0, 126.9, 126.1, 121.3, 73.0, 59.0, 43.3, 32.6, 14.5. This compound was used for the next step without further characterization.

## (2) Synthesis of CIL 2



A solution of imidazole compound **1** (1.47 g, 6.0 mmol) and butyl bromide (1.50 g, 6.5 mmol) in toluene (5 mL) was stirred at 85-90  $^{0}$ C for 24 h. The reaction mixture was then cooled to room temperature, the toluene was removed, and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/ MeOH = 10 : 1) to give product **2** (2.17 g, 95%) as a viscous liquid. [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> = -15.86° (c = 0.29, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  7.50-7.17 (7H, m), 5.00 (1H, d, *J* = 2.8 Hz), 4.57 (1H, d, *J* = 15.2 Hz), 4.28 (1H, t, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 4.11 (1H, d, *J* = 14.8 Hz), 4.02 (3H, s), 3.60-3.10 (2H, br), 3.02-2.95 (1H, m), 1.81-1.68 (2H, m), 1.40-1.28 (2H, m), 0.92 (3H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 0.87 (3H, d, *J* = 6.8 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) 144.8, 142.2, 127.8, 126.4, 126.2, 123.2, 121.1, 72.5, 59.9, 48.8, 39.9, 36.5, 32.1, 19.6, 14.3, 13.5. This compound was used for anion exchange and further characterized in the next step.

## (3) Synthesis of CIL 3



To a solution of imidazolium bromide **2** (550 mg, 1.43 mmol), in MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O (3 mL, 5:1) was added potassium tetrafluoroborate (252 mg, 2.0 mmol) and allowed to stir at room temperature for 3 days. The reaction mixture was then filtered over celite and concentrated to dryness. The residue was dissolved in dichloromethane and filtered again to give product **3** (472 mg, 85%) as a pale yellow viscous liquid.  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = 7.04^0$  (c = 0.3, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  7.41-7.20 (7H, m), 5.00 (1H, d, *J* = 2.8 Hz), 4.57 (1H, d, *J* = 14.8 Hz), 4.30 (1H, t, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 4.15 (1H, d, *J* = 14.8 Hz), 4.04 (3H, s), 3.04-2.96 (1H, m), 1.82-1.72 (2H, m), 1.40-1.30 (2H, m), 0.93 (3H, t, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 0.89 (3H, d, *J* = 6.8 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) 144.8, 142.1, 128.1, 127.9, 126.7, 126.2, 125.9, 123.2, 121.1, 72.8, 59.8, 48.8, 39.9, 36.5, 32.1, 19.6, 14.3, 13.5; HRMS (ESI) m/z (%) Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O (M<sup>+</sup>): 302.2232, Found: 302.2235.

(4) Synthesis of CIL 4



To a solution of imidazolium bromide 2 (550 mg, 1.43 mmol) in water (2 mL) was added lithium bis (trifluoromethanesulfonyl)imide (458 mg, 1.6 mmol) was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. The reaction was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (15 mL), and the organic phase was washed with water (3 X 5 mL), then concentrated, and dried in vacuum to give product **4** (765 mg, 92%) as pale yellow viscous liquid.  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -3.33^0$  (c = 0.36, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  7.34 -7.20 (5H, m), 7.12 (2H, s), 4.68 (1H, d, *J* = 4.4 Hz), 4.13-3.95 (3H, m), 3.74 (3H, s), 2.93-2.85 (1H, m), 2.85-2.50 (2H, br), 1.75-1.65 (2H, m), 1.35-1.20 (2H, m), 0.96 (3H, d, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 0.92 (3H, d, *J* = 7.2 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) 144.1, 141.4, 128.2, 127.5, 126.3, 123.1, 121.1, 119.7 (q, *J* = 320 Hz, 2C), 75.5, 58.9, 48.4, 39.2, 35.4, 31.8, 19.5, 14.9, 13.3. HRMS (ESI) m/z (%) Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O (M<sup>+</sup>): 302.2232, Found: 302.2236.



S5

Automation directory: /export/home/buni/vnmrsys/data/auto\_2006.06.22 File : exp Sample d : tmpstudy Sample : S-1-70-1

Pulse Sequence: s2pul Solvent: cdcl3 Temp. 25.0 C / 298.1 K Operator: buni VNMRS-400 "nmr400"

Relax. dclay 1.000 sec Pulse 45.0 degrees Acq. time 1.300 Sec Vidth 24509.8 Hz 5000 repetitions D085RVE C13, 100.5144309 MHz D06C0UPLE H1, 399.7409155 MHz Power 38 dB continuously on VALTZ-16 modulated DATA PPOCESSING Line broadening 0.5 Hz FT size 65536 Total time 3 hr, 12 min, 27 sec















