Aliphatic Imines in Titanium-Mediated Reductive Cross-Coupling: Unique Reactivity of Ti(O*i*-Pr)₄ / *n*-BuLi

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Supporting Information

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General Information: All reactions were conducted in flame-dried glass flasks under an argon atmosphere unless otherwise specified. Diethyl ether, tetrahydrofuran, and toluene were dried over activated alumina columns and sparged with argon prior to use. Ti(O*i*-Pr)₄ (Aldrich, 97%) was distilled prior to use (69-70 °C, <1 Torr). Butyllithium was titrated by the method of Love et al.¹ Imines **8**, **14**, **16**, and **22** were prepared according to Jacobsen.² In most cases, the imine could be used without further purification for titanium couplings. Vinylcyclohexanol **18** was prepared by addition of vinylmagnesium bromide to cyclohexanone, followed by distillation (40-43 °C / <1 Torr). 2-phenyl-propen-1-ol **20** was prepared according to Carpenter.³ Allenes **24**⁴, **26**, and **28**⁵ were prepared according to Naota.⁶ Allene **30** was prepared according to Crabbé.⁷

¹H NMR data were recorded in CDCl₃ at 400 MHz on a Bruker AM-400 with calibration of spectra to residual CHCl₃ (7.26 ppm). ¹³C data were recorded at 100 MHz on a Bruker AM-400 with calibration to the central line of CDCl₃ (77.00 ppm). Infrared spectra were recorded on a PerkinElmer SpectrumOne FT-IR instrument. HRMS data (DART-TOF ionization) were obtained by the University of Florida Mass Spectrometry lab, usually as $(M + H^+)$ or $(M + Na^+)$ ions.

Flash column chromatography was performed using Silicycle SiliaFlash P60 silica gel, $40-63 \mu m$ particle size. Compounds purified in this manner were sufficiently pure (NMR) to be used in subsequent transformations.

Experimental Data



N-tosyl-*N*-benzyl-isobutyl amine (11): To a solution of freshly distilled $Ti(Oi-Pr)_4$ (0.59 mL, 2.0 mmol, 2 eq.) in THF (8 mL) at -78 °C is added *n*-BuLi (1.7 mL of 2.5M solution in hexanes, 4.0 mmol, 4 eq.), resulting in a bright orange solution. After stirring 5 minutes, imine **8** (163 mg, 1.0 mmol) is added in 0.5 mL THF dropwise by syringe, forming a bright yellow-orange solution. This solution is allowed to warm to rt over 1 h, during which it turns light brown, then deep brown-red. After 1 h, to the reaction is added saturated NH₄Cl_(aq) (1.2 mL), and the resultant blue suspension left to stir 10 minutes at rt to break up metal salts. The reaction is filtered, and the residue rinsed 3x with 2 mL EtOAc. The crude oil after evaporation is subjected immediately to the next step.

To the clear oil (~200 mg) is added 1.5 mL of 2M NaOH (3 mmol, 3 eq.) and *p*-toluenesulfonyl chloride (240 mg, 1.25 mmol, 1.25 eq.) in 2 mL CH₂Cl₂. The resulting biphasic suspension is stirred vigorously over 2 d, then extracted with dichloromethane (5 mL, 3x), washed with water and brine, and dried over anhyd. MgSO₄. Column chromatography (1:10 Et₂O / Hex) yields 160 mg **11** as a clear oil, which solidifies over a few days. 50% yield, 2 steps. ¹H (400 MHz, CDCl₃): 7.71 (d, J = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.30-7.19 (m, 7H), 4.29 (s, 2H), 2.88 (d, J = 8Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.63 (m, 1H), 0.73 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H). ¹³C (100MHz, CDCl₃): 143.1, 137.0, 136.6, 129.7, 128.5, 128.4, 127.6, 127.3, 56.4, 53.0, 26.9, 21.5, 20.0. IR (thin film, NaCl disk, cm⁻¹): 2961, 2926, 2871, 1455, 1337, 1158, 1025, 815, 775, 736, 699, 656, 549. HRMS: Calculated for C₁₈H₂₃NO₂S + Na 340.1342, observed 340.1331.



N-benzyl-2,6-dimethylhept-5-en-3-amine (13) <u>General Procedure for Allylic Alcohol</u> - <u>Aliphatic Imine Coupling</u>: To 6 mL of Et₂O under Ar and cooled to -78° C is added successively Ti(O*i*-Pr)₄ (0.3 mL, 1.0 mmol), and *n*-BuLi (0.8 mL, 2.4 M sol'n in hexanes, 2.0 mmol). The resulting orange solution is stirred for 10 minutes, and then imine **8** (161 mg, 1.0 mmol in 1 mL THF) is added in one portion. The bright orange solution is allowed to warm to rt over 1 h, during which it becomes deep red-brown.

In a separate flask at -30°C the lithium alkoxide of 2-methyl-3-buten-2-ol **12** (52 μ L, 0.5 mmol) is generated in 0.5 mL of THF with an equimolar amount of *n*-BuLi, and allowed to warm slowly to 0°C over 15 mins. The orange solution in the first flask is recooled to -78°C, and alkoxide is transferred by syringe dropwise over 5 minutes. The resulting dark red solution is slowly warmed to rt over 12 h, and then 0.8 mL sat'd NH₄Cl_(aq) is added dropwise. The resulting blue suspension is stirred 30 minutes, filtered, the flask washed 2x with 5 mL ethyl acetate, and concentrated. The material is loaded directly onto a flash column with 1:8 EtOAc : Hex, yielding 112 mg of an inseparable mixture of **13** (80%) + **13a** (15%), clear oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): 7.30-7.11 (m, 5H), 5.09 (t, *J*₁ = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 2H), 2.36 (m, 1H), 2.08 (m, 2H), 1.82 (s, 1H), 1.70 (d, *J*= 1.2 Hz, 3H), 1.62 (s, 3H), 0.91 (d, *J*₁ = 1.2 Hz, 3H), 0.89 (d, *J*₁ = 1.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR: 141.4, 132.3, 128.3, 128.2, 126.7, 122.2, 62.7, 52.2, 30.1, 29.1, 25.9, 18.7, 18.4, 18.0. IR (thin film, NaCl plate, cm⁻¹): 3027, 2958, 2928, 2871, 1494, 1453, 1382, 1104, 1028, 733, 697. HRMS: Calculated for C₁₆H₂₅N + H, 232.2060, observed 232.2065.



5-cyclohexyl-5-(*N*-benzylamino)-2-methylpent-2-ene (15): Prepared from imine 14 and alcohol 12 following general procedure outlined above. Product was isolated (1:8 EA / Hex) as an inseparable mixture of 15 (62%) and 15a (10%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): 7.32-7.23 (m, 5H), 5.11 (t, J = 7.24 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (dd, $J_1 = 15.2$ Hz, $J_2 = 13.2$ Hz, 2H), 2.37 (m, 1H), 2.13 (m, 2H), 1.75-1.66 (m, 6H), 1.73 (s, 3H), 1.64 (s, 3H), 1.42 (m, 1H), 1.23 (m, 6H). ¹³C (100 MHz, CDCl₃): 141.3, 133.3, 128.3, 128.21, 128.18, 126.7, 122.2, 62.3, 52.2, 40.9, 29.5, 29.4, 29.2, 26.93, 26.85, 26.79, 25.9, 18.0. IR (thin film, NaCl plate, cm⁻¹): 3026, 2923, 2851, 1494, 1450, 1375, 1117, 1028, 984, 731, 697. HRMS: Calculated for C₁₉H₂₉N 272.2373, observed 272.2392.



5-(*N*-(**3**-*tert*-**butoxypropyl**))-**5**-cyclohexyl-2-methylpent-2-ene (17): Prepared from imine **16** and alcohol **12** following general procedure outlined above. 81% isolated yield (1:20 EtOAc / Hex). ¹H (400 MHz, CDCl₃): 5.11 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.67 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.64 (m, 2H), 2.26 (m, 1H), 2.04 (m, 2H), 1.71 (d, $J_I = 1$ Hz, 3H), 1.65 (m, 6H), 1.62 (s, 3H), 1.42-1.08 (m, 6H), 0.89 (s, 9H), 0.05 (s, 6H). ¹³C (100 MHz, CDCl₃): 133.0, 122.4, 63.2, 61.6, 45.1, 40.9, 35.6, 29.7, 29.4, 29.2, 26.9, 26.83, 26.76, 25.98, 25.94, 18.4, 17.9, -5.3. IR (thin film, NaCl plate, cm⁻¹): 2926, 2854, 1471, 1449, 1377, 1254, 1099, 835, 774. HRMS: Calculated for C₂₁H₄₃NOSi + H 354.3147, observed 354.3194.



3-(*N*-benzylamino)-4-methylpentenylcyclohexane (19): Prepared from imine **8** and vinylcyclohexanol **18** following general procedure outlined above. 56% isolated yield. ¹H (400 MHz, CDCl₃): 7.35-7.20 (m, 5H), 5.05 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 2H), 2.35 (m, 1H), 2.20-2.04 (m, 5H), 1.83 (s, 1H), 1.55-1.20 (m, 6H), 0.98 (d, $J_1 = 2.4$ Hz, 3H), 0.96 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C (100 MHz, CDCl₃): 141.6, 141.3, 128.28, 128.26, 128,18, 126.7, 118.8, 62.8, 52.2, 37.4, 30.1, 28.9, 28.7, 28.1, 27.9, 26.9, 18.7, 18.3. HRMS: Calculated for C₁₉H₂₉N + H 272.2373, observed 272.2378.



4-(N-benzylamino)-5-methyl-2-phenylhex-1-ene (21): Prepared from imine **8** and alcohol **20** following general procedure outlined above. 52% isolated yield. ¹H (400 MHz, CDCl₃): 7.31-7.20 (m, 10H), 5.31 (d, J = 1.6 Hz), 5.12 (s, 1H), 3.76 (s, 1H), 3.69 (d, J = 12.8 Hz, 1H), 3.56 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (d, J = 11.6 Hz,1H), 2.44-2.39 (m, 2H), 1.89 (m, 1H), 0.93 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 3H), 0.92 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C (100 MHz, CDCl₃): 147.0, 141.0, 140.9, 128.3, 128.2, 128.1, 127.5, 126.7, 126.4, 114.9, 59.8, 52.1, 36.7, 29.6, 18.5, 17.5. IR (thin film, NaCl plate, cm⁻¹): HRMS: Calculated for C₂₀H₂₅N +H 280.2021, observed 280.2069.



5-(*N*-benzylamino)-2-methylundec-2-ene (23): Prepared from imine 22 and alcohol 12 by general procedure outlined above. (N.B. This reaction works best when imine is freshly prepared before coupling. Lower yields are observed with older batches). 92% isolated yield. ¹H (400 MHz, CDCl₃): 7.32-7.16 (m, 5H), 5.11 (triplet of septets, $J_1 = 7.2$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 2H), 2.55 (m, 1H), 2.13 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.72 (s, 3H), 1.63 (s, 3H), 1.45-1.26 (m, 15H), 0.89 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 4H). ¹³C (100 MHz, CDCl₃): 141.1, 133.6, 128.3, 128.1, 126.7, 121.4, 57.3, 51.4, 34.2, 32.7, 31.9, 29.6, 25.94, 25.87, 22.7, 18.1, 14.1. IR (thin film, NaCl plate, cm⁻¹): 3027, 2956, 2926, 2855, 1494, 1454, 1376, 1103, 1028, 729, 697. HRMS: Calculated for C₁₉H₃₁N + H 274.2529, observed 274.2554.



(3E) 3-(1-N-benzylamino-2-methylpropyl)-4-methylpenta-1,3-diene (25): To a solution of $Ti(Oi-Pr)_4$ (0.15 mL, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in 3 mL THF at -78°C is added dropwise *n*-BuLi (0.48 mL of 2.3M sol'n in hexanes, 1.0 mmol, 2.0 eq.). The resulting orange solution is stirred for 5 minutes, then imine 8 (81 mg, 1 mmol, 1.0 eq.) is added in 0.5 mL THF dropwise. The bright orange solution is warmed to rt over 1.25 h, resulting in a red-brown suspension.

The solution is recooled to -78° C, and the lithium alkoxide of allene 24 (pregenerated in 0.5 mL THF at -30°C with equimolar *n*-BuLi, 56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 eq.) is added dropwise by syringe over 2 minutes. The solution is stirred for 20 minutes at - 78° C, and then placed in an oil bath at 60° C for 12 h. The reaction is cooled to rt, and 0.8 mL NH₄Cl_(aq) is added dropwise, resulting in a bluish-white slurry. The reaction is allowed to stir 20 minutes to break up salts, then filtered, washing precipitate 3x with 5 mL EtOAc. After concentration, the residue is loaded directly to a silica flash column (1:20 EtOAc / Hex \rightarrow 1:10) to yield 56 mg (78%) of diene 25 as a clear oil. 1 H (400 MHz, CDCl₃): 7.35-7.20 (m, 5H), 6.53 (dd, $J_1 = 18$ Hz, $J_2 = 11.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.50 (t, J = 7.2Hz, 1H), 5.31 (dd, $J_1 = 17.6$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.13 (dt, $J_1 = 11.2$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.74 (d, J =13.2 Hz, 1H), 3.49 (d, J =13.2 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.23 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.76 (sept, 1H), 1.50-1.30 (m, 10H), 0.93 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.89 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0 6.8 Hz, 2H), 0.83 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H). ¹³C (100 MHz, CDCl₃): 141.4, 136.7, 133.1, 131.6, 128.22, 128.26, 126.6, 114.7, 67.6, 51.5, 31.9, 31.6, 29.7, 27.7, 25.6, 20.4, 19.4, 14.1. IR (thin film, NaCl plate, cm⁻¹): 2956, 2925, 2857, 1454, 900, 697. HRMS: Calculated for $C_{20}H_{31}N + H 286.2529$, observed 286.2551.



(3E) 3-(N-benzylamino-2-methylpropyl)-5-methylpexa-1,3-diene (27): To a solution of Ti(O*i*-Pr)₄ (0.3 mL, 1.0 mmol, 2.0 eq.) in 4 mL THF at -78° C is added dropwise *n*-BuLi (0.9 mL of 2.3M sol'n in hexanes, 2.0 mmol, 4.0 eq.). The resulting orange solution is stirred for 5 minutes, then imine 8 (161 mg, 1 mmol, 2.0 eq.) is added in 0.5 mL THF dropwise. The bright orange solution is warmed to rt over 1.25 h, resulting in a red-brown suspension.

The solution is recooled to -78° C, and the lithium alkoxide of allene **26** (pregenerated in 0.5 mL THF at -30° C with equimolar *n*-BuLi, 56 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 eq.) is added dropwise by syringe over 2 minutes. The solution is stirred for 20 minutes at -78° C, and then warmed to rt overnight. The reaction at rt with 0.8 mL NH₄Cl_(aq), allowed to stir 20 minutes to break up salts, and filtered, washing precipitate 3x with 5 mL

EtOAc. After concentration, the residue is loaded directly to a silica flash column (1:15 EtOAc / Hex) to yield 97 mg (75%) of diene **27** as a clear oil. ¹H (400 MHz, CDCl₃): 7.31 (m, 5H), 6.55 (dd, $J_1 = 17.2$ Hz, $J_2 = 11.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.33 (m, 1H), 5.31 (dt, $J_1 = 9.6$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.12 (dt, $J_1 = 11.6$ Hz, $J_2 = 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.75 (d, 13.2 Hz, 1H), 3.50 (d, 13.2 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.83 (m, 1H), 1.77 (apparent septet, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.38 (bm, 1H), 1.02 (dd, $J_1 = 7.2$ Hz, $J_2 = 6.8$ Hz, 6H), 0.94 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.84 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H). ¹³C (100 MHz, CDCl₃): 141.4, 138.9, 134.3, 133.2, 128.3, 128.2, 126.7, 114.6, 67.2, 51.4, 31.9, 26.9, 23.5, 23.4, 20.4, 19.3. IR (thin film, NaCl plate, cm⁻¹): 2958, 2930, 2068, 1729, 1464, 1383, 1361, 1272, 1122, 1100, 1073, 901, 737, 698. HRMS: Calculated for C₁₆H₂₅N + H 258.2177, observed 258.2219



3-(1-N-benzylamino-2-methylpropyl)-4-methylpenta-1,3-diene (29): To a solution of $Ti(Oi-Pr)_4$ (0.3 mL, 1.0 mmol, 2.0 eq.) in 4 mL THF at -78°C is added dropwise *n*-BuLi (0.8 mL of 2.5M sol'n in hexanes, 2.0 mmol, 4.0 eq.). The resulting orange solution is stirred for 5 minutes, then imine **8** (161 mg, 1 mmol, 2.0 eq.) is added in 0.5 mL THF dropwise. The bright orange solution is warmed to rt over 1.25 h, resulting in a red-brown suspension.

The solution is recooled to -78° C, and the lithium alkoxide of allene **28** (pregenerated in 0.5 mL THF at -30°C with equimolar *n*-BuLi, 49 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 eq.) is added dropwise by syringe over 2 minutes. The solution is stirred for 20 minutes at -78°C, and then warmed to rt overnight. 0.8 mL NH₄Cl_(aq) is then added and the reaction is stirred 20 minutes to break up salts, filtered, and the precipitate washed 3x with 5 mL EtOAc. After concentration, the residue is loaded directly to a silica flash column (1:15 EtOAc / Hex) to yield 63 mg (52%) of diene **29** as a clear oil. ¹H (400 MHz, CDCl₃): 7.35-7.18 (m, 5H), 6.26 (dd, $J_1 = 17.6$ Hz, $J_2 = 11.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.19 (dd, $J_1 = 11.2$ Hz, $J_2 = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 5.15 (m, 1H), 3.68 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 3.43 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 3.15 (d, J = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 1.81 (s, 3H), 1.67 (m, 1H), 1.62 (s, 3H), 1.01 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.95, (m, 1H), 0.72 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H). ¹³C (100 MHz, CDCl₃): 141.5, 134.4, 132.9, 132.1, 128.21, 128.19, 125.6, 117.3, 64.1, 51.3, 31.9, 22.5, 20.9, 20.8, 19.9. IR (thin film, NaCl plate, cm⁻¹):3027, 2955, 2924, 2869, 1644, 1621, 1603, 1494, 1454, 1381, 1363, 1156, 1094, 918, 820, 736, 698. HRMS: Calculated for C₁₇H₂₅N + H 244.2021, observed 244.2072.



2-(1-N-benzylamino-2-methylpropyl)-4-methylpenta-1,3-diene (31): To a solution of $Ti(Oi-Pr)_4$ (0.3 mL, 1.0 mmol, 2.0 eq.) in 4 mL THF at -78°C is added dropwise *n*-BuLi (0.8 mL of 2.5M sol'n in hexanes, 2.0 mmol, 4.0 eq.). The resulting orange solution is stirred for 5 minutes, then imine **8** (161 mg, 1 mmol, 2.0 eq.) is added in 0.5 mL THF dropwise. The bright orange solution is warmed to rt over 1.25 h, resulting in a red-brown suspension.

The solution is recooled to -78° C, and the lithium alkoxide of allene **30** (pregenerated in 0.5 mL THF at -30° C with equimolar *n*-BuLi, 49 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 eq.) is added dropwise by syringe over 2 minutes. The solution is stirred for 20 minutes at -78° C, and then warmed to rt overnight. 0.8 mL NH₄Cl_(aq) is added at rt, allowed to stir 20 minutes to break up salts, filtered, and the precipitate washed 3x with 5 mL EtOAc. After concentration, the residue is loaded directly to a silica flash column (1:15 EtOAc / Hex) to yield 70 mg (58%) of diene **31** as a lt. yellow oil. ¹H (400 MHz, CDCl₃): 7.35-7.20 (m, 5H), 5.59 (m, 1H), 4.98 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.92 (m, 1H), 3.71 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 2.55 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 1.79 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 3H), 1.76 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 3H), 1.58 (m, 1H), 0.90 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 0.75 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H). ¹³C (100 MHz, CDCl₃): 144.7, 140.1, 135.6, 127.2, 125.6, 121.4, 114.4, 70.0, 66.9, 50.4, 30.1, 25.8, 24.6, 19.3, 18.79, 18.75. IR (thin film, NaCl plate, cm⁻¹): 3028, 2960, 2929, 2871, 1677, 1646, 1624, 1604, 1495, 1453, 1382, 1157, 1101, 1071, 1028, 984, 901, 734, 698. HRMS: Calculated for C₁₇H₂₅N + H 244.2021, observed 244.2071.

¹H and ¹³C Spectra



Crude ¹H NMR(400MHz, CDCl₃); formation of **13** with $C_5H_9MgCl / Ti(Oi-Pr)_4 / alcohol$ **12**, 2 h at rt





Crude ¹H NMR(400 MHz, CDCl₃); formation of **13** with *n*-BuLi / Ti(O*i*-Pr)₄ / alcohol **12**, 2 h at rt











Compound 17



	- 11 -															
	1	1		1		I	1	1	1		1	1	1	1		
150			100					50						0		
ppm (f1)																



100 MHz, CDCl₃



Compound 21













Compound 25



E: Z > 10: 1 (minor peaks are Z isomer; crude ratio 4: 1)





Compound 27



E: Z > 10: 1 (minor peaks are Z isomer)





Compound 29



ppm (f1)





Compound 31



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