Supporting Information

Efficient Synthetic Method of Allyl-Epoxides via Allylation of α-Haloketones or Esters with Allylmagnesium Bromide

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General Information

Metallic magnesium and all other chemicals were purchased from Aldrich, Alfa or Acros chemical company and used thus, without further purification. Solvents were purchased from commercial source, without further purification before use. Petroleum ether (PE) used refers to the 60-90 °C boiling point fraction of petroleum. Tetrahydrofuran was distilled from sodium and benzophenone immediately prior to use. All reactions were conducted under a nitrogen atmosphere. The flash column chromatography was carried out on Merck silica gel (300-400 mesh). ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ on a Varian Mercury 300 or 400 MHz spectrometer. Chemical shifts in ¹H NMR spectra are reported in parts per million (ppm, δ) downfield from the internal standard Me₄Si (TMS). Chemical shifts in ¹³C NMR spectra are reported relative to the central line of the chloroform signal ($\delta = 77.50$ ppm). IR spectra were recorded on Varian F-1000 spectrometer in KBr with absorptions in cm⁻¹. HRMS were obtained with a GCT-TOF instrument.

Synthesis of allylmagnesium bromide and epoxides

The preparation of allylmagnesium bromide and its concentration of calibration

Magnesium turnings (1.06g, 44mmol) and spiked with I_2 were added to a round-bottom flask assembled with a constant pressure funnel, which had been previously flame dried and allowed to cool under a stream of nitrogen. Freshly distilled THF (40 mL) mixed with allyl bromide (3.4mL, 40mmol) in the constant pressure funnel was slowly added to the flask. After several minutes, the reaction mixture turned from yellow to turbid gray. Then, the round-bottom flask was cooled to 0 °C with an ice bath. After dropping was finished, the reaction was stirred for 3 hours at the room temperature. The solvent transfers were made using standard cannulation techniqes. The concentration of Grignard reagent was determined by titration, using sodium hydroxide (0.10M) as titrant and phenolphthalein as indicator.

General procedure for the synthesis of epoxides

Allylmagnesium bromide (the amounts can be seen from the feet of the **table 1**, **2**) was added to α -haloketones or esters (0.5 mmol) in dry THF (5 mL) under a nitrogen atmosphere at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 0.5 h (the reaction was monitored by TLC) and then was quenched with water. The resulting mixture was extracted with diethyl ether (3×10 mL), and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. The solvent was removed by evaporation under reduced pressure. Purification by column chromatography on silica gel afforded epoxides **3** or **5** (300–400 mesh, petroleum ether and ethyl acetate).

Analytical and spectral data for compounds

2-allyl-2-phenyloxirane (3a)⁹ The title compound was obtained according to the general procedure. Colourless oil; Yield: 94%; IR (KBr): 3060, 2918, 1648, 1490, 1407, 1001, 920, 777, 709 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz): δ 7.22–7.39 (m, 5H), 5.70–5.84 (m, 1H), 5.06–5.15 (m, 2H), 2.98 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (dd, *J* = 6.5, 15.0 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (dd, *J* = 7.3, 15.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz): δ 140.29, 133.02, 128.55, 127.77, 126.19, 118.71, 59.55, 55.03, 39.75. HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₁₁H₁₂O (M⁺): 160.0888; found: 160.0885.

2-allyl-2-(4-chlorophenyl) oxirane (3b)⁹ The title compound was obtained according to the general procedure. Colourless oil; Yield: 95%; IR (KBr): 3068, 2915, 1642, 1492, 1410, 1004, 919, 820 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.31 (s, 4H), 5.72–5.79 (m, 1H), 5.09–5.15 (m, 2H), 3.01 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (dd, *J* = 6.4, 15.0 Hz, 1H), 2.73 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 2.61 (dd, *J* = 7.1, 15.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz): δ 138.96, 133.79, 132.82, 128.91, 127.81, 119.22, 59.33, 55.36, 39.79. HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₁₁H₁₁³⁵ClO (M⁺): 194.0498; found: 194.0499; C₁₁H₁₁³⁷ClO (M⁺-C₃H₅): 155.0078; found: 155.0475.

^{Br} **2-allyl-2-(4-bromophenyl) oxirane (3c)**⁹ The title compound was obtained according to the general procedure. Colourless oil; Yield: 96%; IR (KBr): 3067, 2910, 1658, 1489, 1415, 999, 915, 823 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.45–7.47 (m, 2H), 7.24–7.26 (m, 2H), 5.70–5.80

(m, 1H), 5.09–5.15 (m, 2H), 3.01 (d, J = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.85–2.90 (m, 1H), 2.72 (d, J = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.61 (dd, J = 7.3, 15.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz): δ 139.35, 132.62, 131.66, 127.98, 121.74, 119.03, 59.14, 55.10, 39.51. HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₁₁H₁₁⁷⁹BrO (M⁺): 237.9993; found: 237.9953; C₁₁H₁₁⁸¹BrO (M⁺): 239.9973; found: 239.9969.

2-allyl-2-p-tolyloxirane (3d)⁹ The title compound was obtained according to the general procedure. Colourless oil; Yield: 81%; IR (KBr): 3050, 2965, 2869, 1670, 1487, 1405, 1000, 922, 840 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.27 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.73–5.83 (m, 1H), 5.07–5.15 (m, 2H), 2.99 (d, J = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (dd, J = 6.5, 15.0 Hz, 1H), 2.75 (d, J = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (dd, J = 7.3, 14.9 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 137.67, 137.38, 133.31, 129.44, 126.29, 118.84, 59.67, 55.35, 39.98, 21.58. HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₁₂H₁₄O (M⁺): 174.1045; found: 174.1043.

2-allyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl) oxirane (3e)⁹ The title compound was obtained according to the general procedure. Colourless oil; Yield: 94%; IR (KBr): 3064, 2923, 1640, 1505, 1421, 989, 915, 827 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.32–7.36 (m, 2H), 6.99–7.04 (m, 2H), 5.71–5.81 (m, 1H), 5.09–5.15 (m, 2H), 3.00 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (dd, *J* = 6.5, 15.0 Hz, 1H), 2.73 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (dd, *J* = 7.3, 15.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 162.59 (¹*J*(C, F) = 244.5 Hz), 136.21 (⁴*J*(C, F) = 3.0 Hz), 133.00, 128.17 (³*J*(C, F) = 8.1 Hz), 119.14, 115.64 (²*J*(C, F) = 21.4 Hz), 59.43, 55.31, 40.09. HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₁₁H₁₁OF (M⁺): 178.0794; found: 178.0794.

2-allyl-2-(4-bromophenyl)-3-methyloxirane (**3f**)⁹ The title compound was obtained according to the general procedure. Colourless oil; Yield: 95%; IR (KBr): 3067, 2950, 2855, 1657, 1476, 1395, 985, 923, 834 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.43–7.48 (m, 2H), 7.18–7.24 (m, 2H), 5.66–5.80 (m, 1H), 5.04–5.11 (m, 2H), 3.21 (q, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H; cis), 2.96 (q, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H; trans), 2.78–2.85 (m, 1H; cis, trans), 2.56 (dd, *J* = 6.6, 15.3 Hz, 1H; trans), 2.47 (dd, *J* = 7.4, 14.7 Hz, 1H; cis), 1.46 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 3H; trans), 0.99 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 3H; cis). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): cis: δ 137.82, 132.90, 131.63, 129.30, 121.70, 119.05, 65.08, 59.86, 42.23, 14.88; trans: δ 140.77, 133.32, 131.76, 128.26, 121.66, 118.82, 63.12, 62.62, 36.25, 14.88. HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₁₂H₁₃⁷⁹BrO (M⁺): 252.0150; found: 252.0153; C₁₂H₁₃⁸¹BrO (M⁺): 254.0129; found: 254.0120.

2-allyl-2,3-diphenyloxirane (**3g**)⁹ The title compound was obtained according to the general procedure. Colourless oil; Yield: 18%; IR (KBr): 3073, 2921, 1645, 1487, 1407, 977, 923, 791, 686 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz): cis: δ 7.01–7.25 (m, 10H), 5.76–5.90 (m, 1H), 5.10–5.16 (m, 2H), 4.19 (s, 1H), 2.88 (dd, J = 6.5, 14.4 Hz, 1H), 2.69 (dd, J = 7.5, 14.4 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₁ 75 MHz): δ 127 00, 125 57, 122 72, 127 01, 127 86, 127 82, 127 56, 127 40

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz): δ 137.09, 135.57, 132.73, 127.91, 127.86, 127.82, 127.56, 127.40, 126.74, 118.92, 68.58, 63.92, 43.32. HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for $C_{17}H_{16}O$ (M⁺): 236.1201; found: 236.1201.

2-allyl-3-methyl-2-phenyl-oxirane (3h)⁹ The title compound was obtained according to the

general procedure. Colourless oil; Yield: 91%; IR (KBr): 3069, 2954, 2858, 1674, 1487, 1408, 976, 907, 765, 715 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.25–7.36 (m, 5H), 5.68–5.79 (m, 1H), 5.03–5.08 (m, 2H), 3.21 (q, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H; cis), 3.01 (q, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H; trans), 2.84 (dd, *J* = 6.6, 14.6 Hz, 1H; cis, trans), 2.59 (dd, *J* = 6.6, 15.2 Hz, 1H; trans), 2.50 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 14.7 Hz, 1H; cis), 1.47 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 3H; trans), 0.98 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 3H; cis). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): cis: δ 138.69, 133.23, 128.42, 127.63, 127.43, 118.67, 65.45, 59.75, 42.43, 14.93; trans: δ 138.69, 133.23, 128.61, 127.72, 126.40, 118.42, 62.54, 62.27, 36.42, 14.93. HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₁₂H₁₄O (M⁺): 174.1045; found: 174.1045.

2-allyl-2-(naphthalen-2-yl) oxirane (3i)⁹ The title compound was obtained according to

the general procedure. Colourless oil; Yield: 94%; IR (KBr): 3053, 2899, 1632, 1489, 1356, 1001, 928, 818, 741 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.81–7.86 (m, 4H), 7.47–7.49 (m, 3H), 5.77–5.87 (m, 1H), 5.09–5.18 (m, 2H), 3.09 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.01 (dd, J = 6.4, 15.0 Hz, 1H), 2.85 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (dd, J = 7.2, 15.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz): δ 137.89, 133.53, 133.16, 128.50, 128.41, 128.07, 126.68, 126.46, 125.46, 124.23, 119.01, 60.02, 55.42, 40.00. HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₁₅H₁₄O (M⁺): 210.1045; found: 210.1040.

²-allyl-2-tert-butyloxirane (3j)⁹ The title compound was obtained according to the general

procedure. Colourless oil; Yield: 86% (**3ja**) and 80% (**3jb**); IR (KBr): 2960, 1640, 1474, 1371, 996, 914, 818 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz,): δ 5.63–5.73 (m, 1H), 5.03–5.07 (m, 2H), 2.71 (d, J = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 2.50–2.55 (m, 3H), 0.96 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz,): δ 134.48, 118.07, 63.59, 48.35, 35.01, 34.20, 26.54. HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₉H₁₆O (M⁺-H₂O): 122.1096; found: 122.1096.

2-allyl-2-(pyren-1-yl) oxirane (**3k**)¹⁰ The title compound was obtained according to the general procedure. Colourless oil; Yield: 75%; IR (KBr): 3073, 2904, 1647, 1496, 1370, 982, 899, 809, 729 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 8.32 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.91–8.14 (m, 8H), 5.72–5.85 (m, 1H), 5.00–5.06 (m, 2H), 3.28 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.02 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 2.95 (dd, J = 6.6, 14.1 Hz, 1H), 2.84 (dd, J = 7.5, 14.3 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 134.02, 132.79, 131.48, 131.15, 130.91, 128.33, 128.17, 127.72, 127.62, 126.28, 125.85, 125.67, 125.55, 124.97, 124.83, 124.76, 123.72, 118.98, 61.03, 53.30, 42.31. HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₂₁H₁₆O (M⁺): 284.1201; found: 284.1201.

6H-Indeno [1,2-b]oxirene, 1a,6a-dihydro-1a-allyl- (3l) The title compound was obtained according to the general procedure. Colourless oil; Yield: 80%; Compound purity: 99.40% (confirmed by HPLC); IR (KBr): 3074, 2977, 2918, 2851, 1639, 1609, 1476, 1436, 1343, 1253, 1152, 1065, 997, 920, 736cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz): *δ* 7.40–7.42 (m, 1H), 7.21–7.31 (m, 3H), 5.70–5.84 (m, 1H), 5.10–5.17 (m, 2H), 4.67–4.70 (t, 1H), 3.29–3.47 (m, 2H), 2.56–2.66 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz): *δ* 143.23, 139.77, 133.31, 129.23, 127.71, 125.13, 124.20,

119.34, 81.80, 61.06, 42.05, 40.44. HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for $C_9H_{16}O$ (M⁺): 172.0888; found: 172.0890.

2,2-diallyl-3-phenyloxirane (5a) The title compound was obtained according to the general procedure. Colourless oil; Yield: 85% (**5aa**), 73% (**5ab**) and 23% (**5ac**); Compound purity: 99.12% (**5aa**), 99.85% (**5ab**), 99.54% (**5ac**) (confirmed by HPLC); IR (KBr): 3078, 2979, 2912, 2846, 1641, 1605, 1497, 1434, 1346, 1263, 1178, 1028, 971, 917, 859, 750, 700, 653 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz): δ 7.27–7.40 (m, 5H), 5.83–5.97 (m, 1H), 5.60–5.73 (m, 1H), 5.17–5.23 (m, 2H), 4.93–5.06 (m, 2H), 3.98 (s, 1H), 2.45–2.60 (m, 2H), 2.03–2.21 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz): δ 136.19, 133.20, 128.28, 127.70, 126.65, 118.69, 118.33, 65.03, 62.75, 39.45, 34.47. HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₁₄H₁₆O (M⁺): 200.1201; found: 201.1205.

2,2-diallyl-3-(4-chlorophenyl) oxirane (5b) The title compound was obtained according to the general procedure. Colourless oil; Yield: 83%; Compound purity: 99.50% (confirmed by HPLC); IR (KBr): 3078, 2979, 2913, 2845, 1641, 1600, 1493, 1434, 1342, 1290, 1174, 1090, 972, 919, 838, 722, 684, 648 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz): δ 7.25–7.30 (m, 4H), 5.80–5.89 (m, 1H), 5.58–5.66 (m, 1H), 5.15–5.19 (m, 2H), 4.90–5.04 (m, 2H), 3.91 (s, 1H), 2.42–2.56 (m, 2H), 2.02–2.11 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz): δ 131.59, 130.37, 129.77, 129.70, 125.34, 124.85, 115.71, 115.37, 62.03, 58.93, 36.14, 31.29. HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₁₄H₁₅ClO (M⁺): 234.0811; found: 235.0814.

2,2-diallyl-3-benzyloxirane (5c) The title compound was obtained according to the general procedure. Colourless oil; Yield: 78%; Compound purity: 99.17% (confirmed by HPLC); IR (KBr): 3078, 2978, 2916, 1641, 1605, 1495, 1454, 1308, 1031, 997, 917, 741, 699, 656 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz): δ 7.24–7.31 (m, 5H), 5.67–5.91 (m, 2H), 5.06–5.18 (m, 4H), 3.03–3.05 (m, 1H), 2.91–2.92 (m, 2H), 2.27–2.55 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz): δ 138.20, 133.40, 133.14, 128.99, 128.84, 126.77, 118.57, 62.99, 62.64, 39.75, 35.83, 35.09. HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₁₅H₁₈O (M⁺): 214.1358; found: 215.1350.

2,2-diallyl-3-hexyloxirane (5d) The title compound was obtained according to the general procedure. Light yellow oil; Yield: 75%; Compound purity: 99.60% (confirmed by HPLC); IR (KBr): 3079, 2957, 2858, 1641, 1353, 1112, 996, 915cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz): δ 5.72–5.83 (m, 2H), 5.07–5.15 (m, 4H), 2.77–2.81 (t, 1H), 2.21–2.36 (m, 4H), 1.30–1.65 (m, 10H), 0.87–0.91 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz): δ 133.63, 133.43, 118.24, 118.16, 62.96, 62.25, 39.87, 35.62, 31.96, 29.38, 28.63, 26.85, 22.76, 14.25. HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₁₄H₂₄O (M⁺): 208.1827; found: 209.1821.

(Z)-4,7-diallyldeca-1,5,9-triene (5e) The title compound was obtained according to the general procedure. Light yellow oil; Yield: 43%; Compound purity: 99.99% (confirmed by HPLC); IR (KBr): 3076, 2979, 2839, 1639, 1222, 996, 915, 704cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 5.74–5.82 (m, 4H), 5.67 (s, 2H), 5.09–5.16 (m, 8H), 2.26–2.37 (m, 8H), 1.80 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz): δ 132.01, 131.47, 117.02, 71.56, 43.61. HRMS (EI⁺) calcd for C₁₆H₂₄O (M⁺): 216.1878; found: 217.1876.

NMR spectrum of compounds

3a

































