

Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Organic Chemistry 5.511

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Problem Set 9  
Stereocontrolled Addition of Allylmetal Compounds

This problem set focuses on Unit 5 (addition of allylmetal compounds to carbonyl groups) but also employs chemistry introduced in earlier units. In each case, design a highly stereoselective synthesis of the target molecule beginning with commercially available materials. Be sure to explicitly identify all reagents necessary for each transformation. Enantiomerically enriched reagents may be used if they are commercially available; however, with the exception of the two compounds shown below, each stereogenic center in the target molecule must be generated in your synthetic route. In other words, the stereogenic carbons in the chiral reagents you employ cannot be directly incorporated in the final product. The exceptions are (S) and (R) methyl 3-hydroxy-2-methylpropionate, which are commercially available and have been widely employed in total synthesis. A stereoselective synthesis of each of many of these target molecules has been reported in the literature and a reference for each synthesis will be provided with the solutions posted on the 5.511 website.



