

Chameleon catches in combinatorial chemistry: Tebbe olefination of polymer supported esters and the synthesis of amines, cyclohexanones, enones, methyl ketones and thiazoles

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Tebbe olefination of supported esters $R^1CO_2CH_2$ -polymer gave the corresponding vinyl ethers $R^1C(=CH_2)OCH_2$ -polymer which were released, under acidic conditions, to produce methyl ketones R^1COMe ; by reductive amination, to produce amines $R^1CH(Me)NHR^2$; by bromination and reaction of $R^1CBr(CH_2Br)OCH_2$ -polymer with thioureas to produce thiazoles; or, for supported dienyl ethers derived from α,β -unsaturated esters, by Diels–Alder reaction and acid mediated cleavage to produce cyclohexanone derivatives.

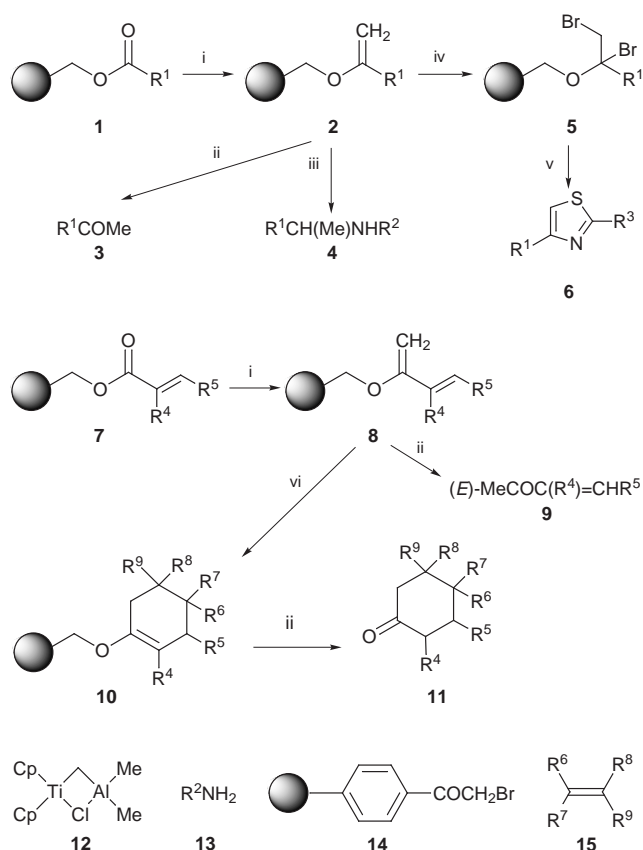
Solid phase synthesis is invaluable for the construction of libraries of small organic compounds for biological evaluation.¹ Such bioassay is frequently carried out in solution using an appropriate enzyme or receptor. The method of attachment and detachment of the requisite substrates to the resin is critical. In many solid phase syntheses, the substrates are conveniently attached to the polymer support through a carboxylic acid function. This is readily achieved using supports including Merrifield, Wang and Tentagel resins *etc.*² Following substrate modification, cleavage affords a carboxylic acid, ester, amide or, *via* reductive cleavage, a primary alcohol. Methods that allow for the cleavage of resin bound carboxylate derivatives yet which access alternative and variable functionality would be extremely desirable. Herein we report the conversion of supported esters into enol ethers,³ with subsequent on-resin functionalisation and detachment with amplification of diversity.

Methylenation of the resin bound esters **1** with the Tebbe reagent⁴ **12** (PhMe–THF 25 °C, 12 h) gave the corresponding vinyl ethers **2** (Scheme 1). The reaction mixtures were quenched with 15% aq. NaOH and the resin washed consecutively with THF, H₂O, EtOAc, EtOAc–MeOH (1:1) and MeOH followed by removal of solvent *in vacuo*. In this reaction, commercial Tebbe reagent (Aldrich) proved to be superior to either **12** generated *in situ*,⁵ where premature cleavage from the support was a problem, or the Petasis reagent (Cp₂TiMe₂).⁶ Hydrolysis (1 M H₂SO₄ in DMF or 1% TFA in CH₂Cl₂) of ethers **2** brought about cleavage from the resin and gave the corresponding ketones **3** (41–92%). Alternatively, acid mediated hydrolysis and reductive amination⁷ using amine **13** and NaBH(OAc)₃ gave the corresponding amines **4** (13–89%).

The ethers **2** were found to be useful intermediates for further transformations prior to detachment from the resin. Thiazoles, important pharmacophores with diverse biological activities,⁸ are available from α -bromo ketones *via* the Hantzsch thiazole synthesis. Thus reaction of the vinyl ether **2** (R = Bn) with Br₂ (1 M in CH₂Cl₂, 2 equiv., 1 h) and washing (CH₂Cl₂) gave the corresponding supported dibromide **5** as indicated by the disappearance of the enol ether (IR), gel phase magic angle spinning ¹H NMR [400 MHz; CDCl₃: δ 4.25(CH₂Br)] and elemental analysis (loading 0.65 mmol g⁻¹). Reaction of the dibromide **5** (R = Bn) with thiourea (4 equiv., MeOH at reflux, 12 h), neutralisation (K₂CO₃), filtration with MeOH and

evaporation gave thiazole **6** (R = Bn) contaminated with excess thiourea. This impurity was removed by reverse phase HPLC or, more simply, using the polymer supported α -bromo ketone scavenger **14**⁹ (200–400 mesh, 0.96 mequiv.g⁻¹, 2 equiv.). Using either of these purification methods, thiazole **6** (R = Bn) was obtained in 40% yield based on the loading of the Merrifield resin (1.0 mmol g⁻¹) to which the phenylacetic acid had been attached. This methodology, which has been extended to a range of thiazoles **6**,^{||} has the major advantage of starting from readily available carboxylic acids rather than less diverse commercial α -bromo ketones.

Tebbe methylenation of the resin bound α,β -unsaturated esters **7**^{10†} (ν_{max}/cm^{-1} 1720–1740) gave the corresponding supported dienyl ethers **8** (1635–1650 cm⁻¹) which could be either hydrolysed (1% TFA in CDCl₃) to provide the enones **9**^{**} or converted into the Diels–Alder adducts **10**. The diene



Scheme 1 Reagents and conditions: i, **12**, PhMe, THF, 25 °C; ii, 1% TFA, CH₂Cl₂, 25 °C; iii, 1 M H₂SO₄, DMF, then **13**, NaBH(OAc)₃, 25 °C; iv, Br₂, CH₂Cl₂ (1 M, 2 equiv.), 25 °C; v, R³CSNH₂ (4 equiv.), MeOH, reflux, then **14** (2 equiv.), MeOH, reflux; vi, **15**, PhMe, 25 °C (maleimide) or 80–100 °C (other dienophiles)

resins **8** may be stored for up to six months without loss of activity but were generally used directly. Diels–Alder reaction with *N*-methylmaleimide (PhMe, 25 °C) or 2-chloroacrylonitrile, methyl vinyl ketone, dimethyl fumarate or 2-ethylacrolein (PhMe, 80–100 °C) gave the immobilised cyclohexene derivatives **10**. Subsequent cleavage from the resin (1% TFA in CH₂Cl₂) gave the corresponding cyclohexanone derivatives **11**.^{††} We observed high *endo*-selectivity with *N*-methylmaleimide consistent with the solution phase reactions of 2-silyloxy dienes with maleimides¹¹ and in contrast with Diels–Alder reactions of resin bound 4-substituted 2-amino-butadienes.¹²

In summary, we have developed a novel detachment method for the removal of substrates from a solid support which allows for the concomitant introduction of further diversity. This strategy using chameleon^{‡‡} catches should be applicable to the generation of diverse libraries from polymer supported carboxylic esters. Further reactions of the supported enol ethers will be reported in due course.

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Notes and References

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[‡] The supported esters **1** and **7** were prepared from Merrifield resin (200–400 mesh, 1.0–1.7 mequiv. g⁻¹) (Cs₂CO₃, KI, DMF, 80 °C) [the Tebbe olefination chemistry in this paper has also been carried out on Wang resin (200–400 mesh, 0.7–1.13 mequiv. g⁻¹). For an alternative synthesis of supported α,β -unsaturated esters see ref. 12. All syntheses in this paper were carried out both manually, using single bead FT-IR spectroscopy to follow reactions (**1** 1720–1740, **2** 1635–1645, **7** 1720–1740, **8** 1635–1650 cm⁻¹) and in a parallel fashion on a NautilusTM 2400 Organic Synthesizer (Argonaut Technologies, Inc.). All the products were at least 90% pure (HPLC, GC–MS). All yields were determined with respect to the original loading of chloride for Merrifield resin.

[§] The ketones **3** [R¹ (%)] were isolated by filtration and evaporation: Me(CH₂)₆ (87%); Ph (62%); 4-BrC₆H₄ (41%); 4-IC₆H₄ (71%); 4-MeOC₆H₄ (92%); 3-MeOC₆H₄ (56%); 2,4,6-(MeO)₃C₆H₂ (47%); 4-MeOC₆H₄CH₂ (74%); 4-PhC₆H₄ (65%) and 3-indolyl–CH₂CH₂ (74%).

[¶] The amines **4** [R¹, R² (%)] were isolated by filtration, partition between Et₂O and 1 M NaOH, drying (MgSO₄) and evaporation: Me(CH₂)₆, Pr (13%); Me(CH₂)₆, cyclopropyl (19%); Me(CH₂)₆, allyl (27%); 4-MeOC₆H₄CH₂, Pr (89%); 4-MeOC₆H₄CH₂, cyclopropyl (85%); 4-MeOC₆H₄CH₂, allyl (89%); 3-indolyl–CH₂CH₂, Pr (65%); 3-indolyl–CH₂CH₂, cyclopropyl (61%); 3-indolyl–CH₂CH₂, allyl (79%).

^{||} The thiazoles **6** [R¹, R³ (%)] were isolated following purification using scavenger **14**: Ph, NH₂ (40%); Ph, NHMe (15%); Ph, NHBn (10%); Ph, Me (14%); 3-MeOC₆H₄, NH₂ (23%); 3-MeOC₆H₄, NHMe (15%);

3-MeOC₆H₄, NHBn (13%); Me(CH₂)₆, NH₂ (15%); Me(CH₂)₆, NHMe (10%); Me(CH₂)₆, NHBn (12%).

** The enones **9** [R⁴, R⁵ (%)] were quantified by cleavage (1% TFA in CDCl₃) and ¹H NMR with a (Me₃Si)₂O reference: H, Ph (50%); H, Me (28%); H, Et (31%); H, Pr (33%); H, Me(CH₂)₆ (48%); (CH₂)₄ (53%).

†† The cyclohexanones **11** [R⁴, R⁵, dienophile, (%), diastereoselectivity] were quantified by cleavage (1% TFA in CDCl₃) and ¹H NMR with a (Me₃Si)₂O reference: H, Ph, *N*-methylmaleimide (30%, 97:3); H, Me, *N*-methylmaleimide (30%, 97:3); H, Et, *N*-methylmaleimide (18%, 97:3); H, Pr, *N*-methylmaleimide (27%, 97:3); H, Me(CH₂)₆, *N*-methylmaleimide (35%, 7:3); (CH₂)₄, *N*-methylmaleimide (51%, 97:3); H, Ph, (*E*)-MeO₂CCH=CHCO₂Me (17%, 1:1); H, Ph, H₂C=CClCN (23%, 7:3); H, Ph, H₂C=CETCHO (21%, 5:3); H, Ph, H₂C=CHAc (44%, 7:3); H, Me, H₂C=CHAc (11%, 5:3); H, Me(CH₂)₆, H₂C=CETCHO (19%, 3:1); H, Me(CH₂)₆, H₂C=CETAc (22%, 4:1); (CH₂)₄, H₂C=CETCHO (20%, 2:2:1:1); (CH₂)₄, H₂C=CHAc (43%, 3:2).

‡‡ For other chameleons see refs. 13 and 14. Petasis has mentioned the possibility of the olefination of polymer supported peptides using Cp₂TiMe₂ but has yet to report any details: *Fifth Chemical Congress of North America*, Cancun, Mexico, November 13, 1997.

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