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Direct Formation of N-Acylated Amino Acid Derivatives via Nucleophilic Addition to N-Acylimino Esters Using a Polymer-Supported Amine and Scandium Triflate

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N-Acylated amino acid derivatives are often observed in biologically important compounds such as peptides,¹ ceramides,² etc. The use of α -imino esters provides a convenient method for the preparation of N-acylated amino acid derivatives (eq 1). After nucleophilic addition to α -imino esters,



the protective groups of the amino moieties are removed, and then the amino groups are acylated.³ More conveniently, reactions of *N*-acylimino esters would give N-acylated amino acid derivatives directly (eq 2).⁴ However, *N*-acylimino esters



are unstable and their use in organic synthesis has been rather

limited. In this paper, we describe a new method for the preparation of N-acylated amino acid derivatives via nucleophilic addition to *N*-acylimino esters using polymer-supported amine and scandium catalysts. The method is simple and provides a convenient way for the preparation of N-acylated amino acid derivatives.

We chose α -bromoglycine derivatives (**1a**-d) as the starting material.⁵ Ethyl *N*-benzoyl-2-bromoglycine (**1a**) was treated with triethylamine to give highly active *N*-acylimino ester in situ.⁶ Subsequently, the addition of silyl enol ether **2a** in the presence of a catalytic amount of Sc(OTf)₃⁷ afforded the desired adduct (**3a**).



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 Table 1. Mannich-Type Reaction of N-Acyliminoacetates

 with Silyl Enol Ether (2a)







Several reaction conditions were examined, and the results are summarized in Table 1. In the case of using 20 mol % of $Sc(OTf)_3$ as the catalyst, the reaction proceeded to give 3a in 71% yield (entry 1). When the amounts of the catalyst and the silvl enol ether were reduced, the yield of 3a was decreased (entry 3). It was assumed that the catalytic activity of Sc(OTf)₃ was somewhat depressed by the coordination of a slight excess of Et₃N. We then decided to use a polymersupported reagent and catalyst. Commercially available piperidinomethylpolystylene 4 and polymer-supported scandium catalyst 5 were selected.⁸ Polymer-supported scandium catalyst (5) was synthesized from Merrifield resin according to the modified method shown in our previous report (Scheme 1).9 The sulfonation of polystyrene (1% divinylbenzene cross-linked) with ClSO₃H gave polymer-supported sulfonic acid (6). The loading level of 6 was determined to be 0.93 mmol/g by the acid-base titration.¹⁰ The treatment of 6 with ScCl₃·6H₂O gave polymer-supported scandium chloride (7). Finally, 7 was treated with trifluoromethanesulfonic acid to afford scandium triflate 5. The loading of 5 was determined by the amount of ash in the elemental analysis.

When polymer-supported amine 4 and catalyst 5 were used, the yields were improved significantly even in the case where the amounts of the catalyst and the silyl enol ether were decreased (entries 4-6). As expected, no interaction between the polymer-supported amine and the scandium catalyst occurred, and thus, the catalytic activity of the

Table 2. Mannich-Type Reaction of *N*-Acyliminoacetates

 with Various Nucleophiles



			-	•
1	1a : $R = Ph$	2a	3a	79
2		2b	3b	85
3		2c	3c	76 ^a
4		2d	3d	91
5		2e	3e	86
6	1b : $R = Me$	2b	3f	74
7	1c: $R = (CH_2)_{10}CH_3$	2b	3g	86
8		2d	3h	75
9		2e	3i	79
10		2f	3j	82
11	1d : $R = OEt$	2b	3k	71
12		2d	31	90
13		2f	3m	76

^{*a*} The reaction was performed for 12 h.

scandium was not depressed by the coordination of the amine. In addition, workup procedures became very simple by using the polymer-supported amine and catalyst; only filtration gave the desired products, and this procedure is suitable for the preparation of a library.

Other substrates were investigated, and the results are summarized in Table 2. The reactions of several silyl enolates proceeded smoothly to afford the corresponding adducts in high yields. In the reactions of substrates having a longchain acyl group (**1c**) or a carbamate group (**1d**), the reaction also proceeded in high yields.

A typical experimental procedure is described for the reaction of **1a** with **2a**. To a solution of **1a** (28.6 mg, 0.10 mmol) in dichloromethane (1.5 mL) was added **4** (3.63 mmol/g, 41.3 mg, 0.15 mmol) at 0 °C. After the solution was stirred for 20 min, **2a** (23.1 mg, 0.12 mmol) in dichloromethane (1.0 mL) and **5** (0.49 mmol/g, 2.1 mg, 1.0 mol %) were added to the reaction mixture. The mixture was stirred for 6 h at room temperature and filtered. After the resins were washed with dichloromethane, 0.2 N HCl in dichloromethane (1.0 mL) was added to the filtrate. After being stirred for 5 min at room temperature, the mixture was evaporated to dryness. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to afford **3a** (25.6 mg, 79%).

In summary, a convenient method for the preparation of N-acylated amino acid derivatives has been developed. The method is based on nucleophilic addition to in-situ-prepared *N*-acylimino esters using a polymer-supported amine and scandium salt. The procedure is very simple, and the direct formation of N-acylated amino acid derivatives has been achieved. Further studies on the synthesis of biologically important compounds as well as on an asymmetric version of this method are in progress. **Supporting Information Available.** Experimental procedure for the preparation of **1a**–**d** and **3a**–**m**. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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