

The Journal of Organic Chemistry

VOLUME 57, NUMBER 19

SEPTEMBER 11, 1992

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Communications

Stereocontrolled Syntheses of Substituted Unsaturated δ -Lactams from 3-Alkenamides

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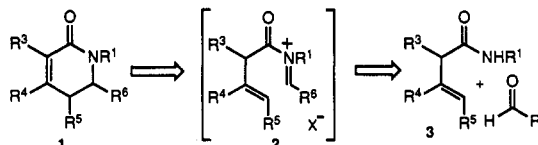
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Received May 4, 1992

Summary: δ -Lactams have been synthesized with excellent stereocontrol of substituents by condensing 3-alkenamides with aryl aldehydes in polyphosphoric ester.

Efficient stereocontrolled routes to substituted six-membered nitrogen heterocycles are important in view of the array of piperidine,¹ pyridine,¹ quinolizidine,² and indolizidine^{2,3} alkaloids with pharmacological activity. Syntheses of ipecacuanha alkaloids including emetine have proceeded through intermediary 5,6-dihydro-2(1H)-pyridinones.⁴ The 5,6-dihydro-2(1H)-pyridinone ring system 1^{5,6} has considerable potential in synthesis, since it could act as a common intermediate for the synthesis of a wide variety of substituted piperidines, piperidones, pyridines, and pyridones. The versatility of the 5,6-dihydro-2(1H)-pyridinone ring system 1 is exemplified by its ability to undergo epoxidation,⁵ bromination,⁵ and [2 + 2] cycloaddition of the C=C double bond;⁷ cuprates effect 1,4-addition,⁸ and Michael additions⁹ occur with esters.

Scheme I. 5,6-Dihydro-2(1H)-pyridinones via [5 + 1] Component Condensations



Remarkably few methods of preparing 5,6-dihydro-2-(1H)-pyridinones have been reported;^{5,6,10,11} typically, they are nongeneral, require forcing conditions, and do not allow stereocontrolled placement of substituents. We envisaged a convenient route to the pyridinones 1 by a [5 + 1] component condensation of a 3-alkenamide with an aldehyde or ketone (Scheme I). Related processes include the Bischler-Napieralski¹² and Pictet-Spengler reactions¹³ and the condensation of 3-alkenamides with formaldehyde equivalents.¹⁴⁻¹⁶

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Table I. Synthesis of δ -Lactams from 3-Alkenamides

3-Alkenamide ^a	aldehyde	condns	δ -lactam ^{b,c}	yield ^d (%)
	PhCHO	PPA 60°C 18h PPE 60°C 16h	1a	30 51
	PhCHO	PPE 60°C 56h	1b	95
	PhCHO	PPE 35°C 24h	1c	63
	<i>p</i> -MeO.C ₆ H ₄ .CHO	PPE 45°C 18h	1d	66
	<i>p</i> -O ₂ N.C ₆ H ₄ .CHO	PPE 45°C 18h	1e	50
	PhCHO	PPE 40°C 16h	1f	30
	PhCHO	PPE 60°C 18h	1g	50
	PhCHO	PPA 40°C 49h PPE 40°C 24h	8a	65 82

^a (*E*)-3-Pentenamide (85%), mp 70–71 °C, and (*E*)-3-methyl-3-pentenamide (49%), mp 133 °C, were prepared by treatment of the nitriles with alkaline H₂O₂ and tetra-*n*-butylammonium hydrogen sulfate. For related preparations see: Cacchi, S.; Misiti, D.; La Torre, F. *Synthesis* 1980, 243. Other amides were prepared from the acid chloride and an amine. ^b In a typical reaction, 5 mmol of alkenamide was added to a mixture of 10 mmol of aldehyde in 10 g of PPE or PPA stirred under N₂. ^c All new compounds reported in this paper have been fully characterized by elemental ¹H NMR, and ¹³C NMR analysis (see supplementary material). The relative configuration of lactams was inferred from coupling constants (*J*_{vicinal} = 11 Hz for the *trans*-5,6-disubstituted amides **1c** and **1d**, and *J*_{vicinal} = 3 Hz for the *cis*-disubstituted amide **1f**). All the depicted configurations refer to racemic materials. ^d Isolated yields. Reaction mixtures were cooled in an ice-salt bath and then 20% aqueous NaOH cautiously added dropwise to give a neutral solution which was extracted with CHCl₃.

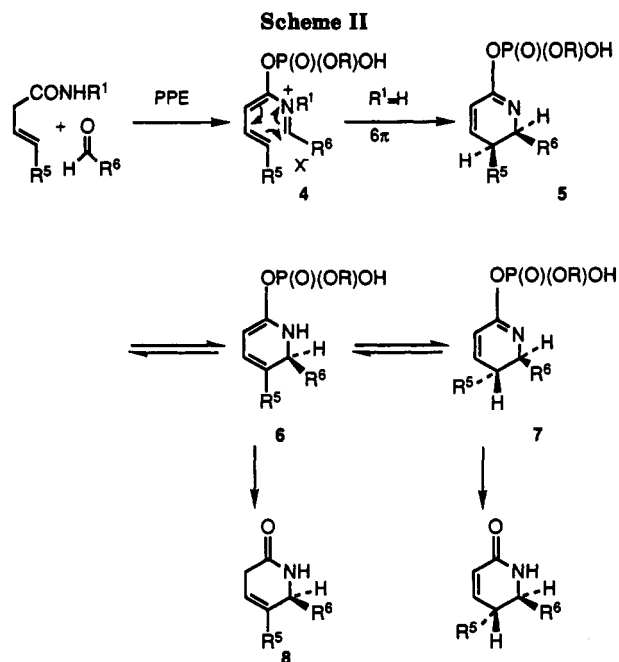
Condensations under acidic conditions of acyclic β,γ -unsaturated amides with carbonyl compounds to give one or more new rings have only recently been reported,¹⁷ for which a medium of PPA or MeSO₃H–P₂O₅ was shown to afford γ -lactams with good stereocontrol. Therefore, in a strategy to obtain 5,6-dihydro-2(1*H*)-pyridinones it would be necessary to exclude such a mode of cationic cyclization in order to realize the alternative ring closure to a δ -lactam. Despite the lack of precedent for such behavior¹⁸ the de-

sired cyclization might proceed a priori through a 6 π disrotatory ring-closure¹⁹ in which the amidic carbonyl had undergone enolization or via a cationic cyclization involving an acyliminium species.²⁰ We now report the first examples of bond formation between the carbon atom of an aldehyde and the *N*- and *C*-4 termini of acyclic 3-alkenamides to give the pyridinone system **1**. Table I provides examples of such processes which occur at 30–60 °C, are stereoselective, contiguous stereogenic centers being formed from achiral precursors, and require no Lewis acid

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catalysts or stabilizing or activating groups.

Condensation of a variety of 3-alkenamides with aldehydes in PPE²¹ affords a general route to substituted 5,6-dihydro-2(1H)-pyridinones whose stereochemistry can be rationalized by assuming that (i) such cyclizations do not always proceed solely, or at all, through *N*-acyliminium species; in certain cases, enol phosphate intermediates are involved, (ii) the formation of a *cis*-5,6-disubstituted-5,6-dihydro-2(1H)-pyridinone ring is the result of a thermal 6π electrocyclic disrotatory ring-closure,^{22,23} and (iii) *trans*-5,6-disubstituted-5,6-dihydro-2(1H)-pyridinone rings are formed from the *cis*-isomers (or their reaction intermediates) by processes which involve a combination of enol phosphate intermediates and equilibration to the *trans* isomers (as for entries 1c, 1d, 1e, and 1g) either by prototropic shifts or by [1,5]sigmatropic rearrangement of hydrogen.²³ An uninvesti-

(21) PPA was purchased from BDH Chemicals Ltd., Poole. For a review on PPA see: Rowlands, D. A. In *Synthetic Methods*; Pizey, J. S., Ed.; Wiley: New York, 1985; Vol. 6, p 156. For some uses of PPE in synthesis, see: (a) Kanaoka, Y.; Ban, Y.; Mayashita, K.; Iria, K.; Yonemitsu, O. *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* 1966, 14, 934. (b) Kanaoka, Y.; Sato, E.; Yonemitsu, O.; Ban, Y. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1964, 35, 2419. PPE was prepared as described by Cava, M. P.; Lakshminantham; Mitchell, M. J. *J. Org. Chem.* 1969, 34, 2665.

(22) An (*E*)-configuration about the C=N bond has also been assumed. The thermal ring closure might also proceed through an intermediate containing an uncharged nitrogen atom in the case of R¹ = H in Scheme II. The precise constitution of enol phosphate intermediates is not currently known.

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gated possibility is that for amide 1f (Table I), the 5,6-*cis*-substituents do not isomerize because the blocking *N*-methyl group precludes the possibility of a [1,5] hydrogen shift. In addition to 1f, the formation of a β -hydroxy amide (a single diastereoisomer) is consistent with an acid-catalyzed aldol condensation of an enol phosphate intermediate with benzaldehyde. A Prins reaction¹⁸ to account, for example, for the deconjugated amide 8a cannot be rigorously excluded; however, β -protonation of intermediate 6 appears more plausible.

2,2-Dimethyl-3-pentenamide failed to react with benzaldehyde in PPE at 40 °C, presumably because enolization cannot occur. PPE evidently favors the formation of enol phosphates, and hence δ -lactams via 6π ring closure, unless steric factors prevent coplanarity of the substituents. Thus, condensation of (*E*)-*N*-benzyl-3-pentenamide with benzaldehyde in PPE (35 °C, 24 h) gave exclusively the *N*-benzyl derivative (52%) of the indano-fused γ -lactam previously obtained from a condensation in PPA.¹⁷ A medium of PPA or MeSO₃H-P₂O₅ generally favors the formation of the γ -lactam, presumably via *N*-acyliminium cations. However, where this mode would proceed via a primary carbocation, the alternative ring closure operates to give a δ -lactam, e.g. 1a. Thus, the size of the lactam ring can be controlled exclusively by selection of the acidic medium. In no case studied here was a mixture of γ - and δ -lactams isolated.

In summary, efficient, highly stereocontrolled one-pot syntheses of substituted unsaturated δ -lactams by the condensation of 3-alkenamides with aldehydes in media of phosphoric acids or esters, principally PPE, have been demonstrated. Condensations proceed under mild conditions and can be effected in multigram quantities; activating or stabilizing groups are not required. The reaction medium can critically determine whether a γ -lactam¹⁷ or a δ -lactam is formed. Pathways and synthetic applications are under investigation.

Acknowledgment. We thank the Science and Engineering Research Council and SmithKline Beecham for a CASE award (to U.G.).

Registry No. 1a, 142422-26-2; 1b, 142422-27-3; 1c, 142422-28-4; 1d, 142422-29-5; 1e, 142422-30-8; 1f, 142422-31-9; 1g, 142422-32-0; 8a, 142422-33-1; PhCHO, 100-52-7; *p*-MeOC₆H₄CHO, 123-11-5; *p*-O₂NC₆H₄CHO, 555-16-8; H₂C=CHCH₂CONH₂, 28446-58-4; H₂C=CHCH₂CONHCH₂Ph, 85390-58-5; (*E*)-H₃CCH=CHCH₂CONH₂, 133099-99-7; (*E*)-H₃CCH=CHCH₂CONHMe, 142422-34-2; (*E*)-H₃CCH₂CH=CHCH₂CONH₂, 133128-00-4; (*E*)-H₃CCH=C(CH₃)CH₂CONH₂, 142422-35-3.

Supplementary Material Available: Procedures and characterization data for 1a-g and 8a (14 pages). This material is contained in many libraries on microfiche, immediately follows this article in the microfilm version of the journal, and can be ordered from the ACS; see any current masthead page for ordering information.

Synthesis of 1,4-Diketones by Palladium-Catalyzed Reductive Coupling of Acid Chlorides with (*E*)-1,2-Bis(tri-*n*-butylstannyl)ethene or β -Stannyl Enones

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Received June 1, 1992

Summary: The palladium-catalyzed coupling of acid chlorides with (*E*)-1,2-bis(tri-*n*-butylstannyl)ethene or

β -stannyl enones gives butane-1,4-diones directly by reduction of the intermediate enediacarbonyl derivative by