Concise and Stereoselective Synthesis of Enamides and Dienamides by a Titanium-Mediated Coupling Method

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Received October 31, 2002

ABSTRACT



Ynamide-titanium alkoxide complexes underwent hydrolysis or addition to aldehydes and ketones to give single, stereodefined di- or trisubstituted enamides in good yields. Alternatively, coupling of a variety of alkyne-titanium alkoxide complexes with terminal ynamides generated amino-substituted titanacyclopentadienes, hydrolysis or aldehyde addition of which afforded stereodefined dienamides.

There are many dependable methods for the stereoselective preparation of enol derivatives such as enol silyl ethers, acetates, and ethers with various substitution patterns (Figure 1, \mathbf{A}),¹ which serve for the efficient construction of complex



molecular architecture typically via aldol reaction, Diels– Alder reaction, transition metal-catalyzed coupling reaction, and so on.¹ However, stereoselective access to their nitrogen analogues, that is, substituted enamine derivatives (Figure 1, **B**), has so far been much less explored,² even though they are versatile starting materials similar to the aforementioned enol derivatives. Herein we report a convenient method for preparing enamides and dienamides, a useful and easy-to-handle class of enamine derivatives, via titanium(II)-mediated regio- and stereoselective coupling of ynamides with carbonyl compounds or other acetylenes.

ORGANIC LETTERS

2003 Vol. 5, No. 1

67-70

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(Sulfonylamino)acetylene 1 (Bn = benzyl), readily prepared by a literature method,³ was treated with an economical titanium(II) alkoxide reagent, Ti(O-*i*-Pr)₄/2 *i*-PrMgCl (2),⁴ to generate ynamide–titanium complex 3, the formation of which was confirmed by hydrolysis and deuteriolysis to give the corresponding (*Z*)-enamides 4 and 4- d_2 with high deuterium content (Scheme 1). Actually, to the best of our



knowledge, this is the first example of the generation of an (amino-substituted acetylene)-group 4 metal complex,^{5,6} and the fact that it hydrolyzes itself enables the facile preparation of (*Z*)-enamide **4** with excellent isomeric purity.⁷ However, a more important observation is that the coupling of **3** with

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Table 1.	Preparation of	Various	Trisubstituted	Enamides
According	to Scheme 1			

NBn(⁻	Is) Bn(T _2 →	s)N Ti(O- <i>i</i> -Pr)₂					
$\begin{array}{ccc} R^1 = {\rm SiMe}_3 & (1) & R^1 = {\rm SiMe}_3 & (3) \\ C_6 H_{13} & (8) & C_6 H_{13} & (9) \end{array}$							
		R ² CHO	H ⁺ (D ⁺) ►	Bn(Ts)N	H(D) OH		
entry	R ¹ of 1/8	R ² CHO	workup	yield (%) ^a	D (%)		
1 2	SiMe ₃ C ₆ H ₁₃	PhCHO	H ⁺ (D ⁺)	quant 93	99 97		
3 4	SiMe ₃ C ₆ H ₁₃	C ₈ H ₁₇ CHO	$H^+(D^+)$	91 quant	99 99		
5 6	SiMe ₃ C ₆ H ₁₃	i-PrCHO	H^+	94 71			
7 8	SiMe ₃ C ₆ H ₁₃	H ₁₁ C ₅ CHO	H+	87 54			
^a Isolated yield. Isomeric products were not formed.							

a carbonyl compound proceeded in a highly regio- and stereoselective manner to give a single, stereodefined trisubstituted enamide 6,^{8,9} the structure of which was unambiguously established by NOE experiments of ¹H NMR spectroscopy.¹⁰ In addition, deuteriolysis confirmed the presence of the most likely intermediate, oxatitanacycle **5**, which may enable further synthetic transformations based on the remaining carbon-titanium bond.^{4,11}

Other results are summarized in Table 1. Acetylenetitanium complex 9 was successfully generated from nonsilylated ynamide 8 as well (even entries). Both silylated and nonsilylated ynamide-titanium complexes 3 and 9, respectively, always reacted with a variety of aldehydes at

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the β -position to the amino group to give virtually single trisubstituted enamides **7**, which are otherwise difficult to obtain.⁸ Acetylene complex **9** was found to react with a ketone in the same way but at a higher reaction temperature to give **10** as shown in eq 1.



Stereoselective construction of aminodienes is a critical step in the preparation of nitrogen-functionalized cyclic systems via a concerted process such as the Diels–Alder reaction.¹² Known acetylene–titanium complex **11** generated from 5-decyne and **2**^{4,13} was found to undergo regio- and stereoselective coupling reaction with terminal ynamide **12** at -50 °C to give single dienamide **14** after hydrolytic workup (Scheme 2).^{14,15} Its structure was verified by the



coupling constants and NOE study of ¹H NMR spectroscopy.¹⁰ In place of the simple hydrolysis, deuteriolysis gave bis-deuterated dienamide **14**- d_2 , confirming the presence of titanacyclopentadiene **13** as the intermediate.

Table 2 shows the generality of this reaction. With **15** as the first acetylene, dialkylacetylene (entries 1 and 2),

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(15) For our previous effort to make nonfunctionalized or electrondeficient dienes, see: Hamada, T.; Suzuki, D.; Urabe, H.; Sato, F. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1999**, *121*, 7342–7344.







^{*a*} Unless otherwise stated, isomeric products were not observed. The stereochemistry was unambiguously determined in several representative entries (see ref 10). ^{*b*} Isolated yield.

diphenylacetylene (entries 3 and 4), silylacetylene (entry 5), and acetylenic esters (entries 6–9) and amides (entries 10–

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13) participated in the coupling reaction. On the other hand, both (sulfonylamino)- and (benzoylamino)acetylenes **12** and

16³ (Bz = benzoyl) could be used as the second acetylene to give a variety of dienamides 17 in good to excellent yields. Although alkyl- and phenylpropiolates in entries 6 and 7 unfortunately yielded a mixture of regioisomeric dienes, other reactions afforded the products as a single regio- as well as stereoisomer. In addition, the utility of intermediate titanacycles 13 and 18 was exemplified by further side-chain extension through the regio- and stereoselective aldehyde addition to furnish 19 and 20 or by iodinolysis of 13 to give diiodide 21 (Scheme 3).¹⁰

In conclusion, substituted enamide derivatives were conveniently prepared by the titanium(II)-mediated coupling reactions of ynamides, where excellent regio- and stereoselectivities were newly disclosed. Further synthetic application of the products obtained herein is now in progress.

Acknowledgment. We thank the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science for financial support.

Supporting Information Available: Experimental procedures and physical properties of products. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

OL027209X