

Highly Stereoselective Synthesis of Novel α -Haloenamides via a Mild and Efficient Hydrohalogenation of Ynamides

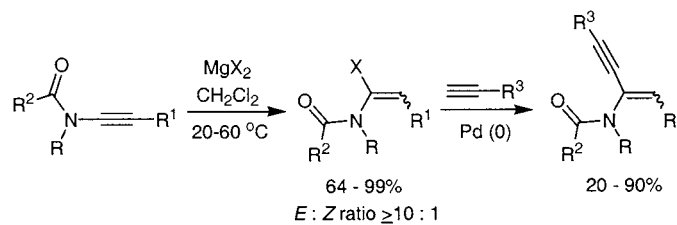
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ABSTRACT



A highly stereoselective preparation of novel chiral (*E*)- α -haloenamides under mild conditions utilizing magnesium halide salts is described. This unexpected mild and efficient hydrohalogenation reaction highlights another synthetic utility of ynamides.

The evidence for a renewed interest in ynamide chemistry has been compelling in recent years.^{1–14} Ynamides have become proven equivalents of classical ynamines¹⁰ because

they possess the right balance between reactivity and stability, allowing them to be handled easily and utilized in a diverse array of highly stereoselective inter- and intramolecular reactions;^{3–7} this versatility would be nearly impossible to

[†] Recipient of a 2001 Camille Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award.

[‡] Recipient of a 2002 Pfizer Undergraduate Summer Fellowship.

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achieve using traditional ynamines. In our own studies, we have explored tandem en-ynamide RCM, stereoselective Ficin–Claisen rearrangements, and other pericyclic cycloadditions.¹¹ We have also recently reported an improved ynamide synthesis involving a copper-catalyzed coupling of amides and alkynyl bromides¹² that should improve the accessibility of ynamides,^{13,14} thereby allowing greater synthetic utility. With these accomplishments in hand, we further explored new cycloaddition reactions of ynamides. Instead we unexpectedly discovered a mild, facile, and highly stereoselective preparation of (*E*)- α -haloenamides (Figure 1).

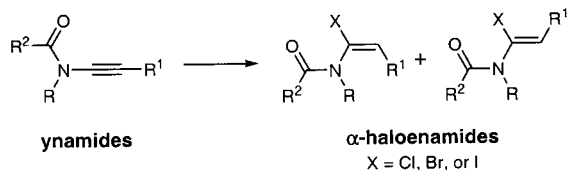


Figure 1.

α -Haloenamides are a synthetically versatile variant of enamides.^{15–17} α -Haloenamides offer rapid access to α -metalated enamides that can serve as α -acyl anion equivalents¹⁸ or be involved transition metal mediated reactions.^{6a,c} Despite this versatility, there are a very few practical preparations of α -haloenamides, thereby severely limiting their synthetic utility. One of the more useful existing protocols involves direct addition of hydrogen halide (HX) across the alkyne.¹⁹ However, this method often results in poor regio- and stereochemical control, and separation of the resulting isomeric products is often nontrivial. Hydrohalogenation is also a common method for preparation of other α -halo-heteroatom-substituted alkenes,^{20,21} albeit with few known chiral examples.^{20a,d} One recent improvement to this protocol is Jin's highly selective and elegant synthesis of α -halo vinyl ethers^{20a–c} and sulfides^{20d} using HX generated in situ from

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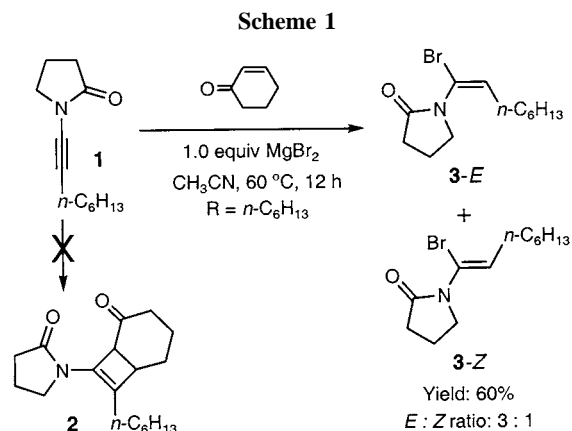
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TMSX and methanol. We report here a highly stereoselective preparation of chiral α -haloenamides via a mild and unexpected hydrohalogenation of ynamides.

In an attempt to utilize Lewis acids to facilitate the [2 + 2] cycloaddition^{22,23} of ynamide **1** with cyclohexenone (shown in Scheme 1) MgBr₂ (1.0 equiv) was added to the



reaction mixture. The reaction did not yield any of the desired cycloadducts **2** but instead provided the α -haloenamides **3**²⁴ in 60% yield with a modest *E/Z* ratio of 3:1²⁵ via an unexpected hydrohalogenation of ynamide **1**. The regioselectivity was very high with no (*E*)- or (*Z*)- β -haloenamide found.

We investigated the reaction variables of our α -haloenamide synthesis as summarized in Table 1. The hydrohalogenation reaction can be carried out in a variety of solvents as seen utilizing ynamide **1** (entries 1–4), with only the use of methanol giving undesired products (entry 1). With CH₃CN and THF, reactions gave reasonable yields of α -halo-

Table 1.

entry	metal halide	pdt	solvent	temp (°C)	time (h)	isolated yield (%)	E:Z ^a
1	MgBr ₂	3	MeOH	65	48	0	na
2	MgBr ₂	3	CH ₃ CN	65	8	72	87:13
3	MgBr ₂	3	THF	65	48	70	89:11
4	MgBr ₂	3	(CH ₂ Cl) ₂	25	24	85	≥96:4
5	MgCl ₂	4	CH ₃ CN	65	24	71	95:5
6	MgCl ₂	4	(CH ₂ Cl) ₂	100	24	75	95:5
7	MgI ₂	5	CH ₃ CN	65	24	80	40:60
8	MgI ₂	5	(CH ₂ Cl) ₂	25	3	90	≥96:4
9	CuI	5	CH ₃ CN	25	24	0	na
10	ZnCl ₂	5	CH ₃ CN	25	24	0	na
11	NaBr	3	CH ₃ CN	65	24	0	na

^a Ratio determined by ¹H and/or ¹³C NMR.

enamide **3** but required reaction temperatures of 60 °C or higher to drive the reaction to completion (entries 2 and 3).

We found CH₂Cl₂ to be an ideal solvent for this reaction (entry 4), allowing the reaction to progress at ambient temperature leading to the (*E*)-haloenamide **3** in high yield with high diastereoselectivity. The use of MgCl₂·6H₂O (entries 5 and 6) required elevated reaction temperatures ≥ 65 °C in a sealed vial to drive the reaction, and thus 1,2-dichloroethane was the preferred solvent (entry 6). Poor solubility of MgCl₂·6H₂O may be inhibitive to the reaction in this instance. CH₂Cl₂ was also found to be the solvent of choice for use with MgI₂, especially with respect to stereoselectivity (entry 7 versus 8). In contrast to the reasonable yields obtained using CH₃CN in entries 2, 5, and 7, attempts to use additives other than magnesium halides in CH₃CN failed even at extended reaction times. The use of CuI (entry 9) led to undesired products, ZnCl₂ (entry 10) led exclusively to ynamide hydrolyses, and NaBr (entry 11) yielded no reaction.

Equipped with optimized reaction conditions, we probed the scope of this hydrohalogenation reaction using a variety of different ynamides (Table 2). Ynamides of the Evans'

all successfully converted to the respective α-haloenamides **15–21** and **24–27** in high yield with high levels of regio- and stereochemical control. This methodology is applicable also to acyclic ynamides, such as chiral acyclic ynamide **13** and urea-based ynamide **14**, which form α-haloenamides **28** and **29**, respectively, with excellent selectivity. The modest yield for the urea-based ynamide **14** is due to slow conversion rates with this type of system. Stereochemistry of the (*E*)-α-haloenamide was unambiguously assigned from the X-ray crystal structure of the major isomer of α-haloenamide **26**, thereby suggesting a *syn*-addition of HX.^{20a}

It is noteworthy that to compare Jin's preparation of (*E*)-α-halo vinyl ethers we treated ynamide **10** with 1.0 equiv each of trimethylsilyl bromide (TMSBr) and MeOH at –40 °C (entry 8), producing a single isomer of **21** in 62% yield in favor of the (*E*)-isomer along with 10% hydrolyses of **10**. An effort to extend this methodology to form other useful α-substituted enamides using TMSOTf and TMSCN failed even at elevated temperatures (see entries 9 and 10).

The proposed source of HX in this unexpected hydrohalogenation of ynamides is in situ generation of HX from the magnesium salt MgX₂ and trace H₂O in the reaction. The source of the serendipitous water could be the magnesium salt and/or the reaction solvent. To support this proposition, hydrobromination of ynamide **11** was carried out again under the standard conditions (freshly opened CH₂Cl₂ with water concentration 0.01% v/v) along with a second reaction conducted under more vigorously anhydrous conditions: (a) dichloromethane freshly distilled from CaH₂, and (b) anhydrous MgBr₂ freshly prepared from magnesium metal and 1,2-dibromoethane. The conversion rate for the two reactions was monitored by LCMS. After 4.5 h, the conversion to product for the standard "wet" reaction was 37% and only 11% for the anhydrous version. After 19 h, the conversions were 71% and 28%, respectively. This rate difference suggests that the anhydrous system inhibited the formation of HBr in situ.

Table 2.

entry	ynamide ^a	R =	R ₁ =	product	pro-acid	yield ^b	<i>E</i> : <i>Z</i>
1		<i>R</i> -Ph	Ph		15 MgI ₂	84	≥96:4
2		<i>R</i> -CH ₂ Ph	Ph		16 MgI ₂	86	≥96:4
3		<i>S</i> - <i>i</i> Pr	<i>n</i> -C ₅ H ₁₁		17 MgI ₂	64	≥96:4
4		<i>R</i> -CHPh ₂	<i>n</i> -C ₄ H ₉		18 MgBr ₂	84	≥96:4
5		<i>R</i> -CHPh ₂	<i>n</i> -C ₄ H ₉		19 MgI ₂	82	≥96:4
6			<i>n</i> -C ₅ H ₁₁		20 MgI ₂	90	91:9
7			<i>n</i> -C ₅ H ₁₁		21 MgBr ₂	96	≥96:4
8			<i>n</i> -C ₅ H ₁₁		21 TMSBr	62	≥96:4
9			Ph		22 TMSOTf	0	N/A
10			Ph		23 TMSCN	0	N/A
11			Ph		24 MgBr ₂	74	≥96:4
12			Ph		25 MgI ₂	71	≥96:4
13			<i>i</i> Pr		26 MgBr ₂	77	94:6
14			<i>i</i> Pr		27 MgI ₂	99	≥96:4
15					28 MgI ₂	85	≥96:4
16					29 MgI ₂	37	≥96:4

^a Reaction conditions: ynamide (0.03 M) and 1 equiv of MgX₂ in wet CH₂Cl₂, 3–18 h, rt. ^b Isolated yield. ^c Ratio determined by ¹H and/or ¹³C NMR.

auxiliary²⁶ **6–8** (entries 1–3), Sibi auxiliary²⁷ **9** (entries 4 and 5), and indanol-type **10–12** (entries 6, 7, 11–14) were

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(24) All new compounds are characterized by ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, FTIR, mass spectroscopy, and [α]_D²⁵.

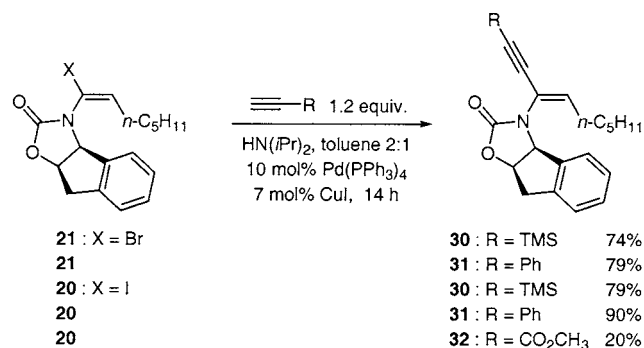
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There are many potential applications for α -haloenamides in organic synthesis. They should provide efficient entry into α -stannyl enamides such as those used by Hegedus^{18,28} and Cintrat.^{6,29} Our methodology offers the additional benefit of being able to form α -stannyl enamides that possess diverse functionality at the β -carbon as well. In addition, α -haloenamides are excellent candidates for use in transition metal mediated reactions such as Sonagashira coupling.³⁰

Scheme 2



As shown in Scheme 2, both α -bromo- and α -iodoenamides **21** and **20** underwent efficient coupling with trimethylsilylacetylene and phenylacetylene to yield enynes **30** and **31** in 74% to 90% yield, respectively. Even electron-poor

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propiolate will couple with α -iodoenamide **20**, albeit in lower yield. The reaction must be stopped at 50% conversion to actually minimize an ensuing cycloaddition of enyne **32** with propiolate. The enyne products **30–32** have a variety of uses in organic chemistry, including being prime candidates for cross-benzannulation³¹ or Diels–Alder reactions,³² with the chiral auxiliary of the enamide potentially providing asymmetric induction.³³

We have described a highly stereoselective synthesis of (*E*)- α -haloenamides using magnesium salts in wet solvents at ambient or moderate temperature. In conjunction with our one-step ynamide synthesis using Cu(I) salts, this reaction provides a facile entry to α -haloenamides, which are versatile synthons shown to undergo subsequent Sonogashira couplings en route to chiral amide-substituted enynes. This unexpected hydrohalogenation reaction highlights another synthetic utility of ynamides. Further applications of α -haloenamides are currently under investigation.

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Supporting Information Available: Experimental procedures and characterization data of new compounds. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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