

Synthesis of Enamides Related to the Salicylate Antitumor Macrolides Using Copper-Mediated Vinylic Substitution

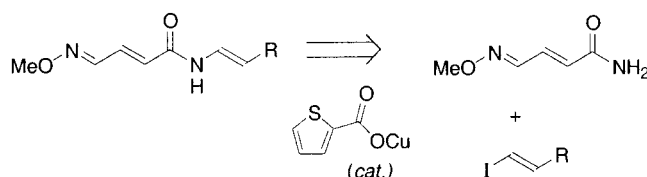
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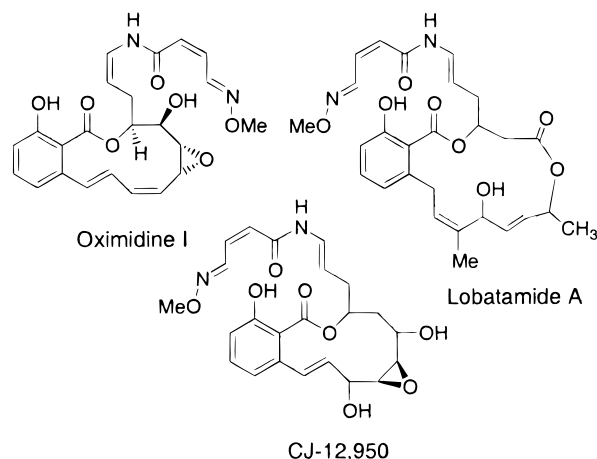
ABSTRACT



A new approach to the assembly of enamides is described using copper(I) carboxylate-catalyzed substitution of vinyl iodides and amides. Modified reaction conditions have been developed to synthesize the *O*-methyloxime enamide side chains related to the natural products lobatamides A–F, oximidine I and II, and CJ-12 950.

The salicylate enamide macrolides represent a novel class of antitumor natural products with a potentially novel and thus far undetermined mechanism of action. Members of the class include lobatamides A–F,¹ oximidines I and II,² salicylihalamide B,³ CJ-12,950 and CJ-13,357,⁴ and apicularens A and B.^{5,6} As part of a program to synthesize the *O*-methyloxime enamide containing compounds lobatamides and oximidines, we required a general method to synthesize

enamides suitable for late-stage introduction.⁷ In this Letter, we disclose our initial studies related to the development of copper-catalyzed vinylic substitution of alkenyl iodides and amides which results in the assembly of stereochemically well-defined enamides.



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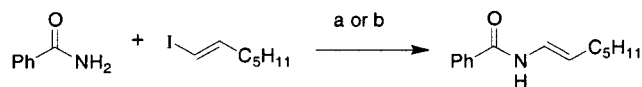
Enamides have been previously synthesized using a number of methods, including the Curtius rearrangement of

α,β unsaturated acyl azides,^{7,8} palladium(II)-catalyzed amidation of alkenes,⁹ direct addition of amides to alkynes,¹⁰ acylation of imines,¹¹ acid-catalyzed condensation of aldehydes and amides,¹² amide Peterson olefination,¹³ and Horner–Wittig and Wadsworth–Emmons reactions.¹⁴ However, most of these methods are either unable to control *E*–*Z* olefin stereoselectivity or often suffer from low yields, and thus may not be suitable for use at a late stage in a synthesis.

In considering potential methods for the formation of enamides, we have focused our initial efforts on transition metal-catalyzed vinylic substitution reactions of vinyl iodides and amides. Ogawa et al. have reported the copper iodide-promoted substitution of vinyl bromides and potassium amides (1 equiv of CuI, HMPA, 130 °C) to afford enamides in low to moderate (38–45%) yields.¹⁵ On the basis of this precedent, and reports of related copper-catalyzed substitution reactions,¹⁶ our initial goal was to develop a copper-catalyzed method that would occur at milder temperatures and be suitable for the installation of potentially labile enamides.

Initial screening of catalyst systems compared phosphine copper(I)¹⁷ and copper(I) carboxylate catalysts using cesium carbonate (Cs₂CO₃) as base (Scheme 1).¹⁶ Enhanced conver-

Scheme 1. Comparison of Copper Catalysts^a

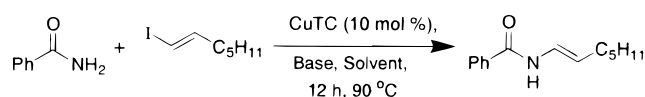


^a (a) CuI (0.10 equiv), Cs₂CO₃ (1.2 equiv), PPh₃ (0.20 equiv.), NMP, 90 °C, 12 h, 31 % (¹H NMR) (b) CuTC (0.10 equiv), Cs₂CO₃ (1.2 equiv), NMP 90 °C, 12 h, 59 % (¹H NMR).

sions were obtained using Liebeskind's copper(I) thiophenecarboxylate (CuTC)¹⁸ which led us to pursue further reaction

optimization using this catalyst. Using benzamide and (*E*)-1-iodoheptene as model substrates, we performed parallel syntheses on the Quest 210 Organic Synthesizer (Argonaut Technologies)¹⁹ as shown in Table 1. These studies estab-

Table 1. Parallel Evaluation of Bases and Solvents



entry	solvent	base	% conv. ^a
1	NMP	Cs ₂ CO ₃	72
2	toluene	Cs ₂ CO ₃	0
3	DMSO	Cs ₂ CO ₃	66
4	dioxane	Cs ₂ CO ₃	0
5	NMP	K ₂ CO ₃	32
6	toluene	K ₂ CO ₃	0
7	DMSO	K ₂ CO ₃	67
8	dioxane	K ₂ CO ₃	0
9	NMP	Cs ₂ CO ₃	13 ^b

^a Determined by ¹H NMR

^b Reaction was conducted at 25 °C

lished the requirement for polar aprotic solvents in the reaction (NMP or DMSO) and a slight enhancement when using Cs₂CO₃ vs K₂CO₃ as base. Further improvement to >95% conversion was found using 30 mol % of CuTC and rigorous vacuum purge degassing of the reaction mixture prior to heating (90 °C, 12 h). Using these conditions, a number of enamides were synthesized as shown in Table 2.²⁰ Both styrenyl and alkenyl iodides are workable in the reaction and generally afford isolated yields of enamides in

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(20) **Typical experimental procedure** (Table 2, entry 2): Sorbamide (83 mg, 0.75 mmol), CuTC (28.6 mg 0.15 mmol), and Cs₂CO₃ (245 mg, 0.75 mmol) were placed in an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk flask equipped with a stir bar. Anhydrous NMP (2 mL) was added using a dry syringe. The suspension was degassed with high vacuum until gas evolution ceased. (*E*)-1-Iodoheptene (112 mg, 0.5 mmol, 79 μ L) was added using a microliter syringe. The mixture was degassed again using high vacuum until no further gas evolution was observed. The suspension was stirred at 90 °C for 12 h under argon. The red slurry was cooled to room temperature and diluted with ether, and the ether extracts were washed with pH 7 buffer. The aqueous layer was extracted 2x further with ether. The organic layers were combined, dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate, and concentrated. The pure enamide **3b** was obtained as a white solid (71 mg, 69% yield) after flash chromatography on silica gel (hexane:ethyl acetate = 4:1, 1% Et₃N): mp 116–117 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.23 (1H, dd, *J* = 14.8, 10 Hz), 7.16 (1H, d, *J* = 9.6 Hz), 6.82 (1H, dd, *J* = 14, 10.8 Hz), 6.12 (2H, m), 5.71 (1H, d, *J* = 14.8 Hz), 5.16 (1H, dt, *J* = 14, 7.2 Hz), 1.82 (3H, d, *J* = 5.6 Hz), 1.30 (6H, m), 2.01 (2H, m), 0.86 (3H, t, *J* = 6 Hz) ppm; ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 67.5 MHz) δ 163.1, 142.4, 138.6, 129.7, 122.6, 120.7, 113.6, 31.3, 29.7, 29.5, 22.5, 18.6, 14.0 ppm; HRMS (EI) calcd 207.1623, found 207.1588; IR (neat) 3247, 2921, 1654, 1629, 1534, 1350 cm⁻¹.

Table 2. Copper-Catalyzed Enamide Formation

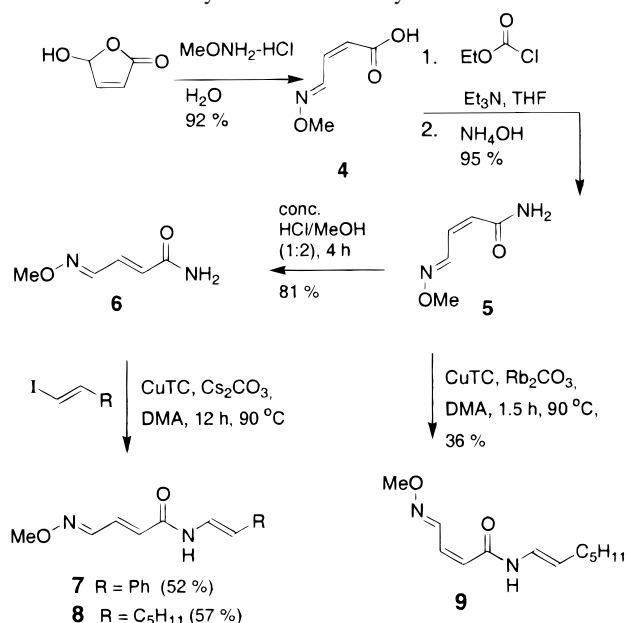
entry	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	yield (%) ^a
1	Ph	H	C ₅ H ₁₁	71 (3a)
2	Me-CH=CH-CH=CH-CH ₃	H	C ₅ H ₁₁	69 (3b)
3	H	Me	C ₅ H ₁₁	75 (3c)
4	Ph	H	Ph	57 (3d)
5	Me-CH=CH-CH=CH-CH ₃	H	Ph	58 (3e)
6	H	Me	Ph	70 (3f)

^a All yields are based on pure materials isolated by silica gel chromatography (hexanes/ethyl acetate using 1 % Et₃N)

^b 3:1 mixture of rotamers by ¹H NMR (400 MHz) ^c 1.3:1 mixture of rotamers by ¹H NMR (400 MHz)

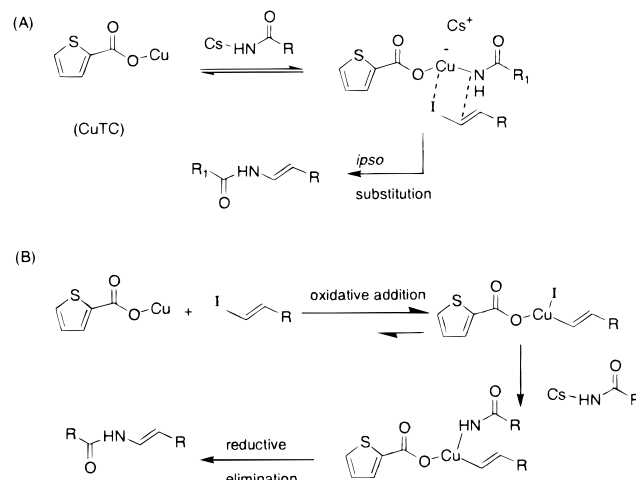
the 57–75% range. Entries 2 and 5 demonstrate the use of 2,4-hexadienamide²¹ as a coupling partner to afford conjugated enamides. Entries 3 and 6 represent efficient syntheses of the *N*-alkenyl-*N*-methylformamide functionality present in the cytotoxic marine macrolides ulapualides and mycalolides.^{14b,22}

To prepare enamides related to the salicylate antitumor macrolides, we required (*E*)- and (*Z*)-*O*-methyloxime amides which were prepared as shown in Scheme 2. Treatment of malealdehydic acid with aqueous *O*-methylhydroxylamine hydrochloride led to the formation of (*Z*)-*O*-methyloxime

Scheme 2. Synthesis of *O*-Methyloxime Enamides

acid **4** (92%).²³ The (*Z*)-*O*-methyloxime amide **5** was prepared in 88% yield by formation of the mixed anhydride of **1** and subsequent reaction with aqueous ammonia. Use of the acid chloride of **4** in this transformation led to the formation of the isomerized (*E*)-*O*-methyloxime amide **6** in low yield. (*Z*)-Amide **5** could be fully isomerized to **6** in 81% yield using concentrated HCl/MeOH (1:2). Treatment of **6** (1.5 equiv) with (*E*)-1-iodoheptene or (*E*)-1-iodostyrene (1.0 equiv) under the previously described conditions (30 mol % of CuTC, 1.5 equiv of Cs₂CO₃, DMA, 90 °C, 12 h) led to the formation of model enamide compounds **7** and **8** (Scheme 2) in isolated yields of 52 and 57%, respectively. However, use of amide **5** under the same conditions led to consumption of vinyl iodide (as determined by ¹H NMR) but did not afford an enamide product. In an effort to improve reactions employing (*Z*)-amide **5**, it was found that use of Rb₂CO₃ as base²⁴ led to the formation of the desired enamide **9** (36%). It was determined by control experiments that (*Z*)-*O*-methyloxime enamide **9** was decomposed by Cs₂CO₃ at high temperature.²⁵

Although a detailed mechanistic investigation of the copper carboxylate-mediated vinylic substitution awaits further experimentation, tentative proposals are outlined in Figure 1. In the first scenario (A), a cesium carboxamide may react

**Figure 1.** Mechanistic scenarios for copper-catalyzed enamide formation.

with CuTC to afford a cuprate-like intermediate which forms the enamide after four-centered *ipso*-substitution of the vinyl iodide. A related mechanism was recently proposed by Buchwald and co-workers to explain the role of cesium in

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(25) Further studies are in progress to determine the mode of decomposition of enamide **9** under basic conditions.

copper-catalyzed substitution of aryl halides with phenols.^{16a} It is also conceivable that electron-transfer mechanisms are involved in the substitution process.²⁶ In a second scenario (B), oxidative addition of the vinyl iodide to CuTC occurs which, as proposed by Liebeskind and co-workers, may be favored by use of the carboxylate ligand.¹⁸ Displacement of a copper iodide intermediate by the cesium carboxamide would be followed by reductive elimination to afford the enamide product.

In summary, enamides related to the side chains of the salicylate antitumor natural products have been synthesized using copper(I) carboxylate-catalyzed substitution of vinyl iodides and amides. Extension of these methods to other

substrates and application of transition-metal catalyzed vinylic substitution reactions to the synthesis of the lobatamides, oximidines, and unnatural analogues is in progress and will be reported in due course.

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Supporting Information Available: Experimental procedures and characterization for compounds **3a–f** and **5–9**. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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