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# Zn(II)- or Ag(I)-Catalyzed 1,4-Metathesis Reactions between 3-En-1vnamides and Nitrosoarenes

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Supporting Information

ABSTRACT: Catalyst-dependent metathesis reactions between 3-en-1-ynamides and nitrosoarenes are described. Particularly notable are the unprecedented 1,4-metathesis reactions catalyzed by Ag(I) or Zn(II) to give 2propynimidamides and benzaldehyde derivatives. With 3en-1-ynamides bearing a cycloalkenyl group, 1,4-oxoimination products were produced efficiently. We have developed metathesis/alkynation cascades for unsubstituted 2-propynimidamides and benzaldehyde species generated in situ, to manifest 1,4-hydroxyimination reactions of 3-en-1-ynes. Both 1,4-oxoiminations and 1,4hydroxyiminations increase the molecular complexity of products.

Metal-catalyzed metathesis reactions represent the prac-tical value of catalytic reactions in the fields of materials science and pharmaceuticals. 1 Metathesis reactions between alkynes and double-bond species X=Y (C=C, C=O, and C=N) are powerful tools to access various diene, enone, and enimine<sup>3</sup> compounds via a 1,2-metathesis route (eq 1). We

(1) 1,2-alkyne metathesis with X=Y 
$$R = R \xrightarrow{M} R \xrightarrow{R} R$$
 (1)

$$Z \xrightarrow{R'} R'' \xrightarrow{Ag(I) \text{ or } Zn(II)} Z \xrightarrow{R'} R' \xrightarrow{R' + H} R' \xrightarrow{R' \cap HO} R'' \xrightarrow{R' \cap HO} R''$$

M: metal complexes; X=Y: C=C, C=N, C=O and RN=O; Z = NR(EWG)

disclosed that nitrosoarenes could act as nucleophiles to react with Au(I)- $\pi$ -alkynes to furnish the first nitroso/alkyne metathesis reactions (eq 1).4 Although 1,3-dienes and 3-en-1ynes are readily available for unsaturated four-carbon motifs, their metal-catalyzed reactions with alkenes, carbonyl, imines, or alkynes occur exclusively with [4+2]-cycloadditions (eqs 2 and 3).5,6 Lewis acid-catalyzed [4+2]-cycloadditions of 1,3dienes with nitrosoarenes<sup>7</sup> are accessible to N- and Ocontaining functionalized molecules after cleavage of a N-O bond (eq 2). Our initial task is to achieve new metal-catalyzed

[4+2]-cycloadditions between nitrosoarenes and 3-en-1-ynes. Initial use of Au(I) catalysts affords 1,2-metathesis products,<sup>4</sup> as depicted in eq 1, but a switch to Zn(II) and Ag(I) catalysts surprisingly implements 1,4-enyne/nitroso metathesis reactions to afford aldehydes and 2-propynimidamides efficiently (eq 4). Herein, a bond order of 2 is increased or decreased between the two neighboring (or interacting) atoms of reactants, thus conforming a metathesis model. Similar 1,4-metathesis reactions were noted between singlet oxygen and a few 3-en-1-ynes, but prolonged photolysis was required to achieve good yields of products (16-64 h).8 For the resulting unsubstituted 2-propynimidamides (R' = H) and aldehydes, we also accomplish their subsequent alkynations in a one-pot operation to afford alkynol derivatives efficiently, highlighting new hydroxyiminations of 3-en-1-vnes.

We first tested the reactions of 3-en-1-ynamide 1a with nitrosobenzene (2a) using IPrAuNTf<sub>2</sub> (5 mol%, IPr = 1,3bis(diisopropylphenyl)imidazol-2-ylidene) and LAuNTf<sub>2</sub> (5 mol%, L =  $P(tBu)_2(o-biphenyl)$  in dichloroethane (DCE, 28) °C), from which we isolated a 1,2-metathesis product (5a) in good yields (81-90%) together with a 2-propynimidamide (3a) and benzaldehyde (4a) in 3-5% yields (Table 1). Astonishingly, silver salts (5 mol%) like AgNTf<sub>2</sub>, AgOAc, and AgOTs gave 1,4-metathesis products 3a and 4a in high yields (88-95%, entries 3-5) in DCE (28 °C), with AgOAc being the most effective. Cheap zinc catalysts Zn(OTf)2 and ZnCl2 were also active catalysts for such a 1,4-enyne/nitroso metathesis in DCE at 60 °C (2-3 h) to give 3a and 4a in 90-98% yields. For AgOAc, the reactions were compatible with various solvents, including dichloromethane (DCM), MeCN, and THF, giving 3a and 4a in 85-92% yields. No reactions occurred in the absence of a metal catalyst, even though the starting mixture was heated in DCE (60 °C) for 10 h; UV irradiation of the same reagents alone in DCE (0 °C, 10 h) gave complicated mixtures of products.

We examined the reactions of various 3-en-1-ynamides 1 and nitrosoarenes 2 to assess the scope of applicable substrates. The 1,4-metathesis reactions were performed with  $Zn(OTf)_2$  (5 mol %) in DCE (60 °C, 2 h). For 3-en-1-ynamides 1b-1d bearing different sulfonamides (NR(EWG) = NMeTs, NPhTs, and N(nBu)Ts), their resulting products 3b-3d and benzaldehyde 4a were obtained with yields exceeding 91% (Table 2, entries 1-3). We tested the reactions on other 3-en-1-ynamides 1e-**1h** bearing a varied  $R^1$  substituent ( $R^1 = 4$ -bromo- and 4methoxyphenyl, 2-furanyl, and cyclohexenyl), affording the

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Table 1. 1,2- versus 1,4-Metathesis Reactions

			${\rm conditions}^b$		products (%) <sup>c</sup>		%) <sup>c</sup>
entry	catalyst <sup>a</sup>	solvent	T (°C)	t (h)	3a	4a	5a
1	IPrAuCI/AgNTf <sub>2</sub>	DCE	28	15	5	5	81
2	LAuCI/AgNTf <sub>2</sub>	DCE	28	0.5	3	3	90
3	$AgNTf_2$	DCE	28	20	88	88	_
4	AgOAc	DCE	28	5	95	95	_
5	AgOTs	DCE	28	8	92	92	_
6	$Zn(OTf)_2$	DCE	60	2	98	98	_
7	$ZnCI_2$	DCE	60	3	90	90	_
8	AgOAc	DCM	28	2	92	92	_
9	AgOAc	MeCN	28	3.5	88	88	_
10	AgOAc	THF	28	3.5	85	85	_
11	_	DCE	60	10	10	_	-

"IPr = l,3-bis(diisopropylphenyl)imidazol-2-ylidene), L =  $P(tBu)_2(o-biphenyl)$ .  $^b[1a] = 0.14$  M. "Product yields are reported after purification from a silica column.

desired 2-propynimidamide **3a** and aldehydes **4e-4h** in 83–97% yields (entries 5–7). These Zn(II)-catalyzed reactions were extensible to enyne substrates **1i-1k** bearing an alkyl or phenyl substituent (R<sup>2</sup> = methyl, isopropyl, and phenyl), giving 2-propynimidamides **3i-3k** and benzaldehyde **4a** in 87–94% yields (entries 8–10). This synthetic method was applicable to additional nitrosoarenes **2b,2c** (X = NO<sub>2</sub>, isopropyl), giving desired **3l,3m** and benzaldehyde **4a** in 91–95% yields (entries 10–12).

To demonstrate the feasibility of a new 1,4-oxoimination of 3-en-1-ynes with nitrosobenzene 2a, we prepared cyclic alkenes bearing an ethynylamide group, 6a-6h; the resulting products 7a-7h would hence contain both oxo and imine functionalities (Table 3). Such 1,4-oxoiminations were implemented by Zn(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (5 mol%) and 2a (2.0 equiv) in hot DCE (60 °C, 0.5 h). Entries 1-3 show the efficient productions of desired

Table 3. Zn-Catalyzed 1,4-Oxoimination of 3-En-1-ynamides

 $a^{a}[6] = 0.14$  M.  $b^{b}$ Product yields are reported after purification from a silica column.

benzaldehyde derivatives 7a-7c with yields >91% from cyclic alkene derivatives 6a-6c of various sizes (n = 1-3). These 1,4-oxoimination reactions were also applicable to oxacyclic alkene derivatives 6d,6e (R = H, Me), giving desired products 7d,7e in 82-95% yields (entries 4 and 5). For disubstituted indenes 6f,6g bearing a 2-ethynylamide, 7f,7g were produced with 95-96% yields (entries 6 and 7). For the 3-indenyl ethynylamide analogue 6h, the same reaction afforded an aliphatic aldehyde (7h) in 95% yield (entry 8).

Table 2. Scope for 1,4-Nitroso/Enyne Metathesis

	enyne			enyne			products (yield, %)		
entry	1	$\mathbb{R}^1$	$\mathbb{R}^2$	NR (EWG)	nitroso 2 (X)	3	4		
1	1b	Ph	Н	N(Me)Ts	2a (H)	3b (92)	4a (92)		
2	1c	Ph	H	N(Ph)Ts	2a (H)	3c (91)	4a (91)		
3	1d	Ph	H	N(nBu)Ts	2a (H)	3d (98)	4a (98)		
4	1a	4-BrC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	H	N(Me)Ms	2a (H)	3a (94)	<b>4e</b> (94)		
5	1f	$4-MeOC_6H_4$	H	N(Me)Mb	2a (H)	3a (97)	4f (97)		
6	1g	2-furanyl	H	N(Me)Ms	2a (H)	3a (83)	4g (83)		
7	1h	cyclohexenyl	Н	N(Me)Mb	2a (H)	3a (93)	4h (93)		
8	1i	PH	Me	N(Me)Ms	2a (H)	3i (94)	4a (94)		
9	1j	Ph	iPr	N(Me)Ms	2a (H)	3j (90)	4a (90)		
10	1k	Ph	Ph	N(Me)Ms	2a (H)	3k (87)	<b>4a</b> (87)		
11	1a	Ph	H	N(Me)Ms	2b (NO <sub>2</sub> )	31 (91)	4a (91)		
12	1a	Ph	Н	N(Me)Ms	2c (iPr)	3m (95)	4a (95)		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>[1] = 0.14 M. <sup>b</sup>Product yields are reported after purification from a silica column.

Simultaneous production of unsubstituted 2-propynimidamides and aldehydes allows their further elaborations with catalytic formation of a carbon—carbon bond. Scheme 1 depicts

Scheme 1. Two One-Pot Cascade Reactions

two one-pot cascade reactions between 3-en-1-ynamide 11 and nitrosobenzene 2a (2 equiv) under optimized conditions. Treatment of these reactants with AgOAc (5 mol%) in DCM (50 °C, 0.5 h) delivered 2-iodobenzaldehyde (41) and a 2-propynimidamide 3b efficiently; to this solution were added PdCl<sub>2</sub>(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, CuI (10 mol%), and Et<sub>3</sub>N (15 equiv) to effect an *in situ* Sonogashira reaction, giving a desired coupling product 8 in 78% yield. Alternatively, we employed Zn(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (5 mol%) to catalyze the initial metathesis reaction in a sealed flask (DCM, 50 °C, 2.5 h), followed by a reported alkynylation in situ of aldehyde 4l with ZnBr<sub>2</sub> (20 mol%), TMSOTf (1.1 equiv), and *i*Pr<sub>2</sub>NEt (1.5 equiv) in the same solution. A final workup with Bu<sub>4</sub>NF in THF afforded alkynol derivative 9 in 81% yield.

The formation of an alkynol product like 9 from 3-en-1-ynamide 11 is synthetically interesting because this transformation represents a novel 1,4-hydroxyimination of a 3-en-1-yne. Table 4 shows the generalization of such reactions with

Table 4. One-Pot Metathesis/Alkynylation Cascades

 $^a$ [1] = 0.14 M TMSOTf (1.0 equiv), iPr $_2$ NEt (1.5 equiv).  $^b$ External 4-MeOC $_6$ H $_4$ CHO (1.0 equiv) was added in entry 5, and 2-furyl- and 2-thienyl aldehydes (0.5 equiv) were added in entries 6 and 7 before their alkynylations.  $^c$ Products are reported efter separation from a silica column.

additional examples. In entries 5–7, external aldehydes  $R^1CHO(R^1 = 4-MeOC_6H_4$ , 2-furyl, and 2-thienyl, 0.5 or 1.0 equiv) were added before the alkynation because of their lower reactivity. These one-pot reactions were accessible to alkynols **10a,10b** bearing various sulfonamides (NR<sup>2</sup>EWG = NMeMs, NMeTs); the yields were 67–85% (entries 1 and 2). The

reactions were applicable to 3-en-1-ynamides bearing different styryl groups ( $R^1 = XC_6H_4$ , X = Cl, Br, and MeO, entries 3–5), giving desired alkynols  ${\bf 10c-10e}$  in 75–82% yields. These zinc-catalyzed reactions were amenable to the synthesis of heteroaryl-substituted alkynols  ${\bf 10f,10g}$  ( $R^1 = 2$ -furanyl and 2-thienyl) with satisfactory yields (76–81%, entries 6 and 7). For 3-en-1-ynamides bearing varied alkenyl substituents, the related 4-en-1-yn-3-ols  ${\bf 10h-10j}$  were produced efficiently (72–73%, entries 8–10).

Shown in Scheme 2 is a plausible mechanism to rationalize catalyst-dependent chemoselectivity of 1,2- versus 1,4-meta-

#### Scheme 2. A Plausible Mechanism for 1,2- and 1,4-Metathesis Reactions

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Me} \\ \text{Me} \\$$

thesis reactions; we envisage that both reactions proceed via an initial attack of nitrosobenzene at metal  $\pi$ -alkyne species A. In recent work, we demonstrated that  $LAu^+$  (L =  $P(tBu)_2(o-t)$ biphenyl)) is more electron-rich than Ag+ to direct a 1,2-shift of the neighboring group through a hyperconjugation effect. 11 For LAu (L =  $P(tBu)_2$ (o-biphenyl)), the alkenylgold C=C bond of intermediate B is thus highly electron-rich and nucleophilic to attack the oxygen of the nitrosonium moiety to generate species C, of which the weak N-O bond is readily cleaved by LAu to give 1,2-metathesis product 5a. In contrast, dienylsilver species D behaves like normal dienes to undergo a well-known [4+2]cycloaddition, giving a cycloadduct intermediate, E. We envisage that its weak N-O bond is the major reason for molecular fragmentation to generate the terminal 3-iminoalkyne 3a and benzaldehyde, rather than giving a [4+2]-nitroso cycloadduct through a protodemetalation.

We have developed new synthetic use of an alkynol derivative, **10**. As depicted in Scheme 3, treatment of an alkynol **10b** with aqueous HX (1.2 equiv, X = Cl, Br, and I) in DCE (28 °C, 10–15 min) delivered highly substituted aminofurans **11a–11c** in excellent yields (97–98%). We have determined their structures with <sup>1</sup>H NOE spectra. Likewise, treatment of this alkynol with indoles (1.2 equiv) and BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O (1.1 equiv) afforded aminofurans **11d,11e** of the same type; the

Scheme 3. Synthetic Applications of 3-Imidoylalkynol 10b

corresponding yields were 78–82%. The molecular structure of **11e** was confirmed by X-ray diffraction. The mechanism of these new cyclizations is provided in the Supporting Information. Alkynol **10b** was transformed into an *E*-configured enone **12** according to a reported DABCO-catalyzed rearrangement; is structure is distinct from that of the enone **5a** given from a 1,2-nitroso/alkyne metathesis reaction (Table 1).

In summary, we report catalyst-dependent chemoselectivities in the metathesis reactions of 3-en-1-ynamides<sup>14</sup> with nitrosoarenes. LAuNTf<sub>2</sub> (L =  $P(tBu)_2(o\text{-biphenyl})$  catalyzed 1,2metathesis reactions, whereas AgNTf2 or Zn(OTf)2 implemented unprecedented 1,4-metathesis reactions. Before this work, metal-catalyzed metathesis reactions were strictly limited to a 1,2-metathesis mode, whereas 1,3-dienes and 3-en-1-ynes exclusively undergo metal-catalyzed [4+2]-cycloadditions with double bond species. We prepared cycloalkene derivatives of 3en-1-ynamides in a series to achieve new 1,4-oxoimination reactions of 3-en-1-ynes. We have developed one-pot cascade reactions to activate an alkynation between unsubstituted 2propynimidamides and benzaldehyde derivatives generated in situ. The feasibility of such metathesis/alkynation cascades is manifested with sufficient examples, further highlighting novel 1,4-hydroxyiminations of 3-en-1-ynes. These alkynol products are readily transformed into substituted aminofurans or functionalized enones. The focus of this work is not only on the discovery of 1,4-metathesis reactions, but also includes the development of their new synthetic utility.

# ASSOCIATED CONTENT

# **S** Supporting Information

X-ray crystallographic data of **11e**; 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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#### **Notes**

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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