Room temperature copper-catalyzed oxidative amidation of

terminal alkynes for synthesis of α -ketoamides using O-benzoyl

hydroxylamines as aminating reagent and oxidant

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1. General information

All reagents and solvents were pure analytical grade materials purchased from commercial sources and were used without further purification, if not stated otherwise. THF was anhydrous before using. All starting substrates were prepared according to the known literatures. The NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ or d_6 -DMSO on a 400 MHz instrument with TMS as internal standard. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained with a Q-TOF Premier (ESI). TLC was carried out with 0.2 mm thick silica gel plates (GF254). Visualization was accomplished by UV light. Column chromatography was hand packed with silica gel (200-300 mesh). All reactions were carried out in an over-dried Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar.

2. General procedure and possible reaction mechanism for the synthesis of α -ketoamides



An oven-dried Schlenk tube equipped with a Teflon valve was charged with a magnetic stir bar, copper(II) trifluoromethanesulfonate (0.05 mmol, 0.018g), *N*-(benzoyloxy)piperidine **1b** (0.5 mmol, 0.103g). The tube was placed under vacuum for twenty minutes and backfilled with N₂. Then anhydrous THF (3.0 mL), phenylacetylene **1a** (2.0 mmol, 0.204g) and DBU (1.0 mmol, 0.152g) were added under N₂ atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature. The reaction was monitored by TLC. When *N*-(benzoyloxy)piperidine **1b** consumed completely, the resulting suspension was filtered through a pad of filter paper with 20 mL of ethyl acetate for 3 times. After evaporating the solvent under reduced pressure, the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give the product **1c** in 84% yield (46 mg).



Based on the above information, a plausible mechanism for this reaction is proposed. The Cu(II)-acetylide species 1e was formed by the reaction of the copper(II) trifluoromethanesulfonate with phenylacetylene 1a in the presence of DBU. The addition reaction of the Cu(II)-acetylide species 1e with *N*-(benzoyloxy)piperidine 1b would lead to the formation of the intermediate 1f and some 1d. Then another *N*-(benzoyloxy)piperidine 1b attack the intermediate 1f to get the intermediate 1g, the obtained intermediates 1g finally converted into the products 1c.

3. Date of the products



¹-phenyl-2-(piperidin-1-*yl*)ethane-1,2-dione (**1c**).¹ Mp: 104-107 ^oC. Compound **1c** (46 mg, 84% yield) was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/Et₃N = 5:1) as yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 7.93 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 7.62 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), δ 7.49 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 3.69 (m, 2H), δ 3.27 (m, 2H), δ 1.68-1.53 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 192.04, 165.53, 134.76, 133.32, 129.65, 129.09, 47.13, 42.24, 26.29, 25.54, 24.46. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₃H₁₆NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 218.1181, found: 218.1175.



H₃C⁻ 1-(piperidin-1-*yl*)-2-(p-tolyl)ethane-1,2-dione (2c).² Compound 2c (47 mg, 82% yield) was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/Et₃N = 5:1) as yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 7.83 (d, J = 8.0Hz, 2H), δ 7.30 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 3.69 (m, 2H), δ 3.27 (m, 2H), δ 1.68-1.53 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 191.83, 165.76, 146.01, 130.94, 130.10, 129.81, 47.15, 42.21, 26.32, 25.57, 24.51, 22.04. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₈NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 232.1338, found: 232.1339.



1-(4-pentylphenyl)-2-(piperidin-1-yl)ethane-1,2-dione

(3c). Compound 3c (46 mg, 64% yield) was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/Et₃N = 5:1) as yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 7.84 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 3.69 (m, 2H), δ 3.28 (m, 2H), δ 2.66 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 1.68-1.54 (m, 8H), δ 1.31 (m, 4H), δ 0.88 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 191.85, 165.78, 150.96, 131.04, 129.85, 129.21, 47.16, 42.20, 36.28, 31.50, 30.85, 26.33, 25.57, 24.51, 22.61, 14.14. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₈H₂₆NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 288.1964, found: 288.1960.



1-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)-2-(piperidin-1-*yl*)ethane-1,2-dione (**4c**).¹ Compound **4c** (49 mg, 72% yield) was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/Et₃N = 5:1) as yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 7.87 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 7.51 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 3.69 (m, 2H), δ 3.28 (m, 2H), δ 1.68-1.54 (m, 6H), δ 1.33 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 191.81, 165.77, 158.83, 130.80, 129.67, 126.13, 47.16, 42.21, 35.48, 31.12, 26.36, 25.58, 24.51. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₇H₂₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 274.1807, found: 274.1809.



F 1-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-(piperidin-1-*yl*)ethane-1,2-dione (**5c**). Compound **5c** (47 mg, 80% yield) was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/Et₃N = 5:1) as yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 7.99-7.95 (m, 2H), δ 7.20-7.15 (m, 2H), δ 3.68 (m, 2H), δ 3.28 (m, 2H), δ 1.68-1.54 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 190.35, 167.99, 165.31 (d, J = 25 Hz), 132.48 (d, J = 10Hz), 129.83, 116.45 (d, J = 22Hz), 47.16, 42.30, 26.33, 25.54, 24.43. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₃H₁₅FNO₂ [M+H]⁺: 236.1087, found: 236.1081.



Cl - Cl - Cl - Cl - Clorophenyl)-2-(piperidin-1-*yl*)ethane-1,2-dione (**6c**).¹ Compound **6c** (49 mg, 78% yield) was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/Et₃N = 5:1) as yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 7.89 (d, J = 8.0Hz, 2H), δ 7.48 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 3.69 (m, 2H), δ 3.27 (m, 2H), δ 1.69-1.55 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 190.67, 165.03, 141.38, 131.75, 131.05, 129.53, 47.19, 42.37, 26.38, 25.58, 24.37. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₃H₁₅ClNO₂ [M+H]⁺: 252.0791, found: 252.0785.



^{\circ} ^{\circ} ^{\circ} 1-phenyl-2-(pyrrolidin-1-*yl*)ethane-1,2-dione (7c).³ Compound 7c (41 mg, 80% yield) was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/Et₃N = 5:1) as yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 8.00 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), δ 7.64 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), δ 7.51 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), δ 3.66 (m, 2H), δ 3.43 (m, 2H), δ 1.96 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 191.70, 165.05, 134.73, 133.06, 130.04, 129.06, 46.83, 45.40, 26.07, 24.18. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₂H₁₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 204.1025, found: 204.1022.



^O 1-morpholino-2-phenylethane-1,2-dione (**8c**).³ Mp: 50-51 °C. Compound **8c** (39 mg, 72% yield) was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/Et₃N = 5:1) as yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 7.66 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), δ 7.53 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 3.80 (m, 4H), δ 3.65 (m, 2H), δ 3.38 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 191.30, 165.55, 135.13, 133.08, 129.81, 129.25, 66.87, 66.80, 46.38, 41.72. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₂H₁₄NO₃ [M+H]⁺: 220.0974, found: 220.0970.



1-(azepan-1-*yl*)-2-phenylethane-1,2-dione (**9c**).⁴ Compound **9c** (36 mg, 62% yield) was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/Et₃N = 5:1) as yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 7.93 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 7.62 (t, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), δ 7.49 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 3.67 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), δ 3.32 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), δ 1.85-1.80 (m, 2H), δ 1.68-1.57 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 191.95, 167.26, 134.70, 133.24, 129.72, 129.06, 48.03, 45.21, 29.09, 27.70, 27.28, 26.62. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₄H₁₈NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 232.1338, found: 232.1339.



N, N-diethyl-2-oxo-2-phenylacetamide (10c).¹ Compound 10c (35 mg, 68% yield) was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/Et₃N = 5:1) as yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 7.93 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 7.63 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), δ 7.50 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 3.56 (q, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 3.24 (q, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 1.28 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 3H), δ 1.15 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 191.73, 166.84, 134.72, 133.33, 129.75, 129.09, 42.22, 38.89, 14.25, 12.99. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₂H₁₆NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 206.1181, found: 206.1185.



N, N-dibutyl-2-oxo-2-phenylacetamide (11c).² Compound 11c (50 mg, 76% yield) was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/Et₃N = 5:1) as yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 7.93 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 7.63 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), δ 7.50 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 3.49 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 3.14 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 1.68-1.63 (m, 2H), δ 1.55-1.49 (m, 2H), δ 1.44-1.38 (m, 2H), δ 1.21-1.15

(m, 2H), δ 0.99 (q, J = 8.0 Hz, 3H), δ 0.81 (q, J = 8.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 191.73, 167.19, 134.63, 133.49, 129.75, 129.06, 47.57, 44.15, 30.76, 29.59, 20.40, 19.91, 14.01, 13.71. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₆H₂₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 262.1807, found: 262.1801.

N-butyl-*N*-ethyl-2-oxo-2-phenylacetamide (**12c**). Compound **12c** (35 mg, 60% yield) was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/Et₃N = 5:1) as yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), δ 7.62 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 7.49 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), δ 3.55 (q, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 3.45 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 3.22 (q, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 3.14 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 1.70-1.62 (m, 2H), δ 1.53-1.49 (m, 2H), δ 1.44-1.36 (m, 4H), δ 1.27 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 3H), δ 1.14 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 3H), δ 0.98 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 3H), δ 0.80 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 191.75, 191.64, 167.08, 166.95, 134.64, 134.63, 133.45, 133.37, 129.72, 129.69, 129.05, 129.04, 47.33, 43.69, 42.42, 39.35, 30.81, 29.66, 20.35, 19.86, 14.11, 13.96, 13.66, 12.84. HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calcd for C₁₄H₂₀NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 234.1494, found: 234.1490.

N, *N*-diethyl-2-oxo-2-(*p*-tolyl)acetamide (**13c**). Compound **13c** (36 mg, 65% yield) was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/Et₃N = 5:1) as yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 7.82 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 3.55 (q, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 3.23 (q, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 2.42 (s, 3H), δ 1.27 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 3H), δ 1.14 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 191.50, 167.04, 145.91, 130.92, 129.87, 129.80, 42.21, 38.83, 22.04, 14.24, 12.98. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* calcd for C₁₃H₁₈NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 220.1338, found: 220.1339.

CI 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-*N*, *N*-diethyl-2-oxoacetamide (14c). Compound 14c (36 mg, 61% yield) was purified by flash column chromatography (PE/Et₃N = 5:1) as yellow oil. ¹H NMR (400M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 7.88 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 2H), δ 7.48 (d, J = 12.0 Hz, 2H), δ 3.55 (q, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 3.23 (q, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), δ 1.27 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 3H), δ 1.15 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100M Hz, CDCl₃/TMS): δ 190.30, 166.32, 141.29, 131.74, 131.10, 129.49, 42.27, 39.04, 14.32, 12.98. HRMS (ESI): m/z calcd for C₁₂H₁₅ClNO₂ [M+H]⁺: 240.0791, found: 240.0799.

4. Copies of NMR spectra

































5. Notes and references

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