Supporting Information

Palladium-Catalyzed Aerobic Oxidative Carbonylation of Alkynes with Amines: A General Access to Substituted Maleimides

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General Considerations

All commercial reagents were ordered from Alfa Aesar, Aldrich, TCI or Strem. Unless otherwise statement, commercial reagents were used without purification. Air- and moisture-sensitive syntheses were performed under argon atmosphere in heating gun vacuum dried glassware. Analytical data of literature known compounds were in accord with reported data. NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker Avance 300 (300 MHz) NMR spectrometers. Multiplets were assigned as s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), dd (doublet of doublet), m (multiplet) and br. s (broad singlet). All measurements were carried out at room temperature unless otherwise stated. Electron impact (EI) mass spectra were recorded on AMD 402 mass spectrometer (70 eV). High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on Agilent 6210 Time-of-Flight LC/MS (Agilent) with electrospray ionization (ESI). The data are given as mass units per charge (m/z) and intensities of signals are given in brackets. For GC analyses, HP 6890 chromatograph with a 29 m HP5 column was used.

Experimental sections

Preparation of Polysubstituted Maleimides



A 4 mL screw-cap vial was charged with Palladium salts (2.0 mol%)), toluene (2.0 mL), amines (1.0 mmol), alkyne (1.5 mmol) and a stirring bar. The vial was closed by PTFE/white rubber septum (Wheaton 13 mm Septa) and phenolic cap and connected with atmosphere with a needle. Then, the vial was fixed in an alloy plate and put into Paar 4560 series autoclave (300 mL). At room temperature, the autoclave is flushed with air (5 bar) and carbon monoxide (15 bar), total pressure to 20 bar.

The reaction was heated under specified temperature (usually 120 °C) for 12 hours. Afterwards, the autoclave was cooled to room temperature and the pressure was carefully released. Isooctane (0.5 mmol) was added into the reaction as internal standard. A sample of the mixture was analyzed by gas chromatography. Pure product could be obtained by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: pentane/ethyl acetate = 20:1).

Optimization of reaction conditions.

L 1a	+ , NH ₂ + 2a	CO 15 bar Air 5 bar Te	Pd (2 mol oluene, 120	1%) °C, 12h
Entry	Add in reaction	Conversions [%]	Yield [%]	Notes
1	Pd(acac) ₂	>99	trace	PhPh by product yield 95%
2	Pd(acac) ₂ , Xantphos, Lil, I	H ₂ O >99	90	
3	Pd(acac) ₂ , Lil, H ₂ O	>99	91	
4	PdCl ₂	>99	92	
5	Pdl ₂	>99	92	

The effect of palladium precursors.

Reaction conditions:1a (0.75 mmol), 2a (0.5 mmol), Pd (2.0 mol%), ligand (2.0 mol%), CO (15 bar), air (5 bar), toluene (2.0 mL), H₂O (0.1 mL), 120 $^{\circ}$ C, 12 h. Yields were determined by GC analysis using isooctane as the internal standard.

The effect of temperature.



Entry	Temperature [°C]	Conversions [%]	Yield [%]	
1	125	>99	92	
2	120	>99	92	
3	100	>99	77	
4	80	77	59	
5	60	34	42	

Reaction conditions:1a (1.5 mmol), 2a (1.0 mmol), PdCl₂ (2 mol%), CO (15 bar), air (5 bar), toluene (2.0 mL), 12 h. Yields were determined by GC analysis using isooctane as the internal standard.

The effect of solvent.



Entry	Solvent	Conversions [%]	Yield [%]	
1	THF	>99	81	
2	toluene	>99	82	
3	Anisole	>99	69	
4	MeCN	>99	42	
5	Diglyme	>99	78	
6	DMF	>99	26	
7	1,4-dioxane	>99	77	

In order to better investigate the difference between different solvents, we reduced the reaction temperature to 100 $^{\circ}$ C.

Reaction conditions:1a (1.5 mmol), 2a (1.0 mmol), $PdCl_2$ (2 mol%), CO (15 bar), air (5 bar), solvent (2.0 mL), 100 °C, 12 h. Yields were determined by GC analysis using isooctane as the internal standard.

Characterization of products



1,3-diphenyl-1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione:1

229.1 mg, 92% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

 1 H NMR (300MHz , CDCl₃) δ 7.89-7.85 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.34 (m, 5H), 7.30-7.25 (m, 3H), 6.75 (s, 1H).

 ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.37, 169.10, 143.62, 131.47, 131.31, 129.06, 128.98, 128.76, 128.54, 127.82, 126.18, 124.01.



3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-phenyl- 1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione²:

206.5 mg, 74% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

 ^1H NMR (300 MHz , CDCl_3) δ 7.92-7.80 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.32(m, 2H), 7.31-7.24 (m, 3H), 6.90-6.84 (m, 2H), 6.61 (s, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.73, 169.43, 162.14, 143.04, 131.61, 130.58, 128.99, 127.68, 126.19, 121.20, 120.95, 114.51, 77.48, 77.06, 76.64, 55.39.



3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-phenyl- 1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione³:

240.6 mg, 85% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (400 MHz , CDCl₃) δ 7.84-7.78 (m, 2H), 7.37-7.26 (m, 6H), 6.74 (s, 1H).

 ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.15, 168.80, 142.34, 137.64, 131.33, 130.00, 129.30, 129.08, 127.91, 126.94, 126.14, 124.13.



3-(4-bromophenyl)-1-phenyl- 1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione⁴:

240.6 mg, 83% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

 ^1H NMR (400 MHz , CDCl_3) δ 7.90-7.83 (m, 2H), 7.65-7.59 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.41-7.35 (m, 3H), 6.88 (s, 1H).

 ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.15, 168.85, 142.56, 132.36, 131.36, 130.20, 129.14, 127.99, 127.41, 126.28, 126.20, 124.25.



3-(2,4-difluorophenyl)-1-phenyl- 1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione:

239.4 mg, 84% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (400 MHz , CDCl₃) δ 8.42-8.18 (m, 1H), 7.45-7.35 (m, 2H), 7.32-7.26 (m, 3H), 6.97 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.95-6.83 (m, 2H).

 ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.31, 169.19, 166.11, 165.94, 164.56, 164.40, 162.71, 162.55, 161.14, 160.98, 132.72, 132.67, 132.58, 132.54, 131.28, 129.11, 127.98, 127.66, 127.63, 127.47, 127.44, 126.20, 112.28, 112.05, 112.00, 105.28, 104.94, 104.60.

HRMS (ESI) calculated for $C_{16}H_9F_2NO_2(M+H)^+$: 286.0680; found: 286.0668.



3-(2-fluorophenyl)-1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione,

232.3 mg, 87% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (300 MHz , CDCl₃) δ 8.20 (td, J = 7.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.23 (m, 6H), 7.20-7.05 (m, 2H), 6.99 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.29, 162.08 (d, *J* = 255.5 Hz), 136.98, 132.58 (d, J = 9.1 Hz), 131.34, 131.22, 129.06, 128.30 (d, *J* = 14.0 Hz), 127.88, 126.19, 124.57 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz), 116.91 (d, *J* = 11.0 Hz), 116.17 (d, *J* = 22.0 Hz).

HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₆H₁₀FNO₂ (M+H)⁺: 268.0774; found: 268.0758.



3-methyl-1,4-diphenyl-1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione⁵:

168.3 mg, 63% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.60-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.45-7.30 (m, 7H), 7.30-7.20 (m, 1H), 2.20 (s, 3H).

 ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.74, 169.74, 137.17, 136.79, 131.85, 129.77, 129.64, 129.03, 128.81, 128.62, 127.60, 125.98, 10.15.



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1-phenyl-3-phenylmethyl- 1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione:

228.8 mg, 87% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (300 MHz , CDCl₃) δ 7.40-7.14 (m, , 10H), 6.16 (t, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 3.73 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 2H).

 ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.08, 169.34, 149.23, 135.66, 131.54, 129.10, 129.05, 129.00, 127.70, 127.45, 127.30, 125.87, 32.00.

HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₇H1₃NO₂ (M+H)⁺: 264.1025; found: 264.1016.

3-cyclopropyl-1-phenyl-1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione⁶,

193.8 mg, 91% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

 ^1H NMR (300 MHz , CDCl3) δ 7.40-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.22(m, 3H), 6.02(s, 1H), 1.90-1.82 (m, 1H), 1.15-1.10 (m,2H), 1.00-0.94 (m, 2H).

 ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.64, 169.16, 153.44, 131.54, 128.94, 127.54, 125.92, 120.65, 12.00, 8.38.



3-(2-methylpropyl)- 1-phenyl-1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione:

210.7 mg, 92% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (300 MHz , CDCl₃) δ 7.40-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.29-7.20 (m, 3H), 6.34 (t, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 2.32 (dd, J = 7.0, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 2.05-1.80 (m, 1H), 0.92 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 6H).

 ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.50, 169.65, 148.90, 131.63, 128.98, 127.57, 127.20, 125.84, 34.30, 27.18, 22.43.

HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₄H₁₅NO₂ (M+H)⁺: 230.1181; found: 230.1173.



3-butyl- 1-phenyl-1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione⁷:

208.4 mg, 91% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (300 MHz , CDCl₃) δ 7.50-7.42 (m,2H), 7.38-7.30 (m, 3H), 6.43 (t, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 2.57-2.50 (m, 2H), 1.70-1.55 (m, 2H), 1.50-1.40 (m, 2H), 0.97 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H).

 ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.49, 169.80, 150.41, 131.67, 129.10, 127.70, 126.37, 125.97, 29.22, 25.27, 22.40, 13.80.



3-(3-chloro-propyl)- 1-phenyl-1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione:

201.7 mg, 81% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (400 MHz , CDCl₃) δ 7.50-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.29 (m, 3H), 6.48-6.45 (m, 1H), 3.61 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.73-2.63 (m, 2H), 2.18-2.06 (m, 2H).

 ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.02, 169.25, 148.37, 131.46, 129.04, 127.72, 125.85, 77.48, 77.06, 76.64, 43.78, 29.72, 22.99.

HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₃H₁₂ClNO₂ (M+H)⁺: 250.0635; found: 250.0626.



3-methyl- 1-phenyl -4-propyl -1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione:

187.8 mg, 82% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.40-7.15(m, 5H), 2.45-2.30 (m, 2H), 1.98 (s, 3H), 1.60-1.50 (m, 2H),

0.91 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.01, 170.71, 141.10, 137.49, 131.99, 128.96, 127.36, 125.75, 25.74, 21.62, 14.06, 8.92.

HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₄H₁₅NO₂ (M+H)⁺: 230.1181; found: 230.1178.



3,4-diethyl-1-phenyl-1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione⁵:

162.6 mg, 71% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.48-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.30 (m, 3H), 2.51 (q, J = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 1.21 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 6H).

 ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.71, 141.94, 131.98, 128.97, 127.36, 125.78, 17.18, 13.38.



1-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-phenyl-1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione⁸:

243.0 mg, 91% yield, , yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00-7.95 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.46 (m,*3*H), 7.41-7.35 (m, 2H), 7.20-7.13 (m, 2H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 3.05 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H)

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.34, 169.03, 161.75 (d, J = 247.8 Hz), 143.77, 131.45, 129.05, 128.77, 128.46, 128.04 (d, J = 8.7 Hz), 127.39 (d, J = 3.2 Hz), 123.95, 116.08 (d, J = 22.9 Hz).



1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-phenyl-1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione⁹:

237.7 mg, 84% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00-7.93 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.40 (m, 5H), 7.42-7.33 (m, 2H), 6.87 (s, 1H).

 ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) $\delta169.12,\,168.82,\,143.88,\,133.53,\,131.53,\,130.03,\,129.29,\,129.08,\,128.81,\,128.41,\,127.29,\,124.02.$



1-(4-bromophenyl)-3-phenyl-1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione⁹:

265.7 mg, 81% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00-7.93 (m, 2H), 7.63-7.55 (M, 2H), 7.53-7.45 (m, 3H), 7.35-7.30 (m, 2H), 6.87 (s, 1H).

 ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.05, 168.74, 143.87, 132.26, 131.54, 130.58, 129.09, 128.82, 128.40, 127.56, 124.04, 121.51.



1-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-3-phenyl-1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione:

301.2 mg, 95% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00-7.95 (m, 2H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.55-7.45 (m, 3H), 6.90 (s, 1H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.91, 168.56, 144.03, 134.74, 131.67, 129.53 (d, J = 32.9 Hz), 128.99 (d, J = 28.8 Hz), 128.29, 126.21 (q, J = 3.7 Hz), 125.93, 124.09, 123.82 (CF₃, d, J = 272.2 Hz), 119.76.

HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₇H₁₀F₃NO₂ (M+H)⁺: 318.0742; found: 318.0738.



1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-3-phenyl-1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione:

252.1 mg, 91% yield , yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00-7.95 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.45 (m, 3H), 7.02 (d, J = 11.0 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (s, 1H), 2.38 (s, 6H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) 169.65, 169.38, 143.61, 138.91, 131.31, 131.21, 129.89, 129.02, 128.81, 128.69, 124.21, 124.06, 21.34.

HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₈H₁₅NO₂ (M+H)⁺: 278.1181; found: 278.1175.



1-(2-methylphenyl)-3-phenyl-1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione:

205.1 mg, 78% yield , yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.90-7.86 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.34 (m, 4H), 7.25-7.18 (m, 3H), 7.08-7.05 (d, 1H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 2.10 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) 169.48, 169.24, 143.82, 136.53, 132.59, 131.30, 131.10, 130.32, 129.30, 129.23, 128.97, 128.73, 126.81, 124.06, 17.97.



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1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-phenyl-1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione:

198.1 mg, 71% yield , yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.93-7.87 (m, 2H), 7.47-7.37 (m, 3H), 7.23-7.16 (m, 2H), 6.95-6.90 (M, 2H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) 169.75, 169.54, 159.15, 143.75, 131.34, 129.05, 128.80, 128.69, 127.76, 124.12, 124.01, 114.51, 55.55.



3-phenyl-1-(phenylmethyl)-1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione¹⁰:

239.3 mg, 91% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85-7.78 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.33 (m, 5H), 7.33-7.15 (m, 3H), 6.63 (s, 1H), 4.64 (s, 2H).

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.34, 169.98, 143.79, 136.37, 131.13, 128.91, 128.70, 128.68, 128.60, 128.48, 127.82, 123.87, 41.57.



3-phenyl-1-(2-phenylethyl)- 1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione:

241.0 mg, 87% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.85-7.75 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.34 (m, 3H), 7.24-7.18 (m, 2H), 7.17-7.12 (m, 3H), 6.60 (s, 1H), 3.80-3.70 (m, 2H), 2.90-2.83 (m, 2H).

 ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.45, 170.16, 143.68, 138.00, 131.09, 128.93, 128.86, 128.76, 128.59, 128.57, 126.65, 123.84, 39.29, 34.62.

HRMS (ESI) calculated for C₁₈H₁₅NO₂ (M+H)⁺: 278.1181; found: 278.1176.

3ak

1-methyl- 3-phenyl-1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione¹⁰:

142.1 mg, 76% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.95-7.90 (m, 2H), 7.50-7.40 (m, 3H), 6.73 (s, 1H), 3.07 (s, 3H).

 ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.75, 170.45, 143.94, 131.10, 128.94, 128.76, 128.57, 123.91, 23.88.

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1-pentyl- 3-phenyl-1H-Pyrrole-2,5-dione:

215.9 mg, 84% yield, yellow solid, 1 mmol scale substrate.

¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.00-7.90 (m, 2H), 7.48-7.44 (m, 3H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 3.60-3.54 (m, 2H), 1.64-1.60 (m, 2H), 1.29-1.33 (m, 6H), 0.85-0.92 (m , 3H).

 ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.76, 170.51, 143.63, 132.51, 131.04, 128.93, 128.60, 123.87, 38.10, 31.37, 28.57, 26.49, 22.54, 14.04.

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NMR spectra of products











































