Supporting Information

Easy Access to Enamides: A Mild Nickel-Catalysed Alkene Isomerization of Allylamides

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General information

All reactions were isolated from moisture and oxygen by a nitrogen atmosphere with a balloon fitted on a Schlenk tube. All glassware was oven dried at 110 °C for hours and cooled down under vacuum. Unless otherwise noted, materials were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Ni(PPh₃)₄,¹ NiCl(PPh₃)₃,² (*E*)-*N*-(But-2-enyl)benzamide, 4-Methyl-*N*-(3-methylbut-2-enyl)benzamide and 4-Methyl-*N*-(2-methylallyl)benzamide were all prepared following literature procedures.³ *N*-allylamides were synthesized from relevant substituent acyl chlorides and prop-2-en-1-amine.

Thin layer chromatography (TLC) employed glass 0.25 mm silica gel plates. Flash chromatography columns were packed with 200-300 mesh silica gel in petroleum (bp. 60-90 °C). Gas chromatographic analyses were performed on Varian GC 3900 gas chromatography instrument with a FID detector and biphenyl was added as internal standard. GC-MS spectra were recorded on a Varian GC-MS 3900-2100T. High Resolution MS data report were performed on Waters Micromass GCT Premier, ionization mode: EI⁺. ¹H and ¹³C NMR data were recorded with Bruker Advance 400 MHz spectrometers with tetramethylsilane as an internal standard. All chemical shifts (δ) are reported in ppm and coupling constants (*J*) in Hz. The chemical shifts (δ) were given in part per million relative to internal tetramethylsilane (0 ppm for ¹H) and CDCl₃ (77.3 ppm for ¹³C) or *do*-DMSO (39.5 ppm for ¹³C).

General procedure for the isomerization of N-allylamides

N-allylamides (0.25 mmol) was added to a Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirred bar. Then the tube was switched to a glove box, Ni(PPh₃)₄ (27.7 mg, 0.025 mmol) was added. The tube was then sealed with septa and taken out of the glove box. Ethanol (2.0 mL) was then injected into the tube by syringe. The reaction was then heated to 30 °C and stirred for 10 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched with ether. The pure product was obtained by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum/ethyl acetate= 20:1).

Deuteration experiments

1) Procedure for Eq. (5)

N-allyl-4-methylbenzamide (0.25 mmol) was added to a schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stirred bar. Then the tube was switched to a glove box, Ni(PPh₃)₄ (27.7 mg, 0.025 mmol) was added. The tube was then sealed with septa and taken out of the glove box. CD₃OD (2.0 mL) was then injected into the tube by syringe. The reaction was then heated to 30 °C and stirred for 10 h. Upon completion, the reaction was quenched with ether. The pure product was obtained by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum/ethyl acetate= 20:1).



2) Procedure for Eq. (6)



2aa/2ab = 1/1, Determined by NMR Yield = 99%

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7.715 7.694 7.243 7.224 7.223 5.946 5.929 5.904

— 6.365

5.285 5.199 5.196 5.174 4.083 4.069 — 2.403



Comparison of 1a-d with 1a



• MS spectra of isotopic labelling experiments:



Comparison of 2a with 2aa and 2ab

Detailed descriptions for products:



(*E*, *Z*)-4-Methyl-*N*-(prop-1-enyl)benzamide (2a): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.00 (br, 0.54H), 7.79-7.57 (m, 2.5H), 7.29 - 7.17 (m, 2H), 7.01-6.83 (m, 1H), 5.32 (*trans*, dq, *J* = 13.6 Hz, 6.8 Hz, 0.56H), 4.91 (*cis*, dq, J = 8.4 Hz, 7.2 Hz, m, 0.44H), 2.40 (s, 1.31H), 2.37 (s, 1.67H), 1.74 - 1.66 (m, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 164.34, 164.22, 142.41, 142.10, 129.31, 129.16, 127.01, 126.97, 123.67, 108.50, 105.92, 21.42, 21.39, 14.92, 10.92 ppm. HRMS (EI) calcd for C₁₁H₁₃NO [M]⁺: 175.0997; found: 175.0995.



(*E*, *Z*)-*N*-Propenyl-o-toluamid((2b): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.31 (br, 0.57H), 7.35-7.03 (m, 4.43H), 6.88-6.71 (m, 1H), 5.17 (*trans*, dq, *J* = 13.6 Hz, 6.8 Hz, 0.60H), 4.83 (*cis*, dq, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 7.1 Hz, 0.40H), 2.37 (s, 1.23H), 2.34 (s, 1.77H), 1.63 (dd, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1.6 Hz, 1.78H), 1.56 (dd, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1.6 Hz, 1.22H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 166.79, 166.71, 136.49, 136.42, 135.44, 131.16, 131.01, 130.27, 130.05, 126.70, 126.61, 125.77, 125.62, 123.31, 121.91, 108.67, 106.13, 19.82, 19.73, 14.87, 10.92 ppm. HRMS (EI) calcd for C₁₁H₁₃NO [M]⁺: 175.0997; found: 175.0998.



(*E*, *Z*)-4-Methoxy-*N*-(prop-1-enyl)benzamide (2c): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 0.49H), 7.85-7.70 (m, 2H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 0.45H), 7.00-6.86 (m, 3H), 5.31 (*trans*, dq, J = 13.6 Hz,

6.8 Hz, 0.52H), 4.90 (*cis*, dq, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 7.2 Hz, 0.47H), 3.85 (s, 1.41H), 3.83 (s, 1.57H), 1.78-1.63 (m, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.90, 163.80, 162.46, 162.27, 128.88, 128.85, 126.03, 126.01, 123.76, 122.30, 113.86, 113.70, 108.21, 105.64, 55.37, 55.32, 14.93, 10.91 ppm. HRMS (EI) calcd for C₁₁H₁₃NO₂ [M]⁺: 191.0946; found: 191.0948.



(*E*, *Z*)-*N*-(**Prop-1-enyl**)-**4**-(**trifluoromethyl**)**benzamide** (2d): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO) δ 10.37 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 0.46H), 9.84 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 0.53H), 8.10-8.06 (m, 2H), 7.87-7.84 (m, 2H), 6.88-6.71 (m, 1H), 5.50 (*trans*, dq, *J* = 13.6 Hz, 6.8 Hz, 0.47H), 4.82 (*cis*, dq, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 7.2 Hz, 0.53H), 1.74 (dd, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1.6 Hz, 1.59H), 1.69 (dd, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1.6 Hz, 1.40H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, d₆-DMSO) δ 163.98, 162.27, 128.80, 128.38, 131.40 (d, *J* = 31.8 Hz), 131.38 (d, *J* = 31.6 Hz), 128.80, 128.38, 125.35 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz), 125.16 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz), 124.24, 122.58, 15.01, 11.68 ppm. HRMS (EI) calcd for C₁₁H₁₀F₃NO [M]⁺: 229.0714; found: 229.0711.



(*E*, *Z*)-4-Chloro-*N*-(prop-1-enyl)benzamide (2e): ¹H NMR (400 MHz,d₆-DMSO) δ 10.22 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 0.73H), 9.66 (d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, 0.22H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.88-6.77 (m, 0.77H), 6.76-6.67 (m, 0.23H), 5.45 (*trans*, dq, *J* = 13.6 Hz, 6.8 Hz, 0.78H), 4.92-4.84 (*cis*, m, 0.24H), 1.72 (dd, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1.2 Hz, 0.70H), 1.70-1.65 (m, 2.30H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, *d*₆-DMSO) δ 163.88, 162.33, 136.36, 132.42, 129.81, 129.37, 128.43, 128.27, 124.32, 122.68, 108.34, 107.84, 15.03, 11.67 ppm. HRMS (EI) calcd for C₁₀H₁₀CINO [M]⁺: 195.0451; found: 195.0450.

(*E*, *Z*)-2-Phenyl-N-(prop-1-enyl)acetamide (2f): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.39-7.12 (m, 5.6H), 7.06 (br, 0.4H), 6.71-6.52 (m, 1H), 4.96 (*trans*, dq, *J* = 13.6 Hz, 6.8 Hz, 0.61H), 4.74-4.63 (cis, m, 0.39H), 3.57 (s, 0.78H), 3.49 (s, 1.22H), 1.54 (dd, *J* = 0.8, 6.8 Hz, 1.86H), 1.31 (dd, *J* = 1.6, 6.8 Hz, 1.23H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.10, 167.96, 134.35, 134.25, 129.37, 129.31, 129.04, 128.93, 127.51, 127.33, 123.04, 121.61, 108.37, 105.85, 43.52, 43.40, 14.69, 10.45 ppm. HRMS (EI) calcd for C₁₁H₁₃NO [M]⁺: 175.0997; found: 175.0995.



(*E*, *Z*)-*N*-(**Prop-1-enyl**)**pivalamide** (**2g**): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.21 (br, 1H), 6.81-6.70 (m, 1H), 5.17 (*trans*, dq, *J* = 13.6 Hz, 6.8 Hz, 0.90H), 4.82 (*cis*, dq, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 7.0 Hz, 0.10H), 1.70-1.66 (m, 2.68H), 1.64-1.61 (m, 0.32H), 1.22 (s, 9H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.29, 123.59, 122.17, 107.54, 104.96, 38.51, 27.36, 14.77 ppm. HRMS (EI) calcd for C₈H₁₅NO [M]⁺ : 141.1154; found: 141.1155.

Ph₂N N Me

(*E*, *Z*)-*N*,*N*-Diphenyl-*N*'-(prop-1-enyl)urea (2h): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42-7.20 (m, 10H), 6.75-6.64 (m, 1H), 6.28-6.03 (m,1H), 4.80 (*trans*, dq, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 6.4 Hz, 0.39H), 4.62 (*cis*, dq, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1.2 Hz, 0.61H); 1.62 (dd, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1.2 Hz, 1.15H), 1.28-1.25 (m, 1.85H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.88, 152.72, 142.17, 142.06, 129.47, 129.44, 127.33, 127.27, 126.59, 126.45, 124.40, 123.21, 104.85, 102.09, 14.72, 10.19 ppm. HRMS (EI) calcd for C₁₆H₁₆N₂O [M]⁺: 252.1263; found: 252.1268.

(*E*, *Z*)-tert-Butyl prop-1-enylcarbamate (2i): 1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl3) δ 6.50-6.35 (m, 1H), 6.20 (br, 1H), 4.94 (*trans*, dq, J = 12.8 Hz, 6.4 Hz, 0.45H), 4.69-4.57 (*cis*, m, 0.55H); 1.63 (dd, J = 6.8 Hz, 1.2 Hz, 1.31H), 1.56 (dd, J = 7.0 Hz, 1.6 Hz, 1.72H), 1.48 (s, 5.69H), 1.45 (s, 3.30H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 152.87, 124.31, 123.15, 104.41, 101.94, 80.33, 80.04, 28.31, 14.74, 10.53 ppm. HRMS (EI) calcd for C₈H₁₅NO₂ [M]⁺: 157.1103; found: 157.1099.



(*E*)-1-(Prop-1-enyl)azepan-2-one (2j): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.16-7.06 (m, 1H), 5.05 (dq, *J* = 13.2 Hz, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.61-3.51 (m, 2H), 2.65-2.55 (m, 2H), 1.77-1.70 (m, 9H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.85, 127.47, 105.87, 45.58, 37.14, 29.46, 27.37, 23.42, 15.28 ppm. HRMS (EI) calcd for C₉H₁₅NO [M]⁺: 153.1154; found: 153.1149.



(*E*)-2-Propenyl-isoindole-1,3-dione (2k)⁴: ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89-7.80 (m, 2H), 7.78-7.65 (m, 2H), 6.66-6.50 (m, 2H), 1.88-1.82 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.67, 134.22, 131.67, 123.42, 118.30, 118.06, 16.28 ppm.



4-Methyl-*N*,*N*-**di**(**prop-1-enyl**)**benzamide** (**2l**): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.47-7.37 (m, 2H),

7.18-7.10 (m, 2H), 7.07-6.93 (m, 0.31H), 6.47 (d, *J* = 12.4 Hz, 0.62H), 6.03-5.95 (m, 0.59H), 5.49-5.37 (m, 0.53H), 5.26 (dq, *J* = 13.6 Hz, 6.8 Hz, 0.74H), 5.13 (dq, *J* = 13.6 Hz, 6.8 Hz, 0.67H), 2.40-2.32 (m, 3H), 1.84-1.1.78 (m, 0.56H), 1.75-1.71 (m, 1.71H), 1.68-1.63 (m, 2H), 1.40-1.28 (m, 1.78H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.86, 168.80, 140.56, 140.24, 132.93, 132.68, 128.96, 128.47, 128.46, 128.32, 128.00, 125.67, 109.60, 21.43, 21.39, 15.17, 15.14, 12.25 ppm. HRMS (EI) calcd for C₁₄H₁₇NO [M]⁺: 215.1310; found: 215.1311.



(*E*)-*N*-(**But-1-enyl**)benzamide (4a): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.44 (br, 1H), 7.86-7.78 (m, 2H),
7.51-7.42 (m, 1H), 7.40-7.32 (m, 2H), 7.01-6.85 (m, 1H), 5.43 (td, J = 14.0 Hz, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.13-1.98 (m, 2H), 1.00 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.29, 133.87, 131.75, 128.65, 126.95,
122.14, 115.93, 23.01, 14.20 ppm. HRMS (EI) calcd for C₁₁H₁₃NO [M]⁺: 175.0997; found: 175.1002.



4-Methyl-*N***-(2-methylprop-1-enyl)benzamide** (**4b**): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.69 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.81-6.65 (m, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 1.77 (s, 3H), 1.71 (s, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.04, 142.10, 131.31, 129.27, 126.88, 117.33, 115.96, 22.51, 21.41, 16.56 ppm. HRMS (EI) calcd for C₁₂H₁₅NO [M]⁺: 189.1154; found: 189.1152.

(*E*)-4-Methyl-*N*-(3-methylbut-1-enyl)benzamide (4c): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 (br, 1H),
7.62 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.94-6.78 (m, 1H), 5.21 (dd, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 6.8 Hz, 1H),
2.42-2.23 (m, 4H), 0.96 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.33, 142.21, 131.00,
129.27, 126.97, 121.19, 120.85, 29.01, 22.86, 21.44 ppm. HRMS (EI) calcd for C_{13H17}NO [M]⁺:
203.1310; found: 203.1308.



(*E*, *Z*)-*N*-(**But-1-enyl**)-4-methylbenzamide (6a): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.44 (br, 0.87H), 7.73 (br, 0.12H), 7.70-7.57 (m, 2H), 7.16-7.01 (m,2H), 6.99-6.89 (m, 1H), 5.33 (*trans*, td, *J* = 14.0 Hz, 6.4 Hz, 0.88H), 4.74 (*cis*, td, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 0.12H), 2.30-2.24 (m, 3H), 2.06-1.90 (m, 2H), 1.01-0.86 (m, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.18, 142.28, 130.99, 129.40, 129.32, 126.95, 122.21, 115.54, 23.02, 21.47, 14.25 ppm. HRMS (EI) calcd for C₁₂H₁₅NO [M]⁺: 189.1154; found: 189.1153.



(*E*, *Z*)-*N*-(Hex-1-enyl)-4-methylbenzamide (8a): ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.74-7.67 (m, 2H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 0.73H), 7.29-7.21 (m, 2H), 7.02-6.86 (m, 1H), 5.28 (*trans*, td, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 7.2 Hz, 0.86H), 4.85 (*cis*, td, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 0.14H), 2.43-2.38 (m, 3H), 2.13-2.03 (m, 2H), 1.45-1.30 (m, 4H), 0.95-0.85 (m, 3H) ppm; ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ164.13, 142.26, 130.97, 129.30, 126.95, 122.79, 121.17, 113.96, 111.98, 32.03, 31.45, 29.68, 29.44, 22.32, 22.10, 21.46, 13.69 ppm. HRMS (EI) calcd for C₁₄H₁₉NO [M]⁺: 217.1467; found: 217.1471.









110 100 f1 (ppm) . 140 . 90 $\frac{1}{70}$. 40 -10



11 (pp**n**)



. 150 . 130 50 10 0 -10 -20 . 210 . 200 . 170 . 140 . 110 . 80 70 60 . 40 30 20 190 180 160 120 100 90 fl (ppm)













120 110 f1 (ppm)





2h

120 110 100 90 f1 (ppm) -10

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110 100 f1 (ppm) . 190 . 180 . 170 . 160 130 120 -10 Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Chemical Communications This journal is The Royal Society of Chemistry 2013







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120 110 f1 (ppm)



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