

Nickel acetylacetonate [Ni(acac)₂] and montmorillonite K-10 promoted regioselective C-acylation of β-enamino compounds

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Abstract

Regioselective acylation of enamines in the presence of catalysts such as nickel acetylacetonate [Ni(acac)₂] and montmorillonite K-10 to give C-allylated products is reported. Nickel acetylacetonate [Ni(acac)₂] complexes of β-enamino compounds react with electrophiles as phenyl isocyanate and isothiocyanate at methin carbon, in good to excellent yields.

Keywords: Nickel acetylacetonate [Ni(acac)₂], montmorillonite K-10, β-enamino compounds, phenyl isocyanate and phenyl isothiocyanate

Introduction

β-Enamino compounds are important compounds due to their application as 1,3-bielectrophilic and binucleophilic synthons in synthetic organic chemistry.¹ These enamines are versatile synthetic intermediates that combine the ambident nucleophilicity of enamines with the ambident electrophilicity of enones and have been extensively used for the preparation of a variety of heterocyclic systems.^{2,3} There are many reports on functionalization of enamines in the literature by introduction of different substituents on the nitrogen, the α-carbon and the β-carbonylic carbon atoms. These derivatives have been extensively used for the preparation of a variety of heterocyclic systems including some natural products and analogues.^{4,5}

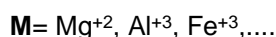
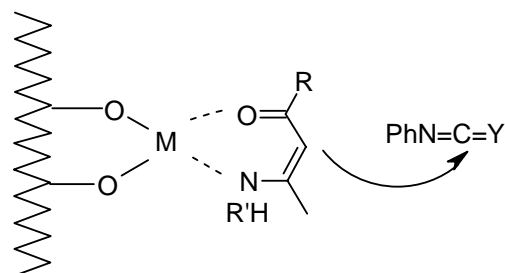
Regioselective C-functionalization of β-enamino compounds represents a considerable problem in organic synthesis. Singh *et al.* have recently reported regioselective allylation of enamines using CuCl₂ as catalyst to give C-allylated products.⁶ It has been reported that reactions of β-enamino compounds with phenyl isocyanates and phenyl isothiocyanates in homogeneous media yield mixtures of N- and C- adducts.⁷ The difference of reactivity of the nucleophilic centers (N- and C-α) and the absence of steric effects on the nitrogen in the starting material probably influenced in the regiochemistry of this reaction. In continuing our previous work on the reaction of β-enamino compounds with electrophiles,^{8,9} we now report a facile

Attempts to bring **1a** and **1b** to react with phenyl isocyanate or phenyl isothiocyanate to prepare either C or N-allylated products of β -enamino compounds without using any catalyst in various solvents were mostly unsuccessful. The regiochemistry of these reactions depends on the N-amino substituent. The reaction with the NH_2 group leads preferentially to N-acylated products, whereas reaction with the NHR-group (alkyl) yields C-acylated compounds preferentially.⁷ The acylation of β -enamino compounds **1a-f** with phenyl isocyanate or phenyl isothiocyanate on montmorillonite K-10 gave selectively the C-acylated products **3a-k** (Table 1) after long reaction times and low yields were produced, while in the presence of nickel acetylacetonate $[\text{Ni}(\text{acac})_2]$ as a catalyst these products were obtained in short reaction times and excellent yields.

Table 1. Comparison of the catalytic efficiency of montmorillonite K-10 and nickel acetylacetonate $[\text{Ni}(\text{acac})_2]$ during regioselective C-acylation of β -enamino compounds

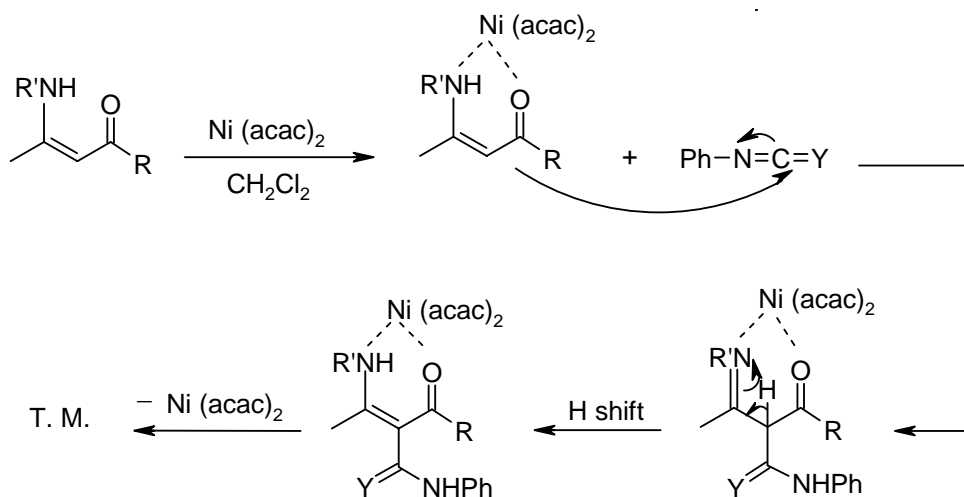
Compd No.	R	R'	Y	Montmorillonite K-10		Nickel acetylacetonate $[\text{Ni}(\text{acac})_2]$	
				Yield (%)	Time (h)	Yield (%)	Time (h)
3a	CH_3	H	O	55	15	90	3
3b	CH_3	H	S	62	15	93	3
3c	CH_3	C_6H_5	O	43	15	90	3
3d	CH_3	C_6H_5	S	49	15	92	3
3e	CH_3	4-Me C_6H_4	O	52	15	90	3
3f	CH_3	4-Me C_6H_4	S	55	15	91	3
3g	CH_3	2,3-(Me) $_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_3$	S	50	15	92	3
3h	C_6H_5	n-Butyl	O	63	12	92	2.5
3i	C_6H_5	n-Butyl	S	65	12	95	2.5
3j	$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}$	H	O	48	18	90	4
3k	$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}$	H	S	53	18	92	4

Montmorillonites are crystalline aluminosilicates, whose multilayered structure is characterized by the presence of Lewis acidic sites (localized mainly on the edges of the layer)¹² and capable of protecting Lewis basic sites of β -enaminone (nitrogen and oxygen) (Scheme 2).



Scheme 2

Nickel acetylacetonate is even more effective at catalysing the carbon-carbon bond formation between β -enamino compounds with phenyl isocyanate and phenyl isothiocyanate. Coordination to metal centers not only can stabilize otherwise unstable organic fragments, but also can deeply modify their reactivity.^{13, 14} The mechanism of the present reaction (scheme 1) initially proceeds through the coordination of the nitrogen and oxygen of the C=O group with nickel acetylacetonate or Lewis acidic sites on montmorillonite K-10. Then methine carbon of β -enamino compounds attack to electrophile. The Final products will be synthesis by hydrogen shift followed by removal of the catalyst (scheme 3).



Scheme 3

These reactions were confirmed by ^1H NMR spectra as the signal for the olefinic proton at the α -carbon atom of the β -enamino compounds disappear. In this study, all the products were characterized by melting point, IR, ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectral data, as well as by their elemental

analysis. The results obtained demonstrate that Ni(acac)₂ is a good catalyst that allows the formation of a new carbon-carbon bond between β -enamino compounds with phenyl isocyanate and phenyl isothiocyanate. Thus, the presence of a metal centre can modify the normal reactivity exhibited by β -enamino compounds. The advantage of the procedure reported here are: high purity of products, high selectivity and easy workup.

Experimental Section

General Procedures. Melting points were measured on a Gallenkamp melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. IR spectra were measured on a Mattson 1000 FT-IR spectrometer. The proton and carbon NMR spectra were recorded with a BRUKER DRX-500 AVANCE spectrometer at 500 and 125.77 MHz, respectively. Mass spectra were recorded on a MS-QP2000A Shimadzu mass spectrometer operating at an ionization potential of 70 eV. Elemental analyses were performed using a Heracus CHN-O-Rapid analyzer.

General procedure for the preparation of (*E*)-2-acetyl-3-alkylamino-*N*¹-phenyl-2-butenamide or butenethioamide derivatives (3a-k)

Method A. Phenyl isocyanate or phenyl isothiocyanate (2.5 mmol) was added dropwise to the β -enamino compounds (2mmol) dispersed on montmorillonite K-10 (0.5 g) and the mixture was stirred at 40 °C for the time reported in Table 1 (the progress of the reaction being monitored by TLC and using *n*-hexane/ethyl acetate as an eluent). The products were extracted by washing the montmorillonite with CH₂Cl₂ (5×10 mL), dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was removed in vacuo to yield the crude products which were purified by recrystallization from 96% ethanol.

Method B. A mixture of the β -enamino compounds (2 mmol), phenyl isocyanate or phenyl isothiocyanate (2 mmol) and Ni(acac)₂ (0.03 g) in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) was refluxed with stirring. (the progress of the reaction being monitored by TLC and hexane/ethyl acetate was used as an eluent). After completion of the reaction the catalyst was separated from the reaction mixture by centrifugation. The excess CH₂Cl₂ was removed by evaporation and then the crude product was filtered, dried and recrystallized from 96% ethanol).

(*E*)-2-Acetyl-3-amino-*N*¹-phenyl-2-butenamide (3a). Pale yellow crystals. mp 153-155°C. IR (KBr, $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$): 3185, 3135, 3110 (NH₂, NH), 1605 (C=O). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 13.15 (s, 1H, NH); 10.98 (s, 2H, NH); 7.95-6.85 (m, 5H, Ar); 2.19 (s, 3H, CH₃); 2.02 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d₆) 192.21 (C=O), 168.55, 162.43 (C₃), 139.55, 128.63, 123.31, 119.36, 109.08 (C₂), 27.75 (CH₃), 20.01 (CH₃). MS (*m/z*): 218 (12) (M⁺), 204(100), 175 (15), 126 (58), 91 (8), 77 (65), 65 (15), 51 (43). Anal. Calcd. For C₁₂H₁₄N₂O₂: C, 66.04; H, 6.47; N, 12.84 %. Found : C, 65.79; H, 6.25; N;12.49.

(*E*)-2-Acetyl-3-amino-*N*¹-phenyl-2-butenethioamide (3b). Yellow crystals. mp 148-150°C. IR (KBr, $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$): 3180, 3155, 3120 (NH₂, NH), 1595 (C=O). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 12.65 (s, 1H); 11.18 (s, 2H); 7.98-7.22 (m, 5H, Ar); 2.18 (s, 3H, CH₃); 2.04 (s, 3H, CH₃).

^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- d_6) 199.91(C=S), 190.80(C=O), 159.74(C_3), 139.90, 128.43, 125.99, 122.97, 116.36(C_2), 27.25 (CH_3), 19.75 (CH_3). MS (m/z): 234 (15) (M^+), 220(70), 191 (15), 142 (43), 91 (9), 77 (75), 65 (23), 51 (43). Anal. Calcd. For $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{OS}$: C, 61.51; H, 6.02; N, 11.96 %. Found : C, 61.19; H, 5.90; N;11.59.

(E)-2-Acetyl-3-anilino- N^1 -phenyl-2-butenamide (3c). Yellow crystals. mp 115-117°C. IR (KBr, $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$): 3250, 3110 (NH), 1640, 1589 (C=O). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 13.29 (s, 1H, NH); 10.30 (s, 1H, NH-C=O); 8.64-7.07 (m, 10H, Ar); 2.13 (s, 3H, CH_3); 2.06 (s, 3H, CH_3). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- d_6) 193.80 (C=O), 168.49 (N-C=O), 160.80 (C_3), 140.35, 138.46, 130.28, 129.62, 127.04, 125.84, 124.26, 120.08, 119.06, 111.07 (C_2), 28.49 (CH_3), 18.06 (CH_3). MS (m/z): 294 (7) (M^+), 212 (10), 202 (75), 184 (35), 160 (60), 132 (14), 118 (39), 90 (100), 77 (50), 65 (24), 51 (19). Anal. Calcd. For $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$: C, 73.45; H, 6.16; N, 9.52 %. Found : C, 73.16; H, 6.02; N; 9.25 %.

(E)-2-Acetyl-3-anilino- N^1 -phenyl-2-butenethioamide (3d). Yellow crystals. mp 116-118°C. IR (KBr, $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$): 3180, 3110 (NH), 1589 (C=O). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 13.29 (s, 1H, NH); 11.98 (s, 1H, NH-C=S); 7.94-7.23 (m, 10H, Ar); 2.21 (s, 3H, CH_3); 2.12 (s, 3H, CH_3). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- d_6) 199.61 (C=S), 192.89 (C=O), 158.31 (C_3), 140.61, 138.63, 130.31, 129.46, 127.17, 126.81, 125.65, 123.77, 119.08 (C_2), 28.25 (CH_3), 17.81 (CH_3). MS (m/z): 310 (10) (M^+), 277 (22), 175 (58), 160 (95), 135 (100), 132 (34), 118 (23), 91 (8), 77 (75), 65 (15), 51 (43).(60), 263 (65), 188 (90), 160 (25), 138 (20), 104 (75), 77 (80), 51 (35). Anal. Calcd. For $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{OS}$: C, 69.65; H, 5.84; N, 9.02 %. Found : C, 69.86; H, 5.72; N; 9.15 %.

(E)-2-Acetyl- N^1 -phenyl-3-(4-toluidino)-2-butenamide (3e). White crystals. mp 146-148°C. IR (KBr, $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$): 3250, 3110 (NH), 1640, 1589 (C=O). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 13.23 (s, 1H, NH); 10.27 (s, 1H, NH-C=O); 8.64-6.97 (m, 9H, Ar); 2.32 (s, 3H, CH_3); 2.12 (s, 3H, CH_3); 2.03 (s, 3H, CH_3). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- d_6) 193.52 (C=O), 168.56 (N-C=O), 161.09 (C_3), 140.55, 140.37, 136.53, 135.82, 130.73, 129.53, 125.80, 124.23, 122.66, 120.05, 119.04, 111.42 (C_2), 28.45 (CH_3), 21.34 (CH_3), 18.02 (CH_3). MS (m/z): 308 (10) (M^+), 216 (100), 198 (60), 189 (10), 174 (40), 158 (7), 144 (10), 132 (27), 119 (10), 106 (7), 93 (55), 77 (15), 65 (28), 51 (8). Anal. Calcd. For $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$: C, 74.00; H, 6.54; N, 9.08 %. Found : C, 73.86; H, 6.42; N; 8.75 %.

(E)-2-Acetyl- N^1 -phenyl-3-(4-toluidino)-2-butenethioamide (3f). Green crystals. mp 93°C. IR (KBr, $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$): 3250, 3110 (NH), 1640, 1589 (C=O). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 13.24 (s, 1H, NH); 11.98 (s, 1H, NH-C=S); 7.92-7.12 (m, 9H, Ar); 2.32 (s, 3H, CH_3); 2.19 (s, 3H, CH_3), 2.08 (s, 3H, CH_3). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO- d_6) 199.73 (C=S), 192.59 (C=O), 158.54 (C_3), 140.62, 136.26, 135.99, 13.76, 129.44, 127.13, 125.63, 123.74, 118.87 (C_2), 28.20 (CH_3), 21.35 (CH_3), 17.77 (CH_3). MS (m/z): 324(10) (M^+), 291 (15), 189 (30), 174 (58), 146 (24), 135 (100), 91 (39), 77 (87), 65 (28), 51 (58). Anal. Calcd. For $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{OS}$: C, 70.34; H, 6.21; N, 8.63 %. Found : C, 70.13; H, 6.08; N; 8.27 %.

(E)-2-Acetyl-3-(2,3-dimethylanilino)- N^1 -phenyl-2-butenethioamide (3g). Brown crystals. mp 82-83°C. IR (KBr, $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$): 3350, 3200 (NH), 1589 (C=O). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 13.11 (s, 1H, NH); 10.32 (s, 1H, NH-C=S); 7.14-6.97 (m, 8H, Ar); 2.27 (s, 3H, CH_3); 2.12 (s,

3H, CH₃); 2.07 (s, 3H, CH₃); 1.81(s, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d₆) 200.86 (C=O), 192.66 (C=S), 159.76 (C₃), 138.81, 137.27, 132.86, 129.07, 126.76, 125.05, 116.79 (C₂), 27.99 (CH₃), 20.91 (CH₃), 17.54 (CH₃), 14.76 (CH₃). MS (*m/z*): 338 (5) (M⁺), 305 (8), 243 (15), 146 (12), 136 (10), 121 (15), 105 (10), 95 (16), 81 (48), 69 (100), 55 (30). Anal. Calcd. For C₂₀H₂₂N₂OS: C, 70.97; H, 6.55; N, 8.28 %. Found : C, 70.68; H, 6.39; N; 7.95 %.

(E)-2-Benzoyl-3-(butylamino)-N¹-phenyl-2-butenamide (3h). Yellow crystals. mp 165-166°C. IR (KBr, $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$): 3220, 3150 (NH), 1589 (C=O). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 12.20 (s, 1H, NH); 9.95 (s, 1H, NH-C=O); 8.65 (s, 1H); 7.52-6.95 (m, 10H, Ar); 3.41 (t, 2H, ³J_{H-H}=5.4, CH₂); 2.14 (s, 3H, CH₃); 1.60 (m, 2H, CH₂); 1.43 (m, 2H, CH₂); 0.95 (t, 3H, ³J_{H-H}=0.6, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d₆) 189.87 (C=O), 168.96 (N-C=O), 167.12 (C₃), 143.32, 140.32, 129.64, 129.21, 128.50, 127.64, 123.80, 120.10, 119.04 (C₂), 43.30, 32.06, 20.40, 17.20, 14.42. MS (*m/z*): 336 (8) (M⁺), 244 (100), 212 (9), 129 (10), 119 (5), 105 (75), 93 (68), 77 (45), 65 (14). Anal. Calcd. For C₂₁H₂₄N₂O₂: C, 74.97; H, 7.19; N, 8.33 %. Found : C, 74.76; H, 7.02; N; 8.15 %.

(E)-2-Benzoyl-3-(butylamino)-N¹-phenyl-2-butenethioamide (3i). Yellow crystals. mp 133-135°C. IR (KBr, $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$): 3220, 3150 (NH), 1589 (C=O). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 12.35 (s, 1H, NH); 11.60 (s, 1H, NH-C=S); 7.55-7.15 (m, 10H, Ar); 3.44 (t, 2H, ³J_{H-H}=5.1, CH₂); 2.25 (s, 3H, CH₃); 1.61 (m, 2H, CH₂); 1.44 (m, 2H, CH₂); 0.96 (t, 3H, ³J_{H-H}=0.6, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d₆) 199.40 (C=S), 188.71 (C=O), 165.29 (C₃), 143.52, 140.58, 129.60, 129.14, 128.22, 127.33, 126.75, 123.93, 116.59 (C₂), 43.44, 32.07, 20.44, 17.38, 14.45. MS (*m/z*): 352 (8) (M⁺), 319 (15), 217 (40), 200 (25), 188 (20), 174 (19), 160 (15), 135 (70), 105 (57), 91 (35), 77 (100), 68 (18), 51 (33). Anal. Calcd. For C₂₁H₂₄N₂OS: C, 71.56; H, 6.86; N, 7.95 %. Found : C, 71.39; H, 6.67; N; 7.69 %.

Ethyl(Z)-3-amino-2-(anilincarbonyl)-butenoate (3j). Pale yellow crystals. mp 120-122°C. IR (KBr, $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$): 3198, 3125, 3110 (NH₂, NH), 1625 (C=O). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 12.15 (s, 1H, NH); 10.58 (s, 2H, NH₂); 7.55-6.75 (m, 5H, Ar); 4.07 (q, 2H, *J*=7.3, CH₂), 2.08 (s, 3H, CH₃); 1.15 (t, 3H, *J*=7.3, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d₆) 169.04 (C=O), 167.50, 151.19 (C₃), 139.71, 128.48, 122.56, 119.46, 118.04(C₂), 59.15, 24.21, 14.22. MS (*m/z*): 248 (7) (M⁺), 203(34), 156(100), 91 (11), 77 (55), 65 (18), 51 (41). Anal. Calcd. For C₁₃H₁₆N₂O₃: C, 62.89; H, 6.50; N, 11.28 %. Found : C, 62.59; H, 6.36; N;11.01.

Ethyl (E)-3-amino-2-(anilincarbothioyl)-butenoate (3k). Yellow crystals. mp 136-137°C. IR (KBr, $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$): 3170, 3140, 3115 (NH₂, NH), 1615 (C=O). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 12.05 (s, 1H); 11.46 (s, 2H); 7.82-7.27 (m, 5H, Ar); 4.01 (q, 2H, *J*=7.2, CH₂), 2.01 (s, 3H, CH₃); 1.12 (t, 3H, *J*=7.2, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, DMSO-d₆) 198.00(C=S), 166.45(C=O), 159.16(C₃), 140.19, 128.33, 125.62, 123.12, 103.44(C₂), 58.43, 19.99, 14.42. MS (*m/z*): 264 (12) (M⁺), 219(32), 191 (14), 172(23), 91 (12), 77 (55), 65 (27), 51 (43). Anal. Calcd. For C₁₃H₁₆N₂O₂S: C, 59.07; H, 6.10; N, 10.60 %. Found : C, 58.72; H, 5.96; N;10.29.

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