



Synthesis of β -Amino Cyclone Catalyzed by Alkaline Al_2O_3

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A new method for the synthesis of β -amino cyclone with amines and cyclonene, which was efficiently carried out under solvent free conditions in a short time at room temperature using the catalyst of alkaline Al_2O_3 with high yield. The reusability of the catalyst has been successfully examined without noticeable loss of its catalytic activity.

Key Words: Alkaline Al_2O_3 , Cyclohexenone, Cyclonene, Cyclopentenone, Solvent-free.

INTRODUCTION

As the β -amino cycloketone has been recognized as not only a key structure of biologically important natural products including β -lactams but also a versatile nitrogen-containing intermediate such as amino alcohols, diamines and β -amino acid derivatives. Owing to their wide range of biological activities and pharmacological properties, the synthesis of β -amino cycloketone compounds, particularly β -amino cyclopentanone and β -amino cyclohexanone, has become a field of increasing interest in organic synthesis during the past few decades. The approach based on conjugate addition of amines to cyclonene is one of the simplest and most effective methods for preparing β -amino cyclone compounds. In recent years, a number of catalysts such as [Bmim]PF₆¹, TBAB², HClO₄-SiO₂³, SiO₂@Cu-Core-Shell-Nanoparticles⁴, *n*-Bu₄NBr-KOH⁵, TEAA⁷, [DUB][Ac]⁸, [DUB][Lac]⁹, nano-Cu¹⁰, Bi(NO₃)₃¹¹, Cu(OTf)₂¹², FeCl₃-Me₃SiCl¹³, (*n*-Bu)₃P-Me₃SiCl¹⁴, Cu(acac)₂¹⁵, [Bmim]OH¹⁶, [HP(HNCH₂CH₂)₃N]NO₃¹⁷, PAPH¹⁸, (IPr)Cu(NHPh)(I)¹⁹, PANI-In²⁰ have been developed for this reaction. Furthermore, transition metal salt catalysts were reported over the past few years, for instance, PtCl₄²¹, ZrOCl₂²³, Hf(OTf)₄²⁴, VO(OTf)₂²⁵, Pd/Rh²², ZrCl₄²⁶, ZrO₂/SO₄²⁻²⁷, VO(OAc)₂²⁸, Zr(DS)₄²⁹, Co(OAc)₂³⁰. However, most of the methods have the drawbacks of using expensive and/or toxic catalysts, harsh reaction conditions³¹, low yields⁶ or long reaction time limited their application in organic synthesis³². As more and more attention is paid to introduction of cleaner technologies both in industry and academia, preparation and application of recyclable catalysts have become a high priority. The practical and economic methods in large-scale operations

require the development of efficient and recyclable catalytic systems. Hence, the requirement of developing a new conjugate addition of aromatic amines to cyclonene and mild reaction condition remains. As alkaline Al_2O_3 was widely used in organic synthesis³³. In this paper, we describe the use of recyclable alkaline Al_2O_3 as an efficient and versatile catalyst for the conjugate addition of aromatic amines to cyclonene. The reaction was carried out under mild condition with high yield in the absence of solvent and alkaline Al_2O_3 could be readily recycled at least five times without obvious deactivation.

EXPERIMENTAL

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker ACF 400. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel. Alkaline Al_2O_3 and other chemicals were purchased from Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co. Ltd.

General procedure: A mixture of aromatic amine (10 mmol), cyclonene (12 mmol) and alkaline Al_2O_3 (1 g) was stirred at room temperature for 2 h (monitored by TLC). Then, the solid mixture was washed with ethyl acetate (10 mL) and the crude product was obtained after removing off the ethyl acetate from washing solution. Further purification was carried out by short column chromatography on silica gel(ethyl acetate: *n*-hexane = 1:6). The recovered alkaline Al_2O_3 could be reused.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

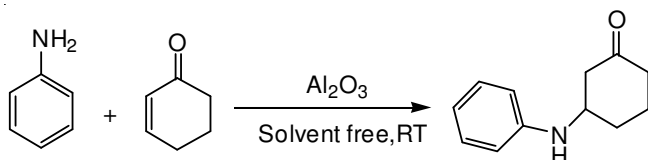
In order to optimize the reaction conditions, initially, the condensation of cyclohexenone and phenylamine was studied as a model reaction at room temperature (Table-1 and

TABLE-1
OPTIMIZATION OF REACTION OF CYCLOHEXENONE TO
PHENYLAMINE AT ROOM TEMPERATURE^a

Entry	Catalyst (g)	Time (h) ^c	Yield (%) ^d
1 ^b	0	26.0	78
2	0.50	9.0	97
3	0.75	4.5	98
4	1.00	2.0	98
5	1.25	2.0	98
6	1.50	2.0	98
7	1.75	2.0	98

^aAll reactions were run at room temperature using cyclohexenone (12 mmol), phenylamine (10 mmol) without solvent. ^bNo addition of alkaline Al₂O₃. ^cThe time of the reaction was monitored by TLC (AcOEt: *n*-hexane = 1:4). ^dIsolated yields after column chromatography (AcOEt: *n*-hexane = 1:6).

Scheme-I) and the reaction finished in 2 h with the yield of 98 %. In the absence of the catalyst, the reaction finished after 26 h and had the isolated yields of 78 %. Optimization for using amount of the alkaline Al₂O₃ revealed that the best yield was obtained when 1 g alkaline Al₂O₃ was used under the experimental scale.



Scheme-I: Reaction of cyclohexenone to phenylamine at room temperature

In order to show the general applicability of present method, the addition of several aromatic amines to cyclopentenone and cyclohexenone were catalyzed by alkaline Al₂O₃ in proper time and with good to excellent yields (Table-2). It is notable that no by-products were produced resulting from the undesirable 1,2-addition or *bis*-addition side reactions which are usually observed under classical conditions.

The reaction of cyclic amine *N*-methylmorpholine with cyclohexenone and cyclopentenone gave 99 and 97 % yield, respectively, in 1.5 h (Table-2, entries 6 and 10). Sterically hindered amine, for example phenylamine (Table-2, entry 1 and 7) with cyclohexenone and cyclopentenone offered 1,4-addition products in 98 and 95 % yield in 2 h.

Recycling of the catalyst is important for the large-scale operation and industrial point of view. To check the possibility of the catalyst recycling, addition of cyclohexenone with phenylamine at room temperature in alkaline Al₂O₃ was studied. After the completion of the reaction, EtOAc was added to reaction mixture. Then, the organic phase was separated and remainder was filtered. The isolated solid phase (alkaline Al₂O₃) was washed for several times and dried under reduced pressure then reused for five runs without any noticeable drop in the yield and catalytic activity (Table-3).

Analytical data of the products

3-(Phenylamino)cyclohexanone: (Table-2, entry 1) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.191-7.160 (m, 2H), 6.736-6.706 (m, 1H), 6.601-6.585 (d, *J* = 6.4, 2H), 3.816-3.765 (m, 1H), 2.857-2.815 (m, 1H), 2.440-2.365 (m, 1H), 2.353-2.262 (m, 2H), 2.199-2.168 (m, 1H), 2.090-2.027 (m, 1H), 1.796-

1.695 (m, 2H), 1.689-1.586 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 209.55, 146.24, 129.39, 117.87, 113.29, 52.27, 48.53, 51.12, 31.04, 22.11; ESI-MS: *m/z* 189.96 [*M* + 1]⁺. NMR data were identical with those described in the literature^{32b}.

3-(*o*-Toluidino)cyclohexanone: (Table-2, entry 2) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.275 (s, 1H), 7.153-7.079 (m, 1H), 6.712-6.681 (m, 1H), 6.637-6.621 (d, *J* = 6.4, 1H), 3.883-3.848 (m, 1H), 2.907-2.864 (m, 1H), 2.464-2.350 (m, 1H), 2.347-2.320 (m, 2H), 2.235-2.189 (m, 1H), 2, 146 (s, 3H), 2.101-2.061 (m, 1H), 1.815-1.765 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 209.57, 144.18, 130.41, 127.16, 122.14, 117.40, 110.37, 52.07, 48.65, 41.16, 31.12, 22.19, 17.48; ESI-MS: *m/z* 203.88 [*M* + 1]⁺. NMR data were identical with those described in the literature⁹.

3-(*p*-Toluidino)cyclohexanone: (Table-2, entry 3) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 6.995-6.978 (d, *J* = 6.8, 2H), 6.531-6.514 (m, 2H), 3.767-3.731 (m, 1H), 2.841-2.802 (m, 1H), 2.422-2.244 (m, 4H), 2.242-2.233 (d, *J* = 3.6, 3H), 2.193-2.153 (m, 1H), 2.067-2.022 (m, 1H), 1.759-1.676 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 209.73, 144.00, 129.91, 127.19, 113.65, 52.68, 48.64, 41.18, 31.12, 22.16, 20.39; ESI-MS: *m/z* 204.11 [*M* + 1]⁺. NMR data were identical with those described in the literature⁹.

3-(3-Chlorophenylamino)cyclohexanone: (Table-2, entry 4) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.096-7.064 (s, 1H), 6.694-6.676 (m, 1H), 6.575-6.544 (m, 1H), 6.471-6.449 (m, 1H), 3.663-3.545 (m, 1H), 2.841-2.804 (m, 1H), 2.454-2.409 (m, 1H), 2.406-2.211 (m, 2H), 2.201-2.161 (m, 1H), 2.075-2.037 (m, 1H), 1.799-1.697 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 209.26, 147.48, 135.12, 130.38, 117.63, 112.82, 111.53, 52.07, 48.25, 41.07, 30.83, 22.03; ESI-MS: *m/z* 223.94 [*M* + 1]⁺. NMR data were identical with those described in the literature⁹.

3-(4-Methoxyphenylamino)cyclohexanone: (Table-2, entry 5) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 6.780-6.758 (d, *J* = 8.8, 2H), 6.580-6.558 (d, *J* = 8.8, 2H), 3.732 (s, 3H), 3.687-3.668 (m, 1H), 3.177 (s, 1H), 2.813-2.768 (m, 1H), 2.406-2.221 (m, 3H), 2.167-2.133 (m, 1H), 2.060-2.006 (m, 1H), 1.742-1.631 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 209.76, 152.43, 140.41, 115.10, 114.95, 55.71, 53.33, 48.58, 41.10, 31.12, 22.09; ESI-MS: *m/z* 219.96 [*M* + 1]⁺. NMR data were identical with those described in the literature²⁹.

3-(3a*H*-Benzo[*d*][1,2,3]triazol-1(7a*H*)-ylamino)-cyclohexanone: (Table-2, entry 6) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.100-8.083 (d, *J* = 6.8, 1H), 7.543-7.497 (m, 2H), 7.416-7.383 (m, 1H), 5.069-5.009 (m, 1H), 3.335-3.284 (m, 1H), 2.988-2.949 (m, 1H), 2.574-2.512 (m, 2H), 2.497-2.490 (m, 1H), 2.430-2.395 (m, 1H), 2.229-2.183 (m, 1H), 1.896-1.820 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 205.79, 145.93, 132.10, 127.45, 124.17, 120.09, 109.20, 56.78, 46.92, 40.52, 30.89, 21.76; ESI-MS: *m/z* 215.94 [*M* - 1]⁺. NMR data were identical with those described in the literature³⁴.

3-(Phenylamino)cyclopentanone: (Table-2, entry 7) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.261-7.133 (m, 2H), 6.773-6.736 (m, 1H), 6.697-6.677 (m, 1H), 6.636-6.616 (m, 1H), 4, 146-4.0 87 (m, 1H), 2.739-2.677 (m, 2H), 2.373-2.350 (m, 2H), 2.311-2.200 (m, 2H), 1.989-1.965 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR

TABLE-2
 CONJUGATIVE ADDITION OF AROMATIC AMINE TO CYCLOPENTENONE AND CYCLOHEXENONE AT ROOM TEMPERATURE^a

Entry	Amine	Cyclonene	Product	Time(h) ^b	Isolated Yield% ^c
1				2	98
2				2	95
3				2	95
4				2	96
5				2	98
6				1.5	99
7				2	95
8				2	95
9				2	95
10				1.5	97

^aAll reactions were run at room temperature using cyclohexenone (12 mmol), phenylamine (10 mmol) without solvent. ^bThe time of the reaction was monitored by TLC(AcOEt: *n*-hexane=1:4). ^cIsolated yields after column chromatography(AcOEt: *n*-hexane =1:6).

(400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 217.16, 165.03, 146.92, 134.55, 118.05, 115.14, 113.35, 51.16, 46.06, 36.61, 29.00; ESI-MS: m/z 175.93 [$M + 1$]⁺. NMR data were identical with those described in the literature¹⁶.

3-(*o*-Toluidino)cyclopentanone: (Table-2, entry 8) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 7.162-7.124 (m, 1H), 7.088-

7.069 (m, 1H), 6.730-6.693 (m, 1H), 6.648-6.628 (m, 1H), 4.194-4.136 (m, 1H), 2.779-2.171 (m, 1H), 2.511-2.436 (m, 2H), 2.417-2.370 (m, 1H), 2.331-2.186 (m, 1H), 2.127 (s, 3H), 2.058-2.014 (m, 1H), 1.303-1.255 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ = 217.08, 144.81, 130.44, 127.16, 122.51, 118.60, 110.49, 51.02, 46.29, 36.57, 29.87, 17.55; ESI-MS:

TABLE-3
RECYCLING USE THE CATALYST OF
ALKALINE Al₂O₃ FOR FIVE TIMES

Times	Catalyst (g)	Time (h) ^c	Yield (%) ^d
1 ^a	1	2	98
2 ^a	1	2	98
3 ^b	0.5	2	98
4 ^b	0.5	2	95
5 ^b	0.5	2	95

^aThe reactions were run at room temperature using cyclohexenone (12mmol), phenylamine (10mmol), reused alkaline Al₂O₃ 1g without solvent. ^bThe reactions were run at room temperature using cyclohexenone (6 mmol), phenylamine (5 mmol), reused alkaline Al₂O₃ 0.5 g without solvent. ^cThe time of the reaction was monitored by TLC (AcOEt: *n*-hexane = 1:4). ^dYield refers to HPLC (*n*-hexane: isopropanol = 1:8).

m/z 189.98 [M + 1]⁺. NMR data were identical with those described in the literature⁹.

3-(3-Chlorophenylamino)cyclopentanone: (Table-2, entry 9) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 7.114-7.074 (m, 1H), 6.725-6.705 (m, 1H), 6.620-6.592 (m, 1H), 6.496-6.470 (m, 1H), 4, 104-4.074 (m, 1H), 2.743-2.681 (m, 1H), 2.467-2.358 (m, 3H), 2.324-2.263 (m, 1H), 2, 191- 2.130 (m, 1H), 1.998-1.965 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 216.49, 148.00, 135.14, 130.36, 117.89, 112.90, 111.65, 51.03, 45.82, 36.51, 29.64; ESI-MS: *m/z* 209.99 [M + 1]⁺.

3-(3*aH*-Benzo[d][1,2,3]triazol-1(7*aH*)-ylamino)-cyclopentanone: (Table-2, entry 10) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 8.114-8.093 (d, *J* = 8.4, 1H), 7.575-7.396 (m, 2H), 7.264 (s, 1H), 5.498-5.436 (m, 1H), 3.148- 3.087 (m, 1H), 2.974-2.891 (m, 1H), 2.779-2.681 (m, 4H), 2.503-2.443 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 213.94, 146.23, 132.52, 127.59, 124.29, 120.27, 109.11, 55.76, 44.03, 36.64, 29.63; ESI-MS: *m/z* 203.95 [M + 1]⁺. NMR data were identical with those described in the literature³⁴.

Conclusion

In this paper, a conjugative addition of aromatic amines to cyclopentenone and cyclohexenone in alkaline Al₂O₃ is reported. This procedure achieves a high yield by using a green and reused solid reaction media, besides, the procedure is easy to handle. These remarkable advantages will make this approach not only suitable for laboratory scale research but also for industrial applications.

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