

Dipyridine copper chloride-catalysed one-pot synthesis of β -amino carbonyl compounds via Mannich reaction

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CuPy₂Cl₂-catalysed Mannich reaction of aromatic aldehyde, aromatic amine, and acetophenone proceeded smoothly in water to afford the corresponding β -amino carbonyl compounds in excellent yields.

Keywords: Mannich reaction, aldehydes, amines, ketones CuPy₂Cl₂

The Mannich-type reactions are useful C–C bond forming reactions in organic synthesis for the preparation of β -amino ketones and other β -amino carbonyl compounds.^{1–8} The β -amino carbonyl compounds are used for the synthesis of amino alcohols, peptides, lactams and as precursor to optically active amino acids. In the classical intermolecular Mannich reaction, three-components, an aldehyde, amine and a ketone, react to form a β -amino carbonyl compounds in the presence of catalysts like proline,^{9–11} acetic acid,¹² *p*-dodecyl benzenesulfonic acid,¹³ Lewis acids,^{14,15} lanthanides,¹⁶ transition metal salt catalysis,¹⁷ Silica-supported aluminum chloride¹⁸ and NbCl₅.¹⁹ Despite the potential utility of this reaction, traditional protocols require somewhat harsh conditions, using toxic organic solvents and long reaction times leading to competition from undesired side reactions. Moreover, the main disadvantage of almost all existing methods is that the catalysts are destroyed in the work-up procedure and cannot be recovered or reused. Consequently, there remains the opportunity for further development of better catalyst in the synthesis of β -amino carbonyl compounds reusability.

Result and discussion

In continuation of our studies of CuPy₂Cl₂²⁰ mediated reactions we wish to report the synthesis of β -amino carbonyl compounds via Mannich reaction in aqueous media. The catalyst is stable in air and water, soluble in water and immiscible in common organic solvents, reusable, and of high thermal stability. The reaction is completed in a short time and in excellent yields. Earlier, we have employed this catalyst for various organic transformations, such as Biginelli reaction,²¹ Pechmann condensation.²² There is a need for the development of organic reactions in environmentally-friendly media, such as water as solvent.

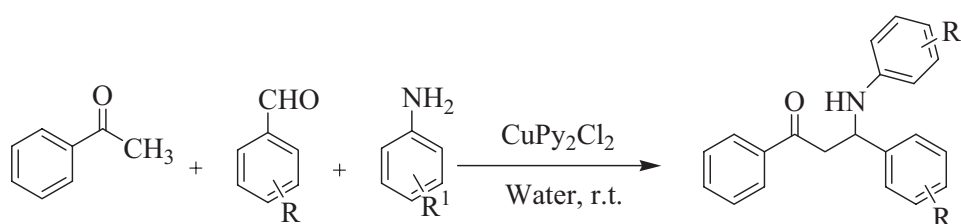
The CuPy₂Cl₂-catalysed Mannich reaction was examined on number of aromatic aldehydes, amines and ketones. The results are summarised in Table 1. Good yields were observed on simple aniline, 4-chloro aniline and 4-nitro aniline. 2-Nitroaniline failed to yield any product (entry 14) due to steric effects. When the reaction was carried out with piperidine (entry 15) no product was obtained.

The reaction was studied in various solvents such as water, ethanol, acetonitrile and dichloromethane. Good yields were

Table 1 CuPy₂Cl₂-catalysed direct Mannich reaction various aryl aldehydes and amines

Entry	R	R ¹	Time/h	Yield/% ^a	M.p./°C
1	H	H	9	95	169–170 ¹³
2	4-Cl	H	11	95	114–115 ¹²
3	4-NO ₂	H	8	94	105–106 ¹³
4	4-CH ₃	H	9	92	134–135 ¹²
5	4-OH	H	10	93	181–182
6	4-OCH ₃	H	10	93	142–143 ¹²
7	H	4-Cl	12	95	170–171 ¹²
8	4-Cl	4-Cl	12	92	118–119 ¹²
9	4-CH ₃	4-Cl	10	95	135–136
10	4-NO ₂	4-Cl	10	93	113–114
11	4-OCH ₃	4-Cl	11	91	148–149
12	4-OH	4-Cl	10	92	158–159
13	H	4-NO ₂	12	95	180–181 ¹²
14	4-Cl	2-NO ₂	56	–	–
15	H	Piperidine	48	–	–
16	4-OH	4-CH ₃	8	89	171–172 ¹²
17	4-CH ₃	4-CH ₃	10	85	136–137 ¹²
18	4-Br	4-CH ₃	8	89	126–127 ¹²

^aYields refer to isolated pure products and were characterised by NMR, IR and mass spectral data with those of authentic samples.



Scheme 1

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Table 2 CuPy₂Cl₂-catalysed three component Mannich reaction of benzaldehyde, amine and acetophenone in different solvents

Entry	Solvent	Yield/%
1	Water	95
2	Ethanol	95
3	Acetonitrile	89
4	DCM	65

observed in water and ethanol, moderate yields in acetonitrile and poor yields were observed in DCM. We gave more priority to water because it is environmentally-friendly solvent and also the catalyst is easily soluble and recoverable from water.

In conclusion we have shown that CuPy₂Cl₂ is an efficient catalyst for the Mannich reaction.

Experimental

Melting points are uncorrected. The reactions were monitored by TLC and visualised with UV light. IR spectra (KBr) were recorded on Shimadzu FTIR model 8010 spectrometer and the ¹H NMR spectra on Varian Gemini 200 MHz spectrometer using TMS as an internal standard. The C, H, and N analysis of the compound was done on Elementar Vario EL model. Mass spectra were recorded on a JEOL JMS D-300 Spectrometer. All solvents and reagents were purchased from Aldrich and Fluka.

Typical procedure for the synthesis of Mannich products

CuPy₂Cl₂ (0.01 mol%) was added to a mixture of benzaldehyde (1 equiv., 0.5 g), aniline (1 equiv., 0.45 g) and acetophenone (1 equiv., 0.6 g) in distilled water (3 ml). The mixture was stirred at room temperature. After a certain time (see Table 1), the reaction mixture became viscous and solidified. The completion of reaction was monitored by TLC. The resulting solid was filtered and recrystallised from ethanol to afford the pure compounds. The filtrate containing the catalyst could be evaporated under reduced pressure (50 mm. Hg pressure at 85°C) to give a blue solid and it can be reused for the next reaction with only modest loss in activity.

Analytical data for the Mannich products

3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-phenyl-3-(phenylamino)propan-1-one (2): ¹H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃): 3.40(2H, d, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 4.92(1H, t, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 6.49(2H, d, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 6.65(1H, t, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.05(1H, t, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.25(2H, d, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 7.35–7.75(6H, m), 7.85(1H, d, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 8.00(1H, d, *J* = 7.8 Hz); IR (cm⁻¹): 3389, 3034, 1674, 1595, 1518, 1375, 1295, 1225, 1081, 1005, 932, 860, 749, 690, 620, 515. EIMS, 70Ev, *m/z*: 335 (M⁺); Anal. Calcd for C₂₁H₁₈ClNO: C, 75.11; H, 5.40; N, 4.17; Found: C, 75.14; H, 5.43; N, 4.15%.

3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-1-phenyl-3-(phenylamino)propan-1-one (5): ¹H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃): 3.40(2H, m), 4.90(1H, t, *J* = 6.0 Hz), 6.45(2H, d, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 6.65(1H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 7.15(2H, m), 7.15(1H, d, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 7.25(2H, d, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 7.42(4H, m), 7.90(2H, d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 9.90(1H, s); IR (cm⁻¹): 3465, 3390, 3030, 2975, 1670, 1595, 1510, 1293, 1225, 1085, 1020, 1007, 860, 690, 517. EIMS, 70Ev, *m/z*: 317 (M⁺); Anal. Calcd for C₂₁H₁₉NO₂: C, 79.47; H, 6.03; N, 4.41; Found: C, 79.51; H, 6.07; N, 4.36%.

3-(4-chlorophenylamino)-1-phenyl-3-*p*-tolylpropan-1-one (9): ¹H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃): 1.89(3H, s), 3.41(2H, m), 4.91(1H, t, *J* = 6.3 Hz), 6.47(2H, d, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 6.69(1H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 7.10(2H, m), 7.25(2H, d, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 7.40(4H, m), 7.90(2H, d, *J* = 8.8 Hz); IR (cm⁻¹): 3392, 3024, 1670, 1597, 1514, 1295, 1225, 1082, 1023, 1002, 865, 694, 514. EIMS, 70Ev, *m/z*: 349 (M⁺); Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₂₀ClNO: C, 75.53; H, 5.76; N, 4.00; Found: C, 75.45; H, 5.78; N, 4.07%.

3-(4-chlorophenylamino)-3-(4-nitrophenyl)-1-phenylpropan-1-one (10): ¹H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃): 3.50(2H, d, *J* = 6.5 Hz), 4.97(1H, t, *J* = 6.5 Hz), 6.50(2H, d, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 6.70(2H, t, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 7.20(2H, t, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 7.50–7.80(5H, m), 7.95(2H, d, *J* = 8.0 Hz); IR (cm⁻¹): 3397, 3040, 2975, 1679, 1598, 1518, 1365, 1305, 1265, 1110, 1072, 860, 694, 513. EIMS, 70Ev, *m/z*: 380 (M⁺); Anal. Calcd for C₂₁H₁₇ClN₂O₃: C, 66.23; H, 4.50; N, 7.36; Found: C, 66.25; H, 4.53; N, 7.32%.

3-(4-chlorophenylamino)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-phenylpropan-1-one (11): ¹H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃): 3.43(2H, d, *J* = 6.1 Hz), 3.75(3H, s), 4.92(1H, m), 6.45(2H, d, *J* = 7.7 Hz), 6.60(1H, m), 7.10(2H, t, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.39–7.55(5H, m), 7.68(1H, m), 7.73(2H, d, *J* = 8.1 Hz); IR (cm⁻¹): 3390, 3035, 2970, 1673, 1595, 1514, 1297, 1225, 1081, 1008, 860, 694, 513. EIMS, 70Ev, *m/z*: 365 (M⁺); Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₂₀ClNO₂: C, 72.22; H, 5.51; N, 3.83; Found: C, 72.18; H, 5.56; N, 3.88%.

3-(4-chlorophenylamino)-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-1-phenylpropan-1-one (12): ¹H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃): 3.46(2H, m), 4.91(1H, m), 6.51(2H, d, *J* = 7.9 Hz), 6.65(1H, m), 7.15(2H, m), 7.30(1H, d, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 7.40(2H, m), 7.55(2H, m), 7.68(1H, d, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 7.75(2H, d, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 9.75(1H, s); IR (cm⁻¹): 3457, 3391, 3030, 2972, 1670, 1592, 1514, 1293, 1220, 1080, 1026, 1002, 860, 694, 512. EIMS, 70Ev, *m/z*: 351 (M⁺); Anal. Calcd for C₂₁H₁₈ClNO₂: C, 71.69; H, 5.16; N, 3.98; Found: C, 71.62; H, 5.12; N, 3.95%.

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