

A Facile Aldol Reaction in Bronsted Acid Ionic Liquid

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Abstract: α , β -unsaturated ketones were prepared efficiently via Aldol condensation reaction of unmodified ketones and aromatic aldehydes in Bronsted acid ionic liquid (BAIL) BMImHSO₄. The novel method had advantages of high yield and selectivity, mild reaction conditions, ease of product isolation and recycle of ionic liquid.

Key words: Bronsted acid ionic liquid (BAIL); catalyst; aldol reaction; α , β -unsaturated ketones

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The aldol reaction is considered to be one of the most important carbon-carbon bond forming reactions and the product α , β -unsaturated carbonyl compounds are widely used as intermediates in pharmaceutical and flavor chemicals^[1]. However, the corrosive and expensive catalyst (such as a strong acid, base or RuCl₃^[2]), the rigid reaction conditions, low efficiency and use of poisonous molecular solvents in traditional aldol reaction of ketone and aldehyde were also left to be improved in order to establish an industrial competitive process. In recent years, ionic liquids have been effectively used in many organic reactions as potential green alternative solvents. In fact, some pioneers have reported aldol reaction in ionic liquids. For example, Zhang^[3] reported the aldol reaction of TMSCl modified aldehyde with ketones in BMImBF₄. Albelló^[4] explored the supported choline hydroxide ionic liquid as heterogeneous catalyst in aldol condensation with high conversion and low selectivity. Herein, we reported our preliminary results on the efficient and practical aldol reaction of unmodified ketones and aldehydes to afford α , β -unsaturated ketones in Bronsted acid ionic liquid (BAIL). The BAILs used were 1-methylimidazolium tetrafluoroborate acid (HMImBF₄), 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium dihydrogen phosphate (BMImH₂PO₄), 1-ethylimidazolium trifluoroacetic acid (HEImTA) and 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium hydrogen sulphate (BMImHSO₄). All the ionic liquids were prepared according

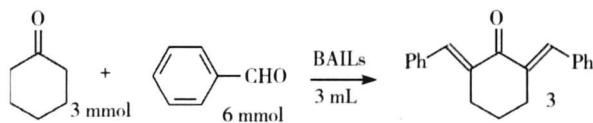
to the literature^[5].

1 Experimental

Preparation of 3-benzylidene-2-butanone (3 d) in BMImHSO₄ and recycled procedure

BMImHSO₄ (3 g), butanone-2 (0.22 g, 3 mmol), benzaldehyde (0.32 g, 3 mmol) were added successively to a 25 mL round-bottomed flask under stirring, then the reaction was kept for 4 h at r.t. till GC/MS detection indicated the completion. The object product could be vacuum distilled or extracted by ethyl acetate (10 mL $\times$ 2) from the mixture, 0.39 g yield 81%, Purity > 99%, m.p. 37 ~ 39 °C. The left ionic liquid could be reused in the next run without any further disposal and similar yield and selectivity could be obtained.

2 Results and discussion



We initiated our study to speculate suitable BAILs as reaction media by using benzaldehyde and cyclohexanone as substrates, the same reaction catalyzed by a common base such as NaOH or Na₂CO₃ in a neutral

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ionic liquid 1-butyl-2,3-dimethylimidazolium hexafluorophosphate (BDMImPF₆) was also explored in order to compare (Tab 1) the efficiency

Tab 1 Aldol reaction of cyclohexanone with benzaldehyde in different conditions^a

Entry	Reaction conditions	Temp/°C	Time/h	Conversion /% ^a	Selectivity /% ^a
1	BMImHSO ₄	20	1	> 99 ^b	> 99
2	BMImH ₂ PO ₄	20	1	91	98
3	HMImBF ₄	60	4	< 10	—
4	HEImTA	60	4	< 10	—
5	BDMImPF ₆ / NaOH 3mmol	20	1	> 99	95
6	BDMImPF ₆ / Na ₂ CO ₃ 3mmol	20	2	95	87

^a detected by GC/MS; ^b Data from next three runs were 99, 99, 99% separately

Ionic liquid BMImHSO₄ was confirmed an effective medium for the reaction, and showed almost the quantitative conversion and highest selectivity compared with BMImH₂PO₄, HMImBF₄ and HEImTA (Entry 1—4). Under our experiment conditions, side reactions caused by water could be effectively restrained in BMImHSO₄ according to GC/MS detection, while in BDMImPF₆ / NaOH (1 equiv), several anonymous impurities were detected, although their content was less than 5% by

GC/MS (Entry 5), while in BDMImPF₆ / Na₂CO₃ (equivalent), the reaction of cyclohexanone with benzaldehyde gave a mixture of α , β -unsaturated ketone and β -hydroxy ketone with the 87% selectivity of 3 (Entry 6). BMImHSO₄ can be recycled with 99, 99, 99% yields separately in the next 3 runs. The results reflected that BMImHSO₄ might be a suitable medium and catalyst in Aldol reactions, with the advantage of high conversion and selectivity.

Encouraged by our initial exploration results, then the scope and the limitation of the reactions between different ketones and different aromatic aldehydes were explored in BMImHSO₄. The results were listed in Tab 2, from where can be seen that BMImHSO₄ was a good reaction medium for several of the substrates. High conversion and selectivity were always observed at low temperature in very short reaction times. The different substituted groups on the aromatic aldehydes displayed some influence on the reaction results, usually higher conversion and selectivity were obtained when there was a electrowithdrawing group other than a electro donating group, we thought the different nucleophilicity might accounted for the observed results. Generally speaking, aromatic methyl ketone is less active than cyclohexanone, therefore, an elevated temperature and prolonged reaction times were needed for a high conversion and yield.

Tab 2 Aldol reaction of ketones with different aromatic aldehydes in BMImHSO₄

Entry	Aldehydes	Ketones	Product	Temp/°C	Time/h	Yield /%	mp (in lit) /°C
1	p-ClC ₆ H ₄ CHO	(CH ₂) ₅ CO	3a	r.t	1	92	145 (145~146) ³
2	p-MeOC ₆ H ₄ CHO	(CH ₂) ₅ CO	3b	r.t	4	84	202 (204) ²
3	p-NO ₂ C ₆ H ₄ CHO	(CH ₂) ₅ CO	3c	r.t	1	99	199 (199~200) ³
4	C ₆ H ₅ CHO	C ₂ H ₅ COCH ₃	3d	r.t	4	81	38 (38~39) ²
5	p-NO ₂ C ₆ H ₄ CHO	C ₂ H ₅ COCH ₃	3e	r.t	4	94	102(103.5~106) ⁶
6	p-NO ₂ C ₆ H ₄ CHO	C ₆ H ₅ COCH ₃	3f	50	4	76	165 (165~166) ²
7	p-NO ₂ C ₆ H ₄ CHO	p-ClC ₆ H ₄ COCH ₃	3g	50	4	90	162 (164) ⁷
8	p-NO ₂ C ₆ H ₄ CHO	p-MeOC ₆ H ₄ COCH ₃	3h	50	4	97	172 (173) ⁷
9	p-NO ₂ C ₆ H ₄ CHO	p-NO ₂ C ₆ H ₄ COCH ₃	3i	80	8	72	192 (193~194) ⁸
10	p-MeOC ₆ H ₄ CHO	p-ClC ₆ H ₄ COCH ₃	3j	50	4	94	124 (124~125) ⁹

3 Conclusions

In summary, α , β -unsaturated ketones were prepared efficiently via Aldol condensation reaction of unmodified ketones and aromatic aldehydes in Bronsted acid ionic liquid (BAIL) BMImHSO₄. The novel method had advantages of high yield and selectivity, mild reaction conditions, ease of product isolation and recycle of ionic liquid.

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Bronsted酸性离子液体催化的 Aldol反应

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摘 要: 通过酮和醛的 Aldol反应在 Bronsted酸离子液体 BMImHSO₄ 中制备了一系列 α 、 β -不饱和酮。所建立方法的主要优势有: 高转化率和选择性、温和的反应条件、产物容易分离、离子液体可循环使用。
关键词: Bronsted酸离子液体; 催化剂; Aldol反应; α 、 β -不饱和酮
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锂离子电池负极材料纳米 Ni₃Sn₂ 的溶剂热合成与电化学性能

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摘 要: 采用溶剂热法合成锂离子电池负极材料纳米 Ni₃Sn₂ 合金粉末并研究了该合金粉末作为新型锂离子二次电池负极材料的电化学性能。合成的合金粉末经过了 XRD和 FESEM的表征, 采用 Li/LPF₆ (EC+DMC) / Ni₃Sn₂ 模拟电池测定合成的合金粉末的电化学性能。研究表明, 该合金粉末的首次可逆容量为 136 mAh·g⁻¹, 退火后的合金粉末表现出更好的循环稳定性。
关键词: 锂离子电池; 负极; Ni₃Sn₂; 溶剂热合成; 电化学性能
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