Carbonylative [5 + 1] Cycloaddition of Cyclopropyl Imines Catalyzed by Ruthenium Carbonyl Complex

Akihito Kamitani, Naoto Chatani, Tsumoru Morimoto,[†] and Shinji Murai*

Department of Applied Chemistry, Faculty of Engineering, Osaka University, Suita, Osaka 565-0871, Japan

murai@chem.eng.osaka-u.ac.jp

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Transition-metal-catalyzed cycloaddition reactions which use carbon monoxide as a one-carbon unit represent one of the attractive methods for the preparation of cyclic carbonyl compounds.¹⁻⁴ Of the carbonylative cycloaddition reactions, a [2+2+1] cycloaddition reaction, which leads to the construction of five-membered carbonyl compounds, is the most popular. We recently reported the first use of a ruthenium complex⁴ in the catalytic Pauson-Khand-type reaction,³ which can be used for the [2+2+1] cycloaddition of alkynes, alkenes, and carbon monoxide leading to the formation of α,β -unsaturated cyclopentenones. A [2 + 2 + 1] cycloaddition of alkynes (or alkenes), aldehydes (or ketones), and carbon monoxide leading to γ -butyrolactone derivatives was achieved by the use of a ruthenium complex⁵⁻⁸ or titanium complex.⁹ We also reported the Ru-catalyzed [4 + 1] cycloaddition of α,β -unsaturated imines with carbon monoxide, which gives γ -butyrolactams.¹⁰ It is also noteworthy that there

[†]Present address: Graduate School of Materials Science, Nara Institute of Scientific and Technology (NAIST), Takayama, Ikoma, Nara 630-0101, Japan.

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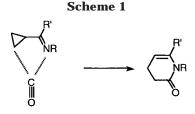
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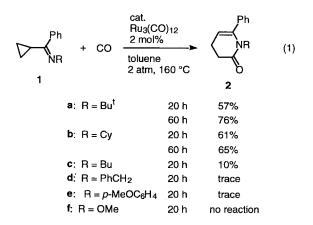
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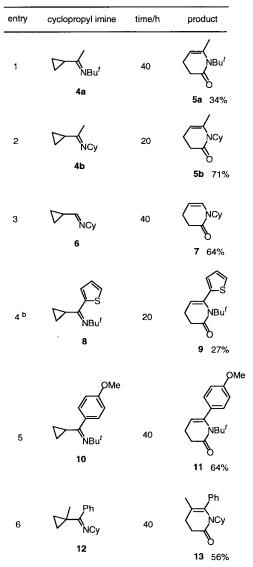
are rare examples of catalytic carbonylative cycloadditions to give six-membered carbonyl compounds.¹¹ A [5 + 1] mode, which involves the ring-opening of cyclopropane, would be of great potential for the construction of six-membered carbonyl compounds. Wender extensively studied catalytic cycloaddition reactions which involve the opening of a cyclopropane ring.¹² We expected that cyclopropyl imines might function as a five-assembling unit on their ring-opening. We report herein the Ru₃-(CO)₁₂-catalyzed carbonylative [5 + 1] mode of cycloaddition of cyclopropyl imines leading to six-membered unsaturated lactams (Scheme 1).

The reaction of the cyclopropyl imine 1a (anti/syn = 3.3/1, 1 mmol), which was derived from cyclopropyl phenyl ketone and tert-butylamine, with CO (initial pressure 2 atm at 25 °C) in toluene (3 mL) in the presence of a catalytic amount of Ru₃(CO)₁₂ (0.02 mmol) at 160 °C for 20 h gave 3,4-dihydro-1-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-6-phenyl-2(1H)-pyridinone (**2a**)¹³ in 57% isolated yield after silica gel column chromatography (eq 1). No other carbonylation products could be detected. Prolongation of the reaction time (60 h) resulted in complete consumption of 1a, and the yield increased to 76%. When the reaction was carried out at 140 or 180 °C, only traces of 2a were formed in both cases. A higher pressure (10 atm) at 160 °C also gave only trace amounts of 2a. Of the solvents examined (dioxane 26% yield, CH₃CN 0%, cyclohexane 30%), toluene (57%) was the solvent of choice when the reaction was run at 160 °C under 2 atm of CO for 20 h. Changing the substituent on the imine nitrogen to PhCH₂, *p*-MeOC₆H₄, or OMe resulted in no detectable corresponding product formation. However, the use of a cyclohexyl group as the N-substituent, such as in **1b**, gave a comparable yield (61%) of the corresponding γ -lactam **2b**. The N-substituent of choice is dependent on the structure of substrates used (vide infra).



No reaction was observed when other transition metal complexes, such as Cp*RuCl(cod), Ru(CO)₂(PPh₃)₃, RuH₂-

^{*} To whom correspondence should be addressed.

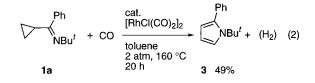


^a Reaction conditions: imine (1 mmol), CO (2 atm at 25 °C), Ru₃(CO)₁₂ (0.05 mmol) in toluene (3 mL) at 160 °C. ^b Ru₃(CO)₁₂ (0.02 mmol).

(CO)(PPh₃)₃, Ru(acac)₃, [RuCl₂(CO)₃]₂, Co₂(CO)₈, IrCl-(CO)(PPh₃)₂, and [IrCl(CO)₃]_n, were used as catalysts. When the reaction was run in the presence of [RhCl- $(CO)_2]_2$ as the catalyst, no carbonylation products were obtained, but instead, the pyrrole derivative 3 was formed in 49% yield (eq 2). Product 3 was formed by the dehydrogenation of dihydropyrrole, which would be formed by an aza-version of the vinylcyclopropane rearrangement.

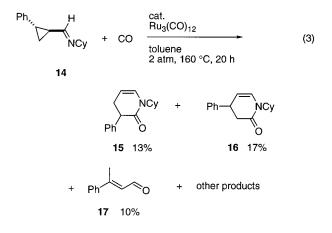
The results of the reaction of some cyclopropyl imines¹⁵ with CO are shown in Table 1. The reaction of imine 4a,

J. A. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1999, 121, 5348 and references therein. (13) All new compounds were characterized by NMR, IR, mass spectral data and by elemental analyses or high-resolution mass



derived from cyclopropyl methyl ketone and tert-butylamine, under the same reaction conditions as in eq 1 for 20 h gave the corresponding lactam 5a in 25% yield. The use of additional catalyst (0.05 mmol) and a longer reaction time (40 h) led to a slight increase in the yield of 5a to a 34% yield (entry 1). The replacement of the *tert*-butyl group in **4a** with a cyclohexyl group as the N-protecting group, as in 4b, gave 5b in 71% yield (entry 2). Cyclopropyl aldimine 6 was also used in this present cyclocarbonylation reaction (entry 3). The reaction of 8 gave 9 in 27% yield, along with 61% of the starting 8 which was recovered as the corresponding ketone after column chromatography on silica gel (entry 4). Use of additional catalyst (0.05 mmol) and a prolonged reaction time (40 h) did not result in an increased yield of 9, although 8 was completely consumed. In the case of substrates 8 and 10 (entries 4 and 5), the replacement of the tert-butyl group by a cyclohexyl group had no effect on the product yields (not shown). The introduction of a methyl group at the 1-position (α to the imine carbonyl carbon) of the cyclopropane ring, as in **12**, resulted in the formation of the corresponding lactam 13 in good yield (entry 6).

In contrast to 12, cyclopropyl phenyl ketimines which contain a methyl or phenyl group at the 2-position on the cyclopropane ring could not be used in the present reaction. In these cases, complex mixtures were obtained and it was not possible to isolate the corresponding lactams in a pure form. In the case of the reaction of aldimine 14, a mixture of the expected lactams 15 and 16 was obtained in a total yield of 30% and the aldehyde 17 in 10%, along with 23% of the imine being recovered as trans-2-phenylcyclopropancarboxaldehyde (eq 3). We propose that aldehyde 17 is formed from the same key intermediate, leading to 16. The course of the reaction in which aldehyde 17 is formed will be discussed below.

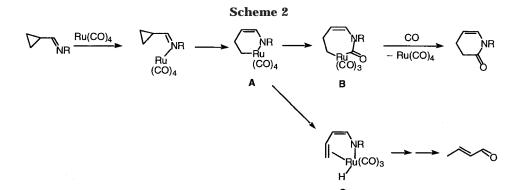


A proposed mechanism for the reaction is shown in Scheme 2. The coordination of a nitrogen to ruthenium facilitates the conversion to metallacycle A via an oxidative cyclization of the cyclopropyl imine.¹⁶ The insertion

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⁽¹⁵⁾ Ketimines were used as a syn and anti mixture.



of CO in **A** gives the acyl complex **B**,¹⁷ which undergoes a reductive elimination to give the lactam. Compared with the carbonylative [4 + 1] cycloaddition of α,β unsaturated imines which leads to the formation of unsaturated γ -butyrolactams reported previously,¹⁰ the efficiency of the present reaction is relatively low. The reason for this may be the formation of aldehydes as byproducts. The latter are probably formed via a β -hydride elimination from A. The presence of a substituent at the 2-position on the cyclopropane ring facilitates the β -hydride elimination from **A** because the resulting alkene complex C is more stable than that derived from the nonsubstituted substrate. In contrast, there is no β -hydrogen available for elimination in a similar metallacycle complex derived from α,β -unsaturated imines. When a rhodium complex is used as the catalyst, the pyrrole **3** is formed (eq 2) by reductive elimination from the Rh complex corresponding to A, followed by dehydrogenation and subsequent aromatization.

In summary, we have demonstrated a new Rucatalyzed [5 + 1] cycloaddition of cyclopropyl imines with carbon monoxide leading to γ, δ -unsaturated six-membered lactam derivatives. Catalytic carbonylative cyclocoupling holds considerable promise for the preparation of cyclic carbonyl compounds.

Experimental Section

Materials. Toluene, dioxane, CH₃CN, and cyclohexane were distilled from CaH₂. Ru₃(CO)₁₂ and [RhCl(CO)₂]₂ were purchased from Aldrich Chemical Co. and used after recrystallization from hexane. Ketimines 1, 4, 8, 10, and 12 were prepared by the treatment of the corresponding ketones with amines in the presence of $TiCl_4$.¹⁸ Aldimines **\vec{6}** and **13** were prepared by the treatment of the corresponding aldehydes with amines in the presence of MgSO₄.¹⁹

Typical Procedure. A 50-mL stainless autoclave was charged with cyclopropyl phenyl N-(1,1-dimethylethyl) ketimine (1a) (1 mmol, 201 mg), toluene (3 mL), and Ru₃(CO)₁₂ (0.02 mmol, 13 mg). The system was flushed with 10 atm of CO three times, after which it was pressurized to 2 atm and immersed in an oil

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bath at 160 °C. After 60 h had elapsed, the autoclave was removed from the oil bath and cooled for 1 h, followed by release of the CO. The contents were transferred to a round-bottomed flask with ether and the volatiles removed in vacuo. The residue was subjected to column chromatography on silica gel (eluent, hexane/ $Et_2O = 3/1$) to give 3,4-dihydro-1-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-6phenyl-2(1H)-pyridinone (2a) (175 mg, 76% yield) as a white solid

3,4-Dihydro-1-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-6-phenyl-2(1H)-pyri**dinone (2a).** White solid; mp 78–80 °C (hexane); R_f 0.14 (hexane/ether = 3/1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.35 (s, 9H), 2.17–2.24 (m, 2H), 2.44-2.49 (m, 2H), 5.69 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.35 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 19.8, 30.3, 37.3, 59.9, 119.1, 125.6, 127.2, 128.2, 141.3, 145.3, 176.2; IR (KBr) 1688 s, 1598 m; MS $m\!/z$ (relative intensity, %) 229 (M+, 7), 173 (100); exact mass calcd for C15H19NO 229.1467, found 229.1473.

1-Cyclohexyl-3,4-dihydro-6-phenyl-2(1*H*)-pyridinone (2b). White solid; mp 106–108 °C (hexane); $R_f 0.16$ (hexane/ether = 3/1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 0.84–1.67 (m, 8H), 2.23–2.38 (m, 4H), 2.47–2.53 (m, 2H), 3.09 (tt, J = 3.2 Hz, J = 12.2 Hz, 1H), 5.34 (t, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.27–7.37 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 19.9, 25.2, 26.5, 29.9, 34.2, 59.7, 111.5, 127.1, 127.9, 128.2, 137.5, 144.4, 172.3; IR (KBr) 1674 s; MS m/z (relative intensity, %) 255 (M⁺, 20), 173 (100); exact mass calcd for C₁₇H₂₁NO 255.1623, found 255.1625.

1-Butyl-3,4-Dihydro-6-phenyl-2(1H)-pyridinone (2c). White solid; mp 64–65 °C (hexane); $R_f 0.09$ (hexane/ether = 3/1); ¹H NMR ($\hat{C}DCl_3$) δ 0.74 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 1.04–1.18 (m, 2H), 1.26-1.36 (m, 2H), 2.30-2.37 (m, 2H), 2.54-2.59 (m, 2H), 3.54 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 5.36 (t, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.24–7.38 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 13.7, 19.7, 19.9, 30.7, 32.3, 42.3, 110.4, 127.6, 128.0, 128.1, 136.1, 142.8, 171.4; IR (KBr) 1662 s; MS m/z (relative intensity, %) 229 (M⁺, 47), 158 (100); exact mass calcd for C₁₅H₁₉NO 229.1467, found 229.1463.

1-(1,1-Dimethylethyl)-2-phenyl-(1H)-pyrrole (3). White solid; mp 57–59 °C (hexane); $R_f 0.67$ (hexane/ether = 3/1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.43 (s, 9H), 6.01 (dd, J = 3.2 Hz, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.14 (dd, J = 3.2 Hz, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (dd, J = 3.0 Hz, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.31–7.41 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 31.9, 57.1, 105.6, 111.7, 118.7, 127.2, 127.4, 131.7, 133.9, 137.2; IR (KBr) 1693 w, 1628 w; MS m/z (relative intensity, %) 199 (M⁺, 11), 143 (100); exact mass calcd for C₁₄H₁₇N 199.1361, found 199.1365.

3,4-Dihydro-1-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-6-methyl-2(1H)-pyri**dinone (5a).** Colorless oil; $R_f 0.14$ (hexane/ether = 3/1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.50 (s, 9H), 1.92–1.99 (m, 2H), 2.00 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 3H), 2.31 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 5.40 (dt, J = 1.4 Hz, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 19.4, 23.0, 30.3, 37.6, 57.4, 115.4, 139.1, 175.5; IR (neat) 1672 s; MS m/z (relative intensity, %) 167 (M⁺ 10), 83 (100); exact mass calcd for C₁₀H₁₇NO 167.1310, found 167.1311.

1-Cyclohexyl-3,4-dihydro-6-methyl-2(1*H*)-pyridinone (5b). Colorless oil; R_f 0.06 (hexane/ether = 3/1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.18-1.77 (m, 8H), 1.93 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 3H), 2.04-2.07 (m, 2H), 2.27–2.44 (m, 4H), 3.56 (tt, J = 3.2 Hz, J = 11.9 Hz, 1H), 5.01 (dt, J = 1.4 Hz, J = 4.3 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 19.3, 19.9, 25.3, 26.5, 32.3, 33.7, 56.3, 106.8, 137.1, 171.5; IR (neat) 1675 s, 1626 m; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) 193 (M⁺, 16), 111 (100); exact mass calcd for C12H19NO 193.1466, found 193.1470.

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1-Cyclohexyl-3,4-dihydro-2(1*H***)-pyridinone (7).** White solid; mp 46–47 °C (hexane); R_f 0.11 (hexane/ether = 3/1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 0.95–1.77 (m, 10H), 2.17–2.24 (m, 2H), 2.45 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 4.36–4.46 (m, 1H), 5.10 (dt, J = 4.1 Hz, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.08 (dt, J = 1.4 Hz, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 19.8, 25.4, 25.7, 30.9, 31.8, 51.0, 105.9, 125.2, 168.5; IR (KBr) 1659 s; MS m/z (relative intensity, %) 179 (M⁺, 23), 97 (100). Anal. Calcd for C₁₁H₁₇NO: C, 73.69; H, 9.56; N, 7.82. Found: C, 73.53; H, 9.54; N, 7.79.

3.4-Dihydro-1-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-6-(2-thienyl)-2(1*H***)-pyridinone (9).** White solid; mp 91–93 °C (hexane); R_f 0.19 (hexane/ether = 3/1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.42 (s, 9H), 2.12–2.23 (m, 2H), 2.44–2.49 (m, 2H), 5.84 (t, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 6.92–6.99 (m, 2H), 7.16 (dd, J = 4.9 Hz, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 19.9, 30.2, 37.4, 60.3, 119.4, 123.5, 123.6, 126.8, 138.7, 144.1, 176.0; IR (KBr) 1672 s, 1626 s; MS *m/z* (relative intensity, %) 235 (M⁺, 8), 179 (100); exact mass calcd for C₁₃H₁₇NOS 235.1029, found 235.1030.

3,4-Dihydro-1-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-6-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2(1*H***)-pyridinone (11).** White solid; mp 124–125 °C (hexane); R_f 0.14 (hexane/ether = 3/1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.34 (s, 9H), 2.14–2.21 (m, 2H), 2.42–2.47 (m, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 5.61 (t, J= 5.7 Hz, 3H), 6.85 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 19.8, 30.4, 37.5, 55.3, 59.8, 113.6, 117.7, 126.9, 133.9, 144.9, 158.8, 176.3; IR (KBr) 1673 s, 1636 m; MS m/z (relative intensity, %) 259 (M⁺, 5), 203 (100). Anal. Calcd for C₁₆H₂₁NO₂: C, 74.10; H, 8.16; N, 5.40. Found: C, 74.08; H, 8.19; N, 5.31.

1-Cyclohexyl-3,4-dihydro-5-methyl-6-phenyl-2(1*H***)-pyridinone (13).** White solid; mp 79–81 °C (hexane); R_f 0.10 (hexane/ether = 3/1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 0.73–1.58 (m, 8H), 1.61 (s, 3H), 2.13–2.27 (m, 4H), 2.46–2.51 (m, 2H), 2.96 (tt, J = 3.5 Hz, J = 11.9 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (dd, J = 1.9 Hz, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.28–7.40 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 19.4, 25.2, 26.4, 27.0,

29.6, 33.5, 59.0, 117.1, 127.5, 128.0, 129.5, 135.9, 136.6, 171.2; IR (KBr) 1602 m; MS m/z (relative intensity, %) 269 (M⁺, 24), 172 (100). Anal. Calcd for $C_{18}H_{23}NO:$ C, 80.26; H, 8.60; N, 5.20. Found: C, 80.11; H, 8.61; N, 5.19.

1-Cyclohexyl-3,4-dihydro-3-phenyl-2(1*H***)-pyridinone (15) and 1-Cyclohexyl-3,4-dihydro-4-phenyl-2(1***H***)-pyridinone (16). The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra and IR data were obtained as a 1.3:1 mixture of 15** and **16**: yellow solid; mp 75–77 °C (hexane); R_f 0.19–0.23 (hexane/ether = 3/1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.12–1.58 (m, 10H), 2.55–2.89 (m, 2H), 3.69–3.75 (m, 1H), 4.48–4.50 (m, 1H), [5.20 (dt, J = 4.3 Hz, J = 7.8 Hz, **15**), 5.27 (dt, J = 1.4 Hz, J = 7.8 Hz, **16**), 1H], [6.20 (dt, J = 1.6 Hz, J =7.8 Hz, **15**), 6.29 (dt, J = 1.9 Hz, J = 7.8 Hz, **16**), 1H], 7.12– 7.34 (m, 5H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 25.5, 25.8, 28.0, 31.0, 31.1, 40.3, 47.2, 51.2, 51.8, [105.2 (**15**), 109.0 (**16**)], 125.4, 126.7, 126.9, 127.7, 128.3, 128.6, 139.7, 142.8, 167.5, 169.1; IR (KBr) 1670 s; MS *m*/*z* (relative intensity, %) [255 (M⁺, 12), 118 (100), **15**], [255 (M⁺, 42), 55 (100), **16**]. Anal. Calcd for C₁₇H₂₁NO: C, 79.96; H, 8.29; N, 5.49. Found: C, 79.70; H, 8.40; N, 5.26.

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Supporting Information Available: Full characterization of all the new compounds obtained including ¹H NMR spectra for all previously unknown starting materials and cycloaddition products **2**, **3**, **5**, and **9**. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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