Annulation cascades of cyclosulfonium salts and alkenes towards sulfur-containing N-heterocycles by visible light/copper catalysis

Jie Ma¹, Xufeng Li², Yuqing Chen¹, Yongjia Shi¹, Xiuyan Song¹, Jian Lv¹, and Daoshan Yang¹

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Abstract

Although, great achievements have been made in the synthesis of heterocycles using radical addition/cyclization strategy, developing versatile alkyl radical precursors, especially the non-stabilized ones for this method still remains a huge challenge. Herein, we report an efficient annulation cascade reaction between cyclosulfonium salts and alkenes for the synthesis of sulfur-containing N-heterocycles by visible light/copper catalysis under mild conditions. The C-S bond cleavage/radical cascade reaction delivers a variety of corresponding N-heterocycles containing aryl alkyl thioether motifs with good functional group tolerance. Significantly, the current system could be used for the late-stage functionalization of complex bioactive molecules.

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 $^{^1\}mathrm{Qingdao}$ University of Science and Technology

²Zhejiang Wansheng Co., Ltd.