THIOL–COORDINATED IODONIUM ION CATALYSIS: A DOMINO SYNTHESIS OF Z-SELECTIVE α , β -DIPHENYLTHIO ENONES FROM EASILY ACCESSIBLE SECONDARY ALCOHOLS

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The application of halogen–bonded iodonium ions in organic synthesis remains largely unexplored. Herein, a domino synthesis of Z-selective α,β -diphenylthio enones is developed from easily available benzylic secondary alcohols employing the stable halogen–bonded thiophenol stabilized iodonium ion. The iodonium ions are generated in solution phase with the I₂/IBX redox mixture. The HRMS analysis of the reaction mixture and UV–Vis experiments support the formation of thiol–coordinated iodine(I) intermediates. Several control experiments establish that the reaction proceeds via the oxidation of alcohol to ketone, α -thiolation of ketones followed by α,β –unsaturation and finally the β -thiolation of α,β –unsaturated ketones to generate bis–vinyl sulfides. The thiol–coordinated iodonium ions are highly efficient catalysts to catalyze multiple functional group transformations in a cascade manner.



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