

Literature report

Allenamides as Orthogonal Handles for Selective Modification of Cysteine in Peptides and Proteins**

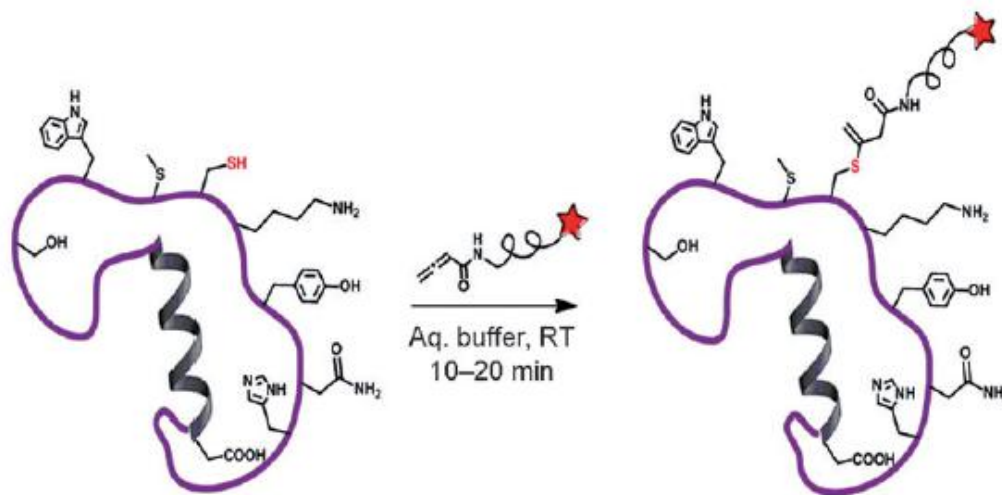
Ata Abbas, Bengang Xing,* and Teck-Peng Loh*

Qian Wu
2014.8.21

Protein Modifications

Allenamides as Orthogonal Handles for Selective Modification of Cysteine in Peptides and Proteins**

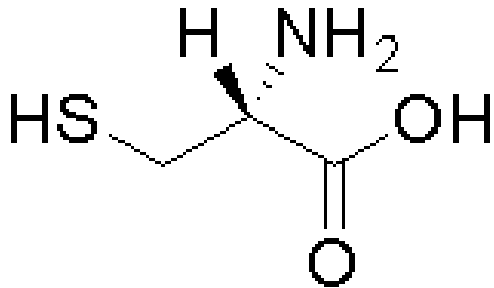
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- Orthogonal handle
- Simple and direct
- Selectively
- Quantitative conversion
- Stable and irreversible
- High reaction rates

Background

Selective chemical modification of protein:



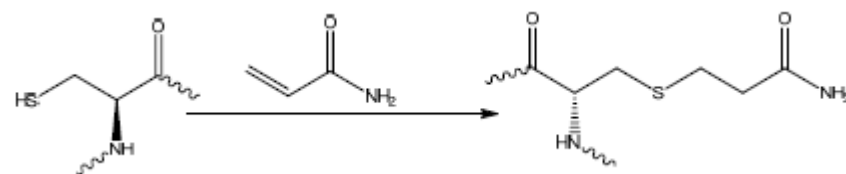
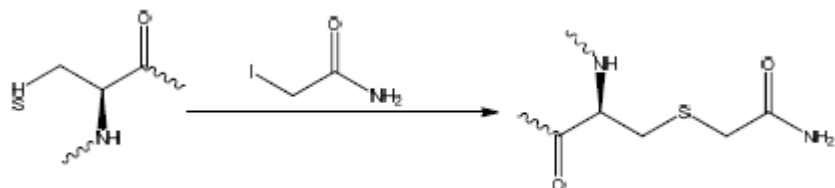
Higher nucleophilicity

Lower natural abundance

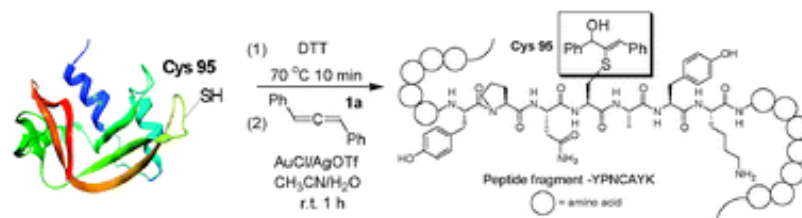
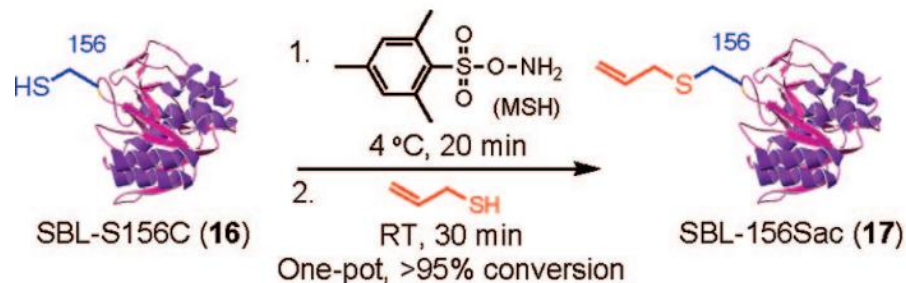
The sulfhydryl group in peptides and proteins has remained an attractive target for site-selective modification.

Two typical chemical pathways:

1. Nucleophilic substitution or Michael addition



2. Metal-catalyzed Cys modification



B. G. Davis, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2008**

C.-M. Che, *Chem. Commun.* **2013**

- However

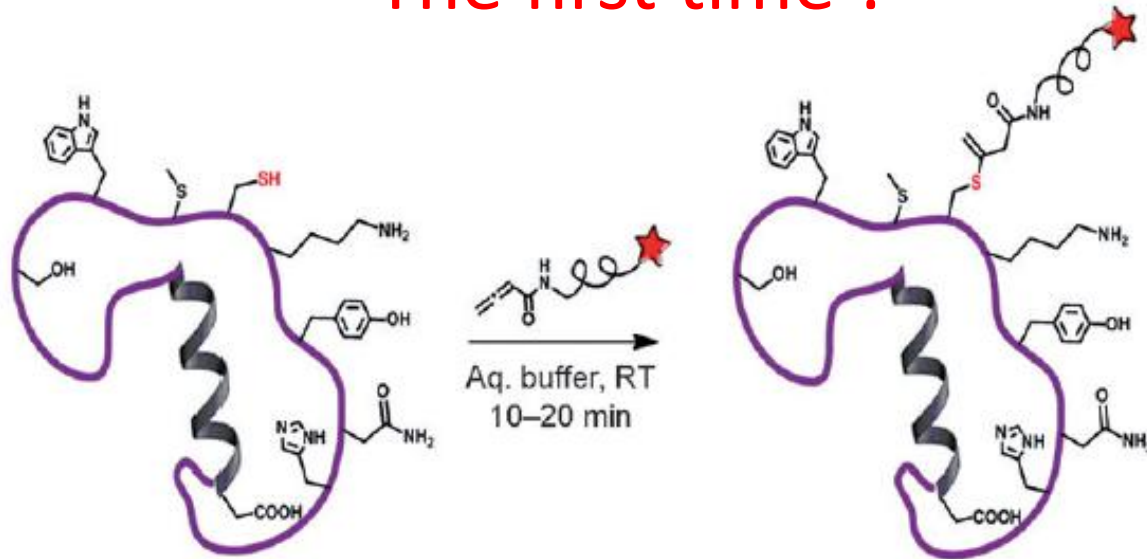
1. Biocompatibility
2. Selectivity: histidine and lysine residues
3. Reversibility/irreversibility: DTT and GSH

- Therefore

An urgent need exists to find promising **orthogonal** handles and related labeling strategies which can **selectively** and **irreversibly** bind with cystein.

C-substituted terminal allenamide moieties

The first time !



Orthogonal handle

Selectively: no reaction with $-\text{OH}$, $-\text{NH}_2$, $-\text{COOH}$

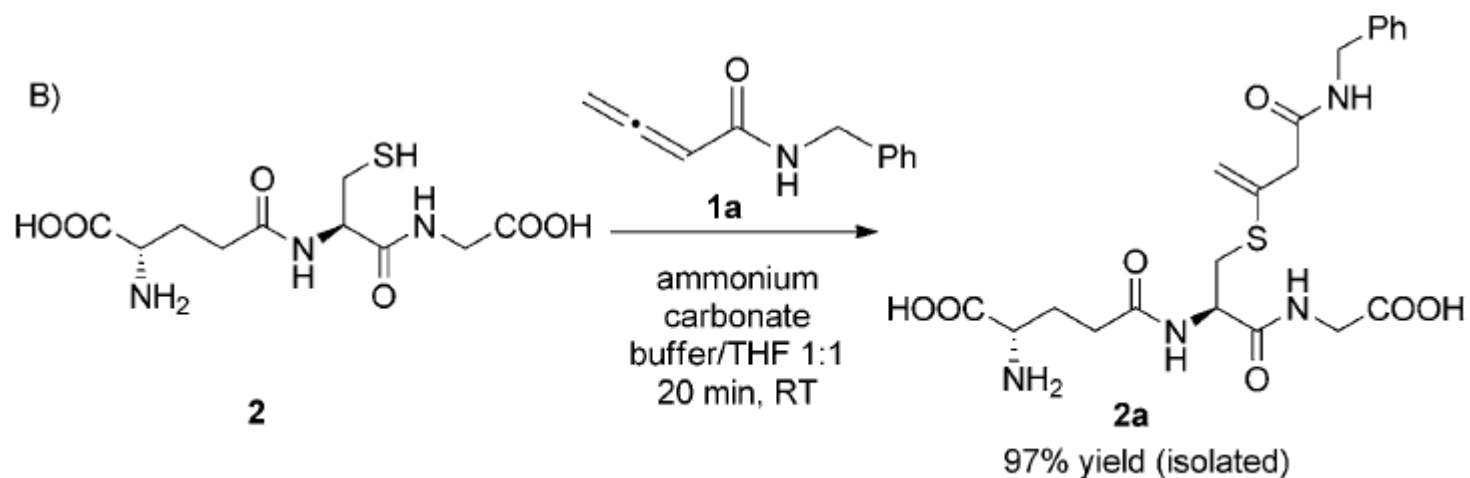
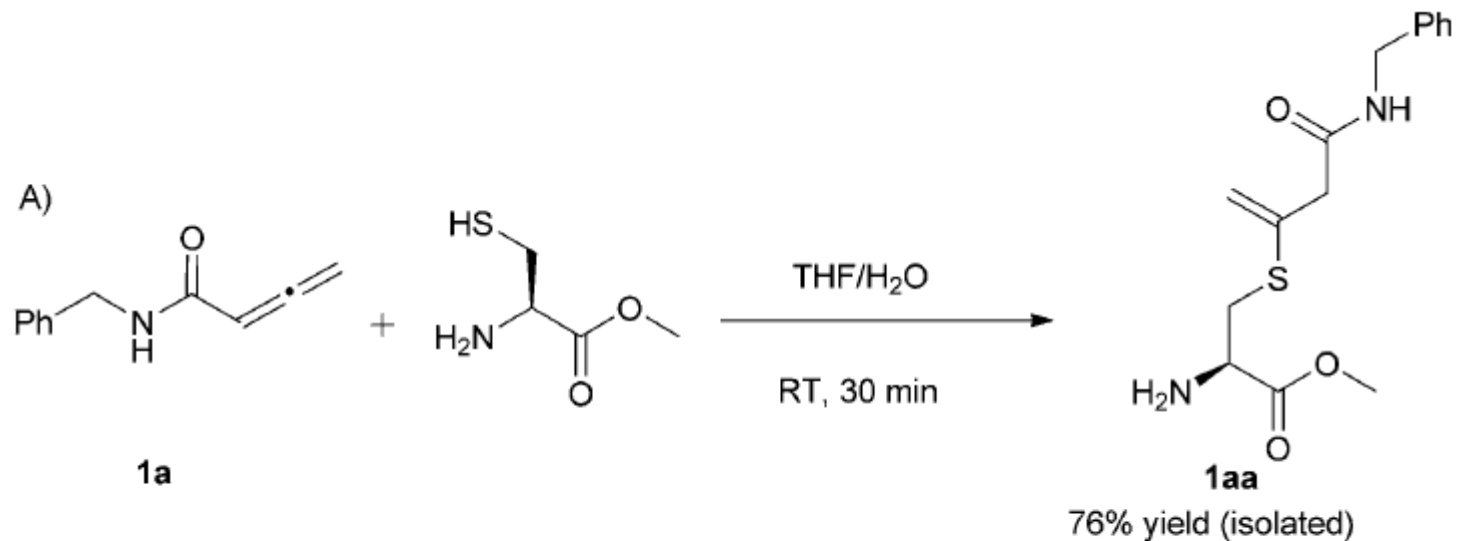
Quantitative conversion

Stable and irreversible

High reaction rates: 10-20 min

Mild reaction condition: aqueous buffer (pH 8.0), r.t.

Easily prepared, stable at r.t.



C-substituted terminal allenamides showed the excellent reaction selectivity of with the specific cysteine conjugation instead of the amino groups.

Selectivity

- Peptide: Cys-Gly-Lys-Ser-Arg-Phe (3)

Lys-Ser-Cys-Gly-Arg-Phe (4)

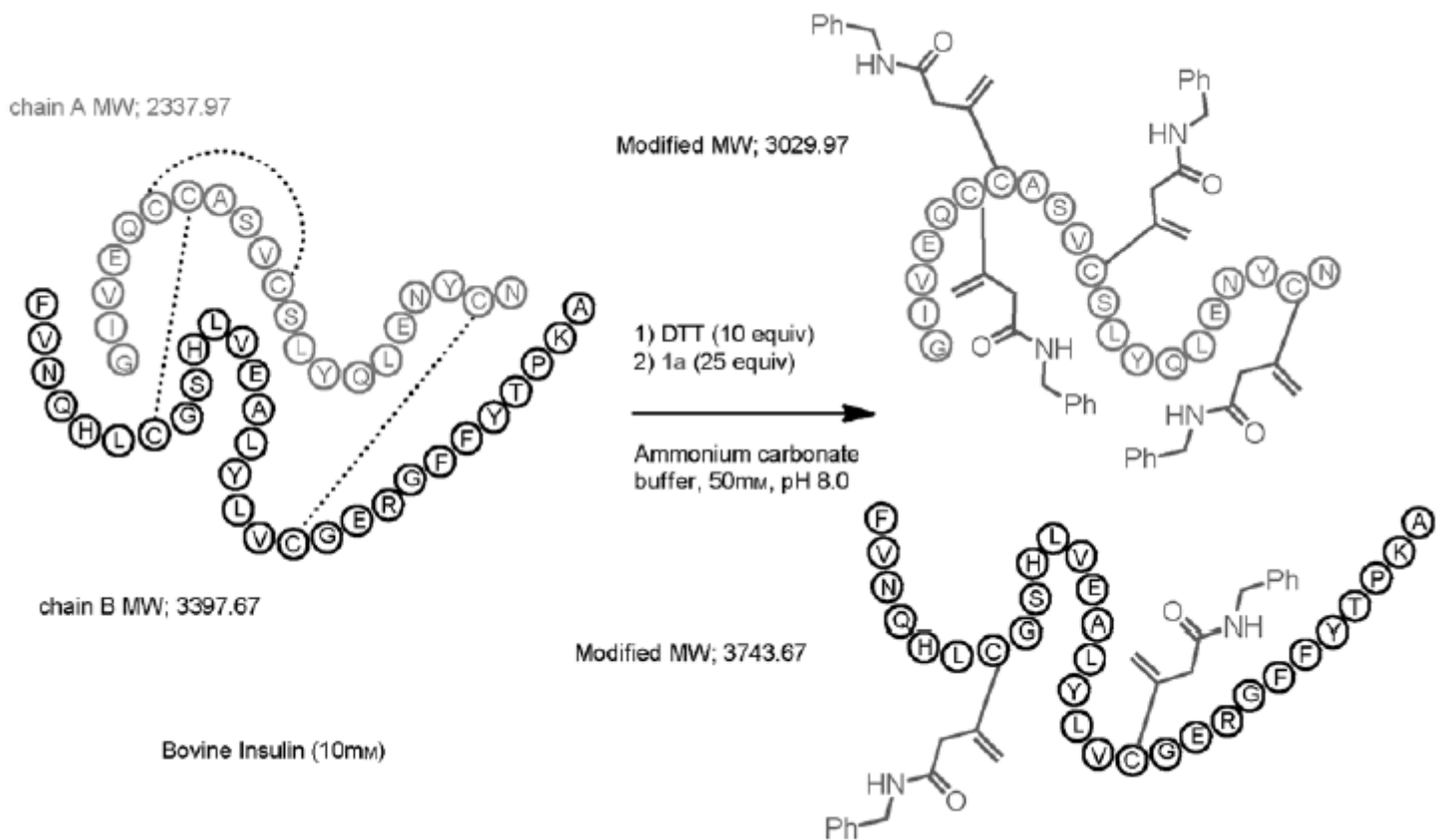
Tyr-Asp-Ser-Gln-Cys-Phe-His-Arg-Trp (5)

peptide (250 mm) with 1a (10 equiv) for 10 minutes in ammonium carbonate buffer (pH 8.0) at r.t.

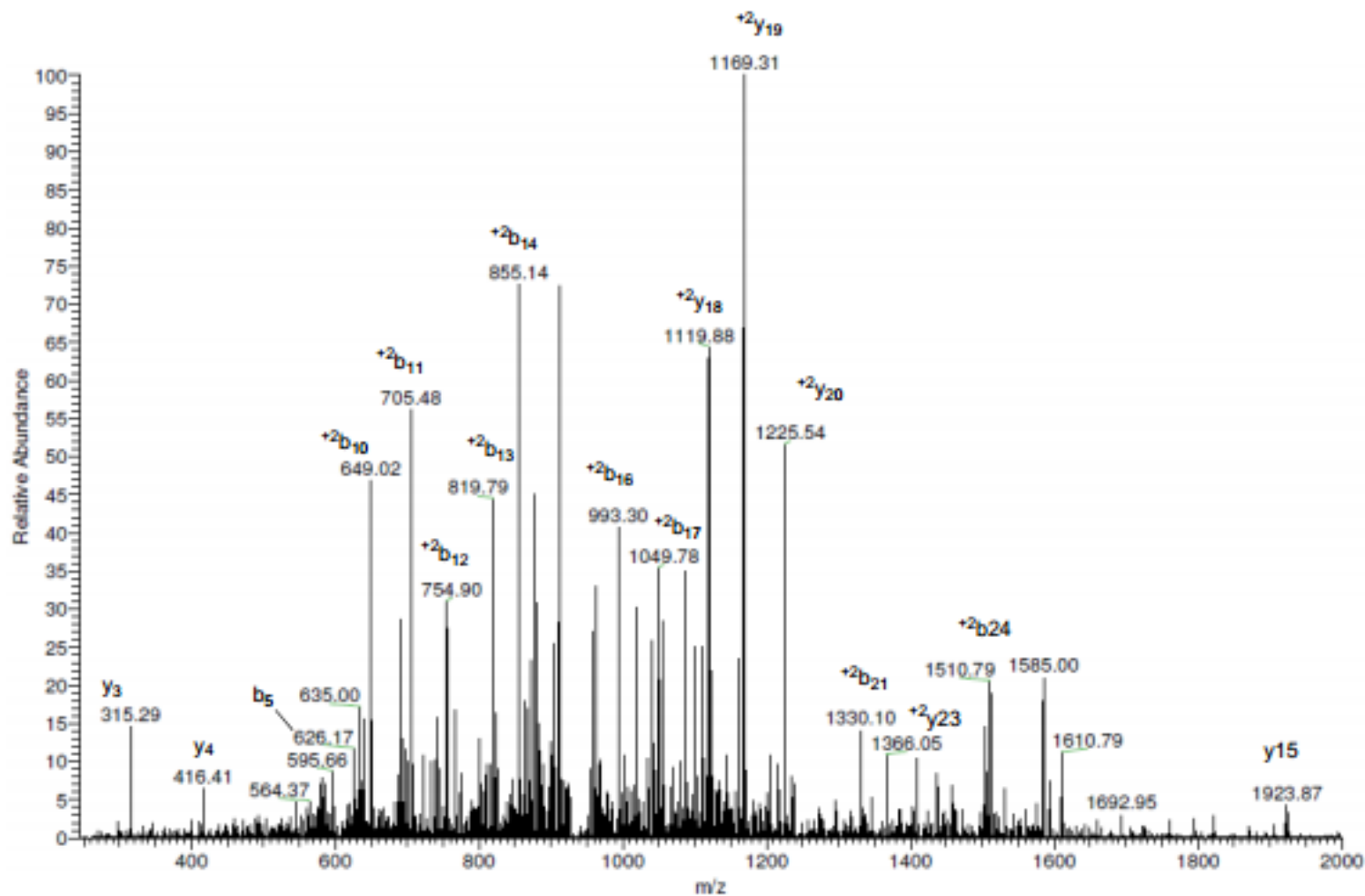
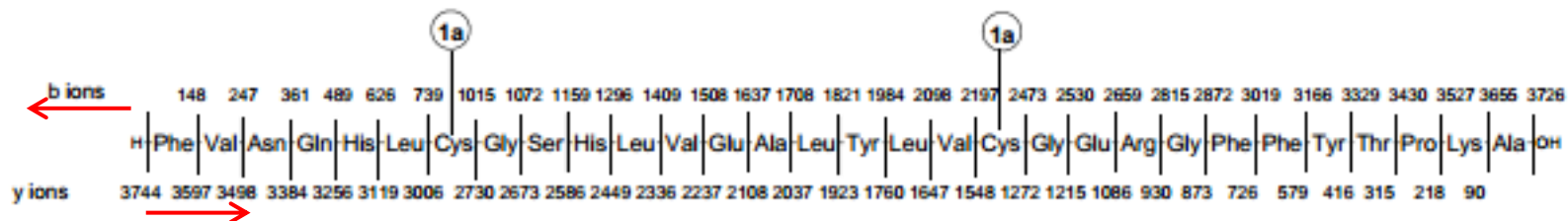
Irreversibility

- Peptide 5 + 1a + excess (100 equivalent) GSH
2a + excess (100 equivalents) DTT

The good irreversibility of specific cysteine labeling may thus enable the possibility for the protein modification under biological conditions.



A more complex pair of peptides, generated from the DTT treatment of bovine insulin, was treated with 1a to afford the fully modified chains A and B.



MS/MS for the modification of 5 (YDSQCFHRW) with 1a

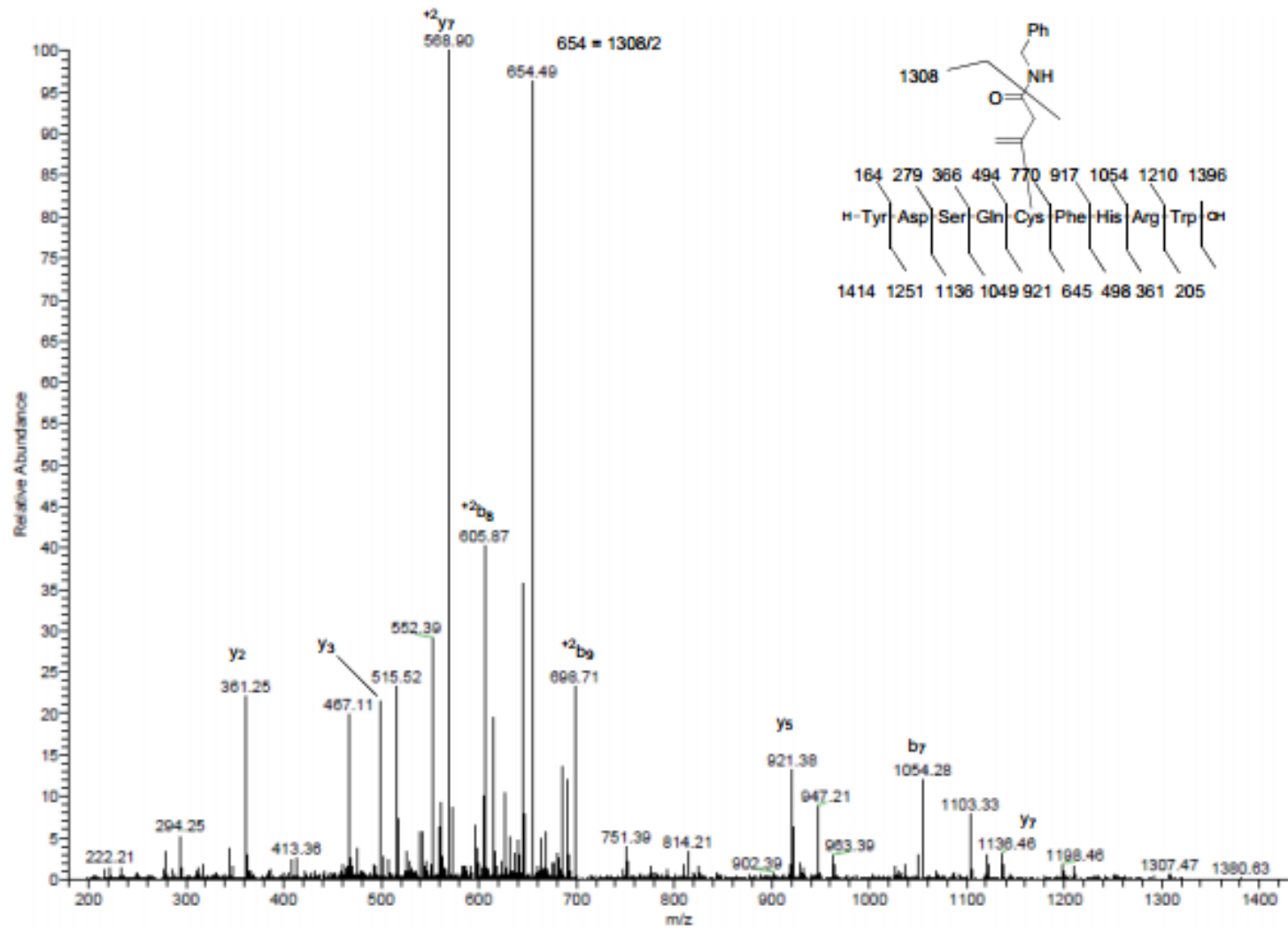
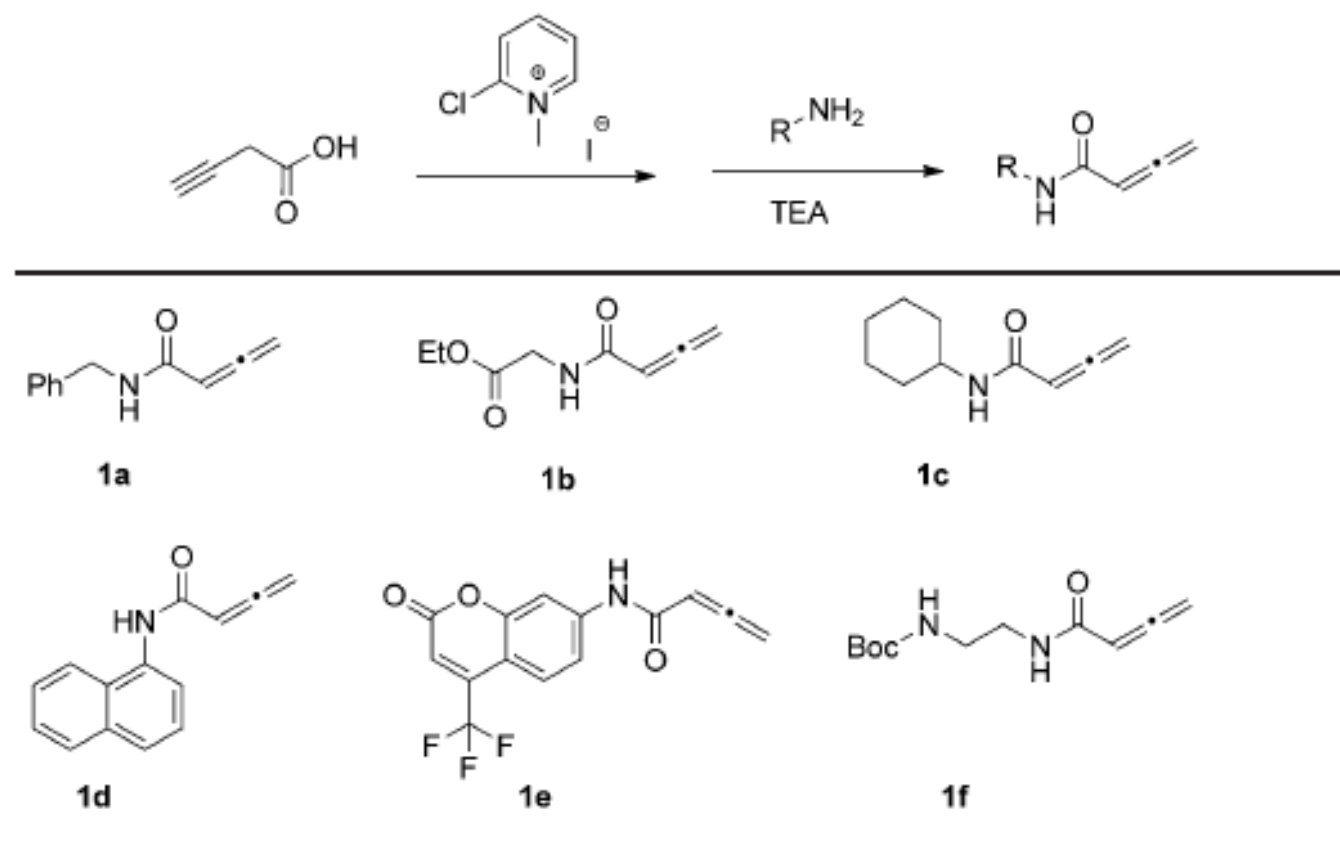


Figure 6 showing MS/MS of peptide YDSQCFHRW modified with 1a

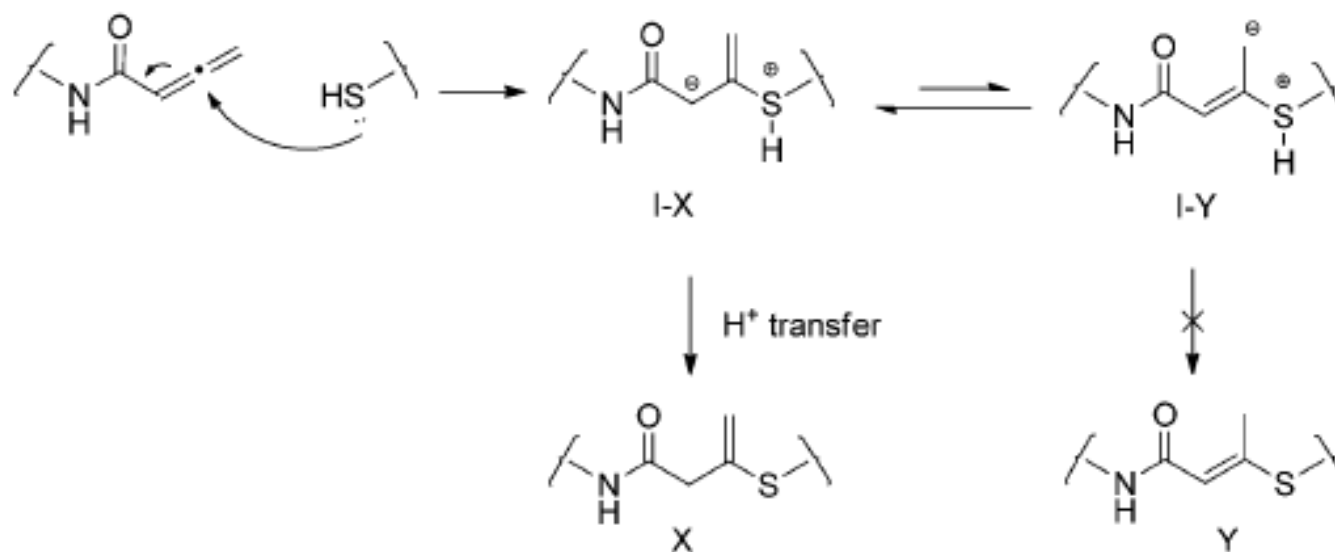
Table 1: C-substituted allenamide synthesis from amines.^[a]



[a] A small amount of homopropargyl amide is also observed sometimes and can be isomerized to the allenic isomer by excess TEA. Boc – *tert*-butoxycarbonyl, TEA – triethylamine.

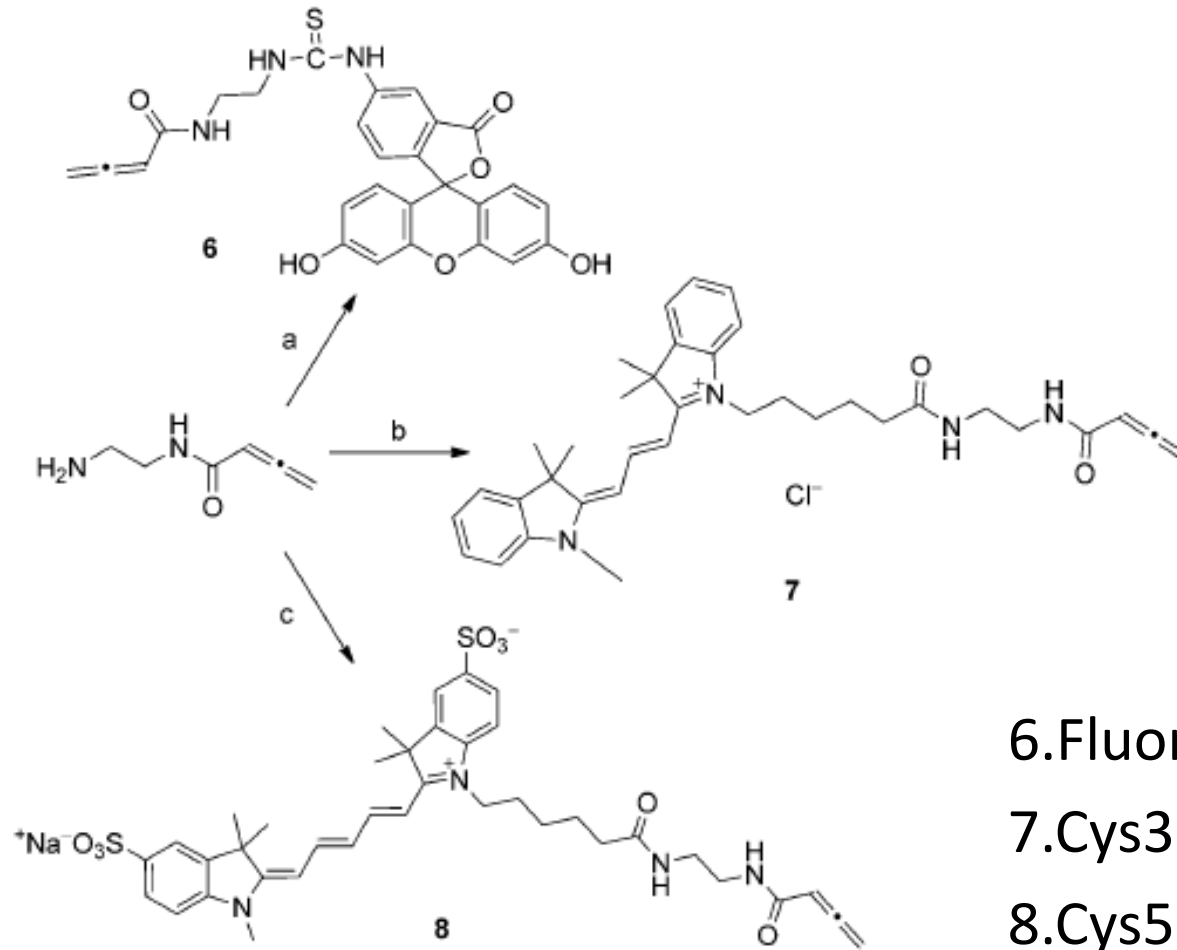
Mechanism

1,4-Michael addition



Scheme 2. Proposed mechanism for addition of thiols to allenamides.

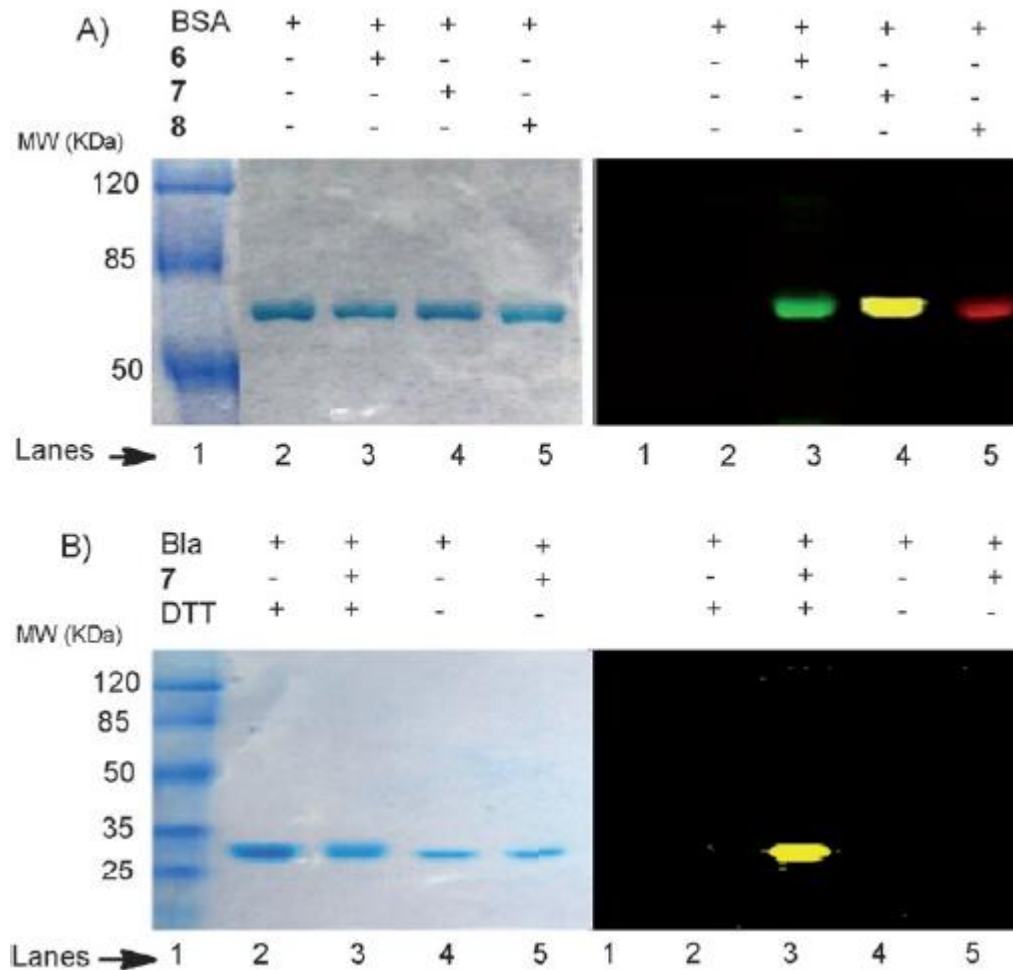
Application in selective labeling of proteins



6. Fluorescein isomer 1

7. Cys3

8. Cys5



Allenamide as an efficient handle to target cysteine residues selectively in the complex milieu of the protein environment and opens an alternative approach for imaging applications.

Summary

1. A new orthogonal handle, allenamide, to modify thiol groups in peptides and proteins selectively.
2. Irreversibility of this process can be exploited in many in vivo applications such as the inhibition of cysteine proteases.
3. Successfully label proteins with high selectivity.

Protocol : Protein chemical modification

1. A orthogonal reaction
2. Modify a kind of amino acid with high selectivity
3. Verify and text in proteins by MS and MS/MS
4. Application for a problem of life is better

Thank you !