THE REACTION OF VINYLALKYL ETHERS WITH FURAN DERIVATIVES

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The present authors have established that the reaction of vinylbutyl ethers (I) with 2-methylfuran (II) in the presence of FeCl₃ does not proceed by the substitution-addition reaction described in a previous paper [1]. Consider 2-(1-cyanopropoxyethyl) furan bp 79° (2 mm), n²⁰ 1.4703, d²⁰ 1.0637. Found: C 65.32, 65.50; H 6.58, 6.74%; MR 43.35. Calculated: C 65.43; H 6.71%. It is clear that the alkoxy group, found in the alpha position, is not exchanged in the reaction conditions of substitution-addition on the 2-methylfuryl radical, as previously supposed. In a solution of dialkylfuran in the presence of traces of water and FeCl₃ dibutylacetal is formed from I according to the reaction:

$$CH_2 = CHOC_4H_9 \longrightarrow CH_3CHO + C_4H_9OH$$

$$I \qquad \qquad III$$

$$CH_2 = CHOC_4H_9 + C_4H_9OH \longrightarrow CH_3CH(OC_4H_9)_2$$

The acetaldehyde III, formed under these conditions, condenses with two molecules of II according to the reaction:

30 g III was added with mixing to 21 g II and 0.25 ml FeCl₃ solution in butanol (1:8) over 3 hr. The reaction mixture was diluted with water, extracted with ether and neutralized with NaHCO₃. After distillation of the ether and 7 g II, the yield was 9 g (22%) 1, 1-di (5-methylfuryl) ethane, bp 118° (14 mm), n_D^{20} 1.4985. The literature gives [1]: bp 107° (11 mm), n_D^{20} 1.4990.

REFERENCE

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