## Studies with 2H pyranones: Synthesis of new 3-substituted-4-hydroxy-2H-pyran-2-ones Balkis Al-Saleh<sup>a</sup>, Nouria Al-Awadi<sup>a</sup>, Halema Al-kandari<sup>a</sup>, Mervat Mohammed Abdel-Khalik<sup>a</sup> and Mohamed Hilmy Elnagdi<sup>a,b\*</sup>

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3-Acetyl-4-hydroxy-6-methyl-2H-pyran-2-one **1a** condensed with N,N-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal yielding the enaminone **3a**. The latter reacted with a variety of reagents affording pyridine derivatives **11**, benzofura-noylpyranes **14** and **17**, pyranylpyranes **22**, pyranylpyrazole **29a,b** and pyranylisoxazole **33**.

In conjunction with our interest in exploring the synthetic potential of enaminones,<sup>7</sup> we report here on the synthesis of **3a,b** and their utilities for the synthesis of 3-heteraromatic 2H-pyran-2-one derivatives. Thus compound **3a** was prepared in 70% yield by reacting **1a** with N,N-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal in refluxing dioxane. This procedure proved better than the literature procedure,<sup>8</sup> which produced some side products along with **3a**. The Z-form **4a** was not detected. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of the reaction product revealed only two mutually coupled trans olefinic protons at  $\delta = 6.53$  and  $\delta = 8.17$  ppm (J = 14Hz). IR spectrum of the reaction product revealed strong CO absorption at 1712 cm<sup>-1</sup> for 2H-pyran-2-one carbonyl group while OH appeared as weak broad band at 3,500 - 3,300 cm<sup>-1</sup> which indicates that **3a** exists in the hydrogen bonded form **5**.



The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of the reaction product revealed enaminone carbonyl carbon at  $\delta$  186 ppm, which is in accordance with the proposed structure. The observed magnetic non-equivalence of the two methyl functions of the dimethyl amino moiety is believed to result from restricted rotation around CH = N bond in charge separated form **6**.

Treatment of **3a** with malonoitrile in refluxing ethanolic piperidine afforded a product of condensation with water elimination. The  $^{13}$ C NMR spectra indicated the presence of only one CN signal. The isometric structures **7** and **11** seemed reasonable. Structure **11** was tentatively proposed, on the basis of the stability of the product, in acetic acid under reflux in the presence of aqueous hydrochloric acid. These conditions are expected to convert **7** to **8**. It is thus believed that **11** is formed by initial condensation of the ring carbonyl with the active methylene moiety in malononitrile yielding **9** which cyclizes into **11** via the intermediate **10** (Scheme 1). The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of compound **11** showed the characteristic pattern corresponding to an AB system at  $\delta$  7.95 and 8.03 ppm and J 13 Hz for vinylic *trans* protons.



Reacting **3a** with 1,4-benzoquinone **12** resulted in the formation of **14**. Similarly, reacting **3a** with 1,4-naphthoquinone **15** afforded **17**. The formation of **14** and **17** from **12** and **15**, is assumed to occur via initial addition of the enaminone of, electron rich C-2, to the active double bond in **12** and **15** yielding the adducts **13** and **16**, that cyclize into the final products.

Compound **3a**, also reacted with hippuric acid **18** in refluxing acetic anhydride to yield the pyranone **21**. It is assumed that hippuric acid, first cyclizes into the oxazolone **19**, which then reacts with the enaminone **3a**, yielding **20**, that further rearranges into the pyranone **21**. A similar reaction sequence has recently been proposed by us to account for the formation of pyranones from the reaction of enaminones with hippuric acid<sup>9</sup>.

Compound **3a** reacted with methylamine, ethylamine and aniline in acetic acid at room temperature to yield enaminones, which were found to exist, as mixture of the E and Zforms **23a,c** and **24a–c**. The existence of Z-form for these compounds is in contrast to the observed predominance of Eform for **3a** and **4a**. This is attributed to the stabilization of Zform for these compounds through hydrogen bonding.

Treatment of compound **3a** with 2-aminothiazole **25** at room temperature afforded **26** which cyclized into **27** upon reflux in acetic acid. Note that the mass spectra of **26** showed no molecular ion peak, as it cyclized into **27** prior to ionization by E1. Compound **23,ab** or **3a,b** also reacted with

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hydrazine hydrate and with phenylhydrazine, in acetic acid on cold or refluxing ethanol for 2 h, to yield the pyranylpyrazole **29a,b**. However, when compound **23c** was treated with excess hydrazine hydrate, pyrazoly-N-aminopyridine **30** was formed. The pyrazolylpyrazole structure **31**, formed via a mechanism similar to that reported in literature<sup>10</sup> for the reaction of **1a** with hydrazine hydrate, was excluded, based on IR and <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum which revealed the existence of N-amino function.

Although reaction of 3a with hydroxylamine in ethanol and ammonium acetate has been reported<sup>11</sup> earlier to yield, 32, we found that the reaction of 3a with hydroxylamine hydrochloride in refluxing ethanolic ammonium acetate affords the pyranylisoxazole 33.

Replacement of the hydroxyl group at C-4 in **1a** with ammonia or amines has been reported<sup>12</sup> to yield **1b**. In contrast ring opening and recrystallization into 4-pyridone was claimed in literature<sup>13</sup> to be effected by action of ammonia.

In fact, our results show that under a variety of conditions, a product that may be formulated as **1b** or **34** was formed. Structure **1b** was confirmed, as the <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra indicated in acyl carbonyl carbon at  $\delta$  183 ppm. Moreover, compound **1b**, was well illustrated as it affords **3b** on treatment with N, N-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal. This product when

reacted with hydrazine hydrate or phenyl hydrazine afforded compounds **29a,b** which are formed most likely through the non-isolable intermediate **35a,b**.

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