# Chemistry and Application of 4-Oxo-4*H*-1-benzopyran-3carboxaldehyde

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The Chemistry and application of the title aldehyde and some simple derivatives thereof are reviewed.

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### I Introduction.

The first exclusive review on the chemistry and application of the title benzopyran (trivial name: 3-formylchromone) 1 appeared in 1983 [1]. Another review [2], somewhat inexhaustive, compiling mainly the reactions of the chromone 1 itself from literature available to 1994 appeared in 1996. Continuing interest in the title subject to date is vindicated by a spate of publications that warrant a current review. The present article, primarily designed to complement the earlier two reviews [1,2], is a comprehensive survey of the chemistry of 3-formylchromone 1 and utilization of the compounds easily available therefrom for the preparation of different chemical systems. This survey covers the literature available through Sci-Finder till December, 2006. A few earlier works which either remained unmentioned in the previous reviews [1,2] or are helpful for a better understanding of the present write-up are also briefly referred to. Chemistry of the carbonitrile [3] and the acid corresponding to the aldehyde 1 is kept out of the purview. Patented works and the reactions of 2-substituted 4-oxo-4H-1benzopyran-3-carbaldehyde not directly derived from the 2-unsubstituted analogue 1 are not included, and biological properties of the reported compounds are least emphasized. The 4-oxo-4H-1-benzopyran-3-yl moiety is abbreviated as 'Chr' so that 1-benzopyran-4-one (chromone) having 'X' substitution at its 3position is represented by ChrX. Alkyl, alkoxy, halogeno substituents in and heterocyclic moieties linked to or fused with benzene ring of 1 remain unaffected in most of the reactions described here for

the unsubstituted 3-formylchromone 1. The reactions of 1 are described in the following few sections and subsections based on the type of the reactions and the nature of the reagents, and those of its derivatives as and when these appear. The cycloaddition reactions of 1 and its derivatives are, however, clubbed together in a separate section.

### II Synthesis.

The chromone **1** is an intramolecular enol ether of the dialdehyde **2**. So a convenient synthesis of **1** should involve the preparation of **2** or its precursor. Vilsmeier-Haack reaction of 2-hydroxyacetophenone with POCl<sub>3</sub>-DMF indeed involves the formation of a precursor of **2**, the kinetics and mechanism of the reaction having been studied in details [4]. 2-Hydroxyacetophenone bound to Merrifield resin through ether linkage in the aforesaid reaction gives **3** which may be regarded as a solid



supported synthetic equivalent of **1**. When cleaved from the support by treatment with TFA **3** gives **1** [5]. 2-Hydroxyacetophenone either bound to Wang chloro resin [5] or pretreated with  $BF_3.Et_2O$  [6] undergoes monoformylation at its ketomethyl group by the Vilsmeier reagent. The solid supported ketodialdehyde **3** on reaction with ethyl acetoacetate gives the salicylic ester **4** [7] in contrast to isophthalic ester **5** obtained by treating **1** with two equivalents of ethyl acetoacetate [8].

## III Oxidation, Reduction and Reductive Self Coupling.

Oxidation of ChrCHO by different reagents has been [1]. Oxidation of discussed earlier 6-ethvl-3formylchromone with oxone leads to a mixture of 6-ethyland 3-hvdroxvcarbonvlchromone 6-ethyl-3-hydroxychromone [9]. Reduction of 1 with diborane in THF to 6, cursorily mentioned earlier [1], has been published [10]. Basic alumina selectively reduces the aldehyde group of 1 dissolved in 2-propanol at 75 °C, the reaction needing no activation process of alumina [11]. Brockmann neutral alumina catalyses disproportionation of the aldehyde 1 to the alcohol 6 and acid 7, both 1 and 7 undergoing further alumina catalysed condensation with 1 as well as 7 [12]; the aldehyde 1 when refluxed in nitrobenzene containing anhydrous AlCl<sub>3</sub> also gives the alcohol 6together with other self-condensation products (vide Section VII.6) [13]. ChrCHO gives the bischromones 9, 10 and disalicyloylbenzene **11** with sodium naphthalenide, a mixture of 10 and chromanone 12 with zinc in methanol, 6, 10 and diol 13 with zinc in acetic acid, and acetates 8 and 14 with Zn -Ac<sub>2</sub>O - AcONa [14].



**13**: X = H **14**: X = Ac

### IV Nucleophilic Addition of Nitrogenous Nucleophiles.

IV.1 Addition of Amines. Reaction of 1 with the aromatic amine 15 (Ar =  $C_6H_4X$ -p; X = H, Me, OMe) in refluxing benzene in the presence of p-toluenesulfonic acid (TsOH) gives a mixture of the Schiff base 19 and the enamine 20 [15]. Because of the 'chemical symmetry' of the formyl carbon and C-2 of 1, it is very difficult to pinpoint whether a nucleophile is undergoing an initial 1,2- or 1,4-addition to 3-formylchromone. When the reaction between 1 and 15 is mediated by K-10 montmorillonite, chroman-2,4-dione 21 is the exclusive product [16]. The formation of 21 is indicative of an initial 1,4-addition of ArNH<sub>2</sub> to the  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated aldehyde 1 with concomitant opening of the pyran ring, the resultant intermediate 16 recyclising to 17 (Scheme 1); 17 on elimination of water gives 19 and enamine 20 is the 1,4-adduct of 19 with a second molecule of 15. The dione 21 is formed by oxidation of 17, Fe (III) present in the clay being the oxidant. The enamine 17 is indeed obtained by reacting 1 with the aromatic carboxylic acid or acid derivative 15 (Ar = $C_6H_4X$ -p; X = COOH, CONHCH<sub>2</sub>COOH) in benzene or toluene containing TsOH at room temperature or under reflux [17]. Pure 3-(aryliminomethyl)chromone 19 can be had by heating 18 obtained by TsOH catalysed condensation of 1 with 15 in an alcohol ROH [18].



The Schiff base **19** has been reacted with bisnucleophiles like phenylhydrazine, guanidine, thiourea

and 2-aminothiophenol under different experimental conditions [19]. The dione **21** (Ar =  $C_6H_4X$ -p; X = H, Me, OMe) gives the tricoumarol **22** on acid hydrolysis, and a mixture of 4-arylamino-3-formylcoumarin **23** and 1-benzopyrano[4,3-b]quinoline **24** on heating with POCl<sub>3</sub> [16]. The Schiff bases of **1** with several aromatic primary amines cause significant decrease in serum cholesterol and triglyceride levels [20].



The chromone 1 has been subjected to reaction with several primary amines containing a second nucleophilic center. The reaction of ChrCHO with  $H_2NC_6H_4XH-o$  (X = NH, NPh) ultimately leading to the imidazole 25 has been discussed elsewhere by one of the present authors [21]. That the formation of the dihydrotetraaza[14]annulene 26 by condensing 1 with *o*-phenylenediamine involves the intermediacy of the bischromone 27 has been proved by isolating the latter by using ChrCHO and the diamine in 2:1 molar ratio and subsequently treating it with the diamine [22]. The compound 26 on digestion in acetic acid gives 3-(benzimidazol-2-yl)chromone 25 (X = NH). The dianil of the type 27 derived from 6-formylkhellin and o-phenylenediamine forms monomeric or dimeric complexes with Mn (II) and Fe (II, III) whereas that of khellin and o-phenylenediamine forms polymeric Mn and Fe complexes [23]. Complexes of the dianils of the type 27 with Co (II), Ni (II) and Cu (II) have also been studied [24]. ChrCHO having different substituents at its phenyl ring has been condensed with 2-aminoaniline [25a] and 2aminothiophenol [25b] in acetic acid to give the appropriately substituted chromonylbenzimidazole 25 (X = NH) and chromonylbenzthiazole 25 (X = S), respectively. All these results suggest a further scrutiny of the reported condensation of 1 with 2-N-alkyl(or aryl)amino-3(or 5)-nitroaniline [26a,b] and 2-aminophenol [26c] in refluxing ethanol giving respectively [1]benzopyrano[2,3-b][1,5]-benzodiazepin and benzoxazepin derivatives. Conventional as well as microwave

assisted three component condensation involving ChrCHO,  $HSCH_2CO_2H$  and 4,5-diamino[2,1,3]benzo-thiadiazole, however, gives the heterocycle **28** [27].



with  $\alpha$ -aminoacetonitrile and Reaction of 1 unsubstituted as well as  $\alpha$ -substituted glycine ester has been studied in detail [28]. For example, treatment of 1 with H<sub>2</sub>NCH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>Et in refluxing toluene containing TsOH gives a mixture of pyridine 29 ( $R = CO_2Et$ ) and pyrrole 30  $(R = H, R^1 = CO_2Et)$ . Similar treatment of 1 with  $NH_2CH_2CN$  gives 29 (R = CN) whereas that with ethyl 2aminopropanoate as well as ethyl 2-amino-2phenylethanoate gives the pyrrole 31 [28]. 1-(2-Aminophenyl)pyrrole and 1 together in refluxing ethanol containing catalytic amount of HOAc give 4,5-dihydropyrrolo[1,2-a]quinoxaline **32** [29]. The reaction between 1 and an aliphatic secondary amine like dimethylamine and piperidine leading to an enamino-ketone had been discussed [1,2]. ChrCHO gives with previously *N*-methylglycine the pyrrole **30** ( $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{Me}, \mathbf{R}^1 = \mathbf{H}$ ) [28].



For **29-31** :  $Ar = C_6H_4OH-o$ 

Triethylamine in an alcohol brings about deformylation in addition to other transformations of ChrCHO [30].

Addition of Hydrazines. ChrCHO has been **IV.2** reacted with  $NH_2NHR$  (R = H, Ph) under both conventional heating [31] and microwave irradiation [32] to give the pyrazole 33; 33 (R = H) is also obtained by heating under reflux an ethanolic solution of 1 with thiosemicarbazide, the reaction undergoing via the corresponding thiosemicarbazone **34** (X = S, R = H) [33]. N-Glycosyl-N-iminothiourea, derived from glycosylisothiocyanate and anhydrous hydrazine, gives with 1 the semicarbazone **34** (X = S, R =  $\beta$ -glycosyl) [34]. Cytotoxicities of the hydrazones **34** (X = S, R = OH) [35] and 34 (X = NH, R = OH) [36] against tumor cells have been studied. Acylhydrazone 35 is formed from 1 and  $H_2NNHCOAr$  (Ar = aryl, hetaryl). Antimicrobial activities of 35 [Ar = (1-phenyl, 3-phenyl or -thien-2yl)pyrazol-4-yl] have also been investigated [37]. Benzoylhydrazone of 3-formyl-6-hydroxychromone has been used as a ligand in forming complexes such as  $[Ln(L)_2(NO_3)_2]NO_3$  where L stands for the ligand and Ln for the rare earth elements as Eu, Sm, Tb and Dy [38].

Condensation of **33** with ethyl cyanoacetate leads to a coumarin derivative **36** [39]. The thiosemicarbazone **34** (X = S, R = H) undergoes cyclisation with BrCH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>Et and ClCH<sub>2</sub>COMe to give the thiazole derivatives **37** (X = OH, keto form), and **37** (X = Me), respectively [40].



The hydrazone **35** with Ac<sub>2</sub>O gives 2,3-dihydro-1,3,4oxadiazole **38**, the reaction being completed in a much shorter time under microwave irradiation than in conventional heating [41,42]. The hydrazone, derived from **1** and *p*-RC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>OCH<sub>2</sub>CONHNH<sub>2</sub> (R = H, Me, Cl, Br) on refluxing in Ac<sub>2</sub>O gives **38** (Ar = CH<sub>2</sub>OC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>R-*p*) [43]. The nitrilimine **39**, generated from **35** by treatment with Br<sub>2</sub> - AcONa, cyclises to 3-(5-aryl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)chromone **40** [44, 45]. The hydrazone **41**, derived from **1** and 2-chloro-3-hydrazinoquinoxaline, gives the 1,2,4triazolo[4,3-*a*]quinoxaline **42** on treatment with DDQ [46].

**IV.3 Reaction with Hydroxylamine.** The oxime ChrCH=NOR (R = H or alkyl), derived from **1** and hydroxylamine or the appropriate *O*-alkyl (or aryl)-hydroxylamine undergoes acid catalysed dehydration to ChrCN [3,47]. ChrCH=NOH when heated under reflux in MeCN containing NaI also affords ChrCN [48]. A one pot synthesis of ChrCN from 2-hydroxyacetophenone involves treatment of the latter at room temperature first with DMF-POCl<sub>3</sub> and then with NH<sub>2</sub>OH.HCl, the chloroiminium salt [Me<sub>2</sub>N<sup>+</sup>=CHCl]Cl<sup>-</sup> presumably bringing about dehydration of the intermediate oxime [49].

C-(4-Oxo-4H-1-benzopyran-3-yl)-N-phenyl-nitrone **43** (R = Ph) is obtained in Z-isomeric form by condensing 1 with PhNHOH in dry ethanol [50,51]. The nitrone 43 (R = alkyl or aryl) can also be prepared by treatment of a mixture of 1 and an aliphatic or aromatic nitrocompound with zinc in ethanol-acetic acid [52]. Heating a solution of 43 (R = Ph) in ethanol under reflux affords 2-substituted 3-formylchromone 47 (70%) and a stereoisomeric mixture of 49 (25%) [50]. Arylnitrone 43 (R = aryl), however, remains unaffected under reflux in MeOH whereas the aliphatic nitrone 43 (R = alkyl) rearranges to 47 under similar conditions [53]. Ghosh and Bandyopadhyay [54] have shown that rearrangement of 43 (R = aryl or alkyl) is dependent on the reaction medium, polar solvents facilitating the formation of 47 whereas non-polar ones allowing the formation of both 47 and 49. No reaction between ChrCHO, nitroarene or nitroalkane and zinc powder in THF at ambient temperature takes place; but addition of a saturated aqueous solution of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl in the mixture induces the reaction, a nitroalkane giving 47 (R =alkyl) whereas a nitroarene the nitrone 43 (R = aryl) as the major product along with (49, R = Ar) ( $\equiv 21$ ) [52]. The rearrangement of 43 to 47 and 49 has been explained in the following way. 1,5-Electrocyclisation of 43 gives the fused isoxazoline 44 as an intermediate. Rearrangement of 44 by pyran ring opening  $(\rightarrow 45)$  and recyclisation gives 46, which leads to 47 by a 1,5-hydrogen shift (Scheme 2 – path a). Alternatively, 44 by a sequential 1,5hydrogen shift ( $\rightarrow$  48) and prototropy gives 49 (path b) [50].



The nitrones 43 (R = alkyl) and 43 (R = Ar) give respectively ChrCO<sub>2</sub>H and ChrCHO on hydrolysis with 70% sulfuric acid [53]. The chromandione 49 (R = alkyl) gives the fused isoxazole 50 with hydroxylamine and the coumarin derivative 51 with phenylhydrazine [54]. A few reactions of 49 (R = Ar) are mentioned in Section IV.1. On heating with 70% sulfuric acid 47 (R = Me, Et) undergoes deformylation whereas 47 (R =  $C_6H_4X$ -p, X = H, OMe) undergoes cyclodehydration to benzazaxanthone 52 [50,52]. The chromone 47 has been extensively used for the synthesis of various heterocycles fused with the 2,3-bond of the chromone moiety. For example, 47 (R = Ph,  $CH_2Ph$ ) on being refluxed with Ph<sub>3</sub>P=CHCO<sub>2</sub>Et in benzene gives the azaxanthone derivative 53 by cyclisation of the initially formed Wittig reaction product [55]. The chromone 47 (R =Ph, CH<sub>2</sub>Ph) on sequential treatment with allyl bromide in refluxing acetone - K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> and the phosphorane Ph<sub>3</sub>P=CHCO<sub>2</sub>Et in refluxing benzene gives 55. A xylene solution of 55 on being heated in a sealed tube at 220-230 °C gives the azaxanthone 54 [55].

The chromone **56**, obtained by methylation of **47** (R = Ph), possesses a highly nucleofugal *N*-methylanilino group and it has been reacted with bisnucleophiles to obtain several heterocycles fused with the 2,3-bond of chromone as well as macrocycles having intact chromone moieties at



the periphery. For example, **56** gives the pyrrole **57** with methyl glycinate, a mixture of pyrazoles **58** and **59** with NH<sub>2</sub>NHR (R = H, Ph), and seven membered heterocycle **61** with 2-substituted aniline **60** (Y = NH, O, S) [56]. An equimolar mixture of **56** and *m*-phenylenediamine gives 1-benzopyrano[2,3-*b*]quinoline **62** in refluxing MeCN - H<sub>2</sub>O



but a [2+2]macrocycle in refluxing dry MeCN. 3-Aminophenol and 56 when refluxed together in xylene produce a [3+3]macrocycle [56]. The aliphatic diamine **63** (Y = bond, CH<sub>2</sub>) behaves differently from an aromatic primary diamine towards 56. The intermediate 64 initially formed from 56 by displacement of *N*-methylaniline with **63** undergoes intramolecular 1,4-addition with concomitant opening of the pyran ring to give the imidazole or pyrimidine derivative 65 [57a]; no attempt to cyclise 65 to 3hetarylchromone has been done. Heterocyclic amines like pyrrolidine, piperidine, morpholine, piperazine and Nmethylpiperazine bring about nucleophilic substitution of N-methylanilino moiety of 6-chloro(or fluoro)-3-formyl-2-N-methylanilino-chromone, the resultant 2-cyclamino derivatives showing anticancer activity to some extent [57b].

**IV.4** Addition of Amidines. The reaction of 1 with formamidine and some C-substituted formamidines leading to either 5-salicyloyl-pyrimidine or 5-hydroxy-5H-[1]benzopyrano[4,3-d]-pyrimidine or both had been previously discussed [1,2]. The iminophosphorane 66, equivalent to benzamidine, undergoes an aza-Wittig reaction with the aldehyde function of 6-methyl-3formylchromone followed by electrocyclic ring closure of the intermediate 1,3-diazatriene with concomitant opening of the pyran ring to give 5-(2-hydroxy-5-methylbenzoyl)-1-phenylpyrimidine [58]. In its reaction with 1, thiourea behaves like guanidine to give the chromenopyrimidine 67 (Y = OH, X = SH, thioxo form) [59].  $H_2NC(=NH)SMe$ gives with 1 in EtOH-NEt<sub>3</sub>, a mixture of 2-thiomethyl-5salicyloyl-pyrimidine and the chromenopyrimidine 67 (X = SMe, Y = OH) [60] whereas  $H_2NC(=NH)X$  where X stands for OMe [61] and  $NR^1R^2$  ( $R^1R^2 = CH_2CH_2$ -Z- $CH_2CH_2$ ; Z = bond,  $CH_2$ , O) [62] gives only the fused pyrimidine 67 (Y = OH). TiCl<sub>4</sub> catalysed reaction of 67  $(X = OMe, SMe, NR^{1}R^{2}; Y = OH)$  with  $NHR^{1}R^{2}$   $(R^{1} = H,$  $R^2$  = cyclopropyl, *t*-butyl etc;  $R^1R^2$  = CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub> Z CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>;  $Z = bond, CH_2, O)$  gives the corresponding 2-substituted pyrimidine 67 (Y =  $NR^{1}R^{2}$ ) [60-62]. The pyrimidines



having the same or different cyclamino substitutents at their 2- and 5-position show *in vitro* antiplatelet activity [62]. It is relevant to mention here that the pyrimidine **67** (X = NH<sub>2</sub>; Y = NHAr) is obtained by treating **19** with guanidine [19a]. The 2-amino-1,4-dihydropyrimidine **68**, derived from the three component condensation of ArCHO (Ar = phenyl, *p*-tolyl, *p*-anisyl, *p*-chlorophenyl, 2-thienyl), PhCOCH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>Et and guanidine, can be regarded as an *N*,*N*'-disubstituted guanidine and it reacts with **1** giving 2*H*-pyrimido[1,2-*a*]pyrimidine **69** [63].

IV.5 Reaction with 1,2-Diimine. When ChrCHO is reacted with a 1,2-diketone in the presence of NH<sub>4</sub>OAc, the diketone is first converted to the corresponding 1,2diimine that reacts with the aldehyde function of 1 giving an imidazole linked to the 3-position of chromone. Thus, 3-formylchromone 1 [64] and 6-formylkhellin 70 (R =OMe) [20] give with benzil and NH<sub>4</sub>OAc in refluxing AcOH 3-(4,5-diphenyl-imidazol-2-yl)chromone and 6-(4,5-diphenyl-imidazol-2-yl)khellin, respectively. Similar condensation of 1 with 1,10-phenanthroline-5,6-dione gives 3-(1H-imidazolo-[4,5-f][1,10]phenanthrolin-2-yl)-4oxo-4H-1-benzopyran (abbreviated as ipbp) 71 [65]. 2,2'-Bipyridyl and 1,10-phenanthronyl complexes of Ru (II) like [Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>] and [Ru(phen)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>] form with ipbp respectively [Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>(ipbp)]Cl<sub>2</sub> and [Ru(phen)<sub>2</sub>(ipbp)] Cl<sub>2</sub> that bind with calf thymus DNA in an intercalative mode [65].



**IV.6** Reaction with Heterocyclic NH. 1H-1,2,4-Triazole (or 1H-benzotriazole) has been condensed with the aldehyde group of several substituted 3-formylchromones (Het-CHO) to give 72 (or 74), the latter forming 73 (or 75) by reaction with RCONH<sub>2</sub> (R = alkyl or aryl). The heterocycles 72 and 74 have been reacted with oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen nucleophiles [66].



## V Addition of Phosphorus Nucleophiles.

Treatment of **1** with dialkyl phosphite HOP(OR)<sub>2</sub> and 1,2-drops of trialkyl phosphite  $P(OR)_3$  (R = Me, Et, CHMe<sub>2</sub>, Bu, Ph) gives the phosphonate **76** [67]. Abdou *et* 

*al.* [68] have reported the formation of the phosphonates **76** and **77** by condensing **1** with dialkyl phosphonate HPO(OR)<sub>2</sub> and trialkylphosphite P(OR)<sub>3</sub>, respectively. The compound **76** (R = Me, Et) is also obtained by condensing **1** with P(OR)<sub>3</sub> under microwave irradiation mediated by TMSCl under solvent free conditions; TMSCl presumably acts as a trapping agent and prevents intramolecular dealkylation [69]. The phosphonate **78** has been obtained by refluxing an equimolar mixture of **1**, P(OPh)<sub>3</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>NCO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Ph in glacial AcOH [70]. Reaction of **76** (R = Me) with HBr in AcOH gives **79** that can be reduced by red P - HI in hot HOAc to **80** [67].

$$\begin{array}{c} O \\ || \\ Chr - CH - P(OR)_2 \\ X \\ 76 : X = OH, R = alkyl \\ 77 : X = OR^1, R^1 = R = alkyl \\ 78 : X = HNCO_2CH_2Ph, R = Ph \\ 79 : X = OH, R = H \\ 80 : X = R = H \end{array}$$

#### VI Addition of Oxygen and Sulfur Nucleophiles.

3-Formylchromone 1 can be crystallised from methanol; on prolonged (22-25 hr) heating in dry methanol under reflux, however, undergoes complete acetalisation. In contrast, complete acetalisation with methanol of both the aldehyde functions of the bischromone **81** (n = 3-5) takes place within 6 hr under the same conditions, the faster acetalisation in this case being not rationalized [71]. TsOH catalysed condensation of 1 with ethane-1,2-dithiol [72] and the diol HOCH<sub>2</sub>XCH<sub>2</sub>OH (X = bond, CH<sub>2</sub>, CMe<sub>2</sub>) [72,73] in refluxing benzene under azeotropic conditions gives 82 and 83, respectively. Thioacetalisation of 1 has been achieved in excellent yield at room temperature using thiols and dithiols in aqueous hydrobromic acid [74]. Ti(IV) exchanged montmorillonite efficiently catalyses the acetalisation of **1** with ethane-1,2-diol as well as propane-1,3-diol in refluxing toluene [75]. Silica supported metallic sulfates as Ce(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, MgSO<sub>4</sub>, NaHSO<sub>4</sub> are efficient catalysts for the protection of the aldehyde function of 1 as the 1,3-dioxalone under microwave solvent free conditions [76]. Acetalization of ChrCHO has been achieved in basic media too. For example, 6-substituted 3-formylchromone on refluxing in ROH (R = Me, Et) containing catalytic amount of NEt<sub>3</sub> gives the corresponding acetal (22-34%) in addition to several other products (see Section VII.6) [30] whereas 84 (R = Me) is the sole product obtained by  $TiCl_4$ catalysed acetalisation of 1 in MeOH in the presence of NH<sub>3</sub> or NEt<sub>3</sub> [77]. Ac<sub>2</sub>O in the presence of AlCl<sub>3</sub> at room temperature converts 1 to the acylal 84 (R = Ac), which can be reconverted to 1 by treatment also at room temperature by AlCl<sub>3</sub> in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> [78]. The formation of **84** (R = Ac) from **1** and Ac<sub>2</sub>O at room temperature is also catalysed by ceric ammonium nitrate (CAN) [79] as well as 1,3-dibromo-5,5-dimethylhydantion (DBH) [80]; CAN in aqueous MeCN at 70 °C can deprotect the aldehyde group in **84** (R = Ac) [79].

The acetal **83** (Y = bond) gives with nitrogen nucleophiles the same products as are obtained from the aldehyde **1** [72]. The acetal **83** after lithiation at its pyran 2-position is reacted with electrophiles like TMSC1, CICO<sub>2</sub>Et, MeCHO and PhCOCN *etc.* to form the corresponding 2-substituted analogue of **83**, the 2-substituted products from **83** (Y = CH<sub>2</sub>) being always accompanied by the dimer **85** [73]. Ammonium formate and palladized charcoal in refluxing methanol brings about hydrogenation of the pyran 2,3-olefinic bond of **83** (Y = bond) [81].



### VII Addition of Carbon Nucleophiles.

VII.1 Condensation with Active Methyl or Methylene Group Linked to an Arene or Hetarene : Formation of 3-[2-Aryl(or hetaryl)vinyl]chromone. Condensation of ChrCHO with 2,4-dinitrotoluene in refluxing pyridine [82] and with 4-nitrotoluene in pyridine under ultrasonic irradiation [83] yields E-3-(2-arylvinyl)chromones 86 (R = 2,4-dinitrophenyl) and 86 (R = 4-nitrophenyl), respectively. Methyl group of 3-aryl-2-methylquinazolin-4(3H)-one is active so as to condense with ChrCHO [84]. 3-Methyl-1phenylpyrazolin-5-one condenses with 1 under base catalysis to give a small amount of 86 (R = 5-oxo-1phenylpyrazolin-3-yl) in addition to the major product arising from the condensation of aldehyde function of 1 with the methylene group of the said pyrazolinone [85]. Knoevenagel condensation of ChrCHO with active methylene group of several aryl(or hetaryl)acetic acids is always accompanied by decarboxylation so as to give the title chromone 86 of E-sterochemistry. For example, a mixture of ChrCHO and phenylacetic acid having a chloro, nitro or trifluoromethyl substituent at its ortho- or paraposition in pyridine under reflux [86] or in pyridine under ultrasonic irradiation [83] or in pyridine containing t-BuOK under classical heating conditions as well as microwave gives corresponding irradiation [87] the E-3styrylchromone, Knoevenagel condensation with decarboxylation being faster under microwave irradiation. Coumarin-4-ylacetic acid [88] and 6,8-dimethylcoumarin-4-ylacetic acid [89] with ChrCHO in boiling pyridine form the corresponding E-3-(2-hetarylvinyl)chromone, the former acid being also condensed with 1 under microwave irradiation [90]. p-Nitro(or ethoxy)benzylidenetriphenylphosphorane, obtained by treatment of the appropriate benzyl bromide with triphenylphosphine followed by a base, gives with 1 an isomeric mixture of 3-[4'-nitro(or ethoxy)styryl]chromone, Z-isomer being most abundant independent of having electron withdrawing or electron donating group at the phenyl ring of the benzylidene moiety [89]. The styrylchromone 86 reacts with urea (or thiourea) in alcoholic KOH yielding 2-hydroxy (or sulfhydryl) pyrimidine **87** (X = O or S) [83].



3-Formyl-2-methylchromone **88** (R = H) does not give any Aldol condensation product with **1** under base catalysis; instead, a Michael initiated ring closure reaction is involved and the intermediate **89** ultimately gives the xanthone **90** (R = H) by water elimination and deformylative pyran ring opening (Scheme 3) [91].





VII.2 Reaction with Methyl Ketones, and Acylic and Alicylic Compounds Having an Active Methylene Group. Aldol condensation involving methyl group of RCOMe (R = Me, aryl, hetaryl) with the formyl group of ChrCHO gives 91 in *E*-isomeric form [92-95] which has been reacted with various nucleophiles; for example, 91 (R = aryl) gives the 1,5-benzothiazepin 92 with 2aminobenzenethiol. Reactions of 91 (R = Me, Ar) with hydrazine and hydroxylamine have been studied [94,95].



Formation of ChrCH = CXY by base catalysed condensation of 1 with XCH<sub>2</sub>Y where both X and Y are electron withdrawing groups is well known; the initially formed undergo further transformation condensates may depending on the nature of X and Y groups [1,2]. The same condensation has been carried out under varying conditions. Based catalysed reaction of ChrCHO with cyanoacetamide gives the cyanopyridone 93 accompanied by other products [96,97]. The best reaction conditions for getting pyridone 93 in high yield are by heating 1 with  $R^{1}NHCOCH_{2}CN$  ( $R^{1} = H, CH_{2}Ph, CH_{2}Me, cyclohexyl$ ) in DMF in the presence of TMSCl as a promoter and water scavenger [98a]. 6-Methyl-4-oxo-4H-1-benzopyran-3carboxaldehyde when simply heated with NCCH<sub>2</sub>COZ (Z = OH, NH<sub>2</sub>) in distilled water without catalyst at 90 °C for 12h, however, gives the corresponding ylidene nitrile in quantitative yield [98b]. Base catalysed condensation of some 6-formyl-furochromones 70 with cyanoacetamide, cyanothioacetamide, malononitrile, malonic acid, ethyl acetoacetate, acetylacetone, ethyl benzoylacetate [97], dimedone, indanone [99] and 1,3-indandione [100] has been reported. 6-Substituted 3-formylchromones have been condensed with dimedone and biindone under heating, as well as in a microwave oven [101].

ArCOCH<sub>2</sub>X (X = NO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>Ar<sup>1</sup>) has been condensed with **1** [102]. The formation of the benzophenone **94** (R = Me, R<sup>1</sup> = H) and ChrCH=C(COMe)<sub>2</sub> by reaction of **1** with CH<sub>2</sub>(COMe)<sub>2</sub> in AcOH containing a few drops of HCl has been rationalized [103]. The domino Michael-retro-Michael-Wittig reaction of the phosphorane **95** (R = OCHMe<sub>2</sub>, OMe, OEt, NH<sub>2</sub>, 1-pyrrolidinyl) with ChrCHO in refluxing THF in the presence of NaH also gives the benzophenone **94** (R<sup>1</sup> = H) [104]. ChrCHO gives the benzo[*b*]furan **96** with chloroacetone in acetone containing anhydrous K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> and a catalytic amount of iodine but gives **97** in dichloromethane in the presence of Brockmann neutral alumina [105]. Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons reaction of ChrCHO with (EtO)<sub>2</sub>P(=O)CH<sub>2</sub>-CO<sub>2</sub>Et affords the electron deficient diene **91** (R = OEt) [106]. ChrCHO and benzimidazol-2-acetonitrile **98** together in refluxing ethylene glycol form the pyrido-[1,2-a]imidazole **99** [107].



ChrCHO in the presence of ammonia gives the pyridines **100-102** respectively with acetylacetone, diethyl malonate and ethyl cyanoacetate; the formation of these pyridines involves Knoevenagel condensation of the active methylene compounds with **1** and the subsequent reactions of the condensates with ammonia [108]. In contrast, ethyl acetoacetate and ammonia under similar conditions, and acetylacetone pretreated with ammonia condense with **1** giving the pyranopyridines **103** (R = OEt, X = OH) and **103** (R = Me, X = OH), respectively [108]. 6-Formylkhellin **70** (R = OMe) on condensation with malononitrile in the presence of ammonium acetate gives the 1,4-dihydropyridine **104** (R = khellin-6-yl, R<sup>1</sup> = NH<sub>2</sub>, X = Y = CN) through the intermediacy of **105** [93].



The Knoevenagel condensates 106-109 have been reacted with the bisnucleophile  $H_2NYH$  (Y = NH, NPh, CHCO<sub>2</sub>Et) [109]. The nucleophile attacks at the pyran 2-position with concomitant opening of the pyran ring (Scheme 4). Depending on the nature of X and Y groups the resultant intermediate 110 undergoes two different types of cyclisations; an intramolecular 1,4-addition reaction ( $\rightarrow$  111) followed by elimination of XCH<sub>2</sub>COR gives 112 (path *a*) whereas cyclisation involving intramolecular 1,2-addition of the nucleophilic species in Y leads to the six-membered ring system (path b). It has been shown that the chromone 106 gives the pyrazole 112 (Y = NPh) with phenylhydrazine whereas **109** gives, with  $H_2$ NNHR<sup>1</sup> (R<sup>1</sup> = H, Ph), the pyridone **114**. Hydroxylamine converts 106-108 into the pyridine-N-oxides 115-117, respectively. The reaction of 108 with ethyl glycinate follows the path *a*, the intermediate **112** ( $Y = CHCO_2Et$ ) giving the pyrrole 113 by a 1,5-hydrogen shift.



With ethyl  $\beta$ -aminocrotonate, the chromone **106** gives a mixture of **103** (X = CHAc<sub>2</sub>, R = OEt) and **104** (R = Chr, R<sup>1</sup> = Me, X = Ac, Y = CO<sub>2</sub>Et), **107** gives **104** (R = Chr,

 $R^1 = Me$ ,  $X = Y = CO_2Et$ ), and **109** varying amounts of **118** and **119**; pyridine **103** (R = OEt, X = OH), is obtained in small amount (~ 3%) in each case [110]. The aforesaid 1,4-dihydropyridines **104** can be dehydrogenated by



palladised charcoal. Ammonia converts **104** (R = Chr,  $R^1 = Me$ , X = Ac,  $Y = CO_2Et$ ) into the diazanaphthalene **120** [110].

Biginelli reaction of 1 with MeCOCH<sub>2</sub>COR (R = Me, OEt) and urea in refluxing acetic acid forms the 2-oxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine 121 [111]. When urea is replaced by thiourea in the above reaction, the product is 6H-1,3-thiazine 122 [111]. Here also the active methylene compounds condense with ChrCHO. A 1,4-nucleophilic addition of urea or thiourea to the exocyclic  $\alpha_{\beta}$ unsaturated carbonyl group of the condensate ChrCH= C(COMe)COR followed by cyclization gives the Biginelli product [111]. 3-Formyl-6-methylchromone [112] and 6formylkhellin [113] have been condensed with ethyl acetoacetate and urea in the presence of piperidine to give the appropriate 6-substituted tetrahydropyrimidine. A dry slurry of 1, ethyl acetoacetate, urea and  $In(OTf)_3$  with sodium sulfate as the solid support has been heated under microwave irradiation to give 121 (R = OEt) [114]. The condensate, derived from 6-formylkhellin and XCH<sub>2</sub>CN  $(X = CN, CO_2Et)$  on treatment with urea and thiourea



gives respectively the appropriate pyrimidine and 1,3-thiazine of the types **121** and **122** [93].

Reduction of **108** with Zn in THF containing aqueous  $NH_4Cl$  produces **123** whereas that with Zn in AcOH gives **124** [115].

VII.3 Reactions with Heterocycles Having an Active Methylene Group. Active methylene group present in many heterocycles condenses with the formyl group of 1, the stereochemistry around the exocyclic olefinic bond of the resultant condensate remaining undetermined in most cases. Condensation of ChrCHO with active methylene group (cf. ref. 85) of 3-methyl-1-phenyl (or p-nitrophenyl)pyrazolin-5-one yielding 125 is catalysed by triethylamine [59], MCM41-SO<sub>3</sub>H [116], and lithium chloride [117]. The above condensation has also been executed under microwave irradiation [118,119], at room temperature in an ionic liquid like triethylammonium nitrate [120], and under ultrasonic irradiation in acetic acid [83] or in distilled water containing borate zirconia solid acid catalyst [121]. The compound **125** can even be obtained by just grinding a mixture of the reactants in solid state without any solvent at room temperature [122]. The chromone **1** has also been condensed with several other pyrazolinones [99,123,124], barbituric acid [125], thiobarbituric acid [99,123,126], hydantoin, thiohydantoin [127,128], chromanone [129], azlactone [123,130,131], 2-methylthiazolo[3,2-b]-s-triazolinone 126 [132] etc. Condensations of several 6substituted 3-formylchromones with creatinine, thiohydantoin, 3-ethylrhodanine, 2-oxo-1,4-benzothiazine etc. under thermal as well as microwave



conditions [101,133] are known. Isopropylidene malonate and 2,4-thiazolidinedione have also been condensed with **1** under microwave irradiation [119].

Condensation of 125 with thiourea in alcoholic KOH gives 67 (X = SH, Y = OH, thioamide form) [59]. The compound 127 (R = H), derived from 1 and thiohydantoin, gives 127 (R = 4-morpholinomethyl) on Mannich reaction with HCHO and morpholine, and the S-alkyl derivative 128 on treatment with R-halide (R = Me, PhCOCH<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>COOH) [128]. The oxazolone 129 (R = Me, Ph), derived from 1 and the appropriate azlactone, has been subjected to hydrolysis and aminolysis [130,131]. The nitrogen nucleophile NHR<sup>1</sup>R<sup>2</sup> [R<sup>1</sup> = R<sup>2</sup> = Et;  $R^2R^2 = -(CH_2)_5$ ,  $(CH_2)_2$ -O- $(CH_2)_2$ ;  $R^1 = H$ ,  $R^2 = Ar$ , NMe<sub>2</sub>, NHPh) brings about transamidation of the lactone function of 129 (R = Ph) to give 130 that may undergo further transformation depending on the reaction conditions and the nature of the  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  groups. The oxazolone 129 (R = Ph) when refluxed with an equimolar or catalytic amount of an aromatic secondary or tertiary amine in ethanol produces the pyranopyran 132 sometimes contaminated with 131 [130].

The isoxazolin-5-one **133** (R = Me or Ph), prepared by treating RCOCH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>Et with NH<sub>2</sub>OH, condenses with **1** giving **134** that on sequential reduction with NaBH<sub>4</sub> in methanol and treatment with NaNO<sub>2</sub> in AcOH containing FeSO<sub>4</sub> gives the acetylene **135** [134].



VII.4 Addition of Alkyl- and Alkynyl-metal. The homoallylic alcohol 136 is formed by treating 1 with allyltributylstanane in the presence of catalytic amount of CAN in MeCN at room temperature [135] as well with allyl bromide and indium metal in THF-H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1) at 30 °C [136]. The racemic alcohol has been subjected to kinetic resolution with lipase using vinyl acetate as an acyl donor when *R*-alcohol is acylated [136]. Lithium dialkynylcuprate (RC=C)<sub>2</sub>CuLi (R = TMS, Ph, *n*-Pr, *t*-Bu) undergoes conjugate addition to the unsaturated aldehyde 1 giving 137 which partially isomerises to 138 in the presence of acid. Prolonged contact with silica gel effects total conversion of 137 to 138 having *E*-stereochemistry [137].



**VII.5** Addition of Aromatic Compounds. The reaction of 1 with aromatic tertiary amines like N,N-diethylaniline and 3-N,N-diethylaminophenol in the presence of sulfuric acid has been mentioned in an earlier review [1]. *p*-Cresol reacts with 1 in AcOH - HCl giving the tribenzo[b,e,i][1,6,7]trioxophenalene 141 sometimes admixed with the benzopyrano[2,3-b]-benzopyran 142 [138]. The aldehyde 1 with *p*-cresol under acidic conditions gives the pyrrilium salt 139; a second molecule of *p*-cresol undergoes 1,4-addition to 139 giving 140 that cyclises to 141 (Scheme 5 – path *a*)



and an acid catalysed cyclisation of **139** forms **142** (path *b*). That the formation of **141** involves the intermediacy of **140** is proved by the fact that the latter, obtained by treating **1** with *p*-cresol in the presence of anhydrous AlCl<sub>3</sub>, is indeed cyclised by AcOH - HCl to **141**. The present authors, however, contend that **141** may also arise by Michael addition of *p*-cresol to the  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated carbonyl functionality of **142** and subsequent cyclisation of the resultant adduct.

 $\beta$ -Naphthol and 1 dissolved together in AcOH-HCl form a little bit of 143 and a red mass which on digestion in methanol forms the oxocine 146 as the major product. The formation of 143 involves the cyclisation of the pyrrilium salt analogous to 139 whereas that of 146 involves addition of two molecules of  $\beta$ -naphthol to 1 to give *via* 144 the oxonium salt 145 followed by reaction with methanol (Scheme 6) [138].

further transformation giving the aforesaid condensation products [30].

Alumina not only brings about disproportionation of **1** to the alcohol **6** and acid **7** but also catalyses the Baylis-Hillman type reaction of **1** and **7** with **1** as well as **7** giving the chromones **9**, **149**, **150** and **153** [12]. Anhydrous AlCl<sub>3</sub> catalysed self-condensation of **1** to **9**, **150** and **153** also involves an initial Baylis-Hillman reaction of the aldehyde **1** with itself [13]. 1,4-Diazabicyclo[2,2,2]octane (DABCO] catalysed Baylis-Hillman reaction of **1** with CH<sub>2</sub>=CH-X (X = CO<sub>2</sub>Me [139] and COMe [140]) gives the adduct **154** accompanied by the adduct's self-condensation product **155** whereas that with acrylonitrile produces a mixture of **154** (X = CN) and **156** [140].



For **144-146** :  $R^1R^2 = CH=CH-CH=CH$ 

**VII.6 Baylis-Hillman Reaction.** ChrCHO on refluxing with catalytic amount of NEt<sub>3</sub> in a protic solvent ROH (R = Me, Et) gives in addition to Chr-H and **84** its self-condensation products **147-149** and **151** *albeit* in low yields [30]. Here the zwitterionic intermediate **152** (R = Et), derived from **1** and NEt<sub>3</sub>, undergoes 1,2- as well as 1,4-addition to the  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated aldehyde functionality of **1**, the resultant Baylis-Hillman adducts undergoing



VII.7 Addition of Enol Ethers. The 1,3-bis-silvl ether **157** (R = OMe, OEt, Et, Ph;  $R^1 = H$ , Me, Et, CH<sub>2</sub>=CH-CH<sub>2</sub>, n-Bu, Bn etc.) undergoes domino Michael-retro-Michael-aldol condensation with 1 dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> containing trimethylsilyl triflate giving the substituted benzophenone 94 [141]. [3+3]Cyclisation of 1,3-bis(trimethylsilyloxy)-7-chlorohepta-1,3-diene **158** with 6chloro-3-formyl-7-methylchromone followed by an intramolecular Williamson reaction gives the 6-(salicyloyl)chroman 159 [142].



VII.8 Addition of Enamines. The reactions of a variety of acylic, alicyclic and heterocyclic enamines with 1 leading to either 5*H*-1-benzopyrano[4,3-d] pyridines or 3(5)salicycloylpyridines or a mixture of both have been comprehended in earlier two reviews [1,2]. There are, however, conflicting reports on the reaction of 1 with  $\beta$ aminocrotonic acid derivatives 160 (R = OMe, OEt). A mixture of 1 and enamine 160 (R = OEt) in refluxing ethanol gives the fused pyridine 103 (X = OH); a cursory report on the formation of the dihydropyridine 104 (R = Chr,  $R^1$  Me,  $X = Y = CO_2Et$ ) by reacting **1** with two molar proportion of 160 (R = OEt) in AcOH has been made [143]. Later on, the same reaction in AcOH at 60 °C is reported to give a mixture of the dihydropyridines 104 (R = Chr,  $R^1 =$ Me,  $X = Y = CO_2Et$ ) and 161 (E = CO<sub>2</sub>Et), both of which can be dehydrogenated by manganese dioxide [144]. MeCOCH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>Et with **1** under reflux in ethanol containing liquor ammonia gives exclusively the pyranopyridine 103 (X = OH, R = OEt) identical with that obtained by treating 1 with 160 (R = OEt) indicating that the formation of 160 (R= OEt) from MeCOCH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>Et and ammonia predominates over the base catalysed condensation of the acetoacetic ester with the aldehyde 1; the enamine 160 (R = OEt) thus formed reacts with 1 giving 103 (X = OH, R = OEt) [108]. Similar condensation of MeCOCH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>Me with 1 in refluxing methanol-ammonia gives the fused pyridine 103 (X = OH, R = OMe) [108] in contrast to the previously reported exclusive formation of 104 ( $R = Chr, R^1 = Me, X =$  $Y = CO_2Me)$  [145].

Both 2-aminochromone **162** [146] and 4-amino-2*H*-1benzopyran [39] behave as enamines to undergo initial Michael addition to the  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated aldehyde **1** to give ultimately the fused pyridines **164** and **165**, respectively. 5-Aminopyrazole **166** (R = alkyl, aryl), however, behaves differently from the aforesaid two aminobenzopyrans; it undergoes through its exocyclic and endocyclic nucleophilic nitrogens a [3+3]cyclization with **1** with concomitant opening of the pyran ring to afford the pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyrimidine **167** [147]. The initially formed Michael adduct of the chromone based dienamine **163** with **1** reorganizes to the xanthone **90** (R = CHO) [148]. The formation of the pyridopyrimidine **169** by reacting **1** with the pyrimidine **168** (R = H, Me; R<sup>1</sup> = MeO, MeS,  $NH_2$ , OH, SH) has been explained by the authors [149] as 'termic rearrangements' of the intermediate arising from the condensation of C-5 and 6-amino group of **168** respectively with the aldehyde and ketogroups of **1**. The present authors, however, contend that the heterocyclic enamine **168** like other enamines undergoes Michael addition to ChrCHO with concomitant opening of the pyran ring; the resultant intermediate undergoes double cyclisation, the first one involving phenolic OH and CHO groups and the other  $NH_2$  and keto functionalities, to give **169**. Pyrrole functions as a dienamine in condensing with the aldehyde **1** to give the *meso*-tetrakis (chromen-3-yl)porphyrin **170** [156].



## VIII. Cycloaddition Reactions.

The cycloaddition reactions of all chromone based compounds reported till July, 1996 have been

comprehended in a review article [151]. So the present write-up on the cycloaddition reactions of ChrCHO and some simple derivatives thereof gives emphasis only on later publications with passing references to the earlier ones. Neither [2+1]- nor [2+2]-cycloaddition reaction of ChrCHO or any of its derivatives is known. The other types of cycloaddition reactions are written in the following few subsections.

VIII.1 [3+2]Cycloaddition. The [3+2]cycloaddition reactions of 1 [152,153], the acetal 83 (Y = bond) [154], the condensates 106-109 [155,156] and the oxazolone 129 (R = Ph) [155] with diazomethane and those of 3formyl-6-methylchromone with diazomethane, diazoethane and diazopropane [157], and of 1 [158] and 106 [159] with phenyldiazomethane have been elaborately discussed in the aforesaid review article [151]. The pyridinium phenacylide, generated by treatment of phenacyl-pyridinium bromide with a base, also undergoes [3+2]cycloaddition to the olefinic bond of **1**, the resultant adduct undergoing further transformation [151,160]. The dipole 172, obtained by interaction of triphenylphosphine with the allenic ester 171 (R = H), undergoes [3+2]cycloaddition to the pyran 2,3-bond of 1 in refluxing benzene, the resultant adduct being deformylated under the reaction conditions to give the cyclopentenochromone 173 [161].



182

the Schiff base 19 to give respectively the 1,2,4oxadiazoline 175 and 1,2,4-triazoline 176. [3+2]Cycloaddition of the nitrone 43 (R = Ph) with several electron rich as well as electron deficient olefins [163-165] has been comprehended elsewhere [21] by one of the present authors. The said nitrone undergoes regiospecific 1,3dipolar cycloaddition to  $C_2$ - $C_3$   $\pi$ -bond of the allenic ester 171 (R = H, Me, Et) and the resultant cycloadduct reorganizes to form the benzo[b] indolizine 177 admixed with a small amount of the indole 178 [166]. A fullerene-chromone dyad has been prepared by 1,3-

dipolar cycloaddition of the azomethine ylide, generated in situ by refluxing a mixture of 1 and N-methylglycine in toluene, to  $C_{60}$  [167].

## VIII.2 [4+2]Cycloaddition.

VIII.2.1 ChrCHO as a  $2\pi$ -Component. The first proof for the dienophilicity of ChrCHO came from its cycloaddition 2,3-dimethyl-1,3-diene with and Danishefsky's diene, the reaction with the former diene necessitating the use of a catalytic amount of TiCl<sub>4</sub> [168]. The dienamine 163 undergoes Diels-Alder (D-A) reaction with the aldehyde 1 in refluxing DMF; the adduct ultimately gives the xanthone 90 (R = H) by base catalysed elimination of NHMe<sub>2</sub> and deformylative pyran ring opening, the amine 163 or the adduct itself functioning as the base [148].

Scheme 7



183

1,3-Dipoles like benzonitrile oxide [162] and the nitrilimine 174 (R = Me, OEt;  $Ar^1 = p$ -tolyl, p-bromophenyl) [163] add across the azomethine double bond of

D-A reaction of **1** with *ortho*-benzoquinodimethane **180**, generated *in situ* by thermal decomposition of 1,3dihydrobenzo[*c*]thiophane-2,2-dioxide **179** (R = H, Br; R<sup>1</sup> = H, OMe), gives a stereoisomeric mixture of the adduct **181** which on refluxing with DMSO-I<sub>2</sub> is dehydrogenated to the xanthone **182**, a small amount of the naphthyl phenyl ketone **183** arising during oxidation (Scheme 7) [169].

[4+2]Cycloaddition of 1 with indole-*o*-quinodimethane 184, generated from 1-benzoyl-2,3-di(bromomethyl)-indole, gives diastereoisomeric mixtures of 185 and 186 after *in situ* defo $\pi$ rmylation [170].



VIII.2.2 ChrCHO as a  $4\pi$ -Component. 3-Formylchromone 1 behaves as a heterodiene in Inverse Electron Demand Diels-Alder (IEDDA) reaction with various olefins. Its reactions with diphenylketen, dichloroketen and several enol ethers, and some important transformations of the resultant cycloadducts have been well comprehended [2, 151].

VIII.3 [4+2]Cycloaddition of 3-(2-Substituted vinyl)chromone. D-A reaction of 3-styrylchromone 86 (R = Ar = phenyl, *m*-chloro- and *m*-ethoxy-phenyl) with *N*methyl- and *N*-phenyl-maleimide has been executed under microwave irradiation. D-A reactions of both *Z*- and *E*isomers of the aforesaid 3-styrylchromone with *N*methylmaleimide gives the cycloadducts in a stereoselective manner, *Z*-isomer giving the *endo*-adduct 187 (R = Me) and *E*-isomer the exo-adduct 188 (R = Me). Predominant formation of the exo-adduct 188 (R = Ph) from the *Z*-isomer of 86 (R = Ar) and less reactive *N*phenylmaleimide involves conversion of *Z*-isomer to the *E*-isomer followed by normal D-A reaction [171]. D-A reactions of several 3-(2-hetarylvinyl)chromones with maleic anhydride in toluene have been described [133b].

The formation of 2-hydroxybenzophenone **190** from the electron deficient diene **91** (R = OEt) and several acyclic as well as cyclic enamines **189** [X = H, Y = Ph; X = Ph, Y = H; XY = -CH<sub>2</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1.4</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-, *o*-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1.2</sub>, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>1.2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-*o*] involves a domino IEDDA reaction, elimination and intramolecular elimination (*i.e.* pyran ring opening) [106,172]; for example, the reaction between **91** (R =

OEt) and 1-(1-pyrrolidinyl)cyclopentene gives **191**. When a 2,2-disubstituted 1-aminoalkene like  $Me_2C=CHNR_2$ ( $NR_2 = pyrrolidinyl$ ) is used, no intramolecular elimination is possible, the final product being a 4,4adihydroxanthone derivative **192** [106].



VIII.4 [4+2]Cycloaddition of Anils and Hydrazones of 4-Oxo-4H-1-benzopyran-3-carbox-aldehyde. The anil 19 and hydrazone ChrCH=NNMe<sub>2</sub> participate as heterodienes in [4+2]cycloaddition reactions. D-A reaction of the former with highly active dienophiles like dichloroketene and chloro-(phenyl)-ketene [173] and that of the latter with N-phenylmaleimide [174] are known. 3,4-Dihydro-2H-pyran reacts with ChrCH=NR (R =  $C_6H_4X$ -p; X = H, Me, OMe, Cl, Br) in the presence of indium or scandium triflate at ambient temperature to give the endo-adduct 193 regiospecifically in high yields; ChrCH=NCH<sub>2</sub>Ph, however, gives 193 (R = CH<sub>2</sub>Ph) in 55% yield with  $In(OTf)_3$  but 100% with  $Sc(OTf)_3$  [175]. Stirring a mixture of 1,  $ArNH_2$  (Ar = phenyl, *p*-tolyl) and 1-vinylpyrrolidin-2-one in water or H<sub>2</sub>O-MeCN containing 5 mol% CAN at room temperature produces the tetrahydroquinoline 194 (R = H, Me) in 80-82% yield. Here the azomethine  $\pi$ -bond in conjugation with the phenyl  $\pi$  bond of the initially formed anil ChrCH=NAr undergoes [4+2] cycloaddition with the said vinylpyrrolidine. Treatment of the adduct 194 with 2.5 equivalent of CAN in MeCN at 0 °C brings about its aromatisation to 195 [176].



VIII.5 [4+3]Annulation of 3-(*N*-Aryliminomethyl)chromone with a 1,3-Dipole. The nitrilimine 174 (R = Me, OEt; Ar<sup>1</sup> = *p*-bromophenyl) undergoes [4+3] annulation with the  $4\pi$  component of the title aryliminomethylchromone 19, apart from [3+2]cyclo-addition with its azomethine function, to give the fused triazepin 196 [163]. Similar annulation of the dipole 172 with 19 gives 197 that reorganises to 1-benzopyrano[2,3-*b*]azepin 198 [161].



196



197

198

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