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One-pot synthesis of novel spiro 2,3,7,8-tetrahydro-benzo[1,2-b:5,4-b']dipyran-4,6-dione and 2,3,8,9-tetrahydro-benzo[1,2-b:4,3-b']dipyran-**4,10-dione derivatives**

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ABSTRACT

An efficient synthesis of novel spiro 2,3,7,8-tetrahydro-benzo[1,2-*b*:5,4-*b*']dipyran-4,6-dione and 2,3,8,9tetrahydro-benzo[1,2-b:4,3-b']dipyran-4,10-dione derivatives in high yields under microwave irradiation is described. The reaction was also studied under conventional heating conditions. © 2008 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

1. Introduction

Flavanone and its derivatives exhibit a broad array of biological activities¹ such as anti-tumour, anti-inflammatory and anti-oxidant. Further flavanones have also been investigated as TNF- α inhibitors and as selective oestrogen receptor modulators.² Due to these potential applications, various approaches have been reported for the synthesis of flavanone derivatives.³ Although various synthetic routes are available, novel derivatives of flavanones, in particular, substituted spiro 2,3,7,8-tetrahydro-benzo[1,2-b:5,4b' dipyran-4,6-dione and 2,3,8,9-tetrahydro-benzo [1,2-b:4,3-b']dipyran-4,10-dione derivatives,⁴ are limited. The development of methodologies for new chemical entities is an important area of research, which aids in drug-discovery. Earlier, our research group reported different types of methods for the preparation of flavanone derivatives.^{4,5} In continuation of our interest, herein we describe the synthesis of novel spiro 2,3,7,8-tetrahydrobenzo[1,2-b:5,4-b']dipyran-4,6-dione and 2,3,8,9-tetrahydro-benzo-[1,2-b:4,3-b']dipyran-4,10-dione derivatives under microwave irradiation as well as conventional heating conditions (Scheme 1). In recent years, microwave-assisted organic synthesis (MAOS) has attracted the attention of synthetic chemists.⁶ The rate of a reaction is accelerated under microwave irradiation compared to conventional heating.



Scheme 1. Synthesis of spiro 2,3,7,8-tetrahydro-benzo[1,2-b:5,4-b']dipyran-4,6dione and 2,3,8,9-tetrahydro-benzo[1,2-b:4,3-b']dipyran-4,10-dione derivatives.

We chose diacetyl resorcinols and cyclic ketones as convenient starting materials to afford the spiro 2,3,7,8-tetrahydro-benzo[1,2b:5,4-b']dipyran-4,6-dione and 2,3,8,9-tetrahydro-benzo[1,2-b:4, 3-b' dipyran-4,10-dione structures. Accordingly, in the first instance 4,6-diacetyl resorcinol (1a) and cyclohexanone (2a) were stirred together in the presence of pyrrolidine and subjected to microwave irradiation for 4 min and then poured into ice-cold water and filtered to afford the corresponding spiro 2,3,7,8-tetrahydro-benzo[1,2-b:5,4-b']dipyran-4,6-dione derivative 3a, in 95% yield. The same product was also obtained (90%) under conventional heating (80 °C) in ethanol for 10 h (Table 1, entry 1). To further investigate this result, various substituted cyclic ketones such as N-methyl, N-benzyl and N-tert(butoxycarbonyl) cyclohexanones, 2b-d and cyclopentanone 2e were treated with resorcinol 1a under microwave irradiation in the presence of pyrrolidine to afford the corresponding spiro 2,3,7,8-tetrahydro-benzo[1,2-b:5, 4-b' dipyran-4,6-dione derivatives **3b-e** in good yields (entries 2-5).



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Table 1

One-pot synthesis of spiro 2,3,7,8-tetrahydro-benzo[1,2-b:5,4-b']dipyran-4,6-dione and 2,3,8,9-tetrahydro-benzo[1,2-b:4,3-b']dipyran-4,10-dione derivatives

Entry	Substituted	Ketone	Time		Product ^b	Yield ^c (%)	
	resorcinol		MW	(80 °C) ^a		MW	(80 °C) ^d
1	HO O Ia O		4 min	(10 h)		95	(90)
2	1a	Me 2b	5 min	(10 h)	MeN O O O O O O O	93	(90)
3	1a	O N Bn 2c	5 min	(10 h)	BnN O O O O O	89	(84)
4	1a	O N Boc 2d	5 min	(10 h)	BocN O O O O O O O O O O O O O	90	(93)
5	la	O 2e	4 min	(10 h)	$\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \end{array} \\ 0 \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} 3e \\ \end{array} \end{array}$	90	(85)
6	HO OH Ib O	2a	5 min	(12 h)		92	(90)
7	1b	2b	6 min	(12 h)	MeN O O O O Sg	95	(90)
8	1b	2c	6 min	(12 h)	BnN O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	90	(85)
9	1b	2d	6 min	(12 h)	BocN O O O O O O Si	92	(90)
10	1b	2e	5 min	(12 h)	0 0 $3j$	95	(90)

 $^{\rm a}\,$ Time for conventional heating (80 $^{\circ}\text{C})$ reaction in ethanol.

^b The products were characterized by ¹H NMR, mass and IR spectra.

^c Isolated yields.

^d Yield after conventional heating (80 °C) reaction in ethanol.

Next, the reaction of 2,6-diacetyl resorcinol **1b**, and cyclohexanone **2a** in the presence of pyrrolidine under microwave irradiation for 5 min gave the 2,3,8,9-tetrahydro-benzo[1,2-*b*:4,3*b'*]dipyran-4,10-dione derivative **3f**, in 92% yield (entry 6). To further explore substrate **1b**, cyclic ketones **2b–e** were reacted to give the corresponding products **3g–j** in very good yields (entries 7–10). All these reactions were also run under conventional heating (80 °C) in ethanol, in order to compare the efficiency with microwave irradiation (Table 1, entries 1–10). All the obtained products were fully characterized by spectroscopic methods.⁷

In conclusion, an efficient synthesis of novel spiro 2,3,7,8-tetrahydro-benzo[1,2-*b*:5,4-*b*']dipyran-4,6-dione and 2,3,8,9-tetrahydrobenzo[1,2-*b*:4,3-*b*']dipyran-4,10-dione derivatives under microwave irradiation conditions has been achieved. This new class of spiro 2,3,7,8-tetrahydro-benzo[1,2-*b*:5,4-*b*']dipyran-4,6-dione and 2,3,8,9-tetrahydro-benzo[1,2-*b*:4,3-*b*']dipyran-4,10-dione derivatives may find utility in medicinal chemistry.

2. Representative experimental procedures

2.1. Microwave heating

Pyrrolidine (0.08 mL) was added to a mixture of 4,6-diacetyl resorcinol (**1a**) (0.19 g, 1 mmol) and cyclohexanone (**2a**) (0.19 mL, 2 mmol), and the mixture was subjected to microwave irradiation for 4 min in a Multisynth series microwave system (Milestone). After cooling the reaction mixture to room temperature, it was poured into ice-cold water and the resulting precipitate was filtered to give the corresponding 2,3,7,8-tetrahydro-benzo[1,2-*b*: 5,4-*b*']dipyran-4,6-dione derivative **3a**, in 95% yield.

2.2. Conventional heating

Pyrrolidine (0.08 mL) was added to a solution of 4,6-diacetyl resorcinol (**1a**) (0.19 g, 1 mmol) in ethanol (5 mL), and the mixture was refluxed for 5 min. Then, cyclohexanone (**2a**) (0.19 mL, 2 mmol) was added. The mixture was refluxed for 10 h and after cooling to room temperature, it was poured into ice-cold water. The resulting precipitate was filtered to afford the corresponding 2,3,7,8-tetrahydrobenzo[1,2-*b*:5,4-*b*']dipyran-4,6-dione derivative **3a**, in 90% yield.

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- 7. Characterization data for representative products (3a): Brown solid; mp 160-162 °C; ¹H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.4 (1H, s), 6.45 (1H, s), 2.65 (4H, s), 1.9-2.1 (4H, m), 1.3-1.8 (16H, m); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃); δ 190.4, 165.0, 127.5, 115.6, 105.4, 81.1, 47.9, 34.9, 24.9, 21.3.IR (KBr): v 1697, 1469, 1250 cm⁻¹; LC MS (*m*/*z*): 354. Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₂₆O₄: C, 74.58; H, 7.3. Found: C, 74.39; H, 7.35. Compound (**3c**): White solid; mp 158–160 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): *δ* 8.36 (1H, s), 7.24-7.32 (10H, m), 6.47 (1H, s), 3.56 (4H, s), 2.7 (4H, s), 2.62-2.68 (4H, m), 2.35-2.5 (4H, m), 1.99-2.03 (4H, m) 1.73-1.83 (4H, m); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 189.3, 188.5, 165.7, 160.0, 154.5, 133.8, 114.8, 111.4, 110.4, 80.0, 48.8, 47.2, 38.9, 33.8. IR (KBr): v 1693, 1427, 1245 cm⁻¹; LC MS (*m/z*): 536. Anal. Calcd for C34H36N2O4: C, 76.12; H, 6.72; N, 5.22. Found: C, 76.11; H, 6.78; N, 5.11. Compound (3d): Milky white solid; mp 190-192 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.45 (1H, s), 6.5 (1H, s), 3.75–3.95 (4H, m), 3.1–3.25 (4H, m), 2.73 (4H, s), 1.9–2.1 (4H, m) 1.55–1.7 (4H, m), 1.45 (18H, s); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 189.4, 164.5, 154.6, 127.9, 115.9, 105.6, 79.9, 79.2, 47.7, 38.9, 34.1, 27.5. IR (KBr): v 1684, 1472, 1250 cm⁻¹; LC MS (m/z): 556. Anal. Calcd for C₃₀H₄₀N₂O₈: C, 64.75; H, 7.19; N, 5.04. Found: C, 64.58; H, 7.26; N, 4.94. Compound (3e): Cream solid; mp 124-126 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.45 (1H, s), 6.35 (1H, s), 2.75 (4H, s), 2.04-2.16 (4H, m), 1.88-1.96 (4H, m) 1.64-1.82 (8H, m); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 190.5, 165.47, 127.9, 115.8, 105.7, 90.9, 46.7, 37.5, 23.7. IR (KBr): v 1695, 1484, 1255 cm⁻¹; LC MS (*m/z*): 326. Anal. Calcd for C₂₀H₂₂O₄: C, 73.62; H, 6.75. Found: C, 73.53; H, 6.81. Compound (3f): Cream solid; mp 130-132 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.92 (1H, d, J = 8.3 Hz), 6.53 (1H, d, J = 8.3 Hz), 2.66 (2H, s), 2.62 (2H, s), 1.22–2.18 (20H, m). IR (KBr): v 1691, 1425, ¹; LC MS (*m/z*): 354. Anal. Calcd for C₂₂H₂₆O₄: C, 74.58; H, 7.3. Found: C, 74.55; H, 7.37. Compound (3h): Cream solid; mp 110-112 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.95 (1H, d, J = 10.7 Hz), 7.22–7.4 (10H, m), 6.66 (1H, d, J = 10.7 Hz), 3.52 (4H, s), 2.7 (4H, s), 2.60–2.69 (4H, m), 2.38–2.52 (4H, m), 2.00– 2.12 (4H, m), 1.78–1.9 (4H, m). IR (KBr): v 1703, 1427, 1180 cm⁻¹; LC MS (m/z): 536. Anal. Calcd for C34H36N2O4: C, 76.11; H, 6.78; N, 5.11. Found: C, 76.10; H, 6.76; N, 5.30. Compound (3i): Cream solid; mp 170-172 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.02 (1H, d, l = 10.5 Hz), 6.62 (1H, d, l = 10.5 Hz), 3.8–4.05 (4H, m), 3.15-3.30 (4H, m), 2.70 (4H, s), 1.98-2.1 (4H, m), 1.55-1.80 (4H, m), 1.45 (18H, s); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 189.2, 188.4, 165.6, 160.0, 154.4, 133.7, 114.7, 111.4, 110.3, 80.0, 79.8, 79.4, 78.7, 48.7, 47.1, 38.8, 33.8, 29.5, 28.3, 28.2. IR (KBr): ν 1703, 1427, 1180 cm⁻¹; LC MS (*m*/*z*): 556. Anal. Calcd for C₃₀H₄₀N₂O₈: C, 64.75; H, 7.19; N, 5.04. Found: C, 64.70; H, 7.22; N, 4.96. Compound (3j): Cream solid; mp 106–108 °C; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.9 (1H, d, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 6.5 (1H, d, J = 8.8 Hz), 2.8 (2H, s), 2.75 (2H, s), 1.1–2.2 (16H, m); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 190.5, 189.5, 166.7, 161.5, 133.3, 130.7, 128.6, 111.2, 91.5, 90.4, 47.8. 45.6, 37.4, 37.3, 23.7, 23.5. IR (KBr): v 1693, 1463, 1269 cm⁻¹; LC MS (m/z): 326. Anal. Calcd for C20H22O4: C, 73.62; H, 6.75. Found: C, 73.50; H, 6.80.