

Isoquinoline promoted synthesis of alkyl 2-(1-alkyl-5-oxo-3-phenyl-2-thioxotetrahydro-4H-imidazol-4-yliden) acetate derivatives

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Abstract

An efficient and one-pot method is described for the synthesis of alkyl 2-(1-alkyl-5-oxo-3-phenyl-2-thioxotetrahydro-4H-imidazol-4-yliden) acetate derivatives *via* simple reaction of dialkylacetylenedicarboxylate and benzyl phenylthiourea in the presence of isoquinoline, promoted component, under solvent-free conditions. The good yields of the products are synthetic advantage of this environmentally friendly method.

Keywords: Isoquinoline, solvent-free, benzyl phenylthiourea, imidazole, green chemistry.

Introduction

Derivatives of thiazolidinone ring systems are known to act as anti-HIV infections [1], analgesic, anti-bacterial, anti-convulsant, anti parasitic, potential anti-inflammatory, and herbicidal agents [2–7]. Due to the biological activities of thiazolidinones ring, several methods for their synthesis have been illustrated in the literature [8]. Imidazolidine-2-thiones were synthesized by the oxidative cyclization of 1-benzoyl-3-aryl-thioureas with bromine and enolizable carbonyl compounds in the presence of excess triethylamine [9,10]. A suitable method for the synthesis of fused thiazoles was described from the reaction of aroylphenyl thioureas with α -acceptor quinones [11]. 2-Acylimino-3-alkyl-3H-thiazolines were prepared from the

condensation reaction of aroyl arylthiourea with halocarbonyl derivatives [12]. The reactions of N-aryloyl-N'-arylthioureas with 2,3-diphenyl cyclopropenone give the E/Z mixtures of 3-(3'-aryloylthioureido)-2,3-diphenyl-cinnamicacids [13]. The reactions between amidinothioureas, imidoylthioureas, and thioacylamidines with diethyl azodicarboxylate give the corresponding thiadiazoles *via* the oxidative cyclic S-N bond formation [14]. Thiazinones derivatives are produced from the reaction of N-aryloyl-N'-arylthioureas with dimethylbut-2-ynedioate in the presence of acetic acid under reflux conditions [15]. 1-Acylthiosemicarbazides react with phenyl propiolate in acetic acid under reflux conditions to afford triazolothiazines [16]. The reaction of

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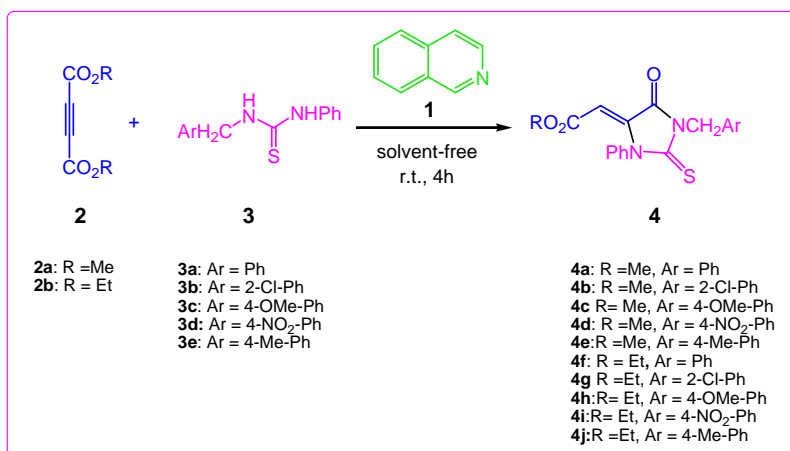
3-aryloxy-1-arylthioureas with dimethylbut-2-ynedioate in the presence of triphenylphosphine, as catalyst, produced (Z)-methyl 2-[(Z)-2-(4-aryloxyimino)-4-oxo-3-aryl-1,3-thiazolidin-5-ylidene] acetates in good yields [17]. Synthesis of 2-amino-4*H*-1,3-thiazin-4-one and dimethyl 3,3'-thiodiacrylates were performed *via* the reaction of corresponding thiourea and dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate in water at room temperature [18]. Herein, we report the synthesis of alkyl 2-(1-alkyl-5-oxo-3-phenyl-2-thioxotetrahydro-4*H*-imidazole-4-yliden) acetate derivatives **4** *via* the reaction of dialkylacetylenedicarboxylates **2** and benzyl phenylthiourea **3**, which proceeded smoothly in the presence of isoquinoline **1**, as promoted component,

under solvent-free conditions at room temperature (Scheme 1).

Experimental

General

Melting points were taken on a Kofler hot stage apparatus and are uncorrected. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were obtained with a Bruker FT-400 spectrometer in CDCl₃, and tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard. Mass spectra were recorded with a Finnigan Mat TSQ-70 spectrometer. Infrared (IR) spectra were acquired on a Nicolet Magna 550-FT spectrometer. Elemental analyses were carried out with a Perkin-Elmer model 240-C apparatus. The results of elemental analyses (C, H, N) were within ±0.4 % of the calculated values. All chemical compounds were obtained from Fluka and were used without further purification.



Scheme 1. Synthesis of compounds **4a-j**

General procedure for synthesis of **4a-4j**

Dialkyl acetylenedicarboxylate **2** (2 mmol) was slowly added to a magnetically stirred mixture of an benzyl phenylthiourea **3** (2 mmol) and isoquinoline **1** (2 mmol), and the reaction mixture was stirred for 4 h at room temperature. After completion of the reaction as indicated by TLC, the

residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (Merck 230-400 mesh) using an n-hexane-EtOAc mixture (6:1) as eluant to afford the pure compounds **4**.

Methyl 2-(1-benzyl-5-oxo-3-phenyl-2-thioxotetrahydro-4*H*-imidazol-4-yliden) acetate (**4a**)

Yellow powder, m.p. 146-148°C, 0.55 g (93%). IR (KBr): =1465 (C=S),

1721 (C=O), 1735 (C=O), 2985 (CH) cm^{-1} . EI-MS: 352 (3, M^+), 337 (24), 261 (68), 15 (100). Anal. Calc. for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ (352.41): C 64.76, H 4.58, N 7.95; found, %: C 65.85, H 5.61, N 8.23. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3), ppm: 3.73 (s, 3 H, OCH_3), 5.07 (s, 2 H, NCH_2), 5.34 (s, 1 H, CH), 7.18-7.48 (m, 10 H, Ar). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3), ppm: 45.5 (NCH_2), 52.6 (OMe), 104.8 (CH), 128.2 (2 CH), 128.6 (CH), 128.7 (2 CH), 129.4 (2 CH), 130.0 (CH), 130.1 (2 CH), 134.0 (C), 135.2 (C), 137.1 (C), 159.7 (C=O), 164.1 (C=O), 178.4 (C=S).

Methyl 2-[1-(2-chlorobenzyl)-5-oxo-3-phenyl-2-thioxotetrahydro-4H-imidazol-4-yliden] acetate (4b)

Yellow powder, m.p. 154-156 °C; yield: 0.67 g (93 %). IR (KBr): = 1471 (C=S), 1722 (C=O), 1734 (C=O), 2982 (CH) cm^{-1} . EI-MS: 386 (5, M^+), 371 (56), 351 (21), 295 (32), 261 (54), 15 (100). Anal. Calc. for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ (386.82): C 58.99, H 3.91, N 7.24; found, %: C 58.81, H 4.21, N 8.13. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3), ppm: 3.72 (s, 3 H, OCH_3), 5.12 (s, 2 H, NCH_2), 5.32 (s, 1 H, CH), 7.14-7.46 (m, 9 H, Ar). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3), ppm: 45.8 (NCH_2), 52.5 (OMe), 105.0 (CH), 128.5 (CH), 127.1 (2 CH), 128.8 (2 CH), 128.9 (CH), 129.2 (CH), 130.1 (2 CH), 130.9 (CH), 133.9 (C), 134.1 (C), 135.3 (C), 137.1 (C), 160.1 (C=O), 163.9 (C=O), 178.6 (C=S).

Methyl 2-[1-(4-methoxybenzyl)-5-oxo-3-phenyl-2-thioxotetrahydro-4H-imidazol-4-yliden] acetate (4c)

Yellow powder, m.p. 148-150 °C; yield: 0.67 g (85 %). IR (KBr): = 1469 (C=S), 1725 (C=O), 1737 (C=O), 2981 (CH) cm^{-1} . EI-MS: 382 (3, M^+), 367 (53), 351 (21), 261 (75), 291 (36), 15 (100). Anal. Calc. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$ (382.43): C 62.81, H

4.74, N 7.33; found, %: C 61.11, H 5.36, N 6.24. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3), ppm: 3.64 (s, 3 H, OCH_3), 3.73 (s, 3 H, OCH_3), 5.06 (s, 2 H, NCH_2), 5.34 s (1 H, CH), 7.08 (d, 2 H, 2 CH, $J = 7.6$ Hz), 7.18-7.46 (m, 7 H, Ar). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3), ppm: 46.2 (NCH_2), 52.6 (OMe), 53.2 (OMe), 104.5 (CH), 117.6 (2 CH), 128.5 (CH), 128.8 (2 CH), 129.9 (2 CH), 131.7 (2 CH), 133.8 (C), 135.2 (C), 135.4 (C), 136.9 (C), 154.6 (C), 160.2 (C=O), 164.0 (C=O), 178.8 (C=S).

Methyl 2-[1-(4-nitrobenzyl)-5-oxo-3-phenyl-2-thioxotetrahydro-4H-imidazol-4-yliden] acetate (4d)

Yellow powder, m.p. 157-158 °C; yield: 0.67 g (85 %). IR (KBr): = 1471 (C=S), 1722 (C=O), 1734 (C=O), 2982 (CH) cm^{-1} . EI-MS: 397 (4, M^+), 382 (48), 351 (27), 306 (31), 261 (36), 15 (100). Anal. Calc. for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_3\text{O}_5\text{S}$ (397.41): C 57.42, H 3.80, N 10.57; found, % C 58.21, H 3.96, N 9.14. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3), ppm: 3.73 (s, 3 H, OCH_3), 5.09 (s, 2-H, NCH_2), 5.35 (s, 1H, CH), 7.12-7.42 (m, 5 H, Ar), 7.67 (d, 2 H, Ar, $J = 7.6$ Hz), 7.84 (d, 2 H, Ar, $J = 7.5$ Hz). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3), ppm: 45.6 (NCH_2), 52.6 (OMe), 104.9 (CH), 125.4 (2 CH), 128.3 (2 CH), 128.6 (CH), 128.9 (2 CH), 130.3 (2 CH), 134.0 (C), 135.1 (C), 137.4 (C), 139.2 (C), 147.7 (C), 160.2 (C=O), 164.1 (C=O), 178.3 (C=S).

Methyl 2-[1-(4-methylbenzyl)-5-oxo-3-phenyl-2-thioxotetrahydro-4H-imidazol-4-yliden] acetate (4e)

Yellow powder, m.p. 132-134 °C; yield: 0.63 g (87 %). IR (KBr): = 1471 (C=S), 1719 (C=O), 1733 (C=O), 2984 (CH) cm^{-1} . EI-MS: 366 (7, M^+), 351 (59), 261 (32), 275 (56), 15 (100). Anal. Calc. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ (366.45): C 65.55, H 4.95, N 7.64;

found, % C 65.41, H 5.81, N 7.12. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3), ppm: 2.31 (s, 3 H, CH_3), 3.73 (s, 3 H, OCH_3), 5.12 (s, 2 H, NCH_2), 5.38 (s, 1H, CH), 6.94-7.11 (m, 9-H, Ar). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3), ppm: 21.1 (CH_3), 45.6 (NCH_2), 52.5 (OMe), 104.8 (CH), 128.2 (2 CH), 128.6 (2 CH), 128.8 (CH), 130.1 (2 CH), 130.3 (CH), 131.4 (C), 134.2 (C), 135.5 (C), 137.5 (C), 160.1 (C=O), 164.2 (C=O), 178.1 (C=S).

Ethyl 2-[1-(4-methoxybenzyl)-5-oxo-3-phenyl-2-thioxotetrahydro-4H-imidazol-4-yliden] acetate (4f)

Yellow powder, m.p. 143-145 °C; yield: 0.55 g (93 %). IR (KBr): = 1465 (C=S), 1721 (C=O), 1735 (C=O), 2985 (CH) cm^{-1} . EI-MS: 366 (5, M^+), 337 (42), 275 (59), 29 (100). Anal. Calc. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ (366.43): C 65.55, H 4.95, N 7.64; found, %: C 64.58, H 5.12, N 8.03. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3), ppm: 1.21 (t, 3 H, $J = 6.6$, CH_3), 4.10 (q, 2H, OCH_2 , $J = 6.9$ Hz), 5.07 (s, 2-H, NCH_2), 5.34 (s, 1 H, CH), 7.17-7.46 (m, 10 H, Ar). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3), ppm: 14.5 (CH_3), 45.5 (NCH_2), 52.5 (OMe), 62.1 (OCH_2), 104.8 (CH), 128.2 (2 CH), 128.6 (CH), 128.7 (2 CH), 129.5 (2 CH), 129.9 (CH), 130.1 (2 CH), 134.0 (C), 135.2 (C), 137.2 (C), 159.6 (C=O), 164.0 (C=O), 178.4 (C=S).

Ethyl 2-[1-(2-chlorobenzyl)-5-oxo-3-phenyl-2-thioxotetrahydro-4H-imidazol-4-yliden] acetate (4g)

Yellow powder, m.p. 153-155 °C; yield: 0.72 g (90 %). IR (KBr): = 1471 (C=S), 1726 (C=O), 1738 (C=O), 2980 (CH) cm^{-1} . EI-MS: 400 (3, M^+), 371 (48), 365 (24), 275 (32), 309 (51), 29 (100). Anal. Calc. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{17}\text{ClN}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ (400.87): C 59.92, H 4.27, N 6.99; found, %: C 61.01, H 3.31, N 7.11. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3), ppm: 1.23 (t, 3 H, CH_3 , $J = 6.8$ Hz), 4.12 (q, 2H, OCH_2 , $J = 6.6$

Hz), 5.06 (s, 2 H, NCH_2), 5.32 (s, 1 H, CH), 7.16-7.49 (m, 9 H, Ar). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3), ppm: 13.9 (CH_3), 45.8 (NCH_2), 52.5 (OMe), 61.5 (OCH_2), 105.0 (CH), 128.4 (CH), 127.1 (2 CH), 128.6 (2 CH), 128.9 (CH), 129.2 (CH), 130.1 (2 CH), 130.9 (CH), 133.9 (C), 134.1 (C), 135.3 (C), 137.1 (C), 159.9 (C=O), 163.9 (C=O), 178.5 (C=S).

Ethyl 2-[1-(4-methoxybenzyl)-5-oxo-3-phenyl-2-thioxotetrahydro-4H-imidazol-4-yliden] acetate (4h)

Yellow powder, m.p. 150-152 °C; yield: 0.67 g (85 %). IR (KBr): = 1470 (C=S), 1726 (C=O), 1735 (C=O), 2981 (CH) cm^{-1} . EI-MS: 396 (3, M^+), 367 (53), 275 (75), 291 (36), 29 (100). Anal. Calc. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$ (396.46): C 63.62, H 5.08, N 7.07; found, %: C 62.11, H 4.36, N 7.86. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3), ppm: 1.21 (t, 3H, CH_3 , $J = 6.7$ Hz), 4.12 (q, 2 H, OCH_2 , $J = 6.6$ Hz), 5.06 (s, 2 H, NCH_2), 5.34 (s, 1 H, CH), 7.06 (d, 2 H, $J = 7.6$, Ar), 7.16-7.48 (m, 7 H, Ar). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3), ppm: 13.9 (CH_3), 46.2 (NCH_2), 52.6 (OMe), 62.3 (OCH_2), 53.2 (OMe), 104.6 (CH), 117.5 (2 CH), 128.5 (CH), 128.8 (2 CH), 129.9 (2 CH), 131.6 (2 CH), 133.6 (C), 135.2 (C), 135.5 (C), 136.9 (C), 154.4 (C), 160.0 (C=O), 164.0 (C=O), 178.4 (C=S).

Ethyl 2-[1-(4-nitrobenzyl)-5-oxo-3-phenyl-2-thioxotetrahydro-4H-imidazol-4-yliden] acetate (4i)

Yellow powder, m.p. 155-157 °C; yield: 0.72 g (88 %). IR (KBr): = 1470 (C=S), 1724 (C=O), 1736 (C=O), 2983 (CH) cm^{-1} . EI-MS: 411 (4, M^+), 365 (25), 275 (27), 320 (31), 136 (37), 29 (100). Anal. Calc. for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_3\text{O}_5\text{S}$ (411.43): C 58.38, H 4.16, N 10.21; found, % C 58.33, H 5.10, N 9.53. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3), ppm: 1.23 (t, 3H, CH_3 , $J = 6.6$ Hz), 4.09 (q, 2H, OCH_2 , $J = 6.6$ Hz).

), 5.10 (s, 2-H, NCH₂), 5.36 (s, 1H, CH), 7.10-7.41 (m, 5 H, Ar), 7.64 (d, 2 H, Ar, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 7.84 (d, 2 H, Ar, *J* = 7.5 Hz), ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃), ppm: 13.8 (CH₃), 45.6 (NCH₂), 62.5 (OCH₂), 104.7 (CH), 125.4 (2 CH), 128.1 (2 CH), 128.4 (CH), 128.8 (2 CH), 130.3 (2 CH), 134.1 (C), 134.9 (C), 137.5 (C), 139.1 (C), 147.5 (C), 160.5 (C=O), 164.1 (C=O), 178.2 (C=S).

Ethyl 2-[1-(4-methylbenzyl)-5-oxo-3-phenyl-2-thioxotetrahydro-4*H*-imidazol-4-yliden] acetate (4j)

Yellow powder, m.p. 138-141 °C; yield: 0.65 g (85 %). IR (KBr): = 1474 (C=S), 1723 (C=O), 1736 (C=O), 2983 (CH) cm⁻¹. EI-MS: 380 (7, M⁺), 365 (49), 351 (57), 275 (27), 29 (100). Anal. Calc. for C₂₁H₁₈N₂O₃S (380.46): C 66.29, H 5.30, N 7.36; found, % C 66.84, H 4.91, N 6.58. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃), ppm: 1.22 (t, 3 H, *J* = 6.7, CH₃), 4.11 (q, 2-H, OCH₂, *J* = 6.6 Hz), 5.07 (s, 2 H, NCH₂), 5.35 (s, 1H, CH), 6.95-7.13 (m, 9-H, Ar). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃), ppm: 14.1 (CH₃), 45.6 (NCH₂), 62.3 (OCH₂), 104.8 (CH), 128.2 (2 CH), 128.6 (2 CH), 128.8 (CH), 130.1 (2 CH), 130.3 (CH), 131.4 (C), 134.2 (C), 135.5 (C), 137.5 (C), 160.1 (C=O), 164.2 (C=O), 178.1 (C=S).

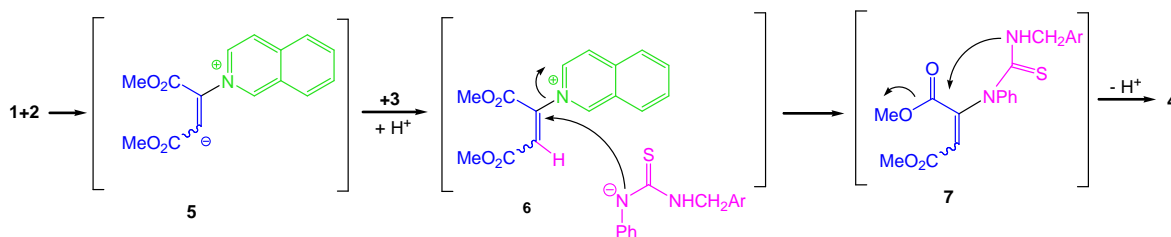
Results and discussion

In this method, isoquinoline **1** promoted reaction of dialkylacetylenedicarboxylates **2** and benzyl phenylthiourea **3**, as promoted

component for the synthesis of alkyl 2-(1-alkyl-5-oxo-3-phenyl-2-thioxotetrahydro-4*H*-imidazole-4-yliden) acetates derivatives. This procedure is performed under solvent free conditions and as green and environmentally route. Also, the performance of this reaction at room temperature is another advantage.

The structures of **4a-j** compounds were apparent from the ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR and IR spectra. The mass spectra of compounds **4a-j** displayed molecular ion peaks at appropriate *m/z* values. The ¹H NMR spectrum of **4a** displayed three peaks at 3.73, 5.07 and 5.34 ppm for the methoxy group, benzylic and olefinic protons, respectively, along with characteristic multiplet signals for the aromatics moiety. The proton-decoupled ¹³C NMR spectrum of **4a** showed 15 signals in agreement with the proposed structure.

A possible mechanism for the synthesis of compounds **4** is proposed in Scheme 2. The zwitterionic intermediate **5** produced from the reaction of isoquinoline and dialkyl acetylenedicarboxylate is subsequently protonated by a phenylthiourea **3** and formed intermediate **6**. The conjugate base of phenylthiourea attacked to intermediate **6** and removed isoquinoline ring as leaving group and compound **7** was produced. Then, nucleophilic attack of NH on carbonyl synthesized compound **4**.



Scheme 2. Possible mechanism for the formation of compounds **4**

Conclusion

In conclusion, we have reported a convenient one-pot route for the synthesis of alkyl 2- (1-alkyl-5-oxo-3-phenyl-2-thioxotetrahydro-4H-imidazole-4-yliden) acetates via the reaction of dialkylacetylenedicarboxylate and benzyl phenylthiourea in the presence of isoquinoline, at room temperature under solvent-free conditions.

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