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Efficient synthesis of functionalized furans using multicomponent reactions of ethyl bromopyruvate

Navisa Tabarsaei*[a], Maryam Ghazvini[b] and Atefeh Navabi[c]

[a]*Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Sciences, Golestan University, Gorgan, Iran*
[b]*Chemistry Department, Payam Noor University, Tehran, Iran*
[c]*Department of Chemistry, Arak University, Tehran, Iran*

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Abstract: The reaction of dialkylacetylenedicarboxylates or diaroylacetylenes with ethyl bromopyruvate in the presence of enaminones led to 2-ethyl 3,4-dialkyl 4-bromo-4,5-dihydro-2,3,4-furan tricarboxylates or ethyl 3,4-diaroyl-4-bromo-4,5-dihydro-2-furoate, in excellent yield. These compounds are quantitatively converted to the corresponding 2,3,4-trisubstituted furans by 4-dimethylaminopyridine

Keywords: Ethyl bromopyruvate; Activated acetylenes; Trisubstituted furans; Enaminone.

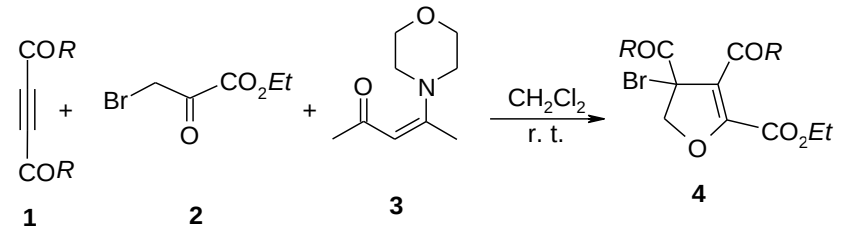
Introduction

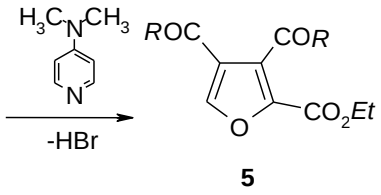
Highly substituted furans play an important role in organic chemistry, not only as key structural units in many natural products, common subunits in pharmaceuticals [1-7], fragrances [8], and flavors [9],but as useful building blocks in synthetic chemistry [10-14]. They have also found utility as synthetic intermediates or synthons for numerous functional groups, inter alia, carboxylic acids, α-keto-esters, and aromatics [15].For this reason, the efficient synthesis of multiply substituted furans continues to attract the interest of synthetic chemists [16, 17].

Results and discussion

As part of our current studies on the development of new routes in heterocyclic synthesis [18-21], we report an efficient synthesis of 2,3,4-trisubstituted furans. Thus, the reaction of dialkylacetylenedicarboxylates (**1a-1c**) or diaroylacetylenes (**1d-1e**) [22, 23], with ethyl bromopyruvate (**2**) in the presence of enaminones (**3**) [24] led to 2-ethyl 3,4-dialkyl 4-bromo-4,5-3,4-diaroyl-4-bromo-4,5-dihydro-2-furoates (**4d-4e**), in excellent yields. These compounds are quantitatively converted to the corresponding 2,3,4-trisubstituted furans (**5**) by 4-dimethylaminopyridine (Scheme 1).
The structures of compounds **4a**–**e** and **5a**–**e** were apparent from their mass spectra, which displayed in each case, the molecular ion peak at the appropriate m/z values. The ^{1}H- and ^{13}C NMR spectroscopic data, as well as IR spectra, are in agreement with the proposed structures. The ^{1}H NMR spectrum of **4a** exhibited two singlets (δ = 3.59 and 3.80) arising from the methoxy proton, along with two doublets at (δ = 4.44) and 4.64 ($^{2}J_{HH}$ = 10.8) for the diastereotopic methylene protons. The carbonyl groups resonances in the ^{13}C NMR spectra of **4a** appear at δ 160.0, 162.1 and 171.5. The mass spectrum of **4a** displayed the molecular ion peak at m/z = 337, which is consistent with the 1:1 adduct of ethyl bromopyruvate and **1a**.

*Corresponding author: E-mail:n.tabarsaei@gmail.com



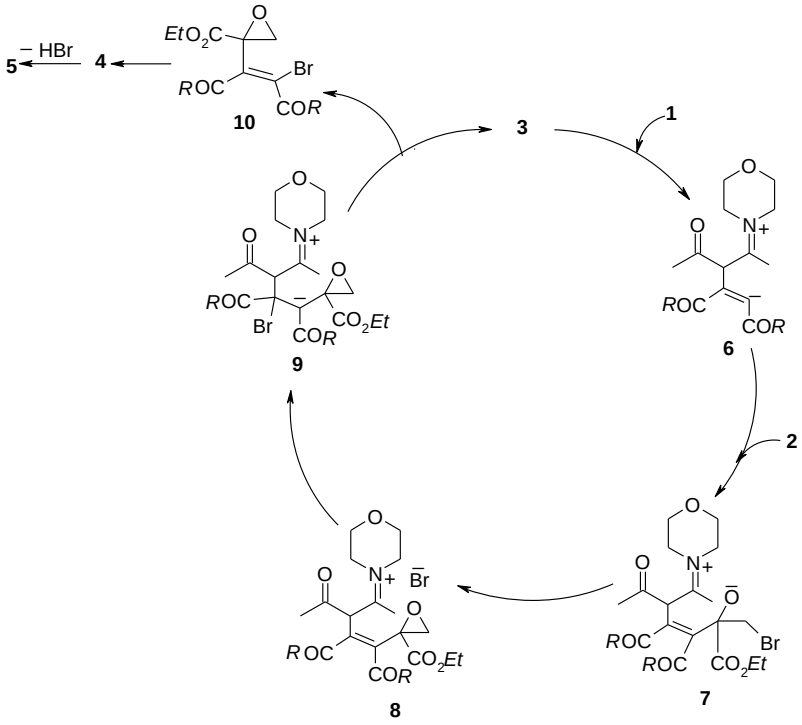


1, 4, 5	R	Yield (%) of	Yield (%) of
a	O*Me*	75	75
b	O*Et*	75	75
c	O^t*Bu*	70	70
d	Ph	75	75
e	*p*-Tolyl	70	70

Scheme 1: Synthesis of compounds **4** and **5**

The ^{1}H NMR spectrum of **5a** exhibited three singlets for methoxy (δ = 3.60 and 3.75) and methine (δ = 7.53) protons, along with characteristic signals of the ethoxy group. The ^{13}C signals of carbonyl groups in **5a** appear at δ = 161.9, 168.6, and 168.7. The mass spectrum of **4a** displayed the molecular ion peak at m/z = 256.

Mechanistically, it is conceivable that the reaction involves the initial formation of a 1,3-dipolar intermediate [25-28]**6** between the enaminone and the electron-deficient acetylenic compound,which reacts with the carbonyl group of **2** to generate **7**. This intermediate undergoes a Darzene-type reaction to produce **8**, which losses the enaminone moiety via **9** to generate **10**. Electrocyclization of **10** leads to **4,** which is converted to **5** by loss of HBr in the presence of 4-dimethylaminopyridine (Scheme **2**).



Scheme 2: Proposed mechanism for the Synthesis of compounds **4** and **5**

Cnclusion

In conclusion, the reaction of dialkylacetylenedicarboxylates or diaroylacetylenes with **2** in the presence of enaminones led to 4-bromo-4,5-dihydro-furan derivatives, in excellent yields. In the presence of 4-dimethylaminopyridine, these compounds are quantitatively converted to 2,3,4-trisubstituted furans. The present procedure has the advantage that the reaction is performed under neutral conditions, and the starting material can be used without any activation or modification.

Experimental

Dibenzoylacetylene was prepared according to Ref. [22-23]. Other chemicals were purchased from Fluka and used without further purification. Melting points were measured on an Electrothermal 9100 aparatus. Elemental analyses for the C and H were performed using a Heraeus CHN-O-Rapid analyzer. The results agreed favorably with the calculated values.Mass spectra were recorded on a FINNIGAN-MATT 8430 spectrometer operating at an ionization potential of 70 eV.

IR spectra were measured on a Shimadzu IR-460 spectrometer. ^{1}H-, and ^{13}C-NMR spectra were measured with a BRUKER DRX-500 AVANCE spectrometer at 500.1 and 125.8 MHz.

General Procedure for the Preparation of 4

To a stirred solution of dialkylacetylenedicarboxylate or diaroyl acetylene (2 mmol) and ethyl bromopyruvate (0.390 g, 2 mmol) in 15 mL of CH_2Cl_2 was added the enaminone (2 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 24 h. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by column chromatography (SiO_2; hexane:AcOEt, 9:1) to afford **4.**

2-Ethyl 3,4-Dimethyl 4-Bromo-4,5-dihydro-2,3,4-furan-tricarboxylate (4a):

Yellow oil, Yield: 0.51 g, 75%. IR (KBr): ν = 1735, 1733, 1729, 1636, and 1582 cm^{-1}; EI-MS: 339 (M+2, 5), 337 (M^{+}, 5), 306 (66), 292 (64), 275 (85), 257 (62); 45 (84), 31 (100). ^{1}H NMR:δ = 1.17 (t, ^{3}J = 7.2, Me); 3.59 (s, OMe); 3.80 (s, OMe); 4.21 (q, ^{3}J = 7.2, CH_2O); 4.44 (d, ^{2}J = 10.8, CH); 4.64 (d, $^{2}J_{HH}$ = 10.8, CH) ppm; ^{13}C NMR: δ = 13.8 (Me); 51.6 (OMe); 52.9 (OMe); 63.1 (OCH_2); 81.9 (CH_2); 82.2 (C); 111.9 (C); 158.3 (C); 160.0 (C=O); 162.1 (C=O); 171.5 (C=O) ppm.

2-Ethyl 3,4-Diethyl 4-Bromo-4,5-dihydro-2,3,4-furan-tricarboxylate (4b):

Yellow oil, yield: 0.54 g, 75%. IR (KBr): ν = 1734, 1730, 1725, 1634, and 1575 cm^{-1}; EI-MS:367 (M^{+2}, 15);365 (M^{+}, 15); 320 (5); 285 (76); 230 (64); 135 (58); 45 (100); ^{1}H NMR: δ = 0.98 (t, ^{3}J = 7.5, Me); 1.04 (t, ^{3}J = 7.3, Me); 1.12 (t, $^{3}J_{HH}$ = 7.2, Me); 3.99 (q, ^{3}J = 7.2, OCH_2); 4.03 (q, ^{3}J = 7.5, OCH_2); 4.14 (q, ^{3}J = 7.3, OCH_2); 4.32 (d, ^{2}J = 10.8, CH); 4.51 (d, ^{2}J = 10.8, CH) ppm; ^{13}C NMR: δ = 13.5 (Me); 13.7 (Me); 13.8 (Me); 60.1 (OCH_2); 61.9 (OCH_2); 62.3 (OCH_2); 82.0 (CH_2); 82.1 (C); 113.0 (C); 158.4 (C); 161.6 (C=O); 162.1 (C=O); 171.4 (C=O) ppm.

2-Ethyl 3,4-di(tert-butyl)4-Bromo-4,5-dihydro-2,3,4-furan-tricarboxylate (4c):

Yellow oil, yield: 0.59 g, 70%. IR (KBr): ν = 1730, 1725, 1720, 1636, and 1579 cm^{-1}; EI-MS: 423 (M+2, 15); 421 (M^{+}, 15);376 (76); 341 (46); 364 (82); 348 (65), 275 (64), 73 (34); 57 (100); 45 (84); ^{1}H NMR: δ = 1.39 (3 Me), 1.46 (t, ^{3}J = 7.2, Me); 1.51 (3 Me), 4.16-4.29 (m, OCH_2); 4.43 (d, ^{2}J = 10.7, CH); 4.62 (d, ^{2}J = 10.7, CH) ppm; ^{13}C NMR: δ = 13.9 (Me); 27.8 (3 Me); 28.0 (3 Me); 62.8 (OCH_2); 81.1 (CH_2); 81.6 (C); 82.6 (CMe_3); 84.1 (CMe_3); 112.2 (C); 158.6 (C); 161.1 (C=O); 164.2 (C=O); 172.1 (C=O) ppm.

2-Ethyl 3,4-dibenzoyl-4-Bromo-4,5-dihydro-2,3,4-furan-tricarboxylate (4d):

Yellow powder, yield: 0.64 g, 75%. IR (KBr): ν = 1726, 1660, 1635, 1563, 1506, and 1434 cm^{-1}. EI-MS: 431 (M+2, 5); 429 (M^{+}, 5);384 (82); 352 (46); 349 (58); 324 (66); 219 (35), 45 (64), 105 (100). ^{1}H NMR: δ = 1.16 (t, $^{3}J_{HH}$ = 7.3, Me); 4.21 (q, ^{3}J = 7.3, OCH_2); 4.41 (d, ^{2}J = 10.5, CH); 4.63 (d, ^{2}J = 10.5, CH); 7.41 (t, ^{3}J = 7.2, 2 CH); 7.47-7.63 (m, 4 CH); 7.88 (d, ^{3}J = 7.3, 2 CH); 8.07 (d, ^{3}J= 7.3, 2 CH) ppm; ^{13}C NMR: δ = 13.8 (Me); 63.0 (OCH_2); 81.7 (CH_2); 82.0 (C); 120.9 (C); 128.2 (2 CH); 128.5 (2 CH); 128.7 (2 CH); 129.5 (2 CH); 132.1 (CH); 134.0 (CH); 136.1 (C); 139.2 (C); 154.6 (C); 168.7 (C=O); 187.6 (C=O); 194.4 (C=O).

2-Ethyl 3,4-di(4-methylbenzoyl)-4-Bromo-4,5-dihydro-2,3,4-furan-tricarboxylate (4e):

Orange powder,yield: 0.63 g, 70%; IR (KBr): ν = 1732, 1697, 1638, 1575 and 1432 cm^{-1}; EI-MS: 459 (M+2, 10); 457 (M^{+}, 10); 412 (66); 377 (56); 337

(85), 217 (64), 120 (34); 45 (100); ^{1}H NMR: δ = 1.32 (t, ^{3}J = 7.2, Me); 2.38 (Me), 2.43 (Me), 4.28 (q, ^{3}J = 7.2, OCH_2); 4.39 (d, ^{2}J = 10.6, CH); 4.63 (d, ^{2}J = 10.6, CH), 7.19 (d, ^{3}J = 7.2, 2 CH); 7.29 (d, ^{3}J = 7.2, 2 CH); 7.77 (d, ^{3}J = 7.2, 2 CH); 7.93 (d, ^{3}J = 7.2, 2 CH) ppm; ^{13}C NMR: δ = 14.1 (Me); 21.4 (Me); 22.1 (Me); 63.4 (OCH_2); 82.5 (CH_2); 83.1 (C); 121.1 (C); 127.1 (2 CH); 128.5 (2 CH); 130.6 (2 CH); 130.9 (2 CH); 133.6 (C); 138.5 (C); 1143.0 (C); 143.4 (C); 154.2 (C); 161.7 (C=O); 189.1 (C=O); 193.2 (C=O).

General Procedure for the Preparation of 5:

To a stirred solution of **4**(2 mmol) in 15 mL CH_2Cl_2 was added the 4-dimethylaminopyridine (2 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 12 h. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by column chromatography (SiO_2; hexane:AcOEt, 10:1) to afford 5.

2-Ethyl 3,4-dimethyl 2,3,4-furan-tricarboxylate (5a, $C_{11}H_{12}O_7$):

Yellow oil, Yield: 0.38 g, 75%; IR (KBr): ν = 1732, 1730 and 1727 cm^{-1}; EI-MS: 256 (M^+, 10), 225 (64), 211 (82), 194 (64), 45 (86), 31 (100); ^{1}H NMR: δ = 1.16 (t, ^{3}J = 7.2, Me); 3.60 (OMe), 3.75 (OMe), 4.19 (q, ^{3}J = 7.2, OCH_2); 7.53 (s, CH) ppm; ^{13}C NMR: δ = 13.7 (Me); 51.5 (OMe); 53.0 (OMe); 62.9 (OCH_2); 112.5 (C); 117.9 (C); 154.6 (C); 158.5 (CH); 161.9 (C=O); 168.6 (C=O); 168.7 (C=O) ppm.

2-Ethyl 3,4-diethyl 2,3,4-furan-tricarboxylate (5b):

Yellow oil, Yield: 0.43 g, 75%; IR (KBr): ν = 1730, 1725 and 1720 cm^{-1}; EI-MS: 284 (M^+, 15), 239 (76), 194 (85), 149 (54), 135 (62), 90 (62), 45 (100); ^{1}H NMR: δ = 0.97 (t, ^{3}J = 7.5, Me); 1.09 (t, ^{3}J = 7.3, Me); 1.14 (t, ^{3}J = 7.2, Me); 3.82 (q, ^{3}J = 7.2, OCH_2); 3.90 (q, ^{3}J = 7.5, OCH_2); 4.12 (q, ^{3}J = 7.3, OCH_2); 7.32 (s, CH) ppm; ^{13}C NMR: δ = 13.4 (Me); 13.6 (Me); 13.8 (Me); 61.1 (OCH_2); 61.7 (OCH_2); 62.3 (OCH_2); 111.5 (C); 113.1 (C); 153.2 (C); 159.1 (CH); 161.6 (C=O); 168.1 (C=O); 169.4 (C=O) ppm.

2-Ethyl 3,4-di(tert-butyl)- 2,3,4-furan-tricarboxylate (5c):

Yellow oil, Yield: 0.48 g, 70%; IR (KBr): ν = 1725, 1720 and 1715 cm^{-1}; EI-MS: 340 (M^+, 5), 295 (34), 283 (86), 267 (64), 194 (54), 146 (46), 73 (98), 45 (64), 57 (100); ^{1}H NMR: δ = 1.15 (t, ^{3}J = 7.2, Me); 1.32 (3 Me), 1.48 (3 Me), 4.26 (q, ^{3}J = 7.2, OCH_2); 7.42 (s, CH) ppm; ^{13}C NMR: δ = 14.2 (Me); 27.5 (3 Me); 27.8 (3 Me); 62.5 (OCH_2); 82.3 (CMe_3); 83.1 (CMe_3); 111.2 (C); 113.6 (C); 154.2 (C); 157.9 (CH); 162.0 (C=O); 163.9 (C=O); 166.3 (C=O) ppm.

Ethyl 3,4-dibenzoyl-2-furoate (5d):

Yellow oil, Yield: 0.52 g, 75%; IR (KBr): ν = 1725, 1668 and 1654 cm^{-1}; EI-MS: 348 (M^+, 5), 303 (56), 271 (85), 243 (86), 45 (46), 105 (100); ^{1}H NMR: δ = 1.16 (t, ^{3}J = 7.3, Me); 4.21 (q, ^{3}J = 7.3, OCH_2); 6.20 (s, CH), 7.36 (t, ^{3}J = 7.2, 2 CH); 7.40-7.65 (m, 4 CH); 7.85 (d, ^{3}J = 7.3, 2 CH); 8.12 (d, ^{3}J= 7.3, 2 CH) ppm; ^{13}C NMR: δ = 13.7 (Me); 63.5 (OCH_2); 117.9 (C); 121.2 (C); 128.2 (2 CH); 128.5 (2 CH); 128.7 (2 CH); 129.5 (2 CH); 132.1 (CH); 134.0 (CH); 136.1 (C); 139.2 (C); 154.6 (C); 159.4 (CH); 169.7 (C=O); 188.6 (C=O); 191.2 (C=O) ppm.

Ethyl 3,4-di(4-methylbenzoyl)-2-furoate (5e):

yellow oil, Yield: 0.51 g, 70%; IR (KBr): ν = 1727, 1690 and 1665 cm^{-1}; EI-MS: 376 (M^+, 15), 331 (74), 256 (85), 136 (62), 120 (100), 45 (82); ^{1}H NMR: δ =1.32 (t, ^{3}J = 7.2, Me); 2.38 (Me); 2.43 (Me); 4.28 (q, ^{3}J = 7.2, OCH_2); 6.17 (s, CH); 7.19 (d, ^{3}J = 7.2, 2 CH); 7.29 (d, ^{3}J = 7.2, 2 CH); 7.77 (d, ^{3}J = 7.2, 2 CH); 7.93 (d, ^{3}J = 7.2, 2 CH) ppm; ^{13}C NMR: δ = 14.1 (Me); 21.4 (Me); 22.1 (Me); 63.4 (OCH_2); 119.4 (C); 121.1 (C); 127.1 (2 CH); 128.5 (2 CH); 130.6 (2 CH); 130.9 (2 CH); 135.2 (C); 133.6 (C); 138.5 (C); 143.0 (C); 154.2 (C); 158.9 (CH); 162.5 (C=O); 190.1 (C=O); 192.8 (C=O) ppm.

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