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One-pot three-component synthesis of some new azo-pyrazoline derivatives

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1. Introduction

A one-pot synthesis, in which three [1-3], four [4] or more [5] components react in just one reactor to a final product is a synthetically useful method for improving the efficiency of chemical reaction, where interacting molecules subject to successive chemical reactions in just a single vessel. This is very useful for organic chemists, because of significantly shortens the reaction process by reducing the number of steps and avoiding a long separation processes and purification of chemical intermediates, would pay a way to green chemistry approach by save time and solvents for the purification processes, and increasing the proportion of output products [6].

A traditional synthesis of pyrazoline derivatives involve a two-step process, the Claisen-Schmidt condensation reaction of substituted acetophenones and substituted benzaldehydes to give chalcones [7], which undergo a subsequent cyclization reaction with hydrazines producing 2-pyrazolines [8]. Afterwards a number of synthetic approaches to synthesis of pyrazolines were reported, which include one-pot threecomponent condensation reaction [9,10]. Considerable attention has been focused on the synthesis of pyrazoline derivatives due to their wide spectrum of biological activity which include: anti-malarial [11], anti-fungal [12], antiinflammatory [13], analgesic [14], antileishmanial [15], antioxidant [16] and other antimicrobial activities [17,18]. Herein we have described the synthesis and characterization of some new azo-pyrazoline derivatives containing benzyloxy moiety through a one-pot three-component condensation reaction of azo-acetophenone, substituted benzaldehydes and phenylhydrazine.

2. Experimental

2.1. Instrumentation

Melting points were determined using an Electro thermal melting point apparatus, IR spectra were recorded on Shimadzu -FTIR Affinity-1, using KBr disc. ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR and ¹³C DEPT 135 spectra were recorded on a Bruker Ultra Shield (300 MHz) with TMS and CDCl₃ as an internal reference and solvent, respectively.

2.2. Synthesis of 1-[4-{(4-(4-chlorobenzyloxy)-2-methyl phenyl)diazenyl} phenyl] ethanone (2)

According to the modified procedure [19] a mixture of in situ prepared compound **1** [20] (9.14 g, 0.036 mol), 4-chloro benzyl chloride (6.44 g, 0.04 mol) and anhydrous K₂CO₃ (7.45 g, 0.054 mol), in (30 mL) ethanol 96% was refluxed with stirring for 6hrs. The cooled solution poured into water, the solid material immediately was obtained, then filtered off, washed several times with cold water dried and recrystallized from a mixture of xylene: ethanol (1:10, *v:v*) to give orange crystals of compound **2** (Scheme 1).

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ABSTRACT

The starting material azo-benzyloxy acetophenone (2) has been synthesized in three steps; the direct diazotization of *p*-aminoacetophenone and its coupling reaction with m-cresol gave azo-acetophenone (1), which was benzylated with *p*-chlorobenzylchloride to give the starting material (2). The later compound was subjected to the one-pot three-component condensation reaction with substituted benzaldehydes and phenylhydrazine in the presence of sodium hydroxide to afford the target molecule azo-pyrazoline derivatives (3a-e) in high yields and short reaction times. The structures of the synthesized compounds were elucidated by using FT-IR, ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR and ¹³C DEPT 135 spectra.



Scheme 1

Yield: 13.20 g, 97%. M.p.: 139-141 °C. IR (KBr, v, cm⁻¹): 1683 (C=O), 1597 (C=C). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃ δ , ppm): 2.30 (s, 3H, Ar-CH₃), 2.65 (s, 3H, COCH₃), 5.14 (s, 2H, OCH₂), 6.85-8.10 (m, 11H, Ar-H'). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃ δ , ppm): 17.88 (C1₅), 26.55 (C1), 69.36 (C1₆), 113.28 (C1₃), 116.41 (C1₁), 117.21 (C_{5.7}), 122.72 (C1₄), 128.79 (C1_{8.22}), 128.87 (C1_{9.21}), 129.36 (C4_{.8}), 134.01 (C1₀), 134.94 (C₂₀), 137.75 (C₃), 141.88 (C1₇), 145.39 (C₁₅), 26.55 (C1), 69.36 (C1₆), 113.28 (C1₃), 116.41 (C1₁), 117.21 (C_{5.7}), 26.55 (C1), 69.36 (C1₆), 113.28 (C1₃), 116.41 (C1₁), 117.21 (C_{5.7}), 122.72 (C1₄), 128.79 (C1_{8.22}), 128.87 (C1_{9.21}), 129.36 (C4, 8), 8).

2.3. One pot synthesis of pyrazolines, 3-{4-[4-(4-chlorobenzyloxy)-2-methyl-phenylazo]-phenyl}-5-(substituted phenyl)-1-phenyl-2-pyrazolines (3a-e)

A mixture of compound **2** (1 mmol), substituted benzaldehyde (1 mmol), NaOH (4%, 3 mmol) and phenyl hydrazine (1.5 mmol) was mixed together in 20 mL ethanol 96% and refluxed with stirring for appropriate time until completion the reaction which was monitored by TLC and colour change. The solution was cooled and the solid product was separated by suction filtration, washed several times with

cold water dried and recrystallized from acetone to give pyrazolines (**3a-e**) (Scheme 1).

3-{4-[4-(4-Chloro-benzyloxy)-2-methyl-phenylazo]-phenyl}-5-phenyl-1-phenyl-2-pyrazoline (3a): Yield: 78%. M.p.: 181-183 °C. Time: 4 h. IR (KBr, v, cm⁻¹): 1595(C=N), 1573, 1554 (C=C). ^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl3 δ , ppm): 2.73 (s, 3H, -Ar-CH3-C22), 3.22 (dd, 1H, CH₂-H_a-C₈), 3.88 (dd, 1H, CH₂-H_b-C₈), 5.08 (s, 2H -O-CH2-C23), 5.33 (dd, 1H, CH-Hx-C7), 6.78-7.85 (m, 21H, Ar-H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃ δ, ppm): 17.87 (Ar-CH₃-C₂₂), 43.36 (CH₂-C₈), 64.59 (CH-C₇), 69.28 (O-CH₂C₂₃), 113.12 (C₂₀), 113.50 (C18), 116.36 (C31,35), 117.04 (C33), 119.42 (C12,14), 123.05 (C21), 125.51 (C₄), 125.83 (C_{2,6}), 127.66 (C_{3,5}), 128.33 (C_{25,29}), 128.78 (C26,28), 128.81 (C11,15), 128.94 (C32,34), 129.19 (C17), 133.91 (C10), 134.44 (C27), 135.07 (C24), 141.03 (C1), 142.35 (C30), 144.39 (C16), 145.88 (C9), 152.74 (C13), 160.87 (C19). 13C DEPT 135 (75 MHz, CDCl3 δ, ppm): 17.87 (Ar-CH3-C22), -43.36 (CH2-C₈), 64.59 (CH-C₇), -69.28 (O-CH₂C₂₃), 113.12 (C₂₀), 113.50 (C18), 116.36 (C31,35), 117.04 (C33), 119.42 (C12,14), 123.05 (C21), 125.51 (C₄), 125.83 (C_{2,6}), 127.66 (C_{3,5}), 128.33 (C_{25,29}), 128.78 (C26,28), 128.81 (C11,15), 128.94 (C32,34).

3-{4-[4-(4-Chloro-benzyloxy)-2-methyl-phenylazo]-phenyl}-5-(o-chlorophenyl)-1-phenyl-2-pyrazoline (**3b**): Yield: 95%. M.p.: 169-170 °C. Time: 5 h. IR (KBr, v, cm⁻¹): 1597 (C=N), 1575, 1546 (C=C). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃ δ, ppm): 2.96 (s, 3H, Ar-CH₃-C₂₂), 3.20 (dd, 1H, CH₂-H_a-C₈), 4.04 (dd, 1H, CH₂-H_b-C₈), 5.11 (s, 2H -O-CH2-C23), 5.72 (dd, 1H CH-Hx-C7), 6.67-7.80 (m, 20H, Ar-H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃ δ, ppm): 17.86 (Ar-CH₃-C22), 41.78 (CH2-C8), 61.40 (CH-C7), 69.33 (O-CH2C23), 113.15 (C20), 113.29 (C18), 116.40 (C31,35), 117.08 (C33), 119.57 (C12,14), 123.06 (C21), 126.35 (C5), 127.30 (C4), 127.67 (C6), 128.21 (C25,29), 128.79 (C3), 128.83 (C26,28), 129.08 (C11,15), 129.55 (C_{32,34}), 129.95 (C₁₇), 132.88 (C₂), 133.02 (C₂₇), 134.30 (C₁₀), 136.82 (C24), 139.01 (C1), 144.21 (C30), 145.92 (C16), 146.85 (C₉), 152.60 (C₁₃), 159.45 (C₁₉). ¹³C DEPT 135 (75 MHz, CDCl₃ δ, ppm): 17.86 (Ar-CH₃-C₂₂), -41.78 (CH₂-C₈), 61.40 (CH-C₇), -69.33 (O-CH₂C₂₃), 113.15 (C₂₀), 113.29 (C₁₈), 116.40 (C_{31,35}), 117.08 (C33),119.57 (C12,14), 123.06 (C21), 126.35 (C5), 127.30 (C4), 127.67 (C6), 128.21 (C25,29), 128.79 (C3), 128.83 (C26,28), 129.08 (C11,15), 129.55 (C32,34).

3-{4-[4-(4-Chloro-benzyloxy)-2-methyl-phenylazo]-phenyl}-5-(p-fluorophenyl)-1-phenyl-2-pyrazoline (3c): Yield: 77%. M.p.: 181-183 °C. Time: 5 h. IR (KBr, v, cm⁻¹): 1598 (C=N), 1576, 1546 (C=C). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃ δ, ppm): 2.71 (s, 3H, Ar-CH3-C22), 3.12 (dd, 1H, CH2-Ha-C8), 3.83 (dd, 1H, CH2-Hb-C8), 5.28 (s, 2H, O-CH2-C23), 5.28 (dd, 1H, CH-Hx-C7), 6.81-7.89 (m, 20H, Ar-H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃ δ, ppm): 17.90 (Ar-CH₃-C22), 43.37 (CH2-C8), 64.10 (CH-C7), 69.6 (O-CH2-C23), 113.16 (C₂₀), 115.99 (C₁₈), 116.40 (C_{31,35}), 117.09 (C_{3,5}), 119.63 (C₃₃), 123.28 (C12,14), 126.32 (C21), 127.60 (C25,29), 128.38 (C2,6), 128.84 (C26,28), 128.93 (C11,15), 129.02 (C32,34), 129.49 (C17), 134.30 (C₂₇), 135.10 (C₁₀), 138.11(C₁), 141.10 (C₂₄), 144.26 (C₃₀), 145.47 (C₁₆), 145.92 (C₉), 152.84 (C₁₃), 160.14 (C₄), 160.82 (C19). ¹³C DEPT 135 (75 MHz, CDCl₃ δ, ppm): 17.90 (Ar-CH3-C22), -43.37 (CH2-C8), 64.10 (CH-C7), -69.6 (0-CH2-C23), 113.16 (C₂₀), 115.99 (C₁₈), 116.40 (C_{31,35}), 117.09(C_{3,5}), 119.63 (C33), 123.28 (C12,14), 126.32(C21), 127.60 (C25,29), 128.38 (C2,6), 128.84 (C26,28), 128.93 (C11,15), 129.02 (C32,34).

3-{4-[4-(4-Chloro-benzyloxy)-2-methyl-phenylazo]-phenyl}-5-(p-methylphenyl)-1-phenyl-2-pyrazoline (3d): Yield: 83%. M.p.: 119-121 °C. Time: 5 h. IR (KBr, v, cm⁻¹): 1596 (C=N), 1572, 1543 (C=C). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃ δ, ppm): 2.65 (s, 3H, Ar-CH₃-C₂₂), 2.95 (s, 3H, Ar-CH₃-C₃₀), 3.17 (dd, 1H, CH₂-H_a-C₈), 3.85 (dd, 1H, CH₂-H_b-C₈), 5.08 (s, 2H, O-CH₂-C₂₃), 5.30 (dd, 1H, CH-H_x-C₇), 6.77-8.10 (m, 20H, Ar-H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃ δ, ppm): 17.88 (Ar-CH₃-C₂₂), 21.11 (Ar-CH₃-C₃₆), 43.43 (CH₂-C₈), 64.42 (CH.C7), 69.36 (O-CH2C23), 113.14 (C20), 113.28 (C18), 116.41 (C_{31,35}), 117.21 (C₃₃), 122.72 (C_{12,14}), 123.06 (C₂₁), 125.78 (C2,6), 126.26 (C25,29), 128.79 (C3,5), 128.79 (C26,28), 128.86 (C_{11,15}), 129.36 (C_{32,34}), 129.86 (C₁₇), 134.01 (C₂₇), 135.11 (C10), 137.75 (C4), 139.42 (C24), 141.88 (C1), 144.46 (C30), 145.40 (C16), 145.89 (C9), 152.74 (C13), 161.53 (C19). 13C DEPT 135 (75 MHz, CDCl₃ δ, ppm): 17.88 (Ar-CH₃-C₂₂), 21.11 (Ar-CH₃-C₃₆), -43.43 (CH₂-C₈), 64.42 (CH-C₇), -69.36 (O-CH₂C₂₃), 113.14 (C20), 113.28 (C18), 116.41 (C31,35), 117.21 (C33), 122.72 (C12,14), 123.06 (C21), 125.78 (C2,6), 126.26 (C25,29), 128.79 (C3,5), 128.79 (C26,28), 128.86 (C11,15), 129.36 (C32,34).

3-{4-[4-(4-Chloro-benzyloxy)-2-methyl-phenylazo]-phenyl}-5-(m-(4-chlorobenzyloxy) phenyl)-1-phenyl-2-pyrazoline (3e): Yield: 86%. M.p.: 164-166 °C. Time: 3 h. IR (KBr, v, cm-1): 1596 (C=N), 1575, 1542 (C=C). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃ δ, ppm): 2.73 (s, 3H, Ar-CH₃-C₂₂), 3.19 (dd, 1H, CH₂-H_a-C₈), 3.85 (dd, 1H, CH2-Hb-C8), 4.96 (s, 2H, O-CH2-C36), 5.08 (s, 2H, O-CH2-C23), 5.51 (dd, 1H, CH-H_x-C₇), 6.80-7.87 (m, 24H, Ar-H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃ δ, ppm): 17.88 (Ar-CH₃-C₂₂), 43.40 (CH₂-C₈), 64.08 (CH-C7), 69.28 (O-CH2-C36), 69.32 (O-CH2-C23), 113.14 (C20), 113.55 (C18), 115.45 (C31,35), 116.39 (C3,5), 117.06 (C33), 119.42 (C12,14), 123.07 (C21), 126.27 (C2,6), 127.13 (C25,29,38,42), 128.74 (C26,28,39, 41), 128.84 (C11,15), 128.94 (C32,34), 133.81 (C17), 134.51 (C27,40), 134.95 (C10), 135.39 (C1), 141.04 (C24,37), 144.41 (C30), 145.49 (C₁₆), 145.90 (C₉), 152.76 (C₁₃), 158.03 (C₄), 160.90 (C₁₉). ¹³C DEPT 135 (75 MHz, CDCl3 δ, ppm): 17.88 (Ar-CH3-C22), -43.40 (CH2-C8), 64.08 (CH-C7), -69.28 (O-CH2-C36), -69.32 (O-CH2-C23), 113.14 (C₂₀), 113.55 (C₁₈), 115.45(C_{31,35}), 116.39 (C_{3,5}), 117.06

3. Results and discussion

In the last century, a huge number of pyrazoline and a little bit of azo-pyrazoline derivatives have been reported [21]. While there is no research in the literature for the synthesis of azo-pyrazoline derivatives through a one-pot three- component reaction process. Therefore, the aim of the work is to prepare some new azo-pyrazoline compounds in high yields and short reaction times avoiding separation and purification processes of intermediate chalcones by using a one-pot synthesis. In this study, firstly we have prepared the starting material azobenzyloxy-acetophenone (2), then used it as a main component with both phenylhydarzine and substituted benzaldehyde in a single vessel for one-pot synthesis approach of azo-pyrazolines (3a-e) as shown in Scheme 1. The newly synthesized compounds were characterized spectrally by using FT-IR, ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR and ¹³C DEPT 135 spectra. In the IR spectrum of the starting material azo-benzyloxy (2), the disappearance of the hydroxyl group of compound **1**, and shifting an absorption band of carbonyl group to 1683 cm⁻¹, a strong band at 1597 cm⁻¹ for C=C of aromatic rings beside a two weak bands at 2924 and 2880 cm⁻¹ attributed to the (-CH₂-) group of 4-benzyloxy moiety are confirmed the benzylation of hydroxyl group [22]. The ¹H NMR spectrum of compound (2) shows three singlet signals at 2.34, 2.60 and 5.20 ppm belongs to the two (-CH₃) groups attached to the carbonyl and phenyl groups and two protons of -O-CH₂-, respectively, a multiple signals at 6.8-8.2 ppm for 11 protons of three aromatic rings. The ¹³C NMR spectrum showed eighteen singlets for eighteen types of carbons in different environments in the molecule. The ¹³C DEPT 135 of azo-benzyloxy (2) showed nine upward signals for two (CH₃) groups and seven mono protonated carbons of aromatic rings and one downward signal corresponding to a diprotonated carbon atom of -O-CH2- group with disappearance of eight singlets for non-protonated carbon atoms [23].

In the IR spectra of the target molecule azo-pyrazoline the disappearance of carbonyl group band for both azoacetophenone and substituted benzaldehyde and appearance of two new bands around 1570 and 1550 cm⁻¹ for imine system are good evidences for the formation of imine and the occurrence of cyclization reaction to give 2-pyrazoline. The 1H NMR spectra of pyrazoline ring shows a very distinct signals for the protons attached to the C7 and C8 carbon atoms in the 2pyrazoline as an (ABX) spin system [24] which appeared three doublet to doublet (dd) signals around δ 3.2 , 3.8, and 5.4 ppm for two geminal and one vicinal protons prove a 2-pyrazoline structure. While the ¹³C NMR spectrum shows two additional picks for two carbons (C7 and C8) approximately at 45 and 65 ppm of the pyrazoline ring confirm the 2-pyrazoline structure [25]. Further support for the formation of the five member pyrazoline ring, is a downward signal of ¹³C DEPT spectrum at (-43 ppm) for the CH₂ group of the ring in addition to the downward signal for OCH₂ group at (-69 ppm).

4. Conclusion

The introduction of the azo-linkage, ortho to the acetyl group in acetophenone, will increases the conjugation and produce colored compounds that can be used as new starting materials for the preparation of different organic compounds. The preparation of azo-pyrazoline compounds from azo-acetophenone, substituted benzaldehydes and phenylhydrazine can be achieved in high yields and short reaction times by using a one-pot synthesis method, via reducing the number of steps and avoiding a long separation processes and purification of chemical intermediates.

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