Synthesis of Chiral Heteroaryl-Substituted Dihydropyran Derivatives via Ring Closing Enyne Metathesis Reaction

Ayşegül Gümüş^{*}, Selçuk Gümüş, Nalan Nuriye Büyükadalı and Nezir Aslan

Van Yuzuncu Yil University, Faculty of Science, Department of Chemistry, Van, Turkey

Abstract

The ring closing enyne metathesis reactions have been applied to systems derived from homopropargylic alcohol backbones are described. The key intermediates 2benzofuranyl and 2-benzothiophenyl homopropargylic alcohols were synthesized from their corresponding carboxyaldehyde derivatives and resolved to give the corresponding enantiopure acetates and the alcohols with high ee values through enzymatic resolution. Then, enantiomerically enriched enyne skeletons derived from homopropargylic alcohols were subjected to the ring closing metathesis reaction via first generation Grubbs' catalysts and corresponding chiral heteroaryl-substituted dihydropyran derivatives were obtained with good yields.

1. Introduction

Dihydropyrans which are among the most investigated heterocyclic structural motifs in the past decade are widely occur in numerous natural and synthetic products.¹ Many of these compounds show potential biological activities, such as cytotoxicity against some cancers, anti-infectivity and anti-HCV activities, and are widely used in pharmaceuticals.² Some of the most widely used methods for the preparation of dihydropyrans are based on hetero-Diels-Alder cycloaddition,³ electrophile-initiated alkylation of glycals,⁴ olefin metathesis,⁵ dioxanone Claisen rearrangement⁶ and allylation-Prins cyclization.⁷

Ring closing metathesis (RCM) reaction is one of the most powerful tool for the synthesis of oxacyclic rings due to its mild experimental conditions and wide applicability in synthetic organic chemistry.⁸⁻⁹ Tremendous carbocyclic and heterocyclic rings have been elegantly constructed cycles in the presence of a metathesis catalyst, for example, first and second generation of Grubbs' ruthenium-based catalyst from relatively simple precursors by the RCM reaction.

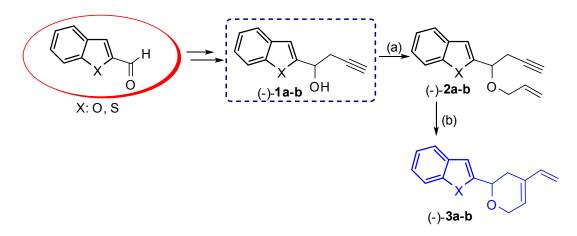
Benzothiophene and benzofuran molecules are found to be important scaffolds in synthetic medicinal chemistry. Their natural and synthetic derivatives display a wide spectrum of pharmacological activities like antioxidant, antibacterial, antimicrobial, antifungal, antiviral and anticancer activities etc [13-17]. Moreover substituted benzofurans find application such as of oxidant [18], antioxidants, fluorescent sensor [19], brightening agents, a variety of drugs and in other field of chemistry and agriculture [20].

Herein, we describe the chemoenzymatic synthesis of optically active heteroaryl substituted dihydropyrans starting from benzofuran and benzothiophene-substituted homopropargyl alcohols.

2. Results and Discussion

The parent benzofuranyl and benzothiophenyl homopropargylic alcohols **1a-b** were synthesized by the addition of propargyl nucleophile to corresponding aldehydes and enzymatically resolved in our previous study [21]. Chiral heteroaryl-substituted homopropargylic alcohols are good candidates for the preparation of chiral enyne systems because of their O-anchoring site. These enyne scaffolds are very valuable precursors for the construction of dihydropyran skeletons by ring closing metathesis reaction.

The enyne systems (-)-2a-b were first built on enantiomerically enriched homopropargylic alcohols (-)-1a-b (99% ee for each) by O-allylation using allyl bromide in the presence of NaH and tetrabutylammonium iodide (TBAI) in THF (Scheme 1). Enyne scaffolds (-)-2a-b were subsequently subjected to ring closing enyne metathesis by employing Grubbs' first generation catalyst (5 mol %) at room temperature. Benzofuran and benzothiophene-substituted dihydropyran derivatives (-)-3a-b were isolated by 84% and 93% yields, respectively.



Scheme 1. Reagents and conditions: (a) allyl bromide, NaH, TBAI, THF; (b) Grubbs' 1st generation cat. (5 mol %).

3. Conclusion

In summary, we have described the design and synthesis of novel hybrid compounds between heteroaryl ring (benzofuran and benzothiophene) and dihydropyran scaffold. The enantiomerically enriched homopropargylic alcohols were converted to chiral enyne structures by O-allylation method. Then, ring closing metathesis reaction was applied on these enynes. In conclusion, novel chiral heteroaryl-substituted dihydropyran derivatives were prepared in this study.

4. Experimental

4.1. General

All experiments were carried out in pre-dried glassware an inert atmosphere of argon. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ on a Bruker Spectrospin Avance DPX-400 spectrometer. ¹H (400 MHz) and ¹³C NMR were recorded in CDCl₃ and the chemical shifts are expressed in ppm relative to CDCl₃ (δ 7.26 and 77.0 for ¹H and ¹³C NMR, respectively) as the internal standard. Optical rotations were measured in a 10 cm cell using a Rudolph Research, Autopol III polarimeter. HRMS spectra were recorded on an Waters SYNAPT G1 MS (ESI-TOF-MS) at METU Central Laboratory R&D Training and Measurement Center.

Flash column chromatography was performed bu using thick-walled glass columns and silica gel (60-mesh; Merck). The reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) using Merck 0.2-mm silica gel 60 F254 analytical aluminum plates, visualized by UV light. All extracts were dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate and solutions were concentrated under reduced pressure by using a rotary evaporator.

4.2. General procedure for the synthesis of enyne derivatives (-)-2a-b.

To a solution of (-)-**1a-b** in dry THF (10 mL) was added NaH (96 mg, 60% dispersion in mineral oil, 2.4 mmol) under argon. The solution was stirred until H₂ gas removal was complete (approximately 30 min). Next, allyl bromide added dropwise followed by tetrabutylammonium iodide (2 mmol). The mixture was stirred for an additional 2 h and hydrolyzed by cautious addition of water (20 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with ether (3x20 mL). The combined organic phase was dried over MgSO₄ and evaporated in vacuo. The crude product mixtures were purified by flash column chromatography using ethyl acetate/ hexane (1:7) as the eluent.

4.2.1. (-)-2-(1-(allyloxy)but-3-ynyl)benzofuran, (-)-2a

Yellow oil. (0.44 g, 98% yield); $[\alpha]_D{}^{16}$ = -54.8 (c 0.5, CH₂Cl₂); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.58-7.56 (m, 1H), 7.51-7.48 (m, 1H), 7.32-7.21 (m, 2H), 6.74 (s, 1H), 5.97-5.87 (m, 1H), 5.34-5.28 (m, 1H), 5.23-5.20 (m, 1H), 4.68 (t, *J*= 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.14-4.09 (m, 1H), 4.02-3.97 (m, 1H), 2.88 (dd, *J*=2.6 and 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.99 (t, *J*=2.6 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 155.3, 155.0, 134.1, 127.8, 124.4, 122.8, 121.1, 117.8, 111.5, 105.4, 79.9, 72.9, 70.3, 70.2, 24.6. HRMS (ESI-TOF). Anal. Calcd for C₁₅H₁₄O₂ [M+Na]⁺: *m/z* 249.0891. Found: *m/z* 249.0879.

4.2.2. (-)-2-(1-(allyloxy)but-3-ynyl)benzo[b]thiophene, (-)-2b

Yellow oil. (0.46 g, 95% yield); $[\alpha]_D{}^{16}$ = -36.0 (c 0.5, CH₂Cl₂); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.85-7.83 (m, 1H), 7.77-7.75 (m, 1H), 7.39-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.29 (s, 1H), 5.99-5.89 (m, 1H), 5.35-5.29 (m, 1H), 5.25-5.21 (m, 1H), 4.85 (td, *J*=1.6 and 6.7 Hz, 1H), 4.19-4.10 (m, 1H), 4.00-3.94 (m, 1H), 2.92-2.85 (m, 1H), 2.79-2.72 (m, 1H), 2.04 (q, *J*=2.7 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR

(CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 145.3, 139.7, 139.2, 134.1, 124.4, 124.3, 123.6, 122.6, 122.5, 117.7, 80.1, 75.5, 70.7, 70.0, 28.2. HRMS (ESI-TOF). Anal. Calcd for C₁₅H₁₄OS [M+H]⁺: *m/z* 243.0843. Found: *m/z* 243.0851.

4.3. Ring closing metathesis reactions

O-Allyl anchored substrates (-)-2a-b (0.2 mmol) were dissolved in DCM (10 mL) and Grubbs' first generation catalyst (5 mol %) was added to the solution. The reaction was monitored by TLC. The crude product was concentrated and purified by short column chromatography.

4.3.1. (-)-2-(4-vinyl-3,6-dihydro-2H-pyran-2-yl)benzofuran, (-)-3a

Yellow oil. (0.42 g, 93% yield); $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ = -47.6 (c 0.5, CH₂Cl₂); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.58-7.56 (m, 1H), 7.52-7.50 (m, 1H), 7.31-7.21 (m, 2H), 6.73-6.72 (m, 1H), 6.48-6.41 (dd, J=10.7 and 17.5 Hz, 1H), 5.82-5.81 (m, 1H), 5.22 (d, J=7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.08 (d, J=9.7 Hz, 1H), 4.84 (dd, J=4.0 and 9.6 Hz, 1H), 4.47-4.44 (m, 2H), 2.76-2.67 (m, 1H), 2.63-2.57 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 156.7, 154.9, 137.8, 132.9, 127.9, 126.2, 124.3, 122.8, 121.1, 111.9, 111.4, 103.6, 69.3, 65.8, 27.7. HRMS (ESI-TOF). Anal. Calcd for C₁₅H₁₄O₂ [M+H]⁺: *m/z* 227.1072. Found: *m/z* 227.1079.

4.3.2. (-)-2-(benzo[b]thiophen-2-yl)-4-vinyl-3,6-dihydro-2H-pyran, (-)-3b

Yellow solid. (0.44 g, 90% yield); mp 49-51 °C. $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ = -51.7 (c 0.5, CH₂Cl₂); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 7.84 (d, *J*=7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.29 (m, 2H), 6.44 (dd, *J*=10.7 and 17.4 Hz, 1H), 5.81 (s, 1H), 5.21 (d, *J*=17.5 Hz, 1H), 5.07 (d, *J*=10.7 Hz, 1H), 4.48 (s, 2H), 2.64-2.61 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz): δ 146.1, 139.5, 139.4, 137.7, 133.1, 126.3, 124.2, 124.1, 123.5, 122.4, 120.2, 111.8, 71.9, 66.1, 31.3. HRMS (ESI-TOF). Anal. Calcd for C₁₅H₁₅OS [M+H]⁺: *m/z* 243.0844. Found: *m/z* 243.0850.

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