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## AN EASY SYNTHESIS OF 5-NITRO-THIOPHENES AND 3-AMINO-2-NITRO-THIOPHENES

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### Abstract

A one-step preparation of substituted 5-nitro thiophenes and 3-amino-2-nitrothiophenes starting from corresponding  $\beta$ -chloroacroleins and  $\beta$ -chloropropenenitriles was developed. Sodium sulfide, bromonitromethane and sodium hydroxide were used as reagents to obtain the expected compounds in good yields with a simple and easy work up procedure.

### 1. Introduction :

Nitrothiophenes have some versatile biological uses. They inhibit the growth of *E.Coli*, *M. Luteus* and *A. Niger*<sup>1</sup> and are used as precursors of N-(5-substituted) thiophene-2-alkylsulfonamides which are potent inhibitors of 5-lipoxygenase.<sup>2</sup> Moreover, 3-amino-2-nitrobenzo[*b*]thiophenes were used as starting material for the preparation of the corresponding dye.<sup>3</sup>

5-Phenyl 2-nitrothiophene has been prepared by direct nitration of the 2-phenyl thiophene with either nitric acid or different proportions of Cu(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> in acetic anhydride<sup>4</sup> but in all cases mononitration was not selective and also dinitration took place. When nitric acid was employed, a mixture of 2-nitro-5-phenyl and 3-nitro-2-phenyl thiophenes was obtained. If the reaction was carried out with Cu(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, mixtures of 3-nitro-2-phenyl, 2-nitro-5-phenyl, 3,5-dinitro-2-phenyl and 2-nitro-5-(2-nitrophenyl) thiophenes was recovered as final products (scheme 1).

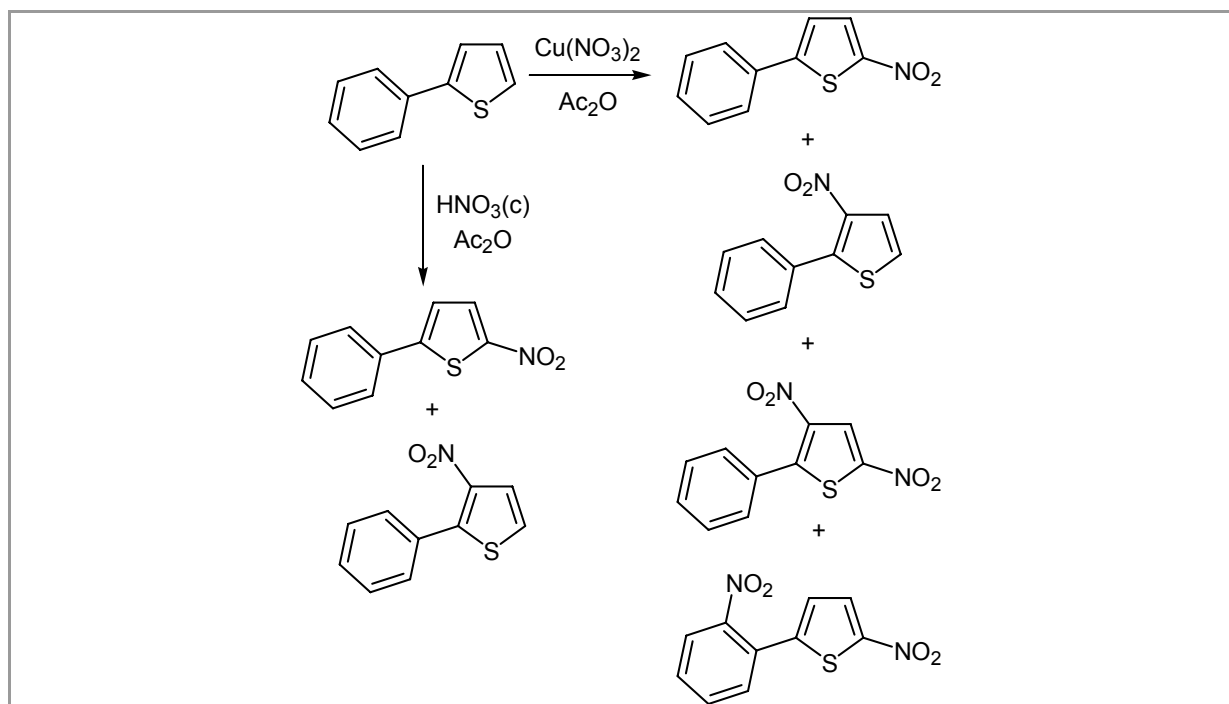
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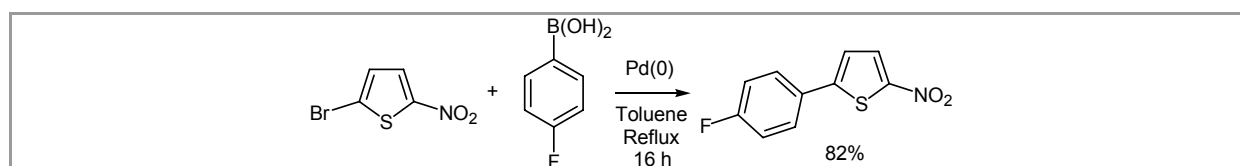
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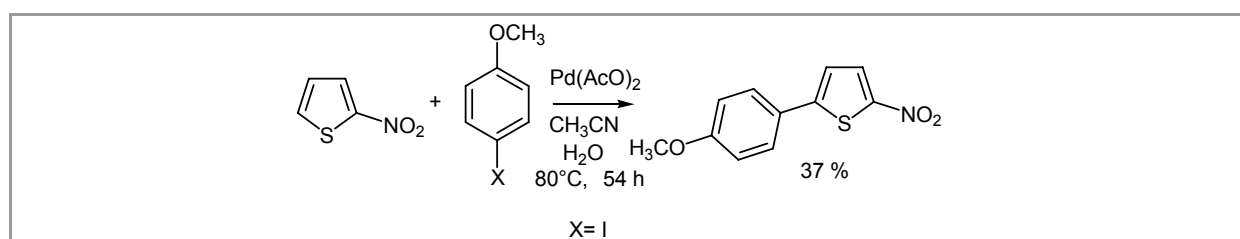
**Scheme 1** Directly nitration of 2-phenyl thiophene by either concentrated nitric acid or copper nitrate in acetic anhydride.

Another way for preparing 2-aryl-5-nitrothiophenes is the Suzuki coupling of the 2-bromo-5-nitrothiophene with the corresponding aryl boronic acids (scheme 2). <sup>4</sup> <sup>5</sup> <sup>¡Error! No se encuentra el origen de la referencia.</sup>



**Scheme 2** Synthesis of the 5-(4-fluoro phenyl)-2-nitrothiophene by Suzuki coupling (palladium complexes were used).

This coupling reaction was applied for the same purpose in order to obtain the 2-nitro-5-(4-methoxy) phenyl thiophene from the corresponding iodophenyl derivative (scheme 3).<sup>4,5</sup> Even if Suzuki coupling allows to obtain the aryl nitrothiophene in good yield (scheme 2), usually palladium catalysis requires long reaction time to prepare the targeted derivatives (schemes 2 and 3). In the case where p-iodoanisole was employed (scheme 3), isolated yield was low.<sup>5</sup>



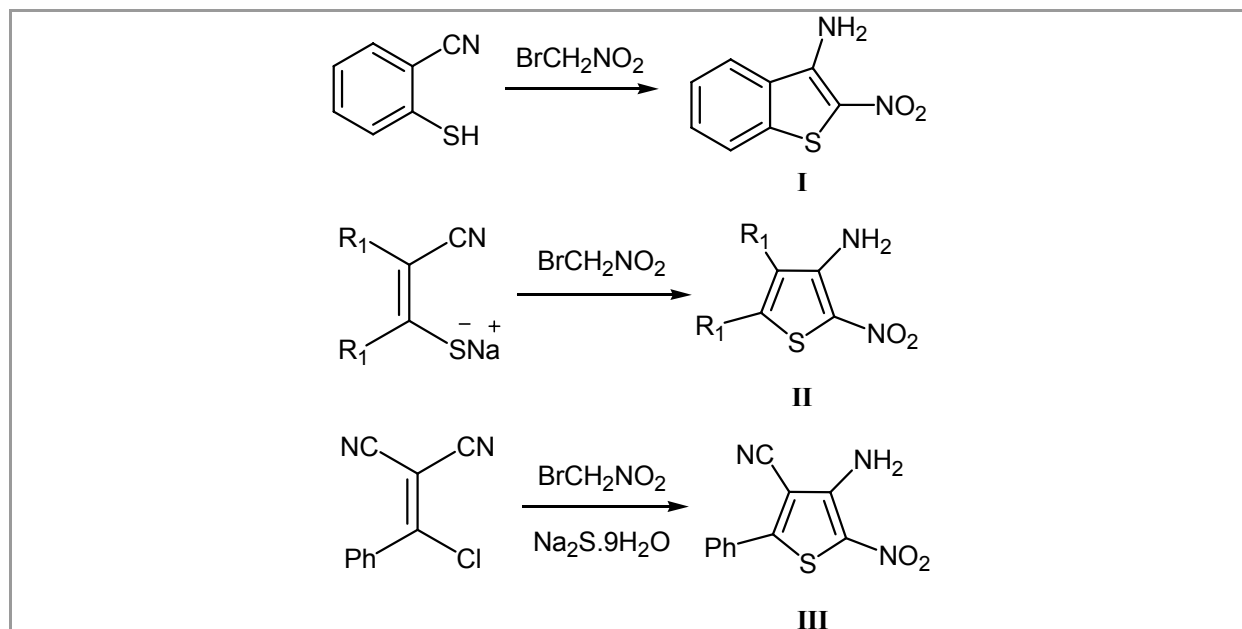
**Scheme 3** Synthesis of the 5-(4-methoxy phenyl)-2-nitro thiophene by Suzuki coupling (palladium acetate was used).

On the other hand, 3-amino-2-nitrothiophenes were not very much described using bromonitromethane as reagent. Only a few teams worked in this field of investigation.

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Fishwick *et al.* described the preparation of 3-amino-2-nitrobenzo[b]thiophene (**I**) starting from 2-sulfanylbenzonitrile and bromonitromethane.<sup>6</sup> In the same paper, they synthesized some 3-amino-2-nitrothiophenes starting from sodium salt of disubstituted 3-sulfanyl-2-propenenitriles and bromonitromethane.<sup>6</sup> They obtained compounds (**II**) in yields ranging from 30% to 70%.

Only one thiophene (**III**) was synthesized by Gewald *et al.*, starting from a  $\alpha,\beta$ disubstituted  $\beta$ -chloropropenenitrile and using sodium sulfide and bromonitromethane (Scheme 4).<sup>7</sup>



**Scheme 4.** 3-Amino-2-nitrothiophene in literature. R<sub>1</sub>= -S-Me, R<sub>2</sub>= -CN, -CO<sub>2</sub>Et, -CONH<sub>2</sub>; R<sub>1</sub>= -NH-Ph, R<sub>2</sub>= -CN, -CO<sub>2</sub>Et, -SO<sub>2</sub>Ph.

Bromonitromethane is a versatile reagent used in stabilized solutions as biocide,<sup>8</sup> in the synthesis of 1-bromo-1-nitroalkane-2-ols,<sup>9</sup> polyfunctionalized nitrocyclopropanes,<sup>10</sup> aryl nitromethanes and as bromine donor.<sup>11</sup> It has also been utilized in the synthesis of 2-nitrobenzofuran and 2-nitro-2,3-dihydrobenzofuran-3-ols<sup>12, 13</sup>, nitro benzothiophenes and nitrothiazoles.<sup>6</sup>

In the thiophene series only few examples have been described; in the case of 2-*tert* butyl-5-nitro thiophene<sup>11</sup>, no experimental details are given (Scheme 5).

As a continuation of previous research on the synthesis of functionalized thiophenes and their use for the preparation of condensed systems (Scheme 5)<sup>14,15,16</sup> we describe the preparation of new substituted 2-aryl-5-nitro thiophenes and substituted 3-amino-2-nitrothiophenes in a one-pot procedure allowing access to the thiophene derivatives in good yields with a simple work up (scheme 6).

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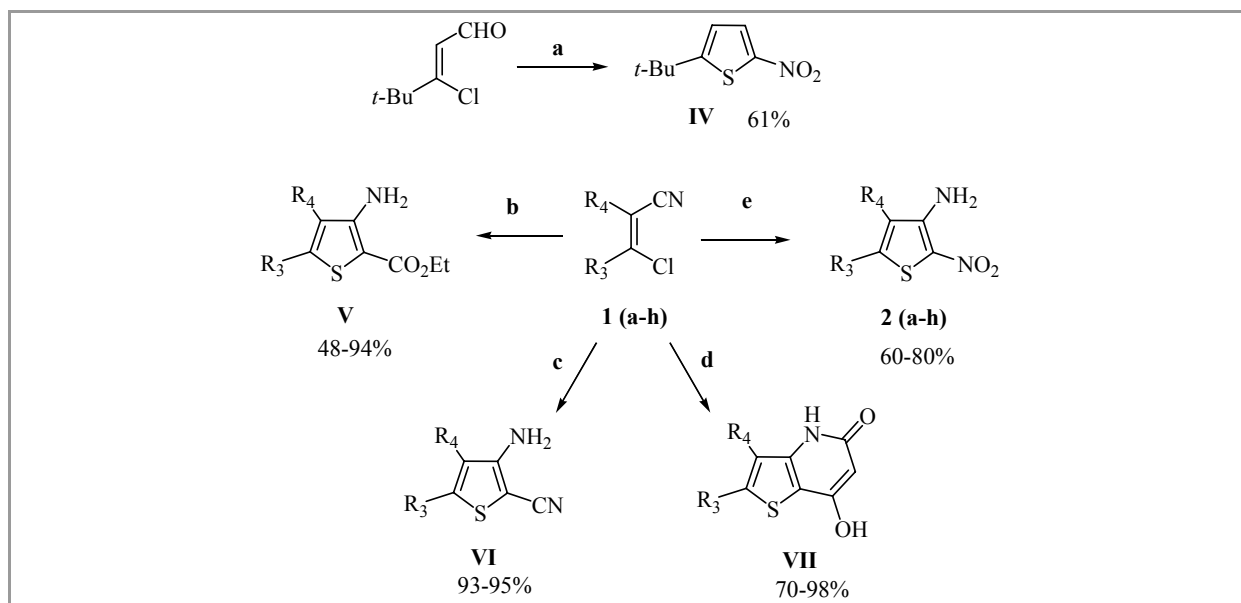
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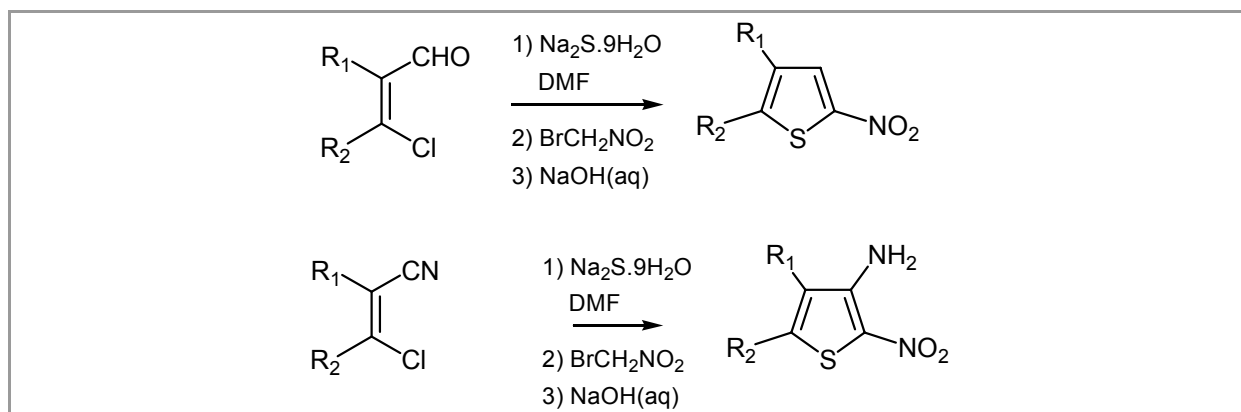
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**Scheme 5.** Thiophenes synthesized by our laboratory. **a**  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}\cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{BrCH}_2\text{NO}_2$ ,  $\text{NaOH}$ ; **b**  $\text{HSCH}_2\text{CO}_2\text{Et}$ ,  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$ ; **c**  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}\cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{ClCH}_2\text{CN}$ ,  $\text{EtONa}$ ; **d**  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}\cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{ClCH}_2\text{COCH}_2\text{CO}_2\text{Et}$ ,  $\text{EtONa}$ ; **e**  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}\cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{BrCH}_2\text{NO}_2$ ,  $\text{NaOH}$



**Scheme 6.** Developed procedure to obtain 2-aryl-5-nitro thiophenes and substituted 3-amino-2-nitrothiophenes.

Structures of prepared compounds are referred in Table 1.

Table 1. Prepared compounds.

No.	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	Yield (%)	No.	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	Yield (%)
1	H	4-Chlorophenyl	71	9	H	4-Methylphenyl	60
2	H	4-Fluorophenyl	61	10	H	4-Methoxyphenyl	62
3	H	4-Methylphenyl	82	11	H	4-Chlorophenyl	64
4	H	4-Methoxyphenyl	73	12	H	4-Fluorophenyl	80
5	H	4-Nitrophenyl	74	13	H	4-Nitrophenyl	70
6	H	1,1'-Biphenyl-4-yl	61	14	H	1,1'-Biphenyl-4-yl	78
7	H	3-Bromophenyl	70	15	H	t-Butyl	70
8			85	16			80

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