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Brief Communication

Functionalization of Cinnamaldehyde to Arylidene barbituric acid, Catalyzed by Samarium(III) Chloride

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ABSTRACT

Benzaldehyde and cinnamaldehyde were successfully condensed with barbituric acid using samarium(III) chloride in water for 2 h at room temperature. The products were confirmed through FTIR, UV-Vis and GC-MS analysis.

Keywords: Arylidene barbituric acid, Cinnamaldehyde, Functionalization, Samarium(III) chloride, Condensation.

INTRODUCTION

Cinnamaldehyde (C_oH_oO) is an aryl aldehyde and appears as yellow oily liquid¹. Naturally, it is the main constituent (60-65%) of leaf and bark extract of cinnamon, particularly in Indonesian (Cinnamomum burmannii) and Indian (Cinnamomum zeylanicum) cinnamon^{2,3}. This compound provides wide range of biological action, like anticancer⁴, anti-inflammatory⁵, antibacterial⁶ and antifungal⁷ properties. Effort to modify cinnamaldehyde into more useful products with attractive bioactivities has been shown in the last decade⁸⁻¹⁰. The presence of α , β unsaturated carbonyl group makes cinnamaldehyde as prominent precursor for synthesis of organic molecules with high complexity via various types of organic transformation⁸⁻¹¹.

One of the key reactions which can be

used to modify aryl aldehydes is Knoevenagel condensation. It is valuable reaction to form new C-C bond in the production of larger fine chemicals¹². This reaction involves the abstraction of proton from active methylene compound to give enolate ion then undergo nucleophilic attack to carbonyl group¹². In 2006, Li et al., synthesized 5-arylidenes barbituric acid via Knoevenagel condensation using grinding method¹³. Various yields of desirable product were found from 35-96% with 1 to 15 min. grinding time and 120 min. laying time¹³. Khurana and Vij (2010) performed Knoevenagel condensation of aromatic aldehydes with barbituric acids and 2-thiobarbituric acids using nickel nanoparticles with medium to good yield of isolated products¹⁴. Other investigation in Knoevenagel condensation using both of homogeneous and heterogeneous catalysts were found in the literature, but some of them were accompanied with limitations, such as in catalyst



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preparation or the use of harmful solvent^{8,12,15-17}. Therefore, the search for efficient method or catalyst for Knoevenagel condensation is still become a major challenge.



Fig. 1. Reaction scheme of arylidenes barbituric acid synthesis

In this research, we synthesize the arylidene derivatives of barbituric acid using samarium (III) catalyst and characterize the products using some analytical instruments such as FTIR, UV-Vis, and GCMS.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

General

All chemicals were analytical grade and obtained from commercial suppliers. FTIR spectra were recorded on Shimadzu Prestige-21 FTIR Spectrophotometer. Ultraviolet-visible absorptions were screened using Shimadzu 2450 UV-Vis Spectrophotometer. GC-MS analyses were done by Agilent 7890A-5975C.

Synthesis of Arylidenes Barbituric Acid

Aldehyde (1 mmol), barbituric acid (2 mmol), samarium(III) chloride (10 wt.%) in water (2 mL) were stirred for 2 h at room temperature in an Erlenmeyer flask. The reaction was monitored using thin layer chromatography. The product formed will precipitate. After completion, solid product was filtered and recrystallized from hot ethanol.

Compound 3a, 5-benzylidenepyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione has physical and spectral data as follows: pale yellow solid, m.p. 261-262°C (lit. 271°C [18]); 61% yield; R_f 0.75 (ethyl acetate : ethanol 7:3) IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3629 (N-H), 3025 (C-H sp²), 1693 (C=O), 1386 (C-N), 697 (mono-substituted benzene). UV-Vis (nm): 230, 258. GC (min.): 13.51. MS (m/z): 216 (M⁺), 215, 172, 129, 102.

Compound 3b, (E)-5-(3-phenylallylidene) pyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H,5H)-trione has physical and spectral data as follows: yellow solid, m.p. 260-261°C (lit. 270°C [8]); 68% yield; R, 0.58 (ethyl acetate : ethanol 7:3) IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3629 (N-H), 3088 (C-H sp²), 1701 (C=O), 1559 (C=C stretch), 1221 (C-N), 669 (monosubstituted benzene). UV-Vis (nm): 372. GC (min.): 15.61. MS (m/z): 242 (M⁺), 171, 155, 128, 127.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The FTIR, UV-Vis, and GC-MS spectra of compound 3a are presented in the Fig. 2. In FTIR spectrum, the peaks at 3629, 3025, and 1693 cm⁻¹ are corresponding to the secondary N-H stretching, C-H sp² stretching, and C=O stretching, respectively. Additional peak appeared at 1386 cm⁻¹ due to C-N stretching and peak at 697 cm⁻¹ indicated the compound 3a as mono-substituted benzene. Compound 3a has maximum absorption at 258 nm. The structure confirmation was determined by GC-MS. From GC-MS analysis, compound 3a is the most abundant with retention time at 13.51 min. and M⁺ value of 216.







Figure 3 showed the FTIR, UV-Vis, and GC-MS spectra of compound 3b. The major absorption peaks in FTIR spectrum are observed at 3629, 3088, and 1701 cm⁻¹ which attributed to the secondary N-H stretching, C-H sp² stretching, and C=O stretching vibration, respectively. The peaks at 1559 and 1221 cm⁻¹ are correspond to the C=C and C-N stretching vibration, respectively. It is indicated the successful adduct between cinnamaldehyde with barbituric acid to give compound 3b. The maximum absorption of 3b is occurred at 372 nm. Analysis using GC-MS revealed that compound 3b is formed with molecular cation value of 242. It is in good agreement with our previous work, when the formation of cinnamaldehydebarbituric acid adduct was conducted using citric acid supported on Fe_3O_4 as catalys¹¹.

The possible mechanism of Knoevenagel condensation between aryl aldehyde and barbituric acid is depicted in Fig. 4. The first step is keto-enol tautomerism of barbituric acid to give structure in enol form. Then a physical interaction occurs between SmCl_a as Lewis acid catalyst with oxygen atom in carbonyl group, which activate the carbon atom. In the second step, the activated carbonyl group is attacked by an enol to produce compound that contains new carbon-carbon bond. The last step is dehydration process to give final product. The product obtained in medium yield probably due to competition between acid base interaction of the catalyst with lone pair electrons in oxygen or nitrogen atom.





CONCLUSION

The synthesis arylidenes barbituric acid using samarium(III) chloride as Lewis acid catalyst has been done in mild condition. Compound 3a and 3b are formed in medium yield, 61 and 68%, respectively. The successive formation of these compounds was confirmed by some analytical instruments including FTIR, UV-Vis, and GC-MS. This research highlights an environment-friendly

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Fig. 4. Proposed mechanism of the condensation reaction

synthesis of organic compound promoted by simple catalyst.

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