GREEN AND EFFICIENT SYNTHESIS AND CHARACTERIZATION OF IMINO CHROMENE DERIVATIVES WITH EVEN ALKYL TAIL

Madasamy Kumar¹, Veerappan Jeyachandran²

¹,² Department of Organic Chemistry, Bharath Institute of Higher Education & Research, Bharath University, Selaiyur, Chennai-73, Tamil Nadu, India.

e-mail- kmrorg@gmail.com

Abstract

The reaction between substituted 4-hydroxy benzaldehyde, active methylene compounds and/or resorcinol yield imino chromene derivatives. Structures of these were established upon the basis of IR, ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, and MASS data.

Key words: chromenes, imines, amines, antioxidants

Introduction

Multicomponent reactions (MCRs) are reactions where numerous reactants involved in single synthetic operation and give new compounds.¹ This type of reactions avoids purification process and often wide variety of complex molecule in a single step, in turn it is very useful for saving solvent and reagents. Among many heterocyclic compounds, chromenes are very important due to its biological activity such as antioxidants,² anticancer, anti-microbial,³ anti-inflammatory,⁴ anti-HIV,⁵ and anti-tumor,⁶ Alzheimer disease,⁷ antihypotensive,⁸ and antileishmanial.⁹ There are many reports shown that synthesis of different chromene derivatives and its applications (Figure 1).¹⁰ The Knoevenagel condensation is the reaction between salicylaldehyde with active methylene compounds followed by intramolecular cyclisation to give imino derivatives.¹¹ As per reports, different products are obtained by control of a solvent, ratio of reagents and temperature etc., Due to importance of these chromene derivatives, numerous green approaches have been developed under distinct conditions like thermal heating, microwave, ultrasonic, electrochemical, infrared, and solvent free conditions. We could not find many reports on variation of an alkyl side chain to see the effect on antioxidant properties of chromene derivatives. So we are motivated to synthesis imino and amino chromenes by taking alkylated aldehyde and malonitrile. Currently, many investigations are going on effect of free radicals in biological systems such as lipids, DNA and protein, also create many diseases like atherosclerosis, neurodegenerative disease, rheumatoid arthritis, age related disease, cancer initiation and tumor.¹² ¹³ ¹⁴ It is necessary to keep a proper level of natural antioxidant such as vitamin E, C and glutathione in a biological system in order to avoid serious health problems.¹⁵ ¹⁶ ¹⁷ All these health problems are caused by action of free radical oxygen (ROS) and reactive nitrogen (RNS) species, commonly known as (RSs).¹⁸ ¹⁹

2. Results and Discussion

Initially the alkyl aldehydes were prepared from 4-hydroxy benzaldehyde react with bromo alkanes then it undergoes Zone’s oxidation to give alkoxyl benzoic acid. This alkoxyl benzoic acid further treated with 2, 4-dihydroxy benzaldehyde gives compound 4a by DCC coupling reaction. The compound 4a further treated with malononitrile in presence of KOH gives the desire product as pure.
Scheme 1. Synthetic procedures for series 5 and 6

Table 1. Preparation of Functionalized iminochromine derivatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>R</th>
<th>Yield %</th>
<th>Melting point ºC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>pentyloxy</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>hexyloxy</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>heptyloxy</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>octyloxy</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>decyloxy</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>dodecyloxy</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Experimental

$^1$H NMR spectra were recorded using Bruker (300MHz) spectrometer. For the $^1$H NMR spectra, the chemical shifts are reported in ppm relative to SiMe$_4$ (TMS) as an internal standard and coupling constants are presented in Hz. Infrared spectra were recorded on JASCO- FTIR spectrometer (4000-400cm$^{-1}$); the spectral positions are given in wave numbers (cm$^{-1}$). Electrospray ionization mass spectrometry (ESI-MS) analysis was performed in the negative ion mode on a liquid chromatography-ion trap mass spectrometer (LCQ Fleet, Thermo Fisher Instruments Limited, US). Spectra of these compounds were given in supplementary information. The DPPH radical scavenging activity of the compounds was measured according to the method of Blios.$^{20}$ The assay of nitric oxide (NO) scavenging activity is measured based on method reported.$^{21}$ The ability of the compounds to scavenge hydrogen peroxide was determined using the method available in literature.$^{22}$ The superoxide anion
radical (O$_2^-$) scavenging assay was based on the capacity of the complexes to inhibit formazan formation by scavenging the superoxide radicals generated in the riboflavin-light-NBT system$^{23}$.

### 3.1 General procedure for the synthesis of 4-alkoxy benaldehyde: 2a-h

A mixture of 4-hydroxy benaldehyde (10mmol, 1eq) 1-bromoalkane (15mmol, 1.5eq), anhydrous K$_2$CO$_3$ (15mmol, 1.5eq) and butanone 20ml, the catalytic amount of KI was added to the mixture was refluxed for 4 hours. Reaction mixture was concentrated, poured into water and extracted with dichloromethane (DCM) (20ml x 2). The combined organic layer was washed with brine and over anhydrous Na$_2$SO$_4$. Evaporation of solvent furnished a brown colored mass which was purified by column chromatography on 60-120 mesh silica gel. Elution with a mixture of ethyl acetate–pet ether (1:9) furnished the pure light yellow oily liquid.$^{24}$

### 3.2 General procedure for the preparation of 4-alkoxy benzoic acid: 3a-h

The 4-alkoxy benaldehyde (1g) was dissolved in butanone (20ml) and Jones reagent (1.7g CrO$_3$, 2 ml H$_2$SO$_4$ and 6 ml H$_2$O) was slowly added to this mixture and stirred for 1 hour. After 1 hour, this mixture water was added slowly. The white precipitate was filtered; it was washed with water and recrystallized by ethanol give pure product.$^{24}$

### 3.3 General procedure for the preparation of 4-formyl-3-hydroxyphenyl-4-(alkoxy) benzoate: 4a-h

A stirred solution of 4-alkoxy benzoic acid (1eq), 2, 4-dihydroxy benaldehyde (1.1eq), N, N-Dicyclohexyl carbodiimide (DCC) (3eq) and catalytic amount of (DCM) dimethyl amino pyridine in (DCM) dichloro methane solution was added at the room temperature, mixture was vacuum created and stirred for overnight under N$_2$ atmosphere. The precipitate N, N-dicyclohexyl urea was filtered off. The filtrate was diluted with (20ml) DCM and washed with water and dried over anhydrous Na$_2$SO$_4$. Evaporate solvent by vacuum pump and puried by column chromatography 60-120 mesh silica gel. Elution with a mixture of (1:9) ethyl acetate–pet ether furnished the pure a product. The product was recrystallized from CH$_2$Cl$_2$-acetonitrile to obtain a white solid.$^{24}$

### 3.4 General procedure for the preparation of 3-cyano-2-imino-2H-chromen-7-yl-4-(pentyloxy) benzoate: 6a-h

To a stirred solution of 4-formyl-3-hydroxy phenyl 4–(pentyloxy) benzoate (0.08 Mol, 1eq) and malononitrile (0.081 Mol, 1eq) in water (50 mL) was added excess amount of KOH. The resulting mixture was stirred for 5 min at room temperature. The formed precipitate was isolated by filtration and washed with ethanol to get pure product as yellow solid and was recrystallized from ethanol to obtain a white solid.

### 3.5a 3-cyano-2-imino-2H-chromen-7-yl 4-(hexyloxy) benzoate (6a)

**Mp:** 170°C; Y=70%; white solid; **IR, v$_{max}$ (KBr, cm$^{-1}$):** 3433.85 (NH), 2227.98 (C≡N), 1602.66 (-C=C-), 1724 (C=O), 3058 Ar(C-H), 2883.69 Alphatic (C-H); $^1$H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d$_6$): $\delta$ = 8.58 (1H, s, -C=NH ), 8.04 (d, $J$=9.0Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.76 (d, $J$=9.0Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.61 (s, 1H, C=CH), 7.27-7.25 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.93 (d, $J$=9.0Hz, 2H, ArH), 3.98 (t, $J$=6.0Hz, 2H,O-CH$_2$), 1.78-1.69 (m, 2H, CH$_2$), 1.38-1.32 (m, 4H, CH$_2$) 0.85 (t, $J$=9.0Hz, 3H, -CH$_3$); $^{13}$C-NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d$_6$): 164.08, 156.53, 155.29, 152.43, 132.51, 130.86, 119.97, 115.01, 114.59, 110.72, 101.69, 68.37, 28.63, 28.00, 22.30, 14.02; MS (EI): m/z=377.17(M+).

### 3.5b 3-cyano-2-imino-2H-chromen-7-yl 4-(hexyloxy) benzoate (6b)

**Mp:** 132°C; Y=75%; white solid; **IR, v$_{max}$ (KBr, cm$^{-1}$):** 3446.64 (NH), 2227.98 (C≡N), 1609.06 (-C=C-), 1733.80 (C=O), 3058 Ar(C-H), 2874.50 Alphatic (C-H); $^1$H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d$_6$): $\delta$=8.59 (1H, s, C=NH ) 8.12 (d, $J$=9.0Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.8 (d, $J$=6.0Hz,1H, ArH), 7.58 (s, 1H, C=CH), 7.36 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.02 (d, $J$=6.0Hz, 2H, ArH), 4.09 (t, $J$=6.0Hz, 2H,O-CH$_2$), 1.83 (m, 2H, CH$_2$), 1.50 (m, 6H), 0.93 (t, $J$=6.0Hz, 3H, -
CH₃); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 161.26, 157.01, 140.04, 137.21, 124.68, 119.28, 115.44, 73.09, 58.44, 36.10, 33.60, 31.22, 30.21, 27.16, 18.71; MS (EI): m/z=391.50(M⁺).

3.5e 3-cyano-2-imino-2H-chromen-7-yl 4-(heptyloxy) benzoate (6c);

Mp: 140°C; Y=85%; white solid; IR, vmax (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3456.24 (NH), 2227.98 (C≡N), 1613.86 (-C=C-), 1738.60 (C=O), 3058 Ar(C-H), 2883.69 Alphatic (C-H); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ=8.69 (1H, s, C=NH ), 8.15 (d, J=9.0Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.87 (d, J=6.0Hz,1H, ArH), 7.70 (s, 1H, C=CH), 7.39 (m, 2H, ArH),7.06 (d, J=9.0Hz, 2H, ArH), 4.10 (t, J=6.0Hz, 2H,CH₂), 1.86 (m, 2H, CH₂ ) 1.51 (m ,9H), 0.93 (t, J=6.0Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 164.27, 163.68, 156.00, 156.10, 155.58, 132.58, 132.06, 120.17, 120.01, 114.70, 114.64, 111.05, 102.39, 68.52, 31.71, 29.05, 28.96, 25.91, 22.54, 13.98; MS (EI): m/z=405.17(M⁺).

3.5d 3-cyano-2H-chromen-7-yl 4-(octyloxy) benzoate (6d);

Mp: 120°C; Y=80%; white solid; IR, vmax (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3437.05 (NH), 2227.81 (C≡N), 1725.81 (-C=C-), 1610.60 (C=O), 3078.80 Ar(C-H), 2874.10 Alphatic (C-H); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ= 8.69 (1H, s, C=NH ) 8.13 (d, J=9.0Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.86 (d, J=9.0Hz,1H, ArH), 7.72 (s, 1H, C=CH), 7.37-7.35 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.03 (d, J=9.0Hz, 2H, ArH), 4.08 (t, J=6.0Hz, 2H,CH₂), 1.85-1.80 (m, 2H, CH₂ ) 1.49-1.30 (m,10H), 0.89 (t, J=6.0Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆):164.30, 163.68, 156.82, 156.10, 155.58, 151.04, 132.60, 130.04, 120.19, 120.02, 115.47, 114.66, 113.47, 111.08, 102.45, 68.54, 31.77, 29.28, 25.96, 22.61, 14.02; MS (EI): m/z= 442.25(M⁺).

3.5e 3-cyano-2H-chromen-7-yl 4-(decyloxy) benzoate (6e);

Mp: 116°C; Y=80%; white solid; IR, vmax (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3437.05 (NH), 2226.38 (C≡N), 1612.26 (-C=C-), 1737(C=O), 3078.80 Ar(C-H), 2862.90 Alphatic (C-H); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ= 8.61 (1H, s, C=NH ) 8.13 (d, J=9.0Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.82 (d, J=6.0Hz,1H, ArH), 7.60 (s, 1H, C=CH), 7.36-7.35 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.02(d, J=9.0Hz, 2H, ArH), 4.07 (t, J=6.0Hz, 2H,CH₂), 1.85-1.78 (m, 2H, CH₂ ) 1.48-1.28 (m,14H, CH₃), 0.88 (t, J=6.9Hz, 3H, CH₃); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 164.44, 164.03, 163.95, 159.66, 155.67, 133.05, 132.92, 120.36, 115.07, 111.09, 102.01, 68.80, 32.18, 29.83, 29.59, 29.37, 26.28, 22.98, 14.63; MS (EI): m/z=447.33(M⁺).

3.5f 3-cyano-2H-chromen-7-yl 4-(dodecyloxy) benzoate (6f);

Mp: 124°C; Y=75%; white solid; IR, vmax (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3427.45 (NH), 2227.98 (C≡N), 1613.86 (-C=C-), 1738.60 (C=O), 3048.42 Ar(C-H), 2842.11 Alphatic (C-H); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ= 8.66 (1H, s, C=NH ) 8.13 (d, J=9.0Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.84 (d, J=6.0Hz,1H, ArH), 7.68 (s, 1H, C=CH), 7.37-7.36 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.03 (d, J=9.0Hz, 2H, Ar), 4.07 (t, J=6.0Hz, 2H,CH₂), 1.85-1.80 (m, 2H, CH₂ ) 1.48-1.27 (m,18H), 0.88 (t, J=6.0Hz, 3H, -CH₃ ); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 164.44, 164.03, 163.95, 159.66, 155.67, 133.05, 132.92, 120.36, 115.07, 111.09, 102.01, 68.80, 32.18, 29.83, 29.59, 29.37, 26.28, 22.98, 14.63; MS (EI): m/z=475.33(M⁺).

3.5g 3-cyano-2H-chromen-7-yl 4-(tetradecyloxy) benzoate (6g);

Mp: 108°C; Y=80%; white solid; IR, vmax (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3435.45 (NH), 2226.38 (C≡N), 1602.66 (-C=C-), 1737 (C=O), 3048.42 (Ar(C-H), 2842.10 Alphatic (C-H); ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ= 8.60 (1H, s, C=NH ) 8.05 (d, J=9.0Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.77 (d, J=6.0Hz,1H, ArH), 7.64 (s, 1H, C=CH), 7.28-7.26 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.95 (d, J=9.0Hz, 2H, ArH), 3.99 (t, J=6.0Hz, 2H,CH₂), 1.77-1.72 (m, 2H, -CH₂ ) 1.40-1.18 (m, 22H), 0.80 (t, J=6.0Hz, 3H, -CH₃ ); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 168.87, 161.31, 160.08, 157.12, 137.24, 135.60, 124.65, 119.78, 119.40, 115.43, 106.47, 73.18, 36.51, 34.26, 34.16, 33.93, 33.93, 33.69, 30.59, 27.27, 18.82; MS (EI): m/z= 503.33(M⁺).
3.5h 3-cyano-2-imino-2H-chromen-7-yl 4-(hexadecyloxy) benzoate (6h);

Mp: 143°C; Y=70%; white solid; IR, \nu_{max} (KBr, cm^{-1}): 3437.05 (NH), 2227.98 (C=O), 1604.26 (-C=C-), 1738.60(C=O), 3058 (Ar(C-H), 2862.90 Alphatic (C-H). \textsuperscript{1}H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d6): \delta= 8.67 (1H, s, -C=N-), 8.13 (d, J=9.0Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.92 (d, J=9.0Hz, 1H, ArH), 7.69 (s, 1H, -C=CH), 7.36-7.34 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.99 (d, J=9.0Hz, 2H, ArH), 4.07 (t, J=6.0Hz, 2H, O-CH_{2}), 1.82-1.80 (m, 2H, (CH_{2})_2) 1.46-1.16 (m, 26H), 0.87 (t, J=6.0Hz, 3H, (-CH_{3})\textsuperscript{31}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d6): 168.87, 161.31, 160.08, 157.12, 137.24, 135.60, 124.65, 119.78, 119.40, 115.43, 106.47, 73.18, 36.51, 34.26, 34.16, 33.93, 33.93, 33.69, 30.59, 27.27, 18.82; MS (EI): m/z 531.33(M\textsuperscript{+}).

4. Conclusion

A series of 2-amino-7-hydroxy-4-(4-(alkyloxy) phenyl)-4H-chromene-3-carbonitrile and 3-cyano-2-imino-2H-chromen-7-yl 4-(alkyloxy) benzoate have been synthesized. The structures were confirmed by \textsuperscript{1}H-NMR, \textsuperscript{13}C-NMR, FT-IR and mass spectroscopic techniques. The compounds exhibited excellent radical scavenging activities against super oxide anion radical, nitric oxide radical, DPPH radical and hydrogen peroxide. Among all the derivatives in series I 5h, 5g (DPPH), 5h, 5g (NO\textsuperscript{-}), 5a, 5b (O_{2}^{-}), 5h, 5d, (H_{2}O_{2}) and in series II 6a, 6c (DPPH), 6a, 6b (NO\textsuperscript{-}), 6g, 6h (O_{2}^{-}), 6h, 6f (H_{2}O_{2}) having better free radical scavenging ability. Based on the result, it is clear that these can be used as good antioxidant in the field of medicinal and food industry.

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