

Biochemical and Pharmacological Studies of the Condensed Products of α , β Unsaturated Ketones: Docking Studies

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Abstract: α , β -Unsaturated ketones commonly known as chalcones are an important class of organic compounds being studied over the years and reported to possess wide spectrum of biological properties such as antibacterial, antifungal, antitubercular, antimalarial, anti-inflammatory, antileishmanial, anticancer and antioxidant activities. The presence of enone function in the chalcone molecule confers the biological activity, the importance of which is well documented in the literature. In the present work three new series of α , β -unsaturated ketones have been synthesized by reacting Acetophenone with 4-carboxyl benzaldehydes by Claisen-Schmidt condensation followed by reaction with amino triazole. The compounds have been characterized by UV, IR, ¹H NMR, Mass spectral data and elemental analysis. All the synthesized compounds have been evaluated for their in vitro antibacterial and antioxidant activities. Most of the compounds exhibited antibacterial property at a concentration of 100 μ g/ml. All the compounds exhibited antioxidant property with EC₅₀ above 500 μ g/ml.

Keywords: α , β -Unsaturated ketones, Antioxidant activity

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I. Introduction

The search for 'better medicines for a better world' is a never-ending process to help the suffering mankind from dreadful and fatal ailments. The process of new drug discovery is driven by the requirement to synthesize novel molecules having good potential with high therapeutic index¹.

α , β -Unsaturated ketones also known as chalcones have recently attracted the attention of many medicinal chemists owing to the ease of their synthesis and wide array of pharmaceutical and medicinal applications. Chalcones are abundant in the plant kingdom². They are considered to be the precursors of flavanoids and isoflavanoids. Chemically they consist of two aromatic rings joined by a three carbon α , β -unsaturated carbonyl system. Synthesis of chalcones is generally accomplished by a simple base catalysed Claisen-Schmidt condensation of a ketone and a suitably substituted aldehyde. It is now well known that most natural and synthetic chalcones have shown extensive pharmacological activities such as antiprotozoal, antifungal, anti-inflammatory, antileishmanial, nitric oxide inhibition, inhibition of the production of the interleukin-1, anticancer, antibacterial and antioxidant³. Keeping in view these diverse therapeutic activities, it was contemplated to synthesize a novel series of chalcones. In the present work attention has been focused on the synthesis of chalcones with different ketone moieties and their antibacterial and antioxidant properties.

Materials And Methods

Chemistry: All chemical were purchased from commercial sources. The melting points of all the compounds were determined by open capillary and are uncorrected/ unchanged. The purity test was done by TLC method. IR spectra were recorded in KBr on Shimadzu FT-IR 8300 spectrophotometer¹. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on Varian 400 MHz spectrometer using DMSO as solvent and tetra methyl silane as an internal standard. Mass spectra were recorded on Agilent 6430 Triple Quadruple LC-MS system.

1.1 Synthesis of chalcones [I- III][9]: Quantities of 4-carboxyl benzaldehyde (0.01mol) and acetophenone(0.01 mol) were dissolved in minimum amount of alcohol. Sodium hydroxide solution (0.02 mol) was added slowly and the mixture stirred for 2hrs until the entire mixture becomes very cloud. Then the mixture was poured slowly into 400 ml of water with constant stirring and kept in refrigerator for 24 hours. The precipitate obtained was filtered, washed and recrystallized from ethanol. Finally, the compounds synthesized were, 3-(4- methoxyphenyl)-1-phenylprop-2-en-1-one (I), 3-(3-chlorophenyl)-1-phenylprop-2-en-1-

one (II), and 3(3-nitrophenyl)-1-phenylprop-2-en-1-one (III) respectively. The completion of the reaction was monitored by TLC.

1.2 Preparation of hydrazone derivatives of chalcone [I- IIIa, I-IIIb][10]: Appropriate quantities of acid (0.1mole) ethanol (50ml) was introduced into a clean and dry round-bottomed flask and stirred well for 10min. To the above mixture, few drops of concentrated sulphuric acid was added and the reaction mixture was concentrated by distilling the excess ethanol under reduced pressure and treated with saturated solution of sodium -bi-carbonate. The ester formed in the reaction was used for the preparation of hydrazone directly. The appropriate aster (0.1 mole) was dissolved in 50 ml of ethanol in a clean dry round -bottmed flask and to this hydrazine hydrate (0.1mole) was added. The reaction mixtutre was then refluxed for a period of 15 to 18 hrs. The excess ethanol was distilled off under reduced pressure. The resultant mixture was then poured into ice cold water and the obtained solid was filtered, recrystallized from ethanol.

1.3 Preparation of ester derivatives of furan derivatives [I-IIIa, I-IIIb][10]: Appropriate quantities of furan 2-carboxylic acid (0.1mole) ethanol (50ml) was introduced into a clean and dry round-bottomed flask and stirred well for 10min. To the above mixture, few drops of concentrated sulphuric acid was added and the reaction mixture was concentrated by distilling the excess ethanol under reduced pressure and treated with saturated solution of sodium -bi-carbonate. The ester formed in the reaction was used for the preparation of amide directly..

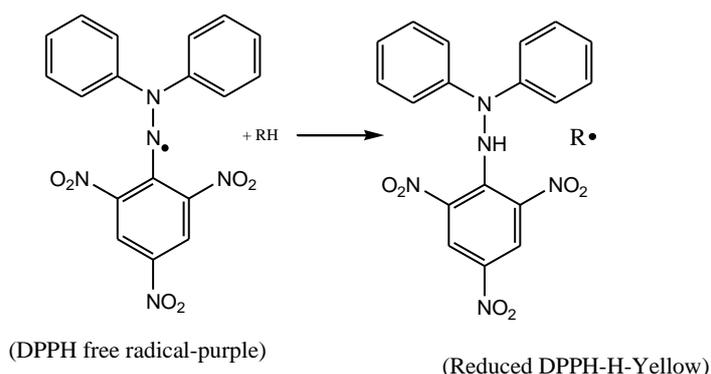
1.4 Preparation of amide derivatives of chalcone Derivatives [11]: The appropriate aster form of furan (0.1 mole) was dissolved in 50 ml of ethanol in a clean dry round -bottmed flask and to this amino triazole (0.1mole) was added. The reaction mixtutre was then. refluxed for a period of 18 to 20 hrs. The excess ethanol was distilled off under reduced pressure. The resultant mixture was then poured into ice cold water and the obtained solid was filtered, recrystallized from ethanol.

1.5 (E)-N-(4-(3-(3,4,5-Trimethoxyphenyl)-3-oxoprop-1-en-1-yl)benzoyl)-Furan-2-carbohydrazone solvent system (CF-6): TLC solvent system: n-Hexane: Ethyl acetate (3:2), Rf value: 0.76. IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 1635(NH-CO-), 2349 (C-O-C str), 1487 (Ar C=C), 1355 (Ar-C-O-C), 1590 (C=N), 3070 (N-H). ¹H-NMR (DMSO-d₆ 400 MHz, δ ppm): 7.98(s, 2H of Ar-H), 7.94(d, 2H of Ar-H), 7.56(d, 2H of Ar-H), 7.52(d, 1H of Furan), 6.82(t, 1H of Furan), 8.08(d, 1H of Furan ring), 8.06(d, 1H of CH=CH-C=O), 7.22(d, 1H of CH=CH-C=O), 8.1(s, 2H of -NH), 3.81(s, 9H of OCH₃). ¹³C NMR: 56.1, 56.1, 107.1, 112.3, 115.3, 111.7, 121.3, 122.5, 123.2, 127.4, 127.4, 129.2, 129.2, 131.2, 136.6, 145.8, 145.1, 147.0, 150.3, 156.3, 157.1, 164.8, 196.4. Mass Spectrophotometry (m/z): 452.13 (M+1).

1.6 (E)-N-(4-(3-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-3-oxoprop-1-en-1-yl)benzoyl)-Furan-2-carbohydrazone solvent system (CF-7): solvent system: n-Hexane: Ethyl acetate (3:2), Rf value: 0.76. IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 1635, 2349 (C-O-C str), 1487 (Ar C=C), 1355 (Ar-C-O-C), , 1590 (C=N), 3070 (N-H). ¹H-NMR (DMSO-d₆ 400 MHz, δ ppm): 7.98(s, 2H of Ar-H), 7.94(d, 2H of Ar-H), 7.56(d, 2H of Ar-H), 7.52(d, 1H of Furan), 6.82(t, 1H of Furan), 8.08(d, 1H of Furan ring), 8.06(d, 1H of CH=CH-C=O), 7.22(d, 1H of CH=CH-C=O), 8.1(s, 2H of -NH), 3.81(s, 6H of OCH₃). ¹³C NMR: 56.1, 56.1, 107.1, 112.3, 115.3, 111.7, 121.3, 122.5, 123.2, 127.4, 127.4, 129.2, 129.2, 131.2, 136.6, 145.8, 145.1, 147.0, 150.3, 156.3, 157.1, 164.8, 196.4. Mass Spectrophotometry (m/z): 421.13 (M+1).

1.7 Pharmacological activity: Method followed: DPPH method^{25, 86}

The DPPH Method: A simple method that has been developed to determine the antioxidant activity of foods utilizes the stable 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) radical. The structure of DPPH and its reduction by an antioxidant are shown:



The odd electron in the DPPH free radical gives a strong absorption maximum at 517 nm and is purple in color. The color turns from purple to yellow as the molar absorptivity of the DPPH radical at 517 nm reduces from 9660 to 1640 when the odd electron of DPPH radical becomes paired with a hydrogen from a free radical scavenging antioxidant to form the reduced DPPH-H. The resulting decolorization is stoichiometric with respect to number of electrons captured.

Working Procedure: DPPH' solution

A working solution of DPPH' having an absorbance of 0.9 at 516 nm was used . this was prepared by taking 95 µL of stock solution containing 12.9 mg of DPPH' in 10 mL of methanol.

Standard solution: Ascorbic acid was used as a standard free radical scavenger. This was prepared by dissolving 50 mg of ascorbic acid in 50 mL of methanol.

Test solution: Test solutions of the compounds (10mg/10mL) were prepared by dissolving them in 1 mL DMSO and volume was made to 10 mL with methanol.

Procedure: To 95 µL DPPH' solution in methanol, different concentrations of ascorbic acid were added and the volumes were made upto 4 mL with methanol. DPPH' diluted to 4 mL was taken as blank. Decrease of absorbance in the presence of ascorbic acid was noted down after 15 minutes. Linear regression was applied for concentration and percentage inhibition and EC₅₀ was calculated. To the different concentrations of test solutions (0.4,0.8, 1.2, 1.6 mL), 95 µL of DPPH' solution was added and volume made upto 4 mL with methanol. Decrease in absorbance of DPPH' was noted after 15 minutes. Linear regression was applied for concentration and percentage inhibition and EC₅₀ was calculated from graph.

1.8 Molecular docking: Molecular docking studies by using GLIDE XP module of Schrodinger suite were performed for the selected quinazoline derivatives which were screened for in-vitro Antioxidant activity. Initially, a digitalized structure of the protein antioxidant was retrieved from the protein data bank with pdb id 1cb4 (COPPER, ZINC SUPEROXIDE DISMUTASE) Structure of the protein was processed by adding hydrogen to satisfy the valence and optimized by using OPLS-2005 force field (optimized potential for liquid simulations). Receptor grid generation was accomplished using Glide docking protocol and ligands were docked by employing XP mode of Glide. Best pose of each ligand was ranked according to the E-model energy. The docking score from Glide (Glide Score) is entirely based on Chem Score. It also include a steric – clash term, adds polar terms featured by Schrodinger to correct electrostatic mismatches. G score = 0.065 x Van der Waals energy + 0.130 x Coulomb energy + Lipophilic term (Hydrophobic interaction) +H bonding + Metal binding + Bury P (Penalty for buried polar groups) + Rot B (Penalty for freezing rotatable bond) +Site (Polar interactions in the active site) [16].

II. Results And Discussion

In the present, Chalcones (3a-3g) were prepared by base catalysed claisen-schmidit condensation between 4-formyl Benzaldehyde and different acetophenone further, compounds 6a-6af were treated with hydrazine hydrate to give series of chalcone derivatives (4a-4f) followed by interaction of these compounds 4(a-g) with ester form of furan in the presence of acetic acid to give a series of furan linked chalcone derivatives 8(a-g). Compound 3 was confirmed by NMR, C13 NMR and Mass spectroscopy. The final compounds chalcone linked furan derivatives 8(a-f) were confirmed by (-NH-CO) -amide peak appear around at δ 8.0 in proton NMR as singlet and protons peaks of -CH=CH-C=O appeared at 8.06 and 7.59 respectively. The thiazine linked furan were confirmed by C13 NMR and mass spectral data.

Table 1: Physical Characterization data of chalcone linked furan derivatives:

Product Code	R	X	Molecular Formula	Molecular weight	Solvent for recrystallization	M.P (°C)	Yield (%)
CF1	2-Cl	C ₆ H ₅	C ₂₁ H ₁₅ ClN ₂ O ₄	394.07	Ethanol	149	56
CF2	4-OH	C ₆ H ₅	C ₂₁ H ₁₆ N ₂ O ₅	376.11	Ethanol	106	62
CF3	3-NO ₂	C ₆ H ₅	C ₂₁ H ₁₆ N ₃ O ₆	405.1	Ethanol	121	63
CF4	H	C ₆ H ₅	C ₂₁ H ₁₆ N ₂ O ₄	360.11	Ethanol	130	71
CF5	4-CH ₃	C ₆ H ₅	C ₂₂ H ₁₈ N ₂ O ₄	374.13	Ethanol	112	55
CF6	(OCH ₃) ₃	C ₆ H ₅	C ₂₄ H ₂₂ N ₂ O ₇	450.44	Ethanol	142	61
CF7	(OCH ₃) ₂	C ₆ H ₅	C ₂₃ H ₂₀ N ₂ O ₆	420.41	Ethanol	135	70

Table 2: Data Showing Anti-Oxidant Activity of Chalcone Linked Furan [CF₁₋₇]

Compound No.	Antioxidant activity (EC50 in µg/mL)
CF-1	579
CF-2	596
CF-3	577
CF-4	574
CF-5	540
CF-6	605
CF-7	588

Molecular docking:

Molecular docking study was performed for further exploration of the mechanism of action of the synthesized compounds with anti-oxidant enzyme and to elucidate the observed biological results. Docking of compound CF-1 showed 4 hydrogen bond interaction with ARG 141, HIE 61 and ASN 63. In addition to this, compound CF-1 has trimethoxy group which provided additional interaction with active site amino acid receptor and this might be contributed to better activity than remaining compounds. Further, this is supported by results obtained from antioxidant activity.

The two dimensional and three dimensional represent of compound CF-1-a were given below.

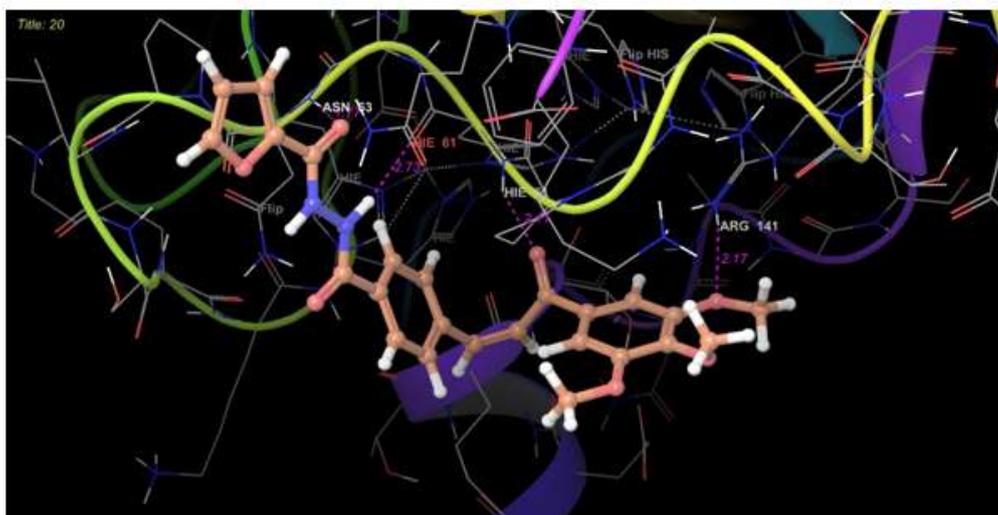


Fig 1: Three – dimensional structural model of compound CF-6 into anti oxidant enzyme

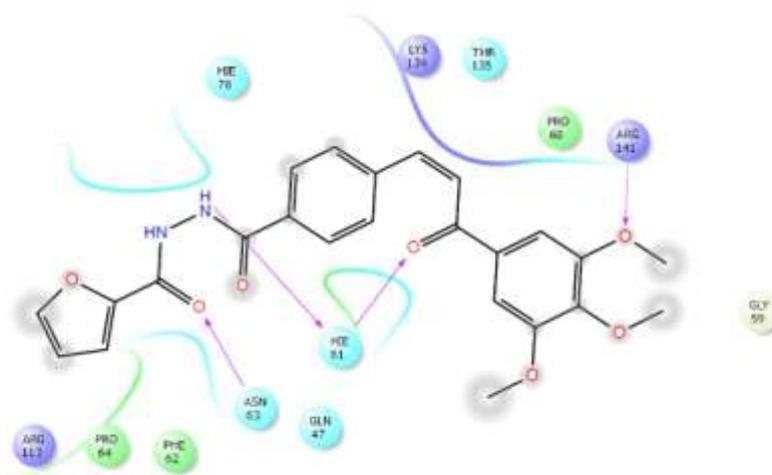


Fig 2:Two – dimensional representation of the interacting mode of CF-6 with anti oxidant receptor

Docking Score:1cb4 dock

Compound	Dock score	No of H-bonds	Interacting amino acids	H-bond distance	Bond energy
CF-6	-4.842	4	ASN 63 HIS 61 ARG 141	1.77 2.73, 2.11 2.17	-46.061
CF-2	-4.364	2	HIS 61 HIS 78	2.13 2.22	-43.31
CF-7	-3.644	3	ASN 63 HIS 63 ARG 141	2.02 2.47 1.96	-40.337
CF-1	-2.769	1	HIS 61	2.12	-29.436
CF-5	-3.487	0	-	-	-42.578
CF-3	-3.431	2	ASN 63 ARG 141	2.16 2.15	-44.444

III. Conclusion

The synthesized compounds were evaluated for in-vivo anti-oxidant activity. Among the evaluated compounds CF-7 exhibited highest inherent anti-oxidant activity due to electron donating character of trimethoxy group on phenyl nucleus. In addition to this, CF-2 compound showed significant docking interaction with anti oxidant receptor active site. Based on these observations, CF-2 has proven the potential as a valuable lead for anti-oxidant activity and remaining compounds exhibited mild to moderate activity compared to the standard compound (Ascorbic acid).

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