Cu(I) Catalyst in DMF: An Efficient Catalytic System for the Synthesis of Furans from 2-(1-Alkynyl)-2-alken-1-ones

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General Procedure for the cyclization of 2-(1-alkynyl)-2-alken-1-ones. The preparation of 3a is representative. To a mixture of 2-(1-alkynyl)-2-alken-1-one 1a (0.040 g, 0.2 mmol), MeOH (0.010 g, 0.3 mmol), Cu(I)Br (0.003 g, 0.02 mmol) was added DMF (0.2 mL) and the mixture was stirred until the disappearance of starting material on TLC at 80 °C. Water (10 ml) was added and the product was extracted with ethyl acetate. The extracts were washed with water and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. The solvent was removed, and the residue was then filtered through a short silica gel column using hexane/AcOEt, 99:1 as an eluent to give pure product 3a (0.037 g, 81%).

Structure of **3a**, **3f**, **3i**, **3j**, **3l**, **3n** are known in the literature. The characterization data for the newly synthesized compounds **3b**, **3c**, **3e**, **3g**, **3h**, **3k**, **3m**, **3o** as well as the copies of the H NMR spectra of all products are given below.

(3b). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.61 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.20 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (s, 1H), 4.37 (t, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.62-3.51 (m, 2H), 2.75-2.68 (m, 1H), 2.63-2.56 (m, 1H), 2.10-2.01 (m, 1H), 1.96-1.91 (m, 1H), 1.85-1.78 (m, 2H), 1.64-1.54 (m, 2H), 1.46-1.37 (m, 2H), 0.94 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 152.6, 152.1, 131.1, 128.5, 126.7, 123.5, 120.4, 105.2, 71.0, 68.4, 32.3, 28.9, 23.3, 19.5, 19.1, 14.0; HRMS calcd for $C_{18}H_{22}O_2$ (M⁺) 270.1620, found 270.1614.

(3c). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.62-7.59 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (s, 1H), 4.46-4.44 (t, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.86-3.79 (m, 1H), 2.74-2.69 (m, 1H), 2.62-2.57 (m, 1H), 2.09-2.02 (m, 1H), 1.87-1.80 (m, 3H), 1.23 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 152.5, 152.2, 131.2, 128.4, 126.7, 123.4, 120.9, 104.9, 69.4, 68.5, 29.8, 23.3, 23.2, 22.8, 19.2; HRMS calcd for $C_{17}H_{20}O_2$ (M⁺) 256.1463, found 256.1458.

(3e). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.54 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H); 6.54 (s, 1H), 5.83-5.75 (m, 1H), 5.07-4.96 (m, 2H), 4.33 (t, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.58-3.52 (m, 2H), 2.67-2.62 (m, 1H), 2.57-2.50 (m, 1H), 2.34-2.29 (m, 2H), 2.00-1.96 (m, 1H), 1.88-1.84 (m, 1H), 1.79-1.63 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 152.7, 152.1, 135.3, 131.1, 128.5, 126.8, 123.4, 120.2, 116.2, 105.2, 71.1, 67.9, 34.7, 28.9, 23.3, 19.1; HRMS calcd for $C_{18}H_{20}O_2$ (M⁺) 268.1463, found 268.1461.

(3g). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.69 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 4.29 (t, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (s, 3H), 2.77-2.70 (m, 1H), 2.66-2.58 (m, 1H), 2.17-1.92 (m, 2H), 1.88-1.79 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 153.9, 150.7, 134.14, 128.2, 125.6, 123.2, 120.4, 107.3, 72.3, 56.2, 28.3, 23.3, 18.9; HRMS calcd for $C_{16}H_{15}F_{3}O_{2}$ (M⁺) 296.1024, found 296.1019.

(3h). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.50 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.58 (s, 1H), 4.29 (t, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.44 (s, 3H), 2.75-2.65 (m, 1H), 2.64-2.55 (m, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 2.1-1.77 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 152.3, 136.6, 129.4, 128.7, 123.3, 119.7, 104.5, 72.3, 56.1, 28.5, 23.3, 21.3, 19.0; HRMS calcd for $C_{16}H_{18}O_2$ (M⁺) 242.1307, found 242.1301.

(3k). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.74-7.07 (m 10H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 6.46 (s, 1H), 4.27 (m, 1H), 1.27 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 3H), 1.24 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 154.4, 150.6, 146.6, 131.3, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.3, 128.2, 124.8, 123.8, 121.6, 116.2, 103.4, 96.0, 70.6, 23.7, 22.5; HRMS calcd for $C_{20}H_{18}O_3$ (M⁺) 306.1256, found 306.1257.

(3m). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.67-7.25 (m, 15H), 6.63 (s, 1H), 5.69 (s, 1H), 3.79-3.76 (m, 1H), 1.27 (2d, J = 6.0 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 154.6, 141.8, 134.4, 133.8, 131.3, 129.9, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 127.9, 127.4, 126.4, 124.1, 122.3, 105.5, 72.6, 69.1, 22.5, 22.1; HRMS calcd for $C_{28}H_{24}O_2$ (M⁺) 392.1776, found 392.1774.

(30). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.56 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.40-7.16 (m, 7H), 6.47 (s, 1H), 5.43 (s, 1H), 3.70-3.63 (m, 1H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 1.22 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 151.5, 148.2, 142.4, 130.9, 128.4, 128.3, 127.2, 126.7, 126.6, 123.3, 123.1, 105.6, 72.9, 68.6, 22.3, 12.3; HRMS calcd for C₂₁H₂₂O₂ (M⁺) 306.1620, found 306.1618.

References

1. Yao, T.; Zhang, X.; Larock, R. C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2004, 126, 11164-11165.



























