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**STOBBE CONDENSATION INVOLVING DIETHYL DIGLYCOLLATE  
WITH FURAN 2-ALDEHYDE AND THIOPHENE-2-ALDEHYDE  
SYNTHESIS OF CYCLOPENTENO-FURAN AND CYCLOPENTENO-  
THIOPHENE DERIVATIVES**

by

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Faculté des Sciences de l'Université d'Ankara  
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# STOBBE CONDENSATION INVOLVING DIETHYL DIGLYCOLLATE WITH FURAN-2-ALDEHYDE AND THIOPHENE-2-ALDEHYDE. SYNTHESIS OF CYCLOPENTENO-FURAN AND CYCLOPENTENO-THIOPHENE DERIVATIVES

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Diethyl diglycollate condenses with furan-2-aldehyde and thiophene-2-aldehyde in presence of sodium hydride to give predominantly the (Z)-half ester (1a, b) together with small amounts of the (E)-half ester (2a, b). The structure of the (E)-half esters was based on their cyclization to cyclopenteno-furan and cyclopentenothiophene derivatives (5a, b) respectively, as well as on spectroscopic evidence.

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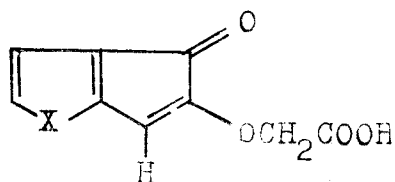
Recently diglycollic ester was shown to undergo Stobbe type condensation with some carbonyl compounds<sup>1,2,3</sup>). Besides extending the scope of the reaction, the present work was intended to investigate any possible dependence of isomer ratios upon structural variations in the carbonyl component. Also the aim of this investigation was the exploitation of the Stobbe condensation for the synthesis of substituted heterocyclic ring systems.

Furan-2-aldehyde and thiophene-2-aldehyde were condensed with diethyl-diglycollate in the presence of sodium hydride to give predominantly oily (Z)-half-esters (1a, b), which by saponification were converted to their corresponding dibasic acids (1c, d) in pure crystalline form. Smaller amounts of the crystalline (E)-half-esters (2a, b) were also isolated.



Refluxing the anhydrides (3a, b) and (4a, b) with ethanol cleaves the ring at the non-conjugated carbonyl to give the corresponding 4-carboxy-half-esters (1e, f) and (2e, f). The appearance of  $\nu\text{C}=\text{O}$  at 1760, 1720  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  agrees with nonconjugated ester and  $\alpha, \beta$ -unsaturated acids, and is considered as a further proof for the structure of the anhydrides.

The (E)-configuration assigned to compounds (2a, b) is supported by the ring closure of their corresponding anhydrides (4a, b) under the influence of anhydrous aluminium chloride in nitrobenzene to cyclopentenofuran and cyclopentenothiophene derivatives (5a and b) respectively.



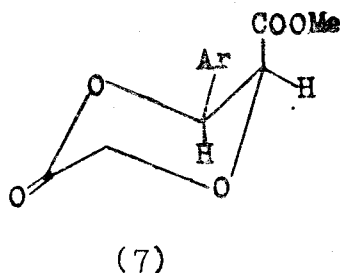
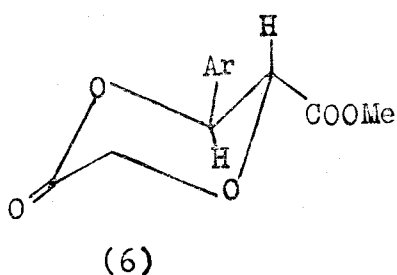
(5)

a, X = Ob, X = S

The structure of these cyclization products is based on: i) their elemental analysis, ii) their solubility in sodium carbonate, iii) their yellow colour; iv) the formation of 2, 4-dinitrophenylhydrazone; v) the appearance of an absorption at 1715, 1700  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in their I.R. spectra which may be attributed to  $\nu\text{C}=\text{O}$  for ring ketonic and carboxyl groups<sup>5</sup>; vi) the positions of maxima in their electronic spectra ( $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  244–246, 290–292,  $\epsilon_{\text{max}}$  29, 000–36,000, 31,000–37,000) resemble those for analogous compounds<sup>1</sup>.

When the (Z)-anhydrides (3a, b) were subjected to the same cyclization reaction, they fail to cyclize, and the sole isolable product was their corresponding diacids (1c, d).

The predominance of the (Z)-half-esters in the condensation of heterocyclic aldehydes is in agreement with the reported observations<sup>1,2,3</sup> and can be interpreted in terms of the steric factors governing the relative ease of formation of the diastereomeric o-lactone intermediates (6 and 7) the formation of 6 is favoured by the presence of the two bulky groups (Ar and COOMe) in equatorial positions.



## EXPERIMENTAL

Melting points are not corrected, infrared (KBr) spectra were measured on a Unicam SP 1200 Infracord; electronic spectra on a Unicam SP 1800 spectrophotometer.

(Z) and (E)-5-furyl (or thienyl)-4-methoxycarbonyl 1-3-oxa-pent-4-enoic acids (2a, b) by Stobbe condensation.

Diethyl diglycolate, the aldehyde and sodium hydride (1.5:1:1.5 mole) in excess dry benzene were stirred for 6 hrs at 60–70°C, and the reaction mixture was worked up as usual<sup>1</sup>.

*Furan-2-aldehyde*: (9.6 g); (stirring for 6 hrs) gave a half-ester mixture (12 g, 50 % yield) which was dissolved in benzene-light petroleum (b.p. 80–100°) where by it could be separated into two fragments (i) the less soluble (E)-half ester 2a (4.3 g) (cf. Table 1), ii) the more soluble fraction (7.7 g). The latter was obtained as an oil and its composition revealed by saponification (see later).

*Thiophene-2-aldehyde* (9.6 g) (stirring for 3 hrs) gave a half-ester mixture (11.5 g, 45 % yield) which was dissolved in benzene-light petroleum (b.p. 80–100°) whereby it could be separated into two fractions: i) the less soluble (E)-half ester 2b (3.9 g) (cf. Table 1) — ii) The more soluble fraction (7.6 g). The latter was obtained as an oil and its composition revealed by saponification (see later).

Saponification of the half-esters:

The half-ester was refluxed with 10 % aqueous sodium hydroxide (10 ml per gram ester) for 3 hrs (cf. Table 1).

The crystalline (E)-half-ester 2a (3 g) gave the (E)-dibasic acid 2c (2.1 g, 80 % yield). The oily half-ester mixture (7.7 g) gave upon saponification (6 g, 88 % yield) of an acidic product which was separated by fractional crystallization from benzene-light petroleum 100–120° into the less soluble (E)-dibasic acid 2c (1.1 g, 18 %) and the more soluble (Z)-dibasic acid 1c (4.9 g, 82 %).

The crystalline (E)-half-ester 2b (3 g) gave the (E)-dibasic acid 2d (2 g, 77 % yield). The oily half-ester fraction (7.6 g) gave (5.8 g, 86 % yield) of an acidic product which was separated as in 2a to the (E)-dibasic acid 2d (0.9 g, 15 % yield) and the (Z)-diacid 1d, (4.9 g, 85 % yield). Conversion of the dibasic acids (1c, d and 2 c, d) to the cyclic anhydrides (3a, b and 4a, b).

This was carried out by 3 hrs refluxing of the dibasic acid with acetyl chloride (10 ml per 1 g acid); (77–83 % yield). For details see Table 1.

Action of aluminium chloride upon the cyclic anhydrides, (4a, b).

Aluminium chloride (1.2 mol) and a solution of the (E) anhydride (4a, b) (1 mol) in nitrobenzene (15 ml per one g anhydride) were stirred

Table 1. (Z)- and (E)- furyl of (thienyl)-4- ethoxycarbonyl-3- oxapent -4- enoic acids (2a, b) and their corresponding diacids (1c, d) and (2 c, d) and anhydrides (3a,b) and (4a, b)

Nr.	M.p. ( C) solvent of cryts. a)	Formula (Mol. wt.)	Analysis		
			Calcd. / Found		
			%C	%H	% S
2a	139–141	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (240)	55.00	5.00	
	L.P. 80°		54.80	5.30	
2b	188–190	C <sub>11</sub> C <sub>12</sub> O <sub>5</sub> S (256)	51.56	4.68	12.50
	L.P. 100°		52.10	4.90	12.60
1c	128–130	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (212)	49.06	3.77	
	L.P. 80°		49.30	4.00	
1d	166–168	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>5</sub> S (228)	47.37	3.50	14.00
	bz		47.60	3.70	14.30
2c	156.–158	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (212)	49.06	3.77	
	L.P. 100°		49.40	4.10	
2d	205–207	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>5</sub> S (228)	47.37	3.50	14.00
	L.P. 100°		47.50	3.80	14.20
3a	97– 99	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (194)	55.66	3.01	
	L.P. 80°		55.90	3.30	
3b	149–151	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>4</sub> S (210)	51.42	2.85	15.23
	bz		51.70	3.10	15.60
4a	119–121	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (194)	55.66	3.01	
	L.P. 100°		56.10	3.20	
4b	161–163	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>4</sub> S (210)	51.42	2.85	15.23
	L.P. 100°		51.60	3.10	15.50

a) bz=benzene L.P. 80° = light petroleum (b.p. 80–100°C) L.P. 100° = light petroleum (b.p. 100–120°C).

for 6 hrs and left overnight at room temperature. The acidic reaction product (80–90 % yield) was obtained as yellow crystals and identified as (5a, b). For details c.f Table 2.

Table 2. Cyclopent-1-ene-3-oxo-[4,5-b]-furano (or thiano) -2-oxyacetic acid (5a-b) and their 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazones

Nr.	M.p.°C cryst.a)	Formula (Mol.Wt)	Analysis			2,4-Dinitrophenylhydrazones			
			Calcd./ Found			m.p.(°C) cryst.b)	Formula (Mol.Wt.)	Analysis Calc./Found	
			%C	%H	%S			%N	
5a	124–126 (bz)	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (194)	55.66	3.01		211–213	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>8</sub> N <sub>4</sub> (374)	14.97	
			56.00	3.00				15.10	
5b	186–187 (bz)	C <sub>9</sub> D <sub>6</sub> O <sub>4</sub> S (210)	51.42	2.85	15.23	232–234	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>7</sub> SN <sub>4</sub> (390)	11.80	
			51.60	3.10	15.40			12.10	

a) bz = benzene

b) Etyhl alcohol

When the (Z)-anhydride (3a, b) was subjected to the same reaction the corresponding dibasic acids were recovered in considerably high yield.

Conversion of the anhydrides (3 a, b — 4a, b) to the 4-carboxy half-ester (1e, f and 2e, f).

The anhydride was refluxed for 6 hrs with excess absolute ethanol (30 ml per 1g anhydride) to yield (67–75 % yield) of their position isomers (1e, f and 2e, f). For details cf. Table 3.

Table 3. Ethyl (Z)- and (E)-5- furyl or (Thienyl) -4- carboxy-3-oxa pent -4- enoates (1e, f) and (2e, f)

Nr	M.p. (°C) Solvent of cryst. a)	Formula (Mol. Wt.)	Analysis		
			Calcd/ Found		
			%C	%H	%S
1e	111–113 (bz)	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (240)	55.0	5.0	
			55.2	5.3	
1f	123–125 (bz)	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>5</sub> S (256)	51.56	4.88	12.50
			52.30	4.90	12.80
2e	177–179 L.P. 80–bz	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>6</sub> (240)	55.00	5.00	
			55.30	5.20	
2f	100–102 L.P. 100-bz	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>5</sub> S (256)	51.56	4.88	12.50
			52.10	5.00	12.70

bz = benzene L.P. 80 = Light petroleum (b.p. 80–100°) L.P. 100 = Light petroleum (b.p. 100–120°)



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