

Short Note

# **(*E*)-3-Methyl-6-(3-oxo-3-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)prop-1-en-1-yl)-2(3*H*)-benzothiazolone**

Yordanka Ivanova <sup>1,\*</sup>, Mariana Gerova <sup>2</sup>, Christo Chanev <sup>2</sup> and Ognyan Petrov <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Plant Pathology and Chemistry, Faculty of Ecology and Landscape Architecture, University of Forestry, 10 Kliment Ohridsky Blvd., Sofia 1756, Bulgaria

<sup>2</sup> Department of Pharmaceutical and Applied Organic Chemistry, Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, 1 James Bourchier Blvd., Sofia 1164, Bulgaria; mgerova@chem.uni-sofia.bg (M.G.); HChanev@chem.uni-sofia.bg (C.C.); opetrov@chem.uni-sofia.bg (O.P.)

\* Correspondence: yordanka\_b\_ivanova@abv.bg; Tel.: +359-291-907-365; Fax: +359-28-622-830

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**Abstract:** The title compound, (*E*)-3-methyl-6-(3-oxo-3-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)prop-1-en-1-yl)-2(3*H*)-benzothiazolone, was synthesized by both an acid- and base-catalyzed aldol condensation of 3-methyl-6-acetyl-2(3*H*)-benzothiazolone and 3,4,5-trimethoxyacetophenone. The structure of the target compound was confirmed using <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, <sup>13</sup>C-NMR, IR, MS, and elemental analysis.

**Keywords:** chalcone; 2(3*H*)-benzothiazolone; aldol condensation

## **1. Introduction**

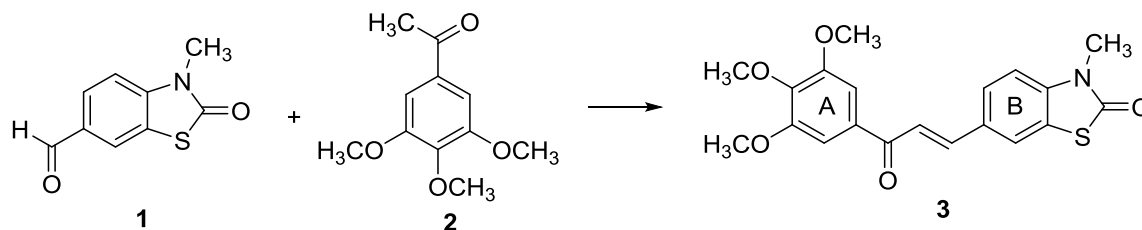
Chalcones, major secondary metabolite precursors of flavonoids, exist abundantly in edible plants and diverse folk medicines and have received considerable attention because of their multiple important activities, including anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial, antifungal, antioxidant, cytotoxic, antitumor and anticancer activities [1–3].

Chalcones are most commonly synthesized by classic Claisen-Schmidt condensation in the presence of an aqueous alkaline base. The aldol reaction can also be catalyzed by HCl, BF<sub>3</sub>, B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid, etc. [4,5].

We previously reported a simple, high-yield methodology using SOCl<sub>2</sub> in absolute ethanol as a convenient alternative to gaseous HCl [6,7]. A series of heterocyclic chalcones containing an oxazole or a thiazole cycle were synthesized by this method. The compounds displayed good cytotoxic activity against BV-173, MCF-7 and MDA-MB-231 cells in an MTT-dye reduction assay [8–12]. Especially promising results were obtained with chalcones that contained a fused azole cycle on ring A and more than one methoxy group on ring B. In a continuation of this work, here we report the synthesis of a new chalcone with a fused thiazole cycle on ring B and three methoxy groups in ring A using both an acid and a base aldol condensation.

## **2. Results**

The (*E*)-3-methyl-6-(3-oxo-3-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)prop-1-en-1-yl)-2(3*H*)-benzothiazolone, was synthesized both by an acid- and base-catalyzed aldol condensation of 3-methyl-2(3*H*)-benzothiazolone-6-carbaldehyde and 3,4,5-trimethoxyacetophenone, as presented in Scheme 1. The Claisen-Schmidt condensation was carried out in ethanol in the presence of aqueous KOH and the acid-catalyzed condensation was performed using SOCl<sub>2</sub>/EtOH [11,12]. The reactions were monitored using thin-layer chromatography. Both reactions led to only one product detectable by TLC, in good yield.



**Scheme 1.** Synthesis of (*E*)-3-methyl-6-(3-oxo-3-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)prop-1-en-1-yl)-2(3*H*)-benzothiazolone (**3**).

The acid-catalyzed aldol condensation was shown to be an appropriate method, especially for the synthesis of hydroxy chalcones; however, in this case neither method has an advantage.

The structure of compound **3** was confirmed by  $^1\text{H}$ - and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR, IR, MS and elemental analysis and all data are in agreement with the assumed structure. The cyclic and ketone  $\text{C}=\text{O}$  stretching bands in the IR spectra were seen at about  $1656\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $1644\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , respectively. The  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectra are consistent with the pure *E* configuration, as judged by the vinyl proton coupling constant  $J = 15.5\text{ Hz}$  (Figure S1).

### 3. Experimental Section

#### 3.1. General Information

All chemicals were purchased from Acros Organics (Geel, Belgium). 3-Methyl-2(3*H*)-benzothiazolone-6-carbaldehyde (**1**) was synthesized as described previously [9]. Reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) on silica gel plates (Kieselgel 60  $\text{F}_{254}$ ) using hexane/acetone (2:1 *v/v*) as eluent. The purity of the final compound was determined by GC-MS on an Agilent 6890 system with MSD 5973 (single quadrupole, EI at 70 eV ionization), using a capillary column HP-5/MS (30 m  $\times$  0.250 mm  $\times$  0.25  $\mu\text{m}$ ). Carrier gas He was used at 0.8 mL/min. The temperature programmed mode was used (from 60  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 2 min, then with 10  $^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{min}$  to 300  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 10 min). The sample was introduced in splitless injection mode.

Melting point was determined on a Boetius hot-stage microscope (Carl Zeiss Jena, Germany) and was uncorrected. IR spectrum (nujol) was recorded on a Specord 71 spectrometer (Carl Zeiss Jena, Germany). NMR spectra were recorded in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  on a Bruker Avance III HD 500 (Bruker BioSpin GmbH, Rheinstetten, Germany), operating at 500 MHz for  $^1\text{H}$  and at 125.8 MHz for  $^{13}\text{C}$ . Chemical shifts are given in parts per million ( $\delta$ ) relative to the solvent peak. Coupling constants ( $J$ ) were measured in hertz (Hz). The elemental analyses was carried on a VARIO EL III Elemental analyzer (Elementar Analysensysteme GmbH, Hanau, Germany) and the results for C, H, and N were within  $\pm 0.4\%$  of the theoretical values.

#### 3.2. Synthesis of (*E*)-3-Methyl-6-(3-oxo-3-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)prop-1-en-1-yl)-2(3*H*)-benzothiazolone (**3**)

##### 3.2.1. Base-catalyzed Aldol Condensation:

To a suspension of 3-methyl-2(3*H*)-benzothiazolone-6-carbaldehyde (**1**, 193 mg, 1 mmol) and 3,4,5-trimethoxyacetophenone (**2**, 210 mg, 1 mmol) in ethanol (5 mL), 10% aq. KOH (1 mL) was added. The obtained yellow mixture was stirred for 6 h at room temperature to afford a precipitate. Water (5 mL) was added and the crystalline product was filtered, washed with cold ethanol and water to neutrality, and dried. Yield: 67% (258 mg).

##### 3.2.2. Acid-catalyzed Aldol Condensation:

To an ice-cool suspension of 3-methyl-2(3*H*)-benzothiazolone-6-carbaldehyde (**1**, 193 mg, 1 mmol) and 3,4,5-trimethoxyacetophenone (**2**, 210 mg, 1 mmol) in ethanol (5 mL),  $\text{SOCl}_2$  (0.3 mL) was added

slowly. The obtained dark red mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature. Water (10 mL) was added and the suspension was heated to boiling. After being cooled to room temperature, the crystalline product was filtered, washed with water and dried. Yield: 64% (247 mg).

Light yellow crystals, m.p.: 205 °C–207 °C (ethanol/toluene 3:2). IR (nujol): 1656, 1644  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (C=O); 1125  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (C-O-C).  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) 3.44 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.77 (s, 3H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 3.91 (s, 6H,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 7.39 (d, 1H, arom. H,  $J = 8.4$  Hz), 7.42 (s, 2H, arom. H), 7.75 (d, 1H,  $=\text{CHCO}$ ,  $J = 15.5$  Hz), 7.91 (m, 2H,  $\text{ArCH=}$ ,  $J = 15.4$  Hz, arom. H,  $J = 1.6$  Hz,  $J = 8.5$  Hz), 8.26 (d, 1H, arom. H,  $J = 1.5$  Hz),  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (125.8 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  (ppm) 29.3, 56.3, 60.2, 106.2, 111.6, 120.7, 122.1, 122.6, 128.5, 130.1, 133.0, 139.4, 142.0, 143.3, 152.9, 168.8, 187.6. Anal. calcd. for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_5\text{S}$  (385.43): C, 62.32; H, 4.97; N 3.63. Found: C, 62.45; H, 4.79; N, 3.72. MS (EI):  $[\text{M}]^+$   $m/z = 385$  (100), 370 (46), 354 (28), 342 (19), 228 (12), 218 (32), 195 (16), 190 (21), 160 (21), 134 (16), 109 (15), 66 (24).

**Supplementary Materials:**  $^1\text{H}$ -,  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR and MS spectra for compound 3 are available online at <http://www.mdpi.com/1422-8599/2016/3/M907>.

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**Author Contributions:** O.P. designed the experiments; Y.I. and M.G. performed the experiments and wrote the manuscript; O.P. and Y.I. analyzed the spectral data and wrote the manuscript; C.C. obtained the mass spectra. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

**Conflicts of Interest:** The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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