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# Synthesis and characterization of new 4,5-dihydropyrazol-1-yl derivatives

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#### ABSTRACT

In this study, first, a series of chalcone compounds **S1–S6** were synthesized from various acetophenone derivatives (acetophenone, *p*-methyl acetophenone, and *p*-methoxy acetophenone) and aromatic aldehyde derivatives (benzaldehyde, *p*-methyl benzaldehyde, and *p*-methoxy benzaldehyde) by the Claisen–Schmidt condensation reaction. These **S1–S6** compounds were then used in the preparation of 4,5-dihydropyrazol-1-yl derivatives **S7–S15**. Finally, four new compounds **S16–S19** were synthesized from compound (**S7**, **S8**, **S9**, and **S12**) and 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazine. Therefore, three known and ten new heterocyclic compounds were synthesized and completely characterized using <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, IR, and elemental analysis.

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#### KEYWORDS

Chalcone; heterocyclic compounds; pyrazoline derivatives

#### **GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT**



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# Introduction

Chalcones, which are compounds with 1,3-diphenyl-2-propen-1-one nucleus in their structural framework, are one of the major classes of natural products and are considered as precursors of isoflavonoids and flavonoids.<sup>[1]</sup> These type of compounds have a wide spectrum of biological activity such as anticancer,<sup>[2]</sup> antiviral,<sup>[3]</sup> antibacterial,<sup>[4]</sup> antifungal,<sup>[5]</sup> antiulcer,<sup>[6]</sup> antimalarial,<sup>[7]</sup> anti-inflammatory,<sup>[8]</sup> anti-diabetes,<sup>[9]</sup> as potential treatment agents of Alzheimer's disease,<sup>[10]</sup> leishmanicidal,<sup>[11]</sup> trypanocidal effects,<sup>[11]</sup> etc. Therefore, many studies have been done on chalcones by researchers.<sup>[12-17]</sup>

Heterocyclic compounds containing nitrogen elements have an important place in chemistry due to their medical and pharmaceutical properties.<sup>[18]</sup> For example, there is great research interest in benzimidazole,<sup>[19]</sup> imidazole,<sup>[20]</sup> pyrrole,<sup>[21]</sup> pyridine,<sup>[22]</sup> pyrazine<sup>[23]</sup> and indole,<sup>[24]</sup> which are known significant classes of heterocyclic compounds due to their varying biological activities. Pyrazolines, which are a five-membered ring including two nitrogen atoms and a double bond, are biologically active molecules.<sup>[25–28]</sup> In this study, due to the immense bioactive significance of heterocyclic compounds based on 4,5-dihydropyrazol-1-yl.

# **Results and discussion**

#### Spectral characterization of compounds

In this study, three known and ten new heterocyclic compounds were synthesized in considerable good yields, which ranged from 57% to 84% (Schemes 1–3). Synthesis of the chalcone derivatives **S1–S6** was conducted in one step. Using the prepared **S1–S6** compounds, the pyrazoline derivatives **S7–S15** and **S16–S19** were synthesized in two and three steps, respectively. The confirmation of molecular structures of **S7–S19** was vindicated by <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, IR, and elemental analysis. Yields, melting points, and elemental analysis results of compounds **S7–S19** are given in Table 1.

The aromatic protons of compounds **S7–S19** were obtained within the range of  $\delta$  6.80 and 8.83 ppm in <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra. In <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra, the carbon signal belonging to the carbonyl group (C=O) was obtained in a lower area, compared to other

			Melting		
Entry	Compounds	Yield (%)	point (°C)	$IR_{(C=N)}$	Elemental analysis found (calc.)
1	S7	79	101–103	1595.14	C: 73.01 (73.45); H: 6.73 (6.16); N: 9.82 (9.52).
2	S8	72	97–100	1511.75	C: 77.15 (77.67); H: 6.83 (6.52); N: 10.15 (10.06).
3	S9	84	101–103	1594.82	C: 74.15 (74.00); H: 6.89 (6.54); N: 9.14 (9.08).
4	S10	78	105–107	1605.92	C: 74.31 (74.00); H: 6.12 (6.54); N: 9.19 (9.08).
5	S11	77	110-112	1507.7	C: 78.41 (78.10); H: 6.67 (6.29); N: 7.18 (7.29).
6	S12	81	105–108	1512.57	C: 81.73 (81.49); H: 6.23 (6.57); N: 7.38 (7.60).
7	S13	67	106-109	1604.61	C: 78.53 (78.10); H: 6.78 (6.29); N: 7.15 (7.29).
8	S14	77	108–110	1511.9	C: 81.75 (81.33); H: 6.63 (6.26); N: 7.49 (7.90).
9	S15	75	106-109	1493.5	C: 81.69 (81.33); H: 6.95 (6.26); N: 7.61 (7.90).
10	S16	64	107–109	1595.9 and 1644.9	C: 60.23 (60.75); H: 4.19 (4.67); N: 17.69 (17.71).
11	S17	63	114–117	1511.65 and 1643.52	C: 62.35 (62.87); H: 4.44 (4.84); N: 18.51 (18.33).
12	S18	57	112–113	1510.6 and 1644.9	C: 61.83 (61.47); H: 4.35 (4.95); N: 17.05 (17.20).
13	S19	63	110–111	1510.9 and 1650.7	C: 67.03 (67.87); H: 5.62 (5.14); N: 15.75 (15.32).

Table 1. Selected properties of synthesized compounds.

signals, at  $\delta$  172.53, 167.78, 168.71, 168.61, 168.92, 168.90, 168.77, 169.00, and 169.00 ppm for **S7–S15**, respectively. The formation of the desired compounds was also confirmed by IR, which showed the presence of stretching bands for the C=N vibrations at 1595.14, 1511.75, 1594.82, 1605.92, 1507.70, 1512.57, 1604.61, 1511.90, 1493.50, 1595.90, 1511.65, 1510.60, and 1510.90 cm<sup>-1</sup> for compounds **S7–S19**, respectively. However, in the IR spectra, the C=O vibrations were 1642.56, 1643.31, 1643.59, 1654.83, 1636.40, 1654.84, 1649.65, 1654.80, and 1652.30 cm<sup>-1</sup> for **S7–S15**, respectively.

# Conclusion

In the present study, three known and 10 new heterocyclic compounds based on 4,5dihydropyrazol-1-yl including electron-withdrawing or electron-donating substituents on the positions of the C3 or C5 aryl groups were synthesized and fully characterized by spectroscopic and analytic methods.

# **Experimental section**

## Chemical materials used in experimental studies

All the chemicals used in the synthesis were purchased from the companies Merck, Carlo Erba, Aldrich, and Fluka. These chemicals are benzaldehyde, 4-methyl benzaldehyde, 4-methoxy benzaldehyde, 4-methyl acetophenone, 4-methoxy acetophenone, 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazine, sodium hydroxide, acetic acid, ethanol, hexane, and methanol.

#### Instrumentations

With a Shimadzu FT-IR 8400 spectrophotometer, the FT-IR spectra were recorded from 4000 to 400 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker 400 MHz Ultra Shield NMR. Elemental analysis was determined using a CHNS-932 LECO apparatus.

#### Synthesis of benzalacetophenone derivatives

The synthesis of chalcone compounds S1-S6 were conducted as illustrated below (Scheme 1). Sodium hydroxide (NaOH) (22 g) was added to a 1 L three-necked flask. 200 mL of water and 140 mL of ethyl alcohol (EtOH) were mixed in the flask and the



Scheme 1. Synthesis of chalcone derivatives.

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contents were dissolved by mixing in ice with a magnetic stirrer. Then, an acetophenone derivative (acetophenone for S1 and S2, *p*-methyl acetophenone for S3, S4, and S6, *p*-methoxy acetophenone for S5) were slowly added drop wise into this mixture with the aid of the dropping funnel. After this process was completed, a benzaldehyde derivative (*p*-methoxy benzaldehyde for S1 and S3, *p*-methyl benzaldehyde for S2, S5, and S6, benzaldehyde for S4) was added to the three-necked flask. The reaction was stirred in the salt-ice mixture for 5–6 h. The temperature was kept around ( $-10^{\circ}$ C). The product was precipitated with the addition of EtOH. The precipitated solid was left in the refrigerator overnight. After filtration of the product in vacuum, the product was washed several times with 200 mL of water + 140 mL of EtOH mixtures. The product was placed in a Petri dish and dried on P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> in vacuum desiccators for two nights.

3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-1-phenylprop-2-en-1-one (S1), 1-phenyl-3-*p*-tolylprop-2-en-1one (S2), 3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-*p*-tolylprop-2-en-1-one (S3), 3-phenyl-1-*p*-tolylprop-2en-1-one (S4), 1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-*p*-tolylprop-2-en-1-one (S5), and 1,3-di-*p*-tolylprop-2-en-1-one (S6) were prepared in one step. The colors of the obtained compounds were orange, yellow, yellow, yellow, yellow for S1-S6, respectively. The melting points of the compounds were measured at 72–75 °C, 90–94 °C, 95–98 °C, 72–75 °C, 96–99 °C, and 96–99 °C for S1–S6, respectively.

#### Reactions of chalcones with different hydrazide derivatives

The synthesis of pyrazoline compounds was carried out according to literature procedures.<sup>[27,29–31]</sup> Chalcone derivatives (**S1–S6**) weighed at the stoichiometric ratio, acetic hydrazide, and KOH were added to a reaction flask and ethyl alcohol was added to the reaction medium as solvent (Scheme 2). It was refluxed for 5 h on a magnetic stirrer. The presence of the new product was checked using TLC, and ice was added to the reaction mixture after 5 h. After the reaction flask was left in the refrigerator for 1 day, the product precipitated, was filtered off, and was crystallized in ethanol. The final product was dried in vacuum desiccators over  $P_2O_5$ .

The synthesis of compounds S7-S15 were completed according to the above mentioned general synthetic procedure. The characterization data of S7-S15 are given below.



Scheme 2. Synthesis of S7–S15.



Scheme 3. Schematic diagram of synthesized S16–S19.

### Reactions of 4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazole derivatives with 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazine

Synthesized compounds (**S7**, **S8**, **S9**, and **S12**), 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazine, and 0.25 mL of acetic acid were put in a reaction flask (Scheme 3). Ethyl alcohol was added to this reaction mixture as solvent. It was refluxed for 8 h on a magnetic stirrer. The presence of the new product was checked using TLC with a sample taken from the reaction medium at intervals of every hour. After 8 h, the reaction mixture was allowed to cool down. Then, the solvent in the reaction medium was removed with a Rotary Evaporator. Hexane was added over oily product, and it was mixed on a magnetic stirrer. The solidified product was filtered and crystallized in hexane. The final product was dried over  $P_2O_5$  in vacuum desiccators.

# (E)-1-(1-(3,5-di-p-tolyl-4,5-dihydropyrazol-1-yl)-2-phenylethylidene)-2-(2,4-dinitrophenyl)hydrazine, S19

New compound **S19** ( $C_{31}H_{28}N_6O_4$ : 548 g/mol) was synthesized from 0.10 g of **S12**, 0.07 g of 2,4-dinitrophenyl hydrazine and 5 drops of acetic acid. The product was crystallized in hexane. Product: 0.07 g, yield: 63%, *m.p.*: 110–111 °C. FT-IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3027.1 (N–H), 2920.3 (C–H), 1510.9–1650.7 (–C=N), 1322.1–1425.3 (C=C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR ( $\delta$ =ppm): 7.03–7.68 (m, 16H, Ar-H), 5.50–5.55 (d, *J*: 8 Hz, 1H), 4.07–4.19 (q, *J*: 12Hz, aliphatic 2H), 3.10–3.75 (t, *J*: 8 Hz, 2H), 2.30 and 2.42 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR ( $\delta$ =ppm): 168.90 (pyrazole C=N), 153.98 (imine C=N), 140.68, 138.91, 137.25, 135.52, 129.61, 129.48, 128.71, 128.31, 126.59, and 125.54 (Ar-C), 59.84 (CH), 42.33, and 41.22 (–CH<sub>2</sub>–), 21.54, and 21.09 (–CH<sub>3</sub>). Elemental analysis for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (548.59 g/mol) %: Found C: 67.03; H: 5.62; N: 15.75. Anal. Calc. C: 67.87; H: 5.14; N: 15.32.

The characterization data of S7-S18 were given in supplementary information.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, IR spectra, and full characterization data of all compounds can be found via the "Supplementary Content" section of this article's webpage.'

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# **Author's contribution**

F. Ö. Güney conducted all experiments under the supervision of İ. Ö. İlhan and S. Akkoç, İ. Ö. İlhan designed the study, and S. Akkoç helped analyze data and wrote the manuscript.

## **Disclosure statement**

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

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