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# Synthesis of 3-Aryl-2-benzoylbenzofuran Derivatives using Manganese(III) Acetate–Mediated Addition of Dimedon to Chalcone Derivatives

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**Abstract:** 3-Aryl-2-benzoylbenzofurans were synthesized by the reaction of  $\alpha$ -carboradical produced from dimedon by oxidizing with manganese(III) acetate in acetic acid and the chalcone derivatives.

Keywords: 3-Aryl-2-benzoylbenzofurans, chalcones, dimedon, manganese(III) acetate

Furans and their derivatives are widely present in nature<sup>[1]</sup> and are some of the most important heterocyclic compounds<sup>[2]</sup> for the total synthesis of the complicated naturally occurring metabolites in organic chemistry.<sup>[3]</sup> Furthermore, polyfunctionalized furans are versatile and convenient synthetic starting materials for preparation of a variety of heterocyclic compounds.<sup>[4]</sup>

It is well known that C-C bonds are formed during the transition-metalsalt-mediated oxidative addition of 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds to unsaturated systems. In particular,  $Mn(OAc)_3$  is effectively used in the synthesis of furans<sup>[5]</sup> and dihydrofurans.<sup>[6]</sup> Manganese(III) acetate acts as a one-electron oxidant and is used to form radicals at the  $\alpha$ -position of carbonyls and

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particularly 1,3-dicarbonyls, which can react with electron-rich alkenes to form new C-C bonds.<sup>[7]</sup> Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>-prompted addition of 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds to alkenes,<sup>[8]</sup> steric hindered alkenes,<sup>[9]</sup> bicyclic alkenes,<sup>[10]</sup> alkines,<sup>[11]</sup> imines,<sup>[12]</sup> and  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated amides<sup>[13]</sup> have been reported. In this study, we report the Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>-mediated addition of dimedon as a 1,3-dicarbonyl compound to chalcone derivatives, which are electron-poor alkenes.

The chalcone derivatives  $3\mathbf{a}-\mathbf{i}$ , the starting material for the synthesis of  $5\mathbf{a}-\mathbf{i}$ , were synthesized by the condensation of corresponding benzaldhyde and acetophenone derivatives in basic medium (Scheme 1). All chalcone derivatives  $3\mathbf{a}-\mathbf{i}$  are well known in the literature.<sup>[14-16]</sup>

The reaction of dimedon with chalcones 3a-i having different functional groups in the presence of Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub> or Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>/Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub> mixture resulted in the formation of 3-aryl-2-benzoylbezofuran derivatives 5a-i via oxidative free-radical cyclization (Scheme 2). As shown in Table 1, dimedon did not react with the amino-chalcone **5f** as it react with the other chalcone derivatives with lower yields in the presence of the Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub>/Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub> mixture. The experimental results are given in Table 1.

This reaction formed only the desired heterocyclic compounds in one step, and no other by-products were isolated. Accordingly, we suggest that the present reaction is a convenient synthetic method of preparing 3-aryl-2-benzoylbenzofurans.

## **EXPERIMENTAL**

#### Instruments

Melting points were measured on an Electrothermal 9100 apparatus. IR spectra (KBr disc or CHCl<sub>3</sub>) were recorded on a Jasco FT/IR-430



Scheme 2.

Time Isolated (min) yield (%)  $\mathbf{B}^{b}$  $A^{a}$ Ar<sup>a</sup>  $\mathbf{B}^{b}$ Products  $\mathbf{A}'$  $Mp(^{\circ}C)$ Entry Ar 4-ClPh Ph 10 15 5a 45 37 129-131 1 2 20 4-BrPh Ph 25 5b 47 39 127-129 41 3 4-OHPh Ph 15 15 5c 38 187 - 19030 4 4-CH<sub>3</sub>Ph Ph 45 5d 66 60 \_\_\_\_ 5 4-CH<sub>3</sub>OPh Ph 15 15 5e 72 68 6 4-NH<sub>2</sub>Ph Ph 15 5f 62 \_\_\_\_ 7 Ph 4-CH<sub>3</sub>OPh 15 5 5g 59 45 109-111 5 8 Ph 4-ClPh 15 5h 57 44 117-119 5 9 4-CH<sub>3</sub>Ph Ph 15 5i 45 36 113-115

*Table 1.* Synthesis of 3-aryl-2-benzoylbenzofuran derivatives by Mn(OAc)3or Mn(OAc)3/Cu(OAc)2- promoted oxidative addition of dimedon to chalcone derivatives

<sup>a</sup>Method A: Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub> (2 eq).

<sup>b</sup>Method B: Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub> (2 eq), Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (2eq).

spectrometer. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian EM 360 L instrument. TMS ( $\delta$  0.00) was the internal standard for <sup>1</sup>H NMR and CDCl<sub>3</sub> ( $\delta$  77.0) for <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectroscopy; *J* values are given in hertz. The multiplicities of the signals in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra are abbreviated by s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), m (multiplet), br (broad), and combinations thereof. Elemental analyses were obtained from a Leco CHNS 932 elemental analyzer.

#### Reagent

Manganese(III) acetate, copper(II) acetate, acetic acid, and dimedon were used as commercial products of the highest reagent grade.

All column chromatographies were performed on silica gel (60-230 mesh, Merck).

## General Procedure for Synthesis of 3-Aryl-2-benzoylbenzofurans

A solution of manganese(III) acetate (1.9 g, 7.2 mmol) in 15 mL of glacial acetic acid was heated under a nitrogen atmosphere at 80 °C until a it dissolved. After Mn(OAc)<sub>3</sub> was dissolved completely, the solution was cooled down to 60 °C. A solution of dimedon (1 g, 7.2 mmol) and chalcone derivative (1 g, 3.6 mmol) in 5 mL of acetic acid or dimedon (1 g, 7.2 mmol),

#### 3-Aryl-2-benzoylbenzofuran Derivatives

chalcone derivative (1 g, 3.6 mmol), and Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (1.43 g, 7.2 mmol) in 10 mL of acetic acid was added to this mixture. The reaction was finished when the dark brown color of the solution disappeared. Acetic acid was evaporated under reduced pressure. The water was added to the residue and extracted with EtOAc ( $3 \times 20$  mL). The combined organic phases were neutralized with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and evaporated. Crude products were purified by column chromatography on silica gel or preparative thin-layer chromatography (TLC) ( $20 \times 20$  cm plates, 2 mm thick) using *n*-hexane/EtOAc (9:1) as eluent. The products were crystallized in *n*-hexane/EtOAc (9:1).

# Data

2-(4-Chlorobenzoyl)-6,6-dimethyl-3-phenyl-2,3,6,7tetrahydrobenzofuran-4(5H)-one (**5**a)

Colorless crystals; mp 129–131 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 8.01-7.96$  (brd, 2H, J = 8.7 Hz, ArH, AA' part of AA'BB' system), 7.44–7.38 (m, 5H, ArH, BB' part of AA'BB' system and 3H), 7.29–7.25 (m, 2H, ArH), 5.94–5.92 (d, 1H, J = 5.8 Hz, H2, A part of AB system), 4.99–4.97 (ddd as "dt", 1H,  $J_{3,2} = 5.8$ ,  $J_{3,7} = 1.3$  Hz, H3, B part AB system), 2.58–2.52 (dd, 1H,  $J_{7a,b} = 17.6$ ,  $J_{7a,3} = 0.9$  Hz, H7a), 2.51–2.44 (dd, 1H,  $J_{7b,a} = 17.6$ ,  $J_{7b,a} = 17.6$ ,  $J_{254} = 16.2$  Hz, H5b), 1.20 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.19 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 198.04$ , 193.54, 177.44, 140.27, 139.41, 134.54, 130.65, 129.15, 128.85, 125.69, 112.63, 90.03, 54.63, 50.95, 37.92, 34.46, 28.63, 28.61; IR (KBr disc) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3062, 3031, 2958, 2871, 1681, 1637, 1589, 1398, 1213, 1091, 1002, 794, 759, 698. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>21</sub>ClO<sub>3</sub>: C, 72.53; H, 5.56. Found: C, 72.77; H, 5.61.

2-(4-Bromobenzoyl)-6,6-dimethyl-3-phenyl-2,3,6,7tetrahydrobenzofuran-4(5H)-one (**5b**)

Colorless crystals; mp 127–129 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.93– 7.88 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.6 Hz, ArH, AA' part of AA'BB' system), 7.62–7.57 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.6 Hz, ArH, BB' part of AA'BB' system), 7.45–7.37 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.39–7.25 (m, 2H, ArH), 5.94–5.92 (d, 1H, *J* = 5.8 Hz, H2, A part of AB system), 4.98–4.96 (brd, 1H, *J* = 5.8 Hz, H3, B part AB system), 2.58– 2.52 (dd, 1H, *J*<sub>7a,b</sub> = 17.7, *J*<sub>7a,3</sub> = 1.1 Hz, H7a), 2.51–2.44 (dd, 1H, *J*<sub>7b,a</sub> = 17.7, *J*<sub>7b,3</sub> = 1.7 Hz, H7b), 2.34–2.28 (d, 1H, *J*<sub>5a,b</sub> = 16.2 Hz, H5a), 2.27–2.21 (d, 1H, *J*<sub>5b,a</sub> = 16.2 Hz, H5b), 1.20 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.19 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 198.26, 193.54, 177.44, 139.39, 135.00 131.85, 130.73, 129.16, 125.68, 112.61, 90.02, 54.62, 50.95, 37.93, 34.46, 28.63, 28.61; IR (KBr disc) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3062, 3035, 2958, 2927, 2857, 1679, 1637, 1583, 1396, 1211, 1070, 1001, 757, 698. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>21</sub>BrO<sub>3</sub>: C, 64.95; H, 4.98. Found: C, 64.96; H, 5.02.

2-(4-Hydroxybenzoyl)-6,6-dimethyl-3-phenyl-2,3,6,7tetrahydrobenzofuran-4(5H)-one (**5c**)

Colorless crystals; mp 187–190 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 9.21-8.67$  (brs, 1H, OH), 7.81–7.78 (brd, 2H, J = 8.8 Hz, ArH, AA' part of AA'XX' system), 7.45–7.36 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.30–7.25 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.67–6.64 (brd, 2H, J = 8.8 Hz, XX' part of AA'XX' system), 5.97–5.95 (d, 1H, J = 5.5 Hz, H2, A part of AB system), 5.00–4.98 (d, 1H, J = 5.5 Hz, H3, B part AB system), 2.63–2.57 (dd, 1H,  $J_{7a,b} = 16.9$ ,  $J_{7a,3} = 0.8$  Hz, H7a), 2.54–2.48 (dd, 1H,  $J_{7b,a} = 16.9$ ,  $J_{7b,3} = 1.3$  Hz, H7b), 2.42–2.37 (d, 1H,  $J_{5a,b} = 16.4$  Hz, H5a), 2.34–2.29 (d, 1H,  $J_{5b,a} = 16.4$  Hz, H5b), 1.23 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.21 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 196.99$ , 195.70, 179.88, 162.35, 139.33, 131.71, 129.13, 129.08, 127.96, 125.67, 115.51, 113.06, 90.93, 53.45, 50.77, 38.03, 34.67, 28.58 (2C); IR (KBr disc) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3249, 3066, 3031, 2960, 2890, 2815, 1617, 1602, 1579, 1400, 1284, 1226, 1170, 759, 736, 700. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C, 76.22; H, 6.12. Found: C, 76.67; H, 6.51.

6,6-Dimethyl-2-(4-methylbenzoyl)-3-phenyl-2,3,6,7tetrahydrobenzofuran-4(5H)-one (**5d**)

Viscous oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 7.94-7.91$  (d, 2H, J = 8.2 Hz, ArH, AA' part of AA'BB' system), 7.42–7.38 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.31–7.24 (m, 5H, BB' part of AA'BB' system and 3H), 5.91–5.89 (d, 1H, J = 5.6 Hz, H2, A part of AB system), 5.04–5.02 (d, 1H, J = 5.6 Hz, H3, B part AB system), 2.58–2.52 (dd, 1H,  $J_{7a,b} = 17.6$ ,  $J_{7a,3} = 0.9$  Hz, H7a), 2.51–2.44 (dd, 1H,  $J_{7b,a} = 17.6$ ,  $J_{7b,3} = 1.7$  Hz, H7b), 2.34–2.28 (d, 1H,  $J_{5a,b} = 16.2$  Hz, H5a), 2.27–2.22 (d, 1H,  $J_{5b,a} = 16.2$  Hz, H5b), 1.22 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.19 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 198.47$ , 193.63, 177.31, 144.64, 139.64 133.71, 129.37, 129.26, 129.08, 129.02, 125.77, 112.78, 90.10, 54.44, 50.98, 37.93, 34.46, 29.73, 28.67, 28.38; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3031, 2956, 2925, 2854, 1677, 1643, 1606, 1455, 1396, 1226, 1182, 757, 698. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: C, 79.97; H, 6.71. Found: C, 79.96; H, 6.83.

2-(4-Methoxybenzoyl)-6,6-dimethyl-3-phenyl-2,3,6,7tetrahydrobenzofuran-4(5H)-one (**5e**)

Viscous oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 8.04-7.98$  (brd, 2H, J = 8.9 Hz, ArH, AA' part of AA'XX' system), 7.44–7.37 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.31–7.26 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.93–6.90 (brd, 2H, J = 8.9 Hz, XX' part of AA'XX' system), 5.92–5.95 (d, 1H, J = 5.6 Hz, H2, A part of AB system),

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5.01–4.99 (d, 1H, J = 5.6 Hz, H3, B part AB system), 3.84 (s, 3H, -OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.57–2.52 (dd, 1H,  $J_{7a,b} = 17.1$ ,  $J_{7a,3} = 0.8$  Hz, H7a), 2.50–2.43 (dd, 1H,  $J_{7b,a} = 17.1$ ,  $J_{7b,3} = 1.6$  Hz, H7b), 2.34–2.29 (d, 1H,  $J_{5a,b} = 16.2$  Hz, H5a), 2.27–2.22 (d, 1H,  $J_{5b,a} = 16.2$  Hz, H5b), 1.21 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.18 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 197.20$ , 193.67, 177.31, 164.05, 139.74, 131.67, 129.19, 129.07, 128.98, 125.74, 113.73, 112.76, 90.12, 55.48, 54.24, 51.00, 37.92, 34.44, 28.64, 28.63; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3062, 3031, 3008, 2958, 2927, 2857, 1639, 1598, 1573, 1396, 1263, 1224, 1172, 1029, 757, 700. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C, 76.57; H, 6.43. Found: C, 76.35; H, 6.45.

2-(4-Aminobenzoyl)-6,6-dimethyl-3-phenyl-2,3,6,7tetrahydrobenzofuran-4(5H)-one (**5f**)

Yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 7.86-7.84$  (d, 2H, J = 8.5 Hz, ArH, AA' part of AA'XX' system), 7.41–7.28 (m, 5H, ArH), 6.62–6.58 (d, 2H, J = 8.5 Hz, XX' part of AA'XX' system), 5.88–5.86 (d, 1H, J = 5.5 Hz, H2, A part of AB system), 4.95–4.93 (d, 1H, J = 5.5 Hz, H3, B part AB system), 2.58–2.52 (d, 1H,  $J_{7a,b} = 17.8$ , H7a), 2.49–2.43 (d, 1H,  $J_{7b,a} = 17.8$  Hz, H7b), 2.35–2.30 (d, 1H,  $J_{5a,b} = 16.3$  Hz, H5a), 2.27–2.22 (d, 1H,  $J_{5b,a} = 16.3$  Hz, H5b), 1.21 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.18 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 196.43$ , 193.79, 177.26, 151.72, 139.89, 131.91, 129.01, 128.88, 126.51, 125.76, 113.70, 112.88, 90.21, 53.88, 51.06, 37.95, 34.45, 28.70, 28.62; IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3367, 3064, 2956, 2927, 2857, 1662, 1592, 1562, 1440, 1299, 1218, 1176, 997, 784, 763. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>: C, 76.43; H, 6.41; N, 3.88. Found: C, 76.77; H, 6.61; N, 4.18.

2-Benzoyl-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-6,6-dimethyl-2,3,6,7-tetrahydrobenzofuran-4(5H)-one (**5g**)

Colorless crystals; mp 109–111 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 8.01-7.97$  (dd, 2H, J = 7.8 Hz, ArH), 7.60–7.54 (tt, 1H, J = 7.3, 1.3 Hz, ArH), 7.46–7.41 (brt, 2H, J = 7.8 Hz, ArH), 7.26–7.22 (brd, 2H, J = 8.6 Hz, ArH, AA' part of AA'BB' system), 6.95–6.91 (brd, 2H, J = 8.6 Hz, BB' part of AA'BB' system), 5.82–5.80 (d, 1H, J = 5.8 Hz, H2, A part of AB system), 5.06–5.04 (d, 1H, J = 5.8 Hz, H3, B part AB system), 3.83 (s, 3H, -OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.55–2.49 (dd, 1H,  $J_{7a,b} = 17.5$ ,  $J_{7a,3} = 0.9$  Hz, H7a), 2.47–2.41 (dd, 1H,  $J_{7b,a} = 17.5$ ,  $J_{7b,3} = 1.7$  Hz, H7b), 2.36–2.30 (d, 1H,  $J_{5a,b} = 16.2$  Hz, H5a), 2.28–2.23 (d, 1H,  $J_{5b,a} = 16.2$  Hz, H5b), 1.22 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.18 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 199.02$ , 193.57, 177.18, 160.21, 136.26, 133.62, 131.50, 129.14, 128.55, 127.54, 114.44, 112.76, 90.12, 76.67, 55.37, 54.43, 50.96, 37.96, 34.46, 28.68, 28.61; IR (KBr disc) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3062, 3004, 2958, 2927, 2871, 1681, 1637, 1515, 1396, 1251, 1216, 1178, 1033, 794, 692. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C, 76.57; H, 6.43. Found: C, 76.35; H, 6.45.

2-Benzoyl-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-6,6-dimethyl-2,3,6,7tetrahydrobenzofuran-4(5H)-one (**5h**)

Colorless crystals; mp 117–119 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 8.02-7.99$  (dd, 2H, J = 7.1 Hz, ArH), 7.61–7.55 (tt, 1H, J = 7.3, 1.2 Hz, ArH), 7.47–7.42 (brt, 2H, J = 7.6 Hz, ArH), 7.24–7.21 (brd, 2H, J = 8.3 Hz, ArH, AA' part of AA'BB' system), 7.20–7.17 (brd, 2H, J = 8.3 Hz, BB' part of AA'BB' system), 5.88–5.86 (d, 1H, J = 5.8 Hz, H2, A part of AB system), 5.04–4.98 (d, 1H, J = 5.8 Hz, H3, B part AB system), 2.57–2.51 (dd, 1H,  $J_{7a,b} = 17.6$ ,  $J_{7a,3} = 0.9$  Hz, H7a), 2.50–2.43 (dd, 1H,  $J_{7b,a} = 17.6$ ,  $J_{7b,3} = 1.7$  Hz, H7b), 2.34–2.28 (d, 1H,  $J_{5a,b} = 16.2$  Hz, H5a), 2.27–2.22 (d, 1H,  $J_{5b,a} = 16.2$  Hz, H5b), 1.21 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.19 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 198.82$ , 193.48, 177.11, 138.05, 136.17, 134.91, 133.81, 129.31, 129.15, 128.62, 127.15, 112.77, 89.26, 54.52, 50.94, 37.88, 34.47, 28.69, 28.56; IR (KBr disc) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3062, 3031, 2958, 2871, 1681, 1643, 1596, 1492, 1394, 1216, 794. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>21</sub>ClO<sub>3</sub>: C, 72.53; H, 5.56. Found: C, 72.87; H, 5.64.

2-Benzoyl-6,6-dimethyl-3-p-tolyl-2,3,6,7tetrahydrobenzofuran-4(5H)-one (**5i**)

Colorless crystals; mp 113–115 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 8.03-7.99$  (dd, 2H, J = 7.8 Hz, ArH), 7.62–7.57 (tt, 1H, J = 7.3, 1.2 Hz, ArH), 7.48–7.44 (brt, 2H, J = 7.8 Hz, ArH), 7.39–7.37 (brd, 2H, J = 8.5 Hz, ArH, AA' part of AA'BB' system), 7.25–7.19 (brd, 2H, J = 8.5 Hz, BB' part of AA'BB' system), 5.85–5.83 (d, 1H, J = 5.6 Hz, H2, A part of AB system), 5.06–5.04 (d, 1H, J = 5.6 Hz, H3, B part AB system), 2.57–2.51 (dd, 1H,  $J_{7a,b} = 17.5$ ,  $J_{7a,3} = 0.8$  Hz, H7a), 2.49–2.43 (dd, 1H,  $J_{7b,a} = 17.5$ ,  $J_{7b,3} = 1.7$  Hz, H7b), 2.36–2.30 (d, 1H,  $J_{5a,b} = 16.2$  Hz, H5a), 2.29–2.23 (d, 1H,  $J_{5b,a} = 16.2$  Hz, H5b), 1.22 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.19 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 199.10$ , 193.57, 177.28, 139.10, 136.54, 136.28, 133.62, 129.76, 129.17, 128.54, 125.88, 112.80, 90.17, 54.48, 50.97, 37.95, 34.46, 28.69, 28.61, 21.27; IR (KBr disc) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3056, 3027, 2958, 2929, 2883, 1681, 1641, 1596, 1394, 1216, 1049, 790, 759, 692. Anal. calcd. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: C, 79.97; H, 6.71. Found: C, 79.86; H, 6.83.

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#### 3-Aryl-2-benzoylbenzofuran Derivatives

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