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## A NOVEL, SIMPLE AND RAPID PROTOCOL FOR N-PROTECTED-OXAZOLIDINE-5-ONES.

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**Abstract :** A simple and efficient method for the preparation of N-protected oxazolidine-5-ones using microwave irradiation is described.

N-Protected oxazolidine-5-ones derived from amino acids are versatile synthons used in the synthesis of several bioactive molecules and their key intermediates<sup>1</sup>. In view of this, variety of methodologies have been developed for their preparation<sup>2-5</sup>. In general, the most common method used involves the treatment of N-Protected  $\alpha$ -amino acids with paraformaldehyde in presence of catalytic PTSA<sup>2</sup>. In addition to this, few other methods have been reported, which involves the reaction of N-protected  $\alpha$ -amino acids with paraformaldehyde /  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  /  $\text{MgSO}_4$ <sup>3</sup>, 37%  $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$  / PTSA / THF<sup>4</sup>, paraformaldehyde / PTSA / Silicagel / DCM or  $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{Et}_2\text{O}$ <sup>5</sup>.

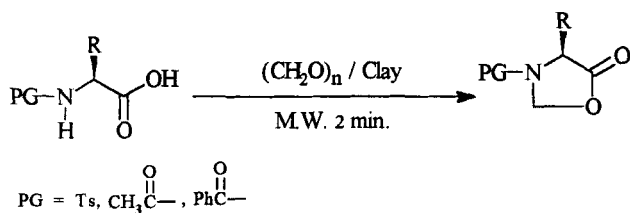
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In recent years microwave irradiation has become an important technique to accelerate the reactions. In connection with our ongoing programme in the area of oxazolidinone chemistry,<sup>6-10</sup> we became interested to use microwave irradiation in the preparation of N-protected oxazolidinones. Here in, we wish to disclose the results obtained in the present study with a variety of N-protected- $\alpha$ -amino acids.

In a preliminary experiment, microwave irradiation of N-Ts-alanine and paraformaldehyde for 2 min. gave the corresponding N-Ts-oxazolidinone in an excellent yield (96%). Encouraged by this result a variety of N-protected- $\alpha$ -amino acids were subjected to the same reaction conditions to give corresponding N-protected oxazolidinones in excellent yields. (Scheme-1, Table-1). However, to our surprise N-Boc and N-Cbz amino acids under these reaction conditions led to a intractable mixture of products. This might be due to the cleavage of Boc and Cbz groups under these reaction conditions. All the compounds obtained were fully characterised by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, IR, mass spectral data.

Scheme-1

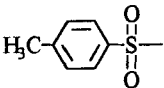




## EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

**General Procedure :** To a solution of N-protected- $\alpha$ -amino acid (4 mmol) in dichloromethane (10 ml) was added paraformaldehyde (20 mmol) and

K<sub>10</sub> clay (5 g), then solvent was removed on rotaryevaporator to leave fine dry clay powder. This was transferred to a 20 ml test tube and kept in micro-oven (600 W, operating at a frequency of 2450 MHz) for 2 min., then brought to room temperature. Ethyl acetate (10 ml) was added and stirred for 10 min. Filtration through a silicagel pad gave clear solution, which was concentrated under reduced pressure to give pure N-protected-oxazolidinone.

**Table-1**  
**Preparation of N-protected-oxazolidinones under microwave irradiation.**

Entry	PG	R	*Yield (%)
1.		CH <sub>3</sub>	96
2.	"	(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CH	91
3.	"	(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CHCH <sub>2</sub>	94
4.	"	PhCH <sub>2</sub>	95
5.	"	CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH(CH <sub>3</sub> )	93
6.	"	BnOC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> CH <sub>2</sub>	95
7.		CH <sub>3</sub>	92
8.	"	(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CH	90
9.	"	(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CHCH <sub>2</sub>	93
10.	"	PhCH <sub>2</sub>	91
11.		(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CH	93
12.	"	(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CHCH <sub>2</sub>	92
13.	"	PhCH <sub>2</sub>	94
14.	"	CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH(CH <sub>3</sub> )	91

a : Isolated yield

In conclusion, we report a novel and rapid method for the preparation of N-protected-oxazolidinones under microwave irradiation conditions.

**SPECTROSCOPIC DATA ( $^1\text{H}$  NMR, 200 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )**

**Compound 1** : Colourless solid, M.P.  $137^\circ\text{C}$ .

$^1\text{H}$  NMR :  $\delta$  1.45 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.5$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}$ ), 2.45 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3\text{-Ar}$ ), 4.70 (q, 1H,  $J = 6.8$  Hz,  $\text{CHCH}_3$ ), 5.10 (d, 1H,  $J = 8.6$  Hz,  $\text{NCH}_2\text{O}$ ), 5.60 (d, 1H,  $J = 8.6$  Hz,  $\text{NCH}_2\text{O}$ ), 7.35 (d, 2H,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, Ar), 7.70 (d, 2H,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, Ar).

$e/z$  : 283 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**Compound 2** : Colourless solid, M.P.  $75^\circ\text{C}$ .

$^1\text{H}$  NMR :  $\delta$  1.05 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.8$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}$ ), 1.15 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.8$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}$ ), 2.00-2.20 (m, 1H,  $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), 2.45 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3\text{-Ar}$ ), 4.35 (d, 1H,  $J = 6$  Hz,  $\text{CHCH}$ ), 5.05 (d, 1H,  $J = 6.2$  Hz,  $\text{NCH}_2\text{O}$ ), 5.50 (d, 1H,  $J = 6.2$ ,  $\text{NCH}_2\text{O}$ ), 7.35 (d, 2H,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, Ar), 7.70 (d, 2H,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, Ar)

$e/z$  : 297 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**Compound 3** : Colourless solid, M.P.  $87^\circ\text{C}$ .

$^1\text{H}$  NMR :  $\delta$  0.90 (d, 3H,  $J = 8.8$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}$ ), 1.05 (d, 3H,  $J = 8.8$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}$ ), 1.30-1.60 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}$ ), 1.85-2.10 (m, 1H,  $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), 2.45 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3\text{-Ar}$ ), 4.60 (dd, 1H,  $J = 12.0, 4.5$  Hz,  $\text{CHCH}_2$ ), 5.05 (d, 1H,  $J = 8.8$  Hz,  $\text{NCH}_2\text{O}$ ), 5.60 (d, 1H,  $J = 8.8$  Hz,  $\text{NCH}_2\text{O}$ ), 7.35 (d, 2H,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, Ar), 7.70 (d, 2H,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, Ar).

$m/z$  : 297 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**Compound 4** : Colourless solid, M.P.  $139^\circ\text{C}$ .

$^1\text{H}$  NMR :  $\delta$  2.45 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3\text{-Ar}$ ), 3.10 (d, 2H,  $J = 6.4$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$ ), 4.45 (d, 1H,  $J = 8.5$  Hz,  $\text{NCH}_2\text{O}$ ), 4.85 (t, 1H,  $J = 6.3$  Hz,  $\text{CHCH}_2$ ), 5.40 (d, 1H,  $J = 8.5$  Hz,  $\text{NCH}_2\text{O}$ ), 7.10-7.35 (m, 7H, Ar), 7.65 (d, 2H,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, Ar).

$e/z$  : 255 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**Compound 5** : Colourless solid, M.P.  $85^\circ\text{C}$ .

$^1\text{H}$  NMR :  $\delta$  0.90 (t, 3H,  $J = 8.2$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.05 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.75$  Hz,

$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}$ ), 1.10-1.30 (m, 1H,  $\text{CHCH}_3$ ), 1.60-1.90 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-CH}_3$ ), 2.45 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3\text{-Ar}$ ), 4.35 (d, 1H,  $J = 6.8$  Hz,  $\text{CHCH}_3$ ), 5.10 (d, 1H,  $J = 8.6$  Hz,  $\text{NCH}_2\text{O}$ ), 5.50 (d, 1H,  $J = 8.6$  Hz), 7.30 (d, 2H,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, Ar), 7.65 (d, 2H,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, Ar).

$e/z$  : 331 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**Compound 6** : Colourless solid, M.P.  $137^\circ\text{C}$ .

$^1\text{H}$  NMR :  $\delta$  2.40 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$ ), 3.12-3.38 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-Ar}$ ), 4.15-4.42 (m, 1H,  $\text{CHN}$ ), 4.50 (s, 2H,  $\text{PhCH}_2\text{O}$ ), 5.05 (d, 1H,  $J = 8.8$  Hz,  $\text{NCH}_2\text{O}$ ), 5.50 (d, 1H,  $J = 8.8$  Hz,  $\text{NCH}_2\text{O}$ ), 6.80-7.55 (m, 13H, Ar). FABM : 422 [ $\text{M}^+ + \text{H}$ ].

**Compound 7** : Colourless syrup.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR : (Two rotamers)  $\delta$  1.40-1.50 (2d, 3H,  $J = 7.8$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.10-2.20 (2s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CO}$ ), 4.70-4.58, 5.00-5.15 (2m, 1H, H-4), 5.25, 5.40, 5.50, 5.65 (4d, 2H,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, H-2).

$m/z$  : 143 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**Compound 8** : Colourless syrup.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR : (Two rotamers)  $\delta$  0.90 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.8$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}$ ), 1.00 (d, 3H,  $J = 6.8$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}$ ), 1.40-1.70 (m, 1H,  $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), 2.00 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CO}$ ), 4.60-4.75 (m, 1H, H-4), 5.10, 5.25, 5.35, 5.50 (4d, 2H,  $J = 6.2$  Hz, H-2).

$m/z$  : 171 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**Compound 9** : Colourless syrup.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR : (Two rotamers)  $\delta$  0.80-1.00 (d, 6H,  $J = 6.8$  Hz,  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CH}$ ), 1.95-2.10 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.05 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CO}$ ), 2.15-2.40 (m, 1H,  $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), 4.45-4.60, 4.90-5.00 (2m, 1H, H-4), 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.40 (4d, 2H,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, H-2).

$m/z$  : 185 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**Compound 10** : Colourless syrup.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR : (Two rotamers)  $\delta$  1.60, 1.90 (2s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CO}$ ), 2.90-3.30 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$ ), 4.00, 5.00, 4.60, 5.60 (4d, 2H,  $J = 6.1$  Hz, H-2), 4.70-4.85, 5.10, 5.25 (2m, 1H, H-4), 7.00-7.30 (m, 5H, Ph).

$m/z$  : 219 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**Compound 11** : Colourless solid, M.P.  $97^\circ\text{C}$ .

$^1\text{H}$  NMR :  $\delta$  1.00-1.10 (m, 6H,  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CH}$ ), 1.50-1.70 (m, 1H,  $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), 4.65-4.90 (m, 1H,  $\text{CH}$ ), 5.35-5.50 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 7.50 (m, 3H, Ar), 8.1 (d, 2H, Ar).

$e/z$  : 265 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**Compound 12** : Colourless solid, M.P.  $72^\circ\text{C}$ .

$^1\text{H}$  NMR :  $\delta$  0.90-1.00 (d, 6H,  $J = 6.8$  Hz  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CH}$ ), 1.90-2.10 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.20-2.40 (m, 1H,  $\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ), 4.70-4.90 (m, 1H,  $\text{CH-N}$ ), 5.30-5.55 (m, 2H,  $\text{O-CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 7.40-7.45 (m, 3H, Ar), 8.10 (d, 2H, Ar).

$e/z$  : 279 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**Compound 13** : Colourless solid, M.P.  $110^\circ\text{C}$ .

$^1\text{H}$  NMR :  $\delta$  2.90-3.20 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$ ), 4.80-5.10 (m, 1H,  $\text{CH-N}$ ), 5.30-5.50 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{-N}$ ), 7.20-7.50 (m, 8H, Ar), 8.10 (d, 2H, Ar).

$e/z$  : 302 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**Compound 14** : Colourless solid, M.P.  $53^\circ\text{C}$ .

$^1\text{H}$  NMR :  $\delta$  0.8-1.10 (m, 8H,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2$  &  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.5-1.7 (m, 1H,  $\text{CHCH}_3$ ), 4.60-4.85 (m, 1H,  $\text{CHN}$ ), 5.30-5.50 (m, 2H,  $\text{O-CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 7.50 (m, 3H, Ar), 8.10 (d, 2H, Ar).

$e/z$  : 279 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

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