

*r-1,t-3-Bis-[(6-butyl-4-hydroxy-2-oxo-2H-pyran-3-yl)-oxomethyl]-c-2,t-4-bis-(4-chlorophenyl)-cyclobutan (2e)*

Bestrahlungszeit von **1e**: 2 h. Beige Kristalle, Schmp. 237°, Ausb.: 100 %, d.Th. – C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>34</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> (665.6) Ber. C 65.0 H 5.15 Gef. C 64.0 H 4.96. – IR (KBr): 3430, 3090, 2960, 2860, 1720, 1635, 1605, 1560, 1550, 1490, 1445, 1430, 1385, 1350, 1250, 1200, 1105, 1095, 1035, 1015, 1000, 985, 965, 895, 855, 820, 760, 725, 710 cm<sup>-1</sup>. – <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ (ppm) = 16.08 (s, 2H, OH, austauschbar), 7.25–7.12 (m, 8H, aromat.), 5.73 (s, 2H, H-5'), 5.08–4.88 (m, 4H, H-1, H-2, H-3, H-4), 2.39 (t, 4H, J = 7 Hz, 2x -CH<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>), 1.62–1.56 (m, 4H, 2x -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>), 1.36–1.28 (m, 4H, 2x -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.92 (t, 6H, J = 7 Hz, 2x -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>). – MS (70 eV/250°): m/z = 664/666 (8/6 %, M<sup>+</sup>), 454 (13), 452 (11), 345 (10), 332/334 (100/28), 333 (28), 331 (26), 247/249 (15/6), 221 (50), 195 (39), 165/167 (46/13), 137/139 (12/6), 127 (10). – UV (MeOH): λ<sub>max</sub> (log ε) = 203 (4.8), 225 (4.7), 316 (4.4), 402 (3.8).

Die Bestimmung der anticoagulativen Wirkung erfolgte wie beschrieben<sup>6</sup>.

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## Synthesis and Antimicrobial Activity of Some 2-(2-Nitroethenyl)naphthofuran and -benzofuran Derivatives

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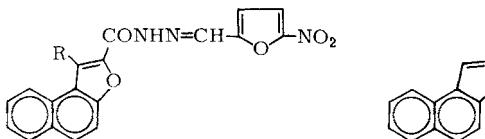
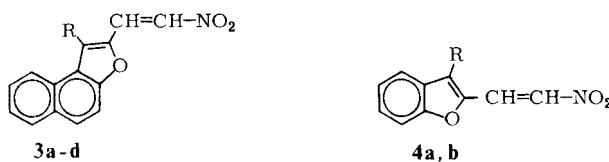
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Some 2-(2-nitroethenyl)naphthofuran and 2-(2-nitroethenyl)benzofuran derivatives were synthesized and tested in vitro for antimicrobial activity. Only 2-(2-nitroethenyl)naphtho[2,1-*b*]furan exhibits appreciable activity against gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria.

**Synthese und antimikrobielle Wirkung einiger 2-(2-Nitrovinyl)-Naphthofuran- und -Benzofuran-Derivate**

Einige 2-(2-Nitrovinyl)naphthofuran- und 2-(2-Nitrovinyl)benzofuran-Derivate wurden hergestellt und auf ihre antimikrobielle in vitro-Aktivität untersucht. Als einzige Verbindung zeigte 2-(2-Nitrovinyl)naphtho[2,1-b]furan eine signifikante Wirksamkeit gegen grampositive und gramnegative Bakterien.

Previous research on the antimicrobial properties<sup>1)</sup> of some naphtho[2,1-b]furan-2-carbohydrazones of 5-nitro-2-furaldehyde **1a-d** showed the important role of the R-substituents, particularly chlorine. These results together with the recently reported antiprotozoal activity of some related 2-nitro-naphtho[2,1-b]furan<sup>2,3,4)</sup> (**2**) prompted us to extend our investigations in this area.

**1a - d**R = H, Cl, OCH<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>**2****3a - d****4a, b**

Since compound **2**, on behalf of the vinylogy principle, might be considered an extreme simplification of **1**, we have thought it to be of interest to synthesize the true vinylogues **3a-d**. We have also taken the occasion to prepare the more simple related derivatives **4a, b**.

These compounds have been prepared by a standard method, i.e. by condensing the appropriate aldehydo derivative with excess of nitromethane in presence of ammonium acetate<sup>5)</sup>.

All new derivatives have been tested for antimicrobial activity against Gram-positive bacteria (*Staphylococcus aureus*, *Bacillus subtilis*), Gram-negative bacteria (*Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Proteus mirabilis*, *Escherichia coli*) and *Candida albicans*. The minimal inhibitory concentrations were determined by disk and agar dilution methods. Dimethylformamide was used as the solvent. Only 2-(2-nitroethenyl)naphtho[2,1-b]furan (**3a**), the vinylogue of **2**, showed appreciable inhibitory effect; the MIC values were 150 µg/ml and 70–100 µg/ml against Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria, resp.

## Experimental Part

**Elementary analyses:** Laboratory for microanalysis of the faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Pisa, Italy. **MP:** not corr., Electrothermal melting point apparatus. **Thin layer chromatography:** Baker Flex Silica-gel IB2-F, CHCl<sub>3</sub> eluent.

**Table 1:** Analytical data of the nitrovinyl derivatives **3a-d** and **4a,b**

Nr.	R	Formula	Calc. Found C	H	N	MP° (dec.) (*)	Yield %
3a	H	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>3</sub>	70,3 70,0	3,80 3,80	5,8 5,5	165–167 (A)	61
3b	Cl	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>8</sub> ClNO <sub>3</sub>	61,4 61,8	2,95 3,04	5,1 5,2	189–194 (A)	87
3c	CH <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>11</sub> NO <sub>3</sub>	71,1 71,2	4,37 4,14	5,5 5,4	215–217 (B)	99
3d	OCH <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>11</sub> NO <sub>4</sub>	66,9 67,0	4,11 4,04	5,2 5,1	211–212 (B)	85
4a	OCH <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>9</sub> NO <sub>4</sub>	60,2 59,8	4,14 4,14	6,3 6,3	138–140 (A)	53
4b	Cl	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ClNO <sub>3</sub>	53,7 54,1	2,70 2,53	6,2 5,9	99–102 (B)	41

\* Recrystallized form: A = ethanol, B = aceton-ethanol

### Starting compounds

3-Chloro- and 3-methoxy-benzofuran-2-carboxyaldehyde<sup>6</sup>), naphtho[2,1-*b*]furan-2-carboxyaldehyde and the analogue 1-methyl<sup>7</sup>-, 1-chloro- and 1-methoxy- naphtho-2-carboxyaldehyde<sup>8</sup>) were synthesized according to literature.

### Nitrovinyl derivatives

General procedure: 3,5 mmole of the appropriate naphtho- and benzofuranaldehyde, 5 ml nitromethane, and 3,5 mmole ammonium acetate were heated gently under reflux for 1/4 h. On cooling, a brownorange precipitate slowly separated which was crystallized from ethanol or from aceton-ethanol. Compound **4b** required a preliminary purification by column chromatography on silica gel (Eluent: ethyl acetate/petroleum ether 1/9).

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