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An facile and efficient route catalyzed by Copper (II) Triflate for the synthesis of α -hydroxy phosphonates under solvent less condition.

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ABSTRACT

A very easy, simple and highly useful approach was developed for one pot synthesis of α -hydroxy phosphonates using substituted aromatic aldehyde, diethyl phosphite catalyzed by copper triflate under solvent less condition. The reaction works out at elevated temperature. The present approach supports important key features such as simple, mild and solvent free reaction condition, eco-friendly and inexpensive catalyst and easy work-up procedure in addition to shorter reaction time, high yield with no formation of side products. The products were confirmed by IR, ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR and mass spectroscopic techniques.

Keywords: simple and clean approach, short reaction time, high yield, low-cost chemicals

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INTRODUCTION

The organophosphorus chemistry is branch of chemistry that deals with study of organophosphorus compounds with their synthesis, characteristics and application in various field such as industrial, agricultural, pharmacological and medical sector [1, 2]. The phosphorus containing compounds found in complex organic compounds in blood, muscles, nerves and in teeth and bones as calcium phosphate. The phosphorus is present in energy rich compounds i.e. Adenosine triphosphate (ATP) which is key molecule of source of energy [3] (Fig. 1). Phosphate compounds are important in living system and play crucial role in different biological processes such as maintenance of cell membrane integrity and nucleic acid, cellular metabolism, regulation of subcellular processes, maintenance of acid-base homeostasis and bone mineralization [4, 5]. The α -hydroxy phosphonates are integral part of many natural compounds which largely present and biologically important in freshwater and marine ecosystems and can be synthesized by so many different types of microorganisms [6] (including protozoa, bacteria, archaea).

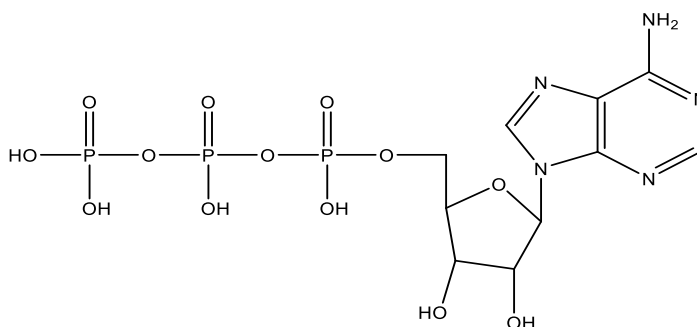


Figure 1: Adenosine tri phosphate (energy rich compound)

Over the last decade, synthesis of α -hydroxy phosphonates received noticeable attention due to its pharmacologically potent activities such as antibacterial [7-9], antifungal [10], antioxidant [11, 12], anticancer [13, 14], anti-HIV [15], enzyme inhibitor [16] properties. In addition to these, α -hydroxy phosphonates play important role of precursor for synthesis of α -keto [17], α -amino [18], α -halo [19], α -acetoxy phosphonates [20] and 1-2 diketone [21]. The α -hydroxy phosphonates are firstly synthesized by the Pudovik reaction, in which the C-P bond is composed by the integration of a dialkyl phosphite to an unsaturated system and the Abramov reaction in which the C-P bond is composed by the integration of a trialkyl phosphite to an unsaturated system. A literature survey reveals that synthesis of α -hydroxy phosphonates involves reaction between substituted aromatic aldehyde and diethyl phosphite with different catalysts such as, Et_3N [22], $\text{Ba}(\text{OH})_2$ [23], K_2CO_3 [24], Na_2CO_3 [25], nano- TiO_2 [26], nBuLi [24], $[\text{bmIm}]\text{OH}$ [28], STA [29], Na@FAP [30], Piperazine [31]. Along with this, reaction of substituted aldehyde and ketones with trialkyl phosphite in presence of catalyst such as $\text{LiClO}_4 \cdot \text{Et}_2\text{O}$ [32], guanidine hydrochloride [33], Ch/Cl [33], KHSO_4 [34], $\text{Bi}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ [35] yields α -hydroxy phosphonates. Among these, variety of catalyst are suffered from drawbacks such as elevated reaction temperature, long reaction time, forceful reaction conditions, low yield, low selectivity, tedious work-up, use of toxic and expensive reagents. In order to circumvent these difficulties Hence currently, there is much emphasis on design and development of green, sustainable and eco-friendly catalyst for organic conversions [36-38].

So, the development of an affordable protocol with facile accessibility, a lower toxic solid acid catalyst and the capability to work under neat conditions is highly appreciated for the synthesis of α -hydroxy phosphonates. This may be achieved by utilization of solid acid catalysts for synthesis of organic compounds produce environmentally favourable condition and help to minimize liberation of toxic reaction residues into the environment [39-41]. The utilization of copper triflates as catalyst for organic synthesis of most bioactive heterocycles has been proven to be fortunate in many reactions [42-45]. The mechanism of interaction between metal triflate and organic moieties has been investigated by mass spectrometry [46].

MATERIAL AND METHODS

General

All the chemicals, reagents and solvents were purchased from Merck, Loba and Avra make. They are utilized without further purification. The melting point were recorded on digital melting/boiling point apparatus of Labtronics make which expressed in degree centigrade (°C) and found uncorrected. Thin layer chromatography was accomplished on precoated plates of TLC silica gel 60 F254. 20% ethyl acetate in hexane solvent was used for TLC. Visualization was made with UV light (254 or 365nm). IR spectra were obtained on Shimatzu Infra-Red Spectrophotometer and absorptions (ν_{\max}) were reported in wave numbers (cm^{-1}). The ^1H NMR spectra were recorded using Bruker- 500 MHz spectrometer in CDCl_3 solvent using TMS as an internal standard and chemical shifts were measured in δ parts per million (ppm) and coupling constants (J) were measured in hertz (Hz).

The spectral analysis of some of the representative compounds were given here: Compound 3a: Diethyl hydroxyl (phenyl) methyl phosphonates:

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ ppm: 7.26-7.49 (m, 5H, Ar-H), 5.00-5.03 (d, 1H, J= 10.8 Hz, CH-PO-), 3.94-4.10 (m, 4H, OCH_2), 1.19-1.28 (m, 6H, OCH_2CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): 16.3, 16.3, 63.0, 63.1, 76.7, 127.0, 127.0, 128.1, 128.2, 128.2, 136.5; **MS m/z** (ESI); 245 (M+H)⁺

Compound 3b: Diethyl hydroxyl (4-methyl phenyl) methyl phosphonates:

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ ppm: 7.16-7.37 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 4.95-4.98 (d, 1H, J=10.4 Hz CH-PO-), 3.93-4.09 (m, 4H, OCH_2), 2.34 (s, 3H, Ar- CH_3), 1.20-1.29 (m, 6H, OCH_2CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): 16.3, 16.3, 21.2, 63.0, 63.0, 76.7, 126.9, 127.0, 128.8, 128.9, 133.4, 137.9; **MS m/z** (ESI); 259 (M+H)⁺

Compound 3c: Diethyl hydroxyl (4-methoxy phenyl) methyl phosphonates:

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ ppm: 6.89-7.41 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 4.93-4.96 (d, 1H, J=10Hz, CH-PO-), 3.91-4.10 (m, 4H, OCH_2), 3.81 (s, 3H, OCH_3), 1.20-1.30 (m, 6H, OCH_2CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): 16.4, 16.4, 55.2, 63.0, 63.0, 76.7, 113.7, 113.7, 128.4, 128.4, 128.4, 159.5; **MS m/z** (ESI): 274.25 (M+H)⁺

Compound 3d: Diethyl hydroxyl (3-nitro phenyl) methyl phosphonates:

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ ppm: 7.53-8.37 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 5.13-5.16 (d, 1H, J=11.2 Hz, CH-PO-), 4.08-4.14 (m, 4H, OCH_2), 3.59 (s, 1H, OH), 1.25-1.57 (m, 6H, OCH_2CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): 16.3, 16.3, 62.5, 62.5, 79.4, 122.8, 123.5, 129.8, 133.2, 136.8, 148.1; **MS m/z** (ESI): 290.37 (M+H)⁺

Compound 3e: Diethyl hydroxyl (2-fluoro phenyl) methyl phosphonates:

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ ppm: 7.02-7.68 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 5.36-5.39 (d, 1H, J=11.2 Hz, CH-PO-), 3.99-4.22 (m, 4H, OCH_2), 1.21-1.31 (m, 6H, OCH_2CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): 16.3, 16.3, 62.5, 62.5, 73.6, 115.7, 124.5, 127.9, 128.7, 129.2, 159.6; **MS m/z** (ESI): 263.58 (M+H)⁺

Compound 3f: Diethyl hydroxyl (4-fluoro phenyl) methyl phosphonates:

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ ppm: 7.44-7.48 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.02-7.07 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 4.98- 5.01 (d, 1H, J=10.4 Hz, CH-PO-), 3.97-4.10 (m, 4H, OCH_2), 1.21-1.29 (m, 6H, OCH_2CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): 16.4, 16.4, 62.5, 62.5, 80.4, 115.7, 115.7, 128.7, 128.7, 131.5, 161.8; **MS m/z** (ESI): 263.04 (M+H)⁺

Compound 3g: Diethyl hydroxyl (4-chloro phenyl) methyl phosphonates:

^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ ppm: 7.23-7.46 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 4.81-4.79 (d, 1H, J=10.8 Hz, CH-PO-), 3.99-4.26 (m, 4H, OCH_2), 1.24-1.35 (m, 6H, OCH_2CH_3); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3): 16.3, 16.3, 62.4, 62.4, 80.3, 128.5, 128.5, 129.0, 129.0, 134.0, 133.2; **MS m/z** (ESI): 279.74 (M+H)⁺

General procedure for the synthesis of derivatives of α -hydroxy phosphonates

In a 50 ml round bottom flask, the mixture of substituted aromatic aldehyde (1.0 mmol), diethyl phosphite (1.0 mmol) and $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$ (20 mol%) was heated at 65°C for half hrs under solvent free condition and the progress of reaction was monitored by TLC. After completion of reaction, water was discharged to the reaction mixture and extracted with ethyl acetate, then organic layer was dry over an. Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain desired product. The crude product was recrystallized in ethanol solvent to afford the pure product which was characterized by spectroscopic methods.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

At first endeavour, the reaction was carried out utilizing 3-nitro benzaldehyde (1 mmol) and diethyl phosphite (1 mmol) in absence of catalyst under solvent free condition at room temperature as well as heating at 65°C but progress of reaction was not visually examined on TLC even stirring for 2 hrs (Table-1, Entry 1 and 2). Furthermore, similar reaction was performed with 5 mol% of $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$ at room temperature, no product visualised on TLC even stirring for 2 hrs. (Table-1, Entry 3), then same reaction mixture was heated at 65°C for next half hrs, surprisingly product was formed with 35% of yield (Table-1, Entry 4). Afterwards, we tried for improvement in yield of desired product by selecting similar reactant with increasing concentration of catalyst $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$ from 10, 15, 20 mol%. It was observed that, yield of desired product was increases as catalyst concentration increases (Table-1 Entry 5, 6 and 7).

Table 1: Optimization of concentration of catalyst^a

Entry	Catalyst conc. (mol %)	Time (hrs.)	Yield ^b (%)
1 ^c	-	2	NP
2	-	2	NP
3 ^c	5	2	NP
4	5	0.5	35
5	10	0.5	75
6	15	0.5	80
7	20	0.5	90

^aReaction condition: 3-nitro benzaldehyde, (1mmol), diethyl phosphite, (1 mmol) heating at 65°C under solvent free condition, ^bIsolated yields, ^croom temperature, NP- No Product

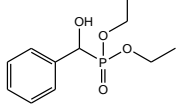
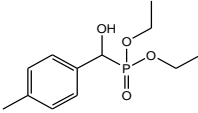
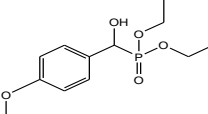
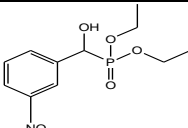
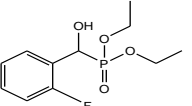
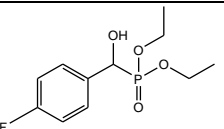
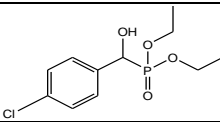
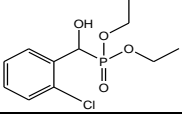
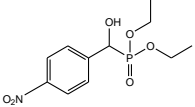
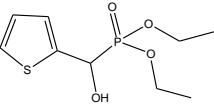
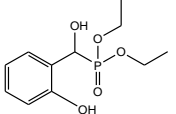
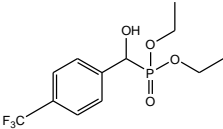
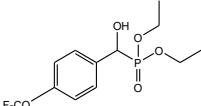
To find out effect of solvent for synthesis of Diethyl hydroxyl (3-nitro phenyl) methyl phosphonates, we screened different solvent such as toluene, THF, 1,4-dioxane, acetonitrile and ethanol for nucleophilic addition of diethyl phosphite towards 3-nitro benzaldehyde in presence of 20 mol% of $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$ catalyst at 65°C. The reaction performed very well with faster rate and excellent yield under neat condition. (Table-2, Entry 6). It may be due to under neat conditions, the concentration of catalyst leads to higher reaction rates than the same reaction performed in the presence of solvent. So, all other derivatives are synthesized using different substituted aldehydes and diethyl phosphite with excellent yield in presence of 20 mol% amount of catalyst $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$ under solvent free condition at 65°C and the results are summarized in Table-3

Table 2: Screening of solvent^a

Entry	Solvent	Time (hrs)	Yield (%) ^b
1	Toluene	0.5	55
2	THF	0.5	66
3	1,4-dioxane	0.5	72
4	Acetonitrile	0.5	80
5	Ethanol	0.5	85
6	Neat	0.5	90

^aReaction condition: 3-nitro benzaldehyde, (1 mmol), diethyl phosphite, (1 mmol), $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$ (20 mol%) heating at 65°C, ^bIsolated yields

Table 3: Synthesis of α -hydroxy phosphonates derivatives using aromatic aldehyde and diethyl phosphite under solvent free condition at 65°C temperature^a

Entry	Aldehyde	Compound	M.P. °C found	Yield ^b (%)
1	Benzaldehyde		74-75	85
2	4-Methyl benzaldehyde		95-96	86
3	4-Methoxy benzaldehyde		120-122	90
4	3-Nitro benzaldehyde		80-82	90
5	2-Fluoro benzaldehyde		88-89	84
6	4-Fluoro benzaldehyde		78-79	88
7	4-Chloro benzaldehyde		68-70	90
8	2-Chloro benzaldehyde		75-77	88
9	4-Nitro benzaldehyde		88-90	90
10	Thiophene 2-aldehyde		67-68	80
11	Salicylaldehyde		70-72	85
12	4-trifluoromethyl benzaldehyde		90-92	88
13	4-trifluoromethoxy benzaldehyde		97-99	86

^aReaction condition : aromatic aldehyde (1 mmol), diethyl phosphite, (1 mmol), Cu(OTf)₂ (20 mol%) heating at 65°C under solvent free condition, ^bIsolated yields

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, we have developed facile, more efficient and straightforward protocol for one pot synthesis of α -hydroxy phosphonates using different substituted aromatic aldehyde (1.0 mmol) and diethyl phosphite (1.0 mmol) in presence of copper triflate (20 mol%) as a catalyst under solvent free condition at 65°C temperature. With comparison of earlier reported methodologies, the present synthetic protocol is mild, solvent free, eco-friendly and inexpensive catalyst and easy work-up procedure.

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