# Microwave-assisted Mild Conversion of Natural Dihydrotagetone into 5-Isobutyl-3-methyl-4,5-dihydro-2(3H)-furanone, an Analogue of Whisky Lactone* 

Arun K Sinha,* Bhupendra P. Joshi, Anuj Sharma, Vinod Kumar and Ruchi Acharya

## Supporting Information



## General

${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}(300 \mathrm{MHz})$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}(75.4 \mathrm{MHz}) \mathrm{NMR}$ spectra were recorded in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ on a Bruker Avance-300 spectrometer. CEM Discover ${ }^{\circ}$ focused microwave ( $2450 \mathrm{MHz}, 300 \mathrm{~W}$ ) was used wherever mentioned. GCMS was determined using a Shimadzu-2010 spectrometer. Optical rotations ${ }^{16}$ were measured on a Horiba SEPA 300 polarimeter. Tagetes oil was obtained from hydrodistillation of whole plant of $T$. minuta ${ }^{12,13}$ in Clevenger apparatus.

## Method for purification of Dihydrotagetone from T. minuta oil

Tagetes oil, upon purification on silica gel column with an increasing polarity of eluent (hexane:ethyl acetate:: 100:0 to 95:5) provided, dihydrotagetone (4) (50 to $60 \%$ $\mathrm{w} / \mathrm{w})$ as a colourless liquid; specific rotation in chloroform $[\alpha]_{\mathrm{D}}{ }^{18}=+7.5 ; \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{f}}=0.68(2.5 \%$ ethyl acetate in hexane); IR (film) $\lambda_{\max }$ 2992, 1715, 1463, 1367, $913 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 5.64-5.58(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, 2-\mathrm{CH}), 4.91-4.80\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, 1-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 2.64-2.60(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, 3-\mathrm{CH})$, $2.30\left(\mathrm{~d}, \mathrm{~J}=6.46 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}, 4-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 2.17\left(\mathrm{~d}, \mathrm{~J}=6.86 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}, 6-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 2.07-2.00(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, 7-$ $\mathrm{CH}), 0.91\left(\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=6.46 \mathrm{~Hz}, 10-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right), 0.81\left(\mathrm{~d}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=6.86 \mathrm{~Hz}, 8-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ and $\left.9-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 209.8(\mathrm{C}-4), 142.9(\mathrm{C}-2), 112.9(\mathrm{C}-1), 52.4(\mathrm{C}-7), 49.8(\mathrm{C}-3), 33.1$ (C4), 24.4 (C-6), 22.5 (C-8 and C-9) and 19.7 (C-10); EIMS m/z 154 [M] ${ }^{+}$(1.8), 139 (1.7), 112 (1.4), 97 (31.8), 56 (14.7), 42 (12.8), 85 (84.1), 57 (100\%), 58 (65.4). The spectral data was found matching with the literature. ${ }^{17}$

## Method for the synthesis of 2,6-dimethyl-4-oxo-heptanoic acid (3) under Microwave

A mixture of dihydrotagetone (4) (3.53 g, 22.92 mmole), sodium bicarbonate (1.8 g, 21.43 mmole ), sodium metaperiodate ( $22.84 \mathrm{~g}, 106.78 \mathrm{mmole}$ ), potassium permanganate ( $0.65 \mathrm{~g}, 4.11 \mathrm{mmole}$ ), alumina ( $0.8-1.2 \mathrm{~g}$ ) and tert-butanol-water ( 20 mL , 1:3) was taken in a 100 ml round bottom flask. The flask was shaken well for a while and
then placed inside a microwave oven (CEM ${ }^{\circledR}$ Organic Synthesizer) and irradiated for 30 minutes at $180^{\circ} \mathrm{C}, 200 \mathrm{~W}$. After completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC), the contents of the flask were poured into saturated solution of sodium bisulphite so as to destroy excess permanganate, the resulting mixture was filtered and residue washed with aqueous acetone ( $40 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{x} \mathrm{3}, \mathrm{3:1)}$. solution concentrated under reduced pressure to remove organic solvent. The mixture was cooled to $5{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and acidified with dilute acid and then extracted with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 25$ mL ). The ethyl acetate layers were then combined, washed with saturated sodium chloride ( 3 x 15 mL ), dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate and then filtered. Ethyl acetate layer was removed under vacuum to obtain a crude product which was purified on silica column (hexane:ethyl acetate:: 100:0 to 95:5 as an eluent) to afford 2,6-dimethyl-4-oxo-heptanoic acid (3) in $81 \%$ as a viscous liquid. Specific rotation of (3) in chloroform $[\alpha]_{\mathrm{D}}{ }^{18}=-10.5 ; \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{f}}=0.69$ (toluene:ethylacetate:methanol:: 6.5:3.4:0.1 mL); IR (film) $\lambda_{\max }$ 2958, 1709, 1465, 1376, $937 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\delta 8.37$ (br, 1H, COOH), 2.86-2.82 (m, 1H, 2-CH), 2.39 (d, 2H, $J=6.46 \mathrm{~Hz}, 3-\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), $2.19\left(\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=6.06 \mathrm{~Hz}, 5-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right.$ ), 2.07-2.00 (m, $1 \mathrm{H}, 6-\mathrm{CH}), 1.11\left(\mathrm{~d}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=7.27 \mathrm{~Hz}, 9-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right), 0.81\left(\mathrm{~d}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=6.86 \mathrm{~Hz}, 7-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$ and $\left.8-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)$; ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR 208.9 (C=O, C-4), 181.6 (COOH, C-1), 51.8 (C-2), 46.0 (C-6), 34.4 (C-3), 24.6 (C-5), 22.4 (C-7 and C-8), 16.8 (C-9). Methylation of acid 3 provided corresponding volatile methyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-oxo-heptanoate; ${ }^{6 a}$ EIMS of methyl ester of $3 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{z} 186$ $[\mathrm{M}]^{+}$(1.8), 171 (1.1), 155 (19.1), 144 (31.4), 129 (43.5), 112 (25.0), 101 (23.4), 85 (77.4), 58 (74.4), 57 (100\%), 41 (80.0).

## Method for the synthesis of 2,6-dimethyl-4-oxo-heptanoic acid (3)(conventional)

A mixture of dihydrotagetone (4) ( $3.53 \mathrm{~g}, 22.92 \mathrm{mmole}$ ), sodium bicarbonate (1.8 g, 21.43 mmole ), sodium metaperiodate ( $22.84 \mathrm{~g}, 106.78 \mathrm{mmole}$ ), potassium permanganate ( $0.65 \mathrm{~g}, 4.11 \mathrm{mmole}$ ), alumina ( $0.8-1.2 \mathrm{~g}$ ) and tert-butanol-water ( 50 mL , 1:3) were taken in a 100 ml round bottom flask. The flask was shaken well for a while and then refluxed on heating mantle for 16 h (conventional heating). After completion of the reaction (monitored by TLC), the reaction mixture was worked up and purified by the above mentioned procedure and the product 2,6-dimethyl-4-oxo-heptanoic acid (3) was obtained in $68 \%$ yield as a viscous liquid.

## Synthesis of 5-isobutyl-3-methyl-4,5-dihydro-2(3H)-furanone (1).

Sodium borohydride ( 0.6 g ) was added drop wise to a ice cold solution of 2,6-dimethyl-4-oxo-heptanoic acid (3) (1.0 g) in 2 N -sodium hydroxide ( 1.5 mL ) and methanol ( 20 mL ). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 hr and after completion of reaction the mixture was cooled to $5{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, acidified with dilute hydrochloric acid $(0.5 \mathrm{~N})$ followed by stirring for 5 min and then extracted with ether ( $3 \times 50 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). The combined extracts were washed with brine, dried (anhydrous $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$ ) and then concentrated to obtain a crude liquid which was purified on silica column (hexane:ethyl acetate:: 100:0 to 95:5 as an eluent) to afford a diastereomeric mixture of 5-Isobutyl-3-methyl-4,5-dihydro-2(3H)-furanone (1) as a colourless oil with coconut flavour in $76 \%$ yield. Specific rotation in chloroform $[\alpha]_{\mathrm{D}}{ }^{18}=-1.5 ; \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{f}}=0.80$ ( $10 \%$ ethylacetate in hexane); IR (film) $\lambda_{\max } 2962,1772,1558,1457,1362,1173,1135,1004,1024,926 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1} ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\delta 4.47-$ 4.43 (m, 0.43H, cis-5-CH), 4.32-4.29 (m, 0.57H, trans-5-CH), 2.58-2.52 and 2.41-2.37 ( $2 \mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, 3-\mathrm{CH}$ ), $1.97-1.91(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, 7-\mathrm{CH}), 1.70-1.68$ and $1.56-1.49\left(2 \mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, 4-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$,
$1.38-1.32$ and $1.29-1.25\left(2 \mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, 6-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 1.16$ and $1.12\left(2 \mathrm{~d}, \mathrm{~J}=6.86 \mathrm{~Hz}, 3 \mathrm{H}, 10-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)$, $0.83\left(\mathrm{~d}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{J}=6.46 \mathrm{~Hz}, 8-\mathrm{CH}_{3} \& 9-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\delta 180.1$ and $179.4(\mathrm{C}-2), 76.8$ and 76.6 (C-5), 44.6 and 44.4 (C-3), 37.8 (C- 4), 35.8 (C-6), 22.8 (C-7), 22.8 and 22.1(C-8 and C-9), 15.7 and 15.0 (C-10); EIMS m/z $156[\mathrm{M}]^{+}$(1.3), 99 (100\%), 84 (5.4), 71 (28.5), 56 (14.7), 42 (12.8). On the basis of above spectral data and comparing it with reported literature, ${ }^{6}$ the liquid was identified as $\mathbf{1 .}$
$H^{1}$ NMR Spectra of 4/Scheme 2

$C^{13}$ NMR Spectra of 4/Scheme 2


## GC of 4/ Scheme 2



## $\mathbf{H}^{1}$ NMR Spectra of 3/Scheme 2



## $\mathrm{C}^{13}$ NMR Spectra

3/Scheme 2


## GC of 3/Scheme 2



## HREIMS of 3/Scheme 2


$H^{1}$ NMR Spectra of 1/Scheme 2


## $C^{13}$ NMR Spectra of $\mathbf{1 / S c h e m e} 2$



GC of $\mathbf{1 / S c h e m e} 2$


GCMS [Peak 1] of 1/Scheme 2


GCMS [Peak 2] of 1/Scheme 2


HMQC of $\mathbf{1 / S c h e m e} 2$


HMBC of $\mathbf{1}$ /Scheme 2


## HREIMS of 1/Scheme 2



