



COBALT (II) NITRATE HEXAHYDRATE AS AN EFFICIENT CATALYST FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF β -AMINO KETONES DERIVATIVES

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ABSTRACT: Eco-friendly protocol was developed for the synthesis of β -amino ketones derivatives using the one pot multi-component reaction of aromatic aldehydes, ketones and aromatic amines in presence of cobalt (II) nitrate hexahydrate in ethanol at room temperature via mannich reaction. The advantages of this eco-friendly protocol are numerous, and include the use of an inexpensive catalyst, high to excellent yield, short reaction time and high catalytic activity that can make this method an interesting alternative to multi-step approaches.

KEYWORDS: Mannich reaction; multi-component reactions, cobalt nitrate; β -Amino carbonyl compounds.

INTRODUCTION:

Multi-component reactions represent a very curious organic synthetic methodology due to their various advantages, such as one-pot and easy operating conditions, atom economy, high chemical yields and cheap substratesⁱ Mannich reaction is one of the most unique C-C bond forming reactions in organic transformation for the synthesis of secondary and tertiary amine derivatives. Mannich reaction has been predicted as one of the most prominent multi-component reactions (MCRs) has been utilized for the synthesis of β -amino ketones (Mannich bases) via one-pot condensation of ketone, aldehyde, and amine since its discovery in 1917ⁱⁱ. Mannich base are useful synthetic intermediates^{iii-vi} and widely applied in the synthesis of natural products^{vii} and pharmaceutical chemistry^{viii-xi}. Moreover, β -amino ketones and its derivatives are important compounds exhibiting various and useful bioactivities such as anti-inflammatory, analgesic, antidiabetic, antibacterial, and antitumor activities and so on^x. Marketed, β -amino ketones drugs are widely applied in clinics, for example Ondansetron is a medication used to prevent nausea and vomiting caused by cancer

chemotherapy and radiation therapy and the drug bupropion exhibits anti-depressant properties. The drug benazepril shows anti-hypertension agents are widely used in clinical practices^{xi}.

For the preparation of the mannich product, the researcher used several reagents, since for the last decade The reagents such as Lewis acids have been reported in the literature and few catalyst includes Yb(OPf)₃^{xii}, ZrOCl₂·8H₂O^{xiii}, Zn(OTf)₂^{xiv}, NbCl₅^{xv}, SnCl₂/SnCl₄^{xvi-xvii}, BiCl₃^{xviii}, CeCl₃·7H₂O/CAN^{xix-xx}, FeCp₂PF₆^{xxi}, Bi(NO₃)₃^{xxii}, Bi(OTf)₃^{xxiii}, and Ga(OTf)₃^{xxiv} have been employed for the synthesis of Mannich bases under either solution-phase or solvent-free conditions. Brønsted acid-based catalysts as conc. HCl^{xxv}, camphor sulfonic acid^{xxvi}, HClO₄-SiO₂^{xxvii}, polymer-supported sulfonic acid^{xxviii}, H₃PW₁₂O₄₀^{xxix}, acidic surfactants^{xxx}, and acidic ionic liquids^{xxxi}, have been extensively explored for Mannich reaction, which provides a reliable access to Mannich bases. However, these methods are typically limited by large catalyst loading, moderate yield and long reaction time In addition, organometallic complexes of Ti (IV)^{xxxii}, Bi(III)^{xxxiii}, Sb(III)^{xxxiv}, Zr(IV)^{xxxv}, along with other Lewis acids, such as sulfonium^{xxxvi}/iodonium salts^{xxxvii} and SiCl₄^{xxxviii}, also have been used catalysts for this purpose. However, most of the methods have certain drawbacks such as more amounts of catalyst, longer reaction times, low potent, high-cost, high temperature, low yields, tedious work-up procedures, toxic solvents, etc.

In present study was to develop a new method for the synthesis of β-amino ketones derivatives using inexpensive, eco-friendly and non-hazardous homogeneous cobalt (II) nitrate (15 mol%) as catalyst in ethanol at room temperature via mannich reaction.

EXPERIMENTAL:

All reactions were performed at room temperature. High speed stirring was carried out with magnetic force. All the starting materials were got from commercially accessible sources and used without further purification. Melting points were measured by open capillary technique and are uncorrected. FTIR spectra were noted on alpha T BRUKER model. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at ambient temperature on a BRUKER AVANCE DRX-500 MHz spectrophotometer using CDCl₃ as the solvent and TMS as an internal standard. The purity of newly synthesized compounds and the changes of reaction were observed by thin layer chromatography (TLC) on Merck pre-coated silica gel 60 F254 aluminium sheets, visualized by UV light.

GENERAL PROCEDURE: A mixture of ketone (1.0 mmol), substituted aromatic aldehyde (1.0 mmol), substituted aromatic amines (1.0 mmol) and Cobalt nitrate hexahydrate (15 mol %) in 3.0 mL ethanol was stirred at room temperature for the respective time specified in Tables 3. The progress of reaction was determined by TLC. Subsequent completion of the reaction, the reaction mass is poured on crushed ice. The precipitate was filtered off, and washed with cold water and dried in air to get pure product. The solid product was purified by ethanol.

1, 3-Diphenyl-3- (phenyl amino) propan-1-one (4a):

White solid, MP: 169-170 °C; FTIR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3384, 3023, 2877, 1669, 1597, 1510, 743, 685, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.90 (d, J = 7 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (t, J = 7 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (m, 4H), 7.31 (t, J = 7 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (t, J = 7 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 6.65 (t, J = 7 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (d, J = 8 Hz, 2H), 5.00 (s 1H), 4.54 (s 1H), 3.51 (dd, J = 16, 5 Hz, 1H), 3.41 (dd, J = 16, 7.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.2, 146.9, 142.9, 136.7, 133.4, 129.0, 128.9, 128.8, 128.6, 128.2, 127.3, 126.3, 117.7, 113.8, 54.7, 46.2. HRMS (EI): m/z calculated for [M+H]⁺ [C₂₁H₂₀NO]? 302.1533,

1,3-Diphenyl-3-(p-tolylamino) propan-1-one (4b):

White solid MP: 138–139 °C. FTIR (KBr, cm^{-1}): 3400, 3019, 2914, 1678, 1619, 1523, 744, 683. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.89 (s, 2H), 7.2–7.5 (m, 8H), 6.89 (s, 2H), 6.47 (s, 2H), 4.96 (s, 1H), 4.41 (s, 1H), 3.47 (d, 1H), 3.41 (d, 1H), 2.17 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.3, 144.6, 143.1, 136.7, 133.3, 129.5, 128.7, 128.6, 128.1, 127.2, 126.9, 126.3, 113.9, 55.0, 46.3, 20.3; HRMS (EI): m/z calculated for $[\text{M}+\text{H}^+]$ $[\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}]$ 316.1700.

3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1-phenyl-3-(phenyl amino) propan-1-one (4c):

Crisme white solid, MP 106–107 °C, FTIR (KBr, cm^{-1}): 3389, 3027, 2920, 1665, 1507, 1367, 747, 682. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.89 (d, $J=7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.56 (t, $J=7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.44 (t, $J=8$ Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, $J=8$ Hz, 2H), 7.26 (t, $J=8$ Hz, 2H), 7.0 (t, $J=8$ Hz, 2H), 6.67 (t, $J=7.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.52 (d, $J=8$, 2H), 4.97 (dd, $J=6.5$, 6 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (s, 1H), 3.45 (dd, $J=16$, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.41 (dd, $J=16.5$, 7.5 Hz, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.9, 146.6, 141.5, 136.5, 133.5, 132.9, 129.2, 129.1, 128.9, 128.7, 128.5, 128.1, 127.8, 118.0, 113.8, 54.1, 46.0. HRMS (EI): m/z calculated for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ $[\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{19}\text{ClNO}]$ 336.1154.

3-(4-Chlorophenylamino)-1,3-diphenylpropan-1-one (4d):

White solid; M.P.: 171–172 °C; FTIR (KBr, vmax , cm^{-1}): 3369, 3024, 2932, 1663, 1598, 1496, 1283, 809, 680; ; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ ppm: 7.90 (d, $J=8$ Hz, 2H), 7.56 (t, $J=4$ Hz, 1H), 7.39–7.45 (m, 4H), 7.25–7.33 (m, 2H), 7.01 (d, $J=8$ Hz, 2H), 6.46 (d, $J=8$ Hz, 2H), 4.94 (t, $J=8$ Hz, 1H), 4.60 (s, 1H, -NH), 3.48 (dd, $J=16$ and 8 Hz, 1H), 3.48 (dd, $J=16$ and 8 Hz, 1H), ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 198.1, 145.6, 142.5, 136.6, 133.5, 128.9, 128.7, 128.2, 127.5, 126.3, 122.4, 114.9, 54.9, 46.2. HRMS (EI): m/z calculated for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ $[\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{19}\text{ClNO}]$ 336.1154.

3-((4-Chlorophenyl) amino)-3-phenyl-1-(p-tolyl) propan-1-one (4j):

White solid, M.P.: 110–111 °C. FTIR (KBr, cm^{-1}): 3385, 3025, 2918, 1662, 1598, 1288, 807, 698.

^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.79 (d, $J=8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d, $J=7.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.31 (t, $J=7.5$ Hz, 8 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (dd, $J=8$, 5.5 Hz, 3H), 7.0 (d, $J=8.5$ Hz, 2H), 6.45 (d, $J=8.5$ Hz, 2H), 4.91 (s, 1H), 4.66 (s, 1H), 3.45 (dd, $J=16$, 5 Hz, 1H), 3.36 (dd, $J=16$, 8 Hz, 1H), 2.39 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.8, 145.6, 144.4, 142.6, 134.1, 130.4, 129.4, 129.3, 129.1, 128.9, 128.6, 128.4, 128.3, 127.6, 127.4, 126.3, 122.3, 122.1, 114.9, 55.0, 46.1, 21.6.; HRMS (ESI+): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{21}\text{ClNO}$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ 350.1306; found 350.1307.

3-Phenyl-3-(phenyl amino)-1-(p-tolyl)propan-1-one (4k) :

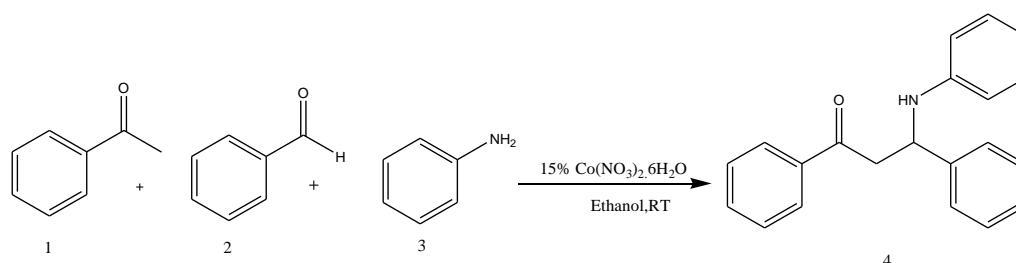
Gray solid, M.P.: 120–122 °C. FTIR (KBr, cm^{-1}): 3379, 3023, 1661, 1598, 1286, 747, 693. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.84 (d, $J=8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.43 (d, $J=7$ Hz, 2H), 7.21–7.32 (m, 5H), 7.27 (d, $J=7.6$ Hz, 3H), 7.05–7.09 (m, 2H), 6.64 (t, $J=14.5$, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (d, $J=8.5$ Hz, 2H), 4.98 (t, $J=7.5$, 5 Hz, 1H), 4.56 (s, 1H), 3.49 (dd, $J=16.0$, 5 Hz, 1H), 3.37 (dd, $J=16.0$, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.39 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 197.9, 147.0, 144.3, 143.1, 134.2, 129.4, 129.1, 128.8, 128.3, 127.3, 126.3, 117.7, 113.8, 54.9, 46.2, 21.6.; HRMS (ESI+): m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}$ $[\text{M} + \text{H}^+]$ 316.1306;

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

Cobalt nitrate reagent was explored for the synthesis of β -amino ketones derivatives as an efficient catalyst. The reaction of aromatic aldehydes, acetophenone and aniline in ethanol was carried out at room temperature. Initially, for reaction conditions optimization, the condensation reaction of benzaldehyde, acetophenone and aniline in ethanol at room temperature was used as a model reaction (Scheme 1). When the reaction of benzaldehyde (1.0 mmol) was carried out with acetophenone (1.0 mmol) and aniline (1.0 mmol) in ethanol (5.0 mL) at room temperature for 24 hours in absence of cobalt nitrate catalyst, no significant yield is obtained (Table 1, entry 1). This means that the involvement of catalyst is necessary for the initiation of the reaction. By increasing the amount of catalyst used from 2 to 15

mol%, the yield gradually increased from 42 to 94% (Table 1, entries 2-7). The obtained results show that the best yield for the synthesis of compound **4** were observed when using 15 mol% of the catalyst, the reaction completes in 11 hours with a yield of 94% at room temperature (Table 1, entry 6). Increasing the concentration from 15 to 20 mol% of cobalt nitrate, at room temperature, does not result in any noticeable changes in the reaction time or yields (Table 1, entries 6-7).

With these optimized reaction conditions, effect of different solvents such as THF, DMF, CHCl_3 , CH_2Cl_2 , acetonitrile and ethanol were investigated (Table 2). Among the tested solvents, ethanol was found to be better over the other tested solvents in terms of both yield of the product and reaction time (Table 2 Entry 6) for this transformation.



Scheme 1 synthesis of β -amino carbonyl compounds via Mannich-reaction.

Table 1 The direct Mannich reaction: effect of catalysis ^a

Entry	Amount of catalyst (mol %)	Time (h)	Yield (%) ^b
1	-	24	Trace
2	2	18	42
3	5	15	65
4	7	14	76
5	10	12	82
6	15	11	94
7	20	11	94

^a **Reaction conditions:** acetophenone (1.0 mmol); benzaldehyde (1.0 mmol); aniline (1.0 mmol) and ethanol (5.0 ml) at room temperature. ^b Isolated yields.

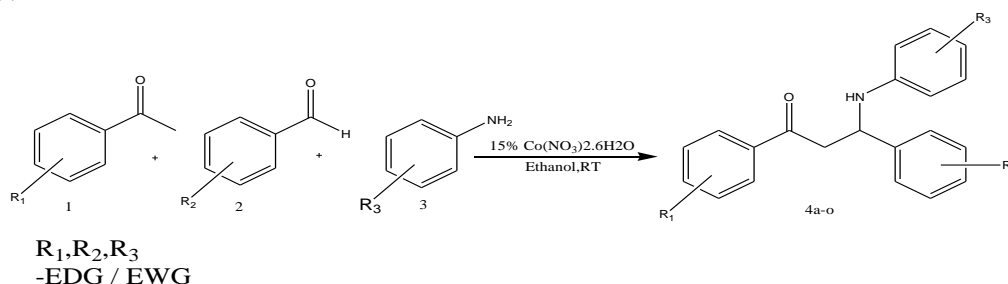
Table 2 The direct Mannich reaction catalyzed by 15 mol% cobalt nitrate hexahydrate in different solvents: effect of solvents^a

Entry	Solvent	Reaction Time (h)	Yield (%) ^b
1	THF	36	20
2	DMF	36	25
3	CHCl_3	24	28
4	CH_2Cl_2	24	30
5	CH_3CN	20	60
6	EtOH	11	94

^a**Reaction conditions:** acetophenone (5 mmol); benzaldehyde (5 mmol); aniline (5 mmol) at room temperature ^bIsolated yields.

As a results, further set of experiments, in order to make the generality of the reaction, various aromatic aldehydes having both electron-donating as well as electron-withdrawing substituents were transformed into β -amino carbonyl compounds via Mannich-reaction in

high to excellent yields. Aromatic amine substrates (m-and p-substituted) with electron donating group-substituted amines afforded the corresponding products in better yields than electron-withdrawing group substituted amines (Table 1, b,d,f,g entries). Strongly electron withdrawing substituents like 4-NO₂ and o-substituted amines failed to yield any desired product due to steric hindrance of ortho-substituents. The entire results are summarized in Table 3.



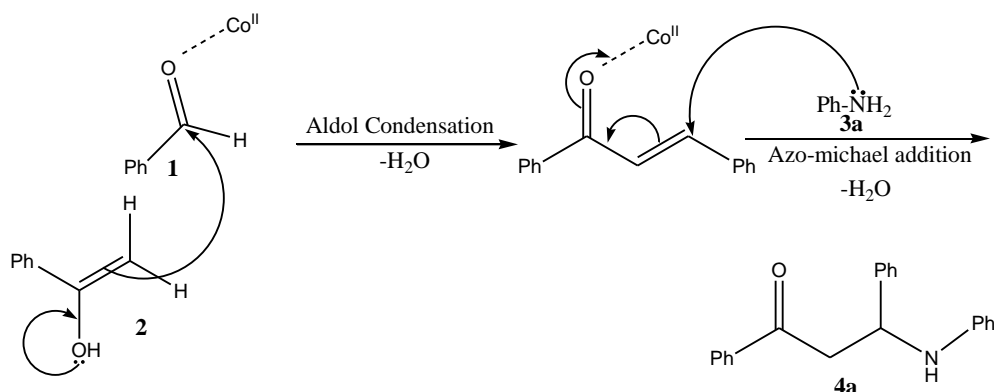
Scheme 2 Mannich reaction between substituted aromatic aldehydes, ketones and anilines
Table 3 synthesis of β -amino carbonyl compounds via Mannich-reaction^a.

Entry	Ketones (-R ₁)	Aldehydes (R ₂)	Amines (R ₃)	Time (hr)	Yield (%) ^b	Melting Point °C
4a	-H	-H	-H	11	93	169-170
4b	-H	-H	<i>p</i> -CH ₃	12	91	138-139
4c	-H	<i>p</i> -Cl	-H	10	92	106-107
4d	-H	-H	<i>p</i> -Cl	13	84	171-172
4e	-H	<i>p</i> -OCH ₃	-H	12.5	82	149-150
4f	-H	<i>p</i> -Cl	<i>p</i> -Cl	11.5	90	119-121
4g	-H	<i>p</i> -CH ₃	<i>H</i>	10.5	93	133-134
4h	-H	<i>p</i> -NO ₂	-H	14	68	108-110
4i	-H	-H	<i>p</i> -NO ₂	15	Trace	-
4j	<i>p</i> -CH ₃	-H	<i>p</i> -Cl	10	90	110-111
4k	<i>p</i> -CH ₃	-H	-H	11	89	120-122
4l	<i>p</i> -OCH ₃	-H	-H	13	85	136-138
4m	-H	<i>p</i> -F	-H	11	91	102-104
4n	-H	<i>H</i>	<i>m</i> -Cl	11	89	130-131
4o	-H	<i>p</i> -Br	-H	13	86	138-139

^a **Reaction conditions:** acetophenone (1.0 mmol); benzaldehyde (1.0 mmol); aniline (1.0 mmol) and 15 mol% Cobalt nitrate in ethanol (5.0 ml) at room temperature.

^b Isolated yields.

Mechanism: The mechanism of the reaction first carried out by aldol condensation and then followed by the azo Michael addition reaction to produce desired Mannish base product (Scheme 3), involving Co(NO₃)₂.6H₂O as catalyzed three-component Mannish reaction afford the desired Mannish base (Scheme 3). The Mechanism involves the Co (NO₃)₂.6H₂O. to strongly activate the carbonyl compounds, hence, the reaction goes via aldol condensation to produce intermediates 3a, then the compound 3a reacts with 3b via Azo-Michael addition type reaction and gives desire product 4a.



Scheme 3 Proposed mechanism for Mannish reaction 4a

CONCLUSION:

In summary, we have developed a novel and efficient method for the synthesis of functionalized β -amino ketones derivatives through the one-pot multi-components via mannich reaction in presence of cobalt nitrate hexahydrate ($\text{Co}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$) as a catalyst. This protocol exhibits a wide range of applications for various easily accessible mannich bases under mild reaction conditions, and the corresponding products were obtained in good to excellent yields. These results will offer considerable applications to complex targets in organic and medicinal chemistry.

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