

# Efficient Synthesis of New Pyrimido[5',4':5,6]pyrano[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*)-triones via the Tandem Intramolecular Pinner–Dimroth Rearrangement, and Their Antibacterial Activity<sup>1</sup>

M. Asadian<sup>a</sup>, A. Davoodnia<sup>a\*</sup>, and S. A. Beyramabadi<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Chemistry, Mashhad Branch, Islamic Azad University, Mashhad, 9175687119 Iran  
\*e-mail: adavoodnia@mshdiau.ac.ir; adavoodnia@yahoo.com

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**Abstract**—Synthesis of new 8-alkyl-5-aryl-1,3-dimethyl-5,7-dihydro-2*H*-pyrimido[5',4':5,6]pyrano[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*)-triones by the high yield reaction of 7-amino-5-aryl-1,3-dimethyl-2,4-dioxo-1,3,4,5-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrano[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-6-carbonitriles with aliphatic carboxylic acids in the presence of POCl<sub>3</sub> is presented. It is probable that synthesis of these new products proceeds *via* the tandem intramolecular Pinner–Dimroth rearrangement. The products are characterized by FT-IR, <sup>1</sup>H, and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra and evaluated for their antibacterial activity against gram +ve bacteria (*Staphylococcus aureus* and *Staphylococcus epidermidis*) and gram –ve bacteria (*Escherichia coli* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*) using the disc diffusion method.

**Keywords:** pyrimido[5',4':5,6]pyrano[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine, carboxylic acids, POCl<sub>3</sub>, Pinner–Dimroth rearrangement, antibacterial

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## INTRODUCTION

Compounds containing a fused pyrimidine ring are of considerable importance due to their biological activities such as antimalarial [1], antibacterial [2], antioxidant [3], anticancer [4, 5], antiproliferative [6], and antitubercular [7]. The pyrimidine skeleton is present in DNA bases [8] including cytosine, thymine and uracil, and vitamin B1 [9]. Pyrimidines are known as inhibitors of aurora kinase [10], tyrosine kinase [11], CDK4 [12], and EGFR-TK [13]. These properties stimulated our study of synthesis of new fused pyrimidines by a simple and efficient method [14–16].

Although various tricyclic pyrimidopyranopyrimidines can be constructed from two fused pyranopyrimidine and pyrimidine rings, but there is only a limited number of reports on synthesis of pyrimido[5',4':5,6]-pyrano[2,3-*d*]pyrimidines [17–20], that can also be named as pyrano[2,3-*d*:6,5-*d'*]dipyrimidines.

Inspired by the above facts and our ongoing interest in the synthesis of new fused heterocyclic compounds

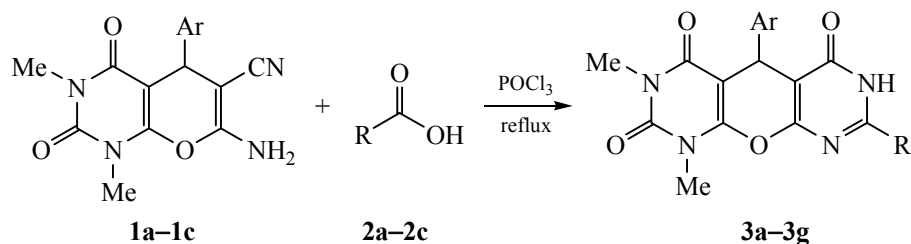
with potential biological activities [21–31], we report herein the synthesis of new 8-alkyl-5-aryl-1,3-dimethyl-5,7-dihydro-2*H*-pyrimido[5',4':5,6]pyrano[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*)-triones **3a–3g** by the reaction of 7-amino-5-aryl-1,3-dimethyl-2,4-dioxo-1,3,4,5-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrano[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-6-carbonitriles **1a–1c** with aliphatic carboxylic acids **2a–2c** in the presence of POCl<sub>3</sub> (Scheme 1). To the best of our knowledge, compounds **3a–3g** have not been reported in the literature. Antibacterial assays of the synthesized compounds **3a–3g** were evaluated against *Staphylococcus aureus* (*S. aureus*, American Type Culture Collection 6538), and *Staphylococcus epidermidis* (*S. epidermidis*, ATCC 12228) as gram +ve and *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*, ATCC 8739) and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (*P. aeruginosa*, ATCC 9027) as gram –ve bacteria, using the disc diffusion method.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

7-Amino-5-aryl-1,3-dimethyl-2,4-dioxo-1,3,4,5-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrano[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-6-carbonitriles **1a–1c** were prepared according to the earlier developed method [32]. Initially, a model process between

<sup>1</sup> The text was submitted by the authors in English.

Scheme 1.

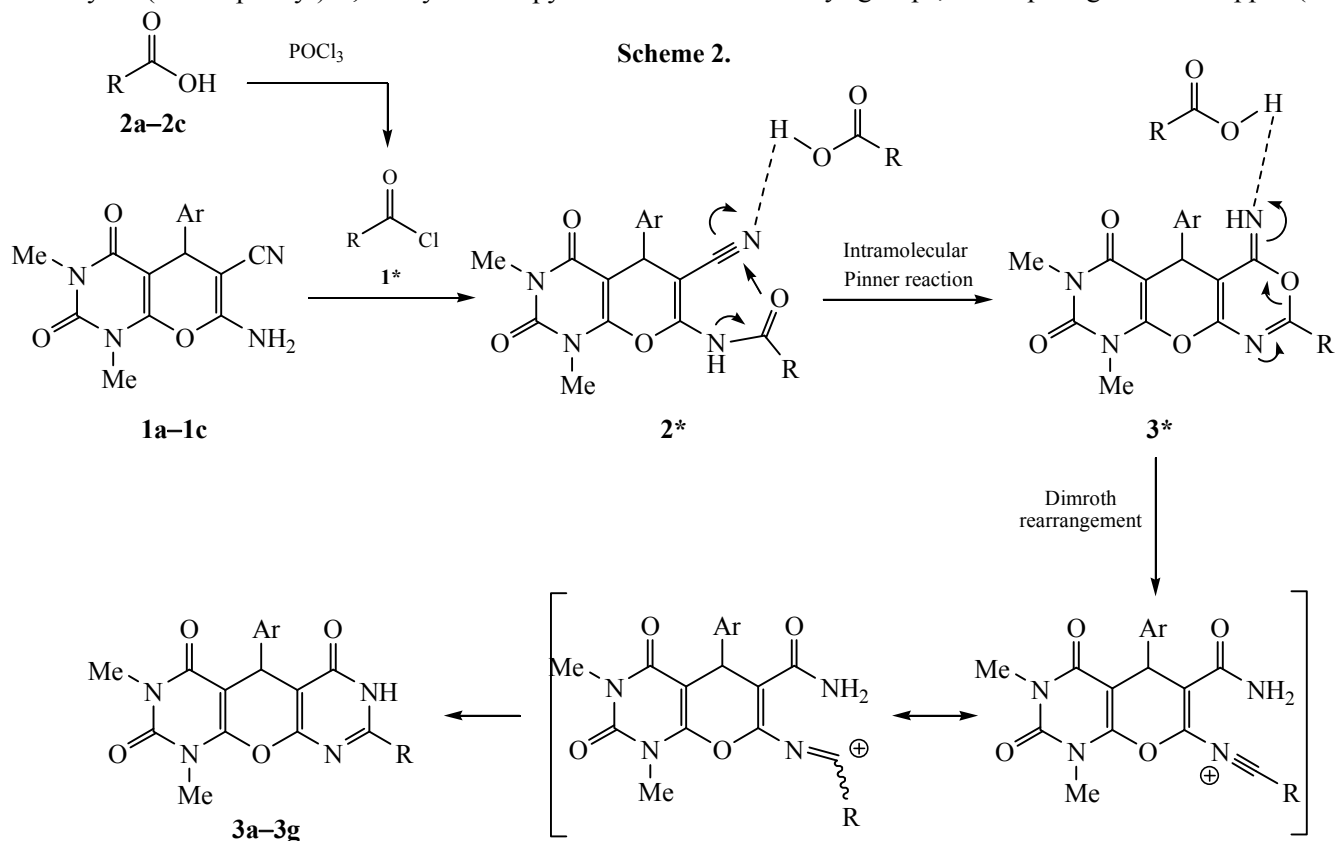


Ar = 4-O<sub>2</sub>NC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub> (**1a**), Ar = 4-ClC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub> (**1b**), Ar = 3-BrC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub> (**1c**), R = Me (**2a**), R = Et (**2b**), R = pentyl (**2c**), Ar = 4-O<sub>2</sub>NC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, R = Me (**3a**), Ar = 4-O<sub>2</sub>NC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, R = Et (**3b**), Ar = 4-ClC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, R = Me (**3c**), Ar = 4-ClC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, R = Et (**3d**), Ar = 4-ClC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, R = pentyl (**3e**), Ar = 3-BrC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, R = Et (**3f**), Ar = 3-BrC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, R = pentyl (**3g**).

7-amino-1,3-dimethyl-5-(4-nitrophenyl)-2,4-dioxo-1,3,4,5-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrano[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-6-carbonitrile **1a** and acetic acid was carried out without addition of a solvent and catalyst. After 3 h of refluxing, the limited conversion of the reagents was detected and a large amount of the starting compounds was recovered. The following reaction was carried out in acetic acid in the presence of POCl<sub>3</sub>. Under such conditions, the reaction proceeded efficiently, and after 2 h of refluxing no initial compounds were detected by TLC, but instead a new single spot was recorded. After following work up, the isolated product was identified as 1,3,8-trimethyl-5-(4-nitrophenyl)-5,7-dihydro-2*H*-pyrimido-

[5',4':5,6]pyrano[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*)-trione **3a**. All subsequent processes of synthesis of compounds **3b–3g** were carried out under the similar conditions.

The structures of new compounds **3a–3g** were deduced from their FT-IR, <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectral data. For example, the IR spectrum of **3a** was devoid of the CN absorption band at 2206 cm<sup>-1</sup> recorded for the precursor **1a**, which indicated involvement of the nitrile moiety in the cyclization process. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound **3a** in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub> demonstrated three singlets at 2.29, 3.09, and 3.41 ppm attributed to three methyl groups, a sharp singlet at 4.87 ppm (CH



in pyran ring), two doublets at 7.61 and 8.08 ppm for the protons in *para*-substituted aromatic ring, and a singlet at 12.81 ppm (NH). All the above data indicated formation of the new tricyclic compound **3a**. The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum and elemental analysis data were consistent with the assigned structure **3a** with molecular formula  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_5\text{O}_6$ .

Based on the earlier reported mechanisms for similar transformations [33–35], a possible mechanism of formation of compounds **3a–3g** is depicted in Scheme 2. Approach to these compounds may proceed via the tandem intramolecular Pinner–Dimroth rearrangement initiated by the respective acyl chloride **1\***. Nucleophilic attack of the amino group in compounds **1a–1c** affords the intermediate **2\***. Subsequently, the intramolecular Pinner reaction leads to the oxazine intermediate **3\*** which then undergoes the Dimroth rearrangement with formation of the final tricyclic products **3a–3g**. Attempts to isolate the proposed intermediates failed even upon close monitoring of the process.

The synthesized compounds **3a–3g** were screened for their antibacterial activity against reference strains of *S. aureus*, *S. epidermidis*, *E. coli*, and *P. aeruginosa* bacteria. The primary screening test demonstrated that none of the compounds affected gram –ve bacteria, *E. coli*, and *P. aeruginosa*. In case of gram +ve bacteria, growth of *S. aureus* and *S. epidermidis* was inhibited by 3 mg/disc of compounds **3a**, **3c** and **3e**. The inhibition zones of *S. aureus* and *S. epidermidis* bacteria were respectively  $9.0 \pm 0.0$  and  $11.0 \pm 0.1$  mm for **3a**,  $10.0 \pm 0.0$  and  $15.0 \pm 0.2$  mm for **3c**, and  $10.0 \pm 0.1$  and  $13.0 \pm 0.0$  mm for **3e**. The minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) was determined to be 3 and 2 mg/mL for **3a**, 2 and 1 mg/mL for **3c** and **3e**, against *S. aureus* and *S. epidermidis* bacteria, respectively. Growth inhibition of *S. aureus* and *S. epidermidis* was also observed for gentamicin (10  $\mu\text{g}/\text{disc}$ ) as reference compound ( $20.0 \pm 0.5$  and  $22.0 \pm 0.5$  mm, respectively). Thus, the antibacterial activity of compounds **3a**, **3c**, and **3e** against tested gram +ve bacteria was satisfactory but lower than that of the standard.

## EXPERIMENTAL

All chemicals were purchased from Merck and Aldrich and used without additional purification. Melting points were recorded on a Stuart SMP3 (UK) melting point apparatus. IR spectra were recorded for KBr disks on a Bruker Tensor 27 (Billerica,

Massachusetts, USA) spectrophotometer.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75 MHz) spectra were measured on a Bruker 300 FT (Billerica, Massachusetts, USA) spectrometer using  $\text{DMSO-}d_6$  as a solvent and TMS as an internal standard. Elemental analysis was performed on a Thermo Finnigan Flash EA (Milan, Italy) microanalyzer.

**Synthesis of 8-alkyl-5-aryl-1,3-dimethyl-5,7-dihydro-2H-pyrimido[5',4':5,6]pyrano[2,3-d]pyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H)-triones 3a–3g.** A mixture of 7-amino-5-aryl-1,3-dimethyl-2,4-dioxo-1,3,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-pyrano[2,3-d]pyrimidine-6-carbonitrile **1a–1c** (1 mmol) and an aliphatic carboxylic acid **2a–2c** (1 mL) in  $\text{POCl}_3$  (0.5 mL) was refluxed for 2 h. Upon completion of the process, the mixture was poured into cold water and neutralized by 25% ammonia solution. Then, the precipitate was collected, washed with water and recrystallized from THF to afford the corresponding compounds **3a–3g**.

**1,3,8-Trimethyl-5-(4-nitrophenyl)-5,7-dihydro-2H-pyrimido[5',4':5,6]pyrano[2,3-d]pyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H)-trione (3a).** Light brown crystals, yield 89%, mp  $>350^\circ\text{C}$ . IR spectrum,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 3435, 2928, 1650, 1489, 1350, 1236, 1176, 1043, 831.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 2.29 s (3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.09 s (3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.41 s (3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 4.87 s (1H, pyran CH), 7.61 d ( $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 8.08 d ( $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 12.81 s (1H, NH).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 21.42, 28.21, 29.73, 34.63, 89.38, 101.03, 123.45, 130.33, 146.74, 150.52, 151.16, 152.97, 159.69, 160.42, 161.19, 162.23. Found, %: C 54.64; H 3.92; N 17.44.  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_5\text{O}_6$ . Calculated, %: C 54.41; H 3.81; N 17.63.

**8-Ethyl-1,3-dimethyl-5-(4-nitrophenyl)-5,7-dihydro-2H-pyrimido[5',4':5,6]pyrano[2,3-d]pyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H)-trione (3b).** Cream-coloured crystals, yield 83%, mp  $>350^\circ\text{C}$ . IR spectrum,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 3432, 2908, 1695, 1601, 1487, 1385, 1354, 1305, 1227, 1182, 831.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 1.19 t ( $J = 7.5$  Hz, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.59 q ( $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.11 s (3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.45 s (3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 4.90 s (1H, pyran CH), 7.64 d ( $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 8.11 d ( $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 12.81 br.s (1H, NH).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 11.38, 27.80, 28.21, 29.80, 34.69, 89.37, 101.24, 123.44, 130.37, 146.73, 150.52, 151.16, 152.99, 159.85, 161.17, 162.26, 164.37. Found, %: C 55.21; H 4.29; N 17.19.  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{17}\text{N}_5\text{O}_6$ . Calculated, %: C 55.47; H 4.17; N 17.02.

**5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1,3,8-trimethyl-5,7-dihydro-2H-pyrimido[5',4':5,6]pyrano[2,3-d]pyrimidine-**

**2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*)-trione (3c).** White crystals, yield 93%, mp >350°C. IR spectrum,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 3433, 2964, 1690, 1643, 1486, 1378, 1233, 1179, 1090, 840.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 2.31 s (3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.12 s (3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.43 s (3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 4.77 s (1H, pyran CH), 7.29 d ( $J = 8.6$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 7.35 d ( $J = 8.6$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 12.77 br (1H, NH).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 21.39, 28.21, 29.67, 33.81, 89.97, 101.72, 128.23, 130.72, 131.62, 142.66, 150.52, 152.74, 159.55, 160.02, 161.16, 162.26. Found, %: C 55.67; H 3.82; N 14.64.  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{15}\text{ClN}_4\text{O}_4$ . Calculated, %: C 55.89; H 3.91; N 14.49.

**5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-8-ethyl-1,3-dimethyl-5,7-dihydro-2*H*-pyrimido[5',4':5,6]pyrano[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*)-trione (3d).** Cream-coloured crystals, yield 84%, mp >350°C. IR spectrum,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 3429, 2907, 1692, 1600, 1487, 1384, 1298, 1224, 1180, 1087, 841.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 1.16 t ( $J = 7.5$  Hz, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.55 q ( $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.09 s (3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.40 s (3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 4.73 s (1H, pyran CH), 7.25 d ( $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 7.32 d ( $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 12.72 br (1H, NH).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 11.38, 27.36, 28.18, 29.71, 33.87, 89.93, 101.92, 128.20, 130.76, 131.62, 142.64, 150.49, 152.72, 159.66, 161.12, 162.26, 163.96. Found, %: C 57.20; H 4.15; N 13.82.  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{17}\text{ClN}_4\text{O}_4$ . Calculated, %: C 56.93; H 4.28; N 13.98.

**5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1,3-dimethyl-8-pentyl-5,7-dihydro-2*H*-pyrimido[5',4':5,6]pyrano[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*)-trione (3e).** Dark brown crystals, yield 88%, mp >350°C. IR spectrum,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 3434, 2955, 1687, 1598, 1483, 1384, 1229, 1179, 1084, 757.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 0.87 t ( $J = 6.8$  Hz, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.25–1.35 m (4H, 2 $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.65 quin ( $J = 7.3$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.54 q ( $J = 7.7$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$  overlapped with the solvent), 3.11 s (3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.42 s (3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 4.75 s (1H, pyran CH), 7.28 d ( $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 7.35 d ( $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 11.99 br (1H, NH).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 14.24, 22.20, 26.76, 28.17, 29.70, 31.11, 33.88, 34.35, 89.93, 101.89, 128.20, 130.76, 131.62, 142.64, 150.49, 152.71, 159.61, 161.10, 162.27, 163.24. Found, %: C 59.45; H 5.33; N 12.51.  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{23}\text{ClN}_4\text{O}_4$ . Calculated, %: C 59.66; H 5.23; N 12.65.

**5-(3-Bromophenyl)-8-ethyl-1,3-dimethyl-5,7-dihydro-2*H*-pyrimido[5',4':5,6]pyrano[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*)-trione (3f).** White crystals, yield 87%, mp >350°C. IR spectrum,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 3429, 2902, 1691, 1602, 1485, 1384, 1179, 1072, 776.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 1.19 t ( $J = 7.6$  Hz, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.59 q ( $J = 7.6$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.13 s (3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.43 s (3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 4.75 s

(1H, pyran CH), 7.21 t ( $J = 7.8$  Hz, 1H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 7.30–7.39 m (2H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 7.52 s (1H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 12.71 br (1H, NH).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 11.35, 27.78, 28.21, 29.76, 34.28, 89.69, 101.72, 121.62, 128.04, 130.02, 130.50, 131.58, 146.30, 150.52, 152.87, 159.75, 161.18, 162.26, 164.08. Found, %: C 51.53; H 3.98; N 12.42.  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{17}\text{BrN}_4\text{O}_4$ . Calculated, %: C 51.25; H 3.85; N 12.58.

**5-(3-Bromophenyl)-1,3-dimethyl-8-pentyl-5,7-dihydro-2*H*-pyrimido[5',4':5,6]pyrano[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*)-trione (3g).** Cream-coloured crystals, yield 92%, mp >350°C. IR spectrum,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 3432, 2936, 1683, 1600, 1480, 1382, 1226, 1174, 777.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 0.87 t ( $J = 6.8$  Hz, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.25–1.35 m (4H, 2 $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.66 quin ( $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.55 q ( $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$  overlapped with the solvent), 3.12 s (3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.43 s (3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 4.74 s (1H, pyran CH), 7.20 t ( $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 7.30–7.38 m (2H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 7.51 s (1H,  $\text{H}_{\text{arom}}$ ), 12.66 br (1H, NH).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 14.26, 22.21, 26.72, 28.20, 29.73, 31.12, 34.29, 34.37, 89.68, 101.68, 121.62, 128.05, 130.01, 130.48, 131.60, 146.29, 150.50, 152.82, 159.67, 161.14, 162.26, 163.36. Found, %: C 54.01; H 4.88; N 11.67.  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{23}\text{BrN}_4\text{O}_4$ . Calculated, %: C 54.22; H 4.76; N 11.50.

**Antibacterial activity.** Antibacterial activity of the synthesized compounds was assessed by the disc diffusion method according to Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) guidelines [36] against reference strains of *S. aureus*, *S. epidermidis*, *E. coli*, and *P. aeruginosa* bacteria. Standard blank discs, containing 3 mg of the synthesized compounds, were prepared using DMSO as a solvent. Discs were placed on a Mueller–Hinton agar pre-inoculated with 0.1 mL of every bacterial suspension [turbidity equivalent to McFarland tube no. 0.5 ( $10^8$  CFU/mL)]. Standard commercial disc of gentamicin (10  $\mu\text{g}$ /disc) and a disc containing DMSO were used as positive and negative controls, respectively. All discs were fully dried before the application on bacterial lawn. Plates were incubated aerobically for 18–24 h at 37°C. Diameter of inhibitory zones around the discs was measured in millimeters. All determinations were performed in triplicates, and average value was reported as the inhibition zone (mean $\pm$ SEM). MIC was determined by the agar dilution method using 24-well-flat bottom tissue culture plates. Different concentrations of compounds were prepared in melted Mueller–Hinton agar. After incubation, MIC was defined as the lowest concentration of a compound that inhibited the growth of bacteria.

## CONCLUSIONS

New 8-alkyl-5-aryl-1,3-dimethyl-5,7-dihydro-2H-pyrimido[5',4':5,6]pyrano[2,3-d]pyrimidine-2,4,6(1H,3H)-triones **3a–3g** are synthesized by the reaction of 7-amino-5-aryl-1,3-dimethyl-2,4-dioxo-1,3,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-pyrano[2,3-d]pyrimidine-6-carbonitriles **1a–1c** with aliphatic carboxylic acids **2a–2c** in the presence of POCl<sub>3</sub>. A tandem intramolecular Pinner–Dimroth rearrangement is the probable approach to formation of the products. According to the antibacterial assay compounds **3a**, **3c**, and **3e** demonstrate satisfactory antibacterial effect on the tested gram +ve bacteria.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflict of interest was declared by the authors.

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