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4-Quinolones by Unusual Cyclocondensation of *o*-Imidophenacyl Bromides and Azides

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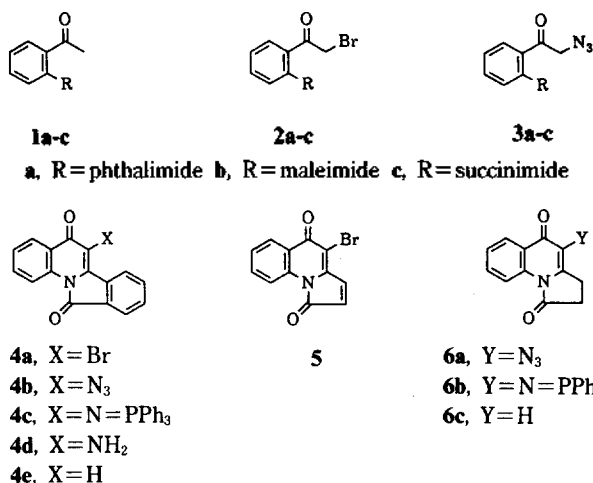
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Azido functionality is very useful in the synthesis of various types of nitrogen heterocycles.¹ Recently, we reported² the synthesis of 5-hydroxy-1,3-benzoxazepines based on the Staudinger reaction followed by an intramolecular aza-Wittig reaction of *o*-acyloxyphenacyl azides. In this connection, we were interested in the synthesis of their nitrogen homologues, 1,3-benzodiazepines by the similar manner because it might provide a convenient route to two nitrogen containing heterocycles.³ We describe herein unusual, useful method for the synthesis of 4-quinolones from the *o*-imidophenacyl bromides and azides.

The starting compounds, *o*-imidophenacyl bromides **2a-c**,⁴ were readily obtained from the reactions of corresponding *N*-(2-acetylphenyl)imides **1a-c**⁵ with copper(II) bromide in refluxing chloroform-ethyl acetate (1/1) according to King *et al.*⁶ However, unexpectedly, we have found a conversion of *N*-(2-bromoacetylphenyl)maleimide (**2b**) into 4-bromo-1,5-dihydropyrrolo[1,2-*a*]quinoline-1,5-dione (**5**)⁷ by the column chromatographic separation (silica gel, EtOAc/*n*-Hex=1/4, 68%). On the other hand, *N*-(2-bromoacetylphenyl)phthalimide (**2a**) was converted into 6-bromo-5,11-dihydroisindolo[2,1-*a*]quinoline-5,11-dione (**4a**)⁸ in 62% yield in the presence of an equimolecular amount of triethylamine in dichloromethane at room temperature for 4 h, but *N*-(2-bromoacetylphenyl)succinimide (**2c**) was not participated.

The reactions of *o*-imidophenacyl bromides **2a** and **2c** with sodium azide were carried out in acetone-water at room tem-



perature and gave *o*-imidophenacyl azides **3a** (76%) and **3c** (92%), respectively.⁹ Interestingly again, the crude *N*-(2-bromoacetylphenyl)phthalimide (**3a**) was cyclized directly to 6-azido-5,11-dihydroisindolo[2,1-*a*]quinoline-5,11-dione (**4b**)¹⁰ by the column chromatographic purification (silica gel, CH₂Cl₂, 70%). But, in case of **3c** was cyclized to 4-azido-1,2,3,5-tetrahydropyrrolo[1,2-*a*]quinoline-1,5-dione (**6a**)¹¹ only in the presence of an equimolecular amount of 1,8-diazabicyclo[5,4,0]undec-7-ene (DBU) in chloroform at 0°C within 5 min (40% yield). The reaction of the crude *N*-(2-bromoacetylphenyl) maleimide (**2b**) with sodium azide was unsuccessful under various reaction conditions, and only gave complex mixture.

Treatment of *N*-(2-azidoacetylphenyl)phthalimide (**3b**) with an equimolecular amount of triphenylphosphine in chloroform at reflux temperature for 1 h gave anormalous 6-[(triphenylphosphoranylidene)amino]-5,11-dihydroisindolo[2,1-*a*]quinoline-5,11-dione (**4c**, 41%) and 6-amino-5,11-dihydroisindolo[2,1-*a*]quinoline-5,11-dione (**4d**, 29%).¹² Alternatively, the same compounds, **4c** (90%) and **4d** (8%) could also be obtained from the reaction of 3-azidoquinoline-4-one (**4b**) with triphenylphosphine for 4 h at room temperature, and **4d** (62%) from the pyrolysis of **4b** in refluxing toluene for 15 min, respectively. Similarly, treatment of *N*-(2-azidoacetylphenyl)succinimide (**3c**) with triphenylphosphine resulted in only low yield of 6-[(triphenylphosphoranylidene)amino]-1,2,3,5-tetrahydropyrrolo[1,2-*a*]quinoline-1,5-dione (**6b**, 38%).¹³

Finally, the reaction of *N*-(2-bromoacetylphenyl)phthalimide (**2a**) with triphenylphosphine and triethylamine in acetonitrile at room temperature for 2 h yielded 3-bromoquinoline-4-one (**4a**, 63%) and the Wittig reaction product **4e** (34%),¹⁴ and *N*-(2-bromoacetylphenyl)succinimide (**2c**) gave only the known 1,2,3,5-tetrahydropyrrolo[1,2-*a*]quinoline-1,5-dione (**6c**)¹⁵ in 77% yield at reflux temperature for 6 h.

Further studies on the preparation of 5-hydroxy-1,3-benzodiazepines by other intramolecular condensation reaction method and some remaining mechanistic problems are underway.

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 - Selected data for **2a** (89%): mp. 195-196°C (EtOAc); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃/DMSO-d₆) δ 4.86 (s, 2H, CH₂), 7.60-8.20 (m, 8H, Ar); **2b** (62%): mp. 89°C (Et₂O); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ 4.47 (s, 2H, CH₂), 6.88 (s, 2H, vinyl H), 7.20-8.40 (m, 4H, Ar); **2c** (87%): mp. 151°C (Et₂O); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃/DMSO-d₆) δ 2.82 (s, 4H, CH₂CH₂), 4.73 (s, 2H, CH₂Br), 7.26-8.23 (m, 4H, Ar).
 - The compounds **1a-c** were prepared conventionally from the *o*-aminoacetophenone with the corresponding anhydride, and selected data for **1a** (84%): mp. 134°C (Et₂O); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.50 (s, 3H, CH₃), 7.30-8.10 (m, 8H, Ar); **1b** (84%): mp. 112°C (Et₂O); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.50 (s, 3H, CH₃), 6.85 (s, 2H, vinyl H), 7.20-8.00 (m, 4H, Ar); **1c** (82%): mp. 212°C (EtOAc); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.53 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.85 (s, 4H, CH₂CH₂), 7.13-8.02 (m, 4H, Ar).
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 - Selected data for **3a**: mp. 137-139°C (Et₂O); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃/DMSO-d₆) δ 4.48 (s, 2H, CH₂), 7.50-8.20 (m, 8H, Ar); **3c**: mp. 101-102°C (Et₂O); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃/DMSO-d₆) δ 2.85 (s, 4H, CH₂CH₂), 4.53 (s, 2H, CH₂N₃), 7.22-7.92 (m, 4H, Ar).
 - For the different synthetic method of same heterocyclic system, see: (a) reference 8; (b) Y. Ishihara, Y. Kiyota, and G. Goto, *Chem. Pharm. Bull.*, **38**, 3024 (1990); (c) G. Goto and Y. Ishihara, JP 90 42,078 (1990); C. A. 1990, **113**, 40431z; selected data for **4b**: mp. 122-124°C (dec); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.30-9.20 (m, 8H, Ar); MS (relative intensity) *m/z* 288 (*M*⁺, 2), 260 (76), 205 (11), 204 (100), 203 (30), 177 (29), 102 (43); IR (KBr) ν_{N3} (cm⁻¹) 2124.
 - For the different synthetic method of 1,2,3,5-tetrahydropyrrolo[1,2-*a*]quinoline-1,5-diones, see: L. W. Deady and D. M. Werden, *Synth. Commun.*, **17**, 319 (1987) and reference 7; selected data for **6a**: mp. 139°C (dec); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.92 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.14 (m, 2H, CH₂), 7.45-9.06 (m, 4H, Ar).
 - Selected data for **4c**: mp. 308-310°C; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ

7.15-9.24 (m, 23H, Ar); ³¹P-NMR (CDCl₃/H₃PO₄) δ 17.6; MS (relative intensity) *m/z* 522 (*M*⁺, 97), 470 (30), 469 (32), 207 (29), 183 (100); **4d**: mp. 255-256°C (toluene); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-d₆) δ 5.89 (s, 2H, NH₂), 7.37-9.15 (m, 8H, Ar); MS (relative intensity) *m/z* 262 (*M*⁺, 100), 234 (27), 178 (38), 103 (33), 76 (40).

- Selected data for **6b**: mp. 250-251°C (dec); ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ 2.93 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.47 (m, 2H, CH₂), 7.25-9.14 (m, 19H, Ar); ³¹P-NMR (CDCl₃/H₃PO₄) δ 9.94; MS (relative intensity) *m/z* 474 (*M*⁺, 27), 288 (25), 184 (27), 183 (100), 130 (28).
- Selected data for **4e**: mp. 249-251°C; ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ 6.74 (s, 1H, CH), 7.27-9.12 (m, 8H, Ar); MS (relative intensity) *m/z* 247 (*M*⁺, 40), 219 (100), 190 (47), 163 (22), 101 (17).
- Mp. 190-192°C (EtOH, lit.¹¹ 192-193°C).

The Effect of Medium on the α-Effect for the Reaction of *p*-Nitrophenyl Acetate with Benzohydroxamates

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The term α-effect has been given to a positive deviation on a Brønsted plot which is often observed in the reaction of the nucleophile containing a hetero atom adjacent to the reaction center (the α-position).¹ Although, numerous studies have been performed to investigate the origin of the α-effect, it has not been completely understood.²

Recently, a series of systematic studies has demonstrated that the effect of medium on the α-effect is significantly important for the acyl-transfer reaction of *p*-nitrophenyl acetate (PNPA) with anionic nucleophiles in various reaction medium, such as aqueous dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO),³ aqueous acetonitrile (MeCN),⁴ and aqueous micellar solutions.⁵ In our preceding paper on this series, we reported that benzohydroxamate (**1**) shows a large α-effect in pure H₂O, but the α-effect nucleophile (**1**) becomes less reactive than the corresponding normal-nucleophile (**4**) upon the addition of cetyltrimethylammonium bromide (CTAB) in H₂O.⁶ Some explanations were suggested for the disappearance of the α-effect, but they were speculative and not conclusive.⁶ Thus, we have now performed a systematic study for the following reactions in order to obtain some solid evidences.

