BECKMANN REARRANGEMENT OF 4,5,6-TRISUBSTITUTED 3-ACETYLPYRIDIN-2-ONE OXIMES

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Abstract - Beckmann rearrangement of 4,5,6-trisubstituted 3-acetyl-pyridin-2-one oximes took place, involving equilibrium between the methyl-*syn* and *-anti* forms, to give exclusively 4,5,6-trisubstituted 3-acetylaminopyridin-2-ones in satisfactory yields.

There have been reported many methods concerning with syntheses of substituted amino-pyridines, ¹ including the Beckmann rearrangement of pyridyl ketoxime. Previously it was shown that 4,5,6-trisubstituted 3-acetylpyridin-2-ones are readily accessible by simple ring transformation² of 2-substituted 6-methyl-1,3-oxazin-4-ones, which are prepared from diketene and appropriate imidates.³ We wish to report the Beckmann rearrangement of 4,5,6-trisubstituted 3-acetylpyridin-2-one oximes, providing a new method for preparation of 4,5,6-trisubstituted 3-amiopyridin-2-ones. 4,5,6-Trisubstituted 3-acetylpyridin-2-ones (**3a-f**) were synthesized by the ring transformation of 2-substituted 6-methyl-1,3-oxazin-4-ones (**1**) with active methylene compounds such as ethyl acetoacetate (**2a**), ethyl benzoylacetate (**2b**), and diethyl acetonedicarboxylate (**2c**) according to the procedure previously reported.²

Pyridones (**3a-f**) were led almost quantitatively to the corresponding oximes (**4a-f**) by a general procedure⁴ using hydroxylamine hydrochloride and sodium acetate. The ¹H-nmr spectral examination showed that each oxime consists of both methyl-*syn* and *-anti* isomers⁵ as expected.

However, we found that the Beckmann rearrangement of oxime mixtures (4) thus obtained afforded only the 3-acetamidopyridines (5a-f) arisen from the *syn* isomers (4a-f-syn), *N*-methylnicotinamide derived from anti isomer being not isolated.

For example, when a solution of **4a** in formic acid was heated under reflux for 3 h, amide (**5a**) was exclusively formed in high yield accompanied with small amounts of isoxazolo[5,4-b]pyridine (**6a**) and **3a** (Scheme). It was further found the amide (**5a**) was produced by the rearrangement not only of the isolated methyl-*syn* isomer but also of the methyl-*anti* isomer.

Scheme

The formation⁶ of amide (**5a**) suggested that the rearrangement occurred involving the precedent isomerism of the *syn* isomer to the *anti* isomer, and was supported by the following evidence; a solution of **4a-anti** in CH₂Cl₂-DMSO (10:1) was allowed to stand at room temperature for 5 days to give **4a-syn** in 47% yield with **4a-anti** being recovered in 37% yield, whereas a similar treatment of **4a-syn** resulted in recovery of **4a-syn** in 79% yield along with isomerized **4a-anti** in 2% yield. Such a facile isomerization of the *anti* isomer to the thermodynamically preferable *syn* isomer may be accounted for by the rapid establishment of the equilibrium between the *anti* and *syn* isomers promoted by prototropy as illustrated in Scheme. Hydrolysis of **5** with 10% hydrochloric acid furnished 3-aminopyridin-2-ones (**7**) in good yields, whereas similar hydrolysis of **5e** caused simultaneous ring closure leading to bicyclic **8e**.

In conclusion, the reactions described above would offer advantage to synthesis of this type of substituted 3-aminopyridin-2-ones. Further investigations on the rearrangement and the isomerization in details are in progress.⁷

Oxazine	R ¹	2	R ²	R ³	3	Yield(%)	4	Yield(%)	Yield(%)		
			n -						5	6	3
1a	Ph	2a	COOMe	Me	3a	86	4a	84	84	2	3.2
1b	p-FC ₆ H ₄	2a	COOMe	Me	3b	84	4b	78	68	1.4	2
1a	Ph	2b	COOEt	Ph	3c	78	4c	76	72	5	15
1c	p-BrC ₆ H ₄	2b	COOEt	Ph	3d	76	4d	72	81	1.2	7
1a	₽h	2c	COOEt	CH ₂ COOEt	3е	88	4e	82	78		4.1
1d	p-CIC ₆ H ₄	2c	COOEt	CH ₂ COOEt	3f	89	4f	82	82	_	6 .

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- 5. Determination of methyl-syn and -anti configuration was carried out on the basis of the chemical shift of methyl proton signal due to the acetohydroximoyl moiety. In general, methyl proton signals due to syn form of the acetohydroximoyl moiety appear at lower field than those of anti form. See, T. Kato and Y. Goto, Yakugaku Zasshi, 1965, 85, 451; Further assignment of the configuration was achieved by comparison of ¹³C-nmr of respective methyl derivatives of 4 which were derived in order to improve the solubility. See, E. Hawkes, K. Herwig, and D. Roberts, J. Org. Chem., 1974, 39, 1017.
- 6. Landsbury and Mancuso reported that Beckmann rearrangement of oximes of various 1-indanone and α -tetralone derivatives occurred to afford preferentially the aryl migrated product together with small amount of the alkyl migrated product. See, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, **1965**, 2445.
- 7. All new compounds show spectroscopic (ir, ¹H-nmr, ms) and combustion analysis data fully consistent with their proposed structures.

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