The Reaction of 1-(N-Phenacylidene)amino-1,2,3-triazoles with Diphenylnitrilimine [1]

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Diphenylnitrilimine reacts with 1-(N-phenacylidene)amino-1,2,3-triazoles 1 to give mainly 1,2,4- and 2H-1,2,3-triazoles 2 and 3. CNDO/2 calculations were made on the compounds 1 and the cycloaddition was also examined on the basis of the interacting frontier molecular orbitals.

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It has been shown previously that the 1,3-dipolar cyclo-addition of 1-(N-arylidene)amino-1,2,3-triazoles with diphenylnitrilimine is accelerated by the introduction of an electron withdrawing group (nitro) in the arylidene function [2]. This finding prompted us to examine the cycloaddition between 1-(N-phenacylidene)amino-1,2,3-triazoles 1 and diphenylnitrilimine where the electron-withdrawing carbonyl group is adjacent to the dipolarophilic C = N center.

The reaction of the Schiff bases 1 with diphenylnitrilimine generated in situ from N-phenylbenzohydrazonoyl chloride in the presence of triethylamine in tetrahydrofuran actually preceeds much faster than the previous reaction and afforded, after column chromatography, the products 2-5 in moderate yields (Scheme 1).

The formation of the reaction products can be explained [2] considering a cycloaddition of nitrilimine to C = N bond of 1 producing two possible regio-adducts, which upon elimination of the triazole 4 yields the products 2 and 3. Although the reaction of arylidenamino-1,2,3-triazoles with diphenylnitrilimine [2] gave as the main product 2H-1,2,3-triazole derivatives like 3, the present reaction mainly afforded 1,2,4-triazoles 2, which usually are

obtained as main products in cycloadditions of nitrilimines with nitriles [3,4]. It should be noticed, however, that CNDO/2 calculations discussed below and examination of the frontier molecular orbitals (FMO) of the present reacting species favor the formation of 2H-1,2,3-triazoles 3 in respect to the corresponding 1,2,4-regio-isomers 2. This disagreement in the orientation of cycloaddition could be explained assuming a decomposition of the compounds 1 during the reaction process and this aspect is supported by test experiments which showed that the triazole 4 is mainly formed upon heating of la in the presence of triethylamine in THF. It is therefore concluded that the starting compounds 1 under the experimental conditions are partially decomposed to triazole 4 and aroylnitriles and the yield ratio in regio-isomers 3:2 is controlled by the orientation of cycloaddition of nitrilimine to 1 and aroylnitriles. The aroylnitriles can further be decomposed to the corresponding benzoic acids, which with diphenylnitrilimine give the hydrazides 5. It should be noticed, however, that the compound 1c was recovered in 80% yield after refluxing with triethylamine in THF for 2 hours and this can explain the higher yield ratio in the two isomers (3:2) formed in the reaction of 1c with diphenylnitrilimine.

Scheme 1

Scheme 1

ArCO
$$\frac{Ph}{3}$$
 ArCO $\frac{Ph}{4}$ $\frac{Ph}{4}$ $\frac{Ph}{5}$ ArCO $\frac{Ph}{3}$ $\frac{Ph}{4}$ $\frac{Ph}{5}$ $\frac{Ph}{4}$ $\frac{Ph}{5}$ $\frac{Ph}{5$

The reactivity and the regionselectivity of the cycloaddition of 1 with diphenylnitrilimine were examined on the basis of CNDO/2 calculations [5] carried out on the compounds 1 and on existing data for the frontier molecular orbitals of diphenylnitrilimine [6]. For the computations the conformation 6 was considered on the basis of existing experimental data, whereas for some bond lengths and angles standard values were used [7]. The FMO energy values and the orbital coefficients of the atoms of C = N bond are given in the Table.

$$Ph \underbrace{\begin{array}{c} 15^{\circ} \\ 15^{\circ} \\ 21.5^{\circ} \end{array}}_{N=N} \underbrace{\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 15^{\circ} \\ N=C \end{array}}_{H} \underbrace{\begin{array}{c} 15^{\circ} \\ -X \end{array}}_{N} \underbrace{\begin{array}{c} 15^{\circ} \\ -$$

Thus, for the reaction of \mathbf{la} with diphenylnitrilimine, for which the values $E_{HOMO} = -7.5$ eV and $E_{LUMO} = -0.5$ eV were proposed [6], it is found that the cycloaddition is $HOMO_{(dipole)}$ controlled, the corresponding energy difference ΔE being equal to $\Delta E = E_{LUMO(1a)} - E_{HOMO_{(dipole)}} = 1.42 - (-7.5) = 8.92$ eV. For the $LUMO_{(dipole)}$ process the energy difference $\Delta E'$ is equal to $\Delta E' = E_{LUMO_{(dipole)}} - E_{HOMO_{(1a)}} = -0.5 - (-10.92) = 10.42$ eV and this value is higher than the previous one by 1.50 eV.

Table

HOMO-LUMO Energies and Orbital Coefficients of C=N Atoms for the

Compounds 1 (Conformation 6) from CNDO/2 Calculations

Compound	E _{HOMO} E _{LUMO} (eV)		HOMO C _C C _N		LU C _C	LUMO C _C C _N	
1 c	-10.90	1.51	0.18	0.10	0.30	-0.39	
1 a	-10.92	1.42	0.18	0.10	0.29	-0.38	
1 b	-11.00	1.00	0.17	0.10	0.23	-0.33	
1 d	-10.92	0.02	0.16	0.08	0.10	-0.19	
Diphenylnitrilimine (linear)							
	-7.5	-0.5	-0.53	0.85	0.77	0.46	

In respect to the regioselectivity of the cycloaddition the predominant orbital interaction should be similar to that given in the Figure favoring the production of 2H-1,2,3-triazoles 3, since the HOMO orbital coefficient on terminous nitrogen atom of diphenylnitrilimine in its linear structure [6] is higher than the coefficient on the carbon atom. Thus, the terminous nitrogen is prefferentially combined with the nitrogen atom of the C = N bond having higher orbital coefficient in LUMO (Table). Comparing the reactivity in

Figure. HOMO-LUMO interaction between diphenylnitrilimine and compounds ${\bf 1}.$

the cycloaddition of diphenylnitrilimine to arylideneamino-[2] and phenacylidenamino-1,2,3-triazoles 1a it is found that the corresponding energy difference for $HOMO_{(dipole)}$ process of these two cycloadditions is 9.7 and 8.9 eV respectively, suggesting a higher reactivity of 1a with the diphenylnitrilimine in agreement with the experimental results.

The compounds 2 and 3 exhibit in ir carbonyl absorptions at 1645-1660 cm⁻¹, whereas in the mass spectra give ion peaks corresponding to Ml⁺, M-29l⁺, M-Arl⁺, PhCN-NPhl⁺, PhCNl⁺, ArCOl⁺ and PhNl⁺. In the ¹H nmr spectra compounds 2 and 3 give multiplets in the aromatic region ($\delta = 7.0$ -8.5 ppm), as expected. Particularly, the o-protons of the Ar-CO and Ph-C groups of both compounds appear at $\delta = 8.1$ -8.4 ppm, whereas the o-protons of the Ph-N group in compounds 2 appear at δ 7.4-7.6 ppm and in compounds 3 at $\delta = 7.8$ -8.0, and this can be used for the differentiation between the two isomers.

Their characterization, however, was mainly based on the 13 C nmr spectra, where, except of the peaks of the aromatic carbon atoms, compounds **2** give two signals for the C-3 and C-5 carbons of the 1,2,4-triazole ring at δ 161.5 and 150.5 ppm respectively, whereas in compound **3c** the two carbons of the 2*H*-1,2,3-triazole ring ArCO-C and Ar-C appear at δ = 143.3 and 150.0 ppm, respectively. Similar resonance signals were previously reported for the carbons of the 1,2,4- and 2*H*-1,2,3-triazole rings [2,8].

EXPERIMENTAL

Melting points were determined on a Kosler hot-stage apparatus and are uncorrected. The ir spectra were recorded as nujol mulls on Perkin-Elmer 297 spectrometer. The 'H nmr spectra were obtained with a Bruker AW 80 spectrometer (80 MHz) and the '3C nmr spectra were obtained with a Varian CFT-20 spectrometer (20 MHz) in deuteriochloroform with tetramethylsilane (TMS) as internal standard. The mass spectra were obtained on a Hitachi-Perkin-Elmer RMU-6L spectrometer and high resolution mass measurements were obtained with an AEI MS 30 mass spectrometer. Elemental microanalyses were performed with a Perkin-Elmer 240B CHN analyser. Column chromatography separations were performed over Merk Kieselgel 60, particle size 0.063-0.200mm.

Preparation of Compounds 1.

These were prepared by condensation of the 1-amino-4-phenyl-

1,2,3-triazole (1 mmole) with an excess (2 mmoles) of the appropriate arylglyoxals as described previously [2,9] and they were recrystallized from ethanol.

1-(N-Phenacylidene)amino-4-phenyl-1,2,3-triazole (1a).

This compound was obtained in 72% yield, mp 120-121°; ir: ν C=O 1650 cm⁻¹; ¹H nmr: δ 9.32 (1H, s, CH=N), 8.12 (1H, s, H-5tr), 8.10-8.25 (2H, m), 7.80-7.95 (2H, m), 7.36-7.70 (6H, m); ¹³C nmr: 187.78 (C=O), 150.17 (CH=N, ¹J_{CH} = 175.6 Hz), 148.41 (C-4tr), 120.57 (C-5tr, ¹J_{CH} = 198.3 Hz); aroyl-carbons: 134.94 (C-ipso), 130.10 (C-o), 129.01 (C-m), 134.45 (C-p); phenyl-carbons: 129.57 (C-ipso), 125.77 (C-o), 128.87 (C-m, C-p); ms: m/z (%) 276 (M⁺, 1.2), 248 (M⁺-28, 1.5), 220 (18), 145 (18), 105 (73), 102 (100). Anal. Calcd. for C₁₆H₁₂N₄O: C, 69.55; H, 4.38; N, 20.28. Found: C, 69.53; H, 4.08; N, 20.10.

1-(N-p-Chlorophenacylidene)amino-4-phenyl-1,2,3-triazole (1b).

This compound was obtained in 80% yield, mp 149-151°; ir: ν C = 0 1675 cm⁻¹; ¹H nmr: δ 9.25 (1H, s, CH = N), 8.11 (1H, s, H-5tr), 8.14 (2H, d, J = 8.5 Hz), 7.80-7.95 (2H, m), 7.52 (2H, d, J = 8.5 Hz), 7.38-7.55 (3H, m); ¹³C nmr: 186.71 (C = 0), 149.93 (CH = N, ¹J_{CH} = 175.8 Hz), 148.51 (C-4tr), 120.09 (C-5tr, ¹J = 199.0 Hz); aroyl-carbons: 133.17 (C-ipso), 131.51 (C-o), 129.18 (C-m), 141.14 (C-p); phenyl-carbons: 129.41 (C-ipso), 125.76 (C-o), 129.0 (C-m, C-p); ms: m/z (%) 312/310 (M⁺, 0.2), 284/282 (M⁺-28, 0.3), 256/254 (6), 145 (6), 141/139 (35), 102 (100).

Anal. Calcd. for C₁₆H₁₁ClN₄O: C, 61.84; H, 3.57; N, 18.03. Found: C, 61.97; H, 3.52; N, 17.89.

1-(N-p-Methoxyphenacylidene)amino-4-phenyl-1,2,3-triazole (1c).

This compound was obtained in 80% yield, mp 112-113°; ir: ν C = O 1625 cm⁻¹; 'H nmr: δ 9.30 (1H, s, CH = N), 8.12 (1H, s, H-5tr), 8.20 (2H, d, J = 9.0 Hz), 7.76-7.95 (2H, m), 7.38-7.54 (3H, m), 7.02 (2H, d, J = 9.0 Hz), 3.9 (3H, s, CH₃O); '³C nmr: 185.63 (C = O), 150.57 (CH = N, 'J_{CH} = 174.1 Hz), 148.28 (C-4tr), 120.02 (C-5tr, 'J_{CH} = 198.3 Hz), 55.65 (CH₃O, 'J_{CH} = 144.9 Hz); aroylcarbons: 127.97 (C-ipso), 132.58 (C-o), 114.23 (C-m), 164.83 (C-p); phenyl-carbons: 129.63 (C-ipso), 125.93 (C-o), 128.98 (C-m), 128.86 (C-p); ms: m/z (%) 306 (M*, 0.3), 278 (M*-28, 0.3), 250 (2.3), 145 (16), 135 (100), 102 (61).

Anal. Calcd. for $C_{17}H_{14}N_4O_2$: C, 66.66; H, 4.61; N, 18.29. Found: C, 66.48; H, 4.66; N, 18.17.

1-(N-p-Nitrophenacylidene)amino-4-phenyl-1,2,3-triazole (1d).

This compound was obtained in 95% yield, mp 181-183°; ir: ν C = O 1675 cm⁻¹; 'H nmr: δ 9.23 (1H, s, CH = N), 8.35 (4H, s), 8.11 (1H, s, H-5tr), 7.80-7.93 (2H, m), 7.38-7.53 (3H, m); ¹³C nmr (DMSO-d₆): 187.64 (C = O), 150.77 (CH = N, 'J_{CH} = 178.8 Hz), 147.16 (C-4tr), 118.66 (C-5tr, 'J_{CH} = 201.5 Hz); aroyl-carbons: 139.70 (C-ipso), 131.35 (C-o), 123.54 (C-m), 150.21 (C-p); phenyl-carbons: 129.59 (C-ipso), 125.34 (C-o), 128.94 (C-m), 128.78 (C-p); ms: m/z (%) 321 (M⁺, 0.1), 293 (M⁺-28, 0.5), 266 (1.7), 150 (2.7), 145 (2.3), 102 (100).

Anal. Calcd. for $C_{16}H_{11}N_5O_3$: C, 59.81; H, 3.45; N, 21.80. Found: C, 60.03; H, 3.51; N, 21.70.

Reaction of Compounds 1 with Diphenylnitrilimine.

General Procedure.

To a stirred solution of compound 1 (0.5 mmole) and N-phenylbenzohydrazonoyl chloride [2] (1 mmole) in THF (3 ml) triethylamine (1 mmole) was added at once. The reaction mixture was

refluxed for 3-20 hours and the precipitated triethylammonium chloride was filtered off. The filtrate was evaporated and the residue was chromatographed on a silica gel column with a mixture of n-hexane:ethyl acetate (from 9:1 to 1:1) as eluant to give compounds 3, 2, 4 and 5, in order as they eluted from the column.

Reaction of 1-(N-Phenacylidene)amino-4-phenyl-1,2,3-triazole (1a) with Diphenylnitrilimine.

From this reaction, after refluxing for 8 hours, the following compounds were isolated:

a: 2,4-Diphenyl-5-benzoyl-2H-1,2,3-triazole (3a).

This compound was obtained in 3% yield, mp 110-112°; ir: ν C=0 1655; 'H nmr: δ 8.09-8.24 (4H, m), 7.85-7.98 (2H, m, H-o of Ph-N), 7.37-7.63 (9H, m); ms: m/z (%) 325 (M⁺, 99), 296 (M⁺-29, 2), 248 (10), 220 (3), 194 (5), 105 (100), 103 (15), 91 (21). Exact mass. Calcd. for $C_{21}H_{15}N_3O$: m/z 325.1215. Found: m/z 325.1243.

b: 1,3-Diphenyl-5-benzoyl-1,2,4-triazole (2a).

This compound was obtained in 71% yield, mp 134-136°; ir: ν C = O 1650 cm⁻¹; ¹H nmr: δ 8.17-8.37 (4H, m), 7.39-7.67 (11H, m); ¹³C nmr: 183.44 (C = O), 161.51 (C-3tr), 150.38 (C-5tr); aroyl-carbons: 135.45 (C-ipso), 130.96 (C-o), 128.66 (C-m), 134.35 (C-p); C-phenyl-carbons: 130.10 (C-ipso), 126.76 (C-o), 129.18 (C-m), 129.82 (C-p); N-phenyl-carbons: 137.99 (C-ipso), 124.94 (C-o), 128.66 (C-m), 129.18 (C-p); ms: m/z (%) 325 (M*, 100), 296 (M*-29, 46), 248 (3), 220 (2), 194 (19), 105 (18), 103 (2), 91 (59).

Anal. Calcd. for C₂₁H₁₅N₃O: C, 77.52; H, 4.65; N, 12.91. Found: C, 77.33; H, 4.79; N, 13.08.

c: 4(5)-Phenyl-1,2,3-triazole (4).

This compound was isolated in 75% yield, mp 145-147°, with spectroscopic data identical to that of an authentic sample [2].

d: N1-Phenyl-N2-benzoylbenzoic Acid Hydrazide (5a).

This compound was obtained in 19% yield, mp 177-178°, (lit [10] 176-177°); ir: ν NH 3190, ν C = 0 1690, 1680 cm⁻¹; ms: m/z (%) 316 (M⁺, 11), 194 (5), 149 (9), 105 (100).

In a test experiment a mixture of compound **la** (0.5 mmole) and triethylamine (0.1 mmole) in THF (4 ml) was refluxed for 2 hours. From the reaction mixture, after treating as above, compound **4** was isolated in 85% yield as well as other unidentified products.

Reaction of 1-(N-p-Clorophenacylidene)amino-1,2,3-triazole (1b) with Diphenylnitrilimine.

From this reaction after refluxing for 20 hours the following compounds were isolated:

a: 2,4-Diphenyl-5-(p-chlorobenzoyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazole (3b).

This compound was obtained in 6% yield, mp 167-168°; ir: ν C=0 1665 cm⁻¹; ¹H nmr: δ 8.12 (2H, d, J = 8.5 Hz), 8.07-8.24 (2H, m), 7.85-7.98 (2H, m, H-o of Ph-N), 7.38-7.56 (8H, m); ms: m/z (%) 361/359 (M⁺, 73), 332/330 (M⁺-29, 2.5), 248 (9), 194 (9), 141/139 (100), 113/111 (55), 103 (7), 91 (50).

Exact mass. Calcd. for $C_{21}H_{14}ClN_3O$: m/z 359.0825. Found: m/z 359.0847.

b: 1,3-Diphenyl-5-(p-chlorobenzoyl)-1,2,4-triazole (2b).

This compound was obtained in 56% yield, mp 154-156°; ir: ν C=O 1660 cm⁻¹; ¹H nmr: δ 8.30 (2H, d, J = 8.5 Hz), 8.16-8.24

(2H, m), 7.40-7.56 (10H, m); ¹³C nmr: 181.84 (C=O), 161.58 (C-3tr), 150.00 (C-5tr); aroyl-carbons: 133.85 (C-ipso), 132.42 (C-o), 129.01 (C-m), 141.17 (C-p); C-phenyl-carbons: 130.19 (C-ipso), 126.73 (C-o), 129.21 (C-m), 129.40 (C-p); N-phenyl-carbons: 138.04 (C-ipso), 125.10 (C-o), 128.72 (C-m), 129.94 (C-p); ms: m/z (%) 361/359 (M*, 75), 332/330 (M*-29, 27), 248 (0.7), 220 (1.5), 194 (20), 141/139 (25), 103 (8), 91 (100).

Anal. Calcd. for C₂₁H₁₄ClN₃O: C, 70.10; H, 3.92; N, 11.68. Found: C, 69.83; H, 3.95; N, 11.74.

c: Compound 4 was obtained in 62% yield.

Reaction of 1-(N-p-Methoxyphenacylidene)amino-1,2,3-triazole (1c) with Diphenylnitrilimine.

From this reaction after refluxing for 20 hours the following compounds were isolated:

a: 2,4-Diphenyl-5-(p-methoxybenzoyl)-2H-1,2,3-triazole (3c).

This compound was obtained in 28% yield, mp 147-148°; ir: ν C = O 1645 cm⁻¹; 'H nmr: δ 8.10-8.25 (4H, m), 7.82-7.98 (2H, m, H-o of Ph–N), 7.35-7.62 (6H, m), 6.97 (2H, d, J = 9.0 Hz), 3.85 (3H, s, CH₃O); ¹³C nmr: 186.35 (C=O), 150.03 (C-4tr), 143.34 (C-5tr), 55.33 (CH₃O); aroyl-carbons: 129.59 (C-ipso), 133.02 (C-o), 113.74 (C-m), 164.08 (C-p); C-phenyl-carbons: 130.08 (C-ipso), 128.44 (C-o), 128.72 (C-m), 128.25 (C-p); N-phenyl-carbons: 139.39 (C-ipso), 119.29 (C-o), 129.40 (C-m), 129.24 (C-p); ms: m/z (%) 355 (M*, 51), 326 (M*-29, 5), 324 (21), 248 (3), 194 (2), 135 (100), 107 (18), 91 (27).

Anal. Calcd. for $C_{22}H_{17}N_3O_2$: C, 74.35; H, 4.82; N, 11.82. Found: C, 74.70; H, 4.90; N, 11.78.

b: 1,3-Diphenyl-5-(p-methoxybenzoyl)-1,2,4-triazole (2c).

This compound was obtained in 40% yield, mp 122-124°; ir: ν C=0 1645 cm⁻¹; ¹H nmr: δ 8.29 (2H, d, J = 9.0 Hz), 8.17-8.32 (2H, m), 7.40-7.55 (8H, m), 6.98 (2H, d, J = 9.0 Hz), 3.85 (3H, s, CH₃O); ¹³C nmr: 182.02 (C=0), 161.37 (C-3tr), 150.77 (C-5tr), 55.59 (CH₃O); aroyl-carbons: 128.51 (C-*ipso*), 133.50 (C-o), 114.05 (C-m), 164.83 (C-p); C-phenyl-carbons: 130.21 (C-*ipso*), 126.75 (C-o), 129.16 (C-m, C-p); N-phenyl-carbons: 138.02 (C-*ipso*), 124.81 (C-o), 128.67 (C-m), 129.76 (C-p); ms: m/z (%) 355 (M*, 43), 326 (M*-29, 73), 278 (5), 220 (2), 194 (10), 135 (67), 107 (20), 103 (10), 90 (90), 77 (100).

Anal. Calcd. for $C_{22}H_{17}N_3O_2$: C, 74.35; H, 4.82; N, 11.82. Found: C, 74.42; H, 4.97; N, 11.62.

- c: Compound 4 was obtained in 55% yield.
- d: N¹-Phenyl-N²-benzoyl-p-methoxybenzoic Acid Hydrazide (5c).

This compound was obtained in 9% yield, mp 195-196° [11]; ir: ν NH 3300, ν C = O 1680, 1650 cm⁻¹; ms: m/z (%) 346 (M⁺, 5), 194 (8), 152 (8), 149 (12), 135 (100), 105 (21).

In a test experiment a mixture of compound 1c (0.5 mmole) and triethylamine (0.1 mmole) in THF (4 ml) was refluxed for 2 hours. From the reaction mixture, after treating as above, the starting compound 1c was recovered in 80% yield.

Reaction of 1-(N-p-Nitrophenacylidene)amino-1,2,3-triazole (1d) with Diphenylnitrilimine.

From this reaction, after refluxing for 3 hours, the following compounds were isolated:

a: 1,3-Diphenyl-5-(p-nitrobenzoyl)-1,2,4-triazole (2d).

This compound was obtained in 32% yield, mp 184-186°; ir: ν C = O 1655 cm⁻¹; ¹H nmr: δ 8.60 (2H, d, J = 8.5 Hz), 8.35 (2H, d, J = 8.5 Hz), 8.15-8.32 (2H, m), 7.42-7.57 (8H, m); ms: m/z (%) 370 (M⁺, 20), 341 (M⁺-29, 3), 220 (5), 194 (11), 150 (26), 105 (100), 103 (15), 91 (50).

Anal. Calcd. for $C_{21}H_{14}N_4O_3$: C, 68.10; H, 3.81; N, 15.13. Found: C, 68.34; H, 3.72; N, 15.34.

b: N¹-Phenyl-N²-benzoyl-p-nitrobenzoic Acid Hydrazide (5d).

This compound was obtained in 11% yield, mp 160-162° (lit [10] 161-162°); ir: ν NH 3230, ν C=0 1685, 1650 cm⁻¹; ms: m/z (%) 361 (M^{*}, 12), 194 (28), 150 (15), 105 (100).

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