## Spiro heterocyclization of pyrrolo[2,1-c][1,4]benzoxazine-1,2,4-triones under the action of 1,3,3-trimethyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline

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1,3,3-Trimethyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline reacts with pyrrolo[2,1-c][1,4]benzoxazine-1,2,4-triones to give substituted pyrrolo[2,1-a]-isoquinoline-2-spiro-2-pyrroles.

The reactions of the enamino derivatives of isoquinoline with highly electrophilic 2,3-dioxo heterocycles are poorly understood. Thus, Andreichikov *et al.*<sup>1</sup> found that 1,3,3-trimethyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline reacts with 5-aryl-2,3-dihydro-2,3-furandiones to form the products of N-acylation of an isoquinoline ring, namely, 2-aroylpyruvoyl-3,3-dimethyl-1-methylene-1,2,3,4tetrahydroisoquinolines. The decyclization of 5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-2,3-furandione under the action of 1-methyl-3,3-pentamethylene-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline gave rise to a product of the β-C acylation of the isoquinoline enamine moiety, 1-(3-hydroxy-2,5-dioxo-5-phenylhept-Z-3-ene-Z-1-ylidene)-3,3-pentamethylene-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline.<sup>2</sup> The interaction of 1,3,3-trimethyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline with 6-nitro-2-polyfluoroalkylchromones afforded the products of an electrophilic attack on the β-C atom of the enamino fragment.<sup>3</sup> Taking into consideration the interaction of 3,4-dihydroisoquinoline derivatives<sup>4–6</sup> with highly electrophilic olefins and perfluorocarbonyl compounds, we can confirm that the alkylation and hydroxyalkylation of these systems occur at the β-C atom of the enamino system. It is clear that, with increasing steric hindrances of an electrophilic centre, an attack on the enamine form of the isoquinoline derivatives occurs at the  $\beta$ -C atom.

We found that the interaction of 3-aroyl-2,4-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[2,1-c][1,4]benzoxazine-1,2,4-triones **1a,b** with 1,3,3-trimethyl-3,4-dihydroisoquinoline **2** performed by short-term heating (2–3 min) in dry acetonitrile yielded 9,9-dimethyl-1-oxo-1,2,8,9-tetrahydropyrrolo[2,1-a]isoquinoline-2-spiro-2-(3-aroyl-4-hydroxy-1-a-hydroxyphenyl-5-oxo-2,5-dihydropyrroles) **3a,b**.†

The spectroscopic characteristics of resulting spiro adducts **3a,b** are much similar to those of model compounds, 6,6-dimethyl-2,4-dioxo-2,3,4,5,6,7-hexahydro-1*H*-indole-3-spiro-2-(3-aroyl-4-hydroxy-1-*o*-hydroxyphenyl-5-oxo-2,5-dihydropyrroles). The structure of these compounds was proved by X-ray analysis.<sup>7</sup> A computer simulation (AM1 method, Hyperchem 6.0) of spiro heterocycle **3a** shows that the dihydropyridine ring

exists in the form of a flat 'arm-chair' and the C(9) atom is approximately  $10^{\circ}$  beyond the plane of this ring. This explains the presence of two Me-group singlets at 1.40 (pseudoeq.) and 1.55 ppm (pseudoax.) and the typical AB system of methylene protons (2.63–2.82 ppm) in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of **3a**.

Most likely, at the first stage of the interaction, an activated methylene group of enamine 2 adds to the C(3a) atom of pyrrolobenzoxazinetriones 1a,b, as described for the reactions of these compounds with mono-9 and binucleophiles. 10,11 This step is followed by pyrrole ring closing, the result of a secamino group attack (isoquinoline ring) onto lacton carbonyl group (benzoxazine ring) and its opening by C(4)-C(5) bond cleavage. An analogous reaction, which was observed previously for binucleophiles such as o-phenylenediamine<sup>10</sup> and o-aminothiophenole,11 did not yield stable spiro heterocycles because it was accompanied by subsequent intramolecular proton transfer from the NH group adjacent to the spiro C atom onto the N atom of a spiro-pyrrole ring and its further opening. Such a disclosure does not take place in our case apparently because there is no possibility of a proton transfer in spiro products 3a,b. The described reaction presents an example of the regioselective formation of a functionalised spiro-bisheterocycle system of pyrroloisoquinoline-spiro-pyrrole, which was inaccessible formerly.

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 $^\dagger$  A typical experimental procedure. Enamine 2 (0.173 g, 1 mmol) was added dropwise to a solution of pyrrolobenzoxazinetrione 1 (1 mmol) in dry MeCN (20 ml). The solution was heated at 60 °C for 2–3 min and then allowed to cool. The precipitated product was filtered off and recrystallised from benzene.

9,9-Dimethyl-1-oxo-1,2,8,9-tetrahydropyrrolo[2,1-a]isoquinoline-2-spiro-2-(3-benzoyl-4-hydroxy-1-o-hydroxyphenyl-5-oxo-2,5-dihydropyrrole) **3a**: yield 72%, mp 215–216 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, [²H<sub>6</sub>]DMSO)  $\delta$ : 1.40 [s, 3 H, Me (pseudoeq.)], 1.55 [s, 3 H, Me (pseudoax.)], 2.63, 2.82 (dd, 2 H, CH<sub>2</sub>, AB system, J 15.7 Hz), 5.61 (s, 1H, CH=), 6.69–7.79 (m, 13 H, Ph + 2C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), 9.39 [s, 1H, OH (phenol.)], 11.93 [s, 1H, OH (enol.)].  $^{13}$ C NMR (100.62 MHz, [²H<sub>6</sub>]DMSO)  $\delta$ : 188.40 (COPh), 174.12 [C(1)=O], 165.40 [C(5)=O], 154.51 [C(4)–OH], 142.81 (N–C=), 137.88 (C–OH), 132.61 [C(3')], 132.44–116.47 (CAr), 97.35 [C(3)], 72.39 [C(9)], 53.60 [C(2)], 43.21 [C(8)], 26.39 (Me), 25.42 (Me). IR (Nujol,  $\nu$ /cm $^{-1}$ ): 3210 (O–H), 1705 (N–C=O), 1640 (C=OPh). Found (%): C, 73.14; H, 4.81; N, 5.64. Calc. for C $_{30}$ H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (%): C, 73.16; H, 4.91; N, 5.69. 9,9-Dimethyl-1-oxo-1,2,8,9-tetrahydropyrrolo[2,1-a]isoquinoline-2-

9,9-Dimethyl-1-oxo-1,2,8,9-tetrahydropyrrolo[2,1-a]isoquinoline-2-spiro-2-(3-benzoyl-4-hydroxy-1-o-hydroxyphenyl-3-p-methoxybenzoyl-5-oxo-2,5-dihydropyrrole] **3b**: yield 77%, mp 197–199 °C (from benzene). 
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, [<sup>2</sup>H<sub>6</sub>]DMSO) δ: 1.38 [s, 3H, Me (pseudoeq.)], 1.49 [s, 3H, Me (pseudoax.)], 2.59, 2.79 (dd, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>, AB system, *J* 15.9 Hz) 3.85 (s, 3H, OMe), 5.68 (s, 1H, CH=), 6.76–8.16 (m, 12H, 3C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), 9.62 [s, 1H, OH (phenol.)], 12.00 [s, 1H, OH (enol.)]. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100.62 MHz, [<sup>2</sup>H<sub>6</sub>]DMSO) δ: 186.93 (COC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), 174.15 [C(1)=O], 165.48 [C(5)=O], 162.91 (C–OMe), 154.54 [C(4)–OH], 151.37 (N–C=), 142.85 (C–OH), 132.62 [C(3)], 131.46–113.41 (CAr), 97.16 [C(3)], 75.52 [C(9)], 55.48 (OMe), 53.57 [C(2)], 43.22 [C(8)], 26.37 (Me), 25.47 (Me). IR (Nujol, ν/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3200 (O–H), 1704 (N–C=O), 1645 (C=OC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>). Found (%): C, 71.24; H, 5.07; N, 5.34. Calc. for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub> (%): C, 71.25; H, 5.02; N, 5.36

3a,b

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