

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Unusual Formation of 2-(4-Morpholino-5*H*-chromeno- [2,3-*d*]pyrimidin-2-yl)phenol

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2-(4-Morpholino-5*H*-chromeno[2,3-*d*]pyrimidin-2-yl)phenol **I** has been recently synthesized via the three-component condensation of salicylic aldehyde **II**, malonic nitrile **III** and morpholine **IV** in ethanol in the presence of LiClO<sub>4</sub> [1], as well as under the microwave irradiation of the reactants **II–IV** at 100°C for 6.3 min [2].

The compound **I** was for the first time shown to be formed in the reaction of equimolar amounts of salicylic aldehyde **II**, cyclohexylidene malodinitrile **V** and morpholine **IV** in ethanol at 20°C (method *a*). Replacement of compound **V** with benzylidene malonodinitrile **VI** (method *b*) does not change the reaction direction: a heterocyclic compound **I** is formed. The structure of the latter was studied by the X-ray diffraction which results will be reported later.

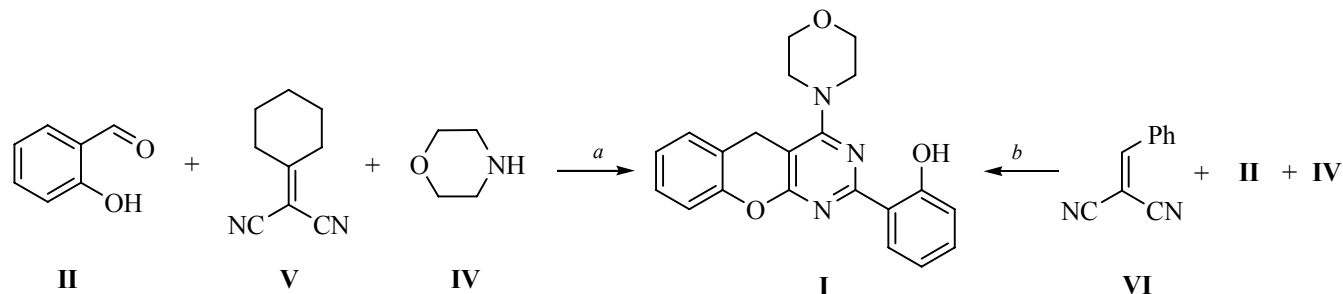
The mechanism of this reaction and the limits of its applicability are under study.

**2-(4-Morpholino-5*H*-chromeno[2,3-*d*]pyrimidin-2-yl)phenol (**I**).** *a.* A mixture of 7.1 ml (10 mmol) of salicylal **II**, 0.87 ml (10 mmol) of morpholine **IV** and 1.46 g (10 mmol) of cyclohexylidene malonodinitrile **V** in 20 ml of ethanol at 20°C was stirred for

1 h and kept for 48 h. The resulting precipitate was filtered off, washed with ethanol and hexane. Yield 2.6 g (72%), yellow crystals, mp 205–208°C (EtOH), (210°C [2]). IR spectrum,  $\nu$ , cm<sup>−1</sup>: 3445 (OH). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 3.52 t (4H, CH<sub>2</sub>NCH<sub>2</sub>, *J* 4.0 Hz), 3.80 t (4H, CH<sub>2</sub>OCH<sub>2</sub>, *J* 4.0 Hz), 4.01 s (2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.93 t (2H, H<sub>Ar</sub>, *J* 8.0 Hz), 7.11–7.20 m (2H, H<sub>Ar</sub>), 7.27 t (1H, H<sub>Ar</sub>, *J* 8.0 Hz), 7.33–7.41 m (2H, H<sub>Ar</sub>), 8.27 d (1H, H<sub>Ar</sub>, *J* 8.0 Hz), 13.11 br. s (1H, OH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 24.99, 48.01, 65.88, 97.56, 116.24, 117.30, 117.99, 118.78, 119.82, 124.52, 128.05, 128.59, 128.96, 132.84, 159.69, 160.49, 163.98. Mass spectra, *m/z* (*I*<sub>rel</sub>, %): 361 (100) [*M*]<sup>+</sup>, 304 (28), 275 (14), 248 (5), 155 (11), 128 (13), 86 (24) [morpholinyl]<sup>+</sup>. Found, %: C 69.68; H 5.24; N 11.52. C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>. Calculated, %: C 69.79; H 5.30; N 11.63.

*b.* Similarly to method *a* using 1.54 g (10 mmol) of compound **VI**. Yield 2.78 g (77%).

The melting point was determined on a Kofler heating bench. The IR spectrum was registered on a FIR Spectrum One (Perkin Elmer) instrument from KBr pellets. The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded



on a Bruker Avance II 400 spectrometer (399.9601 MHz) in DMSO- $d_6$  with internal TMS. The mass spectrum was taken on a MX-1321 spectrometer (70 eV) using direct input of the sample into the ion source. The reaction progress was monitored by the TLC method on Silufol UV-254 plates eluting with acetone–hexane mixture (3:5) and detecting with iodine vapor and UV irradiation.

## REFERENCES

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2. Zonouzi, A., Biniiaz, M., Mirzazadeh, R., Talebi, M., and Ng, S.W., *Heterocycles*, 2010, vol. 81, no. 5, p. 1271.