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Structure of Photochromic Spiroxazines. II. 1',3',3'-Trimethylspiro{anthra[2,1-f][1,4]-benzoxazine-2,2'-indoline}-7,12-dione

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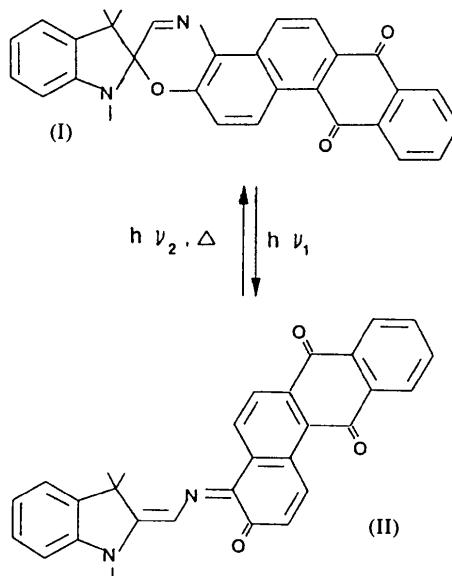
Abstract

The asymmetric unit comprises two crystallographically independent molecules. The molecule consists of a substituted indoline ring orthogonally linked to an anthraquinone-benzo-oxazine moiety through a spiro C atom having regular sp^3 hybridization. The length of the $C_{\text{spiro}}-\text{O}$ bond, that undergoes cleavage upon photoexcitation, is larger than that normally observed for other spiroxazines having lower photocolourability than the title compound.

Comment

The title compound (I), as for all other spiroindolinonaphthoxazines, exhibits photochromism. Upon UV irradiation it undergoes a ring-opening reaction leading to a red-absorbing merocyanine-like struc-

ture (II). The reaction is reversible, (I) being restored by either thermal or photochemical bleaching.



The electrocyclic ring-opening reaction of spirobenzopyrans or spironaphthoxazines, leading to coloured merocyanines, has been extensively studied with a host of different spectroscopic techniques. There is now a general consensus on the reactive excited-state multiplicity, which has been identified as a singlet, that leads to the ring opening, and it is likely that the photocolouration is based on a charge-transfer process from the indoline N-atom lone pair, n_N , into the antibonding orbital of the $C_{\text{spiro}}-\text{O}$ bond, $\sigma^*_{C_{\text{spiro}}-\text{O}}$, of the oxazine moiety. This process should be maximized when the n_N is antiperiplanar to the $C_{\text{spiro}}-\text{O}$ bond. The length of the latter bond should increase with the extent of the $n_N-\sigma^*$ interaction and the $N-C_{\text{spiro}}$ bond length should concomitantly decrease. The efficiency of the photocolouration reaction may then correlate, among other things, to $C_{\text{spiro}}-\text{O}$ bond distance. To verify this hypothesis we have carried out the X-ray structure analysis of the anthraquinone-based spiroxazine (I).

Two crystallographically independent molecules exist in the asymmetric unit. The significant difference between them may reflect the extent to which the conformation of (I) is affected by crystal packing, but we found no significant differences for the bond involved in the ring-opening reaction.

On the other hand, the $C_{\text{spiro}}-\text{O}$ bond is much longer (1.473–1.475 Å) than those typically observed in oxygen-containing six-membered heterocycles [1.41–1.43 Å (Kennard, Watson & Town, 1973)]. These bonds are also longer than those observed in spiroindolinonaphthoxazines [1.454 Å (Millini, Del

Table 2. Geometric parameters (\AA , $^\circ$)

O(1A)—C(2A)	1.343 (4)	O(1B)—C(2B)	1.358 (3)
O(1A)—C(22A)	1.474 (3)	O(1B)—C(22B)	1.478 (3)
C(2A)—C(3A)	1.377 (3)	C(2B)—C(3B)	1.397 (4)
C(2A)—C(19A)	1.364 (3)	C(2B)—C(19B)	1.361 (4)
C(3A)—C(4A)	1.348 (4)	C(3B)—C(4B)	1.357 (3)
C(4A)—C(5A)	1.422 (3)	C(4B)—C(5B)	1.417 (3)
C(5A)—C(6A)	1.434 (4)	C(5B)—C(6B)	1.454 (3)
C(5A)—C(18A)	1.428 (3)	C(5B)—C(18B)	1.411 (3)
C(6A)—C(7A)	1.491 (3)	C(6B)—C(7B)	1.476 (4)
C(6A)—C(15A)	1.392 (3)	C(6B)—C(15B)	1.380 (3)
C(7A)—C(8A)	1.478 (4)	C(7B)—C(8B)	1.486 (3)
C(7A)—O(31A)	1.204 (3)	C(7B)—O(31B)	1.212 (3)
C(8A)—C(9A)	1.391 (4)	C(8B)—C(9B)	1.380 (3)
C(8A)—C(13A)	1.405 (3)	C(8B)—C(13B)	1.375 (3)
C(9A)—C(10A)	1.367 (4)	C(9B)—C(10B)	1.379 (3)
C(10A)—C(11A)	1.380 (3)	C(10B)—C(11B)	1.385 (4)
C(11A)—C(12A)	1.394 (4)	C(11B)—C(12B)	1.376 (4)
C(12A)—C(13A)	1.377 (4)	C(12B)—C(13B)	1.391 (3)
C(13A)—C(14A)	1.448 (3)	C(13B)—C(14B)	1.484 (3)
C(14A)—C(15A)	1.480 (3)	C(14B)—C(15B)	1.465 (4)
C(14A)—O(32A)	1.229 (3)	C(14B)—O(32B)	1.232 (3)
C(15A)—C(16A)	1.401 (3)	C(15B)—C(16B)	1.409 (3)
C(16A)—C(17A)	1.355 (4)	C(16B)—C(17B)	1.343 (4)
C(17A)—C(18A)	1.402 (3)	C(17B)—C(18B)	1.406 (3)
C(18A)—C(19A)	1.409 (3)	C(18B)—C(19B)	1.415 (4)
C(19A)—N(20A)	1.409 (3)	C(19B)—N(20B)	1.397 (4)
N(20A)—C(21A)	1.285 (3)	N(20B)—C(21B)	1.267 (4)
C(21A)—C(22A)	1.492 (3)	C(21B)—C(22B)	1.478 (4)
C(22A)—N(23A)	1.438 (4)	C(22B)—N(23B)	1.433 (3)
C(22A)—C(30A)	1.565 (4)	C(22B)—C(30B)	1.538 (3)
N(23A)—C(24A)	1.401 (3)	N(23B)—C(24B)	1.397 (3)
N(23A)—C(33A)	1.451 (4)	N(23B)—C(33B)	1.447 (3)
C(24A)—C(25A)	1.393 (4)	C(24B)—C(25B)	1.358 (4)
C(24A)—C(29A)	1.374 (3)	C(24B)—C(29B)	1.388 (3)
C(25A)—C(26A)	1.392 (4)	C(25B)—C(26B)	1.339 (3)
C(26A)—C(27A)	1.358 (4)	C(26B)—C(27B)	1.333 (4)
C(27A)—C(28A)	1.393 (3)	C(27B)—C(28B)	1.418 (5)
C(28A)—C(29A)	1.365 (3)	C(28B)—C(29B)	1.408 (3)
C(29A)—C(30A)	1.498 (3)	C(29B)—C(30B)	1.515 (3)
C(30A)—C(34A)	1.526 (3)	C(30B)—C(34B)	1.512 (3)
C(30A)—C(35A)	1.495 (4)	C(30B)—C(35B)	1.532 (4)
O(1A)—C(22A)—C(21A)	110.2 (2)	O(1B)—C(22B)—C(21B)	111.2 (2)
C(21A)—C(22A)—C(30A)	117.8 (2)	C(21B)—C(22B)—C(30B)	115.8 (2)
C(21A)—C(22A)—N(23A)	111.6 (2)	C(21B)—C(22B)—N(23B)	110.2 (2)
O(1A)—C(22A)—C(30A)	106.4 (2)	O(1B)—C(22B)—C(30B)	107.6 (2)
O(1A)—C(22A)—N(23A)	106.6 (2)	O(1B)—C(22B)—N(23B)	107.0 (2)
N(23A)—C(22A)—C(30A)	103.5 (2)	N(23B)—C(22B)—C(30B)	104.4 (2)

The structure was solved by direct methods (*SIR88*; Burla, Camalli, Cascarano, Giacovazzo, Polidori, Spagna & Viterbo, 1989) and refined by block-matrix least squares (Immirzi, 1973). Other programs used: *PLUTO* (Motherwell & Clegg, 1978) and *PARST* (Nardelli, 1983).

Lists of structure factors, anisotropic thermal parameters, H-atom coordinates, bond distances, bond angles and torsion angles have been deposited with the British Library Document Supply Centre as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 55948 (36 pp.). Copies may be obtained through The Technical Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England. [CIF reference: NA1026]

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β -Homopipitzolone

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Abstract

The structure of β -homopipitzolone (one of the two isomers of an intermediate product in the homoocrodrole synthesis) has been unequivocally established as 10-hydroxy-2,6,9-trimethyltricyclo[6.3.1.0^{1,6}]dodeca-9-ene-5,11,12-trione with relative 1*R*,2*R*,6*R*,8*S* configuration.

Comment

The thermal (Walls, Padilla, Joseph-Nathan, Giral & Romo, 1965; Joseph-Nathan, Mendoza & Garcia, 1977) and catalytic (Sanchez, Yanez, Enriquez & Joseph-Nathan, 1981) transformations of perezone produce a mixture of α - and β -pipitzols. In continuation of our investigations in this field, we have prepared the new α - and β -homopipitzolone mixture from modified perezone (Mendoza, Garcia, Reyes &