

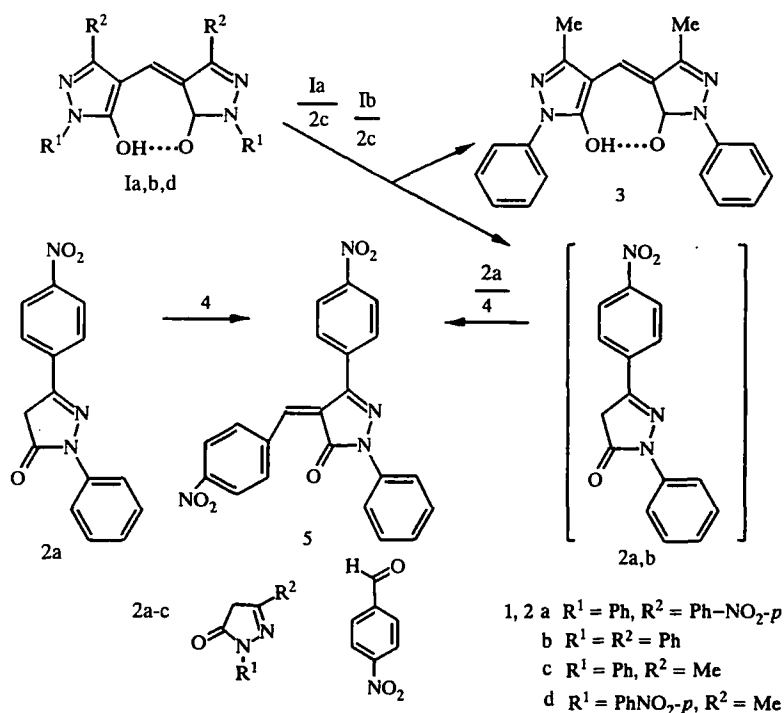
REACTION OF DIPYRAZOLYLMETHANES WITH 1-PHENYL-3-METHYLPYRAZOL-5-ONE

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The first derivatives of dipyrazolylmethane (**3**, scheme below) were prepared in low yield by treatment of 5-methyl-6-phenyl-1,2,4-triazine-4-oxide with pyrazolone **2c** in the presence of triethylamine [1]. Formation of this compound was also observed previously when treating 5-azaauracil [2], 5-azacytosine [3], and fervenuline-4-oxide [4] with pyrazolone **2c** in the absence of a basic catalyst. A simple method for preparing this compound by the reaction of pyrazolone **2c** with orthoformic ester has been reported by us in [3].

The crystalline structure of dipyrazolylmethane **3** was studied using x-ray analysis. In this way it was shown that the molecule of **3** is symmetrical relative to the axis passing through C₁ and the H bonded atoms. The central H bond of the eight-membered ring is characterized by the coplanar distribution of the nonhydrogen atoms. The hydrogen atom is situated halfway in distance between the oxygen atoms of the pyrazole fragments [1].

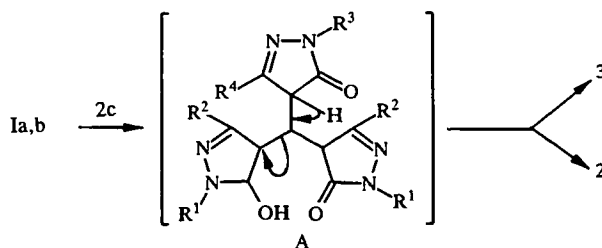
In our work we have found that dipyrazolylmethanes **1a, b** react with pyrazolone **2c** by heating in refluxing butanol to form the known derivative **3** in 35-55% yield. Work up of the mother liquors from the reaction mass after removal of compound **3** with p-nitrobenzaldehyde **4** gave the styryl derivative of the pyrazolone **5**.



The styryl derivative **5** was also obtained by heating the known pyrazolone **2a** with aldehyde **4**. It was of interest that derivative **1d** did not react with **2c** under the same conditions.

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The discovered exchanges of pyrazole residues in the dipyrazolymethanes **Ia, b** evidently proceed via a stage of formation of the intermediate adducts, which are derivatives of tripyrazolymethane of type A, and these undergo decomposition to form dipyrazolymethane **3** and the displaced pyrazolones **2**.



It should be particularly noted that the reported reaction occurs in the absence of base, i.e., does not require activation of the reagent by a charge.

Reaction of Compounds Ia,b with Pyrazolone 2a. Compound **Ia** (0.12 g, 0.2 mmole) was refluxed with pyrazolone **2a** (0.075 g, 0.4 mmole) in butanol (3 ml) for 6 h. The reaction product was cooled and the precipitated **3** was filtered off to give product (0.04 g, 53%). *p*-Nitrobenzaldehyde (**4**, 0.075 g, 0.5 mmole) was added to the mother liquor and the product refluxed for 5 min. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and the precipitate of **5** filtered off (0.05 g, 28%) with mp 252-253°C. Mass spectrum, m/z 414 (M^+ , calculated for $C_{22}H_{14}N_4O_5 = 414$).

The reaction of **Ib** with **2a** occurred similarly. Yield of **3** was 35%.

1-Phenyl-3-(*p*-nitrophenyl)-4-(*p*-nitrophenylidene)pyrazol-5-one (5). 1-Phenyl-3-(*p*-nitrophenyl)pyrazol-5-one (56 mg, 0.2 mmole) and *p*-nitrobenzaldehyde (32 mg, 0.2 mmole) were refluxed for 15 min. The product was cooled and the precipitate of **5** was filtered to give 20 mg (27%), mp 252-253°C. The product obtained was identical to compound **5** described above.

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