

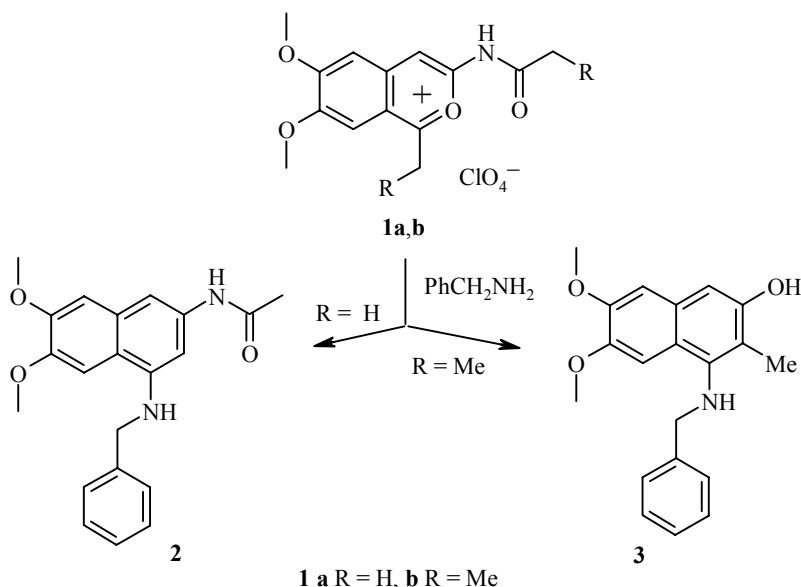
## NEW TRANSFORMATIONS OF 3-ACYLAMINO BENZO[*c*]PYRILIUM SALTS

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The examples reported for the recyclization of 3-acylamino benzo[*c*]pyrilium salts are limited to their reactions with ammonia [1] and *ortho*-phenylenediamine [2], although the structure of these compounds would lead us to expect a great variety of transformations. In a study of 3-acylamino benzo[*c*]pyrilium salts with nitrogen-containing nucleophiles, we assumed that the formation of 1,3-aminonaphthol derivatives would be possible in their reactions with amines as in the case of 5-alkyl-2-oxobenzo[*c*]pyrrolo[3,2-*e*]pyrilium perchlorates [3]. The structure of the products of the reactions of 3-acylamino-1-alkylbenzo[*c*]pyrilium salts (**1**) with benzylamine was found to depend on the length of the alkyl substituent at C(1) in the benzo[*c*]pyrilium cation.

Heating 3-acetylamino-6,7-dimethoxy-1-methylbenzo[*c*]pyrilium perchlorate (**1a**) with two equivalents of benzylamine gives 3-acetylamino-1-benzylamino-6,7-dimethoxynaphthalene (**2**), whose structure and composition were indicated by IR and <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy and elemental analysis. Under the same conditions, salt **1b** is converted into the "normal" product, aminonaphthol **3**. Recyclization with retention of the acetylamino group was quite unexpected since the reported reactions of 1-acylamino benzo[*c*]pyrilium cations feature either loss of the acetylamino group [1, 2] or participation of this group in intramolecular recyclization to give 3-hydroxyisoquinoline derivatives [4].



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The step involving closure of the new ring probably depends on the bulk of the substituent at the carbon atoms forming the new C–C bond. Thus, the conversion of salt **1a** (R = H) proceeds with retention of the amide residue, while an increase in the bulk of the substituent at the carbon atom participating in the formation of the carbocycle (R = CH<sub>3</sub>) leads to the transformation of the NHCOAlk fragment into a leaving group.

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were taken on a Varian Gemini spectrometer at 200 MHz.

**3-Acetylamino-1-benzylamino-6,7-dimethoxynaphthalene (2)** was obtained in 70% yield; mp 210-212°C. IR spectrum in nujol suspension,  $\nu$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3390 (O–H), 3285 (N–H), 1685 (C=O). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>),  $\delta$ , ppm, *J* (Hz): 1.98 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>); 3.83 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>); 3.87 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>); 4.45 (2H, d, CH<sub>2</sub>); 6.37 (1H, s, H arom); 6.70 (1H, t, NH); 7.03 (1H, s, H arom); 7.20 (1H, t, H arom); 7.30 (2H, t, H arom); 7.40 (2H, d, H arom); 7.49 (2H, s, H arom); 9.59 (1H, br. s, NH). Found, %: C 71.1; H 6.02; N 7.90. C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>. Calculated, %: C 71.9; H 6.3; N 8.0.

**1-Benzylamino-3-hydroxy-6,7-dimethoxy-2-methylnaphthalene (3)** was obtained in 63% yield; mp 119-120°C. IR spectrum in nujol suspension,  $\nu$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3430 (N–H), 3380 (N–H), 1625 (C=O). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>),  $\delta$ , ppm: 2.20 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>); 3.71 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>); 3.81 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>); 4.22 (2H, d, CH<sub>2</sub>); 4.80 (1H, t, NH); 6.79 (1H, s, H arom); 6.98 (1H, s, H arom); 7.24 (1H, t, H arom); 7.27 (2H, d, H arom); 7.35 (1H, s, H arom); 7.39 (2H, t, H arom); 9.26 (1H, s, OH).

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