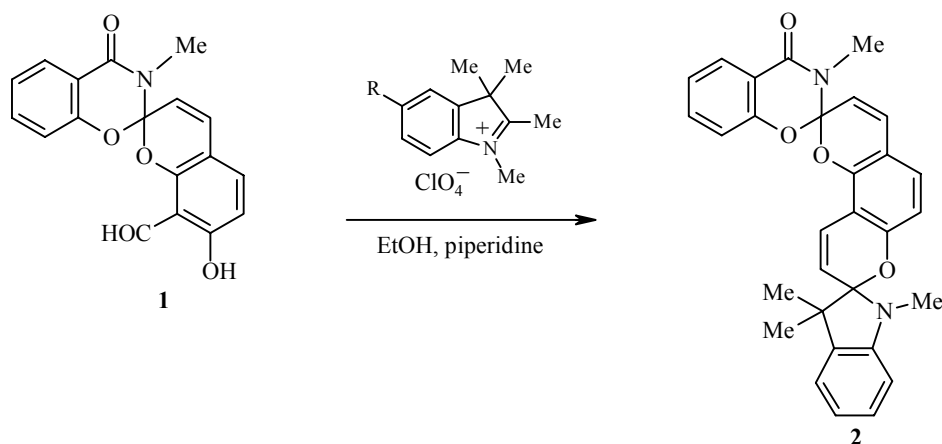


## NEW PHOTOCHROMIC BISPIROPYRAN

Yu. S. Alekseenko, A. O. Bulanov, Yu. A. Sayapin, A. S. Alekseenko, B. S. Luk'yanov,  
and B. B. Safoklov

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The photochromic properties of spiropyrans are a function not only of the contribution of the hetarene fragment but also, to a greater extent, to the substituents in the 2H-chromene part of the molecule [1]. We have obtained a new spiropyran **1**, which is a unique salicylaldehyde analog, and used this compound to synthesize spiropyran **2**, containing two different spirocyclic sites and, thus, two asymmetric carbon atoms.



The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were taken on a Varian Unity-300 spectrometer at 300 MHz in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

**8'-Formyl-7'-hydroxy-3-methyl-4-oxo-3,4-dihydro-2H-1,3-benzoxazine-2-spiro-2'-2H-chromene (1)** was obtained in 48% yield from N-methylsalicylamide and 2,4-dihydroxy-*iso*-phthalaldehyde according to our previous procedure [2]; mp 155°C (ethanol). IR spectrum (vaseline oil),  $\nu$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1673 (C=O), 1633, 1600 (C=C), 984, 954, 921 (C-O). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm, *J* (Hz): 3.17 (3H, s, N-CH<sub>3</sub>); 5.97 (1H, d, *J* = 9.8, 3'-H); 6.61 (1H, d, *J* = 8.6, 6'-H); 6.88 (1H, d, *J* = 8.3, 8-H); 6.93 (1H, d, *J* = 9.8, 4'-H); 7.37 (1H, d, *J* = 7.8, 5'-H); 7.19 (1H, t, *J* = 7.6, 6-H); 7.47 (1H, t, *J* = 7.4, 7-H); 8.05 (1H, d, *J* = 7.8, 5-H); 10.22 (1H, s, CHO); 11.69 (1H, s, OH). UV spectrum (2-propanol),  $\lambda_{\max}$ , nm (log  $\epsilon$ ): 270 (4.32), 364 (3.48).  $\lambda_{\max}$  for the photoinduced form: 510 nm. Found, %: C 67.02; H 3.90; N 4.11. C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>. Calculated, %: C 66.87; H 4.05; N 4.33.

**3-Methyl-4-oxo-3,4-dihydro-2H-1,3-benzoxazine-2-spiro-2'-2H,8H-pyrano[2,3-*f*]chromene-8'-2''-1'',3'',3''-trimethylindoline (2)**. A sample of piperidine (0.1 ml, 1.1 mmol) was added dropwise to a heated solution of spiropyran **1** (0.323 g, 1 mmol) and 1,2,3,3-tetramethylindolenylium perchlorate (0.274 g, 1 mmol)

Physical and Organic Chemistry Research Institute, Rostov State University, 344090 Rostov-on-Don, Russia; e-mail: bluk@ipoc.rsu.ru. Translated from *Khimiya Geterotsiklicheskikh Soedinenii*, No. 9, pp. 1308-1309, September, 2002. Original article submitted June 5, 2002.

in 2-propanol (5 ml). The reaction mixture was heated at reflux for 10 min and cooled. The precipitate was filtered off and recrystallized to give 0.287 g (60%) **2**; mp 210°C (hexane). IR spectrum (vaseline oil),  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 1673 (C=O), 1633, 1600, 1684 (C=C), 950, 921 (C–O).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm,  $J$  (Hz): 1.08 (3H, s, 3''-H); 1.21 (3H, s, 3''-CH<sub>3</sub>); 2.64 (3H, s, 1''-CH<sub>3</sub>); 3.18 (3H, s, 3-CH<sub>3</sub>); 5.50 (1H, dd,  $J = 8.7$ , 9'-H); 5.87 (1H, d,  $J = 9.7$ , 3'-H); 6.30-7.60 (11H, m, arom, 4'-H, 10'-H); 8.08 (1H, d,  $J = 7.8$ , 8-H). UV spectrum (2-propanol),  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm (log  $\epsilon$ ): 247 (4.57), 287 sh (4.36), 324 sh (3.49), 340 sh (3.31).  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  of photoinduced form: 418 sh, 434, 520, 560 sh. Found, %: C 75.56; H 5.74; N 5.62. C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>. Calculated, %: C 75.30; H 5.48; N 5.85.

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