

**REACTION OF CROWN ETHERS  
WITH FIVE-MEMBERED HETEROCYCLES:  
1H-IMIDAZOLE-4,5-DICARBONITRILE, 3-NITRO-  
1,2,4-TRIAZOLE, AND 1H-TETRAZOLE**

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*By the reaction of 1H-imidazole-4,5-dicarbonitrile, 3-nitro-1,2,4-triazole, and 1H-tetrazole, containing one proton at each of the two proton-donating atoms separated by one covalent bond, it was shown that uncharged crystalline supramolecular compounds can be obtained on account of the proton-donating characteristics of the aromatic heterocycles.*

**Keywords:** 1H-imidazole-4,5-dicarbonitrile, 3-nitro-1,2,4-triazole, 1H-tetrazole, crown ethers, crystalline supramolecular compounds.

An indispensable condition for the formation of crystalline supramolecular compounds [1, 2] of crown ethers with organic molecules is the presence in the latter of proton-donating centers with one of the atoms C, N, or O, particularly H<sub>2</sub>N-, H<sub>2</sub>NSO<sub>2</sub>-, H<sub>2</sub>NCS-, H<sub>2</sub>NHNCO-, H<sub>2</sub>C=, H<sub>3</sub>C-, H<sub>3</sub>CO-, and similar groups or water molecules [1-3], securing stabilization of the components of the supramolecular compound by hydrogen bonds. As a rule a pair of protons of the substituent takes part in bonding, and the stability of the compounds decreases in the following order: OH > NH<sub>2</sub> > CH<sub>2</sub> [4]. The crystalline supramolecular compounds of crown ethers with heterocycles are stabilized by hydrogen bonds either through one of the above-mentioned substituents in the heterocycle [5-12] or the cyclic ammonium group of the protonated heterocycle [13]. A single example of the formation of a crystalline supramolecular compound of the most effective [3, 14] crown ether **1b** with unsubstituted triazole is known [15].

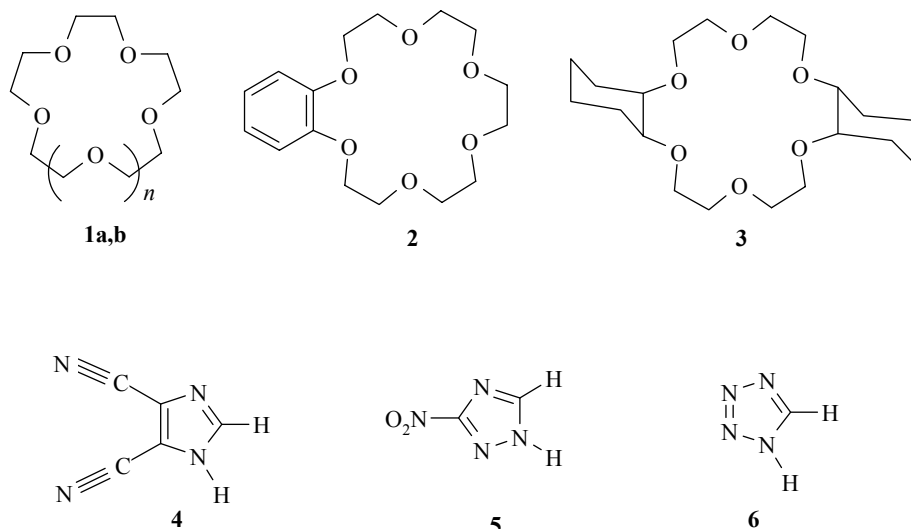
The aim of this work was to determine the possibility of synthesizing uncharged crystalline supramolecular compounds of various crown ethers with five-membered aromatic heterocycles, containing one proton at each of two adjacent proton-donating atoms separated by one covalent bond and securing stabilization of the supramolecular compound by analogy with the data in [15].

It was established that the crystalline supramolecular compounds [**1b**·**4**]-**7**, [**2**·**4**]-**8**, [**3**·**2(4)**]-**9**, [**1a**·**5**]-**10**, [**1b**·**2(5)**]-**11**, [**2**·**2(5)**]-**12**, [**3**·**2(5)**]-**13**, and [**3**·**2(6)**]-**14** respectively are formed during spontaneous evaporation of the solvents from solutions of the crown ethers **1-3** with the respective heterocycles **4-6**.

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- (**1a**) 1,4,7,10,13-pentaoxacyclopentadecane, (**1b**) 1,4,7,10,13,16-hexaoxacyclooctadecane; (**1a**)  $n = 1$ , (**1b**)  $n = 2$ ;  
 (**2**) 2,3,5,6,8,9,11,12,14,15-decahydro-1,4,7,10,13,16-benzohexaoxacyclooctadecene;  
 (**3**) *cis-anti-cis*-eicosahydrodibenzo[*b,k*][1,4,7,10,13,16]hexaoxacyclooctadecene;  
 (**4**) 1H-imidazole-4,5-dicarbonitrile; (**5**) 3-nitro-1,2,4-triazole; (**6**) 1H-tetrazole

The formation of stable crystalline compounds between the neutral heterocycles **4-6** and crown ethers having macrocycles of different sizes (compounds **1a,b**) and also differently sterically screened sides of the macrocyclic cavity (compounds **2** and **3**) makes it possible to suppose that the bonding of the crown ethers into the supramolecular compounds by the pairs of protons of the aromatic heterocycles is not accidental in nature. The data can be used for analysis and modelling of the molecular interactions of uncharged natural molecules [1, 2, 16] and also for the direct synthesis of crystalline supramolecular compounds of crown ethers with heterocycles.

The structure of all the subjects described in the article was also determined by X-ray crystallographic analysis. These data are of independent interest and will form the subject of a separate series of publications.

## EXPERIMENTAL

The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AC 300 instrument (300 MHz) in acetone- $d_6$  with TMS as internal standard. Thin-layer chromatography was conducted on Silufol plates with 1:8 methanol–chloroform as eluant and ninhydrin as developer. The crown ethers appeared as gray spots against a pink background. The crown ether **3** was obtained as described in [17], and the compounds **1**, **2**, and **4-6** were commercial products supplied by Aldrich and were used without additional purification.

**Supramolecular Compounds 7-14.** To the crown ether **1a** (0.220 g, 1 mmol), **1b** (0.264 g, 1 mmol), **2** (0.312 g, 1 mmol), or **3** (0.372 g, 1 mmol) we added a solution of the heterocycle **4** (0.118 g, 1 mmol), **5** (0.114 g, 1 mmol), or **6** (0.070 g, 1 mmol) in a 1:1 mixture of acetone and hexane. The mixture was left to evaporate at 20°C. The single crystals that separated were removed, washed with the same mixture of solvents, and dried in air.

**Compound 7 – 1,2,7,10,13,16-Hexaoxacyclooctadecane (1b) with 1H-Imidazole-4,5-dicarbonitrile (4), 1:1.** Yield 0.35 g (91%); mp 146-147°C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum,  $\delta$ , ppm: 3.58 (24H, s,  $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ); 8.29 (1H, s, CH). Found, %: C 53.44; H 6.89; N 14.63.  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_6\cdot\text{C}_5\text{H}_2\text{N}_4$ . Calculated, %: C 53.39; H 6.85; N 14.65.

**Compound 8** – 2,3,5,6,8,9,11,12,14,15-Decahydro-1,4,7,10,13,16-benzohexaoxacyclooctadecene (2) with 1H-imidazole-4,5-dicarbonitrile (4), 1:1. Yield 0.4 g (92%); mp 87-90°C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum, δ, ppm: 3.58, 3.61, 4.11 (20H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>O); 6.88 (4H, m, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>); 8.27 (1H, s, CH). Found, %: C 58.28; H 6.17; N 12.83. C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>6</sub>·2C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub>. Calculated, %: C 58.59; H 6.09; N 13.02.

**Compound 9** – cis-anti-cis-Eicosahydrodibenzo[b,k][1,4,7,10,13,16]hexaoxacyclooctadecene (3) with 1H-Imidazole-4,5-dicarbonitrile (4), 1:2. Yield 0.29 g (96%); mp 155-156°C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum, δ, ppm: 1.24-1.81, 3.59 (36H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>O, CH<sub>2</sub>, CH); 8.24 (2H, s, CH). Found, %: C 59.24; H 6.59; N 18.47. C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>36</sub>N<sub>6</sub>·2C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub>. Calculated, %: C 59.20; H 6.62; N 18.41.

**Compound 10** – 1,4,7,10,13-Pentaoxacyclopentadecane (1a) with 3-Nitro-1,2,4-triazole (5), 1:1. Yield 0.3 g (90%); mp 110-112°C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum, δ, ppm: 3.53 (20H, s, CH<sub>2</sub>O); 8.86 (1H, s, CH). Found, %: C 43.15; H 6.61; N 16.84. C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>5</sub>·C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. Calculated, %: C 43.11; H 6.63; N 16.76.

**Compound 11** – 1,4,7,10,13,16-Hexaoxacyclooctadecane (1b) with 3-Nitro-1,2,4-triazole (5), 1:2. Yield 0.215 g (88%); mp 184-186°C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum, δ, ppm: 3.50 (24H, s, CH<sub>2</sub>O); 8.86 (2H, s, CH). Found, %: C 39.11; H 5.76; N 22.84. C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>6</sub>·2C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. Calculated, %: C 39.03; H 5.73; N 22.75.

**Compound 12** – 2,3,5,6,8,9,11,12,14,15-Decahydro-1,4,7,10,13,16-benzohexaoxacyclooctadecene (2) with 3-Nitro-1,2,4-triazole (5), 1:2. Yield 0.22 g (81%); mp 94-96°C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum, δ, ppm: 3.58, 3.72, 4.05 (20H m, CH<sub>2</sub>O); 6.88 (4H, m, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>); 8.86 (2H, s, CH). Found, %: C 44.41; H 5.28; N 20.77. C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>6</sub>·2C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. Calculated, %: C 44.45; H 5.22; N 20.73.

**Compound 13** – cis-anti-cis-Eicosahydrodibenzo[b,k][1,4,7,10,13,16]hexaoxacyclooctadecene (3) with 3-Nitro-1,2,4-triazole (5), 1:2. Yield 0.26 g (87%); mp 178-180°C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum, δ, ppm: 1.20-1.71, 3.52 (36H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>O, CH<sub>2</sub>, CH); 8.86 (2H, s, CH). Found, %: C 48.08; H 6.76; N 18.73. C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>36</sub>O<sub>6</sub>·2C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. Calculated, %: C 47.99; H 6.71; N 18.66.

**Compound 14** – cis-anti-cis-Eicosahydrodibenzo[b,k][1,4,7,10,13,16]hexaoxacyclooctadecene (3) with 1H-Tetrazole (6), 1:2. Yield 0.22 g (86%); mp 140-142°C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum, δ, ppm: 1.23-2.05, 3.59 (36H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>O, CH<sub>2</sub>, CH); 9.19 (2H, s, CH). Found, %: C 51.51; H 7.83; N 21.82. C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>36</sub>O<sub>6</sub>·2CH<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub>. Calculated, %: C 51.54; H 7.87; N 21.87.

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