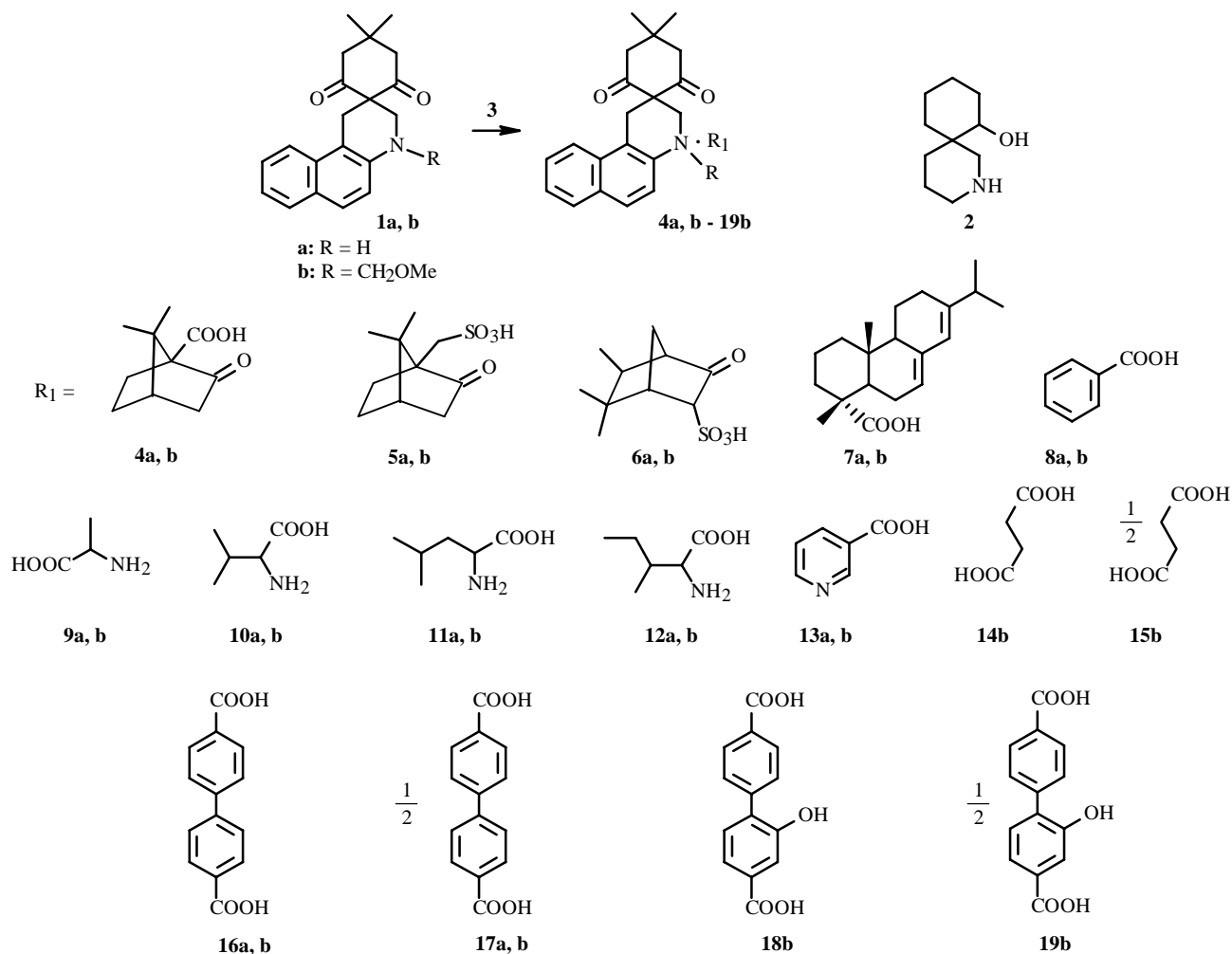


**SALTS OF *spiro*-DERIVATIVES OF BENZO[*f*]QUINOLINE  
AND SEVERAL NATURAL CARBOXYLIC ACIDS**

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Derivatives of benzo[*f*]quinoline (4',4'-dimethyl-*spiro*-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[*f*]quinolin-[2;1']-cyclohexan-2',6'-dione) **1a** and **b** were prepared by a three-component cascade heterocyclization of 2-naphthylamine, formaldehyde, and dimedone [1] and contained structural features of the alkaloid nitramine (**2**) [2, 3], which is found in the aerial part of *Nitraria sibirica* Pall.



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TABLE 1. Antitumor Activity of **1a**, **b**, **4a**, and **b-19b** *in vitro*; Concentration of Compound Completely Suppressing Growth of Tumor Cells, mmol/L

Compound	Tumor type					Compound	Tumor type				
	I	II	III	IV	V		I	II	III	IV	V
<b>1a</b>	10	>10	>10	>10	>10	<b>10b</b>	7	8	8	8	9
<b>1b</b>	10	>10	>10	>10	>10	<b>11a</b>	8	8	8	8	9
<b>4a</b>	10	10	10	9	9	<b>11b</b>	7	8	9	9	9
<b>4b</b>	9	9	9	9	9	<b>12a</b>	8	8	9	9	9
<b>5a</b>	8	8	8	8	8	<b>12b</b>	7	8	8	9	8
<b>5b</b>	7	7	8	8	9	<b>13a</b>	6	8	8	7	8
<b>6a</b>	7	8	9	8	8	<b>13b</b>	5	7	7	7	7
<b>6b</b>	7	8	8	8	7	<b>14b</b>	6	8	8	7	8
<b>7a</b>	7	8	8	7	7	<b>15b</b>	3	5	5	4	5
<b>7b</b>	6	7	8	8	8	<b>16a</b>	5	6	6	7	6
<b>8a</b>	6	6	7	7	8	<b>16b</b>	4	5	5	5	5
<b>8b</b>	5	6	7	6	6	<b>17a</b>	2	3	3	4	3
<b>9a</b>	8	9	8	10	10	<b>17b</b>	1	2	1	1	1
<b>9b</b>	8	8	8	9	8	<b>18b</b>	0.8	1	2	1	1
<b>10a</b>	8	8	8	9	8	<b>19b</b>	0.3	0.4	1	0.5	0.8

The goal of the present work was to develop a preparative synthesis of new biologically active salts of *spiro*-derivatives of benzo[*f*]quinoline **1a** and **b** with several natural carboxylic acids **3** (ketopinic, 10-camphorsulfonic, 3-*exo*-isocamphanonesulfonic, abietic, benzoic, L-alanine, L-valine, L-leucine, L-isoleucine, nicotinic, succinic, 4,4'-biphenyldicarboxylic, and 2-hydroxy-4,4'-biphenyldicarboxylic). The optimal conditions were selected for preparing the previously unknown salts **4a** and **b-19b** by reacting **1a** and **b** with **3** in stoichiometric ratios 1:1 (salts **4a**, **b-13a**, **b**, **14b**, **16b**, and **18b**) or 2:1 (**15b**, **17a**, **b**, **19b**) in absolute MeOH. The reaction was carried out with boiling for 2-3 h. After removing MeOH over 4-5 h with heating at less than 40°C, the yields of **4a** and **b-19b** were 91-96%.

The products had the following melting points (°C) and compositions: **1a**, 196, C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>; **1b**, 168, C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>; **4a**, 91, C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>35</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>; **4b**, 103, C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>39</sub>NO<sub>6</sub>; **5a**, 125, C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>37</sub>NSO<sub>6</sub>; **5b**, 87, C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>41</sub>NSO<sub>7</sub>; **6a**, 163, C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>37</sub>NSO<sub>6</sub>; **6b**, 133, C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>41</sub>NSO<sub>7</sub>; **7a**, 141, C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>51</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>; **7b**, 118, C<sub>42</sub>H<sub>55</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>; **8a**, 107, C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>; **8b**, 87, C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>; **9a**, 194, C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>; **9b**, 136, C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>32</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>; **10a**, 192, C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>32</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>; **10b**, 147, C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>36</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>; **11a**, 188, C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>34</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>; **11b**, 156, C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>38</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>; **12a**, 197, C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>34</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>; **12b**, 139, C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>38</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>; **13a**, 184, C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>; **13b**, 134, C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>; **14b**, 127, C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO<sub>7</sub>; **15b**, 131, C<sub>48</sub>H<sub>56</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>10</sub>; **16a**, 198, C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO<sub>6</sub>; **16b**, 142, C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>35</sub>NO<sub>7</sub>; **17a**, 182, C<sub>54</sub>H<sub>52</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub>; **17b**, 131, C<sub>58</sub>H<sub>60</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>10</sub>; **18b**, 193, C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>35</sub>NO<sub>8</sub>; **19b**, 215, C<sub>58</sub>H<sub>60</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>11</sub>.

The salts **4a** and **b-19b** are colorless or weakly colored crystalline compounds that are soluble in acetone, C<sub>1-4</sub> alcohols, and DMSO and poorly soluble in water. They are not hygroscopic. The purity of the products was 98±1%.

Compounds **1a**, **b**, **4a**, and **b-19b** are promising for studies of their antitumor properties [4].

The antitumor activity of the synthesized compounds (**1a**, **b**, **4a**, **b-19b**) was studied against five cancer types in various cell cultures: leukemia (I), melanoma (II), cancer of the colon (III), kidney (IV), and breast (V) (Table 1). After an initial computerized structure—activity analysis of the products, they were tested *in vitro*.

All studied compounds exhibited very good cytostatic activity toward leukemia (I). Changing the NH moiety to NCH<sub>2</sub>OMe increased the activity toward all five cancer types. All studied salts (**4a** and **b-19b**) were more highly active than the starting compounds (**1a** and **b**). The aromatic carboxylic acids (**13a**, **b**, **16a**, **b-19b**) had the highest antitumor activity. The activity did not increase if salts of natural amino acids were used (**9a**, **b-12a**, **b**).

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