Site Selectivity in $[2+2]$ Photocycloadditions of Tricyclic Ω iethenylbenzenes' to 2,3-Dimethylbut-2-ene

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Upon irradiation at wavelengths above 390 nm in the presence of 2,3-dimethylbut-2-ene, both the newly synthesized pyranoquinolinedione 8 and thiinobenzopyrandione 9 selectively afford one of two possible photocycloadducts, 23 and 24, respectively.

Introduction. - Crosslinking of thymine units within helical DNA strands can be achieved, for instance, by light-induced reactions of psoralens (2H-furo[3,2-g]benzopyran-2-ones), such as 1, *via* two consecutive $[2+2]$ photocycloadditions, the first one occuring at the furan double bond [1]. In contrast, photocycloadditions in solution of both linear (1) [2] and angular tricycles (2 and 3) [3] to alkenes selectively occur at the double bond of the six-membered heterocycle. This difference in selectivity has been attributed to the observation that the photocycloaddition to a nucleic acid is preceded by intercalation of a psoralen, the smaller furan moiety fitting into the helix [1] (Scheme 1).

Some years ago, we began to investigate the site-selectivity in $[2+2]$ photocycloadditions using divinylbenzenes containing two a priori different olefinic moieties in tricyclic model compounds, wherein a (central) benzene ring is fused to two sixmembered heterocyclic ring systems, containing either a lactone, a thiolactone or a lactam functionality. As shown in Fig. 1, compounds of type $I - IV$ possess two different heteroatoms in symmetric positions. However, in compounds of type V, exchanging one heteroatom $(X \rightarrow Y)$ gives rise to two constitutional isomers (VIa *vs.* VIb) for symmetry reasons.

In this context, we reported that compound 4 undergoes photocycloaddition to 2,3 dimethylbut-2-ene at both double bonds [4], while compound 5 selectively reacts at the $C(9) = C(10)$ bond [5] (*Scheme 2*). We now report the synthesis of the four novel tricycles $6 - 9$ (*Fig. 2*) and (partially) their photochemical behavior.

Results. – Phenanthroline-1,7-dione (6) was selected as the first target molecule. The synthetic approach started with benzene-1,3-diamine (Scheme 3), which was acylated with 3-phenylacrylic acid to 11. The latter was expected to preferentially yield angular 6, as observed in the formation of the analog 5 from 7-hydroxycoumarin and malic acid [6]. Unfortunately, the double cyclization of 11 mainly led to linear 12 with only minor amounts of 6 (ca. 15%) being formed. The purification of the corresponding mixture afforded pure 12 but led to the loss of the desired product.

We next worked on the synthesis of the pyranoquinolinedione 7 starting with 5 nitro[1]benzopyran-2(2H)-one (5-nitrocoumarin) (13) (Scheme 4). Reduction with formic acid in the presence of Pd on charcoal gave 14, which was converted to 7 via the cinnamoylamide 15. Surprisingly, a similar reaction sequence, starting with the isomeric compound 16, afforded the pyranoquinolinedione 8 in high yield by regioselective cyclization of 17 at $C(5)$ of the benzopyran ring.

The thiinobenzopyran 9, a monosulfur analog of 5, was prepared according to [7]. Starting with the benzopyran 18, extensive bromination afforded the dibromomethyl derivative 19, which was hydrolyzed to the corresponding aldehyde 20. Substitution of the $NO₂$ group by a (tert-butyl)sulfanyl group yielded 21, which was subjected to a

Wittig reaction, affording the acrylate 22. Finally, thiolactonization in the presence of polyphosphoric acid (PPA) led to 9 (Scheme 5).

Irradiations of the tricycles $7 - 9$ in the presence of a twentyfold molar excess of 2,3dimethylbut-2-ene were performed at long wavelengths $(\lambda > 390 \text{ nm})$ to avoid consecutive photocycloadditions of the primary products. Both the N-containing heterocycles 7 and 8 were reasonably soluble only in pyridine, whereas 9 was readily dissolved in MeCN. Irradiation of 7 for 18 h did not lead to any product formation. Therefore, the experiment was repeated with light of shorter wavelength $(\lambda > 340 \text{ nm})$.

However, after 2 h, the starting material was completely converted into a mixture of two bis-cycloadducts and one product arising from decarbonylation, as monitored by ¹H-NMR. In contrast, both **8** and **9** selectively and exclusively afforded at λ > 390 nm the monocycloadducts 23 and 24, respectively (Scheme 6). The structural assignment of 23 was achieved by comparing the chemical shifts of the carbonyl C-atoms in the 13C-NMR spectrum (167 and 163 ppm), which clearly correlate with those of 3,4 dihydrocoumarin [8] and of quinolone [9] (168 ppm and 164 ppm) but not with coumarin [8] and 3,4-dihydroquinolone [10] (160 ppm and 172 ppm), respectively. For 24 (δ (S-C=O) = 183 ppm), the same criteria can be used to differentiate between a thiocoumarin and a 3,4-dihydrothiocoumarin (185 ppm and 199 ppm [11]). In addition, the vicinal ¹H-NMR coupling constant in the unsaturated six-membered ring $(J =$ 10.6 Hz) clearly indicates a remaining (unsaturated) thiopyranone and not a pyranone moiety $(J = 10.6 \text{ vs. } 9.8 \text{ Hz})$.

Discussion. $-$ An unexpected inconvenience in working with the N-containing heterocycles 7 and 8 turned out to be their very low solubility in common organic solvents. Recrystallization was only possible from glacial acetic acid, and NMR-spectra had to be measured in deuterated pyridine. This problem also concerned the photolyses, since product separation and purification was difficult. A second, more general problem arises from conventional cyclization reactions for the formation of thiocoumarins or quinolones not often being applicable to the synthesis of compounds containing two heterocyclic rings fused to one central benzene unit.

The selective formation of 24 in the photocycloaddition of 9 to 2,3-dimethylbut-2 ene parallels the corresponding reaction with the bis-lactone 5 (*Scheme 2*), since only the $C=C$ bond closer to the heteroatom of the second heterocycle turns out to be reactive. This finding underscores that only *ortho*- and *meta*-transmission is characteristic of the first excited state of both substituted benzenes [12] and ethenylbenzenes [13], *i.e.*, electron donors increase the π -electron densities at both the *ortho*- and *meta*but not at the *para*-position.

In contrast, the selective formation of 23 in the photocycloaddition of 8 to 2,3 dimethylbut-2-ene does not reflect the behavior of the (symmetric) tricycle 4 (Scheme 2), in which both double bonds of the heterocycles proved to be reactive. Since these reactions were run in different solvents (MeCN vs. pyridine), the above results cannot be generalized at the moment without additional experiments.

Experimental Part

1. General. Benzene-1,3-diamine (10) was commercially available. The benzopyranones 5-nitro- (13) [14], 6 amino- (16) [15], and 6-methyl-5-nitro[1]benzopyran-2(2H)-one (18) [16] were prepared according to literature procedures.

UV Spectra: MeCN, λ in nm (log ε). ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR Spectra: 500 and 125.8 MHz, resp.; chemical shifts δ in ppm rel. to Me₄Si (=0 ppm). EI-MS: 70 eV; in m/z (rel. intensity in % of base peak). Photolyses were performed in an immersion well, a 250 W high-pressure Hg-lamp being used together with a liquid filter (75 g NaNO₂/1000 ml H₂O), transparent to light of λ > 390 nm.

2. Attempted Synthesis of 1,2,7,8-Tetrahydro-1,7-phenanthroline-2,8-dione (6). 2.1. N,N-[Benzene-1,3 divlIbis[3-phenylprop-2-enamide] (11). Prepared in analogy to the acylation procedure described in [17]: To an ice-cooled soln. of benzene-1,3-diamine (10, 1.08 g, 10 mmol) and K_2CO_3 (4.15 g, 30 mmol) in a mixture of H₂O (40 ml) and acetone (20 ml) was added in small portions 3-phenylprop-2-enoyl chloride (cinnamoyl chloride) $(4.1 g, 25 mmol)$. The mixture was then stirred for 1 h at 0° and poured into iced H₂O (100 ml). The precipitate was filtered off and recrystallized from EtOH, affording 2.26 g $(62%)$ of 11. M.p. $207^{\circ}.H\text{-}NMR$ $((CD_3)_2SO)$: 10.26 (s, 2 H); 8.13 (s, 1 H); 7.60 (d, J = 15.8, 2 H); 7.59 – 7.38 (m, 12 H); 7.29 (t, J = 8.1, 1 H); 6.89 (d, J = 15.8, 2 H). ¹³C-NMR ((CD₃)₂SO): 163.9 (s); 140.4 (d); 140.0 (s); 135.1 (s); 130.1 (d); 129.4 (d); 129.3 (d); 128.1 (d); $122.8 (d); 114.8 (d); 110.5 (d).$ EI-MS: 368 (34, M⁺⁺), 131 (100).

2.2. Cyclization of 11 Affording 1,2,8,9-Tetrahydropyrido[3,2-g]quinoline-2,8-dione (12). Prepared in analogy to the cyclization procedure described in [18]: To an ice-cooled suspension of 11 (368 mg, 1 mmol) in 1,2-dichlorobenzene (20 ml) was added in small portions AlCl₃ (3.0 g, 22.5 mmol). The mixture was heated at 150 $^{\circ}$ for 3 h and was poured after cooling into ice-water (100 ml). The precipitate was filtered and washed with hot acetone $(3 \times)$ to afford 106 mg (50%) of a 1:5-mixture of **6/12** as verified by ¹H-NMR. On recrystallization from glacial acetic acid, pure 12 (71 mg, 34%) was obtained. M.p. $>370^{\circ}$ ($>400^{\circ}$ [19]). ¹H-NMR ((D₅)-Pyridine): 7.78 $(d, J = 9.5, 2 \text{ H})$; 7.73 $(s, 1 \text{ H})$; 7.34 $(s, 1 \text{ H})$; 6.75 $(d, J = 9.5, 2 \text{ H})$. EI-MS: 212 (100, M⁺⁺).

3. Synthesis of 1,2-dihydropyrano-[2,3-h]quinoline-2,8(8H)-dione (7). 3.1. 5-Amino[1]benzopyran-2(2H) one (14). In analogy to the reduction procedure described in [16]: A mixture of 13 (1.91 g, 10 mmol) and Pd on charcoal (0.6 g) in Et₃N (100 ml) and HCO₂H (12 ml) was heated at 100° for 2 h. After cooling to r.t. the mixture was poured into iced H₂O (250 ml) and extracted with CHCl₃ (3 \times). The combined org. layers were dried (MgSO4), and the solvent was evaporated. Recrystallization of the solid residue from EtOH afforded 970 mg (60.5%) of 14. M.p. 148[°] ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 7.76 $(d, J = 9.7)$; 7.28 $(t, J = 8.1)$; 6.73 $(d, J = 8.1)$; 6.55 $(d, J = 8.1)$; 6.32 (d, J = 9.7); 4.14 (br. s, 2 NH). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃): 161.0 (s); 155.4 (s); 143.9 (s); 137.6 (d); 132.7 (d); 113.8 (d) ; 110.6 (d) ; 107.1 (d) ; 106.7 (s) . EI-MS: 161 $(100, M⁺)$.

3.2. N-(2-Oxo-2H-[1]benzopyran-5-yl)-3-phenylprop-2-enamide (15). As in Sect. 2.1, 14 (805 mg, 5 mmol) afforded 1.1 g (75%) of **15**. M.p. 233°. ¹H-NMR ((CD₃)₂SO): 10.28 (s, NH); 8.19 (d, J = 9.9, 1 H); 7.65 (d, J = 15.8, 1 H); 7.64 - 7.40 $(m, 7H)$; 7.23 $(d, J = 8.1, 1 H)$; 7.01 $(d, J = 15.8, 1 H)$; 6.54 $(d, J = 9.9, 1 H)$. ¹³C-NMR $((CD₃),SO): 164.2$ (s); 159.5 (s); 154.1 (s); 140.9 (d); 140.1 (d); 135.4 (s); 134.5 (s); 131.8 (d); 129.9 (d); 129.0 (d) ; 127.7 (d) ; 121.4 (d) ; 119.5 (d) ; 115.0 (d) ; 112.8 (d) ; 112.5 (s) .

3.3. Cyclization. As in Sect. 2.2, **15** (582 mg, 2 mmol) afforded 170 mg (40%) of **7**. M.p. $>370^{\circ}$ (AcOH). UV: 358 (sh, 3.50), 302 (3.90), 272 (3.91), 231 (4.12). ¹H-NMR ((D₅)-Pyridine): 9.40 (d, J = 9.9); 7.84 (d, J = 9.7); 7.71 $(d, J = 8.7)$; 7.11 $(d, J = 8.7)$; 6.82 $(d, J = 9.7)$; 6.72 $(d, J = 9.9)$. ¹³C-NMR ((D₅)-Pyridine): 163.9 (s); 160.8 (s); 155.9 (s); 141.0 (d); 139.5 (d); 138.1 (s); 132.0 (d); 121.7 (d); 116.9 (s); 115.9 (s); 115.1 (d); 111.7 (d). EI-MS: 213 (100, M^{+}).

4. Synthesis of 3,4,7,8-Tetrahydropyrano[3,2-f]quinoline-3,8-dione (8). 4.1. N-(2-Oxo-2H-[1]benzopyran-6 yl)-3-phenylprop-2-enamide (17). As in Sect. 2.1, 16 (805 mg, 5 mmol) afforded 1.2 g (83%) of 17. M.p. 225 -228° (EtOH). ¹H-NMR ((CD₃)₂SO): 10.47 (s, NH); 8.16 (d, J = 2.6, 1 H); 8.11 (d, J = 9.7, 1 H); 7.80 (dd, J = 2.6, 9.2, 1 H); 7.63 $(d, J = 15.8, 1$ H); 7.62 – 7.37 $(m, 6)$; 6.85 $(d, J = 15.8, 1$ H); 6.50 $(d, J = 9.2, 1$ H). ¹³C-NMR $((CD₃)₂SO): 163.6 (s); 159.9 (s); 149.4 (s); 140.4 (d); 135.6 (s); 134.5 (s); 129.8 (d); 128.9 (d); 127.7 (d);$ $123.3 (d); 121.8 (d); 118.7 (s); 117.7 (d); 116.6 (d); 116.5 (d).$ EI-MS: 291 $(11, M⁺)$. 131 (100) .

4.2. Cyclization. As in Sect. 2.2, 17 (582 mg, 2 mmol) afforded 128 mg (34%) of 8. M.p. $>370^{\circ}$ (AcOH). UV: 384 (3.11), 366 (3.24), 316 (3.75), 304 (3.82), 239 (4.37). ¹H-NMR ((D₅)-Pyridine): 8.44 (*d, J* = 9.7); 8.33 $(d, J = 9.7)$; 7.70 $(d, J = 8.9)$; 7.46 $(d, J = 8.9)$; 7.03 $(d, J = 9.7)$; 6.70 $(d, J = 9.7)$. ¹³C-NMR ((D₅)-Pyridine): 162.6 (s) ; 160.3 (s) ; 150.3 (s) ; 139.1 (d) ; 137.5 (s) ; 134.6 (d) ; 124.8 (d) ; 120.0 (d) ; 119.9 (d) ; 117.8 (d) ; 115.2 (s) ; 115.1 (s) . EI-MS: 213 (100, M^{+}).

5. Synthesis of 1,2,7,8-Tetrahydrothiino[2,3-f][1]benzopyran-2,8-dione (9). 5.1. 6-(Dibromomethyl)-5 $nitro[1]benzopyran-2(2H)-one$ (19). Prepared in analogy to [20]: A soln. of 18 (8.2 g, 40 mmol), 1bromopyrrolidine-2,5-dione (NBS) (35.2 g, 0.2 mol), and dibenzoylperoxide (5 g) in CCl₄ (200 ml) was heated under N₂ for 8 h. Heating was continued for another 8 h after additional NBS and peroxide had been added. The hot mixture was filtered, and the filtrate was evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (CC) (SiO₂; hexane/AcOEt 3:1) to afford 3.65 g (25%) of **19** as a yellow oil. R_f 0.48. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 8.29 $(d, J = 9.2); 7.66 (d, J = 9.9); 7.62 (d, J = 9.2); 6.76 (s); 6.63 (d, J = 9.9).$

5.2. 5-Nitro-2-oxo-2H[1]benzopyran-6-carbaldehyde (20). Compound 19 (3.63 g, 10 mmol) was suspended in a soln. of K_2CO_3 (1 g) in H₂O, (400 ml) and the mixture was refluxed for 2 h. After cooling to 5°, the precipitate was filtered and dried, affording 1.21 g (55%) of 20. M.p. $178-180^{\circ}$. ¹H-NMR ((D₆)-Acetone): 10.08 (s); 8.34 (d, J = 8.6); 7.89 (d, J = 10.4); 7.81 (d, J = 8.6); 6.77 (d, J = 10.4). EI-MS: 219 (22, M⁺⁺), 189 (100).

5.3. 5-[(tert-Butyl)sulfanyl]-2-oxo-2H-[1]benzopyran-6-carbaldehyde (21). Prepared in analogy to the nucleophilic displacement procedure described in [7]: To a soln. of 20 (1.1 g, 5 mmol) in DMF (20 ml) under N_2 , K_2CO_3 (2.2 g, 15 mmol) and 2-methylpropane-2-thiol (1.4 g, 15 mmol) were added. The mixture was heated at 90° for 24 h. The above procedure (addition of reagents and heating) was repeated. The mixture was cooled to r.t., poured into H₂O (150 ml), acidified with dil. aq. HCl to pH 2, and extracted with CHCl₃ (4 \times). The combined org. layers were washed with H₂O, dried (MgSO₄), and the solvent was evaporated. The residue was purified by CC (SiO₂; hexane/AcOEt 3 : 1) to afford 655 mg (50%) of 21. R_f 0.48. M.p. 113°. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 10.80 (s); 8.71 (d, $J = 9.9$); 8.20 (d, $J = 8.9$); 7.48 (d, $J = 8.9$); 6.55 (d, $J = 9.9$); 1.28 (s, t-Bu). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃): 192.0 (d); 159.4 (s); 157.9 (s); 142.1 (d); 137.4 (s); 137.0 (s); 131.1 (d); 124.0 (s); 118.8 (d); 117.2 (d); 50.7 (s); 31.1 (q) . EI-MS: 262 $(4, M^{+})$. 57 (100) .

5.4. Ethyl 3-{5-}(tert-Butyl)sulfanyl}-2-oxo-2H-[1]benzopyran-6-yl}prop-2-enoate (22). Prepared in analogy to the Wittig-type procedure described in [21]: A soln. of 21 (524 mg, 2 mmol) and ethyl 2-(triphenylphosphoranylidene)acetate (1.4 g, 2 mmol) in benzene (25 ml) was refluxed under N_2 for 24 h. After evaporation of the solvent, the residue was purified by CC (SiO₂; hexane/AcOEt 3:1) to afford 600 mg (90%) of 22. R_f 0.42. M.p. 113–115°. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 8.69 (d, J = 9.7, 1 H); 8.64 (d, J = 16.3, 1 H); 7.90 (d, J = 8.6, 1 H); 7.40 $(d, J = 8.6, 1 \text{ H})$; 6.49 $(d, J = 9.7, 1 \text{ H})$; 6.40 $(d, J = 16.3, 1 \text{ H})$; 4.30 $(q, J = 7.1, 2 \text{ H})$; 1.36 $(t, J = 7.1, 1)$ 3 H); 1.26 (s, 9 H). 13C-NMR (CDCl3): 166.6 (s); 159.9 (s); 155.4 (s); 143.6 (d); 143.5 (d); 137.7 (s); 134.1 (s); $129.5 (d); 124.3 (s); 120.0 (d); 118.5 (d); 116.9 (d); 60.7 (t); 51.2 (s); 31.3 (q); 14.3 (q). E1-MS: 332 (1, M⁺⁺), 57$ (100)

5.5. Cyclization. Prepared in analogy to the saponification/cyclization procedure described in [7]: A soln. of 22 (532 mg, 1.6 mmol) in EtOH (5 ml) was mixed with a soln. of KOH in H₂O (0.5 $g/5$ ml), and the mixture was refluxed for 1 h. After cooling, the mixture was extracted with Et_2O , and the aq. phase was neutralized with dil. aq. HCl. The precipitate was filtered, dried, and heated in the presence of polyphosphoric acid (PPA, 8 g) to 80 $^{\circ}$ for 6 h. The mixture was cooled to 40° and poured into 100 ml of H2O. The suspension was extracted with CHCl3 $(5 \times)$, the combined org. layers were washed with both aq. NaHCO₃ soln. and H₂O, and were dried (MgSO₄). After evaporation of the solvent, the residue was purified by CC (SiO₂; Et₂O) to afford 73 mg (20%) of 9. R_f 0.54. M.p. 214°. UV: 356 (3.55); 295 (4.23); 249 (4.08). ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 8.01 (d, J = 9.7); 7.76 (d, J = 10.7); 7.74 (d, J = 8.7); 7.36 (d, J = 8.7); 6.60 (d, J = 9.7); 6.59 (d, J = 10.7). ¹³C-NMR ((CD₃), SO): 182.1 (s); 158.7 (s); 154.9 (s); 145.2 (d); 138.0 (d); 135.8 (s); 135.3 (d); 122.3 (s); 122.2 (d); 117.1 (d); 115.7 (d); 114.3 (s). EI-MS: 230 $(79, M^{+})$, 174 (100) .

6. Photolyses in the Presence of 2,3-Dimethylbut-2-ene. 6.1. Irradiation of 8. An Ar-degassed soln. of 8 (42.6 mg, 0.2 mmol) and the alkene (336 mg, 4 mmol) in pyridine (50 ml) was irradiated for 8 h. After evaporation of the solvent, the solid residue was washed with hot acetone and recrystallized from AcOH affording 40 mg (67%) of 2,2a,3,7,8,10c-hexahydro-1,1,2,2-tetramethyl-1H-cyclobuta[1,2:4,5']pyrano[3,2-f]quinoline-3,8-dione (23). M.p. > 350° (dec.). ¹H-NMR ((D₅)-Pyridine): 7.75 (d, J = 9.8); 7.45 (d, J = 8.8); 7.26 (d, J = 8.8); 6.96 (d, J = 9.8); 3.87 (d, J = 9.8); 3.34 (d, J = 9.8); 1.28 (s, Me); 1.23 (s, Me); 1.10 (s, Me); 0.66 (s, Me).
¹³C-NMR ((D₃)-Pyridine): 167.1 (s); 162.9 (s); 147.1 (s); 137.8 (d); 136.7 (s); 124.6 (d); 121.8 ((s) ; 116.2 (d); 43.5 (d); 43.1 (s) ; 43.0 (s) ; 40.0 (d); 27.0 (q); 26.0 (q); 22.9 (q); 21.5 (q). EI-MS: 297 (15, M⁺⁺), 84 (100) .

6.2. Irradiation of 9. An Ar-degassed soln. of 9 (46 mg, 0.2 mmol) and the alkene (336 mg, 4 mmol) in MeCN (50 ml) was irradiated for 10 h. After evaporation of the solvent, the residue was purified by CC ($SiO₂$; Et₂O) to afford 38 mg (60%) of 1,2,2a,3,9,10c-hexahydro-1,1,2,2-tetramethylcyclobuta[c]thiino[2,3-f]benzopyr-

an-3,9-dione (24). R_f 0.64. M.p. 113–115°. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃): 7.62 (d, J = 10.6); 7.44 (d, J = 8.5); 7.01 (d, J = 8.5); 6.42 (d, $J = 10.6$); 3.64 (d, $J = 9.9$); 3.11 (d, $J = 9.9$); 1.32 (s, Me); 1.29 (s, Me); 1.00 (s, Me); 0.72 (s, Me).
¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃): 183.1 (s); 164.9 (s); 152.1 (s); 143.2 (d); 137.5 (s); 131.1 (d); 121.8 (s); $115.1 (d); 45.1 (s); 44.1 (s); 41.9 (d); 38.4 (d); 25.9 (q); 24.8 (q); 19.8 (q); 19.7 (q). \text{E1-MS}: 314 (7, M^{+})$, 84 (100).

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