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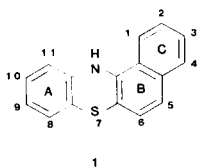
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The acid-catalysed reaction of substituted 1,4-naphthoquinones with *o*-aminoheterocyclic thiones in alcoholic solution afforded substituted monoazabenzophenothiazin-5-ones **4,5** and substituted benzo[*a*][1,4]diazabenzothiazino[3,2-*c*]phenothiazin-5-one (**6**). Some of the resulting compounds were subjected to dehalogenation. The structures of the products were assigned by elemental analysis, ¹H-nmr, and other spectral analysis.

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The phenothiazine and phenoxazine ring systems have been extensively studied and are widely used in medical practice and in dye industry [1-7]. Some of angular phenothiazine derivatives **1** have been synthesized [8-12] and

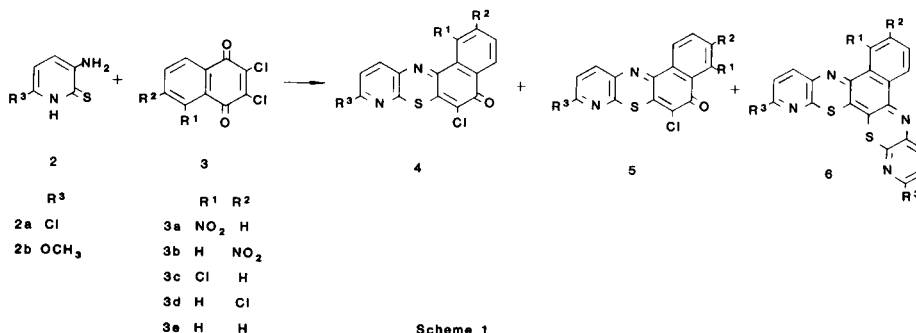


many of these compounds can be used as useful therapeutic agents for treating allergic conditions, cardiovascular disorders, inflammation and pain [13]. However, the angular azabenzophenothiazines have been less studied. We have reported the synthesis of monoazabenzophenothiazines with the N atom in ring C [14]. As a part of our studies [10-12,14] on the chemistry and spectroscopic properties of the new angular heterocycles here we report the synthesis of monoazabenzophenothiazine derivatives with the N atom in ring A.

In this work, substituted 8-azabenzophenothiazines **4** and **5** and substituted-benzo[*a*][1,4]diazabenzothiazino[3,2-*c*]phenothiazine **6** were synthesized by the acid-catalyzed reaction of 2,3,5- or 2,3,6-trisubstituted-1,4-naphthoquinones **3** and 6-substituted-3-aminopyridine-2(1*H*)-thiones **2** [15] in ethanol (Scheme 1).

The mixture of 2,3-dichloro-5-nitro-1,4-naphthoquinone (**3a**, 1 mmole) and 5-amino-6-chloropyridine-2(1*H*)-thione (**2a**, 1.2 mmoles) in ethanol was treated with 15% hydrochloric acid and stirred for 1-6 hours (Scheme 1). The resulting precipitate was chromatographed on a silica gel column eluting with benzene-hexane to give 6,9-dichloro-1-nitro-5*H*-benzo[2,3-*a*]-8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**4**, R¹ = NO₂, R² = H, R³ = Cl) and 6,9-dichloro-4-nitro-5*H*-benzo[3,2-*a*]-8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**5**, R¹ = NO₂, R² = H, R³ = Cl) in 85% yield. Trace amounts of 2,13-dichloro-6-nitro-1,14-diazabenzophenothiazino[3,2-*c*]phenothiazine (**6a**, R¹ = NO₂, R² = H, R³ = Cl) were also isolated. When this reaction was carried out in ethanol in the presence of potassium acetate under refluxing, **6a**, **4a**, and **5a** were obtained as the main products together with 2-chloro-3-ethoxy-5-nitro-1,4-naphthoquinone and 3-chloro-2-ethoxy-5-nitro-1,4-naphthoquinone. These naphthoquinones were identified by comparing their spectroscopic data with the authentic samples prepared by the treatment of 2,3-dichloro-5-nitro-1,4-naphthoquinone with 5% sodium bicarbonate in ethanol [18].

The dehalogenation of the compounds **4a** and **5a** in pyridine-dioxane-water in the presence of sodium hydrosulfite under an argon atmosphere gave 1-amino-9-chloro-5*H*-benzo[2,3-*a*]-8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**7**) and 4-amino-9-chloro-5*H*-benzo[3,2-*a*]-8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**8**) respectively.



Scheme 1

The reaction of 2,3,6-trichloro-1,4-naphthoquinone (**3c**) and **2** ($R^3 = Cl$) produced 1,6,9-trichloro-5*H*-benzo[2,3-*a*]-8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**4**, $R^1 = R^3 = Cl$, $R^2 = H$) selectively.

The structures of all these compounds were supported by their spectra. Thus the ν (C=O) occurred characteristically for the benzophenothiazinones **4** and **5** near 1640 cm^{-1} . The proton at the 10 position absorbed as a doublet ($J = 8-8.5$ Hz) at 7.0-7.2 ppm for **4** and **5** ($R^3 = OCH_3$) and 7.7-7.9 ppm for **4** and **5** ($R^3 = Cl$) respectively. The proton signals at the 11 position usually appeared as a doublet ($J_{10,11} = 8-8.5$ Hz) at 8.3-8.5 ppm for **4** and **5** except **4** ($R^1 = NO_2$, $R^2 = H$, $R^3 = Cl$, 7.96 ppm) and **4** ($R^1 = NO_2$, $R^2 = H$, $R^3 = OCH_3$, 7.90 ppm). The proton at 1 position absorbed at lower field (8.80-9.50 ppm) than the proton at 4 position (8.25-8.80 ppm). The protons at the 2 and 3 positions showed a doublet or a triplet in the region 7.80-8.80 ppm. Some of the physical and analytical data of the compounds are summarized in Table 1.

EXPERIMENTAL

Melting points were determined with a Yanaco micromelting point apparatus and uncorrected. The ir spectra were recorded on a JASCO A-102 spectrometer using potassium bromide pellets. The uv spectra were obtained with a JASCO UV1DEC-505 spectrometer using 1 cm quartz cells. The absorption maxima are reported in nanometers. The 1H -nmr spectra were obtained in dimethyl sulfoxide- d_6 using a Varian XL-200 spectrometer operating in an FT mode. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm from TMS used as internal standard and are given in δ units. The following abbreviations were used to designate the multiplicity of individual signals: s = singlet, d = doublet and m = multiplet. The ms spectra were recorded on a ESCO EMD-05B spectrometer. For column chromatography, silica gel (Kieselgel 60, Merck, 70-230 mesh) was used.

General Procedure for the Preparation of Substituted 8-aza-6-chloro-5*H*-benzo[*a*]phenothiazin-5-ones, **4a-j** and **5a-h**.

To a suspension of 1 mmole of substituted 2,3-dichloro-1,4-naphthoquinone (**3**) [16] in 60 ml of ethanol were added 1.2 mmoles of thione **2** and 5 ml of 15% hydrochloric acid. The mixture was stirred for 1-6 hours at different temperature from 20° to refluxing. The resulting precipitate was filtered and the filtrate was extracted with benzene. The benzene layer was evaporated *in vacuo*. Then the residue and the precipitate were chromatographed on silica gel eluting with benzene-hexane (3:1), giving **4** and **5** in 70-90% yields.

The Condensation of 5-Nitro-2,3-dichloro-1,4-naphthoquinone (**3a**) with 5-amino-6-chloropyridine-2(1*H*)-thione (**2a**, $R = Cl$).

Route A.

By the procedure described above, **3a** and **2a** were stirred for 4 hours at 60°. 6,9-Dichloro-1-nitro-5*H*-benzo[2,3-*a*]-8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**4a**) and 6,9-dichloro-4-nitro-5*H*-benzo[3,2-*a*]-8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**5a**) were obtained in the yield of 85% in the ratio of 3:1. A small amount of 2,13-dichloro-6-nitro-1,14-diazaphenothiazin-5-one (**6a**) was also obtained.

Route B.

To a suspension of **3a** (816 mg, 3 mmoles) and **2a** (482 mg, 3 mmoles) in ethanol (60 ml) was added 882 mg (9 mmoles) of potassium acetate. The mixture was stirred for 1 hour under refluxing. After workup the resulting residue was chromatographed in the same way described in Route A. From the first and the second fractions 2-chloro-3-ethoxy-5-

nitro-1,4-naphthoquinone and 3-chloro-2-ethoxy-5-nitro-1,4-naphthoquinone were obtained. Then from the third blue fraction 347 mg of **6a** (24%), from the fourth red fraction 215 mg of **4a** (19%), and from the fifth fraction 192 mg of **5a** (17%) were obtained respectively.

Compound 4a.

This compound had ir: 1646 (C=O), 1588 (C=N) cm^{-1} ; 1H -nmr (DMSO- d_6): 8.0°, 8.53 (dd, H-4), 8.18 (dd, H-2), 8.07 (t, H-3), 7.96 (d, H-11), 7.74 (d, H-10); uv (chloroform): λ max, nm (log ϵ), 257 (4.33), 274 (4.24), 288 (sh, 4.13), 332 (4.19), 480 (4.13).

Compound 5a.

This compound had ir: 1642 (C=O), 1594 (C=N) cm^{-1} ; 1H -nmr (DMSO- d_6): 9.0°, 9.08 (dd, H-1), 8.45 (d, H-11), 8.16 (m, 2H, H-2, H-3), 7.82 (d, H-10); uv (chloroform): λ max, nm (log ϵ), 251 (4.35), 257 (sh, 4.38), 276 (sh, 4.24), 335 (sh, 4.12), 353 (sh, 4.05), 481 (4.17).

Compound 6a.

This compound had ir: 1569, 1535 cm^{-1} ; 1H -nmr [17]; uv (chloroform): λ max (nm), 274, 346, 552, 585 sh.

The Condensation of 5-Nitro-2,3-dichloro-1,4-naphthoquinone (**3a**) with 3-Amino-6-methoxy-pyridine-2(1*H*)-thione (**2b**, $R = OCH_3$).

Compounds **3a** and **2b** were stirred for 2 hours at 60° by the general procedure. From the first and the second fraction 6-chloro-9-methoxy-1-nitro-5*H*-benzo[2,3-*a*]-8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**4b**) and 6-chloro-9-methoxy-4-nitro-5*H*-benzo[3,2-*a*]-8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**5b**) were obtained respectively in the ratio of 2:1 in 80% yield.

Compound 4b.

This compound had ir: 1641 (C=O), 1594 (C=N) cm^{-1} ; 1H -nmr (DMSO- d_6): 9.0° 8.51 (dd, H-4), 8.15 (dd, H-2), 8.05 (t, H-3), 7.90 (d, H-11), 7.13 (d, H-10), 4.07 (s, 3H, OCH₃); uv (chloroform): λ max, nm (log ϵ), 260 (4.49), 330 (4.11), 347 (4.11), 363 (4.08), 502 (4.32).

Compound 5b.

This compound had ir: 1640 (C=O), 1594 (C=N) cm^{-1} ; 1H -nmr (DMSO- d_6): 9.0°, 9.09 (d, H-1), 8.35 (d, H-11), 8.11 (d, 2H, H-2, H-3), 7.18 (d, H-10), 4.08 (s, 3H, OCH₃); uv (chloroform): λ max, nm (log ϵ), 260 (4.42), 285 (4.13), 330 (3.95), 346 (4.00), 362 (4.01), 503 (4.28).

The Condensation of 2,3-Dichloro-6-nitro-1,4-naphthoquinone (**3b**) with **2a**.

The suspension of **3b** and **2a** in ethanol was stirred under refluxing for 1 hour to give 6,9-dichloro-2-nitro-5*H*-benzo[3,4-*a*]-8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**4c**, the first fraction) and 6,9-dichloro-3-nitro-5*H*-benzo[4,3-*a*]-8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**5c**, the second red fraction) in the ratio of 1:1 in 87% yield.

Compound 4c.

This compound had ir: 1642 (C=O), 1602 (C=N) cm^{-1} ; 1H -nmr (DMSO- d_6): 9.0°, 9.49 (dd, H-1), 8.64 (d, H-2), 8.54 (d, H-11), 8.48 (d, H-3), 7.79 (d, H-10); uv (chloroform): λ max, nm (log ϵ), 243 (4.49), 273 (4.47), 318 (4.10), 329 (4.11), 352 (4.04), 484 (4.22).

Compound 5c.

This compound had ir: 1640 (C=O), 1604 (C=N) cm^{-1} ; 1H -nmr (DMSO- d_6): 9.0°, 9.02 (d, H-1), 8.87 (d, H-4), 8.67 (dd, H-2), 8.43 (d, H-11), 7.78 (d, H-10); uv (chloroform): λ max, nm (log ϵ), 274 (4.45), 336 (4.29), 489 (4.14).

The Condensation of **3b** with **2b**.

The mixture of **3b** and **2b** was stirred for 6 hours at room temperature by the general procedure. The reaction mixture was chromatographed on silica gel eluting with benzene-hexane (3:1). From the first red fraction 6-chloro-9-methoxy-2-nitro-5*H*-benzo[3,4-*a*]-8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**4d**) and from the second fraction 6-chloro-9-methoxy-3-nitro-5*H*-benzo[4,3-*a*]-8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**5d**) were obtained in the ratio of 1:1.2 (70%).

Compound **4d**.

This compound had ir: 1636 (C=O), 1600 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-nmr}$ (DMSO-d_6): 9.0 δ , 9.51 (s, 1H), 8.53 (d, 1H), 8.43 (d, 1H), 7.67 (m, 1H), 7.16 (d, 1H), 4.09 (s, 3H, OCH_3); uv (chloroform): λ max, nm 248, 274, 323 (sh), 333, 358, 506.

Compound **5d**.

This compound had ir: 1641 (C=O), 1599, 1580 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-nmr}$ (DMSO-d_6): 9.0 δ , 9.04 (d, 1H), 8.91 (s, 1H), 8.5 (m, 2H), 7.18 (d, 1H), 4.09 (s, 3H, OCH_3); uv (chloroform), λ max, nm: 278, 335 (sh), 355, 510.

Reaction of 2,3,5-Trichloro-1,4-naphthoquinone (**3c**) and **2a**.

The mixture of **3c** and **2a** in ethanol was refluxed for 1 hour to give exclusively 1,6,9-trichloro-5H-benzo[2,3-a]8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**4e**) in 72% yield.

Compound **4e**

This compound had ir: 1648 (C=O), 1575 (C=N); cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-nmr}$ (DMSO-d_6): 9.0 δ , 8.31 (d, 2H, H-4, H-11), 8.02 (d, H-2), 7.84 (t, H-3), 7.74 (d, H-10); uv (chloroform): λ max, nm (log ϵ): 249 (sh, 4.33), 257 (4.36), 273 (4.33), 331 (4.18), 466 (4.17).

Condensation of **3c** and **2b**.

By the general procedure **3c** and **2b** were stirred for 4.5 hours at 40 $^\circ$. After workup the resulting residue was chromatographed on a silica gel column eluting with benzene-hexane (1:1). From the first red fraction 9-methoxy-4,6-dichloro-5H-benzo[3,2-a]8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**5f**) and from the second 9-methoxy-1,6-dichloro-5H-benzo[2,3-a]8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**4f**) were obtained in the ratio of 2:1 in 78% yield.

Compound **4f**.

This compound had ir: 1633 (C=O), 1591 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-nmr}$ (DMSO-d_6): 9.0 δ , 8.30 (d, 1H), 8.23 (d, 1H), 7.99 (d, 1H), 7.78 (t, 1H), 7.11 (d, 1H), 4.03 (s, 3H, OCH_3); uv (chloroform): λ max, nm 260, 338, 486.

Compound **5f**.

This compound had ir: 1635 (C=O), 1592 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-nmr}$ (DMSO-d_6): 9.0 δ , 8.86 (d, 1H), 8.29 (d, 1H), 8.21 (d, 1H), 7.81 (t, 1H), 7.08 (d, 1H), 4.04 (s, 3H, OCH_3); uv (chloroform): λ max, nm: 259, 339, 355 (sh), 488.

Reaction of 2,3,6-Trichloro-1,4-naphthoquinone (**3d**) and Thione **2a**.

The suspension of **3d** (55 mg, 0.21 mmole) and thione **2a** (51 mg, 0.32 mmole) in 10 ml of ethanol and 2 ml of 15% hydrochloric acid was refluxed for 2 hours with stirring. After workup the reaction mixture was column chromatographed. From the first red fraction 48 mg of 3,6,9-trichloro-5H-benzo[4,3-a]8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**5g**) and from the second 23 mg of 2,6,9-trichloro-5H-benzo[3,4-a]8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**4g**) were obtained in 94% yield.

Compound **4g**.

This compound had ir: 1641 (C=O), 1589 (C=N) cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-nmr}$ (DMSO-d_6): 9.0 δ , 8.78 (s, H-1), 8.45 (d, H-11), 8.26 (d, H-4), 7.95 (d, H-3), 7.77 (d, H-10); uv (chloroform): λ max, nm (log ϵ) 250 (4.10), 271 (4.35), 279 (4.41), 335 (4.19), 475 (4.17).

Compound **5g**.

This compound had ir: 1645 (C=O), 1589 (C=N) cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-nmr}$ (DMSO-d_6): 9.0 δ , 8.83 (d, H-1), 8.39 (d, H-11), 8.20 (s, H-4), 8.00 (d, H-2), 7.77 (d, H-10); uv (chloroform): λ max, nm (log ϵ) 252 (4.51), 272 (sh, 4.48), 2.80 (4.52), 332 (4.16), 352 (sh, 4.09), 378 (4.11), 471 (4.28).

9-Methoxy-2,6-dichloro-5H-benzo[3,4-a]8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**4h**) and 9-methoxy-3,6-dichloro-5H-benzo[4,3-a]8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**5h**).

To a stirred suspension of 2,3,6-trichloro-1,4-naphthoquinone (**3d**) (130 mg, 0.5 mmole) was added 110 mg (0.7 mmole) of thione **2b** and then the mixture was stirred for 2 hours at 60 $^\circ$. After the workup in the same way as the general procedure 71 mg of **5h** and 96 mg of **4h** were obtained from the first red fraction and the second fraction respectively in the ratio of 1:1.5 in 92% yield.

Compound **4h**.

This compound had ir: 1638 (C=O), 1589 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-nmr}$ (DMSO-d_6): 9.0 δ , 8.77 (s, 1H), 8.33 (d, 1H), 8.25 (d, 1H), 7.88 (d, 1H), 7.12 (d, 1H), 4.06 (s, 3H, OCH_3); uv (chloroform): λ max, nm (log ϵ) 254 (sh, 4.49), 262 (4.53), 284 (sh, 4.27), 339 (4.22), 356 (sh, 4.13), 491 (4.33).

Compound **5h**.

This compound had ir: 1649 (C=O), 1600, 1590 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-nmr}$ [17]; uv (chloroform): λ max, nm (log ϵ) 263 (4.50), 326 (3.99), 340 (sh, 3.98), 358 (3.97), 383 (3.83), 490 (4.29).

6,9-Dichloro-5H-benzo[a]8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**4i**).

This compound was prepared from the reaction of 2,3-dichloro-1,4-naphthoquinone (**3e**, 182 mg, 0.8 mmole) and thione **2a** (154 mg, 0.96 mmole) in the same way as the procedure described above. From the reaction mixture 200 mg of **4i** was isolated in 75% yield.

Compound **4i**.

This compound had ir: 1653 (C=O), 1580 (C=N) cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-nmr}$ (DMSO-d_6): 9.0 δ , 8.83 (dd, H-1), 8.48 (d, H-11), 8.28 (dd, H-4), 7.95 (m, 2H, H-2, H-3), 7.76 (d, H-10); uv (chloroform): λ max, nm (log ϵ): 248 (4.36), 266 (4.31), 274 (4.36), 285 (4.17), 333 (4.11), 370 (sh, 3.91), 466 (4.14).

9-Methoxy-6-chloro-5H-benzo[a]8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**4j**).

The mixture of 2,3-dichloro-1,4-naphthoquinone (0.5 mmole) and 0.6 mmole of thione **2b** in 20 ml of ethanol and 3 ml of 15% hydrochloric acid was stirred for 1 hour at 60 $^\circ$. After workup 131 mg of **4j** was obtained in 80% yield.

Compound **4j**.

This compound had ir: 1638 (C=O), 1588 (C=N) cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-nmr}$ (DMSO-d_6): 9.0 δ , 8.84 (m, H-1), 8.30 (d, 2H, H-4, H-11), 7.91 (m, 2H, H-2, H-3), 7.12 (d, H-10), 4.06 (s, 3H, OCH_3); uv (chloroform): λ max, nm (log ϵ) 257 (4.52), 336 (4.16), 353 (4.06), 375 (sh, 3.85), 484 (4.34).

1-Amino-9-chloro-5H-benzo[2,3-a]8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**7**).

This compound was prepared from the dehalogenation of **4a**. Then to the suspension of **4a** (57 mg, 0.15 mmole) in benzene (10 ml), water (10 ml), and dioxane (5 ml) were added 10 ml of pyridine and 450 mg of sodium hydrosulfite under argon atmosphere. The mixture was refluxed for 4 hours and poured into 100 ml of water and extracted with benzene. After removing the solvent the residue was chromatographed on a silica gel column eluting with benzene. 32 mg of **7** was obtained in 69% yield.

Compound **7**.

This compound had ir: 3390 (NH_2), 1619 (C=O), 1595 (C=N); cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-nmr}$ (DMSO-d_6): 9.0 δ , 8.30 (m, 3H), 7.56 (m, 1H), 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.28 (m, 1H), 6.96 (s, 1H, iminoquinone H); uv (chloroform): λ max, nm (log ϵ) 249 (4.53), 277 (4.16), 335 (3.94), 457 (4.03), 514 (4.02).

4-Amino-9-chloro-5H-benzo[3,2-a]8-azaphenothiazin-5-one (**8**).

This compound was prepared from **5a** in 65% yield as the method was reported for **7** (refluxed for 1 hour).

Compound **8**.

This compound had ir: 3470 and 3313 (NH_2), 1615, 1600, 1578, 1540 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H-nmr}$ (DMSO-d_6): 9.0 δ , 8.12 (m, 2H), 7.98 (m, 1H), 7.56 (m, 3H), 7.14 (d, 1H), 6.82 (s, 1H, iminoquinone H); uv (chloroform): λ max, nm (log ϵ) 249 (4.55), 276 (4.21), 335 (4.07), 435 (3.79), 461 (3.78), 538 (4.01).

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