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A series of pyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-4,7-diones **5a-h** were prepared from 6-amino-4-pyrimidones **1** and benzylidene Meldrum's acid derivatives **2** by cyclization reactions in boiling nitrobenzene. The structure of **5**, determined by nmr measurements, reveals a selective orientation of **1** and **2** in the addition step.

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Pyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidines and their oxo derivatives deserve interest for their biological and pharmacological activities [1-5], especially for their potential antitumor [6,7] and antibacterial [8,9] properties. Thus, there have been ample precedents for the synthesis of these fused heterocycles [1,10-14]. Our recent study provided a convenient method for the preparation of pyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidines by reactions of 6-amino-4-pyrimidones with chalcones [13,14].

In the present work we studied the reaction of 6-amino-3,4-dihydro-4-pyrimidones **1** with benzylidene derivatives of Meldrum's acid (**2**). A solution of equimolar amounts of **1** and **2** was refluxed in nitrobenzene for 2.5 hours. After cooling the generated precipitate was filtered off, to give the corresponding 5-aryl-3,4,5,6,7,8-hexahydro-pyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-4,7-diones **5a-i**. (Scheme 1)

Table 1
¹H NMR Data of **5a-h** (δ Values in DMSO-*d*₆, TMS as Internal Standard)

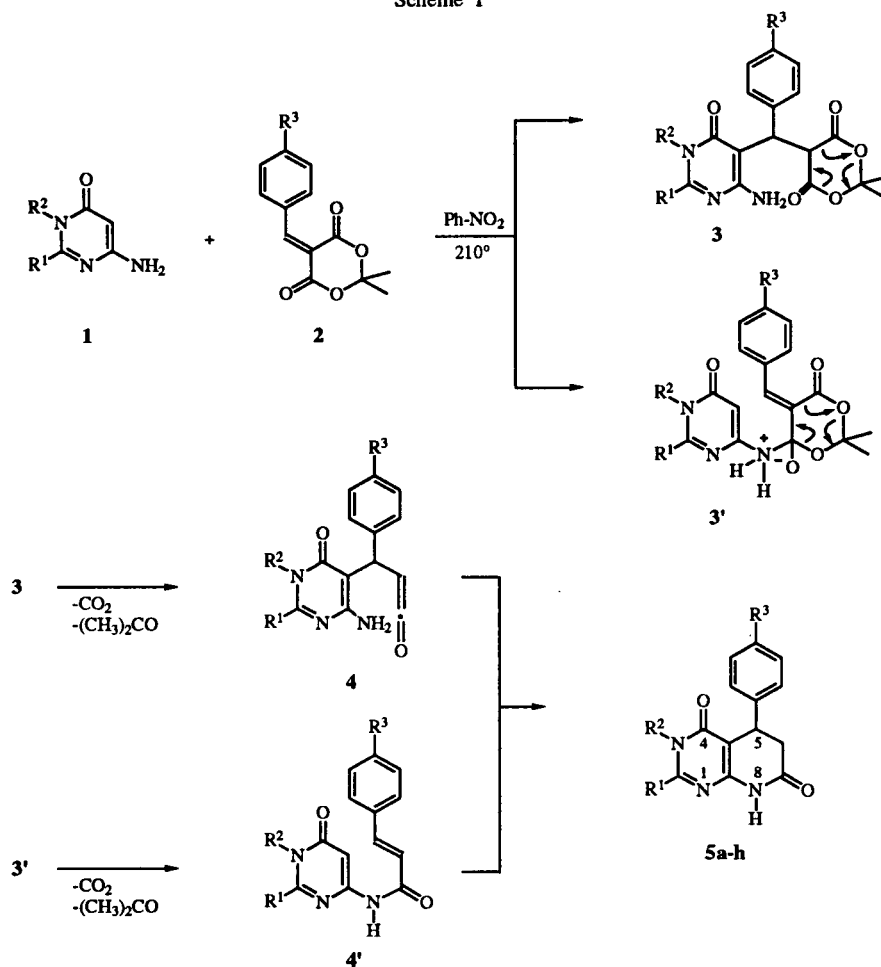
5	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h
2-SCH ₃	2.50	2.56	---	2.49	2.56	---	2.51	2.59
2-OCH ₃	---	---	3.88	---	---	3.98	---	---
3-CH ₃	---	3.35	---	---	3.35	3.24	---	3.37
5-H	4.19	4.22	4.18	4.19	4.22	4.35	4.35	4.38
6-H	2.52	2.54	2.51	2.51	2.54	2.57	2.57	2.58
	3.02	3.03	3.01	3.03	3.03	3.10	3.12	3.13
8-H	10.53	10.56	10.53	10.58	10.59	10.63	10.66	10.69
5-Ar								
o	7.13	7.15	7.17	7.16	7.16	7.44	7.43	7.45
m	7.26	7.27	7.34	7.33	7.33	8.15	8.16	8.15
p	7.19	7.18	---	---	---	---	---	---

Table 2
¹³C NMR Data of **5a-h** (δ Values in DMSO-*d*₆, TMS as Internal Standard)

5	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h
C-2	161.6	162.3	157.5	161.6	162.5	156.6	161.2	162.9
C-4	161.7 [a]	160.3	162.0	162.2 [a]	160.2	160.8	161.2 [a]	160.7
C-4a	98.2	97.3	95.7	97.8	96.9	94.2	97.1	96.1
C-5	33.0	33.7	32.3	32.4	33.2	33.8	33.1	33.8
C-6	38.0	38.0	37.9	37.8	37.8	37.5	37.4	37.4
C-7	170.3	170.3	170.2	170.0	170.0	169.8	169.7	169.7
C-8a	154.7	152.7	155.2	154.2	152.8	153.6	154.0	153.0
2-OCH ₃	---	---	54.7	---	---	55.8	---	---
2-SCH ₃	12.6	14.3	---	12.6	14.3	---	12.6	14.3
3-CH ₃	---	29.9	---	---	29.9	27.4	---	29.9
5-Ar								
C _i	142.5	142.5	141.7	141.4	141.4	150.7	150.4	150.3
C _o ,C _m	126.4	126.4	128.3	128.3	128.3	123.6	123.7	123.7
	128.5	128.5	128.4	128.4	128.4	127.8	127.8	127.9
C _p	126.6	126.6	131.1	131.1	131.2	146.3	146.3	146.4

[a] Broad signal (tautomeric exchange of protons).

Scheme 1



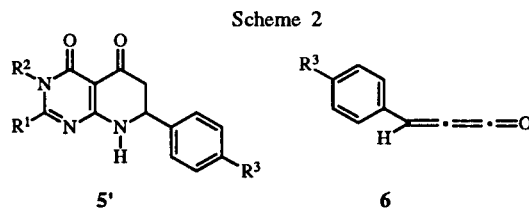
5	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h
R ¹	SCH ₃	SCH ₃	OCH ₃	SCH ₃	SCH ₃	OCH ₃	SCH ₃	SCH ₃
R ²	H	CH ₃	H	H	CH ₃	CH ₃	H	CH ₃
R ³	H	H	Cl	Cl	Cl	NO ₂	NO ₂	NO ₂
Yield [%]	70	68	76	77	78	72	84	82

In principal the enamines **1** can attack on the carbonyl carbon atom or on the β -C atom of the α,β -unsaturated cyclic ester **2**. We assume for the initial step either a CC or a CN bond formation leading to **3** and **3'**, respectively. In the second step one molecule of acetone and carbon dioxide are split off and finally the tetrahydropyridine ring can be closed *via* the ketene **4** or the unsaturated amide **4'**. Related processes with Meldrum's acids are well-known [15,16], particularly a recent publication [17] on the preparation of 2,4,7-trioxo- and 4,7-dioxo-2-thioxooctahydropyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidines prompted us to report our results.

The formation of **5** was confirmed by spectroscopical data. Thus, the ir spectra of **5** measured in potassium bro-

mid pellets show typical amide absorptions (Experimental) and no vibrations which would prove the structures of unsaturated ketones **5'**. (Scheme 2)

The ¹H nmr spectra of the compounds **5** measured in DMSO-*d*₆ exhibit besides the signals for the aromatic protons (7.13-8.16 ppm) an AMX spin pattern for the CH₂-CH segment. The coupling constants amount to $2J =$



-(16.5 ± 0.5) Hz, $^3J_{trans} = (7.8 \pm 0.5)$ Hz and $^3J_{cis} = (1.3 \pm 0.5)$ Hz. The final proof of structure **5** is based on the ^{13}C nmr spectra.

The alternative structure **5'** could be ruled out, because neither signals for saturated carbon atoms adjacent to nitrogen atoms nor signals for carbonyl carbon atoms of ketones could be detected. The ^1H and ^{13}C nmr data are listed in the Tables 1 and 2.

Summarizing the reaction of **1** and **2**, one can point out that the Meldrum's acid derivatives **2** behave as synthetic equivalents of the heterocumulene **6**. Irrespective of the decision, which bond (CC or CN) is formed initially, the cyclization process is highly selective ($5 \leftarrow 1 + 2 \nrightarrow 5'$).

EXPERIMENTAL

Melting points were taken on a Büchi melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. The ir spectra were obtained in potassium bromide pellets with a Perkin-Elmer 599B spectrometer. The ^1H - and ^{13}C nmr spectra were run on a Bruker AM 400 in DMSO- d_6 . The mass spectra were recorded on a Varian MAT 711 and Finnigan M 95 operating at 70 eV. The elemental analysis have been obtained using a LECO CHNS-900 equipment.

General Procedure for the Preparation of the 5-Aryl-3,4,5,6,7,8-hexahydropyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-4,7-diones **5a-h**.

A solution of 6-aminopyrimidone **1** (1.0 mmole) and a derivative of Meldrum acid **2** [18] in 5 ml of nitrobenzene was refluxed for 2.5 hours. The products **5a-h** were isolated by cooling, followed by filtration, washing with ethanol, drying and recrystallization from ethyl acetate/hexane (1:1).

3,4,5,6,7,8 -Hexahydro-2-methylthio-5-phenylpyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-4,7-dione (**5a**).

The compound, obtained in 70% yield, forms colorless crystals, mp 303°; ir (potassium bromide): ν 1650, 1715, 3160, 3240 cm^{-1} . The mass spectrum shows the following peaks: ei ms (70 eV) m/z (%) = 287 (100) [M^+], 210 (50), 77 (32).

Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2\text{S}$: C, 58.54; H, 4.53; N, 14.63. Found: C, 58.63; H, 4.73; N, 14.46.

3,4,5,6,7,8-Hexahydro-3-methyl-2-methylthio-5-phenylpyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-4,7-dione (**5b**).

The compound, obtained in 68% yield, forms colorless crystals, mp 237°; ir (potassium bromide): ν 1670, 1738, 3230 cm^{-1} . The mass spectrum shows the following peaks: ei ms (70 eV) m/z (%) = 301 (100) [M^+], 224 (45).

Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_3\text{O}_2\text{S}$: C, 59.80; H, 4.98; N, 13.95. Found: C, 59.87; H, 4.82; N, 13.89.

5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3,4,5,6,7,8-hexahydro-2-methoxyprido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-4,7-dione (**5c**).

The compound, obtained in 76% yield, forms colorless crystals, mp 287°; ir (potassium bromide): ν 1655, 1713, 3115, 3210 cm^{-1} . The mass spectrum shows the following peaks: ei ms (70 eV) m/z (%) = 307 (33) / 305 (100) [M^+], 304 (94), 270 (51), 194 (72), 123 (39), 77 (75).

Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{ClN}_3\text{O}_3$: C, 54.44; H, 3.93; N, 13.75. Found: C, 54.56; H, 3.96; N, 13.68.

5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3,4,5,6,7,8-hexahydro-2-methylthio-pyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-4,7-dione (**5d**).

This compound, obtained in 77% yield, forms colorless crystals, mp 307-8°; ir (potassium bromide): ν 1650, 1715, 3130, 3200 cm^{-1} . The mass spectrum shows the following peaks: ei ms (70 eV) m/z (%) = 321 (100) [M^+], 286 (31).

Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{ClN}_3\text{O}_2\text{S}$: C, 52.25; H, 3.73; N, 13.06. Found: C, 52.34; H, 3.78; N, 13.12.

5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3,4,5,6,7,8-hexahydro-3-methyl-2-methylthiopyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-4,7-dione (**5e**).

The compound, obtained in 78% yield forms colorless crystals, mp 262°; ir (potassium bromide): ν 1670, 1735, 3220 cm^{-1} . The mass spectrum shows the following peaks: ei ms (70 eV) m/z (%) = 337 (38) / 335 (100) [M^+], 300 (41), 224 (60), 88 (22).

Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{14}\text{ClN}_3\text{O}_2\text{S}$: C, 53.65; H, 4.15; N, 12.52. Found: C, 53.85; H, 4.11; N, 12.34.

3,4,5,6,7,8-Hexahydro-2-methoxy-3-methyl-5-(4-nitrophenyl)-pyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-4,7-dione (**5f**).

The compound, obtained in 72% yield, forms almost colorless crystals, mp 251-252°; ir (potassium bromide): ν 1660, 1715, 3260 cm^{-1} . The mass spectrum shows the following peaks: ei ms (70 eV) m/z (%) = 330 (100) [M^+], 208 (69), 72 (13).

Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_4\text{O}_5$: C, 54.54; H, 4.24; N, 16.96. Found: C, 54.72; H, 4.08; N, 16.82.

3,4,5,6,7,8-Hexahydro-2-methylthio-5-(4-nitrophenyl)pyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-4,7-dione (**5g**).

The compound, obtained in 84% yield, forms almost colorless crystals, mp 333-334°; ir (potassium bromide): ν 1650, 1700, 3100, 3220 cm^{-1} . The mass spectrum shows the following peaks: ei ms (70 eV) m/z (%) = 332 (100) [M^+], 210 (69).

Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_4\text{O}_4\text{S}$: C, 50.60; H, 3.61; N, 16.86. Found: C, 50.82; H, 3.24; N, 16.56.

3,4,5,6,7,8-Hexahydro-3-methyl-2-methylthio-5-(4-nitrophenyl)pyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-4,7-dione (**5h**).

The compound, obtained in 82% yield, forms almost colorless crystals, mp 255°; ir (potassium bromide): ν 1670, 1720, 3390 cm^{-1} . The mass spectrum shows the following peaks: ei ms (70 eV) m/z (%) = 346 (100) [M^+], 271 (18), 224 (89), 88 (53).

Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_4\text{O}_4\text{S}$: C, 52.02; H, 4.05; N, 16.18. Found: C, 52.10; H, 4.11; N, 16.11.

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