
#### Abstract

A series of new $N$-cyclopropyldecahydroacridine-1,8-dione derivatives were synthesized by one-pot reaction of aromatic aldehyde, dimedone (or 1,3-cyclohexanedione) and cyclopropanamine in solution of glycol and water under microwave irradiation with excellent yields ( $78-94 \%$ ) and short reaction time ( $5-10 \mathrm{~min}$ ).


J. Heterocyclic Chem., 42, 1155 (2005).

Many natural and synthetic compounds containing the acridine skeleton display interesting biological and physical activities [1]. Acridinedione, for example, has been identified as antimalarial and antitumor agents [2]. Decahydroacridine-1,8-dione derivatives are also reported to possess important properties such as high fluorescence efficiency [3]. As a consequence, the interest of organic chemists in the synthesis or structure modifications of acridine derivatives remains high.
Apart from the synthesis of decahydroacridine-1,8diones reported by Martin, Suarez and us [4-6], it has also been discovered that the introduction of aryl or methyl group to the nitrogen atom of these compounds leads to enhanced fluorescence activity [7-8].
Recently, Hubschwerlen et al found that the introduction of a cyclopropyl group to the nitrogen atom of the pyridine ring results in a wide spectrum of antibacterial activities [9]. Since the pyridine scaffold is included in decahydro-acridine-1,8-diones, a question was aroused whether the same modification on the nitrogen of the decahydroacri-dine-1,8-dione may bring about some significant activity. However, the introduction of a cyclopropyl group to the nitrogen atom of the decahydroacridine-1,8-dione has not been reported yet. It would seem, therefore, that further investigations are needed in order to screen novel compounds with peculiar properties.
dihydropyridones [13], pyridopyrimidones [14] as well as decahydroacridines [15] with good yields and short reaction time. The efficiency of microwave irradiation (MWI) in promoting organic synthesis and the success of its application in these heterocyclic syntheses triggered us to extend those procedures to the nitrogen modification of decahydroacridine-1,8-diones.

In our previous study [10], we have introduced hydroxyl group to the nitrogen atom of decahydroacridine-1,8-dione under microwave irradiation. Through intensive research, we have successfully achieved the introduction of cyclopropyl group to the nitrogen atom of these compounds under microwave irradiation with excellent yields and short reaction time.

Herein, we would like to describe the one-pot synthesis of this novel type of heterocyclic compounds, the N -cyclo-propyldecahydroacridine-1,8-dione derivatives.

For the aim of contrast, we carried out the reaction not only under microwave irradiation but under traditional heating conditions (Scheme 1). As a result, we found that microwave can efficiently promote this reaction. By employing microwave irradiation, the reaction time was shortened to $5-10 \mathrm{~min}$ from 10 hours required in the conventional heating mode and the yields were sharply increased to $78 \%-94 \%$ from the $15 \%$ afforded in the conventional heating mode.

Scheme 1


Since 1986 when microwave heating was first used in organic synthesis by Gedye [10], microwave irradiation has been widely utilized in the synthesis of heterocyclic compounds such as hexahydroquinolines [11], unsymmetrical 1,4-dihydropyridines [11], octahydroquinolines [12],

In addition, we discovered that the reaction condition was crucial to the procedure. Firstly, cyclopropanamine is easy to volatilize because of its lower boiling point (30 ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ), so we convert it into the hydrochloride salt and then add NaOAc to liberate the free amine. Secondly, the com-
position of the solvent plays a key role in the process. For example, when anhydrous ethanol or glycol is used as a solvent, the main product is $\mathbf{1 0}$ (yield: $92 \%$ or so) or $\mathbf{1 1}$ (yield: $90 \%$ or so), while 4 is the by-product (Scheme 2). When water acts as solvent, $\mathbf{1 1}$ and $\mathbf{4}$ can be obtained simultaneously. Therefore, we investigated the relationship between the contents of $\mathbf{4}$ and the ratio of water to glycol by HPLC. The optimal ratio of water to glycol is found to be $2: 1$ (Table 1 ).

Scheme 2


11

Table 1
The Relationship Between the Contents of $\mathbf{4 c}$ and the Ratio of Water to Glycol by HPLC (water is 0.50 mL )

| Volume of glycol (mL) | Content of $\mathbf{4 c}(\%)$ | Content of $\mathbf{1 1}(\%)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0.00 | 48.1 | 52.9 |
| 0.13 | 43.7 | 56.3 |
| 0.19 | 50.6 | 49.4 |
| 0.25 | 98.2 | 1.8 |
| 0.31 | 24.8 | 75.2 |
| 0.38 | 25.6 | 74.4 |
| 0.50 | 9.8 | 90.2 |

The results (Table 2) show that a series of aromatic aldehydes can undergo the cyclocondensation reaction to give products in excellent yields (78-94\%).

This reaction may occur via a mechanism of condensation, addition, cyclization and elimination (Scheme 3). At first, the condensation between aldehyde and dimedone gave 2-aryllidene-5,5-dimethyl-1,3-cyclohexanedione (5). Then, Michael addition between 5 and $\mathbf{6}$ obtained from dimedone and cyclopropanamine furnished the intermediate 7 , which tautamerized to 8 . After that, intermolecular cyclization of $\mathbf{8}$ gave $\mathbf{9}$, which finally afforded $\mathbf{4}$ by dehydration.

All the products were characterized by IR, ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR and elemental analysis. Moreover, the structure of $\mathbf{4 a}$ and $\mathbf{4 1}$ were further conformed by X-ray crystallographic analysis

Table 2
Synthesis of 4 Under Microwave Irradiation

| Entry | Ar | R | Time | Yield (min) | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{Mp}\left({ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right) \\ (\%) \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4a | $\begin{aligned} & 3-\mathrm{OCH}_{3}-4- \\ & \mathrm{OHC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{3} \end{aligned}$ | $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 6 | 85 | 274-275 |
| 4b | $3-\mathrm{NO}_{2} \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{4}$ | $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 7 | 80 | 235-236 |
| 4c | $4-\mathrm{ClC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{4}$ | $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 6 | 79 | 202-203 |
| 4d | $4-\mathrm{BrC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{4}$ | $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 6 | 85 | 204-205 |
| 4e | $4-\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{4}$ | $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 6 | 88 | 248-250 |
| 4f | $3,4-\mathrm{Cl}_{2} \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{3}$ | $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 7 | 82 | 230-231 |
| 4g | $2-\mathrm{ClC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{4}$ | $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 9 | 85 | 226-227 |
| 4h | $4-\mathrm{FC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{4}$ | $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ | 7 | 80 | 227-228 |
| 4 i | $4-\mathrm{BrC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{4}$ | H | 5 | 92 | 222-223 |
| 4j | $4-\mathrm{NO}_{2} \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{4}$ | H | 6 | 85 | 222-223 |
| 4k | $3-\mathrm{NO}_{2} \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{4}$ | H | 10 | 78 | 193-194 |
| 41 | $4-\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{4}$ | H | 5 | 94 | 233-234 |
| 4 m | $3,4-\mathrm{Cl}_{2} \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{3}$ | H | 6 | 90 | 230-231 |
| 4n | $2-\mathrm{ClC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{4}$ | H | 6 | 86 | 234-235 |
| 40 | $3-\mathrm{OCH}_{3}$-4- | H | 8 | 88 | 242-243 |
|  | $\mathrm{OHC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{3}$ |  |  |  |  |
| 4p | $4-\mathrm{ClC}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{4}$ | H | 6 | 90 | 204-205 |

Scheme 3



(Figure 1-2). In the structure of $\mathbf{4 a}$ and $\mathbf{4 I}$, the aromatic rings are vertical to the pyridine rings which adopt the boat conformation, whereas both of the cyclohexanone rings adopt envelope conformations. The dihedral angles of $\mathbf{4 a}$ and 41 between the pyridine rings and the cyclopropyl rings are $72.19^{\circ}$ and $66.01^{\circ}$, respectively. The ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR
data of all the compounds are consistent with their assigned structures.


Figure 1 The structure of $\mathbf{4 a}$.


Figure 2 The structure of $\mathbf{4 l}$.

In conclusion, we have disclosed a novel microwaveassisted reaction by aromatic aldehyde, 1,3-cyclohexanedione or dimedone and cyclopropanamine, thus realizing the introduction of cyclopropyl group on the nitrogen atom of decahydroacridine-1,8-dione derivatives. Therefore, this one-pot synthesis of N -cyclopropyldecahydroacridine-1,8-dione derivatives therefore is a simple, timesaving, high-yielding and environmentally friendly process. Great efforts are underway to clarify the bioactivity of these new compounds and the results will be reported in due course.

## EXPERIMENTAL

Microwave irradiation was carried out with a modified commercial microwave oven ( $2450 \mathrm{MHz}, 650 \mathrm{~W}$ ) under atmospheric pressure. Melting points were determined in open capillaries and are uncorrected. IR spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu spectrometer. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra were measured on a DPX 400 MHz
spectrometer using TMS as an internal standard, DMSO- $d_{6}$ as solvent. Elemental analysis was determined by using a PerkinElmer 240c elemental analysis instrument. X-ray crystallographic analysis was performed with a Siemens SMART CCD and a Siemens P4 diffractometer.

General Procedure for the Synthesis of 9-Aryl-3,3,6,6-tetra-methyldecahydroacridine-1,8-diones $\mathbf{4 a}-\mathbf{4 h}$.

A solution of the appropriate aromatic aldehyde ( 2 mmol ), dimedone ( 4 mmol ), cyclopropanammonium chloride ( 4 mmol ) and $\mathrm{NaOAc}(4 \mathrm{mmol})$ in glycol $(0.25 \mathrm{~mL})$ and water $(0.50 \mathrm{~mL})$ was irradiated for $6-9 \mathrm{~min}$. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, then poured into water ( 50 mL ), filtered to give the crude product, which was further purified by recrystallization from 95\% EtOH.

3,3,6,6-Tetramethyl- $N$-cyclpropyl-9-(3-methoxyl-4-hydroxyl-phenyl)-decahydroacridine-1,8-dione (4a).

This compound has the following properties: IR ( $\mathrm{KBr}, \mathrm{v}$, $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3185, 2954, 1646, 1635, 1569, 1510, 1465,1428, 1370, 1370, 1269, 1226, 1141, 1040, 845, 743, 666, 568, 466. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $(\delta, \mathrm{ppm}): 8.58(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OH}), 6.54-6.40(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{ArH}), 4.93(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, $\mathrm{CH}), 3.63\left(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{3}\right), 3.09-3.06(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}), 3.00-2.96(\mathrm{~m}$, $\left.2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 2.57-2.52\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 2.22-2.12\left(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 1.18-$ $1.16\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 1.04\left(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right), 1.01\left(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right), 0.59-$ $0.57\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$.

Anal. Calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{27} \mathrm{H}_{33} \mathrm{NO}_{4}$ : C, 74.45 ; $\mathrm{H}, 7.64$; N, 3.22. found: C, 74.57; H, 7.83; N, 3.12.
3,3,6,6-Tetramethyl- $N$-cyclpropyl-9-(3-nitrophenyl)-decahy-droacridine-1,8-dione (4b).

This compound has the following properties: IR ( $\mathrm{KBr}, \mathrm{v}, \mathrm{cm}^{-}$ $\left.{ }^{1}\right): 3083,2953,2866,1670,1626,1570,1525,1467,1452,1369$, $1344,1318,1273,1221,1120,977,909,810,846,733,710,589$. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\delta, \mathrm{ppm}$ ): 7.97-7.94 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.51-7.49 (m, 2H, ArH ), 7.23-7.16 (m, 1H, ArH), 5.12 (s, 1H, CH), 3.12-3.09 (m, $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}), 3.04-3.00\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 2.62-2.59\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 2.24-$ $2.17\left(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 1.24-1.19\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 1.03\left(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)$, 0.99 (s, 6H, CH3 ), 0.71-0.68 (m, 2H, CH ${ }^{2}$ ).

Anal. Calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{26} \mathrm{H}_{30} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$ : C, 71.87; H, 6.96; N, 6.45. Found: C, $71.98 ; \mathrm{H}, 6.84 ; \mathrm{N}, 6.32$.

3,3,6,6-Tetramethyl- N -cyclpropyl-9-(4-cholorophenyl)-decahy-droacridine-1,8-dione ( $\mathbf{4 c}$ ).

This compound has the following properties: IR ( $\mathrm{KBr}, \mathrm{v}$, $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3001, 2954, 2868, 1636, 1565, 1485, 1364, 1316, 1224, 1116, 1009, 855, 830, 773, 528, 456. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\delta, \mathrm{ppm}$ ): 7.21 (d, $2 \mathrm{H}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{ArH}), 6.98(\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{ArH}), 5.01(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, CH ), 3.08-3.05 (m, 1H, CH), 3.00-2.96 (m, $2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 2.58-2.54 ( $\mathrm{m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 2.23-2.17 (m, 4H, CH2), 1.18-1.13 (m, 2H, CH2), $1.01\left(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right), 0.99\left(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right), 0.63-0.58\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$.

Anal. Calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{26} \mathrm{H}_{30} \mathrm{ClNO}_{2}$ : C, $73.65 ; \mathrm{H}, 7.13 ; \mathrm{N}, 3.30$. Found: C, 73.78; H, 7.01; N, 3.33.
3,3,6,6-Tetramethyl- $N$-cyclpropyl-9-(4-bromophenyl)-decahy-droacridine-1,8-dione (4d).

This compound has the following properties: IR ( $\mathrm{KBr}, \mathrm{v}$, $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2954, 2868, 2089, 1633, 1570, 1480, 1363, 1316, 1224, 1144, 1122, 1029, 999, 860, 707, 522. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\delta, \mathrm{ppm}$ ): 7.34 (d, $2 \mathrm{H}, J=8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{ArH}), 6.92(\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, J=8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{ArH}), 4.99(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, CH ), 3.09-3.03 (m, 1H, CH), 3.00-2.96 (m, $2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 2.58-2.54
( $\mathrm{m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 2.23-2.13 ( $\mathrm{m}, 4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 1.18-1.13 ( $\mathrm{m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), $1.01\left(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right), 0.99\left(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right), 0.63-0.58\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$.
Anal. Calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{26} \mathrm{H}_{30} \mathrm{BrNO}_{2}$ : C, 66.67; H, 6.46; N, 2.99 ; found: C, 6652; H, 6.32; N, 3.12.
3,3,6,6-Tetramethyl- $N$-cyclpropyl-9-(4-methoxylphenyl)-dec-ahydroacridine-1,8-dione (4e).

This compound has the following properties: IR ( $\mathrm{KBr}, \mathrm{v}$, $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3062, 3001, 2950, 2832, 1637, 1625, 1565, 1508, 1366, 1292, 1246, 1127, 1106, 1031, 942, 830, 707, $548 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1} .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\delta, \mathrm{ppm}): 6.88(\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, J=8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{ArH}), 6.70(\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, J=8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $\mathrm{ArH}), 4.95(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}), 3.65\left(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{3}\right), 3.08-3.03(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, CH ), 2.99-2.95 (m, 2H, CH2 $), 2.57-2.53\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 2.17-2.13$ ( $\mathrm{m}, 4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 1.17-1.14 (m, 2H, CH 2 ), $1.01\left(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right), 0.99$ ( $\mathrm{s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ ), 0.62-0.58 (m, 2H, CH 2 ).
Anal. Calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{27} \mathrm{H}_{33} \mathrm{NO}_{3}$ : C, 77.29; H, 7.93; N, 3.34. Found: C, 77.41; H, 7.77; N, 3.39.
3,3,6,6-Tetramethyl- $N$-cyclpropyl-9-(3,4-dicholorophenyl)-dec-ahydroacridine-1,8-dione ( $\mathbf{4 f}$ ).

This compound has the following properties: IR ( $\mathrm{KBr}, \mathrm{v}$, $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3093, 3006, 2960, 2863, 1630, 1572, 1462, 1387, 1361, 1302, 1265, 1222, 1146, 1119, 1019, 983, 886, 830, 778, 676, $599,548,440 .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\delta, \mathrm{ppm}$ ): 7.43 (d, $1 \mathrm{H}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{ArH}$ ), 7.13-6.93 (m, 2H, ArH), 5.00 (s, 1H, CH), 3.11-3.05 (m, 1H, CH ), 3.03-2.98 (m, 2H, CH 2 ), 2.59-2.55 (m, 2H, CH 2 ), 2.25-2.14 ( $\mathrm{m}, 4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 1.21-1.16 (m, 2H, CH 2$), ~ 1.01\left(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right), 1.00$ ( $\mathrm{s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}$ ), 0.63-0.59 (m, 2H, CH2 $)$.
Anal. Calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{26} \mathrm{H}_{29} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \mathrm{NO}_{2}$ : C, 68.12; H, 6.38; N, 3.06; found: C, 68.29; H, 6.29; N, 6.28 .

3,3,6,6-Tetramethyl- $N$-cyclpropyl-9-(2-cholorophenyl)-decahy-droacridine-1,8-dione ( $\mathbf{4 g}$ ).

This compound has the following properties: IR ( $\mathrm{KBr}, \mathrm{v}$, $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3088, 3016, 2956, 2929, 2868, 1637, 1576, 1465, 1368, 1385, 1338, 1304, 1216, 1180, 1144, 1120, 1037, 944, 906, 840, 748, 702, 650, 579, 471. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\delta, \mathrm{ppm}$ ): 7.19-7.01 (m, 4H, ArH ), $5.25(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}), 3.09-3.05(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}), 3.02-2.98(\mathrm{~m}$, $2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 2.60-2.55 (m, $2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 2.15-2.08 (m, $4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 1.26-1.22 (m, 2H, CH2 ), $1.00\left(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right), 0.97\left(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)$, 0.83-0.79 (m, 2H, CH2 ).

Anal. Calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{26} \mathrm{H}_{30} \mathrm{ClNO}_{2}$ : C, $73.65 ; \mathrm{H}, 7.13 ; \mathrm{N}, 3.30$. Found: C, 73.52; H, 7.32; N, 3.38.
3,3,6,6-Tetramethyl- $N$-cyclpropyl-9-(4-fluorophenyl)-decahy-droacridine-1,8-dione (4h).

This compound has the following properties: IR ( $\mathrm{KBr}, \nu, \mathrm{cm}^{-}$ ${ }^{1}$ ): 3093, 3006, 2960, 2863, 1630, 1572, 1462, 1387, 1361, 1302 , 1265, 1222, 1146, 1119, 1019, 983, 886, 830, 778, 676, 599, 548, 440. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\delta, \mathrm{ppm}$ ): 7.01-6.94 (m, 4H, ArH), 5.01 ( $\mathrm{s}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, CH ), 3.09-3.04 (m, 1H, CH), 3.01-2.96 (m, 2H, CH2), 2.58-2.51 ( $\mathrm{m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 2.23-2.13 ( $\mathrm{m}, 4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 1.18-1.13 ( $\mathrm{m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), $1.01\left(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right), 0.99\left(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3}\right), 0.62-0.58\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$.
Anal. Calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{26} \mathrm{H}_{30} \mathrm{FNO}_{2}$ : C, 76.63; H, 7.42; N, 3.44. Found: C, 76.52; H, 7.25; N, 3.61.
General Procedure for the Synthesis of 9-Aryl-1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8, 9,10-decahydroacridine-1,8-diones 4i-4p.

A solution of the appropriate aromatic aldehyde ( 2 mmol ), 1,3cyclohexanedione ( 4 mmol ), cyclopropanammonium chloride ( 4 $\mathrm{mmol})$ and $\mathrm{NaOAc}(4 \mathrm{mmol})$ in glycol $(0.25 \mathrm{~mL})$ and water $(0.50$ mL ) was irradiated for $5-10 \mathrm{~min}$. The reaction mixture was
cooled to r.t., then poured into water ( 50 mL ), the solid produce was collected by filtration to give the crude product, which was further purified by recrystallization from $95 \% \mathrm{EtOH}$.
$N$-Cyclpropyl-9-(4-bromophenyl)-decahydroacridine-1,8-dione (4i).

This compound has the following properties: IR ( $\mathrm{KBr}, \mathrm{v}$, $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3088, 2939, 2858, 1632, 1569, 1366, 1293, 1231, 1181, 1134, 1071, 1036, 1008, 937, 896, 835, 543, 466. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\delta$, ppm): 7.33 (d, 2H, $J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{ArH}), 6.93$ (d, 2H, $J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{ArH}$ ), 5.01 ( $\mathrm{s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}$ ), $3.08-3.05(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}), 3.04-3.01(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}$, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 2.72-2.66 (m, 2H, CH2), 2.33-2.24 (m, 4H, CH2), 1.98$1.93\left(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 1.11-1.06\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 0.67-0.63(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}$, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ).

Anal. Calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{22} \mathrm{H}_{22} \mathrm{BrNO}_{2}$ : C, $64.09 ; \mathrm{H}, 5.38 ; \mathrm{N}, 3.40$. Found: C, 64.18; H, 5.16; N, 3.33.
$N$-Cyclpropyl-9-(4-nitrophenyl)-decahydroacridine-1,8-dione (4j).

This compound has the following properties: IR ( $\mathrm{KBr}, \mathrm{v}$, $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2945, 2919, 1632, 1563, 1519, 1360, 1286, 1231, 1180, 1106, 1052, 942, 901, 814, 702, 604, 471. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\delta, \mathrm{ppm}$ ): 8.03 (d, 2H, $J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}$, ArH), 7.24 (d, 2H, $J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{ArH}$ ), 5.15 ( $\mathrm{s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}$ ), 3.46-3.43 (m, 1H, CH), 3.09-3.06 (m, $2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 2.75-2.72 (m, 2H, CH2), 2.33-2.27 (m, 4H, CH2), 2.21-1.95 (m, $\left.4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 1.12-1.05\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 0.72-0.68\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$.

Anal. Calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{22} \mathrm{H}_{22} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$ : C, 69.83; H, 5.86; N, 7.40. Found: C, 70.00; H, 5.99; N, 7.22.
$N$-Cyclpropyl-9-(3-nitrophenyl)-decahydroacridine-1,8-dione (4k).

This compound has the following properties: IR ( $\mathrm{KBr}, \mathrm{v}$, $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3078, 2939, 2919, 2868, 1632, 1568, 1532, 1429, 1363, 1345, 1289, 1230, 1182, 1134, 906, 825, 671, 548. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\delta$, $\mathrm{ppm})$ : 7.95-7.93 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.88-7.86 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.74$7.46(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{ArH}), 5.12(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}), 3.12-3.08(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH})$, 3.05-3.02 (m, 2H, CH2 ), 2.76-2.68 (m, 2H, CH2), 2.33-2.22 (m, $\left.4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$, 1.98-1.92 (m, 4H, CH2 $), 1.16-1.11\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$, $0.75-0.71\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$.

Anal. Calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{22} \mathrm{H}_{22} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}$ : C, 69.83; H, 5.86; $\mathrm{N}, 7.40$. Found: C, 70.01; H, 5.77; N, 7.23.
$N$-Cyclpropyl-9-(4-methoxylphenyl)-decahydroacridine-1,8dione (4I).

This compound has the following properties: IR ( $\mathrm{KBr}, \mathrm{v}$, $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3001, 2950, 1637, 1625, 1565, 1508, 1366, 1292, 1246, 1292, 1284, 1031, 942, 830, 707, 548. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\delta, \mathrm{ppm}$ ): 6.88 (d, 2H, $J=8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{ArH}$ ), 6.79 (d, $2 \mathrm{H}, J=8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{ArH}), 4.97$ (s, 1 H , $\mathrm{CH}), 3.65\left(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OCH}_{3}\right), 3.07-3.04(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}), 3.03-3.00(\mathrm{~m}$, $\left.2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 2.70-2.63\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 2.33-2.18\left(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 1.96-$ $1.90\left(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 1.12-1.07\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 0.65-0.61(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}$, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ).

Anal. Calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{23} \mathrm{H}_{25} \mathrm{NO}_{3}: \mathrm{C}, 76.01 ; \mathrm{H}, 6.93 ; \mathrm{N}, 3.85$. Found: C, 76.22; H, 6.84; N, 3.61.
$N$-Cyclpropyl-9-(3,4-dicholorophenyl)-decahydroacridine-1,8dione ( $\mathbf{4 m}$ ).

This compound has the following properties: IR ( $\mathrm{KBr}, \mathrm{v}$, $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3083, 3062, 2939, 2863, 1631, 1568, 1469, 1403, 1385, 1359, 1296, 1229, 1181, 1131, 1028, 943, 910, 825, 753, 661, $533,420 .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\delta, \mathrm{ppm}$ ): $7.40(\mathrm{~d}, 1 \mathrm{H}, J=8.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{ArH}), 7.14$ (s, 1H, ArH), 6.93-6.91 (m, 1H, ArH), $5.01(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}), 3.09-$
$3.06(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}), 3.05-3.01\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 2.73-2.66(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}$, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 2.36-2.20 (m, 4H, CH2), 1.98-1.93 (m, 4H, CH2), 1.13$1.09\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 0.68-0.64\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$.
Anal. Calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{22} \mathrm{H}_{21} \mathrm{Cl}_{2} \mathrm{NO}_{2}$ : C, $65.68 ; \mathrm{H}, 5.26 ; \mathrm{N}, 3.48$. Found: C, 65.54; H, 5.10; N, 3.31.
$N$-Cyclpropyl-9-(2-cholorophenyl)-decahydroacridine-1,8-dione (4n).

This compound has the following properties: IR $\left(\mathrm{KBr}, \mathrm{v}, \mathrm{cm}^{-}\right.$ 1): $3073,2949,1634,1570,1473,1452,1436,1357,1297,1230$, 1181, 1134, 1040, 965, 907, 838, 744, 537, 468. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\delta$, ppm): 7.18-6.98 (m, 4H, ArH), 5.26 (s, 1H, CH), 3.09-3.06 (m, $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}), 3.04-2.99\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 2.74-2.67\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 2.26-$ 2.13 ( $\mathrm{m}, 4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 1.94-1.89 (m, 4H, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 1.19-1.14 (m, 2H, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 0.84-0.80 ( $\mathrm{m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ).
Anal. Calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{22} \mathrm{H}_{22} \mathrm{ClNO}_{2}$ : C, $71.83 ; \mathrm{H}, 6.03 ; \mathrm{N}, 3.81$. Found: C, 71.98; H, 5.88; N, 3.62.
N -Cyclpropyl-9-(3-methoxyl-4-hydroxylphenyl)-decahydroacri-dine-1,8-dione (40).
This compound has the following properties: $\mathrm{IR}\left(\mathrm{KBr}, \mathrm{v}, \mathrm{cm}^{-}\right.$ $\left.{ }^{1}\right): 3401,2949,1626,1564,1511,1453,1432,1364,1288,1231$, $1182,1116,1034,946,906,625,476 .^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\delta, \mathrm{ppm}$ ): $8.52(\mathrm{~s}$, $1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{OH}), 6.52-6.37(\mathrm{~m}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{ArH}), 4.94(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}), 3.64(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}$, $\mathrm{OCH}_{3}$ ), 3.08-3.05 (m, 1H, CH), 3.04-3.01 (m, 2H, CH2), 2.70$2.50\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 2.32-2.20\left(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 1.97-1.92(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}$, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 1.13-1.08 ( $\mathrm{m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 0.65-0.61 ( $\mathrm{m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ).
Anal. Calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{23} \mathrm{H}_{25} \mathrm{NO}_{4}$ : C, $72.80 ; \mathrm{H}, 6.64 ; \mathrm{N}, 3.69$; found: C, $72.98 ; \mathrm{H}, 6.83 ; \mathrm{N}, 3.60$.
$N$-Cyclpropyl-9-(4cholophenyl)-decahydroacridine-1,8-dione (4p).

This compound has the following properties: IR $\left(\mathrm{KBr}, \mathrm{v}, \mathrm{cm}^{-}\right.$ 1): $3416,3257,2937,1644,1596,1488,13661293,1232,1183$, 1136, 1087, 1037, 1011, 944, 908, 836, 758, 650, 534. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\delta, \mathrm{ppm}): 7.20(\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{ArH}), 6.99(\mathrm{~d}, 2 \mathrm{H}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}$, ArH), $5.03(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}), 3.08-3.05(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}), 3.03-3.00(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}$, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 2.73-2.64(m, $\left.2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 2.35-2.22\left(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 1.98-$ $1.91\left(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 1.11-1.08\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 0.66-0.63(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}$, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ).

Anal. Calcd. for $\mathrm{C}_{22} \mathrm{H}_{22} \mathrm{ClNO}_{2}$ : C, $71.83 ; \mathrm{H}, 6.03 ; \mathrm{N}, 3.81$. Found: C, 72.01; H, 5.98; N, 3.53.

## Acknowledgments.

We thank the National Natural Science Foundation of China (No. 20372057), the Key Laboratory of Organic Synthesis of Jiangsu Province, College of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Suzhou University Open Foundation (No. JSK011) and the Key Lab of Biotechnology for Medicinal Plants of Jiangsu Province (01AXL 14) for financial support.

## REFERENCE AND NOTES

[1a] B. Wysocka-Skrzela and A. Ledochowski, Roccz. Chem., 50, 127 (1976); [b] A. Nasim and T. Brychey, Muta. Res., 65, 261, (1979); [c] U. Thull and B. Testa, Biochem. Pharmacol., 47, 2307 (1994); [d] E. Reil, M. Scoll, K. Masson and W. Oettmeier, Biochem. Soc. Trans., 22, 62 (1994); [e] Y. Mandi, K. Regely, I. Ocsovszky, J. Barbe, J. P. Galy and J. Molnar, Anticaner Res., 14, 2633 (1994).
[2a] J. M. Khurana, G.. C. Maikap and S. Mehta, Synthesis 731, (1990); [b] H. Matsumoto, T. Arai, M. Takahashi, T. Ashizawa, T. Nakano and Y. Nagai, Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn. 56, 3009 (1983); [c] T. Nakano, M. Takahashi, T. Arai, S. Seki, H. Matsumoto and Y. Nagai, Chem. Lett. 613, (1982).
[3] P. Shanmugasundaram, P. Amurugan, V. T. Ramakrishnam, N. Srividya and P. Ramamurthy, Heteroatom. Chem., 7, 17 (1996).
[4] N. Martin, M. Quinteio and C. Seoane, J. Heterocyclic Chem., 32, 235 (1995).
[5] M. Suarez, A. Loupy, E. Salfran, L. Moran and E. Rolando, Heterocycles 51, 21 (1999).
[6] S. J. Tu, Z. S. Lu, D. Q. Shi, C. S. Y. Yao, Gao and C. Guo, Synth. Commun., 32, 2181 (2002).
[7] V. Ondru?, M. Orság, L. Fi?era and N. Prónayová, Tetrahedron 55, 10425 (1999).
[8] P. Roman, H. Shengkui and D. C. Neckers, Photochem. and Photobio. A: Chem., 110, 79 (1997)
[9] C. Hubschwerlen, J. L. Specklin, C. H. Sigwalt and S. H. Locher, Bioorg. Med. Chem., 11, 2313 (2003).
[10] R. Gedye, F. Smith, K. Westawaym, A. Humera, L. Baldisern, L. Laberge and J. Rousell, Tetrahedron Lett., 27279 (1986),
[11] S. J. Tu, Q. H. Wei, H. J. Ma, D. Q. Shi, Y. Gao and G. Y. Cui, Synth. Commun., 17, 2675 (2001).
[12] S. J. Tu, D. Q. Shi and J. C. Feng, Chin. J. of Chem., 19, 714 (2001).
[13] T. Quiroga, C. Cisneros, B. Insuasty, R. Abonia, M. Nogueras and A. Sanchez, Tetrahedron Lett., 42, 5625 (2001).
[14] S. J. Tu, J. F. Zhou, P. J. Cai and J. Z. Feng, Synth. Commun., 24, 3729 (2001).
[15] S. J. Tu, Z. S. Lu, D. Q. Shi, C. S. Yao, Y. Gao and C. Guo, Synth. Commun., 14, 2181 (2002).
[16] S. J. Tu, C. B. Miao, Y. Gao, F. Fang, Q. Y. Zhuang, Y. J. Feng and D. Q. Shi, Synlett., 2, 255 (2004).
[17] The sing-crystal growth was carried out in ethanol at room temperature. X-ray crystallographicanalysis was performed with a Siemens SMART CCD and a Semens P4 diffractometer. Crystal data for 4a: $\mathrm{C}_{27} \mathrm{H}_{33} \mathrm{NO}_{4}$, yellow, crystal dimension $0.30 \times 0.22 \times 0.19 \mathrm{~mm}$, monoclinic, space group P21/n, $a=9.6559$ (11), $b=14.9830(16), c=16.5393$ (19) $\approx, \alpha=\gamma=90^{\circ}, \beta=102.754(1)^{\circ}, V=2333.8(5) \approx^{3}, M r=386.28, Z=4, D c=1.525$ $\mathrm{g} / \mathrm{cm}^{3}, \lambda=0.71070 \AA, \mu(\operatorname{Mok} \alpha)=0.082 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}, F(000)=9366, R_{l}=0.0607$, $w R_{2}=0.1290$. Crystal data for $\mathbf{4 1}: \mathrm{C}_{23} \mathrm{H}_{25} \mathrm{NO}_{3}$, yellow, crystal dimension $0.50 \times 0.30 \times 0.20 \mathrm{~mm}$, monoclinic, space group $\mathrm{P} 21 / \mathrm{c}, a=11.2668(10)$, $b=16.4542(12), c=10.8049(9) \approx, \alpha=\gamma=90^{\circ}, \beta=111.798(1)^{\circ}, V=2333.8(5)$ $\approx 3, M r=363.44, Z=4, D c=1.298 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{cm}^{3}, \lambda=0.71070 \AA, \mu($ Mok $\alpha)=0.085$ $\mathrm{mm}^{-1}, F(000)=776, R_{1}=0.0678, w R_{2}=0.1415$.

