

Domino Reactions of 4,5-Dicyanopyridazine with Dihydroheterocycles: Synthetic and Mechanistic Features

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Abstract: The title pyridazine **1** was found to react with both 2,3-dihydrofuran (**2**) and 3,4-dihydro-2H-pyran (**9**) to give the tetracyclic skeletons **5–8** and the phthalonitrile **12** through the intermediates **4** and **10**, respectively. A more complex mechanism was ascertained for the reaction of **1** with the pyrroline **14** which, under suitable conditions, afforded the bicyclic derivative **19** as the predominant product; selective elaborations of this species into the 5,6-dicyanoindoles **22** and **23** are reported.

Despite the scarce consideration enjoyed by monocyclic 1,2-diazines in the realm of polyazine azadienes as potential 4π electron components for intermolecular Hetero Diels–Alder (HDA) reactions,¹ a systematic investigation from our laboratory clearly demonstrated that 4,5-dicyanopyridazine (DCP) (**1**) readily functions as a more reactive counterpart with respect to the corresponding di- and tetraesters in [4+2] cycloadditions with a variety of dienophiles.² In particular, it reacted as a *masked or latent bis-diene* with different bis-dienophiles, providing a new excellent entry into carbo- and heterocage systems.³ The same synthon has also been exploited both for the synthesis of dicyanocyclohexa-1,3-dienes⁴ and as a straightforward complementary route to phthalonitriles.⁵ In this context, we wish now to report new results on the reactivity of **1** toward a few dihydroheterocycles containing electron-rich 2π moieties.

When DCP was allowed to react with a large excess of 2,3-dihydrofuran (DHF) (**2**) (molar ratio 1:10) in chloroform at 70 °C, we isolated the diastereomeric couples of the tetracyclic derivatives **5**, **6** and **7**, **8** in 88% and 6% yields as 3:1 and 1.5:1 regioisomeric mixtures, respec-

tively. The inverse electron-demand HDA reaction of **1** on the cyclic enol ether **2** leads to the labile adduct **3**,⁶ which gives rise to a retro Diels–Alder (DA) loss of nitrogen; the resulting compound **4** was then converted by further cycloadditions with **2** into the final products, whose formation can be regarded on the whole as the outcome of three-step pericyclic homodomo processes (Scheme 1).⁷ Although **4** could not be isolated, it was easily identified by spectral monitoring of the reaction course of **1** with a stoichiometric amount of DHF under the same conditions. After 30 h, the ¹H NMR spectrum clearly shows, together with the signals of **1** and **5–8**, two doublets at δ 6.87 and 6.70 for the diene protons and a doublet of doublets at δ 4.68 attributable to H-6; the resonances of the corresponding tertiary carbons were recognized in the ¹³C NMR pattern at δ 146.5, 140.7, and 71.1, respectively.

On going from **2** to the less reactive 3,4-dihydro-2H-pyran (DHP) (**9**), the complete disappearance of DCP was observed only after a week at 110 °C in anhydrous toluene with an excess of the reagent (molar ratio 1:10) to give phthalonitrile **12** in 68% yield; the intermediate **10** now prefers to aromatize by ring-opening affording **12** through alcohol **11** (Scheme 2).

A more intriguing picture was observed for the behavior of **1** toward pyrroline **14**. Treatment of DCP at room temperature with 1 equiv of **14**, generated in situ from salt **13** and potassium *tert*-butoxide (molar ratio 1:1.5) in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (THF), gave rise to a vigorous exothermic reaction leading in a few minutes to the total disappearance of the starting material; chromatographic workup of the resulting reaction mixture afforded the inseparable indolines **20** and **21** in 27% and 13% yields, respectively (Table 1, entry 1). Oxidation of this couple with 2,3-dichloro-5,6-dicyano-1,4-benzoquinone (DDQ) in refluxing benzene afforded almost quantitatively the corresponding indoles **22** and **23** but, again, they could not be resolved chromatographically.

Whereas **20** can be regarded as the result of a [4+2] cycloaddition of **1** on the extremely reactive thioketene aminal **14**, followed by elimination of nitrogen and methanethiol from **17**⁶ and **18**, the concomitant formation of **21** appeared less straightforward. According to the firmly established mechanistic pattern of the reactions of **1** with enamines,^{5b} it could be tentatively accounted for on the basis of a more complex, four-step domino process involving the highly conjugated dienamine **19** as the additional key intermediate; this species, arising from a [1,5] sigmatropic rearrangement of **18**, can then evolve into the final products **20** and **21** by loss of MeSH and H₂ fragments, respectively (Scheme 3).

To substantiate this hypothesis and with the aim of exploiting its synthetic potentialities, we decided to carry out the above reaction under milder conditions. Operating at 0 °C for 1 h (Table 1, entry 2), we isolated, along with **20** and **21**, the desired compound **19** in 8% yield and the pyrrolinyl-pyridazine **16** (9%) coming from a

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(3) (a) Nesi, R.; Giomi, D.; Turchi, S.; Paoli, P. *Tetrahedron* **1994**, *50*, 9189–9194. (b) Giomi, D.; Nesi, R.; Turchi, S.; Coppini, R. *J. Org. Chem.* **1996**, *61*, 6028–6030. (c) Giomi, D.; Nesi, R.; Turchi, S.; Mura, E. *J. Org. Chem.* **2000**, *65*, 360–364.

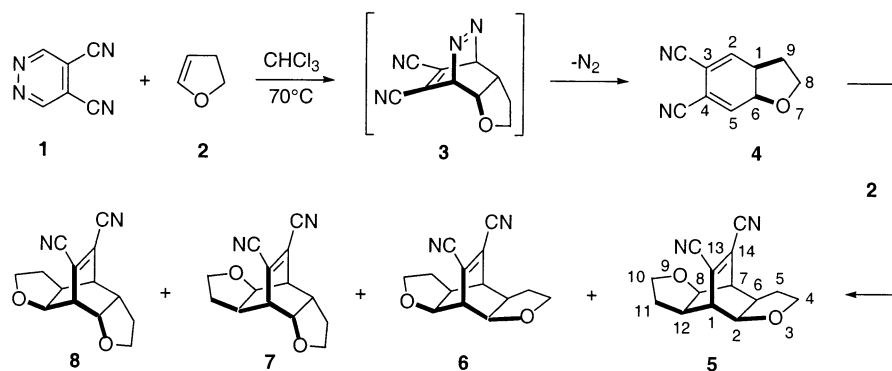
(4) Turchi, S.; Giomi, D.; Capaccioli, C.; Nesi, R. *Tetrahedron* **1997**, *53*, 11711–11720.

(5) (a) Turchi, S.; Nesi, R.; Giomi, D. *Tetrahedron* **1998**, *54*, 1809–1816. (b) Nesi, R.; Turchi, S.; Giomi, D.; Corsi, C. *Tetrahedron* **1998**, *54*, 10851–10856.

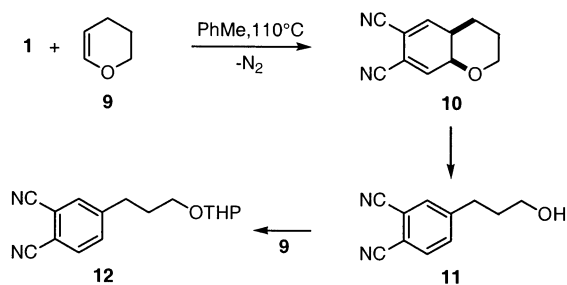
(6) The stereochemistry is portrayed arbitrarily.

(7) For a proper definition and classification of domino reactions, see: Tietze, L. F. *Chem. Rev.* **1996**, *96*, 115–136.

SCHEME 1



SCHEME 2



competitive nucleophilic attack of **14** upon the strongly electrophilic C-4 carbon of **1**, followed by replacement of the thiomethyl group by CN^- in the resulting derivative **15**. This intermediate could not be obtained as a pure product, but it was easily recognized in the reaction mixture afforded by **1** and *isolated* **14** at -78°C : whereas the ^1H NMR spectrum shows a singlet at δ 2.32 and two doublets at δ 8.71 and 9.71 for the SMe and pyridazine protons, the ^{13}C NMR pattern exhibits, together with the signals of the corresponding carbons at δ 17.5, 148.95, and 151.6, two diagnostic singlets at δ 150.5 and 104.4 for the pyrroline C(2')–C(3') double bond. Only a small increase of **19** was achieved under standard conditions at -78°C (Table 1, entry 3), the substitution route being favored by lower temperatures. On the contrary, when only 1 equiv of *t*-BuOK was employed for the generation of **14** and the reaction was carried out at 0°C , we succeeded in obtaining **19** in 51% yield together with minor amounts of **16** and **20** (Table 1, entry 4). Finally, the use of the *isolated* dienophile **14** under comparable conditions (Table 1, entry 5) allowed us to isolate **19** and **20** as pure products in 50% and 23% yields, respectively.

The isolation of **19** strongly supported the proposed mechanism, and its availability prompted us to perform selective elaborations. Whereas elimination of methanethiol, simply achieved by heating at 110°C in ethyl acetate or treatment with *t*-BuOK at room temperature for 24 h, led to the dicyanoindoline **20** in 98% and 93% yields, oxidation with a stoichiometric amount of DDQ at room temperature afforded **21** in 60% yield. Both **20** and **21** were then converted into the corresponding indoles **22** and **23** in 97% yield by DDQ in refluxing benzene; the latter was also obtained in 75% overall yield from **19** by a one-pot procedure with 2.1 equiv of the same reagent.

All the spectral data of the new products **5–8**, **12**, **16**, **19–21**, and **23** (Experimental Section) are in agreement

with the assigned structures, and only the most significant ones are discussed below. The stereo- and regiochemistry of compounds **5–8**, as well as their relative percentages in the isolated fractions, were determined on the basis of the following considerations:

(a) According to a C_2 and C_s symmetry of its components, coming from *endo/anti* approaches between **2** and **4**, the ^{13}C NMR spectrum of the largely predominant fraction shows seven resonances for **5** together with nine for **6**, the C-6, C-7, and C-8 carbons of the latter giving rise to a single signal at δ 43.4. On the contrary, 27 resonances are present in the pattern of the minor fraction, with an overlap at δ 77.8 for the C-2 carbons of the asymmetrical regioisomers **7** and **8** arising from *endo/sin* or *exo/anti* interactions of the same reagents.

(b) Whereas the ^1H NMR spectrum of **5** and **6** exhibit a multiplet at δ 4.07 and two triplets at δ 3.71 and 3.18 (relative intensities 8:1:1) for the *endo* protons vicinal to oxygen of the two isomers and H-1 and H-7 of the minor one, the pattern of the second couple is characterized by two well-resolved, diagnostic doublets of doublets at δ 4.41 and 4.31 and a triplet at δ 3.11 (relative intensities 1:1.5:1) attributable to the *exo*-H-2 protons of **8** and **7** and H-7 of the former, respectively.

(c) The lack of any ^1H NMR signal above δ 4.15 for the major fraction led us to discard less favorable diastereomers with *endo* tetrahydrofuran rings.

The presence of the fully conjugated N–C=C–C=C–C \equiv N moiety in **19** is well documented by its IR spectrum showing, together with a weak absorption at 2222 cm^{-1} for the 4-CN, a strong band at remarkably lower frequency (2175 cm^{-1}) for the second cyano substituent at position 3. Moreover, as a consequence of the push–pull electron drift, the diene CH group gives rise to notably shielded ^1H and ^{13}C NMR resonances at δ 4.69 and 83.2, respectively. Finally, the relative stereochemistry of **19**, suggested by a *supra* migration of the SMe group, was inferred from the comparison of the experimental $^3J_{1,2}$ coupling constant (10.0 Hz) with the theoretical values (12.1 and 4.3 Hz) obtained by molecular modeling calculations (Monte Carlo method in MacroModel) for rigid *trans* and *cis* configurations with dihedral angles of about 174° and 50° , respectively.

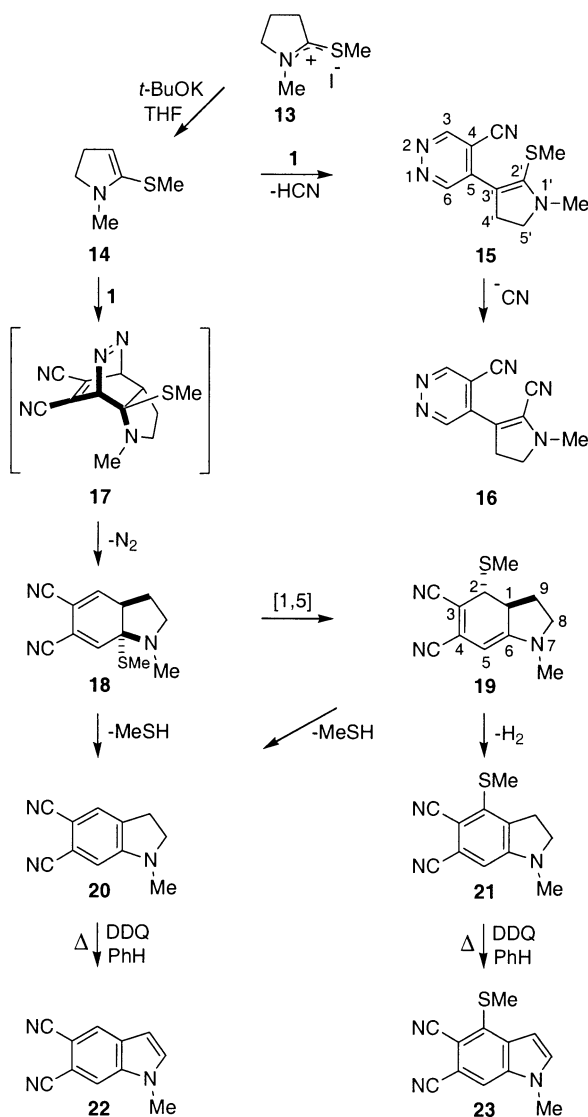
In summary, the results of this work emphasize a new facet of the cycloaddition chemistry of DCP with interesting mechanistic and synthetic implications. Particularly, the conversion of **1** and **14** into 5,6-dicyano-1-methylindole (**22**) in 70% overall yield through **19** and **20**

TABLE 1. Reactions of **1** with **14** in Anhydrous THF

entry	equiv			temp (°C)	time (min)	yield ^a (%)			
	13	<i>t</i> -BuOK	14			16	19	20^b	21^b
1 ^c	1	1.5	(1)	rt	10			27	13
2 ^c	1	1.5	(1)	0	60	9	8	14	14
3 ^c	1	1.5	(1)	-78	60	42	12	11	5
4 ^c	1	1	(1)	0	10	4	51	14	trace
5			1	0	30	2	50	23	

^a Isolated yields. ^b The yields of the inseparable indolines **20** and **21** were determined by ¹H NMR analyses of the isolated fractions, through their relative molar ratios. ^c **14** was generated in situ from **13** and *t*-BuOK.

SCHEME 3



represents an excellent alternative to the direct benzoan-
nelation of *N*-methylpyrrole with **1**, previously achieved
in only 17% yield.⁸

Experimental Section⁹

Reaction of **1 with DHF (**2**).** A mixture of **1** (0.065 g, 0.5 mmol) and **2** (0.351 g, 0.379 mL, 5.0 mmol) in chloroform (0.5 mL) was heated at 70 °C for 72 h in a screw-capped tube (Pyrex

N. 13). The residue left by evaporation to dryness under reduced pressure was resolved into two components with ethyl acetate/petroleum ether (2:1 v/v) as eluent. The first band afforded a 1.5:1 mixture of (2*SR*,6*SR*,8*RS*,12*RS*)-13,14-dicyano-3,9-dioxatetracyclo[5.5.2.0^{2,6}.0^{8,12}]tetradec-13-ene (**7**) and (2*SR*,6*SR*,8*SR*,12*RS*)-13,14-dicyano-3,11-dioxatetracyclo[5.5.2.0^{2,6}.0^{8,12}]tetradec-13-ene (**8**) as an ivory-colored solid (*R_f* 0.58, 0.007 g, 6%) that was crystallized from ether: IR 2213, 1073 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 1.70–2.25 (m), 2.34–2.56 (m), 2.71–2.87 (m), 2.91–3.07 (m), [3.11 (t, *J* = 3.2 Hz)], 3.31–3.49 (m), 3.68–3.93 (m), 3.98–4.13 (m), 4.31 (dd, *J* = 8.0 and 3.2 Hz), [4.41 (dd, *J* = 8.0 and 3.2 Hz)]; ¹³C NMR δ 26.8, [27.2], 30.3, [31.1], 36.2, [36.85], 39.45, [40.7], [44.25], 44.3, 45.4, [45.8], [66.8], 66.95, [70.9], 71.1, [76.3], 76.8, 77.8, 114.2, [114.4], [114.45], 114.6, 128.5, [129.9], [132.7], 134.1.¹⁰ Anal. Calcd for C₁₄H₁₄N₂O₂: C, 69.41; H, 5.82; N, 11.56. Found: C, 69.19; H, 5.83; N, 11.32.

The following band gave a 3:1 mixture of (2*RS*,6*RS*,8*RS*,12*RS*)-13,14-dicyano-3,9-dioxatetracyclo[5.5.2.0^{2,6}.0^{8,12}]tetradec-13-ene (**5**) and (2*RS*,6*RS*,8*SR*,12*SR*)-13,14-dicyano-3,11-dioxatetracyclo[5.5.2.0^{2,6}.0^{8,12}]tetradec-13-ene (**6**) as a white solid (*R_f* 0.35, 0.107 g, 88%) that was crystallized from ether/acetone: IR 2220, 1096, 1069 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 1.30–1.52 (m), 2.01–2.22 (m), 2.34–2.56 (m), [3.18 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz)], 3.36–3.54 (m), [3.71 (t, *J* = 3.0 Hz)], 3.78–3.92 (m), 4.07 (m); ¹³C NMR δ 30.1, [30.4], 39.6, [43.4], 44.9, [46.4], 68.3, [68.4], [77.9], 80.2, [114.8], 114.9, [115.0], [128.1], 129.2, [130.4].¹⁰ Anal. Calcd for C₁₄H₁₄N₂O₂: C, 69.41; H, 5.82; N, 11.56. Found: C, 69.66; H, 6.08; N, 11.29.

1,2-Dicyano-4-[3-(tetrahydropyran-2-yloxy)propyl]benzene (12**).** Chromatographic workup [toluene/ethyl acetate (9:1 v/v)] of the residue coming from the reaction of **1** (0.065 g, 0.5 mmol) and **9** (0.421 g, 0.457 mL, 5.0 mmol) at 110 °C for 7 days in anhydrous toluene (0.5 mL) in the presence of a small amount of hydroquinone (0.006 g, 0.05 mmol) afforded phthalonitrile **12** (*R_f* 0.20, 0.092 g, 68%) as a pale yellow oil. An analytical sample was obtained by dissolution in ether, filtration, evaporation to dryness, and prolonged evacuation at 10⁻² Torr: IR 2235 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR δ 1.44–1.98 (m, 8H), 2.85 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 3.35–3.56 (m, 2H), 3.69–3.90 (m, 2H), 4.53 (dd, *J* = 5.1 and 3.3 Hz, 1H), 7.56 (dd, *J* = 8.1 and 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 19.7, 25.35, 30.5, 30.6, 32.4, 62.65, 65.9, 99.1, 113.1, 115.5, 115.55, 115.7, 133.4, 133.45, 133.7, 148.9. Anal. Calcd for C₁₆H₁₈N₂O₂: C, 71.09; H, 6.71; N, 10.36. Found: C, 70.85; H, 6.82; N, 10.54.

Reactions of **1 with the Pyrroline **14**: Synthesis of Compounds **16**, **19**, and **20**.** (A) A suspension of **13**¹¹ (0.129 g, 0.5 mmol) and *t*-BuOK (0.084 g, 0.75 mmol) in anhydrous THF (1 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 1 h; after the mixture was cooled at -78 °C, a solution of **1** (0.065 g, 0.5 mmol) in the same solvent (0.5 mL) was added and the mixture was set aside at the same temperature for 1 h. The residue left by evaporation to dryness was triturated with acetone and filtered; the solid recovered from the filtrate was resolved into three components with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1 v/v). While the first band afforded a 2:1 mixture of the indolines **20** and **21** (*R_f* 0.51, 0.016 g), the second one yielded (1*SR*,2*RS*)-3,4-dicyano-7-methyl-2-

(10) The values in square brackets refer to the minor component.

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(9) General experimental information was given in: Giomi, D.; Turchi, S.; Danesi, A.; Faggi, C. *Tetrahedron* **2001**, 57, 4237–4242.

methylthio-7-azabicyclo[4.3.0]nona-3,5-diene (**19**) (R_f 0.29, 0.014 g, 12%) as yellow crystals: mp 127–128 °C (from ether); IR 2222, 2175 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H NMR}$ δ 1.67–1.89 (m, 1H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.43–2.58 (m, 1H), 2.92 (s, 3H), 2.99–3.17 (m, 1H), 3.31 (d, A part of an ABMX system, $J_{AB} = 16.9$ Hz, 1H), 3.47–3.64 (m, 1H), 3.54 (dd, $J = 10.0$ and 1.0 Hz, 1H), 4.69 (sbr s, 1H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ δ 12.8, 29.5, 33.1, 45.2, 46.4, 54.0, 83.2, 100.65, 116.45, 118.0, 128.4, 159.1. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_3\text{S}$: C, 62.31; H, 5.66; N, 18.17. Found: C, 62.35; H, 5.39; N, 18.30.

The slowest moving fractions gave 4-cyano-5-(2-cyano-1-methyl-4,5-dihydropyrrol-3-yl)pyridazine (**16**) (R_f 0.18, 0.044 g, 42%), as red coral crystals: mp 129–130 °C (from ether); IR 2236, 2215 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H NMR}$ δ 3.05 (s, 3H), 3.51 (m, 4H), 9.04 (d, $J = 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 9.70 (d, $J = 1.1$ Hz, 1H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ δ 30.7, 36.5, 53.9, 104.2, 111.5, 115.05, 116.0, 128.5, 133.6, 147.3, 151.6. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_9\text{N}_5$: C, 62.55; H, 4.29; N, 33.16. Found: C, 62.23; H, 4.11; N, 33.40.

(B) When the above reaction was carried out at 0 °C, chromatographic workup of the raw product afforded, together with a 1:1 mixture of **20** and **21** (0.029 g), compounds **19** (0.009 g, 8%) and **16** (0.010 g, 9%), identical with the species previously obtained.

(C) Operating as above at room temperature for 10 min, a 2:1 mixture of **20** and **21** (0.040 g) was isolated.

(D) When the generation of **14** was achieved from **13** with a stoichiometric amount of *t*-BuOK (0.056 g, 0.5 mmol) and the reaction with **1** was carried out at 0 °C for 10 min, compound **20** with a trace amount of **21** (0.013 g) was obtained along with the derivatives **19** (0.059 g, 51%) and **16** (0.004 g, 4%).

(E) A solution of **1** (0.065 g, 0.5 mmol) in anhydrous THF (2 mL) was added within 30 min under stirring in nitrogen atmosphere to a solution of the *isolated* pyrroline **14**¹¹ (0.065 g, 0.5 mmol) in the same solvent (1 mL) previously cooled at 0 °C. Operating as above, the raw product was resolved into three components. The fastest running band afforded 5,6-dicyano-1-methyl-2,3-dihydroindole (**20**) (R_f 0.51, 0.021 g, 23%) as a pale yellow solid which, after crystallization from ether, gradually darkened above 197 °C and melted at 208–209 °C: IR 2228, 2211 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H NMR}$ δ 2.87 (s, 3H), 3.08 (t, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 3.64 (t, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 6.46 (s, 1H), 7.21 (sbr s, 1H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ δ 27.7, 33.55, 54.3, 101.4, 107.8, 116.3, 116.5, 117.3, 127.8, 135.0, 155.4. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_9\text{N}_3\text{S}$: C, 72.11; H, 4.95; N, 22.94. Found: C, 71.85; H, 4.70; N, 23.05.

The following bands gave compounds **19** (0.058 g, 50%) and **16** (0.002 g, 2%).

Reactions of the Bicyclic Derivative 19. (A) A solution of **19** (0.023 g, 0.1 mmol) in ethyl acetate (1.5 mL) was heated at 110 °C for 24 h in a screw-capped tube (Pyrex N. 13). Removal

of the solvent yielded the indoline **20** (0.018 g, 98%), identical with the product obtained above.

(B) A mixture of **19** (0.023 g, 0.1 mmol) and potassium *tert*-butoxyde (0.012 g, 0.11 mmol) in anhydrous THF (0.5 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 24 h. Chromatographic workup of the residue left by evaporation to dryness afforded compound **20** (0.017 g, 93%).

(C) A suspension of **19** (0.116 g, 0.5 mmol) and DDQ (0.125 g, 0.55 mmol) in anhydrous benzene (2.5 mL) was kept at room temperature under magnetic stirring for 24 h. Chromatographic resolution [petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1 v/v)] of the brown solid left by evaporation to dryness gave 5,6-dicyano-1-methyl-4-methylthio-2,3-dihydroindole (**21**) (R_f 0.50, 0.069 g, 60%) as yellow needles: mp 148–149 °C (from ether); IR 2229, 2211 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H NMR}$ δ 2.51 (s, 3H), 2.88 (s, 3H), 3.17 (t, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 3.67 (t, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 6.40 (s, 1H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ δ 18.2, 28.3, 33.6, 53.85, 105.5, 106.9, 116.3, 116.35, 118.3, 136.4, 138.65, 154.85. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_3\text{S}$: C, 62.86; H, 4.84; N, 18.33. Found: C, 62.71; H, 4.72; N, 18.05.

5,6-Dicyano-1-methyl-1H-indole (22). A mixture of **20** (0.092 g, 0.5 mmol) and DDQ (0.125 g, 0.55 mmol) in anhydrous benzene (2 mL) was refluxed with stirring for 12 h. Removal of the solvent left a residue that was subjected to flash chromatography with petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (1:1 v/v) as eluent to give compound **22** (R_f 0.42, 0.088 g, 97%) as an ivory-colored solid: mp 257 °C (after sublimation at 120–130 °C/10⁻² Torr) (lit.¹² mp 257–258 °C).

5,6-Dicyano-1-methyl-4-methylthio-1H-indole (23). (A) Operating as above, reaction of **21** (0.115 g, 0.5 mmol) with DDQ (0.125 g, 0.55 mmol) gave compound **23** (R_f 0.41, 0.110 g, 97%) as ivory-colored needles: mp 199–200 °C (from ether); IR 2228, 2220 cm^{-1} ; $^1\text{H NMR}$ δ 2.64 (s, 3H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 6.87 (dd, $J = 3.3$ and 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, $J = 3.3$ Hz, 1H), 8.35 (d, $J = 0.8$ Hz, 1H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ δ 18.5, 33.45, 102.7, 105.8, 107.1, 116.3, 117.3, 117.4, 132.0, 135.5, 135.6, 136.4. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_9\text{N}_3\text{S}$: C, 63.41; H, 3.99; N, 18.49. Found: C, 63.53; H, 4.00; N, 18.65.

(B) A mixture of **19** (0.116 g, 0.5 mmol) and DDQ (0.238 g, 1.05 mmol) in anhydrous benzene (5 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 24 h and then refluxed for 12 h. Chromatographic workup of the raw product afforded the derivative **23** (R_f 0.41, 0.085 g, 75%), identical with the species previously described.

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