

*Short Communication*

**Transformation of Acridines and Azepines into the Corresponding 3-Oxo-heterocycles by Means of Hypervalent Aromatic Iodine Compounds**

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**Summary.** The acridines **3**, **5**, and **6**, as well as the dibenzo[b,f]-azepine **4** were converted into the 3-oxo-derivatives **7–10** using hypervalent iodine compounds (iodosylbenzene and bis-(trifluoroacetoxy)iodopentafluorobenzene).

**Keywords.** Bis-(trifluoroacetoxy)pentafluoroiodobenzene; Iodosylbenzene; Oxidation; Heterocycles.

**Oxidation von Acridinen und Azepinen in ihre 3-Oxoderivate mit Hilfe von hypervalenten aromatischen Jodverbindungen (Kurze Mitt.)**

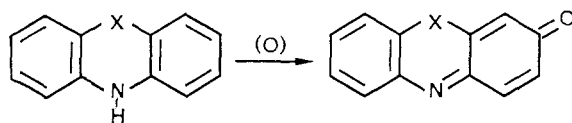
**Zusammenfassung.** Die Acridine **3**, **5** und **6** sowie das Dibenzo[b,f]azepin **4** wurden mit Hilfe der beiden hypervalenten Jod-Verbindungen Jodosobenzol (**1**) und Bis-trifluoroacetoxyiodbenzol (**2**) zu den entsprechenden 3-Acridinonen **7**, **9** und **10** sowie zum Dibenzoazepin-3-on **8** oxidiert.

**Introduction**

Hypervalent iodine compounds have been extensively studied for eighty years [1], but interest in their use as oxidant of amines is relatively new [1, 2]. The few reports of the synthesis of 3-oxo heterocycles from acridines and derivatives prompted us to plan their preparation by oxidation of amines by hypervalent iodo compounds such as iodosylbenzene (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>IO, **1**) and bis(trifluoroacetoxy)pentafluoroiodobenzene [C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>5</sub>I(OCOCF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, **2**]; the latter compound was chosen for its high solubility in organic solvents. The reaction we report in this contribution is to our knowledge a new way to synthesize 3-oxo derivatives of acridines.

**Results and Discussion**

The reaction was carried out at room temperature with different heterocyclic amines in methanol as solvent with **1** and acetonitrile-water (2/1, v/v) with **2**. The results are summarized in Scheme 1.



Substrates		Products	
3	X = S	7	70% <sup>a</sup> , 80% <sup>b</sup>
4	X = CH=CH	8	20% <sup>a</sup> , 46% <sup>b</sup>
5	X = O	9	70% <sup>a</sup> , <sup>b</sup>
6	X = C(C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	10	50% <sup>a</sup> , <sup>b</sup>

a: with 1 in CH<sub>3</sub>OH

b: with 2 in CH<sub>3</sub>CN-H<sub>2</sub>O (2:1)

Under these conditions, phenothiazine (**3**) was converted into phenothiazin-3-one (**7**) with good yield with both oxidants **1** and **2**.

Dibenzo[b, f]azepine (**4**) led to dibenzo[b, f]azepin-3-one **8** [4] with a yield of 46% with **2**, whereas Fremy's salt and iodylbenzene in the presence of vanadylacetylacetonate formed 9-carbaldehyde acridine as a major product with only a minute quantity of 3-oxo derivative [4, 5].

Phenoxazin-3-one (**9**) [6] was obtained from **5** with identical yields with **1** and **2**. 9,9-Diphenylacridine **6** gave the 9,9-diphenylacridin-3-one **10** in better yields with **1** and **2** (50%), compared to Fremy's salt (20%).

The structures of the 3-oxo derivatives were determined from the spectroscopic data (IR and <sup>1</sup>H-NMR) and melting points after separation by chromatographic column and comparison with original samples obtained with Fremy's salt [7].

In conclusion, this reaction affords a convenient route to 3-oxo-heterocycles from acridine derivatives and azepines.

## Experimental

Phenothiazine (**3**) and dibenzo[b, f]azepine (**4**) were purchased from EGA-Chemie, phenoxazine (**5**) from Janssen Chimica. All these products were purified by crystallization before use. Fremy's salt was prepared by Zimmer's procedure [7]. Iodosylbenzene and bis(trifluoroacetoxy)pentafluoroiodobenzene were obtained by literature procedures [8, 9]. 9,9-Diphenylacridine (**6**) was synthesized according to [10].

Infrared spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 1310 model and NMR spectra were taken on an H.P.E. 24 B spectrometer (60 MHz) or a Bruker (AC 300) (300 MHz). Melting points are given uncorrected as recorded with a Buchi melting-point apparatus.

### Physical Data

**7**: M.p. 156–160°C (Lit. 161° [11]); IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1 620, 1 600; NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 6.5–8 ppm.

**8**: M.p. 134°C (Lit. 134–136°C [4]); IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1 640, 1 620; NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 6.6 ppm (1 H, d, *J*=2 Hz), 6.78 ppm (1 H, d, *J*=9 Hz), 6.9–7.0 ppm (2 H, m), 7.4–7.6 ppm (4 H, m), 7.92 ppm (1 H, dd, *J*=9 and 2 Hz).

**9:** M.p. 208–210°C (Lit. 215°C [6]); IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1 650, 1 620; NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 6.2 ppm (1 H, d, *J*=9 Hz), 7.6–7.2 ppm (6 H, m).

**10:** M.p. 172–173°C; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1 635, 1 615; NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 7.4–6.6 ppm (16 H, m), 5.8 ppm (1 H, s).

#### *Oxidation of 9,9-Diphenylacridine (6) with Fremy's Salt*

A solution of Fremy's salt (2.6 g, 9.7 mmol) and disodium phosphate (1.99 g, 14 mmol) in water (95 ml) was added to 9,9-diphenylacridine (1 g, 3 mmol) in acetone (70 ml). The solution was stirred for 20 min. The mixture was chromatographed on silicagel (hexane/ethylacetate 2/1). We obtained 603 mg. M.p. 171–173°C; IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1 636, 1 615; NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 7.7 ppm (1 H, d, 8.5 Hz), 7.2–7.4 ppm (4 H), 6.9–7.0 ppm (10 H), 6.6 ppm (1 H, dd, 9 Hz and 2 Hz), 6.3 ppm (1 H, d, 2 Hz).

#### *Oxidation of Heterocyclic Amines with Iodosylbenzene*

Iodosylbenzene (120 mg, 0.524 mmol) was stirred in methanol (5 ml) for 5 min. Amines (0.250 mmol) dissolved into acetonitrile-water (3 ml, 2/1, *v/v*) was added. The reaction was monitored by TLC (silica, benzene/ethylacetate 9/1). The solution was extracted with ether and the products were purified by column chromatography.

#### *Oxidation with Bis(trifluoroacetoxy)pentafluoriodobenzene*

0.250 mmol of amines in methanol (3 ml) was added to the oxidant (260 mg, 0.5 mmol) dissolved in acetonitrile/water (3 ml, 2/1, *v/v*) and stirred for 1 h. The solution was purified by column chromatography.

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