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SYNTHESIS OF 3-(2-ARYL-1H-INDOL-3-YL)-4-AROYL-5-ARYLISOXAZOLINES

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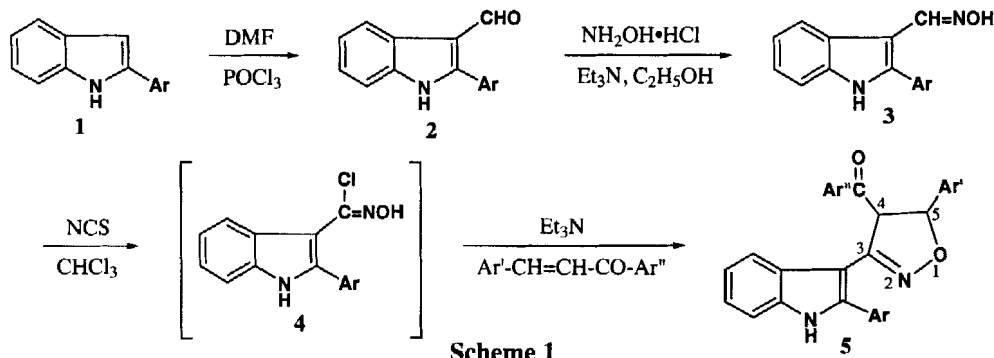
SYNTHESIS OF 3-(2-ARYL-1H-INDOL-3-YL)-4-AROYL-5-ARYLISOXAZOLINES

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Isoxazolines are useful as intermediates in organic synthesis and possess a broad range of biological activities such as antibacterial and antifungal,¹ antiinflammatory,² antiviral,³ herbicidal,⁴ neurotropic and antitumor,⁵ vasodilating, anticoagulant and cardio-protective activities,⁶ glycoprotein IIb/ IIIa antagonistic,⁷ anti-HIV and antidepressant activities.⁸ They also act as novel inhibitors of cyclooxygenase-2 with analgesic activity⁹ and inhibitors of human leukocyte elastase (HLE) and cathepsin G (Cath G).¹⁰ Isoxazolines have been utilized as scaffolds for peptidomimetics,¹¹ and core structures in medicinal chemistry. Indole derivatives also constitute an important class of therapeutic agents in medicinal chemistry including anticancer,¹² antioxi-

nant,¹³ antirheumatoid,¹⁴ anti-HIV^{15,16} and antimicrobial activities.^{17,18} With these observations in mind, we coupled two pharmacophores, indole and isoxazoline, in the hope to achieve more potent pharmaceutical results and now report the synthesis of 3-(2-aryl-1H-indol-3-yl)-4-aryl-5-arylisoxazolines by treatment of indolyl nitriloxides with chalcones.



2-Aryl-1H-indoles (**1**) were subjected to Vilsmeier-Haack formylation¹⁹ with *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) and phosphorus oxychloride (POCl_3) to give 2-aryl-1H-indole-3-carboxaldehydes (**2**), which on treatment with hydroxylamine hydrochloride and triethylamine (Et_3N) in ethyl alcohol gave indolylaloximes (**3**); they were subsequently converted into the nitriloxides by treatment with *N*-chlorosuccinimide (NCS) in the presence of triethylamine *in situ* in the presence of chalcones to afford the title compounds (**5a-j**) regioselectively. The cycloaddition of nitriloxides to chalcones may lead to the formation of two isomeric intermediate species. However, the intermediate that consists anionic charge being conjugated to the carbonyl group is expected to be more stable, hence this intermediate will be formed preferentially and will afford the title compounds through intramolecular cyclization. The physical and analytical data of compounds (**5a-j**) are given in **Tables 1** and **2**.

Compounds (**5a-j**) were screened for their antimicrobial activity against the gram-positive bacteria *Staphylococcus aureus* and gram-negative bacteria *Escherichia coli* and fungi *Aspergillus flavus* and *Aspergillus niger* at different concentration by inhibition zone technique.²⁰ Streptomycin and betadine were used as reference compounds for evaluating the antibacterial and antifungal activities, respectively. Compounds (**5f-j**) showed enhanced antibacterial and antifungal activity which could be attributed to the presence of methoxy in the aroyl group and fluorine in the aryl group attached to the isoxazoline ring. The possible use of these compounds as drugs is being explored.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

All the melting points were determined in open glass capillary tubes and are uncorrected. The IR spectra (ν_{max} in cm^{-1}) were recorded on a Perkin Elmer 557 grating infrared spectrophotometer in KBr pellets. PMR spectra were recorded on Bruker spectrophotometer (300 MHz) using CDCl_3

as a solvent. TMS was used as internal standard (chemical shift in δ , ppm). Mass spectra were recorded on Jeol SX-102 (FAB) mass spectrometer. The purity of the compounds was checked by TLC using silica gel-G as adsorbent, UV light or iodine accomplished visualization. 2-Arylindoles (**1**) were prepared by the method of Joshi *et al.*²¹ 2-Arylindole-3-carboxaldehydes (**2**) and chalcones were prepared by the literature method.^{19,22}

Synthesis of Indolyldoximes (3a-e).- A mixture of 2-aryl-1H-indole-3-carboxaldehyde (**2**) (2 mmol), hydroxylamine hydrochloride (2.2 mmol, 0.15 g) and triethylamine (2.2 mmol, 0.3 mL) in ethyl alcohol (25 mL) was refluxed on a steam bath for 1 hr. After completion of the reaction (checked by TLC), ethanol was removed by distillation on the steam bath. Addition of a small amount of water to the cooled residue followed by cooling and stirring in an ice bath gave the oxime as a crystalline solid, which was collected, washed with a little water and dried. Recrystallise from ethanol.

Table 1. Physical and Analytical Data of 3-(2-Aryl-1H-indol-3-yl)-4-aryl-5-arylisoxazolines (**5a-j**)

Cmpd	Ar	Ar'	Ar''	mp. (°C)	(Found) Calcd		
					C	H	N
5a	C ₆ H ₅	C ₆ H ₅	C ₆ H ₅	88-90	(81.47)	(4.98)	(6.31)
					81.44	4.97	6.33
5b	4-BrC ₆ H ₄	C ₆ H ₅	C ₆ H ₅	106-108	(69.24)	(4.05)	(5.36)
					69.23	4.03	5.38
5c	4-ClC ₆ H ₄	C ₆ H ₅	C ₆ H ₅	98-100	(75.56)	(4.43)	(5.88)
					75.55	4.40	5.87
5d	4-FC ₆ H ₄	C ₆ H ₅	C ₆ H ₅	92-93	(78.29)	(4.54)	(6.07)
					78.26	4.56	6.08
5e	3-NO ₂ C ₆ H ₄	C ₆ H ₅	C ₆ H ₅	110-112	(73.91)	(4.33)	(8.61)
					73.92	4.31	8.62
5f	C ₆ H ₅	4-FC ₆ H ₄	4-CH ₃ OC ₆ H ₄	102-103	(75.90)	(4.71)	(5.70)
					75.91	4.69	5.71
5g	4-BrC ₆ H ₄	4-FC ₆ H ₄	4-CH ₃ OC ₆ H ₄	136-138	(65.47)	(3.89)	(4.90)
					65.49	3.87	4.92
5h	4-ClC ₆ H ₄	4-FC ₆ H ₄	4-CH ₃ OC ₆ H ₄	130-131	(70.91)	(4.20)	(5.31)
					70.92	4.19	5.33
5i	4-FC ₆ H ₄	4-FC ₆ H ₄	4-CH ₃ OC ₆ H ₄	124-126	(73.24)	(4.34)	(5.50)
					73.22	4.33	5.51
5j	3-NO ₂ C ₆ H ₄	4-FC ₆ H ₄	4-CH ₃ OC ₆ H ₄	142-144	(71.69)	(4.24)	(8.11)
					71.67	4.23	8.09

Generation of Indolyhydroximoyl Chlorides (4a-e).- A mixture of indolyldoxime (**3a-e**) (1 mmol) and NCS (1.1 mmol, 0.15 g) in chloroform (20 mL) was refluxed on a water bath for 1 hr.

Table 2. Spectral Data of 3-(2-Aryl-1H-indol-3-yl)-4-aryloxy-5-arylisoxazolines (**5a-j**)

Cmpd	IR (KBr)(cm ⁻¹)	¹ H NMR (CDCl ₃) δ (ppm)	MS (FAB) m/z
5a	3320 (NH str.), 3050 (aromatic C-H str.), 2875 (aliphatic C-H str.), 1710 (C=O str.), 1575 (C=N str.)	8.5 (s, NH, 1H), 7 – 7.7 (m, Ar-H, 19H), 3.44 (d, H-5, 1H, J=6 Hz), 3.39 (d, H-4, 1H, J=6 Hz)	443 (M ⁺ + 1)
5b	3263 (NH str.), 3050 (aromatic C-H str.), 2838 (aliphatic C-H str.), 1663 (C=O str.), 1562 (C=N str.), 525 (C-Br)	8 (s, NH, 1H), 7.2 – 7.7 (m, Ar-H, 18H), 3.74 (d, H-5, 1H, J=6.9 Hz), 3.70 (d, H-4, 1H, J=6.9 Hz)	520 / 522* (M ⁺ + 1)
5c	3240 (NH str.), 3040 (aromatic C-H str.), 2840 (aliphatic C-H str.), 1710 (C=O str.), 1580 (C=N str.), 735 (C-Cl)	8.3 (s, NH, 1H), 7.1 – 8.2 (m, Ar-H, 18H), 3.42 (d, H-5, 1H, J=6.9 Hz), 3.37 (d, H-4, 1H, J=6.9 Hz)	477 / 479* (M ⁺ + 1)
5d	3263 (NH str.), 3050 (aromatic C-H str.), 2840 (aliphatic C-H str.), 1663 (C=O str.), 1600 (C=N str.), 1100 (C-F)	8.4 (s, NH, 1H), 8 – 8.3 (m, Ar-H, 18H), 4.25 (d, H-5, 1H, J=6.9 Hz), 4.21 (d, H-4, 1H, J=6.9 Hz)	461 (M ⁺ + 1)
5e	3313 (NH str.), 3050 (aromatic C-H str.), 2856 (aliphatic C-H str.), 1583 (C=O str.), 1609 (C=N str.), 1338(-NO ₂)	8.3 (s, NH, 1H), 7.1 – 8.2 (m, Ar-H, 18H), 3.43 (d, H-5, 1H, J=6.9 Hz), 3.38 (d, H-4, 1H, J=6.9 Hz)	488 (M ⁺ + 1)
5f	3175 (NH str.), 3050 (aromatic C-H str.), 2850 (aliphatic C-H str.), 1713 (C=O str.), 1563 (C=N str.), 1083 (C-F)	8.5 (s, NH, 1H), 7.1 – 7.3 (m, Ar-H, 17H), 3.50 (d, H-5, 1H, J=6.9 Hz), 3.46(d, H-4, 1H, J=6.9 Hz), 3.6 (s, OCH ₃ , 3H)	491 (M ⁺ + 1)
5g	3263 (NH str.), 3025 (aromatic C-H str.), 2838 (aliphatic C-H str.), 1663 (C=O str.), 1609 (C=N str.), 1100 (C-F), 525 (C-Br)	8.2 (s, NH, 1H), 7 – 7.5 (m, Ar-H, 16H), 3.43 (d, H-5, 1H, J=6.9 Hz), 3.38 (d, H-4, 1H, J=6.9 Hz), 3.5 (s, OCH ₃ , 3H)	568 / 570* (M ⁺ + 1)
5h	3175 (NH str.), 3050 (aromatic C-H str.), 2836 (aliphatic C-H str.), 1706 (C=O str.), 1575 (C=N str.), 1106 (C-F), 745 (C-Cl)	8.8 (s, NH, 1H), 7.1 – 7.8 (m, Ar-H, 16H), 3.43 (d, H-5, 1H, J=6 Hz), 3.39 (d, H-4, 1H, J=6 Hz), 3.5 (s, OCH ₃ , 3H)	525 / 527* (M ⁺ + 1)
5i	3312 (NH str.), 3038 (aromatic C-H str.), 2838 (aliphatic C-H str.), 1656 (C=O str.), 1588 (C=N str.), 1100 (C-F)	8.2 (s, NH, 1H), 7 – 7.5 (m, Ar-H, 16H), 3.43 (d, H-5, 1H, J=6.9 Hz), 3.38 (d, H-4, 1H, J=6.9 Hz), 3.5 (s, OCH ₃ , 3H)	509 (M ⁺ + 1)
5j	3263 (NH str.), 3050 (aromatic C-H str.), 2838 (aliphatic C-H str.), 1706 (C=O str.), 1603 (C=N str.), 1086 (C-F), 1338 (-NO ₂)	8.2 (s, NH, 1H), 7 – 7.5 (m, Ar-H, 16H), 3.43 (d, H-5, 1H, J=6.9 Hz), 3.38 (d, H-4, 1H, J=6.9 Hz), 3.5 (s, OCH ₃ , 3H)	520 (M ⁺ + 1)

After completion of the reaction (checked by TLC), the solution of the indolyhydroximoyl chloride was cooled and used for further reaction without isolation. The end point of the chlorination is reached when the solid has dissolved and color of solution changes yellow to dark red. Since the lifetime of the nitroxides is too short for isolation, the solution must be used immediately in the reaction with the chalcones.

Synthesis of 3-(2-Aryl-1H-indol-3-yl)-4-aroyl-5-arylisoxazolines (5a-j).- To a stirred solution of (4) (1 mmol in 15 mL chloroform) was added the chalcone (1 mmol in 10 mL chloroform), followed by the dropwise addition of triethylamine (1 mmol in 5 mL chloroform) over 30 minutes at room temperature. Stirring was continued for 45 minutes until the completion of the reaction (checked by TLC). The solution was washed with 2N NaOH solution (3 x 25 mL) followed by water (3 x 25 mL). After drying over magnesium sulfate, the solvent was evaporated *in vacuo* to give products which were purified by column chromatography over silica gel-G using the benzene, petroleum ether solvent system.

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