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AN UNEXPECTED CYCLIZATION DURING NUCLEOPHILIC ADDITION OF 5-MERCAPTOQUINOLINE TO PHENYLACETYLENE

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AN UNEXPECTED CYCLIZATION DURING NUCLEOPHILIC ADDITION OF 5-MERCAPTOQUINOLINE TO PHENYLACETYLENE

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Reaction of 5-mercaptoquinoline with phenylacetylene (KOH, dioxane, 160–170°C, 1 h, autoclave) gives (along with the normal adduct Z-5-styrylthioquinoline) 3-phenylthiopyrano[4,3,2-d,e]quinoline, the product of a unique intramolecular nucleophilic substitution of hydrogen by carbanion at position 4 of the quinoline ring.

Keywords: 5-Mercaptoquinoline; 3-phenylthiopyrano[4,3,2-d,e]quinoline; carbanion; nucleophilic addition; nucleophilic substitution; phenylacetylene; Z-5-styrylthioquinoline

The synthesis of novel derivatives of quinoline remains an important synthetic task as some of them are structural analogs of alkaloids, enzyme inhibitors, antibiotics, as well as antitumor and antiviral medicines. ^{7,8}

This article reports on the preliminary results of investigation of nucleophilic addition of 5-mercaptoquinoline 1 to phenylacetylene 2 carried out with the aim to prepare novel derivatives of quinoline, prospective synthetic intermediates, and candidates for medicines.

Phenylacetylene is known to react with thiol and thion compounds $[(NH_2)_2C=S, EtS(C=S)OEt]$ in superbase catalytic media (KOH, DMSO, 80–140°C) to form *E*- and *Z*-isomers of distyrylsulfides. Heterocyclic thiones (pyridine-, pyrimidine-, and quinoline-2-thiones) interact with phenylacetylene under harsh conditions (autoclave, KOH, dioxane, water, $160-200^{\circ}C$, 1 h) producing *Z*-isomers of the corresponding styrylsulfides only. 14-16 5-Mercaptoquinoline 1 has not been studied as nucleophile in this reaction.

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Meanwhile, as bifunctional nucleophile (pyridine moieties are also known to react with the triple bond)¹⁷ it might react with acetylenes competitively by either its thiol or pyridine function or both, thus paving the way to a new family of the quinoline-tailored compounds.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The experiments have shown that the reaction under conditions analogous to those used for the preparation of styryl derivatives of pyridine-, pyrimidine-, and quinoline-2-thiones (autoclave, KOH, dioxane, 160–170°C, 1 h), $^{14-16}$ takes an unexpected direction. Along with the anticipated Z-5-styrylthioquinoline **3** (30% yield), a cyclic product, 3-phenylthiopyrano[4,3,2-d,e]quinoline **4** (17% yield) has been isolated from the reaction mixture (Scheme 1).

SCHEME 1

Formation of thiopyranoquinoline **4** is likely to result from intramolecular attack of carbanion **5** at the quinoline moiety. The intermediate cyclic carbanion **6** further aromatizes by eliminating the hydride-ion (Scheme 2). Thus, the process may be considered as a unique example of nucleophilic substitution of hydrogen by the carbanion at position 4 of the quinoline moiety.

SCHEME 2

Under milder conditions in the superbase system KOH-DMSO (95–97°C, 3 h, molar ratio 1:2:KOH = 1:1:1) the reaction turns out to

be chemo-, regio-, and stereospecific: Only *Z*-styrylthioquinoline **3** is formed (43% yield). Excess of KOH up to 4.5 mol per 1 mol of **1** results in a drastic (3–4 times) decrease in the yield of the adduct **3**. The same occurs when the reaction temperature is lowered to 60° C. With 0.3 mol of KOH per 1 mol of **1** (DMSO, 50–60°C, 8 h) no reaction is observed: only the mercaptoquinoline oxidation product, 5,5′-diquinolyl disulfide (14%) is isolated.

Upon heating (200–230°C), e.g., on vacuum distillation, the *Z*-isomer of **3** transforms to its *E*-isomer (20% yield). Heating the adduct *Z*-**3** in an autoclave with alkali (30% KOH, dioxane, 160–170°C, 1 h) produces both its *E*-isomer and thiopyranoquinoline **4**, the ratio *Z*-**3**:*E*-**3**:**4** being 49:35:16 respectively (1 H NMR). The same procedure without alkali gives the same three products in a 33:52:15 ratio.

The cyclization Z-3 \rightarrow 4 is another unexpected process, unknown for aryl vinyl sulfides, which is rationalized as deprotonation of isomer E-3 (or Z-3 with the following isomerization) to give carbanion 5 cyclizing to 4 (Scheme 2). "Non-catalytic" ("thermal") cyclization Z-3 \rightarrow 4 proceed via acid-base autodissociation (under the influence of basic quinoline entity).

The isolated compounds *E*-3, *Z*-3, 4 (m.p. 88–89, 95–97, and 147–149°C respectively) are crystalline substances soluble in most organic solvents. Their structure has been proved by IR, ¹H, and ¹³C NMR methods including the 2D (COSY, NOESY, HSQC, HMBC) techniques.

The ^1H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃, Bruker DPX 250 spectrometer) of thiopyranoquinoline **4** contains only one signal of olefinic proton H_{α} at 6.54 ppm (singlet) while the signal of H_{β} is absent. According to the ^{13}C NMR spectrum, this compound has a quaternary C-4 carbon atom (140.43 ppm) and this is supported by the HSQC spectrum showing no cross-peaks with the signal of this nucleus. The HMBC spectrum shows a cross-peak between the signals of H_{α} and C-4 through three bonds (in contrast to the analogous spectra of *E*-**3** and *Z*-**3**, where the similar correlation is not possible). All these data testify that the ring-closure to the thiopyrane cycle **4** occurs at C-4 atom of the quinoline ring.

In the ¹H NMR spectra of compounds **3** (E, Z) there are doublets of olefinic protons H_{α} and H_{β} (at 6.59 and 6.84 ppm, J=15.5 Hz for E-isomer and 6.35 and 6.61 ppm, J=10.5 Hz for Z-isomer).

To conclude, the unprecedented base-catalyzed cyclization of 5-mercaptoquinoline **1** with phenylacetylene **2** to 3-phenylthiopyrano[4,3,2-*d*,*e*]quinoline **4**, a representative of inaccessible quinoline derivatives, has been found.

Additionally, the cyclyzation of Z-5-styrylthioquinoline to the same quinoline derivative **4**, a process unknown in the aryl vinyl sulfide series, ¹³ has been fixed. The latter allows the classic adducts **3** to be

transformed to the cycle **4**, thus actually increasing its yield. When optimized, these two reactions can provide straightforward route to rare arylthiopyrano[4,3,2-*d*,*e*]quinolines and to contribute to both the quinoline and the vinyl sulfide chemistry.

EXPERIMENTAL

IR spectra were recorded on a Specord IR-75 instrument (in KBr). ¹H, ¹³C, and NMR spectra were run on a Bruker DPX-250 (250 MHz) spectrometer in CDCI₃, HMDS as internal standard.

3-Phenylthiopyrano[4,3,2-d,e]quinoline 4

A mixture of 5-mercaptoquinoline 1 (5.60 g, 35 mmol), phenylacetylene 2 (3.60 g, 35 mmol) and KOH (1.70 g, 31 mmol) in 50 mL of dioxane was heated in an autoclave at 160–170°C for 1 h and after cooling was passed through a 4 cm layer of Al₂O₃. Dioxane was removed and the residue was washed with ether to give 1.55 g (17%) of thiopyranoquinoline 4 (m.p. 147–149°C, from hexane). ¹H NMR (δ , ppm): 6.54 s (H $_{\alpha}$); 7.31 d (H_o) , 7.41 m $(H_m, {}^3J_{o-m}$ 7.5 Hz), 7.41 m (H_p) (Ph); 8.42 d (H-2), 6.52 d $(H-3, {}^{3}J_{2-3} 4.9 Hz), 7.14 d (H-6), 7.41 dd (H-7, {}^{3}J_{6-7} 7.3 \Gamma \coprod), 7.62 d (H-7)$ 8, ${}^{3}J_{7-8}$ 8.6 Hz). 13 C NMR (δ , ppm): 152.40 (C-2), 113.93 (C-3), 140.43 (C-4), 130.58 (C-5), 119.56 (C-6), 128.25 (C-7), 125.48 (C-8), 150.30 (C-9), 125.02 (C-10), 126.49 (C- α), 133.58 (C- β), 139.03 (C-i), 128.65 (C-o), 129.12 (C-m), 128.87 (C-p). IR (cm⁻¹): 3030, 1600, 1560, 1490, 1440, 1400, 1340, 1320, 1290, 1210, 1190, 1140, 1090, 1060, 1030, 960, 870, 860, 840, 830, 810, 770, 750, 740, 690, 630, 540, 470, 450. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₇H₁₁NS: C, 78.13; H, 4.24; N, 5.36; S, 12.27. Found: C, 77.94; H, 4.10; N, 5.02; S, 12.30. The solvent was removed from the ether solution and the residue was chromatographed to produce 2.72 g (30%) of Z-5styrylthioquinoline 3.

Z-5-Styrylthioquinoline 3

A mixture of 5-mercaptoquinoline **1** (5.00 g, 31 mmol), phenylacetylene **2** (3.16 g, 31 mmol), KOH (1.70 g, 31 mmol) and DMSO (50 mL) was stirred at 95–97°C for 3 h. The reaction mixture was poured into 250 mL of $\rm H_2O$, extracted with ether (5 × 40 mL) and dried over $\rm K_2CO_3$. Ether was evaporated in vacuum to give 3.55 g (43%), **Z-3** (m.p. 72–73°C, from hexane). $^1\rm H$ NMR (δ , ppm): 6.35 d ($\rm H_{\alpha}$), 6.61 d ($\rm H_{\beta}$, $^3J_{\alpha,\beta}$ 10.6 Hz); 7.61 d ($\rm H_{o}$), 7.43 t ($\rm H_{m}$, $^3J_{o-m}$ 7.4 Hz), 7.30 t ($\rm H_{p}$, $^3J_{m-p}$ 7.4 Hz) (Ph); 8.95 d (H-2), 7.47 dd (H-3, $^3J_{2-3}$ 4.3 Hz), 8.70 d (H-4, $^3J_{3-4}$ 8.6 Hz), 7.81 d (H-6), 7.69

dd (H-7, ${}^3J_{6-7}$ 7.0 Hz), 8.10 d (H-8, ${}^3J_{7-8}$ 8.0 Hz) (quinoline skeleton). ${}^{13}\mathrm{C}$ NMR (δ , ppm): 150.86 (C-2), 121.67 (C-3), 133.85 (C-4), 133.39 (C-5), 131.01 (C-6), 129.23 (C-7), 130.27 (C-8), 148.75 (C-9), 128.54 (C-10), 126.23 (C- α), 127.70 (C- β), 136.31 (C-i), 128.86 (C-o), 128.47 (C-m), 127.42 (C-p). IR (cm⁻¹): 3030, 3010, 1580, 1550, 1480, 1440, 1410, 1370, 1350, 1310, 1130, 1070, 1040, 970, 920, 850, 830, 790, 770, 730, 690, 630, 550, 530. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₇H₁₃NS: C, 77.53; H, 4.98; N, 5.32; S, 12.18. Found: C, 77.32; H, 5.00; N, 5.51; S, 12.28.

E-5-Styrylthioquinoline 3

1.00 g of Z-3 was distilled in vacuum at 200-230°C (1.5 mm Hg) to give 0.20 g (20%) of E-3 (m.p. 88-89°C, from hexane). 1 H NMR (δ , ppm): 6.59 d (H $_{\alpha}$), 6.84 d (H $_{\beta}$, 3 J $_{\alpha,\beta}$ 15.5 Hz); 7.28 m (H $_{o}$), 7.25 m (H $_{m}$), 7.20 m (H $_{p}$) (Ph); 8.95 d (H-2), 7.47 dd (H-3, 3 J $_{2-3}$ 4.2 Hz), 8.67 d (H-4, 3 J $_{3-4}$ 8.4 Hz), 7.75 d (H-6), 7.69 t (H-7, 3 J $_{6-7}$ 7.4 Hz), 8.09 d (H-8, 3 J $_{7-8}$ 7.4 Hz) (quinoline skeleton). 13 C NMR (δ , ppm): 150.71 (C-2), 121.45 (C-3), 133.39 (C-4), 131.86 (C-5), 130.32 (C-6), 129.16 (C-7), 129.82 (C-8), 148.60 (C-9), 128.18 (C-10), 122.98 (C- α), 131.63 (C- β), 136.15 (C-i), 125.88 (C-i), 128.60 (C-i), 127.58 (C-i). IR (cm⁻¹): 3040, 3010, 1580, 1570, 1540, 1470, 1430, 1370, 1340, 1290, 1220, 1180, 1150, 1110, 1050, 1020, 950, 940, 780, 730, 680, 640, 620, 570, 540, 530, 490, 430. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₇H₁₃NS: C, 77.53; H, 4.98; N, 5.32; S, 12.18. Found: C, 77.12; H, 4.74; N, 5.06; S, 12.22.

Cyclization of 3 to 4

A mixture of Z-3 (0.50 g), KOH (0.15 g) and 15 mL of dioxane was heated in an autoclave at 160-170°C for 1 h and after cooling was passed through a 4 cm layer of Al_2O_3 . Dioxane was removed in vacuum to give a viscous residue (according to the data of 1H NMR) was composed of three products: Z-3, E-3, and 4.

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