Synthesis of [1,3]Thiazolo[2,3-i]purinium Systems

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Abstract—The alkylation of purine-6-thiol with methallyl chloride and propargyl bromide in aqueous alcohol in the presence of alkali gave 6-[methallyl(propargyl)sulfanyl]purines which reacted with iodine and bromine to afford fused [1,3]thiazolo[2,3-*i*]purinium systems.

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Derivatives of purine-6-thiol (1) exhibit antitumor and immunotropic activity, and they can be used for the treatment of toxoplasmosis [1–5]. There are a few published examples of synthesis of [1,3]thiazolo-[2,3-*i*]purinium systems. One method is based on heterocyclization of 6-(allylsulfanyl)purine by the action of electrophilic agents [6, 7]. Other methods for the preparation of analogous tricyclic systems include reactions of purine 1 derivatives with 1,2-dibromoethane, 2-bromocyclohexanone, and 2-(chloromethyl)oxirane [8–10].

Herein we describe the reactions of 6-(propargylsulfanyl)purine (2a) and 6-(methallylsulfanyl)purine (2b) with halogens with the goal of obtaining new fused thiazolopurinium systems.

The alkylation of purine **1** with allyl bromide was carried out in HMPA and in water in the presence of potassium hydroxide [6, 7]. We were the first to syn-



thesize sulfide **2a** by alkylation of purine **1** with propargyl bromide, and sulfide **2b**, by alkylation of **1** with methallyl chloride in aqueous alcohol in the presence of potassium hydroxide (Scheme 1). Compound **2a** was synthesized previously by reaction of **1** with propargyl bromide in liquid ammonia in the presence of sodium amide [11].

When the reaction was carried out in boiling DMF in the presence of potassium carbonate, methallyl sulfide **2b** underwent partial isomerization to 6-[(2-methylpropen-1-yl)sulfanyl]purine (**2c**) (Scheme 2). The ¹H NMR spectrum of **2c** displayed two methyl proton singlets at δ 1.85 and 1.95 ppm and a signal at δ 6.80 ppm due to the SCH= proton.



The mass spectrum of **2a** contained the molecular ion peak $[M]^+$ with a relative intensity of 17%, and the base peak was that of propargyl cation with m/z 39 (Scheme 3). In the mass spectrum of **2b**, the molecular ion peak $[M]^+$ had an intensity of 8%, while the maximum intensity peak (m/z 191) belonged to thiazolopurinium system resulting from elimination of methyl radical (Scheme 4). In addition, the ion peak with







m/z 173 had a high intensity. This ion arises from elimination of HS' radical via allyl group migration from the sulfur atom to the N⁷ atom of the purine system (pathway *a*) or through the formation of pyrrolopurinium cation (pathway *b*; Scheme 5). We believe that pathway *b* is more probable, as follows from the fairly high intensity of that peak (26%), which is typical of analogous stable systems.

The fragmentation pattern of sulfide 2c is similar to the fragmentation of 2b, but the peak intensities are different. For instance, the molecular ion peak of 2c has an intensity of 90%, presumably due to higher stability





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3, Hlg = Br; **5**, Hlg = I.

of the structure with conjugated double bond. The base peak in the mass spectrum of **2c**, as well as in the spectrum of **2b**, is that with m/z 191 $[M - CH_3]^+$. The ion peaks with m/z 119 and 92 typical of compounds **2a-2c** were assigned, respectively, to purinium cation resulting from cleavage of the C⁶–S bond and 5-cyanoimidazolium cation resulting from elimination of hydrogen cyanide.

Propargyl sulfide 2a reacted with 2 equiv of bromine in acetic acid to produce orange crystals of (7E)-7-bromomethylidene-7,8-dihydro-3H-[1,3]thiazolo[2,3-i] purin-6-ium tribromide (3) which was converted to colorless (7E)-7-bromomethylidene-7,8-dihydro-3*H*-[1,3]thiazolo[2,3-*i*]purin-6-ium bromide (4) by the action of acetone (Scheme 6). The reaction of 2a with 2 equiv of iodine afforded (7E)-7-iodomethylidene-7,8-dihydro-3H-[1,3]thiazolo[2,3-i]purinium triiodide (5) as dark powder. Treatment of the latter with sodium iodide in acetone gave light yellow (7E)-7-iodomethylidene-7,8-dihydro-3H-[1,3]thiazolo-[2,3-i] purinium iodide (6). When the reactions of **2a** with iodine and bromine were carried out using equimolar amounts of the reactants, the conversion of 2a was incomplete, and the yield of the corresponding trihalides did not exceed 50%.

Theoretically, the reactions of compound 2a with halogens may lead to compounds with both endo- and exocyclic double bond. The ¹H and ¹³C NMR data were insufficient for unambiguous structure determina-

tion. Therefore, we resorted to two-dimensional ¹H-¹³C HSQC and HMBC and ¹H-¹H NOESY techniques and found that the product of the reaction of **2b** with iodine after treatment of the reaction mixture with sodium iodide in acetone was E-isomeric 7-iodomethylidene[1,3]thiazolo[2,3-i]purin-6-ium iodide (6) having an exocyclic double bond. Characteristic signals in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of **6** were those of the exocyclic =CHI group: the proton signal was displaced downfield (δ 8.12 ppm), and the carbon signal appeared in a strong field ($\delta_{\rm C}$ 75.47 ppm) due to effect of heavy iodine atom. The configuration of the exocyclic double bond was determined on the basis of the 2D NOESY data. The CHI proton displayed coupling with proton on C⁵ of the thiazolopurine system, which is possible only for the *E* configuration of the double bond. Complete assignment of the ¹H and 13 C signals of **6** was done by analysis of the 2D 1 H $^{-13}$ C HSQC and HMBC spectra. Because of overlap by the solvent signal, the CH₂ chemical shift was determined from the C-H direct coupling cross peak. The most informative cross-peaks in the 2D ¹H-¹³C HMBC spectrum of **6** were the following: 2-H/C^{9a}, 2-H/C^{3a}, 8-H/C^{9a}, 8-H/C⁷, 8-H/C¹⁰, 5-H/C^{9a}, 5-H/C^{3a}, 5-H/C⁷.

The reaction of **2b** with iodine at a molar ratio of 1:2 in acetic acid afforded 7-(iodomethyl)-7-methyl-7,8-dihydro-1*H*-[1,3]thiazolo[2,3-*i*]purin-6-ium tri-iodide (7) as a dark solid which separated from the reaction mixture. By treatment of 7 with sodium iodide



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in acetone we obtained 7-(iodomethyl)-7-methyl-7,8dihydro-1*H*-[1,3]thiazolo[2,3-*i*]purin-6-ium iodide (**8**) (Scheme 7). Compound **2b** reacted with an equimolar amount of bromine to give 7-(bromomethyl)-7-methyl-7,8-dihydro-1*H*-[1,3]thiazolo[2,3-*i*]purin-6-ium iodide (**9**). Compounds **8** and **9** showed in the ¹H NMR spectra a singlet of methyl protons at δ 2.00–2.10 ppm and a SCH₂ signal at δ 4.10–4.20 and 4.35–4.50 ppm, respectively; the SCH₂ signal of **4** and **6** was located at δ 4.70 and 4.65 ppm, respectively. In the ¹H NMR spectra of **4**, **6**, **8**, and **9** aromatic proton signals characteristically appeared in a weaker field due to the presence of positive charge.

EXPERIMENTAL

The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker DRX-400 and Bruker Avance II spectrometers at 400 and 126 MHz, respectively, using DMSO-*d*₆ as solvent and tetramethylsilane as reference. The IR spectra were measured on a Bruker Tensor 27 spectrometer with Fourier transform. The mass spectra (electron impact, 70 eV) were obtained on a Shimadzu GCMS-QP2010 Ultra instrument.

Compounds 2a and 2b (general procedure). Potassium hydroxide, 112 mg (2 mmol), was dissolved in 10 mL of water and 340 mg (2 mmol) of purine-6-thiol and a solution of 2 mmol of methallyl chloride or propargyl bromide in 1 mL of ethanol were added. The mixture was stirred for 2 h, and the precipitate was filtered off, washed with water, and dried.

6-(Prop-2-yn-1-ylsulfanyl)purine (2a). Yield 330 mg (87%), gray powder, mp 180-182°C (decomp.) [11]. ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 3.15 t (1H, CH, J = 2.5 Hz), 4.23 d (2H, SCH₂, J = 2.7 Hz), 8.48 s (1H, 8-H), 8.74 s (1H, 2-H), 13.59 s (1H, NH). Mass spectrum, m/z (I_{rel} , %): 190 (17.0) [M]⁺, 119 (5.0) [$M - SCH_2C \equiv CH$]⁺, 97 (5.0), 93 (11.3), 92 (5.6) [C₅H₃N₄]⁺, 72 (9.9), 71 (12.7), 70 (24.0), 69 (14.1), 66 (17.0), 65 (14.0), 53 (14.0), 45 (31.0), 44 (5.6), 40 (8.5), 39 (100) [C₃H₃]⁺, 38 (52.1), 37 (18.3).

6-(2-Methylprop-2-en-1-ylsulfanyl)purine (2b). Yield 351 mg (84%), gray powder, mp 159–160°C. IR spectrum, v, cm⁻¹: 3328, 3175, 3058, 2977, 2941, 2788, 2661, 2554, 1870, 1692, 1654, 1631, 1590, 1570, 1466, 1430, 1420, 1385 (=CH), 1326, 1263, 1242, 1230, 1158, 1128, 1054, 1014, 998, 950 (=CH), 927, 902, 882, 848, 795, 767, 716, 678, 645, 630, 599, 541, 518, 503, 422. ¹H NMR spectrum, δ, ppm: 1.82 s (3H, CH₃), 4.10 s (2H, SCH₂), 4.89 s and 5.08 s (2H, =CH₂), 8.46 s (1H, 8-H), 8.70 s (1H, 2-H). Mass spectrum, m/z (I_{rel} , %): 206 (7.7) [M]⁺, 205 (5.5) [M – H]⁺, 192 (11.0), 191 (100) [M – CH₃]⁺, 173 (26.7) [M – SH]⁺, 165 (13.2) [M – C₃H₅]⁺, 158 (9.9), 147 (5.5), 134 (7.1), 125 (6.0), 120 (7.7), 119 (9.3) [M – SCH₂C(CH₃)=CH₂], 97 (6.0), 93 (28.0), 92 (9.3) [C₅H₃N₄]⁺, 71 (6.6), 70 (11.5), 66 (11.0), 65 (11.0), 55 (5.6) [C₄H₆]⁺, 53 (12.1), 45 (10.4). Found, %: C 52.45; H 4.93; N 27.14. C₉H₁₀N₄S. Calculated, %: C 52.41; H 4.89; N 27.16. M 206.27.

(7*E*)-7-Bromomethylidene-7,8-dihydro-3*H*-[1,3]thiazolo[2,3-*i*]purin-6-ium bromide (4). Compound 2a, 0.095 g (0.5 mmol), was added to a solution of 0.052 mL (1 mmol) of bromine in 5 mL of acetic acid. After 24 h, (7*E*)-7-bromomethylidene-7,8-dihydro-3*H*-[1,3]thiazolo[2,3-*i*]purin-6-ium tribromide (3) was filtered off and treated with acetone, and the yellow precipitate was filtered off. Yield 0.109 g (62%), mp 137–139°C (decomp.). ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 4.73 d (2H, SCH₂), 8.20 t (1H, =CHBr), 9.00 s (1H, 2-H), 9.84 s (1H, 5-H). Found, %: C 27.49; H 1.75; N 16.00. C₈H₆Br₂N₄S. Calculated, %: C 27.45; H 1.73; N 16.01.

(7E)-7-Iodomethylidene-7,8-dihydro-3H-[1,3]thiazolo[2,3-*i*]purin-6-ium iodide (6). Compound 2a, 0.095 g (0.5 mmol), was added to a solution of 0.254 g (1 mmol) of iodine in 5 mL of acetic acid. After 24 h, (7E)-7-iodomethylidene-7,8-dihydro-3H-[1,3]thiazolo-[2,3-i] purin-6-ium triiodide (5) was filtered off and dissolved in acetone, sodium iodide was added, and the light vellow precipitate of iodide 6 was filtered off. Yield 0.133 g (60%), mp 250–254°C (decomp.). ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 4.64 s (2H, SCH₂), 8.12 s (1H, CHI), 8.97 s (1H, 2-H), 9.73 s (1H, 5-H). ¹³C NMR spectrum, δ_{C} , ppm: 39.73 (SCH₂), 75.47 (CHI), 126.67 (C^{9b}), 141.28 (C⁷), 142.58 (C⁵), 149.79 (C²), 151.22 (C^{3a}), 159.27 (C^{9a}). Found, %: C 21.61; H 1.38; N 12.65. C₈H₆I₂N₄S. Calculated, %: C 21.64; H 1.36; N 12.62.

7-(Iodomethyl)-7-methyl-7,8-dihydro-1*H*-[1,3]thiazolo[2,3-*i*]purin-6-ium iodide (8). Compound 2b, 0.103 g (0.5 mmol), was added to a solution of 0.254 g (1 mmol) of iodine in 5 mL of acetic acid. After 24 h, the solvent was evaporated, the residue was dissolved in acetone, sodium iodide was added, and the precipitate was filtered off. Yield 0.111 g (48%), mp 139– 140°C. ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 2.04 s (3H, CH₃), 3.99 s (2H, SCH₂), 4.14 d (2H, CH₂Br, *J* = 11.3 Hz), 8.78 s (1H, 2-H), 9.32 s (1H, 5-H). ¹³C NMR spectrum, $\delta_{\rm C}$, ppm: 13.96 (CH₃), 25.62 (CH₂I), 31.29 $\begin{array}{l} ({\rm SCH_2}),\, 43.10 \ ({\rm C}^7),\, 128.17 \ ({\rm C}^{9b}),\, 143.71 \ ({\rm C}^5),\, 155.26 \\ ({\rm C}^2),\, 155.90 \ ({\rm C}^{3a}),\, 172.47 \ ({\rm C}^{9a}). \ Found,\,\,\%: C\,\, 23.47; \\ {\rm H}\,\, 2.17;\, {\rm N}\,\, 12.21. \ {\rm C_9H_{10}I_2N_4S}. \ Calculated,\,\,\%: C\,\, 23.50; \\ {\rm H}\,\, 2.19;\, {\rm N}\,\, 12.18. \end{array}$

7-(Bromomethyl)-7-methyl-7,8-dihydro-1*H***-[1,3]thiazolo[2,3-***i***]purin-6-ium bromide (9). Compound 2b, 0.103 g (0.5 mmol), was added to a solution of 0.026 mL (0.5 mmol) of bromine in 5 mL of acetic acid. After 24 h, the white crystals were filtered off. Yield 0.119 g (65%), mp 230–233°C (decomp.). ¹H NMR spectrum, δ, ppm: 2.06 s (3H, CH₃), 4.05 d and 4.14 d (1H each, SCH₂, J = 12.3 Hz), 4.37 d and 4.48 d (1H each, CH₂Br, J = 11.4 Hz), 9.02 s (1H, 2-H), 9.59 s (1H, 5-H). Found, %: C 23.51; H 2.21; N 12.16. C₉H₁₀I₂N₄S. Calculated, %: C 23.50; H 2.19; N 12.18.**

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