

Reaction of 5-Amino-3-(cyanomethyl)-1*H*-pyrazole-4-carbonitrile with Hydroxycyclohexanones

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Abstract—The reaction of 5-amino-3-(cyanomethyl)-1*H*-pyrazole-4-carbonitrile with 3-aryl-5-hydroxy-5-methyl-2,4-di(ethoxycarbonyl)cyclohexanones in acetic acid furnished previously unknown 4,5,6,7,8,9-hexahydropyrazolo[1,5-*a*]quinazoline derivatives.

Keywords: β-cycloketols, aminopyrazole, cyclocondensation, pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]quinazoline

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Cyclic 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds 2,4-di[RC(O)]-3-aryl-5-hydroxy-5-methylcyclohexanones **1** (β-cycloketols), available by the reaction of aromatic aldehydes with acetoacetic ester, are prospective reagents for fine organic synthesis. According to reviews [1, 2], β-cycloketol can serve as a starting point for obtaining substituted carbocycles, 2-oxabicyclo[2.2.2]octanes, enamino ketones and -esters, etc. At the same time, it should be noted that the data on heterocyclization reactions with β-cycloketol are scarce. Thus, preparation of isoquinolines **2** [3–7], indazoles **3** [1, 8–10], benzo[*c*]isoxazoles **4** [1, 9, 10], [1,2,4]triazolo[3,4-*b*]quinazolines **5** [11] and pyrazolo[3,4-*c*]isoquinolines **6** [12] via condensation reactions of cycloketols with various 1,2- and 1,3-binucleophilic agents have been reported (Scheme 1).

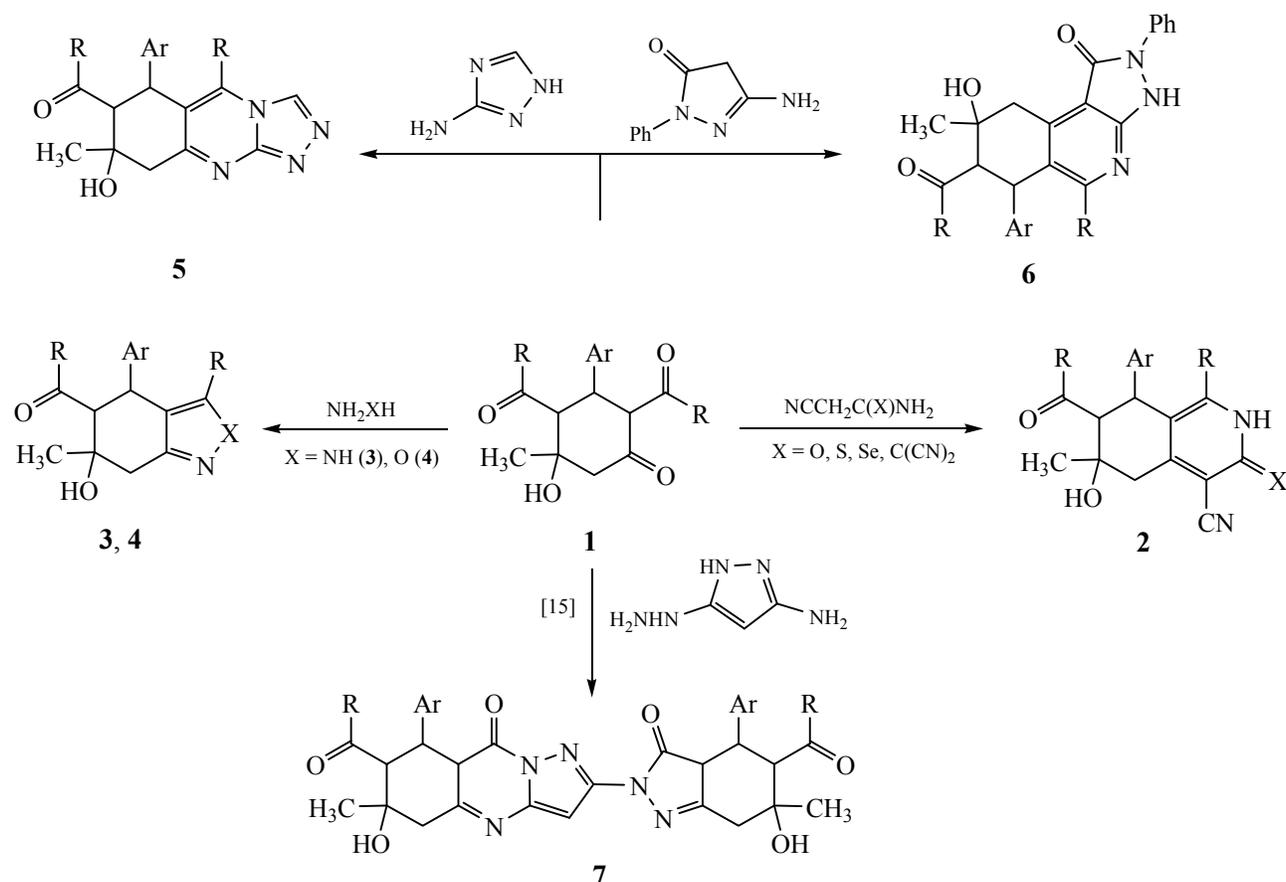
The last two transformations are of particular interest, because, despite the considerable attention paid to the condensation reactions of aminoazoles with 1,3-bioelectrophils (see [13, 14]), only some examples of such reactions involving β-cycloketols were found. So, we managed to find the only and recent mention of the reaction of cycloketol with 5-amino-3-hydrazinopyrazole, leading to the formation of 6,7,8,8a-tetra-

hydropyrazolo[5,1-*b*]quinazoline-9(5*H*)-one **7** [15] (Scheme 1). It is worth noting that the analytical data presented in [15] (mass spectrometry and IR spectroscopy) are obviously not enough to confirm the structure of the claimed product.

Continuing research in the field of the chemistry of malononitrile dimer derivatives [16–19] and condensation reactions based on 3(5)-aminopyrazoles [20, 21], herein we reported the reaction of 3-aryl-5-hydroxy-5-methyl-2,4-di(ethoxycarbonyl)cyclohexanones **1a**, **1b** with 5-amino-3-(cyanomethyl)-1*H*-pyrazole-4-carbonitrile **7** (Scheme 2). Aminopyrazole **7** is easily formed by the reaction of malononitrile dimer **8** with hydrazine hydrate [22] and, due to the presence of a number of amino and cyano groups, can enter into condensation reactions with the formation of functional derivatives [23–25]. β-Ketoesters (and β-cycloketols in particular) have not previously been reacted with aminopyrazole **7**. Due to the fact that the probable products of the pyrazoloquinoxaline series are of interest for pharmacology [26–28], the study of this interaction seems promising.

We found that cycloketols **1a**, **1b** react with 5-amino-3-(cyanomethyl)-1*H*-pyrazole-4-carbonitrile **7**

Scheme 1.



in boiling AcOH to form previously unknown 4,5,6,7,8,9-hexahydropyrazolo[1,5-*a*]quinazoline derivatives **9a** and **9b** with low yields (15–22%, Scheme 2).

Structures of compounds **9a** and **9b** were confirmed by the IR, ^1H and ^{13}C NMR (DEPTQ) spectroscopy data, as well as 2D NMR experiments (NOESY, ^1H – ^{13}C HSQC, HMBC). Heteronuclear correlations for compound **9a** are given in the Table.

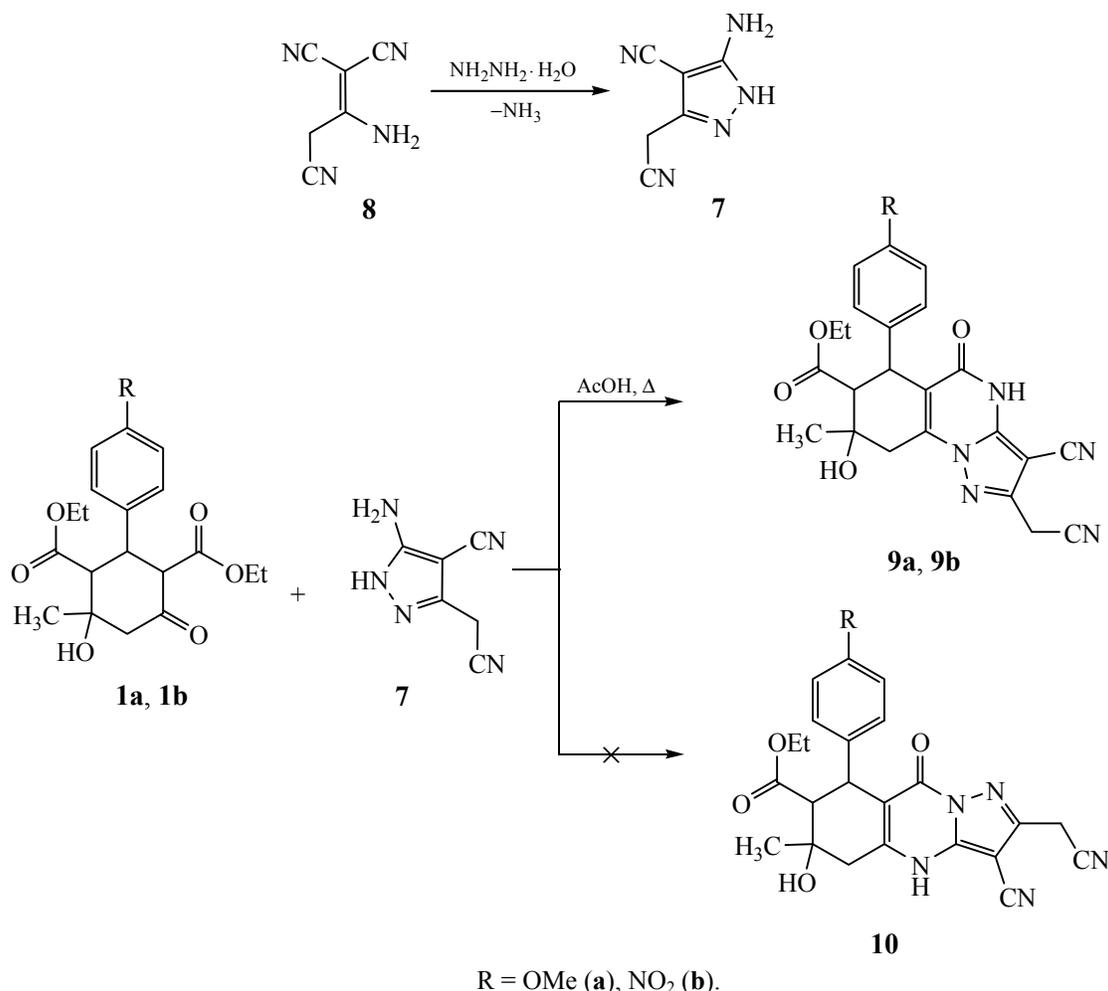
In the IR spectra of compounds **9a** and **9b**, two absorption bands are observed, corresponding to the stretching vibrations of the conjugate and non-conjugate nitrile groups (2226–2230 and 2261–2262 cm^{-1} , respectively), as well as two carbonyl groups: ester (1717–1720 cm^{-1}) and amide (1678–1688 cm^{-1}). The position of the latter band evidences against the isomeric structure **10** (Scheme 2), since the “azolid” C=O group in similar structures is characterized by absorption in the higher frequency range (~ 1710 cm^{-1}) [29]. In addition, the obtained results correlate well with the literature data for related pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyrimidine structures with the C(O)NH

fragment [21, 30]. In the ^1H NMR spectra, the proton signals of only one ester group are detected, as well as the characteristic broadened signals of C(O)NH protons at 13.29–13.44 ppm. NOESY experiment did not detect correlations between the NH proton signal and the methylene unit in the carbocyclic fragment, which would be expected if a structure **10** is formed.

Another feature of the structure of compounds **9a** and **9b** is the nonequivalence of the methylene protons of the OCH₂CH₃ fragment, which probably arises as a result of the formation of an intramolecular hydrogen bond between HO and COOEt groups. As a result, the OCH₂ proton signals resonate as a complex ABX₃ system instead of the expected quartet. The protons of the methylene C⁹H₂ group are recorded by two doublets with $^2J \approx 17.0$ Hz.

In summary, we found for the first time that β -cycloketols react with 5-amino-3-(cyanomethyl)-1*H*-pyrazole-4-carbonitrile, a representative of the 3(5)-amino-pyrazole series, to form hexahydropyrazolo[1,5-*a*]quinazoline derivatives. Structure of the latter was

Scheme 2.



confirmed by a complex of spectral data. Taking into account both the variety of available aminoazole and aminoazine substrates, as well as the availability of 2,4-diacyl(alkoxycarbonyl)-5-hydroxy-5-methylcyclohexanones, the detected transformation opens up a promising and practically unexplored direction in the chemistry of fused quinazolinone derivatives. Optimization of the synthesis conditions, possibilities and limitations of this reaction will be the object of our further studies.

EXPERIMENTAL

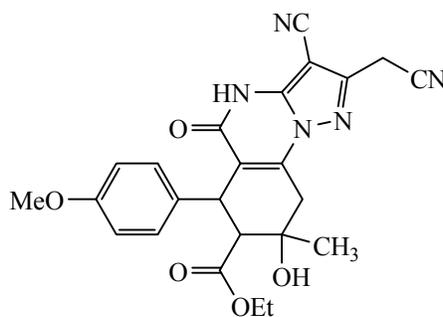
NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance III HD 400MHz [400 (¹H) and 101 MHz (¹³C)] instrument from a DMSO-*d*₆ solution. IR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Vertex 70 IR Fourier spectrometer with an ATR. Elemental analysis for C, H, N was performed on a Carlo Erba 1106 instrument. Purity of the ob-

tained compounds was monitored by TLC on Sorbfil-A plates, eluting with acetone–hexane mixture (1 : 1) and developing with iodine vapor or UV detector.

The starting 3-(4-R-phenyl)-5-hydroxy-5-methyl-2,4-di(ethoxycarbonyl)cyclohexanones **1a** and **1b** were obtained according to the known procedure [31]. 5-Amino-3-(cyanomethyl)-1H-pyrazole-4-carbonitrile **7** was obtained from malononitrile dimer by the known method [22].

Ethyl 8-hydroxy-6-(4-methoxyphenyl)-8-methyl-5-oxo-3-cyano-2-(cyanomethyl)-4,5,6,7,8,9-hexahydropyrazolo[1,5-a]quinazolin-7-carboxylate (9a). A mixture of 380 mg (1 mmol) of 5-hydroxy-5-methyl-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)cyclohexanone-2,4-dicarboxylic acid diethyl ether **1a**, 5 mL of glacial AcOH and 150 mg (1 mmol) of pyrazole **7** was refluxed for 4 h (control by TLC), then cooled. The precipitate was filtered off and washed with EtOH. Yield 22%, white

Main HSQC and HMBC ^1H - ^{13}C correlations for compound **9a**



9a

δ_{H} , ppm	δ_{C} , ppm	
	^1H - ^{13}C HSQC	^1H - ^{13}C HMBC
1.09	14.1*	59.8
1.28	27.6*	41.5, 58.5*, 68.1
2.65–2.71	41.5, 58.5*	27.6, 40.1, 58.6*, 68.2, 108.5, 135.6, 148.0, 171.4
3.22	41.5	68.3, 108.7, 148.0
3.69	54.9*	157.5
3.94–4.15	59.8	14.1*, 171.4
4.27	40.2*	58.6*, 108.6, 128.7*, 135.6, 148.0, 153.8, 171.4
4.34	16.7	73.2, 116.2, 153.7
4.86	–	–
6.76	113.3*	113.3*, 135.6, 157.5
7.04	128.7*	40.2*, 113.3*, 128.7*, 157.5
13.29	–	–

amorphous powder. IR spectra, ν , cm^{-1} : 3476 (O–H), 3182, 3076 (N–H), 2262, 2226 ($\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$), 1720 ($\text{C}=\text{O}_{\text{ether}}$), 1688 ($\text{C}=\text{O}_{\text{amide}}$), 1649, 1593 ($\text{C}=\text{C}$). ^1H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 1.09 t (3H, $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}$, $^3J = 7.1$ Hz), 1.28 s (3H, C^8CH_3), 2.65–2.71 two overlapped doublets (2H, $\text{H}^9 + \text{H}^7$), 3.22 d (1H, H^9 , $^2J = 17.1$ Hz), 3.69 s (3H, CH_3O), 3.94–4.15 m (2H, $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}$, ABX₃-system), 4.27 d (1H, H^6 , $^3J = 10.2$ Hz), 4.34 s (2H, CH_2CN), 4.86 br. s (1H, OH), 6.76 d (2H, $\text{H}^3 + \text{H}^5$, Ar, $^3J = 8.4$ Hz), 7.04 d (2H, $\text{H}^2 + \text{H}^6$, Ar, $^3J = 8.4$ Hz), 13.29 br. s (1H, NH). ^{13}C DEPTQ NMR spectrum, δ_{C} , ppm (here and hereafter, an *asterisk* denotes the anti-phase signals): 14.5* ($\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}$), 16.7 (CH_2CN), 27.6* (C^8CH_3), 40.2* (C^6), 41.5 (C^9), 54.9* (CH_3O), 58.6* (C^7), 59.8 ($\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}$), 68.2 (C^8), 73.2 (C^3), 108.5 (C^{3a}), 111.9 (CN), 113.3* (C^3 , C^5 Ar), 116.2 (CH_2CN), 128.7* (C^2 , C^6 Ar), 135.6 (C^1 Ar), 148.0

(C^{9a}), 148.1 (C^{3a}), 153.7 (C^2), 153.8 (C^5), 157.5 (C^4 Ar), 171.4 (CO_2Et). Found, %: C 62.60; H 5.07; N 15.11. $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_5\text{O}_5$. Calculated, %: C 62.46; H 5.02; N 15.18.

Ethyl 8-hydroxy-8-methyl-6-(4-nitrophenyl)-5-oxo-3-cyano-2-(cyanomethyl)-4,5,6,7,8,9-hexahydropyrazolo[1,5-a]quinazoline-7-carboxylate (9b) was obtained similarly from 1.34 g (3.4 mmol) of 5-hydroxy-5-methyl-3-(4-nitrophenyl)cyclohexanone-2,4-dicarboxylic acid diethyl ester **1b** and 0.5 g (3.4 mmol) of pyrazole **7**; reaction time – 7 h. Yield 15%, beige amorphous powder. IR spectra, ν , cm^{-1} : 3476 (O–H), 3231, 3179, 3074 (N–H), 2261, 2230 ($\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$), 1717 ($\text{C}=\text{O}_{\text{ether}}$), 1678 ($\text{C}=\text{O}_{\text{amide}}$), 1645, 1589 ($\text{C}=\text{C}$), 1522 [$\nu_{\text{as}}(\text{NO}_2)$], 1348 [$\nu_{\text{s}}(\text{NO}_2)$]. ^1H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm: 1.04 t (3H, $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}$, $^3J = 7.1$ Hz), 1.29 s (3H,

$C^8\text{CH}_3$), 2.70 d (1H, H^9 , $^2J = 17.3$ Hz), 2.76 d (1H, H^7 , $^3J = 10.3$ Hz), 3.27 d (1H, H^9 , $^2J = 17.3$ Hz), 3.91–4.05 m (2H, $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}$, ABX₃-system), 4.33 s (2H, CH_2CN), 4.43 d (1H, H^6 , $^3J = 10.3$ Hz), 5.02 br. s (1H, OH), 7.43 d (2H, $H^2 + H^6$, Ar, $^3J = 8.6$ Hz), 8.09 d (2H, $H^3 + H^5$, Ar, $^3J = 8.6$ Hz), 13.44 br. s (1H, NH). ^{13}C DEPTQ NMR spectrum, d_c , ppm: 14.1* ($\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}$), 16.7 (CH_2CN), 27.4* ($C^8\text{CH}_3$), 41.1* (C^6), 41.4 (C^9), 57.5* (C^7), 60.1 ($\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{O}$), 68.1 (C^8), 73.5 (C^3), 107.1 (C^{5a}), 111.8 (CN), 116.1 (CH_2CN), 123.2* (C^2 , C^6 Ar), 129.2* (C^3 , C^5 Ar), 146.0 (C^1 Ar), 147.99 (C^{9a} and C^{3a}), 148.02 (C^{3a} and C^{9a}), 148.2 (C^4 Ar), 152.1 (C^2), 153.9 (C^5), 170.8 (CO_2Et). Found, %: C 57.95; H 4.30; N 17.71. $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_6\text{O}_6$. Calculated, %: C 57.98; H 4.23; N 17.64.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflict of interest was declared by the authors.

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