



Pergamon

Tetrahedron 55 (1999) 4255–4270

TETRAHEDRON

A Facile Synthesis of Spiroisoxazolines: Intramolecular Cyclization of 3-Aryl-2-nitroacrylates Promoted by Titanium Tetrachloride

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Received 21 December 1998; accepted 2 February 1999

Abstract : Titanium tetrachloride-induced cyclization of 3-(*o*- or *m*-substituted *p*-methoxyphenyl)-2-nitro acrylates (**1**) provided stereoselectively (4 α ,5 β)-1-oxa-2-azaspiro[4, 5]deca-2,6,9-trien-8-ones (**2**). *Ortho*-substituted *p*-methoxyphenyl nitroacrylates gave **2** in good yield. 3-(4'-methoxy-1'-naphthyl)-2-nitroacrylate also reacted with titanium tetrachloride to give quantitatively (4 α ,5 β)-4'-oxospiro[isoxazole-(4*H*)5,1'(*H*)-naphthalene]. 3-(10'-methoxy-9'-anthryl)-2-nitroacrylate was converted to 10-oxospiro[anthracene-(10*H*)9,5'(*H*)-isoxazole]. © 1999 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

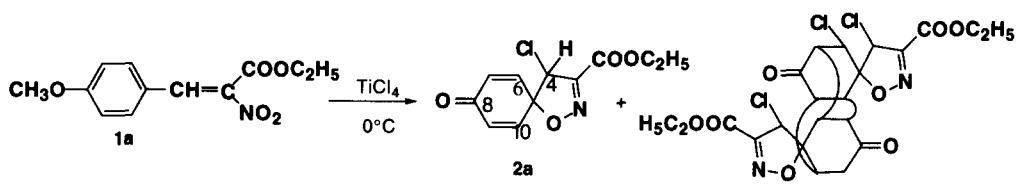
Keywords: titanium tetrachloride; intramolecular cyclization; nitroacrylates; spiroisoxazolines

We have previously reported the reaction of 3-aryl-2-nitroacrylates **1** with titanium tetrachloride, where naphthyl or phenanthryl derivatives react with toluene in the presence of titanium tetrachloride to give tolylated spiroisoxazolines in a diastereoselective manner.¹ In an attempt of the application of this method to formation of a new type of spiroisoxazoline derivatives, we found that *p*-cyclohexadienone spiroisoxazolin **2a** was obtained from the reaction of 3-(*p*-methoxyphenyl)-2-nitroacrylate **1a** with titanium tetrachloride in dichloromethane. Under the similar reaction conditions, *o*-methoxyphenyl derivative gave 3-chloro-2-hydroxyimino propionate,² and *m*-methoxyphenyl derivative was converted into salicylaldehyde.³ It is clear from the above examples that the position of methoxyl substituent on aryl ring governs the kind of the product. Cyclohexadienone spiroisoxazolines are important model compounds on syntheses of dibromotyrosine-derived marine metabolites,⁴ which contain one or two spiroisoxazoline units. Additionally, it was reported that *p*-cyclohexadienone spiroisoxazolines were prepared as useful antitumor agents.⁵ Several reports have been made on the synthetic approaches so far, which have been achieved through intramolecular oxidative cyclization of 1-hydroxyphenyl-2-propanone oximes,⁶ or 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition of nitrile oxide to a quinone methide.⁷ This paper describes a novel synthesis of spiroisoxazolines connecting arenone ring as well as its scope and limitation.

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Result and Discussion

Ethyl 3-aryl-2-nitroacrylates **1** were prepared by the condensation of arylaldehydes and ethyl nitroacetate. A mixture of *E* and *Z* isomer of ethyl 3-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-2-nitroacrylate (**1a**) reacted at 0 °C with two equivalents of titanium tetrachloride to give spiroisoxazoline **2a** with a caged dimer **5**. The mass spectrum indicated the molecular formula for **5** with one more hydrogen and chlorine atom than 2 × **2a**. It was noted that the yield of **2a** was improved by suppression of formation of the dimer. The treatment of **1a** (1 mmol) with two equivalents titanium tetrachloride in 10 ml dichloromethane gave **2a** in 46% isolated yield along with **5** in 34% yield, while the reaction in 50 ml dichloromethane gave **2a** in 58% isolated yield with 4-methoxy-salicylaldehyde (**4a**) in 12% yield (Scheme 1 and Table 1). Spiroisoxazoline **2a** was unchanged upon treatment with titanium tetrachloride. Further changes in the reaction conditions failed to suppress these side-reactions. Perhaps the intermediate from **1a** might react with **2a** to yield **5**, or convert to **4a**.

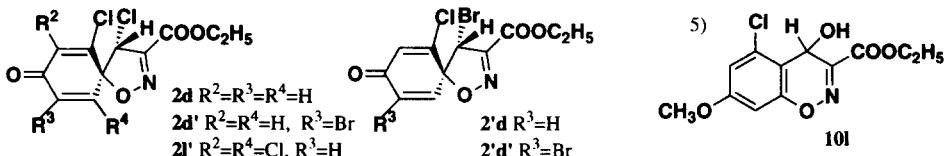


Scheme 1

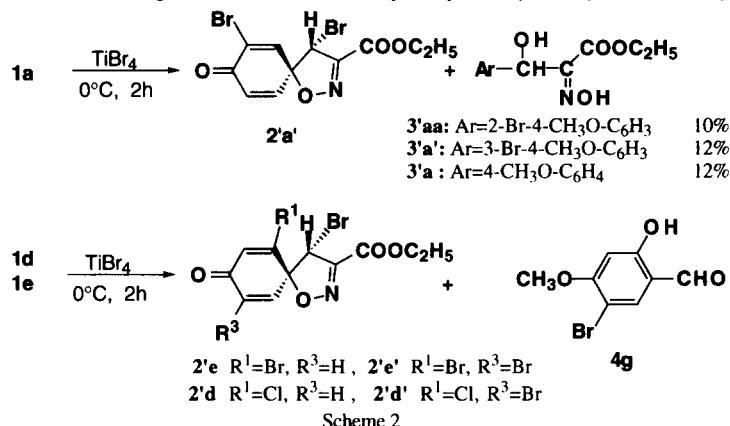
The cyclization of several 3-(*o*-, or *m*-substituted *p*-methoxyphenyl)-2-nitroacrylates was attempted. The results are listed in Table 1. Nitroacrylates **1b** - **1g** and **1i** - **1l** showed high stereoselectivity, and afforded **2b** - **2d**, **2f**, **2g**, and **2i** - **2l** as a single diastereoisomer. Compounds **1b**, **1c** and **1d**, which have a substituent on *ortho* position of *p*-methoxy-phenyl group, cyclized to 4-chloro-6-substituted *p*-cyclohexadienone spiroisoxazolines **2b**, **2c** and **2d** in moderate to good yields. *o*-Methoxy derivative **1b** slowly reacted to give spiroisoxazolines, **2b** and **6b** in total 57% yield (a ratio 17:1), with **1b** in 11% recovery after 24 hours. **6b** was not *p*-cyclohexadienone but *o*-cyclohexadienone spiroisoxazoline (Scheme 3). In the case of *o*-bromo derivative **1e**, the expected **2e** was not detected but **2d** was formed via Br-Cl exchange reaction. Further the released bromide ion formed other spiroisoxazolines **2d'**, **2'd** and **2'd'** as shown in Table 1. The reaction of *meta* substituted *p*-methoxyphenyl nitroacrylates with titanium tetrachloride gave a drastic change in the product distribution resulting in the formation of 3-chloro-2-hydroxyimino propionates **3**. Oxime **3** was converted into corresponding salicylaldehyde **4** in ca. 40% yield under the work up conditions or column chromatography on silica gel. In the case of *m*-methyl derivative **1f**, **2f** and **3f** were obtained in a 9:8 ratio. *m*-Bromo derivative **1g** gave **3g** as a major product with **2g**. *m*-Methoxy derivative **1h** afforded only **3h** and **4h**, and spiroisoxazoline was not detected. Thus *o*-substituted *p*-methoxyphenyl group promoted the cyclization reaction effectively, while *m*-substituents decreased the rate of spiroisoxazolines. In case of *o*-, *m*- and *p*-trisubstituted nitroacrylate, 2,4,5-trimethoxy derivative **1k** gave **2k** in 57% yield. But, 2,3,4-trimethoxy derivative **1j** gave quantitatively **2j**. 2,3-Dimethyl-4-methoxy derivative **1i** also afforded **2i** quantitatively. 2,4,6-Trimethoxyphenyl nitroacrylate showed a low activity, and the starting material was recovered unchanged after 24 hours. In the case of 2,6-dichloro-4-methoxyphenyl derivative **1l**, this cyclization reaction proceeded slowly to give **2l** and **2l'** in total 48% yield with **1l** in 18% recovery.

Table 1 The synthesis of spiroisoxazolines 2

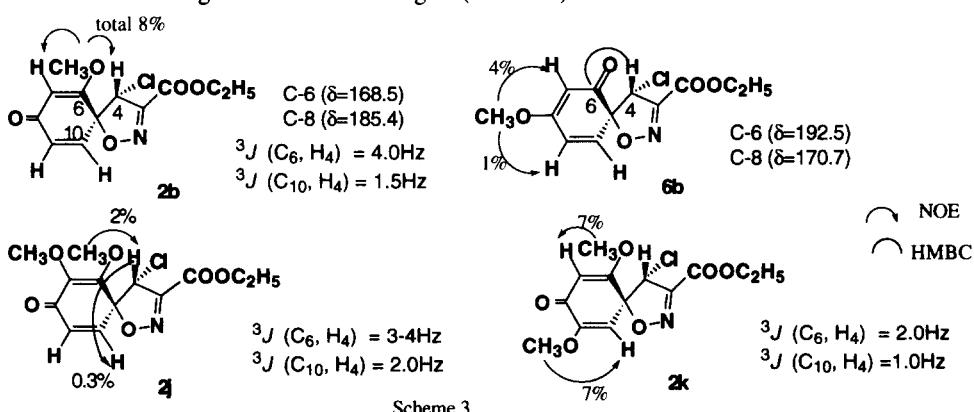
	R ¹	R ²	R ³	R ⁴	Reaction time	Product (yield %)	3, 4 (yield %)
1a	H	H	H	H	2h	2a 58	4a 12
1b	CH ₃ O	H	H	H	2h 24h	2b 40 54	
1c	CH ₃	H	H	H	2h	2c 93	
1d	Cl	H	H	H	2h	2d 78	
1e	Br	H	H	H	0.5h 2h	2d 60 ¹ 83 ²	
1f	H	CH ₃	H	H	0.5h 2h	2f 42 42(52 ³)	3f 24(48 ³)
1g	H	Br	H	H	2h	2g 11	3g 62 4g 17
1h	H	CH ₃ O	H	H	2h	2h -	3h 47 ³ 4h 33 ³
1i	CH ₃	CH ₃	H	H	2h	2i 92	
1j	CH ₃ O	CH ₃ O	H	H	24h	2j 90	
1k	CH ₃ O	H	CH ₃ O	H	24h	2k 57	4h 23
1l	Cl	H	H	Cl	24h	2l 48 ⁴	17 ⁵

¹⁾ **2d** (38%) + **2d'** (6%) + **2'd** (15%) + **2'd'** (1%)²⁾ **2d** (47%) + **2d'** (8%) + **2'd** (26%) + **2'd'** (2%)⁴⁾ **2l** (36%) + **2l'** (12%)³⁾ Estimated by ¹H NMR of the crude product

To obtain more information with respect to the halogen exchange reaction, we carried out the reaction of titanium tetrabromide with **1a**, **1d** and **1e** (Scheme 2). Nitroacrylates **1a** and **1e** gave stereoselectively spiroisoxazoline **2'a'**, **2'e'** and **2'e'** in low yield, 21%, 4% and 12%, respectively. Compound **1d** gave two corresponding **2'd** and **2'd'**, and two halogen-exchanged **2'e** and **2'e'** in total 17% yield. As main product, **1a** gave an inseparable mixture of three types of 3-aryl-3-hydroxy-2-hydroxyiminopropionates in ca. 30% yield. **1d** and **1e** gave 5-bromo-4-methoxysalicylaldehyde (**4g**) in 21–25% yield.



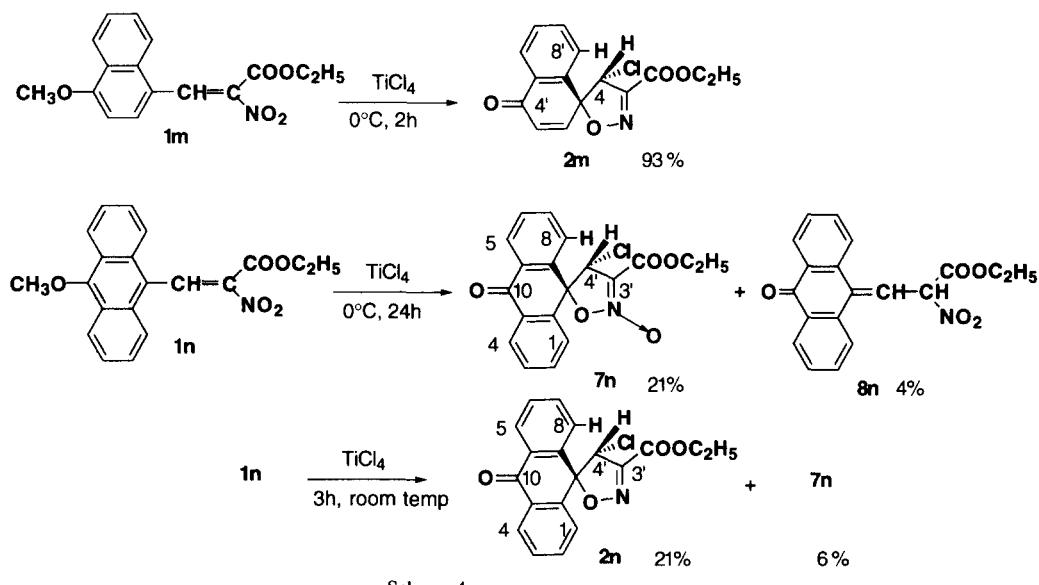
The structures of **2** were established by IR, Mass, ¹H and ¹³C NMR as shown in Table 2 and 3. The stereochemistry of 6-unsubstituted and 6-methylsubstituted spiroisoxazolines as (4 α ,5 β)-isomer were clear from NOE experiments (**2c**, **2f**, **2g**, **2i** and **2'a'**). 6-Methoxy-substituted spiroisoxazolines were confirmed by NOE experiment and long-rang heteronuclear coupling constants ($J_{C,H}$).⁸ For **2k**, NOE was not observed between H-4 and C₆-OCH₃, and also between H-4 and H-10. In **2b**, **2j** and **2k**, vicinal (³ J) C-H coupling constant was larger for C-6 than C-10. **2k** also has the same relative structure (4 α ,5 β). Compound **6b** was determined by NOE experiments (CH₃O and H-7, CH₃O and H-9), and a HMBC cross peak (³ $J_{(CH)}$) which was seen between H-4 signal and CO carbon signal (δ =192.5).



On the basis of absence of NOE between H-4 and H-10, the stereochemistry of 6-halosubstituted spiroisoxazolines was deduced and they were confirmed by chemical shifts and/or ³ $J_{C,H}$. Bromine atom

rather than chlorine atom affected downfield shift for H-10, and C-10 in *cis* relationship (example; **2d** (C_4 -Cl): $\delta_H = 7.04$, $\delta_C = 140.3$, $2'd$ (C_4 -Br): $\delta_H = 7.07$, $\delta_C = 142.8$ ppm). In **21'**, **2'e** and **2'e'**, $^3J_{(C6,H4)}$ was larger than $^3J_{(C10,H4)}$.

The reaction could be extended to a range of aryl groups and the results are showed in scheme 4. Fortunately the reaction of 4-methoxy-1-naphthyl derivative **1m** gave near quantitative conversion to isolated spiroisoxazoline **2m** in 93% yield. H-4 of the isoxazoline ring and H-8' of the naphthalene ring were in a *cis*-orientation by NOE experiment. 10-Methoxy-9-anthryl derivative **1n** afforded spiroisoxazoline *N*-oxide **7n** as a major product and saturated nitro compound **8n**. The formation of **2n** from **1n** required a higher reaction temperature (room temp.) as compared with the reactions (0°C) of 4-methoxyphenyl derivatives **1b** - **1g** and **1i** - **1l** or 4-methoxy-1-naphthyl derivative **1m**. When the reaction was performed at room temperature, **2n** was formed in 21 % yield.

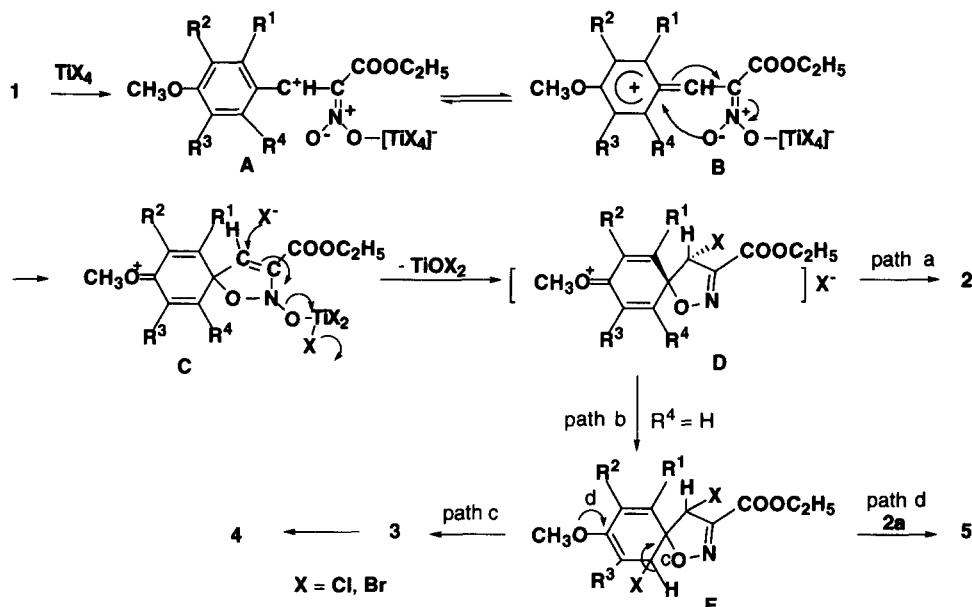


A mechanism consistent with the results detailed above involves coordination of $TiCl_4$ to the oxygen of nitro group to give a complex that can be represented as intermediate **B** (scheme 5). An *ipso* attack by oxygen of nitro group yields spiro intermediate **C**, which undergoes an attack by chloride anion followed by loss of $TiOCl_2^{1,10}$ yielding **D**. Then, **D** converts to spiroisoxazoline **2** by demethylation (path a). The stereoselectivity of nucleophilic addition of X^- in **C** ($R^4=H$) is rationalized by steric hindrance. Intermediate **C** from **1n** leads to spiroisoxazoline *N*-oxide **7n** by no cleavages of N-O bond involving oxidation at a lower temperature. **D** undergoes an attack on *ortho* position by chloride anion yielding intermediate **E**¹ (path b). Demethylation of **E** is followed by addition of **2a** to a dimer **5**. Oxime **3** is formed via aromatization of **E** followed by give salicylaldehyde **4**.

In summary, a novel synthesis of spiroisoxazolines has been accomplished using 3-aryl-2-nitroacrylates through $TiCl_4$ -induced intramolecular *ipso* attack by oxygen of nitro group. The prepared ($4\alpha,5\beta$)-4'-oxospiro[isoxazole-(4*H*)-5,1'(*4'H*)-naphthalene] (**2m**), 10-oxospiro[anthracene-(10*H*)-9,5'(*4'H*)-isoxazole]

(2n) exhibited cytotoxicity against murine leukemia P388(IC_{50} Values : 0.12 and 42 μ g/ml, respectively) *in vitro*.

We express sincere thanks to Dr. Katsuhiro Iinuma (Director, Pharmaceutical Technology Laboratories. Meiji Seika Kaisha Ltd., Kanagawa) for biological assay.



Scheme 5

Table 2 ^{13}C NMR data (δ , in $CDCl_3$) for 2

	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	COO	OCH ₂	CH ₃
2a	151.5	63.7	85.0	139.1	129.6	183.5	131.9	139.4	157.8	63.1	14.2
2b	151.2	64.0	85.3	168.5	102.1	185.4	130.4	136.5	158.0	62.9	14.0
2c	151.2	64.6	87.4	151.3	128.3	184.2	130.0	141.2	157.9	63.1	14.0
2d	151.1	64.6	86.6	148.2	129.6	182.3	129.3	140.3	157.5	63.1	14.0
2d'	151.2	64.3	88.2	148.3	128.2	175.3	126.0	140.2	157.3	63.3	14.0
2f	151.7	63.7	85.8	134.5	137.2	184.5	132.0	139.3	158.1	63.0	14.0
2g	151.8	63.1	86.9	139.4	127.3	176.7	130.7	139.9	157.7	63.2	14.0
2i	151.2	64.7	88.3	144.6	133.9	184.0	129.3	140.6	158.1	63.0	14.0
2j	151.3	63.7	88.2	155.1	136.5	186.7	129.6	136.3	158.0	62.8	14.0
2k	151.5	63.7	88.1	169.0	101.3	180.3	151.3	103.3	158.2	62.8	14.0
2l	150.2	64.3	89.6	148.7	129.5	180.3	129.9	148.7	157.4	63.4	14.0
2l'	150.2	64.7	90.8	144.1	134.0	173.8	128.9	149.1	157.3	63.4	14.0
2'a'	152.5	50.6	86.5	138.9	127.0	176.7	130.4	142.3	157.6	63.2	14.0
2'd	151.7	51.9	86.1	147.9	129.4	182.4	128.7	142.8	157.6	63.1	14.0
2'e	151.7	52.8	86.5	139.5	133.7	181.8	128.4	143.4	157.6	63.1	14.0
2'd'	151.7	51.3	87.9	148.3	127.9	175.6	125.4	142.8	157.4	63.3	14.0
2'e'	151.7	52.3	88.3	140.0	132.2	175.1	125.0	143.4	157.4	63.2	14.0

$^3J(C_6H_4)=6.5\text{Hz}, ^3J(C_{10}H_4)=5.0\text{Hz}$

$^3J(C_6H_4)=5.5\text{Hz}, ^3J(C_{10}H_4)=2.0\text{Hz}$

$^3J(C_6H_4)=5.5\text{Hz}, ^3J(C_{10}H_4)=2.0\text{Hz}$

Table 3. ^1H NMR data (δ , in CDCl_3) for **2**

	H-4	H-6	H-7	H-9	H-10
2a	5.27	6.62(dd, 10.0, 3.0)	6.32(dd, 10.0, 1.5)	6.48(dd, 10.0, 1.5)	7.10(dd, 10.0, 3.0)
2b	5.57	-	5.57(d, 1.5)	6.32(dd, 10.0, 1.5)	6.83(d, 10.0)
2c	5.38	-	6.11(dq, 1.9, 1.3)	6.37(dd, 10.0, 1.9)	7.01(d, 10.0)
2d	5.63	-	6.49(d, 1.9)	6.41(dd, 10.0, 1.9)	7.04(d, 10.0)
2d'	5.64	-	6.61	-	7.46
2f	5.26	6.39(dq, 3.0, 1.3)	-	6.46(d, 10.0)	7.07(dd, 10.0, 3.0)
2g	5.32	7.05(d, 3.0)	-	6.59(d, 10.0)	7.15(dd, 10.0, 3.0)
2i	5.38	-	-	6.36(d, 10.0)	6.93(d, 10.0)
2j	5.59	-	-	6.25(d, 10.0)	6.76(d, 10.0)
2k	5.50	-	5.54	-	5.66
2l	5.81	-	6.57	6.57	-
2l'	5.82	-	-	6.69	-
2'a'	5.36	7.08(d, 3.0)	-	6.55(d, 10.0)	7.17(dd, 10.0, 3.0)
2'd	5.63	-	6.46(d, 1.8)	6.36(dd, 10.0, 1.8)	7.07(d, 10.0)
2'e	5.60	-	6.72(d, 1.8)	6.38(dd, 10.0, 1.8)	7.13(d, 10.0)
2'd'	5.63	-	6.57	-	7.49
2'e'	5.60	-	6.82	-	7.55
	OCH ₂	CH ₃	others	NOE	
2a	4.42(q, 7.1)	1.40(t, 7.1)	-	H-4 and H-6 (3%)	
2b	4.42(q, 7.1)	1.40(t, 7.1)	3.75(CH ₃ O)	*	
2c	4.43(q, 7.1)	1.40(t, 7.1)	1.88(d, 1.3, CH ₃)	H-4 and CH ₃ (2%)	
2d	4.43(q, 7.1)	1.40(t, 7.1)	-		
2d'	4.44(q, 7.1)	1.41(t, 7.1)	-		
2f	4.43 and 4.44(dq, 10.5, 7.1)	1.41(t, 7.1)	1.93(d, 1.3, CH ₃)	H-4 and H-6 (4%)	
2g	4.42 and 4.43(dq, 10.5, 7.1)	1.43(t, 7.1)	-	H-4 and H-6 (5%)	
2i	4.42(q, 7.1)	1.40(t, 7.1)	1.83(q, 1.0, C ₆ -CH ₃), 1.91(q, 1.0, C ₇ -CH ₃)	H-4 and C ₆ -CH ₃ (4%)	
2j	4.42(q, 7.1)	1.40(t, 7.1)	3.78(C ₇ -OCH ₃), 4.05(C ₆ -OCH ₃)	*	
2k	4.42(q, 7.1)	1.40(t, 7.1)	3.74(C ₆ -OCH ₃), 3.77(C ₉ -OCH ₃)	*	
2l	4.42 and 4.46(dq, 10.5, 7.1)	1.42(t, 7.1)			
2l'	4.42 and 4.46(dq, 10.5, 7.1)	1.42(t, 7.1)			
2'a'	4.42 and 4.45(dq, 10.5, 7.1)	1.40(t, 7.1)		H-4 and H-6 (6%)	
2'd	4.44(q, 7.1)	1.41(t, 7.1)			
2'e	4.44(q, 7.1)	1.41(t, 7.1)			
2'd'	4.44(q, 7.1)	1.42(t, 7.1)			
2'e'	4.44(q, 7.1)	1.42(t, 7.1)			

COPING constants(Hz) in parenthesis

*) Scheme 3

Experimental

Melting points (uncorrected) were determined on a Yamatokagaku MP-1 apparatus. Mass spectra were obtained on JEOL JMS-AX505HA mass spectrometer. NMR spectra were recorded on Varian VXR-300 or XL-400 spectrometer. Infrared spectra were determined on a JASCO IR-810 spectrometer. Ethyl nitroacetate is commercially available (Fluka AG), but expensive. Therefore, it has been prepared.¹¹ 4-Methoxy-2-methylbenzaldehyde, 2-chloro-4-methoxybenzaldehyde, 2-bromo-4-methoxybenzaldehyde, 2,6-dichloro-4-methoxybenzaldehyde, 10-methyl-9-anthrinaldehyde were prepared by reaction of the corresponding arene with dichloromethyl methyl ether. Ethyl 3-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-2-nitroacrylate (**1a**),¹² ethyl 3-(3',4'-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-nitroacrylate (**1h**),¹³ ethyl 3-(2',4',6'-trimethoxyphenyl)-2-nitroacrylate¹⁴ were reported.

General procedure for the synthesis of ethyl 3-aryl-2-nitroacrylates (**1b-1g, 1i-1n**)

Ethyl 3-aryl-2-nitroacrylates were prepared by the procedure of Dornow et al.¹⁵ The reaction gave a mixture of *Z* and *E* isomers. The two isomers were separated by column chromatography followed by fractional recrystallization (**1d, 1e, 1l, 1m** and **1n**). Structural assignments were attempted on the basis of the work of

Watarai¹⁶ or Babievskii.¹⁷ The spectra data of **1b** - **1g**, **1i** - **1n** are as follows.

Ethyl 3-(2',4'-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-nitroacrylate (1b) : Yield 64%. A 3:1 mixture of Z and E isomer: Mp 88.0 - 90.0 °C(benzene-ligroin). IR(KBr, cm⁻¹): 1730(ester CO), 1540(NO₂), 1380 and 1330 (NO₂). ¹H NMR(300MHz, CDCl₃, δ): Z isomer; 1.35(3H, t, J = 7.0Hz, CH₃), 3.84 and 3.85(3H, s, each CH₂O), 4.35(2H, q, J = 7.1Hz, OCH₂), 6.43(1H, d, J = 2.2Hz, H-3'), 6.47 (1H, dd, J = 8.5 and 2.2Hz, H-5'), 7.28(1H, d, J = 8.5Hz, H-6'), 7.89 (1H, s, H-3); E isomer 1.35(3H, t, J = 7.0Hz, CH₃), 3.86 and 3.87(3H, s, each CH₂O), 4.40(2H, q, J = 7.1Hz, OCH₂), 6.44 (1H, d, J = 2.2Hz, H-3'), 6.50(1H, dd, J = 8.5 and 2.2Hz, H-5'), 7.37(1H, d, J = 8.5Hz, H-6'), 8.42 (1H, s, H-3). ¹³C NMR(100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): Z-isomer 14.5(CH₃), 55.9(2 x CH₂O), 62.9(OCH₂), 98.7(C-3'), 106.4(C-5'), 111.5, 128.4(C-3), 130.9(C-6'), 138.6, 160.3, 160.7, 164.9; E-isomer; 13.8(CH₃), 55.6 and 55.7(CH₂O), 62.6(OCH₂), 98.3(C-3'), 106.2(C-5'), 111.1, 131.7(C-6'), 132.2(C-3), 139.8, 161.0, 162.1, 165.1. MS(*m/z*, rel.%): 281(M⁺, 61), 162(100). Anal. Found: C 55.57, H 5.39, N 4.87. Calcd for C₁₃H₁₅NO₆: C 55.51, H 5.38, N 4.98.

Ethyl 3-(4'-methoxy-2'-methylphenyl)-2-nitroacrylate (1c) : Yield 28%. Z isomer : Mp 77-79 °C (dichloromethane-hexane). IR(KBr, cm⁻¹): 1700(ester CO), 1535 and 1375(NO₂). ¹H NMR(300MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 1.35(3H, t, J = 7.0Hz, CH₃), 2.41(3H, s, CH₃), 3.81(3H, s, CH₂O), 4.37(2H, q, J = 7.1Hz, OCH₂), 6.72(1H, dd, J = 9.0 and 2.5Hz, H-5'), 6.78(1H, d, J = 2.5Hz, H-3'), 7.29(1H, d, J = 9.0 Hz, H-6'), 7.72(1H, s, H-3). ¹³C NMR(100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 14.1(CH₃), 20.2(CH₃), 55.3(CH₂O), 62.8(OCH₂), 112.3(C-5'), 116.6(C-3'), 120.8, 129.4(C-6'), 130.9(C-3), 139.8, 141.2, 159.5, 162.2. HRMS: *m/z* 265.0952, Calcd for C₁₃H₁₅NO₅ : M, 265.0950.

Ethyl 3-(2'-chloro-4'-methoxyphenyl)-2-nitroacrylate (1d) : Yield 83% (*E*:*Z* = 1:1): MS(*m/z*, rel%): 287/285 (M⁺, 18/52), 222(100). HRMS: *m/z*, 287.0377/285.0399, Calcd for C₁₂H₁₂NO₅Cl : M+2/M, 287.0375/285.0404. Z isomer : Mp 78-80 °C (dichloromethane-hexane). IR(KBr, cm⁻¹) : 1720(ester CO), 1540 and 1370(NO₂). ¹H NMR(300 MHz, CDCl₃, δ) : 1.36(3H, t, J = 7.1Hz, CH₃), 3.83(3H, s, CH₂O), 4.38(2H, q, J = 7.0Hz, OCH₂), 6.80 (1H, dd, J = 9.0 and 2.5 Hz, H-5'), 7.00(1H, d, J = 2.5 Hz, H-3'), 7.34(1H, d, J = 9.0 Hz, H-6'), 7.89(1H, s, H-3). ¹³C NMR(75MHz, CDCl₃, δ) : 14.0 (CH₃), 55.8(CH₂O), 63.0(OCH₂), 113.9(C-5'), 115.8(C-3'), 119.9, 128.9(C-3), 130.0(C-6'), 137.2, 140.4, 159.1, 162.7. E isomer : oil. IR(film, cm⁻¹): 1740(ester CO), 1540 and 1330(NO₂). ¹H NMR(300MHz, CDCl₃, δ) : 1.32(3H, t, J = 7.0Hz, CH₃), 3.85(3H, s, CH₂O), 4.40(2H, q, J = 7.0 Hz, OCH₂), 6.82(1H, dd, J = 9.0 and 2.5 Hz, H-5'), 7.03(1H, d, J = 2.5 Hz, H-3'), 7.45(1H, d, J = 9.0 Hz, H-6'), 8.41(1H, s, C-3). ¹³C NMR(75MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 13.8(CH₃), 55.8(CH₂O), 63.0(OCH₂), 113.8(C-2'), 115.7 (C-3'), 119.9, 130.9(C-6'), 132.9(C-3), 138.2, 140.4, 161.1, 163.1.

Ethyl 3-(2'-bromo-4'-methoxyphenyl)-2-nitroacrylate (1e) : Yield 82% (*E* :*Z* = 1:1). Z isomer : Mp 77.0-79.0 °C(ethyl acetate-hexane). IR(KBr, cm⁻¹) : 1710(ester CO), 1535 and 1370(NO₂). ¹H NMR(300MHz, CDCl₃, δ) : 1.35(3H, t, J = 7.1Hz, CH₃), 3.81(3H, s, CH₂O), 4.37(2H, q, J = 7.1Hz, OCH₂), 6.82(1H, dd, J = 9.0 and 3.0Hz, H-5'), 7.18(1H, d, J = 3.0Hz, H-3'), 7.30(1H, d, J = 9.0Hz, H-6'), 7.83(1H, s, CH). ¹³C NMR(100MHz, CDCl₃, δ) : 14.0(CH₃), 55.7(CH₂O), 63.0(OCH₂), 114.2(C-5'), 119.0(C-3'), 121.7(C-2'), 127.0(C-1'), 130.0(C-6'), 131.5(C-3), 140.6(C-2), 159.0(COO), 162.4(C-4'). MS(*m/z*, rel%): 331/329(M⁺, 45/44), 222(100). Anal. Found : C 43.62, H 3.74, N 4.14, Br 24.20. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₂BrNO₅ : C 43.66, H 3.66, N 4.24, Br 24.20. E isomer : oil. IR(film, cm⁻¹) : 1740 (ester CO), 1540 and 1330(NO₂). ¹H NMR(300MHz, CDCl₃, δ) : 1.30(3H, t, J = 7.0Hz, CH₃), 3.84(3H, s, CH₂O), 4.38(2H, q, J = 7.1Hz, OCH₂), 6.86(1H, dd, J = 9.0 and 3.0Hz, H-5'), 7.21(1H, d, J = 3.0Hz, H-3'), 7.42(1H, d, J = 9.0Hz, H-6'), 8.35(1H, s, CH). ¹³C NMR(100MHz, CDCl₃, δ) : 13.7(CH₃), 55.8(CH₂O), 63.0 (OCH₂), 114.1(C-5'), 119.0 (C-3'), 121.5(C-2'), 128.0(C-1'), 130.9(C-6'), 135.3(C-3), 141.7(C-2), 160.9(COO),

162.8(C-4'). HRMS: m/z 330.9921/328.9903. Calcd for $C_{12}H_{12}BrNO_5$: M+2/M, 330.9878/328.9899.

Ethyl 3-(4'-methoxy-3'-methylphenyl)-2-nitroacrylate (1f) : Yield 64%. Z isomer : Mp 114.0-115.5 °C (benzene-hexane). IR(KBr, cm⁻¹): 1720(ester CO), 1540 and 1385(NO₂). ¹H NMR(300MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 1.35(3H, t, J =7.0Hz, CH₃), 2.19(3H, s, CH₃), 3.87(3H, s, CH₂O), 4.35(2H, q, J =7.1Hz, OCH₂), 6.83(1H, d, J =8.5Hz, H-5'), 7.20(1H, dd, J =2.2 and 0.5Hz, H-2'), 7.29(1H, dd, J =8.5 and 2.2Hz, H-6'), 7.43(1H, s, H-3). ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 14.1(CH₃), 16.1(CH₃), 55.5(CH₂O), 62.7(OCH₂), 110.4(C-5'), 120.9, 128.0, 130.1(C-6'), 132.4(C-2'), 132.9(C-3), 137.9, 159.7(COO), 161.2(C-4'). Anal. Found: C 58.58, H 5.68, N 5.24. Calcd for $C_{13}H_{13}NO_5$: C 58.86, H 5.71, N 5.28.

Ethyl 3-(3'-bromo-4'-methoxyphenyl)-2-nitroacrylate (1g) : Yield 87%. Z isomer : Mp 142.6-144.3 °C (toluene-hexane). IR(KBr, cm⁻¹): 1715(ester CO), 1530 and 1365(NO₂). ¹H NMR(300MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 1.35(3H, t, J =7.0Hz, CH₃), 3.94(3H, s, CH₂O), 4.37(2H, q, J =7.5 and 3.5Hz, CH₂), 6.91(1H, d, J =8.5Hz, H-5'), 7.37 (1H, dd, J =8.5 and 2.5Hz, H-6'), 7.39(1H, s, CH), 7.62(1H, d, J =2.5Hz, H-2'). ¹³C NMR(100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 14.0(CH₃), 56.5(CH₂O), 63.0(OCH₂), 112.2(C-5'), 112.6(C-3'), 122.6(C-1'), 130.4(C-6'), 131.1(C-3), 135.3(C-2'), 139.2(C-2), 158.9(COO), 159.2(C-4'). MS(m/z , rel%): 331/329(M⁺, 90/89), 212(100). Anal. Found: C 43.49, H 3.59, N 4.25, Br 24.15. Calcd for $C_{12}H_{12}BrNO_5$: C 43.66, H 3.66, N 4.24, Br 24.20.

Ethyl 3-(4'-methoxy-2',3'-dimethylphenyl)-2-nitroacrylate (1i) : Yield 35%. A 4:9 mixture of Z and E isomer : Mp 75-76 °C (dichloromethane-hexane). IR(KBr, cm⁻¹): 1730 (ester CO), 1530, 1330 and 1305(NO₂). ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃, δ): Z isomer ; 1.36(3H, t, J =7.0Hz, CH₃), 2.16(3H, s, C₃-CH₃), 2.30(3H, C₂-CH₃), 3.82(3H, s, CH₃), 4.37(2H, q, J =7.0Hz, OCH₂), 6.69(1H, d, J =8.2Hz, H-5'), 7.18(1H, d, J =8.2Hz, H-6'), 7.82(1H, s, H-3); E isomer ; 1.30(3H, t, J =7.1Hz, CH₃), 2.18(3H, s, C₃-CH₃), 2.34(C₂-CH₃), 3.85(3H, s, CH₃), 4.36(2H, q, J =7.1Hz, CH₂), 6.72(1H, d, J =8.2Hz, H-5'), 7.28(1H, d, J =8.2Hz, H-6'), 8.38(1H, s, H-3). ¹³C NMR(100MHz, CDCl₃, δ) : Z isomer ; 11.8(C₃-CH₃), 14.0(ester CH₃), 16.4(C₂-CH₃), 55.5(CH₂O), 62.7(OCH₂), 108.2(C-5'), 121.1(C-1'), 126.1, 126.4(C-6'), 133.1(C-3), 138.2, 140.6(C-2), 160.0, 160.6; E isomer; 11.8(C₃-CH₃), 13.7(ester CH₃), 16.4(C₂-CH₃), 55.5(CH₂O), 62.7(OCH₂), 107.9(C-5'), 120.9(C-1'), 126.4, 127.6(C-6'), 136.4(C-3), 139.4, 141.1(C-2), 159.4, 161.5. MS(m/z , rel%): 279(M⁺, 100). HRMS : m/z , 279.1097 Calcd for $C_{14}H_{17}NO_5$: M, 279.1107.

Ethyl 3-(2',3',4'-trimethoxyphenyl)-2-nitroacrylate (1j) : Yield 78% (E :Z =1:1). Z isomer : Mp 69.5 °C (toluene-hexane). IR(KBr, cm⁻¹): 1720(ester CO), 1520 and 1380(NO₂). ¹H NMR(300MHz, CDCl₃, δ) : 1.35(3H, t, J =7.1Hz, CH₃), 3.85(3H, s, C₃-OCH₃), 3.89(3H, s, C₄-OCH₃), 3.95(3H, s, C₂-OCH₃), 4.36(2H, q, J =7.1Hz, CH₂), 6.65(1H, s, J =9.0Hz, H-5'), 7.09 (1H, s, J =9.0Hz, H-6'), 7.83(1H, s, H-3). ¹³C NMR(100MHz, CDCl₃, δ) : 14.1(CH₃), 56.1(C₄-OCH₃), 60.9(C₃-OCH₃), 61.9(C₂-OCH₃), 62.7 (OCH₂), 107.8(C-5'), 116.0(C-1'), 124.0(C-6'), 127.8(C-3), 139.2(C-2), 142.0, 153.9, 157.3, 159.6 (COO). MS(m/z , rel%): 311(M⁺, 100). HRMS: m/z , 311.1018, Calcd for $C_{14}H_{17}NO_5$: M, 311.1005. E isomer from the mixture of E and Z isomer : ¹H NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃, δ); 1.34(3H, t, J =7.0Hz, CH₃), 3.85(3H, s, C₃-CH₂O), 3.91(3H, s, C₂-CH₂O), 3.94(3H, s, C₂-OCH₃), 4.40(2H, q, J =7.0Hz, CH₂), 6.69(1H, s, J =8.0Hz, H-5'), 7.19 (1H, s, J =8.0Hz, H-6'), 8.30(1H, s, H-3). ¹³C NMR(100MHz, CDCl₃, δ); 13.8(CH₃), 56.2(C₄-OCH₃), 60.9(C₃-OCH₃), 61.9(C₂-OCH₃), 62.7(OCH₂), 107.7(C-5'), 116.0(C-1'), 125.6(C-6'), 132.1(C-3), 140.9(C-2), 142.2, 154.3, 157.7, 161.7(COO).

Ethyl 3-(2',4',5'-trimethoxyphenyl)-2-nitroacrylate (1k) : Yield 46%(E :Z =1:7). Z isomer : Mp 93.4-94.8 °C (toluene-hexane). IR(KBr, cm⁻¹) : 1730(ester CO), 1520 and 1320(NO₂). ¹H NMR(300MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 1.34(3H,

t, $J = 7.0\text{Hz}$, CH_3), 3.77 (3H, s, $\text{C}_5\text{-CH}_3\text{O}$), 3.87 (3H, s, $\text{C}_2\text{-CH}_3\text{O}$), 3.93(3H, s, $\text{C}_4\text{-CH}_3\text{O}$), 4.35(2H, q, $J = 7.1\text{Hz}$, CH_2), 6.47(1H, s, H-3'), 6.80 (1H, s, H-6'), 7.92(1H, s, H-3). ^1H NMR(100MHz, CDCl_3 , δ): 14.1(CH_3), 56.1($\text{C}_4\text{-CH}_3\text{O}$), 56.2($\text{C}_2\text{-CH}_3\text{O}$), 56.3($\text{C}_5\text{-CH}_3\text{O}$), 62.5(OCH_2), 96.2(C-3'), 109.3 (C-1'), 110.6(C-6'), 127.3(C-3), 138.0(C-2), 143.4(C-5'), 154.1(C-4'), 155.1(C-2'), 160.0 (COO). MS(m/z , rel%): 311(M $^+$, 100). Anal. Found : C 53.75, H 5.46, N 4.50. Calcd for $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{17}\text{NO}$: C 54.01, H 5.50, N 4.50. E isomer from the mixture of E and Z isomer : ^1H NMR (300MHz, CDCl_3 , δ): 1.35(3H, t, $J = 7.0\text{Hz}$, CH_3), 3.79(3H, s, $\text{C}_5\text{-CH}_3\text{O}$), 3.89(3H, s, $\text{C}_2\text{-CH}_3\text{O}$), 3.95(3H, s, $\text{C}_4\text{-CH}_3\text{O}$), 4.40(2H, q, $J = 7.1\text{Hz}$, CH_2), 6.48(1H, s, H-3'), 6.96 (1H, s, H-6'), 8.47(1H, s, H-3). ^{13}C NMR(100MHz, CDCl_3 , δ): 13.5(CH_3), 56.1($\text{C}_4\text{-CH}_3\text{O}$), 56.3($\text{C}_2\text{-CH}_3\text{O}$), 56.3($\text{C}_5\text{-CH}_3\text{O}$), 62.7(OCH_2), 96.1(C-3'), 109.2(C-1'), 111.7(C-6'), 131.9(C-3), 139.4(C-2), 143.3(C-5'), 154.8(C-4'), 156.01(C-2'), 162.3(COO).

Ethyl 3-(2',6'-dichloro-4'-methoxyphenyl)-2-nitroacrylate (1l) : Yield 76%(E :Z=5:2). Z isomer : Mp 75.0°C (toluene-hexane). IR(KBr, cm^{-1}) : 1730(ester CO), 1540 and 1370(NO_2). ^1H NMR(300MHz, CDCl_3 , δ) : 1.39 (3H, t, $J=7.0\text{Hz}$, CH_3), 3.81(3H, s, CH_3O), 4.41(2H, q, $J=7.0\text{Hz}$, CH_2), 6.85(2H, s, H-3' and H-5'), 7.63(1H, s, H-3). ^{13}C NMR (100MHz, CDCl_3 , δ): 14.0(CH_3), 55.9(CH_3O), 63.3(CH_2), 114.4(C-3' and C-5'), 120.5, 131.7(C-3), 134.7(C-2' and 6'), 145.1, 158.7, 161.0. HRMS : m/z 320.9998/ 318.9995. Calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}_3\text{Cl}_2$: M+2/M, 320.9987/ 319.0014. E isomer : Mp 123-125 °C(ethyl acetate -hexane). IR(KBr, cm^{-1}) : 1745(ester CO), 1540 and 1340(NO_2). ^1H NMR(300MHz, CDCl_3 , δ) : 1.18(3H, t, $J=7.0\text{Hz}$, CH_3), 3.84(3H, s, CH_3O), 4.26(2H, q, $J=7.0\text{Hz}$, CH_2), 6.93(2H, s, H-3' and H-5'), 7.92(1H, s, H-3). ^{13}C NMR(100MHz, CDCl_3 , δ) : 13.6(CH_3), 56.0(CH_3O), 62.8(CH_2), 114.4(C-3' and C-5'), 120.9, 134.0(C-3), 135.1(C-2' and 6'), 146.1, 159.1, 161.2. MS(m/z , rel%): 321/319(M $^+$, 6/9), 258/256(100/31). HRFABMS: m/z , 322.0047/ 320.0079 Calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{NO}_3\text{Cl}_2$: $\text{MH}^++2/\text{MH}^+$, 322.0065/ 320.0093.

Ethyl 3-(4'-methoxy-1'-naphthyl)-2-nitroacrylate (1m) : Yield 66%(E :Z=1:7). Z isomer : Mp 92.5-93.0°C (ethyl ether-petroleum ether). IR(KBr, cm^{-1}) : 1730(ester CO), 1540 and 1370(NO_2). ^1H NMR(300MHz, CDCl_3 , δ) : 1.40(3H, t, $J=7.1\text{Hz}$, CH_3), 4.03(3H, s, CH_3O), 4.43(2H, q, $J=7.1\text{Hz}$, OCH_2), 6.80(1H, d, $J=8.0\text{Hz}$, H-3'), 7.56(1H, m, H-6'), 7.59(1H, dd, $J=8.0$ and 1.0Hz, H-2'), 7.64(1H, td, $J=8.0$ and 1.7Hz, H-7'), 7.95(1H, d, $J=8.0\text{Hz}$, H-8'), 8.27(1H, s, H-3), 8.33(1H, dd, $J=8.0$ and 1.5Hz, H-5'). ^{13}C NMR (100MHz, CDCl_3 , δ) : 14.1(CH_3), 55.7(CH_3O), 62.9(OCH_2), 104.0(C-3'), 118.4(C-4a'), 122.8(C-8'), 122.9(C-5'), 125.5, 126.0(C-6'), 128.1(C-7'), 128.3(C-2'), 131.1(C-3), 132.5, 141.2(C-2), 158.6(COO), 159.4(C-4'). Anal. Found : C 63.56, H 4.97, N 4.58. Calcd for $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_5$: C 63.78, H 5.02, N 4.65. E isomer : Mp 90.5-92.5°C(ethyl ether-petroleum ether). IR(KBr, cm^{-1}) : 1730(ester CO), 1520 and 1330(NO_2). ^1H NMR(300MHz, CDCl_3 , δ) : 1.28(3H, t, $J=7.1\text{Hz}$, CH_3), 4.06(3H, s, CH_3O), 4.37(2H, q, $J=7.1\text{Hz}$, OCH_2), 6.83(1H, d, $J=8.0\text{Hz}$, H-3'), 7.57(1H, m, H-6'), 7.64(1H, m, H-7'), 7.69(1H, dd, $J=8.0$ and 1.0Hz, H-2'), 8.00(1H, d, $J=8.0\text{Hz}$, H-8'), 8.35(1H, dd, $J=8.0$ and 1.5Hz, H-5'), 8.72(1H, s, H-3). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3 , δ) : 13.7(CH_3), 55.8(CH_3O), 62.8(OCH_2), 103.6(C-3'), 118.4(C-4a'), 123.0(C-8'), 123.0(C-5'), 125.6, 126.2(C-6'), 128.3(C-7'), 129.5(C-2'), 132.9, 134.6(C-3), 141.2(C-2), 159.3(COO), 161.5(C-4'). Anal. Found: C 64.05, H 5.07, N 4.79.

Ethyl 3-(10'-methoxy-9'-anthryl)-2-nitroacrylate (1n) : Yield 21%(E :Z=7:6). Z isomer : Mp 127.0-128.0°C(ethyl ether). IR(KBr, cm^{-1}) : 1720(ester CO), 1540 and 1370(NO_2). ^1H NMR(300MHz, CDCl_3 , δ) : 1.35(3H, t, $J=7.0\text{Hz}$, CH_3), 4.16(3H, s, CH_3O), 4.51(2H, q, $J=7.0\text{Hz}$, OCH_2), 7.52(2H, dd, $J=8.5$ and 6.5Hz, H-3' and H-6'), 7.56(2H, m, H-2' and H-7'), 7.92-7.97(2H, m, H-1' and H-8'), 8.32-8.36(2H, m, H-4' and H-5'), 8.50(1H, s, H-3). ^{13}C NMR (100MHz, CDCl_3 , δ) : 14.1(CH_3), 63.4(OCH_2), 63.6(CH_3O), 118.7(C-4a' and C-10a'), 123.0(C-4' and C-5'), 124.1(2C), 125.0(C-1' and C-8'), 125.5(C-3' and C-6'), 127.1(C-2' and C-7'), 129.7(C-9'), 134.6(C-3),

146.3(C-2), 154.7(C-10'), 158.6(COO). Anal. Found : C 68.37, H 4.88, N 3.99. Calcd for $C_{20}H_{17}NO_5$: C 68.30, H 4.85, N 3.86. *E* isomer : oil. IR(film, cm^{-1}) : 1740(ester CO), 1540 and 1335(NO_2). ^1H NMR(300MHz, CDCl_3 , δ) : 0.56(3H, t, $J=7.1\text{Hz}$, CH_3), 3.83(2H, q, $J=7.0\text{Hz}$, OCH_2), 4.18(3H, s, CH_3O), 7.54(2H, td, $J=6.5$ and 2.0Hz , H-3' and H-6'), 7.58(2H, td, $J=6.5$ and 2.0Hz , H-2' and H-7'), 7.95–8.01(2H, m, H-1' and H-8'), 8.35–8.39(2H, m, H-4' and H-5'), 8.91(1H, s, H-3). ^{13}C NMR (100MHz, CDCl_3 , δ) : 12.9(CH_3), 62.3(OCH_2), 63.7(CH_3O), 119.1(C-4a') and C-10a'), 123.0(C-4' and C-5'), 124.1(2C), 124.9(C-1' and C-8'), 125.5(C-3' and C-6'), 127.3(C-2' and C-7'), 130.2(C-9'), 136.8(C-3), 146.5(C-2), 155.1(C-10'), 159.5(COO). Anal. Found : C 68.53, H 4.96, N 3.70.

General procedure for the synthesis of spiroisoxazolines (2)

Titanium tetrachloride(0.22 ml, 2 mmol) was added to a solution of **1a** - **1g**, **1j** - **1n** (1 mmol) in dichloromethane (20 ml) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred during two hours. Water (20 ml) was added and resulting solution was extracted with dichloromethane (3 x 40 ml), washed with water (3 x 60 ml), dried over Na_2SO_4 , and evaporated. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel (toluene → toluene: ethyl acetate 10:1 gradient) to give **2a** - **2g**, **2i** - **2n**. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR data for **2a** - **2g**, **2i** - **2l** is listed in Table 2 and 3.

Ethyl 4-chloro-8-oxo-1-oxa-2-azaspiro[4,5]deca-2,6,9-triene-3-carboxylate (2a), and **Ethyl 4,2',4'''-trichloro-4',4'''-dioxodispiro[isoxazole-5(4H),1'-3',2":5',6":6',3"-bicyclohexane-1",5'''(4'''H)-isoxazole]-3,3'''-dicarboxylate (5)**. (1)Reaction in 20 ml of dichloromethane : A solution of hexane and ethyl acetate (8:1) was added to the crude product obtained from **1a**. The precipitates were filtered to give **5** (76 mg, 28%). Evaporation of the filtrate gave a residue, which was chromatographed on silica gel(toluene: ethyl acetate 10:1) to give **1a** (10 mg, 4%) and **2a** (120 mg, 47%). (2)Reaction in 50 ml of dichloromethane: The crude product was chromatographed on silica gel(toluene: ethyl acetate 10:1) to give 2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (**4a**) (18 mg, 12%), **1a** (31 mg, 12%) and **2a** (147 mg, 58%). **2a** : Mp 62.0–64.0 °C. IR(KBr, cm^{-1}) : 1730 (ester CO), 1675(CO). MS(m/z , rel%) : 257/255(M $^+$, 0.8/2.1), 142/140(M $^+$ -115, 34/100). Anal. Found : C 51.86, H 4.00, N 5.45, Cl 14.07. Calcd for $C_{11}H_{10}NO_4\text{Cl}$: C 51.68, H 3.64, N 5.48, Cl 13.87. **5** : Mp 206–210 °C (dichloromethane-methanol). ^1H NMR(400MHz, CDCl_3 , δ) : 1.37 and 1.38(each 3H, t, $J=7.0\text{Hz}$, CH_3), 2.76(1H, dd, $J=5.5$ and 1.8Hz , H-3'), 2.77(1H, dd, $J=18.8$ and 1.8Hz , H-5"), 3.03(1H, ddd, $J=6.5$, 5.5 and 1.8Hz , H-2"), 3.15(1H, ddd, $J=6.5$, 4.0 and 1.8Hz , H-6"), 3.17(1H, d, $J=6.5\text{Hz}$, H-6'), 3.19(1H, d, $J=6.5\text{Hz}$, H-3"), 3.28(1H, dd, $J=18.8$ and 4.0Hz , H-5"), 3.38(1H, t, $J=6.5\text{Hz}$, H-5'), 4.39(2H, q, $J=7.1\text{Hz}$, OCH_2), 4.38 and 4.40(each 1H, dq, $J=10.5$ and 7.1Hz , OCH), 4.51(1H, d, $J=1.8\text{Hz}$, H-2'), 4.85(1H, s, H-4''). ^{13}C NMR (100MHz, CDCl_3 , δ) : 14.0(2 x CH_3), 37.0(C-6"), 38.2(C-5"), 40.9(C-3"), 41.4(C-6'), 41.6(C-2"), 45.1(C-5'), 50.8(C-3'), 59.8(C-4''), 60.9(C-4), 62.0(C-2'), 63.0 and 63.3(OCH_2), 91.0(C-5), 91.7(C-5''), 152.8(C-3), 154.4(C-3''), 157.3 and 157.8(COO), 205.6(C-4'), 206.8(C-4''). FABMS : m/z , 573.0256/571.0207/569.0305 Calcd for $C_{22}H_{21}N_1O_8Cl\text{Na}$: $M\text{Na}^+ + 4/M\text{Na}^+ + 2/M\text{Na}^+$ 573.0214/ 571.0236/ 569.0261.

(4 α ,5 β)-Ethyl 4-chloro-6-methoxy-8-oxo-1-oxa-2-azaspiro[4,5]deca-2,6,9-triene-3-carboxylate (2b), and **4-chloro-8-methoxy-6-oxo-1-oxa-2-azaspiro[4,5]deca-2,7,9-triene-3-carboxylate (6b)**. The crude product was chromatographed on silica gel (toluene: ethyl acetate 10:1) to give **1b** (30 mg, 11%), **6b** (9 mg, 3%) and **2b** (153 mg, 54%). **2b** : Mp 113.0–113.5 °C (benzene-hexane). IR(KBr, cm^{-1}) : 1725 (ester CO), 1670(CO). MS(m/z , rel%) : 287/285(M $^+$, 4/12), 172/170(M $^+$ -115, 34/100). Anal. Found C 50.43, H 4.19, N 4.76, Cl 12.29. Calcd for $C_{12}H_{12}NO_4\text{Cl}$: C 50.45, H 4.23, N 4.90, Cl 12.41. **6b** : oil. IR(film, cm^{-1}) : 1730 (ester CO), 1660(CO). MS(m/z , rel%) : 287/285(M $^+$, 1.9/7.0), 250(100), 172/170(M $^+$ -115, 12/34). HRFABMS : m/z , 288.0465/

286.0487, Calcd for $C_{12}H_{13}NO_2Cl$: $MH^+ + 2/MH^+$, 288.0453/286.0482. 1H NMR(400MHz, $CDCl_3$, δ) : 1.38(3H, t, $J=7.0$ Hz, CH_3), 3.84(3H, s, OCH_3), 4.39(2H, q, $J=7.0$ Hz, OCH_2), 5.37(1H, d, $J=2.0$ Hz, H-7), 5.51(1H, s, H-4), 6.35(1H, dd, $J=10.0$ and 2.0 Hz, H-9), 6.56 (1H, d, $J=10.0$ Hz, H-10). ^{13}C NMR (100MHz, $CDCl_3$, δ) : 14.0(CH_3), 56.6(OCH_3), 62.7(OCH_2), 64.2 (C-4), 87.0 (C-5), 96.8(C-7), 127.1(C-9), 133.8(C-10), 150.7(C-3), 158.0(COO), 170.7(C-8), 192.4(CO).

(4 α ,5 β)-Ethyl 4-chloro-6-methyl-8-oxo-1-oxa-2-azaspiro[4,5]deca-2,6,9-triene-3-carboxylate (2c): Mp 86-87°C. IR(KBr, cm^{-1}) : 1735(ester CO), 1670(CO), 1640(CN). MS(m/z , rel%) : 271/269(M^+ , 8/24), 156/154(M^+ -115, 34/100). HRMS : m/z , 271.0427/269.0461 Calcd for $C_{12}H_{12}ClNO_4$: $M+2/M$, 271.0430/ 269.0455.

(4 α ,5 β)-Ethyl 4,6-dichloro-8-oxo-1-oxa-2-azaspiro[4,5]deca-2,6,9-triene-3-carboxylate (2d) : Mp 73.0-73.5 °C(ethanol). IR(film, cm^{-1}) : 1730(ester CO), 1670(CO). MS(m/z , rel%) : 291/289(M^+ , 17/25), 176/174(M^+ -115, 77/100). HRMS : m/z , 292.9854/ 290.9880/ 288.9897, Calcd for $C_{11}H_9NO_4Cl_2$: $M+4/M+2/M$, 292.9857/ 290.9881/ 288.9909.

(4 α ,5 β)-Ethyl 4-bromo-6-chloro-, 9-bromo-4,6-dichloro- and 4,9-dibromo-6-chloro-8-oxo-1-oxa-2-azaspiro[4,5]deca-2,6,9-triene-3-carboxylate (2'd, 2d' and 2'd'), The crude product obtained from 1e was chromatographed on silica gel (toluene: ethyl acetate 10:1) to give a mixture of 2d' and 2'd' (47.5 mg, 8% and 2%, respectively) and a mixture of 2d and 2'd (224 mg, 47% and 26%, respectively). 2'd from the mixture of 2d and 2'd : MS(m/z , rel%); 337/335/333(M^+ , 9/35/27), 222/220/218(M^+ -115, 27/100/77). HRMS: m/z , 336.9326/ 334.9373/ 332.9407, Calcd for $C_{11}H_9NO_4BrCl$: $M+4/M+2/M$, 336.9358/ 334.9382/ 332.9403. 2d': MS(m/z , rel%) : 371/369/367(M^+ , 9/21/13), 256/254/252(M^+ -115, 45/100/ 59), HRMS : m/z , 370.8966/ 368.9027/ 366.9048, Calcd for $C_{11}H_8NO_4BrCl_2$: $M+4/M+2/M$, 370.8965/ 368.8990/ 366.9014 and 2'd' : MS(m/z , rel%): 415/413/411(M^+ , 11/15/8), 300/298/296(M^+ -115, 69/100/43). HRMS: m/z , 414.8445/ 412.8465/ 410.8522, Calcd for $C_{11}H_8NO_4Br_2Cl$: $M+4/M+2/M$, 414.8466/ 412.8487/ 410.8509.

(4 α ,5 β)-Ethyl 4-chloro-7-methyl-8-oxo-1-oxa-2-azaspiro[4,5]deca-2,6,9-triene-3-carboxylate (2f) and (E)-Ethyl 3-chloro-3-(2'-chloro-4'-methoxy-5'-methylphenyl)-2-hydroxyiminopropionate (3f). A solution of hexane and ethyl acetate (8:1) was added to the crude product obtained from 1f. The precipitates were filtered to give 3f (74 mg, 24%). Evaporation of the filtrate gave a residue, which was chromatographed on silica gel (toluene:ethyl acetate 10:1) to give 2f (113 mg, 42%), and 2-hydroxy-4-methoxy-5-methylbenzaldehyde (4f)(23 mg, 14%). 2f : oil. IR(film, cm^{-1}) : 1735(ester CO), 1680(CO), 1655(CN). MS(m/z , rel%); 271/269(M^+ , 2/5), 156/154(M^+ -115, 35/100). HRMS : m/z , 271.0438/269.0485, Calcd for $C_{12}H_{12}ClNO_4$: $M+2/M$, 271.0426/ 269.0455. 3f : Mp 125.0-125.5 °C(ethyl acetate-hexane). 1H NMR (400MHz, $CDCl_3$, δ) : 1.29(3H, t, $J=7.1$ Hz, ester CH_3), 2.21(3H, s, C_7-CH_3), 3.81(3H, s, OCH_3), 4.25 and 4.29(each 1H, dq, $J=10.5$ and 7.1Hz, OCH), 6.60(1H, s, H-3), 6.76(1H, s, H-3'), 7.73(1H, brs, H-6'), 9.88(1H, brs, OH). ^{13}C NMR(100MHz, $CDCl_3$, δ) : 13.9(ester CH_3), 16.0(C_5-CH_3), 47.9(C-3), 55.6(OCH_3), 62.2(ester OCH_2), 110.6(C-3'), 124.6(C-1'), 125.6(C-5'), 130.1(C-2'), 132.3(C-6'), 148.4(C-2), 158.2(C-4'), 161.1(COO). IR(KBr, cm^{-1}) ; 3280(OH), 1745(ester CO), 1610(C=N). MS(m/z , rel%) : 321/ 319(M^+ , 21/27), 286/284 (69/100). HRFABMS : m/z , 321.0365/ 319.0372, Calcd for $C_{13}H_{15}NO_4Cl_2$: $M+2/M$, 321.0351/ 319.0378.

(4 α ,5 β)-Ethyl 7-bromo-4-chloro-8-oxo-1-oxa-2-azaspiro[4,5]-2,6,9-triene-3-carboxylate (2g) and (E)-Ethyl 3-chloro-3-(5'-bromo-2'-chloro-4'-methoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxyiminopropionate (3g). The same

procedure as for **1f**, afforded **2g** (37 mg, 11 %), **3g** (239.5mg, 62%) and 5-bromo-2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (**4g**) (39 mg, 17%). **2g**: oil. IR(film, cm^{-1}) : 1730(ester CO), 1680(CO). MS(m/z , rel%); 335/333(M $^+$, 2/5), 220/218(M $^+$ -115, 73/100). HRFABMS : m/z , 359.9295/357.9279/355.9314, Calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{NO}_4\text{BrClNa}$: $\text{MNa}^{+}+4/\text{MNa}^{+}+2/\text{MNa}^{+}$, 359.9251/ 357.9281/ 355.9301. **3g** : Mp 119.0–120.0 °C(ethyl acetate-hexane). ^1H NMR (400MHz, CDCl_3 , δ) : 1.31(3H, t, $J=7.1\text{Hz}$, ester CH_3), 3.89(3H, s, OCH_3), 4.26 and 4.30(each 1H, dq, $J=3.5$ and 7.1Hz , OCH), 6.55(1H, s, H-3), 6.84(1H, s, H-3'), 8.16(1H, s, H-6'). ^{13}C NMR (100MHz, CDCl_3 , δ) : 13.9(ester CH_3), 47.1(C-3), 56.6(OCH_3), 62.4 (ester OCH_3), 110.1(C-5'), 112.3(C-3'), 126.8(C-1), 131.9(C-2'), 135.2(C-6'), 147.6(C-2), 156.3(C-4'), 160.9(COO). IR(KBr, cm^{-1}) : 3300(OH), 1740 (ester CO). MS(m/z , rel%) : 387/ 385/ 383 (M $^+$, 0.8/1.5/ 0.6), 250/248(100/95). Anal. Found : C 37.44, H 3.17, N 3.64, Br 20.64, Cl 18.71, Calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{NO}_4\text{BrCl}_2$: C 37.43, H 3.14, N 3.64, Br 20.75, Cl 18.41.

Ethyl 3-chloro-3-(2'-chloro-4',5'-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-hydroxyiminopropionate (3h). The same procedure as for **1f**, afforded **3h**, 2-hydroxy-4,5-dimethoxybenzaldehyde (**4h**) (77mg, 44%) and **1h** (36mg, 13%). **3h** could not be isolated. **3h** in the crude product : ^1H NMR(400MHz, CDCl_3 , δ) ; 1.28(3H, t, $J=7.1\text{Hz}$, CH_3), 3.85(3H, s, $\text{C}_5\text{-OCH}_3$), 3.91(3H, s, $\text{C}_4\text{-OCH}_3$), 4.24 and 4.28(each 1H, dq, $J=10.5$ and 7.1Hz , OCH), 6.62(1H, s, H-3), 6.89(1H, s, H-3'), 7.55(1H, s, H-6'). ^{13}C NMR(100MHz, CDCl_3 , δ) ; 13.9(ester CH_3), 48.1(C-3), 56.1(2 x OCH_3), 62.1(ester OCH_3), 111.8(C-3'), 113.4(C-6'), 123.8(C-1'), 125.3(C-2'), 147.7(C-4'), 148.4(C-2), 149.6(C-4'), 161.2(COO). HRFABMS : m/z , 337.0304/ 335.0349, Calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_5\text{Cl}_2$: M+2/M, 337.0300/ 335.0327.

(4 α ,5 β)-Ethyl 4-chloro-6,7-dimethyl-8-oxo-1-oxa-2-azaspiro[4,5]deca-2,6,9-triene-3-carboxylate (2i) : Mp 77.5–78.0 °C (dichloromethane-hexane). IR (film, cm^{-1}) ; 1730 (esterCO), 1675(CO) . MS(m/z , rel%) : 285/ 283(M $^+$, 4/12), 170/168(M $^+$ -115, 35/100). HRMS : m/z , 285.0592/283.0592, Calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}_5\text{Cl}$: M+2/M, 285.0587/ 283.0611.

(4 α ,5 β)-Ethyl 4-chloro-6,7-dimethoxy-8-oxo-1-oxa-2-azaspiro[4,5]deca-2,6,9-triene-3-carboxylate (2j) : Mp 67.5–69.0 °C (dichloromethane-hexane). IR(KBr, cm^{-1}) : 1730 (ester CO), 1675(CO). MS(m/z , rel%) : 317/ 315(M $^+$, 17/46), 202/200(M $^+$ -115, 35/100). HRMS : m/z , 317.0477/315.0513, Calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}_6\text{Cl}$: M+2/M, 317.0486/ 315.0510.

(4 α ,5 β)-Ethyl 4-chloro-6,9-dimethoxy-8-oxo-1-oxa-2-azaspiro[4,5]deca-2,6,9-triene-3-carboxylate (2k) : Mp 130.0–131.0 °C (dichloromethane-hexane). IR(KBr, cm^{-1}) : 1720 (ester CO), 1680(CO). FABMS (m/z , rel%) : 318/316(MH $^+$, 31/88), 203/201(MH $^+$ -115, 34/100). HRFABMS : m/z , 318.0567/ 316.0583, Calcd for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_6\text{Cl}$: MH $^+$ +2/MH $^+$, 318.0559/ 316.0597.

(4 α ,5 β)-Ethyl 4,6,10-trichloro- and 4,6,7,10-tetrachloro-8-oxo-1-oxa-2-azaspiro[4,5]deca-2,6,9-triene-3-carboxylate (2l and 2l') and **Ethyl 5-chloro-4-hydroxy-7-methoxy-4H-1,2-benzoxazine-3-carboxylat (10l)**.

The crude product obtained from **1l** was chromatographed on silica gel (toluene: ethyl acetate 10:1) to give **2l** (57 mg, 18%), **2l'** (42 mg, 12%), **2l** (116mg, 36%) and **10l** (50 mg, 17%). **2l** : Mp 112.0 °C(ethyl ether - hexane). IR(KBr, cm^{-1}) : 1725 (ester CO), 1665(CO), 1590(CN). MS(m/z , rel%) : 327/325/323(M $^+$, 32/91/93), 21/216(66/100), 212/210/208(M $^+$ -115, 36/76/84). HRMS : m/z , 326.9446/ 324.9535/ 322.9538, Calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{8}\text{NO}_4\text{Cl}_3$: M+4/M+2/M, 326.9464/ 324.9491/ 322.9519. **2l'** : Mp 141.0–142.0 °C(ethyl ether - hexane). IR (KBr, cm^{-1}) : 1735 (ester CO), 1680(CO), 1590(CN). MS(m/z , rel%) : 361/359/357(M $^+$, 39/80/62), 246/244/242 (M $^+$ -115, 49/ 100/78). HRMS: m/z , 360.9106/358.9127/ 356.9127, Calcd for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_7\text{NO}_4\text{Cl}_4$: M+4/M+2/M,

360.9173/ 358.9101/ 356.9129 . **10l** : Mp 130 - 131 °C (ethyl acetate-hexane). ^1H NMR(δ , CDCl₃, 400Hz) : 1.43 (3H, t, $J=7.0\text{Hz}$), 3.12(1H, dd, $J=5.0$ and 0.5Hz , OH), 3.82(3H, s, CH₃O), 4.46(2H, q, $J=7.0\text{Hz}$, OCH₂), 5.75(1H, d, $J=5.0\text{Hz}$, H-4), 6.64(1H, d, $J=2.5\text{Hz}$, H-8), 6.87(1H, $J=2.3$ and 0.5Hz , H-6). ^{13}C NMR(δ , CDCl₃, 100MHz) : 14.1 (CH₃), 52.2(C-4), 55.9(CH₃O), 62.9(OCH₂), 97.5(C-8), 108.0(C-4a), 113.9(C-6), 135.1(C-5), 148.5(C-3), 154.1(C-8a), 160.7(C-7), 162.8(COO). IR(KBr, cm⁻¹) : 3480 and 3440(OH), 1710(COO). MS(*m/z*, rel%) : 287/285(M⁺, 8/21), 185(100). HRMS : *m/z*, 287.0375/285.0382, Calcd for C₁₂H₁₂NO₃Cl : M+2/M, 287.0379/ 285.0404. **10l** was determined by IR, HRMS and NMR. 4*H*-1,2-benzoxazines have been obtained by the acid-catalyzed reactions of nitro olefin with benzene,¹⁸⁾ the ring transformation of 4-aryl-2-isoxazoline 2-oxides,¹⁹⁾ and the reaction of *m*-methoxyphenyl nitroacrylate with toluene in the presence of titanium tetrachloride.³⁾

(4α,5β)-Ethyl 4-chloro-4'-oxospiro[isoxazole-(4*H*)-5,1'(4'*H*)-naphthalene]-3-carboxylate (2m) : Mp 112.0 - 113.0 °C (ethyl ether-petroleum ether). ^1H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃, δ) : 1.43(3H, t, $J=7.1\text{Hz}$, ester CH₃), 4.45 (2H, q, $J=7.1\text{Hz}$, OCH₂), 5.46(1H, s, H-4), 6.60(1H, d, $J=10.0\text{Hz}$, H-3'), 7.13(1H, d, $J=10.5\text{Hz}$, H-2'), 7.25(1H, dd, $J=7.5$ and 1.2Hz , H-8'), 7.56(1H, td, $J=7.5$ and 1.2Hz , H-6'), 7.62(1H, td, $J=7.5$ and 1.2Hz , H-7'), 8.14(1H, dd, $J=7.5$ and 1.2Hz , H-5'). ^{13}C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ) : 14.1(ester CH₃), 63.1(OCH₂), 67.8(C-4), 87.3(C-5), 124.4(C-8'), 127.4(C-5'), 129.1(C-4a'), 130.1(C-6'), 130.8(C-3'), 134.1(C-7'), 139.5(C-8a'), 141.5(C-2'), 151.1(C-3), 158.2(COO), 183.0(C-4'). IR(KBr, cm⁻¹) : 1730(ester CO), 1675(CO). MS(*m/z*, rel%) : 307/305(M⁺, 17/42), 192/190(M⁺-115, 34/100). Anal. Found : C 59.09, H 3.93, N 4.68, Cl 11.39, Calcd for C₁₅H₁₂NO₄Cl : C 58.93, H 3.96, N 4.58, Cl 11.60. The stereochemistry was determined by NOE experiments (H-4 and H-8', 5%).

Ethyl 4'-chloro-2',10-dioxospiro[anthracene-(10*H*)-9,5'(4'*H*)-isoxazole]-3-carboxylate (7n), and Ethyl 2-nitro-3-(10'-oxo-9'-anthrylidene) propionate (8n) . Titanium tetrachloride (0.22 ml, 2 mmol) was added to a solution of **1n** (351 mg, 1 mmol) in dichloromethane (10 ml) at 0 °C. Ethyl ether was added to the crude product and the precipitate was filtered to give **8n** (48 mg, 14%). Evaporation of the filtrate gave a residue, which was chromatographed on silica gel (toluene) to give **1n** (98 mg, 28%), and **7n** (78 mg, 21%). **7n** : Mp 166.5-168.0 °C (dichloromethane-hexane). IR(KBr, cm⁻¹): 1740(ester CO), 1670(CO). 1635(CN), FABMS(*m/z*, rel%) : 374/372(MH⁺, 0.8/2.1), 208(76), 165/163 (CHCl(COOC₂H₅), 34/100). HRFABMS : *m/z*, 374.0641/ 372.0637 Calcd for C₁₉H₁₄NO₃Cl : MH⁺+2/MH⁺, 374.0609/ 372.0639. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR data is listed Table 4.

The structure of **7n** was determined by comparison of the NMR spectra of **2n** and **7n** as showed in Table 4. The ^{13}C NMR spectrum of **7n** lacked the signal for C-3'(δ 150.6 ppm) found in **2n** and displayed an additional signal at δ 108.7 ppm. The characteristic ^{13}C signal(δ 108.7 ppm) agreed with the value reported⁹ for C-3 of an isoxazoline *N*-oxide ring. The ^1H NMR signals for *peri* protons(H-1, H-8) to isoxazoline *N*-oxide ring in **7n** were deshielded by 0.18-0.19 ppm in comparison with those in **2n**. Since all the other ^1H and ^{13}C signals showed virtually identical chemical shifts and patterns with those for **2n**, these supported the structure of spiroisoxazoline *N*-oxide.

Table 4 ^1H and ^{13}C NMR (δ , CDCl₃)data

	2n	7n
3'	150.6	-
4'	68.5	5.24
5'	91.2	-
1	128.1	7.71
2	132.8	7.70
3	129.9	7.60
4	127.4	8.24
4a	131.1	-
10	182.4	-
10a	130.1	-
5	128.6	8.28
6	129.8	7.58
7	134.0	7.64
8	123.7	7.39
8a	140.1	-
9a	136.8	-
		136.4

8n : Mp 134.5–135.5°C(benzene-hexane). IR(KBr, cm⁻¹) : 1760(ester CO), 1665(CO), 1565 and 1380 (NO₂). ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃, δ) : 1.36(3H, t, J=7.1Hz, ester CH₃), 4.36 and 4.40(2H, dq, J= 10.5 and 7.1Hz, OCH₂), 6.26(1H, d, J=10.7Hz, H-2'), 6.70(1H, d, J=10.7Hz, H-3), 7.57(1H, td, J=7.5 and 1.1Hz, H-6'), 7.64(1H, td, J=7.5 and 1.5Hz, H-3'), 7.68(1H, td, J=7.5 and 1.8Hz, H-7'), 7.74(1H, dd, J=8.0 and 1.5Hz, H-1'), 7.87(1H, d, J=8.0Hz, H-8'). 8.23(1H, dd, J=8.0 and 1.2Hz, H-5'), 8.32(1H, dd, J=7.5 and 1.2Hz, H-4'). ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ) : 13.9(ester CH₃), 63.9(OCH₂), 86.5(C-2), 119.0(C-3), 124.1(C-8'), 127.0(C-1'), 127.2(C-5'), 128.2(C-4'), 129.4(C-6'), 130.0(C-3'), 130.8(C-10a'), 132.4(C-4a'), 132.6(C-2'), 133.4(C-7'), 134.7(C-8a'), 139.3(C-9'), 140.9(C-9'). HRHABMS : m/z, 336.0905, Calcd for C₁₉H₁₃NO₅ : MH⁺, 336.0872

Ethyl 4'-chloro-10-oxospiro[anthracene-(10H)9,5'(4'H)-isoxazole]-3-carboxylate (2n). Titanium tetrachloride (0.22 ml, 2 mmol) was added to a solution of **1n** (351 mg, 1 mmol) in dichloromethane (10 ml) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature during 3 hours. **1n**, **2n** and **7n** were isolated in 26%, 21% and 6%. **2n** : Mp 149.0–153.0(dichloromethane-hexane). IR(KBr, cm⁻¹) : 1730(ester CO), 1670(CO). MS(m/z, rel%) : 357/355(M⁺, 8/23), 242/240(M⁺-115, 25/72), 208(100). Anal. Found : C 64.15, H 3.96, N 3.82, Cl 9.92, Calcd for C₁₉H₁₄NO₄Cl : C 64.14, H 3.97, N 3.94, Cl 9.96. ¹H and ¹³NMR data is listed Table 4. An 1% NOE was obtained between H-4' and H-8.

The reaction of ethyl 3-aryl-2-nitroacrylate with titanium tetrabromide

(4 α ,5 β)-Ethyl 4,7-dibromo-8-oxo-1-oxa-2-azaspiro[4,5]deca-2,6,9-triene-3-carboxylate (**2'a'**), and Ethyl 3-(2'-bromo-4'-methoxyphenyl, 3'-bromo-4'-methoxyphenyl and 4'-methoxyphenyl)-3-hydroxy-2-hydroxyiminopropionates (**3'aa**, **3'a'** and **3'a**). Titanium tetrabromide (0.74 mg, 2 mmol) was added to a solution of **1a** (251 mg, 1 mmol) in dichloromethane (20 ml) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 hours. Water(20 ml) was added and the resulting solution was extracted with dichloromethane (3 x 40 ml), washed with water (4 x 60 ml), dried over Na₂SO₄, and evaporated. The residue was chromatographed (hexane: ethyl acetate 10:1→1:1 gradient) to give 78 mg(21% yield) of **2'a'** and 103 mg mixture of oximes (**3'aa**: **3'a'**: **3'a** = 7:6:7). **2'a'**: oil. IR(KBr, cm⁻¹) : 1740 (ester CO), 1690(CO). MS(m/z, rel%) : 381/379/377(M⁺, 0.7/1.1/0.5), 266/264/262 (M⁺-115, 26/55/27), 152/150 (100/94). HRFABMS : m/z, 381.8940/ 379.8947/ 377.8997, Calcd for C₁₁H₁₀NO₄Br₂ : MH⁺+4/ MH⁺+2/ MH⁺, 381.8935/ 379.8956/ 377.8977. the mixture of **3'aa** **3'a'** and **3'a** : ¹H NMR(400MHz, CDCl₃, δ) : 1.31, 1.32 and 1.32(3H, t, J=7.1Hz, ester CH₃), 4.22–4.34(3 x OCH₂), 3.78 and 3.79(each 3H, s, OCH₃), 3.87(3H, s, OCH₃ of **3'aa**), **3'aa**; 6.24(1H, s, H-3), 6.86(1H, dd, J=8.5 and 2.5Hz, H-5'), 7.12(1H, d, J=2.5Hz, H-3'), 7.39(1H, d, J=8.5Hz, H-6'), **3'a'**; 6.10(1H, s, H-3), 6.83(1H, dd, J=8.5 and 2.5Hz, H-5'), 7.32(1H, ddd, J=8.8, 2.5 and 0.8Hz, H-6'), 7.61(1H, dd, J=2.5 and 0.8Hz, H-2'), **3'a**; 6.12(1H, s, H-3), 6.88(2H, d, J=8.8Hz, H-3' and H-5'), 7.34 (2H, d, J=8.8Hz, H-2' and H-6'). ¹³C NMR(100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 13.8 , 13.9 and 13.9(ester CH₃), 62.3, 62.4 and 62.4(ester OCH₂), 55.2 and 55.5(OCH₃), 56.3(OCH₃ of **3'a'**), 163.0, 163.1 and 163.2 (COO), **3'aa**; 68.4(C-3), 113.5(C-5'), 118.4(C-3'), 123.9(C-2'), 126.0(C-6'), 130.7(C-1'), 151.7(C-2), 159.9 (C-4'), **3'a'**; 67.0(C-3), 110.7(C-3'), 111.8(C-5'), 125.9(C-6'), 130.8(C-2'), 133.1(C-1'), 151.1(C-2), 155.5(C-4'), **3'a**; 67.8(C-3), 114.0(C-3' and C-5'), 127.1(C-2' and C-6'), 131.5(C-1'), 151.5(C-2), 159.3(C-4'). HRFABMS : **3'aa** and **3'a'** m/z, 331.9992/ 329.9957, Calcd for C₁₂H₁₃NO₅Br: MH⁺+2/MH⁺ 331.9958/ 329.9977, **3'a** m/z, 252.0864, Calcd for C₁₂H₁₄NO₅ : MH⁺, 252.0872.

(4 α ,5 β)-Ethyl 4,6-dibromo- and 4,6,9-tribromo-8-oxo-1-oxa-2-azaspiro[4,5]deca-2,6,9-triene-3-carboxylate (**2'e** and **2'e'**). The crude product obtained from **1e** (330 mg 1 mmol) in a similar way as described above

for **1a** was chromatographed (toluene) to give **2'e'**(54 mg, 12%), and **2'e** (14.6mg, 4%) and 5-bromo-2-hydroxy-4-methoxybenzaldehyde (**4g**) (53.6 mg, 23%). **2'e**: oil. IR(KBr, cm⁻¹) : 1730(ester CO), 1670(CO). MS(*m/z*, rel%) : 381/379/377(M⁺, 20/38/20), 266/264/262(M⁺-115, 63/100/50). HRMS: *m/z*, 381.8940/379.8963/ 377.98998, Calcd for C₁₁H₁₀NO₄Br₂: MH⁺+4/MH⁺+2/MH⁺, 381.8938/ 379.8957/ 377.8977. **2'e'**: Mp 102.5–103.0 °C(dichloromethane-hexane). IR(KBr, cm⁻¹) : 1725(ester CO), 1680(CO). MS(*m/z*, rel%): 459/457/455 (M⁺, 13/13/5), 346/344/342/340(M⁺-115, 33/100/95/33). HRMS : *m/z*, 458.7972/ 456.7981. Calcd for C₁₁H₈NO₄Br₃ : M+4/M+2, 458.7964/ 456.7983.

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