# Reactions of alkyl 3-amino-5-aryl-2-benzoyl-5-oxopent-2-enoates with hydrazine

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Reactions of alkyl 3-amino-5-aryl-2-benzoyl-2-oxopent-2-enoates with hydrazine were accompanied by debenzoylation and isomerization to give 3-amino-5-aryl-5-oxopent-3-enohydrazides, which underwent cyclization in the presence of an excess of hydrazine into 5(3)-arylpyrazol-3(5)-ylacetohydrazides.

**Key words:** hydrazine, 3-amino-5-aryl-5-oxopent-3-enohydrazides, pyrazol-3(5)-yl-acetohydrazides, diphenylboron chelate, pyrazoles, heterocyclization.

Earlier, <sup>1</sup> we have developed a method for the synthesis of alkyl 3-amino-5-aryl-2-benzoyl-5-oxopent-2-enoates (1), which exist in solutions as an equilibrium mixture of the *E*- and *Z*-isomers<sup>1</sup> (Scheme 1). Compounds 1 can be used as reagents for heterocyclic synthesis: when refluxed in xylene, they transform into 4-amino-6-aryl-3-benzoylpyran-2-ones; on heating with ammonium acetate in AcOH, they undergo cyclization into alkyl 4-amino-6aryl-2-phenylpyridine-3-carboxylates.<sup>1</sup>

Here we studied reactions of esters 1 with hydrazine. It is known<sup>2-4</sup> that aminomethylidene derivatives of ethyl benzoylacetate (2) react with hydrazines to give substituted ethyl pyrazole-4-carboxylates 3 (see Scheme 1). The formation of the pyrazole ring of products 3 involves the enaminone fragment of compounds 2. Cyclization of compounds 1 with hydrazine could be expected to occur analo-



gously, with correction for possible participation of the carbonyl group of the aroylmethyl fragment in this transformation.

Unexpectedly, treatment of alcoholic solutions of compounds 1a-d with an excess of hydrazine hydrate at 20 °C for 30 min gave 3-amino-5-aryl-5-oxopent-3enohydrazides 4a-d in 73-83% yields (Scheme 2, pathway *a*), while cyclization into pyrazolecarboxylic acids of the type 2 (pathway *b*) as with compounds 2 did not occur. Nor were other by-products detected.

#### Scheme 2



Ar = Ph (**a**), 4-ClC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub> (**b**), 4-MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub> (**c**), 4-MeOC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub> (**d**)

Reaction conditions: 30 min, 20 °C.

Thus, hydrazinolysis of esters 1a-d is accompanied by debenzoylation and a migration of the double bond.

Compounds 4a-d are white crystalline solids which are poorly soluble in most organic solvents (*e.g.*, in dioxane and chloroform). Their structures were confirmed

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by spectroscopic data. For instance, the mass spectra of compounds **4a**–**d** contain molecular ion peaks [M]<sup>+</sup>. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of hydrazides **4a**–**d** show singlets at  $\delta$  3.05–3.06 for the methylene protons, singlets at  $\delta$  5.70–5.75 for the HC= proton, and signals for five NH protons. The position of the double bond was derived from NOE and <sup>1</sup>H–<sup>13</sup>C heteronuclear correlation experiments for compound **4a**. For instance, irradiation of the CH<sub>2</sub> protons at  $\delta$  3.05 caused NOE only with the proton HC(4) ( $\delta$  5.75). In contrast, irradiation of the CH<sub>2</sub> protons ( $\delta$  3.05) and the *ortho*-protons of the phenyl substituent ( $\delta$  7.84–7.78), which matches structure **4** but excludes the isomeric pent-2-ene structure ArC(O)CH<sub>2</sub>C(NH<sub>2</sub>)=CHC(O)NHNH<sub>2</sub>.

Therefore, the reactions of hydrazine with esters 1a-dand related esters 2 yield essentially different products. Apparently, this is due to initial isomerization of compounds 1 in the presence of such a strong base as hydrazine (Scheme 3) into an intermediate containing an aminovinyl carbonyl fragment probably stabilized by an intramolecular hydrogen bond N-H...O. Obviously, this will significantly lower the probability of replacement of the NH<sub>2</sub> group but favor deacylation (*cf.* the deacylation of ethyl 2-benzoylacetoacetate in the presence of hydrazine<sup>5</sup>). Ultimately, debenzoylated ester transforms into hydrazide 4.

### Scheme 3





Substantially longer treatment of esters 1a,b with an excess of hydrazine hydrate at room temperature gave 5(3)-arylpyrazol-3(5)-ylacetohydrazides 5a,b as cyclization products from compounds 4 (Scheme 4). The best route to pyrazoles 5 proved to be treatment of hydrazides 4 with an excess of hydrazine hydrate at room temperature for 72 h. Attempted acceleration of the reaction by heating failed because of resinification at elevated temperatures.

Compounds **5a,b** are colorless crystalline solids which are moderately soluble in ethanol and benzene. The mass spectra of these compounds contain molecular ion



Ar = Ph (**a**), 4-ClC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub> (**b**)

Reaction conditions: 72 h, 20 °C.

peaks  $[M]^+$ . Their <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) show characteristic signals for the HC(4) protons of the pyrazole ring at  $\delta$  6.50 and for the CH<sub>2</sub> protons at  $\delta \sim 3.50$ . The <sup>1</sup>H NMR data for pyrazole **5a** agree with previously reported<sup>6</sup> data for this compound obtained from methyl 3-hydroxy-5-phenylthiophene-2-carboxylate and hydrazine.

The presence of the enaminone fragment and the functional  $NHNH_2$  group in compounds 4 makes them promising synthetic reagents and tetradentate ligands. Earlier,<sup>1</sup> with esters 1 as starting material, we have obtained diphenylboron chelates with the B atom coordinated through the N and O atoms of the enamino carbonyl fragment.

A reaction of hydrazide 4a with an excess of butoxy(diphenyl)borane under analogous conditions gave a binuclear boron chelate formulated as structure 6 (Scheme 5). With one equivalent of the borylating reagent, we isolated the same complex 6 and unreacted hydrazide 4a.



Chelate **6** is a yellow crystalline solid which is well soluble in most organic solvents and stable when stored in air and in solutions. Data from physicochemical methods (including mass spectrometry and <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>11</sup>B NMR spectroscopy) are consistent with structure **6**. Its mass spectrum show characteristic features of mass spectra of four-coordinate boron chelates: the peak  $[M]^+$  is absent and the highest-mass peak corresponds to the  $[M - Ph]^+$ 

Scheme 4

ion. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) of chelate **6** contains broadened singlets for the NH protons at  $\delta$  10.18 and for the NH<sub>2</sub> protons at  $\delta$  8.65 (*cf.* the chemical shift of the amino group in the starting hydrazide **4a** ( $\delta$  4.30)) and singlets at  $\delta$  6.10 (HC(4)) and 3.75 (CH<sub>2</sub>).

## Experimental

<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker WM-250 instrument (250.13 and 62.9 MHz, respectively) with Me<sub>4</sub>Si as the internal standard. <sup>11</sup>B NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AC-200P instrument (64.21 MHz) with BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O as the internal standard. IR spectra were recorded on a Specord M-82 instrument. Mass spectra were recorded on a Kratos MS-30 instrument (EI, 70 eV, ionization chamber temperature 250 °C, direct inlet probe). Elemental analysis was carried out at the laboratory for microanalysis of the N. D. Zelinsky Institute of Organic Chemistry, Russian Academy of Sciences.

Ethyl 3-amino-5-aryl-2-benzoyl-5-oxopent-2-enoates **1a-d** were prepared as described earlier.<sup>1</sup>

3-Amino-5-oxo-5-phenylpent-3-enohydrazide (4a). Hydrazine hydrate (5.00 g, 80 mmol) was added to a solution of ester 1a (3.40 g, 10 mmol) in ethanol (10 mL). After 30 min, the solution was triturated with a glass rod. The resulting precipitate was filtered off, washed with ethanol (2×3 mL), and dried *in vacuo*. The yield of hydrazide **4a** was 1.70 g (78%), m.p. 153-155 °C (decomp.). Found (%): C, 59.98; H, 6.08; N, 19.20. C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. Calculated (%): C, 60.26, H, 5.98; N, 19.17. MS, m/z: 219 [M]<sup>+</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>),  $\delta$ : 3.05 (s, 2 H, CH<sub>2</sub>); 4.30 (br.s, 2 H, H<sub>2</sub>N–N); 5.75 (s, 1 H, HC=); 7.30-7.50 (m, 3 H, 3 H arom.); 7.66 (br.s, 1 H, NH); 7.78-7.84 (m, 2 H, 2 H arom.); 9.23 (br.s, 1 H, NH); 10.00 (br.s, 1 H, NH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>), δ: 40.88 (C(2)); 90.56 (HC(4)); 126.69, 128.33, 130.76, 140.01 (Ph); 161.73 (C(3)); 166.92 (C(1)); 187.13 (C(5)). The signals were assigned from HMBC and HMQC data obtained according to Bruker standard procedures.

**3-Amino-5-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-oxopent-3-enohydrazide (4b)** was obtained analogously from ester **1b**. The yield was 83%, m.p. 160–161 °C (decomp.). Found (%): C, 52.16; H, 4.66; Cl, 14.02; N, 16.62.  $C_{11}H_{12}ClN_3O_2$ . Calculated (%): C, 52.08; H, 4.77; Cl, 13.97; N, 16.56. MS, m/z: 254 [M]<sup>+</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>),  $\delta$ : 3.06 (s, 2 H, CH<sub>2</sub>); 4.30 (br.s, 2 H, H<sub>2</sub>N–N); 5.71 (s, 1 H, HC=); 7.87 (br.s, 1 H, NH); 7.47, 7.83 (both d, 2 H each, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, J = 8.6 Hz); 9.22 (br.s, 1 H, NH); 9.99 (br.s, 1 H, NH).

**3-Amino-5-(4-methylphenyl)-5-oxopent-3-enohydrazide (4c)** was obtained analogously from ester **1c**. The yield was 76%, m.p. 155–156 °C (decomp.). Found (%): C, 61.58; H, 6.27; N, 17.93.  $C_{12}H_{15}N_{3}O_{2}$ . Calculated (%): C, 61.79; H, 6.48; N, 18.01. MS, *m/z*: 233 [M]<sup>+</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>), & 2.33 (s, 3 H, Me); 3.05 (s, 2 H, CH<sub>2</sub>); 4.30 (br.s, 2 H, H<sub>2</sub>N–N); 5.72 (s, 1 H, HC=); 7.64 (br.s, 1 H, NH); 7.23, 7.71 (both d, 2 H each, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, *J* = 8.0 Hz); 9.21 (br.s, 1 H, NH); 9.94 (br.s, 1 H, NH).

**3-Amino-5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-oxopent-3-enohydrazide** (4d) was obtained analogously from ester 1d. The yield was 76%, m.p. 145–146 °C (decomp.). Found (%): C, 57.96; H, 6.26; N, 16.62.  $C_{12}H_{15}N_3O_3$ . Calculated (%): C, 57.82; H, 6.07; N, 16.86. MS, m/z: 249 [M]<sup>+</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>),  $\delta$ : 3.04 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>2</sub>); 3.81 (s, 3 H, MeO); 4.33 (br.s, 2 H, H<sub>2</sub>N–N); 5.70 (s, 1 H, HC=); 7.57 (br.s, 1 H, NH); 6.97, 7.79 (both d, 2 H each, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, J = 8.5 Hz); 9.22 (br.s, 1 H, NH); 9.89 (br.s, 1 H, NH).

**5(3)-Phenylpyrazol-3(5)-ylacetohydrazide (5a).** Hydrazine hydrate (1.5 g, 24 mmol) was added to a suspension of hydrazide **4a** (0.44 g, 2 mmol) in ethanol (5 mL). The reaction mixture was kept at 20 °C for 72 h. The solvent and the excess hydrazine were removed *in vacuo* and the residue was recrystallized from ethanol (4 mL). The yield of pyrazole derivative **5a** was 0.28 g (65%), m.p. 164–165 °C.\* Found (%): C, 60.98; H, 5.57; N, 25.94. C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O. Calculated (%): C, 61.10; H, 5.59; N, 25.91. MS, *m/z*: 216 [M]<sup>+</sup>. IR (KBr), v/cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3320, 3230 br, 3130 (NH), 3040–2800 (NH, CH), 1650, 1624, 1532 (C=O, C=N, C=C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>),  $\delta$ : 3.40 (s, 2 H, CH<sub>2</sub>); 4.20 (br.s, 2 H, H<sub>2</sub>N–N); 6.50 (s, 1 H, HC(4)); 7.20–7.80 (m, 5 H, Ph); 9.20 (br.s, 1 H, NH).

**5(3)-(4-Chlorophenyl)pyrazol-3(5)-ylacetohydrazide (5b)** was obtained analogously from hydrazide **4b**. The yield was 70%, m.p. 170–171 °C. Found (%): C, 52.63; H, 4.50; Cl, 14.25; N, 22.37; C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ClN<sub>4</sub>O. Calculated (%): C, 52.70; H, 4.42; Cl, 14.14; N, 22.35. MS, *m/z*: 251 [M]<sup>+</sup>. IR (KBr), v/cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3312, 3245, 3136 (NH), 3040–2800 (NH, CH), 1656, 1628, 1536 (C=O, C=N, C=C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>),  $\delta^{**}$ : 3.50 (br.s, 2 H, CH<sub>2</sub>); 4.25 (br.s, 2 H, H<sub>2</sub>N–N); 6.50 (br.s, 1 H, HC(4)); 7.40, 7.80 (both br.d, 2 H each, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>); 9.20 (br.s, 1 H, NH); 12.80, 13.10 (both br.s, 1 H each, NH).

Bis(diphenylboron) chelate of 3-amino-5-oxo-5-phenylpent-**3-enohydrazide (6).** Butoxy(diphenyl)borane (1.43 g, 6 mmol) was added to a suspension of hydrazide 4a (0.44 g, 2 mmol) in THF (5 mL). The reaction mixture was refluxed to complete dissolution of the hydrazide (15 min) and then kept at 20 °C for 24 h. The solvent was removed in vacuo and the residue was crystallized from a mixture of benzene (4 mL) and hexane (2 mL). The crystals were filtered off, washed with benzene-hexane (2:1) and hexane (4 mL), and dried in vacuo. The yield of chelate **6** (in the form of  $\mathbf{6} \cdot \mathbf{C}_6 \mathbf{H}_6$ ) was 0.83 g (66%), m.p. 223-225 °C. Found (%): C, 78.56; H, 6.14; B, 3.69; N, 6.62. C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>31</sub>B<sub>2</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>·C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>. Calculated (%):C, 78.74; H, 5.96; B, 3.46; N, 6.72. MS, m/z: 470 [M – Ph]<sup>+</sup>. IR (KBr),  $v/cm^{-1}$ : 3236, 3204 (NH), 3050-2800 (NH, CH), 1644, 1616, 1568, 1532 vs (C=C, C=N, C=O). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>), δ: 3.75 (s, 2 H, CH<sub>2</sub>); 6.10 (s, 1 H, HC=); 3.75 (s, 2 H, CH<sub>2</sub>); 7.90-7.00 (m, 31 H, 5 Ph, PhH); 8.65 (br.s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>); 10.18 (br.s, 1 H, NH). <sup>11</sup>B NMR, δ: 3.83.

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<sup>\*</sup> For pyrazole **5a**, m.p. 193–194 °C has been reported;<sup>6</sup> however, elemental analysis data for that material are unsatisfactory.

<sup>\*\*</sup> All the signals are broadened because of the tautomeric transformations of pyrazole **5b**.

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