

SHORT
COMMUNICATIONS

Dedicated to Full Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences
O.N. Chupakhin on his 85th anniversary

Synthesis of 3-Aroyl-2-(polyfluoroalkyl)quinoxalines and 3-Aroyl-2-(polyfluoroalkyl)benzo[g]quinoxalines from Lithium 3-(Fluoroalkyl)-1,3-diketonates

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Abstract—A one-pot procedure has been developed for the synthesis of 3-aroyl-2-(polyfluoroalkyl)quinoxalines and 3-aroyl-2-(polyfluoroalkyl)benzo[g]quinoxalines by nitrosation of lithium 3-(polyfluoroalkyl)-1,3-diketonates and subsequent reaction with benzene-1,2-diamine or naphthalene-2,3-diamine, respectively.

Keywords: fluorinated lithium 1,3-diketonates, benzene-1,2-diamine, naphthalene-2,3-diamine, 3-benzoyl-2-polyfluoroalkylquinoxalines, 3-aroyl-2-polyfluoroalkylbenzo[g]quinoxalines.

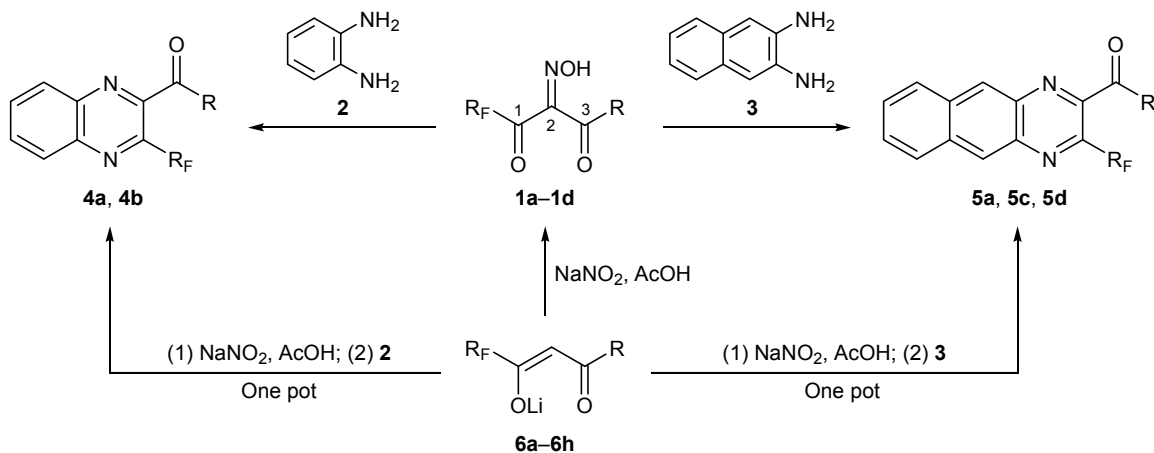
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Fluorine-containing heterocycles occupy an important place among biologically active compounds, and their significance for medicine and technology continuously increases [1, 2].

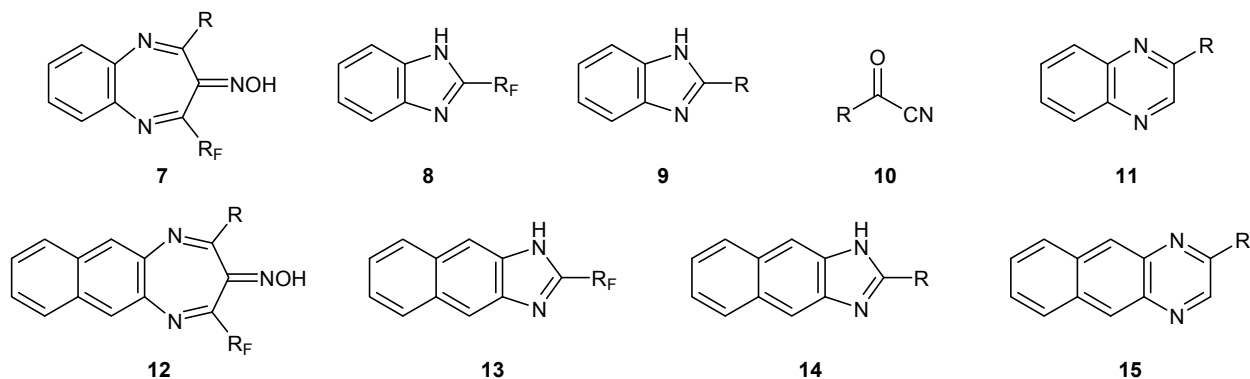
By reacting 4-aryl-1,1,1-trifluorobutane-2,3,4-trione 3-oximes **1** with benzene-1,2-diamine (**2**) and naphthalene-2,3-diamine (**3**) we previously synthesized new quinoxaline derivatives: 3-aroyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)quinoxalines **4** and 3-aroyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)benzo[g]quinoxalines **5**. However, analogous reactions of oximes **1** containing a longer polyfluoroalkyl group ($R_F = C_3F_7$, $H(CF_2)_4$, C_4F_9 , C_6F_{13}) led to the formation of complex mixtures of condensation and fragmentation products at different ratios [3]. In this communication, we report the results of one-pot synthesis of compounds **4** and **5** directly from the corresponding lithium 3-(polyfluoroalkyl)-1,3-diketonates **6** without preliminary isolation of oximes **1**. This approach was successfully utilized by us in the synthesis of 5-phenyl-3-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-pyrazol-4-amine [4] and 5-hydroxy-5-(polyfluoroalkyl)-1,2-oxazol-4(5*H*)-one oximes [5]. In particular, the one-pot procedure allowed us to obtain 5-hydroxy-3-methyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2-oxazol-4(5*H*)-one oxime whose

stepwise synthesis is impossible because of instability of the corresponding oxime [5].

In fact, by successive treatment of diketonates **6a–6d** with sodium nitrite and diamine **2** or **3** without isolation of intermediate oximes **1**, we obtained compounds **4a**, **4b**, **5a**, **5c**, and **5d** in 60 to 75% yield. It should be noted that only one-pot protocol made it possible to isolate and characterize previously unknown compound **5d**. Our attempts to synthesize oxime **1d** by nitrosation of lithium diketonate **6d** resulted in the formation of decomposition product, 3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-oxopropanenitrile. However, neither compounds **4** and **5** nor benzo(naphtho)diazepine derivatives **7** and **12** were formed as the major products from lithium diketonates **6e–6h** containing a longer fluoroalkyl substituent [$R_F = C_3F_7$, $H(CF_2)_4$, C_4F_9 , C_6F_{13}]. According to the GC/MS data, the qualitative composition of the product mixtures was the same as in the reactions of oximes **1** with diamines **2** and **3** (compounds **7–15**) [3], but the major components were benzo- or naphthoimidazoles **8** and **13** which could be synthesized by simpler methods [6]. Presumably, imidazoles **8** and **9** are products of transformations of 1,5-diazepines **7** in acid medium [6, 7]. Correspondingly, naphthoimidazoles **13** and **14**



i. NaNO₂, AcOH; R_F = CF₃ (**a–c**), HCF₂ (**d**), C₃F₇ (**e**), H(CF₂)₄ (**f**), C₄F₉ (**g**), C₆F₁₃ (**h**); R = Ph (**a, e–h**), 4-MeC₆H₄ (**b**), 2,4-Me₂C₆H₃ (**c**), 4-MeOC₆H₄ (**d**).



are formed from naphthodiazepines **12**. Quinoxalines **11** and benzo[*g*]quinoxalines **15** are products of the reaction of ketonitriles **10** with diamines **2** and **3**, respectively.

Despite limitations related to the length of the polyfluoroalkyl substituent, the described procedure can be regarded as a convenient method for the synthesis of 2-(difluoromethyl)- and 2-(trifluoromethyl)-substituted quinoxaline derivatives **4** and **5** whose range could be extended via variation of the R substituent in **6** and of the 1,2-diamine component. In particular, using the one-pot procedure, we synthesized new compounds **5c** and **5d**. It should be emphasized that introduction of a di- or trifluoromethyl group into molecules of biologically active heterocycles, undoubtedly including quinoxaline derivatives, offers a great potential for drug design [8–12].

Thus, we have developed an efficient one-pot procedure for the synthesis of 3-aryl-2-(difluoromethyl)- and 3-aryl-2-(trifluoromethyl)quinoxalines and -benzo[*g*]quinoxalines **4** and **5** on the basis of accessible fluoroalkyl-containing building blocks, lithium 1,3-diketones **6** [13–15]. The proposed

procedure avoids a number of operations related to the isolation of oximes **1** and provides substantial economy of time and chemicals and reduction of wastes. Therefore, it conforms to the green chemistry and atom economy principles.

Lithium diketones **6a–6h** were prepared according to the procedure described [13]; their characteristics were given in [15]. Compounds **6c** and **6d** were not reported previously.

Lithium (Z)-4-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-1,1,1-trifluoro-4-oxobut-2-en-2-olate (6c). Yield 34 g (71%), white powder, mp 315–316°C. IR spectrum, ν , cm^{–1}: 582 m (O–Li), 691 m, 799 m, 1138 s (C–F), 1185 s (C–F), 1243 m (C–F), 1280 s (C–F), 1301 s (C–F), 1473 s, 1524 m (C=C_{arom}), 1621 (C=C–C=O), 2955 br (O–H). ¹H NMR spectrum (DMSO-*d*₆), δ , ppm: 2.27 s (3H, CH₃), 2.33 s (3H, CH₃), 5.62 s (1H, =CH), 7.00 s (1H, H_{arom}), 7.03 d (1H, H_{arom}, ³*J* = 7.60 Hz), 7.26 d (1H, H_{arom}, ³*J* = 7.60 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR spectrum (DMSO-*d*₆): δ_F 87.85 ppm, s (CF₃).

Lithium (Z)-1,1-difluoro-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobut-2-en-2-olate (6d). Yield 3.7 g (79%), white

powder, mp 243–245°C. IR spectrum, ν , cm^{-1} : 543 m (O–Li), 786 m, 1028 m, 1054 m (C–F), 1113 m (C–F), 1173 s (C–F), 1255 s (C–F), 1351 s (C–F), 1455 s (C=C), 1504 s, 1533 m, 1568 m, 1597 s (C=C_{arom}), 1614 m (C=C–C=O), 2970 br (O–H). ^1H NMR spectrum (DMSO- d_6), δ , ppm: 3.80 s (3H, OCH₃), 5.94 t (1H, HCF₂, $^3J = 55.60$ Hz), 6.03 s (1H, =CH), 6.95 d (2H, H_{arom}, $^3J = 8.80$ Hz), 7.82 d (2H, H_{arom}, $^3J = 8.80$ Hz). ^{19}F NMR spectrum (DMSO- d_6): δ_{F} 39.88 ppm, d (HCF₂, $^3J = 55.60$ Hz).

Reaction of lithium diketonates 6 with arenediamines 2 and 3 (general procedure). A solution of 1.15 mol of sodium nitrite in 2–3 mL of water was added with stirring to a solution of 1 mol of diketonate 6 in 4–8 mL of acetic acid, maintaining the temperature at 10°C. The mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature, 1 mol of diamine 2 or 3 was added, and the mixture was kept until the initial compounds disappeared (TLC). The mixture was poured into water and extracted with methylene chloride, the extract was filtered through a layer of silica gel (in some cases, column chromatography was applied with methylene chloride as eluent), the filtrate was concentrated, and hexane was added until a solid precipitated. The precipitate was filtered off and dried in air.

Phenyl[3-(trifluoromethyl)quinoxalin-2-yl]methanone (4a). Yield 0.81 g (74%), white powder, mp 78–79°C [3].

(4-Methylphenyl)[3-(trifluoromethyl)quinoxalin-2-yl]methanone (4b). Yield 0.73 g (68%), white powder, mp 108–109°C [3].

(4-Phenyl)[3-(trifluoromethyl)benzo[*g*]quinoxalin-2-yl]methanone (5a). Yield 1 g (63%), white powder, mp 158–159°C [3].

(2,4-Dimethylphenyl)[3-(trifluoromethyl)benzo[*g*]quinoxalin-2-yl]methanone (5c). Yield 0.53 g (58%), white powder, mp 146.2–146.6°C. IR spectrum, ν , cm^{-1} : 1042 s (C–F), 1140 s (C–F), 1166 m (C–F), 1200 s (C–F), 1413 m (C=C), 1557 m (C=N), 1611 m (C=N), 1661 s (C=O). ^1H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃), δ , ppm: 2.40 s (3H, CH₃), 2.70 s (3H, CH₃), 7.04 d (1H, H_{arom}, $J = 7.95$ Hz), 7.21 s (1H, H_{arom}), 7.44 d (1H, H_{arom}, $J = 7.95$ Hz); 7.64–7.70 m (2H), 8.09–8.10 m (1H), 8.15–8.19 m (1H), 8.73 (1H), and 8.87 m (1H) (H_{arom}). ^{13}C NMR spectrum (CDCl₃), δ_{C} , ppm: 21.64, 21.96, 96.10, 119.65, 120.74 q (CF₃, $^1J_{\text{CF}} = 276.3$ Hz), 121.84, 126.33, 128.11, 128.37, 128.44, 128.66, 128.82, 128.10, 131.18, 133.35, 133.73, 134.94, 135.53, 136.01, 139.88, 141.47 q (C³,

$^2J_{\text{CF}} = 36.19$ Hz), 141.90, 144.37, 150.22, 192.82 (C=O). ^{19}F NMR spectrum (CDCl₃): δ_{F} 97.99 ppm, s (CF₃). Found, %: C 69.49; H 3.79; N 7.51 F 14.80. C₂₂H₁₅F₃N₂O. Calculated, %: C 69.47; H 3.97; N 7.36, F 14.98.

[3-(Difluoromethyl)benzo[*g*]quinoxalin-2-yl]-(4-methoxyphenyl)methanone (5d). Yield 0.5 g (65%), white powder, mp 172–173°C. IR spectrum, ν , cm^{-1} : 1042 s (C–F), 1079 s (C–F), 1119 s (C–F), 1150 m (C–F), 1170 m (C–F), 1274 s (C–F), 1441 m (C=C), 1512 m (C=N), 1592 s (C=N), 1649 s (C=O). ^1H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃), δ , ppm: 3.91 s (3H, OCH₃), 7.01 d (2H, H_{arom}, $J = 8.90$ Hz), 7.23 t (1H, HCF₂, $J = 54.90$ Hz), 7.64–7.68 m (2H, H_{arom}), 8.08 d (2H, H_{arom}, $J = 8.90$ Hz); 8.10–8.18 m (2H), 8.76 s (1H), and 8.84 s (1H) (H_{arom}). ^{13}C NMR spectrum (CDCl₃), δ_{C} , ppm: 55.61, 96.09, 111.78 t (HCF₂, $J_{\text{CF}} = 243.08$ Hz), 114.01, 114.58, 126.77, 127.98, 128.64, 128.75, 128.77, 133.44, 134.96, 135.03, 135.56, 136.58, 146.57 t (C³, $J_{\text{CF}} = 23.77$ Hz), 149.27, 164.66, 190.83, (C=O). ^{19}F NMR spectrum (CDCl₃): δ_{F} 43.36 ppm, d (HCF₂, $J = 54.90$ Hz). Found, %: C 69.22; H 3.73; N 7.71, F 10.44. C₂₁H₁₄F₂N₂O₂. Calculated, %: C 69.23; H 3.87; N 7.69, F 10.43.

The reactions of diketonates 6f, 6g, and 6h with diamines 2 and 3 led to the formation of complex mixtures of products. According to the GC/MS data, the major components of these mixtures were benzimidazole 8f and naphthoimidazoles 13g and 13h.

2-(1,1,2,2,3,3,4,4-Octafluorobutyl)-1H-benzimidazole (8f). Retention time 16.68 min; m/z 318 [M]⁺.

2-(1,1,1,2,2,3,3,4,4-Nanofluorobutyl)-1H-naphtho[2,3-*d*]imidazole (13g). Retention time 21.81 min; m/z 386 [M]⁺.

2-(1,1,2,2,3,3,4,4,5,5,6,6,6-Tridecafluorohexyl)-1H-naphtho[2,3-*d*]imidazole (13h). Retention time 22.30 min; m/z 486 [M]⁺.

The fragmentation patterns of the molecular ions of 8f, 13g, and 13h were consistent with their structures.

The products were identified by GC/MS on a Trace GC Ultra DSQ II instrument (USA); Thermo TR-5ms quartz capillary column, 30 m × 0.25 mm, film thickness 0.25 μm ; quadrupole mass detector; total ion monitoring, a.m.u range 20–1000; electron impact ionization (70 eV); oven temperature programming from 40°C (3 min) to 280°C at a rate of 10 deg/min; injector temperature 250°C, detector and interface temperature 200°C; carrier gas helium, split ratio 1:50, flow rate 1.0 mL/min.

The ^1H , ^{13}C , and ^{19}F NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance-500 spectrometer relative to tetramethylsilane (^1H , ^{13}C) or C_6F_6 (^{19}F) as internal standard. The IR spectra (diffuse reflectance) of solid samples were recorded in the range 400–4000 cm^{-1} on a Perkin Elmer Spectrum One FT-IR instrument. The elemental analyses were obtained with a Perkin Elmer 2400 analyzer.

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CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

The authors declare the absence of conflict of interests.

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