

**NITRILES IN HETEROCYCLIC SYNTHESIS :  
SYNTHESIS OF SOME NEW PYRANO [3,2-d]  
ISOXAZOLES AND COUMARIN - 4 - YL  
ISOXAZOLES**

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**ABSTRACT**

*3-Methylisoxazolone (1), generated in situ from the reaction of ethyl acetoacetate with hydroxylamine hydrochloride, reacted with the cinnamionitrile derivatives (2a-f) to yield the pyranoisoxaoles 5a-f. Mixtures of formaldehyde and malononitrile or acetaldehyde and malononitrile reacted with in situ generated isoxazolone to yield the pyranoisoxazoles 5g,h. These compounds could also be prepared via reacting 1 with the corresponding aldehyde and subsequent treatment of the formed ylidenes 3a-h with malononitrile. The reaction of the hydroxyarylidenes 2i , j afforded the coumarin derivatives 7a, b .*

**DISCUSSION**

Polyfunctionally substituted heteroaromatics are interesting molecules as potential pharmaceuticals and their chemistry has received considerable recent interest <sup>1-3</sup>. In conjunction to my work aiming to prepare new polyfunctionally substituted heterocycles as

#### Nitriles in heterocyclic synthesis ....

potential biodegradable agrochemicals, samples of substituted pyranoisoxazoles were required<sup>4-6</sup>. Azolones are reported to react with cinnamionitriles to yield pyranoazolones<sup>7-10</sup>. This reaction has been conducted with pyrazolones<sup>7</sup> and imidazolones<sup>9</sup>, however the reactivity of 3-methyl-2-isoxazolin-5-one toward the same reagents has not been reported. The reaction of benzylidene-2-isoxazolin-5-one with malononitrile to yield pyranoisoxazoles has been reported earlier<sup>10,11</sup>. As 3-methyl-2-isoxazolin-5-one (1) is not readily isolable compound, I have investigated possible addition of cinnamionitriles to in situ generated 3. I have found that 1, generated in situ via reacting ethyl acetoacetate with hydroxylamine hydrochloride in pyridine solution, reacts with the cinnamionitrile 2a-h to yield 1:1 adducts. Products of reaction of 2a-h with 1 were found identical with products obtained previously from reaction of 3a-h with malononitrile<sup>10,11</sup>. These products can thus be assigned the acyclic Michael adduct structure 4 or isomeric pyranoisoxazole structure 5. Although Harhash et al.<sup>10</sup> have assigned structure 4 for these products. Aziz et al.<sup>11</sup> have later suggested that these compounds exist mainly as the cyclic pyrans 5. <sup>1</sup>H NMR was thus utilized to discriminate both structures. <sup>1</sup>H NMR revealed in addition to methyl, aryl and amino signals, only one singlet for proton linked to Sp<sup>3</sup> carbon at 4-6 ppm. This data can only be interpreted in terms of the cyclic pyran from 5 as has been suggested earlier by Aziz et al.<sup>11</sup> If the reaction product is the acyclic pyran 4 one would expect

A. M. Negm.

completely different pattern in which several multiplets for protons linked to  $Sp^3$  carbons should have appeared. Compounds **5** could also be obtained via reacting the ylidene isoxazolones **3** which was prepared in our laboratories via reacting in situ generated **1** with the corresponding aldehyde. Mixtures of malononitrile and formaldehyde or malononitrile and acetaldehyde generated in situ the corresponding ylidene derivatives as has been suggested recently<sup>12,13</sup>, and these reacted with **1** to yield **5g** and **5h** respectively .

The reaction of in situ generated **1** with mixture of salicylaldehyde and malononitrile or 3,5 - dibromosalicylaldehyde and malononitrile afforded the same products of reaction of malononitrile with 4-salicylidene-3-methyl-2-isoxazolin-5-one (**3i**) or 4-(3,5-dibromosalicylidene)-3-methyl-2-isoxazolin-5-one (**3j**). These were formulated as **6a,b**. formation of these products is assumed to proceed via first condensation of the aldehyde with isoxazolone and subsequent addition. Alternate possibility of initial condensation with malononitrile was ruled out as this compound is expected to cyclise very quickly into the coumarin derivative **7**. This latter compound could not be traced in solution. Moreover attempted addition of pyrazolone to this coumarin failed. Product **6** may be also formulated as tautomeric **7** or isomeric **8**. Structure **7** was considered most likely based on IR spectrum which revealed hydrogen bonded OH function even in dilute solution. Thus structure **6** was ruled out as it does not contain any OH. Also in compound **8**, OH group is

Nitriles in heterocyclic synthesis ....

expected to appear as typical phenolic OH at  $3500\text{ cm}^{-1}$  while in 7 intermolecular H bonds would only from stable chelates e.g. 9.

### EXPERIMENTAL

All melting points are uncorrected. IR spectra ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) were recorded on a Pye Unicam SP - 1000 spectrophotometer in KBr discs.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (ppm) were obtained in DMSO on a varian 90 MHz. Microanalytical data were obtained from the Microanalytical Center at Cairo University.

6-Amino-3-methyl-4-alkyl-pyrano[3,2-d]isoxazoles-5-carbonitrile(5)

General procedure (A) :

A solution of ethyl acetoacetate ( 0.01 mol; 1.3 g) in pyridine (20 ml) was treated with hydroxylamine hydrochloride (0.01 mol; 0.7 g).

The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 minutes then treated with the corresponding cinnamionitriles (2), and heated under reflux 1 h in ethanol. The reaction mixture was poured onto water, the solid product, so formed, was collected by filtration and crystallised from dilute ethanol.

General procedure (B)

Equimolecular amounts (0.01 mol) of each of 4-arylidene-3-methyl-2-isoxazolin-5-ones (3) [which were prepared by the reac-

A. M. Negm.

tion of solution of ethyl acetoacetate (0.01 mol) in pyridine (20 ml) and hydroxylamine hydrochloride (0.01 mol), the reaction mixture was stirred for 30 minutes then treated with the corresponding aldehyde, left overnight at room temperature] and malononitrile in 30 ml ethanol were treated with two drops of pipyridine. The reaction mixture was refluxed for 3 h After concentration, the product fromed was filtered, and crystallised from dilute ethanol. The product was found identical with speciments of compounds produced by genral procedure (A).

preparation of 5g and 5 h :

compound 1 (0.01 mol), generated in situe as has been described above was allowed to react with the appropriate aliphatic aldehyde (0.01 mol) and with malononitrile (0.01 mpl; 0.66 g) in pyridine (20 ml). The reaction mixture was heated for 30 min., then left to stand overnight. After evaporation of solvent and trituration with ethanol, it was filtered off and afforded solid product which then crystallised from dil. ethanol.

**6,8 - Disubstiuted-coumarin-4yl-isoxazoles-3- carbonitrile (7a,b).**

To a solution of malononoitrile (0.01 mol) in 30 ml ethanol ylidenes **3i** and **3j** (0.01 mol) were added then two drops of pipyridine. After relfux for 30 min. and evaporation of excess solvent, filtration of the solid product, it was crystallised from ethanol to obtain **7a** and **7b** respectively.

Nitriles in heterocyclic synthesis ....

Compound No.	mp (°C)	IR
5c	150	
5d	159	
5e	240	2220-2200 cm <sup>-1</sup> (CN) and
5f	220	3350 - 3200 cm <sup>-1</sup> (NH <sub>2</sub> )
5g	175	
5h	182	
7b	> 300	1700-1690 cm <sup>-1</sup> (CO), 2200 cm <sup>-1</sup> (CN) 3300-3200 cm <sup>-1</sup> (OH).

\* Satisfactory elemental analyses for the newly synthesised compounds were obtained .

A. M. Negm.

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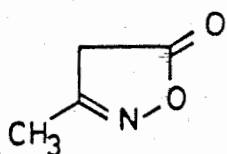
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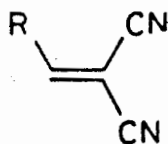
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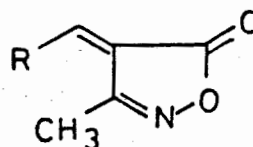
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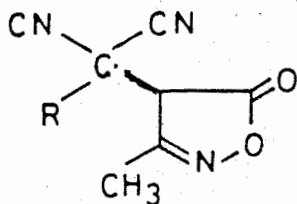
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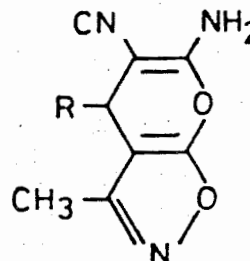
2



3



4



5

2, 3, 5 a, R = C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>

b, R = C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, OCH<sub>3</sub> - P



A. M. Negm.

c, R = C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub> - P

d, R = C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> - P

e, R = C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, Br - p

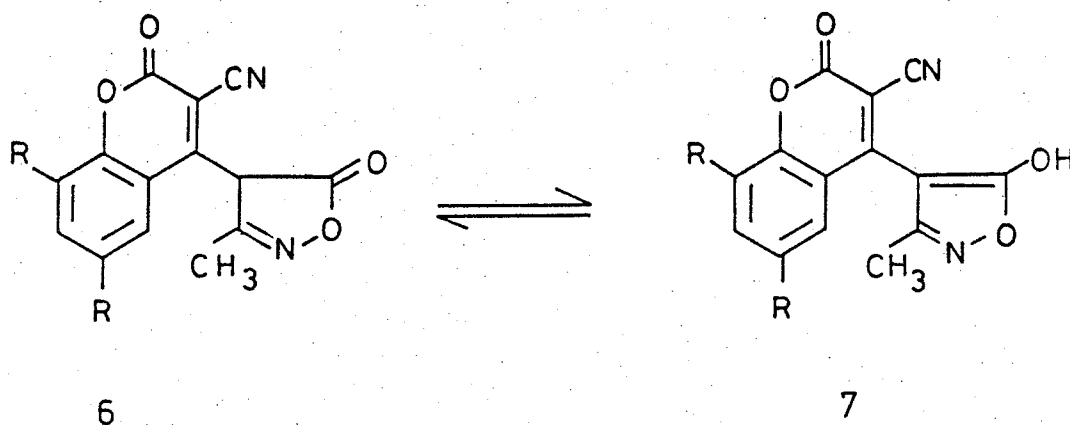
f, R = 2 - furyl

g, R = H

h, R = CH<sub>3</sub>

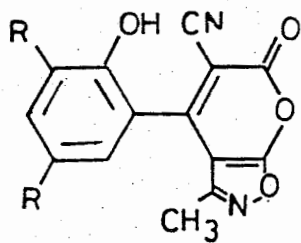
i, R = C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, OH - o

j, R = C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>, OH - 2 ; Br<sub>2</sub> - 3,5

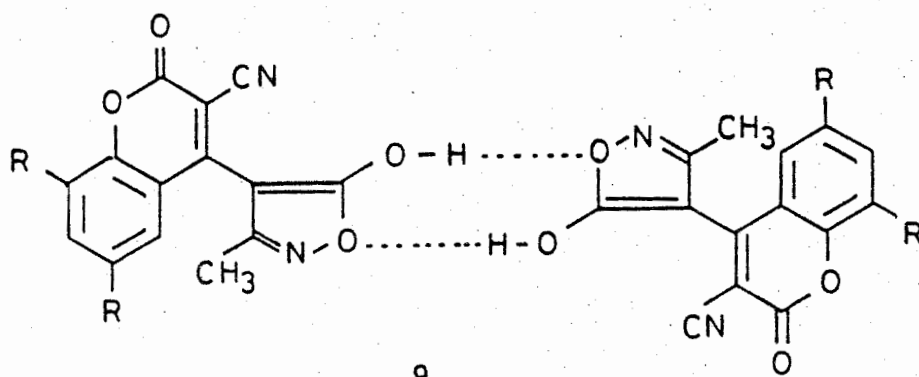


6, 7 a, R = H ; b, R = Br

Nitriles in heterocyclic synthesis ....



8



9

**النيتريلات فى تخليق المركبات الحلقية غير المتجانسة:  
تحضير بعض مشتقات بيرانو [٣، ٢ - >] أيزوكسازول  
وكذلك بعض مشتقات كيومارين - ٤ - ابل  
ايزوكسازول**

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**قسم الكيمياء - كلية العلوم - جامعة القاهرة - جيزة - مصر**

نظرا للاهمية البيولوجية لكثير من المركبات الحلقية غير المتجانسة عديدة المجموعات الوظيفية وامتداد لهذا الاتجاه فإنه تم فى هذا البحث تحضير بعض هذه المركبات ... حيث أننى وجدت عند تفاعل ٢ - ميثيل ايزوكسازولون (1) - و الذى ينتج فى الحال يتفاعل أيثيل أسيتو أسيتات مع هيدروكسيل أمين هيدروكلوريد - مع مشتقات السينامو نيتريلات (f - 2a) ينتج مشتقات البيرانوايزوكسازول f - 5a . كذلك عند تفاعل خليط من كل من الفورمالدهيد و المألونونيتريل مع المركب 1 أو خليط من الاسيتالدهيد و المألونونيتريل مع المركب 1 ينتج المركبين h , 5g على التوالى .

يمكن أيضا الحصول على بعض هذه المركبات بمفاعله بعض مشتقات البدين للمركب 1 مع المألونونيتريل .