LE I 11

RING TRANSFORMATION OF TETRAZOLES INTO BENZOTRIAZOLES

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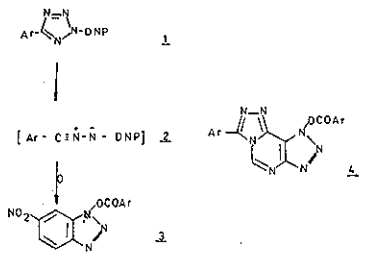
5-Aryl-2-(2,4-dinitrophenyl = DNP)tetrazoles **1** have been prepared in excellent yields by treating the appropriate 5-aryltetrazoles with 1-fluoro-2,4-dinitrobenzene in acetone/NEt_3 at room temperature.

Due to the electron attracting DNP substituent compounds **1** are thermally much more labile than other 2,5-diaryltetrazoles. They decompose cleanly with nitrogen evolution on heating in boiling benzene yielding nitrilimine intermediates **2**. Attempted 1,3-dipolar cycloadditions of **2** and dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate or diethyl maleate failed. A faster intramolecular stabilization reaction leads to 1-aroyloxy-6-nitrobenzotriazoles **3** as the final products in yields over 93%. Thermolysis of **1** at higher temperatures did not alter this reaction pathway and in no case products arising from nitrilimine fragmentation, ArCN and 5(6)-nitrobenzofuroxan, formed **via** either intramolecular 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition or anchimeric assisted loss of ArCN, have been found.



The mechanism of this transformation, involving inital 1,7-dipolar electrocyclic ring closure, will be discussed. As an example for the use of the reaction in heterocyclic synthesis the ready formation of condensed 8-azapurines **4** from 4,6-dichloro-5-nitropyrimidine will be described. Some of the tetrazoles **1** are explosives.

LE I 12

SYNTHESIS OF HETEROCYCLES WITH O-CHLORBENZOYL ACETONITRILE

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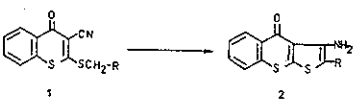
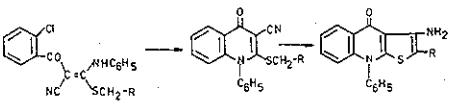
Reaction of o-chlorbenzoyl acetonitrile with carbon disulfide occured in the presence of sodium hydride and following alkylation to give 1-thiochromones **1**. A mechanism for the cyclisation is discussed. The compounds **1** are suitable substances for the synthesis of thieno[2.3-b]1-thiochromones **2** by nitrile cyclisation.



o-Chlorbenzoyl acetonitrile reacts with phenyl isothiocyanate/sodium hydride to the ketene S,N-acetal **3**, while the awaited 2-anilino-1-thiochromone is not obtained. Cyclisation of **3** in a basic medium forms the 4(1H)-quinolones **4**. The following cyclisation supplies 4,9-dihydrothieno[2.3-b]quinoline-4-ones **5**.



LE I 13

PHOTOCHEMICAL AND THERMAL TRANSFORMATIONS OF SOME HETEROCYCLIC DIAZOKETONS

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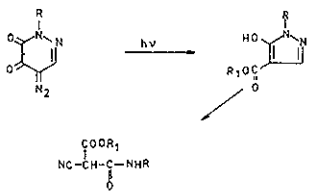
Heterocyclic diazo compounds are important synthons for the preparation of different heterocyclic systems and in azatransfer reactions.

Heterocyclic diazo ketones could be transformed photochemically into derivatives of ring contracted carboxylic acids. Recently, 3-diazo-4-oxo-3,4-dihydroquinoline has been converted when irradiated either into esters or amides of indole-3-carboxylic acids.

In this communication we wish to report on the photochemical and thermal transformations of 6-substituted-7-diazo-8-oxo-s-triazolo(4,3-b)pyridazines into alkyl-6-substituted-pyrazolo(3,2-c)-s-triazolo-7-carboxylates and 1-substituted-4-diazo-5,6-dioxo-1,4,5,6-tetrahydropyridazine into alkyl 1-substituted-6-hydroxy-pyrazolo-4-carboxylates and carbalkoxy substituted cyanoacettes.



Some other thermal and photochemical transformations will be discussed.

LE I 14

NEW SYNTHETIC METHODS OF HETEROCYCLES

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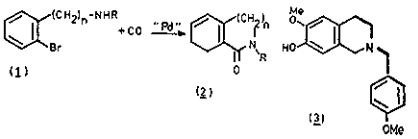
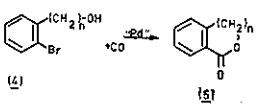
1. The utilization of organometallic compounds

We have recently reported the new synthesis of benzolactams by palladium catalyzed amidation. The insertion of carbon monooxide toward o-bromo-alkylaminobenzene (**1**) easily occurred under mild condition in an atmospheric pressure of carbon monoxide at 100° by use of a catalystic amount of $Pd(OAc)_2$ and PPh_3 with a tertiary amine to afford five, six and seven membered benzolactams (**2**, n = 1— 3) in good yields. The method was applied to the synthesis of a natural alkaloid, sendaverine (**3**).

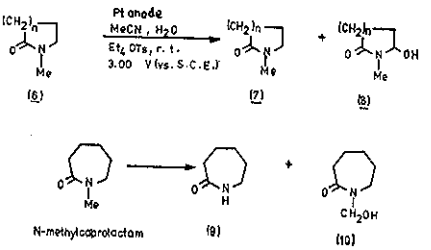
Furthermore, an extention of this method was made to the synthesis of benzolactones of five, six and seven membered rings under a similar condition (**4** → **5**).





2. The anodic oxidation of some lactams

The anodic oxidation of N-methyllactams (6, n = 1,2) in acetonitrile with Et_4NOTs as an electrolyte gave N-methylimides (7, n = 1,2) and N-methylhydroxylactams (8, n = 1,2) in moderate yields. In a similar manner, the oxidation of N-methylcaprolactam (6, n = 3) afforded caprolactam (9) and N-hydroxymethylcaprolactam (10) in 22 and 19% yields, respectively. The last reaction is now being applied to a new synthesis of some aldehydes.



LE I 15

NOVEL 1,3,5-BENZOTRIAZEPINE SYNTHESES

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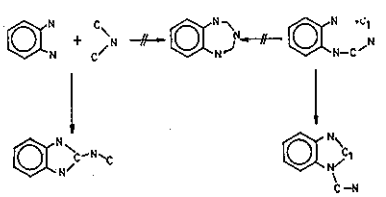
Seven-membered heterocycles such as 1,4-diazepines and triazepines are of great pharmacological interest. During the past several years, we have investigated the possibility of devising novel syntheses of the 1,3,5-benzotriazepine skeleton[1,2]. This heterocyclic system has yet scarcely been explored and only a very few authenticated derivatives of this system have been described. This is probably due to the fact that, the most obvious syntheses of benzotriazepines may alternatively lead to substituted benzimidazoles:



In order to minimize the danger of the formation of isomeric benzimidazole derivatives, an auxiliary ring was fused to the seven-membered ring.

Two simple, rational syntheses of condensed 1,3,5-benzotriazepines will be discussed. Some of the obtained products displayed CNS activity.

1) G. Doleschall, Gy. Hornyák, B. Ágai, Gy. Simig, J. Fetter and K. Lempert: Tetrahedron 32, 57 (1976).
2) B. Ágai, G. Doleschall, Gy. Hornyák, K. Lempert and Gy. Simig: Tetrahedron 32, 839 (1976).

LE I 16

SOME SUBSTITUTION DERIVATIVES OF ERGOLINE-I WITH PROLACTIN-INHIBITING ACTIVITIES

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By introduction of alkyl groups from alkyl halides in the dimethylformamide medium into the molecules of D-8-cyanomethylergoline-I and 6-norfestuclavine, respectively, prepared by a series of reactions from D-dihydroergotamine, the corresponding D-6-alkyl-8-cyanomethylergolines-I and 6-alkyl analogues of festuclavine were prepared. Some D-6-alkyl-8-cyanomethylergolines-I were also prepared by reacting sodium cyanide with D-6-alkyl-8-chlormethylergolines-I, obtained from D-6-alkyl-8-hydroxymethylergolines-I.

Some D-6-alkyl-8-cyanomethylergolines-I were converted to D-6-alkyl-8-ergolin-I-ylacetamides, either via the corresponding 8-carboxymethyl acids, their methyl esters, and their hydrazides, or by direct addition of water to the nitrile groups in the parent compounds in a heterogeneous biphasic pyridinic-aqueous medium in the presence of tetraalkylammonium bases.

1-Nitroso derivatives of D-6-alkyl-8-ergolin-I-ylacetamides were prepared by the action of excess nitrous acid upon the corresponding hydrazides of D-6-alkyl-8-ergolin-I-ylacetic acids and decomposition by aqueous ammonia of the intermediate 1-nitroso derivatives of azides of the acids.

The 6-alkyl analogues of festuclavine, D-8-cyanomethylergoline-I, and D-8-ergolin-I-ylacetamide produced marked antinidation and antilactation effects in biological tests. On introduction of the ethyl, propyl or allyl groups into the position 6 in the ergoline cycle the prolactin-inhibiting activities of the compounds were markedly enhanced in comparison with the activities of the corresponding 6-methyl derivatives.

LE I 17

THE SYNTHESIS OF GEMINALLY DISUBSTITUTED 4,5-DIHYDRO-6H-CANTHIN-6-ONES

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In the past decade some alkaloids of the eburnane group, e.g. vincamine 1, have attracted much interest, especially in view of their known biological activity. In continuation of our bro-