

## Note

### Hypervalent iodine mediated synthesis of 3-substituted-*s*-triazolo [3,4-*a*]phthalazines

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Phthalazine hydrazones **1a-g** on oxidation with iodobenzene diacetate (IBD) in dichloromethane yield exclusively the 3-substituted-*s*-triazolo[3,4-*a*]phthalazines **2a-g**.

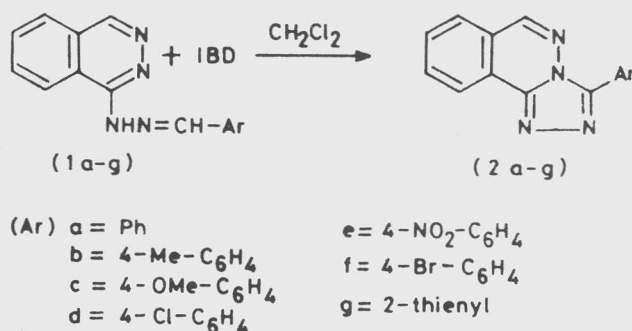
Hypervalent iodine reagents have drawn attention to the versatile synthesis of heterocycles<sup>1</sup>. We have recently shown that iodobenzene diacetate (IBD) is an excellent reagent for the synthesis of many useful bridgehead heterocyclic compounds<sup>2</sup>.

The tricyclic heterocycles have an added significance, as many of them are potent antibacterials<sup>3a,b</sup> and antihypertensive agents<sup>4</sup>. Moreover, these compounds **2** are useful synthons for the synthesis of 3-phenyl[1,2,4]triazolo[1,4-*c*]quinazolin-5(6*H*)-one, a potent benzodiazepine receptor antagonist<sup>5</sup>. Herein we report the IBD mediated synthesis of 3-substituted-*s*-triazolo[3,4-*a*]phthalazines **2a-g**.

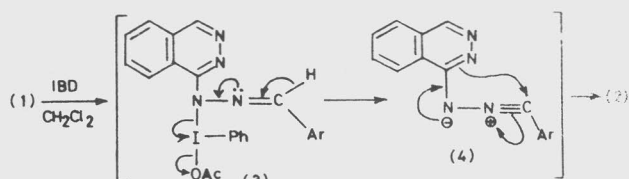
Stirring of phthalazine hydrazone **1a** with IBD in dichloromethane for 3-5 min. at room temperature resulted in the formation of a single product which was identified as 3-phenyl-*s*-triazolo[3,4-*a*]phthalazine **2a** on the basis of its m.p. 212-15° (lit.<sup>5</sup>, m.p. 210-15°).

The generality of this facile transformation was established by treating other phthalazine hydrazones **1b-g** with IBD in dichloromethane under similar reaction conditions to get the corresponding triazolophthalazine derivatives **2b-g** in good yields (cf. Experimental and Scheme I).

The probable mechanism for the transformation of **1** to **2** is outlined in Scheme II, which is analogous to the oxidation of arenecarbaldehyde hydrazone with lead tetraacetate<sup>6</sup> and



Scheme I



Scheme II

intramolecular cyclization of 2-benzothiazolyhydrazone<sup>2a</sup>.

Finally, this study provides a facile, quick and superior method for the synthesis of **2**, which is particularly advantageous over the reported procedures involving the use of toxic reagents such as lead tetraacetate and acid chloride<sup>5</sup>.

### Experimental Section

M.p.s were taken in open capillaries and are uncorrected. IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 1000 PC FTIR, and <sup>1</sup>HMR were taken on a Bruker 300 MHz instrument, using TMS as internal standard. All the phthalazine hydrazones **1a-g** were prepared according to the literature procedure<sup>5,7</sup>. The compound **1f** is not described in the literature and was identified by its spectral and analytical data.

**1f**: Yield 82%, m.p. 232-35°; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>); δ: 7.53-8.39 (m, 7H, phthalazine C<sub>5</sub>-H, C<sub>7</sub>-H, C<sub>8</sub>-H and Ar-H), 8.81 (s, 1H, -N=CH-), 9.50-9.73 (m, 2H, phthalazine C<sub>4</sub>-H and C<sub>8</sub>-H), 14.47 (brs, 1H, NH, exchangeable with D<sub>2</sub>O); Anal. Found: C 54.38, H 3.02, N 17.06. Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>11</sub>BrN<sub>4</sub>: C 55.04, H 3.36, N 17.12%.

**3-Substituted-*s*-triazolo[3,4-*a*]phthalazines 2a-g: General procedure.** To a stirred solution of **1a**

(5 mmoles) in 20 mL of dichloromethane at room temperature, IBD (5 mmoles) was added during 5 min. The excess solvent was evaporated *in vacuo* and the residue recrystallized from ethanol to get pure **2a**. In a similar manner **2b-g** were prepared.

The compounds **2a-d** were identified by comparing their properties with those that are reported in the literature<sup>4,5</sup>. The other products **2e-g** were characterised by their spectral and analytical data.

**2a**: Yield 82%, m.p. 214° (lit.<sup>4,5</sup>, m.p. 210-12° and 214°).

**2b**: Yield 69%, m.p. 213° (lit.<sup>4</sup>, m.p. 213°).

**2c**: Yield 64%, m.p. 203-6°, (lit.<sup>4</sup>, m.p. 203-5°).

**2d**: Yield 80%, m.p. 229° (lit.<sup>4,5</sup>, m.p. 230° and 224-25°).

**2e**: Yield 88%, m.p. 302°; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.67-8.47 (m, 7H, phthalazine C<sub>7</sub>-H, C<sub>8</sub>-H, C<sub>9</sub>-H and Ar-H), 8.78-8.89 (m, 2H, phthalazine C<sub>6</sub>-H and C<sub>10</sub>-H); Anal. Found: C 61.32, H 2.92, N, 23.88. Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C 61.85, H 3.09, N 24.05%.

**2f**: Yield 78%, m.p. 226-28°; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.57-8.36 (m, 7H, phthalazine C<sub>7</sub>-H, C<sub>8</sub>-H, C<sub>9</sub>-H and Ar-H), 8.68-9.00 (m, 2H, phthalazine C<sub>6</sub>-H and C<sub>10</sub>-H); MS: m/z 324/326 (M<sup>+</sup>); Anal. Found C 55.12, H 2.21, N 17.21. Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>9</sub>BrN<sub>4</sub>: C 55.38, H 2.76, N 17.23%.

**2g**: Yield 58%, m.p. 202°; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.28-8.42 (m, 7H, phthalazine C<sub>7</sub>-H, C<sub>8</sub>-H, C<sub>9</sub>-H and Ar-H), 8.90-9.03 (m, 2H, phthalazine C<sub>6</sub>-H and C<sub>10</sub>-H); Anal. Found: C, 61.42, H 3.12, N 22.02. Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>4</sub>S: C 61.90, H 3.17, N 22.22%.

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