# Application of Michael Reaction on 3-Methyl-1-Phenylpyrazolin-5-one with Arylmethylenecyanoacetic Acid Ethyl Esters

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3-Methyl-1-phenylpyrazolin-5-one (1) was reacted with arylmethylenecyanoacetic acid ethyl ester (2) to give 4-[2-cyano-2-ethoxycarbonyl-1-(aryl)ethyl]-3-methyl-1-phenylpyrazolin-5-one. However, when the ethanolic solution of compound (3) was treated with piperidine, arylmethylidenebis(5-hydroxpyrazole) (4) was produced.

Key Words: Michael reaction, 3-Methyl-1-phenylpyrazolin-5-one, Arylmethylenecyanoacetic acid ethyl ester.

#### INTRODUCTION

Reaction of compound (1) with phenylmethylenemalononitrile in presence of piperidine has been previously reported to yield 4,4'-phenylmethylidene-bis-(5-hydroxy pyrazole)<sup>1</sup>, or derivative of pyrazolopyrane ring<sup>2, 3</sup>, and also 4-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylethyl)-3-methyl-1-phenyl pyrazolin-5-one was obtained on reaction of compound (1) with phenylmethylenemalononitrile in absence of piperidine<sup>1</sup>.

In this paper, the reaction of compound (1) with compound (2) was carried out in ethanol at room temperature; under this condition Michael addition has been carried out to obtain compound (3), Scheme-1.

## Scheme-1 EXPERIMENTAL

All chemicals used are of chemically pure grade. Melting points were taken on Griffin apparatus and were uncorrected. The  $^{1}H$  NMR spectra were recorded on Brucker 200 MHz instrument in acetone- $d_{6}$  and CDCl<sub>3</sub> solution. The chemical shifts are given in  $\delta$  (ppm) values against TMS as standard. IR spectra were

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measured on Maltson 5000 FT-IR spectrometer as KBr pellets and microanalyses were performed at chemistry laboratory in Raslanoff Company (oil company in Raslanoff, Libya).

Arylmethylenecyanoacetic acid ethyl ester (2) was prepared according to the procedure described previously<sup>4</sup>.

## Preparation of 4-[2-cyano-2-ethoxycarbonyl-1-(phenyl) ethyl]-3-methyl-1-phenylpyrazolin-5-one (3)

To a stirring solution of compound (1) (0.01 mole) in 15 mL ethanol was added compound (2) (0.01 mole) in 5 portions over a period of 10 min, with continuous stirring at room temperature; a copious white precipitate was formed. It was collected by filtration and re-crystallized from ethanol, affording a white powder, Table-1.

## Action of Piperidine on Michael Adducts (Compound 3)

Compound (3) (0.01 mole) was suspended in 15 mL of ethanol, then 0.5 mL of piperidine was added. The resulting solution was stirred at room temperature for 1-5 h, during which time a copious white precipitate was formed, which was filtered off and purified by column chromatography using methanol as eluent after evaporation of the solvent; the crude product was re-crystallized from ethanol to afford compound (4), Tables 1 and 2.

TABLE-1	
ANALYTICAL AND PHYSICAL DATA OF THE COMPOUNDS (	(3) AND (4)

Compd.	m.p. (°C)	Yield (%)	Time of stirring (h)	m.f. (mol. mass)	Analyses %, Calcd. (Found)		
					С	Н	N
3a	140–142	99	3	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>21</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (375.43)	70.38 (69.92)	5.64 (5.63)	11.19 (11.40)
3b	150–153	90.12	3	C <sub>23</sub> H <sub>23</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> (402.46)	68.15 (67.66)	5.72 (5.70)	10.36 (10.10)
3c	160–163	81	1	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>20</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (420.43)	62.85 (62.76)	4.79 (4.81)	13.33 (12.96)
3d	142	76	. 1	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>20</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (420.43)	62.85 (62.57)	4.79 (4.80)	13.33 (13.09)
<b>3e</b>	118–119	83	3	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>21</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> (391.43)	66.04 (65.99)	6.15 (6.16)	9.71 (9.60)
4a	156	42.31	1	C <sub>27</sub> H <sub>24</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (436.51)	74.31 (73.96)	5.50 (5.80)	12.84 (13.02)
4b	168–170	49.14	2	C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>26</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (466.54)	72.10 (72.23)	5.58 (5.89)	12.02 (11.83)
4e*	143	43.36	5	C <sub>27</sub> H <sub>24</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (452.51)	71.68 (70.46)	5.31 (5.19)	12.39 (12.81)

<sup>\*</sup>Compound (3e) contaminated with 0.01 mol of ethanol.

TABLE-2 SPECTROSCOPIC DATA\* OF COMPOUND (3) AND (4)

Compd.	Spectroscopic Data ( <sup>1</sup> H NMR and IR)
3a	$\delta$ = 1.0, 1.1 (t, t, 6H, 2CH <sub>3</sub> of ester groups), 2.2, 2.3 (s, s, 6H, 2CH <sub>3</sub> ), 4.0 (q, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> of ester group), 4.1–4.3 (m, 3H, CH <sub>2</sub> and CH), 4.3–4.45 (m, 2H, 2CH), 5.25 (d, 1H, CH), 7.1–7.4 (m, 12H, Ph—H), 7.6–7.8 (m, 8H, Ph—H). $\nu_{max}$ (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) = 3063 (Ar—H), 2970 and 2898 (Alkyl-H), 2230 (C=N), 1737 (C=O ester), 1700 (C=O of pyrazole ring), 1680, 1578 (C=C and/or C=N), 756, 696 (mono substituted aromatic).
<b>3b</b>	$δ$ = 1.0, 1.1 (tt, 6H, 2CH <sub>3</sub> of ethyl groups), 2.1, 2.3 (s, s, 6H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 3.7, 3.75 (s, s, 6H, 2OCH <sub>3</sub> ), 4.0 (q, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> of ethyl group), 4.1–4.25 (m, 3H, CH <sub>2</sub> + CH), 4.3–4.4 (m, 2H, 2CH), 5.2 (d, 1H, CH), 6.8–7.8 (m, 18H, aromatic), 10.05 (s, broad, 1H, NH). $ν_{max}$ (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) = 3010 (Ar—H), 2980 and 2820 (Alkyl-H), 2260 (C≡N), 1740 (C=O), 1580 (C=N and/or C=C), 1010 (C—O), 840, 750, 710 (mono and <i>para</i> substituted aromatic).
3c	$\delta$ = 1.0, 1.105 (tt, 6H, 2CH <sub>3</sub> of ethyl ester groups), 2.30, 2.40 (s, s, 6H, 2CH <sub>3</sub> ), 4.0 (q, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> of ethyl group), 4.10–4.30 (m, 3H, CH <sub>2</sub> and CH), 4.55–4.65 (m, 2H, 2CH), 5.30 (d, 1H, CH), 7.10–8.15 (18H, aromatic). ν <sub>max</sub> (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) = 3059 (Ar—H), 2982 and 2882 (Alkyl-H), 2260 (C=N), 1740 (C=O ester), 1700 (C=O of pyrazole ring), 1610 (C=N and /or C=C), 1522, 1498 (CH <sub>3</sub> ), 1108 (C—O), 832, 758, 696 (mono and <i>para</i> substituted aromatic).
3d	$\delta$ = 1.06, 1.15 (tt, 6H, 2CH <sub>3</sub> of ethyl ester), 2.21, 2.39 (s, s, 6H, 2CH <sub>3</sub> ), 4.0 (q, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> of ethyl ester group), 4.05–4.15 (m, 3H, CH <sub>2</sub> and CH), 5.0–5.10 (m, 2H, 2CH), 5.3 (d, 1H, CH), 7.21–7.8 (16H, aromatic), 8.21–8.30 (m, 2H, aromatic), 10.34 (s, broad, NH). $v_{max}$ (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) = 3061 (Ar—H), 2980 and 2836 (Alkyl-H), 2240 (C=N), 1747 (C=O ester), 1705 (C=O of pyrazole ring), 1640, 1594 (C=N and/or C=C), 1497 (CH <sub>3</sub> ), 1169 (C—O), 745, 698, 687 (mono and <i>ortho</i> substituted aromatic).
3e	$\delta$ = 1.0, 1.10 (tt, 6H, 2CH <sub>3</sub> of ethyl ester groups), 2.20, 2.30 (s, s, 6H, 2CH <sub>3</sub> ), 4.0 (q, 2H, CH <sub>2</sub> of ethyl ester group), 4.05–4.20 (m, 3H, CH <sub>2</sub> and CH), 4.25–4.40 (m, 2H, 2CH), 5.20 (d, 1H, CH), 6.9–7.8 (18H, aromatic).
4a	$\delta$ = 2.01 (s, 6H, 2CH <sub>3</sub> ), 4.78 (s, 1H, CH), 7.07–7.28 (m, 11H, Ph—H), 7.59 (d, 4H, Ph—H).
4b	$\delta$ = 2.06 (s, 6H, 2CH <sub>3</sub> ), 3.73 (s, 3H, OCH <sub>3</sub> ), 4.71 (s, 1H, CH), 6.74–7.59 (m, 14H, Ar—H).
4e	$\delta$ = 2.40 (s, 6H, 2CH <sub>3</sub> ), 4.95 (s, 1H, CH), 6.70 (d, 2H, Ar—H), 7.10–7.25 (tt, 4H, Ar—H), 7.4 (t, 4H, Ar—H), 7.8 (d, 4H, Ar—H).

<sup>\*</sup>The <sup>1</sup>H NMR of all compounds in Table -2 in Acetone-d<sub>6</sub> except 4a and 4b in CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Compound (3) was reacted with phenylmethylenemalononitrile to give 4-(2,2-dicyano-1-phenylethyl)-5-hydroxy-3-methyl-1-phenylpyrazole<sup>1</sup>. An analogue of this work was the reaction of equimolar amounts of phenylmethylenecyanoacetic acid ethyl ester (2a) with compound (1) in ethanol solution at room temperature to give the expected 4-(2-cyano-2-ethoxycarbonyl-1-(phenyl)ethyl)-5-hydroxy-3-methyl-1-phenylpyrazole (3a) through Michael addition, by reaction of the methylene group at fourth position of compound (1) with olefinic carbon in compound (2a), Scheme-1. The elemental analysis, Table-1, was succeeded with the structure

of compound (3a) in OH form Scheme-2. There are no  $\nu(NH)$  and  $\nu(OH)$  bands in infrared spectra of compound 3a, but instead a carbonyl group absorption band at  $v_{max} = 1700 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  appeared in addition to bands characteristic for cyano and carbonyl of ester; so compound (3a) existed in keto form and had the suggested structure in solid state, Scheme-2.

Scheme-2.. Tautomers of Compound 3

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound (3a) in acetone-d<sub>6</sub>, Table-2, showed two triplet and two quartet signals characteristic of two ethyl ester groups, and two singlet signals at  $\delta = 2.30$  ppm and 2.20 ppm for two methyl groups of pyrazole ring, 3 protons for 3CH of pyrazole ring and signals at  $\delta = 7.10-7.80$  ppm for aromatic protons. This revealed that there is a mixture of two structures although the melting points of these compounds were sharp and gave a single spot on TLC when visualized under UV or with iodine vapour, so that the presence of the mixture is probably due to the tautomeric properties of pyrazolin-5-one ring, which inferred that compound (3a) exists in NH- and OH tautomeric forms (Scheme-2).

However the same observation was noted, when arylmethylenecyanoacetic acid ethyl esters (2b-e) were reacted with 3-methyl-1-phenylpyrazolin-5-one (1) to obtain compounds (3b-e).

Compound (3) was unstable; it converted gradually to corresponding arylmethylene-bis(5-hydroxy-3-methyl-1-phenylpyrazole) (4), upon standing in solvent such as methanol, acetone or chloroform, but the conversion of compound (3) to the corresponding compound (4) was not quantitative, there were a quantity of compound (3). In order to make this conversion complete, the ethanolic solutions of compounds (3a-e) were treated with piperidine at room temperature; then compounds (4a), (4b) and (4e) were obtained, but nonisolable mixtures were obtained with compounds (3c) and (3d) (Scheme-3). The structure of compound (4) substantiated from its <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (Table-2).

Scheme-3

620 Ammida et al. Asian J. Chem.

The formation of compound (4) under this conditions could be rationalized through retro-Michael reaction to yield compound (1) together with compound (2)<sup>4</sup>, which undergoes a cleavage leading to ethylacetate and arylaldehyde<sup>1, 4</sup>. Recombination of arylaldehyde with compound (1) in appropriate form would lead to the formation of 4-arylmethylene-3-methyl-1-phenylpyrazolin-5-one (5)<sup>5, 6</sup>. Reaction of compound (5) with another molecule of compound (1)<sup>5, 6</sup>, or with another molecule of compound (3), leads to compound (4) (Scheme-4).

Scheme-4

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