

Synthesis and Structure of (2E)-3-Aryl(hetaryl)-2-[5-bromo-4-aryl(hetaryl)-1,3-thiazol-2-yl]acrylonitriles [†]

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Abstract: Bromination of (2E)-3-aryl(hetaryl)-2-[4-aryl(hetaryl)-1,3-thiazol-2-yl]acrylonitriles proceeds regioselectively at the C5 atom of the thiazole ring with the formation of new (2E)-3-aryl(hetaryl)-2-[5-bromo-4-aryl(hetaryl)-1,3-thiazol-2-yl]acrylonitriles. The latter were alternatively obtained by the reaction of aldehydes, cyanothioacetamide, α -bromoketones and bromine in the presence of triethylamine in DMF. Structure of the key compounds was confirmed using 2D NMR spectroscopy and single crystal X-ray diffraction analysis.

Keywords: 1,3-thiazoles; 5-bromo-1,3-thiazoles; cyanothioacetamide; 2-cyanothioacrylamides; bromination

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1. Introduction

Functionally substituted thiazoles are important reactants for fine organic synthesis. They also exhibit a broad spectrum of biological activity and have different practical applications. Numerous thiazole derivatives exhibiting antibacterial, antifungal, anti-inflammatory, antitumor, anti-tuberculosis, antidiabetic, antiviral and antioxidant and other practically useful properties have been reported. Among the most significant representatives of this class of compounds, it is worth mentioning vitamin B1 (thiamine), nizatidine, penicillin, fanetizole, meloxicam, ritonavir. In this regard, the development of available approaches to the synthesis of new 1,3-thiazole derivatives seems to be a very urgent task.

2. Results and discussion.

We synthesized a small library of starting 2-thiazolylacrylonitriles **1**. It was shown that the bromination of compounds **1** in DMF or alcohols (methanol, ethanol, n-butanol) under the action of an equimolar or two-fold amount of bromine both at room temperature and upon heating does not affect the C=C bond of the acrylonitrile fragment. The reaction resulted in regioselective bromination at the C5-position of the thiazole ring to give 5-bromothiazoles **6** in high yields (75–92%) (Scheme 2, method a). The choice of DMF as the preferred solvent is due to the fact that the starting 2-thiazolylacrylonitriles **1** are very poorly soluble in alcohols. In these cases, the reaction with bromine has to be carried out at reflux and/or in a heterogeneous medium, which affects the purity and yields of the target products **6**.

