

# The reaction of 5-amino-3-(cyanomethyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-carbonitrile with beta-cycloketols

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## Abstract

The reaction of 5-amino-3-(cyanomethyl)-1H-pyrazole-4-carbonitrile with 3-aryl-2,4-di(ethoxycarbonyl)-5-hydroxy-5-methylcyclohexanones in boiling acetic acid leads to the formation of new 4,5,6,7,8,9-hexahydropyrazolo[1,5-a]quinazolines. The mechanism is discussed. The structure of the products was confirmed by means of <sup>1</sup>H и <sup>13</sup>C (DEPTQ) NMR, as well as 2D NMR (NOESY, <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>13</sup>C HSQC, HMBC).

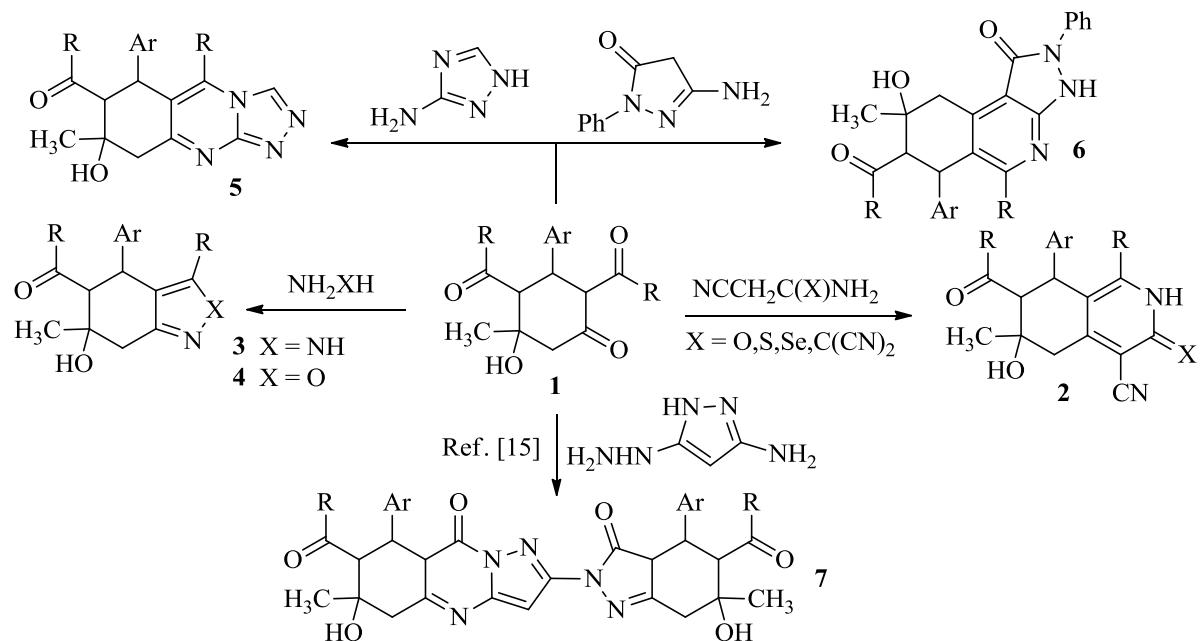
## Keywords

$\beta$ -cycloketols, aminopyrazole, cyclocondensation, pyrazolo[1,5-a]quinazoline

$\beta$ -Cycloketols (2,4-di-(RC(O))-3-aryl-5-hydroxy-5-methylcyclohexanones) **1** which are easily accessible by the reaction of aromatic aldehydes with 1,3-dicarbonyls RC(O)CH<sub>2</sub>C(O)CH<sub>3</sub>, were recognized as promising reagents for organic synthesis. According to the literature [1,2],  $\beta$ -cycloketols are good precursors of a variety of carbocycles, enamine ketones and esters, etc. However, the heterocyclization reactions of  $\beta$ -cycloketols are not well studied. Thus, the literature describes the preparation of isoquinolines **2** [3-7], indazoles **3** [8-10], benzo[c]isoxazoles **4** [9,10], [1,2,4]triazolo[3,4-

b]quinazolines **5** [11] and pyrazolo[3,4-c]isoquinolines **6** [12] (Scheme 1) by reactions of beta-cycloketols with various 1,2- and 1,3-dinucleophilic agents. Despite the large attention paid to reactions of aminoazoles with 1,3-dielectrophilic agents (see reviews [13, 14]), only a few examples of reactions involving  $\beta$ -cycloketols were found in the literature. Thus, the reaction of cycloketols with 5-amino-3-hydrazinopiazazole was reported to give 6,7,8,8a-tetrahydropyrazolo[5,1-b]quinazolin-9(5H)-one **7** [15] (Scheme 1).

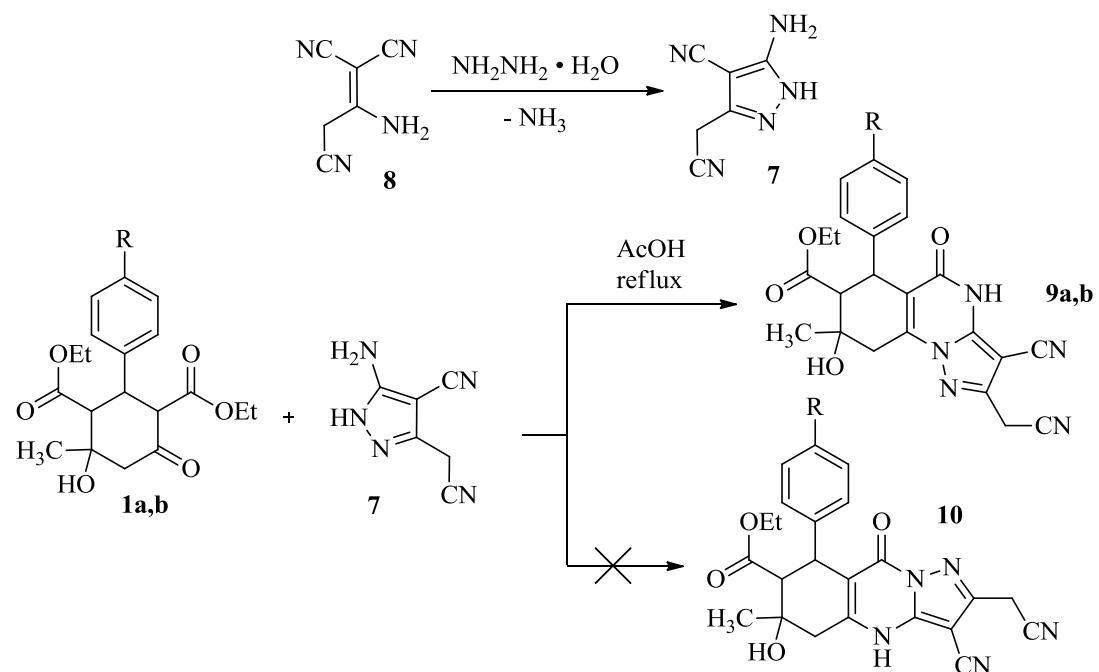
Scheme 1



In continuation of our studies in the chemistry of the malononitrile dimer [16–19], herein we report the reaction of 3-aryl-5-hydroxy-5-methyl-2,4-di(ethoxycarbonyl)cyclohexanones **1a,b** with 5-amino-3-(cyanomethyl)-1H-pyrazole-4-carbonitrile **7** (Scheme 2). Aminopyrazole **7** can be easily prepared by the reaction of malononitrile dimer **8** with hydrazine hydrate [20].

We found that cycloketols **1a,b** react with 5-amino-3-(cyanomethyl)-1H-pyrazole-4-carbonitrile **7** in boiling AcOH to give previously not described 4,5,6,7,8,9-hexahydropyrazolo[1,5-a]quinazolines **9a,b** in low yields (15–22%). The structure of compounds **9a,b** was confirmed by means of IR spectrophotometry,  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (DEPTQ), and by the results of 2D NMR experiments (NOESY,  $^1\text{H}$ – $^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC, HMBC) for **9a** (Figures 1–3). Presumably, the reaction proceeds through the initial attack of pyrazole NH group at C-1 followed by intramolecular attack of the  $\text{NH}_2$  group to ester carbonyl.

Scheme 2



**1, 9: a R = OMe; b R = NO<sub>2</sub>**

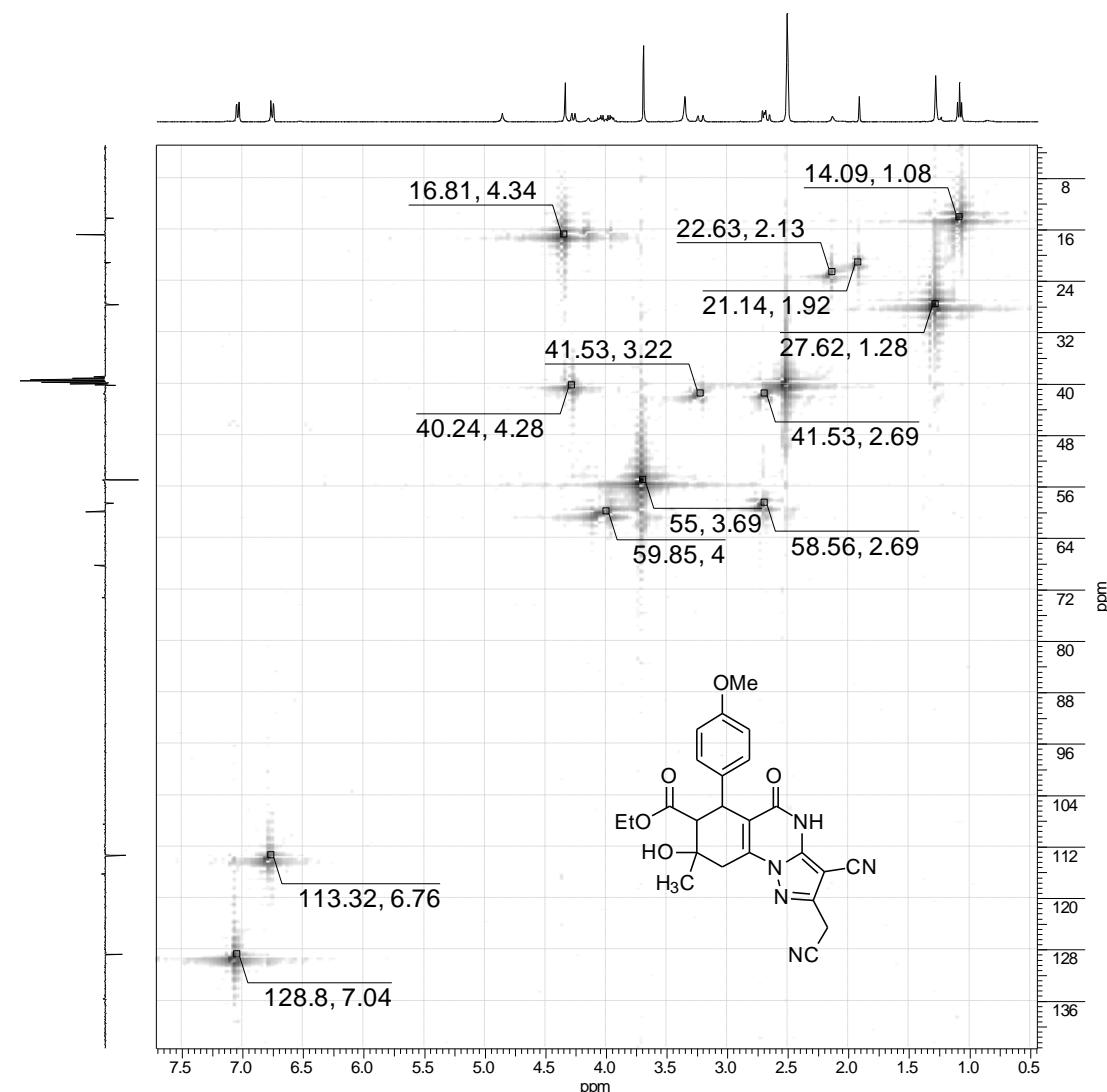


Fig. 1. HSQC  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (400/101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) spectrum of **9a**.

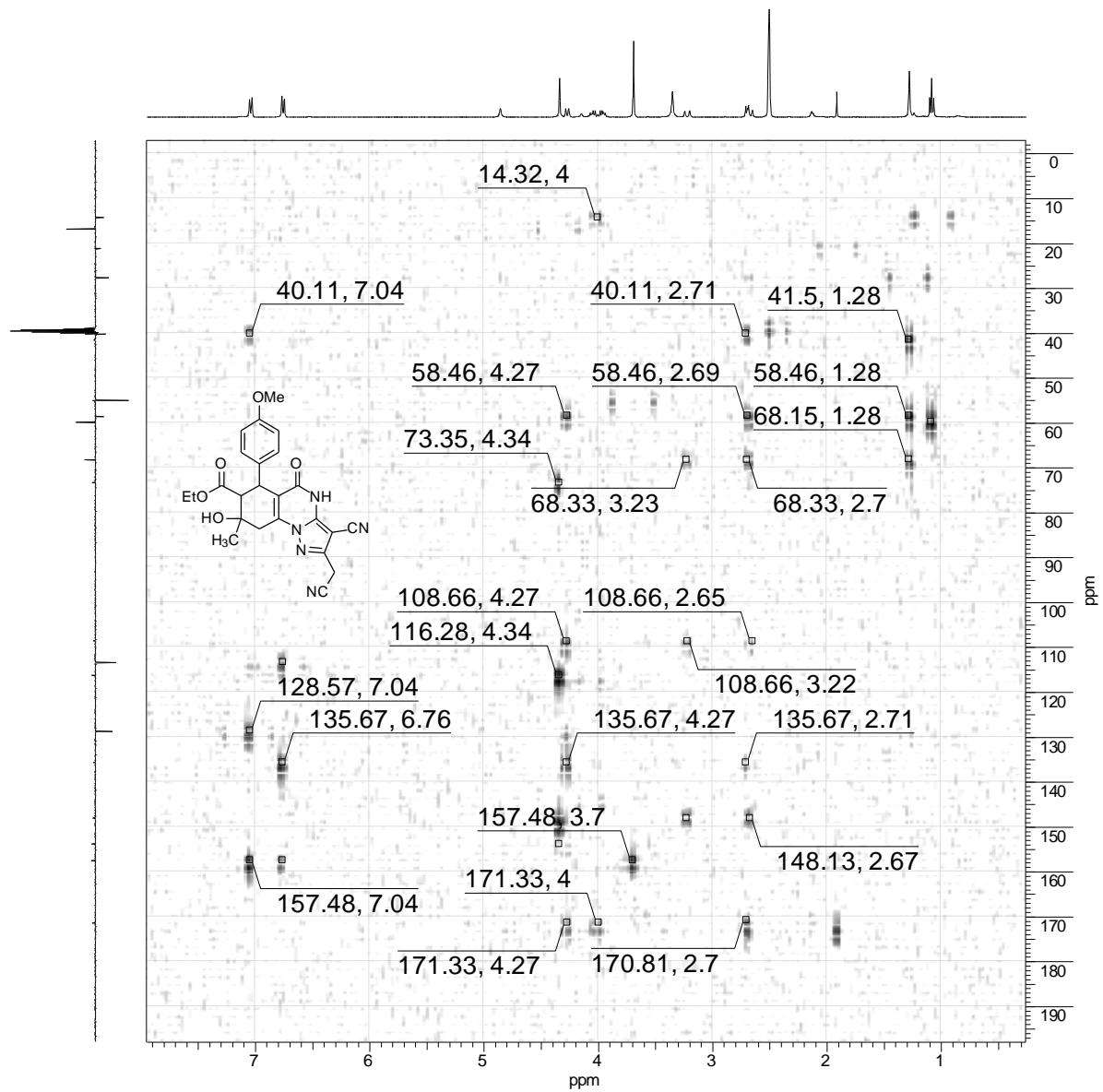


Fig. 2. HMBC  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (400/101 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ ) spectrum of **9a**.

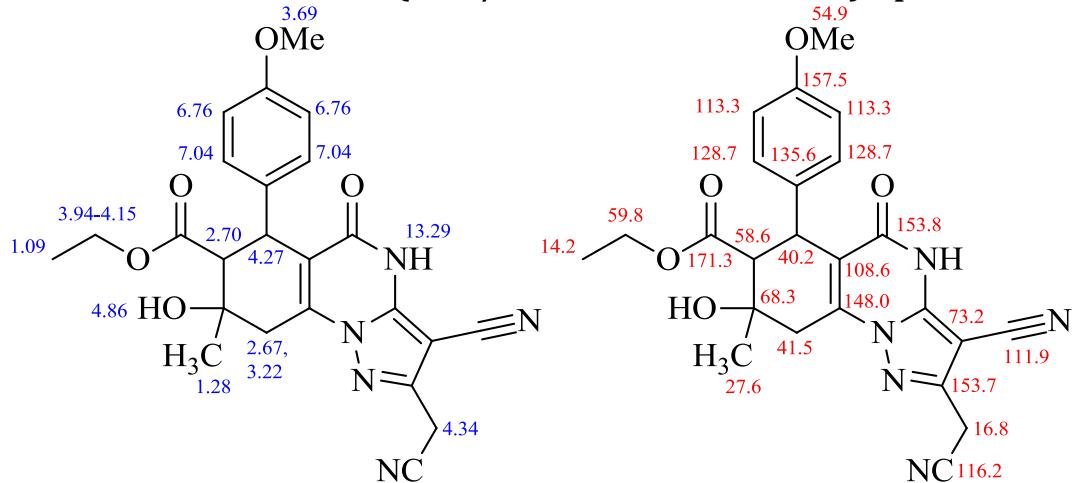


Fig. 3. The chemical shifts in the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (left) and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (right) spectra of **9a**.

## Experimental

IR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Vertex 70 spectrometer. NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance III HD (400 MHz) in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> using TMS as an internal standard. Selected experimental procedures are given.

**Ethyl 3-cyano-2-(cyanomethyl)-8-hydroxy-6-(4-methoxyphenyl)-8-methyl-5-oxo-4,5,6,7,8,9-hexahdropyrazolo[1,5-a]quinazolin-7-carboxylate (9a).** A mixture of 380 mg (1 mmol) of diethyl 5-hydroxy-5-methyl-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)cyclohexanone-2,4-dicarboxylate (**1a**), 5 ml of glacial AcOH and 150 mg (1 mmol) of pyrazole **7** was heated under reflux for 4 h (TLC control). The precipitate was filtered off and washed with EtOH. Yield 22%, beige amorphous powder.

IR spectrum,  $\nu$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3476 (O-H), 3182, 3076 (N-H), 2262, 2226 (2 C≡N), 1720 (C=O ester), 1688 (C=O amide), 1649, 1593 (C=C).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (400 MHz),  $\delta$ , ppm ( $J$ , Hz): 1.09 t (3H, CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O, <sup>3</sup>J 7.1 Hz), 1.28 s (3H, C<sup>8</sup>CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.65-2.71 two d overlapped (2H, H<sup>9</sup> and H<sup>7</sup>), 3.22 d (1H, H<sup>9</sup>, <sup>2</sup>J 17.1 Hz), 3.69 s (3H, CH<sub>3</sub>O), 3.94-4.15 m (ABX<sub>3</sub>) (2H, CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O), 4.27 d (1H, H<sup>6</sup>, <sup>3</sup>J 10.2 Hz), 4.34 s (2H, CH<sub>2</sub>CN), 4.86 br.s (1H, OH), 6.76 d (2H, H<sup>3</sup> and H<sup>5</sup> Ar, <sup>3</sup>J 8.4 Hz), 7.04 d (2H, H<sup>2</sup> & H<sup>6</sup> Ar, <sup>3</sup>J 8.4 Hz), 13.29 br.s (1H, NH). NMR <sup>13</sup>C DEPTQ (101 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>),  $\delta$ <sub>C</sub>, ppm.: 14.5\* (CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O), 16.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>CN), 27.6\* (C<sup>8</sup>CH<sub>3</sub>), 40.2\* (C<sup>6</sup>), 41.5 (C<sup>9</sup>), 54.9\* (CH<sub>3</sub>O), 58.6\* (C<sup>7</sup>), 59.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O), 68.2 (C<sup>8</sup>), 73.2 (C<sup>3</sup>), 108.5 (C<sup>5a</sup>), 111.9 (CN), 113.3\* (C<sup>3</sup>, C<sup>5</sup> Ar), 116.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>CN), 128.7\* (C<sup>2</sup>, C<sup>6</sup> Ar), 135.6 (C<sup>1</sup> Ar), 148.0 (C<sup>9a</sup>), 148.1 (C<sup>3a</sup>), 153.7 (C<sup>2</sup>), 153.8 (C<sup>5</sup>), 157.5 (C<sup>4</sup> Ar), 171.4 (CO<sub>2</sub>Et). \*Opposite signals.

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