SYNTHESIS, REACTIONS AND BIOLOGICAL ACTIVITY OF DERIVATIVES OF OXIMES OF THREE-MEMBERED HETEROCYCLES

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Abstract:

Literature data on the synthesis and structure of oximes of three-membered heterocycles with one heteroatom were reviewed. Synthesis of novel heterocycles from oximes of three-membered heterocycles was described. Biological activity of these oximes was also reviewed.

Keywords: oximes, three-membered heterocycles, aziridines, oxiranes, thiiranes, biological activity

Introduction

The oximes of three-membered heterocycles with one heteroatom are widely used as intermediates in fine organic synthesis. In this review the principal methods for the production of aldoximes, ketoximes and amidoximes of three-membered heterocycles (such as aziridine, oxirane and thiirane) and their derivatives are summarized. The principal methods for the investigation of structure the oximes of three-membered heterocycles are examined briefly with due to regard isomerism. The reactions and biological activity of the oximes of three-membered heterocycles will be examined in the last parts of the review. This work were carried out in continuation of series of our reviews connected to synthesis, reactions and biological activity of heterocyclic oximes (such as, furan and thiophene oximes ^{Ia}, indole and isatin oximes ^{Ib}, pyridine oximes ^{Ic}, pyrrole oximes ^{Id}, quinoline oximes ^{Ie}, oximes of five-membered heterocyclic compounds with two and three heteroatoms ^{Ib}, oximes of six-membered heterocyclic compounds containing one ^{IIa} and two heteroatoms ^{IIb} and oximes of six-membered oxygen heterocycles ^{IIc}).

1. SYNTHESIS OF OXIMES OF THREE-MEMBERED HETEROCYCLES 1.1. Synthesis of aziridine oximes

The classical method for the synthesis of aziridine oximes $^{III-V}$ is reaction of corresponding hydroximoyl chlorides, generated from aldoximes or amidoximes, with aziridines in the systems E_3N / $E_{12}O^{V-VII}$, $E_{13}N$ / $E_{13}N$ /

1, which undergo further reaction with triethylamine and aziridines forming aziridine oximes 2 Vviii. 1-Aziridin-1-yl-ω-[aryl(or hetaryl)oxy]-alkan-1-one oximes 4 were prepared in the four step process starting from corresponding aryl or hetaryl aldehydes. The last step of synthesis included reaction of amidoximes 3 with NaNO₂ / HCl / H₂O at 0°C, drying reaction mixtures at temperatures below 25°C, and treatment of crude intermediate with aziridine in the presence of triethylamine.

Ar = Ph, subst. Ph, pyridyl, quinolinyl; n = 1-3

 $0^{\circ}C - 20^{\circ}C$

1-Aziridin-1-vl-ω-(hetarylsulfanyl)-alkan-1-one oximes 6 were prepared in the three step process from corresponding thiols. The last step of reaction – treatment of amidoximes 5 subsequently with NaNO₂ / HCl and aziridine / Et₃N afforded desired aziridine oximes 6 in 2-40% yields. The process of synthesis of aziridine oximes 6 from amidoximes were strongly influenced by hetaryl substituent. Thus, treatment of pyridine, pyrimidine and quinoline substituted N-hydroxy-ω-(hetaryl-ylsulfanyl)-heptanamidines 5 with NaNO₂ / HCl and then with aziridine/ Et₃N in dry methanol afforded desired products 6 in only 2-20% yields. However, 1aziridin-1-yl-ω-(2-benzothiazolylsulfanyl)-alkan-1-one oximes 6 were isolated in 20-40% yields

230

Het—SH
$$\xrightarrow{\text{Br} \cap \text{CN}}$$
 Het $\xrightarrow{\text{S} \cap \text{CN}}$ $\xrightarrow{\text{NH}_2\text{OH} \cdot \text{HCl}}$ $\xrightarrow{\text{NH}_2}$ $\xrightarrow{\text{NOH}_2}$ $\xrightarrow{\text{NOH}_2$

Treatment of N-cyanophenylaziridine 7 with hydroxylamine afforded aziridine oxime 8 ^X.

1.2. Synthesis of oxirane oximes

The classical method for the synthesis of oxirane oximes $^{XI-XIX}$ is based on the reaction of corresponding aldehydes or ketones with hydroxylamine hydrochloride (or sulphate) in the systems NaHCO₃ /Et₂O / H₂O XX , NaHCO₃ / H₂O XXI , KOAc / AcOH (pH 6) XXII , NaOAc (13 C) / MeOH / XXIII , NaOAc / H₂O / MeCN XXIV , Et₃N / EtOH XXV or in the pyridine XXVI , AcOH XXVIII , THF / EtOH XXVIII or H₂O XXIX . Thus, treatment of ketone (9) with NH₂OH·HCl in the mixture of EtOH / THF at 70°C afforded corresponding oxime 10 as single products XXVIII .

1.3. Synthesis of thiirane oximes

There are two methods dedicated to the synthesis of thiirane oximes. At first, thiirane oxime 12 was obtained by treatment of ketone 11 with NH₂OH HCl in the presence of NaOAc / EtOH / H₂O XXX . Beside this, reaction of 3,4-dibromo-3-methyl-2-hydroxyiminobutane (13) with Na₂S H₂O in acetone afforded 2-(α -hydroxyiminoethyl)-2-methylthiirane (14) in 40% yield XXXI .

2. STRUCTURE

One of the most reliable methods for determining of the structure of isomeric oximes of three-membered heterocycles with one heteroatom is NMR spectroscopy. The ¹H NMR spectra of oximes of aziridine ^{V, VII, VIII, XXXIII, XXXXIII}, oxirane ^{XXXIV} and thiirane ^{XXXII} have been investigated in details.

IR spectroscopy was also used to study the structure of aziridine $^{V, VII, VIII, XXXIII, XXXXIII}$, oxirane XXXIV and thiirane XXXI oximes.

Izomerization of aziridine oximes in details was studied in article XXXII. Interestingly, that E-isomer of aziridinylbenzaldoxime **15** in CDCl₃ solution at 100°C afforded Z-isomer **16**. However, Z-isomer **16** in benzene undergoes reversible photoisomerization to corresponding E-isomer **15**.

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
 & \text{OH} \\
 & \text{N} & \text{Ph} \\
\hline
 & \text{Ph} & \text{PhH / irradiation} \\
\hline
 & \text{E-15} & \text{Z-16} \\
\end{array}$$

3. REACTIONS OF OXIMES OF THREE-MEMBERED HETEROCYCLES

3.1. Synthesis of O-alkyl derivatives of oximes of three-membered heterocycles

3.1.1. Synthesis of O-alkyl derivatives of aziridine oximes

The principal method for the preparation of aziridine oxime O-ethers is alkylation of corresponding oximes **4** and **6** with alkyl halides in the phase transfer catalytic system solid KOH / 18-crown-6 / PhMe at 50°C. Products were isolated in yields up to 80%. Interestingly, that E and Z isomers of benzothiazole O-methyloximes **18** were easily separated by column chromatography ^{IX}.

O-Alkyl derivatives of aziridine oximes were also obtained by the formation of novel aziridine ring in the oxime ether derivatives. Thus, direct aziridination of methyl vinyl ketone Obenzyloxime 19 in the system Cu(OTf)₂ / PhINTs / MeCN leads to 2-(1-benzyloxyiminoethyl)aziridine 20 (yield 46-60%). Beside this, formation of product 20 proceeds stereoselectively XXXV. Metalation of oxime derivative 21 with LDA, following by treatment of the reaction mixture with 2-methyl-3-phenyl-2H-azirine, leads to oxime methyl ether 22 XXXVI. Dimerization of 1-phenyl-2-iodo-1-metoxyiminopropane (23) in the presence of n-butyl magnesium bromide at -78°C afforded aziridine oxime ether 24 in 41% yield XXXVII.

Beside this aziridine oximes easily undergo O-acylation in the presence of acylating agents (Ac_2O , aryl isocyanates or acyl chlorides) leading to corresponding O-acyl derivatives VII .

3.1.2. Synthesis of O-alkyl derivatives of oxirane oximes

O-Ethers of oxirane oximes $^{XXXVIII-XL}$ usually were obtained by treatment of corresponding carbonyl compounds with O-alkylhydroxylamines in the systems EtOAc / AcOH XLI , AcONa / MeOH XLII or MeOH / pyridine XXXIV . Oxirane oxime O-ethers were also obtained in the epoxidation of unsaturated oxime O-ethers in the presence of m-chloroperbenzoic acid (m-CPBA) XLIII , XLIV . Thus, treatment of methoxyiminocyclopentene **25** with mCPBA (m-chloroperoxybenzoic acid) in CH₂Cl₂ at 0°C leads to oxime ether **26** in 72% yield XLIV .

Oxirane derivatives $\bf 28$ were successfully prepared from 1,2-diol $\bf 27$ in the presence of PPh₃ / DEAD under Mitsunobu-type conditions $^{\rm XLV}$. Mixture of E and Z-isomeric silyl oxime ethers $\bf 30$ was obtained in the silylation of 2,3-epoxy-2,5,5-trimethylcyclohexan-1-one oxime ($\bf 29$) with O-(tert-butyldimethylsilanyl)hydroxylamine in CHCl₃ in the presence of molecular sieves $\bf 4A$ $^{\rm XIII}$.

Large group of methods were dedicated to synthesis of O-(2,3-epoxypropyl)oximes by alkylation of corresponding oximes with 2,3-epoxy-1-halogenopropanes $^{\rm XLVI-LIII}$. Typically, treatment of benzaldehyde oxime 31 with 2,3-epoxy-1-chloropropane in the system NaOH / Me₂CO at 56-65°C afforded oxime ether 32 in 65% yield $^{\rm L}$.

HO
$$\sim$$
 Ph \sim O \sim Ph \sim 31 \sim 32

3.1.3. Synthesis of O-alkyl derivatives of thiirane oximes

Reaction of thiirane oxime **14** with cyclohexyl- and phenyl-isocyanates in the presence of Et₃N in acetone provides O-carbamoyl derivatives **33** in 69-76% yields XXXI.

14
$$\frac{\text{RNCO} / \text{Et}_{3} \text{N} / \text{Me}_{2} \text{CO}}{\text{N}} \qquad \text{Me} \qquad \text{N} \qquad \text{N} \qquad \text{N} \qquad \text{R}$$
33

Reaction of oximes with thioepichlorohydrin in the presence of NaOH in acetone afforded oxime ethers of type RR'C=NOCH₂(Thiirane) ^{LIV}.

3.2. Transformation of oximes of three-membered heterocycles

Reduction of oxirane oxime **34** to corresponding isomeric aminoalcohols **35** and **36** was realized in presence LiAlH₄ / CeCl₃ / THF LV . Beckman type rearrangement of oxime **37** in SOCl₂ / CHCl₃ afforded corresponding amide **38** as a single product XV . Glycidaldehyde oxime acetate **39** undergoes thermal elimination of acetic acid leading to nitrile **40** XX . Interestingly, that thiirane oxime **14** in the presence of triphenylphosphine in CHCl₃ gives product of desulfuration H_2C =CMe-C(Me)=NOH XXXI .

Aziridine oximes readily undergo aziridine ring opening leading to acyclic amino derivatives VII, XXXIII, XXXV. Thus, heating of (2,2-dimethylaziridin-1-yl)-phenyl-methanone oxime (41) with HCl in dioxane afforded chloro derivative 42 in 93% yield XXXIII. Reaction of oxime 43 with carboxylic acids leads to esters 44 VII.

HO N HCI / dioxane/ reflux

Me N Ph

Z-41

$$O_2N$$

NOH

RCOOH / EtOH / reflux

 O_2N

A

RCOOH = p-NO $_2$ C₆H₄COOH,

 O_2N

O2

RCOOH

Reductive ring-opening 2-(1-benzyloxyiminoethyl)aziridines $\bf 20$ with TiI_4 in the presence of aldehydes and $BF_3 \cdot OEt_2$ was studied in the details in article XXXV . Aza-aldol products $\bf 45$ were isolated in good yields with high diastereoselectivities.

$$Z-20 \xrightarrow{\text{TiI}_4 / \text{RCHO}} \text{R} \xrightarrow{\text{OH}} \text{N} \xrightarrow{\text{OH}} \xrightarrow{\text{NHTs}} \xrightarrow{\text{O-10\%}} \xrightarrow{\text{E-syn-45}} \xrightarrow{\text{E-anti-45}} \xrightarrow{\text{E-anti-45}} \xrightarrow{\text{E-anti-45}} \xrightarrow{\text{Z-anti-45}} \text{R} = \text{alkyl, aryl}$$

Oxirane ring opening in the corresponding oxime derivatives were widely presented in the literature $^{\rm XIV}$, $^{\rm XVIII}$, $^{\rm XXI}$, $^{\rm XLII}$, $^{\rm XLI}$, $^{\rm XLI}$, $^{\rm LVI}$, $^{\rm LVI}$. Typically, heating of 2,3-epoxy-3-methylcyclohexanone oxime (46) with benzylamine in methanol leads to 3-hydroxy-3-methyl-2-phenylmethylaminocyclohexanone oxime (47). Sometimes epoxide ring opening was followed by transformation of oxime group or cyclopentanone ring transformations. Thus, interaction of oxime 48 with peroxytrifluoroacetic acid, NaHCO₃ and urea in acetonitrile gives 3-nitro-2-cyclohexen-1-ol (49) in 72 % yield $^{\rm XIIa}$. Rearrangement of epoxide oxime 50 in the system BF₃·OEt₂ / CH₂Cl₂ afforded E-spiro[4,5]decan-6,10-dione-6-oxime (51) in 86% yield $^{\rm XVIII}$.

O-(2,3-Epoxypropyl)oximes also easily react with different nucleophiles (for example, amines, azides etc.) leading to products of epoxide ring opening LVIII. Treatment of these O-(2,3-epoxypropyl)oximes with amine nucleophiles usually leads to substituted O-(3-amino-2-hydroxypropyl)oximes which are valuable biologically active substances LII, XLVII, LIX. Typically, treatment of oxime ethers **52** with primary or secondary amine in protic (EtOH) or aprotic (for example, benzene) solvent afforded O-(3-amino-2-hydroxypropyl)oximes **53**.

3.3. Synthesis of novel heterocyclic compounds from oximes of three-membered heterocycles

Recent advances in the synthesis of heterocyclic systems from oximes were described in reviews ^{LX, LXI}. In this chapter specific reactions involving cyclization of oximes of three-membered oxygen heterocycles will be set out in details.

Cycloaddition cascade reactions of epoxide oximes with N-methylmaleimide (NMM) leading to compounds with fused pyrrolidine ring were described in details in the article XXIV. Thus, heating of oxime **54** in ethanol in the presence of NMM resulted in 2-exo-tet epoxide cleavage, followed by in situ cycloaddition, which leads to a 1:1 mixture of exo- and endocycloadducts **55** and **56** (overall yield 73%). Epoxide **57** under similar conditions afforded 2:1 mixture of cycloadducts **58** and **59** (60%).

Ring expansion of aziridine oxime $\bf 8$ in the presence of triethylamine hydrochloride leads to N-hydroxyimidazoline ($\bf 60$) $^{\rm X}$

8
$$\xrightarrow{\text{Et}_3\text{N-HCl}}$$
 $\xrightarrow{\text{Ph}}$ $\xrightarrow{\text{Ph}}$ $\xrightarrow{\text{NOH}}$ $\xrightarrow{\text{NOH}}$ $\xrightarrow{\text{NH}_2}$ $\xrightarrow{\text{60}}$

Synthesis of novel isoxazole ring by rearrangement of oxirane oximes under acidic conditions $^{XXVIII, XXIX, LXII-LXV}$ or in the presence of sulfonium ylide LXVI was widely presented in the literature. Thus, heating of oxime 61 in a mixture of acetic and sulfuric acids afforded isoxazole 62 XXVIII .

Thermal rearrangement of aziridine oxime 63 in the system NaI / acetone gives 2-benzoyloxazoline 64 in 25% yield VI .

Oxidation of aziridine dioxime **65** in the system $K_3Fe(CN)_6$ / NH_3 / H_2O leads to furoxan derivatives **66** V . Beside this, three step synthesis of 1,2,4-oxadiazoles from aziridine oximes were also presented in literature XXXIII .

R = H, 1-aziridinyl; R', R'' = H, Me

Some works are connected with synthesis of 1,2-oxazine XXII, LXIV, LXVII and 1,3-dioxane derivatives from oxirane oximes. Thus, oxime 67 standing at room temperature afforded oxazine 68 in quantitative yield XXII. (2RS,3RS)-4-Chloro-2,3-epoxy-1,3-diphenylbutan-1-one oxime (69) in liquid NH₃ gives bicyclic adduct 70 LXIV.

1,2,4-Oxadiazine ring was easily constructed from N-hydoxy-2-carboimidoyl-aziridines in the presence of HCl / H_2O IIIc or HCl / H_2O / acetone $^{Va,\ VII}$. Recently novel and convenient route to 5,6-dihydro-4H-[1,2,4]oxadiazine **72** by rearrangement of aziridin-1-yl oximes **71** in the system Sc(OTf)₃ / Me₃SiCl / CH₂Cl₂ was described LXIX .

R'
$$R$$
 $Sc(OTf)_3 / Me_3SiCl / CH_2Cl_2$ $R' ON$ R $R' R$ R $R' R$ R $R = alkyl, aryl; R' = alkyl$

4. BIOLOGICAL ACTIVITY OF OXIMES OF THREE-MEMBERED HETEROCYCLES

4.1. Cytotoxic, anticancer and antibacterial activities

Cytotoxic activity of selected 1-aziridin-1-yl- ω -[aryl(or hetaryl)oxy]-alkan-1-one and 1-aziridin-1-yl- ω -(hetarylsulfanyl)-alkan-1-one oximes **73-81** was tested *in vitro* on the monolayer

tumor cell lines: MG-22A (mouse hepatoma) and HT-1080 (human fibrosarcoma) (Table 1) IX . A preliminary analysis of the structure-activity relationship for the cytotoxic action clearly indicate the strong influence of substituent (Br or H) in the aromatic aziridine oximes **73** and **74** on toxic effects *in vitro*. Among these aromatic oximes compound **74** exhibits high cytotoxicity on the HT-1080 cell line (IC₅₀ 5 μ g/mL). Very high activity against both cancer lines exhibit benzothiazole amidoximes derivatives **75-78.** Interestingly, that only E-isomer of O-methyl oxime **76** show high activity on the MG-22A and HT-1080 cancer cell lines. 2-Pyridyl **79** (HT–1080; IC₅₀ 2-3 μ g/mL; MG-22A; IC₅₀ 3 μ g/mL) and both quinoline **80, 81** substituted oximes also exhibit high cytotoxicity against both cancer cell lines IX .

Acute toxicity of synthesized compounds was tested on 3T3- Swiss Albino mice embrio fibroblasts. In general, the compounds **73-81** exhibit middle to high toxicity in the range of LD_{50} 154-512 mg/kg (Table 1) ^{IX}.

Very high cytotoxicity of heteroaromatic aziridine oximes **82** (HT-1080, IC $_{50}$ = 0.4 µg/ml; MG-22A, IC $_{50}$ = 0.9 µg/ml) and **83** (HT-1080, IC $_{50}$ = 1.5 µg/ml; MG-22A, IC $_{50}$ = 2 µg/ml) were presented in patent LXX and article VIII . Cytostatic properties of aziridine oxime salts **84** were also presented in the chemical literature LXXI . Beside this, oximes of three-membered heterocycles were included in the structure of cephalosporin antibiotics LXXII .

Table 1. Cytotoxicity of selected 1-aziridin-1-yl- ω -[aryl(or hetaryl)oxy]-alkan-1-one and 1-aziridin-1-yl- ω -(hetarylsulfanyl)-alkan-1-one oximes **73-81** IC₅₀ (μ g/ml)

Compound	HT-1080, IC ₅₀	MG-22A, IC ₅₀	3T3, LD ₅₀
O NOH NOH	8	14	472
Br NOH NOH	5	9	512
N NOH	0.2	0.3	176
NOMe E-76	0.6	0.5	184

S NOMe	3	3	553
NOH NOH	0.3	0.3	154
S NOH	1	2	193
N S NOH	2	3	265
NOH NOH	1	1	228
NOH NOH NOH	2	2	313

4.2. Action on central nervous system

7-Chloro-5-(2-fluorophenyl)-2,3-dihydro-2- $\{[(methoxyimino)methyl]aziridinyl\}$ -1,4-benzodiazepine 4-oxide was used as intermediate in the synthesis of sedative, muscle relaxant and anticonvulsant agents LXXIII .

4.3. Angiogenesis inhibitors

Oxirane oxime derivatives **85** were tested as angiogenesis inhibitors ^{CLVI-CLIX}. These compounds exhibit a wide range of activity on the CNS, as well as, were used in the treatment of asthma, arthritis, psoriasis and allergy.

OF H Me

NO Ph

OR

85

$$R = Ac, CONH_2, N$$

NO Ph

4.4. Oxirane oximes as fungicides and antifeedants

Derivatives of oxirane oximes **86** LXXVI, LXXVII and **87** LXXVII exhibit high fungicidal activity. Beside this, oxirane oximes were tested as antifeedants LXXIX.

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