## Heterocyclic Derivatives of Ethyl Nitroacetate \*)

by

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Summary. Ethyl nitroacetate yielded with formaldehyde 2-nitro-2-carbethoxypropanediol-1,3 which was then cyclized to 5-nitro-5-carbethoxy-1,3-dioxane, 5-nitro-5-carbethoxy-2-bora-1,3-dioxane and 5-nitro-5-carbethoxyhexahydropyrimidine derivs.

In the present work the authors tried to obtain a few heterocyclic systems starting from 2-nitro-2-carbethoxypropanediol-1,3 (I), which has so far been unknown. The latter was obtained by an aldolic addition of two moles of formaldehyde to ethyl nitroacetate. The attempt to obtain I by reacting ethyl chloroformate with sodium salt of 2-nitropropanediol (II) was unsuccessful, as the product was a non-crystalline mixture.

By reacting I with acetone or benzaldehyde, 1,3-dioxane derivatives (III) were obtained. Compound (IIIb) reacted with methylamine yielding N-methylamide (V). The reaction of (IIIb) with ammonia or hydrazine produced a hydrolysis of the carbethoxy group leading to VI through the decarboxylation.

Phenylboronic acid and its p-chloro derivative yielded 2-bora-1,3-dioxanes (**IV**). A hexahydropyrimidine derivative (**VII**) was obtained when acting on **I** with two moles of ter-butylamine and one mole of formaldehyde.

Attempts to prepare tetrahydro-1,3-oxazine derivatives by acting on I with one mole of a primary amine (benzyl- or ter-butylamine) and one mole of form-

Note: Part XCVI in the series Chemistry of Nitroparaffins.

<sup>\*)</sup> Dedicated to Professor M. Pailer for his 60th birthday.

aldehyde were unsuccessful: the yield was a mixture of different products which did not give crystalline hydrochlorides.

Infrared and NMR spectra

## Infrared spectra

2-Nitro-2-carbethoxypropanediol-1,3 (I) shows a wide medium intensity band 3400—3200 cm<sup>-1</sup> characterising the hydrogen bonded hydroxylic group. The band disappears in all ring compounds III—VII.

The bands 1570 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 1380—1360 cm<sup>-1</sup> were characteristic of all examined compounds. They should be assigned to the asymmetric and symmetric stretching vibrations of the nitro group, respectively.

Compounds I, III, IV, V and VII show a high-intensity band 1750—1740 cm<sup>-1</sup> characterising the stretching vibrations of C=O in the carbethoxylic group. N-methylamide V gives the band 1650 cm<sup>-1</sup> corresponding to the same vibration in the amide group.

The ring compounds **III**—**VI** show bands of 1200—1100 cm<sup>-1</sup> which should be assigned to the acetal C—O—C bonds which in derivatives of 5-nitrotetrahydro-1,3-oxazines were manifested by a series of bands 1150—1050, 955—925 and 855—800 cm<sup>-1</sup> [1].

The bond B—O in compound IV is characterised by a stretching vibration high-intensity band and a frequency of about 1320 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

The aromatic rings of compounds IIIb and IVa are manifested by the presence of bands 700 cm<sup>-1</sup> which should probably be assigned to C—H bending vibrations. In compound IVb the corresponding frequency is higher: 825 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

Amide V was manifested by N—H amide stretching and bending vibrations 3270 and 1560 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively.

#### NMR spectra

NMR spectra confirmed the structural formulae of the compounds.

Compounds I—IV and VII gave CH<sub>2</sub> quartets at 5.57—5.72 ppm and CH<sub>3</sub> triplets at 8.64—9.72 ppm which should be assigned to CH<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>3</sub> groups, respectively, in COO CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>. Compounds III—IV and VII showed heterocyclic ring protons quartets corresponding to the CH<sub>2</sub> groups at 5.20—5.45 ppm and 6.60—7.20 ppm, respectively. Particular attention should be drawn to compound IIIa, where two CH<sub>3</sub> groups are attached to C(2).

Here, two singlets were recorded, at 8.51 and 8.85 ppm. They should be assigned to their axial and equatorial positions.

$$C_2H_5OOC$$
 $CH_3$ 
 $CH_3$ 
 $CH_3$ 
 $CH_3$ 

The conformations of the carbethoxy and the nitro groups could not be definitely established.

Compounds IIIb, IV—VI show aromatic proton signals 2.49—2.67 ppm of the aromatic substituents in position 2.

#### Experimental

Ethyl nitroacetate was prepd. according to Rodinov et al. [2] starting from ethyl acetacetic ester through the nitrosation and oxidn. The fraction collected had b.p. 58°/0.5 mm Hg.

2-Nitro-2-carbethoxypropanediol-1,3 (I). 40% aq. formaldehyde (10 ml, 0.1 mol), and sodium acetate (1 g) dissolved in water (5 ml) were cooled to 0°. Ethyl nitroacetate (6 g, 0.045 mol) was introduced dropwise under vigorous stirring keeping the temp. below 5°. Stirring was continued for 2 h at 10° and all was left for 40 h at room temp. and poured on ice (40 g) with concd. hydro-chloric acid (0.7 ml). The heavy oil was extd. with ether, the ext. dried over magnesium sulphate, ether evapd. The residual oil crystd. overnight in long needles of I. They were washed with benzene. The yield was 2.9 g 33%, m.p. 71—72°.

C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O<sub>6</sub>N requires: 37.3% C, 5.7% H, 7.25% N; found: 37.4% C, 5.9% H, 7.4% N.

2,2-Dimethyl-5-nitro-5-carbethoxy-1,3-dioxane (IIIa). I (2 g, 0.01 mol) was dissolved in acetone (50 ml). Anhydrous magnesium sulphate (15 g) and a small amount of p-toluene sulphonic acid were added. All was refluxed for 30 h. Magnesium sulphate was filtered off, acetone evapd., the residue was treated with an aq. (5%) soln. of sodium carbonate. The product was extd. with ether, dried over magnesium sulphate, ether evapd. The oily residue was dissolved in anh. ethanol, boiled with charcoal, filtered, ethanol was evapd. The yield was 1.8 g (42%) of IIIa. After crystn. from ethanol m.p. was 73—75.5°.

C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>6</sub>N requires: 46.3% C, 6.4% H, 6.1% N; found: 46.45% C, 6.6% H, 6.2% N.

2-Phenyl-5-nitro-5-carbethoxy-1,3-dioxane (IIIb). I (0.96 g, 0.005 mol) and benzaldehyde (0.63 g, 0.006 mol) and a small amount of p-toluensulphonic acid were dissolved in benzene (100 ml) and refluxed for 2 h under a condenser with an azeotropic head. After cooling the soln, was shaken

with aq. sodium carbonate and dried over magnesium sulphate. After the evapn. of benzene the oily residue was dissolved in anh. ethanol, the solvent evapd. and the cryst. product (IIIb) collected. After another crystn. from ethanol m.p. was 72°, the yield 0.84 g 60%.

C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>6</sub>N requires: 55.7% C, 5.35% H, 5.0% N; found: 55.7% C, 5.5% H, 5.1% N.

2-Phenyl-(IVa) and 2-p-Chlorophenyl-2-bora-5-nitro-5-carbethoxy-1,3-dioxacyclohexane (IVb). A soln. of I (0.96 g, 0.005 mol), phenyl- and p-chlorophenyl boronic acid (0.61 g and 0.78 g, respectively, 0.005 mol) in acetone (20 ml) was refluxed for 2 h. The solvent was evapd. and the residue was crystd. from benzene. The yield of IVa and IVb was 1.25 g (90.5%) and 1.05 g (67%), resp. M.ps. were  $134-136^{\circ}$  and  $99-100^{\circ}$ , resp.

IVa:  $C_{12}H_{14}O_6N$  B requires: 51.6% C, 5.0% H, 5.0% N;

found: 51.8% C, 5.2% H, 5.1% N.

IVb: C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>O<sub>6</sub>ClN B requires: 45.9% C, 4.1% H, 4.5% N; found: 46.05% C, 4.3% H, 4.6% N.

2-Phenyl-5-nitro-5-(N-methylcarbamido)-1,3-dioxane (V). Ethanolic 33% methylamine (0.5 ml, 0.005 mol) was added to 2-phenyl-5-nitro-5-carbethoxy-1-3-dioxane (0.56.g, 0.002 mol) in anhethanol (5 ml). The soln. was left in room temp. for 3 weeks and the solvent was evapd. White cryst. N-methylamide (V) was pptd. with the yield of 0.41 g 31%. After crystn. from ethanol m.p. was 123—125°.

2-Phenyl-5-nitro-1,3-dioxane (VI). IIIb (0.84 g, 0.003 mol), hydrazine hydrate (0.3 g, 0.006 mol) and ethanol were refluxed for 8 h. The soln. was concd. and the ppt. filtered off. The yield of VI was 0.30 g (46%). After crystn. from ethanol m.p. was 124—125° [3].

1,3-Di(ter-butyl)-5-nitro-5-carbethoxyhexa-hydropyrimidine (VII). I (0.96 g, 0.005 mol) in ethanol (5 ml) was refluxed for 2 h with aq. (40%) formaldehyde (0.4 ml, 0.005 mol) and ter-butylamine (0.73 g, 0.01 mol). The soln. became coloured orange-yellow. It was kept for 40 h in a refrigerator. The product VII was pptd. and crystd. from ethanol. The yield was 0.58 g 25%, m.p. 84—87°.

Infrared spectroscopy. The infrared spectra were taken in nujol mull on the Perkin—Elmer spectrophotometer 2376.

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Содержание. Этилнитроацетат реагируя с формальдегидом дает 2-нитро-2-карбоэтоксипропандиол-1,3. Это соединение послужило к проведению синтеза некоторых производных 5-нитро-5-карбоэтокси-1,3-диоксана, 5-нитро-5-карбоэтокси-2-бора-1,3-диоксана и 5-нитро-5карбоэтоксигексагидропиримидина.