[3+2] CYCLOADDITION REACTIONS TO INDOLYL- AND PYRROLYL DERIVATIVES OF DINITROBENZOFURAZAN

Yu. P. Semenyuk¹, A. S. Kochubei¹, P. G. Morozov^{1*},
O. N. Burov¹, M. E. Kletskii¹, and S. V. Kurbatov¹

The reactions of 4-chloro-5,7-dinitro-4-benzofurazan with indole and pyrrole derivatives, occurring by S_NAr-S_EAr mechanism, led to the formation of dihetaryls with intramolecular charge transfer. A method was developed for the annelation of pyrrole and dihydropyrrole ring to nitrobenzofurazan fragment by adding unstabilized azomethine ylide to the C=C bond of dinitrobenzofurazan. The structure of nitrobenzofurazan derivatives was studied by X-ray structural analysis, NMR spectroscopy, and quantum-chemical calculations using ab initio and DFT methods.

Keywords: azomethine ylide, dinitrobenzofurazan, indole, pyrrole, [3+2] cycloaddition, superelectrophile, X-ray structural analysis, *ab initio*, DFT, B3LYP/6-31G**.

4,6-Dinitrobenzofuroxan (1a) and 4,6-dinitrobenzofurazan (2a) are superelectrophilic [1, 2] heteroaromatic structures that interact with N-, O-, and S-nucleophiles, forming highly stable anionic [3-5] and bipolar spirocyclic Meisenheimer σ -complexes [6-9], as well as intramolecular π -stacked charge transfer complexes [10]. We have previously established that chloro derivatives 1b and 2b react under mild conditions with π -electron rich nitrogen heterocycles (pyrroles, indoles, indolizines), forming dihetaryls 3 (in the case of reaction with indolizines) [11-13].

The structure and characteristic reactions of neutral aromatic superelectrophiles – nucleophilic substitution and addition, Diels–Alder reactions with normal and inverse electron demand, Michael addition, and recyclization involving the *N*-oxide oxygen atom, as well as experimental methods for quantitative characterization of electrophilicity – are considered in a monograph [14], reviews [15-18], and references



*To whom correspondence should be addressed, e-mail: mpg@sfedu.ru.

¹Southern Federal University, 7 Zorge St., Rostov-on-Don 344090, Russia.

Translated from Khimiya Geterotsiklicheskikh Soedinenii, No. 12, pp. 1881-1891, December, 2014. Original article submitted October 31, 2014.

1731

therein. The analysis of these literature data shows that reactivity of dinitrobenzofurazan derivatives remains largely unexplored and underestimated, compared to dinitrobenzofuroxan derivatives. In our view, this is a consequence of difficulties in preparative synthesis of both 4,6-dinitrobenzofurazan (2a) and its chloro derivative 2b. We should note here that the lack of *N*-oxide oxygen atom allows to avoid $N_1 \rightleftharpoons N_3$ oxide tautomerism and Boulton–Katritzky type rearrangements [1], which makes the superelectrophile 2 a more convenient object for the study of nucleophilic substitution and cycloaddition reactions.

In this work, we report the synthesis and structure of new indole and pyrrole derivatives containing a dinitrobenzofurazan fragment, as well as [3+2] cycloaddition of unstabilized azomethine ylides to these compounds.

The choice of specifically indolyl and pyrrolyl derivatives as dipolarophiles was motivated by two basic reasons. First of all, it is known that both C=C bonds of the six-membered ring in nitrobenzoxadiazoles **1a** and **2a** show good reactivity in cycloaddition reactions [15, 16]. The introduction of bulky electron-donating substituent at position 7 sharply increases the regioselectivity of cycloaddition and directs the attack by azomethine ylide exclusively at the C(6)=C(7) bond. In addition, nitrobenzoxadiazoles are frequently recognized as potential lead compounds for development of drugs that serve as exogenous sources of nitric oxide (NO). The presence of additional pharmacophoric indole or pyrrole fragments in the molecules of nitrobenzoxadiazoles thus increases their potential value in medicinal chemistry.

The interaction between equivalent amounts of 4-chloro-5,7-dinitrobenzofurazan (2b) and 1,2-dimethylindole (4) in chloroform at room temperature produced a high yield of dihetaryl 6, possessing an intense blue color.



The formation of a new carbon–carbon bond occurred through an S_NAr-S_EAr reaction, involving the bipolar Meisenheimer–Wheland σ -complex **5** as intermediate. We had previously established the mechanism of analogous reaction between electrophile **1b** and *N*-methylindole by kinetic experiments, including the use of deuterated indole derivatives [11]. An additional evidence was obtained by preparative isolation of σ -complex, corresponding to structure **5**, which was obtained by interaction of electrophile **1a** and 1,3,5-tris(piperidin-1-yl)-benzene [19].

We performed a reaction of dihetaryl 6 with the nonstabilized azomethine ylide 9, obtained *in situ* from sarcosine (7) and formaldehyde (8).

The results of reactions depended on the solvents used. Heating a mixture of dihetaryl 6, sarcosine (7), and paraform in benzene gave the cycloaddition product 10 in 94% yield. When MeCN was used instead of benzene, the initially also formed cycloadduct 10 likely underwent elimination of HNO₂ during the reaction, forming the dihydropyrrole 11, followed by oxidative aromatization to pyrrole derivative 12. The reaction mixture was separated by column chromatography, the yields of products 11 and 12 were 29 and 5%, respectively. It is important to note that the ¹H NMR spectrum of cycloadduct 10 contained two groups of signals in 3:2 ratio, with similar chemical shifts and practically identical spin-spin coupling parameters.



In order to identify likely reasons for the formation of two stereoisomers, we performed X-ray structural analysis of dihetaryl $\mathbf{6}$, as well as quantum-chemical calculations of its geometrical parameters within the framework of density functional theory (DFT). The structure of compound $\mathbf{6}$ is presented in Figure 1, while its main geometrical characteristics are given in Table 1.

Steric hindrance in the molecule of compound **6** prevents a planar conformation – the dihedral angle between planes of indole and furazan fragments is 46° according to DFT calculations (also 46° according to X-ray structural analysis), which may cause atropisomerism. The nitro group at position 5 must be rotated by 32°



Fig. 1. General view of compound 6: *a*) according to X-ray structural analysis with atoms represented by thermal vibration ellipsoids of 50% probability and *b*) according to quantum-chemical calculations using the DFT method in B3LYP/6-31G** basis set, taking into account the solvation effects of MeCN.

TABLE 1.	The	Main	Intera	atomic	Distances	(A) in	the	Mo	olecule	of
Compound	6 Ac	cording	g to	X-ray	Structural	Analys	sis a	nd	Quantu	m-
chemical Calculations in MeCN										

Bond	X-ray structural analysis	B3LYP/6-31G**	Bond	X-ray structural analysis	B3LYP/6-31G**
C(7) - N(6)	1.457	1.445	C(4) - C(9)	1.444	1.440
C(5)–N(5)	1.465	1.468	O(3)–C(6)	2.738	2.697
C(6)–C(7)	1.355	1.370	N(1)-O(2)	1.392	1.379
C(4)–C(5)	1.382	1.404	O(2)–N(3)	1.371	1.355

relative to the furazan ring plane according to calculations for MeCN solution (43° according to X-ray structural analysis). Thus, the distance between the nitro group O(3) oxygen and C(6) carbon atoms was 2.70 Å (2.74 Å according to X-ray structural analysis), while the distance between the other oxygen atom, O(4), of nitro group and the C(6) atom was 3.48 Å (3.43 Å according to X-ray structural analysis data).

Polar cycloaddition to the asymmetric multiple bond is a concerted, albeit asynchronous process, and starts from nucleophilic attack by carbon atom at the most electrophilic carbon atom C(6) [17, 18]. This means that differences in steric accessibility of the C(6) carbon atom for attack by azomethine ylide from different sides of benzofurazan ring plane may affect both the rate of cycloaddition, as well as the stability of the obtained isomeric cycloadducts. The reaction pathway where oxygen atom is located farther from C(6) atom, and thus presents lower steric obstacles to the approach by azomethine ylide, is favored more than the alternative attack from the other side of benzofurazan ring plane. In other words, the approach of azomethine ylide to the diastereofacial plane of benzofurazan ring (from top or bottom) is no longer equally probable, and thus lead to the observed ratio of stereoisomers **10a** and **10b**.

This assumption was also supported by *ab initio* quantum-chemical calculations of stereoisomeric cycloadducts **10a,b** in gas phase, using $6-31G^{**}$ basis set. Thus, attack from the side of nearby oxygen atom O(3) gave product **10b**, less stable by 2.0 kcal/mol than product **10a**, formed by attack from the side of the more distant oxygen atom O(4). The computed structures of stereoisomeric cycloaddition products are presented in Figure 2.

The non-coplanar arrangement of benzofurazan and indole fragments was also manifested as a nonequivalence of geminal protons in dihydropyrrole ring of compound **11**. Each of the methylene proton pairs gave diastereotopic signals in the ¹H NMR spectra, indicating that the molecule was chiral. The chirality can be



Fig. 2. The structures of stereoisomeric cycloadducts *a*) **10a** and *b*) **10b**, according to *ab initio* calculations for gas phase, using $6-31G^{**}$ basis set. The interatomic distances are indicated in angstroms, valence angles in degrees.

explained by restricted rotation of the two fragments in molecule 11 around the C(4)-C(9) bond, because there is no asymmetric carbon atom in the molecule of cycloadduct after elimination of HNO₂.

The reaction of dinitrochlorobenzofurazan **2b** with *N*-benzylpyrrole (**13**) in MeCN at room temperature gave the α - and β -pyrrolyl derivatives **14** and **15**.



Each of the regioisomers was isolated by preparative column chromatography and characterized: compound **14** was obtained as violet rhombic crystals in 67% yield, while compound **15** as orange needles in 11% yield. All protons of pyrrole ring are known to be coupled, while the coupling constants have quite similar absolute values (1.3-3.5 Hz) [20], complicating reliable assignment of ¹H NMR signals due to isomers **14** and **15**. The ¹H NMR spectra of regioisomers were interpreted based on NOESY experiments, taking into account the presence or absence of correlation between the methylene protons of benzyl substituent and the α -protons of pyrrole ring. The structure of the minor reaction product was conclusively proved by X-ray structural analysis and is presented in Figure 3.

The molecule of compound **15** was practically planar, the dihedral angle between pyrrole and benzofurazan fragment planes was 3.6° . The characteristic bond lengths are given in Table 2. In our opinion, these bond lengths indicate a certain contribution of resonance structure with intramolecular charge transfer to the electron density distribution, as presented in Figure 3. The N(6)–C(7) bond in dinitrobenzofurazan fragment was shorter than the N(5)–C(5) bond. The pyrrole ring C(10)–C(11) and N(4)–C(8) bonds were likewise predictably shorter compared to C(8)–C(9) and N(4)–C(11) bonds. The C(4)–C(9) bond binding two hetaryl fragments was shorter than the standard C(Ar)–C(Ar) bond (1.50 Å) [21].



Fig. 3. *a*) The general view of compound **15** according to X-ray structural analysis data with atoms represented by thermal vibration ellipsoids of 50% probability and *b*) the charge transfer scheme as calculated by DFT method with $B3LYP/6-31G^{**}$ basis set.

Bond	Length, Å	Bond	Length, Å	
N(6)–C(7)	1.4509	N(5)–C(5)	1.4779	
C(10)–C(11)	1.3638	C(8)–C(9)	1.3980	
N(4)–C(8)	1.3477	N(4)–C(11)	1.3721	
C(4)–C(9)	1.4431	C(5)–C(6)	1.4155	

TABLE 2. The Bond Lengths in Molecule of Compound 15 According toX-ray Structural Analysis Data

The C(5)–C(6) bond was slightly shortened, similarly as in the bipolar spirocyclic σ -complex based on dinitrobenzofurazan (1.390 Å) [9], compared to the analogous bond in dinitrobenzofuroxan **1a** (1.44 Å) [22].

According to quantum-chemical calculations by DFT method, the charge transfer between the donor and acceptor fragments in molecule 15 was equal to $0.26 \bar{e}$.

We introduced the major isomer 14 in cycloaddition reaction with azomethine ylide 9. Similarly as in the case of indole derivative 6, two cycloaddition products 16 and 17 were formed in the reaction in 30% and 3% yields, respectively. No cycloadduct with conserved nitro group (analogous to the indole derivative 10) could be isolated even when the reaction was performed in benzene.



The structure of dihydropyrrole **16** was determined by X-ray structural analysis and is given in Figure 4. Unlike in the derivative **15**, the pyrrole and benzofurazan fragments of dihydropyrrole **16** were not coplanar, forming a dihedral angle of 46° . The nitro group was also rotated relative to the plane of six-membered ring by 65° .



Fig. 4. The general view of compound **16** according to X-ray structural analysis data with atoms represented by thermal vibration ellipsoids of 50% probability.

At the same time, the fully aromatized product 17 contained two π -electron rich pyrrole rings and one π -electron deficient nitrobenzofurazan fragment, and could be considered as donor-acceptor-donor (D-A-D) triad. The extent of charge transfer from the annelated and σ -bonded pyrrole ring to the nitrobenzofurazan fragment of molecule 17 was studied by quantum-chemical calculations according to DFT method. The *N*-benzylpyrrole fragment was found to be a weaker donor of electron density (0.08 \bar{e}) compared to the annelated *N*-methylpyrrole fragment (0.21 \bar{e}).

Thus, our developed method for the synthesis of *C*-substituted derivatives of dinitrobenzofurazan in combination with [3+2] cycloaddition reactions allowed to obtain new heterocyclic systems containing π -electron rich and π -electron deficient fragments, potentially of interest for medicinal chemistry [23] as exogenic donors of nitric oxide (NO) – a unique mediator of many physiological and pathological processes in the human body. In our opinion, the most likely NO source is 4-(1,2-dimethyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-7-methyl-5,8a-di-nitro-6,7,8,8a-

tetrahydro-5a*H*-[1,2,5]oxadiazolo[3,4-*e*]isoindole obtained by us, characterized by low stability in solutions and the tendency towards spontaneous elimination of HNO₂ molecule, serving as precursor to nitric oxide. Variation of π -electron rich fragments in molecules analogous to this compound would allow to design its spatial structure and to increase or decrease its complementarity with binding sites of principal biological targets (enzymes, membrane receptors, ion channels).

EXPERIMENTAL

¹H NMR spectra were acquired on a Bruker DPX-250 spectrometer (250 MHz) in acetone- d_6 (compound **6**) or in CDCl₃ (the rest of compounds), internal standard was TMS. The high-resolution mass spectra were recorded on a Bruker micrOTOF II instrument with electrospray ionization. Measurements were performed in positive ion mode (capillary voltage 4500 V). Mass scanning range was 50-3000 Da. Melting points were determined in glass capillaries on a PTP apparatus. Column chromatography was performed with Merck silica gel 60 (70-230 μ m). 4-Chloro-5,7-dinitrobenzofurazan (**2b**) was synthesized by a published procedure [24].

4-(1,2-Dimethyl-1*H***-indol-3-yl)-5,7-dinitro-2,1,3-benzoxadiazole (6)**. 1,2-Dimethylindole (4) (60 mg, 0.41 mmol) was added to a solution of 4-chloro-5,7-dinitrobenzofurazan (**2b**) (100 mg, 0.41 mmol) in CHCl₃ (4 ml), then the reaction mixture was maintained in darkness at room temperature for 1 day. The product was purified by column chromatography (eluent CHCl₃). Yield 101 mg (70%), dark-blue crystals, mp 244-246°C. ¹H NMR spectrum, δ, ppm (*J*, Hz): 2.53 (3H, s, 2'-CH₃); 3.93 (3H, s, 1'-CH₃); 7.12 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.0, *J* = 7.7, H-5'); 7.22-7.32 (2H, m, H-4',6'); 7.56 (1H, d, *J* = 8.0, H-7'); 9.16 (1H, s, H-6). Found, *m/z*: 354.0832 [M+H]⁺. C₁₆H₁₂N₅O₅. Calculated, *m/z*: 354.0833.

Synthesis of 4-(1,2-Dimethyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-7-methyl-5,8a-dinitro-6,7,8,8a-tetrahydro-5a*H*-[1,2,5]oxadiazolo[3,4-*e*]isoindole (10), 4-(1,2-Dimethyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-7-methyl-5-nitro-7,8-dihydro-6*H*-[1,2,5]oxadiazolo[3,4-*e*]isoindole (11), and 4-(1,2-Dimethyl-1*H*-indol-3-yl)-7-methyl-5-nitro-7*H*-[1,2,5]oxadiazolo[3,4-*e*]isoindole (12) (General Method). Compound 6 (100 mg, 0.28 mmol) was added to a suspension of finely ground sarcosine (7) (126 mg, 1.42 mmol) and paraform (51 mg, 1.70 mmol) in 4 ml of anhydrous benzene (for compound 10) or anhydrous MeCN (for compounds 11 and 12). The reaction mixture was refluxed until the color completely faded over 2 h, then the solution was cooled, filtered, the filtrate was evaporated, and the residue was purified by column chromatography (eluent CHCl₃).

Compound 10. Mixture of diastereomers **10a** and **10b** in 3:2 ratio. Yield 108 mg (94%), brown crystals, mp 164-166°C. Found, m/z: 411.1406 [M+H]⁺. C₁₉H₁₉N₆O₅. Calculated, m/z: 411.1411.

Diastereomer 10a. ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm (*J*, *Hz*): 2.32 (3H, s, 2'-CH₃); 2.44 (3H, s, 7-CH₃); 2.93 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.6, *J* = 9.7) and 3.65 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.5, *J* = 9.7, 6-CH₂); 3.51 (1H, d, *J* = 10.7) and 4.06 (1H, d, *J* = 10.7, 8-CH₂); 3.71 (3H, s, 1'-CH₃); 4.60 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.6, *J* = 8.5, 5a-CH); 7.05-7.25 (3H, m, H-4',5',6'); 7.30 (1H, d, *J* = 3.7, H-7').

Diastereomer 10b. ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm (*J*, Hz): 2.33 (3H, s, 2'-CH₃); 2.42 (3H, s, 7-CH₃); 2.80 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.5, *J* = 9.6) and 3.55 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.4, *J* = 9.6, 6-CH₂); 3.43 (1H, d, *J* = 10.8) and 4.07 (1H, d, *J* = 10.8, 8-CH₂); 3.70 (3H, s, 1'-CH₃); 4.75 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.5, *J* = 8.4, 5a-CH); 7.05-7.25 (3H, m, H-4',5',6'); 7.33 (1H, d, *J* = 3.8, H-7').

Compound 11. Yield 29 mg (29%), violet crystals, mp 208-210°C. ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm (*J*, Hz): 2.35 (3H, s, 2'-CH₃); 2.69 (3H, s, 7-CH₃); 3.76 (3H, s, 1'-CH₃); 4.15 (1H, ddd, *J* = 3.8, *J* = 3.8, *J* = 15.2) and 4.22 (1H, ddd, *J* = 3.8, *J* = 3.8, *J* = 15.2, 8-CH₂); 4.36 (1H, ddd, *J* = 3.8, *J* = 3.8, *J* = 14.9) and 4.47 (1H, ddd, *J* = 3.8, *J* = 3.8, *J* = 14.9, 6-CH₂); 7.08 (1H, dd, *J* = 6.8, *J* = 8.0, H-5'); 7.13-7.25 (2H, m, H-4',6'); 7.33 (1H, d, *J* = 8.2, H-7'). Found, *m/z*: 364.1404 [M+H]⁺. C₁₉H₁₈N₅O₃. Calculated, *m/z*: 364.1404.

Compound 12. Yield 5 mg (5%), brown crystals, mp 242-244°C. ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm (*J*, Hz): 2.35 (3H, s, 2'-CH₃); 3.74 (3H, s, 1'-CH₃); 3.97 (3H, s, 7-CH₃); 7.06 (1H, dd, *J* = 8.0, *J* = 7.9, H-5'); 7.12-7.27

(3H, m, H-8,4',6'); 7.31 (1H, d, J = 8.1, H-7'); 7.64 (1H, d, J = 2.0, H-6). Found, m/z: 400.0811 [M+K]⁺. C₁₉H₁₅KN₅O₃. Calculated, m/z: 400.0806.

Synthesis of 4-(1-Benzyl-1*H*-pyrrol-2-yl)-5,7-dinitro-2,1,3-benzoxadiazole (14) and 4-(1-Benzyl-1*H*-pyrrol-3-yl)-5,7-dinitro-2,1,3-benzoxadiazole (15) (General Method). *N*-Benzylpyrrole (13) (128 mg, 0.82 mmol) was added to a solution of 4-chloro-5,7-dinitrobenzofurazan (2b) (100 mg, 0.41 mmol) in anhydrous MeCN (4 ml). The reaction mixture was maintained in darkness for 1 day, the solution was evaporated, the residue was purified by column chromatography (eluent 5:1 petroleum ether–EtOAc).

Compound 14. Yield 100 mg (67%), violet crystals, mp 120-122°C. ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm (*J*, Hz): 5.08 (2H, s, CH₂); 6.45 (1H, dd, J = 2.7, J = 4.0, H-4'); 6.73-6.83 (2H, m, H-2,6 Ph); 6.85 (1H, dd, J = 1.6, J = 4.0, H-3'); 7.08-7.15 (3H, m, H-3,4,5 Ph); 7.16 (1H, dd, J = 1.6, J = 2.7, H-5'); 8.78 (1H, s, H-6). Found, m/z: 366.0830 [M+H]⁺. C₁₇H₁₂N₅O₅. Calculated, m/z: 366.0833.

Compound 15. Yield 16 mg (11%), orange crystals, mp 148-150°C. ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm (*J*, Hz): 5.16 (2H, s, CH₂); 6.62 (1H, dd, *J* = 1.9, *J* = 3.2, H-4'); 6.79 (1H, dd, *J* = 2.2, *J* = 3.2, H-5'); 7.16-7.24 (2H, m, H-2,6 Ph); 7.32-7.43 (3H, m, H-3,4,5 Ph); 7.98 (1H, dd, *J* = 1.9, *J* = 2.2, H-2'); 8.58 (1H, s, H-6). Found, *m*/*z*: 366.0832 [M+H]⁺. C₁₇H₁₂N₅O₅. Calculated, *m*/*z*: 366.0833.

Synthesis of 4-(1-Benzyl-1*H*-pyrrol-2-yl)-7-methyl-5-nitro-7,8-dihydro-6*H*-[1,2,5]oxadiazolo[3,4-*e*]isoindole (16) and 4-(1-Benzyl-1*H*-pyrrol-2-yl)-7-methyl-5-nitro-7*H*-[1,2,5]oxadiazolo[3,4-*e*]isoindole (17) (General Method). Compound 14 (102 mg, 0.28 mmol) was added to a suspension of finely ground sarcosine (7) (126 mg, 1.42 mmol) and paraform (51 mg, 1.70 mmol) in anhydrous MeCN (7 ml). The reaction mixture was refluxed until the color completely faded over 1 h, then the solution was cooled, filtered, the filtrate was evaporated, the residue was purified by column chromatography (eluent 5:1 CHCl₃–EtOAc), collecting the fractions with $R_f = 0.9$ (compound 17) and $R_f = 0.2$ (compound 16).

Compound 16. Yield 30 mg (30%), orange crystals, mp 150-152°C. ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm (*J*, Hz): 2.65 (3H, s, 7-CH₃); 4.06 (2H, t, *J* = 3.7, 8-CH₂); 4.36 (2H, t, *J* = 3.7, 6-CH₂); 5.08 (2H, s, CH₂Ph); 6.32 (1H, dd, *J* = 2.8, *J* = 3.8, H-4'); 6.46 (1H, dd, *J* = 1.7, *J* = 3.8, H-3'); 6.83-6.96 (3H, m, H-5', H-2,6 Ph); 7.12-7.24 (3H, m, H-3,4,5 Ph). Found, *m*/*z*: 398.1217 [M+Na]⁺. C₂₀H₁₇N₅NaO₃. Calculated, *m*/*z*: 398.1224.

Compound 17. Yield 3 mg (3%), brown crystals, mp 240-244°C. ¹H NMR spectrum, δ , ppm (*J*, Hz): 3.94 (3H, s, 7-CH₃); 5.02 (2H, s, CH₂); 6.26 (1H, dd, *J* = 2.7, *J* = 3.6, H-4'); 6.36 (1H, dd, *J* = 1.8, *J* = 3.6, H-3'); 6.80 (1H, dd, *J* = 1.8, *J* = 2.7, H-5'); 6.95-7.04 (2H, m, H-2,6 Ph); 7.12-7.19 (4H, m, H-8, H-3,4,5 Ph); 7.58 (1H, d, *J* = 2.0, H-6). Found, *m*/*z*: 412.0803 [M+K]⁺. C₂₀H₁₅KN₅O₃. Calculated, *m*/*z*: 412.0806.

X-ray Structural Investigation of Compounds 6, 15, 16. Monocrystals of compound **6**, obtained by crystallization from chloroform (C₁₆H₁₁N₅O₅, *M* 353.30) were monoclinic, space group *P*2₁/*c*, at 120 K: *a* 9.8327(8), *b* 7.0505(6), *c* 22.2720(18) Å; β 101.3423(14)°; *V* 1513.9(2) Å³; *Z* 4; *d*_{calc} 1.550 g·cm⁻³; μ (MoK α) 1.19 cm⁻¹; *F*(000) 728. The intensities of 17059 reflections were determined on a Bruker SMART APEX2 diffractometer (MoK α radiation, λ 0.71073 Å, ω -scanning, 2 θ < 58°), 4037 independent reflections (*R*_{int} 0.0211) were used in further refinement. The structure was solved directly and refined by least squares method in anisotropic full matrix approximation by *F*²_{hkl}. The hydrogen atom positions were calculated geometrically and refined in isotropic approximation by the "rider" model. The final probability factor values for compound **6**: *wR*₂ 0.1152 and *GOF* 1.084 for all independent reflections (*R*₁ 0.0445 calculated by *F* for 3508 observed reflections with *I* > 2 σ (*I*)). All calculations were performed with the SHELXTL Plus software suite [25].

Monocrystals of compound **15** were obtained by crystallization from 1:5 mixture of EtOAc–petroleum ether (bp 40-70°C), $C_{17}H_{11}N_5O_5$, *M* 365.31, monoclinic, space group *C*2/*c*, at 120 K: *a* 30.905(2), *b* 4.7648(3), *c* 24.6937(16) Å; β 122.0190(10)°; *V* 3083.1(3) Å³; *Z* 8; d_{calc} 1.574 g·cm⁻³; μ (MoK α) 1.20 cm⁻¹; *F*(000) 1504. The intensities of 15007 reflections were determined on a Bruker SMART APEX2 diffractometer (MoK α radiation, λ 0.71073 Å, ω -scanning, 2 θ < 58°), 4104 independent reflections (R_{int} 0.0283) were used in the further refinement. The structure was solved directly and refined by least squares method in anisotropic full matrix approximation by F^2_{hkl} . The hydrogen atom positions were calculated geometrically and refined in isotropic approximation by the "rider" model. The final probability factor values for compound **15**: *wR*₂ 0.1018

and *GOF* 1.029 for all independent reflections (R_1 0.0383 calculated by *F* for 3402 observed reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$). All calculations were performed with the SHELXTL Plus software suite [25].

Monocrystals of compound **16** were obtained by crystallization from 1:5 mixture of EtOAc–petroleum ether (bp 40-70°C), (C₂₀H₁₇N₅O₃, *M* 375.39), monoclinic, space group *P*2₁/*c*, at 120 K: *a* 16.2477(10), *b* 8.9979(5), *c* 12.8559(8) Å; β 109.4650(10)°; *V* 1772.05(18) Å³; *Z* 4; *d*_{calc} 1.407 g·cm⁻³; μ (MoK α) 0.908 cm⁻¹; *F*(000) 784. Intensities of 20471 reflections were determined on a Bruker SMART APEX2 diffractometer (MoK α radiation, λ 0.71073 Å, ω -scanning, 2 θ < 58°), 4716 independent reflections (*R*_{int} 0.0324) were used in further refinement. The structure was solved directly and refined by least squares method in anisotropic full matrix approximation by *F*²_{hkl}. The hydrogen atom positions were calculated geometrically and refined in isotropic approximation by the "rider" model. The final probability factor values for compound **16**: *wR*₂ 0.1156 and *GOF* 1.054 for all independent reflections (*R*₁ 0.0450 calculated by *F* for 3763 observed reflections with *I* > 2 σ (*I*)). All calculations were performed with the SHELXTL Plus software suite [25].

The X-ray structural analysis data for compounds 6, 15 and 16 were deposited at Cambridge Cystallographic Data Center (deposits CCDC 1029100, CCDC 1022755, and CCDC 1022778, respectively).

Ab initio **quantum-chemical calculations** were performed by DFT method in 6-31G** basis set, using the Gaussian 03 software suite [26] according to published methodology [27].

The quantum-chemical calculations and resonance spectroscopy studies of the structure and properties of nitrobenzofurazan derivatives were performed with support from the Russian Science Foundation (project No. 14-13-00103).

REFERENCES

- 1. L. I. Hmelnitskii, S. S. Novikov, and T. I. Godovikova, *Chemistry of Furoxans. Reactions and Applications* [in Russian], Nauka, Moscow (1996), p. 430.
- 2. F. Terrier, in: Organic Reactivity: Physical and Biological Aspects, Royal Society of Chemistry, Cambridge (1995), p. 399.
- 3. F. Terrier, A. P. Chatrousse, Y. Soudais, and M. Hlaibi, J. Org. Chem., 49, 4176 (1984).
- 4. F. Terrier, M. J. Pouet, J. C. Halle, E. Kizilian, and E. Buncel, J. Phys. Org. Chem., 11, 707 (1998).
- 5. R. Goumont, E. Kizilian, E. Buncel, and F. Terrier, Org. Biomol. Chem., 1, 1741 (2003).
- S. V. Kurbatov, Z. N. Budarina, G. S. Vaslyaeva, N. I. Borisenko, A. P. Knyazev, V. I. Minkin, Yu. A. Zhdanov, and L. P. Olekhnovich, *Russ. Chem. Bull.*, *Int. Ed.*, 46, 1445 (1997). [*Izv. Akad. Nauk*, *Ser. Khim.*, 1509 (1997).]
- V. A. Voronina, A. E. Frumkin, S. V. Kurbatov, A. M. Churakov, O. Yu. Smirnov, and L. P. Olekhnovich, *Russ. Chem. Bull.*, *Int. Ed.*, **51**, 668 (2002). [*Izv. Akad. Nauk, Ser. Khim.*, 617 (2002).]
- 8. P. G. Morozov, S. V. Kurbatov, F. M. Dolgushin, M. Yu. Antipin, and L. P. Olekhnovich, *Russ. Chem. Bull.*, *Int. Ed.*, **53**, 2075 (2004). [*Izv. Akad. Nauk, Ser. Khim.*, 1990 (2004).]
- A. V. Tkachuk, S. V. Kurbatov, O. N. Burov, M. E. Kletskii, Yu. P. Tavunova, P. G. Morozov, V. A. Voronina, and V. I. Minkin, *Russ. J. Org. Chem.*, 49, 1373 (2013). [*Zh. Org. Khim.*, 49, 1388 (2013).]
- 10. V. I. Minkin, A. V. Tkachuk, M. E. Kletskii, D. V. Steglenko, V. A. Voronina, and S. V. Kurbatov, *Russ. Chem. Bull.*, *Int. Ed.*, **62**, 464 (2013). *[Izv. Akad. Nauk, Ser. Khim.*, 464 (2013).]
- 11. S. Kurbatov, P. Rodriguez-Dafonte, R. Goumont, and F. Terrier, Chem. Commun., 2150 (2003).
- 12. S. Kurbatov, A. Tatarov, V. Minkin, R. Goumont, and F. Terrier, Chem. Commun., 4279 (2006).
- 13. A. Tatarov, S. Kurbatov, G. Borodkin, R. Goumont, and F. Terrier, *Tetrahedron*, 66, 995 (2010).
- 14. F. Terrier, Modern Nucleophilic Aromatic Substitution, Wiley-VCH (2013), 488 p.
- 15. E. Buncel and F. Terrier, Org. Biomol. Chem., 8, 2285 (2010).
- 16. F. Terrier, J. M. Dust, and E. Buncel, *Tetrahedron*, **68**, 1829 (2012).

- 17. S. Kurbatov, S. Lakhdar, R. Goumont, and F. Terrier, Org. Prep. Proced. Int., 44, 289 (2012).
- 18. S. A. Shevelev and A. M. Starosotnikov, *Chem. Heterocycl. Compd.*, **49**, 92 (2013). [*Khim. Geterotsikl. Soedin.*, 102 (2013).]
- 19. C. Boga, E. Del Vecchio, L. Forlani, A. Mazzanti, and P. E. Todesco, *Angew. Chem.*, *Int. Ed.*, 44, 3285 (2005).
- 20. E. Pretsch, F. Bühlmann, and K. Affolter, *Structure Determination of Organic Compounds* [Russian translation], Mir, Moscow (2006), p. 438.
- 21. B. P. Nikolskii (editor), *Chemist's Handbook* [in Russian], Vol. 1, Khimiya, Moscow-Leningrad (1982), p. 352.
- 22. C. K. Prout, O. J. R. Hodder, and D. Viterbo, *Acta Crystallogr., Sect. B.: Struct. Crystallogr. Cryst. Chem.*, **B28**, 1523 (1972).
- 23. H. Cerecetto and W. Porcal, Mini Rev. Med. Chem., 5, 57 (2005).
- 24. G. P. Sharnin, F. S. Levinson, S. A. Akimova, and R. Kh. Khasanov, USSR Inventor's Certificate 627129; *Byul. Izobret.*, No. 37 (1978).
- 25. G. M. Sheldrick, SHELXTL, v. 5.10, Structure Determination Software Suite, Bruker AXS, Madison (1998).
- M. J. Frisch, G. W. Trucks, H. B. Schlegel, G. E. Scuseria, M. A. Robb, J. R. Cheeseman, J. A. Montgomery, Jr., T. Vreven, K. N. Kudin, J. C. Burant, J. M. Millam, S. S. Iyengar, J. Tomasi, V. Barone, B. Mennucci, M. Cossi, G. Scalmani, N. Rega, G. A. Petersson, H. Nakatsuji, M. Hada, M. Ehara, K. Toyota, R. Fukuda, J. Hasegawa, M. Ishida, T. Nakajima, Y. Honda, O. Kitao, H. Nakai, M. Klene, X. Li, J. E. Knox, H. P. Hratchian, J. B. Cross, V. Bakken, C. Adamo, J. Jaramillo, R. Gomperts, R. E. Stratmann, O. Yazyev, A. J. Austin, R. Cammi, C. Pomelli, J. W. Ochterski, P. Y. Ayala, K. Morokuma, G. A. Voth, P. Salvador, J. J. Dannenberg, V. G. Zakrzewski, S. Dapprich, A. D. Daniels, M. C. Strain, O. Farkas, D. K. Malick, A. D. Rabuck, K. Raghavachari, J. B. Foresman, J. V. Ortiz, Q. Cui, A. G. Baboul, S. Clifford, J. Cioslowski, B. B. Stefanov, G. Liu, A. Liashenko, P. Piskorz, I. Komaromi, R. L. Martin, D. J. Fox, T. Keith, M. A. Al-Laham, C. Y. Peng, A. Nanayakkara, M. Challacombe, P. M. W. Gill, B. Johnson, W. Chen, M. W. Wong, C. Gonzalez, and J. A. Pople, *Gaussian 03, Revision D.01*, Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford (2004).
- 27. D. V. Steglenko, M. E. Kletsky, S. V. Kurbatov, A. V. Tatarov, V. I. Minkin, R. Goumont, and F. Terrier, *J. Phys. Org. Chem.*, **22**, 298 (2009).