**RESEARCH ARTICLE** 



# Synthesis of New N-Phthalimide Substituted Tricyclic Imide Containing Isoxazoline and Bispiro Functional Group as Possible Anti-cancer Agents

# Omer Tahir Gunkara<sup>\*</sup>, Nuket Ocal

Department of Chemistry, Yildiz Technical University, Davutpasa Campus Istanbul 34220, Turkey

**Abstract:** [3+2]-Cycloaddition reactions of *N*-phthalimide substituted tricyclic imide were studied to synthesize their isoxazoline and bispiro derivatives in excellent yields. All new synthesized compounds have been characterized by their FTIR, <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, GC/MS and LC/MS (HRMS) analyses.

**Keyword:** [3+2]-Cycloaddition reaction, Azomethine ylide, Bispiromolecules, Isoxazolines, Tetracyclic imides.

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**\*Corresponding author.** E-mail: <u>gunkara@yildiz.edu.tr</u> Tel +90-2123834193.

# INTRODUCTION

In recent years, tricyclic imides have been found in many drug molecules. Ocal and co-workers (1-3) have also conducted various investigations on tandospirone which is an antidepressant in Asia and has tricyclic imide structure (4-6). Imides are also very useful intermediates in the synthesis of various natural products (7-12).

In the class of heterocyclic compounds which form the basis of the drug chemistry, isoxazolines have an important place in terms of biological activity due to the oxygen and nitrogen atoms in their structure, are commonly found in natural compounds and pharmaceuticals; they are also versatile synthetic blocks in organic synthesis (13-21).

The most important place in the formation of the isoxazoline, the five-membered ring at the stages of organic synthesis is [3 + 2]-cycloaddition reactions. In this study, 1,3-dipolar adducts were obtained with oximes to obtain the isoxazoline ring (22-24). On the other hand, the reaction of azomethine ylides as 1,3-dipoles (3, 25) with olefinic dipolarophiles forms highly substituted five-membered ring nitrogen heterocycles. This extremely versatile and atom-economical process has been applied toward the syntheses of substituted prolines, which can be used as new catalysts (26, 27) and served as important motifs in many biologically active molecules (28-30).

#### EXPERIMENTAL

#### **Materials and Methods**

All reagents and solvents were obtained from commercial suppliers and were used without further purification. The solvents were dried by standard procedures. Reactions were monitored using TLC. Visualizations of the chromatograms were performed with UV light, KMnO<sub>4</sub> or Vanillin stain. All melting points are uncorrected and were determined on a Gallenkamp digital thermometer. IR spectra were obtained with a Perkin Elmer Spectrum One FTIR Spectrometer and are reported in terms of the frequency of absorption (cm<sup>-1</sup>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance III-500 MHz NMR spectrometer relative to tetramethylsilane, with coupling constant (J) values in Hertz (Hz). Peak multiplicities are designated by the following abbreviations: s, singlet; d, doublet; dd, double doublet; t, triplet; dt, double triplet; m, multiplet; br, broad. Mass spectra were measured on an Agilent 6890N/5973 GC/IMSD system. High-resolution mass spectra were acquired in the positive ion mode using an Agilent G6530B TOF/Qtof Mass spectrometer.

## Synthesis and Characterization

## Synthesis of Bicyclic Endic Anhydride (1) (31)

Bicyclic endic anhydride **1** was prepared with freshly distilled cyclopentadiene and maleic anhydride in ethyl acetate at 0 °C with the known procedure (31). White crystals, Yield 82%, m.p. 165-167 °C, R<sub>f</sub>: 0.42 (20:1, diethyl ether/2-propanol), IR (ATR) 2982, 2956, 1840, 1764, 1666, 1450, 1333, 1228, 1194 cm<sup>-1</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  6.31 (2H, m, H-5, H-6), 3.58 (2H, m, H-2, H-3), 3.51 (2H, m, H-1, H-4), 1.78 (2H, m, H-7a, H-7s) ppm, <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  171.9 (C=Ox2), 136.1 (C-5, C-6), 53.3 (C-2, C-3), 47.7 (C-1, C-4), 40.7 (C-10) ppm, GC-MS (*m/z*) 164 (M<sup>+</sup>), 121 (C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O), 92 (C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>), 66 (C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>6</sub>).

## Synthesis of N-aminobicyclo[2.2.1]hept-5-ene-2-endo,3-endodicarboximide (2) (32)

A solution of hydrazine hydrate (0.6 mL) was added drop wise to bicyclic endic anhydride **1** (1.25 g) in benzene under nitrogen atmosphere. The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 hours. White solid was filtered and recrystallized with isopropyl alcohol (32). White crystals, Yield 65%, m.p. 145-147 °C, R<sub>f</sub>: 0.57 (5:1, ethyl acetate/*n*-hexane), IR (ATR) 3337, 2971, 2953, 2879, 1764, 1691, 1458, 1397, 1207, 1195, 1133 cm<sup>-1</sup>, GC-MS (m/z) 178 (M<sup>+</sup>), 162 (M<sup>+</sup>-NH<sub>2</sub>), 112 (C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>), 92 (C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>), 66 (C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>6</sub>).

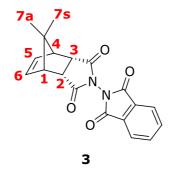


Figure 1: Numbering of title compounds.

*Synthesis of N-(1H-isoindole-1,3-dionyl)bicyclo[2.2.1]hept-5-ene-2-endo,3-endodicarboximide* **(3)** (32)

Compound **2** (0.890 g, 5 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of acetic acid. Phthalic anhydride (0.740 g, 5 mmol) was added to the solution. The resulting mixture was stirred at reflux overnight. After cooling room temperature, saturated NaHSO<sub>3</sub> solution (50 mL) was added, and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc. The aqueous layer was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated. The product obtained as a brown solid (32). Brown solid, Yield 97%, m.p. 203-205 °C, R<sub>f</sub>: 0.60 (1:1, ethyl acetate/*n*-hexane), IR (ATR) 2959, 2868, 1737, 1704, 1595, 1468, 1364, 1346, 1232, 1179, 1120 cm<sup>-1</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.88-7.93 (2H, m, Ar-*H*), 7.80-7.81 (2H, m, Ar-*H*), 6.33 (2H, brs, H-5, H-6), 3.51 (2H, brs, H-2, H-3), 3.46 (2H, brs, H-1, H-4), 1.82 (1H, d, *J* = 9.14 Hz, H-7s), 1.60 (1H, d, *J* = 9.14 Hz, H-7a) ppm, GC-MS (m/z) 308 (M<sup>+</sup>), 242 (M<sup>+</sup>-C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>6</sub>), 147 (C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N), 104 (C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O).

# General procedure for the synthesis of compounds **4-5**

A sealed tube containing ninhydrin (0.178 g, 1 mmol), *N*-methylglycine or *N*-benzylglycine (1 mmol) and compound **3** (0.308 g, 1 mmol) in EtOH/dioxane (1:1, 6 mL) was heated at 65 °C for 6 hours under nitrogen atmosphere. After completion of the reaction with TLC control, the organic phase was concentrated and the residue purified by chromatography on silica gel.

# 6-(1,3-Dioxoisoindoline-2-yl)-2-methyl-3,3a,4,4a,8,8a-hexahydro-2H-spiro[4,8-

# methanopyrole[3,4-f]isoindole-1,2'indene]-1',3',5,7-(6H,7aH)tetraone (4)

Yellow oil, Yield 52%, R<sub>f</sub>: 0.10 (1:1, ethyl acetate/*n*-hexane), IR (ATR) 2959, 2868, 1737, 1704, 1595, 1468, 1364, 1346, 1232, 1179, 1120 cm<sup>-1</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.95-7.97 (2H, m, Ar-*H*), 7.90-7.91 (1H, m, Ar-*H*), 7.78 (2H, dt, *J* = 1.26 and 4.01 Hz, Ar-*H*), 7.74 (2H, dt, *J* = 1.26 and 4.01 Hz, Ar-*H*), 7.69 (1H, brs, Ar-*H*), 3.57 (1H, t, *J* = 9.45 Hz, *N*-CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.20-3.23 (1H, m, H-3), 3.13-3.16 (1H, m, H-2), 2.92 (1H, dd, *J* = 1.57 and 9.45 Hz, H-5), 2.81-2.86 (3H, m, H-1, H-4, *N*-CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.47 (1H, d, *J* = 7.56 Hz, H-6), 2.16 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.51-1.55 (2H, m, H-7a, H-7s) ppm, <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  202.75 (C=O), 200.8 (C=O), 174.6 (C=O), 172.7 (C=O), 162.9 (C=O), 162.5 (C=O), 152.2 (Ar-C), 141.8 (Ar-C), 139.7 (Ar-C), 136.0 (Ar-CH), 135.0 (Ar-CH), 130.2 (Ar-C), 129.8 (C), 124.8 (Ar-CH), 124.6 (Ar-CH), 124.4 (Ar-CH), 124.2 (Ar-CH), 123.6 (Ar-CH), 123.1 (Ar-CH), 50.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 47.4 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 45.3 (CH), 45.1 (CH), 42.7 (CH), 42.4 (CH), 42.1 (CH), 38.1 (CH), 29.7 (C-7) ppm, HRMS (ESI): calcd for [C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>] ([M]<sup>+</sup>): *m/z* 495.1430, found 496.1812 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

# 2-Benzyl-6-(1,3-dioxoisoindoline-2-yl)-3,3a,4,4a,8,8a-hexahydro-2H-spiro[4,8-

# methanopyrole[3,4-f]isoindole-1,2'indene]-1',3',5,7-(6H,7aH)tetraone (5)

Yellow solid, Yield 32%, m.p. 266-268 °C, R<sup>f</sup>: 0.48 (1:1, ethyl acetate/*n*-hexane), IR (ATR) 3066, 2954, 2921, 2850, 1737, 1702, 1593, 1468, 1455, 1346, 1288, 1179, 1156 cm<sup>-1</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.90-7.92 (2H, m, Ar-*H*), 7.83-7.87 (2H, m, Ar-*H*), 7.76-7.80 (2H, m, Ar-*H*), 7.73-7.75 (2H, m, Ar-*H*), 7.13-7.21 (5H, m, Ar-*H*), 3.50 (1H, d, *J* = 12.92 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.45 (1H, d, *J* = 9.45 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.39 (1H, d, *J* = 12.92 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.14-3.20 (2H, m, H-2, H-3), 2.97 (1H, d, *J* = 10.40 Hz, *N*-CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.82 (1H, t, *J* = 8.19 Hz, H-5), 2.75-2.78 (2H, m, H-1, H-4), 2.70 (1H, d, *J* = 4.41 Hz, H-6), 2.48 (1H, d, *J* = 8.51 Hz, H-7s), 1.53 (1H, d, *J* = 13.55 Hz, H-7a) ppm, <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  202.8 (C=O), 200.4 (C=O), 172.7 (C=O), 172.6 (C=O), 162.9 (C=O), 162.5 (C=O), 142.0 (Ar-C), 139.5 (Ar-C), 138.6 (Ar-C), 135.0 (Ar-CH), 132.3 (Ar-CH), 130.1 (Ar-C), 129.7 (Ar-C), 128.8 (Ar-CH), 127.0 (Ar-CH), 124.6 (Ar-CH), 123.3 (Ar-CH), 59.5 (*N*-CH<sub>2</sub>), 49.7 (CH), 46.9 (CH), 42.5 (CH), 42.3 (CH), 39.0 (CH), 38.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.3 (CH), 30.8 (C-7) ppm, HRMS (ESI): calcd for [C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>] ([M]<sup>+</sup>): *m*/z 571.1743, found 572.7224 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

#### General procedure for the synthesis of oxime derivatives 6-9

Oxime derivatives were prepared with aldehyde, hydroxylamine hydrochloride, and sodium carbonate in ethyl alcohol at room temperature with the known procedure (33-35). A solution of hydroxyl amine hydrochloride (0.417 g, 6 mmol) in 0.5 mL of water and a solution of Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> in 1.5 mL of water were added drop wise to the solution of an aldehyde (2 mmol) in 1.5 mL of ethyl alcohol, respectively. Resulting solid was filtered and purified by recrystallization from alcohol.

#### 4-Chlorobenzaldehyde oxime 6 (33)

White solid, yield 100%, m.p. 92-94 °C, R<sub>f</sub>: 0.52 (1:2 ethyl acetate/*n*-hexane), FT-IR (ATR) 3301 (OH), 1589 (C=N), 1496 (C-N), 971 (C-H), 694 (C-Cl) cm<sup>-1</sup>, GC-MS (EI), m/z (%): 155 (M+·, 99), 139 (100), 136 (82), 111 (73), 75 (70).

## 2,4-Dimethoxybenzaldehyde oxime 7 (34)

White solid, Yield 94%, m.p. 103-105 °C, FT-IR (KBr pellet) 2944, 1610, 1504, 1466, 1414, 1270, 1206, 1112, 1026, 922, 832 cm<sup>-1</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz) δ 7.73 (1H, s, CH=N-OH), 7.0 (1H, d, J = 8.5 Hz, Ar-*H*), 6.03 (1H, s Ar-*H*), 6.06 (1H, d, J = 8.5 Hz, Ar-*H*), 3.6 (6H, s, 2xOCH<sub>3</sub>) ppm, calcd for [C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>] C 59.66 H 6.11 N 7.70%, found C 60.01 H 6.19%.

#### 4-Methylbenzaldehyde oxime 8 (33)

White solid, yield 99%, m.p. 54-55 °C, R<sub>f</sub>: 0.52 (1:2 ethyl acetate/*n*-hexane), FT-IR (ATR) 3333 (OH), 2994 (CH3), 1572 (C=N), 1497 (C-N), 1028 (C-H) cm<sup>-1</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  8.01 (1H, s, CH=N-OH), 7.71 (2H, d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, Ar-*H*), 7.24 (2H, d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, Ar-*H*), 2.21 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm, GC-MS (EI), m/z (%): 135 (M+·, 96), 119 (100), 104 (76), 91 (83), 75 (61).

# 2-Thiophenealdehyde oxime 9 (35)

White solid, Yield 98%, m.p. 132-136 °C. FT-IR (ATR) 3320 (OH), 1568 (C=N), 1468 (C-N), 1026 (C-H) cm<sup>-1</sup>.

#### General procedure for the synthesis of compounds **10-13**

The compound **3** (0.154 g, 0.5 mmol) and oxime derivative (*p*-chlorobenzaldehyde oxime, 2,4dimethoxybenzaldehyde oxime, *p*-methylbenzaldehyde oxime, or thiophene-2-carbaldehyde oxime, respectively) (0.5 mmol) was dissolved in 4 mL of dichloromethane. A solution of NaOCI (0.6 mL) was added drop wise to the reaction mixture at 0 °C. The resulting mixture was stirred at 0 °C overnight. After completion of the reaction, the mixture was extracted with dichloromethane (3x10 mL). The organic phase was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated. *3-(4-Chlorophenyl)-6-(1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl)-4,4a,8,8a-tetrahydro-3aH-4,8-methanoisoxazol[3,4-f]isoindole-5,7-dione* **(10)** 

White solid, Yield 97%, m.p. 317-319 °C (decomp.), R<sub>f</sub>: 0.48 (1:1, ethyl acetate/*n*-hexane), IR (ATR) 3004, 2984, 2973, 2953, 1746, 1733, 1468, 1402, 1349, 1207, 1171, 1123 cm<sup>-1</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.90-7.92 (1H, m, Ar-*H*), 7.85-7.87 (1H, m, Ar-*H*), 7.78-7.80 (2H, m, Ar-*H*), 7.54 (2H, d, *J* = 8.51 Hz, Ar-*H*), 7.31 (2H, d, *J* = 8.51 Hz, Ar-*H*), 4.90 (1H, d, *J* = 8.19 Hz, H-5), 3.91 (1H, d, *J* = 8.19 Hz, H-6), 3.37-3.38 (2H, m, H-2, H-3), 3.21 (1H, brs, H-4), 3.02 (1H, brs, H-1), 1.86 (1H, d, *J* = 11.35 Hz, H-7s), 1.58 (1H, d, *J* = 11.35 Hz, H-7a) ppm, <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  172.1 (C=O), 171.1 (C=O), 162.9 (C=O), 162.7 (C=O), 155.5 (C), 136.3 (C), 135.4 (C), 130.1 (C), 129.5 (Ar-*C*), 129.4 (Ar-*C*), 129.2 (Ar-*C*), 128.9 (Ar-*C*), 128.2 (C), 126.6 (Ar-*C*), 124.8 (Ar-*C*), 124.5 (Ar-*C*), 123.7 (Ar-*C*), 83.5 (CH), 52.7 (CH), 51.9 (CH), 46.2 (CH), 44.9 (CH), 42.3 (CH), 42.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>) ppm, HRMS (ESI): calcd for [C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>16</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5</sub>] ([M]<sup>+</sup>): *m/z* 461.0778, found 462.2232 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

# 3-(2,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-6-(1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl)-4,4a,8,8a-tetrahydro-3aH-4,8methanoisoxazol[3,4-f]isoindole-5,7-dione (11)

Yellow solid, Yield 65%, m.p. 214-216 °C, R<sub>f</sub>: 0.50 (1:1, ethyl acetate/*n*-hexane), IR (ATR) 3064, 2923, 2850, 2838, 1783, 1738, 1465, 1422, 1344, 1290, 1217, 1177 cm<sup>-1</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.87-7.90 (2H, m, Ar-*H*), 7.77-7.79 (2H, m, Ar-*H*), 7.35 (1H, d, *J* = 3.15 Hz, Ar-*H*), 6.86 (1H, dd, *J* = 3.15 and 9.14 Hz, Ar-*H*), 6.80 (1H, d, *J* = 9.14 Hz, Ar-*H*), 4.84 (1H, d, *J* = 8.51 Hz, H-5), 4.31 (1H, d, *J* = 8.51 Hz, H-6), 3.74 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.71 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.30-3.32 (2H, m, H-2, H-3), 3.15 (1H, brs, H-4), 2.90 (1H, brs, H-1), 1.82 (1H, d, *J* = 11.35 Hz, H-7s), 1.50 (1H, d, *J* = 11.35 Hz, H-7a) ppm, <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  171.8 (C=O), 171.5 (C=O), 163.2 (C=O), 162.9 (C=O), 155.9 (C), 153.4 (Ar-*C*), 151.7 (Ar-*C*), 135.3 (Ar-*C*H), 135.2 (Ar-*C*H), 130.1 (Ar-*C*), 129.7 (Ar-*C*), 124.7 (Ar-*C*H), 124.4 (Ar-*C*H), 117.1 (Ar-*C*), 113.6 (Ar-*C*H), 113.0 (Ar-*C*H), 112.7 (Ar-*C*H), 82.8 (CH), 56.1 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 55.8 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 51.2 (CH), 46.2 (CH), 45.7 (CH), 44.6 (CH), 42.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 43.1 (CH) ppm, HRMS (ESI): calcd for [C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub>] ([M]<sup>+</sup>): *m/z* 587.1379, found 588.3660 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

# *3-(4-Methylphenyl)-6-(1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl)-4,4a,8,8a-tetrahydro-3aH-4,8methanoisoxazol[3,4-f]isoindole-5,7-dione* **(12)**

White solid, Yield 95%, m.p. 270-272 °C, R<sub>f</sub>: 0.37 (1:1, ethyl acetate/*n*-hexane), IR (ATR) 3028, 2971, 1746, 1731, 1420, 1349, 1294, 1171, 1111, 724 cm<sup>-1</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.89-7.90 (1H, m, Ar-*H*), 7.85-7.86 (1H, m, Ar-*H*), 7.77-7.79 (2H, m, Ar-*H*), 7.49 (2H, d, *J* = 8.19 Hz, Ar-*H*), 7.13 (2H, d, *J* = 8.19 Hz, Ar-*H*), 4.88 (1H, d, *J* = 8.19 Hz, H-5), 3.93 (1H, d, *J* = 8.19 Hz, H-6), 3.35-3.37 (2H, m, H-2, H-3), 3.19 (1H, brs, H-4), 3.04 (1H, brs, H-1), 2.23 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.87 (1H, d, *J* = 11.35 Hz, H-7s), 1.55 (1H, d, *J* = 11.35 Hz, H-7a) ppm, <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  172.1 (C=O), 171.2 (C=O), 162.9 (C=O), 162.8 (C=O), 156.2 (C), 140.6 (Ar-*C*), 135.3 (Ar-*C*H), 129.9 (Ar-*C*H), 129.7 (Ar-*C*), 129.5 (Ar-*C*), 129.4 (Ar-*C*H), 129.3 (Ar-*C*H), 126.5

#### **RESEARCH ARTICLE**

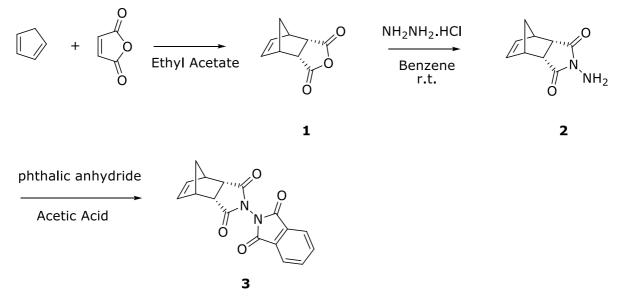
(Ar-CHx2), 125.3 (Ar-C), 124.6 (Ar-CH), 124.4 (Ar-CH), 81.9 (CH), 52.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 45.5 (CH), 43.1 (CH), 42.5 (CH), 36.0 (CH), 35.4 (CH), 21.3 (CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm, HRMS (ESI): calcd for [C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5</sub>] ([M]<sup>+</sup>): *m/z* 441.1325, found 442.6204 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

# *3-(Thiophen-2-yl)-6-(1,3-dioxoisoindolin-2-yl)-4,4a,8,8a-tetrahydro-3aH-4,8-methanoisoxazol[3,4-f]isoindole-5,7-dione* **(13)**

Beige solid, Yield 85%, m.p. 280-282 °C (decomp.), R<sub>f</sub>: 0.32 (1:1, ethyl acetate/*n*-hexane), IR (ATR) 3095, 2953, 2921, 2850, 1794, 1737, 1468, 1435, 1345, 1285, 1174, 1118, 700, 670 cm<sup>-1</sup>, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz)  $\delta$  7.90-7.92 (1H, m, Ar-*H*), 7.86-7.87 (1H, m, Ar-*H*), 7.78-7.80 (2H, m, Ar-*H*), 7.32 (1H, dd, *J* = 0.94 and 5.04 Hz, Ar-*H*), 7.17 (1H, dd, *J* = 0.94 and 3.78 Hz, Ar-*H*), 6.99 (1H, dd, *J* = 3.78 and 5.04 Hz, Ar-*H*), 4.91 (1H, d, *J* = 8.19 Hz, H-5), 3.91 (1H, d, *J* = 8.19 Hz, H-6), 3.37-3.39 (2H, m, H-2, H-3), 3.22 (1H, brs, H-4), 3.14 (1H, brs, H-1), 1.92 (1H, d, *J* = 11.35 Hz, H-7s), 1.60 (1H, d, *J* = 11.35 Hz, H-7a) ppm, <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  171.9 (C=O), 171.1 (C=O), 162.9 (C=O), 162.7 (C=O), 152.3 (C), 135.4 (Ar-CH), 135.3 (Ar-CH), 130.8 (Ar-C), 130.1 (Ar-C), 129.6 (Ar-C), 128.9 (Ar-CH), 128.4 (Ar-CH), 127.2 (Ar-CH), 124.7 (Ar-CH), 124.5 (Ar-CH), 83.4 (CH), 53.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 46.3 (CH), 45.5 (CH), 43.0 (CH), 42.8 (CH), 45.2 (CH) ppm, HRMS (ESI): calcd for [C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5</sub>S] ([M]<sup>+</sup>): *m/z* 433.0732, found 434.0920 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

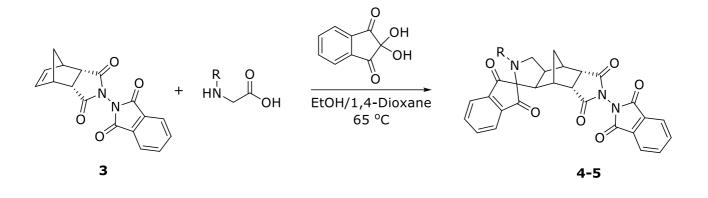
In this study, we synthesized bicyclic endic anhydride **1** by Yamamoto's procedure (31). Thereafter, compound **2** was synthesized from the reaction of hydrazonium chloride and bicyclic endic anhydride **1** in benzene at room temperature (32). We continued to prepare *N*-phthalimide substituted tricyclic imide **3** from compound **2** using Kas'yan procedure (32) (**Scheme 1**).



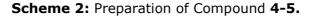
Scheme 1: Preparation of Compounds 1-3.

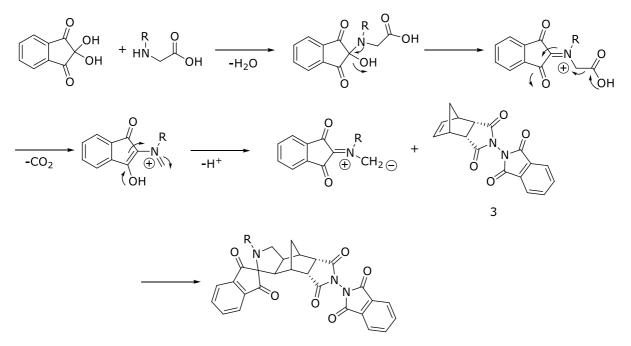
#### **RESEARCH ARTICLE**

Our purpose is to prepare new *N*-phthalimide-substituted tricyclic imide with bispiro-functional group because of their importance in biological activity. In order to achieve this purpose, we designed and synthesized the new bispiro tricyclic imide derivatives **4** and **5** from compound **3** in ethanol/1,4-dioxane solvent system at 65 °C in good yields. (**Scheme 2**) In this reaction series, we used ninhydrin and *N*-methylglycine or *N*-benzylglycine to form azomethine ylide in the reaction flask (**Scheme 3**).



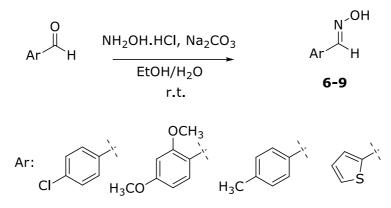
R: CH<sub>3</sub>





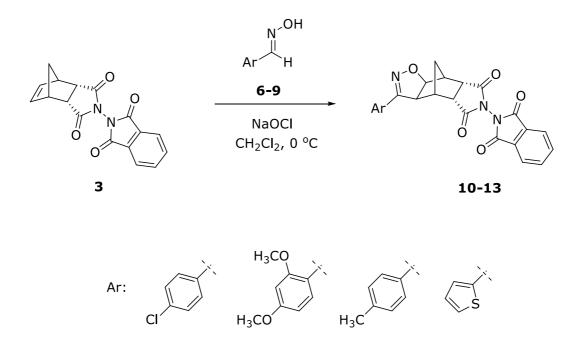
Scheme 3: Proposed mechanism of the reaction.

Our other goal is to prepare new *N*-phthalimide-substituted tricyclic imide with isoxazoline group. Because of our synthetic strategy, we firstly synthesized oxime derivatives **6**-**9** with known procedure in excellent yields (33-35) (**Scheme 4**).



Scheme 4: Synthesis of oxime derivatives 6-9.

In the next step, we synthesized new tricyclic imide derivatives bearing isoxazoline ring **10-13** with 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reaction using oxime derivatives **6-9** as starting materials in dichloromethane solvent system at 0 °C (**Scheme 5**).



Scheme 5: Synthesis of compounds 10-13.

Overall, we designed and synthesized new bispiro functionalized tricyclic imide molecules and tricyclic imide molecules containing isoxazoline ring as possible anti-cancer agents. We characterized all of the new molecules with <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR and FTIR spectral data. The reaction of compound **3** with azomethine ylide obtained from ninhydrin and sarcosine gave the desired products; **4** and **5**. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of compound **3** showed two alkenic protons (H5 and H6) at 6.33 ppm as a singlet. The absent of alkenic protons in the <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound **4** confirmed the structure. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of compound **4** showed *N*-CH<sub>2</sub> protons at 3.57 ppm and four aromatic protons at 7.95–7.97, 7.74 and 7.69 ppm as an additional. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of the showed four carbonyl carbons with the addition of ninhydrin to the

#### **RESEARCH ARTICLE**

structure. The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound **5** showed the similar results and confirmed the structure of compound **5**. The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound **10-13** proved the 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reaction occurs. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of compound **10** showed protons (H5 and H6) at 4.90 and 3.91 ppm insead of alkenic protons and showed four additional aromatic protons at 7.54 and 7.31 ppm as expected. The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compounds **11-13** showed the similar results and confirmed their structures.

In addition to the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR and FTIR spectral data which were in agreement with the proposed structures, LC-MSMS (Qtof) results of all new compounds showed the expected accurate mass with hydrogen additions.

# CONCLUSION

In conclusion, we synthesized tetracyclic systems that we hope will demonstrate new anti-cancer activity by applying azomethine ylide [3+2]-cycloaddition and 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reactions to the *N*-phthalimide substituted tricyclic imide molecule. Further work toward exploring anticancer activity of all newly synthesized compounds with MTT essay will be forthcoming.

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