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# Synthesis and crystal structures of 2-methyl-4aryl-5-oxo-5*H*-indeno [1,2-*b*] pyridine carboxylate derivatives

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# Abstract

**Background:** Hantzsch 1,4-dihydropyridines (Hantzsch1,4-DHP) have been extensively utilized as the analogs of nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NADH) coenzyme to study the mechanism and various redox processes. During the redox processes 1,4-DHP systems undergo transformation into the corresponding pyridine derivatives through oxidation. Consequently, the interest in this aromatization reaction, investigation of a wide range of 1, 4-DHPs continues to attract the attention of researchers. Herein, we report the preparation of pyridine derivatives and the crystal structures determined by X-ray crystallographic methods.

**Results:** The crystal structures and conformational studies of two organic compounds, namely ethyl 2-methyl-4-phenyl-5-oxo-5*H*-indeno [1,2-*b*] pyridine-3-carboxylate (I) and ethyl 2-methyl-4-(4 chlorophenyl)-5-oxo-5*H*-indeno [1,2-*b*] pyridine-3-carboxylate (II) are reported. The terminal ethyl group of the compound I is disordered over two positions with the refined occupancies of 0.645 & 0.355 and C8 one dimensional zig-zag chain running along 101 direction through C-H...O type of intermolecular interactions. In the compound II, C-H...O interactions connect the molecules to form an  $R_2^2$  (16) dimer running along 011 direction.

**Conclusion:** The crystal structures ethyl 2-methyl-4-phenyl-5-oxo-5*H*-indeno [1,2-*b*] pyridine-3-carboxylate and ethyl 2-methyl-4-(4 chlorophenyl)-5-oxo-5*H*-indeno [1,2-*b*] pyridine-3-carboxylate have been investigated in detail. The terminal ethyl group of compound I is disordered. In compound II, the substitution of Cl atom in the phenyl ring alters the configuration of carboxylate group with respect to the pyridine indane ring.

# Background

Hantzsch 1,4-dihydropyridines (Hantzsch1,4-DHP) have been extensively utilized as the analogs of nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NADH) coenzyme to study the mechanism and the synthetic potential of various redox processes [1,2]. Hantzsch 1,4-DHP based drugs such as nifedipine and niguldipine are widely used as calcium channel blockers for the treatment of cardiovascular disorders including angina, hypertension and cardiac arrhythmias [3]. During the redox processes and in the course of drug metabolism [4], 1,4-DHP systems are oxidatively transformed into the corresponding pyridine derivatives. Consequently, this aromatization reaction continues to attract the attention of researchers to establish a general protocol applicable to a wide range of 1,4-dihydropyridines. A number of methods and reagents have been reported recently in the literature for this purpose [5-14].

Some of these methods suffer from disadvantages such as the use of strong or toxic oxidants, the requirement of severe conditions or need excess of the oxidants. Other drawbacks are the long reaction times, production of by-products, the lower yields of products and/or the requirement of tedious work-up procedures.

*N*-Bromosuccinimide (NBS) is a versatile reagent for the oxidation of primary and secondary alcohols,  $\alpha$ -hydroxycarboxylic acids [15],  $\alpha$ -hydroxycarboxylic esters [16], hydrazines and hydrazones [15]. In addition, NBS is preferred for allylic bromination. While hydroxy acids like



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malic acid, tartaric acid, citric acid etc. are converted to aldehydes and ketones, polyhydric alcohols (glycol, glycerol and hexitols) are quantitatively decomposed to carbon dioxide and water [17] with NBS. NBS also promotes reactions of sterically hindered cresols *via p*-benzoquinone methide [18].

Having synthesized a number of 1, 4-dihydropyridines derived from indane-1,3-dione, we have dehydrogenated them to the corresponding pyridines. The reagent of the choice for effecting dehydrogenation is NBS in methanol (Schemes 1 and 2). This reagent was earlier employed to effect dehydrogenation of simple dihydropyridines [19].

# Experimental

The title compounds reported in the present work were prepared by the following procedure [19,20].

## Preparation of 4a-b

To an alcoholic solution (50 mL) of indane-1,3-dione **2** (0.01 mol), appropriate aromatic aldehydes **1a-b** (0.01 mol), ethyl acetoacetate **3** (0.01 mol), ammonium acetate (0.02 mol) and a drop of piperidine were added and the mixture was refluxed for 1 hr. The reaction

mixture was concentrated to half of its original volume and allowed to cool in an ice-chest. The solid **4a-b** thus separated was filtered, washed with ice cold aqueous ethanol and crystallized from petroleum ether  $(60-80^{\circ}C)$ -chloroform (1: 1) (Scheme 1).

## Preparation of 5a-b

To a solution of ethyl 2-methyl-4-aryl-5-oxo-1H,4H-indeno [1,2-b] dihydropyridine-3-carboxylate 4a-b (0.5 g, 1.87 mmol) in methanol (10.0 mL), N-bromosuccinimide (0.33 g, 1.87 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature. The colour of the solution changes immediately and the reaction proceeds instantaneously within five minutes. The course of the reaction was monitored by TLC. The reaction mixture was diluted with water (50 mL) and extracted with chloroform ( $3 \times 20$  mL). The organic layer was separated, dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and filtered (Scheme 2). Evaporation of the solvent afforded the products ethyl 2-methyl-4-phenyl-5oxo-5H-indeno [1,2-b] pyridine-3-carboxylate (Scheme 3) or ethyl 2-methyl-4-(4-chlorophenyl)-5-oxo-5H-indeno [1,2-b] pyridine-3-carboxylate respectively in excellent vields (Scheme 4). For compound (5a): Yield 96%; M.p. 212°C. For compound (5b): Yield 89%; M.p. 198°C.





## **Results and Discussion**

In both the compounds, the indenopyridine ring is almost planar, with r.m.s deviation of 0.035(2) Å [C3] and 0.087(2) Å [C11] for compounds I and II, respectively. The keto atom O substituted in the indenopyridine in both the molecules are slightly out of plane [0.048(2) & 0.217(1) Å for I & II]. The substitution of the Cl atom in the phenyl ring plays a vital role while packing the molecules in the unit cell and promotes the change of conformation of the carboxylate group. This is evidenced from the torsion angle values of [C10-C11-15-O2] and [C12-C11-C15-O2] 114.5(2)° & -63.5(2)° for (I) and -74.9(2)° & 114.0(1)° for (II), respectively. The terminal ethyl group in compound I is disordered over two positions with refined occupancies of 0.645 & 0.355. The phenyl ring and indenopyridine

rings are oriented by an angle of  $67.8(1)^{\circ}$  in compound (I) which is almost similar in compound (II) amounting the value of  $55.2(1)^{\circ}$ . The overall conformations in both the molecules are similar as can be seen from the superimposed rmsd value 0.154 Å (Figure 1). Both the structures are stabilized by C-H...O type of intra and intermolecular interactions. In compound I, molecules at (x, y, z) and (x + 1/2, -y - 1/2, z + 1/2) are linked through intermolecular C20-H20...O1 hydrogen bond to form a C8 zig-zag chain (Figure 2) running along 101 direction [21]. The combination of C5-H5...O3 and C22-H22...O1 intermolecular hydrogen bonds, lead to the formation of a  $\mathbb{R}^2_2$  (16) ring motif chain running along [0 1 1] direction (Figure 3), observed in compound II.

# X-ray Crystallography

Single crystal X-ray intensity data for the compounds (I) and (II) were collected using a Bruker Kappa APEX II area-detector diffractometer with MoK<sub> $\alpha$ </sub> (0.71073 Å) radiation at room temperature (293 K). The data reduction was carried out using the program SAINT [22]. The absorption corrections were applied using the Multi-scan method using SADABS program [23]. The structures of both the compounds were solved by direct methods using SHELXS97 [24] and all the nonhydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically by full-matrix least-squares on F<sup>2</sup> taking all the unique reflections using SHELXL97 [24]. The hydrogen attached with carbon atoms were placed in their calculated positions and included in the isotropic refinement using the riding model with C–H = 0.93 Å (–CH) or 0.97 Å (–CH2) Å or









| Parameters                          | Compound (I)   | Compound (II)  |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| Empirical formula                   | C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>17</sub> NO <sub>3</sub>        | C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>16</sub> CINO <sub>3</sub>      |
| Formula weight                      | 343.37   | 377.81   |
| Wavelength                          | 0.71   | 073 Å  |
| Crystal system, space group         | Monoclinic, P21/n                                      | Triclinic, P-1   |
| Unit cell dimensions                | a = 7.5078(5) Å  | a = 9.7750(8) Å; α = 113.199(2)°                       |
|                                     | b=21.0935(15) Å  | b = 9.8262(4) Å; β = 102.572(3)°                       |
|                                     | c = 11.5058(3) Å                                       | c = 10.8687(5) Å; γ = 99.791(3)°                       |
|                                     | $\beta = 104.876(2)^{\circ}$                           |  |
| Volume                              | 1761.1(2) Å <sup>3</sup>                               | 897.65(9) Å <sup>3</sup>                               |
| Z, Calculated density               | 4, 1.295 g/cm <sup>3</sup>                             | 2, 1.398 g/cm <sup>3</sup>                             |
| Absorption coefficient              | 0.086 mm <sup>-1</sup>                                 | 0.236 mm <sup>-1</sup>                                 |
| F (000)                             | 720  | 392  |
| Crystal size                        | $0.23 \times 0.20 \times 0.19 \text{ mm}^3$            | $0.22 \times 0.18 \times 0.17 \text{ mm}^3$            |
| Theta range for data collection     | 1.93 to 30.48°   | 2.15 to 30.99°   |
| Limiting indices                    | $-10 \le h \le 10, -30 \le k \le 30, -15 \le l \le 16$ | $-13 \le h \le 14, -14 \le k \le 14, -15 \le l \le 15$ |
| Reflections collected/unique        | 5323/2998  | 5580/4173  |
|                                     | [R (int) = 0.032]                                      | [R (int) = 0.0261]                                     |
| Completeness                        | 99.4%  | 97.5%  |
| Absorption correction               | Mult   | i-scan   |
| Refinement method                   | Full-matrix lea  | st-squares on F <sup>2</sup>                           |
| Data/restraints/parameters          | 2998/0/238   | 5580/0/244   |
| Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>   | 1.008  | 1.051  |
| Final R indices $[I > 2\sigma (I)]$ | $R_1 = 0.0574$ , $wR_2 = 0.1494$                       | $R_1 = 0.0464, wR_2 = 0.1334$                          |
| R indices (all data)                | $R_1 = 0.1047$ , $wR_2 = 0.1819$                       | $R_1 = 0.0638$ , $wR_2 = 0.1470$                       |
| Extinction coefficient              | 0.0098(18)   | 0  |
| Largest diff. peak and hole         | 0.333 and $-0.240 \text{ e.}\text{\AA}^{-3}$           | 0.393 and -0.332 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>                     |

| Table T The Crystal Gata, experimental conditions and structure remement parameters for the compounds (1) and | experimental conditions and structure refinement parameters for the compounds (I) a | parameters for the co | refinement | nd structure | conditions an | xperimental | al data, | The crvsta | Table 1 |
|---|---|-----------------------|------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|----------|------------|---------|
|---|---|-----------------------|------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|----------|------------|---------|

0.96 Å (-CH3) Å with Uiso (H) = 1.2Ueq (parent C atom). The crystal data, experimental conditions and structure refinement parameters for the compounds (I) and (II) are presented in Table 1. Table 2 gives the geometry of the intra and intermolecular interactions. The

| Table 2 The deometry of the hydrogen bonds $(A_{r_{ij}})$ | Table 2 The | aeometrv | of the | hvdroaen | bonds (Å, °) |
|---|-------------|----------|--------|----------|--------------|
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|------------------------------------|---------|---------------------|----------|--------|
| D-H <sup></sup> A                  | D (D-H) | D (H <sup></sup> A) | D (DA)   | <(DHA) |
| Compound (I)                       |         |                     |          |        |
| C (20) -H (20)O (1) <sup>i</sup>   | 0.93    | 2.40                | 3.232(3) | 149    |
| Compound (II)                      |         |                     |          |        |
| C (14)-H (14A)O (2)                | 0.96    | 2.44                | 3.132(2) | 128    |
| C (5)-H (5)O (3) <sup>ii</sup>     | 0.93    | 2.60                | 3.472(2) | 157    |
| C (22)-H (22)O (1) <sup>iii</sup>  | 0.93    | 2.58                | 3.458(2) | 157    |
| C (16) -H (16A)Cg(3) <sup>iv</sup> | 0.97    | 2.72                | 3.566(2) | 146    |
|                                    |         |                     |          |        |

Symmetry transformations used: (i) x + 1/2, -y - 1/2, z + 1/2; (ii) x, y-1, z-1; (iii) 1-x,-y,-z;(iv) -x,-y,-1-z; Cg3 centroid atom of the ring (C2-C7).

molecular structure of compounds (I) and (II) with the atom numbering scheme using ORTEP3 [25] are given in Figure 4 and Figure 5, respectively. The least-squares plane, geometrical and puckering parameters of both the compounds were calculated using PLATON software package [26-28].

# Conclusions

The title compounds were synthesized, crystallized and the crystal structures have been determined by single-crystal X-ray diffraction methods. The terminal ethyl group of the compound I is disordered over two positions with the refined occupancies of 0.645 & 0.355. C-H...O intermolecular hydrogen bond builds up a one dimensional zig-zag chain running along 101 directions. In compound II, C-H...O hydrogen bonds connect the molecules to form a  $\mathbb{R}^2_2$  (16) dimer chain running along 011 direction.





#### **Competing interests**

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

#### Authors' contributions

PR collected the X-ray data and solved the crystal structures under the guidance of MNP. NE synthesized the title compounds under the guidance of Prof. PR (Late). PR and NE contributed equally to this work. All authors have read and approved the final manuscript.

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#### Additional material

Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structures of compounds (I) and (II) reported in this paper have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication numbers, CCDC 996464 and CCDC 996465, respectively. Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge, on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1 EZ, UK. (fax: +44-(0)1223-336033 or email: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

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