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Research Article

**Synthesis of Sulfonamide Derived from New
Tetrahydroquinazoline Derivatives via Intramolecular
cyclization**

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Abstract

Tetrahydroquinazoline and sulfonamide are two very important class of heterocycles, showing a wide spectrum of biological and biochemical activities on the one hand. On the other hand, there is a growing demand of new pharmacophore, which can truly replace the old resistant marketed drug. Consequently we are interested in synthesizing new molecules containing hybrid scaffold having both the tetrahydroquinazoline and sulfonamide moiety, as both are very active pharmacophore. In the present communication, sulphonamide derived tetrahydroquinazoline heterocyclic rings have been synthesized by using intramolecular cyclization reaction. Using this methodology, a small library of ten compounds has been synthesized. The structure of the compound was unambiguously resolved by the single X-ray crystal structure of some of the molecules. A highly substituted

heterocycles can be easily synthesized by this methodology. Moreover these new sulfonamide derived tetrahydroquinazoline compounds may act as very potent inhibitors of different enzymes or proteins, responsible for many diseases.

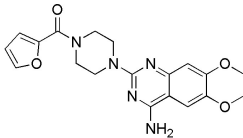
Keywords: Heterocycles, Quinazoline, Sulfonamide, Electronic effect

Introduction

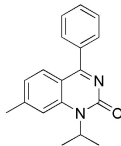
Heterocyclic compounds are one of the most important classes of organic compounds that have a wide range of biological activities: antibacterial, antifungal, and several other biological activities. Amongst these are sulfur and nitrogen containing heterocycles, are especially important. Consequently, the development of new methodologies useful for the synthesis of

new heterocycle templates has gained much attention in both the academic and the industrial communities. Thus there is a growing need for new scaffolds which can act better, compared to the previous known drugs.

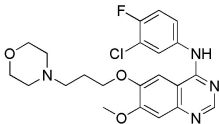
Quinazoline is one such heterocycles which may contain a versatile pharmacophore responsible for many biological activities. It possesses a wide spectrum of bioactivities as antimicrobial, bronchodilator, antihistaminic, anti-inflammatory, angiotensin(II) receptor antagonist, antiherpes, anti-tubercular, anti-insecticidal and cardiovascular agent etc.



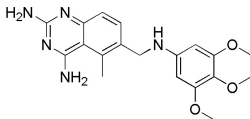
Prazosin: Sympatholytic drug



Proquazone: Anti-inflammatory drug



Gefitinib: EGFR inhibitor



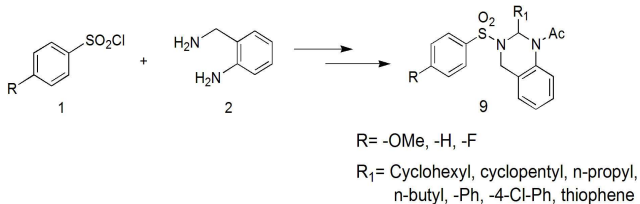
Trimetrexate: Dihydrofolate reductase inhibitor

Figure1: Biologically active molecules with Quinazoline scaffold

Among the different bioactive molecules, sulfonamide group containing heterocycles are present at large. Owing to its wide application as antibiotics, anti-carbonic anhydrase, diuretic, hypoglycemic, anti thyroid and anticancer agent. Researchers across the world are also interested in synthesizing new sulfonamide derived heterocyclic scaffolds. However the rapid emergence of sulfonamide resistant organisms restricted its clinical application. It constantly needs new molecules to replace the old one with new scaffolds and new pathway of mechanism of action in each case.

Moreover, sometimes it becomes necessary to treat an infection with potentially toxic drugs against those organisms which are resistant to all approved antibiotics. Consequently, there is an ever-growing demand for more effective antibacterial agents against antibiotic resistant bacteria pathogens. Therefore,

research efforts are focused to make new antibiotics, those which can kill the bacteria by a new pathway. Considering the potential of quinazoline and sulfonamide moiety separately, we were interested in the synthesis of new hybrid heterocyclic scaffold containing both the quinazoline and sulfonamide moiety.



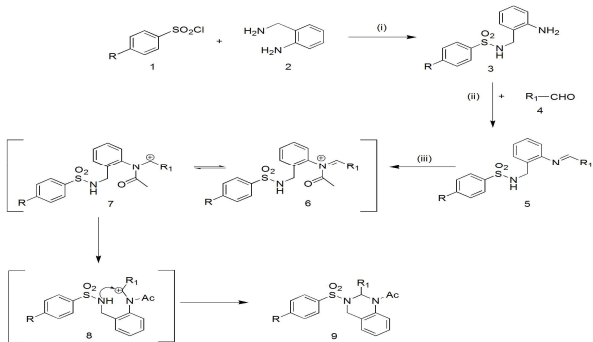
Scheme 1: Synthetic Route to the “N¹-acyl-N²-sulfonyl Quinazoline

The following scheme depicts the general synthetic route for the synthesis of aryl sulfonyl group substituted tetrahydroquinazoline (Scheme: 1). To our knowledge, this is the first example of sulfonyl and acyl group substituted tetrahydroquinazoline (“*N*¹-acyl-*N*²-sulfonyl Quinazoline”) scaffold. Owing to its importance, we have planned to synthesize a small library of these molecules using the above methodology. It is believed that this methodology will open up new easy access to this class of molecules.

Result and Discussion

The synthesis of *N*¹-acyl-*N*²-sulfonyl Quinazoline scaffold library started by condensing an aromatic sulfonyl chloride (1) and a 2-aminobenzyl amine (2). The free amine present in the generated sulfonamide (3) undergoes Schiff base (5) formation with the

aldehydes (4) in the next step. The Schiff base was then converted to the N-acylium ion (6) by treating them with acetyl chloride, which in situ undergoes intramolecular cyclization under basic condition as shown in scheme 2, to produce the highly substituted tetrahydroquinazoline in moderate to good yield. It is worthy to mention here that we are able to confirm the structure of the *N*¹-acyl-*N*²-sulfonyl Quinazoline derivatives unambiguously by the single X-ray crystal structure of compound 9a and 9j (Fig: 2). The crystal structure also corroborates the mechanistic pathway as proposed in scheme 2. Based on this methodology we have successfully synthesized a small library of 10 different quinazoline molecules in good to moderate yields. The rate of cyclization reaction, as is observed, has tremendous effect on the electronic nature of the R-groups of aldehydes and the substituents effect on the aromatic rings of the sulfonamide part.



R = -OMe, -H, -F

R₁ = Cyclohexyl, cyclopentyl, n-propyl, n-butyl, -Ph, -4-Cl-Ph, thiophene

Scheme 2: General scheme for the synthesis of *N*¹-acyl-*N*²-sulfonyl Quinazoline

Reagents and Conditions:(i) NaOAc, aq EtOH (ii) EtOH, glacial AcOH (iii) 2,6-Leutidine, AcCl, THF/Et₂O, 0⁰ C to r.t.

Remarkably the cyclization worked well with aliphatic aldehydes and was quite sluggish with aromatic ones. Therefore the nature of aldehydes provided sensible impact on the final cyclization reaction. Actually the cyclization is dependent on the electrophilicity of the iminium carbocation i.e. greater electrophilicity facilitates the reaction.

Please see Table 1 in the PDF version

For aromatic schiff's base, +R effect of aldehydic aromatic ring decreases the electrophilicity of the carbocation and exerts detrimental effect on the final cyclization (Table 1, 9h, 9i), whereas +I effect (which is less stronger than +R), of the aliphatic

group of aldehydes showed no such effect towards the rate of cyclization (Table 1, 9a-f, 9j).

Apart from the stability of iminium carbocation, nucleophilicity of the sulfonamide moiety also influences the outcome of the cyclization significantly. In case of product 9a, cyclization is facilitated by the electron donating -OMe group in the aryl ring of the sulfonamide part which stabilizes the iminium carbocation and gave 85% yield of the desired cyclic product, whereas the yield drops to 62% for product 9e due to the absence of -OMe group. Similar trend was observed for compound 9b and 9f. Again for product 9j, due to the presence of deactivating -F group, 50% yield was obtained. Hence, this reaction is substituent tolerable and can be applicable to a wide variety of substrates.

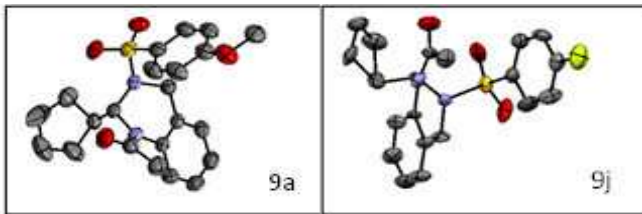


Fig2: Single X-ray crystal structures of compounds 9a and 9j

Conclusion

We have successfully synthesized 10 N^1 -acyl- N^2 -sulfonyl Quinazoline derivatives via N-acylinium intermediate and also achieved the cyclization with electron deficient sulfonamide as nucleophile. So, this general strategy for pursuing highly active

electrophiles to facilitate the intramolecular nucleophilic attack becomes a basis for synthesizing biologically active more functionalized quinazoline derivatives. Higher yield of the cyclized product was observed in case of activated aromatic ring. Since these *N*¹-acyl-*N*²-sulfonyl Quinazolines obtained as racemic mixture, the stereoselective version of this cyclization is our next target. The library of these new heterocyclic scaffold and the compounds therefore may act as good inhibitors of different enzymes or proteins. Biological studies of these molecules are going on in the present time in our laboratory, and the results will be published in the future.

Experimental Section

General Procedure for the Final Cyclization

To a stirred solution of schiff base (5) (1 mmole) dissolved in THF or diethylether (as per requirement) at 0^o C, 2,6-leutidine (1 mmole) was added followed by acetyl chloride (1mmole) addition under nitrogen atmosphere (scheme 2). The reaction was continued for 24hrs. The solvent was evaporated to concentrate the reaction mass and the residue obtained was purified by column chromatography (hexane/ethyl acetate) to afford pure cyclized product.

1-(2-Cyclopentyl-3-(4-methoxy-benzenesulfonyl)-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinazolin-1-yl)-ethanone (9a): White solid, $R_f \approx 0.40$ (petroleum ether, ethyl acetate 3:2), Melting point 155°C , ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (in ppm) 1.327-1.490 (4H, m), 1.641-1.710 (4H, m), 1.833 (3H, s), 1.918 (1H, m), 3.807 (3H, s), 4.525 (1H, d, $J = 17.4$), 4.780 (1H, d, $J = 18$), 6.325 (1H, d, $J = 10.2$), 6.873-6.912 (3H, m), 7.146-7.207 (3H, m), 7.727 (2H, d, $J = 7.2$); ^{13}C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (in ppm) 22.61, 25.08, 25.19, 27.83, 28.84, 41.30, 43.49, 55.55, 66.46, 114.07, 114.54, 124.45, 125.18, 125.50, 126.43, 127.18, 129.33, 129.88, 130.53, 135.18, 162.89, 169.01; HRMS (EI+): m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$ (M)+ 414.1613, Found: m/z 414.16132. IR (in cm^{-1}) 565, 615.56, 671.30, 748.91, 804.99, 835.42, 962.61, 1020.74, 1091.86, 1160.93, 1264.53, 1322.65, 1339.75, 1378.73, 1499.43, 1596.53, 1654.66, 2867.10, 2962.84, 3008.32, 3445.52.

1-(2-Cyclohexyl-3-(4-methoxy-benzenesulfonyl)-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinazolin-1-yl)-ethanone (9b): White solid, $R_f \approx 0.50$ (petroleum ether, ethylacetate 3:2), Melting point 120°C , ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (in ppm) 0.86-0.94 (1H, m), 1.05-1.17 (3H, m), 1.38-1.41 (1H, m), 1.55 (1H, d, $J = 9.2$), 1.65 (3H, s), 1.77 (1H, d, $J = 18$), 1.84 (3H, s), 1.93-1.94 (1H, m), 3.80 (3H, s), 4.46 (1H, d, $J = 18$), 4.76 (1H, d, $J = 18$), 6.27-6.28 (1H, m), 6.86-6.90 (3H, m) 7.14-7.20 (3H, m), 7.71 (2H, d, $J = 6$); ^{13}C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (in ppm) 22.62, 25.46, 25.91, 27.99, 28.88, 29.67, 37.96, 43.29, 55.55, 66.89, 114.08, 114.39, 124.43, 125.05, 125.52, 126.48, 127.16, 129.35, 129.84, 130.63, 134.93, 162.88, 169.27; HRMS (EI+): m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$ (M) $^+$ 428.17698, Found: m/z 428.17697. IR (in cm^{-1}) 561.54, 617.27, 671.30, 746.86, 804.99, 833.02, 964.66, 1020.74, 1039.89, 1147.93, 1165.03, 1264.18, 1322.65, 1378.39, 1462.50, 1447.45, 1499.43, 1585.59, 1596.19, 1654.66, 2848.75, 2923.52, 3435.03.

1-[3-(4-methoxy-benzenesulfonyl)-2-propyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinazolin-1-yl]-ethanone (9c): White solid, $R_f \approx 0.50$ (petroleum ether, ethyl acetate 3:2), Melting point 130°C , ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (in ppm) 0.86-0.89 (3H, m), 1.39-1.44 (2H, m), 1.59 (3H, s), 1.87-1.88 (2H, m), 3.81 (3H, s), 4.49 (1H, d, $J = 12$), 4.63 (1H, d, $J = 18$), 6.63-6.66 (1H, m), 6.89 (2H, d, $J = 6$), 6.93-6.94 (1H, m), 7.15-7.16 (2H, m), 7.21 (1H, t, $J = 6$), 7.74 (2H, d, $J = 12$); ^{13}C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (in ppm) 13.42, 18.18, 22.66, 34.78, 43.40, 55.56, 62.68, 113.51, 114.16, 124.65, 125.42, 125.67, 126.36, 126.58, 127.33, 129.45, 129.79, 130.27, 162.99, 168.91; HRMS (EI+): m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}$ (M) $^+$ 388.14568, Found: m/z 388.14554. IR (in cm^{-1}) 557.10, 615.22, 632.66, 673.35, 722.93, 753.36, 759.85, 802.94, 835.08, 928.08, 958.17, 1027.23, 1037.83, 1089.46, 1113.40, 1147.93, 1158.53, 1262.13, 1309.66, 1328.81, 1372.23, 1460.45, 1497.03, 1585.59, 1596.19, 1652.26, 1663.20, 2866.08, 2923.52, 2975.49, 3435.03.

1-(3-benzenesulfonyl-2-cyclopentyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinazolin-1-yl)-ethanone (9e): White solid, $R_f \approx 0.50$ (petroleum ether, ethyl acetate 3:2), Melting point 110°C , ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (in ppm) 1.21-1.26 (1H, m), 1.32-1.38 (2H, m), 1.42-1.45 (1H, m), 1.61-1.62 (1H, m), 1.65-1.66 (3H, m), 1.70 (3H, s), 1.86-1.87 (1H, m), 4.46 (1H, d, $J = 18$), 4.75 (1H, d, $J = 18$), 6.28 (1H, d, $J = 6$), 6.82 (1H, d, $J = 12$), 7.08-7.13 (3H, m), 7.33-7.36 (2H, m), 7.41-7.44 (1H, m), 7.72 (2H, d, $J = 6$); ^{13}C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (in ppm) 22.66, 25.09, 25.19, 27.82, 28.82, 41.21, 43.61, 66.48, 124.44, 124.92, 125.54, 126.41, 127.22, 127.69, 129.00, 132.59, 138.97, 169.06; HRMS (EI+): m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}(\text{M})^+$ 384.15076, Found: m/z 384.1505. IR (in cm^{-1}) 559.15, 578.64, 632.66, 690.79, 722.93, 748.91, 951.67, 1044.33, 1055.27, 1091.86, 1162.98, 1262.13, 1367.79, 1313.76, 1445.40, 1494.98, 1583.54, 1661.15, 2928.99, 2854.22, 3440.50.

1-(3-benzenesulfonyl-2-cyclohexyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinazolin-1-yl)-ethanone (9f): White solid, $R_f \approx 0.50$ (petroleum ether, ethyl acetate 3:2), Melting point 120°C , ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (in ppm) 0.98-1.10 (4H, m), 1.33-1.35 (2H, m), 1.47-1.50 (2H, m), 1.57-1.61 (2H, m), 1.70 (3H, s), 1.85-1.87 (1H, m), 4.43 (1H, d, $J = 18$), 4.73 (1H, d, $J = 18$), 6.24 (1H, d, $J = 6$), 6.82 (1H, d, $J = 6$), 7.08-7.12 (3H, m), 7.33-7.36 (2H, m), 7.42 (1H, t, $J = 6$), 7.72 (2H, d, $J = 12$); ^{13}C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (in ppm) 22.43, 25.44, 25.88, 27.95, 28.85, 29.66, 37.85, 43.42, 66.92, 125.58, 126.47, 127.21, 127.62, 129.01, 132.58, 134.79, 139.05, 169.34; HRMS (EI+): m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ (M) $^+$ 398.1664, Found: m/z 398.16632. IR (in cm^{-1}) 567.70, 578.64, 621.72, 647.70, 690.79, 718.82, 744.81, 930.13, 964.66, 1042.28, 1091.86, 1152.04, 1169.47, 1175.97, 1260.08, 1324.70, 1352.74, 1378.39, 1447.45, 1456, 1499.43, 1585.59, 1658.76, 2854.22, 2928.99, 3435.

1-(2-Cyclopentyl-3-(4-fluoro-benzenesulfonyl)-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinazolin-1-yl)-ethanone (9j): White solid, $R_f \approx 0.40$ (petroleum ether, ethyl acetate 3:2), Melting point 150°C , ^1H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (in ppm) 1.32-1.38 (2H, m), 1.42-1.44 (1H, m), 1.51 (3H, s), 1.62-1.67 (3H, m), 1.77 (2H, b s), 1.85-1.87 (1H, m), 4.48 (1H, d, $J = 18$), 4.68 (1H, d, $J = 18$), 6.28 (1H, d, $J = 12$), 6.85 (1H, d, $J = 6$), 7.01-7.04 (2H, m), 7.08-7.16 (3H, m), 7.76-7.79 (2H, m); ^{13}C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl_3): δ (in ppm) 22.49, 25.06, 25.18, 27.81, 28.84, 41.29, 43.61, 66.44, 116.06, 116.21, 124.53, 124.91, 125.71, 126.48, 127.38, 130.50, 130.56, 135.03, 164.24, 165.94, 168.98; HRMS (EI+): m/z Calcd for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{S}$ (M)+ 402.1413, Found: m/z 402.1415. IR (in cm^{-1}) 568.96, 621.035, 680.82, 742.54, 808.11, 887.19, 925.76, 977.84, 1033.77, 1099.34, 1132.13, 1157.20, 1242.07, 1311.5, 1394.43, 1450.36, 1587.3, 1654.81, 2354.92, 2856.37, 2918.09, 2950.88, 3550.70, 3770.57.

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