

# Synthesis and Physical Characterization of 4-(anthracen-10-yl)-1-cyclohexyl-3-phenoxyazetid-2-one as a New *Trans* 2-azetidinone

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**Abstract:** In this paper we propose the synthesis of 4-(anthracen-10-yl)-1-cyclohexyl-3-phenoxyazetid-2-one. In addition to its synthesis AM1 calculations to characterize the physical properties of the molecule is also presented.

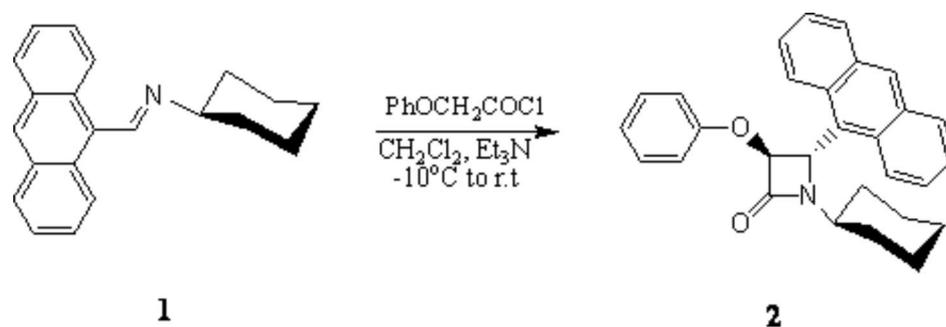
## Introduction

$\beta$ -lactam antibiotics have saved many lives since 1945 [1]. Apart from their clinical use, recent reports on the use of  $\beta$ -lactams for purposes other than antibiotics are gaining attention. This four-membered cyclic amide has been extensively used for the synthesis of several biologically active heterocyclic compounds [2]. It has been established that Taxol can be prepared by a coupling reaction between natural baccatin and suitably substituted hydroxy  $\beta$ -lactam [3]. Banik and his coworkers have been engaged in the synthesis and biological evaluation of compounds in which a polycyclic aromatic ring is present [4]. During the course of this study, we became interested in the synthesis of cyclic amides (for example,  $\beta$ -lactam) also bound to a polyaromatic ring. Although there are many methods known for the construction of the  $\beta$ -lactam rings, the Staudinger reaction is still the most frequently used and is considered to be the most effective. This paper describes for the first time the synthesis of a *trans*  $\beta$ -lactam with polyaromatic imine and identifies a new stereochemical aspect of the Staudinger reaction [5]. The formation of the *cis* and *trans*  $\beta$ -lactams by consideration of a number of factors has been reported. The substituents present in the imines, acid chloride, conditions of reaction, nature of the base, nature of the solvent, order of the addition of the reagents, and temperature of the reactions have shown to affect the formation of the  $\beta$ -lactam ring [6]. To explain the stereoselectivity, some computer-assisted theoretical calculations have also been reported [7].

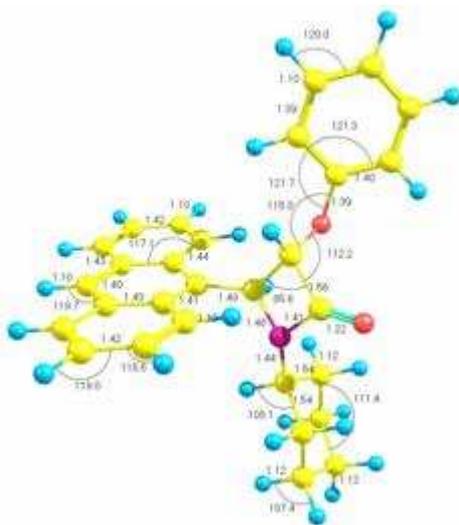
## Results and Discussion

Polyaromatic aldimine **1** was prepared in quantitative yield by condensation of cyclohexylamin and 9-anthraldehyd in refluxing ethanol. The formation of Schiff base **1** was readily established from its spectral data. Treatment of **1** with the ketene derived from phenoxyacetyl chloride in the presence of triethylamine afforded *trans*-2-azetidinone **2** (Scheme 1).

### Scheme 1



The presence of this new compound was confirmed by t.l.c. monitoring. Its IR spectrum showed the  $\beta$ -lactam carbonyl at  $1778.0\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The indicated *trans* stereochemistry for this polycyclic  $\beta$ -lactam was deduced from analysis of its  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectrum. The coupling constant of H-3 and H-4 is 1.55 Hz which is consistent with this kind of stereochemistry. In addition,  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  spectroscopic data of  $\beta$ -lactam **2** definitely showed the  $\beta$ -lactam carbonyl at 167.23. The mass spectrum showed the M and M+1 at 421 and 422 respectively. We next performed theoretical calculations to present a viable structure for the product. All calculations in this work were carried out with the AM1 level of theory using the GAUSSIAN03 suite of programs [8]. More information about these methods is available elsewhere [9]. Figure 1 presents the optimized structure of the molecule with bond lengths and bond angles shown.



$C_p$	$-102.6425 + 2015.93089 * t - 834.19359 * t^2 - 0.899 * t^3 + 0.81049 * t^{-2}$
$S$	$-146.41593 * \ln(t) + 2119.35904 * t - 789.63261 * t^2 / 2 - 137.09185 * t^3 / 3 - 1.52784 / (2 * t^2) - 0.32924$
$\Delta H$	$-208.75034 * t + 2516.84737 * t^2 / 2 - 1598.5675 * t^3 / 3 + 368.81851 * t^4 / 4 - 1.95655 / t + 39.549$

## Experimental

All required chemicals were purchased from Merck and Fluka chemical companies. Dichloromethane and triethylamine were dried by distillation over CaH<sub>2</sub> and then stored over 4Å molecular sieves. IR spectra were run on a Shimadzu FT-IR 8300 spectrophotometer. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl<sub>3</sub> using a Bruker Avance DPX instrument (operating at 250 MHz for 1H and 62.9 MHz for 13C). Chemical shifts were reported in ppm (δ) downfield from TMS. The coupling constant (*J*) is in Hertz. The mass spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu GC-MS QP 1000 EX instrument. Elemental analyses were run on a Thermo Finnigan Flash EA-1112 series. Melting points were determined in open capillaries with a Buchi 510 melting point apparatus and are not corrected. Thin-layer chromatography (t.l.c.) was carried out on silica gel 254 analytical sheets obtained from Fluka. Column chromatography was performed on Merck Kieselgel (230-270 mesh).

### *Synthesis of (E)-N-(antheracen-10-ylmethylene) cyclohexanamine (1):*

A mixture of cyclohexylamine (0.24 g, 2.40 mmol) and 9-anthraldehyde (0.50 g, 2.40 mmol) was refluxed in ethanol for 4 hours. After cooling the solution the precipitate formed was filtered off and washed with ethanol to give Schiff base **1** as a yellow solid and then was recrystallized from ethanol (95%). IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1630 (C=N). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm): 1.11-1.98 (m, 10H, cyclohexyl), 3.47 (m, 1H, CH-N, cyclohexyl), 7.24-8.01 (m, 9H, Aromatic), 9.02 (s, 1H, CH=N). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR δ (ppm): 24.84-34.75 (cyclohexyl), 71.66 (C-N, cyclohexyl), 124.00-131.00 (aromatic carbons), 157.64 (C=N). MS (m/z): 287 (M<sup>+</sup>), 288 (M+1), 57, 69, 73, 83, 95, 97, 110, 129, 149, 177, 204,

### *Synthesis of 4-(anthracen-10-yl)-1-cyclohexyl-3-phenoxy-2-azetidinone (2):*

A solution of phenoxyacetyl chloride (0.22 g, 1.30 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL) was slowly added to a solution of (E)-N-(antheracen-10-ylmethylene) cyclohexanamine **1** (0.29 g, 1.00 mmol) and triethylamine (0.26 g, 2.60 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (15 mL) at -10 °C. The reaction mixture was then allowed to warm to room temperature, stirred overnight and then it was washed with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL), brine (20 mL), dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and the solvent was evaporated to give the crude product as a white solid which was then purified by recrystallization from ethyl acetate (Yield 78 %). m.p. 177-180 °C. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1778.0 (CO β-lactam). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, ppm): 0.88-2.11 (m, 10H cyclohexyl protons), 3.50 (m, CH-N, cyclohexyl), 5.21 (H<sub>4</sub>, d, 1H, *J* = 1.55), 5.78 (H<sub>3</sub>, d, 1H, *J* = 1.55), 6.53-7.97 (ArH, m, 14H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR δ (ppm): 24.74-30.31 (cyclohexyl), 57.10 (CN, cyclohexyl), 115.37-129.89 (aromatic carbons), 157.73 (Ph-O-C<sub>3</sub>), 167.23 (β-lactam C=O). MS (m/z): 421 (M), 422 (M+1), 328, 296, 239, 204, 134, 77. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>: C, 82.63; H, 6.46; N, 3.32 Found: C, 82.60; H, 6.48; N, 3.29.

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