Short communication

Synthesis and Reduction of 10-Phthalimidocamphor Oxime

Uroš Grošelj, Amalija Golobič, Jurij Svete and Sebastijan Ričko*

Department of Organic Chemistry, Faculty of Chemistry and Chemical Technology, University of Ljubljana, Večna pot 113, SI – 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

> * Corresponding author: E-mail: sebastijan.ricko@fkkt.uni-lj.si Tel.: +386 1 479 8606

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Dedicated to Professor Emeritus Miha Tišler, University of Ljubljana, on the occasion of his 90th anniversary.

Abstract

10-Phthalimidocamphor oxime was prepared from easily available 10-iodocamphor in two steps. Reduction of the oxime functionality resulted in the formation of two novel polycyclic isoindolinone heterocycles, the attempted preparation of the primary amine failed. The structures of novel heterocycles were unambiguously confirmed by single crystal X-ray diffraction as well as NMR techniques.

Keywords: 10-iodocamphor, 10-phthalimidocamphor oxime, camphor derived amines, reduction

1. Introduction

(1R)-(+)-Camphor and its enantiomer are renewable enantiomerically pure chiral pool starting materials. The unique reactivity of camphor enables its derivatization at positions 2, 3, 4, 5, 8-10, as well as selective cleavage of the C1-C2 and C2-C3 bonds (*Figure 1*).^{1,2} All of the above makes camphor a very desirable starting compound for the preparation of a wide variety of products³ ranging from natural products^{1,2} to chiral auxiliaries,^{4,5} ligands in asymmetric synthesis,⁶⁻¹⁰ organocatalysts,¹¹ and NMR shift reagents.¹²

Within our continuing study on camphor-based diamines as potential organocatalyst scaffolds,¹³⁻¹⁵ we recently reported on the synthesis of a novel type of 1,3-diamine-derived bifunctional squaramide organocatalysts **A** prepared from 10-iodocamphor and their application as highly efficient catalysts in Michael additions of 1,3-dicarbonyl nucleophiles to *trans*- β -nitrostyrenes.¹⁶ 10-Iodocamphor¹⁷ has seen surprisingly limited application as the starting compound,¹⁸⁻²⁴ although, it can easily be prepared in sufficient quantities from (1*S*)-(+)-10-camphorsulfonic acid.¹⁶ Herein we report the results of the synthesis and reduction of 10-phthalimidocamphor oxime (**4**), which is a potential precursor for the preparation of mono-protected primary diamine camphor building block **5**. Instead of the desired diamine 5, isoindolinone heterocycles 6 and 7 were isolated. Isoindolinone/isoindole derivatives can be found in numerous natural and pharmaceutical compounds shoving multiple biological activities (*Figure 1*).²⁵



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2. Results and Discussion

Following the literature procedure, (1S)-(+)-10-camphorsulfonic acid (1) was transformed into 10-iodocamphor (2).¹⁶ The following reaction of 2 with potassium phthalimide gave the corresponding 10-phthalimidocamphor (3) in 72% yield. Finally, condensation of 3 with NH₂OH furnished in 92% yield the expected 10-phthalimidocamphor oxime (4). Next, reduction of the oxime 4 was studied with the aim of preparing mono-protected primary diamine camphor building block 5 (*Scheme 1*).

Thus, the results of the reduction of oxime **4** are summarized in *Scheme 2* and *Table 1*. Catalytic hydrogena-

tion of **4** using Pd–C in MeOH with or without HCl yielded only the recovered starting material (*Entries 1* and 2). On the other hand, reduction of **4** with Na in *n*-PrOH, as expected, gave a complex mixture of products (*Entry 3*). Catalytic hydrogenation using *Raney*-Ni gave the polycyclic secondary amine **6** in 37% isolated yield (*Entry 4*). Clearly, the reduction of oxime **4** was successful, though the reaction did not stop at the desired diamine level **5**. Therefore, the reduction with *Raney*-Ni was repeated in the presence of AcOH (*Entry 5*) and aqueous formaldehyde (*Entry 6*) in order to obtain either the amine **5** or a tertiary dimethylamine derivative. The former reaction again delivered compound **6** in 20% yield, while the later



Scheme 1. Attempted synthesis of monoprotected diamine 5.



Scheme 2. Synthesis of amine 6 and imine 7 from oxime 4.

Table 1. Reduction of oxime 4 under various reaction conditions.

Entry	Reducing agent	Solvent	T (°C)	t (h)	Product/Yield (%)
1	Pd-C	МеОН	r.t.	8	no reaction
2	Pd-C/HCl	MeOH	r.t.	8	no reaction
3	Na	n-PrOH	90	2	complex mixture
4	Raney-Ni	MeOH	r.t.	8	6 (37)
5	Raney-Ni/AcOH	MeOH	r.t.	8	6 (20)
6	Raney-Ni/HCHO	MeOH	r.t.	8	complex mixture
7	Zn/HCl	MeOH	r.t.	a)	7 (45)
8	Zn	AcOH	r.t.	a)	complex mixture
9	Zn/HCl	AcOH	r.t.	a)	complex mixture

a) Till the disappearance of the starting material (TLC analysis).

yielded a complex mixture of products. Next, reduction of oxime **4** with Zn in MeOH in the presence of excess aqueous HCl was performed, furnishing imine 7 in 45% yield (*Entry 7*). Repeating the reduction of **4** with Zn in AcOH with or without aqueous HCl yielded complex mixtures of products (*Entries 8* and 9).

The formation of the products **6** and **7** could be rationalized by the initial formation of the primary amine **5**, followed by the condensation with the proximal carbonyl group of the phthalimide functionality to give intermediate **8**. Isomerization of **8** to imine **7** is explained by a simple imine-imine tautomerisation, while reduction (or isomerization/reduction) of **8** would lead to amine **6** (*Scheme 3*). The configuration of the newly formed stereogenic centers seems to be dictated by the reducing agent applied.

2. 1. Crystal Structures of Compounds 6 and 7

The asymmetric units of compounds **6** and **7** are depicted in *Figures 2* and *3*, respectively. In both structures there is one molecule in the asymmetric unit. Bond lengths are given in *Table 2*. Most of bond lengths are very similar both in **6** and **7**, with the exception of bonds including atoms N2 and C9. This is in accordance with their structural chemical formulas (as shown in *Scheme 2*) which differ only in the closeness of these two atoms. Bond N2-C9 in **6**, 1.463(3) Å, is significantly longer than 1.265(2) Å in **7**, which is in accordance with the fact that this is a single bond in **6** and a double bond in **7**. The average $C(sp^3)$ -N(3) single bond and C(sp2) = N(2) double bond in the literature¹ are 1.469(14) and 1.279(8) Å, respectively. Usually $C(sp^3)$ - $C(sp^3)$ bond distances are longer in comparison to $C(sp^3)$ - $C(sp^2)$. In accordance to this, C9-C10 and C9-C15 are longer in **6** than in **7**.



Scheme 3. Rationalization of the formation of products 6 and 7.



Scheme 4. Atempted addition of 1-methylindole to cinnamaldehyde catalyzed by 6.

Compound **6** was tested as a potential covalent organocatalyst in the addition of 1-methylindole to cinnamaldehyde.²⁶ Amine **6** failed to catalyze the reaction (*Scheme 4*).

The structures of novel compounds **3**, **4**, **6**, and 7 were determined by spectroscopic methods (¹H-NMR, ¹³C-NMR, IR, HRMS).

Molecules of **6** and **7** are asymmetric. In both structures, chiral carbon centres are C8, C10, and C14; in **6** C9 atom is also chiral. C10 and C14 from camphor part of the molecule have in both compounds absolute configuration (*S*) and (*R*), respectively. The absolute configuration of C8 atom from phthalimde ring is (*R*) in **6** and (*S*) in **7**, respectively.

tively. Consequently, the conformation of molecules of **6** and **7** is different in a way how a camphor part is bonded to the remaining part of molecule which is shown in *Figure* **4**. In accordance with their optical activity, both compounds crystalize in chiral space group. Compound **6** crystalizes in orthorhombic crystal system in $P2_12_12_1$ and **7** in tetragonal $P4_32_12$, respectively. The packing of molecules is presented in *Figures 5* and 6. In **6** molecules are connected via N2-H…O1 hydrogen bonds into chains parallel to *b* axis. Geometrical parameters of this H-bond are given in *Table 3*. The distance between the donor, N2,



Figure 2. Ortep²⁸ drawing of asymmetric unit of compound **6**. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn with 25% probability level and the hydrogen atoms are shown as small spheres of arbitrary radii.

bond	6	7
01-C1	1.230(2)	1.222(1)
N1-C1	1.347(3)	1.356(2)
N1-C8	1.466(3)	1.460(2)
N1-C11	1.453(3)	1.451(2)
N2-C8	1.438(2)	1.464(2)
N2-C9	1.463(3)	1.265(2)
C1-C2	1.490(3)	1.493(2)
C2-C7	1.381(3)	1.379(2)
C2-C3	1.377(3)	1.384(2)
C3-C4	1.375(4)	1.387(2)
C4-C5	1.373(5)	1.385(2)
C5-C6	1.389(4)	1.381(2)
C6-C7	1.387(3)	1.383(2)
C7-C8	1.504(3)	1.502(2)
C9-C10	1.565(3)	1.519(2)
C9-C15	1.546(3)	1.522(2)
C10-C11	1.521(3)	1.519(1)
C10-C12	1.551(3)	1.550(2)
C10-C16	1.557(3)	1.553(2)
C12-C13	1.540(3)	1.556(2)
C13-C14	1.531(3)	1.523(2)
C14-C15	1.532(3)	1.536(2)
C14-C16	1.551(3)	1.554(2)
C16-C17	1.538(3)	1.531(2)
C16-C18	1.526(3)	1.528(2)

Table 2. Bond lengths in 6 and 7 (Å).

and acceptor, O1, is not short, which means that H-bond is weak. In 7 there are no N-H or O-H groups and consequently no classical intermolecular H-bonds. N and O atoms are acceptors of weak intermolecular H-bonds, donated by C-H moieties and presented in *Table 3*. In **6** and **7**



Figure 3. Ortep²⁸ drawing of asymmetric unit of compound 7. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn with 25% probability level and the hydrogen atoms are shown as small spheres of arbitrary radii.



Figure 4. Mercury²⁹ drawing of compounds **6** (on left) and **7** (on right) with labelling of chiral carbon centers of the phthalimide part of the molecule.



Figure 5. Mercury²⁹ drawing of molecular packing in **6**. Light blue lines show intermolecular N-H...O hydrogen bonds.

there are no $\pi \cdots \pi$ or $\pi \cdots \sigma$ stacking interaction between aromatic rings.

3. Conclusion

The title 10-phthalimidocamphor oxime (**4**) was prepared as a precursor for the preparation of monoprotected camphor derived 1,3-diamine building block **5**. Reduction thereof under various reaction conditions could never be stopped at the diamine **5** level, instead polycyclic isoindolinone heterocycles **6** and **7** were isolated. The structures of **6** and **7** were confirmed by X-ray analysis of the corresponding monocrystals.

4. Experimental Section

Solvents for extractions and chromatography were of technical grade and were distilled prior to use. Extracts were dried over technical grade Na₂SO₄. Melting points were determined on a Kofler micro hot stage and on SRS OptiMelt MPA100 - Automated Melting Point System (Stanford Research Systems, Sunnyvale, California, United States). The NMR spectra were obtained on a Bruker UltraShield 500 plus (Bruker, Billerica, Massachusetts, United States) at 500 MHz for 1H and 126 MHz for 13C nucleus, using DMSO-d, and CDCl, with TMS as the internal standard, as solvents. Mass spectra were recorded on an Agilent 6224 Accurate Mass TOF LC/MS (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, California, United States), IR spectra on a Perkin-Elmer Spectrum BX FTIR spectrophotometer (PerkinElmer, Waltham, Massachusetts, United States). Catalytic hydrogenation was performed on a Parr Pressure Reaction Hydrogenation Apparatus (Moline, IL, USA).



Figure 6. Mercury²⁹ drawing of molecular packing in 7. Light blue lines show weak intermolecular C-H...O and C-H...N hydrogen bonds.

Table 3.	Hydrogen-bond	geometry in	6 and 7	(Å, '	').
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	DII	TT A		
D-H···A	D-H	H···A	D…A	D-H…A
N2-H2'…O1i	0.91(2)	2.25(2)	3.127(2)	161(2)
C8-H…O1ii	0.98	2.57	3.509(2)	162
C15-H…N2iii	0.97	2.69	3.654(2)	173

Symmetry codes: (*i*) -*x*, *y*+1/2, -*z*+1/2, (*ii*) 1/2+*x*,3/2-*y*,1/4-*z*, (*iii*) *y*,*x*,-*z*.

Column chromatography (CC) was performed on silica gel (Silica gel 60, particle size: 0.035–0.070 mm (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, Missouri, United States)).

Synthesis of 2-(((1*R*,4*R*)-7,7-dimethyl-2-oxobicyclo[2.2.1] heptan-1-yl)methyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (3).

To a suspension of 10-iodocamphor (2) (420 mg, 1.51 mmol) in anhydrous DMSO (10 mL) under argon

potassium phthalimide (524 mg, 2.83 mmol) was added and the resulting reaction mixture was heated at 100 °C under argon for 16 h. Volatile components were evaporated in vacuo. The residue was suspended in H₂O (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3×40 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with H₂O (20 mL) and NaCl (aq. sat., 20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na, SO4, filtered, and volatile components evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc:petroleum ether = 1:2). Fractions containing the pure product 3 were combined and volatile components evaporated in vacuo. Yield: 320 mg (1.076 mmol, 72%) of white solid; mp 123-129 °C. $[\alpha]_{D}^{\text{r.t.}} = -2.4$ (c = 0.25, CH₂Cl₂). EI-HRMS: m/z =298.1437 (MH⁺); $C_{18}H_{20}NO_3$ requires: m/z = 298.1438(MH⁺); $v_{\rm max}$ 3469, 3189, 3066, 2959, 2888, 1773, 1731, 1712, 1604, 1466, 1426, 1398, 1373, 1361, 1309, 1295, 1191, 1157, 1142, 1106, 1089, 1053, 1031, 1008, 935, 872, 763, 712, 642, 625 cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.95 (s, 3H, Me); 1.10 (s, 3H, Me); 1.30 - 1.37 (m, 1H); 1.52 – 1.60 (*m*, 1H); 1.88 (*d*, *J* = 18.3 Hz, 1H); 1.84–1.99 (m, 2H); 2.01 (t, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H); 2.43 (ddd, J = 2.5; 4.9;18.4 Hz, 1H); 3.77 (*d*, *J* = 14.9 Hz, 1H); 4.07 (*d*, *J* = 14.9 Hz, 1H); 7.72 (dd, J = 3.0; 5.5 Hz, 2H of Ar); 7.85 (dd, J =3.1; 5.4 Hz, 2H of Ar). ¹³C-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 19.5, 19.7, 26.7, 26.7, 34.7, 43.3, 43.5, 47.2, 61.1, 123.4, 132.2, 134.1, 168.9, 216.7.

Synthesis of 2-(((1*R*,4*R*)-2-(hydroxyimino)-7,7-dimethylbicyclo[2.2.1]heptan-1-yl)methyl)isoindoline-1,3-dione (4).

To a solution of ketone 3 (2.76 g, 9.28 mmol) in EtOH (45 mL) NH₂OH·HCl (1.30 g, 18.7 mmol) and pyridine (1.10 g, 13.9 mmol) were added and the resulting reaction mixture was heated under reflux for 16 h. Volatile components were evaporated in vacuo, followed by the addition of H₂O (25 mL) and finely powdered NaOH till the pH \sim 10–12. The resulting mixture was extracted with Et₂O (5×40 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with H₂O (5 mL) and NaCl (aq. sat., 5 mL), dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and volatile components evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc:petroleum ether = 1:2). Fractions containing the pure product 4 were combined and volatile components evaporated in vacuo. Yield: 2.67 g (8.54 mmol, 92%) of white solid; mp 151–155 °C. $[\alpha]_{D}^{\text{rt.}} = -50.6$ (c = 0.33, CH₂Cl₂). EI-HRMS: m/z = 313.1547 (MH⁺); C₁₈H- $_{21}N_2O_3$ requires: m/z = 313.1547 (MH⁺); v_{max} 3469, 3280, 2945, 2881, 1774, 1713, 1612, 1467, 1427, 1395, 1387, 1362, 1338, 1312, 1297, 1245, 1197, 1158, 1104, 1028, 1015, 987, 962, 927, 913, 875, 855, 821, 800, 717, 611 cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₂): δ 0.90 (s, 3H, Me); 1.07 (s, 3H, Me); 1.20-1.28 (m, 1H); 1.58-1.65 (m, 1H); 1.76-1.85 (m, 2H);1.95-2.03 (m, 1H); 2.08 (d, J = 17.8 Hz, 1H); 2.59 (dt, J = 3.8; 17.9 Hz, 1H); 3.88 (*d*, *J* = 14.7 Hz, 1H); 4.10 (*d*, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 1H); 7.63 (br *s*, 1H); 7.72 (*dd*, *J* = 3.0; 5.5 Hz, 2H of Ar); 7.85 (*dd*, J = 3.1; 5.4 Hz, 2H of Ar). ¹³C-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 19.2, 19.3, 27.0, 29.5, 32.9, 35.8, 44.6, 48.7, 55.5, 123.4, 132.2, 134.1, 168.5, 169.1.

Synthesis of (4bR,5aR,7R,9aS)-13,13-dimethyl-5,5a,6, 7,8,9-hexahydro-10*H*-7,9a-methanoisoindolo[1,2-*b*] quinazolin-12(4b*H*)-one (6).

A mixture of compound 4 (246 g, 0.788 mmol), MeOH (50 mL), and Raney-Ni (100 mg) was hydrogenated (4 bar of H₂) at room temperature for 8 h. The reaction mixture was filtered through a short pad of Celite®, washed with MeOH (20 mL), and the filtrate evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography (1. *n*-hexane:Et₂O = 1:3 to elute the nonpolar impurities; 2. $Et_N:Et_O = 1:40$ to elute the product 6). Fractions containing the pure product 6 were combined and volatile components evaporated in vacuo. Yield: 83 mg (0.294 mmol, 37%) of white solid; mp 154–158 °C. $[\alpha]_{D}^{\text{r.t.}} = -163.0$ $(c = 0.40, CH_2Cl_2)$. EI-HRMS: $m/z = 283.1801 (MH^+)$; $C_{18}H_{23}N_{2}O$ requires: m/z = 283.1805 (MH⁺); $v_{max} = 3326$, 2941, 2881, 1672, 1485, 1460, 1431, 1388, 1368, 1356, 1331, 1300, 1276, 1263, 1243, 1192, 1153, 1130, 1112, 1087, 1053, 1013, 976, 948, 931, 898, 875, 846, 816, 793, 740, 708, 687, 675 cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₂): δ 0.87 (s, 3H, Me); 0.99 (s, 3H, Me); 1.07-1.19 (m, 2H); 1.19-1.24 (m, 1H); 1.51–1.58 (*m*, 1H); 1.59–1.67 (*m*, 1H); 1.72–1.81 (*m*, 2H); 1.95 (*dd*, *J* = 8.9; 13.5 Hz, 1H); 3.18 (*d*, *J* = 14.3 Hz, 1H); 3.25 (dd, J = 4.6; 8.9 Hz, 1H); 4.44 (d, J = 14.4 Hz, 1H); 5.12(s, 1H); 7.47–7.60 (m, 3H, 3H of Ar); 7.81–7.86 (m, 1H, 1H of Ar). ¹³C-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₂): δ 21.2, 21.7, 26.9, 33.9, 37.9, 38.5, 44.1, 45.1, 46.4, 62.9, 70.6, 123.1, 123.8, 129.6, 131.7, 133.2, 142.8, 165.4.

Synthesis of (4bS,7R,9aS)-13,13-dimethyl-6,7,8,9-tetrahydro-10*H*-7,9a-methanoisoindolo[1,2-*b*]quinazolin-12(4b*H*)-one (7).

To a solution of 4 (113 mg, 0.362 mmol) in MeOH (10 mL) at room temperature HCl (aq. 12 M, 1 mL) was added. Next, at room temperature under vigorous stirring, Zn dust (100 mg, 1.53 mmol) was added. After the disappearance of the starting material (TLC analysis), the reaction mixture was filtered and the filtrate evaporated in vacuo. The residue was suspended in H₂O (10 mL), finely powdered NaOH was added till the pH \sim 10–12 followed by extraction with Et₂O (3×30 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with H₂O (10 mL) and NaCl (aq. sat., 10 mL), dried over anhydrous Na,SO₄, filtered, and volatile components evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography (1. *n*-hexane:Et₂O = 1:3 to elute the nonpolar impurities; 2. $Et_3N:Et_2O = 1:25$ to elute the product 7). Fractions containing the pure product 7 were combined and volatile components evaporated in vacuo. Yield: 46 mg (0.163 mmol, 45%) of white solid; mp 164–172 °C. $[\alpha]_{D}^{\text{r.t.}} = +102.5 \text{ (c} = 0.33, \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2\text{)}$. EI-HRMS: $m/z = 281.1646 (MH^+); C_{18}H_{21}N_2O$ requires: m/z = 281.1648 (MH^+) ; v_{max} 2951, 2930, 2869, 1677, 1615, 1468, 1447, 1412, 1310, 1281, 1225, 1152, 1102, 1057, 1025, 975, 320, 795,

747, 709, 691, 621 cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.02 (*s*, 3H, Me); 1.04 (*s*, 3H, Me); 1.18–1.27 (*m*, 1H); 1.32–1.39 (*m*, 1H); 1.82–1.97 (*m*, 4H); 2.57–2.65 (*m*, 1H); 3.24 (*d*, *J*=13.3, 1H); 4.43 (*d*, *J* = 13.3 Hz, 1H); 5.83– 5.86 (*m*, 1H); 7.48–7.53 (*m*, 1H, 1H of Ar); 7.58–7.63 (*m*, 1H, 1H of Ar); 7.77–7.84 (*m*, 2H, 2H of Ar). ¹³C-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 18.6, 20.0, 26.9, 30.0, 38.3, 39.6, 43.3, 47.1, 53.0, 73.8, 123.4, 123.5, 129.1, 131.5, 132.1, 143.4, 167.6, 180.4.

4. 1. Single Crystal X-ray Structure Analysis of Compounds 6 and 7

Single crystal X-ray diffraction data of compounds 6 and 7 have been collected on an Agilent SuperNova dual source diffractometer with an Atlas detector with CuKa radiation (1.54184 Å) at room temperature. The diffraction data were processed using CrysAlis PRO software.³⁰ Structure of both compounds was solved by direct methods, using SIR97.31 A full-matrix least-squares refinement on F² was employed with anisotropic displacement parameters for all non-hydrogen atoms. H atoms were placed at calculated positions and treated as riding. For H atoms from methyl groups, torsion angles were calculated from electron density. Only H atom bonded to N2, was located from difference Fourier map and refined with isotropic displacement parameter. The absolute structure of both compounds was confirmed also by the refinement of Flack parameter. SHELXL97 software³² was used for structure refinement and interpretation. Drawings of the structures were produced using ORTEP-328 and Mercury29. Structural and other crystallographic details on data collection and refinement have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication numbers CCDC 1539864-1539865, for 6 and 7, respectively. These data can be obtained free of charge via www.ccdc. cam.ac.uk/conts/retrieving.html (or from the CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; fax: 44 1223 336033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

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Povzetek

10-Ftalimidokafra oksim smo pripravili iz enostavno dostopne 10-jodokafre v dveh korakih. Pri redukciji oksima ni prišlo do tvorbe primarnega amina ampak sta nastala dva nova policiklična izoindolidinska heterocikla. Njuni strukturo smo nedvoumno potrdili z rentgensko strukturo in NMR tehnikami.