

Sila-pharmaca, XXV ⁽¹⁾. Sila-analogues of nifedipine-like dialkyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-aryl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylates, III ^(*)

Reinhold TACKE ⁽¹⁾ (**), Anke BENTLAGE ⁽¹⁾, Robertson TOWART ⁽²⁾ (***) and Eike MÖLLER ⁽²⁾

(1) Institut für Anorganische Chemie der Technischen Universität Braunschweig, Pockelsstrasse 4, D-3300 Braunschweig.

(2) Pharma-Forschungszentrum der Bayer AG, D-5600 Wuppertal 1.

Dedicated to Prof. Dr. Otto BAYER in memoriam

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Summary. — 15 new C/Si-analogue pairs (C-compounds and sila- or disila-substituted derivatives, respectively), which are structurally related to nifedipine, have been synthesized. These and some further C/Si-pairs have been investigated comparatively with respect to their physicochemical and pharmacological properties. Using reversed-phase thin-layer chromatography it was shown that both the sila- and disila-analogues are more lipophilic than the corresponding C-compounds. With respect to the *in vitro* spasmolytic potencies the Si-compounds show approximately similar structure-activity relationships to their carba-analogues. However, in some cases marked differences in *in vivo* effects (cardiovascular and antihypertensive activity) could be demonstrated.

Résumé. — La synthèse de 15 nouvelles paires d'analogues C/Si (composés carbonés et composés mono- ou disiliciés-substitués), dérivant de la structure de la nifédipine, est décrite. Une étude comparative de leurs propriétés physico-chimiques et pharmacologiques, y inclus quelques autres paires d'analogues C/Si à structure semblable, a été effectuée. La chromatographie en couche mince à phases inversées a montré que les composés siliciés sont plus lipophiles que les composés carbonés correspondants. En ce qui concerne leurs propriétés spasmolytiques *in vitro*, les composés siliciés sont caractérisés par des relations structure-activité semblables à celles des analogues carbonés. Au contraire, la comparaison *in vivo* (activité cardiovasculaire et antihypertensive) a mis en évidence, dans quelques cas, des effets pharmacologiques de substitution C/Si très prononcés.

Zusammenfassung. — 15 neue C/Si-Analogenpaare (C-Verbindungen und sila- bzw. disila-substituierte Derivate), die sich strukturell vom Nifedipin ableiten, wurden synthetisiert. Diese und einige weitere C/Si-Paare wurden hinsichtlich ihrer physikochemischen und pharmakologischen Eigenschaften vergleichend untersucht. Mittels reversed-phase-Dünnschichtchromatographie wurde gezeigt, daß die Sila- bzw. Disila-Analoga lipophiler sind als die entsprechenden C-Verbindungen. Bezüglich der spasmolytischen *in vitro*-Aktivitäten zeigen die Si-Verbindungen in erster Näherung ähnliche Struktur-Wirkungs-Beziehungen wie ihre Carba-Analoga. Dagegen konnten hinsichtlich der *in vivo*-Effekte (cardiovasculäre und antihypertensive Aktivität) in einigen Fällen große Unterschiede nachgewiesen werden.

Key-words: Sila-substitution of drugs. — Nifedipine-like C/Si pairs. — Spasmolytic, antihypertensive and cardiovascular activity. — Structure-activity relationships. — Lipophilicity. — R_M -values.

INTRODUCTION

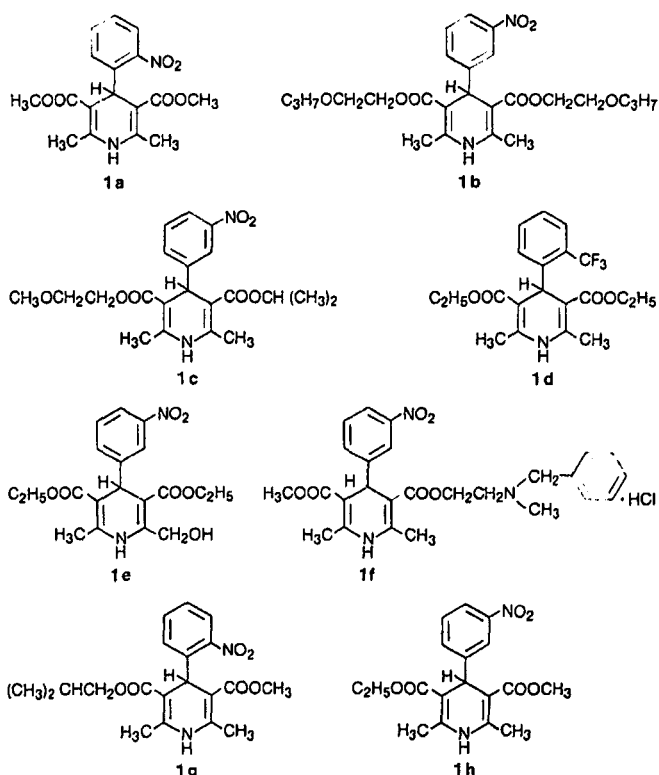
In recent years several highly potent dialkyl 4-aryl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylates have become known, which inhibit the contractility of vascular smooth muscle. Compounds **1a** (nifedipine, BAY a 1040) (2-12), **1b** (niludipine, BAY a 7168) (11, 13), **1c** (nimodipine, BAY e 9736) (14-16), **1d** (SKF 24260) (17, 18), **1e** (FR 7534) (19), **1f** (nicardipine, YC 93) (20), **1g** (nisoldipine, BAY k 5552) (21), and **1h** (nitrendipine, BAY e 5009) (22) are particularly active examples of this substance class. Nifedipine is already used in the treatment of ischemic heart disease.

Pharmacological investigations of a number of dialkyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-aryl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylates

(*) Some results have been described previously: R. Tacke, A. Bentlage, R. Towart, and W. Vater, D.O.S. 2 837 477 (13.3.1980); Habilitationsschrift R. Tacke, Technische Universität Braunschweig 1980; Dissertation A. Bentlage, Technische Universität Braunschweig 1981.

(**) Author to whom correspondence should be addressed.

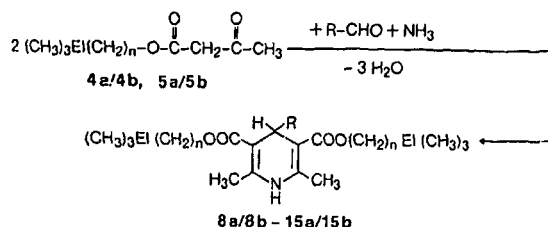
(***) Present address: Miles Laboratories Ltd., Stoke Court, Slough SL2 4LY, Bucks, U.K.



have shown that the alkyl ester groups in the 3,5-positions of the 1,4-dihydropyridine ring influence the pharmacodynamic and pharmacokinetic properties of these compounds substantially (22, 23). In the course of our work on « sila-pharmaca », it was felt to be of interest to investigate the physicochemical and pharmacological effects of sila-substitution in the alkyl ester groups of nifedipine-like 1,4-dihydropyridines. In two preceding communications (1, 24) we have reported the synthesis and properties of the compounds 13a/13b/13c and 14a/14b. The present work describes the synthesis of the 1,4-dihydropyridine derivatives 8a/8b - 12a/12b and 15a/15b - 24a/24b (15 new C/Si-pairs) as well as the lipophilic properties and some pharmacological effects of 8a/8b - 24a/24b and 13c. Compounds 18a and 18b are closely structurally related to nisoldipine (1g), and moreover can be regarded as respectively *t*-butyl- and (trimethylsilyl)-substituted derivatives of nifedipine (1a). A very pronounced structural similarity also exists between the pair 22a/22b and nimodipine (1c).

CHEMISTRY

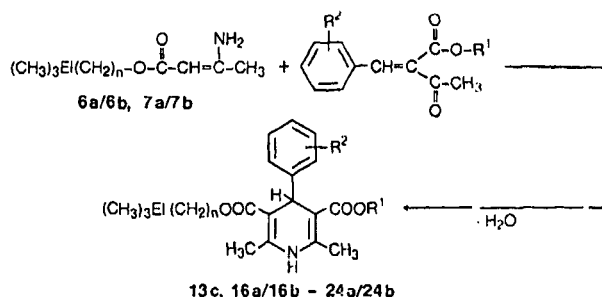
The synthesis of the symmetrically 3,5-substituted 1,4-dihydropyridine derivatives 8a/8b - 12a/12b and 15a/15b was achieved analogously to the preparation of 13a/13b and 14a/14b (cf. lit. (24)) by the reaction of an aldehyde R-CHO with the twofold molar amount of the appropriate alkyl acetoacetate 4a, 4b, 5a, and 5b, respectively, and an excess of ammonia.



| | El | n | R | | El | n | R |
|-----|----|---|------------------------------------|-----|----|---|--|
| 8a | C | 1 | C ₆ H ₅ | 12a | C | 1 | 2-pyridyl |
| 8b | Si | 1 | C ₆ H ₅ | 12b | Si | 1 | 2-pyridyl |
| 9a | C | 1 | 3-Cl-C ₆ H ₄ | 13a | C | 1 | 3-NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄ |
| 9b | Si | 1 | 3-Cl-C ₆ H ₄ | 13b | Si | 1 | 3-NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄ |
| 10a | C | 1 | 2-Cl-C ₆ H ₄ | 14a | C | 1 | 2-NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄ |
| 10b | Si | 1 | 2-Cl-C ₆ H ₄ | 14b | Si | 1 | 2-NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄ |
| 11a | C | 1 | 3-pyridyl | 15a | C | 2 | 3-NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄ |
| 11b | Si | 1 | 3-pyridyl | 15b | Si | 2 | 3-NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄ |

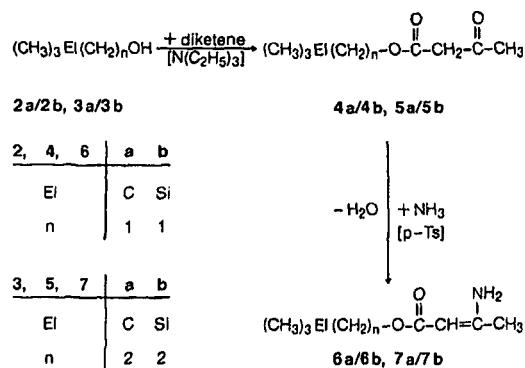
The 3,5-unsymmetrically substituted 1,4-dihydropyridine derivatives 16a/16b - 24a/24b were synthesized analogously to 13c (cf. lit. (1) and lit. (25)) by the reaction of the appropriate alkyl β-aminocrotonates 6a, 6b, 7a, and 7b, respectively, with a 2-alkylidene-acetoacetate of the type R²C₆H₄-CH=C(COCH₃)COOR¹.

The starting materials 4a, 4b, 5a, and 5b were prepared in accordance with known methods by the addition of diketene to the appropriate alcohols 2a, 2b, 3a and 3b, respectively, in the presence of a small quantity triethylamine. By further reaction with ammonia under catalysis



| | El | n | R ¹ | R ² | | El | n | R ¹ | R ² |
|-----|----|---|--|-------------------|-----|----|---|--|-------------------|
| 13c | Si | 1 | CH ₂ C(CH ₃) ₃ | 3-NO ₂ | 20b | Si | 1 | CH(CH ₃) ₂ | 3-NO ₂ |
| 16a | C | 1 | CH ₃ | 4-NO ₂ | 21a | C | 1 | CH ₂ -C-CH | 3-NO ₂ |
| 16b | Si | 1 | CH ₃ | 4-NO ₂ | 21b | Si | 1 | CH ₂ -C-CH | 3-NO ₂ |
| 17a | C | 1 | CH ₃ | 3-NO ₂ | 22a | C | 1 | CH ₂ CH ₂ OCH ₃ | 3-NO ₂ |
| 17b | Si | 1 | CH ₃ | 3-NO ₂ | 22b | Si | 1 | CH ₂ CH ₂ OCH ₃ | 3-NO ₂ |
| 18a | C | 1 | CH ₃ | 2-NO ₂ | 23a | C | 2 | CH ₃ | 3-NO ₂ |
| 18b | Si | 1 | CH ₃ | 2-NO ₂ | 23b | Si | 2 | CH ₃ | 3-NO ₂ |
| 19a | C | 1 | C ₂ H ₅ | 3-NO ₂ | 24a | C | 1 | C ₂ H ₅ | 2-Cl |
| 19b | Si | 1 | C ₂ H ₅ | 3-NO ₂ | 24b | Si | 1 | C ₂ H ₅ | 2-Cl |
| 20a | C | 1 | CH(CH ₃) ₂ | 3-NO ₂ | | | | | |

of *p*-toluene sulfonic acid the alkyl β-aminocrotonates 6a, 6b, 7a and 7b respectively, may be synthesized, of which 6a and 6b have been previously described by us (24).



The structures of the new 1,4-dihydropyridines 8a/8b - 12a/12b and 15a/15b - 24a/24b were confirmed by analyses (Table 1 and 2, respectively) and spectroscopic measurements (¹H NMR and mass spectroscopy). In all cases the molecular ions M⁺ could be established in the mass spectra. The ¹H NMR spectra are relatively simple and reflect well the various structural elements of the compounds. The NMR data of 3 C/Si-pairs are listed in Table 3 as typical examples.

LIPOPHILIC PARAMETERS

Lipophilic parameters are of particular importance in the investigation of quantitative structure-activity relationships of nifedipine analogues (26). The lipophilicity of the compounds 8a/8b - 24a/24b and 13c (Table 4) was measured, because substituent constants for a sila-substitution are not known. Instead of the laborious measurement of octanol/water partition coefficients (log P) we measured the R_M-

TABLE I. — *Dialkyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-aryl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylates 8a/8b - 12a/12b and 15a/15b*

| No | Compound | Formula ^a (mol mass) | Yield ^b [%] | M.p. ^c [°C] | Analyses (calcd./found) [%] | | | |
|-----|--|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| | | | | | C | H | N | Si |
| 8a | Dineopentyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-phenyl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₇ H ₃₅ N ₂ O ₆ (413.6) | 48 (A) | 149 (A) | 72.61 72.2 | 8.53 8.6 | 3.39 3.5 | |
| 8b | Bis(trimethylsilyl-methyl) 2,6-dimethyl-4-phenyl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₃₃ H ₅₂ N ₂ O ₆ Si ₂ (445.7) | 46 (A) | 123 (A) | 81.98 82.1 | 7.91 8.0 | 3.14 3.2 | 12.60 12.5 |
| 9a | Dineopentyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-chlorophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₈ H ₂₉ ClN ₂ O ₆ (448.0) | 47 (A) | 189 (A) | 67.03 66.8 | 7.65 7.6 | 3.13 3.1 | |
| 9b | Bis(trimethylsilyl-methyl) 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-chlorophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₃₃ H ₅₁ ClN ₂ O ₆ Si ₂ (480.1) | 47 (A) | 129 (A) | 57.53 57.5 | 7.14 7.2 | 2.92 3.0 | 11.70 11.9 |
| 10a | Dineopentyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(2-chlorophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₈ H ₂₉ ClN ₂ O ₆ (448.0) | 62 (A) | 187 (A) | 67.03 66.8 | 7.65 7.7 | 3.13 3.2 | |
| 10b | Bis(trimethylsilyl-methyl) 2,6-dimethyl-4-(2-chlorophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₃₃ H ₅₁ ClN ₂ O ₆ Si ₂ (480.1) | 48 (A) | 129 (A) | 57.53 57.5 | 7.14 7.2 | 2.92 3.0 | 11.70 11.6 |
| 11a | Dineopentyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-pyridyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₈ H ₂₉ N ₃ O ₆ (414.5) | 68 (B) | 172 (B) | 69.54 69.5 | 8.27 8.2 | 6.76 6.7 | |
| 11b | Bis(trimethylsilyl-methyl) 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-pyridyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₃₂ H ₅₄ N ₃ O ₆ Si ₂ (446.7) | 88 (B) | 162 (B) | 59.16 59.1 | 7.67 7.7 | 6.27 6.2 | 12.57 12.7 |
| 12a | Dineopentyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(2-pyridyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₈ H ₂₉ N ₃ O ₆ (414.5) | 41 (B) | 223 ^d (B) | 69.54 69.4 | 8.27 8.3 | 6.76 6.5 | |
| 12b | Bis(trimethylsilyl-methyl) 2,6-dimethyl-4-(2-pyridyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₃₂ H ₅₄ N ₃ O ₆ Si ₂ (446.7) | 60 (C) | 205 (C) | 59.16 59.0 | 7.67 7.6 | 6.27 6.3 | 12.57 12.4 |
| 15a | Bis(3,3-dimethyl-butyl) 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₃₇ H ₅₈ N ₂ O ₆ (486.6) | 67 (D) | 120 (D) | 66.64 66.5 | 7.87 7.8 | 5.76 5.8 | |
| 15b | Bis(2-trimethylsilyl-ethyl) 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₃₂ H ₅₄ N ₂ O ₆ Si ₂ (518.8) | 42 (D) | 120 (D) | 57.88 58.1 | 7.38 7.4 | 5.40 5.3 | 10.83 11.0 |

a) The molecular masses of all compounds were established by mass spectroscopy.

b) The yields are related to recrystallized products and have not been optimized in most cases.

c) Average values of several measurements. The recrystallisation solvent is given in parantheses : A ether/petroleum ether, B ethanol/ether/petroleum ether (only a small amount of ethanol as dissolving mediator), C ethanol/methanol, D ether.

d) Decomposition.

TABLE II — *Dialkyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-aryl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylates 16a/16b - 24a/24b*

| No | Compound | Formula ^a (mol mass) | Yield ^b [%] | M.p. ^c [°C] | Analyses (calcd./found) [%] | | | |
|-----|--|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | | | | C | H | N | Si |
| 16a | Methyl neopentyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(4-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₁ H ₂₈ N ₂ O ₆ (402.4) | 70 (A) | 157 (A) | 62.67 62.7 | 6.51 6.7 | 6.96 7.0 | |
| 16b | Methyl trimethylsilyl-methyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(4-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₆ H ₃₈ N ₂ O ₆ Si (418.5) | 58 (A) | 137 (A) | 57.40 56.9 | 6.26 6.3 | 6.69 6.8 | 6.71 6.6 |
| 17a | Methyl neopentyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₁ H ₂₈ N ₂ O ₆ (402.4) | 77 (B) | 136 (B) | 62.67 62.3 | 6.51 6.8 | 6.96 7.0 | |
| 17b | Methyl trimethylsilyl-methyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₆ H ₃₈ N ₂ O ₆ Si (418.5) | 67 (B) | 120 (B) | 57.40 57.4 | 6.26 6.2 | 6.69 6.7 | 6.71 6.9 |
| 18a | Methyl neopentyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(2-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₁ H ₂₈ N ₂ O ₆ (402.4) | 39 (B) | 173 (B) | 62.67 62.5 | 6.51 6.7 | 6.96 6.8 | |
| 18b | Methyl trimethylsilyl-methyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(2-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₆ H ₃₈ N ₂ O ₆ Si (418.5) | 69 (C) | 156 (C) | 57.40 57.2 | 6.26 6.3 | 6.69 6.7 | 6.71 6.8 |
| 19a | Ethyl neopentyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₂ H ₃₀ N ₂ O ₆ (416.5) | 92 (D) | 138 (D) | 63.45 63.4 | 6.78 6.8 | 6.73 6.7 | |
| 19b | Ethyl trimethylsilyl-methyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₇ H ₄₀ N ₂ O ₆ Si (432.5) | 55 (D) | 115 (D) | 58.31 58.1 | 6.52 6.5 | 6.48 6.6 | 6.49 6.2 |
| 20a | Isopropyl neopentyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₃ H ₃₀ N ₂ O ₆ (430.5) | 87 (B) | 153 (B) | 64.17 64.3 | 7.02 7.0 | 6.51 6.4 | |
| 20b | Isopropyl trimethylsilyl-methyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₇ H ₃₈ N ₂ O ₆ Si (446.6) | 85 (C) | 121 (C) | 59.17 59.2 | 6.77 6.7 | 6.27 6.3 | 6.29 6.2 |
| 21a | Propin-3-yl neopentyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₃ H ₃₀ N ₂ O ₆ (426.5) | 83 (D) | 147 (D) | 64.78 64.8 | 6.14 6.2 | 6.57 6.3 | |
| 21b | Propin-3-yl trimethylsilyl-methyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₇ H ₃₈ N ₂ O ₆ Si (442.5) | 81 (D) | 148 (D) | 59.71 59.7 | 5.92 6.1 | 6.33 6.5 | 6.35 6.5 |
| 22a | (2-Methoxy-ethyl) neopentyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₄ H ₃₂ N ₂ O ₇ (446.5) | 57 (D) | 124 (D) | 61.87 61.5 | 6.77 6.7 | 6.27 6.4 | |
| 22b | (2-Methoxy-ethyl) trimethylsilyl-methyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₈ H ₄₀ N ₂ O ₇ Si (462.6) | 83 (A) | 92 (A) | 57.12 57.2 | 6.54 6.6 | 6.06 5.9 | 6.07 5.9 |
| 23a | Methyl (3,3-dimethyl-butyl) 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₄ H ₃₄ N ₂ O ₆ (416.5) | 75 (D) | 97-100 ^d (D) | 63.45 63.3 | 6.78 6.8 | 6.73 6.9 | |
| 23b | Methyl (2-trimethylsilyl-ethyl) 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₇ H ₃₈ N ₂ O ₆ Si (432.5) | 69 (D) | 125 (D) | 58.31 58.0 | 6.52 6.5 | 6.48 6.7 | |
| 24a | Ethyl neopentyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(2-chlorophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₂ H ₂₉ ClN ₂ O ₆ (405.9) | 40 (B) | 176-179 ^d (B) | 65.10 64.8 | 8.95 7.0 | 3.45 3.5 | |
| 24b | Ethyl trimethylsilyl-methyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(2-chlorophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate | C ₂₇ H ₃₇ ClN ₂ O ₆ Si (422.0) | 25 (B) | 119-130 ^d (B) | 59.77 59.8 | 6.69 6.7 | 3.32 3.3 | |

a) The molecular masses of all compounds were established by mass spectroscopy.

b) The yields are related to recrystallized products and have not been optimized in most cases.

c) Average values of several measurements. The recrystallisation solvent is given in parantheses : A methanol, B ethanol/ether/petroleum ether (only a small amount of ethanol as dissolving mediator), C ethanol/ether, D ethanol (96%).

d) The measurements were performed with a Kofler melting point apparatus.

values (see experimental section). The R_M -values of the sila-compounds were then correlated with those of the corresponding C-compounds, resulting in a significant correlation for the exchange of *one* carbon atom by *one* silicon atom [equation (1), Fig. 1] as well as for the replacement of *two* carbon atoms by *two* silicon atoms [equation (2), Fig. 2].

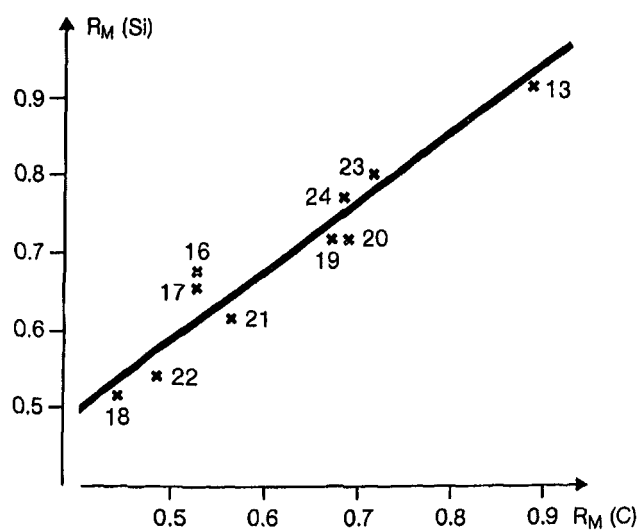
$$R_M(\text{Si}) = 0.128 (\pm 0.048) + 0.917 (\pm 0.076) R_M(\text{C}) \quad (1)$$

$n = 10, F = 143.98, P < 0.0001, T = 11.99, r^2 = 0.95$

$$R_M(2 \text{ Si}) = 0.091 (\pm 0.054) + 1.060 (\pm 0.064) R_M(\text{C}) \quad (2)$$

$n = 8, F = 278.68, P < 0.0001, T = 16.69, r^2 = 0.98$

The validity of the regression was confirmed by the following statistical criteria : standard deviation (given in brackets), F-test value (F), level of significance (P), T-test value (T), and squared correlation coefficient (r^2).



Equation (1):

$$R_M(\text{Si}) = 0.128 (\pm 0.048) + 0.917 (\pm 0.076) R_M(\text{C})$$

$n = 10, F = 143.98, P < 0.0001, T = 11.99, r^2 = 0.95$

FIG. 1. — Plot of equation (1) showing the linear dependence of $R_M(\text{Si})$ and $R_M(\text{C})$.

TABLE III — ^1H NMR spectroscopic data ^{a)} of 8a/8b, 18a/18b, and 22a/22b.

| No. | Si-CH ₃ | C-CH ₃ | >C-C-CH ₃ | O-CH ₃ | O-CH ₂ -Si | O-CH ₂ -C | C(4)-H | N-H ^{b)} | aromat. H |
|-----|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|---|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 8a | — | 0.94 s, 18 H | 2.35 s, 6 H | — | — | 3.72 3.83 AB quartet, 4 H J = 11 Hz | 5.14 s, 1 H | 8.0 s, 1 H | 7.0-7.4 m, 5 H |
| 8b | 0.05 s, 18 H | — | 2.35 s, 6 H | — | 3.76 s, 4 H | — | 5.07 s, 1 H | 8.0 s, 1 H | 7.0-7.4 m, 5 H |
| 18a | — | 0.91 s, 9 H | 2.29 2.33 s, 3 H s, 3 H | 3.59 s, 3 H | — | 3.82 s, 2 H | 5.77 s, 1 H | 6.0 s, 1 H | 7.1-7.8 m, 4 H |
| 18b | 0.05 s, 9 H | — | 2.29 2.33 s, 3 H s, 3 H | 3.57 s, 3 H | 3.79 s, 2 H | — | 5.75 s, 1 H | 6.1 s, 1 H | 7.1-7.8 m, 4 H |
| 22a | — | 0.88 s, 9 H | 2.34 2.42 s, 3 H s, 3 H | 3.38 s, 3 H | — | c) d) | 5.19 s, 1 H | 6.0 s, 1 H | 7.3-8.2 m, 4 H |
| 22b | 0.03 s, 9 H | — | 2.33 2.39 s, 3 H s, 3 H | 3.36 s, 3 H | 3.70 s, 2 H | e) | 5.14 s, 1 H | 6.2 s, 1 H | 7.3-8.2 m, 4 H |

^{a)} Solvent CDCl_3 , internal standard CHCl_3 (δ 7.27 ppm). Chemical shifts are presented in δ units (ppm), followed by the respective multiplicities and relative intensities.

^{b)} Broadened resonance signal.

^{c)} OCH_2C : Singlet (1. approximation) at 3.73 (2 H). It is probable that this is an AB-system, whose analysis is complicated by an overlapping with the $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ -resonance.

^{d)} $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O}$: AA'BB'-system, centres of the multiplets at 3.58 (2 H) and 4.19 (2 H).

^{e)} $\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O}$: AA'BB'-system, centres of the multiplets at 3.60 (2 H) and 4.20 (2 H).

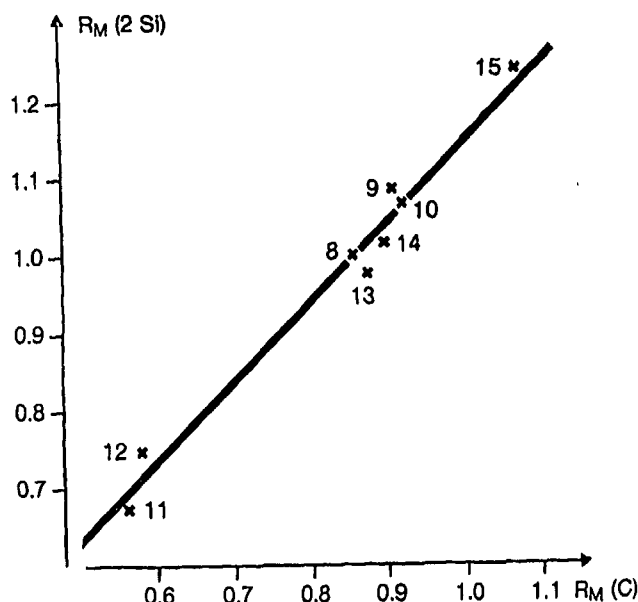
TABLE IV. — R_M -values ^{a)} of 8a/8b - 13a/13b, 13c, and 14a/14b - 24a/24b.

| Compound No. | R_M measured | R_M calculated | difference | Compound No. | R_M measured | R_M calculated | difference |
|--------------|----------------|------------------|------------|--------------|----------------|------------------|------------|
| 8a | 0.86 | | | 16b | 0.67 | 0.62 | -0.05 |
| 8b | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.0 | 17a | 0.54 | | |
| 9a | 0.91 | | | 17b | 0.66 | 0.62 | -0.04 |
| 9b | 1.08 | 1.06 | -0.02 | 18a | 0.44 | | |
| 10a | 0.92 | | | 18b | 0.52 | 0.53 | 0.01 |
| 10b | 1.07 | 1.07 | 0.0 | 19a | 0.67 | | |
| 11a | 0.57 | | | 19b | 0.73 | 0.76 | 0.03 |
| 11b | 0.68 | 0.7 | 0.02 | 20a | 0.69 | | |
| 12a | 0.59 | | | 20b | 0.73 | 0.74 | 0.01 |
| 12b | 0.75 | 0.72 | -0.03 | 21a | 0.56 | | |
| 13a | 0.88 | | | 21b | 0.62 | 0.64 | 0.02 |
| 13b | 0.99 | 1.02 | 0.03 | 22a | 0.49 | | |
| 13c | 0.93 | 0.93 | 0.0 | 22b | 0.54 | 0.58 | 0.04 |
| 14a | 0.80 | | | 23a | 0.71 | | |
| 14b | 1.01 | 1.05 | 0.04 | 23b | 0.8 | 0.78 | -0.02 |
| 15a | 1.07 | | | 24a | 0.69 | | |
| 15b | 1.25 | 1.23 | -0.03 | 24b | 0.77 | 0.76 | -0.01 |
| 16a | 0.54 | | | | | | |

^{a)} R_M measured: calculated by means of the experimental R_F -values and the formula $R_M = \log [1/R_F - 1]$;

R_M calculated: calculated by means of equation (1) and equation (2), respectively.

From equations (1) and (2), it can be concluded that the Si-compounds are more lipophilic than the analogous C-compounds. These results are at first surprising, as one would expect an increase in polarity (and thus a reduced lipophilicity) by sila-substitution, owing to the different electronegativities of carbon and silicon (Allred-Rochow: $\chi_C = 2.50$, $\chi_{Si} = 1.74$). However, these apparently contradictory results may be explained by the fact that the $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{SiCH}_2$ group has a greater space filling effect than the corresponding $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{CCH}_2$ unit, and thus presents a greater lipophilic surface area. The sila-analogues described



Equation (2):

$$R_M(2\text{Si}) = 0.091 (\pm 0.054) + 1.060 (\pm 0.064) R_M(\text{C})$$

$$n=8 \quad F=278.68 \quad P < 0.0001 \quad T=16.69 \quad r^2 = 0.98$$

Fig. 2. — Plot of equation (2) showing the linear dependence of $R_M(2\text{Si})$ and $R_M(\text{C})$.

here are therefore capable of stronger interactions with the lipid phase.

Similar results have been reported by Woo *et al.* for some sila-substituted barbiturates (27).

From the R_M -values of the C/Si pairs shown in Table 4, a mean increase in lipophilicity $\Delta R_M = 0.07$ for the replacement of one carbon atom by one silicon atom can be calculated. At present additional experiments are under way to see how far this fragment constant described above may be applicable to compounds of other chemical structures.

PHARMACOLOGY

The spasmolytic properties of 8a/8b - 24a/24b and 13c were investigated *in vitro* on the Ba^{++} -stimulated isolated guinea pig ileum. *In vivo* selected compounds were tested with respect to their cardiovascular effects (increase in the coronary sinus oxygen content in the dog after i.v. administration), and to their antihypertensive activity (reduction in the blood pressure on the renal-hypertensive rat after p.o. administration). The results of these pharmacological investigations are given in Table 5.

Discussion of the structure-activity relationships.

The qualitative structure-activity relationships, which derive from the screening data given in Table 5, confirm the results of previous studies carried out in the field of dialkyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-aryl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylates (compare for example lit. (22) and lit. (23)). QSAR-analyses were performed by the use of multiple regression

TABLE V. — Pharmacological properties ^{a, b)} of 8a/8b - 13a/13b, 13c, 14a/14b - 24a/24b, and nifedipine

| Compound No. | Spasmolytic effect ^{c)} (guinea pig. <i>in vitro</i>) ID ₅₀ [mol/l] | Cardiovascular effect ^{d)} (anaesthetized dog, i.v. administration) | Antihypertensive effect ^{e)} (renal-hypertensive rat, p.o. administration) |
|--------------|--|--|---|
| 8a | 5 × 10 ⁻⁷ | + | ----- |
| 8b | 2 × 10 ⁻⁷ | + | ----- |
| 9a | 5 × 10 ⁻⁷ | ++ | ----- |
| 9b | 7 × 10 ⁻⁷ | ++ | ----- |
| 10a | 1 × 10 ⁻⁷ | + | ----- |
| 10b | 7 × 10 ⁻⁸ | ++ | ----- |
| 11a | > 1 × 10 ⁻⁶ | ----- | ----- |
| 11b | > 1 × 10 ⁻⁶ | ----- | ----- |
| 12a | > 1 × 10 ⁻⁶ | + | ----- |
| 12b | > 1 × 10 ⁻⁶ | + | ----- |
| 13a | 8 × 10 ⁻⁹ | ++ | > 100 mg/kg |
| 13b | 2 × 10 ⁻⁸ | + | 100 mg/kg |
| 13c | 6 × 10 ⁻⁹ | +++ | 10 mg/kg |
| 14a | 4 × 10 ⁻⁸ | + | > 100 mg/kg |
| 14b | 6 × 10 ⁻⁸ | ++ | > 100 mg/kg |
| 15a | 5 × 10 ⁻⁷ | + | > 100 mg/kg |
| 15b | 5 × 10 ⁻⁷ | + | > 100 mg/kg |
| 16a | 1 × 10 ⁻⁷ | ++ | ----- |
| 16b | 1 × 10 ⁻⁷ | + | ----- |
| 17a | 2 × 10 ⁻⁹ | ++++ | 1 mg/kg |
| 17b | 1 × 10 ⁻⁸ | +++ | ----- |
| 18a | 2 × 10 ⁻⁹ | ++++ | 1 mg/kg |
| 18b | 3 × 10 ⁻⁸ | ++++ | 1 mg/kg |
| 19a | 3 × 10 ⁻⁹ | ++++ | 3 mg/kg |
| 19b | 4 × 10 ⁻⁹ | ++++ | ----- |
| 20a | 1 × 10 ⁻⁹ | ++++ | ----- |
| 20b | 2 × 10 ⁻⁸ | +++ | ----- |
| 21a | 5 × 10 ⁻⁹ | ++++ | ----- |
| 21b | 8 × 10 ⁻⁹ | ++++ | ----- |
| 22a | 8 × 10 ⁻⁹ | ++++ | ----- |
| 22b | 1 × 10 ⁻⁹ | ++++ | ----- |
| 23a | 5 × 10 ⁻⁸ | ++ | ----- |
| 23b | 5 × 10 ⁻⁸ | ++ | ----- |
| 24a | 5 × 10 ⁻⁸ | ++++ | ----- |
| 24b | 5 × 10 ⁻⁸ | +++ | ----- |
| nifedipine | 1.4 × 10 ⁻⁸ | ++++ | 0.1 mg/kg |

^{a)} Pharmacological screening data. - ^{b)} The values for 13a/13b/13c, 14a/14b and nifedipine are taken from lit. (24). - ^{c)} The activity is defined by the dose (ID₅₀), which leads to 50% inhibition of a Ba⁺⁺-induced contraction of the isolated guinea pig ileum. - ^{d)} The activity is defined by the dose, which leads to an increase of the O₂-saturation in the coronary sinus blood of at least 20% : + > 0.5 mg/kg, ++ ≤ 0.5 mg/kg, +++ ≤ 0.05 mg/kg, ++++ ≤ 0.01 mg/kg. The measurement was performed 1 h after administration. - ^{e)} The activity is defined by the minimum dose which leads to a decrease of the blood pressure of the renal-hypertensive rat of at least 15 mm Hg.

analysis employing steric, electronic and lipophilic parameters, but no significant correlations were observed for the test substances in their entirety. The following trends may, however, be seen for sub-groups : in the series of the symmetrically 3,5-substituted 1,4-dihydropyridines 8a/8b - 15a/15b the 4-(pyridyl) compounds 11a, 11b, 12a and 12b as well as the 4-phenyl derivatives 8a and 8b are all of low activity. Similar potencies were found for the 4-(chlorophenyl) compounds 9a, 9b, 10a and 10b. The introduction of 4-(nitrophenyl) substituents (13a, 13b, 14a and 14b) leads to a significant increase of the *in vitro* activity, which is comparable with that of nifedipine. However, elongation of both alkyl groups in 13a and 13b by a CH₂ group (→ 15a and 15b, resp.) decreases the potency. In contrast

to the similar *in vitro* activity of 13a, 13b, 14a, 14b, and nifedipine, these compounds differ substantially in their *in vivo* effects : nifedipine was found to be ~ 1 - 3 orders of magnitude more potent than its bulkier substituted derivatives 13a, 13b, 14a and 14b.

The asymmetrically 3,5-substituted 1,4-dihydropyridines 16a/16b - 24a/24b and 13c are, *mutatis mutandis*, clearly more potent than the symmetrically substituted compounds. In this series also a decrease of activity was observed when making the alkyl ester groups bulkier (compare 17a and 17b with 23a and 23b, resp.). In the series of the 4-(nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridines 16a, 16b, 17a, 17b, 18a and 18b the 4'-nitro derivatives 16a and 16b are of low activity, whereas the corresponding 2'- und 3'-nitro compounds 17a, 17b, 18a and 18b are of 1 - 2 orders of magnitude more potent and reach the activity of nifedipine (*in vitro* and *in vivo*).

Although the potency of some of the compounds described may approach or even exceed that of nifedipine *in vitro* or *in vivo* after i.v. administration (anaesthetized dog) the activity after p.o. administration (renal hypertensive rat) is in general inferior, probably due to the pharmacokinetics.

From the data given in Table 5 it is obvious that the 1,4-dihydropyridine derivatives 8a - 24a in general exhibit similar qualitative structure-activity relationships (*in vitro*) as their sila-analogues 8b - 24b : the replacement of one or two carbon atoms in the alkyl ester groups by one or two silicon atoms seems not to change the order of magnitude of the spasmolytic activity. The differences found for the pairs 17a/17b, 18a/18b and 20a/20b have to be regarded with reservation (preliminary screening data) and require further investigations. However, in principle small but significant differences between C/Si-analogues are conceivable as shown for the triple 13a/13b/13c (cf. lit. (24)). With respect to the *in vivo* activity, the sila-substitution effects in general may be more pronounced because of a different behaviour of the analogues concerning absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion. For example, careful investigations have shown that the compounds 13a, 13b and 13c in spite of their similar *in vitro* activity differ substantially *in vivo* in their antihypertensive potency (24).

The significantly increased lipophilicity caused by the C/Si-exchange in the alkyl ester groups of the 1,4-dihydropyridines tested here seems to be too small to influence the biological activity in a definite manner : so far no correlations between these physicochemical alterations and the observed pharmacological sila-substitution effects could be found.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

CHEMISTRY

Melting points were determined on a Mettler FPI apparatus. ¹H NMR spectra were obtained with a Bruker HFX-90 spectrometer. Mass spectra were recorded on an AEI-MS-9 instrument at 70 eV.

Neopentyl alcohol 2a and 3, 3-dimethyl-1-butanol 3a were commercially available. (Hydroxymethyl)trimethylsilane 2b and (2-hydroxyethyl)trimethylsilane 3b were prepared according lit. 28 and lit.

(29), respectively. *Neopentyl acetoacetate* 4a and *trimethylsilyl-methyl acetoacetate* 4b were prepared according lit. (24).

3,3-Dimethyl-butyl acetoacetate 5a. 8.41 g (0.1 mol) diketene are added dropwise with stirring to 10.22 g (0.1 mol) 3b and 0.1 mL triethylamine at 90°C, so that the temperature of the reaction mixture remains at 85-95°C without further heating (N₂ atmosphere). The mixture is subsequently stirred for a further 2 h at 90°C and then distilled under vacuum over a Vigreux column. Yield 16.0 g (86 %) of a colourless ¹H-NMR-spectroscopic pure liquid. The product is redistilled for analytical purposes. Bp. 65-69°C/0.9 mm (lit. (30) : bp. 223-225°C/760 mm, 108-110.5 °C/11 mm). — ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) : δ 0.93 (s, 9 H, C-CH₃), 1.56 (m, centre of the AA'-part of an AA'XX'-system, 2 H, C-CH₂-C), 1.94 (« s », $\text{>C} = \text{C-CH}_3$, enol form) and 2.27 (s, CO-CH₃, keto form) with a relative total intensity corresponding to 3 H, 3.43 (s, CO-CH₂-CO, keto form), 4.19 (m, centre of the XX'-part of an AA'XX'-system, 2 H, C-CH₂-O), 4.96 (« s », -CH = C<, enol form), OH-resonance could not be observed. — Mass spectroscopy : m/e (M⁺) = 186. C₁₀H₁₈O₃ (186.3). Calcd. : C 64.49 H 9.74, Found : C 63.9 H 9.6.

2-Trimethylsilyl-ethyl acetoacetate 5b. Analogous to the preparation of 5a by the reaction of 70.95 g (0.6 mol) 3b with 50.44 g (0.6 mol) diketene in the presence of 0.5 mL triethylamine. Yield 94.2 g (77.6 %), bp. 58-61°C/0.3 mm (lit. (31) : bp. 77-80°C/1 mm). — ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) : δ 0.03 (s, 9 H, Si-CH₃), 0.99 (m, centre of the AA'-part of an AA'XX'-system, 2 H, Si-CH₂-C), 1.92 (« s », $\text{>C} = \text{C-CH}_3$, enol form) and 2.24 (s, CO-CH₃, keto form) with a relative total intensity corresponding to 3 H, 3.40 (s, CO-CH₂-CO, keto form), 4.20 (m, centre of the XX'-part of an AA'XX'-system, 2 H, C-CH₂-O), 4.92 (« s », -CH = C<, enol form), OH-resonance could not be observed. — Mass spectroscopy : m/e = 187 (M⁺ - CH₃). C₉H₁₈O₃Si (202.3). Calcd. : C 53.43 H 8.97, Found : C 53.6 H 8.9.

Neopentyl β-aminocrotonate 6a and *trimethylsilyl-methyl β-aminocrotonate* 6b were prepared according lit. (24).

3,3-Dimethyl-butyl β-aminocrotonate 7a. Ammonia is introduced at a water separator to a solution of 23.28 g (0.125 mol) 5a and 0.4 g of *p*-toluene sulfonic acid in 200 mL toluene at the boiling temperature until no further water is excreted. The reaction mixture is washed with a dilute aqueous solution of Na₂CO₃ and then with water, and subsequently dried over Na₂SO₄, and the toluene distilled off at 20 mm. The residue is fractionally distilled under vacuum. Yield 19.1 g (82 %) of a colourless ¹H-NMR-spectroscopic pure product, which crystallizes in the distillation apparatus. The product is redistilled for analytical purposes. Bp. 92°C/1 mm, mp. 62°C. — ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) : δ 0.91 (s, 9 H, C-CH₃), 1.56 (m, centre of the AA'-part of an AA'XX'-system, 2 H, C-CH₂-C), 1.86 (« s », 3 H, $\text{>C} = \text{C-CH}_3$), 4.10 (m, centre of the XX'-part of an AA'XX'-system, 2 H, C-CH₂-O), 4.50 (« s », 1 H, -CH = C<), NH₂-resonance could not be observed. — Mass spectroscopy : m/e (M⁺) = 185. C₁₀H₁₉NO₂ (185.3). Calcd. : 64.83 H 10.34 N 7.56, Found : 64.7 H 10.3 N 7.6.

2-Trimethylsilyl-ethyl β-aminocrotonate 7b. Analogous to the preparation of 7a by the reaction of 80.93 g (0.4 mol) 5b with ammonia in 300 mL toluene under catalysis of 0.5 g of *p*-toluene sulfonic acid. Yield 58.3 g (72.4 %), bp. 86°C/0.01 mm, mp. 68°C. — ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) : δ 0.03 (s, 9 H, Si-CH₃), 0.97 (m, centre of the AA'-part of an AA'XX'-system, 2 H, Si-CH₂-C), 1.90 (« s », 3 H, $\text{>C} = \text{C-CH}_3$), 4.15 (m, centre of the XX'-part of an AA'XX'-system, 2 H, C-CH₂-O), 4.50 (« s », 1 H, -CH = C<), NH₂-resonance could not be observed. — Mass spectroscopy : m/e (M⁺) = 201. C₉H₁₉NO₂Si (201.3). Calcd. : C 53.69 H 9.51 N 6.96, Found : C 53.7 H 9.5 N 6.9.

Dialkyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-aryl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylates 8a/8b - 12a/12b and 15a/15b : 60 mmol alkyl acetoacetate (4a, 4b, 5a, and 5b, resp.), 30 mmol of the corresponding aldehyde R-CHO, and 3.3 mL concentrated ammonia, dissolved in 20 mL of ethanol (96 %), are heated to reflux for 20 hours. After cooling and (if necessary) concentrating the solution, the crystallized product is filtered off, recrystallized from the indicated solvent (Table 1), and dried *in vacuo* (yields, physical data and analytical data are given in Table 1).

Dineopentyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate 13a, *bis(trimethylsilyl-methyl) 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate* 13b, *dineopentyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(2-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate* 14a and *bis(trimethylsilyl-methyl) 2,6-dimethyl-4-(2-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate* 14b were prepared according to lit. (24).

Neopentyl trimethylsilyl-methyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate 13c was prepared according to lit. (1).

Dialkyl 2,6-dimethyl-4-aryl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylates 16a 16b - 24a/24b : A solution of 30 mmol alkyl β-aminocrotonate (6a, 6b, 7a and 7b, resp.) and 30 mmol of the corresponding 2-aralkylidene-acetoacetate R²C₀H₄-CH=C(COCH₃)COOR¹ in 20 mL of ethanol (96 %) is heated to reflux for 20 hours. After cooling and (if necessary) concentrating the solution, the product crystallized (in some cases it is necessary to remove the ethanol completely and to substitute it by the recrystallization solvent, which is described in Table 2). The solid product is filtered off, recrystallized from the indicated solvent (Table 2), and dried *in vacuo* (yields, physical data, and analytical data are given in Table 2).

MEASUREMENT OF LIPOPHILICITY

The relative lipophilicity of the substances was measured by reversed-phase thin-layer chromatography according to the methods described in lit. (32-35). Silanized silica gel plates [E. Merck, Darmstadt, F.R.G., 5747 (60 F₂₅₄)] represented the stationary phase. The polar mobile phase consisted of a dioxane-acetone-water mixture (1 : 2 : 2). All compounds were dissolved in a mixture of methanol-chloroform (1 : 1). 2-3 μl of each solution were applied as a circular spot on the plate by a micropipette. The test substances and two control substances were run from the starting line for about 1 hour at constant temperature (23 ± 0.5°C). After drying the plates, all test spots were detected by UV light at 254 nm. The experiments were repeated eight times. The R_M-values were calculated by means of the experimental R_F-values and the formula R_M = log [(1/R_F) - 1]. Higher R_M-values indicate compounds to be more lipophilic than those of lower R_M-values.

PHARMACOLOGY

8a/8b - 24a/24b and 13c were investigated with respect to the following pharmacological properties :

- 1) Spasmolytic effect on the Ba⁺⁺-stimulated isolated guinea pig ileum (according to the method described in lit. (21)).
- 2) Variation of the coronary sinus oxygen content in the anaesthetized dog after i.v. administration (according to the method described in lit. (21)).
- 3) Antihypertensive effect on the renal-hypertensive rat after p.o. administration (according to the method described in lit. (21)).

The *in vitro* pharmacological investigations were carried out under the light of a sodium vapour lamp.

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