# The role of polysubstituted heterocycles in the synthesis of bi- and polycyclic heterocycles\*

## **B. STANOVNIK**

Department of Chemistry, E. Kardelj University of Ljubljana, 61000 Ljubljana

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This review presents the syntheses and some transformations of the s-triazolo[1,5-x]azines, 2-methyl-s-triazolo[1,5-x]azines, s-triazolo[1,5-x]azine 3-oxides, N-heteroarylcyanoamines and N-heteroaryl-N-methylcyanoamines, azino-pyrimidines and -pyrimidine 3-oxides including purines and pteridines, substituted 2-aminooxazolo-azines, pyrazolo[3,4-c]pyridazines and O-, S-, and/or N-methylation with N,N-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal.

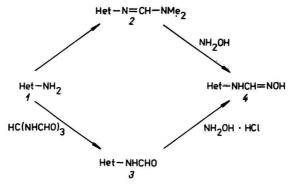
В обзоре приведены синтезы и некоторые превращения s-триазоло-[1,5-x]азинов, 2-метил-s-триазоло[1,5-x]азинов, s-триазоло[1,5-x]азинов, N-гетероарилцианоаминов и N-гетероарил-N-метилцианоаминов, азино-пиримидинов и азино-пиримидин-3-оксидов, включая пурины и птеридины, замещенные 2-аминооксазоло-азины, пиразоло[3,4-c]пиридазины и O-, S- или N-метилирование диметилацеталем N,N-диметилформамида.

N-Heteroarylformamidines, N-heteroarylacetamidines, N-heteroarylformamide oximes, and N-heteroarylacetamide oximes are versatile intermediates for the preparation of various heterocyclic systems, especially when the corresponding amide, formamide oxime or acetamide oxime group is attached either at  $\alpha$ -position to ring nitrogen atom, or in *ortho* position to amino, cyano or hydroxy group.

## N-Heteroarylformamide oximes and N-heteroarylacetamide oximes

N-Heteroarylformamide oximes 4 (Scheme 1) can be prepared either from the corresponding heterocyclic amines 1 and N,N-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal followed by treatment with hydroxylamine, or, in some instances, from the formylamino heterocycles 3 with hydroxylamine [1]. The latter method, which presents an alternative method for the preparation of N-heteroarylformamide

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#### Scheme 1

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Het = 2-pyridyl
                                               k
                                                       6-chloropyrazin-2-yl
         5-nitropyrid-2-yl
b
                                               l
                                                       4,6-bismorpholino-1,3,5-triazin-2-yl
         4-pyridyl
C
                                                       1-chloropyrido[2,3-d]pyridazin-4-yl
                                               m
d
         3-pyridazinyl
                                                       4-chloropyrido[2,3-d]pyridazin-1-yl
                                               n
         6-chloropyridazin-3-yl
                                                       2,4-dihydroxypyrimid-5-yl
e
                                               0
         4,5-dimethyl-6-chloropyridazin-3-yl
f
                                                       2,6-dimethylpyrimid-4-yl
                                               p
g
         2-pyrimidinyl
                                                     · 4-dimethylamino-6-chloro-1,3,5-triazin-2-yl
h
         4,6-dimethylpyrimidinyl
                                                        4-ethylthio-6-methylamino-1,3,5-triazin-2-vl
                                               S
        2-pyrazinyl
                                                       4,6-bis(ethylthio)-1,3,5-triazin-2-yl
                                               t
        5-chloropyrazin-2-yl
                                                       4,6-dimethoxy-1,3,5-triazin-2-yl
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oximes, as compared to the previously described method [2, 3], is limited only to 2-formylaminopyrimidines and formylamino-1,3,5-triazines, in which the amino group is a part of the guanidine structural element [1]. Since the nucleophilic character of an amino group attached to the heterocyclic ring is strongly decreased (many formylating agents reported in the literature [4, 5] such as formic acid, formates, formamides, mixed anhydrides and others, frequently afford the formylated compounds in low yields, and in the case of 1,3,5-triazines the reaction completely fails [6]), more powerful formylating agents have been introduced [7]. We found that trisformamidomethane, previously used for the synthesis of various heterocyclic systems as the reagent for introducing of one carbon unit into a heterocyclic ring [7, 8], is the most useful formylating agent affording the corresponding formylamino derivatives in pyrimidine and s-triazine series, even with the least reactive heterocyclic amines, in yields up to 95% [1].

In an analogous manner N-heteroarylacetamide oximes were obtained from the corresponding heterocyclic amines and N,N-dimethylacetamide dimethyl acetal and subsequent treatment of acetamidine derivative with hydroxylamine [9].

The structure and the free energies of rotational barriers,  $\Delta G$ , about = CH—NMe<sub>2</sub> bond in N'-heteroaryl-N,N-dimethylformamidines 2 and N'-heteroaryl-N,N-dimethylacetamidines 5 (R=CH<sub>3</sub>) (Scheme 2) have been

Scheme 2

found to be in the range  $54.4-90.4 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  [10, 11], and the structures of N-heteroarylformamide oximes 4 were determined by comparison of the coupling constants of N-heteroarylformamide oximes-<sup>14</sup>N and -<sup>15</sup>N labelled compounds [12].

# s-Triazolo[1,5-x]azines and s-triazolo[1,5-x]azine 3-oxides

s-Triazolo[1,5-x]azines (8) can be prepared by the following methods: by a Dimroth rearrangement of s-triazolo[4,3-x]azines, especially in pyrimidine and s-triazine series [13], by the reaction of 3-amino-s-triazole with 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds or  $\beta$ -keto esters [14], oxidative cyclization of N-heteroarylamidines [15—17], cyclization of N-aminoazinium salts, prepared from heterocyclic amines and O-mesitylenesulfonylhydroxylamine with formic acid, acetic anhydride, benzoyl chloride, etc. [18—21]. Cyclodehydration of N-heteroarylformamide oximes 6 (R=H) in polyphosphoric acid appeared to be a general one [2, 3]. By this method various, at position 2 unsubstituted, fused s-triazolo[1,5-x] systems were prepared (Scheme 3): s-triazolo[1,5-a]pyridine (15), s-triazolo[1,5-b]pyridazine (16), s-triazolo[1,5-a]pyrazine (17), s-triazolo[1,5-a]-1,3,5-triazine (18), pyrido-[3,2-d]-s-triazolo[1,5-b]pyridazine (19), isomeric pyrido[2,3-d]-s-triazolo[1,5-b]

Scheme 3

-b]pyridazine (20), s-triazolo[4,3-b]-s-triazolo[5',1'-f]pyridazine (21), and bis-s-triazolo[1,5-b: 5',1'-f]pyridazine (22) [3].

In some instances, a Beckmann rearrangement into urea derivatives 12 took place when oximes 6 (R=H) were treated with polyphosphoric acid (e.g. from 2-pyridylformamide oxime N-pyridylurea was obtained [22], by the treatment with lead tetraacetate N-cyanoamino compounds 13 were isolated [23]) whereas hydrolysis into formylamino derivatives 11 was observed [24].

In order to overcome these difficulties, N-heteroarylformamide oximes 6 (R = H) were converted with acetic anhydride into N-heteroaryl-O-acetylformamide oximes 7, which could be cyclized by heating in aqueous solution into s-triazolo[1,5-x]azines [25]. In this way s-triazolo[1,5-x]pyridine, s-triazolo[1,5-x]pyrazine, and s-chloro-s-triazolo[1,5-x]pyridazine were prepared (Scheme 2).

A general route for the preparation of s-triazolo[1,5-x]azine 3-oxides 9 represents the oxidation of N-heteroarylformamide oximes 6 (R = H) with bromine in acetic acid or N-bromosuccinimide in chloroform. The 3-oxides 9 could be deoxygenated by hydrogen in the presence of palladium/carbon as catalyst or with phosphorous trichloride. With acetic anhydride they can be rearranged into the corresponding 2-acetoxy derivatives 10 [24, 26].

N-Heteroarylacetamide oximes 6 ( $R = CH_3$ ) cyclize in the presence of N,N-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal to give 2-methyl-s-triazolo[1,5-x]azines 14. Similar results were obtained also by heating acetamide oximes in polyphosphoric acid or by heating in phosphorous oxychloride in chloroform or chloroform and pyridine [9]. This transformation represents an extension of the previously described "oxime method" [2, 3] (Scheme 2).

In the reaction of N-heteroarylformamide oximes 6 (R=H) with N,N-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal N-heteroaryl-N-methylcyanoamines 13a were obtained as the main products. However, in some instances, cyanoimino derivatives, methylated at ring nitrogen were isolated. For example, N-(pyrimidinyl-2)formamide oxime 4g and its 4,6-dimethyl derivative 4h gave a mixture of the products 23 and 24 (Scheme 3). N,N-Dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal reacts also with activated methyl groups to give the corresponding enamines. For example, N-(5,6-dimethyl-1,2,4-triazin-3-yl)formamide oxime 25 gave 5-[2-(N,N-dimethylamino)ethen-1-yl]-3-(N-methylcyanoamino)-6-methyl-1,2,4-triazine 26.

From 4-aminopyrimidine (27) (Scheme 4) s-triazolo [1,5-c] pyrimidine (30) was obtained by this method. The same bicyclic systems were prepared also from

NHN 
$$27$$
 $28$ 

NHCH = NOH

 $29$ 

NHCH = NOH

 $31$ 

NHNH  $2$ 
 $33$ 

NHN = CHNMe  $2$ 

NHN = CHNMe  $2$ 
 $33$ 
 $30$ 

4-hydrazinopyrimidine (31) which was cyclized either with triethylorthoformate or N,N-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal to give first s-triazolo[4,3-c]pyrimidine (33) followed by a Dimroth rearrangement into s-triazolo[1,5-c]pyrimidine (30) [27]. The intermediate 33 was isolated under mild reaction conditions [28].

## Azinopyrimidines and their 3-oxides

Heterocyclic ortho amino-cyano compounds can be used as starting compounds for the preparation of azino-pyrimidines and their 3-oxides. These can be further converted into 1,2,4-oxadiazolylazines, s-triazolo[1,5-x]azines, pyrazolo[3,4-x]-azines, and some other products.

Usually, amino-cyanoazines 34 (Scheme 5) were transformed with hydroxylamine into the corresponding amide oximes 35, and with triethyl ortho-formate into 4-amino-azino-pyrimidine 3-oxides 37. The latter could be prepared also by treatment of ortho amino-cyanoazines 34 with N,N-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal to give first the corresponding amidines 38. These were transformed with hydroxylamine into 4-amino-azino-pyrimidine 3-oxides (37) directly or through o-(hydroxyimino)methyleneamino-azinocarboxamide oximes 39.

Scheme 5

Carboxamide oximes 39 or 4-(N,N-dimethylaminomethyleneamino)-azino-pyrimidine 3-oxides 40 could be transformed into 2-(hydroxyiminomethyleneamino)-1',2',4'-oxadiazol-3'-yl)azines 41. The latter compound was in pyridine series in polyphosphoric acid transformed into 8-(5'-methyl-1',2',4'-oxadiazol-3'-yl)-s-triazolo[1,5-a]pyridine (42) and 8-cyano-s-triazolo[1,5-a]pyridine (43). Pyrazolo[3,4-x]azines 43a were formed either from 40 or from o-aminoazinecarboxamide oximes 35 [29—31].

These transformations were recently extended also to pyrimido-pyrimidines [32], pyridazino-pyrimidines [33], pteridines and their N-oxides [34].

With these methods some new bi- and polycyclic heterocyclic systems, or new derivatives of old systems by new methods, can be prepared, as is schematically shown in the case of three-substituted pyrimidines as starting compounds [32] (Scheme 6). In some instances, very unusual rearrangements were observed during these transformations. For example, 2-amino-8*H*-pyrimido[4,5-*d*]pyrimid-5-one (44) rearranges by treatment with phosphorous oxychloride into 2-amino-4,6-dichloro-1,3,5-triazine (45) [35] (Scheme 7).

EtOOC 
$$NH_2$$
 $X = 0, S, NH$ 

EtOOC  $NH_2$ 
 $O = C + N + XH$ 
 $O$ 

Scheme 6

Scheme 7

# Azaquinazolines and azino-s-triazines

There are various methods for the synthesis of 1H,3H-quinazolin-2,4-diones described in the literature [36]. In the course of our investigations of substituted heterocyclic amines with heteroacylazides we found that substituted heterocyclic

amides and N,N-disubstituted ureas were formed, in dependence on the reaction conditions and the relative reactivity of both components [37]. However, in ureas 48 (Scheme 8) with a carbethoxy group at ortho position a cyclization occurred to give azolo- and azino-pyrimidines 49 with N-heteroaryl substituted at position 3 in pyrimidine ring. On the other hand, when a carboxamido group was attached at ortho position to amino group, the intermediate urea cyclized into azolo- and 1H,3H-azino-pyrimidin-2,4-diones 52 by elimination of a heterocyclic amine [38]. In this reaction a heterocyclic isocyanate is formed in situ, which reacts with an amino group of a heterocyclic amine. This reaction is therefore similar to that of anthranilic acid derivatives with alkyl or aryl isocyanates in which 3-alkyl or 3-aryl substituted quinazolines are formed [36].

There was found another evidence for the existence of the intermediate heterocyclic isocyanate. Namely, in the reaction of N,N-dimethyl-N'-(pyridazin-3-yl)formamidine, and some of its derivatives, with phenyl isocyanate pyridazino[2,3-a]-[1,3,5]-triazines were obtained [39]. Recently, (2+2) cycloadducts 55 (Scheme 9) were isolated in some instances at room temperature [40]. They decompose at elevated temperatures in two different ways to give either 53 and 54, or 56 and 57. In subsequent (2+4) cycloaddition of heterocyclic isocyanate 56 and phenyl isocyanate 54 3-phenyl-azino-1,3,5-triazine-2,4-diones are formed [40].

Scheme 9

## Substituted 2-aminooxazoloazines

Another application of N-heteroarylformamide oximes is the synthesis of substituted aminooxazoloazines. The reaction of o-aminohydroxy substituted aromatic compounds with cyanogen bromide can be used only for the preparation of 2-aminobenzoxazoles [41], while in heteroaromatic series the intermediate N-cyanoamino derivatives do not cyclize into oxazolo-azines [42]. On the other hand, 2-aminooxazoloazines 59 (Scheme 10) can be easily obtained from o-hydroxy substituted N-heteroarylformamide oximes 58 by treatment with N,N-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal. For example, 3-amino-1H--quinolin-4-one was converted into N,N-dimethylaminomethyleneamino derivative and subsequently transformed into oxime, which cyclodehydrated in the **DMFDMA** into 60. Similarly, substituted presence of azolo[2,3-d]pyridines (61) and 2-aminooxazolo[5,4-d]pyrimidines (62) [43] were obtained.

DMFDMA

$$N + C = N$$
 $N + C = N$ 
 $N + C =$ 

Scheme 10

# Synthesis of pyrazolo[4,4-c]pyridazines

So far, only the reaction between 1-methyl-3-phenyl-1*H*-pyridazin-6-one (63) and 2-diazopropane (64) has been described in the literature, to give a mixture of products 66, 67, and 68 formed from the unstable cycloadduct 65 [44] (Scheme 11).

Scheme 11

An unusual reaction between pyridazine derivatives and diazomethane was observed during our studies. The reaction was observed first to take place between 3-chloro-6-(N-methylcyanoamino)pyridazine (69) and diazo methane (70, Scheme 12). The reaction is a 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition of diazomethane to a localized double bond followed by dehydrogenation, a 1,3-sigmatropic hydrogen shift and N-methylation of the pyrazole part of the bicyclic system. All four possible isomers 71, 72, 73, and 74 were isolated and identified [45].

The reaction was extended also to some other monocyclic and bicyclic pyridazine derivatives, such as 1,2-dimethyl-1H,3H-pyridazine-3,6-dione and 1-substituted 3-methoxy-1H-pyridazin-6-ones to give 75 and 76. In bicyclic series, s-triazolo[4,3-b]pyridazine and tetrazolo[1,5-b]pyridazines gave the corresponding pyrazolo-s-triazolo-pyridazines 77 and pyrazolo-tetrazolo-pyridazines. Imidazo[1,2-b]pyridazine did not react with diazomethane. However, the reactivity can be increased by quaternization and the corresponding pyrazolo-imidazo-pyridazine 78 was isolated [45].

# N,S- and/or O-methylations with DMFDMA

N,N-Dimethylformamide alkyl acetals have been used frequently as alkylating agents for the preparation of ethers and thioethers from phenols and thiophenols and some S-methylated heterocycles, especially in pyridine, pyrimidine, and benzoxazole series [46, 47]. On the other hand, N-methylation occurred in uracil derivatives [48, 49], in nucleosides [50, 51], and in uridine [52]. Recently, the methylation has been extended to a series of heterocyclic compounds containing

Scheme 12

Scheme 13

	$\mathbf{R}^{\scriptscriptstyle{1}}$	R <sup>2</sup>	R³	R⁴
а	Н	Н	н	Н
b	H	Н	Н	Me
C	SH	Н	Н	н
d	H	SH	Н	н
e	SH	H	Me	н
f	H	Н	SH	Н
$\boldsymbol{g}$	SH	SH	Н	н
h	SMe	н	Н	Me
i	H	SMe	Н	Me
j	SMe	Н	Me	Me
k	H	Н	SMe	Me
1	SMe	SMe	Н	Me
m	H	NH <sub>2</sub>	Н	Н
n	Н	N = CHNMe	Н	Me
0	SMe	Н	Me	Н

Scheme 13 (Continued)

Scheme 14

NH, OH, and SH (or potential SH), and NH and OH (or potential OH) groups [53]. In this respect, N-methylated benzimidazoles 79, 1-methyl- (80) and 2-methylbenzotriazoles (81), 7-methyl-82b and 9-methylpurines (83b) were isolated (Scheme 13). The compounds with NH and SH (or potential SH) groups, such as 1H,3H-benzimidazole-2-thione and 1H,3H-naphth[2,3-d]imidazole--2-thione underwent selective S-methylation to give first the corresponding S-methylated products 84 ( $R^1 = H$ ,  $R^2 = CH_3$ ) and 85 ( $R^1 = H$ ,  $R^2 = CH_3$ ) and on prolonged reaction the N,S-dimethyl derivatives 84 ( $R^1 = R^2 = CH_3$ ), while methylation of purinethiones gave a mixture of S,7- and S,9-dimethyl derivatives 82h—l and 83h—1; N-methylation thus taking place exclusively on the imidazole ring. Adenine methylated at N-7 and N-9, and in addition, 6-amino group was transformed into N,N-dimethylaminomethyleneamino group to give 82n and 83n. With 1H,3H-imidazo[4,5-c]pyrimidine-2-thione selective S-methylation was achieved only when the reaction was stopped immediately after the solid starting material dissolved. On prolonged heating a mixture of 1-methyl-2-methylthio 86  $(R^1 = R^2 = CH_3)$ , 3-methyl-2-methylthio 87, and 5-methyl-2-methylthio derivative 88 was isolated (Scheme 14). This system is the only exception in which N-methylation was observed to take place also in the six-membered ring. Other thiones and dithiones methylated exclusively at sulfur affording S-methylated bis-S-methylated products 89 and 90. Thiouracil methylated at sulfur and nitrogen to give 3-methyl-2-methylthio-3H-pyrimid-4-one (91) [53], contrary to the results obtained recently with trimethyl phosphate in the presence of triethylamine [54].

The compounds with the OH (or potential OH) group attached to the heterocyclic ring methylated usually at nitrogen. An exception was 5-hydroxy-s-triazolo[3,4-b]pyridazine (92, R = OH), which methylated at oxygen to give the corresponding 6-methoxy derivative 92 (R = OCH<sub>3</sub>), and not N-methyl product 93 [53].

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