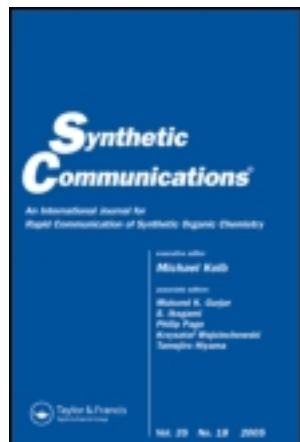


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Efficient Synthesis of 3-Substituted 1,2,4-Triazolo[4,3-a]pyridine by [Bis(Trifluoroacetoxy)iodo]benzene-Catalyzed Oxidative Intramolecular Cyclization of Heterocyclic Hydrazones

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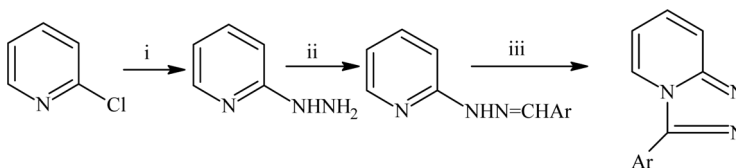
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EFFICIENT SYNTHESIS OF 3-SUBSTITUTED 1,2,4-TRIAZOLO[4,3-a]PYRIDINE BY [BIS(TRIFLUOROACETOXY)IODO]BENZENE-CATALYZED OXIDATIVE INTRAMOLECULAR CYCLIZATION OF HETEROCYCLIC HYDRAZONES

Vikas S. Padalkar, Vikas S. Patil, Kiran R. Phatangare,
Prashant G. Umape, and N. Sekar

Institute of Chemical Technology, Matunga, Mumbai, India

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT



i : $\text{NH}_2\text{NH}_2\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ii : Substituted Aldehyde

iii: [Bis(trifluoroacetoxy)iodo]benzene

Abstract A series of 1,2,4-triazolopyridines have been prepared by oxidative intramolecular cyclization of heterocyclic hydrazones with [bis(trifluoroacetoxy)iodo]benzene. General applicability of this simple transformation was confirmed by synthesis of 1,2,4-triazolo[4,3-a]pyridine. The advantages of this protocol are the nontoxicity of catalyst and shorter reaction time to obtain good preparative yield.

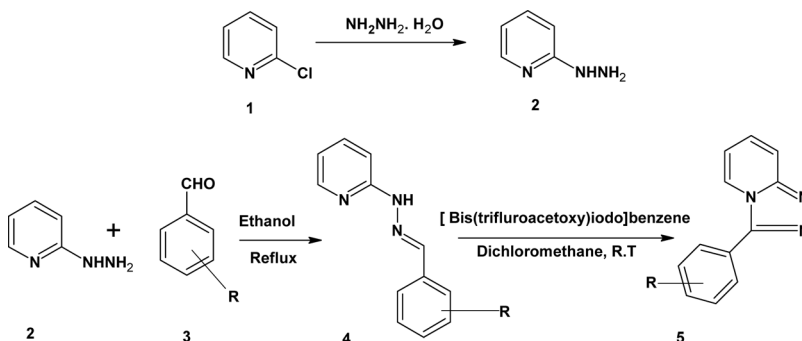
Keywords [Bis(trifluoroacetoxy)iodo]benzene; hydrazones; oxidation; 1,2,4-triazole

INTRODUCTION

Triazolopyridines represent an important class of heterocyclic compounds having a wide range of pharmaceutical and biological activities including herbicidal, antifungal, anticonvulsant, and anxiolytic activities.^[1] A simple, versatile, and widely applicable method for the synthesis of 1,2,4-triazolopyridine is therefore of considerable interest. The available methods for the preparation of triazolopyridine are based on heterocyclic hydrazones or hydrazides as precursors. However, these methods have some restrictions as regards to their applicability as they involve the use of toxic reagents such as phosphorus oxychloride,^[2] lead tetra-acetate,^[2,3] bromine,^[3,4] and

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Scheme 1. Synthesis of 3-substituted 1,2,4-triazolo[4,3-a]pyridine from 2-chloropyridine.

oxidation of 2-pyridylhydrazones with nitrobenzene at reflux temperature.^[5] Recently, synthetic methodologies have been developed using PS-PPh₃/CCl₃ under microwave heating,^[6] (diacetoxy) iodo benzene,^[7] and oxidant chloramine T,^[8] as well as electrochemical methods.^[9] However, they also have some limitations such as moisture sensitivity of the reagents, use of hazardous chemicals, and difficulty in storage of reagents.

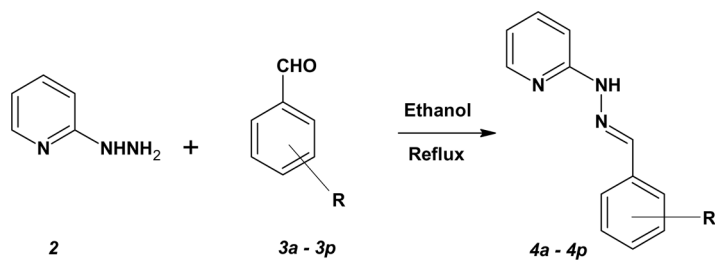
As a part of our ongoing research on 1,2,4-triazoles and to overcome the limitations of the reported methods for the synthesis of 1,2,4-triazolopyridine, we describe here in this letter a simple, efficient protocol for the synthesis of 1,2,4-triazolopyridine by oxidative heterocyclization of hydrazones using [bis(trifluoroacetoxy)iodo]benzene.

Hypervalent iodine reagents have found widespread applications in organic synthesis because of their selectivity and simplicity in use.^[10,11] [Bis(trifluoroacetoxy)iodo]benzene is commercially available as a colorless crystalline solid. It is fairly stable and can be kept without refrigeration for a long time with protection from light. It is used for the synthesis of bridgehead heterocycles, synthesis of N-arylated and N-alkylated heterocyclic fused aromatic compounds,^[12] synthesis of pyrrolidinone and lactone skeletons,^[13] oxidative deprotection of dithiane-containing alkaloids,^[14] direct α -hydroxylation of ketones,^[15] and synthesis of azides.^[16] In this communication, we explore the applicability of [bis(trifluoroacetoxy)iodo]benzene (Scheme 1).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Reaction of 2-chloropyridine (**1**) with hydrazine hydrate at a reflux temperature resulted in the formation of 2-hydrazinopyridine (**2**). Further condensation with different aldehydes (**3**) in ethanol at a reflux temperature gave the corresponding hydrazones (**4**) with high yield and purity. The hydrazones thus obtained were oxidized by using [bis(trifluoroacetoxy)iodo]benzene to give the corresponding 3-substituted 1,2,4-triazolo[4,3-a]pyridine (**5**).

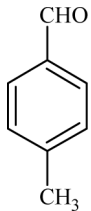
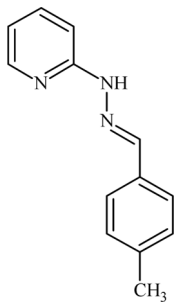
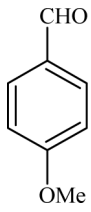
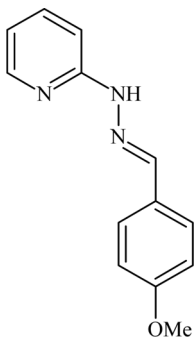
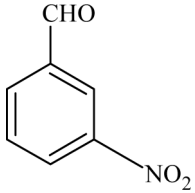
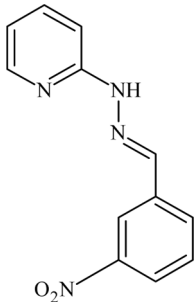
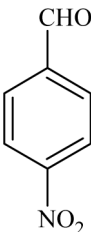
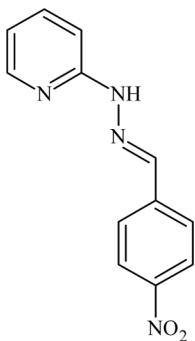
Initially, the reaction of 2-hydrazinopyridine with benzaldehyde was carried out in ethanol at reflux temperature as model reaction to explore the suitable reaction condition for preparation of different hydrazones (Table 1, entry a).

Table 1. Synthesis of heterocyclic hydrazones from 2-hydrazinopyridine and different substituted aldehydes

Entry	Aldehyde (3)	Product (4)	Yield (%)	Mp (°C)
<i>a</i>			92	148
<i>b</i>			98	189
<i>c</i>			98	195
<i>i</i>			98	215

(Continued)

Table 1. Continued

Entry	Aldehyde (3)	Product (4)	Yield (%)	Mp (°C)
<i>e</i>			92	153
<i>f</i>			96	158
<i>g</i>			89	223
<i>h</i>			87	220

(Continued)

Table 1. Continued

Entry	Aldehyde (3)	Product (4)	Yield (%)	Mp (°C)
<i>i</i>			90	128
<i>j</i>			82	167
<i>k</i>			91	182
<i>l</i>			93	158

(Continued)

Table 1. Continued

Entry	Aldehyde (3)	Product (4)	Yield (%)	Mp (°C)
<i>m</i>			89	189
<i>n</i>			92	175
<i>o</i>			94	185
<i>p</i>			92	164

^aReagents and reaction conditions: 2-hydrazinopyridine (10 mmol), aldehydes (10 mmol); solvent: ethanol; temperature: reflux temperature; time: 20 min.

^bStarting compound 2-hydrazinopyridine prepared by the standard reported procedure.

^cIsolated yield.

^dCompounds were confirmed by physical constants.

Subsequently, the reaction was extended with different substituted aldehydes carrying both electron-releasing as well as electron-withdrawing substituents.

Heterocyclization was carried out in dichloromethane at room temperature. To identify an optimal reaction condition for oxidative heterocyclization to the desired triazolopyridine **5**, various solvents were studied (Table 2) at different temperatures with heterocyclization of 2-[(*2E*)-2-benzylidenehydrazinyl] pyridine as the model reaction (Table 3, entry a) in the presence of [bis (trifluoroacetoxy) iodo] benzene.

Table 2. Optimization of reaction condition for the synthesis of triazolopyridine

Entry	Solvent	Yield ^a	Temp. (°C)
1	CH ₃ CN	59	75
2	THF	71	75
3	CH ₂ Cl ₂	94	25
4	CCl ₄	75	60
5	MeOH	63	55

^aIsolated yield after crystallization in benzene.

Note. Catalyst: [bis(trifluoroacetoxy)iodo]benzene (11 mmol equivalent); time: 10 min.

Encouragingly, we quickly noticed that when dichloromethane was used as a solvent, compound **5** was obtained with complete conversion as confirmed by thin-layer chromatography (TLC). Subsequently, we were delighted to discover that nearly quantitative conversion to **5** was observed when the reaction is carried out in dichloromethane at room temperature.

These conditions were used further to study the scope of the transformation. Gratifyingly, this paradigm was found to be quite general and worked well for both electron-donating and electron-withdrawing heterocyclic hydrazones to afford the desired triazolopyridine in excellent yields (Table 3) in a short reaction time. The reaction proved to have facile workup.

CONCLUSION

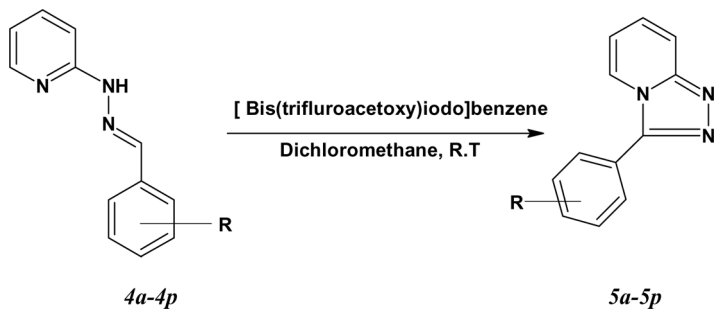
In conclusion, we have developed an efficient and simple protocol for the synthesis of a wide variety of 1,2,4-triazolo compounds by oxidation of heterocyclic substituted hydrazones using trivalent iodine reagent [bis(trifluoroacetoxy)iodo]benzene at room temperature. The method developed is mild and gives good yield of 1,2,4-triazolo(4,3-a)pyridine starting from 2-chloropyridine. We believe that this approach provides the advantage for both focused library synthesis and diversity-oriented synthesis.

EXPERIMENTAL

All commercial reagents and solvents were procured from S. D. Fine chemicals (India) and were used without further purification. The reaction was monitored by TLC using 0.25-mm E-Merck silica-gel 60 F₂₅₄ precoated plates, which were visualized with ultraviolet light. Melting points were measured on a standard melting-point apparatus from Sunder Industrial Product Mumbai and are uncorrected. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on VXR 400-MHz instrument using tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard.

Procedure for Preparation of 2-Hydrazine Pyridine (2)

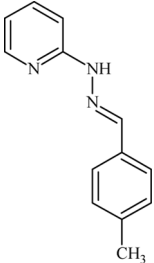
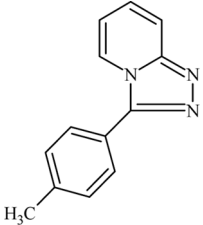
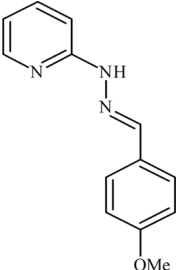
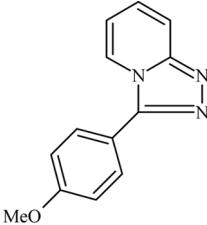
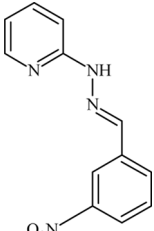
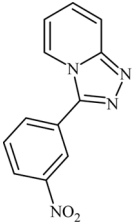
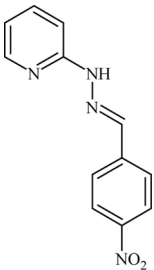
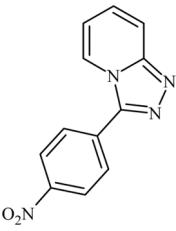
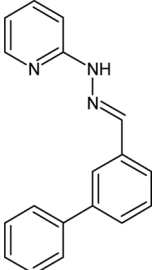
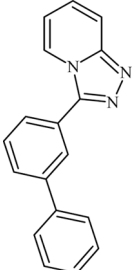
2-Chloropyridine (20 mmol) was mixed with hydrazine hydrate (5 vol), and the resultant mixture was heated under reflux in an oil bath for 6 h. The reaction was

Table 3. Synthesis of 1,2,4-triazolo[4,3-a]pyridine from heterocyclic hydrazones by using [bis-(trifluoroacetoxy)iodo]benzene

Entry	Hydrazones	Product	Yield (%)
<i>a</i>			94
<i>b</i>			91
<i>c</i>			94
<i>d</i>			89

(Continued)

Table 3. Continued

Entry	Hydrazones	Product	Yield (%)
<i>e</i>			91
<i>f</i>			87
<i>g</i>			93
<i>h</i>			95
<i>i</i>			88

(Continued)

Table 3. Continued

Entry	Hydrazones	Product	Yield (%)
<i>j</i>			85
<i>k</i>			91
<i>l</i>			90
<i>m</i>			84

(Continued)

Table 3. Continued

Entry	Hydrazones	Product	Yield (%)
<i>n</i>			88
<i>o</i>			94
<i>p</i>			96

^aReagents and reaction conditions: Hydrazones (10 mmol), [bis-(trifluoroacetoxy)iodo]benzene (11 mmol); solvent: anhydrous dichloromethane; temperature: room temperature; time: 10 min.

^bIsolated yield after crystallization and structure were confirmed by ¹H NMR spectra and physical constants.

monitored by TLC. After the completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was cooled and extracted with diethyl ether (2 × 20 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and kept in the freezer. A white crystalline powder of the product was obtained. Yield 79%, mp 45 °C (lit. 45–46 °C).

General Procedure for Preparation of Heterocyclic Hydrazones (4a–p)

2-Hydrazinopyridine (**2**) (10 mmol) was dissolved in a boiling ethanol (10 mL), and the different substituted aldehydes (**3a–p**) (10 mmol in 10 mL ethanol), were added dropwise to the solution. After that, the solution was stirred and heated under reflux for 20 min. The hydrazones (**4a–p**) formed were filtered from the cooled solution and used in the next reaction without purification.

General Procedure for Preparation of 1,2,4-Triazolo[4,3-*a*]pyridines (5a–p)

Hydrazones (**4a–p**) (10 mmol) was dissolved in dichloromethane (10 mL), [bis(trifluoroacetoxy)iodo]benzene (11 mmol) was added, and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 min. After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was diluted with dichloromethane (10 mL) and washed successively with 10% sodium bisulfate solution (2 × 20 mL), 10% sodium bicarbonate solution (2 × 20 mL), and water (2 × 20 mL). The organic layer obtained was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and concentrated under reduced pressure to give the crude product, which was further crystallized from ethanol to afford the product.

Representative Spectral Data

3-Phenyl-[1,2,4]triazolo[4,3-*a*]pyridine (Table 3, entry a). ¹H NMR (400 MHz) δ 7.12 (t, 1H), 7.56–7.62 (m, 4H), 7.87–7.94 (m, 3H), 8.59 (m, 1H); mp 174 °C; HPLC purity: 99.87%.

3-(4-Chlorophenyl)[1,2,4]triazolo[4,3-*a*]pyridine (Table 3, entry c). ¹H NMR (400 MHz) δ 7.21 (d, 2H), (7.25–7.48, m, 4H), 7.84 (m, 1H), 7.52 (m, 1H), 8.68 (d, 1H); mp 132 °C; HPLC purity: 99.31%.

3-(4-Methylphenyl)[1,2,4]triazolo[4,3-*a*]pyridine (Table 3, entry e). ¹H NMR (400 MHz) δ 2.43 (s, 3H), 7.23 (d, 2H), 7.41 (d, 2H), 8.65 (d, 2H), 7.83 (m, 1H), 7.43 (m, 2H); mp 152 °C; HPLC purity: 98.89%.

3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)[1,2,4]triazolo[4,3-*a*]pyridine (Table 3, entry f). ¹H NMR (400 MHz) δ 3.83 (3H, s), 6.92 (d, 2H), 7.43 (d, 2H), 8.61 (d, 1H), 7.81 (m, 1H), 7.45 (m, 2H); mp: 125 °C; HPLC purity: 99.08%.

3-(3-Nitrophenyl)[1,2,4]triazolo[4,3-*a*]pyridine (Table 3, entry g). ¹H NMR (400 MHz) δ 7.01 (m, 1H), 7.37 (m, 1H), 7.87 (m, 2H), 8.32 (m, 2H), 8.58 (m, 2H); mp 290 °C; HPLC purity: 99.45%.

***N,N*-Dimethyl-4-([1,2,4]triazolo[4,3-*a*]pyridin-3-yl)aniline (Table 3, entry k).** ¹H NMR (400 MHz) δ 2.96 (s, 6H), 6.87 (d, 2H), 7.19 (m, 1H), 7.64 (m, 3H), 7.97 (d, 1H), 8.57 (d, 1H); mp 192 °C; HPLC purity: 98.86%.

9-Ethyl-3-([1,2,4]triazolo[4,3-*a*]pyridin-3-yl)-9*H*-carbazole (Table 3, entry o). ¹H NMR (400 MHz) δ 1.63 (s, 3H), 3.94 (q, 2H), 7.43 (d, 1H), 7.13 (m, 1H), 7.02 (m, 1H), 7.62 (d, 2H), 7.30 (d, 2H), 7.43 (d, 1H), 8.64 (d, 1H), 7.43 (m, 2H); mp 167 °C; HPLC purity: 99.23%.

3-[(*E*)-2-Phenylethenyl][1,2,4]triazolo[4,3-*a*]pyridine (Table 3, entry p). ¹H NMR (400 MHz) δ 6.99 (d, 1H), 6.76 (d, 1H), 7.24–7.43 (m, 6H), 8.69 (d, 1H), 7.85 (d, 1H), 7.58 (m, 1H); mp 169–171 °C; HPLC purity: 99.57%.

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