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## Paper

# **N-Oxide-Controlled Chemoselective Reduction of Nitrofuroxans**

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Received: 07.07.2018 Accepted after revision: 31.08.2018 Published online: 21.09.2018 DOI: 10.1055/s-0037-1611056; Art ID: ss-2018-t0462-op

**Abstract** A facile and chemoselective  $SnCl_2$ -mediated mild reduction of regioisomeric 3- and 4-nitrofuroxans for the synthesis of amino-furazans and aminofuroxans in good yields is developed. Reduction of 4-nitrofuroxans results in the selective formation of 4-aminofuroxans, while analogous reduction of 3-nitrofuroxans affords 3-aminofurazans as a result of simultaneous reduction of the nitro group and exocyclic N–O bond.

Key words furoxans, furazans, reduction, heterocycles, chemoselectivity

1,2,5-Oxadiazoles (furazans) and their N-oxides (furoxans) have found myriad applications in organic and medicinal chemistry, materials science, etc.<sup>1</sup> The 1,2,5-oxadiazole ring is a valuable scaffold in the design of promising drug candidates with antibacterial,<sup>2</sup> antiparasitic<sup>3</sup> and cytotoxic<sup>4</sup> activities. In addition, furoxan derivatives possess antiplatelet<sup>5</sup> and cardiovascular<sup>6</sup> properties due to their ability to facilitate exogenous NO release. The special interest in 1,2,5-oxadiazole chemistry is also attributed to the construction of high-energy systems incorporating additional nitrogen-oxygen explosophoric fragments.<sup>7</sup> This is connected with the aromaticity and planarity of the 1,2,5-oxadiazole subunit resulting in high density of furazan- and furoxan-containing derivatives. Moreover, in contrast to other nitrogen-containing heterocycles, furazans and furoxans possess 'active' oxygen atoms that are not bonded to hydrogen or carbon atoms and these atoms are therefore able to undergo oxidation in combustion or explosive degradation processes.

Aminofurazans and aminofuroxans are especially important precursors for the synthesis of various pharmacologically oriented or high-energy systems.<sup>8</sup> However, methods for the synthesis of amino-1,2,5-oxadiazoles usually in-

volve exhaustive multistep procedures. The main route to aminofurazans is based on the cyclodehydration of vicinal dioximes (glyoximes), which in turn are prepared through a two-step sequence from the corresponding methylene-active nitriles (Scheme 1).<sup>8a</sup> Also, a one-pot procedure for the preparation of aminofurazans through the intermediate formation of aminoglyoximes by cascade reactions of 1,3keto esters has been developed.9 However, the cyclodehydration step is usually performed by refluxing the initial glyoxime in a high boiling solvent (100-150 °C) in the presence of a strong base. Various activating reagents including Ac<sub>2</sub>O,<sup>10</sup> SOCl<sub>2</sub>,<sup>11</sup> succinic anhydride<sup>12</sup> and urea<sup>9</sup> have been reported to facilitate this cyclization, but temperatures greater than 100 °C are typically required. Recently, 1,1'carbonyldiimidazole was utilized for the preparation of aminofurazans from the corresponding pre-synthesized aminoglyoximes at ambient temperature.<sup>13</sup> Aminoglyoximes can also be used for the synthesis of aminofuroxans via oxidation reactions. Oxidation of aminoglyoximes with  $Br_2^{14}$  or  $K_3Fe(CN)_6^{14a}$  results in the regioselective formation of 3-amino-4-arylfuroxans, which can be thermally isomerized into the corresponding 4-amino isomers on heating in toluene.<sup>14a</sup> At the same time, the regioselective synthesis of 4-aminofuroxans can be achieved through the Schmidt rearrangement of acetylfuroxans<sup>15</sup> and the Curtius rearrangement of azidocarbonylfuroxans.<sup>16</sup> However, both





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these approaches suffer from a narrow substrate scope and require preliminary multistep preparations of the corresponding functionally substituted furoxans.

Herein, we report a chemoselective *N*-oxide-controlled SnCl<sub>2</sub>-mediated mild reduction of nitrofuroxans for the synthesis of aminofurazans and aminofuroxans. Reduction of 4-nitrofuroxans with SnCl<sub>2</sub>/HCl results in the regio- and chemoselective formation of 4-aminofuroxans, while analogous reactions of 3-nitrofuroxans afford 3-aminofurazans.

Recent achievements in the chemistry of furoxans have enabled a direct access to 3- and 4-nitrofuroxans **1** and **2**.<sup>17</sup> For the synthesis of 3-nitrofuroxans, we used our recently developed approach based on the cascade one-pot reactions of aldoximes. This approach includes chlorination of the initial aldoximes, acylation of the intermediate chloroximes with dinitromethane sodium salt and subsequent nitrosation of the dinitromethyl derivatives and in situ intramolecular cyclization.<sup>18</sup> 3-Nitrofuroxans **1** are obtained in high yields in one synthetic step, do not require additional purification and can be quantitatively isomerized into the 4-nitrofuroxans **2**. Following this method, we prepared a series of 3- and 4-nitrofuroxans in good to high yields (Scheme 2).

4-Nitro-3-phenylfuroxan (**2a**) was chosen as a model substrate to optimize the reaction conditions. The reduction of the nitrofuroxan **2a** to the aminofuroxan **3a** by SnCl<sub>2</sub> has a single literature precedent described by Wieland in 1903.<sup>19</sup> Indeed, our attempt to reproduce this procedure resulted in target aminofuroxan **3a**, albeit in a low yield. In addition, furoxanylhydroxylamine **4a** as an intermediate

Indication of the Reaction Conditions*								
	e	Ph NO₂ ⊕ // \	educing agent solvent temperature Ph ⊕ O N	NH <sub>2</sub> Pr → N + ⊕ → → → 3a	NHOH NON + 4a	Ph NH <sub>2</sub> HON NOH		
Entry	Reducing agent (equiv)	Additive	Solvent	T ( °C)	Time (h)	Yield (%) <sup>b</sup>		
						3a	4a	5a
1	SnCl <sub>2</sub> (5.0)	HCI	-	50 → 20	1	12	5	trace <sup>c</sup>
2	SnCl <sub>2</sub> (5.0)	HCI	-	5 → 20	2	26	20	-
3	SnCl <sub>2</sub> (5.0)	HCI	-	20	1	45	10	-
4	SnCl <sub>2</sub> (6.0)	HCI	-	20	1	62	17	-
5	SnCl <sub>2</sub> (8.0)	HCI	-	20	1	84	6	-
6	SnCl <sub>2</sub> (10.0)	HCI	-	20	1	98	-	_
7	SnCl <sub>2</sub> (13.0)	HCI	-	20	1	95	-	_
8	SnCl <sub>2</sub> (5.0)	-	EtOH	40	0.5	-	-	81
9	SnCl <sub>2</sub> (2.5)	HCI	EtOH	20	1	35	17	20
10	SnCl <sub>2</sub> (10.0)	50% H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	-	20	3	-	67	-
11	SnCl <sub>2</sub> (10.0)	CF <sub>3</sub> COOH	-	20	24	_e	_e	_e
12	Zn (5.0)	HCI	HFIP	20	2	7	-	39
13	$Na_2S_2O_4$ (3.0) <sup>d</sup>	-	EtOH/H <sub>2</sub> O	20	4	trace <sup>c</sup>	-	-

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: 4-nitrofuroxan **2a** (1 mmol), reducing agent, concd HCl as an additive (7 mL), solvent (5 mL), stirring at the appropriate temperature. <sup>b</sup> Yield of isolated products.

<sup>c</sup> According to <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy.

<sup>d</sup> Total decomposition of 4-nitrofuroxan **2a** was observed.

<sup>e</sup> No reaction.

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product and aminoglyoxime **5a** as a result of furoxan ring reduction were also formed as side products (Table 1, entry 1). Performing an analogous reaction at lower temperature afforded a mixture of amine **3a** and hydroxylamine **4a** in nearly equimolar amount (Table 1, entry 2), while the reaction at room temperature increased the 3a/4a ratio to 4.5:1 (Table 1, entry 3). A gradual increase of the amount of SnCl<sub>2</sub> provided higher yields of 4-aminofuroxan 3a with 10 equivalents of SnCl<sub>2</sub> being the best (Table 1, entries 4–7). Interestingly, replacing HCl with EtOH resulted in the selective formation of aminoglyoxime **5a** in a good yield (Table 1, entry 8), while the HCl/EtOH combination afforded a mixture of all three products (Table 1, entry 9). Surprisingly, the utilization of 50% H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> afforded hydroxylamine **4a** as the sole product (Table 1, entry 10), while CF<sub>2</sub>COOH was ineffective (Table 1, entry 11). The use of either zinc<sup>20a</sup> or sodium dithionite<sup>20b</sup> to reduce the nitro group to an amine led to ring cleavage (Table 1, entries 12 and 13).

With optimized conditions in hand, we next investigated the substrate scope for the synthesis of 4-aminofuroxans. The target 4-aminofuroxans **3a–m** were all formed chemoselectively in good to high yields under very mild conditions at 20 °C using SnCl<sub>2</sub> (10 equiv) in concentrated HCl. In all cases, the endocyclic and exocyclic N–O bonds of the heterocyclic subunit were tolerated under these conditions and the furoxan ring remained unchanged. The yields of 4-aminofuroxans **3b–e** bearing electron-donating groups (alkyl, alkoxy) were higher (88–95%) than those of halogensubstituted 4-aminofuroxans **3f–k** (75–84%). Incorporation of a strong electron-withdrawing CF<sub>3</sub> group on the aromatic ring afforded target aminofuroxan **3l** in a good yield. To our delight, the reduction of 4-nitrofuroxan **2m** bearing an aliphatic substituent provided the corresponding aminofuroxan **3m** in 70% yield (Scheme 3).

Surprisingly, analogous reactions of the 3-nitrofuroxans **1a-m** did not provide the expected 3-aminofuroxans, but directly afforded aminofurazans 6a-m in good yields as a result of the simultaneous reduction of the nitro group and the N-oxide motif. The yields of aminofurazans 6b-e bearing electron-donating groups (alkyl, alkoxy) were slightly higher (75-81%) than those of halogen- and CF<sub>3</sub>-substituted aminofurazans 6f-l (62-71%). 3-Amino-4-methylfurazan (6m) was also formed in a good vield upon reduction of the corresponding 3-nitrofuroxan 1m (Scheme 4). Arguably, the difference in the chemoselectivity of the reduction of regioisomeric 3- and 4-nitrofuroxans is attributed to the position of the N-oxide fragment in the furoxan ring. In 3nitrofuroxans, the steric proximity of the nitro group and the exocyclic oxygen atom enables effective chelation of both oxygen motifs with SnCl<sub>2</sub>. However, when the reduction of the 3-nitrofuroxan 1a was stopped after 10 minutes, the corresponding 3-aminofuroxan was detected according to TLC and <sup>1</sup>H NMR data. This fact may serve as evidence that the reduction of the nitro group precedes the reduction of the N-oxide moiety in 3-nitrofuroxans.

In summary, we have developed a chemoselective *N*-oxide-controlled reduction of regioisomeric 3- and 4-nitrofuroxans under the action of SnCl<sub>2</sub>/HCl. The reduction of 4-nitrofuroxans results in the regio- and chemoselective formation of 4-aminofuroxans, while the same reaction of 3nitrofuroxans directly affords aminofurazans as a result of the simultaneous reduction of the nitro group and exocyclic



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Scheme 4 Substrate scope for the reduction of 3-nitrofuroxans

N–O bond. These conditions afford the target products in good yields and high purities without the need for column chromatography, thus providing a direct and general access to amino-1,2,5-oxadiazoles.

All reactions were carried out in well-cleaned, oven-dried glassware with magnetic stirring. The solvents were purified and dried using standard methods prior to use. All standard reagents were purchased from Aldrich or Acros Organics and used without further purification. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on Merck 25 TLC silica gel 60 F<sub>254</sub> aluminum sheets. The visualization of the TLC plates was accomplished with a UV light source. Melting points were determined on a Stuart SMP20 apparatus and are uncorrected. IR spectra were recorded on a Bruker 'Alpha' spectrophotometer in the range 400-4000 cm<sup>-1</sup> (resolution: 2 cm<sup>-1</sup>). <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AM-300 (300.13, 75.47 and 282.4 MHz, respectively) spectrometer and referenced to the residual solvent peak. <sup>14</sup>N NMR spectra were measured on a Bruker AM-300 (21.69 MHz) spectrometer using MeNO<sub>2</sub> ( $\delta_{14N}$  = 0.0) as an external standard. <sup>15</sup>N NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DRX500 instrument (the frequency for <sup>15</sup>N was 50.7 MHz) at room temperature; experiment times were determined as recommended.<sup>21</sup> The chemical shifts are reported in ppm ( $\delta$ ); multiplicities are indicated by s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), m (multiplet) and br (broad). Coupling constants, J, are reported in Hertz. Elemental analysis was performed using a Perkin-Elmer 2400 CHN Analyzer. 3-Nitrofuroxans 1a,b,f,i,k,l and 4-nitrofuroxans 2a,b,f,i,k,l were prepared according to a described procedure.18a

## Dinitromethane Sodium Salt<sup>22</sup>

**CAUTION!** Although we encountered no difficulties during the preparation and handling of dinitromethane sodium salt, it is a potentially explosive energetic material which is sensitive to impact and friction. Mechanical actions of this energetic material, involving scratching or scraping, must be avoided. Any manipulations must be carried out by using appropriate standard safety precautions.

Tetranitromethane (60 mL, 0.5 mol) was added to a solution of nitromethane (27 mL, 0.5 mol) in MeOH (150 mL) at room temperature and under mechanical stirring. The reaction mixture was cooled to – 5 °C (dry ice bath) and a cold solution of NaOH (40 g, 1.0 mol) in MeOH (500 mL) was added dropwise. After the addition was complete, the mixture was stirred for 1 h at 0 °C. The solid was filtered off and washed with acetone (6 × 50 mL) and Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 × 50 mL). The product was dried in air as a thin layer for 40 min and kept in a freezer. The obtained dinitromethane sodium salt can be stored at –20 °C for at least 4 months without decomposition.

Yield 49.3 g (77%).

#### 3-Nitrofuroxans; General Procedure

NCS (0.29 g, 2.2 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of the corresponding carbaldehyde oxime (22 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (30 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 35-40 °C (to initiate the chlorination), further NCS (2.65 g, 19.9 mmol) was added and the mixture was cooled to 30 °C. The resulting solution was stirred at room temperature for 1 h (TLC monitoring), then cooled to 0 °C and dinitromethane sodium salt (6.2 g, 48.4 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred for an additional 30 min and left to stand in a refrigerator for 36 h. Next, anhydrous AcONa (5.7 g, 70 mmol) was added portionwise to the reaction mixture at 0–5 °C. The resulting mixture was stirred for 30 min and then AcOH (35 mL) was added dropwise at 0–5 °C. NaNO<sub>2</sub> (7.59 g, 110 mmol) was added portionwise, the reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at 0–5 °C, then the

cooling bath was removed and stirring was continued at room temperature for 3 h. The reaction mixture was poured into  $H_2O$  (300 mL) and stirred for 30 min. The obtained solid was filtered off, washed with  $H_2O$  and dried in air.

#### 4-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-3-nitrofuroxan (1c)

Yield: 4.02 g (77%); yellow solid; mp 82–83 °C;  $R_f = 0.53$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CCl<sub>4</sub>, 1:1).

 $IR\,(KBr):\,2972,\,2943,\,1648,\,1584,\,1543,\,1518,\,1469,\,1438,\,1401,\,1346,\,1291,\,1253,\,1051,\,1009,\,878,\,848,\,773\,\,cm^{-1}.$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 3.91 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2 H, ArH), 7.67 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2 H, ArH).

 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 55.6, 114.5, 115.8, 126.4, 130.6, 150.9, 162.7.

<sup>14</sup>N NMR (21.7 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -38.4 (s, NO<sub>2</sub>).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_9H_7N_3O_5{:}$  C, 45.58; H, 2.97; N, 17.72. Found: C, 45.49; H, 3.09; N, 17.88.

#### 4-(4-Ethoxyphenyl)-3-nitrofuroxan (1d)

Yield: 4.20 g (76%); yellow solid; mp 76–77 °C;  $R_f = 0.52$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CCl<sub>4</sub>, 1:1).

IR (KBr): 2980, 2945, 1652, 1580, 1545, 1520, 1472, 1432, 1400, 1348, 1296, 1250, 1050, 1015, 850, 775  $\rm cm^{-1}.$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 1.38 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.14 (q, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2 H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 7.13 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2 H, ArH), 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2 H, ArH).

 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  = 15.0, 64.0, 115.0, 116.9, 128.4, 131.5, 152.8, 161.6.

<sup>14</sup>N NMR (21.7 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = -36.2 (s, NO<sub>2</sub>).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_{10}H_9N_3O_5;$  C, 47.81; H, 3.61; N, 16.73. Found: C, 47.94; H, 3.48; N, 16.59.

## 4-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-3-nitrofuroxan (1e)

Yield: 4.41 g (75%); orange solid; mp 103–104 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.22 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CCl<sub>4</sub>, 1:1).

 $IR\,(KBr):\,2972,\,2910,\,2870,\,1672,\,1603,\,1540,\,1498,\,1463,\,1430,\,1362,\,1250,\,1190,\,1156,\,1023,\,882,\,870,\,856,\,778\,\,cm^{-1}.$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 3.94 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.98 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.02 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1 H, ArH), 7.23 (s, 1 H, ArH), 7.31 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1 H, ArH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 56.1, 56.2, 111.2, 111.5, 115.9, 122.6, 126.7, 149.4, 150.9, 152.5.

<sup>14</sup>N NMR (21.7 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -38.4 (s, NO<sub>2</sub>).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_{10}H_9N_3O_6;$  C, 44.95; H, 3.40; N, 15.73. Found: C, 45.09; H, 3.27; N, 15.62.

#### 4-(3-Fluorophenyl)-3-nitrofuroxan (1g)

Yield: 4.06 g (82%); pale yellow solid; mp 76–77 °C;  $R_f = 0.63$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CCl<sub>4</sub>, 1:1).

 $IR\,(KBr):\,2873,\,2798,\,1644,\,1627,\,1542,\,1519,\,1462,\,1402,\,1352,\,1242,\\1153,\,1004,\,884,\,868,\,846,\,793,\,776\,\,cm^{-1}\!.$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 7.37 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1 H, ArH), 7.45–7.62 (m, 3 H, ArH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 116.3 (d, *J* = 24.4 Hz), 119.4 (d, *J* = 21.0 Hz), 124.6, 124.9 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz), 125.6 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz), 130.9 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 150.2, 162.6 (d, *J* = 248.9 Hz).

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<sup>14</sup>N NMR (21.7 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -35.5 (s, NO<sub>2</sub>).

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282.4 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = -111.1$  (s, F).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_8H_4FN_3O_4$ : C, 42.68; H, 1.79; N, 18.66. Found: C, 42.51; H, 1.93; N, 18.79.

#### 4-(4-Fluorophenyl)-3-nitrofuroxan (1h)

Yield: 4.16 g (84%); pale yellow solid; mp 61–62 °C;  $R_f = 0.59$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CCl<sub>4</sub>, 1:1).

IR (KBr): 2884, 2780, 1627, 1523, 1475, 1434, 1360, 1341, 1232, 1162, 1105, 1012, 984, 848, 782  $\rm cm^{-1}.$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 7.26–7.31 (m, 2 H, ArH), 7.73–7.77 (m, 2 H, ArH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 116.5 (d, J = 22.4 Hz), 120.0 (d, J = 3.4 Hz), 126.6, 131.4 (d, J = 9.0 Hz), 150.4, 165.0 (d, J = 254.4 Hz).

<sup>14</sup>N NMR (21.7 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -35.1 (s, NO<sub>2</sub>).

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282.4 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = -107.0 (s, F).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_8H_4FN_3O_4{:}$  C, 42.68; H, 1.79; N, 18.66. Found: C, 42.59; H, 1.63; N, 18.77.

## 4-(2-Bromophenyl)-3-nitrofuroxan (1j)

Yield: 5.22 g (83%); pale yellow solid; mp 74–76 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.61 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CCl<sub>4</sub>, 1:1).

 $IR\,(KBr):\,2895,\,2835,\,2797,\,1645,\,1592,\,1540,\,1513,\,1445,\,1413,\,1346,\,1268,\,1202,\,1058,\,1027,\,1004,\,845,\,790,\,756\,\,cm^{-1}\!.$ 

 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl\_3):  $\delta$  = 123.4 (2 C), 125.9, 128.0, 131.3, 133.3 (2 C), 151.1.

<sup>14</sup>N NMR (21.7 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = -39.3 (s, NO<sub>2</sub>).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_8H_4BrN_3O_4{:}$  C, 33.59; H, 1.41; N, 14.69. Found: C, 33.73; H, 1.29; N, 14.82.

#### 4-Methyl-3-nitrofuroxan (1m)

Yield: 1.95 g (61%); white solid; mp 41–42 °C;  $R_f = 0.44$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CCl<sub>4</sub>, 1:1).

IR (KBr): 2889, 1637, 1523, 1414, 1387, 1354, 1266, 1129, 988, 852, 807, 716  $\rm cm^{-1}.$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 2.73 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 13.0, 126.9, 149.7.

<sup>14</sup>N NMR (21.7 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -37.3 (s, NO<sub>2</sub>).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_3H_3N_3O_4$ : C, 24.84; H, 2.08; N, 28.96. Found: C, 24.71; H, 1.99; N, 29.09.

#### 4-Nitrofuroxans 2; General Procedure

A mixture of a 3-nitrofuroxan **1** (10 mmol) in PhMe (25 mL) was heated at reflux temperature for 3 h. Evaporation of the solvent afforded the corresponding 4-nitrofuroxan **2** in nearly quantitative yield.

#### 3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-4-nitrofuroxan (2c)<sup>18a</sup>

Yield: 2.35 g (99%); yellow solid; mp 75–76 °C;  $R_f = 0.53$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CCl<sub>4</sub>, 1:1).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 3.90 (s, 3 H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 7.06 (d,  ${}^{3}J$  = 8.7 Hz, 2 H, ArH), 7.57 (d,  ${}^{3}J$  = 8.7 Hz, 2 H, ArH).

## 3-(4-Ethoxyphenyl)-4-nitrofuroxan (2d)<sup>18a</sup>

Yield: 2.48 g (99%); yellow solid; mp 87–88 °C;  $R_{f}$ = 0.50 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CCl<sub>4</sub>, 1:1).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 1.47 (t,  ${}^{3}J$  = 6.8 Hz, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.12 (q,  ${}^{3}J$  = 6.8 Hz, 2 H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.04 (d,  ${}^{3}J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2 H, ArH), 7.55 (d,  ${}^{3}J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2 H, ArH).

### 3-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-4-nitrofuroxan (2e)

Yield: 2.59 g (97%); orange solid; mp 92–93 °C;  $R_f = 0.24$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CCl<sub>4</sub>, 1:1).

 $IR \, (KBr): 2965, 2941, 2840, 1614, 1574, 1529, 1494, 1457, 1435, 1368, 1262, 1234, 1180, 1142, 1118, 1016, 866, 811, 781 \, cm^{-1}.$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 3.86 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.92 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.98 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1 H, ArH), 7.10 (s, 1 H, ArH), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1 H, ArH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 56.0, 56.1, 109.2, 110.9, 111.0, 111.3, 122.5, 149.3, 151.9, 158.2.

<sup>14</sup>N NMR (21.7 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -33.9 (s, NO<sub>2</sub>).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_{10}H_9N_3O_6;$  C, 44.95; H, 3.40; N, 15.73. Found: C, 44.79; H, 3.32; N, 15.92.

#### 3-(3-Fluorophenyl)-4-nitrofuroxan (2g)

Yield: 2.23 g (99%); pale yellow solid; mp 58–59 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.58 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CCl<sub>4</sub>, 1:1).

IR (KBr): 2910, 2726, 1612, 1572, 1509, 1484, 1459, 1367, 1294, 1218, 1110, 1072, 1007, 884, 841, 782  $\rm cm^{-1}$ .

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 7.28–7.42 (m, 3 H, ArH), 7.54–7.62 (m, 1 H, ArH).

 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 108.3, 116.1 (d, J = 24.8 Hz), 119.2 (d, J = 21.1 Hz), 121.2 (d, J = 8.7 Hz), 124.7 (d, J = 3.4 Hz), 131.0 (d, J = 8.3 Hz), 149.7, 162.6 (d, J = 249.3 Hz).

<sup>14</sup>N NMR (21.7 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -34.9 (s, NO<sub>2</sub>).

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282.4 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = -110.5 (s, F).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_8H_4FN_3O_4$ : C, 42.68; H, 1.79; N, 18.66. Found: C, 42.55; H, 1.63; N, 18.82.

#### 3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-4-nitrofuroxan (2h)

Yield: 2.21 g (98%); pale yellow solid; mp 69–70 °C;  $R_f = 0.57$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CCl<sub>4</sub>, 1:1).

 $IR\,(KBr):\,2926,\,2735,\,1624,\,1567,\,1523,\,1492,\,1439,\,1409,\,1365,\,1298,\,1273,\,1237,\,1162,\,1121,\,1071,\,987,\,837,\,784\,\,cm^{-1}\!.$ 

 $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, CDCl\_3):  $\delta$  = 7.26–7.32 (m, 2 H, ArH), 7.63–7.66 (m, 2 H, ArH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 108.7, 115.4 (d, *J* = 3.5 Hz), 116.8 (d, *J* = 22.5 Hz), 131.3 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 148.8, 164.4 (d, *J* = 255.0 Hz).

<sup>14</sup>N NMR (21.7 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -34.7 (s, NO<sub>2</sub>).

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282.4 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -106.3 (s, F).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_8H_4FN_3O_4$ : C, 42.68; H, 1.79; N, 18.66. Found: C, 42.87; H, 1.96; N, 18.52.

#### 3-(2-Bromophenyl)-4-nitrofuroxan (2j)

Yield: 2.72 g (95%); pale yellow solid; mp 70–71 °C;  $R_f = 0.60$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CCl<sub>4</sub>, 1:1).

IR (KBr): 2922, 2856, 1629, 1570, 1516, 1474, 1444, 1362, 1290, 1136, 1072, 1047, 985, 801, 770, 741 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 7.49–7.59 (m, 3 H, ArH), 7.77–7.80 (m, 1 H, ArH).

 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl\_3):  $\delta$  = 109.3, 121.8, 124.3, 128.3, 131.7, 133.4, 133.5, 150.0.

<sup>14</sup>N NMR (21.7 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -35.3 (s, NO<sub>2</sub>).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_8H_4BrN_3O_4{:}$  C, 33.59; H, 1.41; N, 14.69. Found: C, 33.46; H, 1.31; N, 14.92.

#### 3-Methyl-4-nitrofuroxan (2m)<sup>17b</sup>

Yield: 1.39 g (96%); white solid; mp 68–69 °C;  $R_f = 0.48$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/CCl<sub>4</sub>, 1:1).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 2.50 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

## Reduction of 3- and 4-Nitrofuroxans; General Procedure

SnCl<sub>2</sub> (1.90 g, 10 mmol) was added to a vigorously stirred mixture of the corresponding nitrofuroxan **1** or **2** (1 mmol) and concd HCl (7 mL) in one portion at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h, then poured into H<sub>2</sub>O (15 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3 × 15 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (30 mL) and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The drying agent was removed by filtration, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo and the residue was triturated with H<sub>2</sub>O. The solid product was filtered, washed with cold CH-Cl<sub>3</sub> (2 mL) and dried in air.

#### 4-Amino-3-phenylfuroxan (3a)<sup>14a</sup>

Yield: 173 mg (98%); beige solid; mp 137-138 °C.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ = 6.39 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.52–7.59 (m, 3 H, ArH), 7.81 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2 H, ArH).

#### 4-Amino-3-(4-tolyl)furoxan (3b)<sup>14a</sup>

Yield: 174 mg (91%); white solid; mp 176–177 °C.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  = 2.38 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.35 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.38 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2 H, ArH), 7.74 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2 H, ArH).

## 4-Amino-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)furoxan (3c)

Yield: 182 mg (88%); beige solid; mp 109–110 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.31 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

 $IR\,(KBr):\,3425,\,3318,\,3239,\,2973,\,2941,\,2839,\,1636,\,1610,\,1533,\,1485,\\1457,\,1435,\,1399,\,1305,\,1257,\,1180,\,1057,\,1026,\,979,\,886,\,830\,\,cm^{-1}.$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  = 3.83 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.14 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.10 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2 H, ArH), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2 H, ArH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 55.8, 115.0, 118.2, 129.7, 147.0, 155.7, 161.2.

Anal. Calcd for  $C_9H_9N_3O_3$ : C, 52.17; H, 4.38; N, 20.28. Found: C, 52.04; H, 4.22; N, 20.45.

### 4-Amino-3-(4-ethoxyphenyl)furoxan (3d)

Yield: 197 mg (89%); beige solid; mp 118–119 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.24 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

IR (KBr): 3398, 3326, 3238, 2978, 2930, 2884, 1638, 1592, 1512, 1464, 1411, 1255, 1186, 1162, 1117, 1046, 966, 840  $\rm cm^{-1}.$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 1.35 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.10 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2 H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 6.32 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.10 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2 H, ArH), 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2 H, ArH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 15.0, 63.9, 109.6, 115.0, 115.3, 129.6, 157.4, 160.2.

Anal. Calcd for  $C_{10}H_{11}N_3O_3$ : C, 54.29; H, 5.01; N, 19.00. Found: C, 54.42; H, 4.90; N, 18.84.

#### 4-Amino-3-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)furoxan (3e)

Yield: 225 mg (95%); beige solid; mp 178–179 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.16 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

IR (KBr): 3393, 3323, 3232, 2981, 2948, 2846, 1619, 1596, 1521, 1487, 1442, 1415, 1357, 1258, 1226, 1196, 1180, 1156, 1093, 1015, 977 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta = 3.83$  (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.84 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.36 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.15 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1 H, ArH), 7.36 (s, 1 H, ArH),

7.40 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1 H, ArH). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  = 56.0, 56.1, 109.6, 111.1, 112.3,

115.2, 121.3, 149.2, 150.7, 157.4.

Anal. Calcd for  $C_{10}H_{11}N_3O_4{:}$  C, 50.63; H, 4.67; N, 17.71. Found: C, 50.49; H, 4.83; N, 17.88.

#### 4-Amino-3-(2-fluorophenyl)furoxan (3f)

Yield: 164 mg (84%); white solid; mp 133–134 °C; *R*<sub>*f*</sub> = 0.40 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

IR (KBr): 3336, 3241, 3206, 2879, 2814, 1648, 1638, 1578, 1533, 1474, 1457, 1408, 1316, 1208, 1112, 985, 880, 819, 764, 745 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 6.21 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.36–7.46 (m, 2 H, ArH), 7.61–7.68 (m, 2 H, ArH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 113.8 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 116.9 (d, *J* = 20.6 Hz), 125.5 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz), 131.6 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz), 133.2 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 143.7, 156.3, 160.3 (d, *J* = 249.9 Hz).

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282.4 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = -113.5 (s, F).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_8H_6FN_3O_2:$  C, 49.24; H, 3.10; N, 21.53. Found: C, 49.40; H, 3.22; N, 21.29.

#### 4-Amino-3-(3-fluorophenyl)furoxan (3g)

Yield: 158 mg (81%); white solid; mp 153–154 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.32 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

 $IR\,(KBr):\,3423,\,3322,\,3238,\,2729,\,1639,\,1590,\,1499,\,1463,\,1432,\,1276,\,1216,\,1155,\,1097,\,987,\,884,\,784,\,684\,\,cm^{-1}.$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 6.45 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.40 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1 H, ArH), 7.59–7.69 (m, 3 H, ArH).

 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  = 109.1, 115.0 (d, J = 24.2 Hz), 117.6 (d, J = 20.9 Hz), 124.2 (d, J = 2.8 Hz), 125.3 (d, J = 9.2 Hz), 131.5 (d, J = 8.5 Hz), 157.2, 162.4 (d, J = 244.3 Hz).

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282.4 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta = -112.4$  (s, F).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_8H_6FN_3O_2{:}$  C, 49.24; H, 3.10; N, 21.53. Found: C, 49.11; H, 2.92; N, 21.74.

#### 4-Amino-3-(4-fluorophenyl)furoxan (3h)

Yield: 156 mg (80%); white solid; mp 170–171 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.24 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

 $IR\,(KBr):\,3425,\,3331,\,3237,\,2927,\,2856,\,2737,\,1638,\,1589,\,1519,\,1467,\\1407,\,1314,\,1251,\,1162,\,1102,\,964,\,867,\,835\,\,cm^{-1}\!.$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 6.40 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.40–7.46 (m, 2 H, ArH), 7.85–7.90 (m, 2 H, ArH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = 109.3, 116.6 (d, *J* = 22.2 Hz), 119.7 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz), 130.7 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 157.3, 163.2 (d, *J* = 248.9 Hz). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282.4 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = -110.2 (s, F). Downloaded by: Washington University. Copyrighted material

Anal. Calcd for  $C_8H_6FN_3O_2:$  C, 49.24; H, 3.10; N, 21.53. Found: C, 49.13; H, 3.24; N, 21.66.

#### 4-Amino-3-(4-chlorophenyl)furoxan (3i)<sup>14a</sup>

Yield: 163 mg (77%); white solid; mp 165–166 °C.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 6.41 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.63 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2 H, ArH), 7.84 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2 H, ArH).

 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  = 109.2, 122.2, 129.5, 129.9, 135.3, 157.2.

<sup>15</sup>N NMR (50.7 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = -329.1 (t, J = 84.9 Hz, NH<sub>2</sub>), -52.0, -33.7.

## 4-Amino-3-(2-bromophenyl)furoxan (3j)

Yield: 192 mg (75%); white solid; mp 125–126 °C;  $R_f = 0.34$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

IR (KBr): 3404, 3323, 3232, 2928, 2769, 1636, 1609, 1588, 1492, 1450, 1427, 1355, 1170, 957, 856  $\rm cm^{-1}.$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ = 6.35 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.51–7.59 (m, 3 H, ArH), 7.84 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1 H, ArH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 110.8, 124.3, 124.6, 128.8, 133.3, 133.4, 133.5, 157.4.

Anal. Calcd for  $C_8H_6BrN_3O_2{:}$  C, 37.53; H, 2.36; N, 16.41. Found: C, 37.39; H, 2.52; N, 16.58.

#### 4-Amino-3-(4-bromophenyl)furoxan (3k)

Yield: 200 mg (78%); white solid; mp 174–175 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.31 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

 $IR\,(KBr):\,3384,\,3320,\,3232,\,2873,\,1638,\,1586,\,1491,\,1460,\,1392,\,1305,\\1158,\,1114,\,1072,\,1010,\,965,\,874,\,830\,\,cm^{-1}.$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  = 6.42 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.74–7.81 (m, 4 H, ArH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 109.3, 122.6, 124.0, 130.1, 132.4, 157.2.

Anal. Calcd for  $C_8H_6BrN_3O_2{:}$  C, 37.53; H, 2.36; N, 16.41. Found: C, 37.41; H, 2.23; N, 16.60.

### 4-Amino-3-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]furoxan (31)

Yield: 174 mg (71%); white solid; mp 160–161 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.41 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

IR (KBr): 3388, 3328, 3246, 2943, 2751, 1641, 1593, 1515, 1465, 1403, 1328, 1144, 1113, 1067, 967, 848  $\rm cm^{-1}.$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 6.49 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.93 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2 H, ArH), 8.04 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2 H, ArH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 109.1, 126.1 (q, J = 3.6 Hz), 127.9 (q, J = 274.5 Hz), 129.0, 129.9 (q, J = 32.1 Hz), 157.2, 160.2.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282.4 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta = -62.4$  (s, CF<sub>3</sub>).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_9H_6F_3N_3O_2;$  C, 44.09; H, 2.47; N, 17.14. Found: C, 43.95; H, 2.33; N, 17.38.

### 4-Amino-3-methylfuroxan (3m)<sup>16</sup>

Yield: 81 mg (70%); white solid; mp 132–133 °C.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  = 2.01 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.26 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>).

## 3-Amino-4-phenylfurazan (6a)<sup>13</sup>

Yield: 130 mg (81%); beige solid; mp 96–97 °C.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 6.17 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.56 (br s, 3 H, ArH), 7.77 (br s, 2 H, ArH).

## 3-Amino-4-(4-tolyl)furazan (6b)9b

Yield: 133 mg (76%); white solid; mp 142–143 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.51 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ = 2.38 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.16 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.36 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2 H, ArH), 7.67 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2 H, ArH).

 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  = 21.4, 123.1, 128.0, 130.1, 140.5, 147.3, 155.7.

## 3-Amino-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)furazan (6c)<sup>9b</sup>

Yield: 143 mg (75%); beige solid; mp 103–104 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.29 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 3.83 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.14 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.10 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2 H, ArH), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2 H, ArH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 55.8, 115.0, 118.2, 129.7, 147.0, 155.7, 161.2.

## 3-Amino-4-(4-ethoxyphenyl)furazan (6d)

Yield: 156 mg (76%); beige solid; mp 102–103 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.36 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

IR (KBr): 3392, 3336, 3230, 2972, 2924, 2892, 1645, 1588, 1503, 1452, 1400, 1274, 1193, 1151, 1105, 1022, 977, 848  $\rm cm^{-1}.$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  = 1.35 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.10 (q, J = 6.9 Hz, 2 H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 6.13 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.08 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2 H, ArH), 7.71 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2 H, ArH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ = 15.0, 63.8, 115.5, 118.0, 129.7, 147.0, 155.7, 160.5.

Anal. Calcd for  $C_{10}H_{11}N_3O_2;$  C, 58.53; H, 5.40; N, 20.48. Found: C, 58.71; H, 5.28; N, 20.31.

## 3-Amino-4-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)furazan (6e)

Yield: 179 mg (81%); white solid; mp 146–147 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.23 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

IR (KBr): 3419, 3340, 3083, 3002, 2980, 2944, 2841, 1624, 1596, 1537, 1495, 1462, 1433, 1407, 1303, 1252, 1224, 1175, 1144, 1026, 981, 850, 818  $\rm cm^{-1}.$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 3.83 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.85 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.16 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1 H, ArH), 7.28 (s, 1 H, ArH), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1 H, ArH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ = 56.0, 56.1, 111.3, 112.4, 118.2, 121.1, 147.2, 149.4, 150.9, 155.7.

Anal. Calcd for  $C_{10}H_{11}N_3O_3{:}$  C, 54.29; H, 5.01; N, 19.00. Found: C, 54.43; H, 4.89; N, 18.83.

## 3-Amino-4-(2-fluorophenyl)furazan (6f)9b

Yield: 127 mg (71%); white solid; mp 115–116 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.47 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  = 6.21 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.36–7.46 (m, 2 H, ArH), 7.61–7.68 (m, 2 H, ArH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = 113.8 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz), 116.9 (d, *J* = 20.6 Hz), 125.4 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz), 131.6, 133.1 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 143.7, 156.3, 160.3 (d, *J* = 249.9 Hz).

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<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282.4 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta = -113.5$  (s, F).

## 3-Amino-4-(3-fluorophenyl)furazan (6g)

Yield: 124 mg (69%); white solid; mp 110–111 °C;  $R_f = 0.38$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

IR (KBr): 3450, 3328, 3241, 3071, 2874, 2757, 1637, 1588, 1524, 1475, 1450, 1405, 1307, 1198, 991, 887, 855, 798 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 6.28 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.37–7.46 (m, 1 H, ArH), 7.57–7.65 (m, 3 H, ArH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  = 115.1 (d, *J* = 23.4 Hz), 117.6 (d, *J* = 21.0 Hz), 124.5 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz), 128.1 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz), 131.7 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 146.4 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz), 155.7, 162.7 (d, *J* = 245.0 Hz).

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282.4 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta = -112.5$  (s, F).

Anal. Calcd for  $C_8H_6FN_3O;$  C, 53.63; H, 3.38; N, 23.46. Found: C, 53.79; H, 3.16; N, 23.29.

## 3-Amino-4-(4-fluorophenyl)furazan (6h)<sup>9b</sup>

Yield: 125 mg (70%); white solid; mp 133–134 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.42 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 6.22 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.36–7.44 (m, 2 H, ArH), 7.80–7.86 (m, 2 H, ArH).

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282.4 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta = -111.1$  (s, F).

## 3-Amino-4-(4-chlorophenyl)furazan (6i)<sup>9b</sup>

Yield: 131 mg (67%); beige solid; mp 137–138 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.40 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 6.24 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.61 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2 H, ArH), 7.79 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2 H, ArH).

## 3-Amino-4-(2-bromophenyl)furazan (6j)

Yield: 163 mg (68%); white solid; mp 102–103 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.32 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

IR (KBr): 3402, 3315, 3220, 2932, 2788, 1621, 1592, 1480, 1438, 1411, 1360, 1188, 942, 832  $\rm cm^{-1}.$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 6.27 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.45–7.54 (m, 3 H, ArH), 7.77 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1 H, ArH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 124.1, 124.5, 129.2, 133.1, 133.2, 133.3, 146.2, 155.9.

Anal. Calcd for  $C_8 H_6 Br N_3 O\colon$  C, 40.03; H, 2.52; N, 17.50. Found: C, 39.89; H, 2.69; N, 17.36.

## 3-Amino-4-(4-bromophenyl)furazan (6k)%

Yield: 163 mg (68%); white solid; mp 145–146 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.40 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 6.24 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.71 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2 H, ArH), 7.76 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2 H, ArH).

 $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  = 124.3, 125.2, 130.3, 132.6, 146.7, 155.7.

#### 3-Amino-4-[4-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl]furazan (6l)<sup>13</sup>

Yield: 143 mg (62%); pale yellow solid; mp 108–109 °C;  $R_f$  = 0.36 (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 6.32 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.91 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2 H, ArH), 8.00 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2 H, ArH).

L

## 3-Amino-4-methylfurazan (6m)<sup>9a</sup>

Yield: 59 mg (60%); white solid; mp 72-73 °C.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  = 2.27 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.11 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>).

## 1-Amino-2-phenylglyoxime (5a)<sup>14a</sup>

A suspension of the 4-nitrofuroxan **2a** (207 mg, 1 mmol) in 95% EtOH (5 mL) was heated to 40 °C and stirred until complete dissolution of the starting material had occurred.  $SnCl_2$  (0.95 g, 5 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred for 15 min, then poured into H<sub>2</sub>O (100 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3 × 25 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>.

Yield 145 mg (81%); white solid; mp 152-153 °C.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 5.38 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.22–7.29 (m, 2 H, Ph), 7.33–7.38 (m, 3 H, Ph), 10.06 (s, 1 H, OH), 11.42 (s, 1 H, OH).

#### 4-(Hydroxyamino)-3-phenylfuroxan (4a)

SnCl<sub>2</sub> (1.90 g, 10 mmol) was added to a vigorously stirred mixture of 4-nitrofuroxan **2a** (207 mg, 1 mmol) and 50%  $H_2SO_4$  (7 mL) in one portion at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h then poured into  $H_2O$  (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3 × 15 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (30 mL) and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The drying agent was removed by filtration, the solvent was evaporated in vacuo and the residue was triturated with  $H_2O$ . The solid product was filtered, washed with cold CHCl<sub>3</sub> (2 mL) and dried in air.

Yield: 129 mg (67%); white solid; mp 113–114 °C;  $R_f = 0.14$  (CH-Cl<sub>3</sub>/EtOAc, 20:1).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ): δ = 7.55–7.62 (m, 3 H, ArH), 7.86 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2 H, ArH), 9.05 (br s, 1 H, OH), 9.50 (br s, 1 H, NH).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): δ = 109.9, 123.0, 127.8, 128.1, 129.4, 130.7, 157.4.

Anal. Calcd for  $C_8H_7N_3O_3$ : C, 49.74; H, 3.65; N, 21.75. Found: C, 49.59; H, 3.78; N, 21.92.

## **Funding Information**

This work was supported by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research (project 18-03-00332) and the Russian President's Council for Grants (project MK-1302.2017.3).

## Acknowlegdment

NMR spectra were recorded in the Department of Structural Studies of Zelinsky Institute of Organic Chemistry, Moscow.

# **Supporting Information**

Supporting information for this article is available online at https://doi.org/10.1055/s-0037-1611056.

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