

Dimethylformamide Dimethyl Acetal (DMFDMA) in Heterocyclic Synthesis: Synthesis of Polysubstituted Pyridines, Pyrimidines, Pyridazine and Their Fused Derivatives

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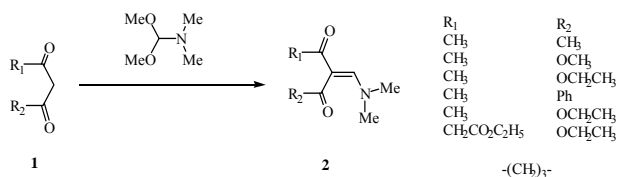
Abstract

Reaction of *N,N'*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) with malononitrile dimer **8** (1:1) mole afforded **9** while, this reaction when carried out in (2:1) mole to give amidine **11** which can be used for the preparation of pyrimidine **13**, amidine **14** and pyridine **19** when reacted with 4-nitroaniline, 4-methylaniline and alkoxide respectively. Malononitrile dimer reacted with diazonium chloride to give pyridazine **21**, which can be reacted with DMFDMA, AcOH/HCl and cyanoacetamide to give pyridazine **22**, **23** and pyrido[4,3-*c*]pyridazine **24** respectively. The latter reacted with DMFDMA to afford tricyclic compound **25**.

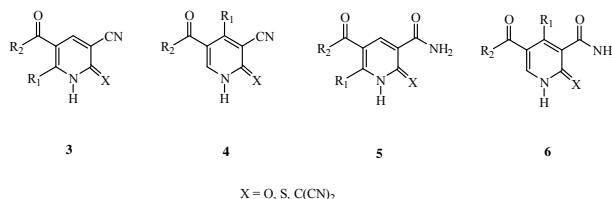
Keywords: DMFDMA, Malononitrile Dimer, Pyridazine-3,5-carbonitrile, Pyridine-4-alkoxide

1. Introduction

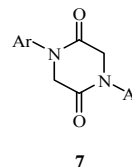
Formamide acetals are useful reagents in organic synthesis; [1,2] their main application has been used for functional group transformations [3], but they may also be regarded as one-carbon synthons in the construction of carbon skeletons. One type of reaction, which is potentially valuable for the future purpose, is the reaction of *N,N'*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) with 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds **1** to give enamines **2** [2,4].



We have reported that enamines **2** were used as precursors in the synthesis of pentasubstituted pyridines **3-6** [5-8].



Moreover, we have reported that *N,N'*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) is potentially valuable as a building block for heterocyclic synthesis [9] and used for the synthesis of 1,4-pyrazine-2,5-diones **7** [10].



2. Results and Discussion

In conjunction with this work we report here the reaction of malononitrile dimer **8** [11] with one mole of *N,N'*-

dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) in dry dioxane afforded only one product that could be formulated as **9** or **10** as result of condensation on either the amino or active methylene group. The structure of the isolated product was elucidated based on the spectral analysis. The $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectrum shows two singlet signals at $\delta_{\text{H}} = 3.2$ and 3.25 ppm corresponding to the two methyl groups of NMe_2 moiety, singlet signal at $\delta_{\text{H}} = 7.59$ ppm corresponding to methylene group or amino group and singlet signal at $\delta_{\text{H}} = 7.99$ ppm corresponding to methine proton. While we could not differentiate between **9** and **10** by $^1\text{H-NMR}$, DEPT-135 of $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ shows a methylene group at -66.78 ppm which indicates that the isolated product is **9** and not **10**. This can be attributed to the fact that the nucleophilicity of the amino group is greater than that of methylene group.

The treatment of malononitrile dimer **8** with two moles of N,N' -dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) afforded amidine **11** in which N,N' -dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) reacted with both the amino group and the active methylene. The mass spectrum of this compound shows molecular weight at m/z 242 which corresponds to structure **11**. Amidine **11** can also be obtained by treatment of amidine **9** with another one mole of DMFDMA.

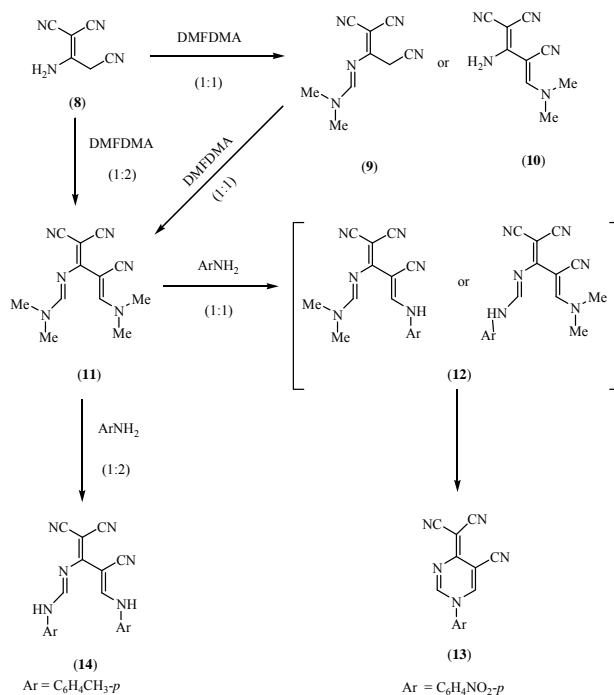
The reaction of amidine **11** with one mole of aromatic amines (1:1) afforded the corresponding pyrimidine derivative **13**, while the treatment of amidine **11** with two moles of aromatic amines (1:2) afforded formamidine **14** (Scheme 1). This suggests that the isolated pyrimidine **13** was formed through the intermediate **12**. The structure of these compounds was confirmed by elemental analysis as well as spectral analysis. The IR spectrum of compound **14** shows the appearance of two bands of ν_{max} at 3286.3 cm^{-1} , 3208.2 cm^{-1} corresponding to two (NH) groups, while the IR spectrum of compound **13** shows the disappearance of NH groups. The mass spectrum of compound **14** shows the molecular ion peak at m/z 366 which is in agreement with the proposed structure **14**.

We expected that the treatment of amidine **11** with sodium alkoxide (sodium ethoxide, sodium methoxide, sodium *n*-propoxide or sodium isopropoxide) in the corresponding alcohol would afford pyrido[4,3-*d*]pyrimidine derivatives **16** [12] through the cyclization of the intermediate **15** in which, two molecules of alcohol were added on the two cyano groups. However, the mass spectra of the isolated products shows a molecular weight which does not agree with the expected structure **16**. Also the $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectra shows three exchangeable protons corresponding to NH and NH_2 groups as well as only one aromatic proton. This means that the isolated product is not **16** and the reaction takes place by another pathway in

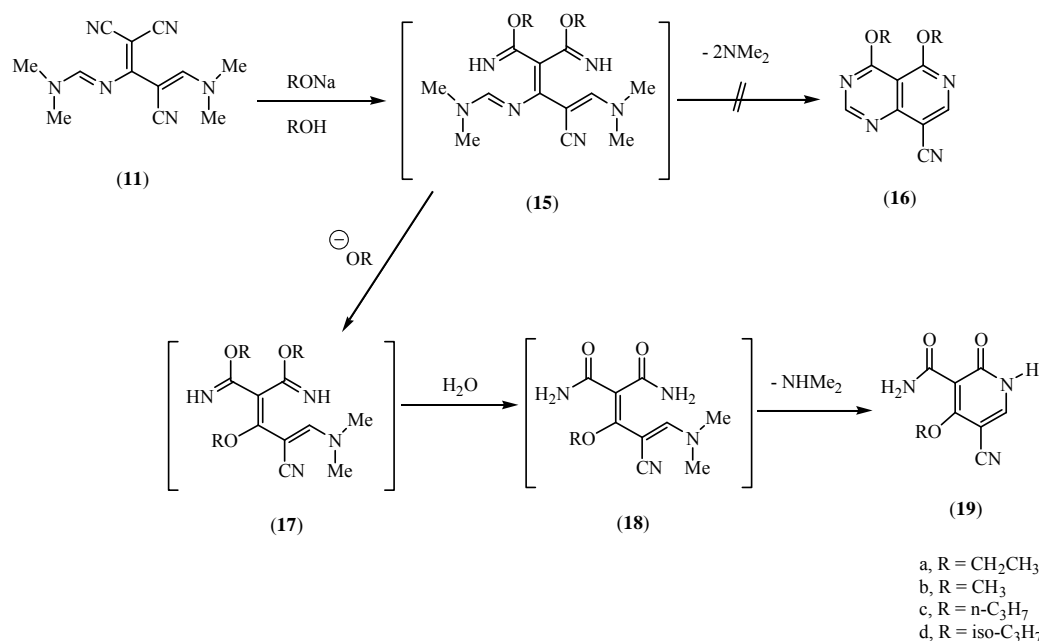
which the intermediate **15** is attacked by the alkoxide to give intermediate **17** in which N,N' -dimethylformamide moiety is replaced by alkoxide group followed by hydrolysis and cyclization to give 4-alkoxy-5-cyanopyridine-2(1*H*)-one-3-carboxylic acid amide **19**. The structure of the isolated product was confirmed by elemental analysis as well as spectral data in which the IR spectra show the presence of NH, NH_2 and cyano group. Also $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectra show two exchangeable protons for NH & NH_2 and one aromatic proton. Sodium isopropoxide cannot react with amidine **11**. This is due to the fact that the isopropoxide group is a bulky nucleophile. Since it does not replace the N,N' -dimethylamide moiety because of the steric hindrance, we could not isolate pyridine isopropoxide derivative (**19d**) (Scheme 2).

The reaction of malononitrile dimer **8** with diazonium salts of aromatic amines **20a-e** furnished the corresponding pyridazine derivatives **21a-e**. The structure of the isolated products was confirmed by elemental analysis as well as spectral data. The IR spectra of these compounds show the appearance of amino and imino groups. Also the $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectra of these compounds **21a-e** show the appearance of aromatic protons and two exchangeable broad singlet signals corresponding to NH_2 and NH groups.

The pyridazine derivatives **21a-e** were found to be a good intermediate for the formation of fused heterocyclic compounds. Reaction of pyridazine derivatives **21a-e** with N,N' -dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) afforded



Scheme 1. The reaction and treatment of amidine **11**.



Scheme 2. The treatment of amidine 11 with sodium alkoxide.

the corresponding amidine **22a-e**. IR spectra of these compounds show the disappearance of the amino group, and the ¹H-NMR spectrum of compound **22b** (as an example) shows two singlet signals for 6 protons at $\delta_{\text{H}} = 3.10, 3.21$ ppm corresponding to the two methyl groups of NMe₂ moiety, a singlet signal at $\delta_{\text{H}} = 8.41$ ppm corresponding to CH=N proton and the disappearance of the amino group.

Further treatment of pyridazine derivatives **21b,c,e** with acetic acid in the presence of small amounts of hydrochloric acid afforded the corresponding pyridazinone derivatives **23a-c**. The IR spectra of these compounds show disappearance of cyano groups and the appearance of amide carbonyl groups.

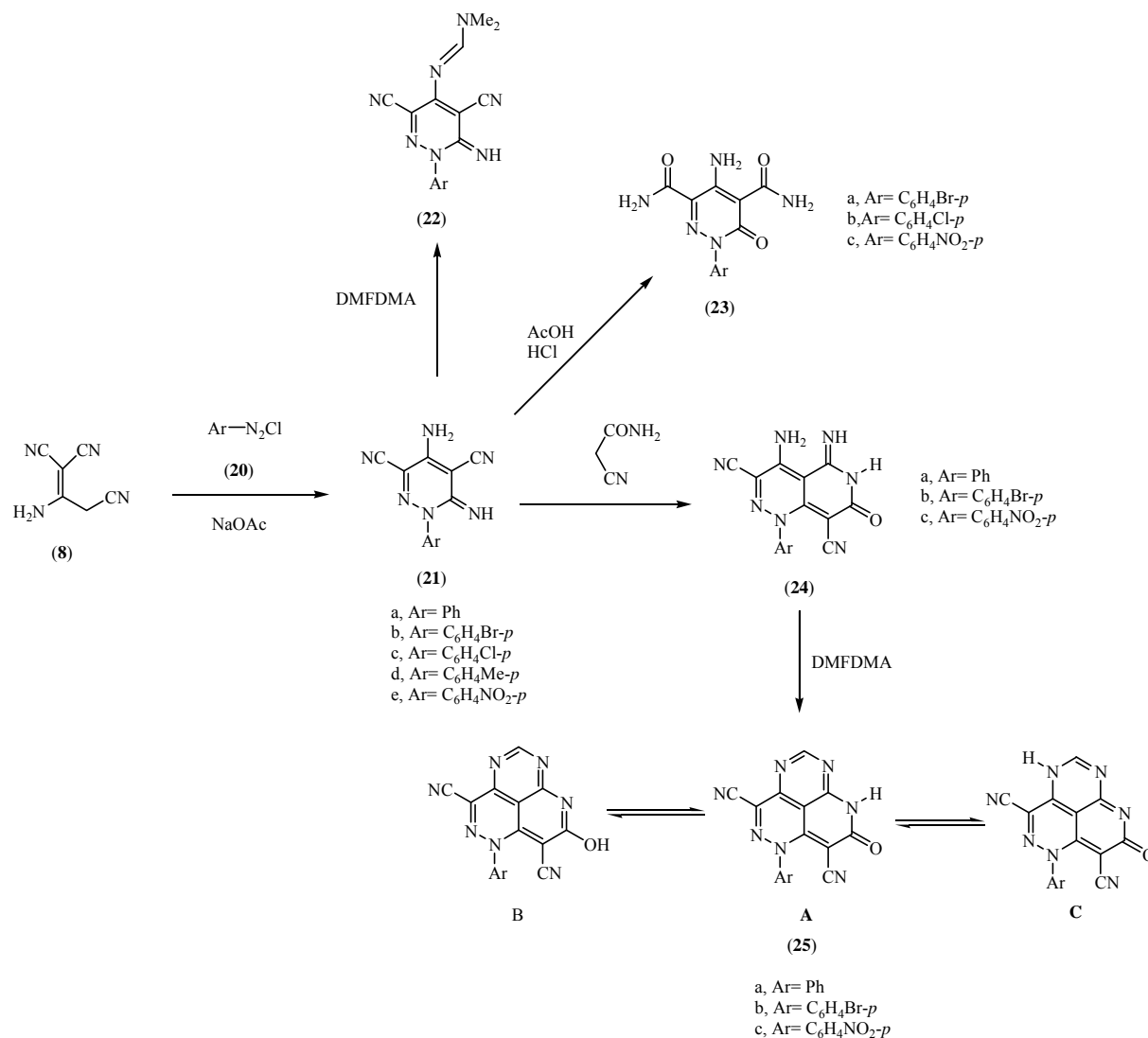
Also, the treatment of pyridazine derivatives **21a,b,e** with cyanoacetamide afforded pyrido[4,3-*c*]pyridazine derivatives **24a-c**. Consequently, pyridopyridazine derivatives **24a-c** were treated with *N,N'*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) to afford the tricyclic heterocycle **25a-c** (Scheme 3). The IR spectra of compounds **25a-c** show the disappearance of amino group. Also, ¹H-NMR spectra of compounds **25a-c** show the disappearance of amino group and the appearance of (NH) group and methine protons at $\delta_{\text{H}} = 7.45$ and 8.71 ppm respectively. ¹H-NMR Spectra of these compounds also show two exchangeable broad signals at $\delta_{\text{H}} = 7.45$ and 10.50 ppm. The sum of the two integrations of both signals is equivalent to one proton which indicates that these compounds **25a-c** may exist as a mixture of three tautomers **25A,B,C**.

3. Experimental

All melting points are uncorrected. IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 17100 FTIR spectrometer as KBr disks. NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker AC-300 spectrometer at 400 MHz for solutions in CDCl₃ or DMSO with tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal standard unless otherwise recorded at Department of Chemistry, College of Science, Sultan Qaboos University, P.O. Box 36, Al-Khod23, Oman. Mass spectra were obtained on Finnigan 4500 (low resolution) spectrometers using electron impact (EI) at Micro-analytical Center Cairo University Giza Egypt. *N,N'*-Dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) was purchased from MERCK.

N'-(2,2-Dicyano-1-cyanomethyl-vinyl)-*N,N*-dimethyl-formamidine (**9**)

In a dry flask, a mixture of malononitrile dimer **8** (1.32 g, 10 mmol) in dry dioxane (30 mL) as solvent and *N,N'*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) (1.32 mL, 10 mmol) was left stirring at room temperature for 24 h and the solvent was evaporated. The solid product was recovered and recrystallised from ethanol as yellow crystals (1.63 g, 87.17%); mp. 199°C - 201°C; ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 3.20, 3.25 (6H, 2s, NMe₂), 7.59 (2H, s, CH₂), 7.99 (1H, s, CH); ¹³C-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 44.93, 47.94 (2CH₃), 69.00 (CH₂), 158.0 (CH), 118.5, 169.21 (C free of hydrogen); DEPT-135 δ +38.72, +47.51 (2CH₃), -66.78 (CH₂), +157.20 (CH); Anal. Calcd for C₉H₆N₅ (187.21): C, 57.74; H, 4.85; N, 37.41. Found: C, 57.55; H, 4.78; N, 37.22.



Scheme 3. The treatment of pyridazine derivatives 21a,b,e with cyanoacetamide.

***N'*-[2,2-Dicyano-1-(1-cyano-2-dimethylamino-vinyl)-vinyl]-*N,N*-dimethyl-formamidine (11)**

(A) In a dry flask a mixture of malononitrile dimer **8** (1.32 g, 10 mmol) in dry dioxane (30 mL) as solvent and *N,N'*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) (2.64 mL, 20 mmol) was left stirring at room temperature for 24h and the solvent was evaporated. The solid product was recovered and recrystallised from ethanol as yellow crystals (2.1 g, 86.4%), Mp. 149°C - 151°C; (B) In dry flask a mixture of *N'*-(2,2-dicyano-1-cyanoethylvinyl)-*N,N*-dimethylformamidine **9** (1.87 g, 10 mmol) in dry dioxane (30 mL) as solvent and *N,N'*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) (1.32 mL, 10 mmol) was left stirring at room temperature for 24 h and the solvent was evaporated. The solid product was recovered and recrystallised from ethanol as yellow crystals (1.9 g,

79.34%); mp. and mmp. 149°C - 151°C; ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 3.06, 3.19, 3.26, 3.34 (12H, 4s, 2NMe₂), 7.67, 8.07 (2H, 2s, 2CH); MS (EI)⁺: m/z 242 (90.7%) M⁺; Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₄N₆ (242.29): C, 59.49; H, 5.82; N, 34.69. Found: C, 59.31; H, 5.76; N, 34.48.

2-[5-Cyano-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-1H-pyrimidin-4-ylidene]-malononitrile (13)

In a dry flask a mixture of *N'*-[2,2-dicyano-1-(1-cyano-2-dimethylamino-vinyl)-vinyl]-*N,N*-dimethyl-formamidine **11** (2.42 g, 10 mmol) in dry xylene (30 mL) as solvent and 4-nitroaniline (2.9 g, 10 mmol) was refluxed for two hours, cooled, and the solvent was evaporated. The solid product was recovered and recrystallised from ethanol as brown crystals (2.12 g, 73.10%); mp. 206°C - 208°C; IR (KBr) ν 2195.2 cm⁻¹ (CN); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₄H₆N₆O₂ (290.24): C, 57.94; H, 2.08; N, 28.96. Found: C, 57.76;

H, 2.02; N, 28.79.

***N*-[2,2-Dicyano-1-(1-cyano-2-*p*-tolylamino-vinyl)-vinyl]-*N'*-*p*-tolyl-formamidine (14)**

In a dry flask a mixture of *N'*-[2,2-dicyano-1-(1-cyano-2-dimethylamino-vinyl)-vinyl]-*N,N*-dimethyl-formamidine **11** (2.42 g, 10 mmol) in dry xylene (30 mL) as solvent and *p*-toluidine (2.14 g, 20 mmol) was refluxed for two hours, cooled and the solvent was evaporated. The solid product was recovered and recrystallised from ethanol as dark brown crystals (2.61 g, 71.31%); mp. 289°C - 291°C; ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 2.12, 2.24 (6H, 2s, 2CH₃), 6.42, 6.82 (8H, 2d, Ar-AB), 7.05, 7.09 (2H, 2s, 2NH), 7.54, 7.56 (2H, 2s, 2CH); IR (KBr) ν 3286.3, 3208.2 (2NH), 2225.2, 2204.3 cm⁻¹ (3CN); MS (EI)⁺: m/z 366 (10.7%) M⁺; Anal. Calcd. for C₂₂H₁₈N₆ (366.43): C, 72.11; H, 4.95; N, 22.93. Found: C, 71.92; H, 4.84; N, 22.70.

General procedure for the preparation of compounds 19a-c

A mixture of Compound **11** (10 mmol) and sodium alkoxide (10 mmol) in corresponding alcohol (30 mL) was refluxed for two hours. The mixture was left to cool then poured onto ice cold water. The solid product was recovered by filtration and recrystallised from ethanol.

5-Cyano-4-ethoxy-2-oxo-1,2-dihydro-pyridine-3-carboxylic acid amide (19a):

Obtained from **11** (2.42 g, 10 mmol) with sodium ethoxide (Na 0.23 g, EtOH 30 mL, 10 mmol); mp. 219°C - 221°C as brown crystals (1.46 g, 70.53%); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 1.28, 1.32, 1.35 (3H, t, CH₃), 4.36, 4.39, 4.43, 4.47 (2H, q, CH₂), 7.49 (1H, s, NH), 8.05 (2H, s, NH₂, br), 8.47 (1H, s, ring-H); MS (EI)⁺: m/z 207 (39.9%) M⁺; Anal. Calcd. for C₉H₉N₃O₃ (207.19): C, 52.17; H, 4.38; N, 20.28. Found: C, 52.02; H, 4.25; N, 20.03.

5-Cyano-4-methoxy-2-oxo-1,2-dihydro-pyridine-3-carboxylic acid amide (19b):

Obtained from **11** (2.42 g, 10 mmol) with sodium methoxide (Na 0.23 g, MeOH 30 mL, 10 mmol); mp. 229°C - 231°C as brown crystals (1.43 g, 74.09%); IR (KBr) ν 3383.7, 3350.9 (NH₂), 3237.5 (NH), 2230.1 (CN), 1670.5 cm⁻¹ (C=O); Anal. Calcd. for C₈H₇N₃O₃ (193.16): C, 49.75; H, 3.65; N, 21.75. Found: C, 49.48; H, 3.56; N, 21.62.

5-Cyano-2-oxo-4-propoxy-1,2-dihydro-pyridine-3-carboxylic acid amide (19c):

Obtained from **11** (2.42 g, 10mmol) with sodium *n*-propoxide (Na 0.23 g, *n*-propanol 30 mL, 10 mmol); mp. 210°C - 212°C as yellow crystals (1.91 g, 86.43 %); IR (KBr) ν 3325.64, 3202.22 (NH₂) and (NH), 2214.84 (CN), 1659 cm⁻¹ (C=O); MS (EI)⁺: m/z 219 (31.3%) [M-2]⁺; Anal. Calcd. for C₁₀H₁₁N₃O₃ (221.22): C, 54.30; H, 5.01; N, 18.99. Found: C, 54.14; H, 4.90; N, 18.76.

General procedure for the preparation of compounds

21a-e

A mixture of ice cold diazonium salts of aromatic amines **20** [conc. HCl (20 mL) added to aromatic amine (10 mmol), cooled then added sodium nitrite (0.69 g, 10 mmol)] was added to malononitrile dimer **8** (1.32 g, 10 mmol) in ethanol (30 mL) as solvent in presence of sodium acetate. The precipitate was collected by filtration and recrystallised from ethanol.

4-Amino-6-imino-1-phenyl-1,6-dihydro-pyridazine-3,5-dicarbonitrile (21a):

Obtained from malononitrile dimer **8** (1.32 g, 10 mmol) and aniline (0.93 g, 10 mmol); mp. > 300°C as yellow crystals (2.20 g, 93.22%); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 7.63 - 8.04 (5H, m, Ar), 8.85 (2H, s, NH₂, br), 9.4 (1H, s, NH, br); IR (KBr) ν 3432.2, 3333.8 (NH₂), 3306 (NH), 2207 (CN); Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₈N₆ (236.24): C, 61.01; H, 3.41; N, 35.57. Found: C, 60.83; H, 3.27; N, 35.35.

4-Amino-1-(4-bromo-phenyl)-6-imino-1,6-dihydro-pyridazine-3,5-dicarbonitrile (21b):

Obtained from malononitrile dimer **8** (1.32 g, 10 mmol) and 4-bromoaniline (1.725 g, 10 mmol); mp. > 300°C as yellow crystals (2.91 g, 92.38%); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 7.41, 8.09 (4H, 2d, Ar-AB), 9.15 (2H, s, NH₂, br), 9.94 (1H, s, NH, br); IR (KBr) ν 3423, 3337.21 (NH₂), 3295.2 (NH), 2210.02 cm⁻¹ (CN); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₂H₇BrN₆ (315.13): C, 45.74; H, 2.24; N, 26.67. Found: C, 45.52; H, 2.10; N, 26.48.

4-Amino-1-(4-chloro-phenyl)-6-imino-1,6-dihydro-pyridazine-3,5-dicarbonitrile (21c):

Obtained from malononitrile dimer **8** (1.32 g, 10 mmol) and 4-chloroaniline (1.275g, 10 mmol); mp. > 300°C as yellow crystals (2.49 g, 92.22%); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 7.52, 7.98 (4H, 2d, Ar-AB), 9.18 (2H, s, NH₂, br), 9.88 (1H, s, NH, br); IR (KBr) ν 3415.6, 3326.61 (NH₂), 3308.3 (NH), 2209.06 (CN); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₂H₇ClN₆ (270.68): C, 53.25; H, 2.61; N, 31.05. Found: C, 53.07; H, 2.55; N, 30.89.

4-Amino-6-imino-1-*p*-tolyl-1,6-dihydro-pyridazine-3,5-dicarbonitrile (21d):

Obtained from malononitrile dimer **8** (1.32 g, 10 mmol) and 4-methylaniline (1.07 g, 10 mmol); mp. > 300°C as yellow crystals (2.27 g, 90.8%); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ = 2.10 (3H, s, CH₃), 7.57, 7.69 (4H, 2d, Ar-AB), 9.16 (2H, s, NH₂, br), 9.88 (1H, s, NH, br); IR (KBr) ν 3413.25, 3318.8 (NH₂), 3298.5 (NH), 2209.63 cm⁻¹ (CN); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₀N₆ (250.26): C, 62.39; H, 4.03; N, 33.58. Found: C, 62.11; H, 3.88; N, 33.37.

4-Amino-6-imino-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-1,6-dihydro-pyridazine-3,5-dicarbonitrile (21e):

Obtained from malononitrile dimer **8** (1.32 g, 10 mmol) and 4-nitroaniline (1.38 g, 10mmol); mp. > 300°C as brown crystals (2.57 g, 91.46%); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ = 7.58, 7.72 (4H, 2d, Ar-AB), 9.23 (2H, s, NH₂, br),

9.89 (1H, s, NH, br); IR (KBr) ν 3433.2, 3340.25 (NH₂), 3300.5 (NH), 2211.03 cm⁻¹ (CN); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₂H₇N₇O₂ (281.24): C, 51.25; H, 2.51; N, 34.86. Found: C, 51.04; H, 2.43; N, 34.69.

General procedure for the preparation of compounds 22a-e

Compound **21** (10 mmol) and *N,N'*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) (10 mmol) in dry dioxane (30 mL) was refluxed for two hours, cooled and evaporated. The precipitate was collected by filtration and recrystallised from ethanol.

***N'*-[3,5-Dicyano-6-imino-1-phenyl-1,6-dihydro-pyridazin-4-yl]-*N,N'*-dimethyl-formamidine (22a):**

Obtained from Compound **21a** (2.36 g, 10 mmol) with *N,N'*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) (1.32 mL, 10 mmol); mp. 203°C - 205°C as yellow crystals (2.24g, 76.98%); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 3.29, 3.42 (6H, 2s, NMe₂), 6.85 (1H, s, NH, br), 7.34 - 7.94 (5H, m, Ar), 8.27 (1H, s, CH); IR (KBr) ν 3306.9 (NH), 2208.9 cm⁻¹ (CN); Anal. Calcd for C₁₅H₁₃N₇ (291.32): C, 61.85; H, 4.50; N, 33.66. Found: C, 61.63; H, 4.37; N, 33.49.

***N'*-[1-(4-Bromo-phenyl)-3,5-dicyano-6-imino-1,6-dihydro-pyridazin-4-yl]-*N,N'*-dimethyl-formamidine (22b):**

Obtained from Compound **21b** (3.15 g, 10 mmol) with *N,N'*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) (1.32 mL, 10 mmol); mp. 209°C - 211°C as deep brown crystals (2.85 g, 77.03%); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 3.10, 3.21 (6H, 2s, NMe₂), 6.98 (1H, s, NH, br), 7.46, 7.72 (4H, 2d, Ar-AB), 8.41 (1H, s, CH); IR (KBr) ν 3302.8 (NH), 2202 cm⁻¹ (CN); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₅H₁₂BrN₇ (370.21): C, 48.67; H, 3.27; N, 26.48. Found: C, 48.44; H, 3.12; N, 26.22.

***N'*-[1-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-3,5-dicyano-6-imino-1,6-dihydro-pyridazin-4-yl]-*N,N'*-dimethyl-formamidine (22c):**

Obtained from Compound **21c** (2.7 g, 10 mmol) with *N,N'*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) (1.32 mL, 10 mmol) mp. 197°C - 199°C as brown crystals (2.40 g, 73.85%); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 3.22, 3.31 (6H, 2s, NMe₂), 6.86 (1H, s, NH, br), 7.34, 7.68 (4H, 2d, Ar-AB), 8.46 (1H, s, CH); IR (KBr) ν 3312.8 (NH), 2213.8 cm⁻¹ (CN); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₅H₁₂ClN₇ (325.76): C, 55.31; H, 3.71; N, 30.10. Found: C, 55.15; H, 3.60; N, 29.93.

***N'*-[3,5-Dicyano-6-imino-1-*p*-tolyl-1,6-dihydro-pyridazin-4-yl]-*N,N'*-dimethyl-formamidine (22d):**

Obtained from Compound **21d** (2.5 g, 10 mmol) with *N,N'*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) (1.32 mL, 10 mmol); mp. 221°C - 223°C as yellow crystals (2.34 g, 76.72%); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 2.35 (3H, s, CH₃), 3.08, 3.20 (6H, 2s, NMe₂), 6.65 (1H, s, NH, br), 7.40, 7.82 (4H, 2d, Ar-AB), 8.45 (1H, s, CH); IR (KBr) ν 3301.8 (NH), 2209.7 cm⁻¹ (CN); Anal. Calcd. for

C₁₆H₁₅N₇ (305.34): C, 62.94; H, 4.95; N, 32.11. Found: C, 62.75; H, 4.84; N, 31.90.

***N'*-[3,5-Dicyano-6-imino-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-1,6-dihydro-pyridazin-4-yl]-*N,N'*-dimethyl-formamidine (22e):**

Obtained from Compound **21e** (2.81 g, 10 mmol) with *N,N'*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) (1.32 mL, 10 mmol); mp. 223°C - 225°C as deep brown crystals (2.82 g, 83.93%); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 3.12, 3.28 (6H, 2s, NMe₂), 7.40 (1H, s, NH, br), 7.88, 8.39 (4H, 2d, Ar-AB), 8.50 (1H, s, CH); IR (KBr) ν 3290.8 (NH), 2207.6 cm⁻¹ (CN); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₅H₁₂N₈O₂ (336.32): C, 53.57; H, 3.60; N, 33.32. Found: C, 53.35; H, 3.48; N, 33.15.

General procedure for the preparation of compounds 23a-c

Compound **21** (10 mol) in acetic acid (20 mL) and hydrochloric acid (3 mL) was refluxed for four hours, cooled, and poured onto ice cold water. The precipitate which formed was recovered by filtration and recrystallised from ethanol.

4-Amino-1-(4-bromo-phenyl)-6-oxo-1,6-dihydro-pyridazine-3,5-dicarboxylic acid diamide (23a):

Obtained from Compound **21b** (3.15 g, 10 mmol); mp. > 300°C as deep brown crystals (2.65 g, 75.28%); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 7.82; 8.64 (4H, 2d, Ar-AB), 7.98 (2H, s, NH₂), 9.79 (2H, s, NH₂, br); IR (KBr) ν 3376.3, 3314.6 (NH₂), 1701, 1663.9 cm⁻¹ (C=O); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₀BrN₅O₃ (352.15): C, 40.93; H, 2.86; N, 19.89. Found: C, 40.71; H, 2.74; N, 19.60.

4-Amino-1-(4-chloro-phenyl)-6-oxo-1,6-dihydro-pyridazine-3,5-dicarboxylic acid diamide (23b):

Obtained from Compound **21c** (2.7 g, 10 mmol); mp. > 300°C as brown crystals (2.23 g, 72.64%); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 7.78, 8.40 (4H, 2d, Ar-AB), 8.01 (2H, s, NH₂), 9.85 (2H, s, NH₂, br); IR (KBr) ν 3314.5, 3197.7 (NH₂), 1697.7, 1630 cm⁻¹ (C=O); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₀ClN₅O₃ (307.70): C, 46.84; H, 3.28; N, 22.76. Found: C, 46.59; H, 3.13; N, 22.61.

4-Amino-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-6-oxo-1,6-dihydro-pyridazine-3,5-dicarboxylic acid diamide (23c):

Obtained from Compound **21e** (2.81 g, 10 mmol); mp. > 300°C as brownish crystals (2.42 g, 76.10%); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 7.90, 8.55 (4H, 2d, Ar-AB), 8.30 (2H, s, NH₂), 9.60 (2H, s, NH₂, br); IR (KBr) ν 3381.0, 3272.0 (NH₂), 1691.9, 1654.7 cm⁻¹ (C=O); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₂H₁₀N₆O₅ (318.25): C, 45.29; H, 3.17; N, 26.41. Found: C, 45.03; H, 3.06; N, 26.24.

General procedure for the preparation of compounds 24a-c

A mixture of Compound **21** (10 mmol) and cyanoacetamide (10 mmol) in ethanol (30 mL) and 3-5 drops of piperidine as a base was refluxed for two hours, cooled, and poured onto ice cold water. The precipitate was re-

covered by filtration and recrystallised from ethanol.

4-Amino-5-imino-7-oxo-1-phenyl-1,5,6,7-tetrahydro-pyrido[4,3-c]pyridazine-3,8-dicarbonitrile (24a):

Obtained from Compound **21a** (2.36 g, 10 mmol) with cyanoacetamide (0.84 g, 10 mmol); mp. > 300°C as brown crystals (2.22 g, 73.27%); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 7.23 (2H, s, NH₂), 7.61, 10.52 (2H, 2s, 2NH, br), 7.64 - 8.12 (5H, m, Ar); IR (KBr) ν 3420.6, 3382.7 (NH₂), 3343 cm⁻¹ (NH), 2210.5 cm⁻¹ (CN), 1683.2 cm⁻¹ (C=O); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₅H₉N₇O (303.29): C, 59.41; H, 2.99; N, 32.33. Found: C, 59.22; H, 2.87; N, 32.19.

4-Amino-1-(4-bromo-phenyl)-5-imino-7-oxo-1,5,6,7-tetrahydro-pyrido[4,3-c]pyridazine-3,8-dicarbonitrile (24b):

Obtained from Compound **21b** (3.15 g, 10 mmol) with cyanoacetamide (0.84 g, 10 mmol); mp. 179°C - 181°C as brown crystals (2.83 g, 74.08%); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 6.70 (2H, s, NH₂), 7.68, 10.20 (2H, 2s, 2NH, br), 7.50, 8.20 (4H, 2d, Ar-AB); IR (KBr) ν 3402.0, 3325.1 (NH₂), 3175.1 (NH), 2204.8 (CN), 1617.5 cm⁻¹ (C=O); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₅H₈BrN₇O (382.18): C, 47.14; H, 2.11; N, 25.65. Found: C, 46.91; H, 2.02; N, 25.41.

4-Amino-5-imino-1-(4-nitro-phenyl)-7-oxo-1,5,6,7-tetrahydro-pyrido[4,3-c]pyridazine-3,8-dicarbonitrile (24c):

Obtained from Compound **21e** (2.81 g, 10 mmol) with cyanoacetamide (0.84 g, 10 mmol) mp. 239°C - 241°C as brown crystals (2.39 g, 68.68%); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 7.19 (2H, s, NH₂), 7.55, 10.60 (2H, 2s, 2NH, br), 7.78, 8.34 (4H, 2d, Ar-AB); IR (KBr) ν 3462.0, 3352.3 (NH₂), 3228.2 (NH), 2192 (CN), 1630.0 cm⁻¹ (C=O); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₅H₈N₈O₃ (348.28): C, 51.73; H, 2.32; N, 32.17. Found: C, 51.50; H, 2.19; N, 32.13.

General procedure for the preparation of compounds 25a-c:

Compound **24** (10 mmol) and *N,N'*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) (10 mmol) in dry dioxane (30 mL) was refluxed for two hours, cooled, and evaporated. The precipitate was collected by filtration and recrystallised from ethanol.

8-Oxo-1-phenyl-7,8-dihydro-1H-1,2,4,6,7-pentaaza-phenalene-3,9-dicarbonitrile (25a):

Obtained from Compound **24a** (3.03 g, 10 mmol) with *N,N'*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) (1.32 mL, 10 mmol); mp. > 300°C as brown crystals (2.29 g, 73.16%); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 7.37 (1H, s, NH, br), 7.81-8.36 (5H, m, Ar), 8.86 (1H, s, CH), 10.30 (1H, s, OH, br); IR (KBr) ν 3333.7 (NH), 2205.7 (CN), 1629 cm⁻¹ (C=O); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₆H₇N₇O (313.28): C, 61.34; H, 2.25; N, 31.30. Found: C, 61.18; H, 2.08; N, 31.16.

1-(4-Bromo-phenyl)-8-oxo-7,8-dihydro-1H-1,2,4,6,7-pentaaza-phenalene-3,9-dicarbonitrile (25b):

Obtained from Compound **24b** (3.82 g, 10 mmol) with

N,N'-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) (1.32 mL, 10 mmol); mp. > 300°C as deep brown crystals (2.76 g, 70.41%); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 7.51 (1H, s, NH, br), 7.69, 8.28 (4H, 2d, Ar-AB), 8.84 (1H, s, CH), 10.02 (1H, s, OH, br); IR (KBr) ν 3326.9 (NH), 2206.1 (CN), 1623 cm⁻¹ (C=O); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₆H₆BrN₇O (392.18): C, 49.00; H, 1.54; N, 25.00. Found: C, 48.79; H, 1.42; N, 24.85.

1-(4-Nitro-phenyl)-8-oxo-7,8-dihydro-1H-1,2,4,6,7-pentaaza-phenalene-3,9-dicarbonitrile (25c):

Obtained from Compound **24c** (3.48 g, 10 mmol) with *N,N'*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (DMFDMA) (1.32 mL, 10 mmol); mp. > 300°C as brown crystals (2.52 g, 70.39%); ¹H-NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ 7.45 (1H, s, NH, br), 7.78, 8.32 (4H, 2d, Ar-AB), 8.71 (1H, s, CH), 10.50 (1H, s, OH, br); IR (KBr) ν 3338.4 (NH), 2202.5 (CN), 1618 cm⁻¹ (C=O); Anal. Calcd. for C₁₆H₆N₈O₃ (358.28): C, 53.64; H, 1.69; N, 31.28. Found: C, 53.41; H, 1.58; N, 31.05.

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