

Supplementary Materials

**Design and synthesis of imidazoles linearly connected to carbocyclic and heterocyclic rings via
a 1,2,3-triazole linker. Reactivity of β -azolyl enamines towards heteroaromatic azides**

Nikolai A. Beliaev,^a Marsel Z. Shafikov,^{a,b} Ilya V. Efimov,^a Tetyana V. Beryozkina,^a Gert Lubec,^c Wim Dehaen,^d Vasiliy A. Bakulev^{a*}

^aUral Federal University, 19 Mira st., Yekaterinburg 620002, Russia

v.a.bakulev@urfu.ru

^bChemistry Department, University of York, Heslington, York, YO10 5DD, UK

^cNeuroproteomics, Paracelsus Medical University, 5020 Salzburg, Austria

^dMolecular Design and Synthesis, Department of Chemistry, KU Leuven, Celestijnenlaan 200F, 3001 Leuven, Belgium

Table of contents

| | |
|--|---------|
| General experimental information | S2 |
| General method for synthesis of triazoles 3a-f and characterization data | S2 |
| General method for synthesis of 1,2,3-triazoles 4a-j and characterization data | S4,S5 |
| Procedure for the synthesis of compounds 5a and 6a (Fig. S1) | S10,S11 |
| General method for synthesis of amidines 8a-c and characterization data | S10 |
| References | S11 |
| Fig. S2 Calculated geometries of triazolines 11-14 corresponding to the lowest free energy Conformations | S12 |
| Fig. S3 Calculated transition state geometries corresponding to formation of triazolines 11-14 by 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition of enamines with azides | S12 |
| Fig. S4 Calculated transition state geometries corresponding to the degradation pathways of the triazolines 11-14 | S13 |
| Fig. S5 Calculated transition state geometries corresponding to the base-catalyzed transformation of triazolines 11-14 | S14 |
| Table S1 Second order perturbation analysis of 13' in the NBO basis | S15 |
| Table S2 Second order perturbation analysis of 14' in the NBO basis | S15 |
| ^1H and ^{13}C spectra of all compounds | S16 |

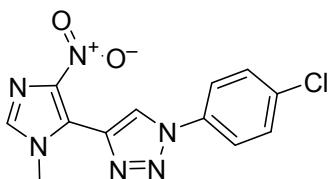
General experimental information

All melting points were determined with a Stuart SMP3 apparatus and are uncorrected. IR spectra were obtained with Bruker Alpha (NPVO, ZnSe) IR-Fur spectrometer. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance II spectrometer with DMSO-d₆ or CDCl₃ as the solvent (400 and 100 MHz, respectively) using Me₄Si as an internal standard. ¹H NMR data are reported as the chemical shift in parts per million, multiplicity (s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; m, multiplet), coupling constant in hertz, and number of protons. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were obtained on Bruker impact HD Q-TOF analyser in the ESI mode. Mass spectra were recorded with Shimadzu GCMS-QP2010 Ultra instrument in electron ionization (EI) mode. Electron energy - 70eV. The reactions were monitored by analytical TLC on aluminium foil plates with 0.2 mm silica gel with a fluorescent indicator visualized under UV light. The column chromatography was performed with 60–120 mesh silica gel.

The calculations were conducted utilizing Gaussian 09 D.01¹ code with DFT approach using mPW1K density functional,^{2,3} specially designed for kinetics by Truhlar group, with 6-311++(d,p) basis set on all atoms and superfine density grid. Conductor-like polarizable continuum solvation model C-PCM^{4,5} was applied to simulate the solvation effect of *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) – the solvent used in the experimental work. The geometry optimization procedures were performed with “tight” optimization criteria. Vibrational analysis proved that each of the obtained relaxed geometry represents a minimum and each transition state geometry represents a first-order saddle point on the potential energy surface. Calculation of internal reaction coordinates (IRC) with the transition state geometries proved them connecting respective starting materials with products as reported. NBO analyses of the calculated structures was carried out with NBO 6.0 software.⁶

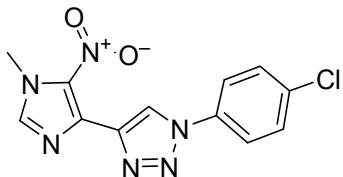
General method for synthesis of triazoles 3a-f.

A mixture of enamine **1** (1 mmol), appropriate azide **2** (1 mmol) and DMF (0.6 mL) was stirred for 1–2 h at 100 °C (for compounds **3e** and **3f** – 3 hours at 130–140 °C). After cooling ethanol (5 mL) was added to the reaction mixture and after 10 min of stirring the precipitate was filtered off, washed with ethanol and dried.

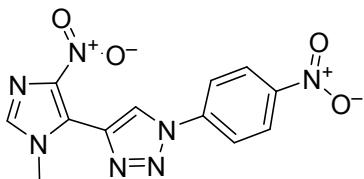


1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-4-(1-methyl-4-nitro-1H-imidazol-5-yl)-1H-1,2,3-triazole (3a). Synthesized from enamine **1c** and azide **2a**. Reaction's time is 1.5 h Yellowish powder; yield 0.176 g (58%); m. p. 236–237 °C;

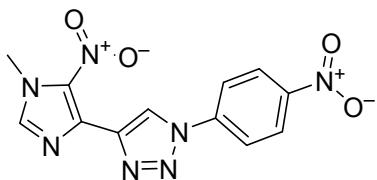
IR (ν/cm^{-1}) 1500; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 3.85–3.99 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 7.60–7.71 (m, 2H, J 9.0 Hz, HAr), 7.98 (s, 1H, CH), 8.02–8.11 (m, 2H, J 9.0, HAr), 9.35 (s, 1H, CH); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 34.3 (NCH₃), 122.1 (2C^{Ar}), 122.2 (C-5^{imidaz}), 125.9 (C-5^{triaz}), 130.0 (2C^{Ar}), 133.56 (C^{Ar}), 134.8 (C-4^{triaz}), 134.9 (C^{Ar}), 138.5 (C-2^{imidaz}), 144.1 (C-4^{imidaz}); MS-EI (m/z) 304 [M]⁺; Anal. Calcd (%) for C₁₂H₉ClN₆O₂: C, 47.30; H, 2.98; N, 27.58. Found: C, 47.19; H, 3.37; N, 27.96. Supplementary crystallographic data for the compound **3a** (CCDC 1580078) can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.



1-(4-Chlorophenyl)-4-(1-methyl-5-nitro-1H-imidazol-4-yl)-1H-1,2,3-triazole (3b). Synthesized from enamine **1d** and azide **2a**. Reaction's time is 1.5 h Pink powder; yield 0.267 g (88%); m. p. 249–250°C; IR (ν/cm^{-1}) 3181, 3094, 3042, 3013, 1587, 1494; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 4.01 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 7.57–7.68 (m, 2H, J 9.0 Hz, HAr), 7.98–8.07 (m, 2H, J 9.0 Hz, HAr), 8.12 (s, 1H, CH), 9.14 (s, 1H, CH); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 35.6 (NCH₃), 122.7 (2C^{Ar}), 124.1 (C-5^{triaz}), 130.3 (2C^{Ar}), 133.9 (C^{Ar}), 134.0 (C^{Ar}), 135.6 (C-4^{imidaz}), 135.8 (C-4^{triaz}), 140.7 (C-2^{imidaz}), 142.3 (C-5^{imidaz}); MS-EI (m/z) 304 [M]⁺; Anal. Calcd (%) for C₁₂H₉ClN₆O₂: C, 47.30; H, 2.98; N, 27.58. Found: C, 47.24; H, 2.73; N, 27.73.

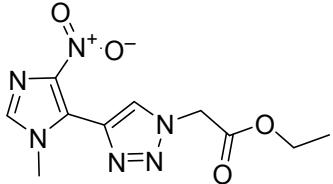


4-(1-Methyl-4-nitro-1H-imidazol-5-yl)-1-(4-nitrophenyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazole (3c). Synthesized from enamine **1c** and azide **2b**. Reaction's time is 1.2 h . Yellowish powder; yield 0.277 g (88%); m. p. Calcd (%) for C₁₂H₉N₇O₄: C, 45.72; H, 2.88; N, 31.10. Found: C, 46.08; H, 3.15; N, 30.95.

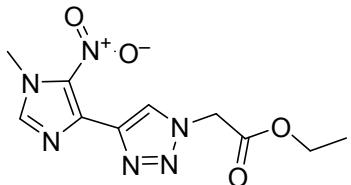


4-(1-Methyl-5-nitro-1H-imidazol-4-yl)-1-(4-nitrophenyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazole (3d). Synthesized from enamine **1d** and azide **2b**. Reaction's time is 1.0 h. Pink powder; yield 0.214 (68%); m. p. > 300 °C; IR (ν/cm^{-1}) 1497, 1335; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 4.02 (s, 3H, CH₃), 8.13 (s, 1H, CH), 8.31–8.41 (m,

2H, *J* 9.3 Hz, HAr), 8.41–8.51 (m, 2H, *J* 9.3 Hz, HAr), 9.36 (s, 1H, H-5); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 35.3 (NCH₃), 121.1 (2C^{Ar}), 123.9 (C-5^{triaz}), 125.4 (2C^{Ar}), 133.1 (C-4^{imidaz}), 135.2 (C-5^{imidaz}), 140.6 (C-4^{triaz}), 140.7 (C^{Ar}), 141.9 (C-2^{imidaz}), 147.06 (C^{Ar}); MS-EI (*m/z*) 315 [M]⁺; Anal. Calcd (%) for C₁₂H₉N₇O₄: C, 45.72; H, 2.88; N, 31.10. Found: C, 45.42; H, 3.08; N, 30.83.



Ethyl 2-(4-(1-methyl-4-nitro-1H-imidazol-5-yl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)acetate (3e). Synthesized from enamine **1c** and azide **2c**. Reaction's time is 3h. Pink powder; yield 0.126 g (45%); m. p. 133–135 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 1.30 (t, 3H, *J* 7.1 Hz, OCH₂CH₃), 3.92 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 4.24 (q, 2H, *J* 7.1 Hz, OCH₂CH₃), 5.47 (s, 2H, CH₂), 7.91 (s, 1H, CH), 8.75 (s, 1H, CH); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 13.9 (CH₃), 34.6 (NCH₃), 50.6 (NCH₂), 61.6 (OCH₂), 122.8 (C-5^{imidaz}), 129.4 (C-5^{triaz}), 133.7 (C-4^{triaz}), 138.3 (C-4^{imidaz}), 138.3 (C-2^{imidaz}), 166.9 (C=O); MS-EI (*m/z*) 280 [M]⁺; Anal. Calcd (%) for C₁₀H₁₂N₆O₄: C, 42.86; H, 4.32; N, 29.99. Found: C, 43.05; H, 4.47; N, 30.18.



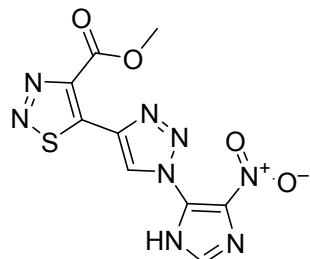
Ethyl 2-(4-(1-methyl-5-nitro-1H-imidazol-4-yl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)acetate (3f). Synthesized from enamine **1d** and azide **2c**. Reaction's time is 3h. Pink powder; yield 0.148 g (53%); m. p. 185–186 °C; IR (v/cm⁻¹) 1736, 1503, 1356, 1268; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 1.27 (t, 3H, *J* 7.1 Hz, OCH₂CH₃), 3.98 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 4.22 (q, 2H, *J* 7.1 Hz, OCH₂CH₃), 5.44 (s, 2H, CH₂), 8.09 (s, 1H, CH), 8.64 (s, 1H, CH); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 13.9 (CH₃), 35.4 (NCH₃), 50.4 (NCH₂), 61.5 (OCH₂), 127.4 (C-4^{triaz}), 134.2 (C-5^{triaz}), 134.6 (C-4^{imidaz}), 138.8 (C-5^{imidaz}), 142.0 (C-2^{imidaz}), 167.1 (C=O); MS-EI (*m/z*) 280 [M]⁺; Anal. Calcd (%) for C₁₀H₁₂N₆O₄: C, 42.86; H, 4.32; N, 29.99. Found: C, 43.12; H, 4.01; N, 30.34.

General method for synthesis of 1,2,3-triazoles **4a, d, g, i.**

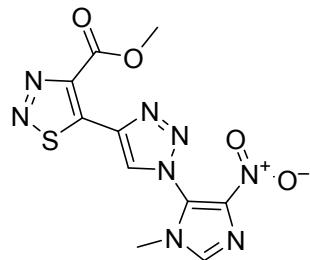
A mixture of enamine **1** (1 mmol), appropriate azide **2** (1 mmol) and DMF (0.4 mL) was stirred for 12–16 h at room temperature. Ethanol (5 mL) was added to the reaction mixture and after 10 min of stirring the formed precipitate of dimethylammonium salt of compound **4** was filtered off, washed with ethanol and dried. This salt was suspended in 1% nitric acid solution in water (10 mL) and stirred for 10 min. The solids were filtered off and washed with water. Crude products were crystallized from ethanol (**4a, d**) or refluxed in ethanol (10 mL) for 10 min and filtered off (**4g, i**).

General method for synthesis of 1,2,3-triazoles 4b, c, f.

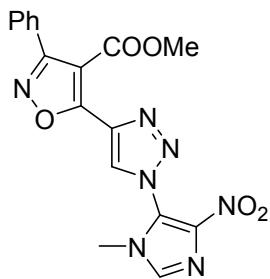
A mixture of enamine **1** (1 mmol), appropriate azide **2** (1 mmol) and DMF (0.4 mL) was stirred for 13-16 h at room temperature. Ethanol (5 mL) was added to the reaction mixture and after 10 min of stirring the formed precipitate was filtered off, washed with ethanol and dried.



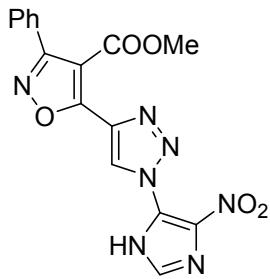
Methyl 5-[1-(4-nitro-1H-imidazol-5-yl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]-1,2,3-thiadiazole-4-carboxylate (4a). Synthesized from enamine **1a** and azide **2e**; reaction's time is **14 h**. Yellowish powder. Yield 0.171 g (53%); m.p. 241–242 °C; IR (v/cm⁻¹) 3155, 2952, 2552, 1741, 1499, 1358; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 4.03 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 7.08 (s, 1H, CH^{imidaz}), 9.04 (s, 1H, H-5); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 53.0 (OCH₃), 127.3 (C-5^{imidaz}), 128.6 (C-5^{triaz}), 133.7 (C-4^{imidaz}), 134.9 (C-4^{triaz}), 135.3 (C-2^{imidaz}), 146.6 (C-5^{thiadiaz}), 151.1 (C-4^{thiadiaz}), 160.7 (C=O). HRMS (ESI) [M+H]⁺ found *m/z* 323.0308, calcd for C₉H₆N₈O₄S 323.0305; Anal. Calcd (%): C, 33.54; H, 1.88; N, 34.77. Found: C, 33.39; H, 1.50; N, 34.66.



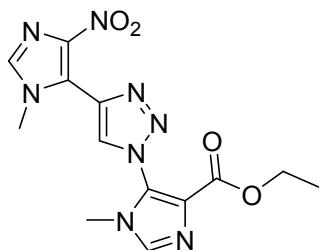
Methyl 5-[1-(1-methyl-4-nitro-1H-imidazol-5-yl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl]-1,2,3-thiadiazole-4-carboxylate (4b). Synthesized from enamine **1a** and azide **2d**; reaction's time is 14 h. Yellowish powder. Yield 0.275 g (82%), m. p. 230 °C (decomp.); IR (v/cm⁻¹) 1727, 1608, 1525, 1514, 1338; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 3.64 (s, 1H, NCH₃), 4.04 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 8.14 (s, 1H, CH^{imid}), 9.49 (s, 1H, H-5); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 32.4 (NCH₃), 53.0 (OCH₃), 122.4 (C-5^{imidaz}), 130.1 (C-5^{triaz}), 135.3 (C-4^{triaz}), 136.3 (C-2^{imidaz}), 139.5 (C-4^{imidaz}), 146.7 (C-5^{thiadiaz}), 150.8 (C-4^{thiadiz}), 160.6 (C=O). HRMS (ESI) [M+H]⁺ found *m/z* 337.0460, calcd for C₁₀H₈N₈O₄S 337.0462; Anal. Calcd (%): C, 35.72; H, 2.40; N, 33.32. Found: C, 35.89; H, 2.58; N, 33.02.



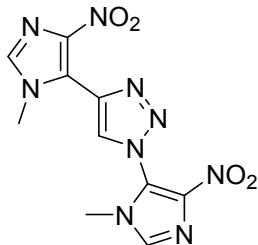
Methyl 5-(1-(1-methyl-4-nitro-1H-imidazol-5-yl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)-3-phenyloxazole-4-carboxylate (4c). Synthesized from enamine **1b** and azide **2d**; reaction's time is 16 h. Yellow powder. Yield 0.182 g (46%); m. p. 187–188 °C; IR (v/cm⁻¹) 1718, 1609, 1511, 1337; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 3.66 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.77 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 7.45–7.59 (m, 3H, HAr), 7.66 (m, 2H, HAr), 8.14 (s, 1H, CH^{imidaz}), 9.46 (s, 1H, H-5); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 32.5 (NCH₃), 52.3 (OCH₃), 108.5 (C-4^{isoxaz}), 122.5 (C-5^{imidaz}), 127.4 (C^{Ph}), 128.3 (2C^{Ph}), 129.0 (2C^{Ph}), 130.2 (C^{Ph}), 131.5 (C-5^{triaz}), 134.6 (C-4^{triaz}), 136.3 (C-2^{imidaz}), 139.4 (C-4^{imidaz}), 161.0 (C=O), 162.4 (C-3^{isoxaz}), 163.1 (C-5^{isoxaz}). HRMS (ESI) [M+H]⁺ found *m/z* 396.1053, calcd for C₁₇H₁₃N₇O₅ 396.1051; Anal. Calcd (%): C, 51.65; H, 3.31; N, 24.80. Found: C, 51.31; H, 2.97; N, 24.86.



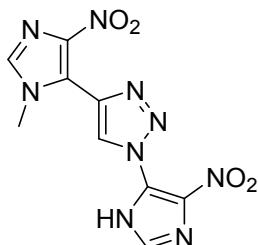
Methyl 5-(1-(4-nitro-1H-imidazol-5-yl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)-3-phenyloxazole-4-carboxylate (4d). Synthesized from enamine **1b** and azide **2e**; reaction's time is 16 h. White powder. Yield 0.198 g (52%), m. p. 219 °C (decomp.); IR (v/cm⁻¹) 1736, 1613, 1524, 1361; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 3.78 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 7.43–7.59 (m, 3H, HAr), 7.60–7.71 (m, 2H, HAr), 7.96 (s, 1H, CH^{imid}), 9.40 (s, 1H, H-5); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 52.2 (OCH₃), 108.3 (C-4^{isoxaz}), 127.3 (C-5^{isoxaz}), 127.4 (C-5^{imidaz}), 128.3 (2C^{Ph}), 129.0 (2C^{Ph}), 129.9 (C-5^{triaz}), 130.2 (C^{Ph}), 134.0 (C-4^{imidaz}), 134.2 (C-4^{triaz}), 135.6 (C-2^{imidaz}), 161.1 (C=O), 162.4 (C^{Ph}), 163.4 (C-3^{isoxaz}). HRMS (ESI) [M+H]⁺ found *m/z* 382.0896, calcd for C₁₆H₁₁N₇O₅ 382.0894; Anal. Calcd (%): C, 50.40; H, 2.91; N, 25.71. Found: C, 50.54; H, 2.65; N, 25.54.



Ethyl 1-methyl-5-[4-(1-methyl-4-nitro-1*H*-imidazol-5-yl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl]-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (4e). A mixture of azide **2f** (1 mmol), enamine **1c** (1 mmol) and DMF (0.4 mL) was stirred at 100°C for 12 h. Ethanol (5 ml) was added to the cooled reaction mixture and the formed precipitate was filtered off, washed with ethanol and dried. Pink powder. Yield 0.087 g (25%), m. p. 230–232 °C; IR (v/cm⁻¹) 3108, 1703, 1511, 1330; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 1.01 (t, *J* 7.0 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 3.85 (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.97, (s, 3H, CH₃), 4.13 (q, *J* 7.0 Hz, 2H, OCH₂) 8.06 (s, 1H, CH^{imid}), 8.15 (s, 1H, CH^{imid}), 9.02 (s, 1H, CH^{triaz}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 13.5 (CH₃), 34.3 (NCH₃), 34.9 (NCH₃), 60.7 (OCH₂), 116.4 (C-5^{imidaz}), 122.4 (C-5^{imidaz}), 130.0 (C-5^{triaz}), 133.1 (C-4^{triaz}), 138.4 (C-4^{imidaz}), 138.5 (C-2^{imidaz}), 140.6 (C-2^{imidaz}), 144.0 (C-4^{imidaz}), 158.0 (C=O). HRMS (ESI) [M+H]⁺ found *m/z* 347.1212, calcd for C₁₃H₁₄N₈O₄ 347.1211.

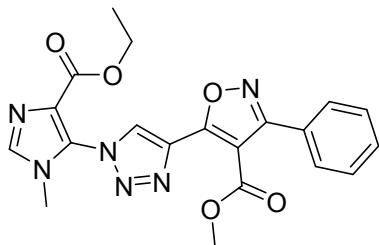


1,4-Bis(1-methyl-4-nitro-1*H*-imidazol-5-yl)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazole (4f). Synthesized from enamine **1c** and azide **2d**; reaction's time is 13 h. Orange powder. Yield 0.198 g (62%); m. p. 207 °C (decopm. with explosion); IR (v/cm⁻¹) 1608, 1516, 1326; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 3.65 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.96 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 7.99 (s, 1H, CH^{imid}), 8.11 (s, 1H, CH^{imid}), 9.26 (s, 1H, CH^{triaz}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 32.4 (NCH₃), 34.5 (NCH₃), 121.7 (C-5^{imidaz}), 122.7 (C-5^{imidaz}), 131.7 (C-5^{triaz}), 134.1 (C-4^{triaz}), 136.3 (C-2^{imidaz}), 138.7 (C-2^{imidaz}), 139.3 (C-4^{imidaz}), 144.3 (C-4^{imidaz}). HRMS (ESI) [M+H]⁺ found *m/z* 320.0851, calcd for C₁₀H₉N₉O₄ 320.0850; Anal. Calcd (%): C, 37.62; H, 2.84; N, 39.49. Found: C, 37.82; H, 3.10; N, 39.44.

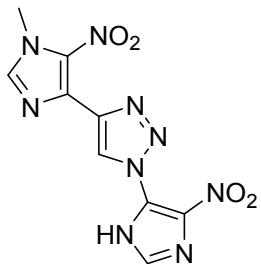


4-(1-Methyl-4-nitro-1H-imidazol-5-yl)-1-(4-nitro-1H-imidazol-5-yl)-1H-1,2,3-triazole (4g).

Synthesized from enamine **1c** and azide **2e**; reaction's time is 12 h. White powder. Yield 0.156 g (51%), m. p. 217 °C (decomp. with explosion); IR (ν/cm^{-1}) 1587, 1524, 1360; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 3.94 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 7.97 (s, 1H, CH^{imid}), 8.01 (s, 1H, CH^{imid}), 9.18 (s, 1H, CH^{triaz}); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 34.4 (NCH₃), 121.8 (C-5^{imidaz}), 127.0 (C-5^{imidaz}), 130.3 (C-5^{triaz}), 133.4 (C-4^{imidaz}), 133.7 (C-4^{triaz}), 135.2 (C-2^{imidaz}), 138.6 (C-2^{imidaz}), 144.2 (C-4^{imidaz}). HRMS (ESI) [M+H]⁺ found *m/z* 306.0696, calcd for C₉H₇N₉O₄ 306.0694; Anal. Calcd (%): C, 35.42; H, 2.31; N, 41.30. Found: C, 35.06; H, 2.44; N, 41.42.



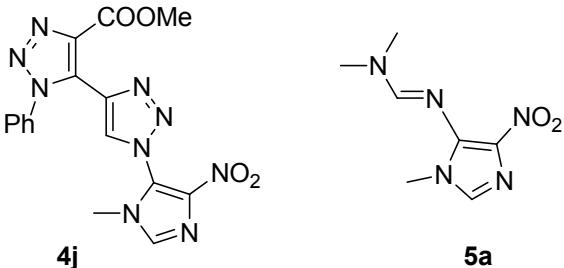
Methyl 5-(1-(4-(ethoxycarbonyl)-1-methyl-1H-imidazol-5-yl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)-3-phenylisoxazole-4-carboxylate (4h). A mixture of enamine **2f** (1 mmol), enamine **1b** (1 mmol) and DMF (0.4 mL) was stirred at 100°C for 12 h. After cooling, the reaction mixture was separated by column chromatography (silica gel, ethyl acetate). The fraction containing substance with R_f 0.36 was collected. Yellowish powder; yield 0.173 g (41%); m. p. 145–148 °C; IR (ν/cm^{-1}) 3119, 1720, 1446, 1226, 1131; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 1.06 (t, *J* 7.0 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 3.74 (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.98 (s, 3H, CH₃), 4.14 (q, *J* 7.0 Hz, 2H, OCH₂), 7.40–7.60 (m, 3H, HPh), 7.60–7.75 (m, 2H, HPh), 8.11 (s, 1H, CH^{imid}), 9.16 (s, 1H, CH^{triaz}); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 13.4 (CH₃), 34.9 (NCH₃), 52.2 (OCH₃), 60.8 (OCH₂), 107.9 (C-4^{isoxaz}), 116.4 (C-5^{imidaz}), 127.5 (C^{Ph}), 128.4 (C^{Ph}), 128.9 (C^{Ph}), 129.6 (C-5^{triaz}), 130.2 (C^{Ph}), 133.7 (C-4^{triaz}), 138.3 (C-5^{imidaz}), 140.6 (C-2^{imidaz}), 158.0 (C=O^{imidaz}), 161.3 (C=O^{isoxaz}), 162.2 (C-3^{isoxaz}), 163.8 (C-5^{isoxaz}). MS-EI (*m/z*) 422 [M]⁺; Anal. Calcd (%) for C₂₀H₁₈N₆O₅: C, 56.87; H, 4.30; N, 19.90. Found: C, 59.94; H, 4.26; N, 19.89.



4-(1-Methyl-5-nitro-1H-imidazol-4-yl)-1-(4-nitro-1H-imidazol-5-yl)-1H-1,2,3-triazole (4i).

Synthesized from enamine **1d** and azide **2e**; reaction's time is 12 h. White powder. Yield 0.201 g (66%); 290 °C (decomp. with explosion); IR (ν/cm^{-1}) 1533, 1523, 1371, 1356; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 4.02 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 7.99 (s, 1H, CH), 8.13 (s, 1H, CH), 9.09 (s, 1H), 14.88 (NH); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 35.7 (NCH₃), 127.3 (C-5^{imidaz}), 128.4 (C-5^{triaz}), 133.6 (C-4^{triaz}), 134.8 (C-4^{imidaz}), 135.1 (C-5^{imidaz}), 135.7 (C-

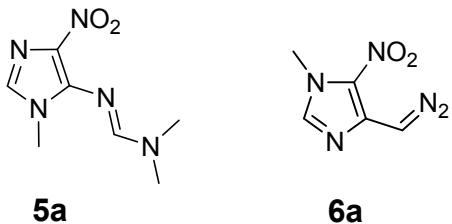
$2^{\text{imidaz}})$, 139.5 (C-4 $^{\text{imidaz}}$), 142.4 (C-2 $^{\text{imidaz}}$); HRMS (ESI) [M+H] $^{+}$ found m/z 306.0696, calcd for C₉H₇N₉O₄ 306.0694; Anal. Calcd (%): C, 35.42; H, 2.31; N, 41.30. Found: C, 35.42; H, 2.31; N, 41.30.



Methyl 1-(1-methyl-4-nitro-1H-imidazol-5-yl)-3'-phenyl-1H,3'H-[4,4'-bi(1,2,3-triazole)]-5'-carboxylate (4j) and N,N-dimethyl-N'-(1-methyl-4-nitro-1H-imidazol-5-yl)formimidamide (5a). A mixture of 5-azido-1-methyl-4-nitro-1H-imidazole (**2d**) (1 mmol), methyl 5-[(E)-2-(dimethylamino)ethenyl]-1-phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazole-4-carboxylate (**1e**) (1 mmol) and DMF (0.2 mL) was stirred for 16 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was diluted with water (5 mL), the precipitate was filtered off, washed with water, dried and purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/EtOH 9:1). Two compounds (**4j** (major, R_f 0.41) and **5a** (minor, R_f 0.27)) were separated.

4j: white powder; yield 0.130 g (33%); m.p. 187–189 °C; IR (ν/cm^{-1}): 3153, 3111, 2918, 1736, 1513, 1204; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 3.57 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.88 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 7.44–7.58 (m, 5H, HPh), 8.08 (s, 1H, CH^{imid}), 9.12 (s, 1H, CH^{triaz}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO) δ 32.3, 39.5, 52.1, 122.6, 125.6, 129.4, 130.2, 130.8, 131.9, 132.8, 135.7, 136.3, 137.2, 139.3, 160.5; HRMS (ESI) [M+H] $^{+}$ found m/z 396.1162, calcd for C₁₆H₁₃N₉O₄ 396.1163; Anal. Calcd (%): C, 48.61; H, 3.31; N, 31.89. Found: C, 48.39; H, 3.42; N, 31.73.

5a: yellow crystals; yield 0.020 g (10%), m. p. 142–144 °C. Spectral data of compound **5a** see below.



N,N-Dimethyl-N'-(1-methyl-4-nitro-1H-imidazol-5-yl)formimidamide (5a). A mixture of 5-azido-1-methyl-4-nitro-1H-imidazole (**2d**) (1 mmol), (*E*)-*N,N*-dimethyl-2-(1-methyl-5-nitro-1H-imidazol-4-yl)ethenamine **1d** (1 mmol) and DMF (0.4 mL) was stirred for 48 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was diluted with ethanol (10 mL) and insoluble part was filtered off, washed with ethanol and dried to give compound **6** as a mixture with 20–30% of unknown impurities. The filtrate was evaporated in vacuum to dryness and the residue was separated by column chromatography (silica gel, EtOAc–ethanol 9:1).

Fractions with R_f 0.27 were collected and the solvent was evaporated in vacuum to dryness to give amidine **5a**.

5a: Yield 0.110 g (56%). Yellow crystals; m. p. 142–144 °C; IR (ν/cm^{-1}): 3105, 2916, 2808, 1631, 1523; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 3.04 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.11 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.39 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 7.46 (s, 1H, CH^{imid}), 8.33 (s, 1H, CH=); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 30.6 (N(CH₃)₂), 34.2 (N(CH₃)₂), 40.6 (NCH₃), 132.9 (C-2^{imidaz}), 133.4 (C-5^{imidaz}), 144.6 (C-4^{imidaz}), 159.6 (CH^{amidine}); HRMS (ESI) [M+H]⁺ found *m/z* 198.0986, calcd for C₇H₁₁N₅O₂ 198.0986; Anal. Calcd (%): C, 42.64; H, 5.62; N, 35.52. Found: C, 42.68; H, 5.91; N, 35.35.

6a: Yellow solid, m. p. 130–135 °C (decopm.), yield 0.060 g (36%). IR (ν/cm^{-1}): 1140, 1189, 1354, 1444, 1513, 1554, 1603, 2081, 3100; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 3.91 (s, 3H, NCH₃); 6.21 (s, 1H, CH); 7.91 (s, 1H, CH^{imid}).

The structure of diazo compound **6a** was also confirmed by X-ray diffraction analysis for monocrystal of **6a**.

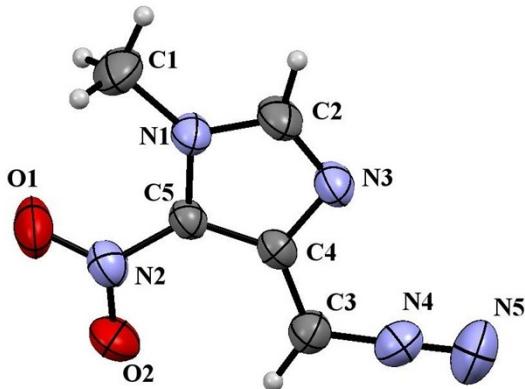
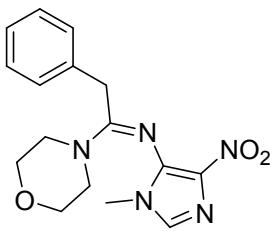


Fig. S1. Perspective view of compound **6a** (50% probability thermal ellipsoids) as determined by X-ray diffraction analysis.

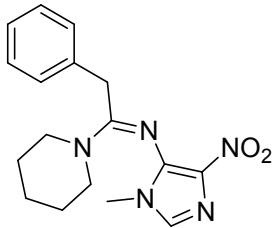
Supplementary crystallographic data for the compound **6a** (CCDC 1826375) can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.

General method for synthesis of amidines 8a-c.⁷

A mixture of phenylacetaldehyde (1 mmol), secondary amine **7a-c** (1 mmol), azide **2d** (1 mmol) and CH₃OH (2 mL) was stirred at 50 °C for 2 h. Then reaction mixture was evaporated in vacuum to dryness and purified by column chromatography (silica gel, ethyl acetate).

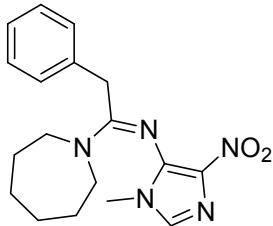


(Z)-N-(1-Methyl-4-nitro-1H-imidazol-5-yl)-1-morpholino-2-phenylethan-1-imine (8a). Yellow powder; m. p. 133–137 °C; yield 0.370 g (89%); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.26 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.67 (br. s, 6H, 4H^{morph} + CH₂), 3.88 (s, 4H, H^{morph}), 6.98 (d, 2H, J 7.2, HPh), 7.09 (s, 1H, CH^{imidaz}), 7.20 (t, 1H, J 7.3, HPh), 7.26 (dd, 2H, J 7.9, 6.6, HPh); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 30.4 (NCH₃), 36.3 (CH₂), 45.2 (C^{morph}), 47.6 (C^{morph}), 66.5 (C^{morph}), 127.3 (C^{Ph}), 127.6 (2C^{Ph}), 129.2 (2C^{Ph}), 132.0 (C-2^{imidaz}), 133.4 (C-4^{imidaz}), 134.9 (C^{Ph}), 142.2 (C-5^{imidaz}), 164.6 (C=N^{amid}); HRMS (ESI) [M+H]⁺ found *m/z* 330.1561, calcd for C₁₆H₁₉N₅O₃ 330.1561; Anal. Calcd (%): C, 58.35; H, 5.81; N, 21.26. Found: C, 58.19; H, 6.0; N, 20.86.



(Z)-N-(1-Methyl-4-nitro-1H-imidazol-5-yl)-1-piperidiino-2-phenylethan-1-imine (8b). Yellow prisms; yield 0.137 g (42%); m. p. 90–93 °C; IR (v/cm⁻¹) 3407, 3030, 2941, 2855, 1583, 1352, 1252; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.37 (br. s, 1H, H^{piper}), 1.63 (br. s, 5H, H^{piper}), 3.27 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.25–4.15 (m, 6H, 4H^{piper} + CH₂), 7.02 (d, *J* 7.0 Hz, 2H, H^{Ph}), 7.08 (s, 1H, CH^{imidaz}), 7.17–7.24 (m, 1H, H^{Ph}), 7.24–7.32 (m, 2H, H^{Ph}); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 24.4 (C^{piper}), 25.0 (C^{piper}), 26.5 (C^{piper}), 30.2 (NCH₃), 36.5 (CH₂), 46.0 (C^{piper}), 48.6 (C^{piper}), 126.9 (C^{Ph}), 127.6 (2C^{Ph}), 128.9 (2C^{Ph}), 131.8 (C-2^{imidaz}), 133.1 (C-4^{imidaz}), 135.4 (C^{Ph}), 143.0 (C-5^{imidaz}), 164.2 (C=N^{amid}); MS-EI (*m/z*) 327 [M]⁺; Anal. Calcd (%) for C₁₇H₂₁N₅O₂: C, 62.37; H, 6.47; N, 21.39. Found: C, 62.03; H, 6.66; N, 21.24.

Supplementary crystallographic data for the compound **8b** (CCDC 1580079) can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.



(Z)-1-(Azepan-1-yl)-N-(1-methyl-4-nitro-1H-imidazol-5-yl)-2-phenylethan-1-imine (8c). Yellow powder; yield 0.174 g (51%); m. p. 80–82 °C; IR (v/cm⁻¹) 3445, 3115, 3029, 2931, 2851, 1580, 1355, 1267;

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.52–1.82 (m, 6H, CH₂^{azep}), 1.92 (br. s, 2H, CH₂^{azep}), 3.17 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.36 (br. s, 1H, CH₂^{azep}), 3.43 (br. s, 1H, CH^{azep}), 3.59–3.88 (m, 3H, CH^{azep} + CH₂), 4.18 (br. s, 1H, CH^{azep}), 7.00 (d, *J* 7.0 Hz, 2H, CHPh), 7.04 (s, 1H, CH^{imidaz}), 7.16–7.32 (m, 3H, CHPh); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 26.0 (C^{azep}), 26.2 (C^{azep}), 26.9 (C^{azep}), 29.3 (C^{azep}), 30.0 (NCH₃), 36.6 (CH₂), 49.3 (C^{azep}), 50.1 (C^{azep}), 126.9 (C^{Ph}), 127.8 (2C^{Ph}), 128.9 (2C^{Ph}), 131.5 (C-2^{imidaz}), 133.3 (C-4^{imidaz}), 135.5 (C^{Ph}), 143.0 (C-5^{imidaz}), 165.0 (C=N^{amid}); MS-EI (*m/z*) 341 [M]⁺; Anal. Calcd (%) for C₁₈H₂₃N₅O₂: C, 63.32; H, 6.79; N, 20.51. Found: C, 63.23; H, 7.17; N, 20.53.

References

1. M. J Frisch, G. W. Trucks, H. B. Schlegel, G. E. Scuseria, M. A. Robb, J. R. Cheeseman, G. Scalmani, V. Barone, B. Mennucci, G. A. Petersson, H. Nakatsuji, M. Caricato, X. Li, H. P. Hratchian, A. F. Izmaylov, J. Bloino, G. Zheng, J. L. Sonnenberg, M. Hada, M. Ehara, K. Toyota, R. Fukuda, J. Hasegawa, M. Ishida, T. Nakajima, Y. Honda, O. Kitao, H. Nakai, T. Vreven, Jr. J. A. Montgomery, J. E. Peralta, F. Ogliaro, M. J. Bearpark, J. Heyd, E. N. Brothers, K. N. Kudin, V. N. Staroverov, R. Kobayashi, J. Normand, K. Raghavachari, A. P. Rendell, J. C. Burant, S. S. Iyengar, J. Tomasi, M. Cossi, N. Rega, N. J. Millam, M. Klene, J. E. Knox, J. B. Cross, V. Bakken, C. Adamo, J. Jaramillo, R. Gomperts, R. E. Stratmann, O. Yazyev, A. J. Austin, R. Cammi, C. Pomelli, J. W. Ochterski, R. L. Martin, K. Morokuma, V. G. Zakrzewski, G. A. Voth, P. Salvador, J. J. Dannenberg, S. Dapprich, A. D. Daniels, Ö. Farkas, J. B. Foresman, J. V. Ortiz, J. Cioslowski and D. J. Fox. *Gaussian 09*, Gaussian, Inc.: Wallingford, CT, USA, 2009.
2. Y. Zhao and D. G. Truhlar, *J. Phys. Chem. A* 2004, **108**, 6908–6918.
3. Y. Zhao and D. G. Truhlar, *J. Phys. Chem. A* 2005, **109**, 5656–5667.
4. V. Barone and M. Cossi, *J. Phys. Chem. A* 1998, **102**, 1995–2001.
5. M. Cossi, N. Rega, G. Scalmani and V. Barone, *J. Comput. Chem.* 2003, **24**, 669–681.
6. E. D. Glendening, J. K. Badenhoop, A. E. Reed, J. E. Carpenter, J. A. Bohmann, C. M. Morales, C. R. Landis and F. Weinhold, *NBO 6.0*, Theoretical Chemistry Institute, University of Wisconsin, Madison, 2013.
7. I. Efimov, N. Beliaev, T. Beryozkina, P. Slepukhin and V. Bakulev, *Tetrahedron Lett.* 2016, **57**, 1949–1952.

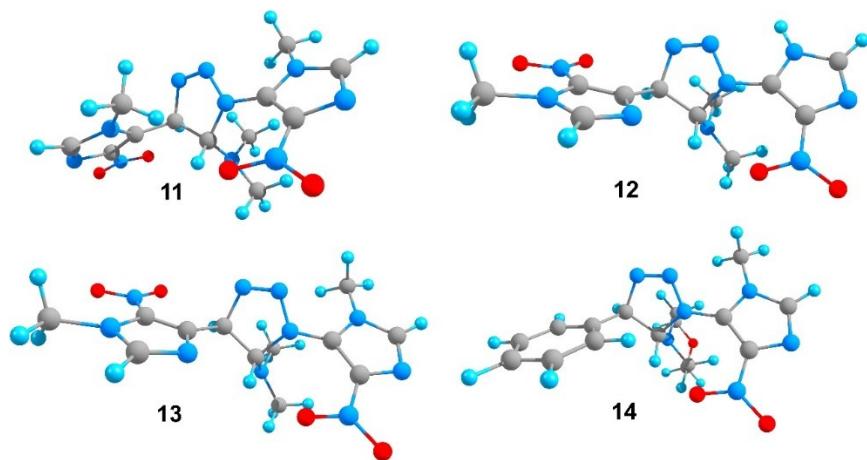


Fig. S2 Calculated geometries of triazolines **11** - **14** corresponding to the lowest free energy conformations.

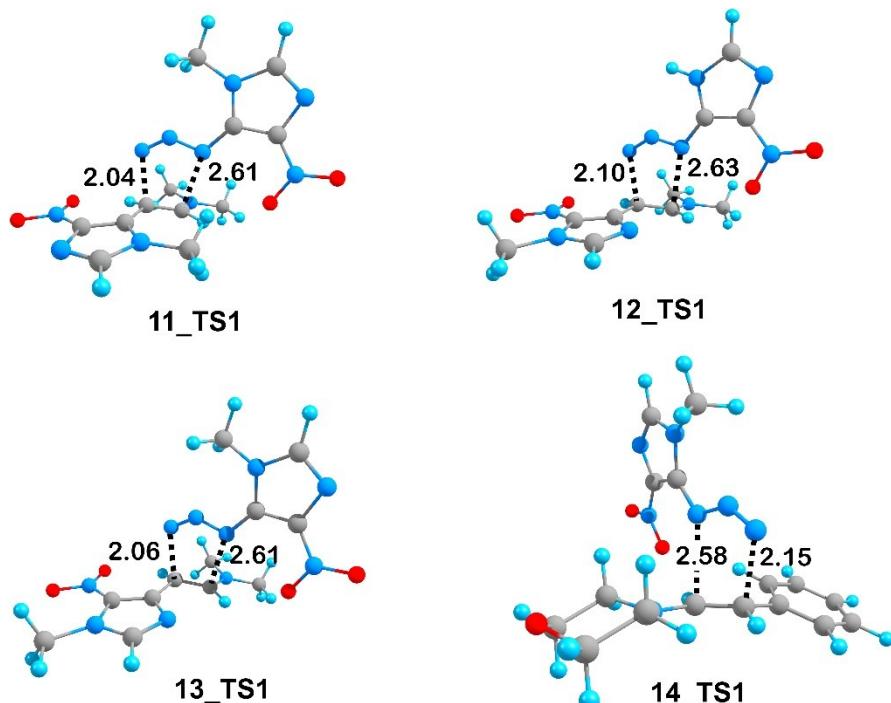


Fig. S3 Calculated transition state geometries corresponding to formation of triazolines **11** – **14** by 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition of enamines with azides. The shown numbers are the interatomic distances given in angströms.

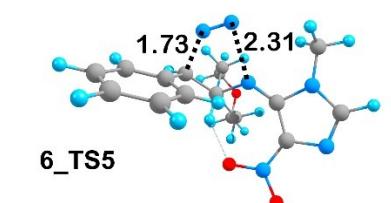
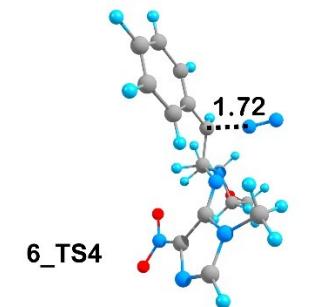
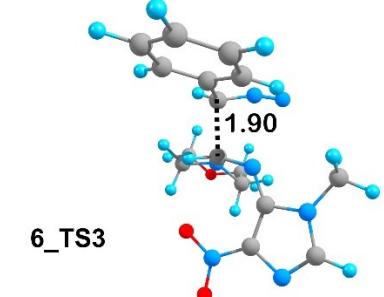
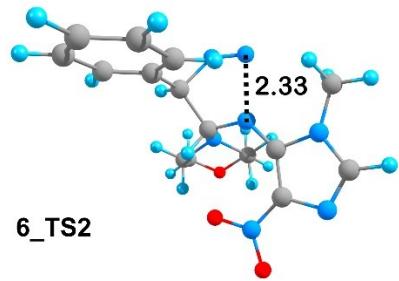
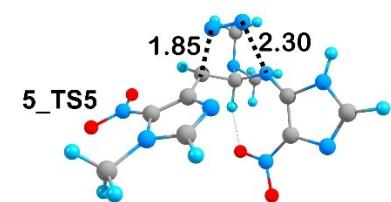
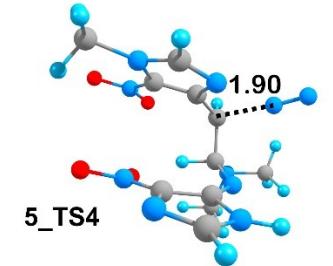
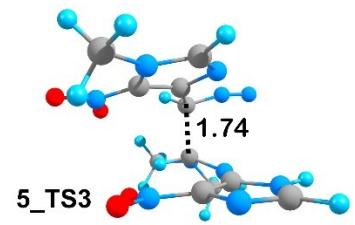
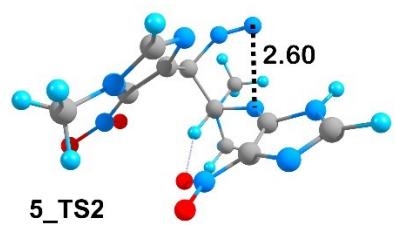
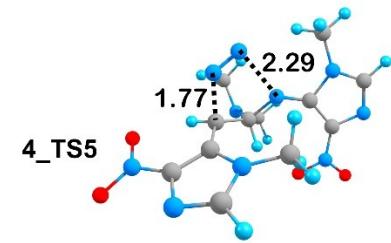
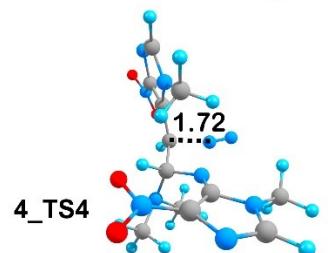
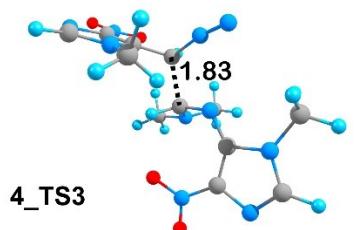
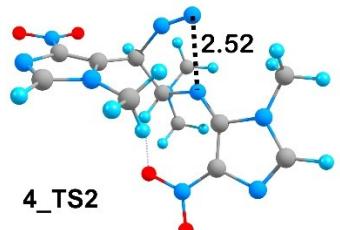
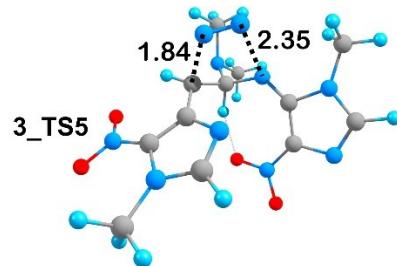
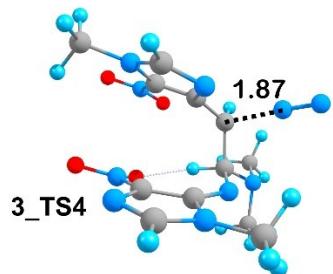
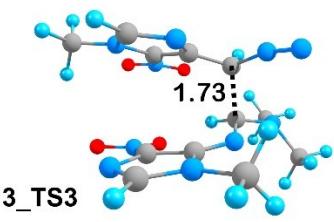
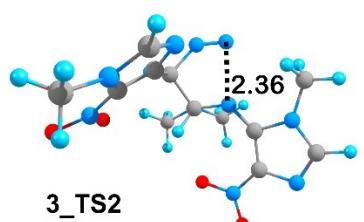


Fig. S4 Calculated transition state geometries corresponding to the degradation pathways of the triazolines **11 – 14** shown in Scheme 8. The shown numbers are the interatomic distances given in angströms

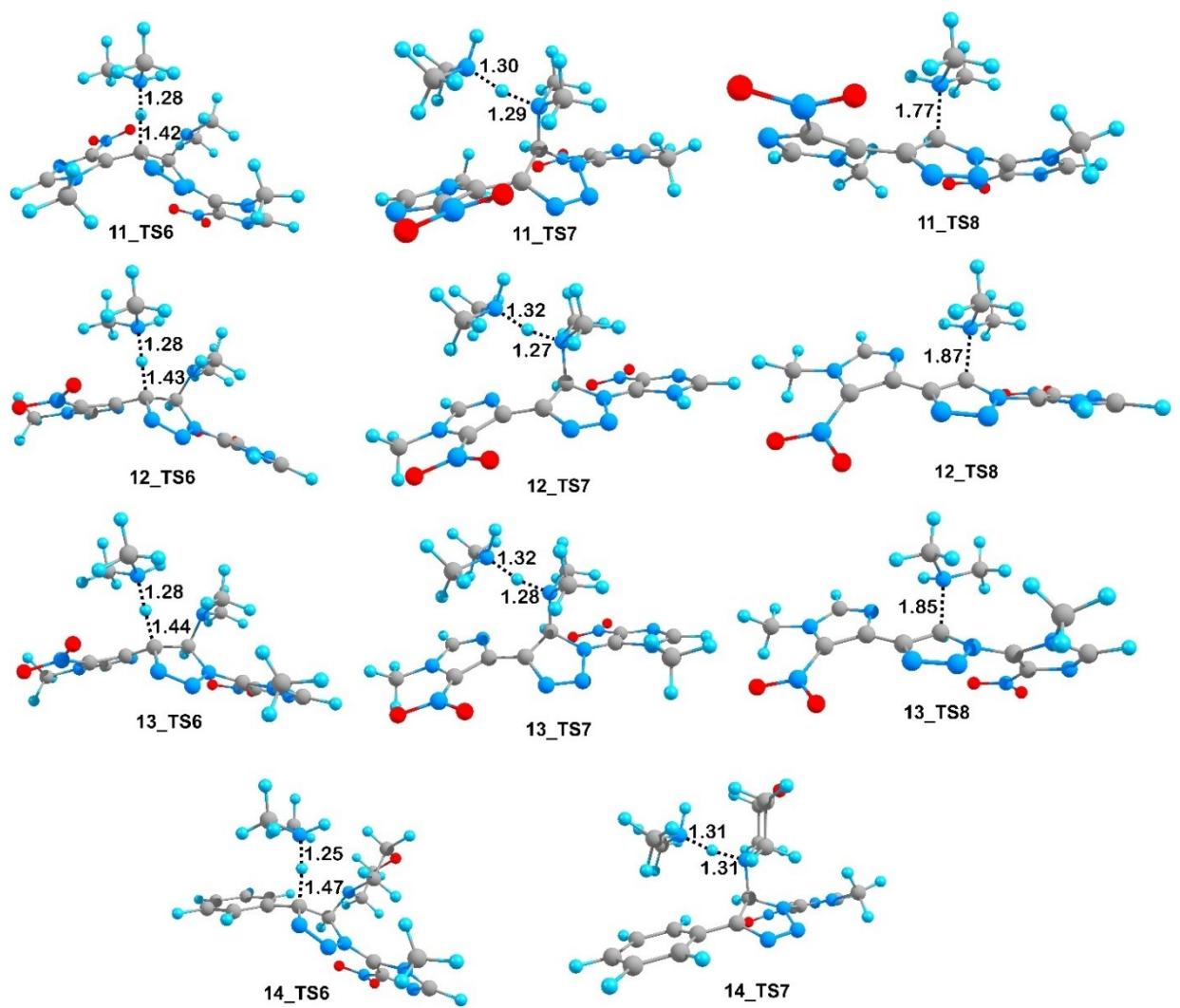
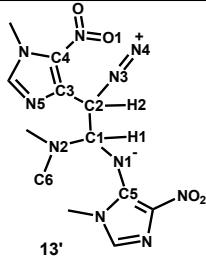


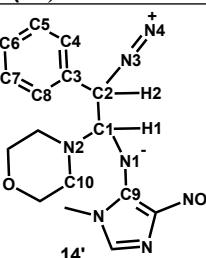
Fig. S5 Calculated transition state geometries corresponding to the base-catalyzed transformation of triazolines **11 – 14** to the corresponding triazoles as shown in Scheme 9. The base-catalyst is represented by dimethylamine (dma). The shown numbers are the interatomic distances given in angströms.

Table S1 Second order perturbation analysis of **13'** in the NBO basis. The presented results are related to the antibonding orbitals **C1–C2 (σ^*)** and **C2–N3 (σ^*)**.

|  13' | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| C1–C2 (σ^*) (acceptor), population = 0.08416 | | | | C2–N3 (σ^*) (acceptor), population = 0.04212 | | | |
| <i>NBO</i> (donor) | <i>E</i> <i>kcal·mol⁻¹</i> | <i>ΔE</i> <i>a. u.</i> | <i>F</i> <i>a. u.</i> | <i>NBO</i> (donor) | <i>E</i> <i>kcal·mol⁻¹</i> | <i>ΔE</i> <i>a. u.</i> | <i>F</i> <i>a. u.</i> |
| N2 (LP) | 6.17 | 0.63 | 0.056 | O1 (LP) | 1.85 | 0.71 | 0.032 |
| C3–C4 (π) | 3.34 | 0.67 | 0.042 | N4 (LP) | 8.64 | 0.97 | 0.082 |
| C2–C3 (σ) | 1.16 | 1.01 | 0.031 | N5–C3 (σ) | 0.52 | 1.13 | 0.022 |
| C1–C2 (σ) | 0.56 | 0.91 | 0.020 | C3–C4 (σ) | 1.39 | 1.06 | 0.034 |
| N1–C5 (π) | 10.85 | 0.67 | 0.076 | C3–C4 (π) | 0.84 | 0.68 | 0.021 |
| N3–N4 (π) | 1.42 | 0.94 | 0.033 | C1–H1 (σ) | 4.39 | 0.87 | 0.055 |
| N2–C6 (σ) | 1.65 | 1.00 | 0.036 | N3–N4 (σ) | 2.20 | 1.56 | 0.052 |
| total (net) | 25.15 | | | total (net) | 19.83 | | |

σ - sigma bonding orbital; π - pi bonding orbital; σ^* - sigma antibonding orbital; **LP** - lone pair. **E** - the energy of delocalization (conjugation) of the donor orbital over (with) the acceptor orbital. **ΔE** - the energy gap between the donor and acceptor orbitals. **F** - the element of the Kohn-Sham matrix describing the donor-acceptor interaction (represents spatial overlap).

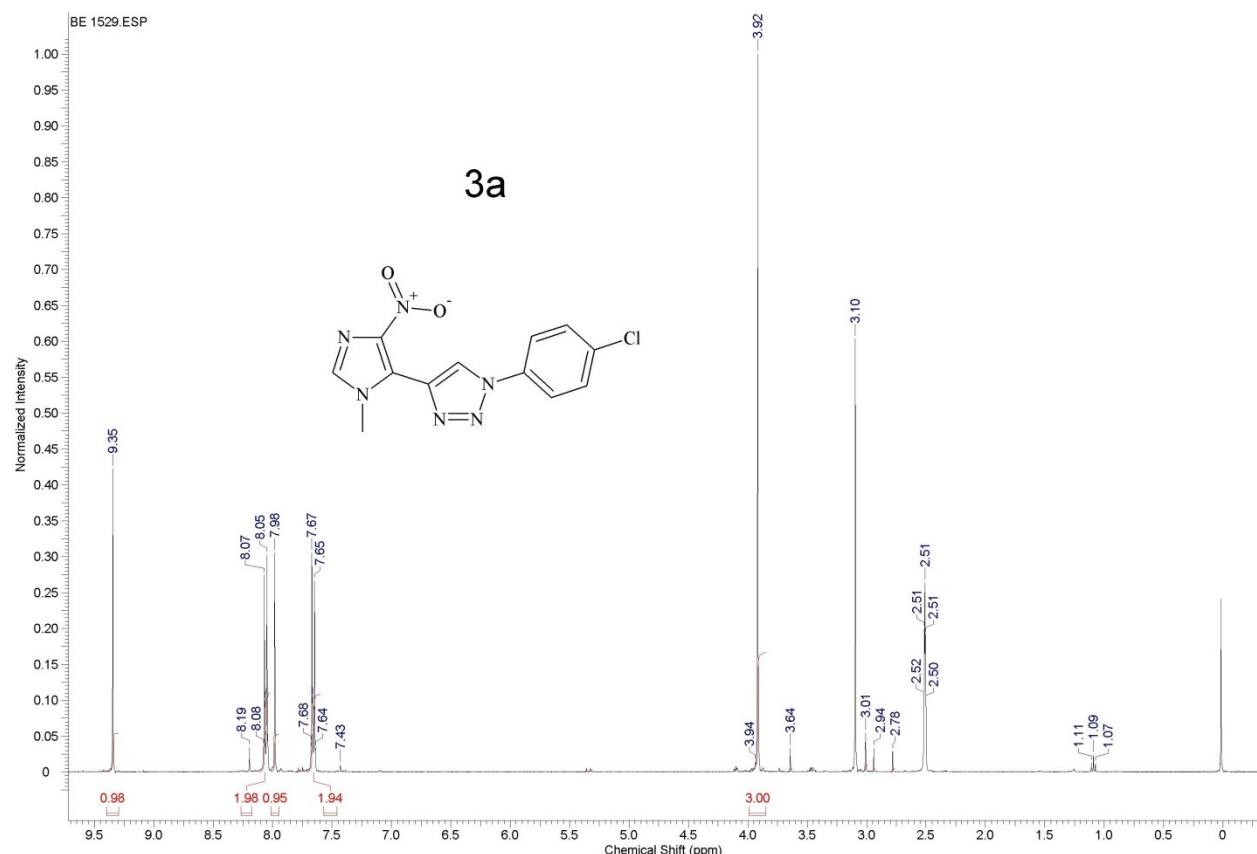
Table S2 Second order perturbation analysis of **14'** in the NBO basis. The presented results are related to the antibonding orbitals **C1–C2 (σ^*)** and **C2–N3 (σ^*)**.

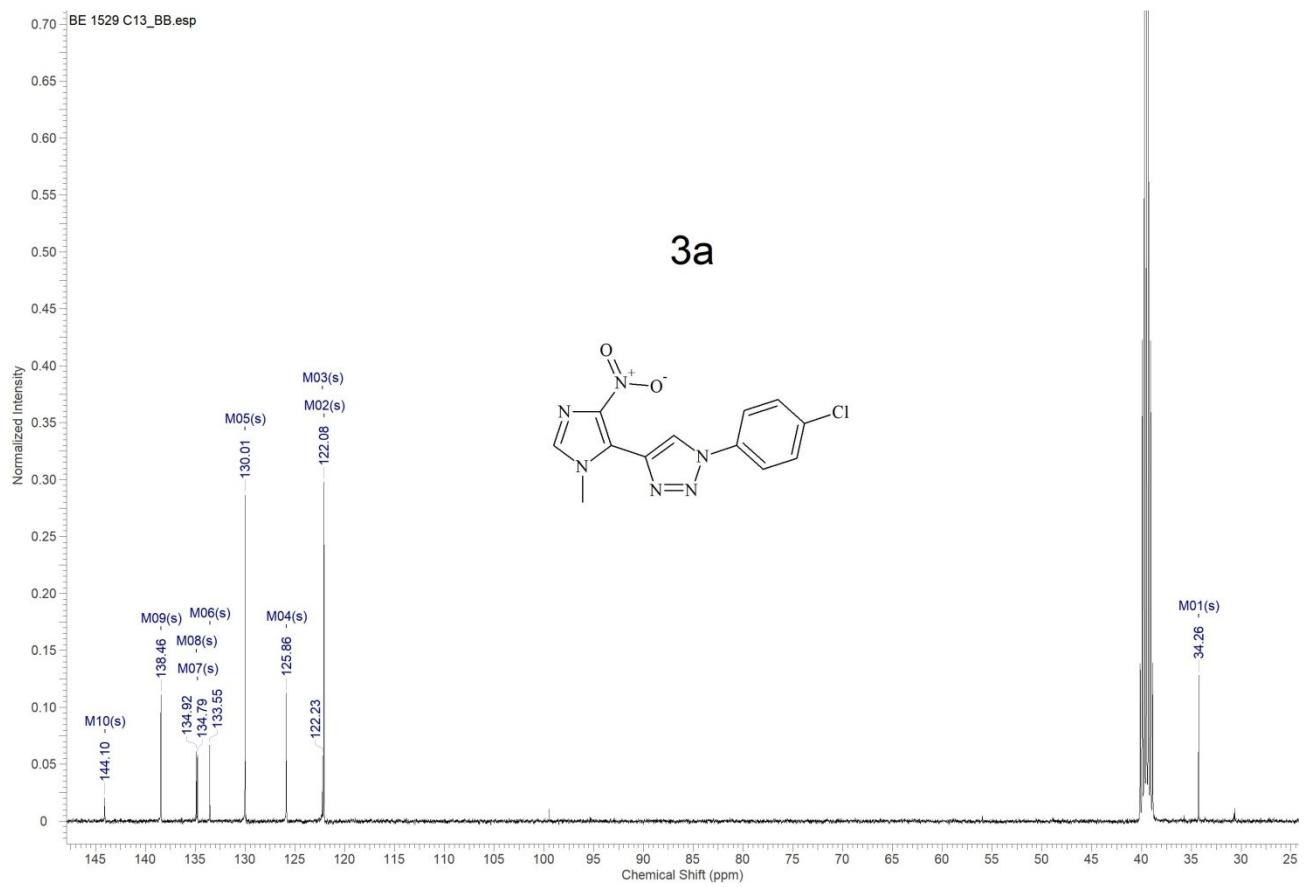
|  14' | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| C1–C2 (σ^*) (acceptor), population = 0.05896 | | | | C2–N3 (σ^*) (acceptor), population = 0.05776 | | | |
| <i>NBO</i> (donor) | <i>E</i> <i>kcal·mol⁻¹</i> | <i>ΔE</i> <i>a. u.</i> | <i>F</i> <i>a. u.</i> | <i>NBO</i> (donor) | <i>E</i> <i>kcal·mol⁻¹</i> | <i>ΔE</i> <i>a. u.</i> | <i>F</i> <i>a. u.</i> |
| N1 (LP) | 4.50 | 0.70 | 0.050 | | | | |
| O1 (LP) | 1.10 | 0.70 | 0.025 | | | | |
| N2 (LP) | 5.23 | 0.68 | 0.053 | N4 (LP) | 8.52 | 0.93 | 0.079 |
| C3–C4 (σ) | 0.55 | 1.04 | 0.021 | C3–C4 (σ) | 1.35 | 0.97 | 0.032 |
| C3–C4 (π) | 4.53 | 0.66 | 0.049 | C3–C4 (π) | 7.64 | 0.59 | 0.060 |
| C2–C3 (σ) | 1.52 | 1.02 | 0.035 | C1–H1 (σ) | 5.21 | 0.83 | 0.059 |
| N1–C9 (σ) | 0.94 | 1.17 | 0.030 | N3–N4 (π) | 1.95 | 1.53 | 0.049 |
| N1–C9 (π) | 1.90 | 0.72 | 0.033 | | | | |
| N3–N4 (π) | 0.97 | 0.99 | 0.028 | | | | |
| N2–C10 (σ) | 1.26 | 1.05 | 0.032 | | | | |

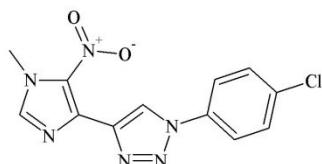
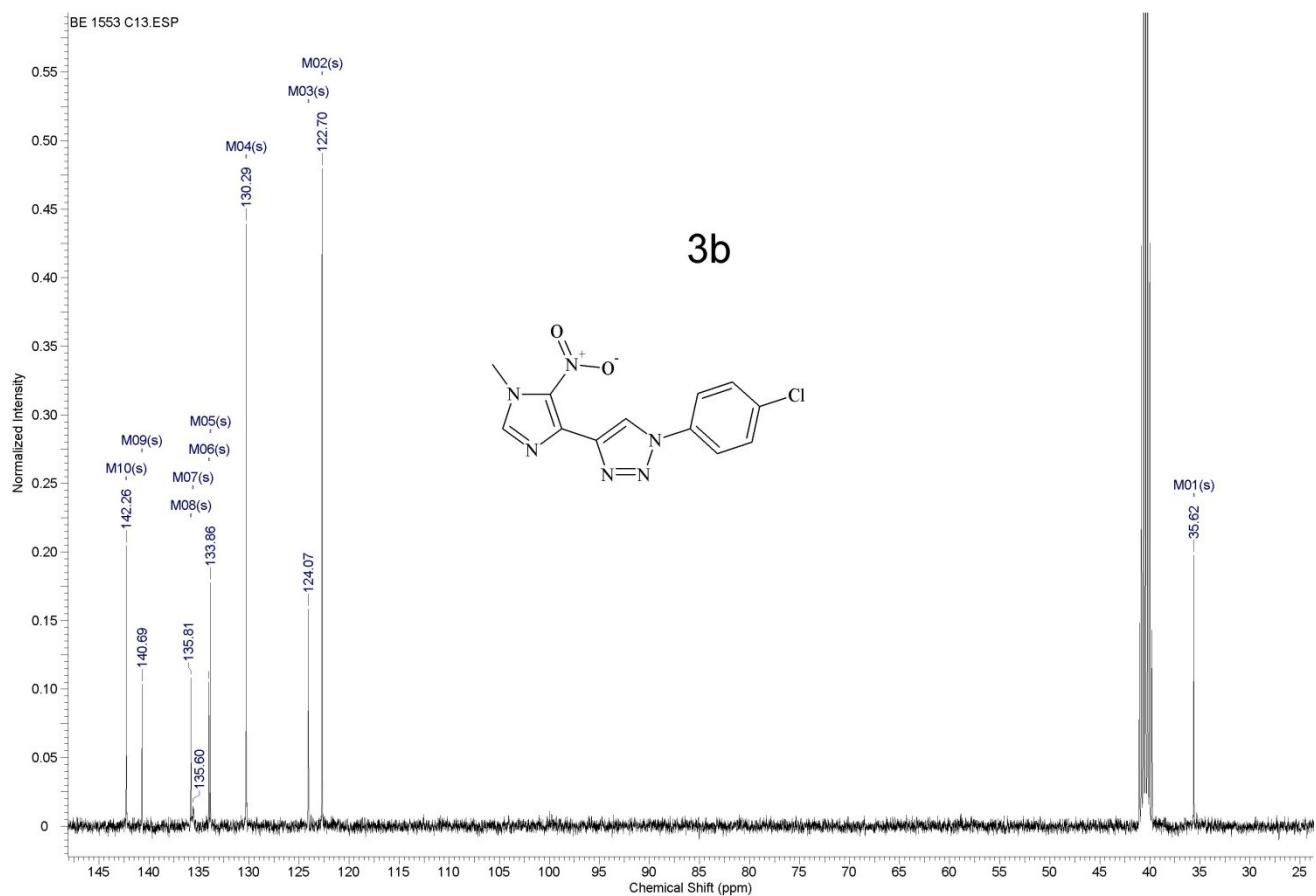
| | | | |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| total (net) | 22.50 | total (net) | 24.67 |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|

σ - sigma bonding orbital; π - pi bonding orbital; σ^* - sigma antibonding orbital; **LP** - lone pair. **E** - the energy of delocalization (conjugation) of the donor orbital over (with) the acceptor orbital. ΔE - the energy gap between the donor and acceptor orbitals. **F** - the element of the Kohn-Sham matrix describing the donor-acceptor interaction (represents spatial overlap).

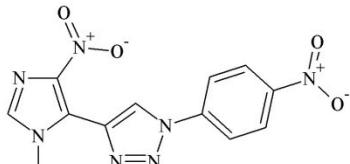
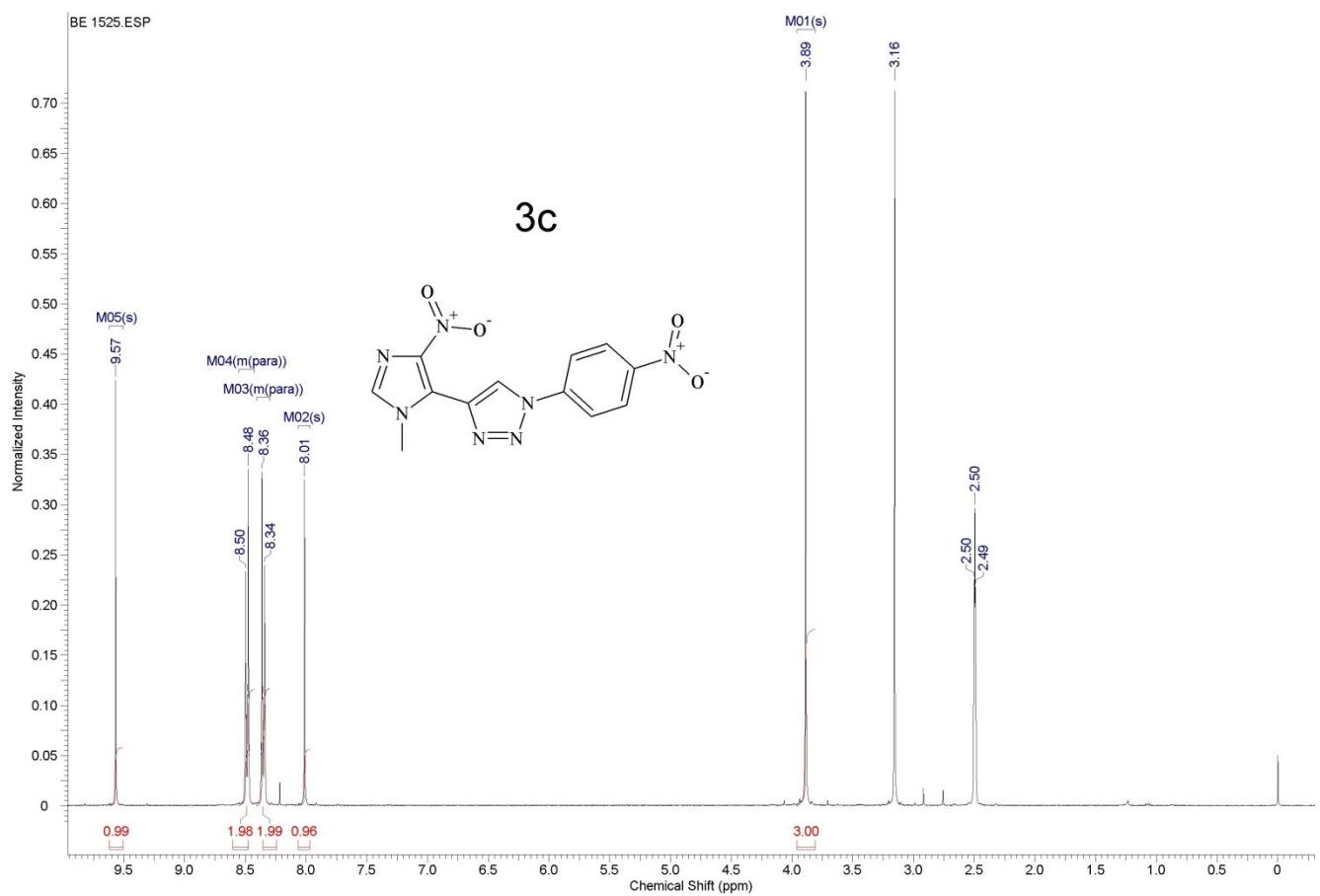
NMR spectra of triazoles 3a-f







3b



3c

