Supplementary Information

Concise Routes to Pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl Pyridazin-3-ones

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N-Aminopyridinium Mesitylenesulfonate

N-Aminopyridinium mesitylenesulfonate was prepared by adaptation of the procedure reported by Tamura *et al* through amination of pyridine with *O*-mesitylenesulfonylhydroxylamine (MSH).¹ **CAUTION: MSH is explosively unstable as a dry solid.** To minimise the explosion hazard we isolated MSH as a water-wet solid. The solid was immediately dissolved in dichloromethane and then dried and used in solution form for subsequent reactions. Quantification was possible by evaporating an aliquot of MSH solution and then weighing the resulting dry powder (100-200 mg quantities).

Ethyl N-mesitylsulfonyloxyethanimidate (MSA)

To an ice-cooled solution of ethyl N-hydroxyacetimidate (7.45 g, 72.2 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (30 mL) was added triethylamine (11.0 mL, 78.9 mmol) followed after 15 min by mesitylenesulfonyl chloride (15.9 g, 72.7 mmol) in increments over 15 min. The solution was allowed to attain room temperature over 1 h. The resulting slurry was poured into ice-cold water (200 mL) and the precipitate collected by filtration. The filter cake was washed with cold water (200 mL) and **OEt** dried in vacuo to afford the title compound (18.5 g, 64.8 mmol; 90%) as a colourless C₁₃H₁₉NO₄S powder: v_{max}(KBr)/cm⁻¹ 2982, 2941, 1636, 1605, 1383, 1318, 1195, 1101, 1055, 285.36 963, 851, 814, 668; δ_H (200 MHz; CDCl₃) 1.18 (3 H, t, J 7.1, CH₃CH₂O), 2.04 (3 H, s, C(CH₃)OEt), 2.31 (3 H, s, 4'-CH₃), 2.64 (6 H, s, 2'-CH₃ & 6'-CH₃), 3.90 (2 H, q, J 7.1, CH₃CH₂O), 6.96 (2 H, s, H-3' & H-5'); δ_{C} (50 MHz; CDCl₃)² 14.1 (CH₃CH₂O), 15.0 (CH₃C=N), 21.2 (4'-CH₃), 23.0 (2'-CH₃ & 6'-CH₃), 63.7 (CH₃CH₂O), 130.5 (C-4'), 131.6 (CH-3' & CH-5'), 140.8 (C-2' & C-6'), 143.4 (C-1'), 169.3 (C=N); (Found: C, 54.80; H, 6.79; N, 4.92. Calculated for C₁₃H₁₉NO₄S: C, 54.72; H, 6.71; N, 4.91%).

 ⁽a) Y. Tamura, J. Minamikawa and M. Ikeda, *Synthesis*, **1977**, 1; (b) Y. Tamura, J. Minamikawa, K. Sumoto, S. Fujii and M. Ikeda, *J. Org. Chem.*, **1973**, *38*, 1239; (c) Y. Tamura, J. Minamikawa, Y. Miki, S. Matsugashita and M. Ikeda, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, **1972**, *13*, 4133.

^{(2) &}lt;sup>13</sup>C NMR assignments for compound MSA were supported by the acquisition of an HSQC spectrum.

An ice-cooled, briskly stirred solution of ethyl *N*-mesitylsulfonyloxyethanimidate (27.3 g, 95.5 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (55 mL) was treated dropwise over 8 min with perchloric acid (70% w/w; 48.8 g, 340 mmol). A viscous paste was formed shortly after completing the perchloric acid addition. Further dioxane (55 mL) was added to assist stirring and the mixture maintained in the ice bath for 1 h. The resulting slurry was poured into ice-cold water (600 mL) and the precipitate collected by filtration, washing with ice-cold water (500 mL). The wet filter cake was then dissolved in



dichloromethane (250 mL) and the resulting solution washed with brine (100 mL), dried by filtration through a plug of MgSO₄ and used directly for preparation of the *N*-aminopyridinium salt. Evaporation of a small sample of MSH solution to dryness [CAUTION] permitted NMR analysis: $\delta_{\rm H}$ (200 MHz; CDCl₃) 2.30 (3 H, s, 4-CH₃), 2.60 (6 H, s, 2-CH₃ & 6-CH₃), 6.78 (2 H, br s, NH₂), 6.96 (2 H, s, H-3 & H-5).

*N-Aminopyridinium Mesitylenesulfonate*¹

To a solution of MSH (prepared as above from MSA, 95.5 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (250 mL) was added pyridine (10.0 mL, 124 mmol). The mixture was stirred for 18 h at room temperature during which time the *N*-aminopyridinium salt crystallised directly from the reaction medium. The resulting slurry was diluted with hexane (250 mL); the solid was collected by filtration, washing well with Et₂O, and dried *in vacuo* over P₂O₅ to



afford the *title salt* (23.0 g, 78.3 mmol; 82% over the 2 steps from MSA) as a colourless powder: mp 118-120 °C (from CH₂Cl₂-hexane); v_{max} (KBr)/cm⁻¹ 3283, 3129, 3074, 1491, 1210, 1182, 1012, 846, 772, 682; δ_{H} (200 MHz; DMSO-*d*₆) 2.16 (3 H, s, 4'-CH₃), 2.49 (6 H, s, 2'-CH₃ & 6'-CH₃), 6.75 (2 H, s, H-3' & H-5'), 7.95-8.04 (2 H, m, H-3 & H-5), 8.21-8.29 (1 H, m, H-4), 8.54 (2 H, br s, NH₂), 8.75-8.81 (2 H, m, H-2 & H-6); δ_{C} (50 MHz; DMSO-*d*₆)³ 20.4 (4'-CH₃), 22.8 (2'-CH₃ & 6'-CH₃), 128.3 (CH-3 & CH-5), 130.0 (CH-3' & CH-5'), 136.0 (C-2' & C-6'), 136.6 (C), 138.3 (CH-2 & CH-6), 139.7 (4-CH), 142.5 (C); (Found C, 56.99; H, 6.15; N, 9.45. Calculated for C₁₄H₁₈N₂O₃S: C, 57.12; H, 6.16; N, 9.52%).

^{(3) &}lt;sup>13</sup>C NMR assignments for N-aminopyridinium mesitylenesulfonate were supported by the acquisition of an HSQC spectrum.

6-Chloropyridazin-3(2H)-one (23)⁴

3,6-Dichloropyridazine (12.9 g, 86.4 mmol) was boiled in glacial AcOH (200 mL) for 3 h. The mixture was then concentrated by distillation at atmospheric pressure. After cooling, the residue was dissolved in H₂O (50 mL) and the mixture adjusted to pH 7 by addition of saturated NaHCO₃ solution. The resulting precipitate was collected by filtration, washed with water and dried *in vacuo* over P₂O₅ to afford 6-chloro-2*H*pyridazin-3-one (10.7 g, 82.0 mmol; 95%) as a colourless powder: mp 142-143 °C; v_{max} (KBr)/cm⁻¹ 3208, 3055, 2918, 2849, 1673, 1582, 1545, 1289, 1143, 1114, 1005, 839, 673; $\delta_{\rm H}$ (200 MHz; DMSO-*d*₆) 6.97 (1 H, d, *J* 9.7), 7.51 (1 H, d, *J* 10.0); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (50 MHz; DMSO-*d*₆) 132.6 (CH), 134.8 (CH), 137.5 (C-6), 159.8 (C-3); *m/z* (EI) 130 (³⁵Cl; 96%, M⁺), 102 (³⁵Cl; 81%, M⁺-N₂), 95 (5%, M⁺- Cl); (Found: C, 36.68; H, 2.26; N, 21.32. Calculated for C₄H₃ClN₂O: C, 36.81; H, 2.32; N, 21.46%).

2-Benzyl-6-chloropyridazin-3(2H)-one (24)⁵

To a stirred solution of 6-chloropyridazin-3(2H)-one (10.5 g, 80.4 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (150 mL) under argon was added Cs₂CO₃ (45.8 g, 141 mmol) followed, after 30 minutes, by benzyl bromide (12.0 mL, 101 mmol). The heterogeneous mixture was stirred for 2.5 h at room temperature; it was then filtered and the filtrate concentrated *in vacuo* to afford an orange solid. This residue was dissolved in EtOAc (100 mL); the resulting solution washed with



C₁₁H₉CIN₂O 220.66

H₂O (30 mL) followed by brine (2 x 30 mL), dried (MgSO₄) and the solvent evaporated to yield a yellow solid. Recrystallisation of this material from EtOAc-petroleum 60-80 °C (1:9) yielded the *title compound* (11.7. g, 52.9 mmol; total yield 66%): mp 97-98 °C (EtOAc-petroleum); v_{max} (KBr)/cm⁻¹ 3031, 2962, 1659, 1576, 1294, 1130, 1061, 901, 840, 749, 699; δ_{H} (200 MHz; CDCl₃) 5.25 (2 H, s, CH₂Ph), 6.90 (1 H, d, *J* 9.7), 7.15 (1 H, d, *J* 9.7), 7.28-7.47 (5 H, m, Ph); δ_{C} (50 MHz; CDCl₃) 55.6 (CH₂Ph), 128.3 (CH), 128.8 (2 x Ph CH), 129.0 (2 x Ph CH), 132.4 (CH), 133.8 (CH), 135.6 (C), 137.6 (C), 158.9 (C-3); *m/z* (EI) 220 (³⁵Cl; 44%, M⁺), 185 (66%, M⁺- Cl), 91

^{(4) (}a) H. Feuer and H. Rubinstein, J. Org. Chem., 1959, 24, 811; (b) W. J. Coates and A. McKillop, Heterocycles, 1993, 35, 1313; (c) A. Katrusiak and A. Katrusiak, J. Mol. Struct., 2003, 647, 203; (d) F. Yoneda and Y. Nitta, Chem. Pharm. Bull., 1963, 11, 269.

⁽⁵⁾ F. Yoneda and Y. Nitta, Chem. Pharm. Bull., 1963, 11, 737.

(100%, $C_7H_7^+$); (Found: C, 59.88; H, 4.10; N, 12.60. Calculated for $C_{11}H_9ClN_2O$: C, 59.88; H, 4.11; N, 12.70%).

1-Phenyl-1,2-dihydropyridazine-3,6-dione (26)⁶

A mixture of maleic anhydride (25.1 g, 256 mmol) and phenylhydrazine (27.5 mL, 280 mmol) was boiled in glacial AcOH (100 mL) for 3 h. On cooling, a yellow precipitate formed; this was collected by filtration and recrystallised from EtOH to afford the *title compound* (22.4 g, 118 mmol; 47%) as a colourless crystalline solid: mp 273-274 °C; v_{max} (KBr)/cm⁻¹ 3000, 3058, 2362, 1661 (CO), 1492, 1452, 1250, 838, 682; $\delta_{\rm H}$ (200 MHz; DMSO-*d*₆) 7.01 (1 H, d, *J* 9.8), 7.17



(1 H, d, *J* 9.8), 7.31-7.58 (5 H, complex overlapping m, Ph), 11.35 (1 H, br s, NH); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (50 MHz; DMSO-*d*₆) 125.6 (2 x Ph CH), 127.5 (CH), 127.7 (CH), 128.5 (2 x Ph CH), 134.0 (CH), 141.5 (Ph C), 152.9 (C), 157.8 (C); *m/z* (ESI) 188 (12%, M⁺), 187 (38%, M⁺- H), 375 (100%, 2M-1); (Found: C, 63.72; H, 4.20; N, 14.68. Calculated for C₁₀H₈N₂O₂: C, 63.82; H, 4.28; N, 14.89%).

6-Chloro-2-phenylpyridazin-3(2*H*)-one (27)⁷

1-Phenyl-1,2-dihydropyridazine-3,6-dione (**18**; 2.04 g, 10.8 mmol) was boiled in POCl₃ (55 mL) for 2 h. After this period, most of the POCl₃ was removed by distillation. The resulting brown residue was dissolved in EtOAc (50 mL) and washed with saturated NaHCO₃ solution (6 x 20 mL) until cessation of effervescence. The organic layer was further washed with brine (3 x 20 mL), dried over MgSO₄ and evaporated to yield a pale yellow solid. The latter was recrystallised from light petroleum to afford the *title compound* (1.71 g, 8.28 mmol; 77%) as a colourless crystalline solid: mp 115-117 °C (from light petroleum); v_{max} (thin film)/cm⁻¹ 3018, 1674, 1587, 1216, 755, 692; $\delta_{\rm H}$ (200 MHz; CDCl₃) 7.04 (1 H, d, *J* 9.8), 7.25 (1 H, d, *J* 9.8), 7.35-7.62 (5 H, complex overlapping m, Ph); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (50 MHz; CDCl₃) 125.3 (2 x Ph CH), 128.8 (CH), 129.0 (2 x Ph CH), 133.4 (CH), 138.3 (C), 140.8 (C), 158.6 (C-3); *m/z* (ESI) 206 (³⁵Cl; 12%, M⁺), 205 (³⁵Cl; 25%, M⁺- H), 411 (³⁵Cl; 68%, 2M-1); (Found: C, 58.24; H, 3.45; N, 13.47. Calculated for C₁₀H₇ClN₂O: C, 58.13; H, 3.41; N, 13.56%).

⁽⁶⁾ W. H. Pirkle and P. L. Gravel, J. Org. Chem., 1977, 42, 1367.

 ^{(7) (}a) J. Druey, A. Huni, D. H. Rinigier and A. Staehelin, *Helv. Chim. Acta.*, 1954, 37, 510; (b) V. P. Feshin, S. A. Giller, L. Y. Avota, M. G. Voronkov, *Chem. Heterocycl. Compd. (English Translation)*, 1976, 12, 334.

2-Benzyl-2,3-dihydrophthalazine-1,4-dione (31)⁸

Phthalic anhydride (4.19 g, 28.3 mmol) and benzylhydrazine dihydrogen chloride (5.09 g, 28.3 mmol) were boiled in glacial AcOH (100 mL) for 4 h. The mixture was evaporated and the resulting residue dissolved in EtOAc (20 mL). The solution was then washed with saturated NaHCO₃ solution until all residual AcOH was removed. The organic layer was further washed with brine (3 x 15 mL) and then dried (Na₂SO₄) and



evaporated to give a white solid. The latter was recrystallised from MeOH/light petroleum to afford the *title compound* (4.73 g, 18.7 mmol; 66%) as a colourless powder: mp 210-211 °C (from MeOH/light petroleum); v_{max} (KBr)/cm⁻¹ 3100, 1634, 1595, 1289, 1169, 1097, 792, 744, 709, 691; $\delta_{\rm H}$ (200 MHz; DMSO-*d*₆) 5.19 (2 H, s, CH₂Ph), 7.22-7.34 (5 H, complex overlapping m, Ph), 7.85-7.99 (3 H, complex overlapping m, 3 x CH), 8.23-8.29 (1 H, complex m, CH), 11.75 (1 H, br s, NH); $\delta_{\rm C}$ (50 MHz; DMSO-*d*₆) 52.6 (CH₂Ph), 124.2 (CH), 124.7 (C), 126.6 (CH), 127.3 (CH), 127.5 (2 x CH), 128.5 (2 x CH), 128.8 (C), 132.4 (CH), 133.3 (CH), 137.6 (C), 150.4 (C), 157.5 (C); *m/z* (EI) 252 (26%, M⁺), 148 (68%, M⁺- NBn), 91 (93%, C₇H₇⁺), 77 (27%, C₆H₅⁺); (Found: C, 71.37; H, 4.80; N, 11.11. Calculated for C₁₅H₁₂N₂O₂: C, 71.42; H, 4.79; N, 11.10%).

^{(8) (}a) R. Wegler, J. Prakt. Chem., 1937, 148, 135; (b) N. P. Buu-Hoï, H. Le Bihan and F. Binon, Recl. Trav. Chim. Pays-Bas, 1951, 70, 1099.

1-Methyl-2-(3-methylbut-1-ynyl)pyridinium iodide (37); ¹H spectrum at 200 MHz in CDCl₃



2-(2-Isopropylpyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl)-1-methylpyridinium iodide (38); ¹H spectrum at 400 MHz in CDCl₃ / DMSO-*d*₆

