# 2-Diazoacethydrazide derivatives and their ring-chain transformations

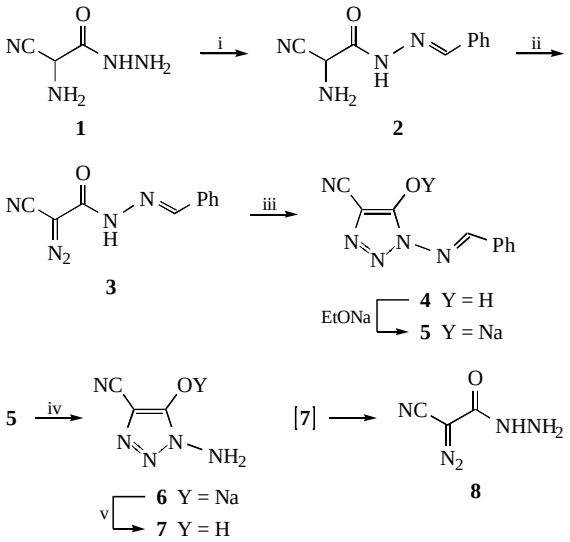
**Yury A. Rosin,[a] Elena A. Vorob'eva,[a] Yury Yu. Morzherin,[a] Alexander C. Yakimov,[a] Wim Dehaen[b] and Vasiliy A. Bakulev*[a]**

[a] *Urals State Technical University, 620002 Ekaterinburg, Russian Federation. Fax: +7 3432 74 5483; e-mail: crocus@htf.ustu.ru*
[b] *Laboratory of Organic Synthesis, Department of Chemistry, B-3001 Heverlee (Leuven), Belgium*

1-Amino-1,2,3-triazol-5-olates **6**, **13** and **14** have been obtained by the introduction of a diazo group into *N*-benzylidene-protected hydrazides of cyanoacetic and malonic acids. These compounds form open-chain isomers of 1-amino-5-hydroxy-1,2,3-triazoles upon acidification with an aqueous solution of HCl. Compounds **8**, **15** and **16** are the first examples of the group of α-diazoacethydrazides.

α-Diazoacetamides and the products of their cyclisation, 5-hydroxy-1,2,3-triazoles, have been extensively studied,[1,2] though until this report, the relevant literature has carried no examples of diazo compounds containing the hydrazide group in the α-position. This paper presents data on the synthesis of the first examples of 2-diazoacethydrazides and derivatives of their cyclic isomers, 1-amino-1,2,3-triazoles.

We showed previously[3] that the interaction of 2-amino-2-cyanoacethydrazide **1** with sodium nitrite in an aqueous solution of hydrochloric acid (or with alkyl nitrites in glacial acetic acid) proceeds simultaneously at the amino and hydrazide groups with the formation of 2-diazo-2-cyanoacetazide. To carry out the reaction selectively at the amino group, we protected of the hydrazide group with *N*-benzylidene.



**Scheme 1** *Reagents and conditions*: i, PhCHO, EtOH, 20 °C; ii, Bu$^t$ONO, AcOH, 10 °C; iii, 20 °C, 24 h in DMSO or $CHCl_3$; iv, $H_2NNH_2$, EtOH, 78 °C, 12 h; v, HCl, $H_2O$, 0–10 °C.

Interaction of hydrazide **1** with benzaldehyde leads to smooth formation of hydrazone **2**. Reaction of **2** with butyl nitrite in glacial acetic acid yields *N*-benzylidene-2-diazo-2-cyanoacethydrazide **3**. We found that this compound was unstable in organic solvents and underwent slow cyclisation to 1-benzylideneamino-5-hydroxy-1,2,3-triazole-4-carbonitrile **4**. The $^{13}C$ NMR spectrum correlates with the cyclic structure of **4**: it contains signals at 101.8 and 153.4 ppm, corresponding to the 4-C and 5-C atoms of 5-hydroxytriazoles.[4]

As in the case of diazomalonamides,[5] cyclisation of compound **3** is accelerated by the addition of bases, and the use of sodium ethylate leads to the formation of sodium 1-benzylideneamino-4-cyano-1,2,3-triazol-5-olate **5**. The interaction of **5** with hydrazine results in the removal of benzylidene protection and formation of sodium 1-amino-5-cyano-1,2,3-triazol-5-olate **6**. Upon addition of HCl (1 mol) to an aqueous solution of compound **6**, 2-cyano-2-diazoacethydrazide **8** is formed as a result of ring opening in a presumed intermediate, 1-amino-5-hydroxy-1,2,3-triazole-4-carbonitrile **7**. Thus, we have synthesised the first example of 2-diazomalonohydrazides.

To synthesise 2-ethoxycarbonyl and 2-methylcarbamoyl derivatives of 2-diazoacethydrazide, we studied the interaction of hydrazones of 2-ethoxycarbonyl- and 2-methylcarbamoylacethydrazides **9** and **10** with tosyl azide in the presence of sodium ethylate ('diazo group transfer' reaction).[6] This reaction was found to result in the formation of sodium salts of 5-hydroxytriazoles **11** and **12**, but not of the expected 2-diazomalonohydrazones.

It is noteworthy that one could expect formation of two isomeric triazoles **12** and **17** in the reaction of methylcarbamoyl derivatives **10** with $TsN_3$ *via* cyclisation of the intermediate diazo compounds at the amide or hydrazide groups. It was found that this reaction yields only isomers **12**; *i.e.*, only heterocyclisation with the participation of diazo and hydrazide fragments is realised. Treatment of 1-benzylideneamino-1,2,3-triazoles **11** and **12** with hydrazine leads to high yields of 1-amino-1,2,3-triazol-5-olates **13** and **14**.

As in the case of compound **6**, diazohydrazides **15** and **16**, which are chain isomers of 5-hydroxy-1,2,3-triazoles, are formed in the reaction of sodium salts **13** and **14** with hydrochloric acid.

Thus, we have synthesised the first examples of 2-diazoacethydrazides **8**, **15** and **16**, and the products of their cyclisation: derivatives of 1-amino-5-hydroxy-1,2,3-triazoles **4**–**6** and **11**–**14**.† All new compounds have satisfactory elemental analyses, IR and NMR spectroscopic data.

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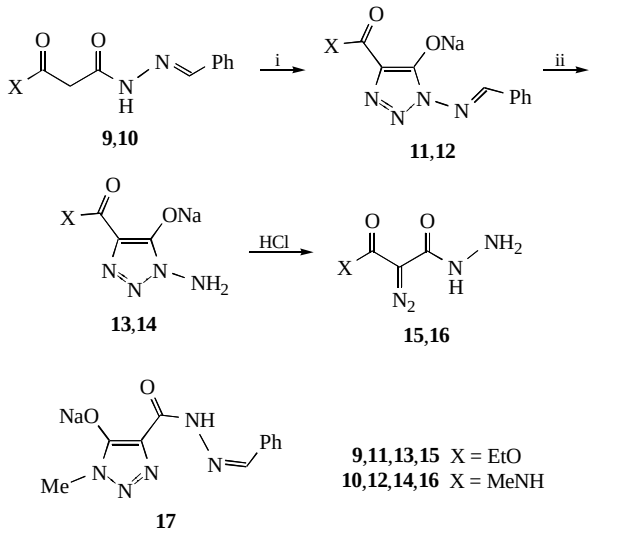

**Scheme 2** *Reagents and conditions*: i, $TsN_3$, EtOH, EtONa; ii, EtOH, $H_2NNH_2$, 78 °C.

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† The $^1$H and $^{13}$C NMR spectra were recorded in [$^2H_6$]DMSO solution with a Bruker WH-250 spectrometer at 250 MHz, and the IR spectra were recorded in KBr using a UR-20 spectrometer.

*Synthesis of* **3** *and* **4**. A solution of amine **2** (4 g, 0.02 mol) in 12 ml of glacial acetic acid at 10–15 °C was treated with butyl nitrite (2.65 g, 0.025 mol). After stirring for 1 h, the precipitate **3** was filtered off. Recrystallisation of **3** from MeCN gives triazole **4**. Yield 2.22 g (52%), mp 162–164 °C (**CAUTION!** Explosive). $^1$H NMR $\delta$: 9.31 (s, 1H, N=CH), 12.31 (s, 1H, OH).

*Synthesis of* **5**. Compound **5** was obtained by treatment of **4** with an equimolar quantity of sodium ethylate in absolute ethanol with subsequent precipitation from diethyl ether. Yield 91%, mp 322–324 °C. $^1$H NMR $\delta$: 9.32 (s, 1H, N=CH).

*Synthesis of* **11** *and* **12** was performed by a 'diazo group transfer' method.[6]

For **11**: yield 72%, mp 225 °C (from EtOH, decomp.). $^1$H NMR $\delta$: 9.29 (s, 1H, N=CH), 4.15 (m, 2H, $OCH_2$, *J* 6.9 Hz), 1.25 (m, 3H, Me, *J* 6.9 Hz).

For **12**: yield 93.7%, mp 240–245 °C (decomp.). $^1$H NMR $\delta$: 9.33 (s, 1H, N=CH), 7.89 (m, 1H, NH, *J* 4.8 Hz), 2.75 (d, 3H, NMe, *J* 4.8 Hz).

*General method for the preparation of* **6**, **13** *and* **14**. Compounds **5**, **11** or **12**, respectively (2 mmol) were mixed with dry ethanol (8 ml) and hydrazine (100%, 2 mmol) and refluxed for 12 h. The product was filtered and washed with ethanol.

For **6**: yield 46%, mp 285 °C (decomp.).

For **13**: yield 65%, mp 170–200°C (decomp.). $^1$H NMR $\delta$: 5.25 (br. s, 2H, $NH_2$), 4.13 (q, 2H, $CH_2$, *J* 7.0 Hz), 1.23 (t, 3H, *J* 7.0 Hz).

For **14**: yield 90%, mp 300–305 °C. $^1$H NMR $\delta$: 7.86 (q, 1H, CONH, *J* 4.6 Hz), 5.30 (s, 2H, $NH_2$), 2.72 (d, 3H, Me, *J* 4.6 Hz).

*General method for the preparation of* **8**, **15** *and* **16**. An aqueous solution of **6**, **13** or **14** was mixed with 1 equiv. of HCl. After evaporation of **8** and **15** solutions *in vacuo* to dryness the residue was extracted with ethanol. The product **16** was separated by filtration.

For **8**: yield 50%, mp 140 °C (decomp.). IR ($\nu$/cm$^{-1}$): 2150 ($N_2$), 2250 (CN).

For **15**: yield 55%, mp 157–160 °C. $^1$H NMR $\delta$: 9.94 (br. s, 1H, NH), 5.5–7.5 (br. s, 2H, $NH_2$) 4.28 and 4.23 (2q, 2H, $CH_2$, *J* 7.2 Hz), 1.27 (t, 3H, Me, *J* 7.2 Hz). IR ($\nu$/cm$^{-1}$): 2145 ($N_2$).

For **16**: yield 47%, mp 200–203 °C (decomp.). $^1$H NMR $\delta$: 7.87 (br. s, 1H, NH), 4.25 (br. s, 2H, $NH_2$), 2.75 (d, 3H, Me, *J* 4.0 Hz). IR ($\nu$/cm$^{-1}$): 2115 ($N_2$).


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