



# The New and Simple 'LEGO' System for the Synthesis of Thienyl Substituted 2,6-Oligopyridines

Oliver C. Pfüller and Jürgen Sauer<sup>\*,1</sup>

*Institut für Organische Chemie der Universität Regensburg, D-93040 Regensburg, Germany*

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## Abstract

Carboxamidrazones **1-3** were condensed with thienylglyoxal hydrates **5** to form thienyl substituted 1,2,4-triazines **6-8**. The 1,2,4-triazines are easily transformed to pyridines **9-11** in a [4+2] cycloaddition. This reaction sequence offers a new and simple access to thienyl substituted 2,6-oligopyridines with defined regiochemistry.

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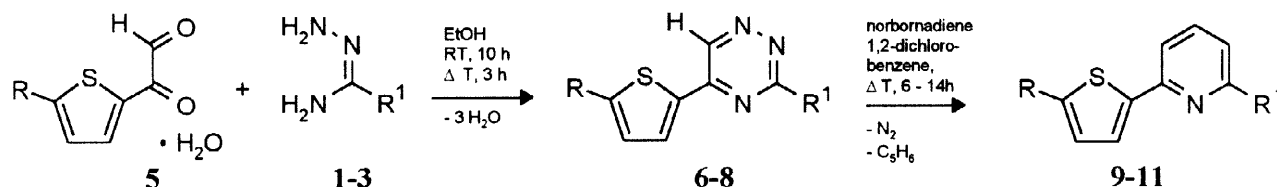
**Keywords:** Cycloadditions; Oligomers; Pyridines; Triazines

In this communication we extend our new 'LEGO' system [1,2], a new and simple route to pyridines via 1,2,4-triazines, to the generation of thienyl substituted 2,6-oligopyridines. The central point of our strategy is the regiospecific condensation of carboxamidrazones **1-3** (Table 1) with thienylglyoxal hydrates **5** (Table 2) to form 1,2,4-triazines **6-8** [3,4,5] (Table 3).

**Table 1.** Carboxamidrazones used for the condensation with glyoxals **5**.

| Carboxamidrazones [Ref.] |                             |                                 |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>1</b>                 | <b>2</b>                    | <b>3</b>                        |
| dicarboxabisamidrazone   | pyridine-2-carboxamidrazone | pyridine-2,6-dicarboxamidrazone |
| [6]                      | [7]                         | [8]                             |

The 1,2,4-triazines **6-8** are easily transformed to pyridines **9-11** in a Diels-Alder reaction with 2,5-norbornadiene followed by extrusion of nitrogen and 1,3-cyclopentadiene (Scheme 1) [9].

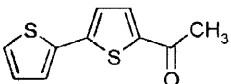
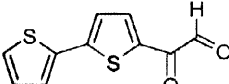
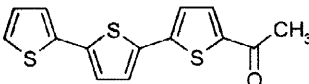
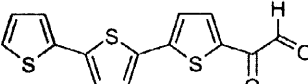
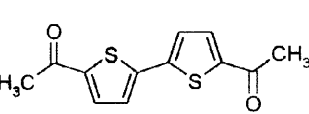
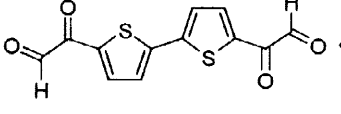


**Scheme 1.** Reaction sequence for the synthesis of pyridines via 1,2,4-triazines

<sup>1</sup> E-mail: elisabeth.liebl@chemie.uni-regensburg.de

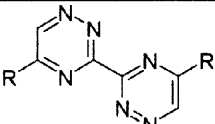
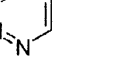
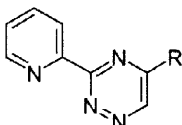
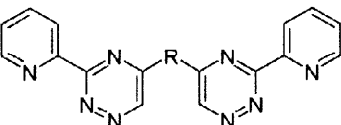
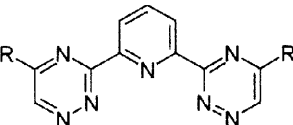
Thienylglyoxal hydrates **5** were prepared by  $\text{SeO}_2$  oxidation of the corresponding acetylthiophene derivatives **4** [10,11] in a dioxane / water mixture [12].

**Table 2.** Preparation of glyoxal hydrates **5** from the corresponding ethanones **4**

| Ethanone [Ref.]                                                                                     | Glyoxal hydrate [Ref.]                                                                              | Conditions   | Yield [%] | M.P. [°C] |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>4a</b><br>[10]  | <b>5a</b><br>[13]  | 100 °C, 18 h | 80        | 126-128   |
| <b>4b</b><br>[11]  | <b>5b</b>          | 100°C, 34 h  | 75        | 158-160   |
| <b>4c</b><br>[11]  | <b>5c</b>         | 100°C, 3d    | 48        | 210-212   |

Typical procedure for the preparation of glyoxal hydrates **5**: **4b** (1.40 g, 4.82 mmol) was added to a solution of  $\text{SeO}_2$  (0.54 g, 4.82 mmol) in 100 ml 1,4-dioxane and 10 ml water at 50 °C and heated to reflux for 1d. After addition of further  $\text{SeO}_2$  (0.30 g, 2.70 mmol) and 10 h reflux the reaction mixture was filtered hot to separate from selenium. After cooling, the filtrate was diluted with 200 ml of water. The precipitate was collected by suction filtration and washed with water. Recrystallization from acetic acid / water (10 : 1, v/v) yielded **5b** (1.17 g, 3.62 mmol, 75%). Analytical data for **5b**: IR (KBr):  $\bar{\nu}$  = 3440, 3380, 3100, 3060, 1670, 1460, 1440, 1420, 1240, 1130, 1070, 1020, 820, 790  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (250 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  = 5.51 (t, 1 H,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz), 6.88 (d, 2 H,  $J$  = 7.0 Hz), 7.13 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 5.10 Hz,  $J$  = 3.62 Hz), 7.35 (d, 1 H,  $J$  = 3.81 Hz), 7.42 (dd, 1 H,  $J$  = 3.62 Hz,  $J$  = 1.19 Hz), 7.47 (d, 1 H,  $J$  = 4.01 Hz), 7.53 (d, 1H,  $J$  = 3.81 Hz), 7.59 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 5.10 Hz,  $J$  = 1.19 Hz), 7.98 (d, 1 H,  $J$  = 4.01 Hz) ppm. EI-MS (70eV);  $m/z$  (%): 304 (57) [ $\text{M}^+$  -  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ], 276 (20) [ $\text{M}^+$  -  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  - CO], 275 (100) [ $\text{M}^+$  -  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  - CHO], 248 (6) [ $\text{M}^+$  -  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  - 2 CO], 247 (13) [ $\text{M}^+$  -  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  - CHO - CO], 204 [ $\text{M}^+$  -  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  - 2 CO - CS], 203 (55) [ $\text{M}^+$  -  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  - CHO - CO - CS], 138 (8) [ $\text{M}^{2+}$  -  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  - CO], 102 (6) [ $\text{M}^{2+}$  -  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  - 2CO - 2CS].  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_3\text{S}_3$  (322.4): calcd. C 52.15, H 3.13; found C 52.59, H 3.20. All other glyoxal hydrates were characterized by the same analytical methods.

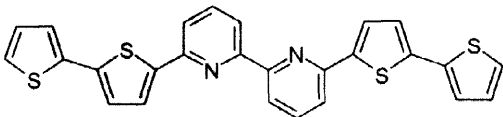
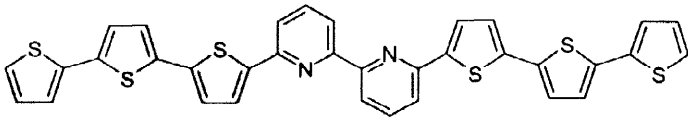
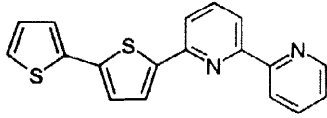
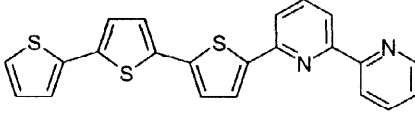
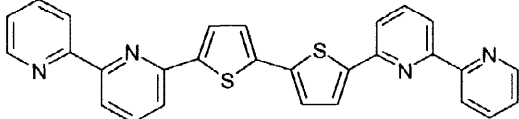
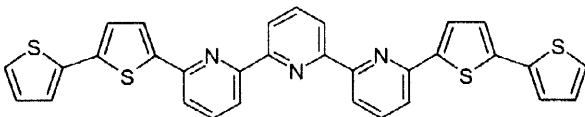
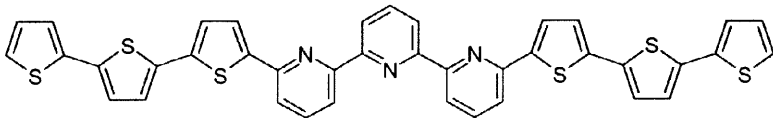
**Table 3.** 1,2,4-Triazines **6-8** obtained from thienylglyoxal hydrates **5** and carboxamidrazones **1-3**.

| Amidrazone | Glyoxal   | Triazine                                                                                      | R                              | Yield [%] | M.P. [°C] |
|------------|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 1          | <b>5a</b> | <b>6a</b>  | [2,2']bithiophene-5-yl         | 97        | 238-240   |
| 1          | <b>5b</b> | <b>6b</b>  | [2,2':5',2'']terthiophene-5-yl | 81        | 281-284   |
| 2          | <b>5a</b> | <b>7a</b>  | [2,2']bithiophene-5-yl         | 64        | 179-181   |
| 2          | <b>5b</b> | <b>7b</b>  | [2,2':5',2'']terthiophene-5-yl | 60        | 198-200   |
| 2          | <b>5c</b> | <b>7c</b>  | [2,2']bithiophene-5,5'-diyl    | 63        | 330-335   |
| 3          | <b>5a</b> | <b>8a</b>  | [2,2']bithiophene-5-yl         | 81        | 283-285   |
| 3          | <b>5b</b> | <b>8b</b>  | [2,2':5',2'']terthiophene-5-yl | 70        | 269-272   |

Typical procedure for the preparation of triazines **6-8**: To a solution of **2** (283 mg, 2.08 mmol) in 15 ml ethanol a solution of **5a** (500 mg, 2.08 mmol) in 20 ml ethanol was added and stirred for 24 h at ambient temperature. The mixture was then heated to reflux for 1h. After cooling the yellow precipitate was collected by suction filtration, washed with 15 ml of cold ethanol and dried for 24 h at 60°C/0.01 Torr to yield **7a** (429 mg, 1.33 mmol, 64%). No further purification was necessary. Analytical data for **7a**: IR (KBr):  $\bar{\nu}$  = 3060, 1550, 1530, 1490, 1450, 1390, 1330, 1280, 1240, 1110, 1010, 960, 840, 820, 770, 700  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (250 MHz, DMF- $d_7$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.24 (dd, 1H,  $J$  = 5.1 Hz,  $J$  = 3.7 Hz), 7.63 (d, 1 H,  $J$  = 4.1 Hz), 7.65 (dd, 1 H,  $J$  = 3.6 Hz,  $J$  = 1.2 Hz), 7.67 (ddd, 1 H,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz,  $J$  = 4.7 Hz,  $J$  = 1.2 Hz), 7.74 (dd, 1 H,  $J$  = 5.1 Hz,  $J$  = 1.2 Hz), 8.13 (ddd, 1 H,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz,  $J$  = 1.8 Hz), 8.48 (d, 1 H,  $J$  = 4.1 Hz), 8.56 (ddd, 1 H,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz,  $J$  = 1.2 Hz,  $J$  = 1.0 Hz), 8.90 (ddd, 1 H,  $J$  = 4.7 Hz,  $J$  = 1.8 Hz,  $J$  = 1.0 Hz), 10.08 (s, 1H) ppm. EI-MS (70eV);  $m/z$  (%): 322 (20) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 190 (20) [ $\text{M}^+ - \text{C}_{10}\text{H}_6\text{S}_2$ ].  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{S}_2$  (322.4): calcd. C 59.60, H 3.13, N 17.38; found C 59.34, H 3.29, N 17.07. All other 1,2,4-triazines were characterized by the same analytical methods.

To prepare the pyridines **9-11** (Table 4) we used a 10 fold molar excess of bicyclo[2.2.1]hepta-2,5-diene (norbornadiene) as synthetic equivalent for acetylene and 1,2-dichlorobenzene as solvent. The structures of pyridines **9-11** are confirmed by the observed coupling constants for 2,6-disubstituted pyridines.

**Table 4.** Synthesis of 2,6-oligopyridines **9-11** according to Scheme 1.

| Triazine | Oligopyridine |                                                                                      | Reaction conditions | Yield [%] | M.P. [°C] |
|----------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 6a       | 9a            |    | 170°C, 6h           | 83        | 264-266   |
| 6b       | 9b            |  | 150°C, 6h           | 79        | 302-305   |
| 7a       | 10a           |   | 140°C, 6h           | 85        | 117-120   |
| 7b       | 10b           |   | 160°C, 14h          | 72        | 198-199   |
| 7c       | 10c           |   | 180°C, 6h           | 83        | 274-277   |
| 8a       | 11a           |  | 190°C, 9h           | 80        | 222-225   |
| 8b       | 11b           |  | 150°C, 12h          | 80        | 328-331   |

Typical procedure for the preparation of oligopyridines **9-11**: **6a** (200 mg, 409  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) and bicyclo[2.2.1]hepta-2,5-diene (754 mg, 8.18 mmol) were heated at 170°C under an inert atmosphere in 5 ml 1,2-dichlorobenzene for 6 hours. The reaction mixture was

cooled and the resulting precipitate was collected by suction filtration, washed with 5 ml diethyl ether and 20 ml petroleum ether 40/60. Recrystallization from dimethylsulfoxide yielded **9a** (157 mg, 323  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 79%). Analytical data for **9a**: IR (KBr):  $\bar{\nu}$  = 3100, 3060, 1550, 1450, 1420, 1410, 1300, 1270, 1250, 1210, 1190, 1140  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMF-d}_7$ ,  $100^\circ\text{C}$ ):  $\delta$  = 7.13 (dd, 2 H,  $J$  = 5.1 Hz,  $J$  = 3.6 Hz), 7.35 (d, 2 H,  $J$  = 3.8 Hz), 7.41 (dd, 2 H,  $J$  = 3.6 Hz,  $J$  = 1.1 Hz), 7.50 (dd, 2 H,  $J$  = 5.1 Hz,  $J$  = 1.1 Hz), 7.80 (d, 2 H,  $J$  = 3.9 Hz), 7.93 (dd, 2 H,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz,  $J$  = 1.0 Hz), 8.03 (dd, 2 H,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz,  $J$  = 7.7 Hz), 8.42 (dd, 2H, 7.7 Hz, 1.0 Hz) ppm. EI-MS (70eV);  $m/z$  (%): 484 (100) [ $\text{M}^+$ ], 451 (6) [ $\text{M}^+$  - SH], 439 (1), [ $\text{M}^+$  - CSH], 242 (16) [ $\text{M}^{2+}$ ].  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{S}_4$  (484.7): calcd. C 64.43, H 3.33, N 5.78; found C 64.12, H 3.55, N 5.61. All other pyridines were characterized by the same analytical methods.

With our 'LEGO' System we provide an efficient and versatile method for the synthesis of oligopyridines, which are of great importance as polydentate ligands in metallosupramolecular chemistry [14,15]. As well as thiophene, other heterocycles may be inserted into the linear chains. Actual investigations have shown interesting fluorescence and pH sensitive properties both of the ligands **6-11** and their  $\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}$ -,  $\text{Ag}^{\text{I}}$ -, and  $\text{Cu}^{\text{I}}$  complexes. Further work using symmetrically substituted 1,2-diones in 1,2,4-triazine synthesis as well as conversions of 1,2,4-triazines with ethynyltributyltin via [4+2] cycloadditions to form stannylated pyridines [16], which are synthetically valuable intermediates, are in progress.

### Acknowledgements

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