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# 3-Dimethylaminopropenoates and Related Compounds in the Synthesis of Heterocyclic Systems and Heterocyclic Amino Acids

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## Contents

1. Introduction
2. Synthesis of 2-acylamino-3-dimethylaminopropenoates, *O*-substituted 2-hydroxy-3-dimethylaminopropenoates and 2-[(2-substituted ethenyl)amino-3-dimethylaminopropenoates
3. Synthesis of heterocyclic systems
  - 3.1 Synthesis of pyranones and fused pyranones
  - 3.2 Synthesis of fused pyridinones
  - 3.3 Synthesis of fused pyrimidinones
  - 3.4 Synthesis of pyrroles
    - 3.4.1 Substituted 3-aminopyrrole-2,4-dicarboxylates
    - 3.4.2 Pyrrole-2-carboxylates
  - 3.5 Synthesis of imidazolecarboxylates
  - 3.6 Synthesis of pyrazoles
  - 3.7 Synthesis of 1,2,4-oxadiazoles
  - 3.8 Synthesis of aplysinopsins and azaaplysinopsins
4. Synthesis and transformations of chiral 3-dimethylaminopropenoates
  - 4.1 A one-step synthesis of (*S*)-3-heteroarylalanines
  - 4.2 Synthesis 3-heteroaryl substituted lactates
5. References and notes

## 1. Introduction

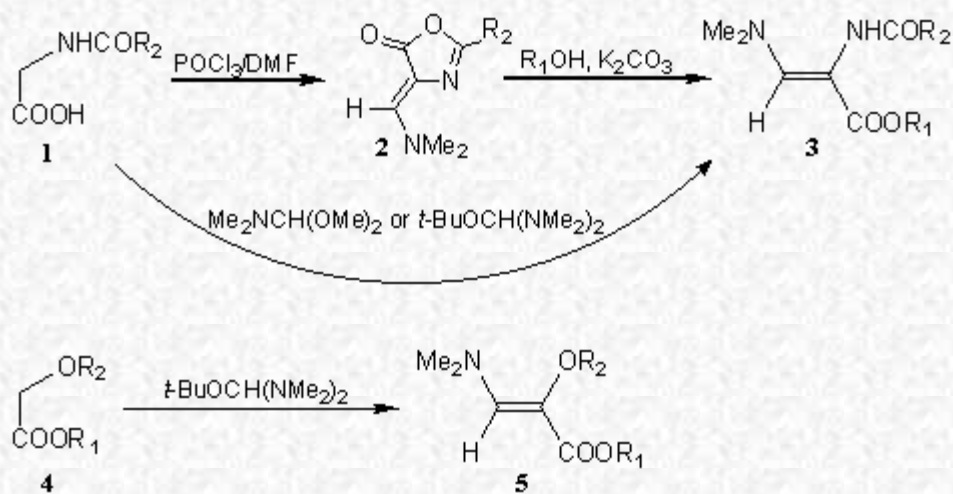
$\alpha$ -Amino and  $\alpha$ -hydroxy acids and their derivatives play an important role in organic synthesis, especially in asymmetric synthesis as chiral synthons, chiral auxiliaries, and resolving agents [1-3].

In the course of our studies of heteroaryl substituted  $\alpha$ -amino and  $\alpha$ -hydroxy acids and their derivatives we have prepared easily accessible 2-acylamino-3-dimethylaminopropenoates, 2-(*O*-substituted hydroxy)-3-dimethylaminopropenoates, and 2-ethenylamino-3-dimethylaminopropenoates, masked  $\alpha$ -formyl- $\alpha$ -amino- and  $\alpha$ -formyl- $\alpha$ -hydroxy acids, and their derivatives. They have turned out to be excellent reagents for the preparation of a variety of heterocyclic systems with an amino or hydroxy acid structural element incorporated or partially incorporated into the newly formed heterocyclic ring [4]

## 2. Synthesis of 2-acylamino-3-dimethylaminopropenoates, *O*-substituted 2-hydroxy-3-dimethylaminopropenoates and 2-[(2-substituted ethenyl)amino]-3-dimethylaminopropenoates.

Alkyl 2-acylamino-3-dimethylaminopropenoates (**3**) can be prepared by two methods: a) by reaction of *N*-acylglycine (**1**) with phosphorus oxychloride in *N,N*-dimethylformamide to afford 4-dimethylaminomethylidene-5(4*H*)-oxazolone (**2**) followed by alcoholysis in the presence of potassium carbonate to give **3**, or b) by treatment of **1** with *N,N*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal or *t*-BuOCH(NMe<sub>2</sub>) to give **3** in one pot procedure. Similarly, alkyl *O*-substituted 2-hydroxyacetates (**4**) when treated with *tert*-butyloxy-*bis*(dimethylamino)methane to give **5**. (Scheme 1).

**Scheme 1: Synthesis of 2-acylamino- and *O*-substituted 2-hydroxy-3-dimethylaminopropenoates.**

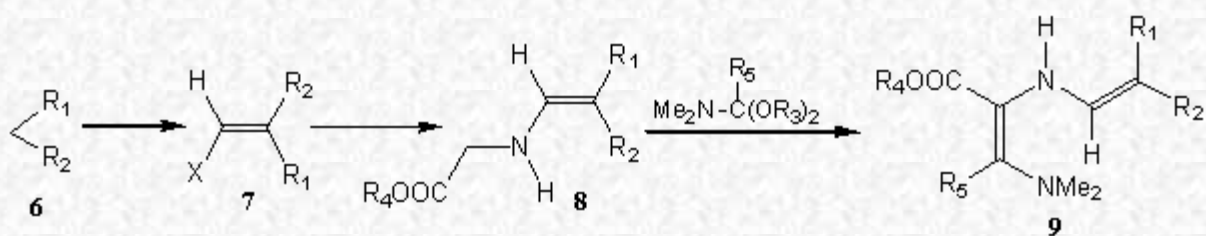


	<b>R<sub>1</sub></b>	<b>R<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>Ref.</b>
<b>3a</b>	Me	Ph	5,6
<b>3b</b>	Et	Ph	7
<b>3c</b>	Me	Me	8

<b>3d</b>	Et	Me	9
<b>3e</b>	Me	CF <sub>3</sub>	8
<b>3f</b>	Me	OCH <sub>2</sub> Ph	10
<b>5a</b>	Me	COPh	11
<b>5b</b>	Et	COPh	11
<b>5c</b>	Me	CH <sub>2</sub> Ph	11
<b>5d</b>	Me	Ph	11

2-[(2-Substituted ethenyl)amino]-3-dimethylaminopropenoates (**9**) can be prepared from compounds with an active methylene group **6** by transformation into ethoxymethylidene- or dimethylaminomethylidene derivatives **7**. These are with an alkyl glycinate into **8** and further with *N,N*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal into **9**. (Scheme 2).

**Scheme 2: Synthesis of 2-[(2-substituted ethenyl)amino]-3-dimethylaminopropenoates.**



<b>9</b>	<b>R<sub>1</sub></b>	<b>R<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>R<sub>3</sub></b>	<b>R<sub>4</sub></b>	<b>R<sub>5</sub></b>	<b>Ref.</b>
a	COOEt	COOEt	H	Me	H	12
b	COOEt	COOEt	H	Et	H	13
c	COOMe	COOMe	H	Et	H	14
d	COOEt	COPh	H	Me	H	15
e	COOEt	COPh	H	Et	H	15
f	COOEt	COMe	H	Me	H	16
g	COOMe	COMe	H	Me	H	17
h	COPh	COPh	H	Et	H	18
i	COMe	COPh	H	Et	H	19
j	COMe	COMe	H	Me	H	20

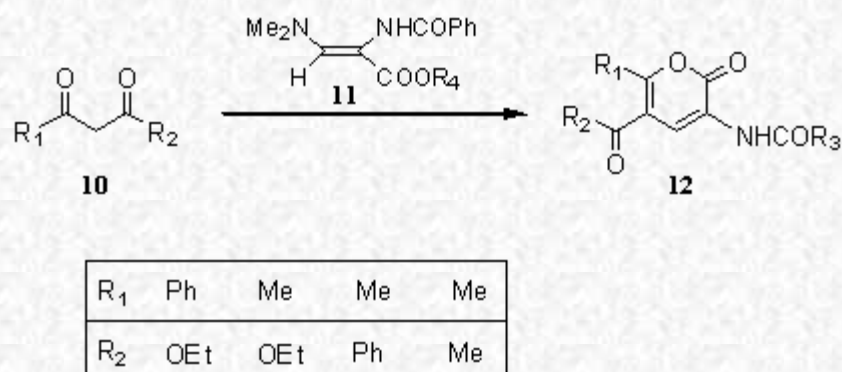
k	COOBn	COMe	H	Me	H	17
l	COOEt	Ph	H	Me	H	21
m	COOEt	CN	H	Et	H	22,23
n	COOEt	CN	Me	Me	H	23
o	COOEt	CN	Me	Et	H	23
p	COOEt	COOEt	H	Me	Me	24

### 3. Synthesis of heterocyclic systems

2-Acylamino- and *O*-substituted 2-hydroxy-3-dimethylaminopropenoates and their derivatives can be applied as three carbon synthons for the synthesis of a variety of monocyclic and polycyclic heterocyclic systems, in which a -amino- or a -hydroxy acid structural element is incorporated into the heterocyclic system.

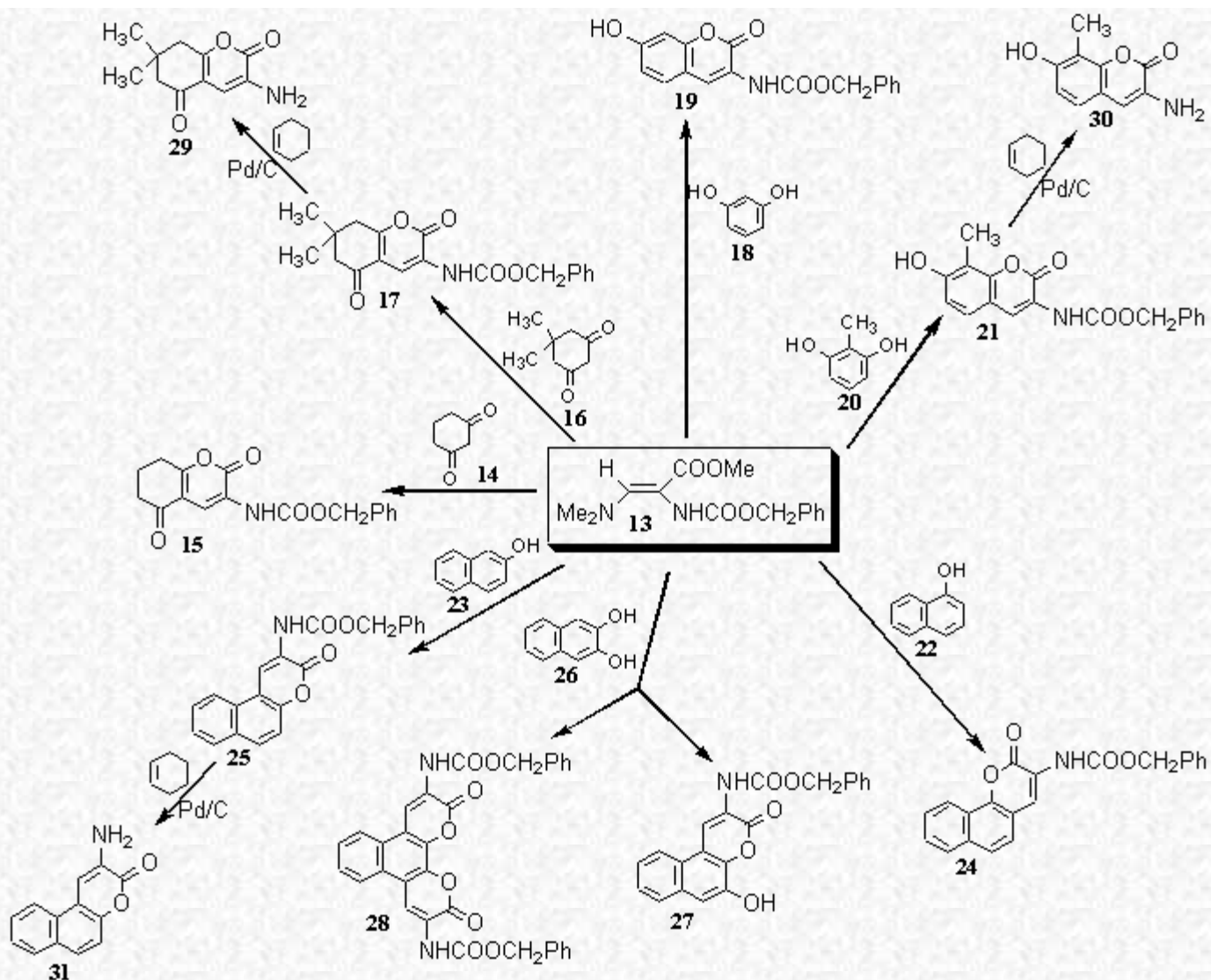
#### 3.1 Synthesis of pyranones and fused pyranones

**Scheme 3: Synthesis of pyranones**



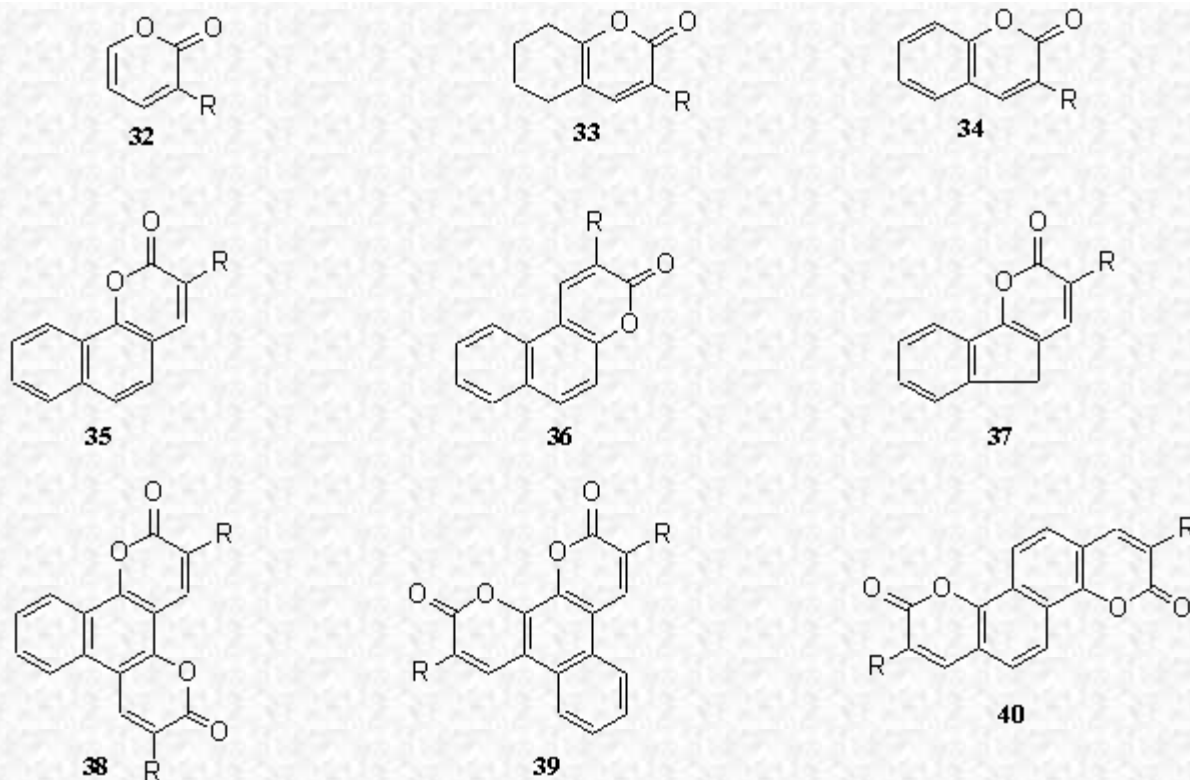
In the reaction of 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds **10** with **11** in the presence of acetic acid 3-acylamino-2H-pyran-2-ones **12** are formed [25]. (Scheme3).

Cyclic 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds, such as 1,3-cyclohexanedione (**14**) and its 5,5-dimethyl derivative (**16**), afford with benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-dimethylamino-propenoate (**13**), as an example, 5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-2H-1-benzopyran-2-ones **15** and **17**, respectively. Phenol itself does not react, while resorcinol (**18**) and its 2-methyl derivative **20** form 2H-1-benzopyran-2-one derivatives **15** and **17** [26]. On the other hand, 1- (**22**) and 2-naphthol (**23**) are activated enough to give the corresponding 2H-naphtho[1,2-*b*]pyran-3-one **24** and 3H-naphtho[2,1-*b*]pyran-2-one **25** derivatives, respectively [27]. Similarly, 2,3-dihydroxynaphthalene (**26**) naphthopyranone **27** or naphthobispyranone **28**. Benzyloxycarbonyl protecting group can be easily removed by catalytic transfer hydrogenation to give free amino compounds **29**, **30**, and **31** [10]. (Scheme 4).



**Scheme 4: Synthesis of pyranones fused to carbocyclic systems**

Accordingly, derivatives of the following systems have been prepared: *2H*-pyran-2-ones **32** [8, 10, 25, 27], 5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-*2H*-benzopyran-2-one **33** [10, 15, 17, 20, 22, 27, 28], *2H*-1-benzopyran-2-one **34** [8, 10, 11, 15, 17, 22, 28], *2H*-naphtho[1,2-*b*]pyran-2-one **35** [8, 10, 11, 27, 28, 29], *3H*-naphtho[2,1-*b*]pyran-3-one **36** [8, 10, 11, 15, 28, 30, 31], *5H*-indano[1,2-*b*]pyran-2-one **37** [30], *2H,6H*-naphtho[1,2-*b*:3,4-*b'*]dipyran-2,6-dione **38** [30], *2H,11H*-naphtho[2,1-*b*:3,4-*b'*]dipyran-2,11-dione **39** [30], and *3H,9H*-naphtho[1,2-*b*:5,6-*b'*]dipyran-3,9-dione **40** [30]. (Scheme 5).

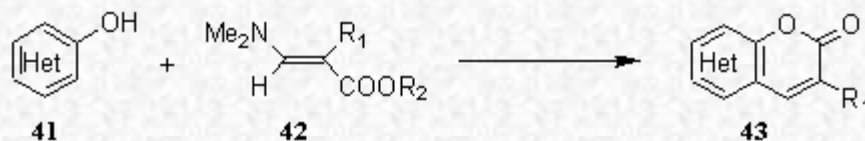


R = NHCOR<sub>1</sub>, OR<sub>1</sub>, OH, NH<sub>2</sub>,...

**Scheme 5: Pyranones and fused pyranones**

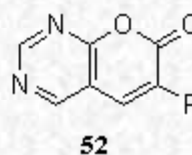
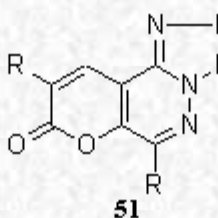
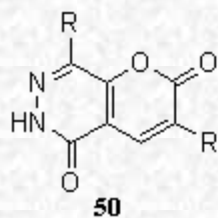
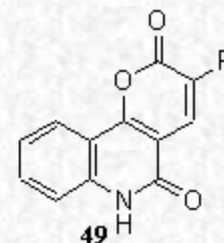
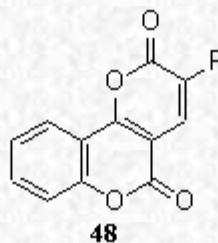
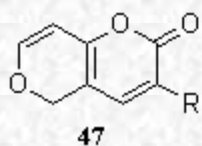
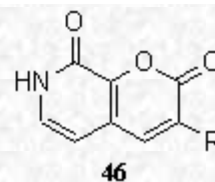
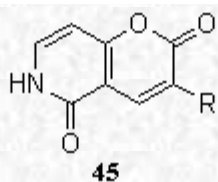
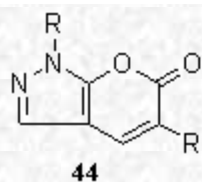
Similarly react also heterocyclic systems with a carbonyl and an adjacent methylene group as a part of the ring system **41**, or their tautomeric hydroxy forms, such as pyrazole, pyridine, pyran, benzopyran, quinoline, pyridazine, tetrazolo[1,5-*b*]pyridazine, and pyrimidine derivatives, with 2-substituted 3-dimethylaminopropenoates **42** to yield pyranones fused to a heterocyclic system **43**. (Scheme 6).

**Scheme 6: Synthesis of pyranones fused to heterocyclic system**



The following to heterocyclic systems fused pyranones have been prepared: 1*H*,6*H*-pyrano[2,3-*c*] pyrazole **44** [ 8,10,11,31,31,32] , 2*H*-pyrano[3,2-*c*] pyridine-2,5-dione **45** [ 8,10,11,15,28,31,33] , 2*H*,7*H*-pyrano[2,3-*c*]pyridine-2,8-dione **46**, 2*H*,5*H*-pyrano[4,3-*b*] pyran-2,5-dione **47** [ 10,11,14,15,28,34] , 2*H*,5*H*-pyrano[3,2-*c*] benzopyran-2,5-dione **48** [ 8,10,11,14,15,27,28] , 2*H*-pyrano[3,2-*c*] quinoline-2,5-dione **49** [ 8,11,28,33] , 2*H*-pyrano[2,3-*d*] pyridazine-2,5-dione **50** [ 8,28,33] , 8*H*-pyrano[3,2-*d*] tetrazolo[1,5-*b*] pyridazin-8-one **51** [ 33] , and 7*H*-pyrano[2,3-*d*] pyrimidin-7-one (**52**). [ 8,10,11,26,28,31] . (Scheme 7)

**Scheme 7: Pyranones fused to nitrogen or oxygen containing heterocycles**

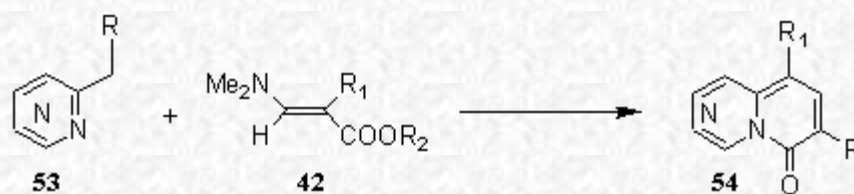


R = NH-Acyl, NH<sub>2</sub>, O-Alkyl, OH,...

### 3.2 Synthesis of fused pyridinones

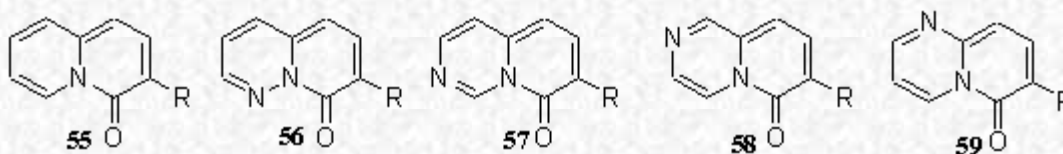
(Pyridinyl-2)acetic acid or its derivatives **53**, such as ethyl (pyridinyl-2)acetate, (pyridinyl-2)acetonitrile, and ethyl (quinolinyl-2)acetate and 2-substituted 3-dimethylaminopropenoates **42** yield by heating in acetic acid the corresponding 4*H*-quinolizin-4-ones **54** and related systems. (Scheme 8).

**Scheme 8: Synthesis of fused pyridinones**



Derivatives of the following systems have been prepared: 4*H*-quinolizin-4-one **55** [ 14,15,17,20,28,31,35,36] , 8*H*-pyrido[ 1,2-*b*] pyridazin-8-one **56** [ 36] , 8*H*-pyrido[ 1,2-*c*] pyrimidin-8-one **57** [ 36] , 6*H*-pyrido[ 1,2-*a*] pyrazin-6-one **58** [ 36] , and 6*H*-pyrido[ 1,2-*a*] pyrimidin-6-one **59** [ 36] . (Scheme 9).

### Scheme 9: Pyridinones fused to azole or azine ring

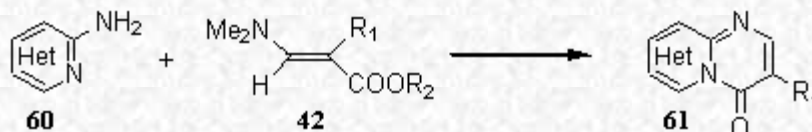


R = NH-Acyl, NH<sub>2</sub>, O-Alkyl, OH, CH<sub>2</sub>COOMe,...

### 3.3 Synthesis of fused pyrimidinones

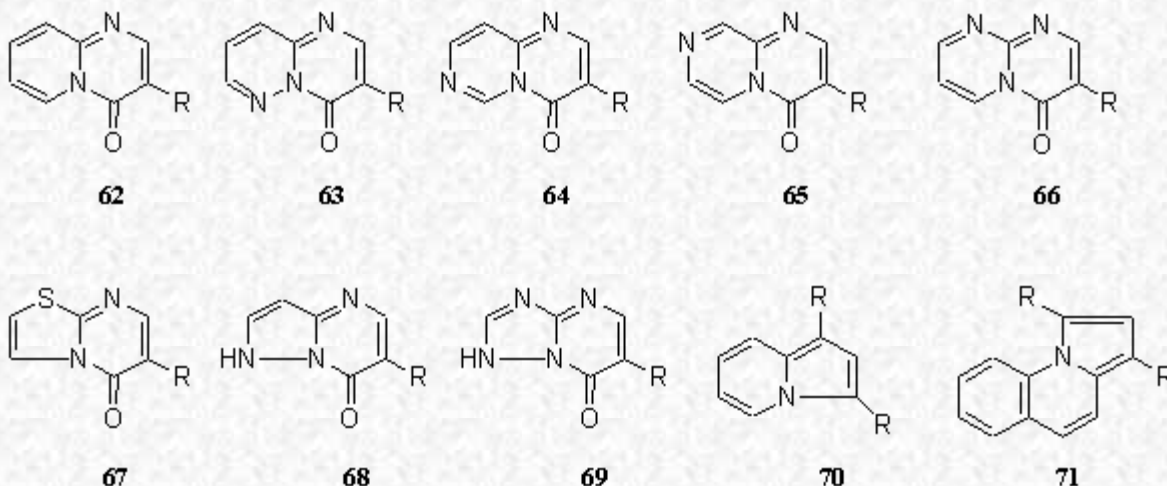
Heterocyclic  $\alpha$ -amino compounds **60**, such as 2-aminopyridines, 3-aminopyridazines, 2- and 4-aminopyrimidines, 2-aminopyrazines, 3-aminopyrazoles, 2-aminothiazoles and others, react with 2-substituted 3-dimethylaminopropenoates **42** and related compounds to form fused pyrimidinones **61** with a bridgehead nitrogen atom. (Scheme 10)

### Scheme 10: Synthesis of fused pyrimidinones



Accordingly, derivatives of the following systems have been prepared: 4*H*-pyrido[1,2-*a*]pyrimidin-4-one **62** [ 8,13,14,17, 20,22,31,37,38,39,40] , 4*H*-pyrimido[1,2-*b*]pyridazin-4-one **63** [ 17,37,38,40] , 4*H*-pyrimido[3,4-*a*]pyrimidin-4-one **64**, 4*H*-pyrazino[1,2-*a*]pyrimidin-4-one **65** [ 37,38] , 4*H*-pyrimido[3,4-*a*]pyrimidin-4-one **66**, 5*H*-thiazolo[3,2-*a*]pyrimidin-4-one **67** [ 8,14,17,18,20,35,37,38,41] , 7*H*-pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyrimidin-7-one **68** [ 13,31,37] , and 7*H*-1,2,4-thiazolo[1,5-*a*]pyrimidin-4-one **69** [ 8,37,38] , and others, such as **70** and **71**. (Scheme 11).

### Scheme 11: Pyrimidinones fused to azole or azine ring



R = NH-Acyl, NH<sub>2</sub>, O-Alkyl, OH, CH<sub>2</sub>COOMe,...

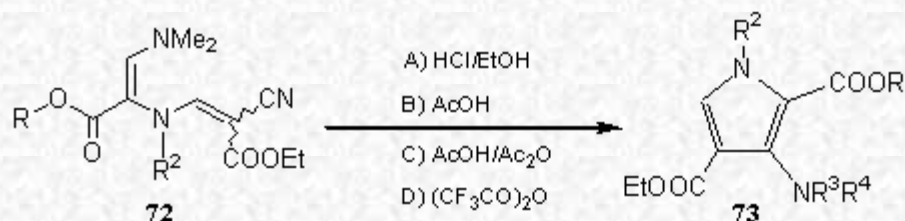


### 3.4 Synthesis of pyrroles

#### 3.4.1 Substituted 3-aminopyrrole-2,4-dicarboxylates

Alkyl 2-(2-alkoxycarbonyl-2-cyano-1-ethenyl)amino-3-dimethylaminopropenoates **72** undergo intramolecular cyclization, catalysed by acid, to give 3-aminopyrrole-2,4-dicarboxylates **73**. The structure of the final product is dependent upon the reaction conditions [ 23] . (Scheme 12)

**Scheme 12: Transformations of alkyl 2-(2-cyano-2-ethoxycarbonylethenyl)amino- 3-dimethylaminopropenoates. Synthesis of 3-amino-pyrrole-2,4-dicarboxylates**

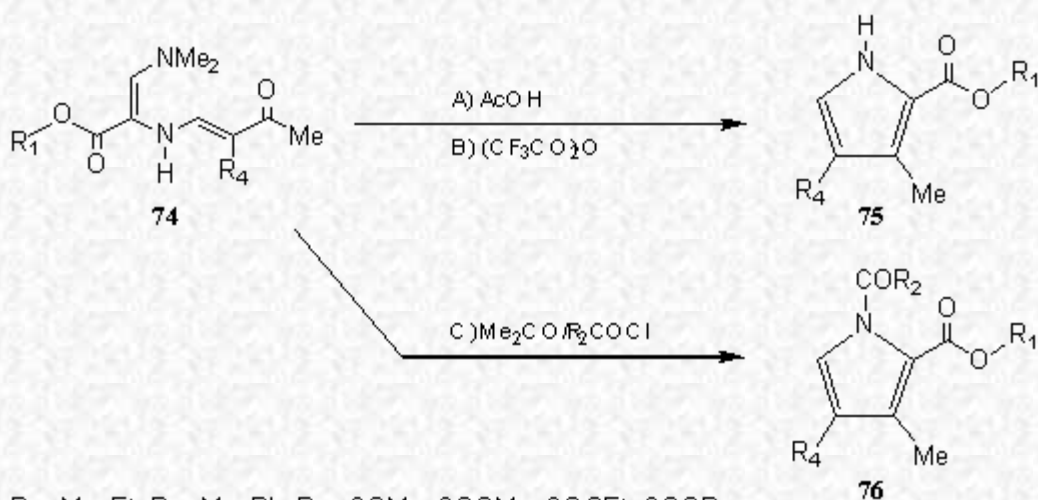


R<sub>1</sub>=Me, Et; R<sub>2</sub>= H, Me; R<sub>3</sub>= H, COMe; R<sub>4</sub>=H, COMe, COCF<sub>3</sub>, CH=C(COOEt)NHCH=C(CN)COOEt  
Yields 17-90%

#### 3.4.2 Pyrrole-2-carboxylates

2-(2-Acetyl-2-benzoyl-1-ethenyl)amino-3-dimethylaminopropenoate and other alkyl 2-[ 2,2-bis(acyl)-1-ethenyl] amino-3-dimethylaminopropenoates and alkyl 2-(2-acyl-2-alkoxycarbonyl-1-ethenyl)amino-3-dimethylaminopropenoates **74** cyclize by heating in various solvents to give 3,4-disubstituted- **75** and 1-acyl-3,4-disubstituted pyrrole-2-carboxylates **76** [ 42,43] . (Scheme 13).

**Scheme 13: Transformations of alkyl 2-(2- acetyl-2- substituted-ethenyl)amino- 3-dimethylaminopropenoates. Synthesis of pyrrole-2- carboxylates**

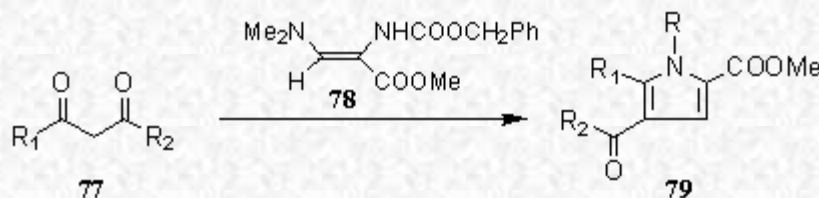


R<sub>1</sub>= Me, Et; R<sub>2</sub>= Me, Ph; R<sub>4</sub>= COMe, COOMe, COOEt, COOBn;  
Yields 23-60%

Methyl 2-(*N*-benzyloxycarbonyl)amino-3dimethylaminopropenoate **78** gives with 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds **77** 5-

substituted 4-acyl-1-benzoyloxycarbonylpyrrole-2-carboxylate **79** [ 10] . (Scheme 14).

#### Scheme 14: Synthesis of 4,5-disubstituted pyrrole-2-carboxylates

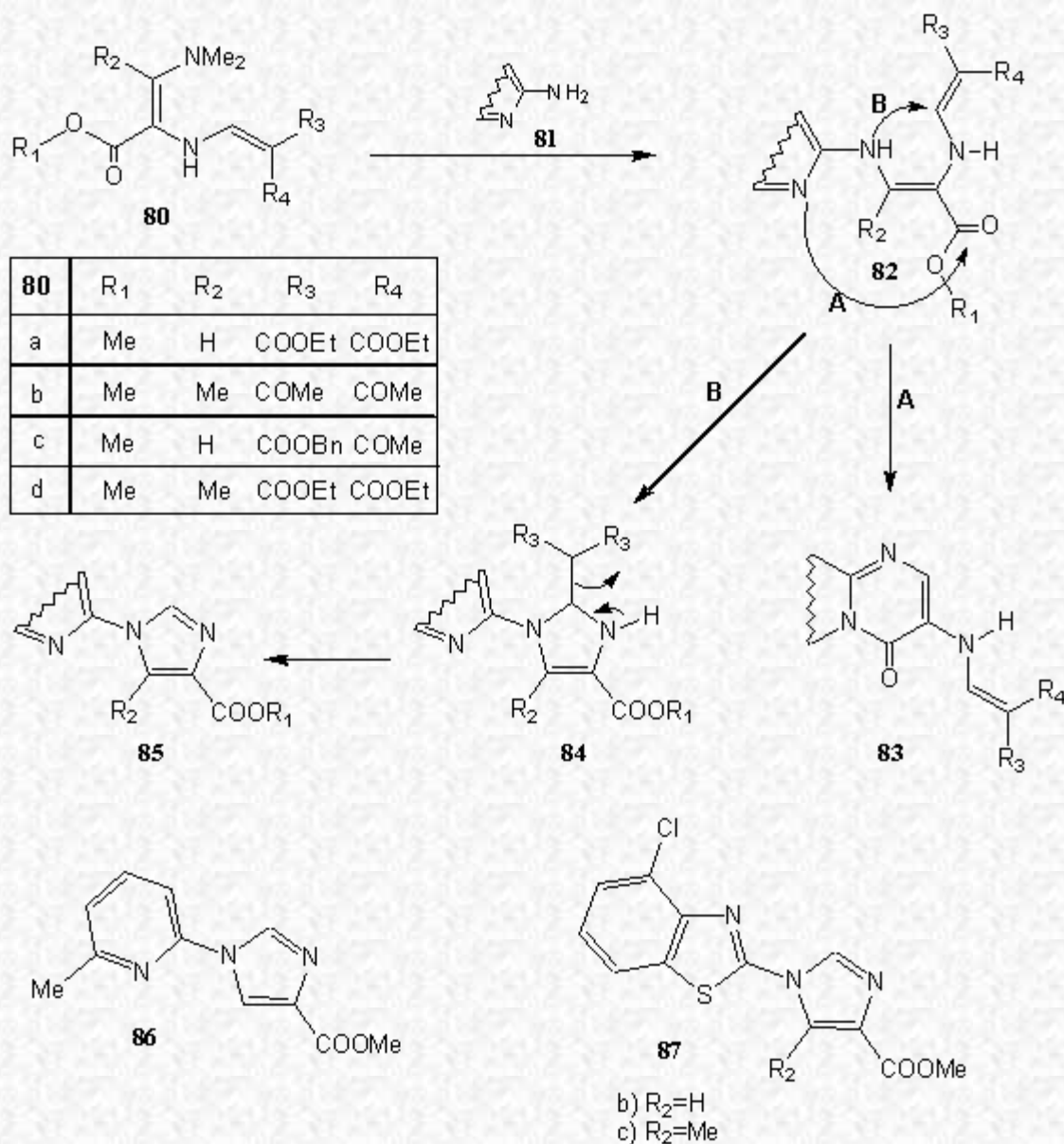


<b>79</b>	R	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>
a	H	Me	Me
b	H	Me	Ph
c	COOCH <sub>2</sub> Ph	Me	Me

### 3.5 Synthesis of imidazole-4-carboxylates

As mentioned earlier, alkyl 2-(2,2-disubstituted 1-ethenyl)amino-3-dimethylaminopropenoates **80** and heterocyclic compounds **81**, with an amino group attached at a  $\alpha$ -position in respect to ring nitrogen atom, form intermediates **82**, which cyclize according to path A into the corresponding azolo- and azinopyrimidinones **83**. However, when these compounds are prepared from amines in which the ring nitrogen atom is sterically hindered by a substituent attached close to the ring nitrogen atom, such as in 2-amino-6-methylpyridine, 2-amino-4-chlorobenzothiazole, and its 5-methyl derivative, the reaction resulted in the formation of imidazole derivatives **85** via intermediate **84**. In this manner, methyl 1-(6-methylpyridin-2-yl)-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (**86**), methyl 1-(4-chlorobenzothiazol-2-yl)-1*H*-imidazole-4-carboxylate (**87a**), and its 5-methyl derivative **87b** are formed [ 12] . (Scheme 15).

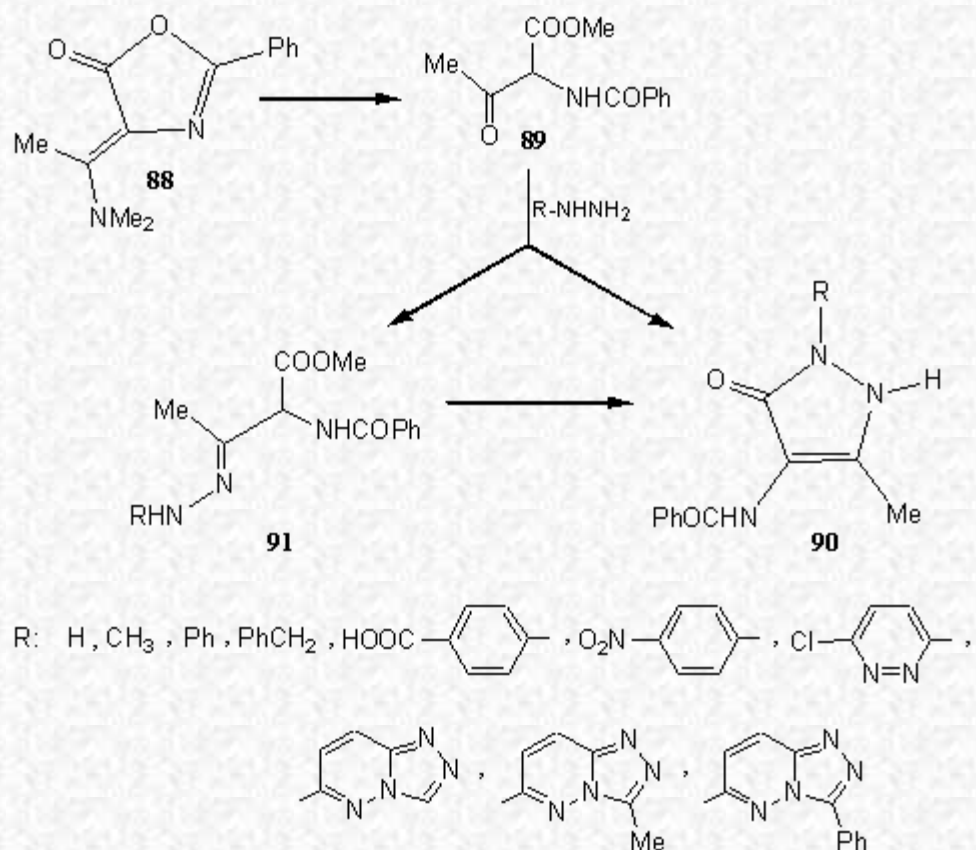
**Scheme 15: Transformations of 2-(2,2-disubstituted-ethenyl) amino-3-dimethylamino-propenoates. Synthesis of 1-heteroaryl-imidazole-4-carboxylates.**



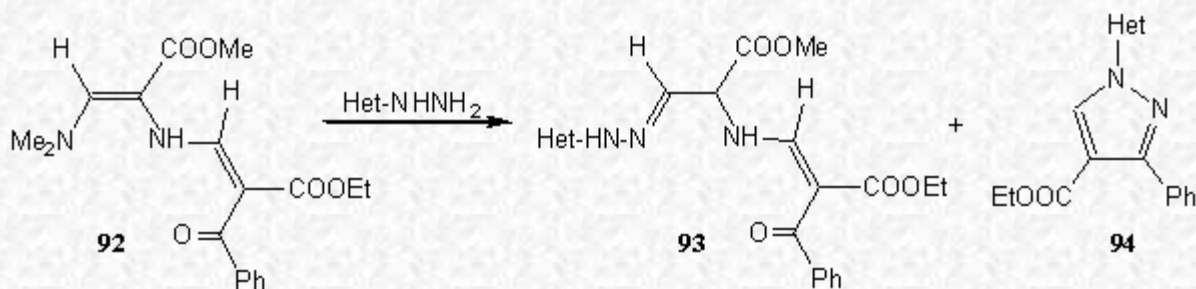
### 3.6 Synthesis of pyrazoles

4-(1-Dimethylaminoethylidene)-2-phenyl-5(4*H*)-oxazolone (**88**), prepared from hippuric acid and *N,N*-dimethylacetamide as an intermediate in preparation of the corresponding propenoates, gives by hydrolysis 2-benzoylamino-2-oxobutanoate (**89**). In the reaction with hydrazines the corresponding 1-substituted 4-benzoylamino-3-methylpyrazol-5(2*H*)-ones (**90**) are formed. In some cases the hydrazones **91** can be isolated as intermediates. [44]. (Scheme 16).

**Scheme 16: Transformations of methyl 2-benzoylamino-3-oxobutanoate. Synthesis of pyrazole derivatives.**



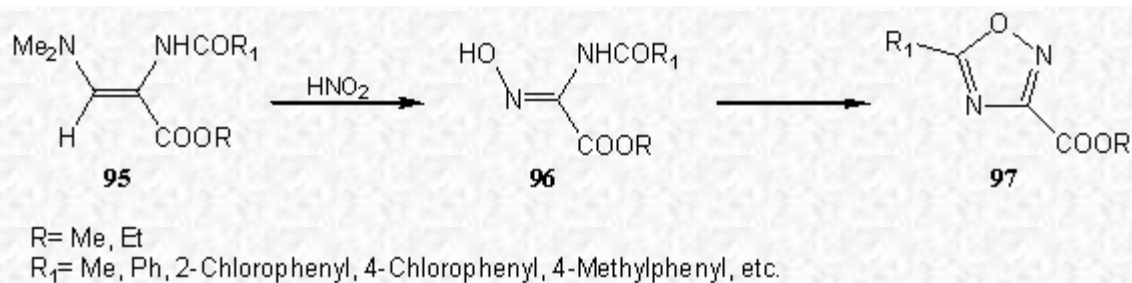
In the case of 2-(2-benzoyl-2-ethoxycarbonyl-1-ethynyl)amino-3-dimethylaminopropenoate (**92**) two concurrent reactions take place, in which 2-(2-benzoyl-2-ethoxycarbonyl-1-ethynyl)amino-3-heteroarylhydrazino)propenoates (**93**) and/or 4-ethoxycarbonyl-1-heteroaryl-3-phenylpyrazoles (**94**) are formed [45]. (Scheme 17).



**Scheme 17: Synthesis of pyrazole-4-carboxylates**

### 3.7 Synthesis of 1,2,4-oxadiazoles

By treatment of 2-acylamino-3-dimethylaminopropenoates (**95**) with nitrous acid at 0°C the corresponding oximes **96** are formed, which cyclize into 5-substituted 1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-carboxylates **97** [7,46]. (Scheme 18).



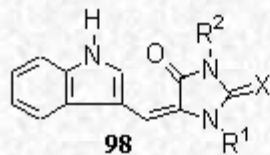
**Scheme 18: Synthesis of 1,2,4-oxadiazoles**

### 3.8. Synthesis of aplysinopsins and azaaplysinopsins

Aplysinopsins (**98**) and azaaplysinopsins (**99**) are interesting class of compounds because of their biological properties [47]. 2-(2,2-Disubstituted ethenylamino)-3-dimethylaminopropenoates can be successfully employed in the synthesis of these compounds. For example, ethyl 2-[(2-acetyl-2-methoxy(or benzyloxy)carbonyl)ethenyl]amino]-3-dimethylaminopropenoates (**100**) react with indole (**101**) to form intermediates **102**. These, when treated with hydrazine, give intermediates **103**, from which aplysinopsin (**104**) is formed by cyclization with urea. Alternatively, the same type of compounds can be obtained also from indole (**101**) and 5-dimethylaminomethylenehydantoin (**106**), prepared from hydantoin (**105**) and *N,N*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal, in good yields [48]. (Scheme 19).

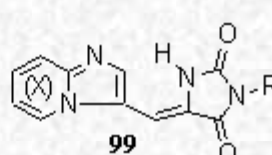
**Scheme 19: Application of 2-(2-acyl-2-alkoxycarbonyl-ethenyl)amino-3-dimethylamino-propenoates and 5-dimethylaminomethylenehydantoins in the synthesis of aplysinopsins**

### APLYSINOPSINS

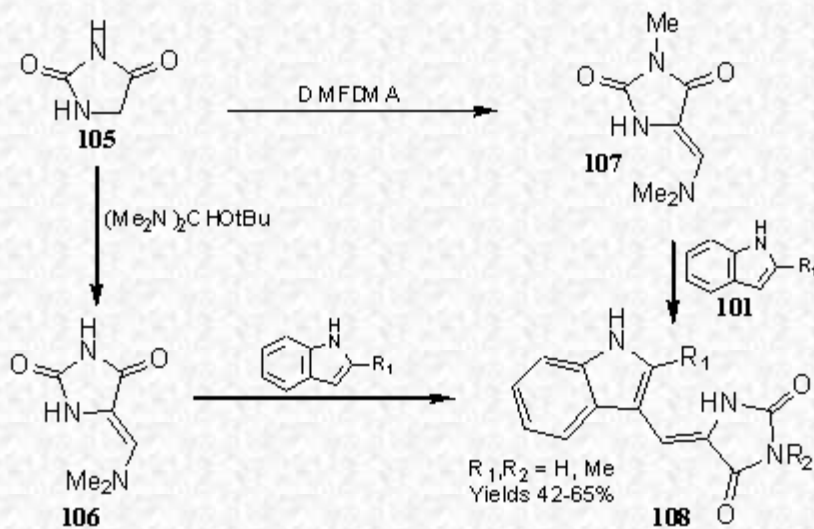
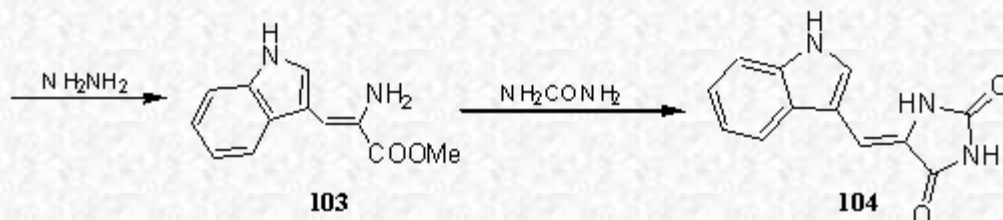
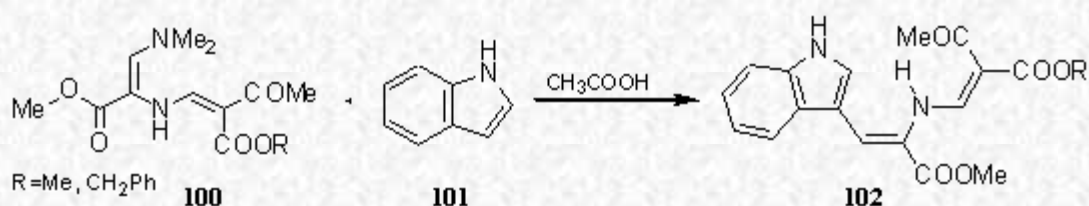


X = NH; R<sup>1</sup> = R<sup>2</sup> = CH<sub>3</sub>  
X = O; R<sup>1</sup> = R<sup>2</sup> = H

### AZAAPLYSINOPSINS



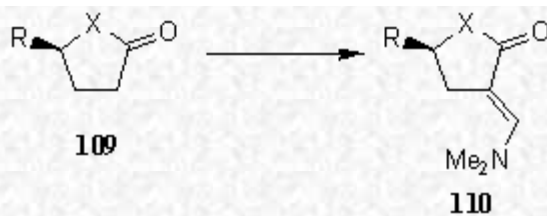
X = CH, N  
R = Et, Ph



#### 4. Synthesis and transformations of chiral 3-dimethylaminopropenoates

Chiral analogs of 3-dimethylaminopropenoates (**110**) were prepared from tetrahydrofuran-2-ones (**109a,b**) and pyrrolidin-2-ones (**109c-e**) by treatment with *tert*-butoxybis(dimethylamino)methane, respectively [49-51]. (Scheme 20).

Scheme 20: Synthesis of chiral 3-dimethylaminopropenoates

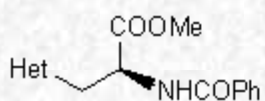
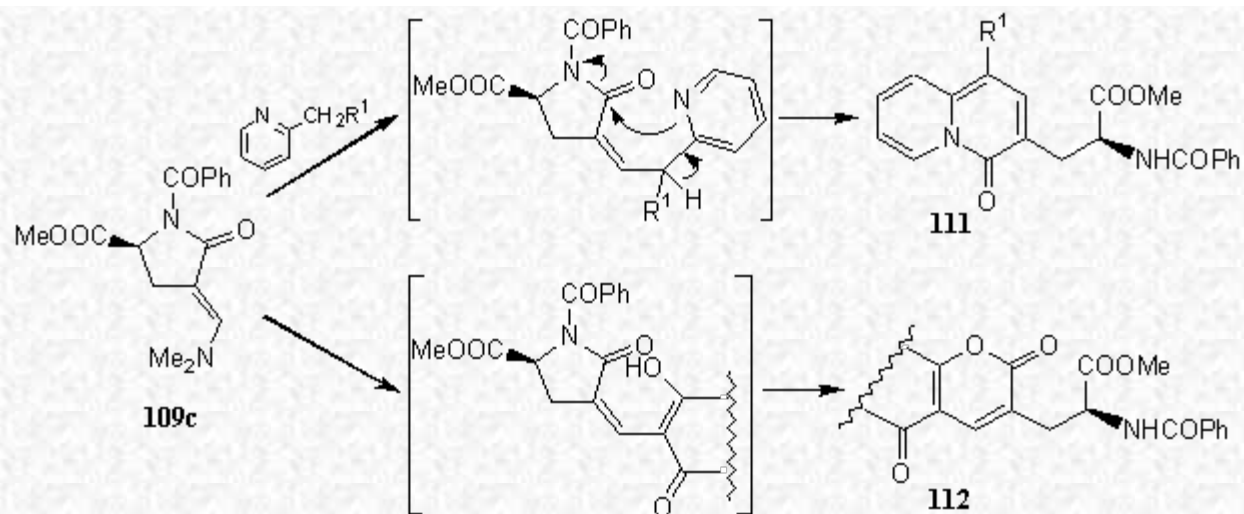


Compound	R	X	Yield
<b>110a</b>	COOMe	O	58
<b>110b</b>	CH <sub>2</sub> COOPh	O	43
<b>110c</b>	COOMe	N-COPh	74
<b>110d</b>	COOMe	N-Boc- <i>t</i>	87
<b>110e</b>	PhCOOCH <sub>2</sub>	N-COPh	71

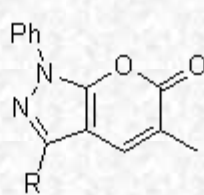
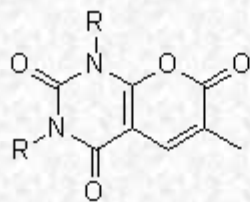
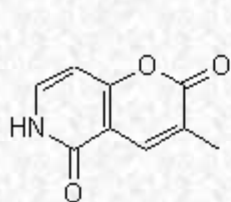
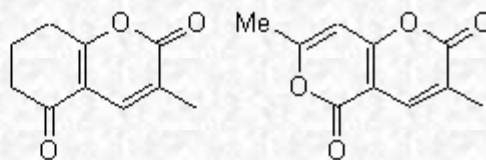
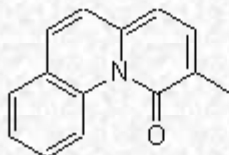
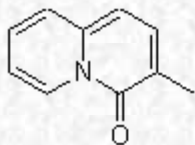
#### 4.1 A one-step synthesis of (*S*)-3-heteroarylalanines

(*S*)-1-Benzoyl-3-[(*E*)-dimethylaminomethylidene]-5-methoxycarbonylpyrrolidin-2-one (**109c**) was transformed with 1,3-dinucleophiles, such as 2-(pyridinyl-2)acetates and 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds into the corresponding quinolizinyll- (**111**) and 2-oxo-2*H*-pyranyl-3 substituted alanine esters (**112**) in 50-90 % yield [52]. (Scheme 21).

#### Scheme 21: Synthesis of (*S*)-3-heteroarylalanines



Het:

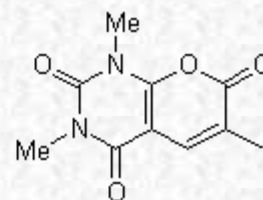
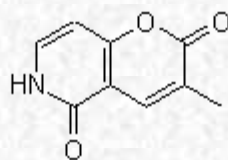
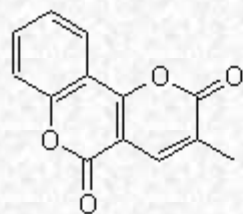
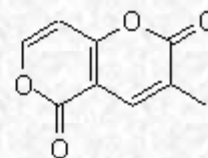
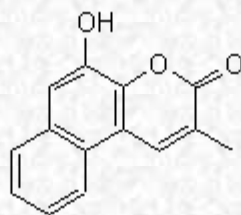
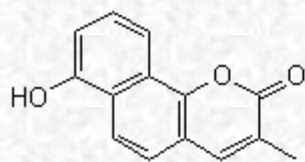
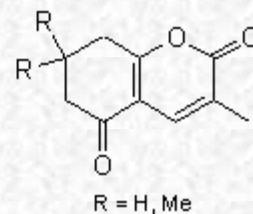
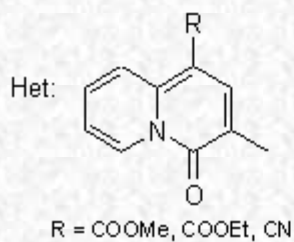
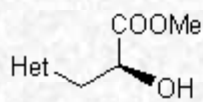
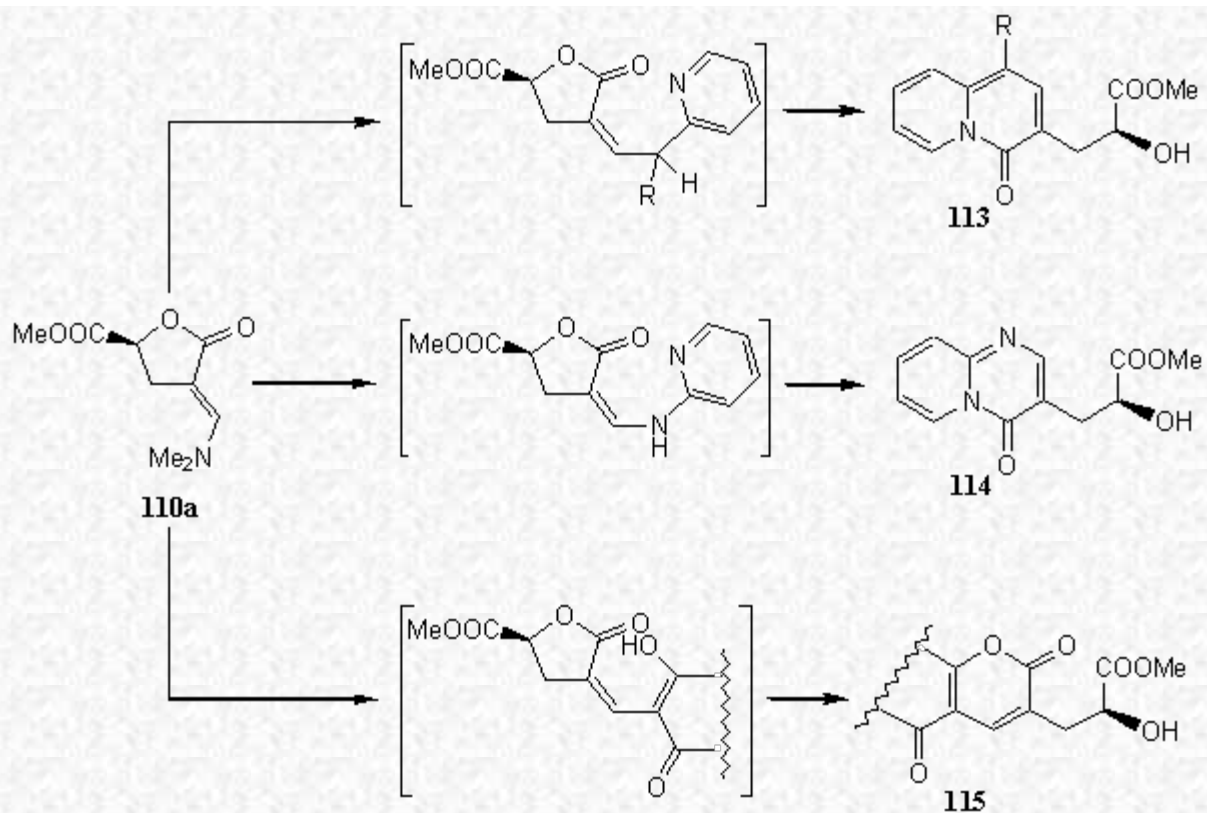


## 4.2 Synthesis of 3-heteroaryl substituted lactates

Analogously, 3-heteroaryl substituted lactic acid derivatives were prepared by ring switching methodology in a one-step transformation from (*S*)-3-[(*E*)-dimethylaminomethylidene]-5-methoxycarbonyltetrahydrofuran-2-one (**110a**) by treatment with 1,3-dinucleophiles. In this manner, 3-quinoliziny-3- (**113**), 4-oxo-4*H*-pyrido[1,2-*a*]pyrimidinyl-3- (**114**), and 3-(2-oxo-2*H*-pyran-3-yl)lactic acid derivatives (**115**) were obtained [53, 54]. (Scheme 22).

**Scheme 22: Synthesis of 3-heteroaryl substituted lactates**





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