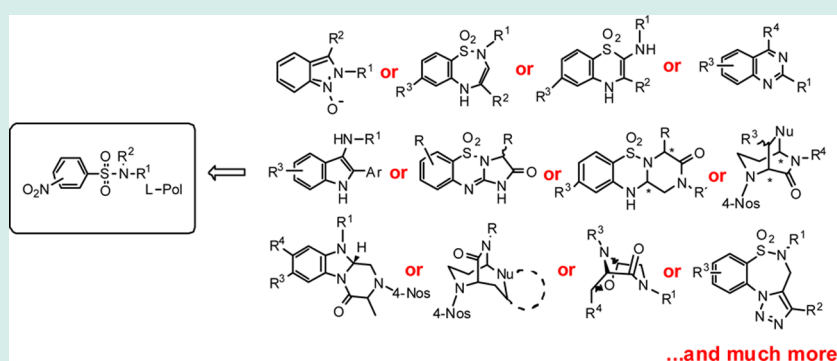


Mining the Chemical Space: Application of 2/4-Nitrobenzenesulfonamides in Solid-Phase Synthesis

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...and much more!

ABSTRACT: Polymer-supported benzenesulfonamides prepared from various immobilized primary amines and 2/4-nitrobenzenesulfonyl chloride have been used as key intermediates in different chemical transformations, including unusual rearrangements to yield a number of diverse privileged scaffolds. This review summarizes individual strategies in their application to date.

KEYWORDS: Fukuyama alkylation, Fukuyama–Mitsunobu alkylation, 2-nitrobenzenesulfonyl chloride, 4-nitrobenzenesulfonyl chloride, protective group, rearrangement, C-arylation, N-arylation, solid-phase synthesis

INTRODUCTION

Compounds containing a benzenesulfonamide scaffold belong to the most intensively studied sulfurous organic derivatives. Their utility originated in the field of medicinal chemistry, which introduced benzenesulfonamides as pharmacologically important compounds.^{1–4} A number of these molecules have applications in human medicine, particularly as potent antidepressant,⁵ anti-tumor,^{6–8} antiviral,⁹ and antimicrobial^{10,11} agents. In the field of synthetic organic chemistry, a special group of derivatives is represented by 2- and 4-nitrobenzenesulfonamides derived from primary amines. Such compounds are easily accessible from 2-nitrobenzenesulfonyl chloride (2-Nos-Cl) and 4-nitrobenzenesulfonyl chloride (4-Nos-Cl), respectively. In 1995, a milestone in nitrobenzenesulfonamide application in preparative synthesis was achieved by Fukuyama, who reported their use for the selective monoalkylation of primary amines.^{12,13} Although alternative methods had been developed earlier (e.g., reductive alkylation or acylation followed by amide reduction),^{14–16} the Fukuyama procedure quickly became the method of choice. Even strategies based on a similar approach using tosylamides and trifluoroacetamides could not compete with Fukuyama method because of the relatively harsh conditions needed to cleave the activating/protecting tosyl and trifluoroacetyl groups.¹² Alkylation of nitrobenzenesulfonamides with either alkyl halides, alcohols,^{17,18} or α,β -unsaturated ketones (Michael addition)¹⁹ is followed by cleavage of a Nos group under mild reaction

conditions, typically using various thiols. Because of its simplicity and only few limitations,^{20,21} the Fukuyama strategy has subsequently been employed by many chemists for the regioselective monoalkylation of diverse intermediates. In addition to traditional solution-phase synthesis, Fukuyama protection/activation is also efficient in solid-phase synthesis (SPS) using an excess of alkylating species. Miller initially used this technique in 1997²² to selectively N-methylate peptides. The mild cleavage conditions compared with alternative acid/base methods (such as Benoiton, Freidinger, or Grieco)²³ are preferred in SPS because they are compatible with a number of acid/base-labile linkers. For this reason, the Fukuyama alkylation method significantly impacted solid-phase synthesis in the following decade.

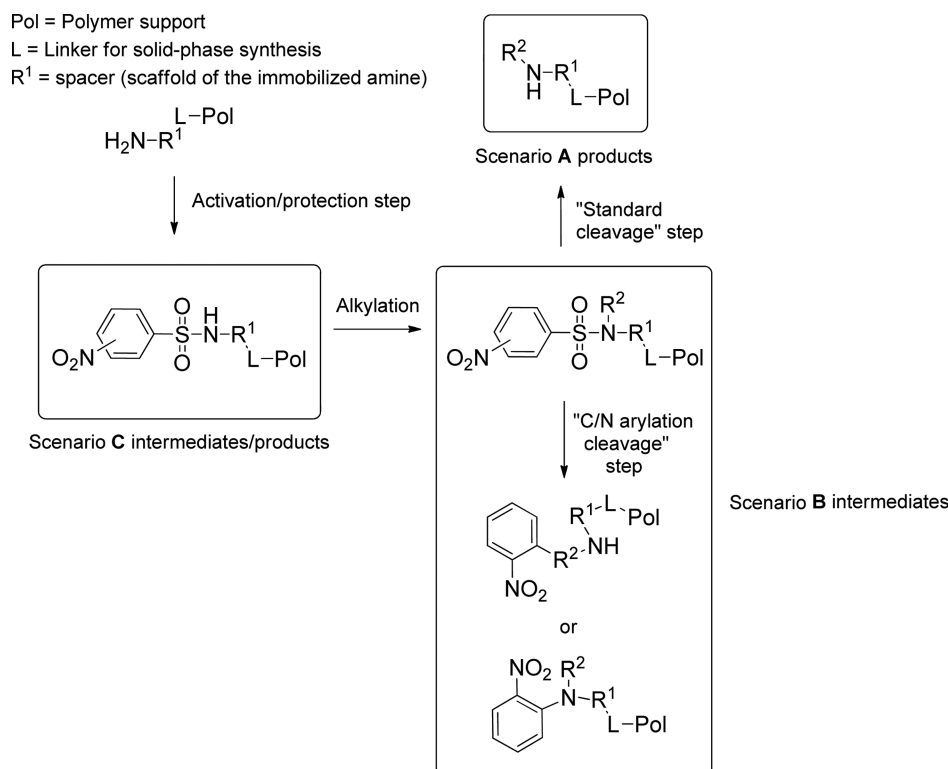
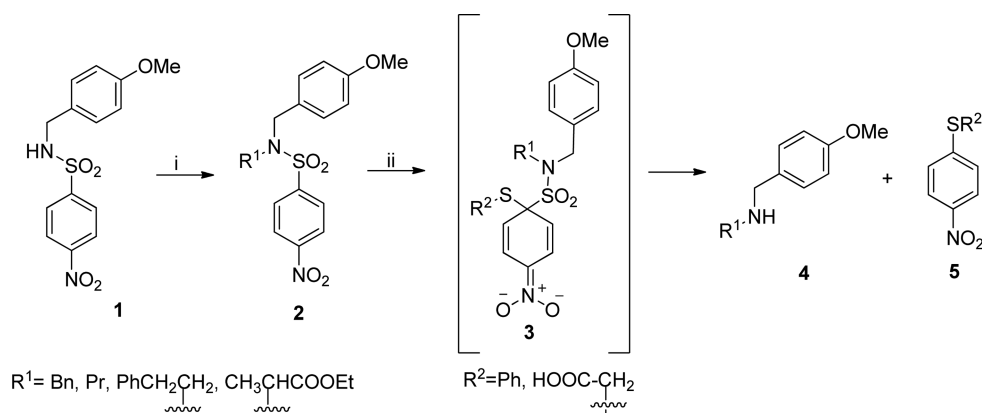
In 2008, solid-phase Fukuyama alkylation with halo ketones unexpectedly provided novel indazole-N-oxide derivatives.²⁴ Rearrangement was based on C-arylation followed by cleavage of the sulfur dioxide moiety. This discovery ushered in a new era of Nos-Cl's in organic synthesis. Instead of the standard Fukuyama alkylation, nitrobenzenesulfonamides have been advanced intermediates in diversity-oriented synthesis (DOS) of various heterocyclic scaffolds.²⁵ Later research showed that intramolecular

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Scheme 1. Three Different Scenarios for Application of Nos-Cl in Solid-Phase Synthesis

Scheme 2. Mechanism of Nos Deprotection According to Fukuyama¹² (Demonstrated for 4-Nos)^a

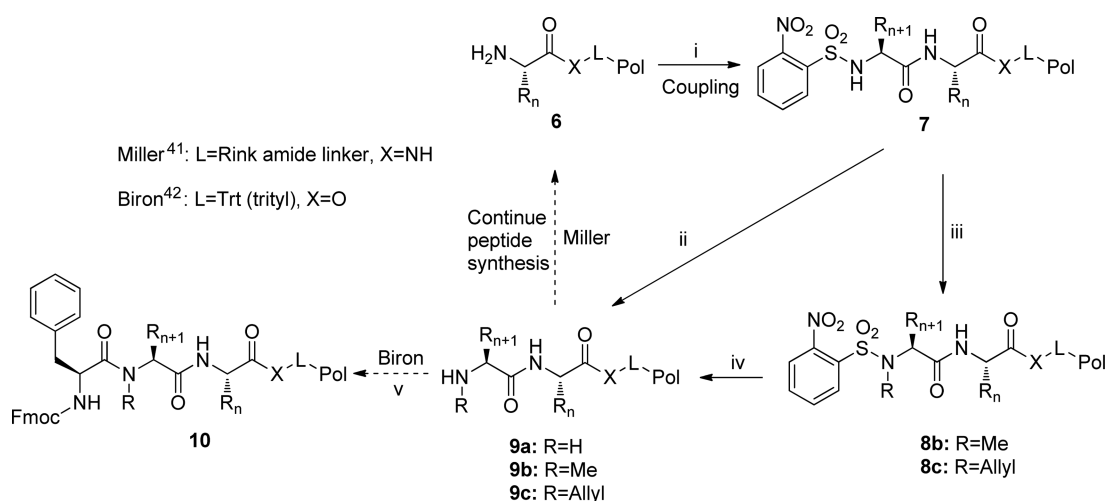
^aReagents: (i) R¹OH, diethyl azodicarboxylate (DEAD), triphenylphosphine (PPh₃), DCM or R¹X, K₂CO₃, DMF; (ii) R²SH, K₂CO₃, DMF.

N-arylations can also occur, depending on the type of substrate and the reaction conditions.²⁶ Apart from planar heterocyclic scaffolds, compounds with three-dimensional (3D) architecture (the presence of sp³ carbons) and derivatives with stereoselective formation of stereogenic centers were also accessible to cover a larger part of the chemical space.

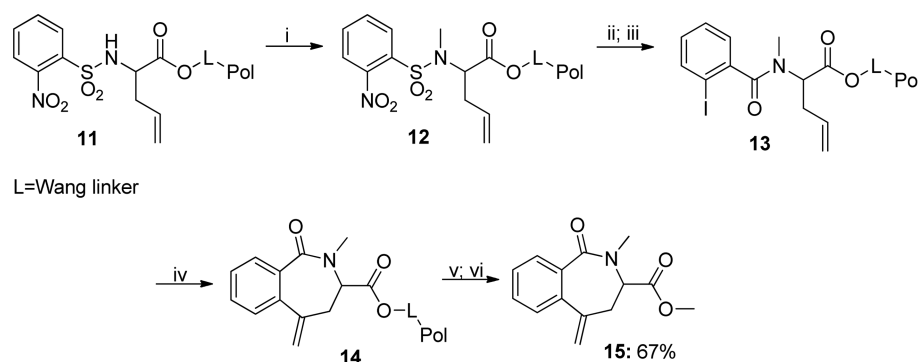
This review summarizes the entire history of polymer-supported 2- and 4-nitrobenzenesulfonamides. Three general different approaches are distinguished (Scheme 1): (i) Nos as a standard protecting group for monoalkylation followed by cleavage of the Nos group (scenario A), (ii) Nos as an activation species for Fukuyama or Fukuyama–Mitsunobu alkylation while preserving the Nos scaffold (or just the aromatic portion) in the final structure (scenario B), and (iii) Nos-Cl as common building blocks without application of Fukuyama alkylation (scenario C).

1. SCENARIO A: PROTECTING/ACTIVATING FUNCTION FOR THE REGIOSELECTIVE ALKYLATION

Incorporation of the Nos group to obtain the corresponding nitrobenzenesulfonamide is typically carried out with Nos-Cl in the presence of base (e.g., collidine, *N,N*-diisopropylethylamine (DIEA), triethylamine (TEA), or 2,6-lutidine)^{27–30} in different solvents such as *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF), tetrahydrofuran (THF), or dichloromethane (DCM). The resulting nitrobenzenesulfonamide intermediate is subjected to alkylation with different species followed by deprotection of the Nos moiety. In addition to its protecting/activating function, the most important feature of the Nos group is its mild cleavage conditions. In accordance with the original Fukuyama procedure (Scheme 2),¹² deprotection of intermediate 2 is mediated by diverse thiols (e.g., thiophenol, mercaptoethanol, mercaptoacetic acid, 1*H*,1*H*,2*H*,2*H*-perfluorodecane-1-thiol, or

Scheme 3. Use of *N*-2-Nos-Protected Amino Acids in Peptide Synthesis^a

^aReagents: (i) 2-Nos-AA-OH or 2-Nos-Phe-Cl, *N,N,N',N'*-tetramethyl-*O*-(1*H*-benzotriazol-1-yl)uranium hexafluorophosphate (HBTU), *N*-methylmorpholine (NMM), DMF; (ii) PhSH, K₂CO₃, DMF; (iii) (a) methyl 4-nitrobenzenesulfonate, 7-methyl-1,5,7-triazabicyclo[4.4.0]dec-5-ene (MTBD), dimethylacetamide (DMA) or (b) allyl methyl carbonate, Pd₂(dba)₃, CHCl₃, PPh₃, THF; (iv) 2-mercaptoethanol, DBU, DMF; (v) Fmoc-Phe-OH, 1-[bis(dimethylamino)methylene]-1*H*-1,2,3-triazolo[4,5-*b*]pyridinium 3-oxide hexafluorophosphate (HATU), 1-hydroxy-7-azabenzotriazole (HOAt), DIEA, NMP.

Scheme 4. Fukuyama Methylation of the Unnatural Amino Acid Sulfonamide for the Heck Reaction^a

^aReagents: (i) MTBD, MeI, DMF; (ii) PhSH, K₂CO₃, DMF; (iii) 2-iodobenzoyl chloride, TEA, DCM; (iv) Pd(OAc)₂, PPh₃, Bu₄NCl, potassium acetate, DMF, 70 °C; (v) 50% trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) in DCM; (vi) CH₂N₂.

2,2'-(ethylenedioxy)diethanethiol)^{31–36} in the presence of a suitable base, such as potassium carbonate, collidine, propylamine, or 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene (DBU), via Meisenheimer complex 3. A specific area is represented by the application of polymer-supported thio derivatives.^{37–39} The typical solvent for the deprotection step is DMF or *N*-methylpyrrolidone (NMP). Ionic liquids⁴⁰ have also been used in solution-phase chemistry. However, the most frequently applied procedure in SPS consists of the combination of mercaptoethanol, DBU, and DMF.

In the context of scenario A, the following subchapters summarize the individual approaches sorted according to the type of alkylating agent.

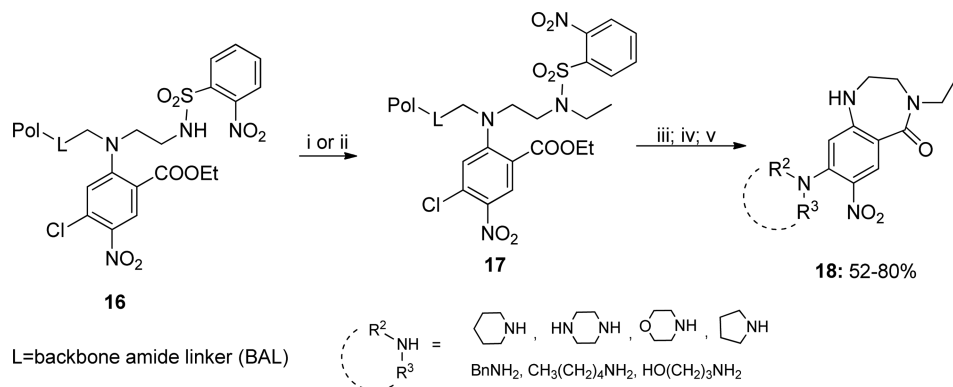
1.1. Alkylation with Alkyl Halides or (Pseudo)halides.

The historical solid-phase Fukuyama alkylation belongs in this category.²² Miller and Scalan automated the SPS of a thrombin receptor agonist peptide amide (SFLLRN) with the cheaper *N*-2-Nos-protected *N*-unalkylated amino acid in place of the commonly applied *N*-(9-fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl)amino acid (Fmoc-AA-OH).⁴¹ In contrast to Fmoc deprotection, cleavage of the 2-Nos group of peptide 7 by thiophenol produced compound 9a and a yellow chromophore, which allowed the process to be

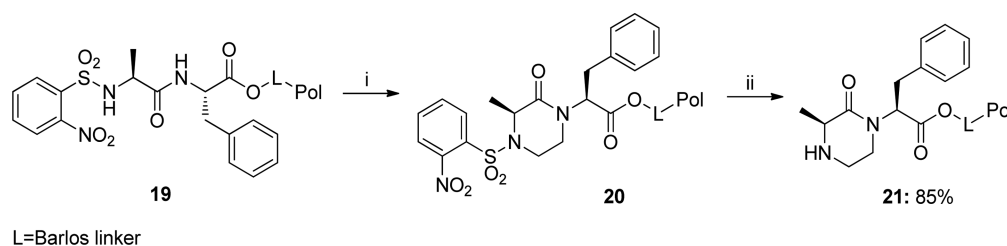
inspected visually (Scheme 3). To expand the developed method, the starting *N*-2-Nos peptide 7 underwent selective *N*-alkylation (8b) or *N*-allylation (8c) prior to deprotection. After selective removal of the Nos group from compound 8b, the subsequent coupling of immobilized *N*-alkylated peptide 9b with 2-Nos-AA-OH was effortless. On the other hand, coupling of *N*-allylated peptide 9c with 2-nosyl amino acid (2-Nos-AA-OH) was more complicated because of the formation of side products. To increase the coupling yield, peptide 9c was coupled with 2-Nos-AA-Cl. The developed strategy is compatible with the Fmoc protecting group and can therefore also be combined with Fmoc-AA-OH.⁴²

The methylation of non-natural α -amino acids was described by Bolton and Hodges,⁴³ who developed a procedure for the intramolecular Heck cyclization of solid-supported allyl intermediates 13. *N*-Methylsulfonamide 12 was deprotected by thiolate and then acylated with 2-iodobenzoyl chloride (Scheme 4). The final Heck cyclization of 13 was accomplished under Pd(II) catalysis.

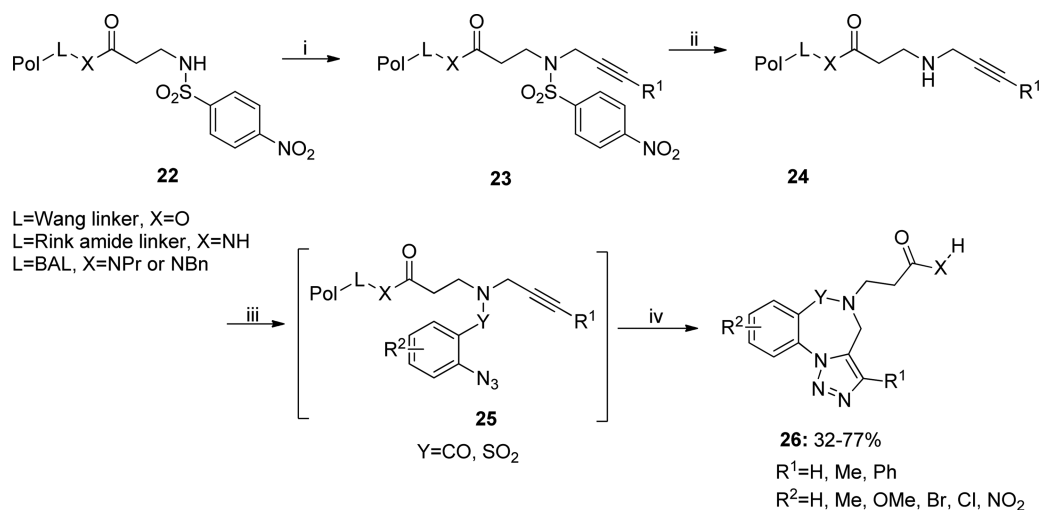
In addition to solid-supported α -amino acids, alkylation of other immobilized amines has also been described.⁴⁴ The following example shows the alkylation of 1,2-diaminoethane

Scheme 5. Use of the Nos Protecting Group for the Alkylation of Immobilized Diamines^a

^aReagents: (i) ethyl iodide, DBU, DMF; (ii) EtOH, diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (DIAD), PPh₃, anhydrous THF; (iii) amine, dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), microwave (200 W, 150 °C); (iv) 2-mercaptoethanol, DBU, DMF; (v) 50% TFA in DCM.

Scheme 6. Intramolecular Alkylation of a Nos-Protected Dipeptide with 1,2-Dibromoethane^a

^aReagents: (i) 1,2-dibromoethane, K₂CO₃, DMF, 60 °C; (ii) DBU, 2-mercaptoethanol, DMF.

Scheme 7. Intramolecular Cyclization via 1,3-Dipolar Cycloaddition^a

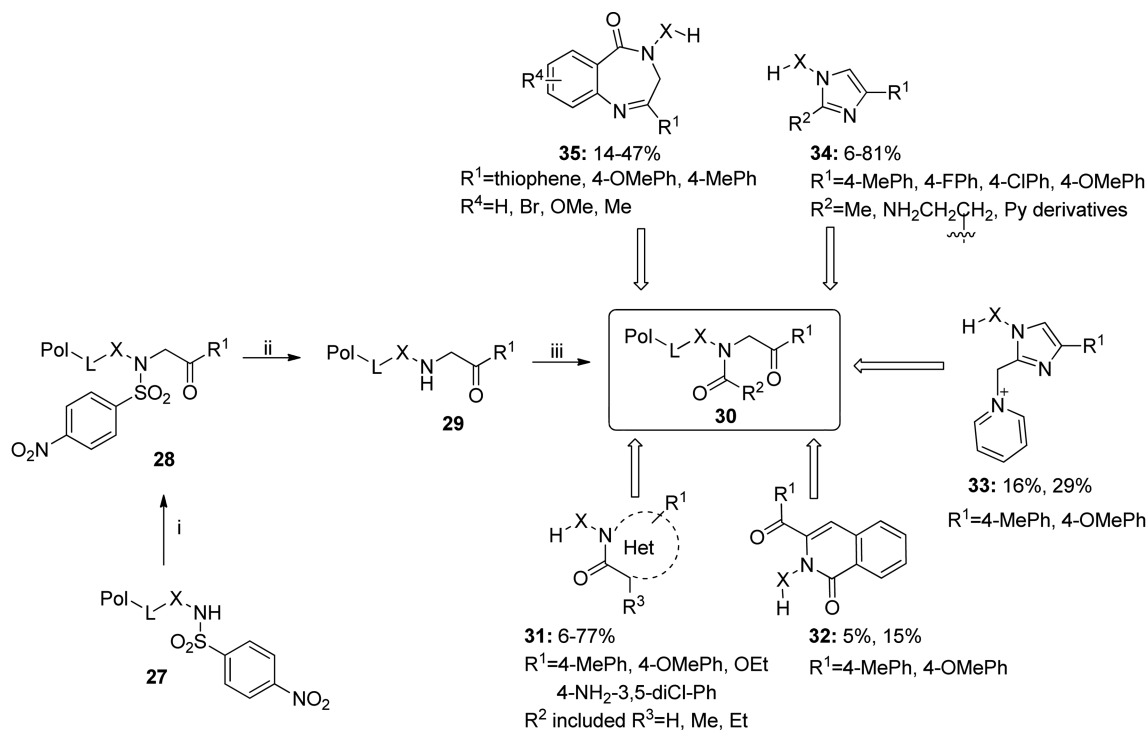
^aReagents: (i) propargyl bromide, DBU, DMSO; (ii) 2-mercaptoethanol, DBU, DMF; (iii) 2-azidobenzoic acid (Y = CO), 1-hydroxybenzotriazole hydrate (HOBt), *N,N'*-diisopropylcarbodiimide (DIC) or 2-azidobenzenesulfonyl chloride (Y = SO₂), 2,6-lutidine, DCM; (iv) 50% TFA in DCM.

intermediate **16**, which spontaneously afforded solid-supported benzodiazepinone derivatives **18** after cleavage of the Nos group (Scheme 5).

Functionalized alkyl halides have been used to construct additional heterocyclic scaffolds. For example, N-alkylation of immobilized Nos-dipeptide **19** with 1,2-dibromoethane was followed by spontaneous intramolecular cyclization to yield *N*-2-Nos-oxopiperazines **20** (Scheme 6).⁴⁵ Cleavage of the 2-Nos group provided the target compounds **21**, which can be further derivatized with another amino acid.

Similarly, propargyl bromides were used to construct the 1,2,3-triazole scaffold. Intermediate **22** was alkylated with different substituted propargyl bromides, followed by deprotection of the 4-Nos group (Scheme 7).⁴⁶ Subsequent acylation of intermediate **24** with 2-azidobenzoic acids or 2-azidobenzenesulfonyl chloride spontaneously afforded benzotriazolodiazepinones and their sulfonyl analogues **26**.

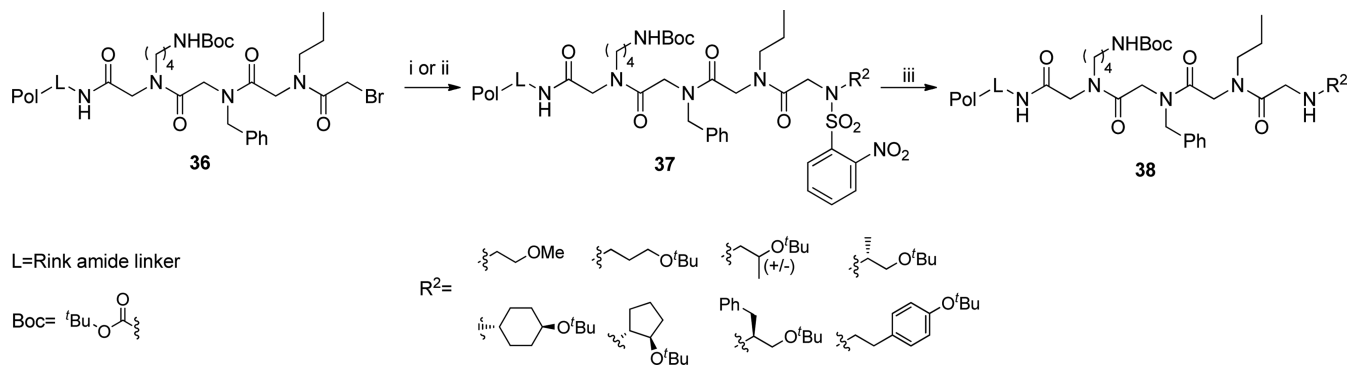
In 2009, Pudelová and Krchňák⁴⁷ developed a DOS⁴⁸ of various heterocycles through α -acylamino ketone/ester intermediates **30** (Scheme 8). The starting 4-nitrobenzenesulfonamides **27** were

Scheme 8. Use of Nitrobenzenesulfonamides and Haloketones in the Synthesis of Different Nitrogenous Heterocycles^a

L=Wang or Rink amide linker or BAL

Selected examples of X-H= H₂NOC-CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-; PrHNOC-CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-; HOOC-CH₂-CH₂-; HO-CH₂-CH₂-; H₂N-CH₂-CH₂-

^aReagents: (i) haloketone, DIEA, DMF; (ii) 2-mercaptoethanol, DBU, DMF; (iii) α -bromocarboxylic acid, DIC, DCM, DIEA or Fmoc- α -AA-OH, DIC, DCM/DMF or 2-nitrobenzoic acid, DIC, DMF.

Scheme 9. Reverse Alkylation of Nitrobenzenesulfonylamides with Polymer-Supported Halogenated Derivatives^a

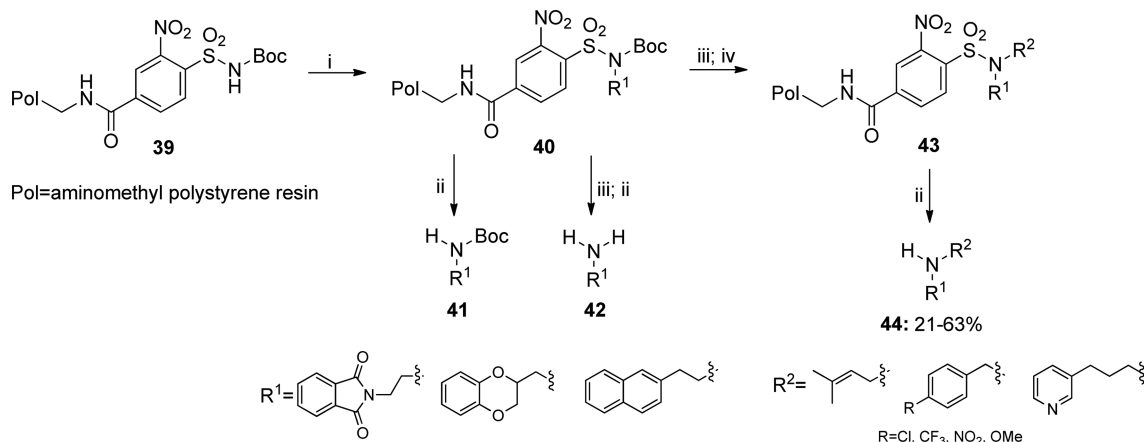
^aReagents: (i) 2-Nos-NHR², Cs₂CO₃, DMF (repeated once); (ii) 2-Nos-NHR², Cs₂CO₃, DMF, microwave (70 °C); (iii) *p*-OMePhSH, Cs₂CO₃ or DBU, DMF.

alkylated with different substituted α -haloketones. Deprotection of the Nos group and subsequent acylation of **29** with acids or their halogen derivatives provided the key intermediates **30**, which were subjected to different cyclization reactions leading to heterocycles **31**, **32**, and **33**. α -Acylamino ketones were also used to prepare trisubstituted 1*H*-imidazoles **34**.⁴⁹

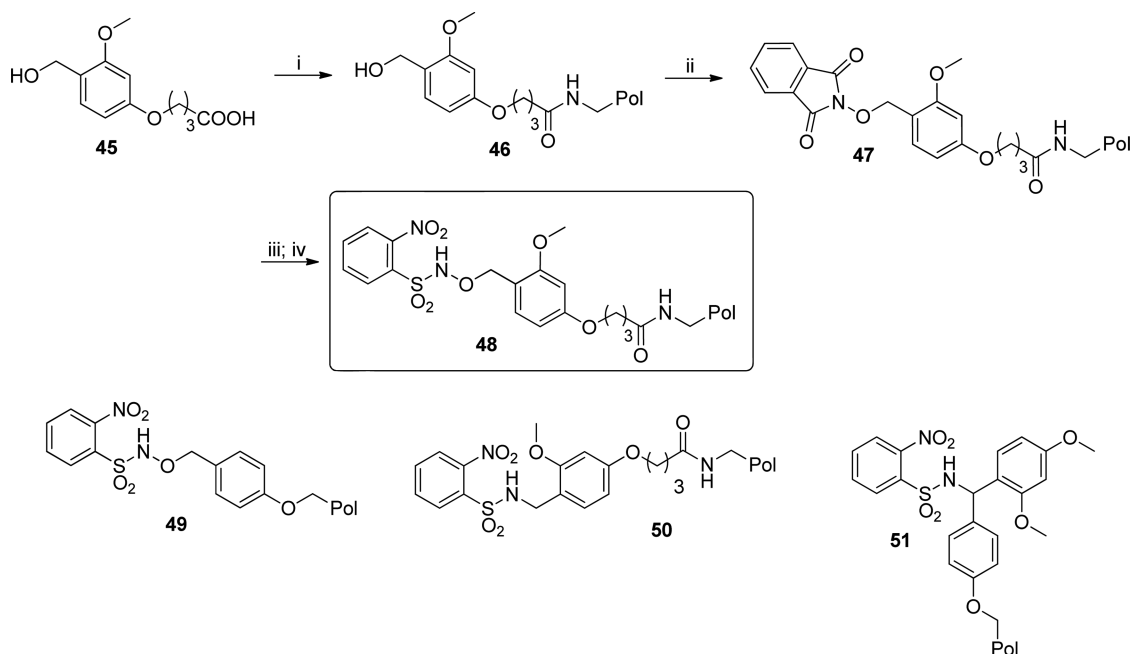
Recently, trisubstituted benzo[1,4]diazepin-5-one derivatives **35** were synthesized by a similar approach (Scheme 8).⁵⁰ Unlike the previous case, the deprotected precursor **29** was first acylated with 2-nitrobenzoic acid, and further reduction of the nitro group was followed by spontaneous intramolecular on-resin cyclization.

The analogous but reversed strategy was described by Biron and co-workers⁵¹ for the synthesis of peptoids by an alternative path in the submonomer approach. This procedure utilized the alkylation of 2-nitrobenzenesulfonamide, prepared from 2-Nos-Cl, with immobilized bromoamide **36** (Scheme 9). Surprisingly, the common protocol for removing 2-Nos was not successful in this case. To avoid incomplete deprotection of intermediate **37**, Biron's group developed suitable conditions to use *p*-methoxybenzenethiol with Cs₂CO₃ or DBU.

1.2. Alkylation with Alcohols. The efficacy of Nos activation was significantly enhanced through use of the

Scheme 10. *N*-Boc-2-nitrobenzenesulfonamide Linkers for the Preparation of Primary/Secondary Amines^a

^aReagents: (i) $R^1\text{OH}$, PPh_3 , DEAD, anhydrous THF; (ii) 2-mercaptoethanol, DBU, acetonitrile (MeCN); (iii) TFA, DCM; (iv) $R^2\text{OH}$, PPh_3 , DEAD, anhydrous THF.

Scheme 11. Synthesis of the *N*-Benzyloxy-2-nitrobenzenesulfonamide Linker and Examples of Similar Individual Linkers^a

^aReagents: (i) Aminomethylene PS/DVB resin, DIC, HOBt, DMF; (ii) *N*-hydroxyphthalimide, PPh_3 , DIAD, anhydrous THF; (iii) 5% hydrazine hydrate, 50% THF in methanol (MeOH); (iv) Nos-Cl, 2,6-lutidine, DCM.

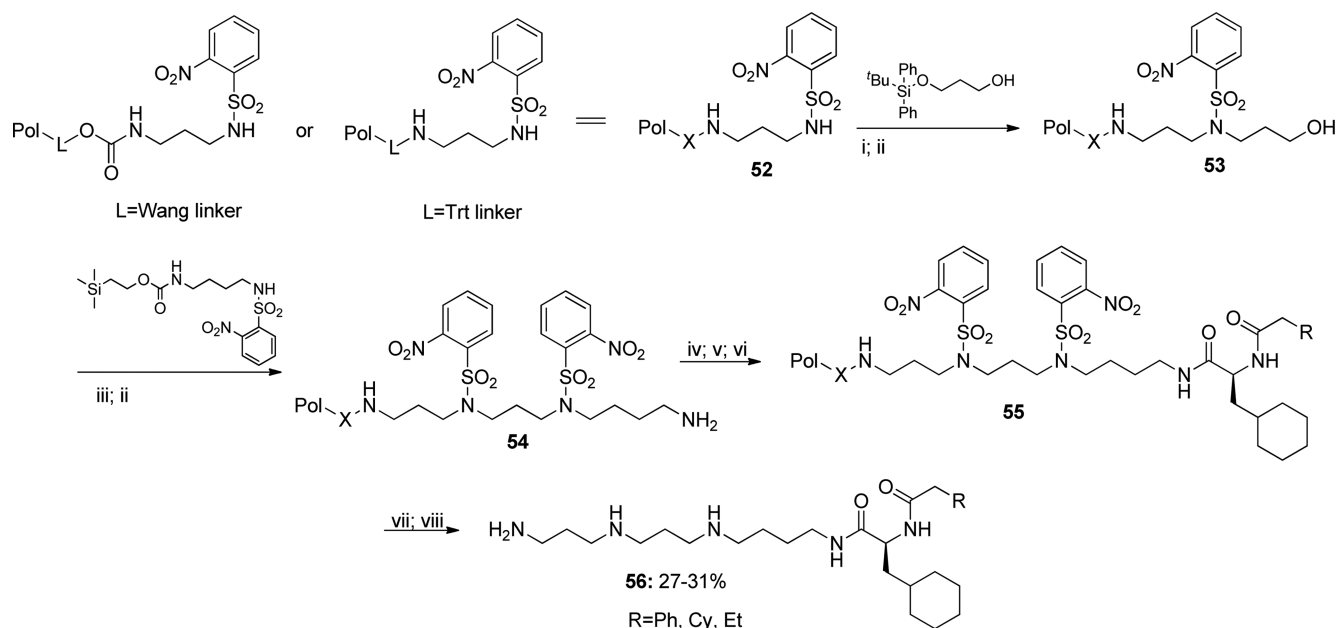
Mitsunobu reaction with alcohols as an alternative procedure to Fukuyama alkylation with alkyl halides. One of the first applications of the solid-phase Fukuyama–Mitsunobu procedure was described in 1997 by Murray and co-workers,⁵² who later also developed *N*-Boc-2-nitrobenzenesulfonamide linkers **39** for the preparation of primary (**42**) and secondary (**44**) amines (Scheme 10).⁵³

A similar approach developed a set of novel benzyloxy, benzylamine, and benzhydrylamine linkers.^{19,54,55} Whereas linkers **48** and **49** have been designed for synthesis of *N*-alkyl and *N*-aryl hydroxamates (as discussed in subchapter 2.1, Scheme 24),³⁰ linkers **50** and **51** have been developed as an alternative to backbone amide linkers (BALs).⁵⁶ Scheme 11 depicts the individual types of linkers along with a representative example of the synthetic procedure. It is based on acylation of the aminomethylene polystyrene/divinylbenzene (PS/DVB) resin

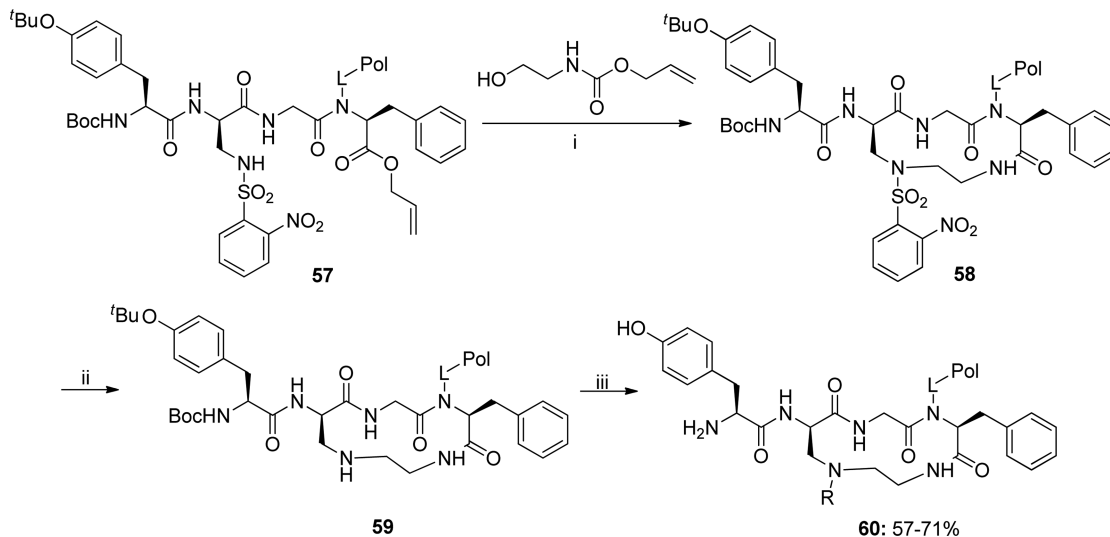
with 4-(4-hydroxymethyl-3-methoxyphenoxy)butyric acid (HMPB) linker **45** via HOBt activation. The subsequent Mitsunobu reaction of resin **46** with *N*-hydroxyphthalimide afforded intermediate **47**, which was cleaved with hydrazine and treated with 2-Nos-Cl to yield the resin-bound linker **48**.

Aside from monohydroxy derivatives, alkylation with diols has also been described. An example is given in Scheme 12, which shows the solid-phase synthesis of philanthotoxin-related compounds **56**.⁵⁷ Two alternative approaches were combined in the reaction sequence, Fukuyama–Mitsunobu alkylation with either solid-supported (step (i)) or solution-phase (step (iii)) nosylamides. To avoid potential cross-linking, the propylene glycol moiety was monoprotected by silylation.

As in the Fukuyama procedure with functionalized halides, diverse functionalized hydroxy derivatives have frequently been used to synthesize various heterocycles by

Scheme 12. Synthesis of Philanthotoxin-433 Analogues^a

^aReagents: (i) PMe_3 , 1,1'-(azodicarbonyl)dipiperidine (ADDP), THF, DCM, N_2 ; (ii) tetrabutylammonium fluoride (TBAF), THF, 50 °C; (iii) PBu_3 , ADDP, THF, DCM, N_2 ; (iv) (*S*)-*N*-Fmoc-Cha-OPfp (Cha = cyclohexylalanine, Pfp = pentafluorophenyl), DIEA, 3,4-dihydro-5-hydroxy-4-oxo-1,2,3-benzotriazine (HODhbt), DMF, N_2 ; (v) 20% piperidine in DMF; (vi) $\text{PhCH}_2\text{COOPfp}$ or $\text{CyCH}_2\text{COOPfp}$ (Cy = cyclohexyl) or $\text{C}_3\text{H}_7\text{COOPfp}$, DIEA, HODhbt, N_2 ; (vii) 2-mercaptoethanol, DBU, DMF; (viii) TFA/DCM/triisopropylsilane/ H_2O (47.5:47.5:2.5:2.5).

Scheme 13. Synthesis of Enkephalin Analogues^a

^aReagents: (i) (a) DIAD, PPh_3 , THF, (b) PhSiH_3 , $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$, DCM, (c) HBTU, HOBt, 2,6-lutidine, DCM/DMF (1:1); (ii) DBU, 2-mercaptoethanol, DMF; (iii) reductive amination, alkylation, or acylation to introduce the substituent R.

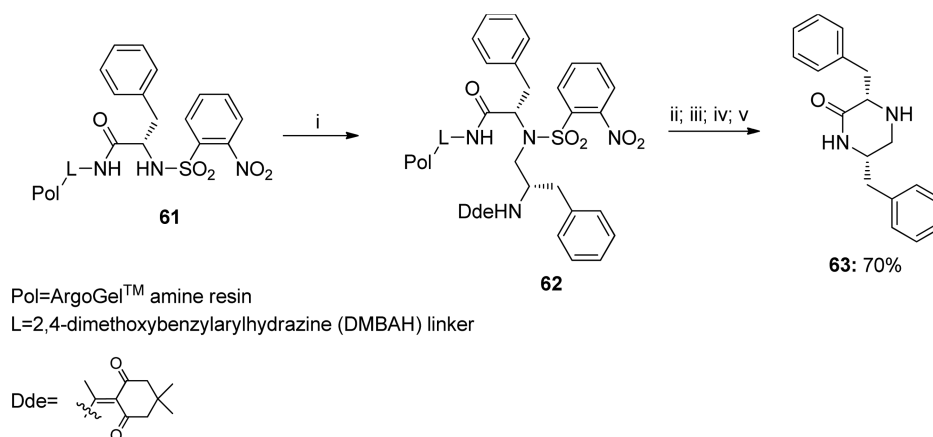
means of Fukuyama–Mitsunobu alkylation. For example, *N*-(allyloxycarbonyl)ethanolamine (*N*-Alloc-ethanolamine) was used in the SPS synthesis of enkephalin analogues (Scheme 13).⁵⁸ After alkylation of intermediate 57 with *N*-Alloc-ethanolamine and cleavage of the Alloc group, intermolecular cyclization promoted by HBTU/HOBt yielded the 13-membered cycle 58. Deprotection of the 2-Nos group and introduction of the R substituent afforded the final compound 60.

Ladlow showed that intramolecular cyclization can release the product from the resin (i.e., cyclative cleavage) when amino alcohols are involved.⁵⁹ Intermediate 61 was alkylated with *N*-Dde-phenylalaninol, and after cleavage of both protecting

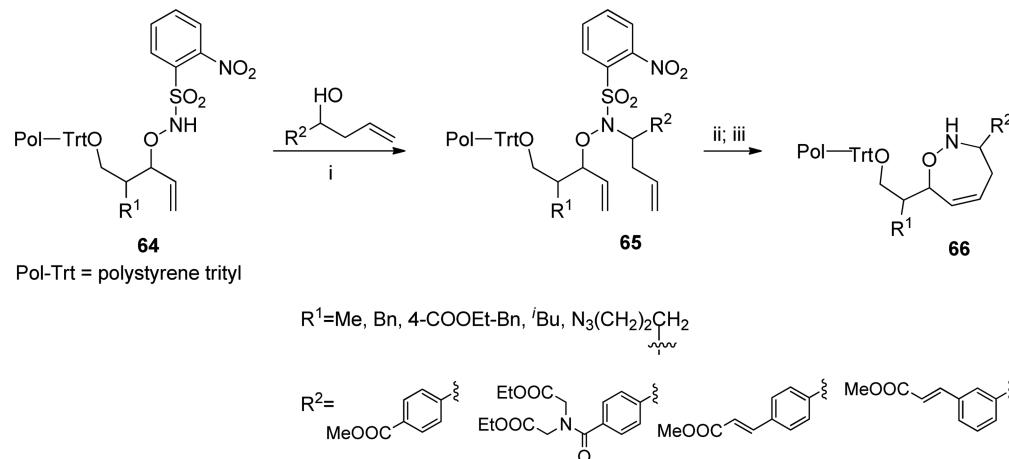
groups, the target monoketopiperazinone 63 was obtained (Scheme 14).

Alkylation with unsaturated alcohols yielded oxazepane derivatives 66 through C–C coupling.⁶⁰ The *N*-2-Nos-protected hydroxylamine intermediate 64 was reacted with but-3-en-1-ol derivatives, and subsequent intramolecular metathesis of compounds 65 under Ru(II) catalysis gave 66 (Scheme 15).

Recently, intermediates 67 with the aldehyde group protected as the acetal have been extensively employed in the alkylation of polymer-supported nitrobenzenesulfonamides. After cleavage from the polymer support with TFA, the unmasked aldehyde provides many different heterocyclic scaffolds via formation of

Scheme 14. Cyclative Cleavage after Fukuyama–Mitsunobu Alkylation^a

^aReagents: (i) Ph_3P , tetrabutylammonium dodecanoate (TBAD), *N*-Dde-phenylalaninol, DCM; (ii) PhSNa , DMF; (iii) $\text{N}_2\text{H}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{DMF}$ (1:5); (iv) 5% TFA in DCM; (v) $\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2$, pyridine (Py), MeCN.

Scheme 15. Intramolecular Metathesis Leading to 1,2-Oxazepanes^a

^aReagents: (i) PPh_3 , $^i\text{PrO}_2\text{C-N=N-CO}_2^i\text{Pr}$ or $^t\text{BuO}_2\text{C-N=N-CO}_2^t\text{Bu}$, THF; (ii) $\text{Cl}_2\text{Ru}(\text{PCy}_3)_2=\text{CHPh}$, DCM; (iii) RSH, DBU, DCM, or NMP.

the corresponding iminium salts. This research has been primarily targeted at the incorporation of various heterocyclic scaffolds in a peptide backbone.^{61–64} Representative examples are depicted in Scheme 16. In many cases, the Nos building block remains in the final structure, and these results are therefore also mentioned in the next chapter.

To access a new heterocyclic moiety through Nos activation, the functional group does not necessarily need to be introduced through external alkylation of a sulfonamide as in all of the previous cases. The following example demonstrates the activation of the amino group of intermediate 74 followed by attack of the neighboring alcohol, leading to the target tricyclic scaffold 76 (Scheme 17).⁶⁵

Polymer-supported alcohols can be used similarly to immobilize alkyl halides (see Scheme 9) as the alkylation species. An example of this strategy has been already given in Scheme 12. Alternatively, Raveglia and co-workers⁶⁶ used reversed Mitsunobu alkylation (Scheme 18) to prepare amino intermediates 80, which were later applied in the split-mix synthesis of a complex library with considerable diversity.

1.3. Alkylation with Unsaturated Ketones and Diazomethane. Apart from nucleophilic substitution with alcohols or

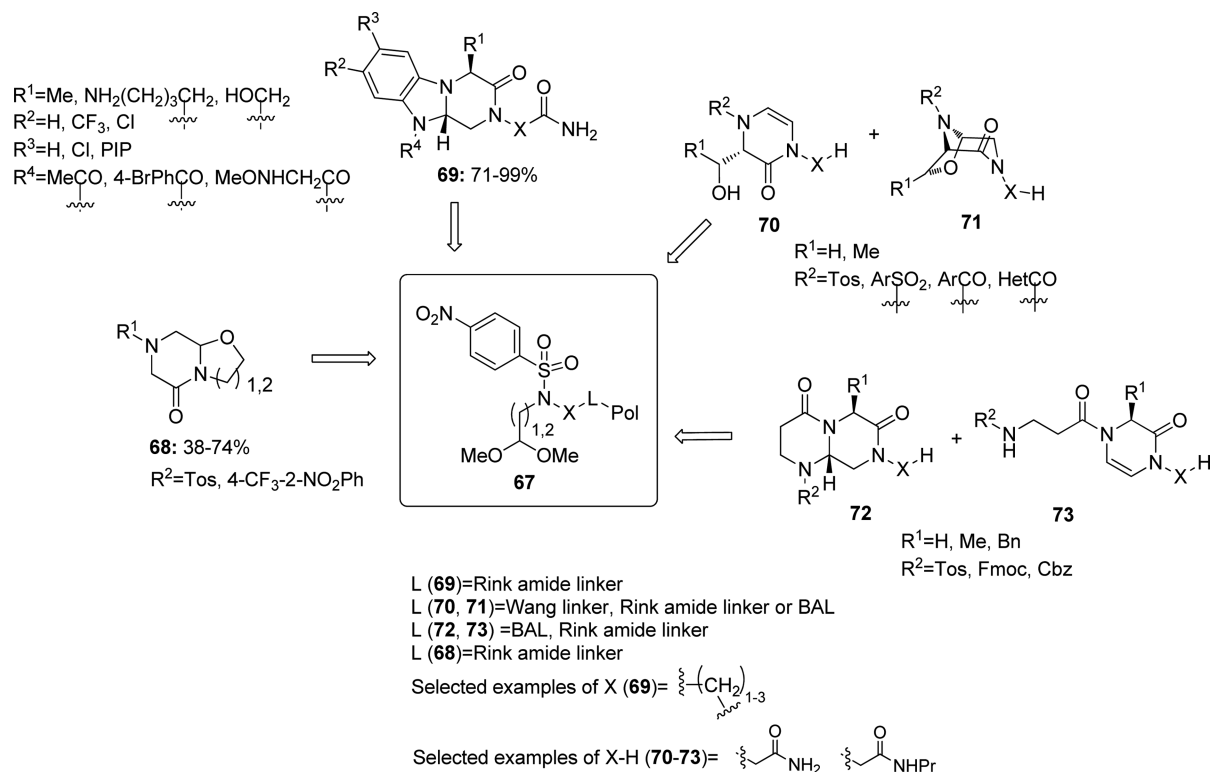
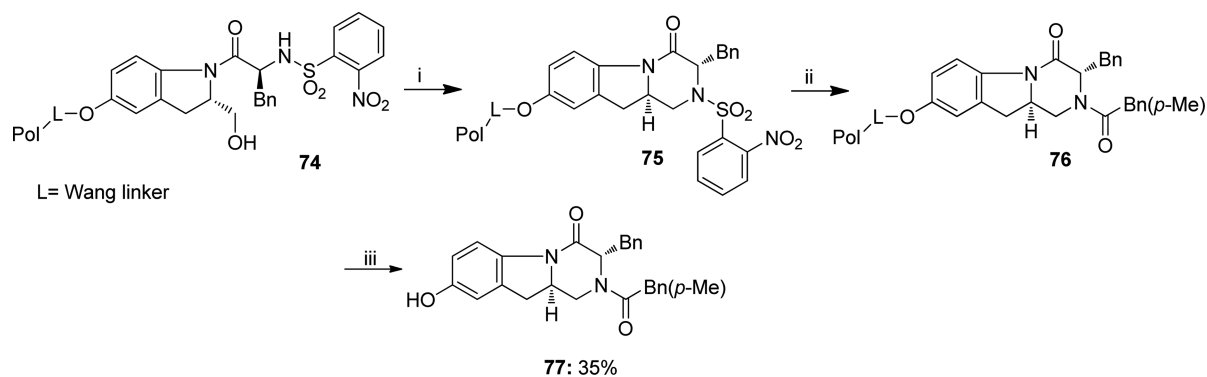
alkyl halides, Michael addition of activated olefins can also incorporate *N*-substituents into nitrobenzenesulfonamides.¹⁹ This alternative is not common, but the alkylation of sulfonamide linker 81 is given in Scheme 19 as an example. In addition, intermediate 82 can be used for the synthesis of *N*-alkyl hydroxamic acids.⁵⁴

Methylation of immobilized Nos-amino acids with diazomethane in DCM (Scheme 20) was reported by Di Gioia et al.⁶⁷ The strategy enables simple and fast modification of amino acids with variable substitution on a side chain.

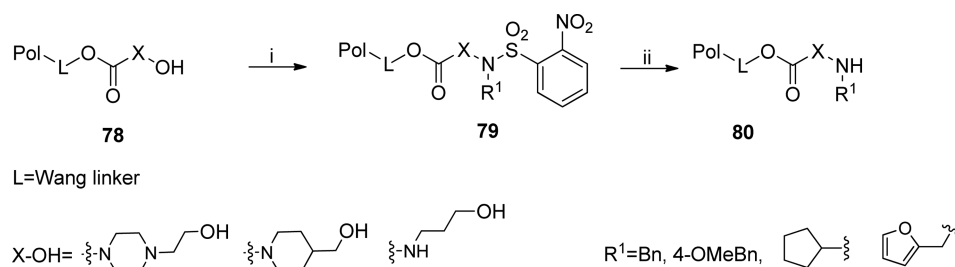
2. SCENARIO B: COMBINED FUNCTION OF THE NOS GROUP

In the previous chapter, we summarized different strategies in which the Nos group was applied only as a standard activating/protecting group. Accordingly, the Nos group was cleaved after alkylation. Numerous examples also exist that omit this cleavage. Furthermore, certain reactions are triggered by bases that do not cleave the Nos group but result in intramolecular C/*N*-arylations. In both cases, the Nos group was used as the activating/protecting group for alkylation, but the benzenesulfonamide moiety (or at

Scheme 16. Examples of Various Heterocyclic Scaffolds Synthesized via Acetal Intermediates 67

Scheme 17. Intramolecular Cyclization under Fukuyama–Mitsunobu Conditions⁴⁴

⁴⁴Reagents: (i) DEAD, Ph_3P , THF; (ii) (a) PhSH , DBU, DMF, (b) HOBT, DIC, $\text{Bn-(}p\text{-Me)-COOH}$, DMF; (iii) 10% TFA in DCM.

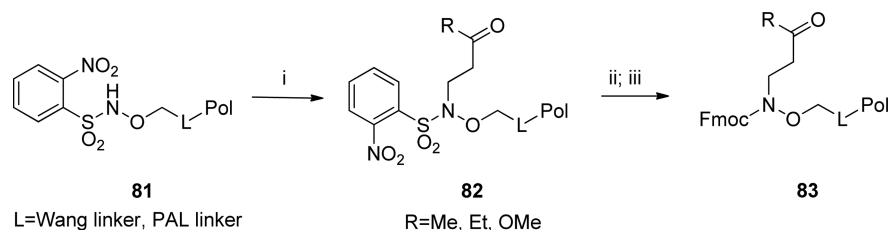
Scheme 18. Reversed Mitsunobu Alkylation of Nitrobenzenesulfonamides⁴⁴

⁴⁴Reagents: (i) 2-Nos-NHR¹, PPh_3 , di-*tert*-butylazodicarboxylate (DTAD), DCM/THF (1:1); (ii) 2-mercaptoethanol, DBU, DMF.

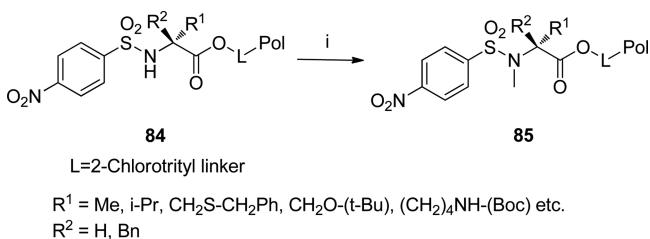
least its aromatic portion in the case of C/N arylations) was preserved in the final molecule.

2.1. Preservation of the Nos Group To Give Linear Nitrobenzenesulfonamides. The term “linear nitrobenzene-

sulfonamides” refers to compounds in which the sulfonyl group is not included in the cyclic moiety. There are three general reasons why the Nos group is preserved in the final product structure after Fukuyama or Fukuyama–Mitsunobu alkylation: (i) the

Scheme 19. Synthesis of *N*-Alkylamines with Unsaturated Ketones^a

^aReagents: (i) α,β -unsaturated ketone, 2-*tert*-butylimino-2-diethylamino-1,3-dimethylperhydro-1,3,2 diazaphosphorine (BEMP), anhydrous THF; (ii) 2-mercaptoethanol, DBU, DMF; (iii) 9-Fluorenylmethyl *N*-succinimidyl carbonate (Fmoc-OSu), DCM.

Scheme 20. Synthesis of *N*-Methyl Amino Acids with Diazomethane^a

^aReagents: (i) CH₂N₂, DCM.

nitrobenzenesulfonamide scaffold can serve as a chromophore to enable simple HPLC–UV detection of UV–vis-inactive intermediates; (ii) it can increase the structural diversity of the synthesized molecules; and (iii) it can provide a reactive internal nucleophile.

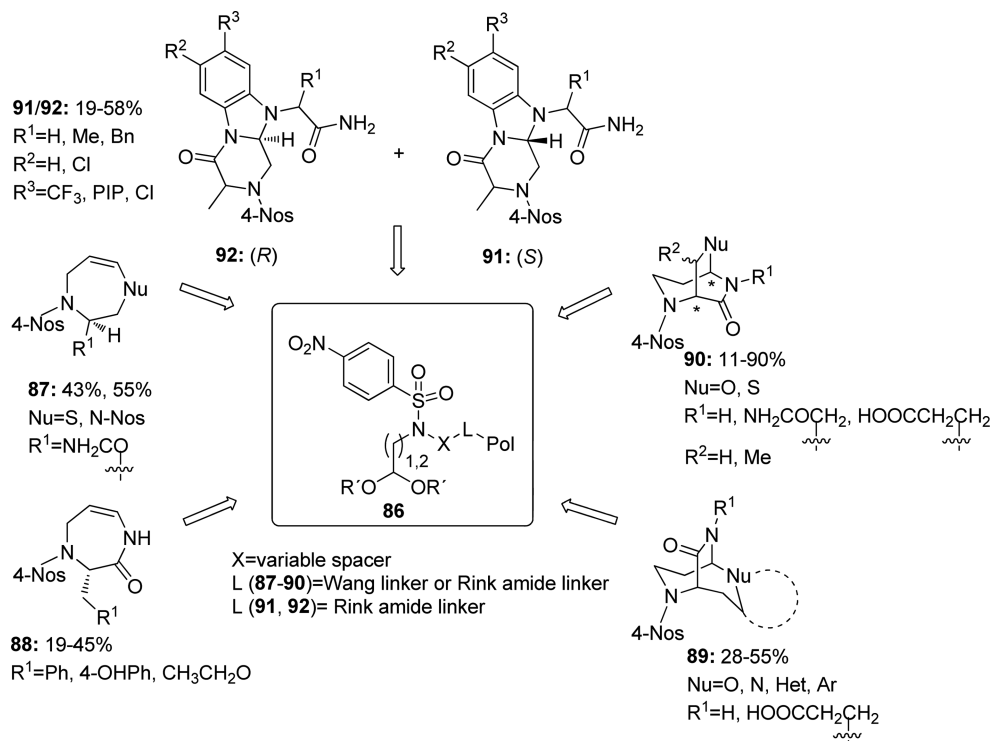
One of the frequent methods leading to linear benzenesulfonamides is iminium chemistry, as mentioned in [subchapter 1.2](#). [Scheme 21](#) outlines the preparation of different heterocycles via

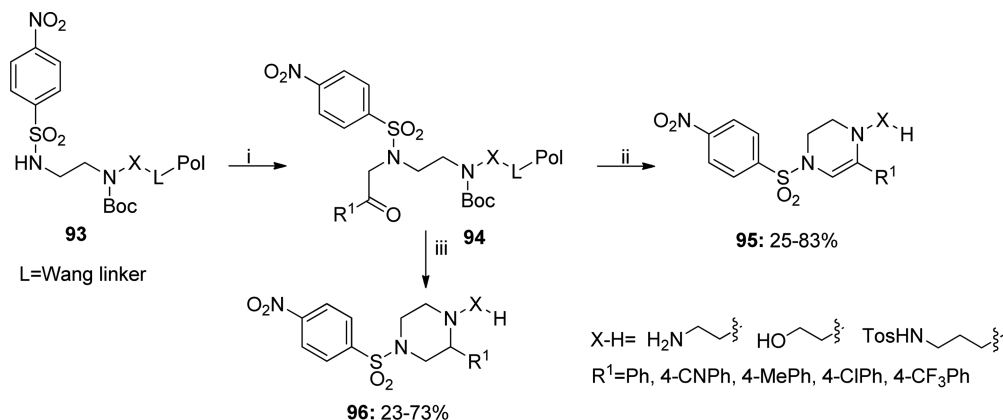
masked aldehyde **86** as the key intermediate.^{68,69} In each case, the nitrobenzenesulfonamide scaffold remained in the final structure.

Ketone groups in acyclic precursors can also be used to produce *N*-alkyliminium intermediates, as in the synthesis of tri-substituted tetrahydropyrazines and piperazines ([Scheme 22](#)).⁷⁰ First, the *N*-Nos-protected terminal amino group of intermediate **93** was alkylated with a bromoketone. Subsequent treatment of intermediate **94** with 50% TFA yielded the target tetrahydropyrazine **95**. Advantageously, addition of the reducing agent triethylsilane (TES) into the cleavage cocktail formed the corresponding piperazine derivatives **96**.

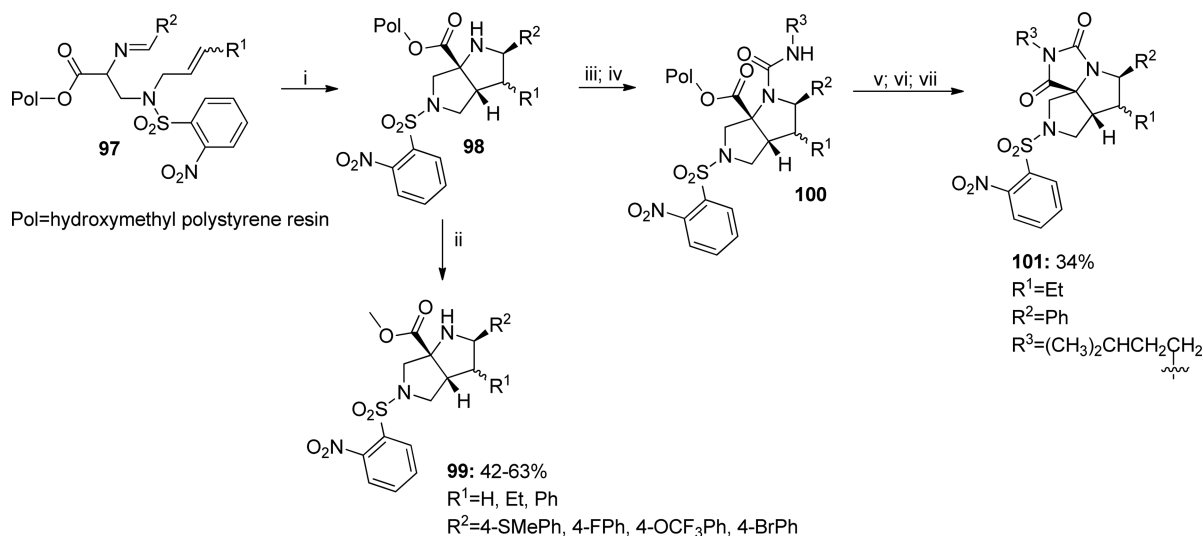
Intramolecular azomethine ylide cycloaddition has also been used to produce nitrogenated Nos heterocycles in the stereoselective synthesis of polycyclic compounds.⁷¹ Immobilized α -*N*-Boc- β -*N*-Nos-diaminopropionic acid served as a starting material for the construction of α -*N*-imine and β -*N*-Nos-olefin residues **97** ([Scheme 23](#)). Subsequent application of a suitable catalytic system triggered formation of the ylide to yield bicyclic pyrrolidines **98**. Nosylated bicycles were either cleaved from the polymer support (compound **99**) or further modified to afford tricyclic triazacyclopenta[*c*]pentalene **101**.

Scheme 21. Examples of Linear Sulfonamides Synthesized via a Masked Aldehyde Intermediate



Scheme 22. Synthesis of Piperazines and Tetrahydropyrazines via a Ketone-Containing Acyclic Precursor^a

^aReagents: (i) bromoketone, DIEA, DMF; (ii) 50% TFA in DCM; (iii) 10% TES, 50% TFA, 40% DCM.

Scheme 23. Synthesis of Polycyclic Compounds via the Azomethine Ylide Transition State^a

^aReagents: (i) $\text{Zn}(\text{OAc})_2$, DBU, anhydrous MeCN; (ii) MeOH, KOH; (iii) phosgene, DIEA, DCM; (iv) R^3NH_2 , DCM; (v) PhSNa, DMF; (vi) re-nosylation: 2-Nos-Cl, TEA, DCM (reductive alkylation or acylation is also possible); (vii) $t\text{BuOK}$, THF.

Olsen et al.⁷² described the first example of aminolysis of *N*-Nos-activated/protected aziridine-2-carboxylic acids on resin (Scheme 24). Starting aziridines **102** were exposed to different amines with terminal hydroxy or amino groups, and the final ring closure of intermediate **103** was accomplished under Mitsunobu conditions or with 1,1'-thiocarbonyldiimidazole (CSIm₂) to yield enantiomerically pure heterocycles **104** and **105**.

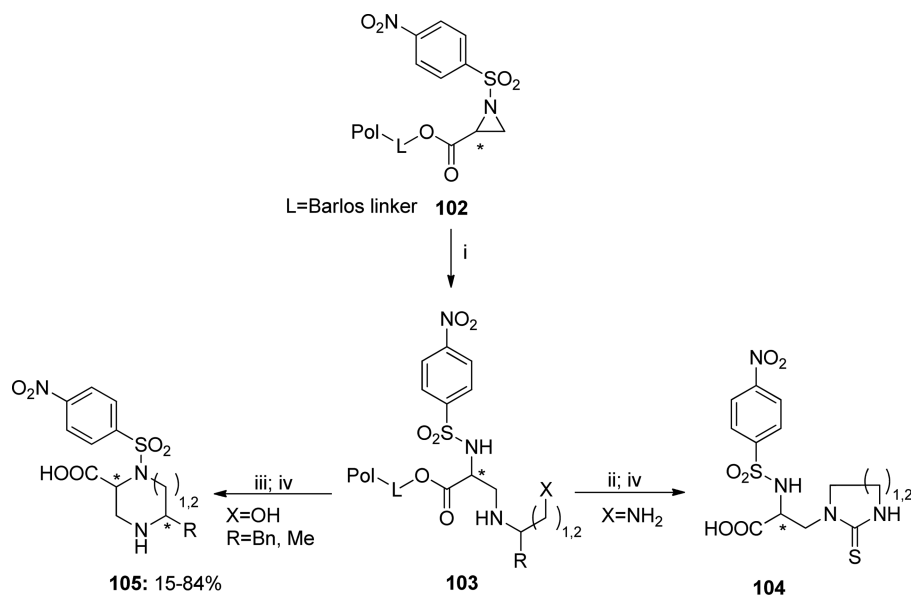
In 2006, Stanger and Krchňák³⁰ developed an efficient procedure for the synthesis of both *N*-H and *N*-R hydroxamates from *O*-linked hydroxylamines **106** (Scheme 25), which was later used to prepare a small library of β -sulfonamide hydroxamates **108**. These were tested for inhibition of breast cancer cell proliferation,⁷³ and compound **109** was found to be the best inhibitor.

2.2. Incorporation of the 2-Nos Group Resulting in Cyclic Sulfonamides. This alternative has been typically applied with 2-nitrobenzenesulfonamides. When the nitro group of suitable intermediates is reduced, the intramolecular cyclization reaction yields the cyclic benzenesulfonamides. A typical example is the preparation of tetrahydrobenzopyrazinothiadiazinone dioxides **113** (Scheme 26).⁷⁴ 4-Nos-Cl was primarily used to synthesize the masked aldehyde precursor **67**, whereas substituted 2-Nos-Cl's were subsequently applied as synthons to pro-

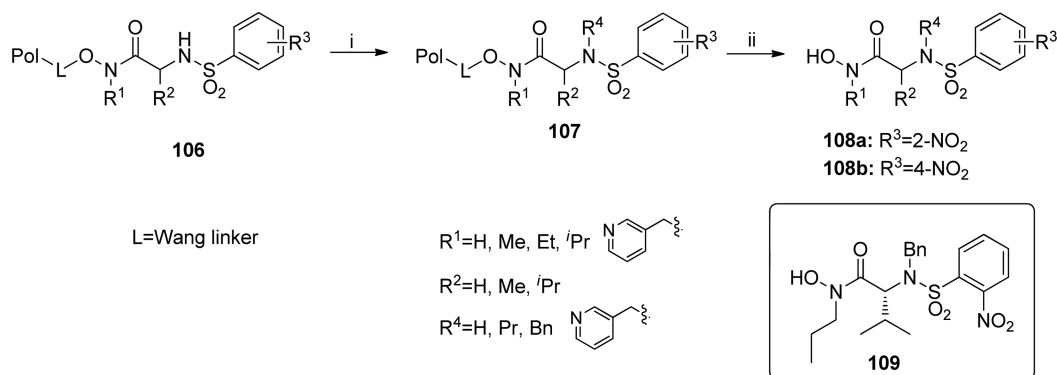
duce intermediates **113**. After reduction of the nitro group, the target compounds **113** were obtained via the corresponding *N*-sulfonyliminium intermediates.

In the same year, the synthesis of dihydrobenzothiadiazepine 1,1-dioxides **118** was published (Scheme 27).⁷⁵ First, the immobilized sulfonamide **114** was alkylated with various bromoketones. After reduction of the nitro group, cleavage from the polymer support yielded mixtures of compounds **117** and **118** in variable ratios. Further NMR investigation of the mixtures demonstrated that linear sulfonamides **117** spontaneously cyclized in deuterated dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO-*d*₆). The cyclization time was remarkably accelerated for compounds bearing a methoxy group at position R².

Subsequent experiments (LC/MS, 1D NMR) revealed that dihydrobenzothiadiazepine 1,1-dioxides **118** (Scheme 27) are not stable in DMSO-*d*₆ at room temperature, and 2D NMR spectroscopy confirmed an unprecedented ring contraction yielding 4*H*-benzo[*b*][1,4]thiazine 1,1-dioxides **119** (Scheme 28).⁷⁶ Target compounds **120** are not cyclic benzenesulfonamides, but the rearrangement is included here to show the synthetic possibilities of the nitrobenzenesulfonamide chemistry.

Scheme 24. Aminolysis of Resin-Bound Aziridines To Synthesize Enantiopure Heterocycles^a

^aReagents: (i) diamine or amino alcohol, THF; (ii) CSIm₂, DCM; (iii) DEAD, PEt₃ or ADDP, PMe₃; (iv) TFA, DCM.

Scheme 25. Synthesis of *N*-Alkyl Hydroxamates^a

^aReagents: (i) benzyl or primary alcohol, PPh₃, DIAD, anhydrous THF; (ii) TFA, DCM.

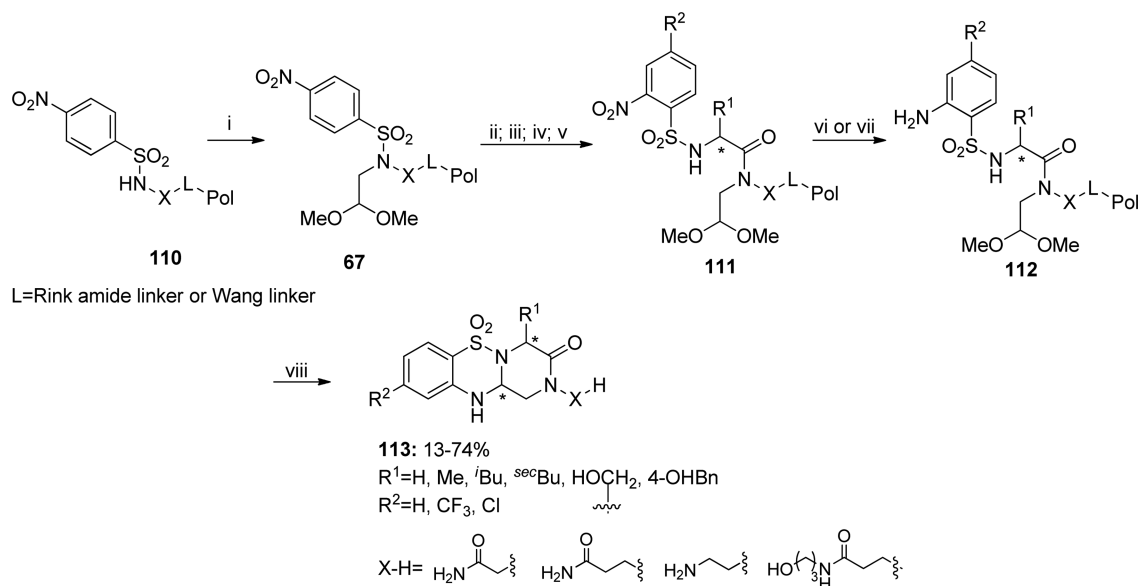
2.3. Application of the Nos Group for Fukuyama Alkylation Followed by C/N-Arylation. Seven years ago, a striking difference in the reactivity of 2-nitrobenzenesulfonamides and 4-nitrobenzenesulfonamides was observed. Treatment of 4-Nos derivatives **121** with mercaptoethanol and DBU afforded the standard deprotected products **122**, whereas cleavage of 2-Nos derivatives **123** caused the C-arylation followed by release of sulfur dioxide to afford **125**, which spontaneously cyclized to give indazole oxide derivatives **126** (Scheme 29).²⁴ Rearrangement was enabled by the acidic methylene group hyperconjugated with the carbonyl functionality originating from the alkylating agents such as bromo-ketones, bromoacetates, benzyl alcohols, or pyridylmethanols. The electron-withdrawing groups in aryl building blocks at position R² facilitated C-arylation to give benzhydrylamine derivatives **127**.⁷⁷

Application of this tandem C–C and N–N rearrangement has been widely used to give diverse scaffolds. Depending on the reaction conditions, type of base, substitution pattern, and structure of the individual linkers, C-arylated intermediates **128** were converted into various indazole oxides and iminium salts suitable for other chemical transformations (Scheme 30).^{24,25,77–80}

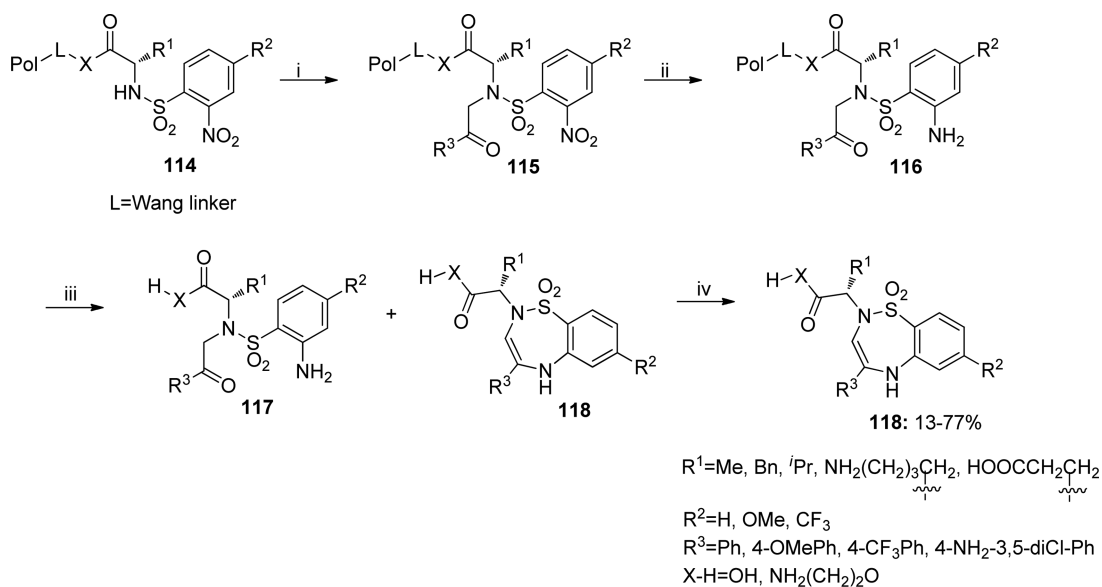
To access the parent 2*H*-indazoles, several methods for the reduction of indazole oxides have been evaluated, with mesyl chloride and TEA being the most efficient reagents.⁸¹ This procedure was used for the traceless synthesis of 3,4-dihydropyrazino[1,2-*b*]indazoles (Scheme 31).²⁶ The immobilized and deoxygenated product **138** was treated with 50% TFA, which caused the release of the desired pyrazinoindazoles **139**. In contrast, performing the cyclization with TEA in MeOH yielded the final derivatives **141** when a carboxylate substituent was at the R³ position.

Attempts to expand the scope of indazole oxide transformations led to the discovery of a novel ring expansion (Scheme 32).⁸² A proposed mechanism for this reaction consisted of base-mediated compensation for the electron deficit on the nitrogen of the *N*-oxide group (**143**). After scission of the N–N bond, subsequent rearrangement of intermediates **144** provided the quinazoline derivatives **145**. 4-Arylquinazolines **147** were obtained in the same manner.⁷⁷

In addition to different indazole or quinazoline derivatives, C-aryl intermediates were applied in the preparation of trisubstituted 1*H*-indoles.²⁵ Addition of a base to the acyclic intermediate **124** induced the C-arylation, yielding the

Scheme 26. Synthesis of Cyclic Sulfonamides by *N*-Sulfonyliminium Chemistry^a

^aReagents: (i) glycolaldehyde dimethyl acetal, PPh₃, DIAD, anhydrous THF, 0–50 °C; (ii) 2-mercaptoethanol, DBU, DMF; (iii) Fmoc- α -AA-OH, HOBT, DIC, DCM/DMF (1:1); (iv) 50% piperidine in DMF; (v) 2-Nos-Cl, 2,6-lutidine, DCM; (vi) SnCl₂·2H₂O, DIEA, DMF (saturated with N₂), 50 °C; (vii) Na₂S₂O₄, tetrabutylammonium hydrogen sulfate (TBAHS), K₂CO₃, DCM/H₂O (1:1); (viii) 50% TFA in DCM.

Scheme 27. Synthesis of Dihydrobenzothiadiazepine 1,1-Dioxides^a

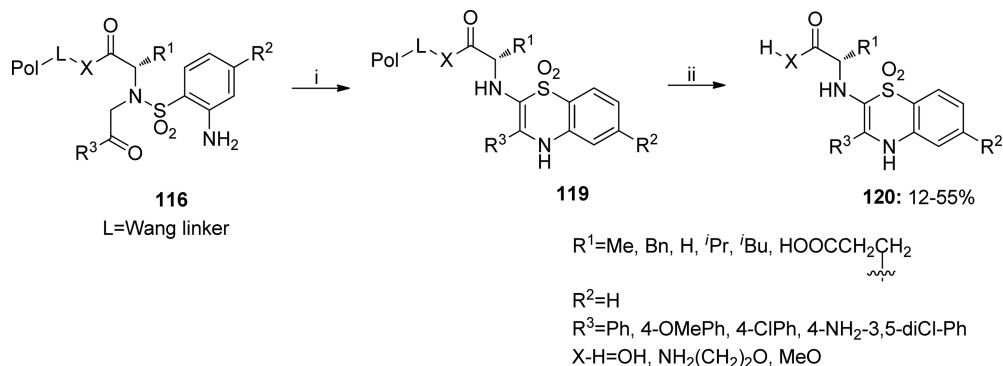
^aReagents: (i) bromoketone, DIEA, DMF; (ii) Na₂S₂O₄, K₂CO₃, TBAHS, DCM/H₂O (1:1); (iii) 50% TFA in DCM; (iv) DMSO-*d*₆.

compound **148** (Scheme 33). After reduction of the nitro group, an unprompted cyclization afforded 1*H*-indoles **149**. The final compounds **150** were obtained after cleavage from the polymer support. Nevertheless, in the case of linkers **124e–g**, it was necessary to protect the amino group of C-arylated precursors **148** to avoid undesirable indazole oxide formation.

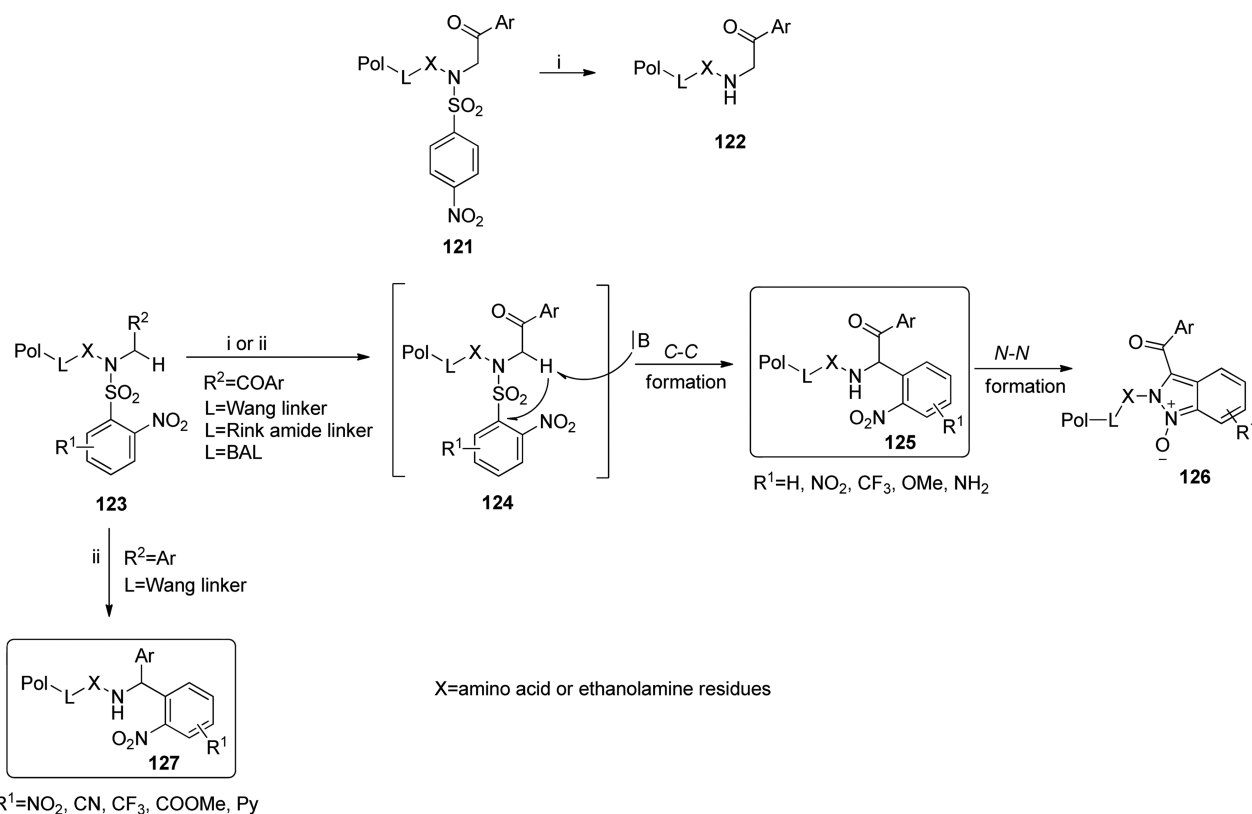
The effects of different linkers, amino acids, and benzyl alcohols on C-aryl formation were evaluated to determine the scope and limitations of these reactions.²⁶ Surprisingly, DBU-mediated arylation of compound **153** containing alanine anchored to an ester-based linker and a 2-NO₂Ph group at the R² position afforded a mixture of benzylic sp³-arylated (**154a**) and α -C-arylated (**155a**) compounds (Scheme 34). However,

introduction of more bulky amino acids resulted in direct sp³ arylation and creation of the expected products **154a** mostly in excellent purity. The assessed piperazine linker resulted in either benzylic sp³-arylated (**154b**) or α -C-arylated (**155b**) compounds according to the building blocks and reaction conditions used. Secondary-amide-based dual substrates were also evaluated in this context. Unexpectedly, the DBU-mediated reaction did not afford α -C-arylation but rather gave N-arylated compound **156** (for the proposed reaction mechanism, see Scheme 35). The benzylic sp³ product **154c** could also be prepared depending on the substitution of the benzyl ring.

C/N-Arylation has been observed previously in both the solution phase^{83–85} and the solid phase. Bienz and co-workers⁸⁶

Scheme 28. Synthesis of Thiazine Dioxides via Ring Contraction of Thiadiazepine Dioxides^a

^aReagents: (i) 5% AcOH in DMSO, 80 °C; (ii) 50% TFA in DCM.

Scheme 29. Different Reactivities of 2-Nos and 4-Nos Derivatives toward DBU^a

^aReagents: (i) 2-mercaptoethanol, DBU, DMF; (ii) DBU, DMF.

developed methodology leading to cyclic polyamines. One of the proposed synthetic routes utilized 2,4-dinitrobenzenesulfonyl chloride as an alternative to 2-Nos-Cl in the subsequent Mitsunobu reaction (Scheme 36). However, after cleavage of **158** from the polymer support followed by methanolysis, N-arylated compounds **160** and **161** were obtained instead of the desired product **159**. Attempts to release the 2,4-dinitrobenzenesulfonyl group prior to cleavage from the resin led to the major compound **160**.

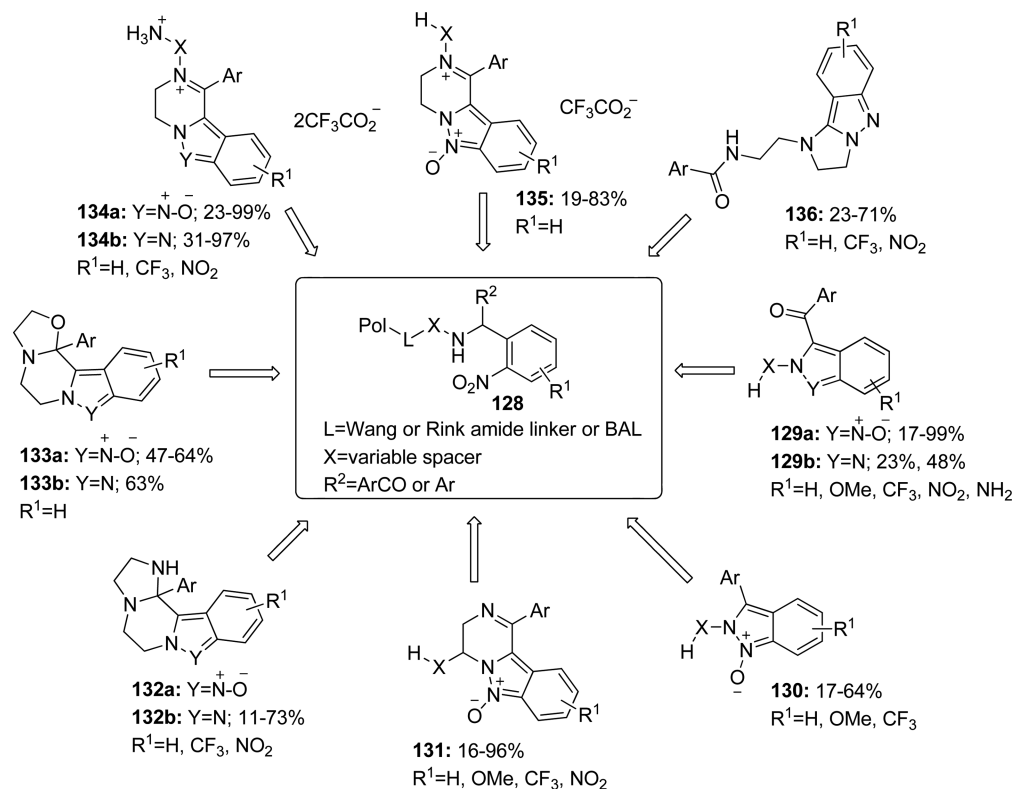
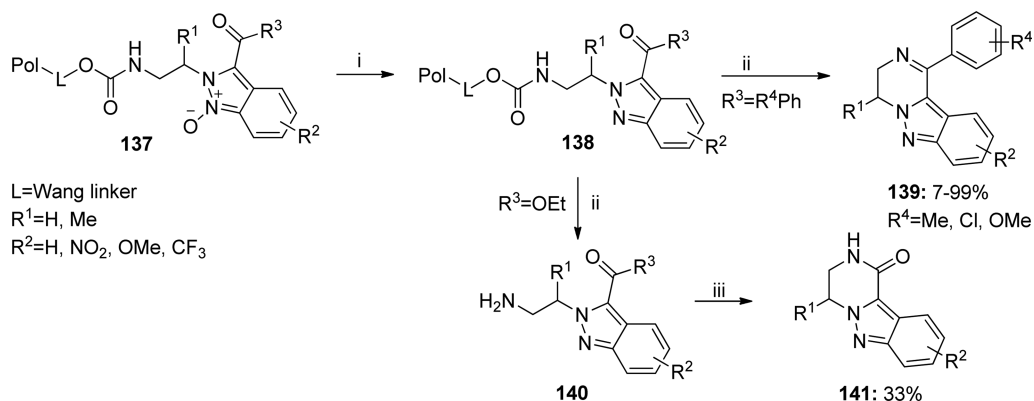
3. SCENARIO C: NOS GROUP USED EXCLUSIVELY AS A SYNTHON

The applications of polymer-supported nitrobenzenesulfonamides in Fukuyama or Fukuyama–Mitsunobu alkylation were

summarized in the previous chapters. These applications are the most common, but 2-Nos-Cl and 4-Nos-Cl have also been applied as common building blocks without alkylation of the corresponding sulfonamides. In such cases, the benzenesulfonamide moiety is either integrated into the target scaffold to access reactive intermediates for further derivatization or, because of skeletal similarity of target compounds, to synthesize biologically active molecules.

In 1998, Richter and Jung⁸⁷ developed the first version of the Baylis–Hillman reaction in the solid phase (Scheme 37). The one-pot procedure was based on the reaction of immobilized olefin **162** with aldehyde **163** and 4-nitrobenzenesulfonamide **164** catalyzed by DABCO. The final cleavage of the resulting compounds **165** from the polymer support was accomplished using TFA in DCM.

Scheme 30. Examples of Diverse Indazole-Based Heterocycles Generated from C-Arylated Precursors

Scheme 31. Traceless Synthesis of 3,4-Dihydropyrazino[1,2-*b*]indazoles⁴⁴

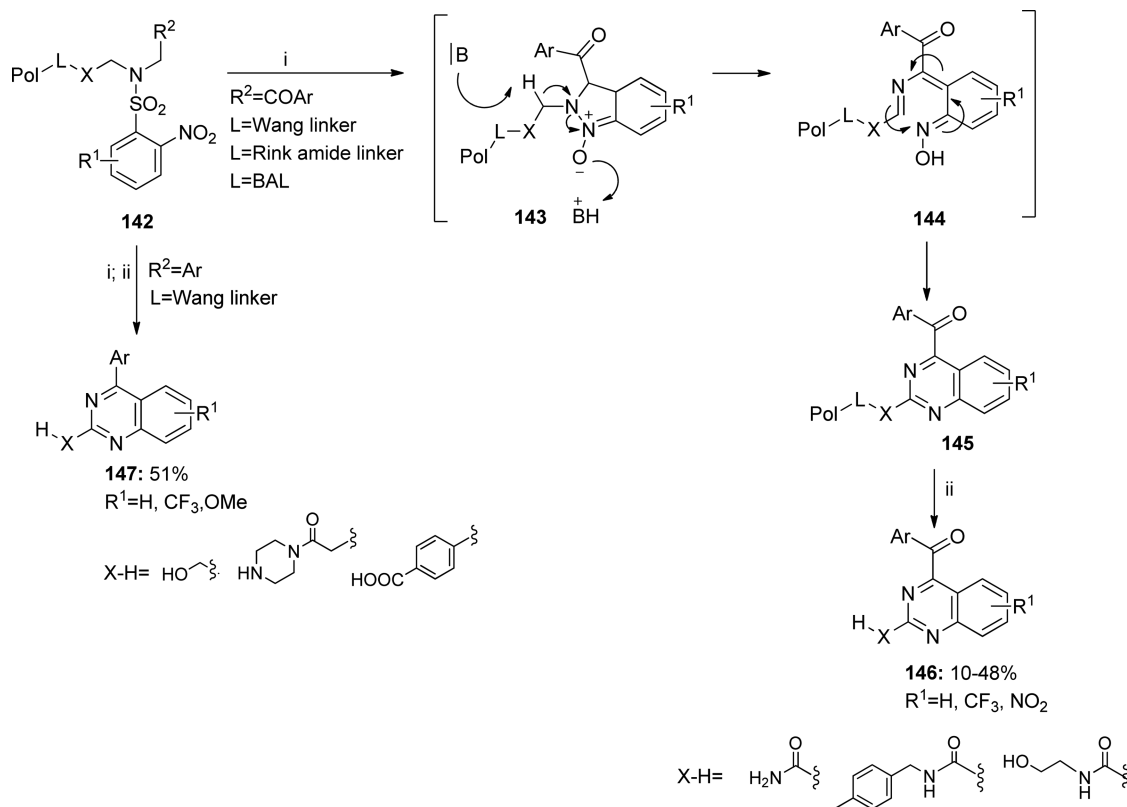
⁴⁴Reagents: (i) methanesulfonyl chloride, TEA, DCM; (ii) 50% TFA in DCM; (iii) TEA, MeOH.

Four years later, another one-pot polymer-supported synthesis of α -sulfonylaminoamide derivatives was published.⁸⁸ This study targeted the scope and limitations of the Ugi condensation reaction (Scheme 38). The optimized conditions were compatible with carboxy polystyrene resin **167**, 2/4-nitrobenzenesulfonamides, and *tert*-butyl isocyanide, which provided the desired products **169** in high overall yields.

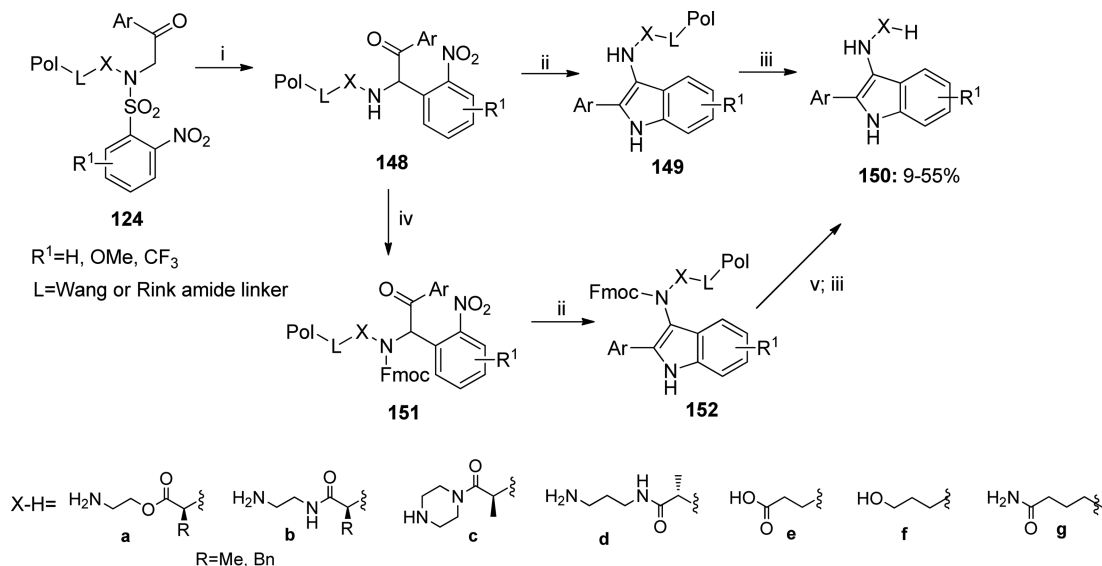
Gong and co-workers²⁹ synthesized *N*-hydroxypiperazine derivatives from phenethylpiperazine linker **170**, which was derivatized with 4-Nos-Cl. The corresponding 4-nitrophenylsulfonypiperazine **171** was converted to *N*-oxide intermediate **172** through oxidation with *m*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (Scheme 39). The final transformation leading to release of the product **173** from the polymer support was accomplished through a Cope β -elimination reaction.

Maclean et al.⁸⁹ used polymer-supported 4-nitrobenzenesulfonamide derivative **175** to construct a safety-catch linker. Previously, the original *S*-immobilized-*N*-acylsulfonamide (Kenner) linker⁹⁰ had been widely used in peptide synthesis, and several of its modifications have been reported, including the sulfonamide carbamate (reversed Kenner) linker. The nitro group of key intermediate **175** was reduced and subsequently used to prepare thiazolidinone products (Scheme 40). Depending on the cleavage conditions, different thiazolidinones **179** or their succinate analogues **180** were obtained.

Incorporation of the Nos group can also introduce analogues of biologically active compounds. A convenient solid-phase technique prepared simple arylsulfonamide molecules derived from putrescine.⁹¹ Nucleophilic displacement of carbonate **192** by putrescine provided immobilized amine **193**, which was further exposed to Nos-Cl's (Scheme 41). The desired

Scheme 32. Rearrangement of Indazole Oxides Leading to Quinazolines^a

^aReagents: (i) DBU, DMF; (ii) 50% TFA in DCM.

Scheme 33. Synthesis of 2-Aryl-3-alkylamino-1H-indoles from C-Arylated Precursors^a

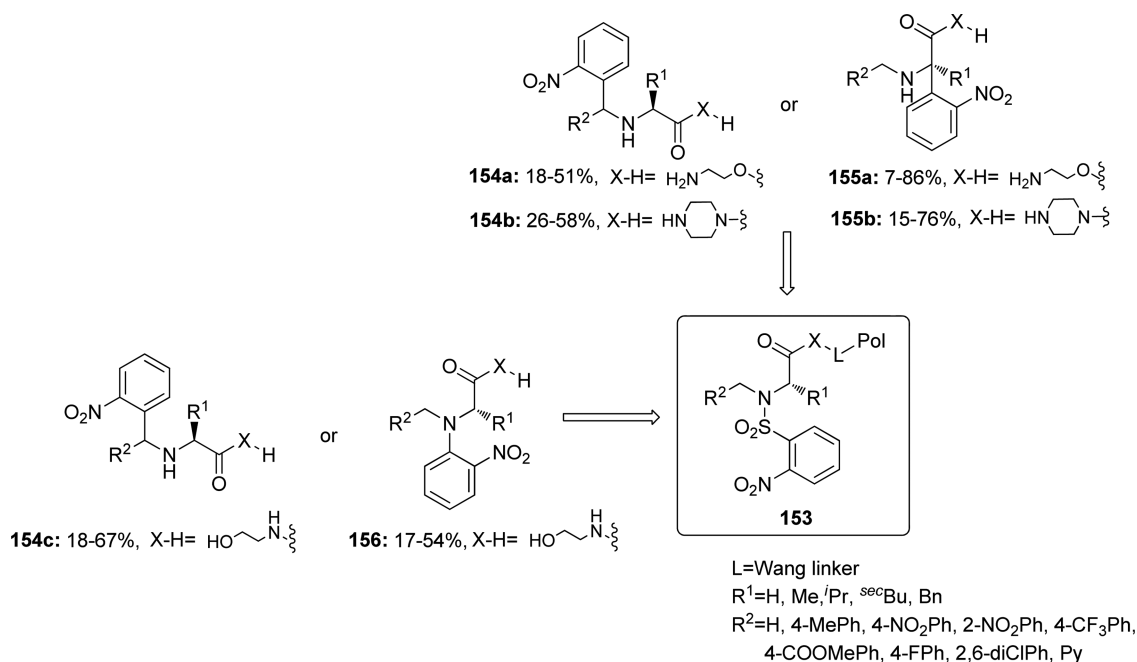
^aReagents: (i) 1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane (DABCO) or TEA, DMF; (ii) $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$, K_2CO_3 , TBAHS, $\text{H}_2\text{O/DCM}$ (1:1); (iii) TFA/DCM (1:1) or TFA/TES/DCM (5:1:4) for Fmoc-protected compounds; (iv) Fmoc-Cl, DCM; (v) piperidine, DMF.

compounds **194** were prepared as potential ligands of serotonin 5-HT₆ receptors.

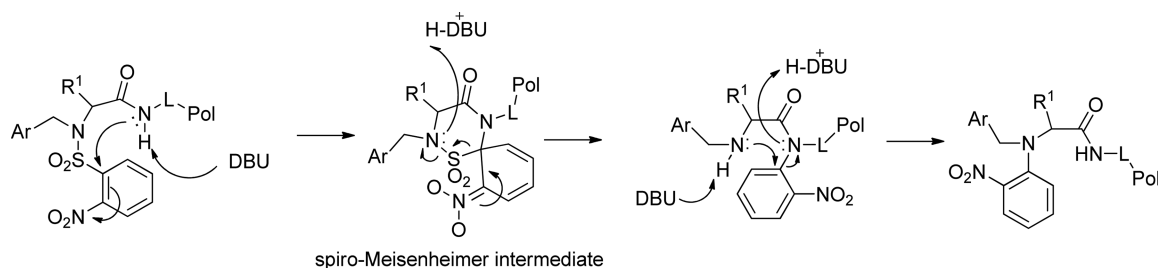
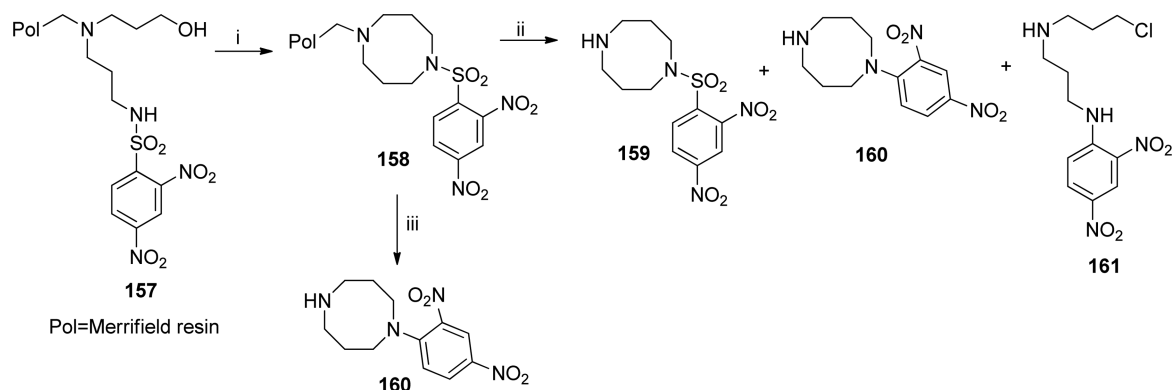
Nicolaou et al.⁹² utilized the previously developed procedure in the split-and-pool synthesis of a large natural-product-like library based on the benzopyran scaffold (Scheme 42). The starting aldehyde **195** was immobilized onto a selenium resin via ring closure (intermediate **196**). Subsequent condensation and

reductive amination yielded intermediate **197**. After reaction with Nos-Cl and final oxidative cleavage, the target scaffold **199** was obtained. Subsequent modification in the solution phase led to diverse sulfonamide products **200**.⁹³

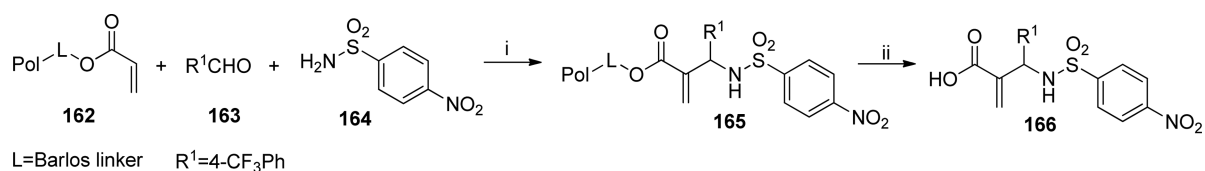
In 2002, a solid-phase method was used to synthesize 1,2,4-benzothiadiazin-3-one 1,1-dioxides on solid supports for the first time.⁹⁴ The synthesis is based on sulfonylation of anchored

Scheme 34. Examples of DBU-Mediated α -C-Arylation and N-Arylation

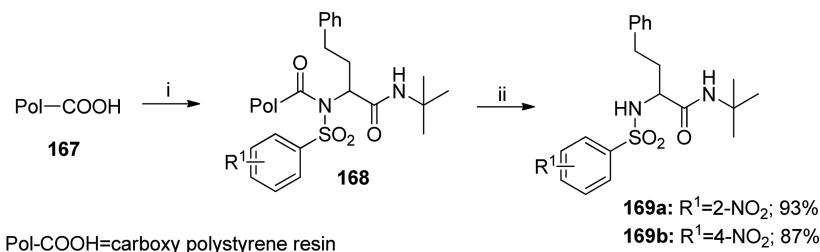
Scheme 35. Proposed Mechanism for N-Arylation

Scheme 36. Smile-Type Rearrangements in the Synthesis of Cyclic Amines^a

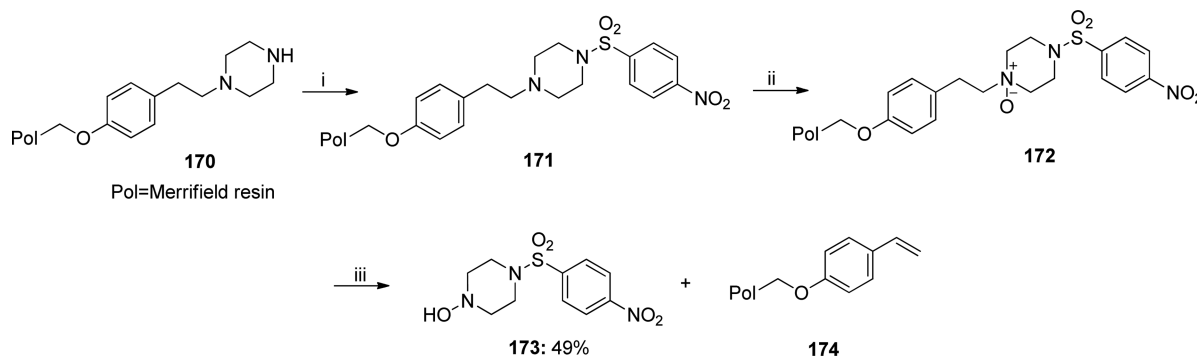
^aReagents: (i) PPh_3 , DEAD, anhydrous THF; (ii) (a) 1-chloroethyl chloroformate (ACE-Cl), dichloroethane (DCE), (b) MeOH, reflux; (iii) mercaptoacetic acid, DIEA or PhSH, K_2CO_3 .

Scheme 37. One-Pot Baylis–Hillman Reaction on a Solid Support^a

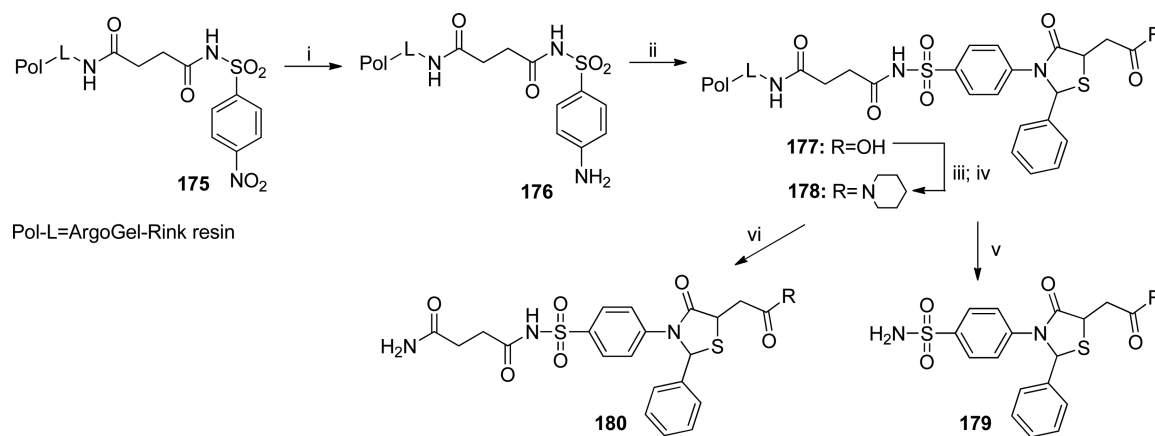
^aReagents: (i) DABCO, dioxane, 70 °C; (ii) TFA/DCM (5:95).

Scheme 38. Ugi-Type Four-Component Condensation^a

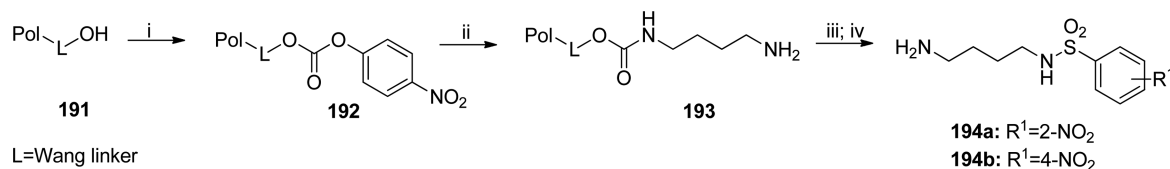
^aReagents: (i) hydrocinnamaldehyde, arylsulfonamide, *tert*-butyl isocyanide, THF, MeOH, 60 °C; (ii) 40% aqueous MeNH₂/THF (1:1 v/v).

Scheme 39. Synthesis of Hydroxypiperazine Derivatives via Oxidation–Cope Elimination^a

^aReagents: (i) 4-Nos-Cl, TEA, DMF; (ii) 3-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (*m*-CPBA), DCM; (iii) toluene, 90 °C.

Scheme 40. Synthesis of *N*-Alkylsulfonamides via “Reversed Kenner” Linkers^a

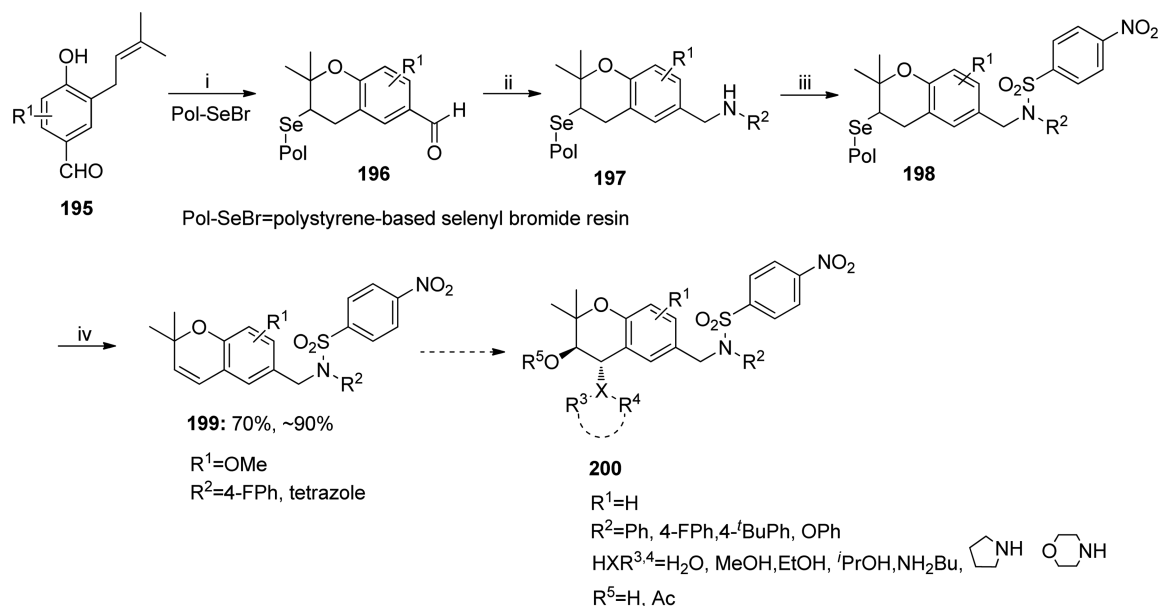
^aReagents: (i) SnCl₂, DMF; (ii) PhCHO, mercaptosuccinic acid, 4 Å molecular sieves, THF, 70 °C; (iii) pentafluorophenyl trifluoroacetate/Py/DMF (1:1:1); (iv) 20% piperidine in DMF; (v) NH₃, MeOH; (vi) 50% TFA in DCM.

Scheme 41. Synthesis of Sulfonamide Ligands of 5-HT₆ Receptors^a

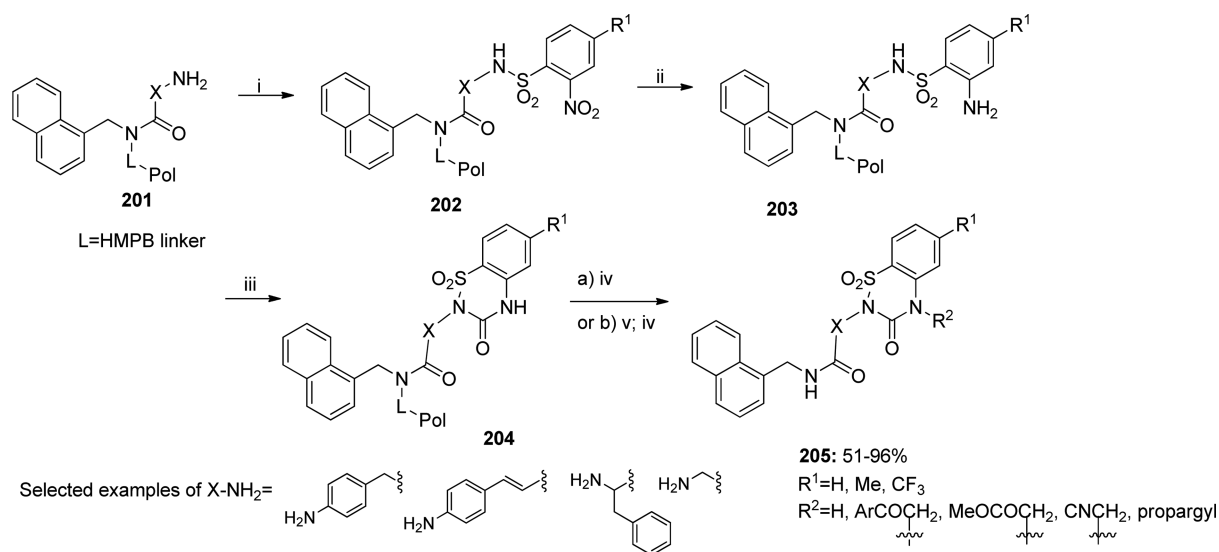
^aReagents: (i) 4-nitrophenyl chloroformate, NMM, DCM; (ii) putrescine, DCM; (iii) Nos-Cl, NMM, DCM; (iv) 50% TFA in DCM.

4-aminophenylacetamide **201** (Scheme 43). After reduction of an appropriate nitro group, the key cyclization was effortlessly achieved by the reaction of compound **203** with carbon-diimidazole (CDI). To increase the diversity, compound **204** was treated with various alkyl halides, yielding products **205**.

The most recent contribution involves the solid-phase synthesis of anagrelide sulfonyl analogues.⁹⁵ The simple procedure was based on the immobilization of various natural amino acids that were treated with 2-Nos-Cl (Scheme 44). Reduction of the nitro group of compounds **206** followed by

Scheme 42. Synthesis of Benzopyran Derivatives by Nicolaou^a

^aReagents: (i) DCM; (ii) (a) R²NH₂, THF, 65 °C, (b) NaCNBH₃, THF/MeOH (10:1), 65 °C; (iii) 4-Nos-Cl, TEA, 4-(*N,N*-dimethylamino)pyridine (DMAP), DCM; (iv) H₂O₂, THF.

Scheme 43. Synthesis of 1,2,4-Benzothiadiazin-3-one 1,1-Dioxides^a

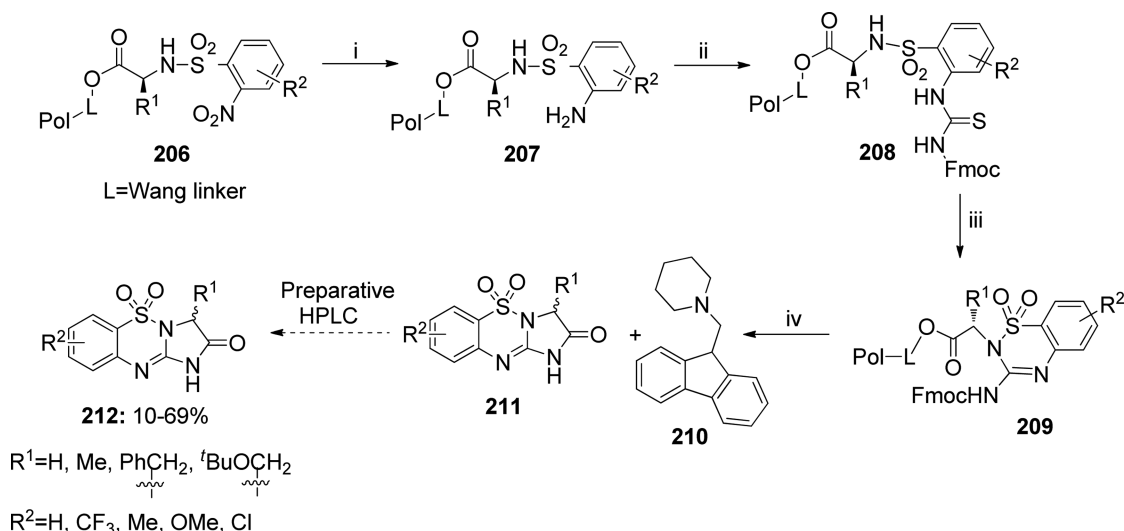
^aReagents: (i) 4-R¹-2-Nos-Cl, 2,6-di-*tert*-butyl-4-methylpyridine, DCM; (ii) SnCl₂·2H₂O, NMP, EtOH; (iii) CDI, DCM; (iv) 95% TFA in H₂O; (v) R²X, DIEA, NMP.

exposure to Fmoc-isothiocyanate (Fmoc-NCS) provided Fmoc-thiourea intermediates **208**. After DIC-triggered ring closure, final deprotection of the Fmoc group was followed by spontaneous cyclative cleavage to afford the target products **211**.

CONCLUSION

Polymer-supported nitrobenzenesulfonamides prepared from 2/4-Nos-Cl represent an important class of multifunctional intermediates in the production of either more or less complex compounds. In addition to the standard or modified Fukuyama alkylation protocol, the Nos group can be introduced into structures as a synthon. In such cases, interesting chemical

transformations of 2-Nos intermediates have led to unprecedented rearrangements that have yielded novel derivatives of pharmacologically relevant heterocycles. Apart from planar scaffolds, compounds with 3D architecture (the presence of sp³ carbons) and derivatives with stereoselective formation of new stereogenic centers are also accessible. With respect to complexity and high diversity, the use of immobilized nitrobenzenesulfonamides in connection with combinatorial SPS⁹⁶ represents an effective tool for the rapid preparation of numerous privileged heterocyclic scaffolds to cover a considerable part of the chemical space. In view of the increasing frequency of reported results, it is expected that this area will be significantly expanded in the near future.

Scheme 44. Synthesis of Anagrelide Sulfonyl Analogues^a

^aReagents: (i) Na₂S₂O₄, K₂CO₃, TBAHS, DCM/H₂O (1:1); (ii) Fmoc-NCS, THF; (iii) DIC, DMF; (iv) piperidine, DMF.

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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