# 1,2,3-Triazoles as leaving groups in $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$-Arbuzov reactions: synthesis of C6-phosphonated purine derivatives 

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## Full Research Paper

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#### Abstract

A new method for $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{N}$ bond transformations into $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{P}$ bonds was developed using 1,2,3-triazoles as leaving groups in $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$-Arbuzov reactions. A series of C6-phosphonated 2-triazolylpurine derivatives was synthesized for the first time, with the isolated yields reaching up to $82 \%$ in the $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{P}$-bond-forming event. The $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}-\mathrm{Arbuzov}$ reaction of 2,6-bistriazolylpurines follows the general regioselectivity pattern of the C6-position being more reactive towards substitution, which was unambiguously proved by X-ray analysis of diethyl (9-heptyl-2-(4-phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)-9H-purin-6-yl)phosphonate.


## Introduction

Acyclic nucleoside phosphonates (ANPs) are an important compound class due to their biological activity profile [1-6]. Compounds bearing a phosphonate moiety in their N9 side chain are well known as antiviral agents, such as adefovir, tenofovir, and cidofovir [7]. Lately, it was found that ANPs possess inhibitory activity against hypoxanthine-guanine-xanthine phosphoribosyltransferase of the parasite Plasmodium falciparum, and several research groups are focused on the development of this topic [8-11].

On the contrary, only a few examples can be found in the literature where a phosphorus-containing substituent is directly at-
tached to the purine ring [12,13]. In 2008, an $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$-Arbuzov reaction was developed for 6-chloropurine derivatives under microwave irradiation (Scheme 1) [12]. In 2011, a single example of a C6-phosphonate, $\mathbf{B}\left(\mathrm{X}=\mathrm{NH}_{2} ; \mathrm{R}^{1}=2^{\prime}\right.$ - $C$-methylribose; $\mathrm{R}^{2}=\mathrm{Et}$ ), was synthesized among other compounds as a potential anti-hepatitis C virus agent and showed $19 \%$ inhibition at 10 $\mu \mathrm{M}$ in Huh7 cells (Scheme 1) [13]. Additionally, there are a few examples of C8-phosphonate synthesis. They can be obtained by 1) the reaction of a lithiated C8 position with diethyl chlorophosphate ( $\mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{D}$, Scheme 1) [14] and 2) an intermolecular [15] or intramolecular [16] photochemical reaction between 8-bromopurine derivatives and phosphite $(\mathbf{E} \rightarrow \mathbf{F}$ and $\mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{H}$, re-


Scheme 1: Structural diversity and synthetic methods of purinylphosphonates. MWI = microwave irradiation; LG = leaving group.
spectively, Scheme 1). Further, the synthesis of C8-phosphonates of 7 - and 9 -deazapurines via $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}$ phosphonation has been reported [17].

On the other hand, azolylpurines are an important compound class that combines two recognized structural motifs of drug design - purines and azoles. Derivatives of this class are known for their activity against Mycobacterium tuberculosis and also as agonists and antagonists of adenosine receptors [18].

In 2013, we developed an efficient approach for the synthesis of ribo- and arabino-2,6-bistriazolylpurine nucleosides and showed that the triazolyl ring in the C 6 position of purine acts as a good leaving group in $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$ reactions with S - and N -nucleophiles [19-21]. It is worth to note that $2 / 6$-amino- $6 / 2$-triazolylpurines possess high levels of fluorescence [19,22-24].

Herein, we describe an extension for $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$ reactions that makes use of the 1,2,3-triazole leaving group of 2,6-bistriazolylpurines. This led to a discovery of novel C-P bond formations from C-N bonds in $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$-Arbuzov reactions ( $\mathbf{I} \rightarrow \mathbf{J}$, Scheme 1). The obtained series of compounds combines three
structural motifs that are important in terms of medicinal chemistry in one molecule: purine, triazole, and phosphonate.

## Results and Discussion

## Synthetic approaches towards

 C6-phosphonated 2-triazolylpurinesAiming to synthesize C6-phosphonated 2-triazolylpurines, we designed two synthetic routes (Scheme 2). Pathway A included: 1) a known $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$-Arbuzov reaction between 2,6 -dichloropurine derivative 1 and $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{OEt})_{3}$ [12], 2) substitution of chlorine at the purine C 2 position by azide, and 3) copper-catalyzed azide-alkyne 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition (CuAAC) with different alkynes. Pathway B included: 1) the two-step synthesis of 2,6-bistriazolylpurine derivatives $\mathbf{6}$ from 2,6-dichloropurine derivative $\mathbf{1}$ [22] and 2) the $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$-Arbuzov reaction with phosphite.

The $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$-Arbuzov reaction between 2,6-dichloropurine derivative $\mathbf{1}$ and triethylphosphite gave product 2a in $82 \%$ yield (Scheme 3) [12]. Next, attempts to substitute the chlorine atom at the purine C 2 position were made using either $\mathrm{NaN}_{3}$ or


Scheme 2: Synthetic routes for the formation of purinylphosphonates 4.

TBAN ${ }_{3}$. Azidation experiments were tried in solvents such as $\mathrm{EtOH}, \mathrm{MeOH}$, and MeCN in temperature diapasons up to $100{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, but no conversion of the staring material $\mathbf{2 a}\left(\mathrm{R}^{1}=\mathrm{Et}\right)$ was observed. The change of the solvent to DMF or DMSO resulted in the cleavage of one ethyl ester group [25], but still the $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$ reaction at C 2 was not effective. LC-MS analysis of the crude reaction mixtures revealed the presence of the products $7 \mathbf{a}$ and 8a (Scheme 3). When the latter mixture was submitted to CuAAC with phenylacetylene $\left(\mathrm{CuI} / \mathrm{Et}_{3} \mathrm{~N} / \mathrm{AcOH} /\right.$ EtOH (or DCM), $\mathrm{CuSO}_{4} \cdot 5 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ /sodium ascorbate/EtOH (or DMF)), no triazole formation at the purine C 2 position was observed.

We briefly tried to optimize the $\mathrm{Cl} \rightarrow \mathrm{N}_{3} \mathrm{~S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$ process at the purine C 2 position, and that way, the isopropyl phosphonate $\mathbf{2 b}$ was also obtained. It is known that both chloride and azide can cleave phosphonate esters [25-28], but the chloride source would not interfere with the $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$ process at C 2 . Hence, we compared the reaction outcome and rates when DMSO- $d_{6}$ solutions of the starting materials $\mathbf{2 a}$ and $\mathbf{2 b}$ were treated either with $\mathrm{NaN}_{3}$ or NaCl in parallel experiments. The reaction mixtures
were directly analyzed by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ NMR spectroscopy using 1,2,3-trimethoxybenzene as an internal standard (Tables S1 and S2 as well as Figures S1 and S2 in Supporting Information File 1). The reaction between the diethyl phosphonate $2 \mathbf{a}$ and $\mathrm{NaN}_{3}$ gave a mixture of products $\mathbf{3 a}, 7 \mathbf{a}$, and $\mathbf{8 a}$ already after 15 min . A significant amount of the azido monoester 8a (39\%) was formed in only 48 h (Scheme 4, Figure 1, and Table S1 in Supporting Information File 1). The cleavage of the ester groups in the presence of NaCl was slower than in the presence of $\mathrm{NaN}_{3}$ (Figure 1 and Table S 2 in Supporting Information File 1). Further, the cleavage of the sterically bulky isopropyl ester from phosphonate 2b showed a similar pattern: 5\% conversation to monoester 7b was observed with NaCl after 48 h (Scheme 4, Figure 1, and Table S2 in Supporting Information File 1), but the reaction with $\mathrm{NaN}_{3}$ resulted in a mixture of products, which contained $45 \%$ of 2 -azido monoester $\mathbf{8 b}$ (Scheme 4).

Based on the previous observations, we forced the $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$ reaction of the Cl atom at the C 2 position of purine with an excess of $\mathrm{NaN}_{3}$, and after chromatographic isolation. We obtained the


Scheme 3: Synthesis of phosphonates 2, 7, and 8.
for conversion rates see Figure 1


Scheme 4: Synthesis of phosphonic acid monoesters $\mathbf{3}$ and 7-9 as well as phosphonic acid 10


Figure 1: Screenings of the rate for the ester group cleavage (conversion determined by NMR spectroscopy) in the reactions between dialkyl (2-chloro-9-heptyl-9H-purin-6-yl)phosphonates $\mathbf{2 a}$ and $\mathbf{2 b}$, respectively, with $\mathrm{NaN}_{3}(\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{c})$ and $\mathrm{NaCl}(\mathrm{b}, \mathrm{d})$. Reaction conditions: $\mathrm{DMSO}-\mathrm{d}_{6}, 90^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.
pure azido-substituted phosphonate monoesters 9a and $\mathbf{9 b}$ in 28 and $23 \%$ yield, respectively (Scheme 4). The products 9a and 9b were further submitted to CuAAC reactions, but the desired triazole derivatives were not obtained. Further-
more, the hydrolysis of the dialkyl ester groups were performed with TMSI [29,30], and phosphonic acid $\mathbf{1 0}$ was obtained. The latter was inert to the $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$ reaction with $\mathrm{NaN}_{3}$ at C 2 (Scheme 4).

## $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$-Arbuzov reaction between

## 2,6-bistriazolylpurines and $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{OEt})_{3}$

Next, we switched to pathway B (Scheme 2) and prepared 2,6diazidopurine derivative 5 from 2,6-dichloropurine (11) via a Mitsunobu alkylation and $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$ reaction with $\mathrm{NaN}_{3}$ (Scheme 5) [22]. 2,6-Bistriazolylpurine derivatives 6a-i were obtained in CuAAC reactions with various alkynes in 35-76\% yield (Table 1). We found that a combination of CuI with an amine
buffer system [31-37] suites substrate 5 better than the previously used $\mathrm{CuSO}_{4} \cdot 5 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and sodium ascorbate catalytic system [22]. Most probably, this is due to the solubility issues of the starting material 5 in aqueous solutions, as used in the $\mathrm{Cu}(\mathrm{II})$ and ascorbate protocol. In some cases, the use of $\mathrm{Et}_{3} \mathrm{~N}$ lowered the yield of 2,6-bistriazolylpurines $\mathbf{6 c}$ and $\mathbf{6 f}-\mathbf{i}$ due to the competing Glaser coupling $[38,39]$ and the reduction of 2,6-diazide 5 by the $\mathrm{Cu}(\mathrm{I})$ species [40,41]. The bistriazolyl
Scheme 5: Synthesis of 2,6 -bistriazolylpurine derivatives $6 \mathbf{a}-\mathbf{c}$
derivatives 6a-i were easily crystalized from MeOH , EtOH , or a hexane/EtOH mixture or purified by column chromatography.

The obtained 2,6-bistriazolylpurine derivatives 6a-i were explored as substrates for the $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$-Arbuzov reaction with $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{OEt})_{3}$. In attempts to perform the $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$-Arbuzov reaction in common laboratory solvents, such as toluene, MeCN , and DCM , and in the presence of $1-20$ equiv of $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{OEt})_{3}$, the formation of the desired phosphonates 4 was not observed (Scheme 6). We started an optimization of the reaction conditions using substrate $\mathbf{6 d}$, and reactions in neat phosphite at various temperatures were tried (Table 2). The conversion of


Scheme 6: $S_{N} A r-A r b u z o v ~ r e a c t i o n ~ b e t w e e n ~ t h e ~ b i s t r i a z o l y l p u r i n e s ~$
6a-i and $P(O E t)_{3}$. 6a-i and $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{OEt})_{3}$.
Table 2: Optimization of the $S_{N} A r-A r b u z o v$ reaction conditions for
$\mathbf{6 d \rightarrow 4 d}$ according to Scheme 6 .

| entry | $T,{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | $t, \mathrm{~h}$ | conversion of 6d, \% ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | yield, \% ${ }^{\text {b }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 140 | 1 | 9 | 30 |
|  |  | 2 | 19 |  |
|  |  | 3 | 49 |  |
|  |  | 4 | 75 |  |
|  |  | 5 | 85 |  |
|  |  | 6 | 91 |  |
| 2 | 150 | 1 | 63 | 50 |
|  |  | 2 | 81 |  |
|  |  | 3 | 91 |  |
| 3 | 160 | 1 | 85 | 67 |
|  |  | 2 | 96 |  |
| 4 | 170 | 1 | 92 | 50 |
|  |  | 2 | 96 |  |

aThe conversion was determined by HPLC analysis (column: XBridge C18, $4.6 \times 150 \mathrm{~mm}$, particle size $3.5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$, flow rate $1 \mathrm{~mL} / \mathrm{min}$. Gradient: $30-95 \%$ B $5 \mathrm{~min}, 95 \%$ B $5 \mathrm{~min}, 95-30 \%$ B 2 min . Eluent A: $0.1 \%$ TFA in water with 5 vol \% MeCN; eluent B: MeCN). ${ }^{\text {b }}$ Isolated yield after purification.
starting material $\mathbf{6 d}$ was monitored by HPLC, and after completion, product $4 \mathbf{d}$ was precipitated from the reaction mixture by hexane. For entries 1 and 3 in Table 2, an extra purification step by silica gel column chromatography was required. For compound $4 \mathbf{d}$, the optimal reaction conditions were 2 hours in neat $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{OEt})_{3}$ at $160^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.

With the experimental conditions in hand, the $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$-Arbuzov reaction between 2,6-bistriazolylpurines $\mathbf{6 a - i}$ and $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{OEt})_{3}$ provided a library of novel purine phosphonates $\mathbf{4 a} \mathbf{a}$ in $27-82 \%$ yield (Table 3 ). The products $\mathbf{4 a}, \mathbf{4 d}, \mathbf{4 e}$, and $\mathbf{4 i}$ were easily precipitated from hexane left at $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ within 10 hours and were then filtered and washed with cold hexane. The product purity, if necessary, was further improved by column chromatography. Some phosphonates, for example, 4b, 4c, and $\mathbf{4 f}$, were reductant to precipitate from hexane and were purified solely by silica gel column chromatography. At the preparative level, the excess of $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{OEt})_{3}$ was evaporated under vacuum ( 5 mbar ) over $4-5$ hours at $50^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ before further purification.

Table 3: $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$-Arbuzov reactions between 2,6-bistriazolylpurines 6a-i and $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{OEt})_{3}$ according to Scheme 6.
entry

The regioselectivity of the newly developed $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$-Arbuzov reaction was unambiguously established by X-ray analysis of the product $\mathbf{4 d}$, which was crystalized from a mixture of hexane and DCM using the slow-evaporation technique (Figure 2). This follows the previously reported regioselective C6-substitution of 2,6-bistriazolylpurines in $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$ transformations.


Figure 2: Single-crystal X-ray analysis of diethyl (9-heptyl-2-(4-phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazol-1-yl)-9H-purin-6-yl)phosphonate (4d). CCDC-2044976.

## Conclusion

We have developed a novel $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$-Arbuzov transformation that makes use of 1,2,3-triazole as a leaving group. This has permitted to obtain a novel series of C6-phosphonated 2-triazolylpurine derivatives. It was also demonstrated that there is no alternative $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$ protocol towards the designed products. The synthetic intermediates, (2-chloro-9H-purin-6-yl)phosphonates, of the alternative pathway are sluggish in substitution reactions with $\mathrm{NaN}_{3}$, and the burdensomely obtained (2-azido-9H-purin-$6-y l)$ phosphonates fail to undergo CuAAC reactions. The developed $S_{N} A r-A r b u z o v ~ r e a c t i o n ~ b e t w e e n ~ 2,6-b i s t r i a-~$ zolylpurine derivatives and trialkyl phosphites is C6-regioselective, as proved by single-crystal X-ray analysis. This is similar to the previously observed substitution pattern in $S_{N} A r$ reactions of 2,6-bistriazolylpurine derivatives with simple N - and S-nucleophiles.

## Experimental <br> General information

Commercially available reagents were used as received. The reactions and the purity of the synthesized compounds were monitored by HPLC and TLC analysis using silica gel $60 \mathrm{~F}_{254}$ aluminum plates (Merck). Visualization was accomplished by UV light. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel ( $60 \AA, 40-63 \mu \mathrm{~m}, \mathrm{ROCC}$ ). The yield of the products refers to chromatographically and spectroscopically homogeneous materials.

Melting points were recorded with a Fisher Digital Melting Point Analyzer Model 355 apparatus. The infrared spectra were recorded in hexachlorobutadiene ( $4000-2000 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$ ) and paraffin oil (2000-450 $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ ) with an FTIR Perkin-Elmer Spectrum 100 spectrometer.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H},{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$, and ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ NMR spectra were recorded with Bruker Avance 300 or Bruker Avance 500 spectrometers in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$, DMSO- $d_{6}$, and MeOD- $d_{4}$. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are reported in ppm and coupling constants $(J)$ in Hz . The proton $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right.$ $\delta=7.26 \mathrm{ppm}$, DMSO- $d_{6} \delta=2.50 \mathrm{ppm}$, MeOD- $d_{4}$ $\delta=3.31 \mathrm{ppm}, \mathrm{AcOD}-d_{4} \delta=11.65 \mathrm{ppm}$ ) and carbon signals $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3} \delta=77.16 \mathrm{ppm}\right.$, DMSO- $d_{6} \delta=39.52 \mathrm{ppm}$, MeOD- $d_{4}$ $\left.\delta=49.00 \mathrm{ppm}, \mathrm{AcOD}-d_{4} \delta=178.99 \mathrm{ppm}\right)$ for residual nondeuterated solvents were used as an internal reference for ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectra, respectively. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR were recorded at 500 and 300 MHz and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR spectra at 125.7 and $75.5 \mathrm{MHz} .{ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ NMR spectra were recorded at 121 and 202 MHz with $\mathrm{H}_{3} \mathrm{PO}_{4}(85 \%)$ as an external standard $\left(\mathrm{H}_{3} \mathrm{PO}_{4} \delta_{\mathrm{P}}\right.$ $=0.00 \mathrm{ppm})$. The multiplicity is assigned as follows: $\mathrm{s}-$ singlet, d (for ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR) and D (for ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR) - doublet, t - triplet, $q-$ quartet, $m$ - multiplet. Nontrivial peak assignments were confirmed by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H},{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$-COSY, ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H},{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{HMBC}$, and/or ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H},{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ HSQC 2D NMR experiments for representative products of each compound class.

Crystallographic diffraction data were collected with a NoniusKappa CCD diffractometer (Mo K $\alpha, \lambda=0.71073 \AA$ ) equipped with a low-temperature Oxford Cryosystems Cryostream Plus device.

HPLC analysis was performed using an Agilent Technologies 1200 Series system equipped with an XBridge C18 column, $4.6 \times 150 \mathrm{~mm}$, particle size $3.5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$, with a flow rate of $1 \mathrm{~mL} / \mathrm{min}$, using eluent $\mathrm{A}-0.1 \% \mathrm{TFA} / \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ with $5 \mathrm{vol} \% \mathrm{MeCN}$ and eluent $\mathrm{B}-\mathrm{MeCN}$ as the mobile phase. The wavelength of detection was 260 nm . Gradient: 30-95\% B $5 \mathrm{~min}, 95 \%$ B $5 \mathrm{~min}, 95-30 \%$ B 2 min . LC-MS spectra were recorded with a Waters Acquity UPLC system equipped with an Acquilty UPLC BEH C18 $1.7 \mu \mathrm{~m}, 2.1 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$ column, using $0.1 \%$ TFA/ $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and MeCN as the mobile phase. HRMS analyses were performed on an Agilent 1290 Infinity series UPLC system equipped with an Extend C18 RRHD $2.1 \times 50 \mathrm{~mm}$, $1.8 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ column, connected to an Agilent 6230 TOF LC-MS mass spectrometer.

## General procedures and product characterization

The synthesis and characterization of the starting materials $\mathbf{1}$ and $\mathbf{5}$ and of 2,6-bistriazolylpurine derivative $\mathbf{6 d}$ have been reported earlier [22].

## General procedure for the $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{N}} \mathrm{Ar}$-Arbuzov reaction: synthesis of 9-alkyl-2-chloro-9H-purine C6-phosphonates 2

Diethyl (2-chloro-9-heptyl-9H-purin-6-yl)phosphonate (2a): 2,6-Dichloro-9-heptyl-9H-purine (1, $1.03 \mathrm{~g}, 3.59 \mathrm{mmol}$, 1.0 equiv) was dissolved in $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{OEt})_{3}(12 \mathrm{~mL})$ and stirred for 3 h at $160^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (HPLC control). Then, the solution was cooled to room temperature, hexane ( 40 mL ) was added, and the mixture was left in the freezer $\left(-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$ for 10 h . The precipitated colorless crystals of $\mathbf{2 a}$ were filtered and washed with cold hexane $(4 \times 5 \mathrm{~mL})$. Colorless crystals ( $1.15 \mathrm{~g}, 82 \%$ ). mp $57-59{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$; IR $\tilde{v}_{\text {max }}\left(\mathrm{cm}^{-1}\right): 2924,2858,1334,1243,1021,981 ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, 300 \mathrm{MHz}\right) \delta 8.18(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{C}(8)), 4.41$ (quintet, ${ }^{3} \mathrm{~J}=$ $\left.7.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H}, 2 \times \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{P}\right), 4.25\left(\mathrm{t},{ }^{3} \mathrm{~J}=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H},-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\left(1^{\prime}\right)-\right)$, 2.02-1.77 (m, 2H, $\left.-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\left(2^{\prime}\right)-\right), 1.40\left(\mathrm{t},{ }^{3} \mathrm{~J}=7.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}\right.$, $\left.2 \times\left(-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)\right), 1.35-1.10\left(\mathrm{~m}, 8 \mathrm{H}, 4 \times\left(-\mathrm{CH}_{2}-\right)\right), 0.85\left(\mathrm{t},{ }^{3} \mathrm{~J}=6.6 \mathrm{~Hz}\right.$, $\left.3 \mathrm{H},-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\left(7^{\prime}\right)\right) ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, 75.5 \mathrm{MHz}\right) \delta 154.3(\mathrm{D}$, $\left.{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{P}}=11.7 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 154.2\left(\mathrm{D},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{P}}=7.7 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 152.5\left(\mathrm{D},{ }^{1} J_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{P}}=\right.$ $203.6 \mathrm{~Hz}), 147.5,134.3\left(\mathrm{D},{ }^{2} J_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{P}}=21.4 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 64.2\left(\mathrm{D},{ }^{2} J_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{P}}=\right.$ $6.1 \mathrm{~Hz}), 44.2,31.5,29.8,28.6,26.5,22.5,16.4\left(\mathrm{D},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{P}}=\right.$ $6.2 \mathrm{~Hz}), 14.4 ;{ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, 121 \mathrm{MHz}\right) \delta 5.3$; HRMS-ESI $(\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}):[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{16} \mathrm{H}_{27} \mathrm{ClN}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{3} \mathrm{P}, 389.1504$; found, 389.1508.

## General procedure for the synthesis of 9-alkyl-2,6-

 bistriazolyl-9H-purine derivatives 6Dimethyl 1,1'-(9-heptyl-9H-purine-2,6-diyl)bis(1H-1,2,3-tri-azole-4-carboxylate) ( $6 \mathbf{a}$ ): $\mathrm{CuI}(0.06 \mathrm{~g}, 0.30 \mathrm{mmol}, 0.12$ equiv) was added to a stirred solution of 2,6 -diazido-9-heptyl- 9 H purine ( $\mathbf{5}, 0.76 \mathrm{~g}, 2.53 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv) in $\mathrm{DCM}(35 \mathrm{~mL})$, followed by the addition of triethylamine ( $0.39 \mathrm{~mL}, 2.78 \mathrm{mmol}$, 1.1 equiv), methyl propiolate ( $0.68 \mathrm{~mL}, 7.59 \mathrm{mmol}, 3.0$ equiv), and acetic acid ( $0.16 \mathrm{~mL}, 2.78 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.1$ equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h at room temperature. Then, the mixture was washed with brine $(1 \times 7 \mathrm{~mL})$ and an aqueous solution of NaHS ( $2 \times 5 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). The inorganic phase was back-extracted with DCM $(2 \times 3 \mathrm{~mL})$. The organic phase was collected, dried over anhydrous $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$, filtered through Celite ${ }^{\circledR}$, and evaporated under reduced pressure. Silica gel column chromatography (DCM/MeCN, gradient: $20 \rightarrow 33 \%$ ) provided the product $\mathbf{6 a}$ ( $0.91 \mathrm{~g}, 76 \%$ ) as a brown amorphous solid. $R_{\mathrm{f}} 0.20$ (DCM/ MeCN 4:1); HPLC: $t_{\mathrm{R}} 5.72 \mathrm{~min}$; IR $\tilde{v}_{\text {max }}\left(\mathrm{cm}^{-1}\right): 2953,2930$, $1728,1434,1223,1025,774 ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta$ 9.63, 9.25 ( $2 \mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H}, 2 \times \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{C}($ triazole) ), 8.40 ( $\mathrm{s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{C}(8)$ ), 4.47 (t, $\left.{ }^{3} J=7.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}_{2}-\mathrm{C}\left(1^{\prime}\right)\right), 4.08(\mathrm{~s}, 6 \mathrm{H}, 2 \times \mathrm{OMe}), 2.10-1.93$ $\left(\mathrm{m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}_{2}-\mathrm{C}\left(2^{\prime}\right)\right), 1.49-1.15\left(\mathrm{~m}, 8 \mathrm{H}, 4 \times\left(-\mathrm{CH}_{2}-\right)\right), 0.85\left(\mathrm{t},{ }^{3} \mathrm{~J}=\right.$ $\left.6.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}_{3}-\mathrm{C}\left(7^{\prime}\right)\right) ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR ( $125.7 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 160.8$, $160.5,156.2,148.5,148.0,144.8,140.6,140.5,128.4,127.5$, $122.9,52.74,52.66,45.1,31.6,29.9,28.7,26.7,22.6,14.1$; HRMS-ESI ( $\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}$ ): $[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{25} \mathrm{~N}_{10} \mathrm{O}_{4}$, 469.2055; found, 469.2022.

General procedure for the $S_{N} A r-A r b u z o v ~ r e a c t i o n: ~$ synthesis of 9-alkyl-2-triazolyl-9H-purine C6-phosphonates 4
Methyl 1-(6-(diethoxyphosphoryl)-9-heptyl-9H-purin-2-yl)$\mathbf{1 H - 1 , 2 , 3 - t r i a z o l e - 4}$-carboxylate (4a): Dimethyl 1,1'-(9-heptyl9 H -purine-2,6-diyl)bis( $1 \mathrm{H}-1,2,3$-triazole-4-carboxylate) ( $\mathbf{6 a}$, $0.20 \mathrm{~g}, 0.43 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv) was dissolved in $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{OEt})_{3}(2 \mathrm{~mL})$ and stirred for 3 hours at $160^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Then, the solution was cooled to room temperature, hexane $(10 \mathrm{~mL})$ was added, and the mixture was left in the freezer $\left(-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$ for 10 h . The brown solids were filtered, washed with cold hexane $(4 \times 5 \mathrm{~mL})$, then dissolved from the filter with DCM ( 10 mL ) and purified by silica gel column chromatography ( $\mathrm{DCM} / \mathrm{MeOH}$, gradient: $3 \rightarrow 5 \%$ ). Orange powder ( $0.148 \mathrm{~g}, 72 \%$ ). $R_{\mathrm{f}} 0.2$ ( $\mathrm{DCM} / \mathrm{MeOH} 25: 1$ ); IR $\tilde{v}_{\text {max }}\left(\mathrm{cm}^{-1}\right): 2980,2930,1250,1143,1102,990 ;{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 9.19(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{C}($ triazole $)$ ), $8.32(\mathrm{~s}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, $\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{C}(8)), 4.53-4.42\left(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}, 2 \times \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{P}\right), 4.40\left(\mathrm{t},{ }^{3} \mathrm{~J}=7.3 \mathrm{~Hz}\right.$, $2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}_{2}-\mathrm{C}\left(1^{\prime}\right)$ ), 4.00 ( $\mathrm{s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}_{3} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{CO}$ ), $2.07-1.84(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}$, $\left.\mathrm{H}_{2}-\mathrm{C}\left(2^{\prime}\right)\right), 1.45\left(\mathrm{t},{ }^{3} \mathrm{~J}=7.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 6 \mathrm{H}, 2 \times\left(-\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)\right), 1.37-1.15(\mathrm{~m}$, $\left.8 \mathrm{H}, 4 \times\left(-\mathrm{CH}_{2}-\right)\right), 0.85\left(\mathrm{t},{ }^{3} \mathrm{~J}=6.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{H}_{3}-\mathrm{C}\left(7^{\prime}\right)\right) ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(125.7 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right) \delta 160.9,154.0\left(\mathrm{D},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{P}}=11.1 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 152.4$ (D, $\left.{ }^{1} J_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{P}}=220.6 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 148.6,148.3\left(\mathrm{D},{ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{P}}=23.4 \mathrm{~Hz}\right)$, $140.3,135.3\left(\mathrm{D},{ }^{2} J_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{P}}=20.8 \mathrm{~Hz}\right), 127.4,64.5\left(\mathrm{D},{ }^{2} J_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{P}}=\right.$ $6.2 \mathrm{~Hz}), 52.6,44.6,31.6,29.9,28.7,26.7,22.7,16.6$ (D, ${ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{P}}=5.9 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ), 14.1; ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ NMR ( $202 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ) $\delta 5.3$; HRMS-ESI ( $\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{z}$ ): $[\mathrm{M}+\mathrm{H}]^{+}$calcd for $\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{30} \mathrm{~N}_{7} \mathrm{O}_{5} \mathrm{P}, 480.2119$; found, 480.2121.

## Supporting Information

## Supporting Information File 1

Full experimental procedures and copies of the ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H},{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$, and ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$ NMR spectra.
[https://www.beilstein-journals.org/bjoc/content/ supplementary/1860-5397-17-19-S1.pdf]

## Supporting Information File 2

Cif file for compound $\mathbf{4 d}$.
[https://www.beilstein-journals.org/bjoc/content/ supplementary/1860-5397-17-19-S2.cif]

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