## **Short Review Article**

# Application of Arylglyoxals in Synthesis of Pyrrolo[2,3-d] pyrimidines via Multicomponent Reactions



Ramin Javahershenas <sup>a,\*</sup>, Jabbar Khalafy <sup>a</sup>, Rolf Herman Prager <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Faculty of Chemistry, Urmia University, Urmia, Iran <sup>b</sup> Department of Chemistry, Flinders University, Adelaide, Australia

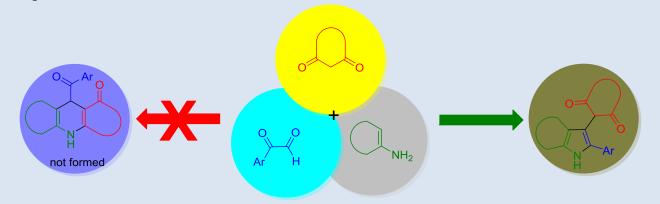
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## Abstract:

This review provides an overview of the recent literature on application of arylglyoxals the synthesis of pyrrolo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidines via multicomponent reactions in the period of 2008–2018. 1,2-Dicarbonyl compounds are attractive precursors for synthesis of various heterocyclic compounds, and arylglyoxals are frequently applied in synthesis of various organic compounds, and in particular of pyrrolo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidines derivatives, which are important due to their biological and pharmaceutical activities.

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**Keywords:** Arylglyoxals, Pyrrolo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidines, Multicomponent reactions, Enamines **Graphical Abstract:** 



## **Biography:**



**Ramin Javahershenas** was born in Iran, in 1971. He received his B.Sc. degree in Applied Chemistry from Tabriz University, Tabriz, Iran, in 1993, his M.Sc. degree in Organic Chemistry from the Urmia University, Urmia, Iran, under the supervision of Professor Naser Ardabilchi in 1999 and his Ph.D. degree in Organic chemistry from Urmia University, Urmia, Iran under the supervision of Professor Jabbar Khalafy, in 2017. His research interests include organic synthesis, heterocyclic synthesis, asymmetric synthesis, natural products synthesis, synthetic methodology and applications of various catalysts in multicomponent reactions.





**Jabbar Khalafy** was born in Iran, in 1952. He received his B.Sc. degree in Chemistry from Tabriz University, Tabriz, Iran, in 1975, his M.Sc. degree in Organic Chemistry from Manchester University, Manchester, England, in 1977 and his Ph.D. degree in Organic Chemistry from Manchester University, Manchester, England under the supervision of Professor J.M. Bruce, in 1979. He is Full Professor in the faculty of Chemistry at Urmia University, Urmia, Iran. His research interests include organic synthesis, heterocyclic synthesis, asymmetric synthesis, natural products synthesis, FVP, synthetic methodology and applications of various catalysts in multicomponent reactions.



**Rolf Herman Prager** was born in Australia, in 1937, and is a graduate of the University of Sydney and Imperial College, London. He is now Emeritus Professor in Chemistry at Flinders University, Adelaide. He has published widely in the fields of natural products, structure determination and synthesis, and in medicinal chemistry, particularly associated with pain relief.

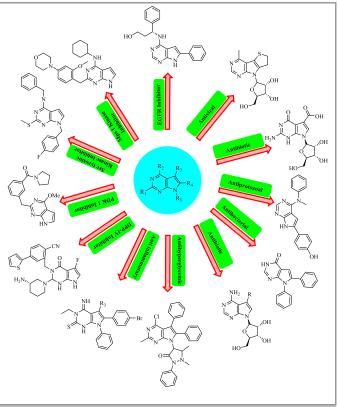
## 1. Introduction

There is a worldwide demand for design and preparation of heterocyclic compounds by reactions with more than two components, by forming more than one carbon-carbon or carbon-heteroatom bond by environmentally and economically useful one-pot procedures, usually referred to as multicomponent reactions (MCRs). These have been proved to be powerful synthetic methods for the synthesis of polycyclic heterocycles with pharmaceutical and biological activities [1-7]. More than 70% of drugs in common use are now synthetic heterocyclic compounds [8-12].

MCRs have many advantages in comparison with classical reactions, such as fewer isolation and purification steps, with high atom-economy, low cost and energy consumption, short reaction time, using green solvents, high selectivity, environmentally friendly chemical processes, easy operation and more productivity with excellent chemo- and regio-selectivities [13-23].

1,2-Dicarbonyl compounds are among the most attractive precursors for the design and synthesis of heterocyclic compounds. Arylglyoxals (AG) are aromatic  $\alpha$ -keto aldehydes containing both aldehyde and ketone functional groups with different reactivity, and recently there has been a considerable literature on different reactions of AGs and their derivatives, such as allylation [24], arylation [25], reductive amination [23], reductive coupling with dienes [27], Wittig [28], Cannizzaro [29], Mannich [30] and Henry [31] reactions. The main purpose of this short review is to show the application of AGs as precursors in reactions that lead to the synthesis of the pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidine derivatives via multicomponent reactions in the period of 2008–2018.

Recently, fused-pyrimidine derivatives have received considerable attention due to their biological and pharmacological activities such as anti-AIDS [32], antifungal [33], antileishmanial [34], tuberculostatic [35], antimicrobial [36], antitumor [37], sedative [38], anti-inflammatory [39], antioxidant [40], analgesic [41] antiviral [42] anesthetic [43], acaricidal [44], anticancer [42], and antifolate [43]. These compounds are present in nucleosides such as pyrimidines, cytosine, uracil, guanine, thymine and purine adenine and their respective polymers, DNA and RNA [45,48].



Scheme 1. Structures of few medicinally heterocyclic fused pyrimidines



As the natural bases do not have any fluorescence, several groups have been attached or the base itself has been modified [49,50]. Although these heterocyclic compounds have been known since the middle of the twentieth century [51,52], they were not extensively studied until the last few decades. More recently, the interest of the chemical and pharmaceutical industry in pyrimidines, heterocyclic fused also named deazapurines, has increased notably, resulting in a large increase in the number of patents, research papers, and reviews, all of which led to the introduction of several drugs in the market or late clinical stages (Scheme 1) [53-54].

## 1.1. Arylglyoxals

Phenylglyoxal (PG), the simplest member of this family, is a yellow liquid that polymerizes upon standing. Upon heating, it loses a molecule of water and the polymeric material changes to the aldehyde form or anhydrous AG. To form the colorless crystalline hydrate, PG should be recrystallized in hot water. The

**Table 1.** Various methods for the synthesis of AGs

AG-hydrate appears to contain one molecule of water (Scheme 2).

#### Scheme 2. Structures of Arylglyoxals

AGs contain aldehyde and ketone functional groups with different reactivity, the reactivity of the aldehyde group is greater than that of benzaldehyde because of the electron-withdrawing keto group and reacts quickly with different nucleophiles, the resulting product then undergoing cyclization in a number of ways. The resulting products have received considerable attention due to their biological and pharmacological activities, such as selective bronchodilators such as salbutamol and terbutaline, used for their selective and antiviral activity in the embryonated egg against several viruses, including influenza (PR-8) and newcastle disease (NJKD strain) viruses [55-57].

Entry	Method	Condition	Ref.
	Oxidation of aryl methyl ketones	SeO <sub>2</sub> , dioxane-water, reflux	[56], [58 <b>-</b> 61]
		H <sub>2</sub> SeO <sub>3</sub> , dioxane-water, reflux, 4 h	[62]
1		SeO <sub>2</sub> , EtOH, 10% HNO <sub>3</sub> (aq), 90 °C ,1h	[63]
		$(PhSe)_2$ , $(NH_4)_2S_2O_8$ , MeOH, reflux, 1–4h	[64]
		48% HBr (aq), DMSO, 55 °C, 0.5–24 h	[65]
	Oxidation of phenacylbromides	DMSO, rt, 9 h	[66]
2		α-picoline n-oxide, 0 °C, then Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> , water	[67]
		Et <sub>2</sub> NOH, MeOH, reflux, 2 h	[68]
3	Oxidation of phenacyl nitrate esters	NaOAc·3H <sub>2</sub> O, DMSO, 20-25 °C, 25-55 min	[69]
4	Oxidation of $\alpha$ -diazo ketones	DMDO, acetone, rt	[70]
	Oxidation of aryl acetylenes	(HMPA)MoO(O <sub>2</sub> ), Hg(OAc) <sub>2</sub> , DCE-MeOH,0 °C, 15 min	[71]
5		NBS, dry DMSO, rt,20 h	[72]
		(PhSe) <sub>2</sub> , (NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> O <sub>8</sub> , water-CH <sub>3</sub> CN, 60 °C,then chromatographed on SiO <sub>2</sub> , DCM-ROH (99/1)	[73]
6	Reaction of methyl benzoates with KDMSO then oxidation	<ul> <li>(1) DMSO, KOt-Bu, t-BuOH, rt, 4 h, then HCl, water, rt, 30 h</li> <li>(2) Cu(OAc)<sub>2</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O, CHCl3, rt, 1 h</li> </ul>	[74]
7	Reaction of organolithium compounds with diethoxyacetylpiperidine	piperidine-1-yl-COCH(OEt) <sub>2</sub> , <i>p</i> -Me <sub>2</sub> NC <sub>6</sub> HLi, Ether, reflux, 2h,then HCl, water, N <sub>2</sub> (atm.), rt, 41 h	[56]
8	Chlorination of aryl methyl ketones	1,3-Cl <sub>2</sub> -5,5-Me <sub>2</sub> hydantoin, Cu(OTf) <sub>2</sub> , CHCl <sub>3</sub> , reflux, 5-8 h	[75]

## 1.2. Synthesis of Arylglyoxals

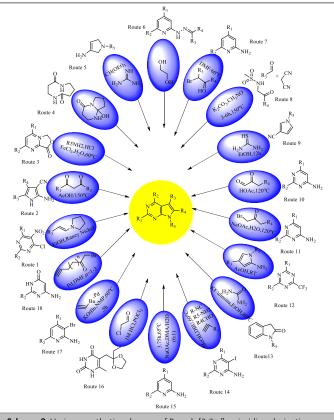
Various methods have been reported for synthesis of AGs in the literature. One of the most important

methods for their preparation is by oxidation of aryl methyl ketones by  $SeO_2$ . A compilation of methods to synthesize AGs, along with experimental procedures are summarized in Table 1.



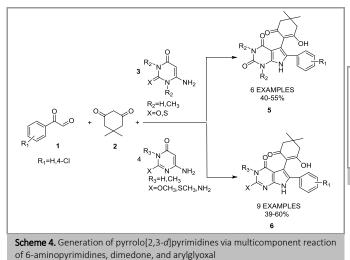
## 1.3. Pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidine derivatives

Considerable effort has been made to synthesis a series of pyrrolo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidines and their derivatives, to optimise yield and purity. The major synthetic schemes are summarised in (Scheme 3) [55].



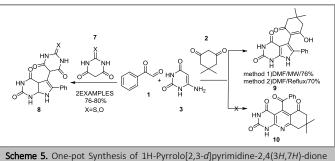
Scheme 3. Various synthetic schemes of Pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidine derivatives

Quiroga and his coworkers reported the formation of several unexpected pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidine derivatives **5** by a one-pot, three component reaction of aminopyrimidines **3** or **4** with dimedone **2**, and arylglyoxals **1** (Scheme 4) [76].



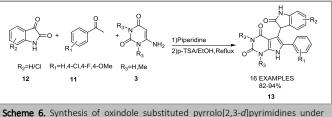
Shaker and his group designed the synthesis of new pyrrolo[2,3-d] pyrimidine-2,4-diones **8** or pyrimido[5,4-b] quinoline2,4,9(1*H*,3*H*,5*H*)-triones **9** 

by reaction of 5-aminouracil 3, dimedone 2 or barbituric acid 7 with phenylglyoxal hydrate 1 in DMF under controlled microwave heating for 20 min at 160  $^{\circ}$ C (Scheme 5) [77].



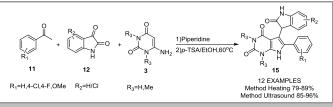
Derivatives Using Controlled Microwave Heating

Rad-Moghadam investigated the synthesis of the oxindolylpyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidines **13**, by a threecomponent reaction of the model substrates 6-amino-1,3-dimethyluracil **3** and acetophenone **11** instead of AG, the best yield of the product being obtained by the sequential use of piperidine (10 mol %) and ptoluenesulfonic acid (p-TSA, 40 mol %) in refluxing ethanol at 80 °C , which afforded the products 13 in good yields (Scheme 6) [78].



**Scheme 6.** Synthesis of oxindole substituted pyrrolo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidines und ultrasound irradiation

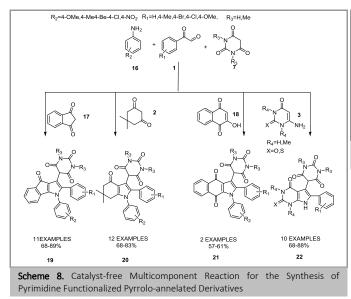
In another study, Azimi and his coworkers developed the synthesis of 1,3-dimethyl-5-(2-oxoindolin-3-yl)-6-phenyl-1*H*-pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidine-2,4(3*H*,7*H*)-dione analogues **15** under various reaction conditions and catalysts, by the reaction of acetophenone **11** and isatin **12** and 6-amino-1,3-dimethyluracil **3** as a model reaction (Scheme 7) [79].



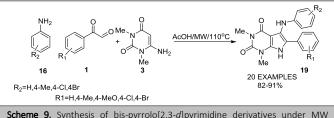
Scheme 7. Synthesis of bis-pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidine derivatives with isatin

Dommaraju and coworkers developed a methodology based on a two-step sequence using 4-methoxy- aniline **16**, 1,3-dimethyl barbituric acid **7** and 4-methyl phenylglyoxal **1** with 1,3-indanedione **17** or dimedone **2** or 2-hydroxy-1,4-naphtaquinone **18** or 6-aminouracil **3** in equimolar quantities into a one-pot reaction in ethanol (Scheme 8) [80].



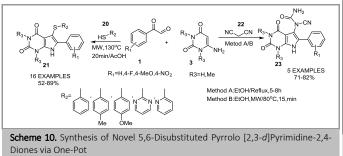


Naidu and co-workers reported the use of microwave irradiation for the three component reaction of N,N-dimethyl-6-aminouracil **3**, phenylglyoxal **1**, and aniline **16** at 100 ° C for 5 min, achieving an excellent yield of 84% when acetic acid was used as a solvent, without any added catalyst (Scheme 9) [81].

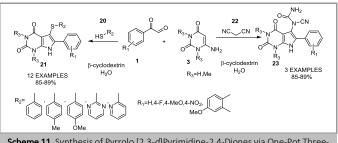


**Scheme 9.** Synthesis of bis-pyrrolo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine derivatives under MW irradiations

Choudhury's group synthesized pyrrolo[2,3*d*]pyrimidine derivatives **21** and **23** by the reaction of phenylglyoxal 1, 6-amino-1,3-dimethyluracil **3** and 2mercaptopyrimidine **20** or malononitrile **22** under microwave heating conditions (Scheme 10) [82].

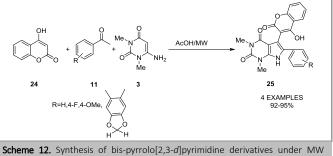


Yadav and co-workers reported a one-pot, four component biomimetic protocol for the synthesis of pyrrolo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine **23** for the first time, by employing 6-aminouracil **3**, malononitrile **22** and arylglyoxal monohydrates **1** in aqueous  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin (Scheme 11) [83].



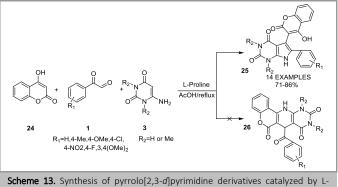
**Scheme 11.** Synthesis of Pyrrolo [2,3-*d*] Pyrimidine-2,4-Diones via One-Pot Three-Component Reactions

A simple and efficient method for the synthesis of a series pyrrolo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine derivatives **25** with excellent yields was reported by Choudhury and coworkers. The reaction was performed between acetophenone **11** instead of AG **1**, 4-hydroxycoumarin **24**, and 6-aminouracil **3** under MW conditions in AcOH for the synthesis of to pyrrolo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine derivatives **25** (Scheme 12) [84].



Scheme 12. Synthesis of bis-pyrrolo[2,3-d]pyrimidine derivatives under MW conditions

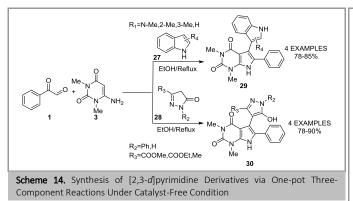
Javahershenas and Khalafy reported a new method for the synthesis of pyrrolo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine derivatives **25** through the one-pot, three-component reaction of 4hydroxycoumarin **24**, arylglyoxal **1** and 6-aminouracil **3** or 1,3- dimethyl-6-aminouracil **3** catalyzed by Lproline as catalyst (Scheme 13) [85].



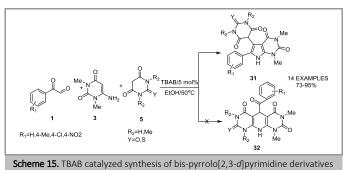
proline Khurana and coworkers reported the microwave assisted synthesis of some novel 5-substituted 6-phenyl pyrrolo[2,3-*d*]-pyrimidine derivatives **29** and **30** by one-pot three-component condensation of arylglyoxal **1**, 6-amino-1,3dimethyluracil **3** and indole derivatives **27** or 1*H*-pyrazol-5(4*H*)-one derivatives **28** by refluxing in ethanol under catalyst-free conditions



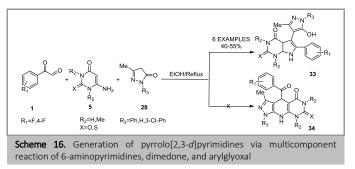
(Scheme 14) [86].



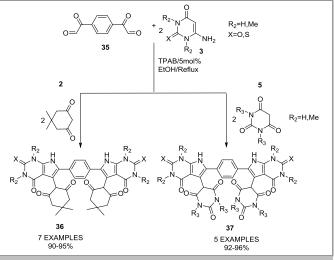
In another study, Javahershenas and Khalafy reported an efficient procedure for the reaction of arylglyoxals **1** with 6-amino-1,3dimethyluracil **3** and barbituric acid derivatives **5** in the presence of TBAB (5 mol%) in ethanol at 50 °C, affording polyfunctionalized pyrrolo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine derivatives **31** in high yields with no sign of any dihydropyrido[2,3-*d*:6,5*d*']dipyrimidine derivatives **32** (Scheme 15) [87].



The new indole derivatives pyrrolo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine **33** have been synthesized from arylglyoxals **1** with 6-amino-uracil derivatives **5** and 5-methyl-2,4-dihydro-3*H*-pyrazol-3-one derivatives **28** in the presence of sulfamic acid as an efficient catalyst by Bayat and coworkers (Scheme 16) [88].



Khalafy and coworkers used TPAB as catalyst in the reaction between 1,4-phenylene-bis-glyoxal **35**, 6-aminouracil derivatives **3**, and barbituric acid derivatives **5** or dimedone **2** in a one-pot, three-component reaction in EtOH under reflux conditions for the synthesis of bis-pyrrolo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine derivatives **36** and **37** in high yields (Scheme 17) [89].



**Scheme 17.** Synthesis of pyrazolo substituted pyrrolo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidines

## 2. Conclusion

This study presented an overview of the recent literature on application of the arylglyoxals for synthesis of the pyrrolo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidines via multicomponent reactions over the last decades. In the light of our studies, we found that, arylglyoxals have been frequently utilized for synthesis of various organic compounds including, pyrrolo[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine derivatives, which are influential because of their biological and medicinal characteristics.

## Acknowledgment

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## Abbreviations

AcOH	acetic acid
AGs	arylglyoxals
AcO	acetate
aq	aqueous
DMF	N,N-dimethylformamide
DMDO	dimethyldioxirane
DCE	1,2-dichloroethane
DBU	1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-
ene	
DMA	dimethylacetamide
DCM	dichloromethane
DMSO	dimethylsulfoxide
HMPA	hexamethylphosphoramide
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
NMP	N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone
NBS	N-bromosuccinimide
MW	microwave
MCR	multicomponent reaction
PG	phenylglyoxal



<i>p</i> -TsOH	p-toluenesulfonic acid
rt	room temperature
TBAB	tetrabutylammonium bromide
TPAB	tetrapropylammonium bromide

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