(19) DANMARK

(10) DK/EP 3562487 T3

(12) Oversættelse af europæisk patentskrift

Patent- og Varemærkestyrelsen

(51) Int.Cl.: *C 07 D 403/04 (2006.01)* *A 61 K 31/437 (2006.01)* *A 61 K 31/501 (2006.01)*
A 61 P 1/00 (2006.01) *A 61 P 3/00 (2006.01)* *A 61 P 9/00 (2006.01)*
A 61 P 35/00 (2006.01) *C 07 D 401/14 (2006.01)* *C 07 D 403/14 (2006.01)*
C 07 D 405/14 (2006.01) *C 07 D 417/14 (2006.01)* *C 07 D 471/04 (2006.01)*

(45) Oversættelsen bekendtgjort den: **2024-01-02**

(80) Dato for Den Europæiske Patentmyndigheds bekendtgørelse om meddelelse af patentet: **2023-11-29**

(86) Europæisk ansøgning nr.: **17887556.3**

(86) Europæisk indleveringsdag: **2017-12-22**

(87) Den europæiske ansøgnings publiceringsdag: **2019-11-06**

(86) International ansøgning nr.: **US2017068190**

(87) Internationalt publikationsnr.: **WO2018125800**

(30) Prioritet: **2016-12-29 US 201662440181 P**

(84) Designerede stater: **AL AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC MK MT NL NO PL PT RO RS SE SI SK SM TR**

(73) Patenthaver: **Ji Xing Pharmaceuticals Hong Kong Limited, Room 1902, 19/F, Lee Garden One , 33 Hysan Avenue , Causeway Bay, Hong Kong, Hong Kong**

(72) Opfinder: **SPARKS, Steven, 1451 Big Leaf Loop, Apex, NC 27502, USA**
YATES, Christopher, M., 6201 Therfield Drive, Raleigh, NC 27614, USA
SHAVER, Sammy, R., 30167 Pharr, Chapel Hill, NC 27517, USA
HOEKSTRA, William, J., 7 Treviso Place, Durham, NC 27707, USA

(74) Fuldmægtig i Danmark: **Plougmann Vingtoft A/S, Strandvejen 70, 2900 Hellerup, Danmark**

(54) Benævnelse: **METALLOENZYMINHIBITORFORBINDELSER**

(56) Fremdragne publikationer:
WO-A1-2005/111018
WO-A1-2012/012478
WO-A1-2013/034047
WO-A1-2018/118781
WO-A2-2009/156462
US-A1- 2008 255 085
PINDUR, U. ET AL.: "Cyclization reactions of 2,2'-bis-N-methylindolyl to potential protein kinase C inhibitors", HETEROCYCLES, vol. 18, no. 95, 1994, pages 2267-2276, XP008090052, ISSN: 0385-5414
PAPILLON, J.P.N. ET AL.: "Discovery of N -[5-(6-Chloro-3-cyano-1-methyl-1 H -indol-2-yl)-pyridin-3-ylmethyl]-ethanesul fonamide, a Cortisol-Sparing CYP11B2 Inhibitor that Lowers Aldosterone in Human Subjects", JOURNAL OF MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY, vol. 58, no. 23, 2015, pages 9382-9394, XP055715085, ISSN: 0022-2623, DOI: 10.1021/acs.jmedchem.5b01545

Fortsættes ...

MEREDITH, E.L. ET AL.: "Discovery and in Vivo Evaluation of Potent Dual CYP11B2 (Aldosterone Synthase) and CYP11B1 Inhibitors", ACS MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY LETTERS, vol. 4, no. 12, 2013, pages 1203-1207, XP002755995, ISSN: 1948-5875, DOI: 10.1021/ML400324C [retrieved on 2013-10-17]
HOYT et al.: "Discovery of Benzimidazole CYP11 B2 Inhibitors with in Vivo Activity in Rhesus Monkeys", ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters, vol. 6, 7 April 2015 (2015-04-07), pages 573-578, XP055534685,
DATABASE Pubchem 21 June 2010 (2010-06-21), XP055534690, Database accession no. 45792664

DESCRIPTION

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] The present application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 62/440,181, filed December 29, 2016.

BACKGROUND

[0002] Aldosterone is a steroid hormone secreted from the adrenal gland which binds and activates the mineralocorticoid receptor (MR). In the primary cells of the distal tubules and collecting ducts of the kidney MR activation leads to sodium and water retention with excretion of potassium, resulting in plasma volume expansion leading to increased blood pressure (BP). Excess aldosterone measured in circulation is termed primary aldosteronism (PA) and occurs when aldosterone production is dysregulated by the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system (RAAS). PA was initially identified in patients with adrenal adenomas, with recent evidence suggesting an increase in prevalence associated with obesity. PA is a common cause of secondary hypertension with the prevalence of PA ranging from 14-21% in patients with resistant hypertension (RHTN), a condition defined as BP remaining above goal despite the concurrent use of 3 antihypertensive agents of different classes, including a diuretic agent. Recent studies have shown an association between excess aldosterone, RHTN, and obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) which is worsened by aldosterone-mediated fluid retention.

[0003] Local overproduction of aldosterone has been noted in several severe disease states even when no significant plasma elevation is observed. In patients with chronic congestive heart failure (CHF), aldosterone levels in failing heart tissue is higher than in peripheral plasma. In animal models of kidney disease, local production of aldosterone in the renal cortex is postulated to contribute to disease progression. In both these states, local elevated aldosterone levels contribute to harmful effects via both MR-dependent and MR-independent mechanisms including the generation of reactive oxygen species and endothelial dysfunction leading to inflammation and stimulation of cell growth and proliferation, with upregulated collagen deposition leading to fibrosis.

[0004] Antagonists of MR, including spironolactone and eplerenone, have been extensively used to block the effects of aldosterone binding to MR. Significant reductions in morbidity and mortality in patients with heart failure or myocardial infarction have been demonstrated with these agents in combination with angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors and diuretics (RALES & EPHESUS trials). Side effects including hyperkalemia are seen with both agents with the nonselective spironolactone also eliciting gynaecomastia via nonselective modulation of the progesterone and androgen receptors. Additionally, elevations of renin and aldosterone result from MR antagonism and thus the MR-independent (non-genomic) effects of aldosterone are exacerbated.

[0005] In contrast to MR antagonists, inhibition of CYP11B2 (aldosterone synthase), the key enzyme in aldosterone biosynthesis, should afford the beneficial effects of MR antagonism without the deleterious buildup of aldosterone leading to activation of MR-independent inflammatory and fibrotic

states. CYP11B2 is a mitochondrial cytochrome P450 enzyme which which converts 11-deoxycorticosterone to aldosterone. Selective inhibition of CYP11B2 represents a promising treatment for aldosterone related diseases.

[0006] The highly homologous metalloenzyme CYP11B1 (11-β-steroid-hydroxylase) catalyzes the formation of the primary glucocorticoid cortisol from 11-deoxycortisol. Given the high degree of homology between CYP11B2 and CYP11B1 (93%), the development of selective CYP11B2 inhibitors has been a significant challenge. The inhibitor Osilodrostat (LCI-699) was developed as a CYP11B2 inhibitor for the treatment of hypertension but was abandoned due to its potent inhibition of CYP11B1. Selective compounds which block the production of aldosterone via CYP11B2 without inhibition of cortisol production via CYP11B1 are described herein.

[0007] Living organisms have developed tightly regulated processes that specifically import metals, transport them to intracellular storage sites and ultimately transport them to sites of use. One of the most useful functions of metals such as zinc and iron in biological systems is to enable the activity of metalloenzymes. Metalloenzymes are enzymes that incorporate metal ions into the enzyme active site and utilize the metal as a part of the catalytic process. More than one-third of all characterized enzymes are metalloenzymes.

[0008] The function of metalloenzymes is highly dependent on the presence of the metal ion in the active site of the enzyme. It is well recognized that agents which bind to and inactivate the active site metal ion dramatically decrease the activity of the enzyme. Nature employs this same strategy to decrease the activity of certain metalloenzymes during periods in which the enzymatic activity is undesirable. For example, the protein TIMP (tissue inhibitor of metalloproteases) binds to the zinc ion in the active site of various matrix metalloprotease enzymes and thereby arrests the enzymatic activity. The pharmaceutical industry has used the same strategy in the design of therapeutic agents. For example, the azole antifungal agents fluconazole and voriconazole contain a 1-(1,2,4-triazole) group that binds to the heme iron present in the active site of the target enzyme lanosterol demethylase and thereby inactivates the enzyme. Another example includes the zinc-binding hydroxamic acid group that has been incorporated into most published inhibitors of matrix metalloproteinases and histone deacetylases. Another example is the zinc-binding carboxylic acid group that has been incorporated into most published angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors.

[0009] In the design of clinically safe and effective metalloenzyme inhibitors, use of appropriate metal-binding groups for any particular target and clinical indication is desirable. If a weakly binding metal-binding group is utilized, potency may be suboptimal. On the other hand, if a very tightly binding metal-binding group is utilized, selectivity for the target enzyme versus related metalloenzymes may be suboptimal. The lack of optimal selectivity can be a cause for clinical toxicity due to unintended inhibition of these off-target metalloenzymes. One example of such clinical toxicity is the unintended inhibition of human drug metabolizing enzymes such as CYP2C9, CYP2C19 and CYP3A4 by the currently-available azole antifungal agents such as fluconazole and voriconazole. It is believed that this off-target inhibition is caused primarily by the indiscriminate binding of the currently utilized 1-(1,2,4-triazole) to iron in the active site of CYP2C9, CYP2C19 and CYP3A4. Another example of this is the joint pain that has been observed in many clinical trials of matrix metalloproteinase inhibitors. This toxicity is considered to be related to inhibition of off-target metalloenzymes due to indiscriminate binding of the hydroxamic acid group to zinc in the off-target active sites.

[0010] Therefore, the search for metal-binding groups that can achieve a better balance of potency and selectivity remains an important goal and would be significant in the realization of therapeutic agents and methods to address currently unmet needs in treating and preventing diseases, disorders and symptoms thereof.

[0011] Pindur, Ulf, Y-S. Kim, Schollmeyer, D. Cyclization Reactions of 2, 2'-Bis-N-methylindolyl to Potential Protein Kinase C Inhibitors, Heterocycles, 1994, 38(10), 2267-2276 discloses that 2,2'-Bis-N-methylindolyl (4) was used as the starting material in the syntheses of some indolo[2,3-a]carbazoles (6, 7, and 10a,b). Reaction of the bisindolyl (4) with 1,2,4,5-tetrazine-3,6-dicarboxylate - in the sense of a Diels-Alder reaction with inverse electron demand - gave rise to the pyridazino[b]indoles (11b, 11b') as an isolable mixture of diastereomers and additionally to a rearranged product (13).

[0012] WO 2005/111018 A1 relates to compounds of pyridazinone derivatives, which are kinase inhibitors, in particular inhibitors of the kinase GSK-15 30 (glycogen synthase kinase-3B).

[0013] WO 2013/034047 A1 relates to compounds of heterocyclic-substituted benzofuran derivatives that are useful as hepatitis C virus (HCV) NS5B polymerase inhibitors, the synthesis of such compounds, and the use of such compounds for inhibiting HCV NS5B polymerase activity, for treating or preventing HCV infections and for inhibiting HCV viral replication and/or viral production in a cell-based system.

[0014] WO 2018/118781 A1 discloses compounds of trifluoromethyl-oxadiazole derivatives including the compound 1-methyl-2-[6-[5-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl]-4-pyridazinyl]-1H-benzimidazole, and its geometric and stereoisomers, tautomers, N-oxides, and salts thereof, as well as compositions containing the compounds and methods for controlling plant disease caused by a fungal pathogen comprising applying an effective amount of the said compound or the said composition disclosed therein.

[0015] WO 2012/012478 A1 involves compounds of benzimidazole analogues and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof. The compounds are said to be effective at selectively inhibiting CYP11B2, and are therefore useful for the treatment or prophylaxis of disorders that are associated with elevated aldosterone levels, including, but not limited to, hypertension and heart failure.

[0016] Papillon, Julien PN, et al., Discovery of N-[5-(6-Chloro-3-cyano-1-methyl-1H-indol-2-yl)-pyridin-3-ylmethyl]-ethanesulfonamide, a Cortisol-Sparing CYP11B2 Inhibitor that Lowers Aldosterone in Human Subjects, Journal of Medicinal Chemistry, 2015, 58(23), 9382-9394 summarizes the discovery, pharmacokinetics, and pharmacodynamic data in preclinical species and human subjects of CYP11B2 inhibitor 8.

[0017] Meredith, E. L., et al., Discovery and in vivo evaluation of potent dual CYP11B2 (Aldosterone Synthase) and CYP11B1 inhibitors, ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters 2013, 4(12), 1203-1207 involves a series of imidazole derived inhibitors, including clinical candidate 7n, which have been identified through design and structure-activity relationship studies both in vitro and in vivo. Compound 7n was reported to be an inhibitor of 11β-hydroxylase (CYP11B1), which is responsible

for cortisol production. Inhibition of CYP11B1 is being evaluated in the clinic for potential treatment of hypercortisol diseases such as Cushing's syndrome.

[0018] WO 2009/156462 A2 provides organic compounds of 2-pyridin-3-yl-1H-indole derivates, methods of use, and pharmaceutical compositions thereof. The compounds may be used, for example, as modulators of aldosterone synthase, or inhibitors of aldosterone synthesis.

[0019] US 2008/255085 A1 discloses imidazo [4,5-b] pyridine derivatives as a base or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or solvate of salt thereof, processes for their preparation, intermediates used therein, pharmaceutical formulations containing said compounds and to the use of said compounds in therapy, including as inhibitors of glycogen synthase kinase 3 for use in the treatment of dementia and neurodegenerative disorders.

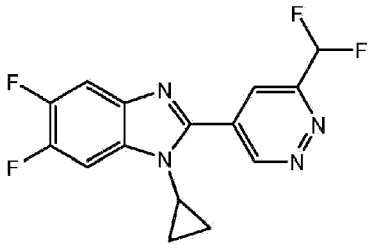
[0020] Hoyt, Scott B., et al., Discovery of benzimidazole CYP11B2 inhibitors with in vivo activity in rhesus monkeys, ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters, 2015, 6(5), 573-578 reports the discovery of a benzimidazole series of CYP11B2 inhibitors. Hit-to-lead and lead optimization studies identified compounds such as 32, which displays CYP11B2 inhibition, selectivity versus related CYP targets, and good pharmacokinetic properties in rat and rhesus. In a rhesus pharmacodynamic model, 32 produces dose-dependent aldosterone lowering efficacy, with no apparent effect on cortisol levels.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0021] The invention is directed towards compounds (e.g., any of those delineated herein; any of the formulae delineated herein) according to claim 1, pharmaceutical compositions comprising the said compounds according to claim 2 and the pharmaceutical compositions for use in treating hypertension and further diseases according to claims 3-5.

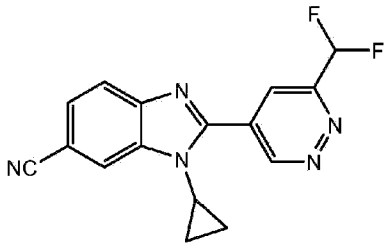
[0022] In particular, the present invention relates to a compound selected from:

1. a)



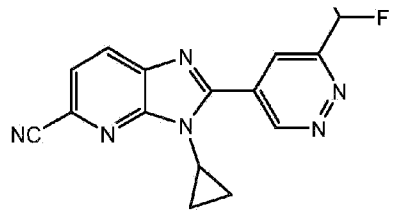
(42);

2. b)



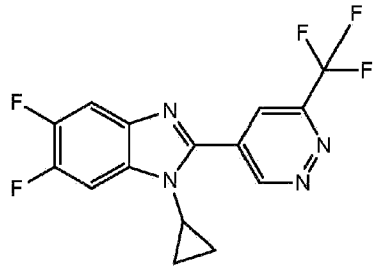
(66);

3. c)



(76);

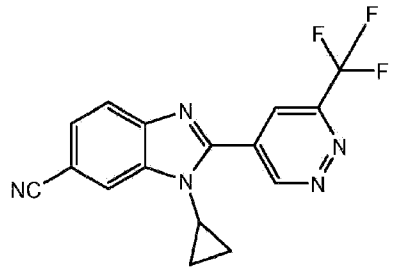
4. d)



(85);

and

5. e)

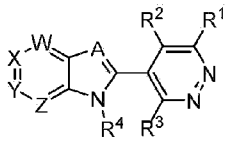


(86).

[0023] It is understood that the embodiments of the invention discussed below with respect to the preferred variable selections can be taken alone or in combination with one or more embodiments, or preferred variable selections, of the invention, as if each combination were explicitly listed herein.

[0024] References to methods of treatment in the summary and detailed description of the invention in this description are to be interpreted as references to the compounds, pharmaceutical compositions and medicaments of the present invention for use in a method for treatment of the human (or animal) body by therapy (or for diagnosis).

[0025] Compounds of Formula I are described. Not all compounds falling under general formula I are according to the invention. The present invention relates to compounds (42), (66), (76), (85) and (86). Described are compounds of Formula I:



I,

or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, co-crystals, tautomers, stereoisomers, solvates, hydrates, polymorphs, isotopically enriched derivatives, or prodrugs thereof, wherein:

A is N or CR^5;

W is N or CR^6;

X is N or CR^6;

Y is N or CR^6;

Z is N or CR^6;

provided that no more than two of W, X, Y, and Z are N;

R^1 is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, acyl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, haloalkyl, alkoxy, haloalkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, heterocycloalkylalkyl, NR^aR^b, $NHSO_2F^c$, $CH_2NR^aR^b$, $CH_2NHSO_2R^d$, CO_2R^e, COR^f, $S(O)R^d$, $S(O)_2R^d$, CH_2OR^f, or CR^eR^fOH, wherein any R^1 can be optionally substituted with 1-3 independent substituents R^7;

R^2 is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, alkyl, or haloalkyl;

or R^1 and R^2 together with the atoms to which they are attached form an aryl, heterocycloalkyl, or cycloalkyl ring;

R^3 is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, acyl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, haloalkyl, alkoxy, haloalkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, heterocycloalkylalkyl, NR^aR^b, $NHSO_2R^c$, $CH_2NR^aR^b$, $CH_2NHSO_2R^{11}$, CO_2R^e, COR^f, CH_2OR^f, or CR^eR^fOH;

R^4 is alkyl, cycloalkyl, haloalkyl, or heteroalkyl;

R^5 is hydrogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, heteroalkyl, or cycloalkyl;

each occurrence of R^6 is, independently, hydrogen, halogen, cyano, haloalkyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkoxy, haloalkyl, or carboxyl;

each occurrence of R^7 is, independently, halogen, alkyl, alkoxy, haloalkyl, carboxyl, aryl, aryl substituted with 1-3 independent halogen, $-(CH_2)nC(O)NR^gR^h$, $-S(O)_2R^i$, $-CO_2R^j$, or NR^gR^h;

each n is independently 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, or 10;

each occurrence of R^a, R^b, R^c, R^d, R^e, and R^f is, independently, hydrogen, acyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, heteroalkyl, haloalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, $C(O)OC_{1-6}$ alkyl, $C(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, a nitrogen protecting group when attached to a nitrogen atom, or an oxygen protecting group when attached to an oxygen atom; or R^a and R^b together with the atoms to which they are attached form a heterocycloalkyl ring; or R^e and R^f together with the atoms to which they are attached form a cycloalkyl ring; and

each occurrence of R^g, R^h, R^i, and R^i is, independently, hydrogen, acyl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, heteroalkyl, haloalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, $C(O)OC_{1-6}$ alkyl, $C(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, or

R^g and R^h together with the atoms to which they are attached form a heterocycloalkyl ring.

[0026] In certain cases, R^1 is aryl, heteroaryl, or heterocycloalkyl, wherein any R^1 can be optionally substituted with 1-3 independent substituents R^7.

[0027] In certain cases, R^1 is aryl, heteroaryl, or heterocycloalkyl, wherein any R^1 can be optionally substituted with 1-3 independent substituents R^7, and each R^7 is, independently, halogen, alkyl, alkoxy, haloalkyl, carboxyl, $-(CH_2)nC(O)NR^gR^h$, $-S(O)_2R^i$, $-CO_2R^i$, or NR^gR^h, and each R^g and R^h is, independently, hydrogen, alkyl, $C(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, or R^g and R^h together with the atoms to which they are attached form a heterocycloalkyl ring.

[0028] In certain cases, R^1 is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, haloalkyl, alkoxy, haloalkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, aryl, NR^aR^b, $NHSO_2R^c$, $CH_2NR^aR^b$, $CH_2NHSO_2R^d$, COR^f, or CR^eR^fOH; or R^1 and R^2 together with the atoms to which they are attached form an aryl ring.

[0029] In certain cases, R^1 is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, alkoxy, haloalkoxy, cycloalkoxy, aryl, NR^aR^b, $CH_2NHSO_2R^d$, or CR^eR^fOH; or R^1 and R^2 together with the atoms to which they are attached form an aryl ring.

[0030] In certain cases, R^1 is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, $CH_2NHSO_2R^d$, or NR^aR^b; and R^a, R^b, and R^d are, independently, hydrogen, alkyl, or haloalkyl.

[0031] In certain cases, R^1 is alkyl or haloalkyl.

[0032] In certain cases, R^1 is C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} haloalkyl.

[0033] In certain cases, R^1 is haloalkyl.

[0034] In certain cases, R^1 is C_{1-6} haloalkyl.

[0035] In certain cases, R^1 is fluoroalkyl. In certain cases, R^1 is C_{1-6} fluoroalkyl. In certain cases, R^1 is C_{1-3} fluoroalkyl. In certain cases, R^1 is difluoromethyl or trifluoromethyl. In certain cases, R^1 is difluoromethyl. In certain cases, R^1 is trifluoromethyl.

[0036] In certain cases, R^2 is hydrogen or alkyl.

[0037] In certain cases, R^2 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl.

[0038] In certain cases, R^2 is hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl.

[0039] In certain cases, R^2 is alkyl. In certain cases, R^2 is C_{1-6} alkyl. In certain cases, R^2 is C_{1-3} alkyl. In certain cases, R^2 is hydrogen.

[0040] In certain cases, R^1 is hydrogen and R^2 is alkyl. In certain cases, R^1 is hydrogen and R^2 is C_{1-6} alkyl. In certain cases, R^1 is hydrogen and R^2 is C_{1-3} alkyl.

[0041] In certain cases, R^4 is alkyl or cycloalkyl.

[0042] In certain cases, R^4 is C_{1-4} alkyl or C_{3-5} cycloalkyl.

[0043] In certain cases, R^4 is C_{1-4} alkyl. In certain cases, R^4 is C_{3-5} cycloalkyl. In certain cases, R^4 is cyclopentyl. In certain cases, R^4 is cyclobutyl. In certain cases, R^4 is cyclopropyl.

[0044] In certain cases, each R^6 is, independently, hydrogen, halogen, cyano, alkoxy, haloalkyl, or carboxyl.

[0045] In certain cases, each R^6 is, independently, hydrogen, halogen, or cyano.

[0046] In certain cases, each R^6 is, independently, hydrogen, chloro, fluoro, or cyano.

[0047] In certain cases, each R^6 is, independently, hydrogen, fluoro, or cyano.

[0048] In certain cases, each R^6 is, independently, hydrogen, or halogen.

[0049] In certain cases, each R^6 is, independently, hydrogen, chloro, or fluoro.

[0050] In certain cases, each R^6 is, independently, hydrogen or fluoro.

[0051] In certain cases, each R^6 is, independently, hydrogen or cyano.

[0052] In certain cases, each R^6 is halogen. In certain cases, each R^6 is chloro or fluoro. In certain cases, each R^6 is fluoro. In certain cases, each R^6 is cyano.

[0053] In certain cases, A is CR^5 and R^5 is hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, or C_{3-5} cycloalkyl.

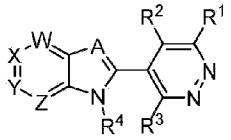
[0054] In certain cases, A is N.

[0055] In certain cases, no more than one of W, X, Y, and Z is N.

[0056] In certain cases, W, X, Y, and Z are each CR^6.

[0057] In certain cases, Z is N.

[0058] Not all compounds falling under general formula I are according to the invention. The present invention relates to compounds (42), (66), (76), (85) and (86). Described are compounds of Formula I:



I,

or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, co-crystals, tautomers, stereoisomers, solvates, hydrates, polymorphs, isotopically enriched derivatives, or prodrugs thereof, wherein:

A is N or CR^5;

W is N or CR^6;

X is N or CR^6;

Y is N or CR^6;

Z is N or CR^6;

provided that no more than two of W, X, Y, and Z are N;

R^1 is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, acyl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, haloalkyl, alkoxy, haloalkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, heterocycloalkylalkyl, NR^aR^b, $NHSO_2R^c$, $CH_2NR^aR^b$, $CR^eR^fNHSO_2R^d$, OR^f, SR^f, CO_2R^e, COR^f, $S(O)R^d$, $S(O)_2R^d$, CH_2OR^f, or CR^eR^fOH, wherein any R^1 can be optionally substituted with 1-3 independent substituents R^7;

R^2 is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, alkyl, or haloalkyl;

or R^1 and R^2 together with the atoms to which they are attached form an aryl, heterocycloalkyl, or cycloalkyl ring;

R^3 is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, acyl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, haloalkyl, alkoxy, haloalkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, heterocycloalkylalkyl, NR^aR^b, $NHSO_2R^c$, $CH_2NR^aR^b$, $CH_2NHSO_2R^d$, CO_2R^e, COR^f, CH_2OR^f, or CR^eR^fOH;

R^4 is alkyl, cycloalkyl, haloalkyl, or heteroalkyl;

R^5 is hydrogen, cyano, alkyl, haloalkyl, heteroalkyl, or cycloalkyl;

each occurrence of R^6 is, independently, hydrogen, halogen, cyano, haloalkyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkoxy, haloalkyl, OR^f, or carboxyl;

each occurrence of R^7 is, independently, halogen, alkyl, alkoxy, haloalkyl, carboxyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, aryl substituted with 1-3 independent halogen, $-(CH_2)nC(O)NR^gR^h$, $-S(O)_2R^i$, $-CO_2R^j$, or NR^gR^h;

each n is independently 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, or 10;

each occurrence of R^a, R^b, R^c, R^d, R^e, and R^f is, independently, hydrogen, acyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, heteroalkyl, haloalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, $C(O)OC_{1-6}$ alkyl, $C(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, a nitrogen protecting group when attached to a nitrogen atom, or an oxygen protecting group when attached to an oxygen atom; or R^a and R^b together with the atoms to which they are attached form a heterocycloalkyl ring; or R^e and R^f together with the atoms to which they are attached form a cycloalkyl ring; and

each occurrence of R^g, R^h, R^i, and R^j is, independently, hydrogen, acyl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, heteroalkyl, haloalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, $C(O)OC_{1-6}$ alkyl, $C(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, or R^g and R^h together with the atoms to which they are attached form a heterocycloalkyl ring.

[0059] In certain cases, R^1 is aryl, heteroaryl, or heterocycloalkyl, wherein any R^1 can be optionally substituted with 1-3 independent substituents R^7.

[0060] In certain cases, R^1 is aryl, heteroaryl, or heterocycloalkyl, wherein any R^1 can be optionally substituted with 1-3 independent substituents R^7, and each R^7 is, independently, halogen, alkyl, alkoxy, haloalkyl, carboxyl, $-(CH_2)nC(O)NR^gR^h$, $-S(O)_2R^i$, $-CO_2R^j$, or NR^gR^h, and each R^g and R^h is, independently, hydrogen, alkyl, $C(O)C_{1-6}$ alkyl, or R^g and R^h together with the atoms to which they are attached form a heterocycloalkyl ring.

[0061] In certain cases, R^1 is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, haloalkyl, alkoxy, haloalkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, aryl, NR^aR^b, $NHSO_2R^c$, $CH_2NR^aR^b$, $CR^eR^fNHSO_2R^d$, SR^f, COR^f, or CR^eR^fOH; or R^1 and R^2 together with the atoms to which they are attached form an aryl or cycloalkyl ring.

[0062] In certain cases, R^1 is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, alkenyl, haloalkyl, alkoxy, haloalkoxy, cycloalkoxy, aryl, NR^aR^b, $CR^eR^fNHSO_2R^d$, SR^f, or CR^eR^fOH; or R^1 and R^2 together with the atoms to which they are attached form an aryl or cycloalkyl ring.

[0063] In certain cases, R^1 is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, $CR^eR^fNHSO_2R^d$, SR^f, or NR^aR^b; and R^a, R^b, R^d, R^e, and R^f are, independently, hydrogen, alkyl, or haloalkyl.

[0064] In certain cases, R^1 is SR^f. In certain cases, R^1 is SR^f; and R^f is hydrogen, alkyl, or haloalkyl.

[0065] In certain cases, R^1 is alkyl or haloalkyl.

[0066] In certain cases, R^1 is C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{1-6} haloalkyl.

[0067] In certain cases, R^1 is haloalkyl.

[0068] In certain cases, R^1 is C_{1-6} haloalkyl.

[0069] In certain cases, R^1 is fluoroalkyl. In certain cases, R^1 is C_{1-6} fluoroalkyl. In certain cases, R^1 is C_{1-3} fluoroalkyl. In certain cases, R^1 is difluoromethyl or trifluoromethyl. In certain cases, R^1 is difluoromethyl. In certain cases, R^1 is trifluoromethyl.

[0070] In certain cases, R^2 is hydrogen or alkyl.

[0071] In certain cases, R^2 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl.

[0072] In certain cases, R^2 is hydrogen or C_{1-3} alkyl.

[0073] In certain cases, R^2 is alkyl. In certain cases, R^2 is C_{1-6} alkyl. In certain cases, R^2 is C_{1-3} alkyl. In certain cases, R^2 is hydrogen.

[0074] In certain cases, R^1 is hydrogen and R^2 is alkyl. In certain cases, R^1 is hydrogen and R^2 is C_{1-6} alkyl. In certain cases, R^1 is hydrogen and R^2 is C_{1-3} alkyl.

[0075] In certain cases, R^1 and R^2 together with the atoms to which they are attached form an aryl or cycloalkyl ring. In certain cases, R^1 and R^2 together with the atoms to which they are attached form an aryl ring. In certain cases, R^1 and R^2 together with the atoms to which they are attached form cycloalkyl ring.

[0076] In certain cases, R^4 is alkyl or cycloalkyl.

[0077] In certain cases, R^4 is C_{1-4} alkyl or C_{3-5} cycloalkyl.

[0078] In certain cases, R^4 is C_{1-4} alkyl. In certain cases, R^4 is C_{3-5} cycloalkyl. In certain cases, R^4 is cyclopentyl. In certain cases, R^4 is cyclobutyl. In certain cases, R^4 is cyclopropyl.

[0079] In certain cases, each R^6 is, independently, hydrogen, halogen, cyano, alkoxy, haloalkyl, or carboxyl.

[0080] In certain cases, each R^6 is, independently, hydrogen, halogen, or cyano.

[0081] In certain cases, each R^6 is, independently, hydrogen, chloro, fluoro, or cyano.

[0082] In certain cases, each R^6 is, independently, hydrogen, fluoro, or cyano.

[0083] In certain cases, each R^6 is, independently, hydrogen, or halogen.

[0084] In certain cases, each R^6 is, independently, hydrogen, chloro, or fluoro.

[0085] In certain cases, each R^6 is, independently, hydrogen or fluoro.

[0086] In certain cases, each R^6 is, independently, hydrogen or cyano.

[0087] In certain cases, each R^6 is halogen. In certain cases, each R^6 is chloro or fluoro. In certain cases, each R^6 is fluoro. In certain cases, each R^6 is cyano.

[0088] In certain cases, A is CR^5 and R^5 is hydrogen, cyano, C_{1-4} alkyl, or C_{3-5} cycloalkyl.

[0089] In certain cases, A is N.

[0090] In certain cases, no more than one of W, X, Y, and Z is N.

[0091] In certain cases, W, X, Y, and Z are each independently CR^6.

[0092] In certain cases, Z is N.

[0093] The compounds according to the invention are selected from the group consisting of:

1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole (42);

1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1iH-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (66);

3-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-3H-imidazo[4, 5-b]pyridine-5-carbonitrile (76);

1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole (85);

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (86);

pharmaceutically acceptable salts, co-crystals, tautomers, stereoisomers, solvates, hydrates, polymorphs and isotopically enriched derivatives thereof.

[0094] In one case, the compound of Formula I is that wherein the compound inhibits (or is identified to inhibit) aldosterone synthase (CYP11B2).

[0095] The compounds herein include those wherein the compound is identified as attaining affinity,

at least in part, for a metalloenzyme by formation of one or more of the following types of chemical interactions or bonds to a metal: sigma bonds, covalent bonds, coordinate-covalent bonds, ionic bonds, pi bonds, delta bonds, or backbonding interactions. The compounds can also attain affinity through weaker interactions with the metal such as van der Waals interactions, pi cation interactions, pi-anion interactions, dipole-dipole interactions, ion-dipole interactions. In one aspect, the compound is identified as having a bonding interaction with the metal via the pyridazine moiety.

[0096] Methods for assessing metal-ligand binding interactions are known in the art as exemplified in references including, for example, "Principles of Bioinorganic Chemistry" by Lippard and Berg, University Science Books, (1994); "Mechanisms of Inorganic Reactions" by Basolo and Pearson John Wiley & Sons Inc; 2nd edition (September 1967); "Biological Inorganic Chemistry" by Ivano Bertini, Harry Gray, Ed Stiefel, Joan Valentine, University Science Books (2007); Xue et al. "Nature Chemical Biology", vol. 4, no. 2, 107-109 (2008).

[0097] In another aspect, provided are pharmaceutical compositions comprising the compound of the invention and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

[0098] Described are methods of modulating metalloenzyme activity in a subject, comprising contacting the subject with a compound of Formula I, in an amount and under conditions sufficient to modulate metalloenzyme activity.

[0099] Described are methods of treating a subject suffering from or susceptible to a disorder or disease, wherein the subject has been identified as in need of treatment for the disorder or disease, comprising administering to said subject in need thereof, an effective amount of a compound or pharmaceutical composition of Formula I, such that said subject is treated for said disorder.

[0100] In another case the subject is an animal other than a human.

[0101] Described are methods of treating a subject suffering from or susceptible to a metalloenzyme-related disorder or disease, comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of a compound or pharmaceutical composition of Formula I.

[0102] Described are methods of treating a subject suffering from or susceptible to a metalloenzyme-related disorder or disease, wherein the subject has been identified as in need of treatment for a metalloenzyme-related disorder or disease, comprising administering to said subject in need thereof, an effective amount of a compound or pharmaceutical composition of Formula I, such that said subject is treated for said disorder.

[0103] Described are methods of treating a subject suffering from or susceptible to a metalloenzyme-mediated disorder or disease, wherein the subject has been identified as in need of treatment for a metalloenzyme-mediated disorder or disease, comprising administering to said subject in need thereof, an effective amount of a compound or pharmaceutical composition of Formula I, such that metalloenzyme activity in said subject is modulated (e.g., down regulated, inhibited).

[0104] The methods herein include those wherein the disease or disorder is mediated by any of aromatase (CYP19), a member of the cyclooxygenase family, lanosterol demethylase (CYP51), a

member of the nitric oxide synthase family, thromboxane synthase (CYP5a), thyroid peroxidase, 17-alpha hydroxylase/17,20-lyase (CYP17), cytochrome P450 2A6 (CYP2A6), heme oxygenase, indoleamine 2,3-dioxygenase, retinoic acid hydroxylase (CYP26), vitamin D hydroxylase (CYP24), sterol 27-hydroxylase (CYP27), cytochrome P450 3A5 (CYP3A5), cholesterol 24-hydroxylase (CYP46), cytochrome P450 4F2 (CYP4F2), myeloperoxidase, or 11-beta-hydroxylase (CYP11B1).

[0105] The methods herein include those wherein the disease or disorder is cancer, cardiovascular disease, inflammatory disease, infectious disease, metabolic disease, ophthalmologic disease, central nervous system (CNS) disease, urologic disease, or gastrointestinal disease.

[0106] The methods herein include those wherein the disease or disorder is hypertension, resistant hypertension, morbidities associated with primary or secondary hyperaldosteronism and adrenal hyperplasia, pulmonary arterial hypertension, heart failure, diastolic dysfunction, left ventricular diastolic dysfunction, diastolic heart failure, systolic dysfunction, systolic heart failure, hypokalemia, renal failure, chronic renal failure, restenosis, nephropathy, post-myocardial infarction, coronary heart disease, fibrosis, diseases characterized by increased collagen formation, fibrosis and matrix remodeling following hypertension, fibrosis and matrix remodeling following endothelial cell dysfunction, cardiovascular diseases such as atherosclerosis, atrial fibrillation, renal dysfunction, liver diseases, non-alcoholic steatohepatitis, vascular diseases, retinopathy, neuropathy, insulinopathy, endothelial dysfunction, myocardial fibrosis, vascular fibrosis, myocardial necrotic lesions, vascular damage, myocardial infarction, left ventricular hypertrophy, vascular wall hypertrophy, endothelial thickening, fibrinoid necrosis of the arteries, kidney diseases, diabetic nephropathy, glomerulosclerosis, glomerulonephritis, nephritic syndrome, polycystic kidney disease, diabetes mellitus, metabolic syndrome, insulin resistance, sleep apnea, obstructive sleep apnea, muscular dystrophy, liver cirrhosis, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, renal disorders, diabetic renal disorders, or stroke.

[0107] Methods delineated herein include those wherein the subject is identified as in need of a particular stated treatment. Identifying a subject in need of such treatment can be in the judgment of a subject or a health care professional and can be subjective (e.g. opinion) or objective (e.g. measurable by a test or diagnostic method).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Definitions

[0108] In order that the invention may be more readily understood, certain terms are first defined here for convenience.

[0109] As used herein, the term "treating" a disorder encompasses preventing, ameliorating, mitigating and/or managing the disorder and/or conditions that may cause the disorder. The terms "treating" and "treatment" refer to a method of alleviating or abating a disease and/or its attendant symptoms. In accordance with the present disclosure "treating" includes preventing, blocking, inhibiting, attenuating, protecting against, modulating, reversing the effects of and reducing the

occurrence of e.g., the harmful effects of a disorder.

[0110] As used herein, "inhibiting" encompasses preventing, reducing and halting progression. Note that "enzyme inhibition" (e.g., metalloenzyme inhibition) is distinguished and described below.

[0111] The term "modulate" refers to increases or decreases in the activity of an enzyme in response to exposure to a compound of the present disclosure.

[0112] The terms "isolated," "purified," or "biologically pure" refer to material that is substantially or essentially free from components that normally accompany it as found in its native state. Purity and homogeneity are typically determined using analytical chemistry techniques such as polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis or high performance liquid chromatography. Particularly, in embodiments the compound is at least 85% pure, more preferably at least 90% pure, more preferably at least 95% pure, and most preferably at least 99% pure.

[0113] The term "administration" or "administering" includes routes of introducing the compound(s) to a subject to perform their intended function. Examples of routes of administration which can be used include injection (subcutaneous, intravenous, parenterally, intraperitoneally, intrathecal), topical, oral, inhalation, rectal and transdermal.

[0114] The term "effective amount" includes an amount effective, at dosages and for periods of time necessary, to achieve the desired result. An effective amount of compound may vary according to factors such as the disease state, age, and weight of the subject, and the ability of the compound to elicit a desired response in the subject. Dosage regimens may be adjusted to provide the optimum therapeutic response. An effective amount is also one in which any toxic or detrimental effects (e.g., side effects) of the inhibitor compound are outweighed by the therapeutically beneficial effects.

[0115] The phrases "systemic administration," "administered systemically", "peripheral administration" and "administered peripherally" as used herein mean the administration of a compound(s), drug or other material, such that it enters the patient's system and, thus, is subject to metabolism and other like processes.

[0116] The term "therapeutically effective amount" refers to that amount of the compound being administered sufficient to prevent development of or alleviate to some extent one or more of the symptoms of the condition or disorder being treated.

[0117] A therapeutically effective amount of compound (i.e., an effective dosage) may range from about 0.005 µg/kg to about 200 mg/kg, preferably about 0.01 mg/kg to about 200 mg/kg, more preferably about 0.015 mg/kg to about 30 mg/kg of body weight. In other embodiments, the therapeutically effect amount may range from about 1.0 pM to about 10 µM. The skilled artisan will appreciate that certain factors may influence the dosage required to effectively treat a subject, including but not limited to the severity of the disease or disorder, previous treatments, the general health and/or age of the subject, and other diseases present. Moreover, treatment of a subject with a therapeutically effective amount of a compound can include a single treatment or, preferably, can include a series of treatments. In one example, a subject is treated with a compound in the range of between about 0.005 µg/kg to about 200 mg/kg of body weight, one time per day for between about 1 to 10 weeks, preferably between 2 to 8 weeks, more preferably between about 3 to 7 weeks, and

even more preferably for about 4, 5, or 6 weeks. In another example, a subject may be treated daily for several years in the setting of a chronic condition or illness. It will also be appreciated that the effective dosage of a compound used for treatment may increase or decrease over the course of a particular treatment.

[0118] The term "chiral" refers to molecules which have the property of non-superimposability of the mirror image partner, while the term "achiral" refers to molecules which are superimposable on their mirror image partner.

[0119] The term "diastereomers" refers to stereoisomers with two or more centers of dissymmetry and whose molecules are not mirror images of one another.

[0120] The term "enantiomers" refers to two stereoisomers of a compound which are non-superimposable mirror images of one another. An equimolar mixture of two enantiomers is called a "racemic mixture" or a "racemate."

[0121] The term "isomers" or "stereoisomers" refers to compounds which have identical chemical constitution, but differ with regard to the arrangement of the atoms or groups in space.

[0122] The term "prodrug" includes compounds with moieties which can be metabolized *in vivo.* Generally, the prodrugs are metabolized *in vivo* by esterases or by other mechanisms to active drugs. Examples of prodrugs and their uses are well known in the art (See, e.g., Berge et al. (1977) "Pharmaceutical Salts", J. Pharm. Sci. 66:1-19). The prodrugs can be prepared *in situ* during the final isolation and purification of the compounds, or by separately reacting the purified compound in its free acid form or hydroxyl with a suitable esterifying agent. Hydroxyl groups can be converted into esters *via* treatment with a carboxylic acid. Examples of prodrug moieties include substituted and unsubstituted, branched or unbranched lower alkyl ester moieties, (e.g., propionoic acid esters), lower alkenyl esters, di-lower alkyl-amino lower-alkyl esters (e.g., dimethylaminoethyl ester), acylamino lower alkyl esters (*e.g.*, acetyloxymethyl ester), acyloxy lower alkyl esters (e.g., pivaloyloxymethyl ester), aryl esters (phenyl ester), aryl-lower alkyl esters (e.g., benzyl ester), substituted (e.g., with methyl, halo, or methoxy substituents) aryl and aryl-lower alkyl esters, amides, lower-alkyl amides, di-lower alkyl amides, and hydroxy amides. Preferred prodrug moieties are propionoic acid esters and acyl esters. Prodrugs which are converted to active forms through other mechanisms *in vivo* are also possible.

[0123] The term "subject" refers to animals such as mammals, including, but not limited to, primates (e.g., humans), cows, sheep, goats, horses, dogs, cats, rabbits, rats, mice and the like. In certain embodiments, the subject is a human.

[0124] The terms "a," "an," and "the" refer to "one or more" when used in this application, including the claims. Thus, for example, reference to "a sample" includes a plurality of samples, unless the context clearly is to the contrary (e.g., a plurality of samples), and so forth.

[0125] Throughout this specification and the claims, the words "comprise," "comprises," and "comprising" are used in a non-exclusive sense, except where the context requires otherwise.

[0126] As used herein, the term "about," when referring to a value is meant to encompass variations

of, in some embodiments ± 20%, in some embodiments ± 10%, in some embodiments ± 5%, in some embodiments ± 1%, in some embodiments ± 0.5%, and in some embodiments ± 0.1% from the specified amount, as such variations are appropriate to perform the disclosed methods or employ the disclosed compositions.

[0127] Use of the word "inhibitor" herein is meant to mean a molecule that exhibits activity for inhibiting a metalloenzyme. By "inhibit" herein is meant to decrease the activity of metalloenzyme, as compared to the activity of metalloenzyme in the absence of the inhibitor. In some embodiments, the term "inhibit" means a decrease in metalloenzyme activity of at least about 5%, at least about 10%, at least about 20%, at least about 25%, at least about 50%, at least about 60%, at least about 70%, at least about 80%, at least about 90%, or at least about 95%. In other embodiments, inhibit means a decrease in metalloenzyme activity of about 5% to about 25%, about 25% to about 50%, about 50% to about 75%, or about 75% to 100%. In some embodiments, inhibit means a decrease in metalloenzyme activity of about 95% to 100%, e.g., a decrease in activity of 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99%, or 100%. Such decreases can be measured using a variety of techniques that would be recognizable by one of skill in the art. Particular assays for measuring individual activity are described below.

[0128] Furthermore, the compounds of the present disclosure include olefins having either geometry: "Z" refers to what is referred to as a "cis" (same side) configuration whereas "E" refers to what is referred to as a "trans" (opposite side) configuration. With respect to the nomenclature of a chiral center, the terms "d" and "1" configuration are as defined by the IUPAC Recommendations. As to the use of the terms, diastereomer, racemate, epimer and enantiomer, these will be used in their normal context to describe the stereochemistry of preparations.

[0129] As used herein, the term "alkyl" refers to a straight-chained or branched hydrocarbon group containing 1 to 12 carbon atoms. The term "lower alkyl" refers to a C1-C6 alkyl chain. Examples of alkyl groups include methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, tert-butyl, and n-pentyl. Alkyl groups may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents.

[0130] The term "haloalkyl" refers to an alkyl group that is substituted by one or more halo substituents. Examples of haloalkyl groups include fluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, bromomethyl, chloromethyl, and 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl.

[0131] The term "alkenyl" refers to an unsaturated hydrocarbon chain that may be a straight chain or branched chain, containing 2 to 12 carbon atoms and at least one carbon-carbon double bond. Alkenyl groups may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents.

[0132] The term "arylalkenyl" refers to an unsaturated hydrocarbon chain that may be a straight chain or branched chain, containing 2 to 12 carbon atoms and at least one carbon-carbon double bond wherein one or more of the sp^2 hybridized carbons of the alkenyl unit attaches to an aryl moiety. Alkenyl groups may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents.

[0133] The term "alkynyl" refers to an unsaturated hydrocarbon chain that may be a straight chain or branched chain, containing the 2 to 12 carbon atoms and at least one carbon-carbon triple bond. Alkynyl groups may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents.

[0134] The term "arylalkynyl" refers to an unsaturated hydrocarbon chain that may be a straight chain or branched chain, containing 2 to 12 carbon atoms and at least one carbon-carbon triple bond wherein one or more of the sp hybridized carbons of the alkynyl unit attaches to an aryl moiety. Alkynyl groups may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents.

[0135] The sp^2 or sp carbons of an alkenyl group and an alkynyl group, respectively, may optionally be the point of attachment of the alkenyl or alkynyl groups.

[0136] The term "alkoxy" refers to an -O-alkyl substituent.

[0137] As used herein, the term "halogen", "hal" or "halo" means -F, -Cl, -Br or -I.

[0138] The term "alkylthio" refers to an -S-alkyl substituent.

[0139] The term "alkoxyalkyl" refers to an -alkyl-O-alkyl substituent.

[0140] The term "haloalkoxy" refers to an -O-alkyl that is substituted by one or more halo substituents. Examples of haloalkoxy groups include trifluoromethoxy, and 2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy.

[0141] The term "haloalkoxyalkyl" refers to an -alkyl-O-alkyl' where the alkyl' is substituted by one or more halo substituents.

[0142] The term "haloalkylaminocarbonyl" refers to a -C(O)-amino-alkyl where the alkyl is substituted by one or more halo substituents.

[0143] The term "haloalkylthio" refers to an -S-alkyl that is substituted by one or more halo substituents. Examples of haloalkylthio groups include trifluoromethylthio, and 2,2,2-trifluoroethylthio.

[0144] The term "haloalkylcarbonyl" refers to an -C(O)-alkyl that is substituted by one or more halo substituents. An example of a haloalkylcarbonyl group includes trifluoroacetyl.

[0145] The term "cycloalkyl" refers to a hydrocarbon 3-8 membered monocyclic or 7-14 membered bicyclic ring system having at least one saturated ring or having at least one non-aromatic ring, wherein the non-aromatic ring may have some degree of unsaturation. Cycloalkyl groups may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents. In one case, 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4 atoms of each ring of a cycloalkyl group may be substituted by a substituent. Representative examples of cycloalkyl group include cyclopropyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cyclobutyl, cycloheptyl, cyclopentenyl, cyclopentadienyl, cyclohexenyl, cyclohexadienyl, and the like.

[0146] The term "cycloalkoxy" refers to an -O-cycloalkyl substituent.

[0147] The term "cycloalkoxyalkyl" refers to an -alkyl-O-cycloalkyl substituent.

[0148] The term "cycloalkylalkoxy" refers to an -O-alkyl-cycloalkyl substituent.

[0149] The term "cycloalkylaminocarbonyl" refers to an -C(O)-NH-cycloalkyl substituent.

[0150] The term "aryl" refers to a hydrocarbon monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic aromatic ring system. Aryl groups may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents. In one case, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 atoms of each ring of an aryl group may be substituted by a substituent. Examples of aryl groups include phenyl, naphthyl, anthracenyl, fluorenyl, indenyl, azulenyl, and the like.

[0151] The term "aryloxy" refers to an -O-aryl substituent.

[0152] The term "arylalkoxy" refers to an -O-alkyl-aryl substituent.

[0153] The term "arylalkylthio" refers to an -S-alkyl-aryl substituent.

[0154] The term "arylthioalkyl" refers to an -alkyl-S -aryl substituent.

[0155] The term "arylalkylaminocarbonyl" refers to a -C(O)-amino-alkyl-aryl substituent.

[0156] The term "arylalkylsulfonyl" refers to an $-S(O)_2$-alkyl-aryl substituent.

[0157] The term "arylalkylsulfinyl" refers to an -S(O)-alkyl-aryl substituent.

[0158] The term "aryloxyalkyl" refers to an -alkyl-O-aryl substituent.

[0159] The term "alkylaryl" refers to an -aryl-alkyl substituent.

[0160] The term "arylalkyl" refers to an -alkyl-aryl substituent.

[0161] The term "heteroaryl" refers to an aromatic 5-8 membered monocyclic, 8-12 membered bicyclic, or 11-14 membered tricyclic ring system having 1-4 ring heteroatoms if monocyclic, 1-6 heteroatoms if bicyclic, or 1-9 heteroatoms if tricyclic, said heteroatoms selected from O, N, or S, and the remainder ring atoms being carbon (with appropriate hydrogen atoms unless otherwise indicated). Heteroaryl groups may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents. In one case, 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4 atoms of each ring of a heteroaryl group may be substituted by a substituent. Examples of heteroaryl groups include pyridyl, furanyl, thienyl, pyrrolyl, oxazolyl, oxadiazolyl, imidazolyl thiazolyl, isoxazolyl, quinolinyl, pyrazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, triazinyl, isoquinolinyl, indazolyl, and the like.

[0162] The term "heteroarylalkyl" refers to an -alkyl-heteroaryl substituent.

[0163] The term "heteroaryloxy" refers to an -O-heteroaryl substituent.

[0164] The term "heteroarylalkoxy" refers to an -O-alkyl-heteroaryl substituent.

[0165] The term "heteroaryloxyalkyl" refers to an -alkyl-O-heteroaryl substituent.

[0166] The term "nitrogen-containing heteroaryl" refers to a heteroaryl group having 1-4 ring nitrogen heteroatoms if monocyclic, 1-6 ring nitrogen heteroatoms if bicyclic, or 1-9 ring nitrogen heteroatoms if tricyclic.

[0167] The term "heterocycloalkyl" refers to a nonaromatic 3-8 membered monocyclic, 7-12 membered bicyclic, or 10-14 membered tricyclic ring system comprising 1-3 heteroatoms if monocyclic, 1-6 heteroatoms if bicyclic, or 1-9 heteroatoms if tricyclic, said heteroatoms selected from O, N, S, B, P or Si, wherein the nonaromatic ring system is completely saturated. Heterocycloalkyl groups may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents. In one case, 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4 atoms of each ring of a heterocycloalkyl group may be substituted by a substituent. Representative heterocycloalkyl groups include piperidinyl, piperazinyl, tetrahydropyranyl, morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, 1,3-dioxolane, tetrahydrofuranyl, tetrahydrothienyl, thiirenyl, and the like.

[0168] The term "heterocycloalkylalkyl" refers to an -alkyl-heterocycloalkyl substituent.

[0169] The term "alkylamino" refers to an amino substituent which is further substituted with one or two alkyl groups. The term "aminoalkyl" refers to an alkyl substituent which is further substituted with one or more amino groups. The term "hydroxyalkyl" or "hydroxylalkyl" refers to an alkyl substituent which is further substituted with one or more hydroxyl groups. The alkyl or aryl portion of alkylamino, aminoalkyl, mercaptoalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, mercaptoalkoxy, sulfonylalkyl, sulfonylaryl, alkylcarbonyl, and alkylcarbonylalkyl may be optionally substituted with one or more substituents.

[0170] Acids and bases useful in the methods herein are known in the art. Acid catalysts are any acidic chemical, which can be inorganic (e.g., hydrochloric, sulfuric, nitric acids, aluminum trichloride) or organic (e.g., camphorsulfonic acid, p-toluenesulfonic acid, acetic acid, ytterbium triflate) in nature. Acids are useful in either catalytic or stoichiometric amounts to facilitate chemical reactions. Bases are any basic chemical, which can be inorganic (e.g., sodium bicarbonate, potassium hydroxide) or organic (e.g., triethylamine, pyridine) in nature. Bases are useful in either catalytic or stoichiometric amounts to facilitate chemical reactions.

[0171] Alkylating agents are any reagent that is capable of effecting the alkylation of the functional group at issue (e.g., oxygen atom of an alcohol, nitrogen atom of an amino group). Alkylating agents are known in the art, including in the references cited herein, and include alkyl halides (e.g., methyl iodide, benzyl bromide or chloride), alkyl sulfates (e.g., methyl sulfate), or other alkyl group-leaving group combinations known in the art. Leaving groups are any stable species that can detach from a molecule during a reaction (e.g., elimination reaction, substitution reaction) and are known in the art, including in the references cited herein, and include halides (e.g., I-, Cl-, Br-, F-), hydroxy, alkoxy (e.g., -OMe, -O-t-Bu), acyloxy anions (e.g., -OAc, $-OC(O)CF_3$), sulfonates (e.g., mesyl, tosyl), acetamides (e.g.,-NHC(O)Me), carbamates (e.g., N(Me)C(O)Ot-Bu), phosphonates (e.g., $-OP(O)(OEt)_2$), water or alcohols (protic conditions), and the like.

[0172] In certain cases, substituents on any group (such as, for example, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, aralkyl, heteroaryl, heteroaralkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl) can be at any atom of that group, wherein any group that can be substituted (such as, for example, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, aralkyl, heteroaryl, heteroaralkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl) can be optionally substituted with one or more substituents (which may be the same or different), each replacing a hydrogen atom. Examples of suitable substituents include, but are not limited to alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aralkyl, heteroaralkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, halogen, haloalkyl, cyano, nitro, alkoxy, aryloxy, hydroxyl, hydroxylalkyl, oxo (i.e., carbonyl), carboxyl, formyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkylcarbonylalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl,

alkylcarbonyloxy, aryloxycarbonyl, heteroaryloxy, heteroaryloxycarbonyl, thio, mercapto, mercaptoalkyl, arylsulfonyl, amino, aminoalkyl, dialkylamino, alkylcarbonylamino, alkylaminocarbonyl, alkoxycarbonylamino, alkylamino, arylamino, diarylamino, alkylcarbonyl, or arylamino-substituted aryl; arylalkylamino, aralkylaminocarbonyl, amido, alkylaminosulfonyl, arylaminosulfonyl, dialkylaminosulfonyl, alkylsulfonylamino, arylsulfonylamino, imino, carboxamido, carbamido, carbamyl, thioureido, thiocyanato, sulfoamido, sulfonylalkyl, sulfonylaryl, mercaptoalkoxy, N-hydroxyamidinyl, or N'-aryl, N"-hydroxyamidinyl.

[0173] Compounds of the present disclosure can be made by means known in the art of organic synthesis. Methods for optimizing reaction conditions, if necessary minimizing competing by-products, are known in the art. Reaction optimization and scale-up may advantageously utilize high-speed parallel synthesis equipment and computer-controlled microreactors (e.g. Design And Optimization in Organic Synthesis, 2nd Edition, Carlson R, Ed, 2005; Elsevier Science Ltd.; Jähnisch, K et al, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl. 2004 43: 406; and references therein). Additional reaction schemes and protocols may be determined by the skilled artesian by use of commercially available structure-searchable database software, for instance, SciFinder® (CAS division of the American Chemical Society) and CrossFire Beilstein® (Elsevier MDL), or by appropriate keyword searching using an internet search engine such as Google® or keyword databases such as the US Patent and Trademark Office text database.

[0174] As can be appreciated by the skilled artisan, methods of synthesizing the compounds of the formulae herein will be evident to those of ordinary skill in the art, including in the schemes and examples herein. Additionally, the various synthetic steps may be performed in an alternate sequence or order to give the desired compounds. In addition, the solvents, temperatures, reaction durations, etc. delineated herein are for purposes of illustration only and one of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that variation of the reaction conditions can produce the desired compounds of the present disclosure.

[0175] The compounds herein may also contain linkages (e.g., carbon-carbon bonds) wherein bond rotation is restricted about that particular linkage, e.g. restriction resulting from the presence of a ring or double bond. Accordingly, all *cis/trans* and *E/Z* isomers are expressly included in the present disclosure. The compounds herein may also be represented in multiple tautomeric forms, in such instances, the present disclosure expressly includes all tautomeric forms of the compounds described herein, even though only a single tautomeric form may be represented. All such isomeric forms of such compounds herein are expressly included in the present disclosure. All crystal forms and polymorphs of the compounds described herein are expressly included in the present disclosure. Also embodied are extracts and fractions comprising compounds of the present disclosure. The term isomers is intended to include diastereoisomers, enantiomers, regioisomers, rotational isomers, tautomers. For compounds which contain one or more stereogenic centers, e.g., chiral compounds, the methods of the present disclosure may be carried out with an enantiomerically enriched compound, a racemate, or a mixture of diastereomers.

[0176] Preferred enantiomerically enriched compounds have an enantiomeric excess of 50% or more, more preferably the compound has an enantiomeric excess of 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, 95%, 98%, or 99% or more. In preferred embodiments, only one enantiomer or diastereomer of a chiral compound of the present disclosure is administered to cells or a subject.

Methods of Treatment

[0177] References to methods of treatment are to be interpreted as references to the compounds, pharmaceutical compositions and medicaments of the present invention for use in a method for treatment of the human (or animal) body by therapy (or for diagnosis).

[0178] Described are methods of treating a subject suffering from or susceptible to a disorder or disease, comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of a compound or pharmaceutical composition of Formula I.

[0179] Described are methods of treating a subject suffering from or susceptible to a disorder or disease, wherein the subject has been identified as in need of treatment for a metalloenzyme-mediated disorder or disease, comprising administering to said subject in need thereof, an effective amount of a compound or pharmaceutical composition of Formula I, such that said subject is treated for said disorder.

[0180] Described are methods of modulating the metalloenzyme activity of a cell in a subject, comprising contacting the subject with a compound of Formula I, in an amount and under conditions sufficient to modulate metalloenzyme activity.

[0181] In one case, the modulation is inhibition.

[0182] Described are methods of treating a subject suffering from or susceptible to a metalloenzyme-mediated disorder or disease, comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of a compound or pharmaceutical composition of Formula I.

[0183] Described are methods of treating a subject suffering from or susceptible to a metalloenzyme-mediated disorder or disease, wherein the subject has been identified as in need of treatment for a metalloenzyme-mediated disorder or disease, comprising administering to said subject in need thereof, an effective amount of a compound or pharmaceutical composition of Formula I, such that said subject is treated for said disorder.

[0184] In certain embodiments, provided are pharmaceutical compositions comprising the aforementioned compounds for use in treating a disease, disorder or symptom thereof, wherein the disorder is cancer, cardiovascular disease, endocrinologic disease, inflammatory disease, infectious disease, gynecologic disease, metabolic disease, ophthalmologic disease, central nervous system (CNS) disease, urologic disease, or gastrointestinal disease. In certain embodiments the disease is hypertension, resistant hypertension, morbidities associated with primary or secondary hyperaldosteronism and adrenal hyperplasia, pulmonary arterial hypertension, heart failure, diastolic dysfunction, left ventricular diastolic dysfunction, diastolic heart failure, systolic dysfunction, systolic heart failure, hypokalemia, renal failure, chronic renal failure, restenosis, nephropathy, post-myocardial infarction, coronary heart disease, fibrosis, diseases characterized by increased collagen formation, fibrosis and matrix remodeling following hypertension, fibrosis and matrix remodeling following endothelial cell dysfunction, cardiovascular diseases such as atherosclerosis, atrial fibrillation, renal dysfunction, liver diseases, non-alcoholic steatohepatitis, vascular diseases,

retinopathy, neuropathy, insulinopathy, endothelial dysfunction, myocardial fibrosis, vascular fibrosis, myocardial necrotic lesions, vascular damage, myocardial infarction, left ventricular hypertrophy, vascular wall hypertrophy, endothelial thickening, fibrinoid necrosis of the arteries, kidney diseases, diabetic nephropathy, glomerulosclerosis, glomerulonephritis, nephritic syndrome, polycystic kidney disease, diabetes mellitus, metabolic syndrome, insulin resistance, sleep apnea, obstructive sleep apnea, muscular dystrophy, liver cirrhosis, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, renal disorders, diabetic renal disorders, or stroke.

[0185] In certain embodiments, the subject is a mammal, preferably a primate or human.

[0186] In another embodiment, provided are uses as described above, wherein the effective amount of the compound of the invention is as described above.

[0187] In another embodiment, provided are uses as described above, wherein the compound of the invention is administered intravenously, intramuscularly, subcutaneously, intracerebroventricularly, orally or topically.

[0188] In another embodiment, provided are uses as described herein wherein the compound of the invention demonstrates selectivity for an activity range against a target enzyme (e.g., aldosterone synthase (CYP11B2) IC_{50} <1.0 μM).

[0189] In other embodiments, provided are uses as described above, wherein the compound of the invention is administered alone or in combination with one or more other therapeutics. In a further embodiment, the additional therapeutic agent is an anti-cancer agent, antifungal agent, cardiovascular agent, anti-inflammatory agent, chemotherapeutic agent, an anti-angiogenesis agent, cytotoxic agent, an anti-proliferation agent, metabolic disease agent, ophthalmologic disease agent, central nervous system (CNS) disease agent, urologic disease agent, or gastrointestinal disease agent.

[0190] In certain embodiments, the additional therapeutic agent is an agent for the treatment of hypertension, agent for the treatment of primary aldosteronism, agent for the treatment of kidney disease, agent for the treatment of congestive heart failure, agent for the treatment of atherosclerotic conditions, agent for the treatment of diabetes, agent for the treatment of obesity, or agent for the treatment of metabolic disease.

[0191] Exemplary additional therapeutic agents include, but are not limited to, renin inhibitors, angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors, dual inhibitors of angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) and neutral endopeptidase (NEP), angiotensin II receptor blockers (ARB), mineralocorticoid receptor antagonists (MRA), neutral endopeptidase inhibitors (NEP), neprilysin inhibitors, calcium channel blockers, alpha-adrenergic blockers, beta-adrenergic blockers, diuretics (including loop diuretics), potassium channel activators, endothelin receptor antagonists, endothelin 1 receptor agonists, soluble guanylate cyclase stimulators, vasodilators, HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors, niacin and niacin receptor agonists, Niemann-Pick C1-like 1 (NPC1L1) inhibitors, insulin or insulin analogs, biguanides (e.g., metformin), sulfonylureas, peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor (PPAR) agonists and partial agonists including PPARγ agonists and other PPAR ligands, dipeptidyl peptidase-4 (DPP4) inhibitors, glucagon-like peptide 1 (GLP-1), GLP-1 receptor agonists, and sodium-glucose co-transporter 2 (SGLT2) inhibitors.

[0192] Another object of the present disclosure is the use of a compound as described herein (e.g., a compound of the invention) in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment of a metalloenzyme-mediated disorder or disease. Another object of the present disclosure is the use of a compound as described herein (e.g., a compound of the invention) for use in the treatment of a metalloenzyme-mediated disorder or disease. Another object of the present disclosure is the use of a compound as described herein (e.g., a compound of the invention) in the manufacture of an agricultural composition for use in the treatment or prevention of a metalloenzyme-mediated disorder or disease in agricultural or agrarian settings.

Pharmaceutical Compositions

[0193] Described are pharmaceutical compositions comprising the compound of Formula I and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. Pharmaceutical compositions according to the invention comprise a compound selected from compounds (42), (66), (76), (85) and (86), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

[0194] In another embodiment, provided are pharmaceutical compositions further comprising an additional therapeutic agent. In a further embodiment, the additional therapeutic agent is an anti-cancer agent, antifungal agent, cardiovascular agent, anti-inflammatory agent, chemotherapeutic agent, an anti-angiogenesis agent, cytotoxic agent, an anti-proliferation agent, metabolic disease agent, ophthalmologic disease agent, central nervous system (CNS) disease agent, urologic disease agent, or gastrointestinal disease agent.

[0195] In certain embodiments, the additional therapeutic agent is an agent for the treatment of hypertension, agent for the treatment of primary aldosteronism, agent for the treatment of kidney disease, agent for the treatment of congestive heart failure, agent for the treatment of atherosclerotic conditions, agent for the treatment of diabetes, agent for the treatment of obesity, or agent for the treatment of metabolic disease.

[0196] Exemplary additional therapeutic agents include, but are not limited to, renin inhibitors, angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors, dual inhibitors of angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) and neutral endopeptidase (NEP), angiotensin II receptor blockers (ARB), mineralocorticoid receptor antagonists (MRA), neutral endopeptidase inhibitors (NEP), neprilysin inhibitors, calcium channel blockers, alpha-adrenergic blockers, beta-adrenergic blockers, diuretics (including loop diuretics), potassium channel activators, endothelin receptor antagonists, endothelin 1 receptor agonists, soluble guanylate cyclase stimulators, vasodilators, HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors, niacin and niacin receptor agonists, Niemann-Pick C1-like 1 (NPC1L1) inhibitors, insulin or insulin analogs, biguanides (e.g., metformin), sulfonylureas, peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor (PPAR) agonists and partial agonists including PPARγ agonists and other PPAR ligands, dipeptidyl peptidase-4 (DPP4) inhibitors, glucagon-like peptide 1 (GLP-1), GLP-1 receptor agonists, and sodium-glucose co-transporter 2 (SGLT2) inhibitors.

[0197] In one aspect, provided are kits comprising an effective amount of a compound of the invention, in unit dosage form, together with instructions for administering the compound to a subject

suffering from or susceptible to a metalloenzyme-mediated disease or disorder, including cancer, cardiovascular disease, endocrinologic disease, inflammatory disease, infectious disease, gynecologic disease, metabolic disease, ophthalmologic disease, central nervous system (CNS) disease, urologic disease, or gastrointestinal disease. In other embodiments, the disease, disorder or symptom thereof is hypertension, resistant hypertension, morbidities associated with primary or secondary hyperaldosteronism and adrenal hyperplasia, pulmonary arterial hypertension, heart failure, diastolic dysfunction, left ventricular diastolic dysfunction, diastolic heart failure, systolic dysfunction, systolic heart failure, hypokalemia, renal failure, chronic renal failure, restenosis, nephropathy, post-myocardial infarction, coronary heart disease, fibrosis, diseases characterized by increased collagen formation, fibrosis and matrix remodeling following hypertension, fibrosis and matrix remodeling following endothelial cell dysfunction, cardiovascular diseases such as atherosclerosis, atrial fibrillation, renal dysfunction, liver diseases, non-alcoholic steatohepatitis, vascular diseases, retinopathy, neuropathy, insulinopathy, endothelial dysfunction, myocardial fibrosis, vascular fibrosis, myocardial necrotic lesions, vascular damage, myocardial infarction, left ventricular hypertrophy, vascular wall hypertrophy, endothelial thickening, fibrinoid necrosis of the arteries, kidney diseases, diabetic nephropathy, glomerulosclerosis, glomerulonephritis, nephritic syndrome, polycystic kidney disease, diabetes mellitus, metabolic syndrome, insulin resistance, sleep apnea, obstructive sleep apnea, muscular dystrophy, liver cirrhosis, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, renal disorders, diabetic renal disorders, or stroke.

[0198] The term "pharmaceutically acceptable salts" or "pharmaceutically acceptable carrier" is meant to include salts of the active compounds which are prepared with relatively nontoxic acids or bases, depending on the particular substituents found on the compounds described herein. When compounds of the present disclosure contain relatively acidic functionalities, base addition salts can be obtained by contacting the neutral form of such compounds with a sufficient amount of the desired base, either neat or in a suitable inert solvent. Examples of pharmaceutically acceptable base addition salts include sodium, potassium, calcium, ammonium, organic amino, or magnesium salt, or a similar salt. When compounds of the present disclosure contain relatively basic functionalities, acid addition salts can be obtained by contacting the neutral form of such compounds with a sufficient amount of the desired acid, either neat or in a suitable inert solvent. Examples of pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts include those derived from inorganic acids like hydrochloric, hydrobromic, nitric, carbonic, monohydrogencarbonic, phosphoric, monohydrogenphosphoric, dihydrogenphosphoric, sulfuric, monohydrogensulfuric, hydroiodic, or phosphorous acids and the like, as well as the salts derived from relatively nontoxic organic acids like acetic, propionic, isobutyric, maleic, malonic, benzoic, succinic, suberic, fumaric, lactic, mandelic, phthalic, benzenesulfonic, p-tolylsulfonic, citric, tartaric, methanesulfonic, and the like. Also included are salts of amino acids such as arginate and the like, and salts of organic acids like glucuronic or galactunoric acids and the like (see, e.g., Berge et al., Journal of Pharmaceutical Science 66:1-19 (1977)). Certain specific compounds of the present disclosure contain both basic and acidic functionalities that allow the compounds to be converted into either base or acid addition salts. Other pharmaceutically acceptable carriers known to those of skill in the art are suitable for the present disclosure.

[0199] The neutral forms of the compounds may be regenerated by contacting the salt with a base or acid and isolating the parent compound in the conventional manner. The parent form of the compound differs from the various salt forms in certain physical properties, such as solubility in polar solvents, but otherwise the salts are equivalent to the parent form of the compound for the purposes

of the present disclosure.

[0200] In addition to salt forms, described are compounds which are in a prodrug form. Prodrugs of the compounds described herein are those compounds that readily undergo chemical changes under physiological conditions to provide the compounds of the present disclosure. Additionally, prodrugs can be converted to the compounds of the present disclosure by chemical or biochemical methods in an ex vivo environment. For example, prodrugs can be slowly converted to the compounds of the present disclosure when placed in a transdermal patch reservoir with a suitable enzyme or chemical reagent.

[0201] Certain compounds of the present disclosure can exist in unsolvated forms as well as solvated forms, including hydrated forms. In general, the solvated forms are equivalent to unsolvated forms and are intended to be encompassed within the scope of the present disclosure. Certain compounds of the present disclosure may exist in multiple crystalline or amorphous forms. In general, all physical forms are equivalent for the uses contemplated by the present disclosure and are intended to be within the scope of the present disclosure.

[0202] The present disclosure also provides a pharmaceutical composition, comprising an effective amount a compound described herein and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. In an embodiment, a compound of the invention is administered to a subject using a pharmaceutically-acceptable formulation, e.g., a pharmaceutically-acceptable formulation that provides sustained delivery of the compound to a subject for at least 12 hours, 24 hours, 36 hours, 48 hours, one week, two weeks, three weeks, or four weeks after the pharmaceutically-acceptable formulation is administered to the subject.

[0203] Actual dosage levels and time course of administration of the active ingredients in the pharmaceutical compositions of the disclosure may be varied so as to obtain an amount of the active ingredient which is effective to achieve the desired therapeutic response for a particular patient, composition, and mode of administration, without being toxic (or unacceptably toxic) to the patient.

[0204] In use, at least one compound according to the present disclosure is administered in a pharmaceutically effective amount to a subject in need thereof in a pharmaceutical carrier by intravenous, intramuscular, subcutaneous, or intracerebroventricular injection or by oral administration or topical application. In accordance with the present disclosure, a compound of the disclosure may be administered alone or in conjunction with a second, different therapeutic. By "in conjunction with" is meant together, substantially simultaneously or sequentially. In one embodiment, a compound of the disclosure is administered acutely. The compound of the disclosure may therefore be administered for a short course of treatment, such as for about 1 day to about 1 week. In another embodiment, the compound of the disclosure may be administered over a longer period of time to ameliorate chronic disorders, such as, for example, for about one week to several months depending upon the condition to be treated.

[0205] By "pharmaceutically effective amount" as used herein is meant an amount of a compound of the disclosure, high enough to significantly positively modify the condition to be treated but low enough to avoid serious side effects (at a reasonable benefit/risk ratio), within the scope of sound medical judgment. A pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of the disclosure will vary with the particular goal to be achieved, the age and physical condition of the patient being treated, the

severity of the underlying disease, the duration of treatment, the nature of concurrent therapy and the specific compound employed. For example, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the disclosure administered to a child or a neonate will be reduced proportionately in accordance with sound medical judgment. The effective amount of a compound of the disclosure will thus be the minimum amount which will provide the desired effect.

[0206] A decided practical advantage of the present disclosure is that the compound may be administered in a convenient manner such as by intravenous, intramuscular, subcutaneous, oral or intra-cerebroventricular injection routes or by topical application, such as in creams or gels. Depending on the route of administration, the active ingredients which comprise a compound of the disclosure may be required to be coated in a material to protect the compound from the action of enzymes, acids and other natural conditions which may inactivate the compound. In order to administer a compound of the disclosure by other than parenteral administration, the compound can be coated by, or administered with, a material to prevent inactivation.

[0207] The compound may be administered parenterally or intraperitoneally. Dispersions can also be prepared, for example, in glycerol, liquid polyethylene glycols, and mixtures thereof, and in oils.

[0208] Some examples of substances which can serve as pharmaceutical carriers are sugars, such as lactose, glucose and sucrose; starches such as corn starch and potato starch; cellulose and its derivatives such as sodium carboxymethycellulose, ethylcellulose and cellulose acetates; powdered tragancanth; malt; gelatin; talc; stearic acids; magnesium stearate; calcium sulfate; vegetable oils, such as peanut oils, cotton seed oil, sesame oil, olive oil, corn oil and oil of theobroma; polyols such as propylene glycol, glycerine, sorbitol, mannitol, and polyethylene glycol; agar; alginic acids; pyrogen-free water; isotonic saline; and phosphate buffer solution; skim milk powder; as well as other non-toxic compatible substances used in pharmaceutical formulations such as Vitamin C, estrogen and echinacea, for example. Wetting agents and lubricants such as sodium lauryl sulfate, as well as coloring agents, flavoring agents, lubricants, excipients, tableting agents, stabilizers, anti-oxidants and preservatives, can also be present. Solubilizing agents, including for example, cremaphore and beta-cyclodextrins can also used in the pharmaceutical compositions herein.

[0209] Pharmaceutical compositions comprising the active compounds of the present disclosure can be manufactured by means of conventional mixing, dissolving, granulating, dragee-making levigating, emulsifying, encapsulating, entrapping or lyophilization processes. The compositions can be formulated in conventional manner using one or more physiologically acceptable carriers, diluents, excipients or auxiliaries which facilitate processing of the active compounds into preparations which can be used pharmaceutically.

[0210] Pharmaceutical compositions of the present disclosure subject matter can take a form suitable for virtually any mode of administration, including, for example, topical, ocular, oral, buccal, systemic, nasal, injection, transdermal, rectal, vaginal, and the like, or a form suitable for administration by inhalation or insufflation.

[0211] For topical administration, the active compound(s) or prodrug(s) can be formulated as solutions, gels, ointments, creams, suspensions, and the like.

[0212] Systemic formulations include those designed for administration by injection, e.g.,

subcutaneous, intravenous, intramuscular, intrathecal or intraperitoneal injection, as well as those designed for transdermal, transmucosal, oral, or pulmonary administration.

[0213] Useful injectable preparations include sterile suspensions, solutions or emulsions of the active compound(s) in aqueous or oily vehicles. The compositions also can contain formulating agents, such as suspending, stabilizing and/or dispersing agent. The formulations for injection can be presented in unit dosage form (e.g., in ampules or in multidose containers) and can contain added preservatives.

[0214] Alternatively, the injectable formulation can be provided in powder form for reconstitution with a suitable vehicle, including but not limited to sterile pyrogen free water, buffer, dextrose solution, and the like, before use. To this end, the active compound(s) can be dried by any art-known technique, such as lyophilization, and reconstituted prior to use.

[0215] For transmucosal administration, penetrants appropriate to the barrier to be permeated are used in the formulation. Such penetrants are known in the art.

[0216] For oral administration, the pharmaceutical compositions can take the form of, for example, lozenges, tablets or capsules prepared by conventional means with pharmaceutically acceptable excipients such as binding agents (e.g., pregelatinized maize starch, polyvinylpyrrolidone or hydroxypropyl methylcellulose); fillers (e.g., lactose, microcrystalline cellulose or calcium hydrogen phosphate); lubricants (e.g., magnesium stearate, talc or silica); disintegrants (e.g., potato starch or sodium starch glycolate); or wetting agents (e.g., sodium lauryl sulfate). The tablets can be coated by methods well known in the art with, for example, sugars or enteric coatings.

[0217] Liquid preparations for oral administration can take the form of, for example, elixirs, solutions, syrups or suspensions, or they can be presented as a dry product for constitution with water or other suitable vehicle before use. Such liquid preparations can be prepared by conventional means with pharmaceutically acceptable additives such as suspending agents (e.g., sorbitol syrup, cellulose derivatives or hydrogenated edible fats); emulsifying agents (e.g., lecithin or acacia); non aqueous vehicles (e.g., almond oil, oily esters, ethyl alcohol or fractionated vegetable oils); and preservatives (e.g., methyl or propyl p-hydroxybenzoates or sorbic acid). The preparations also can contain buffer salts, preservatives, flavoring, coloring and sweetening agents as appropriate.

[0218] Preparations for oral administration can be suitably formulated to give controlled release of the active compound or prodrug, as is well known.

[0219] For buccal administration, the compositions can take the form of tablets or lozenges formulated in a conventional manner.

[0220] For rectal and vaginal routes of administration, the active compound(s) can be formulated as solutions (for retention enemas), suppositories, or ointments containing conventional suppository bases, such as cocoa butter or other glycerides.

[0221] For nasal administration or administration by inhalation or insufflation, the active compound(s) or prodrug(s) can be conveniently delivered in the form of an aerosol spray from pressurized packs or a nebulizer with the use of a suitable propellant, e.g., dichlorodifluoromethane,

trichlorofluoromethane, dichlorotetrafluoroethane, fluorocarbons, carbon dioxide or other suitable gas. In the case of a pressurized aerosol, the dosage unit can be determined by providing a valve to deliver a metered amount. Capsules and cartridges for use in an inhaler or insufflator (for example capsules and cartridges comprised of gelatin) can be formulated containing a powder mix of the compound and a suitable powder base such as lactose or starch.

[0222] A specific example of an aqueous suspension formulation suitable for nasal administration using commercially-available nasal spray devices includes the following ingredients: active compound or prodrug (0.5-20 mg/ml); benzalkonium chloride (0.1-0.2 mg/mL); polysorbate 80 (TWEEN® 80; 0.5-5 mg/ml); carboxymethylcellulose sodium or microcrystalline cellulose (1-15 mg/ml); phenylethanol (1-4 mg/ml); and dextrose (20-50 mg/ml). The pH of the final suspension can be adjusted to range from about pH5 to pH7, with a pH of about pH 5.5 being typical.

[0223] For ocular administration, the active compound(s) or prodrug(s) can be formulated as a solution, emulsion, suspension, and the like, suitable for administration to the eye. A variety of vehicles suitable for administering compounds to the eye are known in the art. Specific non-limiting examples are described in U.S. Patent No. 6,261,547; U.S. Patent No. 6,197,934; U.S. Patent No. 6,056,950; U.S. Patent No. 5,800,807; U.S. Patent No. 5,776,445; U.S. Patent No. 5,698,219; U.S. Patent No. 5,521,222; U.S. Patent No. 5,403,841; U.S. Patent No. 5,077,033; U.S. Patent No. 4,882,150; and U.S. Patent No. 4,738,851.

[0224] For prolonged delivery, the active compound(s) or prodrug(s) can be formulated as a depot preparation for administration by implantation or intramuscular injection. The active ingredient can be formulated with suitable polymeric or hydrophobic materials (e.g., as an emulsion in an acceptable oil) or ion exchange resins, or as sparingly soluble derivatives, e.g., as a sparingly soluble salt. Alternatively, transdermal delivery systems manufactured as an adhesive disc or patch which slowly releases the active compound(s) for percutaneous absorption can be used. To this end, permeation enhancers can be used to facilitate transdermal penetration of the active compound(s). Suitable transdermal patches are described in for example, U.S. Patent No. 5,407,713; U.S. Patent No. 5,352,456; U.S. Patent No. 5,332,213; U.S. Patent No. 5,336,168; U.S. Patent No. 5,290,561; U.S. Patent No. 5,254,346; U.S. Patent No. 5,164,189; U.S. Patent No. 5,163,899; U.S. Patent No. 5,088,977; U.S. Patent No. 5,087,240; U.S. Patent No. 5,008,110; and U.S. Patent No. 4,921,475.

[0225] Alternatively, other pharmaceutical delivery systems can be employed. Liposomes and emulsions are well-known examples of delivery vehicles that can be used to deliver active compound(s) or prodrug(s). Certain organic solvents such as dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO) also can be employed.

[0226] The pharmaceutical compositions can, if desired, be presented in a pack or dispenser device which can contain one or more unit dosage forms containing the active compound(s). The pack can, for example, comprise metal or plastic foil, such as a blister pack. The pack or dispenser device can be accompanied by instructions for administration.

[0227] The active compound(s) or prodrug(s) of the present disclosure, or compositions thereof, will generally be used in an amount effective to achieve the intended result, for example in an amount effective to treat or prevent the particular disease being treated. The compound(s) can be administered therapeutically to achieve therapeutic benefit or prophylactically to achieve prophylactic

benefit. By therapeutic benefit is meant eradication or amelioration of the underlying disorder being treated and/or eradication or amelioration of one or more of the symptoms associated with the underlying disorder such that the patient reports an improvement in feeling or condition, notwithstanding that the patient can still be afflicted with the underlying disorder. For example, administration of a compound to a patient suffering from an allergy provides therapeutic benefit not only when the underlying allergic response is eradicated or ameliorated, but also when the patient reports a decrease in the severity or duration of the symptoms associated with the allergy following exposure to the allergen. As another example, therapeutic benefit in the context of asthma includes an improvement in respiration following the onset of an asthmatic attack, or a reduction in the frequency or severity of asthmatic episodes. Therapeutic benefit also includes halting or slowing the progression of the disease, regardless of whether improvement is realized.

[0228] For prophylactic administration, the compound can be administered to a patient at risk of developing one of the previously described diseases. A patient at risk of developing a disease can be a patient having characteristics placing the patient in a designated group of at risk patients, as defined by an appropriate medical professional or group. A patient at risk may also be a patient that is commonly or routinely in a setting where development of the underlying disease that may be treated by administration of a metalloenzyme inhibitor according to the present disclosure could occur. In other words, the at risk patient is one who is commonly or routinely exposed to the disease or illness causing conditions or may be acutely exposed for a limited time. Alternatively, prophylactic administration can be applied to avoid the onset of symptoms in a patient diagnosed with the underlying disorder.

[0229] The amount of compound administered will depend upon a variety of factors, including, for example, the particular indication being treated, the mode of administration, whether the desired benefit is prophylactic or therapeutic, the severity of the indication being treated and the age and weight of the patient, the bioavailability of the particular active compound, and the like. Determination of an effective dosage is well within the capabilities of those skilled in the art.

[0230] Effective dosages can be estimated initially from *in vitro* assays. For example, an initial dosage for use in animals can be formulated to achieve a circulating blood or serum concentration of active compound that is at or above an IC50 of the particular compound as measured in as *in vitro* assay, such as the *in vitro* fungal MIC or MFC and other *in vitro* assays described in the Examples section. Calculating dosages to achieve such circulating blood or serum concentrations taking into account the bioavailability of the particular compound is well within the capabilities of skilled artisans. For guidance, see Fingl & Woodbury, "General Principles," In: Goodman and Gilman's The Pharmaceutical Basis of Therapeutics, Chapter 1, pp. 1-46, latest edition, Pagamonon Press, and the references cited therein.

[0231] Initial dosages also can be estimated from *in vivo* data, such as animal models. Animal models useful for testing the efficacy of compounds to treat or prevent the various diseases described above are well-known in the art.

[0232] Dosage amounts will typically be in the range of from about 0.0001 or 0.001 or 0.01 mg/kg/day to about 100 mg/kg/day, but can be higher or lower, depending upon, among other factors, the activity of the compound, its bioavailability, the mode of administration, and various factors discussed above. Dosage amount and interval can be adjusted individually to provide plasma

levels of the compound(s) which are sufficient to maintain therapeutic or prophylactic effect. In cases of local administration or selective uptake, such as local topical administration, the effective local concentration of active compound(s) cannot be related to plasma concentration. Skilled artisans will be able to optimize effective local dosages without undue experimentation.

[0233] The compound(s) can be administered once per day, a few or several times per day, or even multiple times per day, depending upon, among other things, the indication being treated and the judgment of the prescribing physician.

[0234] Preferably, the compound(s) will provide therapeutic or prophylactic benefit without causing substantial toxicity. Toxicity of the compound(s) can be determined using standard pharmaceutical procedures. The dose ratio between toxic and therapeutic (or prophylactic) effect is the therapeutic index. Compounds(s) that exhibit high therapeutic indices are preferred.

[0235] The recitation of a listing of chemical groups in any definition of a variable herein includes definitions of that variable as any single group or combination of listed groups. The recitation of an embodiment for a variable herein includes that embodiment as any single embodiment or in combination with any other embodiments or portions thereof. The recitation of an embodiment herein includes that embodiment as any single embodiment or in combination with any other embodiments or portions thereof.

Examples

[0236] In order that the invention described herein may be more fully understood, the following examples are set forth.

General Experimental Procedures

[0237] Definitions of variables in the structures in schemes herein are commensurate with those of corresponding positions in the formulae delineated herein. The example compounds listed in Table 2 were characterized by the HPLC and LCMS methods described in Table 1.

Table 1. HPLC and LCMS methods

	HPLC	LCMS
a	Column: ZORBAX-SCB-C18 (150 × 4.6 mm, 3.5 µ); ACN: 0.05% Aq TFA; 1.0 mL/min	Column: X-Select CSH C-18 (50 × 3.0 mm, 2.5 µm); 2.5mM NH_4OOCH in water: 5% ACN; ACN: 5% 2.5mM NH_4OOCH in water: 0.80 mL/min
b	Column: X-Select-CSH-C18 (150 × 4.6 mm, 3.5 µm); 0.05% TFA+5%ACN: ACN+5% 0.05% TFA; 1.0 mL/min	Column: Kinotex EVO C-18 (50 × 3.0 mm, 2.6 µm); 2.5mM NH_4OOCH in water: 5% ACN; ACN: 5% 2.5mM NH_4OOCH in water: 0.80 mL/min
c	Column: X-Select-CSH-C18 (150 × 4.6 mm, 3.5 µm); 5mM NH_4OAc: ACN; 1.0 mL/min.	Column: Ascentis Express C-18 (50 × 3.0 mm, 2.7 µm); 0.025% Aq TFA+5%ACN: ACN: 5% 0.025% Aq TFA: 1.2 mL/min

	HPLC	LCMS
d	Column: X-Select-CSH-C18 (150 × 4.6 mm, 3.5 µm); 5mM NH_4CO_3: ACN; 1.0 mL/min.	Column: X-Select CSH C-18 (50 × 3.0 mm, 2.5 µm); 2.5mM Aq NH_4OAc: ACN; 0.80 mL/min
e	Column: Atlantis-T3 (150 × 4.6 mm, 3.0 µm); 5mM NH_4OAc: ACN; 1.0 mL/min.	Column: Kinotex EVO C-18 (50 × 3.0 mm, 2.6 µm); 2.5mM Aq NH_4OAc: ACN: 0.80 mL/m

Common abbreviations:

[0238]

ACN
: acetonitrile

hr
: broad

d
: doublet

dd
: doublet of doublets

dba
: dibenzylideneacetone

DIPEA
: diisopropylethylamine

dppf
: 1,1'-ferrocenediyl-bis(diphenylphosphine)

h
: hour(s)

HRMS
: high resolution mass spectrometry

HPLC
: high performance liquid chromatography

LCMS
: liquid chromatography and mass spectrometry

MS
: mass spectrometry

MW
: microwave

m
: multiplet

min
: minutes

mL
: milliliter(s)

m/z
: mass to charge ratio

NMR
: nuclear magnetic resonance

ppm
: parts per million

rt or RT
: room temperature

s
: singlet

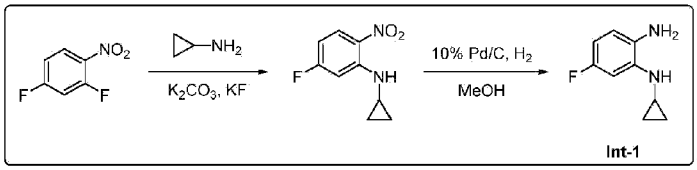
t
: triplet

TLC
: thin layer chromatography

Preparation of Int-1

[0239]

Scheme:



N Cyclopropyl-5-fluoro-2-nitroaniline

[0240] To a stirred solution of 2,4-difluoro-1-nitrobenzene (25 g, 157.23 mmol) in potassium fluoride (9.12 g, 157.23 mmol) under an inert atmosphere was added potassium carbonate (21.7 g, 157.23 mmol) followed by cyclopropanamine (10.75 g, 188.68 mmol) drop wise at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. After consumption of starting material was demonstrated by thin layer chromatography (TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (200 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (EtOAc) (2 × 200 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 5% EtOAc/hexane) to afford *N*-cyclopropyl-5-fluoro-2-nitroaniline (26 g, 132.65 mmol, 84%) as yellow solid.

[0241] ^{1}H NMR (500MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 8.20 (dd, *J* = 9.3, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (dd, *J* = 11.4, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.45-6.39 (m, 1H), 2.59-2.53 (m, 1H), 0.97-0.92 (m, 2H), 0.71-0.65 (m, 2H).

***N*^{1}-Cyclopropyl-5-fluorobenzene-1, 2-diamine (Int-1)**

[0242] To a stirred solution of N-cyclopropyl-5-fluoro-2-nitroaniline (24 g, 122.45 mmol) in methanol (MeOH) (300 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 2.4 g) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 8 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and washed with methanol (100 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to afford N^1-cyclopropyl-5-fluorobenzene-1, 2-diamine **Int-1** (18 g, 108.43 mmol, 88%) as brown syrup.

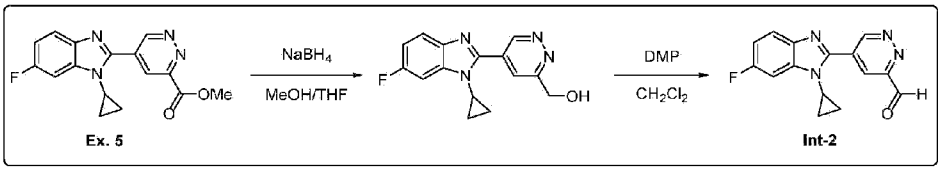
[0243] **^{1}H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-d_6):** δ 6.52 (dd, *J* = 11.6, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 6.45 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 6.18 (td, *J* = 8.5, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 5.28 (s, 1H), 4.30 (br s, 2H), 2.36-2.28 (m, 1H), 0.74-0.68 (m, 2H), 0.42-0.37 (m, 2H).

[0244] **LC-MS:** *m/z* 166.8 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.64 RT (72.46% purity).

Preparation of Int-2

[0245]

Scheme:



(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methanol

[0246] To a stirred solution of methyl 5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazine-3-carboxylate (250 mg, 0.8 mmol) in a mixture of methanol/tetrahydrofuran (THF) (2:1, 15 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added sodium borohydride (152 mg, 4.01 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with water (25 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 40 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain (5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl) methanol (130 mg, 0.46 mmol, 57%) as brown solid used in the next step without further purification.

[0247] **LC-MS:** *m/z* 284.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.94 RT (72.20% purity).

5-(1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde (Int-2)

[0248] To a stirred solution of (5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl) methanol (130 mg, 0.46 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added Dess-Martin periodinane (DMP) (291 mg, 0.69 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde **Int-2** (50 mg, 0.18 mmol, 39%) as brown solid.

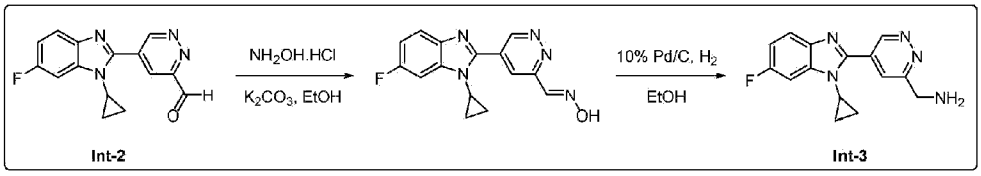
[0249] ^{1}H NMR (500MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 10.50 (s, 1H), 10.06 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.64 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (td, *J* = 9.3, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.73-3.69 (m, 1H), 1.37-1.31 (m, 2H), 0.90-0.85 (m, 2H).

[0250] LC-MS: *m/z* 282.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.85 RT (90.42% purity).

Preparation of Int-3

[0251]

Scheme:



(*E*)-5-(1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde oxime

[0252] To a stirred solution of 5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde **Int-2** (100 mg, 0.35 mmol) in ethanol (EtOH) (2 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added hydroxylamine hydrochloride (49 mg, 0.71 mmol) and potassium carbonate (98 mg, 0.71 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with water (40 mL) and stirred for 10 min. The precipitated solid was filtered, washed with water (10 mL) and dried under vacuum to afford (*E*)-5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde oxime (70 mg, 0.23 mmol, 67%) as an off white solid.

[0253] ^{1}H NMR (500MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 12.25 (s, 1H), 9.81 (s, 1H), 8.56 (s, 1H), 8.48 (s, 1H), 7.80 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (dd, *J*= 9.0, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (td, *J* = 9.8, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.95-3.89 (m, 1H), 1.20-1.16 (m, 2H), 0.84-0.79 (m, 2H).

[0254] LC-MS: *m/z* 297.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.95 RT (99.11% purity).

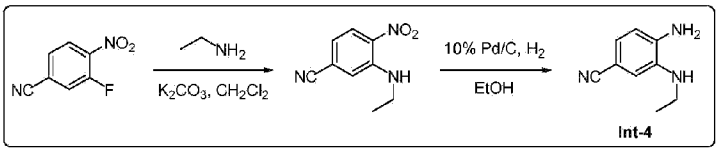
(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methanamine (Int-3)

[0255] To a stirred of solution of (*E*)-5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde oxime (70 mg, 0.23 mmol) in ethanol (5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 25 mg) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was evacuated and stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and washed with MeOH/CH_2Cl_2 (10:1, 20 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain (5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl) methanamine **Int-3** (50 mg, crude) as an off white solid used in the next step without further purification.

[0256] LC-MS: *m/z* 283.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.62 RT (64.40% purity).

Preparation of Int-4

[0257]
Scheme:



3-(Ethylamino)-4-nitrobenzonitrile

[0258] To a stirred solution of 3-fluoro-4-nitrobenzonitrile (2 g, 12.05 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (250 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added potassium carbonate (3.32 g, 24.09 mmol) and ethylamine (Aq. 70%, 2.17 g, 48.19 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 6 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with water (60 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 60 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 3-(ethylamino)-4-nitrobenzonitrile (1.9 g, crude) as yellow solid used in next step without further purification.

[0259] ^{1}H NMR (500MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 8.22-8.10 (m, 2H), 7.58 (br s, 1H), 7.00 (br d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 3.48-3.38 (m, 2H), 1.21 (br t, *J*= 6.9 Hz, 3H).

[0260] LC-MS: *m/z* 192.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 4.10 RT (98.96% purity).

4-Amino-3-(ethylamino) benzonitrile (Int-4)

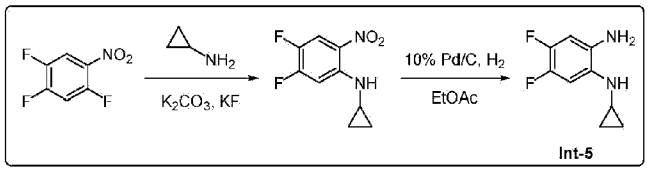
[0261] To a stirred of solution of 3-(ethylamino)-4-nitrobenzonitrile (1.9 g, crude) in ethanol (20 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 190 mg) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and washed with methanol (50 mL) and EtOAc (30 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain 4-amino-3-(ethylamino) benzonitrile **Int-4** (1.5 g, crude) as an off white solid used in next step without further purification.

[0262] LC-MS: *m/z* 161.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.11 RT (60.88% purity).

Preparation of Int-5

[0263]

Scheme:



N-Cyclopropyl-4, 5-difluoro-2-nitroaniline

[0264] To 1, 2, 4-trifluoro-5-nitrobenzene (500 mg, 2.82 mmol) in potassium fluoride (164 mg, 2.82 mmol) under an inert atmosphere was added potassium carbonate (390 mg, 2.82 mmol) and cyclopropanamine (0.23 mL, 3.39 mmol) drop wise at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 30 min. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain N-cyclopropyl-4, 5-difluoro-2-nitroaniline 2 (320 mg, crude) as pale yellow solid used in next step without further purification.

[0265] LC-MS: *m/z* 215.4 $[M+H]^+$ at 4.43 RT (69.03% purity).

***N*^{1}-Cyclopropyl-4, 5-difluorobenzene-1, 2-diamine (Int-5)**

[0266] To a stirred solution of N-cyclopropyl-4, 5-difluoro-2-nitroaniline (300 mg, 1.4 mmol) in EtOAc (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 30 mg) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and washed with methanol (15 mL) and EtOAc (10 mL). The filtrate was

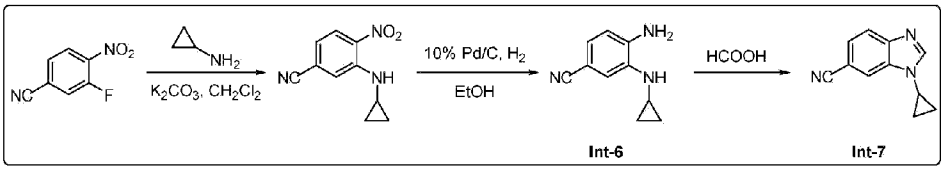
concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain N^1-cyclopropyl-4, 5-difluorobenzene-1, 2-diamine **Int-5** (100 mg, crude) as brown viscous syrup used in next step without further purification.

[0267] LC-MS: *m/z* 184.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.12 RT (83.53% purity).

Preparation of Int-6 & Int-7

[0268]

Scheme:



3-(Cyclopropylamino)-4-nitrobenzonitrile

[0269] To a stirred solution of 3-fluoro-4-nitrobenzonitrile (1 g, 6.02 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added potassium carbonate (1.66 g, 12.05 mmol) and cyclopropanamine (3.33 mL, 48.19 mmol) drop wise at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 40 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain 3-(cyclopropylamino)-4-nitrobenzonitrile (900 mg, crude) as yellow solid used in next step without further purification.

[0270] ^{1}H NMR (400MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 8.24 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (br s, 1H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 2.62-2.57 (m, 1H), 1.03-0.97 (m, 2H), 0.72-0.67 (m, 2H). **LC-MS:** *m/z* 201.9 $[M-H]^+$ at 3.25 RT (99.61% purity).

4-Amino-3-(cyclopropylamino) benzonitrile (Int-6)

[0271] To a stirred of solution of 3-(cyclopropylamino)-4-nitrobenzonitrile (900 mg, 4.43 mmol) in ethanol (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 500 mg) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and washed with EtOAc (30 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 4-amino-3-(cyclopropylamino) benzonitrile **Int-6** (500 mg, 2.89 mmol, 65%) as an off white solid.

[0272] ^{1}H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 6.93 (d, *J*= 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (dd, *J*= 8.0, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.55

(d, *J*= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.49 (s, 2H), 5.43 (s, 1H), 2.40-2.34 (m, 1H), 0.77-0.71 (m, 2H), 0.42-0.37 (m, 2H).

1-Cyclopropyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (Int-7)

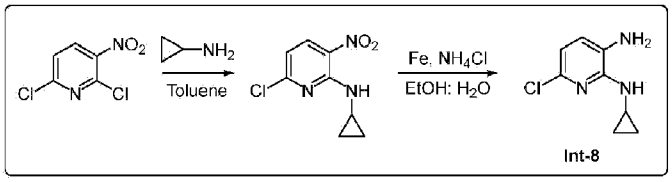
[0273] A solution of 4-amino-3-(cyclopropylamino) benzonitrile **Int-6** (500 mg, 2.89 mmol) in formic acid (5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was heated to reflux temperature and stirred for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with water (10 mL), neutralized with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Int-7** (250 mg, 1.37 mmol, 56%) as an off white solid.

[0274] ^{1}H NMR (500MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 8.50 (s, 1H), 8.21 (d, *J*= 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J*= 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 3.59-3.54 (m, 1H), 1.15-1.05 (m, 4H).

[0275] LC-MS: *m/z* 184.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.46 RT (87.33% purity).

Preparation of Int-8

[0276]
Scheme:



6-Chloro-*N*-cyclopropyl-3-nitropyridin-2-amine

[0277] To a stirred solution of 2, 6-dichloro-3-nitropyridine (5 g, 26.04 mmol) in Toluene (25 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added cyclopropyl amine (3.7 mL, 52.08 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 10% EtOAc/Hexane) to afford 6-chloro-N-cyclopropyl-3-nitropyridin-2-amine (4 g, 18.77 mmol, 72%) as a pale yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 8.34 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.66 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 3.10-3.05 (m, 1H),

0.97-0.93 (m, 2H), 0.67-0.64 (m, 2H)

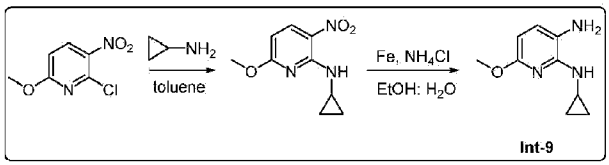
6-Chloro-N2-cyclopropylpyridine-2, 3-diamine (Int-8)

[0278] To a stirred solution of 6-chloro-*N*-cyclopropyl-3-nitropylidin-2-amine (1 g, 4.69 mmol) in EtOH: water (1: 1, 10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added iron (1.3 g, 23.47 mmol) and ammonium chloride (1.2 g, 23.47 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain 6-chloro-N2-cyclopropylpyridine-2, 3-diamine **Int-8** (700 mg, crude) as a pale yellow solid used in the next step without further purification.

[0279] LC-MS: *m/z* 183.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.07 RT (58.13% purity).

Preparation of Int-9

[0280]
Scheme:



***N*-Cyclopropyl-6-methoxy-3-nitropyridin-2-amine**

[0281] To a stirred solution of 2-chloro-6-methoxy-3-nitropyridine (5 g, 26.5 mmol) in toluene (50 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added cyclopropyl amine (3.69 mL, 53 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h and warmed to room temperature and stirred for 6 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was triturated with n-pentane to afford N-cyclopropyl-6-methoxy-3-nitropyridin-2-amine (800 mg, 3.82 mmol, 83%) as a yellow solid.

***N^2*-Cyclopropyl-6-methoxypyridine-2,3-diamine (Int-9)**

[0282] To a stirred solution of N cyclopropyl-6-methoxy-3-nitropyridin-2-amine (1 g, 4.78 mmol) in ethanol/water (1: 1, 10 mL) was added iron powder (1.3 g, 24 mmol) and ammonium chloride (1.29

g, 23.9 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *celite* and the *celite* bed was washed with EtOAc (50 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain N^2-cyclopropyl-6-methoxypyridine-2,3-diamine **Int-9** (150 mg) as black liquid. The crude material was used in next step without further purification.

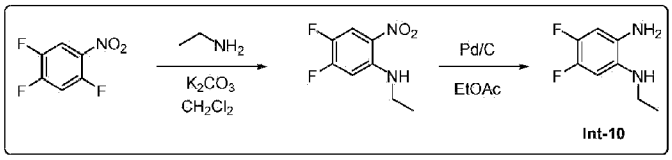
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 6.71 (d, *J*= 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.78 (d, *J*= 7.9 Hz, 1H), 4.09-4.06 (m, 2H), 3.84-3.81 (m, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 2.77-2.68 (m, 1H), 0.69-0.61 (m, 2H), 0.43-0.37 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 180.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.11 RT (75.36% purity)

Preparation of Int-10

[0283]

Scheme:



***N*-Ethyl-4,5-difluoro-2-nitroaniline**

[0284] To a stirred solution of 1,2,4-trifluoro-5-nitrobenzene (2 g, 11.29 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL) was added potassium carbonate (3.1 g, 22.59 mmol) and ethanamine (559 mg, 12.42 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (100 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 × 100 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 10% EtOAc/hexane) to afford *N*-ethyl-4,5-difluoro-2-nitroaniline (800 mg, 3.96 mmol, 35%) as yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 8.19 (brs, 1H), 8.13 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dd, *J* = 13.9, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.40-3.33 (m, 2H), 1.20 (t, *J*= 7.2 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 203.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.53 RT (98.40% purity)

***N*^{1}-Ethyl-4,5-difluorobenzene-1,2-diamine (Int-10)**

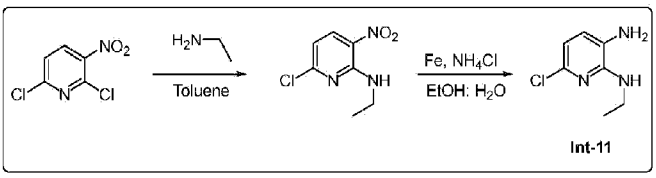
[0285] To a stirred solution of N-ethyl-4,5-difluoro-2-nitroaniline (800 mg, 3.96 mmol) in ethylacetate (5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 500 mg) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *celite* and the bed was washed with EtOAc (50 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain *N*^{1}-ethyl-4,5-difluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-10** (500 mg, 2.90 mmol, 73%) as a black liquid which was used in the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 6.47 (dd, *J* = 12.8, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.30 (dd, *J* = 13.3, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 4.64 (br s, 2H), 4.44 (t, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.00-2.94 (m, 2H), 1.17 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H) **LC-MS:** *m/z* 173.2 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.16 RT (64.65% purity)

Preparation of Int-11

[0286]

Scheme:



6-Chloro-*N*-ethyl-3-nitropyridin-2-amine

[0287] To a stirred solution of 2,6-dichloro-3-nitropyridine (2 g, 10.40 mmol) in toluene (8.5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added ethylamine (1.35 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 6-chloro-N ethyl-3-nitropyridin-2-amine (800 mg, 3.98 mmol, 38%) as yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 8.70 (brs, 1H), 8.40 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 3.55-3.50 (m, 2H), 1.18 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 202 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.63 RT (99.85% purity)

6-Chloro-N^2-ethylpyridine-2,3-diamine (Int-11)

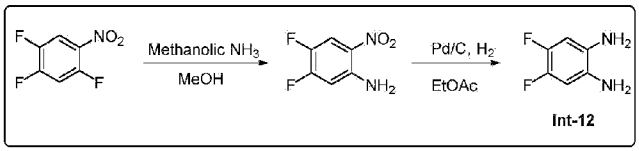
[0288] To a stirred solution of 6-chloro-N-ethyl-3-nitropyridin-2-amine (550 mg, 2.73 mmol) in ethanol/water (1: 1, 20 mL) was added iron powder (763.4 g, 13.68 mmol) and ammonium chloride (738.7 mg, 13.68 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (30 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain 6-chloro-N^2-ethylpyridine-2,3 -diamine **Int-11** (452 mg) as a black solid. The crude material was used in the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 6.67 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.33 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 5.85 (brs, 1H), 4.88 (br s, 2H), 3.37-3.25 (m, 2H), 1.15 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 172 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.72 RT (85.88% purity)

Preparation of Int-12

[0289]
Scheme:



4,5-Difluoro-2-nitroaniline

[0290] To a stirred solution of 1,2,4-trifluoro-5-nitrobenzene (5 g, 28.24 mmol) in methanol (5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added methanolic ammonia (15 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was heated to 90 °C and stirred for 2 h in a sealed tube. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 4,5-difluoro-2-nitroaniline (800 mg, 4.59 mmol, 16%) as pale yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 8.00 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 6.09 (brs, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 172.8 $[M-H]^-$ at 2.49 RT (88.25% purity)

4,5-Difluorobenzene-1,2-diamine (Int-12)

[0291] To a stirred solution of 4,5-difluoro-2-nitroaniline (800 mg, 4.59 mmol) in methanol (15 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 200 mg) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and washed with methanol (15 mL) and CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was washed with n-hexane (15 mL) to afford 4,5-difluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-12** (500 mg, 3.47 mmol, 80%) as a black solid.

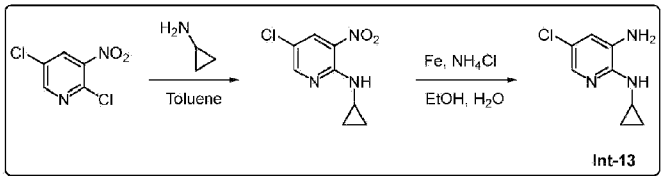
^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 6.47-6.41 (m, 2H), 4.55 (brs, 4H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 145 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.59 RT (75.16% purity)

Preparation of Int-13

[0292]

Scheme:



5-Chloro-N cyclopropyl-3-nitropyridin-2-amine

[0293] To a stirred solution of 2,5-dichloro-3-nitropyridine (1 g, 5.23 mmol) in toluene (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added cyclopropylamine (0.73 mL, 10.47 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 48 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (40 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 60 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 5-chloro-N cyclopropyl-3-nitropyridin-2-amine (700 mg, 3.28 mmol, 63%) as an orange solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 8.45 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 8.41 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (br s, 1H), 3.05-2.97 (m, 1H), 0.98-0.91 (m, 2H), 0.68-0.62 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 214 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.03 RT (98.66% purity)

5-Chloro-N^2-cyclopropylpyridine-2,3-diamine (Int-13)

[0294] To a stirred solution of 5-chloro-N cyclopropyl-3-nitropyridin-2-amine (200 mg, 0.938 mmol) in ethanol/water (1: 1, 20 mL) was added iron powder (262 mg, 4.69 mmol) and ammonium chloride (253 mg, 4.69 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *celite* and washed with EtOAc. The filtrate was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain 5-chloro-N^2-cyclopropylpyridine-2,3-diamine **Int-13** (120 mg) as a black solid. The crude material was used in the next step without further purification.

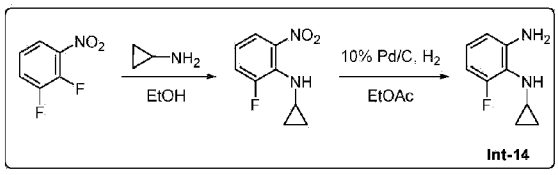
^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 7.35 (d, *J*= 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (d, *J*= 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.00 (br s, 1H), 5.02 (br s, 2H), 2.72-2.63 (m, 1H), 0.68-0.63 (m, 2H), 0.41-0.37 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 183.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.87 RT (88.05% purity)

Preparation of Int-14

[0295]

Scheme:



N Cyclopropyl-2-fluoro-6-nitroaniline

[0296] To a stirred solution of 1,2-difluoro-3-nitrobenzene (200 mg, 1.26 mmol) in ethanol (2 mL) was added cyclopropanamine (0.13 mL, 1.89 mmol) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 5% EtOAc/hexane) to afford N-cyclopropyl-2-fluoro-6-nitroaniline (200 mg, 1.02 mmol, 81%) as a yellow viscous syrup.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.93 (dt, *J* = 8.8, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (brs, 1H), 7.24-7.19 (m, 1H), 6.63-6.58 (m, 1H), 3.12-3.07 (m, 1H), 0.87-0.79 (m, 2H), 0.67-0.61 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 197.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.28 RT (99.89% purity)

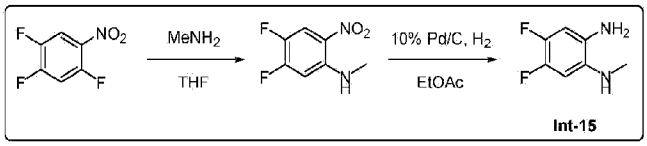
N^1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluorobenzene-1,2-diamine (Int-14)

[0297] To a stirred solution of N-cyclopropyl-2-fluoro-6-nitroaniline (200 mg, 1.02 mmol) in ethylacetate (5 mL) was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 30 mg) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *celite* and the bed was washed with EtOAc (15 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to afford N^1-cyclopropyl-6-fluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-14** (160 mg) as colorless viscous syrup. The crude material was taken to the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 6.61-6.51 (m, 1H), 6.40-6.24 (m, 3H), 4.89 (br s, 2H), 2.62-2.58 (m, 1H), 0.49-0.38 (m, 4H)

Preparation of Int-15

[0298]
Scheme:



4,5-Difluoro-*N*-methyl-2-nitroaniline

[0299] To a stirred solution of 1,2,4-trifluoro-5-nitrobenzene (5 g, 28.25 mmol) in THF (50 mL) was added methanamine (2 M in THF, 28.25 mL, 56.5 mmol) dropwise at -20 °C under an inert atmosphere and allowed to stir at the same temperature for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with brine (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 100 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 3% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 4,5-difluoro-*N*-methyl-2-nitroaniline (1.1 g, 5.85 mmol, 20%) as pale yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 8.06 (dd, *J* = 10.7, 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.61 (dd, *J* = 12.5, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 3.01

(d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 3H)

4,5-Difluoro-*N*^{1}-methylbenzene-1,2-diamine (Int-15)

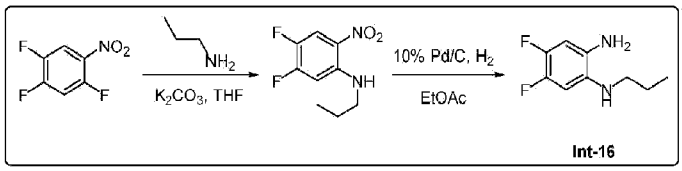
[0300] To a stirred solution of 4,5-difluoro-N-methyl-2-nitroaniline (1 g, 5.32 mmol) in ethylacetate (15 mL) was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 250 mg) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *celite* and the bed was washed with methanol (30 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 4,5-difluoro-*N*^{1}-methylbenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-15** (700 mg) as a brown syrup. The crude material was taken to the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 6.48 (dd, *J* = 12.5, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.28 (dd, *J* = 13.3, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 4.71 (s, 1H), 4.59 (br s, 2H), 2.66 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 158.8 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.20 RT (99.55% purity)

Preparation of Int-16

[0301]
Scheme:



4,5-Difluoro-2-nitro-N-propylaniline

[0302] To a stirred solution of 1,2,4-trifluoro-5-nitrobenzene (5 g, 28.25 mmol) in THF (150 mL) were added potassium carbonate (5.07 g, 36.72 mmol) and propan-1-amine (3.48 mL, 42.37 mmol) dropwise at room temperature under an inert atmosphere and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 100 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 3% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 4,5-difluoro-2-nitro-N propylaniline (600 mg, 2.77 mmol, 10%) as a yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 8.25 (br s, 1H), 8.14 (dd, *J*= 11.3, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (dd, *J* = 13.7,

7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.35-3.26 (m, 2H), 1.68-1.56 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t, *J*= 7.4 Hz, 3H)

4,5-Difluoro-*N*^{1}-propylbenzene-1,2-diamine (Int-16)

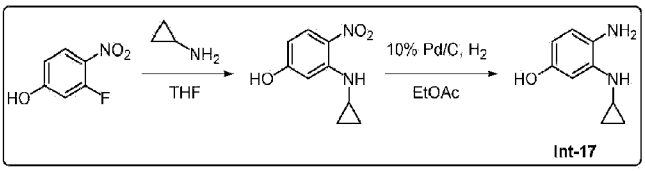
[0303] To a stirred solution of 4,5-difluoro-2-nitro-N-propylaniline (500 mg, 2.31 mmol) in ethylacetate (10 mL) was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 150 mg) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *celite* and the bed was washed with methanol (20 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 4,5-difluoro-*N*^{1}-propylbenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-16** (350 mg) as a brown syrup. The crude material was taken to the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 6.48 (dd, *J* = 12.8, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.30 (dd, *J* = 13.3, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 4.66 (s, 2H), 4.47 (br t, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.96-2.88 (m, 2H), 1.62-1.54 (m, 2H), 0.95 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 186.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.88 RT (89.94% purity)

Preparation of Int-17

[0304]
Scheme:



3-(Cyclopropylamino)-4-nitrophenol

[0305] To a stirred solution of 3-fluoro-4-nitrophenol (1 g, 6.37 mmol) in THF (20 mL) was added cyclopropanamine (726 mg, 12.74 mmol) in a sealed tube at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 6 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was poured into ice cold water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 40 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 3-(cyclopropylamino)-4-nitrophenol (1.2 g, 6.18 mmol, 75%) as a yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 10.86 (br s, 1H), 8.15 (br s, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d, *J*

= 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.22 (dd, *J* = 9.3, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.57-2.55 (m, 1H), 0.91-0.82 (m, 2H), 0.67-0.57 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 194.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.51 RT (99.35% purity)

4-Amino-3-(cyclopropylamino)phenol (Int-17)

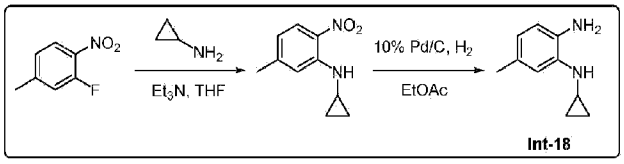
[0306] To a stirred solution of 3-(cyclopropylamino)-4-nitrophenol (1 g, 5.15 mmol) in ethylacetate (10 mL) was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 250 mg) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *celite* and the bed was washed with methanol (30 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 4-amino-3-(cyclopropylamino)phenol Int-17 (600 mg) as brown syrup. The crude material was taken to the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 8.18 (brs, 1H), 6.37-6.29 (m, 2H), 5.86 (dd, *J*= 8.1, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 4.92 (s, 1H), 3.81 (brs, 2H), 2.27-2.25 (m, 1H), 0.69-0.62 (m, 2H), 0.41-0.35 (m, 2H) **LC-MS:** *m/z* 164.8 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.09 RT (74.22% purity)

Preparation of Int-18

[0307]

Scheme:



N Cyclopropyl-5-methyl-2-nitroaniline

[0308] To a stirred solution of 2-fluoro-4-methyl-1-nitrobenzene (500 mg, 3.22 mmol) in THF (5 mL) was added triethylamine (1.35 mL, 9.68 mmol) followed by cyclopropanamine (919 mg, 16.13 mmol) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated to 60 °C and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with ice cold water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 5% EtOAc/hexane) to afford A-cyclopropyl-5-methyl-2-nitroaniline (500 mg, 2.6 mmol, 80%) as yellow solid.

[0309] ^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 8.10 (brs, 1H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 6.50 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 2.58-2.55 (m, 1H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 0.94-0.88 (m, 2H), 0.67-0.62 (m, 2H). **LC-MS:** *m/z*

192.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.35 RT (99.53% purity).

N^1-Cyclopropyl-5-methylbenzene-1,2-diamine (Int-18)

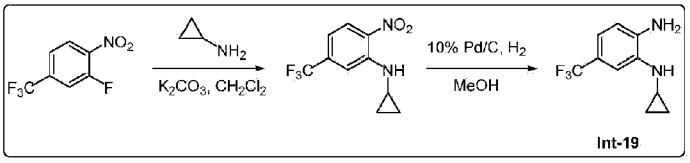
[0310] To a stirred solution of A-cyclopropyl-5-methyl-2-nitroaniline (150 mg, 0.78 mmol) in ethylacetate (1 mL) was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 50 mg) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *celite* and the bed was washed with ethylacetate (15 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to afford N^1-cyclopropyl-5-methylbenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-18** (120 mg) as black solid. The crude material was taken to the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 6.60 (s, 1H), 6.41 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.24 (br d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.91 (s, 1H), 4.21 (br s, 2H), 2.32-2.30 (m, 1H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 0.71-0.64 (m, 2H), 0.41-0.35 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 162.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.49 RT (81.92% purity)

Preparation of Int-19

[0311]
Scheme:



N Cyclopropyl-2-nitro-5-(trifluoromethyl)aniline

[0312] To a stirred solution of 2-fluoro-1-nitro-4-(trifluoromethyl)benzene (1 g, 4.78 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (40 mL) was added potassium carbonate (1.32 g, 9.57 mmol) and cyclopropanamine (1.09 g, 19.14 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with ice cold water (30 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 40 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 5% EtOAc/hexane) to afford *N*-cyclopropyl-2-nitro-5-(trifluoromethyl)aniline (1 g, 4.06 mmol, 85%) as a yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 8.25 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (brs, 1H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1H),

7.04 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 2.76-2.69 (m, 1H), 0.95-0.87 (m, 2H), 0.69-0.63 (m, 2H)

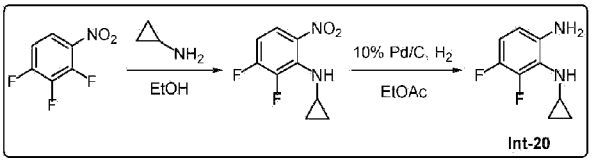
LC-MS: *m/z* 245.0 $[M-H]^-$ at 4.33 RT (78.90% purity)

N^1-Cyclopropyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)benzene-1,2-diamine (Int-19)

[0313] To a stirred solution of *N*-cyclopropyl-2-nitro-5-(trifluoromethyl)aniline (1 g, 4.06 mmol) in methanol (20 mL) was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 100 mg) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *celite* and the bed was washed with methanol (20 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to afford N^1-cyclopropyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)benzene-1,2-diamine **Int-19** (700 mg) as brown syrup. The crude material was taken to the next step without further purification.

Preparation of Int-20

[0314]
Scheme:



N Cyclopropyl-2,3-difluoro-6-nitroaniline

[0315] To a stirred solution of 1,2,3-trifluoro-4-nitrobenzene (1 g, 28.25 mmol) in ethanol (100 mL) was added cyclopropanamine (1.61 g, 28.25 mmol) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere and the reaction was stirred for 48 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with ice cold water (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 60 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 5% EtOAc/hexane) to afford N cyclopropyl-2,3-difluoro-6-nitroaniline (3 g, 14.0 mmol, 50%) as a yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 7.95-7.91 (m, 1H), 7.75 (brs, 1H), 6.85-6.80 (m, 1H), 3.02-2.98 (m, 1H), 0.79-0.72 (m, 2H), 0.67-0.65 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 213.4 $[M-H]^+$ at 4.06 RT (99.81% purity)

***N*^{1}-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluorobenzene-1,2-diamine (Int-20)**

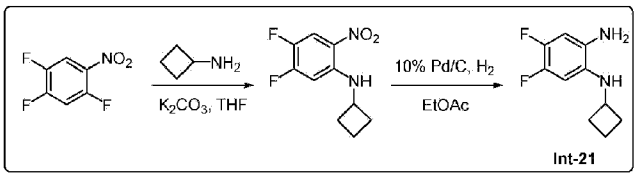
[0316] To a stirred solution of N cyclopropyl-2,3-difluoro-6-nitroaniline (1 g, 4.67 mmol) in ethylacetate (10 mL) was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 100 mg) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *celite* and the bed was washed with ethylacetate (20 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to afford *N*^{1}-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-20** (700 mg) as a black solid. The crude material was taken to the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 6.55-6.47 (m, 1H), 6.33-6.27 (m, 1H), 4.70 (br s, 2H), 4.54 (br s, 1H), 2.74-2.66 (m, 1H), 0.59-0.52 (m, 2H), 0.48-0.43 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 185.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.60 RT (67.33% purity)

Preparation of Int-21

[0317]
Scheme:



N Cyclobutyl-4,5-difluoro-2-nitroaniline

[0318] To a stirred solution of 1,2,4-trifluoro-5-nitrobenzene (1 g, 5.65 mmol) in THF (20 mL) were added potassium carbonate (1.17 g, 8.47 mmol) followed by cyclobutanamine (0.58 mL, 6.78 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 6 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with ice cold water (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 60 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 5% EtOAc/hexane) to afford A-cyclobutyl-4,5-difluoro-2-nitroaniline (450 mg, 1.97 mmol, 35%) as yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 8.18-8.08 (m, 2H), 7.00 (dd, *J* = 13.4, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.16-4.07 (m, 1H), 2.48-2.39 (m, 2H), 2.06-1.94 (m, 2H), 1.83-1.69 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 229.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.90 RT (97.77% purity)

N^1-Cyclobutyl-4,5-difluorobenzene-1,2-diamine (Int-21)

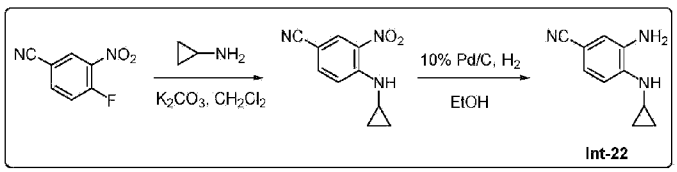
[0319] To a stirred solution of N cyclobutyl-4,5-difluoro-2-nitroaniline (450 mg, 1.97 mmol) in ethylacetate (10 mL) was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 45 mg) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *celite* and the bed was washed with ethylacetate (15 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to afford N^1-cyclobutyl-4,5-difluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-21** (350 mg) as a black solid. This crude material was taken to next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 6.52 (dd, *J* = 11.3, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.33 (dd, *J* = 12.1, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.86-3.76 (m, 1H), 3.40-3.18 (m, 3H), 2.52-2.39 (m, 2H), 1.91-1.78 (m, 4H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 199.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.92 RT (83.44% purity)

Preparation of Int-22

[0320]
Scheme:



4-(Cyclopropylamino)-3-nitrobenzonitrile

[0321] To a stirred solution of 4-fluoro-3-nitrobenzonitrile (1 g, 6.02 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL) was added potassium carbonate (1.66 g, 12.05 mmol) followed by cyclopropanamine (3.33 mL, 48.19 mmol) dropwise at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was poured into water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 4-(cyclopropylamino)-3-nitrobenzonitrile (1.1 g) as a yellow solid. The crude material was taken to the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 8.49 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.41 (brs, 1H), 7.66-7.63 (m, 1H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 2.68-2.61 (m, 1H), 1.04-0.98 (m, 2H), 0.75-0.70 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 202.0 $[M-H]^-$ at 2.88 RT (99.48% purity)

3-Amino-4-(cyclopropylamino)benzonitrile (Int-22)

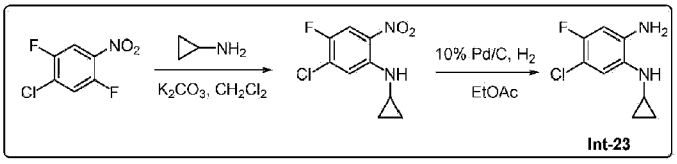
[0322] To a stirred solution of 4-(cyclopropylamino)-3-nitrobenzonitrile (1.1 g, crude) in ethanol (40 mL) was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 350 mg) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *celite* and the bed was washed with ethylacetate (20 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 3-amino-4-(cyclopropylamino) benzonitrile **Int-22** (900 mg) as a yellow solid. The crude material was taken to next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.18 (dd, *J* = 8.2, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 4.41 (br s, 1H), 3.24 (br s, 2H), 2.51-2.43 (m, 1H), 0.85-0.78 (m, 2H), 0.59-0.53 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 173.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.40 RT (84.82% purity)

Preparation of Int-23

[0323]
Scheme:



1-Chloro-2,5-difluoro-4-nitrobenzene

[0324] To a stirred solution of 1-chloro-2,5-difluoro-4-nitrobenzene (500 mg, 2.59 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added potassium carbonate (715 mg, 5.18 mmol) and cyclopropanamine (305 mg, 5.18 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain 1-chloro-2,5-difluoro-4-nitrobenzene (400 mg, 1.73 mmol, 67%) as a yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.97 (d, *J* = 9.3 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 2.57-2.54 (m, 1H), 1.00-0.91 (m, 2H), 0.71-0.59 (m, 2H)

5-Chloro-*N*^{1}-cyclopropyl-4-fluorobenzene-1,2-diamine (Int-23)

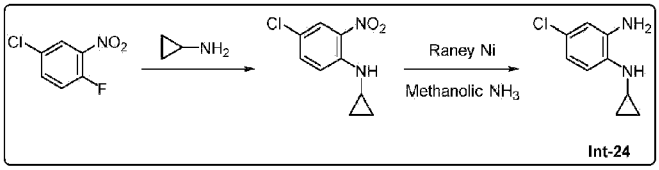
[0325] To a stirred solution of 1-chloro-2,5-difluoro-4-nitrobenzene (400 mg, 1.74 mmol) in EtOAc (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 100 mg) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was evacuated and stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *celite* and the bed was washed with EtOAc (40 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain 5-chloro-*N*^{1}-cyclopropyl-4-fluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-23** (280 mg, 1.40 mmol, 81%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 6.68 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.47 (d, *J* = 11.6 Hz, 1H), 5.16 (br s, 1H), 4.96 (br s, 2H), 2.34-2.27 (m, 1H), 0.74-0.67 (m, 2H), 0.42-0.28 (m, 2H)

Preparation of Int-24

[0326]

Scheme:



4-Chloro-N cyclopropyl-2-nitroaniline

[0327] To 4-chloro-1-fluoro-2-nitrobenzene (2 g, 11.43 mmol) was added cyclopropanamine (2.6 g, 45.71 mmol) dropwise at 10 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 3-5% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 4-chloro-*N*-cyclopropyl-2-nitroaniline (2.08 g, 0.98 mmol, 83%) as a yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 8.16 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (br s, 1H), 7.42 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 2.61-2.55 (m, 1H), 0.96-0.90 (m, 2H), 0.69-0.63 (m, 2H) **LC-MS:** *m/z* 213.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.85 RT (99.81% purity)

4-Chloro-*N*^{1}-cyclopropylbenzene-1,2-diamine (Int-24)

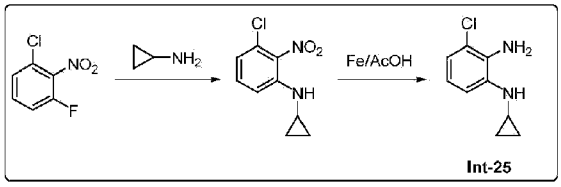
[0328] To a stirred solution of 4-chloro-*N*-cyclopropyl-2-nitroaniline (1 g, 4.72 mmol) in methanolic ammonia (2 M, 50 mL) was added Raney Nickel (500 mg) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *celite* and the bed was washed with ethylacetate (30 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 4-chloro-N^1-cyclopropylbenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-24** (700 mg) as brown liquid. The crude material was taken to the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 6.70 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.55-6.45 (m, 2H), 5.10 (s, 1H), 4.77 (br s, 2H), 2.31-2.29 (m, 1H), 0.72-0.65 (m, 2H), 0.41-0.34 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 183.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.15 RT (87.51% purity)

Preparation of Int-25

[0329]
Scheme:



3-Chloro-N cyclopropyl-2-nitroaniline

[0330] To 1-chloro-3-fluoro-2-nitrobenzene (500 mg, 2.85 mmol) was added cyclopropanamine (0.78 mL, 11.4 mmol) dropwise at room temperature under an inert atmosphere and stirred for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 3-chloro-N-cyclopropyl-2-nitroaniline (500 mg) as a yellow solid. The crude material was taken to next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.28-7.22 (m, 1H), 7.15 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.01 (br s, 1H), 2.54-2.46 (m, 1H), 0.88-0.82 (m, 2H), 0.60-0.55 (m, 2H). **LC-MS:** *m/z* 213.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.74 RT (98.57% purity)

3-Chloro-N^1-cyclopropylbenzene-1,2-diamine (Int-25)

[0331] To a stirred solution of 3-chloro-*N*-cyclopropyl-2-nitroaniline (200 mg, crude) in acetic acid (2 mL) was added Iron powder (157 mg, 2.83 mmol) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere.

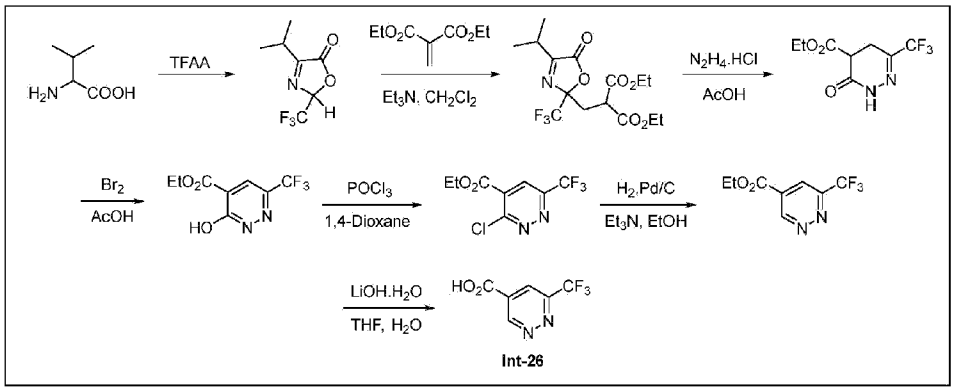
The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 3-chloro-*N*^{1}-cyclopropylbenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-25** (200 mg) as a brown syrup. The crude material was taken to the next step without further purification.

LC-MS: *m/z* 183.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.47 RT (43.71% purity)

Preparation of Int-26

[0332]

Scheme:



4-Isopropyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)oxazol-5(2H)-one

[0333] To DL-Valine (30 g, 256.41 mmol) was added trifluoroacetic anhydride (72 mL) dropwise at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to reflux and stirred for 8 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (100 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (250 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 4-isopropyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)oxazol-5(2*H*)-one 2 (45 g) as a pale yellow liquid. The crude material was used in the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR(400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 6.11-6.05 (m, 1H), 3.12-3.02 (m, 1H), 1.34 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 3H), 1.32 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 193.9 $[M-H]^-$ at 2.94 RT (75.69% purity)

Diethyl 2-((4-isopropyl-5-oxo-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2,5-dihydrooxazol-2-yl)methyl) malonate

[0334] To a stirred solution of 4-isopropyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)oxazol-5 (2*H*)-one (45 g, crude) in CH_2Cl_2 (450 mL) under an inert atmosphere were added diethyl 2-methylenemalonate (47.63 g, crude) and triethylamine (48.2 mL, 346.14 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (150 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 250 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford diethyl 2-((4-isopropyl-5-oxo-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2,5-dihydrooxazol-2-yl)methyl) malonate (50 g, crude) as pale yellow solid. The crude material was used in the next step without further purification.

LC-MS: *m/z* 368.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.70 RT (82.98% purity)

Ethyl 3-oxo-6-(trifluoromethyl)-2,3,4,5-tetrahydropyridazine-4-carboxylate

[0335] To a stirred solution of diethyl 2-((4-isopropyl-5-oxo-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2,5-dihydrooxazol-2-yl)methyl)malonate (25 g, crude) in acetic acid (200 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added hydrazine hydrochloride (23.16 g, 340.59 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to reflux and stirred for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was basified with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 250 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30-40% EtOAc/hexane) to afford ethyl 3-oxo-6-(trifluoromethyl)-2,3,4,5-tetrahydropyridazine-4-carboxylate (15 g, 63.55 mmol) as a pale yellow liquid.

LC-MS: *m/z* 237.0 $[M-H]^-$ at 2.19 RT (87.20% purity)

Ethyl 3-hydroxy-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylate

[0336] To a stirred solution of ethyl 3-oxo-6-(trifluoromethyl)-2,3,4,5-tetrahydropyridazine-4-carboxylate (7.5 g, 31.51 mmol) in acetic acid (40 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added a solution of bromine (5.03 g, 31.51 mmol) in acetic acid (35 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was basified with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 200 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30-40% EtOAc/hexane) to afford ethyl 3-hydroxy-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylate (2.5 g, 10.59 mmol, 34%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 14.16 (br s, 1H), 8.12 (s, 1H), 4.30 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 235.0 $[M-H]^-$ at 2.03 RT (98.67% purity)

Ethyl 3-chloro-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylate

[0337] To a stirred solution of ethyl 3-hydroxy-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylate (5.0 g, 21.19 mmol) in 1, 4-dioxane (50 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added phosphoryl trichloride (19.6 mL, 211.86 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was heated to 100 °C and stirred for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was basified with sodium bicarbonate solution (100 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 200 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 15-20% EtOAc/hexane) to afford ethyl 3-chloro-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylate (3 g, 11.81 mmol, 55%) as pale yellow liquid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 8.15 (s, 1H), 4.53 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.47 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 255.4 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.61 RT (98.51% purity)

Ethyl 6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylate

[0338] To a stirred solution of ethyl 3-chloro-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylate (500 mg, 1.96 mmol) in ethanol (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added triethylamine (0.5 mL) and 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 100 mg) at room temperature. The reaction headspace was briefly placed under vaccum and quickly recharged with hydrogen. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and washed with EtOAc (50 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) to afford ethyl 6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylate (300 mg, 1.36 mmol, 69%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.85 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.32 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 4.53 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.47 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 221.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.09 RT (92.69% purity)

6-(Trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (Int-26)

[0339] To a stirred solution of ethyl 6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylate (300 mg, 1.36 mmol) in a mixture of THF: water (4:1, 5 mL) was added lithium hydroxide (171.6 g, 4.09 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were concentrated under reduced pressure. Then the residue was acidified using con HCl (pH 3-4) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced

pressure. The obtained solid was washed with *n*-pentane (10 mL) and dried *in vacuo* to afford 6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylic acid **Int-26** (210 mg) as an off white solid. The crude material was used in the next step without further purification.

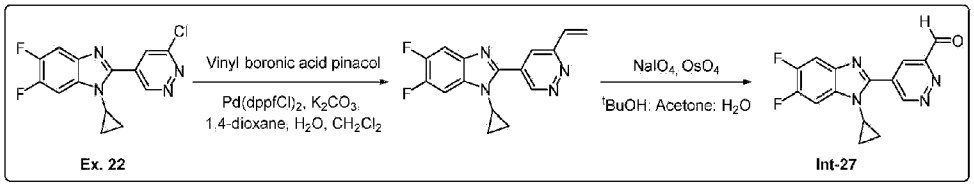
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 14.08 (brs, 1H), 9.83 (brs, 1H), 8.43 (brs, 1H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 191.0 $[M-H]^-$ at 3.79 RT (94.51% purity)

Preparation of Int-27

[0340]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1H benzo[*d*]imidazole

[0341] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 22** (150 mg, 0.50 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (3 mL) and water (0.5 mL) under an inert atmosphere were added vinyl boronic acid pinacol ester (76 mg, 0.50 mmol) and potassium carbonate (203 mg, 1.47 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was degassed with argon for 10 min. $Pd(dppf)Cl_2$ (4 mg, 0.005 mmol) was added at room temperature and the mixture was degassed with argon for 10 min. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (70 mg, 0.23 mmol, 48%) as an off-white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.69 (s, 1H), 8.45 (s, 1H), 7.90-7.83 (m, 2H), 7.18-7.11 (m, 1H), 6.53 (d, *J* = 17.7 Hz, 1H), 5.82 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 3.99-3.97 (m, 1H), 1.22-1.13 (m, 2H), 0.82-0.60 (m, 2H)

5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5, 6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[dlimidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde (Int-27)

[0342] To a stirred solution of 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole (300 mg, 1.00 mmol) in acetone: ^{t}BuOH: water (1:1:1, 18 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added sodium periodate (430 mg, 2.01 mmol) and osmium tetroxide (1 M solution, 6 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 1 h. After

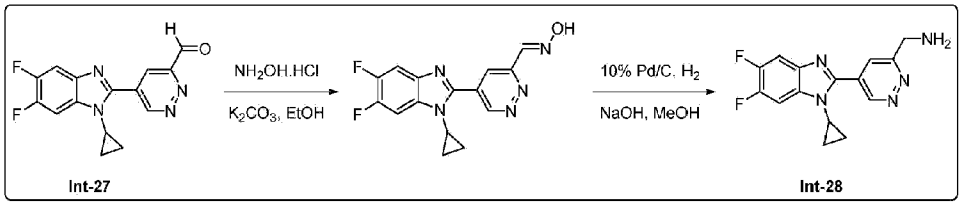
consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and the celite bed was washed with EtOAc (100 mL). The organic layer was washed with water (100 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde **Int-27** (200 mg) as black solid. The crude material was used without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.36 (s, 1H), 10.03 (s, 1H), 8.58 (s, 1H), 7.93-7.81 (m, 2H), 4.00-3.94 (m, 1H), 1.21-1.13 (m, 2H), 0.81-0.72 (m, 2H)

Preparation of Int-28

[0343]

Scheme:



(*E*)-5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde oxime

[0344] To a stirred solution of 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde **Int-27** (600 mg, 2 mmol) in ethanol (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added hydroxylamine hydrochloride (276 mg, 4 mmol) and potassium carbonate (552 mg, 4 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with water (70 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (100 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was washed with n-hexane (20 mL) and dried *in vacuo* to afford (*E*)-5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde oxime (500 mg, 1.58 mmol, 79%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 12.26 (s, 1H), 9.80 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.56 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.48 (s, 1H), 7.91-7.80 (m, 2H), 3.97-3.88 (m, 1H), 1.22-1.14 (m, 2H), 0.85-0.78 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 315.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.33 RT (97.99% purity)

(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1H benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methanamine (Int-28)

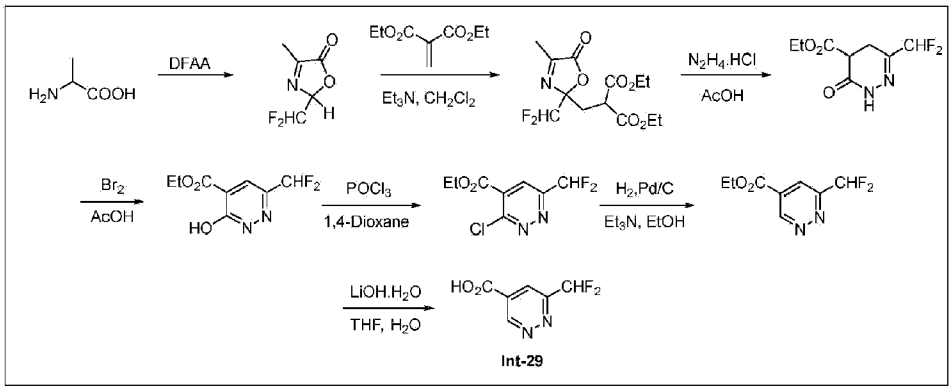
[0345] To a stirred solution of (*E*)-5-(1-cyclopropyl-56-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde oxime (500 mg, 1.58 mmol) in ethanol (10 mL) was added sodium hydroxide (190 mg, 4.76 mmol) and 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 150 mg) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (80 mL) and washed with water (50 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford (5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl methanamine **Int-28** (400 mg, 1.32 mmol, 84%) as an off white solid. The crude material was taken to the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.68 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.35 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.89-7.81 (m, 2H), 4.12 (s, 2H), 3.95-3.89 (m, 1H), 2.13 (brs, 2H), 1.27-1.14 (m, 2H), 0.79-0.66 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 301.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.91 RT (95.51% purity)

Preparation of Int-29

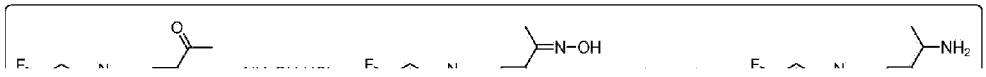
[0346]
Scheme:

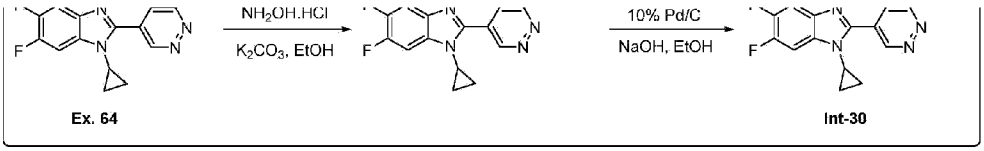


6-(Difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (Int-29) was prepared in a manner analogous to Int-26 starting with alanine and difluoroacetic anhydride (DFAA).

Preparation of Int-30

[0347]
Scheme:





1-(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)ethan-1-one oxime

[0348] To a stirred solution of 1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)ethan-1-one **Ex. 64** (170 mg, 0.54 mmol) in EtOH(10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added and hydroxylamine hydrochloride (75 mg, 1.08 mmol) and potassium carbonate (149 mg, 1.08 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 40 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)ethan-1-one oxime (100 mg) as an off white solid. The crude material was used in the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 12.07 (s, 1H), 9.81 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.63 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.91-7.80 (m, 2H), 3.94-3.87 (m, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 1.21-1.14 (m, 2H), 0.85-0.76 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 329.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.52 RT (86.46% purity)

1-(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H* benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)ethan-1-amine (Int-30)

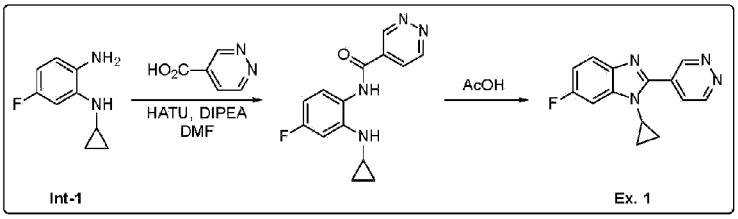
[0349] To a stirred solution of 1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl)ethan-1-one oxime (100 mg, crude) in ethanol (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added sodium hydroxide (37 mg, 0.91 mmol) and 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 80 mg) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 8 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and the celite bed was washed with MeOH (20 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)ethan-1-amine **Int-30** (80 mg) as an off white solid. The crude material was used without further purification.

LC-MS: *m/z* 315.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.71 RT (85.70% purity)

Example 1 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0350]

Scheme:



N (2-(Cyclopropylamino)-4-fluorophenyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0351] To a stirred solution of *N*1-cyclopropyl-5-fluorobenzene-1, 2-diamine **Int-1** (300 mg, 1.81 mmol) in *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) (3 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added pyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (224 mg, 1.81 mmol), *N*-[(Dimethylamino)-1*H*-1,2,3-triazolo-[4,5-*b*]pyridin-1-ylmethylene]-*N*-methylmethanaminium hexafluorophosphate *N*-oxide (HATU) (824 mg, 2.17 mmol) and ethyldiisopropylamine (1.26 mL, 7.23 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 8 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane) to afford *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4-fluorophenyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide (220 mg, 0.81 mmol, 44%) as brown solid.

[0352] ^{1}H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.89 (s, 1H), 9.66 (dd, *J* = 2.2, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 9.47 (dd, *J* = 5.2, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (dd, *J* = 5.3, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (dd, *J* = 11.9, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 6.43 (td, *J* = 8.5, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (s, 1H), 2.38-2.32 (m, 1H), 0.77-0.71 (m, 2H), 0.47-0.40 (m, 2H).

[0353] LC-MS: *m/z* 272.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.66 RT (89.14% purity).

1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-2-(pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex 1)

[0354] To *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4-fluorophenyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide (150 mg, 0.55 mmol) in acetic acid (3 mL) under an inert atmosphere was heated to 100 °C and stirred for 8 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was neutralized with saturated Sodium bicarbonate solution (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 5% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-2-(pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex 1** (68 mg, 0.27 mmol, 48%) as an off white solid.

[0355] ^{1}H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.82 (dd, *J* = 2.2, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 9.45 (dd, *J* = 5.4, 1.1 Hz, 1H),

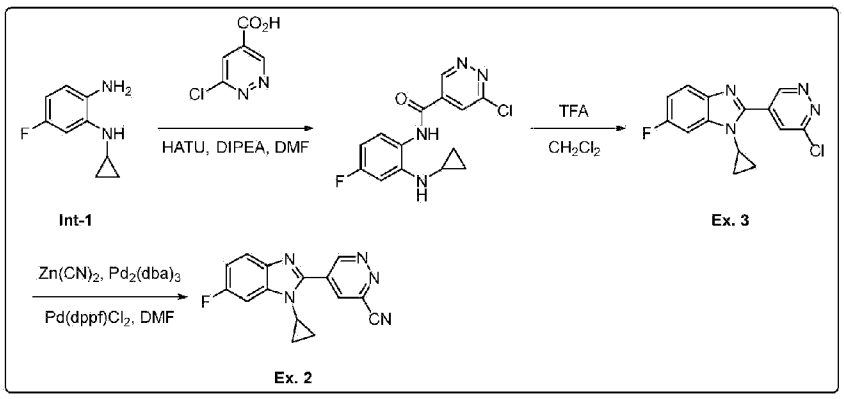
8.29 (dd, *J* = 5.4, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (dd, *J* = 9.1, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.15 (m, 1H), 3.94-3.87 (m, 1H), 1.22-1.16 (m, 2H), 0.78-0.73 (m, 2H).

[0356] LC-MS: *m/z* 255.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.98 RT (97.13% purity).

[0357] HPLC: 98.24%.

Examples 2 & 3 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0358]
Scheme:



6-Chloro-N (2-(cyclopropylamino)-4-fluorophenyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0359] To a stirred solution of *N*1-cyclopropyl-5-fluorobenzene-1, 2-diamine **Int-1** (500 mg, 3.01 mmol) in DMF (3 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6-chloropyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (475 mg, 3.01 mmol), HATU (1.37 g, 3.61 mmol) and ethyldiisopropylamine (2.2 mL, 12.04 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with ice cold water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc/Hexane) to afford 6-chloro-N (2-(cyclopropylamino)-4-fluorophenyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide (550 mg, 1.79 mmol, 60%) as brown solid.

[0360] ^{1}H NMR (500MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.96 (s, 1H), 9.63 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 8.36 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.43 (td, *J* = 8.5, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.14 (s, 1H), 2.37-2.33 (m, 1H), 0.77-0.73 (m, 2H), 0.46-0.42 (m, 2H).

[0361] LC-MS: *m/z* 305.0 $[M-H]^+$ at 3.00 RT (83.53% purity).

2-(6-Chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 3)

[0362] To a stirred solution of 6-chloro-N-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4-fluorophenyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide (550 mg, 1.79 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added trifluoroacetic acid (0.6 mL) drop wise at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with EtOAc (50 mL) and washed with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL). The organic layer was separated, dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 3** (200 mg, 0.69 mmol, 38%) as an off-white solid.

[0363] ^{1}H NMR (500MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.82 (s, 1H), 8.46 (s, 1H), 7.81 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (td, *J* = 9.3, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 3.97-3.93 (m, 1H), 1.22-1.17 (m, 2H), 0.83-0.79 (m, 2H).

[0364] LC-MS: *m/z* 288.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.59 RT (98.16% purity).

[0365] HPLC: 98.76%.

5-(1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carbonitrile (Ex. 2)

[0366] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 2** (100 mg, 0.35 mmol) in DMF (1 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added $Zn(CN)_2$ (24 mg, 0.21 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was degassed under argon for 10 min. $Pd_2(dba)_3$ (16 mg, 0.02 mmol) and $Pd(dppf)Cl_2$ (13 mg, 0.02 mmol) were added at room temperature and the reaction mixture was degassed under argon for 5 min. The reaction mixture was heated to 100 °C and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc (40 mL), filtered through a pad of celite and the celite bed was washed with EtOAc (15 mL). The organic layer was washed with water (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 40% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazine-3-carbonitrile **Ex. 2** (30 mg, 0.11 mmol, 31%) as an off white solid.

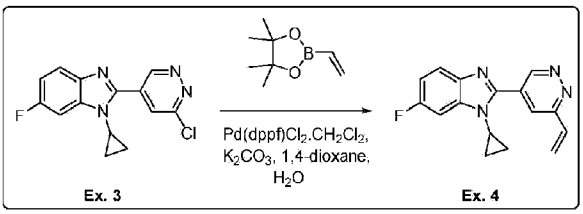
[0367] ^{1}H NMR (500MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.06 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.92 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.20 (m, 1H), 3.98-3.93 (m, 1H), 1.24-1.19 (m, 2H), 0.82-0.78 (m, 2H).

[0368] LC-MS: *m/z* 279.8 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.92 RT (99.44% purity).

[0369] HPLC: 99.21%.

Example 4 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0370]
Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1Hbenzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 4)

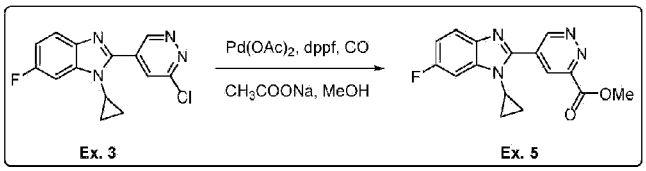
[0371] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 3** (300 mg, 1.04 mmol) in a mixture of 1,4-dioxane (15 mL) and water (2 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added potassium carbonate (431 mg, 3.12 mmol) and 4, 4, 5, 5-tetramethyl-2-vinyl-1, 3, 2-dioxaborolane (160 mg, 1.04 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was degassed under argon for 15 min. To this was added $Pd(dppf)Cl_2.CH_2Cl_2$ (8.5 mg, 0.01 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc (60 mL), filtered through a pad of celite and the celite bed was washed with EtOAc (15 mL). The organic layer was washed with water (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 40% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 4** (150 mg, 0.53 mmol, 51%) as an off white solid.

[0372] ^{1}H NMR (500MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.68 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.44 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.21-7.09 (m, 2H), 6.52 (d, *J* = 17.6 Hz, 1H), 5.80 (d, *J* = 11.0 Hz, 1H), 3.97-3.93 (m, 1H), 1.20-1.14 (m, 2H), 0.77-0.72 (m, 2H). **LC-MS:** *m/z* 280.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.43 RT (93.90% purity).

[0373] HPLC: 95.00%.

Example 5 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0374]
Scheme:



Methyl 5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1Hbenzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carboxylate (Ex. 5)

[0375] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 3** (200 mg, 0.69 mmol) in MeOH (3 mL) was added sodium acetate (171 mg, 2.08 mmol), 1,1′ -Ferrocenediyl-bis(diphenylphosphine) (19 mg, 0.03 mmol) and palladium(II) acetate (7.8 mg, 0.03 mmol) at room temperature in a steel bomb. The steel bomb was filled with CO gas (15 bar pressure). The resulting reaction mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and the celite bed was washed with methanol (30 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane) to afford methyl 5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazine-3-carboxylate **Ex. 5** (70 mg, 0.22 mmol, 32%) as an off white solid.

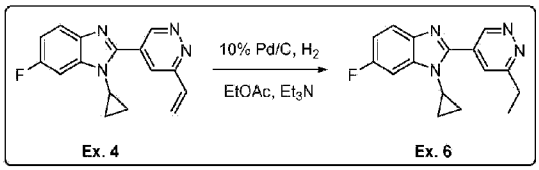
[0376] ^{1}H NMR (500MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.04 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.74 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (dd, *J* = 9.1, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (td, *J* = 9.3, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (s, 3H), 3.99-3.95 (m, 1H), 1.23-1.18 (m, 2H), 0.82-0.78 (m, 2H).

[0377] LC-MS: *m/z* 312.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.36 RT (95.19% purity).

[0378] HPLC: 99.01%.

Example 6 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0379]
Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-ethylpyridazin-4-yl)-6-fluoro-1H benzo [*d*] imidazole (Ex. 6)

[0380] To a stirred solution of 1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 4** (70 mg, 0.25 mmol) in ethyl acetate (8 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added triethylamine (cat.) and 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 20 mg) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was evacuated and stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and the celite bed was washed with EtOAc (40 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 5% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-ethylpyridazin-4-yl)-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 6**

(50 mg, 0.18 mmol, 67%) as an off white solid.

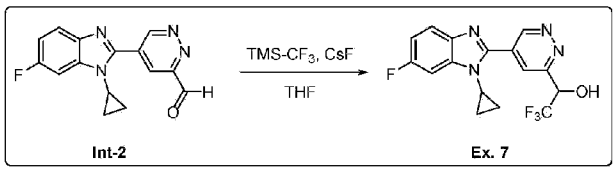
[0381] ^{1}H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.66 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.14 (m, 1H), 3.95-3.90 (m, 1H), 3.07 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 3H), 1.21-1.15 (m, 2H), 0.77-0.71 (m, 2H).

[0382] LC-MS: *m/z* 282.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.37 RT (98.84% purity).

[0383] HPLC: 98.29%.

Example 7 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0384]
Scheme:



1-(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethan-1-ol (Ex. 7)

[0385] To a stirred solution of 5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde **Int-2** (50 mg, 0.18 mmol) in THF (3 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added trimethyl (trifluoromethyl) silane (0.05 mL, 0.35 mmol) at 0 °C. Cesium fluoride (81 mg, 0.53 mmol) was added and the reaction was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated ammonium chloride solution (15 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 15 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 5% MeOH/$CH2Cl_2$) to afford 1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl)-2, 2, 2-trifluoroethan-1-ol **Ex. 7** (15 mg, 0.04 mmol, 24%) as an off white solid.

[0386] ^{1}H NMR (400MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.83 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.57 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.20-7.13 (m, 1H), 5.54 (q, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.90-3.85 (m, 1H), 1.33-1.20 (m, 2H), 0.87-0.79 (m, 2H).

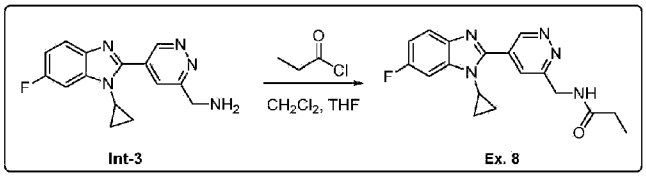
[0387] LC-MS: *m/z* 352.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.59 RT (96.11% purity).

[0388] HPLC: 93.29%.

Example 8 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0389]

Scheme:



N-((5-(1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methyl) propionamide (Ex. 8)

[0390] To a stirred solution of (5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl) methanamine **Int-3** (140 mg, 0.49 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added propionyl chloride (0.05 mL, 0.59 mmol) and triethylamine (0.14 mL, 0.1 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by preparative high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) to afford *N*-((5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl) methyl) propionamide **Ex. 8** (40 mg, 0.12 mmol, 24%) as white solid.

[0391] ^{1}H NMR (500MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.72 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 8.60 (br t, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (td, *J* = 9.8, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 4.67 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 3.89-3.84 (m, 1H), 2.22 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.25-1.16 (m, 2H), 1.04 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 3H), 0.77-0.71 (m, 2H).

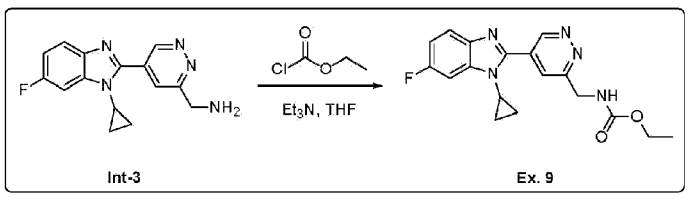
[0392] LC-MS: *m/z* 340.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.07 RT (99.22% purity).

[0393] HPLC: 99.08%.

Example 9 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0394]

Scheme:



Ethyl((5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methyl) carbamate (Ex. 9)

[0395] To a stirred solution of (5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl) methanamine **Int-3** (125 mg, 0.44 mmol) in THF (6 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added ethyl chloroformate (0.05 mL, 0.53 mmol) and triethylamine (0.12 mL, 0.88 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with saturated ammonium chloride solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by preparative HPLC to afford ethyl ((5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl) methyl) carbamate **Ex. 9** (40 mg, 0.11 mmol, 26%) as an off white solid.

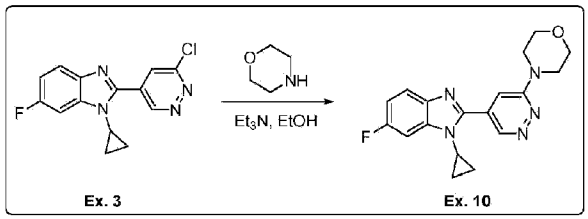
[0396] ^{1}H NMR (400MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.75 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (br t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (dd, *J* = 9.1, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.15 (m, 1H), 4.60 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 4.03 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.91-3.84 (m, 1H), 1.22-1.16 (m, 5H), 0.78-0.73 (m, 2H).

[0397] LC-MS: *m/z* 356.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.33 RT (98.62% purity).

[0398] HPLC: 99.15%.

Example 10 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0399]
Scheme:



4-(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)morpholine (Ex. 10)

[0400] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 3** (150 mg, 0.52 mmol) in ethanol (0.9 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added triethylamine (0.11 mL, 0.78 mmol) and morpholine (0.07 mL, 0.78 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 90 °C and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated ammonium chloride solution (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and

concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 100% EtOAc) to afford 4-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl) morpholine **Ex. 10** (40 mg, 0.12 mmol, 23%) as an off white solid.

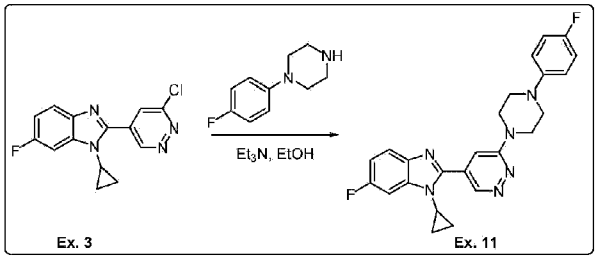
[0401] ^{1}H NMR (500MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.14 (s, 1H), 7.81-7.71 (m, 2H), 7.53 (br d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (br t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.93-3.91 (m, 1H), 3.83-3.61 (m, 8H), 1.18-1.16 (m, 2H), 0.75-0.73 (m, 2H).

[0402] LC-MS: *m/z* 340.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.33 RT (97.11% purity).

[0403] HPLC: 97.09%.

Example 11 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0404]
Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-2-(6-(4-(4-fluorophenyl)piperazin-1-yl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1H-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 11)

[0405] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 3** (50 mg, 0.17 mmol) in EtOH (0.3 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added triethylamine (0.036 mL, 0.26 mmol) and 1-(4-fluorophenyl) piperazine (47 mg, 0.26 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at 90 °C for 7 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 90% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-2-(6-(4-(4-fluorophenyl)piperazin-1-yl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 11** (40 mg, 0.09 mmol, 53%) as an off-white solid.

[0406] ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.13 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (dd, *J* = 9.1, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.20-7.14 (m, 1H), 7.12-7.02 (m, 4H), 3.96-3.92 (m, 1H), 3.89-3.83 (m, 4H), 3.28-3.24 (m, 4H), 1.21-1.15 (m, 2H), 0.78-0.72 (m, 2H)

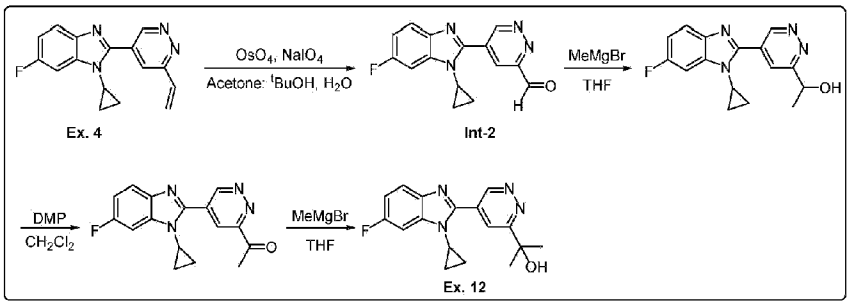
[0407] LC-MS: *m/z* 433.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.38 RT (99.63% purity).

[0408] HPLC: 96.82%.

Example 12 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0409]

Scheme:



5-(1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde (Int-2)

[0410] To a stirred solution of 1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-*1*H-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 4** (600 mg, 2.14 mmol) in Acetone: tert-butanol (^{t}BuOH): water (1:1:1, 30 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added sodium periodate (912 mg, 4.28 mmol) and osmium tetroxide (2.5 wt% in toluene, 3 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered, and the filter was washed with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 90% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde **Int-2** (400 mg, 1.41 mmol, 66%) as brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 10.52 (s, 1H), 10.08 (s, 1H), 8.65 (s, 1H), 7.81 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.17-7.12 (m, 1H), 3.78-3.67 (m, 1H), 1.39-1.30 (m, 2H), 0.94-0.82 (m, 2H)

1-[5-(1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1H-1,3-benzodiazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl] ethan-1-ol

[0411] To a stirred solution of 5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde **Int-2** (200 mg, 0.70 mmol) in THF (6 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added methylmagnesium bromide (2 M in diethylether, 0.35 mL, 0.70 mmol) drop wise at -78 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated ammonium chloride solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2-3% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 1-[5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1H-1,3-benzodiazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl]ethan-1-ol (150 mg, 0.50 mmol, 71%) as brown solid. **^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6):** δ 9.72 (s, 1H), 8.34 (s, 1H), 7.79 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 2.0

Hz, 1H), 7.23-7.14 (m, 1H), 5.78 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 5.16-5.05 (m, 1H), 3.95-3.90 (m, 1H), 1.52 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H), 1.25-1.15 (m, 2H), 0.77-0.75 (m, 2H)

1-(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H* benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)ethan-1-one

[0412] To a stirred solution of 1-[5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1H-1,3-benzodiazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl]ethan-1-ol (100 mg, 0.33 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added Dess-Martin periodinane (213 mg, 0.51 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 50 mL). The organic layer was washed with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2-3% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl) ethan-1-one (80 mg, 0.27 mmol, 81%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.04 (s, 1H), 8.64 (s, 1H), 7.82 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.23-7.11 (m, 1H), 4.02-3.91 (m, 1H), 2.87 (s, 3H), 1.20-1.15 (m, 2H), 0.79-0.76 (m, 2H)

2-(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H* benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl) propan-2-ol (Ex. 12)

[0413] To a stirred solution of 1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl) ethan-1-one (60 mg, 0.20 mmol) in THF (2 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added methylmagnesium bromide (2 M in diethylether, 0.1 mL, 0.20 mmol) drop wise at -78 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated ammonium chloride solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by preparative HPLC to afford 2-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl) propan-2-ol **Ex. 12** (15 mg, 0.05 mmol, 24%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.65 (s, 1H), 8.57 (s, 1H), 7.73 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.21-7.08 (m, 1H), 3.91-3.76 (m, 1H), 1.71 (s, 6H), 1.30-1.18 (m, 2H), 0.83-0.76 (m, 2H)

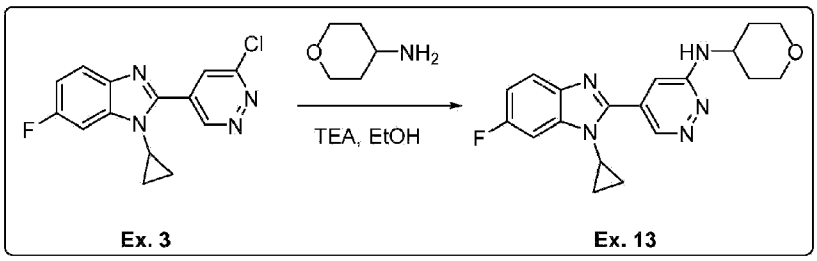
LC-MS: *m/z* 313 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.19 RT (95.83% purity).

HPLC: 95.47%.

Example 13 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0414]

Scheme:



5-(1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)-*N*-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-yl) pyridazin-3-amine (Ex. 13)

[0415] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 3** (150 mg, 0.52 mmol) in EtOH (1.5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added triethylamine (0.2 mL, 1.56 mmol) and tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-amine (105 mg, 1.04 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at reflux for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: EtOAc) to afford 5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)-*N*-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-yl)pyridazin-3-amine **Ex. 13** (40 mg, 0.11 mmol, 22%) as an off-white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.01 (s, 1H), 7.74 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (dd, *J* = 9.1, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (s, 1H), 7.18-7.11 (m, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.17-4.07 (m, 1H), 3.93-3.86 (m, 2H), 3.80-3.75 (m, 1H), 3.49-3.44 (m, 2H), 2.05-1.95 (m, 2H), 1.59-1.42 (m, 2H), 1.30-1.02 (m, 2H), 0.87-0.74 (m, 2H)

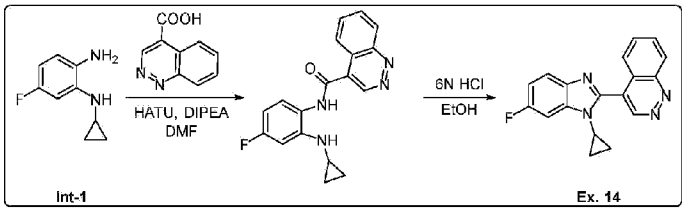
LC-MS: *m/z* 354 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.74 RT (97.97% purity).

HPLC: 97.95%.

Example 14 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0416]

Scheme:



N (2-(Cyclopropylamino)-4-fluorophenyl) cinnoline-4-carboxamide

[0417] To a stirred solution of *N*1-cyclopropyl-5-fluorobenzene-1, 2-diamine **Int-1** (500 mg, 3.01 mmol) in DMF (5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added cinnoline-4-carboxylic acid (524 mg, 3.01 mmol), HATU (1.71 g, 4.51 mmol) and diisopropylethylamine (1 mL, 6.02 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4-fluorophenyl) cinnoline-4-carboxamide (500 mg, crude) as brown solid used in the next step without further purification.

[0418] LC-MS: *m/z* 322.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.71 RT (38.30% purity).

4-(1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)cinnoline (Ex. 14)

[0419] To a stirred solution of N (2-(cyclopropylamino)-4-fluorophenyl) cinnoline-4-carboxamide (400 mg, 1.24 mmol) in EtOH (5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6N HCl (4 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by preparative HPLC to afford 4-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) cinnoline **Ex. 14** (160 mg, 0.52 mmol, 43%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.69 (s, 1H), 8.65 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.23 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 8.12-8.07 (m, 1H), 8.01-7.97 (m, 1H), 7.82-7.79 (m, 1H), 7.58 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.18 (m, 1H), 3.76-3.71 (m, 1H), 0.98-0.93 (m, 2H), 0.65-0.54 (m, 2H)

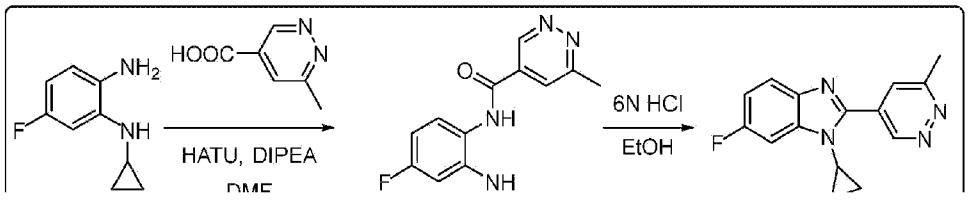
LC-MS: *m/z* 304.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.59 RT (99.51% purity).

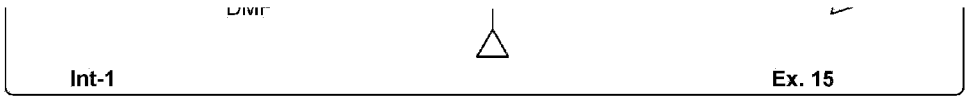
HPLC: 99.30%.

Example 15 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0420]

Scheme:





N-(2-(Cyclopropylamino)-4-fluorophenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0421] To a stirred solution of 6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (174 mg, 1.0 mmol) in DMF (3 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added *N*1-cyclopropyl-5-fluorobenzene-1, 2-diamine **Int-1** (166 mg, 1.0 mmol), HATU (570 mg, 1.5 mmol) and diisopropylethylamine (1.38 mL, 4 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with ammonium chloride solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4-fluorophenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (250 mg, crude) as brown solid.

[0422] LC-MS: *m/z* 287.2 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.53 RT (54.60% purity).

1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 15)

[0423] To a stirred solution of *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4-fluorophenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (250 g, 0.87 mmol) in EtOH (1.5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6N HCl (3.5 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with saturated sodium carbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (20 mL), brine (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 4-5% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 15** (80 mg, 0.29 mmol, 34%) as an off white solid.

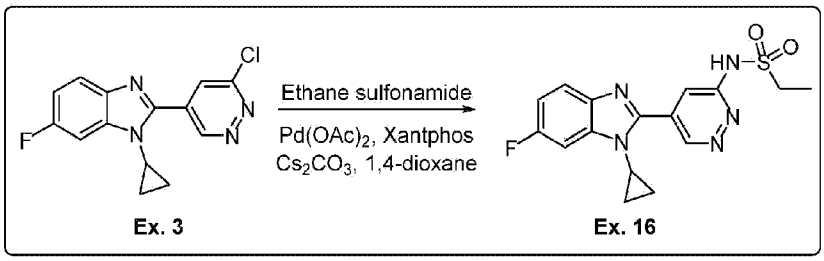
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.64 (s, 1H), 8.21 (s, 1H), 7.74 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.19-7.13 (m, 1H), 3.89-3.83 (m, 1H), 2.84 (s, 3H), 1.31-1.23 (m, 2H), 0.86-0.79 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 268.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.19 RT (95.85% purity).

HPLC: 97.59%.

Example 16 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0424]
Scheme:



***N*-(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)ethanesulfonamide (Ex. 16)**

[0425] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 3** (100 mg, 0.34 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (4 mL) was added ethane sulfonamide (57 mg, 0.52 mmol) and cesium carbonate (283 mg, 0.86 mmol) and the mixture was purged under argon for 5 min. $Pd(OAc)_2$ (7.8 mg, 0.004 mmol) and Xanthphos (30 mg, 0.05 mmol) were then added to the reaction mixture. The reaction mixture was heated to 120 °C and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (50 mL) and extracted with 10% MeOH: CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2-3% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford *N*-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)ethanesulfonamide **Ex. 16** (30 mg, 0.08 mmol, 24%) as colorless syrup.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 8.96 (brs, 1H), 8.45 (brs, 1H), 7.76-7.73 (m, 1H), 7.50 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.12 (m, 1H), 3.79-3.73 (m, 1H), 3.30-3.21 (m, 2H), 1.46-1.37 (m, 5H), 1.03-0.82 (m, 2H)

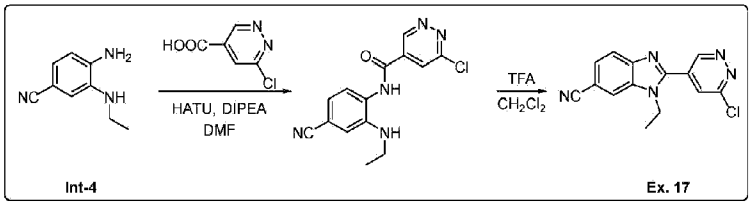
LC-MS: *m/z* 362 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.04 RT (95.41% purity).

HPLC: 94.11%.

Example 17 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0426]

Scheme:



6-Chloro-N-(4-cyano-2-(ethylamino)phenyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0427] To a stirred solution of 4-amino-3-(ethylamino) benzonitrile **Int-4** (322 mg, 2 mmol) in DMF (6 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6-chloropyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (316 mg, 2 mmol), HATU (1.14 g, 3 mmol) and ethyldiisopropylamine (1.38 mL, 8 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain 6-chloro-N (4-cyano-2-(ethylamino)phenyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide (350 mg, crude) as an off-white solid.

[0428] LC-MS: *m/z* 300.1 $[M-H]^-$ at 2.07 RT (18.03% purity).

2-(6-Chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-ethyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (Ex. 17)

[0429] To a stirred solution of 6-chloro-*N*-(4-cyano-2-(ethylamino) phenyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide (350 mg, 1.16 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (3 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) (1 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 6 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with saturated sodium carbonate solution (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (20 mL), brine (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by preparative HPLC to afford 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-ethyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 17** (25 mg, 0.08 mmol, 7.5%) as an off-white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.63 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 2H), 7.93 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.56-4.51 (m, 2H), 1.51 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H)

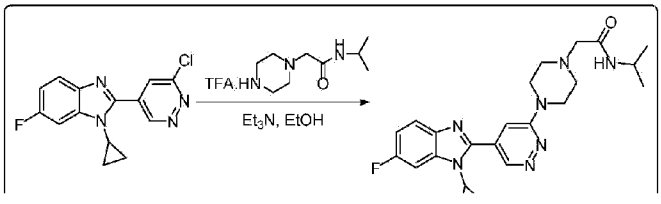
LC-MS: *m/z* 284.2 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.50 RT (99.67% purity).

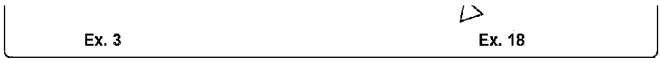
HPLC: 99.48%.

Example 18 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0430]

Scheme:





2-(4-(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)piperazin-1-yl)-N-isopropylacetamide (Ex. 18)

[0431] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 3** (56 mg, 0.19 mmol) in EtOH (2 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added triethylamine (0.04 mL, 0.28 mmol) and N-isopropyl-2-(4-(2, 2, 2-trifluoroacetyl)-415-piperazin-1-yl) acetamide (60 mg, 0.27 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at reflux for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by preparative HPLC to afford 2-(4-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)piperazin-1-yl)-*N*-isopropylacetamide **Ex. 18** (12 mg, 0.02 mmol, 14%) as an off white solid.

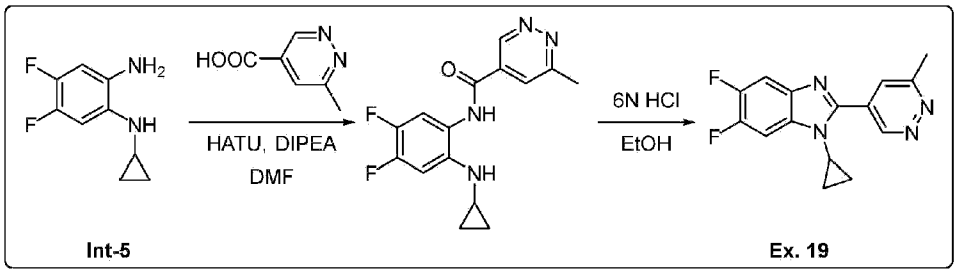
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.08 (s, 1H), 7.76 (s, 1H), 7.72 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (dt, *J* = 9.3, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.13-4.02 (m, 1H), 3.87-3.81 (m, 4H), 3.34-3.31 (m, 1H), 3.10 (s, 2H), 2.73-2.69 (m, 4H), 1.28-1.23 (m, 2H), 1.20 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 6H), 0.86-0.80 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 438.4 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.76 RT (94.38% purity).

HPLC: 94.23%.

<u>Example 19</u> (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0432]
<u>Scheme:</u>



A-(2-(Cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0433] To a stirred solution of *N*1-cyclopropyl-4, 5-difluorobenzene-1, 2-diamine **Int-5** (184 mg, 1.0 mmol) in DMF (3 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (174 mg, 1.0 mmol), HATU (570 mg, 1.5 mmol) and diisopropylethylamine (1.38 mL, 4.0 mmol) at 0

°C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with ammonium chloride solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (220 mg, crude) as brown syrup.

[0434] LC-MS: *m/z* 305.2 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.78 RT (44.76% purity).

1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H* benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 19)

[0435] To a stirred solution of *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (220 mg, 0.72 mmol) in EtOH (1.5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6N HCl (3.5 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with saturated sodium carbonate solution (100 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 100 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 3-5% $MeOH/CH_2Cl_2$) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1H-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 19** (60 mg, 0.20 mmol, 29%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.63 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.90-3.83 (m, 1H), 2.84 (s, 3H), 1.31-1.24 (m, 2H), 0.85-0.80 (m, 2H)

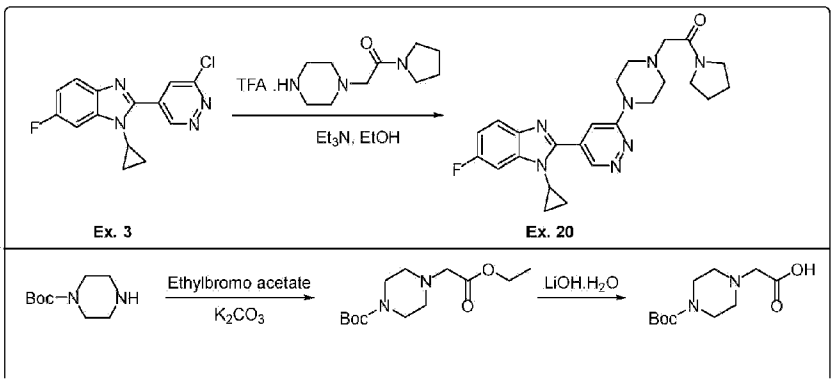
LC-MS: *m/z* 286.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.32 RT (99.57% purity).

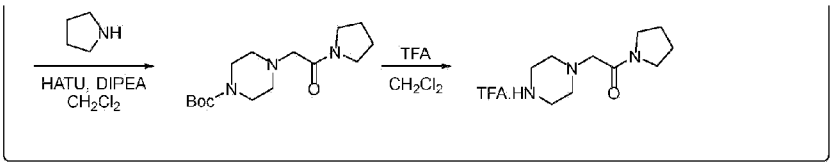
HPLC: 99.70%.

Example 20 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0436]

Scheme:





***tert*-Butyl 4-(2-ethoxy-2-oxoethyl) piperazine-1-carboxylate**

[0437] To a stirred solution of tert-butyl piperazine-1-carboxylate (2 g, 10.7 mmol) in DMF (14 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added potassium carbonate (3.71 g, 26.8 mmol) and ethylbromoacetate (1.2 mL, 10.8 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain tert-butyl 4-(2-ethoxy-2-oxoethyl) piperazine-1-carboxylate (2.8 g, 10.29 mmol, 95%) as a yellow oil.

^{1}H NMR (500MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 4.12-4.00 (m, 2H), 3.30 (s, 4H), 3.23 (s, 2H), 2.45 (t, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 4H), 1.39 (s, 9H), 1.18 (t, *J*= 7.1 Hz, 3H)

2-(4-tert-Butoxycarbonyl) piperazin-1-yl)acetic acid

[0438] To a stirred solution of tert-butyl 4-(2-ethoxy-2-oxoethyl) piperazine-1-carboxylate (2.8 g, 10.29 mmol) in a mixture of THF: MeOH: water (3:1:1, 30 mL) was added lithium hydroxide (1.29 g, 30.8 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were concentrated under reduced pressure. Then the residue was acidified to pH 4-5 with 5% citric acid solution and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 100 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain 2-(4-(tert-butoxycarbonyl) piperazin-1-yl) acetic acid (200 mg, crude) as yellow oil used in the next step without further purification.

[0439] LC-MS: *m/z* 245.1 $[M-H]^+$ at 1.06 RT (71.81% purity).

tert-Butyl 4-(2-oxo-2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)ethyl)piperazine-1-carboxylate

[0440] To a stirred solution of 2-(4-(tert-butoxycarbonyl) piperazin-1-yl) acetic acid (500 mg, 2.04 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (15 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added pyrrolidine (0.2 mL, 2.45 mmol), HATU (1.1 g, 3.07 mmol) and ethyldiisopropylamine (1.5 mL, 8.19 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford tert-butyl 4-(2-oxo-2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl) ethyl) piperazine-1-carboxylate (100

mg, 0.33 mmol, 16%) as brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (500MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 3.43 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 3.31 (s, 2H), 3.29-3.25 (m, 4H), 2.43 (brs, 4H), 1.87-1.82 (m, 2H), 1.78-1.71 (m, 2H), 1.39 (s, 9H), 1.29-1.23 (m, 2H)

4-(2-Oxo-2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)ethyl)piperazin-1-yl 2,2,2-trifluoroacetate salt

[0441] To a stirred solution of tert-butyl 4-(2-oxo-2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl) ethyl) piperazine-1-carboxylate (100 mg, 0.33 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (1 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added trifluoroacetic acid (0.5 mL) drop wise at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The crude material was washed with ether (2 x 5 mL) to afford 4-(2-oxo-2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl) ethyl) piperazin-1-yl 2, 2, 2-trifluoroacetate salt (120 mg as TFA salt) as a white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 3.72 (brs, 1H), 3.40-3.37 (m, 4H), 3.33-3.30 (m, 4H), 3.24 (s, 2H), 3.08 (brs, 4H), 1.92-1.85 (m, 2H), 1.81-1.76 (m, 2H)

2-(4-(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)piperazin-1-yl)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)ethan-1-one (Ex. 20)

[0442] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 3** (100 mg, 0.34 mmol) in EtOH (2 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added triethylamine (0.14 mL, 1.04 mmol) and 4-(2-oxo-2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)ethyl)piperazin-1-yl 2,2,2-trifluoroacetate salt (34 mg, 0.17 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 32 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by preparative HPLC to afford 2-(4-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl) piperazin-1-yl)-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl) ethan-1-one **Ex. 20** (20 mg, 0.041 mmol, 13%) as an off-white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.16 (s, 1H), 7.75-7.71 (m, 1H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 7.30 (dd, *J*= 8.6, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.11-7.06 (m, 1H), 3.87-3.85 (m, 4H), 3.63-3.57 (m, 1H), 3.53-3.43 (m, 4H), 3.28 (s, 2H), 2.83 (brs, 4H), 2.03-1.93 (m, 2H), 1.89-1.84 (m, 2H), 1.30-1.22 (m, 2H), 0.88-0.80 (m, 2H)

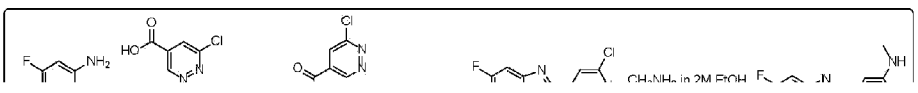
LC-MS: *m/z* 450.2 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.74 RT (97.66% purity).

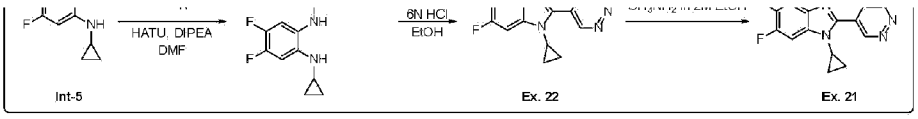
HPLC: 97.81%.

<u>Examples 21 & 22</u> (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0443]

<u>Scheme:</u>





6-Chloro-*N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0444] To a stirred solution of *N*1-cyclopropyl-4, 5-difluorobenzene-1, 2-diamine **Int-5** (1 g, 5.43 mmol) in DMF (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6-chloropyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (1.03 g, 6.52 mmol), HATU (2.48 g, 6.52 mmol) and diisopropylethylamine (3.9 mL, 21.72 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 0-2% MeOH/$CH2Cl_2$) to afford 6-chloro-N-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4, 5-difluorophenyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide (800 mg, 2.46 mmol, 45%) as a brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.50 (s, 1H), 7.95 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (brs, 1H), 7.37 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (dd, *J* = 12.4, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 4.16-4.03 (m, 1H), 2.51-2.40 (m, 1H), 0.83-0.75 (m, 2H), 0.56-0.47 (m, 2H)

2-(6-Chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 22)

[0445] To a stirred solution of 6-chloro-*N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4, 5-difluorophenyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide (700 mg, 2.16 mmol) in EtOH (7 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6N HCl (10.5 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at 70 °C for 30 min. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20-30% EtOAc/Hexane) to afford 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 22** (280 mg, 0.91 mmol, 42%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.78 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.15 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (dd, *J* = 10.0, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, *J* = 9.5, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.70-3.62 (m, 1H), 1.41-1.33 (m, 2H), 0.93-0.84 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 306.9 $[M+1]^+$ at 2.52 RT (99.86% purity).

HPLC: 99.51%.

5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)-*N*-methylpyridazin-3-amine (Ex. 21)

[0446] 2-(6-Chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (600 mg, 1.96 mmol) was dissolved in 2 M methylamine solution (2 M in diethylether, 3 mL) and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2-3% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)-*N*-methylpyridazin-3-amine **Ex. 21** (50 mg, 0.16 mmol, 8%) as pale green solid.

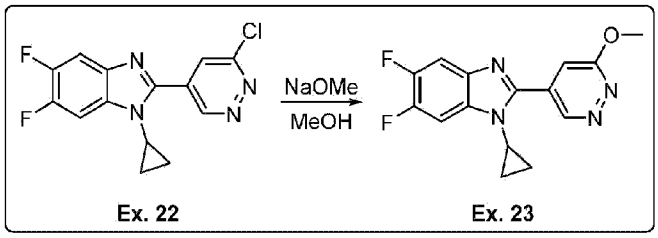
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.13 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (dd, *J* = 10.2, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (dd, *J* = 9.7, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 5.03 (d, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 3.59 (tt, *J* = 7.0, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 3.12 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 3H), 1.32-1.24 (m, 2H), 0.87-0.80 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 301.9 $[M+1]^+$ at 1.76 RT (98.78% purity).

HPLC: 99.48%.

Example 23 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0447]
Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-methoxypyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 23)

[0448] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (100 mg, 0.32 mmol) in MeOH (5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added sodium methoxide (53 mg, 0.98 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at 70 °C for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with water (10 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 10 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 40% EtOAc/Hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-methoxypyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 23** (40 mg, 0.13 mmol, 41%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.45 (s, 1H), 7.89-7.80 (m, 2H), 7.77 (s, 1H), 4.13 (s, 3H), 3.93-

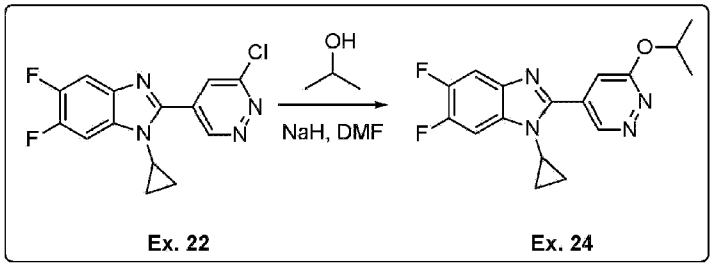
3.89 (m, 1H), 1.23-1.12 (m, 2H), 0.82-0.70 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 302.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.30 RT (99.80% purity).

HPLC: 99.68%.

Example 24 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0449]
Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-isopropoxypyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 24)

[0450] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (70 mg, 0.23 mmol) in DMF (0.5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added sodium hydride (55% in mineral oil, 20 mg, 0.46 mmol) portion wise at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 30 min. To this reaction mixture was added propan-2-ol (27.5 mg, 0.46 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with ice cold water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (10 mL), brine (10 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc/Hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-isopropoxypyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 24** (30 mg, 0.09 mmol, 40%) as an off white solid.

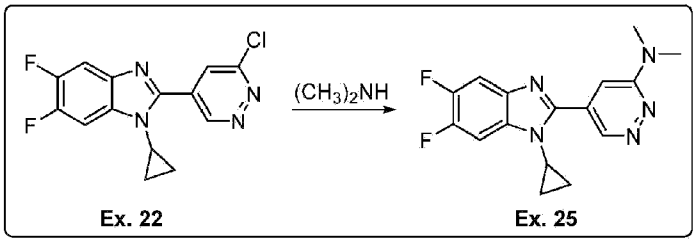
[0451] ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.39 (s, 1H), 7.89-7.80 (m, 2H), 7.67 (s, 1H), 5.57-5.51 (m, 1H), 3.93-3.89 (m, 1H), 1.42 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 6H), 1.20-1.11 (m, 2H), 0.86-0.68 (m, 2H)

[0452] LC-MS: *m/z* 330.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.88 RT (93.72% purity).

[0453] HPLC: 95.25%.

Example 25 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0454]
Scheme:



5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)-*N*,*N*-dimethylpyridazin-3-amine (Ex. 25)

[0455] 2-(6-Chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (60 mg, 0.19 mmol) was dissolved in 2 M dimethylamine solution (2 M in THF, 3 mL) and the reaction mixture was stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2-3% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)-*N*, *N*-dimethylpyridazin-3-amine **Ex. 25** (16 mg, 0.05 mmol, 26%) as an off white solid.

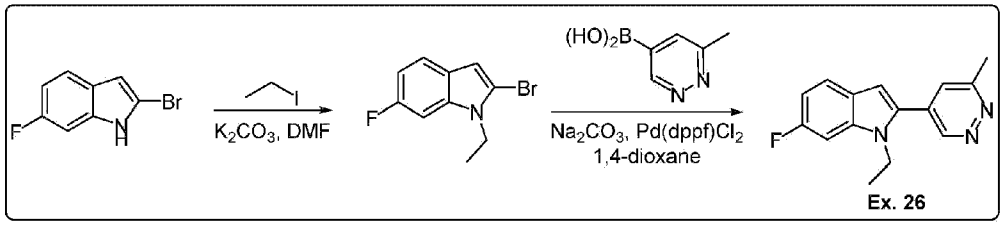
[0456] ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.08 (s, 1H), 7.58 (dd, *J* = 10.2, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (dd, *J* = 9.7, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (s, 1H), 3.62-3.57 (m, 1H), 3.28 (s, 6H), 1.29-1.23 (m, 2H), 0.87-0.77 (m, 2H)

[0457] LC-MS: *m/z* 316.1 $[M+1]^+$ at 1.81 RT (98.32% purity).

[0458] HPLC: 95.98%.

Example 26 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0459]
Scheme:



2-Bromo-1-ethyl-6-fluoro-1H indole

[0460] To a stirred solution of 2-bromo-6-fluoro-1*H*-indole (250 mg, 1.16 mmol) in DMF (2 mL) under an inert atmosphere were added potassium carbonate (476 mg, 3.50 mmol) followed by iodoethane (364 mg, 2.33 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with ice cold water (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain 2-bromo-1-ethyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-indole (280 mg, crude) as yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.43 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (dd, *J* = 9.7, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.86-6.84 (m, 1H), 6.54 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 4.21-4.16 (m, 2H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H)

1-Ethyl-6-fluoro-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-indole (Ex. 26)

[0461] To a stirred solution of 2-bromo-1-ethyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-indole (200 mg, 0.83 mmol) in 1, 4-dioxane (2 mL) were added (6-methylpyridazin-4-yl) boronic acid (214 mg, 1.24 mmol), sodium carbonate solution (2M, 0.5 mL) and purged under argon for 10 min. Then $Pd(dppf)Cl_2$ (60 mg, 0.08 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture and the reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 16 h in a sealed tube. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC; the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% $MeOH/CH_2Cl_2$) to afford 1-ethyl-6-fluoro-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-177-indole Ex. 26 (50 mg, 0.19 mmol, 20%) as a yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.25 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 7.28 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.96-6.90 (m, 2H), 4.35-4.30 (m, 2H), 2.77 (s, 3H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H)

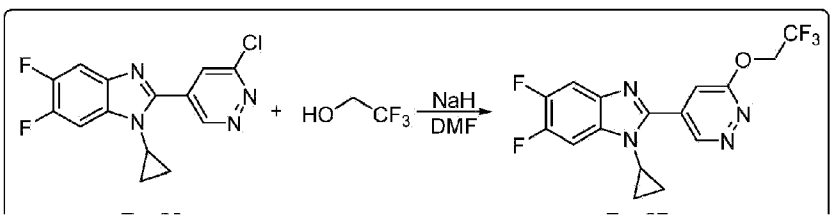
LC-MS: *m/z* 256 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.73 RT (98.24% purity)

HPLC: 97.70%

Example 27 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0462]

Scheme:



Ex. 22 Ex. 27

1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 27)

[0463] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (70 mg, 0.23 mmol) in DMF (0.5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added sodium hydride (55% in mineral oil, 20 mg, 0.46 mmol) portion wise at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 30 min. To this reaction mixture was added 2, 2, 2-trifluoroethan-1-ol (46 mg, 0.46 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with ice cold water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (10 mL), brine (10 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/Hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(2, 2, 2-trifluoroethoxy) pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 27** (50 mg, 0.13 mmol, 62%) as an off white solid.

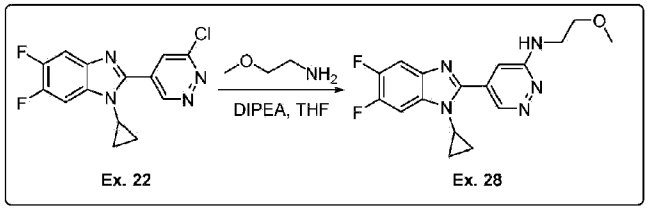
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.55 (s, 1H), 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.89-7.85 (m, 2H), 5.39-5.27 (m, 2H), 3.96-3.93 (m, 1H), 1.21-1.13 (m, 2H), 0.82-0.69 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 370.9 $[M+1]^+$ at 3.18 RT (99.73% purity).

HPLC: 98.32%.

Example 28 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0464]
Scheme:



Ex. 22 Ex. 28

5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)-*N*-(2-methoxyethyl)pyridazin-3-amine (Ex. 28)

[0465] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (50 mg, 0.16 mmol) in THF (0.5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was

added 2-methoxyethan-1-amine (0.5 mL, 75.11 mmol) and ethyldiisopropylamine (0.5 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at 110 °C for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was washed with CH_2Cl_2: Hexane (1: 9, 10 mL) to afford 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)-*N*-(2-methoxyethyl) pyridazin-3-amine **Ex. 28** (40 mg, 0.13 mmol, 92%) as a pale yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.12 (s, 1H), 7.56 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (dd, *J* = 9.7, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (s, 1H), 5.21 (brs, 1H), 3.76-3.73 (m, 2H), 3.69-3.64 (m, 2H), 3.61-3.59 (m, 1H), 3.41 (s, 3H), 1.31-1.25 (m, 2H), 0.87-0.81 (m, 2H)

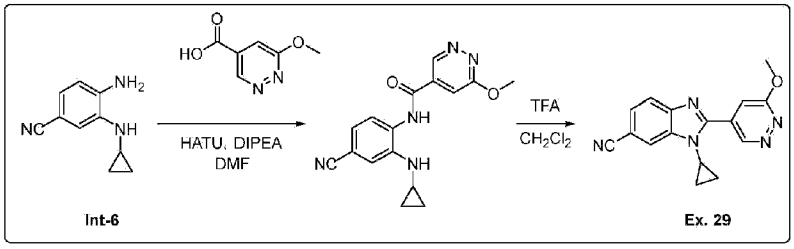
LC-MS: *m/z* 346 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.80 RT (97.27% purity).

HPLC: 97.05%.

Example 29 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0466]

Scheme:



***N*-(4-Cyano-2-(cyclopropylamino) phenyl)-6-methoxypyridazine-4-carboxamide**

[0467] To a stirred solution of 4-amino-3-(cyclopropylamino) benzonitrile **Int-6** (300 mg, 1.72 mmol) in DMF (5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6-methoxypyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (281 mg, 1.72 mmol), HATU (720 mg, 1.89 mmol) and ethyldiisopropylamine (0.8 mL, 5.17 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain N (4-cyano-2-(cyclopropylamino) phenyl)-6-methoxypyridazine-4-carboxamide (300 mg, crude) as yellow liquid used in the next step without further purification.

1-Cyctopropyl-2-(6-methoxypyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (Ex. 29)

[0468] To a stirred solution of *N*-(4-cyano-2-(cyclopropylamino) phenyl)-6-methoxypyridazine-4-carboxamide (300 mg, crude) in CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added trifluoroacetic acid (0.5 mL) drop wise at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with water (5 mL), basified with saturated sodium carbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH2Cl_2) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-methoxypyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 29** (40 mg, 0.13 mmol, 14% (over two steps)) as a pale yellow solid.

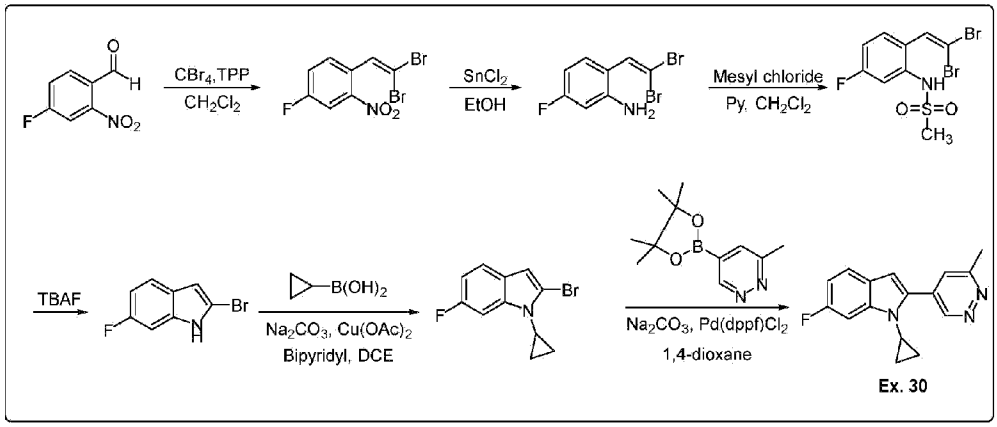
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.48 (s, 1H), 8.32 (s, 1H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (s, 1H), 7.71 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.14 (s, 3H), 4.01-3.85 (m, 1H), 1.23-1.14 (m, 2H), 0.87-0.77 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 291.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.25 RT (95.84% purity).

HPLC: 97.16%.

Example 30 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0469]
Scheme:



1-(2, 2-Dibromovinyl)-4-fluoro-2-nitrobenzene

[0470] To a stirred solution of 4-fluoro-2-nitrobenzaldehyde (2 g, 11.83 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (100 mL) were added carbon tetrabromide (5.8 g, 17.75 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (9.3 g, 35.50 mmol) at 0 °C under inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at 5 °C for 2 h. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC; the reaction mixture was filtered, the filtrate was concentrated under

reduced pressure to obtain 1-(2, 2-dibromovinyl)-4-fluoro-2-nitrobenzene (3.2 g, crude) as brown solid which was used in the next step without further purification.

2-(2, 2-Dibromovinyl)-5-fluoroaniline

[0471] To a stirred solution of 1-(2, 2-dibromovinyl)-4-fluoro-2-nitrobenzene (3.2 g, 9.87 mmol) in EtOH (20 mL) was added $SnCl_2$. H_2O (11.1 g, 46.29 mmol) at RT under inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at reflux for 2 h. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC; the volatiles were concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained residue was basified with potassium carbonate solution to pH~10 and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 10% EtOAc/Hexane) to afford 2-(2, 2-dibromovinyl)-5-fluoroaniline (2.1 g, 7.14 mmol, 72%) as brown solid.

LC-MS: *m/z* 295.6 $[M+2H]^+$ at 3.34 RT (96.98% purity)

7V-(2-(2, 2-Dibromovinyl)-5-fluorophenyl) methanesulfonamide

[0472] To a stirred solution of 2-(2, 2-dibromovinyl)-5-fluoroaniline (1 g, 3.40 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL) were added pyridine (0.54 mL, 6.80 mmol) and mesyl chloride (0.38 mL, 5.10 mmol) at 0 °C under inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at RT for 16 h. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC; the reaction mixture was quenched with $NaHSO_4$ solution and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 10% EtOAc/Hexane) to afford N-(2-(2, 2-dibromovinyl)-5-fluorophenyl) methanesulfonamide (1.1 g, 2.94 mmol, 87%) as brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.57 (s, 1H), 7.69 (s, 1H), 7.59 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dt, *J* = 8.4, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (s, 3H)

2-Bromo-6-fluoro-1H indole

[0473] To a stirred solution of N-(2-(2, 2-dibromovinyl)-5-fluorophenyl) methanesulfonamide (200 mg, 0.53 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was added TBAF 1M in THF (1 mL) at RT under inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 5 min in *microwave.* The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC; the reaction mixture was diluted with water (10 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain 2-bromo-6-fluoro-1*H*-indole 5 (100 mg, crude) as brown solid which was used in the next step without further purification.

LC-MS: *m/z* 295.6 $[M+2H]^+$ at 3.34 RT (96.98% purity)

2-Bromo-1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1H indole

[0474] To a stirred solution of 2-bromo-6-fluoro-1*H*-indole **5** (400 mg, 1.86 mmol) in 1, 2-dichloroethane (5 mL) were added cyclopropylboronic acid (321 mg, 3.73 mmol), sodium carbonate (571 mg, 5.60 mmol), copper acetate (371 mg, 1.86 mmol) and bipyridyl (291 mg, 1.86 mmol) at RT under inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 16 h in a sealed tube. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC; the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 10% EtOAc/Hexane) to afford 2-bromo-1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1H-indole (300 mg, 1.19 mmol, 63%) as brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 7.39 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.88-6.83 (m, 1H), 6.51 (s, 1H), 3.14-3.09 (m, 1H), 1.27-1.19 (m, 2H), 1.13-1.08 (m, 2H)

1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-indole (Ex. 30)

[0475] To a stirred solution of 2-bromo-1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-indole (200 mg, 0.79 mmol) in 1, 4-dioxane (5 mL) were added 3-methyl-5-(4, 4, 5, 5-tetramethyl-1, 3, 2-dioxaborolan-2-yl) pyridazine (261 mg, 1.19 mmol), sodium carbonate solution (2M, 0.5 mL) and purged under argon for 10 min. Then $Pd(dppf)Cl_2$ (58 mg, 0.08 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture and the reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 16 h in a sealed tube. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC; the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% $MeOH/CH_2Cl_2$) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-indole **Ex. 30** (36 mg, 0.13 mmol, 17%) as a pale yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.42 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (dd, *J* = 10.0, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (s, 1H), 6.96-6.91 (m, 1H), 3.83-3.68 (m, 1H), 2.80-2.79 (m, 3H), 1.25-1.09 (m, 2H), 0.78-0.63 (m, 2H)

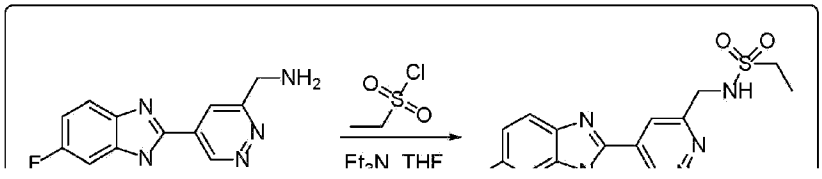
LC-MS: *m/z* 267.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.78 RT (98.96% purity)

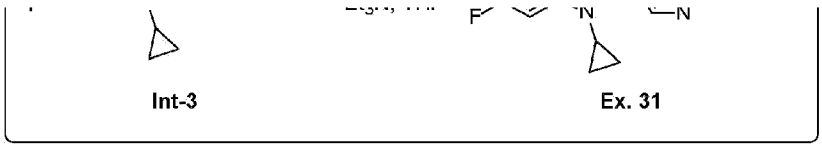
HPLC: 97.98%

Example 31 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0476]

Scheme:





***N*-((5-(1-Cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide (Ex. 31)**

[0477] To a stirred solution of (5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl) methanamine **Int-3** (30 mg, 0.10 mmol) in THF (2 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added ethanesulfonyl chloride (16 mg, 0.12 mmol) and triethylamine (0.03 mL, 0.21 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by preparative HPLC to afford *N*-((5-(1-cyclopropyl-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl) methyl) ethanesulfonamide **Ex. 31** (15 mg, 0.04 mmol, 38%) as white solid.

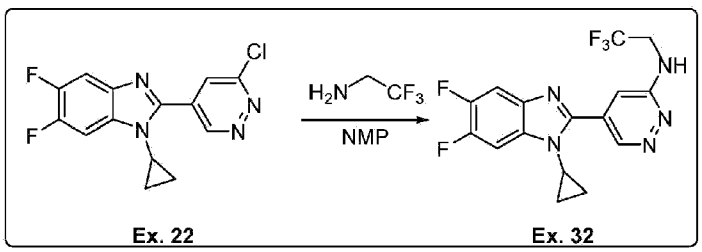
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.73 (s, 1H), 8.52 (s, 1H), 7.78-7.74 (m, 1H), 7.53 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.20-7.14 (m, 1H), 4.71 (s, 2H), 3.87-3.82 (m, 1H), 3.24-3.19 (m, 2H), 1.47-1.31 (m, 5H), 0.89-0.80 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 376 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.21 RT (99.12% purity).

HPLC: 98.34%.

Example 32 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0478]
Scheme:



5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)-N-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)pyridazin-3-amine (Ex. 32)

[0479] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (80 mg, 0.26 mmol) in NMP (1.2 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 2,2,2-trifluoroethan-1-amine (1.2 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at 130 °C for 6 h in microwave. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 3%MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)-N-(2, 2, 2-trifluoroethyl) pyridazin-3-amine **Ex. 32** (15 mg, 0.04 mmol, 15%) as a pale yellow solid.

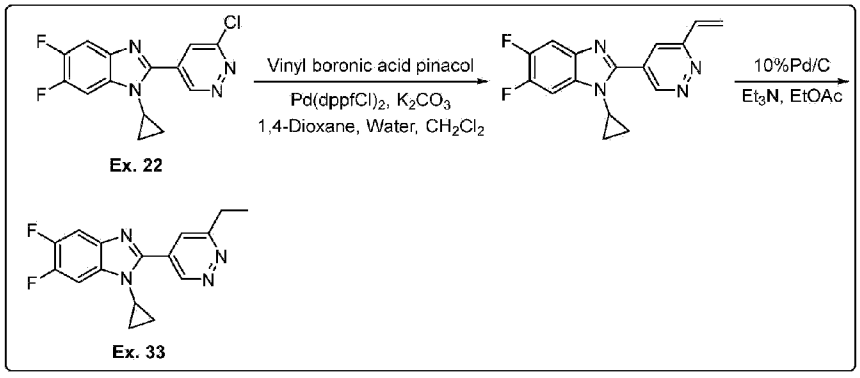
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.28 (s, 1H), 7.59 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, *J* = 9.6, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (s, 1H), 5.09 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 4.43-4.30 (m, 2H), 3.66-3.60 (m, 1H), 1.36-1.29 (m, 2H), 0.91-0.84 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 370 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.21 RT (97.23% purity).

HPLC: 97.15%.

Example 33 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0480]
Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole

[0481] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (150 mg, 0.50 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (3 mL) and water (0.5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added vinyl boronic acid pinacol ester (76 mg, 0.50 mmol) and potassium carbonate (203 mg, 1.47 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was degassed with argon for 10 min, Pd(dppf)Cl_2 (4 mg, 0.005 mmol) was added, and the reaction mixture was

degassed with argon for another 10 min. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc/ Hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (70 mg, 0.23 mmol, 48%) as an off-white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.69 (s, 1H), 8.45 (s, 1H), 7.90-7.83 (m, 2H), 7.18-7.11 (m, 1H), 6.53 (d, *J* = 17.7 Hz, 1H), 5.82 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 3.99-3.97 (m, 1H), 1.22-1.13 (m, 2H), 0.82-0.60 (m, 2H)

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-ethylpyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 33)

[0482] To a stirred solution of 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (70 mg, 0.23 mmol) in EtOAc (3 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 10% Pd/C (20 mg) and triethylamine (catalytic amount) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and washed the pad was washed with methanol (30 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-ethylpyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 33** (35 mg, 0.11 mmol, 50%) as an off-white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.65 (s, 1H), 8.17 (s, 1H), 7.89-7.81 (m, 2H), 3.95-3.91 (m, 1H), 3.10-3.04 (m, 2H), 1.36 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3H), 1.24-1.12 (m, 2H), 0.79-0.64 (m, 2H)

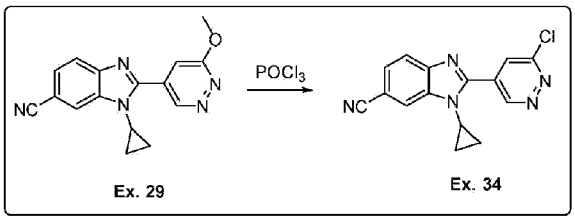
LC-MS: *m/z* 300.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.51 RT (98.98% purity).

HPLC: 97.01%.

Example 34 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0483]

Scheme:



2-(6-Chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (Ex. 34)

[0484] To a stirred solution of 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-methoxypyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 29** (60 mg, 0.20 mmol) in phosphoryl chloride ($POCl_3$) (0.38 mL, 4.13 mmol) under an inert atmosphere at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 100 °C and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was basified with saturated sodium carbonate solution (30 mL) extracted with EtOAc (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 34** (10 mg, 0.03 mmol, 16%) as white solid.

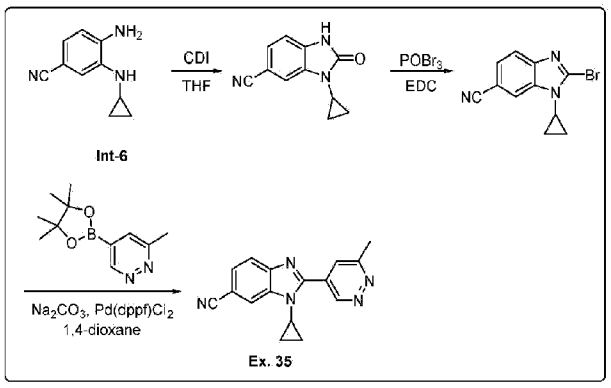
[0485] ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.82 (s, 1H), 8.47 (s, 1H), 8.26 (s, 1H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 3.95-3.90 (m, 1H), 1.36-1.29 (m, 2H), 0.94-0.84 (m, 2H)

[0486] LC-MS: *m/z* 296.2 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.28 RT (96.40% purity).

[0487] HPLC: 96.31%.

Example 35 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0488]
Scheme:



3-Cyclopropyl-2-oxo-2, 3-dihydro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-5-carbonitrile

[0489] To a stirred solution of 4-amino-3-(cyclopropylamino) benzonitrile **Int-6** (500 mg, 2.89 mmol) in THF (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 1,1'-carbonyldiimidazole (CDI) (702 mg, 4.33 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30-40% EtOAc/Hexane) to afford 3-cyclopropyl-2-oxo-2, 3-dihydro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-5-carbonitrile (200 mg, 1.00 mmol, 35%) as an off-white

solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 11.29 (brs, 1H), 7.55 (s, 1H), 7.45 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J*= 8.1 Hz, 1H), 2.91-2.85 (m, 1H), 1.05-1.00 (m, 2H), 0.92-0.83 (m, 2H)

2-Bromo-1-cyclopropyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile

[0490] To a stirred solution of 2-bromo-3-cyclopropyl-2, 3-dihydro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-5-carbonitrile (200 mg, 1.0 mmol) in 1,2-dichloroethane (DCE) (4 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added phosphoryl bromide (1.2 g, 4.02 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL), basified with saturated sodium carbonate solution (30 mL) extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain 2-bromo-3-cyclopropyl-2,3-dihydro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-5-carbonitrile (50 mg, 0.20 mmol, 19%) as white solid used in the next step without further purification.

[0491] LC-MS: *m/z* 261.8 $[M+]^+$ at 2.52 RT (96.21% purity).

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (Ex. 35)

[0492] To a stirred solution of 2-bromo-3-cyclopropyl-2, 3-dihydro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-5-carbonitrile (100 mg, 0.38 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (3 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 3-methyl-5-(4, 4, 5, 5-tetramethyl-1, 3, 2-dioxaborolan-2-yl) pyridazine (126.9 mg, 0.57 mmol) and 2M aqueous sodium carbonate solution (0.3 mL, 0.64 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was degassed under argon for 10 min, $Pd(dppf)Cl_2$ (23 mg, 0.03 mmol) was added, and the mixture was degassed under argon for another 10 min. The reaction mixture was heated to 90 °C and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc/ Hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 35** (20 mg, 0.07 mmol, 12%) as an off-white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.68 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.26 (s, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 3.94-3.90 (m, 1H), 2.86 (s, 3H), 1.36-1.25 (m, 2H), 0.90-0.81 (m, 2H)

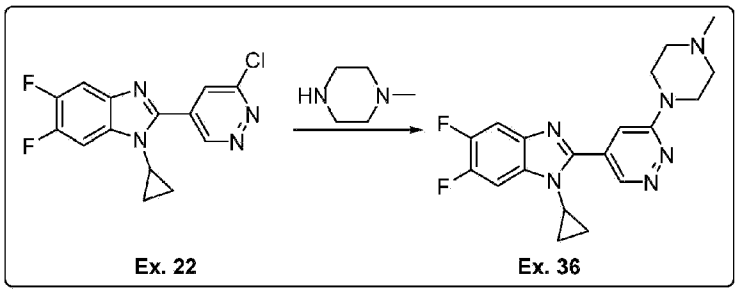
LC-MS: *m/z* 275.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.02 RT (99.65% purity).

HPLC: 99.26%.

Example 36 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0493]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 36)

[0494] A solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1H-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (50 mg, 0.16 mmol) in 1-methylpiperazine (0.5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was stirred at 130 °C for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 5%MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1H-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 36** (25 mg, 0.06 mmol, 41%) as a pale yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.13 (s, 1H), 7.57 (dd, *J* = 10.2, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (s, 1H), 7.41 (dd, *J* = 9.6, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.86-3.74 (m, 4H), 3.63-3.57 (m, 1H), 2.64-2.52 (m, 4H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 1.30-1.25 (m, 2H), 0.85-0.81 (m, 2H)

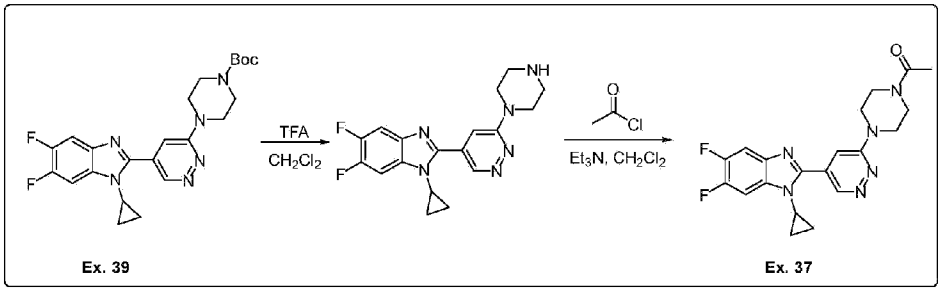
LC-MS: *m/z* 371 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.71 RT (98.46% purity).

HPLC: 97.35%.

Example 37 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0495]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(piperazin-1-yl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole

[0496] To a stirred solution of *tert*-butyl 4-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl) piperazine-1-carboxylate **Ex. 39** (200 mg, 0.43 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (2 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added trifluoroacetic acid (0.6 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was neutralized with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was washed with ether: *n*-pentane (1: 1, 2 × 2 mL) to obtain 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(piperazin-1-yl) pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (90 mg, crude) as brown solid used in the next step without further purification.

[0497] LC-MS: ***m/z*** 357 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.78 RT (98.01% purity).

1-(4-(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)piperazin-1-yl) ethan-1-one (Ex. 37)

[0498] To a stirred solution of 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(piperazin-1-yl) pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (50 mg, 0.14 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (1 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added triethylamine (0.05 mL, 0.42 mmol) and acetyl chloride (0.01 mL, 0.14 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 10 min. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 5% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 1-(4-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)piperazin-1-yl)ethan-1-one **Ex. 37** (14 mg, 0.03 mmol, 25%) as a pale yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.20 (s, 1H), 7.57 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (s, 1H), 7.42 (dd, *J* = 9.6, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.94-3.89 (m, 2H), 3.84-3.78 (m, 2H), 3.75-3.70 (m, 2H), 3.69-3.64 (m, 2H), 3.64-3.59 (m, 1H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 1.32-1.26 (m, 2H), 0.86-0.81 (m, 2H)

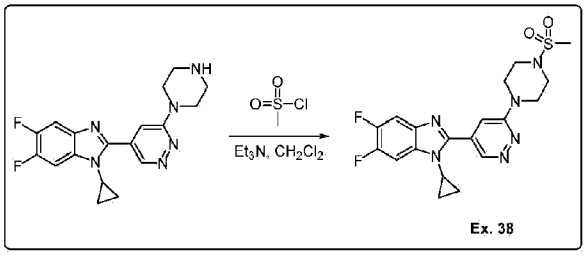
LC-MS: *m/z* 399.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.57 RT (93.31% purity).

HPLC: 92.89%.

Example 38 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0499]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(4-(methylsulfonyl)piperazin-1-yl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 38)

[0500] To a stirred solution of 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(piperazin-1-yl) pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (50 mg, 0.14) in CH_2Cl_2 (1 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added triethylamine (0.05 mL, 0.42 mmol) and mesyl chloride (0.01 mL, 0.14 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 5% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(4-(methylsulfonyl) piperazin-1-yl) pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 38** (14 mg, 0.03 mmol, 25%) as a pale yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.22 (s, 1H), 7.57 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (s, 1H), 7.42 (dd, *J* = 9.6, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.96-3.91 (m, 4H), 3.65-3.60 (m, 1H), 3.43-3.38 (m, 4H), 2.84 (s, 3H), 1.34-1.24 (m, 2H), 0.91-0.80 (m, 2H)

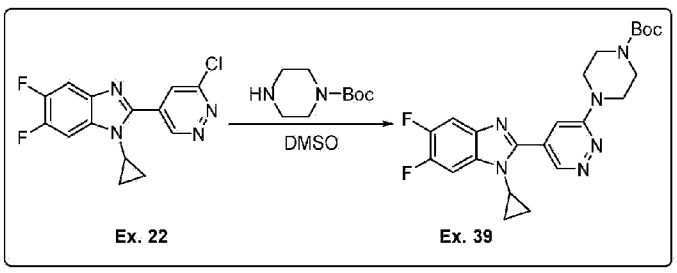
LC-MS: *m/z* 435.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.09 RT (98.86% purity).

HPLC: 97.10%.

Example 39 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0501]

Scheme:



***tert*-Butyl 4-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)piperazine-1-carboxylate (Ex. 39)**

[0502] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 22** (200 mg, 0.65 mmol) in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) (4 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added tert-butyl piperazine-1-carboxylate (729 mg, 3.97 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at 130 °C for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (20 mL), brine (20 mL) dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 5%MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford **Ex. 39** (230 mg, 0.50 mmol, 77%) as brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.17 (s, 1H), 7.57 (dd, *J* = 10.0, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 7.41 (dd, *J* = 9.7, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.78-3.75 (m, 4H), 3.64-3.58 (m, 5H), 1.50 (s, 9H), 1.31-1.26 (m, 2H), 0.86-0.81 (m, 2H)

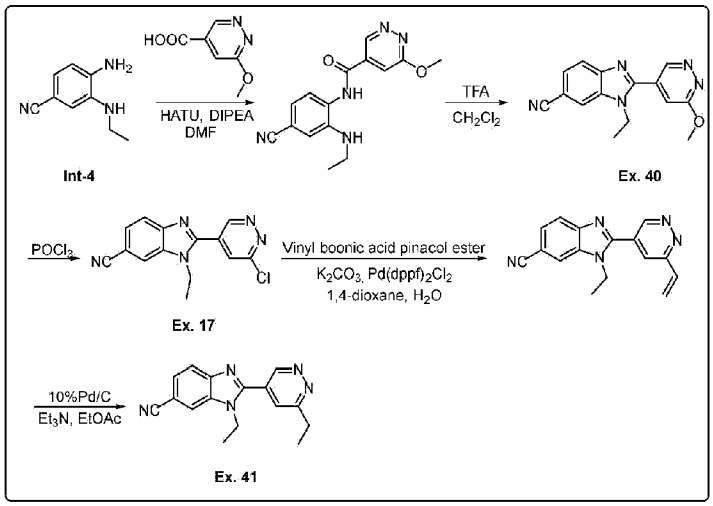
LC-MS: *m/z* 457.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.52 RT (97.87% purity).

HPLC: 95.78%.

Examples 40 & 41 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0503]

Scheme:



6-Chloro-*N*-(4-cyano-2-(ethylamino) phenyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0504] To a stirred solution of 6-chloropyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (100 mg, 0.64 mmol) in DMF (2 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 4-amino-3-(ethylamino) benzonitrile **Int-4** (104 mg, 0.64 mmol), HATU (369.9 mg, 0.97 mmol) and ethyldiisopropylamine (0.45 mL, 2.59 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with aqueous ammonium chloride solution (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain 6-chloro-N (4-cyano-2-(ethylamino) phenyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide (90 mg, crude) as yellow solid.

[0505] LC-MS: *m/z* 300.9 $[M]^+$ at 2.07 RT (36.25% purity).

1-Ethyl-2-(6-methoxypyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (Ex. 40)

[0506] To a stirred solution of 6-chloro-*N*-(4-cyano-2-(ethylamino) phenyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide (100 mg, 0.33 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (1.6 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added trifluoroacetic acid (0.4 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 6 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with saturated sodium carbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (20 mL), brine (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was triturated with ether (2 × 10 mL) and n-pentane (2 × 10 mL) to afford 1-ethyl-2-(6-methoxypyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 40** (25 mg, 0.09 mmol, 26%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.27 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (s, 1H), 7.91 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (s, 1H), 4.53-4.49 (m, 2H), 4.22 (s, 3H), 1.48 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 279.8 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.15 RT (98.27% purity).

HPLC: 98.65%.

2-(6-Chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-ethyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (Ex. 17)

[0507] To a stirred solution of 1-ethyl-2-(6-methoxypyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 40** (85 mg, 0.30 mmol) in phosphoryl chloride (0.57 mL, 6.09 mmol) under an inert atmosphere at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 100 °C for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was basified with aqueous sodium carbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (10 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was triturated with ether (2 × 5 mL) and n-pentane (2 x5 mL) to afford 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-ethyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 17** (100 mg, crude) as pale yellow syrup used in the next step without further purification.

1-Ethyl-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile

[0508] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-ethyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 17** (130 mg, 0.46 mmol) in 1, 4-dioxane (3 mL) and water (0.5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added vinyl boronic acid pinacol (70 mg, 0.46 mmol) and potassium carbonate (190 mg, 1.37 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was degassed under argon for 10 min. To this was added Pd(dppf)Cl_2 (3.7 mg, 0.005 mmol) at room temperature and the mixture was degassed under argon for an additional 10 min. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered. The filtrate concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain 1-ethyl-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (110 mg, crude) as brown syrup.

[0509] LC-MS: *m/z* 275.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.18 RT (78.16% purity).

1-Ethyl-2-(6-ethylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (Ex. 41)

[0510] To a stirred solution of 1-ethyl-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (110 mg, 0.40 mmol) in EtOAc (5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 20 mg) and triethylamine (0.005 mL, 0.04 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and washed with EtOAc (20 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by preparative HPLC to afford 1-ethyl-2-(6-ethylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 41** (4 mg, 14.44 mmol, 4%) as an off-white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.51 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.26 (s, 1H), 8.06 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.55-4.50 (m, 2H), 3.21-3.15 (m, 2H), 1.53-1.45 (m, 6H)

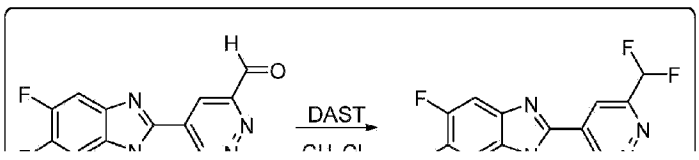
LC-MS: *m/z* 277.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.12 RT (96.23% purity).

HPLC: 96.66%.

Example 42

[0511]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 42)

[0512] To a stirred solution of 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde **Int-27** (100 mg, 0.33 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added (diethylamino)sulfur trifluoride (DAST) (0.09 mL, 0.66 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with saturated sodium carbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc/Hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl) pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 42** (40 mg, 0.12 mmol, 37%) as brown solid.

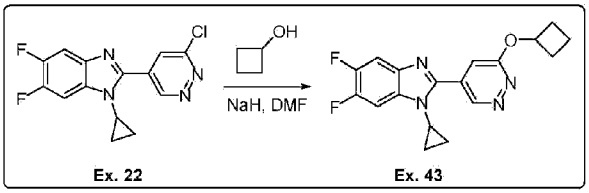
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.99 (s, 1H), 8.55 (s, 1H), 7.93-7.85 (m, 2H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 54.5 Hz, 1H), 4.01-3.97 (m, 1H), 1.25-1.13 (m, 2H), 0.84-0.72 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 323.3 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.53 RT (98.91% purity).

HPLC: 99.33%.

Example 43 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0513]
Scheme:



2-(6-Cyclobutoxypyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 43)

[0514] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (50 mg, 0.16 mmol) in DMF (2 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added sodium hydride (60% in mineral oil, 16.3 mg, 0.41 mmol) portion wise at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 10 min. Then cyclobutanol (141 mg, 0.20 mmol) was added to the reaction

mixture at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with ice cold water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 3% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 2-(6-cyclobutoxypyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 43** (45 mg, 0.13 mmol, 57%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.42 (s, 1H), 7.59 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 7.44-7.40 (m, 1H), 5.53-5.48 (m, 1H), 3.62-3.57 (m, 1H), 2.67-2.50 (m, 2H), 2.31-2.08 (m, 2H), 1.99-1.83 (m, 1H), 1.78-1.73 (m, 1H), 1.37-1.24 (m, 2H), 0.89-0.77 (m, 2H)

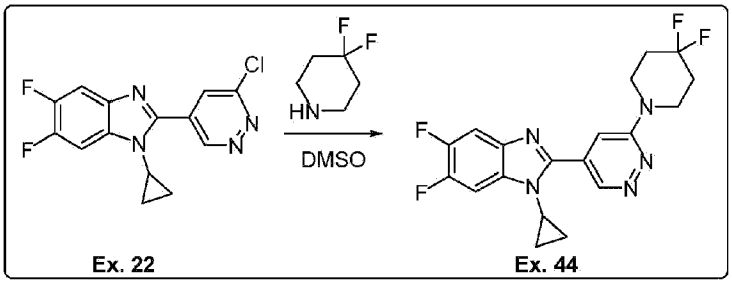
LC-MS: *m/z* 343 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.61 RT (95.30% purity).

HPLC: 95.28%.

Example 44 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0515]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(4,4-difluoropiperidin-1-yl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 44)

[0516] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (100 mg, 0.32 mmol) in DMSO (2 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 4, 4-difluoropiperidine (59 mg, 0.49 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 120-130 °C and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with ice cold water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50-60% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(4, 4-difluoropiperidin-1-yl) pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 44** (40 mg, 0.10 mmol, 32%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.09 (s, 1H), 7.82 (s, 1H), 7.72-7.68 (m, 1H), 7.62-7.57 (m, 1H), 3.99-3.92 (m, 4H), 3.86-3.83 (m, 1H), 2.19-2.00 (m, 4H), 1.27-1.19 (m, 2H), 0.87-0.76 (m, 2H)

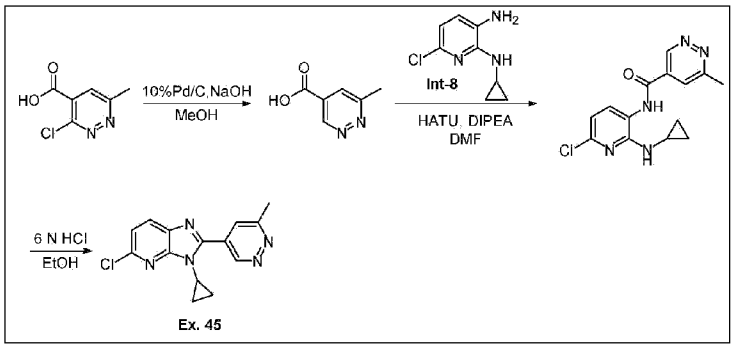
LC-MS: *m/z* 392.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.98 RT (93.89% purity).

HPLC: 92.05%.

Example 45 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0517]

Scheme:



6-Methylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid

[0518] To a stirred solution of 3-chloro-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid 1 (500 mg, 2.90 mmol) in MeOH (50 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added sodium hydroxide (395 mg, 9.80 mmol) and 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 150 mg) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure and 6N HCl was added up to pH~6 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain 6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (410 mg, crude) as yellow liquid used in the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.24 (s, 1H), 7.69 (s, 1H), 2.62 (s, 3H)

N (6-Chloro-2-(cyclopropylamino) pyridin-3-yl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0519] To a stirred solution of 6-chloro-A2-cyclopropylpyridine-2, 3-diamine **Int-8** (400 mg, 2.18 mmol) in DMF (5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added compound 6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (362 mg, 2.62 mmol), HATU (996 mg, 2.62 mmol) and ethyldiisopropylamine (1.6 mL, 8.75 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (30 mL)

and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain *N*-(6-chloro-2-(cyclopropylamino) pyridin-3-yl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (200 mg, 0.66 mmol, 30%) as black solid used in the next step without further purification.

LC-MS: *m/z* 303.9 $[M+H]^+$ at RT 2.06 (93.73% purity).

5-Chloro-3-cyclopropyl-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine (Ex. 45)

[0520] To a stirred solution of *N*-(6-chloro-2-(cyclopropylamino) pyridin-3-yl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (100 mg, 0.33 mmol) in EtOH (2 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6N HCl (3 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with saturated Sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by preparative HPLC to afford 5-chloro-3-cyclopropyl-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine **Ex. 45** (12 mg, 0.04 mmol, 10%) as brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.67 (s, 1H), 8.26 (s, 1H), 8.12 (d, *J*= 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.83-3.78 (m, 1H), 2.84 (s, 3H), 1.29-1.25 (m, 2H), 0.94-0.92 (m, 2H)

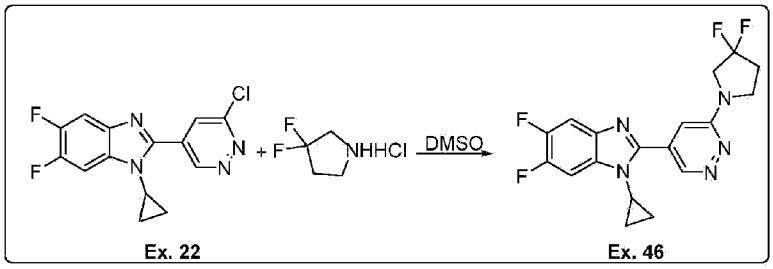
LC-MS: *m/z* 285.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.03 RT (98.73% purity).

HPLC: 95.65%.

Example 46 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0521]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(3,3-difluoropyrrolidin-1-yl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 46)

[0522] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-

benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (100 mg, 0.32 mmol) in DMSO (2 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 3, 3-difluoropyrrolidine hydrochloride (70 mg, 0.50 mmol) and triethylamine (0.06 mL, 0.49 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 130 °C and stirred for 48 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with ice cold water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by preparative HPLC to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(3,3-difluoropyrrolidin-1-yl) pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 46** (15 mg, 0.04 mmol, 12%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.10 (s, 1H), 7.72-7.68 (m, 1H), 7.62-7.57 (m, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (t, *J* = 12.9 Hz, 2H), 3.90-3.77 (m, 3H), 2.69-2.54 (m, 2H), 1.30-1.22 (m, 2H), 0.86-0.80 (m, 2H)

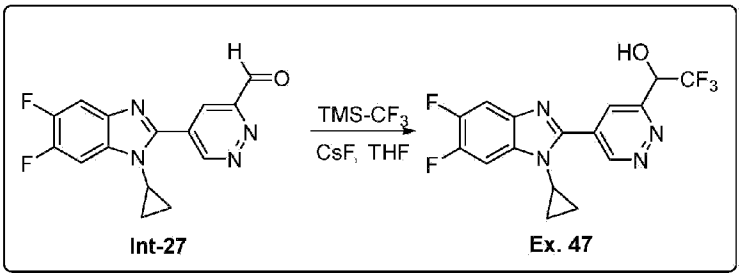
LC-MS: *m/z* 378.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.80 RT (97.60% purity).

HPLC: 99.55%.

Example 47 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0523]

Scheme:



1-(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethan-1-ol (Ex. 47)

[0524] To a stirred solution of 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde **Int-27** (50 mg, 0.16 mmol) in THF (1 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added

trimethyl (trifluoromethyl) silane (47 mg, 0.33 mmol) at 0 °C. Cesium fluoride (76 mg, 0.50 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with 1N HCl solution (5 mL) at 0 °C and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 15 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc/Hexane) to afford 1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)-2, 2, 2-trifluoroethan-1-ol **Ex. 47** (10 mg, 0.03 mmol, 16%) as brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.83 (s, 1H), 8.58 (s, 1H), 7.75-7.71 (m, 1H), 7.67-7.63 (m, 1H), 5.60-5.52 (m, 1H), 3.94-3.81 (m, 1H), 1.35-1.21 (m, 2H), 0.93-0.78 (m, 2H)

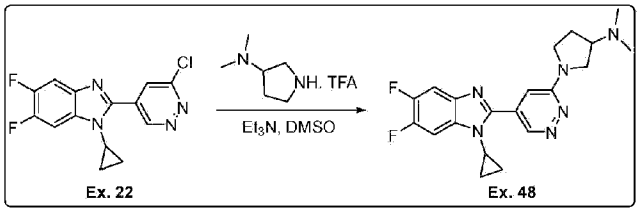
LC-MS: *m/z* 371 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.69 RT (95.24% purity).

HPLC: 95.69%.

Example 48 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0525]

Scheme:



1-(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)-*N,N*-dimethylpyrrolidin-3-amine (Ex. 48)

[0526] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (115 mg, 0.37 mmol) in DMSO (2 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added triethylamine (0.116 mL, 0.84 mmol) and 1-(3-(dimethylamino)-1l5-pyrrolidin-1-yl)-2, 2, 2-trifluoroethan-1-one (120 mg, 0.56 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 90 °C for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with ice cold water (10 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 10 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 5-10% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl)-*N*, *N*-dimethylpyrrolidin-3-amine **Ex. 48** (10 mg, 0.02 m mol, 7%) as an off-white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.01 (s, 1H), 7.72-7.67 (m, 1H), 7.61-7.57 (m, 1H), 7.44 (s, 1H),

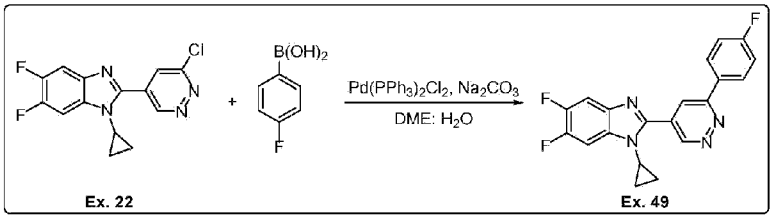
3.96-3.93 (m, 1H), 3.86-3.81 (m, 2H), 3.62-3.55 (m, 1H), 3.45-3.37 (m, 1H), 3.09-2.99 (m, 1H), 2.38 (s, 6H), 2.08-1.95 (m, 1H), 1.32-1.20 (m, 3H), 0.87-0.78 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 385.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.06 RT (97.17% purity).

HPLC: 98.58%.

Example 49 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0527]
Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(4-fluorophenyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 49)

[0528] $Pd(PPh_3)_2Cl_2$ (11.5 mg, 0.01 mmol) and sodium carbonate (86.4 mg, 0.81 mmol) in 1,4-dimethoxyethane (DME): water (4: 1, 1.25 mL) at room temperature were purged under argon for 5 min. 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (50 mg, 0.16 mmol) and (4-fluorophenyl) boronic acid (25.1 mg, 0.17 mmol) were added to the reaction mixture at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 12 h in a sealed tube. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% $MeOH/CH_2Cl_2$) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(4-fluorophenyl) pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 49** (40 mg, 0.10 mmol, 48%) as an off-white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.75 (s, 1H), 8.68 (s, 1H), 8.32-8.18 (m, 2H), 7.76-7.72 (m, 1H), 7.67-7.62 (m, 1H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 3.98-3.93 (m, 1H), 1.32-1.25 (m, 2H), 0.90-0.84 (m, 2H)

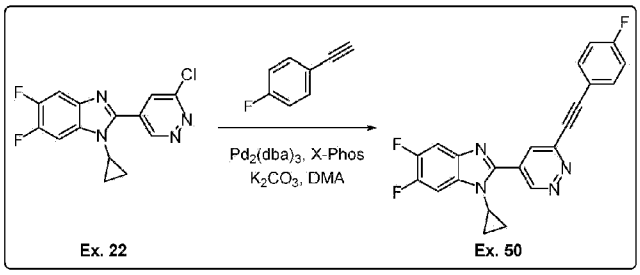
LC-MS: *m/z* 367 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.58 RT (98.75% purity).

HPLC: 98.72%.

Example 50 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0529]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-((4-fluorophenyl)ethynyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 50)

[0530] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (100 mg, 0.32 mmol) in *N,N*-dimethylacetamide (DMA) (3 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 1-ethynyl-4-fluorobenzene (40 mg, 0.32 mmol) and potassium carbonate (90 mg, 0.65 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was degassed with argon for 10 min. $Pd_2(dba)_3$ (14.8 mg, 0.01 mmol) and X-phos (8 mg, 0.01 mmol) were added at room temperature and the mixture was degassed with argon for an additional 5 min. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-((4-fluorophenyl)ethynyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 50** (50 mg, 0.13 mmol, 39%) as a brown solid.

[0531] ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.81 (s, 1H), 8.49 (s, 1H), 7.91-7.84 (m, 2H), 7.84-7.76 (m, 2H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 4.01-3.93 (m, 1H), 1.24-1.16 (m, 2H), 0.85-0.71 (m, 2H)

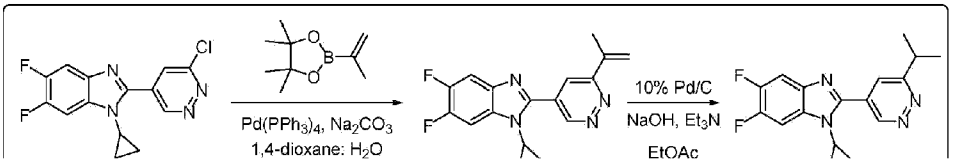
[0532] LC-MS: *m/z* 391.3 $[M+H]^+$ at 4.58 RT (97.94% purity).

[0533] HPLC: 96.14%.

Example 51 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0534]

Scheme:



Ex. 22 Ex. 51

1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(prop-1-en-2-yl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1H benzo [d] imidazole

[0535] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (120 mg, 0.40 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (3.2 mL) and water (0.8 mL) was added 4, 4, 5, 5-tetramethyl-2-(prop-1-en-2-yl)-1, 3, 2-dioxaborolane (219 mg, 1.17 mmol) and sodium carbonate (164.6 mg, 1.56 mmol) and the mixture was purged with argon for 10 min at room temperature. $Pd(PPh_3)_4$ (23 mg, 0.02 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture. The reaction mixture was heated at 110 °C for 8 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was triturated with n-pentane (2 × 5 mL) to obtain 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(prop-1-en-2-yl) pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (100 mg, crude) as an off-white solid that was used in the next step without further purification.

[0536] LC-MS: *m/z* 313.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.38 RT (94.08% purity).

1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-isopropylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 51)

[0537] To a stirred solution of compound 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(prop-1-en-2-yl) pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (100 mg, 0.32 mmol) in ethyl acetate (5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added triethylamine (0.04 mL), sodium hydroxide (25 mg, 0.64 mmol) and 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 30 mg) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and the celite bed was washed with EtOAc (20 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was washed with n-pentane (2 × 2 mL) and ether (2 × 2 mL) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-isopropylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 51** (55 mg, 0.17 mmol, 55%) as an off white solid.

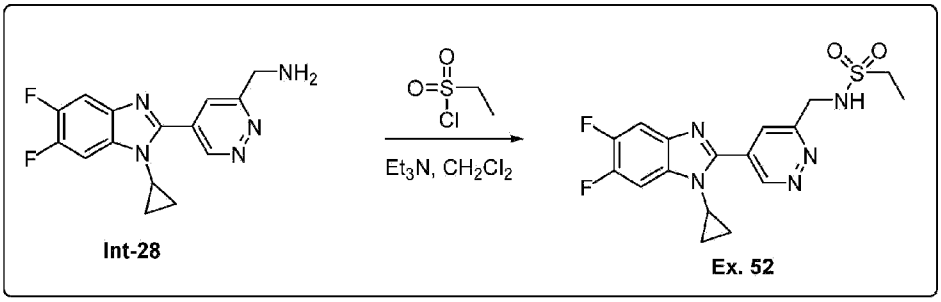
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.63 (s, 1H), 8.22 (s, 1H), 7.73-7.69 (m, 1H), 7.64-7.60 (m, 1H), 3.91-3.86 (m, 1H), 3.49-3.31 (m, 1H), 1.47 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6H), 1.31-1.20 (m, 2H), 0.86-0.73 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 315.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.31 RT (97.95% purity).

HPLC: 99.16%.

Example 52 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0538]
Scheme:



N ((5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1H benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methyl)ethanesulfonamide (Ex. 52)

[0539] To a stirred solution of (5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl) methanamine (140 mg, 0.46 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (4 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added triethylamine (0.19 mL, 0.79 mmol) and ethane sulfonyl chloride (65.7 mg, 0.51 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by preparative HPLC to afford *N*-((5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methyl) ethanesulfonamide **Ex. 52** (18 mg, 0.04 mmol, 10%) as white solid.

[0540] ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.72 (s, 1H), 8.52 (s, 1H), 7.76-7.70 (m, 1H), 7.66-7.61 (m, 1H), 4.71 (s, 2H), 3.88-3.82 (m, 1H), 3.24-3.19 (m, 2H), 1.43-1.33 (m, 5H), 0.86-0.79 (m, 2H)

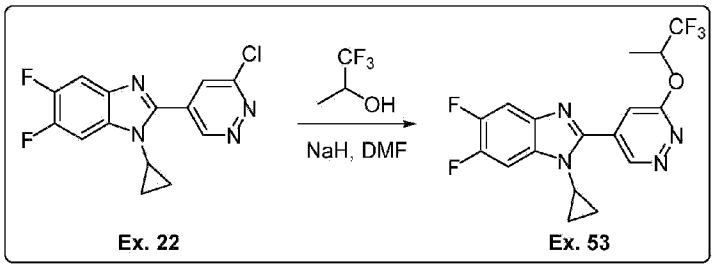
[0541] LC-MS: *m/z* 394 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.32 RT (99.29% purity).

[0542] HPLC: 98.78%.

Example 53 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0543]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-((1,1,1-trifluoropropan-2-yl)oxy)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-

benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 53)

[0544] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 22** (75 mg, 0.24 mmol) in DMF (2.25 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added sodium hydride (60% in mineral oil, 24.5 mg, 0.61 mmol) portion wise at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 10 min. Then 1, 1, 1-trifluoropropan-2-ol (34 mg, 0.30 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with ice cold water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 3% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-((1, 1, 1-trifluoropropan-2-yl) oxy) pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 53** (60 mg, 0.15 mmol, 84%) as brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.54 (s, 1H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.62-7.58 (m, 1H), 7.45-7.41 (m, 1H), 6.15-6.04 (m, 1H), 3.69-3.42 (m, 1H), 1.64 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 3H), 1.36-1.24 (m, 2H), 0.92-0.81 (m, 2H)

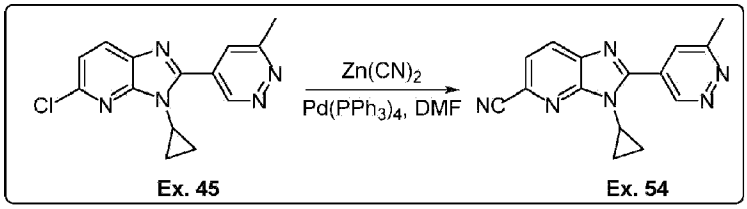
LC-MS: *m/z* 385.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.76 RT (97.88% purity).

HPLC: 97.83%.

Example 54 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0545]

Scheme:



Ex. 45 Ex. 54

3-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine-5-carbonitrile (Ex. 54)

[0546] To a stirred solution of 5-chloro-3-cyclopropyl-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-3*H*-imidazo [4, 5-*b*] pyridine **Ex. 45** (75 mg, 0.26 mmol) in DMF (0.8 mL) at room temperature was added zinc cyanide (61.5 mg, 0.52 mmol) and $Pd(PPh_3)_4$ (30.3 mg, 0.02 mmol). The mixture purged with argon for 10 min and then heated to 170 °C for 4.5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with ice cold water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced

pressure. The crude material was purified by preparative HPLC to afford 3-cyclopropyl-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-3*H*-imidazo [4, 5-*b*] pyridine-5-carbonitrile **Ex. 54** (25 mg, 0.09 mmol, 35%) as an off-white solid.

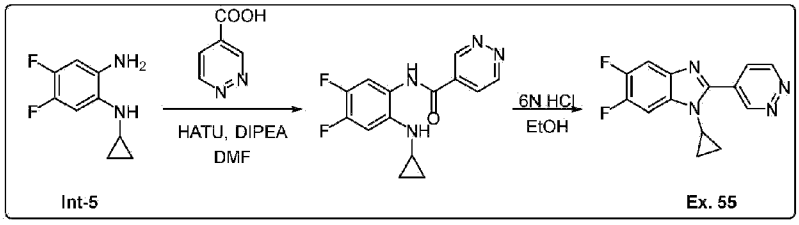
[0547] **^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$):** δ 9.75 (s, 1H), 8.19 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 3.70-3.64 (m, 1H), 2.90 (s, 3H), 1.41-1.36 (m, 2H), 1.06-0.81 (m, 2H)

[0548] **LC-MS:** *m/z* 276.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.88 RT (98.98% purity).

[0549] **HPLC:** 95.03%.

Example 55 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0550]
Scheme:



***N*-(2-(Cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide**

[0551] To a stirred solution of *N*1-cyclopropyl-4, 5-difluorobenzene-1, 2-diamine **Int-5** (300 mg, 1.63 mmol) in DMF (3 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added pyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (202 mg, 1.63 mmol), HATU (743 mg, 1.95 mmol) and ethyldiisopropylamine (1.1 mL, 6.52 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4, 5-difluorophenyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide (250 mg, crude) as an off-white solid that was used in the next step without further purification.

[0552] **LC-MS:** *m/z* 291$[M+H]^+$ at 2.34 RT (96.97% purity).

1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 55)

[0553] To a stirred solution of *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4, 5-difluorophenyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide (200 mg, 0.68 mmol) in EtOH (4 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6N HCl (2 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at 70 °C for 1 h. After consumption of

starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was washed with *n*-pentane (2 × 5 mL) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 55** (120 mg, 0.44 mmol, 64%) as an off-white solid.

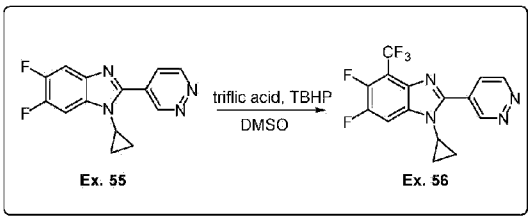
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.81 (s, 1H), 9.41 (dd, *J* = 5.4, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 8.33 (dd, *J* = 5.5, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.4-7.69 (m, 1H), 7.65-7.61 (m, 1H), 3.87-3.84 (m, 1H), 1.30-1.24 (m, 2H), 0.88-0.73 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 272.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.21 RT (99.23% purity).

HPLC: 99.54%.

Example 56 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0554]
Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(pyridazin-4-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 56)

[0555] To a stirred solution of 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 55** (100 mg, 0.36 mmol) in DMSO (1.5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added zinc trifluoromethanesulfinate (243 mg, 0.73 mmol) at room temperature. To this was added TBHP (141 mg, 1.10 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was basified with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by preparative HPLC to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(pyridazin-4-yl)-4-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 56** (19 mg, 0.05 mmol, 15%) as an off-white solid.

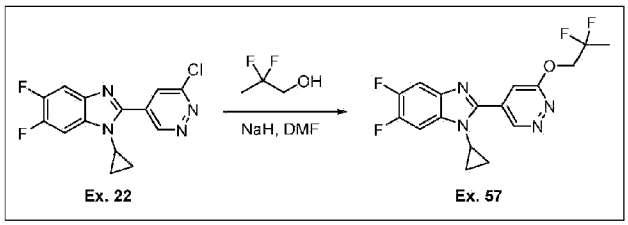
^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.85 (s, 1H), 9.44 (dd, *J* = 5.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 8.38 (dd, *J* = 5.2, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (dd, *J* = 9.3, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.92-3.86 (m, 1H), 1.38-1.20 (m, 2H), 0.89-0.83 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 340.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.75 RT (91.67% purity)

HPLC: 91.79%

Example 57 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0556]
Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(2,2-difluoropropoxy)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1H benzo[d] imidazole (Ex. 57)

[0557] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (50 mg, 0.16 mmol) in DMF (1.5 mL) was added sodium hydride (60% in mineral oil, 16.2 mg, 0.40 mmol) portion wise at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere and the mixture was stirred for 5 min. 2,2-Difluoropropan-1-ol (18.8 mg, 0.19 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture and stirred at room temperature for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with ice cold water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was washed with CH_2Cl_2: *n*-pentane (5: 95, 10 mL) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(2,2-difluoropropoxy) pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difhioro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 57** (45 mg, 0.12 mmol, 82%) as an off-white solid.

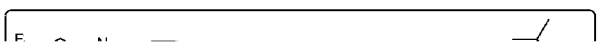
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.53 (s, 1H), 7.65 (d, 1H), 7.60 (dd, *J* = 10.0, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (dd, *J* = 9.7, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 4.80 (t, *J* = 12.1 Hz, 2H), 3.67-3.58 (m, 1H), 1.80 (t, *J* = 18.6 Hz, 3H), 1.39-1.27 (m, 2H), 0.92-0.76 (m, 2H)

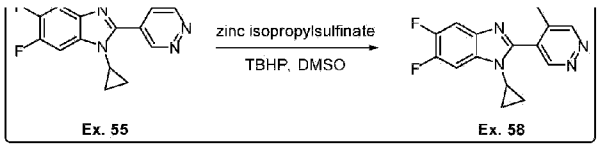
LC-MS: *m/z* 367 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.08 RT (96.40% purity)

HPLC: 94.40%

Example 58 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0558]
Scheme:





1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(5-isopropylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 58)

[0559] To a stirred solution of 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 55** (100 mg, 0.37 mmol) in DMSO (1 mL) was added zinc isopropylsulfinate (205 mg, 0.73 mmol) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. Then *tert*-butyl hydroperoxide (70% in water, 142 mg, 1.1 mmol) was added at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature, and then heated to 50 °C for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was basified with saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 70% EtOAc/hexane) followed by triturations with n-pentane (2 × 4 mL) and dried under vacuum to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(5-isopropylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 58** (15 mg, 0.05 mmol, 13%) as an off white solid.

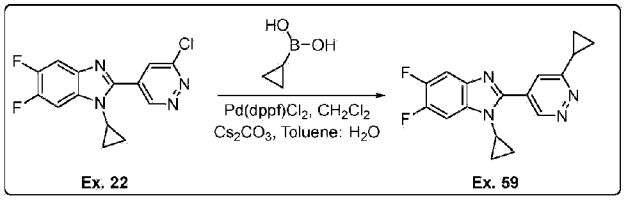
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.48 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 9.31 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.62-3.56 (m, 1H), 3.27-3.20 (m, 1H), 1.33 (d, *J*= 7.0 Hz, 6H), 1.08-1.03 (m, 2H), 0.73-0.68 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 315.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.70 RT (95.37% purity)

HPLC: 92.84%

Example 59 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0560]
Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-cyclopropylpyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 59)

[0561] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-

benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (70 mg, 0.22 mmol) in toluene/water (3: 1, 2 mL) was added cyclopropylboronic acid (24 mg, 0.27 mmol) and cesium carbonate (186 mg, 0.57 mmol) in a sealed tube and the mixture was purged under argon for 10 min. $Pd(dppf)Cl_2$ (18.6 mg, 0.02 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture with further degassed for 5 min. The reaction was heated to 110 °C for 16 h and then cooled. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-cyclopropylpyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 59** (8 mg, 0.02 mmol, 11%) as a pale yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.57 (s, 1H), 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.59 (dd, *J* = 10.2, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (dd, *J* = 9.7, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.67-3.60 (m, 1H), 2.32-2.24 (m, 1H), 1.35-1.27 (m, 4H), 1.25-1.19 (m, 2H), 0.86-0.80 (m, 2H)

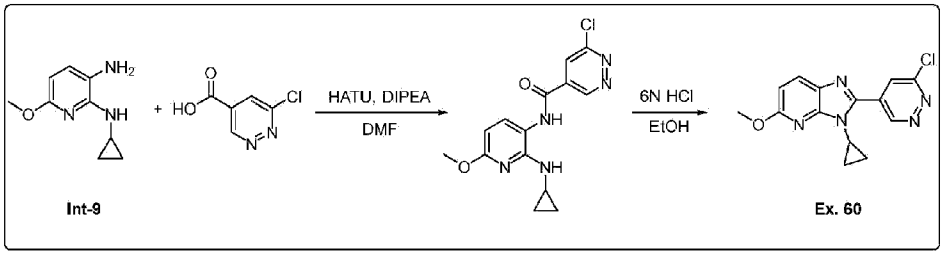
LC-MS: *m/z* 313.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.22 RT (93.72% purity)

HPLC: 96.07%

Example 60 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0562]

Scheme:



6-Chloro-N (2-(cyclopropylamino)-6-methoxypyridin-3-yl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0563] To a stirred solution of 6-chloropyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (500 mg, 3.16 mmol) in DMF (10 mL) was added N^2-cyclopropyl-6-methoxypyridine-2,3-diamine **Int-9** (566 mg, 3.16 mmol), HATU (1.8 g, 4.74 mmol) and diisopropylethylamine (2.19 mL, 12.64 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (20 mL), brine (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30-40% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 6-chloro-*N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-6-methoxypyridin-3-yl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide (225 mg, 0.70 mmol, 22%) as

an off-white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.91 (s, 1H), 9.62 (s, 1H), 8.35 (s, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.50 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.00 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.73-2.70 (m, 1H), 0.73-0.64 (m, 2H), 0.52-0.40 (m, 2H)

2-(6-Chloropyridazin-4-yl)-3-cyclopropyl-5-methoxy-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine (Ex. 60)

[0564] To a stirred solution of 6-chloro-*N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-6-methoxypyridin-3-yl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide (150 mg, 0.47 mmol) in EtOH (3.5 mL) was added 6 *N* HCl (2 mL) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with saturated sodium carbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 60-70% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-3-cyclopropyl-5-methoxy-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine **Ex. 60** (35 mg, 0.11 mmol, 22%) as a brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 8.28 (s, 1H), 7.42 (s, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.03 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.79-2.74 (m, 1H), 0.77-0.68 (m, 2H), 0.53-0.47 (m, 2H)

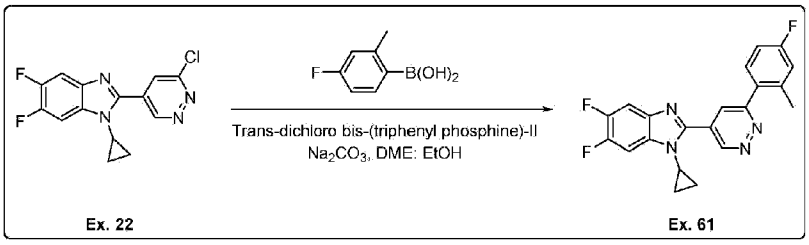
LC-MS: *m/z* 302.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.85 RT (95.67% purity)

HPLC: 94.24%

Example 61 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0565]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(4-fluoro-2-methylphenyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 61)

[0566] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (70 mg, 0.22 mmol) in DME/ EtOH (2: 1, 0.9 mL) was added (4-fluoro-2-methylphenyl) boronic acid (42 mg, 0.27 mmol) and sodium carbonate (72.5 mg, 0.68 mmol) in a

sealed tube and the mixture was purged under argon for 10 min. *Trans*-dichloro bis-(triphenyl phosphine)-II (8 mg, 0.01 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture and the reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(4-fluoro-2-methylphenyl) pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 61** (45 mg, 0.11 mmol, 51%) as an off-white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.81 (s, 1H), 8.14 (s, 1H), 7.60 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (dd, *J* = 8.34, 5.83 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, *J* = 9.6, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.11-7.03 (m, 2H), 3.71-3.63 (m, 1H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 1.37-1.30 (m, 2H), 0.93-0.87 (m, 2H)

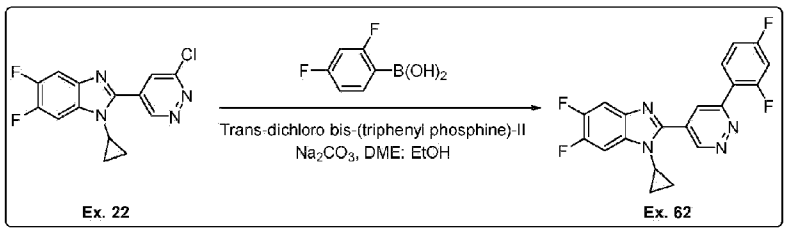
LC-MS: *m/z* 381.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.60 RT (97.81% purity)

HPLC: 96.11%

Example 62 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0567]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(2,4-difluorophenyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 62)

[0568] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (70 mg, 0.22 mmol) in DME: EtOH (2: 1, 0.9 mL) was added (2,4-difluorophenyl) boronic acid (43 mg, 0.27 mmol) and sodium carbonate (75.5 mg, 0.68 mmol) and the mixture was purged under argon for 10 min. *Trans*-dichloro bis-(triphenyl phosphine)-II (8 mg, 0.01 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture and the reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 16 h in a sealed tube. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(2,4-difluorophenyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benz[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 62** (45 mg, 0.11 mmol, 51%) as an off-white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.79 (s, 1H), 8.51 (s, 1H), 8.36-8.29 (m, 1H), 7.62 (dd, *J* = 10.2, 7.3

Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, *J* = 9.6, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.16-7.10 (m, 1H), 7.03-6.97 (m, 1H), 3.71-3.64 (m, 1H), 1.38-1.32 (m, 2H), 0.92-0.87 (m, 2H)

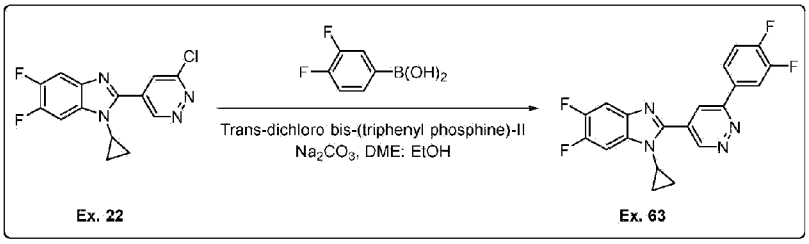
LC-MS: *m/z* 385.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.61 RT (96.45% purity)

HPLC: 96.95%

Example 63 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0569]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(3,4-difluorophenyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 63)

[0570] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 22** (70 mg, 0.22 mmol) in DME/EtOH (2: 1, 0.9 mL) was added (3,4-difluorophenyl) boronic acid (43 mg, 0.27 mmol) and sodium carbonate (75.5 mg, 0.68 mmol) in a sealed tube and the mixture was purged under argon for 10 min. *Trans*-dichloro bis-(triphenyl phosphine)-II (8 mg, 0.01 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture and the reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(3,4-difluorophenyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 63** (45 mg, 0.11 mmol, 51%) as an off-white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.79 (s, 1H), 8.43 (s, 1H), 8.14-8.09 (m, 1H), 7.96-7.90 (m, 1H), 7.62 (dd, *J* = 10.0, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (dd, *J* = 9.5, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (dd, *J* = 17.9, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 3.79-3.66 (m, 1H), 1.39-1.29 (m, 2H), 0.93-0.82 (m, 2H)

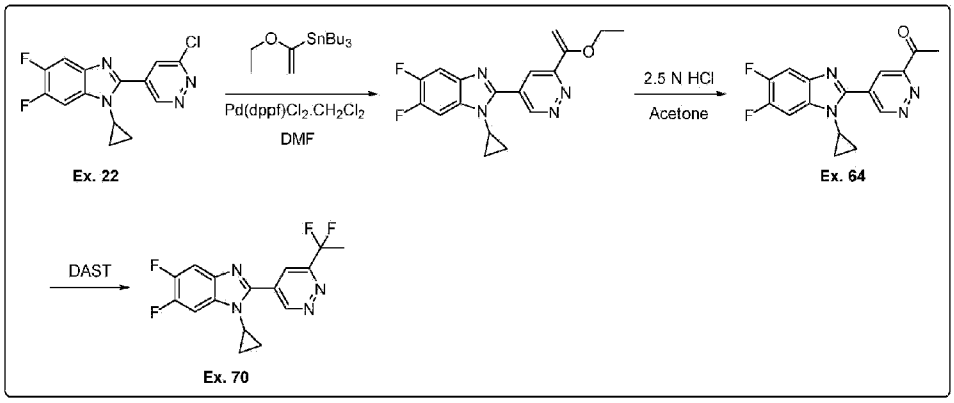
LC-MS: *m/z* 385 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.62 RT (98.32% purity)

HPLC: 98.68%

Example 64 & Example 70 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0571]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(1-ethoxyvinyl) pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole

[0572] To stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 22** (200 mg, 0.65 mmol) in DMF (4 mL) was added tributyl(1-ethoxyvinyl)stannane (0.26 mL, 0.78 mmol) and Pd(dppf)Cl_2. CH_2Cl_2 (53 mg, 0.06 mmol) at room temperature and the mixture was degassed under argon for 10 min. The reaction mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (40 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(1-ethoxyvinyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (180 mg, 0.52 mmol, 81%) as a pale brown semi solid.

LC-MS: *m/z* 343.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.10 RT (81.31% purity)

1-(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)ethan-1-one (Ex. 64)

[0573] To a stirred solution of 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(1-ethoxyvinyl) pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (180 mg, 0.52 mmol) in acetone (3 mL) was added 2.5 *N* HCl (2 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 6 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (40 mL) and washed with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (30 mL) and brine (30 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)ethan-1-one **Ex. 64** (110 mg, 0.35 mmol, 69%) as a pale brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.01 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.62 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.91-7.82 (m, 2H), 3.99-3.94 (m, 1H), 2.85 (s, 3H), 1.19-1.14 (m, 2H), 0.79-0.75 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 315.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.65 RT (95.59% purity)

HPLC: 93.77%

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(1,1-difluoroethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 70)

[0574] A solution of 1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl) ethan-1-one **Ex. 70** (110 mg, 0.35 mmol) in DAST (3 mL) under an inert atmosphere was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (40 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane) which was further purified by preparative HPLC to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(1,1-difluoroethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 70** (45 mg, 0.13 mmol, 41%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.98 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.53 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.94-7.85 (m, 2H), 4.02-3.97 (m, 1H), 2.22 (t, *J* = 19.4 Hz, 3H), 1.21-1.14 (m, 2H), 0.83-0.77 (m, 2H)

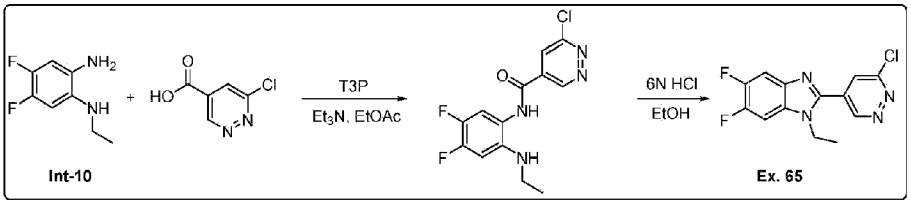
LC-MS: *m/z* 337.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.99 RT (99.31% purity)

HPLC: 99.50%

Example 65 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0575]

Scheme:



6-Chloro-*N*-(2-(ethylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0576] To a stirred solution of N^1-ethyl-4,5-difluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-10** (500 mg, 2.9 mmol) in EtOAc (15 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6-chloropyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (505 mg, 3.19 mmol), triethylamine (0.8 mL, 5.81 mmol) and propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 4.5 mL, 7.26 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 60 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (70 mL), brine (70 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 15% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 6-chloro-A-(2-(ethylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (500 mg, 1.60 mmol, 55%) as a yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 10.1 (brs, 1H), 9.65 (s, 1H), 8.39 (s, 1H), 7.3 (dd, *J* = 11.7, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (dd, *J* = 12.1, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.5 (brs, 1H), 3.12-3.02 (m, 2H), 1.17 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 312.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.69 RT (96.47% purity)

2-(6-Chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-ethyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 65)

[0577] To a stirred solution of 6-chloro-*N*-(2-(ethylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (400 mg, 1.28 mmol) in ethanol (4 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6 *N* HCl (6 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 15 min. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was poured into saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (40 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude (100 mg) material was purified by preparative HPLC to afford 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-ethyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 65** (30 mg, 0.10 mmol, 29%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, **CD_3OD):** δ 9.59 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (dd, *J* = 10.2, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 4.46 (q, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.48 (t, *J*= 7.3 Hz, 3H)

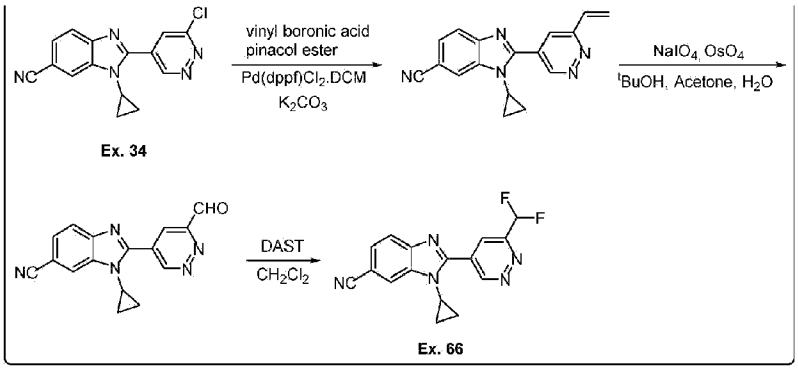
LC-MS: *m/z* 294.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.58 RT (98.60% purity)

HPLC: 99.85%

Example 66

[0578]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile

[0579] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 34** (200 mg, 0.67 mmol) in 1, 4-dioxane (5 mL) and water (1.5 mL) was added vinyl boronic acid pinacol ester (313 mg, 2.03 mmol) and potassium carbonate (374 mg, 2.71 mmol) in a sealed tube at room temperature. The reaction mixture was degassed under argon for 10 min. To this was added Pd(dppf)Cl_2. CH_2Cl_2 (5.3 mg, 0.006 mmol) at room temperature and the mixture was further degassed under argon for 10 min. The reaction mixture was heated to 100 °C and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with ice cold water (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (20 mL), brine (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (200 mg) as a brown thick syrup. The crude material was taken to next step without further purification.

LC-MS: *m/z* 288 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.27 RT (73.7% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-formnylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile

[0580] To a stirred solution of 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (200 mg, crude) in a mixture of *tert*-butanol (0.5 mL), acetone (0.5 mL) and water (0.5 mL) was added sodium periodate (29.68 mg, 0.13 mmol) followed by osmium tetraoxide (0.1 M in toluene, 4 mL) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temp1erature and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (10 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 10 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-formylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (200 mg, crude) as an orange solid. The crude material was taken to the next step without further purification.

LC-MS: *m/z* 308.1 $[M+H_2O]^+$ at 1.78 RT (8.32% purity)

1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (Ex. 66)

[0581] To a stirred solution of 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-formylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (200 mg, crude) in CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added DAST (223 mg, 1.38 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with saturated sodium carbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) which was further purified by preparative HPLC to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 66** (15 mg, 0.05 mmol, 7%) as a brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.99 (s, 1H), 8.64 (s, 1H), 8.26 (s, 1H), 7.93 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (t, *J* = 51.1 Hz, 1H), 4.00-3.94 (m, 1H), 1.35-1.30 (m, 2H), 0.91-0.86 (m, 2H)

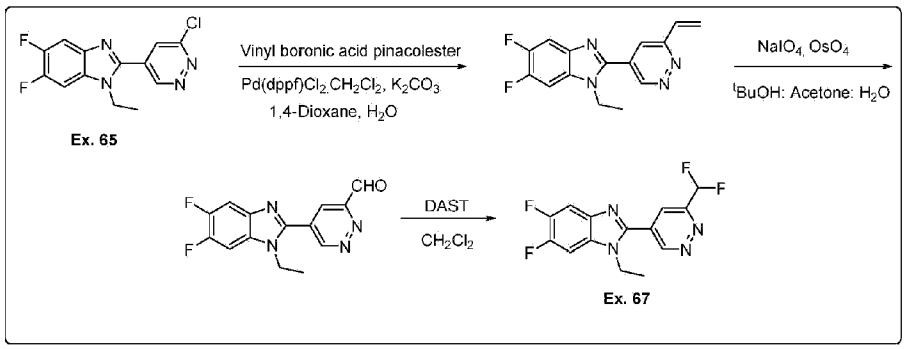
LC-MS: *m/z* 312 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.52 RT (98.91% purity)

HPLC: 99.83%

Example 67 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0582]

Scheme:



1-Ethyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole

[0583] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-ethyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 65** (400 mg, crude) in 1, 4-dioxane (12 mL) and water (4 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added vinyl boronic acid pinacol ester (419 mg, 2.72 mmol) and potassium carbonate (563 mg, 4.08 mmol) in a sealed tube at room temperature. The reaction mixture was degassed under argon for 20 min. To this was added $Pd(dppf)Cl_2.CH_2Cl_2$ (11 mg, 0.013 mmol) at room temperature and the mixture was further degassed under argon for 10 min. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C and

stirred for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 60 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 1-ethyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole (100 mg, crude) as an off-white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.52 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dd, *J* =, 18.0, 11.0 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (d, *J* = 17.4 Hz, 1H), 5.82 (d, *J* = 11.6 Hz, 1H), 4.45 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 287 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.47 RT (96.16% purity)

5-(1-Ethyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde

[0584] To a stirred solution of 1-ethyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole (100 mg, crude) in Acetone: ^{t}BuOH: water (1:1:1, 6 mL) was added sodium periodate (149 mg, 0.69 mmol) and osmium tetroxide (1% in toluene, 2 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and the *celite* bed was washed with EtOAc (30 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain 5-(1-ethyl-5, 6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl pyridazine-3-carbaldehydel (100 mg, crude) as a brown solid. This crude material was used in the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.37 (s, 1H), 9.88 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (dd, *J* = 10.7, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.46 (q, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 289 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.87 RT (70.81% purity)

2-(6-(Difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1-ethyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 67)

[0585] To a stirred solution of 5-(1-ethyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde (100 mg, crude) in CH_2Cl_2 (8 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added DAST (0.09 mL, 0.69 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with ice cold water (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (30 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography

(eluent: 10% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1-ethyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 67** (30 mg, 0.09 mmol, 28%) as an off white solid.

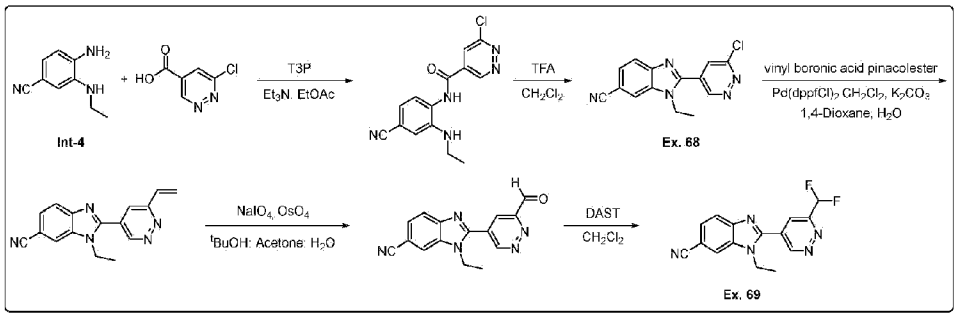
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.83 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.35 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (dd, *J* = 10.8, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (dd, *J* = 10.9, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.56-7.24 (m, 1H), 4.46 (q, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.36 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 311.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.69 RT (98.69% purity)

HPLC: 98.72%

Example 68 & Example 69 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0586]
Scheme:



6-Chloro-*N*-(4-cyano-2-(ethylamino)phenyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0587] To a stirred solution of 4-amino-3-(ethylamino)benzonitrile **Int-4** (200 mg, 1.24 mmol) in EtOAc (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6-chloropyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (210 mg, 1.32 mmol), triethylamine (0.34 mL, 2.48 mmol) and propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 1.97 mL, 3.10 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (40 mL), brine (40 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 6-chloro-A-(4-cyano-2-(ethylamino)phenyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (250 mg, 0.83 mmol, 67%) as a yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.23 (brs, 1H), 9.65 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (s, 1H), 7.40 (d, *J*= 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.06-6.99 (m, 2H), 5.77 (br s, 1H), 3.20-3.15 (m, 2H), 1.17 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H)

2-(6-Chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-ethyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (Ex. 68)

[0588] To a stirred solution of 6-chloro-*N*-(4-cyano-2-(ethylamino)phenyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (50 mg, 0.16 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (2 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added trifluoroacetic acid (0.2 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 6 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was quenched with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-ethyl-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 68** (35 mg, 0.12 mmol, 74%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.70 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.50 (s, 1H), 8.35 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.52 (q, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 284 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.34 RT (97.52% purity)

HPLC: 97.70%

1-Ethyl-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile

[0589] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-ethyl-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 68** (170 mg, 0.60 mmol) in a mixture of 1, 4-dioxane (6 mL) and water (2 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added vinyl boronic acid pinacol ester (185 mg, 1.20 mmol) and potassium carbonate (248.69 mg, 1.80 mmol). The reaction mixture was degassed under argon for 20 min. To this was added $Pd(dppf)Cl_2.CH_2Cl_2$ (4.9 mg, 0.06 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 1-2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 1-ethyl-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (100 mg, 0.36 mmol, 61%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.56 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.50-8.48 (m, 1H), 8.32 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (dd, *J* = 17.8, 11.0 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (dd, *J* = 17.7, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 5.84 (d, *J* = 11.7 Hz, 1H), 4.51 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.37 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 276.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.23 RT (95.18% purity)

1-Ethyl-2-(6-formylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile

[0590] To a stirred solution of 1-ethyl-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (100 mg, 0.36 mmol) in Acetone: ^{t}BuOH: water (1:1:1, 6 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added sodium periodate (154.9 mg, 0.72 mmol) and osmium tetroxide (1% in toluene, 2 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and the celite bed was washed with EtOAc (20 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 1-ethyl-2-(6-formylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (100 mg, crude) as a thick syrup. The crude material was used in the next step without further purification.

LC-MS: *m/z* 278.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.65 RT (43.82% purity)

2-(6-(Difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1-ethyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (Ex. 69)

[0591] To a stirred solution of 1-ethyl-2-(6-formylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (100 mg, crude) in CH_2Cl_2 (4 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added DAST (0.09 mL, 0.72 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was poured into ice cold water (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 10% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1-ethyl-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 69** (30 mg, 0.10 mmol) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.81 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.42 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (dd, *J* = 1.4, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.94 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 54.6 Hz, 1H), 4.54 (q, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 1.52 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H)

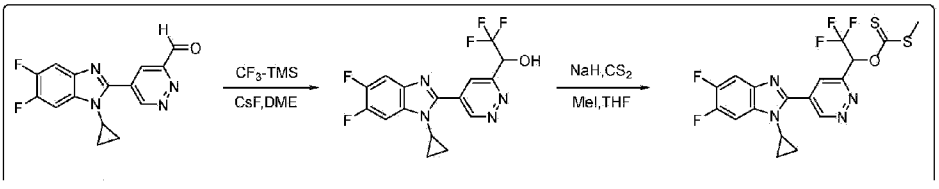
LC-MS: *m/z* 300.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.41 RT (99.41% purity)

HPLC: 99.68%

Example 71 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0592]

Scheme:



1-(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethan-1-ol

[0593] To a stirred solution of 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde **Int-27** (400 mg, 1.33 mmol) in DME (5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added cesium fluoride (202.6 mg, 1.33 mmol) at 0 °C and the mixture was stirred for 15 min. TMS-CF_3 (284 mg, 1.99 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with 1 NHCl solution (20 mL), basified with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 60 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 40% EtOAc/hexane to afford 1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethan-1-ol (160 mg, 0.43 mmol, 32%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.84 (d, *J*= 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.58 (d, *J*= 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (dd, *J* = 9.9, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.55 (q, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.57 (s, 1H), 3.92-3.86 (m, 1H), 1.29-1.20 (m, 2H), 0.88-0.78 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 371.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.76 RT (75.32% purity)

O-(1-(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1H benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethyl) S-methyl carbonodithioate

[0594] To a stirred solution of 1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethan-1-ol (100 mg, 0.27 mmol) in THF (5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added sodium hydride (60% in mineral oil, 21.6 mg, 0.54 mmol) portion wise at 0 °C and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. Carbon disulfide (41 mg, 0.54 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture at 0 °C and stirred for 30 min, followed by addition of methyl iodide (76 mg, 0.54 mmol) at 0 °C and stirring was continued for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated ammonium chloride solution (15 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford O-(1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)-2, 2, 2-trifluoroethyl) S-methyl carbonodithioate (100 mg) as a black thick syrup. The crude material was used in the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.88 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.56 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.92 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (q, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.95-3.88 (m, 1H), 2.67 (s, 3H), 1.20-1.15 (m, 2H), 0.79-0.73 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 461.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.63 RT (77.86% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 71)

[0595] To a stirred solution of *O*-(1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethyl) S-methyl carbonodithioate (100 mg, 0.21 mmol) in toluene (5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added AIBN (5.3 mg, 0.032 mmol) and tributylstannane (95 mg, 0.32 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 60 °C and stirred for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated ammonium chloride solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) which was further purified by preparative HPLC to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5.6-difluoro-2-(6-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 71** (15 mg, 0.04 mmol, 19%) as an off white solid.

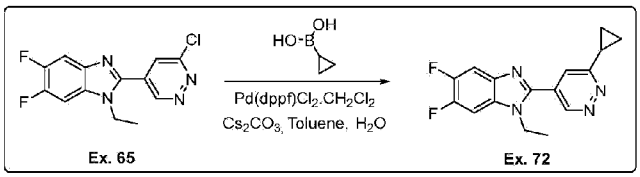
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.84 (d, *J*= 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, *J*= 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (dd, *J* = 10.0, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, *J*= 9.5, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.99 (q, *J*= 10.5 Hz, 2H), 3.68-3.62 (m, 1H), 1.36-1.29 (m, 2H), 0.88-0.83 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 355.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.86 RT (98.85% purity)

HPLC: 99.79%

Example 72 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0596]
Scheme:



2-(6-Cyclopropylpyridazin-4-yl)-1-ethyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 72)

[0597] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-ethyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 65** (150 mg, 0.51 mmol) in toluene/water (3: 1, 12 mL) was added cyclopropylboronic acid (52.6 mg, 0.61 mmol) and cesium carbonate (416 mg, 1.27 mmol) in a sealed tube and purged under argon for 20 min. $Pd(dppf)Cl_2.CH_2Cl_2$ (4 mg, 0.005 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture and again purged under argon for 5 min at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 2-(6-cyclopropylpyridazin-4-yl)-1-ethyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 72** (40 mg, 0.133 mmol, 26%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.35 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (dd, *J* = 10.3, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 4.43 (q, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.44-2.36 (m, 1H), 1.46 (t, *J*= 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.30-1.24 (m, 4H)

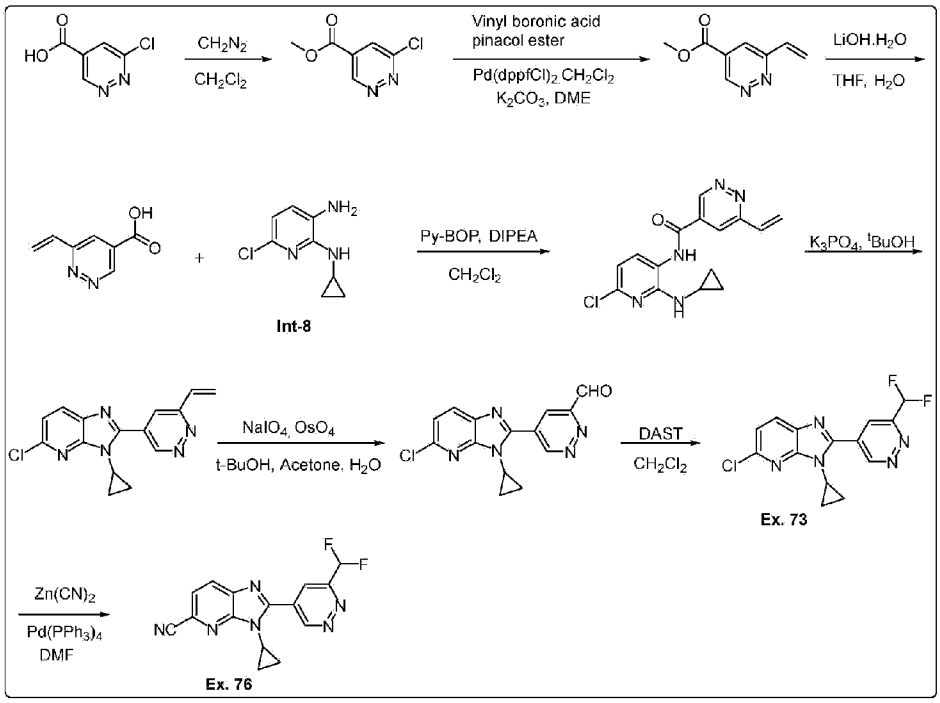
LC-MS: *m/z* 301.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.58 RT (99.14% purity)

HPLC: 99.64%

Example 73 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION) & Example 76

[0598]

Scheme:



Methyl 6-chloropyridazine-4-carboxylate

[0599] To a stirring solution of 6-chloropyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (1.5 g, 9.49 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (30 mL) under argon atmosphere was added diazomethane in diethyl ether (freshly prepared by addition of N-nitrosomethyl urea (3 g) to mixture of 50% KOH solution (25 mL) and diethyl ether (50 mL) at 0 °C; warmed to RT and stirred for 30 min). After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and washed with CH_2Cl_2 (30 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane) to afford methyl 6-chloropyridazine-4-carboxylate (1.4 g, 8.13 mmol, 86%) as an off-white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.58 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.04 (s, 3H)

Methyl 6-vinylpyridazine-4-carboxylate

[0600] To a stirred solution of methyl 6-chloropyridazine-4-carboxylate (1.4 g, 8.13 mmol) in 1, 2-dimethoxyethane (20 mL) under an inert atmosphere were added potassium carbonate (3.36 g, 24.39 mmol) and vinyl boronic acid pinacol ester (2.56 mL, 16.2 mmol) in a sealed tube at room temperature. The reaction mixture was degassed under argon for 5-10 min. $Pd(dppf)Cl_2.CH_2Cl_2$ (66 mg, 0.08 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture at room temperature and degassed under argon for 5-10 min. The reaction mixture was heated to 80-90 °C for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc (50 mL), filtered through a pad of *celite* and the bed was washed with EtOAc (50 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30-40% EtOAc/hexane) to afford methyl 6-vinylpyridazine-4-carboxylate (1.3 g, 7.92 mmol, 97%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.51 (d, *J*= 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (d, *J*= 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dd, *J* = 17.8, 11.0 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (d, *J* = 17.7 Hz, 1H), 5.80 (d, *J* = 11.0 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (s, 3H)

6-Vinylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid

[0601] To a stirred solution of methyl 6-vinylpyridazine-4-carboxylate (1.4 g, 8.53 mmol) in a mixture of THF: water (1:2, 12.75 mL) was added lithium hydroxide (716 mg, 17.07 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 1.5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was acidified (pH ~1-2) using conc. HCl and stirred for 30 min at room temperature. The precipitated solid was filtered and dried under vacuum to afford 6-vinylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (500 mg, 3.33 mmol, 39%) as an off white solid, which was used in the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 14.10 (br s, 1H), 9.42 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (dd, *J* = 18.0, 11.0 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (d, *J* = 17.4 Hz, 1H), 5.79 (d, *J* = 11.0 Hz, 1H)

***N*-(6-Chloro-2-(cyclopropylamino) pyridin-3-yl)-6-vinylpyridazine-4-carboxamide**

[0602] To a stirred solution of 6-vinylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (40 mg, 0.27 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (3 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6-chloro-N^2-cyclopropylpyridine-2,3-diamine **Int-8** (50 mg, 0.27 mmol), benzotriazole-1-yl-oxytripyrrolidinophosphonium hexafluorophosphate (170 mg, 0.32 mmol) and diisopropylethylamine (0.18 mL, 1.08 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with aqueous ammonium chloride solution (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (40 mL). The organic layer was washed with water (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc/Hexane) to afford *N*-(6-chloro-2-(cyclopropylamino)pyridin-3-yl)-6-vinylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (140 mg, crude) as a brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.01 (s, 1H), 9.51 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.36 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.70-6.65 (m, 1H), 6.47 (d, *J*= 17.7 Hz, 1H), 5.83 (d, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 2H), 2.73-2.69 (m, 1H), 0.73-0.68 (m, 2H), 0.49-0.45 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 316.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.36 RT (70.07% purity)

5-Chloro-3-cyclopropyl-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-3*H*-imidazo[4, 5-*b*]pyridine

[0603] To a stirred solution of *N*-(6-chloro-2-(cyclopropylamino) pyridin-3-yl)-6-vinylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (140 mg, 0.44 mmol) in tert-butanol (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added tripotassium phosphate (222 mg, 1.1 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 90 °C and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (40 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 60-70% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 5-chloro-3-cyclopropyl-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine (125 mg, crude) as a brown syrup.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.01 (s, 1H), 9.51 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.36 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J*= 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (d, *J*= 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.48 (d, *J*= 17.4 Hz, 1H), 5.83 (d, *J* = 11.0 Hz, 1H), 2.72-2.68 (m, 1H), 0.72-0.68 (m, 2H), 0.49-0.44 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 297.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.35 RT (77.28% purity)

5-(5-Chloro-3-cyclopropyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridin-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde

[0604] To a stirred solution of 5-chloro-3-cyclopropyl-2-(6-vinylpyridazin-4-yl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine (125 mg, 0.42 mmol) in Acetone: ^{t}BuOH: water (1:1:1, 7.5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added sodium periodate (179 mg, 0.84 mmol) and osmium tetroxide (1% in toluene, 2.5 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to RT and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *celite* and the bed was washed with CH_2Cl_2 (30 mL). The organic layer was washed with water (20 mL) dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 5-(5-chloro-3-cyclopropyl-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde 8 (130 mg) as a brown solid, which was used in the next step without further purification.

5-Chloro-3-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-3H imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine (Ex. 73) (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0605] To a stirred solution of 5-(5-chloro-3-cyclopropyl-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridin-2-yl) pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde (130 mg, crude) in CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added DAST (0.11 mL, 0.86 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with ice water (20 mL) and basified with aqueous sodium carbonate solution (10 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 × 40 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30-40% EtOAc/Hexane) to afford 5-chloro-3-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine **Ex. 73** (7.2 mg, 0.022 mmol, 5%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 10.00 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.64 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.15 (d, *J*= 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, *J*= 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.33-7.05 (m, 1H), 3.90-3.82 (m, 1H), 1.28-1.25 (m, 2H), 0.99-0.93 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 321.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.56 RT (94.15% purity)

HPLC: 92.45%

3-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine-5-carbonitrile (Ex. 76)

[0606] To a stirred solution of 5-chloro-3-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine **Ex. 73** (50 mg, 0.15 mmol) in DMF (2 mL) was added zinc cyanide (36 mg, 0.31 mmol) at room temperature and the mixture was purged under argon for 5 min. $Pd(PPh_3)_4$ (17.94 mg, 0.01 mmol) was added and the mixture was purged under argon for 5 min. The reaction mixture was heated to 150 °C for 1.5 h under microwave. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (30 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30-40% EtOAc/hexane) to

afford 3-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine-5-carbonitrile **Ex. 76** (27 mg, 0.086 mmol, 56%) as an off-white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 10.05 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.70 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.33 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.08 (m, 1H), 3.94-3.89 (m, 1H), 1.35-1.29 (m, 2H), 1.03-0.97 (m, 2H)

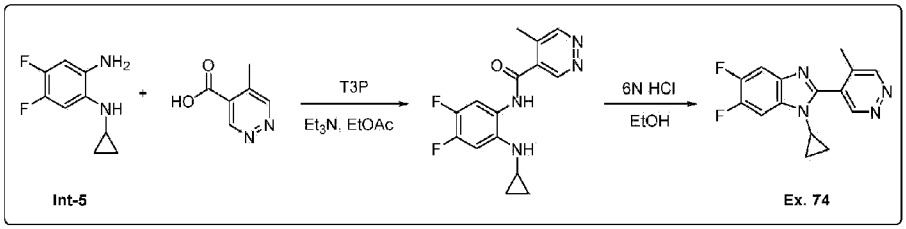
LC-MS: *m/z* 312.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.11 RT (99.81% purity)

HPLC: 99.53%

Example 74 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0607]

Scheme:



***N*-(2-(Cyclopropylamino)-4, 5-difluorophenyl)-5-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide**

[0608] To a stirred solution of *N*^{1}-cyclopropyl-4,5-difluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-5** (250 mg, 1.35 mmol) in EtOAc (8 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 5-methylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (206 mg, 1.49 mmol), triethylamine (0.37 mL, 2.71 mmol) and propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 2.1 mL, 3.39 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc (30 mL) and washed with water (20 mL) and brine (20 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50-70% EtOAc/hexane) to afford A-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-5-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (210 mg, 0.69 mmol, 51%) as a pale yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.78 (s, 1H), 9.36 (s, 1H), 9.26 (s, 1H), 7.47 (dd, *J* = 12.1, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (dd, *J* = 13.4, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 5.85 (s, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.12-2.03 (m, 1H), 0.78-0.71 (m, 2H), 0.46-0.39 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 305.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.47 RT (72.24% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(5-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 74)

[0609] To a stirred solution of *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-5-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (150 mg, 0.49 mmol) in ethanol (3 mL) was added 6 *N* HCl (3 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was basified with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (30 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (40 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was washed with diethyl ether (5 mL) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(5-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 74** (65 mg, 0.21 mmol, 46%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.47 (s, 1H), 9.36 (s, 1H), 7.87-7.81 (m, 2H), 3.75-3.69 (m, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 0.99-0.94 (m, 2H), 0.63-0.58 (m, 2H)

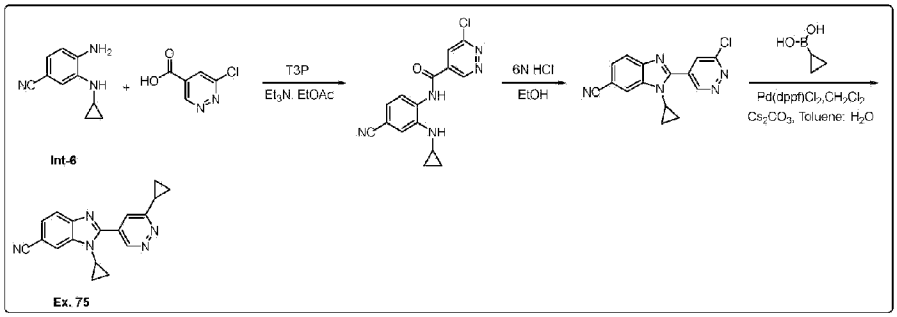
LC-MS: *m/z* 287.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.26 RT (98.32% purity)

HPLC: 99.05%

<u>Example 75</u> (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0610]

<u>Scheme:</u>



6-Chloro-A-(4-cyano-2-(cyclopropylamino)phenyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0611] To a stirred solution of 6-chloropyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (458 mg, 2.89 mmol) in EtOAc (30 mL) under an inert atmosphere were added 4-amino-3-(cyclopropylamino)benzonitrile **Int-6** (500 mg, 2.89 mmol), triethylamine (0.8 mL, 5.78 mmol) and propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 4.6 mL, 7.22 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was poured into saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (70 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 100 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (120 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced

pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 10% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 6-chloro-*N*-(4-cyano-2-(cyclopropylamino)phenyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (650 mg, 2.07 mmol, 72%) as pale yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.17 (s, 1H), 9.63 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.38 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.31 (s, 1H), 2.45-2.38 (m, 1H), 0.82-0.77 (m, 2H), 0.48-0.43 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 312.1 $[M-H]^-$ at 2.57 RT (80.47% purity)

2-(6-Chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile

[0612] To a stirred solution of 6-chloro-*N*-(4-cyano-2-(cyclopropylamino)phenyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (600 mg, 1.91 mmol) in ethanol (6 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6 *N* HCl (9 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred at 55 - 60 °C for 10 min. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was poured into saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (100 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 100 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 1% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (450 mg, 1.52 mmol, 80%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.82 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (dd, *J* = 1.4, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.91 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 3.75-3.69 (m, 1H), 1.45-1.39 (m, 2H), 0.94-0.89 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 295.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.40 RT (95.15% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-cyclopropylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (Ex. 75)

[0613] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (100 mg, 0.33 mmol) in toluene: water (3: 1, 3.2 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added cyclopropylboronic acid (35 mg, 0.40 mmol) and cesium carbonate (275.5 mg, 0.84 mmol) at room temperature and the mixture was purged under argon for 5 min. Pd(dppf)Cl_2.CH_2Cl_2 (27.6 mg, 0.03 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture at room temperature and the mixture was degassed under argon for 5 min. The reaction mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was poured into water (40 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-cyclopropylpyridazin-4-

yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 75** (40 mg, 0.13 mmol, 39%) as an off-white solid.

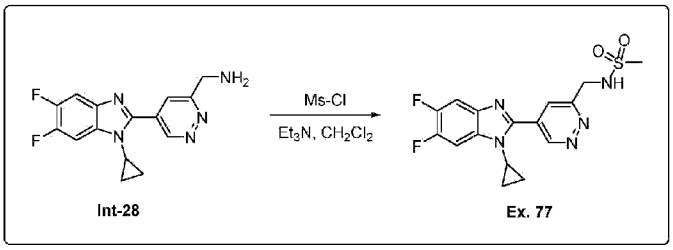
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.61 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.89 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 3.72-3.66 (m, 1H), 2.32-2.26 (m, 1H), 1.37-1.32 (m, 4H), 1.27-1.21 (m, 2H), 0.89-0.85 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 302 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.06 RT (96.07% purity)

HPLC:95.17%

Example 77 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0614]
Scheme:



***N*-((5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methyl)methane sulfonamide (Ex. 77)**

[0615] To a stirred solution of (5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methanamine **Int-28** (200 mg, crude) in CH_2Cl_2 (13 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added triethylamine (0.18 mL, 1.32 mmol) and mesyl chloride (0.08 mL, 0.74 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (40 mL) and washed with water (30 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by preparative HPLC to afford *N*-((5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methyl)methane sulfonamide **Ex. 77** (11 mg, 0.029 mmol, 4% overall yield) as a pale brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.72 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.50 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 4.73 (s, 2H), 3.88-3.81 (m, 1H), 3.09 (s, 3H), 1.37-1.32 (m, 2H), 0.86-0.81 (m, 2H)

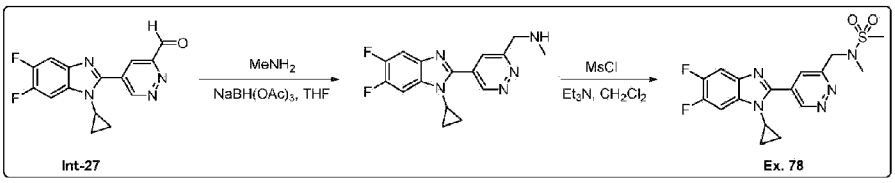
LC-MS: *m/z* 380.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.99 RT (96.14% purity)

HPLC: 98.32%

Example 78 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0616]

Scheme:



1-(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)-*N*-methylmethanamine

[0617] To a stirred solution of 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5, 6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo [*d*] imidazol-2-yl) pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde **Int-27** (200 mg, 0.66 mmol) in THF (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added methylamine solution (2 M in THF, 0.66 mL, 1.33 mmol) dropwise at 0 °C. The reaction was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 15 min, then recooled to 0 °C. Sodium triacetoxyborohydride was added and the reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (40 mL) and washed with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (30 mL) and water (30 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)-*N*-methylmethanamine (180 mg) as an off white solid. The crude material was used in the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.69 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.30 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.90-7.80 (m, 2H), 4.07 (s, 2H), 3.95-3.87 (m, 1H), 2.90 (br s, 1H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.22-1.16 (m, 2H), 0.78-0.73 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 315.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.65 RT (90.51% purity)

***N*-((5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methyl)-*N*-methylmethanesulfonamide (Ex. 78)**

[0618] To a stirred solution of 1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)-*N*-methylmethanamine (200 mg, crude) in CH_2Cl_2 (13 mL) under an inert atmosphere were added triethylamine (0.17 mL, 1.26 mmol) and mesyl chloride (0.08 mL, 0.95 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting

material (by LCMS), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (50 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 80% EtOAc/hexane) to afford *N*-((5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methyl)-*N*-methylmethanesulfonamide **Ex. 78** (35 mg, 0.089 mmol, 14%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.80 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (dd, *J* = 10.9, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 7.3, Hz, 1H), 4.73 (s, 2H), 3.93-3.87 (m, 1H), 3.08 (s, 3H), 2.87 (s, 3H), 1.23-1.18 (m, 2H), 0.82-0.77 (m, 2H)

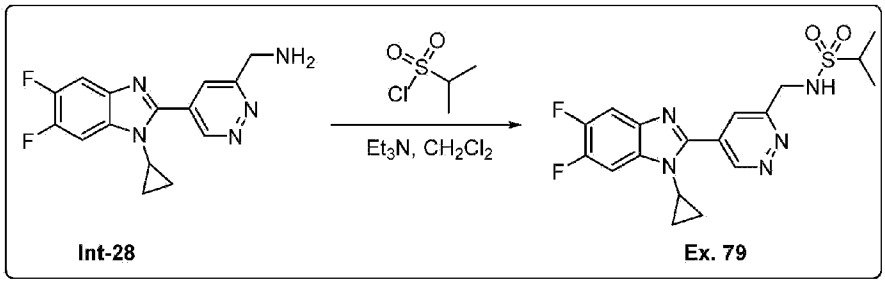
LC-MS: *m/z* 394.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.43 RT (99.69% purity)

HPLC: 99.74%

Example 79 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0619]

Scheme:



***N*-((5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methyl)propane-2-sulfonamide (Ex. 79)**

[0620] To a stirred solution of (5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl) methanamine **Int-28** (150 mg, 0.49) in CH_2Cl_2 (7 mL) under an inert atmosphere were added triethylamine (0.13 mL, 0.99 mmol) and propane-2-sulfonyl chloride (106 mg, 0.74 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (30 mL) and washed with water (20 mL) and brine (20 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) which was further purified by preparative HPLC to afford *N*-((5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methyl)propane-2-sulfonamide **Ex. 79** (40 mg, 0.09 mmol, 20%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.78 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.34 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.96-7.81 (m,

3H), 4.62 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 3.91-3.85 (m, 1H), 3.30-3.27 (m, 1H), 1.28-1.21 (m, 8H), 0.79-0.74 (m, 2H)

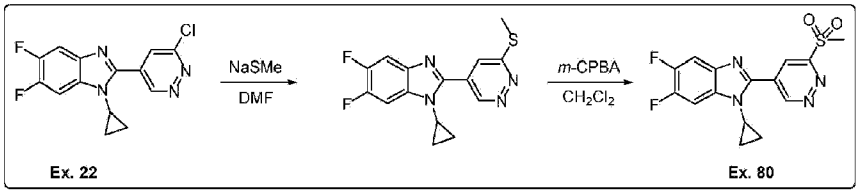
LC-MS: *m/z* 408.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.49 RT (98.74% purity)

HPLC: 95.26%

Example 80 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0621]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(methylthio)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole

[0622] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 22** (100 mg, 0.32) in DMF (1 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added sodium methanethiolate (15% in water, 23 mg, 0.32 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC & LC-MS), the reaction mixture was diluted with brine solution (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (60 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was washed with *n*-pentane (5 mL) and dried *in vacuo* to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(methylthio) pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole (80 mg, 0.25 mmol, 77%) as pale brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.79-9.49 (m, 1H), 8.15-7.88 (m, 1H), 7.59 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd, *J* = 9.7, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.65-3.58 (m, 1H), 2.80 (s, 3H), 1.33-1.28 (m, 2H), 0.87-0.82 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 318.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.32 RT (97.39% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(methylsulfonyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 80)

[0623] To a stirred solution of 1-cyclopropyl-5, 6-difluoro-2-(6-(methylthio)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole (60 mg, 0.18 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (6 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added m-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (81 mg, 0.47 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room

temperature and stirred for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC & LC-MS), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (60 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 40% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(methylsulfonyl) pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 80** (30 mg, 0.085 mmol, 45%) as a pale brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 10.09 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.79 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, *J* = 9.9, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (dd, *J* = 9.5, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.74-3.68 (m, 1H), 3.52 (s, 3H), 1.44-1.37 (m, 2H), 0.94-0.87 (m, 2H)

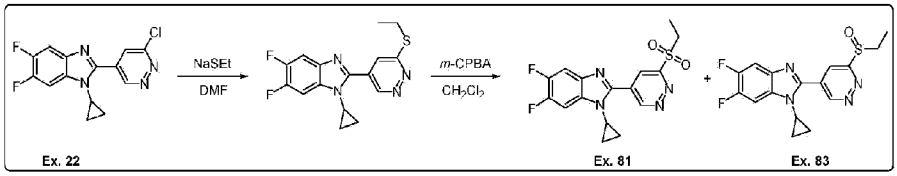
LC-MS: *m/z* 351.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.64 RT (95.45% purity)

HPLC: 96.64%

Example 81 & Example 83 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0624]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(ethylthio)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole

[0625] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 22** (300 mg, 0.98) in DMF (7 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added sodium ethane thiolate (15% in water, 90 mg, 1.07 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (40 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was washed with n-pentane (5 mL) and dried *in vacuo* to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(ethylthio)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole (240 mg, 0.72 mmol, 74%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.49 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (dd, *J* = 10.2, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd, *J* = 9.7, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.65-3.57 (m, 1H), 3.44 (q, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.49 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 1.33-1.29 (m, 2H), 0.88-0.83 (m, 2H)

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(ethylsulfonyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 81) &

1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(ethylsulfinyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*] imidazole (Ex. 83)

[0626] To a stirred solution of 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(ethylthio)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole (260 mg, 0.78) in CH_2Cl_2 (8 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added *m*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (296 mg, 1.56 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed water (60 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50-70% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(ethylsulfonyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 81** (22 mg, 0.060 mmol) as an off white solid & 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(ethylsulfinyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 83** (60 mg, 0.17 mmol) as an off white solid.

Analytical data for Ex. 81:

[0627]

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 10.08 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.89 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (dd, *J* =10.1, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (dd, *J* = 10.3, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.96-3.89 (m, 1H), 3.69 (q, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.39 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H), 1.33-1.27 (m, 2H), 0.93-0.86 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 365.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.72 RT (99.37% purity)

HPLC: 95.47%

Analytical data for Ex. 83:

[0628]

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.93 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.76 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.94-3.89 (m, 1H), 3.49-3.42 (m, 1H), 3.27-3.19 (m, 1H), 1.35-1.31 (m, 2H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 0.92-0.88 (m, 2H).

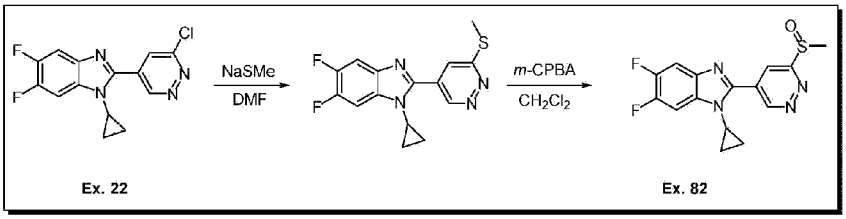
LC-MS: *m/z* 348.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.09 RT (95.88% purity)

HPLC: 95.47%

Example 82 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0629]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(methylthio pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole

[0630] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 22** (100 mg, 0.32 mmol) in DMF (1 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added sodium methanethiolate (15% in water, 23 mg, 0.32 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC & LC-MS), the reaction mixture was diluted with brine solution (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (60 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was washed with n-pentane (5 mL), dried *in vacuo* to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(methylthio)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole (80 mg, 0.25 mmol, 77%) as a pale brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.79-9.49 (m, 1H), 8.15-7.88 (m, 1H), 7.59 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd, *J* = 9.7, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.65-3.58 (m, 1H), 2.80 (s, 3H), 1.33-1.28 (m, 2H), 0.87-0.82 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 318.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.32 RT (97.39% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(methylsulfinyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 82)

[0631] To a stirred solution of 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(methylthio)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole (100 mg, 0.31 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (6 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added m-chloroperoxybenzoic acid (59 mg, 0.34 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed water (60 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 60-70% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(methylsulfinyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 82** (15 mg, 0.04 mmol, 14%) as an off white solid

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.95 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.78 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (dd, *J* = 10.0,

7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (dd, *J* = 9.5, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.76-3.68 (m, 1H), 3.08 (s, 3H), 1.39-1.34 (m, 2H), 0.92-0.87 (m, 2H)

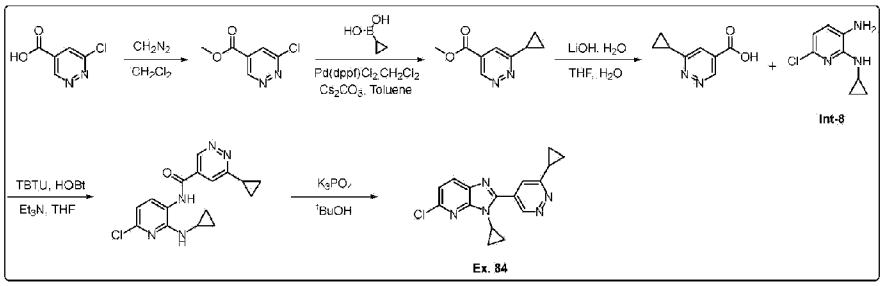
LC-MS: *m/z* 335 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.23 RT (95.79% purity)

HPLC: 96.90%

Example 84 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0632]

Scheme:



Methyl 6-chloropyridazine-4-carboxylate

[0633] To a stirred solution of 6-chloropyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (1.5 g, 9.49 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (30 mL) under argon atmosphere was added diazomethane in diethyl ether (freshly prepared by addition of *N*-nitrosomethyl urea (3 g) to mixture of 50% KOH solution (25 mL) and diethyl ether (50 mL) at 0 °C) at 0 °C. The reaction was warmed to RT and stirred for 30 min. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and washed with CH_2Cl_2 (30 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20-30% EtOAc/hexane) to afford methyl 6-chloropyridazine-4-carboxylate (1.4 g, 8.13 mmol, 86%) as an off-white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.58 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.04 (s, 3H)

Methyl 6-cyclopropylpyridazine-4-carboxylate

[0634] To a stirred solution of methyl 6-chloropyridazine-4-carboxylate (1 g, 5.81 mmol) in toluene (60 mL) was added cyclopropylboronic acid (874 mg, 10.17 mmol) and cesium carbonate (2.84 g, 8.72 mmol) in a sealed tube and the mixture was purged under argon for 20 min. $Pd(dppf)Cl_2.CH_2Cl_2$ (237 mg, 0.290 mmol) was added and the mixture was purged with argon for 5 min at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 100 °C and stirred for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc (40 mL), filtered through a pad of *celite* and the bed was washed with EtOAc (25 mL). The fiterate was concentrated under

reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane) to afford methyl 6-cyclopropylpyridazine-4-carboxylate (600 mg, 3.37 mmol, 58%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.42 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.00 (s, 3H), 2.30-2.22 (m, 1H), 1.30-1.24 (m, 2H), 1.24-1.18 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 178.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.70 RT (96.83% purity)

6-Cyclopropylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid

[0635] To a stirred solution of methyl 6-cyclopropylpyridazine-4-carboxylate (400 mg, 2.24 mmol) in THF (0.6 mL) was added a solution of lithium hydroxide (283 g, 6.74 mmol) in water (1 M, 6.7 mL) at room temperature and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were concentrated under reduced pressure. Then the residue was acidified using conc. HCl (pH 3-4) diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 60 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford 6-cyclopropylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (300 mg, crude) as an off white solid. The crude material was used in the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 14.06 (br s, 1H), 9.31 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.43-2.37 (m, 1H), 1.16-1.11 (m, 4H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 165.2 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.83 RT (95.00% purity)

***N*-(6-Chloro-2-(cyclopropylamino)pyridin-3-yl)-6-cyclopropylpyridazine-4-carboxamide**

[0636] To a stirred solution of 6-cyclopropylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (300 mg, crude) in THF (15 mL) under an inert atmosphere were added TBTU (1.03 g, 2.74 mmol) and HOBt (259 mg, 1.92 mmol) at room temperature and the reaction was stirred for 10 min. 6-Chloro-N^2-cyclopropylpyridine-2, 3-diamine **Int-8** (334 mg, 1.82 mmol) and triethylamine (0.38 mL, 2.74 mmol) were added to the reaction mixture at room temperature and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 40 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) to afford *N*-(6-chloro-2-(cyclopropylamino)pyridin-3-yl)-6-cyclopropylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (400 mg, 1.21 mmol, 54% , over two steps) as a thick syrup.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.93 (s, 1H), 9.40 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 2.64-2.62 (m, 1H), 2.41-2.33

(m, 1H), 1.20-1.14 (m, 2H), 1.14-1.09 (m, 2H), 0.73-0.67 (m, 2H), 0.49-0.44 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 329.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.54 RT (89.91% purity)

5-Chloro-3-cyclopropyl-2-(6-cyclopropylpyridazin-4-yl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine (Ex. 84)

[0637] To a stirred solution of *N*-(6-chloro-2-(cyclopropylamino)pyridin-3-yl)-6-cyclopropylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (350 mg, 1.06 mmol) in ^{t}BuOH (4 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added potassium phosphate (676 mg, 3.19 mmol) in a sealed tube at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 110 °C and stirred for 36 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with water (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 100 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 90% EtOAc/Hexane) to afford 5-chloro-3-cyclopropyl-2-(6-cyclopropylpyridazin-4-yl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine **Ex. 84** (65 mg, 0.20 mmol, 19%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.59 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.13-8.08 (m, 2H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.85-3.77 (m, 1H), 2.46-2.37 (m, 1H), 1.30-1.22 (m, 6H), 0.96-0.89 (m, 2H).

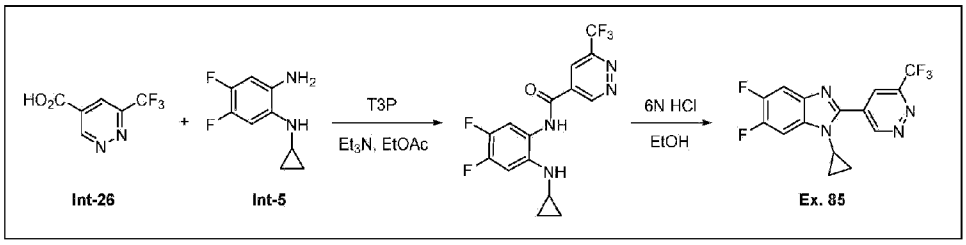
LC-MS: *m/z* 311.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.44 RT (98.03% purity)

HPLC: 99.62%

Example 85

[0638]

Scheme:



***N*-(2-(Cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide**

[0639] To a stirred solution of N^1-cyclopropyl-4,5-difluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-5** (200 mg, 1.08

mmol) in EtOAc (12 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylic acid **Int-26** (208 mg, 1.08 mmol), triethylamine (0.3 mL, 2.17 mmol) and propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 1.72 g, 2.71 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane) to afford N-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (300 mg, 0.83 mmol, 77%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 10.18 (s, 1H), 9.91 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.67 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd, *J* = 13.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.07 (s, 1H), 2.37-2.34 (m, 1H), 0.78-0.72 (m, 2H), 0.45-0.39 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 357.0 $[M-H]^-$ at 3.17 RT (95.02% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 85)

[0640] To a stirred solution of *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (200 mg, 0.55 mmol) in ethanol (2 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6*N* HCl (2.3 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 70 °C and stirred for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was basified to pH 8 using saturated sodium bicarbonate solution and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20-30% EtOAc/hexane) which was further washed with n-pentane (10 mL) and dried *in vacuo* to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 85** (100 mg, 0.29 mmol, 53%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 10.07 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.69 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.94-3.89 (m, 1H), 1.32-1.26 (m, 2H), 0.90-0.84 (m, 2H)

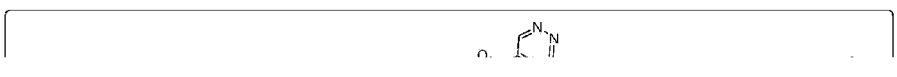
LC-MS: *m/z* 340.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.12 RT (97.31% purity)

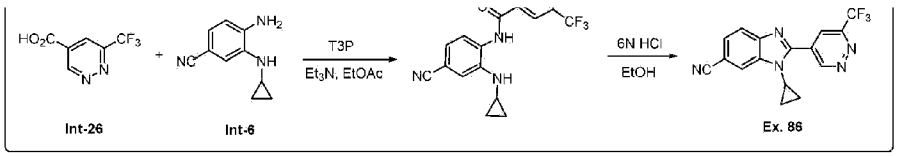
HPLC: 96.06%

Example 86

[0641]

Scheme:





***N*-(4-Cyano-2-(cyclopropylamino)phenyl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide**

[0642] To a stirred solution of 4-amino-3-(cyclopropylamino)benzonitrile **Int-6** (200 mg, 1.15 mmol) in EtOAc (12 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6-(trifluoromethyl) pyridazine-4-carboxylic acid **Int-26** (221 mg, 1.15 mmol) and triethylamine (0.3 mL, 2.31 mmol) at room temperature. The mixture was cooled to 0 °C and propylphosphonic anhydride (T3P, 50% in EtOAc, 1.8 mL, 2.89 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was basified using saturated sodium bicarbonate solution and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 40% EtOAc/hexane) to afford *N*-(4-cyano-2-(cyclopropylamino) phenyl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (200 mg) as an off white solid. The crude material was used in the next step without further purification.

LC-MS: *m/z* 346.1 $[M-H]^-$ at 2.94 RT (67.16% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (Ex. 86)

[0643] To a stirred solution of *N*-(4-cyano-2-(cyclopropylamino)phenyl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (200 mg, crude) in EtOH (2 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6 *N* HCl (2 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 70 °C and stirred for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, basified with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane) to afford a residue which was further purified by preparative HPLC to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 86** (40 mg, 0.066 mmol, 21%) as an off white solid.

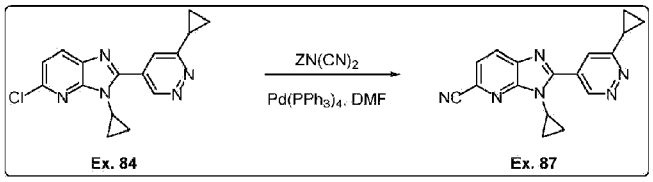
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 10.10 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.52 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (s, 1H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.81-3.74 (m, 1H), 1.46-1.40 (m, 2H), 0.95-0.89 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 329.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.80 RT (99.16% purity)

HPLC: 99.42%

Example 87 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0644]
Scheme:



3-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-cyclopropylpyridazin-4-yl)-3H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine-5-carbonitrile (Ex. 87)

[0645] To a stirred solution of 5-chloro-3-cyclopropyl-2-(6-cyclopropylpyridazin-4-yl)-3*H*-imidazo[4, 5-*b*]pyridine **Ex. 84** (50 mg, 0.16 mmol) in DMF (1 mL) was added zinc cyanide (37 mg, 0.32 mmol) and $Pd(PPh_3)_4$ (18.5 mg, 0.01 mmol) at room temperature in a sealed tube and the mixture was purged under argon for 20 min. The reaction mixture was heated to 170 °C and stirred for 9 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% $MeOH/CH_2Cl_2$) to afford 3-cyclopropyl-2-(6-cyclopropylpyridazin-4-yl)-3H-imidazo[4, 5-*b*] pyridine-5-carbonitrile **Ex. 87** (40 mg, 0.13 mmol, 82%) as an off-white solid.

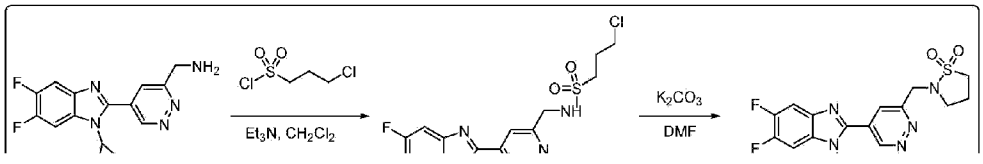
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.63 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.29 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.90-3.83 (m, 1H), 2.48-2.41 (m, 1H), 1.32-1.25 (m, 6H), 1.00 - 0.94 (m, 2H)

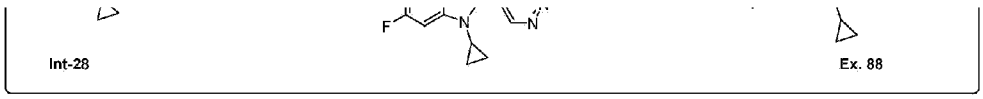
LC-MS: *m/z* 303 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.27 RT (93.10% purity)

HPLC: 96.03%

Example 88 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0646]
Scheme:





3-Chloro-*N*-((5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl) methyl)propane-1-sulfonamide

[0647] To a stirred solution of (5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methanamine **Int-28** (300 mg, 0.99 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added triethylamine (0.2 mL, 1.49 mmol) and 3-chloropropane-1-sulfonyl chloride (170 mg, 0.99 mmol) at 0 to 5 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (60 mL) and washed with water (40 mL) and brine (40 mL). The organic layer was separated dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 80% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 3-chloro-*N*-((5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methyl)propane-1-sulfonamide (280 mg) as colorless viscous syrup. The crude material was used in the next step without purification.

LC-MS: *m/z* 442.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.68 RT (90.03% purity)

2-((5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methyl) isothiazolidine 1,1-dioxide (Ex. 88)

[0648] To a stirred solution of 3-chloro-*N*-((5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methyl)propane-1-sulfonamide (200 mg, crude) in DMF (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added potassium carbonate (125 mg, 0.90 mmol) at room temperature and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 40 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by preparative HPLC to afford 2-((5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methyl)isothiazolidine 1,1-dioxide **Ex. 88** (80 mg, 0.20 mmol, 44%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.77 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.92-7.82 (m, 2H), 4.59 (s, 2H), 3.92-3.86 (m, 1H), 3.35-3.31 (m, 4H), 2.29 (m, 2H), 1.23-1.17 (m, 2H), 0.79-0.74 (m, 2H)

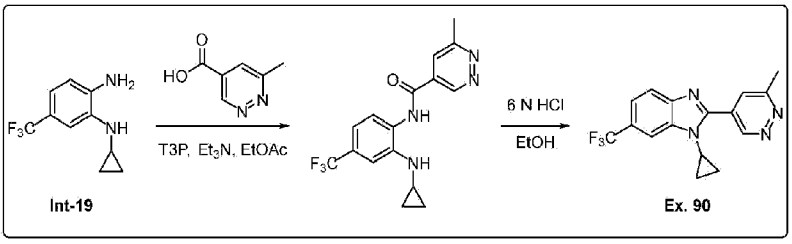
LC-MS: *m/z* 406.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.39 RT (99.55% purity)

HPLC: 97.80%

Example 90 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0649]

Scheme:



Ex. 90

A-(2-(Cyclopropylamino)-4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0650] To a stirred solution of *N*^{1}-cyclopropyl-5-(trifluoromethyl)benzene-1,2-diamine **Int-19** (300 mg, crude) and 6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (266 mg, 1.53 mmol) in ethylacetate (6 mL) was added triethylamine (0.39 mL, 2.78 mmol) followed by propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 2.21 mL, 3.47 mmol) dropwise at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 70% EtOAc/hexane) to afford *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (200 mg, 0.59 mmol, 42%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 10.03 (s, 1H), 9.51 (s, 1H), 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (s, 1H), 6.98 (br d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.24 (s, 1H), 2.74 (s, 3H), 2.43-2.41 (m, 1H), 0.81-0.74 (m, 2H), 0.47-0.45 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 337.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.36 RT (96.19% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1H benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 90)

[0651] To a stirred solution of *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (100 mg, 0.3 mmol) in ethanol (1 mL) was added 6 N HCl (1.5 mL) dropwise at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The mixture was warmed to 60 °C for 15 min in a pre-heated oil bath. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain the crude. The crude material was washed with n-pentane (2 x 5 mL) and dried under vacuum to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 90** (40 mg, 0.12 mmol, 42%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.69 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.21 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.01-3.96 (m, 1H), 2.78 (s, 3H), 1.27-1.21 (m, 2H), 0.81-0.75 (m, 2H)

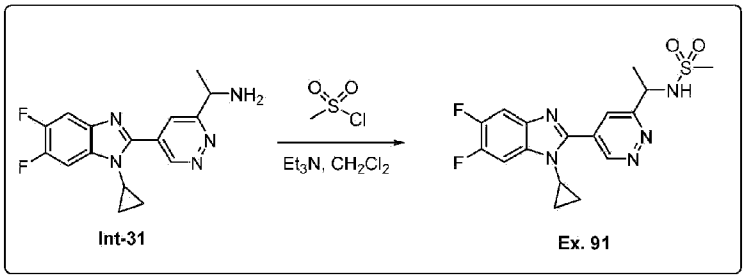
LC-MS: *m/z* 319.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.61 RT (97.98% purity)

HPLC: 97.37%

Example 91 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0652]

Scheme:



***N*-(1-(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)ethyl) methanesulfonamide (Ex. 91)**

[0653] To a stirred solution of 1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazin-3-yl)ethan-1-amine **Int-30** (70 mg, crude) in CH_2Cl_2 (3 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added triethylamine (0.07 mL, 0.55 mmol) and methanesulfonyl chloride (0.02 mL, 0.33 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 6 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (15 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford *N*-(1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)ethyl)methanesulfonamide **Ex. 91** (36 mg, 0.09 mmol, 17%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.74 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.38 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.93-7.82 (m, 2H), 5.00-4.95 (m, 1H), 3.94-3.86 (m, 1H), 2.92 (s, 3H), 1.57 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.25-1.20 (m, 2H), 0.78-0.75 (m, 2H)

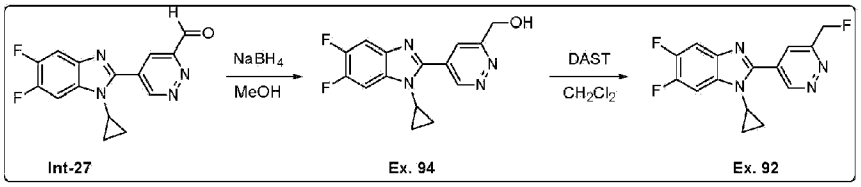
LC-MS: *m/z* 394.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.33 RT (92.93% purity)

HPLC: 97.92%

Example 92 & Example 94 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0654]

Scheme:



(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methanol (Ex. 94)

[0655] To a stirred solution of 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carbaldehyde **Int-27** (100 mg, 0.33 mmol) in methanol (5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added sodium borohydride (6.3 mg, 0.16 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at same temperature for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with brine solution (10 mL). The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with water (15 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 70% EtOAc/hexane) to afford (5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methanol **Ex. 94** (30 mg, 0.099 mmol, 30%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 9.71 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.88-7.79 (m, 2H), 5.77 (t, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 4.88 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 3.93-3.88 (m, 1H), 1.21-1.15 (m, 2H), 0.77-0.73 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 302.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.39 RT (95.96% purity)

HPLC: 96.82%

1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(fluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 92)

[0656] To a stirred solution of (5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methanol **Ex. 94** (130 mg, 0.43 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (3 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added DAST (0.16 mL 210 mg, 1.29 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated sodium carbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 30 mL).

The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane) which was further purified by preparative HPLC to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(fluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 92** (10 mg, 0.03 mmol, 8%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.80 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.44 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.89 (s, 1H), 5.78 (s, 1H), 3.90-3.85 (m, 1H), 1.31-1.24 (m, 2H), 0.87-0.81 (m, 2H)

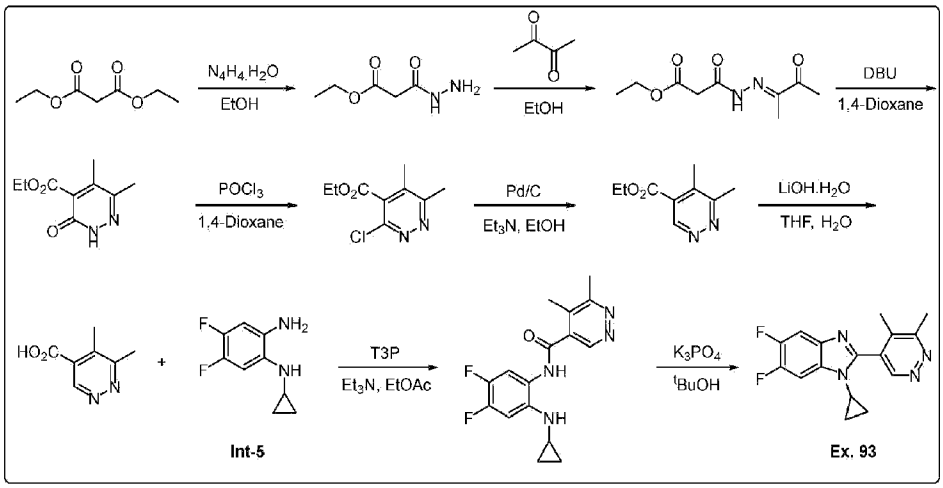
LC-MS: *m/z* 304.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.53 RT (99.54% purity)

HPLC: 99.73%.

Example 93 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0657]

Scheme:



Ethyl 3-hydrazinyl-3-oxopropanoate

[0658] To a stirred solution of diethyl malonate (50 g, 312.5 mmol) in ethanol (32 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added hydrazine hydrate (5 mL, 103.12 mmol) at room temperature and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 1% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford ethyl 3-hydrazinyl-3-oxopropanoate (6 g, 41.09 mmol, 13%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 9.16 (brs, 1 H), 4.28 (brs, 2 H), 4.07 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2 H), 3.40 (s,

2H), 1.20-1.16 (m, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 147.2 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.53 RT (89.08% purity)

Ethyl (E)-3-oxo-3-(2-(3-oxobutan-2-ylidene)hydrazinyl)propanoate

[0659] To a stirred solution of ethyl 3-hydrazinyl-3-oxopropanoate (6 g, 41.09 mmol) in ethanol (120 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added diacetyl (3.5 g, 41.09 mmol) at room temperature and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane) to afford ethyl (E)-3-oxo-3-(2-(3-oxobutan-2-ylidene) hydrazinyl) propanoate (6 g, 28.03 mmol, 69%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 11.18 (brs, 1H), 4.10 (q, *J*= 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.71 (s, 2H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 1.90 (s, 3H), 1.16 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 215 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.69 RT (93.82% purity)

Ethyl 5,6-dimethyl-3-oxo-2,3-dihydropyridazine-4-carboxylate

[0660] To a stirred solution of ethyl (E)-3-oxo-3-(2-(3-oxobutan-2-ylidene) hydrazinyl) propanoate (3 g, 14.01 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (30 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 1,8-diazabicyclo(5.4.0)undec-7-ene (DBU) (2.08 mL, 14.01 mmol) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 100 °C and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated ammonium chloride solution (80 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 100 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford ethyl 5,6-dimethyl-3-oxo-2,3-dihydropyridazine-4-carboxylate (1.5 g, crude) as colorless viscous syrup. The crude material was used in the next step without purification.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 12.97 (brs, 1H), 4.30 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 2.09 (s, 3H), 1.27 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 196.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.50 RT (46.75% purity)

Ethyl 3-chloro-5,6-dimethylpyridazine-4-carboxylate

[0661] To a stirred solution of ethyl 5,6-dimethyl-3-oxo-2,3-dihydropyridazine-4-carboxylate (1.5 g,

crude) in 1,4-dioxane (25 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added phosphoryl trichloride (7.3 mL, 76.53 mmol) at 0 °C in a sealed tube. The reaction mixture was heated to 100 °C and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 70 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane) to afford ethyl 3-chloro-5,6-dimethylpyridazine-4-carboxylate (250 mg, 1.16 mmol, 8%, over two steps) as a colorless viscous syrup.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 4.46 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.63 (s, 3H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 1.34 (t, *J*= 7.1 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 214.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.19 RT (97.49% purity)

Ethyl 5,6-dimethylpyridazine-4-carboxylate

[0662] To a stirred solution of ethyl 3-chloro-5,6-dimethylpyridazine-4-carboxylate (250 mg, 1.16 mmol) in ethanol (12 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added triethylamine (catalytic) and 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 120 mg) at room temperature. The reaction was evacuated and a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) was established and the reaction was stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *celite* and the bed was washed with ethanol (20 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The obtained crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 40% EtOAc/hexane) to afford ethyl 5,6-dimethylpyridazine-4-carboxylate (100 mg, 0.55 mmol, 48%) as a colorless syrup.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 9.14 (s, 1H), 4.36 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.66 (s, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.33 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 180.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.76 RT (98.17% purity

5,6-Dimethylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid

[0663] To a stirred solution of ethyl 5,6-dimethylpyridazine-4-carboxylate (100 mg, 0.55 mmol) in a mixture of THF: water (2:1, 2 mL) was added lithium hydroxide monohydrate (47 mg, 1.11 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were concentrated under reduced pressure. Then the residue was diluted with water (5 mL) and acidified using conc. HCl solution (~ pH 3-4). The aqueous layer was lyophilized to afford 5,6-dimethylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (110 mg, salt) as a white solid. The crude material was used in the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.17 (s, 1H), 2.69 (s, 3H), 2.48 (s, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 153.2 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.79 RT (99.78% purity)

***N*-(2-(Cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-5,6-dimethylpyridazine-4-carboxamide**

[0664] To a stirred solution of 5,6-dimethylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (67 mg, crude) in EtOAc (5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added N^1-cyclopropyl-4, 5-difluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-5** (80 mg, 0.43 mmol), triethylamine (0.24 mL, 1.75 mmol) and propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 0.7 mL, 1.09 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 60% EtOAc/hexane) to afford *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-5,6-dimethylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (40 mg, 0.12 mmol, 29%) as brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.76 (s, 1H), 9.18 (s, 1H), 7.51 (dd, *J* = 11.9, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (dd, *J* = 10.7, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.78 (s, 1H), 2.66 (s, 3H), 2.60-2.55 (m, 1H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.43-1.34 (m, 2H), 0.44-0.40 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 318.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.90 RT (49.24% purity).

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(5,6-dimethylpyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 93)

[0665] To a stirred solution of *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-5,6-dimethylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (40 mg, 0.125 mmol) in ^{t}BuOH (0.5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added tri potassium phosphate (66 mg, 0.31 mmol) at room temperature in a sealed tube. The reaction mixture was heated to 120 °C and stirred for 6 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(5,6-dimethylpyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 93** (18 mg, 0.06 mmol, 48%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.18 (s, 1H), 7.71 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.63-3.55 (m, 1H), 2.80 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 1.06-1.00 (m, 2H), 0.72-0.66 (m, 2H)

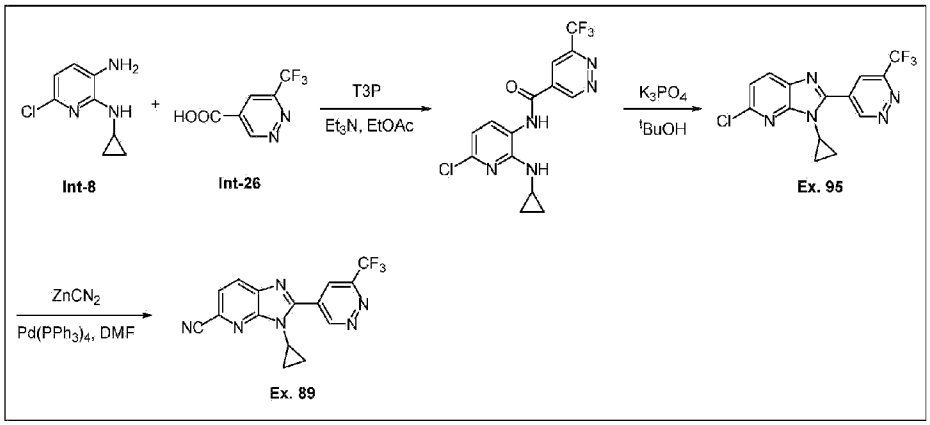
LC-MS: *m/z* 300.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.34 RT (99.49% purity)

HPLC: 99.17%

Example 95 & Example 89 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0666]

Scheme:



N (6-Chloro-2-(cyclopropylamino)pyridin-3-yl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0667] To a stirred solution of 6-chloro-*N*^{2}-cyclopropylpyridine-2,3-diamine **Int-8** (300 mg, 1.63 mmol) in EtOAc (10 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylic acid **Int-26** (314 mg, 1.63 mmol), triethylamine (0.43 mL, 3.27 mmol) and propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 2.6 mL, 4.09 mmol) at 0 to 5 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) to afford N-(6-chloro-2-(cyclopropylamino)pyridin-3-yl)-6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (250 mg, 0.70 mmol, 43%) as a brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.24 (s, 1H), 9.92 (s, 1H), 8.67 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 2.72-2.67 (m, 1H), 0.74-0.69 (m, 2H), 0.49-0.44 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 357.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.87 RT (96.94% purity)

5-Chloro-3-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-3H imidazo[4,5-b]pyridine (Ex. 95)

[0668] To a stirred solution of *N*-(6-chloro-2-(cyclopropylamino)pyridin-3-yl)-6-

(trifluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (200 mg, 0.56 mmol) in ^{t}BuOH (6 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added tripotassium phosphate (400 mg) at room temperature in a sealed tube. The reaction mixture was stirred at 130 °C for 24 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 25% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 5-chloro-3-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine **Ex. 95** (150 mg, 0.44 mmol, 79%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 10.13 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.76 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.91-3.84 (m, 1H), 1.32-1.26 (m, 2H), 1.00-0.95 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 339.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.86 RT (97.81% purity)

HPLC: 98.06%

3-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine-5-carbonitrile (Ex. 89)

[0669] To a stirred solution of 5-chloro-3-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine **Ex. 95** (90 mg, 0.26 mmol) in DMF (1.5 mL) was added zinc cyanide (62 mg, 0.53 mmol) and $Pd(PPh_3)_4$ (30 mg, 0.02 mmol) at room temperature in a sealed tube and the mixture was purged under argon for 10 min. The reaction mixture was heated to 170 °C for 8 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 40 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was washed with diethyl ether (2 x 10 mL) dried *in vacuo.* The obtained solid was further purified by preparative HPLC to afford 3-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(trifluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-3*H*-imidazo[4,5-*b*]pyridine-5-carbonitrile **Ex. 89** (13 mg, 0.039 mmol, 15%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 10.16 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.81 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.34 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 3.96-3.88 (m, 1H), 1.35-1.28 (m, 2H), 1.03-0.97 (m, 2H)

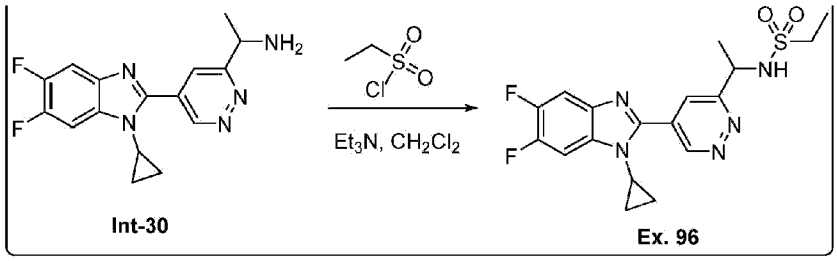
LC-MS: *m/z* 331.2 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.41 RT (99.80% purity)

HPLC: 99.55%

Example 96 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0670]

Scheme:



N (1-(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1H benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)ethyl) ethanesulfonamide (Ex. 96)

[0671] To a stirred solution of 1-(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)ethan-1-amine **Int-30** (70 mg, 0.22 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added and triethylamine (0.07 mL, 0.55 mmol) and ethanesulfonyl chloride (43 mg, 0.33 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted water (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by preparative HPLC to afford *N*-(1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)ethyl)ethanesulfonamide **(Ex. 96)** (40 mg, 0.09 mmol, 44%) as an off-white solid.

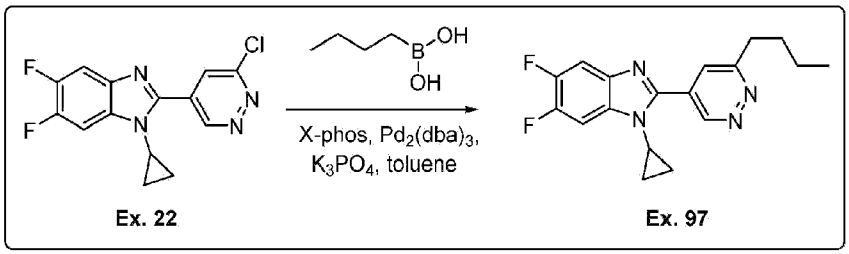
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.74 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.92-7.81 (m, 2H), 4.92 (p, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.93-3.86 (m, 1H), 3.11-2.90 (m, 2H), 1.57 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.27-1.20 (m, 2H), 1.16 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 0.80-0.72 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 408.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.42 RT (98.97% purity)

HPLC: 99.61%

Example 97 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0672]
Scheme:



2-(6-Butylpyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 97)

[0673] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 22** (300 mg, 0.98 mmol) in toluene (5 mL) was added X-phos (47 mg, 0.1 mmol), tripotassium phosphate (623 mg, 2.94 mmol) and butylboronic acid (148 mg, 1.47 mmol) in a sealed tube at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was purged under argon for 15 min. $Pd_2(dba)_3$ (90 mg, 0.1 mmol) was added at room temperature and the reaction mixture was heated to 100 °C and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford a residue which was purified by normal phase preparative HPLC purification to afford 2-(6-butylpyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 97** (20 mg, 0.06 mmol, 6%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.63 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.90-3.84 (m, 1H), 3.15-3.09 (m, 2H), 1.90-1.81 (m, 2H), 1.52-1.43 (m, 2H), 1.29-1.23 (m, 2H), 1.01 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 0.85-0.79 (m, 2H)

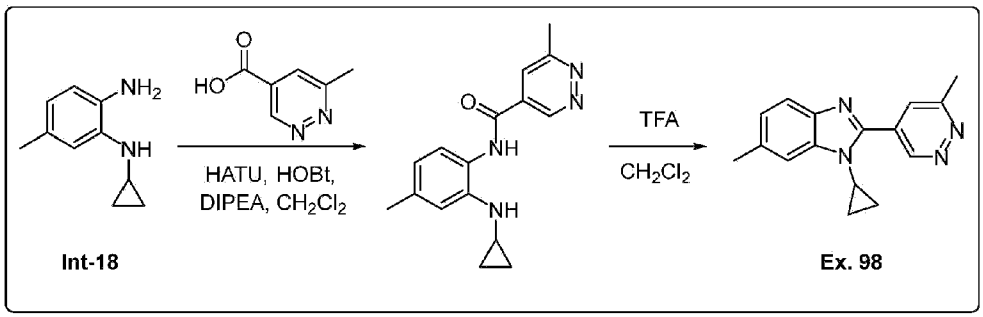
LC-MS: *m/z* 329.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.99 RT (99.92% purity)

HPLC: 99.82%

Example 98 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0674]

Scheme:



N-(2-(Cyclopropylamino)-4-methylphenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0675] To a stirred solution of N^1-cyclopropyl-5-methylbenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-18** (120 mg, crude) and 6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (129 mg, 0.74 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL) was added HATU (310 mg, 0.81 mmol) and HOBt (110 mg, 0.81 mmol) followed by ethyldiisopropylamine (0.52 mL,

2.96 mmol) dropwise at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4-methylphenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (120 mg, 0.42 mmol, 57%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 9.80 (s, 1H), 9.48 (s, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.02 (br d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (s, 1H), 6.47 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 5.63 (brs, 1H), 2.72 (s, 3H), 2.36-2.32 (m, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 0.72-0.69 (m, 2H), 0.43-0.39 (brs, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 282.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.36 RT (94.69% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-6-methyl-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 98)

[0676] To a stirred solution of *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4-methylphenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (120 mg, 0.42 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL) was added trifluoroacetic acid (0.2 mL) dropwise at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (5 mL), basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) followed by preparative HPLC to afford 1-cyclopropyl-6-methyl-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 98** (25 mg, 0.09 mmol, 22%) as an off white solid.

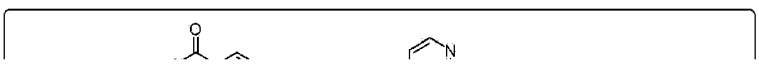
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.68 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.44-7.41 (m, 1H), 7.18 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 3.66-3.61 (m, 1H), 2.84 (s, 3H), 2.56 (s, 3H), 1.31-1.25 (m, 2H), 0.86-0.81 (m, 2H)

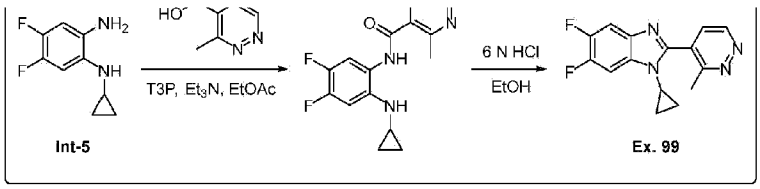
LC-MS: *m/z* 264.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.26 RT (99.85% purity)

HPLC: 99.84%

Example 99 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0677]
Scheme:





N (2-(Cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-3-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0678] To a stirred solution of *N*[1]-cyclopropyl-4,5-difluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-5** (100 mg, 0.72 mmol) in ethylacetate (6 mL) was added 3-methylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (132 mg, 0.72 mmol) and triethylamine (0.2 mL, 1.45 mmol) followed by propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 1.15 mL, 1.81 mmol) dropwise at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere and the reaction was allowed to stir at room temperature for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-3-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (100 mg, 0.33 mmol, 45%) as a brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 9.74 (s, 1H), 9.28 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (dd, *J* = 11.9, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (dd, *J* = 13.6, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.83 (s, 1H), 2.72 (s, 3H), 2.41-2.33 (m, 1H), 0.80-0.71 (m, 2H), 0.46-0.37 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 305.1[M+H]$^+$ at 2.43 RT (96.65% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(3-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 99)

[0679] To a stirred solution of *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-3-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (80 mg, 0.26 mmol) in ethanol (0.8 mL) was added 6 *N* HCl (0.4 mL) dropwise at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. Then the reaction mixture was heated to 60 °C and stirred for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, basified with saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(3-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 99** (40 mg, 0.14 mmol, 53%) as an off white solid.

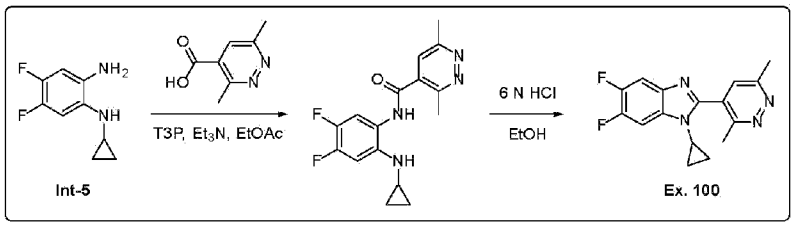
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.26 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 7.63-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.42 (dd, *J* = 9.6, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.41-3.36 (m, 1H), 2.82 (s, 3H), 1.10-1.01 (m, 2H), 0.72-0.62 (m, 2H).

LC-MS: *m/z* 287.2 [M+H]$^+$ at 3.10 RT (98.57% purity)

HPLC: 98.53%

Example 100 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0680]
Scheme:



A-(2-(Cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-3,6-dimethylpyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0681] To a stirred solution of N^1-cyclopropyl-4,5-difluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-5** (200 mg, 1.09 mmol) in ethylacetate (10 mL) was added 3,6-dimethylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (165 mg, 1.09 mmol) and triethylamine (0.3 mL, 2.17 mmol) followed by propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 1.73 mL, 2.71 mmol) dropwise at 0-5 °C under an inert atmosphere and the mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain crude material. The material was combined with another lot (100 mg, crude) and purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/EtOAc) to afford *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-3,6-dimethylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (260 mg, 0.82 mmol, 51%) as a brown solid.

LC-MS: *m/z* 319.1$[M+H]^+$ at 2.51 RT (98.54% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(3,6-dimethylpyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 100)

[0682] To a stirred solution of A-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-3,6-dimethylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (200 mg, 0.63 mmol) in ethanol (3 mL) was added 6 NHCl (3 mL) dropwise at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. Then the reaction mixture was heated to 60 °C and stirred for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, basified with saturated $NaHCO_3$ (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain crude material. The material was combined with another lot (50 mg, crude) and purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford a solid which was triturated

with EtOAc (5 mL) and dried under vacuum to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(3,6-dimethylpyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 100** (110 mg, 0.37 mmol, 48%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.71 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.63-3.57 (m, 1H), 2.77 (s, 3H), 2.69 (s, 3H), 1.09-1.02 (m, 2H), 0.73-0.67 (m, 2H)

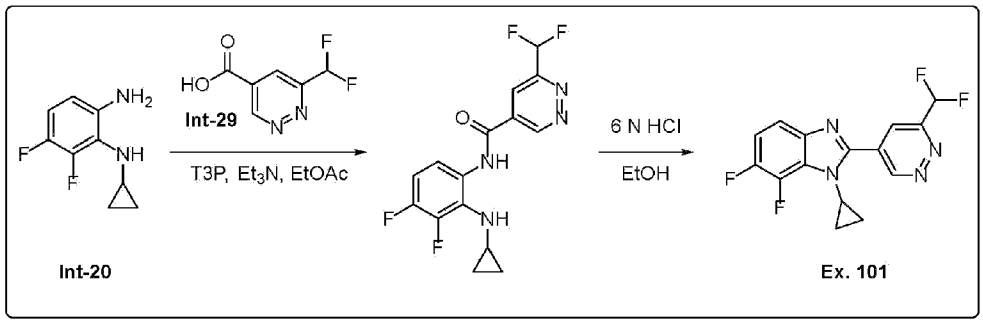
LC-MS: *m/z* 300.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.35 RT (98.70% purity)

HPLC: 99.50%

Example 101 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0683]

Scheme:



N (2-(Cyclopropylamino)-3,4-difluorophenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0684] To a stirred solution of *N*^{1}-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-20** (250 mg, crude) and 6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylic acid **Int-29** (260 mg, 1.49 mmol) in ethylacetate (5 mL) was added triethylamine (0.38 mL, 2.72 mmol) followed by propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 2.16 mL, 3.4 mmol) dropwise at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% $MeOH/CH_2Cl_2$) to afford *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-3,4-difluorophenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (300 mg, 0.88 mmol, 65%) as a yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.24 (s, 1H), 9.79 (s, 1H), 8.45 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.56-7.28 (m, 1H), 6.95 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (q, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 5.60 (br s, 1H), 2.82-2.75 (m, 1H), 0.63-0.48 (m, 4H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 340.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.79 RT (92.05% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-6,7-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 101)

[0685] To a stirred solution of A-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-3,4-difluorophenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (150 mg, 0.44 mmol) in ethanol (1.5 mL) was added 6 N HCl (2.25 mL) dropwise at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred in a pre-heated oil bath at 60 °C for 15 min. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 70% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-6,7-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 101** (70 mg, 0.22 mmol, 49%) as an off white solid.

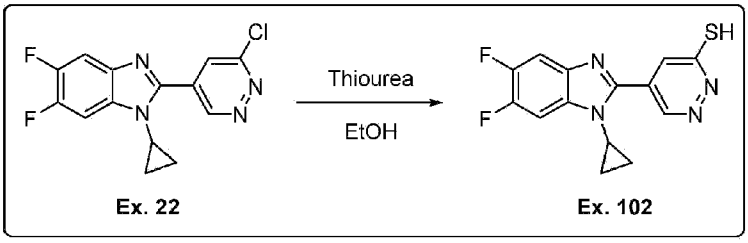
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.97 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.53 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.65-7.62 (m, 1H), 7.57-7.29 (m, 2H), 4.20-4.15 (m, 1H), 1.16-1.09 (m, 2H), 0.88-0.84 (m, 2H) **LC-MS:** *m/z* 323.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.83 RT (98.57% purity)

HPLC: 98.76%

Example 102 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0686]

Scheme:



5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-thiol (Ex. 102)

[0687] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 22** (100 mg, 0.33 mmol) in ethanol (5 mL) was added thiourea (35 mg, 0.49 mmol) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated to reflux

temperature for 4 h and cooled. Saturated sodium hydroxide solution (2 mL) was added at room temperature and heated to reflux temperature for 1 h. The reaction mixture was cooled and neutralized to pH ~7 using 6 N HCl. The precipitated solid was filtered and the solid was again washed successively with water (5 mL), MeOH (5 mL), CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL), EtOAc (5 mL), Et_2O (5 mL) and dried under vacuum to afford 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-thiol **Ex. 102** (50 mg, 0.16 mmol, 50%) as a yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 14.94 (br s, 1H), 8.79 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (s, 1H), 7.89-7.80 (m, 2H), 3.93-3.83 (m, 1H), 1.22-1.19 (m, 2H), 0.91-0.89 (m, 2H)

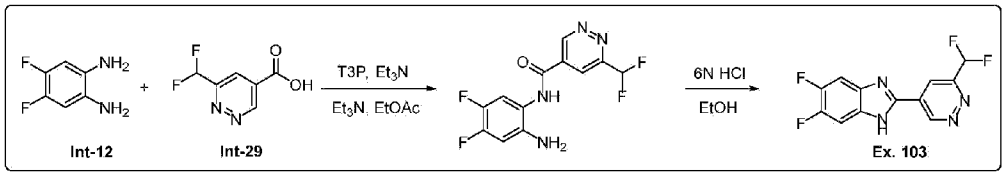
LC-MS: *m/z* 304.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.56 RT (94.69% purity)

HPLC: 93.13%

Example 103 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0688]

Scheme:



***N*-(2-Amino-4,5-difluorophenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide**

[0689] To a stirred solution of 4, 5-difluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-12** (199 mg, 1.37 mmol) in EtOAc (12 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylic acid **Int-29** (200 mg, 1.14 mmol), triethylamine (0.32 mL, 2.29 mmol) and propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 1.83 mL, 2.87 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC & LC-MS), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (70 mL) and brine (70 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) to afford *N*-(2-amino-4,5-difluorophenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (70 mg, 0.23 mmol, 13%) as a yellow solid.

LC-MS: *m/z* 300.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.2 RT (85.12% purity)

2-(6-(Difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 103)

[0690] To a stirred solution of *N*-(2-amino-4,5-difluorophenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-

carboxamide (50 mg, 0.16 mmol) in EtOH (0.75 mL) under an inert atmosphere was added 6 N HCl (0.5 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was heated to 90 °C and stirred for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was basified with sodium bicarbonate solution (40 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 103** (15 mg, 0.05 mmol, 23%) as a pink solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 13.88 (brs, 1H), 10.03 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.58 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.87-7.81 (m, 2H), 7.55-7.25 (m, 1H)

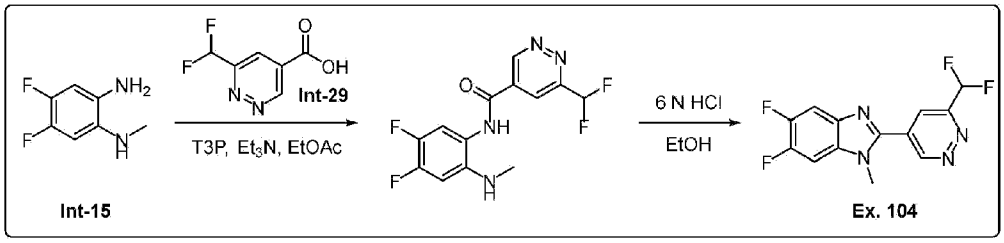
LC-MS: *m/z* 283.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.12 RT (97.58% purity)

HPLC: 98.71%

Example 104 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0691]

Scheme:



N (4,5-Difluoro-2-(methylamino)phenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0692] To a stirred solution of 4,5-difluoro-*N*^{1}-methylbenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-15** (200 mg, crude) and 6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylic acid **Int-29** (220 mg, 1.26 mmol) in ethylacetate (20 mL) was added triethylamine (0.36 mL, 2.53 mmol) and propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 2 mL, 3.16 mmol) dropwise at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) to afford *N*-(4,5-difluoro-2-(methylamino)phenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide (210 mg, 0.67 mmol, 53%) as a pale yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.23 (s, 1H), 9.81 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.48 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H),

7.55-7.25 (m, 2H), 6.60 (dd, *J* = 13.6, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.68 (br s, 1H), 2.69 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 314.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.53 RT (93.02% purity)

2-(6-(Difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1-methyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 104)

[0693] To a stirred solution of *N*-(4,5-difluoro-2-(methylamino)phenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide (150 mg, 0.48 mmol) in ethanol (1.5 mL) was added 6 N HCl (1.5 mL) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. Then the reaction mixture was stirred in a pre-heated oil bath at 80 °C for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5 6-difluoro-1-methyl-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 104** (98 mg, 0.33 mmol, 69%) as a pale yellow solid.

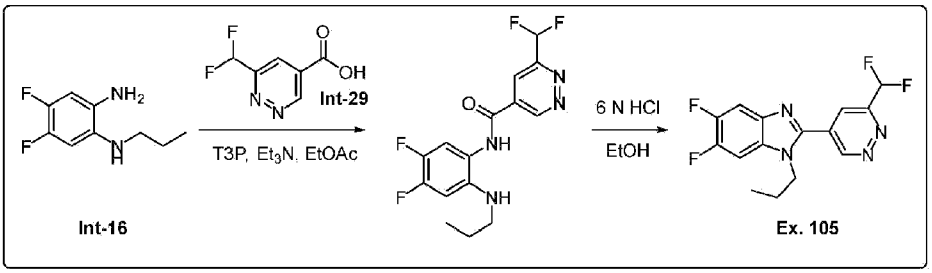
^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 9.89 (s, 1H), 8.44 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.29 (m, 1H), 4.04 (s, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 296.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.46 RT (97.61% purity)

HPLC: 97.08%

Example 105 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0694]
Scheme:



N (4,5-Difluoro-2-(propylamino)phenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0695] To a stirred solution of 4,5-difluoro-N^1-propylbenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-16** (200 mg, crude)

and 6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylic acid **Int-29** (187 mg, 1.07 mmol) in ethylacetate (20 mL) was added triethylamine (0.3 mL, 2.15 mmol) and propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 1.71 mL, 2.69 mmol) dropwise at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) to afford N-(4,5-difluoro-2-(propylamino)phenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (200 mg, 0.58 mmol, 55%) as a yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 10.19 (brs, 1H), 9.82 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 8.47 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.55-7.23 (m, 2H), 6.66 (dd, *J* = 13.9, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.52 (brs, 1H), 3.02 (q, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 1.60-1.50 (m, 2H), 0.91 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 342.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.00 RT (95.46% purity)

2-(6-(Difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1-propyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 105)

[0696] To a stirred solution of *N*-(4,5-difluoro-2-(propylamino)phenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (150 mg, 0.44 mmol) in ethanol (1.5 mL) was added 6 *N* HCl (1.5 mL) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. Then the reaction mixture was stirred in a pre-heated oil bath at 80 °C for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1-propyl-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 105** (110 mg, 0.34 mmol, 77%) as a yellow solid.

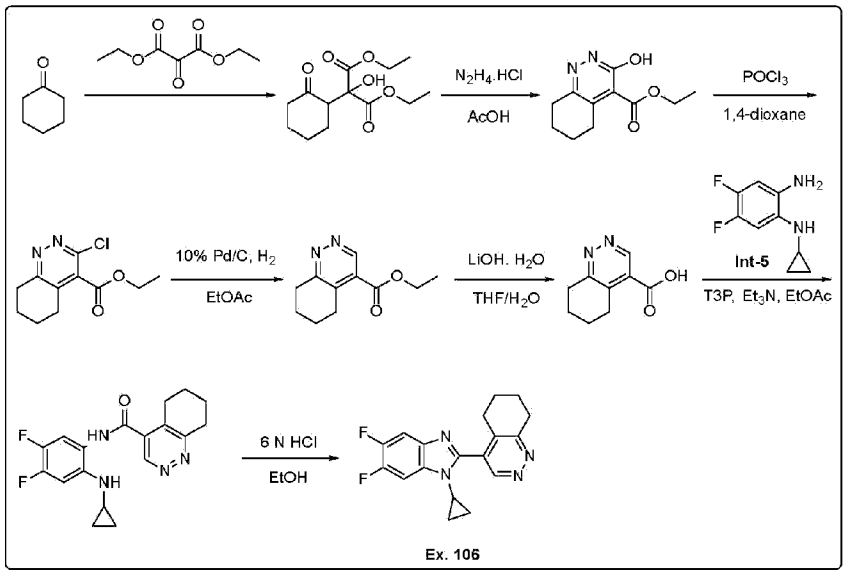
^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 9.85 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.38 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (dd, *J* = 10.7, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.28 (m, 1H), 4.42 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.75-1.68 (m, 2H), 0.77 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 324.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.90 RT (97.45% purity)

HPLC: 96.79%

Example 106 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0697]
Scheme:



Ex. 106

Diethyl 2-hydroxy-2-(2-oxocyclohexyl)malonate

[0698] A solution of diethyl 2-oxomalonate (500 mg, 2.87 mmol) and cyclohexanone (282 mg, 2.87 mmol) in a sealed tube was heated to 100 °C and stirred for 16 h and cooled. The reaction mixture (brown syrup) containing diethyl 2-hydroxy-2-(2-oxocyclohexyl) malonate (500 mg) was taken to the next step without further purification.

LC-MS: *m/z* 273.3 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.83 RT (82.91% purity)

Ethyl 3-hydroxy-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrocinnoline-4-carboxylate

[0699] To a stirred solution of diethyl 2-hydroxy-2-(2-oxocyclohexyl) malonate (5 g, crude) in acetic acid (35 mL) was added hydrazine monohydrochloride (6.25 g, 91.91 mmol) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated to 100 °C and stirred for 3 h. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC, the reaction mixture was quenched using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (100 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 60 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% $MeOH/CH_2Cl_2$) to afford ethyl 3-hydroxy-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrocinnoline-4-carboxylate (4 g, 18.0 mmol, 98%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 4.48 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.18 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.81 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 1.99-1.92 (m, 2H), 1.89-1.82 (m, 2H), 1.44 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 223.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.87 RT (83.82% purity)

Ethyl 3-chloro-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrocinnoline-4-carboxylate

[0700] To a stirred solution of ethyl 3-hydroxy-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrocinnoline-4-carboxylate (4 g, 18.0 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (40 mL) was added phosphoryl chloride (16.79 mL, 179.98 mmol) in a sealed tube at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated to 100 °C and stirred for 2 h. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC, the reaction mixture was quenched using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (100 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 60 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane) to afford ethyl 3-chloro-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrocinnoline-4-carboxylate (3.5 g, 14.54 mmol, 81%) as a brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 4.48 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.17 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.80 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 1.98-1.92 (m, 2H), 1.88-1.82 (m, 2H), 1.43 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 241.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.57 RT (99.53% purity)

Ethyl 5,6,7,8-tetrahydrocinnoline-4-carboxylate

[0701] To a stirred solution of ethyl 3-chloro-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrocinnoline-4-carboxylate (500 mg, 2.08 mmol) in ethylacetate (10 mL) was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 150 mg) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 1 h. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC, the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *celite* and the bed was washed with EtOAc (15 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane) to afford ethyl 5,6,7,8-tetrahydrocinnoline-4-carboxylate (100 mg, 0.48 mmol, 23%) as a brown syrup.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.26 (s, 1H), 4.41 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.22 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.15 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 1.98-1.89 (m, 2H), 1.89-1.80 (m, 2H), 1.41 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 206.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.12 RT (98.29% purity)

5.6.7.8- Tetrahydrocinnoline-4-carboxylic acid

[0702] To a stirred solution of ethyl 5,6,7,8-tetrahydrocinnoline-4-carboxylate (20 mg, 0.1 mmol) in a mixture of THF/water (4:1, 1 mL) was added lithium hydroxide monohydrate (12 mg, 0.29 mmol) at room temperature and stirred for 2 h. Then the reaction mixture was lyophilized to afford 5,6,7,8-tetrahydrocinnoline-4-carboxylic acid (25 mg, 0.14 mmol) as an off white solid. The crude material was taken to the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.24 (s, 1H), 3.14 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.09 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 1.89-1.81 (m, 2H), 1.80-1.72 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 179.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.73 RT (70.16% purity)

A-(2-(Cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrocinnoline-4-carboxamide

[0703] To a stirred solution of 5,6,7,8-tetrahydrocinnoline-4-carboxylic acid (86 mg, crude) in ethylacetate (5 mL) was added N^1-cyclopropyl-4,5-difluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-5** (88 mg, 0.48 mmol), triethylamine (0.27 mL, 1.93 mmol) and propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 0.77 mL, 1.21 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 2 h. The progress of the reaction was monitored by TLC, the reaction mixture was quenched using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford N-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrocinnoline-4-carboxamide (50 mg, 0.14 mmol, 30%) as a brown solid.

LC-MS: *m/z* 343.1 $[M-H]^-$ at 2.74 RT (66.07% purity)

4-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrocinnoline (Ex. 106)

[0704] To a stirred solution of *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrocinnoline-4-carboxamide (50 mg, 0.14 mmol) in ethanol (0.5 mL) was added 6 *N* HCl (0.2 mL) dropwise at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. Then the reaction mixture was heated to 60 °C and stirred for 2 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 4-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrocinnoline **Ex. 106** (20 mg, 0.06 mmol, 42%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.20 (s, 1H), 7.71 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.65-3.60 (m, 1H), 3.24 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.90 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.07-1.99 (m, 2H), 1.90-1.82 (m, 2H), 1.08-1.02 (m, 2H), 0.73-0.67 (m, 2H)

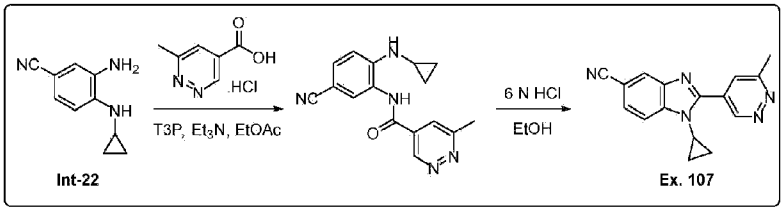
LC-MS: *m/z* 327.2 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.22 RT (95.90% purity)

HPLC: 96.28%

Example 107 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0705]

Scheme:



***N*-(5-Cyano-2-(cyclopropylamino)phenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide**

[0706] To a stirred solution of 3-amino-4-(cyclopropylamino)benzonitrile **Int-22** (198 mg, crude) and 6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid hydrochloride (200 mg, 1.15 mmol) in ethylacetate (12 mL) was added triethylamine (0.32 mL, 2.29 mmol) followed by propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 1.82 mL, 2.86 mmol) dropwise at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 60% EtOAc/hexane) to afford N-(5-cyano-2-(cyclopropylamino)phenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (400 mg, 1.34 mmol, 79%) as a pale yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*$_6$): δ 10.12 (s, 1H), 9.60 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.71-7.63 (m, 2H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (s, 1H), 2.84 (s, 3H), 2.57-2.50 (m, 1H), 0.92-0.85 (m, 2H), 0.60-0.55 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 293.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.14 RT (88.98% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-5-carbonitrile (Ex. 107)

[0707] To a stirred solution of A-(5-cyano-2-(cyclopropylamino)phenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (200 mg, 0.68 mmol) in ethanol (2 mL) was added 6 *N* HCl (3 mL) drop wise at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. Then the reaction mixture was stirred in a pre-heated oil bath at 70 °C for 25 min. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution to pH ~8 and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 1-2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-5-carbonitrile **Ex. 107** (120 mg, 0.43 mmol, 64%) as an off white solid.

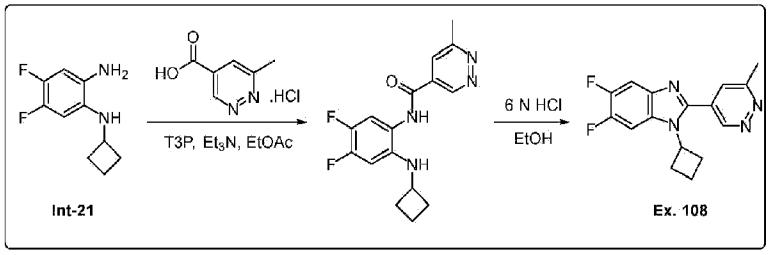
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.69 (s, 1H), 8.16 (dd, *J* = 1.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 3.74-3.69 (m, 1H), 2.88 (s, 3H), 1.38-1.32 (m, 2H), 0.89-0.83 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 275.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.07 RT (99.17% purity)

HPLC: 99.01%

Example 108 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0708]
Scheme:



A-(2-(Cyclobutylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0709] To a stirred solution of N^1-cyclobutyl-4,5-difluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-21** (200 mg, crude) and 6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid hydrochloride (176 mg, 1.01 mmol) in ethylacetate (10 mL) was added triethylamine (0.56 mL, 4.04mmol) followed by propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 1.61 mL, 2.52 mmol) dropwise at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford N-(2-(cyclobutylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (250 mg, 0.78 mmol, 78%) as yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.95 (s, 1H), 9.51 (s, 1H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.31 (dd, *J* = 11.5, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (dd, *J* = 13.7, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 5.58 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.91-3.79 (m, 1H), 2.74 (s, 3H), 2.40-2.31 (m, 2H), 1.93-1.83 (m, 2H), 1.76-1.66 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 318.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.64 RT (97.50% purity)

1-Cyclobutyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 108)

[0710] To a stirred solution of A-(2-(cyclobutylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (150 mg, 0.47 mmol) in ethanol (1.5 mL) was added 6 NHCl (2.2 mL) dropwise at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated to 60 °C in a pre-heated oil bath for 15 min and cooled. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 1-cyclobutyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 108** (100 mg, 0.33 mmol, 70%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.36 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.88-7.80 (m, 2H), 5.19-5.12 (m, 1H), 2.74 (s, 3H), 2.44-2.42 (m, 4H), 1.89-1.70 (m, 2H).

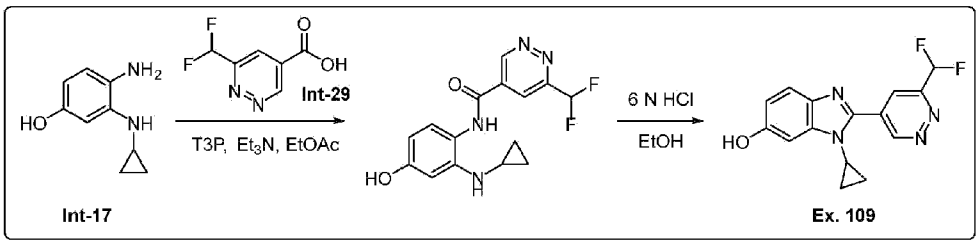
LC-MS: *m/z* 300.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.51 RT (98.06% purity)

HPLC: 98.42%

Example 109 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0711]

Scheme:



N-(2-(Cyclopropylamino)-4-hydroxyphenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0712] To a stirred solution of 4-amino-3-(cyclopropylamino)phenol **Int-17** (50 mg, crude) and 6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylic acid **Int-29** (53 mg, 0.3 mmol) in ethylacetate (10 mL) was added triethylamine (0.08 mL, 0.61 mmol) and propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 0.48 mL, 0.76 mmol) dropwise at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution to pH ~8 and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel

column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) to afford *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4-hydroxyphenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (50 mg, 0.16 mmol, 51%) as a pale yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.88 (s, 1H), 9.80 (s, 1H), 9.16 (br s, 1H), 8.44 (s, 1H), 7.55-7.26 (m, 1H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.48 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.07 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 5.71 (s, 1H), 2.30-2.28 (m, 1H), 0.71-0.68 (m, 2H), 0.43-0.39 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 321.2 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.84 RT (99.05% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-6-ol (Ex. 109)

[0713] To a stirred solution of *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4-hydroxyphenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (50 mg, 0.16 mmol) in ethanol (1 mL) was added 6 *N* HCl (1 mL) dropwise at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated to 70 °C in a pre-heated oil bath for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-6-ol **Ex. 109** (40 mg, 0.13 mmol, 85%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.93 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.54 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.29-7.00 (m, 2H), 6.90 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.88-3.82 (m, 1H), 1.31-1.22 (m, 2H), 0.86-0.79 (m, 2H)

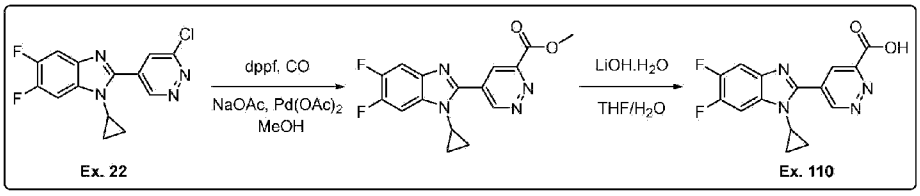
LC-MS: *m/z* 302.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.01 RT (99.11% purity)

HPLC: 98.91%

Example 110 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0714]

Scheme:



Methyl 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carboxylate

[0715] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 22** (1 g, 2.9 mmol) in methanol (50 mL) was added sodium acetate (713 mg, 8.69 mmol) and dppf (80 mg, 0.14 mmol) followed by $Pd(OAc)_2$ (97 mg, 0.14 mmol) in a steel bomb at room temperature. The steel bomb was filled with CO gas (200 psi) and the reaction mixture was heated to 100 °C and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *celite* and the bed was washed with methanol (30 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 40 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% $MeOH/CH_2Cl_2$) to afford methyl 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carboxylate (200 mg, 0.6 mmol, 21%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.03 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.73 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.93-7.84 (m, 2H), 4.03 (s, 3H), 4.00-3.96 (m, 1H), 1.23-1.16 (m, 2H), 0.84-0.78 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 330.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.49 RT (94.38% purity)

5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carboxylic acid (Ex. 110)

[0716] To a stirred solution of methyl 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl) pyridazine-3-carboxylate (100 mg, 0.3 mmol) in a mixture of THF/water (3:1, 3 mL) was added lithium hydroxide monohydrate (38 mg, 0.91 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 2 h. The reaction mixture was washed with ether (10 mL) and the organic layer was separated. The aqueous layer was acidified using conc. HCl (pH ~2) which resulted in a precipitate forming. The precipitated solid was filtered, washed with diethylether (2 x 5 mL) and dried under vacuum to afford 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carboxylic acid **Ex. 110** (40 mg, 0.13 mmol, 42%) as an off white solid.

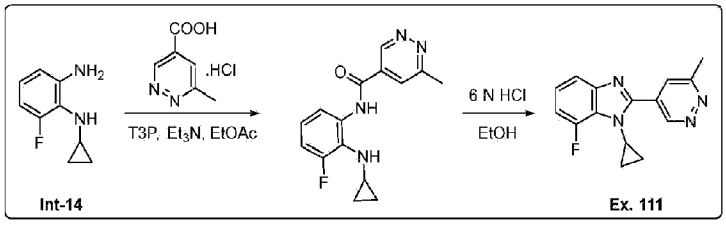
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 14.15 (brs, 1H), 10.00 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.72 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.93-7.84 (m, 2H), 4.00-3.95 (m, 1H), 1.22-1.16 (m, 2H), 0.83-0.78 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 316.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.55 RT (99.76% purity)

HPLC: 99.88%

Example 111 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0717]
Scheme:



***N*-(2-(Cyclopropylamino)-3-fluorophenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide**

[0718] To a stirred solution of N^1-cyclopropyl-6-fluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-14** (100 mg, crude) and 6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid hydrochloride (83 mg, 0.6 mmol) in ethylacetate (4 mL) was added triethylamine (0.34 mL, 2.41 mmol) and propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 0.95 mL, 1.51 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane) to afford N-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-3-fluorophenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (200 mg, 0.7 mmol, 72%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.06 (br s, 1H), 9.47 (s, 1H), 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.05-6.97 (m, 2H), 6.73-6.66 (m, 1H), 5.09 (br s, 1H), 2.72-2.70 (m, 4H), 0.55-0.42 (m, 4H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 286.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.15 RT (91.92% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-7-fluoro-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 111)

[0719] To a stirred solution of *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-3-fluorophenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (200 mg, 0.7 mmol) in ethanol (3 mL) was added 6 *N* HCl (2 mL) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. Then the reaction mixture was stirred in a pre-heated oil bath at 65 °C for 15 min. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 3% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) followed by washing with n-pentane (2 x 5 mL) and dried under vacuum to afford 1-cyclopropyl-7-fluoro-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 111** (110 mg, 0.41 mmol, 59%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.64 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.14 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 7.8

Hz, 1H), 7.30-7.17 (m, 2H), 4.11-4.07 (m, 1H), 2.77 (s, 3H), 1.15-1.10 (m, 2H), 0.77-0.75 (m, 2H)

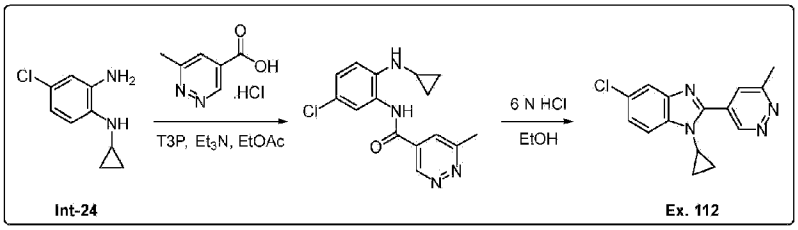
LC-MS: *m/z* 269.2 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.05 RT (98.96% purity)

HPLC: 98.50%

Example 112 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0720]

Scheme:



***N*-(5-Chloro-2-(cyclopropylamino) phenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide**

[0721] To a stirred solution of 4-chloro-N^1-cyclopropylbenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-24** (200 mg, crude) in ethylacetate (8 mL) was added 6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid hydrochloride (191 mg, 1.1 mmol) and triethylamine (0.61 mL, 4.37 mmol) followed by propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 1.74 mL, 2.73 mmol) dropwise at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction was allowed to stir at room temperature for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain crude material. This lot was combined with another lot (90 mg crude) and purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 40% EtOAc/hexane) to afford *N*-(5-chloro-2-(cyclopropylamino)phenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (200 mg, 0.66 mmol, 40%) as a brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.94 (s, 1H), 9.49 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 5.93 (s, 1H), 2.73 (s, 3H), 2.38-2.32 (m, 1H), 0.75-0.70 (m, 2H), 0.45-0.40 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 302.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.55 RT (88.67% purity)

5-Chloro-1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 112)

[0722] To a stirred solution of A-(5-chloro-2-(cyclopropylamino)phenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (100 mg, 0.33 mmol) in ethanol (1 mL) was added 6 *N* HCl (1 mL) dropwise at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated to 50 °C with a pre-heated oil bath for 1 h, cooled to 0 °C, basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain crude material. This lot was combined with another lot (90 mg, crude) and purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 70-80% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 5-chloro-1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 112** (100 mg, 0.35 mmol, 53%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.66 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.96-3.92 (m, 1H), 2.77 (s, 3H), 1.22-1.17 (m, 2H), 0.77-0.72 (m, 2H)

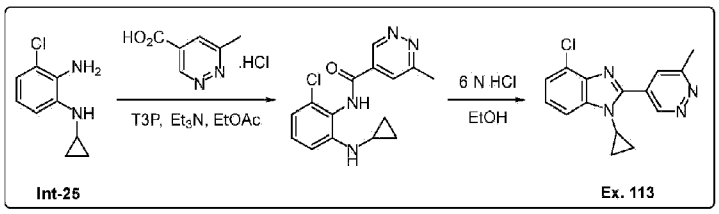
LC-MS: *m/z* 284.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.42 RT (96.67% purity)

HPLC: 96.19%

Example 113 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0723]

Scheme:



***N*-(2-Chloro-6-(cyclopropylamino) phenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide**

[0724] To a stirred solution of 3-chloro-N^1-cyclopropylbenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-25** (200 mg, crude) in ethylacetate (10 mL) was added 6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxylic acid hydrochloride (191 mg, 1.1 mmol) and triethylamine (0.31 mL, 2.2 mmol) followed by propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 1.75 mL, 2.75 mmol) dropwise at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere and the reaction was allowed to stir at room temperature for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford *N*-(2-chloro-6-(cyclopropylamino)phenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (50 mg, 0.16 mmol, 15%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.98 (s, 1H), 9.51 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.16 (s, 1H), 2.74 (s, 3H), 2.35-2.31 (m, 1H), 0.75-0.70 (m, 2H), 0.44-0.40 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 302.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.38 RT (88.61% purity)

4-Chloro-1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 113)

[0725] To a stirred solution of A-(2-chloro-6-(cyclopropylamino)phenyl)-6-methylpyridazine-4-carboxamide (50 mg, 0.16 mmol) in ethanol (0.7 mL) was added 6 *N* HCl (0.3 mL) dropwise at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. Then the reaction mixture was heated to 60 °C and stirred for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, basified with saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 70-80% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 4-chloro-1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-methylpyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 113** (30 mg, 0.1 mmol, 64%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.67 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.75-7.71 (m, 1H), 7.39 (dd, *J* = 4.6, 0.8 Hz, 2H), 3.91-3.86 (m, 1H), 2.84 (s, 3H), 1.29-1.23 (m, 2H), 0.84-0.79 (m, 2H)

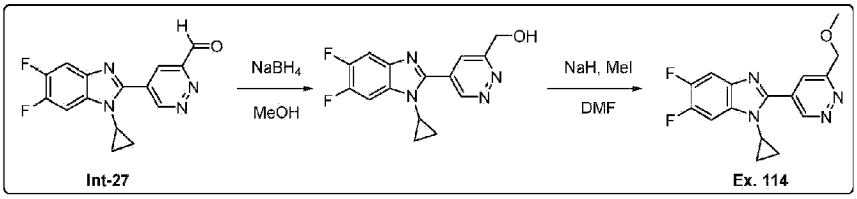
LC-MS: *m/z* 285.1 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.07 RT (95.04% purity)

HPLC: 95.53%

Example 114 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0726]

Scheme:



(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methanol

[0727] To a stirred solution of 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-

carbaldehyde **Int-27** (400 mg, crude) in methanol (20 mL) was added sodium borohydride (25 mg, 0.67 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere and the reaction stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with ice cold water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was washed with 5% CH_2Cl_2/*n*-pentane (10 mL) to afford 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl) methanol (300 mg, 1.0 mmol, 75%) as an off white solid. **LC-MS:** *m/z* 302.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.10 RT (90.22% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(methoxymethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 114)

[0728] To a stirred solution of 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)methanol (150 mg, 0.5 mmol) in DMF (5 mL) was added sodium hydride (55% in mineral oil, 32 mg, 0.74 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere and the mixture was stirred for 15 min. Iodomethane (0.05 mL, 0.74 mmol) was added at 0 °C and the reaction was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with ice cold water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 70% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(methoxymethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 114** (70 mg, 0.22 mmol, 49%) as an off white solid.

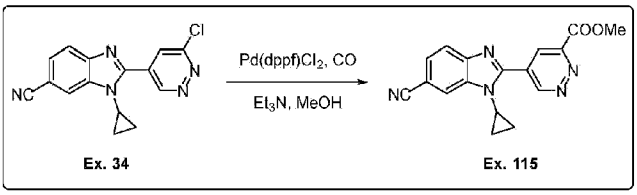
^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.77 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.25 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.91-7.81 (m, 2H), 4.84 (s, 2H), 3.96-3.92 (m, 1H), 3.44 (s, 3H), 1.21-1.16 (m, 2H), 0.80-0.75 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 316.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.41 RT (96.55% purity)

HPLC: 97.19%

Example 115 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0729]
Scheme:



Methyl 5-(6-cyano-1-cyclopropyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carboxylate (Ex. 115)

[0730] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 34** (200 mg, 0.68 mmol) in methanol (10 mL) was added triethylamine (0.19 mL, 1.35 mmol) and Pd(dppf)Cl_2 (99 mg, 0.13 mmol) in a steel bomb at room temperature. The steel bomb was filled with CO gas (50 psi) and the reaction mixture was heated to 60 °C and stirred for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *celite* and the bed was washed with methanol (10 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain crude material which was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) followed by triturations with CH_2Cl_2 (1 mL), Et_2O (1 mL), and n-pentane (2 x 5 mL) and finally dried under vacuum to afford methyl 5-(6-cyano-1-cyclopropyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carboxylate **Ex. 115** (140 mg, 0.44 mmol, 65%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.07 (d, *J*= 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.78 (d, *J*= 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.36-8.34 (m, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J*= 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (dd, *J*= 8.4, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.05-3.99 (m, 4H), 1.24-1.20 (m, 2H), 0.87-0.82 (m, 2H)

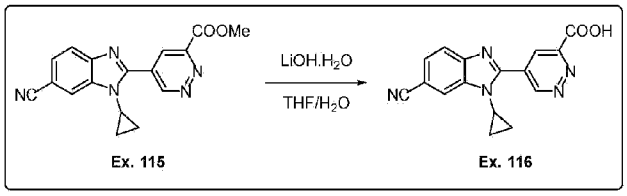
LC-MS: *m/z* 320.2 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.98 RT (95.55% purity)

HPLC: 95.69%

Example 116 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0731]

Scheme:



5-(6-Cyano-1-cyclopropyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carboxylic acid (Ex. 116)

[0732] To a stirred solution of methyl 5-(6-cyano-1-cyclopropyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carboxylate **Ex. 115** (80 mg, 0.25 mmol) in a mixture of THF/water (3:1, 3 mL) was added lithium hydroxide monohydrate (31 mg, 0.75 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture turned into a clear solution. After 15-20 min., the reaction mixture turned turbid and was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h. The reaction mixture was washed with ether (10 mL) and the organic layer was separated. The aqueous layer was acidified with 6 *N* HCl (pH ~2) at 0 °C which afforded a precipitated solid that was filtered, washed successively with diethylether (2 x 5 mL) and *n*-pentane (2 x 5 mL) and dried under vacuum to afford 5-(6-cyano-1-cyclopropyl-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-carboxylic acid **Ex. 116** (29

mg, 0.09 mmol, 38%) as an off white solid.

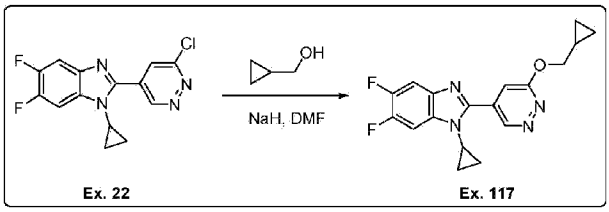
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 14.18 (br s, 1H), 10.04 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.77 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.35-8.33 (m, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J*= 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.05-3.98 (m, 1H), 1.25-1.18 (m, 2H), 0.87-0.82 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 306.2 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.75 RT (99.32% purity)

HPLC: 98.53%

Example 117 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0733]
Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(cyclopropylmethoxy)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 117)

[0734] To a stirred solution of cyclopropylmethanol (0.11 mL, 0.98 mmol) in DMF (3 mL) was added sodium hydride (60% in mineral oil, 59 mg, 1.47 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. 2-(6-Chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 22** (300 mg, 0.98 mmol) was added at 0 °C and the reaction was stirred at the same temperature for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with ice cold water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane) followed by trituration with n-pentane (2 x 10 mL) and dried under vacuum to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(cyclopropylmethoxy)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 117** (200 mg, 0.58 mmol, 60%) as an off white solid.

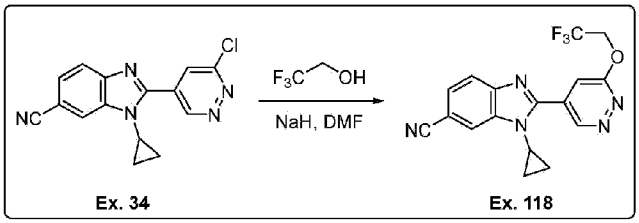
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.41 (d, *J*= 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.89-7.81 (m, 2H), 7.77 (d, *J*= 1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.37 (d, *J*= 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.95-3.90 (m, 1H), 1.42-1.30 (m, 1H), 1.21-1.13 (m, 2H), 0.80-0.73 (m, 2H), 0.65-0.59 (m, 2H), 0.44-0.39 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 343.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.07 RT (96.81% purity)

HPLC: 97.26%

Example 118 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0735]
Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (Ex. 118)

[0736] To a stirred solution of 2,2,2-trifluoroethan-1-ol (66 mg, 0.68 mmol) in DMF (2 mL) was added sodium hydride (60% in mineral oil, 41 mg, 1.02 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere and the mixture was stirred at the same temperature for 20 min. A solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 34** (200 mg, 0.68 mmol) in DMF (1 mL) was added at 0 °C and the reaction was stirred at room temperature for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 118** (180 mg, 0.5 mmol, 74%) as a white solid.

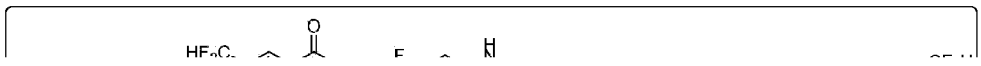
^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.58 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.34 (s, 1H), 8.02 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 5.31 (q, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 4.01-3.97 (m, 1H), 1.22-1.17 (m, 2H), 0.85-0.81 (m, 2H)

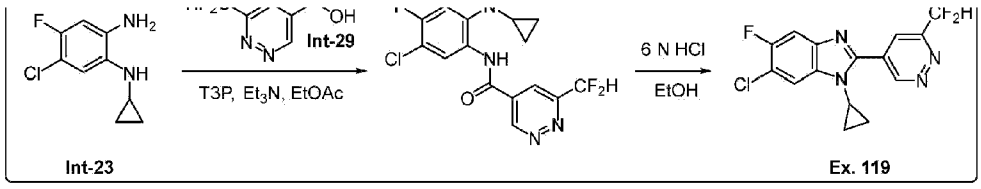
LC-MS: *m/z* 360.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.86 RT (95.88% purity)

HPLC: 96.79%

Example 119 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0737]
Scheme:





***N*-(5-Chloro-2-(cyclopropylamino)-4-fluorophenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide**

[0738] To a stirred solution of 5-chloro-N^1-cyclopropyl-4-fluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-23** (400 mg, 2.0 mmol) in ethylacetate (10 mL) was added 6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylic acid **Int-29** (350 mg, 2.0 mmol), triethylamine (1.11 mL, 8.0 mmol) and propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 3.18 mL, 5.0 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain crude material. This lot was combined with another lot (100 mg crude) and was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 70% EtOAc/hexane) to afford *N*-(5-chloro-2-(cyclopropylamino)-4-fluorophenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (300 mg, 0.84 mmol, 34%) as a yellow solid.

LC-MS: *m/z* 357.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.08 RT (60.71% purity)

6-Chloro-1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 119)

[0739] To a stirred solution of *N*-(5-chloro-2-(cyclopropylamino)-4-fluorophenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (200 mg, 0.56 mmol) in ethanol (2 mL) was added 6 *N* HCl (2 mL) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred in a pre-heated oil bath at 50 °C for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 3% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 6-chloro-1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 119** (100 mg, 0.29 mmol, 53%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.00 (d, *J*= 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.56 (d, *J*= 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.00 (d, *J*= 6.7 Hz, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J*= 9.8 Hz, 1H), 7.58-7.28 (m, 1H), 4.02-3.96 (m, 1H), 1.23-1.16 (m, 2H), 0.84-0.78 (m, 2H)

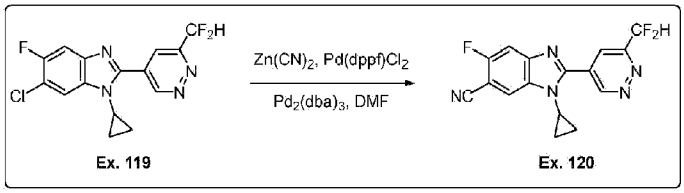
LC-MS: *m/z* 339.2 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.72 RT (94.81% purity)

HPLC: 95.18%

Example 120 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0740]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (Ex. 120)

[0741] To a stirred solution of 6-chloro-1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 119** (150 mg, 0.44 mmol) in DMF (1 mL) was added zinc cyanide (104 mg, 0.89 mmol) in a microwave vessel at room temperature and the mixture was purged under argon for 20 min. $Pd_2(dba)_3$ (41 mg, 0.04 mmol) and $Pd(dppf)Cl_2$ (33 mg, 0.04 mmol) were added and the mixture was purged with argon for 5 min. The reaction mixture was heated to 150 °C and stirred for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *celite* and the bed was washed with EtOAc (30 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-5-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 120** (50 mg, 0.15 mmol, 34%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.02 (d, *J*= 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.59 (d, *J*= 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.47 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 7.60-7.31 (m, 1H), 4.05-4.00 (m, 1H), 1.23-1.16 (m, 2H), 0.87-0.82 (m, 2H)

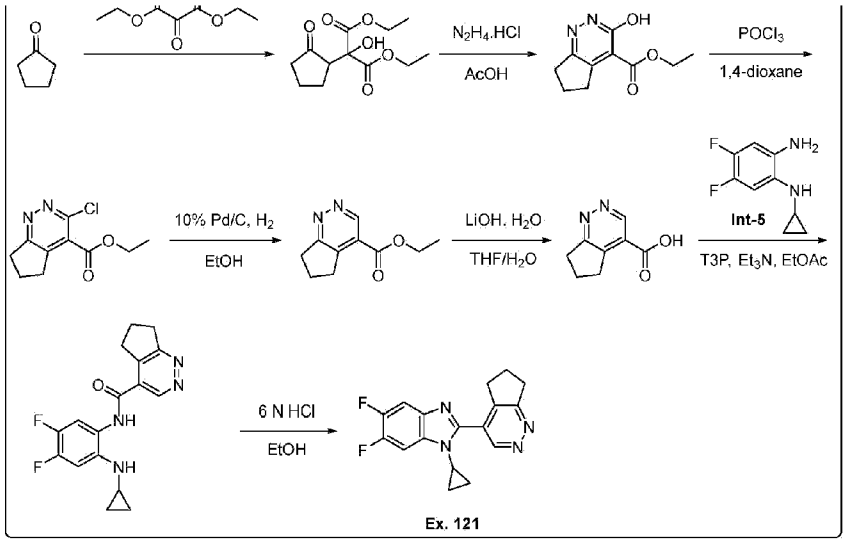
LC-MS: *m/z* 329.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.67 RT (99.00% purity)

HPLC: 98.49%

Example 121 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0742]

Scheme:



Diethyl 2-hydroxy-2-(2-oxocyclopentyl)malonate

[0743] A solution of diethyl 2-oxomalonate (5 g, 28.73 mmol) and cyclopentanone (2.54 mL, 28.73 mmol) in a sealed tube was heated to 100 °C and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture (brown syrup) containing diethyl 2-hydroxy-2-(2-oxocyclopentyl) malonate (5 g) was taken to the next step without further purification.

LC-MS: *m/z* 259.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.05 RT (47.02% purity)

Ethyl 3-hydroxy-6,7-dihydro-5*H*-cyclopenta[*c*]pyridazine-4-carboxylate

[0744] To a stirred solution of diethyl 2-hydroxy-2-(2-oxocyclopentyl) malonate (5 g, crude) in acetic acid (35 mL) was added hydrazine monohydrochloride (6.59 g, 96.9 mmol) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated to 100 °C and stirred for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (100 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 60 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% $MeOH/CH_2Cl_2$) to afford ethyl 3-hydroxy-6,7-dihydro-5*H*-cyclopenta[*c*]pyridazine-4-carboxylate (800 mg, 3.84 mmol, 20%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 12.85 (brs, 1H), 4.26 (q, *J*= 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.86 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 2.72 (t, *J*= 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.05-1.96 (m, 2H), 1.26 (t, *J*= 7.1 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 208.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.58 RT (39.74% purity)

Ethyl 3-chloro-6,7-dihydro-5*H*-cyclopenta[*c*]pyridazine-4-carboxylate

[0745] To a stirred solution of ethyl 3-hydroxy-6,7-dihydro-5*H*-cyclopenta[c]pyridazine-4-carboxylate (800 mg, 3.85 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (8 mL) was added phosphoryl chloride (3.59 mL, 38.46 mmol) in a sealed tube at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated to 100 °C and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) to afford ethyl 3-chloro-6, 7-dihydro-5*H*-cyclopenta[*c*]pyridazine-4-carboxylate (300 mg, 1.32 mmol, 34%) as a brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 4.46 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.25 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 3.10 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.28-2.20 (m, 2H), 1.42 (t, *J*= 7.2 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 227.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.25 RT (93.52% purity)

Ethyl 6,7-dihydro-5*H*-cyclopenta[*c*]pyridazine-4-carboxylate

[0746] To a stirred solution of ethyl 3-chloro-6,7-dihydro-5*H*-cyclopenta[*c*]pyridazine-4-carboxylate (300 mg, 1.33 mmol) in ethylacetate (8 mL) was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 120 mg) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and the celite bed was washed with methanol (15 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford ethyl 6,7-dihydro-5*H*-cyclopenta[c]pyridazine-4-carboxylate (100 mg, 0.52 mmol, 39%) as a brown syrup.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.21 (s, 1H), 4.37 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.27 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 3.18 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.13-2.07 (m, 2H), 1.35 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 192.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.83 RT (92.05% purity)

6,7-Dihydro-5*H*-cyclopenta[*c*]pyridazine-4-carboxylic acid

[0747] To a stirred solution of ethyl 6,7-dihydro-5*H*-cyclopenta[c]pyridazine-4-carboxylate (100 mg, 0.52 mmol) in a mixture of THF/water (4:1, 2 mL) was added lithium hydroxide monohydrate (66 mg, 1.56 mmol) at room temperature and the mixture was stirred for 4 h. The reaction mixture was lyophilized to afford 6,7-dihydro-5*H*-cyclopenta[*c*]pyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (120 mg, 0.73 mmol) as an off white solid. The crude material was taken to the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.22 (s, 1H), 3.28 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 3.19 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.14-2.06 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 165.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.03 RT (89.57% purity)

_N_-(2-(Cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-6,7-dihydro-5_H_-cyclopenta[_c_]pyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0748] To a stirred solution of N^1-cyclopropyl-4,5-difluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-5** (111 mg, 0.61 mmol) in ethylacetate (6 mL) was added 6,7-dihydro-5*H*-cyclopenta[c]pyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (100 mg, crude), triethylamine (0.34 mL, 2.44 mmol) and propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 0.97 mL, 1.52 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane) to afford *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-6,7-dihydro-5*H*-cyclopenta[c pyridazine-4-carboxamide (100 mg, 0.3 mmol, 50%) as brown solid.

LC-MS: *m/z* 330.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.59 RT (38.96% purity)

4-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1_H_-benzo[_d_]imidazol-2-yl)-6,7-dihydro-5_H_-cyclopenta[_c_]pyridazine (Ex. 121)

[0749] To a stirred solution of *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)-6,7-dihydro-5*H*-cyclopenta[*c*]pyridazine-4-carboxamide (75 mg, 0.23 mmol) in ethanol (0.75 mL) was added 6 *N* HCl (0.75 mL) dropwise at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated to 50 °C and stirred for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain crude material. This lot was combined with another lot (20 mg, crude) and purified by preparative HPLC to afford 4-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)-6,7-dihydro-5*H*-cyclopenta[*c*]pyridazine **Ex. 121** (20 mg, 0.06 mmol, 28%) as an off white solid.

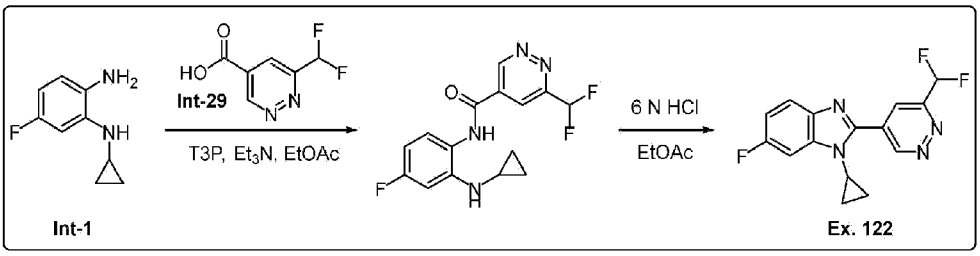
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.36 (s, 1H), 7.70 (dd, *J* = 10.0, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.80-3.75 (m, 1H), 3.36-3.32 (m, 2H), 3.30-3.27 (m, 2H), 2.28-2.21 (m, 2H), 1.18-1.12 (m, 2H), 0.75-0.69 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 313.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.47 RT (99.66% purity)

HPLC: 99.76%

Example 122 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0750]
Scheme:



A-(2-(Cyclopropylamino)-4-fluorophenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0751] To a stirred solution of N^1-cyclopropyl-5-fluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-1** (300 mg, crude) and 6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylic acid **Int-29** (314 mg, 1.81 mmol) in ethylacetate (10 mL) was added triethylamine (0.51 mL, 3.61 mmol) and propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 2.87 mL, 4.52 mmol) dropwise at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere and the reaction was allowed to stir at the same temperature for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, basified using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was washed with n-hexanes (2 x 20 mL) and dried under vacuum to afford *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4-fluorophenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (320 mg, 1.0 mmol, 55%) as a yellow solid. The material was taken to the next step without further purification.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.05 (br s, 1H), 9.79 (d, *J*= 1.7 Hz, 1H), 8.45 (d, *J*= 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.52-7.28 (m, 1H), 7.12 (dd, *J*= 8.4, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (dd, *J* = 11.9, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.41 (td, *J*= 8.4, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 6.15 (br s, 1H), 2.37-2.31 (m, 1H), 0.76-0.70 (m, 2H), 0.44-0.40 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 322.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.80 RT (99.46% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 122)

[0752] To a stirred solution of *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4-fluorophenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide **2** (320 mg, 1.0 mmol) in ethanol (4 mL) was added 6 *N* HCl (4 mL) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. Then the reaction mixture was stirred in a pre-heated oil bath at 70 °C for 30 min. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C; basified

using saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution (pH ~8) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 40% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl) pyridazin-4-yl)-6-fluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **B-680** (250 mg, 0.82 mmol, 82%) as a pale yellow solid.

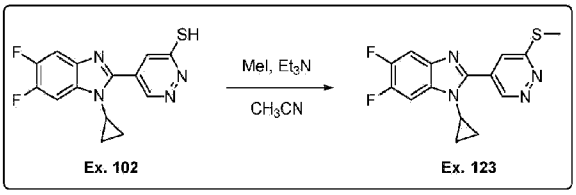
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.00 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.56 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (dd, *J*= 8.9, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 7.60-7.28 (m, 2H), 7.24-7.19 (m, 1H), 4.01-3.96 (m, 1H), 1.23-1.15 (m, 2H), 0.83-0.77 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 304.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.73 RT (99.60% purity)

HPLC: 99.62%

Example 123 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0753]
Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(methylthio)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 123)

[0754] To a stirred solution of 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-thiol **Ex. 102** (100 mg, 0.33 mmol) in acetonitrile (3 mL) was added triethylamine (0.07 mL, 0.49 mmol) followed by iodomethane (0.02 mL, 0.39 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 24 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with ice cold water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 40% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(methylthio)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 123** (50 mg, 0.16 mmol, 48%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.52 (d, *J*= 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (d, *J*= 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.89-7.82 (m, 2H), 3.95-3.90 (m, 1H), 2.72 (s, 3H), 1.21-1.14 (m, 2H), 0.80-0.74 (m, 2H)

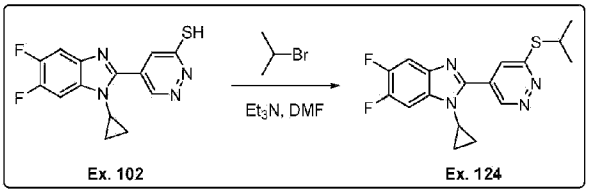
LC-MS: *m/z* 318.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.75 RT (98.20% purity)

HPLC: 98.82%

Example 124 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0755]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(isopropylthio)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 124)

[0756] To a stirred solution of 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-thiol **Ex. 102** (100 mg, 0.33 mmol) in DMF (3 mL) was added triethylamine (0.14 mL, 0.98 mmol) and 2-bromopropane (61 mg, 0.49 mmol) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere and the reaction was stirred for 24 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with ice cold water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) followed by preparative HPLC to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(isopropylthio)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 124** (40 mg, 0.11 mmol, 35%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.52 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.89-7.81 (m, 2H), 4.23-4.16 (m, 1H), 3.94-3.89 (m, 1H), 1.45 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H), 1.19-1.14 (m, 2H), 0.81-0.75 (m, 2H)

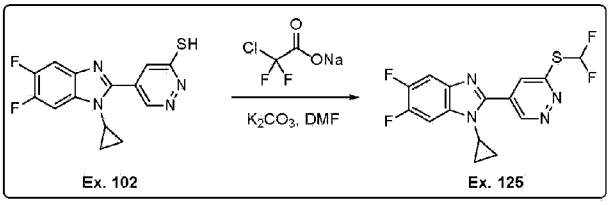
LC-MS: *m/z* 346.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.24 RT (98.03% purity)

HPLC: 99.28%

Example 125 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0757]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-((difluoromethyl)thio)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 125)

[0758] To a stirred solution of 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-thiol **Ex. 102** (100 mg, 0.33 mmol) in DMF (3 mL) was added sodium 2-chloro-2,2-difluoroacetate (130 mg, 0.66 mmol) and potassium carbonate (68 mg, 0.49 mmol) in a sealed tube at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 18 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with ice cold water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-((difluoromethyl)thio)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole **Ex. 125** (40 mg, 0.11 mmol, 34%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.74 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.43 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.32-8.02 (m, 1H), 7.91-7.83 (m, 2H), 3.96-3.88 (m, 1H), 1.23-1.15 (m, 2H), 0.84-0.77 (m, 2H)

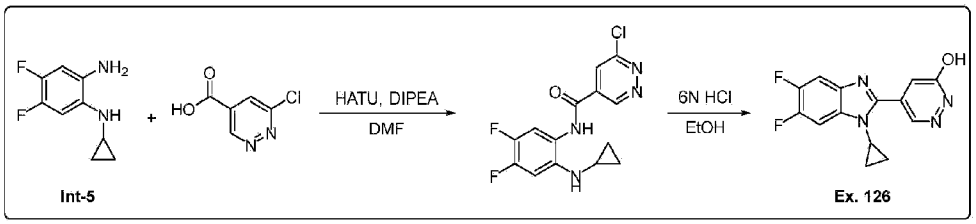
LC-MS: *m/z* 354.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.06 RT (98.26% purity)

HPLC: 99.31%

Example 126 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0759]

Scheme:



6-Chloro-*N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0760] To a stirred solution of 6-chloropyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (200 mg, 1.08 mmol) in DMF (4 mL) was added N^1-cyclopropyl-4,5-difluorobenzene-1,2-diamine **Int-5** (172 mg, 1.08 mmol), HATU (495 mg, 1.30 mmol) and diisopropylethylamine (0.78 mL, 4.35 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (20 mL), brine (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 6-chloro-*N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (100 mg, 0.30 mmol, 28%) as a yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.50 (s, 1H), 7.95 (d, *J*= 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (brs, 1H), 7.37 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (dd, *J*= 12.4, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 4.16-4.03 (m, 1H), 2.51-2.40 (m, 1H), 0.83-0.75 (m, 2H), 0.56-0.47 (m, 2H)

5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-ol (Ex. 126)

[0761] To a stirred solution of 6-chloro-*N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)-4,5-difluorophenyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (500 mg, 1.54 mmol) in EtOH (5 mL) was added 6 *N* HCl (7.5 mL) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at 100 °C for 3 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-ol **Ex. 126** (300 mg, 1.04 mmol, 67%) as an off-white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, CD_3COOD): δ 8.70 (s, 1H), 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.80 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (dd, *J*= 9.9, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.82-3.72 (m, 1H), 1.41-1.32 (m, 2H), 1.05-0.90 (m, 2H)

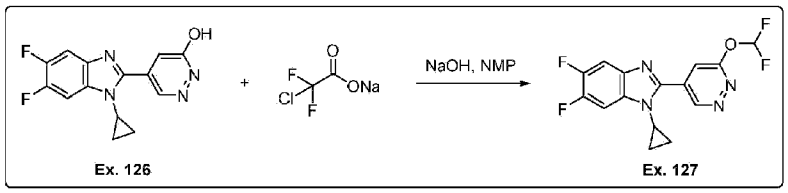
LC-MS: *m/z* 289.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.15 RT (91.69% purity)

HPLC: 91.55%

Example 127 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0762]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethoxy)pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 127)

[0763] To a stirred solution of 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-ol **Ex. 126** (1 g, 3.47 mmol) in *N*-methyl-2-pyrrolidone (15 mL) was added sodium hydroxide (972 mg, 24.3 mmol) followed by sodium 2-chloro-2,2-difluoroacetate (1.06 g, 6.94 mmol) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated to 120 °C and stirred for 24 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC & LCMS), the mixture was cooled and combined with a second lot (200 mg). The combined reaction mixtures were diluted with water (100 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 40 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethoxy) pyridazin-4-yl)-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 127** (80 mg, 0.24 mmol, 6% from two batches) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.69 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 8.16-8.00 (m, 2H), 7.93-7.84 (m, 2H), 3.97-3.92 (m, 1H), 1.22-1.17 (m, 2H), 0.83-0.78 (m, 2H)

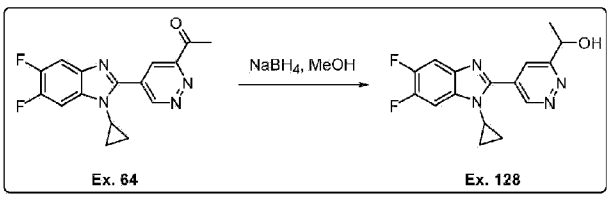
LC-MS: *m/z* 338.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.00 RT (96.39% purity)

HPLC: 96.85%

Example 128 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0764]

Scheme:



1-(5-(1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)ethan-1-ol (Ex. 128)

[0765] To a stirred solution of 1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)ethan-1-one **Ex. 64** (300 mg, 0.95 mmol) in methanol (12 mL) was added sodium borohydride (36 mg, 0.95 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere and the mixture was stirred at the same temperature for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 40% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)ethan-1-ol **Ex. 128** (150 mg, 0.47 mmol, 50%) as a pale yellow solid.

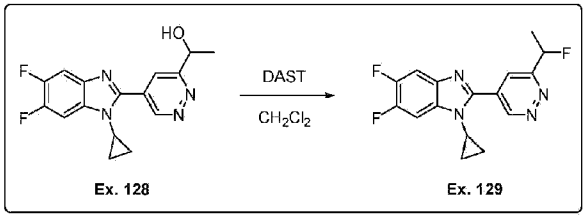
^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.71 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.34 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.90-7.81 (m, 2H), 5.78 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 5.15-5.07 (m, 1H), 3.96-3.91 (m, 1H), 1.52 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 3H), 1.24-1.16 (m, 2H), 0.79-0.73 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 317.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.17 RT (99.24% purity)

HPLC: 98.70%

Example 129 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0766]
Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-(1-fluoroethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 129)

[0767] To a stirred solution of 1-(5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazin-3-yl)ethan-1-ol **Ex. 128** (100 mg, 0.32 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (3 mL) was added diethylaminosulfur trifluoride (0.06 mL, 0.47 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (20 mL), neutralized using saturated sodium carbonate solution and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain the crude. The crude material was combined with another crude lot (25 mg) and the combined material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-

(6-(1-fluoroethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 129** (40 mg, 0.12 mmol, 32% for two batches) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.82 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.37 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.91-7.83 (m, 2H), 6.22-6.02 (m, 1H), 4.00-3.94 (m, 1H), 1.84-1.75 (m, 3H), 1.21-1.15 (m, 2H), 0.80-0.75 (m, 2H)

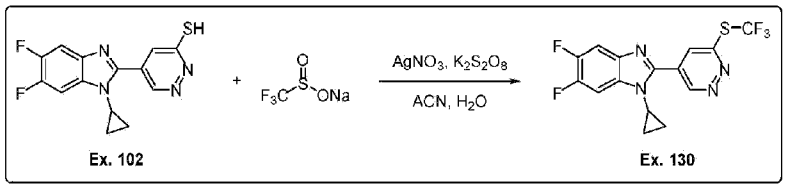
LC-MS: *m/z* 318.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.69 RT (98.49% purity)

HPLC: 97.92%

Example 130 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0768]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-((trifluoromethyl)thio)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 130)

[0769] To a stirred solution of 5-(1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazol-2-yl)pyridazine-3-thiol **Ex. 102** (200 mg, 0.66 mmol) in acetonitrile/water (1:1, 3 mL) was added sodium trifluoromethanesulfinate (205 mg, 1.31 mmol), potassium monopersulfate (355 mg, 1.31 mmol), and silver nitrate (11 mg, 0.06 mmol) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 18 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was poured into water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 15% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-5,6-difluoro-2-(6-((trifluoromethyl)thio)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **Ex. 130** (75 mg, 0.2 mmol, 31%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.85 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.34 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (dd, *J* = 10.0, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (dd, *J*= 9.5, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.69-3.63 (m, 1H), 1.40-1.33 (m, 2H), 0.92-0.86 (m, 2H)

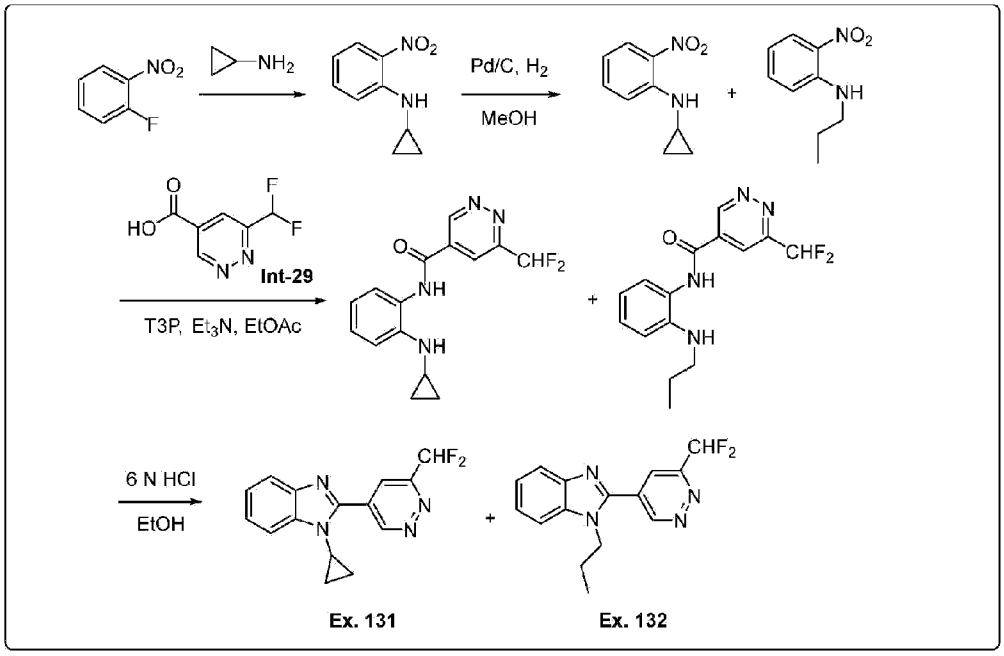
LC-MS: *m/z* 373.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.21 RT (98.19% purity)

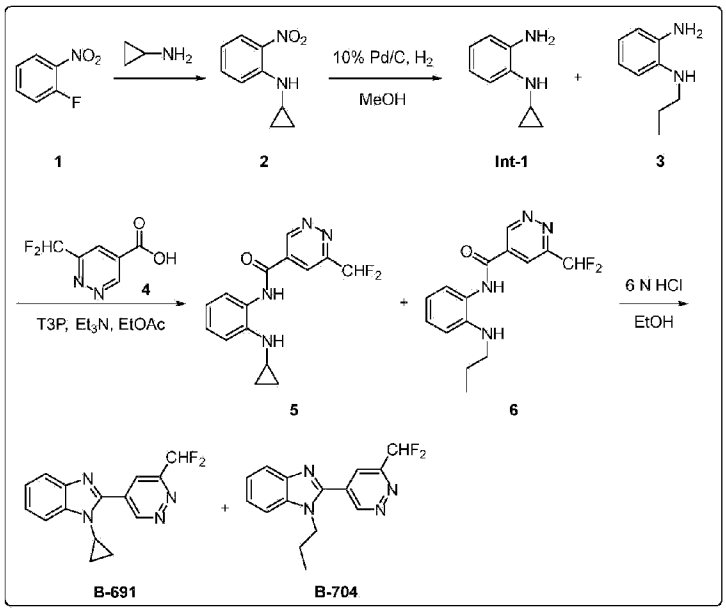
HPLC: 98.55%

Example 131 & Example 132 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0770]

Scheme:





***N*-Cyclopropyl-2-nitroaniline**

[0771] To 1-fluoro-2-nitrobenzene (1 g, 7.09 mmol) was added cyclopropanamine (1.47 mL, 21.28 mmol) drop wise at room temperature under an inert atmosphere and the mixture was stirred for 24 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was diluted with water (30

mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 40 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2% EtOAc/hexane) to afford *N*-cyclopropyl-2-nitroaniline (720 mg, 4.04 mmol, 60%) as a yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 8.15 (dd, *J*= 8.6, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (brs, 1H), 7.50-7.44 (m, 1H), 7.32 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.72-6.67 (m, 1H), 2.62-2.55 (m, 1H), 0.94-0.89 (m, 2H), 0.69-0.64 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 179.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.11 RT (99.64% purity)

N^1-Cyclopropylbenzene-1,2-diamine & N^1-propylbenzene-1,2-diamine

[0772] To a stirred solution of *N*-cyclopropyl-2-nitroaniline (700 mg, 3.93 mmol) in methanol (10 mL) was added 10% Pd/C (50% wet, 300 mg) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (balloon pressure) for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and the celite bed was washed with methanol (15 mL). The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain a mixture of N^1-cyclopropylbenzene-1,2-diamine & N^1-propylbenzene-1,2-diamine (400 mg) as brown viscous syrup. The mixture was taken to next step without further purification.

***N*-(2-(Cyclopropylamino)phenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide & 6-(difluoromethyl)-*N*-(2-(propylamino)phenyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide**

[0773] To a stirred solution of N^1-cyclopropylbenzene-1,2-diamine & N^1-propylbenzene-1,2-diamine (400 mg, mixture) in ethylacetate (10 mL) was added 6-(difluoromethyl) pyridazine-4-carboxylic acid **Int-29** (470 mg, 2.7 mmol) and triethylamine (0.75 mL, 5.4 mmol) followed by dropwise addition of propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 3.44 mL, 5.4 mmol) at 0 °C under inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 5 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was basified with saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution to pH ~8 and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 40-50% EtOAc/hexane) to afford a mixture of *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino) phenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide **5** & 6-(difluoromethyl)-*N*-(2-(propylamino) phenyl) pyridazine-4-carboxamide **6** (300 mg, 37%) as a pale yellow solid. The mixture was taken to next step without further purification.

LC-MS: *m/z* 305.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.63 RT (51.82% purity) & *m/z* 306.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.74 RT (41.52% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 131) & 2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1-propyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole (Ex. 132)

[0774] To a stirred solution of mixture of *N*-(2-(cyclopropylamino)phenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide *&* 6-(difluoromethyl)-*N*-(2-(propylamino)phenyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (300 mg, mixture) in ethanol (10 mL) was added 6 N HCl (6 mL) drop wise at room temperature under inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated to 50 °C and stirred for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, basified with saturated $NaHCO_3$ solution to pH ~8 and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain the crude. The crude material was purified by normal phase preparative HPLC to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **(Ex. 131)** (60 mg, 0.21 mmol) *&* 2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1-propyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole **(Ex. 132)** (40 mg, 0.14 mmol) as a pale yellow solids respectively.

Analytical data of Ex. 131:

[0775]

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.03 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.57 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.82-7.74 (m, 2H), 7.45-7.28 (m, 3H), 4.04-3.99 (m, 1H), 1.24-1.17 (m, 2H), 0.82-0.77 (m, 2H).

LC-MS: *m/z* 286.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.52 RT (98.41% purity)

HPLC: 99.92%

Analytical data of Ex. 132:

[0776]

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 9.88 (d, *J*= 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d, *J*= 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.82-7.77 (m, 2H), 7.43-7.27 (m, 3H), 4.44 (t, *J*= 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.81-1.70 (m, 2H), 0.78 (t, *J*= 7.4 Hz, 3H)

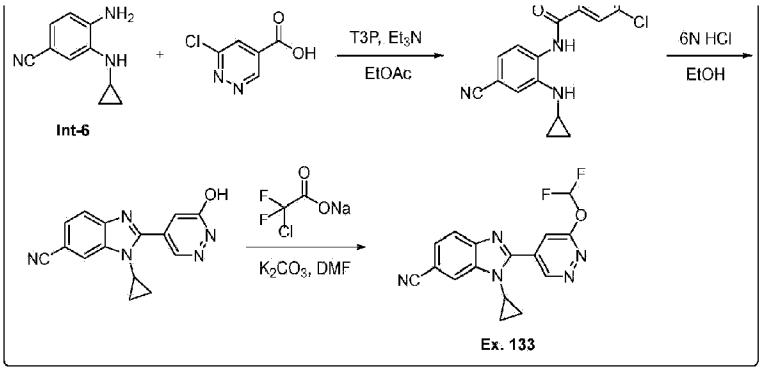
LC-MS: *m/z* 288.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.61 RT (99.03% purity)

HPLC: 99.86%

Example 133 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0777]

Scheme:



6-Chloro-*N*-(4-cyano-2-(cyclopropylamino)phenyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide

[0778] To a stirred solution of 6-chloropyridazine-4-carboxylic acid (458 mg, 2.89 mmol) in ethylacetate (30 mL) was added 4-amino-3-(cyclopropylamino)benzonitrile **Int-6** (500 mg, 2.89 mmol), triethylamine (0.8 mL, 5.78 mmol) and propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 4.6 mL, 7.22 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was poured into saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (70 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 100 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (120 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 10% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 6-chloro-*N*-(4-cyano-2-(cyclopropylamino)phenyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (650 mg, 2.07 mmol, 72%) as a pale yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.17 (s, 1H), 9.63 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.38 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.31 (s, 1H), 2.45-2.38 (m, 1H), 0.82-0.77 (m, 2H), 0.48-0.43 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 312.1 $[M-H]^-$ at 2.57 RT (80.47% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-hydroxypyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile

[0779] To a stirred solution of 6-chloro-*N*-(4-cyano-2-(cyclopropylamino)phenyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (1 g, 3.19 mmol) in ethanol (15 mL) was added 6 *N* HCl (22.5 mL) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated to 60 °C and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was basified to pH ~8 using ice cold saturated sodium bicarbonate solution and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 2-5% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-hydroxypyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (500 mg, 1.8 mmol, 56%) as a brown solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 13.36 (br s, 1H), 8.41 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.29 (s, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.72-7.67 (m, 1H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 3.91-3.84 (m, 1H), 1.26-1.19 (m, 2H), 0.94-0.87 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 277.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.10 RT (91.16% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethoxy)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (Ex. 133)

[0780] To a stirred solution of 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-hydroxypyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (350 mg, 1.26 mmol) in DMF (3.5 mL) was added sodium 2-chloro-2,2-difluoroacetate (290 mg, 1.89 mmol) and potassium carbonate (349 mg, 2.53 mmol) in a sealed tube at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The vessel was sealed and the reaction mixture was heated to 90 °C and stirred for 32 h. The reaction mixture was cooled, quenched with water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 30-40% EtOAc/hexane) followed by preparative HPLC to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethoxy)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[d]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 133** (5 mg, 0.01 mmol, 1%) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.72 (d, *J*= 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.03-8.01 (m, 1H), 7.98-7.77 (m, 3H), 7.64-7.61 (m, 1H), 3.73-3.68 (m, 1H), 1.45-1.38 (m, 2H), 0.95-0.89 (m, 2H)

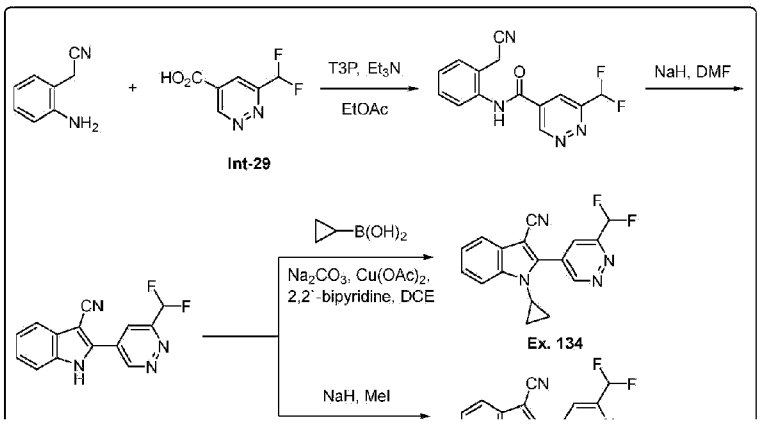
LC-MS: *m/z* 328.2 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.33 RT (99.76% purity)

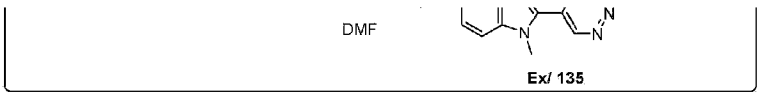
HPLC: 99.44%

Example 134 & Example 135 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0781]

Scheme:





Ex/ 135

***N*-(2-(Cyanomethyl)phenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide**

[0782] To a stirred solution of 6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxylic acid **Int-29** (1 g, 5.75 mmol) in ethylacetate (60 mL) was added 2-(2-aminophenyl)acetonitrile (759 mg, 5.75 mmol) and triethylamine (1.6 mL, 11.49 mmol) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. To this was added propylphosphonic anhydride (50% in EtOAc, 9.14 mL, 14.37 mmol) drop wise at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was gradually warmed to room temperature and stirred for 2 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was basified using saturated sodium bicarbonate solution to pH ~8 and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was triturated with n-pentane (2 x 25 mL) and dried under vacuum to afford *N*-(2-(cyanomethyl)phenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (1.4 g, 4.86 mmol, 85%) as a yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 10.77 (s, 1H), 9.80 (s, 1H), 8.45 (s, 1H), 7.54-7.49 (m, 1H), 7.45-7.30 (m, 4H), 4.02 (s, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 288.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.25 RT (98.33% purity)

2-(6-(Difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-indole-3-carbonitrile

[0783] To a stirred solution of *N*-(2-(cyanomethyl)phenyl)-6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazine-4-carboxamide (1 g, 3.47 mmol) in DMF (20 mL) was added sodium hydride (60% in mineral oil, 139 mg, 3.47 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was heated to 120 °C and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with ice cold water (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 50 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-indole-3-carbonitrile (80 mg, 0.3 mmol, 8%) as a yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): δ 13.21 (brs, 1H), 9.96 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 8.48 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.80-7.74 (m, 1H), 7.68 (d, *J*= 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.50-7.32 (m, 3H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 270.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.71 RT (90.28% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-indole-3-carbonitrile (Ex. 134)

[0784] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-indole-3-carbonitrile (100 mg, 0.37 mmol) and 1,2-dichloroethane (15 mL) in a sealed tube was added cyclopropylboronic acid (64 mg, 0.74 mmol) and sodium carbonate (78 mg, 0.74 mmol) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The mixture purged under argon for 5 min. In a separate sealed, tube copper(II) acetate (67 mg, 0.37 mmol) and 2,2'-bipyridine (58 mg, 0.37 mmol) were dissolved in 1,2-dichloroethane (10 mL) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere and purged under argon for 5 min. The vessel was sealed and the reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 3 min. The resulting blue color solution was added to the above pre-mixed boronic acid and the resulting mixture purged under argon for 5 min. The vessel was sealed and the reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 4 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was acidified using 1 *N* HCl solution (25 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 15-20% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-indole-3-carbonitrile **Ex. 134** (11 mg, 0.03 mmol, 9%) as a pale yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.71 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (td, *J* = 7.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.37 (m, 1H), 7.21-6.91 (m, 1H), 3.67-3.59 (m, 1H), 1.25-1.17 (m, 2H), 0.75-0.68 (m, 2H)

LC-MS: *m/z* 310.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 3.08 RT (98.05% purity)

HPLC: 97.84%

2-(6-(Difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1-methyl-1*H*-indole-3-carbonitrile (Ex. 135)

[0785] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-indole-3-carbonitrile (35 mg, 0.13 mmol) in DMF (0.8 mL) was added sodium hydride (60% in mineral oil, 6 mg, 0.15 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere and the mixture was stirred for 5 min. Iodomethane (0.01 mL, 0.15 mmol) was added at 0 °C and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was quenched with ice cold water (10 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 20% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 2-(6-(difluoromethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1-methyl-1*H*-indole-3-carbonitrile **Ex. 135** (10 mg, 0.03 mmol, 28%) as a pale yellow solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 9.57 (d, *J*= 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (d, *J*= 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (dt, *J*= 7.9, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.45-7.39 (m, 1H), 7.23-6.92 (m, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H)

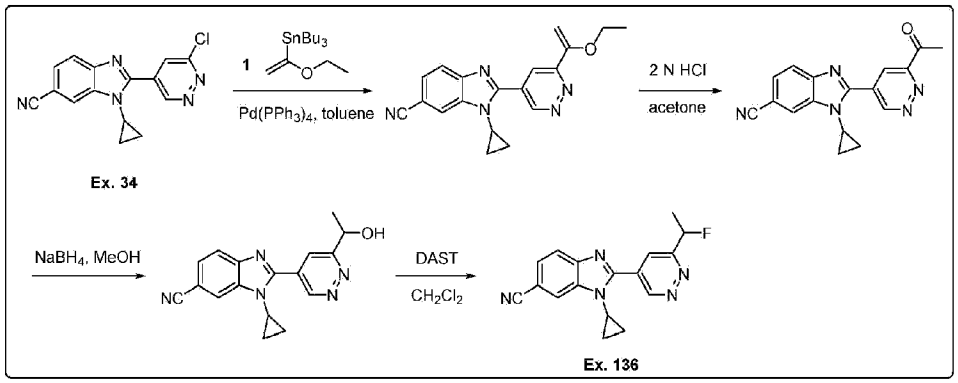
LC-MS: *m/z* 284.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.81 RT (98.36% purity)

HPLC: 99.44%

Example 136 (NOT ACCORDING TO THE INVENTION)

[0786]

Scheme:



1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(1-ethoxyvinyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile

[0787] To stirred solution of 2-(6-chloropyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 34** (750 mg, 2.54 mmol) in toluene (7.5 mL) was added tributyl(1-ethoxyvinyl) stannane (0.86 mL, 2.54 mmol) and $Pd(PPh_3)_4$ (294 mg, 0.25 mmol) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere. The reaction mixture was purged under argon for 5 min and heated to reflux temperature and stirred for 16 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of *Celite* and the pad was washed with EtOAc (20 mL). The filtrate was washed with water (20 mL), dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 50-60% EtOAc/hexane) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(1-ethoxyvinyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (425 mg, 1.28 mmol, 50%) as a pale yellow solid.

LC-MS: *m/z* 331.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.80 RT (56.84% purity)

2-(6-Acetylpyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile

[0788] To a stirred solution of 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(1-ethoxyvinyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (425 mg, 1.28 mmol) in acetone (2.2 mL) was added 2.5 N HCl (0.44 mL) at room temperature under an inert atmosphere and the mixture was stirred for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (50 mL) and washed with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (30 mL) and water (30 mL). The organic layer was separated, dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was triturated with *n*-pentane (2 x 10 mL)

to afford 2-(6-acetylpyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (380 mg, 1.25 mmol, 97%) as an off white solid.

[0789] LC-MS: *m/z* 304.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.35 RT (53.18% purity).

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(1-hydroxyethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile

[0790] To a stirred solution of 2-(6-acetylpyridazin-4-yl)-1-cyclopropyl-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (380 mg, 1.25 mmol) in methanol (4 mL) was added sodium borohydride (48 mg, 1.25 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere and the mixture was stirred for 1 h. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with water (20 mL) and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 4-5% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(1-hydroxyethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (300 mg, 0.98 mmol, 78%) as an off white solid.

LC-MS: *m/z* 305.9 $[M+H]^+$ at 1.92 RT (56.55% purity)

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(6-(1-fluoroethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (Ex. 136)

[0791] To a stirred solution of 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(1-hydroxyethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile (300 mg, 0.98 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (3 mL) was added diethylaminosulfur trifluoride (0.19 mL, 1.47 mmol) at 0 °C under an inert atmosphere and the reaction was stirred for 30 min. After consumption of starting material (by TLC), the reaction mixture was neutralized using saturated sodium carbonate solution and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic extracts were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by silica gel column chromatography (eluent: 5% MeOH/CH_2Cl_2) to afford the desired compound (35 mg). This material was combined with another lot (10 mg) and purified by preparative HPLC to afford 1-cyclopropyl-2-(6-(1-fluoroethyl)pyridazin-4-yl)-1*H*-benzo[*d*]imidazole-6-carbonitrile **Ex. 136** (21 mg, 0.07 mmol, 6% for two batches) as an off white solid.

^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 9.83 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.50 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 8.28-8.26 (m, 1H), 7.93 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.19-6.01 (m, 1H), 3.99-3.94 (m, 1H), 1.93-1.81 (m, 3H), 1.37-1.28 (m, 2H), 0.93-0.86 (m, 2H)

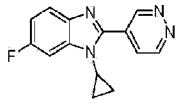
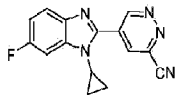
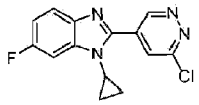
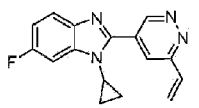
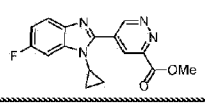
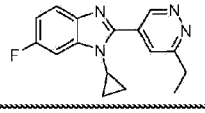
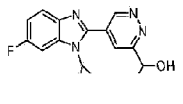
LC-MS: *m/z* 308.0 $[M+H]^+$ at 2.55 RT (99.50% purity)

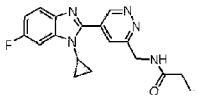
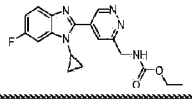
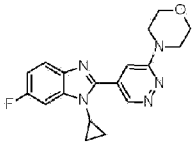
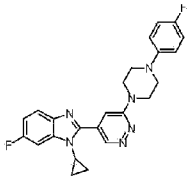
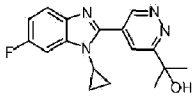
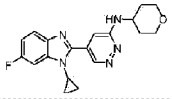
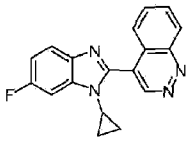
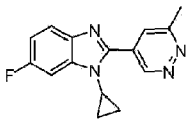
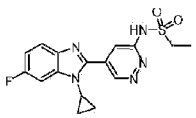
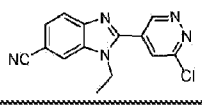
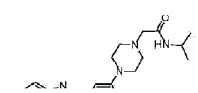
HPLC: 99.43%

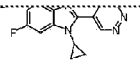
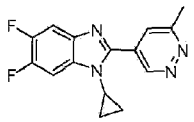
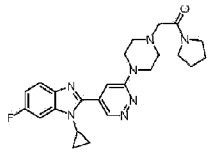
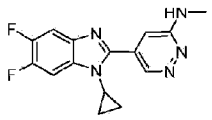
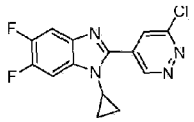
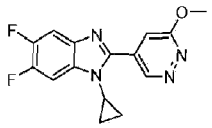
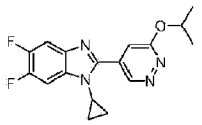
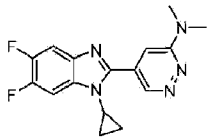
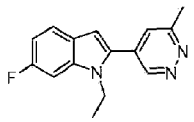
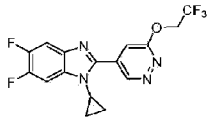
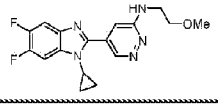
Example 137: Metalloenzyme activity

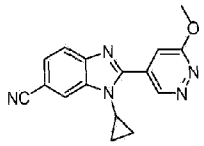
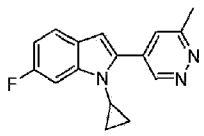
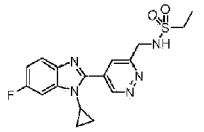
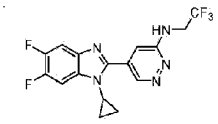
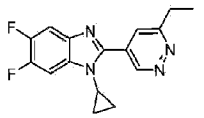
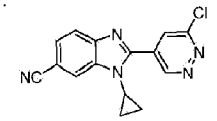
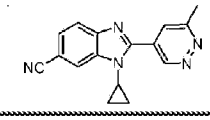
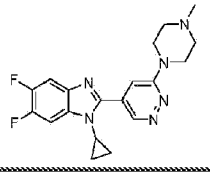
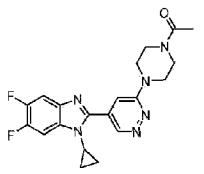
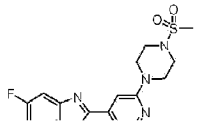
[0792] A. V79-4 cells expressing recombinant andrenodoxin and andrenodoxin reductase with either recombinant human CYP11B2 or CYP11B1 were prepared according to methods previously described (LaSala et al 2009 Anal Bioch 394:56-61). An enzyme enriched microsomal fraction was prepared from cellular lysates and subsequently used as the enzyme source for determining inhibitor IC_{50}s. The substrate Km values were experimentally determined for 11-deoxycorticosterone (CYP11B2 substrate) and 11-deoxycortisol (CYP11B1 substrate). Enzyme assays for inhibitor screening employed CYP11B2 and CYP11B1 enzyme enriched microsomes and were run at the Km of the respective substrates. Products of the enzyme reactions, aldosterone for CYP11B2 or cortisol for CYP11B1, were measured by LC-MS. Assays were run under conditions of less than 20% substrate turnover. Inhibitor IC_{50}s were generated by determining the product formation in the absence or presence of inhibitor at various concentrations. In the absence of the test compound, the product formed (Pt) in each data set was defined as 100% activity. In the absence of enzyme, the product formed (P_b) in each data set was defined as 0% activity. The percent activity in the presence of each inhibitor was calculated according to the following equation: % activity = $(P-P_b)/(P_t-P_b)$, where P = the product formed in the presence of the inhibitor. The IC_{50} value was defined as the inhibitor concentration causing a 50% decrease in activity relative to the no inhibitor control reaction.

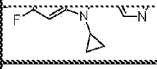
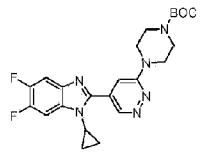
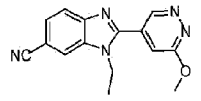
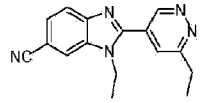
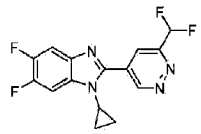
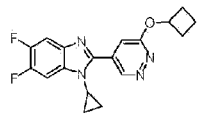
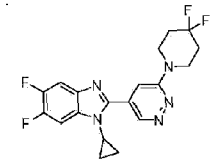
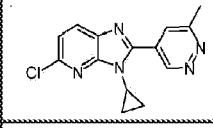
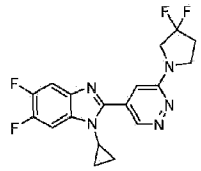
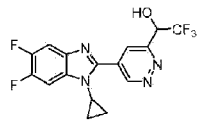
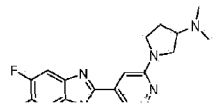
Table 2. Results: CYP11B2 Activity

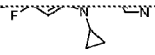
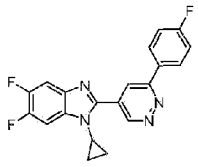
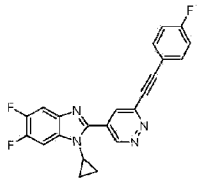
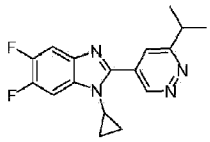
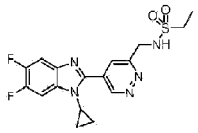
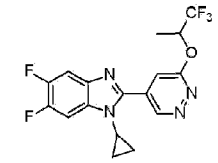
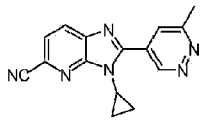
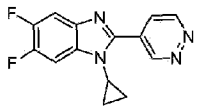
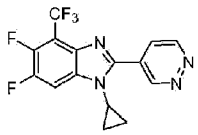
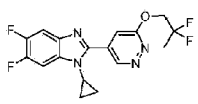
Ex. No.	hCYP11B2 IC_{50} Range[f]	hCYP11B1 IC_{50} Range[f]	HPLC Retention Time (min)[g]	LCMS (M+1)[g]	Structure
1*	+++	+	7.77 (min)[a]	255.0 [M+H][a]	
2*	++	+	9.29 (min)[b]	279.8 [M+H][a]	
3*	+++	++	8.98 (min)[b]	288.9 [M+H][b]	
4*	++++	++	7.70 (min)[b]	280.9 [M+H][b]	
5*	+++	+	8.04 (min)[b]	312.9 [M+H][b]	
6*	++++	++	7.76 (min)[b]	282.9 [M+H][b]	
7*	++++	++	8.73 (min)[b]	352.9 [M+H][b]	

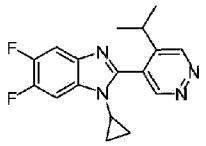
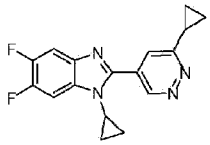
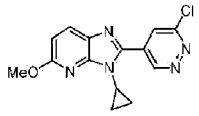
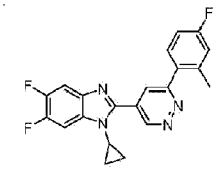
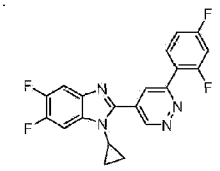
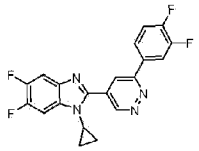
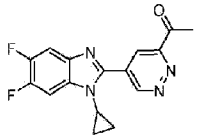
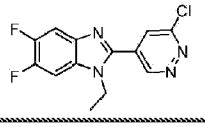
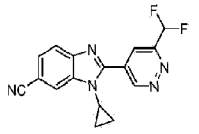
Ex. No.	hCYP11B2 IC_{50} Range[f]	hCYP11B1 IC_{50} Range[f]	HPLC Retention Time (min)[g]	LCMS (M+1)[g]	Structure
					
8*	++	+	8.40 (min)[c]	340.1 [M+H][b]	
9*	+++	+	7.67 (min)[b]	356.1 [M+H][b]	
10*	++++	+++	6.03 (min)[b]	340.0 [M+H][b]	
11*	++++	+++	11.17 (min)[C]	433.1 [M+H][C]	
12*	++++	++	8.69 (min)[c]	313 [M+H][b]	
13*	++	+	5.76 (min)[b]	354 [M+H][C]	
14*	++++	+++	8.51 (min)[b]	304.9 [M+H][b]	
15*	++++	++	6.97 (min)[b]	268.9 [M+H][b]	
16*	++	+	7.84 (min)[b]	362 [M+H][c]	
17*	+++	+	7.98 (min)[b]	284.2 [M+H][d]	
18*	++++	++	9.27 (min)[c]	438.4 [M+H][d]	

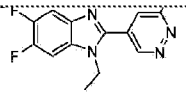
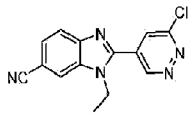
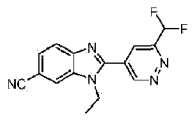
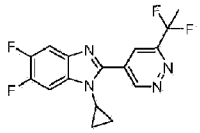
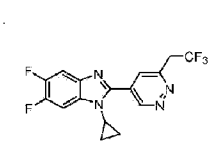
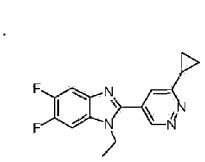
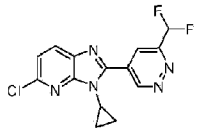
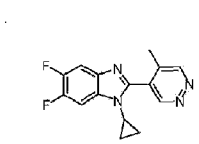
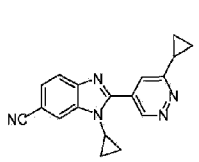
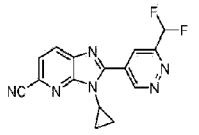
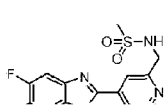
Ex. No.	hCYP11B2 IC_{50} Range[f]	hCYP11B1 IC_{50} Range[f]	HPLC Retention Time (min)[g]	LCMS (M+1)[g]	Structure
					
19*	++++	++	7.53 (min)[b]	286.9 [M+H][b]	
20*	+++	++	9.06 (min)[c]	450.2 [M+H][C]	
21*	++++	++	9.05 (min)[c]	301.9 [M+H][C]	
22*	++++	++	9.29 (min)[b]	306.9 [M+H][C]	
23*	++++	+++	8.35(min)[b]	302.9 [M+H][C]	
24*	++++	++	9.73 (min)[b]	330.9 [M+H][b]	
25*	++++	+++	9.61 (min)[c]	316.1 [M+H][C]	
26*	++++	+++	8.55 (min)[b]	256 [M+H][b]	
27*	++++	++	10.40 (min)[b]	370.9 [M+H][b]	
28*	++++	++	6.05 (min)[b]	346 [M+H][C]	

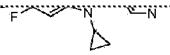
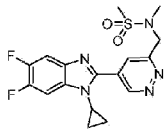
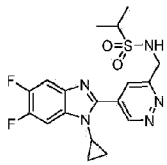
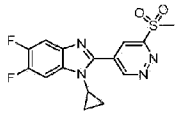
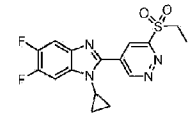
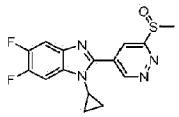
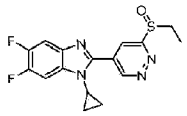
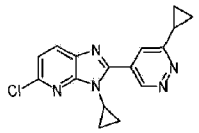
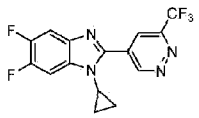
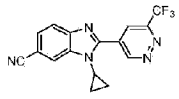
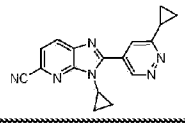
Ex. No.	hCYP11B2 IC_{50} Range[f]	hCYP11B1 IC_{50} Range[f]	HPLC Retention Time (min)[g]	LCMS (M+1)[g]	Structure
29*	++++	+++	7.43 (min)[b]	291.9 [M+H][b]	
30*	++++	+++	7.83 (min)[c]	255 [M+H][b]	
31*	++++	+	7.35 (min)[b]	376 [M+H][b]	
32*	++++	++	7.93 (min)[b]	370 [M+H][C]	
33*	++++	+++	8.26 (min)[b]	300.9 [M+H][b]	
34*	++++	++	8.32 (min)[b]	296.2 [M+H][e]	
35*	++++	++	8.78 (min)[d]	275.9 [M+H][b]	
36*	++++	++	5.47 (min)[b]	371 [M+H][C]	
37*	++++	++	6.29 (min)[b]	399.1 [M+H][C]	
38*	++++	+++	7.52 (min)[b]	435.1 [M+H][C]	

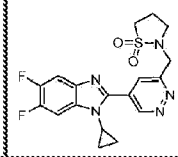
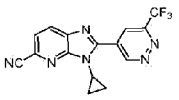
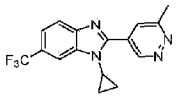
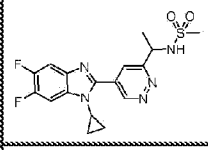
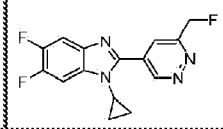
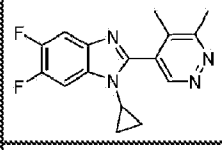
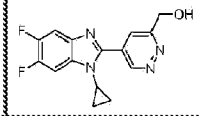
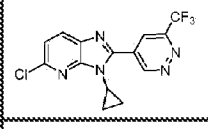
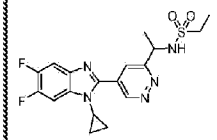
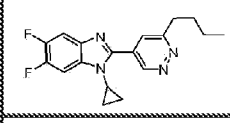
Ex. No.	hCYP11B2 IC_{50} Range[f]	hCYP11B1 IC_{50} Range[f]	HPLC Retention Time (min)[g]	LCMS (M+1)[g]	Structure
					
39*	++++	++++	8.69 (min)[b]	457.1 [M+H][C]	
40*	++++	++	7.57 (min)[b]	279.8 [M+H][b]	
41*	++++	++	7.24 (min)[b]	277.9 [M+H][b]	
42	++++	++	9.40 (min)[b]	323.3 [M+H][e]	
43*	++++	++	10.41 (min)[b]	343 [M+H][C]	
44*	++++	+++	8.63 (min)[b]	392.1 [M+H][b]	
45*	++++	++	8.31 (min)[c]	285.9 [M+H][b]	
46*	++++	++	7.66 (min)[b]	378.1 [M+H][b]	
47*	++++	++	9.03 (min)[b]	371 [M+H][b]	
48*	++	++	8.56 (min)[e]	385.1 [M+H][b]	

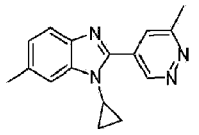
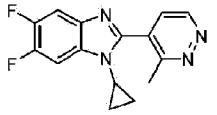
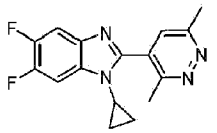
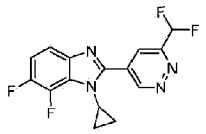
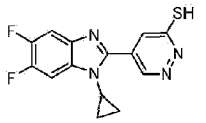
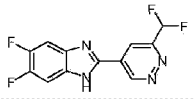
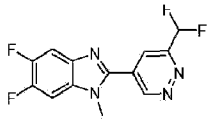
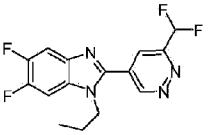
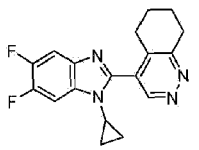
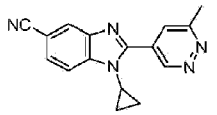
Ex. No.	hCYP11B2 IC_{50} Range[f]	hCYP11B1 IC_{50} Range[f]	HPLC Retention Time (min)[g]	LCMS (M+1)[g]	Structure
					
49*	++++	+++	10.35 (min)[b]	367 [M+H][c]	
50*	+++	+	10.98 (min)[b]	391.3 [M+H][e]	
51*	++++	+++	8.85 (min)[b]	315.1 [M+H][c]	
52*	+++	++	7.70 (min)[b]	394 [M+H][b]	
53*	++++	++	10.66 (min)[b]	385.1 [M+H][c]	
54*	++++	++	6.33 (min)[b]	276.9 [M+H][b]	
55*	+++	+	7.33 (min)[b]	272.9 [M+H][b]	
56*	++	+	10.15 (min)[c]	340.9 [M+H][b]	
57*	++++	+++	9.95 (min)[b]	367 [M+H][b]	

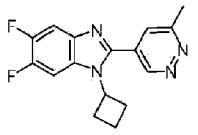
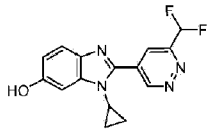
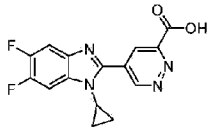
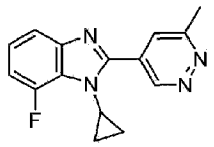
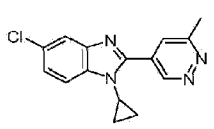
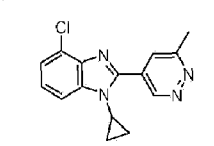
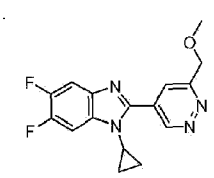
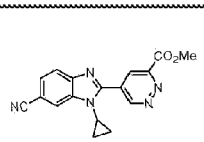
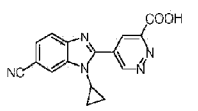
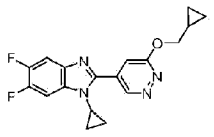
Ex. No.	hCYP11B2 IC_{50} Range[f]	hCYP11B1 IC_{50} Range[f]	HPLC Retention Time (min)[g]	LCMS (M+1)[g]	Structure
58*	++++	++	8.48 (min)[b]	315.0 [M+H][b]	
59*	++++	+++	8.50 (min)[b]	313.1 [M+H][c]	
60*	++	+	4.14 (min)[b]	302.1 [M+H][b]	
61*	++++	++	10.26 (min)[b]	381.1 [M+H][c]	
62*	++++	++	10.23 (min)[b]	385.1 [M+H][c]	
63*	++++	++	10.29 (min)[b]	385 [M+H][c]	
64*	++++	++	8.92 (min)[b]	315.0 [M+H][b]	
65*	+++	+	8.70 (min)[b]	294.9 [M+H][b]	
66	++++	++	8.37 (min)[b]	312 [M+H][b]	
67*	++++	++	8.87 (min) [b]	311.0 [M+H][b]	

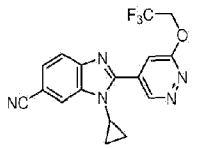
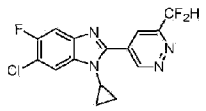
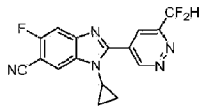
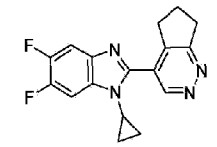
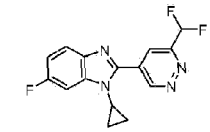
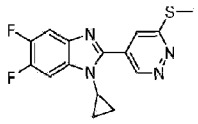
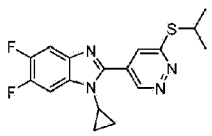
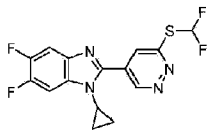
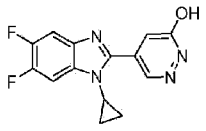
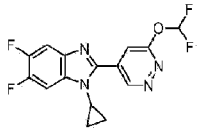
Ex. No.	hCYP11B2 IC_{50} Range[f]	hCYP11B1 IC_{50} Range[f]	HPLC Retention Time (min)[g]	LCMS (M+1)[g]	Structure
					
68*	+++	+	7.82 (min) [b]	284 [M+H][b]	
69*	++++	++	8.02 (min) [b]	300.0 [M+H][b]	
70*	++++	+++	9.65 (min)[b]	337.0 [M+H][b]	
71*	++++	++	9.40 (min) [b]	355.1 [M+H][b]	
72*	++++	+++	8.30 (min)[b]	301.0 [M+H][b]	
73*	+++	+	8.70 (min)[b]	321.9 [M+H][b]	
74*	++++	+	7.47 (min)[b]	287.0 [M+H][b]	
75*	++++	+++	7.60 (min)[b]	302 [M+H][c]	
76	++++	++	7.73 (min)[b]	312.9 [M+H][c]	
77*	+++	++	7.10 (min)[b]	380.1 [M+H][c]	

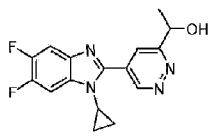
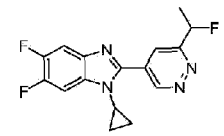
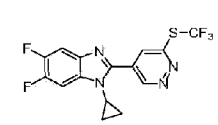
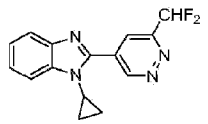
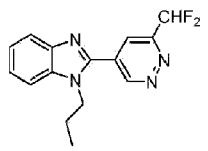
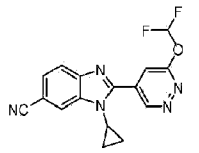
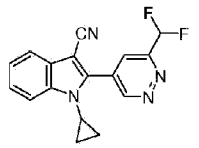
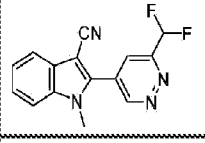
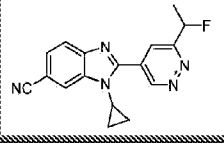
Ex. No.	hCYP11B2 IC_{50} Range[f]	hCYP11B1 IC_{50} Range[f]	HPLC Retention Time (min)[g]	LCMS (M+1)[g]	Structure
					
78*	+++	++	8.01 (min)[b]	394.1 [M+H][b]	
79*	+++	++	7.85 (min)[b]	408.0 [M+H][b]	
80*	+++	+	9.60 (min)[c]	351.0 [M+H][b]	
81*	++++	+++	8.91 (min)[b]	365.0 [M+H][b]	
82*	+++	++	7.39 (min)[b]	335 [M+H][b]	
83*	++++	++	7.80 (min)[b]	348.9 [M+H][c]	
84*	++++	+++	7.80 (min)[b]	311.9 [M+H][b]	
85	++++	++	10.70 (min)[c]	340.9 [M+H][b]	
86	++++	++	9.95 (min)[d]	329.9 [M+H][b]	
87*	++++	++++	7.50 (min)[b]	303 [M+H][b]	

Ex. No.	hCYP11B2 IC_{50} Range[f]	hCYP11B1 IC_{50} Range[f]	HPLC Retention Time (min)[g]	LCMS (M+1)[g]	Structure
88*	++++	+++	7.77 (min)[b]	406.0 [M+H][b]	
89*	++++	++	8.96 (min)[b]	331.2 [M+H][e]	
90*	++	+	8.30 (min)[b]	319.0 [M+H][b]	
91*	++++	+++	7.55 (min)[b]	394.0 [M+H][b]	
92*	++++	++	7.75 (min)[b]	304.9 [M+H][b]	
93*	++++	++	7.31 (min)[b]	300.9 [M+H][b]	
94*	+++	++	6.74 (min)[b]	302.9 [M+H][b]	
95*	++++	++	9.44 (min)[b]	339.9 [M+H][b]	
96*	+++	++	7.96 (min)[b]	408.0 [M+H][b]	
97*	++++	++++	9.59 (min)[b]	329.0 [M+H][b]	

Ex. No.	hCYP11B2 IC_{50} Range[f]	hCYP11B1 IC_{50} Range[f]	HPLC Retention Time (min)[g]	LCMS (M+1)[g]	Structure
98*	+++	+	8.19 (min)[d]	264.9 [M+H][b]	
99*	++	+	7.33 (min)[b]	287.2 [M+H][e]	
100*	+	+	7.00 (min)[b]	300.9 [M+H][b]	
101*	++++	++	9.10 (min)[b]	323.0 [M+H][b]	
102*	++++	++	8.79 (min)[b]	304.9 [M+H][b]	
103*	++	+	8.12 (min)[b]	283.1 [M+H][c]	
104*	++++	++	9.45 (min)[c]	296.9 [M+H][b]	
105*	++	+	9.58 (min)[b]	324.9 [M+H][b]	
106*	++++	+++	7.99 (min)[b]	327.2 [M+H][c]	
107*	+	+	6.82 (min)[b]	275.9 [M+H][b]	

Ex. No.	hCYP11B2 IC_{50} Range[f]	hCYP11B1 IC_{50} Range[f]	HPLC Retention Time (min)[g]	LCMS (M+1)[g]	Structure
108*	++	+	8.02 (min)[b]	300.9 [M+H][b]	
109*	++	+	6.63 (min)[b]	302.9 [M+H][b]	
110*	++	+	7.91 (min)[b]	316.9 [M+H][b]	
111*	+++	+	6.37 (min)[b]	269.2 [M+H][c]	
112*	++	+	7.69 (min)[b]	284.9 [M+H][b]	
113*	++	+	7.61 (min)[b]	285.1 [M+H][c]	
114*	++++	++	8.08 (min)[b]	316.9 [M+H][b]	
115*	+++	+	7.44 (min)[b]	320.2 [M+H][c]	
116*	++	+	6.94 (min)[b]	306.2 [M+H][c]	
117*	++++	++++	10.12 (min)[b]	343.0 [M+H][b]	

Ex. No.	hCYP11B2 IC_{50} Range[f]	hCYP11B1 IC_{50} Range[f]	HPLC Retention Time (min)[g]	LCMS (M+1)[g]	Structure
118*	++++	+++	9.64 (min)[b]	360.0 $[M+H]^{b}$	
119*	++++	++	10.00 (min)[b]	339.2 $[M+H]^{e}$	
120*	++++	++	9.01 (min)[b]	329.9 $[M+H]^{b}$	
121*	++++	++	7.77 (min)[b]	313.0 $[M+H]^{b}$	
122*	++++	++	8.85 (min)[b]	304.9 $[M+H]^{b}$	
123*	++++	++	8.95 (min)[b]	318.9 $[M+H]^{b}$	
124*	++++	+++	10.42 (min)[b]	346.9 $[M+H]^{b}$	
125*	++++	++	10.09 (min)[b]	354.9 $[M+H]^{b}$	
126*	++	+	7.00 (min)[b]	288.9 $[M+H]^{+b}$	
127*	++++	++	9.84 (min)[b]	338.9 $[M+H]^{b}$	

Ex. No.	hCYP11B2 IC_{50} Range[f]	hCYP11B1 IC_{50} Range[f]	HPLC Retention Time (min)[g]	LCMS (M+1)[g]	Structure
128*	+++	++	6.92 (min)[b]	317.0 [M+H][b]	
129*	++++	++	8.59 (min)[b]	318.9 [M+H][b]	
130*	+++	++	10.19 (min)[b]	373.0 [M+H][b]	
131*	++	++	7.45 (min)[b]	286.9 [M+H][b]	
132*	+	++	7.42 (min)[b]	288.9 [M+H][b]	
133*	+++	++	9.82 (min)[d]	328.2 [M+H][c]	
134*	+++	+	9.77 (min)[b]	310.9 [M+H][b]	
135*	+++	+	9.54 (min)[b]	284.9 [M+H][b]	
136*	++++	++	7.98 (min)[b]	308.0 [M+H][b]	

[f] See table 1 for HPLC and LCMS methods

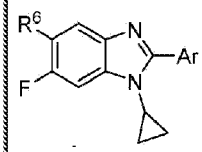
[g] IC_{50} ranges: + > 10 μM; ++ 1-10 μM; +++ 0.1-1 μM; ++++ 0.001-0.1 μM

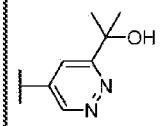
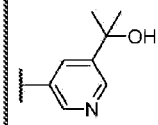
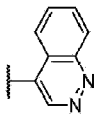
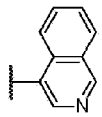
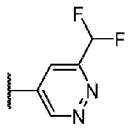
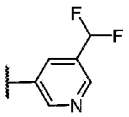
* Reference Examples

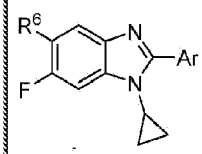
[0793] The results in Table 2 demonstrate that compounds of Formula **I** have potent activity against CYP11B2, and many compounds of Formula **I** have significant selectivity for inhibiting CYP11B2 over CYP11B1.

[0794] Comparison Examples were also prepared. Tables 3 and 4 show that replacing the pyridazine of compounds of Formula **I** with a pyridine results in compounds (*e.g.*, Examples 137-140) that show increased inhibition of CYP11B1 (7-54 fold increase) for each of the comparisons. These structural changes also result in compounds that are less selective for CYP11B2 over CYP11B1. Both of these features are undesirable in a CYP11B2 inhibitor because, as described above, CYP11B1 activity is integral to cortisol production. In addition, Examples 14 and 42 demonstrated decreased inhibition of CYP1A2 and CYP19 in comparison to their respective comparison examples. Examples 42 and 19 also showed much greater metabolic stability when exposed to cynomolgus monkey and rat liver microsomes than their pyridine counterparts, Examples 139 and 140. Likewise, Table 5 shows that known inhibitors of CYP11B2, such as Examples 141-143, also have undesirable activity against CYP11B1, limiting their effectiveness as therapeutic agents. However, analogous Examples 31 and 52 are much less potent inhibitors of CYP11B1. Examples 31 and 52 also possess greater metabolic stability than Example 141. Taken together, these results demonstrate that the pyridazine compounds of Formula **I** are potentially of greater therapeutic utility in humans than known compounds, due in part to their decreased inhibition of CYP11B1, increased selectivity for inhibition of CYP11B2 over other related metalloenzymes, and their metabolic stability.

Table 3. Comparison Results



Ex. No.	**12***	**137[d,e]**	**14***	**138[e]**	**42**	**139***
Ar						
R^6	H	H	H	H	F	F
pKa[a]	-9.82	3.30	1.84	3.89	-0.59	3.05
clogP[a]	1.64	2.57	2.98	3.91	2.18	3.22
tPSA[a](A^2)	63.83	50.94	43.60	30.71	43.60	30.71
CYP11B2 IC_{50} (μM)	0.031	0.008	0.004	0.003	0.021	0.003
CYP11B1 IC_{50} (μM)	1.124	0.150	0.582	0.038	5.183	0.347
Selectivity[b]	36	19	145	13	247	115



Ex. No.	12*	137[d,e]	14*	138[e]	42	139*
CYP1A2 IC_{50} (μM)	84	11	67	24	21	2.0
CYP19 IC_{50} (μM)	30	14	73	5.2	> 100	30.6
Cyno LM Stability[c]	93	71	44	1	108	19
Rat LM Stability[c]	71	76	18	4	91	4

[a] pKa (of the N2 pyridazine atom or pyridine N), LogP (Chemaxon Method), and total polar surface area (tPSA) calculated with MarvinSketch 15.5.4.0

[b] Selectivity = CYP11B1 IC_{50}/CYP11B2 IC_{50}

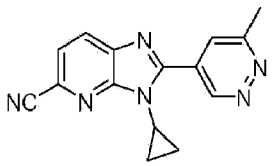
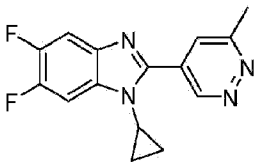
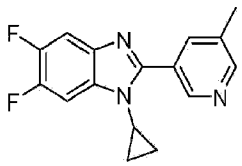
[c] Percentage of compound remaining at 65 min in rat or cynomolgus monkey liver microsomes

[d] ACS Med. Chem. Lett. 2015, 6, 573.

[e] WO 2012/012478

* Reference Examples

Table 4. Comparison Results

Ex. No.	54*	19*	140*
Ar			
pKa[a]	-9.27	-9.32	4.10
cLogP[a]	0.94	1.89	3.52
tPSA[a](A^2)	80.28	43.60	30.71
CYP11B2 IC_{50} (μM)	0.052	0.030	0.002
CYP11B1 IC_{50} (μM)	8.201	4.767	0.088
Selectivity[b]	157	159	36
CYP1A2 IC_{50} (μM)	> 200	62	6.3
CYP19 IC_{50} (μM)	> 100	> 100	24
Cyno LM	94	75	0

Ex. No.	54*	19*	140*
Stability[c]			
Rat LM Stability[c]	102	60	0

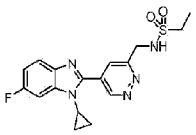
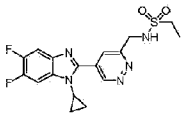
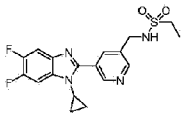
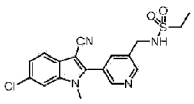
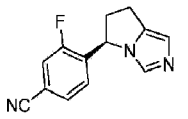
[a] pKa (of the N2 pyridazine atom or pyridine N), LogP (Chemaxon Method), and total polar surface area (tPSA) calculated with MarvinSketch 15.5.4.0

[b] Selectivity = CYP11B1 IC_{50}/CYP11B2 IC_{50}

[c] Percentage of compound remaining at 65 min in rat or cynomolgus monkey liver microsomes

* Reference Examples

Table 5. Comparison Results

Ex No.	31*		52*		141*		142[d]		143[e]	
Structure										
pKa[a]		-9.92		-9.91		3.43		4.11		7.15
cLogP[a]		0.80		0.94		2.12		1.93		1.80
tPSA[a](A^2)		89.77		89.77		76.88		87.78		41.61
CYP11B2 IC_{50} (μM)		0.069		0.100		0.006		0.005		0.0007
CYP11B1 IC_{50} (μM)		> 10.000		5.696		1.407		0.457		0.013
Selectivity[b]		> 145		57		230		91		17
CYP1A2 IC_{50} (μM)		> 100		> 200		93.741		7.100		1.600
CYP19 IC_{50} (μM)		> 100		> 100		82.477		0.457		0.023
Cyno LM Stability[c]		71		83		19				
Rat LM Stability[c]		72		84		2				

[a] pKa (of the N2 pyridazine atom or pyridine N) calculated with MarvinSketch 15.5.4.0

[b] Selectivity = CYP11B1 IC_{50}/CYP11B2 IC_{50}

[c] Percentage of compound remaining at 65 min in rat or cynomolgus monkey liver microsomes

[d] J. Med. Chem. 2015, 58, 9382.

[e] ACS Med. Chem. Lett. 2013, 4, 1203.

* Reference Examples

REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

Cited references

This list of references cited by the applicant is for the reader's convenience only. It does not form part of the European patent document. Even though great care has been taken in compiling the references, errors or omissions cannot be excluded and the EPO disclaims all liability in this regard.

Patent documents cited in the description

- US62440181 **[0001]**
- WO2005111018A1 **[0012]**
- WO2013034047A1 **[0013]**
- WO2018118781A1 **[0014]**
- WO2012012478A1 **[0015]**
- WO2009156462A2 **[0018]**
- US2008255085A1 **[0019]**
- US6261547B **[0223]**
- US6197934B **[0223]**
- US6056950A **[0223]**
- US5800807A **[0223]**
- US5776445A **[0223]**
- US5698219A **[0223]**
- US5521222A **[0223]**
- US5403841A **[0223]**
- US5077033A **[0223]**
- US4882150A **[0223]**
- US4738851A **[0223]**
- US5407713A **[0224]**
- US5352456A **[0224]**
- US5332213A **[0224]**
- US5336168A **[0224]**
- US5290561A **[0224]**
- US5254346A **[0224]**
- US5164189A **[0224]**
- US5163899A **[0224]**
- US5088977A **[0224]**
- US5087240A **[0224]**
- US5008110A **[0224]**
- US4921475A **[0224]**
- WO2012012478A **[0794]**

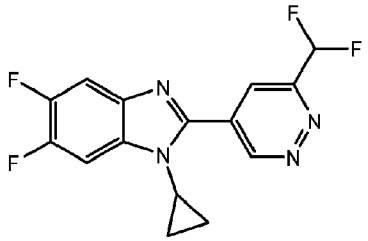
Non-patent literature cited in the description

- **PINDUR, ULFY-S. KIMSCHOLLMEYER, D.**Cyclization Reactions of 2, 2'-Bis-N-methylindolyl to Potential Protein Kinase C InhibitorsHeterocycles, 1994, vol. 38, 102267-2276 [0011]
- **PAPILLON, JULIEN PN et al.**Discovery of N-[5-(6-Chloro-3-cyano-1-methyl-1H-indol-2-yl)-pyridin-3-ylmethyl]-ethanesulfonamide, a Cortisol-Sparing CYP11B2 Inhibitor that Lowers Aldosterone in Human SubjectsJournal of Medicinal Chemistry, 2015, vol. 58, 239382-9394 [0016]
- **MEREDITH, E. L. et al.**Discovery and in vivo evaluation of potent dual CYP11B2 (Aldosterone Synthase) and CYP11B1 inhibitorsACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters, 2013, vol. 4, 121203-1207 [0017]
- **HOYT, SCOTT B. et al.**Discovery of benzimidazole CYP11B2 inhibitors with in vivo activity in rhesus monkeysACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters, 2015, vol. 6, 5573-578 [0020]
- **LIPPARDBERG**Principles of Bioinorganic ChemistryUniversity Science Books19940000 [0096]
- **BASOLOPEARSON**Mechanisms of Inorganic ReactionsJohn Wiley & Sons Inc19670900 [0096]
- **IVANO BERTINIHARRY GRAY**Biological Inorganic ChemistryUniversity Science Books20070000 [0096]
- **XUE et al.**Nature Chemical Biology, 2008, vol. 4, 2107-109 [0096]
- **BERGE et al.**Pharmaceutical SaltsJ. Pharm. Sci., 1977, vol. 66, 1-19 [0122]
- Design And Optimization in Organic SynthesisElsevier Science Ltd.20050000 [0173]
- **JÄHNISCH, K et al.**Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl., 2004, vol. 43, 406- [0173]
- **BERGE et al.**Journal of Pharmaceutical Science, 1977, vol. 66, 1-19 [0198]
- General Principles**FINGLWOODBURY**Goodman and Gilman's The Pharmaceutical Basis of TherapeuticsPagamonon Press1-46 [0230]
- **LASALA et al.**Anal Bioch, 2009, vol. 394, 56-61 [0792]
- ACS Med. Chem. Lett., 2015, vol. 6, 573- [0794]
- J. Med. Chem., 2015, vol. 58, 9382- [0794]
- ACS Med. Chem. Lett., 2013, vol. 4, 1203- [0794]

Patentkrav

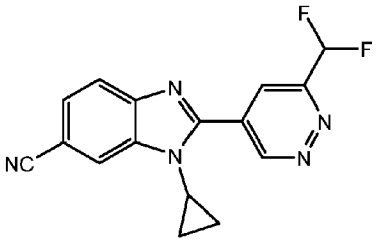
1. Forbindelse valgt fra:

a)



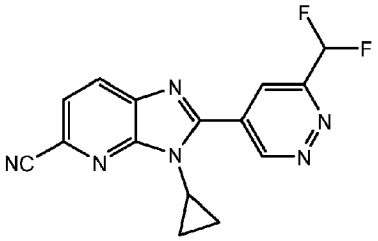
(42);

b)



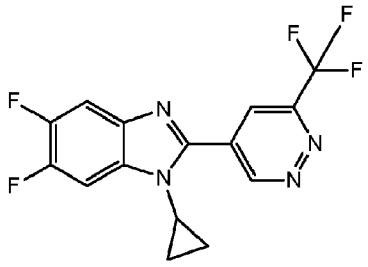
(66);

c)



(76);

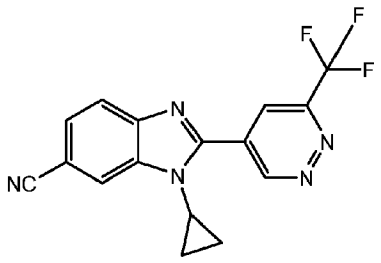
d)



(85);

og

e)



(86).

2. Farmaceutisk sammensætning omfattende en forbindelse ifølge krav 1, eller et farmaceutisk acceptabelt salt deraf, og en farmaceutisk acceptabel bærer.

3. Den farmaceutiske sammensætning ifølge krav 2 til anvendelse til behandling af hypertension hos en patient.

4. Den farmaceutiske sammensætning til anvendelse ifølge krav 3, hvor hypertensionen er resistent hypertension.

5. Den farmaceutiske sammensætning ifølge krav 2, til anvendelse i behandlingen af cancer, kardiovaskulær sygdom, inflammatorisk sygdom, infektionssygdom, metabolisk sygdom, oftalmologisk sygdom, sygdom i centralnervesystemet (CNS), urologisk sygdom, gastrointestinal sygdom, hypertension, resistent hypertension, morbiditeter associeret med primær eller sekundær hyperaldosteronisme og binyrehyperplasi, pulmonal arteriel hypertension, hjertesvigt, diastolisk dysfunktion, venstre ventrikulær diastolisk dysfunktion, diastolisk hjertesvigt, venstre ventrikulær diastolisk dysfunktion, diastolisk hjertesvigt, systolisk dysfunktion, systolisk hjertesvigt, hypokalæmi, nyresvigt, kronisk nyresvigt, restenose, nefropati, post-myokardieinfarkt, koronar hjertesygdom, fibrose, sygdomme **kendetegnet ved** øget kollagendannelse, fibrose og matrix-omdannelse efter hypertension, fibrose og matrix-omdannelse efter endothelcelledysfunktion, hjerte-kar-sygdomme såsom atherosklerose, atrieflimren, nyredysfunktion, leversygdomme, ikke-alkoholisk steatohepatitis, vaskulære sygdomme, retinopati, neuropati, insulinopati, endothel dysfunktion, myokardiefibrose, vaskulær fibrose, myokardienekrotiske læsioner, vaskulær beskadigelse, myokardieinfarkt, venstre ventrikelhypertrofi, vaskulær

væghypertrofi, endothelfortykkelse, fibrinoid nekrose af arterierne, nyresygdomme, diabetisk nefropati, glomerulosklerose, glomerulonefritis, nefritisk syndrom, polycystisk nyresygdom, diabetes mellitus, metabolisk syndrom, insulinresistens, søvnapnø, obstruktiv søvnapnø, muskeldystrofi, levercirrose, ikke-alkoholisk fedtleversygdom, nyrelidelser, diabetiske nyrelidelser eller slagtilfælde.