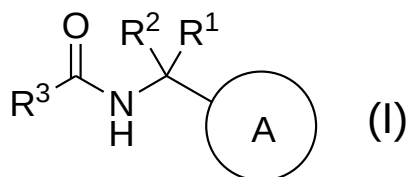


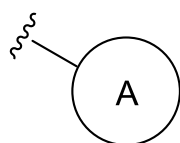
CLAIMS

1. A compound represented by the formula (I):

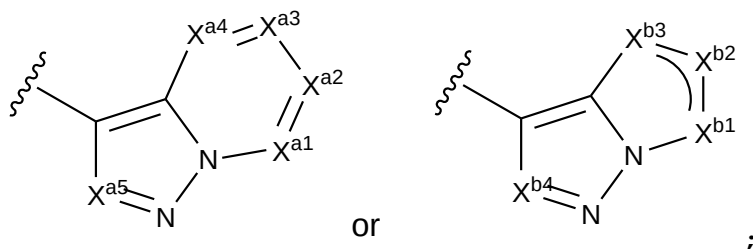


5 wherein

the group represented by



is a group represented by



10 X^{a1} is CH or a nitrogen atom;

X^{a2} is

(1) CR^{a} wherein R^{a} is

(a) a hydrogen atom,

(b) a halogen atom, or

15 (c) a C_{1-6} alkyl group, or

(2) a nitrogen atom;

X^{a3} is

(1) CR^{a} wherein R^{a} is

(a) a hydrogen atom, or

20 (b) a C_{1-6} alkyl group, or

(2) a nitrogen atom;

X^{a4} is

(1) CR^{a} wherein R^{a} is

(a) a hydrogen atom, or

25 (b) a C_{1-6} alkyl group, or

(2) a nitrogen atom; and

X^{a5} is

(1) CR^a wherein R^a is

(a) a hydrogen atom,

(b) a C₁₋₆ alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3

5 substituents selected from a halogen atom and a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group,

(c) a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group, or

(d) a C₃₋₁₀ cycloalkyl group, or

(2) a nitrogen atom;

10 provided that when X^{a5} is CR^a, then at least one of X^{a1}, X^{a2} and X^{a3} is a nitrogen atom;

X^{b1} is CH or a nitrogen atom;

X^{b2} is CR^b wherein R^b is

(a) a hydrogen atom, or

15 (b) a C₁₋₆ alkyl group;

X^{b3} is a nitrogen atom optionally substituted by a C₁₋₆ alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atoms; and

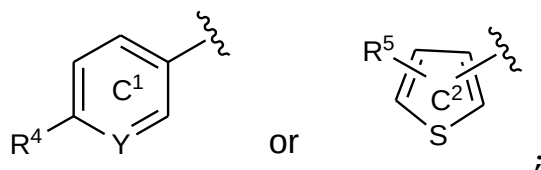
X^{b4} is CR^b wherein R^b is

(a) a hydrogen atom, or

20 (b) a C₁₋₆ alkyl group;

R¹ and R² are each a hydrogen atom; and

R³ is a group represented by



R⁴ is

25 (1) a C₁₋₆ alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atoms,

(2) a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atoms,

(3) a C₃₋₁₀ cycloalkyloxy group, or

30 (4) a halogen atom;

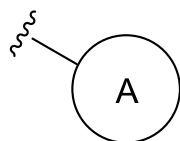
Y is a nitrogen atom or CR⁶ wherein R⁶ is a hydrogen atom or a halogen atom; and

Ring C¹ is a benzene ring (i.e., Y is CR⁶) or a pyridine ring (i.e., Y is N), each of which is optionally further substituted by one halogen atom;

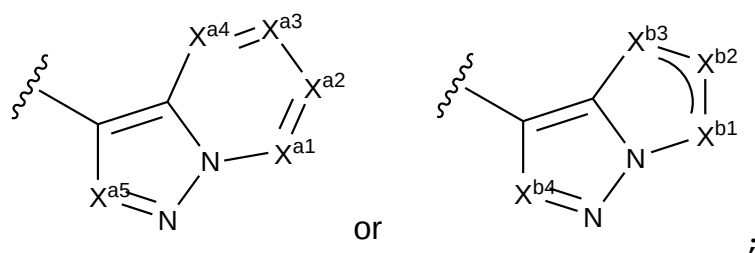
R⁵ is a C₁₋₆ alkyl group optionally substituted by 1 to 3
5 halogen atoms; and

Ring C² is a thiophene ring substituted by only R⁵,
or a salt thereof.

2. The compound or salt according to claim 1, wherein
10 the group represented by



is a group represented by



X^{a1} is CH or a nitrogen atom;

15 X^{a2} is CH;

X^{a3} is CH or a nitrogen atom;

X^{a4} is CH; and

X^{a5} is CH or a nitrogen atom;

provided that when X^{a5} is CH, then at least one of X^{a1} and X^{a3} is
20 a nitrogen atom;

X^{b1} is CH;

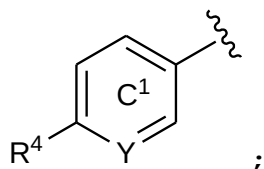
X^{b2} is CH;

X^{b3} is a nitrogen atom optionally substituted by a C₁₋₆ alkyl
group; and

25 X^{b4} is CH;

R¹ and R² are both hydrogen atoms; and

R³ is a group represented by

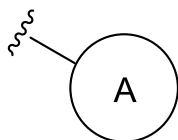


R⁴ is a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atoms;

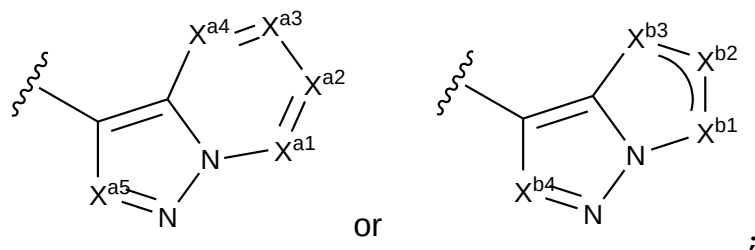
Y is a nitrogen atom or CH; and

- 5 Ring C¹ is a benzene ring (i.e., Y is CH) or a pyridine ring (i.e., Y is N), each of which is optionally further substituted by one halogen atom.

3. The compound or salt according to claim 1, wherein
10 the group represented by



is a group represented by



X^{a1} is CH or a nitrogen atom;

- 15 X^{a2} is CH;

X^{a3} is CH;

X^{a4} is CH; and

X^{a5} is CH or a nitrogen atom;

provided that when X^{a5} is CH, then X^{a1} is a nitrogen atom;

- 20 X^{b1} is CH;

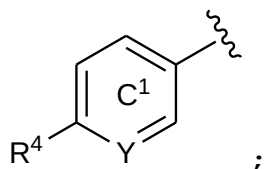
X^{b2} is CH;

X^{b3} is a nitrogen atom optionally substituted by a C₁₋₆ alkyl group; and

X^{b4} is CH;

- 25 R¹ and R² are both hydrogen atoms; and

R³ is a group represented by



R⁴ is a C₁₋₆ alkoxy group optionally substituted by 1 to 3 halogen atoms;

Y is a nitrogen atom or CH; and

5 Ring C¹ is a benzene ring (i.e., Y is CH) or a pyridine ring (i.e., Y is N), each of which is optionally further substituted by one halogen atom.

4. 6-(Difluoromethoxy)-5-fluoro-N-[(pyrazolo[1,5-b]pyridazin-3-yl)methyl]pyridine-3-carboxamide or a salt thereof.

5. 3-Fluoro-N-[(1,2,3-triazolo[1,5-a]pyridin-3-yl)methyl]-4-(trifluoromethoxy)benzamide or a salt thereof.

15 6. 6-(Difluoromethoxy)-5-fluoro-N-[(1-methyl-1H-imidazo[1,2-b]pyrazol-7-yl)methyl]pyridine-3-carboxamide or a salt thereof.

7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound or salt according to claim 1, and a pharmacologically acceptable
20 carrier.

8. Use of the compound or salt according to claim 1, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of major depression, bipolar disorder, migraine, pain, or behavioral and
25 psychological symptoms of dementia in a mammal, wherein an effective amount of the compound or salt according to claim 1 is to be administered to the mammal.

9. The compound or salt according to claim 1 for use in the
30 treatment of major depression, bipolar disorder, migraine, pain, or behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia.

10. The compound or salt according to claim 1 for use in medicine.