

Synthesis of Bis-Heterocyclic Compounds and Study their Antimicrobial Activity

J. K. Shneine^{1*}, Y. H. Al-Araji¹, A. Shayea²

¹Department of Chemistry, College of Science, Al-Nahrain University, Baghdad, Iraq

²Nursing College, Baghdad University

Abstract: According to our recent previous published work, new series of triazole based Schiff's bases (6a-j) have been synthesized from the reaction of benzaldehyde derivatives. Characterization of the synthesized bis-heterocyclic compounds was achieved by ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, and FT-IR spectroscopic methods. The antimicrobial activity of compounds 5, and 6a-j were studied against a gram negative bacteria (*Escherichia Coli*) and a gram positive bacteria (*Staphylococcus Aureus*). As expected, results revealed that most of studied compounds display high antibacterial activity against both kinds of bacteria, especially against *Escherichia Coli*. Generally, the antibacterial activity increased with increasing compound concentration and most synthesized compounds can be considered as antibacterial agents even better than the reference in the case of *Escherichia Coli*. Particularly, synthesized Compounds 5, 6f, and 6j have been indicated as the most effective candidates against *Staphylococcus Aureus*, while the highest antibacterial activity against *Escherichia Coli* have been revealed by compounds 6e, 6f, and 6j. In this study it was found that antibacterial activity of synthesized compounds is proven firstly by the bis-heterocyclic character and secondly by variation of benzene ring substitution.

Keywords: Triazole, Antibacterial activity, Schiff's bases, Bis-heterocyclic compounds

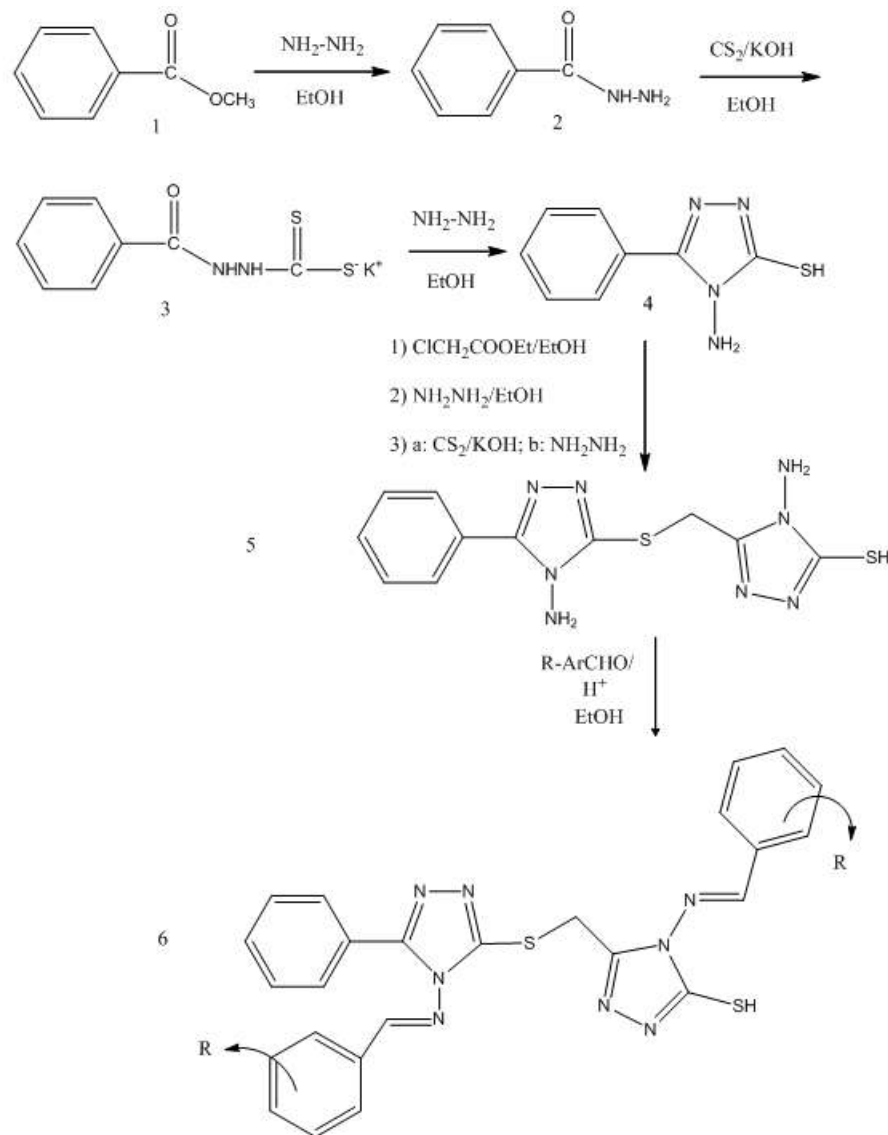
1. Introduction

Nowadays, among other disciplines synthetic heterocyclic chemistry can be considered as an important element to provide antibiotics to the market [1]. Heterocyclic compounds comprised in their structure triazole ring have been essential structural fragments due to their broad spectrum anti-microbial activity [2, 3], anti-pesticidal activity [4], corrosion inhibition [5, 6], and other industrial applications [7, 8].

During the development of a variety of antibiotics, confrontations have appeared against microbial diseases. As bacteria have turning out to be more resistant towards antibiotic, antibiotics overuse and mistreatment have resulted leading to a markedly universal health failure. Broad spectrum potency is reasonably preferred for newly found antibacterial

agents [9]. Hence, recent efforts have been presented toward investigating more potential antibacterial agents. Thus, bis-heterocyclic compounds have being shown as highly active compounds to eliminate above mentioned restrictions and confront difficulties [10, 11, 12].

Schiff's bases are also considered as one of the most applied, commonly benefited for industrial uses, and exhibit a wide range of biological activities [13, 14]. These remarkable observations and promised preliminary results from our previous published work are motives to synthesize bis-heterocyclic compounds comprising Schiff bases together with 1, 2, 4-triazole ring which predictable to be high potentially anti-microbial active compounds [15]. Scheme 1 shows the synthetic route applied in this work.



| No. | 6a | 6b | 6c | 6d | 6e | 6f | 6g | 6h | 6i | 6j |
|-----|----|------|------|------|-------------------|------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| R | H | p-Br | m-Br | p-Cl | p-NO ₂ | p-OH | p-OCH ₃ | p-CH ₃ | p-NH ₂ | p-N(CH ₃) ₂ |

Scheme 1: Synthetic route to compounds 6a-j [18]

2. Materials and Methods

Aimed compounds were synthesized according to our published work [15, 16]. FT-IR spectra were done on Shimadzu model FT-IR-8400S. Spectrometer 400 MHz, Avance III 400, Bruker was used to create ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra. All Compounds were characterized by FT-IR, and (¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR) for compounds **5**, **6b**, **6c**, **6d**, and **6f**. On the other hand, the biological activities for compounds **5**, and **6 (a-j)** were determined according to well diffusion method [17].

3. Results and Discussion

Chemistry

The products **5** and **6 (a-j)** have been characterized as follows:

4-amino-5-[(4-amino-5-phenyl-4H-1, 2, 4-triazol-3-yl)sulfanyl]methyl-4H-1, 2, 4-triazole-3-thiol (**5**) [15]

FT-IR (cm⁻¹): (3452, 3417, 3398, and 3278) due to symmetrical and asymmetrical stretching bands which confirm the existence of two NH₂ groups, 3155 cm⁻¹ represents (N-H) bond, 3068, 1612, and 601 attributed to CH-arom., C=N, and C-S bond, respectively.

¹H NMR (δ/ppm): 3.66 (4H, s, NH₂), 4.69 (1H, s, NH), 5.54 (2H, s, CH₂), 7.66-8.04 (5H, m, CH aromatic ring), and 13.89 (1H, s, SH).

¹³C NMR (δ/ppm) shows signals at: 32.48 (1C, CH₂), 128.01-132.25 (6C, aromatic ring), 149.41 (1C, ph-C=N), 160.42 (1C,

$H_2C-C=N$), 169.94 (1C, $C=S$), 179.12 (1C, $N=C-S$), and 180.09 (1C, $N=C-SH$).

4- [(E)-benzylideneamino]-5-[[4-((E)-benzylideneamino)-5-phenyl-4H-1, 2, 4-triazol-3-yl)sulfanyl]methyl]-4H-1, 2, 4-triazole-3-thiol (6a) [15]

FT-IR (cm^{-1}): 3059, 1612, (1500, 1446), 686 attributed to CH arom., C=N group, C=C, and C-S bond, respectively;

4- [(E)-(4-bromobenzylidene)amino]-5-[[4-((E)-(4-bromobenzylidene)amino)-5-phenyl-4H-1, 2, 4-triazol-3-yl)sulfanyl]methyl]-4H-1, 2, 4-triazole-3-thiol (6b) [15]

FT-IR (cm^{-1}): 3043, 1624, (1566, 1500), (779, 945), 682, and 544 due to CH-arom., C=N, C=C, 1, 3-disubstituted benzene ring, C-S, and C-Br, respectively.

1H NMR (δ/ppm): 4.80 (2H, s, CH_2), 7.00-8.24 (13H, m, CH of e aromatic rings), (9.85, and 10.01) for both (1H, s, $N=CH$), and 13.91 (1H, s, SH).

^{13}C NMR (δ/ppm): 32.88 (1C, CH_2), 122.17- 135.98 (18C, 3 aromatic rings), 149.84 and 151.93 (2C, $CH=N$), 155.04 (1C, $ph-C=N$), 156.54 (1C, $H_2C-C=N$), 160.53 (1C, $N=C-S$), and 182.25 (1C, $N=C-SH$).

4- [(E)-(3-bromobenzylidene)amino]-5-[[4-((E)-(3-bromobenzylidene)amino)-5-phenyl-4H-1, 2, 4-triazol-3-yl)sulfanyl]methyl]-4H-1, 2, 4-triazole-3-thiol (6c)

FT-IR (cm^{-1}): 3097, 1608, (1500, 1446), 686, 767, and 545 attributed to CH-arom., C=N, C=C, C-S, 1, 4-disubstituted benzene ring, and C-Br, respectively.

1H NMR (δ/ppm): 4.97 (2H, s, CH_2), 7.37-8.70 (13H, m, CH of three aromatic rings), (9.75, and 10.03) for both (1H, s, $N=CH$), and 13.87 (1H, s, SH).

^{13}C NMR (δ/ppm): 30.05 (1C, CH_2), 122.42-132.88 (18C, 3 aromatic rings), 149.55 and 151.58 (2C, $HC=N$), 160.46 (1C, $ph-C=N$), 160.70 (1C, $H_2C-C=N$), 174.20 (1C, $N=C-S$), and 183.02 (1C, $N=C-SH$).

4- [(E)-(4-chlorobenzylidene)amino]-5-[[4-((E)-(4-chlorobenzylidene)amino)-5-phenyl-4H-1, 2, 4-triazol-3-yl)sulfanyl]methyl]-4H-1, 2, 4-triazole-3-thiol (6d)

FT-IR (cm^{-1}): 3047, 1624, 2560, 821, and 497 attributed to CH-arom., C=N group, S-H, 1, 4-disubstituted benzene ring, C-Cl, respectively.

1H NMR (δ/ppm): 4.67 (2H, s, CH_2), 7.16-7.91 (13H, m, CH of three aromatic rings), (8.09 and 9.95) for both (1H, s, $N=CH$), and 13.85 (1H, s, SH).

^{13}C NMR (δ/ppm): 33.06 (1C, CH_2), 126.60-144.36 (18C, 3 aromatic rings), 144.94 and 155.61 (2C, $HC=N$), 156.39 (1C, $ph-C=N$), 160.54 (1C, $H_2C-C=N$), 168.55 (1C, $N=C-S$), and 179.14 (1C, $N=C-SH$).

4- [(E)-(4-nitrobenzylidene)amino]-5-[[4-((E)-(4-nitrobenzylidene)amino)-5-phenyl-4H-1, 2, 4-triazol-3-yl)sulfanyl]methyl]-4H-1, 2, 4-triazole-3-thiol (6e)

FT-IR (cm^{-1}): 2999, 1608, 2762, (1500, 1485), 848, and (1346, 1439) attributed to CH-arom., C=N, CH-aliph., C=C, 1, 4-disubstituted benzene ring, NO_2 , respectively

4- [(E)-{ (3-[[4-((E)-(4-hydroxybenzylidene)amino)-5-mercapto-4H-1, 2, 4-triazol-3-yl)methyl]sulfanyl]-5-phenyl-4H-1, 2, 4-triazol-4-yl)imino]methyl]phenol (6f)

FT-IR (cm^{-1}): 3450, 3062, 1624, and 833 attributed to O-H bond, C=N, CH-arom., and 1, 4-disubstituted benzene ring, respectively.

1H NMR (δ/ppm): 4.98 (2H, s, CH_2), 7.11-8.03 (13H, m, CH of three aromatic rings), (9.53 and 9.60) for both (1H, s, OH), (9.89, 9.98) for both (1H, s, $CH=N$), and 13.97 (1H, s, SH).

^{13}C NMR (δ/ppm): 34.05 (1C, CH_2), 112.08-144.79 (18C, 3 aromatic rings), 153.57 and 154.05 (2C, $HC=N$), 164.74 (1C, $ph-C=N$), 167.16 (1C, $H_2C-C=N$), 169.65 (1C, $N=C-S$), and 180.05 (1C, $N=C-SH$).

4- [(E)-(4-methoxybenzylidene)amino]-5-[[4-((E)-(4-methoxybenzylidene)amino)-5-phenyl-4H-1, 2, 4-triazol-3-yl)sulfanyl]methyl]-4H-1, 2, 4-triazole-3-thiol (6g)

FT-IR (cm^{-1}): 3053, 2628, 1600, (1504, 1485), 833, and 547, attributed to CH-arom., S-H, C=N, C=C, 1, 4-disubstituted benzene ring, and C-S, respectively; 1350, 1161 for $CH_{3bend.}$, and C-O, respectively.

4- [(E)-(4-methylbenzylidene)amino]-5-[[4-((E)-(4-methylbenzylidene)amino)-5-phenyl-4H-1, 2, 4-triazol-3-yl)sulfanyl]methyl]-4H-1, 2, 4-triazole-3-thiol (6h)

FT-IR (cm^{-1}): 3072, 1604, (1500, 1485), 1354, and 810 attributed to CH-arom., C=N, C=C arom., $CH_{3bend.}$, and 1, 4-disubstituted benzene ring, respectively.

4- [(E)-(4-(dimethylamino)benzylidene)amino]-5-[[4-((E)-(4-(dimethylamino)benzylidene)amino)-5-phenyl-4H-1, 2, 4-triazol-3-yl)sulfanyl]methyl]-4H-1, 2, 4-triazole-3-thiol (6i)

FT-IR (cm^{-1}): 3078, 1597, (1500, 1485), 1350, 1165, and 813 attributed to CH-arom., C=N, C=C, $CH_{3bend.}$, C-N, and 1, 4-disubstituted benzene ring respectively.

4- [(E)-(2-aminobenzylidene)amino]-5-[[4-((E)-(2-aminobenzylidene)amino)-5-phenyl-4H-1, 2, 4-triazol-3-yl)sulfanyl]methyl]-4H-1, 2, 4-triazole-3-thiol (6j)

FT-IR (cm^{-1}): (3244, 3394), 3035, 2560, and 1604 attributed to NH_2 , CH-arom., S-H, and C=N, respectively.

Biological Activity

The antibacterial effect of synthesized compounds was examined on the two types of bacteria using the concentrations (5, 10, 25, 50) $\mu g/mL$. Results are visualized in figures 1 and 2. All compounds including Amoxicillin as a reference have MIC of (5 $\mu g/mL$) towards (gram -ve bacteria, *E. coli*) and (gram +ve bacteria, *S. aureus*). As expected, results revealed that most of studied compounds display high antibacterial activity against both kinds of bacteria, especially against *E.Coli*. Generally, the antibacterial activity increased with increasing compound concentration. Particularly, Compounds 5, 6f, and 6j have been indicated as the most effective candidates against *S.Aureus*, while the highest antibacterial activity against *E. Coli* have been revealed by compounds 6d, 6f, and 6j. In this study, benzene ring substitution has been proved as the most crucial factor to determine the antibacterial activity.

There is a relationship between the antibacterial ability of triazole antibiotics and the formation of a stable complex between cleaved DNA and topoisomerase. This effect has a considerable harmful consequence for the cell ability to handle

with DNA damage by drug [18]. The most effective factors in the DNA damage might be the geometrical structures of compounds and the substituent's on the compounds [19].

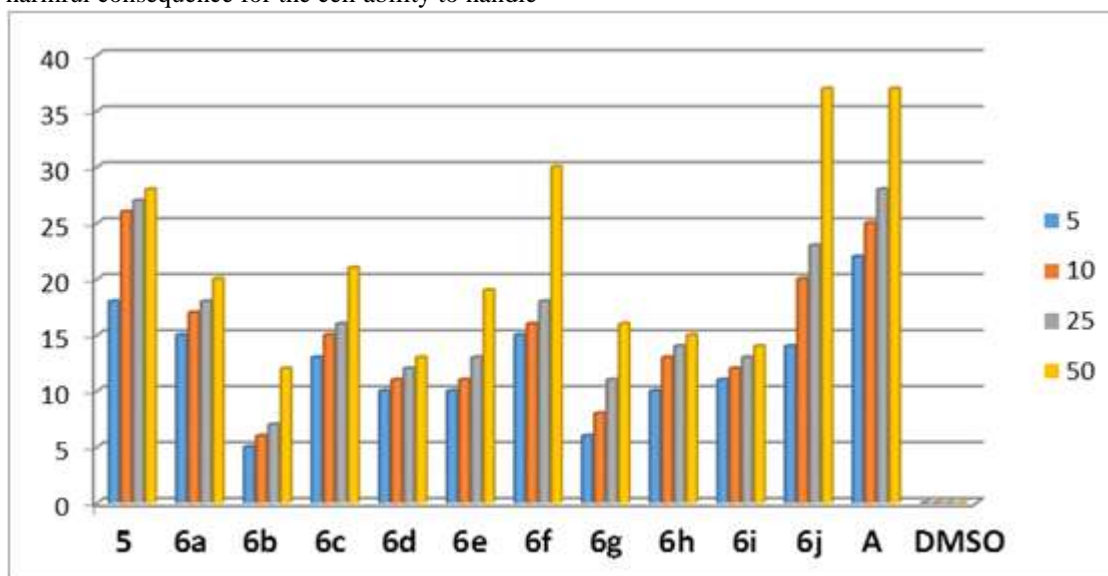


Figure 1: Inhibition zones in (mm) for compounds 5, 6 (a-j) against *S. aureus*, amoxicillin as reference; concentrations = 5, 10, 25, 50 (µg/mL), DMSO is the solvent

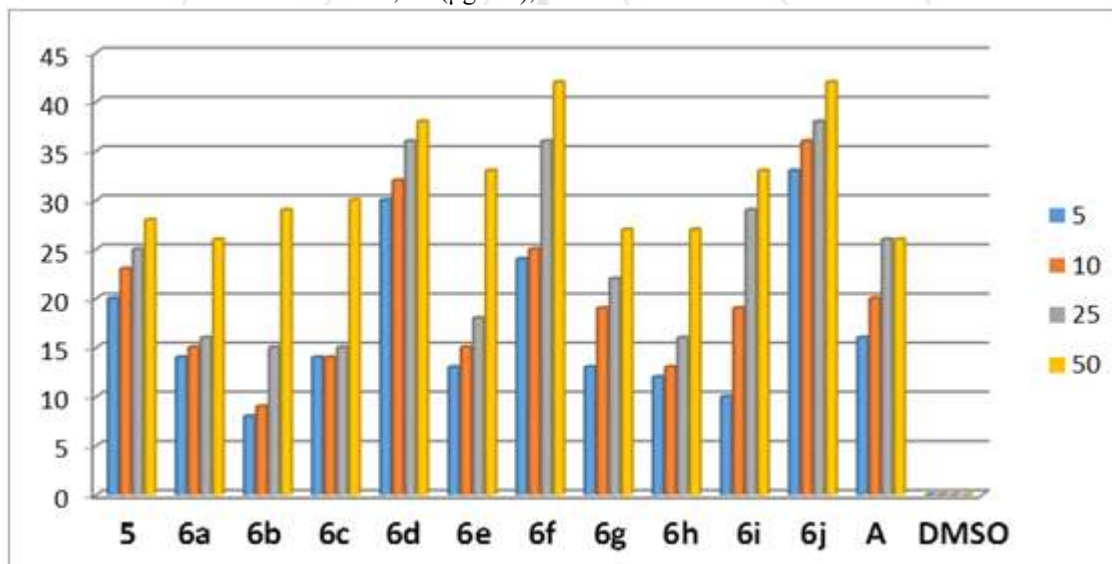


Figure 2: Inhibition zones in (mm) for compounds 5, 6 (a-j) against *E. coli*, amoxicillin as reference; concentrations = 5, 10, 25, 50 (µg/mL), DMSO is the solvent

4. Conclusions

Generally, most of synthesized compounds showed excellent antimicrobial activity towards both bacteria: (gram -ve, *E. coli*) and (gram +ve, *S. aureus*) that might be due to their bis-functional character. Thereupon, compounds **6f** with *p*-hydroxy and **6j** with *p*-dimethylamino substituent's were the most active against both bacteria and compound **6d** with chloro substituent against *E. coli*. As expected, it is indicated

that ring substitution was the most significant effect on the antibacterial potentiality of the designed bis-heterocyclic compounds.

5. Acknowledgment

The Authors thank the department of biotechnology of the College of Science Baghdad University and the department of

chemistry of the College of Science Al-Nahrain University for support and providing all required accomplishing this work.

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