Utility of thiocarbamoyl moiety in synthesis of some new sulphur containing heterocyclic compounds and evaluation of their antimicrobial activity

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ARTICLE INFORMATION

DOI: 10.5155/eurjchem.5.2.296-304.1001

Received: 09 December 2013
Received in revised form: 08 January 2014
Accepted: 28 January 2014
Online: 30 June 2014

KEYWORDS

Thiazoles
Thiophene
Thiocarbamoyl
Antimicrobial activity
Cyclic dithio compounds
N,N'-(1,4-phenylene)bis(2-cyanoacetamide)

ABSTRACT

The reaction of N,N’-(1,4-phenylene)bis(2-cyanoacetamide) (1) with phenyl isothiocyanate gave thiocarbamoyl derivative 3, which reacted with α-halocarbonyl compounds in a mixture of ethanol:N,N-dimethylformamide in the presence of triethylamine to afford thiazoles 4, 7, 10 and thiophene 12 derivatives. While, when the same reaction was refluxed in a mixture of ethanol:N,N-dimethylformamide only afforded the acyclic compounds 5, 6, 8 and 11, which when refluxed in N,N-dimethylformamide in presence of triethylamine gave the corresponding above thiazole and thiophene derivatives. Moreover, the reaction of compound 3 with dihalo compounds afforded cyclic dithio derivatives 13a, 13b and 14. The newly synthesized compounds were characterized by analytical, spectral data and evaluation of their antimicrobial activities of 4, 7, 14 and 15 have a high antimicrobial activity.

1. Introduction

Aryl isothiocyanates are versatile reagents that have been used as synthetic intermediates to prepare biologically active heterocyclic compounds [1]. The diversity of biological and physiological activities of several organic sulfur heterocycles may be attributed to the presence of the N=S fragment, characteristic of thiazoles, thiazolines and thiazolidines [2]. These are known to exhibit pesticidal [3], anticonvulsant [4], nematicidal [5], herbicidal [6], antiviral [7], fungicidal [8], bactericidal [9,10], antiprotozoal [11], and hypoglycemic activity [12]. They are also act as chemotherapeutic agents. This encouraged us to design a specific program aimed at the synthesis of several new derivatives of these ring systems.

The present work outlines the chemistry of thiocarbamoyl derivatives not all but the most important in the synthesis of heterocyclic compounds. The vast majority of thiocarbamoyl derivatives have been the subject of many studies, for the preparation of potentially biologically active compounds and for some industrial uses [13-15]. In this work, the utility of the title compounds in heterocyclic synthesis has been studied.

We have been particularly interested to study if reactions of such thiocarbamoyl might be extended to include a more general synthesis of other classes of organic compounds and its utility as synthetic intermediate for the synthesis of new heterocyclic compounds. The present work, reports on the synthesis of several new thiazole and thiophene derivatives by the reaction of thiocarbamoyl of the type 3 with compounds containing an active methylene group in the presence of a base. Reactions of this type have not been reported previously, but were found to give products in excellent yields under very mild conditions.

Moreover, in continuation of the previously reported work [16,17] the resulting thiazole and thiophene derivatives have latent functional substituents, which have potential for further chemical transformations and new routes for the preparation of substituted thiazole and thiophene derivatives. Now, we have extended our synthetic program to the synthesis of otherwise inaccessible heterocyclic ring system, utilizing phenyl isothiocyanate as a key starting material. It is known that a great variety of reactants bearing the N=S fragment undergo cyclization on reaction with α-halocarbonyl compounds to afford thiones [18-22], thiazoles, 2,3-dihydro thiazoles [4], which have been shown to exhibit antiprotozoal [11], and fungicidal properties [8].

2. Experimental

2.1. Instrumentation

All melting points are recorded on Gallenkamp electric melting point apparatus and are uncorrected.
The IR spectra (KBr) were recorded on Perkin Elmer Infrared Spectrophotometer Model 157, Grating. The 1H and 13C NMR spectra were run on Varian Spectrophotometer at 300 and 75 MHz, respectively, using tetramethylsilane (TMS) as an internal reference and DMSO-d6 as solvent. The mass spectra (EI) were recorded on 70 eV with Kratos MS equipment and/or a Varian MAT 311 A spectrometer. Elemental analyses (C, H and N) were carried out at the micro analytical center of Cairo University, Giza, Egypt, the results were found to be in good agreement (±0.3%) with the calculated values.

2.2. Synthesis

2.2.1. Synthesis of (2z,2’z)-N,N’-(1,4-phenylene)bis(2-cyano-3-mercapto-3-(phenylamino)acrylamide) (3)

To a solution of compound 1 (2.4 g, 0.01 mol), in DMF (30 mL), and phenyl isothiocyanate (3 mL, 0.02 mol) in presence of triethylamine (4 drops), was refluxed for 4 h. The reaction mixture was poured onto crushed ice. The obtained solid product was collected by filtration, washed, dried and crystallized from ethanol to give compound 3 (Scheme 1).

Scheme 1

2.2.2. Synthesis of (2z,2’z)-N,N’-(1,4-phenylene)bis(2-cyano-3-(4-diphenylthiazol-2(3H)-ylidene)acetamide) (4)

Method A: A solution of compound 3 (5.12 g, 0.01 mol), in a mixture of EtOH:DMF (2:1, v:v) (30 mL), and phenacyl bromide (4 g, 0.02 mol), in presence of triethylamine (4 drops), was refluxed for 4 h. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool, poured onto crushed ice. The obtained solid product was collected by filtration, washed, dried and crystallized from ethanol to give compound 4 (Scheme 2).

Method B: A solution of compound 5 (7.48 g, 0.01 mol), in DMF (30 mL), in presence of triethylamine (4 drops), was refluxed for 4 h. The reaction mixture was poured onto crushed ice. The obtained solid product was collected by filtration, washed, dried and crystallized from ethanol to give compound 4.

(2z,2’z)-N,N’-(1,4-phenylene)bis(2-cyano-3-(4-diphenylthiazol-2(3H)-ylidene)acetamide) (4): Color: Yellow powder. Yield: 90%. M.p.: 272 °C. IR (KBr, ν/cm⁻¹): 3284 (NH), 3054 (CH₂), 2170 (CN), 1581 (CONH), 1552 (C=C). 1HNMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d6, δ, ppm): 3.72 (s, 2H, 2NHPh), 4.30 (s, 4H, 2CH₂), 7.23–7.45 (m, 20H, Ar-H), 7.33–7.46 (dd, 4H, Ar-H AB system), 9.50 (s, 2H, 2NHCO). 13C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d6, δ, ppm): 32.9 (2C, Ar-C), 126 (2C, Ar-C), 129 (2C, Ar-C), 131 (2C, Ar-C), 132 (2C, Ar-C), 139 (2C, Ar-C), 140 (4C, Ar-C), 146 (2C, Ar-C), 148 (2C, Ar-C), 150 (2C, Ar-C), 152 (2C, Ar-C), 154 (2C, Ar-C), 156 (2C, Ar-C), 158 (2C, Ar-C). LC–MS (m/z %): 712 (M⁺, 2), 689 (2), 428 (5), 368 (7), 343 (5), 319 (9), 294 (95), 276 (24), 217 (24), 134 (31), 77 (100). Anal. calcd. for C₄₂H₂₈N₆O₂S₂ (712.17): C, 70.77; H, 3.96; N, 11.81; O, 4.50; S, 9.01%.

2.2.3. Synthesis of (2z,2’z)-N,N’-(1,4-phenylene)bis(2-cyano-3-(2-oxo-2-phenylethyl)thio)-3-(phenylamino)acrylamide) (5), (2Z,2’Z)-N,N’-(1,4-phenylene)bis(2-cyano-3-((cyano methyl)thio)-3-(phenylamino)acrylamide) (9) and (2Z,2’Z)-N,N’-(1,4-phenylene)bis(2-cyano-3-(2-oxopropyl)thio)-3-(phenylamino)acrylamide) (11)

General procedure: A solution of compound 2 (0.01 mol), in a mixture of EtOH:DMF (2:1, v:v) (30 mL), and phenacyl bromide (4 g, 0.02 mol) and/or chloroacetonitrile (1.4 g, 0.02 mol) and/or chloroacetonitrile (1.5 g, 0.02 mol) was stirred 4–6 h. The reaction mixture was poured onto crushed ice. The obtained solid product was collected by filtration, washed, dried and crystallized from ethanol to give compounds 5, 9 and 11, respectively (Scheme 2).

(2Z,2’Z)-N,N’-(1,4-phenylene)bis(2-cyano-3-(2-oxo-2-phenylethyl)thio)-3-(phenylamino)acrylamide) (5): Color: Yellow powder. Yield: 30%. M.p.: 185 °C. IR (KBr, ν/cm⁻¹): 3295 (NH), 2925 (CH₂), 2186 (CN), 1649 (CONH), 1599 (C=C). 1HNMR (300MHz, DMSO-d6, δ, ppm): 3.72 (s, 2H, 2NHPh), 4.30 (s, 2H, 2CH₂), 7.23–7.46 (m, 20H, Ar-H), 7.31–7.45 (dd, 4H, Ar-H AB system), 9.70 (s, 2H, 2NHCO).
13C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d6, δ ppm): 192 (C, CO-Ph), 171 (C, C-S), 162 (2C, CO-NH), 136 (4C, Ar-C), 133 (4C, Ar-C), 129 (4C, Ar-C), 126 (4C, Ar-C), 124 (4C, Ar-C), 123 (4C, Ar-C), 122 (2C, Ar-C), 120 (4C, Ar-C), 118 (2C, CN), 71 (2C, C-CN), 38 (2C, CH-S). LC-MS (m/z): 748 (M+), 746 (4), 744 (10), 732 (17), 713 (4), 680 (4), 391 (4), 376 (6), 276 (36), 172 (11), 135 (19), 77 (100). Anal. calcld. for C24H23N6O5S2: C, 59.59; H, 4.45; N, 12.27; O, 14.02; S, 9.36. Found: C, 59.59; H, 4.45; N, 12.27; O, 14.02; S, 9.36.

**2.2.4. Synthesis of diethyl 2,2',4,4',6,6'-hexachloro-3,3',5,5'-tetrachloro-1,1-dicyano-1,2-diphenylpropene (2) (Scheme 2)**

To a solution of compound 2 (0.01 mol), in a mixture of EtOH:DMF (2:1, v/v) (30 mL), ethyl chloroacetate (1.75 mL, 0.02 mol) or ethyl bromoacetate (2.3 mL, 0.02 mol) or chloroacetic acid (1.35 mL, 0.02 mol) or chloroacetyl chloride (1.6 mL, 0.02 mol) was added and stirred for 4 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was then poured onto crushed ice. The obtained solid product was collected by filtration, washed, dried and crystallized from ethanol to give compounds 6 and 8, respectively (Scheme 3).

**Diethyl 2,2'(((1Z,1'Z)-(1,4-phenylenebis(azanediyl)) bis(2-cyano-3-oxo-1-(phenylamino)prop-1-ene-3-diyi))bis(sulfanediyl))diacetate (6):** Color: Brown powder. Yield: 90%. M.p.: 272 °C. IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3401 (NHPh), 3322 (NH), 2200 (COCl), 1600 (CONH), 1594 (C=C). 'H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d6, δ ppm): 1.21 (t, 6H, 2CH3), 3.92 (s, 2H, 2NHPh), 4.00 (s, 4H, 2CH2), 7.06-7.11 (m, 14H, Ar-H), 9.69 (s, 2H, 2NHCO). LC-MS (m/z): 684 (M+), 682 (86), 677 (96), 669 (92), 659 (57), 571 (57), 511 (46), 496 (40), 422 (16), 376 (18), 231 (28), 224 (20), 215 (76), 190 (44), 169 (19), 150 (100), 143 (55), 122 (20), 117 (55), 92 (64), 78 (98), 65 (69), 51 (90). Anal. calcd. for C42H32N6O4S2: C, 54.09; H, 3.30; Cl, 10.69; N, 12.65; O, 14.02; S, 9.65.

**2,2'-(((1Z,1'Z)-(1,4-phenylenebis(azanediyl))bis(2-cyano-3-oxo-1-(phenylamino)prop-1-ene-3-diyi))bis(sulfanediyl))diacetate (8):** Color: Orange powder. Yield: 50%. M.p.: 160 °C. IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3408 (NHPh), 3318 (NH), 2922 (CH2), 1745 (COCl), 1655 (CONH), 1594 (C=C). 'H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d6, δ ppm): 1.21 (t, 6H, 2CH3), 3.92 (s, 2H, 2NHPh), 4.00 (s, 4H, 2CH2), 7.06-7.11 (m, 14H, Ar-H), 9.69 (s, 2H, 2NHCO). LC-MS (m/z): 684 (M+), 682 (86), 677 (96), 669 (92), 659 (57), 571 (57), 511 (46), 496 (40), 422 (16), 376 (18), 231 (28), 224 (20), 215 (76), 190 (44), 169 (19), 150 (100), 143 (55), 122 (20), 117 (55), 92 (64), 78 (98), 65 (69), 51 (90). Anal. calcd. for C42H32N6O4S2: C, 54.09; H, 3.30; Cl, 10.69; N, 12.65; O, 14.02; S, 9.65.

**2.2.5. Synthesis of (2z,2'z)-N,N'-(1,4-phenylenebis(azanediyl))bis(2-cyano-3-oxo-1-phenylthiazolidin-2-ylidene)acetamid (7):**

Method A: A solution of compound 3 (5.12 g, 0.01 mol), in a mixture of EtOH:DMF (2:1, v/v) (30 mL), and chloroacetyl chloride (1.6 mL, 0.02 mol) and/or ethyl chloroacetate (1.75 mL, 0.02 mol) and/or ethyl bromoacetate (2.3 mL, 0.02 mol) and/or chloroacetic acid (1.35 mL, 0.02 mol), in the presence of triethylamine (4 drops), was refluxed for 4 h (Scheme 3).
The reaction mixture was allowed to cool, poured onto crushed ice. The obtained solid product was collected by filtration, washed, dried and crystallized from ethanol to give compound 7.

Method B: A solution of compound 6 or 8 (0.01 mol) in DMF (30 mL), in presence of triethylamine (4 drops), was refluxed 4 h. The reaction mixture was poured onto crushed ice. The obtained solid product was collected by filtration, washed, dried and crystallized from ethanol to give compound 7.

(2z,2′z)-N,N′-(1,4-phenylene)bis(2-cyano-2-(4-oxo-3-phenyl thiazolidin-2-ylidene)acetamide) (7): Color: Brown powder. Yield: 90%. M.p.: 247 °C. IR (KBr, ν, cm⁻¹): 3401 (NH), 2194 (CN), 1735 (CO), 1650 (CONH). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ, ppm): 3.97 (s, 4H, 2CH₂), 7.23-7.55 (m, 14H, Ar-H), 9.28 (s, 2H, 2NHCO). LM-CS (m/z): 594 (M⁺, 10), 538 (2), 451 (24), 374 (17), 348 (18), 266 (10), 215 (13), 174 (11), 134 (59), 127 (12), 77 (100). Anal. calcd. for C₃₀H₂₀N₆O₄S₂: C, 60.80; H, 3.42; N, 18.97; O, 5.45; S, 10.88.

2.2.6. Synthesis of (2Z,2′Z)-N,N′-(1,4-phenylene)bis(2-(4-amino-3-phenylthiazol-2(3H)-ylidene)-2-cyanoacetamide) (10)

Method A: A solution of compound 3 (5.12 g, 0.01 mol) in a mixture of EtOH:DMF (2:1, v/v) (30 mL) containing few drops of triethylamine (4 drops) was treated with chloroacetonitrile (1.5 g, 0.02 mol). The reaction mixture was refluxed for 6 h, and allowed to cool, poured onto crushed ice. The solid product was collected by filtration, washed, dried and crystallized from ethanol to give compound 10 (Scheme 4).

Method B: A solution of compound 9 (5.9 g, 0.01 mol) in DMF (30 mL), in presence of triethylamine (4 drops), was refluxed 6 h. The reaction mixture was poured onto crushed ice. The obtained solid product was collected by filtration, washed, dried and crystallized from ethanol to give compound 10.

(2Z,2′Z)-N,N′-(1,4-phenylene)bis(2-(4-amino-3-phenylthiazol-2(3H)-ylidene)-2-cyanoacetamide) (10): Color: Green powder. Yield: 78%. M.p.: 270 °C. IR (KBr, ν, cm⁻¹): 3399 (NH), 2197 (CN), 1650 (CO). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ, ppm): 1.21 (s, 4H, 2NH₂), 4.11 (s, 2H, 2CH), 7.02-7.56 (m, 14H, Ar-H), 9.63 (s, 2H, 2NHCO). LM-CS (m/z): 590 (M⁺, 10), 538 (2), 451 (24), 374 (17), 348 (18), 266 (10), 215 (13), 174 (11), 134 (59), 127 (12), 77 (100). Anal. calcd. for C₃₀H₂₀N₆O₄S₂: C, 60.95; H, 3.77; N, 18.95; O, 5.45; S, 10.88.

2.2.7. Synthesis of N,N′-(1,4-phenylene)bis(5-acetyl-4-amino-2-(phenylamino)thiophene-3-carboxamide) (12)

Method A: A solution of compound 3 (5.12 g, 0.01 mol) in a mixture of EtOH:DMF (2:1, v/v) (30 mL) containing few drops of triethylamine (4 drops) was treated with chloroacetonitrile (1.5 g, 0.02 mol). The reaction mixture was refluxed for 4h, allowed to cool, poured onto crushed ice. The solid product was collected by filtration, washed, dried and crystallized from ethanol to give compound 12 (Scheme 5).

Method B: A solution of compound 11 (6.26 g, 0.01 mol) in DMF (30 mL), in presence of triethylamine (4 drops), was refluxed 4 h. The reaction mixture was poured onto crushed ice. The obtained solid product was collected by filtration, washed, dried and crystallized from ethanol to give compound 12.

N,N′-(1,4-phenylene)bis(5-acetyl-4-amino-2-(phenylamino)thiophene-3-carboxamide) (12): Color: Brown powder. Yield: 70%. M.p.: 234 °C. IR (KBr, ν, cm⁻¹): 3270 (NH), 2191 (CN). 1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ, ppm): 2.50 (s, 6H, 2CH₃), 7.11 (s, 4H, 2NH₂), 7.36-7.63 (m, 14H, Ar-H), 9.72 (s, 2H, 2NHPh), 9.78 (s, 2H, 2NHCO).
2.2.8. Synthesis of (2z,2z’)-N,N’-(1,4-phenylene)bis(2-cyano-3-(methyldieno)-3-(phenylamino)acrylamide) derivatives (13a, 13b and 14)

To a solution of compound 2 (0.01 mol), in DMF (30 mL) in presence of alcoholic KOH (10%) (formed from 0.56 g KOH + 100 mL EtOH), 1,3-dibromopropane (2 mL, 0.02 mol) or 1,2-bis(bromomethyl) benzene (2.6 mL, 0.02 mol) was added and stirred overnight at room temperature. The reaction mixture was poured onto crushed ice. The obtained solid product was collected by filtration, washed, dried and crystallized from ethanol to give compounds 13a, 13b and 14 (Scheme 6).

(42,112Z)-3,13-dioxo-5,11-bis(phenylamino)-6,10-dithia-14-diaza-1-(1,4)-benzenacyclotetradecaphane-4,11-diene-4,12-dicarbonitrile (13a): Color: Green powder. Yield: 90%. M.p.: 170 °C. IR (KBr, ν, cm⁻¹): 3303 (NHPh), 3282 (NHCO), 2192 (CN), 1644 (CO). 1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d6): δ, ppm: 7.21-7.55 (m, 14H, Ar-H), 7.14-7.40 (m, 14H, Ar-H), 7.60 (d, 4H, Ar-H, AB system). 1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d6, 8 ppm): 3.86 (s, 4H, 2CH$_2$), 7.14-7.40 (m, 14H, Ar-H), 7.60 (d, 4H, Ar-H, AB system). 1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d6): 9.41 (s, 2H, 2NHPh). 7.23-7.43 (m, 14H, Ar-H), 9.41 (s, 2H, 2NHPh). 7.23-7.43 (m, 14H, Ar-H), 9.41 (s, 2H, 2NHPh). 7.23-7.43 (m, 14H, Ar-H), 9.41 (s, 2H, 2NHPh).

2.2.9. Synthesis of (2z,2z’)-N,N’-(1,4-phenylene)bis(2-cyano-3-(2,6-diaminopyrimidin-4-ylthio)-3-(phenylamino)acrylamide) (15)

To a solution of compound 2 (0.01 mol), in a mixture of DMF:acetone (1:2, v/v) (30 mL), in presence of potassium carbonate (1.38 g, 0.01 mol), and 6-chloro-2,4-diamino pyrimidine (3 mL, 0.02 mol) was refluxed 5 h. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool, poured onto crushed ice. The obtained solid product was collected by filtration, washed, dried and crystallized from ethanol to give compound 15 (Scheme 6). Color: Green powder. Yield: 73%. M.p.: 155 °C. IR (KBr, ν, cm⁻¹): 3397 (NH$_2$), 3315 (NH$_2$), 3282 (NHPh), 3195 (NH$_2$), δ, ppm: 4.10 (s, 2H, 2NHPh), 5.86 (s, 2H, 2CH$_2$-). 1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d6, 8 ppm): 4.10 (s, 2H, 2NHPh), 5.86 (s, 2H, 2CH$_2$-). 1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d6, 8 ppm): 4.10 (s, 2H, 2NHPh), 5.86 (s, 2H, 2CH$_2$-). 1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d6, 8 ppm): 4.10 (s, 2H, 2NHPh), 5.86 (s, 2H, 2CH$_2$-). 1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d6, 8 ppm): 4.10 (s, 2H, 2NHPh), 5.86 (s, 2H, 2CH$_2$-). 1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d6): 614 (M+ 7, 302 (2), 97 (92), 91 (89), 79 (41), 76 (29), 69 (91), 60 (100). Anal. calcd. for C$_{32}$H$_{28}$N$_{6}$O$_{4}$S$_{2}$ (624.16): C, 61.52; H, 4.62; N, 14.83; O, 5.65; S, 11.33.

2.3. Antimicrobial studies

The disks of Whatman filter paper were prepared with standard size (5.0 mm diameter) and kept into 1.0 oz screw capped wide mouthed containers for sterilization. These bottles are kept into hot air oven at temperature of 150 °C. Then, the standard sterilized filter disks impregnated with a solution of the test compound in DMF (1 mg/mL) were placed on nutrient agar plate seeded with the appropriate test organism in triplicates.
Standard concentrations of 10^6 CFU/mL (Colon Forming Units/mL) and 10^4 CFU/mL were used for antibacterial and antifungal assay, respectively. Pyrex glass Petri dishes (9 cm in diameter) were used and two disks of filter paper were inoculated in each plate. The utilized test organisms were: *B. subtilis* and *B. thuringiensis* as examples of Gram-positive bacteria and *E. coli* and *P. aeruginosa* as examples of Gram-negative bacteria. They were also evaluated for their in vitro antifungal potential against *F. oxysporum* and *B. fabae* fungal strains. Chloramphenicol, cephalothin and cycloheximide were used as standard antibacterial and antifungal agents, respectively. DMF alone was used as control at the same above-mentioned concentration and due this there was no visible change in bacterial growth. The plates were incubated at 37 °C for 24 h for bacteria and for 48 h for fungi. Compounds that showed significant growth inhibition zones (>14 mm) using the twofold serial dilution technique, were further evaluated for their minimal inhibitory concentrations (MICs).

### 2.4. Minimal inhibitory concentration (MIC) measurement

The microdilution susceptibility test in Müller-Hinton Broth (Oxoid) and Sabouraud Liquid Medium (Oxoid) were used for the determination of antibacterial and antifungal activity, respectively. Stock solutions of the tested compounds, Chloramphenicol, cephalothin and cycloheximide were prepared in DMF at concentration of 1000 mg/mL. Each stock solution was diluted with standard method broth to prepare serial twofold dilutions in the range of 500-3,125 mg/mL. 10 mL of the broth containing about 10^5 CFU/mL of test bacteria was added to each well of 96-well microtiter plate. The sealed microplates were incubated at 37 °C for 24 h for antibacterial activity and at 37 °C for 48 h for antifungal activity in a humid chamber. At the end of the incubation period, the minimal inhibitory concentrations (MIC) values were recorded as the lowest concentrations of the substance that had no visible turbidity. Control experiments with DMF and uninoculated media were run parallel to the test compounds under the same conditions. The substance that had no visible turbidity. Control experiments with DMF and uninoculated media were run parallel to the test compounds under the same conditions.

### 3. Results and discussion

#### 3.1. Chemistry

In this work, we describe generally applicable extension of this synthetic approach, first was reported by Hantzsch and Weber [23]. Thus, the base catalyzed reaction of the acidic methylene compound 1 with phenyl isothiocyanate in dry N,N-dimethylformamide at room temperature in basic medium led to the formation of the non-isolable intermediate 2 which gave thiohydroxyamoyl derivative 3 upon treatment with dilute HCl (Scheme 1). Assignment of the product 3 was based on elemental and spectral analysis. The IR spectrum showed absorption bands at 3403, 3291, 2185, 1593 and 1233 cm⁻¹ attributable to the NHPh, amide NH, CN, CO and C=C functions, respectively. Its ¹H NMR spectrum revealed two singlet signals at δ 3.84 and 4.25 ppm for CH and NHPh protons, multiplet signals at δ 7.02-7.78 ppm for aromatic protons and singlet signal at δ 9.75 ppm for NH proton.

Compound 3 also undergoes cyclization upon the reaction with phenacyl bromide in a mixture of ethanol and N,N-dimethylformamide (2:1) in presence of catalytic amount of triethylamine yielding a product 4, which analyzed correctly for C₉H₁₀N₂O₃S₄. The structure 4 was inferred from its correct spectral data. Thus, the IR spectrum showed absorption bands at 3284, 2170, 1581 and 1552 cm⁻¹ corresponding to NH, CN, CO and C=C functions, respectively. Its ¹H NMR spectrum revealed singlet signal at δ 6.23 ppm for CH, multiplet signals at δ 7.23-7.45 ppm for aromatic protons and singlet signal at δ 9.60 ppm for NH proton. The structure of 4 was also confirmed by its mass spectrum which showed the molecular ion peak at m/z = 712 (M⁺, 90%) corresponding to the molecular formula C₉H₁₀N₂O₃S₄. Based on the forgoing data, structure 4 was assigned to this product. The structure 4 was further confirmed by alternative synthesis. Thus, it was found that, stirring of 2 with phenacyl bromide in a mixture of ethanol and N,N-dimethylformamide (2:1) at room temperature afforded the acyclic intermediate 5 by HBr elimination. Structure 5 was suggested for the reaction product on the basis of both elemental and spectral analyses.

The IR spectrum showed absorption bands at 3295, 2186, 1649 and 1599 cm⁻¹ corresponding to NH, CN, CO and C=C functions, respectively. Its ¹H-NMR spectrum revealed two singlet signal at δ 3.72 and 4.30 ppm for NHPh and CH₂, multiplet signals at δ 7.23-7.62 ppm for aromatic protons and singlet signal at δ 9.70 ppm for NH proton.
The structure of compound 5 was confirmed also by its mass spectrum which showed a peak at m/z = 746 (M^+ - 2, 30%).

Refluxing of compound 5 in N,N-dimethylformamide with few drops of triethylamine led to the formation of a product identical in all respects (M.p., mixed m.p., IR and ^1H NMR) to 4 (Scheme 2).

When the compound 3 was treated with ethyl chloroacetate or with ethyl bromoacetate or with chloroacetic acid or with chloroacetyl chloride in a mixture of ethanol and N,N-dimethylformamide (2:1) with few drops of triethylamine, a product 7 that analyzed for C₉H₁₀N₁O₂S was isolated in each case in good yield. While, the reaction of the intermediate 2 with ethyl chloroacetate or with ethyl bromoacetate or with chloroacetic acid in mixture of N,N-dimethylformamide and ethanol (1:2) led to the formation of compound 6. The acyclic structure 6 was established based on its IR spectrum that showed absorption bands at 3401, 3399, 2197, and 1650 cm⁻¹ attributable to the NHPh, amidic NH, CN, and COOEt functional groups, respectively. Its IR spectrum revealed bands at 3408, 3318, 2194, 1745, and 1656 cm⁻¹ related to the NHPh, NH, CO, and C=O function groups, respectively. Its IR spectrum revealed two singlet signals at δ 3.82 and 4.00 ppm for NHPh and CH₂ protons, multiplet signals at δ 7.20-7.63 ppm for aromatic protons, and singlet signal at δ 9.55 ppm for amidic NH proton. The structure of compound 6 was confirmed by its mass spectrum which showed a peak at m/z = 664 (M^+, 50%).

Refluxing of compound 8 in N,N-dimethylformamide and a catalytic amount of triethylamine led to the formation of a product identical in all respects (M.p., mixed m.p., IR and ^1H NMR) to compound 7 (Scheme 3).

Similarly, when the intermediate sodium salt of the thiazole derivative 2 is stirred with chloroacetonitrile in a mixture of ethanol and N,N-dimethylformamide (2:1) at room temperature the corresponding acyclic intermediate 9 is exclusively isolated in good yield. The structure of 9 has been confirmed on the basis of elemental and spectral data. The IR spectrum exhibits bands at 3407, 3399, 2193, 1656 and 1606 cm⁻¹ related to the NHPh, NH, CN, CO, and C=O function groups, respectively. Its IR spectrum revealed two singlet signals at δ 3.90 and 4.11 ppm corresponding to NHPh and CH₂ protons, multiplet signals at δ 9.69 ppm for aromatic protons and singlet signal at δ 3.82 ppm for NH proton. The correct structure of 9 was confirmed also by its mass spectrum which showed a peak at m/z = 591 (M^+ + 1, 20%). Furthermore, refluxing of the acyclic intermediate 9 in N,N-dimethylformamide containing a catalytic amount of triethylamine afforded the thiazole derivative 10. The thiazole derivative 10 was established based on its IR spectrum which showed bands at 3399, 2197 and 1650 cm⁻¹ related to the amidic NH, CN and
CO function groups, respectively. Its $^1$H-NMR spectrum revealed two singlet signals at δ 1.21 and 4.11 ppm for NH and CH protons, multiplet signals at δ 7.02-7.56 ppm for aromatic protons and singlet signal at δ 6.97 ppm for NH proton. The correct structure of compound 10 was also confirmed by its mass spectrum which showed a peak at $m/z = 590$ (M+, 78%). On the other hand, it has been found that compound 10 is directly formed by refluxing compound 3 with chloroaceto nitrite in a mixture of ethanol and $N,N$-dimethylformamide (2:1) in the presence of catalytic amount of triethylamine (Scheme 4).

Stirring of compound 2 with chloroaceto in a mixture of ethanol and $N,N$-dimethylformamide (2:1) at room temperature to afford the acyclic intermediate 11 by NaCl elimination. The acyclic intermediate 11 was established based on its IR spectrum which showed bands at 3279, 2924, 2184, 1723 and 1644 cm$^{-1}$ corresponding to NH, CH, CN, COCH$_3$ and CONH function group, respectively. Its $^1$H-NMR spectrum revealed three singlet signals at δ 2.10, 3.45 and 4.00 ppm for CH$_2$, NH and NHPh protons, multiplet signals at δ 7.36-7.59 ppm for aromatic protons and singlet signal at δ 9.70 ppm for amide NH proton. Also, its mass spectrum showed the molecular ion peak at $m/z = 624$ (M+, 60%) corresponding to the molecular formula C$_{31}$H$_{26}$N$_6$O$_4$S$_2$.

Reflexing of compound 11 in $N,N$-dimethylformamide in the presence of catalytic amount of triethylamine afforded the thiophene derivative 12 whose structure was confirmed by its alternative synthesis. Thus, refluxing of compound 3 with chloroaceto in a mixture of ethanol and $N,N$-dimethyl formamide (2:1) in the presence of catalytic amount of triethylamine afforded the thiophene derivative 12 in reasonably good yield. The structure 12 was established based on its IR spectrum that showed bands at 3270, 2919, 1743 and 1660 cm$^{-1}$ related to NH, CN, COCH$_3$ and CONH function groups, respectively. Its $^1$H-NMR spectrum revealed two singlet signals at δ 2.50 and 7.11 ppm for CH$_3$ and NH$_2$ protons, multiplet signals at δ 6.37-6.73 ppm and two singlet signals at δ 9.72 and 9.78 ppm for PHN and amide NH protons. Ako, its mass spectrum showed the molecular ion peak at $m/z = 724$ (M+, 70%) corresponding to the molecular formula C$_{31}$H$_{26}$N$_6$O$_4$S$_2$ (Scheme 5).

When the intermediate sodium salt 2 stirred with 1,2-dihalomopropane in $N,N$-dimethylformamide at room temperature in alcoholic potassium hydroxide, a product 13a that analyzed for C$_{31}$H$_{28}$N$_6$O$_4$S$_2$ was isolated in good yield. The structure 13a was established based on its IR spectrum that showed bands at 3303, 3284, 2925, 2192 and 1660 cm$^{-1}$ corresponding to NH$_2$, NHPh and amide NH protons, respectively. Its $^1$H-NMR spectrum revealed multiplet signals at δ 7.52-7.59 ppm attributable to CH$_2$ protons, triplet signal at δ 3.40 ppm for CH$_3$S protons, singlet signal at δ 3.68 ppm for NH$_2$ proton, multiplet signals at δ 5.63-5.73 ppm for aromatic protons and singlet signal at δ 9.11 ppm for amide NH proton. The structure of compound 13b was confirmed by its mass spectrum which showed a peak at $m/z = 569$ (M+ 90%).

Similarly, when the intermediate 2 was stirred with 1,4-dihalomutane in $N,N$-dimethylformamide at room temperature in alcoholic potassium hydroxide, a product 13b that analyzed for C$_{31}$H$_{28}$N$_6$O$_4$S$_2$ was isolated in good yield. The structure 13b was established based on its IR spectrum that showed bands at 3280, 2927, 2194 and 1631 cm$^{-1}$ related to NH$_2$, CH$_2$ and CO function groups, respectively. Its $^1$H-NMR spectrum revealed multiplet signals at δ 1.52-1.75 ppm attributable to CH$_3$ protons, triplet signal at δ 3.40 ppm for CH$_3$S protons, singlet signal at δ 4.10 ppm for NHPh proton, multiplet signals at δ 7.23-7.43 ppm for aromatic protons and singlet signal at δ 8.41 ppm for aromatic NH proton. The structure of compound 13b was confirmed by its mass spectrum which showed a peak at $m/z = 569$ (M+ 90%).

Moreover, the intermediate 2 when reacted with 1,2-bis(halomethyl)benezene in stirring $N,N$-dimethylformamide at room temperature in alcoholic potassium hydroxide, a product 14 that analyzed for C$_{31}$H$_{28}$N$_6$O$_4$S$_2$ was isolated in good yield. The structure 14 was established based on its IR spectrum that showed bands at 3401, 3259, 2925, 2192 and 1660 cm$^{-1}$ due to NHPh, amide NH, CH$_2$, CN and CO function groups, respectively. Its $^1$H-NMR spectrum revealed a singlet signal at δ 3.86 ppm attributable to CH$_3$S protons, multiplet signals at δ 7.14-7.40 ppm for aromatic protons and two singlet signal at δ 5.51 and 5.61 ppm for NHPh and amide NH protons. Its mass spectrum showed a peak at $m/z = 614$ (M+, 91%).

In addition to that mentioned above, refluxing the intermediate 2 with 6-chloro-2,4-diamino pyrimidine in a mixture of $N,N$-dimethylformamide and acetone (1:2) in the presence of potassium carbonate yielded a product 15, which analyzed correctly for C$_{31}$H$_{28}$N$_6$O$_4$S$_2$. The structure 15 was inferred from its spectral data. Thus, IR spectrum showed absorption bands at 3397, 3315, 3282, 3205, 2902 and 1641 cm$^{-1}$ corresponding to two NH$_2$, NHPh, amide NH, CN and CO functions, respectively. Its mass spectrum showed a peak at $m/z = 724$ (M+, 73%). (Scheme 6).

3.2. Antimicrobial activity

Fifteen of newly synthesized target compounds were evaluated for their in vitro antibacterial activity against Bacillus subtilis and Bacillus thuringiensis as example of Gram-positive bacteria and Escherichia coli and pseudomonas aeruginosa as examples of Gram-negative bacteria. They were also evaluated for their in vitro antifungal potential against Fusarium oxysporum and Botrytis fabae fungal strains.

Agar-diffusion method was used for the determination of the preliminary antibacterial and antifungal activity. Chloramphenicol, cephalothin and cycloheximide were used as reference drugs. The results were recorded for each tested compound as the average diameter of inhibition zones (IZ) of bacterial or fungal growth around the disks in mm. The minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) measurement was determined for compounds showed significant growth inhibition zones (>14 mm) using two fold serial dilution method [24]. The MIC (µg/mL) and inhibition zone diameters values are recorded in Table 1.

The results depicted in Table 1 revealed that the most of tested compounds displayed variable inhibitory effects on the growth of the tested Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacterial strains, and also against antifungal strain. In general most of the tested compounds showed better activity against the Gram-positive rather than the Gram-negative bacteria.

Regarding the structure-activity relationship of the thiazoles derivatives against Gram-positive bacteria, the results revealed that compounds 4, 7, 14 and 15 exhibited broad spectrum antibacterial profile against the tested organisms. Thiazoles derivatives 4 and 7 recorded higher activity than thiophene derivative 12. In this view, compounds 4, 7, 14, and 15 were equipotent to chloramphenicol in inhibiting the growth of B. subtilis (MIC 3.125 µg/mL), while its activity was 50% lower than of chloramphenicol against B. thuringiensis. Compound 12 showed 50% of the activity of chloramphenicol (MIC 6.25 µg/mL) but it was equipotent to ephedrin in inhibiting the growth of B. subtilis and B. thuringiensis (MIC 6.25 µg/mL). On the other hand, compounds 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13a and 13b exhibited moderate growth inhibitory activity against Gram-positive bacteria as revealed from their MIC values (6.25-50 µg/mL). Among these compounds 13a and 13b showed good growth inhibitory against B. subtilis (MIC 6.25 µg/mL), while compounds 5, 6, 8, 9 and 11 showed relatively good growth inhibitory profiles against B. subtilis (MIC 12.5 µg/mL) which were about 25% of the activity chloramphenicol and 50% cephalothin against the same organism.
Concerning the antibacterial activity of the compound 5 revealed weak growth inhibition against the tested Gram-negative bacteria (MIC 50 µg/mL). Regarding the activity of thiazole derivatives, against antifungal strains, the results revealed that compound 7 was 50% lower than cycloheximide inhibitory the growth of B. fabae and F. oxysporum (MIC 6.25 µg/mL), while the activity of compound 5 and 12 were 25% lower than cycloheximide against F. oxysporum (MIC 12.5 µg/mL).

The substituted pattern was also crucial. It is worth mentioning that formation of cyclic bisulphide and thiazole derivatives produced a high antimicrobial activity. On the other hand, conversion of thiocarbamoyl derivative 3 to 5, 6, 8, 9 and 11 unfortunately produced weak antimicrobial activity.

The tested compounds were more active against Gram-positive than Gram-negative bacteria, it may be concluded that the antimicrobial activity of the compounds is related to cell wall structure of the bacteria. It is possible because the cell wall is essential to survival of bacteria and some antibiotics are able to kill bacteria by inhibiting a step in the synthesis of peptidoglycan. Gram-positive bacteria possess a thick cell wall containing many layers of peptidoglycan and teichoic acids, but in contrast, Gram-negative bacteria have a relatively thin cell wall consisting of a few layers of peptidoglycan surrounded by a second lipid membrane containing lipopolysaccharides and lipoproteins. These differences in cell wall structure can produce differences in antibacterial susceptibility and some antibiotics can kill only Gram-positive bacteria and are inactive against Gram-negative pathogens [25].

4. Conclusion

The present study describes the synthesis and investigates the antimicrobial activities of some new functionalized thiazoles, thiphene and cyclic dithio derivatives with the hope of discovering new structure leads serving as antimicrobial agents.

Acknowledgements

This study was supported by Chemistry Department, Faculty of Science, Mansoura University, Egypt.

Supplementary materials

IR, 1H NMR, 13C NMR, LC-MS data for compounds 3-15. This material is available free of charge via the internet at http://www.eurjchem.com.

References