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RESEARCH LETTER

Microwave promoted a green protocol for solvent free synthesis of 1,5-benzothiazepine and [1,3,4]-thiadiazepine derivatives incorporating thiophene moiety

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An efficient and environmentally benign procedure is developed for the synthesis of 1,5-benzothiazepine and 1,2,4-triazolo[3,4-*b*][1,3,4] thiadiazepine derivatives in good to excellent yield under solvent-free microwave irradiations using silica sulfuric acid or basic alumina respectively as solid supports.

Keywords: 1,5-Benzothiazepine; 1,3,4-thiadiazepine; solvent free; microwave irradiations

Introduction

1,5-benzothiazepine moiety is a privileged class of pharmacophore, as compounds bearing this structural unit possess a broad spectrum of biological activities such as anti-convulsant, (1) Ca²⁺ channel antagonist (2,3), anti-anginal (4), anti-HIV (5), squalene synthetase inhibitor (6), V₂ arginine vasopressin receptor antagonist (7), HIV-1 reverse transcriptase inhibitor (8), etc.

Despite their importance from a pharmacological and synthetic point of view, few methods for the preparation of 1,5-benzothiazepines are reported in the literature. These include the reaction of 1,3-diarylprop-2-enones (chalcones) with 2-aminothiophenol (9). The various reported methodologies involve the use of inorganic supports at 80 °C for 3 hours (10), AcOH or DMF under microwave irradiation (11), AcOH or TFA in EtOH or toluene under reflux (12–14), AcOH in DMF or EtOH at 60 °C for 5 hours followed by keeping at room temperature for overnight (15), EtOH saturated with HCl under reflux for 3 hours (16), piperidine in toluene under reflux for 8 hours, and pyridine under reflux for 3 hours (17,18). However, these methodologies have one or more disadvantages such as the use of high boiling solvent that is difficult to recover, excess amounts of acid or base and using corrosive materials (e.g., HCl gas, TFA), etc.

Recently, an environmentally benign synthetic approach for 1,5-benzothiazepines derivatives have been reported (19) with microwave irradiation under solvent and catalyst free conditions, but the later mentioned procedure has some limitations such as low yield of reaction.

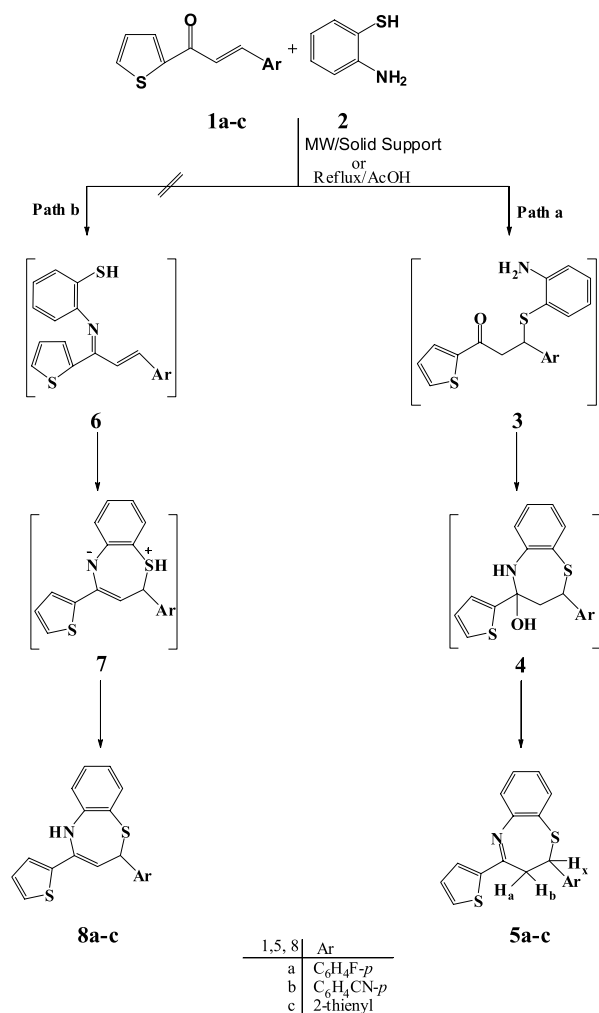
Thus, there is a necessity to develop more and more benign effective methods for the synthesis of derivatives of 1,5-benzothiazepines for biological screening purposes. Solid supported reagents have made a landmark and made significant contributions to preserve the green environment by reducing the waste effluent (20). With the development of microwave ovens, it gives remarkable rate enhancement, higher yields, greater selectivity and ease of manipulation. Motivated by the afore-mentioned findings and our ongoing endeavours (21–23) in the development of environmentally benign protocols, we now describe a microwave accelerated solid state approach for the rapid assembly of substituted thiazepine and thiadiazepine rings.

Results and discussion:

The reaction of chalcones **1a–c** with *o*-aminothiophenol (**2**) in the presence of silica-sulfuric acid was carried out without solvent under microwave irradiations afforded 2-aryl-2,3-dihydro-4-(thiophene-2-yl)-1,5-benzothiazepine derivatives **5a–c** within 60–120 second as evidenced by TLC (Scheme 1), while the same reaction carried out *via* reflux in acetic acid required 10–12 h (Table 1).

The construction of the 1,5-benzothiazepine moiety from **1a–c** and *o*-aminothiophenol (**2**) may involve two pathways: (a) conjugate addition of the sulfhydryl group of **2** to the α,β -unsaturated carbonyl group of **1a–c** leading to the intermediate formation of the thia-Michael adduct **3** which, on subsequent intramolecular nucleophilic attack by the NH₂ group on the carbonyl carbon followed by dehydration, forms the 2,3-dihydro-1,5-benzothiazepine **5a–c** (Path

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Scheme 1.

a) or (b) condensation of the amino group of **2** with the carbonyl group of **1a-c** leading to the intermediate formation of the aza-diene **6**, which on subsequent intramolecular conjugate addition by the sulfhydryl group forms the isomeric 2,5-dihydro-1,5-benzothiazepine **8a-c** (Path b) (24) (Scheme 1).

The reaction products **5a-c** that assumed to be formed *via* path a (Scheme 1) were identified by their analytical and spectral data. The other possible isomeric structures **8a-c** were excluded due to absence of NH band in the IR spectrum of reaction products

and their ¹H NMR spectra reveals no exchangeable signals due to NH proton. The structures of compounds **5a-c** were established on the basis of their spectroscopic data. The IR spectra of condensed products displayed disappearance of band at 1650–1660 cm⁻¹ due to C=O of chalcones and –SH of *o*-aminothiophenol (**2**) at 2570 cm⁻¹ and appearance of a band at 1585–1602 cm⁻¹ due to C=N. Table 1 summarize the time of reactions, yields and m.p. of products under both conventional condition (reflux in acetic acid) and microwave irradiations.

Table 1 shows that solvent free synthesis of 1,5-benzothiazepine under microwave irradiations reduced the time of reactions from several hours to minutes and improved the yields from 59–65% (under conventional conditions) to 82–89%.

In a similar manner, 1-amino-2-mercapto-5-substituted triazoles **9a,b** reacted with chalcones **1a-c** on basic alumina under microwave irradiations to afford the 7,8-dihydro-3,7-diaryl-9-(thiophen-2-yl)-[1,2,4]triazolo[3,4-*b*][1,3,4]thiadiazepine derivatives **10a-f** (Scheme 2) which was obtained in excellent yield and shorter reaction time in comparing with conventional condition (reflux in acetone in presence of K₂CO₃) as shown in Table 2.

The structure of 8,8-dihydro[1,2,4]triazolo[3,4-*b*][1,3,4]thiadiazepines derivatives **10a-f** was assigned on the basis of their elemental analyses and spectral data, for example, the ¹H NMR spectrum of compound **10a** revealed three *dd* signals at δ 3.52, 3.94 and 4.48 due to H_a, H_b and H_x protons respectively in addition to aromatic multiplet and thiophene protons at δ 6.95–7.65. The mass spectrum of the same compound revealed a peak corresponding to its molecular ion at m/z 406.

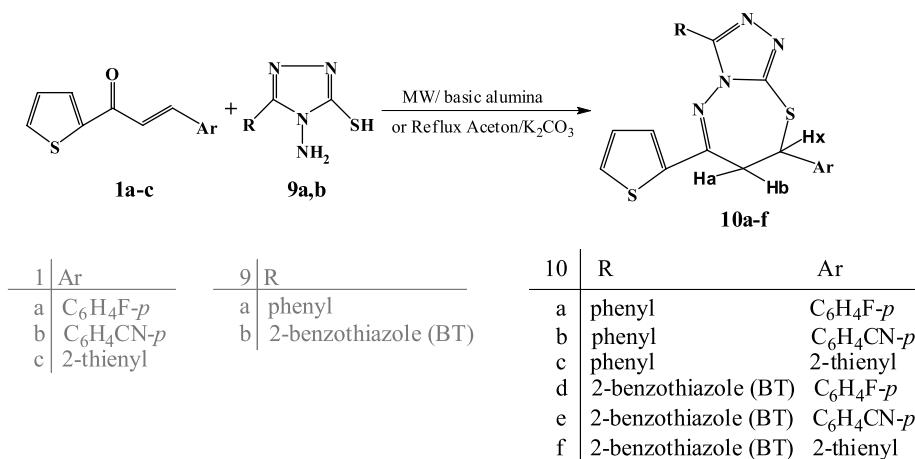
To find optimum conditions for microwave assisted solvent free synthesis of 1,5-benzothiazepines **5a-c** and 7,8-dihydro[1,2,4]triazolo[3,4-*b*][1,3,4]thiadiazepines **10a-f**, the above two reactions were studied under varying different inorganic solid supports. The results were summarized in Table 3.

The results in Table 3 indicates that (i) Silica sulfuric acid was the most effective among the solid supports tested to promote the reaction of chalcones

Table 1. Synthesis of 2,3-dihydro-1,5-benzothiazepines **5a-c** under conventional (reflux) condition and microwave irradiations.

Compound	Ar	Conventional		M.W Irrad.		M.P. (°C)
		Time (h)	Yield ^a (%)	Time (min)	Yield ^a (%)	
5a	<i>p</i> -F-Ph	10	65	1	85	208-210
5b	<i>p</i> -CN-Ph	12	59	2	82	202-204
5c	2-thienyl	12	61	1.5	89	193-195

^aYield of crude products.



Scheme 2.

1a with *o*-aminothiophenol (**2**) with highest yield in shortest time. (ii) Basic alumina was the most effective solid support to promote the reaction of 1-amino-2-mercapto-5-substituted triazoles **9a,b** and chalcones **1a** in shortest time and highest yield. All reaction times were determined by follow the reaction progress *via* thin layer chromatography (TLC).

The effect of microwave irradiation power in this reaction was also investigated. The results show that the highest yield of compound **5a** is obtained at a power of 800 W (Table 4). Hence, it's better for the reaction to be carried out at 800 W power settings.

Also, the effect of irradiation time on the reaction was studied and the results summarized in Table 5 at Irradiation power is 800 watts.

From Table 5, it is obvious that when the reaction was carried out under microwave irradiation for 1 min. highest yield of **5a** was obtained, However, no further improvement of the yield was noted when the reaction time was prolonged to 2 or 3 min. and the yield even decreased a little, a fact we attribute to the formation of byproducts.

Finally, microwave irradiations assisted solvent free synthesis of 1,5-benzothiazepines **5a-c** and 7,8-dihydro[1,2,4]triazolo[3,4-*b*][1,3,4]thiadiazepines **10a-f**,

on inorganic solid supports such as alumina or silica sulfuric acid. This method gives faster reactions, higher yields with simplified separation, these may be due to good dispersion of active site (reagent) which leads to significant improvement of reactivity–large surface area. All reactions were performed in the appropriate volume vessel with temperature monitoring.

In conclusion, a facile rapid, economic and more benign effective methodology has developed for the synthesis of new derivatives of 1,5-benzothiazepines and [1,2,4]triazolo[3,4-*b*][1,3,4]-thiadiazepines containing thiophene moiety on a solid supports under the influence of microwave irradiations, in the absence of any toxic and mineral acids, bases or organic solvent.

EXPERIMENTAL

Melting points were measured on a Gallenkamp melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. The infrared spectra were recorded in potassium bromide disks on a pye Unicam SP 3300 and Shimadzu FTIR 8101 PC infrared spectrophotometers with adsorptions in cm⁻¹. The ¹H-NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Mercury VXR-300 NMR spectrometer.

Table 2. Synthesis of 7,8-dihydro[1,2,4]triazolo[3,4-*b*][1,3,4]thiadiazepines **10a-f** under microwave irradiations.

Compound	Ar	R	Conventional		M.W. Irrad.		M.P.(°C)
			Time (h)	Yield ^a (%)	Time (min)	Yield ^a (%)	
10a	<i>p</i> -F-Ph	phenyl	14	73	6	94	195-196
10b	<i>p</i> -CN-Ph	phenyl	16	71	14	91	188-190
10c	2-thienyl	phenyl	15	70	15	90	164-166
10d	<i>p</i> -F-Ph	2-BT	15	70	25	88	80-82
10e	<i>p</i> -CN-Ph	2-BT	18	65	28	86	112-113
10f	2-thienyl	2-BT	18	67	33	83	107-109

^aYield of crude products.

Table 3. Inorganic solid supports effect on time and yield^a in the synthesis of compounds **5a**, **10a**, **10d**.

Support	Yield (%)			Time (min)		
	5a	10a	10d	5a	10a	10d
Silica sulfuric acid	85	73	71	1	9	32
Silica gel	60	58	54	60	60	80
Acidic alumina	70	62	61	60	60	80
Basic alumina	not isolated	94	88	90	6	25
Montmorillonite K ₁₀	52	51	50	90	60	80
K ₂ CO ₃	59	80	77	60	25	25
None	40	46	44	11	50	65

^aYield of crude products.

¹H spectra were run at 300 MHz in deuterated chloroform (CDCl₃) or dimethyl sulphoxide (DMSO-d₆). Chemical shifts were related to that of the solvent and expressed in ppm downfield from internal standard tetramethylsilane. Mass spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu GCMS-QP 1000 EX at 70 e.V and GC/MS finnigan SSQ 7000 spectrophotometers. Elemental analyses were carried out at the Microanalytical Center of Cairo University, Giza, Egypt.

Microwave assisted reactions were performed using modified *Amana* domestic microwave oven (2450 MHz, 800 W) under atmospheric pressure, temperature measurement is performed for all reactions with fiber optic sensors, to monitor the temperature inside the vessel, it was found that ≈ 105–110 °C. It is important to mention that using of domestic microwave in chemical reactions is potentially hazardous due to lack of safety. Therefore, it should be using only microwave reactors for chemical reactions.

The purity of compounds was checked on silica gel coated aluminum plates. Silica sulfuric acid(25), chalcones **1a-c** (26) and 1-amino-2-mercapto-5-aryl-1,3,4-triazoles **9a,b** (27) were prepared according to the reported literature.

General procedure for synthesis of 2-Aryl-2,3-dihydro-4-(thiophen-2-yl)benzo[1,5]thiazepines **5a-c**:

Method A:

A mixture of chalcones **1a**, **1b** or **1c** (20 mmol) and *o*-aminothiophenol (**2**) (24 mmol) in glacial AcOH (20

Table 4. The effect of microwave irradiation power on the formation of **5a**^a.

Irradiation power (Watt)	200	400	600	800
Yield% ^b	49	58	77	85

^aIrradiation time is 1 min.^bIsolated yield. Each reaction was repeated three times and the result was averaged.

mL) was refluxed for suitable time (as examined by TLC, see Table 1). The reaction mixture was then concentrated under vacuum and resulting precipitate was filtered, washed and recrystallized from ethanol.

Method B:

Silica sulfuric acid (1 g), was added to chalcones **1a-c** (20 mmol) and *o*-aminothiophenol (**2**) (24 mmol). The reaction mixture was mixed by grinding in a mortar and placed in an Erlenmeyer flask inside the microwave oven then irradiated at 800watt power for a suitable time (Table 1) with an interval 0.5 min. The mixture was cooled and the product was extracted with Ethanol/DMF (1:1). After evaporating the volatile materials by vacuum, compounds **5a-c** were filtered and crystallized from ethanol.

2,3-dihydro-2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-4-(thiophen-2-yl)benzo[1,5]thiazepine (5a). The pure product was obtained as white powder. IR ν: 1585 (C=N) cm⁻¹, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 2.21 (dd, 1H, *J* = 12.3, 10.1 Hz), 3.95 (dd, 1H, *J* = 12.3, 3.4 Hz), 5.01 (dd, 1H, *J* = 10.1, 3.3 Hz), 7.13–7.48 (m, 11H, ArH and thiophene protons). Ms (m/z): 339(M⁺). Anal. Calcd. for C₁₉H₁₄FNS₂: C, 67.23; H, 4.16; N, 4.13; S, 18.89. Found: C, 67.33; H, 4.21; N, 4.04; S, 18.83.

2-(4-Cyanophenyl)-2,3-dihydro-4-(thiophen-2-yl)benzo[1,5]thiazepine (5b). The pure product was obtained as dark grey powder. IR ν: 2217 (C≡N), 1598 (C=N) cm⁻¹, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 2.39 (dd, 1H, *J* = 11.8, 9.6 Hz), 4.01 (dd, 1H, *J* = 11.8, 3.9 Hz), 5.52 (dd, 1H, *J* = 9.6, 4.00 Hz), 6.59–7.78 (m, 11H,

Table 5. The effect of microwave irradiation time on the formation of **5a**^a.

Irradiation Time (min.)	1	1.5	2	3
Yield%	85	85	80	80

^aIrradiation power is 800 watt.

ArH and thiophene protons). Ms (m/z): 346(M⁺). Anal. Calcd. for C₂₀H₁₄N₂S₂: C, 69.33; H, 4.07; N, 8.09; S, 18.51. Found: C, 69.40; H, 4.11; N, 8.07; S, 18.42%

2,3-Dihydro-2,4-di(thiophen-2-yl)benzo[1,5]thiazepine (5c). The pure product was obtained as dark grey powder. IR v.: 1603 (C=N) cm⁻¹, ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 2.7 (dd, 1H, J = 12.6, 10.7 Hz), 4.25 (dd, 1H, J = 12.6, 3.3 Hz), 5.22 (dd, 1H, J = 10.7, 3.3 Hz), 7.00–7.35 (m, 10H, ArH and thiophene protons). MS (m/z): 327(M⁺). Anal. Calcd. for C₁₇H₁₃NS₃: C, 62.35; H, 4.00; N, 4.28; S, 29.37. Found: C, 62.45; H, 4.10; N, 4.17; S, 29.28.

General procedure for the synthesis of 3,8-diaryl-7,8-Dihydro-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-[1,2,4]triazolo[3,4-b][1,3,4]thiadiazepine derivatives 10a-f:

Method A:

To a solution of substituted 1,2,4-triazoles **9a** or **9b** (20 mmol) in acetone (10 ml), chalcones **1a**, **1b** or **1c** (20 mmole) and 1g of K₂CO₃ were added. The reaction mixture was refluxed for appropriate time (as examined by TLC, see Table 2). The reaction mixture was cooled, inorganic salt was filtered off and solvent was evaporated. The solid obtained was recrystallized from ethanol/DMF (1:1).

Method B:

Basic alumina (1 g) was added to the **1a-c** (20 mmol) and 1-amino-2-mercapto-5-aryl-1,3,4-triazole **9a,b** (20 mmol) and mixed by grinding in a mortar, placed in an Erlenmeyer flask inside the microwave oven then irradiated at 800 watt power for a suitable time (Table 2). The mixture was cooled and the product was extracted with ethyl acetate **10a-c** or ethanol **10 d-f**. The products were collected by evaporating the solvent and recrystallized from ethanol/DMF (1:1).

7,8-dihydro-8-(4-Fluorophenyl)-3-phenyl-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-[1,2,4]triazolo-[3,4-b][1,3,4]thiadiazepine (10a). The pure product was obtained as colorless crystal. IR v.: 1598 (C=N) cm⁻¹, ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 3.52 (dd, 1H, J = 11.8, 9.2 Hz), 3.94 (dd, 1H, J = 11.8, 4.3 Hz), 4.48 (dd, 1H, J = 9.2, 4.3 Hz), 6.95–7.56 (m, 12H, ArH and thiophene protons), MS (m/z): 406(M⁺). Anal. Calcd. for C₂₁H₁₅FN₄S₂: C, 62.05; H, 3.72; N, 13.78; S, 15.78. Found: C, 62.11; H, 3.76; N, 13.73; S, 15.73.

8-(4-Cyanophenyl)-7,8-dihydro-3-phenyl-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-[1,2,4]triazolo-[3,4-b][1,3,4]thiadiazepine (10b). The pure product was obtained as colorless

crystal IR v.: 2204 (C≡N), 1605 (C=N) cm⁻¹, ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 3.29 (dd, 1H, J = 10.4, 9.4 Hz), 4.03 (dd, 1H, J = 10.4, 5.6 Hz), 4.44 (dd, 1H, J = 9.4, 5.6 Hz), 7.19–7.87 (m, 12H, ArH's and thiophene protons), MS (m/z): 413(M⁺). Anal. Calcd. For C₂₂H₁₅N₅S₂: C, 63.90; H, 3.66; N, 16.94; S, 15.51. Found: C, 64.02; H, 3.69; N, 16.88; S, 15.42.

7,8-Dihydro-6,8-di(thiophen-2-yl)-3-phenyl-[1,2,4]triazolo[3,4-b][1,3,4]thiadiazepine (10c). The pure product was obtained as colorless crystal, IR v.: 1605 (C=N) cm⁻¹, ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 3.35 (dd, 1H, J = 11.00, 8.9 Hz), 4.03 (dd, 1H, J = 11.00, 6.1 Hz), 4.44 (dd, 1H, J = 8.9, 6.1 Hz), 6.29–7.36 (m, 11H, ArH and thiophene protons), MS (m/z): 394(M⁺). Anal. Calcd. for C₁₉H₁₄N₄S₃: C, 57.84; H, 3.58; N, 14.20; S, 24.38. Found: C, 57.90; H, 3.63; N, 14.17; S, 24.30.

3-(Benzo[d]thiazol-2-yl)-7,8-dihydro-8-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-[1,2,4]triazolo[3,4-b][1,3,4]thiadiazepine (10d). The pure product was obtained as colorless crystal. IR v.: 1585 (C=N) cm⁻¹, ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 3.05 (dd, 1H, J = 12.7, 4.4 Hz, Ha), 3.32 (dd, 1H, J = 12.7, 6.52 Hz, Hb), 4.44 (dd, 1H, J = 6.52, 4.5 Hz, Hx, CH), 7.22–7.51 (m, 11H, ArH and thiophene protons), MS (m/z): 463(M⁺). Anal. Calcd. For C₂₂H₁₄FN₅S₃: C, 57.00; H, 3.04; N, 15.11; S, 20.75. Found: C, 57.09; H, 3.12; N, 15.01; S, 20.68.

3-(Benzo[d]thiazol-2-yl)-8-(4-cyanophenyl)-7,8-dihydro-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-[1,2,4]triazolo[3,4-b][1,3,4]thiadiazepine (10e). The pure product was obtained as colorless crystal. IR v.: 2193 (C≡N), 1595 (C=N) cm⁻¹, ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 2.72 (dd, 1H, J = 13.00, 5.3 Hz), 3.02 (dd, 1H, J = 13.2, 6.9 Hz), 3.82 (dd, 1H, J = 6.9, 5.3 Hz), 7.20–8.1 (m, 11H, ArH and thiophene protons), MS (m/z): 470(M⁺). Anal. Calcd. For C₂₃H₁₄N₆S₃: C, 58.70; H, 3.00; N, 17.86; S, 20.44. Found: C, 58.80; H, 3.06; N, 17.82; S, 20.32.

3-(benzo[d]thiazol-2-yl)-7,8-dihydro-6,8-di(thiophen-2-yl)-[1,2,4]triazolo-[3,4-b][1,3,4]thiadiazepine (10f). The pure product was obtained as colorless crystal. IR v.: 2193 (C≡N), 1595 (C=N) cm⁻¹, ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 3.06 (t, 1H, J = 12.8 Hz), 3.30 (dd, 1H, J = 12.8, 4.9 Hz), 4.98 (dd, 1H, J = 12.8, 5.00 Hz), 6.99–7.52 (m, 10H, ArH and thiophene protons), MS (m/z): 451(M⁺). Anal. Calcd. For C₂₀H₁₃N₅S₄: C, 53.19; H, 2.90; N, 15.51; S, 28.40. Found: C, 53.27; H, 2.49; N, 15.48; S, 28.31.

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