

Article

## Synthesis and Antimicrobial Studies of Some Novel Bis-[1,3,4]thiadiazole and Bis-thiazole Pendant to Thieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene Moiety

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**Abstract:** The synthetic utility of 3,3'-(3,4-dimethylthieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene-2,5-diyl)bis(3-oxopropanenitrile) (**1**) in the synthesis of some novel bis-[1,3,4-thiadiazole] **6a–g** and bis-thiazole **10** and **13** derivatives with thieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene moiety is reported. Antimicrobial evaluation of some selected examples from the synthesized products was carried out and showed promising results.

**Keywords:** thieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene; nucleophilic addition; hydrazonoyl halides; bis-thiadiazoles; bis-thiazoles; antimicrobial activity

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### 1. Introduction

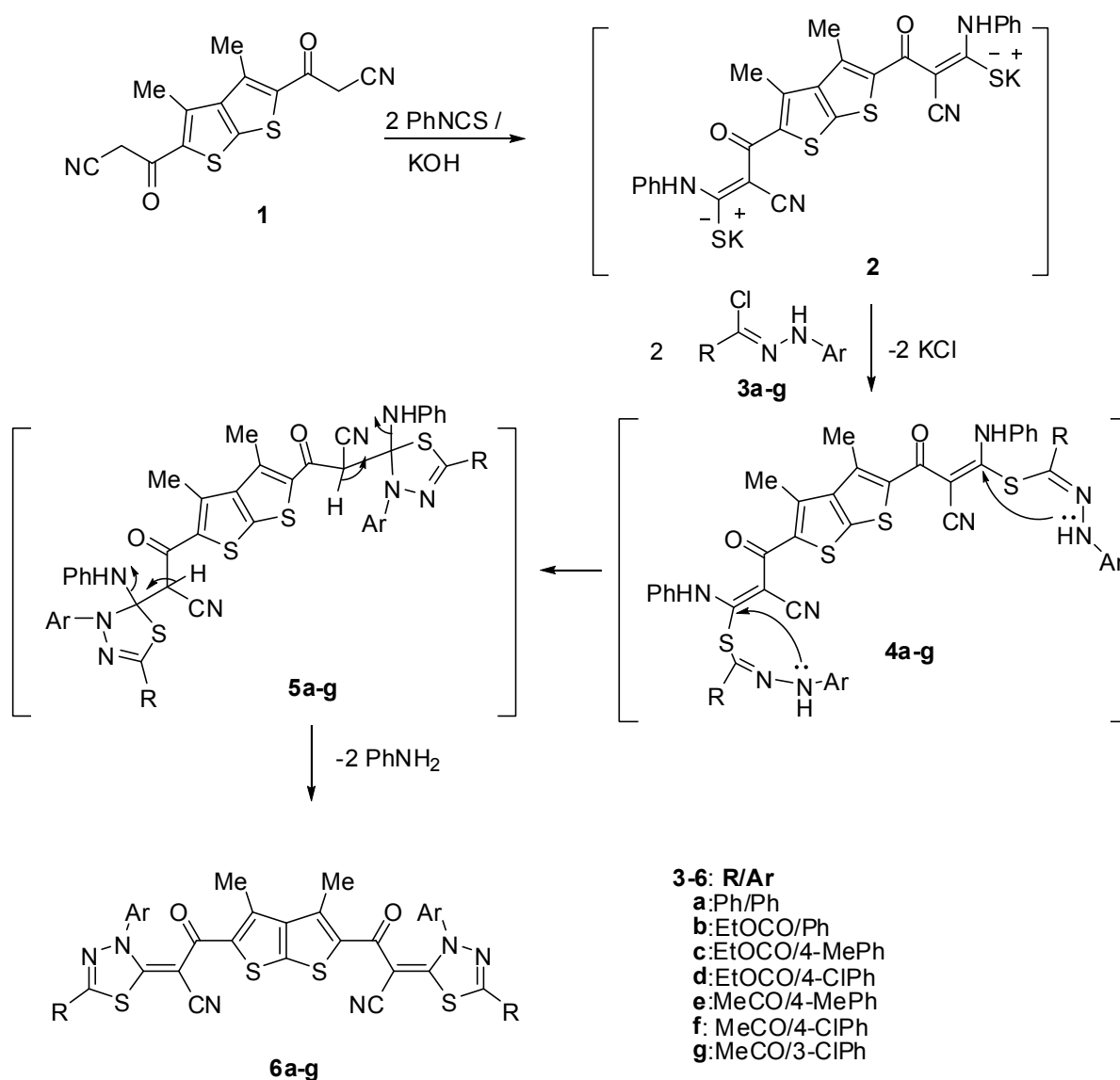
Thiophene compounds are well known to exhibit various biological and medicinal activities such as BACE1 inhibitors [1], antitubercular [2], anti-depressant [3], anti-inflammatory [4], anti-HIV PR inhibitors [5], and anti-breast cancer activities [6]. In addition, thienothiophenes have potential applications in a wide variety of optical and electronic systems [7–9]. Furthermore, 1,3,4-thiadiazoles were recently reported as highly anti-inflammatory [10,11], and anticonvulsant agents [10,12].

Also, thiazoles and their derivatives found application in drug development for the treatment of allergies [13], hypertension [14], inflammation [15], schizophrenia [16], bacterial [17] and HIV infections [18]. Encouraged by all these findings and in continuation of our ongoing research program investigating the utilization of compound **1** as versatile and useful building blocks for the synthesis of a wide variety of bis-heterocycles systems [19,20], we report in the present work an efficient and rapid method for the synthesis of a series of thienothiophene pendant to thiadiazole or thiazole moieties.

## 2. Results and Discussion

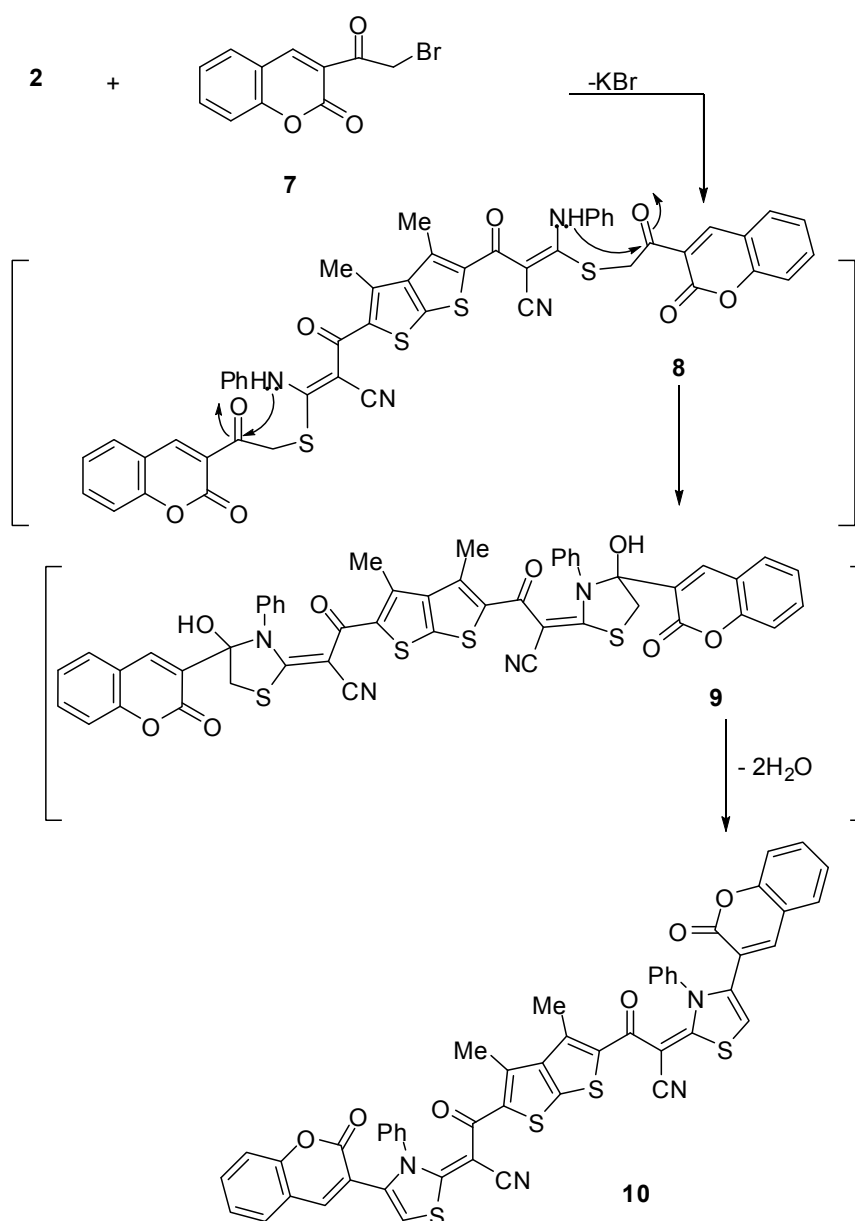
The nucleophilic addition of thieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene **1** [19] to phenyl isothiocyanate in DMF, in the presence of potassium hydroxide, afforded the corresponding potassium salt **2**. Heterocyclisation of the intermediate **2** with hydrazonoyl chlorides **3a** [21] or **3b–d** [22] or **3e–g** [23] furnished in each case, one isolable product (as tested by TLC). The reaction products were identified as bis-[1,3,4]-thiadiazole structures **6a–g** (Scheme 1).

**Scheme 1.** Synthesis of bis-[1,3,4]-thiadiazole structures **6a–g**.



The structure of the products **6a–g** was determined from spectroscopic as well as elemental analytical data. Thus, compound **6a**, taken as a typical example, showed absorption bands at 1674 and 2199  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  corresponding to C=O and C $\equiv$ N groups, respectively. Its  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum revealed the absence of CH $_2$  protons of compound **1** and showed signals at  $\delta$  2.49 due to CH $_3$  protons, in addition to an aromatic multiplet in the region  $\delta$  7.57–7.97. The aforementioned results indicate that the reaction proceeds via *S*-alkylation [24] to give *S*-alkylated intermediate **4** which cyclized *in situ* under the employed reaction conditions to give intermediate **5**. Elimination of two aniline molecules from **5** gave the desired product **6** (Scheme 1).

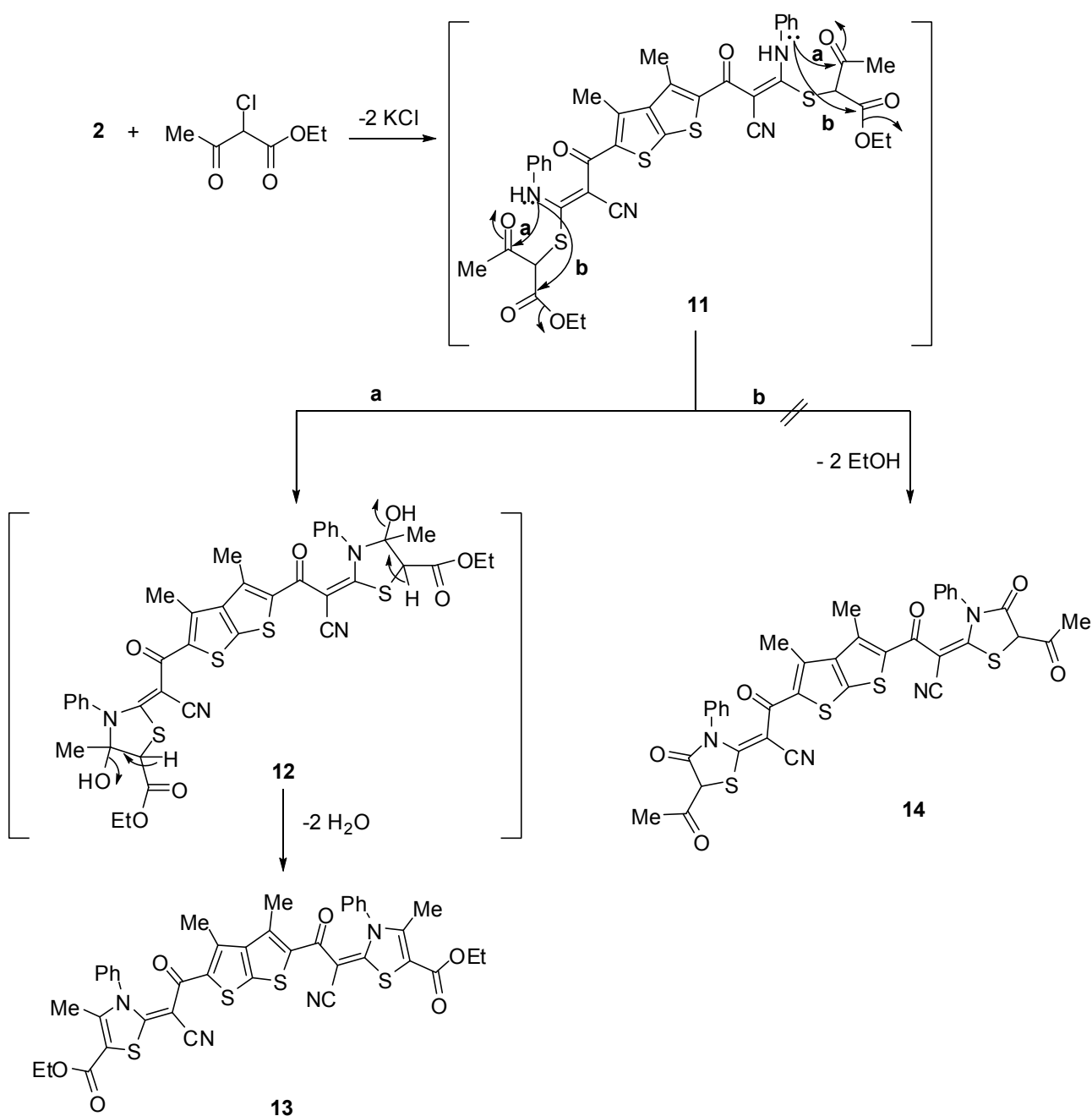
**Scheme 2.** Synthesis of 3,3'-(3,4-dimethylthieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene-2,5-diyl)bis(3-oxo-2-(4-(2-oxo-2*H*-chromen-3-yl)-3-phenylthiazol-2(3*H*)-ylidene)propanenitrile (**10**).



Next, the reactivity of the potassium salt **2** towards 3-(2-bromoacetyl)-2*H*-chromen-2-one (**7**) [25,26] was also investigated. Thus, treatment of potassium salt **2** with compound **7** gave one product that was identified as 3,3'-(3,4-dimethylthieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene-2,5-diyl)bis(3-oxo-2-(4-(2-oxo-2*H*-chromen-3-

yl)-3-phenylthiazol-2(3*H*)-ylidene)propanenitrile) (**10**) as shown in Scheme 2. The reaction proceeds via nucleophilic displacement of bromide to give *S*-alkylated intermediate **8**, followed by nucleophilic addition of (PhNH) group to carbonyl group of chromen-2-one ring to give the respective intermediate **9**. Dehydration of the latter intermediate gave bis-thiazole derivative **10** as the final product. The IR spectrum of the isolated product showed absorption bands at 2195, 1647 and 1724  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  due to nitrile function and carbonyl groups, respectively. Its  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum showed singlet signal at  $\delta$  2.49 ppm due to methyl protons, in addition to aromatic multiplets in the region  $\delta$  7.02–8.6 ppm.

**Scheme 3.** Synthesis of diethyl 2,2'-(2,2'-(3,4-dimethylthieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene-2,5-diyl)bis(1-cyano-2-oxoethan-2-yl-1-ylidene))bis(4-methyl-3-phenyl-2,3-dihydrothiazole-5-carboxylate) (**13**).



Similarly, treatment of the potassium salt **2** with ethyl 2-chloro-3-oxobutanoate afforded diethyl 2,2'-(2,2'-(3,4-dimethylthieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene-2,5-diyl)bis(1-cyano-2-oxoethan-2-yl-1-ylidene))bis(4-methyl-3-phenyl-2,3-dihydrothiazole-5-carboxylate) (**13**) as outlined in Scheme 3. The bis-thiazole structure **13** was confirmed from its elemental analyses and spectral data. The IR spectrum of compound **13** revealed absorption bands at 2206, 1713 and 1643  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  due to nitrile function and two carbonyl groups, respectively. Its  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectrum showed a triplet signal at  $\delta$  1.30 ( $J = 7.2$  Hz) due to  $\text{CH}_3$  protons, two singlet signal at  $\delta$  2.24 and 2.49 characteristics for two methyl protons, a quartet signal at  $\delta$  4.32 ( $J = 7.2$  Hz) due to  $\text{CH}_2$  protons, in addition to an aromatic multiplet in the region  $\delta$  7.62. A proposed mechanism for the formation of the bis-thiazole structure **13** is depicted in Scheme 3. The foregoing spectral data supported the proposed structure **13** and ruled out the other bis-thiazole structure **14** (Scheme 3).

### 3. Experimental Section

All melting points were measured on a Gallenkamp melting point apparatus (Weiss-Gallenkamp, London, UK). The infrared spectra were recorded in potassium bromide disks on a pye Unicam SP 3300 and Shimadzu FT IR 8101 PC infrared spectrophotometers (Pye Unicam Ltd. Cambridge, England and Shimadzu, Tokyo, Japan, respectively). The NMR spectra were recorded on a BRUKER VX-500 NMR spectrometer (Varian, Palo Alto, CA, USA).  $^1\text{H}$  spectra were run at 500 MHz in deuterated dimethyl sulfoxide ( $\text{DMSO-}d_6$ ). Chemical shifts were related to that of the solvent. Elemental analyses were carried out at the Micro-analytical Center of Cairo University, Giza, Egypt. The biological evaluation of the products **6a–g** and **10** were carried out in the Medical Mycology Laboratory of the Regional Center for Mycology and Biotechnology of Al-Azhar University, Cairo, Egypt. Thieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene **1** [19], and hydrazonoyl chlorides **3a** [21], **3b–d** [22], **3e–g** [23], and 3-(2-bromoacetyl)-2*H*-chromen-2-one (**7**) [25,26] were prepared following the literature procedure.

#### *Reactions of Compound 1 with Hydrazonoyl Halides 3a or 3b–d or 3e–g or 3-(2-bromoacetyl)-2H-chromen-2-one (7)*

**General Procedure:** To a stirred solution of potassium hydroxide (0.11 g, 2 mmol) in 20 mL DMF was added compound **1** (0.302 g, 1 mmol). After stirring for 30 min, phenyl isothiocyanate (0.27 g, 2 mmol) was added to the resulting mixture. Stirring was continued for 6 h, and then the appropriate hydrazonoyl chlorides **3a–g** (2 mmol) or 3-(2-bromoacetyl)-2*H*-chromen-2-one (**7**) (0.534 g, 2 mmol) or ethyl 2-chloro-3-oxobutanoate (0.329 g, 2 mmol) was added portion-wise over a period of 30 min. After the addition was complete, the reaction mixture was stirred for additional 12 h, during which the hydrazonoyl chloride or 3-(2-bromoacetyl)-2*H*-chromen-2-one went into solution and a yellow product precipitated. The solid product was filtered off, washed with EtOH and dried, Recrystallization from DMF/EtOH (3:1) afforded the corresponding bis-[1,3,4]thiadiazole derivatives **6a–g** or bis-thiazole derivatives **10** or **13**, respectively.

3,3'-(3,4-Dimethylthieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene-2,5-diyl)bis(2-(3,5-diphenyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2(3*H*)-ylidene)-3-oxopropanenitrile) (**6a**). Yield (61%), m.p. 276 °C; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\max}$ : 2905 (aliphatic CH), 2199 (C≡N), 1674 (C=O)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  2.49 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.57–7.97 (m, 20H, ArH). MS  $m/z$  (%): 775 (M<sup>+</sup>, 0.16), 774 (0.14), 471 (46.73), 304 (4.13), 77 (70.79). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>42</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>4</sub> (774.95): C, 65.09; H, 3.38; N, 10.84. Found: C, 65.01; H, 3.45; N, 10.90%.

Diethyl 5,5'-(2,2'-(3,4-dimethylthieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene-2,5-diyl)bis(1-cyano-2-oxoethan-2-yl-1-ylidene))bis(4-phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1,3,4-thiadiazole-2-carboxylate) (**6b**). Yield (52%), m.p. > 300 °C; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\max}$ : 2982 (aliphatic CH), 2199 (C≡N), 1744 and 1674 (2C=O)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  1.33 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>,  $J = 6.9$  Hz), 2.49 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.44 (q, 4H, 2CH<sub>2</sub>,  $J = 6.9$  Hz), 7.53–7.92 (m, 10H, ArH). MS  $m/z$  (%): 767 (M<sup>+</sup>, 1.57), 167 (19.92), 149 (36.71), 77 (7.77). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S<sub>4</sub> (766.89): C, 56.38; H, 3.42; N, 10.96. Found: C, 56.30; H, 3.36; N, 10.88%.

Diethyl 5,5'-(2,2'-(3,4-dimethylthieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene-2,5-diyl)bis(1-cyano-2-oxoethan-2-yl-1-ylidene))bis(4-*p*-tolyl-4,5-dihydro-1,3,4-thiadiazole-2-carboxylate) (**6c**). Yield (66%), m.p. > 300 °C; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\max}$ : 2986 (aliphatic CH), 2203 (C≡N), 1747 and 1674 (2C=O)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  1.35 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>,  $J = 7.0$  Hz), 2.42 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.52 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.46 (q, 4H, 2CH<sub>2</sub>,  $J = 7.0$  Hz), 7.41 (d, 4H,  $J = 8.0$  Hz), 7.62 (d, 4H,  $J = 8.0$  Hz). MS  $m/z$  (%): 793 (3.44), 222 (4.85), 221 (4.55), 167 (9.11), 91 (50.33), 77 (51.22). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S<sub>4</sub> (794.94): C, 57.41; H, 3.80; N, 10.57. Found: C, 57.52; H, 3.88; N, 10.66 %.

Diethyl 5,5'-(2,2'-(3,4-dimethylthieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene-2,5-diyl)bis(1-cyano-2-oxoethan-2-yl-1-ylidene))bis(4-(4-chlorophenyl)-4,5-dihydro-1,3,4-thiadiazole-2-carboxylate) (**6d**). Yield (53%), m.p. > 300 °C; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\max}$ : 2986 (aliphatic CH), 2206 (C≡N), 1744 and 1674 (2C=O)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  1.37 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>,  $J = 7.0$  Hz), 2.52 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.47 (q, 4H, 2CH<sub>2</sub>,  $J = 7.0$  Hz), 7.73 (d, 4H,  $J = 10.0$  Hz), 7.84 (d, 4H,  $J = 10.0$  Hz). MS  $m/z$  (%): 835 (M<sup>+</sup>, 2.81), 334 (6.05), 168 (8.37), 112 (6.37), 111 (23.38), 77 (39.48). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>24</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S<sub>4</sub> (835.78): C, 51.73; H, 2.89; N, 10.06. Found: C, 51.67; H, 2.79; N, 10.12%.

3,3'-(3,4-Dimethylthieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene-2,5-diyl)bis(2-(5-acetyl-3-*p*-tolyl-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2(3*H*)-ylidene)-3-oxopropanenitrile) (**6e**). Yield (52%), m.p. 240 °C; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\max}$ : 2199 (C≡N), 1690 and 1674 (2C=O)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  2.29 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.45 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.50 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.22 (d, 4H,  $J = 8.5$  Hz), 7.33 (d, 4H,  $J = 8.5$  Hz). MS  $m/z$  (%): 732 (0.04), 647 (0.06), 221 (2.03), 166 (1.33), 106 (100.0), 91, (58.18), 77 (84.54). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S<sub>4</sub> (734.89): C, 58.84; H, 3.57; N, 11.44. Found: C, 58.77; H, 3.49; N, 11.38%.

3,3'-(3,4-Dimethylthieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene-2,5-diyl)bis(2-(5-acetyl-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2(3*H*)-ylidene)-3-oxopropanenitrile) (**6f**). Yield (49%), m.p. 295 °C; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\max}$ : 2199 (C≡N), 1693 and 1655 (2C=O)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  2.41 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.52 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.72 (d, 4H,  $J = 8.8$  Hz), 7.84 (d, 4H,  $J = 8.8$  Hz). MS  $m/z$  (%): 776 (3.02), 500 (3.36), 471 (9.6), 304 (3.99), 276 (6.27), 166 (10.71), 112 (6.32), 111 (16.73). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>20</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S<sub>4</sub> (775.73): C, 52.64; H, 2.60; N, 10.83. Found: C, 52.58; H, 2.54; N, 10.77%.

3,3'-(3,4-Dimethylthieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene-2,5-diyl)bis(2-(5-acetyl-3-(3-chlorophenyl)-1,3,4-thiadiazol-2(3*H*)-ylidene)-3-oxopropanenitrile) (**6g**). Yield (49%), m.p. > 300 °C; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\max}$ : 2199

(C≡N), 1690 and 1647 (2C=O)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  1.89 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.49 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.97–8.00 (m, 8H, ArH). MS  $m/z$  (%): 771 (3.28), 304 (6.34), 166 (22.08), 112 (13.36), 111 (18.98). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>20</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S<sub>4</sub> (775.73): C, 52.64; H, 2.60; N, 10.83. Found: C, 52.55; H, 2.52; N, 10.74%.

3,3'-(3,4-Dimethylthieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene-2,5-diyl)bis(3-oxo-2-(4-(2-oxo-2H-chromen-3-yl)-3-phenylthiazol-2(3H)-ylidene)propanenitrile) (10). Yield (68%), m.p. > 300 °C; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ : 2195 (C≡N), 1724 and 1647 (2C=O)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  2.49 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.02–8.6 (m, 22H, ArH). MS  $m/z$  (%): 909 (2.45), 166 (2.75), 145 (4.05), 77 (15.41). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>50</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S<sub>4</sub> (909.04): C, 66.06; H, 3.10; N, 6.16. Found: C, 66.15; H, 3.21; N, 6.25%.

Diethyl 2,2'-(2,2'-(3,4-dimethylthieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene-2,5-diyl)bis(1-cyano-2-oxoethan-2-yl-1-ylidene))bis(4-methyl-3-phenyl-2,3-dihydrothiazole-5-carboxylate) (13). Yield (44%), m.p. 278–280 °C; IR (KBr)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ : 2986 (aliphatic CH), 2206 (C≡N), 1713 and 1643 (2C=O)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (DMSO- $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  1.30 (t, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 2.24 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.49 (s, 6H, 2CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.32 (q, 4H, 2CH<sub>2</sub>,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 7.62 (s, 10H, ArH). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>32</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S<sub>4</sub> (792.97): C, 60.59; H, 4.07; N, 7.07. Found: C, 60.48; H, 4.16; N, 7.15%.

### 3.1. Antimicrobial Evaluation

The newly synthesized target compounds (**6a–g** and **10**) were evaluated for their *in vitro* antibacterial activity against *Staphylococcus aureus* (SA) and *Bacillus subtilis* (BS) as examples of Gram-positive bacteria and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (PA) and *Escherichia coli* (EC) as examples of Gram-negative bacteria. They were also evaluated for their *in vitro* antifungal potential against *Aspergillus fumigatus* (AF), *Geotrichum candidum* (GC), *Candida albicans* (CA) and *Syncephalastrum racemosum* (SR) fungal strains. The organisms were tested against the activity of solutions of concentrations (5  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ ) and using inhibition zone diameter (IZD) in mm as criterion for the antimicrobial activity (agar diffusion method). The fungicides *Itraconazole*, *Clotrimazole* and the bactericides *Penicillin G*, *Streptomycin* were used as references to evaluate the potency of the tested compounds under the same conditions. The results are depicted in Table 1.

The results depicted in Table 1 revealed that most of the tested compounds displayed variable inhibitory effects on the growth of the tested Gram-positive bacteria and Gram-negative bacteria strains and also against fungal strains. In general, most of the tested compounds revealed better activity against the Gram-positive bacteria rather than the Gram-negative bacteria: Compounds **6a**, **6c–d** and **10** exhibited almost no activity against *Syncephalastrum racemosum* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*; Compounds **6b** and **6e–g** exhibited almost no activity against *Candida albicans*. Compounds **6e** and **6g** exhibited almost no activity against *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*; Compounds **6d**, **6f** and **10** showed comparatively good activity against all the bacterial and fungal strains. The good activity of **6d** and **6f** is attributed to the presence of pharmacologically active 4-chlorophenyl at position 4 of the thiadiazole ring.

**Table 1.** Antibacterial and antifungal activities of the synthesized compounds (6a–g) and 10.

Sample / Tested Organism	6a	6b	6c	6d	6e	6f	6g	10	Standard	
<b>Fungi</b>									<b>Itraconazole</b>	<b>Clotrimazole</b>
<i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i> (AF)	11.7 ± 0.2	15.4 ± 0.09	13.3 ± 0.2	16.4 ± 0.3	9.3 ± 0.2	17.4 ± 0.08	12.2 ± 0.09	14.3 ± 0.2	28.5 ± 0.05	26 ± 0.1
<i>Geotrichum candidum</i> (GC)	13.5 ± 0.1	14.9 ± 0.05	14.4 ± 0.1	18.1 ± 0.08	11.4 ± 0.1	18.3 ± 0.3	14.4 ± 0.03	16.7 ± 0.08	27.1 ± 0.06	23.1 ± 0.03
<i>Candida albicans</i> (CA)	10.4 ± 0.08	NA	10.2 ± 0.09	13.7 ± 0.05	NA	NA	NA	11.9 ± 0.1	26.1 ± 0.02	18.3 ± 0.01
<i>Syncephalastrum racemosum</i> (SR)	NA	12.1 ± 0.08	NA	NA	8.2 ± 0.09	14.2 ± 0.08	9.2 ± 0.08	NA	22.3 ± 0.09	20.5 ± 0.02
<b>Gram Positive Bacteria</b>									<b>Penicillin G</b>	<b>Streptomycin</b>
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (SA)	11.2 ± 0.1	17.9 ± 0.05	11.3 ± 0.05	15.4 ± 0.5	9.4 ± 0.05	18.9 ± 0.01	13.8 ± 0.1	13.4 ± 0.3	29.4 ± 0.08	25.1 ± 0.08
<i>Bacillus subtilis</i> (BS)	13.7 ± 0.07	16.1 ± 0.01	9.0 ± 0.08	18.4 ± 0.1	10.6 ± 0.08	20.9 ± 0.03	16.6 ± 0.03	14.7 ± 0.09	32.5 ± 0.06	29.1 ± 0.04
<b>Gram Negative Bacteria</b>									<b>Penicillin G</b>	<b>Streptomycin</b>
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> (PA)	NA	10.1 ± 0.01	NA	NA	NA	12.1 ± 0.01	NA	NA	28.3 ± 0.05	24.3 ± 0.08
<i>Escherichia coli</i> (EC)	8.3 ± 0.09	14.5 ± 0.2	10.1 ± 0.07	13.7 ± 0.05	7.4 ± 0.07	15.2 ± 0.5	9.5 ± 0.2	10.9 ± 0.2	33.5 ± 0.7	25.6 ± 0.04

NA: No activity, data are expressed in the form of mean ± SD. Mean zone of inhibition in mm ± Standard deviation beyond well diameter (6 mm) produced on a range of environmental and clinically pathogenic microorganisms using (5 mg/mL) concentration of tested samples.



#### 4. Conclusions

In conclusion, the reactivity of diethyl 3,3'-(3,4-dimethylthieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene-2,5-diyl)bis(3-oxopropanenitrile) (**1**) was investigated as a versatile and readily accessible building block for the synthesis of new bis-heterocycles incorporating thieno[2,3-*b*]thiophene moiety of biological and pharmaceutical importance.

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