Synthesis and antimicrobial screening of some Schiff bases

Abstract

Some new Schiff bases were synthesized from pyrazolo aldehydes and triazoles and their structures were confirmed by IR, 1H NMR, and Mass spectral data. All these synthesized compounds were tested in vitro for their antimicrobial potential in N, N-dimethyl formamide and dimethyl sulfoxide.

Keywords: schiff bases, triazole, antimicrobial activity, agar-well diffusion method, n, n-dimethyl formamide

Introduction

Schiff bases are known to be versatile heterocyclic compounds which are intermediates of the preparation of various drugs, dyes and many other compounds.1,2 Schiff bases are also known as azomethines. Schiff bases are used as intermediate for the preparation of azetidinone,3 formazone,4 thiazolidinone,5 arylacetamide, metal complexes.6,7 Due to the multi applicability of this class of compounds, a lot of work has been done on Schiff bases.8,9 Further, Schiff bases possess a wide range of biological activities such as antimicrobial,10 antifungal11,12 antibacterial,13,14 antitumor,15 antitumor,15 anti HIV,16,17 anti-inflammatory,18 diuretic,19 antiparasitic20 etc. Due to these biological properties of Schiff bases, in the present work, some new Schiff bases are synthesized and their characterization was done by IR, NMR and mass spectral data. The screening of antimicrobial activity of these synthesized compounds was done in vitro against some Gram positive and Gram negative strains of bacteria as well as fungal strains in N, N-dimethyl formanamide (DMF) and dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO).

Experimental

Synthesis

Synthesis of 4-amino-5-(pyridin-4-yl)-4H-1,2,4-triazole-3-thiol (Int-I)

A methanolic solution of Isoniazide (0.01mol) and KOH (0.012mol) was stirred for 1hr. To this reaction mixture, 0.012mol of carbon disulphide (CS2) was added drop wise and the resulting solution was again stirred for 16hrs at room temperature. The resulting solid was filtered, washed with diethyl ether and dried under vacuum. The visualizing reagent. The reaction mixture was poured into crushed ice. The resulting solid was filtered and dried under vacuum (Figure 1).

Synthesis of 1,3-diphenyl-1H-pyrazole-4-carbaldehyde (Int-II)

To a methanolic solution of acetonophene (0.01M) and phenyl hydrazine (0.01M), catalytic amount of concentrated HCl was added and the solution was stirred at room temperature for about 10-15 minutes. The resulting solid was filtered, washed with cold methanol and crystallized. The product formed is (E)-2-phenyl-1-(1-phenylethyidene) hydrazine. The above synthesized product (E)-2-phenyl-1-(1-phenylethyldiene) hydrazine was added to a mixture of Vilsmeier-Haack reagent (prepared by drop wise addition of 3 ml POCl3 in ice cooled 15ml DMF (for 0.01mol)) and the solution was refluxed for 1hr. The completion of reaction was confirmed by analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC). The reaction mixture was poured into crushed ice and was kept for 12-14hrs. The resulting product was filtered, washed and dried (Figure 2).

Synthesis of Schiff bases

The above synthesized triazole (Int-I) and substituted pyrazolo aldehydes (Int-II) were refluxed in isopropyl alcohol (IPA) in presence of catalytic amount of concentrated HCl at 85-90°C for 36-42hrs. The reaction was monitored by TLC using hexane and ethyl acetate mixture (0.4: 0.6) as mobile phase. After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was poured into crushed ice. The resulting solid was filtered and dried under vacuum (Figure 1).
Characterization of synthesized compounds

The structures of all the synthesized compounds were confirmed by IR, $^1$H NMR and mass spectral data. IR spectra were recorded on IR affinity 1S (furrier transport infra-red spectroscopy). $^1$H NMR spectra were taken on a Bruker AVANCE II 400. In all the cases, $^1$H NMR spectra were obtained in DMSO-d$_6$, using TMS as an internal standard. The NMR signals are reported in δ ppm. Mass spectra were determined using direct inlet probe on a GCMS-QP-2010 mass spectrometer. Figures 4, 5 & 6 show IR, $^1$H NMR and Mass spectra of compound ITA-1 respectively.

Microorganisms tested

The studied microorganisms were obtained from National Chemical Laboratory (NCL), Pune, India. The microorganisms were maintained at 4°C. The Gram positive bacteria studied were Staphylococcus aureus ATCC29737 (SA), Corynebacterium rubrum ATCC14898 (CR), Listeria monocytogenes ATCC19112 (LM), Bacillus cereus ATCC11778 (BC); Gram negative bacteria were Pseudomonas aeruginosa ATCC27853 (PA), Escherichia coli NCIM2931 (EC), Klebsiella pneumoniae NCIM2719 (KP), Salmonella typhimurium ATCC23564 (ST) and Fungi were Candida albicans ATCC2091 (CA), Cryptococcus neoformans NCIM3542 (CN), Candida glabrata NCIM3448 (CG), Candida epicola NCIM3367 (CE). The organisms were maintained on nutrient agar and MGYP medium (Hi Media, India) for bacteria and fungi respectively, at 4°C and sub-cultured before use. The microorganisms studied are clinically important ones causing several infections and food spoilage. The selected Gram positive and Gram negative bacteria are common pathogenic bacteria and their study are clinically important causing several infections, food borne diseases, spoilages, skin infection and it is essential to overcome them through some active therapeutic agents. Both Gram positive and Gram negative were selected to study broad spectrum of activity of synthesized compounds.

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Preparation of solutions of compounds

For all the compounds, DMF and DMSO were used for screening of antimicrobial activity. The solution of 20mg/ml concentration was prepared for all the compounds.

Agar well diffusion method

*In vitro*, antimicrobial activity of the different Schiff bases was studied against pathogenic microbial strains by the Agar well diffusion method. Mueller Hinton No. 2/Sabouraud dextrose agar (Hi-media) was used for the antibacterial and antifungal susceptibility test respectively. The Mueller Hinton agar and Sabouraud dextrose agar was melted and cooled to 48-50°C and a standardized inoculum (1.5×10^8CFU/ml, 0.5 McFarland) was then added aseptically to the molten agar and poured into sterile Petri dishes; wells (8.5mm) were prepared in the seeded agar plates. The test compound (100µl) was introduced into the well. The plates were incubated overnight at 37°C and 28°C for 24h and 48h respectively, for bacteria and fungi. The microbial growth was determined by measuring the diameter of the zone of inhibition and the mean values are considered.

Results and discussion

In total 10 compounds were synthesized (ITA-1 to ITA-10). The physical constants of all the synthesized compounds are given in Table 1. The IR, NMR, Mass spectral data confirmed their molecular structure.

| Compound Code | Substitution R | Molecular formula | Molecular Weight g/mol | Yield (%) | R f value | Melting point °C |
|---------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|
| ITA-1         | -4-Cl          | C_{12}H_{13}ClN,S  | 457.09                 | 85        | 0.59      | 210             |
| ITA-2         | -2-OH          | C_{12}H_{14}ClN,OS | 439.49                 | 74        | 0.51      | 224             |
| ITA-3         | -4-F           | C_{12}H_{14}FN,S   | 441.48                 | 81        | 0.53      | 291             |
| ITA-4         | -3-NO_2        | C_{12}H_{13}N,O,S  | 468.49                 | 76        | 0.56      | 211             |
| ITA-5         | -4-Br          | C_{12}H_{14}BrN,S  | 502.39                 | 87        | 0.56      | 281             |
| ITA-6         | -4-OCH_3       | C_{14}H_{18}N,OS   | 453.52                 | 83        | 0.58      | 288             |
| ITA-7         | -4-CH_3        | C_{12}H_{13}N,S    | 437.52                 | 80        | 0.61      | 301             |
| ITA-8         | -3,4-diOCH_3   | C_{15}H_{16}N,O,S  | 483.54                 | 85        | 0.5       | 284             |
| ITA-9         | -4-OH          | C_{12}H_{13}N,OS   | 439.49                 | 77        | 0.51      | 298             |
| ITA-10        | -4-NO_2        | C_{12}H_{14}N,O,S  | 468.49                 | 81        | 0.53      | 219             |

Spectral data

**ITA-1:** IR (cm⁻¹): 3614.60 (-NH, Str.), 3068.75 (Ar-H Str.), 1593.20 (-NH Bending), 1242-1010 (-CH in plane bending, phenyl ring), 692.44 (-CH Str. 5-adjecent c atoms), 2610.12 (DMSO-d₆), 1608.63 (-NH, Bending (Sec.), 1583.56 (-NH Bending). 1H NMR (DMSO-d₆), δ (ppm): 7.436–7.615 (5H, multiplet, -CH), 7.871–7.892 (2H, doublet, -CH), 8.051–8.071 (2H, doublet, -CH), 8.210–8.226 (2H, doublet, -CH), 8.887–8.903 (2H, doublet, -CH), 9.398 (1H, singlet, -CH), 14.719 (1H, singlet, -SH) MS: (m/z)=457

**ITA-2:** IR (cm⁻¹): 3710.25 (-OH Str. (free –OH), 3645.42 (-NH, Str.), 3057.67 (Ar-H Str.), 2690.14 (-SH Str.), 1608.63 (-NH, Bending (Sec.), 1583.56 (-NH Bending), 1242-1010 (-CH in plane bending, phenyl ring), 1066.64 (-OH bending), 682.80 (-CH str. 5-adjecent c atoms), 1H NMR (DMSO-d₆), δ (ppm): 6.942–7.418 (5H, multiplet, -CH), 7.433–7.572 (2H, doublet, -CH), 8.010–8.028 (2H, doublet, -CH), 8.100–8.226 (2H, doublet, -CH), 9.398 (1H, singlet, -CH), 9.714 (1H, singlet, -CH), 14.719 (1H, singlet, -SH) MS: (m/z)=457

**ITA-3:** IR (cm⁻¹): 3590.12 (-NH, Str.), 3012.81 (Ar-H Str.), 2674.18

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Synthesis and antimicrobial screening of some Schiff bases

Figure 7A shows zone of inhibition against Gram positive bacteria in DMF. It is observed that except ITA-4 and ITA-10, all the compounds could inhibit BC and maximum inhibition is observed by ITA-5. Against SA, only three compounds ITA-2, ITA-3 and ITA-5 showed inhibition. The maximum is observed by ITA-5 and minimum is by ITA-3. Only ITA-1, ITA-5 and ITA-7 could inhibit CR. However, LM is affected by only ITA-1. Other compounds had no effect on this bacterial strain. Thus, structure of compounds affects inhibition for different bacteria.

As all the compounds have the same central moiety their substitutions are different which affect inhibition. Table 1 shows substitution groups of all the synthesized compounds. Thus, it is observed that compounds containing nitro groups (ITA-4 having 3-NO₂ substitution and ITA-10 having 4-NO₂ substitution) are not effective at all against BC. Against SA, ITA-5 containing 4-bromo group is most effective which is followed by ITA-2 containing 2-hydroxy group. Thus, 4-fluoro and 4-nitro groups are not effective at all and maximum inhibition is observed by ITA-2 containing 2-hydroxy group. However, only ITA-1 containing 4-chloro group exhibited inhibition against LM. Thus, in DMF LM is the most resistant bacteria and BC is most susceptible bacteria.

Figure 7B shows zone of inhibition against Gram positive bacteria in DMSO. Except ITA-3 and ITA-10 all the compounds could inhibit BC and maximum inhibition is observed by ITA-2 containing 2-hydroxy group. Thus, 4-fluoro and 4-nitro groups are not effective at all for BC, which are present in ITA-3 and ITA-10 respectively. Against SA, only few compounds exhibited inhibition and maximum is observed by ITA-9 containing 4-hydroxy group. ITA-3 containing 4-fluoro had minimum inhibition against SA. ITA-1, ITA-2 and ITA-9 could inhibit CR and again ITA-2 having 2-OH group is most effective. This is observed that compounds containing nitro groups (ITA-4 having 3-NO₂ substitution) are not effective at all and inhibition extent. Other substitutions have no effect at all. The compound ITA-5 containing 4-bromo group exhibited maximum inhibition against CR whereas ITA-7 showed minimum inhibition which contains 4-methyl group. However, only ITA-1 containing 4-chloro group exhibited inhibition against LM. Thus, in DMF LM is the most resistant bacteria and BC is most susceptible bacteria.
4-Br substitution respectively exhibited inhibition. The inhibition is higher for ITA-5 as compared to ITA-4. The rest of the compounds had no effect. Only, ITA-3 and ITA-9 having 4-F and 4-OH substitution could inhibit PA. However, the inhibition is more in ITA-9 than ITA-3. The compounds ITA-1, ITA-6, ITA-7 and ITA-8 could not inhibit ST. About half of compounds (ITA-2, ITA-3, ITA-4, ITA-5, ITA-9 and ITA-10) could inhibit ST. ITA-3 and ITA-10 showed maximum inhibition in ST bacteria and ITA-4 showed minimum inhibition. Thus, 4-flouro and 4-nitro groups are more effective against ST as compared to other groups. Against KP, only compounds ITA-4, ITA-5 and ITA-9 showed inhibition and inhibition is maximum for ITA-5 and minimum for ITA-9. Thus, against 4-bromo group is most effective against KP. The compounds ITA-1, ITA-6, ITA-7, ITA-8 and ITA-10 could not inhibit the selected Gram negative bacteria. Thus, in DMF, EC and PA are resistant bacteria whereas ST is the most susceptible bacteria.

**Figure 7** Antimicrobial activity of ITA-1 to ITA-10 against Gram positive bacteria in [A] DMF and [B] DMSO. ITA-1, (■); ITA-2, (■); ITA-3, (■); ITA-4, (□); ITA-5, (◊); ITA-6, (†); ITA-7, (□); ITA-8, (◊); ITA-9, (◊); ITA-10, (□)

Figure 7 shows inhibition of compounds against Gram positive bacteria in DMF and DMSO. Against EC, only half of the compounds exhibited inhibition and maximum is observed for ITA-5 having 4-bromo group. Only ITA-6, ITA-7 and ITA-9 could inhibit PA and maximum inhibition is observed for ITA-7 containing 4-chloro group. Against ST, again only half of the compounds ITA-1, ITA-2, ITA-6, ITA-7 and ITA-9 showed inhibition. Maximum inhibition is exhibited by ITA-1 and ITA-9 containing 4-chloro and 4-hydroxy groups respectively. Not a single compound could inhibit KP. Thus, KP is the most resistant bacteria in DMF. Further, it is observed that in DMSO, compounds ITA-3, ITA-8 and ITA-10 were not effective against the selected Gram negative bacteria. Over all, inhibition is higher in DMF as compared to DMSO. Further, against the studied Gram negative bacteria the compounds ITA-8 and ITA-10 are not effective at all in both the solvents.

**Figure 8** Antimicrobial activity of ITA-1 to ITA-10 against Gram negative bacteria in [A] DMF and [B] DMSO. ITA-1, (■); ITA-2, (■); ITA-3, (■); ITA-4, (□); ITA-5, (◊); ITA-6, (†); ITA-7, (□); ITA-8, (◊); ITA-9, (◊); ITA-10, (□)

Figure 8A shows inhibition of compounds against Gram negative bacteria in DMF. It is observed that only ITA-1 containing 4-chloro group showed inhibition against CG fungal strain. Other compounds had no effect at all. However, against CE, only ITA-5 having 4-Br group is not effective. All other compounds showed moderate activity against CE and maximum is exhibited by ITA-10 having 4-nitro group. For CA, most of the compounds showed inhibition and maximum is observed for ITA-5. Only ITA-6, ITA-7, ITA-9 and ITA-10 could inhibit CN. Thus, 4-methoxy, 4-methyl, 4-hydroxy and 4-nitro groups are effective against CN and maximum effect is observed for ITA-10 containing 4-nitro group. It is observed from Table 1 that ITA-2 and ITA-4 contain 2-hydroxy and 3-nitro groups respectively. However, these compounds showed no inhibition against CN. This suggests that position of group is also important for inhibition. In DMF, CG is the most resistant fungal strain.

**Figure 9** shows inhibition of compounds against fungal strains in DMF. In DMF (Figure 9A), it is observed that only ITA-1 containing 4-chloro group showed inhibition against CG fungal strain. Other compounds had no effect at all. However, against CE, only ITA-5 having 4-Br group is not effective. All other compounds showed moderate activity against CE and maximum is exhibited by ITA-10 having 4-nitro group. For CA, most of the compounds showed inhibition and maximum is observed for ITA-5. Only ITA-6, ITA-7, ITA-9 and ITA-10 could inhibit CN. Thus, 4-methoxy, 4-methyl, 4-hydroxy and 4-nitro groups are effective against CN and maximum effect is observed for ITA-10 containing 4-nitro group. It is observed from Table 1 that ITA-2 and ITA-4 contain 2-hydroxy and 3-nitro groups respectively. However, these compounds showed no inhibition against CN. This suggests that position of group is also important for inhibition. In DMF, CG is the most resistant fungal strain.

Comparison of inhibition in both the solvents suggests that solvent plays an important role in inhibition. Inhibition is higher in DMF than in DMSO. So DMF is good for solvent for the studied compounds in selected fungal strains.
Conclusion

Over all, the studied compounds show moderate activity against Gram positive bacteria, Gram negative bacterial and fungal strains. Solvent plays an important role and side chain substitutions also affect microbial activity.

Acknowledgments

None.

Conflicts of interest

Authors declare that there is no conflicts of interest.

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Figure 9 Antifungal activity of ITA-1 to ITA-10 in [A] DMF and [B] DMSO. ITA-1, ( ); ITA-2, ( ); ITA-3, ( ); ITA-4, ( ); ITA-5, ( ); ITA-6, ( ); ITA-7, ( ); ITA-8, ( ); ITA-9, ( ); ITA-10, ( ).

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