

SYNTHESIS, CHARACTERIZATION AND ANTIMICROBIAL ACTIVITY OF SCHIFF BASE COMPOUNDS

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Abstract In the present study five different Schiff base compounds were synthesized and characterized by UV, IR, NMR and elemental analysis. The synthesized Schiff base compounds were tested for antimicrobial activity. The 4-Cl and 3-NO₂ substituted Schiff base compounds have shown good antimicrobial activity against three bacterial species, namely *B. subtilis*, *S. pyogenes* and *P. aeruginosa*. The 3-NO₂ substituted Schiff base compound has shown good antifungal activity against *Aspergillus flavus* and *Aspergillus niger*.

Key words: Schiff bases, antimicrobial activity & antifungal activity.

1. Introduction

Schiff base derivatives have aroused considerable interest of chemists due to their versatile practical applications as well as their wide range of biochemical properties. Schiff bases have been reported to possess a broad spectrum of biological activities namely antimicrobial, anticancer, anti-inflammatory, antifungal, antiproliferative, anticonvulsant, antioxidant, and antitubercular activities. Due to its wide range of biological activity Schiff base constitutes a relevant synthetic target in pharmaceutical industry.

Schiff bases are condensation products of primary amines with carbonyl compounds and they were first reported by Hugo Schiff (Schiff, 1864) in 1864.

The common structural feature of these compounds is the azomethine group with a general formula R-N=CH-R', where R and R' are substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, aryl, cycloalkyl or heterocyclic groups. These compounds are also known as imines or azomethines (Cimerman *et al.*, 1986; Keller, 1998; Patel *et al.*, 1986; Layer, 1963).

Schiff bases containing aryl substituent's are substantially more stable than those with alkyl substituents. Schiff

bases of aliphatic aldehydes are relatively unstable and they are readily polymerizable. Schiff bases of aromatic aldehydes have effective conjugation and stability. The formation of a Schiff base from an aldehyde or ketone is a reversible reaction with an intermediate carbinolamine known as hemiaminol and generally takes place under acid or base catalysis, or upon heating (Cozzi, 2004).

Large amount of work has been done on this class of compounds due to its multi azetidinone (Bongini et al., 2000), thiazolidinone (Mulwad et al., 2002), formazone (Ainsworth et al., 1995), arylacetamide (Weber et al., 2005), metal complexes (Singh et al., 2007; Zhu et al., 2008; Yuan et al., 2009) and many other derivatives (Wang et al., 2008; Ceng et al., 2009).

Further, these Schiff bases are widely used as complexing agents (Cai et al., 2004) and perfumery reagents (Pilecki et al., 1984). Many reagents have been used as molecular sieves in ionic liquids (Chang et al., 2004), K-10 montmorillonite (Abid et al., 2007), MnO₂ (Blackburn et al., 2001), Tandamcatalysts (Barr et al., 1989), CaO (Gopalakrishnan et al., 2007), MgSO₄-PPTS (Chakraborti et al., 2004), ZnCl₂ (McBurney et al., 2012), P₂O₅-SiO₂ (Hasaninejad et al., 2008), phenyliodine(III)bis-(trifluoroacetate)

(PIFA) (Varma et al., 1999), etc., through microwave irradiation technique (Barretal., 1989).

Some Schiff bases have been represented as good corrosion inhibitors. Hegazy et al., (2012) had examined the corrosion inhibition effect of 2-((pyridin-2-ylimino)methyl)phenol (S₁), 2-((hexadecylimino)methyl)phenol (S₂), 2-(((4-hydroxyphenylimino) methyl)phenol and 1-(4-(2-hydroxybenzylideneamino) phenyl)ethanone for carbon steel. As a final point

Schiff base derivatives exhibit interesting antimicrobial & antifungal activity based on special substitution in diverse position. In this paper, we report synthesis, characterization, antimicrobial & antifungal activities of five unique Schiff bases.

Experimental

2.1. Materials and methods

All the chemicals and solvents were purchased from Sigma Aldrich Chemical Company, Bengaluru-100. The melting points were taken in open capillaries in electrical apparatus and are uncorrected.

2.2. Instrumentation

The UV spectra of all the (*E*)-*N*-benzylidene-4-methylbenzo[d]thiazol-2-amine under investigation were recorded on SHIMADZU-1650

spectrophotometer (λ_{max} , nm) in spectral grade methanol, The IR spectra were recorded on SHIMADZU-FT-IR. The ^1H and ^{13}C NMR Spectra of all aryl imines under investigation were recorded using BRUKER, 400MHz, Elemental analyses of all compounds were performed in Thermofinnigan analyser at CAS in Marine biology, Annamalai University.

2.3. Synthesis of (*E*)-*N*-benzylidene-4-methylbenzo[d]thiazol-2-amines

Equimolar quantities of benzaldehyde (0.01 mol) and 4-methylbenzo[d]thiazol-2-amine (0.01 mol) were refluxed for 4hrs with 20 ml of absolute ethanol (Abd-Elzaher et al., 2016) and it is shown in **Scheme-1**. After the completion of the reaction, as monitored by TLC, the mixture was cooled at room temperature. The resulting precipitate was filtered and washed with cold water. The product appeared as pale yellow solid. Then it was recrystallized using ethanol to obtain pale yellow glittering solid melting at 161-162°C

The same procedure has been followed to synthesized the remaining four more substituted heterocyclic Schiff base compounds namely, (*E*)-*N*-(4-chlorobenzylidene)-4-methylbenzo[d]thiazol-2-amine, (*E*)-4-

methyl-*N*-(4-methylbenzylidene)benzo[d]thiazol-2-amine, (*E*)-*N*-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-4-methylbenzo[d]thiazol-2-amine and (*E*)-4-methyl-*N*-(3-nitrobenzylidene)benzo[d]thiazol-2-amine.

2.4 Antimicrobial activity

The synthesized Schiff base compounds during the present investigation were screened for their antibacterial activity on five common microorganisms such as, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Streptococcus pyogenes*, *Escherichia coli* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. Using Kirby-Bauer (Bauer et al., 1966) disc diffusion technique (Collins et al., 1989) antibacterial sensitivity assay was performed.

3. Results and discussion

In the present research work, Substituted (*E*)-*N*-benzylidene-4-methylbenzo[d]thiazol-2-amine from condensation of different aromatic aldehydes with 4-methylbenzo[d]thiazol-2-amine were synthesized in presence of CH_3COOH catalyst. The general reaction of substituted (*E*)-*N*-benzylidene-4-methylbenzo[d]thiazol-2-amine is as given in Scheme 1. The synthesized (*E*)-*N*-benzylidene-4-methylbenzo[d]thiazol-2-amine have been characterized by UV, IR & NMR spectral data given in **Table (1-5)**.

Table 1: Analytical and spectral data of (*E*)-*N*-benzylidene-4-methylbenzo[d]thiazol-2-amine(1)

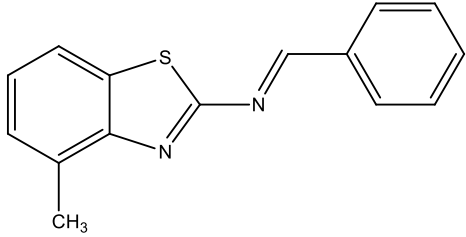
Molecular Formula C ₁₅ H ₁₂ N ₂ S	Molecular Weight 252.33	Melting Point (°C) 161-162	% of yield 90	Elemental analysis (%): C,71.40, H,4.79,N, 11.10,S,12.71
UV:345 nm, 222 nm, IR(KBr, cm⁻¹): 3024.38 (Ar-CH), 2922.16 (Aliphatic-CH),1562.34 (C=N _{thiazole}), 1602.85 (CH=N), 754.17 (C-S-C)				
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, δ, ppm): 7.068-8.185(m, 8H, Ar-H), 2.600(S, 3H, -CH ₃), 8.111(S, 1H, -N=CH-)				
¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, δ, ppm): 18.11(CH ₃),169.44(C=N _{thiazole}), 146.10 (C=N), 145.66-118.96 (aromaticcarbons)				

Table 2: Analytical and spectral data of (*E*)-*N*-(4-chlorobenzylidene)-4-methylbenzo[d]thiazol-2-amine (2)

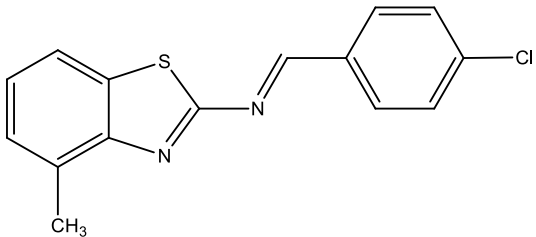
Molecular Formulae C ₁₅ H ₁₁ N ₂ SCl	Molecular Weight 286.78	Melting Point (°C) 130-131	% of yield 82	Elemental analysis (%): C, 62.82, H, 3.87, N,9.77, S, 11.18, Cl, 112.36
UV:322.5, 271 IR(KBr, cm⁻¹): 3064.89 (Ar-CH), 2922.16 (Aliphatic-CH),1550.77 (C=N _{thiazole}), 1612.49 (CH=N), 744.52 (C-S-C)				
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, δ, ppm): 7.056-7.645 (m, 8H, Ar-H), 2.586(S, 3H, -CH ₃), 7.878(S, 1H, -N=CH-)				
¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, δ, ppm): 18.03 (CH ₃), 167.43 (C=N _{thiazole}), 150.55(C=N), 142.78-118.66 (aromaticcarbons)				

Table 3: Analytical and spectral data of (*E*)-4-methyl-N-(4-methylbenzylidene)benzo[d]thiazol-2-amine (3)

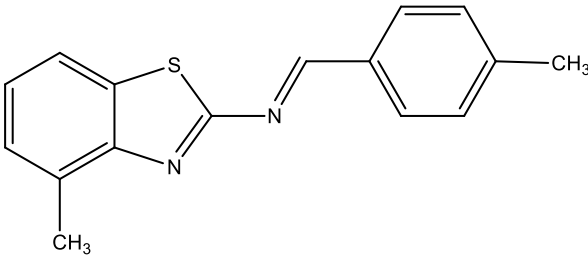
Molecular Formulae	Molecular Weight	Melting Point (°C)	% of yield	Elemental analysis (%) C, 72.15, H, 5.30, N, 10.52, S, 12.04
C ₁₆ H ₁₄ N ₂ S	266.36	107-108	86	
UV: 340.5,225 IR(KBr, cm⁻¹): 3001.24 (Ar-CH), 2922.16 (Aliphatic-CH),1566.20 (C=N _{thiazole}), 1606.70 (CH=N), 738.74 (C-S-C)				
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, δ, ppm): 7.050-7.595 (m, 8H, Ar-H), 2.388(S, 3H, -CH ₃), 2.550(S, 3H, -CH ₃) 7.868(S, 1H, -N=CH-)				
¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, δ, ppm): 18.06 (CH ₃), 21.48 (CH ₃), 167.43 (C=N _{thiazole}), 148.67(C=N), 144.00-118.83 (aromaticcarbons)				

Table 4: Analytical and spectral data of (*E*)-N-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-4-methylbenzo[d]thiazol-2-amine (4)

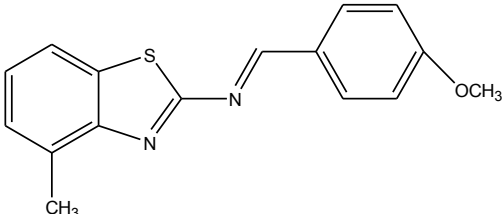
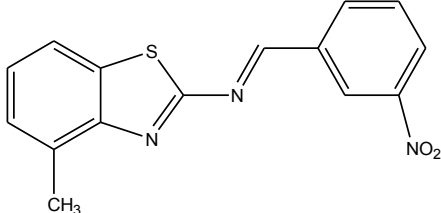
Molecular Formulae	Molecular Weight	Melting Point (°C)	% of yield	Elemental analysis (%) C, 68.06, H, 5.00, N, 9.92, O, 5.67, S, 12.04
C ₁₆ H ₁₄ N ₂ OS	282.36		78	
UV: 337.5,227 IR(KBr, cm⁻¹): 3061.03 (Ar-CH), 2924.09 (Aliphatic-CH),1508.33 (C=N _{thiazole}), 1600.92 (CH=N), 740.67 (C-S-C)				
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, δ, ppm): 6.915-7.626 (m, 8H, Ar-H), 2.538(S, 3H, -CH ₃), 3.847(S, 3H, -OCH ₃)7.833(S, 1H, -N=CH-)				
¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, δ, ppm): 18.13(-CH ₃), 55.38(-OCH ₃), 168.14(C=N _{thiazole}), 161.04(C=N), 148.62-114.24 (aromaticcarbons)				

Table 5: Analytical and spectral data of(*E*)-4-methyl-N-(3-nitrobenzylidene)benzo[d]thiazol-2-amine.(5)

Molecular Formulae C ₁₅ H ₁₁ N ₃ O ₂ S	Molecular Weight 297.33	Melting Point (°C) 189-190	% of yield 80	Elemental analysis (%) C, 60.59, H, 3.73, N,14.13,O, 10.76, S, 10.78
UV: 339.5, 225.5 IR(KBr, cm⁻¹): 3088.03 (Ar-CH), 2976.16 (Aliphatic-CH),1533.41 (C=N _{thiazole}), 1598.99 (CH=N), 723.31 (C-S-C)				
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, δ, ppm): 7.066-8.217 (m, 8H, Ar-H), 2.524 (s, 3H, -CH ₃), 8.477(s, 1H, -N=CH-)				
¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃, δ, ppm): 17.86(CH ₃), 167.41(C=N _{thiazole}), 148.71(C=N), 141.94-119.06(aromatic carbons)				

3.1 Evaluation of antibacterial activity

The synthesized Schiff base derivatives were screened for the antibacterial activity against three Gram-positive bacteria viz., *Bacillus subtilis*, *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Streptococcus pyogenes* and two Gram-negative bacteria viz., *Escherichia coli* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* at various concentrations was given in **Table-6** by using the disk diffusion method. Ciprofloxacin was used as reference standard for comparing the

results. The corresponding clustered column chart is given in **Fig-6**.

The substituents place a vital role in imparting enhanced antibacterial activity to the compounds. The 4-Cl and 3-NO₂ substituted Schiff base compounds have shown good activity against *B. subtilis*. The remaining three parent (H), 4-CH₃ and 4-OCH₃ substituted Schiff base compounds have shown moderate antibacterial activity against *B. subtilis*. All the five Schiff base compounds have shown moderate antibacterial activity against *S. aureus*. The two **1** and **5** Schiff

base compounds with 4-Cl and 3-NO₂ substituents have shown good activity against *S. pyogenes*. The remaining three parent (H), 4-CH₃ and 4-OCH₃ substituted Schiff base compounds have shown moderate antibacterial activity against *S. pyogenes*. All the five Schiff base

compounds have shown moderate antibacterial activity against *E. coli*. The 3-NO₂ substituted Schiff base compound has shown good activity against *P.aeruginosa*. The remaining four Schiff base compounds have shown moderate activity against *P. aeruginosa*.

Table- 6 Antibacterial activity of Schiff base derivatives

DISC DIFFUSION METHOD		ANTIBACTERIAL ACTIVITY				
		ZONE OF INHIBITION 10µg/ml				
		Gram +ve Bacteria			Gram -ve Bacteria	
S. No	Comp. No	<i>B. subtilis</i>	<i>S. aureus</i>	<i>S. Pyrogenes</i>	<i>E. coli</i>	<i>P.aeruginosa</i>
1	1	12	19	14	10	13
2	2	23	21	22	18	21
3	3	17	12	17	16	12
4	4	21	19	20	16	15
5	5	28	20	25	21	27
Ciprofloxacin		31	30	29	31	32
Control		0	0	0	0	0

3.2 Antifungal activity of substituted Schiff base compounds

The minimum inhibitory concentration of antifungal activity of all the Schiff base compounds have been measured at various concentrations is given in **Table-7**. It is evident that most of the compounds have shown significant antifungal activity at the concentration of

10 mg/mL in general. The antifungal activity of all the five Schiff base compounds have been studied three fungal species namely *Aspergillus flavus*, *Aspergillus niger* and *Trigoderma veride* by using disk diffusion method. The results of this evaluation were compared with Amphotericin-B as reference standard. The zone of inhibition values are given in **Table-7**. The corresponding clustered

column chart is given in **Fig-7**. The 4-OCH₃ and 3-NO₂ substituted Schiff base compounds have shown good antifungal activity against *Aspergillus flavus*. The remaining three Schiff base compounds with parent (H), 4-Cl and 4-CH₃ substituents have shown moderate antifungal activity against *Aspergillus flavus*. The only one 3-NO₂ substituted Schiff base compound has shown good antifungal activity against *Aspergillus*

niger. The parent (H), 4-Cl, 4-CH₃ and 4-OCH₃ substituted Schiff base compounds have shown moderate antifungal activity against *Aspergillus niger*. The only one 4-CH₃ substituted Schiff base compound has shown good antifungal activity against *Trichoderma veride*. The remaining four parent (H), 4-Cl and 4-OCH₃ and 3-NO₂ substituted Schiff base compounds have shown moderate antifungal activity against *Trichoderma veride*.

Table-7 Antifungal activity of Schiff base derivatives

DISC DILUTION METHOD		ANTIFUNGAL ACTIVITY		
		ZONE OF INHIBITION 10µg/ml		
S. No.	Comp. No.	<i>A. flavus</i>	<i>A. niger</i>	<i>T. veride</i>
1	1	14	14	13
2	2	14	13	11
3	3	15	16	15
4	4	16	15	14
5	5	19	18	14
Amphotericin-B		26	22	20
Control		0	0	0

4. Conclusion

In the present study five different Schiff base compounds were synthesized and determined with different

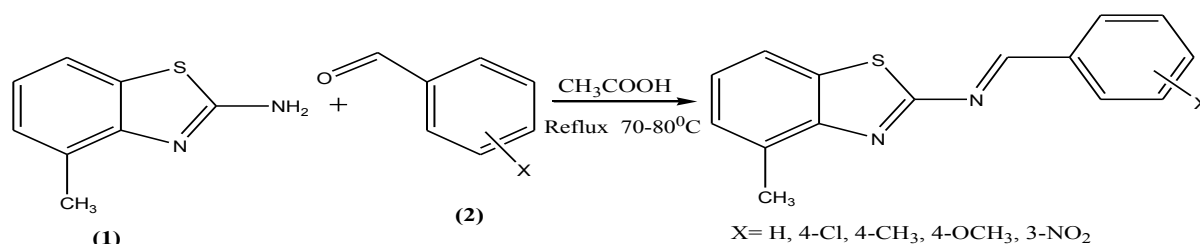
spectroscopy data like UV, IR, NMR and elemental analysis. The synthesized Schiff base compounds tested for antimicrobial

activity. The 4-Cl and 3-NO₂ substituted Schiff base compounds have shown good antimicrobial activity against three bacterial species, namely *B. subtilis*, *S. pyogenes* and *P. aeruginosa*. The 3-NO₂substituted Schiff base compound has shown good antifungal activity against *Aspergillus flavus* and *Aspergillus niger*.

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Figure and Figure Captions



Scheme1. Synthesis of (E)-N-benzylidene-4-methylbenzo[d]thiazol-2-amine compounds

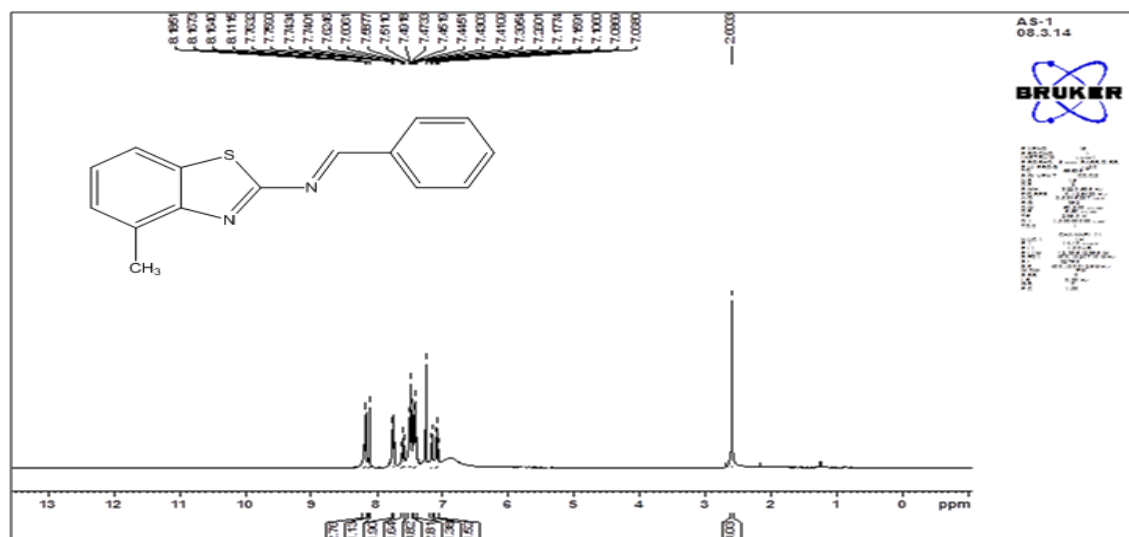


Fig-1: ¹H NMR Spectrum of (E)-N-benzylidene-4-methylbenzo[d]thiazol-2-amine

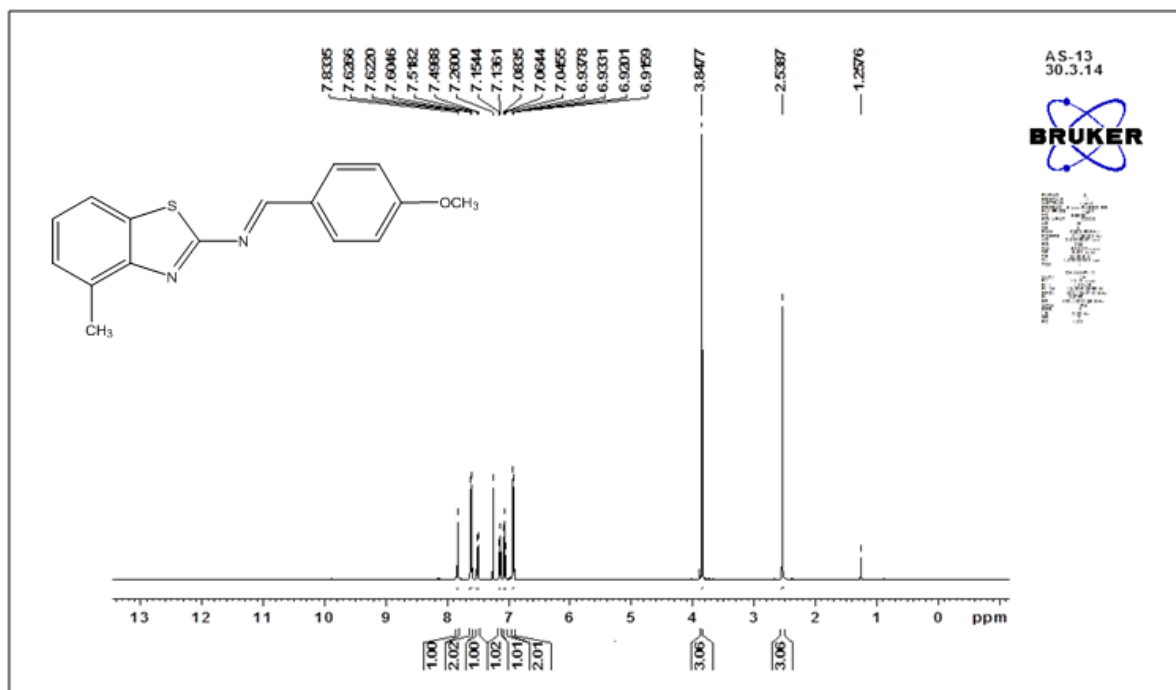


Fig-4: ¹H NMR Spectrum of (*E*)-*N*-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-4-methylbenzo[d]thiazol-2-amine

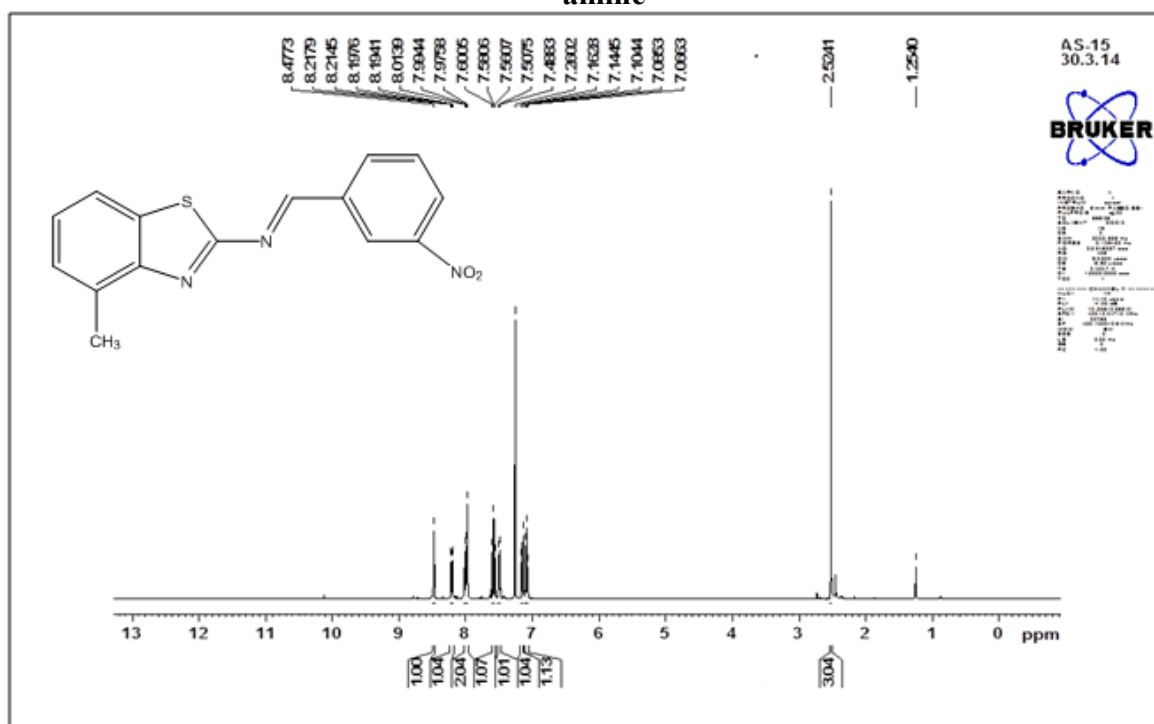


Fig.-5: ¹H NMR Spectrum of (*E*)-4-methyl-*N*-(3-nitrobenzylidene)benzo[d]thiazol-2-amine

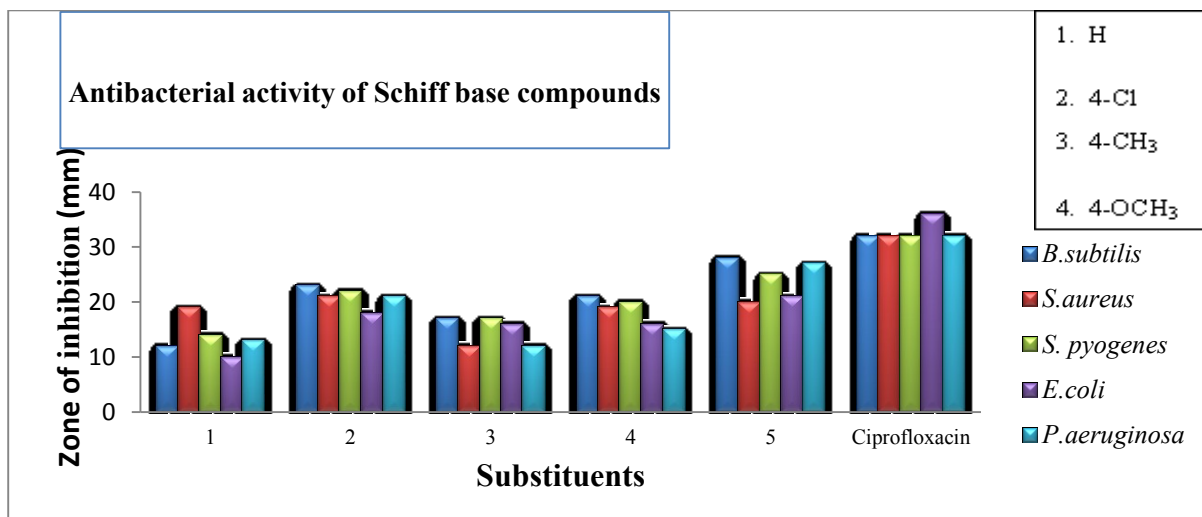


Fig-6: Antibacterial activity of substituted (*E*)-2-benzylidenehydrazinecarboximidamide compounds

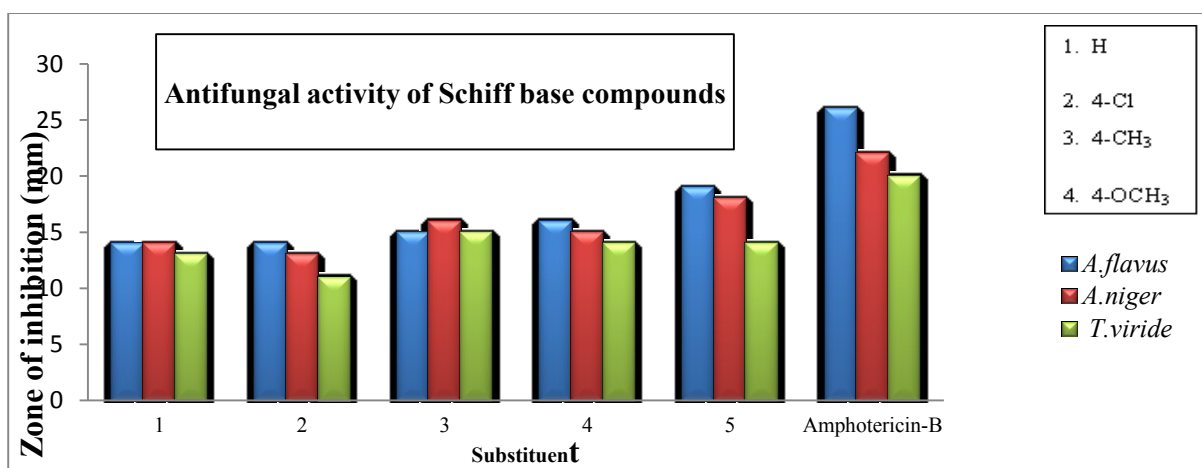


Fig-7: Antifungal activity of substituted (*E*)-2-benzylidenehydrazinecarboximidamide compounds

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