

## SYNTHESIS AND REACTIONS OF 5-METHYLTHIENO[2',3':5,6]PYRIMIDO-[2,1-*a*]ISOINDOL-4(5*H*)-ONE

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The reaction of 2-(bromomethyl)benzonitrile with methyl 3-aminothiophene-2-carboxylate results in two tautomeric thienopyrimidoisoindolones. Their methylation yields 5-methylthieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-*a*]isoindol-4(5*H*)-one which reacts with N-substituted maleimides and dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate.

**Keywords:** Cycloadditions; Heterocycles; Thienopyrimidoisoindolone; Isoindols, Maleimides; Isoindolines tautomers; 7-Azanorbornenes.

Fused isoindoles are less investigated than simple isoindole systems<sup>1-3</sup> and following the literature data<sup>4-7</sup>, they are scarcely studied. Numerous practical applications of their derivatives as antidepressants, analgesics, anti-inflammatory agents, antifungals, antipyretics, anorexigenics, antihypertensives<sup>8,9</sup>, antimalarials<sup>10</sup> and herbicides<sup>11,12</sup> are known. From the synthetic point of view, the most interesting and challenging properties of aromatic 10π-electronic systems of simple isoindoles is their ability to react with the dienophiles<sup>1-3,13,14</sup> leading to the *endo*- or *exo*-Diels–Alder adducts. Moreover, competitive Michael addition products are formed under similar conditions<sup>15,16</sup>. The products of these reactions are either 1:1 Diels–Alder adducts or 1:2 Michael–Diels–Alder adducts, which have not been obtained so far from simple isoindole systems<sup>7,17-20</sup>.

Herein we wish to report the synthesis of 5-methylthieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-*a*]isoindol-4(5*H*)-one and its reactions with maleimide derivatives and dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate.

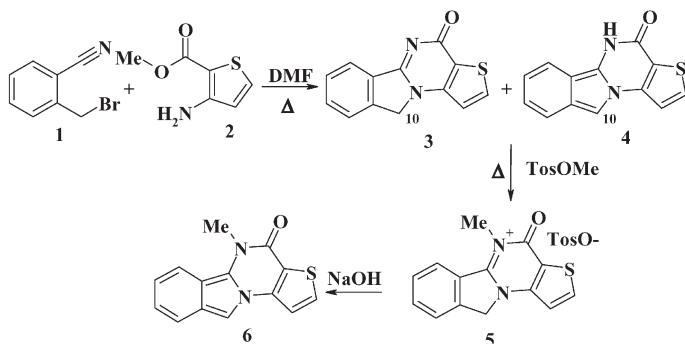
It is known<sup>4,21</sup> that the common method of building the pyrimido[2,1-*a*]isoindol-2(6*H*)-one moiety is based on the reaction of 2-(bromomethyl)benzonitrile **1** with compounds possessing an *o*-aminoarenecarboxylate fragment. Further alkylation of pyrimido[2,1-*a*]isoindol-2(6*H*)-one with

alkyl tosylates leads to the formation of N-alkyl salts, which can be transformed to isoindoles by base treatment<sup>22-24</sup>.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### *Synthesis and Structure Determination*

The reaction of **1** with methyl 3-aminothiophene-2-carboxylate (**2**) was carried out following the literature procedures described for analogous transformations<sup>22-24</sup> (Scheme 1). The reaction yields thieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido-[2,1-*a*]isoindol-4(10*H*)-one (**3**) together with its tautomer **4**. Compounds **3** and **4** were isolated and characterized. Such type of tautomerism was not observed for the pyrimido[2,1-*a*]isoindol-2(6*H*)-one<sup>25</sup>.



SCHEME 1

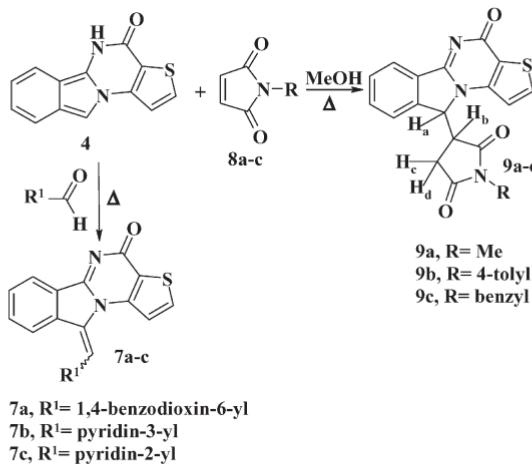
The mass spectra of compounds **3** and **4** exhibit intensive peaks at *m/z* 241 ( $\text{MH}^+$ ).

The IR spectrum of **3** displays an intensive absorption band of the pyrimidine carbonyl group  $\nu_{\text{C=O}} = 1597 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in addition to  $\nu_{\text{C=N}} = 1500 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . In contrast, the carbonyl group of compound **4** of the pyrimidine moiety absorbs at  $1691 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

Complete assignment of the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR signals was provided with DEPT spectra. The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR-DEPT spectrum of **3** shows a characteristic methylene carbon atom (C10) at 58.63 ppm, whereas in the spectrum of **4**, the methine carbon atom (C10) is observed at 83.20 ppm and the signal at 158.39 ppm is attributed to the carbon atom of the C=O group.

### Reactivity

Thieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-*a*]isoindol-4(5*H*)-one (**4**) reacts with aldehydes at position 10 to give derivatives **7a**–**7c**. This reaction is similar to Ehrlich reaction of pyrroles and fused isoindoles with 4-dimethylaminobenzaldehyde<sup>26</sup>. Compound **4** reacts with the N-substituted maleimides **8a**–**8c** at the same position in the 1:1 ratio to form Michael adducts **9a**–**9c** (Scheme 2).



SCHEME 2

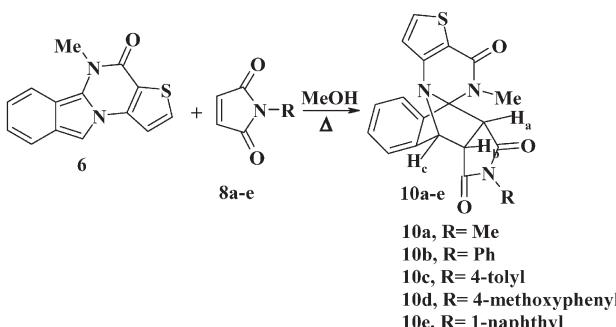
Methylation of compounds **3** and **4** or their mixture with methyl tosylate, followed by treatment of the resulting salt **5** with alkali led to the expected 5-methylthieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-*a*]isoindol-4(5*H*)-one (**6**) (Scheme 1).

It is known that isoindoles are usually oxidized in air and should be kept in inert atmosphere or stored as salts. However, isoindoles **4** and **6** are stable to air for a long time.

Another interesting aspect of the reactivity of 5-methylthieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-*a*]isoindol-4(5*H*)-one (**6**) is its reaction with N-substituted maleimides in the 1:1 or 1:2 ratio as well as with dimethyl acetylene-dicarboxylate.

The reaction of 5-methylthieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-*a*]isoindol-4(5*H*)-one (**6**) with 1 equivalent of maleimide derivatives **8a**–**8e** gives *endo*-Diels-Alder adducts **10a**–**10e** (Scheme 3). Their structure was confirmed by NMR and mass spectra.

Fragmentation of adducts **10** proceeds via the retro Diels–Alder reaction, which is confirmed by the intensive peaks corresponding to isoindole **6** and maleimide **8**.



SCHEME 3

IR spectra of adduct **10d** exhibit two characteristic bands of the pyrrolidine-2,5-dione moiety ( $\nu_{\text{C=O}} = 1770\text{--}1775$  and  $1705\text{--}1710\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and a band of the carbonyl groups of the pyrimidone ( $\nu_{\text{C=O}} = 1620\text{--}1643\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ).

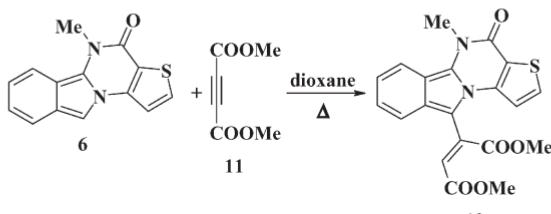
<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of compounds **10a**–**10e** allowed to determine their spatial structure. The signal from protons of methyl groups of the quinazoline rings is observed as a three-proton singlet at 3.69–3.75 ppm. The signal of the bridgehead proton  $\text{H}_a$  appears as a one-proton doublet at 4.35–4.58 ppm with a coupling constant of 8.2–8.4 Hz. The signal of the bridge proton  $\text{H}_c$  is observed as a one-proton doublet at 6.28–6.71 ppm with a coupling constant of 5.2 Hz. The signal of the bridge proton  $\text{H}_b$  is observed as one-proton doublet of doublets at 4.05–4.20 ppm with coupling constant of  $J_{\text{HbH}_a} = 8.2\text{--}8.8$  Hz and  $J_{\text{HbH}_c} = 5.2$  Hz. These values are in accordance with the theoretically expected ones for *endo*-Diels–Alder adducts<sup>13–15</sup>.

The reaction of isoindole **6** with 2 equivalent of maleimide **8a** under thermodynamic control yielded only the Diels–Alder adduct **10a**; the excess of the starting maleimide was recovered.

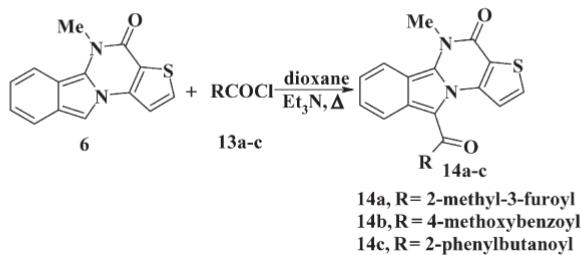
The Michael adduct **12** was obtained by heating 5-methylthieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-a]isoindol-4(5H)-one (**6**) with dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate (**11**) in dioxane (Scheme 4).

We also tried to vary the substituent at C-10 of compound **6** in order to investigate the reaction of the compounds obtained with dienophiles. Acylation of 5-methylthieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-a]isoindol-4(5H)-one (**6**) with acyl chlorides **13** led to compounds **14a**–**14c** (Scheme 5). IR spectra of compound **14b** showed an intensive characteristic band corresponding

to pyrimidine  $1665\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and to the (4-methoxyphenyl)acetyl fragment  $1593\text{ cm}^{-1}$ .



SCHEME 4



SCHEME 5

Heating of compound **6** with trifluoroacetic anhydride in dioxane afforded compound **14d** ( $\text{R} = \text{CF}_3$ ). IR spectra of compound **14d** exhibit an intensive band corresponding to pyrimidine at  $1683\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and another one of the acyl group at  $1601\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Attempts to carry out the reaction of **14** with maleimide derivatives **8** failed. We recovered only the starting material.

The explanation of this fact is analogous to that for the acyl tetrasolisoindoles<sup>27</sup>. The latter exhibit a strong interaction of the carbonyl group with aromatic fragment; their structure was considered to be zwitterionic, bearing no isoindole moiety.

### Conclusions

The reaction of 2-(bromomethyl)benzonitrile (**1**) with methyl-3-aminothiophene-2-carboxylate (**2**) resulted in the formation of thienopyrimidoisoindolone existing in two tautomeric forms: isoindoline **3** and isoindole **4**. Methylation of compounds **3** or **4** or their mixtures with methyl tosylate, followed by further treatment of salt **5** with alkali gave 5-methylthieno-[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-a]isoindol-4(5H)-one (**6**), which reacted with male-

imide derivatives **8** to form novel stable tricyclic 7-azanorbornenes **10**. Isoindole **6** reacted with dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate (**11**), yielding the Michael adduct **12**. Acylation of **12** leads to acyl derivatives **14**, which do not react with dienophiles.

## EXPERIMENTAL

Chemical-ionization mass spectra were recorded on a Nermag R10 instrument. NMR spectra ( $\delta$ , ppm;  $J$ , Hz) were obtained on a Mercury 400 Varian spectrometer at 400 MHz ( $^1\text{H}$  NMR) or 100 MHz ( $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR) in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  and  $\text{CF}_3\text{COOD}$  as the solvent. UV-VIS spectra ( $\lambda$ , nm) were recorded in the solid state (KBr pellets) on a Perkin-Elmer-Lambda-19 spectrophotometer equipped with a 60 mm integration sphere for solid measurements. The electrospray mass spectra were recorded on an API-365 Perkin-Elmer Sciex instrument at the Service Commun de Spectrométrie de Masse of the Paul Sabatier University, Toulouse. Elemental analyses were determined with a Carlo Erba Strumentazione apparatus at the ENSIACET Toulouse.

### Preparation of Compounds **3** and **4**. General Procedure

2-(Bromomethyl)benzonitrile (0.2 g, 1 mmol) and the corresponding 3-aminothiophene-2-carboxylate (0.24 g, 1.5 mmol) were heated under reflux in dry DMF (4 ml) for 10 min. After cooling, the product was collected by filtration and recrystallized from DMF. Compound **3** is little soluble in hot DMF in contrast to compound **4**.

*Thieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-a]isoindol-4(10H)-one* (**3**). Yield 0.21 g (80%) of a light yellow powder. M.p. 85 °C. For  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_8\text{N}_2\text{OS}$  (240.3) calculated: 64.98% C, 3.36% H, 11.66% N; found: 65.00% C, 3.42% H, 11.70% N.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ): 5.39 s, 2 H ( $\text{CH}_2$ ); 7.30 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 5.2; 7.57 t, 1 H,  $J$  = 8.0; 7.66 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 8.0; 7.72 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 4.0; 7.98 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 8.0; 8.06 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 4.0.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ): 58.63, 119.31, 122.98, 126.14, 126.34, 126.53, 132.80, 139.42, 143.93, 144.37, 146.47, 157.97, 159.61. UV:  $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 340$  nm.  $[\text{MH}]^+$  241.

*Thieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-a]isoindol-4(5H)-one* (**4**). Yield 24 mg (10%) of light yellow crystals. M.p. 185 °C. For  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_8\text{N}_2\text{OS}$  (240.3) calculated: 64.98% C, 3.36% H, 11.66% N; found: 65.02% C, 3.41% H, 11.68% N.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ): 6.77 s, 1 H ( $\text{CH}$ ); 7.49 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 8.0; 7.63–7.72 m, 3 H; 7.97 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 8.0; 8.23 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 8.0.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ): 83.20, 122.63, 122.75, 125.07, 125.65, 130.72, 131.26, 133.12, 135.76, 143.73, 155.87, 156.40, 158.39. UV:  $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 370$  nm.  $[\text{MH}]^+$  241.

### 5-Methyl-4-oxo-4,10-dihydrothieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-a]isoindol-5-ium Tosylate (**5**)

Compound **3** or **4** (2.4 g, 10 mmol) and methyl tosylate (3.4 g, 20 mmol) were heated to 100 °C for 1 h. The product was collected by filtration, and washed twice with ethanol. Yield 4.0 g (93%). M.p. 237 °C.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ): 2.31 s, 3 H ( $\text{CH}_3$ ); 4.09 s, 3 H ( $\text{CH}_3$ ); 6.15 s, 2 H; 6.98 s, 2 H,  $J$  = 7.6; 7.33 d, 2 H,  $J$  = 8.0; 7.62 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 8.4; 7.93–8.07 m, 4 H; 8.31 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 5.2.  $[\text{MH}]^+$  255.

### 5-Methylthieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-*a*]isoindol-4(5*H*)-one (**6**)

Further treatment of the salt **5** with alkali led to the expected compound **6**. The product was collected by filtration and washed twice with water and ethanol or DMF. Yield 2.3 g (98%). M.p. 115 °C. For  $C_{14}H_{10}N_2OS$  (254.3) calculated: 66.12% C, 3.96% H, 11.02% N; found: 66.30% C, 4.00% H, 11.12% N.  $^1H$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ): 3.88 s, 3 H ( $CH_3$ ); 6.77 t, 1 H,  $J$  = 7.4; 6.93 t, 1 H,  $J$  = 7.4; 7.43 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 8.4; 7.85–7.95 m, 3 H; 8.26 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 5.2.  $^{13}C$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ): 31.06, 99.08, 107.70, 118.13, 118.42, 119.28, 119.55, 120.56, 122.80, 123.02, 124.92, 136.21, 140.40, 154.30.  $[MH]^+$  255.

### Preparation of Compounds **7**. General Procedure

Compound **4** was suspended in dry DMF containing 1 equivalent of  $R^1CHO$  and heated under reflux for 10 min. After cooling, the product was recovered by filtration and crystallized from DMF.

**10-[(2,3-Dihydro-1,4-benzodioxin-6-*y*)methylidene]thieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-*a*]isoindol-4(10*H*)-one (**7a**).** From **4** (0.24 g, 1 mmol) and 2,3-dihydro-1,4-benzodioxine-6-carbaldehyde (0.25 g, 1.5 mmol). Yield 0.31 g (82%) of yellow crystals. M.p. 230 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (CF<sub>3</sub>COOD): 4.42–4.43 m, 2 H; 4.45–4.46 m, 2 H; 7.14–7.16 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 8.0; 7.21–7.31 m, 2 H; 7.74–7.79 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 20.0; 7.81–7.88 m, 3 H; 8.10–8.12 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 8.0; 8.33–8.39 m, 2 H.  $[MH]^+$  387.

**10-(Pyridin-3-ylmethylidene)thieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-*a*]isoindol-4(10*H*)-one (**7b**).** From **4** (0.24 g, 1 mmol) and nicotinaldehyde (0.16 g, 1.5 mmol). Yield 0.3 g (93%) of yellow crystals. M.p. 246 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (CF<sub>3</sub>COOD): 7.54 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 8.0; 7.98 t, 1 H,  $J$  = 7.2; 8.06 t, 1 H,  $J$  = 7.6; 8.38 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 4.8; 8.52 t, 1 H,  $J$  = 7.2; 8.62–8.68 m, 2 H; 8.71 d, 1 H; 9.15 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 8.0; 9.22 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 5.6; 9.48 s, 1 H.  $[MH]^+$  330.

**10-(Pyridin-2-ylmethylidene)thieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-*a*]isoindol-4(10*H*)-one (**7c**).** From **4** (0.24 g, 1 mmol) and pyridine-2-carbaldehyde (0.16 g, 1.5 mmol). Yield 0.28 g (87%) of yellow crystals. M.p. 253 °C. For  $C_{19}H_{11}N_3OS$  (329.4) calculated: 69.28% C, 3.37% H, 12.76% N; found: 70.00% C, 3.48% H, 12.90% N.  $^1H$  NMR (CF<sub>3</sub>COOD): 7.44 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 8.0; 7.91 t, 1 H,  $J$  = 7.6; 7.99 t, 1 H,  $J$  = 7.6; 8.29 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 6.0; 8.38 t, 1 H,  $J$  = 6.6; 8.52–8.68 m, 4 H; 9.93 t, 1 H,  $J$  = 8.0; 9.19 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 5.2.  $[MH]^+$  330.

### Preparation of Compounds **9**. General Procedure

Compound **4** was suspended in methanol containing 1 equivalent of derivatives of maleimide **8** and heated under reflux for 1 h. After cooling, the product was recovered by filtration and recrystallized from methanol.

**10-(1-Methyl-2,5-dioxopyrrolidin-3-yl)thieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-*a*]isoindol-4(10*H*)-one (**9a**).** From **4** (0.24 g, 1 mmol) and *N*-methylmaleimide (0.11 g, 1 mmol). Yield 0.29 g (83%) of a white powder. M.p. 222 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ): 1.33 dd, 1 H,  $H_c$ ,  $J$  = 17.6, 7.9; 2.23 s, 3 H ( $CH_3$ ); 2.37 dd, 1 H,  $H_d$ ,  $J$  = 18.4, 8.0; 3.96–3.99 m, 1 H,  $H_b$ ; 6.17 d, 1 H,  $H_a$ ,  $J$  = 4.0; 7.65–7.73 m, 3 H; 7.80 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 6.8; 8.07 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 7.6; 8.20 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 5.6.  $[MH]^+$  352.

**10-[(4-Methylphenyl)-2,5-dioxopyrrolidin-3-yl]thieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-*a*]isoindol-4(10*H*)-one (**9b**).** From **4** (0.24 g, 1 mmol) and *N*-(4-methylphenyl)maleimide (0.19 g, 1 mmol). Yield 0.32 g (66%) of a white powder. M.p. 231 °C.  $^1H$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ ): 1.38 dd, 1 H,  $H_c$ ,  $J$  = 17.6, 7.6; 2.28 s, 3 H ( $CH_3$ ); 2.39 dd, 1 H,  $H_d$ ,  $J$  = 18.4, 8.0; 4.00–4.32 m, 1 H,  $H_b$ ; 6.17 d, 1 H,  $H_a$ ,  $J$  = 4.0; 7.10 d, 2 H,  $J$  = 8.0; 7.30 d, 2 H,  $J$  = 8.0; 7.60–7.68 m, 3 H; 7.83 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 6.8; 8.15 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 7.6; 8.23 d, 1 H,  $J$  = 5.6.  $[MH]^+$  428.

**10-(1-Benzyl-2,5-dioxopyrrolidin-3-yl)thieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-a]isoindol-4(10H)-one (9c).** From **4** (0.24 g, 1 mmol) and *N*-benzylmaleimide (0.19 g, 1 mmol). Yield 0.31 g (73%) of a white powder. M.p. 228 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 1.34 dd, 1 H, H<sub>c</sub>, *J* = 17.6, 7.6; 2.39 dd, 1 H, H<sub>d</sub>, *J* = 18.4, 8.0; 4.00 s, 2 H (CH<sub>2</sub>); 4.09–4.32 m, 1 H, H<sub>b</sub>; 6.15 d, 1 H, H<sub>a</sub>, *J* = 4.0; 7.32–7.80 m, 9 H; 8.17 d, 1 H, *J* = 7.6; 8.20 d, 1 H, *J* = 5.6. [MH]<sup>+</sup> 428.

### Preparation of Compounds **10**. General Procedure

Compound **6** was suspended in methanol containing 1 equivalent of maleimide derivative **8** and heated under reflux for 1 h. After cooling, the product was recovered by filtration, obtained product residue was separated by column chromatography (silica gel L 100/250 mesh; ethyl acetate–toluene 8:2).

**2,19-Dimethyl-5-thia-2,9,19-triazahexacyclo[8.6.5.0<sup>1,9</sup>.0<sup>4,8</sup>.0<sup>11,16</sup>.0<sup>17,21</sup>]henicosa-4(8),6,11,13,15-pentaene-3,18,20-trione (10a).** From **6** (0.25 g, 1 mmol) and *N*-methylmaleimide (0.11 g, 1 mmol or 0.22 g, 2 mmol). Yield 0.12 g (35%) of a white powder. M.p. 217 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 2.27 s, 3 H (CH<sub>3</sub>); 3.70 s, 3 H (CH<sub>3</sub>-N); 4.21 dd, 1 H, H<sub>b</sub>, *J*<sub>HbHa</sub> = 8.2, *J*<sub>HbHc</sub> = 5.2; 4.35 d, 1 H, *J* = 8.2, H<sub>a</sub>; 6.28 d, 1 H, *J* = 5.2, H<sub>c</sub>; 7.25 d, 1 H, *J* = 5.2; 7.60 t, 1 H, *J* = 8.0; 7.64 d, 1 H, *J* = 8.0; 7.75 d, 1 H, *J* = 4.0; 7.93 d, 1 H, *J* = 8.0; 8.00 d, 1 H, *J* = 4.0. [MH]<sup>+</sup> 366.

**2-Methyl-19-phenyl-5-thia-2,9,19-triazahexacyclo[8.6.5.0<sup>1,9</sup>.0<sup>4,8</sup>.0<sup>11,16</sup>.0<sup>17,21</sup>]henicosa-4(8),6,11,13,15-pentaene-3,18,20-trione (10b).** From **6** (0.25 g, 1 mmol) and *N*-phenylmaleimide (0.17 g, 1 mmol or 0.34 g, 2 mmol). Yield 0.24 g (57%) of a white powder. M.p. 205 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 3.72 s, 3 H (CH<sub>3</sub>-N); 4.26 dd, 1 H, H<sub>b</sub>, *J*<sub>HbHa</sub> = 8.8, *J*<sub>HbHc</sub> = 5.2; 4.55 d, 1 H, *J* = 8.8, H<sub>a</sub>; 6.61 d, 1 H, *J* = 5.2, H<sub>c</sub>; 7.42–7.88 m, 10 H; 7.95 d, 1 H, *J* = 4.0. [MH]<sup>+</sup> 428.

**2-Methyl-19-(4-methylphenyl)-5-thia-2,9,19-triazahexacyclo[8.6.5.0<sup>1,9</sup>.0<sup>4,8</sup>.0<sup>11,16</sup>.0<sup>17,21</sup>]henicosa-4(8),6,11,13,15-pentaene-3,18,20-trione (10c).** From **6** (0.25 g, 1 mmol) and *N*-(4-methylphenyl)maleimide (0.19 g, 1 mmol or 0.38 g, 2 mmol). Yield 0.26 g (60%) of a light yellow powder. M.p. 213 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 2.96 s, 3 H (CH<sub>3</sub>); 3.75 s, 3 H (CH<sub>3</sub>-N); 4.29 dd, 1 H, H<sub>b</sub>, *J*<sub>HbHa</sub> = 8.8, *J*<sub>HbHc</sub> = 5.2; 4.41 d, 1 H, *J* = 8.8, H<sub>a</sub>; 6.26 d, 2 H, *J* = 8.4; 6.71 d, 1 H, *J* = 5.2, H<sub>c</sub>; 7.00 d, 2 H, *J* = 8.4; 7.30–7.71 m, 4 H; 7.90 d, 1 H, *J* = 8.0; 7.98 d, 1 H, *J* = 4.0. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 25.67, 38.10, 51.88, 55.11, 66.82, 91.31, 119.38, 120.30, 127.26, 128.01, 128.05, 133.69, 135.04, 135.19, 135.73, 135.84, 135.78, 143.08, 143.77, 145.81, 146.58, 147.90, 160.12, 178.28, 178.24. [MH]<sup>+</sup> 442.

**2-Methyl-19-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-thia-2,9,19-triazahexacyclo[8.6.5.0<sup>1,9</sup>.0<sup>4,8</sup>.0<sup>11,16</sup>.0<sup>17,21</sup>]henicosa-4(8),6,11,13,15-pentaene-3,18,20-trione (10d).** From **6** (0.25 g, 1 mmol) and *N*-(4-methoxyphenyl)maleimide (0.2 g, 1 mmol or 0.4 g, 2 mmol). Yield 0.2 g (44%) of a white powder. M.p. 209 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 3.70 s, 3 H (CH<sub>3</sub>); 3.73 s, 3 H (CH<sub>3</sub>-N); 4.22 dd, 1 H, H<sub>b</sub>, *J*<sub>HbHa</sub> = 8.4, *J*<sub>HbHc</sub> = 5.3; 4.55 d, 1 H, *J* = 8.4, H<sub>a</sub>; 6.38 d, 2 H, *J* = 8.9; 6.70 d, 1 H, *J* = 5.2, H<sub>c</sub>; 6.80 d, 2 H, *J* = 8.9; 7.44–7.75 m, 4 H; 7.88 d, 1 H, *J* = 8.0; 7.95 d, 1 H, *J* = 4.0. IR (KBr): 1706 (CO), 1774 (CO), 1655 (CO). [MH]<sup>+</sup> 458.

**2-Methyl-19-(1-naphthyl)-5-thia-2,9,19-triazahexacyclo[8.6.5.0<sup>1,9</sup>.0<sup>4,8</sup>.0<sup>11,16</sup>.0<sup>17,21</sup>]henicosa-4(8),6,11,13,15-pentaene-3,18,20-trione (10e).** From **6** (0.25 g, 1 mmol) and *N*-(1-naphthyl)maleimide (0.22 g, 1 mmol or 0.44 g, 2 mmol). Yield 0.24 g (51%) of a light yellow powder. M.p. 216 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 3.74 s, 3 H (CH<sub>3</sub>-N); 4.29 dd, 1 H, H<sub>b</sub>, *J*<sub>HbHa</sub> = 8.4, *J*<sub>HbHc</sub> = 5.2; 4.58 d, 1 H, *J* = 8.4, H<sub>a</sub>; 6.68 d, 1 H, *J* = 5.2, H<sub>c</sub>; 7.42–7.79 m, 12 H; 7.99 d, 1 H, *J* = 4.1. [MH]<sup>+</sup> 478.

**Dimethyl (2E)-2-(5-Methyl-4-oxo-4,5-dihydrothieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-a]isoindol-10-yl)but-2-enedioate (12)**

Compound **6** (0.5 g 2 mmol) and dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate (**11**; 0.35 g, 2.5 mmol) in a dioxane were heated under reflux for 30 min. The solution was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was separated by chromatography (silica gel L 100/250 mesh; dichloromethane-acetone 3:1). Yield 0.72 g (92%) of a red powder. M.p. 211 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 3.54 s, 3 H (CH<sub>3</sub>); 3.61 s, 3 H (CH<sub>3</sub>); 4.09 s, 3 H (CH<sub>3</sub>); 6.93 t, 1 H, *J* = 7.6; 7.03 s, 1 H; 7.07–7.11 m, 2 H, *J* = 7.8; 7.36 d, 1 H, *J* = 5.2; 8.07 d, 1 H, *J* = 8.8; 8.18 d, 1 H, *J* = 5.2. [MH]<sup>+</sup> 397.

**Preparation of Acyl Derivatives **14a**–**14c**. General Procedure**

One equivalent of an acyl chloride and 1.5 equivalent of triethylamine were added to a solution of **6** in 15 ml of dioxane. The mixture was heated at 100 °C for 1 h. After cooling, the product was recovered by filtration and recrystallized from ethanol.

**5-Methyl-10-(2-methyl-3-furoyl)thieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-a]isoindol-4(5H)-one (14a).** From **6** (0.25 g, 1 mmol), 2-methyl-3-furoyl chloride (0.17 g, 1.2 mmol) and triethylamine (0.15 g, 1.5 mmol). Yield 0.34 g (95%) of yellow crystals. M.p. 251 °C. For C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S (362.4) calculated: 66.28% C, 3.89% H, 7.73% N; found: 66.31% C, 3.94% H, 7.75% N. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 2.46 s, 3 H (CH<sub>3</sub>); 4.12 s, 3 H (CH<sub>3</sub>); 6.65 s, 1 H; 7.00–7.04 t, 1 H, *J* = 7.6; 7.17–7.21 t, 1 H, *J* = 7.8; 7.26–7.28 d, 1 H, *J* = 8.4; 7.56–7.59 m, 2 H; 8.10–8.11 d, 1 H, *J* = 3.6; 8.18–8.20 d, 1 H, *J* = 8.8. [MH]<sup>+</sup> 363.

**10-(4-Methoxybenzoyl)-5-methylthieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-a]isoindol-4(5H)-one (14b).** From **6** (0.25 g, 1 mmol), 4-methoxybenzoyl chloride (0.2 g, 1.2 mmol) and triethylamine (0.15 g, 1.5 mmol). Yield 0.37 g (97%) of yellow crystals. M.p. 234 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 3.92 s, 3 H (OCH<sub>3</sub>); 4.11 s, 3 H (CH<sub>3</sub>); 6.90–7.01 m, 5 H; 7.53–7.55 d, 1 H, *J* = 8.0; 7.83–7.86 m, 2 H; 8.08–8.10 m, 1 H; 8.15–8.17 d, 1 H, *J* = 8.0. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CF<sub>3</sub>COOD): 17.21, 36.02, 112.44, 122.55, 121.24, 124.50, 128.10, 129.55, 132.08, 135.63, 141.06, 144.06, 144.61, 146.60, 147.24, 160.33, 163.29, 163.55, 171.46, 188.18. [MH]<sup>+</sup> 389.

**5-Methyl-10-(2-phenylbutanoyl)thieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-a]isoindol-4(5H)-one (14c).** From **6** (0.25 g, 1 mmol), 2-phenylbutanoyl chloride (0.21 g, 1.2 mmol) and triethylamine (0.15 g, 1.5 mmol). Yield 0.39 g (98%) of yellow crystals. M.p. 222 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 0.99 t, 3 H, *J* = 7.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>); 1.91–1.94 m, 1 H; 2.24–2.30 m, 1 H; 4.04 s, 3 H (CH<sub>3</sub>); 4.61 t, 1 H, *J* = 7.2; 7.03 t, 1 H, *J* = 7.6; 7.16–7.23 m, 2 H; 7.27–7.23 m, 2 H; 7.37 t, 1 H, *J* = 7.6; 7.44–7.46 m, 2 H; 8.01 d, 1 H, *J* = 5.2; 8.04 d, 1 H, *J* = 9.2; 8.16 d, 1 H, *J* = 8.8. [MH]<sup>+</sup> 401.

**5-Methyl-10-(trifluoroacetyl)thieno[2',3':5,6]pyrimido[2,1-a]isoindol-4-(5H)-one (14d)**

Trifluoroacetic anhydride (0.31 g, 1.5 mmol) and triethylamine (0.15 g, 1.5 mmol) were added to a solution of **6** (0.25 g, 1 mmol) in 15 ml of dioxane. The mixture was heated to 60 °C for 1 h. After cooling, the product was recovered by filtration and recrystallized from ethanol. Yield 0.33 g (96%) of yellow crystals. M.p. 236 °C. For C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>9</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S (350.3) calculated: 54.86% C, 2.59% H, 8.00% N; found: 54.90% C, 2.61% H, 7.97% N. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>): 4.12 s, 3 H (CH<sub>3</sub>); 7.25 t, 1 H, *J* = 7.8; 7.59 d, 1 H, *J* = 5.6; 7.57 t, 1 H, *J* = 7.6; 7.88 d, 1 H, *J* = 8.8; 8.19 d, 1 H, *J* = 5.2; 8.36 d, 1 H, *J* = 8.8. [MH]<sup>+</sup> 351.

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