

## Reactions of *N,N*-(dialkyl)arylthioacetamides with dialkyl acetylenedicarboxylates

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2-(Alkoxy carbonylmethylidene)-4-aryl-5-(dialkylamino)thiophen-3(2*H*)-ones were synthesized by condensation of *N,N*-(dialkyl)arylthioacetamides with dialkyl acetylenedicarboxylates. Intermediate substituted vinylic sulfides were isolated. When heated or in the presence of an acid or a base, they undergo cyclization into thiophenes.

**Key words:** thiophene, *N,N*-(dialkyl)arylthioacetamides, dialkyl acetylenedicarboxylates, condensation.

The reactions of thioureas, thiosemicarbazides, and thioamides with acetylenedicarboxylic acid derivatives are convenient methods for the synthesis of nitrogen- and sulfur-containing heterocycles<sup>1–9</sup> such as thiazoles,<sup>1–5</sup> thiazines,<sup>6,7</sup> imidazoles,<sup>8</sup> thiadiazines, and pyrimidines.<sup>9</sup> However, only nonsubstituted or *N*-monosubstituted derivatives of thioureas, thiosemicarbazides, and thioamides were involved in this reaction. The goal of the present study is to investigate the reactions of *N,N*-(dialkyl)arylthioacetamides with dialkyl acetylenedicarboxylates.

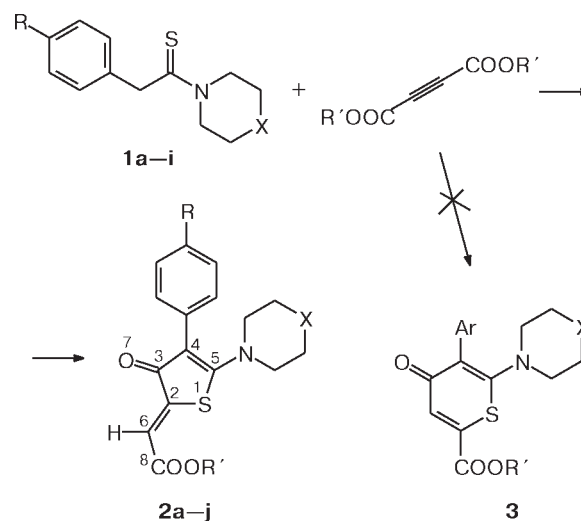
### Results and Discussion

The reactions of 2-arylthioacetamides **1a–i** with acetylene derivatives yielded only substituted 2-methylidenethiophen-3-ones **2a–j** (Scheme 1), which were identified using IR and <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectroscopy and mass spectrometry (Tables 1–3).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR data enable one to exclude the formation of possible products **3**. Thus, a signal from the C(4) atom shows a splitting only for the *ortho*-hydrogen atoms of the phenyl group, and *J*<sub>C(3)–H(6)</sub> = 4.6 Hz, which indicates the (*Z*)-configuration of the exocyclic double bond, *J*<sub>C(8)–H(6)</sub> being equal to 1.9 Hz. The structure of compound **2j** was confirmed by X-ray diffraction data for a single crystal obtained by crystallization from ethanol.

Two crystallographically independent molecules of compound **2j** are very close in geometry. Their thiophene

Scheme 1



Compound	1, 2	2	Compound	1, 2	2
<b>1a, 2a</b>	X	R	<b>1f, 2f</b>	X	R
<b>1b, 2b</b>	O	OMe	<b>1g, 2g</b>	O	OEt
<b>1c, 2c</b>	O	Cl	<b>1h, 2h</b>	CH <sub>2</sub>	H
<b>1d, 2d</b>	O	Br	<b>1i, 2i</b>	CH <sub>2</sub>	OMe
<b>1e, 2e</b>	O	H	<b>2j</b>	CH <sub>2</sub>	Cl
		Me			Et

fragments are planar with an accuracy of  $\pm 0.016(2)$  Å, and the whole molecule, except for the phenyl and piperidine groups, is planar with an accuracy of  $\pm 0.228(6)$  Å.

**Table 1.** Characteristics of the starting thioacetamides **1** and **4**

Com- pound	M.p./°C	Yield (%)	<u>Found</u> <u>Calculated</u> (%)		Molecular formula	MS, [M] <sup>+</sup>
			N	S		
<b>1a</b>	70	69	—	<u>13.08</u> 12.76	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>17</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> S	251
<b>1b</b>	85	48	—	<u>12.81</u> 12.54	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>14</sub> CINOS	255
<b>1c</b>	70	52	—	<u>10.89</u> 10.68	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>14</sub> BrNOS	301, 299
<b>1d</b>	100	38	—	<u>14.86</u> 14.49	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>15</sub> NOS	221
<b>1e</b>	105	75	—	<u>13.85</u> 13.63	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>17</sub> NOS	235
<b>1f</b>	80	47	—	<u>12.28</u> 12.08	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>19</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> S	265
<b>1g</b>	80	65	—	<u>15.08</u> 14.62	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>17</sub> NS	219
<b>1h</b>	70	36	—	<u>12.98</u> 12.86	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>19</sub> NOS	249
<b>1i</b>	60	57	—	<u>13.01</u> 12.63	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>16</sub> CINS	253
<b>4a</b>	95	69	<u>16.55</u> 16.46	<u>18.69</u> 18.84	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub> OS	170
<b>4b</b>	65	38	<u>16.41</u> 16.65	<u>18.95</u> 19.06	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> S	168
<b>4c</b>	100	55	<u>18.32</u> 18.16	<u>21.12</u> 20.79	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub> S	154

**Table 2.** Characteristics of compounds **2**, **5**, and **6**

Com- pound	M.p./°C	Yield (%)	<u>Found</u> <u>Calculated</u> (%)		Molecular formula	MS, [M] <sup>+</sup>
			N	S		
<b>2a</b>	160	45	<u>4.12</u> 3.88	<u>8.97</u> 8.86	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>19</sub> NO <sub>5</sub> S	361
<b>2b</b>	215	51	<u>3.98</u> 3.83	<u>9.08</u> 8.76	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>16</sub> CINO <sub>4</sub> S	365
<b>2c</b>	220	62	<u>3.74</u> 3.41	<u>8.11</u> 7.81	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>16</sub> BrNO <sub>4</sub> S	410
<b>2d</b>	150	42	<u>4.43</u> 4.23	<u>9.39</u> 9.68	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>17</sub> NO <sub>4</sub> S	331
<b>2e</b>	220	54	<u>3.63</u> 3.90	<u>9.35</u> 8.92	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>21</sub> NO <sub>4</sub> S	359
<b>2f</b>	145	47	<u>3.62</u> 3.60	<u>8.14</u> 8.23	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>23</sub> NO <sub>5</sub> S	389
<b>2g</b>	140	56	<u>4.10</u> 4.25	<u>9.89</u> 9.73	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>19</sub> N <sub>0</sub> 4S	329
<b>2h</b>	155	52	<u>4.25</u> 3.90	<u>8.77</u> 8.92	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>21</sub> N <sub>0</sub> 4S	359
<b>2i</b>	185	48	<u>4.13</u> 4.00	<u>10.05</u> 9.17	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>16</sub> CINO <sub>3</sub> S	349
<b>2j</b>	141	53	<u>3.90</u> 4.08	<u>8.89</u> 9.33	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>21</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> S	343
<b>5a</b>	165	57	<u>10.15</u> 9.99	<u>11.26</u> 11.44	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> S	280

(to be continued)

Table 2 (continued)

Compound	M.p./°C	Yield (%)	Found ————— (%)		Molecular formula	MS, [M] <sup>+</sup>
			N	S		
<b>5b</b>	180	60	<u>10.21</u> 10.06	<u>11.29</u> <u>11.52</u>	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> S	278
<b>5c</b>	240	53	<u>10.52</u> 10.60	<u>11.82</u> 12.13	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> S	264
<b>5d</b>	238	85	<u>10.25</u> 10.06	<u>11.78</u> 11.52	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> S	278
<b>6a</b>	115	62	<u>9.43</u> 8.97	<u>10.52</u> 10.25	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> S	312
<b>6d</b>	96	65	<u>9.73</u> 9.45	<u>11.22</u> 10.82	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> S	296

Table 3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of the compounds synthesized

Compound	<sup>1</sup> H NMR (DMSO-d <sub>6</sub> ) δ (J/Hz)
<b>2a</b>	7.16 (d, 2 H, ArH, <i>J</i> = 6.8); 6.93 (d, 2 H, ArH, <i>J</i> = 6.8); 6.63 (s, 1 H, CH); 3.77 (s, 3 H, OMe); 3.76 (s, 3 H, OMe), 3.60—3.64 (m, 4 H, 2 CH <sub>2</sub> ); 3.44—3.48 (m, 4 H, 2 CH <sub>2</sub> )
<b>2b</b>	7.42 (d, 2 H, ArH, <i>J</i> = 6.7); 7.29 (d, 2 H, ArH, <i>J</i> = 6.7); 6.66 (s, 1 H, CH); 3.78 (s, 3 H, OMe); 3.60—3.64 (m, 4 H, 2 CH <sub>2</sub> ); 3.44—3.48 (m, 4 H, 2 CH <sub>2</sub> )
<b>2c</b>	7.52—7.56 (m, 2 H, ArH); 7.21—7.24 (m, 2 H, ArH); 6.65 (s, 1 H, CH); 3.77 (s, 3 H, OMe); 3.60—3.66 (m, 4 H, 2 CH <sub>2</sub> ); 3.41—3.46 (m, 4 H, 2 CH <sub>2</sub> )
<b>2d</b>	7.30—7.32 (m, 5 H, C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ); 6.65 (s, 1 H, CH); 3.79 (s, 3 H, OMe); 3.60—3.65 (m, 4 H, 2 CH <sub>2</sub> ); 3.40—3.45 (m, 4 H, 2 CH <sub>2</sub> )
<b>2e</b>	7.10—7.16 (m, 4 H, ArH); 6.61 (s, 1 H, CH); 4.24 (q, 2 H, CH <sub>2</sub> , <i>J</i> = 7.1); 3.58—3.62 (m, 4 H, 2 CH <sub>2</sub> ); 3.42—3.46 (m, 4 H, 2 CH <sub>2</sub> ); 2.30 (s, 3 H, Me); 1.28 (t, 3 H, Me, <i>J</i> = 7.1)
<b>2f</b>	7.10 (d, 2 H, ArH, <i>J</i> = 7.8); 6.84 (d, 2 H, ArH, <i>J</i> = 7.8); 6.63 (s, 1 H, CH); 4.25 (q, 2 H, CH <sub>2</sub> , <i>J</i> = 7.0); 4.01 (q, 2 H, CH <sub>2</sub> , <i>J</i> = 7.0); 3.60—3.64 (m, 4 H, 2 CH <sub>2</sub> ); 3.28—3.33 (m, 4 H, 2 CH <sub>2</sub> ); 1.38 (t, 3 H, Me, <i>J</i> = 7.0); 1.26 (t, 3 H, Me, <i>J</i> = 7.0)
<b>2g</b>	7.30—7.40 (m, 5 H, C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ); 6.63 (s, 1 H, CH); 3.76 (s, 3 H, OMe); 3.40—3.44 (m, 4 H, N(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ); 1.50—1.60 (m, 6 H, (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> )
<b>2h</b>	7.16 (d, 2 H, ArH, <i>J</i> = 8.9); 6.93 (d, 2 H, Ar, <i>J</i> = 8.9); 6.61 (s, 1 H, CH); 3.77 (s, 3 H, OMe); 3.76 (3 H, s, OMe); 3.43 (br.s, 4 H, N(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>5</sub> ); 1.56 (br.s, 6 H, N(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>5</sub> )
<b>2i</b>	7.42 (d, 2 H, ArH, <i>J</i> = 7.9); 7.28 (d, 2 H, ArH, <i>J</i> = 7.9); 6.62 (s, 1 H, CH); 3.77 (s, 3 H, OMe); 3.40—3.44 (m, 4 H, N(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ); 1.55—1.60 (m, 4 H, (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> )
<b>2j*</b>	7.28—7.33 (m, 2 H, C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ); 6.20—6.30 (m, 3 H, C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ); 6.84 (s, 1 H, CH); 4.25 (t, 2 H, OCH <sub>2</sub> , <i>J</i> = 7.0); 3.73 (t, 4 H, 2 NCH <sub>2</sub> ); 1.53 (tt, 4 H, 2 CH <sub>2</sub> ); 1.59 (tt, 2 H, CH <sub>2</sub> ); 1.30 (q, 3 H, Me, <i>J</i> = 7.0)
<b>5a</b>	6.70 (s, 1 H, CH); 3.80—3.84 (m, 4 H, O(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ); 3.75 (s, 3 H, OMe); 1.30—1.35 (s, 4 H, N(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> )
<b>5b</b>	6.69 (s, 1 H, CH); 4.16—4.20 (m, 2 H, CH <sub>2</sub> ); 3.80 (s, 3 H, OMe); 3.70—3.76 (m, 2 H, CH <sub>2</sub> ); 1.75—1.81 (m, 6 H, (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> )
<b>5c</b>	6.68 (s, 1 H, CH); 4.00—4.10 (m, 2 H, CH <sub>2</sub> ); 3.80 (s, 3 H, OMe); 3.75—3.79 (m, 2 H, CH <sub>2</sub> ); 2.00—2.15 (4 H, m, (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> )
<b>5d</b>	6.67 (s, 1 H, CH); 4.20 (q, 2 H, OCH <sub>2</sub> , <i>J</i> = 7.1); 4.00—4.10 (m, 2 H, CH <sub>2</sub> ); 3.75—3.79 (m, 2 H, CH <sub>2</sub> ); 2.00—2.15 (m, 4 H, (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ); 1.28 (q, 3 H, Me, <i>J</i> = 7.1)
<b>6a</b>	6.72 (s, 1 H, CH); 4.85 (s, 1 H, CH); 3.70 (s, 3 H, OMe); 3.74 (s, 3 H, OMe); 3.50—3.58 (m, 4 H, O(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ); 3.15—3.19 (m, 4 H, N(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> )
<b>6d*</b>	Major product (90%): 6.72 (s, 1 H, CH); 4.36 (s, 1 H, CH); 4.21 (q, 2 H, OCH <sub>2</sub> Me, <i>J</i> = 7.1); 4.20 (q, 2 H, OCH <sub>2</sub> Me, <i>J</i> = 7.1); 3.56—3.66 (m, 4 H, 2 CH <sub>2</sub> ); 3.24 (m, 4 H, 2 CH <sub>2</sub> ); 1.30 (t, 3 H, Me, <i>J</i> = 7.1); 1.28 (t, 3 H, Me, <i>J</i> = 7.1) Minor product (10%): 6.56 (s, 1 H, CH); 4.32 (s, 1 H, CH); 4.21 (q, 2 H, OCH <sub>2</sub> Me, <i>J</i> = 7.1); 4.20 (q, 2 H, OCH <sub>2</sub> Me, <i>J</i> = 7.1); 3.56—3.66 (m, 4 H, 2 CH <sub>2</sub> ); 3.24 (m, 4 H, 2 CH <sub>2</sub> ); 1.30 (t, 3 H, Me, <i>J</i> = 7.1); 1.28 (t, 3 H, Me, <i>J</i> = 7.1)

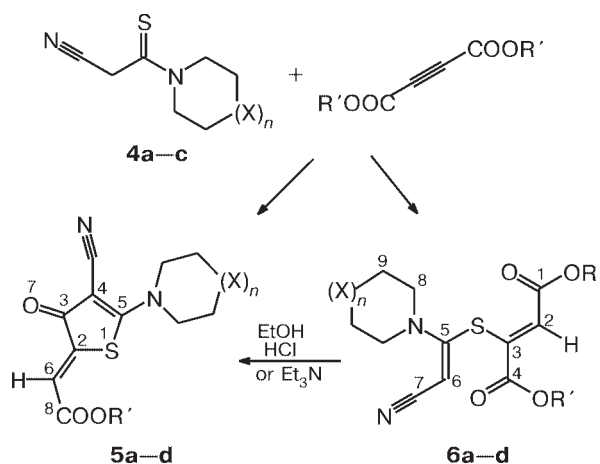
\* In CDCl<sub>3</sub>.

It should be noted that the bond lengths in the C(5)=C(4)—C(3)=O(7) fragment are equalized (the average bond lengths for two molecules are 1.389, 1.431, and 1.226 Å, respectively) and that the S(1)—C(2) and S(1)—C(5) bonds are not equivalent (average bond lengths 1.736 and 1.796 Å). The above structural features were confirmed by MP2/6-31G\* quantum-chemical calculations for (5-amino-3-oxo-2*H*-thiophen-2-ylidene)acetic acid as a model compound; bond equalization in the C(5)=C(4)—C(3)=O(7) fragment was noted earlier for structurally close compounds.<sup>10,11</sup>

Unlike compounds **1a–i**, cyanothioacetamides **4a–c** react with dialkyl acetylenedicarboxylates to give not only thiophenes **5a–d**, but also vinylic sulfides **6a,d** resulting from the addition of thioamides to acetylene derivatives (Scheme 2).

Sulfide **6d** contains an impurity (~10%), which is probably a stereoisomer about one of the double bonds. When heated in ethanol, compounds **6a,d** undergo cyclization into thiophenes **5a,d**. This reaction is also possible at room temperature in the presence of a catalytic amount of triethylamine or HCl. The structures of all the compounds obtained were confirmed by IR, <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR, and MS data. As in the case of aryl derivatives **2a–j**, the <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of compounds **5a–d** show the coupling constant  $J_{C(3)-H(6)} = 4.6$  Hz, which indicates (*Z*)-configuration of the exocyclic double bond.

Scheme 2



$R' = \text{Me (a–c), } CH_2\text{Me (d)}$   
 $X = \text{O (a), } CH_2 \text{ (b)}$   
 $n = 1 \text{ (a, b), } 0 \text{ (c, d)}$

Hence, *N,N*-(dialkyl)aryl- and -cyanothioacetamides react with dialkyl acetylenedicarboxylates to give substituted 5-methylidenethiophen-4-ones. At the first stage, acetylene derivatives add to the sulfur atom to form substituted vinylic sulfides, which undergo cyclization into thiophenones in the presence of an acid or a base or on heating.

Table 4. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) of the compounds synthesized

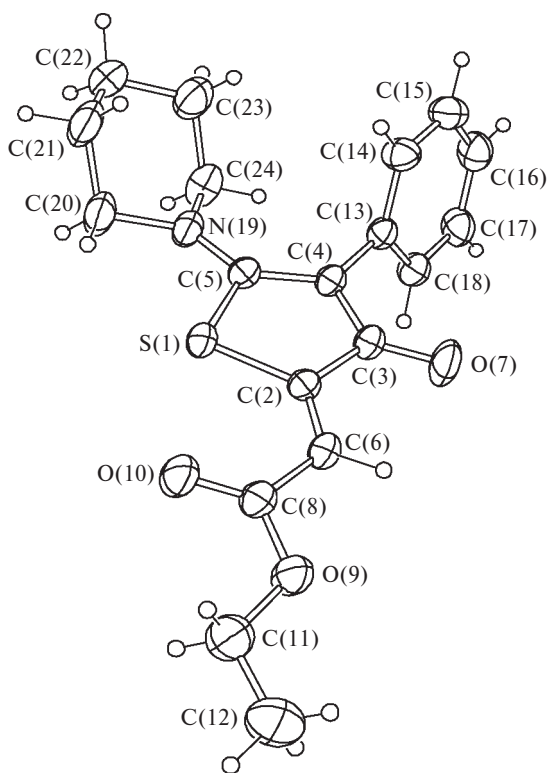
Compound	$\delta$ (J/Hz)
<b>2d</b>	184.84 (d, C(3), $J = 4.5$ ); 169.32 (d, C(5), $J = 3.2$ ); 167.15 (qd, C(8), $J = 3.9, J = 1.7$ ); 146.11 (d, C(2), $J = 2.2$ ); 133.81 (s, Ph); 129.89 (dd, Ph, $J = 168.5, J = 4.5$ ); 128.40 (dd, Ph, $J = 169.8, J = 4.8$ ); 127.24 (d, Ph, $J = 171.2$ ); 114.69 (d, C(6), $J = 172.0$ ); 108.39 (d, C(4), $J = 3.9$ ); 66.38 (tt, $OCH_2$ , $J = 148.0, J = 4.5$ ); 52.19 (t, OMe, $J = 147.4$ ); 50.94 (tt, $NCH_2$ , $J = 148.0, J = 4.5$ )
<b>2j</b>	184.46 (d, C(3), $J = 4.6$ ); 169.42 (d, C(5), $J = 4.0$ ); 166.84 (td, C(8), $J = 2.9, J = 1.9$ ); 146.18 (d, C(2), $J = 2.2$ ); 134.58 (s, Ph); 129.79 (dd, Ph, $J = 169.2, J = 4.5$ ); 128.17 (dd, Ph, $J = 168.5, J = 4.5$ ); 126.78 (d, Ph, $J = 170.1$ ); 114.18 (d, C(6), $J = 171.3$ ); 107.65 (d, C(4), $J = 3.6$ ); 61.03 (tq, $OCH_2\text{Me}$ , $J = 147.8, J = 4.6$ ); 52.22 (tt, $NCH_2$ ); 25.83 (tt, $CH_2$ ); 23.56 (t, $CH_2$ , $J = 147.5$ ); 14.01 (qt, $OCH_2CH_3$ , $J = 127.2, J = 2.4$ )
<b>5d</b>	183.54 (d, C(3), $J = 5.0$ ); 165.90 (d, C(5), $J = 2.4$ ); 172.04 (t, C(8), $J = 3.5$ ); 143.48 (d, C(2), $J = 2.2$ ); 116.19 (d, C(6), $J = 172.2$ ); 115.20 (s, CN); 79.16 (s, C(4)); 61.51 (tq, $OCH_2\text{Me}$ , $J = 148.1, J = 4.5$ ); 53.68 (t, $NCH_2$ ); 51.85 (t, $NCH_2$ ); 26.13 (t, $CH_2$ ); 25.83 (t, $CH_2$ ); 23.11 (t, $CH_2$ ); 13.80 (qt, $OCH_2CH_3$ , $J = 127.4, J = 2.6$ )
<b>6d</b>	Major product (90%): 164.31 (dt, C(1), $J = 3.2, J = 3.2$ ); 163.34 (dt, C(4), $J = 6.0, J = 3.0$ ); 160.44 (br.s, C(5), $W_{1/2} = 6$ ); 142.96 (s, C(3)); 125.54 (d, C(2), $J = 169.6$ ); 118.06 (s, C(7)); 75.82 (d, C(6), $J = 169.4$ ); 65.70 (tm, C(9), $J = 144.4$ ); 62.62 (tq, $OCH_2CH_3$ , $J = 148.5, J = 4.5$ ); 61.29 (tq, $OCH_2\text{Me}$ , $J = 148.6, J = 4.5$ ); 49.63 (tm, C(8), $J = 138.4$ ); 13.94 (qt, $OCH_2CH_3$ , $J = 127.4, J = 2.6$ ); 13.85 (qt, $OCH_2CH_3$ , $J = 127.4, J = 2.6$ ) Minor product (10%): 164.35 (C(1)); 163.52 (C(4)); 161.76 (C(5)); 143.61 (C(3)); 125.51 (C(2)); 117.94 (s, C(7)); 71.28 (d, C(6), $J = 177.4$ ); 66.34 (tm, C(9), $J = 145.2$ ); 62.90 ( $OCH_2CH_3$ ); 61.37 ( $OCH_2\text{Me}$ ); 51.01 (t, C(8), $J = 145.2$ ); 13.98 ( $CH_3$ ); 13.82 ( $CH_3$ )

## Experimental

$^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded at 30 °C on Bruker 250 (250.13 MHz for  $^1\text{H}$ ) and Bruker DRX-500 instruments (500.13 and 125.13 MHz, respectively). IR spectra were recorded on a IR-75 spectrometer (in pellets with KBr). The course of the reactions was monitored and the purity of the products was checked by TLC on Silufol UV-254 plates in ethyl acetate–hexane (1 : 1), chloroform–ethanol (9 : 1), and chloroform. Melting points are given noncorrected. Solvents were purified and dried according to the standard procedures; THF was pre-dried over NaOH, distilled over Na, and kept over 4A molecular sieves. The physicochemical characteristics of the compounds obtained are given in Tables 1–3.

**Synthesis of arylthioacetamides 1a–i (general procedure).** A mixture of the corresponding acetophenone (0.027 mol), sulfur (1.3 g, 0.041 mol), and a cyclic amine (0.41 mol) was refluxed for 20 h. The resulting dark brown mixture was cooled and diluted with 100 mL of cold water. Trituration by a glass rod gave a crystalline precipitate. Thioacetamide 1a–i was filtered off and recrystallized from ethanol.

**Synthesis of cyanothioacetamides 4a–c (general procedure).** Finely divided  $\text{P}_2\text{S}_5$  (1.0 g) was added to a stirred suspension of the corresponding cyanoacetamide (2.0 g) in 100 mL of THF. The reaction mixture was heated at 50 °C for 30 min, cooled, and concentrated at a reduced pressure. Water (100 mL) was added, and the cyanothioacetamide obtained was recrystallized with coal and dried over  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$ .



**Fig. 1.** Structure of one of the two crystallographically independent molecules of compound **2j** (according to the X-ray diffraction data).

**Table 5.** Selected bond lengths (*d*) in structure **2j**

Bond	<i>d</i> /Å		
	<b>2j</b> (X-ray diffraction analysis)*		Model compound**
	A	B	
S(1)—C(5)	1.799(4)	1.793(4)	1.786
S(1)—C(2)	1.736(4)	1.736(4)	1.747
C(4)=C(5)	1.397(6)	1.380(6)	1.364
C(3)—C(4)	1.425(6)	1.437(6)	1.440
C(3)=O(7)	1.225(5)	1.227(5)	1.234
C(5)—N(19)	1.323(6)	1.339(6)	1.352
C(2)—C(3)	1.509(6)	1.504(6)	1.521

\* Two crystallographically independent molecules A and B.

\*\* Calculated by the PM3/6-31G\* method.

**Synthesis of thiophenes (general procedure).** Dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate (0.1 mol) was added to a solution of *N,N*-dialkylthioacetamide **1** or **4** (0.1 mol) in 10 mL of anhydrous EtOH. The reaction mixture was refluxed for 2 h and concentrated, and the precipitate that formed was triturated with EtOH and filtered off. The product was recrystallized from a chloroform–hexane mixture.

**X-ray diffraction analysis of compound 2j** was carried out on a Bruker P4 diffractometer (Mo- $\text{K}\alpha$  radiation, graphite monochromator,  $\theta/2\theta$  scan mode,  $2\theta < 50^\circ$ ). Bright red crystals are monoclinic:  $a = 11.175(2)$  Å,  $b = 11.512(2)$  Å,  $c = 28.101(5)$  Å,  $\beta = 95.726(8)^\circ$ ,  $V = 3597.2(10)$  Å<sup>3</sup>, space group *Cc*,  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{21}\text{NO}_3\text{S}$ ,  $Z = 8$ , molecular mass 343.43,  $d_{\text{calc}} = 1.268$  g cm<sup>−3</sup>,  $\mu = 0.196$  mm<sup>−1</sup>. The intensities of 3350 independent reflections were measured for a crystal  $0.1 \times 1.2 \times 1.4$  mm in size; corrections for crystal habit absorption were applied (transmission 0.84–0.97). The structure was solved by the direct method using the SHELXS-97 program and refined by the least-squares method in the anisotropic-isotropic approximation using the SHELXL-97 program to  $wR_2 = 0.1303$ ;  $S = 1.026$  for all reflections ( $R = 0.0456$  for 2974  $F > 4\sigma$ ). Hydrogen atoms were located geometrically and refined isotropically with the fixed carbon atoms which they are bonded to. Structure **2j** is displayed in Fig. 1. Selected bond lengths are given in Table 5.

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