

## Research Article

# Synthesis and Antimicrobial Activity of Pyrimidine Salts with Chloranilic and Picric Acids

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Pyrimidine salts such as 2-methyl-5-nitro-phenyl-(4-pyridin-3-yl-pyrimidin-2-yl)-amine (1) and 4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-pyrimidin-2-yl-amino)-phenyl-amine (2) with chloranilic and picric acids were synthesized, and their *in vitro* antibacterial and antifungal activities were evaluated. The synthesized compounds were characterized by elemental analyses, UV-visible, FT-IR, and <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectral studies. Compound 2a exhibited good inhibition towards antimicrobial activity compared to the other compounds.

## 1. Introduction

The health problem demands to search and synthesize a new class of antimicrobial compounds which are effective against pathogenic microorganisms and develop resistance to the antibiotics used in the current regime [1]. The increasing resistance of human pathogens to current antimicrobial agents is a serious medical problem. During the 20th century, vaccines for bacterial toxins and many other common acute viral infections were developed and made widely available. The incidence of fungal infections has increased significantly in the past two decades [2]. The first-generation antifungal inhibitors of CYP51 have revolutionized the treatment of some serious fungal infections.

The pyrimidine derivatives possess a wide variety of potentially biological properties and are well known to work as herbicides [3, 4] and pesticides [5]. Pyrimidine derivatives have been found to exhibit cytostatic [6–9] immunomodulating [10, 11] and antimicrobial properties [12–15]. Imatinib is a new anticancer agent, and it is currently marketed by as Gleevec. It is a protein tyrosine kinase inhibitor that inhibits the Bcr-Abl tyrosine kinase, the constitutive abnormal tyrosine kinase created by the Philadelphia chromosome abnormality in chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) [16]. It has also been found to be effective in the treatment of

gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GISTs) [17]. This selective inhibition of Bcr-Abl kinase by imatinib has been a successful therapeutic strategy for CML because of the high efficacy and mild side effects of this compound [18, 19]. Chloranilic acid (CA) and picric acid (PA) form salts with many organic compounds particularly with aromatic and aliphatic amines.

In connection with such studies, the present paper reports the salts formed by the reaction of 2-methyl-5-nitro-phenyl-(4-pyridin-3-yl-pyrimidin-2-yl)-amine (1) and 4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-pyrimidin-2-yl-amino)-phenyl-amine (2) with chloranilic and picric acids. These synthesized compounds were characterized by different spectral studies and biological results were reported in this paper. On the basis of their activity, these salts were identified as viable leads for further studies.

## 2. Experimental

All solvents and reagents were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, India. Melting points were determined by Veego Melting Point VMP-III apparatus. Elemental analysis was carried out on Perkin Elmer 2400 elemental analyser. The UV-visible spectra were recorded on Analytikjena Specord 50 UV-vis spectrophotometer with quartz cell of 1.0 cm path

length in DMSO. The infrared spectra on KBr pellets in the range of 4000–400  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  were recorded on Jasco FT-IR 4100 series. FT-IR spectrophotometer provided with KBr optics. The NMR spectra were recorded using Bruker DRX 400 spectrometer at 400 MHz for  $^1\text{H}$  NMR with tetramethylsilane as the internal standard. Compounds **1a-b** and **2a-b** were synthesized by the method summarized in Scheme 1.

**2.1. General Procedure for the Synthesis of 1a and 2a.** The reaction between imatinib intermediates (1.0 eq) with chloranilic acid (1.0 eq) in ethanol (10 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h, where the solid precipitated after the reduction of the volume of the solvent. The separated precipitate was filtered off, washed several times with diethyl ether ( $2 \times 0.5$  mL), and dried in vacuum over  $\text{CaCl}_2$ .

**2.2. 2-Methyl-5-nitro-phenyl-(4-pyridin-3-yl-pyrimidin-2-yl)-ammonium-2,5-dichloro-4-hydroxy-3,6-dioxo-cyclohexa-1,4-dienolate (1a).** The general synthetic method described above afforded **1a**, and the product obtained was violet-colored solid from 2-methyl-5-nitro-phenyl-(4-pyridin-3-yl-pyrimidin-2-yl)-amine, **1** (0.31 g, 1 mmol) and chloranilic acid (CA) (0.22 g, 1 mmol).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$ : 9.35 (s, 1H, pyridine-H), 9.30 (d, 1H, pyridine-H), 8.90 (s, 1H, N-H), 8.77 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 8.75 (d, 1H, pyrimidine-H), 8.63 (s, 2H,  $\text{NH}_2$ ), 7.90 (d, 1H, pyridine-H), 7.88 (d, 1H, Ar-H), 7.69 (t, 1H, pyridine-H), 7.59 (d, 1H, Ar-H), 7.49 (d, 1H, pyrimidine-H), 2.40 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ). FT-IR (KBr,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )  $\nu$ : 3328 (N-H), 3108 (Ar-H), 1672 (C=O), 1578 (C=C), 1379 (C-C), 1287 (C-O), 1108 (C-N), 839 (C-Cl). Anal. Calcd. For  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{15}\text{Cl}_2\text{N}_5\text{O}_6$  (in %): C-51.18, H-2.93, N-13.56. Found C-50.91, H-3.27, N-13.46%.

**2.3. 4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-pyrimidin-2-ylamino)-phenyl-ammonium-2,5-dichloro-4-hydroxy-3,6-dioxo-cyclohexa-1,4-dienolate (2a).** The general synthetic method described above afforded **2a**, and the product obtained was violet-colored solid from 4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-pyrimidin-2-ylamino)-phenyl-amine, **2** (0.28 g, 1 mmol) and chloranilic acid (CA) (0.22 g, 1 mmol).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$ : 8.96 (s, 1H, N-H), 8.81 (s, 3H,  $\text{NH}_3$ ), 8.70 (s, 1H, pyridine-H), 8.51 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 8.43 (d, 1H, pyridine-H), 8.41 (d, 1H, pyrimidine-H), 7.55 (d, 1H, pyridine-H), 7.51 (t, 1H, pyridine-H), 7.46 (d, 1H, Ar-H), 7.22 (d, 1H, Ar-H), 6.84 (d, 1H, pyrimidine-H), 2.21 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ). FT-IR (KBr,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )  $\nu$ : 3400 ( $\text{NH}_3^+$ ), 3163 (N-H), 3066 (Ar-H), 1505 (C=O), 1445 (C=C), 1203 (C-C), 1129 (C-O), 1040 (C-N), 869 (C-Cl). Anal. Calcd. For  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{17}\text{Cl}_2\text{N}_5\text{O}_4$  (in %): C-54.34, H-3.52, N-14.40. Found C-53.96, H-3.20, N-14.13%.

**2.4. General Procedure for the Synthesis of 1b and 2b.** The reaction between imatinib and its intermediates (1.0 eq) with picric acid (1.0 eq) in ethanol (10 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h, where the solid precipitated after the reduction of the volume of the solvent. The separated precipitate was filtered off, washed several

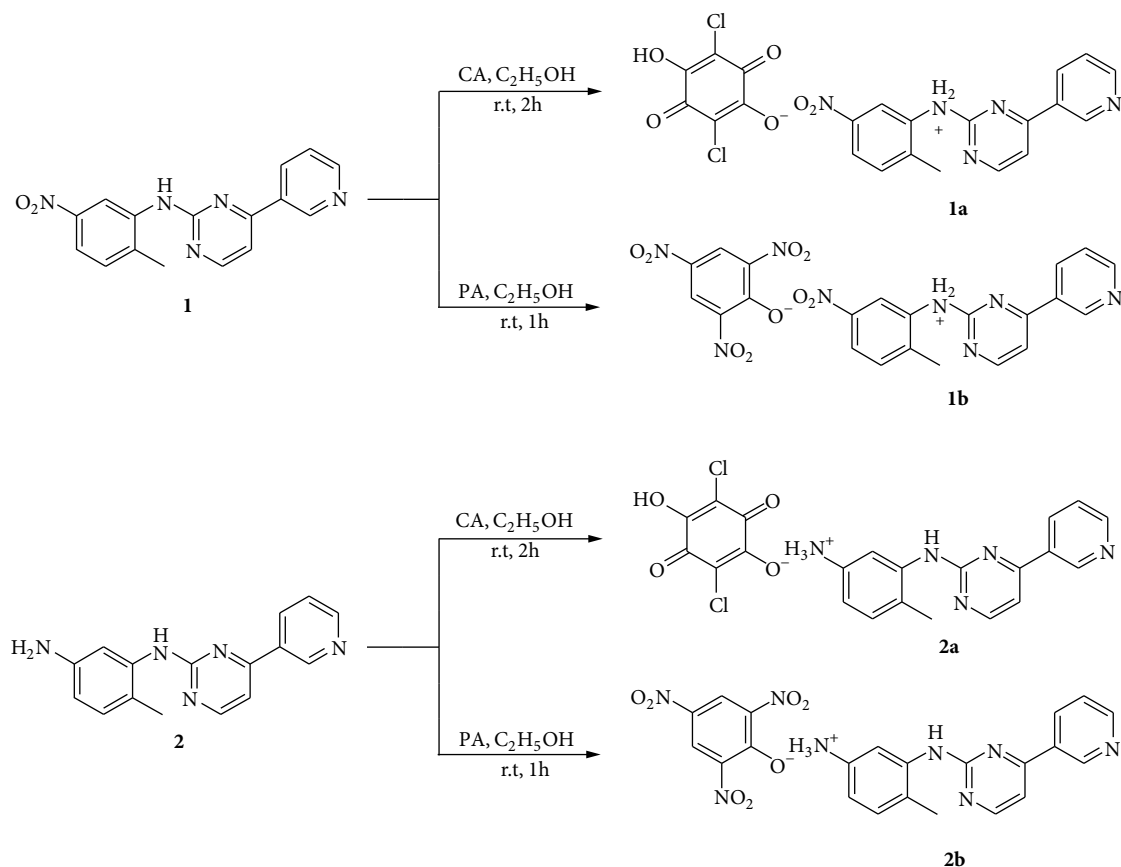
times with diethyl ether ( $2 \times 0.5$  mL), and dried in vacuum over  $\text{CaCl}_2$ . The crude product was purified by crystallization from methanol solvent.

**2.5. 2-Methyl-5-nitro-phenyl-(4-pyridin-3-yl-pyrimidin-2-yl)-ammonium Picrate (1b).** The general synthetic method described above afforded **1b**, and the product obtained was yellow colored solid from 2-methyl-5-nitro-phenyl-(4-pyridin-3-yl-pyrimidin-2-yl)-amine, **1** (0.31 g, 1 mmol) and picric acid (PA) (0.23 g, 1 mmol).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$ : 9.33 (s, 1H, pyridine-H), 9.28 (d, 1H, pyridine-H), 8.82 (s, 1H, N-H), 8.73 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 8.65 (d, 1H, pyrimidine-H), 8.55 (s, 2H,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_2$  of PA), 7.90 (d, 1H, pyridine-H), 7.88 (d, 1H, Ar-H), 7.78 (t, 1H, pyridine-H), 7.61 (d, 1H, Ar-H), 7.49 (d, 1H, pyrimidine-H), 2.40 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ). FT-IR (KBr,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )  $\nu$ : 3401 (N-H), 3093 (Ar-H), 1407 ( $\text{NO}_2$ ), 1346 (C-C), 1083 (C-N). Anal. Calcd. For  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_8\text{O}_9$  (in %): C-48.26, H-3.01, N-20.89. Found C-48.89, H-3.27, N-20.57%.

**2.6. 4-Methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-pyrimidin-2-ylamino)-phenyl-ammonium Picrate (2b).** The general synthetic method described above afforded **2b**, and the product obtained was yellow-colored solid from 4-methyl-3-(4-pyridin-3-yl-pyrimidin-2-ylamino)-phenyl-amine, **2** (0.28 g, 1 mmol) and picric acid (PA) (0.23 g, 1 mmol).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ , 400 MHz)  $\delta$ : 9.27 (s, 1H, pyridine-H), 9.26 (s, 1H, Ar-H), 9.03 (s, 1H, N-H), 8.90 (s, 3H,  $\text{NH}_3$ ), 8.71 (d, 1H, pyridine-H), 8.55 (s, 2H, PA), 8.53 (d, 1H, pyrimidine-H), 8.46 (d, 1H, pyridine-H), 7.57 (t, 1H, pyridine-H), 7.48–7.30 (d, 2H, Ar-H), 6.96 (d, 1H, pyrimidine-H), 2.25 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ). FT-IR (KBr,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )  $\nu$ : 3437 ( $\text{NH}_3^+$ ), 3178 (N-H), 3068 (Ar-H), 1837 (C=C), 1360 (C-C), 1078 (C-N). Anal. Calcd. For  $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_8\text{O}_7$  (in %): C-52.18, H-3.58, and N-22.13. Found C-51.95, H-3.93, N-22.46%.

**2.7. Antibacterial Activity.** Antibacterial activity of the synthesized compounds was determined against Gram-positive bacteria (*Bacillus subtilis* and *Staphylococcus aureus*) and Gram-negative bacteria (*Escherichia coli* and *Xanthomonas malvacearum*) in DMF by disc diffusion method on nutrient agar medium [20]. The sterile medium (nutrient agar medium, 15 mL) in each Petri plates was uniformly smeared with cultures of Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria. Sterile discs of 10 mm diameter (Hi-Media) were made in each of the Petri plates, to which 50  $\mu\text{L}$  (1 mg/mL, that is, 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{disc}$ ) of the different synthesized compounds were added. The treatments also included 50  $\mu\text{L}$  of DMF as negative, streptomycin (1 mg/mL; 10  $\mu\text{g}/\text{disc}$ ) as positive control for comparison. For each treatment, three replicates were maintained. The plates were incubated at  $37 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$  for 24 h, and the size of the resulting zone of inhibition, if any, was determined.

**2.8. Antifungal Activity.** The synthesized compounds were screened for their antifungal activity against *Fusarium oxysporum* in DMF by poisoned food technique [21]. Potato

SCHEME 1: The illustration of the synthesis of **1a-b** and **2a-b**.

dextrose agar (PDA) media were prepared, and about 15 mL of PDA was poured into each Petri plate and allowed to solidify. 5 mm disc of seven-day-old culture of the test fungi was placed at the center of the Petri plates and incubated at 26°C for 7 days. After incubation, the percentage inhibition was measured and three replicates were maintained for each treatment. Nystatin was used as standard. All the synthesized compounds, and nystatin were tested (at the dosage of 500  $\mu$ L of the compounds/Petri plate, where concentration was 0.1 mg/mL) by poisoned food technique.

### 3. Results and Discussion

The elemental analyses data showed good agreement between the experimentally determined values and the theoretically calculated values within the limits of permissible error. New bands were detected in the UV-visible spectra of the salts. These bands are not exhibited by either donor or acceptors alone. The appearance of longer wavelength absorption band in the visible region in UV-visible spectrum owing to the charge transfer transition confirms the formation of products. Yield, melting point, and UV-visible spectral data of the synthesized salts are listed in Table 1.

The infrared spectra of the molecular salts of CA and PA with donors indicate that  $\nu(\text{C}-\text{Cl})$  of CA and  $\nu(\text{NO}_2)$  of PA are shifted to lower wavenumber values. The stretching

TABLE 1: Physical characterization of the synthesized compounds.

Compound	Yield (%)	M. P (°C)	UV-visible ( $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ )
<b>1a</b>	60	218–220	530
<b>1b</b>	56	174–176	530
<b>2a</b>	61	198–202	420
<b>2b</b>	64	200–203	455

frequency of C=O bond of the acceptor displays a shift to a higher wavenumber values. Infrared spectra of the synthesized complexes show a strong band, indicating  $\text{N}^+-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}^-$  stretching vibration of the intermolecular hydrogen bond.

Compounds showed signals around 2.1–2.9 ppm and in the region 6.8–9.4 ppm due to methyl group and aromatic group of the synthesized salts. New signals are observed at 8.81–8.90 ppm assigned to  $\text{N}^+-\text{H}$  proton. The O–H signals of the free CA and free PA were disappeared on salt formation. These data is agreed quite well with the elemental analyses, UV-visible and FT-IR studies.

**3.1. Antibacterial Activity.** The investigation of antibacterial screening data revealed that synthesized salts was evaluated and compared with standard drug streptomycin. Compounds **1a**, **1b**, and **2b** showed less inhibitory activity against

TABLE 2: *In vitro* antibacterial and antifungal activities of synthesized compounds.

Compounds	Diameter of inhibition zone (mm) % inhibition				
	<i>B. subtilis</i>	<i>S. aureus</i>	<i>X. malvacearum</i>	<i>E. coli</i>	<i>F. oxysporum</i>
<b>1a</b>	11	12	13	13	43.0
<b>1b</b>	11	11	12	12	41.1
<b>2a</b>	13	15	16	14	56.4
<b>2b</b>	11	12	13	14	48.3
Streptomycin	18	20	18	19	—
Nystatin	—	—	—	—	85.2

*Bacillus subtilis*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, and *Escherichia coli*. Compound **2a** exhibited good activity with the zone of inhibition in the range of 16 mm against pathogenic bacterial strain.

**3.2. Antifungal Activity.** The antifungal activity of synthesized salts were evaluated and compared with standard drug nystatin. All the synthesized salts showed moderate inhibitory activity compared with standard drug. Compound **2a** showed good antifungal activity with the 56.4% inhibition against *F. oxysporum*, compared with **2b**, **1a**, and **1b**. Among the synthesized salts, inhibitory activity is in the order of **2a** > **2b** > **1a** > **1b** > against tested fungi. The compound **2a** exhibited good activity against fungal strain. The salts of imatinib and its intermediates with chloranilic acid are more antimicrobial activity compared with salts of picric acid. Antimicrobial screening results of the tested salts are shown in Table 2.

#### 4. Conclusion

In conclusion, salts of pyrimidines with chloranilic and picric acids were synthesized in good yield, characterized by different spectral studies, and their antimicrobial activity has been evaluated. Compound **2a** demonstrated good inhibition against all the strains tested. It should be noted that compound **2a** demonstrated better inhibition compared to other compounds against bacterial and fungal strains tested.

#### Conflict of Interests

The authors report no conflict of interests. The authors alone are responsible for the content and writing of the paper.


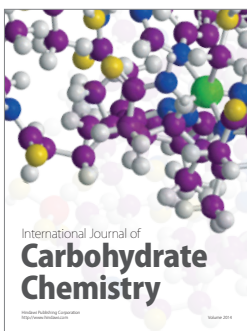
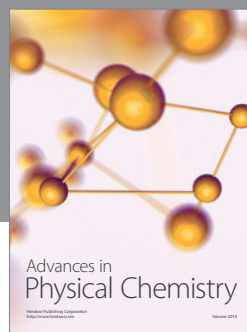
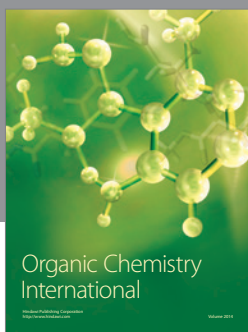
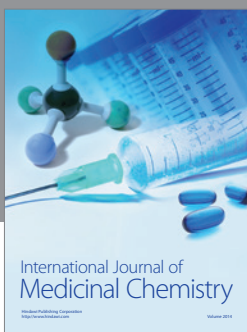
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