## 2-Arylthienyl-substituted 1,3-benzothiazoles as new nonlinear optical chromophores

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### Abstract

A series of nonlinear optical chromophores **6** containing a substituted benzothiazole ring have been synthesized and characterized. 1,3-Benzothiazoles **6** were prepared by reacting various formyl derivatives of thienyl compounds with *ortho*-aminobenzenethiol in fair to excellent yields. These in turn were prepared by Suzuki coupling between aryl and thienyl precursors. The electronic interactions between donor and acceptor end groups in the conjugated 1,3benzothiazoles **6** are expressed in the intense and markedly solvatochromic CT transitions. The solvatochromic behaviour of compounds **6** was determinated by linear regression analyses of absorption maxima in several solvents, whereby benzothiazole **6f** was found to be a very appropriate indicator dye whose absorption wavenumbers ( $\Delta v_{max}$ = 1590 cm<sup>-1</sup>) in aliphatic and dipolar aprotic and in aromatic and chlorinated solvents excellently correlate with the  $\pi^*$  values defined by Kamlet and Taft. Hyper-Rayleigh scattering was used to measure the first hyperpolarizabilities  $\beta$  of the mentioned compounds. Thermo gravimetric analysis (TGA) was used to evaluate their thermal stability. The experimental results indicate that good nonlinearity-thermal stability is well balanced for chromophores 6, making them good candidates for device applications.

Keywords: Aldehydes, benzothiazoles, UV/Vis spectroscopy, nonlinear optics.

## Introduction

Dipolar chromophores of the form D– $\pi$ –A, where D (A) is an electron donor (acceptor) group and  $\pi$  is a conjugated bridge possessing large molecular second-order nonlinear optical (NLO) responses and good thermal stability are currently of interest because of their applicability to electrooptic devices. In such molecules, the donor and acceptor substituents provide the requisite ground-state charge asymmetry, whereas the  $\pi$  conjugation system provides a pathway for the redistribution conjugation of electric charges under the influence of electric fields.<sup>[1]</sup>

Synthetic studies have demonstrated that replacing the benzene ring of a chromophore  $\pi$ bridge with easily delocalizable five member heteroaromatic rings, such as thiazole and thiophene, results in enhanced molecular hyperpolarizability. Selected thiazole, imidazole, oxazole and phenyl analogues have been prepared and characterized for comparison of the nonlinear optical properties. These studies showed that the order of nonlinearities is thiazoles > oxazoles > imidazoles. For electrooptical poled polymer applications, the substituted thiazoles are viewed as somewhat superior by virtue of the combination of their substantial dipole moments, red shifted absorption maxima, and to some extent enhanced nonlinearities suggesting that thiazole derivatives are good candidates as NLO chromophores.<sup>[2]</sup> Recently, computational studies have suggested that heteroaromatic rings play a subtle role in influencing the second-order NLO response properties of donor-acceptor compounds.<sup>[3]</sup> While the aromaticity of heteroaromatic rings affects electronic transmissions between donor and acceptor substituents, the electron-excessive or electron-deficient nature of the heterocyclic ring system also plays major role in determining the overall electron-donating and -accepting ability of the substituents: electron-excessive heterocycles act as auxiliary donors and electron-deficient heterocycles act as auxiliary acceptors.<sup>[4]</sup>

Our research on new organic and organometallic materials (oligothiophenes, benzothiazoles, thienylpyrroles, thienylphthalazines, thienyl- and bithienyl- Mo complexes) includes an interest in new molecules with application in optical and electronic devices.<sup>[5]</sup> Recently, 2-heteroaryl-substituted benzothiazoles have been investigated by us and due to their solvatochromic and fluorescence properties, benzothiazole derivatives could be used on the manufacture of organic light-emitting diodes (OLEDs) or materials with good NLO properties.<sup>[5e-h]</sup>

A number of factors prompted us to synthesize and study the properties of 2-arylthienylsubstituted 1,3-benzothiazoles **6**: (*i*) our experience in the chemistry of benzothiazoles<sup>[5e-h]</sup>, (*ii*) the scarce mention in the literature of related systems,<sup>[2,3,6]</sup> and (*iii*) the high thermal stabilities of systems derived from benzothiazole,<sup>[6c, 6g-i]</sup> a very adequate characteristic for possible technological applications of these molecules. Accordingly and as part of our continuing interest in developing chromophores with NLO properties, we describe here the synthesis, the UV/Vis, the solvatochromic and nonlinear optical properties of a series of heterocyclic chromophores of the benzothiazole type containing a arylthienyl moiety substituted with various groups such as alkoxy, halogen, hydroxy and *N*,*N*-dialkylamino.

## **Results and discussion**

## Synthesis of aldehydes 5

Formyl derivatives **5** were synthesized with several groups (fluoro, alkoxy, hydroxy, *N*,*N*-dialkylamino), linked to the  $\pi$  conjugating bridge in order to evaluate the effect of the donating and accepting strength of these groups on the solvatochromic and nonlinear optical properties of benzothiazoles **6**. The formyl-thienylaryl derivatives **5a**–**k** were synthesized by Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> catalyzed cross-coupling reaction of thienyl- or aryl boronic acids **3a**–**b** and **4a**–**b**, with the bromoaryl or bromothienyl **1a**–**i** and **2a** compounds (Figure 1).



Figure 1. Structures of compounds 1, 3–4.

The bromo derivatives **1a–g**, **i**, 1-bromonaphthalene **1h** and 2-bromo-5-formylthiophene **2a** were coupled under Suzuki conditions with the thienyl or aryl boronic acids **3a–b** and **4a–b** to give the formyl derivatives **5**. The Suzuki coupling reactions were performed in 1,2-dimethoxyethane (DME) and aqueous 2 M Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (2 equiv.) under an argon atmosphere and Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (6 mol%) was used as palladium catalyst at 80 °C for 7–47 h (Scheme 1).

$$1a-i \xrightarrow{3a-b}_{i} R^{1} \xrightarrow{S} R^{2}$$

$$5a R^{1} = H, R^{2} = 4-formylphenyl$$

$$b R^{1} = CHO, R^{2} = 4-methoxyphenyl$$

$$c R^{1} = CHO, R^{2} = 2,4-dimethoxyphenyl$$

$$e R^{1} = CHO, R^{2} = 4-hydroxyphenyl$$

$$f R^{1} = CHO, R^{2} = 4-hydroxyphenyl$$

$$g R^{1} = CHO, R^{2} = 4-biphenyl$$

$$h R^{1} = CHO, R^{2} = 4-biphenyl$$

$$i R^{1} = CHO, R^{2} = 4-phenoxyphenyl$$

$$i R^{1} = CHO, R^{2} = 4-fluorophenyl$$

$$k R^{1} = CHO, R^{2} = 4-formylphenyl$$

$$k R^{1} = CHO, R^{2} = 0$$

Scheme 1. Synthesis of arylthienyl derivatives 5a-k by Suzuki coupling. *Reagents and conditions*: i) DME, Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (6 mol%), Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (2 M), 80 °C, Ar.

The formyl derivatives **5a-k** where obtained in fair to good yields 15-89% (Table 1). Better yields were achieved when more activated aryl bromides were used in the Suzuki couplings. Compounds **5a**,<sup>[7]</sup> **5b**,<sup>[8]</sup> **5c**,<sup>[9]</sup> **5f**,<sup>[10]</sup> **5i**<sup>[11]</sup> and **5j**<sup>[12]</sup> have been previously synthesized. The synthesis of 2-(4'-formylphenyl)thiophene **5a** has been reported by Otha,<sup>[7]</sup> *et al* in a lower yield (63%) through palladium catalyzed arylation of thiophene with 1-formyl-4-bromobenzene. Compound **5b**,<sup>[8]</sup> was prepared from 2-(4'-methoxyphenyl)thiophene using a modification of Vilsmeier's formylation reaction (POCl<sub>3</sub>/DMF/toluene) in 36 % yield. Compound **5c** has been reported in a patent.<sup>[9]</sup> No data about the derivative is given. Mignani,<sup>[10]</sup> *et al* described the synthesis of **5f** (91 % yield) by lithiation of 5-(4'-*N*,*N*-dimethylaminophenyl)thiophene followed by addition of DMF in THF. No analytical data about the derivative is given. Compound **5i** was described earlier by Stulin<sup>[11]</sup> *et al* through Vilsmeier formylation (POCl<sub>3</sub>/DMF) of 2-(naphthalen-1-yl)thiophene. Derivative **5j** was synthesized by Bussolari<sup>[12]</sup> *et al* through a modified Suzuki cross-coupling reaction in aqueous medium in 82 % yield.

Bromide	Boronic	Aldehyde	Yield	Reaction	$\lambda_{\max} [\mathbf{nm}]^{[a]}$
	acid		(%)	time [h]	(log ɛ)
1a	<b>3</b> a	5a	82	44	324 (4.30)
1b	<b>3</b> b	5b	15	24	345 (4.26)
1c	<b>3</b> b	_	20	18	2(4, (4, 00))
2a	<b>4</b> a	5c	38	24	364 (4.08)
2a	<b>4b</b>	5d	66	28	345 (4.38)
1d	<b>3</b> b	5e	30	41	361 (4.14)
1e	<b>3</b> b	<b>5</b> f	26	44	410 (4.20)
1f	<b>3</b> b	5g	31	47	332 (4.42)
1g	<b>3</b> b	5h	26	25	340 (4.36)
1h	<b>3</b> b	5i	89	24	327 (4.36)
1i	<b>3</b> b	5j	19	41	329 (4.34)
<b>1</b> a	<b>3</b> b	5k	85	30	333 (4.47)

Table 1. Synthesis and UV/Vis absorption data of formyl derivatives 5a-k.

<sup>[a]</sup> Spectra were run in degassed absolute ethanol.

## Synthesis of benzothiazoles 6

A series of benzothiazoles **6** was synthesized with either fluoro-, alkoxy- hydroxy- or *N*,*N*-dialkylamino- donors on the arylthienyl system. The benzothiazole moiety was obtained by reaction of *o*-aminobenzenethiol with 5-formyl-substituted derivatives **5**, in DMSO at 120  $^{\circ}C^{[13]}$  for 30–60 min (Scheme 2). The reaction is initiated by the formation of the corresponding imine that cyclises spontaneously, yielding the benzothiazoline, which is oxidised to the benzothiazole, aided by the oxidizing character of DMSO. Purification of the crude by column chromatography gave the pure benzothiazoles **6** in fair to excellent yields (20-91%) (Table 2).



Scheme 2. Synthesis of benzothiazoles 6a-k.

Aldehyde	Benzo-	R	Yield	$\lambda_{max} [nm]^{[a]}$
	thiazole		(%)	<b>(log ε)</b>
<b>5</b> a	6a	thienyl	85	340 (4.59)
5b	6b	4-OMePh	86	372 (4.49)
5c	6c	2,4-diOMePh	20	417 (4.26)
5d	6d	4-OEtPh	83	372 (4.50)
5e	6e	4-OHPh	40	378 (4.22)
<b>5</b> f	<b>6f</b>	4-NMe <sub>2</sub> Ph	49	406 (4.51)
5g	6g	4-biPh	89	369 (4.63)
5h	6h	4-PhOPh	91	365 (4.55)
<b>5</b> i	6i	4-naphthyl	77	339 (4.50)
5j	6j	4-FPh	90	355 (4.51)
5k	6k		84	386 (4.58)

Table 2. Synthesis and UV/Vis absorption data of benzothiazoles 6a–k.

<sup>[a]</sup> Spectra were run in degassed absolute ethanol.

### UV/Vis study

The interesting photochemical and photophysical properties of compounds such as 2arylthienyl-1,3-benzothiazoles can be attributed to the presence in their molecules of different chromophores, the benzothiazole and the substituted arylthienyl systems.

Electronic absorption spectra of all benzothiazole derivatives **6** in absolute ethanol show an intense lowest energy charge-transfer absorption band in the UV/Vis region. The position of this band depends on the nature of the substitutent at position 2 of the benzothiazole molecule (Table 2, Figure 2). The reason for the substantial red shift in the investigated compounds **6b**–**f**, ( $\lambda_{max}$ = 372-406 nm) and **6h** ( $\lambda_{max}$ = 365 nm) relative to that of unsubstituted 2-(5'-phenyl-2'-thienyl)-1,3-benzothiazole<sup>[5e]</sup> ( $\lambda_{max}$ = 359 nm) and 2-(4'-(2''-thienyl)-2'-phenyl)-1,3-benzothiazole **6a** ( $\lambda_{max}$ = 340 nm) is the strong inductive and conjugative effect of the hydroxy, alkoxy or *N*,*N*-dialkylamino substituent in the *para* or in *ortho/para* position of the phenyl ring.



Figure 2. UV/Vis absorption spectra of compounds 6b, 6f and 6j in ethanol.

The higher electron-donating character of *N*,*N*-dialkylamino<sup>[14]</sup> groups leads to a bathochromic shift in the absorption maxima, as the longest wavelength transition is shifted from 340 nm for **6a** to 406 nm for **6f**. The influence of the strength of the donor group is demonstrated by comparison of the absorption maxima of compounds **6b** and **6f** as the longest wavelength transition is shifted from 372 nm in 4-methoxyphenythienyl-benzothiazole **6b** to 406 nm in NMe<sub>2</sub>Phthienyl-benzothiazole **6f**. The influence of the benzothiazole moiety is demonstrated by comparison of the absorption maxima of compounds **6a** and **6k** as the longest wavelength

transition is shifted from 340 nm in thienylphenyl-benzothiazole **6a** to 386 nm in 2,2'-[5''- (4'''-phenyl)thienyl]-bis-1,3-benzothiazole **6k**.

The shifts of the absorption maxima are proportional to the intramolecular charge-transfer between the electron-releasing and withdrawing groups. In general, the stronger the donor and/or acceptor group, the smaller the energy difference between ground and excited states, and the longer the wavelength of absorption.<sup>[15]</sup> According to Zyss<sup>[1a]</sup> the increase of the  $\beta$ values, characteristic of the NLO effects, is accompanied by an increase of the  $\lambda_{max}$  in the UV/Vis spectra.

# Solvatochromic study

To evaluate the intermolecular forces between the solvents and the solute molecules and in order to determine the best indicator dye, we made a preliminary study of the absorption spectra of compounds **6** in 4 selected solvents of different solvatation character (diethyl ether, ethanol, chloroform and DMSO) (Table 3). We found that compound **6f** shows the longest shift in wavenumber maxima ( $\Delta v_{max} > 1000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), so a full solvatochromic study involving 14 solvents was carried out. The wavelength maxima  $\lambda_{max}$  and wavenumber maxima  $v_{max}$  of compound **6f** are listed in Table 4 and compared with the  $\pi^*$  values for each solvent determined by Kamlet and Taft.<sup>[16]</sup>

	Solvent ( <i>π</i> *)								
	Diethyl ether (0.27)		Etł	Ethanol		Chloroform		DMSO	
Compd.			(0.54)		(0.76)		(1.00)		
	$\lambda_{max}$	v <sub>max</sub>	$\lambda_{max}$	<b>v</b> <sub>max</sub>	$\lambda_{max}$	v <sub>max</sub>	$\lambda_{max}$	v <sub>max</sub>	
6a	341.4	29,291	342.8	29,172	344.0	29,070	348.8	28,670	
6b	366.4	27,293	372.0	26,882	372.4	26,853	378.0	26,455	
6c	413.6	24,178	416.6	24,004	418.4	23,901	422.8	23,652	
6d	368.0	27,174	372.0	26,882	374.0	26,738	378.6	26,413	
6e	369.5	27,064	374.0	26,738	372.8	26,824	379.0	26,385	

Table 3.	Solvatochromic	data [ $\lambda_{max}$	(nm) and	$v_{max} \ (cm^{-1})$	of the	charge-transfer	band] for
chromopl	hores <b>6a-k</b> in sele	ected solvent	ts in comp	arison with $\pi$	* value	s by Kamlet and	l Taft. <sup>[16]</sup>

393.8	25,394	402.6	24,839	406.0	24,631	415.2	24,085
367.6	27,203	372.0	26,882	374.5	26,702	381.0	26,247
364.6	27,427	366.5	27,285	369.8	27,042	373.8	26,752
347.4	28,785	350.6	28,523	353.4	28,297	356.8	28,027
354.2	28,233	359.0	27,855	361.5	27,663	365.8	27,337
384.4	26,015	386.5	25,873	390.0	25,641	393.0	25,445
	<ul> <li>393.8</li> <li>367.6</li> <li>364.6</li> <li>347.4</li> <li>354.2</li> <li>384.4</li> </ul>	393.825,394367.627,203364.627,427347.428,785354.228,233384.426,015	393.825,394402.6367.627,203372.0364.627,427366.5347.428,785350.6354.228,233359.0384.426,015386.5	393.825,394402.624,839367.627,203372.026,882364.627,427366.527,285347.428,785350.628,523354.228,233359.027,855384.426,015386.525,873	393.825,394402.624,839406.0367.627,203372.026,882374.5364.627,427366.527,285369.8347.428,785350.628,523353.4354.228,233359.027,855361.5384.426,015386.525,873390.0	393.825,394402.624,839406.024,631367.627,203372.026,882374.526,702364.627,427366.527,285369.827,042347.428,785350.628,523353.428,297354.228,233359.027,855361.527,663384.426,015386.525,873390.025,641	393.825,394402.624,839406.024,631415.2367.627,203372.026,882374.526,702381.0364.627,427366.527,285369.827,042373.8347.428,785350.628,523353.428,297356.8354.228,233359.027,855361.527,663365.8384.426,015386.525,873390.025,641393.0

**Table 4.** Solvatochromic data  $[\lambda_{max} (nm) \text{ and } \nu_{max} (cm^{-1}) \text{ of the charge-transfer band] for chromophore$ **6f** $in 14 solvents in comparison with <math>\pi^*$  values by Kamlet and Taft.<sup>[16]</sup>

		Compound			
Solvent	$\pi^*$		6f		
	-	$\lambda_{max}$	v <sub>max</sub>		
<i>n</i> -hexane	-0.08	388.6	25,733		
diethyl ether	0.27	394.8	25,329		
ethanol	0.54	402.6	24,839		
toluene	0.54	400.8	24,950		
1,4-dioxane	0.55	402.2	24,863		
ethyl acetate	0.55	401.8	24,888		
THF	0.58	403.8	24,765		
methanol	0.60	405.5	24,661		
acetone	0.71	405.2	24,679		
acetonitrile	0.75	405.6	24,655		
chloroform	0.76	406.0	24,631		
DCM	0.82	408.0	24,510		
DMF	0.88	411.2	24,319		
DMSO	1.00	414.2	24,143		

For compound 6f the highest energy transitions are found with *n*-hexane, a nonpolar solvent, and more polar solvents such as DMSO result in lower energy transitions, thus indicating a

positive solvatochromic response ( $\Delta v_{max}$ = 1590 cm<sup>-1</sup>) that is related to a greater stabilization of the excited state relative to the ground state with increasing polarity of the solvent. Compound **6f** shows excellent correlation between wavenumber maxima and  $\pi^*$  values for the 14 solvents tested (Figure 3). Due to the evident solvatochromism and the good correlation with  $\pi^*$  values (r = 0.9857), compound **6f** seemed to a very appropriate solvent polarity indicator dye.



**Figure 3.** Correlation between absorption wavenumbers  $v_{max}$  and the  $\pi^*$  scale according to Kamlet and Taft for compound **6f**. Solvents: apolar and polar aprotic ( $\Diamond$ ), protic ( $\Box$ ), chlorinated ( $\Delta$ ) and aromatic ( $\circ$ ).

# Nonlinear optics properties and thermal stability of benzothiazoles 6

We have used the Hyper-Rayleigh scattering (HRS) technique<sup>[17]</sup> to measure the first hyperpolarizability  $\beta$  of the chromophores **6** using the 1064 nm fundamental wavelength of a laser beam. Dioxane was used as solvent, and the  $\beta$  values were measured against a reference solution of *p*-nitroaniline (PNA)<sup>[18]</sup> in the same solvent. Table 5 shows the measured values of  $\beta$  together with the lowest energy absorption maximum of each compound. We have used the two-level model to calculate the static second-order hyperpolarizability  $\beta_0^{[19]}$  the results being included in Table 5. These  $\beta_0$  values are only indicative and should, therefore, be treated with caution.

From Table 5 it is clear that the progression of donor substituents from naphthyl-thienyl-, phenyl-thienyl, 4-fluorophenyl-thienyl, 4-methoxyphenyl-thienyl-, 2,4-dimethoxyphenylthienyl- and 4-N,N-dimethylaminophenyl-thienyl- results both in red shifted absorption maxima and enhanced nonlinearities as anticipated from the donor strengths of the substituents. Therefore the  $\beta$  values of compounds **6a**, **6i**–j are virtually identical and 2-3 times of that of PNA, suggesting that the donating properties of these aryl-thienyl- moieties are comparable. However, derivatives **6b-e** (having one or two hydroxy or methoxy- groups at ortho or ortho/para position on the aromatic ring) showed higher  $\beta$  values. The  $\beta$  values are 8-11 times that of PNA, whereas the  $\beta_0$  values are 7-10 times that of PNA. Compound **6f** having a N,N-dimethylamino- group at the 4-position of the aryl ring exhibits the largest  $\beta$  and  $\beta_0$ values. The  $\beta$  and  $\beta_0$  values of **6f** are 18 and 14 times those of PNA, respectively. Comparison of the  $\beta$  values for hydroxy- or alkoxy- benzothiazole derivatives **6b–e** with N,Ndimethylamino-substituted benzothiazole 6f shows that the amino donor substitution results in greatly enhanced nonlineariaties which are in agreement with the findings of Moylan<sup>[2b]</sup> et al. Themal stability of chromophores 6 was estimated by thermo gravimetric analysis. All samples had very high decomposition temperatures ( $T_d$ = 270–450 °C), measured at heating rate of 20 °C min<sup>-1</sup>. Experimental results for compounds 6c-d, 6f and 6k indicate that good nonlinearity-thermal stability is well balanced for these chromophores which possess  $\beta$  values from  $161 \times 10^{-30}$  to  $299 \times 10^{-30}$  esu and the higher decomposition temperatures (T<sub>d</sub>= 343-450 °C). Having in mind these properties and also the structure of the compounds, these chromophores will be good candidates for device applications in guest-host systems.

Compd	R	λ <sub>max</sub>	<b>β</b> × 10 <sup>-30</sup>	$\beta_{\theta} \times 10^{-30}$	$\mathbf{T}_d$
		[ <b>nm</b> ]	[esu] <sup>[b]</sup>	[esu] <sup>[c]</sup>	[°C] <sup>[d]</sup>
6a	thienyl	356.0	45	22	318
6b	4-OMePh	372.0	136	61	350
6c	2,4-diOMePh	385.0	187	77	346
6d	4-OEtPh	374.0	161	71	342
6e	4-OHPh	418.0	169	55	270

**Table 5.** UV/Vis absorptions,  $\beta$  values,  $\beta_0$  values and T<sub>d</sub> data for benzothiazoles **6a**–k.<sup>[a]</sup>

6f	4-NMe <sub>2</sub> Ph	405.0	299	108	363
6g	4-biPh	376.0	101	44	386
6h	4-OPhPh	369.0	116	53	390
6i	4-naphthyl	352.0	25	13	369
6j	4-FPh	357.0	48	24	390
6k		389.0	170	69	450
PNA		352.0	16.9 <sup>[20]</sup>	8	

<sup>[a]</sup> Experimental hiperpolarizabilities and spectroscopic data measured in dioxane solutions. <sup>[b]</sup> All the compounds are transparent at the 1064 nm fundamental wavelength.

<sup>[c]</sup> Data corrected for resonance enhancement at 532 nm using the two-level model with  $\beta_0 = \beta$ [1- $(\lambda_{max}/1064)^2$ ][1- $(\lambda_{max}/532)^2$ ]; damping factors not included 1064 nm.<sup>[19]</sup>

<sup>[d]</sup> Decomposition temperature ( $T_d$ ) measured at a heating rate of 20 °C min<sup>-1</sup> under a helium atmosphere, obtained by TGA.

## Conclusions

Starting from the easily available formyl-arylthiophenes 5a-k as well as by using simple and convenient procedures, several arylthienyl-1,3-benzothiazoles 6 were obtained in fair to excellent yields by reaction of the arylthienylformyl derivatives with *ortho*-aminobenzenenzothiol in DMSO.

The solvatochromic behaviour of benzothiazoles 6 was evaluated by linear regression analyses of absorption maxima in several solvents. Due to their pronounced solvatochromic properties benzothiazoles 6, and especially compound 6f, are suitable to investigate the solvent polarity by means of their absorption wavenumbers.

Hyper-Rayleigh scattering was used to determine the first hyperpolarisability,  $\beta$ , of arylthienyl-benzothiazoles **6**, the data showing that  $\beta$  is dependent on the substituent(s) on the arylthienyl-moiety. It also shows that some of the compounds have high molecular nonlinearities as their values are 10–18 times higher that the well known PNA molecule. All the compounds exhibit excellent thermal stability evaluated by TGA.

In agreement with the UV/Vis, solvatochromic and nonlinear optical studies, some of the new 2-arylthienyl-1,3-benzothiazoles 6 synthesized, could be used on the manufacture of new materials with good nonlinear optical properties.

## **Experimental Section**

General: Thin layer chromatography was carried out on 0.25 mm thick precoated silica plates (Merck Fertigplatten Kieselgel  $60F_{254}$ ). Preparative chromatography was carried out on Merck Kieselgel 60 (230-400 mesh). All melting points were measured on a Gallenkamp melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded at 25 °C on a Varian 300 Unity Plus spectrometer at 300 MHz; chemical shifts are given in  $\delta$  (ppm) using TMS as standard and J-values are given in Hz. Assignments were made by comparison of chemical shifts, peak multiplicity and J-values.<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded with the same instrument at 75.4 MHz and using the solvent peak as internal reference; peak assignments were carried out by the DEPT 135, HMQC and HMBC techniques. IR spectra were run on a FTIR Perkin-Elmer 1600 spectrophotometer. Elemental analyses were carried out on a Leco CHNS 932 instrument. Mass spectrometry analyses were performed at the C.A.C.T.I. -Unidad de Espectrometria de Masas of the University of Vigo, Spain, on a Hewlett Packard 5989 A spectrometer for low resolution spectra and a VG Autospec M spectrometer for high resolution mass spectra. Toluene and DME were dried by standard procedures. All Suzuki couplings were carried out under an argon atmosphere. The phenyl and thienyl bromides 1a-i and 2a and the phenyl and thienyl boronic acids 3a-b and 4a-b were purchased from Aldrich and used as received.

The experimental set-up for Hyper-Rayleigh measurements is very similar to the one presented by Clays *et al.*<sup>[17]</sup> The incident beam came from a Q-switched Nd:YAG laser (10 Hz, ~20 mJ, ~10 ns) at a fundamental wavelength of 1064 nm and was focused in the solution (beam diameter ~0.5 mm). The Hyper-Rayleigh signal was normalized by a second harmonic signal from a quartz plate to compensate for laser power fluctuations. The concentrations of the solutions under study were chosen so that the corresponding relative Hyper-Rayleigh signals all fell within the dynamic range of the apparatus. All solutions were previously filtered (0.2 µm porosity) to avoid spurious signals from suspended dust and other impurities. The first hyperpolarizabilities  $\beta$  of the molecules in dioxane solutions were measured using

the external reference method.<sup>[18]</sup> For two dilute solutions of cromophores with dominant hyperpolarizabilities along the charge transfer axis, in the same solvent, the relative hyperpolarizability is given by  $\beta/\beta_{ref} = m/m_{ref}$  where *m* is the coefficient of variation of HRS signal with cromophore concentration. The reference chosen was a solution  $1 \times 10^{-2}$  M of PNA in dioxane since its  $\beta$  is known to be  $\beta_{pNA/p-dioxane} = 16.9 \pm 0.4 \ 10^{-30}$  esu from EFISH measurements for the same wavelength.<sup>[20]</sup> For each solution, we estimated the linear coefficients *m* using two experimental points: HRS signal for the solvent and HRS signal for the solution. The error associated with the HRS measured  $\beta$  values is typically 10%.

We were careful to test if the hyper-Rayleigh signal was artificially increased by possible molecular fluorescence near 532 nm. To do so, we carried out measurements using two different interference filters in front of the photomultiplier, each with slightly different transmission characteristics. The transmission of both filters were centered near the second harmonic at 532 nm, but the transmission band of the narrower filter was 1.66 nm (full width at half maximum), while that of the wider filter was 3.31 nm. The transmission of each filter at the second harmonic wavelength was carefully determined using a crystalline quartz sample. Assuming that any fluorescence from the solutions was essentially constant over the transmission of both interference filters, comparing the signals obtained with the two different filters allowed one to estimate the relative strengths of the hyper-Rayleigh and possible fluorescence signals. We were unable to detect the presence of any fluorescence using this method.

Thermo gravimetric analysis of samples was carried out using TGA 50 Shimadzu instrument under high purity helium supplied at a constant 50 mL min<sup>-1</sup> flow rate. All samples were subjected to a 20 °C min<sup>-1</sup> heating rate and were characterized between 25 and 500 °C.

#### Experimental procedures for the synthesis of aldehydes 5 through Suzuki cross-coupling

The bromo compounds **1a–i** or **2a** (1.2 mmol) were coupled with the boronic acids **3a–b** or **4a–b** (1.6 mmol), in a mixture of DME (15 mL) and aqueous 2M Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (1 mL) and Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (6 mol %) at 80 °C under a argon atmosphere. The reactions where followed by TLC which determined the different reactions times (Table 1). After cooling the mixture was filtered. Ethyl acetate and a satured solution of NaCl were added and the phases were separated. The organic phase was washed with water (3 × 50 mL) and with a solution of NaOH (10%). The organic phase obtained was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and solvent removal

gave the crude mixture which was submitted to column chromatography affording the coupled products **5**.

**2-(4'-Formylphenyl)-thiophene 5a** was obtained as a yellow solid (185 mg, 82%). Mp 69.0-69.5 °C [lit.<sup>[7]</sup> 67-68 °C (*i*-PrOH)]. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.15 (m, 1H, 4-H), 7.41 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 5-H), 7.48 (dd, *J* = 3.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 3-H), 7.76-7.81 (m, 2H, 2' and 6'-*H*), 7.88-7.93 (m, 2H, 3' and 5'-*H*), 10.01 (s, 1H, C*H*O) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 125.01, 126.00, 126.90, 128.45, 135.05, 140.06, 142.68, 191.45 ppm. IR (nujol): v = 1692 (s) cm<sup>-1</sup>. C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>8</sub>OS (188.25): calcd. C 70.19, H 4.25, S 17.05; found C 70.39, H 4.46, S 17.06.

**2-Formyl-5-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-thiophene 5b** was obtained as a beige solid (39 mg, 15%). Mp 114.4-115.8 °C [lit.<sup>[8]</sup> 119-120 °C]. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 3.85 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 6.95 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, 3' and 5'-*H*), 7.30 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, 2' and 6'-*H*), 7.71 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H, 3-H), 9.86 (s, 1H, CHO) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 55.37, 114.53, 122.95, 125.70, 127.75, 137.68, 141.44, 154.47, 160.66, 182.62 ppm. IR (nujol): v = 1650 (s) cm<sup>-1</sup>. C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>10</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S (218.28): calcd. C 66.03, H 4.58, S 14.71; found C 66.03, H 4.63, S 14.50.

**2-Formyl-5-(2',4'-dimethoxyphenyl)-thiophene 5c** was obtained as a yellow solid (41 mg, 14%). Mp 196.2-196.9 °C [lit.<sup>[9]</sup> mp not quoted]. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 3.85 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.95 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 6.52-6.62 (m, 2H, 3' and 5'-H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H, 6'-H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H, 3-H), 9.88 (s, 1H, CHO) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 55.01, 55.54, 98.81, 105.59, 115.05, 124.50, 129.43, 136.46, 141.33, 150.09, 157.47, 161.71, 183.17 ppm. IR (nujol): v = 1650 (s) cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%)= 248 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100). C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S (248.30): calcd. C 62.88, H 4.84, S 12.93; found C 62.99, H 5.08, S 12.79.

**2-Formyl-5-(4'-ethoxyphenyl)-thiophene 5d** was obtained as a yellow solid (184 mg, 66%). Mp 104.6-105.4 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 1.45 (t, *J* = 4.3 Hz, 3H, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.00-4.20 (m, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.92-6.98 (m, 2H, 3' and 5'-H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 3.9Hz, 1H, 4-H), 7.58-7.64 (m, 2H, 2' and 6'-H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H, 3-H), 9.87 (s, 1H, CHO) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 14.71, 63.63, 115.00, 122.88, 125.51, 127.76, 137.78, 141.34, 154.63, 160.06, 182.69 ppm. IR (nujol): v = 1650 (s) cm<sup>-1</sup>. C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S (232.30): calcd. C 67.22, H 5.17, S 13.82; found C 67.41, H 5.33, S 13.83.

**2-Formyl-5-(4'-hidroxyphenyl)-thiophene 5e** was obtained as a pale yellow solid (73 mg, 30%). Mp 205.6-206.2 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (acetone-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.37-7.41 (m, 2H, 3' and 5'-H), 7.55 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 7.53-7.54 (m, 2H, 2' and 6'-H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H, 3-H), 9.01 (br s, 1H, OH), 9.94 (s, 1H, CHO) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (acetone-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = 116.94, 123.89, 125.47, 128.69, 139.29, 142.27, 154.81, 159.77, 183.51 ppm. IR (nujol): v = 1624 (s) cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) = 204 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100). EI-HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S 204.0245, found 204.0245.

**2-Formyl-5-**(**4**'-*N*,*N*-**dimethylaminophenyl**)-**thiophene 5f** was obtained as a yellow solid (72 mg, 26%). Mp 188.9-190.1 <sup>o</sup>C [lit.<sup>[10]</sup> mp not quoted]. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ = 3.03 (s, 6H, N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 6.72 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H, 3' and 5'-H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H, 2' and 6'-H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 1H, 3-H), 9.82 (s, 1H, CHO) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 29.67, 40.25, 112.20, 121.51, 12147, 138.06, 140.09, 151.03, 155.97, 182.43 ppm. IR (nujol): v = 1644 (s) cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) = 231 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100). EI-HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NOS 231.0718, found 231.0719.

**2-Formyl-5-biphenyl-thiophene 5g** was obtained as a yellow solid (98 mg, 31%). Mp 192.9-193.8 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.34-7.84 (m, 11H, 3, 4-H and 9 × Ar-*H*), 9.90 (s, 1H, CHO) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 124.03, 126.78, 126.93, 127.76, 127.83, 128.91, 131.89, 137.48, 139.93, 142.19, 142.35, 153.89, 182.75 ppm. IR (nujol): v = 1658 (s) cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%)= 264 (M<sup>+</sup>, 67), 207 (100). EI-HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>12</sub>OS 264.0609, found 264.0598.

**2-Formyl-5-phenoxyphenyl-thiophene 5h** was obtained as a yellow solid (87 mg, 26%). Mp 82.6-83.7 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.02-7.10 (m, 4H, 4 × Ar-*H*), 7.13-7.20 (br t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H, Ar-*H*), 7.33 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 7.35 (br t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H, 2 × Ar-*H*), 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H, 2 × Ar-*H*), 7.73 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 1H, 3-H), 9.88 (s, 1H, CHO) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 118.81, 119.53, 123.54, 124.07, 127.84, 127.96, 129.94, 137.62, 141.96, 153.87, 156.18, 158.76, 182.74 ppm. IR (nujol): v = 1653 (s) cm<sup>-1</sup>. C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S (280.35): calcd. C 72.84, H 4.28, S 11.45; found C 72.86, H 4.33, S 11.40.

**2-Formyl-5-naphthyl-thiophene 5i** was obtained as a yellow oil (254 mg, 89%). [lit.<sup>[11]</sup> 72-73 °C (EtOH and benzene)]. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 7.36$  (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 7.50-7.64 (m, 4H, 4 × Ar-*H*), 7.85 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H, 3-H), 7.90-8.00 (m, 2H, 2 × Ar-*H*), 8.14-8.20 (m, 1H, Ar-*H*), 9.97 (s, 1H, CHO) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta = 125.01$ , 125.16, 126.34, 126.99, 128.27, 128.52, 128.58, 129.72, 130.99, 131.04, 133.73, 136.62, 143.44, 152.24, 182.91 ppm. IR (nujol): v = 1666 (s) cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): m/z (%) = 238 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100). EI-HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>10</sub>OS 238.0452, found 238.0444.

**2-Formyl-5-(4'-fluorophenyl)-thiophene 5j** was obtained as a yellow solid (47 mg, 19%). Mp 113.2-114.0 °C [lit.<sup>[12]</sup> mp not quoted]. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.14 (t,  $J_{\text{H-F}}$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H, 3' and 5'-H), 7.35 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 7.63-7.68 (m, 2H, 2' and 6'-H), 7.75 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H, 3-H), 9.90 (s, 1H, CHO) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 116.29 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 22.1 Hz, C3' and C5'), 124.06 (C4), 128.27 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 8.4 Hz, C2' and C6'), 129.40 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 3.9 Hz, C1'), 137.41 (C3), 142.51 (C2), 153.03 (C5), 163.38 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 250 Hz, C4'), 182.73 (CHO) ppm. IR (KBr): v = 1641 (s) cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): m/z (%) = 206 (M<sup>+</sup>, 85), 205 (100). EI-HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>7</sub>FOS 206.0202, found 206.0209.

**2-Formyl-5-(4'-formylphenyl)-thiophene 5k** was obtained as a yellow solid (220 mg, 85%). Mp 145.3-146.1 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.54 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 1H, 3-H), 7.84 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, 2' and 6'-H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, 3' and 5'-H), 9.93 (s, 1H, *CHO*), 10.05 (s, 1H, *CHO*) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 125.70, 126.78, 130.48, 136.41, 137.13, 138.49, 143.86, 151.78, 182.76, 191.20 ppm. IR (nujol): v = 1696 (s), 1654 (s) cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) = 216 (M<sup>+</sup>, 98), 215 (100). EI-HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S 216.0245, found 216.0242.

### General procedure for the syntheses of benzothiazoles 6

The corresponding formylarylthiophenes **5** and *o*-aminobenzenethiol (1.1 eq) were heated in DMSO (0.5 mL/ mmol) at 120 °C with stirring for 30-60 min. The reaction was followed by TLC using chloroform/ hexane 1:1 as eluent. When the reaction was complete, the reaction mixture was allowed to cool and poured into water and extracted with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 30$  mL/ mmol). The organic layer was dried with magnesium sulphate and evaporated under

vacuum. The crude residue was submitted to silica gel column chromatography using mixtures of hexane and chloroform of increasing polarity. The fractions containing the purified product were collected and evaporated under vacuum.

**2-(4'-(2''-Thienyl)-phenyl)-1,3-benzothiazole 6a** was obtained as a yellow solid (299 mg, 85%). Mp 205.5-206.1 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.14-7.20 (m, 1H, 4''-H), 7.36 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 5''-H), 7.40 (dt, *J* = 7.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 6-H), 7.44 (dd, *J* = 3.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 3''-H), 7.51 (dt, *J* = 7.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 5-H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H, 3' and 5'-H), 7.92 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 7-H), 8.09 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H, 2' and 6'-H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 121.61 (C7), 123.15 (C4), 124.02 (C3''), 125.20 (C6), 125.85 (C5''), 126.17 (C3' and C5'), 126.37 (C5), 128.06 (C2' and C6'), 128.28 (C4''), 132.40 (C1'), 134.97 (C7a), 136.81 (C4'), 143.26 (C2''), 154.15 (C3a), 167.43 (C2) ppm. IR (KBr): v = 1602, 1479, 1425, 1315, 1250, 1115, 965, 816, 757, 692 cm<sup>-1</sup>. C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NS<sub>2</sub> (293.41): calcd. C 69.59, H 3.78, N 4.77, S 21.85; found C 69.53, H 3.91, N 4.84, S 21.54.

**2-(5'-(4''-Methoxyphenyl)-2'-thienyl)-1,3-benzothiazole 6b** was obtained as a yellow solid (333 mg, 86%). Mp 154.3-155.7 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 3.86 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 6.96 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H, 3'' and 5''-H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H, 4'-H), 7.37 (dt, *J* = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 6-H), 7.48 (dt, *J* = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 5-H), 7.61 (m, 3H, 3', 2'' and 6''-H), 7.84 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 7-H), 8.02 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 4-H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 55.37 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 114.47 (C3'' and C5''), 121.38 (C7), 122.77 (C4), 122.79 (C4'), 125.04 (C6), 126.31 (C1''), 126.39 (C5), 127.26 (C2'' and C6''), 129.59 (C3'), 134.57 (C7a), 135.01 (C2'), 148.28 (C5'), 153.71 (C3a), 159.93 (C4''), 161.36 (C2) ppm. IR (KBr): v = 1604, 1544, 1481, 1443, 1431, 1250, 1178, 1023, 904, 830, 794, 735, 724 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) = 323 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 308 (55). EI-HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NOS<sub>2</sub> 323.0439, found 323.0437.

**2-(5'-(2'',4''-Dimethoxyphenyl)-2'-thienyl)-1,3-benzothiazole 6c** was obtained as a yellow solid (127 mg, 30%). Mp 108.0-111.0 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = 3.83 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.98 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 6.66 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.1 Hz, 1H, 5''-H), 6.74 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H, 3''-H), 7.42 (dt, *J* = 8.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H, 6-H), 7.51 (dt, *J* = 8.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H, 5-H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H, 4'-H), 7.78 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H, 3'-H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H, 6''-H), 7.97 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 8.08 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H, 7-H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 55.49 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 55.60

(OCH<sub>3</sub>), 98.88 (C5''), 105.38 (C3''), 115.66 (C1''), 121.33 (C7), 122.69 (C4), 124.57 (C4'), 124.84 (C6), 126.27 (C5), 128.59 (C3'), 128.99 (C6''), 134.55 (C7a), 135.07 (C2'), 143.95 (C5'), 153.87 (C3a), 157.05 (C4'' or C2''), 160.95 (C4'' or C2''), 161.96 (C2) ppm. IR (KBr): v = 2961, 2928, 2849, 1605, 1515, 1470, 1447, 1313, 1246, 1021, 835, 740 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): m/z (%) = 353 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 338 (42). EI-HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> 353.0544, found 353.0530.

**2-(5'-(4''-Ethoxyphenyl)-2'-thienyl)-1,3-benzothiazole 6d** was obtained as a yellow solid (335 mg, 83%). Mp 147.5-148.9 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 1.45 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 3H, C*H*<sub>3</sub>), 4.85 (q, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H, C*H*<sub>2</sub>), 6.95 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H, 3'' and 5''-H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H, 4'-H), 7.36 (dt, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 6-H), 7.48 (dt, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 5-H), 7.60 (m, 3H, 3', 2'' and 6''-H), 7.85 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 7-H), 8.04 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 4-H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 14.76 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 63.58 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 114.98 (C3'' and C5''), 121.38 (C7), 122.71 (C4'), 122.76 (C4), 125.03 (C5), 126.13 (C1''), 126.38 (C6), 127.24 (C2'' and C6''), 129.59 (C3'), 134.56 (C7a), 134.93 (C2'), 148.38 (C5'), 153.72 (C3a), 159.32 (C4''), 161.38 (C2) ppm. IR (KBr): v = 3000, 2990, 1596, 1546, 1483, 1446, 1390, 1251, 1184, 1117, 1081, 1047, 901, 830, 789, 754, 731 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) = 337 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100), 309 (72), 308 (79). EI-HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NOS<sub>2</sub> 337.0595, found 337.0607.

**2-(5'-(4''-Hydroxyphenyl)-2'-thienyl)-1,3-benzothiazole 6e** was obtained as a light brown solid (148 mg, 40%). Mp 212.4-213.5 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 6.82 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, 3'' and 5''-H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H, 4'-H), 7.27 (dt, *J* = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 6-H), 7.38 (dt, *J* = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 5-H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H, 2'' and 6''-H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H, 3'-H), 7.76 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 7-H), 7.90 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 9.03 (br s, 1H, OH) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 115.94 (C3'' and C5''), 121.18 (C7), 122.10 (C4'), 122.37 (C4), 124.63 (C1''), 124.78 (C6), 126.14 (C5), 127.05 (C2'' and C6''), 129.47 (C3'), 134.09 (C7a), 134.25 (C2'), 148.74 (C5'), 153.42 (C3a), 157.87 (C4''), 161.20 (C2) ppm. IR (KBr): v = 3500-3000 (OH), 1608, 1587, 1544, 1310, 1260, 1177, 1107, 1020, 910, 830, 799, 755, 730, 518 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) = 309 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100). EI-HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NOS<sub>2</sub> 309.0282, found 309.0290.

**2-(5'-(4''-***N***,***N***-Dimethylaminophenyl)-2'-thienyl)-1,3-benzothiazole 6f** was obtained as an orange solid (197 mg, 49%). Mp 210.8-211.5 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 3.03 (s, 6H, N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 6.74 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H, 3'' and 5''-H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H, 4'-H), 7.35 (dt, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 6-H), 7.47 (dt, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 5-H), 7.56 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H, 2'' and 6''-H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H, 3'-H), 7.84 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 7-H), 8.01 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 4-H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 40.32 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 112.35 (C3'' and C5''), 121.34 (C7), 121.45 (C4'), 121.64 (C1''), 122.63 (C4), 124.86 (C6), 126.31 (C5), 126.97 (C2'' and C6''), 129.79 (C3'), 133.59 (C2'), 134.51 (C7a), 149.60 (C5'), 150.55 (C4''), 153.79 (C3a), 161.65 (C2) ppm. IR (KBr): v = 1609, 1543, 1481, 1441, 1363, 1230, 1194, 800 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) = 336 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100). EI-HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> 336.0755, found 336.0758.

**2-(5'-(Biphenyl-2'-thienyl)-1,3-benzothiazole 6g** was obtained as an orange solid (394 mg, 89%). Mp 232.5-233.6 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.26-7.34 (m, 3H, 6, 4' and 4'''-H), 7.34-7.44 (m, 3H, 5, 3'' and 5'''-H), 7.52-7.62 (m, 5H, 3', 3'', 5'', 2''' and 6'''-H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, 2'' and 6''-H), 7.79 (br d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H, 7-H), 7.94 (br d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H, 4-H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 121.26 (C7), 122.57 (C4), 123.73 (C4'), 125.01 (C6), 126.05 (C2'' and 6''), 126.26 (C5), 126.64 (C2''' and 6'''), 127.42 (C4'''), 127.46 (C3'' and 5''), 128.66 (C3''' and 5'''), 129.41 (C3'), 132.16 (C1''), 134.38 (C7a), 135.81 (C2'), 139.88 (C1'''), 140.93 (C4''), 147.47 (C5'), 153.43 (C3a), 160.90 (C2) ppm. IR (KBr): v = 1479, 1443, 902, 801, 754 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) = 369 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100). EI-HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NS<sub>2</sub> 369.0646, found 369.0648.

**2-(5'-(Phenoxyphenyl)-2'-thienyl)-1,3-benzothiazole 6h** was obtained as a yellow solid (420 mg, 91%). Mp 170.4-171.8 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.02 (m, 4H, 3", 5", 3"" and 5"'-H), 7.17 (dt, *J* = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 4"'-H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H, 4'-H), 7.34-7.42 (m, 3H, 6, 2"" and 6"'-H), 7.48 (dt, *J* = 7.8, 1.2Hz, 1H, 5-H), 7.61 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H, 3'-H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, 2" and 6"-H), 7.86 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 7-H), 8.04 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 4-H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 118.97 (C3" and C5"), 119.32 (C3"" and C5""), 121.40 (C7), 122.82 (C4), 123.38 (C4'), 123.78 (C4""), 125.13 (C6), 126.43 (C5), 127.40 (C2" and C6"), 128.51 (C1"), 129.55 (C3"), 129.87 (C2"" and C6""), 134.59 (C7a), 135.61 (C2'), 147.66 (C5'), 153.68 (C3a), 156.54 (C1""), 157.84 (C4""), 161.21 (C2) ppm. IR (KBr): v = 3050, 1587, 1547, 1510, 1489, 1481, 1444, 1434, 1312, 1281, 1254, 1174, 1161, 1113,

1073, 1013, 905, 874, 843, 802, 747, 727, 690 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): m/z (%) = 385 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100). EI-HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NOS<sub>2</sub> 385.0595, found 385.0590.

**2-(5'-(1''-Naphtyl)-2'-thienyl)-1,3-benzothiazole 6i** was obtained as a yellow solid (316 mg, 77%). Mp 157.9-158.8 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.31 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H, 4'-H), 7.39 (dt, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 6-H), 7.50 (dt, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 5-H), 7.52 (m, 3H, Ar), 7.64 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 2''-H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H, 3'-H), 7.87-7.96 (m, 3H, 7-H and Ar-*H*), 8.04 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 4-H), 8.30-8.36 (m, 1H, Ar) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 121.45 (C7), 122.93 (C4), 125.20 (C6), 125.29, 125.45, 126.23 (naph), 126.45 (C5), 126.79, 128.19 (naph), 128.33 (C4'), 128.46 (naph), 128.81 (C3'), 129.14 (naph), 131.40 (C1''), 131.49 (C5''), 133.88 (C10''), 134.67 (C7a), 137.15 (C2'), 146.05 (C5'), 153.75 (C3a), 161.29 (C2) ppm. IR (KBr): v = 1545, 1492, 1432, 1391, 1312, 1231, 900, 796, 761, 729 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) = 343 (M<sup>4</sup>, 100). EI-HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NS<sub>2</sub> 343.0489, found 343.0479.

**2-(5'-(4''-Fluorophenyl)-2'-thienyl)-1,3-benzothiazole 6j** was obtained as a yellow solid (336 mg, 90%). Mp 165.2-167.9 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.12 (t,  $J_{\text{H-F}}$  = 9.0 Hz, 2H, 3'' and 5''-H), 7.25 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H, 4'-H), 7.37 (dt, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 6-H), 7.50 (dt, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 5-H), 7.59 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H, 3'-H), 7.60-7.65 (m, 2H, 2'' and 6''-H), 7.86 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 7-H), 8.04 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H, 4-H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 116.11 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 21.9 Hz, C3'' and C5''), 121.42 (C7), 122.87 (C4), 123.82 (C4'), 125.21 (C6), 126.46 (C5), 126.67 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 8.4 Hz, C2'' and C6''), 129.46 (C3'), 129.80 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 3.8 Hz, C1''), 134.61 (C7a), 136.13 (C2'), 146.92 (C5'), 153.65 (C3a), 161.06 (C2), 162.79 (d,  $J_{\text{C-F}}$  = 250 Hz, C4'') ppm. IR (KBr): v = 1597, 1547, 1514, 1484, 1446, 1434, 1310, 1258, 1229, 1164, 1015, 905, 801, 755, 729, 703, 622, 604, 533 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): *m/z* (%) = 311 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100). EI-HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>10</sub>NS<sub>2</sub>F 311.0239, found 311.0240.

**2,2'-[5''-(4'''-Phenyl)thienyl]-bis-1,3-benzothiazole 6k** was obtained as a yellow solid (429 mg, 84%). Mp 255.9-256.7 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.36-7.45 (m, 2H, 6 and 6'-H), 7.47 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H, 4''-H), 7.48-7.56 (m, 2H, 5 and 5'-H), 7.68 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H, 3''-H), 7.81 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.8 Hz, 2H, 2''' and 6'''-H), 7.88 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.1 Hz ,1H, 7'-H), 7.93 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.1 Hz ,1H, 7-H), 8.06 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.1 Hz ,1H, 4''-H), 8.11 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.1 Hz ,1H, 4-H), 8.17 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.8 Hz, 2H, 3''' and 5'''-H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 121.5 (C7'), 121.7

(C7), 123.1 (C4'), 123.3 (C4), 124.8 (C4''), 125.4 (C6 and C6'), 126.3 (C2''' and C6''), 126.5 (C5'), 126.6 (C5), 128.3 (C3''' and C5'''), 129.5 (C3''), 133.5 (C4'''), 134.8 (C7a'), 135.9 (C7a), 137.1 (C2''), 146.9 (C5''), 153.8 (C3a'), 154.3 (C3a), 160.9 (C1'''), 161.1 (C2), 167.1 (C2') ppm. IR (KBr): v = 3049, 1602, 1547, 1484, 1477, 1444, 1313, 1256, 1230, 1185, 1115, 1063, 1015, 961, 904, 833, 802, 755, 728, 701, 619 cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS (EI): m/z (%) = 426 (M<sup>+</sup>, 100). EI-HRMS: calcd. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> 426.0319, found 426.0334.

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