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SYNTHESIS AND ANTIOXIDANT ACTIVITY OF NEW METHOXYLATED DI(HETERO)ARYLAMINES DERIVATIVES OF THIENO[3,2-*b*]PYRIDINES

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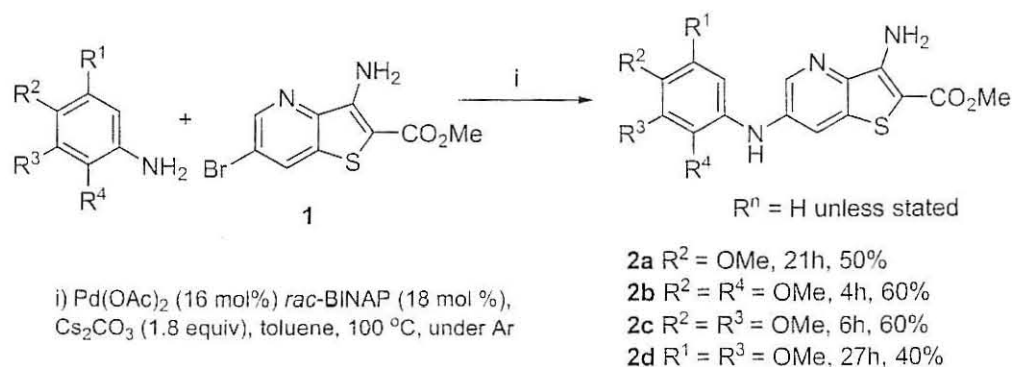
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Due to their isosterism with pyrrolopyridines or quinolines, thieno[3,2-*b*]pyridines have attracted much attention because of their potential biological activity [1].

We have prepared the 6-bromothieno[3,2-*b*]pyridine **1**, following a known method used by us for benzo[*b*]thiophene compounds [2], as component for palladium-catalyzed Buchwald-Hartwig coupling with methoxylated anilines. The corresponding di(hetero)arylamines **2a-2d** were obtained in good yields and were fully characterized (Scheme 1).



Scheme 1

The reducing properties of diarylamines make them very important as antioxidants, especially as radical scavengers [3]. In fact most representative examples of antioxidants are hindered phenols and diphenylamine derivatives [4].

Antioxidant assays as free radical scavenging activity on DPPH radicals, reducing power and lipid peroxidation inhibition using the beta-carotene linoleate system and the thiobarbituric acid reactive substances (TBARS) assay, have been performed on compound **1** and on the new diarylamines **2a-2d**, using alpha-tocopherol and ascorbic acid as standards. The results will be discussed in terms of EC₅₀. The best compound in all the methods studied is **2c** with two methoxy groups in *meta* and *para* positions. For the TBARS assay the EC₅₀ results for compounds **2a-2c** are even better than for alpha-tocopherol (0.011 ± 0.001 mM). It was thus possible to establish some structure-antioxidant activity relationships depending on the number and position of the methoxy groups.

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