

A convergent approach for the synthesis of new pyrazolyl bipyridinyl substituted coumarin derivatives as antimicrobials

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ABSTRACT

Some new 3-[3-(1-phenyl-3-aryl-1*H*-pyrazol-4-yl)acryloyl]coumarins **3a-f** were synthesized (coumarin chalcones) by the condensation of various 3-acetyl coumarins **1** and appropriate 1-phenyl-3-aryl-1*H*-pyrazole-4-carbaldehyde **2**. These coumarin chalcones **3a-f** were then employed for the synthesis of pyrazolyl bipyridinyl substituted coumarins **7a-f**, **8a-f**, and **9a-f** under Krohnke's reaction condition. The characterization of all the synthesized compounds was carried out by elemental analysis, IR, ¹H-NMR, ¹³C-NMR, DEPT-135 and mass spectral analysis. In addition to that, in vitro antimicrobial competency of the title compounds was assessed against selected pathogens. Compounds **3b**, **3e**, **7b**, **8b**, **8c** and **9b** exhibited excellent antimicrobial activity and said to be the most proficient members of the series.

Keywords: Coumarin; Bipyridine; Pyrazole; Kröhnke's reaction; Antimicrobial activity

1. INTRODUCTION

During past few decades, there has been an alarming increase in bacterial resistance to antibiotic drugs. The evolution and spread of these multidrug resistant bacteria have become a major threat to global health care [1].

Consequently, the discovery and design of new efficient antimicrobial agents is of crucial need to counteract the resistant pathogens. Therefore numerous research groups have directed their efforts towards designing the new anti-bacterial drugs with new targets, distinctive modes of action, low toxicity and low probability of inducing resistance to multi resistant bacteria [2-4].

Coumarin is extensively investigated as class of naturally occurring compounds and its derivatives have tremendous contribution in therapeutic field. Many coumarin derivatives used as effective drug in marketplace such as Warfarin, Novbiocin, Dicoumarol, Imperatorin, Calophyllolide and Neo-tarnshinlactone.

Such striking information from literature survey directed us to detail study of various heterocyclic substituted coumarin derivatives.

Among the coumarin derivatives, pyridyl substituted coumarins have been gained considerable interest among medicinal chemists owing to their therapeutic importance as CNS

depressant [5], antifungal [6], moth proofing activity [7], fish toxicity [8], MAO inhibitor [9], antibacterial agents [10] and antitubercular [11].

During our literature survey we came across some bipyridines derivatives which have been reported to possess wide applications in the field of bioinorganic chemistry [12], supramolecular chemistry [13] and polymeric material [14]. Bipyridine derivatives exhibit wide range of physiological activities such as anticancer [15], cardiotoxic [16], DNA binding properties [17] and antibacterial properties [18]. In addition to that, we came across some pyrazolyl substituted pyridines which have been reported to possess insecticidal [19], antiviral [20] and cardiotoxic activities [21].

More efficacious antibacterial compounds can be designed by joining two or more biologically active heterocyclic systems together in a single molecular framework [22]. Such structural hybridizations show synergistic influence on the anticipated activity, hoping to discover new entities that would have astonishing antimicrobial activity.

In view of this background and medicinal significance of pyridyl substituted coumarins, bipyridines and pyrazolyl substituted pyridines encouraged us to hybrid these three bioactive moieties in single scaffold.

Hence, in continuation our efforts to synthesize such biologically active pyridyl substituted coumarin derivatives [10,11], we herein, report the synthesis and antimicrobial activity of pyrazolyl bipyridinyl coumarin derivatives **7a-f**, **8a-f**, and **9a-f**.

2. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

2.1. Chemistry

The synthetic strategies adopted for the preparation of key precursor 3-[3-(1-phenyl-3-aryl-1*H*-pyrazol-4-yl)acryloyl]coumarins **3a-f** and title compounds **7a-f**, **8a-f** and **9a-f** were depicted in **Scheme 1**.

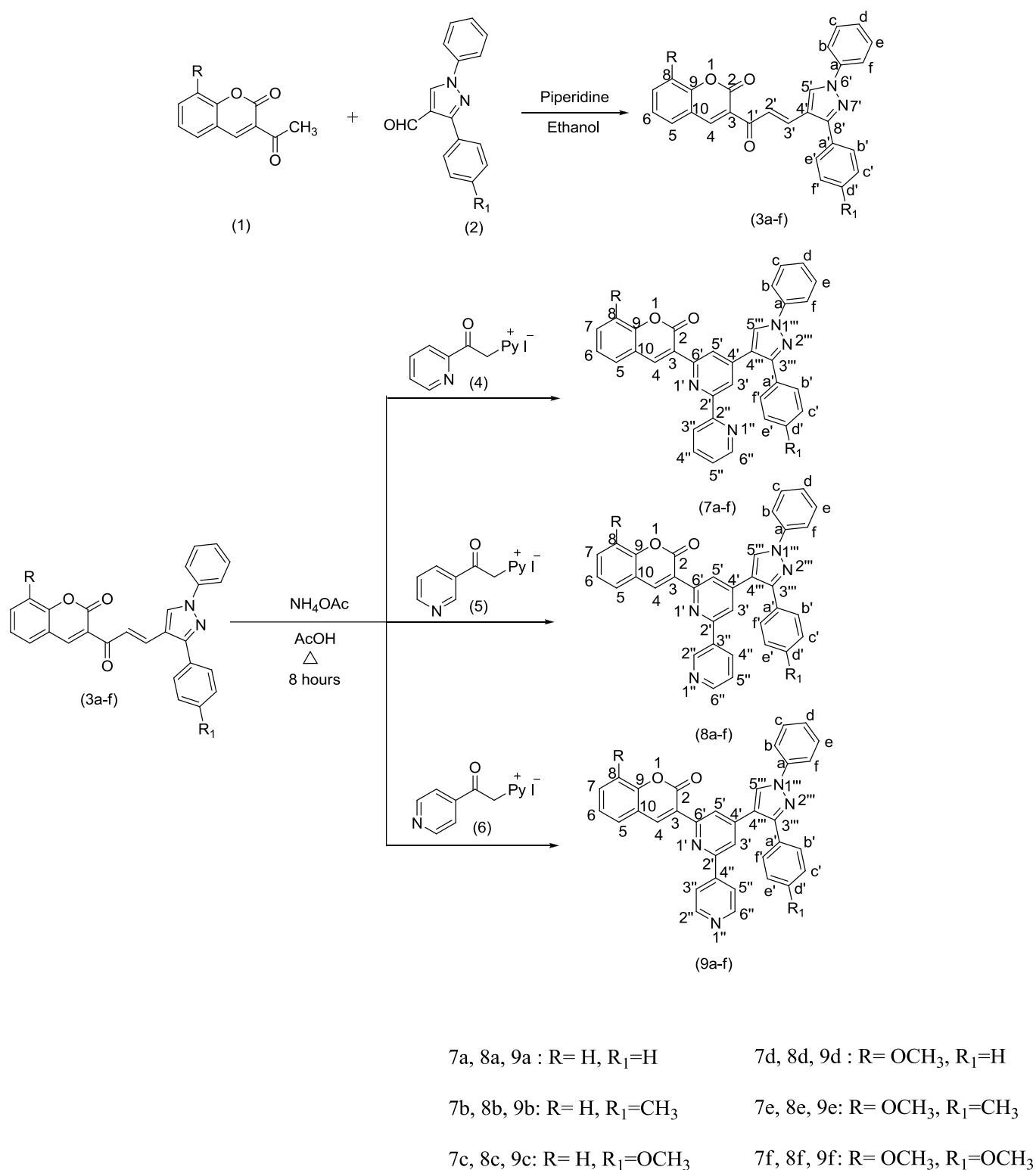
The title compounds **7a-f**, **8a-f** and **9a-f** were synthesized by reacting appropriate 3-[3-(1-phenyl-3-aryl-1*H*-pyrazol-4-yl)acryloyl]coumarins **3a-f** with pyridoyl methyl pyridinium salts **4**, **5** and **6** under Krohnke's reaction condition [23]. The required precursors **3a-f** were prepared by the reaction of various 3-acetyl coumarins **1** and pyrazole aldehydes **2** in presence of catalytical amount of piperidine in ethanol.

The plausible mechanism for the synthesis of target compounds **7a-f**, **8a-f** and **9a-f** is demonstrated in **Scheme 2**.

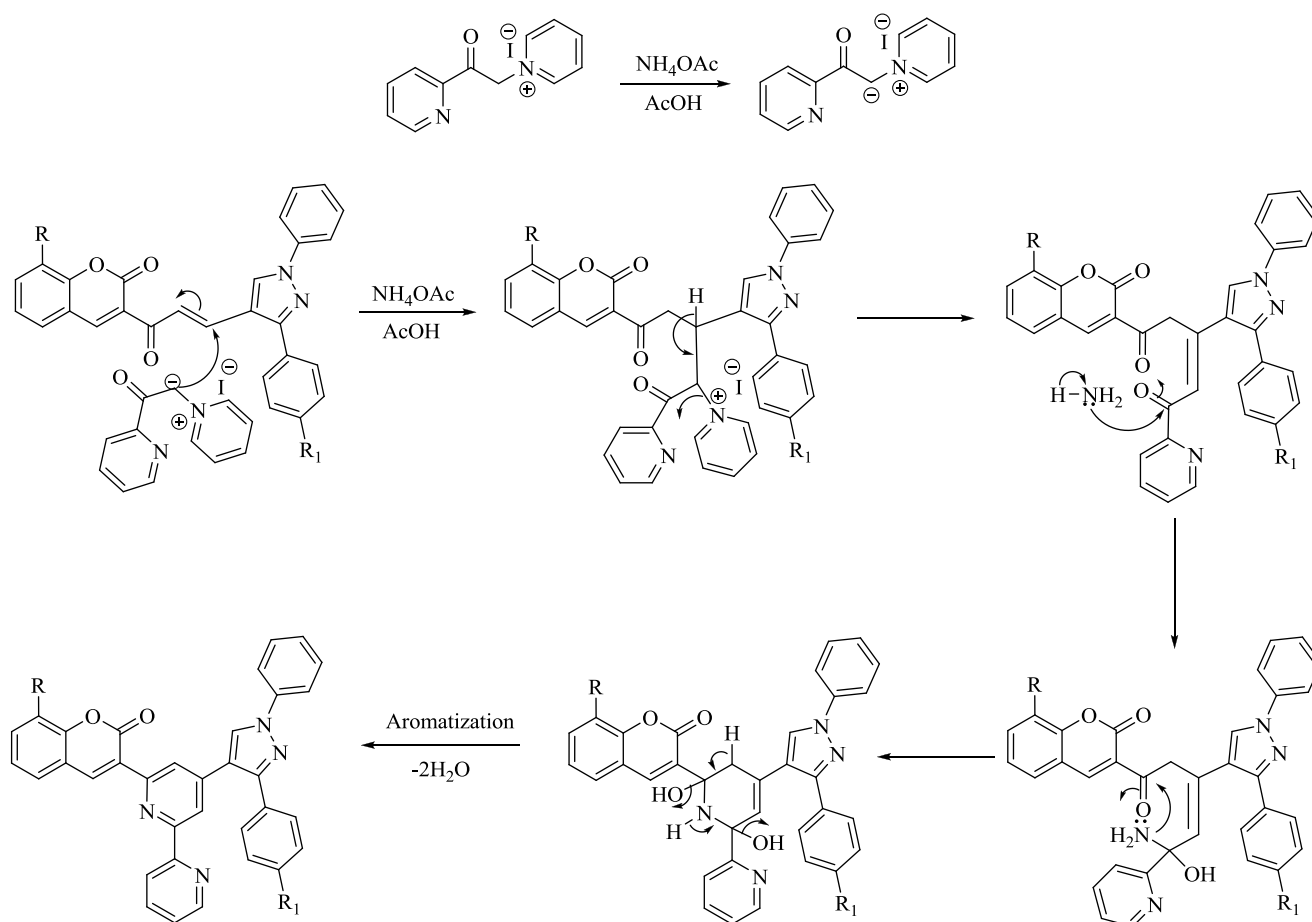
The reaction proceeded via Michael addition by the nucleophilic attack of active methylene group of pyridoyl methyl pyridinium salts (**4**, **5** and **6**) on the α,β -unsaturated carbonyl functionality of 3-[3-(1-phenyl-3-aryl-1*H*-pyrazol-4-yl)acryloyl]- coumarins **3a-f** to form *in situ* 1,5-dicarbonyl intermediate.

The corresponding intermediate underwent cyclization in presence of ammonium acetate which upon subsequent loss of two water molecules afforded the target compounds in good yields.

All the compounds were characterized by IR, ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, DEPT-90 spectral and elemental analysis. A mass spectrum was also recorded for representative compound **7a**.



Scheme 1. Synthetic strategies adopted for the preparation of key precursors **3a-f** and title compounds **7a-f**, **8a-f** and **9a-f**.



Scheme 2. Plausible mechanism for the synthesis of target compounds **7a-f**, **8a-f** and **9a-f**.

2. 2. Biological result

The MICs of synthesized compounds were determined out by broth microdilution method according to National Committee for Clinical Laboratory Standards (NCCLS, 2002) [24]. Upon reviewing antimicrobial data (**Table 1**) it has been observed that compounds **7b** and **9b** (MIC = 50 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) showed excellent activity against gram positive bacteria *Staphylococcus aureus* as compared to ampicillin (MIC = 250 $\mu\text{g/mL}$). Similarly compounds **3e** (MIC = 50 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) and **8c** (MIC = 62.5 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) showed excellent activity against gram positive bacteria *Bacillus subtilis* as compared to ampicillin (MIC = 250 $\mu\text{g/mL}$). Compounds **3b**, **8b** (MIC = 50 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) and **7b** (MIC = 62.5 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) showed excellent activity against gram negative bacteria *Escherichia coli* and *Salmonella typhi* respectively as compared to ampicillin (MIC = 250 $\mu\text{g/mL}$).

Compounds **3d**, **7e**, **8b**, **9e** (MIC = 100 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) and **3a**, **3e**, **7a**, **7d**, **8a**, **8e**, **9a**, **9c** (MIC = 200 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) were found to be more potent compared to ampicillin (MIC = 250 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) against *Staphylococcus aureus* while **3b**, **3f**, **7c**, **8c**, **8d**, **9d**, **9f** were found to be equipotent compared to ampicillin (MIC = 250 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) against *Staphylococcus aureus*. Compounds **7b**, **9b** (MIC = 100 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) and **3b**, **3d**, **7a**, **7c**, **8b**, **8d**, **9c** (MIC = 200 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) were found to be more active while compounds **3a**, **7f**, **8f**, **9e** (MIC = 250 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) were found to be equally active as compared to ampicillin (MIC = 250 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) against *Bacillus subtilis*.

Table 1. *In vitro* antimicrobial activity of various synthesized coumarin derivatives **3a-f**, **7a-f**, **8a-f** and **9a-f** (MICs, $\mu\text{g/mL}$).

Compounds			Gram positive bacteria		Gram negative bacteria		Fungi	
			Sa.	Bs.	Ec.	St.	Ca.	An.
	R	R ₁	MTCC	MTCC	MTCC	MTCC	MTCC	MTCC
			96	441	443	98	227	282
3a	H	H	200	250	200	200	500	>1000
3b	H	CH ₃	250	200	50	200	100	500
3c	H	OCH ₃	500	500	250	250	>1000	500
3d	OCH ₃	H	100	200	250	200	250	250
3e	OCH ₃	CH ₃	200	50	100	200	500	250
3f	OCH ₃	OCH ₃	250	500	500	500	1000	1000
7a	H	H	200	200	250	200	500	500
7b	H	CH ₃	50	100	100	62.5	1000	100
7c	H	OCH ₃	250	200	200	250	250	500
7d	OCH ₃	H	200	500	250	500	500	500
7e	OCH ₃	CH ₃	100	500	250	100	200	250
7f	OCH ₃	OCH ₃	500	250	500	250	>1000	500
8a	H	H	200	500	200	250	200	1000
8b	H	CH ₃	100	200	100	50	250	500
8c	H	OCH ₃	250	62.5	200	200	200	250
8d	OCH ₃	H	250	200	100	250	500	>1000
8e	OCH ₃	CH ₃	200	500	500	250	500	>1000
8f	OCH ₃	OCH ₃	500	250	250	500	1000	500
9a	H	H	200	500	200	250	>1000	500
9b	H	CH ₃	50	100	250	500	500	250
9c	H	OCH ₃	200	200	500	250	500	1000
9d	OCH ₃	H	250	500	250	200	250	250
9e	OCH ₃	CH ₃	100	250	200	500	250	500
9f	OCH ₃	OCH ₃	250	500	500	500	500	250
Ampicillin			250	250	100	100	-	-
Nystatin			-	-	-	-	100	100
Griseofulvin			-	-	-	-	500	100

Compounds **3e**, **7b**, **8b**, **8d** (MIC = 100 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) were found to be equipotent against gram negative bacteria *Escherichia coli* as compared to ampicillin (MIC = 100 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) while on the other hand only one compound **7e** (MIC = 100 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) showed equipotent activity against gram negative bacteria *Salmonella typhi* as compared to ampicillin (MIC = 100 $\mu\text{g/mL}$).

Compounds **3b** and **7b** (MIC = 100 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) were the only candidates which showed equal activity against anti fungal strain *Candida albicans* and *Aspergillus niger* respectively as compared to nystatin (MIC = 100 $\mu\text{g/mL}$). Compounds **8a**, **8c** (MIC = 200 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) and **3d**, **7c**, **8b**, **9d**, **9e** (MIC = 250 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) showed more activity as compared to griseofulvin (MIC = 500 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) against *Candida albicans*.

Interestingly, pyrazolyl acrolyl coumarin **3b** (MIC = 250 and 200 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) after bypyridyl ring formation in **7b** and **9b** (MIC = 50 and 100 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) found to possess increased potency against *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Bacillus subtilis* respectively.

A general observation was made from the activity data (**Table 1**) that compounds **7a-c**, **8a-c** and **9a-c** having no substitution in coumarin ring were more potent than their analogous having methoxyl substitution in most of the cases against all the bacterial strains. Compounds **9a-f** bearing 4-pyridyl ring showed poor activity compared to standard drugs against gram negative bacterial strains. Compounds **7b** and **8b**, with $R_1 = \text{CH}_3$ showed better activity than their analogous against all the bacterial strains while **9b** with $R_1 = \text{CH}_3$ showed better activity against gram positive bacterial strains only.

3. EXPERIMENTAL

3.1. Chemistry

All reactions were performed with commercially available reagents and they were used without further purification. Organic solvents were purified by standard methods and stored over molecular sieves. All reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC, on aluminium plates coated with silica gel 60 F₂₅₄, 0.25 mm thickness, Merck) and detection of the components was made by exposure to UV light. Melting points were determined in open capillaries and are uncorrected. Infrared spectra were recorded on Shimadzu FTIR 8401 spectrophotometer using potassium bromide pellets in the range 4,000-400 cm^{-1} and frequencies of only characteristic peaks are expressed in cm^{-1} . ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl_3 on a Bruker Avance 400 (MHz) spectrometer (Bruker Scientific Corporation Ltd., Switzerland) using TMS signal as an internal standard at 400 MHz and 100 MHz respectively. Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ppm). The coupling constants (J) are given in Hertz (Hz). Mass spectrum of one representative compound was scanned on a Shimadzu QP 2010 spectrometer (Shimadzu, Tokyo, Japan). The compounds were purified by column chromatography using silica gel (60-120 mesh). Reference drugs ampicillin, griseofulvin, nystatin were of commercial grade.

Starting precursors 3-acetyl coumarins **1** [25], pyrazole aldehydes **2** [26], pyridoyl methyl pyridinium iodide salts **4**, **5** and **6** [27] were prepared using the reported procedures.

3.1.1. General procedure for the synthesis of 3-[3-(1-phenyl-3-aryl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)acryloyl]coumarins **3a-f**.

In a 100 mL round bottom flask fitted with a reflux condenser, a solution of appropriate 3-acetyl coumarin, 0.01 mol (1a and 1b: 0.5g), 1-phenyl-3-aryl-1H-pyrazole-4-carbaldehyde (pyrazole aldehyde), 0.01 mol (2a:0.65g, 2b:0.69g, 2c:0.73g, 2d:0.56g, 2e:0.6g, 2f:0.63g) and catalytic amount of piperidine were taken in ethanol (30 mL). The reaction mixture was refluxed in water bath for 3 hours. The pyrazolyl acrolyl coumarin was formed, which was filtered out and washed with cold ethanol and dried. It was recrystallized from chloroform.

3-[3-(1,3-diphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)acryloyl]coumarin (**3a**):

Yield: 86%; m.p. 234°C; IR (KBr, ν_{max} , cm^{-1}): 1720 (C=O δ -lactone stretching), 1659 (C=O ketone stretching), 1605 and 1535 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 756 & 687 (C-H bending of mono substituted benzene), 3063 (aromatic C-H stretching); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3 , δ): 7.35-8.01 (16H, m, 14 Ar-H and C_2' -H, C_3' -H), 8.47 (1H, s, C_5' -H), 8.60 (1H, s, C_4 -H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3 , δ): 119.69(C_2'), 118.41(C_{10}), 118.63(C_4'), 119.49(C_8),

119.79(C_{b'}, C_{f'}), 123.18(C_{d'}), 125.00(C₃), 125.27(C₆), 127.10(C_{5'}), 127.34(C_c, C_e), 128.01(C_b, C_f), 128.88(C_d), 129.32(C_{c'}, C_{e'}), 129.70(C₅), 130.97(C₇), 134.20(C_a), 135.90(C_{3'}), 139.40(C_{a'}), 148.14(C₄), 154.38(C₉), 155.20(C₂), 159.47(C_{8'}), 185.30(C_{1'}); Anal. Calcd. for C₂₇H₁₈N₂O₃ C, 77.50; H, 4.34; N, 6.69%. Found: C, 77.43; H, 4.39; N, 6.61%.

3-[3-(1-phenyl-3-p-tolyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)acryloyl]coumarin (3b):

Yield: 81%; m.p. 208°C; IR (KBr, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 1705 (C=O δ -lactone stretching), 1659 (C=O ketone stretching), 1605 and 1528 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 764 & 679 (C-H bending of mono substituted benzene), 3024 (aromatic C-H stretching); ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 2.45 (3H, s, C_d-CH₃), 7.32-8.01 (15H, m, 13 Ar-H and C_{2'}-H, C_{3'}-H), 8.46 (1H, s, C_{5'}-H), 8.60 (1H, s, C₄-H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 21.38(C_{d'}-CH₃), 116.68(C_{2'}), 118.35(C₁₀), 118.65(C_{4'}), 119.46(C₈), 123.01(C_{b'}, C_{f'}), 124.97(C_{d'}), 125.34(C₃), 126.94(C₆), 127.25(C_a), 128.74(C_c, C_e), 129.24(C_d), 129.50(C_{5'}), 129.56(C_b, C_f), 130.02(C_c, C_e), 134.15(C₅), 136.09(C₇), 138.62(C_{a'}), 139.44(C_a), 148.05(C_{3'}), 154.46(C₄), 155.20(C₂), 159.47(C_{8'}), 185.15(C_{1'}); Anal. Calcd. for C₂₈H₂₀N₂O₃ C, 77.76; H, 4.66; N, 6.48%. Found: C, 77.84; H, 4.61; N, 6.40%.

3-[3-{3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl}acryloyl]coumarin (3c):

Yield: 84%; m.p. 180°C; IR (KBr, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 1736 (C=O δ -lactone stretching), 1666 (C=O ketone stretching), 1612 and 1528 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 787 & 679 (C-H bending of mono substituted benzene), 3040 (aromatic C-H stretching); ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 3.90 (3H, s, C_d-OCH₃), 7.04-8.00 (15H, m, 13 Ar-H and C_{2'}-H, C_{3'}-H), 8.45 (1H, s, C_{5'}-H), 8.60 (1H, s, C₄-H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 55.39(C_{d'}-OCH₃), 114.19(C_{2'}), 114.29(C_c, C_e), 116.65(C₈), 118.21(C₁₀), 118.63(C_{4'}), 119.68(C_{b'}, C_{f'}), 122.95(C_{d'}), 124.65(C_a), 124.96(C₃), 125.31(C₆), 126.94(C_{5'}), 127.21(C_{c'}, C_{e'}), 127.89 (C_d), 129.54(C_b, C_f), 130.27(C₅), 134.14(C₇), 136.08(C_{3'}), 139.40(C_{a'}), 148.02(C₄), 154.17(C₉), 155.17(C₂), 159.44(C_{8'}), 160.11(C_{d'}) 185.05(C_{1'}); Anal. Calcd. for C₂₈H₂₀N₂O₄ C, 74.99; H, 4.50; N, 6.25%. Found: C, 74.90; H, 4.41; N, 6.32%.

8-methoxy-3-[3-(1,3-diphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)acryloyl]coumarin (3d):

Yield: 89%; m.p. 220°C; IR (KBr, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 1720 (C=O δ -lactone stretching), 1661 (C=O ketone stretching), 1610 and 1535 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 780 & 687 (C-H bending of mono substituted benzene), 3046 (aromatic C-H stretching); ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 4.02 (3H, s, C₈-OCH₃), 7.19-8.01 (15H, m, 13 Ar-H and C_{2'}-H, C_{3'}-H), 8.48 (1H, s, C_{5'}-H), 8.58 (1H, s, C₄-H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 55.39(C_{d'}-OCH₃), 116.00.19(C_{2'}), 118.40(C₁₀), 119.35(C_{4'}), 121.30(C₇), 122.10(C_{b'}, C_{f'}), 122.97(C₆), 125.00(C_{d'}), 125.45(C_{5'}), 125.96(C₃), 126.87(C₅), 127.29(C_c, C_e), 128.65(C_a), 129.00(C_b, C_f), 129.89(C_d), 135.45(C_{c'}, C_{e'}), 138.50(C₉), 140.65(C₈), 146.56(C_{a'}), 147.68(C_{3'}), 148.52(C₄), 155.42(C_{8'}), 158.17(C₂), 185.09 (C_{1'}); Anal. Calcd. for C₂₈H₂₀N₂O₄ C, 74.99; H, 4.50; N, 6.25%. Found: C, 74.89; H, 4.44; N, 6.30%.

8-methoxy-3-[3-(1-phenyl-3-p-tolyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)acryloyl]coumarin (3e):

Yield: 91%; m.p. 160°C; IR (KBr, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 1728 (C=O δ -lactone stretching), 1651 (C=O ketone stretching), 1605 and 1574 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 779 & 680 (C-H bending of mono substituted benzene), 3056 (aromatic C-H stretching); ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 2.45 (3H, s, C_d-CH₃), 4.02 (3H, s, C₈-OCH₃), 7.19-8.01 (14H, m, 12 Ar-H and C_{2'}-H, C_{3'}-H), 8.46 (1H, s, Py-H), 8.58 (1H, s, C₄-H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 21.37(C_{d'}-CH₃), 56.37(C₈-OCH₃), 115.89(C_{2'}), 118.35(C_{4'}), 119.27(C₃), 121.20(C₇), 121.35(C_{b'}, C_{f'}),

123.02(C₆), 124.80(C_d), 125.49(C_a), 127.02(C₅), 127.23(C_c, C_e), 128.86(C_{5'}), 129.24(C_{d'}), 130.97(C_b, C_f), 136.10(C_{c'}, C_{e'}), 138.60(C₉), 139.46(C₈), 147.06(C_{a'}), 147.71(C_{3'}), 148.28(C₄), 154.47(C_{8'}), 158.92(C₂), 185.46(C_{1'}); Anal. Calcd. for C₂₉H₂₂N₂O₄ C, 75.31; H, 4.79; N, 6.06%. Found: C, 75.40; H, 4.72; N, 6.15%.

8-methoxy-3-[3-{3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl}acryloyl]coumarin (3f):
Yield: 90%; m.p. 188°C; IR (KBr, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 1720 (C=O δ -lactone stretching), 1666 (C=O ketone stretching), 1605 and 1528 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 787 & 687 (C-H bending of mono substituted benzene), 3060 (aromatic C-H stretching); ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 3.90 (3H, s, C_d-OCH₃), 4.02 (3H, s, C₈-OCH₃), 7.04-8.00 (14H, m, 12 Ar-H and C_{2'}-H, C_{3'}-H), 8.45 (1H, s, C_{5'}-H), 8.58 (1H, s, C₄-H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 55.39(C_d-OCH₃), 56.57(C₈-OCH₃), 114.29(C_{2'}), 115.66(C₇), 118.22(C₁₀), 119.43(C_{4'}), 119.71(C_c, C_e), 121.19(C_{b'}, C_{f'}), 122.97(C₆), 124.67(C_{d'}), 125.49(C₃), 127.00(C₅), 127.20(C_{5'}), 129.67(C_{c'}, C_{e'}), 130.27(C_b, C_f), 136.12(C_{3'}), 139.44(C₉), 144.88(C₈), 147.06(C_{a'}), 148.27(C₄), 154.21(C_{8'}), 158.92(C₂), 160.10(C_d), 185.55(C_{1'}); Anal. Calcd. for C₂₉H₂₂N₂O₅ C, 72.79; H, 4.63; N, 5.85%. Found: C, 72.72; H, 4.55; N, 5.79%.

3. 3. General procedure for the synthesis of bipyridinyl substituted coumarins (7a-f, 8a-f, and 9a-f).

In a 100 mL round bottom flask equipped with a condenser, guard tube and magnetic needle, an appropriate pyridoyl methyl pyridinium iodide salt **4**, **5** and **6**, 0.003 mol (**4**, **5** and **6**: 1g) in glacial acetic acid (15mL) was taken. To this ammonium acetate, 0.03 mol (2.36g) was added with stirring at room temperature. Then a solution of an appropriate 3-[3-(1,3-diaryl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)acryloyl]coumarin **3a-f**, 0.003 mol (**3a**:1.33g, **3b**:1.37g, **3c**:1.42g, **3d**:1.42g, **3e**:1.46g, **3f**:1.5g) in glacial acetic acid (15 mL) was added with stirring at room temperature and the reaction mixture was further stirred for 1 hour at room temperature and then refluxed for 8 hours at 140°C. It was then allowed to come to room temperature and was poured into ice-cold water (75 mL). A crude solid obtained was extracted with chloroform (3 x 30 mL). The organic layer was washed with 5% sodium bicarbonate solution (3 x 20 mL), water (2 x 20 mL) and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate.

3-[4-(1,3-Diphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)-2,2'-bipyridin-6-yl]coumarin (7a):

Yield: 68%; m.p. 210°C; IR (KBr, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 1722 (C=O δ -lactone stretching), 1596 and 1474 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 3058 (aromatic C-H stretching); ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 7.34-8.47 (19H, m, Ar-H except C_{5'}-H and C_{6''}-H), 8.55 (1H, poorly resolved dd, C_{6''}-H), 8.70 (1H, d, J = 4.0 Hz, C_{5'}-H), 8.89 (1H, s, C₄-H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 116.45(C_{5'}), 119.22(C₈), 119.59(C₁₀), 119.85(C_b, C_f), 120.60(C_{4'''}), 121.26(C_{5''}), 123.23(C_d), 123.88(C₆), 124.53(C_{3'}), 125.61(C₃), 126.85(C_{5'''}), 127.58(C_{d'}), 128.39(C_{b'}, C_{f'}), 128.59(C₅), 128.72(C_{3''}), 128.83(C_{c'}, C_{e'}), 129.52(C_c, C_e), 132.10(C₇), 132.58(C_{a'}), 136.87(C_{4''}), 139.75(C_a), 142.46(C₄), 142.69(C_{3'''}), 149.25(C_{6''}), 150.95(C₉), 151.28(C_{2''}), 153.99(C_{2'}), 155.96(C_{4'}), 156.02(C_{6'}) and 160.04 (C₂); Anal. Calcd. for C₃₄H₂₂N₄O₂ C, 78.75; H, 4.28; N, 10.80%. Found: C, 78.70; H, 4.34; N, 10.86%.

3-[4-(1-Phenyl-3-p-tolyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)-2,2'-bipyridin-6-yl]coumarin (7b):

Yield: 75%; m.p. 182°C; IR (KBr, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 1722 (C=O δ -lactone stretching), 1596 and 1474 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 3058 (aromatic C-H stretching); ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 2.39 (3H, s, CH₃), 7.19-8.46 (18H, m, Ar-H except C_{5'}-H and C_{6''}-H), 8.54 (1H, poorly resolved dd, C_{6''}-H), 8.69 (1H, d, J = 4.0 Hz, C_{5'}-H), 8.88 (1H, s, C₄-H); ¹³C

NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 21.37(CH₃), 116.41(C_{5'}), 119.17(C₈), 119.59(C₁₀), 119.76(C_b, C_f), 120.48(C_{4'''}), 121.26(C_{5''}), 123.29(C_d), 123.85(C₆), 124.51(C_{3'}), 125.67(C₃), 126.73(C_{5'''}), 127.56(C₅), 128.47(C_{c'}, C_{e'}), 128.81(C_{3''}), 129.25(C_{b'}, C_{f'}), 129.49(C_c, C_e), 129.67(C_{a'}), 132.08(C₇), 136.83(C_{4''}), 138.07(C_{d'}), 139.78(C_a), 142.44(C₄), 142.90(C_{3'''}), 149.24(C_{6''}), 150.93(C₉), 151.20(C_{2''}), 153.98(C_{2'}), 155.92(C_{4'}), 156.03(C_{6'}), 160.06(C₂); Anal. Calcd. for C₃₅H₂₄N₄O₂ C, 78.93; H, 4.54; N, 10.52%. Found: C, 78.97; H, 4.48; N, 10.59%.

3-{4-[3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-2,2'-bipyridin-6-yl}coumarin (7c):
Yield: 65%; m.p. 204°C; IR (KBr, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 1720 (C=O δ -lactone stretching), 1597 and 1458 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 3060 (aromatic C-H stretching); ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 3.84 (3H, s, OCH₃), 6.92-8.45 (18H, m, Ar-H except C_{5'}-H and C_{6''}-H), 8.52 (1H, poorly resolved dd, C_{6''}-H), 8.70 (1H, d, $J = 4.0$ Hz, C_{5'}-H), 8.91 (1H, s, C₄-H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 55.32(OCH₃), 114.08(C_{5'}), 116.41(C_{c'}, C_{e'}), 119.14(C₈), 119.23(C_{4'''}), 119.58(C₃), 119.90(C_c, C_f), 120.22(C_{a'}), 121.29(C_{5''}), 123.23(C_d), 123.95(C₆), 124.56(C_{3'}), 125.10(C_a), 126.72(C_{5'''}), 127.62(C₅), 128.91(C_{3''}), 129.50(C_c, C_e), 129.90(C_{b'}, C_{f'}), 132.17(C₇), 137.03(C_{4''}), 139.75(C_{3'''}), 142.56(C₉), 142.66(C₄), 143.10(C_{2''}), 149.16(C_{6''}), 150.92(C_{2'}), 150.99(C_{d'}), 153.99(C_{4'}), 159.79(C_{6'}), 160.07(C₂); Anal. Calcd. for C₃₅H₂₄N₄O₃ C, 76.63; H, 4.41; N, 10.21%. Found: C, 76.70; H, 4.35; N, 10.15%.

8-Methoxy-3-[4-(1,3-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)-2,2'-bipyridin-6-yl]coumarin (7d):

Yield: 67%; m.p. 188°C; IR (KBr, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 1725 (C=O δ -lactone stretching), 1592 and 1470 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 3064 (aromatic C-H stretching); ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 4.00 (3H, s, OCH₃), 7.11-8.44 (18H, m, Ar-H except C_{5'}-H and C_{6''}-H), 8.51 (1H, poorly resolved dd, C_{6''}-H), 8.69 (1H, d, $J = 4.4$ Hz, C_{5'}-H), 8.88 (1H, s, C₄-H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 56.28(OCH₃), 113.89(C_{5'}), 119.21(C₇), 119.88(C_b, C_f), 120.20(C₁₀), 120.29(C_{5''}), 120.55(C_{4'''}), 121.27(C₆), 123.26(C₅), 123.89(C_d), 124.33(C_{3'}), 125.62(C₃), 126.81(C_{5'''}), 127.63(C_{d'}), 128.36(C_{b'}, C_{f'}), 128.56(C_{3''}), 128.68(C_{c'}, C_{e'}), 129.51(C_c, C_e), 132.56(C_{a'}), 136.98(C_{4''}), 139.73(C_a), 142.67(C_{3'''}), 142.73(C₄), 143.67(C₉), 146.96(C₈), 149.14(C_{6''}), 150.92(C_{2''}), 151.26(C_{2'}), 155.66(C_{4'}), 155.83(C_{6'}), 159.45(C₂); Anal. Calcd. for C₃₆H₂₄N₄O₃ C, 76.63; H, 4.41; N, 10.21%. Found: C, 76.68; H, 4.48; N, 10.17%.

8-Methoxy-3-[4-(1-phenyl-3-p-tolyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)-2,2'-bipyridin-6-yl]coumarin (7e):

Yield: 74%; m.p. 226°C; IR (KBr, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 1728 (C=O δ -lactone stretching), 1582 and 1474 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 3060 (aromatic C-H stretching); ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 2.39 (3H, s, CH₃), 4.04 (3H, s, OCH₃), 7.12-8.45 (17H, m, Ar-H except C_{5'}-H and C_{6''}-H), 8.53 (1H, poorly resolved dd, C_{6''}-H), 8.69 (1H, d, $J = 4.4$ Hz, C_{5'}-H), 8.86 (1H, s, C₄-H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 21.48(CH₃), 56.44(OCH₃), 113.86(C_{5'}), 114.10(C₇), 114.62(C₁₀), 115.65(C_{4'''}), 119.18(C_b, C_f), 119.94(C_{5''}), 120.01(C₃), 120.22(C_{a'}), 120.49(C₆), 120.73(C_{d'}), 121.24(C₅), 123.34(C_a), 123.81(C_{3'''}), 124.32(C_d), 124.38(C_{3'}), 124.63(C_{5'''}), 126.70(C_c, C_e), 127.58(C_{3''}), 128.45(C_{b'}, C_{f'}), 129.24(C_c, C_e), 129.48(C₉), 136.81(C_{4''}), 138.05(C₈), 142.54(C₄), 144.77(C_{2''}), 146.97(C_{2'}), 149.23(C_{6''}), 151.26(C_{4'}), 155.83(C_{6'}), 159.45(C₂); Anal. Calcd. for C₃₆H₂₆N₄O₃ C, 76.85; H, 4.66; N, 9.96%. Found: C, 76.78; H, 4.72; N, 9.91%.

8-Methoxy-3-{4-[3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-2,2'-bipyridin-6-yl} coumarin (7f):

Yield: 70%; m.p. 238°C; IR (KBr, ν_{\max} , cm^{-1}): 1733 (C=O δ -lactone stretching), 1597 and 1477 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 3058 (aromatic C-H stretching); ^1H NMR (400MHz, CDCl_3 , δ): 3.84 (3H, s, OCH_3), 4.02 (3H, s, OCH_3), 6.91-8.45 (17H, m, Ar-H except C_5' -H and C_6'' -H), 8.53 (1H, poorly resolved dd, C_6'' -H), 8.70 (1H, d, $J = 4.0$ Hz, C_5' -H), 8.89 (1H, s, C_4 -H); ^{13}C NMR (100MHz, CDCl_3 , δ): 55.27(OCH_3), 56.29(OCH_3), 114.06(C_5'), 119.15(C_7), 119.27(C_{10}), 119.96(C_c' , C_e'), 120.22(C_b , C_f), 120.33(C_4'''), 121.31(C_5''), 123.34(C_6), 123.90(C_5), 124.36(C_d), 125.08(C_3), 126.70(C_3'), 127.60(C_5'''), 129.50(C_3''), 129.89(C_c , C_e), 137.08(C_b' , C_f'), 139.75(C_a), 142.76(C_4''), 143.05(C_3'''), 143.72(C_9), 146.96(C_8), 149.02(C_4), 149.14(C_6''), 150.92(C_2''), 150.99(C_2'), 151.43(C_d'), 153.83(C_4'), 159.48(C_6'), 159.78(C_2); Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_4\text{O}_4$ C, 74.73; H, 4.53; N, 9.68%. Found: C, 74.78; H, 4.60; N, 9.75%

3-[4-(1,3-Diphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)-2,3'-bipyridin-6-yl]coumarin (8a):

Yield: 72%; m.p. 184°C; IR (KBr, ν_{\max} , cm^{-1}): 1720 (C=O δ -lactone stretching), 1590 and 1460 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 3060 (aromatic C-H stretching); ^1H NMR (400MHz, CDCl_3 , δ): 2.44 (3H, singlet, CH_3), 7.24-8.20 (16H, m, Ar-H), 8.34 (1H, s, C_5''' -H), 8.60 (1H, poorly resolved d, C_5' -H), 8.66 (1H, poorly resolved dd, C_6'' -H), 8.98 (1H, s, C_4 -H), 9.14 (1H, d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, C_2'' -H); ^{13}C NMR (100MHz, CDCl_3 , δ): 116.41(C_5'), 119.29(C_8), 119.53(C_{10}), 120.19(C_4'''), 121.71(C_b , C_f), 123.50(C_5''), 124.68(C_3'), 125.02(C_3), 127.03(C_d), 127.41(C_6), 128.69(C_5'''), 128.71(C_d'), 128.87(C_b' , C_f'), 129.01(C_5), 129.56(C_c' , C_e'), 132.33(C_c , C_e), 132.67(C_3''), 134.21(C_7), 134.64(C_a'), 139.62(C_a), 140.42(C_4), 142.50(C_3'''), 142.86(C_4''), 148.41(C_6''), 149.95(C_2''), 151.32(C_9), 151.74(C_2'), 154.01(C_4'), 154.14(C_6'), 160.27 (C_2); Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_4\text{O}_2$ C, 78.75; H, 4.28; N, 10.80%. Found: C, 78.69; H, 4.36; N, 10.76%.

3-[4-(1-Phenyl-3-p-tolyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)-2,3'-bipyridin-6-yl]coumarin (8b):

Yield: 74%; m.p. 220°C; IR (KBr, ν_{\max} , cm^{-1}): 1720 (C=O δ -lactone stretching), 1590 and 1460 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 3060 (aromatic C-H stretching); ^1H NMR (400MHz, CDCl_3 , δ): 2.44 (3H, singlet, CH_3), 7.24-8.20 (16H, m, Ar-H), 8.34 (1H, s, C_5''' -H), 8.60 (1H, poorly resolved d, C_5' -H), 8.66 (1H, poorly resolved dd, C_6'' -H), 8.98 (1H, s, C_4 -H), 9.14 (1H, d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, C_2'' -H); ^{13}C NMR (100MHz, CDCl_3 , δ): 21.40(CH_3), 116.41(C_5'), 119.24(C_8), 119.34(C_b , C_f), 119.53(C_{10}), 120.06(C_4'''), 121.79(C_5''), 123.54(C_3'), 124.68(C_d), 125.05(C_a'), 126.93(C_6), 127.41(C_5'''), 128.66(C_5), 129.01(C_c' , C_e'), 129.36(C_b' , C_f'), 129.54(C_c , C_e), 129.71(C_3''), 132.32(C_7), 134.72(C_4), 138.50(C_d'), 139.64(C_a), 142.72(C_3'''), 142.85(C_4''), 148.36(C_6''), 149.85(C_2''), 151.26(C_9), 151.72(C_2'), 154.00(C_4'), 154.04(C_6'), 160.27(C_2); Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{35}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_4\text{O}_2$ C, 78.93; H, 4.54; N, 10.52%. Found: C, 78.86; H, 4.59; N, 10.47%.

3-{4-[3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-2,3'-bipyridin-6-yl}coumarin (8c):

Yield: 64%; m.p. 216°C; IR (KBr, ν_{\max} , cm^{-1}): 1721 (C=O δ -lactone stretching), 1596 and 1456 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 3065 (aromatic C-H stretching); ^1H NMR (400MHz, CDCl_3 , δ): 3.88 (3H, s, OCH_3), 6.97-8.23 (16H, m, Ar-H), 8.34 (1H, s, C_5''' -H), 8.61 (1H, d, $J = 1.2$ Hz, C_5' -H), 8.67 (1H, poorly resolved dd, C_6'' -H), 8.96 (1H, s, C_4 -H), 9.19 (1H, poorly resolved d, C_2'' -H); ^{13}C NMR (100MHz, CDCl_3 , δ): 55.41(OCH_3), 114.17(C_c' , C_e'), 116.45(C_5'), 119.27(C_8), 119.38(C_b , C_f), 119.95(C_5''), 121.90(C_3'), 123.60(C_d), 124.71(C_6), 125.05(C_{10}), 125.13(C_4''), 126.12(C_3), 126.92(C_5'''), 127.43(C_5),

129.01(C_c, C_e), 129.55(C_{b'}, C_{f'}), 130.01(C₇), 132.36(C₄), 134.42(C_{4''}), 134.80(C_{a'}), 139.67(C_{3'''}), 142.81(C_a), 142.89(C_{6''}), 148.25(C_{2''}), 149.74(C_{3'''}), 150.99(C₉), 151.81(C_{d'}), 154.02(C_{2'}), 154.08(C_{4'}), 160.03(C_{6'}), 160.27(C₂); Anal. Calcd. for C₃₅H₂₄N₄O₃ C, 76.63; H, 4.41; N, 10.21%. Found: C, 76.58; H, 4.36; N, 10.29%.

8-Methoxy-3-[4-(1,3-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)-2,3'-bipyridin-6-yl]coumarin (8d):

Yield: 68%; m.p. 240°C; IR (KBr, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 1713 (C=O δ -lactone stretching), 1597 and 1474 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 3062 (aromatic C-H stretching); ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 4.02 (3H, s, OCH₃), 7.14-8.18 (16H, m, Ar-H), 8.39 (1H, s, C_{5'''}-H), 8.62 (1H, poorly resolved d, C_{5'}-H), 8.65 (1H, poorly resolved dd, C_{6''}-H), 8.96 (1H, s, C₄-H), 9.11 (1H, d, J = 1.8 Hz, C_{2''}-H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 56.32(OCH₃), 114.08(C₇), 119.29(C_{5'}), 119.34(C_c, C_f), 120.15(C_{4'''}), 120.42(C_{5''}), 121.81(C_{3'}), 123.59(C₆), 124.51(C₅), 125.15(C₃), 127.02(C_d), 127.49(C_{5'''}), 128.67(C_{d'}), 128.71(C_{b'}, C_{f'}), 128.87(C_{c'}, C_{e'}), 129.56(C_c, C_e), 132.67(C_{3''}), 134.46(C_{4''}), 134.79(C_{a'}), 136.44(C_a), 139.63(C_{3'''}), 142.56(C₉), 143.03(C₄), 143.68(C₈), 148.17(C_{6''}), 149.66(C_{2''}), 151.32(C_{2'}), 151.77(C_{4'}), 153.97(C_{6'}), 159.71(C₂); Anal. Calcd. for C₃₅H₂₄N₄O₃ C, 76.63; H, 4.41; N, 10.21%. Found: C, 76.56; H, 4.50; N, 10.15%

8-Methoxy-3-[4-(1-phenyl-3-p-tolyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)-2,3-bipyridin-6-yl]coumarin (8e):

Yield: 76%; m.p. 248°C; IR (KBr, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 1718 (C=O δ -lactone stretching), 1590 and 1470 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 3058 (aromatic C-H stretching); ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 2.43 (3H, s, CH₃), 4.02 (3H, s, OCH₃), 7.14-8.19 (15H, m, Ar-H), 8.34 (1H, s, C_{5'''}-H), 8.61 (1H, poorly resolved d, C_{5'}-H), 8.67 (1H, poorly resolved dd, C_{6''}-H), 8.96 (1H, s, C₄-H), 9.12 (1H, d, J = 1.2 Hz, C_{2''}-H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 21.40(CH₃), 56.30(OCH₃), 114.02(C₇), 119.25(C_{5'}), 119.40(C_b, C_f), 120.07(C₁₀), 120.17(C_{4'''}), 120.38(C_{5''}), 121.82(C_{3'}), 123.48(C₆), 124.49(C₅), 125.23(C₃), 126.90(C_d), 127.46(C_{5'''}), 128.65(C_{c'}, C_{e'}), 129.35(C_{b'}, C_{f'}), 129.53(C_c, C_e), 129.72(C_{a'}), 134.24(C_{4''}), 134.68(C_{3''}), 138.47(C_{d'}), 139.66(C_a), 142.71(C_{3'''}), 142.98(C₄), 143.67(C₉), 146.95(C₈), 148.45(C_{6''}), 149.94(C_{2''}), 151.25(C_{2'}), 151.69(C_{4'}), 154.05(C_{6'}), 159.70(C₂); Anal. Calcd. for C₃₆H₂₆N₄O₃ C, 76.85; H, 4.66; N, 9.96%. Found: C, 76.77; H, 4.58; N, 9.88%.

8-Methoxy-3-{4-[3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-2,3'-bipyridin-6-yl} coumarin (8f):

Yield: 72%; m.p. 250°C; IR (KBr, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 1720 (C=O δ -lactone stretching), 1597 and 1474 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 3057 (aromatic C-H stretching); ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 3.87 (3H, s, CH₃), 4.03 (3H, s, OCH₃), 6.96-8.25 (15H, m, Ar-H), 8.34 (1H, s, C_{5'''}-H), 8.62 (1H, poorly resolved d, C_{5'}-H), 8.68 (1H, poorly resolved dd, C_{6''}-H), 8.96 (1H, s, C₄-H), 9.21 (1H, poorly resolved d, C_{2''}-H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 55.38(OCH₃), 56.32(OCH₃), 114.09(C₇), 114.15(C_{c'}, C_{e'}), 119.23(C_{5'}), 119.34(C_c, C_f), 119.85(C₁₀), 120.16(C_{4'''}), 120.43(C_{5''}), 122.01(C_{3'}), 123.78(C₆), 124.52(C₅), 125.01(C₃), 125.15(C_a), 126.90(C_d), 127.49(C_{5'''}), 129.53(C_c, C_e), 130.03(C_{b'}, C_{f'}), 134.85(C_{4''}), 135.00(C_{3''}), 139.64(C_a), 142.90(C_{3'''}), 143.08(C₄), 143.69(C₉), 146.96(C₈), 147.81(C_{6''}), 149.19(C_{2''}), 150.98(C_{d'}), 151.81(C_{2'}), 153.72(C_{4'}), 159.69(C_{6'}), 159.99(C₂); Anal. Calcd. for C₃₆H₂₆N₄O₄ C, 74.73; H, 4.53; N, 9.68%. Found: C, 74.79; H, 4.60; N, 9.60%

3-[4-(1,3-Diphenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)-2,4'-bipyridin-6-yl]coumarin (9a):

Yield: 62%; m.p. 212°C; IR (KBr, ν_{\max} , cm⁻¹): 1720 (C=O δ -lactone stretching), 1597 and 1458 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 3052 (aromatic C-H stretching); ¹H NMR

(400MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 2.45 (3H, s, CH₃), 7.26-7.87 (16H, m, Ar-H), 8.35 (1H, s, C_{5'''}-H), 8.63 (1H, poorly resolved d, C_{5'}-H), 8.72 (2H, poorly resolved dd, C_{2''}-H and C_{6''}-H), 8.97 (1H, s, C₄-H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 116.45(C_{5'}), 119.29(C₈), 119.48(C₁₀), 119.56(C_b, C_f), 120.02(C₃), 121.05(C_d), 122.60(C₆), 124.70(C_{3'}), 124.96(C_{4'''}), 127.08(C_{3''}), 127.40(C_{5'''}), 128.67(C_{d'}), 128.73(C_{b'}, C_{f'}), 128.88(C₅), 129.02(C_{c'}, C_{e'}), 129.58(C_c, C_e), 132.42(C₇), 132.67(C_{a'}), 139.58(C_a), 142.62(C_{4''}), 142.94(C₄), 146.35(C_{3'''}), 150.25(C_{2''}, C_{6''}), 151.30(C₉), 151.88(C_{2'}), 153.91(C_{4'}), 154.03(C_{6'}), 160.24 (C₂); Anal. Calcd. for C₃₄H₂₂N₄O₂ C, 78.75; H, 4.28; N, 10.80%. Found: C, 78.40; H, 4.21; N, 10.86%.

3-[4-(1-Phenyl-3-p-tolyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)-2,4'-bipyridin-6-yl]coumarin (9b):

Yield: 76%; m.p. 224°C; IR (KBr, ν_{max}, cm⁻¹): 1720 (C=O δ-lactone stretching), 1597 and 1458 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 3052 (aromatic C-H stretching); ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 2.45 (3H, s, CH₃), 7.26-7.87 (16H, m, Ar-H), 8.35 (1H, s, C_{5'''}-H), 8.63 (1H, poorly resolved d, C_{5'}-H), 8.72 (2H, poorly resolved dd, C_{2''}-H and C_{6''}-H), 8.97 (1H, s, C₄-H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 21.51(CH₃), 116.46(C_{5'}), 119.26(C₈), 119.51(C₁₀), 119.62(C_b, C_f), 119.95(C_{4'''}), 121.05 (C_d), 122.61(C₆), 124.69(C_{3'}), 125.06(C₃), 126.99(C_{3''}, C_{5''}), 127.34(C_{5'''}), 128.70(C_{5'}), 129.01(C_{c'}, C_{e'}), 129.38(C_{b'}, C_{f'}), 129.55(C_c, C_e), 129.75(C_{a'}), 132.39(C₇), 138.49(C_{d'}), 139.63(C_a), 142.80(C_{4''}), 142.91(C₄), 146.28(C_{3'''}), 150.37(C_{2''}, C_{6''}), 151.31(C₉), 151.85(C_{2'}), 153.94(C_{4'}), 154.04(C_{6'}), 160.25 (C₂); Anal. Calcd. for C₃₅H₂₄N₄O₂ C, 78.93; H, 4.54; N, 10.52%. Found: C, 78.87; H, 4.61; N, 10.60%.

3-{4-[3-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-2,4'-bipyridin-6-yl}coumarin (9c):

Yield: 70%; m.p. 210°C; IR (KBr, ν_{max}, cm⁻¹): 1718 (C=O δ-lactone stretching), 1595 and 1460 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 3060 (aromatic C-H stretching); ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 4.04 (3H, s, OCH₃), 7.15-7.88 (16H, m, Ar-H), 8.37 (1H, s, C_{5'''}-H), 8.63 (1H, poorly resolved d, C_{5'}-H), 8.71 (2H, poorly resolved dd, C_{2''}-H and C_{6''}-H), 8.98 (1H, s, C₄-H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 56.40(OCH₃), 116.43(C_{5'}), 119.32(C_{c'}, C_{e'}), 119.52(C₁₀), 120.17(C_{4'''}), 121.73(C₈), 123.53(C_b, C_f), 124.65(C_d), 125.07(C₃), 127.06(C₆), 127.47(C_{3'}), 128.66(C_{5''}), 128.57(C_{5'''}), 129.04(C₅), 129.56(C_{a'}), 132.33(C_c, C_e), 132.87(C_a), 134.21(C_{b'}, C_{f'}), 134.64(C_{4''}), 139.42(C_{3'''}), 142.30(C₉), 142.76(C₇), 148.41(C₄), 149.45(C_{6''}), 151.12(C_{2'}), 151.34(C_{d'}), 154.04(C_{4'}), 154.15(C_{6'}), 160.22(C₂).; Anal. Calcd. for C₃₅H₂₄N₄O₃ C, 76.63; H, 4.41; N, 10.21%. Found: C, 76.58; H, 4.35; N, 10.28%.

8-Methoxy-3-[4-(1,3-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)-2,4'-bipyridin-6-yl]coumarin (9d):

Yield: 65%; m.p. 232°C; IR (KBr, ν_{max}, cm⁻¹): 1720 (C=O δ-lactone stretching), 1597 and 1458 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 3045 (aromatic C-H stretching); ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 4.03 (3H, s, OCH₃), 7.15-7.88 (16H, m, Ar-H), 8.38 (1H, s, C_{5'''}-H), 8.65 (1H, poorly resolved d, C_{5'}-H), 8.71 (2H, poorly resolved dd, C_{2''}-H and C_{6''}-H), 8.96 (1H, s, C₄-H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 56.32(OCH₃), 114.13(C_{5'}), 119.31(C₇), 119.63(C_b, C_f), 120.01(C₁₀), 120.12(C_{4'''}), 120.39(C₆), 121.07(C₅), 122.67(C_d), 124.53(C_{3'}), 125.14(C₃), 127.06(C_{5''}), 127.46(C_{5'''}), 128.65(C_d), 128.71(C_{b'}, C_{f'}), 128.87(C_{c'}, C_{e'}), 129.57(C_c, C_e), 132.68(C_{a'}), 139.59(C_a), 142.65(C_{4''}), 143.10(C₄), 143.72(C_{3'''}), 146.44(C₉), 147.00(C₈), 150.14(C_{6''}), 151.29(C_{2'}), 151.89(C_{4'}), 153.82(C_{6'}), 159.59(C₂); Anal. Calcd. for C₃₅H₂₄N₄O₃ C, 76.63; H, 4.41; N, 10.21%. Found: C, 76.55; H, 4.50; N, 10.27%.

8-Methoxy-3-[4-(1-phenyl-3-p-tolyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)-2,4'-bipyridin-6-yl]coumarin (9e):

Yield: 78%; m.p. 184°C; IR (KBr, ν_{max}, cm⁻¹): 1716 (C=O δ-lactone stretching), 1592 and 1476 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 3023 (aromatic C-H stretching); ¹H NMR

(400MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 2.44 (3H, s, CH₃), 4.02 (3H, s, OCH₃), 7.14-7.86 (15H, m, Ar-H), 8.34 (1H, s, C_{5'''}-H), 8.63 (1H, poorly resolved d, C_{5'}-H), 8.70 (2H, poorly resolved dd, C_{2''}-H and C_{6''}-H), 8.93 (1H, s, C₄-H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 21.37(CH₃), 56.30(OCH₃), 114.08(C_{5'}), 119.25(C₇), 119.62(C_b, C_f), 119.92(C₁₀), 120.13(C_{4'''}), 120.38(C₆), 121.03(C₅), 122.64(C_d), 124.51(C_{3'}), 125.18(C₃), 126.95(C_{5''}), 127.39(C_{5'''}), 128.70(C_{c'}, C_{e'}), 129.37(C_{b'}, C_{f'}), 129.53(C_c, C_e), 129.75(C_{a'}), 138.45(C_{d'}), 139.62(C_a), 142.78(C_{4''}), 143.04(C₄), 143.69(C_{3'''}), 146.26(C₉), 146.98(C₈), 150.35(C_{6''}), 151.28(C_{2'}), 151.79(C_{4'}), 153.84(C_{6'}), 159.70(C₂ of coumarin); Anal. Calcd. for C₃₆H₂₆N₄O₃ C, 76.85; H, 4.66; N, 9.96%. Found: C, 76.78; H, 4.72; N, 9.89%.

8-Methoxy-3-[4-[3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl]-2,4'-bipyridin-6-yl] coumarin (9f):

Yield: 68%; m.p. 244°C; IR (KBr, ν_{max}, cm⁻¹): 1720 (C=O δ-lactone stretching), 1590 and 1460 (aromatic C=C and C=N stretchings), 3058 (aromatic C-H stretching); ¹H NMR (400MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 3.88 (3H, s, OCH₃), 4.04 (3H, s, OCH₃), 6.97-8.35 (15H, m, Ar-H), 8.34 (1H, s, C_{5'''}-H), 8.65 (1H, poorly resolved d, C_{5'}-H), 8.71 (2H, poorly resolved dd, C_{2''}-H and C_{6''}-H), 8.95 (1H, s, C₄-H); ¹³C NMR (100MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 55.40(OCH₃), 56.33(OCH₃), 114.17(C_{5'}), 119.25(C₇), 119.66(C_{c'}, C_{e'}), 119.76(C_b, C_f), 120.14(C_{4'''}), 120.39(C₆), 121.16(C₅), 122.81(C_d), 124.54(C_{3'}), 125.05(C₃), 125.21(C_{a'}), 126.95(C_{5''}), 127.42(C_{5'''}), 129.55(C_c, C_e), 130.07(C_{b'}, C_{f'}), 139.64(C_a), 142.94(C_{4''}), 143.10(C₄), 143.74(C_{3'''}), 146.65(C₉), 147.01(C₈), 149.98(C_{6''}), 151.01(C_{2'}), 151.94(C_{d'}), 153.77(C_{4'}), 159.68(C_{6'}), 160.01(C₂); Anal. Calcd. for C₃₆H₂₆N₄O₄ C, 74.73; H, 4.53; N, 9.68%. Found: C, 74.79; H, 4.60; N, 9.74%.

3. 2. Biological assay

All the newly synthesized target compounds were evaluated for their *in vitro* antibacterial activity against *Staphylococcus aureus* (MTCC 96) and *Bacillus subtilis* (MTCC 441) as examples of Gram positive bacteria and *Escherichia coli* (MTCC 443) and *Salmonella typhi* (MTCC 98) as examples of Gram negative bacteria. They were also evaluated for their *in vitro* antifungal activity against *Candida albicans* (MTCC 227) and *Aspergillus niger* (MTCC 282) as fungal strains. For comparison, the standard drug used for antibacterial potency of the compounds was ampicillin, a broad spectrum antibiotic, while the drugs used for antifungal potency of the compounds were griseofulvin and nystatin. The screening results (**Table 1**) indicated that all the tested compounds exhibited different inhibitory effects against different test organisms. All MTCC cultures were collected from Institute of Microbial Technology, Chandigarh and tested against above mentioned known drugs. Mueller Hinton broth was used as nutrient medium to grow and dilute the drug suspension for the test. Inoculum's size for test strain was adjusted to 10⁸ CFU (Colony Forming Unit) per milliliter by comparing the turbidity. The newly prepared compounds were screened for their MICs by broth microdilution method. DMSO was used as a diluent to get desired concentration of compounds to test upon standard bacterial strains. Serial dilutions were prepared in primary and secondary screening. The control tube containing no antibiotic was immediately subcultured (before inoculation) by spreading a loopful evenly over a quarter of plate of medium suitable for the growth of the test organism and put for incubation at 37°C overnight. The tubes were then incubated overnight. The MIC of the control organism was read to check the accuracy of the compound concentrations. The lowest concentration (highest dilution) required to arrest the growth of bacteria was regarded as minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC). All the tubes showing no visible growth (same as control

tube) were sub cultured and incubated overnight at 37°C. The amount of growth from the control tube before incubation (which represents the original inoculum) was compared. Subcultures might show (i) similar number of colonies indicating bacteriostatic (ii) a reduced number of colonies indicating a partial or slow bactericidal activity (iii) no growth if the whole inoculum has been killed. The test must include a second set of the same dilutions inoculated with an organism of known sensitivity. Each synthesized compound was diluted obtaining 2000 µg/mL concentration as a stock solution. In primary screening 500, 250 and 200 µg/mL concentrations of the synthesized compounds were taken. The compounds which found active in this primary screening were further tested in a second set of dilution using 100, 62.5, 50 and 25 µg/mL concentrations against all microorganisms. The highest dilution showing at least 99% inhibition is taken as MIC.

4. CONCLUSION

Present study described successful hybridization strategy of three bioactive moieties, pyridyl substituted coumarin, bipyridine and pyrazolyl substituted pyridine in single scaffold. The target compounds were synthesized in good yield by adopting Krohnke's protocol. Majority of the compounds were found to be active against *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Bacillus subtilis*. In antifungal activity, majority of the compounds showed excellent activity against *Candida albican* as compared to griseofulvin. Antimicrobial screening results revealed that compounds **3b**, **3e**, **7b**, **8b**, **8c** and **9b** were found to be the most proficient members of the series. Reviewing the antimicrobial data, it is worth mentioning here that coumarins bearing bipyridine and pyrazole entities as substitution serve as promising lead scaffolds for further generation of new antimicrobial agents.

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