



Research article

Conformational analysis and quantum descriptors of two new imidazole derivatives by experimental, DFT, AIM, molecular docking studies and adsorption activity on graphene

Veena S. Kumar^a, Y. Sheena Mary^{b,*}, Kiran Pradhan^c, Dhiraj Brahman^c, Y. Shyma Mary^b, Goncagül Serdaroglu^d, Ali Shokuhi Rad^e, M.S. Roxy^a^a Department of Physics, SN College, Kollam, Research Centre, University of Kerala, Kerala, India^b Department of Physics, Fatima Mata National College(Autonomous), Kollam, Kerala, India^c Department of Chemistry, St. Joseph's College, P.O. North Point, Dist. Darjeeling 734104, India^d Sivas Cumhuriyet University, Faculty of Education, Math. and Sci. Edu., 58140 Sivas TURKEY^e Department of Chemical Engineering, Qaemshahr Branch, Islamic Azad University, Qaemshahr, Iran

ARTICLE INFO

Keywords:

Organic chemistry
Pharmaceutical chemistry
Theoretical chemistry
DFT
Imidazole
MEP
QTAIM
Docking

ABSTRACT

1-[2-(2-hydroxy-3-methoxy-5-(4-methoxyphenylazo)benzaldeneamino)ethyl]-3-methyl-3H-imidazole (HMY) and 1-[2-(2-hydroxy-3-methoxy-5-(4-methylphenylazo)benzaldene amino)ethyl]-3-methyl-3H-imidazole (HMM) were synthesized and characterized using spectral analysis. Conformational analysis has been achieved using potential energy scan for different rotatable bonds for obtaining the lowest energy conformer. Conformer with minimum energy is obtained along the dihedral angle N30-C31-C34-N37. QTAIM analysis gives nature and strength of hydrogen bonding interactions. UV-Vis, electrostatic potential and chemical descriptors are analyzed. Interaction of HMY and HMM with graphene is analyzed in terms of SERS activity. Chemical reactivity descriptors were investigated for graphene-drug systems. NLO activity of parent drugs and its graphene complexes show good activity. The wavenumber downshift of different modes is noted. Title molecules exhibit inhibitory activity against cytochrome C peroxidase. Interactions with graphene sheets are theoretically predicted for the title compounds.

1. Introduction

Imidazoles are materials for chemical synthesis with remarkable biological activities [1]. Some derivatives are characterized by properties of electroluminescence and have fluorphores in diodes that emit light [2, 3]. Azo compounds are industrial organic colorants and used in various fields, electronics, foods, drugs, cosmetics and textiles due to the versatile applications [4]. Imidazole drugs have uses in medical field of anticancer, antiviral, antibacterial and anti-diabetic activities [5, 6]. They are very important in materials chemistry as ionic liquids [7, 8] and in organic reactions as carbene precursors which are more stable [9]. Imidazole drugs show anti-hypertensive activities [10, 11]. They are also efficient corrosion inhibitors [12]. Khodja et al. recently reported a series of imidazole derivative's design, synthesis and biological evaluation [13]. Kandasamy et al. recently reported the synthesis of zinc binding groups based on imidazole inhibitors that target lung cancer [14]. Recently green

synthesis of an ionic liquid is reported based on imidazole [15]. Shahi et al. presented synthesis and distribution of electron density in imidazole derivatives [16]. Mary et al. reported a number of imidazole derivative's spectroscopic studies [17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23]. In literature, broad research has been reported on graphene activity [24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29]. Hydrophobic interaction is a major adsorption mechanisms of drugs with graphene [30, 31, 32, 33]. QDs provide high SERS signals for detecting drugs due to electronic properties [34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43]. Adsorption of drugs with graphene is reported by many authors experimentally and theoretically [44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52]. Coronene structures are reported as mimic of graphene [53, 54, 55]. Mary et al. reported the interaction of organic molecules with graphene/fullerene and doped graphene sheets [56, 57, 58, 59]. In the present study, DFT investigations, spectral analysis and docking study of title molecules, HMY and HMM was employed to determine the various properties including adsorption on coronene like graphene [60, 61, 62, 63].

* Corresponding author.

E-mail address: marysheena2018@rediffmail.com (Y.S. Mary).<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2020.e05182>

Received 30 July 2020; Received in revised form 29 August 2020; Accepted 2 October 2020

2405-8440/© 2020 The Author(s). Published by Elsevier Ltd. This is an open access article under the CC BY license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

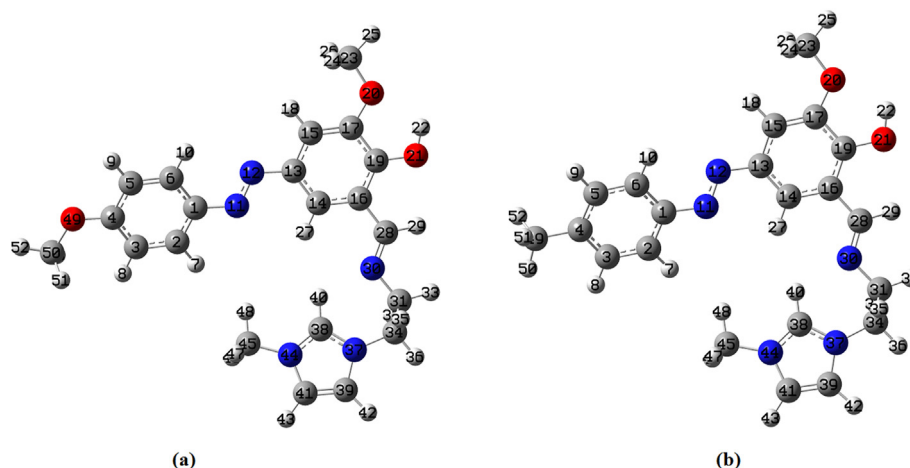


Figure 1. Optimized structure of (a) HMY and (b) HMM.

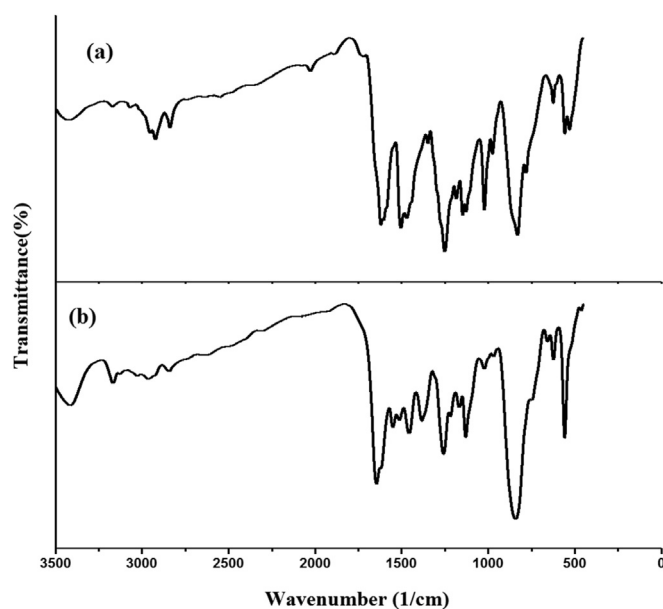


Figure 2. Experimental FT-IR curves of (a) HMY and (b) HMM.

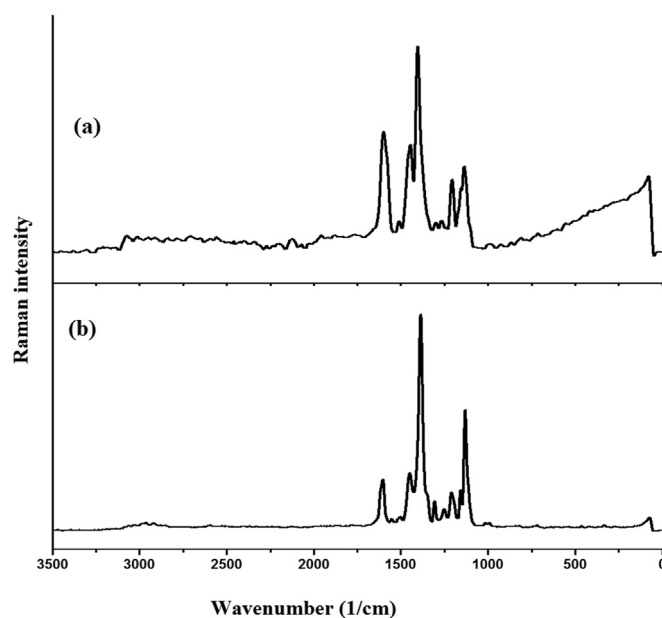


Figure 3. Experimental FT-Raman curves of (a) HMY and (b) HMM.

2. Methods of calculation and experimental

All calculations related to this study have been executed with computational chemistry software package Gaussian09 program [64]. In order to obtain correct structural feature of HMY and HMM (Figure 1), DFT theory with B3LYP with 6-311++G (d,p) basis have been taken. B3LYP is most popular DFT functional and widely used in density functional calculations [65, 66, 67, 68]. GAR2PED and Gasview programs has been utilized to compute percentage potential energy distribution and hence to correctly assign vibrational wavenumbers of the title compound [69, 70]. QTAIM is a powerful method used to investigate the nature of all bonds in the course of HMY and HMM compounds [71, 72]. The QTAIM approach is useful to obtain electron density values and bonding characteristics of the configurations [71]. The charge density ($\bar{n}(r)$), Laplacian of charge density ($\nabla^2(r)$), ellipticities (\hat{a}) are calculated by AIMALL program [72] with all

default options, were used to evaluate nature of the interaction. Based on the QTAIM approach, every two interacting atoms were connected by the bond path (BP), and one point (saddle point) in the BP had a maximum value of electron density named bond critical point (BCP).

HMY and HMM are prepared according to reported protocol [21, 22]. Perkin Elmer spectrometer was used for FT-IR spectrum (Figure 2) and Raman spectrum (Figure 3) of the sample were using Bruker UFS 66V model interferometer using Nd:YAG laser source.

3. Results and discussion

3.1. Conformational studies

To find least energy structure (Figure 1) of HMY and HMM, PES scan is performed at B3LYP/6-311++G (d,p) on C1-N11, N12-C13,

Table 1. Ground state optimized energy and energy difference of all the possible conformers of HMY and HMM predicted at B3LYP/6-311++G (d,p) level.

code	Dihedral angle	Conformers	Energy (Hartree)	Energy difference* (Hartree)
HMY				
	ϕ_1 (N30-C31-C34-N37)	I	-1313.87821	0.00000
	ϕ_2 (N11-N12-C13-C14)	II	-1313.87012	0.00809
	ϕ_3 (C28-N30-C31-C34)	III	-1313.86797	0.01024
	ϕ_4 (C31-C34-N37-C38)	IV	-1313.86796	0.01025
	ϕ_5 (C6-C1-N11-N12)	V	-1313.86795	0.01026
	ϕ_6 (C14-C16-C28-N30)	VI	-1313.86357	0.01464
	ϕ_7 (C15-C17-O20-C23)	VII	-1313.85791	0.0203
	ϕ_8 (C3-C4-O49-C50)	VIII	-1313.8679	0.01031
HMM				
	ϕ_1 (N30-C31-C34-N37)	I	-1238.67223	0.00000
	ϕ_2 (N11-N12-C13-C14)	II	-1238.66361	0.00862
	ϕ_3 (C28-N30-C31-C34)	III	-1238.66191	0.01032
	ϕ_4 (C31-C34-N37-C38)	IV	-1238.6619	0.01033
	ϕ_5 (C6-C1-N11-N12)	V	-1238.66175	0.01048
	ϕ_6 (C14-C16-C28-N30)	VI	-1238.65737	0.01486
	ϕ_7 (C15-C17-O20-C23)	VII	-1238.64908	0.02315

* Relative energies of the other conformers with respect to the lowest energy of conformer I.

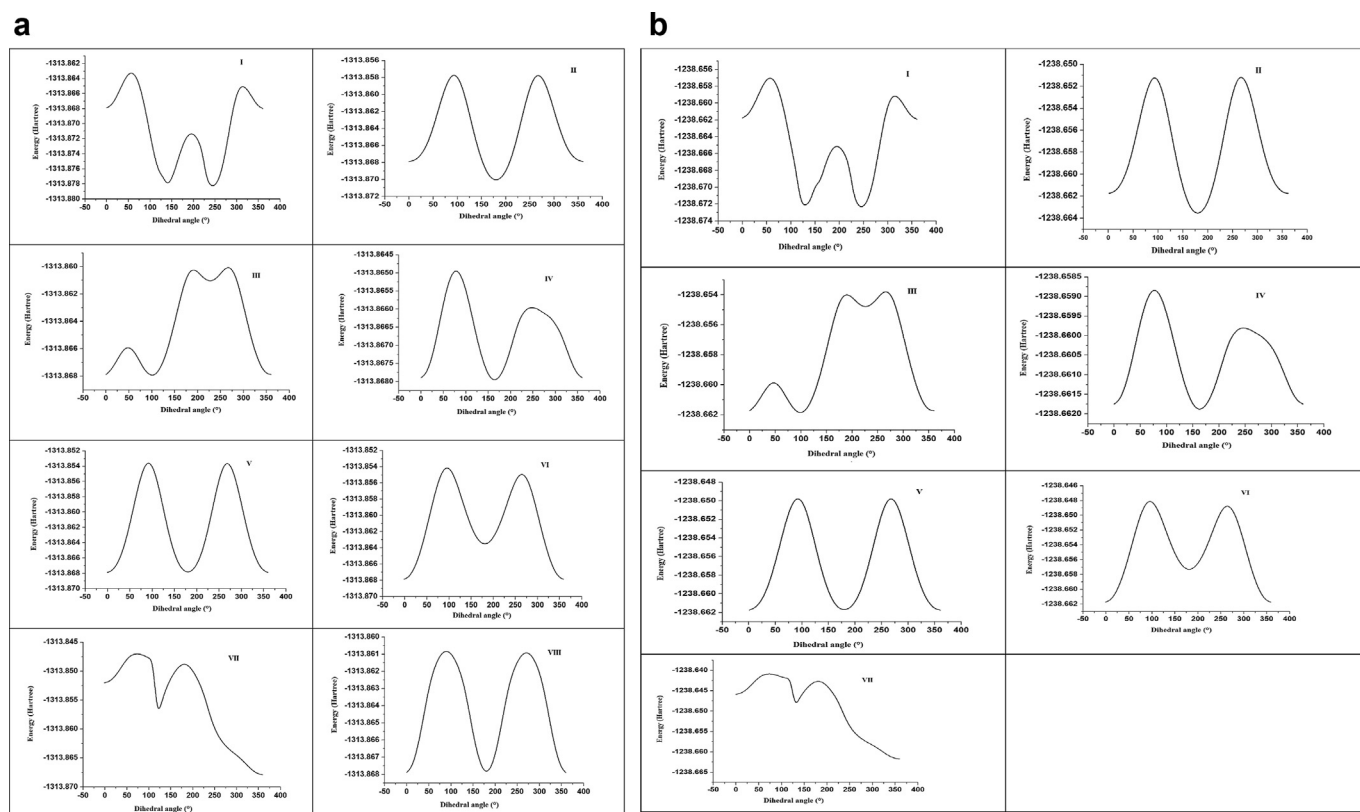


Figure 4. (1): Potential energy surface scan with varying dihedral angle for HMY. (2): Potential energy surface scan with varying dihedral angle for HMM.

C16-C28, N30-C31, C31-C34, C34-N37 and C17-O20. In addition to this C4-O49 is also selected for HMY. The dihedral angles corresponding to these bonds are C6-C1-N11-N12, N11-N12-C13-C14, C14-C16-C28-N30, C28-N30-C31-C34, N30-C31-C34-N37, C31-C34-N37-C38 and C15-C17-O20-C23 for both HMY and HMM with an additional torsion angle C3-C4-O49-C50 for HMY. The structure obtained at global and local minima from the PES graph is again optimized to

illustrate most stable conformer. All together 8 and 7 conformers are obtained after optimization corresponding to local and global minima for HMY and HMM. The energy as well as relative energies are predicted (Table 1). The PES curves and energies of structures are shown in Figures 4 and 5. Stable least energy form is along N30-C31-C34-N37 and is calculated to be -1313.87821 and -1238.67223 Hartree for HMY and HMM respectively.

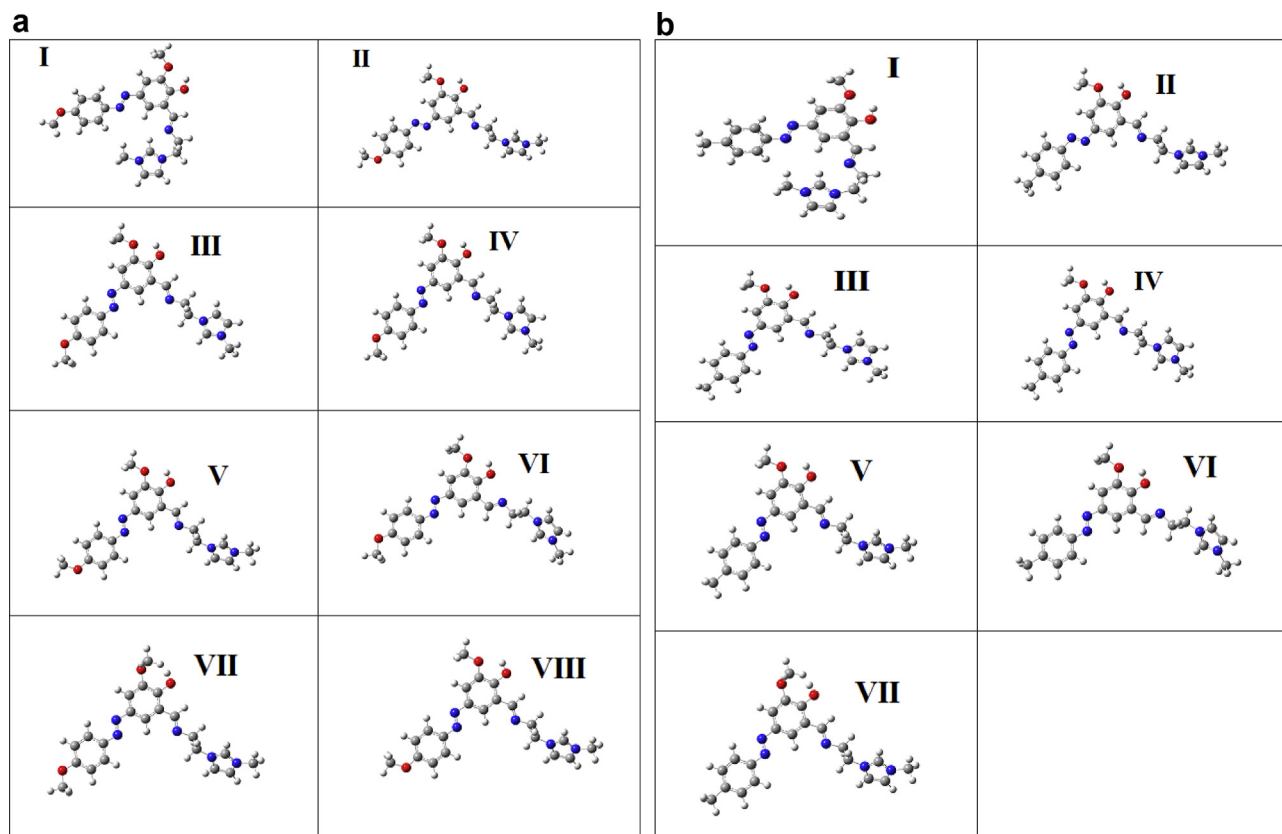


Figure 5. (1): Optimized structure of all the conformers of HMY. (2): Optimized structure of all the conformers of HMM.

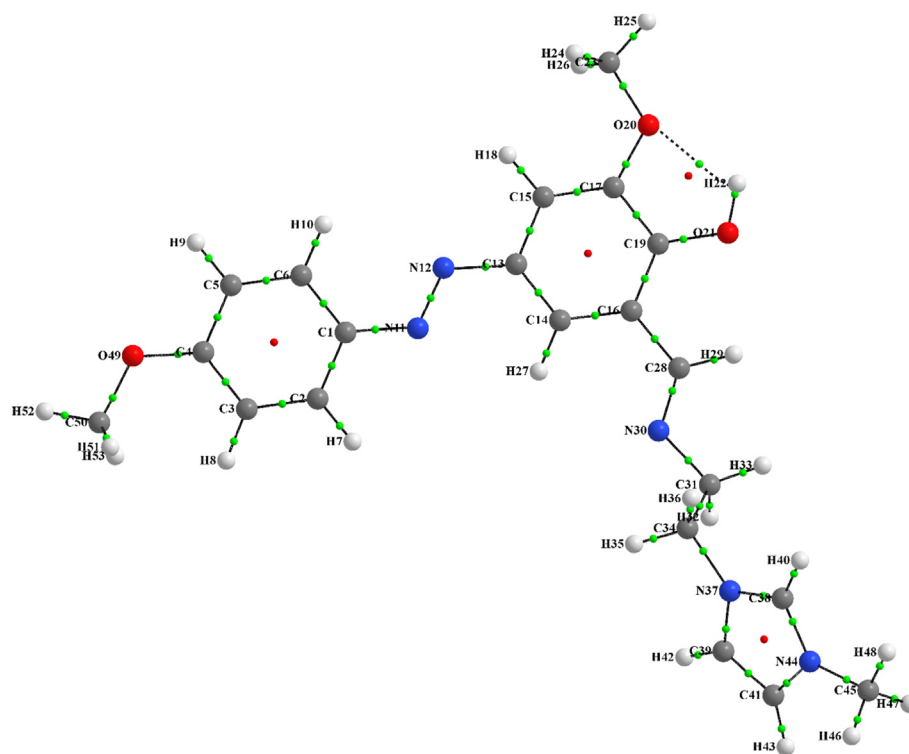


Figure 6. The molecular graph of HMY. Nuclei and bond critical points are represented by big and small spheres small, respectively (green and red circles are bond and ring critical points, respectively). The lines are bond paths.

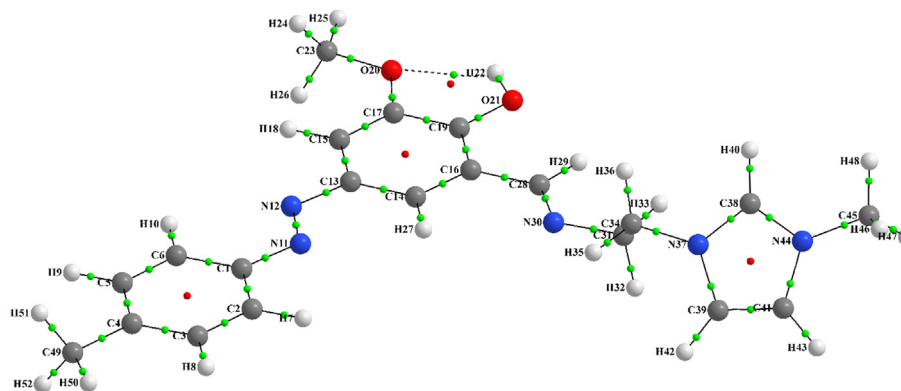


Figure 7. The molecular graph of HMM. Nuclei and bond critical points are represented by big and small spheres small, respectively (green and red circles are bond and ring critical points, respectively). The lines are bond paths.

3.2. AIM analysis

Atom in molecule (AIM) analysis was used to find inter-molecular interactions. AIM molecular graph of stable geometry of HMY and HMM was illustrated in Figures 6 and 7, respectively, while the status of all BPs and BCPs related to these systems were clearly indicated. The densities (electron and Laplacian) and ellipticity parameters (ϵ) at critical points for all bonds of HMY and HMM compounds were depicted in Tables 2 and 3, respectively. The values of electron density, 0.022–0.294 au shows a good interaction between atoms. Increase in ρ caused the reduced distance between atoms. The ρ valued for all bonds except O20-H22 in both HMY and HMM are in the range of covalent while for the stated bond is the range of hydrogen bonding. The Laplacian of charge density ($\nabla^2\rho(r)$) for all bonds at critical points also are listed in Tables 2 and 3. There is very good agreement between charge density and Laplacian of charge density. As can be seen in Tables 2 and 3, the Laplacian of charge density for all bonds except O20-H22 is negative which points towards the covalent interaction. For the O20-H22 bond, the value is positive which a proof of noncovalent interaction is. Results of Tables 2 and 3 showed that the ϵ of O20-H22 had values higher than the ϵ of the other bonds. This was due to the hydrogen interaction between them.

3.3. Molecular reactivity analyses, electronic spectra, MEP and NLO studies

The HOMO-LUMO band gap is a basic parameter in deciding atomic transport effects such as the chemical reactivity of a substance and kinetic stability of a molecule since it is a measure of electron conductivity [73, 74, 75]. Values of band gaps (ΔE_{H-L}) of HMY and HMM are 2.381 and 2.240 respectively (Table 4). HOMO (Figure 8), is over entire part of HMY except ring R3, CH2 groups and for HMM, in NN group, C1 and C13 atoms of rings R1 and R2 whereas LUMO spread the same regions as in HOMO of HMY and for HMM except in ring R3, CH2 groups and OCH3 regions. Reactivity descriptors clearly reflect that the title molecules are chemically reactive [76, 77, 78]. PDOS spectra (Figure 9), shows that no much overlap is present in FMOs but overlap in core orbital. UV-Vis spectra (Figure 10) gives absorption/oscillator strength/LHE values as 350.78, 341.67/1.0927, 0.9950/91.92 and 89.98% for HMY and HMM [79]. The distribution of charge in space around the molecule is predicted from the fitting point charges to the electrostatic potentials [80, 81]. The various colors coding on the MEP surface as shown in Figure 11 indicates the sites feasible for electrophilic and nucleophilic attacks [82]. The yellow color regions around oxygen atoms and rings R1 and R2 in

HMY and HMM are electrophilic regions whereas the blue color regions across R3 for both HMY and HMM shows low electron density (nucleophilic). The orientation of charge levels among the molecular site in the compound are usually measured different order such as first and second order [83]. Normally, the first order is measured loosely bounded electron delocalization and they occupied with high pressure generated by interactive and repulsive forces among the molecular sites and leads static chemical potential for regulate drug activity. In the second order, the bounded electrons with strong binding forces with nucleus delocalized with frenkel pressure generates enforced asymmetrical polarization called hyperpolarization causing intra atomic static potential which is the root cause of sensitive drug commotion. First order hyperpolarizability (10^{-30} esu) of HMY (40.147) is greater than that of HMM (24.359) which are 308.82 and 187.38 times that of urea while next order values are -30.166×10^{-37} esu and -28.116×10^{-37} esu for HMY and HMM (Table 5). Here the first order polarization for both chain and ring was enabled and causing strong drug hardness capability. Here, the second order polarizability of the compound was also enables strongly which showed stabilization of consistent drug potential in the compound and this compound was able to have additional ligand groups for making multifunctional drug movement [84].

3.4. NBO analysis

The important NBO [85] interactions are: O49 $\rightarrow\pi^*(C3-C14)$, N44 $\rightarrow\pi^*(C39-C41)$, N44 $\rightarrow\pi^*(N37-C38)$, O21 $\rightarrow\pi^*(C16-C19)$, O20 $\rightarrow\pi^*(C15-C17)$ with energies, 31.98, 29.08, 78.82, 29.30, 26.27 kcal/mol for HMY and N44 $\rightarrow\pi^*(N37-C38)$, N44 $\rightarrow\pi^*(C39-C41)$, O21 $\rightarrow\pi^*(C16-C19)$, O20 $\rightarrow\pi^*(C15-C17)$, C16-C19 $\rightarrow\pi^*(C28-N30)$, C16-C19 $\rightarrow\pi^*(C13-C14)$, C15-C17 $\rightarrow\pi^*(C16-C19)$ with energies, 78.86, 29.07, 29.48, 26.34, 20.94, 20.41, 20.42 kcal/mol for HMM.

3.5. Molecular docking

To explore the drug properties, ligand-protein interaction is essential to be investigated to get more insights into the binding sites of biologically active molecules with amino acids of the protein and docking has been carried out by using Autodock software [86]. Targets, Chemo sensitizer, APOA1 expression enhancer, HMGCS2 expression enhancer and CYP2C19 inducer as predicted by online PASS analysis [87] for HMY and HMM. Using the PDB's, 1QMQ, 4JB4, 2WYA, 4KF0, HMY and HMM are docked [88, 89]. Lamarckian Genetic Algorithm [90] included in Autodock software has been implemented for docking. Interactions are

Table 2. The charge density ($\rho(r)$), Laplacian of charge density ($\nabla^2\rho(r)$), and ellipticities (ϵ) of all bonds in the HMY molecule.

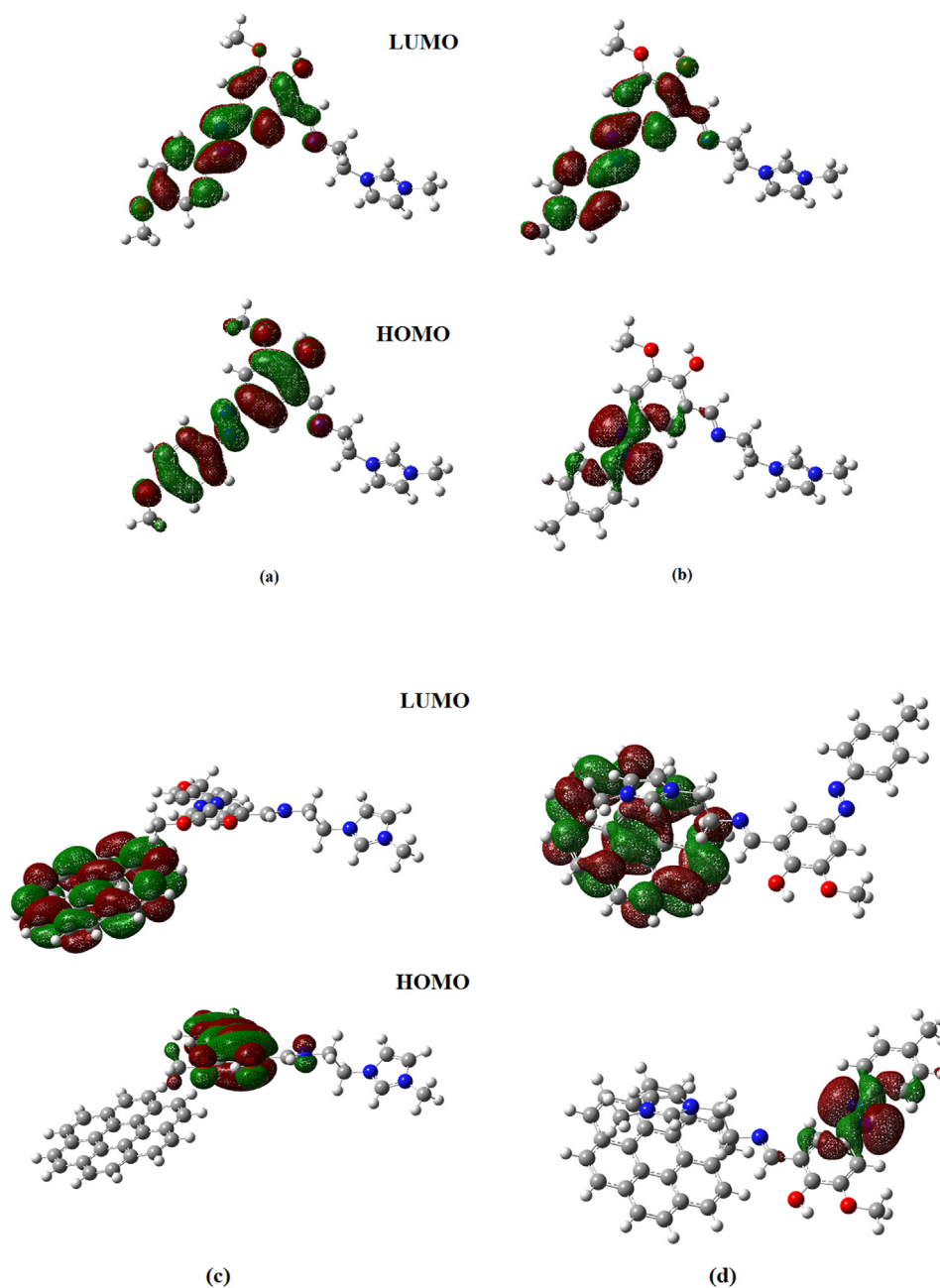
BCP #	Bonds	$\rho(r)$	$\nabla^2\rho(r)$	ellipticities (ϵ)
1	C1 - C2	+0.293474	-0.679263	+0.157327
2	C4 - O49	+0.260343	-0.431654	+0.030025
3	C2 - H7	+0.267002	-0.817221	+0.000368
4	C3 - C4	+0.290659	-0.663510	+0.165621
5	O49 - C50	+0.214792	-0.264160	+0.004719
6	C2 - C3	+0.293051	-0.676996	+0.153967
7	C4 - C5	+0.289159	-0.667390	+0.148286
8	C1 - C6	+0.285618	-0.636701	+0.132554
9	C1 - N11	+0.278641	-0.685598	+0.061311
10	C5 - C6	+0.299533	-0.707720	+0.159039
11	C5 - H9	+0.266947	-0.818374	+0.010984
12	C3 - H8	+0.265824	-0.796857	+0.015527
13	C6 - H10	+0.269218	-0.841686	+0.000434
14	N11 - N12	+0.400618	-0.685853	+0.100118
15	N12 - C13	+0.276321	-0.649895	+0.053436
16	C14 - H27	+0.270792	-0.864558	+0.004650
17	C13 - C14	+0.294548	-0.676199	+0.153297
18	C13 - C15	+0.286707	-0.647805	+0.149354
19	C15 - C17	+0.299385	-0.708768	+0.182515
20	C14 - C16	+0.286702	-0.644364	+0.137671
21	C17 - O20	+0.253129	-0.411917	+0.023050
22	C15 - H18	+0.267546	-0.826837	+0.008868
23	C23 - H26	+0.264248	-0.784377	+0.049591
24	C17 - C19	+0.292935	-0.672649	+0.202456
25	O20 - C23	+0.211152	-0.232825	+0.007834
26	C16 - C19	+0.290678	-0.668725	+0.181251
27	C19 - O21	+0.263285	-0.449991	+0.005436
28	C23 - H25	+0.268898	-0.829214	+0.047328
29	O20 - H22	+0.021809	+0.086103	+0.378981
30	O21 - H22	+0.323275	-1.542628	+0.019028
31	C23 - H24	+0.264192	-0.783579	+0.049784
32	C16 - C28	+0.263245	-0.551444	+0.073764
33	C28 - H29	+0.264062	-0.791729	+0.001822
34	C28 - N30	+0.351235	-0.918510	+0.065149
35	N30 - C31	+0.254153	-0.509720	+0.020824
36	C31 - H32	+0.259967	-0.745527	+0.011215
37	C31 - H33	+0.256538	-0.711519	+0.014103
38	C31 - C34	+0.227665	-0.410698	+0.069474
39	C34 - H35	+0.268104	-0.827327	+0.046342
40	C34 - H36	+0.266464	-0.803683	+0.048723
41	N37 - C38	+0.313346	-0.823830	+0.199277
42	C34 - N37	+0.217735	-0.347959	+0.018092
43	N44 - C45	+0.224133	-0.391916	+0.023152
44	C38 - H40	+0.275304	-0.934888	+0.033530
45	C38 - N44	+0.310572	-0.795118	+0.194983
46	N37 - C39	+0.276296	-0.615939	+0.091254
47	C41 - N44	+0.275030	-0.595892	+0.096469
48	C41 - H43	+0.273403	-0.908601	+0.032106
49	C39 - C41	+0.312757	-0.759861	+0.261251
50	C39 - H42	+0.273698	-0.913111	+0.030626
51	C45 - H48	+0.266036	-0.808271	+0.045458
52	C45 - H46	+0.265719	-0.809716	+0.046971
53	C45 - H47	+0.265764	-0.810060	+0.046948
54	C50 - H53	+0.263083	-0.772022	+0.046892
55	C50 - H51	+0.263012	-0.771275	+0.047014
56	C50 - H52	+0.268911	-0.828553	+0.043833

Table 3. The charge density ($\rho(r)$), Laplacian of charge density ($\nabla^2\rho(r)$), and ellipticities (ϵ) of all bonds in the HMM molecule.

BCP #	Bonds	$\rho(r)$	$\nabla^2\rho(r)$	ellipticities (ϵ)
1	C4 - C49	+0.237480	-0.450813	+0.016833
2	C1 - C2	+0.293578	-0.680858	+0.152152
3	C2 - H7	+0.266587	-0.812454	+0.000392
4	C3 - C4	+0.290342	-0.660512	+0.144914
5	C49 - H50	+0.258736	-0.733113	+0.012426
6	C2 - C3	+0.294256	-0.684823	+0.144086
7	C4 - C5	+0.286480	-0.642914	+0.132693
8	C1 - C6	+0.287941	-0.648139	+0.134745
9	C1 - N11	+0.275607	-0.669105	+0.048672
10	C5 - C6	+0.296966	-0.694978	+0.148439
11	C5 - H9	+0.264822	-0.791661	+0.005762
12	C3 - H8	+0.264949	-0.791596	+0.007051
13	C49 - H52	+0.255417	-0.713519	+0.013510
14	C6 - H10	+0.268680	-0.834937	+0.000778
15	N11 - N12	+0.402635	-0.694275	+0.099312
16	N12 - C13	+0.275774	-0.647636	+0.052971
17	C14 - H27	+0.270928	-0.866571	+0.004230
18	C13 - C14	+0.294706	-0.677070	+0.152886
19	C13 - C15	+0.286835	-0.648398	+0.149715
20	C14 - C16	+0.286986	-0.645763	+0.137194
21	C15 - C17	+0.299386	-0.708688	+0.182348
22	C15 - H18	+0.267569	-0.827299	+0.008687
23	C17 - C19	+0.292758	-0.671782	+0.201752
24	O20 - C23	+0.211007	-0.231834	+0.007492
25	C16 - C19	+0.290733	-0.669185	+0.180553
26	C17 - O20	+0.253347	-0.412865	+0.023387
27	O20 - H22	+0.021834	+0.086191	+0.379276
28	C19 - O21	+0.263723	-0.451270	+0.006519
29	O21 - H22	+0.323184	-1.542509	+0.018957
30	C23 - H25	+0.268941	-0.829750	+0.047355
31	C23 - H24	+0.264175	-0.783563	+0.049871
32	C23 - H26	+0.264239	-0.784367	+0.049730
33	C16 - C28	+0.263013	-0.550401	+0.073451
34	C28 - H29	+0.264114	-0.792403	+0.001748
35	C28 - N30	+0.351451	-0.916326	+0.065704
36	N30 - C31	+0.254052	-0.509962	+0.020945
37	C31 - H32	+0.259907	-0.745154	+0.011359
38	C31 - H33	+0.256590	-0.712158	+0.014084
39	C31 - C34	+0.227775	-0.411188	+0.069549
40	C34 - N37	+0.217772	-0.348507	+0.018836
41	C34 - H35	+0.268137	-0.827833	+0.046234
42	C34 - H36	+0.266458	-0.803609	+0.048634
43	N37 - C38	+0.313314	-0.823559	+0.199193
44	N44 - C45	+0.224123	-0.391781	+0.023195
45	C38 - N44	+0.310590	-0.795435	+0.195059
46	N37 - C39	+0.276278	-0.615669	+0.091125
47	C41 - N44	+0.275023	-0.595883	+0.096309
48	C38 - H40	+0.275312	-0.934903	+0.033534
49	C41 - H43	+0.273395	-0.908676	+0.032075
50	C39 - C41	+0.312778	-0.759980	+0.261217
51	C39 - H42	+0.273687	-0.913183	+0.030605
52	C45 - H48	+0.266031	-0.808233	+0.045476
53	C45 - H46	+0.265749	-0.810020	+0.046940
54	C45 - H47	+0.265744	-0.809902	+0.046989
55	C49 - H51	+0.255374	-0.713113	+0.013558

Table 4. Chemical descriptors.

Compound	$I = -E_{\text{HOMO}}$	$A = -E_{\text{LUMO}}$	Gap	$\eta = (I-A)/2$	$\mu = -(I + A)/2$	$\omega = \mu^2/2\eta$
HMY	7.822	5.441	2.381	1.191	-6.632	18.465
HMM	7.833	5.593	2.240	1.120	-6.713	20.118
HMY-G	7.813	5.732	2.081	1.041	-6.773	22.033
HMM-G	7.887	5.738	2.149	1.075	-6.813	21.589

**Figure 8.** HOMO-LUMO plots of (a) HMY, (b) HMM (c) HMY-G (d) HMM-G.

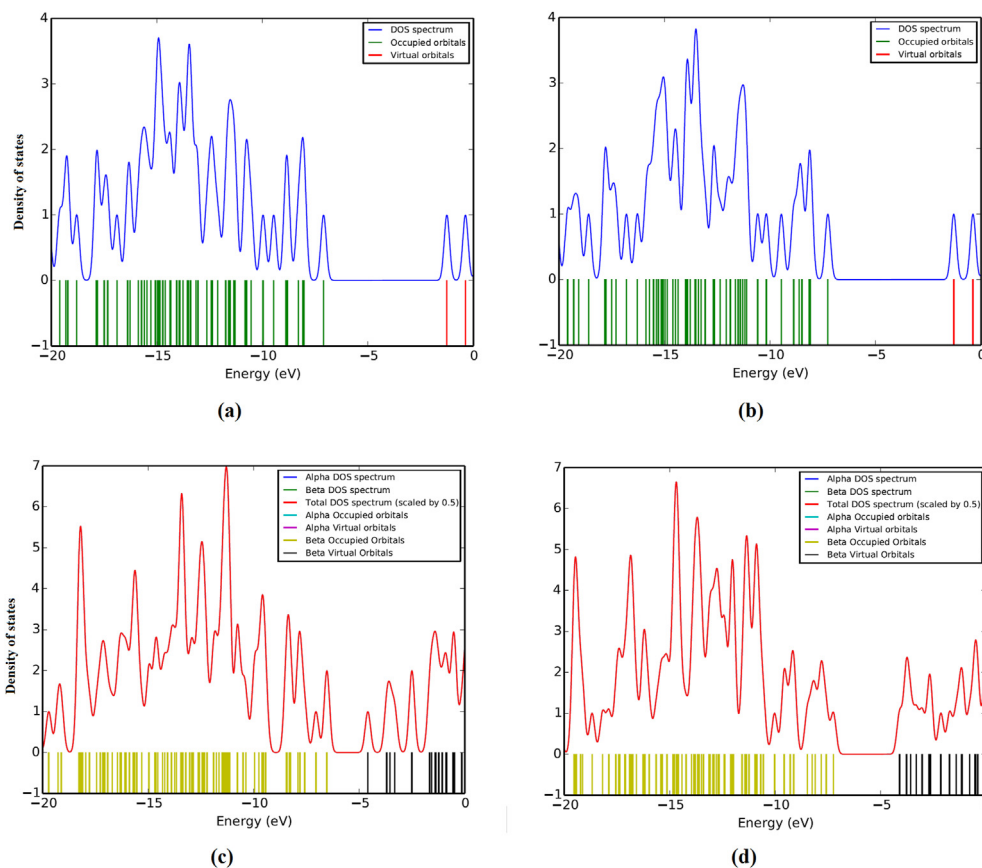


Figure 9. DOS spectra of (a) HMY (b) HMM (c) HMY-G (d) HMM-G.

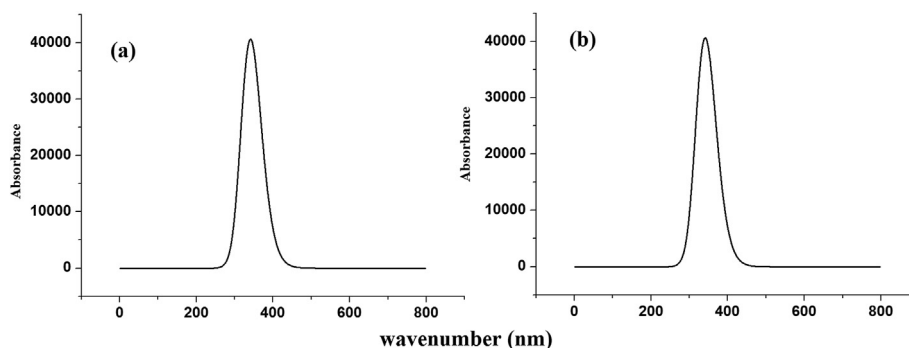


Figure 10. UV spectra of (a) HMY (b) HMM.

presented in Figures 12 and 13. The maximum energy values of HMY and HMM are -9.8 and -10.7 kcal/mol for 4JB4 respectively (Table 6). These results suggest that HMY and HMM shows activity against these cytochrome C peroxidase. However further experimental studies are needed to confirm its activity.

3.6. IR and Raman spectra

A sharp peak observed at 3435, 3430 cm^{-1} and 3447 cm^{-1} experimentally (Table S1) and at 3451 cm^{-1} (DFT) are νOH [91, 92]. δOH was 1250 (DFT) and seen at 1251/1252 cm^{-1} (IR) for HMY/HMM and at 1248 cm^{-1} (Raman) for HMM. τOH is at 544 cm^{-1} (Raman) for HMM but DFT give this at 539 (HMY) and 542 cm^{-1} (HMM). The prominent peaks

observed at 3068, 3002, 2960, 2925, 2850/3205, 3067, 3011, 2958, 2918, 2850 cm^{-1} and 3180, 3128, 3020, 2865, 2934, 2850/3130, 2970, 2922, 2850 cm^{-1} (IR/Raman) are νCH modes and DFT values are 3221-2850/3220-2858 cm^{-1} for HMY and HMM respectively. The $\nu\text{C} = \text{CR3}$ is assigned at 1547 cm^{-1} and at 1549/1547 cm^{-1} (IR) spectrum for HMY and HMM.

3.7. Adsorption behavior on graphene sheet

Adsorption process of graphene-drugs is reported by many researchers [93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98]. Adsorption energies are -0.65833 and -0.63937 eV for HMY-G and HMM-G complexes [99]. Chemical potential and electrophilicity indices (Table 4) for graphene complex with

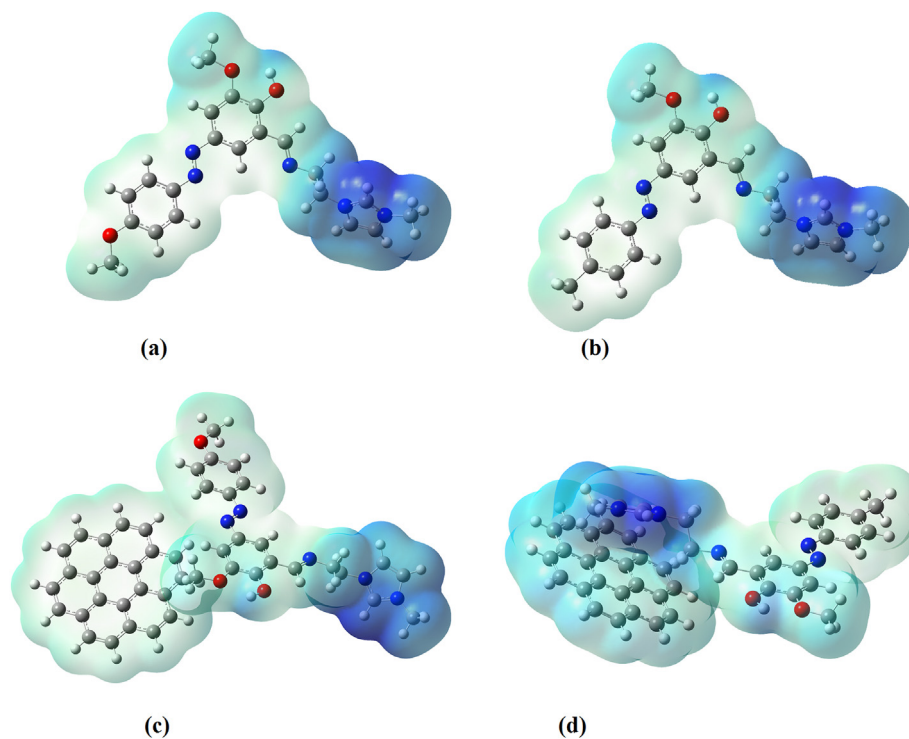


Figure 11. MEP plots of (a) HMY (b) HMM (c) HMY-G (d) HMM-G.

Table 5. NLO properties.

Molecule	Dipole moment (Debye)	Polarizability ($\times 10^{-23}$)	First order hyperpolarizability ($\times 10^{-30}$)	Second order hyperpolarizability ($\times 10^{-37}$)
HMY	25.787	4.785	40.147	-30.166
HMM	23.843	4.589	24.359	-28.116
HMY-G	40.784	8.952	45.493	-61.096
HMM-G	12.352	8.435	19.521	-88.326

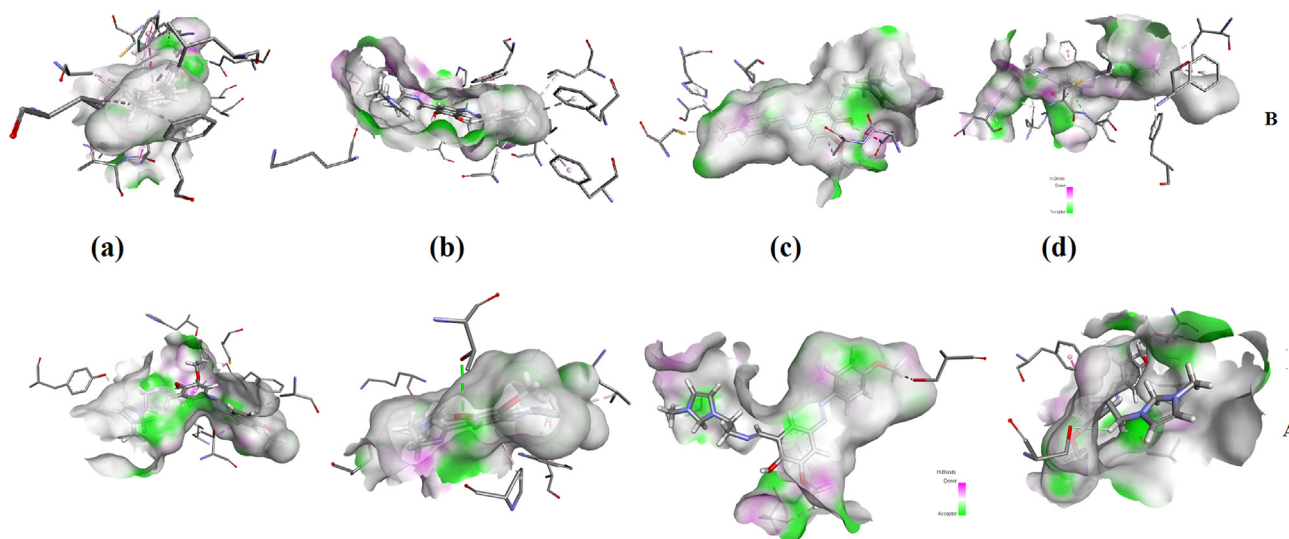


Figure 12. The docked ligands HMY (A) and HMM (B) interaction with the amino acids of (a) 1QMQ (b) 4JB4 (c) 2WYA (d) 4KF0.

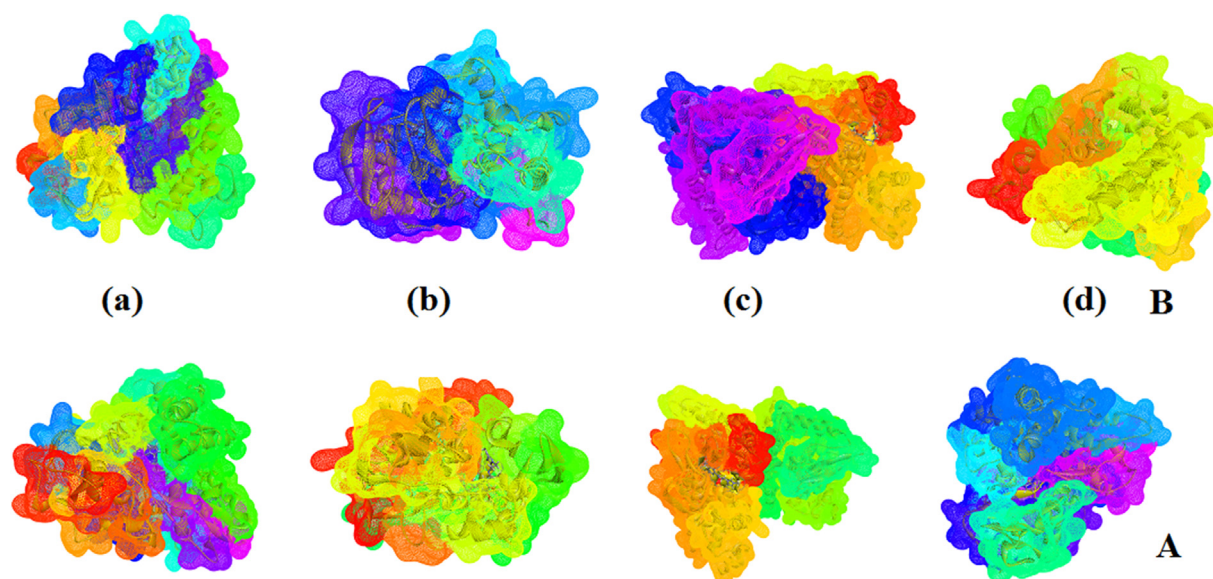


Figure 13. Schematic for the ligands HMY (A) and HMM (B) at the active site of a) 1QMQ (b) 4JB4 (c) 2WYA (d) 4KF0.

Table 6. Docking analysis of receptors with ligands.

Molecule	Receptors name	Binding energy (kcal/mol)	Residues involved in hydrogen bonding	Residues involved in electrostatic interactions	Residues involved in hydrophobic interactions
HMY	1QMQ	-8.9	ASP297, GLN322, TYR96, PHE350, HIS355	ASP297	THR252, VAL295, CYS357, ALA363
	4JB4	-9.8	THR234, SER185, LYS179	TRP51,	TRP51, PRO145, LEU171, ALA174
	2WYA	-8.1	SER414, GLY87, ASN204		ALA205, PRO303
	4KF0	-8.3	THR268, SER72, ALA330	SER72, CYS400	PHE87, ALA328
HMM	1QMQ	-9.5	ASP297, GLN32, VA; 247, PHE350, HIS355,	GLN322, ASP297, ALA363, PH350	VAL295, PHE350, VAL253, LEU289, ALA363, ILE 367, CYS357, PHE256,
	4JB4	-10.7	THR234, TRP51, SER185, LYS179, LEU171, ALA174	TRP51	TRP51, LEU171, ALA174, LEU269, PRO145, PHE262, PHE266
	2WYA	-8.1	ASN204, TYR412		CYS166, ALA205, PRO303, HIS301
	4KF0	-9.0	LYS69, ARG398, ASN395, ILE401,	ARG398, CYS400	CYS400, PHE87, ILE153, ALA264, PHE107, PHE405

HMY and HMM shows more stability. The HOMO-LUMO plots and MEP plots (Figures 8 and 11) show the charge transfer between graphene sheet and molecules with a lowering of hardness values. Table 5 data shows that NLO property of graphene-MHY/HMM increase and hyperpolarizability values are very high. For HMY/HMM-G complexes (Table S2), intensity multiplication is for 3074 cm^{-1} from $10.05/12.92$ to $46.04/40.55$, with enhancement factors, $358/214$, which is significant (Figures 14 and 15). Multiplication of 237 and 230 are seen for 1440 cm^{-1} and 1348 in HMY-G complex, corresponding to CH3 and CH2 deformations with blue and redshift to 1463 and 1336 cm^{-1} . But for HMM-G, enhancement of these deformation modes is high and enhancement factors of 1172 and 1168 for the modes 1486 cm^{-1} and 1468 cm^{-1} . For both complexes νCH_3 , $\nu\text{C}=\text{N}$ and νRing modes are in

SERS spectrum with low enhancement factors. Enhancement of different modes shows that graphene can be used as sensor for detection of drugs [100, 101].

4. Conclusion

In the present work, quantum chemical descriptors, and vibrational spectral studies of HMY and HMM were studied. Conformational analysis identifies the most stable conformer. The theoretically obtained data are in agreement with experimental results. The FMO's determined energy gap shows the chemical stability. NBO results account for the natural charge accumulation in the investigated molecule. QTAIM study shows that ellipticity of OH bond had values

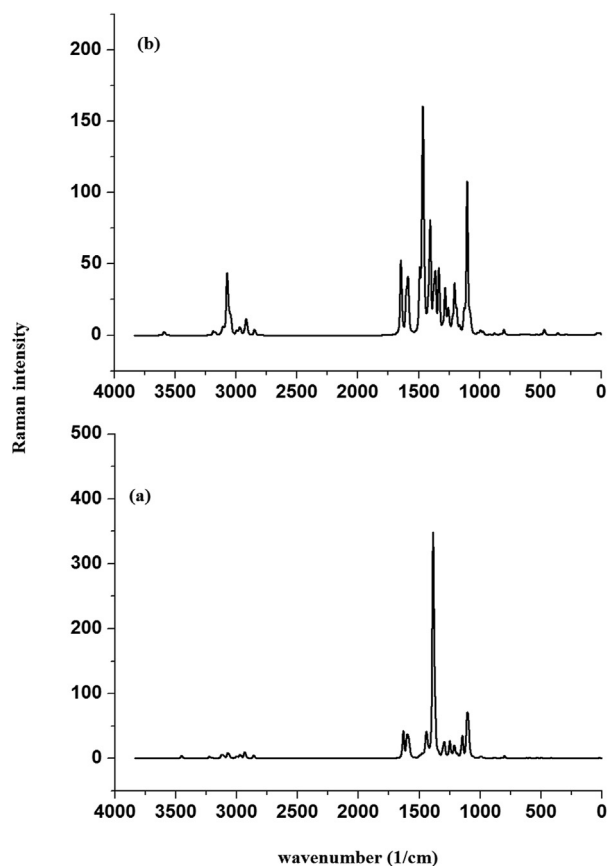


Figure 14. Theoretical Raman spectra of (a) HMY (b) HMY-G.

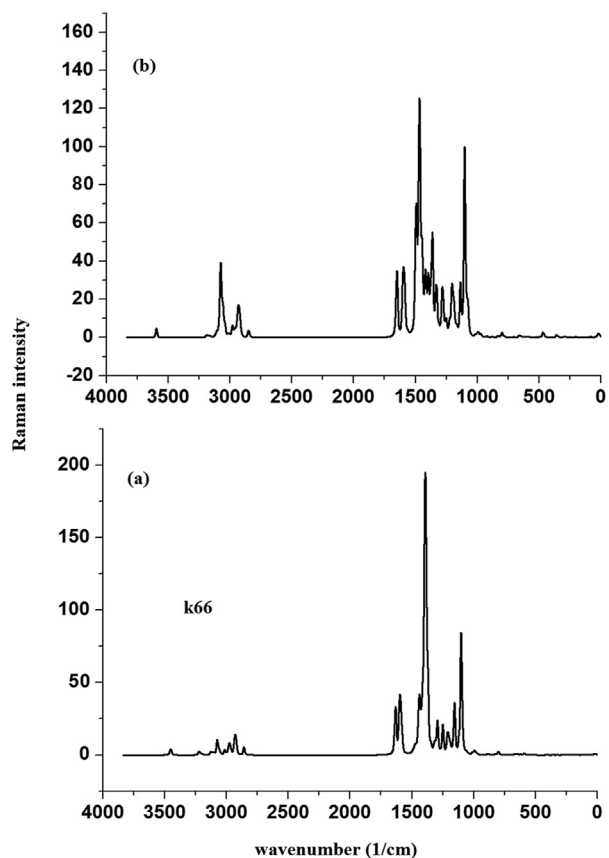


Figure 15. Theoretical Raman spectra of (a) HMM (b) HMM-G.

higher than the ellipticity of the other bonds which is due to hydrogen interactions. SERS data of HMY/HMM with graphene gives enhancement of Raman signals.

Docking simulation obtained shows good binding affinities with the receptors. The predicted docked models will be the starting point of drug discovery. This study could hopefully serve as a base for further drug research and development.

Declarations

Author contribution statement

Veena S. Kumar, Y. Sheena Mary, Kiran Pradhan, Dhiraj Brahman: Contributed reagents, materials, analysis tools or data; Wrote the paper. Y. Shyma Mary, Goncagül Serdaroğlu, Ali Shokuhi Rad, M. S. Roxy.

Funding statement

This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

Competing interest statement

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Additional information

Supplementary content related to this article has been published online at doi:[10.1016/j.heliyon.2020.e05182](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2020.e05182).

Acknowledgements

All calculations have been carried out at TUBITAK ULAKBIM, High Performance and Grid Computing Center (TR-Grid e-Infrastructure).

References

- [1] Y. Ozkay, I. Isikdag, Z. Incesu, G. Akalin, Synthesis of 2-substituted-N-[4-(1-methyl-4,5-diphenyl-1H-imidazole-2-yl)phenyl]acetamide derivatives and evaluation of their anticancer activity, *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* 45 (2010) 3320–3328.
- [2] T. Shan, Z. Gao, X. Tang, X. He, Y. Gao, J. Li, X. Sun, Y. Liu, H. Liu, B. Yang, P. Lu, Y. Ma, Highly efficient and stable pure blue nondoped organic light emitting diodes at high luminance based on phenanthroimidazole-pyrene derivative enabled by triple-triplet annihilation, *Dyes Pigments* 142 (2017) 189–197.
- [3] W.C. Chen, Y. Yuan, Y. Xiong, A.L. Rogach, Q.X. Tong, C.S. Lee, Aromatically C6- and C9-substituted phenanthro[9,10-d]imidazole blue fluorophores: structure-property relationship and electroluminescent application, *Appl. Mater. Interfaces* 9 (2017) 26268–26278.
- [4] S.K. Demirci, S. Demirci, M. Kurt, Synthesis, structure characterization and antimicrobial evaluation of 4-(substituted phenylazo)-3,5-diacetamido-1H-pyrazoles, *Spectrochim. Acta* 106 (2013) 12–18.
- [5] L.H. Abdel-Rahman, A.A. Abdelkhamid, A.M. Abu-Dief, M.R. Shehata, M.A. Bakheet, Facile synthesis, X-Ray structure of new multi-substituted aryl imidazole ligand, biological screening and DNA binding of its Cr(III), Fe(III) and Cu(II) coordination compounds as potential antibiotic and anticancer drugs, *J. Mol. Struct.* 1200 (2020) 127034.
- [6] A. Taylor, R.P. Robinson, Y.M. Fobian, D. Blakemore, L. Jones, O. Fadeyi, Modern advances in heterocyclic chemistry in drug discovery, *Org. Biomol. Chem.* 14 (2016) 6611–6637.
- [7] E. Thomas, D. Thomas, S. Bhuvaneshwari, K.P. Vijayalakshmi, B.K. George, 1-Hexadecyl-3-methylimidazolium chloride: structure, thermal stability and decomposition mechanism, *J. Mol. Liquids* 249 (2018) 404–411.
- [8] E. Thomas, K.P. Vijayalakshmi, B.K. George, Kinetic stability of imidazolium cations and ionic liquids: a frontier molecular orbital approach, *J. Mol. Liquids* 276 (2019) 721–727.
- [9] W.A. Herrmann, N-Heterocyclic carbenes, a new concept in organometallic catalysis, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 41 (8) (2002) 1290–1309.
- [10] B. Szabo, Imidazoline antihypertensive drugs: a critical review on their mechanism of action, *Pharmacol. Ther.* 93 (2002) 1–35.
- [11] G. Navarrete-Vázquez, S. Hidalgo-Figueroa, M. Torres-Piedra, J. Vergara-Galicia, J.C. Rivera-Leyva, S. Estrada-Soto, I. León-Rivera, B. Aguilar-Guardarrama, Y. Ríos-Gómez, R. Villalobos-Molina, M. Ibarra-Barajas, Synthesis, vasorelaxant activity and antihypertensive effect of benzo[d]imidazole derivatives, *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* 18 (2010) 3985–3991.

- [12] J. Wang, A. Singh, M. Talha, X. Luo, X. Deng, Y. Lin, Electrochemical and theoretical study of imidazole derivative as effective corrosion inhibitor for aluminium, *Int. J. Electrochem. Sci.* 13 (2018) 11539–11548.
- [13] I.A. Khodja, H. Boulebd, C. Bensouici, A. Belfaitah, Design, synthesis, biological evaluation, molecular docking, DFT calculations and in silico ADME analysis of (benz)imidazole-hydrazone derivatives as promising antioxidant, antifungal, and anti-acetylcholinesterase agents, *J. Mol. Struct.* 1218 (2020) 128527.
- [14] S. Kandasamy, P. Subramani, S. Subramani, J.M. Jayaraj, G. Prasanth, K. Srinivasan, K. Muthusamy, V. Rajakannan, R. Vilwanathan, Design and synthesis of imidazole based zinc binding groups as novel small molecule inhibitors targeting histone deacetylase enzymes in lung cancer, *J. Mol. Struct.* 1214 (2020) 128177.
- [15] R.B. Dehkordi, M.A. Ghasemzadeh, J.S. Ghomi, Green synthesis and immobilization of TiO₂ NPs using ILS-based on imidazole and investigation of its catalytic activity for the efficient synthesis of pyrimido[4,5-d]pyrimidines, *J. Mol. Struct.* 1206 (2020) 127698.
- [16] M.N. Shahi, A. Iqbal, R. Bibi, M. Khan, M. Ahmed, S. Noureen, Syntheses and electron density distribution studies in two new imidazole derivatives, *J. Mol. Struct.* 1206 (2019) 127657.
- [17] K.B. Benzon, Y.S. Mary, H.T. Varghese, C.Y. Panicker, S. Armakovic, S.J. Armakovic, K. Pradhan, A.K. Nanda, C. Van Alsenoy, Spectroscopic, DFT, molecular dynamics and molecular docking study of 1-butyl-2-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-4,5-dimethyl-imidazole 3-oxide, *J. Mol. Struct.* 1134 (2017) 330–344.
- [18] V.V. Menon, E. Foto, Y.S. Mary, E. Karatas, C.Y. Panicker, G. Yalcin, S. Armakovic, S.J. Armakovic, C. Van Alsenoy, I. Yildiz, Vibrational spectroscopic analysis, molecular dynamics simulations and molecular docking study of 5-nitro-2-phenoxyethyl benzimidazole, *J. Mol. Struct.* 1129 (2017) 86–97.
- [19] P.K. Murthy, M. Smitha, Y.S. Mary, S. Armakovic, S.J. Armakovic, R.S. Rao, P.A. Suchetan, L. Giri, R. Pavithran, C. Van Alsenoy, Supramolecular architecture of 5-bromo-7-methoxy-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole 3H₂O: synthesis, spectroscopic investigations, DFT-computation, MD simulations and docking studies, *J. Mol. Struct.* 1149 (2017) 602–612.
- [20] M. Hossain, R. Thomas, Y.S. Mary, K.S. Resmi, S. Armakovic, S.J. Armakovic, A.K. Nanda, G. Vijayakumar, C. Van Alsenoy, Understanding reactivity of two newly synthesized imidazole derivatives by spectroscopic characterization and computational study, *J. Mol. Struct.* 1158 (2018) 176–196.
- [21] M. Smitha, Y.S. Mary, M. Hossain, K.S. Resmi, S. Armakovic, S.J. Armakovic, R. Pavithran, A.K. Nanda, C. Van Alsenoy, Two novel imidazole derivatives-Combined experimental and computational study, *J. Mol. Struct.* 1173 (2018) 221–239.
- [22] V.S. Kumar, Y.S. Mary, K. Pradhan, D. Brahman, Y.S. Mary, R. Thomas, M.S. Roxy, C. Van Alsenoy, Synthesis, spectral properties, chemical descriptors and light harvesting studies of a new bioactive azo imidazole compound, *J. Mol. Struct.* 1199 (2020) 127035.
- [23] J.S. Al-Otaibi, A.H. Almuqrin, Y.S. Mary, R. Thomas, Modeling the conformational presence, spectroscopic properties, UV light harvesting efficiency, biological receptor inhibitory ability and other physico-chemical properties of five imidazole derivatives using quantum mechanical and molecular mechanics tools, *J. Mol. Liquids* (2020) 112871.
- [24] H. Zhu, Z. Xu, D. Xie, Y. Fang, Graphene: Fabrication, Characterizations, Properties and Applications, Academic Press, London, 2018.
- [25] A. Nicolai, B.G. Sumpter, V. Meunier, Tunable water desalination across graphene oxide framework membranes, *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.* 16 (2014) 8646–8654.
- [26] M.J. Sweetman, S. May, N. Mebberson, P. Pendleton, K. Vasilev, S.E. Plush, J.D. Hayball, Activated carbon, carbon nanotubes and graphene: materials and composites for advanced water purification, *J. Carbon Res.* 3 (2017) 18.
- [27] A.V.B. Reddy, M. Moniruzzaman, Y.V.M. Reddy, G. Madhavi, Graphene-based nanomaterials for the removal of pharmaceuticals in drinking water sources. Graphene-Based Nanotechnologies for Energy and Environmental Applications, Elsevier, 2019, pp. 329–358.
- [28] S.Y. Wu, S.A. An, J. Hulme, Current applications of graphene oxide in nanomedicine, *Int. J. Nanomed.* 10 (2015) 924.
- [29] S. Kumar, S.H. Parekh, Linking graphene based material physicochemical properties with molecular adsorption, structure and cell fate, *Commun. Chem.* 3 (2020) 8.
- [30] S.B. Wang, C.W. Ng, W.T. Wang, Q. Li, Z.P. Hao, Synergistic and competitive adsorption of organic dyes on multiwalled carbon nanotubes, *Chem. Eng. J.* 197 (2012) 34–40.
- [31] S. Wang, H. Sun, H.M. Ang, M.O. Tade, Adsorptive remediation of environmental pollutants using novel graphene based nanomaterials, *Chem. Eng. J.* 226 (2013) 336–347.
- [32] H. Tang, Y. Zhao, S. Shan, X. Yang, D. Liu, B. Xing, Theoretical insight into the adsorption of aromatic compounds on graphene oxide, *Environ. Sci.: Nano.* 5 (2018) 2357–2367.
- [33] S. Priyadarsini, S. Mohanty, S. Mukherjee, S. Basu, M. Mishra, Graphene and graphene oxide as nanomaterials for medicine and biology application, *J. Nanostructure Chem.* 8 (2018) 123–137.
- [34] K.S. Novoselov, A.K. Geim, S.V. Morozov, D. Jiang, Y. Zhang, S.V. Dubonos, I.V. Grigorieva, A.A. Firsov, Electric field in atomically thin carbon films, *Science* 306 (2004) 666–669.
- [35] W. Xu, N. Mao, J. Zhang, Graphene: a platform for surface enhanced Raman spectroscopy, *Small* 9 (2013) 1206–1224.
- [36] M.S. Dresselhaus, Z. Liu, J. Xiao, H. Xu, X. Ling, J. Kong, W. Xu, J. Zhang, Surface enhanced Raman spectroscopy on a flat graphene surface, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. Unit. States Am.* 109 (2012) 9281–9286.
- [37] S. Huh, J. Park, Y.S. Kim, K.S. Kim, B.H. Hong, J.M. Nam, UV/ozone oxidized large scale graphene platform with large chemical enhancement in surface enhanced Raman scattering, *ACS Nano* 5 (2011) 9799–9806.
- [38] X. Yu, H. Cai, W. Zhang, X. Li, N. Pan, Y. Luo, X. Wang, J.G. Hou, Tuning chemical enhancement of SERS by controlling the chemical reduction of graphene oxide nanosheets, *ACS Nano* 5 (2011) 952–958.
- [39] T. Yuy, A. Li, Y. Zhang, Z. Ni, Y. Wang, Z. Zafar, Z. Xiang Shen, T. Qiu, Z. Ni, S. Qu, Surface enhanced Raman scattering of aged graphene: effects of annealing in vacuum, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* 99 (2011) 233103.
- [40] J. Liu, H. Cai, X. Yu, K. Zhang, X. Li, J. Li, N. Pan, Q. Shi, Y. Luo, X. Wang, Fabrication of graphene nanomesh and improved chemical enhancement for Raman spectroscopy, *J. Phys. Chem. C* 116 (2012) 15741–15746.
- [41] A.K. Geim, K.S. Novoselov, The rise of graphene, *Nat. Mater.* 6 (2007) 183–191.
- [42] H. Cheng, Y. Zhao, Y. Fan, X. Xie, L. Qu, G. Shi, Graphene quantum dot assembled nanotubes: a new platform for efficient Raman enhancement, *ACS Nano* 6 (2012) 2237–2244.
- [43] M. Bacon, S.J. Bradley, T. Nann, Graphene quantum dots, *Part. Part. Syst. Char.* 31 (2014) 415–428.
- [44] V.S. Anithaa, R. Shankar, S. Vijayakumar, DFT based investigation on adsorption of methane on pristine and defected graphene, *Struct. Chem.* 28 (2017) 1935–1952.
- [45] C. Thierfelder, M. Witte, S. Blankenburg, E. Rauls, W.G. Schmidt, Methane adsorption on graphene from first principles including dispersion interaction, *Surf. Sci.* 605 (2011) 746–749.
- [46] H.K. Kim, M.H.W. Chan, Experimental determination of a two dimensional liquid-vapor critical point exponent, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 53 (1984) 170–173.
- [47] K. Brenner, Y. Yang, R. Murali, Edge doping of graphene sheets, *Carbon* 50 (2012) 637–645.
- [48] T.C. Dindadayalane, J. Leszczynski, Stone wales defects with two different orientations in (5,5) single walled carbon nanotubes: a theoretical study, *Chem. Phys. Lett.* 434 (2007) 86–91.
- [49] T.C. Dindadayalane, J.S. Murray, M.C. Concha, P. Politzer, J. Leszczynski, Reactivities of sites on (5,5) single walled carbon nanotubes with and without a stone wales defect, *J. Chem. Theor. Comput.* 6 (2010) 1351–1357.
- [50] F. Montejo-Alvaro, J. Oliva, M. Herrera-Trejo, H.M. Hdz-Garcia, A.I. Mtz-Enriquez, DFT study of small gas molecules adsorbed on undoped and N-, Si-, B- and Al-doped graphene quantum dots, *Theor. Chem. Account.* 138 (2019) 37.
- [51] R. Lv, Q. Li, A.R. Botello-Mendez, T. Hayashi, B. Wang, A. Berkdemir, Q. Hao, A.L. Elias, R. Cruz-Silva, H.R. Gutierrez, Y.A. Kim, H. Muramatsu, J. Zhu, M. Endo, H. Terrones, J.C. Charlier, M. Pan, M. Terronjes, Nitrogen doped graphene: beyond single substitution and enhanced molecular sensing, *Sci. Rep.* 2 (2012) 586.
- [52] N. Ketabi, T. de Boer, M. Karakaya, J. Zhu, R. Podila, A.M. Rao, E.Z. Kurmaev, A. Moewes, Tuning the electronic structure of graphene through nitrogen doping: experiment and theory, *RSC Adv.* 6 (2016) 56721–56727.
- [53] J. Kysilka, M. Rubes, L. Grajciar, P. Nachtigall, O. Bludskiy, Accurate description of argon and water adsorption on surfaces of graphene based carbon allotropes, *J. Phys. Chem. A* 115 (2011) 11387–11393.
- [54] P. Lazar, F. Karlicky, P. Jurecka, M. Kocman, E. Otyepkova, K. Safarova, M. Otyepka, Adsorption of small organic molecules on graphene, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 135 (2013) 6372–6377.
- [55] E. Voloshina, D. Usvyat, M. Schutz, Y. Dedkov, B. Paulus, On the physisorption of water on graphene: a CCSD(T) study, *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.* 13 (2011) 12041–12047.
- [56] A.H. Almuqrin, J.S. Al-Otaibi, Y.S. Mary, Y.S. Mary, R. Thomas, Structural study of letrozole and metronidazole and formation of self assembly with graphene and fullerene with the enhancement of physical, chemical and biological activities, *J. Biomol. Struct. Dyn.* (2020).
- [57] J.S. Al-Otaibi, Y.S. Mary, R. Thomas, S. Kaya, Detailed Electronic Structures, Physico-Chemical Properties, Excited State Properties, Virtual Bioactivity Screening and SERS Analysis of Three Guanine Based Antiviral Drugs Valacyclovir HCl Hydrate, acyclovir and ganciclovir, 2020.
- [58] J.S. Al-Otaibi, Y.S. Mary, Y.S. Mary, S. Kaya, S. Erkan, Spectral analysis and DFT investigation of some benzopyran analogues and their self assemblies with graphene, *J. Mol. Liq.* 317 (2020) 113924.
- [59] Y.S. Mary, Y.S. Mary, Utilization of doped/undoped graphene quantum dots for ultrasensitive detection of duphaston, a SERS platform, *Spectrochim. Acta* (2020) 118865.
- [60] A. Al-Jumaili, S. Alancherry, K. Bazaka, M. Jacob, Review on the antimicrobial properties of carbon nanostructures, *Materials* 10 (2017) 1066.
- [61] R. Ahamadi, M.R.J. Sarvestani, B. Sadeghi, Computational study on the fullerene effects on the properties of 16 different drugs: a review, *Int. J. Nano Dimens. (IJND)* 9 (2018) 325–335.
- [62] Q. Sun, R. Zhang, J. Qiu, R. Liu, W. Xu, On surface synthesis of carbon nanostructures, *Adv. Mater.* 30 (2018) 1705630.
- [63] Y. Jiang, J. Wang, L. Malfatti, D. Carboni, N. Senes, P. Innocenzi, Highly durable graphene mediated surface enhanced Raman scattering (G-SERS) nanocomposites for molecular detection, *Appl. Surf. Sci.* 450 (2018) 451–460.
- [64] Gaussian 09, Revision D.01 M.J. Frisch, G.W. Trucks, H.B. Schlegel, G.E. Scuseria, M.A. Robb, J.R. Cheeseman, G. Scalmani, V. Barone, B. Mennucci, G.A. Petersson, H. Nakatsuji, M. Caricato, X. Li, H.P. Hratchian, A.F. Izmaylov, J. Bloino, G. Zheng, J.L. Sonnenberg, M. Hada, M. Ehara, K. Toyota, R. Fukuda, J. Hasegawa, M. Ishida, T. Nakajima, Y. Honda, O. Kitao, H. Nakai, T. Vreven, J.A. Montgomery Jr., J.E. Peralta, F. Ogliaro, M. Bearpark, J.J. Heyd, E. Brothers, K.N. Kudin, V.N. Staroverov, T. Keith, R. Kobayashi, J. Normand, K. Raghavachari, A. Rendell, J.C. Burant, S.S. Iyengar, J. Tomasi, M. Cossi, N. Rega, J.M. Millam,

- M. Klene, J.E. Knox, J.B. Cross, V. Bakken, C. Adamo, J. Jaramillo, R. Gomperts, R.E. Stratmann, O. Yazyev, A.J. Austin, R. Cammi, C. Pomelli, J.W. Ochterski, R.L. Martin, K. Morokuma, V.G. Zakrzewski, G.A. Voth, P. Salvador, J.J. Dannenberg, S. Dapprich, A.D. Daniels, O. Farkas, J.B. Foresman, J. Ortiz, J. Cioslowski, D.J. Fox, Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford CT, 2013.
- [65] C.T. Lee, W.T. Yang, R.G. Parr, Development of the Colle-Salvetti correlation energy formula into a functional of the electron density, *Phys. Rev. B* 37B (1988) 785–789.
- [66] R.G. Parr, Y. Yang, *Density Functional Theory of Atoms and Molecules*, 1989. Oxford, New York.
- [67] A.D. Becke, Density functional thermochemistry. III. The role of exact exchange, *J. Chem. Phys.* 98 (1993) 5648–5652.
- [68] P. Pulay, G.H. Fogarasi, F. Pang, J.E. Boggs, Systematic ab initio gradient calculation of molecular geometries, force constants and dipole moment derivatives, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 101 (1979) 2550–2560.
- [69] J.M.L. Martin, C. Van Alsenoy, GAR2PED, University of Antwerp, Antwerp, 1995.
- [70] R. Dennington, T. Keith, J. Millam, Semichem Inc., Shawnee Mission KS, GaussView, 2009. Version 5.
- [71] R. Bader, *Atoms in Molecules: A Quantum Theory*, Oxford Univ. Press, Oxford, 1990.
- [72] T.A. Keith, AIMAll Program, 2010. Version 10.12. 11.
- [73] R.M. Issa, M.K. Awad, R.M. Atlam, Quantum chemical studies on the inhibition of corrosion of copper surface by substituted uracils, *Appl. Surf. Sci.* 255 (2008) 2433–2441.
- [74] Y.S. Mary, C.Y. Panicker, M. Sapnakumari, B. Narayana, B.K. Sarojini, A.A. Al-Saadi, C. Van Alsenoy, J.A. War, H.K. Fun, Molecular structure, FT-IR, Vibrational assignments, HOMO-LUMO analysis and molecular docking study of 1-[5-(4-Bromophenyl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]ethanone, *Spectrochim. Acta* 136 (2015) 473–482.
- [75] K. Fukui, Role of frontier orbitals in chemical reactions, *Science* 218 (1982) 747–754.
- [76] R.G. Parr, R.G. Pearson, Absolute hardness: companion parameter to absolute electronegativity, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 105 (1983) 7512–7516.
- [77] Y.S. Mary, C.Y. Panicker, M. Sapnakumari, B. Narayana, B.K. Sarojini, A.A. Al-Saadi, C. Van Alsenoy, J.A. War, FT-IR, NBO, HOMO-LUMO, MEP analysis and molecular docking study of 1-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]ethanone, *Spectrochim. Acta* 136 (2015) 483–493.
- [78] R.G. Parr, L. Szentpaly, S. Liu, Electrophilicity index, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 121 (1999) 1922–1924.
- [79] D.J. Rao, Y.S. Mary, Y.S. Mary, K.S. Resmi, R. Thomas, Structure, Spectral Features, Bioactivity and Light Harvesting Properties of Methyl and Dimethyl Anthracene: Experimental and First Principle Studies, *Polycyclic Aromatic Compounds*, 2020.
- [80] J.S. Murray, J.M. Seminario, M.C. Concha, P. Politzer, An analysis of molecular electrostatic potentials obtained by a local density functional approach, *Int. J. Quant. Chem.* 44 (1992) 113–122.
- [81] Y.S. Mary, P.B. Miniyaar, Y.S. Mary, K.S. Resmi, C.Y. Panicker, S. Armakovic, S.J. Armakovic, R. Thomas, B. Sureshkumar, Synthesis and spectroscopic study of three new oxadiazole derivatives with detailed computational evaluation of their reactivity and pharmaceutical potential, *J. Mol. Struct.* 1173 (2018) 469–480.
- [82] T. Brinck, J.S. Murray, P. Politzer, Molecular surface electrostatic potentials and local ionization energies of group V-VII hydrides and their anions: relationships for aqueous and gas phase acidities, *Int. J. Quant. Chem.* 48 (1993) 73–88.
- [83] T. Zhang, X. Wei, Y. Zuo, J. Chao, An efficient measure to improve the NLO performance by point charge electric field, *Optik* 182 (2019) 295–302.
- [84] R.I. Al-Wabli, K.S. Resmi, Y.S. Mary, C.Y. Panicker, M.I. Attia, A.A. El-Emam, C. Van Alsenoy, Vibrational spectroscopic studies, Fukui functions, HOMO-LUMO, NLO, NBO analysis and molecular docking study of (E)-1-(1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)-4,4-dimethylpent-1-en-3-one, a potential precursor to bioactive agents, *J. Mol. Struct.* 1123 (2016) 375–383.
- [85] A.E. Reed, P.V.R. Schleyer, The anomeric effect with central atoms other than carbon. 2. Strong interactions between nonbonded substituents in mono- and polyfluorinated first- and second-row amines, *Inorg. Chem.* 27 (1988) 3969–3987.
- [86] G.M. Morris, R. Huey, W. Lindstrom, M.F. Sanner, R.K. Belew, D.S. Goodsell, A.J. Olson, Autodock4 and AutoDockTools4: automated docking with selective receptor flexibility, *J. Comput. Chem.* 16 (2009) 2785–2791.
- [87] A. Lagunin, A. Stepanchikova, D. Filimonov, V. Porokov, PASS: prediction of activity spectra for biologically active substances, *Bioinformatics* 16 (2000) 747–748.
- [88] P.W. Rose, B. Beran, C. Bi, W.F. Bluhm, D. Dimitropoulos, D.S. Goodsell, A. Prlic, M. Quesada, G.B. Quinn, J.D. Westbrook, J. Young, The RCSB protein data bank: redesigned web site and web services, *Nucleic Acids Res.* 39 (2010) D392–D401.
- [89] *Discovery Studio 4.5 Guide*, Accelrys Inc., San Diego, 2009. <http://www.accelrys.com>.
- [90] G.M. Morris, D.S. Goodsell, R.S. Halliday, R. Huey, W.E. Hart, R. Belew, A.J. Olson, Automated docking using a Lamarckian genetic algorithm and an empirical binding free energy function, *J. Comput. Chem.* 19 (1998) 1639–1662.
- [91] J.B. Foresman, in: E. Frisch (Ed.), *Exploring chemistry with electronic structure methods: a guide to using Gaussian*, 1996. Pittsburg, PA.
- [92] N.P.G. Roeges, *A Guide to the Complete Interpretation of Infrared Spectra of Organic Structures*, John Wiley and Sons Inc., New York, 1994.
- [93] M. Fleischmann, P.J. Hendra, A.J. McQuillan, Raman spectra of pyridine adsorbed at a silver electrode, *Chem. Phys. Lett.* 26 (1974) 163–166.
- [94] M.G. Albrecht, J.A. Creighton, Anomalous intense Raman spectra of pyridine at a silver electrode, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 99 (1977) 5215–5217.
- [95] D.L. Jeanmaire, R.P. Van duyn, Surface Raman spectroelectrochemistry: Part I. Heterocyclic, aromatic, and aliphatic amines adsorbed on the anodized silver electrode, *J. Electroanal. Chem. Interfacial Electrochem.* 84 (2006) 1–20.
- [96] E. Smith, G. Dent, *Modern Raman Spectroscopy – A Practical Approach*, 2005.
- [97] K. Kneipp, Y. Wang, H. Kneipp, L.T. Perelman, I. Itzkan, R.R. Dasari, M.S. Feld, Single molecule detection using surface enhanced Raman scattering (SERS), *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 78 (1997) 1667–1670.
- [98] S. Nie, S.R. Emory, Probing single molecules and single nano particles by surface enhanced Raman scattering, *Science* 275 (1997) 1102–1106.
- [99] V. Sharma, N.N. Som, S.B. Pillai, P.K. Jha, Utilization of doped GQDs for ultrasensitive detection of catastrophic melamine: a new SERS platform, *Spectrochim. Acta* 224 (2020) 117352.
- [100] J.S. Al-Otaibi, Detailed quantum mechanical studies on bioactive benzodiazepine derivatives and their adsorption over graphene sheets, *Spectrochim. Acta* 235 (2020) 118333.
- [101] J.S. Al-Otaibi, A.H. Almuqrin, Y.S. Mary, Y.S. Mary, Comprehensive quantum mechanical studies on three bioactive anastrozole based triazole analogues and their SERS active graphene complex, *J. Mol. Struct.* 1217 (2020) 128388.