### A COMPARATIVE STUDY ON 2-(2-BENZYLIDENEHYDRAZINYL)-4-(3-METHYL-3-PHENYLCYCLOBUTYL) THIAZOLE : X-RAY, HF AND DFT STUDIES

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#### ABSTRACT

The title compound, 2-(2-benzylidenehydrazinyl)-4-(3-methyl-3-phenylcyclobutyl)thiazole (C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>3</sub>S) was prepared and characterized by X – ray single crystal diffraction and IR and NMR spectroscopies. The compound crystallizes in the triclinic space group P1 with a = 5.8973(4) Å, b = 10.4727(18) Å, c = 15.136(2) Å,  $\alpha = 86.505(13)^{\circ}$ ,  $\beta = 84.242(12)^{\circ}$ ,  $\gamma = 89.870(13)^{\circ}$  and Z = 2. The molecular geometry was optimized using Hartree-Fock and Density Functional Theory (DFT) (B3LYP) method with the 6-31G(d) basis set. Molecular electrostatic potentiel (MEP) and frontier molecular orbitals (FMO) were calculated by the HF/6-31G(d) method.

Keywords: Cyclobutane, X-Ray diffraction, Molecular modeling (MM), Hartree-fock (HF), Density functional theory (DFT)

## 2-(2-BENZİLİDEN HİDRAZİNİL)-4-(3-METİL-3-FENİLSİKLOBÜTİL) TİYAZOL BİLEŞİĞİNİN X-IŞINI, HF VE DFT ÇALIŞMALARI ÜZERİNE KIYASLAMASI

#### ÖZET

Bileşiğimiz 2-(2- benziliden hidrazinil)-4-(3- metil-3-fenilsiklobütil) tiyazol (C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>3</sub>S) hazırlandı ve X-ışını tek kristal kırınımı IR ve NMR spektroskopileri ile karakterize edildi. Bileşiğimiz triklinik kristal sisteme sahip olup P1 uzay grubuna sahip olan kristalin parametreleri a = 5.8973(4) Å, b = 10.4727(18) Å, c = 15.136(2) Å,  $\alpha = 86.505(13)^\circ$ ,  $\beta = 84.242(12)^\circ$ ,  $\gamma = 89.870(13)^\circ$  ve Z = 2. Moleküler geometri 6-31G(d) baz seti ile Hartree-Fock ve Yoğunluk Fonksiyoneli Teorisi (DFT) (B3LYP) metodları kullanılarak optimize edildi. Moleküler elektrostatik potensiyel (MEP) ve sınır moleküler orbitaller (FMO) HF/6-31G(d) metodu ile hesaplandı.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Siklobütan, X-ışını kırınımı, Moleküler modelleme (MM), Hartree-fock (HF), Yoğunluk fonksiyoneli teorisi (DFT)

#### **1. INTRODUCTION**

It is well know that 3-substituted cyclobutane carboxylic acid derivatives exhibit anti-inflammatory and antidepressant activities [1] as well as liquid crystal properties [2]. As a consequence of the unique three-dimensional disposition of substituents and torsional ring strain driven high reactivity, cyclobutanes have received considerable attention by medicinal and synthetic chemists as drugscaffolds and/or synthetic intermediates in routes targeted at medicinally useful substances [3, 4]. The chemistry of aminothiazoles and their derivatives has attracted the attention of chemists, because they exhibit important biological activity in medicinal chemistry [5]. Thiazole derivatives exhibit different pharmaceutical properties such as anticancer [6, 7], anticonvulsant [8], antipsychoticlike [9], antibacterial, antifungal [10, 11], antitubercular [12], antimicrobial [13], analgesic and anti-inflammatory [14] activities.

Investigations into the structural stability of these compounds using both experimental techniques and theoretical methods have been of interest for many years [15]. Various computational techniques are

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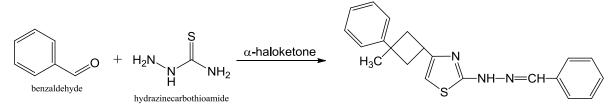
improved and so calculations are correctly concluded. Hartree–Fock (HF) and Density Functional Theory (DFT) methods have been the most commonly used for computation in theoretical modeling. HF and DFT methods calculated a great variety of molecular properties: molecular structures, vibrational frequencies, chemical shifts, molecular electrostatic potential, frontier molecular orbitals and Mulliken atomic charges, etc..

In this study, 2-(2-benzylidenehydrazinyl)-4-(3-methyl-3-phenylcyclobutyl)thiazole has been investigated both experimentally and theoretically. The title molecule was described and characterized by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, <sup>13</sup>C-NMR, IR and single-crystal X-ray diffraction methods as well as theoretical studies have been calculated in the ground state using the HF and DFT (B3LYP) with 6-31G(d) basis set. The structural geometry and molecular electrostatic potential (MEP) properties of the title compound were studied at the HF/6-31G(d) level. The calculated geometric parameters, theoretical scaled vibrational frequencies and chemical shifts values compared with their experimental data.

### 2. EXPERIMENTAL AND THEORETICAL METHODS

#### 2.1. Synthesis of the Title Compound

The title compound was synthesized as the similar manner according to the literature method [16] as depicted following Scheme 1. A solution of 0.1061 gram (1 mmoL) of benzaldehyde and 0.9114 gram (1 mmoL) of thiosemicarbazide in 30 mL of absolute ethanol and refluxed for 1 h (TLC) and cooled to room temperature. Subsequently, a solution of 0.2227 gram of 2-chloro-1-(3-phenyl-3-methylcyclobutyl)-ethanone (1 mmol) in absolute ethanol was added dropwise. After the addition of the  $\alpha$ -haloketone, the temperature was raised to 323–328 K and kept at this temperature for 2 h (TLC). The solution was cooled to room temperature and then made alkaline with an aqueous solution of NH<sub>3</sub> (5%), and black crystals separated by suction. Suitable single crystals for crystal structure determination were obtained by slow evaporation of its ethanol solution. Yield: 79 %. M.p.: 468 K (EtOH).



Scheme 1. Synthetic route for the synthesis of the target compound.

#### 2.2. General Remarks

All chemicals were of reagent grade and used as commercially purchased without further purification. Melting point was determined by Gallenkamp melting point apparatus. The IR spectrum of the title compound was recorded in the range 4000–400 cm<sup>-1</sup> using a Mattson 1000 FT-IR spectrometer with KBr pellets. The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were recorded on a Varian-Mercury-Plus 400 MHz spectrometer using TMS as internal standard and CDCl<sub>3</sub> (chloroform) as solvent.

### 2.3. X-Ray Diffraction Data

The single-crystal X-ray data was collected on a STOE diffractometer with an IPDS(II) image plate detector. All diffraction measurements were performed at room temperature (293 K) using graphite monochromated MoK $\alpha$  radiation (k = 0.71073 Å). Reflection data was recorded in the rotation mode using the  $\omega$  scan technique by using X-AREA software [17]. Intensity parameters were collected in the  $\theta$  range 2.0  $\leq \theta \leq 28.1^{\circ}$ . The structure was solved by direct methods using SHELXS-97 [18] implemented in the WinGX [19] program suite. The refinement was carried out by full-matrix least-squares method on the positional and anisotropic temperature parameters of the non-hydrogen atoms, or equivalently corresponding to 226 crystallographic parameters, using SHELXL-97 [20]. All H atoms were positioned geometrically and treated using a riding model, fixing the bond lengths at 0.86, 0.93, 0.97 and 0.96 Å for NH, CH, CH<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>3</sub> atoms, respectively. Computing data collection: X-AREA, cell refinement : X-AREA, computing data reduction : X-RED. The general-purpose crystallographic tool PLATON [21] was used for the structure analysis and presentation of the results. The structure was refined to R<sub>int</sub> = 0.100 with 2499 observed reflections using I > 2 $\sigma$  (I) threshold. The molecular graphic were done using ORTEP-3 for Windows [22]. Details of the data collection conditions and the parameters of the refinement process are given in Table 1.

CCDC deposition no.	1055300
Chemical formula	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>21</sub> N <sub>3</sub> S
Formula weight	347.47
Temperature (K)	296
Wavelength (Å)	0.71073 ΜοΚα
Crystal system	Triclinic
Space group	P 1
Unit cell parameters	
a, b, c (Å)	5.8973(9), 10.4727(18), 15.136(2)
α, β, γ (°)	86.505(13), 84.242(12), 89.870(13)
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	928.4(3)
Z	2
Calculated density (Mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	1.243
$\mu (\mathrm{mm}^{-1})$	0.18
F000	368
Crystal size (mm)	$0.70 \times 0.39 \times 0.12$
h <sub>min</sub> , h <sub>max</sub>	-7,7
kmin, kmax	-13,13
lmin, lmax	-19,19
Theta range for data collection (°)	$2.0 \le \theta \le 28.1$
Measured reflections	11279
Independent/observed reflections	4472/2499
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
$wR(F^2)$	0.147
R <sub>int</sub>	0.100
$\Delta \rho_{\text{max}}, \Delta \rho_{\text{min}} (e/\text{ Å}^3)$	0.17, -0.27

**Table 1** Crystal data and structure refinement parameters for the title compound.

### 2.4. Quantum Chemical Calculations

All the calculations were performed without specifying any symmetry for the title molecule by using Gauss View molecular visualization program [22] and Gaussian 03 program package [23]. For modeling, the initial guess of the compound was first obtained from the X-ray coordinates and it was optimized by Hartree–Fock (HF) and Density functional Theory (DFT)/B3LYP methods [24, 25] with the 6-31G(d) basis set. The harmonic vibrational frequencies have been calculated. The vibrational frequencies obtained for HF/6-31G(d) and DFT(B3LYP)/6-31G(d) are scaled by 0.9260 and 0.9608 [26, 27] respectively. We have not been found negative vibrational frequencies. <sup>1</sup>H- and <sup>13</sup>C- NMR chemical shifts are calculated within GIAO approach [28, 29] applying HF and B3LYP method with 6-31G(d) basis set. In addition to frontier molecular orbitals and molecular electrostatic potential map were investigated by theoretical calculations.

### **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The title compound, an ORTEP view of which is shown in Fig. 1, crystallizes in the triclinic space group  $P\overline{1}$  with two molecules in the unit cell. The asymmetric unit in the crystal structure contains only one molecule. The title molecule is composed of a cyclobutane ring, a thiazole ring and two benzene rings.

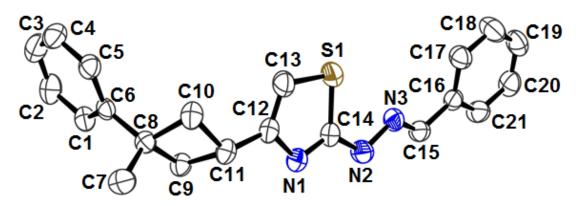


Figure 1. A view of the title compound showing the atom-numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level and H atoms have been omitted for clarity

The cyclobutane and the thiazole rings are planar with maximum deviations of 0.1121 Å and 0.0044 Å, respectively. The dihedral angles between the aromatic ring **A** (C1–C6), the cyclobutane plane **B** (C8–C11), and the thiazole plane **C** (S1/N1/C12–C14) are 41.96(10)° (**A/B**), 50.85(11)° (**B/C**) and 85.19(6)° (**A/C**).

Cyclobutane ring is adopted puckered conformation and the value for the puckering of the cyclobutane ring found in the literature is  $19.8(3)^{\circ}$  [30]. Bond length of (C7–C8) is 1.531(3) Å for mesitylene. The C8–C9, C9–C11 and C8–C10 bond lengths are 1.553(2) Å, 1.556(3) Å and 1.552(3) Å respectively and the C14–S1–C13, C8–C9–C11 and C11–C10–C8 bond angles are  $87.43(12)^{\circ}$ ,  $89.58(13)^{\circ}$  and  $90.19(14)^{\circ}$  respectively. When the bond lengths and angles of the cyclobutane ring in the title compound are compared with the previously reported cyclobutane derivatives [31, 32], it is seen that there are no significant differences.

In the thiazole ring, the S1–C13 and S1–C14 bond lengths are 1.728(3) Å and 1.722(2) Å. These values are shorter than the accepted value for an S–Csp<sup>2</sup> single bond (1.76 Å) [33]. The C14–N1 bond length [1.311(3) Å] compares with a literature value of 1.285(7) Å [34]. The thiazole ring is planar with a r.m.s. deviation of 0.1121 Å.

Perspective view of the crystal packing in the unit cell is shown in Fig. 2. The details of hydrogen bonds are given in Table 2. Atom N2 acts as donor to the symmetry-related N1 at (1-x,1-y,1-z). The imine bond length (C=N) in the literature is 1.469(4) Å. The (N3=C15) in the crystal is 1.267(3) Å. It is seen that there are no significant differences, when the experimental result is compared with the literature value.

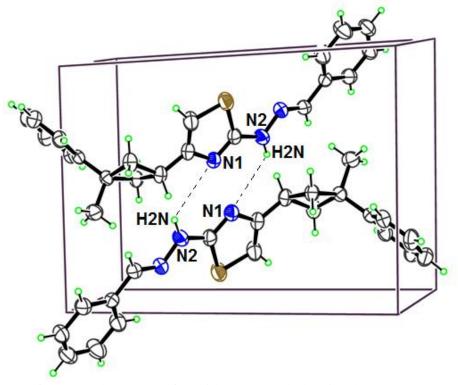


Figure 2. Part of the crystal structure of the title compound, showing the N2-H2N…N1 interactions

D—H…A	D—H	Н…А	D…A	D—H…A
N2—H2N…N1	0.86	2.19	3.044(3)	174

**Table 2.** Hydrogen bond geometries in crystal structure (Å, °)

Symmetry codes : 1-x,1-y,1-z

### **3.2. Optimized Structures**

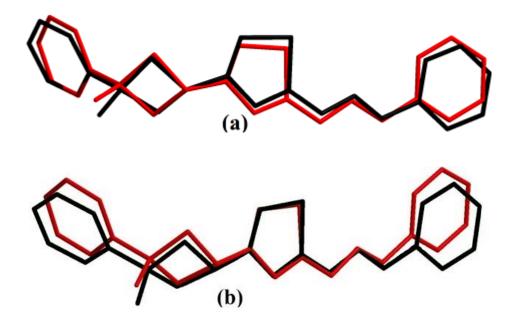
The optimized parameters (bond lengths, bond angles and torsion angles) of the title compound experimentally obtained and theoretically calculated by HF and B3LYP methods with the 6-31G(d) basis set. The results listed in Table 3. Experimental data (bond lengths, bond angles and torsion angles) for the title compound compared with optimized parameters. The correlation values ( $R^2$ ) have been found as 0.9890, 0.9840 for bond lengths, 0.9826, 0.9864 for bond angles, 0.9963, 0.9999 for torsion angles respectively. It is well known that DFT-optimized bond lengths are usually longer and more accurate than HF, due to the inclusion of electron correlation [35]. Thus, according to our calculations, while the HF method gave accurate results for the bond length compared with the B3LYP method, the B3LYP method correlates well for the torsion angle compared with the HF method. In addition to the B3LYP method correlates well for the torsion angle compared with the HF method.

	Experimental	Calculated [6-31 G(d)]	
parameters	(X-ray)	HF	B3LYP
Bond lengths (Å)			
C1–C2	1.377 (3)	1.3856	1.3957
C2–C3	1.361 (4)	1.385	1.3958
C6–C8	1.506 (3)	1.5177	1.5174
C7–C8	1.531 (3)	1.5353	1.5399
C8–C9	1.553 (2)	1.5539	1.5638
C9–C11	1.556 (3)	1.5465	1.5593
C12–C13	1.336 (4)	1.3386	1.3635
C12–N1	1.394 (2)	1.3865	1.3891
C14–N1	1.311 (3)	1.277	1.3015
C13–S1	1.728 (3)	1.746	1.7525
C14–S1	1.722 (2)	1.7385	1.7583
C14–N2	1.360 (3)	1.364	1.3731
N2-N3	1.372 (3)	1.3505	1.3461
C15–N3	1.267 (3)	1.2555	1.2879
C15-C16	1.465 (3)	1.4743	1.4614
C16-C17	1.368 (3)	1.3946	1.4076
C16-C21	1.378 (3)	1.3887	1.4047
$\mathbf{R}^2$		0.9890	0.9840
Bond angles (°)			
С9-С8-С7	113.12 (17)	111.6951	111.6873
C7-C8-C10	112.02 (17)	111.7366	111.685
C13–S1–C14	87.43 (12)	87.5904	87.3223
N1-C14-N2	125.0 (2)	122.0153	122.3507
N3-C15-C16	120.8 (2)	122.3866	122.2739
C17-C16-C21	117.7 (2)	119.1734	118.8291
<b>R</b> <sup>2</sup>		0.9826	0.9864
Torsion angles (°)			
C1-C6-C8-C10	136.73 (18)	141.7235	141.5944
C5-C6-C8-C9	-144.34 (18)	-143.1577	-143.1639
N3-N2-C14-S1	2.9 (2)	-12.4184	2.8767
N2-N3-C15-C16	-178.55 (19)	-178.9846	-179.9624
C16-C17-C18-C19	-0.1 (4)	0.0102	0.0035
$\mathbf{R}^2$		0.9963	0.9999

Table 3 Some selected experimental and optimized geometrical parameters of the title compound

We note that the experimental results belongs to solid phase and the theoretical calculations belongs to gas phase. In the solid state, the existence of a crystal field along with the intermolecular interactions connect the molecules together, which results in the differences in bond parameters between the calculated and experimental values [36].

A global comparison was performed by superimposing the molecular skeletons obtained from X-ray diffraction and the theoretical calculations atom by atom (Fig. 3), obtaining RMSE values of 0.345 and 0.369 Å for HF/6-31G(d) and B3LYP/6-31G(d), respectively. According to this results, the smallest RMSE value is obtained for HF/6-31G(d) and the geometry obtained from this method coincides better with the crystalline structure than B3LYP/6-31G(d) method. For that reason, we used the geometry from HF/6-31G(d) method, to calculate molecular electrostatic potential (MEP) and frontier molecular orbitals (FMOs).



**Figure 3.** Atom-by atom superimposition of the calculated structures calculated (black) (a = HF/6-31G(d), b = B3LYP/6-31G(d)) on the X-ray structure (red) of the title compound

## 3.3. IR Spectroscopy

The experimental IR spectra of the title compound are shown in Fig 4. It is compared the calculated vibrational frequencies with their experimental data. The correlation values ( $R^2$ ) have been found as 0.9951, 0.9967 for HF and B3LYP methods respectively. Experimental and theoretical vibrational frequencies of the title molecule are shown in Table 4.

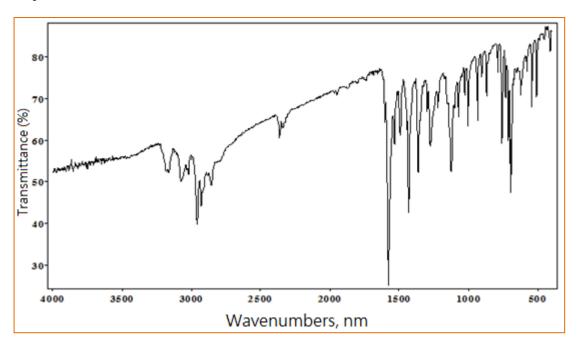


Figure 4. Experimental IR spectra of the title compound

Assignment	Experimental FT-IR (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Calculated [6-31 G(d)]	
roorginiteit		HF	B3LYP
vN–H	3259	3397	3356
$\nu_{as}C\!-\!H_{aromatic}$	3105	3013	3126
$\nu_{as}C\text{-}H_{2cyclobutane}$	2957	2934	2978
$\nu C - H_{cyclobutane}$	2864	2890	2854
vC=C <sub>aromatic</sub>	1680	1680	1675
$\nu C = C_{thiazole} + \nu C = N_{thiazole}$	1630	1572	1502
$\beta C - H_{aromatic}$	1282	1258	1299
$vS-C-N_{thiazole}$	737	767	750
$\mathbb{R}^2$		0.9951	0.9967

Table 4. Comparision of the observed and calculated vibrational spectra of the title compound

Vibrational modes: v, stretching;  $\beta$ , bending; s, symmetric; as, asymmetric

The N–H stretching vibrations occur in the region 3300-3500 cm<sup>-1</sup> [37]. The hetero aromatic molecule containing N–H group shows its stretching absorption in the region 3500-3220 cm<sup>-1</sup> [38, 39]. In this study, the N–H stretching vibration is recorded at 3259 cm<sup>-1</sup> as a very strong band in FT-IR spectrum and its corresponding calculated frequency is 3397,3356 cm<sup>-1</sup> using HF/6-31G(d) and B3LYP/6-31G(d) respectively.

The hetero aromatic structure shows the presence of C–H stretching vibrations in the range 3000-3100 cm<sup>-1</sup>, which is the characteristic region for vC–H stretching [40]. The experimental C–H asymmetric stretching vibrations was observed at 3105 cm<sup>-1</sup>, which has been calculated at 3013 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 3126 cm<sup>-1</sup> for HF and B3LYP methods.

## 3.4. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectra

The characterization of the compound was further enhanced by the use of <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectroscopy. The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of the title compound recorded using TMS as an internal standart and chloroform (CDCL<sub>3</sub>) as solvent. GIAO <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C chemical shift values (with respect to TMS) were calculated using the HF and B3LYP methods with the 6-31 G(d) basis set were compared to the experimental <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C chemical shift values. Experimental NMR spectrum (experimental results belongs to solid phase) and the calculated results (theoretical calculations belongs to gas phase) are given in Fig.5 and Table 5, respectively.

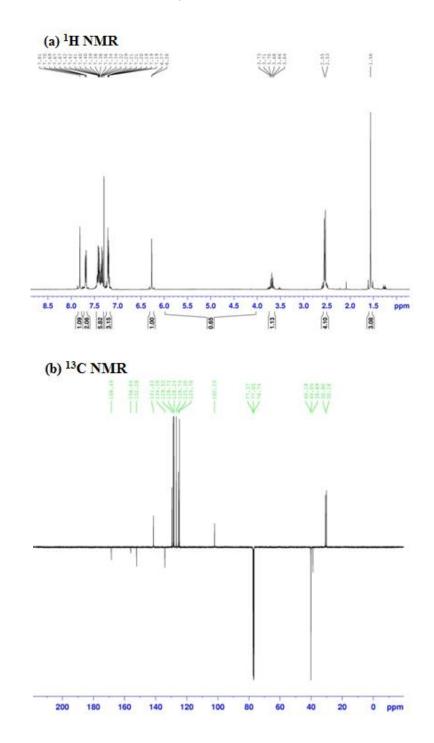


Figure 5. Experimental (a) <sup>1</sup>H and (b) <sup>13</sup>C chemical shift spectra of the title compound

<b>A</b> 4	Experimental (ppm) CDCl <sub>3</sub>	Calculated (ppm) [6-31 G(d)]	
Atom		HF	B3LYP
C1	124.76	117.64	121.05
C2	126.74	119.47	122.62
C3	125.36	113.48	117.89
C4	126.74	119.41	122.57
C5	124.76	117.60	121.14
C6	152.28	149.22	155.02
C7	30.18	8.85	18.53
C8	38.89	25.05	42.88
C9	40.05	23.91	37.52
C10	40.19	20.39	33.39
C11	30.80	15.46	29.32
C12	156.04	152.43	157.58
C13	102.15	95.74	108.29
C14	168.49	179.82	173.15
C15	141.43	139.64	138.69
C16	134.10	128.10	135.61
C17	128.73	117.04	119.01
C18	128.24	118.17	122.68
C19	129.53	118.33	120.89
C20	128.24	117.96	122.74
C21	128.73	120.58	123.47
H1 <sup>a</sup>	7.32-7.36	4.80	5.08
H2	7.21	5.07	5.33
H3	7.19	4.72	5.07
H4	7.21	5.12	5.37
H5 <sup>a</sup>	7.32-7.36	4.90	5.20
H6	1.56	2.98	2.54
H7	1.56	3.02	2.59
H8	1.56	2.66	2.11
H9 <sup>a</sup>	2.53-2.55	0.76	0.11
H10 <sup>a</sup>	2.53-2.55	1.07	0.47
H11 <sup>a</sup>	2.53-2.55	0.97	0.32
H12 <sup>a</sup>	2.53-2.55	0.82	0.23
H13	3.68	0.10	0.94
H14	6.26	3.78	4.42
H15	7.39	3.72	6.18
H16	7.81	5.09	5.07
H18	7.40	5.04	5.30
H19	7.38	5.12	5.24
H20	7.38	5.07	5.31
H21 <sup>a</sup>	7.67-7.70	4.90	5.05

**Table 5.** The experimental and calculated <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C isotropic chemical shifts (with respect to TMS, all values in ppm) for title compound

<sup>a</sup> Average

We have calculated <sup>1</sup>H chemical shift values (with respect to TMS) of 5.12-0.10 and 6.18-0.11 ppm at the HF/6-31G(d) and B3LYP/6-31G(d) level, respectively, however the experimental results were observed to be 7.81-1.56 ppm. In the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of the compound, the chemical shift values of C–H<sub>3</sub> protons were observed to be 1.56 ppm. These signals have been calculated as  $2.89^{a}$  and  $2.41^{a}$  ppm for HF and B3LYP methods with the 6-31G(d) level, respectively. The –CH<sub>2</sub>– signals of the cyclobutane are observed at 2.53-2.55 ppm. The aromatic H atoms were observed to be 5.07-5.37 (H1,H2,H3,H4,H5) ppm.

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We have calculated <sup>13</sup>C chemical shift values (with respect to TMS) of 179.82-8.85 and 173.15-18.53 ppm at the HF/6-31G(d) and B3LYP/6-31G(d) level, respectively, however the experimental results were observed to be 168.49-30.18 ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of the thiazole compound show the signals at 102.15-168.49 ppm due to C atoms. These signals have been founded are 111.969-165.219 ppm in the literature [41]. These signals have been calculated as 95.74-179.82 ppm for the HF level, 108.29-173.15 ppm for B3LYP level. To make comparision with experimental observations, we present correlation graphs in Fig. 6 based on the calculations. This correlation values (R<sup>2</sup>) have been found as 0.9901 and 0.9966 for HF and B3LYP methods with the 6-31G(d) level, respectively. As can be seen from Table 5, the theoretical <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C chemical shift results for the title compound are close to the experimental <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C shift data.

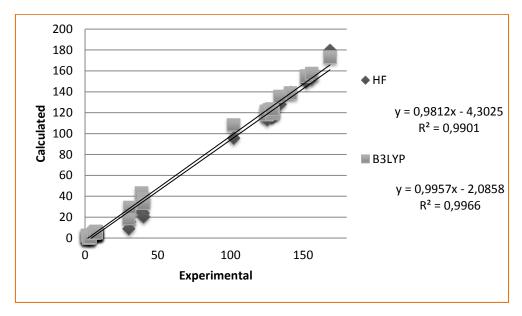


Figure 6. Correlation graphics between the experimental and theoretical NMR chemical shift values of the title compound

### 3.5. Molecular Electrostatic Potential (MEP)

The molecular electrostatic potential, V(r), at a given point r(x, y, z) in the vicinity of a molecule, is defined in terms of the interaction energy between the electrical charge generated from the molecule electrons and nuclei and a positive test charge (a proton) located at r. For the system studied, the V(r) values were calculated as described previously using the equation [42].

$$V(r) = \sum \frac{Z_A}{|R_A - r|} - \int \frac{\rho(r')}{|r' - r|} d^3 r'$$
(1)

where  $Z_A$  is the charge of nucleus A located at  $R_A$ ,  $\rho(r')$  is the electronic density function of the molecule, and r' is the dummy integration variable.

The molecular electrostatic potential (MEP) is related to the electronic density and is a very useful descriptor in understanding sites of electrophilic attack and nucleophilic reactions as well as hydrogen bonding interactions [43-45]. The electrostatic potential V(r) is also well suited for analyzing processes based on the 'recognition' of one molecule by another, such as in drug-receptor, and enzyme-substrate interactions, because it is through their potentials that the two species first 'see' each other [46-48]. Being a real physical property, V(r) can be determined experimentally by diffraction or by computational methods [49].

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To visiually consider the most probable sites of the title molecule for an interaction with electrophilic and nucleophilic species, MEP was calculated at the HF/6-31G(d) optimized geometry. According to our calculations, HF/6-31G(d) method gave accurate results for the molecular electrostatic potential compared with the B3LYP/6-31G(d) method. Therefore we have choosen HF/6-31G(d) method for the Mep. While electrophilic reactivities visualized by red color which indicate the negative regions of the molecule, the nucleophilic reactivities colored by blue, indicating the positive regions of the molecule as shown Fig. 7.

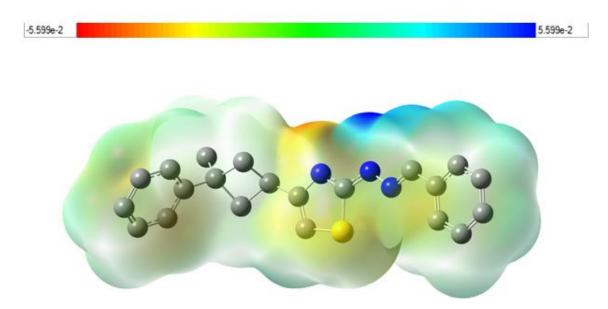
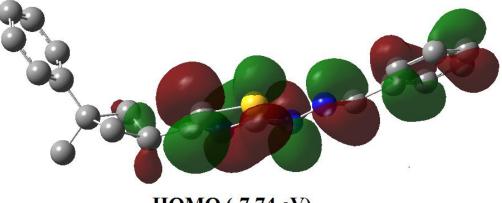


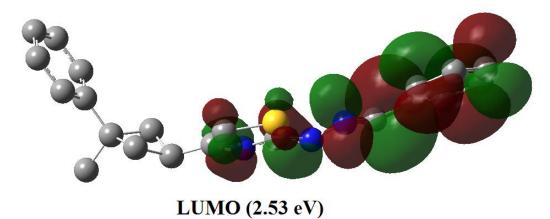
Figure 7. Molecular electrostatic potential map (MEP) (in a.u.) calculated at HF/6-31G(d) level

### 3.6. HOMO and LUMO Analysis

The frontier molecular orbitals play an important role in the electric and optical properties, as well as in UV-Vis spectra and chemical reactions [50]. By examining the frontier orbitals of a molecule the optical properties and the steps to react with other molecules can be determined. The calculations indicate that the title compound has 92 occupied molecular orbitals. Fig. 8 shows the distributions and energy levels of the HOMO and LUMO orbitals computed at the HF/6-31G(d) level for the title compound. Both the highest occupied molecular orbitals (HOMOs) and the lowest-lying unoccupied molecular orbitals (LUMOs) are mainly localized on the rings. Besides, Gauss-Sum 2.2 Program [51] was used to calculate group contributions to the molecular orbitals.



HOMO (-7.74 eV)



**Figure 8.** Molecular orbital surfaces and energy levels given in parentheses for the HOMO and LUMO of the title compound computed at HF/6-31G(d) level.

## 3.7. Mulliken Atomic Charges

The charge distributions calculated by the Mulliken method [52] for the equilibrium geometry of the title compound. The corresponding Mulliken's plot is shown in Fig. 9. As can be seen from the Fig. 9, charge of the N2, H2N and N1 atom of -0.602, +0.392 and -0.605 for the HF/6-31G(d) methods respectively. From the results it is clear that the Mulliken's charges are confirmed to the intermolecular bond N2–H2N…N1 in the crystal.

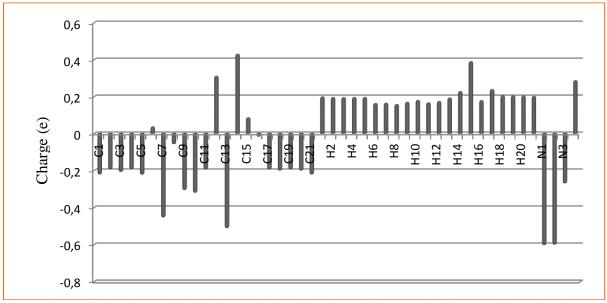


Figure 9. The charge distribution calculated by the Mulliken method for the title molecule

# 4. CONCLUSIONS

In this work, 2-(2-benzylidenehydrazinyl)-4-(3-methyl-3-phenylcyclobutyl)thiazole, was prepared and characterized by spectroscopic (FT-IR and NMR) and structural (single-crystal X-ray diffraction) techniques. Calculation based on Hartree-Fock (HF)/6-31G(d) and DFT B3LYP/6-31G(d) methods were performed to further study on the molecular structure and vibrational spectra for the title

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compound. The comparisons between the calculated results and the X-ray experimental data indicate that B3LYP method is better than HF method in evaluating torsion and bond angles. The calculated results show that the optimized geometries can well reproduce the crystal structure, and the theoretical vibrational frequencies and chemical shift values. The MEP map shows that the negative potential sites are on electronegative atoms and the positive potential sites are around the hydrogen atoms. These sites provide information concerning the region fromwhere the compound can undergo intraand intermolecular interactions. The value of the energy separation between the HOMO and LUMO is very large and this energy gap gives significant information about the title compound. Mulliken charges confirm the intermolecular hydrogen bonds in the crystal structure.

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### SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

CCDC-1055300 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for the compound reported in this article. These data can be obtained free of charge at www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/conts/retrieving.html [or from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre (CCDC), 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; fax:+44(0)1223-336033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk].

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