

Design, Synthesis and Docking Studies of Novel 1, 2, 3-Triazolyl Phenylthiazole Analogs as Potent Anti-HIV-1 NNRT Inhibitors

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Abstract

In an attempt to design and synthesize a new class of anti-HIV-1 RTIs i.e., 4-(phenyl)-N,N-bis((1-phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)methyl)thiazol-2-amine derivatives, substituted 2-amino-4-phenylthiazoles were alkylated with propargyl bromide to obtain dialkyne 2-amino-4-phenylthiazoles. This dialkyne 2-amino-4-phenylthiazole was reacted with aryl azides to generate small library of 15 compounds (4a-o) by click chemistry. The obtained derivatives were studied for as an anti-HIV-1 NNRT Inhibitors. All synthesized compounds of 1,2,3-triazolylphenylthiazole series were docked into the non-nucleoside inhibitor binding pocket (NNIBP) of HIV-1 RT and highly inhibiting derivatives studied for *in vitro* anti-HIV-1 assay.

Keywords: 4-(Phenyl)-N, N-bis((1-phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)methyl)thiazol-2-amine; Dialkyne 2 amino-4-phenylthiazole; Anti-HIV-1 NNRTI

Introduction

Reverse transcriptase inhibitors (RTIs) are a class of antiretroviral drugs used to treat HIV infection or AIDS, and in some cases hepatitis B. RTIs inhibit activity of reverse transcriptase, a viral DNA polymerase that is required for replication of HIV and other retroviruses. When HIV infects a cell, reverse transcriptase copies the viral single stranded RNA genome into a double stranded viral DNA. The viral DNA is then integrated into the host chromosomal DNA, which then allows host cellular processes, such as transcription and translation to reproduce the virus. RTIs block reverse transcriptase's enzymatic function and prevent completion of synthesis of the double stranded viral DNA, thus preventing HIV from multiplying.

A similar process occurs with other types of viruses. The hepatitis B virus, for example, carries its genetic material in the form of DNA, and employs a RNA dependent DNA polymerase to replicate. Some of the same compounds used as RTIs can also block HBV replication; When used in this way they are referred to as polymerase inhibitors. HIV only contains RNA and so needs to change its RNA into DNA to be able to integrate with our DNA for replication. To do this it has to first change its RNA to DNA. HIV uses a compound called reverse transcriptase to convert its RNA to DNA. Reverse transcriptase enzyme is not found in human cell without HIV, so that RT is the main target for the Anti-HIV drug synthesis.

RTIs come in three forms: Nucleoside analog reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NARTIs or NRTIs) Nucleotide analog reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NtARTIs or NtRTIs) and Nonnucleoside Reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs). The mode of action of NRTIs and NtRTIs is essentially the same; They are analogues of the naturally occurring deoxynucleotides needed to synthesize the viral DNA and they compete with the natural deoxynucleotides for incorporation into the growing viral DNA chain. NRTI working different ways but one of the main ways is to compete with reverse transcriptase for their interaction site with HIV genetic material while NNRTIs work by sitting in a binding site in the virus structure.

Non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs) are the third class of antiretroviral drugs that were developed. In all cases, patents remain in force until beyond 2007.

The 2-amino-1,3-thiazoles are biologically important compounds with a wide range of medicinal and biological applications including antibacterial, antifungal, anti-HIV, anti-hypertension, anti-inflammatory, anticancer, anticonvulsant, and antidepressant [1-6]. Some 2-amino-1,3-thiazole derivatives have been reported as ligands of thrombopoietin [7,8], neuropeptide Y5 [9] and adenosine receptors [10,11] and as inhibitors of several physiological important enzymes like cyclindependent kinase [12], poly (ADP-Ribose) polymerase [13], urokinase [14] etc. Thiazole is also considered as a heterocyclic bioisostere of the phenol moiety in the extensively used anti-parkinsonian agent pramipexol [15] and in morphinan derivatives [16,17]. Due to their broad utility in the pharmaceutical industry, the development of methods that give quick access to diverse 2-amino-1,3-thiazole libraries would provide additional lead molecules for drug discovery.

However, 1,2,3-triazole ring is not found in any marketed drugs. The click chemistry improved by Sharpless et al. is an admirable approach for regioselective synthesis of 1, 2, 3-triazole ring system in presence of various functional groups. Genuine efforts have been made to integrate 1, 2, 3-triazole in existing drugs, still more research is needed to find lead molecule [18]. 1,2,3-triazole structural moiety is present in several compounds showing various biological activities including anti-HIV [19], anti-bacterial [20], anti-allergic [21], anti-convulsant [22], b-lactamase inhibitory [23], and anti-tuberculosis activities [24], 1,2,3-triazole has been comprehensively studied due to its important applications in industrially interesting materials, such as dyes, anticorrosive agents, photo stabilizers, photographic materials, and agrochemicals [18]. Therefore, we found it interesting to design new molecules within the scope of synthetic procedure using

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phenylthiazole scaffold followed by suitable modification to generate diversified compounds for anti-HIV activity. In this study, we exploited click chemistry for synthesis of diversified phenylthiazole compounds mainly for the two reasons; first, it can tolerate wide range of functional groups and easy to do eco-friendly reactions at room temperature either in water or mixture of water and organic solvents, secondly; this approach will generate compounds having 1,2,3-triazole functionality rather than 1,2,4-triazole. These compounds can be studied for anti-HIV-1 RT activities.

The study of new hybrid systems in which 1,2,3-triazole and 2-amino-4-phenyl-1,3-thiazole are combined comprises an unfamiliar field of research. These findings have encouraged us to investigate the potential synergistic effect of 1,2,3-triazole and 2-amino-4-phenyl-1,3-thiazole scaffolds. Herein, for the first time, we report the hybridization of these two pharmacophores and their anti-HIV-1 NNRTI ability. It has been hope that combination of these active groups in the new molecular design would lead to better anti-HIV-1 agents. In this communication, we report the synthesis of newly designed 4-(phenyl)-N, N-bis ((1-phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)methyl)thiazol-2-amine derivatives starting from dialkyne substituted 2-amino-4-phenylthiazole derivatives which has been synthesized from substituted 2-amino-4-phenyl-1,3-thiazole and propargyl bromide.

Experimental

All solvents were used as commercial anhydrous grade without further purification. Aluminium sheets 20 × 20 cm, Silica gel 60 F₂₅₄, Merck grade was used for thin layer chromatography to determine progress of reaction. Melting points were determined in open capillary tube and are uncorrected ¹H NMR spectral data were recorded on Bruker Advance spectrometer at 300 MHz and Jeol JNM ECX spectrometer at 300 MHz using TMS as an internal standard. The chemical shifts values are recorded on δ -scale in DMSO solvent. Mass spectra were taken on Polaris-Q Thermo scientific GC-MS.

General procedure for synthesis of dialkyne substituted 2-amino-4-phenylthiazoles derivatives (2a, 2b)

A mixture of aniline (0.5 mmol), allyl bromide (1.5 mmol), potassium carbonate (2 mmol), ethanol (2 mL), and water (1 mL) was added to a 50 mL round flask and stirred at 70°C for the desired time until complete consumption of starting material as judged by TLC. Then, the reaction mixture was condensed by evaporation of solvents under reduced pressure and was washed with saturated sodium carbonate solution and poured into a separating funnel [25].

The content was extracted with ethyl acetate (10 mL × 3), and the combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. The solvent was removed by evaporation under reduced pressure to afford the two products (2a and 2a₁ i.e., monoalkyne substituted 2-amino-4-phenylthiazole), which were purified by column chromatography using hexane and dichloromethane (65:35) as eluent. The major product was compound **2a**, which was used for synthesis of next step compounds (**4a-o**) which were further purified by column chromatography on silica gel using petroleum ether and ethyl acetate as the eluents.

4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-N,N-di(prop-2-ynyl) thiazol-2-amine (2a): Yellow solid; M.P. (196°C): ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO): δ 2.35 (t, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 4.76 (d, 4H), 7.77 (s, 1H), 7.86 (d, 2H), 7.96 (d, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.02, 152.26, 148.06, 131.41, 126.11, 114.01, 110.82, 77.44, 73.42, 56.26, 39.22; GC-MS: *m/z* 282.08 (M⁺);

Elemental Analysis: C₁₆H₁₄N₂OS: C, 68.08; H, 5.00; N, 9.92; Found C, 68.05; H, 4.98; N, 9.90.

4-(4-chlorophenyl)-N,N-di(prop-2-ynyl) thiazol-2-amine (2b): Yellow solid; M.P. (180°C): ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.31 (t, 2H), 4.46 (d, 4H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.64 (m, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (300MHz, CDCl₃): δ 153.20, 149.00, 136.21, 131.40, 126.21, 115.80, 111.82, 78.44, 73.72, 40.22; GC-MS: *m/z* 286.03 (M⁺); Elemental Analysis: C₁₅H₁₁Cl N₂S: C, 62.82; H, 3.87; N, 9.77; Found C, 62.80; H, 3.84; Cl, 12.33, N, 9.73.

General procedure for the synthesis of 4-(phenyl)-N, N-bis ((1-phenyl-1H-1, 2, 3-triazol-4-yl) methyl) thiazol-2-amine derivatives (4a-o)

The synthesis of various azides was carried out according to the literature procedure [26]. Briefly, aniline (1 eq, 5 mmol) was dissolved in 6N HCl solution (20 ml) at room temperature and cooled up to 0°C, followed by addition of a solution of NaNO₂ (1 eq, 5 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min at 0-5°C. Sodium azide (1.2 eq, 6 mmol) was added and mixture was further stirred at room temperature for 2 h. The reaction was worked up by dilution with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was washed with brine solution and dried over sodium sulfate. After evaporation of the solvent, the crude product **2** (a-t) was pure enough for further reactions. To this add dialkyne substituted 2-amino-4-phenylthiazole (**2a**, **b**) (1 mmol) suspended in N,N'-dimethylformamide (10 ml). Sodium ascorbate (0.3 mmol, in water) was added, followed by copper (II) sulfate pentahydrate (0.03 mmol, in water). The heterogeneous mixture was stirred vigorously over 24-48 hrs, and the completion of reaction was monitored by TLC. After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was diluted with water, cooled in ice, and the precipitate was collected by filtration [27].

N,N-bis((1-(2-chlorophenyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)methyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)thiazol-2-amine (4b): White solid; M.P. (135 °C): ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO): δ 3.66 (s, 3H), 5.12 (s, 2H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 7.30 (t, 1H), 7.42 (t, 2H), 7.53 (t, 2H), 7.80 (t, 2H), 8.51 (s, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (300MHz, DMSO): δ 167.45, 162.77, 155.03, 152.59, 143.58, 131.26, 131.26, 131.24, 126.23, 126.03, 124.32, 121.66, 119.24, 115.33, 112.41, 105.33, 55.68, 45.92; GC-MS: *m/z* 589.5 (M⁺); Elemental Analysis: C₂₈H₂₂Cl₂N₈OS: C, 57.05; H, 3.76; N, 19.07; Found C, 57.05; H, 3.76; N, 19.07.

N,N-bis((1-(2-fluorophenyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)methyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)thiazol-2-amine (4g): White solid; M.P. (122°C): ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO): δ 3.75 (s, 3H), 5.02 (s, 2H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 7.30 (t, 1H), 7.40 (t, 2H), 7.57 (t, 2H), 7.80 (t, 2H), 8.60 (s, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (300MHz, DMSO): δ 167.45, 161.26, 155.05, 152.58, 143.70, 131.32, 131.13, 126.29, 126.19, 124.40, 120.81, 119.23, 115.59, 112.64, 105.09, 55.33, 45.92; GC-MS: *m/z* 556.16 (M⁺); Elemental Analysis: C₂₈H₂₂F₂N₈OS: C, 60.42; H, 3.98; N, 20.13; Found C, 60.40; H, 3.95; N, 20.09.

4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-N,N-bis((1-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4yl)methyl) thiazol-2-amine (4h): White solid; M.P. (176°C), ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO): δ 2.13 (m, 6H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 4.99 (s, 2H), 7.08 (t, 1H), 7.31 (d, 2H), 7.54 (q, 2H), 7.77 (d, 1H), 8.72 (s, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (300MHz, DMSO): δ 161.70, 157.51, 152.51, 145.22, 134.72, 131.24, 129.01, 126.41, 125.98, 121.59, 119.18, 100.58, 56.41, 42.95, 28.42; GC-MS: *m/z* 576.24 (M⁺); Elemental Analysis: C₃₂H₃₂N₈OS: C, 66.64; H, 5.59; N, 19.43; Found C, 66.60; H, 5.55; N, 19.39.

4-(4-chlorophenyl)-N,N-bis((1-(2-chlorophenyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)methyl)thiazol-2-amine (4i): White solid; M.P. (142°C):

¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO): δ 5.07 (s, 2H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 7.30 (t, 1H), 7.42 (t, 2H), 7.53 (t, 2H), 7.85 (t, 2H), 8.64 (s, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (300MHz, DMSO): δ 165.55, 155.12, 152.12, 143.74, 136.26, 134.32, 132.59, 131.13, 126.29, 126.19, 124.40, 120.84, 116.63, 116.42, 104.59, 42.98; GC-MS: m/z 592.05 (M⁺); Elemental Analysis: C₂₇H₁₉Cl₃N₈S; C, 54.60; H, 3.22; N, 18.87; Found C, 54.57; H, 3.20; N, 18.85.

4-(4-chlorophenyl)-N,N-bis((1-(2-fluorophenyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)methyl)thiazol-2-amine (4n): White solid; M.P. (126°C): ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO): δ 5.02 (s, 3H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 7.31 (t, 1H), 7.43 (t, 2H), 7.63(t, 2H), 7.81(t, 2H), 8.59 (s, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (300MHz, DMSO): δ 165.51, 155.11, 152.64, 143.74, 136.26, 134.32, 132.59, 131.19, 126.19, 124.43, 120.83, 116.66, 116.40, 104.66, 42.93; GC-MS: m/z 560.11 (M⁺); Elemental Analysis: C₂₇H₁₉ClF₂N₈S; C, 57.80; H, 3.41; N, 19.97; Found C, 57.80; H, 3.41; N, 19.97.

4-(4-chlorophenyl)-N,N-bis((1-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)methyl)thiazol-2-amine (4o): White solid; M.P. (195°C): ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO): δ 2.14 (m, 6H), 4.98 (s, 2H), 7.10 (s, 1H), 7.32 (d, 2H), 7.54 (d, 2H), 7.79 (d, 2H), 8.70 (s, 1H); ¹³C-NMR (300MHz, DMSO): δ 163.15, 152.71, 143.58, 139.64, 136.63, 132.68, 131.42, 130.40, 129.24, 126.20, 124.32, 123.49, 121.33, 119.24, 100.34, 30.92, 21.23; GC-MS: m/z 580.19 (M⁺); Elemental Analysis: C₃₁H₂₉ClN₈S; C, 64.07; H, 5.03; N, 19.28; Found C, 64.05; H, 5.01; N, 19.25.

Material and methods for docking studies

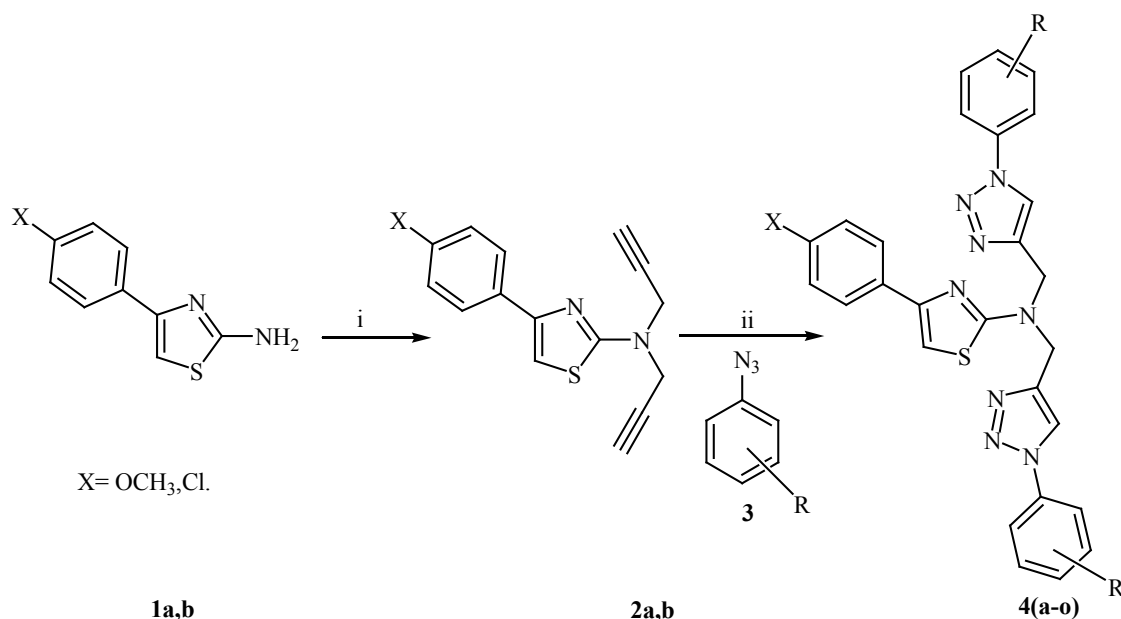
To guide the lead optimization strategy and rationalize the SARs, modeling study was performed to examine the possible binding conformations of our newly synthesized compounds and their interaction mode with RT, using Glide (Glide 5.8, Schrodinger, 2012) [28]. Structure-based docking studies were carried out to investigate the intermolecular interaction between the ligand and the targeted enzyme. The coordinates of the non-nucleoside binding site were taken from the crystal structure of HIV-1 reverse transcriptase (RT) in complex with TMC278 (Rilpivirine) (PDB code: 2ZD1) [29]. Docking study of all the

molecules from Indolyl and chromenyl xanthenone series was carried out with enzyme reverse transcriptase PDB ID: 2ZD1. The ligands were prepared by using LigPrep (LigPrep 2.5, Schrodinger, 2012) [30]. The protein was refined using the protein preparation wizard present in Maestro 9.3 (Maestro 9.3, Schrodinger, 2012) [31]. All the water molecules were deleted. H atoms were added to the protein, including the protons necessary to define the correct ionization and tautomeric states of the amino acid residues. Prime interface module incorporated in Maestro was used to add the missing residues of the side chain. Each structure minimization was carried out with the impact refinement module, using the OPLS-2005 force field to alleviate steric clashes potentially existing in the structures. Minimization was terminated when the energy converged or the root mean square deviation reached a maximum cutoff of 0.30 Å. To find out active site grid was prepared using grid generation panel of glide with the default settings. Grid is prepared for defining the binding site of native ligand on the receptor. The ligand was selected to define the position and size of the active site (Friesner et al.; Halgren et al.) [32,33]. Glide XP docking was used for docking purposes.

Results and Discussion

Chemistry

Various 4-(phenyl)-N,N-bis((1-phenyl 1H-1, 2, 3-triazol-4-yl)methyl)thiazol-2-amine derivatives were generated by reacting 2-amino-4-phenylthiazole with propargyl bromide in presence of base K₂CO₃ in dry acetone which yielded 2a (major) and 2a₁ (minor). The compound 2a containing propargyl group at 2-position was used as substrate to further generate small 1,4-disubstituted 1,2,3-triazole library of 15 compounds (4a-o) by reacting various substituted aromatic azides using click chemistry as outlined in Scheme 1. The detailed general synthesis procedure of the compounds is mentioned in the experimental section. Exploration of the substrate scope for the synthesis of 4-(phenyl)-N, N-bis ((1-phenyl 1H-1, 2, 3-triazol-



Scheme 1: Reagent and Conditions: i) K₂CO₃, KI, Dry acetone, Propargyl bromide, reflux, 16 hrs. ii) CuSO₄·5H₂O, Sodium ascorbate, DMF: H₂O (2:1), Stirr 24-48 hrs, RT, 61-78%.

4-yl)methyl)thiazol-2-amine derivatives is as shown in Table 1. All synthesized compounds (4a-o) were characterized by GC-MS, ¹H and ¹³C NMR. The conversion of the acetylene group of 2a,b into the triazole ring of the product 4a-o can be confirmed by melting points and ¹H and ¹³C NMR. A difference in the melting point, the high solubilities of 2a,b in CDCl₃ and in DMSO, while the product 4a-o is soluble only in DMSO, the ¹H NMR spectra of 4a-o, the NH₂ protons of 2-amino-4-phenylthiazole moiety disappeared by alkylation using propargyl bromide. In ¹H-NMR of compound 2 a,b the protons attached to N-CH₂ and acetylene proton occurred at δ 3.82-4.46 and 2.31-2.35 respectively. The carbons attached to N-CH₂ and acetylene occurred at 40.22-39.22 and 73.42-73.72, 77.44-78.44 respectively. Mass spectra of 2a,b were corresponding to their molecular weight. In addition, of aromatic azides to 2a and 2b, some direct C-H correlations were observed, confirming that the signals of the triazolyl chain N-C≡C carbons appeared at δ 145.22-143.20 ppm. The appearance of C-H peak of triazolyl ring in 4a-o at δ 8.70- 8.51 ppm shows the formation of the final Products. The presence of a molecular ion peak at respective m/z value of all the products in the GC-MS further confirmed the structure of 4a-o. For all the spectra of compounds, please refer to the Supporting information.

Entry	X	Substituted Aldehyde (R)	Product	MP °C	Yield ^a %
1	-OCH ₃	H	4a	130-132	65
2	-OCH ₃	2-Cl	4b	135-137	68
3	-OCH ₃	4-Cl	4c	187-189	72
4	-OCH ₃	4-Br	4d	165-167	74
5	-OCH ₃	3-NO ₂	4e	150-152	78
6	-OCH ₃	4-NO ₂	4f	146-148	64
7	-OCH ₃	2-F	4g	122-124	63
8	-OCH ₃	3,4-CH ₃	4h	176-178	69
9	-Cl	2-Cl	4i	142-144	74
10	-Cl	4-Cl	4j	174-176	64
11	-Cl	4-Br	4k	148-150	62
12	-Cl	3-NO ₂	4l	156-158	78
13	-Cl	4-NO ₂	4m	163-165	72
14	-Cl	2-F	4n	126-128	61
15	-Cl	3,4- CH ₃	4o	195-197	65

^aIsolated yields

Table 1: Exploration of the substrate scope for the synthesis of 4-(phenyl)-N, N-bis((1-phenyl 1H-1, 2, 3-triazol-4-yl)methyl)thiazol-2-amine derivatives.

Title	Entry ID	Entry Name	docking score	XP GScore	glide gscore	glide evdw	glide ecoul	glide energy
2ZD1	1	glide-dock_XP_52	-13.413	-13.457	-13.457	-101.873	-1.34345	-50.4541
4k	2	15.1	-11.1263	-11.1263	-11.1263	-54.7834	-2.59395	-57.3774
4h	3	10.1	-11.1258	-11.1258	-11.1258	-60.5585	-3.24128	-63.7998
4j	4	12.1	-10.9713	-10.9713	-10.9713	-61.5987	-3.11247	-64.7112
4d	5	5.1	-10.7285	-10.7285	-10.7285	-62.5732	-5.22558	-67.7988
4b	6	2.1	-10.7091	-10.7091	-10.7091	-62.1431	-2.66609	-64.8092
4c	7	3.1	-10.5749	-10.5749	-10.5749	-69.3255	-4.80454	-74.13
4o	8	20.1	-10.5425	-10.5425	-10.5425	-59.2958	-3.03547	-62.3313
4a	9	1.1	-10.4981	-10.4981	-10.4981	-57.6595	-2.86637	-60.5259
4m	10	18.1	-10.2797	-10.2797	-10.2797	-58.6892	-2.58555	-61.2747
4e	11	6.1	-10.01	-10.01	-10.01	-64.0245	-3.02913	-67.0536
4i	12	11.1	-9.90918	-9.90918	-9.90918	-46.3341	-3.84074	-50.1749
4g	13	8.1	-9.66711	-9.66711	-9.66711	-60.6078	-2.21859	-62.8264
4n	14	17.1	-9.04021	-9.04021	-9.04021	-68.7023	-5.5481	-74.2504
4f	15	7.1	-8.1886	-8.1886	-8.1886	-69.3229	-5.25723	-74.5802
4l	16	16.1	-7.698	-7.698	-7.698	-67.4032	-2.89727	-70.3004

Table 2: Molecular docking scores of the newly synthesized compounds due binding interaction with active site of HIV-1 reverse transcriptase (RT) in complex with TMC278.

Molecular docking

Docking score of compound **4k** and **4h** was found to be good around -11.126 and -11.125 respectively (Table 2). All molecules from 4-(phenyl)-N,N-bis((1-phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)methyl)thiazol-2-amine series were be docked into the non-nucleoside inhibitor binding pocket (NNIBP) of HIV-1 RT. As illustrated in Figure 1b, 1a and native ligand TMC 278 in Figure 1c and 2c, the 1-phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)methyl and 4-phenyl-thiazole moiety of compound **4k** and **4h** of 4-(phenyl)-N,N-bis((1-phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)methyl)thiazol-2-amine series interacts through hydrophobic interactions into the hydrophobic binding pocket, surrounded by the aromatic portion of Tyr 181, Tyr 188, Phe227, Trp 229, Val 106, Pro 226, Pro 225, Pro 233, Lbu 234, Pro95, Val 381and Ile 382. From the two dimensional Figure 1 (1a and 1b) and three dimensional view Figure 2 (2a and 2b), it is observed that Lys 101 and Lys 102 is juxtaposed for better interaction with the 4-(phenyl)-N, N-bis((1-phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)methyl) thiazol-2-amine series.

The methoxy and chlorophenyl- thiazolyl nucleus moiety at of compounds **4h** and **4k** makes π - π interaction into the hydrophobic binding pocket, surrounded by the aromatic side chains of portion of Trp229 and Tyr 181 residue. The N-aryl substituted triazolyl ring of the compound **4k** and **4h** makes π - cation interaction with into the hydrophobic binding pocket, surrounded by the aromatic side chains of portion of lys103 residue. Triazolyl ring of compound 4h form the hydrogen bond interactions with the backbone N-H of Lys101 residue. The decrease in activity of compounds 4l and 4f of 4-(phenyl)-N,N-bis((1-phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)methyl)thiazol-2-amine series was due to lack of π - π interaction of the methoxy and chlorophenyl-thiazolyl nucleus into the hydrophobic binding pocket, surrounded by the aromatic side chains of portion of Trp229 and Tyr 181 residue and nonexistence of π - cation interaction with the hydrophobic binding pocket, surrounded by the aromatic side chains of portion of lys103 residue (Figure 3), instead it is showing π - π stacking of triazolyl ring with amino acid Trp 229 and Tyr181.

Docking score of compound **4k**, **4h**, **4f** and **4l** was found to be around -11.126, -11.126, -8.189 and -7.698 respectively, (Table 2) while of native ligand was found to be -13.413 which confirms that **4k** and **4h** compounds might have potent RT inhibition activity. Further, *in silico* binding studies suggested that inhibitors possessing π - π interaction of the phenyl-thiazolyl nucleus into the hydrophobic binding pocket,

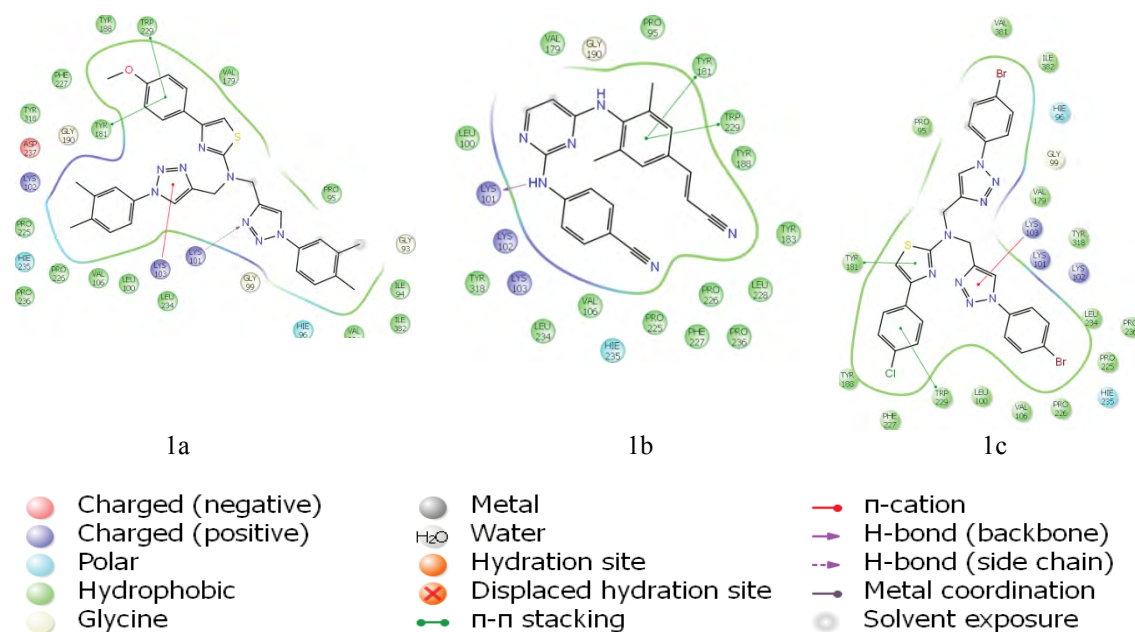


Figure 1: Two-dimensional view of the binding interaction of the most active compounds, 4h (1a), 4k (1b) with active site of HIV-1 reverse transcriptase (RT) in complex with TMC278 and native ligand TMC 278 (2c) with HIV-1 reverse transcriptase (RT). Abbreviations: VAL, valine; LEU, leucine; GLY, glycine; ASP, aspartate; SER, serine; ALA, alanine; LYS, lysine; ILE, isoleucine; HIE, histidine epsilon H; MET, methionine; THR, threonine.

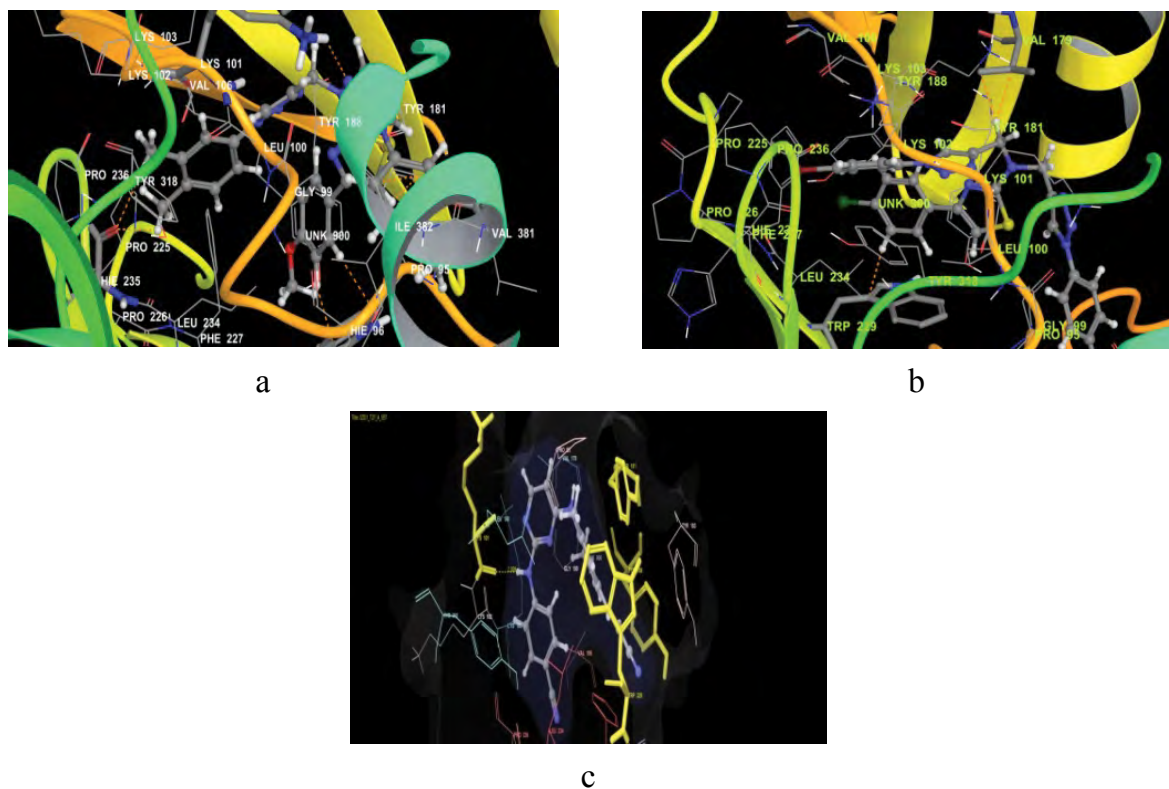


Figure 2: Three dimensional view of the binding interaction of the most active compounds, 4h (2a), 4k (2b) with active site of HIV-1 reverse transcriptase (RT) in complex with TMC278 and native ligand TMC278 (2c) with HIV-1 reverse transcriptase (RT).

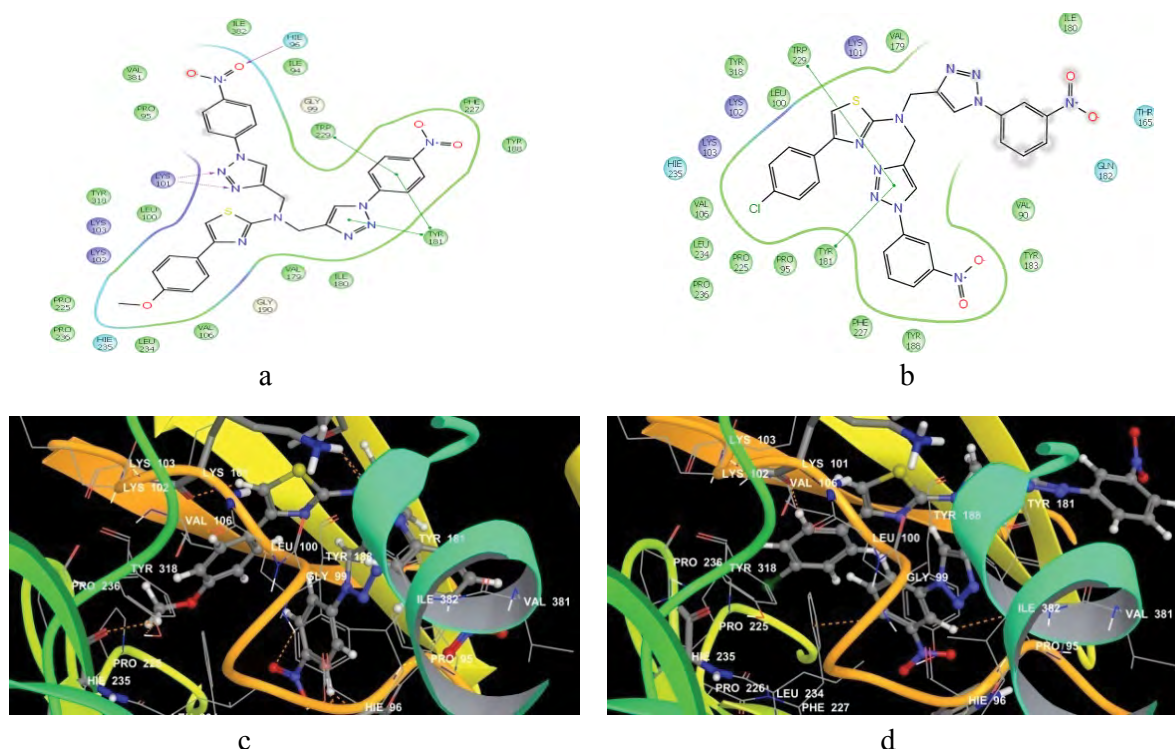


Figure 3: Two (3a, 3b) and three-dimensional (3c and 3d) view for decrease in activity of compound 4l and 4f respectively.

Compound	R	Anti-HIV-1 activity						% Inhibition (HIV-RT kit assay) (100 µg/ml)
		EC ₅₀ ^b (µg/ml)		CC ₅₀ ^c (µg/ml)		SI ^d		
		HIV-1IIIB	ADA5	HIV-1 IIIB	ADA5	HIV-1 IIIB	ADA5	
4k	4-Br	0.65	1.02	40.3	41.8	62	40.98	91.45
4h	3,4-CH ₃	0.93	0.25	38.9	45.2	41.82	180.8	90.40
4o	3,4- CH ₃	0.7	0.29	37.78	46.86	53.97	161.58	86.67
4f	4-NO ₂	1.32	1.22	50.78	48.3	38.46	39.53	66.88
4l	3-NO ₂	0.98	0.81	3.42	5.5	3.48	6.79	64.71
Nevirapine		0.05	0.05	76.12	76.15	1522.51	1522.51	99.15

^aData represent the mean of two and three independent assays for EC₅₀ and CC₅₀, respectively; ^bEC₅₀ is the 50% effective concentration required to reduce HIV-1 induced cytopathic effect of HIV-1 IIIB and HIV-1 ADA5; ^cThe CC₅₀ is the 50% cytotoxic concentration for HIV-1 IIIB and HIV-1 ADA5; ^dSelectivity index ratio CC₅₀/EC₅₀

Table 3: Anti-HIV-1 activity, cytotoxicity and selectivity index in HIV-1IIIB, ADS5 and HIV-1 RT kit assay for compounds.

surrounded by the aromatic side chains of portion of Trp 229 and Tyr 181 residue and π -cation interaction with the aromatic side chains of portion of lys103 residue improves the inhibitor selectivity for RT and thus helps in further drug design attempts to obtain potent 1,2,3, triazolyl- phenylthiazole derivatives.

In vitro anti-HIV

According to the docking study of synthesized compounds, some of it showed the high inhibition activity and some with low activity. From the above conclusion, we studied *in vitro* anti-HIV assay for particular compounds to verify their activity. The HIV-RT inhibition assay was performed by using an RT assay kit (Roche), and the procedure for assaying RT inhibition was performed as described in the kit protocol (Roche Kit) [34]. The compounds presented in this study namely 24-(phenyl)-N,N-bis((1-phenyl-1H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)methyl)thiazol-2-amine derivatives (**4k**, **4h**, **4o**, **4f**, **4l**) were evaluated for anti-HIV-1 activity by using enzymatic (RT) and cell based assays. The HIV-1 RT

inhibition activity range for these compounds showed from 64–92% inhibition at 100 µg/ml concentrations. The compounds **4k** and **4h** showed highest inhibitory activity both in docking as well cell based study (91.45%, 90.0%) respectively, were **4o**, **4f** and **4l** shows low activity (86.67, 66.88% and 64.71%) respectively, whereas the control NNRTI marketed drug nevirapine showed 99.15% inhibition at 100 µg/ml concentration. The enzyme assay results demonstrated that the compound **4k** and **4h** were more potent than remaining derivatives comparing against reverse transcriptase enzyme. Subsequently, the inhibitory activity of HIV-1 viral replication was also assessed by cell-based assay. The results are summarized in Table 3 along with standard nevirapine as reference drug. In the cell based assay, the compounds **4k** and **4h** were the most potent inhibitors of HIV-1 replication against HIV-1 IIIB (EC₅₀=0.65 and 0.93 µg/ml respectively; the selectivity index (SI)=62.00 and 41.82 respectively; CC₅₀ with HIV-1 IIIB=40.3 and 38.9 µg/ml respectively) and HIV-1 ADA5 (EC₅₀=1.02 and 0.25 µg/ml; the selectivity index (SI)=40.98 and 180.8 respectively; CC₅₀=41.08;

45.2 µg/ml respectively). Some other compounds, **4o**, **4f** and **4l** showed low anti-HIV-1 potency (EC_{50} =0.7, 1.32, 0.98 and 0.29, 1.22, 0.81 µg/ml) against HIV-1 IIIB and HIV-1 ADA5 strains, respectively.

Conclusion

A series of new 1,2,3-triazolyl-phenyl thiazole hybrids bearing different aryl triazolyl/phenylthiozole moieties were synthesized and evaluated as potent inhibitors of human immunodeficiency virus type-1 (HIV-1). Based upon the preliminary molecular docking studies of these new 1,2,3-triazolyl-phenyl thiazole hybrids, some structural requirements for high potency against HIV-1 were rationalized. In the series of 1,2,3-triazolyl-phenyl thiazole, compound **4k** and **4h** identified as potent inhibitor against the strains HIV-1 IIIB and HIV-1 ADA5. The decrease in activity of compound **4f** and **4l** 1,2,3, triazolyl-phenylthiazole was due to lack of π -cation interaction with lys103. This study suggested that inhibitors' possessing π -cation interaction with lys103 and π - π interaction with the aromatic side chains of Trp 229 and Tyr 181 improves the inhibitor selectivity for RT.

Supporting Information

It includes docking score table and full characterization of synthesized compounds.

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