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## Determination And QSAR Study Of The Dissociation Constants Of Some 4,5-Disubstituted-2,4-Dihydro-3H-1,2,4-Triazoline-3-Thiones

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### ABSTRACT

A number of 4,5-disubstituted-2, 4-dihydro-3H-1,2,4-triazoline-3-thiones were obtained by the cyclization of the appropriate thiosemicarbazides. The behavior of newly synthesized 1,2,4-triazole derivatives in aqueous NaOH solutions was studied at room temperature using the method of UV-VIS spectroscopy. The investigated compounds have two dissociation processes. The first process belongs to the dissociation of –SH proton; the second dissociation process is dissociation of phenolic –OH group. QSAR study on dissociation constant has been made using the Hansch and Free - Willson approach. The pKa values(dissociation of -SH and–OH group) were correlated with structure using various physicochemical(electronic, steric and hydrophobic) parameters.

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### KEYWORDS

Dissociation constants;  
1,2,4-Triazole derivatives;  
UV-VIS spectroscopy;  
Hammett constants;  
QSAR.

### INTRODUCTION

The applications of pKa values are extremely diverse, ranging from the most fundamental ones, e.g. calculating the distribution functions in a given pH-interval, to exploring the transportation of substances through cell membrane. Therefore, the knowledge of the pKa value of a substance is essential for various investigations in pharmacology, physiology, in structural, environmental, preparative and analytical studies and for industrial purposes<sup>[1]</sup>.

It is well know that the 1,2,4-triazole and its de-

rivatives represent one of the most biologically active classes of compounds, possessing a wide spectrum of activities. The 1,2,4 -triazole nucleus is associated with diverse pharmacological activities such as antibacterial, antifungal, hypoglycemic, antihypertensive and analgesic properties<sup>[2-6]</sup>. Triazole derivatives act as weak bases in acidic media<sup>[7]</sup>. Knowledge of the acidity constants of weakly basic substrates is of central importance to the study of reaction mechanisms taking place in acidic media<sup>[7,8]</sup>.

It is also known that the dissociation constants pKa depends upon the polarity of molecule and di-

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rectly or indirectly on the intra and intermolecular forces<sup>[9]</sup>. It was implicit that for maximum activity, the 1,2,4-triazoles should have a pKa that gives the proper equilibrium between the inherent activity and penetration, the half-dissociated status appears to present the best compromise between transport and activity<sup>[10]</sup>. The parameters accounted for the intra and intermolecular forces and steric effect definitely plays a significant role in the modeling of dissociation constants pKa. Physicochemical parameters taken into consideration in this QSAR study are electronic parameter of substituents  $\sigma$  hydrophobic parameters(logP and  $\pi$ ) field effect as electronic influences(F), Verloop's STERIMOL parameter L for the steric interactions of the substituents  $R_2$ , and molar refractivity(MR) as steric parameter<sup>[11,12]</sup>.

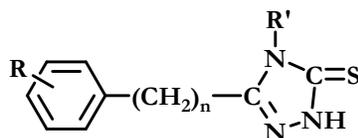
## EXPERIMENTAL

### Materials

In our work we investigated the following compounds (TABLE 1) :

The newly synthesized compounds, reported elsewhere<sup>[13,14]</sup>, were characterized by their melting points, IR and NMR spectra, as well by elemental analysis. Stock solutions of investigation compounds ( $2 \times 10^{-3}$  mol/dm<sup>3</sup>) were prepared by dissolving the required amounts of the substances in absolute ethanol. Those solutions were stable for long time; i.e. during two months there were no changes in their absorption spectra.

### Spectral measurements



$n=0, 1$

$R= 2\text{-OH}; 3\text{-OH}; 4\text{-OH}; 2\text{-OH}, 5\text{-Cl}; 3,4,5\text{-CH}_3\text{O}; 4\text{-C}_2\text{H}_5\text{O}$

$R'= \text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{-}; n\text{-C}_4\text{H}_9\text{-}$

TABLE 1: 4,5-Disubstituted-2,4-dihydro-3H-1,2,4-triazoline-3-thiones (P1-P7 and B1-B4) used in the present study

Comp. No.	R	R'	n	Mol. for. (mol. wt.)	Elem. analysis Cal./found [%]		
					C	H	N
P1	2-OH	-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	0	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>11</sub> N <sub>3</sub> OS (269.318)	62.43/62.80	4.08/4.50	15.60/15.24
P2	3-OH	-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	0	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>11</sub> N <sub>3</sub> OS (269.318)	62.43/62.27	4.08/4.05	15.60/15.86
P3	4-OH	-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	0	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>11</sub> N <sub>3</sub> OS (269.318)	62.43/62.92	4.08/4.44	15.60/15.20
P4	2-OH, 5-Cl	-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	0	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>3</sub> OClS (303.763)	55.35/55.50	3.29/3.15	13.83/13.74
P5	4-OH	-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	1	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>13</sub> N <sub>3</sub> OS (285.345)	63.53/63.80	4.58/5.08	14.82/14.65
P6	4-OC <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	1	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>17</sub> N <sub>3</sub> OS (311.399)	65.57/65.86	5.50/5.43	13.49/14.00
P7	3,4,5-(OCH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	0	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>17</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub> S (343.395)	59.46/59.05	4.99/5.40	12.23/11.84
B1	2-OH	n-C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub>	0	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>15</sub> N <sub>3</sub> OS (249.328)	57.80/58.11	6.02/5.81	16.85/16.52
B2	3-OH	n-C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub>	0	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>15</sub> N <sub>3</sub> OS (249.328)	57.80/58.11	6.02/5.81	16.85/16.30
B3	4-OH	n-C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub>	0	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>15</sub> N <sub>3</sub> OS (249.328)	57.80/58.22	6.02/5.69	16.85/16.40
B4	4-OC <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	n-C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub>	1	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>21</sub> N <sub>3</sub> OS (291.409)	61.82/62.05	7.26/6.88	14.41/14.85

The aim of this work was to investigate the behaviors of some previously synthesized 4,5-disubstituted-2,4-dihydro-3H-1,2,4-triazoline-3-thiones<sup>[13,14]</sup>, in sodium hydroxide solutions, at room temperature using the methods of UV/VIS spectroscopy in the 190-500 nm region. QSAR analysis of experimental pKa values was performed by the MVA (multi variable analysis), using different physicochemical (electronic, steric and hydrophobic) parameters.

The spectrophotometric measurements were carried out on a Varian Cary 219 spectrophotometer in 1cm quartz cells, at 25°C.

Alkaline solutions were prepared by dilution of a standard NaOH solution (0.1 mol/dm<sup>3</sup> Titral, Kemika). The pH values of the diluted aqueous solutions were measured on an Iskra MA-5704 pH meter after recording the spectra. The ionic strength ( $I=0.1$  mol/dm<sup>3</sup>) of the diluted aqueous solutions was adjusted with NaClO<sub>4</sub> (Kemika). All chemicals were

of analytical grade(p.a.). Triply distilled water was used for the preparation of the aqueous solutions.

The concentration of the test solutions of the investigated compounds was  $2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol/dm}^3$ . The blanks had the same concentration as the test solutions and the same volume of ethanol was added instead of stock solutions of the investigated compounds. The ethanol content in all of the test solutions and the blanks was 1%.

### QSAR analysis

The MVA (multi variable analysis) approach in QSAR analysis has been most widely and effectively used for theoretical drug design due to various physicochemical (electronic, steric and hydrophobic) parameters and structural indicator parameters used together, (Hansch and Free - Willson approach), [11,12].

The assumption can be formulated as given in Eqn.1, (Hansch approach):

$$\text{pKa} = A_1x + A_2y + A_3z + B \quad (1)$$

where x, y and z are molecular properties. From the values of linear slopes  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$ ,  $A_3$  we can see the correlation of the particular molecular properties with the activity of the investigated compounds.

Applying the same chosen descriptors in Free - Willson analysis (Eqn.2) the activity contributions of phenyl-/butyl group and presence of -CH<sub>2</sub>- group as a bridge between 1,2,4 - triazole and benzene ring, were determined from the correlation equation:

$$\text{pKa} = \sum \alpha_i I_i + \sum b_i x_i + B \quad (2)$$

where  $I_i$  is the structural indicator parameter;  $x_i$ .

The variables used as descriptors in the analysis are electronic, steric and structural parameters (TABLES 2 and 3). Physicochemical parameters taken into consideration in QSAR study are  $\sigma$  electronic parameter of substituents,  $\pi$  hydrophobic parameter, F(field effect) as electronic influences, Verloop's STERIMOL parameter L for the steric interactions of the substituents  $R_2$ . L is defined as the length of a substituent along the axis of its substitution to the parent skeleton. Electronic effect of the

TABLE 2: Physicochemical parameters of triazole derivatives studied

R	( $\Sigma$ ) $\sigma^{\alpha}$	( $\Sigma$ ) $\sigma_1^c$	( $\Sigma$ ) $\pi^{\alpha}$	( $\Sigma$ )MR $^{\alpha}$	( $\Sigma$ )F $^{\alpha}$	( $\Sigma$ )R $^{\alpha}$
2-OH	-0.37 <sup>b</sup>	0.25	-0.67	2.85	0.29	-0.64
3-OH	0.12	0.25	-0.67	2.85	0.29	-0.64
4-OH	-0.37	0.25	-0.67	2.85	0.29	-0.64
2-OH, 5-Cl	0	0.72	0.04	3.18	0.70	-0.79
4- C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> O	-0.24	0.27	0.38	12.41	0.22	-0.44
3,4,5- CH <sub>3</sub> O-	-0.03	0.81	-0.06	23.61	0.78	-1.53

<sup>a</sup>Taken from Ref.[11]; ( $\Sigma$ ) is for di- and three-substituted compounds;

<sup>b</sup> Taken from Ref.[16]; <sup>c</sup> Taken from Ref.[17];

TABLE 4: Matrix for free Willson approach

	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	B1	B2	B3	B4
I <sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub></sub>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
I <sub>-CH<sub>2</sub></sub>	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	0

substituents, expressed in term of F, is found to be important in determining the activity, as it is predictive in electrophilic reactions of bimolecules. The classical Hammett  $\sigma$  parameters and MR value were used (TABLE 2). For each compound the partition coefficient logP has been calculated<sup>[15]</sup>, (TABLE 3).

Applying the Free -Willson analysis, the structural variable indicator I<sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub></sub> expresses the replacement of phenyl with butyl group. I<sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub></sub> is defined as 1 for the 4-phenyl-substituted 1,2,4 - triazoline-3-tiones (P1-P7) and 0 for 4-butyl-substituted 1,2,4-triazoline-3-tiones, (B1-B4).

In second step, the other indicator I<sub>-CH<sub>2</sub></sub> is defined as 1 for compounds without -CH<sub>2</sub>- group as a bridge between 1,2,4-triazole and benzene ring (P1-P4, P7, B1-B3), and 0 for compound with -CH<sub>2</sub>- group as a bridge between 1,2,4-triazole and benzene ring (P5, P6 and B4), (TABLE 4).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Absorption spectra

It is known that 1,2,4-triazole has pKa values of 2.19(as a base) and 10.26(as an acid)<sup>[18]</sup>. The dissociation of 1,2,4-triazolin-3-thiones, was investigated by spectrophotometric method, following the

TABLE 3: Calculated log P values for compounds (P1-P7, B1-B4)

Compounds	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	B1	B2	B3	B4
log P $^{\alpha}$	4.38	4.38	4.38	5.02	3.95	5.00	4.37	3.72	3.72	3.72	5.26

<sup>a</sup>Taken from Ref.[15]

## Full Paper

TABLE 5 : Spectral characteristics of different ionic forms ( $\lambda_{\max}$ ,  $\log \epsilon_{\max}$ ) for compounds P1-P7 and B1-B4

Neutral form					
Compound	$\lambda_{\max}$	$\epsilon_{\max} \times 10^{-3}$	Compound	$\lambda_{\max}$	$\epsilon_{\max} \times 10^{-3}$
P1	258	19.20	B1	251	32.75
	282	10.85		282	6.75
P2	258	22.10	B2	251	32.75
	281	15.10		284	8.45
	255	21.95	B3	254	35.60
P3	268	22.00		281	11.40
	293			228	27.00
P4	254	20.15	B4	251	30.15
	298	8.75		282	6.45
P5	223	22.60			
	255	20.47			
P6	228	23.50			
	254	21.30			
	258				
P7	264	30.36			
	283				

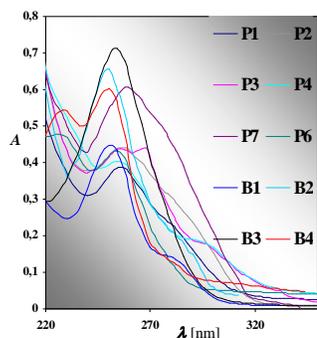
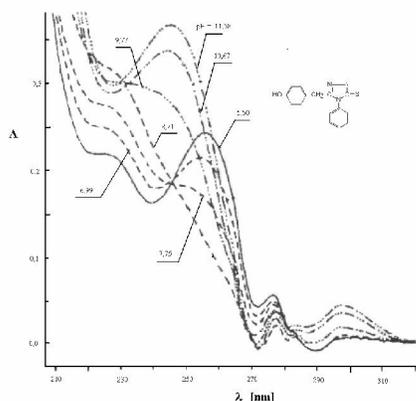
Figure 1: Absorption spectra of some 4,5-disubstituted-2,4-dihydro-3H-1,2,4-triazoline-3-thiones in water ( $C=2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ mol/dm}^3$ )

Figure 2 : UV spectra of 4-phenyl-5-(4-hydroxy-benzyl)-2,4-dihydro-3H-1,2,4-triazoline-3-thiones (P5) in water solution of NaOH with different pH

TABLE 6: Experimental data for calculation of the dissociation constants for compound P5

pH	$A(\lambda = 253 \text{ nm})$	$\log I$	$pK_{\text{TH}2}$	$\log I$	$pK_{\text{TH} -}$
5.50	0.345				
6.50	0.350				
6.58	0.350				
6.69	0.345	-	8.0879		
6.99	0.350	-0.699	7.6890		
7.15	0.355	-	7.5286		
7.35	0.360	0.1347	7.4847		
7.58	0.360	-	7.7147		
7.75	0.365	0.0894	7.6606		
7.82	0.370	0.3263	7.4937		
8.10	0.372	0.4337	7.6663		
8.71	0.375	0.6232	8.0868		
8.87	0.380	1.1644	7.7056		
9.50	0.338		-	10.9807	
9.59	0.340		-	10.9702	
9.67	0.378		-	10.2941	
9.77	0.403		-	10.1547	
10.14	0.435		-	10.2802	
10.20	0.445		-	10.2696	
10.27	0.445		-	10.3396	
10.40	0.465		-	10.3304	
10.67	0.505		0.368	10.3020	
10.94	0.524		0.5396	10.4004	
11.20	0.535		0.6585	10.5415	
11.58	0.548		0.8333	10.7467	
11.75	0.560		1.0607	10.6893	
12.20	0.575		1.6902	10.5098	
		$A_{\text{TH}2}=0.3435$	$A_{\text{TH}}=0.3825$	$A_{\text{T}2}=0.5800$	

changes in the electronic absorption spectra of aqueous solution of investigated compounds in NaOH. The absorption spectra, recorded in neutral aqueous solutions are shown in figure. 1. The characteristic spectral data for neutral form of compounds P1-P7 and B1-B4 are given in TABLE 5.

The electronic absorption spectra of the investi-

gated compounds (P1-P7 and B1-B4) in neutral media (water) are characterized by the presence of absorption maxima at about 223-228 nm, 251-264 nm and 281-298 nm. The first band is ascribed to the excitation of  $\pi$ -electrons of the aromatic system; the second and the third absorption maxima are characteristic of electron transition in the 1,2,4-triazoline-3-thione ring<sup>[19]</sup>.

As in the case of other heterocyclic thiones<sup>[20,21]</sup>, it is possible to consider that the 1,2,4-triazoline-3-thions may exist in thion-thiol tautomeric forms. Our chemical and spectral investigations showed that the thion structure dominates. The absorption maxima or shoulders at 251-264 and 281-298 nm, indicated that some of these compounds exist predominantly in the thion form in ethanolic solution, and absorption at 281-298 nm indicated the presence of a chromophoric C=S group<sup>[22,23]</sup>.

### Calculation of dissociation constants

Using the absorption spectra recorded in solutions of different pH (NaOH solutions), the dissociation processes of compounds P1-P7 and B1-B4 were investigated.

The increase of solution basicity from 6.0-13.0, was accompanied by disappearance of absorption maxima at 258 nm and appearance of new maximum at 303 nm (compound P1 and P2). These changes were followed by appearance of the isosbestic points at 248 nm and 294 nm (compound P1) and at 256 and 280 nm (compound P2). The same changes can be seen in UV spectra of compounds 4-phenyl-5-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2,4-dihydro-3H-1,2,4-triazoline-3-thiones P3 and 4-phenyl-5-(2'-hydroxy-5'-chloro phenyl)-2,4-dihydro-3H-1,2,4-triazoline-3-thiones P4.

In the basic media (pH 6.02-12.00) the absorption maxima at 223/228 nm, in the spectra of compounds P5 and P6, is shifted to shorter wavelength for about 2 nm, followed by hyperchromic effect, disappearance of maxima at 254/255 nm and decreasing of maxima at 275 nm. The same changes can be seen in UV spectra of compound P7: two isosbestic points at 244 nm and 288 nm; disappearance of absorption maxima at 257 nm and hypochromic of absorption maxima at 283 nm while pH is changing from 5.76-3.0.

With increasing pH of solution (compound B1) from 6.16-7.90, the absorption spectra show hypsochromic shift of the absorption maxima at 250 nm of about 3 nm. This hypsochromic shift of the absorption maxima was followed with decreasing absorption intensity at 250 nm and 276 nm. In the 8.38 - 9.90 pH range a new absorption maxima at 240 nm was formed, followed with increasing of maxima and hypsochromic effect (~3 nm). A clear isosbestic points at 240 nm and 250 nm are formed. In the electronic absorption spectra of compounds B2 and B4, a clear isosbestic points at 241 nm and 271 nm (B2) and at 243 nm (B4) appeared, followed with disappearance of absorption maximum at 251 nm (B2) and at 248 nm (B4) and appearance of new maximum at 241 nm. With increase pH of solution (compound B4) from 6.01-13.0, also increase the absorption intensity of maximum at 228 nm.

The plots of absorbance on the chosen wavelengths against pH give sigmoid "S" curves (Figure. 3), which confirm two dissociation processes for compounds P1-P5 and B1-B3, and one for compounds: P6, P7 and B4.

The equilibrium constants of a weak organic acid TH, can be defined as follows:



The  $pK_{\text{TH}}$  can be calculated from equation:

$$pK_{\text{TH}} = \log I + m \cdot \text{pH} \quad (3)$$

where I is ionization ratio:

$$I = \frac{C_{\text{TH}}}{C_{\text{T}^-}} = \frac{A - A_{\text{T}^-}}{A_{\text{TH}} - A}$$

where:  $A_{\text{TH}}$  is the absorbance of the neutral form,  $A_{\text{T}^-}$  is the absorbance of the dissociated form, A is absorbance of the solution at given pH at same wave-

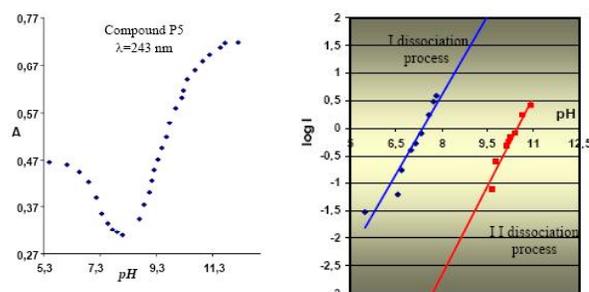


Figure 3 : (a) The absorption change as a function of the acidity of the solution; (b) Dependence of log I from pH value (compound P5)

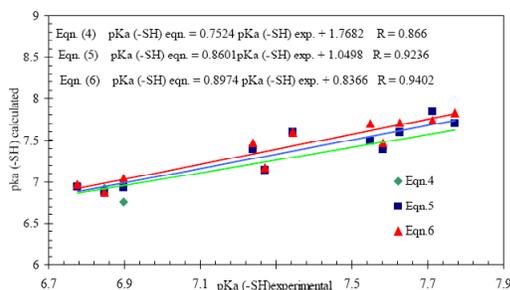


Figure 4: Plot of experimental vs. calculated  $pK_a$  (-SH) values of 4,5-disubstituted-1,2,4-triazoline-3-thiones (P1-P7 and B1-B4) (Eqn.4, 5 and 6)

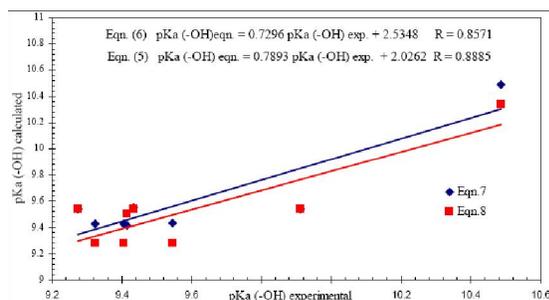


Figure 5: Plot of experimental vs. Calculated  $pK_a$  (-OH) values of 4,5-disubstituted-1,2,4-triazoline-3-thiones (P1-P7 and B1-B4) (Eqn.7 and 8)

TABLE 7: Dissociation constants of compounds P1-P7 and B1-B4

Compounds	Dissociation of -SH group		Dissociation of -OH group	
	$pK_{\text{TH}_2^*}$ [ $pK_a$ (-SH)]	m	$pK_{\text{TH}^-}$ [ $pK_a$ (-OH)]	m
P1	7.5816	0.9569	9.2740	0.9861
P2	6.8983	0.9387	9.4345	0.9645
P3	7.2385	0.9797	9.9124	0.9622
P4	6.8466	0.9642	9.4145	0.9685
P5	7.7118	0.9689	10.4864	0.9792
P6	7.5492	0.9477	-	-
P7	6.7748	0.9757	-	-
B1	7.3452	0.9605	9.3242	0.9689
B2	7.2699	0.9861	9.5465	0.9802
B3	7.6257	0.9475	9.4063	0.9634
B4	7.7714	0.9436	-	-

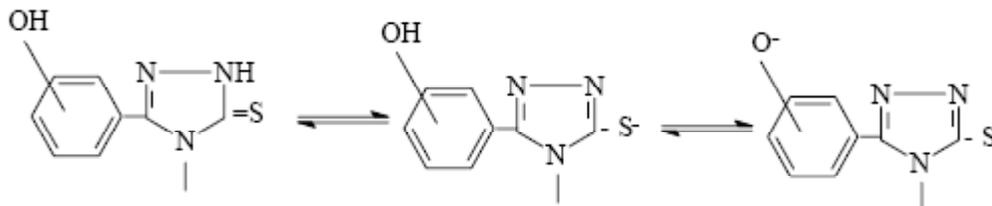
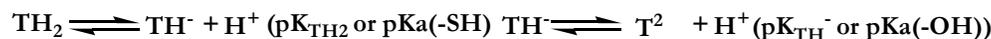
\* $pK_{\text{TH}}$  for compound P6; P7 and B4

length  $\lambda$  TABLE 6, (Figure 3).

Since the concentrations of the investigated compound were very small, it is not necessary to correct the activity coefficients. The ionic strength is constant because the addition of salt to each sample, and the obtained  $pK_{\text{TH}}$  are thermodynamic values<sup>[24]</sup>.

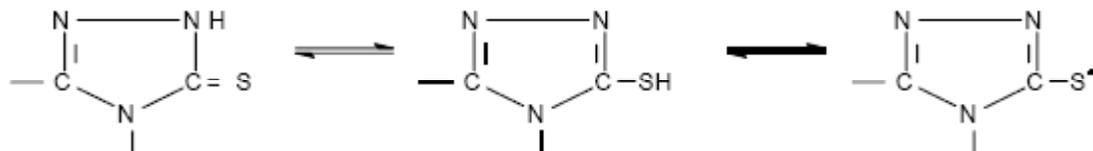
As we mentioned before, 1,2,4-triazoline-3-thions may exist in thion-thiol tautomeric forms, as in the case of other heterocyclic thiones<sup>[20,21]</sup>, so the first dissociation equilibrium corresponds to the dissociation of -SH groups. The values of 6.77 to 7.77

Accordinging figure 3, the ionisation equilibria of 4,5-disubstituted-2,4-dihydro-3H-1,2,4-triazoline-3-thiones P1-P5 and B1-B3, shown in Scheme 1, are:



SCHEME 1: The dissociation process for compounds: P1-P5 and B1-B3

The dissociation process for compounds P6, P7 and B4, shown in Scheme 2, are



SCHEME 2: The dissociation process for compounds: P6, P7 and B4

Using the equation (1), the dissociation constants were calculated (TABLE 7).

**TABLE 8: Correlation matrix demonstrating correlation of the physicochemical parameters used and their correlation with the activity (pKa)**

	pKa(-SH)	pKa(-OH)	$\sigma$	$\pi$	MR	$\sigma_1$	F	R	logP
pKa(-SH)	1.0000								
pKa(-OH)	0.3589	1.0000							
$\sigma$	0.7082	0.2606	1.0000						
$\pi$	0.0106	0.1833	0.1485	1.0000					
MR	0.2171	0.1833	0.1812	0.6669	1.0000				
$\sigma_1$	0.7043	0.1834	0.4221	0.4123	0.5816	1.0000			
F	0.7534	0.1833	0.4217	0.2407	0.4739	0.9833	1.0000		
R	0.6661	0.1833	0.3207	0.0231	0.6178	0.8201	0.8599	1.0000	
logP	0.0610	0.1361	0.1405	0.8505	0.4082	0.3084	0.1639	0.1199	1.0000

**TABLE 9: Comparison of estimated pKa(-SH) and pKa(-OH) values of 4,5-disubstituted-2,4-dihydro-3H-1,2,4-triazoline-3-thiones (P1-P7, B1-B4), with those reported in TABLE 7. (Residue=difference between observed and estimated pKa)**

Comp.	pKa (-SH) exp	Estimated pKa (-SH)					
		I		II		III	
		Eqn.4	Residue	Eqn.5	Residue	Eqn.6	Residue
P1	7.5816	7.3979	0.1836	7.3864	0.1951	7.4662	0.1154
P2	6.8983	6.7619	0.1363	6.9317	-0.0334	7.0438	-0.1455
P3	7.2385	7.3979	-0.1594	7.3864	-0.1479	7.4662	-0.2277
P4	6.8466	6.9177	-0.0711	6.8861	-0.0395	6.8727	-0.0261
P5	7.7118			7.8414	-0.1296	7.7352	-0.0234
P6	7.5492			7.4887	0.0605	7.6986	-0.1494
P7	6.7748	6.9566	-0.1818	6.9361	-0.1613	6.9677	-0.1929
B1	7.3452			7.5954	-0.2502	7.5932	-0.2480
B2	7.2699			7.1407	0.1292	7.1708	0.0990
B3	7.6257			7.5954	0.0303	7.7082	-0.0825
B4	7.7714			7.6977	0.0737	7.8256	-0.0542

Comp.	pKa (-OH) exp	Estimated pKa (-OH)			
		IV		V	
		Eqn.7	Residue	Eqn.8	Residue
P1	9.2740	9.5401	-0.2661	9.5411	-0.2671
P2	9.4345	9.5513	-0.1168	9.5411	-0.1066
P3	9.9124	9.5401	0.3722	9.5411	0.3712
P4	9.4145	9.4144	6E-05	9.5058	-0.0913
P5	10.4864	10.4891	-0.0027	10.3406	0.1457
B1	9.3242	9.4261	-0.1019	9.2796	0.0445
B2	9.5465	9.4373	0.1091	9.2796	0.2668
B3	9.4063	9.4261	-0.0198	9.2796	0.1266

are in good agreement with the literature data for the  $pK_{TH}$  values of the thiol-tion form of the pyrimidine-thione<sup>[21]</sup>. The second dissociation equilibrium of 4,5-disubstituted-2,4-dihydro-3H-1,2,4-triazoline-3-thiones P1-P5 and B1-B3 corresponds to the phenolic -OH group<sup>[24]</sup>.

### Correlation analysis of the pKa values of some 4,5-disubstituted-2,4-dihydro-3H-1,2,4-triazoline-3-thiones

The correlation of the used parameters and their correlation with the activity(pKa) are shown in TABLE 8.

## Full Paper

### Hammett approaches

In order to estimate the effect of substitution on pKa values of 1,2,4-triazoles studied, the correlation with Hammett  $\sigma$  constants<sup>[25]</sup> was performed. A good correlation is obtained when is used only the dissociation constants of -SH group ( $pK_{TH2}/pK_{TH}$ ). Plot of  $pK_{TH2}/pK_{TH}$  values against the corresponding substituent  $\sigma$  constants is shown in figure 4.

The corresponding Hammett equation ( $pKa = pKa^0 - \rho\sigma$ )<sup>[26]</sup> obtained in this case is:

$$pKa(-SH) = 6.9177 - 1.298\sigma \quad (4)$$

having the regression parameters  $R=0.8994$  and  $SD=0.1716$  (SD-standard deviation).

As expected when correlation of equilibrium constants is concerned,  $\rho$  value is positive; meaning that extent of dissociation equilibrium is increased by electron-withdrawing substituents.

For 4,5-disubstituted-2,4-dihydro-3H-1,2,4-triazoline-3-thiones series  $\rho$  value of 1.298, showing that this reaction series is more sensitive to polar influence of substituents than dissociation of benzoic acid ( $\rho=1.00$ )<sup>[27]</sup>. This result is not surpassing even the reaction site (-SH group) is partially protected from the effect of substituent on aromatic nucleus, probably the effect is transmitted through the benzene and 1,2,4-triazole rings.

### Hansch and Free-Willson approach

After the applying the Hansch approach, moderate linear collinearities exist between activity (pKa) and selected parameters ( $\sigma, \sigma_1, \pi, MR, F, R$  and  $\log P$ ). This can be explained by the fact, that investigated 4,5-disubstituted-2,4-dihydro-3H-1,2,4-triazoline-3-thiones have significant structural modification (phenyl-/butyl group and presence of -CH<sub>2</sub>-group as a bridge between 1,2,4-triazole and benzene ring).

The mono-parametric regression resulted into not statistically significant models, using the selected parameters.

The last step was applying the Free - Willson approach and the following correlations are obtained:

$$pKa(-SH) = -0.928\sigma - 0.221\pi - 0.209I_{C6H5} - 0.455I_{-CH2} + 7.559 \quad (5)$$

$$R=0.875 \quad SD=0.238 \quad n=11 \quad F=4.877$$

$$pKa(-SH) = -0.862\sigma - 0.004MR - 0.694F - 0.058R - 0.127I_{C6H5} - 0.269I_{-CH2} + 7.696 \quad (6)$$

$$R=0.903 \quad SD=0.259 \quad n=11 \quad F=2.923$$

$$pKa(-OH) = 0.023\sigma + 0.189\pi + 0.114I_{C6H5} - 0.949I_{-CH2} + 10.257 \quad (7)$$

$$R=0.889 \quad SD=0.286 \quad n=11 \quad F=2.855$$

$$pKa(-OH) = -0.312\sigma_1 + 0.174 \log P - 1.021I_{-CH2} + 9.878 \quad (8)$$

$$R=0.889 \quad SD=0.247 \quad n=11 \quad F=5.005$$

where  $I_{C6H5}$  is structural indicator parameter representing phenyl group as 1 and butyl group as 0. The other indicator  $I_{-CH2}$  is defined as 1 for compounds without -CH<sub>2</sub>- group as a bridge between 1,2,4-triazole and benzene ring (P1-P4, P7, B1-B3), and 0 for compound with -CH<sub>2</sub>- group as a bridge between 1,2,4-triazole and benzene ring (P5, P6 and B4), (TABLE 4). In this correlations  $R$  is regression coefficient,  $SD$  is a standard deviation (standard error of estimation),  $n$  is number of data point and  $F$  is the F-ratio.

The equations (5) and (6) show that the physicochemical descriptors:  $\sigma, \pi, MR, F, R$  and structural indicator parameter are negatively correlated with the pKa. The dissociation constant pKa(-SH) increases with the decrease of magnitude of these properties.

The equation (7) and (8) expressed that parameters  $\pi, \sigma_1$  and indicator parameter  $I_{-CH2}$  have negative correlation with the activity, while the parameters:  $\sigma$  and  $\log P$  showing positive correlation with the activity (pKa(-OH)). In order to confirm our findings, dissociation constants pKa(-SH) and pKa(-OH) predicted by Eqn. (4), (5), (6), (7) and (8) are compared with the pKa values reported in TABLE 7. Such comparison is shown in TABLE 9. Within experimental error, the values agree well.

Finally, a plot is obtained between the experimental and calculated pKa values as shown in figures 4 and 5, wherein all the four equation (4), (5), (6), (7) and (8) are used for calculated pKa respectively.  $R^2$  values (0.8660, 0.9236, 0.9402, 0.8571 and 0.8885) obtained for each of those equations confirm our findings.

## CONCLUSION

The 4,5-disubstituted-2,4-dihydro-3H-1,2,4-triazoline-3-thiones have two dissociation processes, and they may exist in thion-thiol tautomeric forms.

The first process belongs to the dissociation of –SH proton; the second dissociation process is dissociation of phenolic –OH group. The values of 6.77 to 7.77 and 9.2 to 10.4 are in good agreement with the literature data.

QSAR study on dissociation constant has been made using the Hansch and Free - Willson approach. The obtained pKa values were correlated with structure using various physicochemical parameters. For 4,5-disubstituted-2,4-dihydro-3H-1,2,4-triazoline-3-thiones series  $\rho$  value of 1.298, showing that this reaction series is sensitive to polar influence of substituents, because the reaction site(-SH group) is partially protected from the effect of substituent on aromatic nucleus, probably the effect is transmitted through the benzene and 1,2,4-triazole rings.

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