

# TRIAZOLOTHIADIAZOLES DRIVED FROM IBUPROFEN AND THIOCARBOHYDRAZIDE: Synthesis, Characterization, docking studies, and Preliminary Pharmacological assessment

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## Abstract

The synthesis of new NSAIDs with improved efficacy and selectivity towards COX2, which encouraged by 1,2,4-triazoles and 1,3,4-thiadiazoles with their various biological activities. In this experiment, the production of 1,2,4-triazolothiadiazoles derivatives from Ibuprofen. We have enhanced anti-inflammatory and analgesic activities by conventional method and microwave-assisted technique, and then compare the time consuming by reaction and yield percent of the product in both way, besides anti-inflammatory activity evaluation of targeted compounds by pharmacological test with predictable selectivity towards COX-2 enzyme. A successful synthesis of the target compounds has been achieved by checking purity, characterization, also identification of the synthetic compounds which detected by estimation of physical properties, FT-IR and <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy. The anti-inflammatory properties of the ending compounds in vivo are being evaluated using egg-white-induced edema models. The experienced compounds (1 MIC., 1 CON.) and the reference drug (Ibuprofen) produced significant reduction in paw edema in compare to the effect of control group. Wholly tested compounds produced considerable decrease of paw edema in contrast to control group. However, final synthesis compounds have considerable more paw edema declining than Ibuprofen. Intermediate and target compounds are synthesis by microwave method have better result by time, purity and yield in compare with conventional way. The synthesized compounds (1 or 2 or 3 MIC., 1 or 2 or 3 or CON.) may exhibit expected selectivity towards COX-2 enzyme properly due to their large size than its parent Ibuprofen.

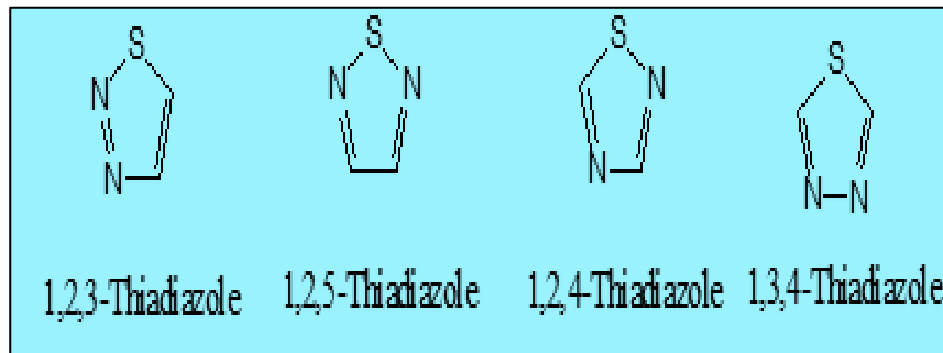
**Keywords:** anti-inflammatory activity, microwave, Ibuprofen, reflex, triazolothiadiazole, docking studies.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory pills (NSAIDs) need, been normally utilized within human medication to decrease ache and inflammation [1]. It is well understood that NSAIDs share a common pharmacologic method of action via the inhibition of cyclooxygenase (COX) enzymes [2]. The primary clinical use of NSAIDs is in the treatment of musculoskeletal disorders, migraines, dental, postoperative pain and dysmenorrhea [3].

The most bothersome NSAIDs' adverse effects are the consequence inhibition of platelet, inhibition the production of prostaglandin that required for the normal functions of gastrointestinal and the kidney, cardio toxicity & hepatotoxicity plus drug induced asthmatic responses [4]. (2RS)-1[4-(2-methylpropyl) phenyl] propionic acid is Ibuprofen, which had been announced in (1969) as the primary member of propionic acid derivatives [5]. It can be available like a mixture of diastereoisomeric that includes half in which pharmacologically active as (S (+) enantiomer and the other half mass is (R(-) ibuprofen [6]. The analgesic and anti-inflammatory effects of Ibuprofen are thought to arise from the inhibition of COX-2 rather than COX-1[9]. Ibuprofen is a drug fighting the inflammation with the exceptional, its merely drug, which work to terminate hemicranias continua (HC) [11]. Microwave-assisted synthesis is set to alteration organic chemistry; the technology is mostly applicable to syntheses in therapeutic and combinatorial chemistry and contrasted with conventional methods offers improved speed, reproducibility and flexibility [12]. Microwave (MW) irradiation encourages better thermal administration of chemical reactions. The quick MW heat transfer permits reactions to complete very much faster contrasted with conventional heating techniques frequently resulting in expanded product yield. Besides, the results of temperature sensitive reactions from kinetic or thermodynamic pathways can be specifically tuned and confined [13]. Several five membered aromatic systems having three heteroatoms at symmetrical positions have been studied because of their interesting physiological properties [14]. Triazoles are under examination from numerous years since they are most important class of heterocyclic compounds, two tautomeric

forms existed of 1,2,4-triazoles (1H & 4H-1,2,4-triazole [15]. A great amount of (1,2,4-triazoles) have been integrated into wide assortment of therapeutically fascinating drug competitors having antimicrobial [16], anti-inflammatory [17], analgesic [18] and anticancer activities [19] [20]. Thiadiazole is a heterocyclic compound with five-membered, it has two nitrogen atoms besides one sulfur atom [21]. There are four isomeric types, 1,3,4-thiadiazole represent an essential heterocyclic system because of their pharmacological activities [22], these isomeric types appeared in figure (1)



**Figure (1):** Thiadiazole isomeric types.

1,3,4-thiadiazole and their derivatives has extensive variety of therapeutic activities such as antimicrobial [23], diuretics [24], antiulcer [25], antimycobacterial [26], anti-inflammatory [27], anticonvulsant [28], anticancer [29], anti-leishmanial [30], and antidiabetic [31][32].

## 2. MATERIAL AND METHODS:

All chemicals and reagents were obtained from the commercial supplier (Merck –Germany, sigma – Aldrich –Germany, BDH – England and Fluka –USA).Ibuprofen, Naproxen and Indomethacin was supplied from Shanghai, China. Melting points were determined by capillary method on Thomas Hoover apparatus (England). FT-IR spectra were recorded by using Shimadzu – Japan spectrophotometer and the determination of spectrophotometer and the determination of the spectra were performed by using KBr discs. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was run on Kieslgel GF254 (60), Merck (Germany), to check the purity of the products as well as monitoring the progress of reactions. Compounds were revealed by reactivity by irradiation with UV light and chromatograms were eluted by Chloroform: methanol (85: 15). The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra was achieved at the Jordan University, Faculty of Science and Department of Chemistry. Instrument Model: Bruker 300 MHz-Avanc III.

### 2.1 Chemical synthesis and physical data of synthesized compounds

#### 2.1.1 Synthesis of the intermediate compound triazole:

Synthesis of 4-amino-3[1-(4-isobutylphenyl)ethyl]-5-mercapto-1,2,4-triazole (P1, P2, P3) from ibuprofen, by three different methods: a- Oil bath, b- Fusion reflex and c- Microwave irradiation as illustrated in scheme (1).

By oil bath: An equimolar mixture of Ibuprofen (0.01 mol) and thiocarbohydrazide (0.01 mol) taken in a 100 ml r.b. flask were heated on an oil bath till the contents melted. The reaction mixture was continuously stirred and maintained at a temperature of 165-175°C for further half an hour. Product that obtained was allowed to cool, and then treated with dilute sodium bicarbonate solution, in order to remove any unreacted acid left. The solid was filtered, washed with water, dried, and recrystallized from ethanol to obtain the pure triazoles [33]. (1).

C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>4</sub>S (1): white powder, yield 67%, melting point: 150-153°C [34] [35] R<sub>f</sub>= 0.60, IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3372&3282 (Stretching vibration of NH<sub>2</sub>), 2531 (stretching vibration of SH), 1634 (C=N stretching vibration).

By fusion reflex method an equimolar mixture of Ibuprofen (0.01 mol) and thiocarbohydrazide (0.01 mol) taken in a 100 ml r.b. flask were heated for 4-5h at temperature of 165-175°C with continuous stirring. Product that obtained was allowed to cool and treated with dilute sodium bicarbonate solution, in order to remove any unreacted acid left. The solid was filtered, washed with water, dried, and recrystallized from ethanol to obtain the pure triazoles [38] (2)

C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>4</sub>S (2): Off white powder, yield 67%, melting point: 150-152°C [34] [35], R<sub>f</sub>= 0.60, IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3356&3215 (Stretching vibration of NH<sub>2</sub>), 2586 (stretching vibration of SH), 1658 (C=N stretching vibration).

An equimolar mixture Ibuprofen (0.01 mol) and thiocarbohydrazide (0.01 mol) were ground together to get a uniform mixture. This was zapped inside a 100 ml beaker and subjected to microwave irradiation on a microwave oven operating at 180 W for about 30-35 min.. It was allowed to cool and treated with dilute sodium bicarbonate solution in order to remove any unreacted acid left. The solid was filtered, washed with water, dried, and recrystallized from ethanol to obtain the pure triazole (3) [39].

C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>4</sub>S (3): white powder, yield 83%, melting point: 150-152°C [34] [35], R<sub>f</sub>= 0.60, IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3298& 3208 (Stretching vibration of NH<sub>2</sub>), 2580 (stretching vibration of SH), 1633 (C=N stretching vibration).

### 2.1.2 Synthesis of the targeted compound triazolothiadiazole:

The cyclocondensation of triazole with aromatic carboxylic acids such as benzoic acid in the presence of phosphorous oxychloride employed in the synthesis of 3-(1-(4-isobutylphenyl)ethyl)-6-phenyl-[1,2,4]triazolo[3,4-b][1,3,4]thiadiazole (1 CON., 2 CON., 3 CON.) from (1 or 2 or 3), by both microwave and conventional method.

Conventional method: a mixture of triazole (0.01 mol), benzoic acid (0.01 mol), and phosphorus oxychloride (20 ml) was heated for reflux on an oil bath at temperature 170°C for 14-16h. The resulting reaction mass was poured into crushed ice with stirring. The solid thus obtained was filtered, washed with dilute sodium bicarbonate solution, followed by water, dried, and recrystallized from ethanol (P1, P2, P3).[20] [40] [41]

C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>4</sub>S (1 CON.): yellow powder, yield 39%, melting point: 122-124°C, R<sub>f</sub>= 0.61, IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3055 (C-H stretching of aromatic), 1629 (C=N stretching vibration). <sup>1</sup>HNMR spectra (300 MHz): δ 1.19- 1.62 (d, 9H, for CH<sub>3</sub> protons of ibuprofen), δ 1.83 (m, 1H, for CH proton of ibuprofen), δ 2.51 (d, 2H, for CH<sub>2</sub> protons of ibuprofen), δ 3.86 (q, 1H, for CH proton of ibuprofen), 6.82-8.02 (m, 9H, for aromatic ring of ibuprofen and aromatic protons)

C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>4</sub>S (2 CON.): deep yellow powder, yield 47%, melting point: 121-124°C, R<sub>f</sub>= 0.61, IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3066 (C-H stretching of aromatic), 1612 (C=N stretching vibration). <sup>1</sup>HNMR spectra (300 MHz): δ 0.89- 1.56 (d, 9H, for CH<sub>3</sub> protons of ibuprofen), δ 1.37 (m, 1H, for CH proton of ibuprofen), δ 2.51 (d, 2H, for CH<sub>2</sub> protons of ibuprofen), δ 4.46 (q, 1H, for CH proton of ibuprofen), 6.85-8.02 (m, 9H, for aromatic ring of ibuprofen and aromatic protons).

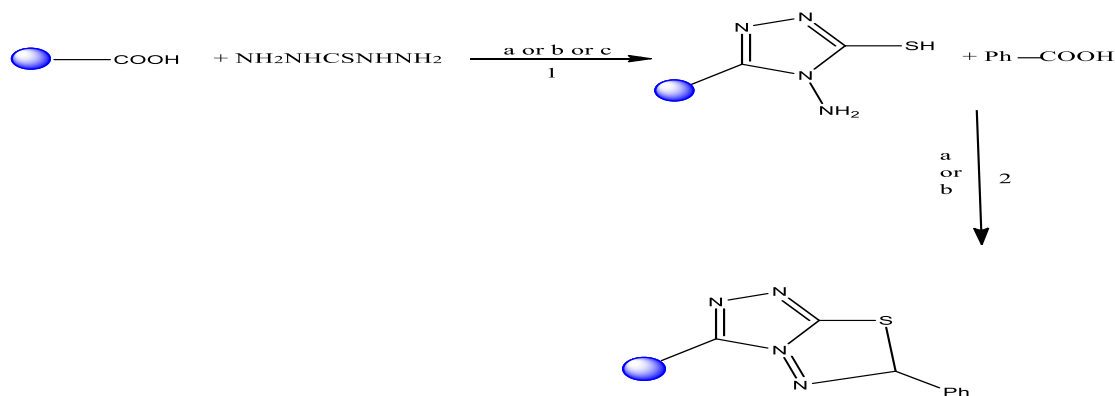
C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>4</sub>S (3 CON.): yellow powder, yield 51%, melting point: 122-125°C, R<sub>f</sub>= 0.61, IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3072 (C-H stretching of aromatic), 1623 (C=N stretching vibration). <sup>1</sup>HNMR spectra (300 MHz): δ 0.83- 1.71 (d, 9H, for CH<sub>3</sub> protons of ibuprofen), δ 1.81 (m, 1H, for CH proton of ibuprofen), δ 2.42 (d, 2H, for CH<sub>2</sub> protons of ibuprofen), δ 4.19 (q, 1H, for CH proton of ibuprofen), 6.97-8.02 (m, 9H, for aromatic ring of ibuprofen and aromatic protons).

Microwave method: A mixture of triazole (0.01 mol), benzoic acids (0.01 mol), and phosphorus oxychloride (5 ml) taken in a 100 ml r.b. flask was irradiated on a microwave oven at 160 W for 4–5 min. The resulting reaction mass was poured into crushed ice with stirring. The solid thus obtained was filtered, washed with dilute sodium bicarbonate solution, followed by water, dried, and recrystallized from ethanol (1 MIC., 2MIC., 3MIC.).[39] [42].

C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>4</sub>S (1 MIC.): pale yellow powder, yield 54%, melting point: 122-124°C, R<sub>f</sub>= 0.33, IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3057 (C-H stretching of aromatic), 1631(C=N stretching vibration). <sup>1</sup>HNMR spectra (300 MHz): δ 0.87- 1.63 (d, 9H, for CH<sub>3</sub> protons of ibuprofen), δ 1.81 (m, 1H, for CH proton of ibuprofen), δ 2.42 (d, 2H, for CH<sub>2</sub> protons of ibuprofen), δ 3.85 (q, 1H, for CH proton of ibuprofen), 6.85-8.01 (m, 9H, for aromatic ring of ibuprofen and aromatic protons)

C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>4</sub>S (2 MIC.): yellow powder, yield 63%, melting point: 122-124°C, R<sub>f</sub>= 0.72, IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3055 (C-H stretching of aromatic), 1633 (C=N stretching vibration). <sup>1</sup>HNMR spectra (300 MHz): δ 1.23- 1.65 (d, 9H, for CH<sub>3</sub> protons of ibuprofen), δ 1.85 (m, 1H, for CH proton of ibuprofen), δ 2.50 (d, 2H, for CH<sub>2</sub> protons of ibuprofen), δ 3.88 (q, 1H, for CH proton of ibuprofen), 7.12-8.02 (m, 9H, for aromatic ring of ibuprofen and aromatic protons).

C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>4</sub>S (3 MIC.): yellow powder, yield 72%, melting point: 122-124°C, R<sub>f</sub>= 0.73, IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3047 (C-H stretching of aromatic), 1648 (C=N stretching vibration). <sup>1</sup>HNMR spectra (300 MHz): δ 0.86- 1.61 (d, 9H, for CH<sub>3</sub> protons of ibuprofen), δ 1.84 (m, 1H, for CH proton of ibuprofen), δ 2.49 (d, 2H, for CH<sub>2</sub> protons of ibuprofen), δ 4.42 (q, 1H, for CH proton of ibuprofen), 7,18-8.01 (m, 9H, for aromatic ring of ibuprofen and aromatic protons).



**Scheme (1):** synthesis of triazolothiadiazole derivatives

-COOH = NSAID (Ibuprofen), Ph-COOH = benzoic acid 1- Reagents and conditions: (a) Oil bath with stirring, at 165-175°C, (b) Fusion reflux with stirring 5-6 h, at 165-175°C (c) Microwave irradiation at 180 W, 30-35 min. 2- Reagents and conditions: (a) POCl<sub>3</sub>, reflux 14-16 h, at 170°C (b) POCl<sub>3</sub>, Microwave irradiation 160 W, 4-5 min

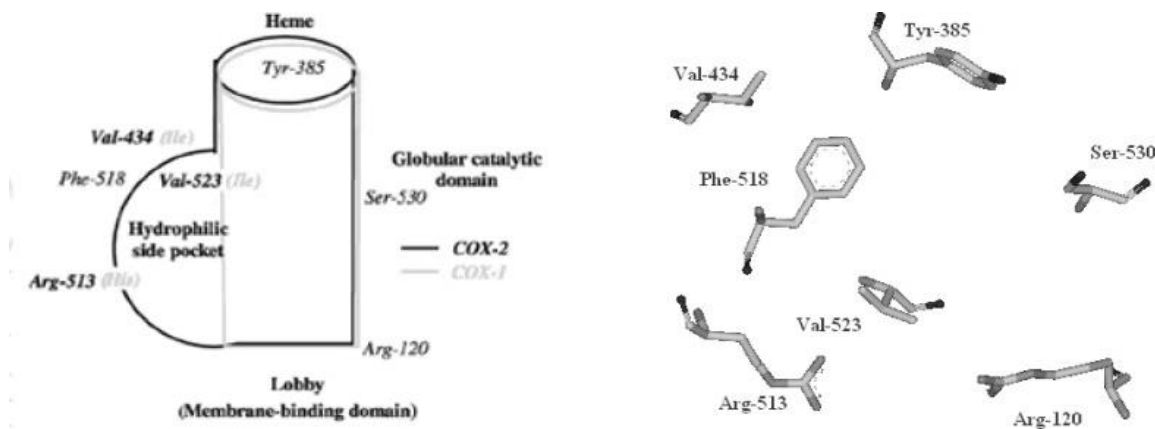
### 3. THE DOCKING STUDIES:

The steps of docking are binding orientations and interactions of most active compounds were analyzed using Maestro™ software package (v. 14.1, Schrödinger, LLC, New York, NY, 2011). With Protein code: 3LN1. Docking steps into the active site of COX-2 enzyme started by extracting a 3D structure of the enzyme in complex with Celecoxib drug (PDB ID: 3LN1). First, water molecules and hetero groups were removed from receptor and protein structure was refined and minimized using employs OPLS-2005 force field calculations. A grid incorporating COX-2 active sites residues was generated and used to dock optimized compounds into the enzyme. Finally, docking analysis was applied for five poses per compound and the highest scored value for each pose was displayed and described.

The following residues identify the active site of COX-2 enzyme:

GLY 512, VAL 335, ALA 513, LEU 517, TYR 341, LEU 345, VAL 102, ARG 106, SER 339, ARG 499, VAL 509, HIE 75, ALA 502, PHE 504, ILE 503, GLN 178, MET 508, LEU 338, LEU 370, TYR 371, PHE 367, TRP 373, TYR 334, SER 516.

The COX-2 active site is classified into three significant regions; first, one is the hydrophobic pocket, which it's definition as TYR 341, TRP 373, PHE 504, ALA 502 and LEU 517. The second region being the entrance of the active site lined with the hydrophilic residues ARG 106, GLU 524, TYR 355, and the third is a side pocket lined by HIS 90 ARG 513 and Val523 [43], [44], [45], [46] as in Figure (2).



### 4. ANTI-INFLAMMATORY ACTION EVALUATION FOR THE TESTED COMPOUNDS:

In vivo intense anti-inflammatory activities of the desired compounds (1 MIC., 1 CON.) were assessed using egg-white provoked paw edema in Albino rats. The effect on the paw edema was the measure of the anti-inflammatory activity of derivatives of ibuprofen. The decrease of paw thickness is the basis of screening of the anti-inflammatory activity of newly synthesized final compounds. Albino rats of both sex weighing (170 ± 10 g) were provided by National Center For Drug Control and Research and were kept in the the animal house of the College of Pharmacy, Al-Mustansiriyah University under constant circumstances. A commercial chaw was used for feeding animals and they had free entrance to water. They were separated into different four groups (each one contain of 6 rats) as follow:

Group A: six rats served as control and treated with the vehicle (propylene glycol 50% v/v).

Group B: six rats treated with Ibuprofen as reference substance in a dose of 50 mg/kg as suspension in 50% v/v propylene glycol [47]

Group triazolothiadiazole: six rats /group treated with the tested compounds (1 MIC. & 1 CON.) respectively in dose that determined below, also dissolved in propylene glycol.

By utilizing the egg-white prompted edema model was examined the anti-inflammatory action of the tested compounds. Through using vernea could be calculating the paw thickness at seven times intervals: (0, 30, 60, 120, 180, 240 and 300-min.) next to administration of the drug. For delivering of an acute inflammation through utilizing the undiluted egg-white by

subcutaneous injection (s.i) of (0.05 ml) into the left hind paw at the plantar side of the rats after the drug or vehicle administration intra peritoneal by (30 min.).

The data, which was expressing by the (mean ± SEM) and products were analyzing to significantly statistic for correlation among mean values by utilizing student t-test two (Sample Assuming Equal Variances). By utilizing ANOVA: two elements without repetition, the correlation among various collections could be making. Probability (P) value of below (0.05) was considering significantly.

Ibuprofen was used as reference substances. They administered by intraperitoneal route (i.p.), Ibuprofen dose of synthesized compounds are calculated as bellow:

#### 4.1 Calculations for Dose Determination:

$$\frac{\text{dose of refrence Compound}}{\text{refrence moleculare wiht}} = \frac{\text{dose of tested compuond}}{\text{tested compuond molecular wight}} \quad [51]$$

M.Wt. of Ibuprofen= 206.285 g/mol

50mg / kg / 206.285 = Dose / M.Wt. of the tested compound [50]

**Table (1):** Molecular weight and dose of the compounds:

Compounds	Molecular Weight	Dose mg/ kg
Ibuprofen	206.28	50
1 MIC. Or 1 CON.	362.49	87.9

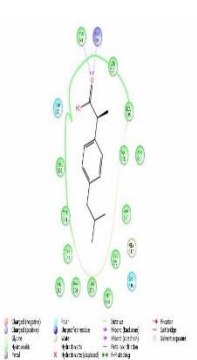
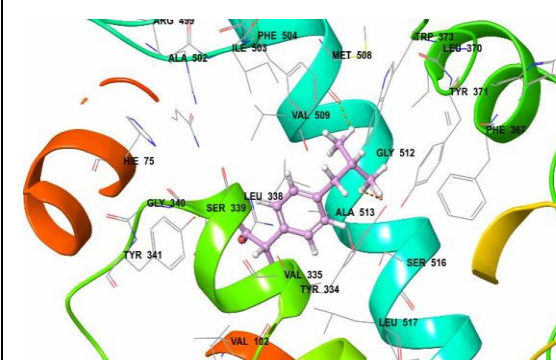
## 5. RESULTS:

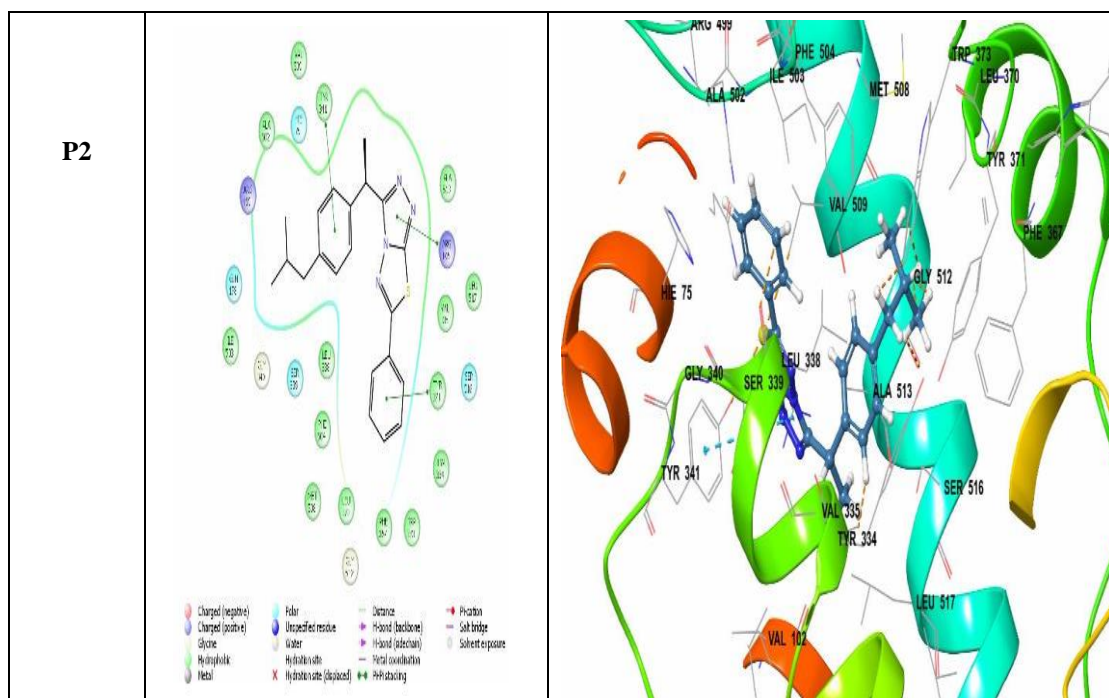
Figure (3) show the effect of all tested compounds with statistically significant (P<0.05) reduction in paw edema thickness.

Table (2) explains the effect of tested compounds (1 MIC. & 1 CON.) in comparison to control and ibuprofen.

According to docking result, the (P1) group is refer to (1 MIC. & 1 CON). (P1) compounds contain one chiral centers. Only (P2) compounds shows a docking ability to the enzyme according to our setting with this software for this docking procedure, notice that ligand-COX-2 complex generated by docking revealed intricate interactions with a COX-2 channel, which (P2) including Pi- Pi stacking in aromatic ring of Ibuprofen with key residues TYR 341, and in aromatic ring TYR 371, hydrophobic interactions with LEU 338, ALA 513, LEU 517, PHE 367 and VAL 335, while (N2) including Pi- Pi stacking in aromatic ring TRP 373, hydrophobic interactions with VAL 102, LEU 345, TYR 341and ALA 502, as appear in Table (1).

**Table (2):** target compounds bind with the active sites of COX-2 enzyme.

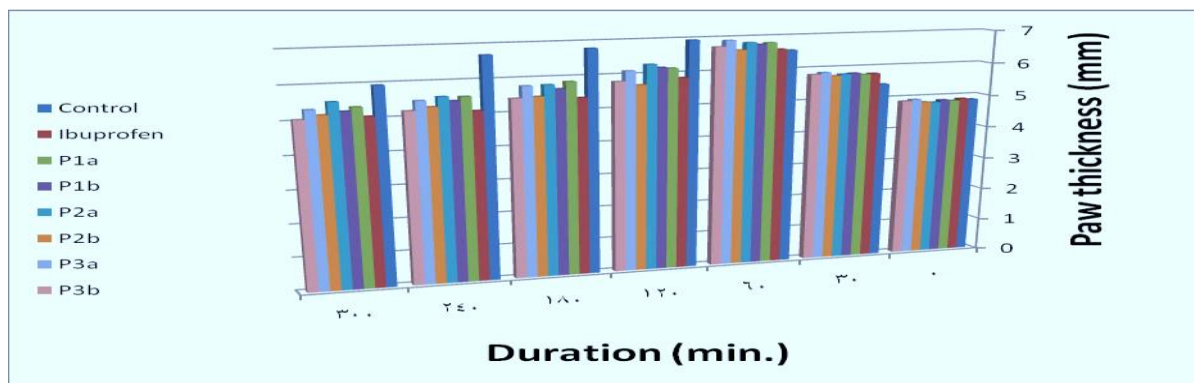
Comp. name	Structure	Binding site
Ibuprofen		



**Table (3):** The Anti-Inflammatory Effect of Control, Ibuprofen and Compounds (P1 a-3b) on Egg-White Induced Paw Edema in Rats.

Paw thickness (mm) n=6	Compound	Time (min)						
		0	30	60	120	180	240	300
	<b>Control</b>	4.86±0.03	5.44±0.06	6.57±0.02	6.95± 0.04	6.80± 0.07	6.70±0.06	5.95± 0.02
	<b>Ibuprofen</b>	4.89±0.04	5.78±0.02	6.61±0.05	a*5.86±0.04	a*5.38±0.02	a*5.12±0.04	b*5.08±0.03
	<b>1 CON.</b>	4.83±0.04	5.75±0.02	6.62±0.04	a*5.69±0.05	a*5.46±0.03	a*5.28±0.02	b*5.17±0.02
	<b>1 MIC.</b>	4.88±0.02	5.81±0.05	6.73±0.06	a*5.81±0.04	a*5.43±0.02	a*5.19±0.03	b*5.06±0.01

Non-identical superscripts (a, b&c) among different tested compounds are considered significantly different (P<0.05); \*significantly different compared to control (P<0.05). Data are expressed in mm paw thickness as mean ± SEM. n= number of animals. Time (0) is the time of i.p. injection of ibuprofen, tested compounds and propylene glycol. Time (30) is the time of injection of egg white (induction of paw edema).



**Figures (3):** Effect of Ibuprofen, propylene glycol and tested compounds (1 CON. & 1 MIC.) on egg-white induced paw edema in rats.

## 6. DISCUSSION:

For acute inflammation, could be using the carrageenan-producing edema that representing as experimental animal model also, is supposed to be biphasic. The carrageenan model early phase (1–2 hr.) is mostly mediated by serotonin, histamine in addition elevation in the prostaglandins synthesis in the damaged surroundings tissue, while the late phase is sustained by release of prostaglandin beside is mediated by: bradykinin, polymorph nuclear cells, leukotrienes and prostaglandins produced by macrophages tissue [52].

Subcutaneous injection of carrageenan into the rat paw produces inflammation resulting from plasma extravasations, increased tissue water and plasma protein exudation along with neutrophil extravasations, all due to the metabolism of AA[52].

The anti-inflammatory activity of the tested compounds has been evaluated in comparison with their vehicle (control group) and ibuprofen. The tested compounds and the reference drug produced significant reduction of paw edema with respect to the effect of propylene glycol 50% v/v (control group). The effect of Ibuprofen and their tested compounds started at time (120 min.), which indicate fast onset of action. The effect of tested compounds and NSAIDs that used continued until the end of experiment. Compound (1 MIC. & 1 CON) exert significantly higher paw edema reduction than reference drug at time (120-240 min.). Compounds (1 MIC. & 1 CON) produced significantly lower inhibitory effect than Ibuprofen at time (120-240min.).

The compounds synthesis by the microwave method are more efficient as anti-inflammatory agents than those synthesis by the conventional method, also, producing higher yields, probably, due to microwave irradiation enables the polarization of the molecule under irradiation causing fast reaction to happen and the uniform spreading of the heat.

According to docking score, the best binding affinity is docking score with more negative value. The positive control compound (Ibuprofen) show docking score between -8.846 to -8.453. Compound (P2) in both isomers show docking score between -8.929 to -6.541 [53], as seen in figure (3). Compound (P2) give similar result to Ibuprofen. Final Compound interaction locates similar to positive controls inside the enzyme pocket surrounded by similar amino acid.

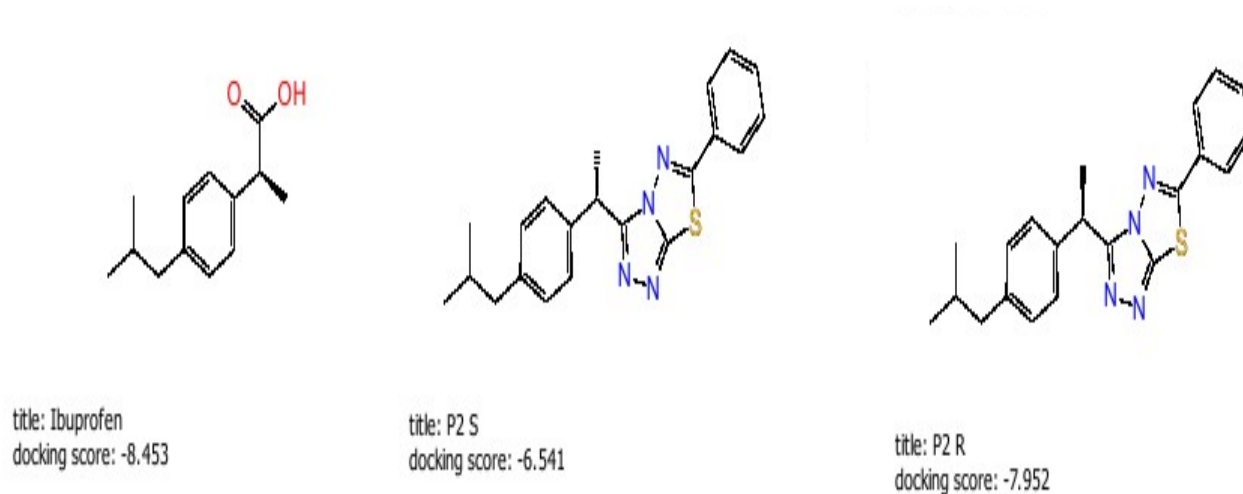


Figure (2): docking result.

## 7. CONCLUSION

The synthesis of the designed compounds has been successfully achieved. Characterization and identification of the synthesized compounds were confirmed by determination of physical properties (melting point and R<sub>f</sub> value), FT-IR spectroscopy and <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra.

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Conflict of interest: None.

Financial support: None

Ethics statement: None

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