



Synthesis of imidazole-pyrazole conjugates bearing aryl spacer and exploring their enzyme inhibition potentials

Faryal Chaudhry^{a,b,*}, Wardah Shahid^c, Mariya al-Rashida^d, Muhammad Ashraf^c,
Munawar Ali Munawar^{a,*}, Misbahul Ain Khan^{a,c}

^a Institute of the Chemistry, Quaid-e-Azam Campus, University of the Punjab, Lahore 54590, Pakistan

^b Department of Chemistry, Kinnaird College for Women Lahore, 93-Jail Road, Lahore 54000, Pakistan

^c Department of Chemistry, The Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Bahawalpur 63100, Pakistan

^d Department of Chemistry, Forman Christian College (A Chartered University), Ferozepur Road, Lahore 54600, Pakistan

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ABSTRACT

Developing improved enzyme inhibitors is an effective therapy to counter various diseases. Aiming to build up biologically active templates, a new series of bis-diazoles conjugated with an aryl linker was designed and prepared through a convenient synthetic approach. Synthesized derivatives **6(a-m)**, having different substitutions at the 2nd position of the imidazole nucleus, depict the scope of present study. These compounds were characterized through spectroscopic methods and further examined for their *in vitro* enzyme inhibitory potentials against two selected enzymes: α -glucosidase and lipoxygenase (LOX). Overall, this series was found to be effective against α -glucosidase and moderately active against LOX enzyme. Compound **6k** was the most potent α -glucosidase inhibitor with $IC_{50} = 54.25 \pm 0.67 \mu\text{M}$ as compared to reference drug acarbose ($IC_{50} = 375.82 \pm 1.76 \mu\text{M}$). The docked conformation revealed the involvement of substituent's heteroatoms with amino acid residue Gly280 through hydrogen bonding. The most active LOX inhibitor was **6a** with $IC_{50} = 41.75 \pm 0.04 \mu\text{M}$ as compared to standard baicalein ($IC_{50} = 22.4 \pm 1.3 \mu\text{M}$). Docking model of **6a** suggested the strong interaction of imidazole's nitrogen with iron atom of the active pocket of enzyme. Other features like lipophilicity, bulkiness of compounds, pi-pi interactions and/or pi-alkyl interactions also affected the inhibiting potentials of all prepared scaffolds.

1. Introduction

In recent years, diazolic core has attracted attention of synthetic chemists because of its manifold applications. Among diazolic analogues; pyrazole and imidazole have constituted structural make up of natural products [1], photochromic compounds [2], frame works having optical properties [3], agrochemicals [4] and also displayed excellent catalytic potentials [5]. Heravi and Zadsirjan recently reviewed some leading drugs where such nitrogen based heterocycles were considered as the foundation of many marketed medicines such as ondansetron, losartan, apixaban, celecoxib and sildenafil [6]. These nitrogen containing motifs facilitate in pharmaceuticals as anti-inflammatory [7], anticancer [8], antimicrobial [9], antidiabetic [10], antioxidant agents [11].

Enzymes are often highlighted by experimental evidences as the validated potential drug targets. In the past few decades, enzyme

inhibitors have become of special interest in drug design and discovery [12]. Diazoles are privileged pharmacophores for the development of new enzyme inhibitors because of their tendency to form hydrogen bonds. Some exclusive templates of pyrazole and/or imidazole moieties have recently been designed to target enzymes like mushroom tyrosinase [13], α -amylase [14], carbonic anhydrase [15], DNA gyrase [16], nucleotide pyrophosphatase [17], cyclooxygenase [18] to cope with different diseases. One such identified target is α -glucosidase which plays a significant role in controlling a well known metabolic disease: diabetes mellitus type 2. The dilemma of this disease is that it may cause several other complications in body such as heart disease and kidney failure. Various research reports have emphasized that postprandial glucose regulation can control diabetes and inhibition of α -glucosidase is one of the useful therapies. Recently, different heterocycles have been documented as excellent α -glucosidase inhibitors that may lead to

* Corresponding authors at: Institute of the Chemistry, Quaid-e-Azam Campus, University of the Punjab, Lahore 54590, Pakistan (F. Chaudhry; M.A. Munawar); Department of Chemistry, Kinnaird College for Women Lahore, 93-Jail Road, Lahore 54000, Pakistan (F. Chaudhry).

E-mail addresses: faryal.chaudhry@kinnaird.edu.pk, frylchaudhry@yahoo.com (F. Chaudhry), mamunawar.chem@pu.edu.pk (M. Ali Munawar).

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clinical trials [19–21].

A non-heme iron-containing class of metalloenzymes is lipoxygenase (LOX) that can be isolated from plants and animals. LOXs isoenzymes (most commonly 5-LOX, 12-LOX and 15-LOX) differ in their substrate specificity and mode of interaction at their binding sites. This class of enzymes exhibits multi-faceted biological functions such as production of biological mediators in signaling pathways and mobilization of lipids by oxidizing esters etc. LOX isoforms catalyze the peroxidation of arachidonic and linoleic acids to generate hydroperoxy fatty acids which further metabolize and produce lipoxins and leukotrienes. Scientists have established claims that LOX metabolites promote different human diseases such as initiation and/or progression of inflammation, atherosclerosis, oxidative stress in Alzheimer's patients, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and development of different forms of cancer. Therefore, LOXs have been hypothesized as important therapeutic targets for both redox and non-redox inhibiting agents [22–26]. In this respect, different natural and synthetic pharmacophores have been documented [27–29]. Some pyrazole and imidazole engineered α -glucosidase and LOXs inhibiting agents have been reported as promising drug candidates [30–34]. Recently, Cornec's group identified substituted imidazoles as potential inhibiting agents of LOX pathways to deal with neurodegenerative diseases [35]. Similarly, purine-pyrazole incorporated hybrids are reported as potent LOX inhibitors with anticancer potentials [36].

To meet the requirement of effective novel enzyme inhibitors, we have been involved in designing different combinations of heterocyclic compounds [37–42]. Herein, an aryl linker is used to connect both diazolic moieties (pyrazole and imidazole) in one molecular template **6** (a–m) (Fig. 1). These compounds were later screened out against two enzymes (α -glucosidase and LOX) to evaluate the enzyme inhibition potentials of this new class of compounds and results were compared with standard drugs. To the best of our knowledge, this structural framework is not explored yet.

2. Results and discussion

2.1. Chemistry

Previously, we have synthesized directly linked imidazole-pyrazole, imidazole-indole and pyrazole-pyridazine hybrids which were found to be good enzyme inhibitors [37–41]. Literature reveals the significant role of spacers in enhancing the bioactivity of molecules [43]. Thus, a series of arylidene was designed before and those products exhibited encouraging results [42]. In continuation, present project was designed where a benzene spacer is used between pyrazole and imidazole rings and to study the enzyme inhibition potencies of this linking pattern.

Initially, precursor **2** was prepared by following the reported protocols [44]. Further, a convenient one pot multi-component approach was adopted to react substrate **2** with substituted aldehydes **3**(a–m), benzil (**4**) and ammonium acetate (**5**). After purifying through column chromatography, products **6**(a–m) were subjected to NMR studies to identify their structures and purity. Moreover, elemental analyses results also validated our findings. The scope of the present study is depicted in structural diversity generated by the modifications in R¹ with different substitutions. All products **6**(a–m) were obtained in good yields (Scheme 1).

To illustrate general signals of ¹H NMRs, a magnified view of ¹H NMR of **6a** is given in Fig. 2 where methyl protons appeared as two singlets. The methyl protons, present at the 3rd position of pyrazole, were spotted at δ 2.27 ppm whereas methyl group present at the 5th position of pyrazole ring appeared little upfield at δ 2.26 ppm. The signal for H-4 of pyrazole ring was found at δ 5.99 ppm as singlet. The benzene linker has two characteristic doublets with *J* value of 8.5 Hz. The aryl protons nearest to pyrazole appeared upfield at δ 7.10 ppm and the other two protons, adjacent to imidazole ring appeared at δ 7.35 ppm. Other compounds **6**(b–m) also showed the similar spectral patterns. Beside these distinguishing signals, presence of substituents was also confirmed from respective spectra. The ¹³C NMRs possessed all characteristic signals as well. The most prominent signals were of: two methyl carbons around δ 112 ppm and δ 113 ppm, CH-4 of pyrazole in between δ

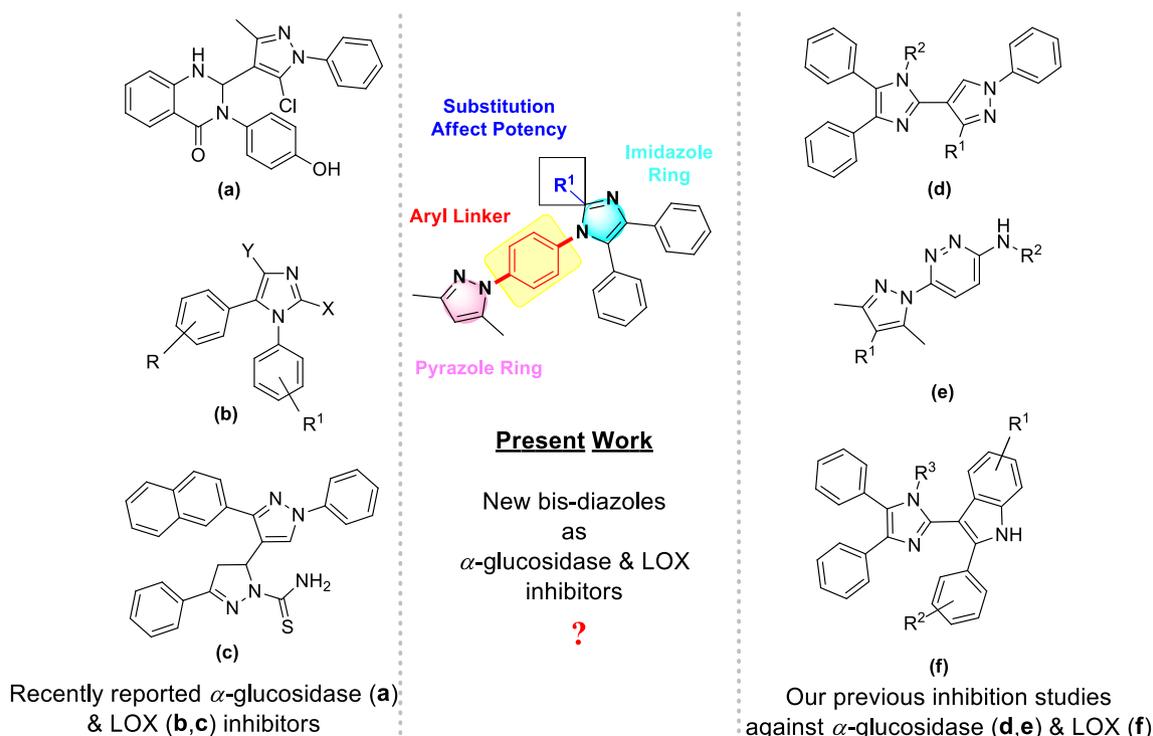
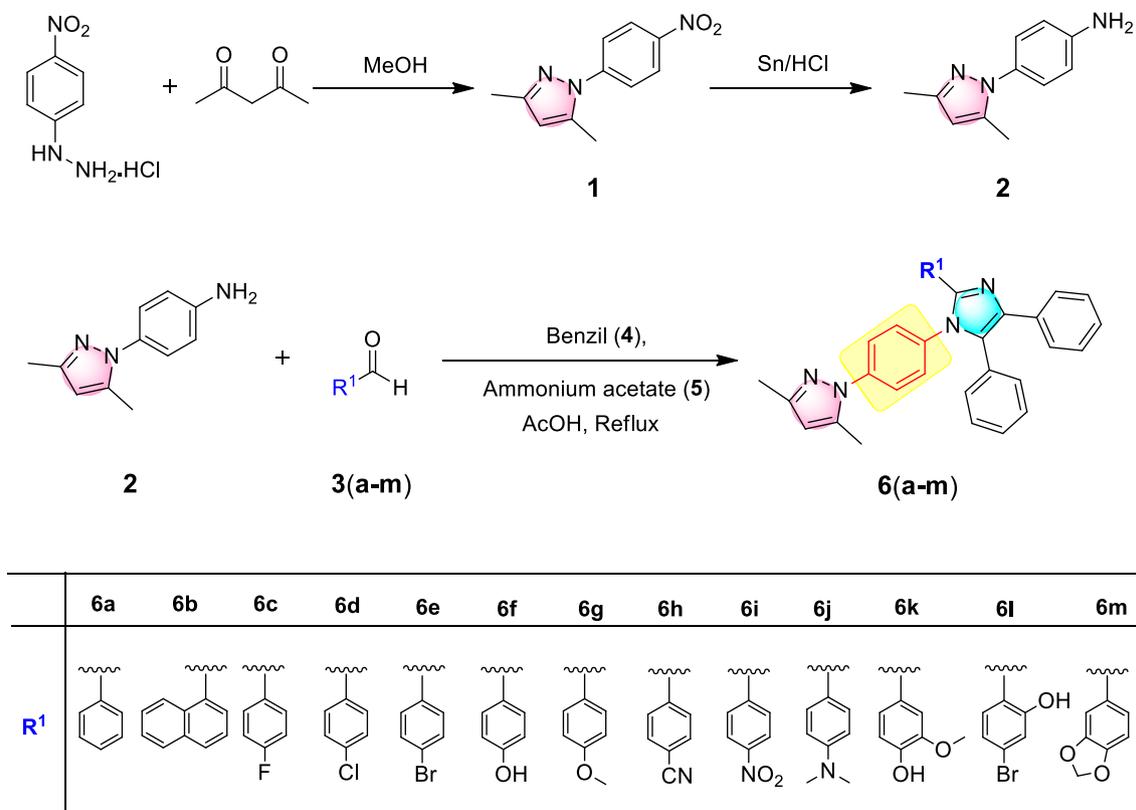


Fig. 1. Rationale of current research plan.



Scheme 1. Synthetic approach towards new series of imidazole-pyrazole hybrids.

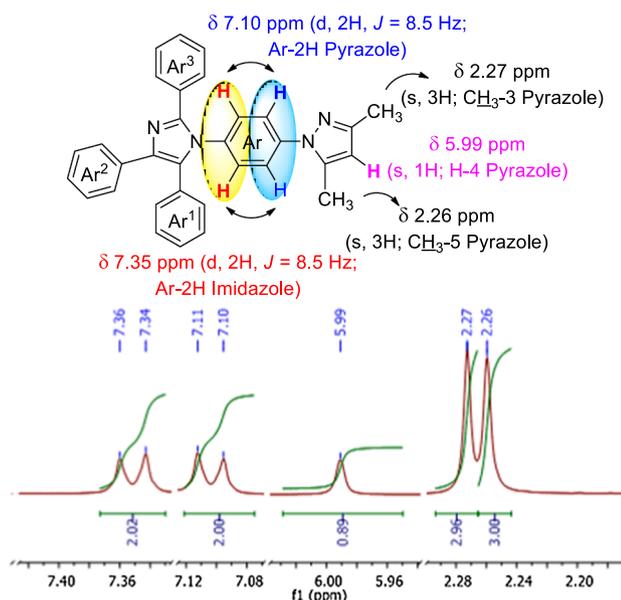


Fig. 2. Important signals in ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 6a.

107–109 ppm whereas C-2 of imidazole ring appeared downfield around δ 140 ppm.

These aryl decorated scaffolds were quite stabilized; therefore, molecular ion peaks were spotted in mass spectra of all compounds. As an example of fragmentation pattern; Fig. 3 is signifying key fragmentations observed in EI-MS spectrum of 6j. Most probably, loss of CH₃ radical, PhCN, CH₃CN and NH(CH₃)₂ molecules have been involved. The skeletal rearrangement (SR) of fragment m/z 192 lead to two interesting ions; at m/z 190 and m/z 165 [45] and these fragments were observed in

each compound of this series 6(a-m). The experimentally found CHN percentages were also promising when compared with the calculated ones.

2.2. Biological activities

2.2.1. In vitro enzymes inhibition studies

Channar *et al.* have explored enzyme inhibitory potentials of some related 3,5-dimethylpyrazoles and investigated the effects of different substituents in the *N*-phenyl ring of pyrazole nucleus over their enzyme inhibition strengths [46]. Herein, we have prepared a comparable series of novel substituted imidazole-pyrazole hybrids 6(a-m) which after structure elucidation was tested for their α -glucosidase and LOX inhibition potencies (Table 1). In search of potent enzyme inhibitors, we have investigated the effect of different substitutions at the 2nd position of imidazole moiety on the inhibiting efficiencies of synthesized molecules. For this purpose, α -glucosidase (from *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) and LOX (from *Glycine max*) enzymes were selected for current enzyme inhibition studies. Acarbose was used as the standard drug for α -glucosidase inhibition which displayed activity with IC₅₀ 375.82 \pm 1.76 μ M. Meanwhile, baicalein (with IC₅₀ 22.4 \pm 1.3 μ M) was used as standard inhibitor for LOX inhibition study.

2.2.2. Inhibition of α -Glucosidase

Inhibition of α -glucosidase enzyme is one of the useful methods to reduce post-prandial increase in blood glucose level of diabetic patients. Azimi's research group has recently proposed few pyrazole core based molecules as significant α -glucosidase inhibitors [47]. Herein, structural variety (at the Ar³ ring) of synthesized series and the inhibition results of products helped us to identify the general features that probably control inhibiting potencies of these compounds. Overall compounds have displayed moderate to excellent inhibition data (Fig. 4). By comparing the results of 6a and 6b, the compound 6a with IC₅₀ 105.17 \pm 0.94 μ M has exhibited better inhibition potential than of 6b with IC₅₀ 213.32 \pm 1.38

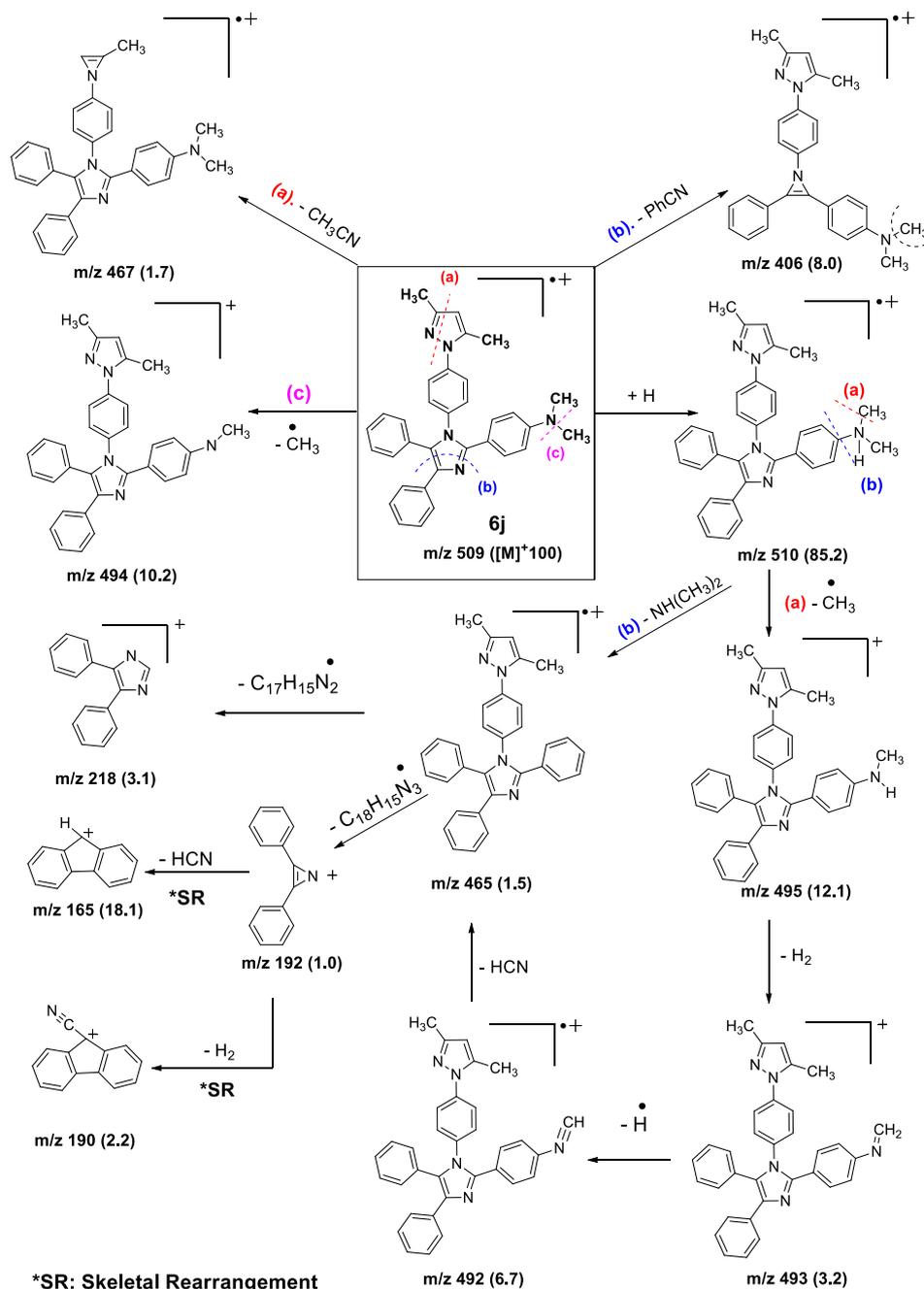


Fig. 3. Plausible EI-MS fragmentation pattern of compound 6j.

μM . Perhaps, transferring to bulky naphthyl group has reduced the activity. The derivatives **6c**, **6d** and **6e**, substituted with the moderate halogen atoms, also found to be good inhibitors. Among these, fluoro substituted **6c** (IC_{50} $179.61 \pm 1.31 \mu\text{M}$) executed the best results amongst **6c**, **6d** and **6e**.

Further, the *para*-hydroxyl (**6f**) and *para*-methoxy (**6g**) groups containing compounds displayed good inhibition profiles with IC_{50} $224.91 \pm 1.56 \mu\text{M}$ and IC_{50} $379.51 \pm 2.54 \mu\text{M}$, respectively. It has been proposed that the presence of both hydroxyl and methoxyl groups are possibly involved in hydrogen bonding with the active site of the enzyme and thus improving the inhibiting potential. By looking at the structural features of the most potent agent **6k** (IC_{50} $54.25 \pm 0.67 \mu\text{M}$), the presence of *para*-hydroxyl and *meta*-methoxyl groups in ring Ar^3 are seemed to be synergistically engaged in substantially enhancing the activity. Conversely, the shifting of hydroxyl group to ortho position, as

in analog **6l**, there was marked decline in the activity. It is the most probable; the hydroxyl group is involved in intramolecular hydrogen bonding thus reducing the inhibiting potency. The presence of electron withdrawing group, such as nitro, usually improves the activity [47]. In present series, however, substitution of nitrile **6g** or nitro **6h** groups at the *para* position of Ar^3 ring reduced the activity. Compound **6m** has shown better results because of the presence of 1,3-benzodioxole moiety.

2.2.3. Inhibition of LOX

We explored the LOX inhibition of indole-imidazole hybrids previously [37]. In the present study, we aimed to engineer novel hetaryl conjugates with different substituents to observe the effects of such structural variations on the bioactivity. Towards this aim, compound **6a** was tested first and showed the best results with IC_{50} $41.75 \pm 0.04 \mu\text{M}$.

Table 1
 α -Glucosidase (**6a**, **6k**) and LOX inhibition activities of diazolic conjugates **6(a-m)**.

Compound	α -Glucosidase		LOX	
	Inhibition (%) at 0.5 mM	IC ₅₀ (μ M)	Inhibition (%) at 0.25 mM	IC ₅₀ (μ M)
6a	98.54 \pm 1.93	105.17 \pm 0.94	99.61 \pm 0.93	41.75 \pm 0.04
6b	88.94 \pm 2.45	213.32 \pm 1.38	94.91 \pm 1.14	52.82 \pm 0.03
6c	98.78 \pm 2.78	179.61 \pm 1.31	68.28 \pm 1.08	121.35 \pm 0.96
6d	98.76 \pm 1.87	184.61 \pm 0.95	91.86 \pm 1.87	132.25 \pm 1.08
6e	98.19 \pm 1.87	194.81 \pm 1.29	78.89 \pm 1.05	153.28 \pm 0.93
6f	82.84 \pm 2.37	224.91 \pm 1.56	28.81 \pm 1.11	NA
6g	94.66 \pm 1.53	379.51 \pm 2.54	82.82 \pm 1.21	239.36 \pm 0.96
6h	11.76 \pm 2.11	NA	26.41 \pm 1.12	NA
6i	97.19 \pm 2.35	245.33 \pm 1.75	55.34 \pm 1.41	245.86 \pm 1.12
6j	91.73 \pm 1.32	203.54 \pm 2.11	67.89 \pm 1.05	75.23 \pm 0.03
6k	97.89 \pm 1.54	54.25 \pm 0.67	75.58 \pm 1.63	61.97 \pm 1.15
6l	35.57 \pm 2.22	NA	26.31 \pm 1.08	NA
6m	95.94 \pm 2.13	182.73 \pm 1.19	97.13 \pm 0.87	53.36 \pm 0.02
Acarbose ^a	65.73 \pm 1.93	375.82 \pm 1.76	–	–
Baicalein ^b	–	–	93.79 \pm 1.27	22.4 \pm 1.3

^cNA: Not active.

^a Acarbose (0.5 mM) used as positive control for α -glucosidase inhibition.

^b Baicalein (0.25 mM) used as positive control for LOX inhibition.

Efforts were made to introduce further structural modifications in Ar³ ring with different functionalities. Extending the phenyl to naphthyl group (compound **6b**) has also displayed better results (IC₅₀ 52.82 \pm 0.03). Apparently, the presence of phenyl rings was more favorable for enzyme inhibition. In literature, some dihydropyrazoles were screened for LOX inhibition activity. The chloro and *para*-tolyl analogues were the most active [48]. However, substitutions of halogens in Ar³ ring were not much effective for us to reduce the enzyme activities. Hence, compounds **6c**, **6d**, and **6e** have exhibited moderate inhibition. As a next step, replacement with electron rich or poor groups **6(f-i)** did not improve their potencies either. However, **6j** with -N(CH₃)₂ substitution improved its activity to (IC₅₀ 75.23 \pm 0.03). To further explore, the presence of methoxyl group at the meta position and hydroxyl at the para position of Ar³ in compound **6k** apparently enhanced the activity to IC₅₀ 61.97 \pm 1.15, though, **6l** was found to be inactive. Another derivative **6m** has also displayed excellent inhibition profiles (IC₅₀ 53.36 \pm 0.02) which partially can be justified that possibly the oxygen atoms are participating to make additional H-bonds with amino acid residues of enzyme. Overall, results signify compound **5a** to be the most potent inhibitor of the series (Fig. 4). Docking of lead inhibitors further explained the observed relationships.

2.3. Molecular docking studies

2.3.1. Docking of α -Glucosidase inhibitors

For α -glucosidase docking studies, two of the most active inhibitors **6k** (IC₅₀ = 54.25 \pm 0.67 μ M) and **6a** (IC₅₀ = 105.17 \pm 0.94 μ M) were selected. A number of non-bonded interactions were observed (Table 2). Compound **6a** was the second most active inhibitor, its docked conformation and binding site interactions are shown in Fig. 5.

In accordance to the literature, nitrogen atoms have usually made hydrogen bonds at the enzyme's binding sites to make ligand fitted well

in the cavity [47,49]. Here it was observed that one of the nitrogen atoms of the imidazole ring was making a hydrogen bond with Asn246, while one of the nitrogen atoms of the pyrazole ring was making a hydrogen bond with Gly280. One of the phenyl rings attached to the imidazole ring was making a pi-pi *T*-shaped interaction with Trp242. The phenyl ring, attached to the nitrogen atom of the imidazole ring was making a pi-pi stacked interaction with His245. Fig. 5 also shows docked conformation of most active inhibitor **6k**. Apparently, the change in observed potency was due to different snug fit orientation. The amino acid Gly280 was acting as a hydrogen bond donor (towards the oxygen atom of the methoxy group), and as a hydrogen bond acceptor (towards the hydroxyl group). One of the phenyl groups attached to the imidazole ring was making a pi-alkyl interaction with Pro309. The pyrazole ring was also making a pi-alkyl interaction with Ala326.

2.3.2. Docking of LOX inhibitors

Compound **6a** was the most active LOX inhibitor (IC₅₀ = 41.75 \pm 0.04 μ M), closely followed by compounds **6b** and **6m** (having almost same inhibition activities, IC₅₀ = 52.82 \pm 0.03, and 53.36 \pm 0.02 μ M, respectively). Hence, these compounds were selected for the docking studies. The enzyme crystal structure was downloaded from the PDB (PDB ID: 3V99). Fig. 6 shows docked conformation of **6a**. For this compound, no hydrogen bonded interactions were observed; instead, two of the most important interactions observed were hydrophobic interactions and the interaction of the imidazole nitrogen with the Fe atom of the enzyme's active site.

Among hydrophobic interactions, the pi-alkyl interactions between Leu368 and the phenyl group attached to the imidazole ring. Gedawy *et al.* have proposed comparable hydrophobic interactions between Leu368 and aryl ring of pyrazole sulfonamides [50]. Other observed interactions were among phenyl ring (also substituted on imidazole ring) and Ala672, and between Ala410 and the phenyl ring attached to the nitrogen atom of the imidazole ring. Ala410 was also making a pi-alkyl interaction with the pyrazole ring, as well as making hydrophobic interactions with the methyl groups attached to the pyrazole ring.

Compounds **6b** and **6m** showed almost similar inhibition patterns with different binding modes. The docked conformations and binding site interactions of **6b** revealed that the nitrogen atom of the imidazole ring was making a hydrogen bond with Phe177. A number of pi-alkyl interactions were observed, one of the phenyl rings attached to the imidazole ring was making a pi-alkyl interaction with Ala410, while the two methyl groups attached to the pyrazole ring were also making pi-alkyl interactions with Leu607 and Ala672. For compound **6m**, two oxygen atoms of the benzodioxole ring were hydrogen bonded with Asn554 and Gln557. Again hydrophobic interactions were observed to be of importance in imparting stability to the enzyme-inhibitor complex. Ala410 was making a pi-sigma and a pi-alkyl interaction with two phenyl rings attached to the imidazole ring. Another pi-sigma interaction was observed between Leu607 and the remaining phenyl group attached to the imidazole ring. Leu607 was also making a pi-alkyl interaction with the pyrazole ring, while one of the methyl groups attached to the pyrazole ring. Overall results are in agreement with the documented reports where methyl groups gave flexibility in bond rotation, heteroatoms formed hydrogen bonds to give stability and the heterocyclic/aromatic pi-rings involved in aromatic interactions [47–50].

3. Conclusion

In conclusion, a novel series of phenyl bridged imidazole-pyrazole scaffolds **6(a-m)** was designed and synthesized. Unlike our previous findings where anilines were used to produce varied *N*-substitutions in imidazole ring, herein, a variety of substituted aldehydes were exploited to investigate the enzyme inhibitory effects of different substitutions at the 2nd position of imidazole ring. The chemical structures were proposed on the basis of observed spectral data. Later, these compounds

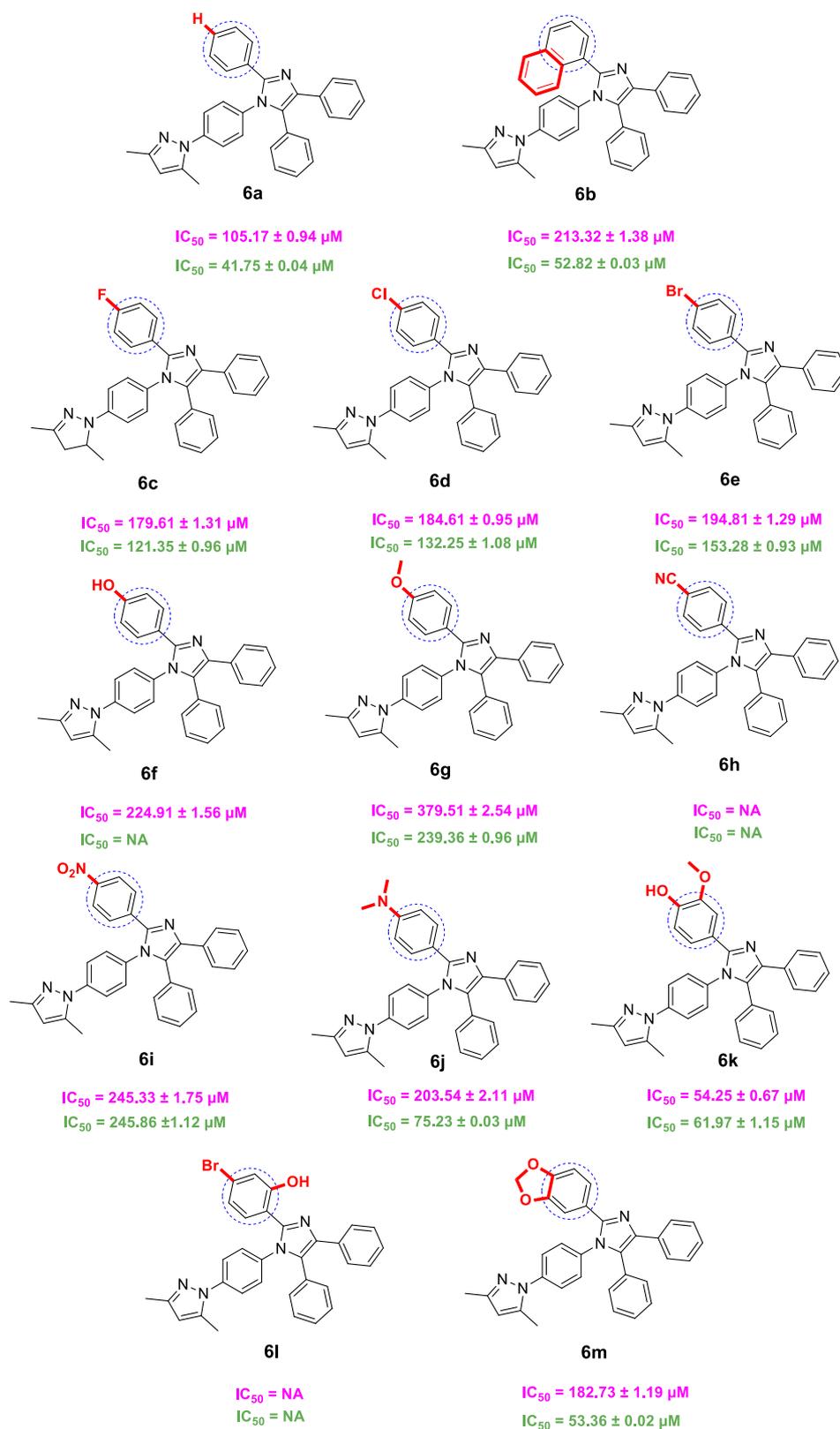


Fig. 4. Comparative enzyme inhibition potentials of compounds **6(a-m)** against α -glucosidase (IC_{50} values in pink) and LOX (IC_{50} values in green). (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

were tested for their enzyme inhibition potentials. Preliminary screening studies were carried out against α -glucosidase and LOX enzymes. Overall decreasing order of α -glucosidase inhibition was: **6k** > **6a** > **6c** > **6m** > **6d** > **6e** > **6j** > **6b** > **6f** > **6i** > acarbose > **6g** > **6l** > **6h**.

These results suggest that modifications in Ar^3 ring most probably affected the enzyme activity. However, this series displayed moderate inhibitory effects against LOX enzyme with IC_{50} between 41.75 and 245.86 μM . Compounds **6a**, **6b** and **6m** can be considered as good lead

Table 2
Binding free energies and non-bonded interactions of α -glucosidase inhibitors (**6a**, **6k**) and LOX inhibitors (**6a**, **6b**, **6m**) with their respective receptors.

Ligand	Binding free energy (kJ/mol)	Hydrophobic interactions	Hydrogen bond interactions	Hydrogen bond distance (Å)	Other interactions and distance (Å)
<i>α-Glucosidase Inhibitors</i>					
6a	-13	His245 (pi-pi stacked), Trp242 (pi-pi T-shaped)	Asn246, Gly280	1.74, 2.33	-
6k	-29	Pro306 (pi-alkyl), Ala326 (pi-alkyl)	Gly280 (H-bond acceptor), Gly280 (H-bond donor)	1.73, 1.83	-
<i>LOX Inhibitors</i>					
6a	-25	Ala410 (alkyl and pi-alkyl), Ala672 (pi-alkyl), Leu368 (pi-alkyl)	-	-	Lig-Fe ²⁺ (2.22)
6b	-23	Leu607 (alkyl), Ala672 (alkyl), Ala410 (pi-alkyl)	Phe177	1.93	-
6m	-24	Ala410 (pi-sigma and pi-alkyl), Leu607 (pi-sigma, pi-alkyl and alkyl), Ala606 (alkyl)	Asn554, Gln557	1.63, 2.44	-

for finding effective LOX inhibitors. Docking conformations helped to recognize key interactions of the potent ligands of the series with the active sites of enzymes. This study has led to the discovery of core structure which would help in the development of potent drugs.

4. Experimental

4.1. Materials

Chemicals were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich and for thin layer chromatography (TLC), DC-Alufolien Silica Gel 60 F₂₅₄ Merck was used. Melting points were determined over Gallen Kamp. Agilent Technologies Cary 630 FTIR spectrophotometer was used to run FTIR spectra. For ¹H (¹³C) NMR spectra, Bruker Avance Instruments of 300 (75), 400 (100) or 500 (125) MHz were used. The analysis was carried out by dissolving compounds in CDCl₃/DMSO-*d*₆. The MS were recorded on JEOL JMS 600H or FTMS spectrometer. The CHN data was found out through Perkin Elmer 2400 Series II CHN/S Analyzer. Initial reactants **1** and **2** were synthesized following reported methods. Condensation reaction between 4-nitrophenylhydrazine hydrochloride and 2,4-petanedione in methanol afforded the initial precursor **1**. Further, nitro group was reduced to amine with the help of Sn/HCl to generate reactant **2**. Their physicochemical properties were also comparable with the literature reports [44].

4.2. Synthetic method

4.2.1. General procedure for the preparation of compound **6(a-m)**

The reactant **2** (2.7 mmol) was first dissolved in acetic acid (15 mL)

on heating. Afterwards, equivalent amounts (2.7 mmol) of substituted aldehyde **3(a-m)**, benzil (**4**) and ammonium acetate (**5**) were added to the solution. The reaction mixture was refluxed for about 6 hrs and monitored through TLC. After reaction completion, the reaction contents were poured into cold water and neutralized with sodium carbonate solution to afford crude product **6(a-m)** which was further purified through column chromatography over silica gel by using *n*-hexane:ethyl acetate (in 8:2 ratio). These newly synthesized compounds **6(a-m)** were characterized by physical and spectral means.

4.2.2. 3,5-Dimethyl-1-(4-(2,4,5-triphenyl-1H-imidazol-1-yl)phenyl)-1H-pyrazole (**6a**)

White solid; m.p. 190–192 °C; Yield 73%; FTIR (ν_{\max} -cm⁻¹; neat): 3055–2970 (C–H), 1602 (C=N), 1560 (C=C); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz), δ : 2.26 (s, 3H; CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 2.27 (s, 3H; CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 5.99 (s, 1H; H-4 Pyrazole), 7.10 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.5 Hz; Ar-2H Pyrazole), 7.14–7.16 (m, 2H; Ar²-2H), 7.19–7.22 (m, 1H; Ar²-H), 7.24–7.29 (m, 8H; Ar¹-3H, Ar²-2H & Ar³-3H), 7.35 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.5 Hz; Ar-2H Imidazole), 7.46–7.48 (m, 2H; Ar¹-2H), 7.61 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.4 Hz; Ar³-2H), ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz), δ : 12.76 (CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 13.59 (CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 107.88 (CH-4 Pyrazole), 124.75, 126.92, 127.57, 128.31, 128.36, 128.64, 128.70, 129.07, 129.21, 130.05, 130.38, 130.90, 131.25, 134.02, 135.56, 138.25, 139.57, 139.72, 147.01 (C-2 Imidazole), 149.72 (C-3 Pyrazole); MS (ESI): *m/z* (%) 467.2 ([M + H]⁺, 100), 489.2 ([M + Na]⁺, 25.1); Anal. Calcd. For C₃₂H₂₆N₄: C, 82.38; H, 5.62; N, 12.01%. Found: C, 82.29; H, 5.46; N, 11.93%.

4.2.3. 3,5-Dimethyl-1-(4-(2-(naphthalen-1-yl)-4,5-diphenyl-1H-imidazol-1-yl)phenyl)-1H-pyrazole (**6b**)

White solid; m.p. 183–185 °C; Yield 70%; FTIR (ν_{\max} -cm⁻¹; neat): 3050–2955 (C–H), 1600 (C=N), 1555 (C=C); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz), δ : 2.09 (s, 3H; CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 2.21 (s, 3H; CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 5.91 (s, 1H; H-4 Pyrazole), 6.94 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.2 Hz; Ar-2H Pyrazole), 7.11 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.2 Hz; Ar-2H Imidazole), 7.21–7.28 (m, 8H; Ar¹-3H, Ar²-5H), 7.32–7.35 (m, 1H; H-7 Ar³), 7.38–7.40 (m, 1H; H-6 Ar³), 7.44–7.46 (m, 2H; H-1 & H-2 Ar³), 7.67 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.4 Hz; Ar¹-H), 7.81–7.82 (m, 2H; H-4 & H-5 Ar³), 8.13–8.14 (m, 1H; H-8 Ar³); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz), δ : 12.54 (CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 13.52 (CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 107.64 (CH-4 Pyrazole), 124.39, 124.82, 126.17, 126.19, 126.84, 126.90, 127.65, 127.98, 128.30, 128.32, 128.39, 128.74, 129.67, 129.72, 129.94, 130.57, 131.18, 132.75, 133.72, 134.28, 135.24, 138.21, 139.16, 139.49, 146.33 (C-2 Imidazole), 149.53 (C-3 Pyrazole); MS (ESI): *m/z* (%) 517.2 ([M + H]⁺, 100), 539.2 ([M + Na]⁺, 42.2); Anal. Calcd. For C₃₆H₂₈N₄: C, 83.69; H, 5.46; N, 10.84%. Found: C, 83.51; H, 5.38; N, 10.91%.

4.2.4. 1-(4-(2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-4,5-diphenyl-1H-imidazol-1-yl)phenyl)-3,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrazole (**6c**)

White solid; m.p. 178–180 °C; Yield: 71%; FTIR (ν_{\max} -cm⁻¹; neat): 3056–2970 (C–H), 1599 (C=N), 1560 (C=C); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz), δ : 2.27 (s, 3H; CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 2.27 (s, 3H; CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 6.00 (s, 1H; H-4 Pyrazole), 6.96 (t, 2H, *J* = 8.7 Hz; Ar³-2H), 7.09 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.6 Hz; Ar-2H Pyrazole), 7.14 (dd, 2H, *J* = 7.8, 2.0 Hz; Ar²-2H), 7.18–7.21 (m, 1H; Ar²-1H), 7.22–7.27 (m, 5H; Ar¹-3H & Ar²-2H), 7.37 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.6 Hz; Ar-2H Imidazole), 7.45 (dd, 2H, *J* = 8.7, 5.4 Hz; Ar³-2H), 7.59 (d, 2H, *J* = 7.2 Hz; Ar¹-2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz), δ : 12.80 (CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 13.59 (CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 107.98 (CH-4 Pyrazole), 115.49 (d, 2C, *J* (¹³C-¹⁹F) = 22.7 Hz, CH-3 Ar³ & CH-5 Ar³), 124.80, 126.47, 126.96, 127.51, 128.34, 128.41, 128.67, 129.06, 130.35, 130.95, 131.08 (d, 2C, *J* (¹³C-¹⁹F) = 8.3 Hz, CH-2 Ar³ & CH-6 Ar³), 131.23, 134.06, 135.43, 138.36, 139.57, 139.85, 146.14 (C-2 Imidazole), 149.82 (C-3 Pyrazole), 162.94 (d, 2C, *J* (¹³C-¹⁹F) = 249.2 Hz, C-F); MS (ESI): *m/z* (%) 485.2 ([M + H]⁺, 100), 507.1 ([M + Na]⁺, 58.0); Anal. Calcd. For C₃₂H₂₅FN₄: C, 79.32; H, 5.20; N, 11.56%. Found: C, 79.24; H, 5.09; N, 11.60%.

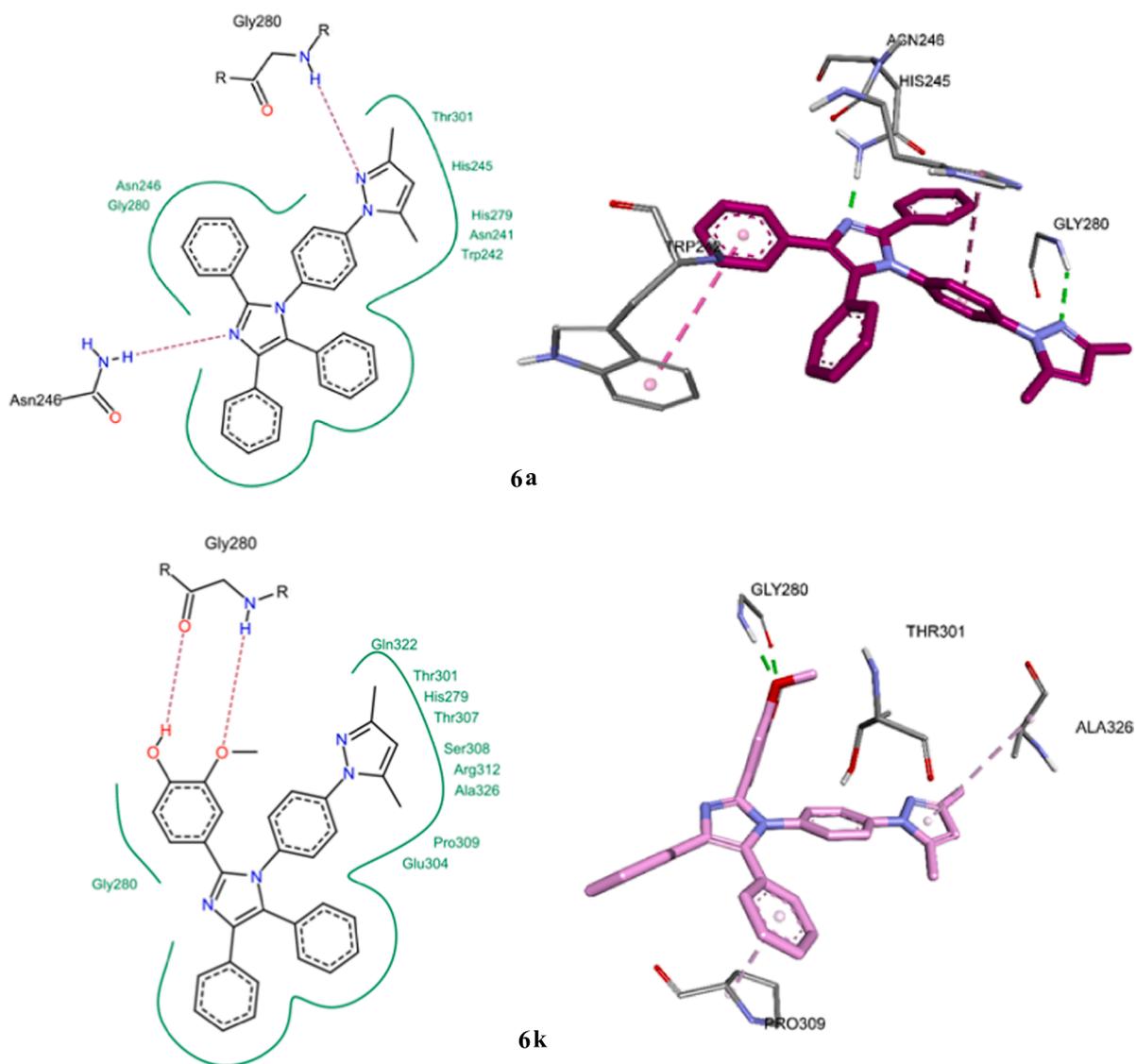


Fig. 5. Docked conformations of α -glucosidase inhibitors **6a** and **6k**.

4.2.5. 1-(4-(2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-4,5-diphenyl-1H-imidazol-1-yl)phenyl)-3,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrazole (**6d**)

White solid; m.p. 185–187 °C; Yield 68%; FTIR (ν_{\max} -cm⁻¹; neat): 3052–2950 (C–H), 1590 (C=N), 1555 (C=C); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz), δ : 2.28 (s, 6H; 2 × CH₃ Pyrazole), 6.00 (s, 1H; H-4 Pyrazole), 7.10 (d, 2H, J = 8.8 Hz; Ar-2H Pyrazole), 7.12–7.15 (m, 2H; Ar²-2H), 7.22–7.28 (m, 8H; Ar¹-3H, Ar²-3H & Ar³-2H), 7.37–7.42 (m, 4H; Ar-2H Imidazole & Ar³-2H), 7.59 (dd, 2H, J = 8.2, 1.8 Hz; Ar¹-2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz), δ : 12.84 (CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 13.60 (CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 108.04 (CH-4 Pyrazole), 124.82, 127.05, 127.53, 128.36, 128.49, 128.66, 128.69, 129.02, 130.18, 130.36, 131.22, 133.87, 134.85 (C-Cl), 135.29, 138.47, 139.58, 139.97, 145.85 (C-2 Imidazole), 149.85 (C-3 Pyrazole); MS (ESI): m/z (%) 501.1 ([M + H]⁺, 100), 502.1 ([M + 2]⁺, 31.2), 503.2 ([M + H + 2]⁺, 29.1), 523.1 ([M + Na]⁺, 6); Anal. Calcd. For C₃₂H₂₅ClN₄: C, 76.71; H, 5.03; N, 11.18%. Found: C, 76.59; H, 4.91; N, 11.26%.

4.2.6. 1-(4-(2-(4-Bromophenyl)-4,5-diphenyl-1H-imidazol-1-yl)phenyl)-3,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrazole (**6e**)

White solid; m.p. 180–182 °C; Yield 71%; FTIR (ν_{\max} -cm⁻¹; neat): 3050–2957 (C–H), 1603 (C=N), 1559 (C=C); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz), δ : 2.26 (s, 6H; 2 × CH₃), 5.98 (s, 1H; H-4 Pyrazole), 7.08 (d, 2H, J = 8.6 Hz; Ar-2H Pyrazole), 7.12 (d, 2H, J = 6.4, 1.5 Hz; Ar²-2H),

7.17–7.18 (m, 1H; Ar¹-1H), 7.22–7.25 (m, 5H; Ar-2H Imidazole & Ar²-3H), 7.31 (d, 2H, J = 8.5 Hz; Ar³-2H), 7.35–7.38 (m, 4H; Ar¹-2H & Ar³-2H), 7.56 (d, 2H, J = 7.3 Hz; Ar¹-2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz), δ : 12.68 (CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 13.45 (CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 107.86 (CH-4 Pyrazole), 122.81 (C-Br), 124.67, 126.78, 127.32, 128.19, 128.26, 128.52, 128.89, 129.29, 130.23, 130.36, 131.08, 131.14, 131.42, 134.10, 135.32, 138.67, 139.42, 139.78, 145.80 (C-2 Imidazole), 149.69 (C-3 Pyrazole); MS (EI): m/z (%) 544.0 (M⁺, 100), 546.0 ([M + 2]⁺, 100); Anal. Calcd. For C₃₂H₂₅BrN₄: C, 70.46; H, 4.62; N, 10.27%. Found: C, 70.31; H, 4.53; N, 10.16%.

4.2.7. 4-(1-(4-(3,5-Dimethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)phenyl)-4,5-diphenyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenol (**6f**)

White solid; m.p. 234–236 °C; Yield 65%; FTIR (ν_{\max} -cm⁻¹; neat): 3160 (br., OH), 3078–2924 (C–H), 1611 (C=N), 1556 (C=C), 1235 (C–O); ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 400 MHz), δ : 2.14 (s, 3H; CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 2.23 (s, 3H; CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 6.05 (s, 1H; H-4 Pyrazole), 6.68 (d, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz; Ar³-2H), 7.15–7.17 (m, 1H; Ar²-1H), 7.21–7.23 (m, 6H; Ar-2H Pyrazole & Ar²-4H), 7.30–7.31 (m, 5H; Ar¹-3H & Ar³-2H), 7.42 (d, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz; Ar-2H Imidazole), 7.49 (d, 2H, J = 7.4 Hz; Ar¹-2H), 9.67 (br. s, 1H; OH); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 100 MHz), δ : 12.20 (CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 13.20 (CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 107.56 (CH-4 Pyrazole), 114.98, 121.10, 124.07, 126.31, 128.09, 128.31, 128.44, 129.44, 129.83,

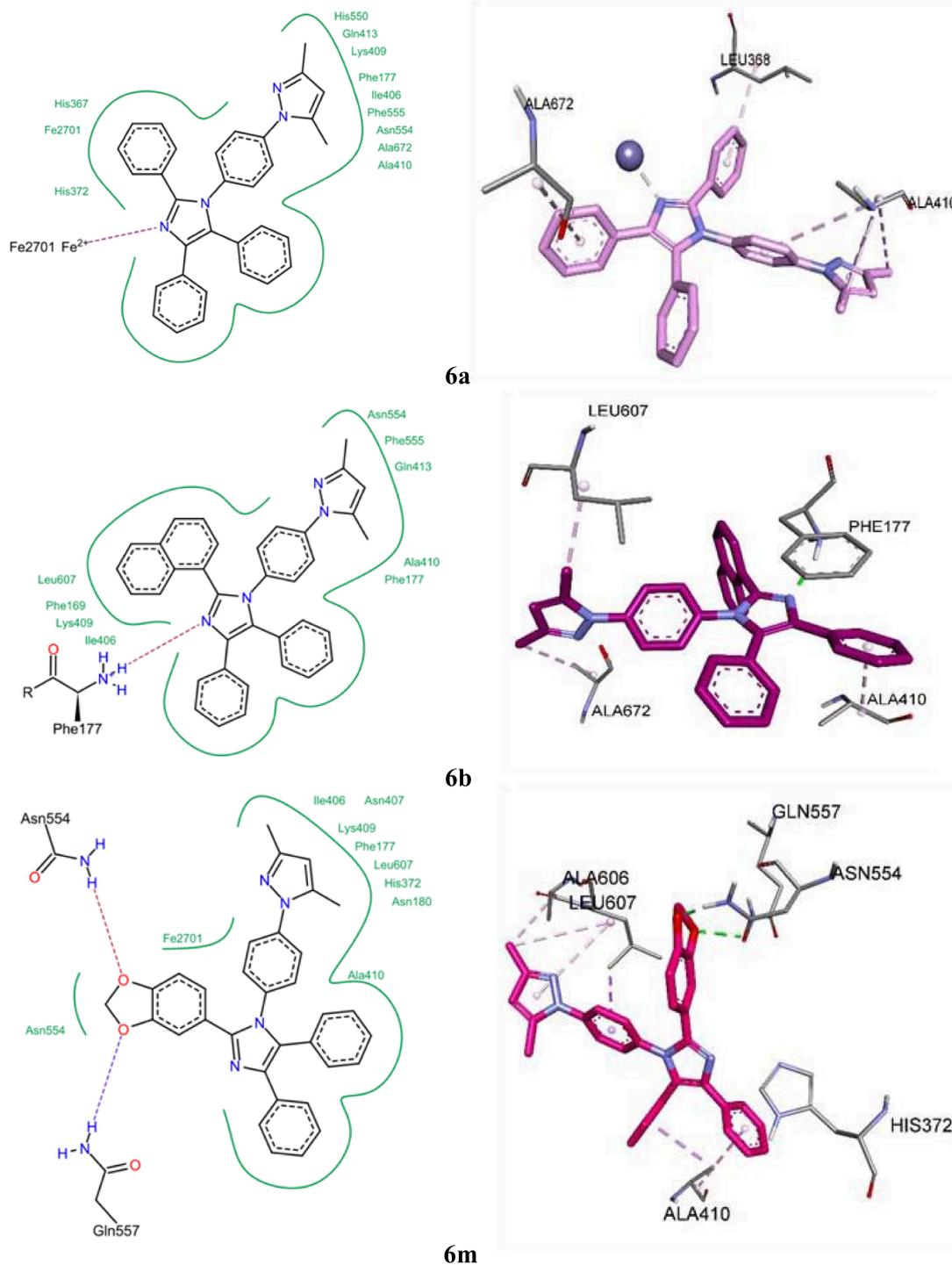


Fig. 6. Docked conformations of LOX inhibitors **6a**, **6b** and **6m**.

130.49, 130.53, 131.12, 134.49, 135.15, 136.48, 139.19, 139.30, 146.51 (C-2 Imidazole), 148.27 (C-3 Pyrazole), 157.66 (C-OH); MS (EI): m/z (%) 482.1 (M^+ , 100); Anal. Calcd. For $C_{32}H_{26}N_4O$: C, 79.64; H, 5.43; N, 11.61%. Found: C, 79.45; H, 5.38; N, 11.62%.

4.2.8. 1-(4-(2-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-4,5-diphenyl-1H-imidazol-1-yl)phenyl)-3,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrazole (**6g**)

White solid; m.p. 201–203 °C; Yield 70%; FTIR (ν_{\max} - cm^{-1} ; neat): 3052–2948 (C–H), 1609 (C=N), 1563 (C=C), 1252 ($\text{Ar}^3\text{-O}$), 1025 (C–O); ^1H NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 400 MHz), δ : 2.14 (s, 3H; CH_3 -5 Pyrazole),

2.23 (s, 3H; CH_3 -3 Pyrazole), 3.72 (s, 3H; $-\text{OCH}_3$), 6.06 (s, 1H; H-4 Pyrazole), 6.87 (d, 2H, $J = 8.7$ Hz; Ar^2 -2H), 7.17–7.18 (m, 1H; Ar^2 -1H), 7.22–7.25 (m, 4H; Ar-2H Pyrazole & Ar^2 -2H), 7.30–7.36 (m, 7H; Ar^1 -3H, Ar^2 -2H & Ar^3 -2H), 7.44 (d, 2H, $J = 8.5$ Hz; Ar-2H Imidazole), 7.49 (d, 2H, $J = 7.6$ Hz; Ar^1 -2H); ^{13}C NMR (DMSO- d_6 , 100 MHz), δ : 12.24 (CH_3 -5 Pyrazole), 13.20 (CH_3 -3 Pyrazole), 55.11 ($-\text{OCH}_3$), 107.62 (CH-4 Pyrazole), 113.67, 122.67, 124.04, 126.32, 126.38, 128.11, 128.37, 128.45, 129.45, 129.71, 130.40, 130.80, 131.12, 134.42, 135.03, 136.61, 139.28, 139.33, 146.07 (C-2 Imidazole), 148.30 (C-3 Pyrazole), 159.27 (C-OCH₃); MS (EI): m/z (%) 496.1 (M^+ , 100); Anal. Calcd. For

$C_{33}H_{26}N_4O$: C, 79.81; H, 5.68; N, 11.28%. Found: C, 79.92; H, 5.61; N, 11.32%.

4.2.9. 4-(1-(4-(3,5-Dimethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)phenyl)-4,5-diphenyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)benzotrile (6h)

White solid; m.p. 261–263 °C; Yield 77%; FTIR (ν_{\max} -cm⁻¹; neat): 3060–2930 (C–H), 2229 (C≡N), 1602 (C=N), 1560 (C=C); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz), δ : 2.26 (s, 3H; CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 2.27 (s, 3H; CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 5.99 (s, 1H; H-4 Pyrazole), 7.11 (d, 2H, J = 8.7 Hz; Ar-2H Pyrazole), 7.12–7.14 (m, 2H; Ar²-2H), 7.20–7.27 (m, 6H; Ar¹-3H & Ar²-3H), 7.40 (d, 2H, J = 8.7 Hz; Ar-2H Imidazole), 7.52 (d, 2H, J = 8.5 Hz; Ar³-2H), 7.56 (dd, 2H, J = 7.0, 1.0 Hz; Ar¹-2H), 7.57 (d, 2H, J = 8.5 Hz; Ar³-2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz), δ : 12.71 (CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 13.42 (CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 108.03 (CH-4 Pyrazole), 111.66 (C≡N), 118.52 (C≡N), 124.76, 127.01, 127.24, 128.24, 128.50, 128.58, 128.80, 128.97, 129.82, 131.02, 131.96, 132.11, 133.76, 134.52, 134.95, 139.25, 139.41, 140.10 (C-2 Imidazole), 144.64, 149.82 (C-3 Pyrazole); MS (EI): m/z (%) 491.2 (M⁺, 100); Anal. Calcd. For C₃₃H₂₅N₅: C, 80.63; H, 5.13; N, 14.25%. Found: C, 80.66; H, 5.06; N, 14.13%.

4.2.10. 3,5-Dimethyl-1-(4-(2-(4-nitrophenyl)-4,5-diphenyl-1H-imidazol-1-yl)phenyl)-1H-pyrazole (6i)

Yellow solid; m.p. 202–204 °C; Yield 78%; FTIR (ν_{\max} -cm⁻¹; neat): 3059–2940 (C–H), 1601 (C=N), 1555 (C=C), 1517 & 1350 (NO₂); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz), δ : 2.29 (s, 3H; CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 2.31 (s, 3H; CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 6.02 (s, 1H; H-4 Pyrazole), 7.15–7.17 (m, 4H; Ar-2H Pyrazole & Ar²-2H), 7.24–7.28 (m, 6H; Ar¹-3H & Ar²-3H), 7.45 (d, 2H, J = 8.7 Hz; Ar-2H Imidazole), 7.60 (d, 2H, J = 6.6 Hz; Ar¹-2H), 7.68 (d, 2H, J = 8.7 Hz; Ar³-2H), 8.12 (d, 2H, J = 8.7 Hz; Ar³-2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz), δ : 12.78 (CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 13.43 (CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 108.15 (CH-4 Pyrazole), 123.50, 124.59, 124.76, 127.33, 127.38, 128.32, 128.68, 128.74, 128.80, 129.38, 130.99, 132.37, 132.93, 134.48, 135.52, 138.84, 139.44, 140.33 (C-2 Imidazole), 144.15 (Ar³-C-NO₂), 147.32 (C-3 Pyrazole), 149.90 (Ar³-C-Imidazole); MS (EI): m/z (%) 511.0 (M⁺, 100); Anal. Calcd. For C₃₂H₂₅N₅O₂: C, 75.13; H, 4.93; N, 13.69%. Found: C, 75.02; H, 4.74; N, 13.71%.

4.2.11. 4-(1-(4-(3,5-Dimethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)phenyl)-4,5-diphenyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-N,N-dimethylaniline (6j)

White solid; m.p. 174–176 °C; Yield 66%; FTIR (ν_{\max} -cm⁻¹; neat): 3053–2930 (C–H), 1606 (C=N), 1570 (C=C), 1359 (C–N); ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 400 MHz), δ : 2.14 (s, 3H; CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 2.24 (s, 3H; CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 2.88 (s, 6H; -N(CH₃)₂), 6.06 (s, 1H; H-4 Pyrazole), 6.60 (d, 2H, J = 8.6 Hz; Ar³-2H), 7.15–7.17 (m, 1H; Ar²-1H), 7.23–7.25 (m, 6H; Ar-2H Pyrazole & Ar²-4H), 7.29–7.32 (m, 5H; Ar¹-3H & Ar³-2H), 7.44 (d, 2H, J = 8.3 Hz; Ar-2H Imidazole), 7.49 (d, 2H, J = 7.5 Hz; Ar¹-2H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 100 MHz), δ : 12.27 (CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 13.21 (CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 39.71 (-N(CH₃)₂), 107.60 (CH-4 Pyrazole), 111.38, 117.52, 124.00, 126.25, 126.30, 128.07, 128.24, 128.41, 129.08, 129.49, 130.36, 130.59, 131.15, 134.59, 135.37, 136.40, 139.16, 139.31, 146.79 (C-2 Imidazole), 148.27 (C-3 Pyrazole), 149.98 (C–N(CH₃)₂); MS (EI): m/z (%) 509.1 (M⁺, 100); Anal. Calcd. For C₃₄H₃₁N₅: C, 80.13; H, 6.13; N, 13.74%. Found: C, 79.95; H, 6.08; N, 13.73%.

4.2.12. 4-(1-(4-(3,5-Dimethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)phenyl)-4,5-diphenyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-2-methoxyphenol (6k)

White solid; m.p. 228–230 °C; Yield 60%; FTIR (ν_{\max} -cm⁻¹; neat): 3057 (br., OH), 3040–2933 (C–H), 1605 (C=N), 1596 (C=C), 1269 & 1033 (Ar³-O-CH₃); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz), δ : 2.24 (s, 3H; CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 2.25 (s, 3H; CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 3.77 (s, 3H; —OCH₃), 5.74 (br. s, 1H; OH), 5.97 (s, 1H; H-4 Pyrazole), 6.70 (d, 1H, J_{ab} = 8.3 Hz; Ar³-1H), 6.74 (dd, 1H, J_{ab} = 8.3 & J_{bc} = 1.8 Hz; Ar³-1H), 7.09 (d, 2H, J = 8.7 Hz; Ar-2H Pyrazole), 7.12 (dd, 1H, J = 7.6, 1.5 Hz; Ar²-1H), 7.15 (d, 1H, J = 1.8 Hz; Ar³-1H), 7.17–7.18 (m, 1H; Ar²-1H), 7.21–7.24 (m, 5H; Ar¹-3H & Ar²-2H), 7.34 (d, 2H, J = 8.7 Hz; Ar-2H Imidazole), 7.57 (dd, 2H, J = 7.2, 1.4 Hz; Ar-2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz), δ : 12.58 (CH₃-5

Pyrazole), 13.40 (CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 55.81 (—OCH₃), 107.73 (CH-4 Pyrazole), 111.95, 114.11, 122.15, 122.37, 124.57, 126.61, 127.40, 128.07, 128.12, 128.44, 128.71, 129.00, 130.37, 130.43, 131.10, 134.20, 135.78, 138.05, 139.38, 146.27 (C-2 Imidazole), 146.44 (C–OCH₃), 147.10 (C-3 Pyrazole), 149.57 (C–OH); MS (ESI): m/z (%) 512.3 (M + H⁺, 100); Anal. Calcd. For C₃₃H₂₈N₄O₂: C, 77.32; H, 5.51; N, 10.93%. Found: C, 77.27; H, 5.44; N, 11.01%.

4.2.13. 5-Bromo-2-(1-(4-(3,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)phenyl)-4,5-diphenyl-1H-imidazol-2-yl)phenol (6l)

White solid; m.p. 192–194 °C; Yield 58%; FTIR (ν_{\max} -cm⁻¹; neat): 3064 (br., OH), 3050–2921 (C–H), 1604 (C=N), 1578 (C=C); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz), δ : 2.28 (s, 3H; CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 2.35 (s, 3H; CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 6.01 (s, 1H; H-4 Pyrazole), 6.56 (d, 1H, J = 2.4 Hz; Ar³-1H), 6.94 (d, 1H, J = 8.8 Hz; Ar³-1H), 7.16 (dd, 2H, J = 7.9, 1.5 Hz; Ar²-2H), 7.20 (t, 1H, J = 4.0, 2.5 Hz; Ar¹-1H), 7.22 (t, 1H, J = 2.5, 1.5 Hz; Ar²-1H), 7.23–7.28 (m, 7H; Ar-2H Pyrazole, Ar¹-2H, Ar²-2H & Ar³-1H), 7.49 (d, 2H, J = 8.7 Hz; Ar-2H Imidazole), 7.49–7.51 (m, 2H; Ar¹-2H), 13.41 (br. s, 1H; OH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz), δ : 12.68 (CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 13.45 (CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 107.89 (CH-4 Pyrazole), 109.55, 114.36, 119.52, 125.60, 126.88, 127.25, 128.33, 128.45, 128.79, 128.90, 129.13, 129.16, 130.78, 131.22, 132.49, 132.66, 135.08, 135.59, 139.85, 140.68, 143.63 (C-2 Imidazole), 149.84 (C-3 Pyrazole), 157.52 (C–OH); MS (ESI): m/z (%) 561.2 ([M + H]⁺, 98.1), 563.2 ([M + H + 2]⁺, 100); Anal. Calcd. For C₃₂H₂₅BrN₄O: C, 68.45; H, 4.49; N, 9.98%. Found: C, 68.38; H, 4.45; N, 9.83%.

4.2.14. 1-(4-(2-(Benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-4,5-diphenyl-1H-imidazol-1-yl)phenyl)-3,5-dimethyl-1H-pyrazole (6m)

White solid; m.p. 182–184 °C; Yield 70%; FTIR (ν_{\max} -cm⁻¹; neat): 3056–2984 (C–H), 1601 (C=N), 1558 (C=C), 1034 (C–O); ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 400 MHz), δ : 2.14 (s, 3H; CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 2.22 (s, 3H; CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 6.01 (s, 2H; CH₂), 6.06 (s, 1H; H-4 Pyrazole), 6.85 (d, 1H, J = 8.0 Hz; Ar³-1H), 6.89 (d, 1H, J = 8.0 Hz; Ar³-1H), 6.93 (s, 1H; Ar³-1H), 7.17–7.18 (m, 1H; Ar²-1H), 7.22–7.26 (m, 4H; Ar-2H Pyrazole & Ar²-2H), 7.30–7.35 (m, 5H; Ar¹-3H & Ar²-2H), 7.44 (d, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz; Ar-2H Imidazole), 7.49 (d, 2H, J = 7.5 Hz; Ar¹-2H); ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 100 MHz), δ : 12.20 (CH₃-5 Pyrazole), 13.19 (CH₃-3 Pyrazole), 101.29 (—CH₂), 107.60 (CH-4 Pyrazole), 108.09, 108.50, 122.63, 124.11, 126.33, 126.42, 128.11, 128.41, 128.46, 129.46, 130.31, 130.94, 131.11, 134.32, 134.94, 136.58, 139.32, 145.86 (C-2 Imidazole), 147.05 (C-3 Pyrazole), 147.41, 148.31; MS (EI): m/z (%) 510.2 (M⁺, 100); Anal. Calcd. For C₃₃H₂₆N₄O₂: C, 77.63; H, 5.13; N, 10.97%. Found: C, 77.71; H, 5.11; N, 11.16%.

4.3. Enzyme inhibition assays

To determine the inhibition of selected enzymes, we used our previously reported protocols [37,38]. Study of α -glucosidase inhibition was carried out with respective enzyme isolated from *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (Cat No. 5003-1KU Type I, Sigma USA) while the positive control was acarbose. For LOX inhibition, lipoxigenase enzyme isolated from *Glycine max* (Sigma, USA) was used and baicalein was the positive control. Compounds were dissolved in HPLC grade methanol and assays were carried out with different sample dilutions and run in triplicates. After calculating the inhibitory percentages, IC₅₀ values were determined with the help of EZ-Fit Enzyme Kinetics Software from Perrella Scientific Inc.

4.4. Molecular docking

The crystal structure data of α -glucosidase from *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* is not yet available in protein data bank (PDB). Previously, we built its homology model, validated and reported [38–40,42]. Herein, this model was utilized for the docking studies. Whereas for LOX studies, the crystal structure was downloaded from the PDB (PDB ID: 3V99) and

docking was performed on BioSolveIT's LeadIT software [51]. The detailed studies regarding binding interactions were carried out with the most favorable conformations possessing the lowest binding energies. Discovery Studio Visualizer 3.5 was used for visualization of docked structures.

Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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Appendix A. Supplementary material

Supplementary data to this article can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bioorg.2021.104686>.

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