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# An investigation of the electronic structure and optoelectronic properties of 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene)amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl) benzene sulfonamide

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## Abstract

Molecules of 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene)amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl)benzene sulfonamide were investigated at varying concentrations in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO). Different temperatures were employed to assess bandgap energies, Tauc plots, refractive indices, optical and electrical properties, and dielectric constants. The refractive index was determined through a straightforward model based on energy gap data and subsequently compared to experimental values. For the examination of the materials' optical properties, reflection and reflection loss at plasma frequencies were considered as they play a crucial role. Density functional theory (DFT) with a 6-311G++ (d, p) basis set and Becke's three-parameter hybrid (B3LYP) level of theory were utilized through Gaussian software to conduct the studies. Chemical reactivity and selectivity parameters, including HOMO-LUMO, global hardness, softness, electronegativity, electrophilicity, nucleophilicity, chemical potential, bandgap energy, and electron affinity, were computed. Becke's three-parameter hybrid exchange-correlation functional (B3LYP) level was employed for optimizing the geometry of the title molecule.

Keywords: Optoelectronic, UV-visible spectroscopy, HOMO-LUMO, DFT

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## 1. Introduction

Numerous biodegradable materials, including those designed for electronic applications, hold potential for utilization in the fabrication of electronic devices. Through the application of optical absorption spectroscopy, the optical and electronic characteristics of these biomaterials have been investigated, providing insights into energy diagrams, energy band gaps, and optoelectronic properties associated with such materials [1–3]. The majority of biomaterials, including those with bandgap energies exceeding 2.5 eV such as gelatin, glycerol, and fibrinogen, have been previously documented in studies with values of 3, 3.54, and 3.02 eV, respectively [4-7]. Semiconductor materials typically exhibit bandgap energies falling within the range of 1-1.5 eV, exemplified by conventional semiconductors like gallium arsenide and silicon[8]. In contrast, widebandgap (WBG) semiconductors, characterized by bandgaps ranging from 2 to 4 eV, possess distinctive properties that enable devices to operate at higher voltages, frequencies, and temperatures compared to conventional semiconductors [9, 10]. For the investigation of optoelectronic properties, key parameters include bandgap energy, Tauc plot, refractive index, transmittance of light through the molecule, and dielectric properties [11, 12]. The refractive index, an optical property describing the relative speed of light through a material, is influenced by the material's crystalline structure and density, providing valuable physical and chemical characteristics for characterization[13, 14]. With diverse applications in fields such as the pharmaceutical industry, the refractive index plays a crucial role. This study focuses on the theoretical and experimental examination of the molecule 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene) amino)-N-(thiazol-2-vl)benzene sulfonamide in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO). The investigation aims to determine the applicability of this newly synthesized molecule by assessing physicochemical properties, including physical properties, solvation properties related to interactions with different media, and intrinsic chemical reactivity[15–18]. In recent years, the consideration of physical and chemical characteristics of drugs has gained prominence, as these properties significantly influence a

chemical compound's pharmacological and therapeutic effects. The action and responsivity of a drug can be correlated with its physical and chemical properties, encompassing neutralization, chelation, oxidation, and extracellular reactions [19, 20]. Given the advantages of photonics in various industries, such as optical communications, data storage, and image processing, there is growing interest in nonlinear optical reactions in diverse materials [21].

The primary objective of this study is to comprehensively examine the chemical, physical, and optoelectronic properties of the newly synthesized molecule, including a fully optimized geometrical structure (refer to Figs. 1 and 2) [22]. Quantitative calculations based on Density Functional Theory (DFT) were employed to determine the electronic structure and several quantitative chemical parameters.



**Fig. 1.** Chemical structure of 4-((2-hydroxy-3-me-thoxybenzylidene) amino)-N-(thiazole-2-yl) benzene-sulfonamide



Fig. 2. Optimized structure

## 2. UV-visible spectroscopy

UV-visible spectroscopy stands out as a highly valuable and straightforward optical technique for probing the optical and electrical properties of nanomaterials. Numerous research endeavors have harnessed the power of UV-visible applications to elucidate the behavior of diverse nanomaterials, ranging from polymers and organic light-emitting materials to combinations of organic and inorganic semiconductors[23,

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24]. The reflected spectra obtained through this technique offer insights into the fundamental electronic properties of the samples under investigation. The bandgap energy, a crucial parameter, plays a pivotal role in defining various optical properties such as refractive index, scattering angular frequency, electronegativity, and dielectric constant of materials. This parameter has emerged as a powerful tool for efficiently designing novel semiconductor devices, including 2D electron gas and LEDs [25]. Notably, the bandgap energy of materials has recently gained recognition not only in the context of advanced semiconductor technology but also in the construction of cutting-edge equipment. This recognition extends to its role as a technology platform facilitating the development of innovative devices like high-capacity batteries and ultra-efficient solar cells [25]. In scenarios involving embedded electric fields, the technique proves essential for ionizing holes from deep acceptor dopants. This ionization process is facilitated by the unbalanced polarization charge correlated with the gradient layer, thereby enabling the creation of electric fields. The material 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene) amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl)benzene sulfonamide, and materials derived from it, can be applied to semiconductor crystals capable of maintaining sufficient piezoelectric polarization and strong spontaneous polarization. These properties make them versatile candidates for a range of applications in the realm of nanoelectronics and advanced semiconductor devices.

The relationship between the absorbance of light at a specific frequency and the concentration of molecules is found to be directly proportional, as illustrated in Table 1. This association is further elucidated in Fig. 3, where an increase in the absorption of photon energy is observed in tandem with changes in concentration, akin to the effect of path length. The initial concentration of the solution is highest, resulting in a greater number of molecules for incident light to interact with as it traverses through the medium. Consequently, an elevated concentration leads to increased light absorption, signifying a higher number of molecules in the solution. This alignment with Beer-Lambert's law establishes a direct proportionality between absorbance and concentration, where an augmentation in the original concentration corresponds to an increase in absorption.

**Table. 1.** Maximum absorption at different concentrations and temperatures 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene) amino)-N-(thiazole-2-yl) benzenesulfonamide in DMSO

	Temp	perature 303	.15 K	Temperature 313.15 K			
Concentration (mg/l)	1.026	0.513	0.2565	1.026	0.513	0.2565	
$\lambda_{\max}$ (nm)	362	331	328	362	353	325.32	
Bandgap (eV)	3.425	3.746	3.78	3.425	3.512	3.811	



**Fig. 3.** UV-spectrum of 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene) amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl) benzene sulfonamide in DMSO solvent at different temperatures

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However, the second concentration exhibits a decrease in absorption. This deviation can be rationalized by considering the dilution of the solution, implying a reduction in the initial concentration. As the solution is diluted, the number of molecules available for light interaction decreases, resulting in a proportional decrease in absorption. This observation aligns with Beer-Lambert's law, emphasizing the direct relationship between absorbance and concentration. Therefore, in the present study, the reduction in absorption at the second concentration level can be attributed to the dilution of the solution, reflecting the anticipated proportional decrease in concentration.

The optical and electrical characteristics of semiconductor materials exhibit notable distinctions between wide bandgap energies and narrow bandgap energy configurations. The molecule 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene) amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl)benzene sulfonamide possesses a wide bandgap exceeding 3 eV. Wide-bandgap semiconductors (WBGSs) are characterized by a larger bandgap compared to conventional semiconductors, with the latter falling within the 1-1.5 eV range (e.g., germanium and silicon), while the former extends from 2 to 4 eV. Typically, WBGSs exhibit electronic characteristics intermediate to insulators and conventional semiconductors. The distinct properties of WBGS materials make them highly suitable for a broad spectrum of applications, allowing devices to operate at significantly elevated voltages, frequencies, and temperatures, approximately up to 300 °C. This capability surpasses the operational limits of conventional semiconductor materials like silicon and gallium arsenide. Applications utilizing WBGS materials include a variety of devices and pigments such as radars, radiofrequency devices, lasers, and light-emitting diodes (LEDs), benefitting from their ability to function at higher power levels under normal conditions due to their enhanced thermal stability [26-28]. The electronic spectra of the 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene) amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl)benzene sulfonamide compound reveal two discernible bands. The first band, located at  $\lambda_{max} = 300-312$  nm, is attributed to the  $\pi \rightarrow \pi$  transition within the aromatic system of the phenyl group. The third

band, situated at  $\lambda_{max} = 430-460$  nm, is associated with the C=N chromophore of these compounds, as indicated in Table 1. UV-visible spectra of this compound were investigated at different temperatures in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), with Figure 3 depicting the UV spectra of compound at varying temperatures. At room temperature, the selected compound exhibits two absorptions in the range of 300–600 nm, specifically at 393 nm for the enol-imine form and at 453 nm for the keto-amine form. Upon cooling the solution to 15 °C, a color change from orange to yellow occurs, accompanied by the disappearance of the absorption band at 453 nm for the keto form in the UV-visible spectra. Upon reheating the solution, the absorption band for the keto form reappears. This behavior indicates the existence of an enolketo equilibrium, and notably, the equilibrium is temperature-dependent.

This study aims to explore the optoelectronic properties of the 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene)amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl)benzenesulfonamide molecule, garnering significant interest due to its noteworthy optical characteristics. The bandgap energy of this molecule is assessed through UV calculations, as depicted in Figures 2 and 3. The UV spectra reveal a singular peak across various concentrations and temperatures, as detailed in Table 1. The substantial bandgap within this range makes it particularly intriguing for applications in optoelectronic devices and transparent conductive oxide electrodes within solar cells. The utility of bandgap energy in this context is vital for extracting photo-generated carriers in solar cells. Transparent conducting oxide semiconductors, especially those with continuously graded bandgaps, have become a focal point of interest [29]. The ability to tune bandgap energy through continuous and independent manipulation of hole and electron properties adds versatility to its potential applications. The classification of optical bandgap is a prerequisite for device fabrication and holds significance in the optical characterization of these applications. Understanding and manipulating the bandgap energy of the 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene)amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl)benzenesulfonamide molecule offer promising avenues for advancing optoelectronic

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technologies, paving the way for innovative developments in solar cells and related devices.

## 3. Tauc-plot calculations

The absorption coefficient ( $\alpha$ ) with respect to photon energy ( $h\nu$ ) serves as a metric for characterizing the light absorption properties of semiconductor materials. The provided expression facilitates the computation of both the optical bandgap energy ( $E_g$ ) and the forbidden bandwidth associated with optical transitions in semiconductors. This formalism enables the determination of key parameters critical for understanding the semiconductor's response to light absorption, offering insights into its optical behavior and facilitating the calculation of optical bandgap energy and forbidden bandwidth  $E_g$  [30]:

$$(\alpha h v) = A^* \left( h v - E_g \right)^m. \tag{1}$$

Here, *A*<sup>\*</sup> denotes a constant, and *m* serves as the parameter associated with the characterization of band gaps based on the measurement type. For any transition to occur, the principles of crystal momentum conservation and energy conservation must be adhered to. In semiconductor physics, the bandgap of a semiconductor encompasses two distinct types: direct and indirect bandgaps. The maximal-energy state in the valence band and the minimal energy state in the conduction band within the Brillouin zone are distinctly characterized by specific crystal momentum [31].

The term "indirect bandgap" is applied when the crystal momentum of electrons and holes differs in both the conduction and valence bands. The determination of the type of bandgap energy for 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene)amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl)benzene sulfonamide is achieved through a comparison between the UV-visible bandgap energy and the Tauc plot, revealing that it falls under the category of indirect bandgap. The value of*m*is contingent upon the type of semiconductor bandgap energy and encompasses four distinct values: <math>3/2 for forbidden transition, 3 for forbidden indirect transition, 2 for allowing indirect transition [32]:

$$(\alpha h\nu) = A^* (h\nu - E_g)^2.$$
<sup>(2)</sup>

Various methods can be employed to determine the bandgap energy, including Tauc plot, the first derivation of absorbance, and transmittance. For the 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene) amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl)benzene sulfonamide molecule, the Tauc plot emerges as the most effective approach for calculating the bandgap energy  $(E_{\sigma})$ . The values of  $E_{\sigma}$  obtained through the Tauc plot method exhibit high similarity with those derived from the UV-visible spectra. Specifically, the  $E_{a}$  values, according to the Tauc plot method, are found to be 3.03, 3.18, 3.23 eV at one set of conditions and 3.02, 3.15, 3.16 eV at another set of conditions, corresponding to temperatures of 30 and 40 °C, as illustrated in Fig. 4.



**Fig. 4.** Tauc-plot of 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene) amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl) benzene sulfonamide in DMSO (A) at 303.15 K and (B) at 313.15 K

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# 3.1. Refractive index

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The refractive index of semiconductor materials holds considerable importance in determining various parameters, including electronegativity, bandgap energy, electrical and optical conductivity, and dielectric constant. The performance of devices is contingent on the refractive index, making it a crucial factor in optoelectronic applications and technologies. The refractive index, denoted by the symbol *n*, can be obtained from the following expression [33]:

$$n = \left\{ \left[ \frac{4R}{\left(R-1\right)^2} - k^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{R+1}{R-1} \right\}.$$
 (3)

The characterization of semiconducting materials, fundamental to their optical and electrical properties, relies on two key parameters: energy gap and refractive index. The refractive index (n) is a descriptor of transparency to incident photons, while the energy gap  $(E_{\alpha})$  is determined by the threshold of photon absorption in a semiconductor. Various relationships exist between  $E_{a}$  and n, including those formulated by Moss, Ravindra, Hervé and Vandamme, as well as Reddy and Kumar, and Singh. The Moss and semi-empirical correlations, established as early as the 1950s, have been subjects of intensive study in subsequent years. These relationships play a crucial role in understanding and characterizing the optical and electrical properties of semiconducting materials [34–37].

Reddy relation:

$$n^4 (E_{\rm g} - 0.365) = 154$$
. (4)

Moss relationship:

$$n^4 E_{\rm g} = 95 \, {\rm eV}.$$
 (5)

Ravindra relationship:

$$n = 4.084 - 0.62E_{\rm g} \,. \tag{6}$$

From the following equation of Tripathy, the relationship can calculate the refractive index:

$$n = n_0 \left[ 1 + \alpha e^{-\beta E_g} \right]. \tag{7}$$

Where,  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $n_0$  are constants which are equal to 1.9017, 0.539  $eV^{-1}$  and 1.37 respectively.

Herve–Vandamme relationship:

$$n^2 = 1 + \left(\frac{A}{E_{\rm g} + B}\right)^2. \tag{8}$$

Kumar and Singh relations:

$$n = KE_{\rm g}^c. \tag{9}$$

Where, K and C are constants which are equal to 3.3668 and -0.32234.

The refractive index (*n*) is a crucial parameter in the characterization of physical and chemical properties of materials, forming the basis for transparency measurements. Accurate knowledge of *n* is essential for designing optoelectronic devices due to its influence on electronic characteristics and the band structure of materials. In the case of the 4-((2-hydroxy-3methoxybenzylidene)amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl) benzene sulfonamide molecule, the refractive index is illustrated in Fig. 5. Experimental n values exhibit the lowest value compared to other relationships. Initially, the change in refractive index follows an approximately linear trend. Subsequently, *n* increases from 3.3 to 4.25 eV before decreasing to its initial position. At 6.19 eV, *n* is observed to be 0.18, with this value coinciding with the experimental and Ravindra relationship values. While each relationship has its unique characteristics, the Reddy relationship generally demonstrates the best compatibility with the refractive index. However, as the band gap exceeds 4 eV, the Moss relationship aligns more closely with experimental refractive index values. This relationship, for instance, at 6.2 eV, provides a closer match with experimental data in the middle to moderately high energy gap range. Nevertheless, it is noted that the Moss equation is inaccurate for materials with a band gap less than 0.365 eV [38]. The applicability of these relationships is contingent on the material type and bandgap energy. For instance, the Kumar & Singh relationship is more suitable for semiconductor binaries compared to other materials.

Moss's determination reveals that electron energy levels are scaled down by the effective dielectric constant, experienced by the electron within the material, based on photoconductivity [39]. The dielectric constant of materials is approximately proportional to the square of the



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**Fig. 5.** Variation of refractive index of different relations with bandgap energy of 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxy-benzylidene) amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl) benzene sulfonamide molecule in DMSO solvent

refractive index. The Ravindra relation, used to calculate the refractive index for semiconductors, assumes a linear relationship in energy gap, postulating that the valence and conduction bands are more or less parallel to each other along symmetry directions[40]. This model posits a constant difference between UV resonance energy and the energy gap, based on oscillatory theory assumptions. In the context of the 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene)amino)-N-(thiazol-2yl)benzene sulfonamide molecule in DMSO, the Kumar and Singh relationship yields a refractive index (n) value of 2.33. This model describes n as governed by an energy law behavior with respect to the energy gap, and the model parameters are fitted to experimental energy gaps and refractive index data. Moss's calculation for n in DMSO results in the highest value in this study, reaching 4.856 as presented in Table 2. The refractive index is influenced by the wavelength of light and the concentration in the solution. The relationship between temperature and the refractive index of molecules is explained by the refractive index remaining unaffected by temperature changes

but varying due to alterations in density. With increasing temperature, materials typically expand, leading to a decrease in density. However, if the material undergoes compression, the density remains constant despite temperature changes. Notably, altering pressure does not induce changes in the refractive index [41–43].

Dispersion is a crucial parameter for comprehending the physical properties of materials, particularly how light bends at specific wavelengths. In Fig. 6, the Normal dispersion region of the 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene) amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl)benzene sulfonamide molecule in DMSO is calculated by considering the relationship between the refractive index and angular frequency. The scattering area is a key property for designing optical pigments. As the angular frequency increases, the refractive index may fluctuate, leading to an expansion of the scattering area. Utilizing the refractive index and Normal dispersion area in the design of multi-element systems is highly valuable, enabling designers to precisely predict how light will behave throughout the entire optical path.

**Table. 2.** The average value of refractive indices of the 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene)amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl) benzene sulfonamide molecule in DMSO for various relations and experimental

Moss Redo	II		IZ	<i>T</i> = 303.15 K			<i>T</i> = 313.15 K			
	Reddy	Reddy Vandamme	Ravindra	and Singh	Concentration					
					1	2	3	1	2	3
4.856	0.3831	2.25505	1.62242	2.336455	0.0866	0.0706	0.0918	0.0738	0.0856	0.082

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# 3.2. Reflectivity and reflection loss

The optical response of a material's surface can be assessed through the reflectivity coefficient, which is defined as the ratio of reflected power to incident power. This coefficient holds significance in understanding the optical properties of materials. The reflectivity can be calculated in terms of the extinction coefficient and refractive index, and this relationship is expressed as follows [44, 45]:

$$R = \frac{\left(n-1\right)^2 + k^2}{\left(n+1\right)^2 + k^2}.$$
(10)

Where *k* is represent the frequency-dependent extinction coefficient, for a weak absorber *k* can be considered too small and at the high frequency it vanishes. The following expression can calculate the reflectivity at a higher frequency:

$$R = \left(\frac{n-1}{n+1}\right)^2.$$
(11)

The relation between reflectivity and reflection coefficient can determine the reflection coefficient:

$$r = \sqrt{R} \,. \tag{12}$$

The reflectivity exhibits its highest values at both the lowest and highest bandgap energies, as depicted in Figures 6 and 7. During the maximum absorption of light within the range of 3.2 to 3.9 eV for both temperature conditions, the reflectivity reaches its lowest values, indicating minimal reflection of light. At lower temperatures, the reflectivity is smaller compared to higher temperatures, which could be attributed to the expansion of the particle interiors within the



**Fig. 6.** Normal dispersion region of 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene) amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl) benzene sulfonamide molecule in DMSO



**Fig. 7.** Variation of reflectivity with bandgap energy of 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene) amino)-N-(thi-azol-2-yl) benzene sulfonamide molecule in DMSO

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molecule and the vibrational motion of atoms. As the aggregation proceeds, the medium becomes more turbid, leading to an increase in light absorption. By considering the ratio of the stability of these measurements to the constant aggregation rate k, the absorbance of photon energy is enhanced.

The optical behavior of semiconductor materials at very low frequencies exhibits characteristics akin to metals, while at high frequencies, they resemble insulators. The plasma frequency serves as a characteristic frequency at which the material transitions from a metallic to a dielectric response[46]. According to the Drude model, the plasma frequency is defined as frequency at which the real part of the dielectric function vanishes  $\varepsilon_r(w_n) = 0$ .

Refractive index and absorption coefficient (k) are the same at a low frequency while k and n are large. The following equation can describe the Normal reflectivity [47]:

$$R = \frac{(n-1)^{2} + k^{2}}{(n+1)^{2} + k^{2}} = \frac{n^{2} + k^{2} - 2n}{n^{2} + k^{2} + 2n} = .$$

$$= 1 - \frac{4n}{n^{2} + k^{2}} \approx 1 - \frac{2}{n}.$$
(13)

A material with a large concentration at low frequency acts as a perfect reflector. The sharpness of the plasma structure, determined by the relaxation time at the plasma frequency, is indicative of a longer relaxation time when the plasma structure is sharper. The absorption property is crucial due to its relationship with electrical and optical properties through the conductivity tensor. A material that is a good electrical conductor exhibits high reflection, while transparent materials are generally expected to have reasonably poor electrical conductivity [48].

## 4. Optical and electrical conductivity

The electrical and optical conductivity of semiconductor materials is very significant for the investigation of the variation of conductivity with bandgap energy. From the following expressions can calculate both of them [49]:

$$\sigma_{\rm opt} = \frac{\alpha nc}{4\pi},\tag{13}$$

$$\sigma_{\rm ele} = \frac{2\lambda\sigma_{\rm opt}}{\alpha}.$$
 (14)

Here,  $\lambda$  is the wavelength of the incident light, *c* is the velocity of light and  $\alpha$  is the absorption coefficient.

Figs. 8 a and b show the photoconductivity variation at 303.15 and 313.15 K for three different concentrations in the range of 3.4 to 3.8 eV. The optical conductivity has the lowest value due to the lack of light absorption. At 3.2 and 3.9 eV, it has the highest value corresponding to the maximum absorption as mentioned in Fig. 3. From the explanation in Fig. 8c and d, when an increase in temperature leads to an increase in conductivity and a decrease in resistance. The electrons in the valence band get excited and jump into the conduction band from HOMO (highest occupied molecular orbital) to LUMO (lowest unoccupied molecular orbital) in the case of semiconductors as the temperature increases. Hence, resulting in the dwindling of resistance the conductance increases. The resistivity and conductivity increase, and the reciprocal of conductivity decreases.

## 5. Dielectric constant

The dielectric constant of compounds plays a significant role in determining the conduction properties of the material. The electrical properties of a material are influenced by various factors, including different growth parameters such as deposition rate, substrate temperature, thickness, and film composition. The application of thin films for photovoltaic applications depends on the electrical properties of the materials, making it crucial for determining their suitability for specific applications. The dielectric constant can be calculated using the following expression [50]:

$$\varepsilon^* = \varepsilon' + j\varepsilon''. \tag{16}$$

Where the two parameters  $\varepsilon'$  and  $\varepsilon''$ represent the real part dielectric constant and imaginary part (dielectric loss), respectively. The grain, charge storage capabilities of dielectric material, grain boundary, grain, insights into the structure of compounds and transport properties are related to the dielectric spectroscopy of materials that is very significant. The potential barrier generates at the grain boundaries, and



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**Fig. 8.** Optical and electrical conductivity of 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene) amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl) benzene sulfonamide molecule in DMSO

due to the presence of charge polarization, the dielectric constant increases with increased frequency [51].

At a specific frequency, the permittivity or dielectric constant represents the relationship between the electric field vector and the electric displacement vector. It's noteworthy that the dielectric constant can assume negative values at certain frequency bands, such as in plasmas at radio frequencies or metals at infrared frequencies. In Fig. 9, the real part of the dielectric constant is shown as negative, indicating negative permittivity, where the electric displacement vector and the electric field vector are in opposite directions. However, this negative value does not necessarily imply that the electrical energy stored in this medium is negative. The dielectric constant of materials depends on the molecular structure. Whether the dielectric constant increases or decreases during a given phase change relies on the specific phases involved, and the dielectric constant can exhibit sudden changes at phase boundaries with variations in temperature, as illustrated in Fig. 9.

## 6. Electronic structure

Based on density functional theory at the B3LYP level of theory with 6-311G ++ (d, p), quantum chemical calculations were carried out with the complete geometry optimizations of the chosen molecule [52]. The quantum chemical parameters from the HOMO and LUMO were performed. This study is to investigate the molecular properties regarding the reactivity and



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Fig. 9. Dielectric constant, real and imaginary part of 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene) amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl) benzene sulfonamide molecule in DMSO at the second concentration associated with Table 1

selectivity of the compounds, they were estimated by Koopmans theory which related to HOMO  $(E_{\rm HOMO})$  and LUMO  $(E_{\rm LUMO})$  energy [53, 54].

Many quantitative chemical parameters such as ionization energy (I) and electron affinity (A) can be calculated. Ionization energy can be expressed in quantum computational chemistry and is the energy required to break an electron from a chemical species into a gas phase or isolated state. Based on Koopmans' theory, the ionization energies of chemical species are related to the HOMO energy which is the energy required to break an electron from HOMO. From the following equation can be calculated the ionization energy and is considered as the opposite sign of HOMO energy [55]:

$$I = -E_{\rm HOMO} \,. \tag{17}$$

In the case of gas and isolated state, the change of electron energy absorption reaction of chemical species can be described by electron affinity. Electron affinity calculations are based on LUMO energy because in the basic type, the electron to be received will enter the lower-energy free orbital. Using Koopman's theorem, the electron affinity can be calculated for chemical species and is equal to the inverse sign of the LUMO energy:

$$A = -E_{\text{LUMO}}.$$
 (18)

From the following equation, the bandgap energy of the particles can be calculated and is equal to the difference between  $E_{\text{LUMO}}$  and  $E_{\text{HOMO}}$ :

$$\Delta E = E_{\rm LUMO} - E_{\rm HOMO} \,. \tag{19}$$

The energy gaps are very different from each other in the intermolecular interaction such as the strong ionic interaction between molecules whose energy gap varies greatly. The energy gaps are very close to each other in the intermolecular interaction in strong covalent interaction. The hardness and softness property of molecules are useful parameters to describe chemical reactivity. Associate with corrosion inhibition efficiency, the soft molecule has a high inhibition efficiency than the hard molecule. Chemical hardness  $(\eta)$  and softness ( $\sigma$ ) can be calculated using the following relation:

$$\eta = \frac{I - A}{2},\tag{20}$$

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{\eta}.$$
 (21)

Mulliken's electronegativity or absolute electronegativity is one of the essential factors that can calculate in quantum chemical computation, which is the arithmetic mean of ionization energy and electron affinity for species. The influential electron electrophiles or acceptors indicate the species with high electronegativity. The nucleophiles or donor electron represents low electronegativity. Mulliken electronegativity ( $\chi$ ) can be written as [56]:

$$\chi = \frac{I+A}{2}.$$
(22)

The calculated parameters for HOMO energy, LUMO energy, ionization energy (I), electron affinity (A), energy gap ( $\Delta E$ ), hardness ( $\eta$ ), softness

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( $\sigma$ ), electronegativity ( $\chi$ ), chemical potential (CP), electrophilicity index (w), Nucleophilicity (N), Back-donation energy ( $\Delta E_{B-d}$ ) and electron transferred ( $\Delta N$ ) are given in Table 3 for DMSO solvent. Fig. 10 shows HOMO and LUMO of DFT at 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene) amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl) benzene sulfonamide molecule in DMSO and optimizing geometry performed at B3LYP level and the 6-311G ++ (d, p).

The theoretical and experimental values of bandgap energy agree well. The differences in  $E_g$  at different concentrations with temperature are slightly different from the theoretical. The electrophilicity index of this molecule has a high value and the molecule with a high electrophilicity index have more electron flux if they are involved in a transponder interaction and lower the energy more because of this electron flux

# 7. Electrostatic potential map

The charge distribution on the molecular surface is analyzed in three dimensions (X, Y, Z) through the molecule's electrical potential surface[57]. The Molecular Electrostatic Potential (MEP) allows for the visualization of variably charged regions on the molecule's surface, offering a valuable map to elucidate and discern chemical reactions and interactions with other molecules [58, 59]. This mapping is particularly useful in describing the characteristics of chemical bonds, commonly referred to as the "color code" section, as it vividly illustrates the charge distribution on the surface of Anthracene. Each color is distributed distinctively across the molecule's surface, and the geometry optimization was



**Fig. 10.** HOMO and LUMO of DFT at 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene) amino)-N-(thiazol-2yl) benzene sulfonamide molecule in DMSO and optimizing geometry performed at B3LYP level and the 6-311G ++ (d, p)

LUMO

conducted at the B3LYP level with the 6-311G++ (d, p) basis set. In this color-coded representation, the red color signifies the presence of electrons, predominantly surrounding the sulfur bonds with O32 and O33 atoms, transitioning to yellow regions located between the carbon and hydrogen bonds. Hydrogen is distinctly depicted in green, denoting its lower electronegativity compared to red and yellow regions, as illustrated in Fig. 11. MEPs provide insights into the polarization range, with the molecule's electronegativity playing a significant role in determining the polarization of charges. The regions where colors do not intersect effectively help identify areas with high negative or positive charges. Notably,

**Table. 3.** Quantum computational parameters based on DFT at 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene) amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl) benzene sulfonamide molecule in DMSO and optimizing geometry performed at (B3LYP) level and the 6-311G ++ (d, p)



**Fig. 11.** Electrostatic potential map of 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene) amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl) benzene sulfonamide molecule in DMSO based on DFT at 6-311G++ (d, p) basis set

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negative potential sites are concentrated around the carbon resonant bonds of benzene rings. The molecular electrostatic potential map highlights a robust repulsion at positive potential sites on edge hydrogen atoms, while carbon bonds exhibit a compelling attraction.

# 8. Conclusion

The optical characteristics of the 4-((2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene)amino)-N-(thiazol-2-yl)benzene sulfonamide molecule in DMSO were systematically examined in this study. It was observed that the bandgap energy of the molecule could be manipulated by adjusting its concentration. Notably, the practical refractive index, determined in comparison to other relationships, exhibited its lowest value. The investigation also revealed that temperature exerts an influence on the spatial arrangement of atoms, forming the molecular structure. As temperature increases, the optical density of the sample medium decreases due to enhanced atomic vibration, leading to an expansion of interatomic distances. Consequently, the medium becomes less optically dense, resulting in a higher velocity of light and a lower refractive index, causing a slight alteration in the deflection angle at elevated temperatures. While the optical conductivity showed marginal differences, the electrical conductivity demonstrated higher values and variations at elevated temperatures. Additionally, based on Density Functional Theory (DFT) calculations, the molecule exhibited lower softness and higher global hardness in the DMSO solvent. The electrophilic and nucleophilic parameters, vital for describing electron-deficient (electrophilic) and electronrich (nucleophile) species, indicated a high electrophilic value and a low nucleophilic value for this molecule.

# Author contributions

All authors made an equivalent contribution to the preparation of the publication.

# **Conflict of interest**

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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