Synthesis of novel star-shaped molecules based on a 1,3,5-triazine core linked to different heterocyclic systems as novel hybrid molecules†

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The synthesis of novel star-shaped compounds based on an s-triazine core and linked to hexahydroacridinediones, pyrimido[4,5-b]quinolones, 1H-isoquinolino[2,1-a]quinolines, tetrahydro-4H-chromenes, dihydropyran[2,3-c]pyrazoles, thiazole, or benzothiazole as new hybrid molecules through Michael and Hantzsch reactions is reported. For this purpose, 2,4,6-tris(formylphenoxy)benzaldehyde was used as a versatile precursor.

Introduction

Star-shaped molecules have attracted considerable attention in recent decades because of their large application as promising compounds for use in optoelectronics and electrochromic devices as well as in organic solar cells (OSCs). They are also considered as building blocks for the creation of mesophases with interesting mesomorphic and photophysical properties. Applications of star-shaped molecules as building units for dendrimers as well as in supramolecular host-guest chemistry have also been reported. In this regard, we recently reviewed the synthesis and application of star-shaped molecules.

In particular, star-shaped molecules that contain 1,3,5-triazine as a central core have been found to play an important role as powerful chelating agents and many of their derivatives have been employed in combinatorial and supramolecular chemistry. The planarity of 1,3,5-triazine moiety and its symmetric nature plays a key role in self-organizing ability which enhances their use in the development of organic light-emitting diodes, liquid crystalline materials, dendrimers and nonlinear optical materials. In addition, some s-triazine derivatives were reported as corrosion inhibitors for mild steel in 1 M HCl solution. Moreover, some s-triazine derivatives have recently found extensive use as reagents in the conversion of functional groups.

Moreover, s-triazine derivatives are an interesting class of compounds due to their diverse pharmacological activities as antibacterial, antifungal, antiviral, antimalarial, antiprotozoals, anti-asthmatic activity, estrogen receptor modulators, cyclindependent kinase inhibitors. In addition, the use of s-triazine derivatives as anticancer agents has also been extensively reported. In this regard, 1,3,5-triazine scaffold is present in some anticancer drugs, such as altretamine, trimelamol and irsogladine (Fig. 1).

Furthermore, the development of hybrid molecules through the combination of different pharmacophores in one molecule may improve their biological efficacy and overcoming drug resistance. In this aspect, heterocyclic hybrid skeleton comprising 1,3,5-triazine and different heterocyclic systems were found to exhibit modified therapeutic activities. Synthetic chemistry is a highly creative discipline due to its ability to create new methodologies to contribute to the discovery of new drugs, and to enable the synthesis of important molecules with novel properties and functions in reasonable yields with a direct impact on the welfare of the world. Motivated by these findings and in conjunction with our ongoing research work on poly(heterocycles) as well as the new concept in drug design, we report herein on the synthesis of novel hybrid molecules containing 1,3,5-triazine linked to different heterocyclic systems.

Results and discussion

In general, the synthesis of star-shaped compounds bearing the s-triazine core was achieved starting from 2,4,6-trichloro-1,3,5-
triazine due to the simple displacement of chlorine atoms by different nucleophiles. These reactions open access to many useful molecules of important applications in medicinal chemistry as well as in material science.\textsuperscript{12} We utilized this strategy to synthesize 4,4′,4″-((1,3,5-triazine-2,4,6-triyl)tris(oxy))tribenzaldehyde (3), by a modified procedure to some reported methods,\textsuperscript{68–70} as a precursor for a variety of star-shaped compounds based on s-triazine. Thus, the reaction of three equivalents of potassium 4-formylphenolate (obtained upon treatment of \( p \)-hydroxybenzaldehyde 2 with KOH in ethanol) with one equivalent of 2,4,6-trichloro-1,3,5-triazine 1 in dimethylformamide at 0 °C afforded 3 in 82% yield (Scheme 1).

Firstly, we investigate the reactivity of tris(aldehyde) 3 towards the synthesis of tris(2,6-dimethyl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarbonitrile) 5 through reaction with 6 equivalents of 3-aminobut-2-enenitrile 4 in acetic acid under reflux. Compound 5 was successfully obtained in 88% yield (Scheme 2).

\begin{align*}
\text{Scheme 1} & \quad \text{Synthesis of tris-aldehyde 3.} \\
\text{Scheme 2} & \quad \text{Synthesis of tris(2,6-dimethyl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarbonitrile) 5.} \\
\text{Scheme 3} & \quad \text{Synthesis of tris(hexahydroacridine-1,8-diones) 7.}
\end{align*}
The structure of compound 5 was confirmed spectroscopically, as the $^1$H NMR spectrum revealed a characteristic singlet integrated by 18H at $\delta$ 2.06 for the six methyl groups. It also showed a singlet signal at $\delta$ 4.47 for the pyridine-H. In addition, it exhibited a singlet signal characteristic for the NH group at $\delta$ 9.58. Furthermore, the $^{13}$C NMR spectrum of 5 was found to be in agreement with the proposed structure, it showed the methyl signal at $\delta$ 18.3 and the pyridine-C at $\delta$ 40.7.

Moreover, tris(hexahydroacridine-1,8-diones) 7 in which the acridinedione moiety is connected to 1,3,5-triazine core via ether linkage can also be obtained in good yield via multicomponent reaction of dimedone 6 with tris(aldehyde) 3 and ammonium acetate in acetic acid at reflux (Scheme 3).

The IR spectra of compound 7 suggested the presence of NH group at 3277 cm$^{-1}$. In addition, the carbonyl group appeared at 1712 cm$^{-1}$. The $^1$H NMR spectrum of 7 suggested the existence of two singlets integrated by 36 protons at $\delta$ 0.87 and $\delta$ 1.01 allocated to twelve CH$_3$ groups. Moreover, the singlet signal at $\delta$ 4.70 is corresponding to H9. The NH group appeared as a broad singlet signal at $\delta$ 9.20. All other signals appeared at their expected positions. Moreover, the $^{13}$C NMR spectrum of 7 was found to be in accordance with the proposed structure, it showed the C9 at $\delta$ 32.1 and the carbonyl group at $\delta$ 194.8. All other carbon signals appeared at their expected positions.

Besides, the three-component Hantzsch-like reaction of tris(aldehyde) 3 with three equivalents of each of 6-aminouracil 8 and 5,5-dimethyl-1,3-cyclohexanedione 6 in acetic acid at reflux in the presence of p-TSA as a catalyst yielded the corresponding tris(pyrimido[4,5-$b$]quinolines) 9 in 72% yield. In this case, the uncyclized adduct 10 has not been obtained (Scheme 4).

The IR spectrum of compound 9 suggested the presence of NH groups at 3200 cm$^{-1}$. In addition, the carbonyl groups appeared around 1668 cm$^{-1}$. The $^1$H NMR spectrum of 9 suggested the existence of a singlet signal at $\delta$ 4.81 corresponding to H5. The NH group appeared as broad signals at $\delta$ 8.59, 11.89, and 12.01. All other signals appeared at their expected positions. Moreover, the $^{13}$C NMR spectrum of 9 showed the C5 at $\delta$ 40.2 and the carbonyl group at $\delta$ 173 and 194.4.

The synthesis of tris(1H-isoquinolino[2,1-$a$]quinoline-12-carbonitrile) 12 was also studied by the reaction of tris-aldehyde 3 with 2-(6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1-yl)acetanilide 11 and dimedone 6 in acetic acid at reflux. The cyclocondensation reaction can also lead to the formation of tris(5H-isoquinolino[3,2-$a$]isoquinoline-13-carbonitrile) 13 (Scheme 5).

The regioselectivity was approved on the basis of recent literature supporting the formation of 9,10-dimethoxy-13-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3,3-dimethyl-1-oxo-2,3,4,6,7,13-hexahydro-1H-isoquinolino[2,1-$a$]quinoline-12-carbonitrile 14 (Fig. 2) using X-
ray crystallography and 2D-HMBC spectroscopy via the Hantzsch-like reaction of 4-methoxybenzaldehyde with 2-[6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydroisoquinolin-1-yl]acetonitrile and dimerdone in the presence of acetic acid.\textsuperscript{72}

The IR spectra of compound 12 indicated the presence of the cyano group at 2188 cm\(^{-1}\) and the carbonyl group as a broad band at 1629 cm\(^{-1}\). The \(^1\)H NMR spectra of 12 revealed a characteristic singlet signal at \(\delta 4.71\) for H-13. In addition, the \(^{13}\)C NMR spectrum of compound 12 featured the pyridine-C13 at 37.7 ppm.

Our study was expanded to include the use of Michael addition reactions as an effective method for the synthesis of novel \(\text{tris}[2\text{-amino}-7,7\text{-dimethyl}-5\text{-oxo}-5,6,7,8\text{-tetrahydro}\text{-}1\text{H-chromene-3-carbonitrile}]\) 16. Thus, compound 16 was successfully obtained by a multicomponent reaction of one equivalent of tris-aldehydes 3 with three equivalents of both malononitrile 15 and dimerdone 6 in EtOH/piperidine (Scheme 6).

The constitution of compound 16 was spectroscopically determined based on the basis of elemental analysis and spectral data. The IR spectra of compound 16 indicated the presence of amino group at 3365 and 3313 cm\(^{-1}\). In addition, it revealed the cyano group at 2190 cm\(^{-1}\). The carbonyl group appeared as a broad band at 1684 cm\(^{-1}\). The \(^1\)H-NMR spectrum of 16 suggested the existence of two singlets integrated by 18 protons at \(\delta 0.94\) and \(\delta 1.04\) assigned to six CH\(_3\). In addition, it revealed the pyran-H4 as a singlet signal at \(\delta 4.22\) ppm.

Likewise, we have also successfully demonstrated the synthesis of \(\text{tris}[6\text{-amino}-3\text{-methyl}-1,4\text{-dihydropyran}[2,3\text{-c}]\text{ pyrazole-5-carbonitrile}]\) 19 and \(\text{tris}[\text{benzene-4,1-diy]tris}[2\text{-amino}-5\text{-oxo}-4,5\text{-dihydropyran}[3,2\text{-c}]\text{chromene-3-carbonitrile}]\) 20 in 73 and 82% yields by a three-component reaction of one
mole of tris-aldehyde 3 with three moles of both of malononitrile 15 and pyrazolone 17 (in ethanol in the presence of catalytic amount piperidine) or 4-hydroxycoumarin 18 (in the presence of acetic acid/sodium acetate) (Scheme 7).

The structure of compound 19 was confirmed by their elemental analysis and spectral results. Thus, IR spectrum of compound 19 indicated the presence of amino group at $\nu$ 3295 and 3168 cm$^{-1}$ and a cyano group at $\nu$ 2187 cm$^{-1}$. The $^1$H NMR spectrum indicated the presence of the pyran-H4 and the pyrazole methyl protons as two singlet signals at $\delta$ 4.64 and $\delta$ 1.78, respectively.

The infrared spectra of compound 20 indicated the presence of amino group at $\nu$ 3255 and 3184 cm$^{-1}$. In addition, it revealed the cyano band at $\nu$ 2197 cm$^{-1}$. The carbonyl group appeared as a broad band at $\nu$ 1715 cm$^{-1}$. The $^1$H NMR spectrum of 20 indicated the presence of the pyran-H4 as a singlet signal at $\delta$ 4.49.
Scheme 8  Synthesis of tris(tetraketone) 21.

Scheme 9  Synthesis of tris(benzothiazole) 24 and tris(1H-phenanthro[9,10-d] imidazole) 25.
The utility of tris-aldehyde 3 as a building block for novel tris(hexahydro-1H-xanthene-1,8(2H)-dione) 22 has also been attempted. Unfortunately, the reaction of one equivalent of 3 with six equivalents of dimeredone (6) in the presence of 15 mol% of p-TSA in a mixture of ethanol/H₂O (2 : 1) or DCE as solvents did not lead to the formation of 22 and instead the interesting tris(tetraketone) 21 was obtained in 83% yield (Scheme 8).

Tetraketone derivatives are considered not only as an important class of biologically active compounds but also as significant precursors for the synthesis of various fused heterocyclic.

The structure of compound 21 was spectroscopically verified. In the IR spectrum, the carbonyl and the hydroxyl stretching frequencies were noticed at 1650 and 3345 cm⁻¹, respectively. The ¹H NMR spectrum of 21 displayed a broad signal at δ 9.20 characteristic for the OH protons in addition to the methine-H at δ 4.42.

Subjecting the tris(aldehyde) 3 to the cyclocondensation reaction with 2-aminothiophenol 23 in ethanol at reflux in the presence of NaHSO₃ afforded the tris(benzothiazole) 24 in 61% yield (Scheme 9). Moreover, the three-component cyclocondensation reaction of tris-aldehyde 3 with 9,10-phenanthrenequinone 25 and ammonium acetate afforded the corresponding tris(1H-phenanthro[9,10-d]imidazole) 26 as a new building block for blue light-emitting materials (Scheme 9).²⁴

Compound 24 was confirmed by the absence of characteristic absorption bands or signals for CHO, NH₂, or SH in its IR or ¹H NMR spectra. The structure of the tris(imidazole) 26 was defined on the basis of spectral data. Thus, its IR spectra indicated the absence of a peak characteristic for a carbonyl group. In addition, it revealed the absorption of the NH group at 3305 cm⁻¹. The ¹H NMR spectrum of 26 indicated the presence of a singlet signal integrated by three protons at δ 13.47 assigned to the NH protons.

The synthetic utility of tris-aldehyde 3 as building blocks for novel tris(thiazoles) through Hantzsch thiazole synthesis was also investigated. Thus, the tris(aldehyde thiosemicarbazone) 28 was first synthesized in 90% yield, by acid-catalyzed condensation of thiosemicarbazide 27 with tris(aldehyde) 3.²⁵ Reaction of 28 with the corresponding N-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-oxopropanehydrazonoyl chloride 29 in refluxing ethanol/DMF in the presence of TEA as a catalyst gave the corresponding tris(arydiazenyl)thiazole 30 in 85% yield (Scheme 10).

The structure of compound 30 has been verified by spectral as well as elemental analyses. The IR spectra of 30 as a representative example showed an absorption band at 3424 cm⁻¹ due to the NH group. Moreover, its ¹H NMR spectrum showed...
a D$_2$O-exchangeable signal at $\delta$ 10.53 due to NH protons together with sharp singlet signals at $\delta$ 2.56 and $\delta$ 8.61 attributed to the 4-CH$_3$ of thiazole group and the methine protons (N=CH), respectively. All other protons appeared at the predicted chemical shifts and integral values.

Furthermore, the reaction of 28 with three equivalents of each of 2-bromo-1-phenylethanone 31 and 2-bromo-1-(4-chlorophenyl)ethanone 32 in ethanol at reflux in the presence of few drops of TEA afforded 2,4,6-tris(4-{(2-(4-arylthiazol-2-yl)hydrazono)methyl}phenoxy)-1,3,5-triazines 33 and 34 in 79 and 81% yields, respectively (Scheme 11).

In analogy, reaction of compound 28 with 2-bromo-1-(5-methyl-1-phenyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)ethanone 35 in ethanol at reflux in the presence of few drops of TEA afforded 2,4,6-tris(4-arylthiazol-2-yl)hydrazonomethylphenoxy)-1,3,5-triazines 36, 38, and 40 (Scheme 12).

Scheme 11  Synthesis of 2,4,6-tris(4-arylthiazol-2-yl)hydrazonomethylphenoxy)-1,3,5-triazines 33 and 34.

Scheme 12  Synthesis of tris(thiazoles) 36, 38, and 40.
(2-(1H-pyrazol-4-yl)thiazol-2-yl)hydrazono)methylphenoxy)-1,3,5-triazine 36 in 66% yield (Scheme 12). Compound 35 was synthesized by the reaction of phenylhydrazine with (dimethyl-amino)ethylenepentane-2,4-dione, obtained upon treatment of acetylaceton with dimethylformamide dimethylacetel (DMF/DMA), followed by bromination through treatment with Br₂ in AcOH.²⁵,²⁶

In an attempt to construct novel tris(thiazole) linked to other heterocyclic moieties aiming at achieving the concept of molecular hybridization, we studied the synthesis of novel 2,4,6-tris(4-((2-(4-benzo[2-1-quinolino[2,1-c]pyrazol-4-yl)thiazol-2-yl)hydrazono)methylphenoxy)-1,3,5-triazine 38 and 2,4,6-tris(4-((2-(4-benzo[2-1-thiazol-2-yl)thiazol-2-yl)hydrazono)methylphenoxy)-1,3,5-triazine 40 using a similar strategy. Thus, reaction of tris(thiosemicarbazone) 28 with each of 1-(benzofuran-2-yl)-2-bromoethanone 37 and 1-(benzo[2-1-thiazol-2-yl)-2-bromoethanone 39 in ethanol at reflux in the presence of TEA afforded 38 and 40 in 62 and 76% yields, respectively (Scheme 12).

The structures of the newly synthesized compounds have been confirmed by spectral data as well as elementary analyses. The IR spectrum of tris(pyrazole) 36 as a representative example of this class of compounds showed an absorption band at 3427 cm⁻¹ because of (NH) together with the absence of absorption band characteristic for C=S group.²⁷ The symmetry of compound 36 is represented by a characteristic set of signals within its ¹H NMR spectrum. It revealed the presence of a D₂O-exchangeable singlet signal at ½ 12.18 attributable to NH protons, a singlet signal at 6.84 attributed to C-5 protons of the thiazole rings, and a singlet signal at 8.03 because of methine protons (N=CH). All other protons were observed at the predicted chemical shifts and integral values.

Conclusions

The most popular strategy in drug design as well as in the construction of important molecules is the synthesis of analogs of existing active drugs. The aim of this work was to develop new methodologies to tackle synthetic problems encountered in the synthesis of star-shaped molecules that contain 1,3,5-triazine as a central core with improved pharmacological and photophysical properties. In this respect, a simple protocol for the preparation of some star-shaped compounds based on s-triazine core linked to hexahydroacridinediones, pyrimido[4,5-b]quinolones, 1H-isooquinolino[2,1-a]quinolines, tetrahydro-4H-chromenes, dihydroprano[2,3-c]pyrazoles, thiazole, or benothiazole was developed. Hantzsch and Michael reactions have been used as effective strategies for the synthesis of the target compounds from easily accessible precursors under mild reaction conditions. Moreover, multicomponent reactions (MCRs), which are associated with a range of advantages such as procedural efficiency, shorter reaction times, energy savings, and lower costs and time-consuming, were successfully used in this manuscript to synthesize the target compounds. The combination of two fused heterocyclic cores in a single molecular structure is supposed to take advantage of the pharmacological and physical properties of the resulting ligands. The successful synthesis of these compounds should open an access to a variety of star shaped molecules with interesting applications. Further analysis is underway to investigate the biological activities of the novel compounds. We believe also that some of the new star-shaped molecules should exhibit useful NLO properties on account of preliminary theoretical calculation of their polarizability and hyperpolarizability parameters. The theoretical as well as the experimental investigations are still underway and will be published separately because of the large quantity of data accumulated.

Experimental

General

Melting points were determined in open glass capillaries with a Gallenkamp apparatus. The infrared spectra were recorded in potassium bromide disks on a Pye Unicam SP 3-300 and Shimadzu FTIR 8101 PC infrared spectrophotometer. NMR spectra were recorded with a Varian Mercury VXR-300 NMR spectrometer operating at (300 MHz and 75 MHz) or Bruker AVS NMR spectrometer at (400 MHz and 101 MHz), respectively, using TMS as an internal standard. Chemical shifts were reported as δ values in ppm. Mass spectra (EI) were obtained at 70 eV with a type Shimadzu GCMQP 1000 EX spectrometer. Analytical thin-layer chromatography was performed using pre-coated silica gel 60 778 plates (Fluka), and the spots were visualized with UV light at 254 nm. Elemental analyses were performed on a Perkin-Elmer 240 micoanalyser at the Micro analytical Center of Cairo University. All chemicals were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich and used without further purification.

Synthesis of 4,4′,4″-(((1,3,5-triazine-2,4,6-triyl)tris(oxy))tribenzaldehyde (3)

A solution of p-hydroxybenzaldehyde (3 mmol) and KOH (3 mmol) in ethanol (10 ml) was stirred for 10 min at room temperature. The solvent was then removed in vacuo and the remaining potassium salt was collected, dissolved in DMF (5 ml), and stirred for 10 min at 0 °C. A solution of the latter salt and 2,4,6-trichloro-1,3,5-triazine (1 mmol) in DMF (5 ml) was allowed to stir for 15 min at 0 °C during which time KBr was precipitated. The solvent was then removed in vacuo and the remaining material was washed with water (20 ml), collected and crystallized from H₂O/EtOH (3 : 1) to give 3 as a colorless powder; yield: 82%; mp 170–175 °C. IR (KBr) v 2839, 2746, 1705 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 7.46–7.49 (d, J 8.4 Hz, 6H, Ar–H), 7.95–7.98 (d, J 8.1 Hz, 6H, Ar–H), 9.98 (s, 3H, 3CHO). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 122.2, 131.1, 134.1, 155, 172.6, 191.8 ppm. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) 441 [M⁺]. Anal. calcld. for C₂₇H₂₆N₄O₂: C, 65.31; H, 3.43; N, 9.52. Found: C, 65.02; H, 3.29; N, 9.34.

4,4′,4″-(((1,3,5-Triazine-2,4,6-triyl)tris(oxo))tris(benzene-4,1-diyld))tris(2,6-dimethyl-1,4-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarbonitrile) (5)

To a warm solution of tris-aldehyde 3 (1 mmol) in glacial acetic acid (3 ml) was added 3-aminocrotononitrile 4 (6 mmol). The resulting solution was heated at reflux for 1 h. The solid obtained was collected and crystallized from DMF EtOH to give 5 as pale yellow crystals; yield: 88%; mp > 300 °C. IR (KBr) v 3317.
A mixture of tris-aldehyde (1 mmol), dimedone (6 mmol) and ammonium acetate (5 mmol) in glacial acetic acid (3 ml) was heated at reflux for 6 h. The obtained crude solid was collected and crystallized from DMF/EtOH to give 7 as yellow crystals; yield: 83%; mp > 300 °C. IR (KBr) ν 3277 (NH), 1712 (C=O) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 0.87 (s, 18H, 6CH₃), 1.01 (s, 18H, 6CH₃), 2.00–2.18 (m, 12H, 6CH₂), 2.32–2.49 (m, 12H, 6CH₂), 4.70 (s, 3H, 3CH), 6.51–6.53 (d, J 8.4 Hz, 6H, Ar-H), 6.91–6.94 (d, J 8.4 Hz, 6H, Ar-H), 9.20 (s, 3H, 3NH). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 26.9, 29.6, 32.1, 32.6, 50.8, 112.3, 114.8, 128.9, 138.4, 149.3, 155.5, 172.5, 194.8. MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z (%) 1170 [M⁺]. Anal. calcld for C₇₂H₇₈N₆O₉: C, 73.82; H, 6.71; N, 7.17. Found: C, 73.66; H, 6.49; N, 7.03.

A mixture of tris-aldehyde (1 mmol), dinedone (6 mmol) and 6-aminothiouracil (8 mmol) in glacial acetic acid (3 ml) was heated at reflux for 3 h. The solid formed was collected and crystallized from DMF to give 9 as creamy powder; yield: 72%; mp > 300 °C. IR (KBr) ν 3200 (NH), 1668 (C=O) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 0.92 (s, 9H, 3CH₃), 1.01 (s, 9H, 3CH₃), 2.06–2.22 (m, 6H, 3CH₂), 2.45–2.48 (m, 6H, 3CH₂), 4.81 (s, 3H, 3CH), 5.00–5.08 (d, J 7.9 Hz, 6H, Ar-H), 7.05–7.08 (d, J 7.9 Hz, 6H, Ar-H), 7.22–7.25 (d, J 7.9 Hz, 6H, Ar-H), 8.49 (br, 3H, 3NH), 11.89 (br, 3H, 3NH), 12.01 (br, 3H, 3NH). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 26.9, 28.6, 32.3, 32.6, 40.2, 50.1, 94.1, 110.7, 120.8, 128.6, 143.6, 144.2, 149.5, 160.8, 173, 194.4. MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z (%) 1182 [M⁺]. Anal. calcld for C₁₉₁₉₂N₁₂O₅: C, 70.60; H, 4.60; N, 14.20. Found: C, 60.84; H, 4.33; N, 14.03.

A mixture of tris-aldehyde (1 mmol), dinedone (6 mmol) and 2-(6,7-dimethoxy-3,4-dihydroisouquinolin-1-yl)acetetonitrile (11) (3 mmol) in glacial acetic acid (3 ml) was heated at reflux for 6 h. The formed crude solid was collected, washed with ethanol and crystallized from DMF to give 12 as yellow crystals; yield: 77%; mp 230–260 °C; (DMF). IR (KBr) ν 2198 (CN) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 0.02 (s, 18H, 6CH₂), 0.47 (s, 3H, 3CH), 7.29–7.36 (m, 12H, Ar-H), 9.58 (s, 3H, 3NH). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 18.3, 40.7, 82.9, 119.8, 122.4, 129.2, 142.2, 147.5, 151.1, 173.5. MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z (%) 828 [M⁺]. Anal. calcld for C₄₆H₃₄N₂O₂: C, 69.55; H, 4.38; N, 20.28. Found: C, 69.27; H, 4.11; N, 20.02.

A mixture of tris-aldehyde (1 mmol), dinedone (6 mmol) and malononitrile (15 mmol) in absolute ethanol (4 ml), piperidine (0.2 ml) was added. The reaction mixture was heated at reflux for 3 h. The crude solid formed was collected and crystallized from DMF/EtOH to give 16 as buff powder; yield: 88%; mp 285–290 °C. IR (KBr) ν 3365, 3313 (NH), 2190 (C=O), 1684 (C=O) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 0.94 (s, 9H, 3CH₃), 1.04 (s, 9H, 3CH₃), 2.10–2.14 (m, 6H, 3CH₂), 2.24–2.51 (m, 6H, 3CH₂), 4.22 (s, 3H, 3CH), 7.02 (br, 6H, 3NH), 7.11–7.13 (d, J 8.4 Hz, 6H, Ar-H), 7.17–7.19 (d, J 8.4 Hz, 6H, Ar-H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 27.2, 28.9, 32.3, 35.5, 50.4, 58.6, 113.2, 120.1, 122.0, 128.5, 142.3, 150.8, 159.2, 162.8, 165.9, 172.3, 196.1. MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z (%) 1005 [M⁺]. Anal. calcld for C₁₂₇H₁₀₃N₁₀O₄: C, 68.05; H, 5.11; N, 12.53. Found: C, 67.76; H, 5.03; N, 12.24.

A mixture of tris-aldehyde (1 mmol), malononitrile (15 mmol) and pyrazolone 17 (3 mmol) in absolute ethanol (4 ml), piperidine (0.2 ml) was added. The reaction mixture was heated at reflux for 3 h. The crude solid formed was collected and crystallized from EtOH to give 19 as creamy powder; yield: 73%; mp 246–250 °C; (EtOH). IR (KBr) ν 3453 (NH), 3295, 3168 (NH₂), 2187 (C=O) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 1.78 (s, 9H, 3CH₃), 4.64 (s, 3H, 3CH), 6.85 (s, 6H, 3NH), 7.12–7.15 (d, J 8.7 Hz, 6H, Ar-H), 7.19–7.21 (d, J 8.7 Hz, 6H, Ar-H), 12.08 (s, 3H, 3NH). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 9.6, 35.6, 57.1, 97.6, 120.7, 121.7, 128.4, 135.6, 141.5, 150.5, 154.7, 160.8, 172. MS (EI, 70 eV) m/z (%) 879 [M⁺]. Anal. calcld for C₁₃₁₉₄N₁₃O₇: C, 61.43; H, 3.78; N, 23.88. Found: C, 61.22; H, 3.59; N, 23.65.

A mixture of tris-aldehyde (1 mmol), malononitrile (15 mmol) and 4-hydroxycoumarin 18 (3 mmol) and sodium acetate (3 mmol) in glacial acetic acid (3 ml) was heated at reflux for 3 h. The crude solid formed was collected and crystallized from DMF/EtOH to give 20 as grey powder; yield: 82%; mp 255–265 °C; (DMF/EtOH). IR (KBr) ν 3323, 3184 (NH), 2197 (C=O), 1715 (C=O) cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 4.49 (s, 3H, 3CH), 7.17–7.91 (m, 30H, Ar-H + 3NH₃). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 36.8, 58.3, 104.2, 113.5, 117.1, 119.7, 122.1, 122.9,
2,2',2''-2"',2"''-2,4,6-tris(1,3,5-Triazine-2,4,6-triyl)tris(phenyl)triazine (21)
A mixture of tri-aldehyde 3 (1 mmol), dimedone 6 (6 mmol) and p-TSA (15 mol%) in ethanol (15 ml; 2:1) was heated at reflux for 4 h. The solid formed was collected and crystallized from EtOH to give 21 as colorless crystals; yield: 83%; mp 245–248 °C; [α]D 345 (OH) cm$^{-1}$. 1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d$_6$) δ 9.05 (s, 18H, 6CH$_3$), 1.00 (s, 18H, 6CH$_2$), 2.04–2.27 (m, 12H, 6 CH$_2$), 2.48–2.52 (m, 12H, 6CH$_2$), 3.33 (br, 3H, 3OH), 4.42 (s, 3H, methane-H), 6.56–6.59 (d, J 8.7 Hz, 6H, Ar-H), 6.92–6.95 (d, J 8.7 Hz, 6H, Ar-H), 9.20 (br, 3H, 3OH). 13C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d$_6$) δ 26.4, 28.7, 30.1, 31.8, 40.1, 50.1, 114.6, 114.8, 128.9, 134.8, 155.6, 162.5, 196.1. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) 1227 [M$^+$]. Anal. calcd for C$_{32}$H$_{24}$N$_{10}$O$_3$: C, 70.40; H, 6.65; N, 3.42. Found: C, 70.17; H, 6.38; N, 3.19.

2,4,6-Tris(4-(benzo[d]thiazol-2-yl)phenoxy)-1,3,5-triazine (24)
To a mixture of 2-aminothiophenol (3 mmol) and p-TSA (15 mol%) in ethanol (15 ml; 2:1) was heated at reflux for 4 h. The solid formed was collected and crystallized from EtOH to give 24 as pale yellow powder; yield: 61%; mp 200–202 °C. IR (KBr) ν 1568 (C=N) cm$^{-1}$. 1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d$_6$) δ 7.42–8.13 (m, 24H, Ar-H). 13C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d$_6$) δ 121.5, 122.7, 123.1, 123.3, 126.7, 128.1, 129.1, 130.1, 132.4, 135, 135.9, 166.6, 173.4. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) 756 [M$^+$]. Anal. calcd for C$_{32}$H$_{24}$N$_{10}$O$_3$: C, 70.40; H, 6.65; N, 3.20; N, 11.10. Found: C, 66.33; H, 3.03; N, 10.84.

2,4,6-Tris(4-(1H-phenanthro[9,10-d]imidazol-2-yl)phenoxy)-1,3,5-triazine (26)
To a solution of tri-aldehyde 3 (1 mmol) in absolute ethanol (10 ml), sodium hydrogen sulfite (3 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was heated at reflux for 3 h. The formed crude solid was collected and crystallized from acOEt to give 26 as orange powder; yield: 81%; mp > 300 °C; (AcOH). IR (KBr) ν 3305 (NH) cm$^{-1}$. 1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d$_6$) δ 7.48–8.88 (m, 36H, Ar-H), 13.47 (s, 3H, 3NH). 13C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d$_6$) δ 122.3, 122.9, 124.2, 124.9, 125.6, 125.8, 127.4, 127.9, 128.3, 129.6, 129.8, 131.7, 133.7, 133.9, 133.7, 149.0, 153.1, 169.9, 172.6, 179.4. MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) 1005 [M$^+$]. Anal. calcd for C$_{38}$H$_{24}$N$_{10}$O$_3$: C, 78.79; H, 3.91; N, 12.53. Found: C, 78.46; H, 3.69; N, 12.32.

2,4,6-Tris(4-((2-(4-chlorophenyl)diazhenyl)-4-methylthiazol-2-yl) hydrazinylidene(methyl)phenoxy)-1,3,5-triazine (30)
To a solution of tri-aldehyde thiosemicarbazone 28 (1 mmol) in ethanol/DMF (20 ml; 3:1) containing TEA (0.1 ml, 1 mmol), N-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-oxopropanehydrazonoyl chloride 29 was added. The reaction mixture was heated at reflux for 6 h. The formed solid was collected and crystallized from DMF to give 30 as crimson red crystals; yield: 85%; decompose: 218–224 °C. (DMF). IR (KBr) ν 3424 (NH) cm$^{-1}$. 1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d$_6$) δ 5.56 (s, 9H, 3CH$_3$), 7.28–7.35 (m, 18H, Ar–H), 7.84–7.86 (m, 6H, Ar–H), 8.62 (s, 3H, 3CH), 10.53 (s, 3H, 3NH). MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) 1190 [M$^+$]. Anal. calcd for C$_{44}$H$_{41}$ClN$_{14}$O$_{13}$: C, 54.39; H, 3.47; N, 21.14. Found: C, 54.17; H, 3.23; N, 21.02.

General method for the synthesis of tris(thiazoles) 33, 34, 36, 38 and 40
To a solution of tri-aldehyde thiosemicarbazone 28 (1 mmol) in ethanol/DMF (20 ml; 3:1) containing TEA (0.1 ml, 1 mmol), the appropriate 2-bromoethanones 31, 32, 35 and 39 (3 mmol) were added. The reaction mixture was heated at reflux for 3 h. The formed crude solid was collected and crystallized from the proper solvents to give 33, 34, 36, 38 and 40.
Brown powder; yield: 62%; mp 270–275 °C (DMF). IR (KBr) ν 3423 [NH], 1563 [(C= N) cm$^{-1}$], $^1$H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d$_6$) δ 7.03 (s, 3H, thiazole-H), 7.24–7.73 (m, 27H, Ar−H), 8.05 (s, 3H, 3CH), 12.26 (br, 3H, 3NH). MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%1080) [M$^+$]. Anal. calcd for C$_{57}$H$_{36}$N$_{12}$O$_6$S$_3$: C, 63.32; H, 3.36; N, 15.55.

2,4,6-Tris(4-(2-(4-(benzofuran-2-yl)thiazol-2-yl)thiazol-2-yl)hydrazineylidene)methyl)phenoxy)-1,3,5-triazine (38)

Green crystals; yield: 76%; mp 265–270 °C (DMF). IR (KBr) ν 3432 [NH], 1559 [(C= N) cm$^{-1}$], $^1$H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d$_6$) δ 7.32–8.05 (m, 27H, Ar−H), 8.05 (s, 3H, 3CH), 12.47 (s, 3H, 3NH). MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%)1131 [M$^+$]. Anal. calcd for C$_{73}$H$_{50}$N$_{14}$O$_6$S$_6$: C, 63.32; H, 3.36; N, 15.55. Found: C, 63.11; H, 3.07; N, 15.23.

2,4,6-Tris(4-((2-(4-(benzo[d]thiazol-2-yl)thiazol-2-yl)thiazol-2-yl)hydrazineylidene)methyl)phenoxy)-1,3,5-triazine (40)

Green crystals; yield: 76%; mp 265–270 °C (DMF). IR (KBr) ν 3432 [NH], 1559 [(C= N) cm$^{-1}$], $^1$H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d$_6$) δ 7.32–8.05 (m, 27H, Ar−H), 8.05 (s, 3H, 3CH), 12.47 (s, 3H, 3NH). MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%)1131 [M$^+$]. Anal. calcd for C$_{73}$H$_{50}$N$_{14}$O$_6$S$_6$: C, 63.32; H, 3.36; N, 15.55. Found: C, 63.11; H, 3.07; N, 15.23.

Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts to declare.

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