

# Synthesis of Fluorinated Heterobicyclic Nitrogen Systems Containing 1,2,4-Triazine Moiety as CDK2 Inhibition Agents

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## Abstract

New fluorine substituted heterobicyclic nitrogen system as imidazolopyrimidines (2,3), pyrimido-1,2,4-triazinones (4-7), 1,2,4-triazinyl-1,2,4-triazine (12-16), 1,2,4-triazinyl-1,2,4-triazinones (14-17) and substituted thiobarbituric acids (19-20), have been synthesized using the reaction of 3-amino-5,6-di (4'-fluorophenyl)-1,2,4-triazine (1) with  $\alpha,\beta$ -bifunctional compounds. Structures of the title compounds were characterized by UV, IR,  $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR and mass spectrometric method. The studied compounds were tested for CDK2 inhibiting activity in DNA damage, as well as *in vitro* anti-tumor activity.

## Keywords

Synthesis, Fluoroheterobicyclic Nitrogen, CDK2 Inhibition, Anti-Tumor Activity

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## 1. Introduction

1,2,4-triazines and their condensed analogues have shown to display wide-ranging applications in medicinal and pharmaceutical chemistry. The NCNN group of 1,2,4-triazine ring is an essential part in various biological activities. Tirapazamine as antitumor [1], Lamotrigine as anti-epileptic drug [2], and fused 1,2,4-triazines as antimicrobial [3]-[5], anti HIV [6] antimycobacterial [7], antiviral [8] [9], anxiolytic [10] and antidepressant [11] agents are already reported in literature. Heterobicyclic nitrogen systems containing 1,2,4-triazine moiety have also shown anti-HIV and anticancer activities [12]-[16]. However, introduction of fluorine atoms to these bioactive heterocycles often improves their pharmacological properties mainly due to increased membrane permeability,

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enhanced hydrophobic bonding and stability against metabolic transformation owing to the strength of the C-F bond [17]-[21]. Also, introduction of fluorine in these heterobicyclic systems exhibited enhanced anti-tumor activity [20]. The search for novel cancer treatment has however entered a new post-genomic era and the emphasis now is on influencing cell signaling mechanisms such as those triggered by kinases [22] where selective inhibition of the Kinome constituents and related signaling proteins has opened up a diversity of new drug targets.

Cyclin-Dependent Kinases (CDKs) are families of serine/threonine kinases that play a well-established role in the regulation of the eukaryotic cell division cycle and have also been implicated in the control of gene transcription and other processes [23]. Dysregulation of cell cycle in cancer cells has provided a rationale for the development of small molecule inhibitors of CDK1 as novel anticancer drugs. It was believed that CDK2 was the master regulator of S phase entry. Gene knockout mouse studies of cell cycle regulators revealed that CDK2 is dispensable for S phase inhibition and progression whereby CDK1 can compensate for the loss of CDK2 and the latter was found to be involved in cell cycle independent functions such as DNA damage repair [24].

Rational approaches to the design of fluorine-containing potential inhibitors associated with the strategic placement of fluorine in these molecules led us to design CDK2 inhibitors as possible anti-cancer agents. The aim of the present work is to synthesize and develop fluorinated fused and/or isolated heterobicyclic nitrogen systems, derived from the interaction between 3-amino,6-(4'-fluorophenyl)-1,2,4-triazines (**1**) and  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ -bifunctional oxygen, sulfur, halogen and nitrogen compounds. In this work, we evaluate the protein kinase inhibiting and cytotoxic activity of fluorinated heterobicyclic systems containing 1,2,4-triazine moiety.

## 2. Experimental

### 2.1. Chemicals and Methods

Melting points were determined using an electrothermal Bibby Stuart Scientific melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. The infrared (IR) spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer FT-IR infrared spectrophotometer using the KBr pellet technique. Electronic absorption spectra were recorded in DMF using a Shimadzu UV-Visible 1650 PC spectrophotometer.  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker DPX-400 FT NMR spectrometer using tetramethylsilane (internal standard DMSO- $d_6$ ) as a solvent (Chemical shifts in  $\delta$ , ppm).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR Spectra were determined at 84.25 MHz using hexafluorobenzene as a solvent. Splitting patterns were designated as follows: *s*: singlet; *m*: multiplet. Mass spectra were measured on a GCMS-Q 1000 Ex spectrometer. Elemental analyses were performed on a 2400 Perkin Elmer Series 2 analyzer and the found values were within  $\pm 0.4\%$  of the theoretical values. Follow up of the reactions and checking the homogeneity of the compounds were made by TLC on silica gel-protected aluminum sheets (Type 60 F254, Merck) and the spots were detected by exposure to UV-lamp.

#### 2.1.1. 3-Amino-5,6-di(4'-fluorophenyl)-1,2,4-triazine (**1**)

A mixture of 4,4'-bifluorobenzil (0.01 mol) and aminoguanidine bicarbonate (0.01 mol) in n-butanol [28] was refluxed for 4 h. The solid obtained after cooling the mixture was filtered and crystallized from ethanol to give orange crystals, yield 75%, m.p. 208°C - 209°C. IR ( $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3200 ( $\text{NH}_2$ ), 1620 (deformation,  $\text{NH}_2$ ), 1600 ( $\text{C}=\text{N}$ ), 1250 (C-F) and 880, 820 (p-substituted phenyl).  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (DMSO  $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 2.89 - 2.51 (br. s, 2H,  $\text{NH}_2$ ), 7.31 - 7.39, 7.39 - 7.44 (each m, 8H, aromatic protons), 7.0 - 6.61 (m).  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (DMSO  $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 164, 156, 148, 136 - 131, 129.8 - 127.7. Anal. Calcd: C, 63.15; H, 3.40; N, 21.67; F, 11.76% for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_5\text{N}_5\text{F}_2$  (323). Found: C, 62.98; H, 3.25; N, 21.50; and F, 11.6%.

#### 2.1.2. 3-Amino-5,7-di(4'-fluorophenyl)imidazo[3,2-b][1,2,4]-triazine (**2**)

A mixture of **1** (0.01 mol) and chloroacetonitrile (0.01 mol) in DMF was refluxed for 4 h. The solid obtained on cooling the reaction mixture was filtered and crystallized from dioxan to give **2** as yellowish crystals, yield 70%, m.p. 141°C - 142°C. IR ( $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3350, 3228 ( $\text{NH}_2$ , NH), 31.86 (aromatic CH), 1623 (deformation  $\text{NH}_2$ ), 1601, 1517 ( $\text{C}=\text{N}$ ), 1350 (NCN), 1226 (C-F).  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR (DMSO  $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 7.89, 7.4, 7.37, 7.28, 7.24, 7.166, 7.00 and 6.94 (m, 8H, aromatic protons), 6.89, 6.717 (d, d of H adjacent of F), 4.01 - 3.97 (s, 2H,  $\text{NH}_2$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (DMSO  $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 164, 155, 147, 132, 131 - 130.4, 115, 114, 77.88 - 77.46, 59.68. M/S (Int. %): 323 (8.89), 282 (33.01), 214 (100). Anal. Calcd: C, 62.96; H, 3.08; N, 17.28; F, 11.72%; for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{F}_2\text{O}$  (324). Found: C, 62.79; H, 2.88; N, 17.15; and F, 11.55%.

**2.1.3. 6,7-Di(4'-fluorophenyl)-2,3-dihydro-3-oxo-imidazo[3,2-b][1,2,4]-triazine(3)**

A mixture of **1** (0.01 mol) and monochloroacetic acid (0.01 mol) in DMF was heated for 15 min. and then left to cool at room temperature. The solid obtained was filtered and crystallized from dioxan to give **3** as faint yellowish crystals, yield 65%, m.p. 193°C - 194°C. IR ( $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3090 (ArCH), 1640 (C=O  $\leftrightarrow$  C-OH), 1480 (deformation CH<sub>2</sub>), 2950 (aliphatic CH), 1350 (NCN), and 1227 (C-F). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (DMSO d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.61, 7.41, 7.39, 7.38, 7.32, 7.31, 7.306 and 7.301 (m, 8H, aromatic protons), 7.29 (s, 1H, CH=), 6.98 - 6.97, 6.95 and 6.54 (d, d of H adjacent of F), 2.52 - 2.51 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (DMSO d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 164, 155, 147, 132.1, 131 - 130.4, 115, 114 and 77.77 - 77.34. Anal. Calcd: C, 62.96; H, 3.08; N, 17.28; F, 11.72%; for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>4</sub>F<sub>2</sub>O (324). Found: C, 62.76; H, 2.91; N, 17.01; and F, 11.55%.

**2.1.4. 7,8-Di(4'-fluorophenyl)-2,3-dihydro-pyrimido[3,2-b][1,2,4]-triazin-2,4-dione (4)**

A mixture of **1** (0.01 mol) and diethylmalonate (0.01 mol) in THF was refluxed for 4 h. On cooling the reaction mixture, a yellowish solid separated which was crystallized from THF to give **4** as yellow crystals, yield 72%, m.p. 199°C - 200°C. UV (EtOH):  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  346 nm. IR ( $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3091 (Ar-CH), 2980 (aliphatic CH), 1680, 1650 (2C=O), 1576 (C=N) 1492 (deformation CH<sub>2</sub>), 1381 (NCN), 1225 (C-F), 919, 867 and 815 (p-substituted phenyl). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (DMSO d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.69 - 7.29 (m, 8H, aromatic protons), 6.98 - 6.67 (d, d, s, H adjacent F), 3.65 - 3.613 (t, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (DMSO d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 164.01, 162.93, 155, 147.86, 132.18, 131.83 - 131.29, 130.54, 130.49, 115.03, 114.88, 77.97 - 77.54, 67.22 and 40.03-39.33. Anal. Calcd: C, 61.36; H, 2.84; N, 15.90; and F, 10.79%; for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>4</sub>F<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (324). Found: C, 61.86; H, 2.56; N, 15.78; and F, 10.58%.

**2.1.5. 4-Amino-2-oxo-7,8-di(4'-fluorophenyl)pyrimido[3,2-b][1,2,4]-triazine (6)**

A mixture of **1** (0.01 mol) and ethyl cyanoacetate (0.01 mol) in THF was refluxed for 4 h. The solid obtained after cooling the reaction mixture was filtered and crystallized from ethanol to give deep-yellow crystals, yield 65%, m.p. 198°C - 200°C. UV (EtOH):  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  346 nm. IR ( $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3300 (NH<sub>2</sub>), 1670, 1610 (deformation NH<sub>2</sub>), 1229 (C-F), 828 and 810 (p-substituted ring). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (DMSO d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.40 - 7.29 (m, 8H, aromatic protons), 6.971 (s, 1H, =CH cyclic), 6.96 - 6.69 (d, d, s, H adjacent of F), 3.62 (s, 2H, NH<sub>2</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (DMSO d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 164.01, 154.9, 147.8, 132.16, 131.81 - 130.48, 115, 114.8, 77.78 - 77.57 and 67.21. M/S (Int. %): 351 (8.18), 307 (28.13), 214 (100). Anal. Calcd: C, 61.53; H, 3.13; N, 19.94; and F, 10.82%; for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>5</sub>F<sub>2</sub>O (351). Found: C, 61.33; H, 3.02; N, 19.58; and F, 10.69%.

**2.1.6. 7,8-Di(4'-fluorophenyl)-3-(arylidene)pyrimido[3,2-b][1,2,4]-triazin-2,4-dione (5)**

A mixture of **4** (0.01 mol) and p-chlorobenzaldehyde (0.01mol) in EtOH was refluxed for 1h and then allowed to cool at room temperature. The solid thus obtained was filtered and crystallized from ethanol to give **5** as yellowish crystals, yield 78%, m.p. 208°C - 209°C. IR ( $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3024 (Ar-CH), 1680, 1660 (2C=O), 1610 (C=C), 1576 (C=N), 1382 (NCN), 1227 (C-F), 820 and 815 (p-substituted ring). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (DMSO d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 9.9 (s, 1H, CH=), 7.76 - 7.75, 7.70 - 7.60 (m, 8H, aromatic protons), 7.35 - 7.20 (m, 4H, aryl protons), and 6.95 - 6.37 (d, d, s, H of adjacent F). Anal. Calcd: C, 63.15; H, 2.73; N, 11.78; F, 8.0; and Cl, 7.57%; for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>4</sub>F<sub>2</sub>ClO<sub>2</sub> (475). Found: C, 62.88; H, 2.60; N, 11.58; F, 7.69; and Cl, 7.49%.

**2.1.7. 7,8-Di(4'-fluorophenyl)-4-arylidino-pyrimido[3,2-b][1,2,4]-triazin-2-one(7)**

A mixture of **6** (0.01 mol) and p-chlorobenzaldehyde (0.01 mol) in EtOH was refluxed for 1h and subsequently left to cool at room temperature. A solid appeared which was filtered and crystallized from ethanol to give yellow crystals, yield 82%, m.p. 212°C - 214°C. IR ( $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3092 (Ar-CH), 1668 (C=O), 1602 (C=N), 1226 (C-F), 919, 858 and 815 (p-substituted ring). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (DMSO d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.85 - 7.81 (m, 4H, aromatic H), 7.40 - 7.28 (m, 8H, aromatic H), 6.99 - 6.97 (d, d, s, H of adjacent F), 6.838 (1H, CH=N). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (DMSO d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$ : 163.96, 161.24, 154.92, 147.68, 132.32, 131.95, 130.58 - 130.52, 115.03, 115.02, 114.89, 114.88, 78.25 - 77.81 and 40.16. Anal. Calcd: C, 63.29; H, 2.95; N, 14.76; F, 8.01; and Cl, 7.59%; for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>5</sub>F<sub>2</sub>ClO (474). Found: C, 62.98; H, 2.75; N, 14.49; F, 7.78; and Cl, 7.38%.

**2.1.8. Ethyl 3-(carboxyamino)-5,6-di(4'-fluorophenyl)-1,2,4-triazine (8)**

A mixture of **1** (0.01 mol) and ethyl chloromethanoate (0.01 mol) in benzene-TEA mixture was refluxed for an hour. The solid obtained after cooling the reaction mixture was filtered and crystallized from THF to give **8** as

faint yellow crystals, yield 60%, m.p. 178°C - 180°C. IR ( $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3300 (NH), 3080 (Ar-CH), 2980 (R-CH), 1676 (C=O), 1483 (deformation  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1381 (NCN), 1226 (C-F), 1010 (O-C-O), 840, and 815 (p-substituted ring).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (DMSO  $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 8.87 (s, 1H, NH), 7.68 - 7.40, 7.39 - 7.29 (each m, 8H, aromatic H), 7.03 - 7.00, 6.94 - 6.82 (d, d, s, H adjacent F), 4.20 (t, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ ), and 1.4 - 1.2 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (DMSO  $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 164.87, 161.81, 160.98, 157.05, 147.64, 146.91, 141.26, 132.14, 132.08, 130.86 - 127.10, 115.40, 115.25, 114.96, 114.45, 78.46 - 78.03, 39.98, and 14.19. Anal. Calcd: C, 60.67; H, 3.93; N, 15.73 and F, 10.67%; for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_4\text{F}_2\text{O}_2$  (356). Found: C, 60.41; H, 3.64; N, 15.61 and F, 10.55%.

#### 2.1.9. $\text{N}^4$ -(5'-6'-diaryl-1,2,4-triazin-3'-yl)semicarbazide (10)

A mixture of **8** (0.01 mol) and hydrazine hydrate (0.01 mol) in EtOH was refluxed for 2 h, and then cooled at room temperature. The solid obtained was filtered and crystallized from ethanol to give **10** as faint yellow crystals, yield 60%, m.p. 198°C - 200°C.

IR ( $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3334, 3269 (NH,  $\text{NH}_2$ ), 3092(Ar-CH), 1660 (C=O), 1228 (C-F), 860 and 810 (p-substituted ring).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (DMSO- $d_6$ ): 8.8 (s, 1H, NH), 7.72-7.25 (m, 8H aromatic H), 6.98 - 6.67 (m, d, d, s, H, adjacent F) and 3.16 (s, 2H,  $\text{NH}_2$ ).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (DMSO- $d_6$ ): 164.02, 161.29, 155.02, 147.86, 132.17, 131.82, 131.35, 131.29, 130.54 - 130.49, 115.13, 115.02, 114.88, 77.94 - 77.53 and 40.14 - 39.19. Analy. Calcd.: C, 56.14; H, 3.50; N, 24.26 and F, 11.11%; for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_6\text{F}_2\text{O}$  (342). Found: C, 55.89; H, 3.35; N, 24.39; and F, 11.01%.

#### 2.1.10. $\text{N}^4$ -(5'-6'-Di(4'-fluorophenyl)-1,2,4-triazin-3'-yl)thiosemicarbazide (11)

A mixture of **1** (0.01 mol) and carbon disulfide (0.01 mol) in 1% KOH solution was stirred for 2 h at room temperature to give the intermediate **9**. Now a mixture of **9** (0.01 mol) and hydrazine hydrate (0.01 mol) in EtOH was refluxed for 2 h and subsequently cooled in an ice-bath for few minutes to form a brownish yellow solid. The solid was filtered and crystallized from ethanol to give **11** as orange crystals, yield 78%, m.p. 203°C - 204°C. IR ( $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3314, 3229, 3192 (NH, NH, NH). 1381 (NCN), 1225 (C-F), 1157 (C=S) and 850 (p-substituted ring).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (DMSO- $d_6$ ): 7.72 - 7.29 (m, 8H, aromatic H), 6.98 - 6.72 (m, d, d, s, H, adjacent F) and 3.14 (s, 2H,  $\text{NH}_2$ ).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (DMSO- $d_6$ ): 164.0, 162.2, 161.28, 154.98, 147.81, 132.21, 131.85 - 130.50, 115.03, 114.88, 78.04 - 77.61 and 40.02-39.19. Analy. Calcd: C, 53.63; H, 3.35; N, 23.46; and F, 10.61; S, 8.93%, for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_6\text{F}_2\text{S}$  (358), Found: C, 53.38; H, 3.20; N, 23.41; and F, 10.38; S, 8.78%.

#### 2.1.11. 5,6-Di(4'-fluorophenyl)-3-(2',3'-dihydro-3'-oxo-1',2',4'-triazol-4'-yl)-1,2,4-triazine (12)

A mixture of **10** (0.5 g) and triethyl orthoformate (10 ml) was refluxed for 2h and then cooled at room temperature. The produced solid was filtered and crystallized from dioxan to give **12** as faint yellowish crystals, yield 65%, m.p. 190°C - 192°C. IR ( $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3192 (NH), 1679 (C=O), 1572(C=N), 1382 (NCN),1227 (C-F), 880 and 816 (p-substituted ring).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (DMSO- $d_6$ ): 8.81 (s, 1H, NH), 7.62 - 7.27 (m, 8H, aromatic H), 6.966 - 6.92 (d, d, s, H, adjacent F) and 6.60 (s, 1H,CH=N): $^{13}\text{CNMR}$  (DMSO- $d_6$ ): 164.02, 161.40, 154.9, 132.16, 131.28, 130.53 - 130.48, 115.02, 114.88 and 77.93 - 77.49. Analy. Calcd: C, 57.95; H, 2.84; N, 23.86; and F,10.79%, for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{10}\text{F}_2\text{O}$  (352). Found: C, 57.55; H, 2.70; N, 23.59; and F, 10.61%.

#### 2.1.12. 5,6-Di(4'-fluorophenyl)-3-(3'-mercapto-5'-hydroxy-1',2',4'-triazol-4'-yl)-1,2,4-triazine (13)

A mixture of **11** (0.01 mol) and carbon disulfide (0.01 mol) in dimethyl formamide was refluxed for 2 h. The reaction mixture was cooled in ice-bath to form a solid which was filtered and crystallized from ethanol to give **13** as orange crystals, yield 65%, m.p. 210°C - 212°C. IR ( $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3259, 3192 (NH, NH), 1658 (C=O), 1389 (NCN), 1225 (C-F), 1156 (C=S), 880 and 829 (p-substituted ring).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (DMSO- $d_6$ ): 13.3, 12.8 (each s, NH, NH), 7.91 - 7.28 (m, 8H, aromatic H) and 6.98 - 6.69 (m, d, d, s, H adjacent F).  $^{13}\text{CNMR}$  (DMSO- $d_6$ ):195 (164.0), 161.28, 154.99, 147.83, 132.20 131.84, 131.29 - 130.49, 115.03, 114.88 and 78.01 - 77.58. Analy. Calcd: C, 53.12; H, 2.60; N, 21.87; F, 9.89; and S, 8.33%, for  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_2\text{SO}$  (384), Found: C, 52.89; H, 2.39; N, 21.55; F, 9.69; and S, 8.01%.

#### 2.1.13. 5,6-Di(4'-fluorophenyl)-3-(6'-methyl-3'-hydroxy-5'-oxo-1',2',4'-triazin-4'-yl)-1,2,4-triazine (14)

Equimolar mixture of **10** and sodium pyruvate in 5% NaOH solution (50 ml) was refluxed for 2 h, cooled then poured onto ice-HCl. The solid obtained was filtered and crystallized from ethanol to give **14** as faint yellow crystals, yield 65%, m.p. 213°C - 214°C. IR ( $\nu/\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3372, 3297 (OH+NH), 1700, 1626 (CO, CONH), 1567

(C=N), 1483 (deformation CH<sub>3</sub>) 1379 (NCN), 1224 (C-F), 1155 (C=S), 829 and 810 (p-substituted ring). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): 13.481 (s, 1H, NH), 7.65, 7.41, 7.39, 7.22, 7.20, 7.19, 6.985, 6.978 (8H, aromatic H), 6.971 - 6.964, 6.957 - 6.950 (m, d, d, s, H of F) and 1.903 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): 195.63, 164.73, 163.06, 161.66, 153.43, 140.91, 131.69, 131.11, 131.09 - 129.99, 115.21, 115.06, 114.95, 77.88 - 77.44, 40.02, and 39.19. Analy. Calcd: C, 57.86; H, 3.04; N, 12.13; and F, 9.64%, for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>6</sub>F<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (394). Found: C, 57.49; H, 2.89; N, 21.01; and F, 9.33%.

#### 2.1.14. 5,6-Di(4'-fluorophenyl)-3-(3'-mercapto-1,2,4-triazol-4'-yl)-1,2,4-triazine (15)

A mixture of **11** (0.01 mol) and triethyl orthoformate (0.01 mol) was refluxed for 2 h and then cooled at room temperature. The solid obtained was filtered and crystallized from dioxan to give **15** as yellow crystals, yield 72%, m.p. 183°C - 184°C. IR (ν/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3298, 3191 (NH), 1610, 1576 (C=N), 1381 (NCN), 1225 (C-F), 1157 (C=S), 840 and 810 (p-substituted ring). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): 10.03 (s, 1H, NH=S), 7.60 - 5.11, 7.48 - 7.27 and 7.0 - 6.55 (m, 9H, aromatic H). Analy. Calcd: C, 55.43; H, 2.71; N, 22.82; F, 10.32 and S, 8.69%, for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>6</sub>F<sub>2</sub>S (368). Found: C, 55.21; H, 2.33; N, 22.55; F, 10.01 and S, 8.49%.

#### 2.1.15. 5,6-Di(4'-fluorophenyl)-3-(3',5'-dimercapto-1',2',4'-triazol-4'-yl)-1,2,4-triazine (16)

A mixture of **11** (0.01 mol) and carbon disulfide (0.01 mol) in DMF was refluxed for 2 h and then cooled at room temperature. The solid obtained was filtered and crystallized from methanol to give **16** as orange crystals, yield 80%, m.p. 203°C - 204°C. IR (ν/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3197 (NH), 3150 (NH), 1595 (C=N), 1564 (C=N), 1382 (NCN), 1224 (C-F), 1151 (C=S), 831 and 810 (p-substituted ring). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): 163.99, 162.90, 161.47, 161.26, 154.96, 147, 132.25, 132.23, 131.89, 131.87, 131.31, 130.56, 130.50, 115.02, 114.88, 77 and 77.69-78.12. Analy. Calcd: C, 51.0; H, 2.50; N, 21.0; F, 9.5; and S, 16.0%, for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>6</sub>F<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> (400). Found: C, 50.85; H, 2.31; N, 20.88; F, 9.33; and S, 15.79%.

#### 2.1.16. 5,6-Diaryl-3-(6'-methyl-3'-mercapto-6'-oxo-1',2',4'-triazin-4'-yl)-1,2,4-triazine (17)

A mixture of **11** (0.01 mol) and sodium pyruvate (0.01 mol) in 5% NaOH aq. (20 ml) was refluxed for 3h. The reaction mixture was cooled and then poured on ice cold HCl solution. The solid obtained was filtered and crystallized from ethanol to give **17** as yellow crystals, yield 60%, m.p. 220-222°C. IR (ν/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3197 (NH), 2906, 2855(CH<sub>3</sub>), 1666 (C=C), 1586 (C=N), 1472 (deformation CH<sub>3</sub>), 1367 (NCN), 1224 (C-F), 1158 (C=S), 872 and 792 (p-substituted ring). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): 11.86 (s, 1H, NH), 7.75 - 7.38, 7.30 - 7.28 (each, m, 8H, aromatic H), 6.97 - 6.69 (d, d, s, H-CF), and 1.08 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): 180, 163.98, 162.91, 161.27, 154.96, 147.84, 132.21, 131.85, 131.36, 131.30, 130.55 - 130.02, 115.02, 114.88, 78.03 - 77.60 and 39.20. Analy. Calcd: C, 55.60; H, 2.92; N, 20.48; F, 9.26; and S, 7.80%, for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>6</sub>F<sub>2</sub>SO (410). Found: C, 55.39; H, 2.80; N, 20.29; F, 9.01 and S, 7.55%.

#### 2.1.17. N,N'-[5,6-di(4'fluorophenyl)-1,2,4-triazin-3'-yl]thiourea (18)

Equimolar amount of compounds **1** and **9** in ethanol (50 ml) was refluxed for 2 h. The reaction mixture was cooled in an ice bath to form a solid which was filtered and crystallized from ethanol to give **18** as faint yellow crystals, yield 65%, m.p. 193°C - 194°C. IR (ν, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3300, 3289, 3192 (C-F), 1157(C=S), 827 and 814 (p-substituted ring). Analy. Calcd: C, 60.98; H, 2.95; N, 18.36; F, 12.45; and S, 5.24%, for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>8</sub>F<sub>4</sub>S (610). Found: C, 60.65; N, 2.80; F, 12.13; and S, 5.00%.

#### 2.1.18. N,N'-Di[di(4'-fluorophenyl)1,2,4-triazin-3-yl]-thiobarbituric Acid (19)

A mixture of **18** (0.01 mol) and malonic acid (0.01 mol) in glacial acetic acid (50 ml) was refluxed for 4h. The reaction mixture was cooled and then poured onto ice. The solid obtained was filtered and crystallized from ethanol to give **19** as yellow crystals, yield 60%, m.p. 300°C - 302°C. UV (Ethanol): λ<sub>max</sub> 334 nm. IR (ν/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2980, 2868 (aliphatic CH), 1663 (C=O), 1595, 1561(C=N), 1366 (NCN), 1223 (C-F), 1156 (C=S), 854 and 820 (p-substituted ring). <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): 13.52 (s, 1H, OH), 7.82 - 7.00 (m, 16H, aromatic H), 6.98, 6.97, 6.85(d, d, s, H, of C-F) and 2.499 (s, CH<sub>2</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): 180, 165.68, 164.65, 163.27, 162.98, 161.62, 154.93, 140.95, 131.95 - 130.14, 115.22, 114.89, 78.28 - 77.85 and 24.88. Analy. Calcd: C, 60.15; H, 2.66; N, 16.49; F, 11.10; and S, 4.55%. for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>8</sub>F<sub>4</sub>SO<sub>2</sub> (678). Found: C, 59.89; H, 2.51; N, 16.30; F, 10.89; and S, 4.40%.

### 2.1.19. N,N'-Di[di(4'-fluorophenyl)1,2,4-triazin-3-yl]-5-arylidene-thiobarbituric Acid (20)

Equimolar quantity of **19** and 4-chlorobenzaldehyde in ethanol (50 ml), piperidine (0.5 ml) was refluxed for 6h. The reaction mixture was cooled and neutralized with few drops of acetic acid. The solid precipitated was filtered and crystallized from ethanol to give **20** as yellow crystals, yield 60%, m.p. 310°C - 312°C. UV (EtOH):  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  346 nm. IR ( $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3080 (aromatic CH), 2920, (aliphatic CH), 1710, 1680(2C=O), 1385 (NCSN), 1250 (C-F), 1190 (C-S), 880 and 810 (p-substituted ring).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (DMSO- $d_6$ ): 7.66 - 7.64, 7.38 - 7.36, 7.29 - 7.27, (each, m, 21H, aromatic H), 6.61, 6.96 and 6.92, (CH=, d, d, s, of H adjacent to the F atoms).  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (DMSO- $d_6$ ): 180, 164, 162.94, 162.36, 161.30, 155.02, 147.89, 132.14, 131.79, 131.34, 131.28, 130.53, 130.48, 115.03, 114.88, 77.90 - 77.47, 66.42 and 40.12 - 39.17. Analy. Calcd: C, 61.42; H, 2.62; N, 13.48; F, 9.48, Cl, 4.49; and S, 3.99%, for  $\text{C}_{41}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_8\text{FClSO}_2$  (801). Found: C, 61.01; H, 2.55; N, 12.98; F, 9.03; Cl, 3.99 and S, 3.55%.

## 3. Results and Discussion

### 3.1. Chemistry

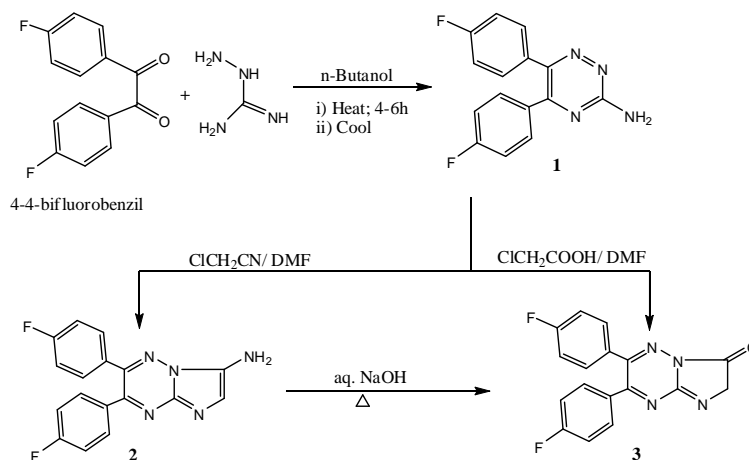
3-Amino-1,2,4-triazines are important intermediates in the synthesis of heterobicyclic systems. Also, 5,6-diphenyl-1,2,4-triazine containing functional groups at position-3, especially amino and/or hydrazine groups, are used as nucleophilic reagents (electron donors) towards  $\pi$ -acceptors carbonitriles [25]. In addition, in most of these reactions, DMF is used as a strong polar aprotic solvent which accelerates the  $\text{S}_{\text{N}}^2$  reactions [26].

Nucleophilic attack on exo C=N bonds of 1,2,4-triazine provides a direct and convenient method for functionalization of 1,2,4-triazines, which makes it possible to introduce various substituents in a single reaction. Thus, it is quite probable that their reactions with bifunctional nucleophiles would result in polycyclic compounds *via* attack by the second nucleophilic center at another carbon atom of hetero-ring [26].

The presence of hetero atoms results in significant changes in the cyclic molecular structure, due to the availability of unshared pairs of electrons on nitrogen atoms and the difference in electronegativity between heteroatoms and carbons within the closed system.

The starting material 3-amino-5,6-di(4'-fluorophenyl)-1,2,4-triazine (**1**) was prepared from refluxing amino-guanidine bicarbonate with 4,4'-difluorobenzil in *n*-ButOH [27] (Scheme 1). Structure of compound **1** was deduced from elemental analysis and spectral data. IR spectrum showed an absorption bands at 3200, 1620  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for  $\text{NH}_2$  group, and 1250  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for C-F.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (DMSO- $d_6$ ) recorded  $\delta$  at 2.89-1 (br, s, 2H,  $\text{NH}_2$ ), 7.31 - 7.34, 7.39 - 7.44 ppm for 8 aromatic protons with  $\delta$  at 7.0-6.61 ppm as a characteristic doublet and a signal for the adjacent H to the F atom.  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  spectrum exhibited a resonance signals for carbons at  $\delta$  127.7 - 129.8 for aromatic carbons and four other peaks at  $\delta$  136, 148, 156, and 161 ppm for C=N, C-N, C-F and C- $\text{NH}_2$  respectively.

X-ray analysis of 1,2,4-triazine ring reveal that the ring is slightly distorted due to the asymmetry induced by the electronegativity of nitrogen atoms and two intermolecular hydrogen bonds that stabilized the 1,2,4-triazine structure [28].



Scheme 1. Synthesis of **2** and **3**.

The ring closure of 3-amino-5,6-di(4'-fluorophenyl)-1,2,4-triazine (**1**) with chloroacetonitrile in boiling DMF produced 3-amino-6,7-di(4'-fluorophenyl)imidazolo[3,2-b][1,2,4]triazine (**2**), while reaction of **1** with monochloro acetic acid in refluxing DMF yielded 2,3-dihydro-6,7-diaryl-imidazolo[3,2-b][1,2,4]triazin-3-one (**3**). Moreover, compound **3** was also obtained via basic hydrolysis of **2** by warming in aqueous NaOH.

Structure of compound **2** showed a characteristic bands at 3350 and 1623  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  attributed to  $\text{NH}_2$  group while that of compound **4** had a characteristic band at 1660  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for  $\text{C}=\text{O}$ , in addition to bands at 2950 and 1480  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for  $\text{CH}_2$  group and an additional absorption at 1226  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for  $\text{C}-\text{F}$ . Mass spectra of **3** showed a molecular ion peak at  $m/z$  323, with a base peak at  $m/z$  214 for 4,4'-difluorophenyl acetylene radical [29].

Ring closure reactions of compound **1** with diethyl malonate and/or ethyl cyanoacetate in refluxing THF afforded 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-7,8-di(4'-fluorophenyl)-pyrimido[3,2-b][1,2,4]triazin-2,4-dione (**4**) and 4-amino-7,8-di(4'-fluorophenyl)-pyrimido[3,2-b][1,2,4]triazin-2-one (**6**), respectively. The condensation of both **4** and **6** with aromatic aldehyde in boiling ethanol-piperidine gave the arylidene **5** and the Schiff base **7** (Scheme 2).

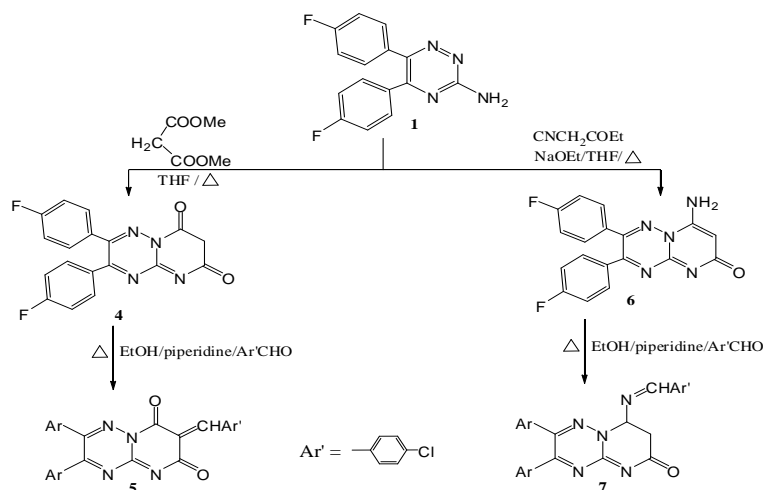
Structures of both compounds **4** and **6** were elucidated from their analytical and spectral data. IR spectrum of **4** showed absorption bands at 1680 and 1650  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for the two  $\text{C}=\text{O}$  groups, while that of **6** recorded absorption bands at 3300, 1670  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  due to  $\text{NH}_2$  and  $\text{C}=\text{O}$  groups, respectively. Mass spectrum of **6** recorded a molecular ion peak at 351  $m/z$  and a base peak at 214  $m/z$ . UV absorption spectrum of **5** showed a higher maximum ( $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 351$  nm) than that of **4** ( $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 346$  nm), due to the extended conjugation in the heterocyclic ring in the former.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  of **5** showed a prominent peak at  $\delta$  8.2 ppm due to  $\text{C}=\text{CHAr}$ .  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  of compound **7** showed the resonance signal of exo  $\text{N}=\text{CH}$  in addition to an endo  $\text{N}=\text{C}$  of 1,2,4-triazine.

The treatment of compound **1** with ethyl chloroformate in benzene and triethylamine and/or  $\text{CS}_2/\text{KOH}$  led to the formation of ethyl carboxylate **8** and the intermediate **9**, respectively. Hydrazinolysis of **8** and **9** by refluxing with hydrazine hydrate in ethanol afforded  $\text{N}^4$ -substituted semicarbazide/thiosemicarbazide **10** and **11**, respectively (Scheme 3). IR spectra of both compounds **10** and **11** showed  $\text{C}=\text{O}$  and  $\text{C}=\text{S}$  at 3400, 3100  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for  $\text{NH}$ ,  $\text{NH}_2$  groups, respectively.

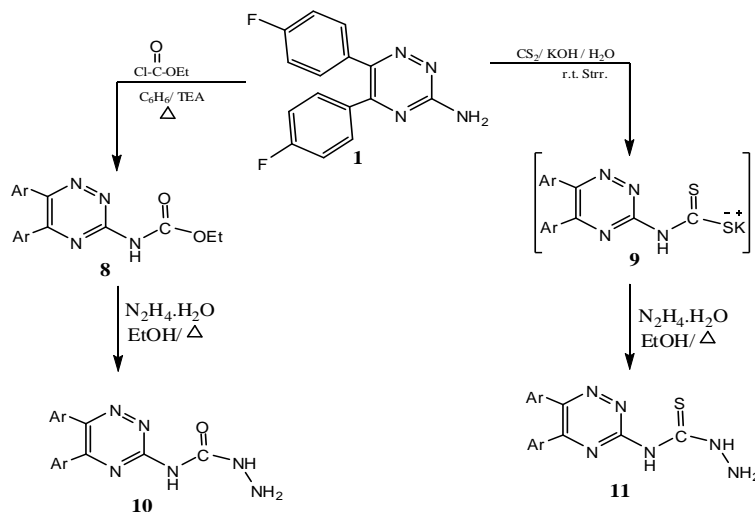
Ring closure reactions of compound **10** with triethylorthoformate, carbondisulfide, dimethylformamide and/or sodium pyruvate (NaOH solution) led to the direct formation of 3-(2',3'-dihydro-3'-oxo-1,2,4-triazol-4'-yl)-5,6-di(4'-fluorophenyl)-1,2,4-triazine (**12**), 3-(3'-oxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-5'-thioxo-1,2,4-triazol-4'-yl)-5,6-di(4'-fluorophenyl)-1,2,4-triazine (**13**) and 3-(3',4'-dihydro-3',5'-dioxo-6'-methyl-1',2',4'-triazin-3'-yl)-5,6-di(4'-fluorophenyl)-1,2,4-triazine (**14**) (Scheme 4).

IR spectra of **12** and **14** revealed absorption bands at 3150 - 3100 and 1680 - 1660  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for  $\text{NH}$  and  $\text{C}=\text{O}$  groups, respectively.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectrum of **14** showed resonance signals at  $\delta$  1.95, 13.48 and 8-6.6 ppm for  $\text{CH}_3$ ,  $\text{NH}$  and aromatic protons respectively. However compound **13** recorded a resonance  $\text{C}=\text{S}$  at  $\delta$  195 ppm. Mass spectra of **13** exhibit a molecular ion peak at  $m/z$  384 and a base peak at  $m/z$  214 due to 4,4'-difluorophenyl acetylene radical [29].

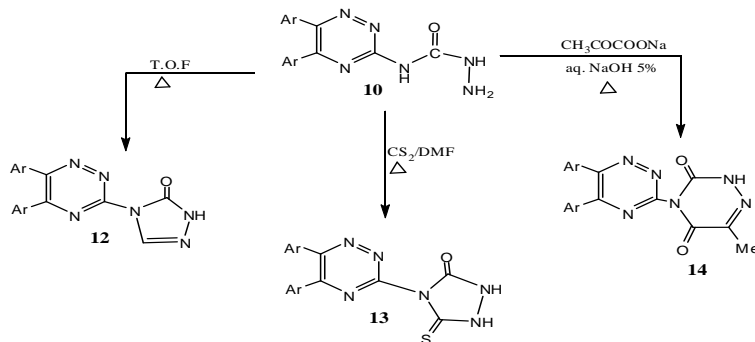
Under the same experimental conditions, ring closure reactions of compound **11** with triethylorthoformate, carbondisulfide and sodium pyruvate resulted in 3-(2',3'-dihydro-3'-thioxo-1',2',4'-triazol-4'-yl)-5,6-di(4'-fluo-



Scheme 2. Synthesis of **5** and **7**.



Scheme 3. Synthesis of 10 and 11.



Scheme 4. Synthesis of 12-14.

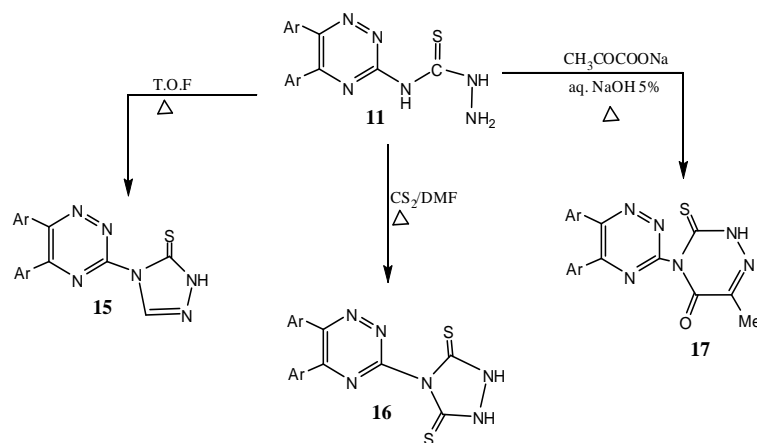
rophenyl)-1,2,4-triazine (**15**), 3-(1',2',3',4'-tetrahydro-3',5'-thioxo-1',2',4'-triazol-4'-yl)-5,6-di(4'-fluorophenyl)-1,2,4-triazine (**16**) and 3-(3',4'-dihydro-3'-thioxo-6-methyl-5'-oxo-1,2,4-triazol-4'-yl)-5,6-di(4'-fluorophenyl)-1,2,4-triazine (**17**), respectively (Scheme 5). IR spectra of compounds **15-17** showed an absorption bands at 3200-3100 and 1180-1150  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for NH and C=S groups, respectively.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  of **17** recorded resonance signals at 1.08 and 11.85 ppm for  $\text{CH}_3$  and NH protons, respectively. Also,  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  exhibited resonances for C=S, C=O, C=N and  $\text{CH}_3$  at  $\delta$  180, 163 and 130 ppm respectively.

Fluorinated N,N-disubstituted-thiobarbituric acid **19** was prepared from refluxing compound **9** with **1** in ethanol to give N,N-disubstituted-thiourea **18**. Ring closure reaction of **18** with malonic acid on warming with glacial acetic acid yielded compound **19** (Scheme 6). IR spectra of compound **18** showed absorption bands at 3300 - 3190  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for NH, NH of thiourea derivative which was not found in compounds **19** and **20**.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectrum of compound **19** recorded a resonance signal at  $\delta$  2.44 ppm for  $\text{CH}_2$  protons. Also,  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  showed a signal at  $\delta$  24.88 ppm for aliphatic carbons. IR spectrum of **20** showed absorption bands at 1680, 1660 and 1611  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for the two C=O and CH=C groups, in addition to two bands at 1255 and 1185  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for C-F and C=S groups, respectively.  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  of **20** exhibited resonance signals at  $\delta$  188, 166 and 39.48 ppm attributed to C=S, C=O and CH=C carbons, respectively. It is interesting to note that UV absorption of compound **20** recorded  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  at 334 nm which is higher than the value for compound **19** ( $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 332$ ), confirming the presence of an  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ -unsaturated cyclic ketone system in the former.

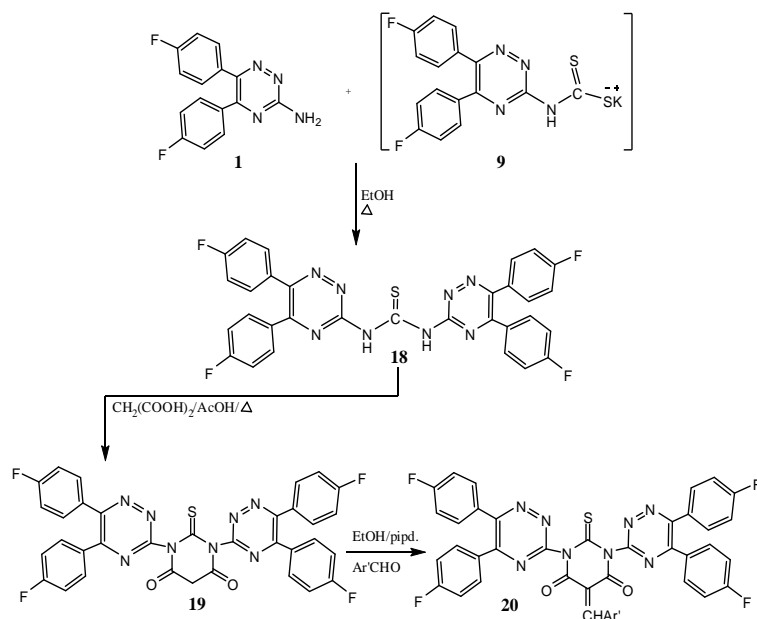
### 3.2. Biological Evaluation

The CDK2 inhibitory activity of the synthesized compounds revealed that eleven out of the tested twenty compounds displayed variable inhibitory effects. However compounds **11**, **13**, **16** and **17** showed profound activity.





Scheme 5. Synthesis of 15 and 17.



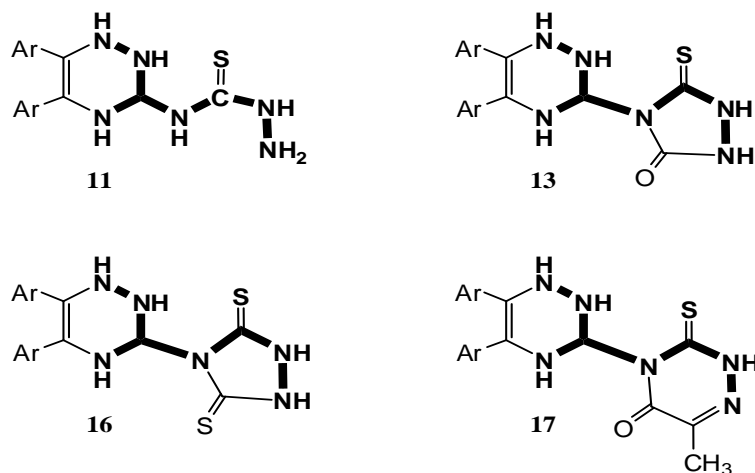
Scheme 6. Synthesis of 18-20.

Compound **16** was found to be equipotent to the positive reference Olomoucine.

Further examination of the structures of the active compounds revealed that all of them have almost similar **N-(amino(hydrazinyl)methyl)hydrazinecarbothioamide** scaffolding as displayed in **Figure 1** by bold bonds. Though these structural features are present in other active compounds but other molecular framework variants render them less active and less sensitive towards the CDK2 enzyme. Also, the presence of mercapto-groups in fluorinated heterobicyclic nitrogen systems (**11**, **13**, **16**, **17**) exhibited good effects toward cell damage (**Table 1**).

However, *in vitro* anti-tumor testing of the highly active compounds (**11**, **13**, **16**, **17**) were evaluated according to the described method, under different concentrations, a sulforhodamine B (SRB) protein assay was used to estimate cell viability or growth by determining  $\text{GI}_{50}$ , TGI and  $\text{LC}_{50}$  (**Table 2**).

The results obtained, indicated that all the tested compounds were effective towards some types of tumors. Compound **11** was active against non-small cell lung cancer, renal cancer and breast cancer cell lines, while compound **13** had activity towards leukemia, renal cancer, non-small cell lung cancer and breast cancer. Furthermore, compounds **16** and **17** exhibited significant degrees of activity towards non-small cell lung cancer and breast cancer (**Table 2**).



**Figure 1.** Common structural features of the active compounds.

**Table 1.** The CDK2 inhibitory activity of tested compounds ( $IC_{50}$  in  $\mu\text{g/ml}$ ).

Compound. No.	$IC_{50}$ CDK2 $\pm$ SD $\mu\text{g/ml}$
1	15+1.8
2	18+2.8
3	10+1.3
4	11+2.4
6	20+3.5
11	4.0+1.8
12	11+3.8
13	4.8+1.0
15	12+5.3
16	5.0+2.8
17	5.2+2.8
<b>Olomoucine</b>	5.0+1.0

The data represent means values from three independent experiments plus the standard deviation (SD).

**Table 2.** *In vitro* antitumor activity data of some active compounds.

Compound	Response Parameters <sup>a</sup> [mean log10]			Selectivity Analysis Sabpanel Sensitivity	
	**( $\Delta$ )	TGI	$GI_{50}$		
<b>11</b>	0.00 0.02 0.69-	Non small cell lung cancer, Renal cancer and Breast cancer	5.0 5.0 5.0	5.0 5.0 5.0	<b>11</b>
<b>13</b>	1.14	Leukemia, renal cancer, non-small cell lung cancer, Breast cancer	5.01	5.22	<b>13</b>
<b>16</b>	0.65	Non small cell lung cancer	5.00	5.06	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	0.37	Breast cancer	5.00	5.01	<b>17</b>

$GI_{50}$ : concentration giving 50% inhibition; TGI: concentration giving total growth inhibition;  $LC_{50}$ : concentration having 50% lethal effect;  $\Delta$  is considered low if  $\leq 1$ , moderate if  $> 1$  and high if  $\geq 3$ ; Subpanels showing a statistical measure of differential sensitivity with respect to the indicated response parameters.

## 4. Conclusion

The synthesized  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ -bifunctional oxygen, sulfur, halogen and nitrogen derivatives of 1,2,4-triazines have shown promising CDK2 activities. Out of eleven active compounds, four of them (**11**, **13**, **16** and **17**) have shown very good CDK2 enzyme inhibiting activity. In these compounds **N-(amino(hydrazinyl)methyl)hydrazinecarbothioamide** scaffold was found to be an essential molecular feature in CDK2 enzyme inhibition activity. However these four compounds have also shown significant activity against various tumor cell-lines in subpanel assay.

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