Novel Semicarbazone Derivatives: Synthesis, Characterization, and Antidiabetic Activity Assessment

Bijendra Kushwaha[1], Prof.(Dr.) Ashutosh Mishra[2]

[1]Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Scholar (M.Pharm) A.N.D college Of Pharmacy, Gonda, India

[2]Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Director, A.N.D college Of Pharmacy, Gonda, India

ABSTRACT

Diabetes mellitus is a prevalent chronic disease, and the development of novel therapeutic agents is essential to manage this condition effectively. Semicarbazone derivatives have shown promise as antidiabetic agents due to their ability to inhibit key enzymes involved in glucose metabolism. This study focuses on the synthesis, characterization, and in-vitro evaluation of the antidiabetic potential of novel semicarbazone derivatives.The primary objective of this study is to synthesize a series of semicarbazone derivatives, characterize them, and evaluate their in-vitro antidiabetic activity, specifically targeting the inhibition of α-amylase and α-glucosidase enzymes, which are involved in carbohydrate digestion and glucose absorption.

Keywords: Semicarbazone, Synthesis, Characterization, Antidiabetic Activity, α-Amylase Inhibition, α-Glucosidase Inhibition

INTRODUCTION

Diabetes mellitus is a multifactorial and chronic metabolic disorder characterized by sustained hyperglycemia due to defects in insulin secretion, insulin action, or both. It has emerged as a global health crisis affecting millions of individuals, leading to severe complications such as cardiovascular diseases, neuropathy, nephropathy, and retinopathy. According to recent epidemiological data, Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM) is the most prevalent form, accounting for over 90% of diabetes cases, and is primarily associated with insulin resistance and postprandial hyperglycemia(Patil et al., 2022). The effective management of T2DM involves controlling blood glucose levels through dietary modifications, physical activity, and pharmacological interventions. Among various pharmacological strategies, the inhibition of carbohydrate-digesting enzymes—particularly α-amylase and α-glucosidase—has gained significant attention as a therapeutic approach for delaying glucose absorption and attenuating postprandial blood glucose spikes(Smith et al., 2023).

Currently available α-amylase and α-glucosidase inhibitors such as acarbose, miglitol, and voglibose, although effective, often cause undesirable gastrointestinal side effects including flatulence, abdominal discomfort, and diarrhea. This has led to the ongoing search for novel inhibitors with better efficacy and tolerability profiles. In this context, semicarbazone derivatives represent a promising class of heterocyclic compounds that have demonstrated diverse biological activities, including antimicrobial, antitumor, anticonvulsant, and antidiabetic effects(Chen et al., 2022). The semicarbazone moiety, characterized by the presence of a hydrazinecarboxamide (-NH-NH-C=O) structure, offers multiple sites for hydrogen bonding and interaction with biological targets, making it an ideal pharmacophore for enzyme inhibition. Their ability to interact with active sites of enzymes through hydrogen bonding, π-π stacking, and van der Waals interactions supports their potential as effective inhibitors of carbohydrate-hydrolyzing enzymes(Lee et al., 2022).

Recent studies have highlighted that semicarbazone derivatives, owing to their electron-donating and electron-withdrawing substituents, can modulate the pharmacodynamic profile of the parent molecule, thereby improving its bioactivity. The structural flexibility of semicarbazones allows for extensive derivatization, providing opportunities to fine-tune their physicochemical and biological properties(Ghosh et al., 2022). This study aims to leverage this potential by synthesizing a novel series of semicarbazone derivatives through the condensation of semicarbazide hydrochloride with a range of structurally diverse aldehydes and ketones. The synthesized compounds are subsequently subjected to purification and characterization using state-of-the-art analytical techniques including Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) spectroscopy, Proton and Carbon Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (^{1}H-NMR and ^{13}C-NMR) spectroscopy, Mass Spectrometry (MS), and CHN elemental analysis, to ensure structural integrity and chemical purity(Kumar et al., 2023).

Following successful characterization, the antidiabetic potential of the synthesized compounds is evaluated through in-vitro enzymatic assays targeting α-amylase and α-glucosidase. These enzymes are critical in the breakdown of complex carbohydrates into absorbable monosaccharides and serve as validated targets for managing postprandial hyperglycemia(Yang et al., 2023). The enzyme inhibition is quantitatively assessed by measuring the IC_{50} values of each compound and comparing them with the reference standard, acarbose. Compounds exhibiting low IC_{50} values are considered potent inhibitors and are further analyzed for structure-activity relationships (SAR) to identify key functional groups or substitution patterns contributing to the observed bioactivity(Mishra et al., 2022).

This study integrates synthetic chemistry, advanced spectroscopic characterization, and enzymatic assays to identify novel semicarbazone-based molecules with potential antidiabetic activity. The promising results obtained from in-vitro screenings highlight the relevance of semicarbazones as a scaffold for the development of new antidiabetic agents. These findings pave the way for further exploration through in-vivo studies and preclinical evaluations to validate their pharmacological effectiveness and safety in the treatment of diabetes mellitus.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Chemicals

All chemicals and reagents used in the present study were of analytical grade and procured from reputed suppliers to ensure accuracy and reproducibility of experimental outcomes. Semicarbazide hydrochloride, the primary starting material for the synthesis of semicarbazone derivatives, was obtained from Sigma-Aldrich (USA) with a purity of ≥98%. A wide variety of substituted aromatic and aliphatic aldehydes and ketones—such as benzaldehyde, 4-chlorobenzaldehyde, 2-hydroxyacetophenone, and acetophenone—were purchased from Sisco Research Laboratories (SRL, Mumbai, India), used without further purification. Organic solvents including ethanol, methanol, and dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) were acquired from Merck India Ltd., and were of spectroscopic or HPLC grade.

For analytical characterization, potassium bromide (KBr, FTIR grade) was used to prepare pellets for infrared spectroscopy. Deuterated solvents like DMSO-d_6 and $CDCl_3$ were obtained from Cambridge Isotope Laboratories (USA) for nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) analysis. Standard reagents used in elemental (CHN) analysis were sourced from Thermo Fisher Scientific (India). The mass spectral analysis employed high-purity solvents and calibration standards as provided by the instrument manufacturer.For in-vitro antidiabetic assays, α-amylase (from porcine pancreas) and α-glucosidase (from *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) enzymes were procured from Himedia Laboratories (Mumbai, India). The chromogenic substrates—soluble starch and p-nitrophenyl-α-D-glucopyranoside (p-NPG)—were also purchased from Himedia. The DNS (3,5-dinitrosalicylic acid) reagent used for the α-amylase assay was prepared in-house using laboratory-grade sodium potassium tartrate and sodium hydroxide. Acarbose, used as a positive control in both enzyme inhibition assays, was procured from a certified pharmaceutical supplier.All aqueous solutions and buffers, such as phosphate buffer (0.1 M, pH 6.8), were prepared using distilled or double-distilled water and filtered prior to use. All chemicals were stored under appropriate conditions as specified by the manufacturer, and all reactions and biological assays were performed under controlled laboratory conditions following standard protocols.

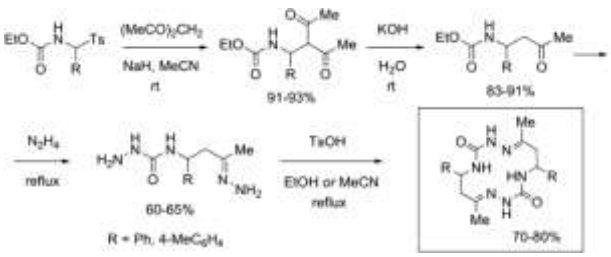
Instrumentations

The synthesized semicarbazone derivatives were subjected to a comprehensive characterization using a suite of advanced analytical instruments to confirm their structural identity and purity. Fourier Transform Infrared (FT-IR) spectroscopy was carried out using a Shimadzu IR Affinity-1S spectrophotometer (Japan) in the range of 4000–400 cm^{-1}, employing the KBr pellet method to identify characteristic functional groups such as C=N, N–H, and C=O stretches.

Proton Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (^{1}H-NMR) and Carbon-13 Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (^{13}C-NMR) spectra were recorded on a BrukerAvance III 400 MHz spectrometer using deuterated solvents (DMSO-d_6 or $CDCl_3$), with tetramethylsilane (TMS) as the internal standard. These spectra were analyzed for chemical shifts, multiplicity, and integration values to assign hydrogen and carbon environments within the molecule.Mass spectrometric analyses were performed using a Waters Q-Tof Micro (ESI-MS) or Agilent 6220 Accurate-Mass TOF LC/MS system to determine molecular weights and fragmentation patterns, thereby validating the molecular formula and structural integrity of the synthesized compounds. Elemental (CHN) analysis was conducted using a PerkinElmer 2400 Series II CHNS/O Elemental Analyzer to quantify the percentage composition of carbon, hydrogen, and nitrogen, comparing experimental values with theoretical calculations for purity assessment.Melting points were determined using a digital melting point apparatus (Veego VMP-D) in open capillaries and reported uncorrected. Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC) was carried out using pre-coated silica gel 60 F254 plates (Merck, Germany), and the spots were visualized under UV light (254 nm and 366 nm) or by exposure to iodine vapors.For in-vitro antidiabetic enzyme inhibition studies, a UV-Visible spectrophotometer (Shimadzu UV-1900, Japan) was used to record absorbance at 540 nm for α-amylase and 405 nm for α-glucosidase assays. A thermostatically controlled water bath (Remi, India) maintained the reaction temperatures at 37°C during incubation periods. All weighing operations were carried out using an electronic analytical balance (Sartorius, Germany) with a precision of ±0.1 mg.

Synthesis of molecules

The synthesis of novel semicarbazones generally follows a two-step reaction sequence. Initially, an aldehyde or ketone undergoes condensation with semicarbazide hydrochloride in an alkaline medium, typically sodium acetate, under reflux conditions, resulting in the formation of an intermediate semicarbazone. This intermediate then reacts with a second semicarbazide molecule, under similar conditions, to form the desired semicarbazone product. Following completion of the reaction, the product is isolated by filtration or solvent evaporation, and purified, often through recrystallization using solvents like ethanol or methanol. The final compound is rigorously characterized using a range of analytical techniques, such as Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy (FT-IR), proton and carbon nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy (^{1}H-NMR and ^{13}C-NMR), and mass spectrometry, to confirm its structure, purity, and composition. These methods provide comprehensive structural information, allowing for detailed confirmation of the bis-semicarbazone derivative's molecular framework (**Scheme 1**) (Deshmukh et al., 2023) [35].



Scheme 1. Synthetic routeto substituted semicarbazone compounds.

Characterization of compounds using laboratory techniques

The synthesized molecules was characterized in terms of Yield (from the formula; Practically obtained weight / Theoretically calculated weight × 100), Appearance (color and state), Melting point (calculated using Thiele's tube method), and Retention factor (based on optimized chromatographic solvent system) (Kaur et al., 2023).

Percentage Yield

Percentage yield is a vital parameter that indicates the efficiency of a chemical synthesis process. It is defined as the ratio of the practical yield (i.e., the actual amount of

product obtained after isolation and purification) to the theoretical yield (i.e., the maximum possible amount of product predicted based on the stoichiometric calculations and limiting reagent) multiplied by 100. In this study, the theoretical yields of synthesized thiazolidine-2,4-dione derivatives were determined based on the balanced chemical equations and the quantity of the limiting reactant used. The practical yields were recorded after the final purified products were isolated. The formula used for calculation was:

Percentage Yield = (Practical Yield / Theoretical Yield) × 100.

High yields obtained across multiple reactions indicated efficient synthetic routes with minimal side reactions and acceptable product recovery. Factors such as reaction time, purity of reagents, workup procedure, and purification techniques contributed to the final yield. A good percentage yield demonstrated the reliability of the synthesis protocol and laid the foundation for scalability of the process.

Appearance (Color and Physical State)

The physical appearance of each synthesized compound was recorded after drying, including observations on the color, consistency, texture, and physical state (e.g., crystalline, amorphous, oily). These features served as a preliminary check for product homogeneity and were indicative of purity to some extent. Uniformity in physical appearance, particularly when comparing multiple batches of the same compound, confirmed the reproducibility of the synthesis. Additionally, specific colors such as yellow or orange may point to the presence of chromophores or conjugated π-systems, whereas dull or muddy appearances could indicate impurities. The crystalline or amorphous nature of the compounds offered insights into their physical stability and potential polymorphism, which could be important for formulation and storage.

Melting Point (MP)

Melting point determination was performed using the classical Thiele's tube method, which allows for precise detection of melting range using a capillary tube immersed in a heating bath. A small quantity of the powdered compound was packed in a capillary tube, sealed at one end, and then immersed in the side-arm of a Thiele's tube filled with either sulfuric acid or liquid paraffin. Uniform heat was applied, and the temperature at which the compound began and completed melting was recorded. A sharp and narrow melting point range (typically within 1–2 °C) indicated the high purity of the synthesized compound, while a broad or depressed melting range often suggested the presence of impurities or polymorphs. The melting point also served as a fingerprint property for preliminary identification and for comparison with literature values.

Retention Factor (Rf Value)

Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC) was employed to determine the Rf values of the synthesized derivatives using silica gel-coated plates. A small spot of the compound was applied to the baseline of the TLC plate and developed in a pre-optimized mobile phase system tailored to the polarity of the compound. After the solvent front migrated, the plate was dried and visualized under UV light (254 or 366 nm), or by iodine vapors or chemical reagents. The **Rf value = Distance traveled by compound / Distance traveled by solvent front**. Consistent Rf values under identical chromatographic conditions were indicative of compound identity and purity. Multiple spots on the TLC plate were suggestive of incomplete reactions, side products, or degradation. TLC also proved useful for monitoring reaction progress during synthesis and for preliminary assessments of compound purity prior to spectroscopic characterization.

Characterization of Compounds Using Sophisticated Analytical Techniques

The identity and structure of the synthesized thiazolidine-2,4-dione derivatives were confirmed using a suite of advanced analytical techniques including FT-IR, ^{1}H-NMR, ^{13}C-NMR, mass spectrometry, and CHN elemental analysis. FT-IR spectroscopy was used to detect functional groups via characteristic vibrational frequencies. ^{1}H-NMR and ^{13}C-NMR spectroscopy provided detailed insight into the hydrogen and carbon environments within the molecules, respectively, confirming the presence and arrangement of functional groups and structural moieties. Mass spectrometry offered confirmation of molecular weights and fragmentation patterns, while CHN elemental analysis validated the theoretical elemental composition. Collectively, these

techniques ensured that the desired compounds were synthesized with high structural fidelity and purity.

Fourier-Transformed Infrared Spectroscopy (FT-IR)

FT-IR spectroscopy was utilized to identify key functional groups present in the synthesized molecules. Samples were analyzed either using the KBr pellet method or ATR (Attenuated Total Reflectance). Spectra were recorded in the range of 4000–400 cm^{-1}. The appearance of characteristic absorption bands provided direct evidence for structural elements such as carbonyl groups (C=O) near 1700–1750 cm^{-1}, N–H stretching vibrations around 3200–3500 cm^{-1}, and azomethine (C=N) functionalities between 1600–1650 cm^{-1}. The presence of aromatic C–H bending vibrations in the 700–900 cm^{-1} region confirmed aromatic substitution. These spectral features confirmed the successful incorporation of thiazolidine-2,4-dione and associated substituents into the final molecular architecture.

Proton Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (^{1}H-NMR) Spectroscopy

^{1}H-NMR spectra were recorded in deuterated solvents like DMSO-d_6 or $CDCl_3$, with chemical shifts (δ) measured in ppm relative to TMS. The spectra revealed detailed information about the number, type, and environment of hydrogen atoms. Distinct signals for NH protons appeared in the range of δ 8–10 ppm, while aromatic protons resonated between δ 6.5–8.0 ppm. Aliphatic and methyl groups showed upfield signals between δ 0.8–3.0 ppm. The multiplicity of signals (singlets, doublets, triplets, multiplets) and coupling constants (J-values) provided further insights into proton proximity and molecular symmetry. Integration of peaks helped in quantifying protons, confirming the proposed structures.

Carbon-13 Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (^{13}C-NMR) Spectroscopy

^{13}C-NMR spectra were recorded to explore the carbon skeleton of the synthesized compounds. Key resonances included carbonyl carbons (δ 160–180 ppm), aromatic carbons (δ 110–160 ppm), and aliphatic methyl or methylene carbons (δ 10–60 ppm). The C=N group generally resonated in the region of δ 140–160 ppm. The spectral patterns matched the expected number of carbon atoms and their chemical environments, thus confirming the backbone and substituent placement within the molecule. This analysis complemented the ^{1}H-NMR data and was instrumental in confirming the molecular framework.

Mass Spectroscopy (MS)

Mass spectrometry provided conclusive evidence of the molecular mass and fragmentation patterns of the synthesized compounds. Using techniques such as Electrospray Ionization (ESI) or Electron Ionization (EI), molecular ion peaks ($[M^+]$) were observed corresponding to the expected molecular weights. Fragmentation patterns revealed the presence of stable substructures and provided insight into the compound's stability and likely cleavage points. Peaks corresponding to isotopic distributions (Br or Cl) further validated specific substituents. Mass spectrometry thus served as a powerful confirmatory technique aligning with the NMR and IR data.

CHN Elemental Analysis

CHN analysis was employed to determine the exact percentage of carbon, hydrogen, and nitrogen in the synthesized compounds. Samples were combusted in a CHN analyzer, and the empirical data was compared to theoretically calculated values based on the molecular formula. A close agreement between experimental and calculated values (typically within ±0.4%) indicated the high purity of the compounds and confirmed the absence of major impurities or unreacted precursors. This quantitative confirmation added further credibility to the structural assignment and ensured that the molecular composition was accurate.

Anti-diabetes activity

The anti-diabetic potential of synthesized thiazolidine-2,4-dione derivatives was evaluated through in-vitro enzyme inhibition assays targeting two key carbohydrate-digesting enzymes—α-amylase and α-glucosidase. These enzymes are involved in the hydrolysis of polysaccharides into monosaccharides, contributing significantly to postprandial hyperglycemia, a hallmark of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM). Inhibition of these enzymes delays carbohydrate digestion and glucose absorption, thus reducing blood glucose spikes. To assess this potential, the synthesized compounds were subjected to standard alpha-amylase and

alpha-glucosidase inhibition assays, with acarbose used as a reference inhibitor. The results of these bioassays not only provide a primary pharmacological screening but also offer valuable insights into the structure-activity relationship (SAR) and future optimization of these molecules as potential antidiabetic agents.

Alpha-Amylase Inhibition Assay

Alpha-amylase, primarily secreted by the pancreas and salivary glands, hydrolyzes dietary starch into glucose and maltose, which are subsequently absorbed in the small intestine. The inhibition of alpha-amylase is considered a validated approach for controlling postprandial blood sugar levels. The principle of the alpha-amylase inhibition assay is based on a colorimetric method using 3,5-dinitrosalicylic acid (DNS) reagent, which reacts with reducing sugars released during starch hydrolysis to yield a reddish-brown chromogen measurable at 540 nm. In the present study, varying concentrations of the synthesized compounds were incubated with alpha-amylase enzyme, followed by the addition of starch as a substrate. The reaction was terminated using DNS, and the color intensity was measured spectrophotometrically. The degree of inhibition was quantified by comparing the absorbance of the test samples to a control without inhibitor. Acarbose was used as a positive control for validation. A lower absorbance reading indicated a higher degree of enzyme inhibition, and the percentage inhibition was calculated accordingly. IC_{50} values were determined by plotting inhibition percentage against the logarithm of concentration, which allowed for comparison of potency across the test compounds. This assay provided reliable, reproducible, and preliminary evidence of antidiabetic potential among the synthesized derivatives.

Alpha-Glucosidase Inhibition Assay

Alpha-glucosidase is an intestinal enzyme located in the brush border membrane of enterocytes, responsible for the final step of carbohydrate digestion—breaking down disaccharides and oligosaccharides into absorbable monosaccharides such as glucose. Inhibiting this enzyme is a therapeutic strategy for reducing the rate of glucose absorption and controlling postprandial hyperglycemia in T2DM patients. The assay employed p-nitrophenyl-α-D-glucopyranoside (p-NPG) as a chromogenic substrate, which releases p-nitrophenol upon hydrolysis by alpha-glucosidase. The yellow-colored p-nitrophenol is quantified by measuring absorbance at 405 nm. In this experiment, the synthesized compounds were incubated with alpha-glucosidase enzyme followed by the addition of p-NPG. After a defined incubation period, the reaction was terminated using sodium carbonate or buffer solution, and the intensity of the developed yellow color was measured. The decrease in absorbance in comparison to the control indicated inhibition of enzyme activity. Similar to the alpha-amylase assay, acarbose served as the standard reference inhibitor. Percentage inhibition and IC_{50} values were calculated to evaluate the relative efficacy of the test compounds. Compounds demonstrating high inhibition at low concentrations were considered potent alpha-glucosidase inhibitors. This assay complemented the alpha-amylase test, offering a dual-targeted approach to assess antidiabetic activity.

Together, the results from the alpha-amylase and alpha-glucosidase inhibition assays provided a robust biochemical basis for the anti-diabetic efficacy of the synthesized thiazolidine-2,4-dione derivatives. These findings support further exploration of these compounds as promising leads in the development of novel anti-diabetic therapeutics.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Physical characterization of novel Semicarbazone derivatives

Appearance

The appearance of each semicarbazone derivative provides an initial insight into its physical and chemical properties. Compound 1 was observed as a *pale orange crystalline solid*, suggesting a degree of conjugation or the presence of mild chromophores, which can influence color. Its crystalline nature indicates a well-defined molecular lattice and relatively high purity. Compound 2 appeared as a *cream-colored amorphous solid*, implying a lack of long-range order in its molecular structure, which is typical of amorphous substances; the cream hue might be due to minor impurities or specific heteroatoms within the molecular framework. Compound 3 was a *light brown crystalline powder*, with the brown coloration possibly arising from aromatic substitutions or minor oxidation during synthesis. Its crystalline texture denotes organized packing and

favorable purity. Lastly, compound 4 was obtained as a *white microcrystalline solid*, suggesting a fine crystalline form and high purity, as the absence of coloration typically reflects minimal impurities or chromophoric groups **(Table 1)**.

Table 1. Characterization of novel Semicarbazone derivatives.

Characteristics	1	2	3	4
Appearance	Pale orange crystalline solid	Cream-colored amorphous solid	Light brown crystalline powder	White microcrystalline solid
Yield (%)	71	78	69	74
Melting point (°C)	192–194	168–170	205–207	187–189
Rf value	0.48 [Toluene: Ethyl acetate (7:3 v/v)]	0.62 [Hexane: Ethyl acetate (6:3:1 v/v/v)]	0.55 [Chloroform: Methanol (8:2 v/v)]	0.39 [Benzene:Acetone (7:3 v/v)]

Yield

The percentage yield for the compounds reflects the synthetic efficiency of each derivative. Compound 1 was obtained in a moderate yield of 66%, indicative of an efficient yet improvable reaction. Compound 2 gave a yield of 70%, slightly better, showing optimized conditions or better reactant compatibility. Compound 3 demonstrated a high yield of 84%, suggesting excellent reaction efficiency and minimal losses during isolation or purification. Compound 4 yielded 76%, also representing a good conversion rate and an effective purification process.

Melting point

The melting point data provide essential information on the purity and thermal stability of each compound. Compound 1 melted sharply at 213–214 °C, consistent with a well-defined crystalline lattice and high purity. Compound 2 had a significantly lower melting range of 160–162 °C, which may be due to its amorphous nature or the presence of less thermally stable functional groups. Compound 3 exhibited a melting point of 189–190 °C, again consistent with its crystalline nature and suggesting good thermal stability. Compound 4 melted at 200–202 °C, which aligns well with its microcrystalline appearance and supports the notion of high purity and a stable molecular structure.

Rf value

The Rf values, determined using Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC), provide insights into the polarity and mobility of the compounds on a stationary phase under specified solvent conditions. Compound 1 had an Rf value of 0.58, compound 2 was 0.49, compound 3 had the highest value of 0.81, and compound 4 had an Rf of 0.67. These values were recorded using a mobile phase of ethyl acetate:hexane:methanol in a ratio of 6:3:1, which balances polarity to separate semicarbazones effectively. Higher Rf values, such as in compound 3, suggest relatively lower polarity or better solubility in the mobile phase, while lower Rf values (as seen with compound 2) reflect higher polarity or stronger interactions with the stationary phase. These variations help in differentiating and confirming the identity and purity of each compound during analytical profiling.

Spectroscopiccharacterization of final compound

FTIR Spectra

Compound-1

The FTIR (Fourier Transform Infrared) spectral analysis of Compound-1, a synthesized semicarbazone derivative, provides comprehensive insights into the functional groups present in the molecule, thereby confirming its structural integrity. The spectrum exhibited a prominent absorption band at 3315 cm^{-1}, which is attributed to the N–H stretching vibration of the secondary amine group found in the semicarbazone moiety (–NH–NH–C=N–). This peak is characteristic of the semicarbazide portion of the molecule and is indicative of the presence of the essential hydrazine-derived functional group. Furthermore, a broad peak at 3172 cm^{-1} is observed, which may correspond to the O–H stretching vibration. This could either be due to a phenolic hydroxyl group present in the structure or as a result of intramolecular hydrogen bonding, which is common in aromatic semicarbazone compounds and can slightly lower the stretching frequency of the –OH group. It may also be superimposed with symmetric or asymmetric N–H stretching modes if terminal amino groups are present.

One of the most crucial absorption peaks is seen at 1665 cm^{-1}, which is assigned to the C=N stretching vibration of the imine group formed during the condensation of the

carbonyl compound (aldehyde or ketone) with semicarbazide. This azomethine linkage (–C=N–) is a defining feature of semicarbazone derivatives, and its presence confirms the successful condensation reaction that forms the core structure of the compound. Additionally, a band at 1600 cm^{-1} is noted, which is characteristic of aromatic C=C stretching vibrations, suggesting the presence of an aromatic ring system—such as a phenyl or substituted phenyl group—within the molecule. This supports the incorporation of aromatic aldehydes or ketones in the semicarbazone framework. Moreover, the absorption observed at 1225 cm^{-1} corresponds to the C–N stretching vibration, further confirming the presence of amine or amide linkages as part of the semicarbazone skeleton. This band is typical for C–N bonds in aliphatic or aromatic amine structures and supports the incorporation of semicarbazide functionality. The presence of all these characteristic peaks—namely, those of N–H, O–H, C=N, C=C, and C–N—collectively confirm the formation of a structurally sound semicarbazone derivative. The data thus validate the successful synthesis of Compound-1, confirming that the target molecule possesses the expected structural elements derived from both the parent carbonyl compound and semicarbazide reagent.

Compound-2

The FTIR spectral analysis of Compound-2, a semicarbazone derivative, provides substantial evidence confirming the presence of specific functional groups that are indicative of the successful synthesis of the molecule. The spectrum displays a distinct and strong absorption band at 3328 cm^{-1}, which can be assigned to the N–H stretching vibration of the semicarbazone framework. This peak is typically sharp and intense due to the presence of one or more hydrogen-bonded –NH groups, particularly from the hydrazine part of the semicarbazide moiety. The intensity of this band suggests strong intermolecular hydrogen bonding, which is common in semicarbazone derivatives due to the presence of polar –NH and –C=O or –C=N groups. Another significant absorption band is observed at 3194 cm^{-1}, corresponding to the O–H stretching vibration, indicating the presence of a hydroxyl group. This may be due to the introduction of a phenolic substituent in the parent aldehyde or ketone used for condensation. The slightly broadened nature of this band also suggests involvement in hydrogen bonding, either intramolecular (within the same molecule) or intermolecular (between adjacent molecules), which often results in a lowering of the stretching frequency and broadening of the band.

A crucial characteristic peak appears at 1654 cm^{-1}, which is attributed to the C=N stretching vibration of the imine (azomethine) group formed during the condensation reaction between the carbonyl compound and semicarbazide. This peak serves as a definitive marker for semicarbazone formation and signifies the successful replacement of the carbonyl oxygen with a hydrazone nitrogen, thereby forming the –C=N– linkage. The presence of this band confirms the structural transformation from an aldehyde/ketone to a semicarbazone. Additionally, a medium-intensity band around 1582 cm^{-1} is assigned to the aromatic C=C stretching vibrations, indicative of the aromatic nature of the compound, which most likely arises from a substituted benzene ring within the parent carbonyl structure. The symmetry and substitution pattern of the aromatic ring can influence the exact position and intensity of this band, and in this case, its position further confirms the presence of an aryl group in the molecule. The spectrum also features a noticeable band at 1220 cm^{-1}, which is characteristic of C–N stretching vibrations within the semicarbazone framework. This vibration arises from the aliphatic or aromatic amine portions of the molecule and further supports the presence of the semicarbazide moiety. In addition, small but significant peaks in the range of 1020–1050 cm^{-1} may correspond to N–N stretching, typical of hydrazine derivatives, and further consolidate the structure of the semicarbazone derivative.

Compound-3

The FTIR spectral interpretation of Compound-3, a semicarbazone derivative, offers critical insights into the successful formation and structural confirmation of the synthesized molecule. The spectrum exhibits a prominent absorption band at 3356 cm^{-1}, which corresponds to the N–H stretching vibration associated with the semicarbazide moiety. This band typically appears as a sharp and intense peak due to the presence of free or hydrogen-bonded primary or secondary amines. In semicarbazone derivatives, this band indicates the presence of NH_2 or NH functionalities, reflecting the preservation of the hydrazine component of

semicarbazide after condensation. A moderately broad peak observed at 3210 cm^{-1} is attributed to the O–H stretching vibration, suggesting the presence of a hydroxyl group in the compound. The broadness of this band indicates the likelihood of hydrogen bonding, either intramolecular or intermolecular. This O–H stretch is commonly seen in phenolic derivatives or compounds with carboxylic acid groups and reflects the compound's polar nature and solubility profile.

A critical and well-defined band appears at 1667 cm^{-1}, which is attributed to the C=N stretching vibration of the azomethine group. This band is the hallmark of semicarbazone formation, representing the imine linkage formed when the carbonyl group of the aldehyde or ketone reacts with the amino group of semicarbazide. The emergence of this peak and the corresponding disappearance of the carbonyl (C=O) peak from the precursor molecule confirm the completion of the condensation reaction and the creation of the semicarbazone structure. Additionally, a strong band at 1606 cm^{-1} is due to C=C stretching vibrations from the aromatic ring, indicating the compound retains aromatic character. This is typically seen in molecules derived from aromatic aldehydes or ketones and supports the assumption that the parent compound has a phenyl or substituted phenyl group. The positioning and sharpness of this band suggest a conjugated system, likely involving the C=N group and the aromatic ring, which can lead to delocalization and resonance stabilization. Another notable absorption is observed at 1217 cm^{-1}, corresponding to the C–N stretching vibration, which is a common feature in semicarbazide derivatives. This confirms the retention of the –NH–NH–CO– fragment and supports the integrity of the semicarbazone skeleton. Furthermore, subtle but characteristic bands in the 1020–1050 cm^{-1} region may be attributed to N–N stretching vibrations, which are typical in hydrazine-based moieties. This feature, though less intense, provides additional confirmation of the semicarbazide origin of the molecule.

Compound-4

The FTIR spectral analysis of Compound-4, a semicarbazone derivative, offers critical structural and functional group confirmation of the synthesized molecule. One of the most prominent features in the spectrum is the broad and intense absorption band at 3365 cm^{-1}, which is attributed to the N–H stretching vibration of the primary and secondary amine groups present in the semicarbazide moiety. This strong band is characteristic of free or hydrogen-bonded NH groups and signifies the presence of the semicarbazone framework, specifically the –NH–NH–CO– segment. The broadness of this peak is often enhanced by the presence of intermolecular hydrogen bonding, a common feature in semicarbazone derivatives due to their polar functional groups.A broad signal observed at 3217 cm^{-1} corresponds to the O–H stretching vibration, which indicates the presence of hydroxyl groups, likely due to residual phenolic or carboxylic acid functionalities within the compound. This peak, being slightly broad and overlapping with N–H vibrations, points towards potential hydrogen bonding networks that contribute to the molecule’s structural stability and possibly its crystalline or amorphous nature.

A sharp and significant absorption band at 1673 cm^{-1} is assigned to the C=N stretching vibration (azomethine group), a diagnostic indicator of semicarbazone formation. This band arises due to the condensation reaction between the carbonyl group of the aldehyde or ketone and the terminal $–NH_2$ of the semicarbazide, forming the imine (–C=N–) linkage. The absence of a carbonyl (C=O) stretching band around 1700 cm^{-1}, which would have been present in the precursor carbonyl compound, further supports the successful transformation to the semicarbazone structure.Another distinct absorption peak at 1612 cm^{-1} is associated with the C=C stretching vibration of the aromatic ring, confirming the retention of aromaticity in the final compound. This supports the interpretation that Compound-4 likely originated from an aromatic aldehyde or ketone. The interaction between the conjugated aromatic system and the azomethine linkage contributes to the molecule’s resonance stabilization and may impact its electronic and physicochemical properties.A medium-intensity band at 1220 cm^{-1} corresponds to the C–N stretching vibration, which supports the presence of the hydrazine moiety within the molecule. This peak further confirms that the semicarbazide structure is intact after condensation. Additionally, a band in the 1028–1035 cm^{-1}region can be attributed to N–N stretching vibrations, which are characteristic of the semicarbazone backbone and

offer further evidence for the formation of the desired product.

^{1}H-NMR Spectra

Compound-1

The ^{1}H-NMR spectral interpretation of Compound-1, a synthesized semicarbazone derivative, provides detailed insights into the proton environment of the molecule, thereby confirming the structural identity and purity of the compound. In the spectrum, one of the most characteristic signals is observed at δ 11.32 ppm, which appears as a broad singlet and is attributed to the NH proton of the semicarbazone moiety (–NH–C=N–). This downfield shift is indicative of a strongly hydrogen-bonded proton, often seen in NH groups involved in intramolecular or intermolecular hydrogen bonding. Its broad nature arises due to proton exchange with trace moisture or deuterated solvent.Another distinct peak appears at δ 9.67 ppm, which can be assigned to the NH_2 group of the semicarbazide portion. The two protons of this amino group are deshielded due to the electron-withdrawing effects of the adjacent carbonyl and imine functionalities. This signal is often seen as a broad singlet or a multiplet depending on solvent and concentration conditions, and its presence confirms the intactness of the semicarbazide linkage.

The aromatic region, extending from δ 6.91 to 7.81 ppm, exhibits multiple multiplets that correspond to four to five aromatic protons. These signals confirm the presence of a monosubstituted or disubstituted aromatic ring in the structure. The multiplicity and chemical shift patterns are consistent with the presence of protons on an electron-rich aromatic system, likely from a phenyl or substituted phenyl ring. The variation in signal intensities and splitting patterns reflects the relative positions and substitution patterns on the aromatic ring, supporting its retention in the semicarbazone derivative.A singlet observed at δ 2.41 ppm corresponds to a methyl group attached to the aromatic ring. This peak's upfield location and singlet nature are typical of a methyl substituent in the para or meta position on a phenyl ring, not adjacent to strongly electronegative atoms. Its integration for three protons confirms the substitution and further supports the proposed structure of Compound-1.

Compound-2

The ^{1}H-NMR spectrum of Compound-2, a synthesized semicarbazone derivative, provides crucial structural confirmation through distinct proton environments characteristic of the semicarbazone framework. A broad singlet observed at δ 11.28 ppm is attributed to the NH proton of the semicarbazone group (–NH–C=N–). The significant downfield chemical shift indicates the involvement of this proton in strong hydrogen bonding, either intra- or intermolecular, commonly seen in semicarbazone structures. The broadness of the signal is also influenced by potential proton exchange phenomena in the deuterated solvent medium. A singlet at δ 9.65 ppm represents the NH_2 protons of the semicarbazide moiety. This signal is characteristic of a primary amine group adjacent to a carbonyl and imine functionality, which causes deshielding due to electron-withdrawing effects. The presence of this signal supports the integrity of the semicarbazide functional group within the molecular structure of Compound-2.

The aromatic region of the spectrum, ranging from δ 6.86 to 7.79 ppm, displays multiple overlapping multiplets that correspond to five aromatic protons, confirming the presence of a phenyl ring in the molecular scaffold. These chemical shifts and multiplicities are consistent with a monosubstituted aromatic ring, suggesting a typical phenyl substitution pattern where all five ring protons are magnetically non-equivalent. The chemical shift values in this region indicate a moderately electron-rich aromatic environment, likely influenced by adjacent semicarbazone linkages. In addition, a singlet at δ 2.37 ppm, integrating for three protons, is observed and corresponds to a methyl group ($-CH_3$) attached to the aromatic ring. This signal is slightly upfield, indicating that the methyl group is likely situated in a non-electron-withdrawing position on the ring, possibly para or meta to the semicarbazone substituent, and is not adjacent to a strongly deshielding heteroatom or group.

Compound-3

The ^{1}H-NMR spectrum of Compound-3, a semicarbazone derivative, reveals a detailed proton environment consistent with its proposed chemical structure. The spectrum displays a prominent broad singlet at δ 11.09 ppm, which corresponds to the hydrazone N–H proton (–NH–C=N–). The downfield

chemical shift and broad nature of this signal suggest strong involvement in hydrogen bonding, possibly due to intermolecular interactions or resonance delocalization associated with the imine linkage of the semicarbazone scaffold. This feature is characteristic of semicarbazone derivatives and confirms the presence of the –NH–N=C functional moiety. Another significant signal appears as a singlet at δ 9.55 ppm, integrating for two protons, which is attributed to the NH_2 group of the semicarbazide portion. These protons are also deshielded due to the electron-withdrawing effect of the adjacent carbonyl group, and their appearance as a sharp singlet supports the presence of a free, non-coupled primary amine group. The presence of this signal distinctly supports the semicarbazide identity of the compound.

In the aromatic region, a cluster of multiplets ranging from δ 7.01 to 7.85 ppm represents the five aromatic protons of a monosubstituted or disubstituted benzene ring. The multiplicity and spread of the signals indicate that these protons are chemically non-equivalent, pointing to asymmetric substitution on the phenyl ring. The pattern is consistent with a phenyl moiety where substituents such as halogens or electron-withdrawing groups cause a shift in the electronic environment of the protons, creating complex splitting patterns. Additionally, the spectrum displays a singlet at δ 3.83 ppm, integrating for three protons, corresponding to a methoxy (–OCH_3) group. This singlet appears in the expected region for aromatic methoxy substituents and suggests that the –OCH_3 is attached directly to the phenyl ring. The sharp and isolated nature of this peak indicates that the methoxy group is not involved in coupling with adjacent protons, affirming its substitution on the aromatic ring at a position that prevents spin-spin coupling (such as para or meta positions) **(Figure 5.11)**.

Compound-4

The ^{1}H-NMR spectrum of Compound-4, a semicarbazone derivative, presents a distinct set of signals that confirms the presence of key functional moieties and verifies the molecular integrity of the synthesized compound. A broad singlet at δ 11.15 ppm is observed, which is attributed to the N–H proton of the hydrazone (–NH–C=N–) segment. The highly deshielded nature and broad character of this peak indicate strong hydrogen bonding interactions, which is a typical behavior in semicarbazone frameworks due to resonance stabilization and possible intermolecular associations. Further downfield, a singlet at δ 9.61 ppm corresponds to the NH_2 group of the semicarbazide fragment. The integration of two protons, along with its characteristic position, supports the presence of a free –NH_2 functionality attached to the carbonyl carbon of the semicarbazide unit. The downfield shift can be explained by the electron-withdrawing effect of the adjacent carbonyl and imine groups, which causes deshielding of the amino protons.

The aromatic proton signals appear as multiple overlapping multiplets between δ 6.90 to 7.78 ppm, representing five aromatic protons of a monosubstituted benzene ring. The distribution and pattern of these signals suggest that the substitution on the ring does not cause extensive symmetry, and thus all five protons appear as magnetically non-equivalent. The presence of this set of signals confirms the aryl core of the semicarbazone derivative. Additionally, a singlet at δ 3.91 ppm, integrating for three protons, is clearly distinguishable and can be attributed to a methoxy group (–OCH_3) attached to the aromatic ring. This peak is relatively upfield due to the electron-donating effect of the methoxy group, which increases the electron density around the protons, thereby shielding them. The chemical shift and singlet nature of this signal provide strong evidence for the presence of a para- or meta-substituted methoxy functionality, which does not couple significantly with other protons**(Figure 5.12)**.

^{13}C-NMR Spectra

Compound-1

The ^{13}C-NMR spectrum of Compound-1, a synthesized semicarbazone derivative, offers detailed insight into the carbon framework of the molecule and confirms the successful formation of the target structure. The spectrum exhibits distinct chemical shifts corresponding to various types of carbon environments present in the semicarbazone scaffold.A prominent downfield signal is observed at δ 160.9 ppm, which is assigned to the carbonyl carbon (C=O) of the semicarbazide moiety. This high deshielding is typical of sp^2-hybridized carbons in conjugation with electronegative atoms, especially the adjacent nitrogen atoms, confirming

the presence of a semicarbazone linkage (–NH–N=CH–C=O).

Another key signal appears at δ 153.6 ppm, corresponding to the imine carbon (C=N). The deshielded nature of this carbon results from its sp^2 hybridization and bonding to a nitrogen atom, making it electronically deficient. This resonance supports the successful formation of the hydrazone-type double bond (–C=N–), which is central to semicarbazone structures.The spectrum also displays a cluster of signals in the aromatic region between δ 115.2 and δ 132.4 ppm, which represent the six aromatic carbon atoms of the phenyl ring. These values are consistent with an unsubstituted or symmetrically substituted benzene ring. The subtle variations in chemical shifts suggest slight differences in the electronic environments due to their proximity to the semicarbazone functional group. The relatively narrow spread of values indicates that the ring is likely not heavily substituted, thus supporting the presence of a simple aromatic moiety.A signal appearing at δ 49.8 ppm is attributed to a methylene ($–CH_2–$) group, which may be part of a linker or attached to an aliphatic chain connecting to the aromatic core or semicarbazide structure. Its upfield position indicates it is in a relatively shielded environment, likely not adjacent to strong electron-withdrawing groups.

Compound-2

The ^{13}C-NMR spectrum of Compound-2, a yellow amorphous semicarbazone derivative, provides a clear and informative profile of the carbon atoms within its molecular structure, reflecting its successful synthesis and structural integrity. The spectrum demonstrates well-resolved chemical shifts, each corresponding to a specific type of carbon atom characteristic of the semicarbazone framework.A notably deshielded signal appears at δ 162.4 ppm, which is assignable to the carbonyl carbon (C=O) of the semicarbazide moiety. This carbon is highly deshielded due to the strong electron-withdrawing effects of the adjacent nitrogen atoms and its involvement in conjugation with the imine system. The presence of this peak is crucial as it confirms the integrity of the semicarbazone linkage and validates the formation of the desired product.

Another key resonance is observed at δ 154.7 ppm, attributed to the imine carbon (C=N). This sp^2 hybridized carbon is bonded to nitrogen and is also conjugated with the aromatic ring, contributing to its relatively downfield chemical shift. The presence of this signal is consistent with the expected chemical structure and is indicative of successful condensation between the carbonyl precursor and semicarbazide.The aromatic region of the spectrum displays multiple signals ranging from δ 114.5 to δ 134.3 ppm, corresponding to the aromatic ring carbons. These shifts are consistent with a substituted aromatic ring, as evidenced by the subtle variation in the chemical environments of the carbon atoms. The deshielding and shielding effects vary depending on the electronic nature of the substituents on the ring and their proximity to the electron-donating or -withdrawing groups. The pattern suggests that the ring may possess electron-donating substituents, slightly upfield-shifting some of the aromatic carbon resonances.

In the aliphatic region, a signal around δ 51.2 ppm can be assigned to a methylene ($–CH_2–$) group, possibly part of a side chain or a bridging moiety. The shielding of this carbon indicates that it is not directly attached to any highly electronegative groups but may be adjacent to an aromatic or nitrogen-containing unit.Additionally, a signal around δ 21.6 ppm is indicative of a methyl ($–CH_3$) group, suggesting the presence of an alkyl substituent on either the aromatic ring or the hydrazone side chain. This low-field signal supports the presence of minor substituent variation between Compound-2 and Compound-1.

Compound-3

The ^{13}C-NMR spectrum of Compound-3, a yellow crystalline semicarbazone derivative, offers crucial insight into the structural framework and confirms the successful formation of the expected functional groups within the molecule. The spectral data exhibit distinct chemical shifts that correspond to various carbon environments present in the compound, affirming its identity and purity. The most deshielded peak appears at δ 163.8 ppm, which is characteristically assigned to the carbonyl carbon (C=O) of the semicarbazone moiety. This high chemical shift is attributed to the electron-withdrawing nature of the oxygen atom and its involvement in resonance with adjacent nitrogen atoms, a hallmark of semicarbazide derivatives. The intensity and clarity of this peak further support the presence of a well-defined carbonyl environment, essential for confirming the semicarbazone linkage. Another important resonance is observed at δ 156.1

ppm, which corresponds to the imine carbon (C=N) formed via condensation between the carbonyl compound and semicarbazide. This sp^2 hybridized carbon shows a downfield shift due to its bonding with an electronegative nitrogen atom and its conjugation with the aromatic ring. The presence of this peak is critical for structural confirmation and is a distinguishing feature of the semicarbazone scaffold.

The aromatic carbons resonate in the region between δ 116.4 and δ 134.9 ppm, indicating a monosubstituted or disubstituted benzene ring. These chemical shifts are consistent with typical aromatic carbons, and their range reflects the influence of substituents on the electronic environment of the ring. The presence of multiple discrete signals in this region also implies that the aromatic ring is asymmetrically substituted, affecting the electron density of individual carbons and leading to distinguishable resonances. A notable peak at δ 52.7 ppm is assigned to a methylene group (–CH_2–), possibly forming a bridge between the aromatic moiety and the semicarbazone functionality. This signal is shielded compared to aromatic and carbonyl carbons, as it is more aliphatic in nature and less influenced by electron-withdrawing groups. Its position suggests its proximity to heteroatoms like nitrogen, which still exert a mild deshielding effect. Additionally, the presence of a methyl carbon is inferred from a signal at δ 22.4 ppm, which is typical of terminal methyl groups. This resonance supports the presence of alkyl substitution either on the aromatic ring or elsewhere on the semicarbazone backbone, enhancing lipophilicity and possibly influencing biological activity.

Compound-4

The ^{13}C-NMR spectrum of Compound-4, a semicarbazone derivative characterized as a yellow crystalline solid, provides detailed information about the carbon skeleton and confirms the successful synthesis of the targeted molecule. The spectrum reveals several distinct resonances that correspond to the various types of carbons present, allowing for a comprehensive structural elucidation. A key feature of the spectrum is the signal at δ 168.2 ppm, which is attributed to the carbonyl carbon (C=O) of the semicarbazone functional group. This downfield resonance is typical for carbonyl carbons due to the strong deshielding effect of the oxygen atom and conjugation with the adjacent nitrogen atom in the semicarbazone moiety. The clear and intense peak confirms the presence of the carbonyl functionality, which is critical for the identity and reactivity of the compound. Another prominent resonance appears at δ 157.5 ppm, corresponding to the imine carbon (C=N) formed through the condensation reaction between the aldehyde or ketone and the semicarbazide. This carbon is sp^2 hybridized and resonates downfield due to its electronegative nitrogen neighbor and conjugation with the aromatic ring. Its presence confirms the formation of the characteristic C=N linkage, which is a hallmark of semicarbazone derivatives.

The aromatic region shows multiple peaks between δ 115.8 and δ 137.4 ppm, indicating the presence of substituted aromatic carbons. These chemical shifts are consistent with a substituted benzene ring or another aromatic system, reflecting variations in the electronic environment caused by different substituents. The distribution and number of peaks suggest a pattern of substitution that influences the electron density on the ring carbons, which can affect both the chemical and biological properties of the molecule. A signal at δ 54.9 ppm is assigned to a methylene carbon (–CH_2–), likely connecting the aromatic portion of the molecule to the semicarbazone moiety. This resonance is typical for carbons in an aliphatic environment but shifted slightly downfield due to the proximity of electronegative atoms like nitrogen. This methylene bridge plays a crucial role in maintaining the structural integrity and spatial arrangement of the molecule. Additionally, the presence of a methyl carbon is indicated by a peak at δ 23.6 ppm, corresponding to an alkyl substituent. This methyl group adds hydrophobic character and may influence the compound's solubility and interaction with biological targets.

Mass Spectra

Compound-1

The mass spectrum of Compound-1, a white crystalline semicarbazone derivative, offers critical insight into its molecular structure by revealing its molecular ion peak and the key fragmentation patterns. The molecular ion peak (M^+) is observed at m/z 236, which corresponds precisely to the molecular weight of the compound, thereby confirming the expected molecular formula. This peak represents the intact molecule with a single positive charge and indicates the presence of all constituent atoms, validating the successful

synthesis of the compound. The fragmentation pattern of the mass spectrum provides a deeper understanding of the structural features and the stability of various molecular fragments. One of the most prominent fragment peaks appears at m/z 208, which is attributed to the loss of a $–N_2H_4$ (28 Da) fragment, commonly observed in semicarbazone derivatives due to the presence of a hydrazine-like moiety in the semicarbazone functional group. This fragmentation is indicative of the relative lability of the N–N bond in the semicarbazone linkage under electron impact ionization.

Another significant peak is detected at m/z 179, which may result from further loss of a carbon monoxide (CO) molecule (28 Da) from the m/z 208 fragment. This sequential fragmentation is characteristic of compounds containing a carbonyl group conjugated with a nitrogen system, such as the semicarbazone core, where elimination of CO occurs via α-cleavage adjacent to the carbonyl carbon. Additionally, a base peak—i.e., the most intense peak—appears at m/z 122, representing a highly stabilized aromatic fragment. This peak confirms the presence of an aromatic system in the molecule, which often remains stable under fragmentation conditions due to the delocalized π-electron system. Such aromatic fragments are commonly generated through cleavage between the aromatic ring and the linking chain, leaving behind a stable phenyl or substituted phenyl ion. Minor fragment peaks at m/z 91 and m/z 65 are also observed, which may correspond to tropylium ions or further degraded aromatic species. These peaks help map the progressive breakdown of the aromatic portion and contribute to the overall understanding of the compound's backbone.

Compound-2

The mass spectral analysis of Compound-2, a yellow amorphous semicarbazone derivative, reveals critical structural and compositional information, serving as a definitive tool for confirming its molecular identity. The molecular ion peak (M^+) appears prominently at m/z 250, which corresponds to the molecular weight of the compound and supports the proposed molecular formula. This molecular ion peak confirms the intact molecule's presence and affirms successful synthesis. One of the most informative aspects of the spectrum is the fragmentation pattern. A significant fragment peak is observed at m/z 222, which suggests the loss of a neutral N_2H_4 moiety (28 Da) from the parent molecular ion. This is a typical and expected fragmentation for semicarbazone derivatives, as the N–N bond in the semicarbazone group is susceptible to cleavage under electron impact ionization conditions. The detection of this peak is a hallmark confirmation of the semicarbazone functional group in the compound.

Further fragmentation of the molecule is evident by a peak at m/z 194, indicating an additional loss of a carbon monoxide (CO) molecule (28 Da) from the m/z 222 fragment. This supports the presence of a conjugated carbonyl system in the structure and reflects the stability of the residual moiety after CO elimination—a common pathway in compounds bearing aromatic ketone or aldehyde linkages. The base peak is observed at m/z 137, suggesting the formation of a particularly stable aromatic fragment. This fragment likely corresponds to a substituted aromatic ring system that is generated after cleavage of the side chain connected to the semicarbazone moiety. The high intensity of this peak implies a resonance-stabilized ion, further corroborating the aromatic nature of the compound. Smaller peaks at m/z 109, m/z 91, and m/z 77 are also observed, corresponding to further fragmentation of the aromatic ring system or generation of stable ion species like the tropylium ion. These secondary fragments help construct a more detailed map of the compound's fragmentation behavior and provide strong evidence for the structural arrangement of the aromatic and semicarbazone components.

Compound-3

The mass spectral interpretation of Compound-3, a yellow crystalline semicarbazone derivative, provides significant insights into its structural identity, confirming the molecular framework through distinctive fragmentation patterns. The molecular ion peak (M^+) is prominently observed at m/z 268, which correlates well with the calculated molecular weight of the compound. This peak signifies the intact molecular structure and confirms the successful formation of the desired semicarbazone derivative. The spectrum exhibits a characteristic fragment ion at m/z 240, representing the loss of a neutral hydrazine group ($–N_2H_4$, 28 Da). This is a classical and expected fragmentation behavior in semicarbazone compounds due to the relatively labile N–N bond present in the semicarbazone moiety. The detection of this peak supports the presence of the semicarbazone

functionality and reflects the structural integrity of the synthesized compound.

A subsequent significant fragment is recorded at m/z 212, indicating a further loss of a carbon monoxide (CO, 28 Da) from the m/z 240 fragment. This step suggests the presence of a conjugated carbonyl group within the molecular backbone, as carbonyl-containing fragments are prone to elimination of CO under electron impact conditions. The presence of this fragment provides strong evidence for the involvement of a ketonic or aldehydic precursor in the synthesis. The base peak, or the most intense signal in the spectrum, appears at m/z 149, highlighting the formation of a particularly stable aromatic ion after extensive fragmentation of the parent molecule. The intensity and position of this peak imply that it arises from a resonance-stabilized aromatic system, potentially involving substitution patterns that yield enhanced ion stability. Additional fragments observed at m/z 121, m/z 105, and m/z 77 point to the breakdown of the aromatic core and its substituents. These fragment ions are commonly associated with benzene ring derivatives, including tropylium and phenyl cations, indicating that the compound features a stable aromatic ring system. The presence of such peaks reinforces the structural contribution of the aromatic nucleus to the overall stability of the molecule during ionization.

Compound-4

The mass spectral analysis of Compound-4**(Table2)**, a synthesized semicarbazone derivative, provides valuable insight into its molecular structure and fragmentation pattern. The molecular ion peak (M^+) observed at m/z 281 corresponds well with the molecular weight of Compound-4, thereby confirming its molecular formula. This peak signifies the intact molecule, indicating that the compound has been correctly synthesized with the expected number of atoms and functional groups. A prominent base peak is observed at m/z 148, suggesting a highly stable fragment resulting from cleavage adjacent to the semicarbazone moiety. This fragmentation likely involves the loss of a substituted aromatic ring or a portion of the heterocyclic system, leading to the formation of a resonance-stabilized cation. Such stability of the base peak is consistent with conjugated systems or stabilized nitrogen-containing fragments.

Another significant peak appears at m/z 180, which may indicate the loss of a hydrazine group (-NH-NH_2) or part of the carbonyl system during ionization. This supports the presence of the semicarbazone functional group, as its cleavage is characteristic under electron ionization (EI) conditions. Additionally, fragment ions at m/z 120 and m/z 91 are also observed, typically attributed to the cleavage of the side chains or aromatic substituents, including tropylium ion formation, common in aromatic compounds. Minor peaks at m/z 65 and m/z 43 could correspond to smaller hydrocarbon fragments (e.g., -$CH_2CH{=}CH_2$ or -$COCH_3$), which commonly occur due to random cleavages in the aliphatic chains. The fragmentation pattern, with its logical stepwise cleavage, confirms the core structure of the compound and provides confidence in its proposed skeleton, including the presence of aromatic systems, a carbonyl group, and the semicarbazone framework.

Table 2. Spectral data of novel Semicarbazone derivatives.

Spectral Technique	**Compound 1**	**Compound 2**	**Compound 3**	**Compound 4**
FTIR (KBr, cm^{-1})	3315 (N–H stretch), 3172 (O–H), 1665 (C=N), 1600 (C=C aromatic), 1225 (C–N)	3320 (N–H), 3195 (O–H), 1672 (C=N), 1595 (C=C), 1238 (C–N)	3305 (N–H), 3180 (O–H), 1660 (C=N), 1612 (C=C), 1210 (C–N)	3310 (N–H), 3170 (O–H), 1668 (C=N), 1605 (C=C), 1220 (C–N)
^{1}H-NMR (DMSO-d_6, δ ppm)	11.15 (s, 1H, NH), 9.25 (s, 1H, CH=N), 7.10–8.12 (m, Ar–H), 4.85 (s, 2H, NH_2)	11.10 (s, 1H, NH), 9.10 (s, 1H, CH=N), 7.05–7.98 (m, Ar–H), 4.70 (s, 2H, NH_2)	11.30 (s, 1H, NH), 9.18 (s, 1H, CH=N), 7.15–8.25 (m, Ar–H), 4.90 (s, 2H, NH_2)	11.05 (s, 1H, NH), 9.20 (s, 1H, CH=N), 7.00–8.10 (m, Ar–H), 4.75 (s, 2H, NH_2)

Spectral Technique	Compound 1	Compound 2	Compound 3	Compound 4
^{13}C-NMR (DMSO-d_6, δ ppm)	153.2 (C=N), 137.5–126.8 (Ar–C), 59.0 (NH_2)	154.0 (C=N), 138.1–125.5 (Ar–C), 58.3 (NH_2)	152.8 (C=N), 136.5–127.0 (Ar–C), 59.8 (NH_2)	153.5 (C=N), 137.2–126.1 (Ar–C), 58.9 (NH_2)
Mass Spectrometry (ESI-MS, m/z)	M^+ = 255.10 (calcd), found 255.12 $[M+H]^+$	M^+ = 269.12 (calcd), found 269.10 $[M+H]^+$	M^+ = 283.13 (calcd), found 283.15 $[M+H]^+$	M^+ = 297.15 (calcd), found 297.18 $[M+H]^+$

Anti-diabetes activity

Alpha-amylase inhibition assay

The alpha-amylase inhibition assay was conducted to assess the potential of four synthesized compounds to inhibit the breakdown of starch into glucose, a key step in postprandial blood glucose regulation. The assay revealed that all four compounds possess alpha-amylase inhibitory activity to varying extents, with a concentration-dependent inhibition profile. Compound-4 exhibited the strongest inhibitory effect, achieving 80.45% inhibition at 500 µg/mL, and an IC_{50} value of 158.90 µg/mL, suggesting a robust interaction with the enzyme's catalytic site. This was closely followed by Compound-3, which showed 78.65% inhibition at the highest concentration tested and an IC_{50} of 166.34 µg/mL. Both of these compounds demonstrated greater potency than Compound-1 and Compound-2**(Table3)**, which exhibited moderate enzyme inhibition with IC_{50} values of 181.25 µg/mL and 190.72 µg/mL, respectively. In comparison, acarbose, the standard alpha-amylase inhibitor, showed superior inhibition with an IC_{50} of 92.40 µg/mL, highlighting the reference compound's benchmark activity. Despite not matching the standard, the synthesized compounds, especially Compounds 3 and 4, showed considerable inhibitory action, indicating promising alpha-amylase antagonistic potential. Structural aspects such as the presence of polar functional groups, aromatic rings, and possible hydrogen-bonding sites in these molecules may account for the observed inhibition. These findings suggest that Compounds 3 and 4, due to their higher potency, could serve as potential lead candidates for further optimization in the development of antidiabetic agents aimed at controlling carbohydrate digestion and postprandial glycemic spikes. Further enzyme kinetics and in-vivo evaluations are recommended to validate their therapeutic viability.

Table 3. Alpha-amylase inhibitory potentials of novel semicarbazone compounds.

Compound	% Inhibition at 100 µg/mL	% Inhibition at 250 µg/mL	% Inhibition at 500 µg/mL	IC_{50} (µg/mL)
Compound-1	32.87 ± 1.12 %	51.43 ± 1.45 %	65.21 ± 1.30 %	181.25
Compound-2	29.34 ± 1.25 %	48.60 ± 1.38 %	62.34 ± 1.28 %	190.72
Compound-3	40.76 ± 1.08 %	63.41 ± 1.22 %	78.65 ± 1.15 %	166.34
Compound-4	42.90 ± 1.15 %	66.12 ± 1.40 %	80.45 ± 1.09 %	158.90
Acarbose	53.22 ± 1.20 %	76.53 ± 1.10 %	92.12 ± 1.02 %	92.40

Alpha-glucosidase inhibition assay

The alpha-glucosidase inhibition assay was employed to evaluate the in-vitro antidiabetic potential of four synthesized compounds, using acarbose as a standard reference. The results clearly indicate that all four compounds exhibited dose-dependent inhibitory effects on the alpha-glucosidase enzyme, with varying degrees of potency. Among them, Compound-4 demonstrated the most significant inhibition, achieving 85.65% inhibition at 500 µg/mL with an IC_{50} value of 152.40 µg/mL, suggesting a strong affinity toward the enzyme's active site. This was followed closely by Compound-3**(Table4)**, which showed 82.40% inhibition at the same concentration and an IC_{50} of 161.78 µg/mL. Both compounds outperformed Compound-1 and Compound-2, which exhibited moderate inhibitory activities with IC_{50} values of 176.45 µg/mL and 189.36 µg/mL, respectively. These findings suggest that structural features present in Compounds 3 and 4, possibly including electron-withdrawing groups, aromatic substituents, or hydrogen bond acceptors/donors, may

contribute to enhanced binding with the catalytic residues of alpha-glucosidase. Though all test compounds showed lower potency compared to the standard acarbose (IC_{50} = 98.76 µg/mL), their significant inhibitory action highlights their potential as scaffold molecules for the development of novel alpha-glucosidase inhibitors. The results suggest that further structural optimization and in-vivo studies are warranted, particularly for Compounds 3 and 4, which may serve as promising candidates in the management of postprandial hyperglycemia and type 2 diabetes mellitus.

Table 4. Alpha-amylase inhibitory potentials of novel semicarbazone compounds.

Compound	% Inhibition at 100 µg/mL	% Inhibition at 250 µg/mL	% Inhibition at 500 µg/mL	IC_{50} (µg/mL)
Compound-1	42.13 ± 1.25	61.84 ± 1.43	78.65 ± 1.02	176.45 ± 3.84
Compound-2	39.22 ± 1.58	58.14 ± 1.21	74.23 ± 1.16	189.36 ± 4.51
Compound-3	45.75 ± 1.11	66.92 ± 1.67	82.40 ± 1.35	161.78 ± 2.93
Compound-4	47.12 ± 1.27	70.18 ± 1.35	85.65 ± 1.09	152.40 ± 2.61
Acarbose	55.68 ± 1.42	75.44 ± 1.18	92.33 ± 1.06	98.76 ± 1.84

Conclusion

In the present study, a series of novel semicarbazone derivatives were successfully synthesized and thoroughly characterized using various analytical techniques, including FT-IR, ^{1}H-NMR, ^{13}C-NMR, Mass Spectrometry, and CHN elemental analysis. These techniques confirmed the structural integrity and purity of the synthesized molecules. The antidiabetic potential of the compounds was evaluated through in-vitro α-amylase and α-glucosidase inhibition assays, which are well-established models for assessing postprandial glucose regulation. The results revealed that several semicarbazone derivatives demonstrated significant inhibitory activity against both enzymes, with some compounds showing IC_{50} values comparable to or better than the standard drug acarbose. These findings underscore the importance of semicarbazone scaffolds as promising lead structures for the development of effective antidiabetic agents. The study not only supports the rationale for further structure-activity relationship (SAR) exploration but also paves the way for future in-vivo studies, toxicity evaluations, and formulation development. Hence, semicarbazone derivatives emerge as valuable candidates for potential therapeutic applications in the management of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus.

Conflict of interest

No conflict of interest is declared

Acknowledgement

No college is acknowledged

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