

Exploration of Chromone-Based Thiosemicarbazone Derivatives: SC-XRD/DFT, Spectral (IR, UV–Vis) Characterization, and Quantum Chemical Analysis

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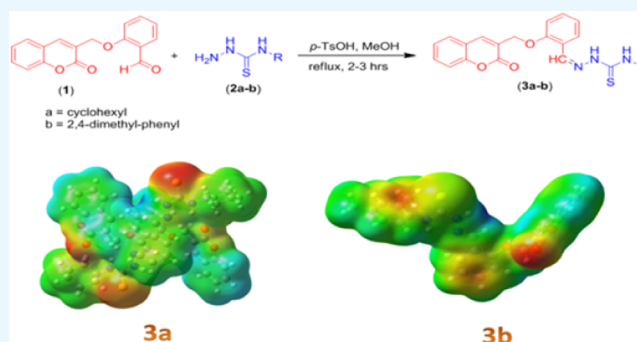


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ABSTRACT: By the condensation of thiosemicarbazide with coumarin aldehyde, two novel substituted thiosemicarbazones with chemical formulae $C_{24}H_{25}N_3O_3S$ (**3a**) and $C_{26}H_{23}N_3O_3S$ (**3b**) have been synthesized. The synthesized compounds were resolved using SC-XRD, and structure elucidation was carried out using 1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR, UV–visible, and FT-IR spectroscopic analyses. Computational calculations at the B3LYP/6-311+G(d,p) level of theory were performed to countercheck the experimental (UV–vis, FT-IR) findings and explore the electronic (FMO, NBO, MEP) properties of **3a–b**. The nonlinear optical (NLO) properties of **3a–b** were estimated using B3LYP, HF, LC-BLYP, CAM-B3LYP, M062X, and M06 functionals in combination with the 6-311+G(d,p) basis set. The crystallographic data revealed that compounds were crystallized as an orthorhombic crystal lattice with the *Pbcn* space group and the triclinic crystal lattice with the $\bar{P}1$ space group. A good concurrence among experimental SC-XRD-generated bond lengths, bond angles, FT-IR, UV–vis, and corresponding DFT results was found, which confirms the purity of both compounds. The NBO analysis confirmed the presence of intramolecular hydrogen bonding and hyperconjugative interactions, which not only were the pivotal cause of stability of the investigated compounds but also led to an overwhelming NLO response. The energy differences calculated for HOMO/LUMO are 3.053 and 3.118 eV in **3a** and **3b**, respectively. The crystal **3b** showed a higher value of first-order polarizability at all levels of theory than **3a**. Overall results show that the crystals under investigation are polarized in nature with a good dipole moment. A comparative analysis with urea molecules clearly indicates that the studied compounds are acceptable NLO candidates and they can be used for future technological applications.



INTRODUCTION

Coumarin compounds with reactive oxygen containing heterocycles and a benzopyran backbone are vital classes of compounds that occur naturally.¹ The special structure of benzopyran allows its derivatives to easily affect the diversity of enzymes and receptors in organisms with weak binding interactions, demonstrating the wide potential of drugs.^{2–5} The abundant natural substances used by people worldwide include the coumarin group. Coumarin is a privileged framework for multifarious medical properties and is therefore widely employed as a scaffold for designing novel and potent analogues having physicochemical properties and versatile, easy synthetic transformation into numerous activated coumarins.^{6,7} Coumarin-containing compounds exhibit various useful biological and pharmaceutical activities liable to substituents present in their parent benzopyran moiety.^{8,9} Thus, their synthesis has become a focus of interest.¹⁰ Important biological applications in which coumarin derivatives are found useful are as antioxidants,¹¹ as antifungals,^{12,13}

as anticoagulants,^{14–16} in antibacterial activity,^{17–19} as CNS-stimulants,²⁰ in anti-HIV therapy,^{21,22} in antitumor activity,²³ and in photochemotherapy.

Thiosemicarbazones bearing the CH=N linkage belong to a wide group of thiourea derivatives exhibiting various biological activities as a function of the carbonyl motif. Furthermore, it appears that thiosemicarbazones show improved biological activities when they are attached to an aromatic heterocyclic moiety, thus attracting considerable pharmaceutical interest. Since the last five decades, these derivatives have been scanned and reported to display antibacterial, anticancer, antimalarial,

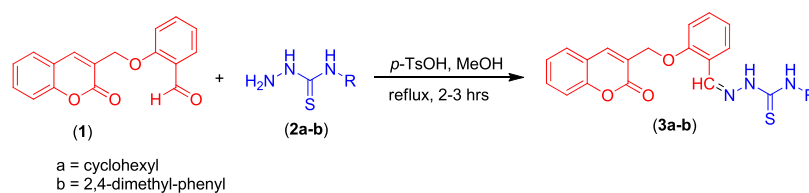
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Scheme 1. Synthetic Scheme for Targeted Thiosemicarbazones (3a–b)



and anti-HIV activities by varying the aldehyde or ketone moiety. Therefore, current research is focused on the identification and characterization of newer thiosemicarbazone derivatives of coumarin aldehyde for existing antimicrobial activity.²⁴

Nonlinear optical (NLO) properties of the chemical building blocks have attracted major consideration because of their potential uses in the vast and important arena of information technology and telecommunication, particularly dynamic image processing, optical computing, and optical communication.^{25–27} Much attention has been paid by the theoretical as well as experimental communities toward the exploration of NLO properties of the newly synthesized compounds because of their potential applications in the area of biophysics, nuclear science, chemical dynamics, medicine, materials, solid physics, and surface interface.²⁸ The thiosemicarbazones are an important class of compounds that are frequently studied for their role in NLO applications.^{29,30} Reports are available in the literature in which the potential of thiosemicarbazone as an NLO material is explored.³¹

Assuming the preceding importance of thiosemicarbazones in the NLO field, herein, thiosemicarbazones having a coumarin moiety were synthesized (Scheme 1) and their electronic properties were studied. Substituted compounds (*E*)-*N*-cyclohexyl-2-(2-((2-oxo-2*H*-chromen-3-yl)methoxy)benzylidene)hydrazinecarbothioamide (3a) and 2,4(*E*)-*N*-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-2-(2-((2-oxo-2*H*-chromen-3-yl)methoxy)benzylidene)hydrazinecarbothioamide (3b) were synthesized using a typical condensation reaction. A careful literature survey confirmed that the single-crystal X-ray diffraction (SC-XRD) study, spectroscopic investigation, and computational insights of compounds 3a–b are absent. Therefore, employing our synthetic and computational background, we performed a detailed spectroscopic and density functional theory (DFT)-based computational analysis including frontier molecular orbital (FMO), global reactivity parameters, natural bond orbital (NBO) analysis, molecular electrostatic potential (MEP) surfaces, and nonlinear optical (NLO) exploration of the investigated compounds 3a–b.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

Synthesis of Coumarin-Based Thiosemicarbazones.

To synthesize targeted thiosemicarbazones (3a–b), 2-((2-oxo-2*H*-chromen-3-yl)methoxy)benzaldehyde (1) (0.1 mmol) was taken in CH₃OH (10 mL) with subsequent addition of a solution of appropriate thiosemicarbazide (2a–b) in methanol (0.1 mmol). The stirred mixture was then heated under reflux for 2–3 h in the presence of *p*-TsOH (few crystals) as a catalyst. The progression of the reaction was monitored; after completion as checked by TLC, the reflux was stopped and the reaction mixture was allowed to cool down, and light-yellow crystalline solids settled down at the bottom of the flask. The product was filtered with subsequent washings and dried under

a vacuum. The products were further purified by recrystallization in MeOH as the solvent.

(*Z*)-*N*-Cyclohexyl-2-(2-((2-oxo-2*H*-chromen-3-yl)methoxy)benzylidene)hydrazinecarbothioamide (3a). Yield 85%, light-yellow, orthorhombic, mp > 300 °C, IR ν_{max} (cm⁻¹): 1256 (C=S), 1539 (C=N), 1714 (C=O), 3298 (N=CH), 3649 (N=CH), ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, TMS) δ ppm; 1.23–1.41 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl CH₂, H-24), 1.65–1.76 (m, 4H, cyclohexyl CH₂, H-23), 1.79 (d, 1H, NH-cyclohexyl, *J* = 2.65 Hz, H-22), 2.10–2.12 (bs, 2H, cyclohexyl CH₂, H-25), 4.24 (s, 2H, CH₂Ar, H-9), 7.02–7.07 (m, 2H, Ar-H, H-14), 7.32–7.42 (m, 4H, H-12, 15, Ar-H), 7.56 (t, 1H, *J* = 7.5 Hz, H-6), 7.69 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.5 Hz, H-5), 7.87 (d, 1H, H-8, Ar-H, *J* = 7.4 Hz), 7.91 (s, 1H, H-17), 8.39 (bs, 1H, NH-N, H-19), 9.52 (bs, 1H, NH-CS, H-21); ¹³C NMR δ ppm; 40.67 (C-24, 25), 65.12 (C-22, 23), 113.51 (Ar-C), 113.70 (Ar-C), 116.68 (Ar-C), 120.11 (Ar-C), 121.68 (Ar-C), 123.68 (Ar-C), 124.70 (Ar-C), 125.26 (Ar-C), 127.06 (Ar-C), 128.02 (Ar-C), 129.07 (Ar-C), 132.00 (Ar-C), 132.40 (Ar-C), 132.45 (Ar-C), 138.73 (Ar-C), 140.27 (Ar-C), 153.33 (C-8'), 157.11 (C-18), 157.39 (C-2), 159.93 (C-11), 176.64 (C-20); Anal calcd for C₂₄H₂₅N₃O₃S (435.16); C, 66.18; H, 5.79; N, 9.65; found; C, 66.09; H, 5.98; N, 9.78.

(*Z*)-*N*-(2,4-Dimethylphenyl)-2-(2-((2-oxo-2*H*-chromen-3-yl)methoxy)benzylidene)hydrazinecarbothioamide (3b). Yield 80%, light-yellow, triclinic, mp > 300 °C, IR ν_{max} (cm⁻¹): 1222 (C=S), 1543 (C=N), 1709 (C=O), 3125–3294 (N-H), ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, TMS) δ ppm; 2.18 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.29 (s, 3H, CH₃), 5.05 (s, 2H, CH₂Ar, H-9), 7.03–7.84 (m, 10H, Ar-H), 8.33 (s, 1H, H-24, Ar-H), 8.33 (s, 1H, H-4, Ar-H), 8.66 (s, 1H, H-17), 9.91 (bs, 1H, NH-N, H-19), 11.73 (bs, 1H, NH-CS, H-21); ¹³C NMR δ ppm; 13.76 (C-CH₃), 15.10 (C-CH₃), 65.63 (C-9), 101.94 (Ar-C), 116.65 (Ar-C), 119.21 (Ar-C), 121.82 (Ar-C), 124.34 (Ar-C), 124.51 (Ar-C), 125.20 (Ar-C), 129.05 (Ar-C), 129.37 (Ar-C), 130.06 (Ar-C), 131.17 (Ar-C), 132.47 (Ar-C), 134.52 (Ar-C), 140.14 (Ar-C), 141.45 (Ar-C), 145.91 (Ar-C), 153.50 (Ar-C), 156.93 (C-8'), 159.90 (C-18), 160.12 (C-2), 169.46 (C-11), 176.98 (C-20); Anal calcd for C₂₆H₂₃N₃O₃S (457.15); C, 68.25; H, 5.07; N, 9.18; Found; C, 68.36; H, 5.01; N, 9.28.

Computational Procedure. In this current investigation, the Gaussian 09 program³² was utilized to perform all computations. From the chemical structures determined through SC-XRD, primary geometries of 3a and 3b had been obtained. Compounds 3a and 3b were optimized using the B3LYP/6-311+G(d,p) functional. No imaginary frequency as calculated from the vibrational analysis at the B3LYP/6-311+G(d,p) functional existed, which points out the completion of geometry optimization. FMO and MEP surfaces were estimated at the B3LYP/6-311+G(d,p) functional, while UV–vis spectra were estimated using the time-dependent density functional theory (TD-DFT) and at the aforesaid functional. The NBO study was computed using the NBO program³³ at the B3LYP/6-311+G(d,p) functional. NLO properties were estimated at M06, M062X, CAM-B3LYP,

LC-BLYP, HF, and B3LYP functionals in combination with the 6-311+G(d,p) basis set. Moreover, GaussView 5.0³⁴ was used to make input files and visualize output vibrational results. Avogadro³⁵ was used to make HOMO–LUMO orbital diagrams and exclude corresponding energy values. Chemcraft³⁶ programs were used for the interpretation of NBO output results.

Chemistry of Compounds (3a–b). Thiosemicarbazones having a coumarin moiety were synthesized to determine the potential of 2-((2-oxo-2H-chromen-3-yl)methoxy)-benzaldehyde-hybrid thiosemicarbazones as biologically active scaffolds. Chromen-aldehyde (**1**) was prepared by following the Baylis–Hillman reaction of salicylaldehyde with methyl acrylate.^{37,38} Substituted thiosemicarbazones (**3a–b**) were synthesized using a typical condensation reaction of the NH₂ group of thiosemicarbazide and C=O of the aldehyde functional group. Equimolar amounts of corresponding thiosemicarbazide (**2a–b**) and aldehyde (**1**) were reacted. The reaction was performed in CH₃OH using a catalytic amount of *p*-TsOH (1–2 crystals). The reaction conditions were optimized by carrying out the reaction in various solvents with variable polarities (methanol, CH₂Cl₂, dioxane) and different catalysts (AcOH, H₂SO₄). The optimum conditions were attained by refluxing the reactants in methanol as the solvent and catalyzing under *p*-TsOH acid. Desired thiosemicarbazones (**3a–b**) were acquired in excellent yield (80–85%).

Spectroscopic data, i.e., IR, ¹H NMR, and ¹³C NMR, provided the support for the structure confirmation for the targeted coumarin-hybrid thiosemicarbazones. In FT-IR, C=N stretching emerged in the range of 1539–1543 cm⁻¹, while the C=S band was found between 1212 and 1256 cm⁻¹. NH stretching was from 3125 to 3294 cm⁻¹, and C=O stretching was detected between 1709 and 1714 cm⁻¹. In ¹H NMR, CH₂ emerged as a singlet in the range from δ 4.24 to 5.05 ppm, while the NH–N signal appeared at δ 8.35 ppm in **3a** and at δ 9.91 ppm in compound **3b**. On the other hand, a broad singlet was observed for NH–C=S at δ 9.52 and 11.73 ppm for **3a** and **3b**, respectively. The spectral data of the remaining protons were also confirmed by the above-mentioned analysis and found to be in good accordance with the anticipated structure. CHN analysis results also confirm the structures (**3a–b**), and the observed values were in good conformity with the resulting values.

Crystallographic Discussion. To prove the structure of coumarin-pendant thiosemicarbazones **3a** and **3b** unambiguously, the X-ray-quality single crystals (Table 1) were grown by slow evaporation of their solution in chloroform and dioxan solvent, respectively, at room temperature. Compounds **3a** and **3b** were crystallized as the orthorhombic crystal lattice with the *Pbcn* space group and the triclinic crystal lattice with the $\bar{P}1$ space group, respectively. Interestingly, in a unit cell of compound **3a**, there are two different/independent molecules (named conformer A and conformer B) having slightly dissimilar bond lengths, bond angles, and dihedral angles. The molecular structures of coumarin-pendant thiosemicarbazones **3a** and **3b** having crystallographic numbering are shown in Figure 1.

The central core of coumarin-pendant thiosemicarbazones **3a** and **3b** comprising the *N*-iminothiourea moiety is nearly planar in the crystal structures of both compounds (Figure 1). The planarity of the central *N*-iminothiourea core can be ascribed to some double-bond nature of C–N of the NH–C=

Table 1. X-ray Crystallographic Data of Compounds **3a** and **3b**

| crystal data | 3a | 3b |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| CCDC | 2026874 | 2026873 |
| chemical formula | C ₂₄ H ₂₅ N ₃ O ₃ S | C ₂₆ H ₂₃ N ₃ O ₃ S |
| <i>M_r</i> | 435.53 | 457.53 |
| crystal system, space group | orthorhombic, <i>Pbcn</i> | triclinic, $\bar{P}1$ |
| temperature (K) | 296 | 296 |
| <i>a</i> , <i>b</i> , <i>c</i> (Å) | 17.8975 (13), 11.9162 (8), 41.526 (3) | 8.2958 (13), 11.681 (3), 12.753 (3) |
| α , β , γ (°) | | 88.841 (6), 89.295 (6), 71.562 (6) |
| <i>V</i> (Å ³) | 8856.3 (10) | 1172.1 (4) |
| <i>Z</i> | 16 | 2 |
| radiation type | Mo <i>K</i> α | Mo <i>K</i> α |
| μ (mm ⁻¹) | 0.18 | 0.17 |
| crystal size (mm) | 0.44 × 0.38 × 0.32 | 0.38 × 0.32 × 0.24 |
| | data collection | |
| diffractometer | Bruker Kappa APEXII CCD | Bruker Kappa APEXII CCD |
| absorption correction | multiscan (SADABS; Bruker, 2005) | multiscan (SADABS; Bruker, 2005) |
| <i>T_{min}</i> , <i>T_{max}</i> | 0.895, 0.965 | 0.915, 0.970 |
| no. of measured, independent, and observed [<i>I</i> > 2 σ (<i>I</i>)] reflections | 48611, 8699, 4680 | 15784, 4588, 3254 |
| <i>R_{int}</i> | 0.084 | 0.056 |
| (<i>sin</i> θ / λ) _{max} (Å ⁻¹) | 0.617 | 0.617 |
| | refinement | |
| <i>R</i> [<i>F</i> ² > 2 σ (<i>F</i> ²)], <i>wR</i> (<i>F</i> ²), <i>S</i> | 0.064, 0.175, 1.02 | 0.051, 0.152, 1.02 |
| no. of reflections | 8699 | 4588 |
| no. of parameters | 545 | 300 |
| no. of restraints | 24 | |
| H-atom treatment | H-atom parameters constrained | H-atom parameters constrained |
| Δ _{max} Δ _{min} (e Å ⁻³) | 0.58, -0.33 | 0.33, -0.21 |

S moiety due to substantial delocalization of the lone pair of N at the C=S moiety, which is clearly depicted by shortening bond lengths of N(2)/(5)–C(7)/(31)–N(1)/(4) in **3a** [N2–C7 1.349(4) Å (conformer A), N5–C31 1.350(4) Å (conformer B), N1–C7 1.349(4) Å (conformer A), N4–C31 1.325(4) Å (conformer B)] and N2–C18–N3 in **3b** [N2–C18 1.350(3) Å and N3–C18 1.338(3) Å]. The slightly longer bond lengths of N(2)/(5)–C(7)/(31) in **3a** and N2–C18 in **3b** show less delocalization at thiocarbonyl (C=S), presumably due to the attached nearby sp²-hybridized N atom. This character of the central *N*-iminothiourea core offers two different possibilities of its conformational arrangements. Nevertheless, it preferably adopts only one conformation, i.e., *cis*, *trans* conformation in both **3a** and **3b**. The formation of this preferred conformation is attributed to comparatively stronger intramolecular hydrogen bonding in **3a** [N(1)–H(1)⋯N(3) 2.226 Å (conformer A) and N(4)–H(4E)⋯N(6) 2.211 Å (conformer B)] and in **3b** [N(3)–H(3A)⋯N(1) 2.234]. Notably, these findings are in complete agreement with our previously reported similar compounds.^{39–42}

Owing to this preferred conformation around the central *N*-iminothiourea core, a thioamide R₂² (8) [⋯H–N–C=S]₂ synthon was observed in the packing of both the coumarin-pendant thiosemicarbazones **3a** and **3b**. This thioamide synthon is observed to be the major supramolecular force that stabilizes the solid-state molecular packing in **3a** [N(2)–H(2)⋯S(1) 2.501 Å and N(5)–H(5)⋯S(2) 2.507 Å] and **3b**

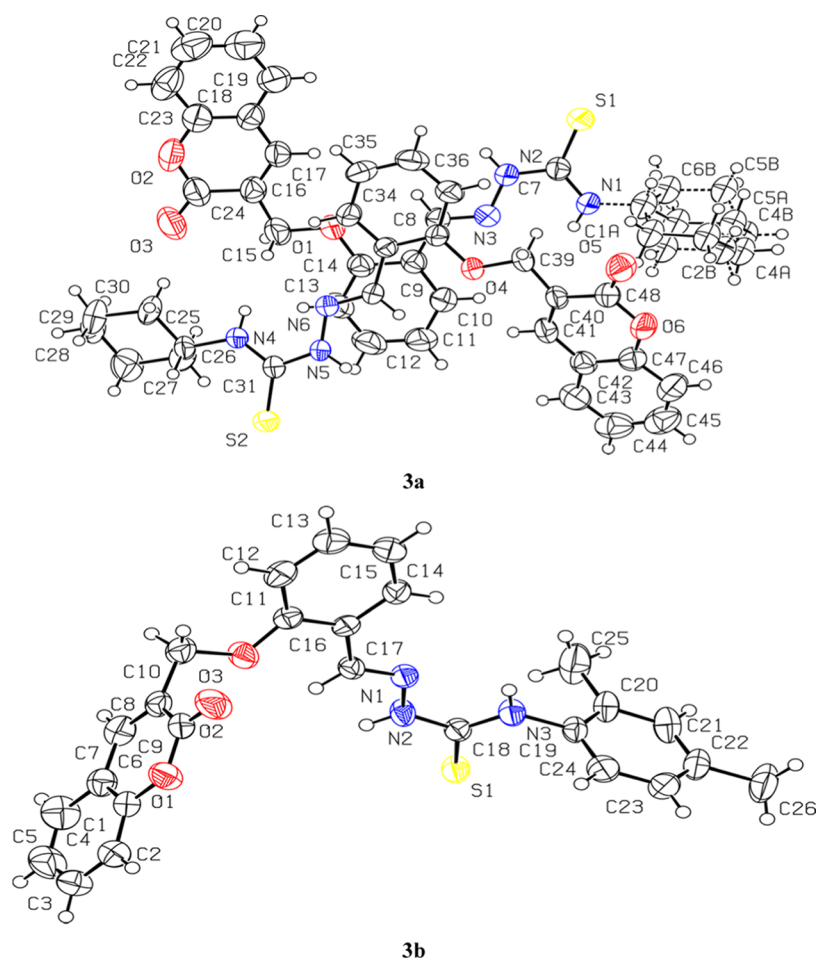


Figure 1. View of the atom-labeled structures of compounds **3a** and **3b**.

[N(2)–H(2A)⋯S(1) 2.522 Å] (Figure 2). The other notable supramolecular interactions involved in the packing of **3a** are N–H⋯O [N(1)–H(1)⋯O(5) 2.509 Å] and C–H⋯O [C(10)–H(10)⋯O(5) 2.719 Å, C(6A)–H(6A)⋯O(5) 2.714 Å, and C(30)–H(30A)⋯O(3) 2.475 Å] interactions. Similarly, the N–H⋯O [N(3)–H(3A)⋯O(2) 2.388 Å] and C–H⋯O [C(15)–H(15)⋯O(2) 2.635 Å, C(2)–H(2)⋯O(2) 2.657 Å] interactions are also found to be responsible for the 3D packing of molecules in **3b** along with thioamide synthon (Figure 3).

Molecular Geometric Parameters. For comparative evaluation of experimental results with DFT, the optimized structural parameters (bond angles, bond lengths) are estimated by the B3LYP level, and the results listed in Tables S1 and S2 (Supporting Information) are compared with structural parameters obtained from SC-XRD-generated geometries. The results obtained demonstrated that XRD-determined geometrical parameters and DFT-determined bond angles and lengths have good agreement. The infinitesimal difference between SC-XRD and DFT calculated parameters is constantly anticipated because SC-XRD generated results obtained from solid state, while DFT results are coupled to the gaseous state. Identical calculated SC-XRD and DFT bond lengths values were found: 1.459 Å in **3a** for C15–C16 and 1.435 Å for O4–17 in **3b**. The maximum deviation in bond length was observed to be 0.365 Å for N36–C45 and 0.028 Å for N6–25 in both **3a** and **3b**, respectively. In the same way, identical bond angles were found for O33–

C52–C47, C46–C47–C52, and C25–C26–C27 in **3a** and for O3–C16–C15, C8–C9–C10, and C30–C29–C33 in **3b**. The greater deviation in bond angles was 11.4 and 2.6° in **3a** for N36–C45–N37 and C25–N7–C26, respectively. Nevertheless, deviations in bond lengths were seen in the ranges of 0.365 ± 0.288 and 0.028 ± 0.022 Å in **3a** and **3b**, while for bond angles, these were calculated to be in the ranges of 11.4 ± 4.1 and $2.6 \pm 1.5^\circ$ in **3a** and **3b**, respectively.

In summary, certain DFT values deviate from XRD values, possibly because of intramolecular interactions in the solid state. Despite these small differences, both structural parameters are in good agreement and are able to provide a starting point for calculating other properties.

Natural Bond Orbital (NBO) Analysis. NBO analysis is an efficient technique that effectively describes the delocalization of electron density and intramolecular interactions. It offers suitable foundations to study intramolecular hydrogen bonding and charge transfer among the filled and vacant orbitals by the second-order Fock matrix.^{43,44} With the help of eq 1, the stabilization energy of the analyzed compounds (**3a** and **3b**) is calculated, and the results are tabulated in Tables S3 and S4 (Supporting Information).

$$E^{(2)} = q_i \frac{(F_{ij})^2}{\epsilon_j - \epsilon_i} \quad (1)$$

Herein, $E^{(2)}$ is the stabilization energy, $F(i,j)$ is the diagonal, ϵ_j and ϵ_i are the off-diagonal NBO Fock matrix elements, and q_i is

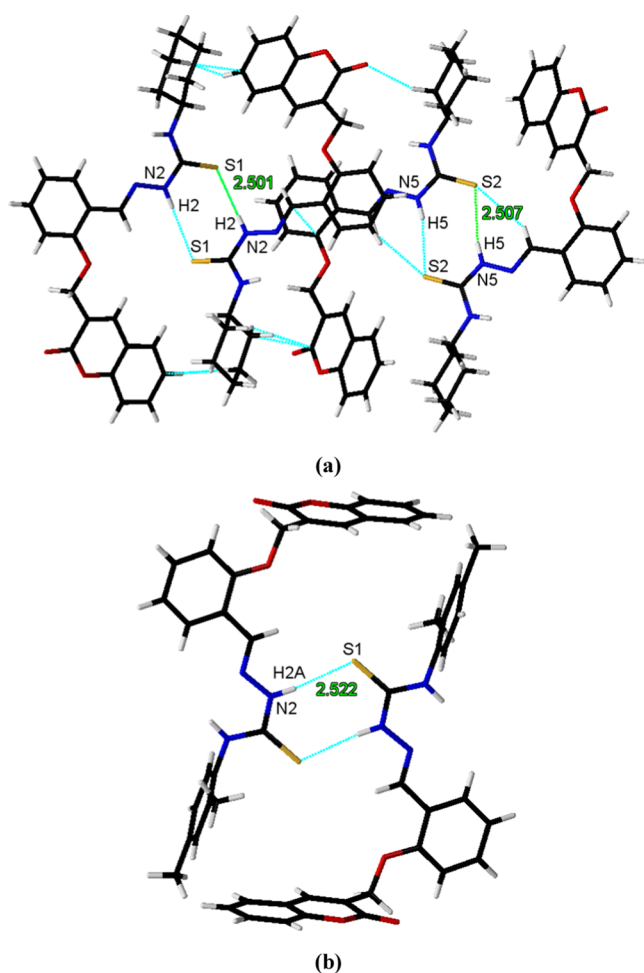


Figure 2. Supramolecular thioamide $R_2^2(8)$ [$\cdots\text{H}-\text{N}-\text{C}=\text{S}$] $_2$ synthon in the packing of coumarin-pendant thiosemicarbazones: (a) **3a** and (b) **3b**.

the occupancy of the contributor orbital. In this NBO study, electron acceptor–donor interactions are exposed by the $E^{(2)}$ value. Usually, four major transitions— $\sigma \rightarrow \sigma^*$, $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$, $\text{LP} \rightarrow \sigma^*$, and $\text{LP} \rightarrow \pi^*$ —are observed for any chemical compound. The transitions ($\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$) were seen to have an extra projection, whereas $\text{LP} \rightarrow \sigma^*$ and $\text{LP} \rightarrow \pi^*$ transitions displayed reasonable $E^{(2)}$ values. Besides, the lowest $E^{(2)}$ values originate from $\sigma \rightarrow \sigma^*$ transitions.

The peak values for $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ electronic transitions are $\pi(\text{C43}-\text{C44}) \rightarrow \pi^*(\text{O4}-\text{C56})$ and $\pi(\text{C44}-\text{C45}) \rightarrow \pi^*(\text{C40}-\text{C47})$ with stabilization energies of 25.15 and 23.27 kcal/mol in **3a** and **3b**, respectively (see [Tables S3 and S4](#) (Supporting Information)). However, some other transitions with significant values are also observed such as $\pi(\text{C37}-\text{C39}) \rightarrow \pi^*(\text{C33}-\text{C35})$, $\pi(\text{C30}-\text{C31}) \rightarrow \pi^*(\text{N9}-\text{C28})$, and $\pi(\text{C46}-\text{C55}) \rightarrow \pi^*(\text{C51}-\text{C53})$ in **3a** with 21.85, 18.52, and 16.47 kcal/mol and $\pi(\text{C34}-\text{C36}) \rightarrow \pi^*(\text{N5}-\text{C37})$, $\pi(\text{C27}-\text{C28}) \rightarrow \pi^*(\text{C30}-\text{C32})$, and $\pi(\text{C34}-\text{C36}) \rightarrow \pi^*(\text{C30}-\text{C32})$ in **3b** with 18.02, 14.96, and 12.22 kcal/mol stabilization energy, respectively. The $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ transitions that offer minimum energy to the system are $(\text{C37}-\text{C39}) \rightarrow \pi^*(\text{C37}-\text{C39})$ and $\pi(\text{C27}-\text{C28}) \rightarrow \pi^*(\text{C27}-\text{C28})$ exhibiting 0.6 and 0.62 kcal/mol stabilization energy in both **3a** and **3b**, respectively ([Tables S3 and S4](#) (Supporting Information)).

Some of the other significant transitions that are responsible for the resonance are as follows: $\text{LP}(2)\text{O3} \rightarrow \pi^*(\text{O4}-\text{C56})$ and $\text{LP}(2)\text{O4} \rightarrow \sigma^*$ with stabilization energies 41.09 and 35.24 kcal/mol in **3a** and $\text{LP}(2)\text{O3} \rightarrow \sigma^*(\text{O2}-\text{C23})$ and $\text{LP}(2)\text{O3} \rightarrow \sigma^*(\text{C22}-\text{C23})$ with 37.01 and 15.67 kcal/mol in **3b**. Some intramolecular hydrogen-bonding interactions are also observed, among which $\text{LP}(1)\text{S1} \rightarrow \sigma^*(\text{N7}-\text{H8})$ having 2.5 kcal/mol energy in **3a** deserves special mention ([Figure 4](#) and [Table S3](#)). Similarly in **3b**, $\text{LP}(2)\text{S1} \rightarrow \sigma^*(\text{C10}-\text{H11})$, $\text{LP}(1)\text{O2} \rightarrow \sigma^*(\text{C40}-\text{H41})$, and $\text{LP}(1)\text{O2} \rightarrow \sigma^*(\text{C40}-\text{H42})$ transitions with 1.55, 1.12, and 1.20 kcal/mol stabilization energy values confirmed the stabilization of the system **3b** ([Figure 4](#) and [Table S4](#)) due to successful charge transfer. It is confirmed by the NBO investigation that noteworthy intramolecular interactions and extended hyperconjugation exist in the studied compounds, which provide them more stability and also give vital explanation of charge-transfer properties of these compounds, which are significant for charge transfer and potential NLO features.

Vibrational Analysis. The theoretical and experimental communities use vibrational spectroscopy as a method to investigate the molecular vibrations.⁴⁵ Similarly, DFT analysis for vibrational absorption spectroscopy is utilized to examine the existence of the vibrational modes for compounds **3a** and **3b** using the DFT/B3LYP/6-311+G(d,p) functional, and the results are listed in [Tables S5 and S6](#) (Supporting Information), while their experimentally determined absorption frequencies and spectra are shown in [Figures S1 and S2](#). In general, due to a well-known systematic error of anharmonicity and basis set deficiencies, the DFT hybrid B3LYP functional overrates the vibrational wavenumbers compared to the experimental results. Thus, the vibrational wavenumbers were scaled down by multiplying them with the scaling factor of 0.9617.⁴⁶

C–H Vibrations. In the literature, 3100–3000 cm^{-1} is the characteristic area in which aromatic rings' C–H vibrations typically arise.⁴⁷ In our studied compounds, the stimulated C–H antisymmetric and symmetrical stretching modes in benzene rings are studied in the range of 3124–3096 cm^{-1} in **3a** and at 3098–3084 cm^{-1} in **3b**, which correlated with the experimental absorption frequencies at 3298 and 3295 cm^{-1} , respectively, in both compounds. Similarly, stimulated C–H stretching vibrations other than aromatic rings are calculated at 3114 in **3a**, which is in good agreement with their experimentally determined absorption frequencies noted at 3114 cm^{-1} . Moreover, some of the symmetrical modes in C–H in **3b** are also analyzed in the range of 2970–2923 cm^{-1} .

C=C=C Vibrations. Both in aliphatic and aromatic (benzene and its derivatives) hydrocarbons, bands arising due to stretching C=C and C–C vibrations are highly important. Such vibrational bands are noted in the range of 1650–1400 cm^{-1} ,^{48,49} typically with aromatic derivatives. The stimulated absorption band is located at 1748–1567 cm^{-1} for **3a** and at 1594–1304 cm^{-1} for **3b**, which are in satisfactory agreement with experimentally determined absorption bands found at 1714 and 1455 cm^{-1} , respectively.

C=O Vibrations. The absorption frequencies for the C=O band in **3a** are located at 1748 and 1725 cm^{-1} , which agreed with the experimental absorption band found at 1714 cm^{-1} . In the same manner, the stimulated aforesaid absorption band for **3b** is seen at 1739 cm^{-1} , which was in good agreement at 1709 cm^{-1} with the experimental determination. Some other C–O symmetrical absorption bands are present in the range of

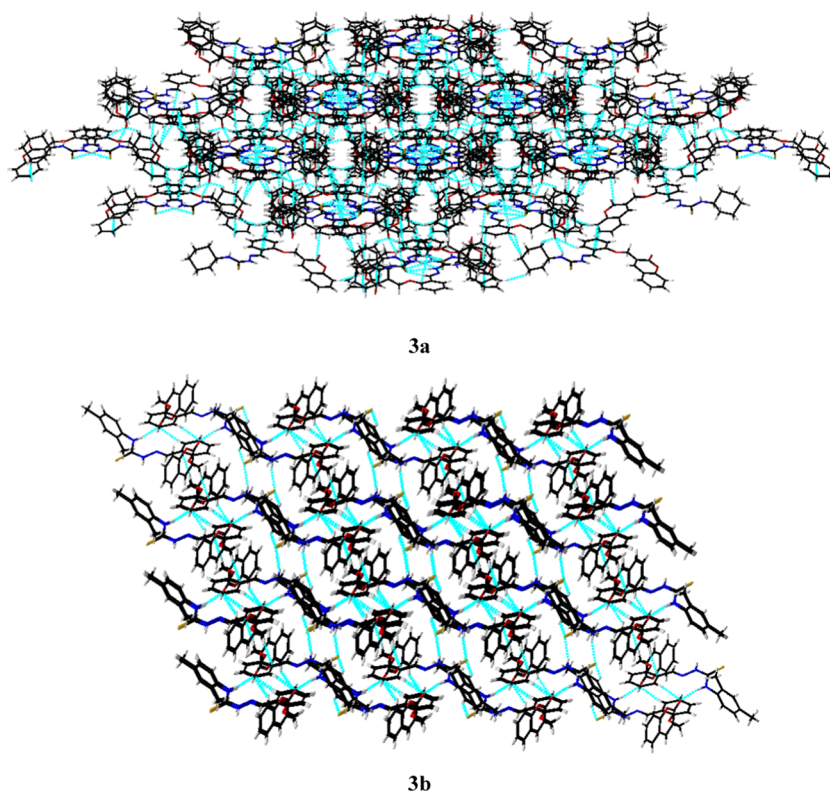


Figure 3. Solid-state molecular packing of coumarin-pendant thiosemicarbazones: (a) 3a along the *c*-axis and (b) 3b along the *c*-axis.

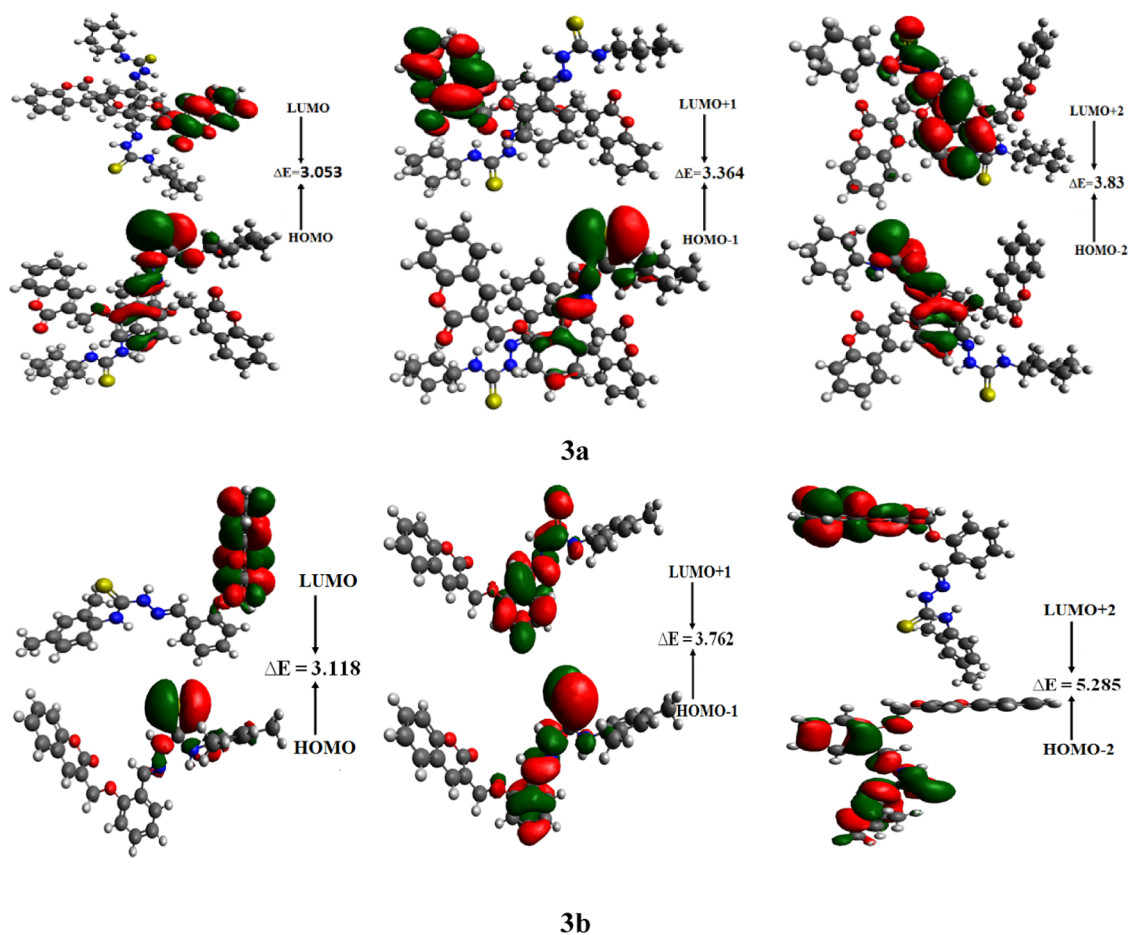


Figure 4. Frontier molecular orbitals describing charge density distribution in studied compounds 3a and 3b.

1395–1249 cm^{-1} in **3a** and at 1217–995 cm^{-1} in **3b** (see Tables S5 and S6).

C–N Vibrations. In our studied systems, the C–N stimulated band absorption frequencies are located at 1614–1573 and 1602–1560 cm^{-1} in **3a** and **3b**, respectively. Nevertheless, some C–N symmetrical vibrational frequencies are also observed at 1527–1478 cm^{-1} in **3a**, which agreed with experimental absorption frequencies found at 1596, 1539, and 1506 cm^{-1} . Similarly in **3b**, the aforesaid C–N absorption frequencies are located at 1496–1477 cm^{-1} , and their corresponding experimental absorption band is determined at 1595 cm^{-1} .

C–S Vibrations. The absorption frequencies for the C–S group are present at 1490–1478 cm^{-1} and 1477, 1464, and 1189 cm^{-1} in **3a** and **3b**, respectively, which is in excellent agreement with the experimental absorption band at 1540 cm^{-1} in **3a** and at 1223 cm^{-1} in **3b**.

N–H Vibrations. In compound **3a**, the stimulated symmetrical N–H vibrations are located in the span of 3460–3418 cm^{-1} , which excellently correlated with the experimental band at 3649 cm^{-1} . For **3b**, these N–H frequencies are found at 3426–3407 cm^{-1} . Moreover, some other frequencies like rocking are also observed at the 1527–1478 cm^{-1} range in **3a** and at 1496–1237 cm^{-1} in **3b**. Their experimentally determined absorption bands are present at 1596, 1540, and 1506 in **3a** and at 1595, 1544, and 1455 cm^{-1} in **3b** (see Tables S5 and S6).

In a nutshell, a good agreement is noted between DFT-computed and experimentally recorded vibrational frequencies.

UV–Vis Spectral Analysis. UV–visible spectroscopy provides a useful understanding of the charge-transfer prospects of compounds under investigation.^{50–52} The absorption spectra of **3a** and **3b** are calculated, and experimentally determined graphs are shown in Figures S3 and S4 (Supporting Information). Figures S3 and S4 reveal that **3a** has the maximum wavelength of 335 nm with the absorbance value nearly equal to 1. On the other hand, the λ_{max} calculated for **3b** is found to be almost similar to that of **3a** and has the same absorbance value.

Frontier Molecular Orbital (FMO) Analysis. The electronic transitions produced owing to the dipole moment that occurred between the excited and ground states of molecules are responsible for the optical properties. Generally, a transition occurs between the LUMO and HOMO.^{53–55} Moreover, the energy difference (ΔE) between these orbitals is a vital factor to describe the reactivity and stability of the molecules.⁵⁶ For newly synthesized molecules **3a** and **3b**, the LUMO, HOMO, LUMO+1, HOMO-1, LUMO+2, and HOMO-2 energies and their band gaps are calculated and displayed in Table 2.

It is analyzed that the band gaps calculated for different orbitals—HOMO \rightarrow LUMO, HOMO-1 \rightarrow LUMO+1, and HOMO-2 \rightarrow LUMO+2—in **3b** are greater than those in **3a**. The band gap calculated for HOMO–LUMO is 3.118 eV in **3b**, which narrows to 3.053 eV in **3a**. The ΔE for HOMO-1 \rightarrow LUMO+1 is 3.762 eV in **3b**, which lessens to 3.364 eV in **3a**, and the analyzed energy for HOMO-2 \rightarrow LUMO+2 in **3b** is 5.285 eV, which then further decreases to 3.83 eV in **3a**. This decrease in band gap in **3a** might be due to the existence of extended conjugation and noncovalent attraction as compared to **3b**. The orbital showing the electron charge density distribution is expressed in Figure 4.

Table 2. E_{HOMO} , E_{LUMO} , and Energy Gap ($E_{\text{LUMO}} - E_{\text{HOMO}}$) of Investigated Compounds **3a–b**^a

| 3a | | | 3b | | |
|--------|--------|------------|--------|--------|------------|
| MO(s) | E | ΔE | MO(s) | E | ΔE |
| LUMO | -2.318 | 3.053 | LUMO | -2.579 | 3.118 |
| HOMO | -5.371 | | HOMO | -5.697 | |
| LUMO+1 | -2.046 | 3.364 | LUMO+1 | -1.942 | 3.762 |
| HOMO-1 | -5.410 | | HOMO-1 | -5.704 | |
| LUMO+2 | -1.729 | 3.83 | LUMO+2 | -1.106 | 5.285 |
| HOMO-2 | -5.559 | | HOMO-2 | -6.391 | |

^a $E_{\text{(HOMO)}}$, energy of HOMO; $E_{\text{(LUMO)}}$, energy of LUMO; ΔE , $E_{\text{(LUMO)}} - E_{\text{(HOMO)}}$; MO, molecular orbital; energy is in eV.

It can be seen from Figure 4 that the electron density for HOMO in **3a** is concentrated at central N–N- or S-linked atoms, while LUMO is populated mainly on terminal cyclohexane units. In **3b**, the same situation is noticed where the HOMO charge density is concentrated on central N–N- or S-linked atoms, while the LUMO charge density is found on the side 2H-chromen-2-one unit. In both studied structures, intramolecular charge transfer from the central unit (HOMO) to the terminal unit (LUMO) is evident, hence providing suitable reasons to utilize these molecules in charge-transfer-related phenomenon like NLO properties.

Global Reactivity Parameters. The band energy (ΔE) of FMOs is an excellent tool for the investigation of global reactivity parameters describing the donating, accepting, hardness, and softness of an investigated specie.⁵⁷ Compounds with a huge energy difference are chemically hard in nature, which makes them kinetically more stable and least reactive.^{58–60} On the other hand, with less energy difference, molecules are soft in nature and show more polarizability, which makes them able to show excellent NLO response. Global reactivity parameters^{61–64} include ionization energy (IA), electron affinity (EA), electronegativity (X), global hardness (η), chemical potential (μ), global electrophilicity (ω), and global softness (σ), which can be calculated with the help of the energy difference of FMOs and eqs 2–8 and are listed in Table 3.

$$\text{IP} = -E_{\text{HOMO}} \quad (2)$$

$$\text{EA} = -E_{\text{LUMO}} \quad (3)$$

$$X = \frac{[\text{IP} + \text{EA}]}{2} = -\frac{[E_{\text{LUMO}} + E_{\text{HOMO}}]}{2} \quad (4)$$

$$\eta = \frac{[\text{IP} - \text{EA}]}{2} = -\frac{[E_{\text{LUMO}} - E_{\text{HOMO}}]}{2} \quad (5)$$

$$\mu = \frac{E_{\text{HOMO}} + E_{\text{LUMO}}}{2} \quad (6)$$

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{2\eta} \quad (7)$$

$$\omega = \frac{\mu^2}{2\eta} \quad (8)$$

The most significant chemical property is electronegativity, which explains the capability of any compound to attract electrons. The stability of molecules is indicated by the negative values of the chemical potential (μ). These attractive investigations can play an important role in the area of

Table 3. Global Reactivity Descriptors of Investigated Compounds^a

| compounds | <i>I</i> | <i>A</i> | <i>X</i> | η | μ | ω | σ |
|-----------|----------|----------|----------|--------|--------|----------|----------|
| 3a | 5.371 | 2.318 | 3.844 | 1.526 | -3.844 | 4.841 | 0.327 |
| 3b | 5.697 | 2.579 | 4.138 | 1.559 | -4.138 | 5.491 | 0.320 |

^aIonization potential (*I*), electron affinity (*A*), electronegativity (*X*), global hardness (η), chemical potential (μ), global electrophilicity (ω), and global softness (σ). Units are in eV.

experimental research and especially in biological activity of compounds. Thus, for scientists, it becomes alluring to perform a large-scale study of global reactivity parameters. From Table 3, it is seen that the value of the ionization potential in 3b (5.697 eV) is greater, having higher values of electronegativity (4.138 eV) and electron affinity (2.579 eV), with a more negative value of the chemical potential (-4.138 eV) than 3a, which indicates that 3b is more stable. Furthermore, there is a direct relationship between the hardness and the band gap, so the molecule with a greater value of band gap is the least reactive chemically. Thus, the values of band gap and hardness calculated for 3b are higher than those for 3a with a lower value of softness (see Table 3), indicating that 3a is less stable and more reactive. The increasing order of chemical reactivity is 3b < 3a.

Nonlinear Optical (NLO) Analysis. Nonlinear optical organic materials are being increasingly taken into account in promising optoelectronic technologies due to their easy synthesis, less cost, facile manufacturing, and structural modifications. Quantum chemical evaluation of polarizability $\langle\alpha\rangle$ and hyperpolarizability (β) is a field of extensive analysis since they are linked to the new optical nonlinear material architectures.^{65–70} Thus, DFT calculations were performed to explore the possible NLO properties of investigated molecules 3a and 3b. The dipole moment (*D*), polarizability $\langle\alpha\rangle$, and frequency-dependent second hyperpolarizability (γ) at different levels of theory include the HF method, meta-hybrid GGA methods M06, M062X, range-corrected methods LC-BLYP, CAM-B3LYP, and exchange correlation functional B3LYP in conjunction with the 6-311+G(d,p) basis set. Furthermore, the second harmonic generation (SHG) form $\gamma(-2\omega, \omega, \omega, 0)$ and the EOKO (electro-optic Kerr effect) form $\gamma(-\omega, \omega, 0, 0)$ are also computed at the commonly exercised wavelength 0.02389 nm, and the results are tabulated in Tables 4–7.

The following equation (eq 9) is used to calculate average polarizability:

$$\langle\alpha\rangle = 1/3(\alpha_{xx} + \alpha_{yy} + \alpha_{zz}) \quad (9)$$

Table 4. Dipole Polarizabilities with Major Contributing Tensors (a.u.) for Investigated Compounds 3a and 3b

| compounds | methods | α_{xx} | α_{yy} | α_{zz} | α_{total} |
|-----------|-----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| 3a | B3LYP | 782.52 | 791.21 | 385.61 | 653.12 |
| | CAM-B3LYP | 748.19 | 761.07 | 377.50 | 628.92 |
| | LC-BLYP | 714.98 | 731.58 | 368.70 | 605.09 |
| | HF | 690.83 | 708.49 | 365.00 | 588.11 |
| | M06 | 779.83 | 790.16 | 386.70 | 652.23 |
| | M062X | 755.33 | 766.45 | 381.91 | 634.56 |
| 3b | B3LYP | 489.42 | 450.24 | 289.30 | 409.65 |
| | CAM-B3LYP | 465.44 | 429.48 | 285.05 | 393.32 |
| | LC-BLYP | 441.85 | 409.03 | 278.80 | 376.56 |
| | HF | 427.51 | 395.28 | 276.11 | 366.30 |
| | M06 | 487.43 | 446.67 | 289.54 | 407.88 |
| | M062X | 464.10 | 427.45 | 282.65 | 391.40 |

Table 5. Computed Dipole Moments *D* of Investigated Compounds 3a and 3b

| compounds | methods | μ_x | μ_y | μ_z | μ_{total} |
|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|---------------|
| 3a | B3LYP | 0.2444 | 1.0410 | 1.8281 | 2.1180 |
| | CAM-B3LYP | 0.2384 | 1.0545 | 1.8689 | 2.1591 |
| | LC-BLYP | 0.2328 | 1.0691 | 1.9109 | 2.2020 |
| | HF | 0.2848 | 1.1217 | 2.0971 | 2.3953 |
| | M06 | 0.2396 | 1.0206 | 1.8503 | 2.1267 |
| | M062X | 0.2332 | 1.0272 | 1.8534 | 2.1318 |
| 3b | B3LYP | -1.8213 | 0.9229 | -1.9517 | 2.8246 |
| | CAM-B3LYP | -1.8933 | 1.0585 | -2.0075 | 2.9555 |
| | LC-BLYP | -1.9710 | -1.9710 | -2.0792 | 3.1056 |
| | HF | -2.1419 | 1.3572 | -2.2276 | 3.3752 |
| | M06 | -1.8360 | 0.8490 | -1.9225 | 2.7907 |
| | M062X | -1.8227 | 1.0309 | -1.9750 | 2.8785 |

The dynamic frequency-dependent second hyperpolarizability γ is calculated using the following equation (eq 10):

$$\langle\gamma\rangle = \frac{1}{5}(\gamma_{xxxx} + \gamma_{yyyy} + \gamma_{zzzz} + 2[\gamma_{xxyy} + \gamma_{yyzz} + \gamma_{xxzz}]) \quad (10)$$

It can be seen from Table 4 that the polarizability tensor calculated in the *y*-axis is dominant among all tensors in 3a and the *x*-axis in 3b at all levels of theory and contributed well to the total linear polarization values.

The maximum $\langle\alpha\rangle$ value for both compounds 3a and 3b was investigated, which were found to be 653.12 and 409.65 (a.u.), respectively, at B3LYP; then, this value reduces to 652.23 and 407.88 (a.u.), as analyzed at M06, respectively. This average polarizability value further narrows down to 634.56 (a.u.) at M062X in 3a and to 393.32 (a.u.) at the CAM-B3LYP level in 3b. Further decline in the value of $\langle\alpha\rangle$ from 605.09 to 588.11 (a.u.) in 3a and from 376.56 to 366.30 (a.u.) in 3b was seen, as studied at LC-BLYP and HF, respectively. The lowest polarizability values in both compounds among all levels of theory were found using the HF method. Overall, the highest value of $\langle\alpha\rangle$ was studied in 3a at all levels of theory.

Table 5 reveals that for both crystals 3a and 3b the highest dipole moment values were analyzed using the HF method as 2.3953 D and 3.3752 D, respectively. The lowest value for 3a was 2.1180 D obtained using the B3LYP method, while in 3b, 2.7907 D was calculated at the M06 level. Overall, the maximum value of the dipole moment was investigated in 3b (3.3752 D) at all levels of theory and also shows a higher value than that of the reference molecule (urea) (1.3732 D).⁷¹ Nevertheless, it is generally seen that molecules with a greater dipole moment show higher hyperpolarizability properties. Thus, the maximum γ value was investigated in 3b, and this value becomes narrow in 3a (see Table 5).

The investigation performed to calculate the second hyperpolarizability values of entitled compounds at different levels of theory results shown in Table 6 indicates that between

Table 6. Computed Second Hyperpolarizability γ and Major Contributing Tensors (a.u.) for Investigated Compounds 3a and 3b

| compounds | methods | γ_x | γ_y | γ_z | average $\langle\gamma\rangle$ | magnitude of γ |
|-----------|-----------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 3a | B3LYP | 1.148×10^5 | 1.035×10^5 | 2.519×10^5 | 2.435×10^5 | 1.566×10^5 |
| | CAM-B3LYP | 7.112×10^4 | 6.626×10^4 | 1.607×10^4 | 1.534×10^5 | 9.852×10^4 |
| | LC-BLYP | 4.907×10^4 | 4.988×10^4 | 1.164×10^4 | 1.106×10^5 | 7.093×10^4 |
| | HF | 3.301×10^4 | 3.926×10^4 | 9.016×10^3 | 8.129×10^4 | 5.208×10^4 |
| | M06 | 1.004×10^5 | 9.273×10^4 | 2.254×10^4 | 2.157×10^5 | 1.385×10^5 |
| | M062X | 7.492×10^4 | 6.983×10^4 | 1.677×10^4 | 1.615×10^5 | 1.037×10^5 |
| 3b | B3LYP | 1.366×10^5 | 1.156×10^5 | 2.404×10^4 | 2.764×10^5 | 1.806×10^5 |
| | CAM-B3LYP | 8.398×10^4 | 8.013×10^4 | 1.941×10^4 | 1.835×10^5 | 1.176×10^5 |
| | LC-BLYP | 5.894×10^4 | 5.909×10^4 | 1.531×10^4 | 1.333×10^5 | 8.485×10^4 |
| | HF | 4.365×10^4 | 4.785×10^4 | 1.456×10^4 | 1.060×10^5 | 6.638×10^4 |
| | M06 | 1.220×10^5 | 1.054×10^5 | 2.240×10^4 | 2.497×10^5 | 1.627×10^5 |
| | M062X | 8.554×10^4 | 8.220×10^4 | 1.842×10^4 | 1.861×10^5 | 1.200×10^5 |

Table 7. Frequency-Dependent Second Hyperpolarizability (a.u.) of Investigated Compounds 3a and 3b

| parameters | frequency ω | B3LYP | | CAM-B3LYP | | LC-BLYP | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| compound | | 3a | 3b | 3a | 3b | 3a | 3b |
| $\gamma(-\omega, \omega, 0, 0)$ | 0.000 | 2.435×10^5 | 2.764×10^5 | 1.534×10^5 | 1.835×10^5 | 1.106×10^5 | 1.333×10^5 |
| | 0.02389 nm | 2.609×10^5 | 2.973×10^5 | 1.604×10^5 | 1.925×10^5 | 1.143×10^5 | 1.380×10^5 |
| $\gamma(-2\omega, \omega, \omega, 0)$ | 0.000 | 2.435×10^5 | 2.764×10^5 | 1.534×10^5 | 1.835×10^5 | 1.106×10^5 | 1.333×10^5 |
| | 0.02389 nm | 3.030×10^5 | 3.439×10^5 | 1.760×10^5 | 2.110×10^5 | 1.230×10^5 | 1.484×10^5 |
| | | HF | | M06 | | M062X | |
| | | 3a | 3b | 3a | 3b | 3a | 3b |
| $\gamma(-\omega, \omega, 0, 0)$ | 0.000 | 8.129×10^4 | 1.061×10^5 | 2.157×10^5 | 2.498×10^5 | 1.615×10^5 | 1.861×10^5 |
| | 0.02389 nm | 8.358×10^4 | 1.090×10^5 | 2.340×10^5 | 2.585×10^5 | 1.714×10^5 | 1.933×10^5 |
| $\gamma(-2\omega, \omega, \omega, 0)$ | 0.000 | 8.129×10^4 | 1.061×10^5 | 2.157×10^5 | 2.498×10^5 | 1.615×10^5 | 1.861×10^5 |
| | 0.02389 nm | 8.852×10^4 | 1.155×10^5 | 2.662×10^5 | 2.955×10^5 | 1.885×10^5 | 2.126×10^5 |

both compounds, the highest value of $\langle\gamma\rangle$ was found to be 2.435×10^5 (a.u.) in **3a** and 2.764×10^5 (a.u.) in **3b** at the B3LYP level of theory. Contrarily, the lowest value was 8.129×10^4 in **3a** and 1.060×10^5 (a.u.) in **3b** obtained from the HF method. So overall, B3LYP and HF methods exhibit the highest and lowest average second hyperpolarizability values, respectively. Moreover, it was also seen that crystal **3b** showed a higher value of the second-order polarizability at all levels of theory than that of **3a**, except for the HF method in **3a**. Our findings have been compared with the reference urea molecule for comparative NLO analysis. The values of α_{total} , dipole moment, and γ of the studied compounds are larger in contrast to the reference molecule.⁷¹

The second harmonic generation (SHG) form $\gamma(-2\omega, \omega, \omega, 0)$ and the EOKO (electro-optic Kerr effect) form $\gamma(-\omega, \omega, 0, 0)$ computed at zero and 0.02389 nm wavelengths are shown in Table 7.

Moreover, it was also seen that crystal **3b** showed a higher value of second-order hyperpolarizability at all levels of theory than that of **3a**. Overall results show that the crystals under investigation are polarized in nature with a good dipole moment. The comparative analysis with urea molecules clearly indicates that the studied compounds are acceptable NLO candidates, and they can be used for future technological applications.

Molecular Electrostatic Potential (MEP). MEP is associated with electron density (ED), and through it we can illustrate the noncovalent interactions and also comprehend reactivity, such as electrophilic and nucleophilic attack sites.^{72,73} MEP is actually the elucidation of the three-dimensional electron density in the form of a graph, and

with the help of this three-dimensional map, the chemical and physical characteristics of a chemical structure can also be revealed. There are different types of standard colors on the MEP map: blue, green, yellow, orange, and red, which represent the electrostatic potential magnitude.⁷⁴ The electrostatic potential magnitude in increasing order is red < orange < yellow < green < blue.⁷⁵ On the MEP plot, the blue part represents the highest positive potential and is a more appropriate place for the attack of a nucleophile, while the red color indicates the highest negative potential and is a suitable site for electrophile attack. MEP can be calculated with the help of eq 11.

$$V(r) = \sum \left(\frac{Z_A}{R_A} - r \right) - \int \rho(r') / (r' - r) dr' \quad (11)$$

where $V(r)$ is the electrostatic potential, $\rho(r')$ is the electron density, and Z_A is the nuclear charge that is placed at R_A .^{76,77} The MEP maps of studied compounds (**3a** and **3b**) are displayed in Figure 5, which explain that the red color in maps is due to the O and S atoms in **3a** and **3b**. Thus, it is an electron-rich area and a suitable site for electrophilic attack. On the other hand, the blue color, which describes the electron-deficient part on the plot, appears due to some of the H and C atoms and is a potential place for nucleophile attack. The green areas show the mean potential, i.e., the area between two extremes. From red, yellow, and blue colors, it is clear that different reaction sites are present in all molecules.

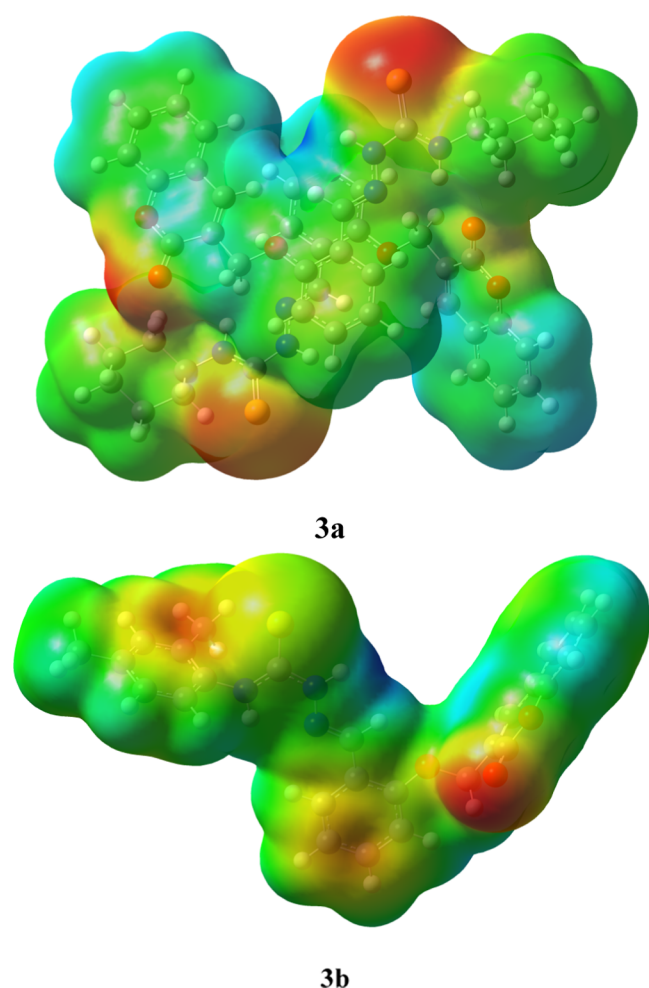


Figure 5. MEPs and color scheme of the studied compounds **3a** and **3b**.

CONCLUSIONS

By the condensation of thiosemicarbazide with coumarin aldehyde, two novel thiosemicarbazone substituted (*E*)-*N*-cyclohexyl-2-(2-((2-oxo-2*H*-chromen-3-yl)methoxy)benzylidene)hydrazinocarbothioamide (**3a**) and 2,4(*E*)-*N*-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-2-(2-((2-oxo-2*H*-chromen-3-yl)methoxy)benzylidene)hydrazinocarbothioamide (**3b**) were synthesized in excellent 80% yield, exhibiting good spectral as well as single-crystal X-ray investigations. The SC-XRD analysis reveals that the compounds were crystallized as an orthorhombic crystal lattice with the *Pbcn* space group and the triclinic crystal lattice with the $\bar{P}1$ space group. Roles of several noncovalent interactions were discussed via SC-XRD, which stabilizes both compound's solid-state structures. Aside from trial SC-XRD, the molecular geometries of the investigated molecules (**3a** and **3b**) have also been concentrated by the computational calculations. The calculated results were compared with the experimental structural parameters, vibrational frequencies, and UV–vis findings. As analyzed by the NBO investigation, the most significant transitions have been found in **3a** with a larger stabilization energy of 25.15 kcal/mol and in **3b** with 23.27 kcal/mol. The energy differences calculated for HOMO/LUMO are 3.053 and 3.118 eV in **3a** and **3b**, respectively. Thus, the values of band gap and hardness calculated for **3b** are higher than those for **3a** with a lower value of softness, indicating that **3a** is less stable and more

reactive than **3b**. The UV–visible analysis findings at 345 and 340 nm for experimentally determined values in **3a** and **3b**, respectively, indicated that compounds have a bathochromic shift. The highest $\langle\alpha\rangle$ values for both compounds **3a** and **3b** were found to be 653.12 and 409.65 (a.u.), respectively, at the B3LYP level. The lowest polarizability values in both compounds among all levels of theory were found from the HF method. The highest values of $\langle\gamma\rangle$ were 2.435×10^5 (a.u.) in **3a** and 2.764×10^5 (a.u.) in **3b** at the B3LYP level of theory. Contrarily, the lowest value of $\langle\gamma\rangle$ was 8.129×10^4 in **3a** and 1.060×10^5 (a.u.) in **3b** obtained from the HF method. Moreover, it was also found that crystal **3b** showed a higher value of second-order polarizability at all levels of theory than that of **3a**. The comparative analysis with urea molecules clearly indicates that the studied compounds are acceptable NLO candidates and they can be used for future technological applications.

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acsomega.0c04653>.

Comparison of selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) for **3a** and **3b** calculated using B3LYP/6-311+G(d,p) and the X-ray diffraction method; natural bond orbital (NBO) analysis data; experimental and DFT-calculated vibrational frequencies; and experimental calculated UV–vis, FT-IR, and NMR spectra of investigated compounds **3a** and **3b** (PDF)

Crystallographic data of **3a** (CIF)

Crystallographic data of **3b** (CIF)

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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