



# Synthesis, characterization, biological and DFT studies of charge-transfer complexes of antihyperlipidemic drug atorvastatin calcium with Iodine, Chloranil, and DDQ



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## ABSTRACT

Extremely coloured charge-transfer complexes (CTCs) of antihyperlipidemic drug, atorvastatin calcium (ATC) acting as  $n$ -electron donor with the electron acceptors, namely, iodine as  $\sigma$ -acceptor, 2,3,4,6-tetra chloro-1,4-benzoquinone (chloranil, CHL), 2,3-dichloro-5,6-dicyano-1,4-benzoquinone (DDQ) as  $\pi$ -acceptors have been explored. Elemental analysis, thermal analysis, FTIR spectroscopy, Raman spectroscopy, NMR spectroscopy, and mass spectroscopy techniques were used to explain the chemical mechanism of the synthesized ATC-CTCs. It has been found that the stoichiometry of the complexes was to be 1:1 ratio in ATC-iodine and 1:2 ratio in ATC-CHL; ATC-DDQ. Elemental and mass analysis were confirmed the above ratio of ATC-CTCs which was [(ATC)I]<sub>3</sub>, [(ATC)(CHL)<sub>2</sub>], and [(ATC)(DDQ)<sub>2</sub>] respectively. The biological activities of the formed ATC-CTCs were also tested against various bacterial strains. In addition, the frontier molecular orbitals (FMO) of the title compound was performed at the HF/6-311G\*\* level to display the favourable reactivity tendency and the best suitable site for the electrophilic and nucleophilic attacks. The natural bond orbital (NBO) analysis was employed to predict the possible non-covalent interactions and its result disclosed that the  $n \rightarrow \pi^*$  and  $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$  interactions had a critical role in the enlightening of the stabilization of the compound. The achieved results are more appropriate for the estimation of antihyperlipidemic drug, ATC in pharmaceutical dosage forms.

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## 1. Introduction

Mulliken and his co-workers had introduced a new concept, which is known as charge-transfer complex (CTC). An attraction between a donor and an acceptor forms CTC having weak bonds in it [1]. Colored CTC, which is formed by the molecular interactions between donor and acceptor can generally be absorbed easily in apparent visible region [2]. The rate control, specificity and a lot of biochemical reversible reactions could be mainly administrated by this type of formation of CTC. This could make prominent role in

biomolecules [3,4]. The potential antimicrobial properties of CTC discloses against Gram-positive, Gram-negative bacteria and also against fungi [5–10].

Atorvastatin calcium (ATC) shown in Fig. 1, is a second generation, synthetic, statin category, 3-hydroxy-3-methylglutaryl-coenzyme A (HMG-CoA) reductase inhibitor [11]. This ATC is highly competent, effective antihyperlipidemic drug used for hypercholesterolaemia [12]. The HMG-CoA reductase is held responsible for the rate determination step in the mevalonate pathway of synthesis of cholesterol [13]. HMG-CoA inhibition employs to reduce cholesterol in human blood stream and enhance low density lipoprotein (LDL) receptors formation [14]. ATC is officially confirmed in United States Pharmacopoeia 34 (USP), Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP) [15,16]. Some antibacterial activities of ATC and other statins have been reported in the literatures [17,18].

ATC, atorvastatin calcium; CHL, 2,3,4,6-tetrachloro-1,4-benzoquinone; DDQ, 2,3-dichloro-5,6-dicyano-1,4-benzoquinone; CTC, charge-transfer complex; DFT, density functional theory.

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