



# Chromatography Scrutiny, Molecular Docking, Clarifying the Selectivities and the Mechanism of [3 + 2] Cycloaddition Reaction between Linalool and Chlorobenzene-Nitrile-oxide

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## Abstract

Employing the Molecular Electron Density Theory, [3 + 2] cycloaddition processes between 4-chlorobenzenenitrileoxide and linalool, have been applied using the DFT/B3LYP/6–311(d,p) method, activation, reaction energies and the reactivity indices are calculated. In an investigation of conceptual DFT indices, **LIL-1** will contribute to this reaction as a nucleophile, whilst **NOX-2** will participate as an electrophile. This cyclization is regio, chemo and stereospecific, as demonstrated by the reaction and activation energies, in clear agreement with the experiment's results, in addition, ELF analysis revealed that the mechanism for this cycloaddition occurs in two steps. Furthermore, a docking study was conducted on the products studied, and the interaction with the protein protease COVID-19 (PDB ID: 6LU7), our results indicate that the presence of the –OH group increases the affinity of these products, moreover, adsorption study by chromatography was made on silica gel as support; our outcome reveals that the –OH group creates an intramolecular hydrogen bond in the product P<sub>2</sub>, while in the product P<sub>3</sub> will create a hydrogen bond with the silica gel which makes the two products P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> are very easy to separate by chromatography, this result is in excellent agreement with the R<sub>f</sub> retention value. The study might provide a fundamental for developing natural anti-viral compound in promoting human health.

**Keywords** Molecular Docking · Chromatography Scrutiny · MEDT · Regiospecific · Linalool · ELF

## Introduction

Heterocyclic synthesis is a field of chemistry that involves the production of cyclic molecules that include atoms other than carbon in the ring [1–4]. Heterocyclics are frequently used in many chemicals, including drugs, pigments, and flavors, making them important for many industrial and scientific

applications [5–8]. There are several methods for synthesizing heterocyclic, the most interesting of which is intermolecular cyclization [9–11], as an example 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reaction, in this a chemical reaction in which two molecules, add together to form a ring [12–14]. This reaction is characterized by the formation of a covalent bond between two distant atoms in the reactants, resulting in the formation of a new ring.

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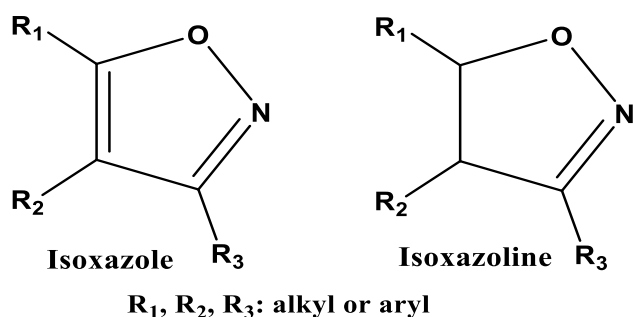
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**Fig. 1** Structures of isoxazolines and isoxazole

1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reactions are very useful for the synthesis of complex molecules like isoxazolines [15–17].

The isoxazolines includes a group of organic compounds that have in common the presence of an isoxazoline ring in their chemical structure (Fig. 1). Isoxazolines can be produced by different methods, such as oxazole-nation reaction or condensation of carbaldehydes with amines and 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reaction [18–21]. Isoxazolines are used in many industrial applications, such as herbicides, insecticides, and drugs. Due to their unique properties, such as stability, and biological activity, isoxazolines are becoming increasingly popular in organic synthesis and to improve the biological activity of isoxazolines [22–25], their group is replaced by monoterpenes such as linalool.

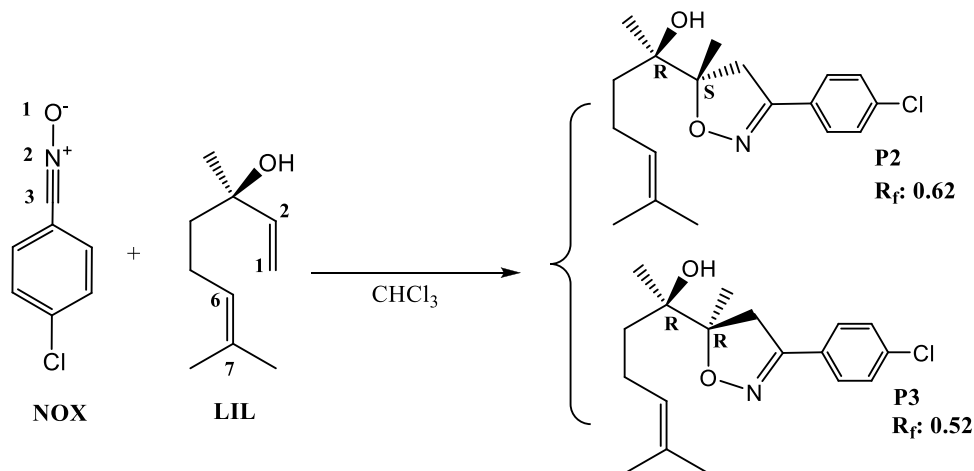
Linalool is a colorless mono-terpene alcohol molecule, produced by several plants including lavender, basil, mint, and coriander, and is widely used in perfumery; linalool has also been studied for its potential medicinal properties and has been found to have analgesic, anxiolytic and anti-inflammatory effects [2]. There is a lot of potential for linalool to be used as a secure and natural therapeutic substitute. Many studies concentrate on the bioactive properties of linalool, including their modes of action and their anticancer, antibacterial, neuroprotective, anxiolytic, antidepressant, anti-stress, hepatoprotective, kidney

protective, and lung protective activity. Additionally, the possibility of encapsulating linalool and the medicinal potential of linalool are examined. Through oxidative stress, linalool can cause cancer cells to die while simultaneously protecting healthy cells. Cell membrane disruption is how linalool exerts its antibacterial properties. The anti-inflammatory properties of linalool are what cause it to have beneficial effects on the liver, kidneys, and lungs. Linalool can be utilized as an adjuvant to antibiotics or anti-cancer medications due to its protective properties and minimal toxicity [2]. To increase the properties of this molecule, several reactions have been made as example the 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition reaction, the dipole used is 4-chlorobenzenitrile oxide which leads to two products. (Fig. 2). ( $R_f$  formula is given supporting information (Fig. S1)).

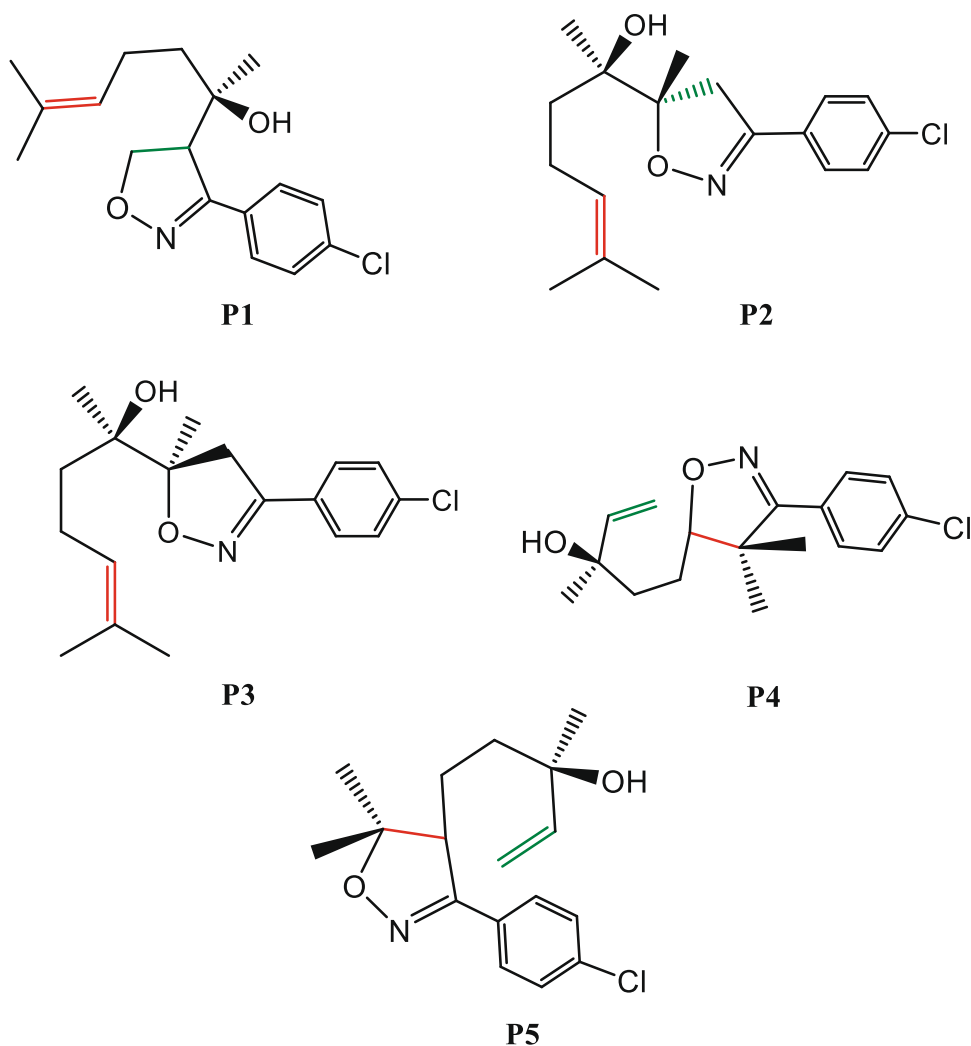
The molecular electron density theory (MEDT) ability to consistently that the molecular reactivity is controlled by an electron density, in the context, numerous chemical reactions, including the [3+2] [26–35] and [4+2] cycloadditions [36, 37], the epoxidation reaction [38–41], and the nitration reaction [42], have been explored, also, we have revealed that the MEDT theory offers more details than the FMO theory (Frontier Molecular Orbital Theory) [43].

Within the framework of the theory (MEDT), we used the most educated and reliable method Density functional theory DFT/B3LYP/6-311(d,p) [38–46], to explain the cycloaddition reaction of Linalool and Chlorobenzene-nitrile-oxide experimentally explored by Rouani et al [44] and its mechanism, chemoselectivity, regioselectivity, and stereoselectivity (Fig. 2), moreover, we performed out a docking evaluation for the potential products of this reaction (Fig. 3) and we also performed a silica gel adsorption study of the two products P2 and P3 to understand why the two products are very easy to separate by chromatography on silica gel.

**Fig. 2** Cycloaddition reaction between 4-Chlorobenzene-NitrileOxide and linalool ( $R_f$ : retention value. ( $R_f$  formula is given supporting information (Fig. S1))



**Fig. 3** a docking evaluation for the potential products



## Quantum Calculation Methods

All the computations are processed in Gaussian 09 [47] utilizing DFT/B3LYP/6–311(d,p) [44, 45] and GaussView5 to visualize reagents and products. The IRC (Intrinsic Reaction Coordinate) has been utilized to survey the reaction path from its initial state to its final state and the influence of the reaction solvent is counted by the Tomasi model (PCM). (Polarizable Continuum Model) [48–53]. The electronic chemical potential is designated:  $\mu = \frac{E_L + E_H}{2}$ . The Chemical hardness is defined by:  $\eta = E_L - E_H$ , using the energies of the HOMO (Highest Occupied Molecular Orbital) and LUMO (Lowest Unoccupied Molecular Orbital) boundary molecular orbitals, are given by  $E_H$  and  $E_L$ . The global electrophilicity index ( $\omega$ ) is a quantity used in chemistry to measure the tendency of a molecule to react as an electrophile is defined by the following formula:  $\omega = \frac{\mu^2}{2\eta}$  [54], contrary to the index of electrophilicity, the index of nucleophilie (N) is a concept useful to check the tendency of a molecule to react as a nucleophile, i.e. to give electrons to another molecule to form a chemical bond, defined as:  $E = E_{\text{HOMO}}$

(Nu)- $E_{\text{HOMO}}$  (TCE) [55]. Parr functions have been employed to find local indices, which are basic spin wave functions that are used in quantum chemistry to describe the electronic spin distribution in molecules [56, 57]. The electron localization function was described employing a Topmod software (ELF), this ELF is used to provide a representation of the distribution of electrons and electron cavities in the reagents [58, 59].

## Adsorption Analysis Using Mds

MDs are an especially useful method to inspect the exact configuration for adsorbates (two organic molecules)-substrate (silica surface) systems and determine the most stable adsorption configurations [60]. In this current research work, the Molecular dynamics computer simulations were executed in BIOVIA Materials Studio@Dassault Systèmes (formerly Accelrys) software (2020 v20.1.0.2728) [61]. At the beginning of two P2&P3 molecules, in the gas phase. Because the COMPASS force field takes into account different types of interactions, such as covalent bonds, electrostatic interactions, van der Waals

**Table 1** Nucleophilicity  $N$ , electrophilicity, Electrochemical potential and chemical hardness, values of NOX 2, as determined in B3LYP/6-31G(d), all in electron volts (eV)

System	$\eta$	$\mu$	$\omega$	$N$
LIL-1	6.33	-2.88	0.65	3.47
NOX-2	4.85	-4.04	1.68	3.06

interactions, etc. moreover, the positions and velocities of atoms are tracked over time to understand the dynamic behavior of a system. It is based on empirical parameters derived from experimental and theoretical data in order to best reproduce the properties and molecular behaviors observed the reason why the geometrically optimized by utilizing COMPASS force field in Forcite module. The purpose of these Molecular dynamics computer simulations is to look at how the two products  $P_2$  and  $P_3$  interact with a Silicon dioxide surface in the gas phase. Thereafter geometry optimization by BIOVIA Materials Studio®Forcite model of the constructed solution slab was performed. Since the Silicon dioxide ( $\text{SiO}_2(110)$ ) surface (Silica gel surface) has a tightly packed structure and is more energetically stable than other planes, it was chosen for this investigation instead of Silicon dioxide ( $\text{SiO}_2(110)$ ). After that, the optimized constructed solution slab is placed above the ( $\text{SiO}_2(110)$ ) surface maintaining a 10 Å vacuum slab as blank space at the uppermost layer to obtain a simulation model of (54,052\*85,095\*39,119Å). Before running MDs, the geometry of the built-in simulation model was tuned to prevent undesirable molecule configurations and produce an energy-optimal simulation setup. The stabilization of the energy and temperature fluctuation curves proved that the optimization approach had been effective. The Forcite module in BIOVIA Materials Studio®-Dassault Systems was employed to perform the Molecular dynamics computer simulations utilizing the COMPASS force field and NVT ensemble with a time step of (1 fs) for (100 ps) at 298 K. The MDs results showed that

the targeted two products  $P_2$  and  $P_3$  become spontaneously interacting with ( $\text{SiO}_2(110)$ ) surface atoms after the was completed. The following equation was used to calculate the interaction energy ( $E_{\text{interaction}}$ ) of  $P_2$  and  $P_3$  with ( $\text{SiO}_2(110)$ ) surface [60].

$$\Delta E_{\text{interaction}}(\text{Kcal/mol}) = E_{\text{Total}} - E_{\text{adsorbate}} - E_{\text{substrate}} \quad (1)$$

Whereas  $E_{\text{total}}$  represents the total energy for adsorbate–substrate,  $E_{\text{surface}}$  represents the energy surface of ( $\text{SiO}_2(110)$ ) containing the adsorbate (Simple organic molecules (two products  $P_2$  and  $P_3$ ) and  $E_{\text{adsorbate}}$  represents the energy of the adsorbed. Again, the binding energy ( $E_{\text{binding}}$ ) is the negative value of  $E_{\text{interaction}}$  and it is determined as follows:

$$E_{\text{binding}} = -E_{\text{interaction}} \quad (2)$$

## Results and Discussion

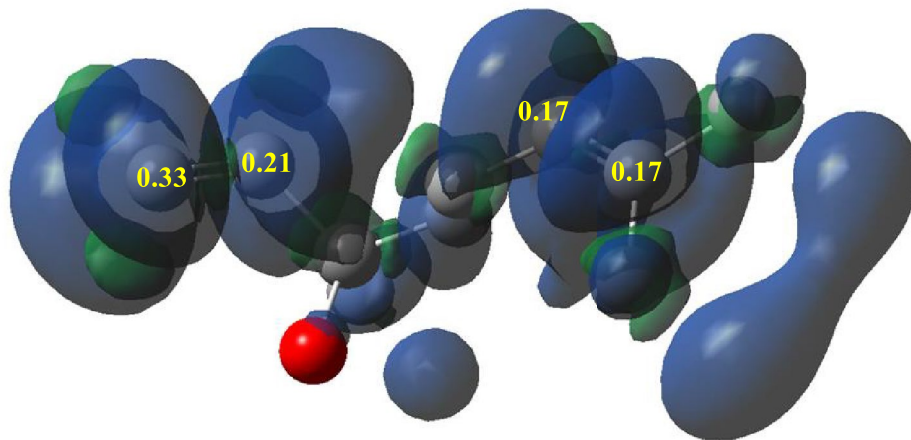
### Computation of the CDFT Indices for the Reagents

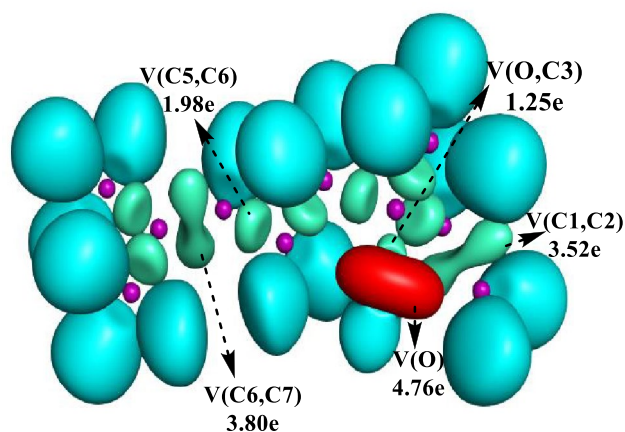
Evaluating the reactivity indices providing inside CDFT is an effective procedure for understanding the reactivity of organic compounds, as revealed by numerous studies on chemical reactions [26–31]. Electrophilicity, nucleophilicity, chemical hardness, and electronic chemical potential, which are the global indices listed in Table 1, are explored in order to predict the reactivity of Linolol (**LIL-1**) and nitriloxide (**NOX-2**) in the cycloaddition reaction.

Table 1 demonstrates that the electronic chemical potential of linalool (**LIL-1**) ( $\mu = -2.88$  eV) is minor, in absolute value, then that of nitriloxide (**NOX-2**) ( $\mu = -4.04$  eV), the global electron density transfer (GEDT) will proceed from **LIL 1** to **NOX-2**.

Linalool (**LIL-1**) electrophilicity and nucleophilicity indices are calculated as  $w = 0.65$  eV and  $N = 3.47$  eV,

**Fig. 4** B3LYP/6–311(d,p) Parr functions  $P_k^+$  of Linalool **1**

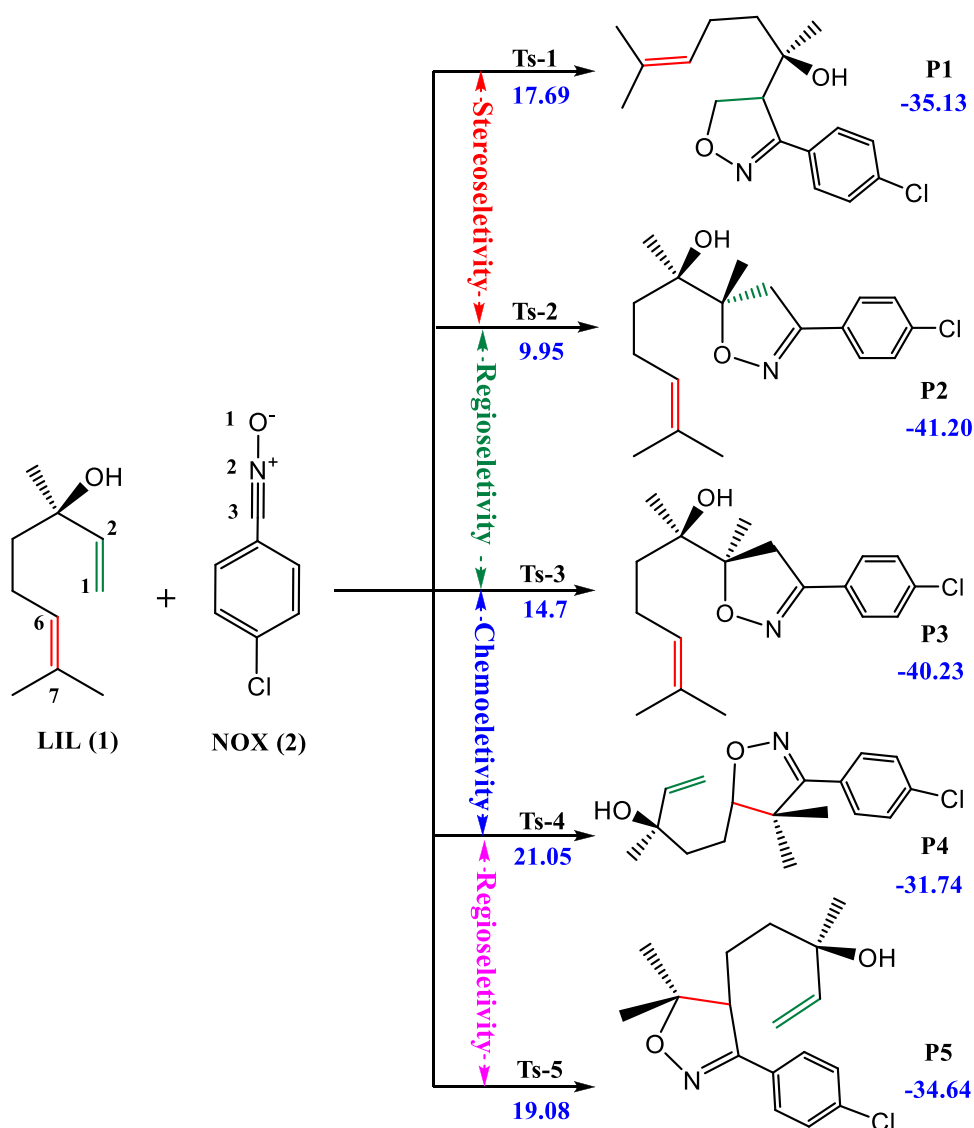




### Linalool

**Fig. 5** The ELF localization domains and valence basin populations

**Fig. 6** Possible reaction routes in the cycloaddition process between linalool (**LIL 1**) and Chlorobenzenitrileoxide (**NOX 2**) in ethanol



respectively. As a result, this substance can be categorized as being both a strong nucleophile and a moderate electrophile. Since **NOX-2** has an N nucleophilicity of 3.06 eV and an w electrophilicity of 1.68 eV, it is classifiable as a strong nucleophile and a strong electrophile. Clearly, **NOX-2** will involve in this reaction as an electrophile and **LIL-1** will engage in this reaction as a nucleophile.

Due to the similar properties of both reactants, we shall categorize them using transition state charge transfers, from **LIL-1** to **NOX-2** transition state charge transfer will take place, the fact that **LIL-1** will act as a nucleophile and **NOX-2** will behave as an electrophile.

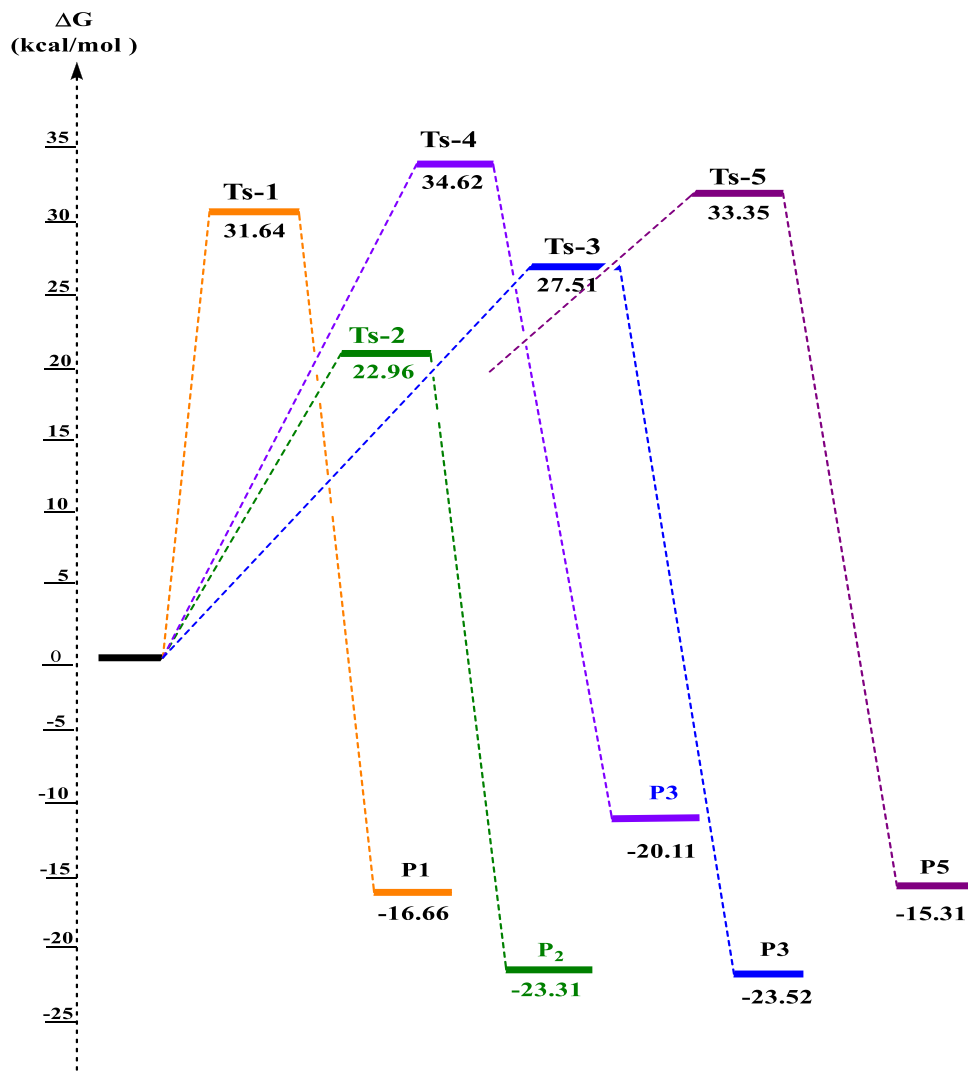
Because this 32CA reaction is non-polar, many studies show that the formation of the first bond in cycloaddition reactions takes place on the more electrophilic center of ethylene derivatives [26]. The electrophilic Parr functions of **LIL-1** have been represented in Fig. 4.

Figure 4 shows that the Mulliken atomic spin densities  $P^+$  of linalool are localized on the double bond  $C_1=C_2$  (0.33; 0.21); and almost less area around the double bond  $C_5=C_6$  (0.17;0.17). This result showed that the double bond  $C_1=C_2$  is the most reactive part of linalool, which confirms the full chemoselectivity observed in experiment.

## ELF Study of the Reagents

Electron location function (ELF) is important in chemistry because they determine the physical and chemical characteristics of atoms and molecules, such as their reactivity, polarity and molecular geometry. They are employed to explain the formation of chemical bonds, the reactivity of molecules and the interactions between molecules in chemical reactions, in order to identify the electrical structure of the reactants, (Linalool and Nitrile oxide); a topological ELF study of the two reactants was realized. The ELF localization domains and valence basin populations are arranged in Fig. 5.

**Fig. 7** Enthalpy profile, for the reaction pathways studied of the cycloaddition reactions between linalool (LIL 1) and Chlorobenzonitrileoxide (NOX 2) in ethanol



ELF examination of the linalool reveals the existence of two bisynaptic basins linked to the  $C_1-C_2$  and  $C_6-C_7$  atoms with a value of  $V(C_1, C_2)=3.53e$  and  $V(C_6,C_7)=3.80e$  respectively, two other bisynaptic basins of value  $V(O,C_3)=1.25e$  and  $V(C_5,C_6)=1.98e$ .

## Analysis of Energy

The two reactants are asymmetric and we have two double bond in linalool, so we will have eight cycloaddition reaction pathways, we will study five pathways, two pathways to prove the stereoselectivity and three others to explain the regio and chemoselectivity. Consequently we have located eight transition states named **Ts-1**, **Ts-2**, **Ts-3**, **Ts-4** and **Ts-5** the cyclic products corresponding to each transition state have been also characterized. The reactions activations relative energies are arranged in Fig. 6, Fig. 5 represents the profile of free energy and the different transition state geometries are given in Fig. 7,

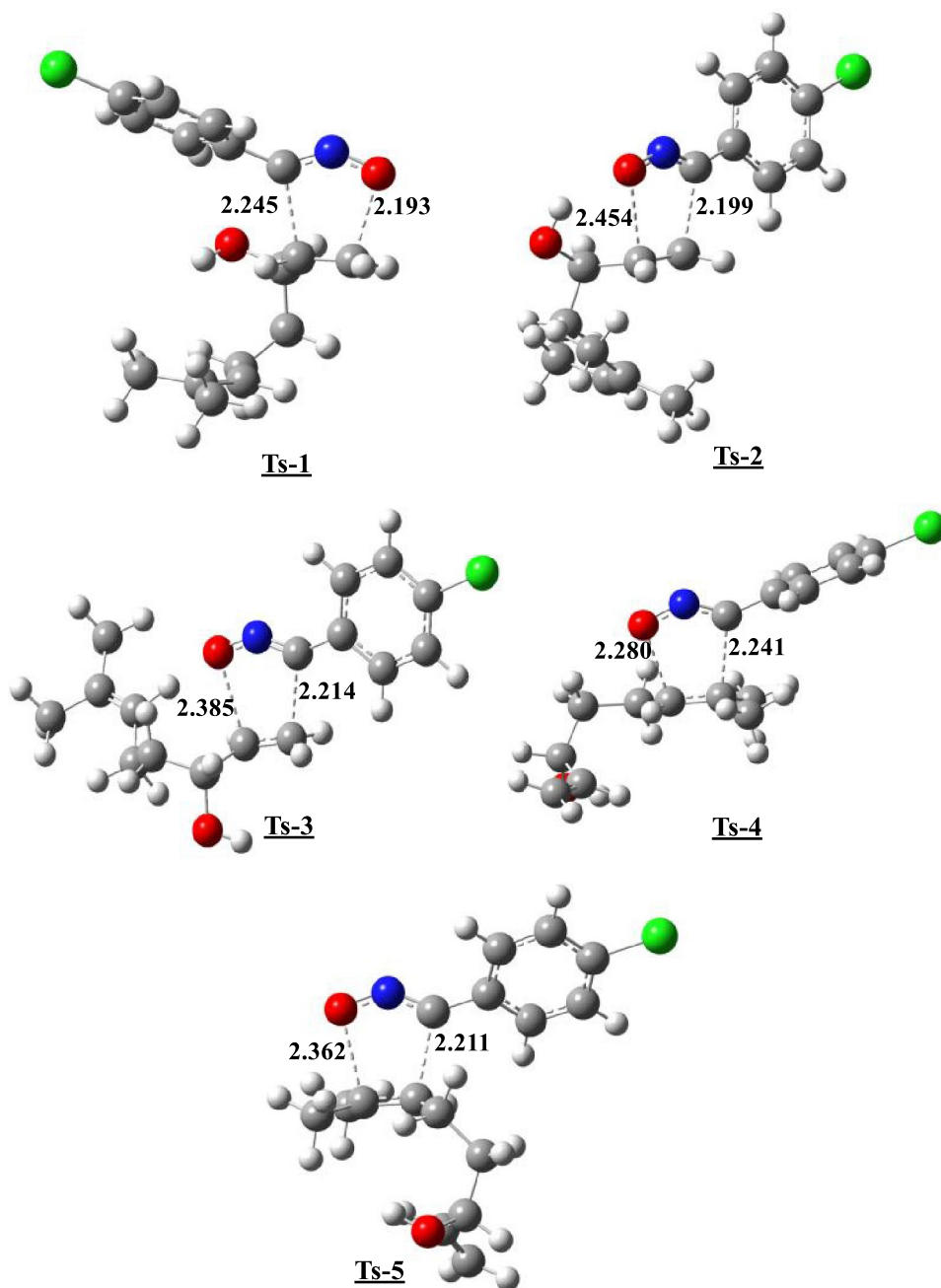
while the supplemental file contains the total calculation (Table S1).

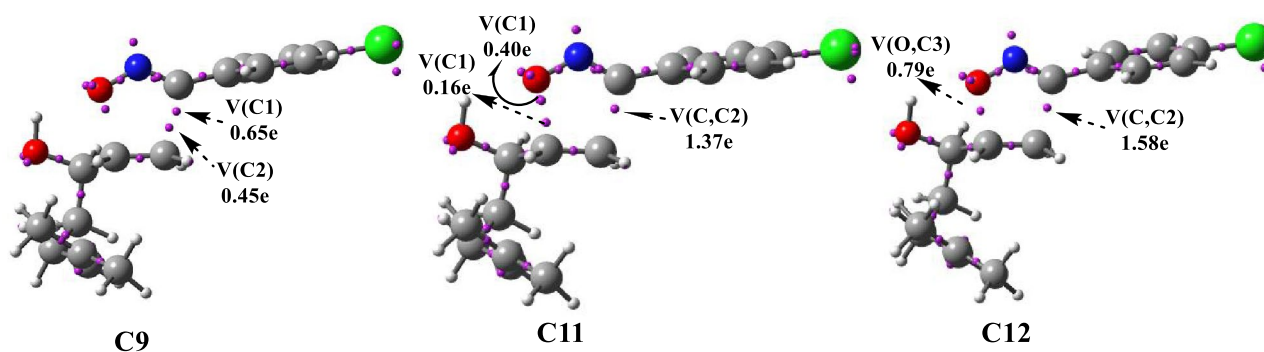
The transition states **Ts-1**, **Ts-2**, **Ts-3**, **Ts-4**, and **Ts-5** have respective values of 17.69 kcal/mol, 9.95 kcal/mol, 14.70 kcal/mol, 21.05 kcal/mol, and 19.08 kcal/mol, designating that **P1** product is kinetically more favorable. The exothermic characters of these products are: **P1** (35.13 kcal/mol), **P2** (41.20 kcal/mol), **P3** (40.23 kcal/mol), **P4** (31.74 kcal/mol), and **P5** (34.64 kcal/mol), It reveals that the item **P2** is thermodynamically favorable,

thus the product **P2** is gained under kinetic and thermodynamic control.

Entropy is negative to the bimolecular process, causes the free Gibbs relative energies to increase intensely when the term TS is taken into account in comparison to the relative enthalpies of 13–14 kcal/mol, Fig. 5 illustrates that the free activation energy of the 2 + 3 cycloaddition reaction paths between linalool (**LIL 1**) and Chlorobenzene nitrile oxide (**NOX 2**) in ethanol are: **Ts-1** (31.64 kcal/mol), **Ts-2** (22.96 kcal/mol) **Ts-3** (27.51 kcal/mol), **Ts-4** (34.62

**Fig. 8** The different transition state geometries that were localized in the cycloaddition reaction between linalool (**LIL 1**) and chlorobenzene nitrile oxide (**NOX 2**)





**Fig. 9** The locations of the corresponding ELF basin attractors

kcal/mol) and **Ts-5** (33.35 kcal/mol), which indicates that pathway 2 is more favorable, so **P2** is the favored product, consequently the 2 + 3 cycloaddition reaction between linalool (**LIL-1**) and Chlorobenzene nitrile oxide (**NOX-2**) is regioselective, in addition, the energetic difference between **Ts-2** and **Ts4** is very great (11.66 kcal/mol), difference between **Ts-2** and **Ts3** is (4.55 kcal/mol) indicates that the 2 + 3 cycloaddition reaction between linalool (**LIL-1**) and chlorobenzene nitrile oxide (**NOX-2**) is stereo- and chemo-selective, this outcome is consistent with the experiment.

Figure 8 illustrates the geometries of the transition states corresponding to the five chemical pathways.

The geometric parameters of the transition states shown in Fig. 5 allow for significant conclusions:

- (i) According to the bond lengths, evidently, the new single bonds are created in an asynchronous manner.
- (ii) The polar character of these cycloadditions reactions was evaluated by analyzing the values of the GEDT (Global Electron Density Transfer) at the corresponding TS at 0.03 TS-1, 0.04; at TS-2, 0.04; at TS-3, 0.04; at TS-4, and 0.03 at TS-5 these values clearly indicate that these cycloaddition reactions have a non-polar character.

## BET Study

Bond evolution theory is a theory in chemistry that describes how chemical bonds between atoms are evolving during a chemical reaction. This theory was developed to provide an explanation of how molecules are formed and change in chemical reactions. According to this theory, chemical bonds evolve from transition states that form during a chemical reaction. This theory is widely used to

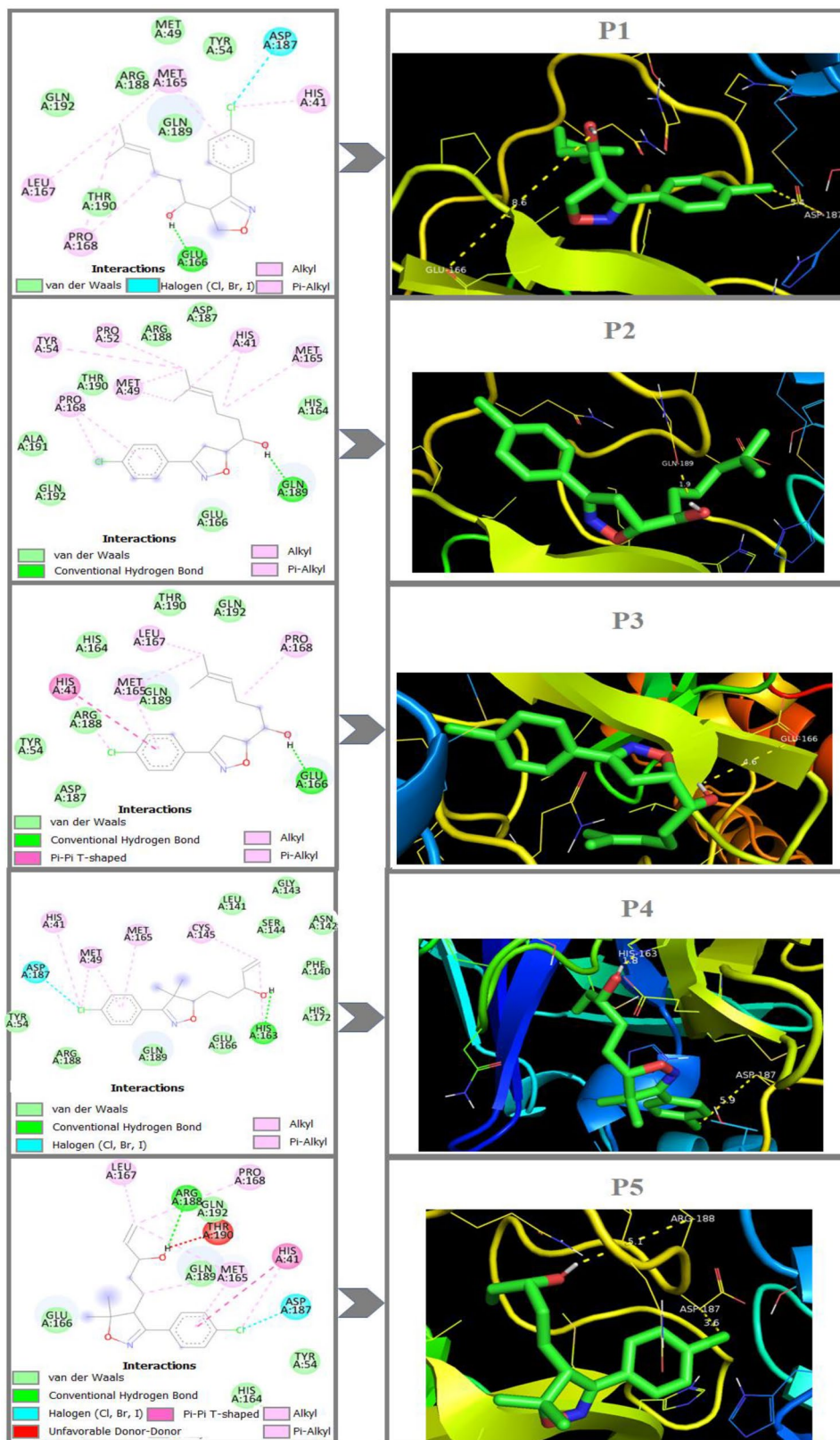
understand the mechanisms of chemical reactions; in part evolutions of new bonds have been controlled and followed using Topmod software. Figure 9 illustrates the locations of the associated ELF basin attractors, while Table S2 displays information on the populations of the most important ELF valence basins that were contributing to the formation of C–C and C–O single bonds in the selected structures.

The C1 structure contains two monosynaptic basins carried by oxygen O1 of nitrile oxide of total value  $V(O1)=5.65e$  and two bisynaptic basins located between C1–N and N1–O1 of values respectively  $V(C1-N)=5.93e$  and  $V(N-O1)=1.64e$ , another bisynaptic basins located between C2–C3 of value  $V(C1-N)=3.41e$ , which indicates this structure corresponding to the structures of the separate reactants, these two basins vary from structure C1 to structure C4, in structure C5 appearance of a monosynaptic basin carried by the carbon C1 of value  $V(C1)=0.05e$ , this value increases and becomes 0.43e in structure C7 in the same structure we observe the appearance of two other monosynaptic basins carried by the oxygen O1 of value  $V(O1)=0.11e$  and another carried by the carbon C2 of value  $V(C2)=0.26e$ , these values become  $V(C1)=0.65e$  and  $V(C2)=0.45e$  in the C9 structure, the two monosynaptic basins  $V(C1)$  and  $V(C2)$  are going to form the first C1–C2 bond at a distance of 2.002Å, at this distance we have the formation of 61% of the C1–C2 bond.

In the C10 structure, we have the appearance of a monosynaptic basin carried by the C3 carbon of value  $V(C3)=0.12e$ , this value becomes 0.16e in the C11 structure and the value of the basin  $V(O1)$  becomes 0.40e, the basins  $V(O1)$  and  $V(C3)$  are going to form the second single bond at a distance 1.753Å at this distance 39% of the O1–C3 bond has been formed. This ELF study clearly shows that the cycloaddition reaction between Linalool and Chlorobenzene-nitrile-oxide followed a two-step mechanism.



**Fig. 10** 3D and 2D interaction diagrams of P1-P5 compounds with SARS-CoV-2 receptor PDB ID:6LU7



**Table 2** The obtained docking parameters of the P1-P5 derivatives

Derivatives	Bonded residues	Bond Distances (Å)	Inhibition Constant ( $\mu\text{M}$ )	Intermolecular energy (kcal/mol)	Binding energy (kcal/mol)
P1	GLU166	8.6	4.26	-9.12	-7.33
	ASP187	5.4			
P2	GLN189	1.9	3.76	-9.19	-7.40
P3	GLU166	4.6	2.94	-9.34	-7.55
P4	HIS163	1.8	2.83	-9.36	-7.57
	ASP187	5.9			
P5	ARG188	5.1	1.81	-9.62	-7.83
	ASP187	3.6			

## Docking Survey

Coronavirus Disease-2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory disease caused by the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) which shares a close relation to RNA viruses [62–66]. Herein, theoretical approaches for the discovery of new antiviral drugs for COVID-19 were carried out using molecular docking studies with the SARS-CoV-2 main protease (PDB ID: 6LU7).

Molecular docking was performed to examine the antiviral properties of the title compound on the SARS-CoV-2 main protease protein. The P1-P5 ligands were converted to “PDB” using Gaussian 09 to study the protein–ligand interactions [47]. Autodock 4.2.6 program along with the graphical interface AutoDockTools (ADT) version 1.5.6 [67] has been used to analysis the binding modes of P1-P5 ligands with SARS-CoV-2 main protease (PDB code: 6LU7) which was collected from the RCSB Protein Data Bank (<http://www.rcsb.org>) to study the interactions of compounds with the active site of receptor. Before docking protocol, water molecules and the co-crystallized ligand were removed from the 6LU7 protein using Discovery Studio Software [68]. Polar hydrogen atoms were added to the crystal structures of the protein, followed by the addition of Kollman and Gasteiger charges atoms. Finally, pdbqt files of ligands and protein were generated. The grid box with radius of  $60 \times 60 \times 60 \text{ \AA}^3$  in x, y and z directions was generated and the dimensions of the active site coordinates are  $-10.729 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $12.418 \text{ \AA}$  and  $68.816 \text{ \AA}$  by the ligand location in the protein.

Molecular docking investigation of P1-P5 ligands was enhanced with bond lengths in Å units using the PyMol software [69]. Figure 10 depicts the 3D and 2D interaction diagrams between the target 6LU7 protein and the investigated P2-P5 ligands.

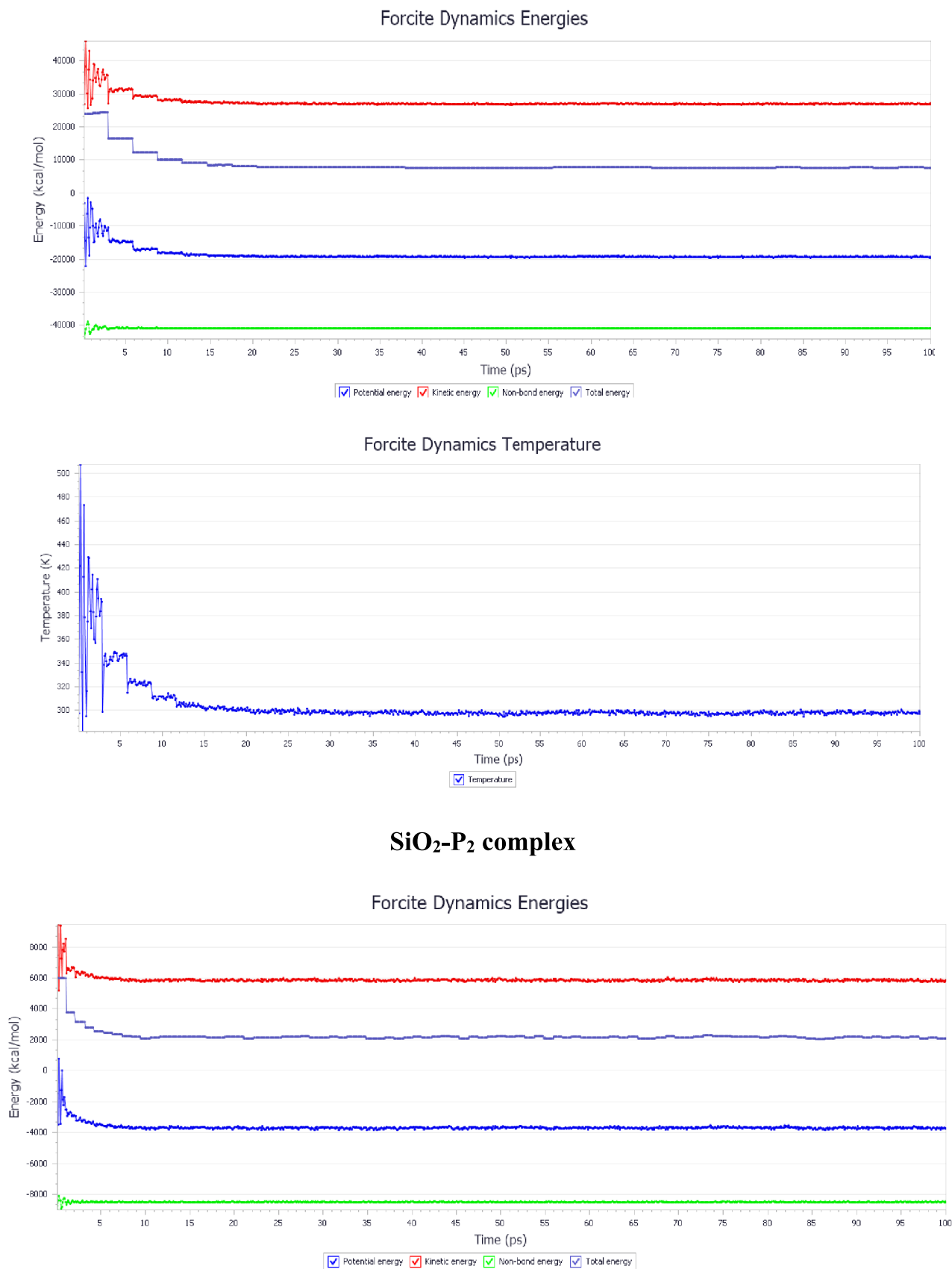
The Fig. 10 revealed that conventional hydrogen bonds formed between the H atom of the O–H group and GLU166, GLN189, GLU166, HIS163, and ARG188, respectively. The H atoms show the interactions with the GLU166, GLN189, GLU166, HIS163, and ARG188 with the distance of 8.6 Å, 1.9 Å, 4.6 Å, 1.8 Å, and 5.1 Å, respectively. From the 2D plot in Fig. 10, the P1, P4, P5 derivatives presented in blue color interact with ASP187 (5.4 Å, ASP187 (5.9 Å), ASP187 (3.6 Å) through the halogen (Cl, Br, I) bonds, respectively.

Details of the protein–ligand interaction patterns such as binding energy, inhibition constant and intermolecular energy of the P1-P5 derivatives with the 6LU7 targeted protein were depicted in Table 2. The binding energies with drug activeness against the targeted 6LU7 protein are found to be in the order of  $P5 > P4 > P3 > P2 > P1$ . The most active compound, P5, gave the highest binding energy ( $-7.83 \text{ kcal/mol}$ ), while the other compounds P1, P2, P3, and P4 created interaction energies of  $-7.33 \text{ kcal/mol}$ ,  $-7.40 \text{ kcal/mol}$ ,  $-7.55 \text{ kcal/mol}$ , and  $-7.57 \text{ kcal/mol}$ , respectively. The docking analysis of the P1-P5 derivatives with SARS-CoV-2 reveals that the compound P5 should show significant SARS-Cov-2 inhibitory activity.

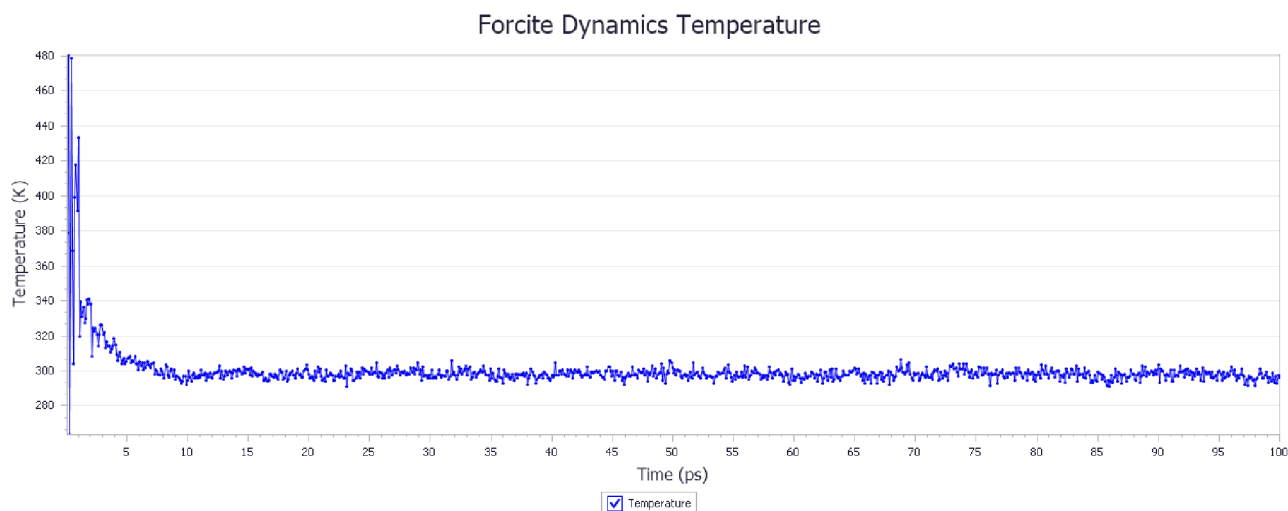
We have revealed that the reaction between LIL and OX is highly regio, stere and chemoselective, we also tested the products formed against coronavirus, in the next section we will examine the adsorption of the products P2 and P3 on a silica gel to understand why these two products are easy to separate by chromatography.

## Molecular Dynamic Simulation-Chromatography Study

Silica gel adsorption is a commonly employed process in chromatography to separate components of a mixture. Silica gel is a porous material, often in the form of small



**Fig. 11** The system's energy and temperature fluctuation curves for SiO<sub>2</sub>-P<sub>2</sub> and SiO<sub>2</sub>-P<sub>3</sub> during NVT dynamics run



### SiO<sub>2</sub>-P<sub>3</sub> complex

Fig. 11 (continued)

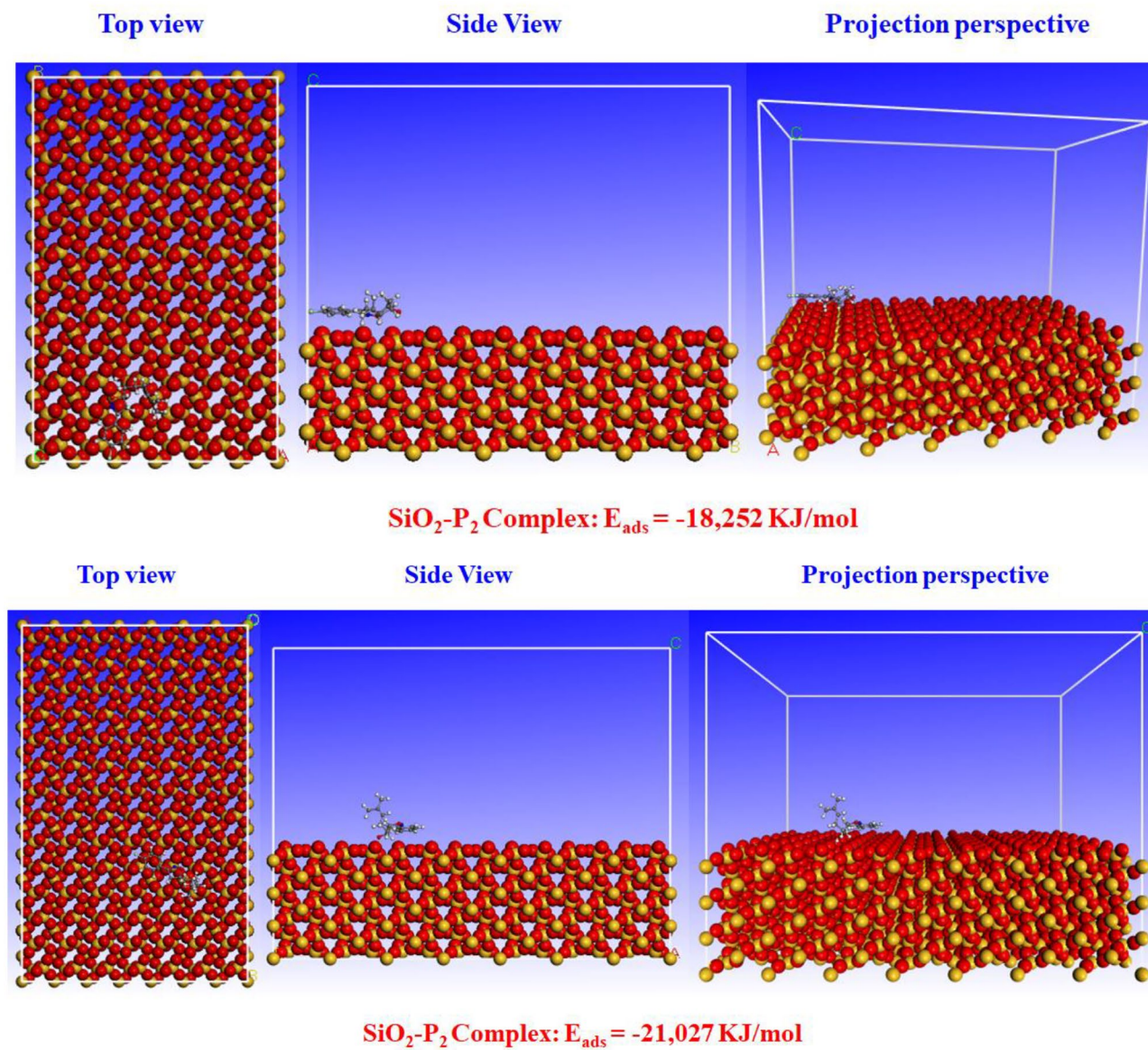
beads or powder, which has a large internal surface area. The components of a mixture can be separated using differences in their affinities for silica gel, which acts as the adsorbent in this case, in silica gel chromatography; the mixture to be separated is placed on the silica gel column. Molecular dynamic simulation MDs has developed as a cutting-edge approach for studying adsorbate–adsorbate interactions [70]. It also aids in visualizing the single (P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>3</sub>) molecules actual adsorption arrangement. The system's energy and temperature fluctuation curves provided evidence that the system had successfully attained equilibrium (Fig. 11).

It is evident that the P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> system's energy and temperature fluctuation curves converged to a persistent value with small oscillations at the end of the NVT MDs-runs; indicating that the both systems have reached the equilibrium condition. The most-stable adsorption configuration of two products P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> on the silicon dioxide surface (110) in the gas phase after NVT runs are illustrated in Fig. 12.

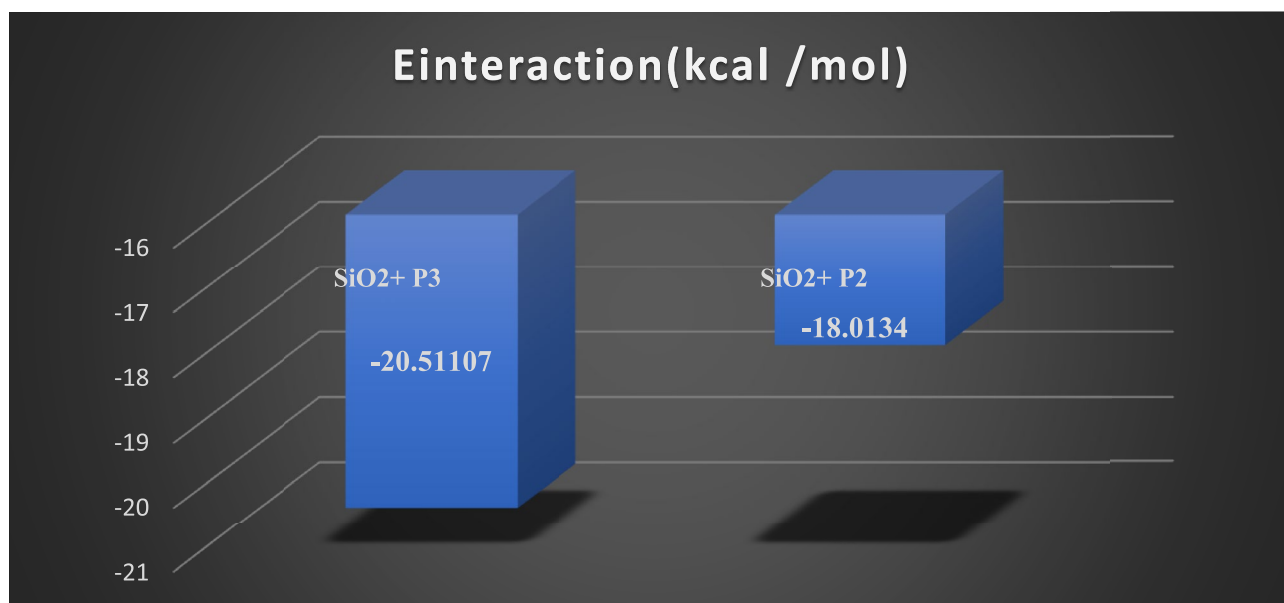
The Fig. 13 presented the resulting interaction ( $E_{\text{interaction}}$ ) owing to the interaction of each organic molecules P<sub>2</sub> & P<sub>3</sub> with the surface of (SiO<sub>2</sub>(110)) in the gas phase. According to Molecular dynamics computer simulations results, the two products P<sub>2</sub>&P<sub>3</sub> can interact with the (SiO<sub>2</sub>(110)) surface and subsequently adsorb on the (SiO<sub>2</sub>(110)) surface. The obtained interaction value of two products P<sub>2</sub> & P<sub>3</sub> suggests that P<sub>3</sub> interacts more than P<sub>2</sub>

(Fig. 11). The calculated binding or interaction energy follows the order P<sub>3</sub> > P<sub>2</sub> (Fig. 13).

Molecular dynamics computer simulations result revealed that the two products P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> are horizontally adsorbed on the (SiO<sub>2</sub>(110)) surface. The parallel adsorption of the of two products P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> is caused by the interaction of the heteroatoms present in the of two molecules P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> with surface (SiO<sub>2</sub>(110)). The horizontal fashion of adsorption of the two products P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> covers a greater surface area. Again, the adsorption configuration of two products P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> revealed that the both molecules are horizontally disposed over the surface (SiO<sub>2</sub>(110)). The horizontal adsorption orientation becomes feasible by the interaction of (SiO<sub>2</sub>(110)) surface and heteroatoms present in the P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> skeleton. Increased surface coverage on the (SiO<sub>2</sub>(110)) surface occurs from of two products P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> horizontal mode of adsorption. In comparison to of two products P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> adsorption becomes more feasible for P<sub>3</sub>. Now from the molecular point of view, P<sub>3</sub> possesses one vacant site and by using that vacant cite of two products P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> may adsorb on the silicon dioxide substrate. The study of adsorption by MDs reveals that the –OH group creates an intramolecular hydrogen bond in the product P<sub>2</sub>, while in the product P<sub>3</sub> will create a hydrogen –H bond with silica gel, which makes both the products P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> very easy to separate by chromatography. Both  $E_{\text{interaction}}$  values determined from MDs are well corroborated with the experimental findings.



**Fig.12** The configuration of P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> on SiO<sub>2</sub>(110) surface in horizontal configuration calculated by MDs. SiO<sub>2</sub>-P<sub>2</sub> Complex:  $E_{\text{ads}} = -18,252$  kJ/mol



**Fig.13** The resulting interaction value of two products P<sub>2</sub> & P<sub>3</sub> on SiO<sub>2</sub>(110) surface in horizontal configuration

## Conclusion

The B3LYP/6–311(d,p) on density functional theory was used to analyze the cycloaddition reaction [3 + 2] between linallol and chlorobenzene-nitrile-oxide. The analysis of reactivity indices, reaction energy, and activation shows that the cycloaddition reaction follows five distinct paths. An exploration of conceptual DFT indices indicates that Linallol (LIL 1) will engage in this reaction as a nucleophile, whereas chlorobenzene-nitrile-oxide (NOX 2) will contribute so as an electrophile. The reaction and activation energies clearly show that this cyclization is regio- chemo and stereospecific, which is in perfect agreement with the outcomes of the experiment. The BET analysis reveals clearly that this reaction follows a two-step reaction mechanism. In addition adsorption study by MDs reveals that the –OH group creates an intramolecular hydrogen bond in the product P<sub>2</sub>, while in the product P<sub>3</sub> will create a hydrogen –H bond with silica gel, which makes both the products P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> very easy to separate by chromatography. The inquiry into Mpro-COVID-19 suppression by pyrazoline compounds has produced promising findings. For the fight against the COVID-19 virus, it would be worthwhile to do more precise studies on this family of products.

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## Declarations

**Ethics Approval** The manuscript is prepared in compliance with the Ethics in Publishing Policy as described in the Guide for Authors.

**Conflicts of Interest** The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest and no competing interests exist.

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