

Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S0167-7322(16)30891-1
DOI: doi: [10.1016/j.molliq.2016.06.011](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.molliq.2016.06.011)
Reference: MOLLIQ 5918

To appear in: *Journal of Molecular Liquids*

Received date: 12 April 2016
Accepted date: 5 June 2016



Please cite this article as: Nuha A. Wazzan, I.B. Obot, Savaş Kaya, Theoretical modeling and molecular level insights into the corrosion inhibition activity of 2-amino-1,3,4-thiadiazole and its 5-alkyl derivatives, *Journal of Molecular Liquids* (2016), doi: [10.1016/j.molliq.2016.06.011](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.molliq.2016.06.011)

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Theoretical modeling and molecular level insights into the corrosion inhibition activity of 2-amino-1,3,4-thiadiazole and its 5-alkyl derivativesNuha A. Wazzan¹, I. B. Obot^{2*}, Savaş Kaya³¹King Abdulaziz University, College of Science, Chemistry Department, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.²Centre of Research Excellence in Corrosion, Research Institute, King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals, Dhahran 31261, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia³Cumhuriyet University, Faculty of Science, Department of Chemistry, Sivas, 58140, Turkey**Abstract**

Density functional theory (DFT) with two functionals, namely B3LYP and CAM-B3LYP with the 6-311++G(d,p) basis set were performed on six 2-amino-5-alkyl-1,3,4-thiadiazole derivatives (IC-2 to IC-13) used as corrosion inhibitors for steel in 1.0 M H₂SO₄ solution, along with the calculations on the parent compound 2-amino-1,3,4-thiadiazole (IC). The computations were carried out in non-protonated and protonated forms. The results obtained found a relationship between the molecular structures of the studied ICs inhibitors and their experimental inhibition efficiencies. The order of the experimental inhibition efficiencies was matched with the order of a good number of the calculated global and local reactivity descriptors but with varying degrees of correlation. Supported by the Mulliken population analysis and natural population analysis, molecular electrostatic potential plots, and natural bond orbital analysis, the active sites in the inhibitors responsible for their adsorption on steel surface have been predicted. Molecular dynamic simulations were further carried out on the protonated forms of IC-2 to IC-13 with Fe (110) surface. Results obtained were in reasonable agreement with experimental data.

Keywords: 2-amino-5-alkyl-1,3,4-thiadiazole; corrosion inhibitors; DFT calculations; NBO analysis; Molecular dynamic simulation

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