Synthesis, Morphology, Spectral Characterization and Thermal Behaviors of Transition Metal Complexes Containing Oxime-Imine Group

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Abstract

A new oxime-containing Schiff base ligand and its Cu(II), Ni(II), Zn(II) complexes have been synthesized. The structure of the ligand was identified by elemental analysis, UV-vis, FT-IR, \textsuperscript{1}H NMR and \textsuperscript{13}C NMR spectra. The synthesized complexes were characterized by FT-IR, SEM, TGA, elemental analysis, electronic spectra and magnetic susceptibility measurements. The Zinc(II) complex was also characterized by \textsuperscript{1}H NMR spectra. Elemental analysis data of the metal complexes indicated that the metal: ligand ratio of the metal complex is 1:1. The magnetic susceptibility measurements and spectral data showed square-planar geometry for Cu(II) complex and tetrahedral geometry for Ni(II) complex.

Keywords: Oximes, Imines, Transition metal complexes, Thermal analysis, NMR chemical shifts

Öz

Yeni bir oksim içeren Schiff bazı bazıı ligandi ve onun Cu(II), Ni(II), Zn(II) kompleksleri sentezlendi. Ligandin yapısı element analizi, UV-vis, FT-IR, \textsuperscript{1}H NMR ve \textsuperscript{13}C NMR spektrumları ile belirlendi. Sentezlenen kompleksler FT-IR, SEM, TGA, elemental analiz, elektronik spektrum ve manyetik duyarlılık ölçümleri ile karakterize edildi. Ayrıca çinko(II) kompleksi \textsuperscript{1}H NMR spektrumu ile karakterize edildi. Metal komplekslerinin elementel analiz verileri, metal kompleksinin metal: ligand oranının 1:1 olduğunu gösterdi. Manyetik süsseptibilite ölçümleri ve spektral verileri Cu (II) kompleksi için kare düzlem geometri ve Ni (II) kompleksi için tetrahedral geometri gösterdi.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Oksimler, İminler, Geçiş metal kompleksleri, Termal analiz, NMR kimyasal kaymaları

1. Introduction

Oximes and Schiff bases belong to a significant group of compounds. They are one of the most broadly used ligands because of the ease of formation and notable versatility and therefore they have played a substantial part in the improvement of inorganic compounds that composed steady complexes with 3d metals (Chakravorty, 1974; Dede et al., 2007; Tolga Çolak et al., 2009; Uçan and Mercimek, 2005). Diverse 3d complexes of the oxime-imine compound synthesized from the class of heterocyclic substances containing N and O has attracted much attention due to the simplistic structure. (Singh et al., 2007; Tadavi et al., 2018). 3d metal complexes of oximes-imines are reported to have a number of useful implementations in the analytical, clinical, biological and industrial fields (Radha et al., 2018; Al-Wabli et al., 2018; Dede et al.,
2018). However, this work describes the synthesis, characterization of nickel (II), zinc (II) and copper (II) complex obtained from the reaction of isonitroso-2-acetyl naphthalene and 1,4-phenylenediamine (Scheme 1). The synthesized compounds were identified by elemental analysis, melting point, FT-IR, magnetic susceptibility, UV-Vis, SEM, thermal analysis, $^1$H NMR and $^{13}$C NMR.

![Scheme 1. Preparation of 1,4-phenyl imino-bis(isonitroso-2-acetylnaphthalene) (Ligand).](image)

### 2. Material and Methods

#### 2.1. Materials and Physical measurements

All chemicals and solvents utilized in the present work were of pure quality and were purchased from Sigma Aldrich. Isonitroso-2-acetylnaphthalene was synthesized according to our previous method (Yıldırım et al., 2003). Elemental analysis was conducted using a Carlo Erba 1106 instrument. Magnetic moment of three complexes was described to calibrate with CuSO$_4$ by using Gouy balance at ambient temperature. A Varian T 200-A spectrometer was utilized to detect the NMR spectra in DMSO-$d_6$ at ambient temperature. FT-IR spectra were enrolled with Pye Unicam instrument SP 1025 by forming potassium bromide pellet. UV-Vis. absorption spectra were measured using SHIMADZU 160 spectrophotometer in the range of 200-600 nm. The thermal analysis (DTA and TGA) were carried out by using a Shimadzu (TG-50 H model) thermal analyzer was started at room temperature to 900°C at a heating rate of 10°C/min. The SEM images of the complexes were analyzed by using ZEISS EVO 40.

#### 2.2. Synthesis of Ligand

Isonitroso-2-acetylnaphthalene (3.900 g, 20 mmol) in methanol (30 mL) was stirred with a 1, 4-phenylene diamine (1 g, 10 mmol) in methanol (20 mL) for 5 h at 28 ºC. The orange colored solid obtained was filtered and then was washed with ethanol. The solid was recrystallized from dichloromethane and dried at 40 ºC over anhydrous calcium chloride in a vacuum. The purity of the product was controlled by TLC. Yield 82%, mp:159–161°C. IR (KBr) spectrum, v/cm$^{-1}$: 3260w (OH), 3090w (C–H arom), 1645s (C=N$_{\text{imine}}$), 1620s (C=N$_{\text{oxime}}$), 980w (N–O$_{\text{oxime}}$). $^1$H NMR spectrum (DMSO-$d_6$), δ: 9.15 (s, 2H, NOH$_{\text{oxime}}$ group), 8.80 (s, 2H, HC=N$_{\text{oxime}}$), 8.50–7.75 (m, 18H, C–H$_{\text{arom}}$). Elemental anal. (%) calcd. For C$_{30}$H$_{22}$N$_4$O$_2$: C 76.58; Н 4.71; N 11.91; Found: C 76.44, H 4.55, N 11.71.

#### 2.3. Synthesis of Complexes

1 mmol of the metal acetate solution [0.248 g Ni(CH$_3$COO)$_2$·4H$_2$O, 0.199g Cu(CH$_3$COO)$_2$·H$_2$O and 0.219 g Zn(CH$_3$COO)$_2$·2H$_2$O] in 20.0 mL of EtOH was incorporated to 1 mmol (0.470g) of the
Schiff base solution in 40 mL of EtOH. The reaction was stirred under reflux for 3h at 65 °C. The product was filtered, washed with EtOH and then was dried at 40 °C over anhydrous calcium chloride in a vacuum. Nickel(II) Complex was obtained as a green powder (Scheme 2). Yield 74%, m.p. 208–210 °C. IR (KBr) spectrum, v/cm⁻¹: 3050w (C–H arom), 1620s (C=N) imine, 1595s (C=N)oxime, 975m (N–O)oxime, 470w (M–N), 420w (M–O). Elemental anal. (%) calcd. For C₃₀H₂₀N₄NiO₂: С 68.35, Н 3.82, N 10.63; Found: С 68.23, Н 3.58, N 10.38.

Copper(II) complex was obtained as a dark-green powder. Yield 77%, m.p. 147–148°C. IR (KBr) spectrum, ν/cm⁻¹: 3045w (C–H arom), 1625s (C=N) imine, 1600s (C=N)oxime, 985s (N–O)oxime, 510w (M–N), 460w (M–O). ¹H NMR spectrum, δ, ppm: 8.70 s (2Н, H(C=N) oxime), 8.20–7.55 m (18Н, C–H arom).

Zinc(II) complex was obtained as a light-yellow powder. Yield 72%, m.p. 175–177°C. IR (KBr) spectrum, ν/cm⁻¹: 3055w (C–H arom), 1615s (C=N)imine, 1590s (C=N)oxime, 985s (N–O)oxime, 510w (M–N), 460w (M–O).

Scheme 2. Synthesis of metal(II) complexes

3. Results and Discussion

The Schiff base ligand is soluble in ethanol, methanol, dichloromethane and diethyl ether. The metal complexes are soluble in dimethylformamide and dimethylsulfoxide and are insoluble in ethanol, acetone and chloroform. The elemental analysis values of the Schiff base ligand and complexes are compatible with those computed from the empirical formulas for every compound.

3.1. FT-IR spectra

The FT-IR spectrum of the Schiff base ligand displayed peaks in the 3260, 990 and 3090 cm⁻¹ regions due to the constitution of (O–H)oxime, (N–O)oxime and C–H arom bonds. The bands in the 1645-1620 cm⁻¹ region are attributed to the (C=N)imine and (C=NO)oxime stretching frequencies. The spectrum of complexes showed characteristic (–C=N) imine stretching vibrations at 1625–1615 cm⁻¹ and (–C=N) oxime stretching vibrations at 1600-1590 cm⁻¹. These frequencies showed that the imine and oxime bands were shifted to lower values by 20-30 cm⁻¹. This important shift demonstrates a strong attachment of the metal centers to the imine-oxime chelating moieties. (Achiwawanich et al., 2014; Gondia and Sharma, 2018). The spectrum of the Ni(II), Cu(II), and Zn(II) complexes showed a new band at 510-470 cm⁻¹ of the (M–O) bond resulting from the interaction between the oxime oxygen and the metal ions. The FTIR spectra of the metal and the imine nitrogen in the metal(II) complexes were supported by the appearance of new bands at 460-420 cm⁻¹ which were
assigned to (M–N). (El-Sherif and Eldebss, 2011; Al-Ne’aimi and Al-Khuder, 2013).

3.2. UV-Vis spectra and magnetic susceptibility

The UV-Vis spectra of the oxime-imine compounds were measured in 10⁻³ M DMF solution at ambient temperature. The oxime-imine exhibited two absorption peaks around 265 and 340 nm. These peaks are ascribed to π → π* transitions, firstly being because of the aromatic ring and the secondly the imino group. The spectrum of the Cu(II) complex demonstrated a wide absorption band at 419 nm (ε=648 mol⁻¹ L cm⁻¹) and 709 nm (ε=406 mol⁻¹ L cm⁻¹) attributed to 2B₁g → 2E₈ and 2B₁g → 2A₁₈ transition of a square-planar structure (El-Sherif and Eldebss, 2011; Vamsi krishna et al., 2016). The electronic spectrum of the Ni(II) complex indicated an absorption peak at 467 nm (ε=968 mol⁻¹ L cm⁻¹) corresponds to the 3T₁(F) → 3T₁(P) transition of a tetrahedral structure (Ali et al., 2015). The electronic spectrum of the Zn(II) complex showed an absorption peak at 423 nm (ε=1367 mol⁻¹ L cm⁻¹) assignable the L→M transition, which is harmonious by the complex having a tetrahedral geometry. (Gondia and Sharma, 2018). The magnetic moment value for copper chelate is 1.84 B.M., which shows a square-planar structure surround the copper ion. The value of nickel complex is 3.05 B.M. respectively, which demonstrate a tetrahedral structure surround the nickel(II) ion. The complex of zinc is diamagnetic as estimated for the d⁰ metal ion at a tetrahedral structure (Al-Ne’aimi and Al-Khuder, 2013).

3.3. ¹H NMR spectra

The ¹H NMR spectrum is used to determine the structure of the synthesized ligand and its diamagnetic metal complexes. The ¹H NMR spectrum of the Schiff base ligand and its diamagnetic zinc(II) complex are presented in Figure 1. The ¹H NMR spectrum of the ligand demonstrated a single peak at 9.15 ppm for the proton of the oxime group (=N-OH). The signal that appeared at 9.15 ppm in the ligand has disappeared in the Zinc(II) complex, which confirms that the oxime group oxygen is involved in coordination with the metal. The ¹H NMR spectrum of the ligand shows the oxime proton (HC=N) resonance at 8.80 ppm, which shifts to 8.65 ppm in its zinc(II) complex, suggesting coordination by imine nitrogen and the oxime group oxygen. Further, the signals of the aromatic protons appeared the range of 8.50-7.75 ppm. These data are in good agreement with those previously reported for similar compounds. Since Ni(II) and Cu(II) complexes are paramagnetic; the ¹H NMR spectra of the complexes could not be obtained. (Iftikhar et al., 2018; Ebrahimi et al., 2014).

3.4. ¹³C NMR spectra

The ¹³C NMR spectrum of the Schiff base ligand is given in Figure 2. In the ¹³C NMR spectrum of the ligand, the signals at 189.47 and 170.89 ppm are attributed to the carbon atoms of the imine group, and the carbon atoms of the oxime group. All the signals in the 148.80-126.20 ppm range are assigned to
the carbon atoms of the aromatic rings. The $^{13}$C NMR spectrums confirms the proposed structure of the Schiff base ligand (Ucan and Mercimek, 2005).

**Figure 2.** $^{13}$C NMR spectrum of ligand

### 3.5. Thermal Analysis

Thermogravimetric analysis of the complexes was studied starting from room temperature to 900°C at a heating rate of 10 °C/min under N$_2$ atmosphere (Figure 3). The weight loss was calculated at different temperatures and the range of the decomposition stages is given in Table 1. The TGA curve of the nickel(II) complex showed two steps of decomposition. The first stage in the temperature range from 30-500 °C corresponds to the loss of C$_{13}$H$_{13}$N$_2$ with approximated weight loss of 37.70 %. The second stage was monitored in the range 500–900 °C with a mass loss of 48.11 %, which was assigned to the partial decomposition of C$_{17}$H$_{10}$N$_2$O. Finally, the residual mass 14.19 % corresponds well with its being NiO (Barfeie et al., 2018). Cu(II) complex decomposed in two essential step. The first stage was observed in the range 30–400 °C with a mass loss of 36.59 %, which is assigned to the partial decomposition of the C$_{13}$H$_{10}$N$_2$. The second decomposition step which commences at 400°C and terminates at 900°C, demonstrates a large mass loss of 48.46% assigned to the decomposition of C$_{17}$H$_{10}$N$_2$O. The final residual product of the Cu(II) complex is CuO (Chetana et al., 2016). The Thermogram of Zn (II) complex showed two decomposition stages. The first decomposition step of the zinc(II) complex occurs at the 30-550 °C range. This step showed a weight loss of 48.84 % which corresponds to the loss of C$_{17}$H$_{12}$N$_2$O. The second stage was observed in the range of 550-650 °C, with a mass loss of 35.88 %, which is due to the removal of C$_{13}$H$_{8}$N$_2$. The final thermal product at 900 °C was zinc oxide (Rudbari et al., 2016; Ucan, 2019).

**Figure 3.** TGA and DTA curves of metal complexes
Table 1. Thermal degradation of the metal complexes

| Compounds             | M_r  | T (°C)   | Weight loss % Found(Calcd.) | Assignment | Metallic residue % Found(Calcd.) |
|-----------------------|------|----------|----------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|
| C₃₀H₂₀N₄NiO₂         | 527.20 | 30-500   | 37.70 (37.42)               | C₁₃H₁₃N₂   | NiO                             |
|                       |      | 500-900  | 48.11 (48.42)               | C₁₃H₁₃N₂O  |                                 |
| C₃₀H₂₀N₄CuO₂         | 532.06 | 30-400   | 36.59 (36.51)               | C₁₃H₁₀N₂   | CuO                             |
|                       |      | 400-900  | 48.46 (48.54)               | C₁₃H₁₀N₂O  |                                 |
| C₃₀H₂₀N₄ZnO₂         | 533.90 | 30-500   | 48.84 (48.75)               | C₁₃H₁₁N₂O  | ZnO                             |
|                       |      | 500-900  | 35.88 (36.00)               | C₁₃H₁₁N₂   |                                 |

3.6 SEM analysis

SEM technique has been tapped to determine the morphology of the metal compounds. The SEM images of the complexes revealed distinct images as is shown in Figure 4. The Nickel (II) complex showed an ice grains structure while and Copper(II) complexes gave regular size ice piece shaped structures. The SEM image of the Zinc(II) complex has looked like a crushed ice pieces. These complexes had typical different surface images (Barfeie et al., 2018; Kumar and Nath, 2019).

4. Conclusion

In summary, The results presented here gave good yields of the synthesised compounds. Analytical and spectral data of Cu(II) complex have put forward a square-planar structure surrounding the central metal ion. The Ni(II) and Zn(II) complexes have tetrahedral structure, respectively. The essential infrared spectral peaks of the complexes were compared with those of the oxime-imine. The weight losses for each complex were determined at certain temperatures as it is shown in TGA and DTG plots.

Figure 4. SEM morphologies of (a); Nickel(II), (b); Copper(II) and (c); Zinc(II) complexes
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