SPECTRAL, MAGNETIC AND BIOLOGICAL STUDIES ON SOME BIVALENT 3d METAL COMPLEXES OF HYDRAZINE DERIVED SCHIFF-BASE LIGANDS

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ABSTRACT

Metal(II) complexes of hydrazine derived Schiff-base ligands of the type M(L)2Cl2 where M = Co, Cu, Ni and Zn and L = L1 and L2 have been prepared and characterised by molar conductance, magnetic moment, elemental analysis and electronic, IR, H-NMR and 13C spectral data. The different modes of chelation of the ligands and their comparative biological properties against different bacterial species are reported.

INTRODUCTION

In view of the promising role of Schiff-bases as ligands in metal coordination chemistry, we have commenced a research program to study the ligational and biological behaviour of different Schiff-base ligands. The present work, with the same idea has been undertaken and extended to the hitherto less investigated Schiff-base ligands derived from hydrazines and their complexes with 3d metal ions. These studies might permit us to report a variety in coordination behaviour of hydrazines.

Many reports on coordination properties of acyl and aryl hydrazines have appeared. We have already reported pyrrolyl, thienyl and furanyl derived hydrazines and their 3d metal complexes and in continuation to the same, now, wish to report the synthesis, structural studies and biological behaviour of 3d metal ions such as Co, Cu, Ni & Zn on the title ligands L1 and L2.

Fig. 1: Structure of the Ligands (L1 : R = Ph, L2 : R = H)

EXPERIMENTAL

Material and Methods

All the chemicals used were of Analar Grade. Metal ions were used as their chloride salts. Conductance and magnetic measurements were made on a YSI model-32 conductivity bridge and Gouy balance, respectively. IR spectra were recorded on a R10 Hitachi spectrophotometer. H-NMR spectra of the ligands in DMSO-d6 were obtained on R10 Perkin-Elmer spectrometer. 13C NMR spectra of the ligands were obtained on a Brucker 250 MHz instrument. Electronic spectra were studied on a Hitachi double-beam U-2000 model spectrophotometer using glass cells of 1 cm thickness. Elemental analysis of C, H & N were determined on a Coleman automatic analyser. All melting points were taken on a Gallenkamp melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. All the complexes were analysed for their metal contents employing standard literature procedures after decomposing the organic matter at first with a mixture of conc HNO3 and HCl and then with conc H2SO4. Chloride was estimated as AgCl and nitrogen as microanalytically.

Anti-bacterial studies were carried out with the help of the Microbiology Laboratory, Department of Microbiology, Qaide Azam Medical College, Bahawalpur. These studies were done on wild pathogenic bacterial species collected from urine and blood samples of infected patients admitted in Bahawal Victoria Hospital, Bahawalpur.

Preparation of the Ligands

N-3-(Indolylmethylene) phenyl hydrazine (L1).

Indole-3-carboxaldehyde (0.4 g, 0.01 mol) in ethanol (15 mL) was added to an ethanolic solution (20 mL) of phenyl hydrazine (0.7 g, 0.01 mol). Then 2-3 drops of conc. H2SO4 were added and mixture refluxed for 1h. The reactant mixture on cooling gave a yellow solid product which was filtered, washed with ether and dried. It was crystallised in hot aqueous ethanol to give L1 (72%). The same method was adopted using the same molar ratio of respective reagents for the preparation of L2 (75%).

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Preparation of the Metal Complexes

To a hot ethanol solution (20 mL) of the ligand (0.02 mol) was added an aqueous solution (15 mL) of the respective metal(II) chloride (0.01 mol). The mixture was refluxed for 1 h. The resulting mixture was cooled, filtered and reduced to nearly half its volume. It was then left overnight at room temperature which resulted in the formation of solid product. The product thus obtained was filtered, washed with ethanol (2 x 10 mL), then with ether (10 mL) and dried. Crystallisation in hot aqueous ethanol (50 %) gave 1 (55%), 2 (57%), 3 (52%), 4 (55%), 5 (50%), 6 (58%), 7 (50%) and 8 (48%).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Schiff-base ligands were prepared by the same method reported earlier. The structural determination of these ligands was done with the help of their spectral and analytical data.

Table 1 Physical, Analytical and Spectral Data of the Ligands

| Ligand/ Mol.Furm. | IR(cm⁻¹) | ¹H-NMR(ppm) | ¹³C-NMR(ppm) | Cal(Found)% |
|------------------|----------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
|                  |          |             |              | C H N       |
| L₁ C₁5H₁₃N₃      | 177      | 3215,3190,  | 108.51(C₉),112.29 | 76.61 5.52 17.86 |
|                  |          | 3100,2920,  | (C₉)111.57(o-Ph), |           |
|                  |          | 2775,2516,  | 120.61(p-Ph),121.66 |           |
|                  |          | 2020,1625,  | 124.75(C₇),128.07 |           |
|                  |          | 1545,1460,  | 129.57(m-Ph),    |           |
|                  |          | 1345,1211,  | 152.42(ipso),156.22 |           |
|                  |          | 1135,950    | (C₉),158.10(C₉), |           |
|                  |          |             | 165.7(azomethine) |           |
| L₂ C₉H₆N₃       | 158      | 3215,3190,  | 108.48(C₈),112.16 | 68.37 5.06 26.56 |
|                  |          | 3100,2925,  | (C₈)121.67(C₈), |           |
|                  |          | 1505,1625,  | 123.47(C₉),124.77 |           |
|                  |          | 1545,1135,  | (m,2H,aromatic),|           |
|                  |          | 955         | (m,2H,aromatic),|           |
|                  |          |             | 117.45-7.729    |           |
|                  |          |             | 7.45-7.71       |           |
|                  |          |             | 8.85(s,2H,NH₃)|           |

The IR spectra of the free ligands (Table 1) show some characteristic bands at 3215, 3100, 1625, 1545 and 950-955 cm⁻¹ assigned respectively to (-NH₂), (-NH), (-C = N), (-C = C) and (-N - N) frequencies. All ligands showed the absence of a strong band at 1740 cm⁻¹ due to carbonyl (-CO) stretching and similarly, the appearance of a new band at 1625 cm⁻¹ due to azomethine (-C = N) linkage provided a strong evidence for the formation of ligands L₁ and L₂. Also ¹H-NMR and ¹³C spectral data (Table 1) of the title ligands showed all the expected protons and carbons on the expected ppm values. Their CHN percentage, however, confirmed the molecular formulae and their structures. The reaction of the ligands with metal(II) salts yielded complexes (1-8) (Table 2) of composition M : L = 1 : 2. All the synthesised complexes are air/moisture stable solids. They are soluble in DMF, DMSO and H₂O and partially soluble in common organic solvents e.g., chloroform, ethanol, acetone and benzene. Their melting temperatures, solubility and crystalline nature also suggested that they are all non-polymeric. The room temperature magnetic susceptibility measurements (Table 2) on the solid complexes indicate three unpaired electrons per Co(II) ion (3.34-3.60 B.M), one unpaired electron per Cu(II) ion (1.78-2-16 B.M) and two unpaired electrons per Ni(II) ion (2.96-3.06 B.M) which strongly suggest octahedral geometry for Co(II) and Ni(II) complexes and distorted octahedral environment for Cu(II) complexes. The comparative studies of the IR spectra of the ligands and their metal complexes indicated that the ligands are coordinated to the metal atom possibly in three ways:

a) The bands at 3215 and 3100 cm⁻¹ attributed to (-NH₂) and (-NH) modes in the spectra of the ligands suffer a negative shift indicating the involvement of this group.

b) The band in the spectra of the ligand at 1625 cm⁻¹ due to the azomethine (-C = N) linkage is also shifted towards lower frequency side by 5-10 cm⁻¹ respectively, suggesting the ligand to be coordinated to the metal atom through azomethine nitrogen.

c) The new band appearing in the spectra of the metal(II) complexes and not observed in the spectra of ligands at 515-520 cm⁻¹ assigned to M-N mode respectively indicated that the heteroatom X (Fig 2) is also coordinated to the metal(II) ions.

The above observations gave a conclusive evidence of the coordination between metal(II) ions and the ligands possibly through NH or X, NH₂ and C = N (azomethine) groups.
The electronic spectra of the Co(II) complexes exhibited three bands at 9305-9515, 15675-15810 and 21275-21330 cm\(^{-1}\) assigned to the transitions \(4T_1(G)(F)\rightarrow 4T_{2G}(F)(V_1)\), \(4T_1(G)(F)\rightarrow 4A_2(G)(V_2)\) and \(4T_1(G)\rightarrow 4T_{1G}(P)(V_3)\) respectively assuming octahedral coordination around the metal ion. The Cu(II) complexes showed, similarly three bands in the region 14510-15155, 22480-22585 and 31100-31270 cm\(^{-1}\). The first two bands are attributed to d-d transitions for their distorted octahedral configuration while the third may be attributed to intra-ligand charge transfer. The electronic spectra of Ni(II) complexes also showed three bands in the region 10120-11605, 16062-16180 and 25210-25575 cm\(^{-1}\) assignable, respectively to the transitions \(3A_2(G)(F)\rightarrow 3T_{2G}(F)(V_1)\), \(3A_2(G)\rightarrow 3T_{1G}(F)(V_2)\) and \(3A_2(G)\rightarrow 3T_{1G}(P)(V_3)\) consistent with idealised octahedral geometry. Also, Zn(II) complexes showed a charge transfer band at 29515-30115 cm\(^{-1}\) and a band at 13111-13280 cm\(^{-1}\) due to transitions \(2E_{g}\rightarrow 2T_{2g}\) in a distorted octahedral environment.

On the basis of the above observations, it is proposed that all the metal complexes show an octahedral geometry in which the two ligands behaving as tridentate accommodate themselves around the metal ion in such a way that a stable chelate ring is formed (Fig 2) attaining a stable configuration of a metal(II) complex.

### Table 2 Physical, Analytical and Spectral Data of Metal Complexes

| No/Complex | M.P (°C) | B.M (µeq) | IR(cm\(^{-1}\)) | \(\lambda_{max}(cm\(^{-1}\))\) | Cal (Found)% |
|------------|---------|----------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1          | 210-212 | 3.60     | 3210,3185,2982, 2920,2714,1621, 1545,1364,1130, 950,515 | 9515,15675, 21330 | 57.54, 8.30, 13.41 |
| [Co(L1)\(_2\)Cl\(_2\)] |         |          |                     |                | 57.88(8.02)(13.89) |
| 2          | 197-199 | 3.34     | 3212,3185,2980, 2922,2715,1620, 1545,955,518 | 9305,15810, 21275 | 48.90, 2.71, 19.00 |
| [Co(L2)\(_2\)Cl\(_2\)] |         |          |                     |                | 49.13(2.69)(19.82) |
| 3          | 228-230 | 2.16     | 3210,3182,2985, 2920,2715,1620, 1545,1135,1025, 950,522 | 14510,22485, 31270 | 57.12, 8.24, 13.31 |
| [Cu(L1)\(_2\)Cl\(_2\)] |         |          |                     |                | 57.44(8.09)(12.98) |
| 4          | 217-219 | 1.78     | 3212,3185,2982, 2920,1625,1545, 1545,955,515 | 15155,22585, 31100 | 48.40, 2.68, 18.80 |
| [Cu(L2)\(_2\)Cl\(_2\)] |         |          |                     |                | 48.47(2.33)(18.93) |
| 5          | 233-235 | 3.06     | 3212,3185,2980, 2920,2715,1620, 1545,1340,1135, 950,515 | 11605,16062, 25210 | 57.56, 8.30, 13.42 |
| [Ni(L1)\(_2\)Cl\(_2\)] |         |          |                     |                | 57.55(8.79)(13.61) |
| 6          | 221-223 | 2.96     | 3210,3182,2985, 2920,2715,1625, 1545,955,515 | 10120,16185, 25575 | 48.93, 2.71, 19.01 |
| [Ni(L2)\(_2\)Cl\(_2\)] |         |          |                     |                | 49.37(2.78)(18.92) |
| 7          | 215-217 | Dia      | 3210,3185,2982, 2925,2715,1620, 1154,955,515 | 13280,29515 | 56.95, 8.22, 13.27 |
| [Zn(L1)\(_2\)Cl\(_2\)] |         |          |                     |                | (57.09)(7.86)(13.33) |
| 8          | 208-210 | Dia      | 3210,3185,2983, 2920,2715,1620, 1545,955,515 | 13111,30115 | 48.20, 2.67, 18.73 |
| [Zn(L2)\(_2\)Cl\(_2\)] |         |          |                     |                | 48.33(2.38)(19.03) |

Fig. 2. Proposed Structure of the Metal(II) Complexes.
Antibacterial Studies
The uncomplexed ligands in comparison to their metal complexes were tested for their antibacterial activity against bacterial species such as *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae* and *Proteus vulgaris*. The antibacterial activity was tested at concentration 30 µg / 0.01 mL in DMF by a method devised and reported by us elsewhere28-31.

Table 3  Antimicrobial Activity Data

| Ligands/Complexes | a   | b   | c   | d   |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| L_1               | ++  | +   | ++  | ++  |
| L_2               | ++  | ++  | ++  | ++  |
| 1                 | +++ | +   | +++ | ++  |
| 2                 | +++ | +   | +++ | ++  |
| 3                 | +++ | +   | +++ | ++  |
| 4                 | +++ | +   | +++ | ++  |
| 5                 | +++ | +   | +++ | ++  |
| 6                 | +++ | +   | +++ | ++  |
| 7                 | +++ | +   | +++ | ++  |
| 8                 | +++ | +   | +++ | ++  |

a = *Staphylococcus aureus*, b = *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* c = *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, d = *Proteus vulgaris*; Inhibition zone diameter (mm) +,6-10;++,10-14;+++,14-18;++++,18-22.

The results of these studies reproduced in table 3 show that the ligands and all their metal complexes are biologically active against one or more bacterial species. In comparison, the metal complexes have shown to be more antibacterial than the uncomplexed ligands.

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