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Research Article

SYNTHESIS, COMPOSITION, GEOMETRY AND ANTIBACTERIAL ASSAY OF BINUCLEAR SCHIFF BASE METAL COMPLEXES DERIVED FROM BENZENE-1,4-DICARBALDEHYDE, 2-HYDROXY-BENZALDEHYDE AND PYRIDINE-2,6-DIAMINE

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ABSTRACT

A new symmetrical Schiff base ligand was derived from 2-hydroxy-benzaldehyde, pyridine-2,6-diamine and benzene1,4-dicarbaldehyde and then it is allowed to react with metal salts to form binuclear Schiff base metal complexes.

All the synthesized complexes were characterized based on elemental analyses, IR, ¹H NMR, magnetic moment, molar conductance, ESR, UV, cyclic voltammetry and thermal analysis (TGA). The molar conductance data reveal that the chelates are electrolytes. An IR spectrum shows that the Schiff bases are coordinated to the metal ions in a manner with NNN donor sites of the pyridine ring, oxygen of phenolic OH group and NN donor sites of bipyridyl group. The formation of ligand was also ascertained by ¹H NMR spectra. The electronic spectra and ESR measurements show that Cu(II), Co(II), Mn(II) and Ni(II) complexes has octahedral geometry. The cyclic voltammetric studies of these complexes in N,N-dimethylformamide indicate the structural changes during the course of redox reaction and quasi-reversible nature of the Schiff base binuclear complexes. Thermal stability of the complexes was also evaluated to assess the compatibility of the donating moieties. The synthesized ligands, in comparison to their metal complexes were screened for their antibacterial activity against bacterial species *Staphylococcus aureus, Escherichia coli, Bacillus subtilis* and *Klebsilla pneumonia*. The activity data show that the metal complexes are more potent antibacterial than the parent organic ligands against one or more bacterial species. DNA cleavage ability of the synthesized binuclear Schiff base metal complexes were also performed by gel electrophoresis.

Keywords: Symmetric Schiff base, Binuclear metal complexes, Antibacterial activity, Thermal stability, DNA cleavage.

INTRODUCTION

The Designing and synthesis of a new ligand was perhaps the most important step in the development of metal complexes which exhibit unique properties and novel reactivity due to electron donor, electron acceptor properties, structural, functional groups and the position of the ligand in the coordination sphere. This may be the factor for different studies [1,2]. A large number of Schiff base compounds are often used as ligands in coordination chemistry by considering their metal binding ability. Schiff bases have gained importance because of physiological and pharmacological activities associated with them. Schiff base metal complexes have ability to reversibly bind oxygen in epoxidation reactions [3], biological activity [4,5], catalytic activity in hydrogenation of olefins [6,7] nonlinear optical materials [8] and photochromic properties [9]. The Schiff base complexes was also used as drugs and they possess a wide variety of antimicrobial activity against bacteria, fungi and it also inhibits the growth of certain type of tumors [10-13].

In view of these finding, this piece of work has devoted with the aim to synthesize some transition metals complexes with symmetrical Schiff bases ligands, (2-hydroxy-benzaldehyde, pyridine-2,6-diamine and benzene1,4-dicarbaldehyde) and to examine their physical properties involving spectral behaviours, the electrical conductance values and to determine the efficiency of the synthesized complexes against pathogenic bacteria.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

All the chemicals were purchased from commercial sources and used without any further purification.

Physical measurements

Elemental analysis (C, H and N) was obtained using Perkin Elmer elemental analyzer. The molar conductance of the complexes in DMF (10^{-3}) solution was measured at $27\pm3^{\circ}$ C with an Elico model conductivity meter. Infrared spectra were recorded on the Thermo Nicolet, Avatar 370 model FT-IR spectrometer using KBr disc in the range of 4000- 400 cm⁻¹. Electronic spectra were recorded at 300 K on a Perkin-Elmer Lambda 40(UV-Vis)

spectrometer using DMF in the range 200-800 nm. Magnetic susceptibility measurements were carried out by employing the Gouy method at room temperature. NMR signals were obtained from Bruker Avance III, 400MHz model spectrometer. EPR spectra of compounds were recorded on a E-112 ESR Spectrometer with X-band microwave frequency (9.5 GHz).The Redox nature of the complex in DMF was measured using CHI -760 Electrochemical Analyzer by employing a platinum electrode as working electrode, Ag/AgCl as a reference electrode and platinum wire as auxiliary electrode. The working media consist of DMF containing 0.1M tetrabutylammonium perchloride (TBAP) as supporting electrolyte. TG studies were carried out in the range between 0-500°C using a NETZSCH model thermal analyzer. Molecular modeling studies have been carried out using the density functional theory (DFT) calculations with a hybrid functional B3LYP (Becke's three-parameter hybrid functional using the LYP correlation functional) using the 6-311++G(d,p) basis set [14,15] were performed using the Gaussian 03W software package.

Synthesis of Schiff base ligand

The Schiff base ligand was synthesized by adding benzene1,4dicarbaldehyde (1 mmole) in 20 ml of ethanol and pyridine-2,6diamine (2 mmole) in 20 ml ethanol slowly with constant stirring followed by the addition of 2-hydroxy-benzaldehyde (2 mmole). The mixture was then refluxed for 3 hrs. The solution was kept for slow evaporation and coloured precipitate was collected. The precipitate was washed with ethanol and then dried in air.

Synthesis of binuclear Schiff base metal complexes

The synthesized ligand (1 mmol) was dissolved in 20 ml of hot ethanol, added drop wise with continuous stirring to a solution of the metal salt (2 mmol) in 20 ml ethanol with constant stirring, followed by the addition of 2,2'bipyridyl in ethanol and the mixture was boiled under reflux for 5 hrs. Then, the volume of the reaction mixture was reduced to 10 ml by evaporation. The precipitated complexes were filtered off, washed with ethanol and then dried *in vacuo*.

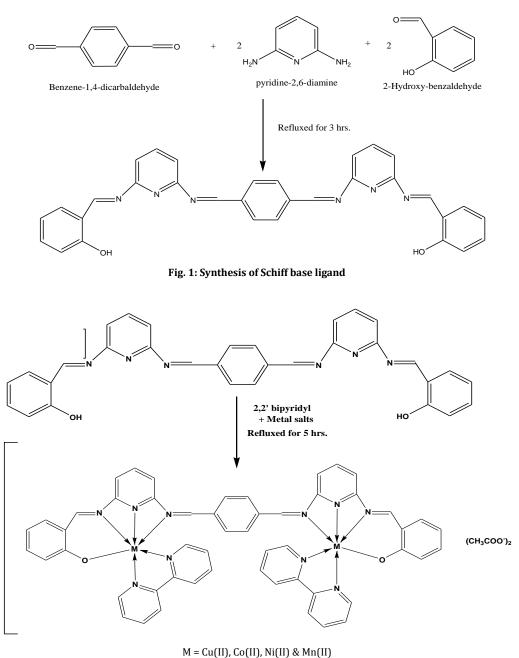


Fig. 2: Synthesis of Binuclear Schiff base Metal complexes

In-vitro antibacterial assay

The biological activities of the newly synthesized Schiff base and its metal complexes have been studied for their antibacterial and antifungal activities by disc diffusion method [16,17]. The antibacterial activities were done by using the following organisms (Escherichia coli, Staphylococcus aureus, Bacillus subtilis, and Klebsilla pneumonia). These bacterial strains were chosen as they are the known pathogens of human body and used at 25, 50, 75 and 100 μ mL⁻¹ concentrations in DMF. The bacteria were sub cultured in agar medium. The Petri dishes were incubated for 24 hrs at 37°C. Standard antibacterial drug (streptomycin) was also screened under similar conditions for comparison.

DNA cleavage activity

The cleavage of pUC18 DNA was determined by agarose gel electrophoresis [18]. The gel electrophoresis experiments were performed by incubation of the samples containing 40 μ M pUC18 DNA, 50 μ M metal complexes and 50 μ M H₂O₂ in Tris-HCl buffer (pH

7.2) at 37°C for 2 hrs. After incubation, 1µL of loading buffer (bromophenol blue in H₂O) was added to each tube and the mixed samples were loaded on 1% agarose gel. The electrophoresis was carried out for 2 hrs at 50V in Tris-acetic acid-EDTA buffer (pH 7.2). After electrophoresis, the gel was stained with 1µg/cm³ ethidiumbromide (EB) for 30 min prior to being photographed under ultraviolet light at 360 nm. The cleavage efficiency was measured by determining the ability of the complex to convert the supercoiled DNA (Form I) to nicked circular form (Form II) or linear form (Form III). All the experiments were performed at room temperature.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Analytical data of the Schiff base ligands and their binuclear metal complexes are given in Table.1.1 and are in well agreement with the expected values. All the Cu(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Mn(II) complexes are colored non hygroscopic solids, stable in air. They are sparingly soluble in common organic solvents, but soluble in DMF and DMSO.

Compound	Molecular	colour	Yield	Melting	% of Nitr	ogen	% of Met	tal
	Formula		%	Point (º)	Cal	Exp	Cal	Exp
L	$C_{32}H_{24}N_6O_2$	Yellow	80	136	16.02	16.01	-	-
$[Cu_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	$C_{56}H_{44}Cu_2N_{10}O_6$	Dark	70	>200	12.97	12.95	11.76	11.73
		green						
$[Co_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	$C_{56}H_{44}Co_2N_{10}O_6$	Brown	75	>200	13.07	13.06	11.00	11.01
$[Ni_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	$C_{56}H_{44}N_{10}Ni_2O_6$	Brown	70	>200	13.07	13.08	10.96	10.98
$[Mn_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	$C_{56}H_{44}Mn_2N_{10}O_6$	Black	75	>200	13.18	13.16	10.33	10.31

Table 1.1: Analytical data of the Schiff base ligands and its binuclear metal complexes

Molar conductance

One of the measurements commonly employed in the determination of charge type of the complexes is to determine the equivalent conductance at infinite dilution of those complexes. The molar conductance of binuclear Schiff base complexes were recorded in DMF 10-³M at room temperature (Table1.2). The complexes showed molar conductance (135-145 ohm-¹cm²mol-¹). It was concluded from the results that complexes were electrolytic in nature. The molar conductance value suggested that the anions were outside the coordination sphere and not bonded to the metal ion therefore, these complexes may be formulated as $[M_2LY_2]Z_2$ where Y=2,2'bipyridyl and Z = acetate ion.

Table 1.2: Molar conductance data of the Schiff base binuclear metal complexes

Compounds	Solvent	Molar conductance	Type of
		scm ² mol ⁻¹	electrolyte
$[Cu_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	DMF	135	1:2 electrolyte
$[Co_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	DMF	142	1:2 electrolyte
$[Ni_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	DMF	147	1:2 electrolyte
$[Mn_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	DMF	139	1:2 electrolyte

IR spectra

The important infrared frequencies of Schiff base and its Cu(II),Co(II), Ni(II) and Mn(II) complexes are tabulated in table 1.3. The extent of shift depends on bond strength between the atoms. For the synthesized binuclear Schiff base complexes, we observed the following changes; the high intense band due to phenolic –OH appeared in the region at 3372 cm⁻¹ in the Schiff base was disappeared in the complexes [19,20]. The band at 1496 and 1462 cm⁻¹ are due to the CH deformation mode of vibrations of CH bond [21]. The band observed in the region 1274 cm⁻¹ for ν (C-O) stretching vibrations undergoes shift to higher wave number at

1287-1298 cm⁻¹ compared with free ligand band [22]. These observations support the formation of M-O bonds via deprotonation. So the H-bonded -OH groups have been replaced by the metal ion. The medium intense band in the range 1610 cm⁻¹ are observed due to v(C=N) which has been shifted towards lower region at around 1604 cm⁻¹ in the complexes indicating the participation of the azomethine group in the complexes formation this shift is also due to the reduction of double bond character of carbon-nitrogen bond of azomethine group and indicates that C=N of the ligand coordinates to the metal through nitrogen and is further reflected by the appearance of new band at 430-490 cm⁻¹ (lower wave number region) due to v(M-N). The bands near 1600 cm⁻¹ are assigned to aromatic ring, which are found to overlap with strong absorption band due to v(C=N) azomethine group. The complex formation was further evidenced by the appearance of non-ligand band in the complexes around 535-570 cm⁻¹ assigned as v(M-0)bands [23,24].

On the other hand, from the spectroscopic behaviour of metal complexes of pyridine, it is known that after complexation the ring deformation found at 567 and 402 cm⁻¹ in the free pyridine is shifted to higher frequencies [25], indicating coordination via the pyridine nitrogen, as previously reported for pyridine complexes [26]. Therefore, this shift is very useful in establishing the participation of pyridine in complex formation.

The band at 1444 $\rm cm^{-1}$ and 1521 $\rm cm^{-1}$ were due to symmetric stretching frequency and asymmetric frequency of acetate ion. This result predicts that the acetate ions were coordinated outside the coordination sphere.

These significant shifts of free ligand v(C=N) to lower wave number region and v(C-O) towards higher wave number region in metal complexes point to the bonding of the ligand to metal ion through phenolic oxygen and azomethine nitrogen and support for the coordination sites of the ligand.

Table 1.3: Infrared spectroscopic data of the Schiff b	ase ligands and its binuclear metal complexes
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Compound	Free-OH	-C=N	In-plane & Out-of-plane Pyridine ring deformations	C-0	M-0	M-N
L	3362.39	1620.39	567,402	1274.78	-	-
$[Cu_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	-	1606.13	633, 413.34	1288.46	537.55	446.22
$[Co_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	-	1605.86	643.56, 413.80	1293.14	507.42	439.25
$[Ni_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	-	1604.09	638. 42, 422.51	1298.82	534.32	493.56
$[Mn_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	-	1604.74	652.36, 416	1287.68	575.66	435.69

Electronic Spectra

In the spectra of the Schiff base ligand, the absorption band observed at 294 nm were assigned to intra-ligand $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ transition and the band at 386 nm were assigned due to $n \rightarrow \pi^*$ transition associated with the azomethine chromophore (-C=N) [27].

The dark green colour complexes of Cu(II) show the d–d transition bands in the range 690 cm⁻¹. This spin allowed transitions are assigned due to ${}^{2}\text{Eg} \rightarrow {}^{2}\text{T}_{2}\text{g}$ [28,29].This confirms distorted octahedral geometry around the metal ion.

The reaction of cobalt salt with the ligand yielded a binuclear Co(II) complex. The electronic spectrum of the obtained complex showed a band at 695 nm corresponding to ${}^{4}T_{1}g(F) \rightarrow {}^{4}A_{2}g(F)$

transition which is consistent with the octahedral geometry of the complex [30].

Based on the electronic spectrum, nickel(II) complex, has the octahedral geometry with its characteristic features. The electronic spectrum of the complex (Table 1.4) showed two bands, the first band occurs at 570 nm which is corresponding to the ${}^{3}A_{2}g \rightarrow {}^{3}T_{1}g(P)$ transition. The other band occurs at 660 nm which is corresponding to the ${}^{3}A_{2}g \rightarrow {}^{3}T_{2}g$ electronic transition. The two transitions are consistent with an octahedral geometry of the complex [31].

The Mn(II) binuclear complex shows bands at 555, 694 nm respectively corresponds to ${}^{6}A_{1g}{\rightarrow}{}^{4}E_{g}(4D)$, ${}^{6}A_{1g}{\rightarrow}{}^{4}T_{2g}(4G)$ transitions which are compatible to an octahedral geometry around manganese(II) ion[32].

Compound	Electronic spectra (nm)				Geometry of the complex	
	π→π *	n→π*	L→M	d-d		
L	294	386	-	-	-	
$[Cu_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	285	374	480	690		
$[Co_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	292	390	440	695	Octahedral	
$[Ni_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	281	342	445	570		
				660		
$[Mn_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	293	346	430	555		
				694		

Table 1.4: Electronic Spectral data of Schiff base ligand and its binuclear metal complexes.

Electron Spin Resonance

The ESR spectrum of the binuclear Schiff base Cu(II) complex exhibits two signals at g_{\perp} , g_{\parallel} and $g_{aver} = 1/3(g_{\parallel} + 2g_{\perp}) = 2.206$, these values follows the same trend $g_{\parallel} > g_{\perp} > g_{e}$ which suggest that the presence of unpaired electron dx_2 - y_2 orbital giving octahedral geometry[33].

In the axial spectra, the g-values are related with exchange interaction coupling constant (G) by the expression, $G = g|| - 2 / g \perp$

– 2 reflects the spin-interaction between Cu(II) centers of the binuclear Cu(II) complex. According to Hathaway and Billing [34], if G > 4, the spin-exchange interaction is negligible and if it is less than 4 considerable spin-exchange interaction prevails. In the present case G value comes out to be 4.8, which indicated negligible exchange interaction between the two copper ions and evidenced the monomeric nature of the complex [35]. These data are in agreement with those obtained from the electronic spectra and confirm the octahedral geometry for Cu(II) Schiff base complexes.

Complex	g_{\parallel}	g_{\perp}	$oldsymbol{g}_{\mathrm{av}}$	Δg	G
$[Cu_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	2.438	2.090	2.206	0.348	4.86

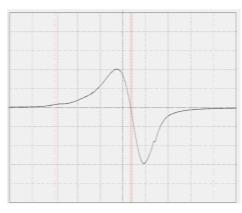


Fig. 3: ESR Spectra of binuclear Schiff base Cu(II) complex

Cyclic voltammetry

The electrochemical behavior of Cu(II) complex was examined in DMF and TBAP as supporting electrolyte. The cyclic voltammogram of Cu(II) complex in 10^{-3} M solution was recorded at room temperature in the potential range -2.0 V to +1.2 V with a scan rate of 100 mVs⁻¹.

The symmetrical binuclear Schiff base Cu(II) complexes are associated with two quasireversible reduction waves. The first reduction potential ranges from -1.3 to -1.4 V and the second redox potential lies in the ranges from -1.0 to -0.94 V [36,37]. This indicates that each process corresponds to single electron-transfer process, and this can be assigned to the redox couple Cu^{II}/Cu^{II}/Cu^{II}Cu^{II}. The second quasi-reversible wave can be attributed to the

formation of the mixed valent Cu^{II}Cu^I/Cu^ICu^I species. Based on these observations, it is reasonable to suggest that the reduction process may involve the stepwise redox processes depicted.

$Cu^{II}Cu^{II} \leftrightarrows Cu^{I}Cu^{II} \leftrightarrows Cu^{I}Cu^{I}$

Similarly the waves of oxidation potential show a quasireversible. The $E_{1/2}$ values indicate that each couple corresponds to one electro transfer process. On comparing the cyclic voltammograms, we observed that the variation in oxidation and reduction potential may be due to geometry of the complex which arises due to different organic ligand moieties coordinated to the metal ion [38].

The cyclic voltammograms of the nickel(II) complexes were recorded in the potential range 1.2 to -2.0 V. The dinickel complexes typically undergo two well-separated one electron reductions [39,40]. Controlled potential electrolysis was also carried out and the experiment reports that each couple corresponds to one-electron transfer process. The two reduction processes are assigned as follows:

Ni^{II}Ni^{II}≒ Ni^{II}Ni^I≒ Ni^INi^I

All the nickel(II) complexes show two oxidation potential in the range of 0.3–1.10 V. The data of cyclic voltammograms of the complexes are summarized in Table1.5.2. Controlled potential electrolysis experiment indicates that the two oxidation peaks are associated with stepwise oxidation process at nickel(II) center.

The data of cyclic voltammogram of binuclear Mn(II) and Co(II) complexes are tabulated in table1.6.1 and 1.6.2. The ΔEp values suggest the existence of quasireversible couple. The $E_{1/2}$ values indicate that each couple corresponds to one electron transfer process.

Table 1.6.1: Electrochemical data of binuclear Schiff base metal complexes in DMF medium (redu	ction)

Complexes	E _{pc} (V)	E _{pa} (V)	E _{1/2} (V)	ΔE (mV)	
$[Cu_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	-1.3	-1.4	-1.35	100	
	-1.0	-0.9	-0.95	100	
$[Co_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	-1.1	-1.3	-1.2	200	
	-0.9	-0.6	-0.75	300	
$[Ni_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	-1.1	-1.4	-1.25	200	
	-0.8	-0.9	0.85	100	
$[Mn_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	-1.7	-1.8	-1.75	100	
	-0.8	-0.5	-0.65	300	

Complexes	E _{pc} (V)	E _{pa} (V)	E _{1/2} (V)	ΔE (mV)	
$[Cu_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	0.3	0.6	0.45	300	
	0.9	1.0	0.95	100	
$[Co_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	0.3	0.5	0.4	200	
	0.9	1.0	0.95	100	
$[Ni_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	0.3	0.4	0.4	100	
	1.05	1.1	1.075	50	
$[Mn_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	0.2	0.3	0.25	100	
	0.9	1.15	1.02	250	

Table 1.6.2: Electrochemical data of binuclear Schiff base metal complexes in DMF medium (oxidation)

¹H NMR spectra

The ¹H NMR Schiff base was recorded in DMSO at room temperature. Three different type of protons were identified i) resonance exhibits due to phenolic –OH protons around 10.26 ppm [41], ii) characteristic resonance due to azomethine proton in the Schiff base appears at 8.126 ppm was observed and iii) the other signals in the region 6.95–7.95 ppm exhibits due to aromatic protons. All these observations support the infrared conclusions.

Magnetic studies

The magnetic moments of Cu(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Mn(II) complexes were measured at room temperature. The magnetic moment for Cu(II) complex is 1.69 B.M. this clearly shows that there is no major spin interactions (spin only value-1.73 B.M.) [42]. Thus the present Cu(II) complex is devoid of any spin interaction with octahedral geometry. This finding is further confirmed from the clear resolution of the ESR spectra. The Co(II) complex showed the magnetic moment at 4.80 B.M. further corroborated the electronic spectral findings [43]. The observed magnetic moment of Ni(II) Complex at 2.94 B.M. which indicates the presence of two unpaired electrons. This further confirms the proposed geometry around the Ni(II) in [44]. The Mn(II) complex show 5.89 B.M. at room temperature corresponding to five unpaired electrons which suggest octahedral geometry [45].

Thermal analysis

The thermal decomposition of all complexes was investigated (Table 1.7). The TG curves indicate that the decomposition is a multiple step process and that the final residual weight corresponds to the metal oxide. The copper(II) complex decomposed in three steps with the temperature ranges from $210-425^{\circ}$ C corresponding to the loss of 2CH₃COO⁻, 2 bipyridyl and five aromatic moiety with six nitrogen atoms, respectively.

The thermal decomposition of the complex with the molecular formula [Ni₂(C₅₂H₃₈N₁₀O₂)].2OAc proceeds with three degradation step. In the estimated mass loss of the first step 10.99 % (Calcd. 11.06 %) could be attributed to the loss of acetate group. Whereas, in the second step the liberation of two bipyidyl unit respectively, shown in table 1.6. These decomposition takes place within the temperature range from 225-440°C and the decomposition is in progress from 440°C.

Observations of thermogram of Co(II) complex indicate that they are stable up to 200°C. Thereafter, they start decomposing and the weight loss observed in the temperature range 230-375°C roughly corresponds to elimination of two acetate molecules, two bipyridyl groups and ligand moieties.

Table 1.7: Thermogravimetric Data	f binuclear Schiff base metal complexes.

Complexes	TG-range(°C)	Estimated (Calculated) in (%)	Assignment	
_		Mass loss		
	Stage-1	10.89	Loss of 20Ac ions	
$[Cu_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	(210-225)	(10.92)		
	Stage-II	8.85	2 Bipyridyl group	
	(225-275)	(8.89)		
	Stage-III (275-425)	48.52	Five aromatic moiety with six nitrogen atom.	
		(48.54)		
	Above 425		Decomposition is in progress.	
$[Ni_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	Stage-1	10.99	Loss of 20Ac ions	
	(220-260)	(11.06)		
	Stage-II	8.91	2 Bipyridyl group	
	(260-275)	(8.97)		
	Stage-III (275-440)	48.92	Five aromatic moiety with six nitrogen atom.	
		(48.98)		
	Above 440		Decomposition is in progress.	
	Stage-1	11.049	Loss of 20Ac ions	
$[Co_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	(230-255)	(11.056)		
	Stage-II	8.92	2 Bipyridyl group	
	(255-300)	(8.97)		
	Stage-III (300-375)	48.93	Five aromatic moiety with six nitrogen atom.	
		(48.96)		
	Above 375		Decomposition is in progress.	

Molecular Modelling

The modern major advances in the computational chemistry tools provides an alternative, approximate, approach for obtaining the three dimensional structures of the complexes in the case of absence of X-ray crystal structure.

The optimized geometry of the Binuclear Schiff base Cu(II) complexes is represented (fig.4)with some of selected structural

parameters (bond length and angles). The values of the bond length (Å) and angles (°) are shown in table 1.8.

Four NNNO donor atoms from the approximately planar Schiff base ligand (binding via two imine nitrogen, N atom of pyridine ring, phenolic oxygen) and the two nitrogen atoms from the bipyridyl molecule forms octahedral arrangement around the two Cu atoms. Metal-azomethine nitrogen N64–Cu73, N49–Cu74, N41–Cu73 and N42–Cu74 distances are 1.8889 Å, 1.9361 Å, 2.0166 Å and 2.000 Å respectively. The bond angles around Cu atom is 93.972°, 91.1264°, 73.7023°, 157.9182°, 83.594°, 146.2494°, 100.6826 °and 99.3517° corresponds to N10–Cu73–O72, N9–Cu73–O72, N9–Cu73–N64, N9–Cu73–N41, N10–Cu73–N41, N27–Cu74–N42, N27–Cu74–O57, N49–

Cu74–O57 respectively and the remaining angles are shown in table 1.8. According to these parameters we could determine each Cu atom is surrounded by an octahedral formed by the two azomethine Nitrogen, one pyridine N atoms, one hydroxyl group and two nitrogen of bipyridyl group respectively also proves to have no M-M bonding mode in this binuclear complexes.

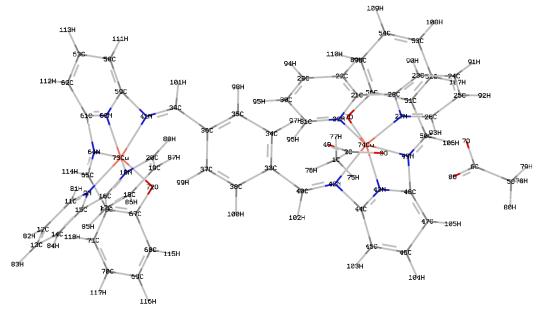


Fig. 4: Optimized structure of Binuclear Cu(II) Schiff base complex

Bond angle	Value (°)	Bond angle	Value (°)	Bond length	Value (Å)		
N9-Cu73-N10	81.123	N32-Cu74-N42	86.2601	N9-Cu73	1.8928		
N9-Cu73-N41	157.9182	N32-Cu74-N43	133.4611	N27-Cu74	1.8909		
N9-Cu73-N60	116.9223	N32-Cu74-N49	153.819	N10-Cu73	1.9253		
N9-Cu73-N64	73.7023	N42-Cu74-057	109.922	N32-Cu74	1.9097		
N9-Cu73-072	91.1264	N43-Cu74-N49	61.0228	N42-Cu74	2.0000		
N10-Cu73-N41	83.594	N43-Cu74-057	131.9915	N41-Cu73	2.0166		
N10-Cu73-N60	123.5471	N49-Cu74-057	99.3517	N43-Cu74	1.8353		
N10-Cu73-N64	151.3803	N42-Cu74-N49	116.1234	N49-Cu74	1.9361		
N10-Cu73-072	93.972	N42-Cu74-N43	57.0508	057-Cu74	1.8204		
N41-Cu73-N60	60.1424	N27-Cu74-057	100.6826	N60-Cu73	1.8137		
N41-Cu73-N64	115.9621	N32-Cu74-057	84.1892	N64-Cu73	1.8889		
N41-Cu73-072	105.7914	N27-Cu74-N49	70.8976	072-Cu73	1.8103		
N60-Cu73-N64	60.088	N27-Cu74-N32	82.9404				
N60-Cu73-072	134.6155	N27-Cu74-N42	146.2494				
N64-Cu73-072	99.8272	N27-Cu74-N43	110.9985				

Antibacterial activity

The biological activity of the Schiff base ligands, their binuclear complexes and streptomycin (as a standard compound) were tested against bacteria because bacteria can achieve resistance to antibiotics through biochemical and morphological modifications [46-47]. The remarkable activity of the two Schiff base ligands and their complexes may be due to pyridyl-N and the hydroxyl groups, which may play an important role in the antibacterial activity [48], as well as the presence of two imine groups which imports in elucidating the mechanism of transformation reaction in biological system.

Table 1.9: Antimicrobial activity of ligand and its binuclear metal complex	es
Tuble 1.7. Intennet oblar activity of figuna and its binactear metal complex	C 3

Compound	Diameter of inhibition zone (mm)															
	Bacillus subtilis			Stap	Staphylococcus aureus			E-Coli				Klebsilla pneumonia				
	Concentrations (µg/mL)															
	25	50	75	100	25	50	75	100	25	50	75	100	25	50	75	100
L	8	11	12	15	9	11	12	15	8	11	12	15	7	7	9	11
$[Cu_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	12	14	16	19	10	13	14	18	16	17	19	20	10	12	15	16
$[Co_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	12	14	15	20	11	12	15	19	16	18	19	22	11	13	13	18
$[Ni_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	10	12	14	18	9	10	13	15	12	14	15	16	9	11	12	17
$[Mn_2L_1X_2]Y_2$	10	11	13	17	8	9	11	13	11	13	15	18	8	10	13	16
Streptomycin	13	16	18	22	11	15	18	21	14	18	20	24	12	16	19	24

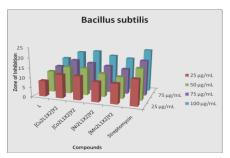


Fig. 5: Antibacterial activity of Schiff base ligand and its binuclear Schiff base metal complexes against Bacillus subtilis

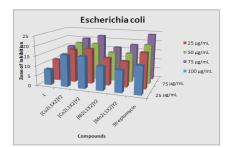


Fig. 7: Antibacterial activity of Schiff base ligand and its binuclear Schiff base metal complexes against Escherichia coli

The activity of Schiff base ligand and their complexes increases as the concentration increases because it is a well known fact that concentration plays a vital role in increasing the degree of inhibition [49]. Against all the organisms, ligand did not exhibit any remarkable activity compared with standard streptomycin, whereas all the complexes showed moderate to high activities. It is suggested that the complexes having antimicrobial activity may act either by killing the microbe or by inhibiting multiplication of the microbe by blocking their active sites [50].

DNA Cleavage

The cleavage activity of complexes has been assessed by their ability to convert super coiled pUC18 DNA from Form I to Form II and Form III by gel electrophoresis. Figure 6 shows the cleavage pattern of pUC18 DNA. The DNA cleavage efficiency of the complexes was due to the different binding affinity of the complex to DNA.

The control experiments did not show any apparent cleavage of DNA (lane 1 & 2). $[Cu_2L_1X_2]Y_2$ complex in the presence of H_2O_2 at higher concentration (50 μ M) shows more cleavage activity. The supercoiled plasmid DNA was completely degraded (lane 3). This shows that a slight increase in the concentration over the optimal value led to extensive degradations, resulting in the disappearance of bands on agarose gel [51,52]. $[Co_2L_1X_2]Y_2$ complex in the presence

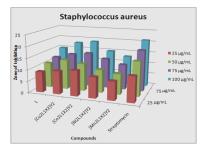


Fig. 6: Antibacterial activity of Schiff base ligand and its binuclear Schiff base metal complexes against Staphylococcus aureus

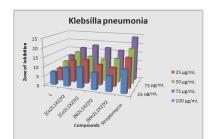


Fig. 8: Antibacterial activity of Schiff base ligand and its binuclear Schiff base metal complexes against Klebsilla pneumonia

of H_2O_2 resulting the conversion of open circular form (Form II) into linear form (Form III) (lane 4). $[Ni_2L_1X_2]Y_2$ complex in the presence of H_2O_2 (lane 5) at higher concentration (50 μM) shows cleavage activity in which supercoiled DNA (Form I) cleaved and converted to open circular form (Form II). The $[Mn_2L_1X_2]Y_2$ complex in the presence of H_2O_2 (lane 6) at higher concentration (50 μM) shows cleavage activity in which supercoiled DNA (Form I) cleaved and supercoiled form converted to open circular form (Form II).

The general oxidative mechanisms proposed account of DNA cleavage by hydroxyl radicals via abstraction of a hydrogen atom from sugar units predicts the release of specific residues arising from transformed sugars, depending on the position from which the hydrogen atom is removed. It has been shown earlier that the cleavage is inhibited by free radical scavengers, implying that hydroxyl radical or peroxy derivatives mediate the cleavage reaction. The reaction is modulated by a metallo complexes bound hydroxyl radical or a peroxo species generated from the co-reactant H_2O_2 . This results in oxidative attack on the deoxyribose moiety at the C-1 hydrogen.

These results indicate that the metal ions play an important role in the cleavage of isolated DNA. As the compound was observed to cleave DNA, it can be concluded that the compound inhibits the growth of the pathogenic organism by cleaving the genome [53].

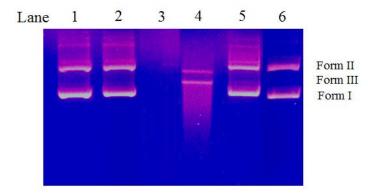


Fig. 9: Changes in the agarose gel electrophoretic pattern of pUC18DNA induced by H₂O₂ and metal complexes. From left to right: Lane 1-DNA alone; Lane 2- DNA alone + H₂O₂; Lane 3-DNA + [Cu₂L₁X₂]Y₂ + H₂O₂; Lane 4-DNA + [Co₂L₁X₂]Y₂ + H₂O₂; Lane 5-DNA + [Ni₂L₁X₂]Y₂ + H₂O₂; Lane 6-DNA + [Mn₂L₁X₂]Y₂ + H₂O₂.

CONCLUSION

Single crystals of the complexes could not be isolated from any common solvent. However, the analytical, spectroscopic, magnetic and TG data enabled the prediction of the possible structures.

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