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Synthesis, characterization of Schiff base Cr(III), Fe(III) and Mn(III) macrocyclic complexes derived from oxalamide and 3,4-diphenyl-3H-pyrrole-2,5-dicarbaldehyde Schiff Base Ligand



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Abstract

M(III) Schiff base macrocyclic complexes of the type [HLMX₂] where M = Cr(III), Fe(III), Mn(III) and X = CI, NO₃, OAc have been synthesized by condensation of oxalamide and 3,4-diphenyl-3H-pyrrole-2,5-dicarbaldehyde (2:2) in the presence of divalent metal salt in methanolic medium. The complexes have been characterized with the help of elemental analysis, conductance measurements, magnetic measurements and their structural configuration have been determined by various spectroscopic (electronic, IR, ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, GCMS) techniques. Electronic and magnetic moments of the complexes indicate that the geometries of the metal centers are octahedral. These metal complexes were also screened for their antifungal activities against some fungi *viz. Rizoctonia sp., Aspergillus sp., and penicillium sp.* to assess their inhibiting potential.

Keywords: Metal complexes, Antifungal activity, Spectroscopic study, ethanebis (thioamide) and 3,4-diphenyl-3H-pyrrole-2,5dicarbaldehyde..

Introduction

Co-ordination chemistry is considered as an additional branch of chemistry for the purpose of study and research. New possibilities have arisen in practice and research due to advancement of structure elucidation techniques like IR, UV, NMR, EPR, X-ray mass spectroscopy, the magnetic susceptibility measurements and the development of ligand field theory and application of the group theory to co-ordination chemistry. A Schiff bases are typically formed by the condensation of a primary amine and an aldehyde/ketone. In which >C=O group is replaced by >C=N-R group. The resultant compound, R1R2C=NR3, is called a Schiff base (named after Hugo Schiff) where R₁ is an aryl group, R₂ is hydrogen atom and R₃ is either an alkyl or aryl group. However usually compounds where R₃ is an alkyl or aryl group and R₂ is an alkyl or aromatic group are also regarded as Schiff bases. Schiff bases that contain aryl substituent are substantially more stable and more readily synthesized, while those which contain alkyl substituent are relatively unstable Schiff bases of aliphatic aldehydes are relatively unstable and readily polymerizable [1]. While those of aromatic aldehydes having effective conjugation are more stable. [2]. Schiff bases are most widely used as chelating ligand in coordination chemistry. Schiff bases are bidentate (1), tridentate (2), tetradentate (3) or polydentate (4) ligands generally capable of forming very stable complexes with transition metals. They can only act as co-coordinating ligands if they bear a functional group, usually the hydroxyl sufficiently near the site of condensation in such a way that a five or six membered ring can be formed when reacting with a metal ion.

Review of Literature

Schiff bases are used, in many field e.g., inorganic, biological, and analytical chemistry [3-4], optical and electro-chemical sensor, as well as in various chromatographic methods, to enable detection of enhanced selectivity and sensitivity [5]. Among the organic reagent actually used Schiff bases, possess excellent characteristics, structural similarities with natural biological substances relatively simple preparation procedures and

the synthetic flexibility that enables design of suitable structural properties. Complexes are a special class of compounds in which the central metal atom is surrounded by ions or molecules (called ligand) beyond their normal valency. In the modern terminology these compounds are called co-ordination compounds. Schiff bases and their structural analogoues as ligating compounds containing acyclic and cyclic imine C=N bonds are of great importance in modern coordination chemistry [6]. The formation of complexes causes the d-orbitals to split into two energy sublevels, which enables many of the complexes to absorb specific frequencies of light. Thus the complexes form characteristic colored solution and compounds. Complication reactions some time enhance the relatively low solubility of some compound. So we can say that the transition metal has low ionization energies, positive oxidation states, very hard, high melting points, high boiling points, and high electrical conductivity, malleable. 5-d orbital's become more filled, from left to right on periodic table [7]. Heterocyclic compounds are widely distributed in nature and essential to many biochemical processes [8-10]. The compounds containing heterocyclic have important physiological properties ranging from anti-histamine, analgesic, anti-inflammatory, anti-hypertensive and anti-cancer. Such compounds are also used to model important bio-inorganic systems such as metalloproteinase and are finding applications as photosensitizes and catalysts [11, 12]. From the early days, the physiological properties of heterocyclic piperazines have generated interest since they are found to exert, even in small dosages, various physiological effects, including accelerated pulse, breathing and hypersensitivity to external stimuli.

The relationship between metal ions and biological activity [13] of certain systems is obvious and a subject of great interest. It has been

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demonstrated through several studies that biologically inactive compounds become active and less biologically active compounds become more active [14-16] upon coordination / chelation with the some transition metal ions. The interaction between metal ions and such biologically active ligands represents an important route in designing new metal-based antibacterial and antifungal therapies against different kinds of bacteria and fungi, viruses that becomes resistant to the use of conventional drugs [17].

Many biologically important Schiff bases have been reported in the literature possessing antimicrobial, antibacterial, antifungal, antiinflammatory, anticonvulsant, antitumor and anti HIV activities [18-20]. Cr (III) complexes with Schiff base ligands are potential antitumor agents. We, therefore, thought it will be worthwhile to synthesize novel metal complexes with ligands like Schiff base and their biological study that could fight more aggressively against fungal strains.

Experimental

Reagents

The entire chemicals were used of the analytical grade, ethanebis(thioamide) and 3,4-diphenyl-3H-pyrrole-2,5-dicarbaldehyde purchased from S.D.-fine. Metal salts, HCl, CaCl₂, and C₂H₅OH were purchased from Merck.

Synthesis of Fe(III),Cr(III) and Mn(III) macrocyclic complexes

The macrocyclic Schiff base ligand have been synthesized by refluxing the reaction mixture of oxalamide (2 mmol) in ethanol (30 mL), 3,4-diphenyl-3H-pyrrole-2,5-dicarbaldehyde (2 mmol) in ethanol (20 mL) and a solution of divalent metal salt (1 mmol) in methanol (20 mL) was refluxed for 8-10h. The complex were filtered, washed with water and recrystallised from ethanol and dried under vacuum over anhydrous CaCl₂ (yield 40-45%, scheme 1).



Scheme 1: Synthesis of macrocyclic Schiff Base M(III) Complex

 $X = C\overline{I}, NO_{3}, CH_{3}COO^{-1}$

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Analytical and physical measurements

The microanalysis of C, H, and N were estimated by elemental analyzer (Perkin Elmer 2400), at SAIF, CDRI, Lucknow, India and the metal contents of Cr (III), Fe (III) and Mn (III) was determined using atomic absorption spectrophotometer Perkin Elmer 5000. The conductivity was measured on digital conductivity meter (HPG system, G-3001) in DMSO at room temperature. The magnetic susceptibility measurements were carried out on Vibrating Sample Magnetometer (Model PAR 155) at room temperature. Electronic spectra (in DMSO) were recorded on a Hitachi 330 spectrophotometer (5815-32573 cm⁻¹). The IR spectra were performed using a FT-IR spectrophotometer Perkin Elmer 1650 in the range 4000–200 cm⁻¹ using Nujol Mull. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra (at room temperature) (in DMSO-d₆) were recorded on a Bruker AVANCE II 300 DRX or average 400 DRX spectrometer with reference to Me₄Si (0.0 ppm). The FAB mass spectra (at room temperature) were recorded on VG-70-S mass spectrometer. The purity of the Schiff base and its M(II) complexes were confirmed also by TLC [microcrystalline cellulose (E. Merck) was used for the preparation of thin layer, complete separation was achieved with the solvent system acetone/conc. HCl/water (86:8:7). R_F values increase in the following order of M(II) complexes: Cu, Ni, Co (0.52, 0.42, 0.18)].

Fig.1, ¹HNMR Spectra of the ligand



Biological activity

Antifungal activity. The free ligand, its metal complexes, fungicide Micronazole and the control DMSO (dimethylsulfoxide) were screened for their antifungal activity against various fungi viz. Rizoctonia sp., Aspergillus sp., and penicillium sp. These species were isolated for the infected organs of the host plants on potato dextrose agar (potato 250g+dextrose 20g+agar 20g) medium. The culture of the fungi was purified by single spore isolation technique. The solution of different concentrations 10 µg/ml of each compound (free ligand, its metal complexes and fungicides Miconazole) in DMSO was prepared for testing against spore germination [20, 21]. A drop of the solution of each concentration was kept separately on glass slides. The conidia, fungal reproducing spores (approx. 200) lifted with the help of an inoculating needle, which was mixed in every

drop of each compound separately. Each treatment was replicated thrice and a parallel DMSO solvent control set was also run concurrently on separate glass slide. All the slides were incubated in humid chambers at 25°C for 24 h. Each slide was observed under the microscope for spore germination and percent germination was finally calculated. The results were compared with a standard fungicide Micronazole at the same concentrations.

Result and Discussion. ¹*H NMR*

A survey of literature reveals that the NMR spectroscopy has been proved useful in establishing the structure and nature of many Schiff base ligand and their complexes. The ¹H NMR spectra of Schiff base ligand (Fig. 1) was recorded in d_6 -dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO- d_6) solution using Me₄Si (TMS) as internal standard. The ¹H NMR spectra of

the ligand shows multiplets in the region 7.12-7.56 ppm may be assigned to aromatic proton [22, 23]. ¹³C NMR of the Schiff base ligand, the signal appeared in the region 113-158 are assigned to

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aromatic carbon. The signal at 198.3-185.6 and 182.8-171.2, are due to C=S and C=N respectively

| Complex | Mol. | С | Н | N | М | Colour | Yield | Id Conductance | |
|---|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|-------|---------------------|--|
| | wt | | | | | | | ۸ _M | |
| C ₄₀ H ₂₆ N ₆ O ₄ | 654.20 | 73.38 | 4.00 | 12.84 | | | | | |
| | | (73.36) | (3.98) | (12.82) | | | | | |
| [Fe(C ₄₀ H ₂₆ N ₆ O ₄)Cl]Cl ₂ | 816.87 | 58.81 | 3.21 | 10.29 | 6.84 | Orange | 58% | 135 Ω ⁻¹ | |
| | | (58.77) | (3.19) | (10.27) | (6.82) | | | | |
| [Fe(C ₄₀ H ₂₆ N ₆ O ₄)NO ₃](NO ₃) ₂ | 800.53 | 60.01 | 3.27 | 15.75 | 6.98 | Orange | 62% | 133 Ω ⁻¹ | |
| | | (60.00) | (3.26) | (10.27) | (6.96) | | | | |
| [Fe(C ₄₀ H ₂₆ N ₆ O ₄)(OAc)] (OAc) ₂ | 887.64 | 62.24 | 3.97 | 9.47 | 6.29 | Light | 60% | 135 Ω ⁻¹ | |
| | | (62.22) | (3.95) | (9.45) | (6.25) | Yellow | | | |
| [Cr(C ₄₀ H ₂₆ N ₆ O ₄)Cl]Cl ₂ | 813.02 | 59.09 | 3.22 | 10.34 | 6.40 | Brown | 65% | 140 Ω ⁻¹ | |
| | | (59.07) | (3.19) | (10.32) | (6.38) | | | | |
| [Cr(C ₄₀ H ₂₆ N ₆ O ₄)NO ₃](NO ₃) ₂ | 796.68 | 60.30 | 3.29 | 15.82 | 6.53 | Gray | 67% | 152 Ω ⁻¹ | |
| | | (60.27) | (3.26) | (15.80) | (6.50) | | | | |
| $[Cr(C_{40}H_{26}N_6O_4)(OAc)](OAc)_2$ | 833.80 | 62.51 | 3.99 | 9.51 | 5.88 | Light | 62% | 139 Ω ⁻¹ | |
| | | (62.48) | (3.97) | (9.48) | (5.86) | gray | | | |
| [Mn(C ₄₀ H ₂₆ N ₆ O ₄) CI]Cl ₂ | 815.96 | 58.88 | 3.21 | 10.30 | 6.73 | Light | 60% | 125 Ω ⁻¹ | |
| | | (58.86) | (3.19) | (10.28) | (6.70) | Yellow | | | |
| [Mn(C ₄₀ H ₂₆ N ₆ O ₄)NO ₃](NO ₃) ₂ | 799.62 | 60.08 | 3.28 | 15.76 | 6.87 | Reddish | 64% | 147 Ω ⁻¹ | |
| | | (60.06) | (3.26) | (15.75) | (6.85) | | | | |
| $[Mn(C_{40}H_{26}N_6O_4)(OAc)](OAc)_2$ | 886.74 | 62.31 | 3.98 | 9.48 | 6.20 | Light | 66% | 148 Ω ⁻¹ | |
| | | (62.28) | (3.96) | (9.44) | (6.18) | Yellow | | | |

Table 1. Analytical data of the trivalent Fe(III), N(III) and Co(III) complexes

Infrared Spectra

The IR spectra provide valuable information regarding the nature of functional group attached to the metal atom. The presence of a single medium band in the region 3250-3330 $\rm cm^{-1}$ in the complexes may be assigned to N-H stretch [24]. It was noted that a pair of bands corresponding to v(NH2) at 3245 cmand 3309 cm⁻¹ are present in the spectra of the thiocarbohydrazide. The value of $_{v}(C=N)$ stretching vibration is found lower (1520-1560 cm-1) than the expected value (1580- 1650 cm-1). This lower value of $_{v}(C=N)$ stretching may be explained on the basis of a drift of lone pair density of azomethine nitrogen towards the metal atom [25] indicating that coordination takes place through nitrogen of (C=N) groups. The bands present in the range 3020-3040 cm-1 may be assigned due to (C-H) stretching vibrations of benzil and naphthalene ring [26]. The C-N stretch in the range 1000-1300 cm-1. The band near 780 cm-1in thiocarbohydrazide may be assigned as being due to free v(C=S). The band at 3292-3438 cm-1 is due to the presence of OH group in the complexes. This band is also present in the spectra of all the complexes, which indicate that sulphur is not coordinating to the metal atom [27]. The far infrared spectra show bands in the region 420-450 cmcorresponding to v(M-N) vibrations [28]. The presence of bands in all complexes in the region 420-450 cm⁻¹ originates from the (M–N) azomethine vibrational modes and identifies coordination of azomethine nitrogen [29]. The bands present at 290-310 cm⁻¹ may be assigned due to $_{v}$ (M–Cl) vibrations [30].

The appearance of two characteristic bands in the ranges 1561-1559cm⁻¹ and 1370-1367 cm⁻¹ in the case of complexes was attributed to v_{asym}(COO⁻) and v_{sym}(COO⁻), respectively, indicating the participation

of the carboxylate oxygen in the complexes formation. The mode of coordination of carboxylate group has often been deduced from the magnitude of the observed separation between the $v_{asym}(COO^{-})$ and $v_{sym}(COO^{-})$. The separation value, $\Delta v(COO^{-})$, between $v_{asym}(COO^{-})$ and $v_{sym}(COO^{-})$, in these complexes were more than 190 cm⁻¹ (191–193cm⁻¹) [22].

Magnetic measurements and electronic spectral studies

The electronic spectra of Cr (III) complexes showed absorption band in the region 8950-9310, 13150-13520, 17550-18450 and 27380-27780 cm⁻¹ attributed to ${}^{4}B_{1g} \rightarrow {}^{4}E_{1g}$, ${}^{4}B_{1g} \rightarrow {}^{4}B_{2g}$, ${}^{4}B_{1g} \rightarrow {}^{4}A_{2g}$ and ${}^{4}B_{1g} \rightarrow {}^{4}E_{g}$. The spectral bands are consistent with that of five coordinated Cr (III) complexes [31]. On the bases of spectral studies of these complexes, a five coordinated square pyramidal geometry and C_{4v} symmetry may be assigned for these complexes [32,33]. The magnetic moment value for this complex was found to be 3.68-4.93 B.M. at room temperature which is close to the predicted values for three unpaired electrons in the metal ions [34]

The absorption spectral bands of manganese (III) complexes showed three spin allowed transitions: ${}^{5}B_{1g} \rightarrow {}^{5}A_{1g}$, ${}^{5}B_{1g} \rightarrow {}^{5}B_{2g}$, ${}^{5}B_{1g} \rightarrow {}^{5}E_{g}$ appearing in the ranges 12250–12550, 16150–18860 and 35450–35720 cm⁻¹, respectively consistent with a five coordinated square pyramidal geometry and C_{4v} symmetry for Mn (III) complexes [33,34]. The magnetic moment values for these complexes were found in the range 4.92-5.74 B.M expected for square pyramidal manganese complexes [50].

The electronic spectra of the iron (III) complexes gave two bands at 9850-9980, and 27650-27760 cm⁻¹, which could be assigned to the transitions ${}^{6}A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^{4}T_{1g}$ and ${}^{6}A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^{4}T_{2g}$, respectively,

suggesting a five coordinated square pyramidal geometry of Fe (III) complexes [34,35] this idea also supported the C_{4v} symmetry for these complexes. The complexes show magnetic moment values in the range 5.20-5.45 B.M [35].

Antifungal activity.

For the experimental data *Table 2*, it has been observed that the ligand as well as its complexes shows a significant degree of antifungal activity against *Aspergillus sp.*, *Rizoctonia sp.* and *Penicillium sp.* DMSO control has showed a negligible activity as compare to the metal complexes and ligand. However, the metal complexes are show better activity than the ligand [35]. The complexes are highly effective against *Aspergillus sp.* HLCr(OAc)₂ is the only complex to show 78% activity against Aspergillus sp. the antifungal activity of the complexes varies in the following order of fungal species: Aspergillus sp. > penicillium sp. > Rizoctonia sp

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The antifungal experimental results of the compounds were compared with the standard Miconazole at the antifungal drugs same concentration. All the metal complexes exhibited greater antifungal activity against Aspergillus sp. as compare to the standard drug Miconazole. However, they show slightly lesser activity against Rizoctonia sp. than standard drug Miconazole. The Ni(II) and Co(II) complexes are more effective against Penicillium sp. than the standard drug. From the data it has been also observed that the activity depends upon the type of metal ion and varies in the following order of the metal ion: Ni > Co> Cu.

| Table 2. Fungicidal so | creening data of the ligand and their corresponding metal complexes |
|------------------------|---|
| Compound | % Inhibition of spore germination |

| Compound | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|-----|-----|-------------------------|-----|-----|------------------------|-----|-----|
| | Aspergillus sp. (mg/ml) | | | Penicillium sp. (mg/ml) | | | Rizoctonia sp. (mg/ml) | | |
| | 1.0 | 1.5 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 1.5 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 1.5 | 2.0 |
| C ₂₂ H ₂₆ N ₁₀ OS ₄ | 28 | 36 | 41 | 09 | 17 | 22 | 30 | 35 | 39 |
| [Fe(C ₄₀ H ₂₆ N ₆ O ₄)CI]Cl ₂ | 60 | 70 | 76 | 53 | 60 | 68 | 46 | 51 | 63 |
| [Fe(C ₄₀ H ₂₆ N ₆ O ₄)NO ₃](NO ₃) ₂ | 43 | 53 | 70 | 46 | 51 | 63 | 41 | 42 | 50 |
| [Fe(C ₄₀ H ₂₆ N ₆ O ₄)(OAc)] (OAc) ₂ | 71 | 65 | 79 | 58 | 61 | 71 | 51 | 53 | 66 |
| [Cr(C ₄₀ H ₂₆ N ₆ O ₄)Cl]Cl ₂ | 66 | 60 | 78 | 56 | 60 | 72 | 50 | 57 | 56 |
| [Cr(C ₄₀ H ₂₆ N ₆ O ₄)NO ₃](NO ₃) ₂ | 53 | 60 | 71 | 45 | 51 | 63 | 43 | 45 | 53 |
| [Cr(C ₄₀ H ₂₆ N ₆ O ₄)(OAc)](OAc) ₂ | 72 | 75 | 80 | 64 | 68 | 77 | 61 | 62 | 71 |
| [Mn(C ₄₀ H ₂₆ N ₆ O ₄) CI]Cl ₂ | 63 | 69 | 71 | 56 | 59 | 61 | 50 | 55 | 58 |
| [Mn(C ₄₀ H ₂₆ N ₆ O ₄)NO ₃](NO ₃) ₂ | 54 | 57 | 62 | 46 | 50 | 58 | 47 | 50 | 51 |
| [Mn(C ₄₀ H ₂₆ N ₆ O ₄)(OAc)](OAc) ₂ | 70 | 72 | 81 | 56 | 61 | 64 | 49 | 39 | 55 |
| Miconazole (standard) | 59 | 71 | 100 | 65 | 78 | 83 | 76 | 82 | 94 |

Conclusion:

The analytical data show the presence of one metal ion per ligand molecule and suggest a mononuclear structure for the complexes. The electronic spectral data is in the favor of octahedral geometry of the complexes. The ligand and its Fe(III), Cr(III) and Mn(III) complexes were tested for antifungal activity against some fungi. Antifungal study reveals that, metal complexes have more biological than free ligand. Complex activitv (6) [Cr(C40H26N6O4)(OAc)](OAc)2 show best biological action.

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