



## Preparation, characterization, antibacterial and antifungal activities of some transition metal complexes with novel Schiff base ligand derived from N-amino rhodanine

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### ABSTRACT

The Schiff base ligand (E)-3-(2-methoxy benzylidene amino)-2-thioxothiazolidin-4-one (L), was prepared from N-amino rhodanine and 2-methoxy benzaldehyde. Moreover, its complexes were synthesized by mixing metal chloride Co(II), Cu(II), Ni(II) with the prepared Schiff base ligand. These compounds were characterized by FTIR, <sup>1</sup>H NMR, and elemental analysis. The antimicrobial activity of the ligand and its complexes were tested using four pathogenic bacterial and two fungal species. The bacterial species used in the screening were *Salmonella typhi* and *Vibrio cholera* (gram negative) and *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Bacillus subtilis* (gram-positive). The fungal species were *Aspergillus flavus* and *Aspergillus niger*. The antimicrobial activities of the ligand and its metal complexes were studied by disc agar diffusion method and compared with Ampicillin. Diameter of inhibition zone (mm) including the disc diameter was measured for each treatment. The findings indicated that the CuL, NiL and CoL complexes have good biological activity but the ligand (L) did not have any activity against the microorganisms under identical experimental conditions.

### Indexing terms/Keywords

Synthesis; characterization; antimicrobial activity; N-amino rhodanine; schiff-base.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Rhodanine and its derivatives have received much attention due to their significant biological activities such as antibacterial [1,2], antifungal [3], antidiabetic [4], anti-HIV [5,6] antitubercular [7] and antiparasitic [8]. Moreover, Rhodanine derivatives have been reported as Hepatitis C virus (HCV) protease agent inhibitor [9]. Rhodanine is a heterocyclic compound which belongs to the thiazolidinones group. Thiazolidinone compounds, have been investigated because of having almost all kinds of biological activities [10]. In general, Heterocyclic compounds have various hetero atoms such as oxygen, sulphur and nitrogen. which have attracted significant attention of chemists in the past decade because of their extensive range of biological properties as antibacterial [11], antifungal [12], anticancer [13,14]. Also, because of coordination susceptibility of chemical nature of rhodanines and its derivatives, they have been selected as significant case of study [15]. Schiff bases are multi-purpose ligands which are produced from primary amines with compounds including carbonyl groups [16]. These compounds due to presence azomethine group in their structure, represent numerous biological activities such as antifungal, antibacterial, anticancer [17]. It was also found that Transition metal complexes formed from the Schiff bases ligands possessed different biological activities [18]. In the present study, synthesis and characterization new complexes obtained by novel Schiff base ligand of N-amino rhodanine with Cu(II), Co(II), Ni(II) metal chloride are reported. Moreover, the antibacterial and antifungal activities of this ligand and its complexes against four bacteria and two fungi are investigated.

## 2. EXPERIMENTAL

### 2.1. Chemicals and apparatus

All chemicals and solvents used were of analytical grade (AR). All these compounds were purchased from Merck company, and were used without any purification. They included copper(II) chloride, cobalt(II) chloride, nickel(II) chloride, N-amino Rhodanine, 2-methoxy-benzaldehyde. Elemental microanalyses (C,H,N) of the ligand and its complexes were performed using a Perkin-Elmer (CHN 2400 elemental analyzer). The  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectrum was obtained with Bruker (300 MHz, 75 MHz) in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$  as the solvent and TMS as an internal standard. Infrared IR spectra were recorded on an ABB 2000 FT/IR spectrometer using KBr pellets. Melting points were measured on a BÜCHI Melting point B-540 apparatus.

### 2.2. Synthesis of the Schiff base ligand (L)

Schiff base ligand (L), synthesized by condensation of a warm solution of 2-methoxy-benzaldehyde (10 mmol) with warm solution (10 mmol) of 3-amino rhodanine in (30 ml) of hot mixture of ethanol-chloroform (1:1). The resulting mixture was maintained at reflux for 2 hours to ensure complete reaction, and the formed solid precipitates were separated through filtration, and washed several times with ethanol-chloroform mixture, and diethylether. Also dried in a vacuum desiccator over anhydrous  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$ . The white to yellow product is produced 92% yield. Structure of the ligand (L) is shown in figure 1.

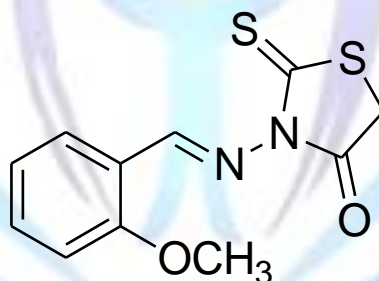


Fig 1: structure of the ligand

### 2.3. Synthesis of the metal complexes

The  $[\text{Ni}(\text{L})\text{Cl}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})]$ ,  $[\text{Co}(\text{L})\text{Cl}_2]$  complexes, were prepared by adding a warm solution of the  $\text{NiCl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{CoCl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (0.5 mmol) in a hot ethanol (3 ml) to a warm solution of the Schiff base ligand (0.5 mmol) in the chloroform (6 ml). Also, the  $[\text{Cu}(\text{L})\text{Cl}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})]$  complex was prepared by mixing warm solution of the  $\text{CuCl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (0.5 mmol) in a hot methanol (7 ml) with a warm solution of the Schiff base ligand (0.5 mmol) in the chloroform (7 ml). In cases of copper and cobalt complexes, the resulting reaction mixtures were refluxed with constant stirring for 5 hours. But in case of nickel complex, the resulting mixture was refluxed for 2 hours.

### 2.4. Microorganisms used

The microorganisms used in this study are shown in Table 3. Four bacterial (2 Gram-negative and 2 Gram-Positive) and two fungal species were subjected to antimicrobial activity test of the L ligand and its complexes. The bacterial species used in the screening were *Salmonella typhi* and *Vibrio cholera* (gram negative) and *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Bacillus subtilis* (gram-positive). The fungal species were *Aspergillus flavus* and *Aspergillus niger*.

#### 2.4.1. Growth conditions

An inoculum of each bacterial strain was suspended in 25 ml of Mueller-Hinton agar and was shaken at 37 °C for 24 h. For yeast, malt extract agar was inoculated with test organism and incubated at 28°C for 24 h.



### 2.4.2. Determination of antimicrobial activity of the ligand and complexes

The antibacterial and antifungal activities of the ligand and its metal complexes were studied by disc agar diffusion method [19]. This test was done to determine the sensitivity or resistance of the pathogenic microorganism to the synthesized compounds. The presence or absence of growth around the disks is an indirect measure of the ability of that compound to inhibit that organism. Mueller-Hinton agar (for bacteria) and malt extract agar (for yeast) plates were inoculated with 0.1 ml of an appropriate dilution of the tested culture. Samples (1 cm diameter) were suspended in 100 ml of sterile distilled water. 25 ml of each suspension was added to filter paper discs (6 mm diameter), which were placed on the surface of the previously inoculated plates. The plates were incubated at the appropriate temperature for 24 h.

## 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The ligand and complexes were characterized through elemental analyses (C,H,N) and IR spectra. The results indicated in very good accordance with those calculated for the propose formulae. The data elemental analyses and melting point is reported in Table 1. Also, the structure of this ligand (L) is demonstrated by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra.

**Table 1: Color products, melting point and Analytical data of the ligand (L) and its complexes.**

Product	M:L	Color	M.P (°C)	% Cal.(Found)		
				%C	%H	%N
C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>10</sub> S <sub>2</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>		White Yellow	207°C	49.61 (49.32)	3.78 (3.68)	10.52 (10.42)
Co C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>10</sub> S <sub>2</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	1:1	Violet	232°C	33.35 (34.92)	2.54 (2.50)	7.07 (7.12)
Cu C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>12</sub> S <sub>2</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	1:1	Greenish black	253°C	31.55 (31.02)	2.89 (2.85)	6.69 (6.58)
Ni C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>12</sub> S <sub>2</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	1:1	Greenish Yellow	290°C	31.92 (32.12)	2.92 (2.86)	6.77 (6.72)

The result <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of the ligand (L) that dissolved in DMSO, represented in Table 2. The aromatic proton signals have resonance at 7.06-7.99 ppm, and the azomethine proton exhibits at 8.9 ppm. Also, protons signal due to presence methoxy (OCH<sub>3</sub>), and methylene ring (CH<sub>2</sub>) of the ligand structure appear at 3.78 ppm and 4.29 ppm, respectively. Also, absence Hydrogen belongs to amine group at resonance 6- ppm, confirms the aldoly reaction between N-amino rhodanine with 2-methoxy benzaldehyde and production of schiff base ligand through combining amine group with carbonyl group.

**Table 2: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR data for the ligand (L) in DMSO solution(δ, ppm)**

Ligand	CH=N (azomethine)	OCH <sub>3</sub> (methoxy)	CH <sub>2</sub> (ring)	Aromatic protons
L	8.9	3.78	4.29	7.06-7.99

The important IR bands of the ligand and its metal complexes are collected in Table 3. In the structure of the ligand, significant functional groups that have coordination susceptibility, assigned to C=S, C=O and CH=N bands. These bands located at 1252 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1730 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1598 cm<sup>-1</sup> respectively. Also, in the Cu complex, the presence of bands revealed at 1155-cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1591 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1719 cm<sup>-1</sup> are the strong indication of C=S, CH=N, C=O functional groups respectively. In this complex, significant shift to lower frequencies for C=S, C=O and CH=N bands, indicating coordination of the metal ion with the thiocarbonyl sulphur atom, carbonyl oxygen atom and azomethine nitrogen atom. In the Co complex, absorption bands are showed at 1723 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1237 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 1596 cm<sup>-1</sup> that are assigned to C=O, C=S, CH=N respectively. in this complex C=O, C=S bands shift to lower frequencies, that consistent with coordination through the carbonyl oxygen atom and thiocarbonyl sulphur atom. In the Ni complex, the bands due to C=O, C=S, CH=N were observed at 1718 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1236 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 1589 cm<sup>-1</sup> respectively. These bands in this complex, comparing with ligand were shifted to lower frequencies. This is evident by the coordination through the carbonyl oxygen atom, thiocarbonyl sulphur atom and azomethine nitrogen atom. Also, Ni and Cu complexes, a broad band appeared in the range 3240-3493 cm<sup>-1</sup> is due to the (OH) group, and indicates the presence of water molecules.

**Table 3: IR spectra of the ligand L and its metal complexes.**

Compound	ν (C=O)	ν (C=S)	ν (CH=N)	ν (OH)(H <sub>2</sub> O)
L	1730 cm <sup>-1</sup>	1252 cm <sup>-1</sup>	1598 cm <sup>-1</sup>	
[Cu(L)Cl <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)]	1719 cm <sup>-1</sup>	1155 cm <sup>-1</sup>	1591 cm <sup>-1</sup>	3286 cm <sup>-1</sup>
[Co(L)Cl <sub>2</sub> ]	1723 cm <sup>-1</sup>	1237 cm <sup>-1</sup>	1596 cm <sup>-1</sup>	
[Ni(L)Cl <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)]	1718 cm <sup>-1</sup>	1236 cm <sup>-1</sup>	1589 cm <sup>-1</sup>	3358 cm <sup>-1</sup>

The elemental analysis and IR spectra data propose the structure of the prepared complexes, that are shown in Figure 2.

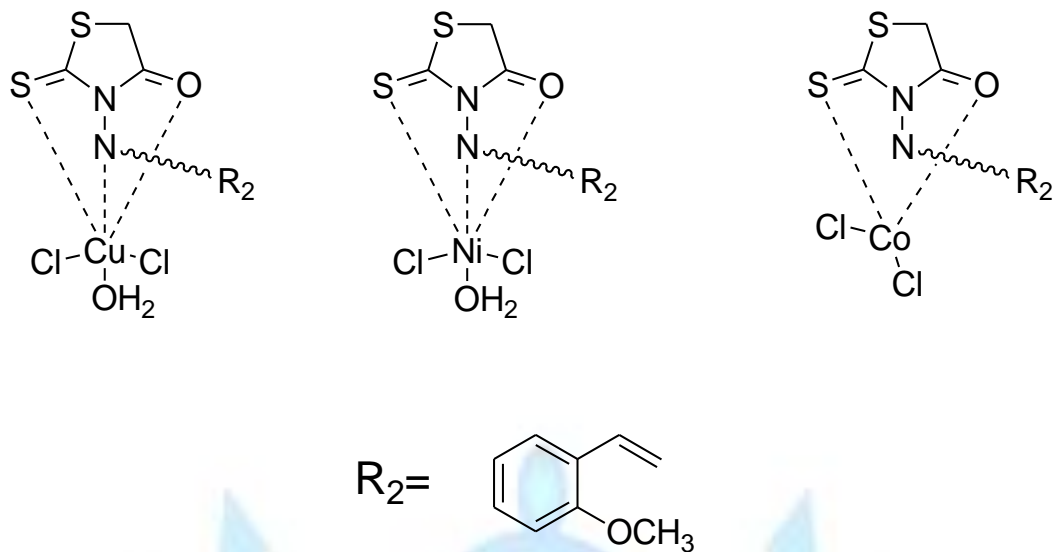


Fig 2: suggested structure of complexes

### 3.1. Biological activity of the ligand and its complexes

As shown in Table 3 four bacterial (2 Gram- negative and 2 Gram-positive) and two fungal were tested to antimicrobial activity ligand and its complexes.

Table 3. The kinds of microorganisms used in this study.

Microorganisms	Classification	Abbreviation
Salmonella typhi	Gram- negative	St
Vibrio cholera	Gram- negative	Vc
Staphylococcus aureus	Gram- positive	Sa
Bacillus subtilis	Gram- positive	Bs
Aspergillus flavus	Yeast	Af
Aspergillus nigar	Yeast	An

The antibacterial and antifungal activity for the ligand and its corresponding metal complexes are shown in Table 4. Disc agar diffusion method was carried for ligand and its complexes activities against the microorganisms and compared with Ampicillin.

Table 4. Antimicrobial activities of ligand (L) and its complexes.

Compounds	St	Vc	Sa	Bs	Af	An
(L)	-	-	-	-	-	-
CuL	++	++	+++	++++	+++	++
CoL	+++	++	+++	+++	++	++
NiL	+++	++	++++	++++	++	++
Ampicillin	++++	++++	++++	++++	+++	+++

(-) n zone of inhibition, (+) 1-10 mm zone of inhibition, (++) 11-20 mm zone of inhibition

(+++) 21-30 mm zone of inhibition and (++++) 31-40 mm zone of inhibition.



As shown in Table 4, diameter of inhibition zone (mm) including the disc diameter was measured for each treatment. The ligand (L) showed no antimicrobial activity at all against the microorganisms. The CuL and NiL complexes exhibited the maximum antibacterial and antifungal activities. While the CoL complex showed moderate antimicrobial activity against all organisms used in this study. Ampicillin showed highest antimicrobial activity compared to other compounds. The findings indicated that the CuL, NiL and CoL complexes have good biological activity but the ligand (L) did not have any activity against the microorganisms under identical experimental conditions. These results can be explained by Tweedy's chelation theory. In fact, this theory says, the chelation can raise the ability of a complex to penetrate a cell membrane [20].

#### 4. CONCLUSION

Chelation formation reduces the polarity of central metal ion due to the partial sharing of its positive charge with donor groups. Further, it increases the delocalization of  $\pi$ -electrons over the whole chelate ring and increases the penetration of the complexes into lipid membrane [21]. In this study, we conclude that the complexes show more anti-bacterial and antifungal activities but ligand do not have any activity against some organisms under similar experimental conditions.

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