



METAL COMPLEXES OF SCHIFF BASE DERIVED FROM SALICYLALDEHYDE – A REVIEW

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ABSTRACT

Salicylaldehyde and their derivatives can be condensed with amines in 1:1 and 2:1 ratio to form bi, tri and tetra dentate NO and N₂O₂ Schiff base Ligands. They can contain additional donor atoms like oxygen, sulphur, nitrogen etc. which makes them suitable chelating ligands to coordinate with Metal ions to form Schiff base complexes. Thus provides the possibility synthesis of large number of Schiff base complexes with divers' structural feature. The model system including those with bidentate, tridentate and tetra dentate Schiff base derived from Salicylaldehyde and their coordination chemistry are summarized in this review.

Key Words: Metal complexes, salicylaldehyde, Schiff Bases, Bidentate, Tridentate, Tetra dentate

INTRODUCTION

Salicylaldehyde

Salicylaldehyde is a key precursor to a variety chelating agent, some of which are commercially important, salicylaldehyde is a common highly functionalized arene that has often been exploited as a precursor to still other chemical.

Salicylaldehyde is converted to chelating ligands by condensation with amines. With ethylenediamine, it condenses to give the ligand salen. Hydroxylamine gives salicylaldoxime. Oxidation with hydrogen peroxide gives catechol (1,2-dihydroxybenzene) (Dakin reaction)¹. {Dakin, 1923 #47} Condensation with diethyl malonate gives a derivative of the heterocycle coumarin² via an aldol condensation.

Schiff bases

Schiff bases are aldehyde- or ketone-like compounds in which the carbonyl group is replaced by an imine or azomethine group³. Schiff bases are versatile ligands synthesized from the condensation of an amino compound with carbonyl compounds^{4,5,6} and were first reported by Hugo Schiff in 1864. Formation of Schiff base generally takes place under acid or base catalysis or with heat. The common Schiff bases are crystalline solids, which are

feebly basic but at least some form insoluble salts with strong acids⁵.

Today, Schiff bases are used as intermediates for the synthesis of amino acids or as ligands for preparation of metal complexes having a series of different structures⁵.

Schiff base metal complexes

Schiff bases are the most widely used organic compounds⁷ for industrial purposes and also exhibit a broad range of biological activities.³

Schiff base compounds and their metal complexes are very important as catalysts in various biological systems, polymers, dyes and medicinal and pharmaceutical fields^{4,8} they comprise miscellaneous therapeutically potent applications in the field of medicinal chemistry.⁹ Their use in birth control, food packages and as an O₂ detector is also outlined⁸ Schiff's bases chelates also used in quantitative analysis as an analytical chemical reagents and/or separation reagents have been also listed and discussed⁶ and synthetic applications in the field of the organic and inorganic chemistry.⁹

They have been shown to exhibit a broad range of biological activities, including antifungal, antibacterial, antimalarial, antiproliferative, anti-inflammatory, antiviral, and antipyretic properties.^{3,7}

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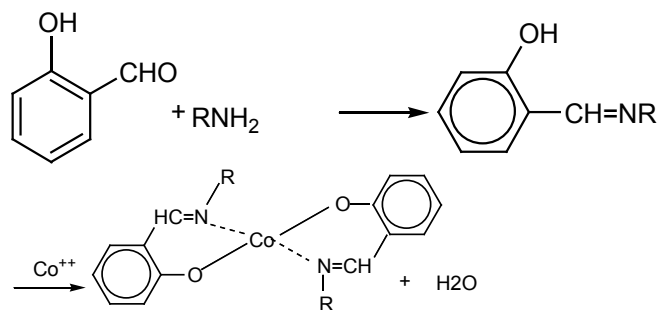
Schiff's base and their copper complexes possess remarkable properties as catalysts in various biological systems, polymers, dyes, antimicrobial activities, antifungal activities, antiviral activities, insecticides, antitumor and cytotoxic activities, plant growth regulator, enzymatic activity and pharmaceutical fields. A variety of Schiff's base and its complexes have been studied extensively. Several models systems, including those with bidentate, tridentate, tetradentate, multidentate Schiff base ligands, and their coordination chemistry of copper attracts much attention because of its biological relevance and its own interesting coordination chemistry such as geometry, flexible redox property, and oxidation state.⁴

Gou and coworker used Salicylaldehyde base-Schiff as novel, easily available colorimetric and fluorescent double-sensor. The sensor exhibits highly selective and sensitive recognition toward Cu^{+2} in aqueous solution via a naked eye color change from colorless to yellow and toward Al^{+3} via a significant fluorescent enhancement in ethanol over a wide range of tested metal ions. This represents the first reported Salicylaldehyde Schiff-based sensor capable of detecting Cu^{+2} and Al^{+3} using two different modes¹⁰.

DISCUSSION

Bidentate Schiff Base Metal complexes

New Schiff bases of salicylaldehyde and their Cobalt(II) derivatives Scheme (1) have been prepared and tested for their antitumor activities. Several of these, particularly the cobalt derivatives, have shown significant inhibitory action against mouse cancers¹¹.



Scheme 1: Proposed structure of metal complexes

The complexes of Mn(II) and Ni(II) with Schiff base derived from salicylaldehyde and 2-amino benzoic acid have been prepared and characterized as a neutral complex with 1:1 metal to ligand ratio¹² Figure (1).

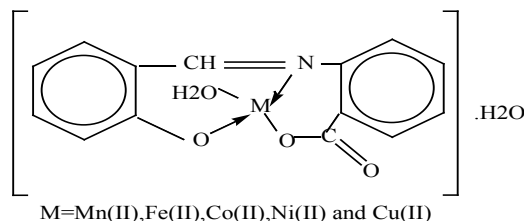


Figure 1: General proposed molecular structure of complexes

Yousif et al prepared and characterized a new metal complex derivatives of 2N-salicylidene-5-(p-nitro phenyl)-1,3,4-thiadiazole, HL Scheme (2) with the metal ions Vo(II), Co(II), Rh(III), Pd(II) and Au(III). The complexes obtained are monomeric with square planar geometry except VO(II) and Co complexes which existed as a square pyramidal and tetrahedral geometry respectively. The preliminary *in vitro* antibacterial screening activity revealed that complexes 1–5 Figure (2) showed moderate activity against tested bacterial strains and slightly higher compared to the ligand, HL¹³.

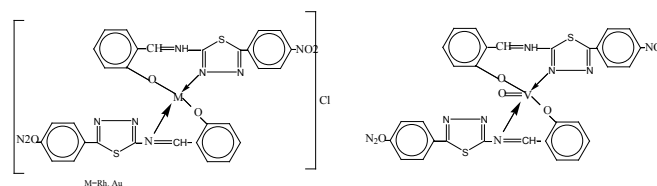
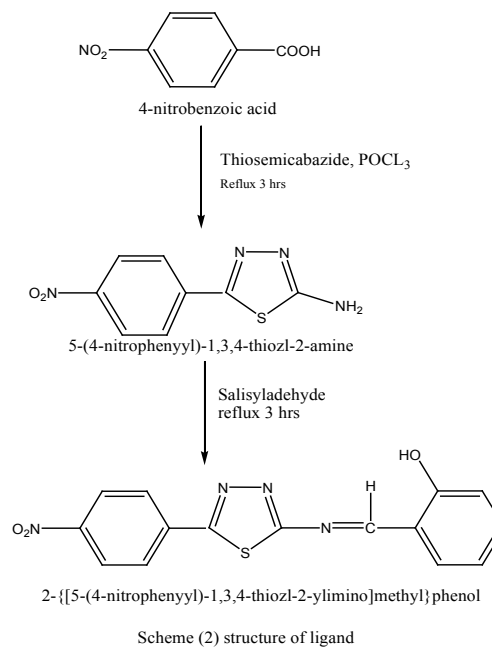
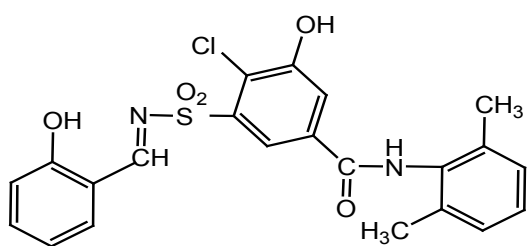


Figure 2: The structure of HL and the proposed structure of complexes 1-5, M=Metal

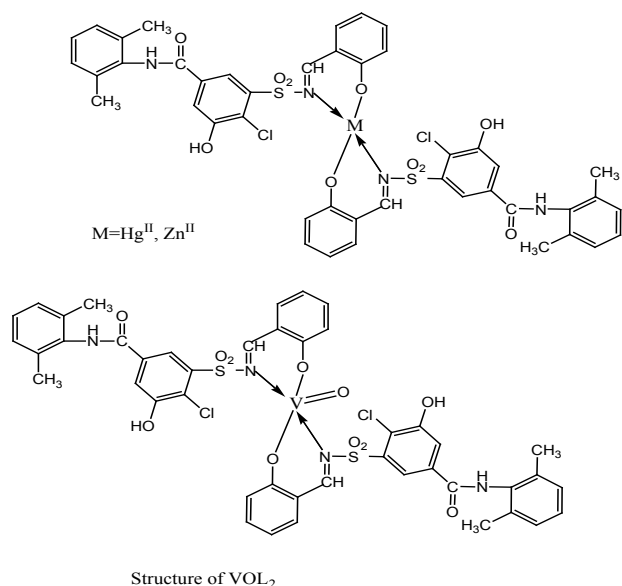
Malik and coworker reported the synthesis and characterization of metal complexes of Schiff base derived from xipamide, a diuretic drug. The bidentate ligand is derived from the inserted condensation of 5-aminosulfonyl-4-chloro-N-2,6-dimethylphenyl-2-hydroxybenzamide

(Xipamide) with salicylaldehyde in a 1:1 molar ratio Figure (3). Using this bidentate ligand, complexes of Hg(II), Zn(II), and VO(IV) with general formula ML_2 have been synthesized Figure (4). All the complexes are nonelectrolytic in nature with 1:2 [M:L] ratio. Complexes of Hg(II) and Zn(II) have tetrahedral geometry via deprotonated phenolic oxygen and azomethine nitrogen atoms and VO(IV) complex have square pyramidal geometry. The pure drug, synthesized ligand, and metal complexes were screened for their antifungal activities against *Aspergillus niger* and *Aspergillus flavus*. The ligand and its Hg(II) and VO(IV) complexes were screened for their diuretic activity too. The complexes are found to have higher biological activities as compared to the respective ligand and the parent drug¹⁴.



Xipamide salicylalde

Figure 3: Structure of ligand



Structure of VOL₂

Figure 4: Structure of metal complexes

New complexes of Schiff base ligand (derived from cefotaxime with salicylaldehyde with transition metals) prepared Figure (5) and characterized as nonelectrolyte complexes $[ML_2(H_2O)_2]$ with an octahedral geometry for Co(II), Ni(II), and Zn(II) complexes while a tetragonal geometry for Cu(II) complex Figure (6). All complexes were tested for *invitro* antibacterial activity against some pathogenic bacterial strains, namely *Escherichia coli*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Pseudomonasaeruginosa*, *Bacillus*

subtilis, and *Staphylococcus aureus*. The results show that the metal complexes possess superior antibacterial activity than the Schiff base which could be used for the development of novel antimicrobial materials¹⁵.

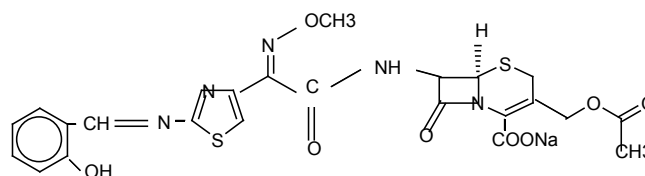


Figure 5: Chemical structure of the schiffbase

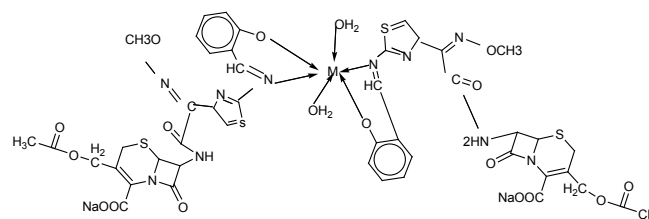


Figure 6: Proposed structure of metal (II) complexes

Silicon(IV) complexes containing mixed ligands: Schiff-bases (AH) derived from 2- or 3- amino-pyridine with 2-hydroxy- or 3-methoxy- or 2-hydroxy-3-methoxy-benzaldehyde and benzaldehyde semicarbazone (BSCH), have been prepared. Benzaldehyde semicarbazone acts as bidentate chelating ligand, octahedral Complexes of the type $[Si(BSCH)_2(AH)]Cl_4$, $[Si(BSC)_2(A_nH)]Cl_2$ and $[Si(BSC)_2(A)]Cl$ (where $n=2$ or 3 , A=deprotonated Schiff-base ligands, BSC= deprotonated semicarbazone) have been proposed in neutral and basic medium, respectively¹⁶Figure (7).

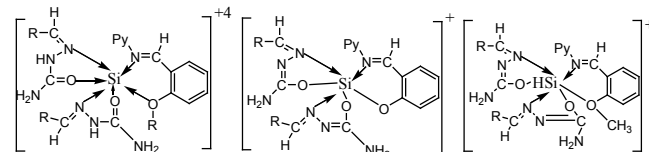


Figure 7: Proposed structure of the complexes

Figure 7: Proposed structure of the complexes

Metal chelates, $[M(HL)_2(H_2O)_2]X_2$ (where $M= Mn(II)$, $Co(II)$, $Cu(II)$, $Ni(II)$ or $Zn(II)$, $X= NO_3^-$ or Cl^- and $HL=$ Schiff base moiety), have been prepared and characterized as 1:2 (metal-ligand). The coordination to the central metal atom have been through the nitrogen of the 2-chlorophenyl hydrazine (-Ph-NH-) group and the sulfur atom of the thiophene ring forming distorted octahedral complexes Figure (8). The Schiff base and its metal chelates have been screened for their *invitro* antibacterial activity against four bacteria, gram-positive (*Staphylococcus aureus*) and gram-negative (*Escherichia coli*) and two strains of fungus (*Aspergillus flavus* and *Candida albicans*). The metal chelates were shown to possess more antibacterial activity than the free Schiff-base chelate¹⁷.

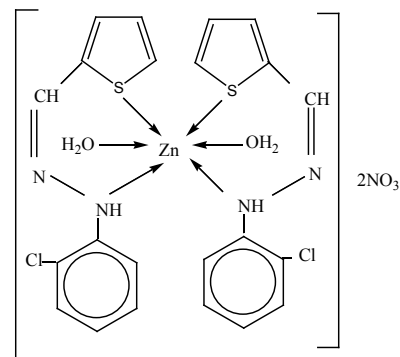
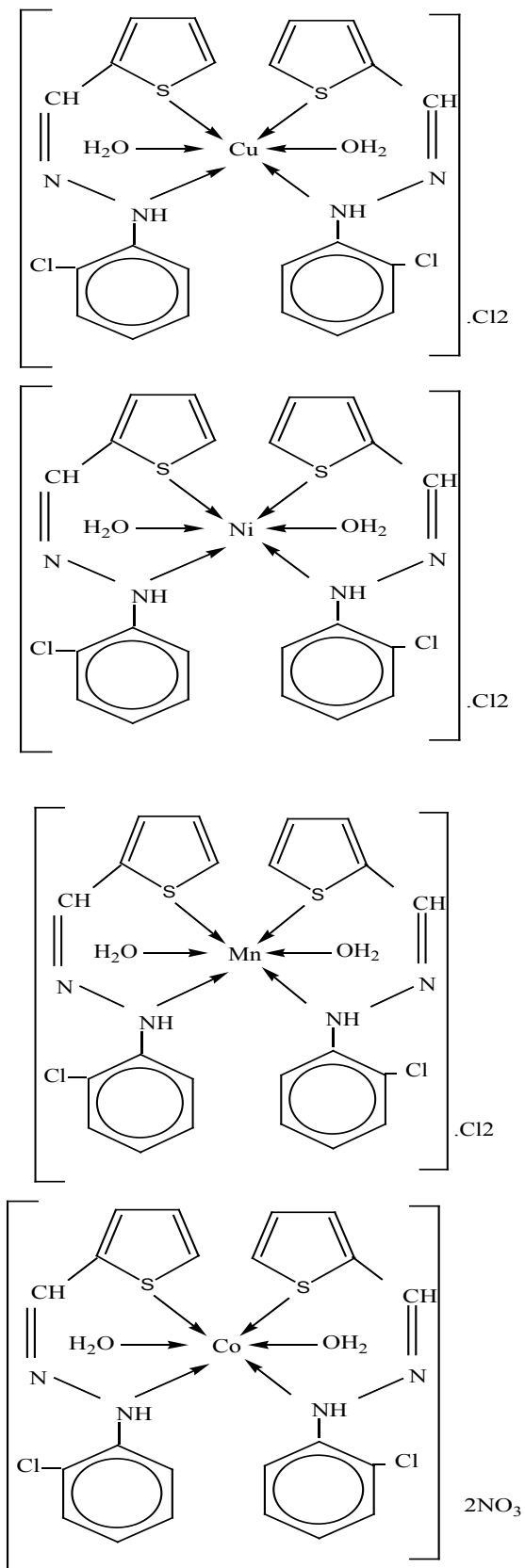


Figure 8: Proposed structure $\{M(HL)2(H_2O)\}X_2$ (where M= Mn(II), Ni(II), Cu(II) or Zn(II); X=(NO₃ or Cl) schiff base complex

Robin R. and coworkers prepared and characterized Schiff bases complexes derived from sulfanilamides or aminobenzothiazoles Figure (9) with Pd(OAc)₂ as complexes of the type PdL₂Scheme (3,4). Palladium complexes and Schiff bases have been investigated as antifungal agents against *Aspergillus niger* and *Aspergillus flavus*¹⁸.

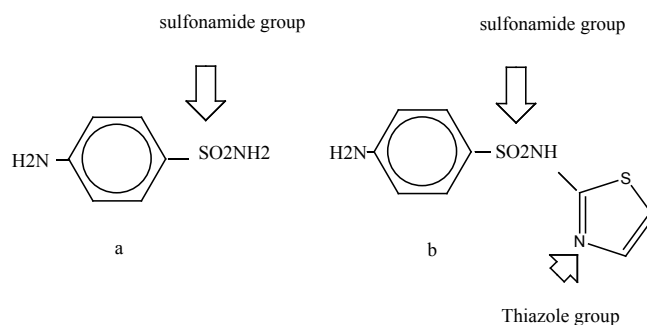
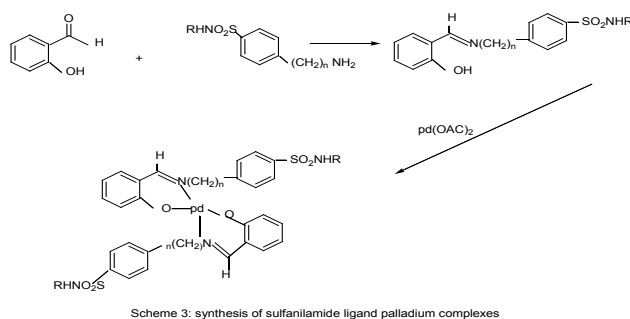
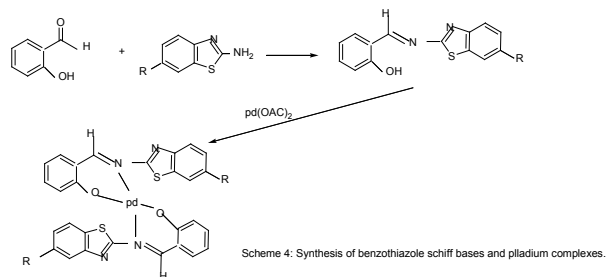


Figure 9: (a) sulfamilamide and (b) sulfathiazole



Scheme 3: synthesis of sulfanilamide ligand palladium complexes



Cobalt(II), nickel(II) and copper(II) with Schiff bases derived from (2-aminobenzothiazole, 6-nitro-2-aminobenzothiazole, 4,6-dibromo-2-aminobenzothiazole) and 4-N dimethyl bezaldehyde to give ligands (La, Lan and Ladb) were prepared in 1:2 ratio (metal: ligand) Figure (10). These measurements indicated that the ligands coordinate with metal(II) ion in a bidentate manner through the nitrogen atoms in ligands with general formula $[ML_2Cl_2]$ Where $M=Co$ (II), Ni (II) and Cu (II), ($L=La$, Lan , or $Ladb$) Figure (11)., Octahedral structures were suggested for metal complexes¹⁹.

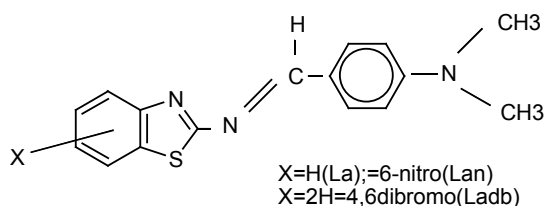


Figure 10: The structure of ligands

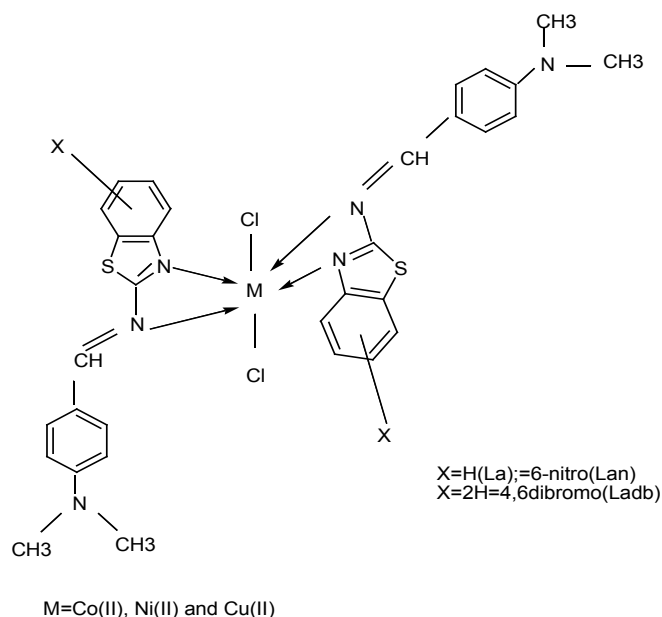
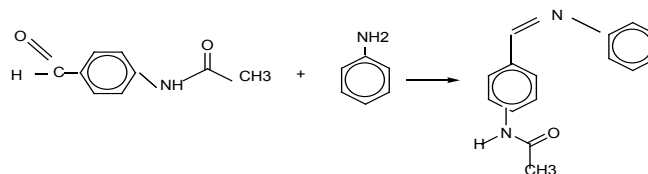


Figure 11: The suggested structure for the complexes

T. Mahmud reported preparation of Schiff bases (L-Lysine-Salicylaldehyde, DL-2,3-Diaminopropion-Salicylaldehyde and 4-acetylamido benzylidene aniline) in basic

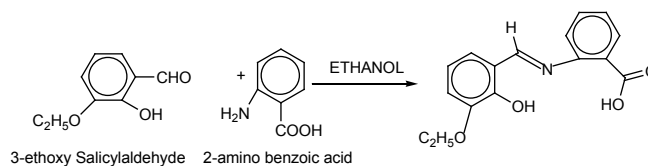
media (using 2M NaOH) Scheme (5). A copper(II) complex with 2,2'-bipyridine and L-lysine was synthesized and characterized as a monomer with distorted square planar geometry, or a distorted octahedron if the long axial coordination from the perchlorate ions is admitted. The asymmetric unit contains two formula units of $[Cu(L\text{-Lysine})(2,2'\text{-bipyridine})]$ with two perchlorate ions and one water molecule⁵.



Scheme 5: Preparation of 4-acetoamidobenzylideneaniline schiff base

Tridentate Schiff Base Metal complexes

Mounika and coworkers reported a new Schiff base, 3-ethoxy salicylidene amino benzoic acid (ETSAN) Scheme (6), has been synthesized from 3-ethoxy salicylaldehyde and 2-amino benzoic acid. The ligand act as neutral and tridentate coordinating through nitrogen atom of the azomethine and oxygen atoms of hydroxyl group of the 3-ethoxy salicylaldehyde beside the hydroxyl group of the carboxyl group of the 2-amino benzoic acid respectively. All complexes are non-electrolytes and show 1:1 metal: ligand ratio with octahedral geometry Figure (12). Biological studies of these complexes reveal that they show better activity when compared to that of the ligand²⁰.



Scheme 6: Preparation of Ligand 3-ethoxy salicylidene amino benzoic acid

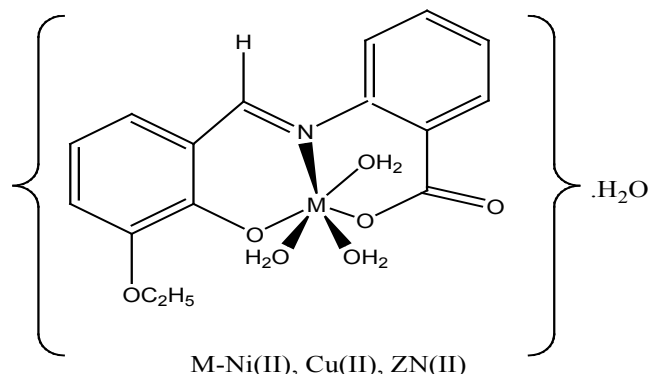


Figure 12: Proposed structure of metal complexes

Figure 12: Proposed structure of metal complexes

Novel transition metal [Co(II), Cu(II), Ni(II) and Zn(II)] complexes of substituted pyridine Schiff-bases Figure (13) have been prepared and characterized with general formula $[M(L)2]$ where $[M=Co(II), Cu(II), Ni(II)$ and $Zn(II)$ and $HL=HL^1, HL^2, HL^3$ and HL^4] and an octahedral geometry. The synthesized Schiff-bases act as deprotonated tridentate with Co(II), Ni(II) and Zn(II) ions Figure (14). The Schiff bases and their complexes have been screened for antibacterial activity against the strains such as *Escherichia coli*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. The complexed Schiff bases have shown to be more antibacterial against one more bacterial species as compared to uncomplexed Schiff-bases²¹.

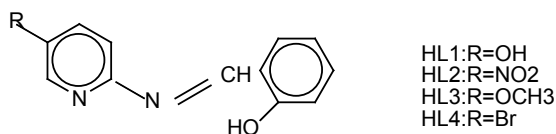


Figure 13: Structure of schiff base

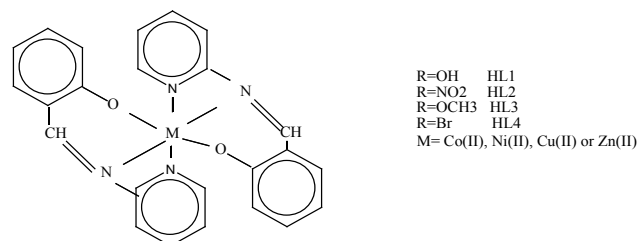


Figure 14: Proposed structure of the Metal(II) Complexes

Z. F. Dawood and M. W. Ibrahim reported Preparation and characterization of new cobalt (II) complexes with mixed ligands including salicylaldehyde thiosemicarbazone-STH₂ and carboxylic acid-AH₂ {salicylic acid-SH₂ or anthranilic acid-AnH₂ or phthalic acid-PH₂} Figure (15) as $[Co_2(AH_2)_2(STH_2)_2(NO_3)_2]$ or $[Co_2(AH_2)_2(STH_2)_2Xn]$ in neutral medium whereas, in basic medium as $[Co_2(AH)_2(STH)_2]$ {where $X = CO_3^{2-}$ or $CH_3CO_2^-$, $n = 2$ or 4 } with octahedral geometries forming dimer (binuclear complexes)²²Figure (16).

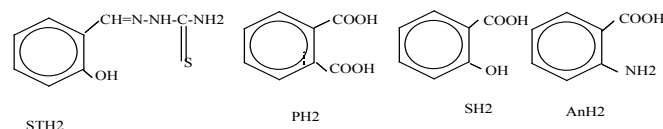


Figure 15: Structures of ligands

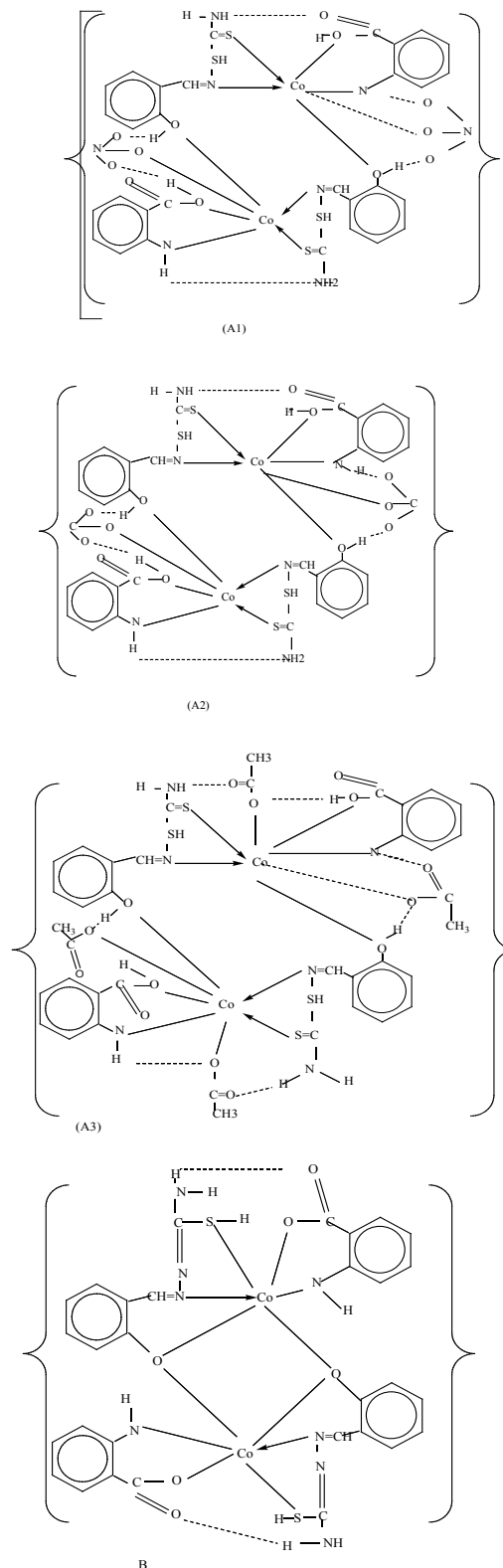
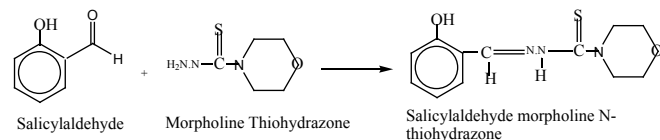


Figure 16: Proposed structures of the Complexes(A1,A2,A3) in neutral medium,(B) Complexes in basic medium

Saxena synthesized and characterized metal complexes of Ti (III), V (III), VO (IV), CO (II) and MN (III) with salicylaldehyde and thiohydrazones ligand Scheme (7) and proposed an octahedral geometry for all the synthesized complexes²³Figure (17).



Scheme 7: Preparation of Salicylaldehyde morpholine N-thiohydrazone

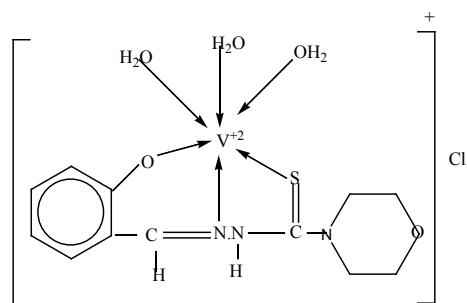
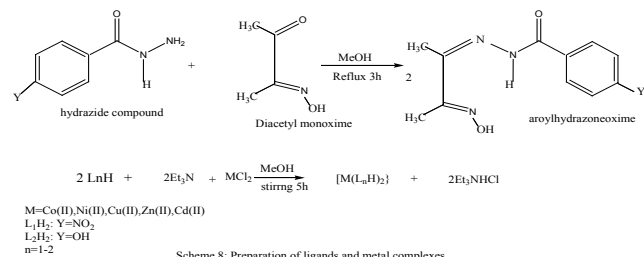


Figure 17: Salicylaldehyde morpholine N-thiohydrazone Vanadium (III) Chloride

Mohammed M. Al-Ne'aimi *et al* have been prepared Mononuclear complexes of two novel ligands {Diacetylmonoxime-4- nitrobenzoylhydrazone (L_1H_2), Diacetylmonoxime-4- hydroxybenzoylhydrazone (L_2H_2)} Scheme (8) with [Co(II), Ni(II), Cu(II), Zn(II) and Cd(II)] as $[M(L_nH)_2]$ where ($n = 1,2$) in the presence of Et_3N . The metal complexes $[M(L_nH)_2]$ are proposed to be six-coordinated with a N_4O_2 donor environment through the oxime nitrogen, the imine nitrogen and the enolic oxygen atoms while the phenolic hydroxyl and oxime hydroxyl groups of aroylhydrazonemonoxime moiety do not participate in coordination²⁴.



Scheme 8: Preparation of ligands and metal complexes

Dinuclear complexes from salicylaldehyde and 2-aminophenol with Cu (II), Ni (II) and Co (II) Figure (18) were obtained by new synthetic route and characterized. Low temperature intramolecular ferromagnetism was exhibited by homodinuclear complex while the heterodinuclear complexes showed antiferromagnetic coupling²⁵.

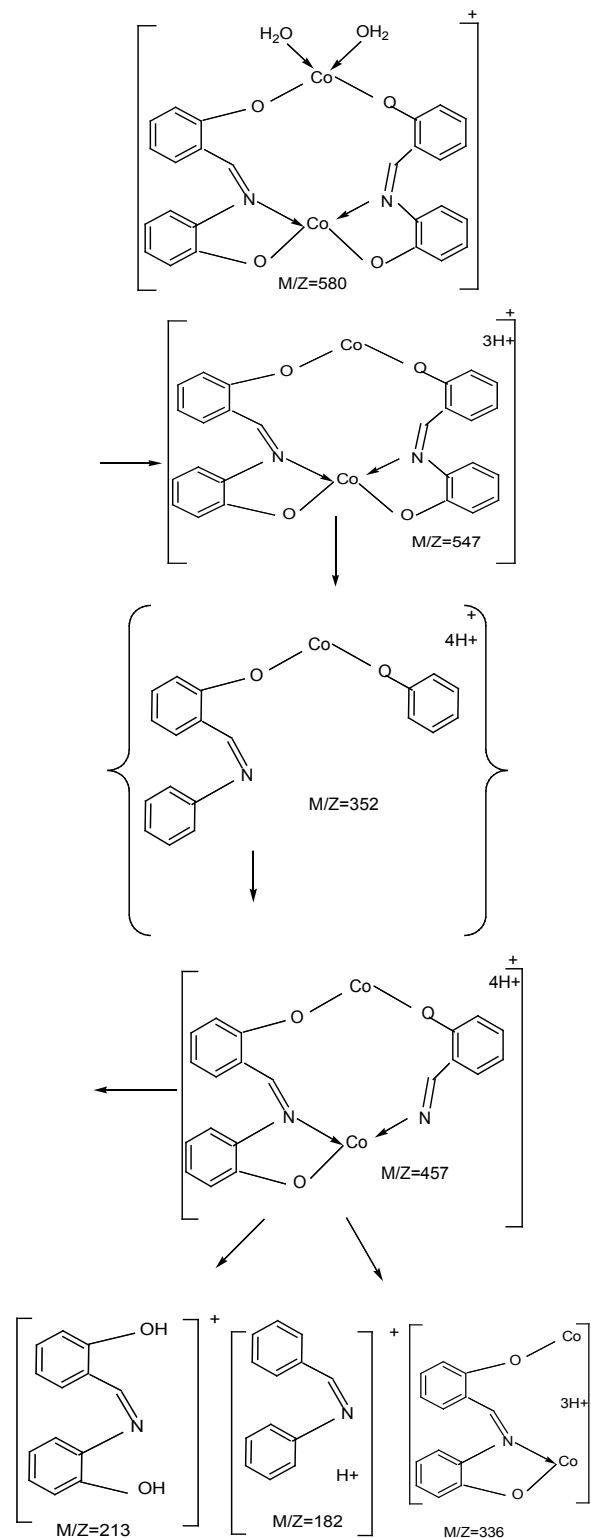


Figure 18: The Metal Complex

New Schiff base ligand derived from 4-Amino antipyrine, sulphadiazine and acetoacetanilide were prepared Scheme (9) and reacted with metal salts in 1:1 ratio (metal: ligand). The complexes have the general formula $[MLCl_2.2H_2O]$ where $M = Co(II), Ni(II)$ and $Cu(II)$ Figure

(19). The ligand coordinate with the metal (II) ion in neutral tridentate manner through the azomethane nitrogen atoms, and oxygen group of the acetoacetanilide forming octahedral complexes²⁶.

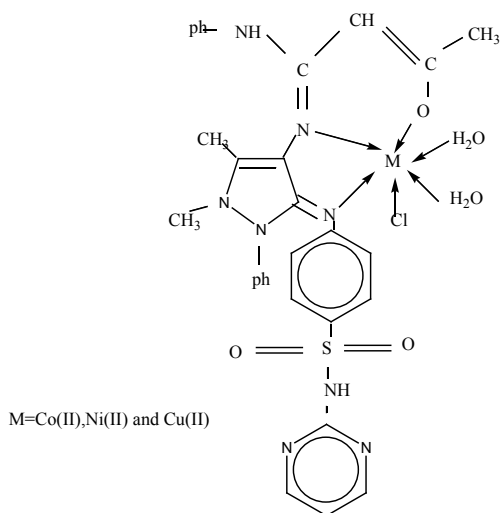
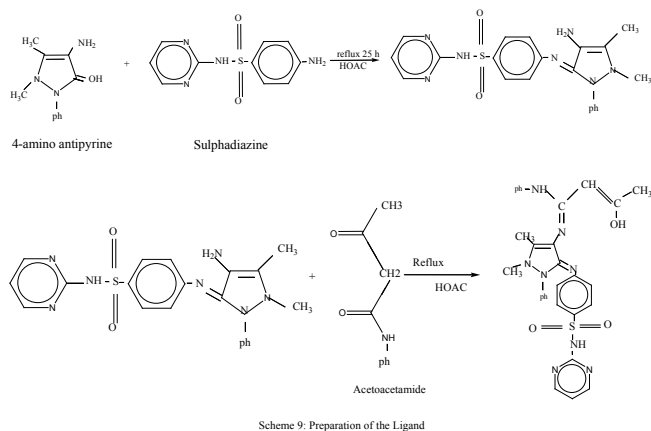


Figure 19: The proposed structural formula of the metal chelate complexes

Figure 19: The proposed structural formula of the metal chelate complexes

Tetra dentate Schiff Base Metal complexes

Mostafa M. and coworker synthesized macro-cyclic Schiff base ligand resulted from the condensation of {bis-aldehyde and ethylenediamine} was prepared (7, 8, 15, 16, 17, 18-hexahydrodibenzo (a, g) (14) annulene) (L) and its complexes were synthesized and characterized as 1:1 [ML] complex with octahedral structure for the all complexes via (N₂O₂) group act as a tetradentate ligand and two chlorides as monodentate ligands Figure (20). They reported using of neutral chelating ligand as selective reagent to determine iron (III) in different types of natural water within recovery test and described that the metal complexes are more potent/ antibacterial than the parent Schiff base ligand against one or more bacterial species²⁷.

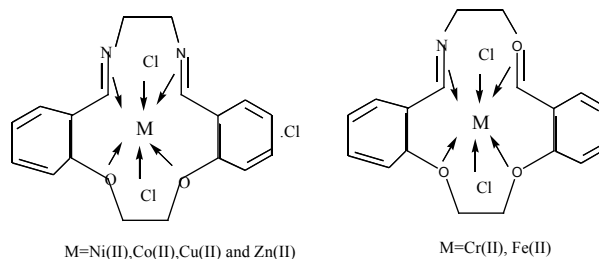


Figure 20: Structural formula of metal complexes

Salicylaldehyde 2-chlorobenzoyl hydrazone (H₂LASSBio-466), salicylaldehyde 4-chlorobenzoyl hydrazone (H₂LASSBio-1064) Figure (21) and their complexes [Zn(LASSBio466)H₂O]₂ and [Zn(HLASSBio-1064)Cl] were evaluated in animal models of peripheral and central nociception, and acute inflammation. All studied compounds significantly inhibited acetic acid-induced writhing response. All compounds showed levels of inhibition of zymosan-induced peritonitis comparable or superior to indomethacin, indicating an expressive anti-inflammatory profile²⁸.

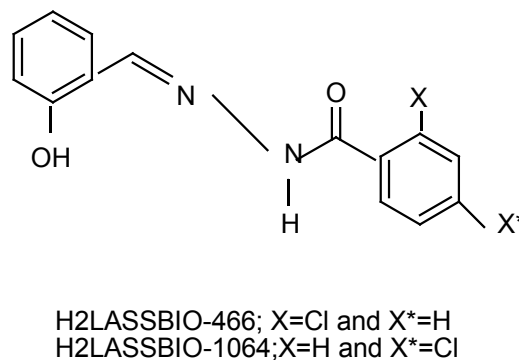
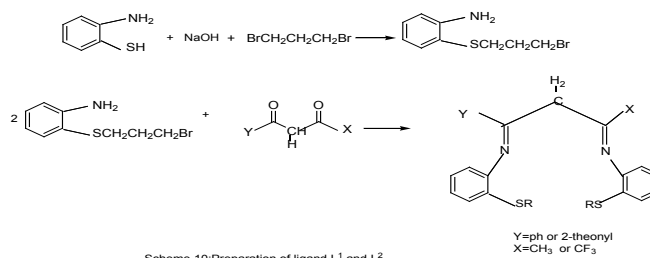


Figure 21: The structure of the Ligand

Two new tetra dentate ligands (L1 and L2) N,N'-bis{(o-aminophenylthio)bromo propyl} 1-phenyl butane 1,3-dilidene (L1), N, N'-bis (3- bromo propyl (phenylthio) imino)1,1,1-trifluoro -3-(2-theonyl) acetone (L2) were prepared Scheme (10) and reacted with M= Co(II), Ni(II), Cu(II) and Zn(II) chloride salts to give [M(L)]Cl₂ and [Zn(L)Cl₂] Figure (22) as tetrahedral complexes via nitrogen atoms of the azomthine and two sulfur atoms while for zinc (II) complexes from the two sulfur atoms and two chloride ions²⁹.



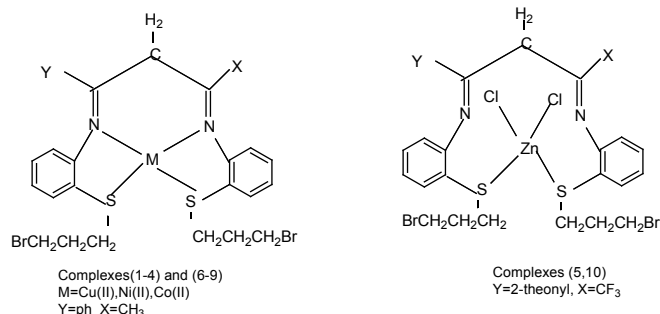


Figure 22: Suggested structures for prepared complexes

New Schiff base chelates of Cu(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Zn(II) derived from benzil-2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazone with aniline have been synthesized Figure (23) and characterized to suggest tentative structures for the complexes³⁰.

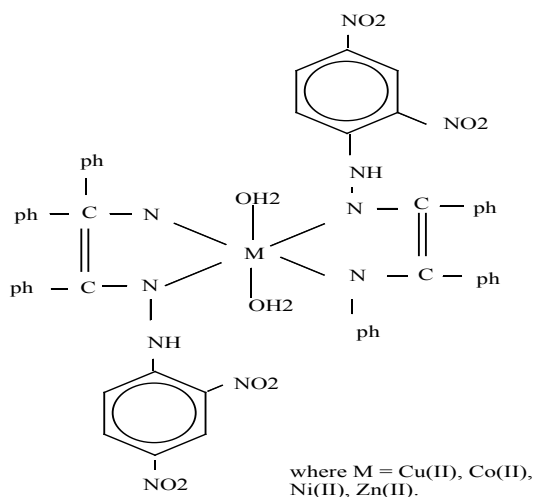


Figure 23: Proposed structure for the complexes

Three new metal complexes of Cr(III), Pb(II) and TiO(IV) ions with a Schiff base derived from salicylaldehyde and urea Figure (24) have been investigated with 1:1 [M:L] ratio. The coordination behavior of the metal ions towards to the investigated Schiff base takes place through -C=N and -OH groups³¹ Figure (25).

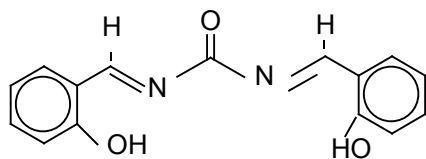


Figure 24: Ligand

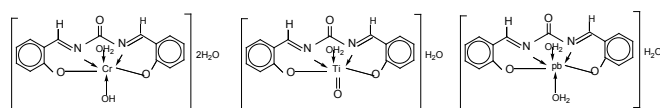


Figure 25: Proposed structures of Metal Complex

Tetra dentate N₂O₂ type complexes of Co(II) have been synthesized by the condensation of o-phenylenediamine, salicylaldehyde and isatin/ naphthaldehyde/acetyl acetone and characterized as [ML(H₂O)(OAc)] with octahedral geometry Figure (26). The metal complexes have been screened for their antibacterial and antifungal activity. DNA cleavage activities of Schiff bases and their metal complexes were monitored by agarose gel electrophoresis method in the presence of H₂O₂³².

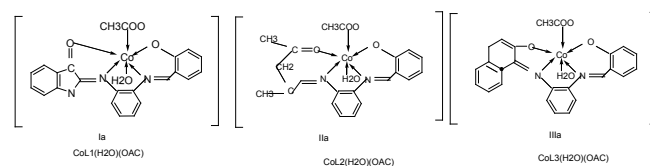


Figure 26: Probable Structure of complexes

Figure 26: Probable structure of complexes

N. Kumar et al reported preparation of Schiff bases (Salicylaldehyde glycine, DL-2,3-Diaminopropion-Salicylaldehyde, benzylidene glycine and 4-acetylamido benzylidene aniline) in basic media (using 2M NaOH) figure (27) and described the applications of Schiff bases and their copper(II) complexes as antimicrobial activities, antifungal activities, antiviral activities. Tetra dentate Schiff base and its metal complexes with Mn(II), Ni(II), Cu(II), and Zn(II) show miscellaneous effect on membrane in amylose production³³.

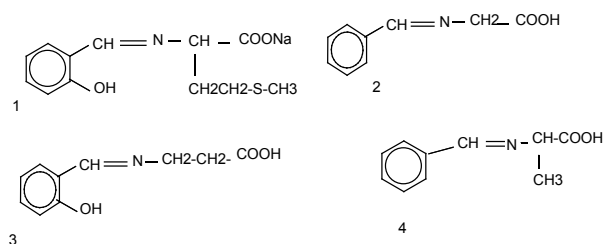


Figure 27: Formation of new Schiff Bases

CONCLUSION

Salicylaldehyde and their derivatives can be good chelating ligands when they condensed with amines in 1:1 and 2:1 ratio to form bi, tri and tetra dentate Schiff base ligands suitable to form complexes with Metal ions. These Metal-Schiff base complexes have been shown to exhibit a broad range of biological activities, including antifungal, antibacterial, antimalarial, anti-proliferative, anti-inflammatory, antiviral, and antipyretic properties.

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