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### Synthesis, Spectral and Magnetic Studies of Mononuclear and Binuclear Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) Complexes with Semicarbazone Ligands Derived from Sulfonamide

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# SYNTHESIS, SPECTRAL AND MAGNETIC STUDIES OF MONONUCLEAR AND BINUCLEAR Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) AND Cu(II) COMPLEXES WITH SEMICARBAZONE LIGANDS DERIVED FROM SULFONAMIDE

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Mononuclear and binuclear Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) complexes of new semicarbazone ligands derived from sulfonamide were synthesized and characterized by elemental analysis and IR spectra. In mononuclear complexes, the semicarbazone behaves as a monoanionic terdentate or neutral terdentate ligand towards the metal ion. However, in binuclear complexes, it behaves as a monoanionic terdentate towards one of the bivalent metal ions and monoanionic bidentate ligand towards the other metal ion in the same complex. Electronic spectra and magnetic susceptibility measurements of the solid complexes indicated octahedral geometry around Mn(II), Co(II) and Ni(II) and square planar around the Cu(II) ion. These geometries were confirmed by the results obtained from thermal analyses. The antifungus properties of the ligands and their complexes were investigated.

*Keywords:* Semicarbazone complexes; Mono- and binuclear-transition metal complexes

## INTRODUCTION

Semicarbazone derivatives of various transition metals have been investigated owing to their coordinating capability and pharmaceutical activities [1–5]. We report the synthesis, structures and properties of a series of new complexes with some N<sup>4</sup>-(aryl) semicarbazones derived from sulfonamide.

## EXPERIMENTAL

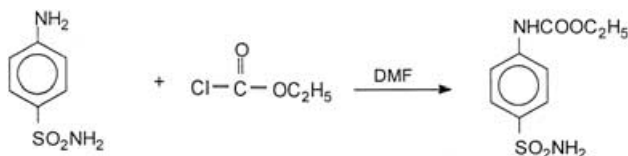
The chemicals used were BDH products. The solvents used were purified by recommended procedures [6]. The apparatus, physical measurements and analyses are the same as previously described [7,8].

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\*Corresponding author. E-mail: tcsran@soficom.com.eg

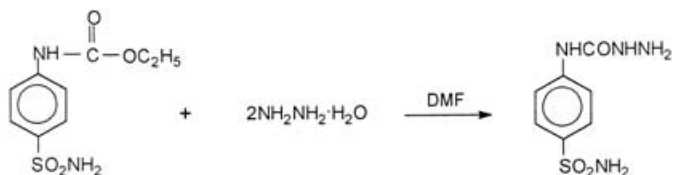
### Preparation of Ethyl Carboxyaniline-4 Sulfonamide

Ethyl chloroformate (1.08 g, 0.01 mol) was added dropwise to sulfanilamide (1.72 g, 0.01 mol) in DMF (50 mL). The reaction mixture was refluxed on a hot plate for 1 h. The product was allowed to cool to room temperature, filtered off and recrystallized from ethanol to give reddish white crystals, m.p. 213°C.



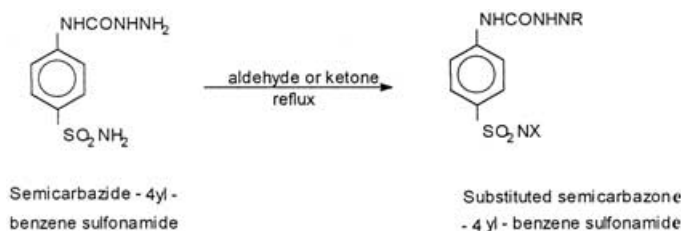
### Preparation of Semicarbazide-4yl-Benzene Sulfonamide (SBS)

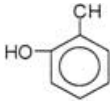
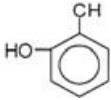
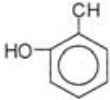
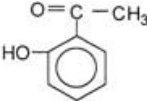
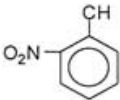
The hydrazine hydrate (99%) (1 g, 0.02 mol) was added dropwise to ethyl carboxyaniline-4 sulfonamide (2.44 g, 0.01 mol) in DMF (50 mL). The reaction mixture was refluxed on a hot plate for about 4 h, then cooled. The solid product was filtered off and recrystallized from ethanol to give light white crystals, m.p. 221°C.



### Preparation of Semicarbazone Ligands, SSBS, SSBSS, HASBS and NBSBS

A mixture of (2.30 g, 0.01 mol) semicarbazide-4yl-benzene sulfonamide (SBS) and (1.22 g, 0.01 mol) salicylaldehyde or (1.36 g, 0.01 mol) *o*-hydroxyacetophenone in 50 mL DMF was refluxed for 1 h. In the case of *o*-nitrobenzaldehyde (1.52 g, 0.01 mol), the mixture was refluxed for 15 h. The reaction with salicylaldehyde (2.44 g, 0.02 mol) was repeated at a longer reflux time, 15 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated and cooled. The solid products were filtered off and recrystallized from ethanol. The following scheme shows the preparation of substituted semicarbazones-4yl-benzene sulfonamide.



Compound	X	R	Time of reflux (h)	m.p. (°C)
SSBS (L <sup>1</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub>		1	231
SSBSS (L <sup>2</sup> )			15	193
HASBS (L <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub>		1	234
NBSBS (L <sup>4</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub>		15	171

SSBS = salicylaldehyde semicarbazone-4yl-benzene sulfonamide.

SSBSS = salicylaldehyde semicarbazone-4yl-benzene salicylaldehyde sulfonamide.

HASBS = 2-hydroxyacetophenone semicarbazone-4yl-benzene sulfonamide.

NBSBS = 2-nitrobenzaldehyde semicarbazone-4yl-benzene sulfonamide.

The purity of the ligand was examined by elemental analysis, IR, <sup>1</sup>H NMR and mass spectra. Anal. Calcd L<sup>1</sup>: C, 50.30; H, 4.19; N, 16.70; S, 9.58. Found: C, 49.50; H, 3.70; N, 17.00; S, 9.50. Calcd L<sup>2</sup>: C, 57.53; H, 4.20; N, 12.78; S, 7.30. Found: C, 57.10; H, 4.60; N, 13.00; S, 6.90. Calcd L<sup>3</sup>: C, 48.24; H, 5.53; N, 14.07; S, 8.04. Found: C, 48.30; H, 5.70; N, 14.30; S, 8.40. Calcd L<sup>4</sup>: C, 44.10; H, 3.94; N, 18.37; S, 8.40. Found: C, 44.80; H, 4.10; N, 18.10; S, 8.20. The colors of the ligands L<sup>1</sup>, L<sup>2</sup>, L<sup>3</sup> and L<sup>4</sup> were yellow, yellowish brown, yellowish white and yellowish brown, respectively. IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>), ν<sub>as</sub> NH 3295–3346, ν<sub>s</sub> NH 3225–3300 cm<sup>-1</sup> of NH<sub>2</sub>, νOH...N, 3040–3150 cm<sup>-1</sup>, νC=O, 1690–1715 cm<sup>-1</sup>; νC=N, 1555–1600 cm<sup>-1</sup> and νCONH, 1505–1530 cm<sup>-1</sup>. For L<sup>1</sup>–L<sup>4</sup>, ν<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>2</sub> 1150–1160, ν<sub>1</sub>SO<sub>2</sub> 1050–1060 and ν<sub>4</sub>SO<sub>2</sub> 385–395 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Resonance between the ketonic and enolic forms of each of these ligands is shown in the following scheme:



<sup>1</sup>H NMR, δ(ppm), δOH phenolic 9.00–9.75, δCH=N 8.30–8.90, δCH aromatic 6.90–7.60 and δNH 3.15–3.30. The mass spectra of each compound corresponded to its molecular weight (*m/e*).

### Synthesis of New Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) Semicarbazone Complexes

2 mmole of LiOH dissolved in the minimum of twice distilled water (~2 mL) was added to 1 mmol of the ligand dissolved in 50 mL of ethanol to convert it to the ionic form. The mixture was stirred for 30 min, then 1 mmol of the metal salt,  $\text{MnCl}_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{Co}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{NiCl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  or  $\text{CuSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$  dissolved in distilled water (~5 mL) was added to the mixture. The reaction mixture was stirred for 5 h during which the solid complex precipitated. It was then filtered off, washed several times with distilled water, then a small amount of ethanol to remove any traces of the metal ions or free ligands, and finally washed with diethyl ether and then dried *in vacuo*.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Elemental analyses of the prepared Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) complexes with semicarbazone derivatives (Table I) indicate that the stoichiometries are either (1:1) (M:L), denoting the formation of mononuclear complexes of  $\text{L}^1$ ,  $\text{L}^3$  and  $\text{L}^4$  in which the semicarbazone ligand  $\text{L}^1$  and  $\text{L}^3$  behave as monoanionic terdentate and  $\text{L}^4$  behaves as neutral terdentate ligand towards the divalent metal ion or (2:1) (M:L), denoting the formation of binuclear complexes of the ligand  $\text{L}^2$  in which the semicarbazone ligand behaves as a monoanionic terdentate ligand toward one of the divalent metal ions and as a monoanionic bidentate ligand toward the other metal ion in the same complex.

### Thermogravimetric Analysis

Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) (Table II) of some solid complexes indicate that they exhibit common behavior. The thermograms can be subdivided into five main regions: the first region extends up to 125°C representing the removal of lattice water or ethanol molecules. The second region extending up to 310°C includes the elimination of water or ethanol molecules involved in coordination with the central metal (II) ion. The third region extending up to 380°C includes the elimination of noncoordinated or coordinated  $\text{Cl}^-$  or  $\text{NO}_3^-$  or  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  ions. In the fourth region, thermal stability extends up to 535°C. The fifth region extending up to 800°C represents decomposition of the complex through removal of the ligand leading to the metal oxide. The metal content in the residue was calculated and found to be consistent with the results of the elemental analysis of the complexes.

### Spectral Measurements

The IR spectra of the Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) complexes compared to the free ligands (Table III) indicates the following: (1) The IR spectra of all complexes exhibit a broad band around (3420–3543)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  which is attributed to a  $\nu\text{OH}$  of a water and/or ethanol molecule associated with the complex formation. (2) The ligands  $\text{L}^1$ ,  $\text{L}^3$  and  $\text{L}^4$  display bands at (3305–3320) and (3220–3230)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  assignable to  $\nu_{\text{as}}$  and  $\nu_{\text{s}}$  of  $\text{NH}_2$ , respectively. These bands remain almost intact in the spectra of the mononuclear complexes showing their nonparticipation in the chelation. (3) The ligands  $\text{L}^1$ ,  $\text{L}^2$  and  $\text{L}^3$  show a broad band at 3040–3110  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  due to the phenolic OH group of the conjugate

TABLE I Elemental analysis and some physical properties of the solid complexes of L<sup>1</sup>, L<sup>2</sup>, L<sup>3</sup> and L<sup>4</sup>

Complex	M:L	Color	m.p. (°C)	F. W	Analysis Found % (Calculated %)				
					%C	%H	%N	%S	%M
[MnL <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl · 3H <sub>2</sub> O	1:1	Gray	318	531.4	31.5 (31.6)	4.2 (4.7)	10.2 (10.5)	6.2 (6.0)	10.7 (10.3)
[CoL <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]NO <sub>3</sub> · 5H <sub>2</sub> O	1:1	Brown	260	597.8	27.7 (28.1)	4.8 (4.8)	11.5 (11.7)	5.2 (5.4)	9.6 (9.9)
[NiL <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl · 2H <sub>2</sub> O · EtOH	1:1	Light green	> 350	563.2	34.6 (34.1)	4.5 (5.1)	10.0 (9.9)	5.6 (5.7)	10.2 (10.4)
[CuL <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]SO <sub>4</sub> · 2H <sub>2</sub> O · EtOH	1:1	Dark green	242	1079.0	33.5 (33.4)	4.5 (4.5)	10.3 (10.4)	8.8 (8.9)	11.9 (11.8)
[Mn <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> Cl <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>5</sub> ] · 6H <sub>2</sub> O	2:1	Gray	250	814.86	30.8 (31.0)	4.4 (4.7)	6.7 (6.9)	3.8 (3.9)	13.9 (13.5)
[Co <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> (NO <sub>3</sub> )(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>6</sub> ]	2:1	Olive green	> 350	722.86	35.1 (34.9)	3.8 (3.7)	9.5 (9.7)	4.5 (4.4)	16.7 (16.3)
[Ni <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> (Cl) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>5</sub> ]	2:1	Green	298	714.40	35.2 (35.3)	3.9 (3.6)	7.7 (7.8)	4.4 (4.5)	16.0 (16.4)
[Cu <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]SO <sub>4</sub> · H <sub>2</sub> O	2:1	Brown	302	1346.0	36.9 (37.4)	2.7 (3.3)	8.2 (8.3)	7.2 (7.1)	18.4 (18.9)
[MnL <sup>3</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl · H <sub>2</sub> O	1:1	Brown	240	509.4	35.6 (35.3)	4.0 (4.5)	10.8 (11.0)	6.4 (6.3)	11.2 (10.8)
[CoL <sup>3</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]NO <sub>3</sub> · EtOH	1:1	Olive green	287	567.9	35.4 (35.9)	4.2 (4.8)	12.4 (12.3)	5.5 (5.6)	10.7 (10.4)
[NiL <sup>3</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl · 4H <sub>2</sub> O	1:1	Green	310	567.2	31.3 (31.7)	4.8 (5.1)	9.7 (9.9)	5.7 (5.6)	10.6 (10.4)
[CuL <sup>3</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> (EtOH)] · SO <sub>4</sub>	1:1	Dark brown	238	1081	37.2 (37.7)	4.0 (4.6)	10.5 (10.4)	8.8 (8.9)	12.2 (11.8)
[MnL <sup>4</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl <sub>2</sub> · 3H <sub>2</sub> O	1:1	Dark brown	237	596.9	28.5 (28.1)	4.5 (4.2)	11.6 (11.7)	5.4 (5.4)	9.5 (9.2)
[CoL <sub>2</sub> <sup>4</sup> ] · 2EtOH	1:2	Brown	231	874.9	44.3 (43.8)	4.2 (4.1)	16.1 (16.0)	7.2 (7.3)	7.1 (6.7)
[NiL <sup>4</sup> (EtOH) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O)]Cl <sub>2</sub> · H <sub>2</sub> O	1:1	Green	> 350	588.7	36.5 (36.7)	4.8 (4.9)	11.8 (11.9)	5.6 (5.4)	9.6 (10.0)
[CuL <sup>4</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]SO <sub>4</sub> · 2H <sub>2</sub> O	1:1	Dark brown	249	612.5	27.9 (27.4)	4.2 (3.7)	11.3 (11.4)	10.7 (10.5)	10.3 (10.4)

TABLE II Thermogravimetric analysis of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) complexes

<i>Complex</i>	<i>Temp. range (°C)</i>	<i>% Loss calc. (found)</i>	<i>Lost fragments</i>	<i>Residue</i>
[MnL <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl · 3H <sub>2</sub> O	50–125	10.2 (10.3)	3 H <sub>2</sub> O lattice	[Mn L <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl
	125–240	10.2 (10.3)	3 H <sub>2</sub> O coordinated	[Mn L <sup>1</sup> ]Cl
	240–270	6.7 (6.6)	Loss of Cl <sup>-</sup> ion	[Mn L <sup>1</sup> ]
	365–535		Thermal stability	
	535–800	62.7 (62.5)		MnO
[Mn <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> Cl <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>5</sub> ] · 6H <sub>2</sub> O	30–110	13.2 (12.9)	6 H <sub>2</sub> O lattice	[Mn <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> Cl <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>5</sub> ]
	120–200	11.0 (11.1)	5 H <sub>2</sub> O coordinated	[Mn <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> Cl <sub>2</sub> ]
	230–380	8.7 (8.9)	2 Cl <sup>-</sup> ion coordinated	[Mn <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> ]
	455–480		Thermal stability	
	550–700	53.5 (53.1)		2 MnO
[MnL <sup>3</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl · H <sub>2</sub> O	30–55	3.5 (3.7)	One H <sub>2</sub> O lattice	[Mn L <sup>3</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl
	107–225	10.6 (11.1)	3 H <sub>2</sub> O coordinated	[Mn L <sup>3</sup> ]Cl
	225–304	6.9 (6.5)	Loss of a Cl <sup>-</sup> ion	[Mn L <sup>3</sup> ]
	430–475		Thermal stability	
	475–725	68.1 (67.9)		MnO
[MnL <sup>4</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> · 3H <sub>2</sub> O	19.6–70.2	9.0 (9.1)	3 H <sub>2</sub> O lattice	[Mn L <sup>4</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl <sub>2</sub>
	120–230	9.0 (9.1)	3 H <sub>2</sub> O coordinated	[Mn L <sup>4</sup> ]2Cl
	230–265	11.9 (11.6)	2 Cl <sup>-</sup> ion coordinated	[Mn L <sup>4</sup> ]
	420–440		Thermal stability	
	440–880	68.1 (67.9)		MnO
[CoL <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]NO <sub>3</sub> · 5H <sub>2</sub> O	34–250	24.0 (24.1)	5H <sub>2</sub> O lattice and 3H <sub>2</sub> O coordinated	[Co L <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]NO <sub>3</sub>
	284–313	10.4 (10.5)	Loss of a NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> ion	[Co L <sup>1</sup> ]NO <sub>3</sub>
	450–480		Thermal stability	[Co L <sup>1</sup> ]
	520–690	55.7 (55.5)		CoO
	[Co <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> (NO <sub>3</sub> )(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>6</sub> ]	144–250	14.9 (15.0)	6 H <sub>2</sub> O coordinated
250–296		8.6 (8.6)	Loss of a coordinated NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	[Co <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> ]
296–310			Thermal stability	
410–789		60.2 (59.9)		2CoO
[CoL <sup>3</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]NO <sub>3</sub> · EtOH		22.9–80.1	8.1 (8.6)	One EtOH lattice
	110–250	9.5 (9.5)	3 H <sub>2</sub> O coordinated	[Co L <sup>3</sup> ]NO <sub>3</sub>
	250–273	10.9 (10.9)	Loss of a NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> ion	[Co L <sup>3</sup> ]
	470–490		Thermal stability	
	490–671	61.1 (60.6)		CoO
[CoL <sub>2</sub> <sup>4</sup> ] · 2EtOH	26.1–85.0	10.8 (10.9)	2 EtOH lattice	[Co L <sub>2</sub> <sup>4</sup> ]
	180–220		Thermal stability	
	326–700	82.18 (82.11)		CoO
[NiL <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl · 2H <sub>2</sub> O · EtOH	21–93	8.2 (8.3)	EtOH lattice one	[Ni L <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl · 2H <sub>2</sub> O
	93–223	15.9 (16.1)	2 H <sub>2</sub> O lattice and 3 H <sub>2</sub> O coordinated	[Ni L <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl
			Loss of a Cl <sup>-</sup> ion	[NiL <sup>1</sup> ]Cl
	223–243	6.3 (6.3)		[NiL <sup>1</sup> ]
	250–260		Thermal stability	NiO
[Ni <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> (Cl) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>5</sub> ]	475–600	59.13 (58.8)		
	110–279	12.6 (12.6)	5 H <sub>2</sub> O coordinated	[Ni <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> Cl <sub>2</sub> ]
	279–300	9.9 (9.9)	Cl <sup>-</sup> ion coordinated	[Ni <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> ]
	450–480		Thermal stability	
	500–639	61.0 (60.9)		NiO
[NiL <sup>3</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>5</sub> ]Cl · 4H <sub>2</sub> O	50–300	22.21 (21.90)	2 H <sub>2</sub> O lattice and 3 H <sub>2</sub> O coordinated	[Ni L <sup>3</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>5</sub> ]Cl
	300–320	6.26 (6.25)	Loss of a Cl <sup>-</sup> ion	[Ni L <sup>3</sup> ]Cl
	320–330		Thermal stability	[Ni L <sup>3</sup> ]
	330–688	61.18 (61.54)		[NiO]

(Continued)

TABLE II Continued

Complex	Temp. range (°C)	% Loss calc. (found)	Lost fragments	Residue
[NiL <sup>4</sup> (EtOH) <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O]Cl <sub>2</sub> · H <sub>2</sub> O	34–80	3.06 (3.00)		[NiL <sup>4</sup> (EtOH) <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O]Cl <sub>2</sub>
	110–289	18.69 (18.50)	2 EtOH coordinated and one H <sub>2</sub> O coordinated Loss 2 Cl <sup>-</sup> ions	[NiL <sup>4</sup> H <sub>2</sub> O]Cl <sub>2</sub> [NiL <sup>4</sup> ]Cl <sub>2</sub> [NiL <sup>4</sup> ]
	289–319	12.06 (12.00)		
	319–340		Thermal stability	
	401–694	56.23 (56.5)		[NiO]
[CuL <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> · 2H <sub>2</sub> O · EtOH	50–80	4.26 (4.48)	One EtOH lattice	[CuL <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> · 2H <sub>2</sub> O
	80–260	13.35 (13.48)	2 H <sub>2</sub> O lattice and 3 H <sub>2</sub> O coordinated	[CuL <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> [CuL <sup>1</sup> ] <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> [CuL <sup>1</sup> ] <sub>2</sub>
	260–274	8.90 (8.99)	Loss of SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-2</sup> ion	
	307–320		Thermal stability	
	361–695	61.72 (61.33)		2 CuO
[Cu <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> · H <sub>2</sub> O	24.59–94.75	1.34 (1.50)	One H <sub>2</sub> O lattice	[Cu <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>
	135–310	8.02 (8.00)	6 H <sub>2</sub> O coordinated	[Cu <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> ] <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> [Cu <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> ] <sub>2</sub>
	310–322	7.13 (7.00)	Loss of a SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-2</sup> ion	
	322–342		Thermal stability	
	342–660	64.62 (64.50)		4 CuO
[CuL <sup>3</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> (EtOH)] <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	135–268	15.54 (15.19)	2EtOH coordinated and 4 H <sub>2</sub> O coordinated	[CuL <sup>3</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> [CuL <sup>3</sup> ] <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> [CuL <sup>3</sup> ] <sub>2</sub>
	277–295	8.88 (8.82)	Loss of a SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-2</sup> ion	
	380–400		Thermal stability	
	450–558	64.19 (64.19)		2 CuO
[CuL <sup>4</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> · 2H <sub>2</sub> O	75–90	5.88 (5.61)	2 H <sub>2</sub> O lattice	[CuL <sup>4</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>
	123–153	8.82 (9.18)	3 H <sub>2</sub> O coordinated	[CuL <sup>4</sup> ] <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> [CuL <sup>4</sup> ] <sub>2</sub>
	226–279	15.67 (15.31)	Loss of SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-2</sup> ion	
	279–289		Thermal stability	
	301–673	59.26 (59.69)		CuO

chelate ring involving the OH...N=C hydrogen bond [9]. This band disappears on complex formation indicating the deprotonation of the phenolic OH group and the coordination of the metal ion to the phenolic oxygen atom [10,11]. (4) The  $\nu$ C=O is observed in all ligands around 1700–1715 cm<sup>-1</sup> and shifts lower by 5–15 cm<sup>-1</sup> in mononuclear complexes of the L<sup>1</sup>, L<sup>3</sup> and L<sup>4</sup> ligands and shifts higher by 10 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the binuclear complexes of L<sup>2</sup> except the Co(II) and Cu(II) complexes, indicating the bonding of the carbonyl oxygen to the metal ion. In the case of Co(II) and Cu(II) complexes of ligand L<sup>2</sup> this band totally disappears due to keto–enol tautomerism and the deprotonation of the hydrogen atom of the enolic form. (5) The  $\nu$ C=N observed around 1590–1600 cm<sup>-1</sup> in all ligands shifts by 5–15 cm<sup>-1</sup> lower in the mononuclear complexes of L<sup>1</sup>, L<sup>3</sup> and L<sup>4</sup> ligands and shifts higher by 5–20 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the binuclear complexes of L<sup>2</sup> ligand. However, the observed decrease in this frequency is not that large because this group is conjugated to a benzene ring [12,13]. (6) The bands due to  $\nu_3$ SO<sub>2</sub>,  $\nu_1$ SO<sub>2</sub> and  $\nu_2$ SO<sub>2</sub> are located at 1160, 1060 and 390 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively, in the IR spectra of L<sup>1</sup>, L<sup>3</sup> and L<sup>4</sup> ligands and remain at the same position in the IR spectra of the metal complexes, indicating that the SO<sub>2</sub> group does not participate in complex formation. For binuclear complexes of L<sup>2</sup>,  $\nu_3$ SO<sub>2</sub>,  $\nu_1$ SO<sub>2</sub> and  $\nu_2$ SO<sub>2</sub> located at 1150, 1050 and 385 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the IR spectra of the ligand L<sup>2</sup>, shift  $\pm$ 5–45 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the complexes indicating the disturbance of the SO<sub>2</sub> group by the formation of the near chelate ring. (7) Two new bands appear in the IR spectra of all metal chelates which are absent in the IR spectra of the free ligands at



TABLE III Important IR spectral bands (cm<sup>-1</sup>) and their assignment for ligands L<sup>1</sup>, L<sup>2</sup>, L<sup>3</sup> and L<sup>4</sup> and their metal complexes

Compound	$\nu_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$	$\nu_{\text{asNH}_2}$	$\nu_{\text{sNH}_2}$	$\nu_{\text{N-H}}$	$\nu_{\text{OH...N}}$	$\nu_{\text{C=O}}$	$\nu_{\text{C=N}}$	$\nu_{\text{CON}}$	$\nu_{\text{SO}_2}$	$\nu_{\text{SO}_2}$	$\delta_{\text{NH}_{\text{aromatic}}}$	$\delta_{\text{NH}_{\text{aliphatic}}}$	$\nu_{\text{M-O}}$	$\nu_{\text{M-N}}$	$\nu_{\text{SO}_4}$	Other bands
L <sup>1</sup>	—	3305	3225	—	3110–3060	1710	1600	1530	1160	1060	715	670	—	—	—	—
[MnL <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl · 3H <sub>2</sub> O	3480	3300	3220	—	—	1700	1590	1523	1160	1060	710	670	543	425	390	—
[CoL <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]NO <sub>3</sub> · 5H <sub>2</sub> O	3480	3300	3220	—	—	1695	1585	1520	1160	1060	720	650	547	445	390	$\nu_{\text{NO}_3^-}$ 1400
[NiL <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl · 2H <sub>2</sub> O · EtOH	3543	3302	3224	—	—	1705	1595	1518	1160	1060	715	660	543	440	390	—
[CuL <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> · 2H <sub>2</sub> O · EtOH	3485	3305	3230	—	—	1700	1588	1525	1160	1060	715	660	547	440	390	$\nu_{\text{SO}_4^{2-}}$ 1160
L <sup>2</sup>	—	3290	3220	3290–3220	3040–3100	1700	1590	1520	1150	1050	710	650	—	—	—	—
[MnL <sup>2</sup> Cl <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>5</sub> ] · 6H <sub>2</sub> O	3470	—	—	broad	broad	1710	1595	1530	1155	1055	710	655	540	435	390	Mn-Cl 340
[Co <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> (NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>6</sub> ]	3480	—	—	broad	—	—	1610	—	1150	1095	760	610	560	420	—	M-NO <sub>3</sub> 1440 $\nu_{\text{s}}$ 1325 Ni-Cl 342 $\nu_{\text{SO}_4^{2-}}$ 1150
[Ni <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> (Cl) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>5</sub> ]	3460	—	—	3320–3220	—	1710	1595	1530	1160	1060	715	660	545	445	388	—
[Cu <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> · H <sub>2</sub> O	3420	—	—	broad	—	—	1605	—	1150	1090	755	600	555	460	355	—
L <sup>3</sup>	—	3320	3220	—	3115–3060	1710	1595	1535	1160	1060	715	660	—	—	—	—
[Mn L <sup>3</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl · H <sub>2</sub> O	3450	3320	3225	—	—	1700	1590	1530	1160	1060	720	660	544	442	395	—
[CoL <sup>3</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]NO <sub>3</sub> · EtOH	3460	3320	3220	—	—	1705	1590	1530	1155	1055	715	660	546	442	395	$\nu_{\text{SO}_4^{2-}}$ 1380
[NiL <sup>3</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl · 4H <sub>2</sub> O	3440	3320	3220	—	—	1705	1592	1530	1160	1060	715	660	542	440	395	—
[CuL <sup>3</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> (EtOH)] <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	3460	3300	3220	—	—	1700	1590	1520	1150	1050	710	655	550	446	395	$\nu_{\text{SO}_4^{2-}}$ 1150
L <sup>4</sup>	—	3320	3230	—	—	1715	1590	1525	1155	1059	715	660	—	—	—	$\nu_{\text{NO}_2}$ 1400
[MnL <sup>4</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl <sub>2</sub> · 3H <sub>2</sub> O	3440	3300	3220	—	—	1705	1594	1530	1155	1055	710	650	540	440	388	$\nu_{\text{NO}_2}$ 1405, 1330, $\delta_{\text{s}}$ 825
[CoL <sub>2</sub> <sup>4</sup> ] · 2EtOH	3460	3310	3220	—	—	1705	1595	1530	1157	1055	710	650	548	450	390	$\nu_{\text{NO}_2}$ 1408, 1330, $\delta_{\text{s}}$ 825
[NiL <sup>4</sup> (EtOH) <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O]Cl <sub>2</sub> · H <sub>2</sub> O	3440	3320	3230	—	—	1700	1598	1530	1157	1060	715	660	548	450	390	$\nu_{\text{NO}_2}$ 1410, 1315, $\delta_{\text{s}}$ 840
[CuL <sup>4</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]SO <sub>4</sub> · 2H <sub>2</sub> O	3460	3320	3225	—	—	1710	1595	1530	1157	1060	720	655	548	442	390	$\nu_{\text{SO}_4^{2-}}$ 1157 $\nu_{\text{NO}_2}$ 1410, 1315, $\delta_{\text{s}}$ 835

(542–560) and (420–460)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  which can be assigned to  $\nu\text{M-O}$  and  $\nu\text{M-N}$ . (8) The  $\text{C=O}$  originating through resonance between the keto and enol forms of the ligands gives rise to a  $\text{C=O}$  band observed around (1520–1535)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in the spectra of all ligands and shifted lower by 5–15  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in all complexes except the binuclear complexes of  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  which did not exhibit the carbonyl stretching band. This is good evidence for enolization of the semicarbazone residue [9]. Also, the  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  complexes did not show any characteristic frequencies of the amide group ( $\text{NHCO}$ ); instead a new sharp band is observed at 1530  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  indicating the presence of  $\text{>C=N-N=C<}$  [14], which is also evidence for enolization analogous to those of azines. (9) In mononuclear complexes  $[\text{CoL}^1(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3]\text{NO}_3 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $[\text{CoL}^3(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3]\text{NO}_3 \cdot \text{EtOH}$ , the  $\nu_3\text{NO}_3$  is at 1400 and 1380  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , respectively, supporting the uncoordinated nature of the  $\text{NO}_3^-$  ion. For the binuclear complex  $[\text{Co}_2\text{L}^2(\text{NO}_3)(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]$ ,  $\nu_3\text{NO}_3$  at 1380  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  is split into two vibrations at 1440 and 1325  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , respectively, supporting the coordinated nature of the  $\text{NO}_3^-$  ion. For the  $\text{Co(II)}$  complex of  $\text{L}^4$  peaks at 1408, 1330 and 825  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  are due to the  $\text{NO}_2$  group coordinated to the metal ion. (10) In the  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  complexes of all ligands,  $\nu_3\text{S-O}$  is situated at 1150–1160  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  supporting the non-coordinated nature of the  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  ion [15].

The electronic reflectance spectra of the  $\text{Mn(II)}$  complexes of the ligands under investigation exhibit five bands with  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  situated at 221–290, 329.5–369, 388.5–491, 603–688 and 700–830 nm (Table IV). The first three bands can be assigned to  $\pi-\pi^*$  transitions within the organic molecule, with those for the  $\text{C=O}$  and  $\text{C=N}$  groups being shifted in comparison to the free ligands as a result of complex formation. The last two bands can be assigned to  ${}^6\text{A}_{1g} \rightarrow {}^4\text{T}_{2g}(\text{G})$  and  ${}^6\text{A}_{1g} \rightarrow {}^4\text{T}_{1g}(\text{G})$  transitions, respectively, which may indicate octahedral geometry around the  $\text{Mn(II)}$  ion [16]. The shift of positions of the bands of complexes compared to those of the ligand to lower or higher wavelengths indicate a formation of six coordinated species [17].

The electronic reflectance spectra of the  $\text{Co(II)}$  complexes of the ligands also exhibit five bands with  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  situated at 279–287, 337–393, 422–509, 550–692 and 711–850 nm (Table IV). The first three bands can be assigned to  $\pi-\pi^*$  transitions of  $\text{C=O}$ ,  $\text{C=N}$  and a ligand to metal charge transfer band ( $\text{L} \rightarrow \text{Co}$ ), respectively, the bands display small shifts from those of the free ligands as a result of complex formation. The last two bands can be assigned to  ${}^4\text{T}_{1g}(\text{F}) \rightarrow {}^4\text{T}_{1g}(\text{P})$  and  ${}^4\text{T}_{1g}(\text{F}) \rightarrow {}^4\text{A}_{2g}$  transitions, respectively, indicating octahedral geometry [18].

The electronic reflectance spectra of the  $\text{Ni(II)}$  complexes of the ligands exhibit five bands with  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  situated at (274.5–294), (360–397), (447–550), (616–683) and (700–880) nm (Table IV). The first three bands assigned to  $\pi-\pi^*$  transitions of the  $\text{C=O}$ ,  $\text{C=N}$  groups and a charge transfer band ( $\text{L} \rightarrow \text{Ni}$ ), respectively, as a result of complex formation. The last two bands can be assigned to  ${}^3\text{A}_{2g} \rightarrow {}^3\text{T}_{1g}(\text{P})$  and  ${}^3\text{A}_{2g} \rightarrow {}^3\text{T}_{1g}(\text{F})$  transitions, respectively, for octahedral geometry around the  $\text{Ni(II)}$  ion [8].

The electronic reflectance spectra of the  $\text{Cu(II)}$  complexes of the ligands except for complex of ligand  $\text{L}^2$  show mainly five bands with  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  (238.5–292.5), (300–390), (405.5–590), (651.5–750) and (800–860) nm (Table IV). The first three bands can be assigned to  $\pi-\pi^*$  transitions within the  $\text{C=O}$ ,  $\text{C=N}$  and a charge transfer band ( $\text{L} \rightarrow \text{Cu}$ ), respectively, the bands display small shifts from those of the free ligands as a result of complex formation. The last two bands can be assigned to the electronic transitions  ${}^2\text{B}_{1g} \rightarrow {}^2\text{B}_{2g}$  and  ${}^2\text{E}_g \rightarrow {}^2\text{T}_{2g}$  which are relevant to an octahedral arrangement of the ligands around the central  $\text{Cu(II)}$  ion. The  $\text{Cu(II)}$  complex of the ligand  $\text{L}^2$ , also shows five bands with  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  at 254.5, 320, 408.5, 730 and 800 nm. The first

TABLE IV Visible spectra and magnetic moment values of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) complexes of semicarbazone in nujol mull

Complex	Color	$\lambda_{\max}$ (nm)				$\lambda_{\max}$ (nm)	Assignment	Magnetic moment (B.M)
		$\pi-\pi^*$ aromatic ring	$\pi-\pi^*$ C=O	$\pi-\pi^*$ C=N	C, T L → Co L → Ni L → Cu			
[Mn L <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl · 3H <sub>2</sub> O	Gray	244	330	388.5	—	625.4	<sup>6</sup> A <sub>1g</sub> → <sup>4</sup> T <sub>2g</sub> (G)	5.81
[Mn <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> Cl <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>5</sub> ] · 6H <sub>2</sub> O	Gray	244	338	404	—	733	<sup>6</sup> A <sub>1g</sub> → <sup>4</sup> T <sub>1g</sub> (G)	4.05
[MnL <sup>2</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl · H <sub>2</sub> O	Brown	275	360	410	—	710	<sup>6</sup> A <sub>1g</sub> → <sup>4</sup> T <sub>2g</sub> (G)	6.1
[MnL <sup>4</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl <sub>2</sub> · 3H <sub>2</sub> O	Dark brown	266	338	446	—	708	<sup>6</sup> A <sub>1g</sub> → <sup>4</sup> T <sub>2g</sub> (G)	5.03
[CoL <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]NO <sub>3</sub> · 5H <sub>2</sub> O	Brown	—	282	343	452	625	<sup>4</sup> T <sub>1g</sub> (F) → <sup>4</sup> T <sub>1g</sub> (P)	4.48
[Co <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> (NO <sub>3</sub> )(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>6</sub> ]	Olive green	—	279	—	422	750	<sup>4</sup> T <sub>1g</sub> (F) → <sup>4</sup> A <sub>2g</sub>	3.84
[CoL <sup>3</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]NO <sub>3</sub> · EtOH	Olive green	—	287	372	492	692	<sup>4</sup> T <sub>1g</sub> (F) → <sup>4</sup> T <sub>1g</sub> (P)	4.93
[CoL <sub>2</sub> <sup>4</sup> ] · 2EtOH	Brown	—	288	359	500	850	<sup>4</sup> T <sub>1g</sub> (F) → <sup>4</sup> A <sub>2g</sub>	—
[NiL <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl · 2H <sub>2</sub> O · EtOH	Light green	—	277	368	499	775	<sup>4</sup> T <sub>1g</sub> (F) → <sup>4</sup> A <sub>2g</sub>	2.74
[Ni <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> (Cl) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>5</sub> ]	Green	—	288	362	500	825	<sup>3</sup> A <sub>2g</sub> → <sup>3</sup> T <sub>1g</sub> (P)	1.78
[NiL <sup>3</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]Cl · 4H <sub>2</sub> O	Green	—	283	360	525	880	<sup>3</sup> A <sub>2g</sub> → <sup>3</sup> T <sub>1g</sub> (F)	3.18
[NiL <sup>4</sup> (EtOH) <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O]Cl <sub>2</sub> · H <sub>2</sub> O	Green	—	294	365	510	870	<sup>3</sup> A <sub>2g</sub> → <sup>3</sup> T <sub>1g</sub> (F)	3.46
[CuL <sup>1</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]SO <sub>4</sub> · 2H <sub>2</sub> O · EtOH	Dark green	—	276	306	421	686	<sup>2</sup> E <sub>g</sub> → <sup>2</sup> T <sub>2g</sub>	1.83
[Cu <sub>2</sub> L <sup>2</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ] <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> · H <sub>2</sub> O	Brown	—	254.5	320	408.5	850	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>1g</sub> → <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2g</sub>	1.44
[CuL <sup>3</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> (EtOH) <sub>2</sub> ]SO <sub>4</sub>	Dark brown	—	238.5	313	412	800	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>1g</sub> → <sup>2</sup> E <sub>g</sub>	1.61
[CuL <sup>4</sup> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]SO <sub>4</sub> · 2H <sub>2</sub> O	Dark brown	—	265.5	300	405.5	880	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>1g</sub> → <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2g</sub>	2.2
						651.5	<sup>2</sup> E <sub>g</sub> → <sup>2</sup> T <sub>2g</sub>	
						825	<sup>2</sup> B <sub>1g</sub> → <sup>2</sup> B <sub>2g</sub>	

three bands can be assigned to  $\pi-\pi^*$  transitions within the C=O, C=N and a charge transfer band (L→Cu), respectively. The last two bands can be assigned to  ${}^2B_{1g} \rightarrow {}^2E_g$  and  ${}^2B_{1g} \rightarrow {}^2B_{2g}$  transitions within the energy level diagram of  $Cu^{2+}$  by considering a highly distorted octahedral arrangement through tetragonal elongation leading finally to the square planar geometry. This is due to the strong splitting of Jahn–Teller unstable octahedral ground state term  ${}^2B_{1g}$ . However, it was suggested that highly split  ${}^2B_{1g}$  ground state and consequently an overlapping with the splitting term  ${}^2E_g$  lead to a spectral pattern that is characteristic of a square planar geometry [19]. It is interesting to mention that Cu(II) complexes possess two symmetries, octahedral geometry around Cu(II) ion for 1:1 (M:L) complexes and square planar for 2:1 (M:L) complexes.

### Magnetic Properties

The values of the magnetic moments of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) mononuclear complexes of  $L^1$ ,  $L^3$  and  $L^4$  with  $d^5$ ,  $d^7$ ,  $d^8$  and  $d^9$  ions lie within the range (5.03–6.1), (4.48–4.93), (2.74–3.46) and (1.6–2.2) BM, respectively (Table V). The magnetic moment values of Mn(II), Co(II) and Cu(II) binuclear complexes of  $L^2$  ligand with  $d^5$ ,  $d^7$ ,  $d^8$  and  $d^9$  ions amounted to 4.05, 3.86, 1.78 and 1.44 BM, respectively. These values are lower than the proper spin only values, due to the presence of the two adjacent metal ions in the binuclear complexes and subsequent antiferromagnetic exchange [8].

### Antimicrobial Screening

Agar disc diffusion was used to test for antimicrobial activity. Assay of the compounds follows.

TABLE V Antimicrobial activity of the semicarbazones and their complexes

Compound	Clear zone (cm) <i>nujol mull</i>	% Inhibition
$L^1$	2.55	28.33
$L^1Mn$	2.77	30.86
$L^1Co$	5.33	59.25
$L^1Ni$	5.89	65.44
$L^1Cu$	4.55	50.61
$L^2$	5.11	56.77
$L^2Mn$	5.55	61.73
$L^2Co$	2.56	28.30
$L^2Ni$	4.22	46.90
$L^2Cu$	2.88	32.00
$L^3$	4.33	48.15
$L^3Mn$	4.55	50.62
$L^3Co$	4.56	50.00
$L^3Ni$	4.77	53.08
$L^3Cu$	6.00	66.66
$L^4$	1.33	14.81
$L^4Mn$	1.60	17.78
$L^4Co$	2.00	22.22
$L^4Ni$	3.00	33.33
$L^4Cu$	3.44	38.27

Filter paper discs impregnated with each of the investigated compounds as a nujol mull was placed on the surface of Czapek's agar medium seeded with *Alternaria alternata* at 30°C and incubated for seven days, then the average diameter of the inhibition zone was recorded for each compound. The results are shown in Table V. All the complexes and ligands were found to be highly active against the fungus. The metal complexes were found to be more active in all cases than their corresponding ligands (Table V), confirming that chelation of metal to ligand increases the toxicity of the compound [3].

The growth inhibition capacity of all complexes of  $L^1$  follows the order  $Ni^{II} > Co^{II} > Cu^{II} > Mn^{II}$ , also the growth inhibition capacity of all complexes of  $L^3$  and  $L^4$  follows the order  $Cu^{II} > Ni^{II} > Co^{II} > Mn^{II}$  but  $L^2$  complexes show different behavior in Table V.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the above results, the structure of the complexes under investigation can be formulated as follows (Figs. 1–6):

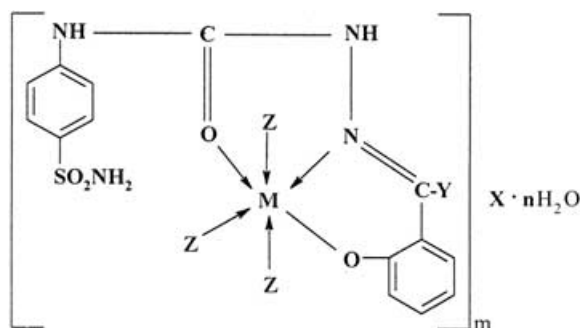


FIGURE 1 Octahedral structures of metal complexes of ligands  $L^1$  and  $L^3$ ;  $Y=H$  and  $CH_3$ , respectively;  $Z$  = a solvent molecule,  $H_2O$  and/or  $EtOH$ ;  $X=Cl^-$ ,  $NO_3^-$  or  $SO_4^{2-}$ ;  $M=Mn(II)$ ,  $Co(II)$ ,  $Ni(II)$  or  $Cu(II)$ ;  $m=1$  ( $X=Cl^-$ , or  $NO_3^-$ );  $2$  ( $X=SO_4^{2-}$ ) for values of  $n$  see Table I.

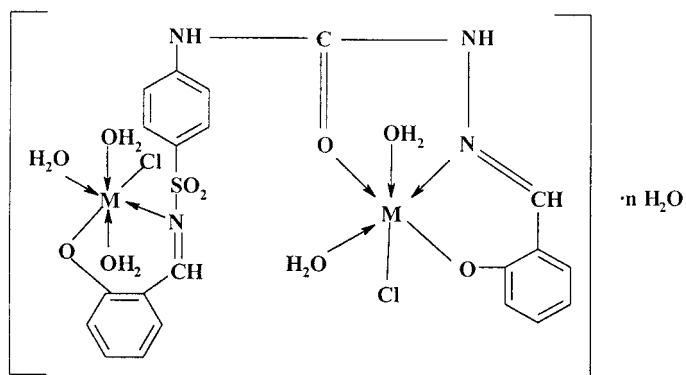


FIGURE 2 Octahedral structures of metal complexes of ligand  $L^2$ ,  $M=Mn(II)$  or  $Ni(II)$ .

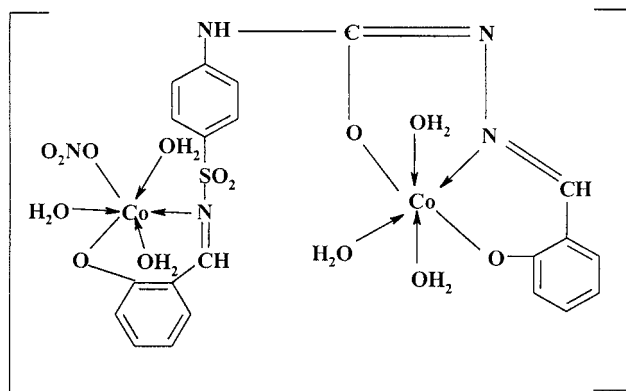


FIGURE 3 Octahedral structures of Co(II) complex of ligand  $L^2$ .

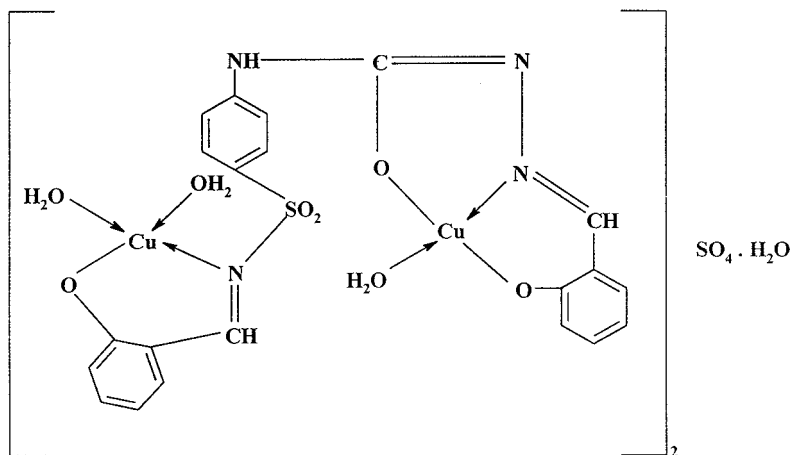


FIGURE 4 Square planar structure of Cu(II) complex of ligand  $L^2$ .

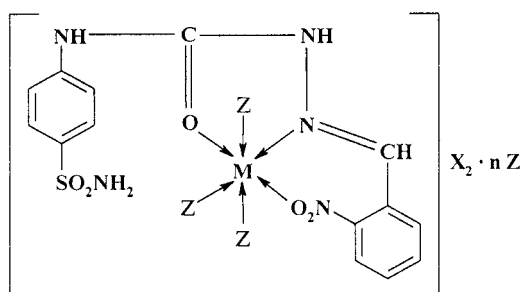


FIGURE 5 Octahedral structures of metal complexes of ligand  $L^4$   $M=Mn(II)$ ,  $Ni(II)$  or  $Cu(II)$ ;  $X_2=2Cl^-$  or  $SO_4^{2-}$ ;  $Z=EtOH$  and/or  $H_2O$ .

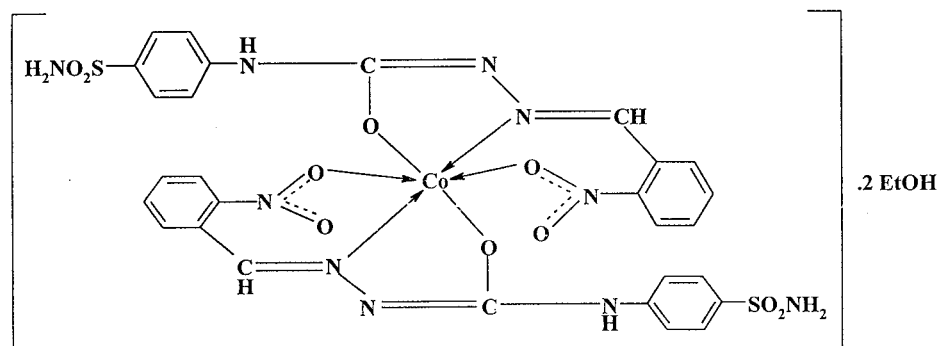


FIGURE 6 Octahedral structures of Co(II) complex of ligand L<sup>4</sup>.

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