

## THERMAL, SPECTRAL AND MAGNETIC BEHAVIOUR OF 2,3,4-TRIMETHOXYBENZOATES OF Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) AND Cu(II)

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Four new complexes of 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoic acid anion with manganese(II), cobalt(II), nickel(II) and copper(II) cations were synthesized, analysed and characterized by standard chemical and physical methods. 2,3,4-Trimethoxybenzoates of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) are polycrystalline compounds with colours typical for M(II) ions. The carboxylate group in the anhydrous complexes of Mn(II), Co(II) and Ni(II) is monodentate and in that of Cu(II) monohydrate is bidentate bridging one. The anhydrous complexes of Mn(II), Co(II) and Ni(II) heated in air to 1273 K are stable up to 505–517 K. Next in the range of 505–1205 K they decompose to the following oxides: Mn<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, CoO, NiO. The complex of Cu(II) is stable up to 390 K, and next in the range of 390–443 K it loses one molecule of water. The final product of its decomposition is CuO. The solubility in water at 293 K is of the order of 10<sup>-3</sup> mol dm<sup>-3</sup> for the Mn(II) complex and 10<sup>-4</sup> mol dm<sup>-3</sup> for Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) complexes. The magnetic moment values of Mn<sup>2+</sup>, Co<sup>2+</sup>, Ni<sup>2+</sup> and Cu<sup>2+</sup> ions in 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates experimentally determined in the range of 77–300 K change from 5.64–6.57 μ<sub>B</sub> (for Mn<sup>2+</sup>), 4.73–5.17 μ<sub>B</sub> (for Co<sup>2+</sup>), 3.26–3.35 μ<sub>B</sub> (for Ni<sup>2+</sup>) and 0.27–1.42 μ<sub>B</sub> (for Cu<sup>2+</sup>). 2,3,4-Trimethoxybenzoates of Mn(II), Co(II) and Ni(II) follow the Curie–Weiss law, whereas that of Cu(II) forms a dimer.

**Keywords:** complexes of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II), Cu(II), IR spectra, magnetic moments, thermal stability, 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates

### Introduction

2,3,4-Trimethoxybenzoic acid having formula (CH<sub>3</sub>O)<sub>3</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H is a white crystalline solid, sparingly soluble in cold water. Its solubility in water increases with the rise of temperature [1]. Recently, we have synthesized 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates of lanthanides(III) and yttrium(III) and investigated some of their physico-chemical properties [2–10]. In order to study more intensely the properties of 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates of trivalent and divalent metal ions, as a continuation of our earlier work, four new complexes of general formula M(C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·nH<sub>2</sub>O (where M=Mn, Co, Ni and Cu and n=1 for Cu(II)) have been prepared and examined.

Physico-chemical properties of these new coordination compounds were characterized by thermal stability in air during heating to 1273 K, IR spectral data, X-ray powder investigations, solubility in water at room temperature and magnetic properties. Thermal stability investigations give information about the mechanism of complex decomposition and the endo- or exo-effects connected with such processes as: dehydration, melting, polymorphic changes, crystallization, oxidation or reduction. The magnetic properties of obtained complexes of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) were investigated in the range of 77–300 K in order to study the kind of coordination of central ions and the nature of bonding be-

tween central ions and ligands. If the effective magnetic moment μ<sub>eff</sub> is known, the number of unpaired electrons can be calculated. This may also give information on the oxidation state of the metal ion or the central atom of a complex, on the electron configuration and, hence, on the nature of the bonding between the metal and the ligands. On the other hand, when the number of unpaired electrons in the complexes is known, the spin-only moment can be calculated. The deviation of the measured magnetic moment from the spin-only permits the drawing of conclusions on the symmetry of the complex in certain cases. In coordination compounds the number of unpaired electrons of the central atom is determined by its oxidation state on the ligand-field strength. The determination of the number of unpaired electrons of the central atom allows establishing whether the complex investigated is of low or high spin and whether the ligand field is strong or weak.

### Experimental

#### Sample preparation

The complexes of the 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoic acid anion with cations of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) were obtained by the addition of equivalent quantities of 0.1 M ammonium 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoate (pH≈5)

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to a hot solution containing the nitrates(V) of these metal ions and crystallizing at 293 K. The solids were filtered off, washed with hot water and ethanol to remove ammonium ions and dried at 303 K.

#### Analytical techniques used

The C, H analysis was performed using a CHN 2400 Perkin-Elmer analyser.

The IR spectra of complexes were recorded over the range 4000–400  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  using M-80 spectrophotometer (Carl-Zeiss, Jena). Samples for IR spectra measurements were prepared as KBr discs.

The X-ray powder diffraction were taken on a HZG-4 (Carl Zeiss-Jena) diffractometer using Ni filtered  $\text{CuK}\alpha$  radiation. The measurements were made within the range  $2\theta=4\text{--}80^\circ$  by means the Debye–Scherrer–Hull method.

The thermal stability and decomposition of the complexes were studied in air using a Setsys 16/18 TG, DTA instrument. The experiments were carried out under air flow in the temperature range of 297–1273 K. Samples ranging between 6.76 and 8.44 mg were heated in  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  crucibles.

Magnetic susceptibilities of polycrystalline samples of 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) were investigated in the temperature range of 76–303 K. The measurements were carried out using the Gouy method. Mass changes were obtained from Cahn RM-2 electrobalance. The calibrant employed was  $\text{Co}[\text{Hg}(\text{SCN})_4]$  for which the magnetic susceptibility was assumed to be  $1.644 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ cm}^{-3} \text{ g}^{-1}$ . Correction for diamagnetism of the constituent atoms

was calculated by the use of Pascal's constants [11, 12]. Magnetic moments were calculated according to Eqs (1) and (2).

$$\mu_{\text{eff}}=2.83(\chi_{\text{M}} T)^{1/2} \quad (1)$$

$$\mu_{\text{eff}}=2.83[\chi_{\text{M}}(T-\theta)]^{1/2} \quad (2)$$

where  $\theta$  is the Weiss constant.

Solubility of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) complexes in water was measured at 293 K. Saturated solutions of the obtained compounds were prepared under isothermal conditions. The contents of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) were determined by using ASA 880 spectrophotometer (Varian).

## Results and discussion

2,3,4-Trimethoxybenzoates of manganese(II), cobalt(II), nickel(II) and copper(II) were obtained as polycrystalline solids with a metal ion to ligand ratio of 1:2 (Table 1) and a general formula  $\text{M}(\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_5)_2 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (where  $M=\text{Mn, Co, Ni, Cu}$  and  $n=1$  for Cu) Their colours are typical for the corresponding divalent ions (Mn(II)-slightly pink, Co(II)-pink, Ni(II)-green, Cu(II)-blue).

Some of the results of IR spectra analysis are presented in Table 2. The infrared spectrum of 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoic acid shows the following absorption bands: a strong band of COOH at  $1680 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , the bands assigned to asymmetric and symmetric vibrations of the  $\text{OCH}_3$  groups occurring at  $2944$  and  $2840 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , respectively. The bands of ring vibrations appear at  $1592$ ,

**Table 1** Elemental analysis data of Mn(II)-, Co(II)-, Ni(II)- and Cu(II)-2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates

| Complex $L=\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_5^-$ | H/%    |       | C/%    |       | M/%    |       |
|--|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
|  | calcd. | found | calcd. | found | calcd. | found |
| $\text{MnL}_2$                                     | 4.61   | 4.62  | 50.28  | 50.32 | 11.50  | 14.34 |
| $\text{CoL}_2$                                     | 4.57   | 4.56  | 49.86  | 49.69 | 12.24  | 13.47 |
| $\text{NiL}_2$                                     | 4.57   | 4.57  | 49.89  | 49.50 | 12.20  | 12.28 |
| $\text{CuL}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$            | 4.76   | 4.78  | 47.63  | 47.77 | 12.62  | 12.78 |

**Table 2** Wavenumbers ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) of  $\text{COO}^-$  bands in 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II), Cu(II), in sodium salt of ligand and the COOH band in 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoic acid

| Complex $L=\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_5^-$ | $\nu(\text{C}=\text{O})$ | $\nu_{\text{as}}(\text{COO}^-)$ | $\nu_{\text{s}}(\text{COO}^-)$ | $\Delta\nu_{\text{COO}^-}$ |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| $\text{MnL}_2$                                     | –                        | 1620                            | 1380                           | 240                        |
| $\text{CoL}_2$                                     | –                        | 1628                            | 1370                           | 258                        |
| $\text{NiL}_2$                                     | –                        | 1620                            | –                              | 250                        |
| $\text{NiL}_2$                                     | –                        | 1628                            | 1370                           | 258                        |
| $\text{CuL}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$            | –                        | 1560                            | 1400                           | 160                        |
| HL   | 1680                     | –                               | –                              | –                          |
| NaL  | –                        | 1610                            | 1390                           | 220                        |

1500–1420, 1176 and 1020  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and the bands of C–H deformation vibrations,  $\delta(\text{C–H})$ , are observed in the region 1144–1100  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The –C–O–C– symmetric vibration bands,  $\nu_s(\text{COC})$ , occur at 1020–1035  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The bands observed at 940–650  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  are associated with out-of-plane deformation ring vibrations,  $\phi(\text{CC})$ , and the C–H wagging vibrations,  $\gamma(\text{C–H})$ . The bands at 830–800  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  have been assigned to the  $\gamma(\text{C–H})$  vibrations (in 1,2,3,4 substituted ring) [2–4, 13–25].

In the IR spectra of 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) the band at 1680  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  disappears, which indicates that COOH group is not present in the analysed complexes. In their spectra there are two bands arising from asymmetric and symmetric vibrations of the  $\text{COO}^-$  group occurring at 1628–1560 and 1400–1370  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , respectively. The bands assigned to asymmetric and symmetric vibrations of the  $\text{OCH}_3$  groups,  $\nu_{\text{as}}(\text{CH}_3)$  and  $\nu_s(\text{CH}_3)$ , are observed at the 2944–2936 and 2840  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , respectively. The bands of  $\nu(\text{C=C})$  ring vibrations appear at 1600, 1568, 1500–1404, 1290, 1100  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The symmetric vibration of –C–O–C– group bands,  $\nu_s(\text{COC})$ , occur at 1032–1028  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The bands observed at 940–650  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  are associated to out-of-plane deformation ring vibration,  $\phi(\text{CC})$ , and out-of-plane C–H bond vibrations,  $\gamma(\text{C–H})$ . The bands at 800  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  have been assigned to the  $\gamma(\text{C–H})$  vibrations (in 1,2,3,4 substituted ring). The weak band at 420  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  results from  $\nu(\text{M–O})$  stretching vibration [2–4, 13–25]. Table 2 presents the maximum at frequencies for absorption bands of asymmetric and symmetric vibrations of the  $\text{COO}^-$  group for 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates of manganese(II), cobalt(II), nickel(II), copper(II) and sodium. The magnitudes of the separation,  $\Delta\nu_{\text{COO}^-}$ , between the frequency values of  $\nu_{\text{as}(\text{COO}^-)}$  and  $\nu_{\text{s}(\text{COO}^-)}$  in complexes of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) are higher ( $\Delta\nu_{\text{COO}^-}=258\text{--}240\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and in the complex of Cu(II) are lower ( $\Delta\nu_{\text{COO}^-}=160\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) than in the sodium 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoate ( $\Delta\nu_{\text{COO}^-}=220\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). For 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates of Mn(II), Co(II) and Ni(II) the shifts of the frequencies of  $\nu_{\text{as}(\text{COO}^-)}$  and  $\nu_{\text{s}(\text{COO}^-)}$  are higher and lower, respectively, than those for sodium 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoate. Accordingly, the carboxylate ion in the analysed coordination compounds appears to be monodentate group. On the other hand, for the Cu(II) complex the shifts of the frequencies of  $\nu_{\text{as}(\text{COO}^-)}$  and  $\nu_{\text{s}(\text{COO}^-)}$  are lower and higher, respectively, than those for the sodium salt. Therefore the carboxylate ion in this compound appears to be a bidentate, bridging group [25, 26].

In order to evaluate, if the 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) are

crystalline or amorphous compounds, their X-ray powder diffraction measurements were carried out. The analysis of the diffractograms suggests that the obtained complexes are polycrystalline compounds (Fig. 1). The structures of the compounds of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) have not been determined, because single crystals have not been obtained.

In order to verify the compositions of the complexes, to determine the temperature ranges of their thermal stability and decomposition during heating in air, to estimate the intermediate and final products of their decomposition and to evaluate the type of processes that occur during heating, the thermal stability of 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II)

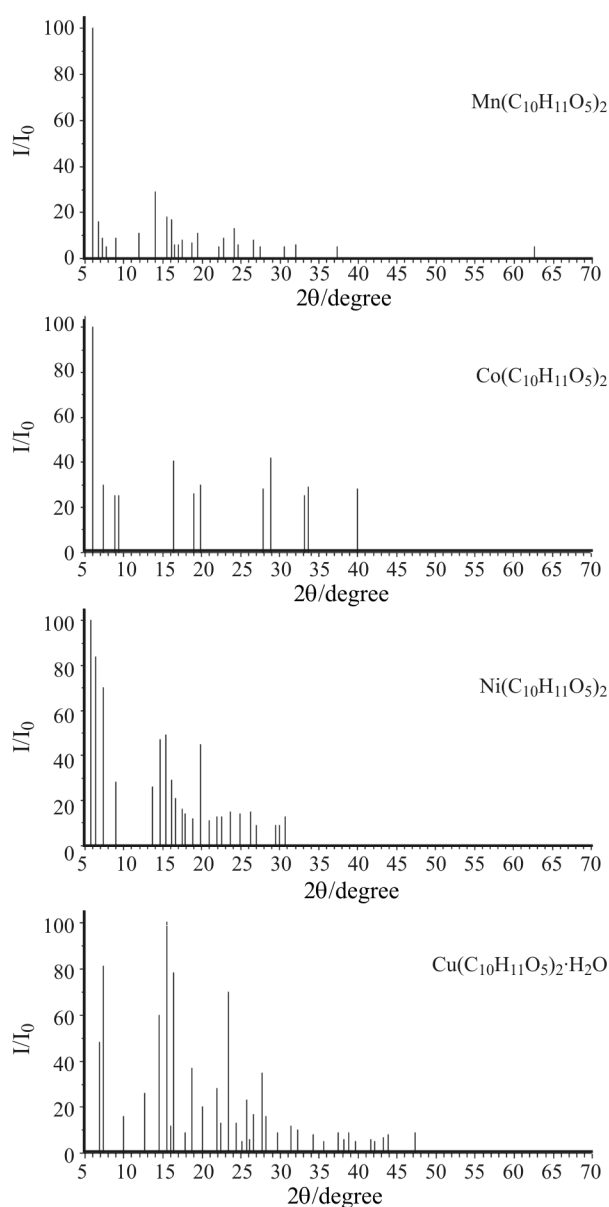
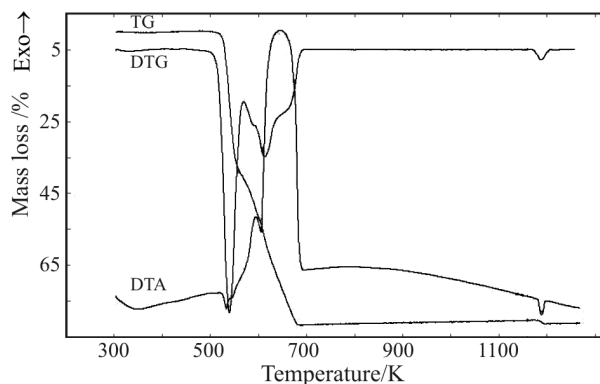


Fig. 1 Relationships between  $I/I_0$  and  $2\theta$  for 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II)

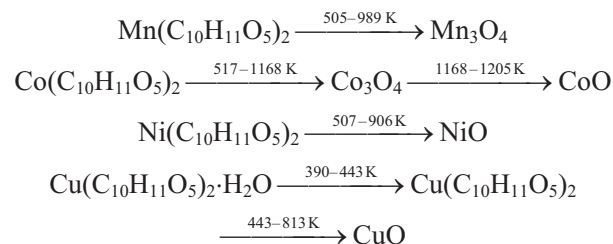


**Fig. 2** TG and DTA curves of 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoate of Co(II)

and Cu(II) was studied in the temperature range of 293–1273 K. Some results are presented in Table 3 and Fig. 2. The results reveal that the complexes of Mn(II), Co(II) and Ni(II) are anhydrous compounds, while that of Cu(II) is monohydrate. These results were also confirmed by the elemental analysis (Table 1) and the IR spectra. The anhydrous 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates of Mn(II), Co(II) and Ni(II) heated in air to 1273 K are stable up to 505–517 K. Having various stability, they decompose in the temperature range of 505–1205 K. The mass losses calculated from TG curves are equal to 80.1, 80.4 and 83.6%, respectively (the theoretical values are 84.0, 84.4 and 83.4%). The differences between calculated and theoretical values result from the apparatus errors. The combustion of the organic ligands is accompanied by strong exo-effect which can be seen in the DTA curve. 2,3,4-Trimethoxybenzoates of Mn(II) and Ni(II) decompose directly to the oxides:  $\text{Mn}_3\text{O}_4$  and NiO, while the complex of Co(II) (Fig. 2) to CoO with intermediate formation of  $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$ . The process of  $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$  reduction to CoO is connected with endo-effect to be seen in DTA curve [27–29]. The oxides of respective metals are the final products of the complex decompositions. The monohydrate of Cu(II) 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoate is stable up to 390 K. Next, in the temperature range of 390–443 K being dehydrated it forms an anhydrous compound. The mass loss calculated from TG curve being equal to 3.5%

corresponds to the loss of 1 molecule of crystallization water (theoretical value is 3.6%). The dehydration process is connected with an endothermic effect seen on DTA curve. In the temperature range of 443–813 K the anhydrous 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoate of Cu(II) is being further decomposed to CuO.

The obtained results indicate that the thermal decomposition of 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) in air proceeds in the following steps:



The solubility of 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) in water at 293 K was measured (Table 3). Its values amount to:  $2.8 \cdot 10^{-3}$  mol  $\text{dm}^{-3}$  (for Mn(II) complex),  $7.2 \cdot 10^{-4}$  mol  $\text{dm}^{-3}$  (for Co(II) complex),  $7.5 \cdot 10^{-4}$  mol  $\text{dm}^{-3}$  (for Ni(II) complex) and  $2.2 \cdot 10^{-4}$  mol  $\text{dm}^{-3}$  (for Cu(II) complex). The manganese(II) 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoate is the most soluble salt while that of copper(II) is the least soluble one.

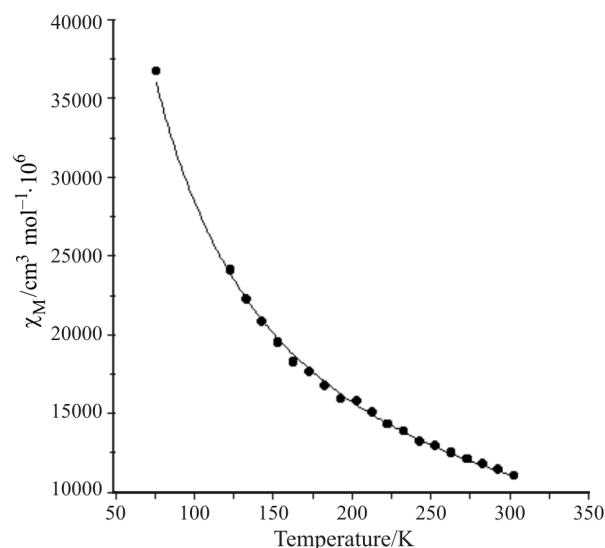
The magnetic susceptibility of the 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) was measured in the temperature range of 76–300 K (Table 4). The anhydrous 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates of Mn(II), Co(II) and Ni(II) follow the Curie-Weiss law, since the values of the magnetic susceptibility decrease with increasing temperature. The paramagnetic dependences of magnetic susceptibility values of the complexes as a function of temperatures are presented in Table 4 and those only for Co(II) 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoate in Fig. 3. The effective magnetic moment values experimentally determined for 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates of Mn(II) and Ni(II) change from 5.64 (at 76 K) to  $6.57 \mu_{\text{B}}$  (at 303 K) and from 3.26 to  $3.35 \mu_{\text{B}}$  for those of two appropriate complexes, respectively. The experimental data reveal that the magnetic mo-

**Table 3** Decomposition data for 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) in air atmosphere and their solubility in water at 293 K

| Complex $L=\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_5^-$ | $\Delta T_1/\text{K}$ | $T_{\text{max}}/\text{K}$ | Mass loss/% |       | $n$ | $\Delta T_2/\text{K}$ | Mass loss/% |       | Solubility/mol $\text{dm}^{-3}$ |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------|-------|-----|-----------------------|-------------|-------|---------------------------------|
|  |                       |                           | calcd.      | found |     |                       | calcd.      | found |                                 |
| $\text{MnL}_2$                                     | —                     | —                         | —           | —     | —   | 505–989               | 84.0        | 80.9  | $2.8 \cdot 10^{-3}$             |
| $\text{CoL}_2$                                     | —                     | —                         | —           | —     | —   | 517–1205              | 84.4        | 80.4  | $7.2 \cdot 10^{-4}$             |
| $\text{NiL}_2$                                     | —                     | —                         | —           | —     | —   | 507–906               | 83.4        | 83.6  | $7.5 \cdot 10^{-4}$             |
| $\text{CuL}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$            | 390–443               | 413                       | 3.6         | 3.5   | 1   | 443–813               | 84.2        | 84.0  | $2.2 \cdot 10^{-4}$             |

$\Delta T_1$  – temperature range of dehydration process;  $T_{\text{max}}$  – temperature of the maximum of the endothermic effect in the DTA curve;  $n$  – number of crystallization water molecules being lost in one endothermic step;  $\Delta T_2$  – temperature range of complex decomposition

ments of  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  ions in the complexes are connected with spin-only moments. Their theoretical values at room temperature are equal to  $5.92 \mu_{\text{B}}$  for the  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  ion ( $d^5$ ) and  $2.83 \mu_{\text{B}}$  for the  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  ion ( $d^8$ ), respec-

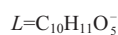


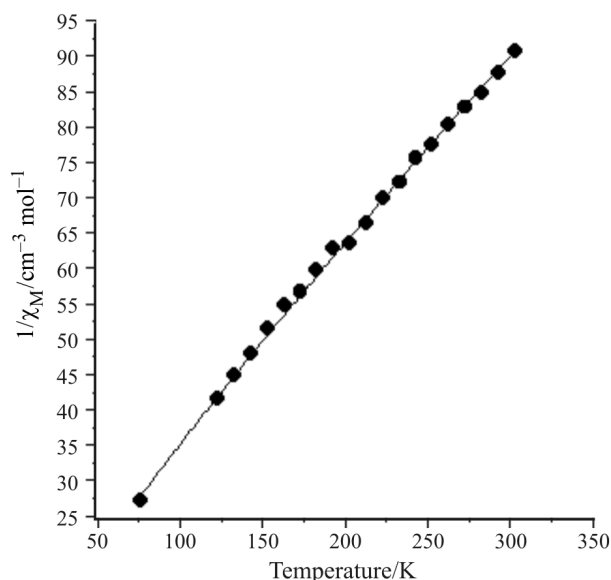
**Fig. 3** Dependence of magnetic susceptibility values vs. temperature for 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoate of Co(II)

tively. In the case of 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoate of Co(II) the effective magnetic moments of cobalt ion determined in the range of 76–300 K are equal to 4.73–5.17  $\mu_{\text{B}}$  (Table 4, Fig. 3). The magnetic moment measured for the  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  ion is equal to 5.17  $\mu_{\text{B}}$  (at room temperature). This value differs from that of the spin-only moment which amounts to 3.88  $\mu_{\text{B}}$ . The relatively large difference between measured and calculated values results from a spin-orbital coupling [30, 31]. Figure 4 presents the  $\chi_{\text{M}}^{-1}$  values with rising temperature for Co(II) 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoate. The experimental data suggest that the  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  ions in the analysed complexes are in the high-spin state forming octahedral coordination and in weak field of ligands. The magnetic susceptibility of  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  ions in 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoate complex (Table 4) displays a minimum at 76 K (Fig. 5) and it increases reaching maximum at room temperature. Such dependence is a typical behaviour of copper dimers. The room temperature magnetic moment per Cu ( $\mu_{\text{eff}}=1.42 \mu_{\text{B}}$ ) is similar to those observed for other dinuclear Cu(II) compounds [32–35] and is lower than the  $d^9$  spin-only magnetic moment,  $\mu_{\text{eff}}=1.73 \mu_{\text{B}}$ . This observation is consistent with antiferromagnetic exchange between

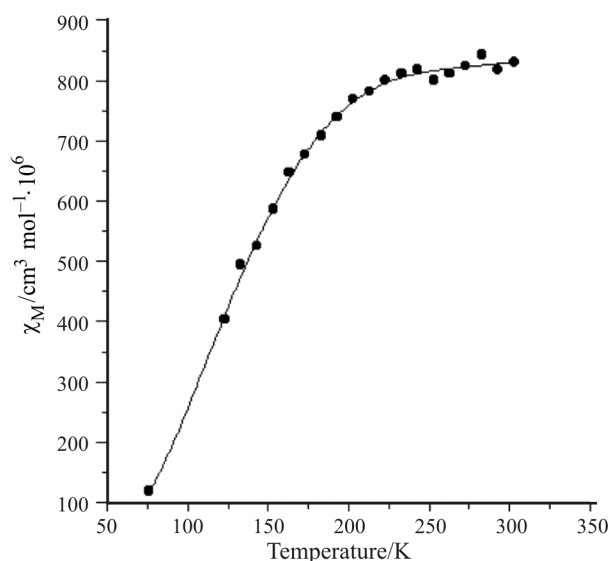
**Table 4** Values of  $\mu_{\text{eff}}$  for 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II)

| MnL <sub>2</sub>   |  |                                     | CoL <sub>2</sub>   |  |                                     | NiL <sub>2</sub>  |  |                                     | CuL <sub>2</sub> ·H <sub>2</sub> O   |  |                                     |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| $C=3.8 \cdot 10^{-3}/\text{K cm}^3 \text{ g}^{-1}$<br>$\theta=55/\text{K}$ |  |                                     | $C=4.4 \cdot 10^{-3}/\text{K cm}^3 \text{ g}^{-1}$<br>$\theta=61/\text{K}$ |  |                                     | $C=2.28 \cdot 10^{-3}/\text{K cm}^3 \text{ g}^{-1}$<br>$\theta=75/\text{K}$ |  |                                     | $C=4.74 \cdot 10^{-3}/\text{K cm}^3 \text{ g}^{-1}$<br>$\theta=-18.9/\text{K}$ |  |                                     |
| T/K  | $\chi_{\text{M}}^{\text{corr}} \cdot 10^6$ | $\mu_{\text{eff}} (\mu_{\text{B}})$ | T/K  | $\chi_{\text{M}}^{\text{corr}} \cdot 10^6$ | $\mu_{\text{eff}} (\mu_{\text{B}})$ | T/K   | $\chi_{\text{M}}^{\text{corr}} \cdot 10^6$ | $\mu_{\text{eff}} (\mu_{\text{B}})$ | T/K  | $\chi_{\text{M}}^{\text{corr}} \cdot 10^6$ | $\mu_{\text{eff}} (\mu_{\text{B}})$ |
| 76   | 52092                                      | 5.64                                | 76   | 36560                                      | 4.73                                | 77  | 17280                                      | 3.26                                | 76   | 158  | 0.27                                |
| 123  | 36109                                      | 5.98                                | 123  | 23919                                      | 4.87                                | 122   | 11360                                      | 3.25                                | 123  | 226  | 0.63                                |
| 133  | 33909                                      | 6.02                                | 133  | 22103                                      | 4.87                                | 132   | 10527                                      | 3.38                                | 133  | 318  | 0.73                                |
| 143  | 31062                                      | 5.98                                | 143  | 20664                                      | 4.89                                | 143   | 9517                                       | 3.33                                | 143  | 348  | 0.78                                |
| 153  | 29703                                      | 6.05                                | 153  | 19302                                      | 4.98                                | 153   | 9036                                       | 3.34                                | 153  | 409  | 0.85                                |
| 163  | 28279                                      | 6.09                                | 163  | 18091                                      | 4.88                                | 164   | 8289                                       | 3.32                                | 163  | 470  | 0.92                                |
| 173  | 27049                                      | 6.14                                | 173  | 17485                                      | 4.95                                | 173   | 7763                                       | 3.32                                | 173  | 501  | 0.97                                |
| 183  | 25367                                      | 6.12                                | 183  | 16577                                      | 4.95                                | 183   | 7324                                       | 3.29                                | 183  | 531  | 1.02                                |
| 193  | 25820                                      | 6.34                                | 193  | 15744                                      | 4.96                                | 193   | 7194                                       | 3.32                                | 193  | 562  | 1.07                                |
| 203  | 23879                                      | 6.25                                | 203  | 15593                                      | 5.06                                | 199   | 6754                                       | 3.33                                | 203  | 592  | 1.12                                |
| 213  | 23231                                      | 6.32                                | 213  | 14912                                      | 5.07                                | 208   | 6359                                       | 3.31                                | 213  | 605  | 1.15                                |
| 223  | 20967                                      | 6.14                                | 223  | 14155                                      | 5.06                                | 221   | 6052                                       | 3.33                                | 223  | 623  | 1.20                                |
| 233  | 20902                                      | 6.27                                | 233  | 13701                                      | 5.09                                | 237   | 5527                                       | 3.30                                | 233  | 635  | 1.23                                |
| 243  | 19802                                      | 6.23                                | 243  | 13057                                      | 5.07                                | 247   | 5263                                       | 3.29                                | 243  | 641  | 1.26                                |
| 253  | 19672                                      | 6.34                                | 253  | 12754                                      | 5.12                                | 256   | 5043                                       | 3.28                                | 253  | 623  | 1.27                                |
| 263  | 19478                                      | 6.43                                | 263  | 12300                                      | 5.12                                | 263   | 5000                                       | 3.31                                | 263  | 635  | 1.31                                |
| 273  | 18896                                      | 6.45                                | 273  | 11922                                      | 5.14                                | 273   | 4956                                       | 3.35                                | 273  | 647  | 1.34                                |
| 283  | 18442                                      | 6.49                                | 283  | 11619                                      | 5.17                                | 283   | 4824                                       | 3.36                                | 283  | 666  | 1.38                                |
| 293  | 17990                                      | 6.53                                | 293  | 11241                                      | 5.17                                | 303   | 4117                                       | 3.35                                | 293  | 641  | 1.39                                |
| 303  | 17602                                      | 6.57                                | 303  | 10862                                      | 5.17                                |   |  |                                     | 303  | 653  | 1.42                                |





**Fig. 4** Dependence of  $1/\chi_M$  values vs. temperature for Co(II) 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoate



**Fig. 5** Dependence of magnetic susceptibility values vs. temperature for 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoate of Cu(II)

the two Cu(II) ions. The variable temperature magnetic results for 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoate of Cu(II) are plotted in Fig. 5 and given in Table 4. The magnetic moment values of the Cu(II) complex decrease from  $1.42 \mu_B$  at 303 K to  $0.27 \mu_B$  at 76 K, as a consequence of depopulation of the excited triplet ( $S=1$ ) state. It is well-known that the interaction between two  $S=1/2$  metal atoms in a dimer leads to two molecular states: a spin singlet ( $S=0$ ) and a triplet ( $S=1$ ) separated by  $2J$ . The interaction will be antiferromagnetic ( $J<0$ ) if  $S=0$  is the ground state; on the contrary, if  $S=1$ , the interaction will be ferromagnetic ( $J>0$ ) [34–41].

## Conclusions

On the basis of the obtained results it appears that 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoates of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) are anhydrous compounds while that of Cu(II) is hydrate. The final products of their decomposition are following oxides:  $Mn_3O_4$ , CoO, NiO and CuO, respectively. The solubility of the coordination compounds of Mn(II), Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) is of the order of  $10^{-3}$ – $10^{-4}$  mol dm $^{-3}$ . The complexes of  $Mn^{2+}$ ,  $Co^{2+}$  and  $Ni^{2+}$  with of 2,3,4-trimethoxybenzoate acid anion obey the Curie–Weiss law, since the values of their magnetic susceptibility decrease with rising temperature. 2,3,4-Trimethoxybenzoate of copper(II) whose effective magnetic moment value is equal to  $1.42 \mu_B$  (at the room temperature) forms a dimer.

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