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### THE REACTIVITY OF ARENESELENINATO COMPLEXES. NEW ZINC(II) BENZENESELENINATO DERIVATIVES WITH 1,10-PHENANTHROLINE AS BIDENTATE NITROGEN DONOR LIGAND

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# THE REACTIVITY OF ARENESELENINATO COMPLEXES. NEW ZINC(II) BENZENESELENINATO DERIVATIVES WITH 1,10-PHENANTHROLINE AS BIDENTATE NITROGEN DONOR LIGAND

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Treatment of the O,O'-seleninatodiaquozinc(II) derivatives of the type  $[Zn(H_2O)_2(X-C_6H_4SeO_2)_2]$  ( $X = H, p\text{-Cl}, m\text{-Cl}, p\text{-Br}, m\text{-Br}, p\text{-Me}, p\text{-NO}_2$ ) with 1,10-phenanthroline produces 1 : 2 or 1 : 3 complexes, depending on the metal: o-phen stoichiometrical ratio. The 1 : 2 complexes were non-conducting and of the O-seleninato type, whereas the triscomplexes behaved as 1 : 2 electrolytes; the nitrogen donor ligand is always bidentate. The newly prepared complexes are characterized by far-I.R. and near-I.R. spectroscopy, as well as conductivity measurements. The possible stereochemistries of the complexes are discussed.

## INTRODUCTION

The seleninate ion  $RSeO_2^-$  is well known for its capability to coordinate to a metal ion as a unidentate ligand either through an oxygen atom, forming O-seleninato complexes, or through the selenium atom, producing Se-seleninato complexes. In the Se-seleninato complexes strong  $\pi$  interactions between the selenium atoms and the metal atoms exist. In addition the  $RSeO_2^-$  group can behave as a bidentate ligand *via* both oxygen atoms in O,O'-seleninato complexes or through one oxygen and the selenium atom forming O,Se-seleninato derivatives. The frequencies  $\nu_{\text{asym}}(\text{SeO})$  and  $\nu_{\text{sym}}(\text{SeO})$  show whether the complex is of the O-seleninato or of the Se-seleninato type, and their difference indicates whether one or both the oxygen atoms are bonded to the central atom.

The areneseleninato ligand, furthermore, may act as a bidentate group either intra- or intermolecularly; the intramolecular arrangement should be, in any case, unlikely because of the excessive ring strain.

Bonding through one or two oxygen atoms, as well as *via* selenium or *via* oxygen and selenium has been reported in previous papers.<sup>1-7</sup> In the cobalt(II) and nickel(II) derivatives the areneseleninato group is O,O'-bonded in both the hydrated and anhydrous complexes,<sup>1,7</sup> whereas in the zinc(II), cadmium(II) and mercury(II) complexes the type of bonding appears to depend on the water content of the compounds.<sup>4</sup> The water containing complexes are

always of the O,O'-seleninato type, whereas the anhydrous compounds are O,O'-seleninato for zinc(II), O-seleninato for cadmium(II) and Se-seleninato in the case of mercury(II).<sup>4</sup>

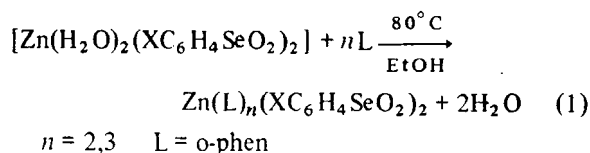
In connection with our continued interest in the coordination properties of the para- and meta-substituted benzeneseleninic acids, it became desirable to study the chemical reactivity and linkage isomers of the coordination compounds of such ligands.

In recent papers<sup>8-10</sup> we reported the reactivity of complexes of the type  $[M(H_2O)_2(XC_6H_4SeO_2)_2]$  ( $M = Co, Ni$ ) toward 2,2'-bipyridyl (bpy), 1,10-phenanthroline (o-phen) and ethylenediamine (en). We obtained products in which the coordinated water is replaced by two moles of bipyridyl or phenanthroline, acting always as bidentate chelating agents. With bpy and o-phen the complexes with O-seleninato ligands had octahedral geometry. The more basic N-donor ligand, en, gave compounds containing three moles of ligand *per* metal ion. This ligand is monodentate in all the pentacoordinated, low-spin complexes of  $D_{3h}$  symmetry. The cobalt complexes contain O-bonded seleninato groups, whereas the pentacoordinated high-spin, distorted square-pyramidal nickel complexes have Se-seleninato-linked ligands.

In this paper we report the reactions of the  $[Zn(H_2O)_2(XC_6H_4SeO_2)_2]$  complexes ( $X = H, p\text{-Cl}, m\text{-Cl}, p\text{-Br}, m\text{-Br}, p\text{-Me}, p\text{-NO}_2$ ) with 1,10-phenanthroline.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The diaquobis(benzeneseleninato)zinc(II) complexes react with 1,10-phenanthroline according to equation (1)



to give microcrystalline compounds, which are quite stable in air and soluble in common organic solvents. The metal complexes so prepared are listed in Table I, together with analytical data and some physical properties. The most important I.R. bands, in the 4000–100  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  range, are given in Tables II and III.

The 1 : 2 derivatives are non-electrolytes in *N,N'*-dimethylformamide (DMF), whereas the 1 : 3

complexes behave as 1 : 2 electrolytes in the same solvent with  $\Lambda_M$  in the range 125–137  $\text{ohm}^{-1} \text{cm}^2 \text{mole}^{-1}$

*Infrared Spectral Studies*

The bands due to the substituent *X* in the benzeneseleninic acids and the out-of-plane ring bending vibrations appear in the complexes at the same wavenumbers as in the starting ligands.<sup>11</sup>

The infrared spectra of the 1 : 2 complexes, in the 870–600  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  region, where  $\nu(\text{SeO})$  symmetric and antisymmetric and  $\nu(\text{SeC})$  usually lie, show selenium-oxygen stretching frequencies clearly indicative of O-seleninato coordination. The  $\nu(\text{SeO})$  mode is shifted toward higher wavenumbers and the  $\nu_{\text{asym.}}(\text{SeOM})$  is shifted to lower frequencies, as coordination removes the equivalence of the selenium-oxygen bonds; in these complexes the

TABLE I  
Analytical data and other physical properties

Compounds	Colour	Found (Calcd) % C	H	N	Dec. range °C
$\text{Zn}(\text{o-phen})_2(\text{PhSeO}_2)_2 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$	pink-white	50.7(50.5)	3.4(3.8)	6.6(6.5)	90–95
$\text{Zn}(\text{o-phen})_3(\text{PhSeO}_2)_2 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$	pale yellow	55.5(55.6)	4.2(3.9)	8.4(8.1)	75–80
$\text{Zn}(\text{o-phen})_2(\text{p-ClC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SeO}_2)_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$	orange	48.6(48.6)	3.1(2.9)	6.3(6.3)	95–100
$\text{Zn}(\text{o-phen})_2(\text{p-ClC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SeO}_2)_2 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$	pink-white	52.1(52.2)	3.7(3.5)	7.4(7.6)	80–85
$\text{Zn}(\text{o-phen})_2(\text{m-ClC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SeO}_2)_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	pale orange	47.9(47.7)	3.4(3.1)	6.1(6.2)	85–90
$\text{Zn}(\text{o-phen})_2(\text{m-ClC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SeO}_2)_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$	pale orange	50.9(51.3)	3.6(3.6)	7.1(7.5)	81–86
$\text{Zn}(\text{o-phen})_2(\text{p-BrC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SeO}_2)_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	yellow	43.7(43.4)	2.9(2.8)	5.6(5.6)	100–105
$\text{Zn}(\text{o-phen})_2(\text{p-BrC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SeO}_2)_2 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$	yellow	48.2(48.3)	3.1(3.2)	6.9(7.0)	88–93
$\text{Zn}(\text{o-phen})_2(\text{m-BrC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SeO}_2)_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	orange	43.4(43.4)	2.6(2.8)	5.7(5.6)	98–103
$\text{Zn}(\text{o-phen})_2(\text{m-BrC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SeO}_2)_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$	orange	47.4(47.6)	3.1(3.3)	6.7(6.9)	85–90
$\text{Zn}(\text{o-phen})_2(\text{p-MeC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SeO}_2)_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	pale yellow	52.2(52.7)	3.8(4.0)	6.4(6.5)	87–93
$\text{Zn}(\text{o-phen})_2(\text{p-MeC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SeO}_2)_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$	orange	55.4(55.5)	4.1(4.3)	7.8(7.8)	75–80
$\text{Zn}(\text{o-phen})_3(\text{p-NO}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{SeO}_2)_2 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$	yellow	51.2(51.2)	3.4(3.4)	9.7(9.9)	128–133

TABLE II  
Most important I.R. bands of benzeneseleninato group ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )

Substituent	H	p-Cl	m-Cl	p-Br	m-Br	p-Me	p-NO <sub>2</sub>
$\text{XC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SeO}_2\text{Na}$							
$\nu(\text{SeO})$ { asym.	781	811	817	807	817	817	814
{ sym.	768	796	795	786	798	792	789
$\nu(\text{SeC})$	666	–	652	708	645	700	681
$[\text{Zn}(\text{o-phen})_2(\text{XC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SeO}_2)_2]$							
$\nu(\text{SeO})$	866vs	865s	863s	862s	865s	861s	–
$\nu(\text{SeOZn})$ asym.	752s	760s	750s	775s	780s	764s	–
$\nu(\text{SeC})$	668mw	–	649ms	703ms	640s <sup>a</sup>	705mw	–
$[\text{Zn}(\text{o-phen})_3](\text{XC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SeO}_2)_2$							
$\nu(\text{SeO})$ { asym.	783ms	815s	815s	810s	818m	815m	820sh
{ sym.	770ms	793s	790s	785s	799ms	794s	795m
$\nu(\text{SeC})$	665mw	–	646m	702ms	639s <sup>a</sup>	700w	679m

<sup>a</sup>Overlapping a o-phen band which is markedly reinforced.

TABLE III  
Most important far-infrared bands ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )

Substituent	H	p-Cl	m-Cl	p-Br	m-Br	p-Me	p-NO <sub>2</sub>
$\text{XC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SeO}_2\text{Na}$ $\delta(\text{OSeC})$	384, 350	393, 360	379, 339	386, 348	379, 340	393, 363	385, 355
$[\text{Zn}(\text{o-phen})_2(\text{XC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SeO}_2)_2]$ $\delta(\text{OSeC})$	387m, 347mw	395mw, 355m	371m, 317m	385mw, 345mw	380m, 350m	398mw, 372mw	—
$\nu(\text{Zn-O})$	434m	436m	437vs <sup>a</sup>	434m	432vs <sup>a</sup>	435m	—
$\nu(\text{Zn-N})$	204m, 178m	205ms, 180ms	197m, 172ms	201m, 175m	203m, 177m	201m, 174m	—
$[\text{Zn}(\text{o-phen})_3](\text{XC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SeO}_2)_2$ $\delta(\text{OSeC})$	395m, 350w	395mw, 352m	380mw, 315m	380mw, 340w	380mw, 355w	390mw, 348m	395mw, 356ms
$\nu(\text{Zn-N})$	231mw, 202m, 171m	233m, 200ms, 176ms	228m, 200m, 175m	229m, 198m, 173m	230m, 200m, 172m	232m, 199m, 174m	228m, 199m, 175ms

<sup>a</sup>Overlapping a out-of-plane ring bending which is markedly reinforced.

frequency differences between these two vibrational modes are *ca.*  $100 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (Table 2). The spectra of these complexes are similar to those of the anhydrous cadmium derivatives and of other cobalt(II) and nickel(II) complexes already reported to have O-seleninato bonding.<sup>4,8</sup>

The  $\nu(\text{SeO})$  sym. and asym. bands of the 1 : 3 complexes have a profile significantly different from that of the 1 : 2 derivatives, are typical of ionic areneseleninate moieties, and occur at the same wavenumbers as in the sodium benzeneseleninates (Table 2). These results are in accord with the conductivity data.

The assignments of the I.R. bands for 1 : 2 and 1 : 3 derivatives were made on the basis of previous results with other transition metals<sup>1-10</sup> and on the basis of a detailed infrared study of the para- and metasubstituted benzeneseleninic acids and their sodium salts.<sup>11</sup>

The medium-strong absorption bands present in all the complexes in the ranges  $3470\text{--}3450 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\nu(\text{OH})$ , and  $1650\text{--}1625 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\delta(\text{HOH})$ , clearly confirm the presence of water of crystallization. Since vibrational modes such as wagging, twisting and rocking activated by coordination to the metal and present in the di-aquo starting complexes have not been found in the expected ranges,<sup>4</sup> it appears that coordinated water is now not present.

The I.R. spectra of the o-phen complexes contain peaks in the ranges  $1550\text{--}1400 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $1150\text{--}800 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $750\text{--}400 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , giving evidence that the ligand is bound to the zinc through the nitrogen. Qualitative interpretation of the spectra show that the ligand is chelated to the metal both in the 1 : 2 and 1 : 3 complexes.

The band present at  $1499 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the free ligand shifts to *ca.*  $1515 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the complexes; the same behaviour is observed for the strong band at  $1415 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . A new absorption occurs in all the complexes in the  $1143\text{--}1135 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  range, characteristic of a chelating behaviour of the ligand. Furthermore the weak absorption bands at  $1131 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  became more intense and shifted to lower energies,  $1104\text{--}1098 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; in addition a strong or very strong band appears between  $851\text{--}844 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the complexes, whereas only a shoulder at  $876 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  was present in the free ligand, thus confirming that o-phen acts as a chelating group in these derivatives.<sup>12</sup>

The weak band at  $620 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  appears shifted to higher energies and intensified upon chelation; it is present in fact as medium-strong band near  $640 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The band occurring at  $404 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the uncomplexed ligand shifted to *ca.*  $420 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and intensified on chelation. Some weak bands are present in the  $590\text{--}500 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  region.<sup>13</sup>

### Far-infrared Spectra

The far-infrared spectra of the 1 : 2 and 1 : 3 derivatives confirm that the metal ions are present in the complexes in different environments.

In the 400–100  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  region many bands are present, but their assignment is made difficult by the molecular complexity; in fact besides the stretching vibrations  $\nu(\text{M-L})$ , L= benzeneseleninate ions and o-phen, we should find in this region  $\delta(\text{OMO})$ ,  $\delta(\text{NMN})$ ,  $\delta(\text{OMN})$  and the out-of-plane bending ( $\pi$ ), normal modes of vibration of molecules having approximately  $D_{4h}$  (1 : 2 complexes) and  $D_3$  (1 : 3 derivatives) symmetry, respectively. We can assign the symmetric and anti-symmetric  $\delta(\text{OSeC})$  in the range 398–315  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , Table III, in good accord with the previously reported studies.

In all the 1 : 2 complexes a band is present approximately at 435  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; this vibrational mode, absent in the spectra of the free ligands and in those of the 1 : 3 derivatives, may be associated with  $\nu(\text{Zn-O})$  mode. This assignment is in agreement with observations on previously reported complexes  $[\text{Zn}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2(\text{XC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SeO}_2)_2]$ .<sup>4</sup>

New bands (two in the 1 : 2 complexes in the range 172–205  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , and three in the 1 : 3 derivatives between 171 and 233  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) are present in the far-infrared region, but absent in the spectra of the starting materials used in this study. They can be assigned to metal-ligand vibrations involving the nitrogen atoms of the o-phen ligand (Table III). The presence of three  $\nu(\text{Zn-N})$  stretching modes ( $A_2 + 2E$ ) in the derivatives containing the complex ion  $[\text{Zn}(\text{o-phen})_3]^{2+}$  is in accord with the fact that this ion has  $D_3$  symmetry; furthermore these assignments are fully confirmed by comparison with literature data obtained by isotopic studies with  $^{64}\text{Zn}$ - $^{68}\text{Zn}$  substitution.<sup>1,4</sup>

We can conclude that during the substitution reaction in which the water is replaced by the N-donor ligand, the  $\text{RSeO}_2^-$  group undergoes a reorientation passing from bidentate O,O'-seleninato to monodentate O-seleninato in the 1 : 2 complexes and passing to the ionic form in the 1 : 3 derivatives, to which should be given the ionic formulation  $[\text{Zn}(\text{o-phen})_3](\text{XC}_6\text{H}_4\text{SeO}_2)_2$ .

The reorientation of the  $\text{RSeO}_2^-$  group is dependent on the number of moles of the bidentate entering ligand. In fact when two moles of o-phen are reacting, the zinc(II) ion maintains its coordination number as in the starting complexes with the areneseeleninato moiety acting as monodentate only in O-seleninato complexes. In presence of a third mole of the N-donor ligand the metal

achieves its favoured coordination number six with the ligands acting as bidentate chelating and the  $\text{RSeO}_2^-$  groups becoming ionic, and moving out of the primary coordination sphere.

## EXPERIMENTAL

### Preparation of the Ligands

Benzeneseleninic acid, its meta- and parasubstituted derivatives and the corresponding sodium salts were prepared and purified according to previously reported methods.<sup>1</sup> The 1,10-phenanthroline ligand (high purity grade), supplied by Riedel-De Haën AG, was used without further purification.

### Preparation of the Complexes

The diaquobis(benzeneseleninato)zinc(II) derivatives were obtained by reaction between the metal chloride with sodium areneseeleninate in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  or EtOH according to the previously reported method.<sup>4</sup>

The o-phen complexes were obtained by adding 0.50 or 0.75 mmoles of the ligand dissolved in 10 ml of EtOH to a suspension in 10 ml. of EtOH of 0.25 mmoles of the diaquobis(areneseeleninato)zinc(II) (metal : ligand molar ratio 1 : 2 and 1 : 3 respectively). Upon adding the nitrogen donor ligand the solution became clear. The reaction mixture was refluxed and vigorously stirred for about 3 hrs., filtered in order to remove the unreacted starting complexes and reduced to a small volume (10 ml) under vacuum. The products (yield 70–80%) were filtered, washed with diethyl ether or acetone and dried over  $\text{P}_4\text{O}_{10}$ .

### Infrared Measurements

The I.R. spectra were recorded in the 4000–100  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  range with a Perkin-Elmer 180 spectrophotometer employing KBr discs. The far I.R. spectra were measured for Nujol mulls supported between polyethylene sheets. Atmospheric water was removed from the spectrophotometer housing by flushing with dry nitrogen.

### Conductivity Measurements

These were carried out with a WTW LBR conductivity bridge for  $10^{-3}$  M solutions in DMF.

*Analyses*

Carbon, nitrogen and hydrogen were determined using a Perkin-Elmer 240 elemental analyzer.

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