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## Interaction of SO<sub>2</sub> with unsaturated Schiff-base complexes; thermal, magnetic, and spectroscopic studies

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A series of Schiff-base complexes are prepared and characterized by elemental and thermal analyses, IR and electronic spectra, and magnetic measurements. SO<sub>2</sub> interacted with solutions of the complexes forming complexes [M(SB)(SO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>] where M = Mg(II), Cu(II), Mn(II), and [M(SB)(SO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]OH where M = Fe(III). These complexes are subjected to elemental and thermal analyses, conductance measurements and IR, electronic, and ESR spectra to indicate changes from interaction of SO<sub>2</sub> with the Schiff-base complexes.

Keywords: Schiff-base complexes; SO2 interaction; TGA; IR; UV-visible, ESR spectra

#### 1. Introduction

Schiff-base complexes have attracted attention due to their structural diversity and potential applications in catalysis, sorption, electrical conductivity, magnetism, photochemistry, medicine, and material science [1–3]. Dianionic tetradentate Schiff-base complexes [4–16] have been examined, but little has been done on interactions with  $SO_2$  [17, 18]. Here we describe a series of Schiff-base complexes. The complexes interact with  $SO_2$  molecules to give a series of Schiff-base complexes with  $SO_2$ .

#### 2. Experimental

The chemicals used were from BDH. Solvents were purified by recommended procedures [19]. The apparatus, physical measurements, and analyses are as previously described [11, 17, 18].

#### 2.1. Physical measurements

Elemental microanalyses for C, H, and N were performed in the Microanalytical Center, Cairo University. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer FT-IR

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spectrometer using KBr discs. The UV-Vis spectra were recorded on a SHIMADZU UV-Vis spectrophotometer Model V-550 from 350 to 600 nm using Nujol mulls. Molar conductance of the complexes in DMF was measured using a Sybron-Barnstead conductometer. Magnetic moments of the complexes were determined at room temperature by the Gouy method on a (TM) Johnson Mathey Alpha Products Susceptibility Balance. Thermal analyses (TGA) were carried out in a dynamic nitrogen atmosphere ( $20 \text{ mL min}^{-1}$ ) with a heating rate of 5°C min<sup>-1</sup> using a Shimadzu TGA-50H. The X-band ESR spectra of powder samples were recorded using a JES-FE2XG equipped with an E101 microwave bridge in the micro analytical center of Tanta University. The magnetic field was calibrated with 2,2-dipicryl hydrazyl. Metal contents were determined complexometrically using standard EDTA titration. The other physical measurements were carried out as previously described [20].

#### 2.2. Preparation of Schiff-base complexes

The complexes  $[MgL^1]$ ,  $[CuL^1]$ ,  $[CuL^2]$ ,  $[MnL^1]$ ,  $[MnL^2]$ ,  $[(FeL^1)_2OH_2O]$ , and  $[(FeL^2)_2OH_2O]$  were prepared by literature method [20, 21] as illustrated in scheme 1 for  $L^1$  and Supplementary material for  $L^2$ .

## **2.3.** Preparation of $[ML^1(SO_2)_2]$ or $[ML^2(SO_2)_2]$

 $ML^1$  or  $ML^2$  (10 mmol) was dissolved in MeOH (50 mL) and a stream of SO<sub>2</sub> was bubbled through the solution for 4h. The solution was reduced in volume to 25 mL,



Scheme 1. Preparation of 1, 3, 7, and 11.

precipitated by diethyl ether and then dried *in vacuo* (scheme 2 and Supplementary material).

The complexes obtained were subjected to elemental analysis (table 1). SO<sub>2</sub> in the complex was determined by dissolving 0.01 mol of the complex in 100 mL of aqueous  $H_2O_2$  (10 volume) and stirring the reaction mixture for 2 h till complete conversion of SO<sub>2</sub> into  $H_2SO_4$ . The sulfate content was determined as BaSO<sub>4</sub> [17].

#### 3. Results and discussion

Analyses (table 1) indicate composition of [ML] (1, 3, 5, 7, and 9),  $[(ML)_2(O)(H_2O)]$  (11 and 13), and  $[ML(SO_2)_2]$  (2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14) complexes. The Schiff bases are dibasic tetradentate toward the metal ions, also supported from the conductance values (7.0–13.0 Ohm<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>2</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>) within the range for nonelectrolytes [22]. Interaction of SO<sub>2</sub> leads to the coordination of 2SO<sub>2</sub> molecules to M(II).



Scheme 2. Preparation of 2, 8, and 10.

					Micı	roanalysis	data					ESR geff	-values	
Complex No.	Complex	m.p. (°C).	Color	Ca	$\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{a}}$	$N^{a}$	$\mathbf{S}^{\mathrm{a}}$	$M^{a}$	$\Lambda^{\rm b}$	$\mu_{\mathrm{eff}}^{\mathrm{c}}$	$g_x = g_{11}$	$g_y$	$g_z = g_1$	$g_{ m eff}$
1	${ m MgL}^1$	260	Lemon	66.82	5.02	9.46	I	7.76	I	I	I	I	I	I
	),		yellow	(67.03)	(5.25)	(9.20)		(2.98)						
2	$[MgL^{1}(SO_{2})_{2}]$	240	White	47.32	3.88	6.25	14.65	5.53	8.6	I	I	Ι	Ι	Ι
				(47.18)	(3.70)	(6.47)	(14.80)	(5.62)						
3	CuL <sup>1</sup>	232	Deep	59.64	4.33	7.95	I	18.70	I	2.1	I	I	I	1.7795
			violet	(59.38)	(4.65)	(8.15)		(18.49)						
4	$[CuL^{1}(SO_{2})_{2}]$	228	Light	43.33	3.53	6.02	13.77	13.62	10.5	1.9	2.2772	2.0449	1.8156	2.0546
			brown	(43.26)	(3.39)	(5.93)	(13.57)	(13.47)						
S	$CuL^2$	250	Deep	59.53	4.80	8.02	I	18.60	Ι	1.7	I	Ι	I	1.7007
			green	(59.38)	(4.65)	(8.15)		(18.49)						
9	$[CuL^{2}(SO_{2})_{2}]$	205	Deep	43.45	3.12	5.78	13.38	13.25	11.2	1.5	2.0512	2.1057	2.1449	2.2047
			brown	(43.26)	(3.39)	(5.93)	(13.57)	(13.47)						
7	$MnL^{1}$	190	Dark	60.70	4.63	8.15	I	16.75	I	5.6	I	I	I	I
			brown	(06.09)	(4.77)	(8.35)		(16.40)						
8	$[MnL^{1}(SO_{2})_{2}]$	105	Gray	43.92	3.23	5.88	13.76	12.09	7.0	5.4	Ι	I	I	I
				(44.06)	(3.45)	(6.04)	(13.82)	(11.86)						
6	$MnL^{2}$	250	Dark	60.85	4.56	8.25	I	16.02	I	5.8	Ι	I	I	1.9385
			brown	(06.09)	(4.77)	(8.35)		(16.40)						
10	[MnL2(SO2)2]	192	Light	43.88	3.61	5.98	13.65	11.97	7.4	5.3	I	I	I	1.9587
			brown	(44.06)	(3.45)	(6.04)	(13.82)	(11.86)						
11	$[(FeL^1)_2OH_2O]$	250	Red	57.57	4.81	8.05		16.21	I	5.7	I	I	I	I
			brown	(57.81)	(4.53)	(7.93)		(15.82)						
12	$[FeL^{1}(SO_{2})_{2}]OH$	215	Light	44.02	3.58	5.96	13.68	11.89	8.0	4.0	I	I	I	I
			brown	(42.43)	(3.54)	(5.82)	(13.31)	(11.61)						
13	[(FeL2)2OH2O]	280	Red	57.52	4.85	8.25	I	16.35	Ι	5.9	I	Ι	I	Ι
			brown	(57.81)	(4.53)	(7.93)		(15.82)						
14	$[FeL^2(SO_2)_2]OH$	235	Deep	43.87	3.25	5.93	13.72	11.88	13.0	4.1	I	Ι	Ι	Ι
			violet	(42.43)	(3.54)	(5.82)	(13.31)	(11.61)						

Notes: <sup>a</sup>% Found (% Calcd). <sup>b</sup>Ohm<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>2</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>, 10<sup>-3</sup> M in DMF solution. <sup>c</sup>B.M.

Table 1. Microanalysis results and ESR gefr-values of some Schiff-base complexes.

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#### 3.1. TGA studies

Thermograms (Supplementary material) of  $[CuL^1]$  and  $[CuL^2]$  (3 and 5) have one decomposition step, thermally stable to 300 and 320°C, respectively, followed by the formation of CuO. Thermograms of  $[CuL^1(SO_2)_2]$  and  $[CuL^2(SO_2)_2]$  complexes (4 and 6) have three and five decomposition steps, completely different from  $[CuL^1]$  and  $[CuL^2]$ . SO<sub>2</sub> containing complexes decompose in two overlapping steps starting at 200–260°C for 4. Complex 6 loses SO<sub>2</sub> in two steps at 120 and 160°C, respectively. The ligands in 4 and 6 start decomposing at 265–310°C for 4 and 165–420C for 6. Weight loss of SO<sub>2</sub> molecules during the first and second steps for 4 and 6, found (Calcd), are 27.45(27.14) and 27.46(27.14), respectively. TGA indicates that SO<sub>2</sub> is bounded to Cu(II).

#### 3.2. IR spectra

IR spectra of 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, and 13 indicate two  $v_{C=N}$  absorption bands situated at 1635–1627 and 1638–1630 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively, and  $v_{M-O}$  and  $v_{M-N}$  at 450–472 and 359–399 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively, consistent with dianionic tetradentate Schiff-base coordination [21]. Interaction of SO<sub>2</sub> (2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14) leads to obvious changes in the IR spectra of the complexes:  $v_{C=N}$  at 1610–1625 cm<sup>-1</sup> indicates that the interaction of SO<sub>2</sub> causes shift to lower frequency by 10–17 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Bands at 1106–1147, 917–930, and 416–425 cm<sup>-1</sup>, absent in the spectra of parent complexes, can be assigned to  $v_3$ ,  $v_1$ , and  $v_2$  of SO<sub>2</sub> [23, 24]. Positions of  $v_3$ ,  $v_1$ , and  $v_2$  indicate coordination to M(II) through sulfur in 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10. For 12 and 14, positions of  $v_3$ ,  $v_1$ , and  $v_2$  lead us to conclude that SO<sub>2</sub> coordinates bridging bidentate through S and O [18, 25, 26]. Far infrared indicates that M–O and M–N absorption bands occur at 488–456 and 396–369 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. For Fe(III) complexes 11 and 13,  $v_{OH}$  bands at 3400 and 3440 indicate OH of water [18, 27, 28].

#### 3.3. UV-visible spectra

Visible reflectance spectra of the complexes under investigation indicate the following results. Complexes 1 and 2 show absorption bands situated at 367–396 and 416–424 nm assigned as C=N and CT, respectively. For 3 and 5, the spectra show four absorption bands, 327-363, 424-429, 546-616, and 593-686 nm; the first two bands can be assigned to C=N and CT transitions while the third and the fourth can be assigned to transitions corresponding to  ${}^{2}B_{1g} \rightarrow {}^{2}E_{g}$  and  ${}^{2}E_{1g} \rightarrow {}^{2}T_{2g}$ , respectively, indicating square planar geometry around Cu(II) [29]. For 4 and 6 (when  $SO_2$  molecules are coordinated), the spectra show four absorption bands at 366–394, 429–442, 649–701, and 787–806 nm; the first two bands are assigned to  $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$  of the C=N and CT transitions while the third and fourth band can be assigned to  ${}^{2}B_{1g} \rightarrow {}^{2}B_{2g}$  and  ${}^{2}E_{1g} \rightarrow {}^{2}T_{2g}$ , confirming octahedral geometry around Cu(II) [20]. Complexes 7 and 9 show three absorption bands at 378-419, 401-461, and 470-473 nm; the first band can be assigned to C=N while the second and third are assigned to  ${}^{6}T_{1} \rightarrow {}^{4}T_{2}(G)$  and  ${}^{2}T_{1} \rightarrow {}^{4}T_{1}$  for tetrahedral Mn(II) [30, 31]. In 8 and 10 (when SO<sub>2</sub> molecules are coordinated), the spectra show bands at 411–421, 570–650, and 652–775 nm, the first band assigned to  $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$  of C=N and the second and third bands to  ${}^{6}A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^{4}T_{2g}(G)$  and  ${}^{6}A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^{4}T_{1g}(G)$ , respectively, for octahedral Mn(II). Complexes 11 and 13 show four absorption bands at 394-427, 424–471, 604–623, and 667–668 nm; the first two are assigned to  $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$  of the C=N and CT and the third and fourth to  ${}^{6}A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^{4}T_{2g}(G)$  and  ${}^{6}A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^{4}T_{1g}(G)$  for octahedral Fe(III). Interaction of SO<sub>2</sub> (**12** and **14**) have four absorption bands at 402–470, 424–509, 535–554, and 779–792 nm, respectively, the first two assigned to  $\pi \rightarrow \pi^{*}$  of C=N and CT and the third and fourth to  ${}^{6}A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^{1}T_{1g}$  and  ${}^{1}A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^{1}T_{2g}$  for octahedral Fe(III).

#### 3.4. Magnetic studies

Magnetic moments of Cu(II) and Mn(II) complexes (3, 5, 7, and 9) lie within the expected range 1.7–2.1 and 5.6–5.8 B.M., respectively (table 1). Fe(III) mono oxobridged complexes (11 and 13) have very different magnetic behavior with magnetic moments approaching zero at low temperature, but tending toward 5.7 and 5.9 B.M., respectively, at room temperature. The magnetic susceptibility measurements for 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14 were  $\mu_{eff} = 1.5-1.9$  (d<sup>9</sup>), 5.3–5.4 (d<sup>5</sup>) B.M./metal ion, lower than the expected values. Perhaps the Schiff base with more bulky substituents favor formation of polymeric species in the solid state [18, 29, 31].

#### 3.5. ESR spectral studies

X-Band ESR spectra of powders of 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, and 10 at room temperature are shown in Supplementary material and g-values are listed in table 1. Comparing ESR spectra of the Schiff-base complexes with those having  $SO_2$  coordinated show the following results.

In 3 and 5 only one anisotropic signal is observed whereas in 4 and 6 the number of signals increases with three anisotropic signals observed. The pattern,  $g_{\text{eff}}$  values and shape of the signals are completely different in complexes having SO<sub>2</sub>. Complexes 4 and 6 reflect octahedral geometry around Cu(II). For 9 and 10, the number and shape of signals depend on SO<sub>2</sub> coordination. In 10 a number of signals overlap with an obvious change in the  $g_{\text{eff}}$  values; the pattern and shape of the signals reflect octahedral geometry around Mn(II) coordinated with SO<sub>2</sub> [17, 32].

#### 4. Conclusion

Interaction of SO<sub>2</sub> with Schiff-base metal ion complexes leads to change in decomposition, color, and structure of the complexes (1, 3, 5, square planar) and (7, 9, tetrahedral) to (2, 4, 6, 8, and 10, octahedral). In the case of Fe(III) complexes the SO<sub>2</sub> molecules coordinated to Fe(III) cleaving the dimers to 12 and 14.

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