

Synthesis, Spectral, Thermal And Antimicrobial Studies Of Ce(III),Pr(III),Nd(III),Sm(III),Gd(III), Metal Complexes Of 14-Membered Tetraaza [N₄] Macrocyclic Ligand

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Abstract:

A series of rare earth metal complexes of Ce(III), Pr(III), Nd(III), Sm(III), Gd(III) and have been synthesized with newly synthesized biologically active macrocyclic ligand. The ligand was synthesized by condensation of β -diketone 1-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-(2-hydroxyphenyl) propane-1, 3-dione and benzene-1, 2-diamine. These complexes were characterized by various physico-analytical techniques, elemental analysis, molar conductivity, magnetic susceptibility, thermal analysis, X-ray diffraction, IR, ¹H-NMR, electronic and mass spectroscopy. From the analytical data, stoichiometry of the complexes was found to be 1:1 (metal: ligand). Thermal behavior (TG/DTA) analysis suggests more ordered activated state in complex formation. All the complexes are of high spin type and seven coordinated. The antibacterial and antifungal activities of the ligand and its metal complexes, has been screened in vitro against Staphylococcus aureus, P. aeruginosa, M. luteus and Aspergillus niger, C. abicans respectively. All the complexes were found to be the more active than their parent ligand and metal salts.

Keywords: macrocyclic complexes Thermal analysis, Powder X-ray diffraction, Biological activity; spectroscopic studies.

Introduction:

Now-a-days macrocyclic chemistry is a growing area of research in inorganic and bioinorganic chemistry in view of its biological significance. The studies of macrocycles have undergone tremendous growth in recent years and their complexation chemistry with a wide variety of metal ions has been extensively studied. (1) Macrocyclic complexes of lanthanide ions represent a fairly new field of investigation, since it really started in the mid 1970's, which has sustained considerable development during the last three decades. A number of nitrogen donor macrocyclic derivatives have long been used in analytical, industrial and medical applications

. There are many applications of macrocyclic complexes in medicine and biology including their use as fluorescent probes [2, 3] in biological systems, as magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) agents [4 – 5] and as artificial nucleases for the catalytic cleavage of RNA [6] Rare earth metal complexes containing macrocycles are of considerable interesting terms of structural and coordination chemistry

Nature prefers macrocyclic derivatives for biological fields such as photosynthesis and transport of oxygen in mammalian and other respiratory systems, besides antimicrobial, antifertility, antimalarial, anticancer, antiviral and anti-HIV activities [7-12]. Chandra and Gupta [13] reported the synthesis and spectroscopic characterization of macrocyclic complexes with a novel macrocyclic tetradentate nitrogen donor [N₄] ligand, that give rise to environmental, industrial or health-related potential applications [14]. The stability of macrocyclic metal complexes depends upon a number of factors, including the number and types of donor atoms present in the ligand and their relative positions within the macrocyclic skeleton, as well as the number and size of the chelate ring formed on complexation [15-16]. Tetra dentate Schiff bases are well known for their coordination with various metal ions, forming stable compounds [17]. Schiff bases play an important role in the development of coordination chemistry related to catalysis, enzymatic reactions, magnetism, and molecular architectures [18]. Schiff base metal complexes have been widely studied because they have industrial, antifungal, antibacterial, anticancer and herbicidal applications [19]. Prompted by these facts, in the present

paper, the synthesis and characterization of Ce(III), Pr(III), Nd(III), Sm(III), Gd(III), macrocyclic complexes derived from 1-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-(2-hydroxyphenyl)propane-1,3-dione and benzene-1,2-diamine are discussed. The complexes were characterized using various physical, chemical techniques, such as IR, NMR, elemental analyses, magnetic susceptibility and conductivity measurements. All the synthesized macrocyclic complexes were tested for *in vitro* antibacterial activity against some bacterial strains using spot-on-lawn on Muller Hinton Agar.

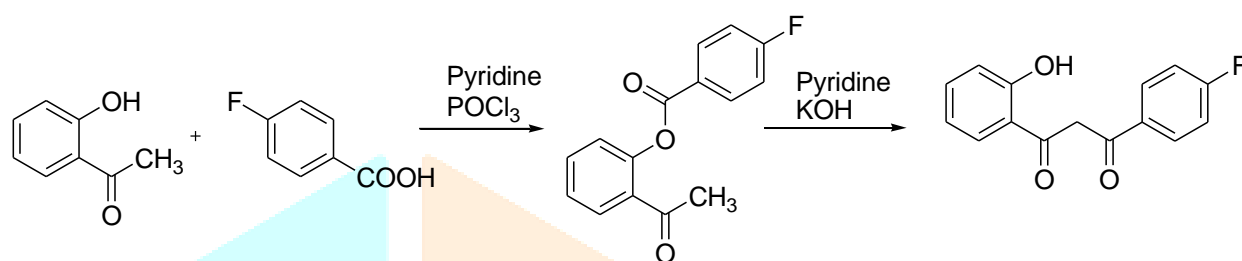
2 Experimental

All chemicals used were of the analytical grade (AR) and of highest purity. 4-Fluorobenzoic acid, ortho-hydroxyacetophenone and benzene-1, 2-diamine were used for ligand synthesis. AR grade metal nitrate were used for complex preparation. Spectroscopic grade solvents were used for spectral measurements. The carbon, hydrogen and nitrogen contents were determined on Perkin Elmer (2400) CHNS analyzer. IR spectra in the range of 4000-400 cm⁻¹ were recorded on Jasco FT-IR-4100 spectrometer using KBr pellets. ¹H-NMR spectra of the ligand was recorded in DMSO using TMS as an internal standard. The TG/DTA analysis was recorded on Perkin Elmer TA/SDT-2960 and XRD were recorded on Perkin Elmer employing CuK α radiation $\lambda = 1.541 \text{ \AA}$ in the range 10-80 $^\circ$. The UV-Vis spectra of the complexes were recorded on Shimadzu UV-1800 Spectrophotometer. Magnetic susceptibility measurements of the metal complexes were carried out on Gouy balance at room temperature using Hg[Co(SCN)₄] as calibrant. Molar conductance of complexes was measured on Elico CM-180 conductometer using 1mM solution in dimethyl sulphoxide.

2.1 synthesis of β -Diketone

Equimolar amount of 4-Fluorobenzoic acid and ortho-hydroxyacetophenone were dissolved in 50 mL dry pyridine. The reaction mixture was then cooled to 0 $^\circ$ C. To this, phosphorus oxychloride (0.06 mol) was

added drop wise, maintaining temperature below 10°C. The reaction mixture was kept overnight at room temperature. It was then poured on crushed ice with vigorous stirring. The crimson colored solid (ester) was obtained which was filtered and washed several times with ice-cold water. Ester was then crystallized with distilled ethanol. Purity of the compound was checked by TLC. Ester was subjected to well-known Baker-Venkatraman transformation. Ester (0.03mol) was dissolved in 15 mL dry pyridine. To this mixture, powdered KOH (1gm) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred on magnetic stirrer at room temperature for 5 hours. Then it was poured over crushed ice and acidified with concentrated hydrochloric acid. Finally yellow colored product was obtained which was recrystallized from ethanol (Yield 71-73%). Purity of all synthesized β -diketones was checked by TLC using silica gel G and melting points.



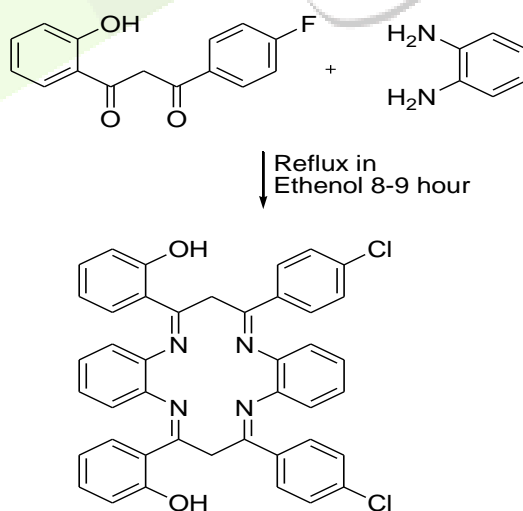
Scheme1.

Synthesis of β -Diketone

2.2 synthesis of macrocyclic ligand:

The ligand was synthesized by condensation of β -diketone(0.02M) and o-phenylenediamine (0.02M) in presence of 1-2 ml of concentrated HCl. . The resulting solution was refluxed for six hours .. On cooling, light grey-brownish crystals separated out were filtered, washed with ethanol and dried under vacuum.

These synthesized macrocyclic ligand are biologically active. The antibacterial and antifungal activities of the ligand and its metal complexes.Characterized by elemental analysis, molar conductivity, magnetic susceptibility, thermal analysis, X-ray diffraction, IR, $^1\text{H-NMR}$, UV-Vis spectroscopy and mass spectroscopy.



Scheme 2.synthesis of macrocyclic ligand

2.3 syntheses of metal complexes

A hot ethanoic solution, 25 ml of ligand (0.001M) and a hot ethanoic solution, 25 ml of required metal salt (0.001M) were mixed together under constant stirring. The mixture was refluxed for 8-9 hours. On cooling, a coloured solid precipitate formed was filtered, washed with cold ethanol, chloroform and dried under vacuum (fig 1).

3 Results and Discussion

All the complexes were coloured solids, air stable and soluble in polar solvents like DMF and DMSO. The elemental analysis show 1:1 (metal: ligand) stoichiometry for all the complexes. Micro analytical data and molar conductance values are given in (Table 1). The metal contents in complexes were estimated by gravimetric analysis [16]. All the complexes show low conductance which indicates their non-electrolytic nature. All the complexes indicating their paramagnetic nature.(Table 1)

Table .1

Ligand/ Complexes	F. W.	M.P. °C	Magnetic moment μ_{eff} (B.M.)	Molar conduc. Mho $\text{cm}^2 \text{mol}^{-1}$	% Found (Calculated)			
					C	H	N	M
(HL)	752.19	187	---	---	69.85 (70.25)	4.09 (4.55)	7.69 (7.44)	—
[CeL(H ₂ O) ₂ NO ₃]	988.325	228	2.63	25.00	51.28 (51.04)	3.48 (3.26)	7.71 (7.08)	14.45 (14.17)
[PrL(H ₂ O) ₂ NO ₃]	989.115	231	3.54	24.04	56.92 (56.89)	3.54 (3.46)	13.98 (14.3)	6.77 (6.23)
[NdL(H ₂ O) ₂ NO ₃]	992.505	211	3.65	19.06	56.26 (56.89)	3.51 (3.46)	13.81 (14.3)	6.58 (6.23)
[SmL(H ₂ O) ₂ NO ₃]	998.565	207	1.52	17.04	56.72 (56.89)	3.89 (3.46)	14.81 (14.3)	6.37 (6.23)
[GdL(H ₂ O) ₂ NO ₃]	1005.455	219	7.82	11.04	56.36	3.98	13.81	6.74

Physical characterization, analytical and molar conductance data of ligand and its metal complexes.

3.1 ¹H-NMR spectra of ligand

The ¹H NMR spectra of the ligand was recorded in DMSO. It shows following signals at 3.89δ, (s,4H -CH₂), 5.49δ (s,2H,-OH), 6.75-8.23δ corresponding to phenyl ring protons (m,24H).

3.2 Mass Spectra of the ligand

The determination of molecular weight of macrocyclic ligand (L) and its metal

Complexes by mass spectra has been very useful in completing their characterization Mass spectral data confirmed the structure of ligand HL as indicated by the peaks corresponding to the molecular mass

3.3 FTIR spectra

The IR spectra provide valuable information regarding the coordination behaviour of the ligand to the metal ion.

The FT-IR spectra of ligand (Table 2) do not show any band at 1700 cm⁻¹ (ν C=O) 3380 cm⁻¹ (ν_{as} NH₂) and 3250 cm⁻¹ (ν_s NH₂) corresponding to carbonyl groups and free amine [20]. There are two main features in the infrared spectrum of the macrocyclic ligand. The first feature is the disappearance of two characteristic bands between the primary amine group -NH₂ of the diamine and >C=O of the diketone. It also confirmed the elimination of a water molecule and complete condensation [21]. A band corresponding to the (ν C=N) (azomethine linkage) appears at 1641-1658 cm⁻¹ in the spectra. The structure suggested to the ligand is shown in (scheme 2). The position of this band is shifted to lower frequency in the complexes as compared to free macrocyclic ligand suggesting that the coordination takes place through the nitrogen of (ν C=N) group [24].

Table.2 FTIR Spectra of the ligand (HL) and its macrocyclic metal complexes S (cm⁻¹).

Ligand/Complexes	(OH)	(C=N)	(C-N)	(C-O)	(M-N)
HL	34017	1641	1025	1238	
[CeL(H ₂ O) ₂]	3362	1622	1039	1325	449
[Pr L(H ₂ O) ₂]	3353	1626	1039	1323	438
[NdL(H ₂ O) ₂]	3356	1625	1039	1320	455
[SmL(H ₂ O) ₂]	3354	1627	1038	1321	450
[GdL(H ₂ O) ₂]	3351	1623	1037	1318	448

3.4 Electronic absorption spectra and magnetic measurements:

The electronic spectra of Ce(III), Pr(III), Nd(III), Sm(III), Gd(III) complexes were recorded in DMSO. The data indicates that the energy of f-f transitions in the complexes is slightly reduced compared to the corresponding aquo ions either because of the slight covalent interaction of the 4f orbitals with vacant ligand

orbitals, leading to some delocalization with consequent reduction in interelectronic repulsion [21]. All the complexes are characterized by intense charge transfer bands and most of the absorption arising from weak f-f transition are observed in the UV region. However all the complexes have almost similar spectra and they exhibit two transitions in the range 350-380 nm due to charge transfer transition and 400-430 nm due to f-f transition [22].

3.5 Thermal analysis.

The simultaneous TG/DT analysis of some representative metal complexes was done from ambient temperature to 800 °C in nitrogen atmosphere using α -Al₂O₃ as reference. The thermogram curve of The Nd(III), and Sm(III) complexes were chosen for thermal study. On the TG curves of Nd(III) complex, the first step shows a steep slope between 120–180°C with a mass loss of 3.74 % (calculated 3.63%), indicating the removal of two molecules of coordinated water. An endothermic peak in the range 140–205 °C ($\Delta T_{max} = 140^\circ\text{C}$) on the DTA curve corresponds to the dehydration step. The second step decomposition is from 400 to 600°C with 17.01% mass loss (calcd 16.14%) which corresponds to decomposition of coordinated part of ligand. A broad endotherm in DTA is observed for this step. The mass of the final residue corresponds to stable oxide, 79.88% (calcd. 80.22%). The TG curve of Sm(III) complex shows first mass loss 3.68% (calcd. 3.60%) in the range 120-180°C and an endothermic peak in this region ($\Delta T_{max} = 179^\circ\text{C}$), which indicates removal of two coordinate water molecules. The second step decomposition from 400 to 650°C with 18.90% mass loss (calcd 18.65%) corresponds to decomposition of coordinated part of ligand. A broad endotherm in DTA is observed for this step. The mass of final residue corresponds to stable Pr₂O₃, 77.72% (calcd. 77.82%).

3.6 Powder X-ray diffraction analysis

- The X-ray powder diffractogram of the metal complexes were used for the structural characterization and determination of lattice dimensions. The observed data of complexes under investigation was compared with other literature data having analogous cell and subsequently indexed to similar geometry. The X-ray diffractogram of metal complexes was scanned in the range 20–80 at wavelength 1.540Å°. The diffractogram and associated data depict 2θ values for each peak, relative intensity and interplanar spacing (d-values). The X-ray diffraction pattern of these complexes with respect to major peaks having relative intensity greater than 10% have been indexed by using computer programme. The diffractogram of Ce(III) complex shows 13 reflections with maxima at $2\theta = 24.28$ corresponding to d value 3.66Å°. The values of lattice constants, $a = 8.15\text{Å}^\circ$, $b = 7.30\text{Å}^\circ$, $c = 8.20^\circ$ and $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^\circ$ satisfy the condition $a \neq b \neq c$ and $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^\circ$ required for the compound to be Monoclinic lattice type. The diffractogram of Pr(III) complex shows 13 reflections with maxima at $2\theta = 25.28$ corresponding to d value 3.51Å° and observed values of lattice constants, $a = 9.70\text{Å}^\circ$, $b = 8.20\text{Å}^\circ$, $c = 9.20\text{Å}^\circ$ and $\alpha = \beta = 90^\circ$, $\gamma = 120$ satisfy the condition $a \neq b \neq c$ and $\alpha = \beta = 90^\circ$, $\gamma = 120$ required for the compound to be Monoclinic lattice type. The diffractogram of Nd(III) complex shows 20 reflections with maxima at $2\theta = 21.92$ corresponding to d value 4.05Å° and observed values of lattice constants, $a = 14.44\text{Å}^\circ$, $b = 13.23\text{Å}^\circ$, $c = 15.0\text{Å}^\circ$ and $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^\circ$ satisfy the condition $a \neq b \neq c$ and $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^\circ$ required for the compound be orthorhombic lattice type. The diffractogram of Sm(III) complex shows 27 reflections with maxima at $2\theta = 21.94$ corresponding to d value 4.04Å° The values of lattice constants, $a = 13.11\text{Å}^\circ$, $b = 12.14\text{Å}^\circ$, $c = 15.34\text{Å}^\circ$. These values satisfy the

condition $a=b \neq c$ and $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^\circ$ required for the compound to be orthorhombic lattice type. The diffractogram of Gd(III) complex shows 24 reflections with maxima at $2\theta = 21.91$ corresponding to d value 4.05 \AA and observed values of lattice constants, $a = 12.16 \text{ \AA}$, $b = 12.34 \text{ \AA}$, $c = 15.34 \text{ \AA}$ and $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^\circ$ satisfy the condition $a \neq b \neq c$ and $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^\circ$ required for the compound to be Orthorhombic lattice type.

3.7 Antimicrobial activity

Antibacterial activity

The antibacterial activity of the compounds was performed by enumerating the viable number of cells upon in the nutrient broth containing various concentrations of compounds. The viable number is represented by colony count method. The test organisms used on which the antibacterial activity was performed were *Bacillus subtilis*(NCIM-2063), *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*(NCIM-2036) and *Staphylococcus aureus*(NCIM-2901). In this method, the cells of test organisms were grown in nutrient broth till mid log phase and used as an inoculum for performing antimicrobial test. An approximately, 1×10^6 cells/mL test organisms were each inoculated with 0 to 500 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ concentration of different compounds, separately, and each incubated for 16 to 18 h at 37°C . During this incubation, cells tend to grow and multiply in number. However, if the compounds interfere with growth of cells, the numbers of cells decrease. After 16 to 18 h, viable numbers of cells were recorded by spreading an aliquot from the broth inoculated with test organisms and compounds as colony forming units per millilitre (CFU/mL). Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) was determined using standard agar method. Dimethyl sulfoxide was used as solvent control. Ciprofloxacin and Ampicillin were used as standards for the comparison of antibacterial activity.

Antifungal Activity

The synthesized macrocyclic complexes have been subjected to in vitro antifungal activity against a no. of fungi by food poison technique MIC Determination: The antifungal activity was evaluated against different fungal strains such as *Candida albicans*(NCIM3471), *Fusarium oxysporum* (NCIM1332), *Aspergillus flavus* (NCIM539) *Aspergillus niger*(NCIM1196) and *Cryptococcus neoformans* (NCIM576). Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) values were determined using standard agar method

MIC was determined by standard agar method as per CLSI (formerly, NCCLS) guidelines (Approved Standard M7-A6, vol. 23. 2003)

The standards used in the study were dissolved in a suitable solvent. The primary solutions were further diluted to the final strength using test medium

Medium:

The medium yeast nitrogen base (HiMedia, India) was dissolved in Phosphate buffer pH 7 and it was autoclaved at 110°C for 10 minutes. The suitable concentration of standards was incorporated in the

medium. With each set a growth control without the antifungal agent and solvent control DMSO were included.

Preparation of standard inoculum:

The fungal strains were freshly subculture on to Sabouraud dextrose agar (SDA) and incubated at 25⁰ C for 72 hrs. The fungal cells were suspended in sterile distilled water and diluted to get n 10⁵ cells/mL. Ten microliter of standardized suspension was inoculated onto the control plates and the media incorporated with the antifungal agents. The inoculated plates were incubated at 25⁰ C for 48 hours. The readings were taken at the end of 48 hours and 72 hours.

Measurement of MIC:

The MIC was the lowest concentration of drug preventing growth of macroscopically visible colonies on drug containing plates when there was visible growth on the drug free control plates

Sterile filter paper discs (6mm diameter) were moistened with the test compound solution in Dimethyl sulfoxide of specific concentration 100 µg/disc were carefully placed on the agar cultures plates that had been previously inoculated separately with the microorganisms. The plates were incubated at 37 °C and the results were recorded for antibacterial activity after 14 h

Table 2 In vitro antimicrobial activities of compounds

Compounds	Antibacterial activity			Antifungal activity	
	<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	<i>S. aureus</i>	<i>M. luteus</i>	<i>C. albicans</i>	<i>A. niger</i>
HL	150	225	250	200	150
[CeL(H ₂ O) ₂]	150	*	137.5	250	225
[Pr L(H ₂ O) ₂]	150	187.5	162.5	237.5	*
[NdL(H ₂ O) ₂]	287.5	325	250	*	200
[SmL(H ₂ O) ₂]	162.5	187.5	225	175	187.5
[GdL(H ₂ O) ₂]	*	*	300	125	150
Ciprofloxacin	50	25	50	NA	NA
Ampicillin	250	100	250	NA	NA
Miconazole	NA	NA	NA	25	12.5
Fluconazole	NA	NA	NA	12.5	6.25

^a Zone of inhibition (Mean three replicate ± standard deviation), NA- Not Applicable.

4.Conclusion

Metal complexes of Ce(III), Pr(III), Nd(III), Sm(III) and Eu(III) with novel macrocyclic ligand were synthesized. The structure of macrocyclic ligand have been proposed on the basis of IR, ¹H NMR mass spectra which acts as a tetradentated ligand by coordinating through four azomethinenitrogens. The elemental analysis, magnetic measurements, IR and electronic spectra revealed the formation of monomeric complexes. The analysis of x-ray diffraction study showed that the Nd(III),Sm(III),Gd(III) complexes have orthorhombic Ce(III), Pr(III), complexes have monoclinic and complexes have tetragonal crystal structures. All these complexes were found to have enhanced antibacterial and antifungal activities than their parent ligand

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