



CHARACTERIZATION OF BIS-SALICYLALDEHYDE O-PHENYLENEDIAMINE SCHIFF BASE AND ITS DY(III), GD(III), ND(III) AND SM(III) LANTHANOIDS COMPLEXES

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ABSTRACT

Schiff bases have versatile chemical properties and numerous utilities in various industries consequent of their excellent coordination ability with numerous metal ions especially transition metals. To further exploit the chemical versatility of this promising compound, we thoroughly characterize the aged long synthesized Schiff base; Bis-salicylaldehyde o-phenylenediamine (Salphen) and its Lanthanoid (III) complexes of Neodymium, Samarium, Gadolinium and Dysprosium using solubility test, melting and decomposition analysis, FTIR, UV-visible spectroscopy, conductivity measurement, elemental analysis, magnetic susceptibility and NMR. The Salphen ligand was soluble in chloroform and carbon tetra chloride among others while its complexes were not soluble in most common organic solvents tested. The melting point of Salphen was 165°C while its Lanthanoid (III) complexes decompose in the range of 210-241°C. The FTIR spectral patterns analysis of the ligand and its complexes conforms to fundamental vibration modes within the structure. Salphen and its Lanthanoid (III) complexes had low conductivity and were paramagnetic, non-hygroscopic and formed binuclear bridged structure with Metal: Ligand ratios of 2: 3. Series of characterization undertaken confirmed the formation of the bridged structured complex between Salphen and Lanthanoid (III) ions with high thermal stabilities, insolubility in most common organic solvents and poor electric conductance.

Keywords: Bis-salicylaldehyde O-phenylenediamine, Schiff base, Lanthanoid complexes, characterization

INTRODUCTION

Schiff base discovered by Hugo Schiff in 1864 is a functional group that contains a carbon-nitrogen double bond with the nitrogen atom connected to an aryl or alkyl group (da Silva *et al.*, 2011; Sahu *et al.*, 2012) and has general formula $RHC=N-R'$

Schiff bases continue to play important role in the expansion of coordination chemistry due to their ease of preparation, flexibility and structural inconsistency (Banthia and Samanta, 2006; Dib, 2013). These compounds have been extensively utilized in pigments and dyes, catalysis, organic synthesis, polymer stabilizations and metallo-enzymes (Nagajothi *et al.*, 2012; Usharani *et al.*, 2013; Leandro *et al.*, 2017). There were several pieces of research conducted to study Bis-salicylaldehyde o-phenylenediamine (Salphen) properties, coordination chemistry and exploits its functions. However, the majority of these researches centered around its complexes with transition metals with little effort on its complexes with Lanthanoid ions (Khan *et al.*, 1988; El-Shahawi and Smith, 1994; Drew *et al.*, 2010). Although, few researchers had previously worked on Lanthanoids complexes of Salphen base, all these works were unable to thoroughly characterize these complexes to come up with the physicochemical and structural details of the complexes (Lekha, 2014; Emaime and Pius, 2019). Hence, this work aimed to thoroughly characterize Bis-salicylaldehyde O-phenylenediamine Schiff base and its Lanthanoid (III) complexes of Neodymium, Samarium, Gadolinium and Dysprosium using solubility test, melting and decomposition analysis, FTIR, UV-visible spectroscopy, conductivity measurement, elemental analysis, magnetic susceptibility and NMR with the hope of unveiling their physicochemical and structural properties.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Chemicals and solvents were purchased from Sigma Aldrich, London, and used as purchased without further purification. The glass wares were washed with detergent, rinsed with

distilled water and soaked in (1:4) HNO_3 then rinsed again with distilled water and dried in an oven at 110°C. The preparation of Bis-salicylaldehyde O-phenylenediamine Schiff base and its complex formation with Lanthanoid (III) ions was undertaken according to procedure modified by Kendre *et al.*, (2014).

Experiments

Solubility test

Fifty (50) mg of each sample was mixed with 10 ml of respective organic solvent, stirred for a few seconds and allowed to stand for 15 min and observations were recorded in each case.

Melting point and decomposition temperature

Melting point and decomposition temperatures were determined using Gallenkamp (8B 2699C model) by placing the sample in a sealed capillary tube and thermometer into the appropriate hole, then switching the machine and recording the average of three (3) observed values as melting /decomposition temperature.

Electrical conductivity measurement

Electrical conductivity measurements were recorded using Jenway 4010 model where 0.1g of each of the samples was dissolved in 10ml of DMSO, electrode dip-in to record the electric conductance.

UV-visible spectroscopy

UV-visible spectroscopy was conducted on T60 UV-visible spectrophotometer and the determination of the number of ligands coordinated to the metal ion was carried out by Job's method of continuous variation (Angelici, 1971) in which 3mmol methanolic solution of Salphen and respective Lanthanoid (III) nitrates were mixed in the ratios [1:15, 3:13, 5:11, 7:9, 9:7, 11:5, 13:3, and 15:1] to maintained a total volume of 16ml and the solutions were scanned to determine

the wavelength of maximum absorption (λ_{max}) and plotted to obtain the number of coordinated ligand.

Magnetic susceptibility

The magnetic susceptibility was conducted on MBS MK1 Magnetic susceptibility balance. The balance was calibrated at 1 before introducing an empty capillary tube to record (R_0) in grams which is used to determine the actual weight after recording the weight of the capillary containing the sample in grammes.

Infrared spectral analyses

Infrared spectral analyses were carried out using Shimadzu FTIR-8400S spectrophotometer (500- 4000 cm^{-1} region in KBr powder) at NARICT Zaria. The samples were placed on top of the crystal above the light source, where IR radiations passed through the samples and causes vibration of molecules within the sample leading to a specific absorption and / or transmission of energy.

Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectroscopy

1H and ^{13}C NMR were determined using d_6 -DMSO as a solvent in a Bruker 500MHz NMR spectrometer in which DEPT, HSQC DEPT, HMBC, COSY and NOISE NMR spectra were obtained in ppm and chemical shifts reported in ppm.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Salphen is soluble in acetone, benzaldehyde, sulphonic acid, formic acid, DMF and DMSO but insoluble in propanol, chloroform, ethanol, methanol and Distilled water while its complexes are soluble in benzaldehyde, sulphonic acid and formic acid but insoluble in DMF, DMSO, propanol, acetone, CCl_4 , chloroform, ethanol, methanol and distilled water. This may be due to a bridge in the complexes; a finding earlier documented in the literature (El-ansary and Abdel-kader, 2012). The melting temperature of Salphen was recorded at 165 $^{\circ}C$ with a sharp melting point indicating the purity of the compound and the decomposition temperature of its lanthanoid (III) complexes were in the range of 210-241 $^{\circ}C$ indicating high thermal stabilities of the complexes. The electrical and molar conductivity of the complexes in 10ms/ cm^3 in DMSO solvent reveals were in the range of 12.01 to 22.30 $\times 10^{-6}$ ($ohm^{-1} cm^2$) and 2.01 to 22.30 ($ohm^{-1} cm^2 mol^{-1}$) respectively indicating their non-electrolytic nature and this may be attributed to the coordination of anion in the complex rather than the ionic association to the lanthanide (III) cations during complex formation (El-Ansary and Abdel-Kader, 2012; Maurya *et al.*, 2016). The results of melting point/decomposition temperature and electric conductance are depicted in Table 1

Table 1: Conductivity measurement, Melting Point/Decomposition Temperature of the ligand and its Lanthanoid (III) Complexes

Compounds	Melting Point ($^{\circ}C$)	Decomposition Temperature ($^{\circ}C$)	Electrical Conductance ($ohm^{-1} cm^2$)	Molar Conductance ($ohm^{-1} cm^2 mol^{-1}$)
Salphen	165	—	—	—
[Dy ₂ (salphen) ₃]	—	229	12.01×10^{-6}	12.01
[Gd ₂ (salphen) ₃]	—	210	22.60×10^{-6}	22.60
[Nd ₂ (salphen) ₃]	—	235	17.58×10^{-6}	17.58
[Sm ₂ (salphen) ₃]	—	241	22.30×10^{-6}	22.30

Salphen = Bis-salicylaldehyde O-phenylenediamine

All the complexes show paramagnetic behavior as shown in Table 2 and this is due to the presence of unpaired 4f electrons and the contribution of spin and orbital magnetic moments of the lanthanides as against d-block elements whose magnetic moment corresponds to spin values only. The presence of magnetic interactions between the two metal centers and /or

strong influence of the ligand field on the magnetic moment is a result of the non-involvement of the 4f electrons in the coordination. The observed μ_{eff} values are near to the values for the free lanthanoid ions reported by van Vleck and Frank (Gueye *et al.*, 2017).

Table 2: Magnetic Susceptibility of Lanthanoid (III) Complexes

Ln ³⁺	Electronic configuration	No. of unpaired electrons	L	S	Ground state	g _J	Calculated μ_{eff} (B.M)	Observed μ_{eff} (B.M)
Nd ³⁺	[Xe] 4f ³	3	6	3/2	$^4I_{9/2}$	8/11	3.62	3.5- 3.6
Sm ³⁺	[Xe] 4f ⁵	5	5	5/2	$^6H_{5/2}$	2/7	1.42	1.4- 1.7
Gd ³⁺	[Xe] 4f ⁷	7	0	7/2	$^8S_{7/2}$	2	7.93	7.9- 8.0
Dy ³⁺	[Xe] 4f ⁹	5	5	5/2	$^6H_{15/2}$	4/3	10.62	10.4-10.6

The structurally important IR bands and their assignment in the ligands and their lanthanoid (III) complexes are summarized in Table 3. The diagnostic and relevant vibrational frequencies obtained from the spectra of the

compounds are assigned to fundamental vibrational modes based on literature reports on similar compounds (Sani and Mahmud, 2016).

Table 3: Important IR Spectral Bands of Salphen Ligand and its Lanthanide (III) Complexes

Compound	$\nu(C=N)cm^{-1}$	$\nu(-OH)cm^{-1}$	$\nu(C-O)$	$\nu(M-N)$
Salphen	1627	3441	1373	—
[Dy ₂ (salphen) ₃]	1620	—	1388	532
[Gd ₂ (salphen) ₃]	1604	3456	1388	540

[Nd ₂ (salen) ₃]	1604	3441	1388	532
[Sm ₂ (salen) ₃]	1635	3448	1388	524

Estimation of Ligand to lanthanoid ratio according to the plot of absorbance against mole fraction suggested a 2:3 Lanthanoid: Ligand ratio in all the complexes. The principal peaks of the ¹H and ¹³C NMR in d₆-DMSO and CHN elemental analysis of Salphen and its complexes are given in Table 4. The ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, DEPT, HSQC, HMBC COSY supported the structure of the complexes assigned based on infrared vibrations (Ajlouni *et al.*, 2016), the presence of the aromatic H group confirmed the formation of

the rings in the complexes. And COSY (homonuclear correlation spectroscopy) show which protons are coupled to each other in the binuclear structure. CHN elemental analysis also confirmed their binuclear chemical structures which correspond with the tentative formula of the complexes. Following the results of the characterization conducted the proposed structure of the metal complexes is given in figure 2 wherein Ln stands for the respective Lanthanoid metal.

Table 4: Some Diagnostic Peaks of ¹H and ¹³C NMR and CHN elemental analysis of the Salphen and its complexes

¹ H NMR	Chemical shift, δ(ppm)						
	¹³ C NMR			¹³ C NMR			
Compounds	N=CH	Aromatic H	CH ₂ :CH ₂	O-H	N=CH	Aromatic C	CH ₂ :CH ₂
Salphen	8.55(s)	6.94- 7.65(m)	—	13.07(s)	159.8(s)	115.7- 131.3(m)	—
[Nd ₂ (salphen) ₃]	8.90(s)	6.84- 7.40(m)	—	—	159.8(s)	116-131(m)	—
[Sm ₂ (salphen) ₃]	8.61(s)	7.00- 7.66(m)	—	—	165.2(s)	117.3- 134.7(m)	—

	CHN elemental analysis of Salphen and its complexes		
	Carbon (%)	Hydrogen (%)	Nitrogen (%)
Salphen	75.93 (74.96)	5.10 (5.21)	8.86 (7.98)
[Dy ₂ (salphen) ₃]. H ₂ O	48.54 (47.74)	5.66 (6.58)	3.66 (3.41)
[Gd ₂ (salphen) ₃]. 6 H ₂ O	50.00 (49.37)	3.28 (3.33)	5.87 (6.02)
[Nd ₂ (salphen) ₃]. 6 H ₂ O	51.00 (51.86)	3.48 (3.41)	6.03 (5.92)
[Sm ₂ (salphen) ₃]. 6 H ₂ O	51.36 (52.12)	3.09 (2.98)	5.99 (5.92)

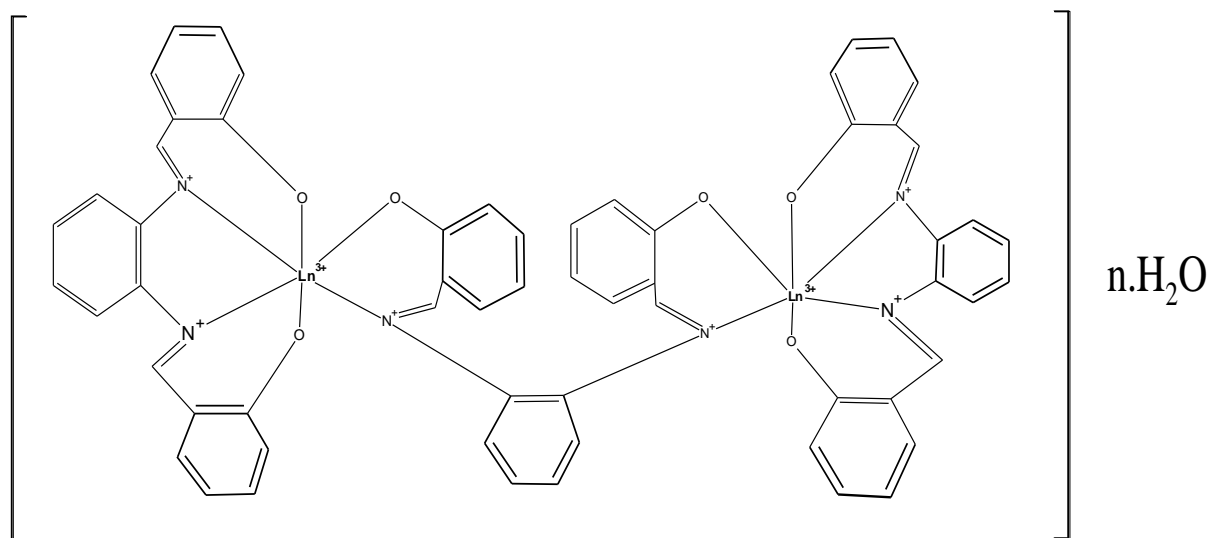


Figure 1: Proposed Salphen-Lanthanoid (III) Complexes [where Ln= Nd, Sm, Gd and Dy.]

CONCLUSION

In this study bis-salicylaldehyde o-phenylene diamine ligand (Salphen) and its lanthanoid (III) complexes of Dysprosium, Gadolinium, Neodymium and Samarium were successfully characterized based on solubility test, conductivity measurement, magnetic susceptibility, Infrared analysis, Uv-visible spectroscopy, elemental analysis, melting point/decomposition temperature and NMR spectroscopy.

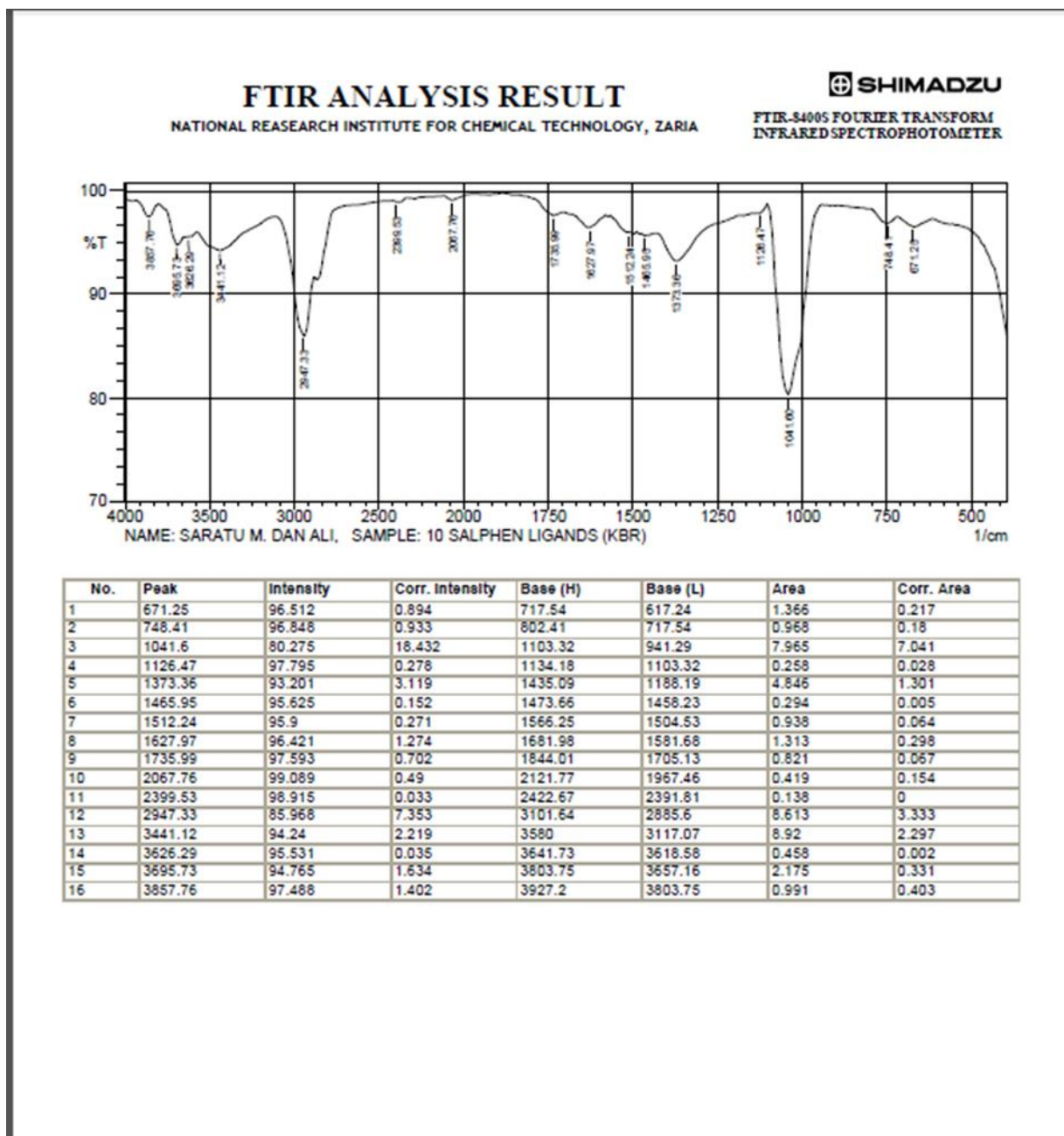
The results obtained reveal that the lanthanoid (III) complexes are non-electrolytic and non-hygroscopic in nature with high thermal stability and non-solubility in most common organic solvents which may be accounted for by the bridge in the complexes. The ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, DEPT, HSQC, HMBC COSY supported the structure of the complexes assigned based on infrared vibrations. This successful characterization and proposed structure of these complexes

will serve as a bridge in the existing gap of knowledge in the field and pave the ways for future research on their utility in various fields of human endeavour.

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Appendix I: Infrared spectra: IR Spectrum of Salphen Ligand



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