

Synthesis and Characterization of Diaquo Bis(N – Histidyl - 2, 4 - Pentanedionato) Copper (II) Complex

H. N. Aliyu and I. Bello

Department of Chemistry Bayero University, P. M. B. 3011, Kano, Nigeria
E-mail: hnuhu2000@yahoo.com

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ABSTRACT: N – histidyl – 2, 4 – pentanedione Schiff base was prepared from the reaction of histidine and 2, 4 – pentanedione. The reaction of methanolic solution of N – histidyl – 2, 4 – pentanedione Schiff base with ethanolic solution of copper (II) chloride gave diaquo bis(N – histidyl - 2, 4 - pentanedionato) copper (II) complex. The prepared Schiff base is crystalline orange yellow, has a yield of 51% and melting point of 292°C. The prepared diaquo bis(N – histidyl - 2, 4 - pentanedionato) copper (II) complex is crystalline green, has a yield of 72% and decomposition temperature of 345°C. The Schiff base is soluble in most solvent including water, but insoluble in ether. The diaquo bis(N – histidyl - 2, 4 - pentanedionato) copper (II) complex is soluble in water, DMSO and DMF, but insoluble in most common organic solvents. The molar conductance of copper (II) Schiff base complex determined is 31 ohm⁻¹ cm² mol⁻¹. The infra-red spectral data showed bands in the range 1612 – 1634 and 1590 - 1610cm⁻¹, assignable to $\nu(\text{C}=\text{N})$ stretching vibrations of Schiff base and its copper (II) complex, respectively. The broad bands in the range 3345 - 3470 and 3352 - 3431cm⁻¹ are attributable to $\nu(\text{O-H})$ stretching frequencies in the Schiff base and its complex compound, respectively. The weak bands at 543 and 362 cm⁻¹ are attributable to $\nu(\text{Cu-O})$ and $\nu(\text{Cu-N})$ stretching vibrations, respectively in the copper (II) Schiff base complex. The dissociation constant (pKa) of N – histidyl - 2, 4 - pentanedione Schiff base determined is 4.73. The stability constant and Gibb's free energy of copper (II) Schiff base complex determined are 8.9×10^9 and $-5.68 \times 10^4 \text{ Jmol}^{-1}$, respectively. The ratio of copper (II) ion to N – histidyl - 2, 4 - pentanedione determined using potentiometer is 1:1.

Key Words : Histidine, complex compound, acetylacetone, stability constant, potentiometry, N – histidyl - 2, 4 - pentanedione

Introduction

Histidine is a member of a class of chemical compounds called amino acids, which are organic molecules containing amino group, - NH₂ and carboxylic acid group, - COOH both attached to the same carbon atom called α – carbon. Such amino acids are also known as α – amino acids. Thus an α – amino acid consists of an amino group (- NH₂), a carboxylic group (- COOH), a hydrogen atom (H) and a distinctive R – group bonded to the α – amino carbon atom. The carbon atom to which these groups are attached is called α – amino because it is adjacent to the carbonyl acidic group. Amino acids were earlier discovered as constituents of natural products even before they were recognized as components of proteins; asparagine was discovered in 1806 in juice of asparagus plant and cystine in 1810 in urinary stones. In deed their names are based on the sources from which they were isolated (Akpurieme, 2001). The first amino acid isolated from hydrolysis of protein was glycine, obtained in 1820 from gelatin by Braconnot as

reported by Lehninger (2000). He also reported threonine as the most recently discovered amino acid isolated from hydrolyzates of fibrin by Rose in 1935 (Lehninger, 2000).

Amino acids are reactive, for example they react with aldehydes and ketones to form Schiff bases, which belong to a class of compounds that contain an imine or azomethine group(-C=N-), and are formed by the condensation of an amine with an aldehyde or ketone. The aldehyde forms aldimines and ketone forms ketoimines (Cotton and Wilkinson 1994). Schiff bases have been used extensively as ligands in the field of coordination chemistry, these are either neutral or charged species possessing at least a lone pair of electrons, which can be coordinated to transition metals, forming complexes (Shriver *et al.*, 1994).

Transition metal Schiff base complexes are used as catalysts, e.g. synthetic iron (II) schiff base complex exhibits catalytic activities towards electro-reduction of oxygen (Chakraborty *et al.*, 1994). Some metal complexes of polymer bound Schiff base show catalytic activity on decomposition of hydrogen peroxide and oxidation of ascorbic acid (Sreekala *et al.*, 2004). Schiff base derived from furyl glyoxal and p-toluidine shows antibacterial activity against *Escherichia coli*, *staphylococcus aureus*, *bacillus subtilis* and *proteus vulgaris* (Bhardwaj and Singh, 1994).

Materials and Methods

All glassware used were well washed with a detergent, rinsed with distilled water and dried in an oven before use. Weightings were carried out on digital balance model, AB 54 to four decimal places. Infrared spectral analyses were recorded using a Nicolade IR 100 model in Nujol in the range 400 – 4000cm⁻¹. pH measurements were also carried out using Jenway pH Meter model 3320 and electrical conductance using conductivity meter, model 4010-Jenway.

Preparation of the Schiff Base

Exactly 0.2g of acetylacetone in 10cm³ ethanol was added into a stirred solution of 20mmol histidine solution in 30cm³ water. The mixture was refluxed for 6hrs during which orange yellow precipitate was observed to form on cooling. The residue was filtered and recrystallized from ethanol-propanol (60:40) mixture and dried in a dessicator over phosphorus pentoxide.

Preparation of the Copper (II) Schiff Base Complex

To ethanolic solution of copper (II) dihydrate (0.01mol; 1.705g) in a round bottom flask was added hot methanolic solution of the Schiff base (0.02mole). The resulting mixture was refluxed for 3hrs and green precipitate was observed to form on cooled, which was separated, washed with ethanol/methanol mixture and ether before recrystallized from water/ethanol (40:60) mixture and then dried over a desiccator.

Determination of Dissociation Constant (pKa) of the Schiff Base

In to a 400cm³ beaker containing a magnetic stirrer were added 90cm³ of water, 100cm³ of 0.2M KNO₃ and 10cm³ of 0.4M Schiff base solution. A 0.47M standardized solution of sodium hydroxide was added drop wise to a total volume of 10cm³, the corresponding pH of the mixture was recoded after each addition (Angelici, 1977).

Determination of Stability Constant of Copper (II) Schiff Base Complex

Into a 400cm³ beaker containing a magnetic stirrer were added 90cm³ of water, 10cm³ of 0.1M HNO₃, 100cm³ of 0.2M KNO₃ and 1mmol of copper (II) chloride dihydrate. A solution of 0.4M sodium salt of the Schiff base was gradually introduced into the reaction mixture to total volume of 10cm³. After each addition of the 0.4M sodium salt of the Schiff base, the corresponding pH of the reaction mixture was recorded (Angelici, 1977).

Result and Discussion

The Schiff base prepared, N – histidyl -2, 4 – pentanedione, is a crystalline orange yellow solid, has high melting temperature of 292°C. The reaction of the Schiff base with copper (II) chloride dehydrate gave diaquo bis(N – histidyl - 2, 4 - pentanedionato) copper (II) complex, which is crystalline green complex compound of 345°C decomposition temperature and percent yield 72% (Table 1). The Schiff base is soluble in water and most organic solvents except ether, however, copper (II) Schiff base complex is soluble in water, DMSO and DMF but insoluble in most common organic solvent (Table 2). Molar conductance measurement of 10⁻³M complex in DMSO determined is 31 ohm⁻¹ cm² mol⁻¹ (Table 3), revealing that the compound is non electrolyte (Geary, 1971).

The empirical formula of the complex compound determined suggested the molecular formula [Cu(L)₂(H₂O)₂]. The infrared spectral band of the free Schiff base exhibits two bands in the region 1612-1634, and 1590 - 1610 cm⁻¹ are assigned to ν(C=N) stretching vibrations in the schiff base and its copper (II) complex, respectively. The band within 3345 – 3470 cm⁻¹ in N – histidyl – 2, 4 – pentandione Schiff base is attributed to ν(O-H) stretching frequencies (Bellamy, 1971). The bands at 543 and 362 cm⁻¹ are observed in the complex, which are attributed to ν(Cu-O) and ν(Cu-N) stretching vibrations, respectively (Ferrero,1971; Nakamoto,1970).

The spectral band in the region 3352 – 3431 cm⁻¹ in diaquo bis(N – histidyl - 2, 4 - pentanedionato) copper (II) complex is assigned to ν(O-H) stretching vibrations, indicating the presence of water in the complex (Arif *et al.*, 2006). These spectral results are available in Table 5. The average dissociation constant (pKa) of N – histidyl – 2, 4 – pentanedione Schiff base determined is 4.73, indicating a weak acid, the value is in agreement with literature value (Katzin *et al.*,1971). The stability constant K_f of diaquo bis(N - glycylicacetylacetonato) copper (II) complex determined is 8.9x10⁹, which is high, revealing good stability for the complex compound. The Gibb's free energy of the complex compound determined is very low (-5.68 x10⁴ Jmol⁻¹), suggesting a stable complex, which is in agreement with the high stability constant and large decomposition temperature shown by the complex (Table 6). The ratio of copper (II) ion to N – histidyl – 2, 4 – pentanedione Schiff base is 1:2, which agrees with the empirical formula calculation.

From the analytical results of the complex compound and available literature, the molecular structure below is proposed:

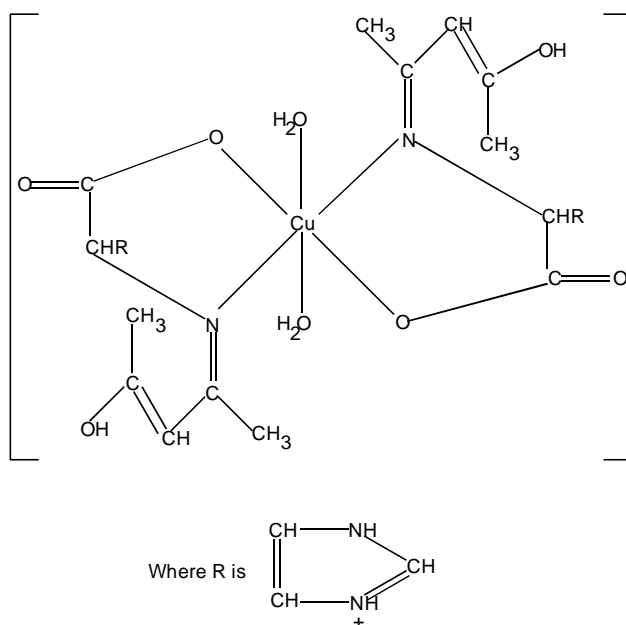


Fig.1: Molecular structure of diaquo bis(N – histidyl – 2, 4 – pentanedionato) copper (II) complex

Table 1: Physical properties of the schiff base and its copper (II) complex

Compound	Colour	Melting Point (°C)	Decomposition Temp. (°C)	Per cent Yield (%)
Schiff base	Orange yellow	195	-	71
[CuL ₂ (H ₂ O) ₂]	Green	-	345	72

Key

L = N – Histidyl – 2, 4 – pentanedione Schiff base

Table 2: Solubility of the schiff base and its copper (II) complex

Compound	Water	Methanol	Ethanol	Acetone	DMF	Chloroform	DMSO	Ether
Schiff base	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	IS
[CuL ₂ (H ₂ O) ₂]	S	IS	IS	IS	S	IS	S	IS

Key

L = N – Histidyl – 2, 4 - pentanedionato

Table 3: Conductivity of the copper (II) schiff base complex

Compound	Molar Conductance (Ohm ⁻¹ cm ² mol ⁻¹)
[CuL ₂ (H ₂ O) ₂]	31

Key

L = N – Histidyl – 2, 4 - pentanedionato

Table 4: Infra red spectral data of the Schiff Base and its copper (II) complex

Compound	$\nu(\text{C}=\text{N})$ (cm ⁻¹)	$\nu(\text{O}-\text{H})$ (cm ⁻¹)	$\nu(\text{M}-\text{O})$ (cm ⁻¹)	$\nu(\text{M}-\text{N})$ (cm ⁻¹)
Schiff base	1612 – 1634	3242 – 3461	-	-
[CuL ₂ (H ₂ O) ₂]	1590 - 1610	3340 - 3450	535	352

Key

L = N – Histidyl – 2, 4 - pentanedionato

Table 5: Determination of pKa of the Schiff Base

S/No.	Value of NaOH (cm ³)	pH	[H ⁺] x 10 ⁻⁵	[Na ⁺] x 10 ⁻³	[A ⁻]	pKa
1	0.5	4.20	4.22	1.15	2.00	5.57
2	1.0	4.35	2.98	2.29	1.20	5.48
3	1.5	4.40	2.66	3.42	1.90	5.15
4	2.0	4.42	2.54	5.66	1.90	5.12
5	2.5	4.46	2.32	6.80	1.98	5.03
6	3.0	4.50	2.11	7.90	1.98	4.95
7	3.5	4.51	2.07	9.01	1.97	4.86
8	4.0	4.52	2.02	10.10	1.97	4.76
9	4.5	4.54	1.93	11.10	1.96	4.72
10	5.0	4.57	1.80	12.30	1.96	4.64
11	5.5	4.60	1.68	13.40	1.95	4.60
12	6.0	4.63	1.57	14.50	1.95	4.55
13	6.5	4.66	1.46	15.60	1.94	4.52
14	7.0	4.69	1.37	16.60	1.94	4.48
15	7.5	4.71	1.30	17.70	1.93	4.44
16	8.0	4.75	1.19	18.80	1.93	4.41
17	8.5	4.79	1.09	19.20	1.92	4.38
18	9.0	4.82	1.07	19.50	1.92	4.36
19	9.5	4.85	1.05	19.90	1.91	4.32
20	10.0	4.85	1.01	19.90	1.91	4.29

Average dissociation constant of N – histidyl – 2, 4 - pentanedione Pka = 4.7315

Table 6: Stability constant of the copper (II) Schiff base complex

Compound	Stability constant (K _f)	Gibb's free energy ΔG (J Mol ⁻¹)
[CuL ₂ (H ₂ O) ₂]	3.8x10 ⁹	-5.47

Key

L = N – Histidyl – 2, 4 - pentanedionato

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