



## New ligand metal complexes: synthesis, spectroscopic, DFT, and docking studies, and molecular structure

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### Abstract

Analytical techniques, spectrum (IR and  $^1\text{H}$  NMR), molar conductivity, and magnetic moment measurements were used to synthesize and analyze a ligand (H2L) and its complexes. The thermal analysis (TG) technique was investigated at temperatures ranging from ambient temperature to 1000 degrees Celsius. The ligand (H2L) coupled to the metal ions through two nitrogen and two oxygen atoms in a negative mode, according to the IR spectra. The energy gaps and other critical theoretical parameters were estimated using the DFT/B3LYP method, and the structural formula of the synthesized ligand was optimized using the Gaussian09 program. The agar diffusion method was used to screen the in vitro biological activity of the ligand (H2L) and its metal complexes against Gram(+) bacteria (*Bacillus subtilis* and *Staphylococcus aureus*) and Gram(-) bacteria (*Escherichia coli* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*). The results showed that the produced complexes were more physiologically active than the ligand. A molecular docking research was conducted between the ligand and the crystal structures of 3t88-*Escherichia coli*, 3ty7-*Staphylococcus aureus*, 5h67-*Bacillus subtilis*, and 5i39-*Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

**Keywords:** ligand complexes, spectroscopic and thermal analyses, antimicrobial activity, anticancer activity, Molecular docking

### 1. Introduction

Many cyclic peptides are employed in medicine, and the majority of them are derived from natural cyclic peptides. Because cyclic peptides have various properties that make them appealing as lead compounds for drug development and useful instruments for biochemical study, scientists have made a variety of efforts to generate physiologically active cyclic peptide molecules [1-5]. As a result, synthetic peptides can be used as early biological leads to quickly identify the molecular structural requirements of active pharmacological modulators. Many natural and synthetic peptides with interesting biological functions are being described on a regular basis.[6-11] Synthetically, active linear peptides can be converted into their cyclic congeners, or peptidomimetics, by attaching one end of the peptide to the other with an amide bond between the amino and carboxyl termini N-to-C (or head-to-tail). Due to their ability to bind and transport metal ions, macrocyclic peptide ligands with additional donor atoms attached to the ring have piqued interest. The synthesis of macrocyclic compounds continues to pique people's interest. Because of their prospective uses in fundamental

and applied sciences [12, 13], as well as their anticancer activity and importance in the field of coordination chemistry, they have a tremendous impact on cancer treatment.[14, 15] Certain metal ions bind to cyclic peptides with a high degree of selectivity. Studies have demonstrated that cyclopeptides like vasopressin and oxytocin, which appear to be naturally metal-free, can successfully bind metal ions.[16, 17] Peptide bonds were formed between the N-terminal amine and the C-terminal carboxylate groups of linear precursors to produce cyclic peptides. In His-containing peptides, the N-terminal amino group (also known as the metal ion anchoring group) has an effect on complex formation.[18-20]. Cd(II), Mn(II), and Zn(II) complexes of a newly synthesized cyclopeptide ligand were produced and studied utilizing various analytical and physicochemical techniques in this paper. Their antibacterial activity was tested against a variety of bacterium organisms. To get an understanding of the possible mechanistic action in the search for good potent ant tubercular candidates, molecular docking experiments were done against the crystal structures of 3t88-*Escherichia coli*, 3ty7-

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*Staphylococcus aureus*, 5h67-*Bacillus subtilis*, and

5i39-*Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

## 2. Experimental

### 2.1. Materials and reagents:

All chemicals used were of the analytical reagent grade (AR), and of highest purity available. The chemicals used involved were supplied from Sigma-Aldrich.  $MnCl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$  (BDH),  $CuCl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$  (BDH) and  $CdCl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$  (BDH) (Prolabo) were used. Organic solvents were spectroscopic pure from BDH included ethanol, diethyl ether and dimethylformamide. Hydrogen peroxide, sodium chloride, sodium carbonate, glacial acetic acid and sodium hydroxide (A.R.) were used.

### 2.2. Solutions

For molar conductivity measurement,  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  M stock solutions of the ligand and metal complexes were prepared using dimethylformamide solvent. For measuring UV-Vis absorption spectra,  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  M solutions of the ligand and metal complexes were prepared by accurate dilution from the previous prepared stock solutions. For the preparation of RPMI-1640 medium, sodium bicarbonate (Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, Mo, USA) was used. In normal saline, 0.05% isotonic Trypan blue solution (Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, Mo, USA) was prepared and used to count viability. Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, Mo, USA supplied 10 percent Fetal Bovine Serum (FBS) (heat inactivated at 56 °C for 30 min), 100 units/ml Penicillin and 2 mg/ml Streptomycin were used prior to use for RPMI-1640 medium supplementation. For cell harvesting, 0.025 percent (w/v) Trypsin (Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, Mo, USA) was used. For the dissolution of the unbound SRB dye, 1% (v/v) Acetic acid (Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, Mo, USA) was used. As a protein dye, 0.4% of Sulphorhodamine-B (SRB) (Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, Mo, USA) dissolved in 1% acetic acid was used. A stock solution (TCA, 50%, Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, Mo, USA) of trichloroacetic acid has been prepared and processed. To yield a final concentration of 10 percent used for protein precipitation, 50  $\mu$ L of the stock was applied to 200  $\mu$ L RPMI-1640 medium/well. Isopropanol 100 percent and ethanol 70 percent were used. For SRB dye solubilization, Tris base 10 mM (pH 10.5) was used. In 1000 ml of distilled water, 121.1 g of tris base was dissolved and pH was modified by HCl acid (2 M).

### 2.3. Instrumentations

Carbon, hydrogen and nitrogen microanalyses were performed using the CHNS-932 (LECO) Vario Elemental Analyzer at the Microanalytical Center, Cairo University, Egypt. FT-IR spectra were registered as KBr discs. At room temperature,

electronic spectra were registered as solutions in ethanol on a Shimadzu 3101pc spectrophotometer. As a solution in DMSO- $d_6$ ,  $^1H$  NMR spectra were recorded at room temperature on a 500 MHz Varian-Oxford Mercury using TMS as an internal standard. Using the Jenway 4010 conductivity meter, the molar conductivity of 10-3 M solid complex solutions in DMF was calculated. The absorption spectra were recorded for  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  M solutions of the free ligand and metal complexes. The spectra were scanned within the wavelength range from 200 to 700 nm. Thermogravimetric analyses (TG and DTG) of solid complexes were performed using the Shimadzu TG-50H thermal analyzer from room temperature to 1000 °C. A (Quanta FEG250) SEM, National Research Centre, Egypt) recorded a scanning electron microscope (SEM) image of the complexes. Using the MS-5988 GS-MS Hewlett-Packard instrument at the Microanalytical Center, National Research Centre, Mass spectra were recorded by the EI technique at 70 eV. The antimicrobial activities were carried out at Cairo University, Microanalytical Centre.

### 2.4. Synthesis of ligand

N1,N3-bis(1-hydrazinyl-1-oxopropan-2-yl)isophthalamide: Yield: 65; m.p. 269–271 °C. Rf  $\times 100$  (solvent system) 35 (S).  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ : - 112.00 (C, 0.02, DMSO). IR in (cm $^{-1}$ ; KBr): 3050 (NH-stretching), 3100 (CH-arom), 2900 (CH-aliphatic.), 1643 (C=O, hydrazide), 1610 and 1740 (C=O- amide I+ II).  $^1H$ -NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ : 8.75 (s, 2H, CONHNH $_2$ , D $_2$ O exchangeable), 8.40, 8.34 (s, 2H, CONHCH, D $_2$ O exchangeable), 8.02–7.52 (s, 4H, aromatic H), 4.49–4.47 (q, 2H, CHNH), 4.19 (s, 4H, CONHNH $_2$ ), 3.66 (s, 6H, OCH $_3$ , disappeared), 1.35, 1.33 (d, 6H, 2CH $_3$ , CHCH $_3$ ).  $^{13}C$ -NMR (125 MHz,  $\delta$ , ppm, DMSO- $d_6$ ): 172.27 (2C, CO, hydrazide), 166.27 (2C, CONH), 165.00 (2C, isophthaloyl, C1, 5), 134.51 (2C, isophthaloyl, C2, 4), 130.78 (1C, isophthaloyl, C3), 128.67 (1C, isophthaloyl, C6), 52.35 (2C, OCH $_3$ , L-ala, disappeared), 48.74 (2C, CHCH $_3$ ), 17.33, 17.25 (2C, CHCH $_3$ ). MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 337 (M $^{++1}$ , 1.65%), 336 (M $^+$ , 0.76%), 273 (100%), 76 (29.37%), 50 (7.46%). Molecular formula (M.wt.), C $_{16}$ H $_{20}$ N $_2$ O $_6$  (336.3), calculated analysis; C, 57.14; H, 5.99; N, 8.33, found; C 57.11, H 5.90, N 8.31.

### 2.5. Synthesis of metal complexes

By mixing equal amounts (0.892mmol) of hot saturated ethanol solution of the ligand with the same metal chloride ratio, the Mn(II), Cd(II) and Cu(II) complexes were prepared (1M : 1L molar ratio). For three hours, the mixture was refluxed. Through

filtration, the resulting precipitates were collected and washed several times with hot ethanol until the filtrates become clear. In order to provide 88, 88 and 86 percent yield of Cu(II), Cd(II) and Mn(II) complexes, respectively. The solid complexes then dried in desiccator over anhydrous calcium chloride.

**N1,N3-bis(1-hydrazinyl-1-oxopropan-2-yl)isophthalamide Cu(II) chloride**  $[\text{Cu}(\text{H}_2\text{L})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]\cdot\text{Cl}_2$ ; Yield 88%; m.p. 279 °C; DarkBlue solid. Anal. Calc. for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{24}\text{Cl}_2\text{CuN}_6\text{O}_6$  (%): C, 33.18; H, 4.77; N, 16.58; M, 12.54. Found (%): C, 33.14; H, 4.70; N, 16.52; M, 12.49. FT-IR (KBr,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3073(NH stretching), 2936 (CH, aromatic), 2094 (CH aliphatic) and 1767 (CONH), 1555 (NH<sub>2</sub>), 532 (M–O), 430 (M–N).  $\mu_{\text{eff}}$  (BM) 1.84;  $\Lambda_{\text{m}}$  ( $\Omega^{-1} \text{mol}^{-1} \text{cm}^2$ ) 115. UV-Vis ( $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm): 270 ( $\pi$ – $\pi^*$  of aromatic rings).

**N1,N3-bis(1-hydrazinyl-1-oxopropan-2-yl)isophthalamide Cd(II) chloride**  $[\text{Cd}(\text{H}_2\text{L})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]\cdot\text{Cl}_2$ ; Yield 88%; m.p. 281 °C; White green solid. Anal. Calc. for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{24}\text{Cl}_2\text{CdN}_6\text{O}_6$  (%): C, 30.26; H, 4.35; N, 15.12; M, 20.23. Found (%): C, 30.21; H, 4.29; N, 15.07; M, 20.19. FT-IR (KBr,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3075(NH stretching), 2936 (CH, aromatic), 2094 (CH aliphatic) and 1770 (CONH), 1558 (NH<sub>2</sub>), 537 (M–O), 434 (M–N).  $\mu_{\text{eff}}$  (BM) diamagnetic;  $\Lambda_{\text{m}}$  ( $\Omega^{-1} \text{mol}^{-1} \text{cm}^2$ ) 75. UV-Vis ( $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm): 270 ( $\pi$ – $\pi^*$  of aromatic rings).

**N1,N3-bis(1-hydrazinyl-1-oxopropan-2-yl)isophthalamide Mn(II) chloride**  $[\text{Mn}(\text{H}_2\text{L})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]\cdot\text{Cl}_2$ ; Yield 86%; m.p. 288 °C; Off-white solid. Anal. Calc. for  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{24}\text{Cl}_2\text{MnN}_6\text{O}_6$  (%): C, 33.75; H, 4.86; N, 16.86; M, 11.03. Found (%): C, 33.75; H, 4.81; N, 16.87; M, 10.98. FT-IR (KBr,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3080(NH stretching), 2936 (CH, aromatic), 2094 (CH aliphatic) and 1780 (CONH), 1560 (NH<sub>2</sub>), 540 (M–O), 440 (M–N).  $\mu_{\text{eff}}$  (BM) 5.20;  $\Lambda_{\text{m}}$  ( $\Omega^{-1} \text{mol}^{-1} \text{cm}^2$ ) 115. UV-Vis ( $\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm): 270 ( $\pi$ – $\pi^*$  of aromatic rings).

## 2.6. Spectrophotometric studies

The absorption spectra were recorded for  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  M solutions of the ligand and metal complexes. The spectra were scanned within the wavelength range from 200 to 700 nm.

## 2.7. Molecular docking

AutoDock 4.2 and docking computations applying Gasteiger partial charges added to ligand (designed drug) atoms were used as previously described [21, 22].

## 2.8. Biological Activity

The diffusion agar method was used to test the biological activity of the ligand and complexes and the details of the method were previously described. The antibacterial activities were calculated as a mean of three replicates and the MIC<sub>50</sub> was determined [23-27].

## 2.9. Computational methodology:

The optimized structural geometry of the ligand was determined using the DFT/B3LYP method with different base sets using Gaussian09 software [28] and the significant bond lengths, oscillator strengths, excitation energies and effective charges for coordinating groups in optimized structures were deduced.

## 2.10. Molecular Docking

AutoDock 4.2 and docking computations applying Gasteiger partial charges added to ligand (designed drug) atoms were used as described previously [29-32].

## 3. Results and discussion

The synthesized ligand ( $\text{H}_2\text{L}$ ) was characterized using elemental analysis (C, H, N), infrared spectral studies (IR), <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR, mass spectra and thermal analysis (TG and DTG) as previously described. The optimized geometrical structure and numbering of the ligand using molecular modeling with the Gaussian09 program was given in Figure (1) and Figure (2) [33, 34] and the data obtained were given in the previous study.

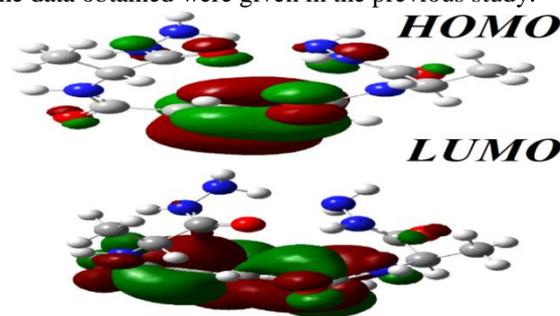


Figure (1) the optimized geometrical structure of the ligand using molecular modeling

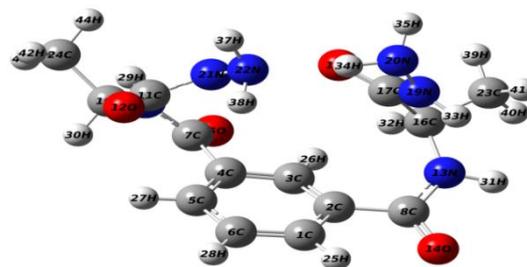


Figure (2) Numbering of the ligand using molecular modeling

## 3.1. Characterization of metal complexes

The physical, analytical and spectroscopic data of the complexes were summarized in the experimental part (Table (1)). They are air stable and soluble in DMF and DMSO solvents but insoluble in MeOH, EtOH, acetone, CCl<sub>4</sub> and benzene. There is satisfactory agreement between the calculated and found percentages elemental analyses data which confirmed the formation of complexes in 1 M : 1 L ratio [35-40].

Complex	Color (% yield)	M.P (°C)	% Calcd. (Found)				$\mu_{\text{eff}}$ (B.M)	$\Delta m$ $\Omega^{-1}$ $\text{mol}^{-1}$ $\text{cm}^2$
			C	H	N	M		
H <sub>2</sub> L	White (82)	110	49.99 (49.92)	5.99 (5.93)	24.99 (24.94)	-		
[Cu(H <sub>2</sub> L) (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> ]Cl <sub>2</sub> C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>24</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> CuN <sub>6</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	DarkBlue (88)	279	33.18 (33.14)	4.77 (4.70)	16.58 (16.52)	12.54 (12.49)	1.84	115
[Cd(H <sub>2</sub> L) (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> ]Cl <sub>2</sub> C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>24</sub> CdCl <sub>2</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	White green (88)	281	30.26 (30.21)	4.35 (4.29)	15.12 (15.07)	20.23 (20.19)	Diam	75
[Mn(H <sub>2</sub> L) (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> ]Cl <sub>2</sub> C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>24</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> MnN <sub>6</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	Off-white (86)	288	33.75 (33.02)	4.86 (4.81)	16.87 (16.82)	11.03 (10.98)	5.20	115

**Table (1). Elemental and physical data of ligand**

### metal complexes

#### 3.2. IR spectral studies

The IR spectra of the ligand and metal complexes were carried out in the range of 4000-400  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , and the most effective bands are given in the experimental part. The sharp stretching vibration bands observed at 3070-3080  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (3050  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in the free ligand) indicating that the ligand coordinates to metal ions via amine moiety. The complexes exhibited bands in the range of 1767 -1780  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in comparison with the free ligand at 1740  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  which attributed to the amide (C=ONH) group. This shift in band position confirmed that the complexation reaction occurred through formation of coordinate bond with nitrogen oxygen atoms of the ligand [41]. The medium and weak bands found in the spectra of the complexes in the range of 532-540  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and 430-440  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  can assigned to  $\nu(\text{M-O})$  and  $\nu(\text{M-N})$  stretching vibrations, respectively [42-46]. According to the above data, it can conclude that the ligand behaved as neutral tetradentate ligand and coordinated to the metal ions via the two amide nitrogen atoms and the two carbonyl oxygen atoms to the metal ions.

#### 3.3. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra:

The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of the ligand was compared with that of Cd(II) complex and the data obtained revealed that the signals still appeared at the same position as the ligand but enhancement decrease which support the coordination of ligand to metal ions with protonated amide group. [47]

#### 3.4. Molar conductivity measurements

In order to detect if the counter ions either outside or inside the coordination sphere, the conductivity measurements must be measured where it can indicate the degree of ionization of the prepared complexes. The molar conductivity of  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  M solutions of the prepared metal complexes in DMF solvent was measured and was found to be 115, 75 and 115  $\Omega^{-1} \text{cm}^2 \text{mol}^{-1}$  for Cu (II), Cd(II) and Mn(II) complexes, respectively. These data supported the electrolytic nature of the complexes.

#### 3.5. Electronic spectra and magnetic moment measurements:

It is possible to draw up the electronic transitions and detect the geometry with the help of magnetic moments of most metal ions [48]. The experimental magnetic moment value of 1.84 B.M. for Cu(II) complex represented the presence of one unpaired electron per Cu(II) ion for  $d^9$  system suggesting spin-free distorted octahedral geometry. The diffused reflectance spectrum of this complex indicated the  $d-d$  transition bands at 13,970, 20,140 and 25,132  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The bands appeared correspond to  ${}^2\text{B}_{1g} \rightarrow {}^2\text{A}_{1g}$  ( $dx^2-y^2 \rightarrow dz^2$ ),  ${}^2\text{B}_{1g} \rightarrow {}^2\text{B}_{2g}$  ( $dx^2-y^2 \rightarrow dxy$ ) and  ${}^2\text{B}_{1g} \rightarrow {}^2\text{E}_g$  ( $dx^2-y^2 \rightarrow dxz, dyz$ ) transitions, respectively. These data suggested an octahedral geometry of the Cu(II) complex. The diffused reflectance spectrum of the Mn(II) complex pointed out three bands at 13,256, 18,420 and 21,253  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  which are assigned to  ${}^4\text{A}_{1g} \rightarrow {}^6\text{A}_{1g}$ ,  ${}^4\text{T}_{2g}(\text{G}) \rightarrow {}^6\text{A}_{1g}$  and  ${}^4\text{T}_{1g}(\text{D}) \rightarrow {}^6\text{A}_{1g}$  transitions, respectively. It has  $\mu_{\text{eff}}$  value of 5.17 B.M. which confirmed octahedral geometry of the Mn(II) complex [49]. Cd(II) complex is diamagnetic and according to their empirical formula, they have octahedral geometry.

#### 3.6. Mass spectral studies:

The mass spectra of the for  $[\text{Cu}(\text{H}_2\text{L})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $[\text{Cd}(\text{H}_2\text{L})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]\text{Cl}_2$  and  $[\text{Mn}(\text{H}_2\text{L})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]\text{Cl}_2$  complexes showed molecular ion peaks at  $m/z$  505.04, 556.02 and 497.05 amu, respectively. Their spectra of the complexes showed also molecular ion ( $m/z$ ) peaks at 336.15 amu corresponding to the ligands which further support complex formation (Figure 2).

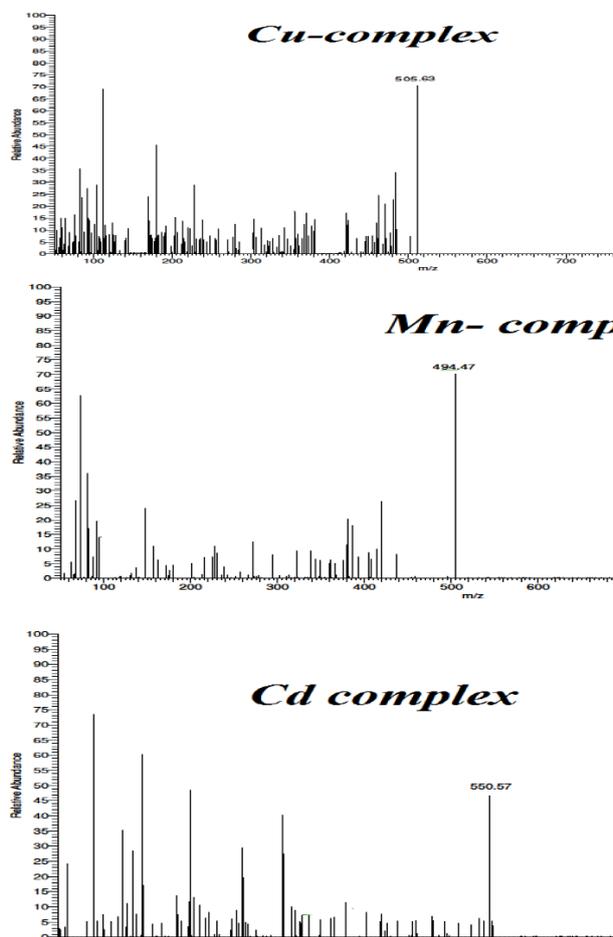


Figure (3). Mass of metal complexes

### 3.7. UV-Visible spectra of the azo dye ligand and its metal complexes

The UV-visible spectrum of the ligand showed sharp peak at 276 nm that corresponding to  $\pi$ - $\pi^*$  transitions within the phenyl and azomethine groups [50-55]. This peak was found in the complexes at 270 nm indicated the participation of azomethine group in coordination.

### 3.8. Thermal analysis studies (TG and DTG):

The TG data for the ligand ( $\text{H}_2\text{L}$ ) showed four steps of decomposition. The first step within the temperature range of 40-220 °C with temperature maximum 150°C, was correlated with evaluation of  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_8$  molecules with mass loss of 27.38% (calcd. 28.31%). The second decomposition step within the temperature range of 220-600°C correspond to

decomposition of sequence parts of ligand ( $\text{NO}$  and  $\text{C}_4\text{H}_4$  molecules) with mass loss of 43.85% (calcd. 43.45%). The last step of decomposition within the temperature range of 600-1000°C corresponds to the molecules of the ligand with mass loss of 26.82% (calcd. 30.05%). The total weight loss amounted to 89.98% (calcd. 100.88%).

The TG thermogram of  $[\text{Cu}(\text{H}_2\text{L})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]\text{Cl}_2$  complex showed four decomposition steps. The first decomposition step accompanied by loss of  $\text{C}_4\text{H}_8$  and  $2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  molecules in the temperature range of 45-200 °C with an estimated weight loss of 17.31% (calcd. 18.21%). The second decomposition step accompanied by loss of  $2\text{HCl}$ ,  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{CH}_2$  molecules in the temperature range of 200-450 °C with an estimated weight loss of 25.52% (calcd. 25.74%). The third and fourth steps of decomposition showed loss of  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_6\text{N}_4$  and  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  molecules at 450-650 °C and 650-1000 °C with an estimated weight loss of 30.46% (calcd. 28.91%) and 11.07% (calcd. 11.68). Thereafter, the percentage of the residue corresponds to cadmium oxide and the total approximate weight loss was found to be 84.36% (calcd. 84.54%).

The TG thermogram of  $[\text{Cd}(\text{H}_2\text{L})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]\text{Cl}_2$  complex showed four decomposition steps. The first decomposition step accompanied by loss of  $2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $2\text{HCl}$  molecules in the temperature range of 40-210 °C with an estimated weight loss of 18.88% (calcd. 19.78%). The second decomposition step was accompanied by loss of  $2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $2\text{HCl}$  molecules in the temperature range of 210-610 °C with an estimated weight loss of 22.61% (calcd. 23.74%). The third step of decomposition showed loss of  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_2\text{O}$  molecule at 610-800 °C with an estimated weight loss of 24.34% (calcd. 24.82%). The fourth step of decomposition showed loss of  $\text{C}_4\text{H}_2$  molecule at 800-1000 °C with an estimated weight loss of 11.15% (calcd. 8.99%). Thereafter, the percentage of the residue corresponds to zinc oxide contaminated with carbon and the total approximate weight loss was found to be 76.98% (calcd. 77.33%).

The TG thermogram of  $[\text{Mn}(\text{H}_2\text{L})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]\text{Cl}_2$  complex showed three decomposition steps. The first decomposition step accompanied by loss of  $2\text{HCl}$  and  $2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  molecules in the temperature range of 50-280 °C with an estimated weight loss of 21.88% (calcd. 22.33%). The second decomposition step accompanied by loss of  $\text{N}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{C}_4\text{H}_8$  molecules in the temperature range of 280-600 °C with an estimated weight loss of 35.46% (calcd. 37.82%). The last step of decomposition showed loss of  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{10}$  molecule at 600-1000 °C with an estimated weight loss of 28.38% (calcd. 26.15%). Thereafter, the percentage of the residue corresponds to manganese oxide contaminated with carbon and the total approximate weight loss was found to be 85.72% (calcd. 86.30%).

Compound	TG range (°C)	DTG <sub>max</sub> (°C)	n *	Mass Loss Calcd (Estim) %	Total mass Loss %	Assignment	residue
<b>H<sub>2</sub>L</b>	40–220	150	1	27.38 (28.31)		- Loss of C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	
	220–600	380	1	43.45 (43.85)	100.88(89.98)	- Loss of NO and C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	
	600-1000	750	1	30.05 (26.82)		-Loss of C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>2</sub> -Loss of C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	
[Cu(H <sub>2</sub> L)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> ]Cl <sub>2</sub>	45-200	150	1	18.21 (17.31)		- Loss of C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> and 2H <sub>2</sub> O.	CuO
	200-450	300	1	25.74 (25.52)		- Loss of 2HCl, N <sub>2</sub> O and CH <sub>2</sub>	
	450-650	520	1	28.91 (30.46)	84.54 (84.36)	- Loss of C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>4</sub> .	
	650-1000	750	1	11.68 (11.07)		- Loss of C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	
[Cd(H <sub>2</sub> L)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> ]Cl <sub>2</sub>	40-210	150	1	19.78 (18.88)		- Loss of 2H <sub>2</sub> O and 2HCL.	CdO
	210-610	4000	1	23.74 (22.61)		- Loss of N <sub>2</sub> O and C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> .	
	610-800	650	1	24.82 (24.34)	77.33 (76.98)	- Loss of C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O.	
	800-1000	880	1	8.99 (11.15 )		- Loss of C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>2</sub> .	
[Mn( H <sub>2</sub> L)(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> ]Cl <sub>2</sub>	50-280	180	1	22.33 (21.88)		- Loss of 2HCL and 2H <sub>2</sub> O.	MnO
	280-600	350	1	37.82 ( 35.46)	86.30 (85.72)	- Loss of N <sub>2</sub> O and C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	
	600-1000	800	1	26.15 (28.38)		- Loss of C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>10</sub> .	

TABLE 2. Thermoanalytical results (TG, DTG and DTA) for ligand and metal complexes

### 3.9. Structural interpretation

According to the analytical and spectroscopic data previously described, the proposed structures of metal complexes were given in Figure 4.

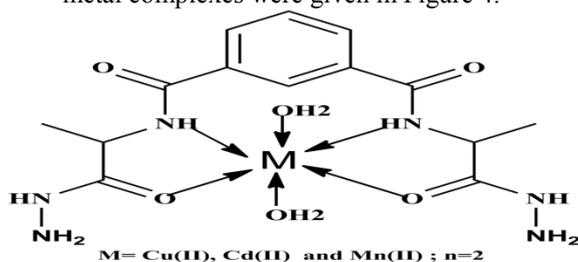


Figure 4 Structure of metal complexes of ligand.

### 3.10. Molecular Docking

Auto Dock is considered as one of the modern methods used to illustrate and demonstrate the benefits of biological features of Schiff bases and metal complexes and shed light on experimental data. Docking was applied for ligand (guest) with different kinds of organisms (various protein receptors) as host such as: Bacillus subtilis (5ZW4-A), Escherichia coli (3HUM-A), Pseudomonas aeruginosa (4WEL-A) and Staphylococcus aureus (5M18-A). Also, the energies

for the docking procedure can be calculated. The strong interaction with all receptors with comparable results can be determined from HB plots (Figures 5–8) according to computation. Inter-hydrogen bonding was clearly visible for all proteins. The mode of interaction inside the docking molecules can be visualized by two-dimensional plots (Figures 5–8).

It appeared that the interaction occurred between the amino acids of proteins and the ligand via hydrogen bonds as follows: Bacillus subtilis (5ZW4-A), Escherichia coli (3HUM-A), Pseudomonas aeruginosa (4WEL-A) and Staphylococcus aureus (5M18-A): amino acid of protein reacted with ligand by H-bond of Bacillus subtilis (5ZW4-A): 5zw4-pdb-H//A/ARG'90/2HH2– with hydrogen bond length 2.3 Å, 5zw4-pdb-H//A/GLU'85/OE1– with hydrogen bond length 3.3 Å, 5zw4-pdb-H//A/GLU'85/OE1– with hydrogen bond length 2.1 Å, 5zw4-pdb-H//A/GLU'85/OE2– with hydrogen bond length 2.4 Å, 5zw4-pdb-H//A/ARG'86/HE– with hydrogen bond length 2.3 Å, 5zw4-pdb-H//A/ARG'86/HE– with hydrogen bond length 2.6 Å, 5zw4-pdb-H//A/ASP'133/OD1– with hydrogen bond length 2.8 Å, 5zw4-pdb-H//A/ASP'133/OD1– with hydrogen bond length 2.4 Å, 5zw4-pdb-H//A/ASP'159/OD2– with hydrogen bond length 2.5 Å, 5zw4-pdb-H//A/ASP'208/OD2– with hydrogen bond length 2.9 Å, 5zw4-pdb-

H//A/ILE`37/O- with hydrogen bond length 3.5 Å, with binding energy = -7.4 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup> (Figures 5–8).

For *E. coli* (3HUM-A): the amino acids of protein reacted with ligand by H-bond as follow: 1-3hum-A-h//A/GLU`114/O- with hydrogen bond length 2.9 Å, 3hum-A-h//A/GLU`114/O- with hydrogen bond length 3.4 Å, 3hum-A-h//A/SER`116/HN- with hydrogen bond length 2.4 Å, 3hum-A-h//A/SER`116/HN - with hydrogen bond length 2.7 Å, 3hum-A-h//A/SER`75/HG - with hydrogen bond length 2.0 Å, 3hum-A-h//A/SER`139/HG - with hydrogen bond length 2.2 Å, 3hum-A-h//A/GLU`297/OE2 - with hydrogen bond length 2.4 Å, 3hum-A-h//A/GLU`297/OE2 - with hydrogen bond length 3.1 Å, 3hum-A-h//A/GLU`297/OE1 - with hydrogen bond length 3.2 Å, 3hum-A-h//A/TYR`268/OH - with hydrogen bond length 2.2 Å, 3hum-A-h//A/TYR`268/OH - with hydrogen bond length 2.2 Å, with binding energy = -7.6 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>. (Figures 5–8)

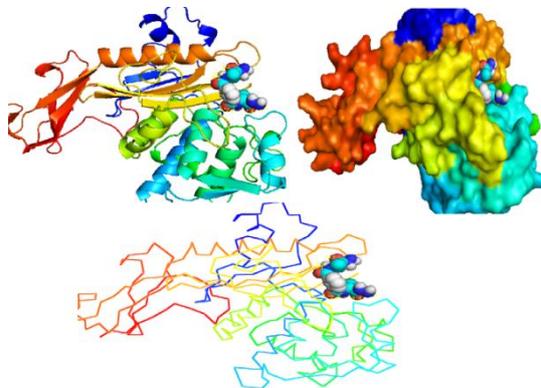
For *P. aeruginosa* (4wel): amino acid of protein reacts with ligand by H-bond: 4wel-h//A/PRO`516/O- with hydrogen bond length 2.5 Å, 4wel-h//A/ASP`515/OD1- with hydrogen bond length 2.5 Å, 4wel-h//A/LYS`255/HZ2- with hydrogen bond length 2.4 Å, 4wel-h//A/ASN`427/1HD2- with hydrogen bond length 2.5 Å, 4wel-h//A/ALA`426/O- Length 2.6 Å, 4wel-h//A/ASP`428/OD1- with hydrogen bond length 3.4 Å, 4wel-h//A/GLN`458/1HE2- with hydrogen bond length 2.1 Å, 4wel-h//A/THR`514/O- with hydrogen bond length 2.6 Å, 4wel-h//A/ALA`513/O- with hydrogen bond length 2.4 Å, with binding energy = 5.6 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>. (Figures 5–8)

For *S. aureus* (5M18-A): amino acid of protein reacted with ligand by H- bond: 5M18-A-h//A/THR`238/OG1- with hydrogen bond length 2.5 Å, 5M18-A-h//A/GLU`239/O- with hydrogen bond length 2.4 Å, 5M18-A-h//A/GLU`239/O- with hydrogen bond length 2.6 Å, 5M18-A-h//A/GLU`239/O- with hydrogen bond length 2.4 Å, 5M18-A-h//A/THR`165/HG1- with hydrogen bond length 2.1 Å, 5M18-A-h//A/ARG`151/HN- with hydrogen bond length 2.3 Å, 5M18-A-h//A/SER`149/O- with hydrogen bond length 2.1 Å, with binding energy = -7.8 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>. (Figures 5–8)

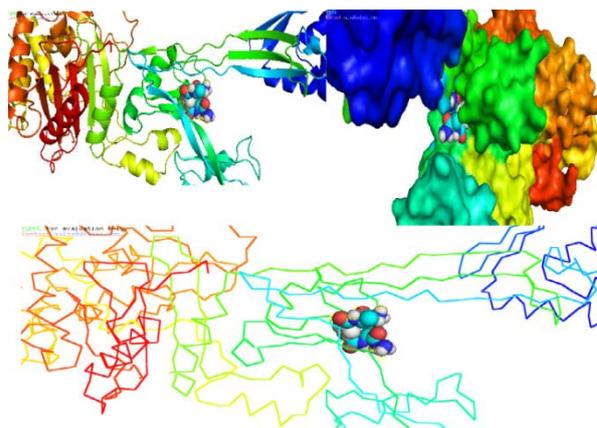
### 3.13. Antimicrobial activity

Ligands that have donor atoms like oxygen and nitrogen are an important class of compounds as they have wide range of applications in the medicinal field. They display biological activities as antibacterial [56, 57] and antitumor activities. Microbes are exposed to or confronted with a variety of different metal ions in the surrounding environment, which in turn interact with them, and are often useful to humans and sometimes others are more dangerous and damaging. The benefit and damage depend on their nature, whether chemical or

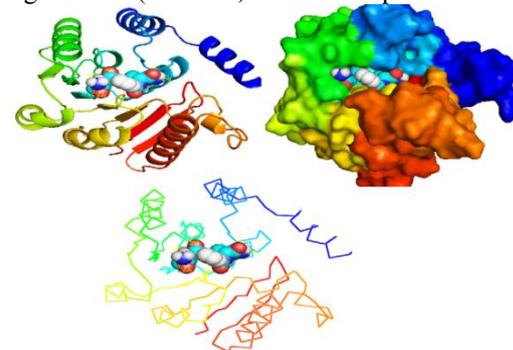
physical, and also on the state of oxidation of the metal ion. It is very necessary to study the presence of these ions and how to find them, and it is observed that they are often found as cations (or cationic compounds) or oxy anions, such as salts or oxides in crystalline form or insoluble deposits in an insoluble form.



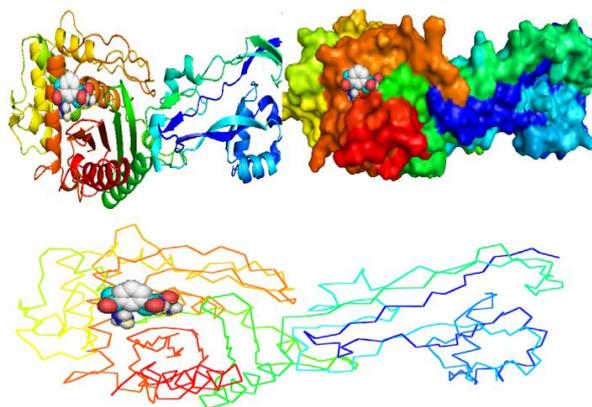
**Figure 5** Three-dimensional plot of interaction of ligand with (3HUM-A) *E. coli* receptor.



**Figure 6** Three-dimensional plot of interaction of ligand with (5M18-A) *aureus* receptor



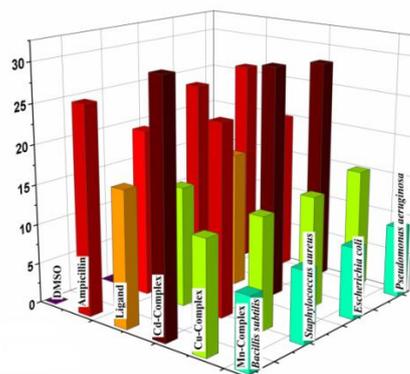
**Figure 7** Three-dimensional plot of interaction of ligand with (5ZW4-A) *B. subtilis* receptor



**Figure 8** Three-dimensional plot of interaction of ligand with (4we) *P. aeruginosa* receptor

From the study of these microbes, it is found that they have a great ability to overlap and bind the metal ions in the external environment on the surface of cells and transferred to the cell for different functions within the cells. All microbes, whether eukaryotic or eukaryotic, use metals for structural and/or catalytic functions. Antimicrobial activity was determined for the ligand and its complexes using the diffusion agar method [58-60].

Ampicillin was considered as a reference biochemical antibiotic for antibacterial activities. In examining the antibacterial activity of these complexes, more than one organism is used to increase the chance of detecting antibiotic activities in the test materials. Gram-positive (*S. aureus* ATTC12600 and *B. subtilis* ATTC 6051) and Gram-negative (*P. aeruginosa* ATTC 13315 and *E. coli* ATTC 11775) bacteria were used as test organisms. The antibacterial behavior was estimated by evaluating the inhibition zone diameter (mm) and minimum inhibitory concentration ( $MIC_{50}$ ) (Figure 9). It was observed that the ligand has less activity towards Gram-positive and toward Gram-negative bacteria as can see from Figure (9). The activity of Cd(II) complex is higher than ligand, Cu(II) complex than Mn(II) towards *B. subtilis*, *S. aureus*, *E. coli* and *P. aeruginosa* organisms with inhibition zone values of 31, 24, 29 and 28 mm/mg, respectively, for Cd(II) complex and inhibition zone values of 17, 15, 17 and 20 mm/mg, respectively, for ligand. Whereas Cu(II) complex has inhibition zone values of 14, 14, 14 and 15 mm/mg, respectively towards *B. subtilis*, *S. aureus*, *E. coli* and *P. aeruginosa* organisms. Whereas Mn(II) complex has inhibition zone values of 9, 9, 9 and 9 mm/mg, respectively towards *B. subtilis*, *S. aureus*, *E. coli* and *P. aeruginosa* organisms.



**FIGURE 9** Biological activities of ligand and its metal complexes.

#### 4. Conclusion

In order to classify the ligand under investigation and its transition metal complexes, various physicochemical, spectroscopic and thermal methods of analysis were used. In addition, the  $[Cd(H_2L)(H_2O)_2]Cl_2$  complex was classified as the most active antibacterial/antifungal compound among them when researching their antimicrobial activities. Docking studies of ligands were investigated, revealing that ligand activity varies depending on the kind of protein, with the lowest binding energy that can interact with multiple receptors in the proteins analyzed.

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دراسة متراكبات جديدة بالتحضير والقياسات الطيفية وبرنامج الجاوسين ودراسة الدوكن والتركيب الجزئ.

إيهاب مصطفى زايد 1

1- قسم الكيمياء الخضراء - المركز القومي للبحوث

تم استخدام التقنيات التحليلية ، الطيف (IR و H NMR 1) ، الموصلية المولية ، وقياسات العزم المغناطيسية لتجميع وتحليل الترابط (H2L) ومتراكباته. تم دراسة تقنية التحليل الحراري (TG) في درجات حرارة تتراوح من درجة حرارة محيطية إلى 1000 درجة مئوية. يستخدم (H2L) مقترناً بأيونات المعدن من خلال ذرتين من النيتروجين واثنين من ذرات الأكسجين في وضع سلبي ، وفقاً لأطياف الأشعة تحت الحمراء. تم تقدير فجوات الطاقة والمعايير النظرية الهامة الأخرى باستخدام طريقة DFT / B3LYP ، وتم تحسين الصيغة الهيكلية للرابط المركب باستخدام برنامج Gaussian09. تم استخدام طريقة الأجار لفحص النشاط البيولوجي في المختبر للليجنند (H2L) و مركباته المعدنية ضد بكتيريا الجرام (+) (*Bacillus subtilis* و *Staphylococcus aureus*) وبكتيريا الجرام (-) (*Escherichia coli* و *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*). أظهرت النتائج أن المجمعات المنتجة أكثر نشاطاً من الناحية الفسيولوجية من الليجنند. تم إجراء بحث حول الالتحام الجزيني بين الترابط والتركيبات البلورية لكل من t88-*Escherichia coli*3 و ty7-*Staphylococcus aureus*3 و h67-*Bacillus subtilis*5 و i39-*Pseudomonas aeruginosa*5