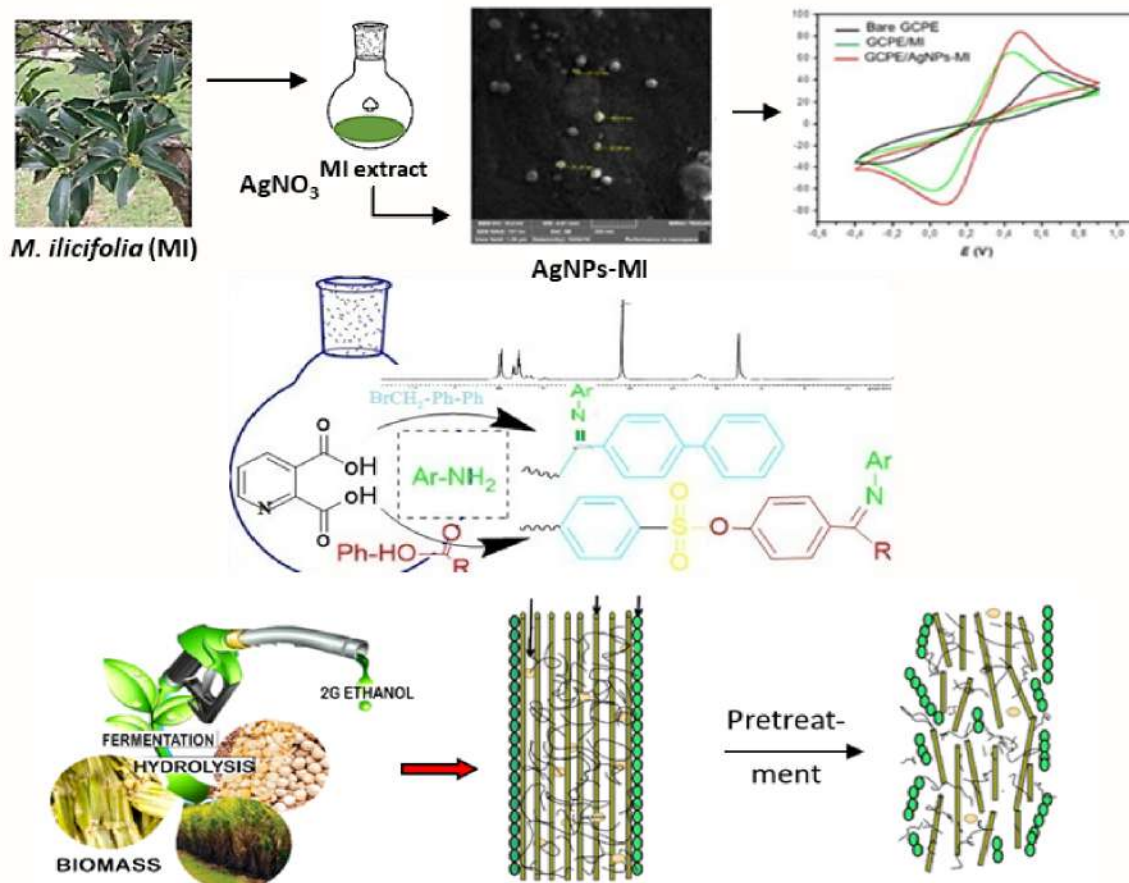


Eclética Química

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Alternative energy

Second-generation ethanol: concept, production and challenges

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Editorial

The Editor proudly announces the new issue of **Eclética Química** in which readers will find reviews and original articles covering different areas of Chemistry and Education in Chemistry. This issue is opened with the exam of empirical articles about social media increasing the motivation to study chemistry for high school and undergraduate students. For that, the method of Systematic Literature Review was used to identify, analyze, and interpret findings on the research topics. In these topics, the effect of using social media in chemistry learning was discussed. Obviously, learners can interact and connect with each other in new manners by means of social media. Afterwards, a review on the second-generation (2G) ethanol, which indicates to be the progress of science all over the world, using biological agents, the driving force for the large-scale production of important materials in the economy, such as biofuel. The discussion of concepts, production methodologies and challenges for the energy sector considering 2G ethanol are the focus of this review. It is noticed that the 2G ethanol production methodologies have been implemented as a potential low-cost alternative energy generation in accordance with the principles of Green Chemistry. In the sequence, the description of the green synthesis of silver nanoparticles (AgNPs) using the aqueous extract of *Monteverdia ilicifolia* (MI) leaves as stabilizing and reducing agent, i.e., a new application for a well-known medicinal plant used in Brazil, is presented. The authors have characterized the AgNPs-MI obtained using an extensive number of techniques, demonstrating the effectiveness of MI to cover the AgNPs and stabilizing the suspension. Once deposited on glassy carbon electrode, the AgNPs were effective as electrochemical sensor to determine dopamine, improving electrochemical properties and enhancing their electroanalytical performance. Follow the description of several steps necessary to prepare some substituted imines from quinolinic acid. These substituted imines can make several reactions such as electrophilic, nucleophilic, dienophile, and aza-diene reaction. Imine compounds exhibit a wide range of useful biological activity, such as inflammatory, antimalarial, analgesic, antioxidant, antimicrobial, anthelmintic, antitubercular and anticancer. They can be also used as starting material in many fields, including organometal compounds. Complete this issue the description of the preparation of Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) complexes with the ligands derived from 2-chlorobenzaldehyde, glycine and hydrazine hydrate and the characterization of these compounds by means of different techniques. Antimicrobial and antioxidant activities were calculated and the antibacterial activity against two Gram-positive and two Gram-negative bacteria was evaluated, and the antifungal activity was assessed against two fungal strains. The results showed that the most metal complexes have much higher antibacterial and antifungal activity compared to the parent ligand. The Editor and his team are grateful to all the authors for their valuable contributions, and the reviewers for their outstanding collaboration, and kindly invite you to submit your manuscript to **Eclética Química**.

Assis Vicente Benedetti
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Social media-based learning in Chemistry learning: A review

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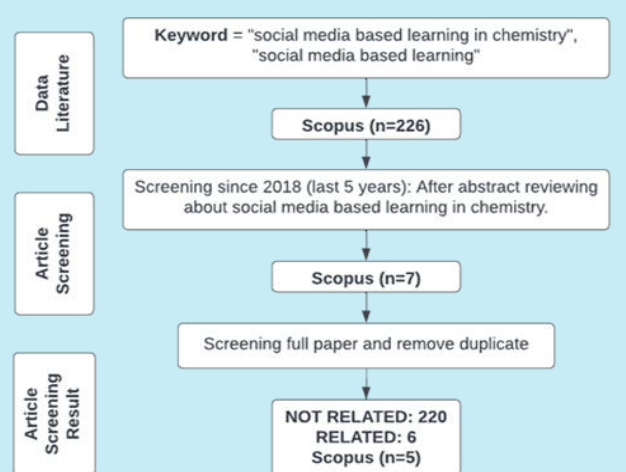
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ABSTRACT: Social media-based learning can involve students in open, competitive, and running learning according to the speed of each understanding. This study aims to examine empirical articles about social media increasing the motivation to study chemistry for high school and undergraduate students using the Systematic Literature Review method, namely, to identify, analyze, and interpret findings on research topics published from 2018 to 2022. Five articles were identified through the publish or perish search engine using Scopus databases. The articles studied reviewed the effect of using social media in learning. The results of the study focused on the use of social media in chemistry learning which can increase student motivation for both high school and undergraduate students.



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2. Experimental
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1. Introduction

Today, the Internet has become a lifestyle for most people in the world, with the current world population of over 7.7 billion and Internet users being 4.4 billion. The field of education has gained many new approaches to improve learning, one of which is social media-based learning. Social media-based learning can involve students in intense, open, competitive learning, and can do problem-solving with enthusiasm where students can discover new things in a relaxed and informal atmosphere but at the same time stay focused and motivated (Zdravkova, 2016). This is highly expected in a learning process where students can be more motivated and enthusiastic in participating in learning. Social media-based learning can also change students from passive learners to active learners so that learning can be student-centered (Ziegler, 2007). The above benefits can of course be achieved with the help of social interactions fostered by students, students' technological knowledge, and the role of the teacher to manage and control class activities (Rinda *et al.*, 2018).

The active role of students in the learning process has direct involvement with the learning model applied by educators. This is often found because students often experience an atmosphere and enthusiasm for learning that does not absorb and accept the material presented by the teacher. High school chemistry teaching materials have many concepts that are quite difficult for students to grasp, making many students less confident in understanding the material because it is abstract, simplified from the actual situation, sequential, and tiered (Lutfi and Hidayah, 2021).

Learning science, especially chemistry in schools using social media-based learning models, is an effective method to improve explanation and understanding of basic chemistry topics (Fosu *et al.*, 2019). The use of appropriate learning methods and strategies by educators will determine a good and effective chemistry learning process (Sari *et al.*, 2017). Previous research has shown that the use of social media in learning has a positive effect on student-learning and can increase self-efficacy so that many researchers continue to develop social media-based learning media by using various features in it (Hayes *et al.*, 2020).

Based on research conducted by Danjou (2020), social media-based learning can allow each student to progress at their own space because the material can be accessed anytime, anywhere, and can be watched/viewed many times. Research conducted by Smith (2014) on chemistry learning showed that involving students in creating chemistry video content keeps them enthusiastic

and helps to develop their creativity and communication skills.

A literature review conducted by Beemt *et al.* (2020) with the topic of increasing students' understanding of the use of social media in the learning process states that the role of social media in learning is to motivate students and to increase transparency in communication (internal and external), assessment and evaluation. However, this can be achieved if the teacher as educator also has good technology skills.

Various kinds of content designs and social media features are designed in chemistry learning, such as DingTalk and WeChat, which are proven to make learning activities interesting and can be used to attract students' attention in the classroom (Xiao *et al.*, 2020). In another study that mentions the use of technology-based learning tools, the content presented aims to help students interact in the management experience by learning skills and knowledge to improve literacy (Hight *et al.*, 2021). Literacy in reading is very important so that students can explore a lot of reading sources that support the subject matter provided by the teacher (Putri *et al.*, 2022).

This research has been conducted so that it may become the latest research trend regarding social media-based learning that can be applied to chemistry material for both high school and undergraduate students. Therefore, the research objectives and appropriate learning methods will provide an overview of the interest in this social media-based research. The learning outcomes that social media-based learning researchers will emphasize are the focus of the current review. Thus, the main research question that the study seeks to answer is: Can social media increase motivation to study chemistry for high school and undergraduate students?

2. Experimental

The method of writing a journal review in searching for literature data using a Systematic Literature Review, which is a method that has stages of identifying, evaluating, and interpreting findings and is used to answer predetermined research questions (Shay and Lafata, 2015). In this review, the Scopus database was used to obtain social media-based learning research articles, using the publish or perish software.

In this study, the data used with the keyword "social media-based learning in chemistry" with a journal publication time span of 2018–2022 (last 5 years). After the application was run, the researcher read the title and abstract of the article to select articles that met the following inclusion criteria: 1) Articles about social media-based learning in chemistry learning; 2)

Publication of reputable, accredited, and full-text articles. This study has exclusion criteria, namely articles not related to social media-based learning in chemistry learning as well as articles published before 2018.

The search results found 226 articles related to the related topics studied. Then, reselection was carried out based on inclusion criteria so that 7 articles were obtained. Furthermore, the data were sorted by assessing and considering the suitability of the research topic, abstract, and research content in order to obtain 5 articles that met all the requirements.

The article search process described above can be seen in Fig. 1.

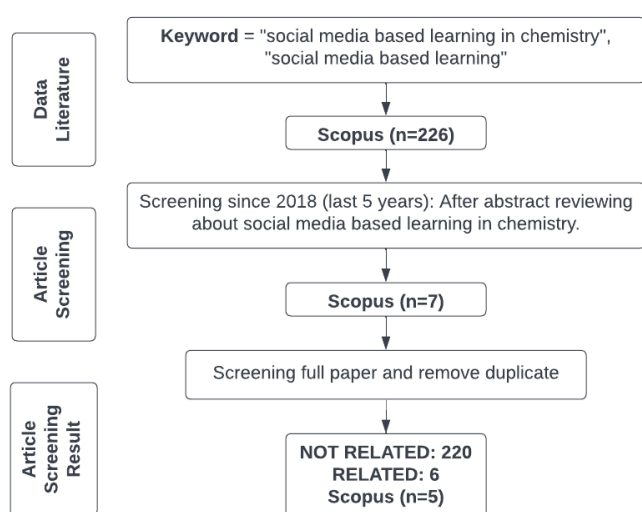


Figure 1. Search flowchart.

3. Results and discussion

The analyzed results of the review research focused on the influence of social media use in learning in senior high schools and undergraduate colleges.

Literature study information in terms of abstracts, background, research questions, objectives, methods, and research results are presented in Table 1. Of the 5 articles reviewed, 1 article was published in 2018, 1 article was published in 2019, 2 articles were published in 2020, and 1 article was published in 2021. The following chemistry learning materials that can be applied to social media-based learning can also be seen in Table 1.

Based on Table 1, the results of research in social media-based chemistry learning can be said to be effective and able to increase the motivation to study chemistry. The participation of students in making videos can in fact increase the enthusiasm for learning so that it can have a positive effect on student learning outcomes, which is in line with the research results of Hight *et al.* (2021). However, this literature review found a gap between the possible learning experiences of students on social media and the learning outcomes or learning focus they assessed.

Two important aspects that have not been discussed in this research are: how social media content is designed and implemented; and that diversity and innovation in compiling social media content that is easy for students to understand is very important and should play a very important role in making learning effective and more interactive.

Table 1. Social media-based learning.

Author	Use of social media	Results
Hurst (2018)	Learning chemistry using the Snapchat platform, especially the Story feature to share things related to chemistry in everyday life.	Snapchat can be used to engage students in chemistry by contextualizing the subject matter in the real world together by giving students insight into the research and living environment, especially in chemistry. Based on the data obtained from the research, it is known that 83% of the 59 respondents said they felt more engaged with chemistry because of Snapchat.
Fosu <i>et al.</i> (2019)	Students are asked to publish their study results using the Twitter application	From the survey, it appears that students have a positive perception of the use of social media for studying chemistry. About 83 (61.48%) students strongly agreed that social media can be a good platform to support the learning of chemistry. Based on their posts, it is evident that students found the social media platform to be a convenient medium for learning, and even wished that the platform was frequently used for teaching. Students reported that using Twitter helped in their understanding of the material.
Danjou (2020)	Chemistry learning is carried out asynchronously and synchronously. Synchronous sessions were carried out with the teacher sharing learning videos via Facebook so that students can access them anytime and anywhere.	Learning becomes more efficient because teachers do many alternative technologies in learning. Based on data, 95% of respondents think that the use of videos visible on Facebook is more suitable for exercise solutions explanation without requiring more effort than for live explanation. From the activities that have been carried out, students feel enthusiastic about learning chemistry.

Continue...

Hayes et al. (2020)	Innovative video creation and posted on the TikTok app with the aim of introducing the audience that chemistry is fun.	The video that was made was successfully watched 8,500 times and managed to attract visitors by 82.7% of the initial number.
Hight et al. (2021)	Making creative chemistry learning videos using TikTok.	From the research conducted, it is proven that the involvement of students in making learning videos can increase students' understanding of the material that will be made later.

4. Conclusions

The results of research in social media-based chemistry learning can be said to be effective and able to increase the motivation to study chemistry. The effectiveness of a social media platform in increasing the motivation to study chemistry for high school and undergraduate students has its own advantages and disadvantages, so the decision regarding the use of learning media lies in the mastery skills of the teacher to apply media, especially social media in learning. There are many types of platforms that can be applied in learning chemistry such as Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, Discord, and many more. The characteristics of the right platform are that the platform can support learning outcomes both in the short and long term.

Social media has the potential to connect a broad knowledge into small parts that can be separated. How students perceive and what can be utilized from this different social media-based learning experience needs further exploration.

Authors' contribution

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Formal Analysis: Sriwahyuni, T.

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Data availability statement

All data sets were generated or analyzed in the current study

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Second-generation ethanol: concept, production and challenges

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ABSTRACT: The use of biological agents for the large-scale production of biofuels has stood out as successful processes for the advancement of science in the world. The growing exploitation of biomass in the agricultural sector and the emergence of new energy sources generated from food industry waste have become attractive and viable due to the potential and variety of possibilities for using different sources of biomass. The present review was carried out through careful bibliographical research in the literature and in scientific journals for the current discussion of concepts, production methodologies and challenges for the energy sector considering second-generation ethanol (2G ethanol). Several 2G ethanol production methodologies have been implemented as a potential low-cost alternative energy production that follows the principles of Green Chemistry.



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Funding

Acknowledgments

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1. Introduction

Sugarcane originated in the Southeast Asian region, near India. This desired product that passed through lands such as Genoa, Venice and Sicily had contact with Brazilian lands through Portuguese colonization, being brought by settlers from Madeira Island, famous for being the largest producer of sugarcane in the 15th century. During the Portuguese colonization, the province of Pernambuco, in a short period of time, became one of the most important and profitable lands in Portuguese possession. In addition to its coastal location, Pernambuco was ideal for planting sugarcane, with geographical (intense solar radiation) and natural (soil and climate) conditions favoring its exploitation and use in mills throughout the region. The mills produced not only sugar, but also one of the biggest by-products of sugarcane, ethanol, which was essential for the Portuguese rise in the world.

Nowadays, six centuries later, occupying the second largest producer and consumer of ethanol in the world, only behind the USA (UNEM, 2021), Brazil is responsible for producing about 31.6 billion liters of ethanol in 2019, according to the website of Agency of Brazil and Conab (National Supply Company of Brazil) (Agência Brasil, 2019). Hydrated ethanol sold at gas stations reaches 18.9 billion liters and anhydrous ethanol, used in the mixture with gasoline sold at gas stations, reaches 10.5 billion liters. In addition, the Midwest region is the one that most uses cereals for the production of ethanol in the national territory, about 1.27 billion liters in 2019.

The production of ethanol in abundance has an equivalent generation of residues that presents difficult decomposition, causing damage to the environment due to the accumulation of these materials (Herrera-Ruales and Arias-Zabala, 2014); therefore, techniques have been developed that use residues that are usually discarded from the main processes in the production of ethanol, but which are rich in cellulose, hemicellulose and lignin that, after undergoing pretreatments, steps and chemical processes, are converted into biofuels.

2. Second-generation (2G) ethanol

The USA occupies the position of one of the largest emitters of carbon dioxide on the planet; 2019 data

record about 6,558 million tons of emission (US EPA, 2021). On the other hand, we celebrate the encouraging return of the USA, in 2020, to the Paris Climate Agreement proposed by COP21-2015 (21st Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change), which aimed to bring positive climate change, in order to reduce the environmental impacts resulting from the drastic increase in the temperature of the planet.

The matter is urgent for our planet, as it triggers other problems for all of us, such as the low yield of food production, the constant threat to biodiversity, compromised water quality in rivers and seas, and the possibility of extreme natural events as well.

Solutions that can minimize the effects mentioned above are frequently studied and developed around the world. The idea that has drawn the attention of many researchers is the use of discarded matter in agriculture, known as biomass or lignocellulosic biomass and confirmed as the most abundant renewable resource in nature (Yu *et al.*, 2018). One of the ideas that has been gaining strength is the use of biomass from sugarcane bagasse to produce 2G ethanol.

Raízen, a joint venture between Cosan and Shell, announced in 2022 the construction of four industrial plants to produce 2G ethanol using biomass from sugar cane, becoming the only one in the world to operate with a greater number of cellulosic ethanol plants on an industrial scale (Boechat *et al.*, 2022).

Most of the raw biomass, after pretreatment, are composed of hemicellulose (~28%), cellulose (~40%), lignin (~33%), extracts (~2%) and ash (< 1%), as shown in Fig. 1. The extracts are low molar mass chemical compounds. They consist mainly of terpenes, fats, waxes, and phenolics, and their content and composition vary among species, location and season (Jönsson and Martín, 2016). These components are associated with different types of cellular organization and biochemical processes of biomass, which makes their composition relative from one species to another. The use of lignocellulosic biomass discarded in biorefineries has been surprisingly positive. Recent study showed the possibility of obtaining monomers for polymers, high-value fuels and pharmaceutical intermediates that have a wide variety of structural complexity (Bender *et al.*, 2018).

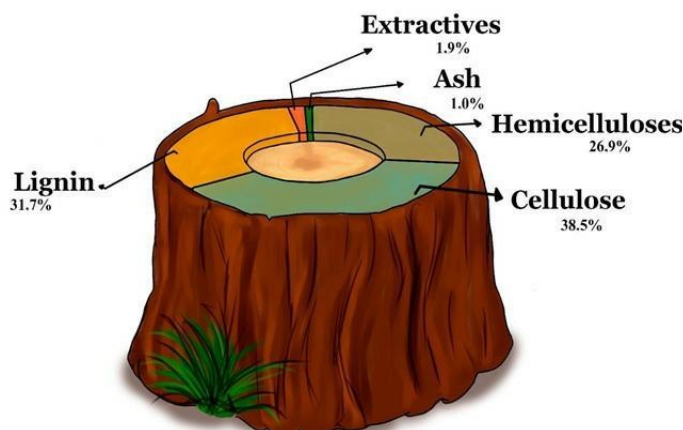


Figure 1. Representation of lignin, hemicellulose, cellulose, extractives and ash sources from plant biomass.

Source: Adapted from Jönsson and Martín (2016).

Regarding the issue mentioned above, the alternative of using 2G ethanol fits as a sustainable option for

reducing greenhouse gases, in addition to increasing ethanol production per area of land. This alternative envisages being able to reduce the exploitation of other resources that are sources of high emission of gases, such as fossil fuels.

However, the production of 2G ethanol is not consolidated as it presents economic and technological obstacles (Elias *et al.*, 2021). The process of obtaining 2G ethanol needs to be detailed, because every type of raw material needs a pretreatment to successfully release the sugars contained in cellulose fibers that are incorporated into the bases of plant cell walls (Agbor *et al.*, 2011).

The main steps listed for the manufacture of 2G ethanol consist of pretreatment, hydrolysis and fermentation, those of which require greater care for each type of biomass exploited. The general model for representing the transformation of biomass is shown in Fig. 2.

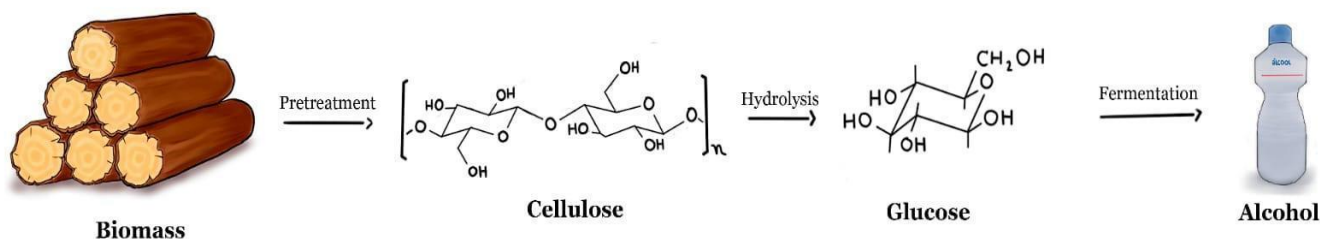


Figure 2. Representation of 2G ethanol production from lignocellulosic material.

Source: Adapted from Santos *et al.* (2012).

2.1 Pretreatment

Jönsson and Martín (2016) stated that pretreatment is an important step in the process that aims to eliminate the physical and chemical barriers that make native biomass recalcitrant and cellulose accessible for enzymatic hydrolysis, which is a fundamental step in the biochemical processing of lignocellulose based on the sugar platform concept. The efficiency of the process comes from increasing the surface of accessible cellulose through the solubilization of lignocellulosic residues such as lignin or/and hemicelluloses that cover the biomass.

Usually, pretreatment is carried out with the objective of reducing the degree of crystallinity of the cellulose, increasing the contact surface of the material leaving them porous, thus facilitating the conversion of sugars, eliminating hemicelluloses and lignins, which in contact with the hydrolysis step form monomeric sugars not

fermentable by yeast (Beig *et al.*, 2021). The breakage of the lignocellulosic wall is schematized in Fig. 3.

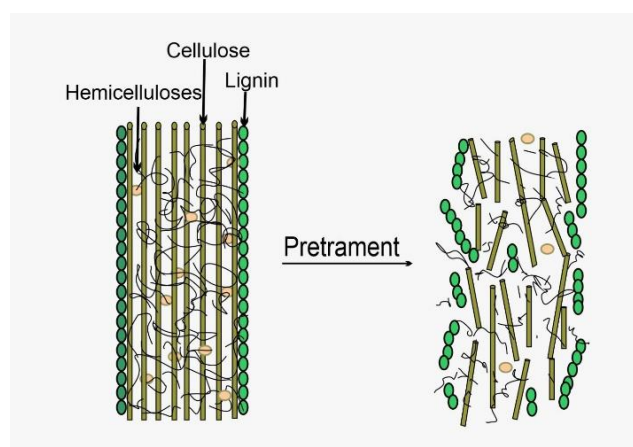


Figure 3. Biomass submitted to pretreatment, with the elimination of hemicellulose and lignins.

Source: Adapted from Santos *et al.* (2012).

The concept of lignin-carbohydrate complex is well accepted in biomass chemistry, which is a cross-linked structure formed by the interconnection of polysaccharides (cellulose and hemicellulose) (Cui *et al.*, 2022). Lignin is a highly branched aromatic macromolecule composed of guaiacyl propane (methoxy-3-hydroxy-4-phenylpropane), syringylpropane (dimethoxy-3-5-hydroxy-4-phenylpropane) and hydroxyphenyl propane units that bind cellulose and hemicellulose together (Yu *et al.*, 2018).

Due to the complex matrix of lignocellulosic biomass and the peculiarity of recalcitrance of the material, we are faced with the obstacle of water-insoluble matter and the impossibility of being directly hydrolyzed to produce sugars. Therefore, the pretreatment step is mandatory.

Often, the reactions involved in pretreatment result in products derived from lignocellulosic materials that are inhibitors to the biochemical process, mainly because the lignin dissolved in the solution can be attached to the biomass surface, leading to decreased access of enzymes to cellulose and lignin, which can also cause inhibition of cellulase activity due to nonproductive adsorption through hydrophobic, electrostatic and hydrogen bonding interactions (Huang *et al.*, 2022), which become significant in large quantities of products. Hitherto, pretreatment records cannot be quantified, as we have numerous different sources of biomass, each with its own particularities and cellular organizations. However, some techniques show good results with different types of biomass and are therefore more commonly used and are routine procedures.

Some studies are investigating the interaction between lignin and cellulase, which is aimed to understand how lignin inhibits the enzymatic hydrolysis efficiency of cellulose (Cui *et al.*, 2022; Lu *et al.*, 2016; Zhao *et al.*, 2022). They also provide new evidence for the structural information between cellulose and lignin in poplar using ^{13}C NMR, ^1H NMR and 2D NMR analyses.

Pretreatment methods can be divided into categories including, physical (milling, microwave, ultrasound, and pyrolysis), chemical (acid, alkali, ozonolysis, and organic solvent, ionic liquids), physicochemical (hot water, steam explosion, ammonia based, wet oxidation, and carbon dioxide, CO_2) and biological (microbial and enzymatic). For each material, there may be more than one pretreatment considering that the most efficient methods may not be according to availability, there are adaptations of pretreatments or substitutions to arrive at the desired material (Meenakshisundaram *et al.*, 2021; Silva *et al.*, 2022; Zanivan *et al.*, 2022).

2.1.1 Acid-based methods

Acid hydrolysis is one of the most promising pretreatment methods regarding industrial implementation, due to the low methodological complexity. Acid-based methods are divided into weak acid and strong hydrolysis (Karatzos *et al.*, 2012).

The dilute acid treatment (e.g., maleic and fumaric acids) is one of the most effective pretreatment methods for lignocellulosic biomass. In general, there are two types of weak acid hydrolysis: High temperature ($T > 160\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$) and continuous flow process for low-solids loading (5–10 wt% substrate concentration) and low temperature ($T < 160\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$) and batch process for high-solids loading (10–40% substrate concentration) (Harmsen *et al.*, 2010).

Concentrated strong acids, such as H_2SO_4 and HCl , have been widely used for treating lignocellulosic materials because they are powerful agents for cellulose hydrolysis, but organic acids and sulfur dioxide are also used to a lesser extent (Assumpção *et al.*, 2016; Harmsen *et al.*, 2010).

This type of pretreatment results in high recovery of hemicellulosic sugars in the pretreatment liquid and a solid cellulose fraction with enzymatic convertibility. Acid pretreatment also has some disadvantages, such as high cost of materials used for reactor construction, gypsum formation during neutralization after sulfuric acid treatment, and formation of inhibitory by products (Jönsson and Martín, 2016). In addition, acid pretreatment can also lead to increased toxicity of the waste generated during the process.

2.1.2 Chemical pulping processes

Sulfite pretreatments are well-known and use acids, alkalis or neutral sulfite that show high recovery of hemicellulose sugars and enhance the susceptibility of the cellulose to enzymatic hydrolysis efficiency (Huang *et al.*, 2022). Despite being a technique that delivers satisfactory results, its execution is expensive due to the materials used in the construction of the reactors and can result in the production of inhibitory by-products after their neutralization (Jönsson and Martín, 2016).

2.1.3 Alkaline methods

Alkali pretreatment is based on saponification of intermolecular ester bonds crosslinking xylan hemicelluloses and other components such as lignin. This method removes acetyl and the various uronic acid substitutions on hemicellulose that lower the

accessibility of the enzyme to the hemicellulose and cellulose surface (Harmsen *et al.*, 2010).

Alkaline pretreatment with heating results in lignin dehydration processes, promoting the formation of reactive compounds such as furfural and hydroxymethyl-furfural, which are inhibitors of the metabolism of ethanol producing microorganisms. For this reason, it is important to control the temperature so that these reactions are not promoted. On the other hand, cleavage of acetyl groups may contribute to the formation of more reactive compounds such as furfural. Thus, alkaline pretreatments are highly efficient for the degradation of lignin and hemicellulose, which can increase bioethanol. However, it is important to control the temperature to avoid the formation of undesirable compounds (Carrillo *et al.*, 2005).

2.1.4 Oxidative methods

The crystallinity index can be reduced in pretreatment by adding oxidants to the biomass using alkali metal peroxide, wet oxidation and ozonolysis (Jönsson and Martín, 2016). The feasibility of the method is due to hemicelluloses solubilized and recovered as oligosaccharides in wet oxidation, which are of great interest to the pharmaceutical industry and the food sector since they have prebiotic agent and body agent properties (Maugeri Filho *et al.*, 2019). The combination of wet oxidation with alkaline compounds reduces the formation of phenolic aldehydes and furans.

2.1.5 Chemical pulping processes

Chemical pulping pretreatment is a method that targets lignin and to some extent hemicelluloses. This method can be applied to both soft and hard biomass. The major technologies used are Kraft (based on NaOH and Na₂S) and sulfite pulping. In sulfite pulping, which is based on an aqueous mixture of bisulfite (HSO₃⁻) and sulfite (SO₃²⁻), the hemicelluloses are hydrolyzed and removed to the spent sulfite liquor, while the cellulose is maintained almost intact (Mboowa, 2021).

Sulfite pretreatments are well-known and use acids, alkalis or neutral sulfite that show high recovery of hemicellulose sugars and enhance the susceptibility of the cellulose to enzymatic hydrolysis efficiency (Huang *et al.*, 2022). Despite being a technique that delivers satisfactory results, its execution is expensive due to the materials used in the construction of the reactors and can result in the production of inhibitory by products after their neutralization (Jönsson and Martín, 2016).

2.1.6 Hydrothermal processing

One alternative procedure is the hydrothermal processing, which consists of water in the vapor phase or liquid phase used in the biomass, being positive because it does not require the use of a catalyst and does not present significant corrosion problems. The key to the method is to control the pH around neutral values, which minimizes the formation of fermentation inhibitors, since in the process the water penetrates the biomass, hydrating the cellulose and removing part of the hemicelluloses and a small portion of the lignin (Jönsson and Martín, 2016).

Hydrothermal pretreatment was developed for cellulose recovery processes for conversion into ethanol. It is an energy-efficient, economical and eco-friendly technique because it employs water as a solvent in high temperature and pressure ranges. The conditions of the reaction medium can be divided based on the specific critical point of water (374 °C and 22.1 MPa), which separates into subcritical or supercritical hydrothermal pretreatment (HTP) (Ilanidis *et al.*, 2021; Saritpongteeraka *et al.*, 2020).

In addition, the systemic organization of the hemicellulosic matrix and the strong association of hemicellulose with the other components of the lignocellulosic complex confer resilience to the biomass cell wall. HTP stimulates the direct dissolution of hemicellulose into its sugars (arabinose, xylose, galactose, glucose, mannose), resulting in the synthesis of industrially attractive by-products, such as xylooligosaccharides, furfural and 5-hydroxymethylfurfural, and levulinic, acetic and formic acids (Ilanidis *et al.*, 2021).

The expansion and strengthening of multiproduct biorefineries have highlighted HTP, and it has been adapted for biomass fractionation through hemicellulose solubilization and lignin redistribution. The significant diffusion of HTP is a result of numerous advantages, such as competitive cost, limited use of catalysts, and sustainable and environmentally friendly properties (Scapini *et al.*, 2021).

Despite all the benefits of hydrothermal pretreatment, there are still some disadvantages of the process, such as high costs, the need for equipment that can withstand high pressures and temperatures, and the degradation of some compounds. In addition, the complexity of the reaction and the need for strict monitoring of the operating parameters also represent challenges for the commercial application of the process.

2.1.7 Ionic liquid

A variety of ionic liquids (ILs), such as ammonium, pyridinium, imidazolium, and phosphonium-based cations, attached to alkyl or allyl side chains coupled to various anions, such as chloride, acetate, and phosphonate, has been used in the pretreatment of lignocellulosic biomass and presents an attractive method for presenting promising results; however, the final product presents potentially toxic by-products for fermentation microorganisms (Karatzos *et al.*, 2012).

ILs present high thermal stabilities and negligible vapor pressures; they do not release toxic or explosive gas when used, giving environmentally friendly characteristics (Karatzos *et al.*, 2012).

There are reports lignin removal from biomass, 29% total lignin removal from triticale straw using 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium acetate ([Emim]Ac) as a pretreated solvent at 150 °C for 1.5 h (Fu and Mazza, 2011). 1-Butyl-3-methylimidazolium chloride ([Bmim]Cl) was investigated as an IL solvent for pretreatment of legume straw at 150 °C for 2 h and observed 30% lignin removal (Wei *et al.*, 2012). Currently, studies (Asakawa *et al.*, 2015; Li *et al.*, 2007) have been conducted regarding lignin yield, as lignin is a potential renewable source for valuable products. Pretreatment of corn stalks with [Emim]Ac at 125 °C for 1 h resulted in a lignin yield of 44% (Li *et al.*, 2007). Bagasse fractionation was

performed at 110 °C for 16 h with choline acetate, and 20% of the lignin was fractionated as lignin-rich material (Asakawa *et al.*, 2015).

ILs such as [Emim]Cl, [Bmim]Cl and [Emim]Ac have been widely advertised for the pretreatment of lignocelluloses; however, high pretreatment temperatures and long processing times are always required (Wang *et al.*, 2017).

Although the pretreatments appear separate, there is a way to use them in collaboration with other methods to obtain and investigate better results, as done by Yu *et al.* (2018), who used ultrasound pretreatment with ionic liquid at frequencies of 20, 28, 35, 40 and 50 kHz with 100 W power.

2.2 Hydrolysis

Hydrolysis is the step in which the cellulose and hemicellulose present in the biomass matrix, partially free from the lignin envelope, can be converted into pentoses and hexoses to be fermented, as schematically shown in Fig. 4 (Harmsen *et al.*, 2010; Grasel *et al.*, 2017). Despite expressing the acid hydrolysis process, the idea can be extended to the general concept of cellulose hydrolysis, since there are two varieties of possibilities widely used for this step: enzymatic hydrolysis or acid hydrolysis.

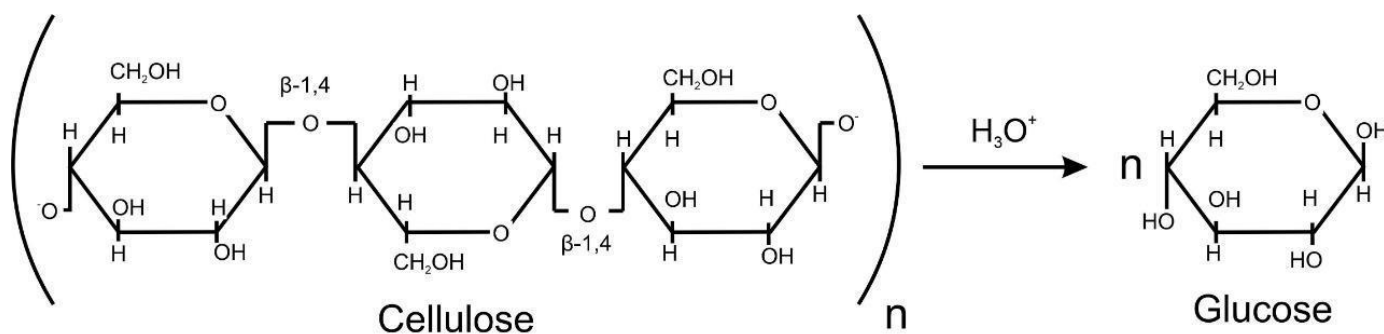


Figure 4. Cleavage of the β -1,4 glycosidic bonds of cellulose in an acidic medium and obtaining glucose.

Source: Adapted from Grasel *et al.* (2017).

2.2.1 Enzymatic hydrolysis

Enzymatic hydrolysis is carried out mainly by using the enzyme cellulase and hemicellulase, which breaks down cellulose and some other polysaccharides while keeping the lignin intact. Several factors can affect the yield and rate of enzymatic hydrolysis as well as limit the duration of the process depending on the substrate and enzyme. Substrate-related factors are cellulose crystallinity, degree of polymerization, available surface area, porosity, lignin barrier, hemicellulose content,

particle size, cell wall thickness and capacity access to glucan, while enzyme-related factors are cellulase activity, reducing the cost and composition of the cocktail (Martins *et al.*, 2015).

Hemicellulose can also be attacked at intermediate positions along its skeleton, releasing oligomers made of many sugar molecules; these oligomers can be successively broken down into even smaller oligomers before a single sugar molecule can be formed. However, the breakdown of the released sugars can be moderate

enough to recover about 80–90% of the maximum possible sugars (Ogeda and Petri, 2010).

The enzymatic hydrolysis of cellulose to produce 2G ethanol is a good alternative as it has temperature conditions of 40–59 °C at atmospheric pressure. However, as it is a process that takes 48 to 72 h, including catalytic deactivation by inhibiting enzymatic activity, as well as the use of enzymes such as cellulase, which have less environmental impact compared to acid hydrolysis (Cunha *et al.*, 2012), the process has a high cost to be accomplished. The residual lignin has an affinity for enzymatic adsorption, making it difficult for the enzymes to hydrolyze lignocellulosic matter, drastically increasing the amount of enzymes necessary for the glucose conversion to cellulose, increasing the cost of procedure (Florencio *et al.*, 2016).

The costs can be solved with methodologies that aim not only to reduce the number of enzymes used in the process, but also to improve the yield of saccharification and fermentation reactions, which consequently have a greater number of sugars to be fermented. A method that can reduce the total cost of enzymatic hydrolysis is the addition of lignin blocking agents at this stage, these blockers indicate increases in the alcoholic conversion rate, as the study by Kristensen *et al.* (2007) in the evaluation of the use of Tween 80 (Polysorbate 80) in *Abies*, which showed a 58% increase in the rate of conversion of biomass into available glucose. It is worth noting that the effect of the increase varies according to the type of biomass and pretreatment used.

2.2.2 Acid hydrolysis

Acid hydrolysis has inorganic acids, mostly sulfuric acid under high pressure conditions, for the cleavage or separation of the cellulose glycosidic bonds to obtain glucose (Harmsen *et al.*, 2010).

Although the two options are the most widespread in the sphere of the study on biomass, there are procedures used together that can meet the demand for breaking down cellulose, such as the one used by Tsubaki *et al.* (2017), who investigated the use of polyoxometalates with activated carbon support to the acceleration of hydrolysis under microwave irradiation.

Following these fundamental steps, sugars produced in the hydrolysis will be the direct source to produce ethanol; monosaccharides, which are simple carbohydrates with 4 to 6 carbons in their structure (Allinger *et al.*, 1976). These sugars are found in different proportions after hydrolysis of cellulose and hemicellulose; although it is not possible to predict the exact amounts of the sugars obtained, it is possible to

have a projection of what they will be based on the type of material chosen.

Some examples: Pentoses (xylose and arabinose) are major monosaccharides in the hydrolysis of biomass from hardwoods (cane sugar, ipê tree and andiroba) and annual plants (corn and soybean). Hexose (glucose, mannose, galactose rhamnose) are major monosaccharides in the hydrolysis of softwood biomass (cane sugar and Paraná pine) (Agbor *et al.*, 2011; Jönsson and Martín, 2016; Rabemanolontsoa and Saka, 2013). It is important to point out that these statements are of major monosaccharides in these species, it does not mean that a species is devoid of one or another sugar. Such sugars will serve as an energy source for fermentation.

2.3 Fermentation

Fermentation is the step in which a microorganism (fungus or bacteria) transforms carbohydrates and produces ethanol. The options depend on what is worked on, considering that in many cases different rates of yield are obtained for different raw materials. This fact is given by the different types of sugars obtained, and the limitations of microorganisms (Tse *et al.*, 2021).

Due to their ease of acquisition and handling, the fungus *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and the bacterium *Zymomonas mobilis* are the most used microorganisms in biomass fermentations, as they have high yields of ethanol rates. Values around 70–80% and higher at converting hexoses can be reached, despite their inactivity with xylose—the main pentose of hemicellulose (Hasner *et al.*, 2015). There are other types of microorganisms popular for being able to ferment hexoses and pentoses, such as *Scheffersomyces stipitis* and *Candida shehatae*; however, with limitations such as low consumption of sugars (Mengesha *et al.*, 2022).

The knowledge of species that ferment pentoses is still limited. Among the main species that ferment xylose, it can be mentioned *Pachysolen tannophilus*, *S. stipitis*, *Scheffersomyces shehatae*, *Kluyveromyces marxianus*, *Candida guilliermondii*, *Candida tenuis*, *Brettanomyces naardenensis*, *Scheffersomyces segobiensis* have been studied in the fermentation processes of pentoses. There are still challenges to controlling the fermentation of pentoses to ethanol, such as the low tolerance to ethanol by pentose fermenting yeasts. Also, the presence of glucose in hemicellulosic hydrolysates may act as a repressor of genes responsible for xylose utilization (Tse *et al.*, 2021).

Fermentations can occur using only one type of yeast (monoculture) or the combination of two or more yeasts (coculture). Regarding this topic, cocultures with

genetically modified microorganisms have drawn attention in more recent studies, as their exception can supply the needs that isolated cultures have. Fermentation is a delicate step, as it requires the stability of factors such as temperature, reaction time, pH, bacterial contamination and organic and inorganic nutrients, which vary in quantity and type according to the material and microorganism chosen (Mengesha *et al.*, 2022).

3. Cellulose sources for ethanol production

The agricultural environment faces adversities due to demands that are not expected and supported by cycles of nature. In view of this, the negative impacts on the environment are almost inevitable, and if they are not minimized, they may be irreversible, as reinforced by

Marques *et al.* (2007). These researchers stated that, given the great demand required by a socioeconomic system of society, the self-cleaning capacity of the aquatic cycle is compromised. Therefore, the importance of methodologies that have the ability to decelerate or reduce environmental degradation is no longer a small attraction to become a major priority.

It is important to mention that Brazil, as one of the largest holders of biological diversity, whether fauna or flora, has a variety of resources from unexplored sources for the conversion of sources of lignocellulosic materials. Moreover, we are faced with the use of various parts of a plant. As mentioned below, the cases range from studies involving parts of the same *Musa cavendishii* plant to the use of waste, such as the fiber present in the green coconut husk. The summarized list of the cases presented below are shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Different methodologies used in recent studies of 2G ethanol production through the purchase of biomass source, pretreatment, microorganism and yield results of pulp fermentation.

Cellulosic source	Pretreatment	Microorganism	Yield results
Cavendish banana (<i>Musa cavendishii</i>)	acid hydrolysis	<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>	34%
Orange albedo	acid hydrolysis	N.F*	49.7%
Elephant grass (<i>Pennisetum purpureum</i>)	acid hydrolysis	<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>	79%
Citrus pulp bran and orange pomace	enzymatic hydrolysis	<i>E.C*</i> (<i>Xanthomonas axonopodis</i> , <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>)	Monoculture: 50-99%
		<i>Candida parapsilosis</i> (IFM 48375 and NRRL Y-12969)	Coculture: 74-100%
Avocado seed (<i>Persea americana</i> Mill.)	enzymatic hydrolysis	<i>Yeast</i>	33.8%
Banana pseudostem	acid hydrolysis	<i>Saccharomyces</i> and <i>Zymomonas mobilis</i>	60%
		<i>Scheffersomyces stipitis</i> and <i>Pachysolen tannophilus</i>	
Green coconut husk fibers	Alkaline pretreatment and enzymatic hydrolysis	<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>	30.5%

*N.F. (not fermented), E.C (enzyme cocktail).

Source: Elaborated by the authors using data from Souza *et al.* (2012), Montagnoli *et al.* (2018), Antunes *et al.* (2015), Grasel *et al.* (2017), Cypriano *et al.* (2017), Cabral *et al.* (2016), Kowalski *et al.* (2017).

The growing agricultural production contributes to the increase of agricultural waste. Thus, this provides a diverse and encouraging variety of unexplored lignocellulosic materials to be selected and used.

Having this potential in mind, Souza *et al.* (2012) conducted a study that used banana pulp to produce 2G ethanol. Thus, the authors analyzed the potential of using the bark and pulp of *Musa cavendishii*, known in Brazil

as banana in nature, previously hydrolyzed by enzymes and acid as a substrate for alcoholic fermentation. Two series of tests were carried out containing 18 pretreatments for each case of residue evaluated, using the isolated yeast *S. cerevisiae* for fermentation. The values of total ethanol yield (Qp) obtained using banana pulp and peel were, respectively, 3.04 and 1.32 g L⁻¹ h⁻¹.

The results showed superior yield when compared to sources such as wheat bran, corn flour and wood chips.

Proving again to be an excellent source of biomass, the banana and its plant was also approached by [Montagnoli et al. \(2018\)](#). They used the banana pseudostem to produce 2G ethanol, using different types of microorganisms for the fermentation of pentoses and hexoses: *S. cerevisiae* and *Z. mobilis*, *S. stipitis* and *P. tannophilus*. Despite the routine used in the steps, there was an application of the use of active charcoal for the detoxification of the banana pseudostem juice, which showed an increase of up to 60% in yield.

Considering that potential, Brazil is a country with high worldwide production and consumption of citrus fruits, with oranges being the one with the highest expressive numbers for the ranking. Accordingly, [Antunes et al. \(2015\)](#) dedicated to studies of better results from fruit byproducts. Then, they aimed to study the pretreatment of orange albedo with sulfuric, nitric, hydrochloric and phosphoric acids, with concentrations of 0.5% and 1%, for the determination of reducing sugars and total reducing sugars (TRS). The acid that generated the highest values of sugars was sulfuric acid, even at a concentration of 1%. However, the quantity of sugars obtained in the form of TRS were higher only when 0.5% acid was used, regardless of the acid chosen, indicating that higher concentrations of acid can degrade the sugars generated in secondary products. Consequently, an inhibitory effect on other steps in the production of 2G ethanol, such as fermentation and hydrolysis, may occur.

Another study developed by [Grasel et al. \(2017\)](#) used the biomass from elephant grass (*Pennisetum purpureum*). Unlike other biomasses, such as runny banana, corn and sugarcane, which are seasonal crops, elephant grass can yield up to four crops in a 1-year period. In addition to the advantage of being a crop that has a short production period, elephant grass does not need specific climates or soils for cultivation. For production, the material was previously treated to separate the cellulose from other components of the plant biomass, then acid hydrolysis was used to produce glucose and, finally, the alcoholic fermentation was carried out with the unisolated *S. cerevisiae* yeast. The result of sugarcane was 96 g of ethanol 100 g⁻¹ of dry biomass compared to 79 g of ethanol 100 g⁻¹ of dry biomass of elephant grass.

Using a cocktail of enzymes isolated from Gram-negative, *Xanthomonas axonopodis* and *S. cerevisiae* yeasts, and two strains of the *Candida* genus (*Candida parapsilosis* IFM 48375 and NRRL Y-12969), the conversion of biomass from citrus pulp bran was evaluated: 74.8 to 100% of 1 g of industrial orange pomace was converted into 2G ethanol in fermentations,

while in monocultures the conversion was from 50 to 99.0%. The production of 2G ethanol corresponded to 51.1% of fermentable sugars. Based on the data, the study developed by [Cypriano et al. \(2017\)](#) stated that 6.69 to 130.7 thousand tons of 2G ethanol could be obtained annually. In addition to the production of 2G ethanol, the author was successful in the extraction of nanocellulose—managing the combination of chemical, enzymatic, defibrillation or partial hydrolysis processes, from the orange biomass. Nanocellulose has advantages over synthetic nanofibers such as improved thermal, biodegradability and mechanical properties in addition to its renewable character ([Machado et al., 2014](#)).

Another fact that has caused concern is the inadequate disposal of green coconut husk. This situation presents a set of problems to the environment, such as the difficult degradation of coconut husk, which can take from 8 to 12 years and the production of methane gas, when it is inadequately disposed of in sanitary landfills. Taking this into account, [Cabral et al. \(2016\)](#) investigated the use of green coconut husk fiber to produce reducing sugars and conversion into ethanol. Despite a significant 17.9% loss in cellulose content, enzymatic hydrolysis was successful in converting about 87% of the sugars and the fermentation consumed 81% of the hydrolyzed matter, resulting in 22.34 g TRS per 100 g of coconut fiber.

[Kowalski et al. \(2017\)](#) studied enzymatic hydrolysis processes in avocado seeds to produce second generation ethanol. The ethanol obtained was characterized and the results showed that the raw material used is excellent for biofuel production, with 1.0579 g/L of starch producing 44 L of ethanol per ton of seed, 33.8% of yield ethanol.

The constant investigation of agricultural residues has proved to be extremely advantageous and ecological, due to the global concerns as a result of population growth, global warming and the rising of oil prices ([Rosa and Garcia, 2009](#)). The number of supplies to satisfy the energy needs of the society considering the constant exponential population growth will require an increase outside the natural capacity of cropland used as sources of raw material for consumable goods, increases that compromise food production, as they require significant growth in arable land.

4. Final considerations

Evidencing the potential of different sources of biomass to produce 2G ethanol, the exploitation of these resources showed multiple possibilities of use such as obtaining biogas and the value of cellulosic nanofibers for being biodegradable, expressing properties of higher performance and superiors to synthetic nanofibers. In addition, the exploitation of 2G ethanol not only

combines with the current appeal of green chemistry, but also brings low-cost materials available in abundance in the nature of photosynthesis (Cypriano *et al.*, 2017).

Even in some cases of biomass, pretreatments require more expensive methodologies, the use of biomass becomes not only an excellent alternative for a cleaner future, but also a set of affordable solutions. Although the Brazilian Company Raízen is one of the few that includes 2G ethanol in its production sphere, the 50% increase in production after the implementation of the use of biomass may encourage others to join the method. These reservations and initiatives show the positive impact that can be caused by the global implementation of 2G ethanol.

The 2G ethanol production methodologies are diverse and have difficulties in implementing projects that are sufficiently attractive for large corporations, however, there are expansion projects for Asia, India and Thailand as they are sugarcane producers. Even with the possibility of expanding to new 2G ethanol producing countries, Brazil will still be the largest producer of this alternative energy due to its enormous agricultural potential and available biomass.

Authors' contribution

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Methodology: Medeiros, P. V. C.; Theophilo, P. H. M.

Project administration: Ribeiro, L. P. D.; Lopes, G. S.

Resources: Ribeiro, L. P. D.; Lopes, G. S.

Software: Not applicable.

Supervision: Ribeiro, L. P. D.; Lopes, G. S.

Validation: Ribeiro, L. P. D.; Lopes, G. S.

Visualization: Ribeiro, L. P. D.; Lopes, G. S.

Writing – original draft: Medeiros, P. V. C.; Theophilo, P. H. M.; Ribeiro, L. P. D.; Lopes, G. S.

Writing – review & editing: Ribeiro, L. P. D.; Lopes, G. S.

Data availability statement

All data sets were generated or analyzed in the current study.

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Detection of dopamine using glassy carbon electrodes modified with AgNPs synthesized with *Monteverdia ilicifolia* extract

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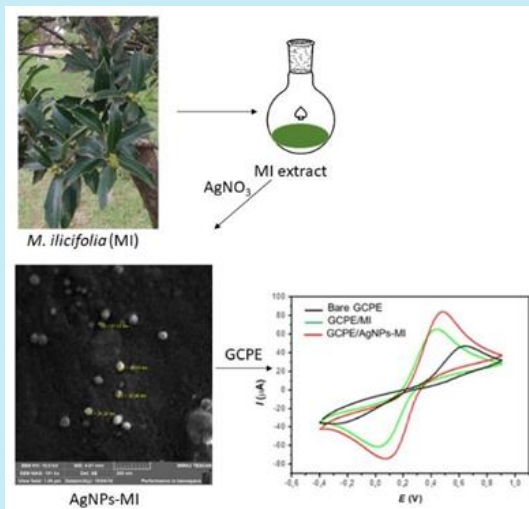
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ABSTRACT: This work reports a new application for a well-known medicinal plant used in Brazil. The green synthesis of silver nanoparticles (AgNPs) using the aqueous extract of *Monteverdia ilicifolia* (MI) leaves as stabilizing and reducing agent is described. The AgNPs-MI obtained were characterized by UV-VIS, FTIR, and Raman spectroscopies, DLS, zeta potential and FEG-SEM, which demonstrated that *M. ilicifolia* was effective at capping the AgNPs, yielding stable suspensions. These nanoparticles were deposited on glassy carbon electrodes, and they were efficiently applied as electrochemical sensors for the determination of dopamine (DA) using square wave voltammetry (SWV). The AgNPs-MI improved the electrochemical properties of the electrodes and enhanced their electroanalytical performance. The developed sensing device presented detection and quantification limits equal to 0.52 and 1.74 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$, respectively, towards DA determination. The proposed electrochemical sensor quantified this neurotransmitter successfully, confirming its potential as a new promising analytical detection tool for DA quality control.



1. Introduction

The green synthesis of metal nanoparticles shows many advantages when it is compared to conventional methods, since natural compounds make these syntheses environmentally friendly, as well as cheaper processes (Huq *et al.*, 2022). Among the materials used in the biosynthesis of metal nanoparticles, the use of plants as reducing agents is widely explored, because it shows lower risks and provides a fast and stable product (Ahmad *et al.*, 2016a; Jadoun *et al.*, 2021). Considering the huge Brazilian biodiversity, it is possible to justify the interest of using the natural resource for the biosynthesis of metal nanoparticles, where species belonging to Celastraceae family constitute a good source for this technological application. For example, the extract of the root of *Monteverdia salicifolia* (syn. *Maytenus salicifolia*) was used as a stabilizing and reducing agent in the production of silver nanoparticles (AgNPs), with size in the range of 48–80 nm (Grzygorczyk *et al.*, 2021). The extract of *M. royleanus* leaves was useful in the synthesis of gold nanoparticles (AuNPs) with particles size of approximately 30 nm, which exhibited relevant antileishmanial activity (Ahmad *et al.*, 2016a). Moreover, the extract of the stems of this species lead to the synthesis of AgNPs associated to amphotericin B, with an approximate particle size of 15 nm. They exhibited higher antifungal activity than the nanomaterial that was not conjugated (Ahmad *et al.*, 2016b). According to the evidence, the research that aim to study the capacity of plant extracts in the synthesis of nanoparticles as well as the evaluation of these biological properties are very relevant.

The most known species from this genus is *Monteverdia ilicifolia*, popularly known in Brazil as *espineira santa* and *espinho-de-deus*. It is endemic to southern Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay. This species is largely used in the traditional medicine in the treatment of gastritis, ulcers, and other gastric disorders (Périco *et al.*, 2018; Zhang *et al.*, 2020). The use of this extract exhibited advantages when compared to the commercial drugs that acts inhibiting the proton pump, such as omeprazole, that leads to side effects (Tabach *et al.*, 2017).

The AgNPs also have attractive characteristics such as chemical stability, high surface area and relevant electrical and optical properties, being very versatile materials for different applications (Jadoun *et al.*, 2021). They can be applied specially in the modification of electrodes, to improve electroanalytical techniques, where they can allow new electrochemical properties to them, increasing their selectivity, sensibility and

stability. In consequence, they become a useful tool for determination of specific compounds in biological samples and for the control of quality of drugs (Lima Filho *et al.*, 2019). In this context, many investigations highlighting the potential of plants improving the electrochemical properties of the electrodes have been reported. Screen-printed electrodes modified with AgNPs, which were biosynthesized using an extract aqueous of grape stalk waste, were tested for the simultaneous stripping voltammetric determination of Pb(II) and Cd(II). The results indicated good reproducibility, sensitivity and limits of detection around $2.7 \mu\text{g L}^{-1}$ for both metal ions (Bastos-Arrieta *et al.*, 2018). The extract of *Araucaria angustifolia* was effective as a reducing and stabilizing agent in the synthesis of AgNPs. These nanomaterials were applied to a glassy carbon electrode used for the determination of paracetamol in drugs (Zamarchi and Vieira, 2021). Besides, carbon paste electrode modified with banana tissue was effective for determination of catechol in green tea (Broli *et al.*, 2019). This evidence emphasizing the importance of the development of studies involving plants in order to extend their technological applications.

Dopamine (DA) is a neurotransmitter of the central and peripheral nervous system, responsible for physiological activities, such as behavior, memory, and movement. Abnormal levels of this catecholamine can lead to many neurological diseases, such as schizophrenia, Parkinson's disease and hyperactivity (Blum *et al.*, 2021). Thus, the development of very selective and sensitive techniques for monitoring the level of DA in the organism are very important. This neurotransmitter has a known voltammetric behavior which enables its determination by electrochemical methods (Selvolini *et al.*, 2019; Yu *et al.*, 2018). As an example, the detection of DA was made with a screen-printed carbon electrode modified by AuNPs derived from *Rhanterium suaveolens* flowers extract (Chelly *et al.*, 2021). A biosensor modified with AgNPs obtained from aqueous leaf extract of *Ziziphus mauritiana* was successfully applied for DA detection in real urine samples (Memon *et al.*, 2021).

At the best of our knowledge, the biosynthesis of AgNPs using the extract of *M. ilicifolia* leaves is not reported. Therefore, considering the significant therapeutic value of *M. ilicifolia* (RENISUS, 2009; Tabach *et al.*, 2017) the aim of this study was performing the green synthesis of AgNPs using the aqueous extract of its leaves and their application in the modification of glassy carbon electrodes, applied in the electroanalytical determination of DA.

2. Experimental

2.1 Plant extract

M. ilicifolia leaves were collected from a specimen located at campus of the Universidade Estadual de Ponta Grossa (UEPG, 25°5'23"S 50°6'23"W), in Ponta Grossa, Paraná, Brazil. A voucher specimen was deposited at UEPG Herbarium, under number HUPG 21178. This species was insert on SISGEN platform under register A8E6438.

The leaves (20.17 g) were dried, ground and mixed with 300 mL of distilled water. The mixture was submitted to heat to boiling. After this, the sample was filtered, getting to the aqueous extract, which was stored at 4 °C.

2.2 Synthesis and characterization of silver nanoparticles

The green synthesis of the AgNPs was performed with the addition of 1.0 mL of the aqueous extract collected of a stock solution (extract diluted in distilled water in the proportion of 1:10), to 19.0 mL of AgNO₃ 1.0 × 10⁻³ mol L⁻¹. This mixture was heated at 60 °C and stirred for 10 min. The AgNPs with *M. ilicifolia* (AgNPs-MI) synthesized were kept in light-protected vials.

The nanocomposites were characterized by ultraviolet-visible spectrophotometry (UV-VIS) (in a Cary 50 Varian spectrophotometer) by scanning the wavelengths in the range of 200–800 nm. FTIR spectra were recorded in attenuated total reflectance (ATR) mode in the scanning range of 4000–400 cm⁻¹ (scan rate of 10 cm⁻¹) for AgNPs-MI and *M. ilicifolia* (10 mg mL⁻¹ solution) KBr tables after lyophilization of the extract, at room temperature. Raman spectral analysis were obtained in a spectrometer Xplora Plus (HORIBA scientific) in a range of 100 to 2,000 cm⁻¹. A laser of 532 nm was chosen for the measurements.

Field emission gun-scanning electron microscopy (FEG-SEM) was done in a Myra 3 LMH Tescan microscope (15 mV: 356 mA). The particle diameter was obtained by dynamic light scattering (DLS) measurements on a Malvern NanoZ590 equipment.

2.3 Preparation of glassy carbon paste electrodes

The unmodified glassy carbon paste electrode (GCPE) was prepared by mixing 50.0 mg of glassy

carbon powder with 10.0 μL of mineral oil until homogenization. After this, a portion of this mixture was inserted into the cavity of a Teflon tube. For the construction of the modified electrodes with -MI, different amounts of this nanocomposite (10.0, 25.0, 50.0, 75.0 and 100 μL) was mixed with 50.0 mg of glassy carbon powder. After homogenization, at this mixture 10.0 μL of mineral oil was added. Similarly, to the bare GCPE, the modified glassy carbon paste was packed into Teflon tubes. A carbon paste electrode modified with the plant extract was also prepared (GCPE/MI), using 50.0 μL of the aqueous extract of *M. ilicifolia* leaves, diluted with distilled water (1:10) with 50.0 mg of glassy carbon powder. In this case, the mixture was homogenized and dried under air flow, followed by the addition of 10.0 μL of mineral oil. After a new homogenization step, this modified carbon pastes were separately inserted into Teflon tubes, similarly to the others. The electrode surfaces were renewed by smoothing the resulting electrodes on a soft paper and then on a glass plate.

2.4 Electrochemical characterization

Electrochemical measurements were carried out at room temperature, using a conventional three-electrode cell system. The carbon paste electrodes (modified or unmodified), Ag/AgCl/KCl sat electrode and a platinum spiral wire were used as working electrodes, reference and auxiliary, respectively. In order to characterize the modified electrodes, cyclic voltammetry (CV) and electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) experiments were performed in an Autolab PGSTAT 100 potentiostat/galvanostat, by employing 0.15 mol L⁻¹ PBS solution containing 10.0 mmol L⁻¹ K₄Fe(CN)₆/K₃Fe(CN)₆ as supporting electrolyte.

For DA determination with the GCPE/MI and GCPE/AgNPs-MI, CV and square wave voltammetry (SWV) measurements were conducted in a PalmSens potentiostat (Palm Instruments BV) in 0.04 mol L⁻¹ BR buffer, in the pH range of 2.0 to 7.0; DA = 1.0 mmol L⁻¹. Analytical parameters such as sensitivity, repeatability, reproducibility, limit of detection (LOD), limit of quantification (LOQ), and accuracy were determined for the modified electrodes following the Brazilian Health Surveillance Agency (ANVISA (2003) and International Conference on Harmonization (ICH, 2005) guidelines. In appropriate conditions, the CPE/AgNPs-MI was studied in different scan rates (10–100 mV s⁻¹) to determine the type of mass transport that guide the oxidation of DA on the modified electrode.

3. Results and discussion

3.1 Synthesis and characterization of the AgNPs-MI

The biosynthesis of AgNPs using the aqueous extract of *M. ilicifolia* leaves was indicated by the color changing of the solution, from colorless to orange, which is a characteristic color of AgNPs in suspension. This shows that the extract was able to reduce the cations Ag^+ in Ag^0 nanoparticles. It is important to emphasize that the advantage of using this extract in the nanoparticle synthesis is that it provides their both reduction and stabilization, and it is also an environmentally friendly and cheap reagent. Moreover, the AgNPs obtained were very stable, maintaining their size for about three months.

The color changing is due to the surface plasmon effect (Grzygorczyk *et al.*, 2021), exhibited for the AgNPs-MI. It is worth highlighting that the reaction time was very short, only 10 min, without the need to change the pH of the solution. The extract can act as both reducing agent and stabilizer simultaneously.

Studies about the phytochemical profile of *M. ilicifolia* show a great variety of secondary metabolites, such as pentacyclic triterpenes (friedelinol, friedelin, lupeol), phenolic acids and the flavonoids kaempferol, quercetin, epigallocatechin, among others (Périco *et al.*, 2018; Zhang *et al.*, 2020). Phenolic compounds, such as gallic acid and tannic acid, were useful as stabilizing and reducing agents in the synthesis of bimetallic Au@AgNPs (Orlowski *et al.*, 2020). The participation of phenolic compounds and flavonoids from *Elaeis guineensis* in the biosynthesis of gold nanoparticles was demonstrated by the reduction of the content of these metabolites quantified by Ahmad *et al.* (2019). Quercetin was also an effective reductant agent in the green synthesis of silver and gold nanoparticles (Karuvantevida *et al.*, 2022). Then, it is possible to relate the occurrence of these two classes of compounds to the capping and reducing action of the extract.

It could be observed an absorption band in 280 nm in the UV-VIS spectrum (Fig. 1), which is related to the flavonoids (Tošović and Marković, 2017) present in the extract (Fig. A1 of the Appendix). Besides, a strong absorption band at 423 nm was observed for AgNPs-MI solution, which can be attributed to the surface plasmon resonance phenomena that is typical for AgNPs. An absorption band around 400 nm also characterizes spherical nanoparticles (Grzygorczyk *et al.*, 2021; Tošović and Marković, 2017).

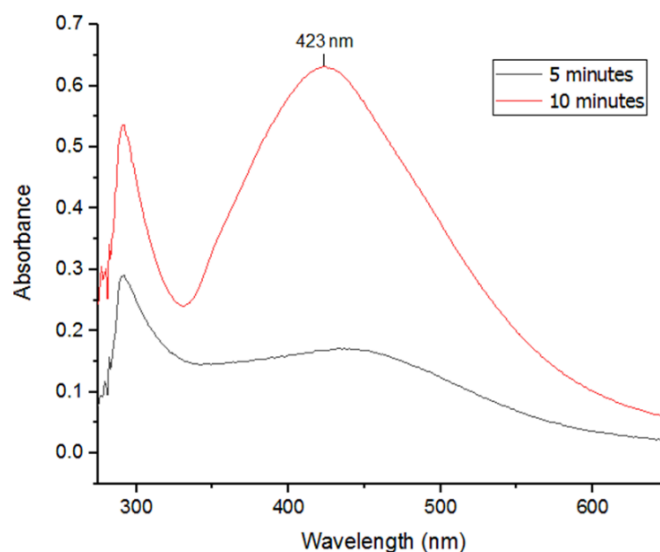


Figure 1. UV-VIS spectra of a freshly-prepared AgNPs-MI suspension after 5 min (—) and 10 min (—) of reaction.

By using DLS, it was verified that a bimodal size distribution was found for AgNPs-MI, corresponding to the average hydrodynamic diameters of 4.0 to 342.0 nm (Fig. A2a of the Appendix). The large particle sizes observed by using this technique can be explained by the fact that DLS measurements provides hydrodynamic sizes (Bojko *et al.*, 2020). In consequence, the diameter includes the molecules that stabilize the nanoparticles, which leads to an observation of a value higher than the real (Lin *et al.*, 2013). Zeta potential of the nanocomposite suspension was found to be -21.8 mV (Fig. A2b of the Appendix), which indicates that the nanoparticles were suitably capped with anionic extract metabolites. Despite the found value had been lower than typical potential range of stable colloids (-30.0 mV to $+30.0$ mV) (Efavi *et al.*, 2022), some research reported stable AgNPs with similar zeta potential values (Ahmad *et al.*, 2016a). Thus, such observations have proved the efficiency of *M. ilicifolia* as a capping agent. The polydispersion index (PDI) was calculated for verifying the homogeneity in the AgNPs-MI size. The sample analyzed showed $\text{PDI} = 0.516$. Thus, the AgNPs-MI are polydisperse, since the PDI near to zero indicates monodisperse nanoparticles and $\text{PDI} = 1$ indicates a big variation in the particle size (Lin *et al.*, 2013).

The images obtained by FEG-MEV analysis confirm that the AgNPs-MI show homogeneous size and spherical shape, with just few aggregates observed (Figs. 2a–d). Besides, the high yield of the biosynthesis could be considered due to the high amount of AgNPs-MI detected (Fig. 2a), which showed particles sizes in the range of 20–80 nm.

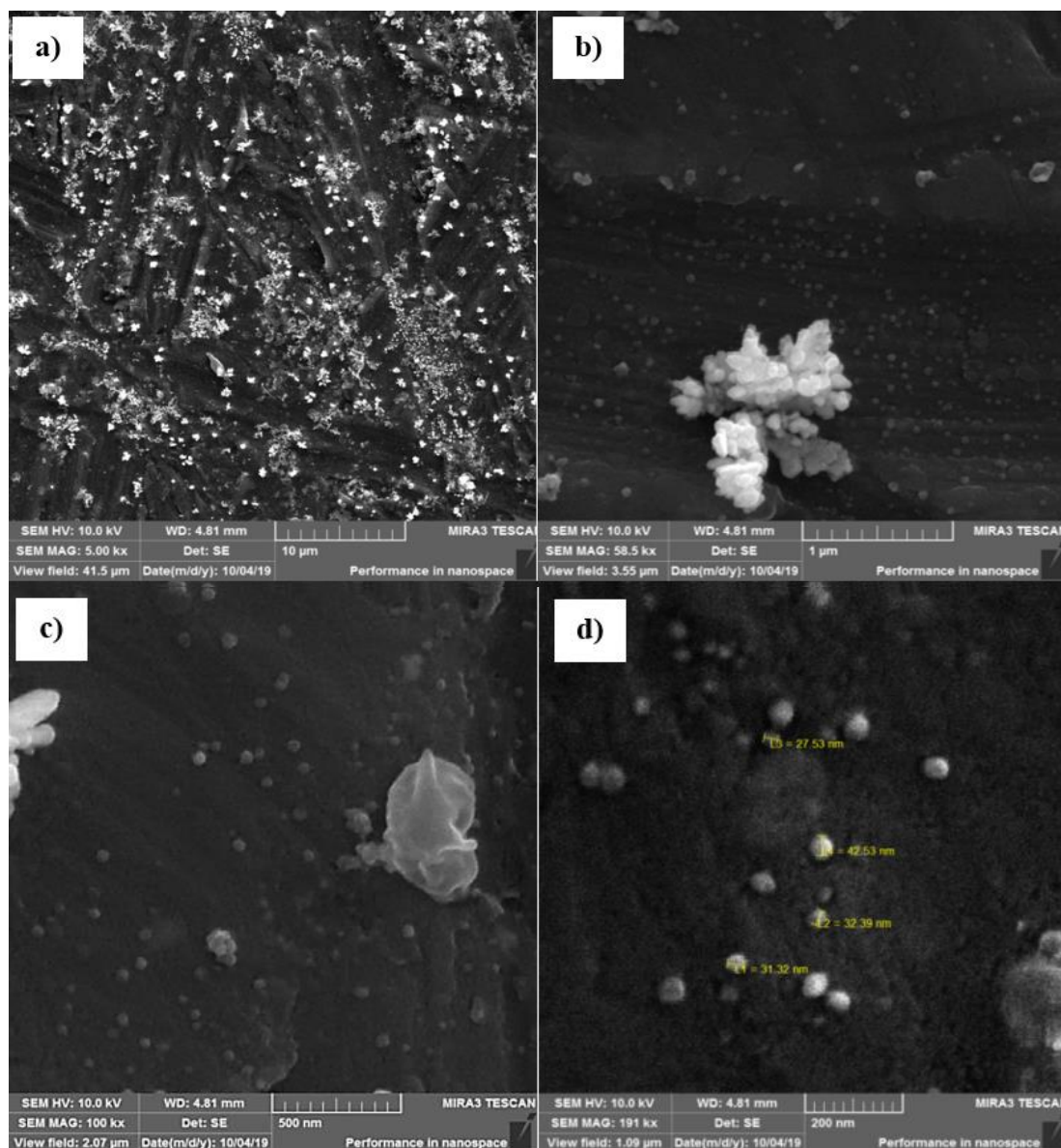


Figure 2. FEG-MEV Images obtained by analysis of AgNPs-MI with different magnifications (a) 5,00 kx; (b) 58,5 kx; (c) 100 kx, and (d) 191 kx.

Analyzing the AgNPs-MI FTIR spectra (Fig. 3), it is possible to observe that the bands intensity at 1641 (C=O stretching) and 3418 cm^{-1} (OH stretching) was decreased. This fact is probably related to their participation in the stabilization of the AgNPs. The absorption bands at 2848 (COO-H stretching) 1776 (C=O stretching) and 823 cm^{-1} (C-O stretching), were observed and they can be attributed to carboxylic groups (Haddad *et al.*, 2014). These bands suggest the occurrence of flavonoids and phenolic compounds from *M. ilicifolia* extract, which interacts with AgNPs through the electron donors oxygen atoms. Those biomolecules can be adsorbed on the metal ions surface, which is observed by the decreasing in the intensity of the bands observed. The band at 1776 cm^{-1} evidences the influence

of the extracts in the formation of the AgNPs, considering the oxidation of this material and, in consequence, the reduction of Ag^+ ions.

The AgNPs-MI were also analyzed by Raman spectroscopy (Fig. A3 of the Appendix). The Raman spectrum displayed a band at 236 cm^{-1} related to the vibration of stretching Ag-O bond (Barbosa, 2007). This band can be related to the interaction between Ag and carboxylate groups of the molecules of the extract, attached to the AgNPs-MI surface, which contribute to this stabilization. The peaks at 1365 e 1522 cm^{-1} were, respectively, attributed to the symmetric and asymmetric vibrations of C=O of carboxylate group (Barbosa, 2007).

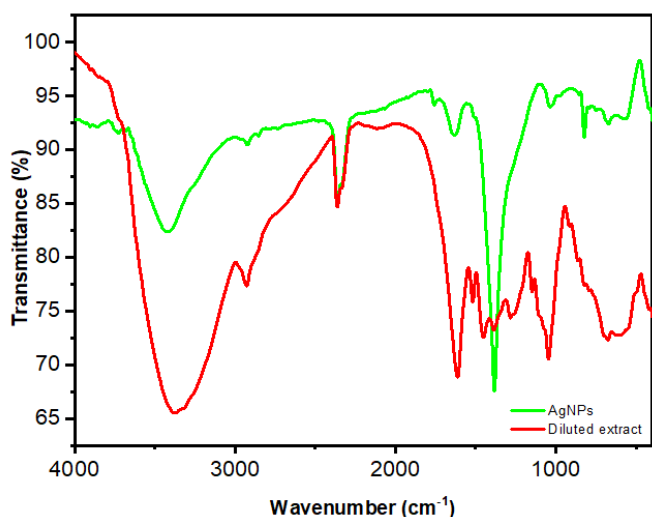


Figure 3. FTIR spectra of *M. ilicifolia* (—diluted aqueous extract) and (—AgNPs-MI).

3.2 Electrochemical characterization of GCPE, GCPE/MI and GCPE/AgNPs-MI

The electron transfer properties of bare GCPE, GCPE/MI and GCPE/AgNPs-MI were evaluated by CV and EIS techniques. The studies were carried out in the presence of $10.0 \text{ mmol L}^{-1} \text{ K}_4\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6/\text{K}_3\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6$ as a redox probe, with 0.15 mol L^{-1} PBS buffer solution as supporting electrolyte, $\text{pH} = 6.5$. Analyzing the cyclic voltammograms (Fig. 4) and the data reported in the Table 1, it is possible to verify that both electrodes showed current peaks for the typical redox process of the electrochemical probe ($\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6^{4-} \rightleftharpoons \text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6^{3-}$). However, GCPE/AgNPs-MI showed higher anodic peak (I_{pa}) and cathodic peak (I_{pc}) currents for both processes than bare GCPE. GCPE/AgNPs-MI also showed low peak potential separation values (ΔE_{p}). This suggests that the electronic transfer kinetic is more effective and show higher reversibility (C. Brett and A. Brett, 1993) when compared to bare GCPE.

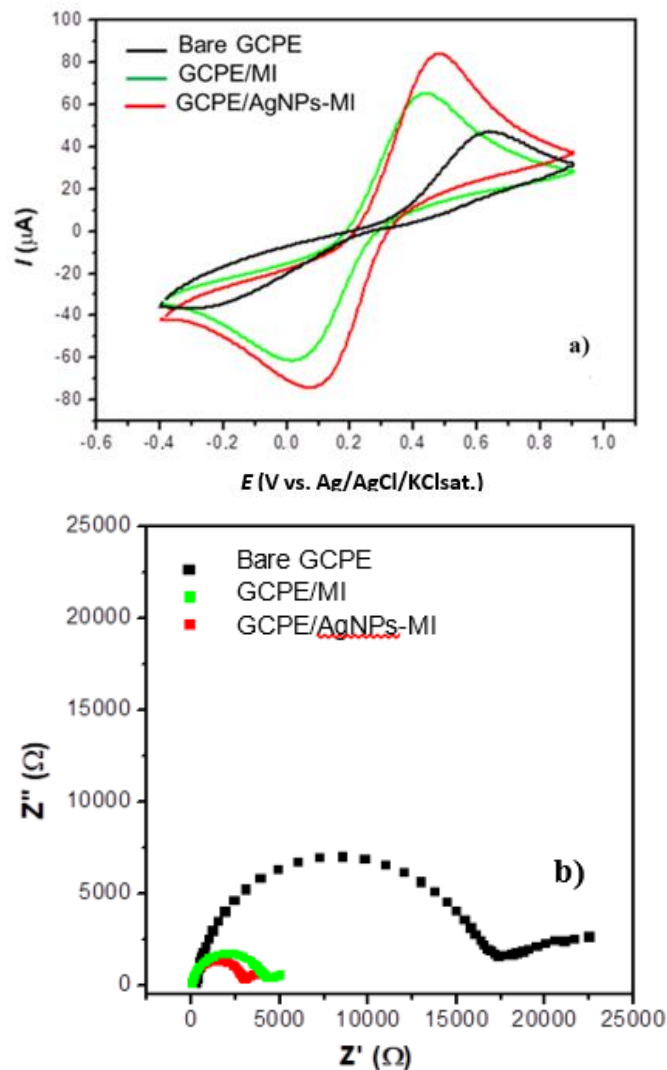


Figure 4. (a) Cyclic voltammograms (scan rate = 50.0 mV s^{-1}) and (b) electrochemical impedance spectra (Nyquist plots) of GCPE/AgNPs-MI, GCPE/MI and bare GCPE (open circuit potential; frequency range: 5 kHz to 25 mHz; amplitude: 10 mV), in 0.15 mol L^{-1} PBS buffer solution ($\text{pH} 6.5$) containing $10.0 \text{ mmol L}^{-1} \text{ K}_4\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6/\text{K}_3\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6$.

Table 1. I_{pa} , I_{pc} , ΔE_{p} and R_{ct} values obtained for bare GCPE, GCPE/MI and GCPE/AgNPs-MI.

Electrode	I_{pa} (μA)	$-I_{\text{pc}}$ (μA)	E_{pa} (mV)	E_{pc} (mV)	ΔE_{p}	R_{ct} (Ω)
Bare GCPE	26.19	18.40	638	233	405	17389.99
GCPE/MI	58.27	49.50	431	19	412	4102.10
GCPE/AgNPs-MI 50 μL	71.64	65.13	477	81	396	2863.30

Since the diameter of the semicircle is related to the electronic transfer resistance (R_{ct}) (C. Brett and A. Brett, 1993; Van Der Horst *et al.*, 2015) it was observed that this parameter for bare GCPE was higher than for GCPE/AgNPs-MI and GCPE/MI. This suggests that GCPE/MI and GCPE/AgNPs-MI facilitates the electron

transfer process in electrode-solution interface when compared to the bare GCPE. These results are in accordance with that obtained by CV. Besides, they can be better understood when evaluated together with the R_{ct} values obtained in each situation (Table 2). The higher current values, lower ΔE_{p} and lower R_{ct} exhibited

by GCPE/AgNPs-MI can be attributed to the characteristics of AgNPs, such as high conductivity and big surface area (C. Brett and A. Brett, 1993). This suggest that the modification of the electrode with the nanocomposite obtained in this study is an advantage for its application as an electrochemical sensor.

In order to evaluate the influence in the amount of AgNPs-MI added in the GCPE electrochemical response, different volumes of AgNPs-MI (10, 25, 50, 75 and 100 μL) were added to 50.0 mg of powder glassy carbon. The electrodes response was analyzed in the presence of $[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6]^{3-}/[\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6]^{4-}$ 10 mmol L^{-1} in PBS buffer 0.15 mol L^{-1} as electrolyte support.

Table 2. I_{pa} , I_{pc} , ΔE_p and R_{ct} values of bare GCPE and GCPE/AgNPs-MI in different volumes.

Electrode	I_{pa} (μA)	$-I_{\text{pc}}$ (μA)	E_{pa} (mV)	E_{pc} (mV)	ΔE_p	R_{ct} (Ω)
Bare GCPE	26.19	18.40	638	233	405	17389.99
GCPE/AgNPs-MI 10 μL	72.73	64.60	481	33	448	3910.00
GCPE /AgNPs-MI 25 μL	62.00	61.16	485	58	427	4991.30
GCPE /AgNPs-MI 50 μL	71.64	65.13	477	81	396	2863.30
GCPE /AgNPs-MI 75 μL	49.4	41.52	514	5	509	6909.80
GCPE /AgNPs-MI 100 μL	64.18	56.02	415	94	321	3490.40

The anodic peak current (I_{pa}) was decreased until 25 μL , and, after this, a higher I_{pa} was observed with 50 μL (Fig. 5); then, the current decreased again. When GCPE/AgNPs-MI 10 μL and GCPE/AgNPs-MI 50 μL were compared, it was possible to verify that both showed similar current responses. However, the GCPE/AgNPs-MI with 50 μL exhibited a low ΔE_p as well as a lower R_{ct} values, suggesting that, for those

conditions, the charge transfer process in the electrode-solution interface is fast. Moreover, it shows higher reversibility for the process (Van Der Horst *et al.*, 2015), when compared with GCPE/AgNPs-MI obtained with 10 μL . Hence, 50 μL of AgNPs-MI was chosen as the amount for the preparation of the modified CPE electrodes.

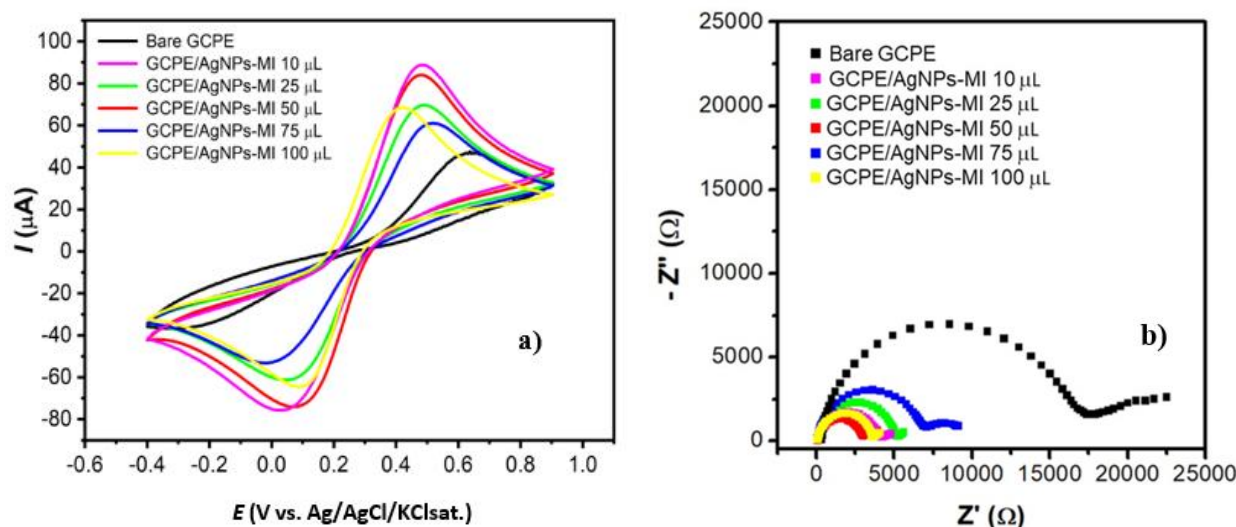


Figure 5. (a) Cyclic voltammograms and (b) electrochemical impedance spectra of GCPE/AgNPs-MI and bare GCPE, in an equimolar solution of $\text{K}_4\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6/\text{K}_3\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6$ 0.010 mol L^{-1} in PBS buffer solution 0.15 mol L^{-1} (pH 6.5).

3.3 Effect of pH

The pH of the supporting electrolyte is an important parameter for the analytical performance of the sensor. It can influence in the electrochemical response of the device during the detection of the analyte (Lima *et al.*, 2018). Since there are protons involved in the DA

electrooxidation mechanism, the effect of pH of the supporting electrolyte on the electrochemical response of GCPE/AgNPs-MI (50 μL) for 1×10^{-2} mol L^{-1} of DA was evaluated. The voltammograms were obtained in 0.04 mol L^{-1} BR buffer with different pH values (pH 2.0–7.0) by employing the SWV technique (Fig. 6).

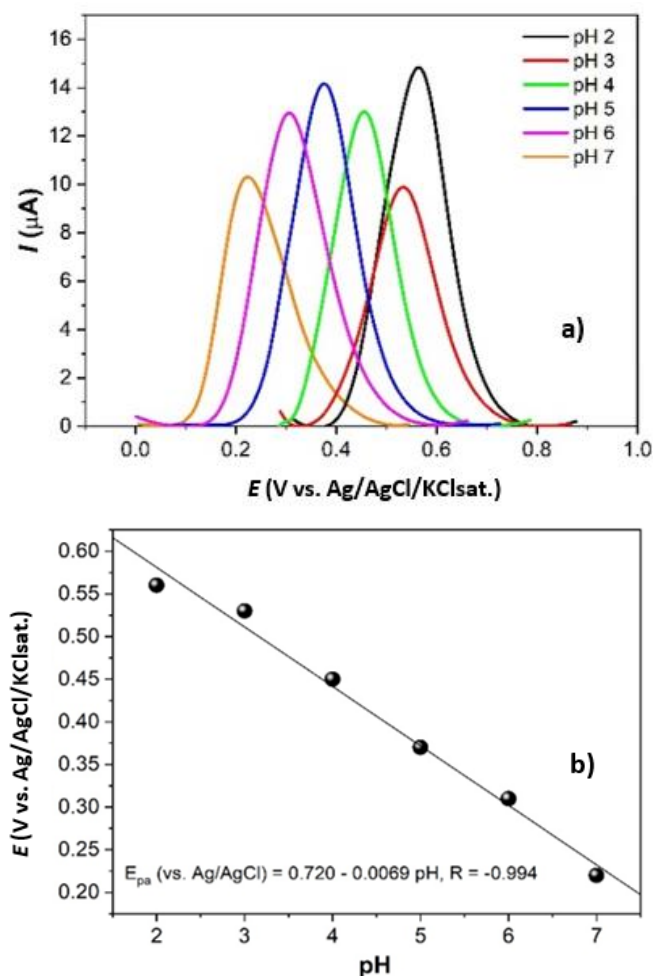


Figure 6. Effect of pH in the electrochemical response of DA. (a) Square wave voltammograms of $1.0 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol L}^{-1}$ of DA on GCPE/AgNPs-MI in BR buffer 0.04 mol L^{-1} , at pH in the range of 2.0 to 7.0. (b) Relationship between de E_{pa} and pH obtained from the voltammograms.

The effect of pH in the current and potential values was also evaluated. The DA peak potential shifted negatively with the increase of the pH values (Fig. 6), since the electrooxidation of DA involves 2 protons and 2 electrons, leading to the DA quinone, which can be reduced in the reverse process (Sakthivel *et al.*, 2017). A linear relationship was verified between the anodic peak potential and the pH medium according to the following linear regression equation: (E_{pa} (vs. Ag/AgCl) = $0.720 - 0.069 \text{ pH}$, $R = 0.994$). The slope obtained was of -69.0 mV pH^{-1} , which was close to the theoretical Nernstian value of -59.0 mV pH^{-1} , suggesting that the number of electrons and protons transferred in the electrode reaction is the same (Lima *et al.*, 2018).

DA shows voltammetric response on the GCPE/AgNPs-MI for all pH range studied, and the highest current value was obtained in pH 2.0. However,

pH 7.0 was chosen for further analysis, because a biological application for the sensor is intended.

3.4 Influence of scan rate

In order to determine the mechanism of mass transport in the redox reaction of DA on the GCPE/AgNPs-MI, the influence of the scan rate on the voltammetric profile was analyzed, by recording cyclic voltammograms for $1.0 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol L}^{-1}$ of DA (fixed concentration) in the range of $10\text{--}100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$. The supporting electrolyte was BR buffer 0.04 mol L^{-1} at pH 7.0. A linear relationship was noticed in the plot of $\log(I_p)$ vs. $\log(v)$, corresponding to the equation $\log(I_{pa}) = 0.270 + 0.373 \log(v)$; $R = 0.985$ (Fig. 7). The slope value of 0.37 is close to 0.50, which is the theoretically expected value for a totally diffusion-controlled process. Therefore, it was concluded that the electrochemical oxidation of DA on GCPE/AgNPs-MI is mostly governed by diffusion (Lima *et al.*, 2018).

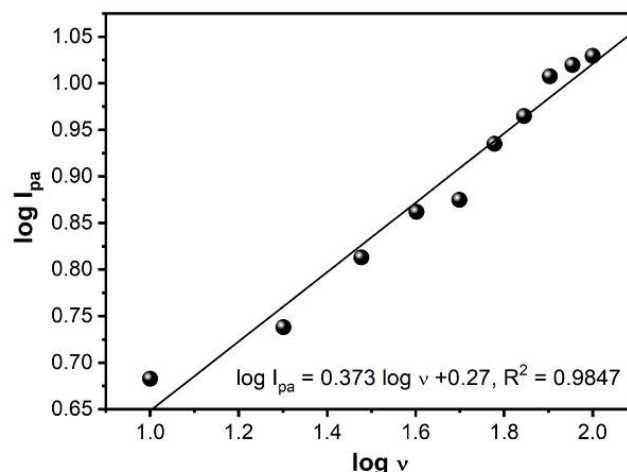


Figure 7. Relationship of $\log I_{pa}$ vs. $\log v$ for DA.

3.5 Analytical curves

DA quantitative analysis employing the GCPE/AgNPs-MI were recorded by SWV (Fig. 8a). Analytical curves (Fig. 8b) were constructed under the optimum conditions in the range of $30\text{--}90 \text{ μmol L}^{-1}$ of DA, by using 0.04 mol L^{-1} BR buffer solution as supporting electrolyte at pH 7.0. The regression equation obtained by the linear regression of the average of three analytical curves and the correlation coefficient are shown in Table 3.

The analytical curves indicated a linear increase of I_{pa} value with the increase of DA concentration in the concentration range studied. From this curve, it was

possible to calculate the detection (LOD) and the quantification (LOQ) limits for the electrode evaluated. LOD and LOQ values were calculated as recommended by ANVISA (2003) and ICH (2005) guidelines: $LOD = 3 SD/b$ and $LOQ = 10 SD/b$, where SD is the standard

deviation of the intercepts ($n = 3$) and b is the slope of the analytical curve. The obtained results are shown in Table 3, along with the linear range, regression equation, standard error and correlation coefficient of each electrode.

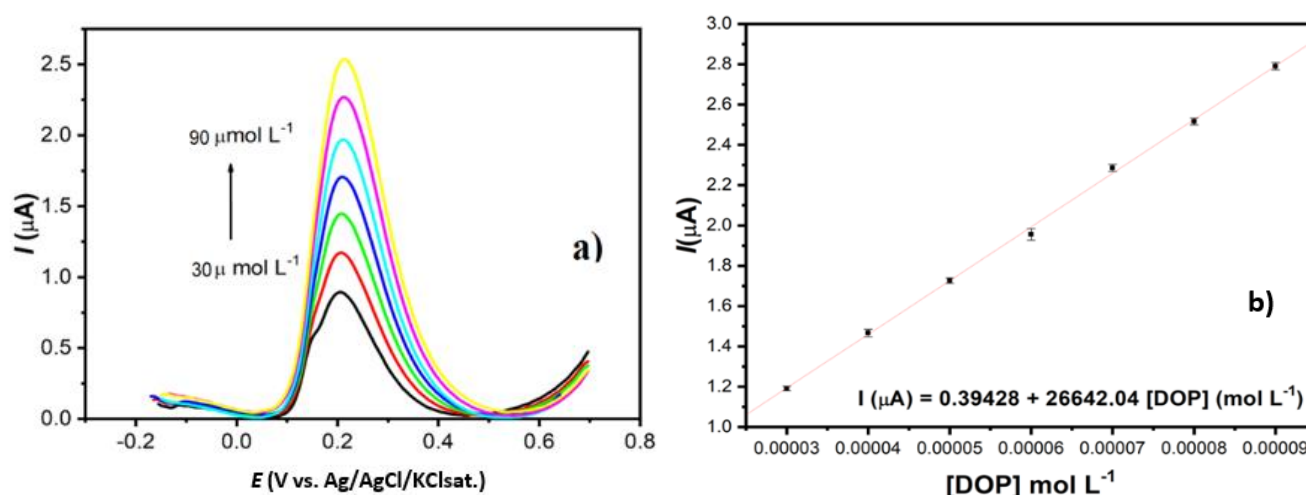


Figure 8. DA quantitative analysis using the GCPE/AgNPs-MI. (a) Square wave voltammograms obtained in the range of 30 to 90 $\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$ of DA, on GCPE/AgNPs-MI, in BR buffer 0.04 mol L^{-1} at pH 7.0, with $a = 90$ mV, $f = 100$ Hz e $\Delta E_s = 8$ mV. (b) Analytical curves obtained for GCPE/AgNPs-MI (average of three measurements).

Table 3. Analytical parameters obtained from the linear regression curves of GCPE/AgNPs-MI for DA determination by using SWV.

Parameter	GCPE/AgNPs-MI
Linear range ($\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$)	30.0 – 90.0
Regression equation	$I (\mu\text{A}) = 0.39428 + 26642.04 [\text{DOP}] (\mu\text{mol L}^{-1})$
Correlation coefficient	0.999
LOD ($\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$)	0.52
LOQ ($\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$)	1.74

Considering the low LOD ($0.52 \mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$) and LOQ ($1.74 \mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$) values obtained, it is possible to verify the good sensitivity of the modified electrode. Thus, those detection and quantification limits can be considered satisfactory for determination of DA in

biological samples and pharmaceutical formulations. Besides, the values described in this work are comparable with other electrochemical methods previously reported in the literature (Table 4).

Table 4. Comparison of LOD values for DA detection using electrochemical and other analytical methods.

Technique	Working Electrode	LOD ($\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$)	Reference
DPV	Glassy carbon electrodes modified with CdTe quantum dots	0.30	Yu <i>et al.</i> (2018)
SWV	Gold electrode modified with a nanostructure of polypyrrole-mesoporous molecular silica film	0.70	Zablocka <i>et al.</i> (2019)
CV	AuNPs-modified screen-printed carbon electrode	0.20	Chelly <i>et al.</i> (2021)
CV	Glassy carbon electrodes modified with AgNPs using <i>Ziziphus mauritiana</i> extract	0.10	Memon <i>et al.</i> (2021)
SWV	CPE modified with iron oxide (Fe_2O_3) nanoparticle	0.79	Vinay and Nayaka (2019)
DPV	Electrode printed in graphite screen modified by nanocomposite film	0.86	Selvolini <i>et al.</i> (2019)
SWV	GCPE/AgNPs-MI	0.52	This work

DPV= differential pulse voltammetry.

3.6 Accuracy, repeatability and recover assays

The accuracy of GCPE/AgNPs-MI for the determination of DA was evaluated by determination of the repeatability levels (intraday precision) of the voltammetric response generated by the sensor in the presence of the analyte, as well as considering the reproducibility level of preparation of the modified electrode. For this purpose, SWV measurements ($n = 10$) were carried out in the presence of $1.0 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol L}^{-1}$ of the analyte, in the same day, and the results were expressed in terms of relative standard deviation (%RSD) between the found concentrations. For the evaluation of reproducibility, five independent GCPE/AgNPs-MI were prepared ($n = 5$) and tested in the same conditions, as mentioned above.

The results obtained for the accuracy and precision studies were expressed in terms of %RSD between the I_{pa} obtained. It was observed that the GCPE/AgNPs-MI presented satisfactory repeatability (%RSD = 3.66) and precision (%RSD = 4.47) levels for the determination of DA, since %RSD values were lower than 5.00%, that are in good agreement with the ANVISA (2003) and

ICH (2005) guidelines. In order to verify the amount of DA, which could be quantified by GCPE/AgNPs-MI, assays of DA recovery were done by SWV, using the supporting electrolyte BR buffer 0.04 mol L^{-1} at pH 7.0).

These studies were performed by using the linear regression of the analytical curves for GCPE/AgNPs-MI (Fig. 8b) and the results obtained reveal the possibility of using the sensor in the determination of DA in real samples. For this, aliquots of DA (30, 50 and $70 \mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$) stock solution were added to the electrochemical cell. For each addition, the current value was registered. After, the concentration of DA was obtained by the linear regression $I (\mu\text{A}) = 0.39428 + 26642.04 [\text{DA}]$. The experiments were carried out in triplicate ($n = 3$) by the standard addition method, and the results were expressed as percent recovery, as shown in Table 5. It could be observed that the percent recoveries were obtained in three different amounts of DA indicating that the matrix does not significantly affect the response of the modified electrode for DA detection. Therefore, these results clearly show that GCPE/AgNPs-MI may be efficiently applied for the quantification of DA in real samples, with good accuracy and precision.

Table 5. Results for the recovery of DA in injection with GCPE/AgNPs-MI by SWV.

Added ($\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$)	Found ($\mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$)	(RSD%)	Recovery (%)
30.00	30.88 ± 0.07	2.22	102.93
50.00	50.9 ± 0.3	2.90	101.82
70.00	70.7 ± 0.4	3.05	101.04

4. Conclusions

In this review, recent literature on UV-blocking textiles have been reported to give an overview of their importance and prospects in sun-protective methods. UV-protective compounds incorporated, anchored, or coated textile fibers compose a useful class of UV-blocking materials for the development of smart fabrics as proved by the large number of scientific publications in the last years. Different UV-protective compounds, mainly TiO_2 and ZnO , are used to improve UV-blocking ability of fabrics and, often, they also impart to additional fabric properties, e.g., antibacterial, and self-cleaning activities. Analyzing from spectroscopic point of view, the elucidation of UV-blocking mechanisms gives an important information about electronic structure and optical properties of UV-protective textiles; therefore, it can be more investigated and discussed in the literature. A remarkable point is the reduced number of scientific papers that reported the use of organic filters in smart fabrics although these UV-protective compounds have

high UV absorption capacity and, depending on their molecular structure, can interact to fiber surface without the presence of cross-linker compounds. UPF is a good parameter to indicate the UV-blocking ability of UV-protective compound-containing smart fabrics, however, some aspects must be considered in the analyses and interpretation of UPF results. Among them, (i) the amount of the UV-protective compound per textile area, (ii) textile thickness, and (iii) textile properties changed by the incorporation, coating and/or anchorage with UV-protective compounds, e.g., textile roughness. In this perspective, new scientific studies need to be undertaken to know the effective contribution of UV-protective compounds in the UPF values. Considering the growing requirement for simple, cheap, and practical sun-protective products, UV-blocking textiles are one of the best alternatives. Thus, scientific research in the field of smart fabric and/or UV-blocking textile, especially UV-protective compounds incorporated, anchored, or coated textile fibers, must be encourage in order to promote new

insights in sun-protective clothing and future applications of multifunctional textiles.

Authors' contribution

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Formal Analysis: Magalhães, C. G.; Paula, J. F. P.; Pessoa, C. A.

Funding acquisition: Not applicable.

Investigation: Humacayo, F. S.

Methodology: Humacayo, F. S.; Espinoza, J. T.; Lopes, L. C.

Project administration: Magalhães, C. G.; Paula, J. F. P.; Pessoa, C. A.

Resources: Not applicable.

Software: Not applicable.

Supervision: Magalhães, C. G.; Paula, J. F. P.; Pessoa, C. A.

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Visualization: Magalhães, C. G.; Paula, J. F. P.; Pessoa, C. A.

Writing – original draft: Humacayo, F. S.; Espinoza, J. T.; Lopes, L. C.

Writing – review & editing: Magalhães, C. G.; Paula, J. F. P.; Pessoa, C. A.

Data availability statement

The data will be available upon request.

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Appendix

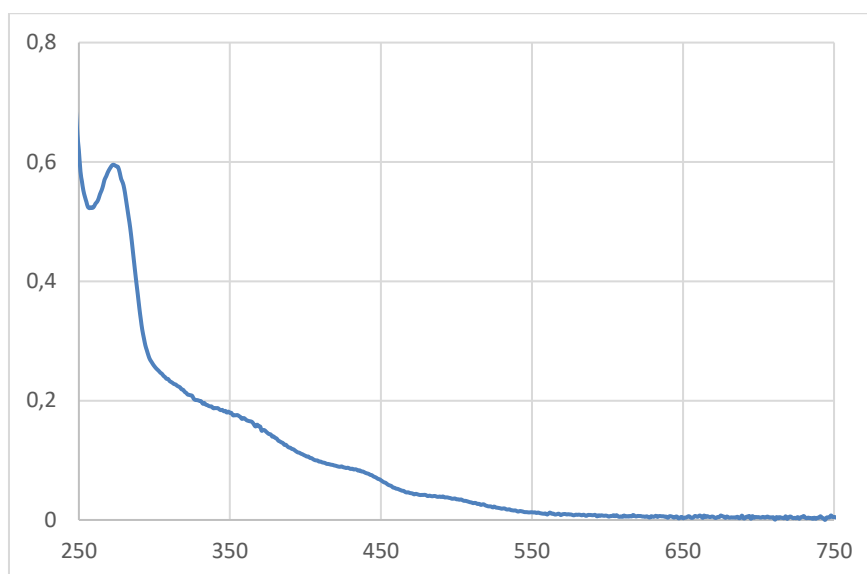


Figure A1. UV-Vis spectrum of aqueous extract of the leaves from *M. ilicifolia*.

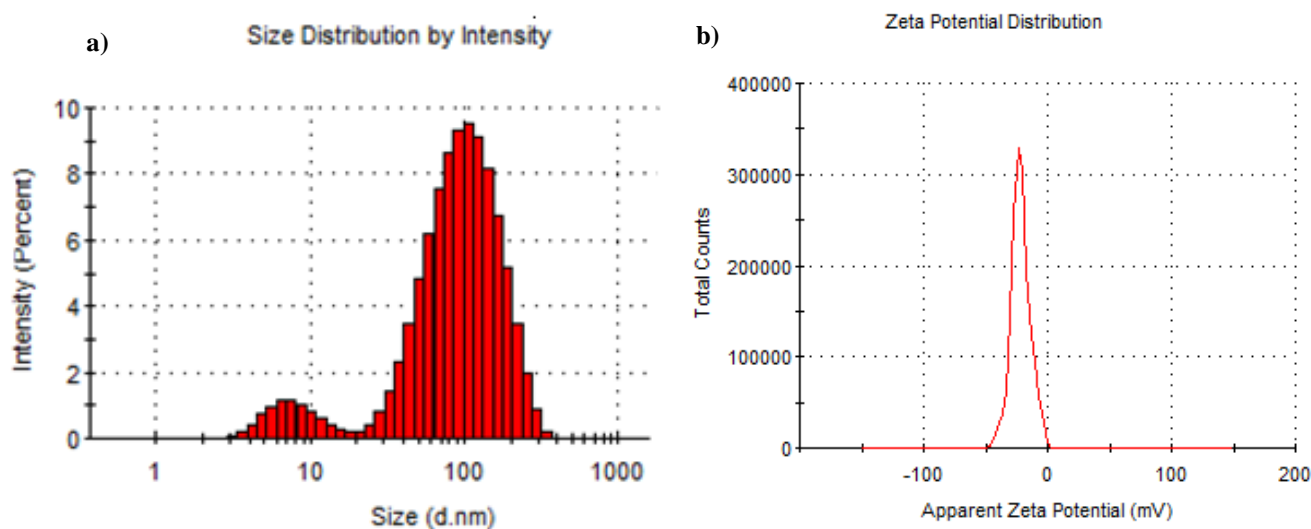


Figure A2. Distribution of particles size obtained by DLS (a) and Zeta potential (b) for AgNPs-MI.

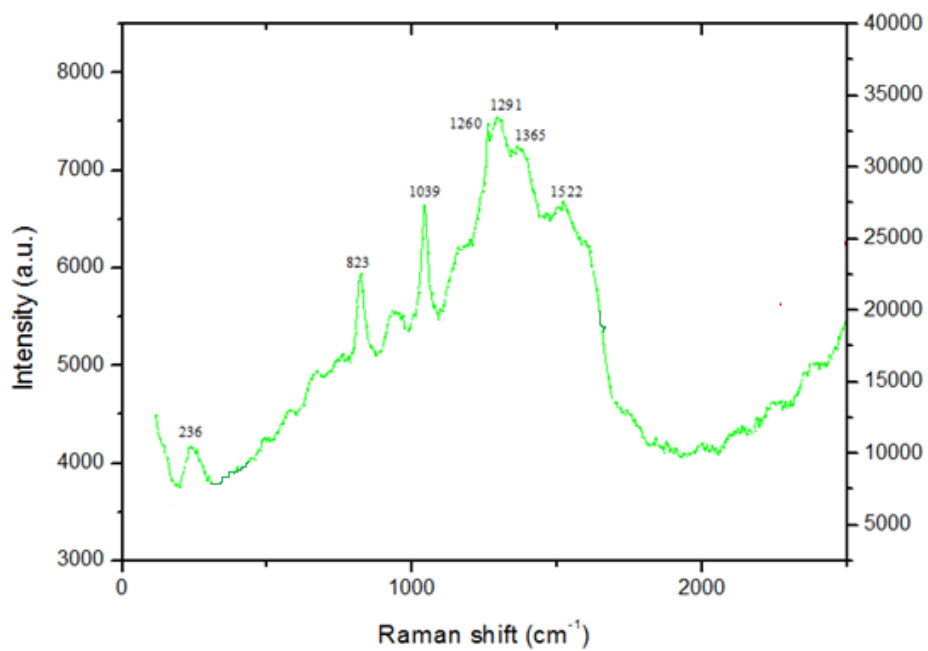


Figure A3. Raman spectra of AgNPs-MI.

Synthesis of some new substituted imines from aldehydes and ketones derived from quinolinic acid

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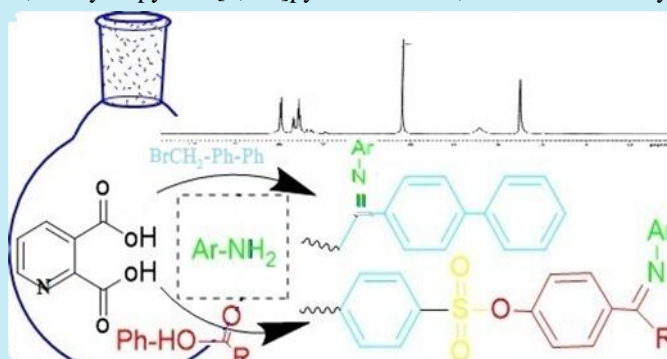
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ABSTRACT: In this paper, some substituted imines compounds have been prepared from quinolinic acid as a starting material. Firstly, the quinolinic acid was treated with acetic anhydride and acetic acid to form furo[3,4-b]pyridine-5,7-dione (1); the resulting compound was heated with urea to form 5H-pyrrolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5,7(6H)-dione (2). After that, it was treated with potassium hydroxide to give potassium 5,7-dioxo-5,7-dihydropyrrolo[3,4-b]pyridin-6-dione, which was directly and easily converted to 6-(2-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-2-oxoethyl)-5H-pyrrolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5,7(6H)-dione (3) by the reaction with 1-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-2-bromoethan-1-one. Finally, the resultant compound reacted with substituted aniline to give imines (4, 5). Secondly the quinolinic acid converted to 4-(5,7-dioxo-5,7-dihydro-6H-pyrrolo[3,4-b]pyridin-6-yl) benzenesulfonyl chloride according to our previous work, then treated with p-hydroxy acetophenone or p-hydroxy benzaldehyde to form 4-substituted benzyloxy 4-(5,7-dioxo-5,7-dihydro-6H-pyrrolo[3,4-b]pyridin-6-yl) benzenesulfonate (6, 7), which were finally treated with substituted aniline to form new substituted imines (8–12).



1. Introduction

In recent years, imines have been the millstone of chemist research because they were easy to prepare and get various reactions. They can be prepared simply by the reaction of primary amines with carbonyl compound (usually aldehydes or ketones) in the presence of acid as catalyst. The functional group of these compounds is azomethane group C=N. Due to the electronegativity of the nitrogen atom, this group has four different reactions. Firstly, electrophilic, secondly nucleophilic, thirdly dienophile, and lastly, aza-diene reaction (Fig. 1) (Choudhury and Parvin, 2011).

There is a big similarity between carbonyl and the imine groups. Therefore, their reaction is very similar, but the reactivity of the carbonyl group is higher than the imine group because the electronegativity of oxygen is greater than nitrogen. To increase the reactivity, Lewis's acid was used as a catalyst in imine reactions (Chan *et al.*, 2019).

The imine compounds exhibit a wide range of useful biological activity, such as inflammatory, antimalarial,

analgesic, antioxidant, antimicrobial, anthelmintic, antitubercular and anticancer (Fig. 2) (Bashiri *et al.*, 2020; Hania, 2009; Jasril *et al.*, 2020; Kajal *et al.*, 2013; Silva *et al.*, 2016).

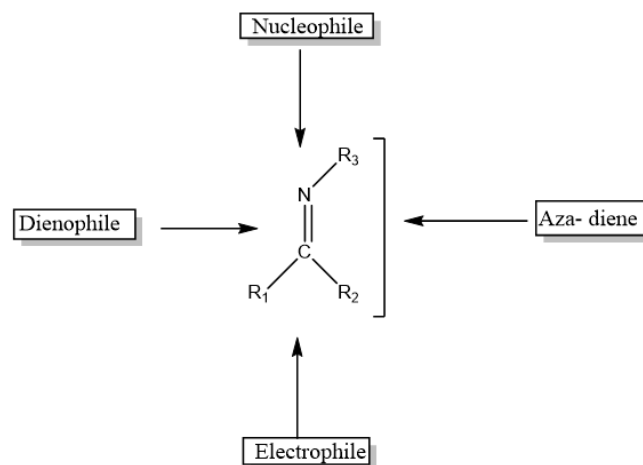
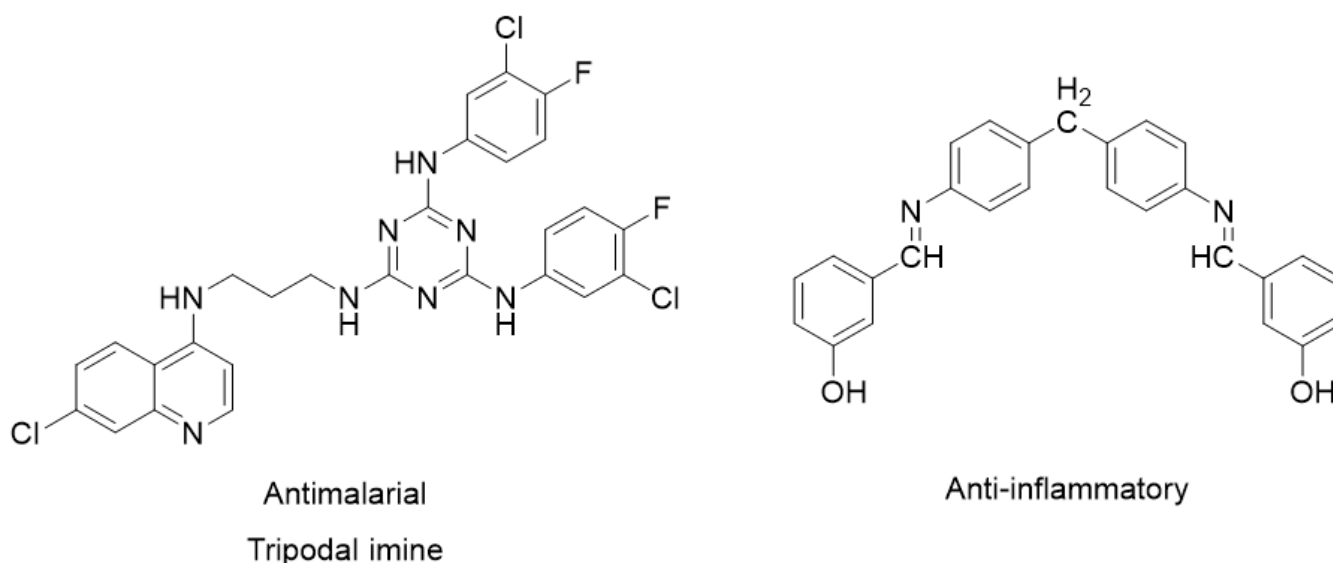


Figure 1. Imine reactivity.

Source: Retrieved from Choudhury and Parvin (2011).



Antimalarial
Tripodal imine

Anti-inflammatory

Figure 2. Some of the bioactive imine compounds.

Source: Adapted from Bashiri *et al.*, (2020) and Kajal *et al.*, (2013).

2. Experimental

All chemicals and solvents were purchased from commercially available known sources and used directly without more purification. IR spectra (ν_{max} in cm^{-1}) were verified utilizing a Shimadzu FT-IR 8400 spectrophotometer with KBr disc. $^1\text{H-NMR}$ Bruker at 300 MHz, using dimethyl sulfoxide- d_6 and tetramethylsilane as a standard.

2.1 Synthesis of 5H-pyrrolo[3,4-b] pyridine-5,7(6H)-dione (2)

Furo [3,4-b] pyridine-5,7-dione (1) was prepared from quinolinic acid (Rapolu *et al.*, 2019) (0.15 mol, 9 g) from anhydride (1) was mixed with (0.3 mol, 2 g) of urea in 100 mL round and heated to (130 to 135 °C) with shaking for (10–20 min) until the reaction was noticed increasing in size. After this point, the product cooled to

room temperature, then (10 mL) of water was added and mixed to destroy the amide (2); then, filtrate and recrystallisation from ethanol to give white crystal 83% (188–190 °C), IR, 3104, 1725, 1620, 1391 cm^{-1} (Cai, 2012).

2.2 6-(2-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-2-oxoethyl)-5H-pyrrolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5,7(6H)-dione (3)

First step: Imides (0.01 mol, or 1.4 g) were dissolved in 20 mL of absolute ethanol, and the mixture was then heated in a water bath with a clear solid obtained. Ethyl alcohol was added to potassium hydroxide solution of 0.01 mol of KOH in 25 mL of pure ethanol while stirring and letting it cool. The precipitate that formed was then filtered and dried. The resultant compound was used in the next reaction without any further purification; 73% broke down at 230 °C.

In the second step, 0.01 mol (2.7 g) of 4-phenyl phenacyl bromide was dissolved in 25 mL of absolute ethanol in a round-bottomed flask. Then, 0.01 mol (1.8 g) was added. Imide salt, which was prepared in the first step, was added slowly while stirring. The resultant mixture was heated and stirred for 6 h, then cooled to room temperature. The precipitate was filtered, washed with distilled water, dried, and then recrystallized from ethanol to give a brown powder. 60% (120–124 °C), IR, 3104, 1715, 1680, 1676, 1620, 1391 cm^{-1} , $^1\text{H NMR}$ δ 8.3–7.3 (m, 12H), 4.9 (s, 2H) (Fig. S1 – Supplementary Material) (Aliabadi *et al.*, 2013).

2.3 General procedure for synthesis of Schiff bases (4–5, 10–12)

For 6 h, 35 mL of absolute ethanol and 2–3 drops of glacial acetic acid were added to 0.01 mol of carbonyl compound and 0.01 mol of primary aromatic amine while stirring at a refluxing temperature. After cooling the reaction mixture to a room temperature, the precipitate was separated from the solvent by filtration, dried, and recrystallized from ethanol Fig. 3 (Altaee and Al-Sabawi, 2021; Yin *et al.*, 2020).

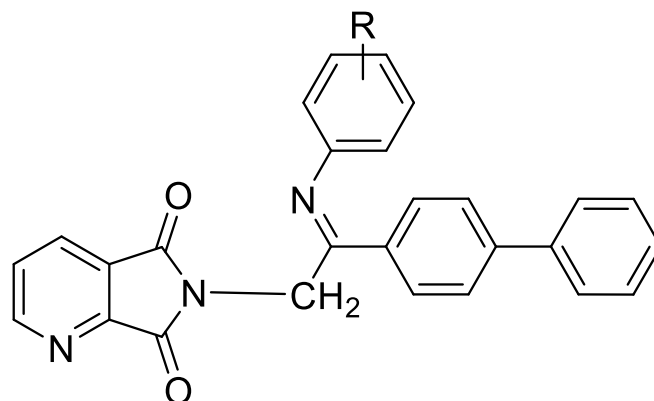


Figure 3. Substituted Schiff bases.

Compound 4 (R = P-hydroxy) is a yellow powder yield in 81% and m. p. 116–117 °C, IR, 3440, 3035, 1728, 1690, 1630 cm^{-1} , $^1\text{H NMR}$ δ 8.5 (s, 1H), 8.2–7.3 (m, 16H), 5.0 (s, 2H) Fig. S2 (Supplementary Material).

Compound 5 (R = m-nitro) is a red powder yield in 65% and m. p. 112–114 °C, IR, 2995, 1702, 1621, 1550 cm^{-1} , $^1\text{H NMR}$ δ 8.1–7.3 (m, 16H), 5.2 (s, 2H) Fig. S3 (Supplementary Material).

2.4 4-substituted benzyloxy 4-(5,7-dioxo-5,7-dihydro-6H-pyrrolo[3,4-b]pyridin-6-yl) benzenesulfonate (6-7)

A combination of 0.015 mol of 4-hydroxyacetophenone or 4-hydroxybenzaldehyde and 3 mL of pyridine was placed in three-necked flasks with a stirrer and thermostat. The temperature of the combination was lowered to 10 °C by the ice bath that surrounded the flask. During a 20-min period with constant stirring, the phthalimide sulfonyl chloride (Fathi and Al-Jawaheri, 2022) (0.01 mol, 3.2 g) was added gradually. After being refluxed for 2 h, the mixture was cooled to room temperature before being put into cold water and stirred till the oily layer solidified. The resultant solid was filtered, washed with cold, diluted HCl solution, then washed with distilled water before being dried. The desired chemicals were produced by recrystallizing the final product from ethanol Fig. 4 (Soyer *et al.*, 2017).

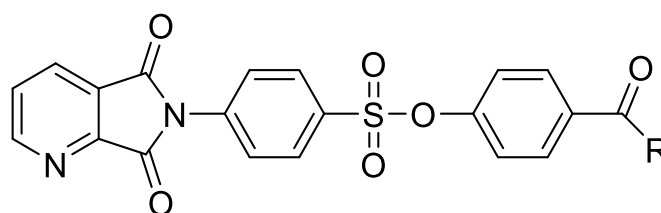


Figure 4. Substituted benzyloxy benzenesulfonate.

Compound 6 (R=H) is a yellow powder yield in 70% and m. p. 170–172 °C, IR, 3100, 1720, 1690, 1205 cm^{-1} , $^1\text{HNMR}$ δ 10.0 (s, 1H), 8.2–7.7 (m, 9H), 7.4 (d, 2H) Fig. S4 (Supplementary Material).

Compound 7 (R=CH₃) is a yellow powder yield in 75% and m. p. 271–272 °C, IR, 3075, 1707, 1680, 1200 cm^{-1} , $^1\text{HNMR}$ δ 8.2–7.8 (m, 9H), 7.35 (d, 2H), 2.60 (s, 3H) Fig. S5 (Supplementary Material).

These compounds were prepared according to the general procedure for synthesis of Schiff bases (8–12) Fig. 5.

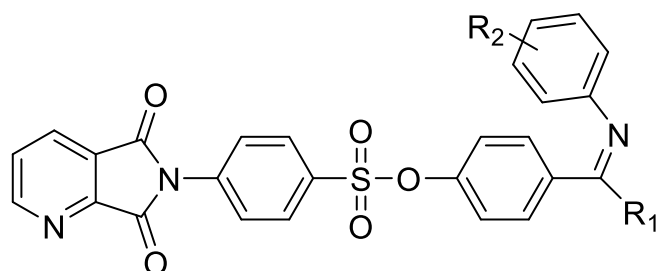


Figure 5. Substituted benzyloxy benzenesulfonate Schiff bases.

Compound 8 (R₁= CH₃/ R₂= O-methyl) is a yellow powder yield in 80% and m. p. 270–271 °C, IR, 3112, 2990, 1728, 1630 cm^{-1} , $^1\text{HNMR}$ δ 8.2–7.7 (m, 13H), 7.35 (d, 2H), 2.6 (s, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H) Fig. S6 (Supplementary Material).

Compound 9 (R₁= CH₃/ R₂= P-methyl) is a light-yellow powder yield in 83% and m. p. 189–190 °C, IR, 3100, 2920, 1720, 1610 cm^{-1} , $^1\text{HNMR}$ δ 8.25–7.75 (m, 13H), 7.35 (d, 2H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 2.47 (s, 3H) Fig. S7 (Supplementary Material).

Compound 10 (R₁= CH₃/ R₂= 2-Nitro 4- chloro) is a white powder yield in 62% and m. p. 160–161 °C, IR, 3120, 2950, 1715, 1605 cm^{-1} , $^1\text{HNMR}$ δ 8.25–7.63 (m, 11H), 7.33(d, 2H), 2.55(s, 3H) Fig. S8 (Supplementary Material).

Compound 11 (R₁= H/ R₂= P-methyl) is a white powder yield in 90% and m. p. 226–228 °C, IR, 3099,

2925, 1710, 1600 cm^{-1} , $^1\text{HNMR}$ δ 8.7 (s, 1H), 8.2– 7.7 (m, 11H), 7.55–7.2 (d,d, 4H), 2.05 (s, 3H) Fig. S9 (Supplementary Material).

Compound 12 (R₁= H/ R₂= 2,4-Dichloro) is a yellow powder yield in 83% and m. p. 190–191 °C, IR, 3090, 1725, 1600, 770 cm^{-1} , $^1\text{HNMR}$ δ 8.65 (s, 1H), 8.3– 7.7 (m, 13H), 7.6–7.3 (m, 3H) Fig. S10 (Supplementary Material).

3. Results and discussion

The synthesis of new compounds is a millstone in the field of organic chemistry and is the first step for the invention of new things that could improve our life. Quinolinic acid was used as the available starting material in this paper to convert to anhydride (1) (Fig. 6) using the dehydration agent acetic anhydride. The resultant compound (1) in 85% is regarded as a known compound and is confirmed by its physical properties as a beige solid powder and m.p. = 139–140 °C. The IR spectra gave strong signals at 3043 and 1765 cm^{-1} belonging to the C-H aromatic and carbonyl groups, respectively (Sigma Aldrich CAS Number 699-98-0).

The next step was to convert the anhydride (1) to pyrrole (2) by heating the anhydride with urea. The resultant compound was confirmed by its physical properties as a white crystal yield in 83%, m.p. = 188–190 °C. The IR spectra gave in cm^{-1} at 3104 for C-H aromatic, 1725 for carbonyl, 1620 for N-H.

Compound (3) was prepared in two steps. Firstly, compound (2) was treated with alcoholic potassium hydroxide to form organic salt to increase the nucleophilicity to react with 4-phenyl phenacyl bromide via one step SN₂ mechanism (Fig. 6). The resultant compound was confirmed by physical properties as a brown powder resulting in 60% (m.p. 120–124 °C), IR 3104 cm^{-1} for aromatic C-H, 1715 cm^{-1} for amid carbonyl, 1680 cm^{-1} for ketonic. In addition, $^1\text{HNMR}$ δ chart gave signals at 8.21–7.32 (m, 12) and at 4.95 singlet belongs to two protons for CH₂ (Maimaris *et al.*, 2022).

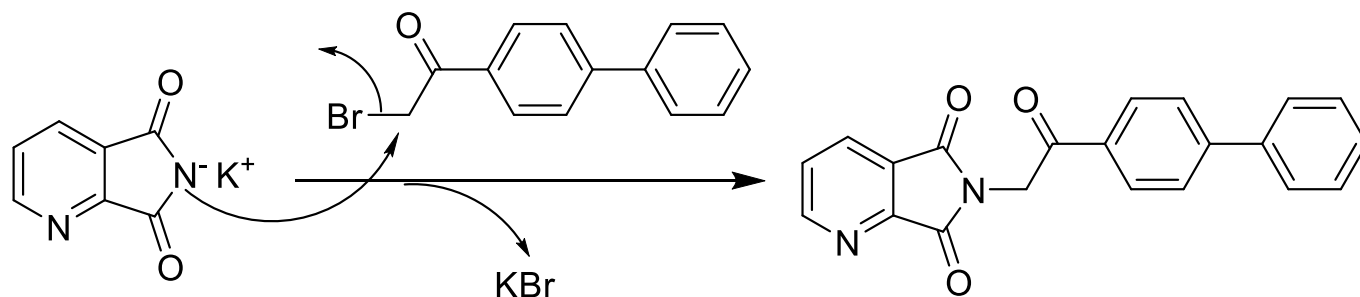


Figure 6. Mechanism of SN₂ Reaction.

Intermediate compounds were prepared according to our past paper (Fathi and Al-Jawaheri, 2022). Compounds (6-7) were prepared from phthalimide sulfonyl chloride by replacing the chlorine with the phenolic group from p-hydroxy benzaldehyde or p-hydroxy acetophenone through SN2 mechanism. The resultant compounds were confirmed by their physical properties, for (6) was a yellow powder yield in 70%, melted at 170–171°C, IR 3100 cm^{-1} for C-H aromatic, 1720 and 1690 cm^{-1} for carbonyls, $^1\text{H NMR}$ δ chart have clear unique signals at 10 ppm singlet for aldehyde proton, 8.2–7.7 multiplet and at 7.4 doublet for aromatic protons. Compound (7) was a yellow powder yield in 75% and m.p. in 271–272°C, IR 3075 cm^{-1} for aromatic C-H, 1707 and 1680 cm^{-1} for carbonyls, $^1\text{H NMR}$ δ signals confirmed the structure at 8.2–7.8 multiplet

and at 7.35 doublet for aromatic protons and at 2.60 singlet belongs to three protons of CH_3 (Fadlelmoula *et al.*, 2022).

The final step was to form a Schiff base by choosing different primary amines to react with compound (3) to form (4, 5) and compounds (6, 7) to form (8–12). The mechanism of the reaction shows six steps in which the proton of the acid has been attacked by the electron pair of the carbonyl oxygen to increase the electrophilicity of the carbonyl of the carbon and form the oxonium ion. At this point, the electron pair of the amine nitrogen will be ready to attack the carbon of the carbonyl to form the zwitterion. The next steps included the release and addition of the proton, then dehydration (Fig. 7) (Choudhury and Parvin, 2011).

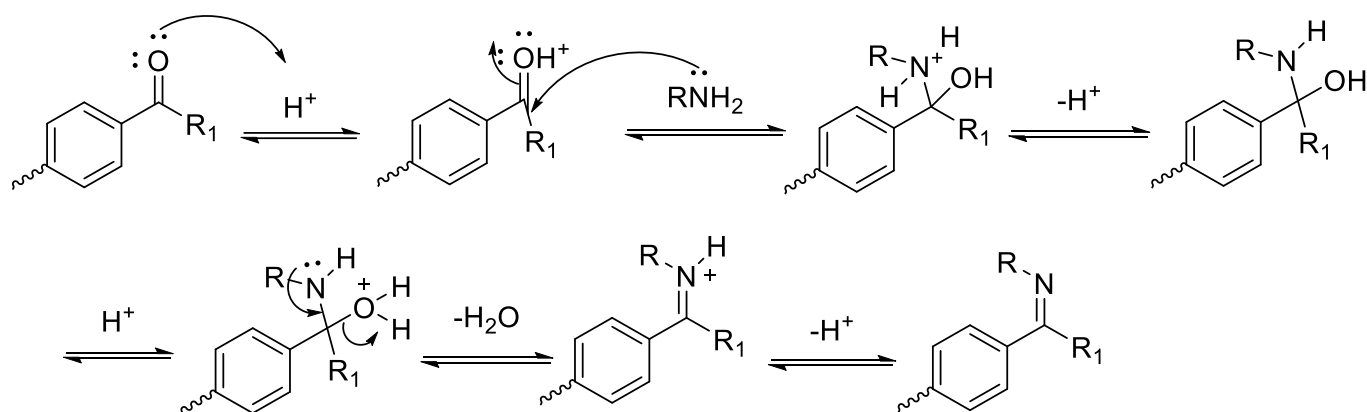


Figure 7. Mechanism of Schiff bases formations.

The structure of the resultant compounds (4, 5) was confirmed by physical properties, yellow powder and red powder yield 81% and 65%, m.p. 116–117 °C and 112–114 °C, respectively. Also, spectral data showed IR cm^{-1} 3440 belonging to the hydroxyl group in (4), 3112, 2995 for C-H aromatic, 1728, 1702 for the carbonyl group, 1690, 1621 for the C=N group, $^1\text{H NMR}$ δ ppm showed signals, 8.5 singlet for OH in (4), 8.2–7.3 and 8.1–7.3 multiplet for aromatic protons, 5.0, 5.2 singlet for CH_2 protons, respectively.

Compounds (8–12): Every compound has a unique $^1\text{H NMR}$ δ spectrum. For (8) the spectral data presented signals at 2.6 and 2.45 singlet for CH_3 protons, while (9) showed signals at 2.55, 2.47 singlet for CH_3 protons; for (10) at 2.55 singlet for CH_3 protons, for (11) and (12) at 8.7 singlet belonging to the proton attached to the C=N group and 2.05 for CH_3 protons. Finally, for (12) at 8.65 singlet belonging to the proton attached to the C=N group. (Fig. 8), find the attached [Supplementary Material](#).

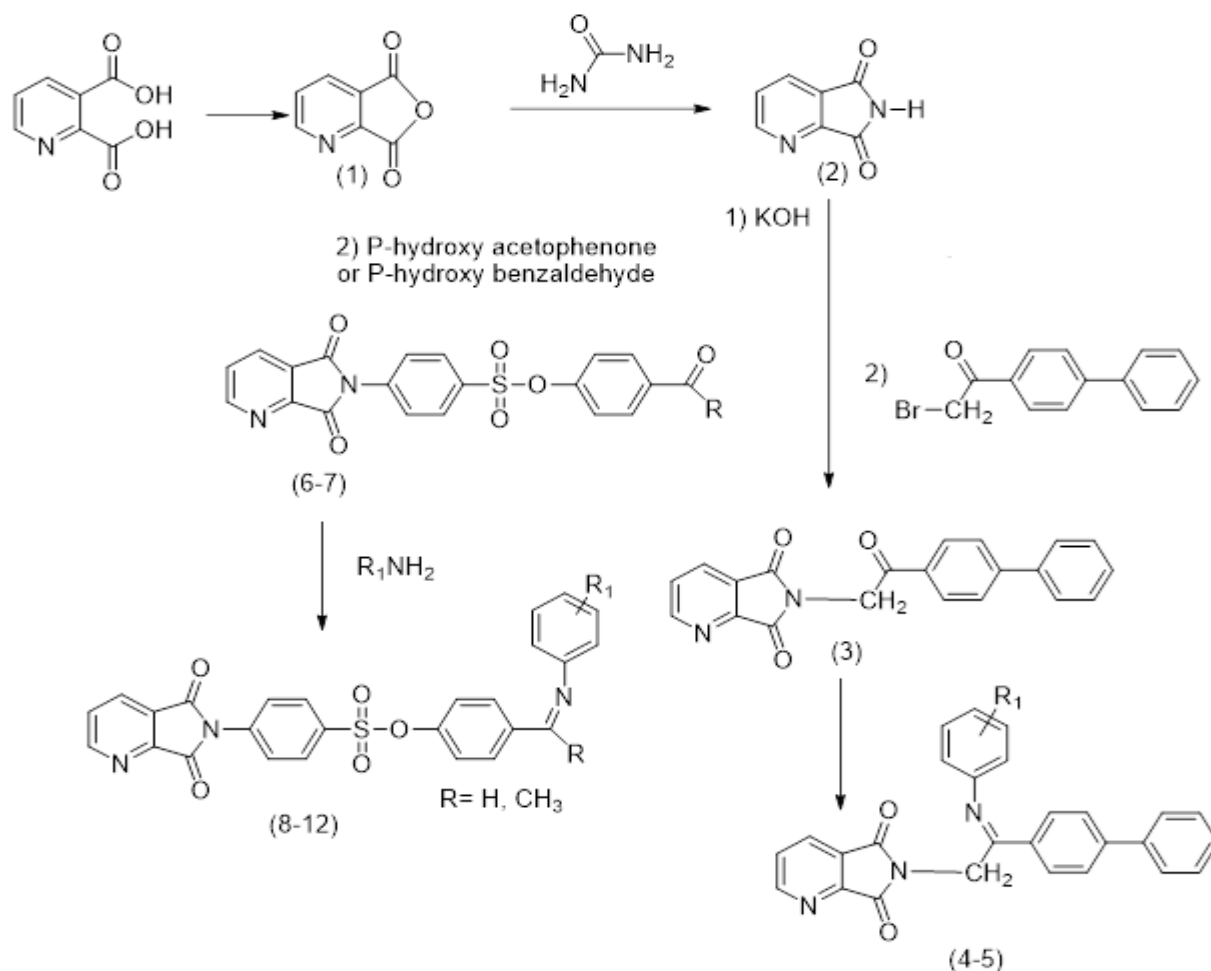


Figure 8. Scheme of the reactions.

4. Conclusions

In this study, we have successfully prepared several new substituted compounds derived from substituted nicotinic acid to enhance the library of organic chemistry. These compounds contain carbon and nitrogen double bond as an imine functional group, which can be used as starting material in many fields, such as organometal compounds.

Authors' contribution

Conceptualization: Fathi, A.; Al-Jawaheri, Y.
Data curation: Fathi, A.
Formal Analysis: Ismaeel, S.
Funding acquisition: Not applicable.
Investigation: Al-Jawaheri, Y.
Methodology: Fathi, A.; Al-Jawaheri, Y.
Project administration: Fathi, A.; Al-Jawaheri, Y.
Resources: Ismaeel, S.
Software: Not applicable.

Supervision: Fathi, A.

Validation: Fathi, A.; Al-Jawaheri, Y.; Ismaeel, S.

Visualization: Ismaeel, S.

Writing – original draft: Al-Jawaheri, Y.

Writing – review & editing: Fathi, A.; Al-Jawaheri, Y.

Data availability statement

All data set were generated or analyzed in the current study.

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Supplementary Material

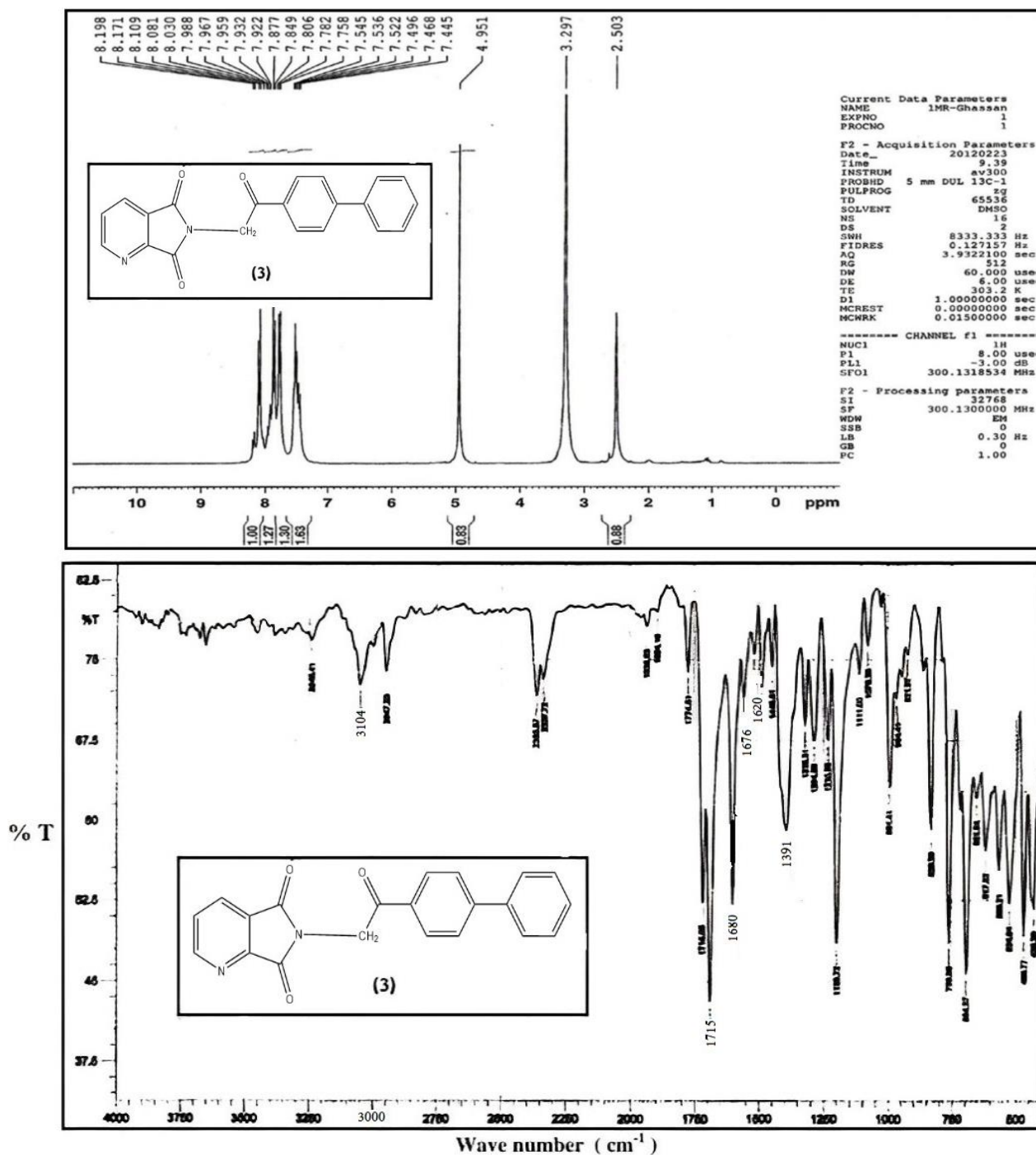


Figure S1. NMR and IR. Charts for compound 3.

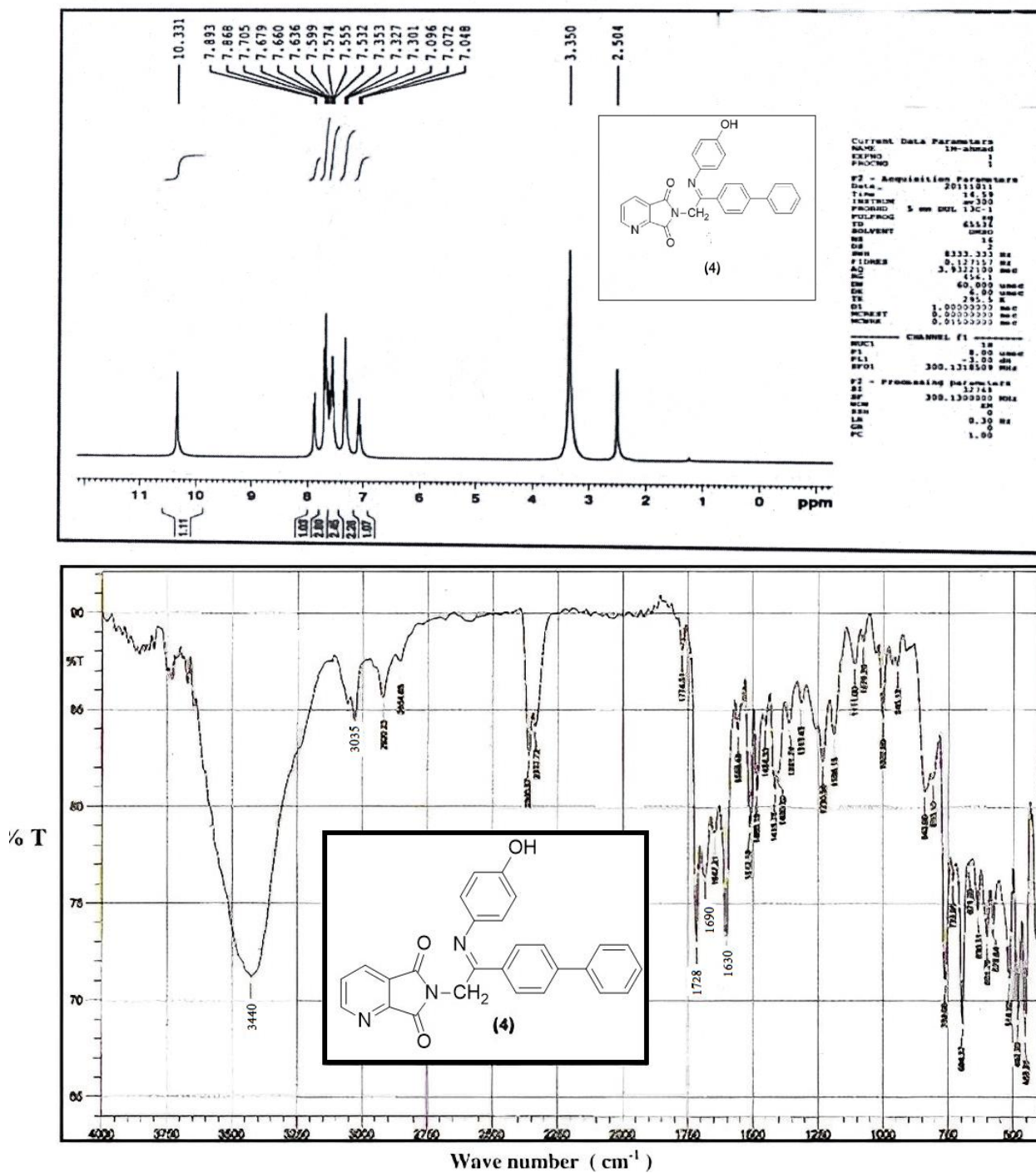


Figure S2. NMR and IR. Charts for compound 4.

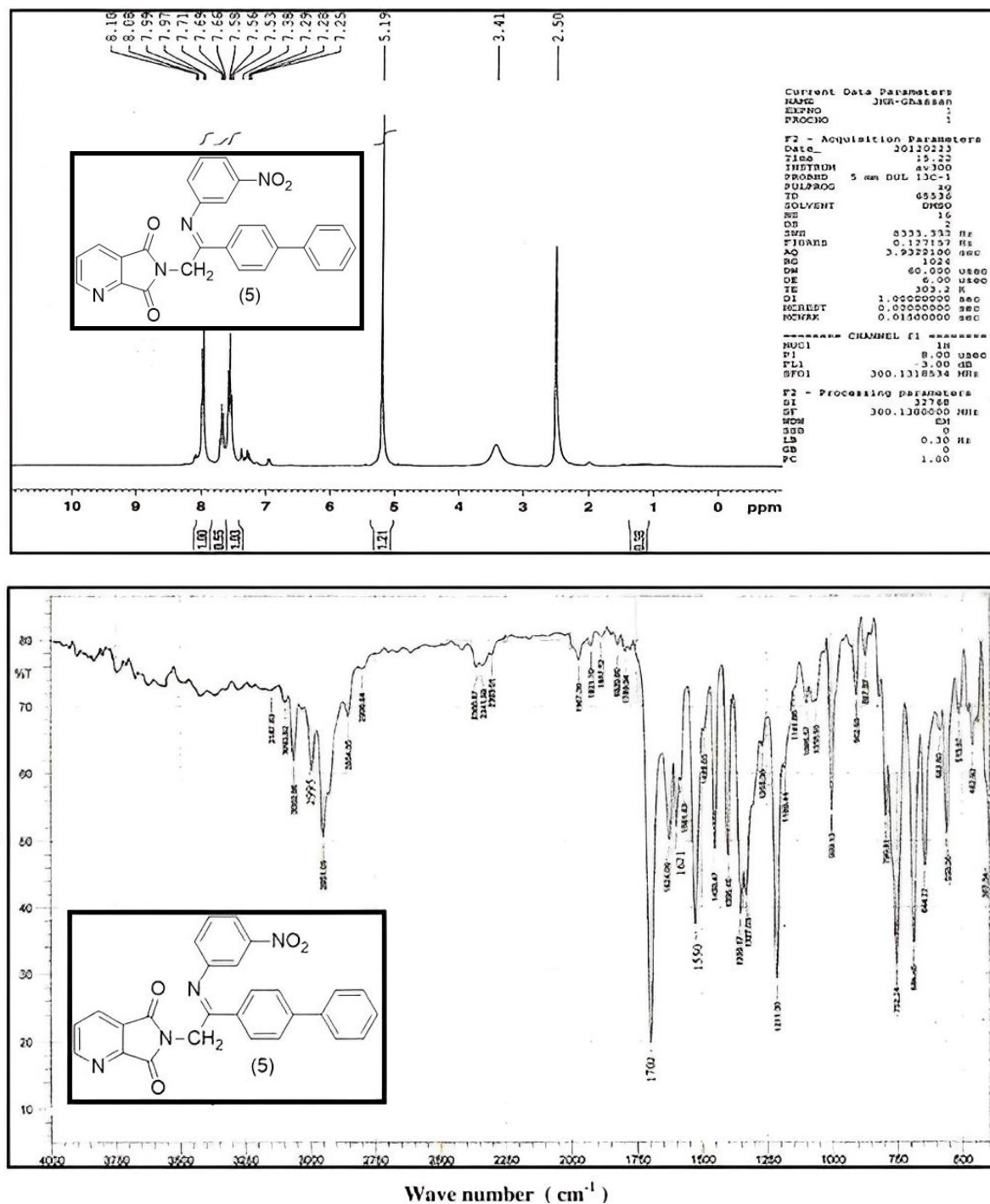


Figure S3. NMR and IR. Charts for compound 5.

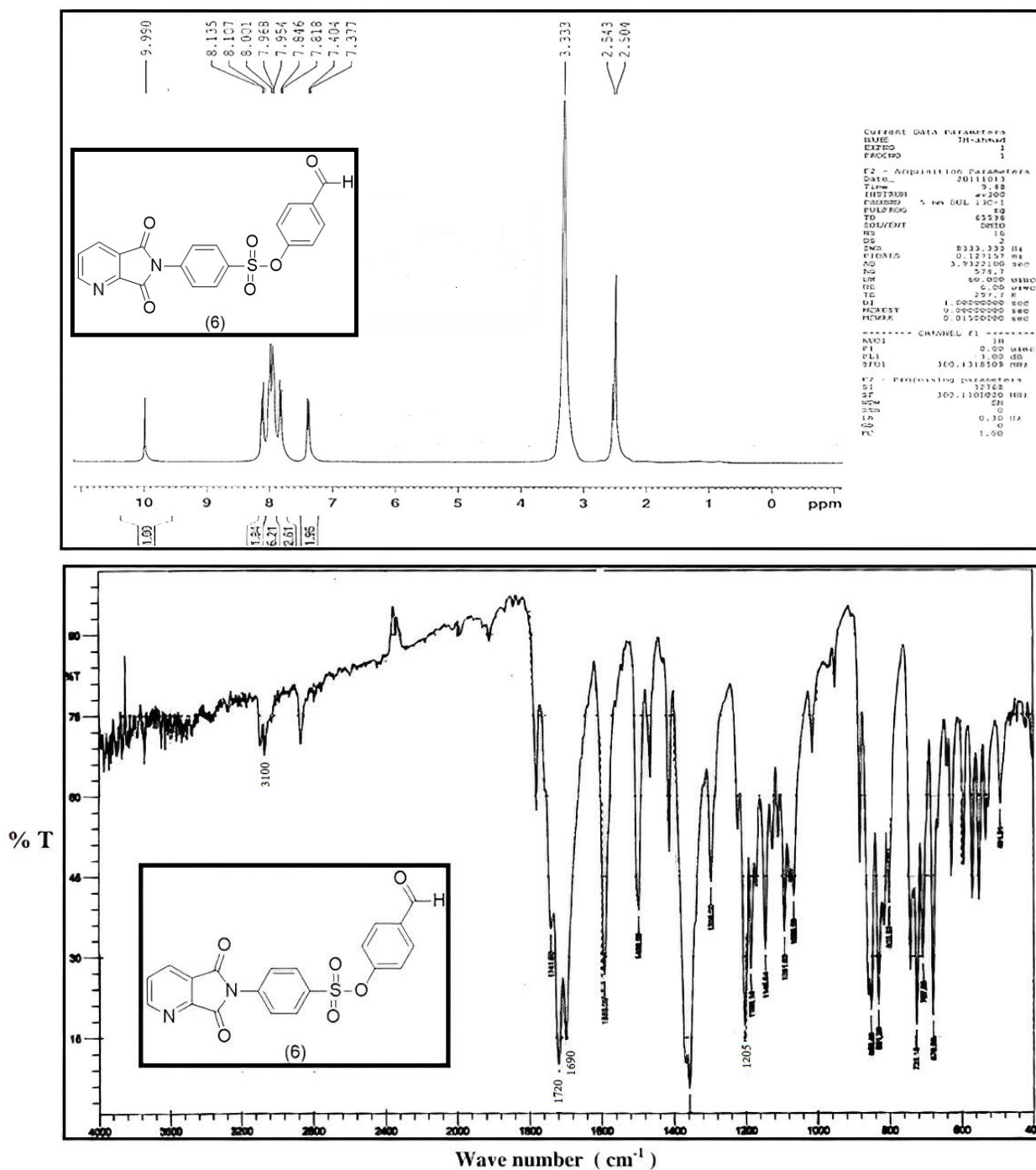


Figure S4. NMR and IR. Charts for compound 6.

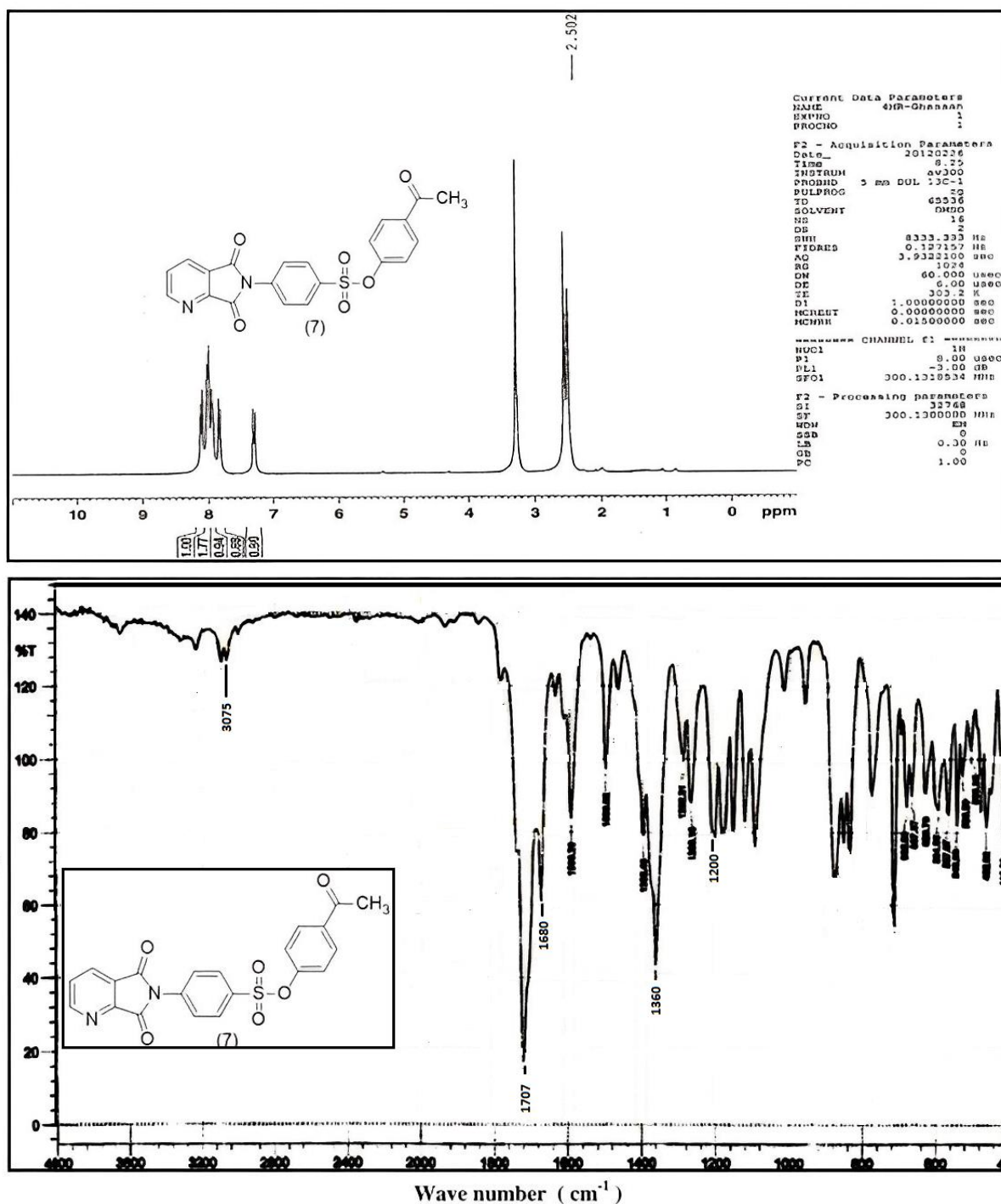


Figure S5. NMR and IR. Charts for compound 7.

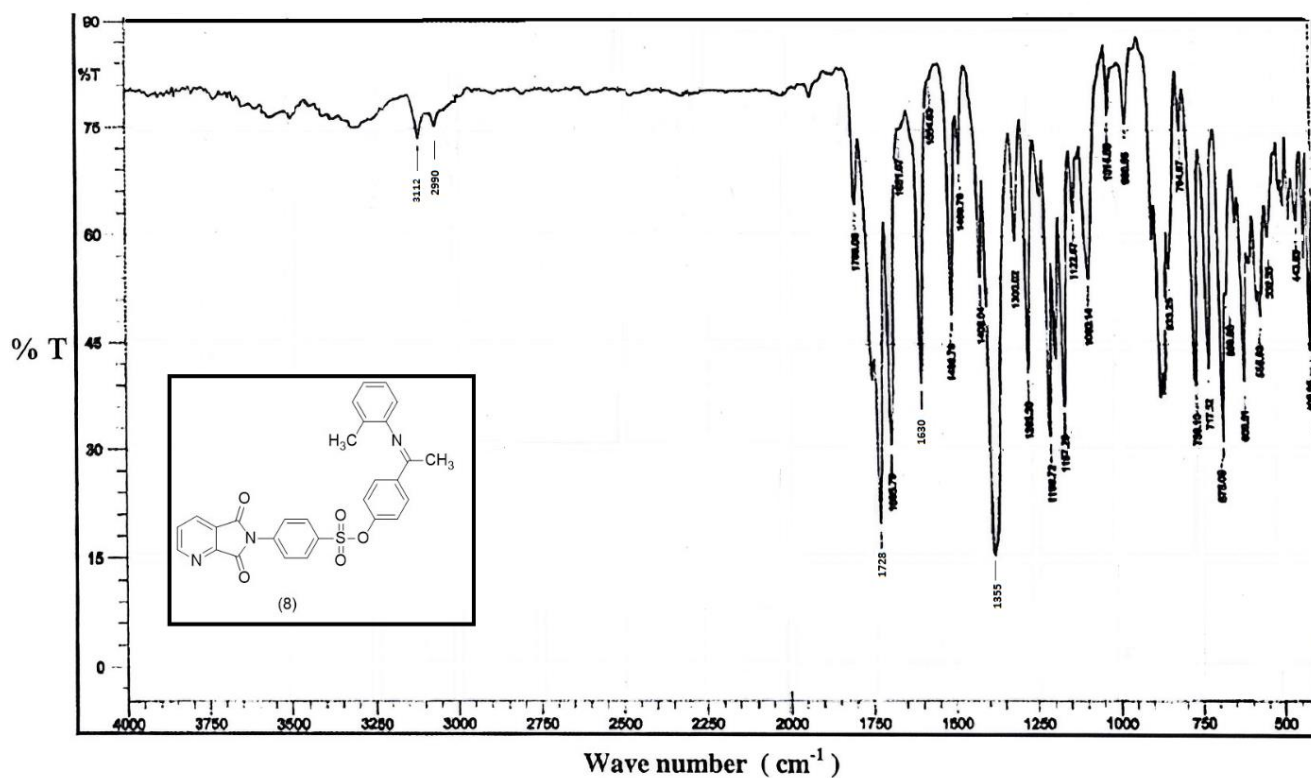
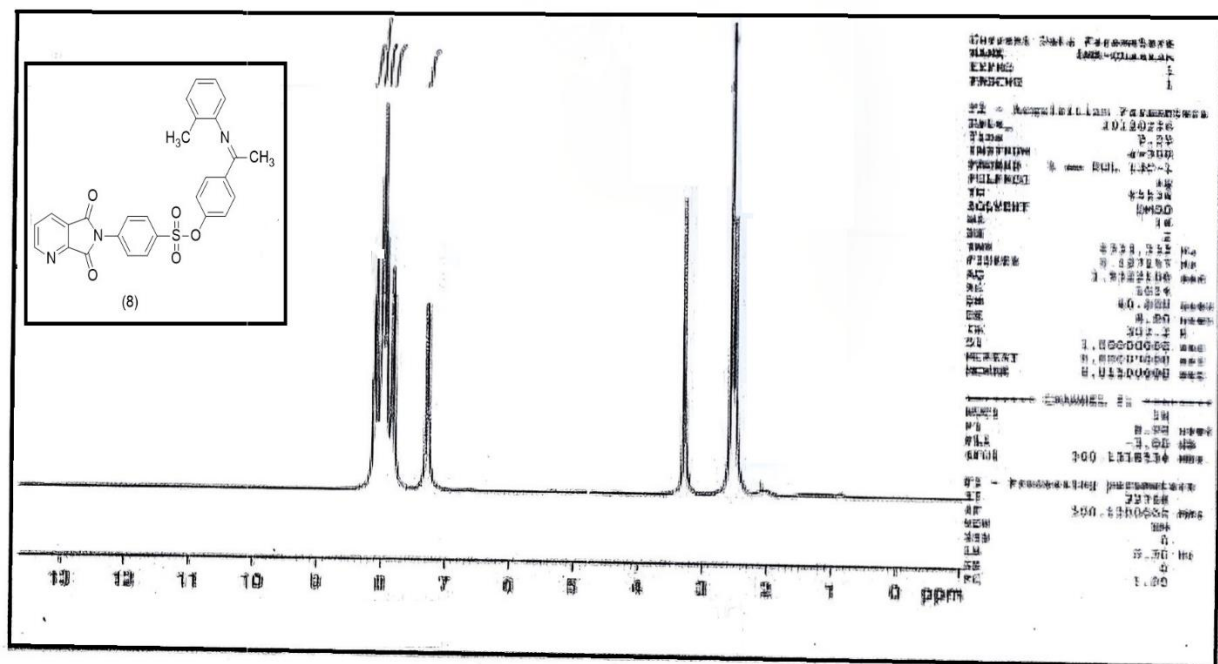


Figure S6. NMR and IR. Charts for compound 8.

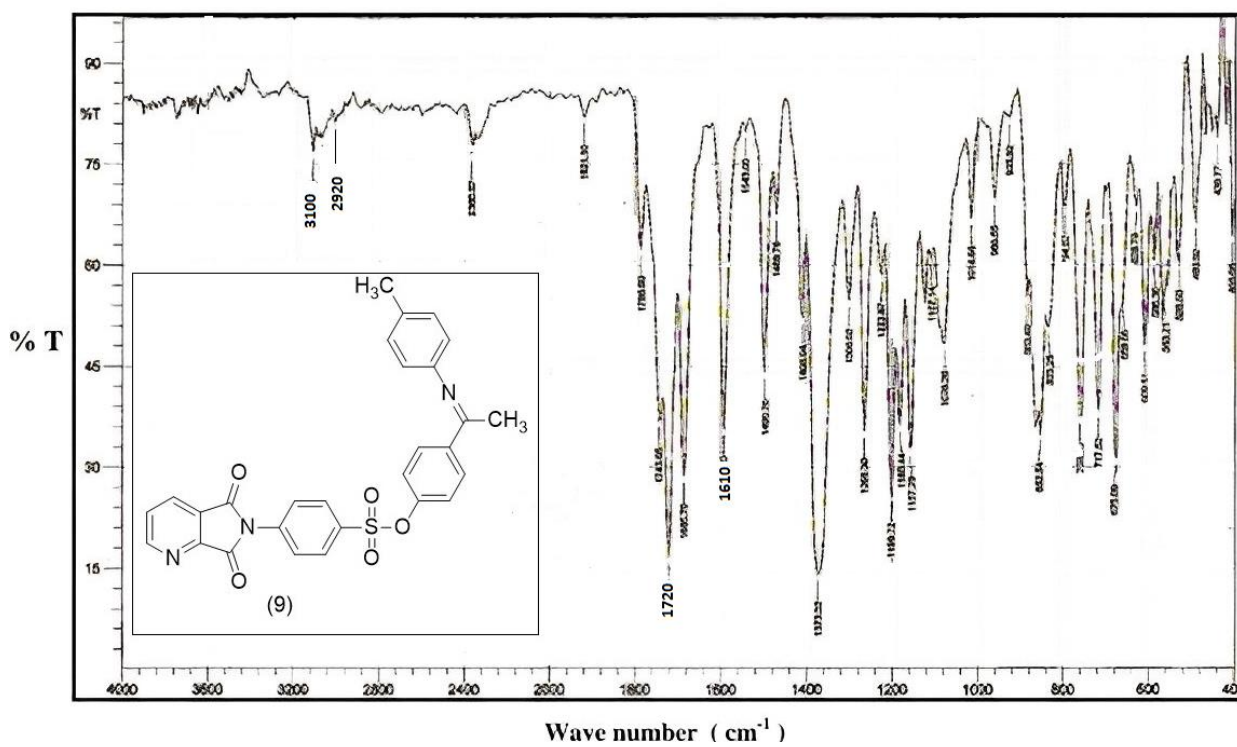
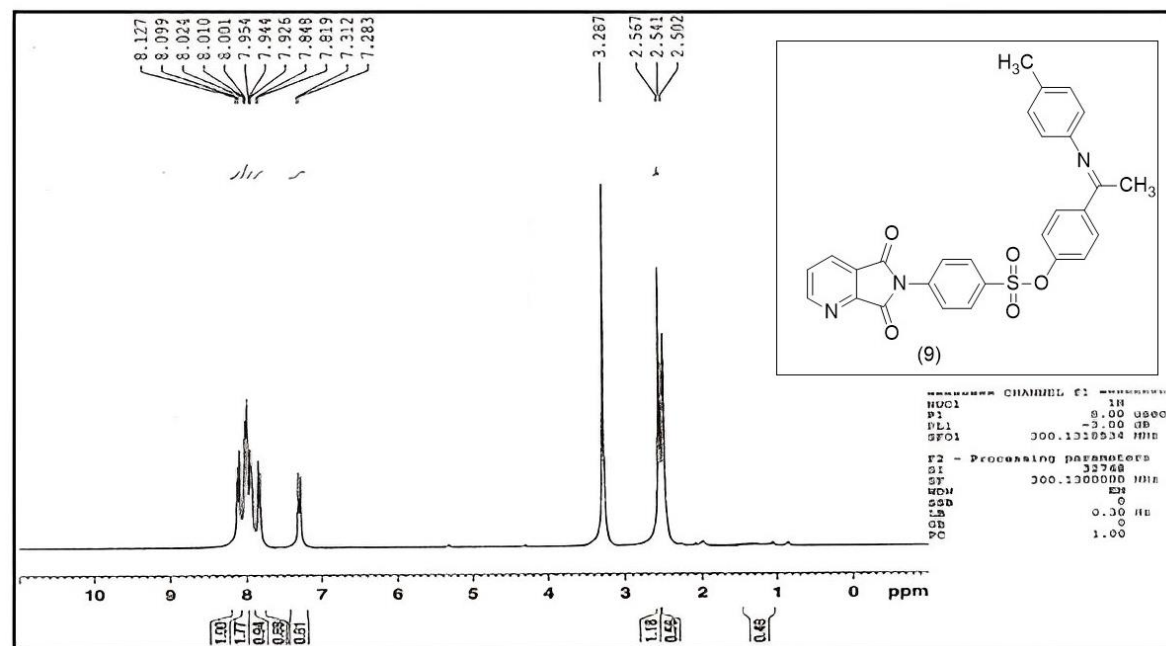


Figure S7. NMR and IR. Charts for compound 9.

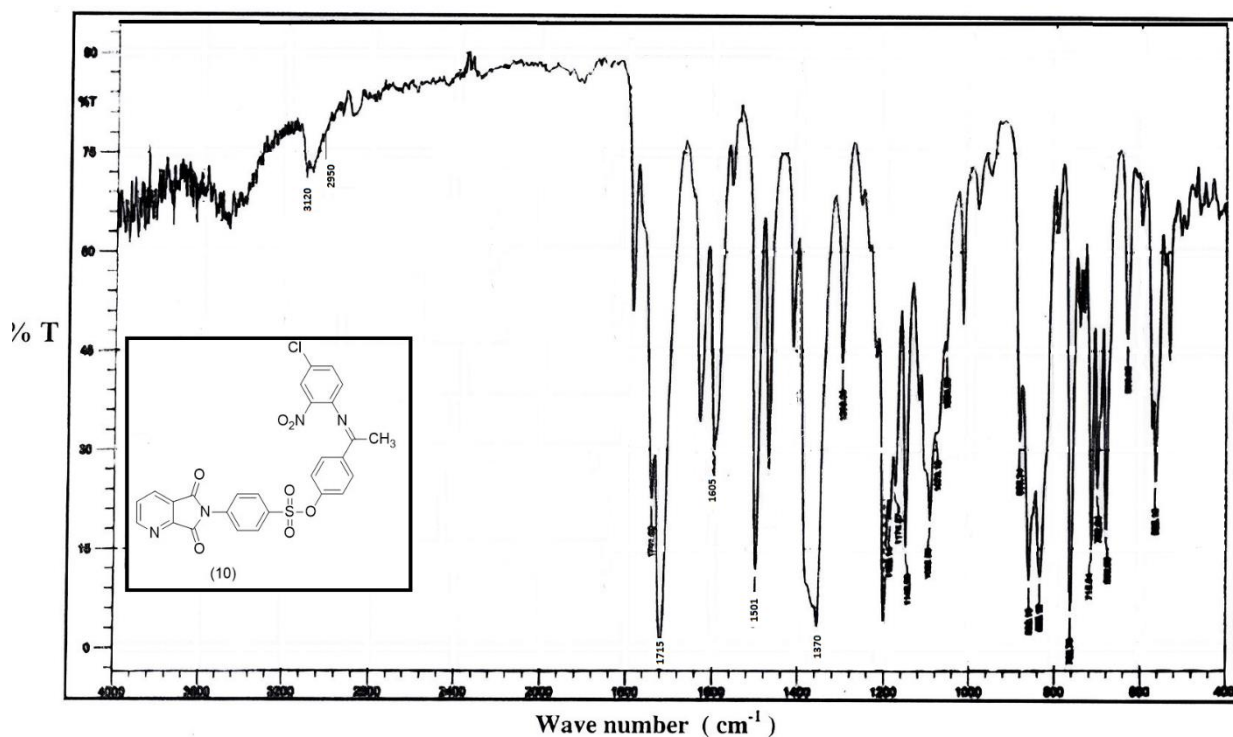
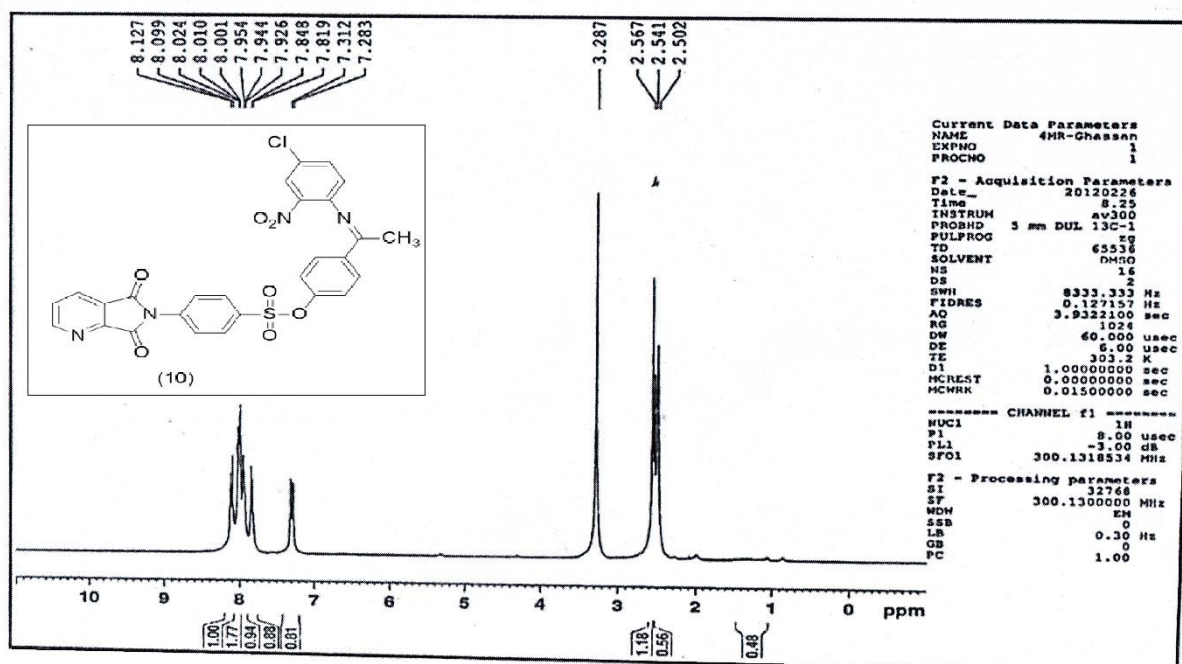


Figure S8. NMR and IR. Charts for compound 10.

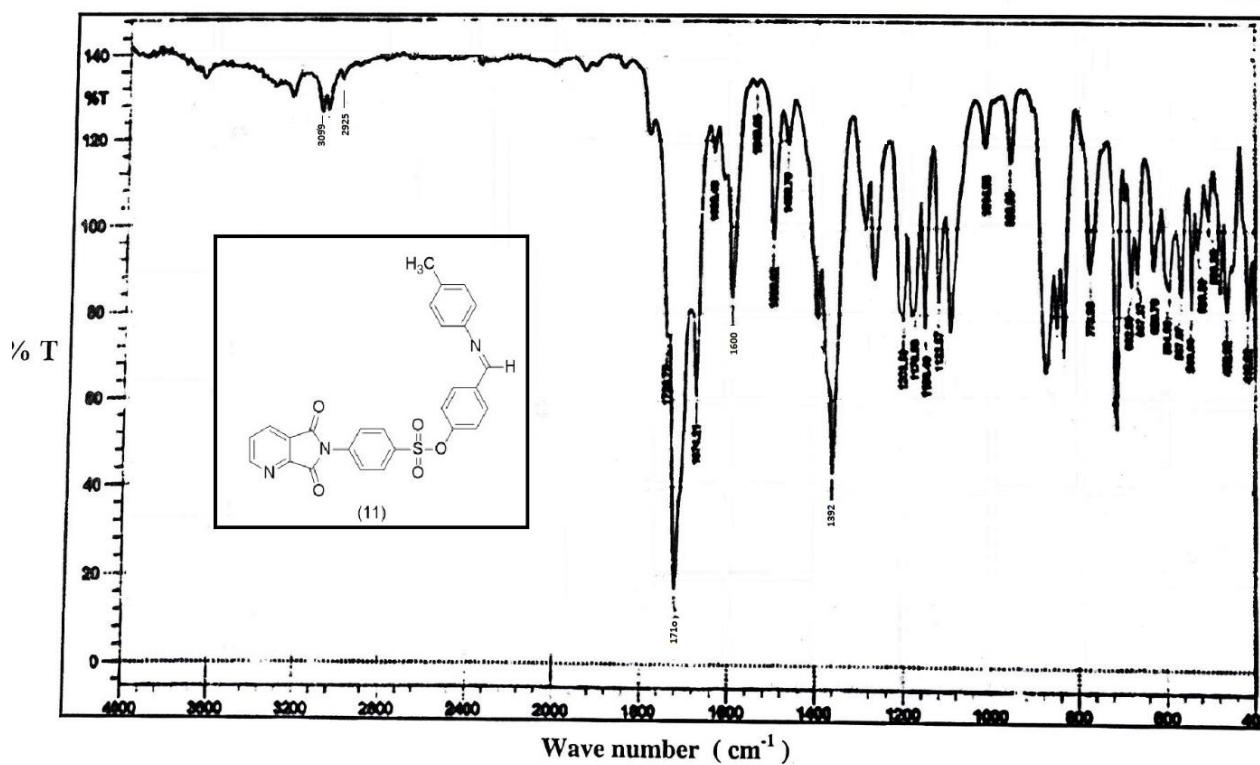
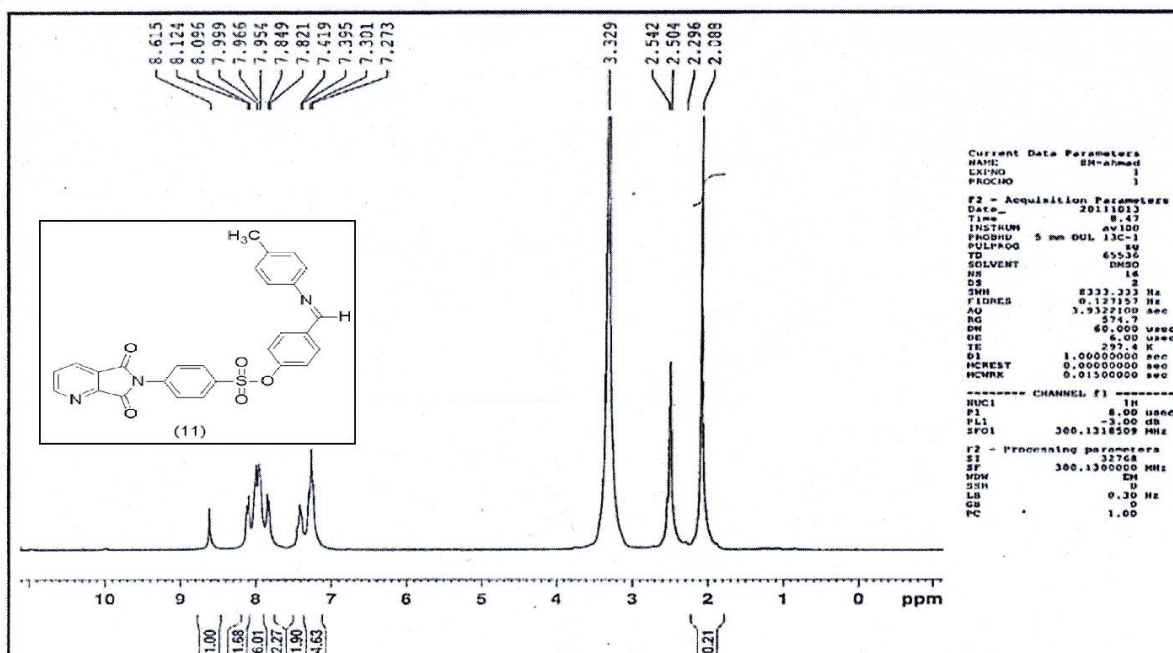


Figure S9. NMR and IR. Charts for compound 11.

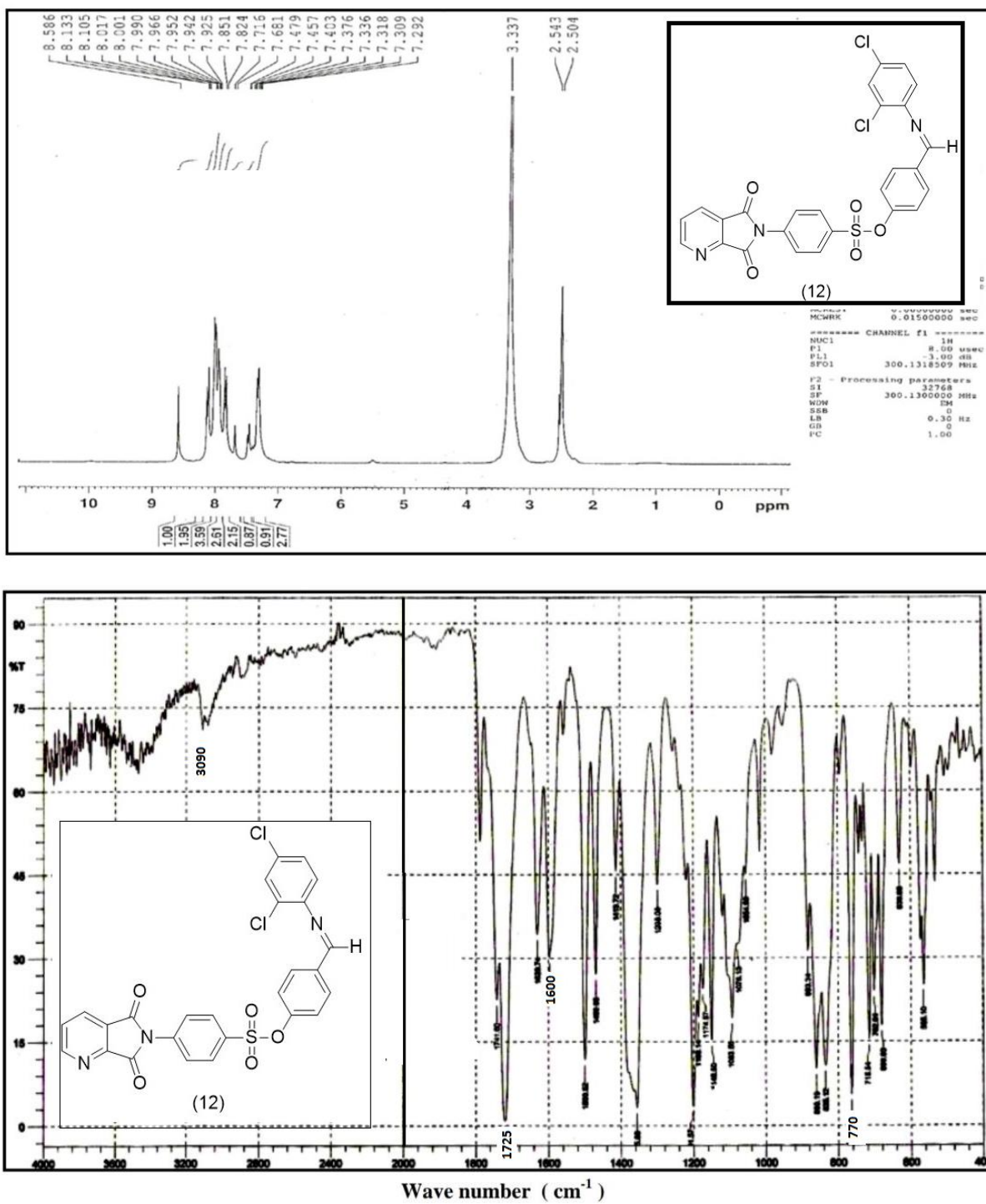


Figure S10. NMR and IR. Charts for compound 12.

Synthesis, structural and spectroscopic properties of Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) complexes with 2-((2-chlorobenzylidene)amino) acetohydrazone hydrate and their Antimicrobial and antioxidant activities

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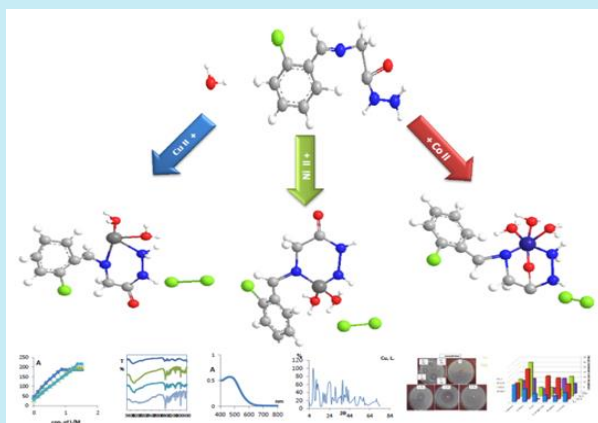
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ABSTRACT: The current study was purposed to prepare Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) complexes with the ligands derived from 2-chlorobenzaldehyde, glycine and hydrazine hydrate. The obtained compounds were characterized by different physicochemical studies such as elemental analysis, atomic absorption, molar ratio analysis, electronic absorption (UV-Vis spectroscopy), magnetic properties, FTIR spectroscopy, ¹H-NMR, ¹³C-NMR, conductance measurements and XRD. Antimicrobial and antioxidant activities were also calculated. The antibacterial activity was evaluated by the diffusion method against two Gram-positive and two Gram-negative bacteria, while antifungal activity was assessed against two fungal strains by using the agar method. The ligand with Schiff base and hydrazide groups and its complexes showed better biological activity. The results showed that the most metal complexes have much higher antibacterial and antifungal activity compared to the parent ligand. The antioxidant activity of 3.7453 mg of the ligand exhibited excellent activity as the activity of 1 mg of ascorbic acid which is used as a standard antioxidant.



1. Introduction

1.1 Schiff bases and hydrazides

Schiff bases are usually prepared by the condensation of a carbonyl compound with a primary amine (Malakyan *et al.*, 2016). Imine or azomethine groups are present in various natural, natural-derived and nonnatural compounds (Safoura, 2014). They are used in many fields such as biological activities, analytical chemistry, corrosion inhibitors, fungicidal, agrochemical, electrical conductivity, magnetism, ion exchange, nonlinear optics, catalysis (Emriye, 2016), crystal engineering (Al Zoubi, 2013), and medical substrates (Savalia *et al.*, 2013). Hydrazides include C(=O)NHNH₂ group, and were produced as far back as 1895 by Kurzius (Majumdar *et al.*, 2014). Hydrazides have been used widely in medicine, catalysis, and analytical chemistry (Salawu *et al.*, 2018), and are highly useful starting materials and intermediates in the synthesis of heterocyclic intermediates in the synthesis of heterocyclic molecules. They have been investigated due to their antitumor and biocidal activity, also they have been used widely as antituberculosis compounds because of their ability to form metal chelates (Mathew *et al.*, 2006). A large number of different Schiff base ligands have been used for excellent selectivity, sensitivity, and stability for specific metal ions such as Ag(II), Al(III), Co(II), Cu(II), Gd(III), Hg(II), Ni(II), Pb(II), Y(III), and Zn(II) (Ashraf *et al.*, 2011).

The aim of the present work is to synthesize new compounds containing derivatives of ligands via Schiff base with hydrazide which is derived from 2-chlorobenzaldehyde, glycine and hydrazine hydrate which reacted with Co, Ni and Cu ions to form new complexes.

2. Experimental

2.1 Reagents and solutions

All chemicals used are commercially available from BDH.

2.2 Instrumentation

The melting points were determined in glass capillary tubes in degrees Celsius. Molar conductance in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) (10⁻³ mol L⁻¹ solution at 25 °C) and molar ratio were measured on Jenway conductivity meter model 4510. The ligand and its complexes were characterized by comparison of spectroscopic data,

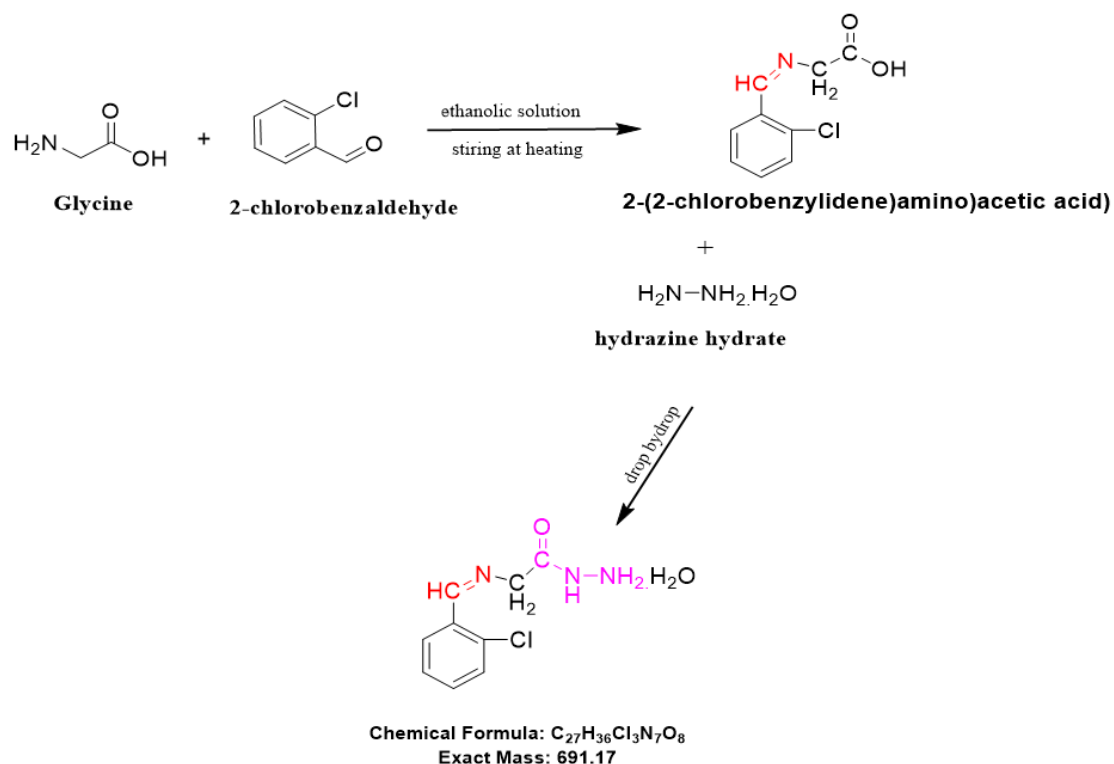
infrared (IR) spectra of the ligand and metal complexes were measured using FT/IR – 140, Jasco, Japan in KBr pellets. ¹H and ¹³C nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were recorded in a Varian FT – 300 MHz spectrometer in d₆-DMSO solvent using tetramethylsilane as internal standard. Ultraviolet-visible (UV-Vis) spectra and antioxidant activity measurements (by ferric-bipyridine method) (Specord 200, Analytik Jena, Germany) using DMSO and methanol as the reference and solvent, respectively. The magnetic susceptibilities of the complexes were measured at room temperature using Gouy's method by a magnetic susceptibility balance from Johnson Metthey and Sherwood model. Carbon, hydrogen, and nitrogen were estimated by Vario ELFab. Nr. 11042023. The X-ray powder diffraction patterns of the ligand and the solid complexes were obtained using XD-2 (Shimadzu ED-720), X-ray powder diffractometer at a voltage of 35 KV and current of 20 mA using CuK α radiation generator in the range 5° < 2 θ < 70° with a 1 min⁻¹ scanning rate and a wavelength of 0.154056 nm. Microbiological analysis was carried out using the filter paper disc method.

2.3 Synthesis of Schiff base hydrazide ((2-chlorobenzylidene)amino)acetohydrazide hydrate = L

The solid ligand was prepared in 1:1:1 molar ratio as shown in Fig. 1 by adding dropwise of an ethanolic solution of glycine (0.01 mol) to an ethanolic solution of the aldehyde (0.01 mol) with stirring. The mixture was refluxed for 3 h with constant stirring and heating (Gao, 2013) until light brown solution of the Schiff base is formed. Then, addition of hydrazine hydrate drop by drop with constant stirring to the hot solution of the first part of the Schiff base until light brown precipitate is formed. The resulting precipitate was filtered off and washed with ethanol until the solution become clear then was left to dry.

2.4 Synthesis of the complexes

Generally, all the solid complexes were prepared as shown in Fig. 2 by adding dropwise of a methanolic solution of the hydrated metal chlorides (0.008 mol) to a methanolic solution of the ligand (Schiff base hydrazide 0.008 mol) with stirring. The mixture of each was refluxed for 4 to 6 h with constant stirring until colored precipitates are formed. All the materials solutions were in 1:1 molar ratio. The resulting precipitates were filtered off and washed with methanol even become a clear solution, then left them to dry.



2-(2-chlorobenzylidene)amino)acetohydrazide hydrate) = Ligand= L

Figure 1. The schematic diagram of preparation of the ligand

Source: Elaborated by the authors using method from Gao (2013).

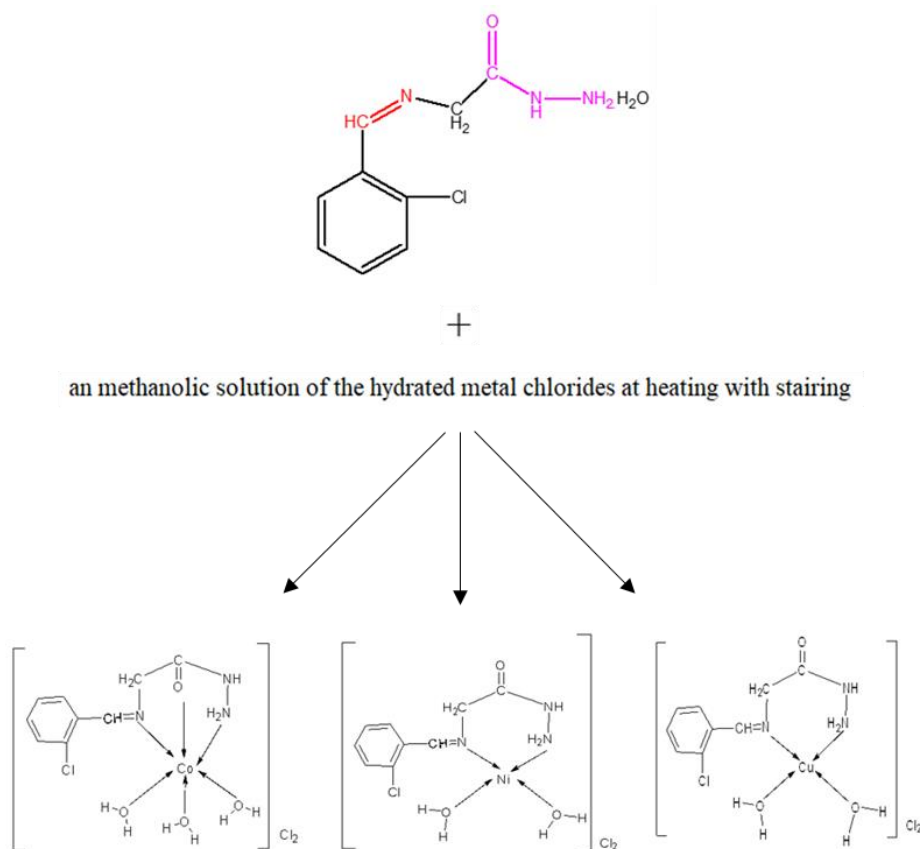


Figure 2. The schematic diagram of the synthesis method of the complexes.

3. Results and discussion

All the compounds are colored solids and insoluble in common organic solvents except DMSO (Table 1).

Molar conductance values of these compounds were in the range of 178–205 S cm² mol⁻¹, indicating their electrolytic nature (G. Mohamed *et al.*, 2006) as recorded in Table 2.

Table 1. Some physical properties of the ligand and its complexes.

Complex Proposed Formula	L (C ₉ H ₁₂ N ₃ O ₂ Cl)	[Co(L)(H ₂ O) ₃]Cl ₂ [Co(C ₉ H ₁₆ N ₃ O ₄ Cl)]Cl ₂	[Ni(L)(H ₂ O) ₂]Cl ₂ [Ni(C ₉ H ₁₄ N ₃ O ₃ Cl)]Cl ₂	[Cu(L)(H ₂ O) ₂]Cl ₂ [Cu(C ₉ H ₁₄ N ₃ O ₃ Cl)]Cl ₂
Color	Light brown	Purple	Green	Dark green
Melting point (°C)	142	160	285	295
Yield (%)	96.85	69.87	68.81	82.36
Solubility	dimethyl sulfoxide	soluble	soluble	soluble
	dimethylformamide	soluble	soluble	partially soluble
	diethyl ether	partially soluble	insoluble	insoluble
	benzene	soluble	insoluble	insoluble
	acetone	partially soluble	insoluble	insoluble
	trichloromethane	soluble	insoluble	insoluble
	tetrachloromethane	soluble	insoluble	insoluble
	hexane	soluble	insoluble	insoluble
	methanol	soluble	soluble	soluble
	ethanol	insoluble	soluble	partially soluble
H ₂ O	insoluble	soluble	soluble	soluble

Table 2. Molecular weight, elemental analysis and molar conductance of the ligand and its complexes.

	Complex proposed formula	L	[Co(L)(H ₂ O) ₃]Cl ₂	[Ni(L)(H ₂ O) ₂]Cl ₂	[Cu(L)(H ₂ O) ₂]Cl ₂
Molecular weight	calc.	229.66	395.53	377.28	382.13
	found	229.69	395.56	377.29	382.14
%C	calc.	47.07	27.33	28.65	28.29
	found	47.07	27.33	28.65	28.29
%H	calc.	5.27	4.08	3.74	3.69
	found	5.28	4.09	3.74	3.70
%N	calc.	18.30	10.62	11.14	11
	found	18.29	10.62	11.14	11.02
%M	calc.	-	14.90	15.56	16.63
	found	-	14.90	15.56	16.64
%Cl	calc.	15.43	26.89	28.19	27.83
	found	15.43	26.90	28.20	27.84
Molar Conductance (cm ² mol ⁻¹ (Ω ⁻¹))	-	-	182	205	178

3.1 Molar ratio by conductivity measurements

Through the conductivity measurements of the ligand with the divalent metals Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) in order to calculate the molar ratio between the ligand and these metals, the following was found:

1. The resulting values were high, indicating that these complexes have a conductive nature (Tulu and Yimer, 2018). This was also confirmed using silver nitrate;
2. The ratio between these metals and chloride ion was 1:2 (G. Mohamed *et al.*, 2006), where the resulting values were located between 186.7–115.9 S cm² mol⁻¹;
3. Through conductivity measurements for different concentrations of these complexes, conductivity readings were confirmed at a fixed molar value, which represents 1:1 between the ligand and these metals (Ghara *et al.*, 2017) as show in Fig. 3.

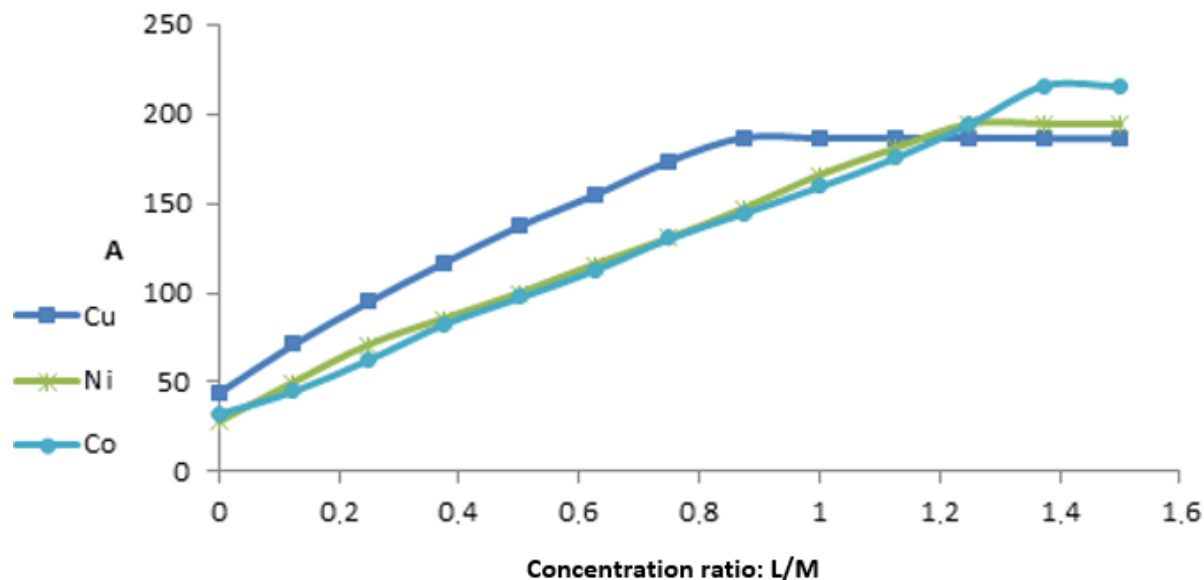


Figure 3. Curve of the mole ratio for the ligand and the metals.

3.2 IR spectra of the ligand and its complexes

Comparing the IR spectral data of the ligand and its complexes (Table 3 and Fig. 4) confirmed the complexation through the azomethine group $\nu_{C=N}$. The band at 1663 cm^{-1} assigned to $\nu_{C=N}$ in the free ligand was shifted to lower wave number in the complexes, indicating the participation of the azomethine nitrogen in coordination (Jamil *et al.*, 2022; E. Mohamed *et al.*, 2014). The IR spectra of the Co(II) complex showed a band at 1654 cm^{-1} which is characteristic of (C=O) group. This band is indicating coordination of this group through oxygen atom (Al-Salami *et al.*, 2017). The band at 3106 cm^{-1} can be assigned to vibration of the NH_2 group in the ligand, which shifted to higher frequencies in the complexes, which identifies coordination of the amine nitrogen (Demirbaş *et al.*, 2002).

The ligand and its complexes show additional broad bands in the range $3373\text{--}3436\text{ cm}^{-1}$ due to the OH stretching of the water molecule, which is confirmed by the elemental analysis and gravimetric studies (Al-Salami *et al.*, 2017; Jamil *et al.*, 2022). Low intensity bands observed in far-IR region in the range $528\text{--}591\text{ cm}^{-1}$ and $436\text{--}439\text{ cm}^{-1}$ which may probably be due to the formation M-O and M-N bonds, respectively (Alomari, 2010; Hossain *et al.*, 2019).

Other absorption bands of $\nu(\text{N-N})$ (Ali *et al.*, 1997; Dzulkipli *et al.*, 2012), $\nu(\text{NH})$ (Ali *et al.*, 1997; Ejelonu *et al.*, 2018), $\nu(\text{Ar-Cl})$ (Emriye, 2016; Kapadnis *et al.*, 2016), $\nu(\text{CH}_2)$, $\nu(\text{C=C})$, (E. Mohamed *et al.*, 2014), $\nu(\text{CH})$ (Al-Salami *et al.*, 2017; E. Mohamed *et al.*, 2014), $\nu(\text{NH}_2)$ (Demirbaş *et al.*, 2002) are given in Table 3.

Table 3. Significant IR spectral bands (cm^{-1}) of the ligand and its complexes.

Compounds	L	[Co(L)(H ₂ O) ₃]Cl ₂	[Ni(L)(H ₂ O) ₂]Cl ₂	[Cu(L)(H ₂ O) ₂]Cl ₂
C=N	1663 ^w	1616 ^s	1616 ^s	1617 ^m
C=O	1685 ^w	1654 ^w	1682 ^w	1685 ^s
C=C	1588 ^m	1588 ^m	1586 ^m	1580 ^w
C-N	1390 ^m	1412 ^s	1411 ^s	1411 ^m
NH	3068 ^{w,br}	3068 ^{w,br}	3069 ^{w,br}	3067 ^w
NH ₂	3106 ^{br}	3347 ^s	3180 ^w	3250 ^w
=C-H	3033 ^w	3031 ^w	3032 ^w	3030 ^{w,br}
N-N	1047 ^s	1046 ^s	1045 ^s	1051 ^m
CH ₂	1465 ^s	1464 ^m	1464 ^m	1458 ^m
Ph-Cl	869 ^m	868 ^w	863 ^m	870 ^w
OH	3432 ^{br}	3408 ^{br}	3373 ^{br}	3432 ^{br}
M-N	-	591 ^m	528 ^m	580 ^w
M-O	-	436 ^m	435 ^m	439 ^w

w = weak, m = medium, s = strong, br = broad.

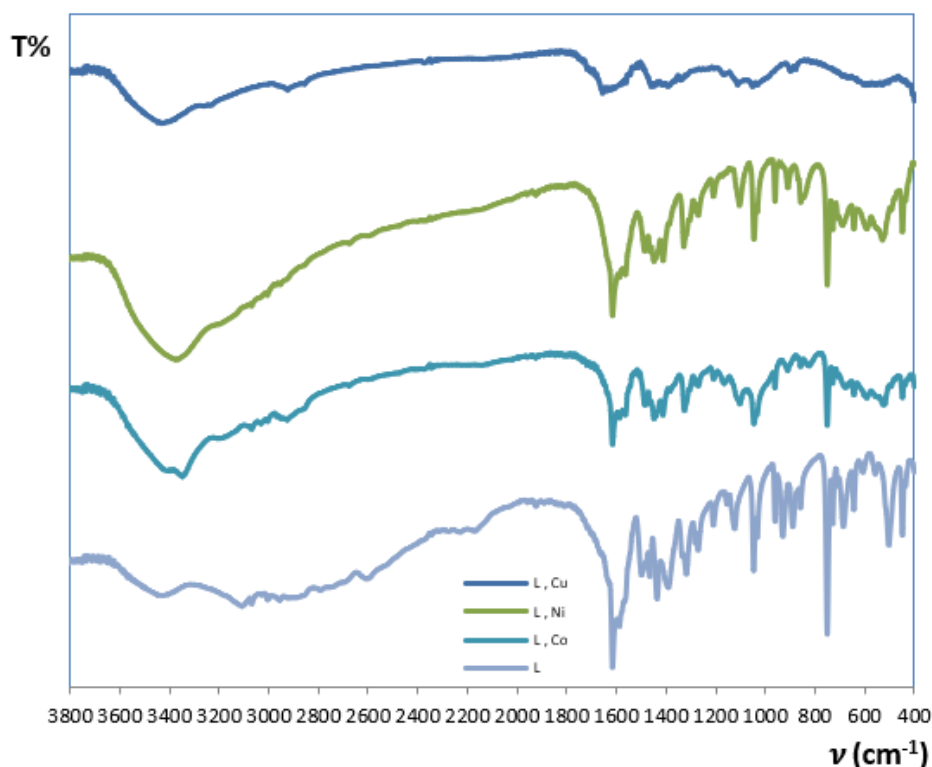


Figure 4. IR spectra of the ligand and its complexes.

3.3 NMR spectroscopy of the ligand

3.3.1 ^1H NMR

The resonance of protons has been assigned on the basis of their integration and multiplicity pattern. The ^1H NMR spectra of the ligand (Table 4 and Fig. 5) in DMSO exhibits signal at 8.55 ppm attributed to CH=N-proton (Al-Salami *et al.*, 2015). The signals within the 6.85 and 6.88 ppm are assigned to the NH and NH₂ respectively (Mathew *et al.*, 2006). Spectra of aromatic range was observed at 7.67–7.70 ppm (Sakhare *et al.*, 2015). The signals appeared at 2.50 and 3.20 ppm were indicated the protons of CH₂ (Al-Garawi *et al.*, 2012) and H₂O, respectively.

3.3.2 ^{13}C NMR

The ^{13}C NMR spectra provide further support for the structural characterization of the ligand (Table 4 and Fig. 6) ^{13}C NMR spectral data of the ligand has signal at 160.35 attributed to carbon of CH=N- (Neelofar *et al.*, 2017). The aromatic carbon signals are present in the range 115.82–130.08 ppm (Oğuzhan *et al.*, 2017). The ^{13}C NMR spectral data of the carbon amide and CH₂ group are present at 160.58 (Shneine *et al.*, 2017) and 40.00 ppm (Neelofar *et al.*, 2017), respectively. The structural formula of the ligand (Fig. 7).

Table 4. ^1H and ^{13}C NMR positions (ppm) of the ligand.

NMR Spectroscopy of the ligand			
^1H NMR		^{13}C NMR	
Site	Chemical Shift (ppm)	Site	Chemical Shift (ppm)
CH=N-	8.55	CH=N-	160.35
NH	6.85	A.R.	115.82-130.08
NH ₂	6.88	CH ₂	40.00
A.R.	7.67-7.70	C=O	160.58
CH ₂	2.50	-	-
H ₂ O	3.20	-	-

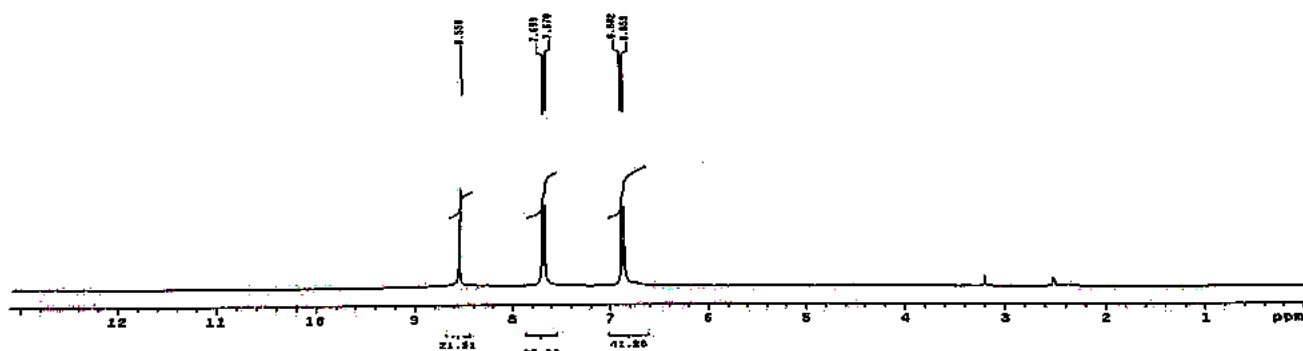


Figure 5. ^1H NMR spectrum of the ligand.

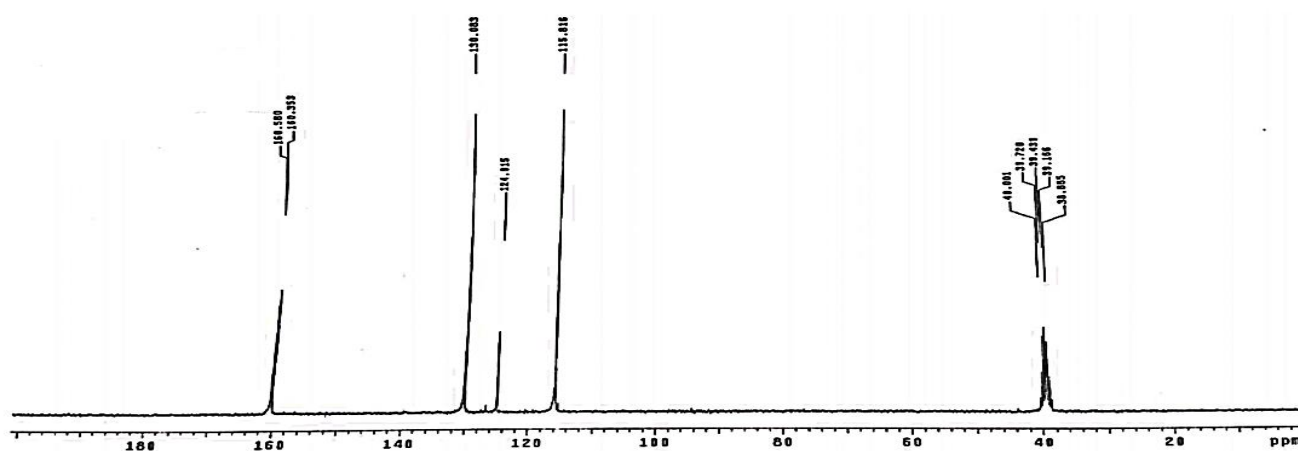
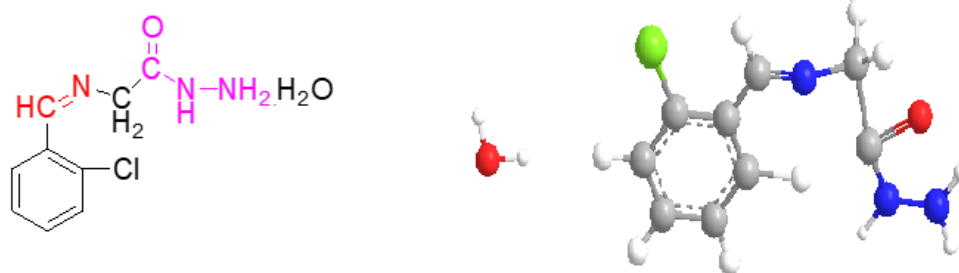


Figure 6. ^{13}C NMR spectrum of the ligand.



2-((2-chlorobenzylidene)amino)acetohydrazide hydrate = Ligand = L

Figure 7. The structural formula of the ligand.

3.4 Magnetic and electronic of the ligand and its complexes

The absorption spectrum of the ligand (Fig 11a) shows two absorption bands appearing at 45,454 and 33,333 cm^{-1} . The band appearing at low energy side at 33,333 cm^{-1} in the ligand is attributed to $n\text{-}\pi^*$ transitions of conjugation between the lone pair of electrons of p orbital of N-atom in C=N group and a conjugated π bond of aromatic rings (Hossain *et al.*, 2019). The band

appearing at higher energy 45,454 cm^{-1} arise from $\pi\text{-}\pi^*$ transition within the phenyl and $\pi\text{-}\pi^*$ transitions of the C=N group (Sarwar *et al.*, 2018).

The electronic spectrum of the Co(II) complex as shown in Figs. 8 and 11b and Table 5, octahedral is suggested. This is based on the appearance of 13,513 cm^{-1} in the spectra recorded in DMSO solution, which is attributed to the $^4T_{1g} \rightarrow ^4A_{2g} (v_2)$ transitions (Patel *et al.*, 2012; Yousef *et al.*, 2016), also Co(II) complex has magnetic moment of 4.8 Bohr's magneton,

BM, which lie in the range reported for octahedral geometry around the Co(II) ion (Sharma *et al.*, 1994; Tulu and Yimer, 2018). Moreover, the purple color of the complex is in good agreement with this reported for octahedral Co(II) complex (Tulu and Yimer, 2018).

The magnetic measurements indicates that Ni(II) complex is a diamagnetic (Tulu and Yimer, 2018) and the electronic spectra of this complex in DMSO solution (Fig. 11c and Table 5) showed two bands in 21,276 and 18,867 cm^{-1} attributed to $^1A_{1g} \rightarrow ^1A_{2g}$ and $^1A_{1g} \rightarrow B_{1g}$ transitions, respectively, for square planar Ni(II) complex (Fig. 9) and the green color of this complex is additional evidence for square planar structure (Al-Jiboury and Al-Nama, 2019).

The electronic spectrum (Fig. 11d) of Cu(II) complex show one band at 21,730 cm^{-1} , assigned to the transitions $^2B_{1g} \rightarrow ^2A_{1g}$, indicating square-planar geometry (Table 5 and Fig. 10) (Mahmood *et al.*, 2013). This geometry is further supported as the values of the magnetic moment obtained 1.87 B.M, which is lying in the range reported for a square-planar structure (Mahmood *et al.*, 2013; Mishra *et al.*, 2012). The green color of this complex is additional evidence for square planar structure (Mahmood *et al.*, 2013).

Also, the bands at 24,390, 22,222, and 24,691 cm^{-1} should be attributed to the charge transfer of Co(II) (Mahmood *et al.*, 2013), Ni(II) (G. Mohamed *et al.*, 2006) and Cu(II) complexes (Hossain *et al.*, 2019), respectively.

Table 5. Magnetic moment, electronic spectral data in DMSO solution for the ligand and its complexes.

Compounds		L	[Co(L)(H ₂ O) ₃]Cl ₂	[Ni(L)(H ₂ O) ₂]Cl ₂	[Cu(L)(H ₂ O) ₂]Cl ₂
μ_{eff} (B.M.)		-	2.6	-	1.87
UV bands (cm^{-1})	$\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$	45,454	-	-	-
	$n \rightarrow \pi^*$	33,333	-	-	-
Charge transfer bands (cm^{-1})		-	24,390	22,222	24,691
d-d transition bands (cm^{-1})		-	13,513	18,867, 21,276, 13,698	21,739
Supposed structure		-	Octahedral	Square planar	Square planar

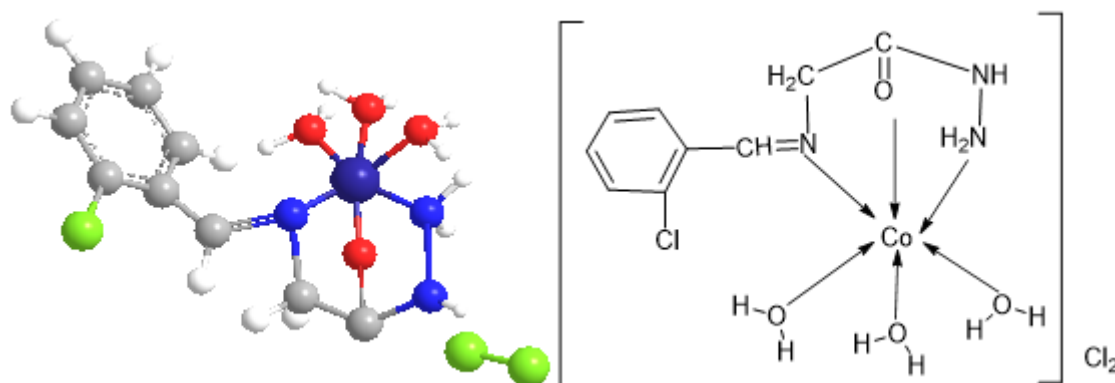


Figure 8. Complex containing the ligand with Co(II).

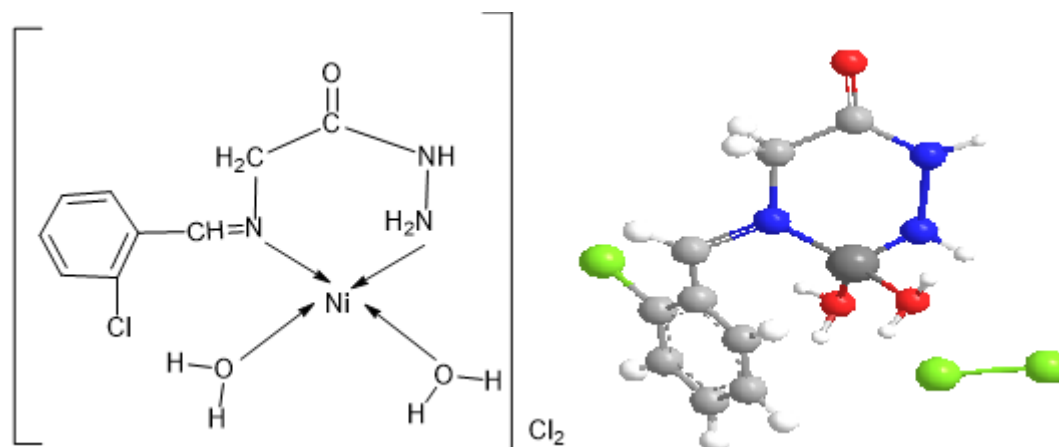


Figure 9. Complex of the ligand with Ni(II).

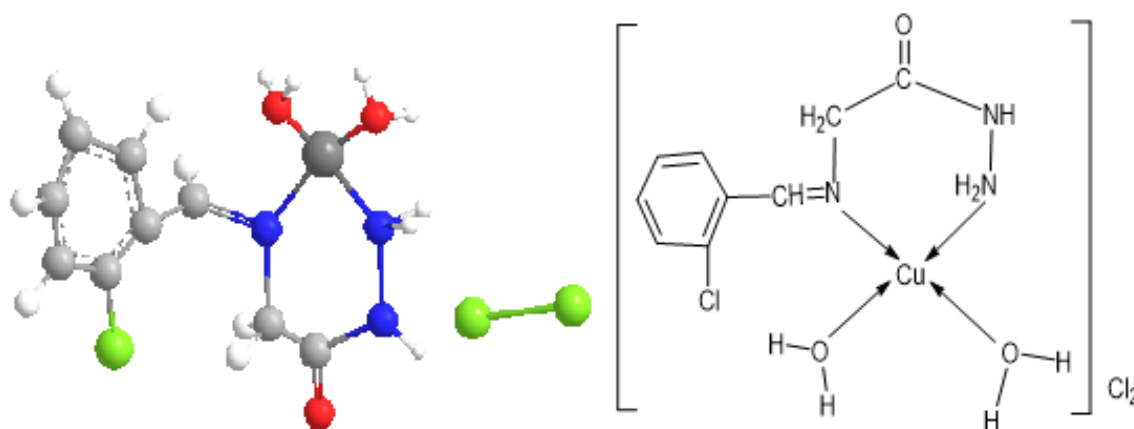


Figure 10. Complex of the ligand with Cu(II).

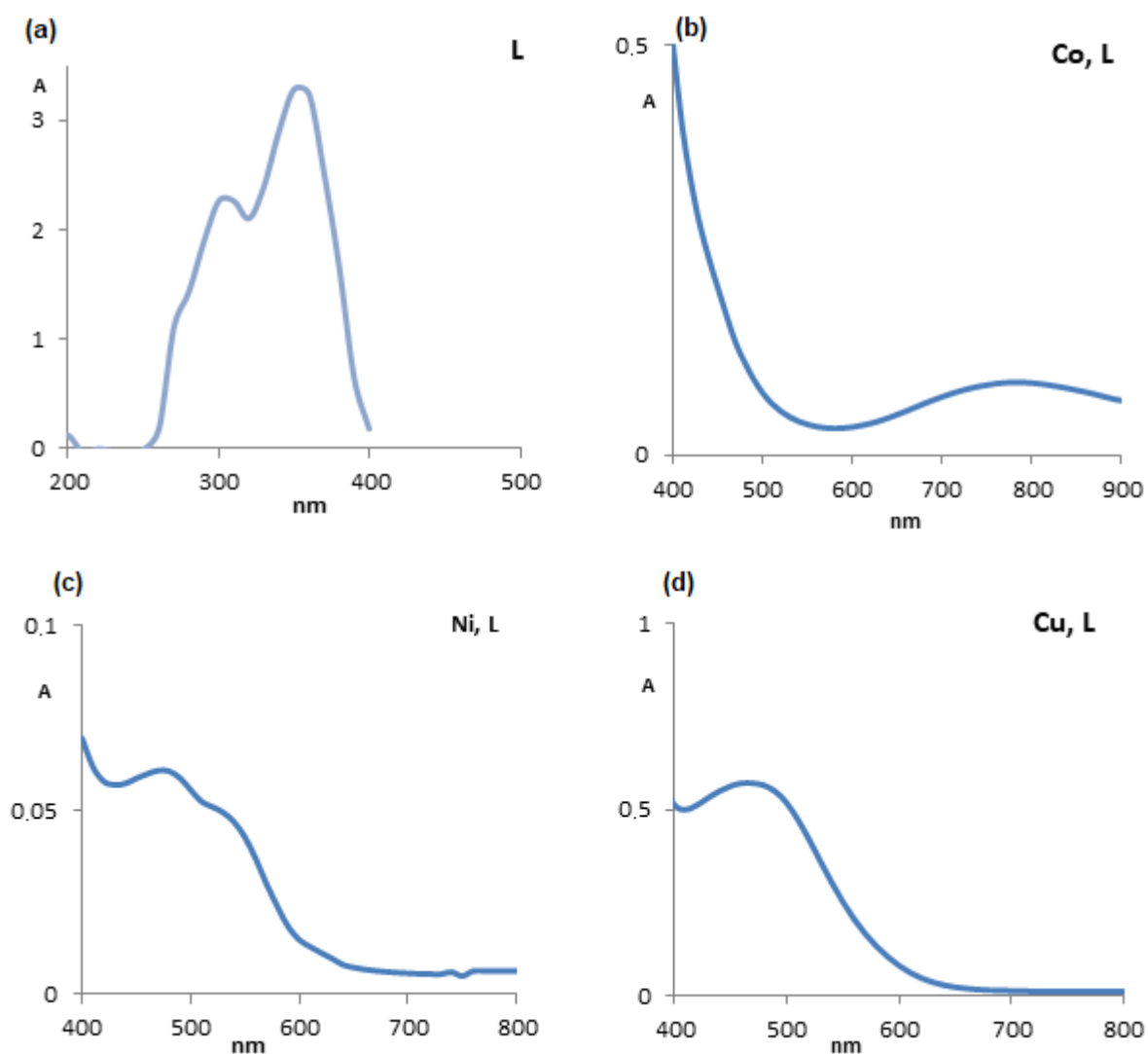


Figure 11. UV-visible electronic spectra of the ligand and its complexes in DMSO solution. (a) for the ligand; (b) for the Co complex; (c) for the Ni complex; (d) for the Cu complex.

3.5 Powder X-ray diffraction of the ligand and its complexes

The powder X-ray powder diffraction patterns for the free ligand and its complexes were carried out in order to obtain an idea about the lattice dynamics of the resulted complexes. X-ray of these compounds are recorded and shown in Figs. 12 and 13.

The values of particle size, strain and relative intensity (%) of compounds are compiled in Table 6. The crystallite size could be estimated from X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns by applying full width at half maximum (FWHM) of the characteristic peaks using Debye-Scherrer Eq. 1 (Al-Maydama *et al.*, 2018; Refat *et al.*, 2014a; b) and Williamson-Hall Eq. 2 (Abed *et al.*, 2019).

$$D = K\lambda/\beta \cos \theta \quad (1)$$

$$D = K\lambda/\text{intercept} \quad (2)$$

where K is Scherrer constant and equals 0.94, λ is the X-ray wavelength of Cu-K α radiation (0.15405 nm), β is FWHM, and θ is Bragg diffraction angle in radian. The particle size of these compounds is located within the nano scale range (12.59–35.32 nm).

The strain calculated by applying Williamson-Hall Eq. 2 (Abed *et al.*, 2019) which mean the slope as Eq. 3.

$$\text{Strain } (\varepsilon) = \beta \cos \theta / \sin \theta \quad (3)$$

It was shown through crystal strain from William's equation that the ligand, Co(II) and Cu(II) complexes have the property of crystal tensile, while the Ni(II) complex has the property of crystal compressive, which corresponds to the size of the crystals. It was found that the higher the compressive which negative values, the smaller the crystal size, while the higher the tensile with positive values, the higher the crystal size, and this is what was clarified in Table 6.

The percentage of crystallinity, $X_c(\%)$, was calculated on the basis of the integrated peak areas of the principal peaks (Al-Maydama *et al.*, 2018). The crystallinity of the complex is calculated relative to the crystallinity of the ligand as a ratio (Eq. 4).

$$X_c(\%) = \frac{A_{\text{complex}}}{A_{\text{ligand}}} \times 100 \quad (4)$$

where A_{complex} and A_{ligand} are the areas under the principal peaks of the complex and the ligand sample, respectively. The results of these calculations were that the crystalline percentage of the Ni(II) complex is high compared to the ligand, while it was low for the Co(II) and Cu(II) complexes when compared to the ligand.

Table 6. XRD spectral data of the highest value of intensity of the ligand and its complexes.

Compounds	Θ (Radian)	B(FWHM) (Radian)	$\beta \cos \theta$	$4 \sin \theta$	D(nm)	Scherr Mean D(nm)	W-H D(nm)	Strain (ε) *10 ⁻⁴	X%
L	0.1744	0.004660	0.004589	0.6939	31.55	26.66	31.48	11	100
	0.2047	0.006842	0.006699	0.8132	21.62				
	0.2381	0.005498	0.005343	0.9433	27.11				
	0.2656	0.005690	0.005490	10.501	26.38				
[Co(L)(H ₂ O) ₃]Cl ₂	0.1735	0.008116	0.007994	0.6905	18.12	21.87	20.40	0.2	80.66
	0.2000	0.004721	0.004636	0.7947	31.24				
	0.2311	0.009564	0.009310	0.9161	15.55				
	0.2663	0.006651	0.006415	10.528	22.57				
[Ni(L)(H ₂ O) ₂]Cl ₂	0.1737	0.008186	0.008062	0.6912	17.96	20.76	12.59	-49	130.79
	0.2068	0.006650	0.006508	0.8214	22.25				
	0.2323	0.008796	0.008560	0.9209	16.92				
	0.2665	0.005794	0.005590	10.535	25.91				
[Cu(L)(H ₂ O) ₂]Cl ₂	0.1744	0.00481	0.004727	0.6939	30.64	28	35.32	16	75.99
	0.2133	0.005515	0.005390	0.8467	26.87				
	0.2372	0.007871	0.007651	0.9399	18.93				
	0.2554	0.004206	0.004061	10.103	35.59				

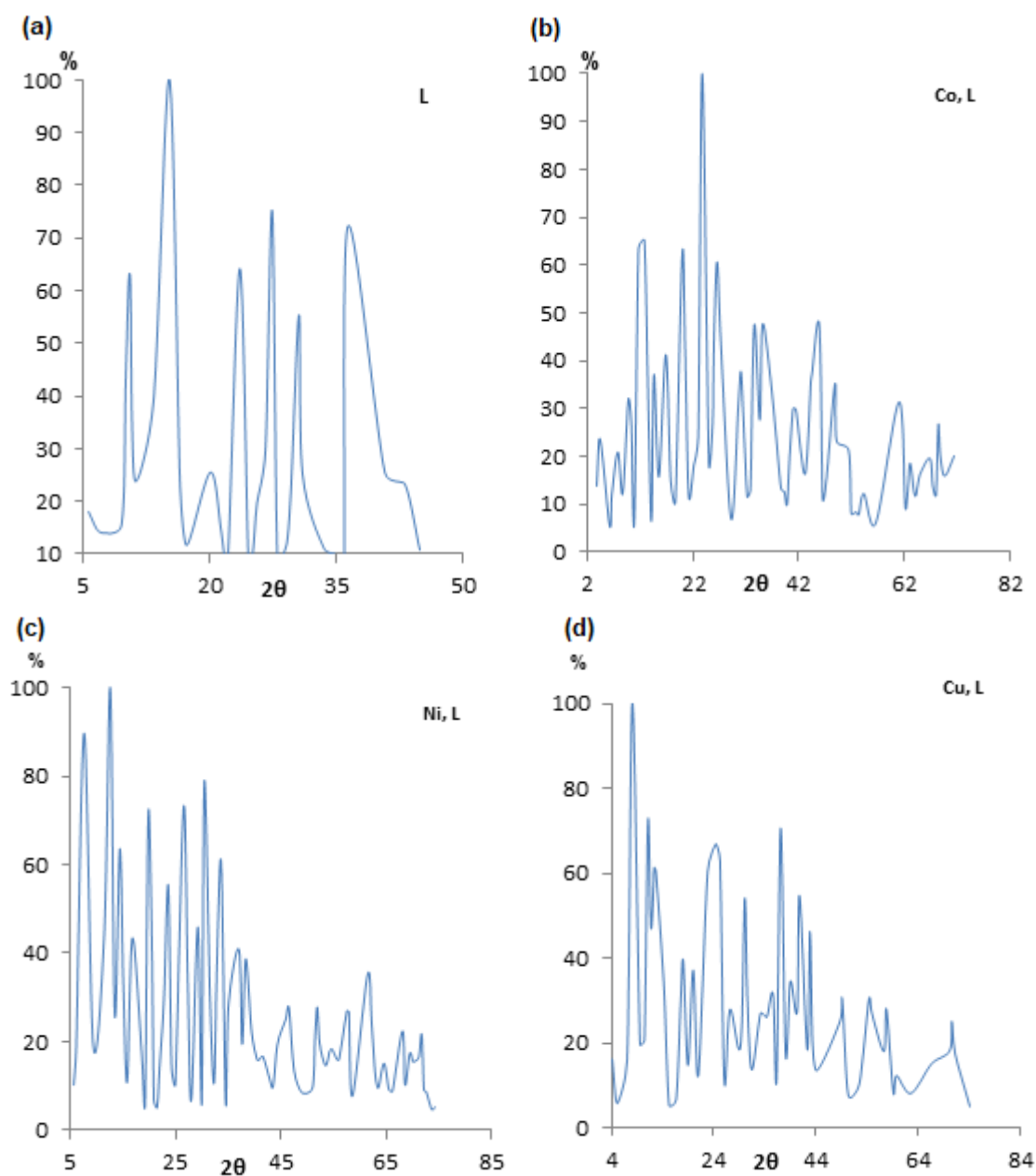


Figure 12. XRD patterns of the ligand and its complexes. (a) for the ligand; (b) for the Co complex; (c) for the Ni complex; (d) for the Cu complex.

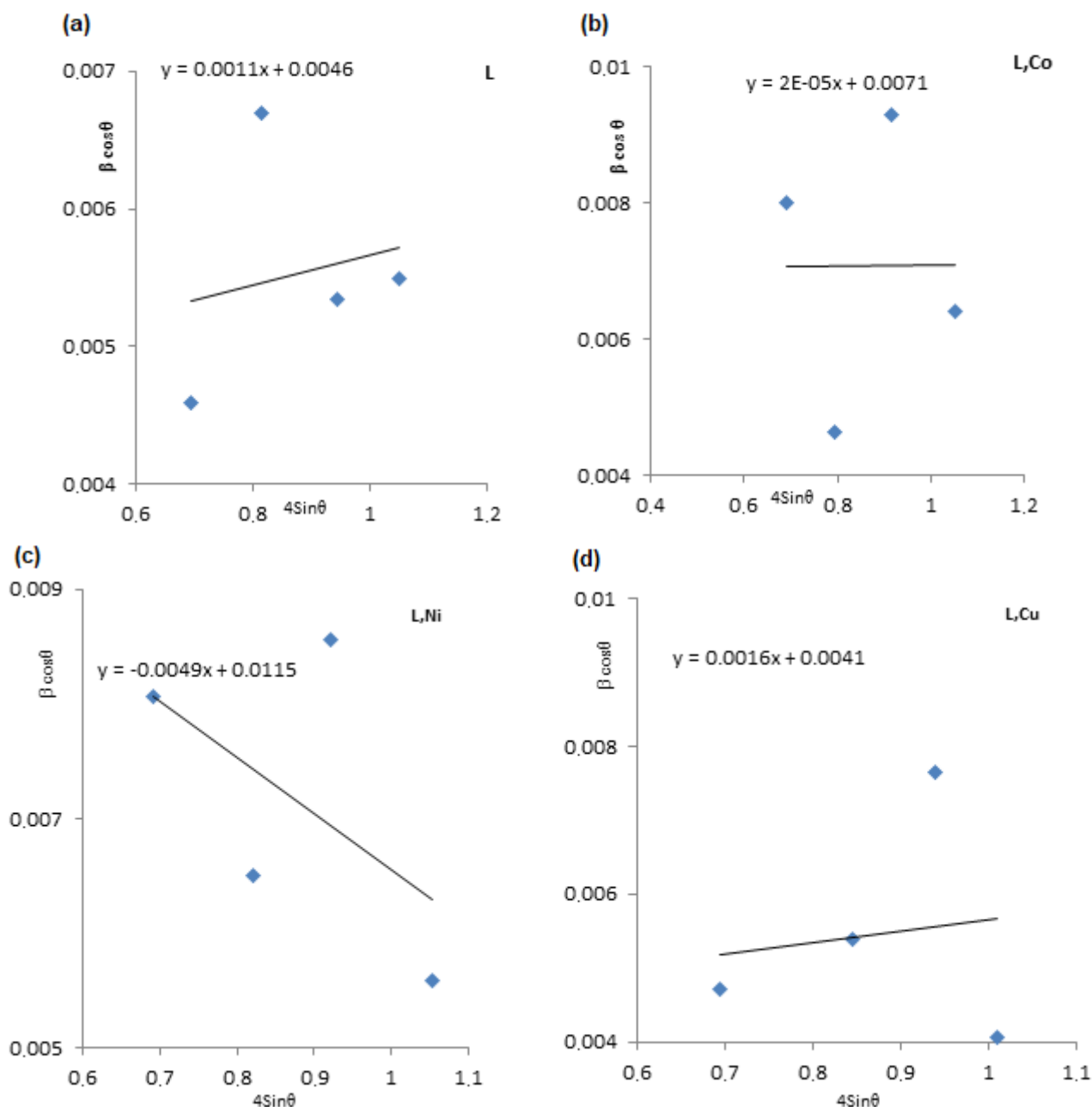


Figure 13. Particle size and strain by W-H of the ligand and its complexes. (a) for the ligand; (b) for the Co complex; (c) for the Ni complex; (d) for the Cu complex.

3.6 The ligand as antioxidant

The 2((2-chlorobenzylidene)amino)acetohydrazide hydrate=(L) has been synthesized, and the antioxidant properties were studied using ferric-bipyridine reducing capacity of total antioxidants method (Naji *et al.*, 2020). As it was found that this ligand can be used as an antioxidant compared to ascorbic acid, which was used as a standard material in this analysis, but with less effectiveness than ascorbic acid, which gave 3.7453 mg

compared with ascorbic acid, which was 1 mg, while the standard deviation of this ligand was $\pm 9.67 \times 10^{-8}$.

3.7 Antimicrobial of the ligand and its complexes

This analysis of the ligand and its mineral complexes clearly demonstrated that they have antibacterial and antifungal activity (Table 7, Figs. 14 and 15).

Comparison of the biological evaluation of the ligand and its complexes with standards of gentamicin (antibacterial agent), nystatin, miconazole, itraconazole

and metronidazole (antifungal agents). The results of the highest-to-lowest-impact items can be summarized as follows:

a. *Staphylococcus aureus*

Ni > Co > Cu > ligand

b. *Bacillus subtilis*

Co > Cu > Ni > ligand

c. *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*

Co > Ni > ligand > Cu

d. *Escherichia coli*

Ni > ligand > Cu

e. *Aspergillus flavus*

Ni > Co > Cu > ligand

f. *Candida albicans*

ligand = Co > Ni > Cu

From these results, we can summarize that:

1. Generally, the active property of the free ligand and complexes against the used strains is enhanced;
2. The growth of *S. aureus* and *A. flavus* are inhibited by complex of Ni(II), Co(II), Cu(II), and the ligand, respectively;
3. *Bacillus subtilis* is inhibited by complex of Co(II) more than complexes of Cu(II), Ni(II) and the

ligand. The growth of *E. coli* is just inhibited by complex of Ni(II), the ligand and complex of Cu(II) compared to the complex of Co(II) there is no inhibition;

4. The Inhibition zone of Co(II) complex toward *P. aeruginosa* was more than that of Ni(II), Cu(II) complexes and the ligand.
5. The ligand and complex of Co(II) have the same worthy effect against *C. albicans*, which are more than complexes of Ni(II) and Cu(II).

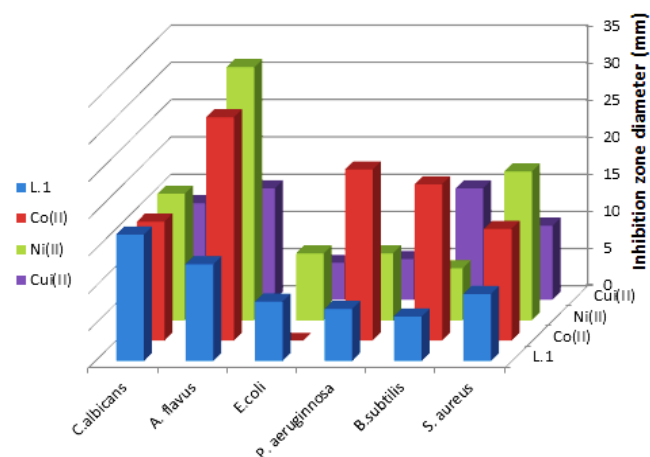


Figure 14. Diagram effect of the ligand and its complexes on the growth of bacteria and fungi (zone of inhibition in mm).

Table 7. Effect of the ligand and its complexes on the growth of bacteria and fungi (zone of inhibition in mm).

Compound (1000 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$)		Inhibition zone diameter (mm)						
		Bacteria				fungi		
		Gram positive		Gram negative		<i>Aspergillus flavus</i>	<i>Candida albicans</i>	
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	<i>Escherichia coli</i>					
Control DMSO		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Standard	Antibacterial agent Gentamicin 120 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$	23	22	25	23	-	-	
	Antifungal agent	Nystatin 100 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$	-	-	-	-	25	21
		Miconazole 50 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$	-	-	-	-	8	22
		Itraconazole 30 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$	-	-	-	-	18	20
		Metronidazole 5 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$	-	-	-	-	10	17
L		9	6	7	8	13	17	
[Co(L)(H ₂ O) ₃]Cl ₂		15	21	23	0	30	16	
[Ni(L)(H ₂ O) ₂]Cl ₂		20	7	9	9	34	17	
[Cu(L)(H ₂ O) ₂]Cl ₂		10	15	5.5	5	15	13	

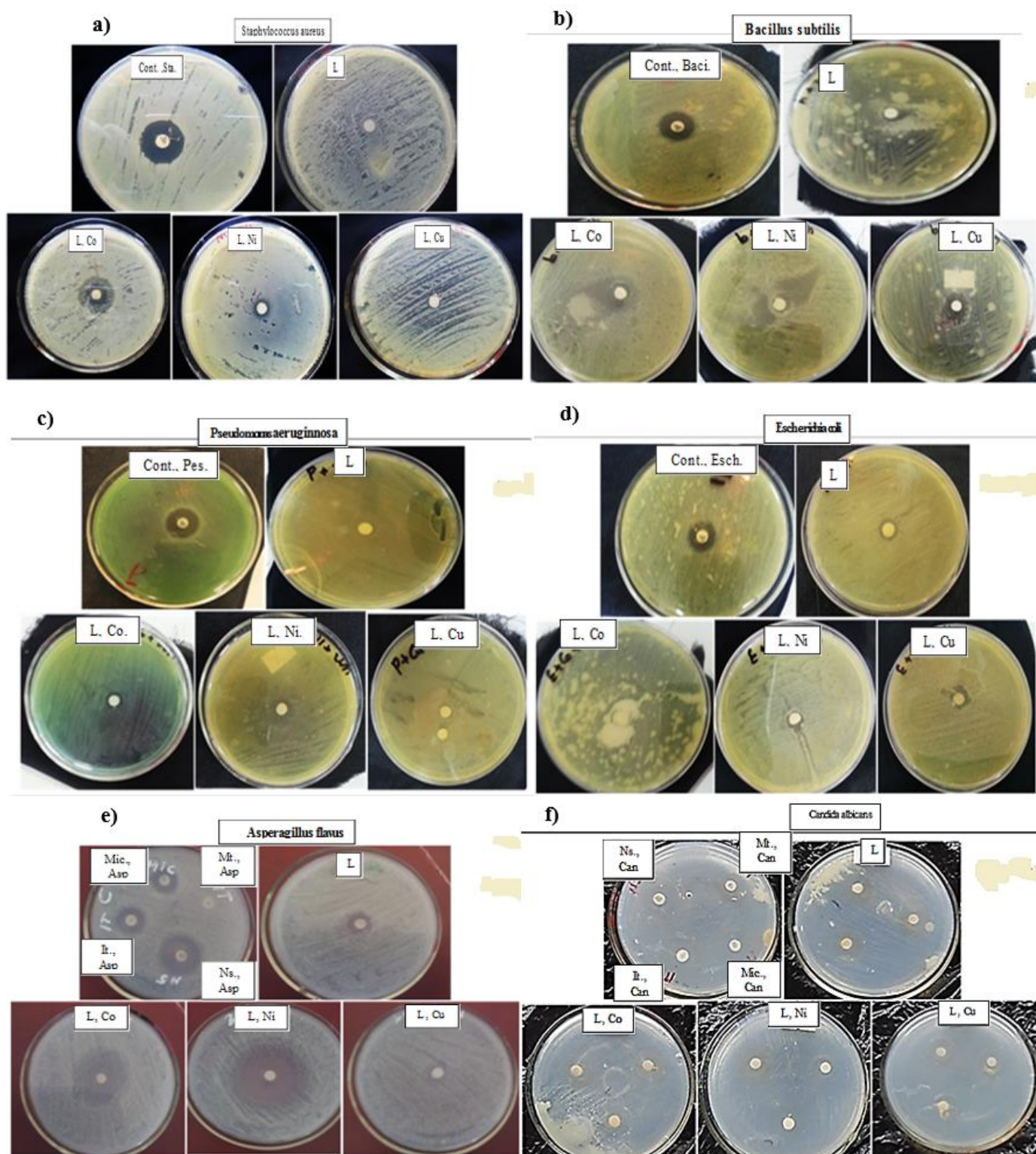


Figure 15. Biological activity of the ligand and its complexes . against (a) *Staphylococcus aureus*; (b) *Bacillus subtilis* (c) *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*; (d) *Escherichia coli*; (e) *Bacillus subtilis*; (f) *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

According to the concept of cell permeability, since the lipid membrane that surrounds the cell favors the passage of lipid-soluble substances since lipid solubility is an important factor, so the polarity of the metal ion is

greatly reduced due to the overlap of the orbitals of the metal ion with the bound. It increases the delocalization of electrons on the chelated rings and enhances the lipophilicity of the complexes, which facilitates the

penetration of the lipid membranes of microorganisms and facilitates the closure of the metal bonding sites with enzymes.

These compounds deactivate various cellular enzymes, which play a vital role in the various metabolic pathways of these organisms. It has also been suggested that the final action of the toxin is denaturation of one or more cell proteins, impairing normal cellular processes (Jamil *et al.*, 2022; Omer and Al-Daher, 2019; Refat *et al.*, 2015; Reiss *et al.*, 2021).

4. Conclusions

The Schiff base hydrazide ligand derived from the condensation of 2-chlorobenzaldehyde, glycine and hydrazine hydrate have been successfully synthesized. These ligand were complexed with using Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) ions. Coordination of amine nitrogen (-NH₂) and azomethine nitrogen (-C=N-) with Ni(II) and Cu(II) in addition to oxygen of carbonyl group with Co(II). These compounds have been indicated by various studies; hence, it has been liable for imparting the stability to the complexes. The structures of these compounds were characterized by elemental, ¹HNMR, ¹³CNMR, FTIR spectra, molar ratio, XRD diffraction, UV-Vis spectra, and magnetic studies. The coordination of the ligand with Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) ions showed molar ratio of 1:1. The complexes of Co(II) and Cu(II) presented square planar geometries, while Ni(II) presented octahedral geometry. Antioxidant study for the ligand provided its activity. The ligand with Schiff base and hydrazide groups and its complexes showed better biological activity. The results showed that the metal complexes have much higher antibacterial and antifungal activity compare to the parent ligand. It was found that the Co(II) complex was more effective than other metal complexes used against all types of bacteria and it was more effective against *P. aeruginosa* with diameter inhibition zone of 23 mm, while Ni(II) complex was more effective than other complexes used against two types of fungi and it was more effective against *A. flavus* than *C. albicans*.

Authors' contribution

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Formal Analysis: Al-Azab, F. M.; Jamil, Y. M.; Al-Gaadbi, A. A.

Funding acquisition: Not applicable.

Investigation: Al-Azab, F. M.; Jamil, Y. M.; Al-Gaadbi, A. A.

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Project administration: Jamil, Y. M.; Al-Azab, F. M.

Resources: Al-Azab, F. M.; Jamil, Y. M.; Al-Gaadbi, A. A.

Software: Jamil Y. M.; Al-Gaadbi A. A.

Supervision: Al-Azab, F. M.; Jamil, Y. M.

Validation: Al-Azab, F. M.

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Writing – original draft: Al-Gaadbi, A. A.

Writing – review & editing: Jamil, Y. M.

Data availability statement

All data sets were generated or analyzed in the current study.

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