# Physico-chemical and Spectral Studies of Nickel(II) Complexes of 2-Substituted Benzaldehyde Semicarbazones and Thiosemicarbazones

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Complexes of divalent nickel have been synthesized by refluxing the metal salts with the ligands, 2-chlorobenzaldehyde semicarbazone/thiosemicarbazone and 2-ethoxy benzaldehyde semicarbazone/thiosemicarbazone. All these complexes are characterized on the basis of elemental analysis, magnetic susceptibility measurements, infrared spectral and electronic spectral studies. Infrared spectral data of the complexes revealed bidentate complexating nature of the ligands coordinating through oxygen atom of carbonyl group/sulphur atom of thioketo form and azomethine nitrogen atom. High spin configuration has been indicated by magnetic moment measurements of these complexes. For all the metal complexes the probable structures are also reported here.

Key Words: Nickel(II), Complexes, Semicarbazones, Thiosemicarbazones.

#### INTRODUCTION

The chemistry of the transition metal complexes of semicarbazones and thiosemicarbazones has been receiving considerable attention because of their pharmacological properties. It was found that the drugs when administered as metal chelates increase their activity<sup>1, 2</sup> and a number of metal chelates were found to inhibit tumour growth<sup>3</sup>. The wide range of medicinal properties<sup>4</sup> of semicarbazones, thiosemicarbazones<sup>5</sup> and their metal complexes are emerging as a new class of experimental studies. Besides antitumour activity, these compounds have also been shown to possess antimalarial and antitubecular<sup>6,7</sup> activities. Complexes of transition metals and thiosemicarbazone ligands exhibit a broad spectrum of biological properties which include antimalarial<sup>8</sup>, antiviral<sup>9</sup> and antineoplastic activities 10. In recent years, thiosemicarbazones have been used for the analytical determination of metals<sup>11</sup>. Nickel has been firmly established<sup>12</sup> as an essential nutritional requirement for any prokaryotic and eukaryotic organism. The study of nickel(II) complexes is due to the variety of stereochemical configurations attained and attending complications of interconversion of different structures. In the present study the complexes of divalent nickel with 2-chloro benzaldehyde semicarbazone/thiosemicarbazone and 2-ethoxy benzaldehyde semicarbazone/thiosemicarbazone are synthesized and characterized on the basis of various physico-chemical techniques.

#### EXPERIMENTAL

Analytical reagent grade chemicals and solvents were used.

#### Preparation of ligands

The ligands, 2-ethoxy benzaldehyde semicarbazone (ebsc)/thiosemicarbazone (ebstc) and 2-chloro benzaldehyde semicarbazone (cbsc)/thiosemicarbazone (cbsc) were prepared according to the literature method<sup>13</sup> by condensing the semicarbazide hydrochloride and thiosemicarbazide with 2-ethoxy benzaldehyde and 2-chloro benzaldehyde respectively and confirmed by elemental analysis and infrared spectral studies.

### General method for synthesization of metal complexes

A hot aqueous ethanolic solution (20 mL) of nickel(II) salt (0.05 mol) was mixed with a hot ethanolic solution (20 mL) of the respective ligand (0.10 mol) keeping the molar ratio 1:2. The contents were refluxed for about 5-6 h. The coloured complexes were separated out on cooling the refluxate. The same was filtered, washed with 50% ethanol, dried in an electric oven, analyzed and the data is reported in Table-1

The analyses of C, H and N were done by microanalytical techniques. Metal contents were determined <sup>14</sup> by the precipitation of nickel extract of dilute hydrochloric acid with dimethylglyoxime solution and weighed as Ni(C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>7</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>. The infrared spectral data of the ligands and their nickel(II) complexes were recorded on Perkin-Elmer 1600 FTIR automatic recording spectrophotometer in potassium bromide. Electronic spectra of complexes were scanned in ethonol on Shimadzu UV-Vis spectrophotometer 1601 CP. The magnetic moments of the complexes were determined by Gouy's method using Hg[Co(CNS)<sub>4</sub>] as calibrant.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

All the nickel(II) complexes were insoluble in water and in most of the organic solvents with the exception of polar solvents such as DMF and DMSO. Analytical data of all the complexes correspond to 1:2 (M:L) stoichiometric ratio indicating coordination anions and have the composition  $NiL_2X_2$ , where L = ebsc, ebtsc, cbsc, cbtsc and  $X = Cl^-$ ,  $1/2SO_4^{2-}$  and  $NCS^-$ ). The complexes show different stereochemistry varying from four-coordinated tetrahedral, five-coordinated trigonal bipyramidal and six-coordinated octahedral.

A comparative infrared spectral study of complexes with free ligands gives informations regarding to the chelation sites of the ligand molecules. The ligands show main absorption bands in the region ca. 3030–3015 cm<sup>-1</sup> due to v(C—H), ca. 1610 cm<sup>-1</sup> due to v(C=C), 760–745 cm<sup>-1</sup> (ortho-substitution) diagnostic of aromatic character<sup>15</sup> and strong band at ca. 1660 cm<sup>-1</sup> is assignable to v(C=O) stretching vibration<sup>16</sup> while the band at ca. 1532 cm<sup>-1</sup> is assignable to v(C=N) stretching vibration<sup>16</sup>. The IR spectral data of free ligands exhibit absorption bands in the range 3370–3125 cm<sup>-1</sup> assigned to v(NH) and  $v(NH_2)$  stretching vibrations<sup>17</sup>. These bands remain practically unaltered or shift to higher side

suggesting non-involvement of nitrogen atom of these groups in the complexation. The medium intensity bands at ca. 1000–995 cm<sup>-1</sup> are assigned to v(N-N) vibration and the bands at ca. 815 cm<sup>-1</sup> are assigned to v(C-S) vibrations<sup>16, 18</sup>. In all the complexes, IR spectral data indicate that the bands attributed to v(C-S) shift to the lower region suggesting that the sulphur atom is taking part in the coordination with the metal ion. The absence of bands above 3400 cm<sup>-1</sup> or in the region 2600–2500 cm<sup>-1</sup>, which are attributed to v(O-H) and v(S-H) vibrations respectively, shows the presence of ligands in the thione/keto form<sup>19</sup>.

TABLE-I
ANALYTICAL DATA OF NICKEL(II) COMPLEXES

| Commission   |                 |                  | % found (        | Calculated)    |                  |
|--|-----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Complexes  | Colour          | Ni               | С                | Н              | N                |
| Ni(C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>3</sub> OCl) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>                  | Yellowish green | 11.23<br>(11.19) | 36.71<br>(36.60) | 3.21<br>(3.05) | 16.07<br>(16.00) |
| Ni(C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>3</sub> OCl) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>                  | Blackish green  | 10.70<br>(10.68) | 34.83<br>(34.93) | 3.00<br>(2.91) | 15.21<br>(15.28) |
| Ni(C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>3</sub> OCl) <sub>2</sub> (NCS) <sub>2</sub>               | Brown           | 10.22<br>(10.30) | 38.00<br>(37.91) | 2.95<br>(2.81) | 19.60<br>(19.66) |
| Ni(C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>3</sub> SCl) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>                  | Light green     | 10.52<br>(10.54) | 34.37<br>(34.49) | 2.85<br>(2.87) | 15,13<br>(15.09) |
| Ni(C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>3</sub> SCl) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>                  | Blackish green  | 10.11<br>(10.16) | 33.27<br>(33.34) | 2.70<br>(2.77) | 14.59<br>(14.54) |
| Ni(C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>3</sub> SCl) <sub>2</sub> (NCS) <sub>2</sub>               | Yellowish green | 9.88<br>(9.76)   | 35.99<br>(35.90) | 2.72<br>(2.66) | 18.52<br>(18.61) |
| Ni(C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>13</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>    | Green           | 10.93<br>(10.80) | 44.10<br>(44.14) | 4.70<br>(4.78) | 15.58<br>(15.45) |
| Ni(C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>13</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>    | Canry yellow    | 10.39<br>(10.32) | 42.1<br>(42.20)1 | 4.51<br>(4.57) | 14.89<br>(14.77) |
| Ni(C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>13</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (NCS) <sub>2</sub> | Brownish yellow | 10.01<br>(9.97)  | 44.78<br>(44.84) | 4.49<br>(4.42) | 19.15<br>(19.02) |
| Ni(C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>13</sub> N <sub>3</sub> OS) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>                 | Pale green      | 10.11<br>(10.20) | 44.64<br>(41.69) | 4.59<br>(4.52) | 14.60<br>(14.59) |
| Ni(C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>13</sub> N <sub>3</sub> OS) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>                 | Light yellow    | 9.70<br>(9.77)   | 40.02<br>(39.95) | 4.37<br>(4.33) | 14.00<br>(13.98) |
| Ni(C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>13</sub> N <sub>3</sub> OS) <sub>2</sub> (NCS) <sub>2</sub>              | Duff yellow     | 9.53<br>(9.46)   | 42.55<br>(42.53) | 4.30<br>(4.19) | 18.18<br>(18.04) |

The shifting of characteristic absorption bands of the free ligands in the complex formation indicates the bidentating behaviour of the ligands in all the

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divalent nickel complexes. The strong band observed at ca. 1660 cm<sup>-1</sup> due to  $\nu(C=0)$  vibration<sup>16</sup> is affected upon coordination and shifted to lower wavenumber by ca. 30–55 cm<sup>-1</sup> in all the complexes suggesting the involvement of oxygen atom in coordination. The band at ca. 1532 cm<sup>-1</sup> due to  $\nu(C=N)^{16}$  also shifts to lower wavenumber side by ca. 25–60 cm<sup>-1</sup> in all the complexes showing that the azomethine nitrogen is involved in the coordination with metal ion.

The IR spectral data of the thiocyanato complexes of semicarbazone and thiosemicarbozone ligands show only one absorption and at ca. 2075–2085 cm<sup>-1</sup> which is in favour of coordination through N of both NCS groups<sup>20</sup> in trans position. The infrared spectrum of sulphato complexes exhibit bands at 1055–1038 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1156–1125 cm<sup>-1</sup>, ca. 982 cm<sup>-1</sup> and ca. 558 cm<sup>-1</sup> suggesting monodentate behaviour of the sulphate group<sup>21</sup>.

The observed magnetic moments at room temperature for Ni(II) complexes reported here lie in the range 2.96-3.12 B.M. (Table-2) and have been used as a criterion to determine the type of geometry<sup>22</sup> around the metal ion. The magnetic moment values of the complexes exclude the possibility of square-planar geometry<sup>22, 23</sup>. The electronic spectra of thiocyanato complexes show bands in the range 10500-9755, 16348-15308 and 24108-24065 cm<sup>-1</sup> which may be assigned to  ${}^3A_{2g} \rightarrow {}^3T_{2g}$ ,  ${}^3A_{2g} \rightarrow {}^3T_{1g}(F)$  and  ${}^3A_{2g} \rightarrow {}^3T_{1g}(P)$  transitions respectively<sup>21</sup>. These bands are characteristic of six-coordinated octahedral geometry<sup>21</sup> with the two NCS groups occupying axial positions in the NiL2 plane. The electronic spectra of semicarbazone (cbsc, ebsc) chloro complexes show the bands at 9078, 8480 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 14500, 15200 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 24175, 21095 cm<sup>-1</sup> respectively. These bands are assigned to  ${}^3A_{2g} \rightarrow {}^3T_{2g}$ ,  ${}^3A_{2g} \rightarrow {}^3T_{1g}(F)$  and  ${}^3A_{2g} \rightarrow {}^3T_{1g}(P)$  respectively and characteristic of octahedral geometry<sup>21</sup>. Electronic spectra of thiosemicarbazone (cbtsc, ebtsc) chloro complexes exhibit absorption bands at  $(v_1)$  8980, 8670 cm<sup>-1</sup>,  $(v_2)$  14385, 15250 cm<sup>-1</sup> and  $(v_3)$  23065 cm<sup>-1</sup> with  $v_1$ absorption weaker than v<sub>2</sub> suggesting five-coordinated trigonal bipyramidal geometry<sup>21</sup>. The electronic spectra of the semicarbazone (cbsc, ebsc) sulphato complexes exhibit bands at  $(v_1)$  10300, 8968 cm<sup>-1</sup>,  $(v_2)$  16100, 15500 cm<sup>-1</sup> and  $(v_3)$  23062 cm<sup>-1</sup>  $(v_1$  absorption weaker than  $v_2$ ), suggesting five-coordinated geometry<sup>24, 25</sup>. Also the electronic spectra of these complexes are quite similar to those of already reported trigonal bipyramidal geometry<sup>26</sup>. The electronic spectra of the complex Ni(cbtsc)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> shows bands at 10315, 16078 and 24108 cm<sup>-1</sup> transitions corresponding to five-coordinated trigonal bipyramidal geometry<sup>24, 26</sup> whereas the complex Ni(ebtsc)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> displays three well defined absorption bands at 5085, 8220 and 15382 cm<sup>-1</sup> which may be assigned to  $v_1(3T_1 \rightarrow {}^3T_2)$ ,  $v_2(^3T_1 \rightarrow {}^3A_2)$ , and  $v_3[^3T_1 \rightarrow {}^3T_1(P)]$  respectively<sup>27</sup>. These are transitions for the tetrahedral<sup>28</sup> Ni(II). The splitting in v<sub>3</sub> may be attributed either to ground state geometrical distortion<sup>29</sup> or to Jahn-Teller splitting of excited state<sup>30</sup>.

On the basis of elemental analysis, magnetic moment, electronic and infrared spectral studies six-coordinated octahedral geometry is proposed for thiocyanato complexes and semicarbazone chloro complexes whereas five-coordinated trigonal bipyramidal for thiosemicarbazone chloro complexes and all the sulphato complexes except Ni(ebtsc)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> complex for which four-coordinated tetrahedral geometry is suggested.

TABLE-2 ELECTRONIC SPECTRAL BANDS AND MAGNETIC MOMENTS OF Ni(II) COMPLEXES

| Complexes                                 | Spectral bands (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) |                |                | μ <sub>eff</sub> |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
|   | v <sub>1</sub>                     | ν <sub>2</sub> | V <sub>3</sub> | (B.M.)           |
| Ni(ebsc) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>     | 8480                               | 15200          | 21095          | 3.02             |
| Ni(ebsc) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>     | 8968                               | 15500          |                | 3.00             |
| Ni(ebsc) <sub>2</sub> (NCS) <sub>2</sub>  | 9755                               | 15308          |                | 2.96             |
| Ni(cbsc) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>     | 9078                               | 14500          | 24175          | 3.06             |
| Ni(cbsc) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>     | 10300                              | 16100          | 23062          | 3.07             |
| Ni(cbsc) <sub>2</sub> (NCS) <sub>2</sub>  | 10500                              | 16348          | 24065          | 3.12             |
| Ni(ebtsc) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>    | 8670                               | 15250          |                | 3.02             |
| Ni(ebtsc) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>    | 5085                               | 8220           | 15382          | 2.99             |
| Ni(ebtsc) <sub>2</sub> (NCS) <sub>2</sub> | 9400                               | 15675          |                | 3.04             |
| Ni(cbtsc) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>    | 8980                               | 14385          | 23065          | 3.01             |
| Ni(cbtsc) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>    | 10315                              | 16078          | 24108          | 3.08             |
| Ni(cbtsc) <sub>2</sub> (NCS) <sub>2</sub> | 10050                              | 15870          | 24072          | 2.99             |

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