# Electronic Spectra of Mixed Ligand Complexes of Copper(II) with Different Amino Acids

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Copper(II) complexes were synthesised using methionine as the common ligand and proline and serine as secondary ligands. The mixed ligand complexes are soluble in water. Their electronic spectra was scanned in water. Both the complexes show one asymmetric absorption band around 16,000 cm<sup>-1</sup>, which suggests that these mixed complexes have distorted octahedral geometry. Since single band is observed in the electronic spectra of both the newly synthesised copper(II) complexes, *trans*-geometry is suggested. The value of molar extinction coefficient does not alter by change in concentration hence it is confirmed that complexes do not undergo association or dissociation in solution.

### INTRODUCTION

Elecronic absorption spectra of transition metal complexes were discussed in detail by Jorgensen<sup>1</sup>, Griffiths<sup>2</sup>, Orgel<sup>3</sup> and Lever<sup>4</sup> etc. It is possible to determine the point symmetry in the co-ordination sphere and to assign possible geometry of isomers<sup>5-7</sup> on the basis of electronic spectra of the complex.

#### **EXPERIMENTAL**

All the chemicals were of AnalaR grade.

Freshly precipitated copper(II) hydroxide was mixed with equimolar solutions of primary ligand *viz* metheonine and secondary ligand namely proline or serine, on water bath for 3 h. The pH of the solution was maintained at 7. The reaction mixture was concentrated on water bath at 90–100°C. The solution was filtered while hot. On cooling blue crystals of copper ternary complexes separated out. These were recrystallised with double distilled water. The crystals were dried in vacuum at ca. 50°C.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Electronic spectra were obtained for characterising the newly synthesised complexes. Both of the complexes show only one asymmetric absorption band around 16,000 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

The electronic spectra are observed in the region 200–800 nm. The region below 200 nm is ultraviolet region and 400 nm to 800 nm is visible region.

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Copper(II) is expected to form distorted octahedral complexes<sup>8</sup>. Copper(II) ion has d<sup>9</sup> configuration. This gives rise to only one free ion in terms of <sup>2</sup>D, which is two fold degenerate in spin and orbit, *i.e.*, in any symmetry all the levels belonging to <sup>2</sup>D and must have the same inter electronic repulsions. Therefore, all the d-d transitons have energies which are simply the energy difference between the one electronic energy level concerned and independent of interelectronic replusions. The degeneracy of the five d-orbitals of free ion is removed<sup>9, 10</sup> under the influence of cubic crystal field and it splits up into two fold degenerate ground state and the three fold degenerate upper state. The difference between the ground state and excited state directly gives 10 Dq values. For aquo complexes of copper this energy difference is about 13,000 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

Titanium(III) complexes have Ti(III) ion having d¹ configuration. In general a d¹ system is equivalent to d¹¹¹¹¹n system with only the level order inverted. Therefore spectral behaviour of copper(II) should be same as spectral behaviour of titanium(III) complexes. Thus copper(II) complexes are expected to give only one band. Due to John-Teller effect, distortion is noticed. Aquo copper(II) complexes¹¹¹¹³ absorb at 13,000 cm⁴¹. Tetragonally distorted octahedral complexes generally give rise to one band at 16,000 cm⁴¹. This shift from 13,000 cm⁴¹ to 16,000 cm⁴¹ confirms the coordination with other ligand. In case of square planar complex a band around 19,000 cm⁴¹ is observed, while in distorted otahedral complex this occurs at 16,000 cm⁴¹.

Distorted octahedral geometry of both the mixed ligand complexes synthesised in present investigation is proved by an asymmetric absorption band<sup>14–16</sup> around 16,000 cm<sup>-1</sup>. This absorption band is of higher frequency than for tetrahedral geometry. The values as molar extinction coefficient lie between 56 to 70. Therefore tetragonally distorted octahedral geometry is confirmed<sup>17</sup>.

Trans isomers give a single band while cis isomers give two bands differing by 0.5 kcal/mole. On this basis trans configuration for the present complexes may be assumed<sup>18</sup> (Fig. 1 and 2).

The complexes do not undergo dissociation or association as change in concentration does not show any change in  $\nu_{max}$  values.

The  $\nu_{max}$  values of newly synthesised ternary complexes were compared with  $\nu_{max}$  values of binary complexes. In both the cases the value of  $\nu_{max}$  of ternary complexes are more than the avarage  $\nu_{max}$  values of binary complexes. This confirms that ternary complexes are more stable than binary complexes.

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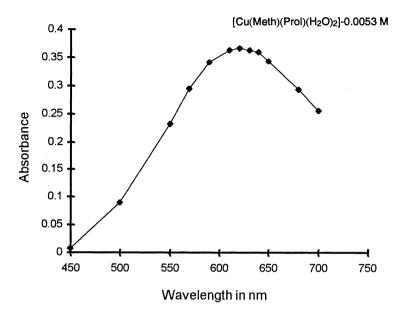


Fig. 1. Absorption spectra in aqueous medium

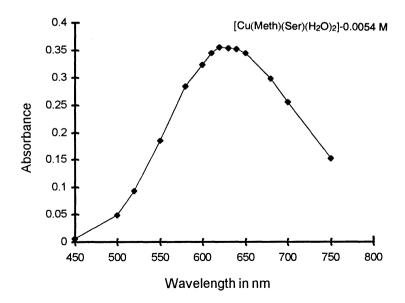


Fig. 2. Absorption spectra in aqueous medium

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