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## Antibacterial and Antifungal Activities of Synthesized Mn (II) and Fe (III) Mixed Ligand Complexes of Isatin- Isonicotinylhydrazone with Aniline

**Grace E. Iniama, Ededet A. Eno, Isaac T. Iorkpiligh**

### Abstract

The ligand, isatin-isonicotinylhydrazone (ISIS) was synthesized at room temperature by the condensation reaction of isonicotinylhydrazide and isatin. This synthesized ligand was interacted with Mn (II) salt and aniline and Fe (III) salt and aniline to obtain the two novel mixed ligand complexes. The synthesized compounds were characterized using some physicochemical properties such as melting point, solubility, conductivity and spectral analysis like infrared spectra and UV-visible spectra. The melting points of the ligand and the complexes were high (300-342°C) while the conductivities were low. From the elemental analysis, a 2:1:2 primary ligands to metal to secondary ligand molar ratio were established. The infrared spectral data revealed the bidentate coordination mode of the primary ligand from which bonding occurred through the nitrogen of the azomethine and oxygen of the carbonyl functional groups. The octahedral geometries for the complexes were elucidated from the electronic absorption spectral data obtained. Information derived from the antibacterial and antifungal studies showed that the metal complexes have higher antibacterial activities (17.0-22.0mm) than antifungal activities (9.0-13.0mm). In all, the metal complexes proved to be better antimicrobial agents than the free ligand.

**Keywords:** Synthesis, Characterization, Schiff base, Complex, antibacterial, antifungal

### 1. Introduction

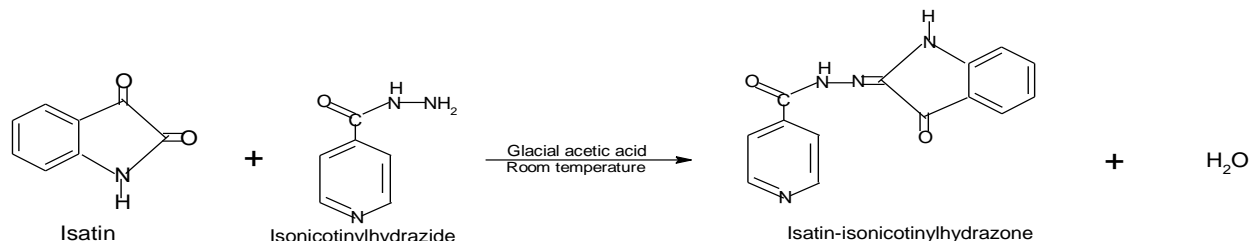
Schiff bases also called imines are compounds identified by the presence of the azomethine functional group (C=N) [1]. They are formed when aldehydes and ketones react with amines. This reaction is known to precede best at a pH of 4 or 5 as anything below or above these pH values slow down the reaction or prevent its occurrence [2]. Although recent studies have shown that Schiff bases can be synthesized under solvent free conditions using catalysts or by microwave irradiation.[3]. Schiff bases are known to form very stable complexes with the transition metals [4] which possess remarkable biological activities [5]. These complexes are widely applied in food industries, pharmaceuticals, agrochemicals, chemical analysis, catalytic processes and even anticorrosion reactions [6]. They serve as antimicrobial, antitumor, anticancer, anti-inflammatory, analgesics, and cytotoxic agents [7]. This present work is a continuation of a series of syntheses, characterization, and antimicrobial studies of transition metals mixed ligand complexes. This report is on Mn (II) and Fe (III) mixed ligand complexes derived from isatin- isonicotinylhydrazone with aniline.

### 2. Experimentals

All chemicals used for this research were of analytical grade purchased from sigma Aldrich and used without further purification. Shimadzu Perkin Elmer spectrum BX Spectrophotometer, Perkin Elmer Lambda 25 UV-visible spectrophotometer, Perkin Elmer elemental analyzer, Pico Lab India conductivity meter, Gallenkamp melting point apparatus, UNISCOPE SM 9053 Laboratory oven, nutrient algae, potato dextrose agar, autoclave, aluminum foil paper, Weighing balance, Nose mask, meter rule, cotton wool, hand gloves, petri dishes, wire loop, paper disc.

### 3. Synthesis of the Schiff base ligand isatin-isonicotinylhydrazone (ISIS)

Ethanol solution of isonicotinylhydrazide (0.01mol, 1.37g) in 50ml ethanol was added to ethanolic solution of isatin (0.01mol, 1.52g). Three drops of glacial acetic acid were added. The resulting mixture was stirred magnetically



### 4. Synthesis of the metal (II) complexes

The complexes were synthesized by mixing 2:1 molar ratio quantities of the ligand with the Mn (II) salt in 50 cm<sup>3</sup> ethanol. The mixture was stirred magnetically for 15 minutes after which 20ml aniline was added and stirred for 2 hours. The precipitates formed were filtered, washed several times with ethanol and dried over anhydrous calcium chloride in desiccators. Procedure was repeated with Fe (III) salt [8].

### 5. Antimicrobial Studies

The antibacterial activity of isatin-isonicotinylhydrazone and its Mn(II) and Fe(III) mixed ligand complexes were examined *in vitro* by paper disc diffusion method. All materials used were sterilized in a hot air oven and the colony of the tested isolates were sub-cultured and first incubated for about 6-8 hours before putting into agar plates. The bacteria culture media were prepared by adding 28.00g of the nutrient agar to 1000cm<sup>-1</sup> of distilled water in

for 3 hours and the solution was left to stand overnight [8]. The white precipitate formed was filtered, washed with methanol and dried over anhydrous fused calcium chloride in a desiccator. Equation for the reaction is:

a conical flask and heated for about 20minutes to ensure proper dissolution. This was later autoclaved at 120°C for 15 minutes and 20cm<sup>3</sup> of this was transferred to each of the already sterilized petri-dishes, covered and kept to set. The microbes, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Salmonella typhi*, *Escherichia coli*, *Aspergillus niger*, *T. rubrum* and *Candida albican* were inoculated on separate dishes. A hole was bored on the nutrient agar and synthesized compounds introduced. This was allowed to stand for 24 hours. The zones of inhibition were then measured in millimeter [9, 8], Fungi were screened by using potato dextrose agar and almost same procedure was repeated. The minimum inhibitory concentration of the ligand and the complexes were carried out using double serial dilution method containing 20, 10, 5 and 2.5mg/ml of the test compounds. Streptomycin and Fluconazole drugs were used as reference standards [10, 11].

### 6. Results

**Table 1:** Physical properties of ISIS and its complexes

Complex/ ligand	Colour	% yield	Melting point (°C)	Conductivity(μs)	Found (Calcd%)		
					C	H	N
ISIS C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Orange	83.41	287.6	0.03	63.2 (63.4)	3.8 (3.9)	21.1 (21.2)
Mn(ISIS) <sub>2</sub> (A) <sub>2</sub> MnC <sub>40</sub> H <sub>34</sub> N <sub>10</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	Reddish brown	48.61	321.8	0.11	62.1 (62.3)	4.4 (4.6)	18.1 (18.3)
Fe(ISIS) <sub>2</sub> (A) <sub>2</sub> FeC <sub>40</sub> H <sub>34</sub> N <sub>10</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	Reddish brown	34.22	292.6	1.10	62.0 (62.3)	4.4 (4.4)	18.0 (18.1)

**Table 2:** Summary of Spectroscopic Data for ISIS and its complexes (cm<sup>-1</sup>)

Ligand/ complexes	v(N-H)	v(C=O)	v(C=N)	v(M-N)	v(M-O)	Band cm <sup>-1</sup>	Assignment
ISIS	3229s	1708s	1613s	-	-	34,602 30,674 39,682	n - σ* n - π* π - π*
Mn(ISIS) <sub>2</sub> (A) <sub>2</sub>	3231s	1682s	1619s	599w	445w	28,901 23,148 21,413	π - π* 6A <sub>1g</sub> → 4T <sub>1g</sub> 6A <sub>1g</sub> → 4T <sub>2g</sub>
Fe(ISIS) <sub>2</sub> (A) <sub>2</sub>	3232s	1675s	1617s	655w	440w	41,152 21,881 19,531	n - π* π - π* 6A <sub>1g</sub> → 4T <sub>2g</sub> 6A <sub>1g</sub> → 4T <sub>2g</sub>

**Table 3:** Inhibition zones of the ligand and the complexes

Compounds	<i>S. typhi</i>	<i>E. coli</i>	<i>S. aureus</i>	<i>A. niger</i>	<i>T. rubrum</i>	<i>C. abican</i>
ISIS	17.0	16.0	15.0	9.0	11.0	11.0
[Mn(ISIS) <sub>2</sub> (A) <sub>2</sub> ]	18.0	21.0	22.0	9.0	12.0	11.0
[Fe(ISIS) <sub>2</sub> (A) <sub>2</sub> ]	17.0	19.0	20.0	12.0	13.0	12.0
Streptomycin/Fluconazole	24.0	26.0	25.0	23.0	23.0	22.0

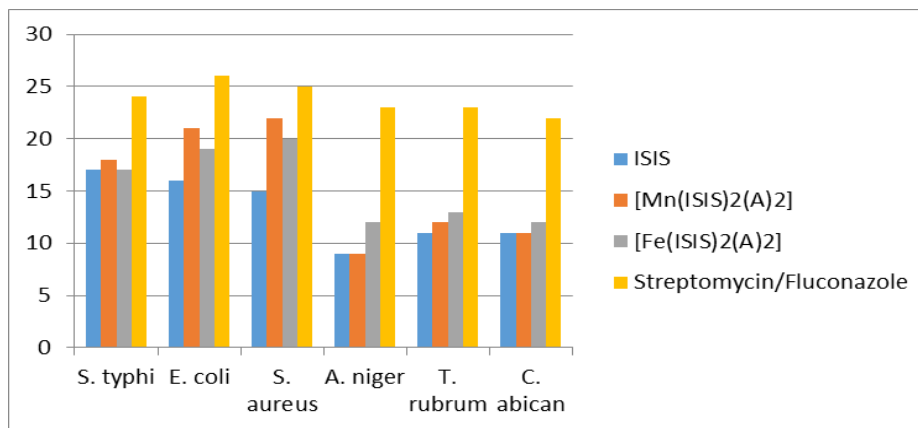


Fig. 1: Antimicrobial properties of the ISIS and its metal complexes

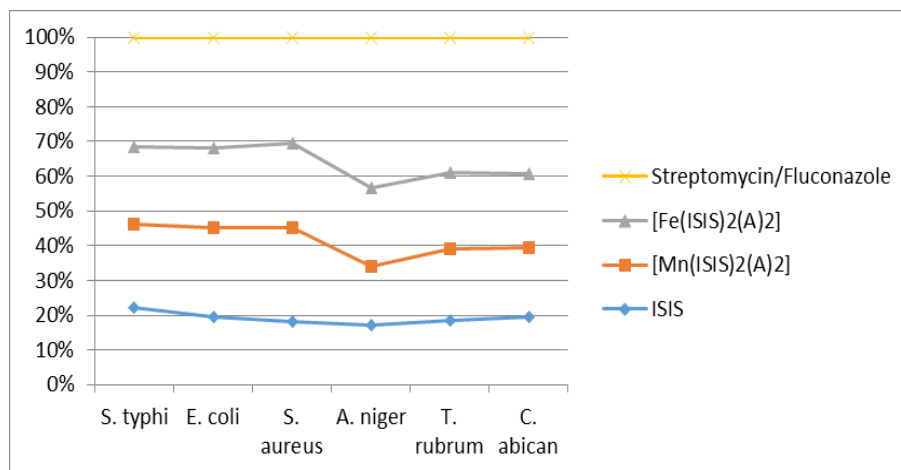


Fig. 2: Distribution plot for the inhibition zones

Table 4: Minimum inhibitory concentrations of ISIS and its mixed ligand complexes (mg/ml)

Compounds	<i>S. typhi</i>	<i>E. coli</i>	<i>S. aureus</i>	<i>A. niger</i>	<i>T. rubrum</i>	<i>C. abican</i>
ISIS	10.0	5.0	5.0	10.0	10.0	5.0
[Mn(ISIS) <sub>2</sub> (A) <sub>2</sub> ]	5.0	5.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
[Fe(ISIS) <sub>2</sub> (A) <sub>2</sub> ]	5.0	5.0	2.5	10.0	10.0	10.0

Table 5: Minimum bactericidal and minimum fungicidal concentrations of ISIS and its mixed ligand complexes (mg/ml)

Compounds	<i>S. typhi</i>	<i>E. coli</i>	<i>S. aureus</i>	<i>A. niger</i>	<i>T. rubrum</i>	<i>C. abican</i>
ISIS	10.0	5.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
[Mn(ISIS) <sub>2</sub> (A) <sub>2</sub> ]	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
[Fe(ISIS) <sub>2</sub> (A) <sub>2</sub> ]	5.0	5.0	2.5	10.0	10.0	10.0

## 7. Discussion

The physical properties of the synthesized compounds were recorded in Table 1. The properties range from orange colour for the ligand, reddish brown for Mn(II) and Fe(III) complexes, the powdery nature, the melting point to molar conductance. The melting points of the compounds were high (287.6 - 321.8°C); this seems to suggest the strong bonding network between the ligands and the metal ions thus, their polymeric nature. The conductivities of the ligand and its complexes were low (0.03- 1.10  $\mu$ S) inferring the non-electrolytic nature [12, 13]. The ligand and complexes were stable as they did not decompose while being stored for over two months period of time in a desiccator. They were only soluble in coordinating solvents like acetone, DMF etc. The elemental analysis obtained correspond to the expected empirical formula; affirmed the metal to ligand molar ratio and the purity of the complexes.

## 8. Infrared spectra

The infrared vibrational bands of significant functional groups of both ligand and its complexes were presented in Table 2. The spectra of the ligand and the complexes show two bands within the range 3100-3375  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  which were assignable to  $\nu(\text{NH})$  stretching vibration. The ligand exhibited bands around 1607  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and 1010  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , were attributed to  $\nu(\text{C}=\text{N})$  of the imine group and  $\nu(\text{N}-\text{N})$  vibrations respectively. In the ligand, the band at 1627  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  was assigned to the azomethine  $\text{C}=\text{N}$  stretching. This band shifted to frequencies of 1619  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and 1617  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for the Mn(II) and Fe(III) respectively indicating coordination of the azomethine nitrogen to the metal ions. The lactonyl carbonyl band of the ligand was at 1708  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The band was found to be lowered to 1682 and 1675  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in the spectra of the Mn(II) and Fe(III) complexes respectively. This also affirmed the coordination of the oxygen atom to the metal ions. The bands at 599 and 655  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  were

assigned to the M-N vibrations while that between 445 and 440  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  were due to M-O bond. All these are in conformity with earlier works of [14, 8, 2,16,17]

### 9. Electronic spectra

The electronic absorption spectra of Mn(II) and Fe(III) complexes tend to resemble each other because both are  $d^5$  ions and their absorption bands are a series of relatively very weak bands. These bands observed at the range of 19,531 - 41,115  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and are assignable to  ${}^6A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^4T_{2g}$ ,  ${}^6A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^4T_{1g}$ ,  $n-\pi^*$ , &  $\pi-\pi^*$  transitions. The spectral patterns are indicative of octahedral configurations around the Mn(II) and Fe(III) complexes [15,18,19].

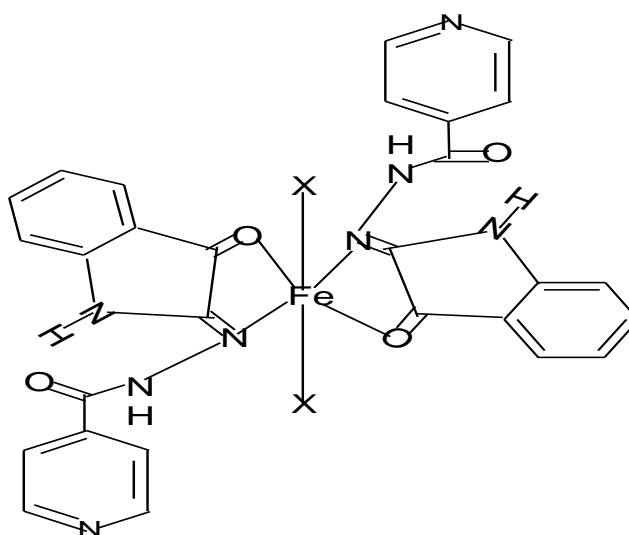
### 10. Antimicrobial analysis

The antimicrobial studies results compared to that of streptomycin and fluconazole are recorded in Tables 3,4 and 5. The results clearly show that the ligand and the mixed ligand complexes are capable of inhibiting bacterial growth even at very low concentrations. The microbial strains used for the study were: *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Salmonella typhi*, *Escherichia coli*, *Aspergillus niger*, *T.*

*rubrum* and *Candida albican*. Fe(III) chelate was prominently active against a broad spectrum of bacteria such as *S. aureus*, *S. typhi*, and *E. coli*, in which at very low concentrations of 2.5- 5.0mg/ml complete elimination occurred. The zones of inhibition caused by the Mn(II) and the Fe(III) chelates were higher (18-22mm) on the bacterial strains than the fungal strains (9-13mm). The susceptibility test i.e the bactericidal (MBC) and fungicidal (MFC) minimum concentrations conform with the minimum inhibitory concentrations, MIC and affirmed the effectiveness of the synthesized chelates [5, 9, 12].

### Conclusion

The synthesized ligand, isatin-isonicotinylhydrazone (ISIS) acted as a bidentate molecule interacting with the secondary monodentate ligand and the metal ions to form octahedral complexes. These chelates were screened against the named bacteria and fungi. The antimicrobial studies indicated that the complexes show higher activities than the free ligands but in all, the synthesized compounds demonstrated impressive degrees of antimicrobial activities



Where X= Aniline

Fig. 2: Proposed structure for the metal complexes

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