

## Photochemical Study of Cobalt (II) in Dimethyl Sulfoxide, Dimethylformamide and Chloroform Solvents

Farah Ibrahim\*, Dheaa Zageer\*, Duha Fadhil\*, Zainab Hussain\*\*, Hadeel Adil\* and Emad Yousif\*

\*Department of Chemistry, College of Science, Al-Nahrain University, Baghdad-Iraq.

\*\*Department of Chemistry, College of Science, Misan University, Misan-Iraq.

### Abstract

The photochemistry of chelate complex 2-(6-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl) propanoic acid cobalt (II)  $\text{Co(L)}_2$  was studied in three polar aprotic solvents: Dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), Dimethylformamide (DMF) and chloroform ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). Monochromatic light of wavelength 311 nm was used for the irradiation process at 25°C. Uv-visible spectral changes indicated an intra oxidation-reduction reaction occurring during the photolysis of  $\text{Co(L)}_2$  complex, with homolytic scission of Co-L bond. The quantum yield ( $\phi_d$ ), rate of photodecomposition and reactivity ratio ( $k_2/k_{-1}$ ) was determined in each solvent. These values always increase as the polarity of the solvent increases and follow the order:  $\text{DMSO} > \text{DMF} > \text{CHCl}_3$

The mechanism of photodecomposition of this complex under the applied conditions was proposed.

Keywords: Photodecomposition, Co(II), DMSO, DMF, Chloroform.

### Introduction

Coordination chemists have been studied the electronic excited states of metal complexes to develop molecular systems for a wide range of applications, solar energy conversion [1], photo catalysis [2] and sensing [3] to luminescent probes [4] and therapy [5]. The photo deposition method can be used as a general route to deposit the Co-based catalysts on any semiconductor electrode with a valence band edge located at a more positive potential than the oxidation potential of  $\text{Co}^{2+}$  ions in solar oxygen evolution[6]. A cobalt complex of a  $\text{N}_2\text{S}_2$ -tetradentate ligand and CdTe quantum dots displayed a high activity (initial TOF 850  $\text{h}^{-1}$ ) and improved stability (TON  $1.44 \times 10^4$  based on catalyst over 30 h) for the photochemical  $\text{H}_2$  generation from water, with a quantum efficiency of 5.32% at 400 nm[7]. Phthalocyanine complexes with  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Al}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Ga}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Si}^{4+}$  ions show high quantum yield of triplet state and therefore allow to achieve high quantum yield in generation of singlet oxygen and other reactive and cytotoxic oxygen forms. Due to the presence of carboxyl groups, ZnPcOC exhibits solubility in aqueous solutions i. e. biological systems as well as in organic solvents (DMF, DMSO) [8]. The Co-O transient bond length changes and the optical spectra and kinetics have been

measured and compared with those of ferrioxalate. The values presented here strongly suggest that both of these metal oxalato complexes operate under similar photo redox reaction mechanisms where the primary reaction involves the dissociation of a metal-oxygen bond. These results also indicate that excitation in the charge-transfer band is not a sufficient condition for the intramolecular electron transfer to be the dominant photochemistry reaction mechanism [9]. The photochemistry of bis(8-quinolinolato)Cu(II),  $\text{Cu(ox)}_2$ , and bis(8-quinolinethiolato)-Cu(II),  $\text{Cu(tox)}_2$ , has been studied. Both complexes show solvent-dependent photochemistry when irradiated in  $\text{CHCl}_3$  and in toluene. The photoproducts of  $\text{Cu(tox)}_2$  in  $\text{CHCl}_3$  are partially reconverted into the initial complex by thermal reaction, while photoreactions of  $\text{Cu(ox)}_2$  lead to secondary photolytic processes[10].

### Experimental

#### Materials

The 2-(6-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl) propanoic acid Cobalt (II)  $\text{Co(L)}_2$  complex was prepared by the method described by Ibrahim *et al.*[11].

## Techniques

All photolytic experiments were carried out in thermostated quartz cell of 10 mm pathlength. The photolytic solution were purged by argon gas (purity 99.9%) for 20 minutes before irradiated at 25°C. A light source, namely high pressure lamp (1000 W. Iwasa Ki Electric Co. Ltd., Japan) was used in conjugation with suitable quartz lens and filter (supplied by Kari-Korb C-mb H, Germany) to give essentially a monochromatic beam of wavelength 311 nm. Calibration of filter with the aid of spectrophotometer showed that the transmitted light was predominantly of wavelength 311 nm. The incident light intensity was determined with ferrioxalate actinometer [12]. UV-Visible spectra and its changes during irradiation experiments were measured using Shimadzu UV-Vis 160A Ultra-violet spectrophotometer.

## Results and Discussion

### UV-Visible spectrophotometer

During irradiation time of the Co(II) complex in DMSO, DMF and Chloroform, at 25°C, the colour changes gradually from green to light green in all solvents. The changes in complex spectrum with irradiation time, shows a decrease in the absorbance intensity in the visible region between wavelengths (400-800) nm, at high concentration of the complex solution consideration. The absorbance intensity between (200-400) nm was decreased with irradiation time at lower concentration of the complexes.

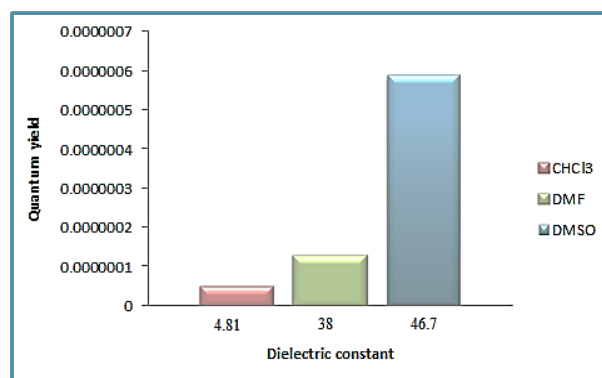
### Kinetic use of the UV-Visible

The decay of the Co(L)<sub>2</sub> complex during irradiation at 311 nm 25°C in different solvents, has been followed by monitoring the concentration of this complex spectrophotometrically, from the logarithm plots of the  $A_t - A_\infty$  versus time, the values of the first order specific rate constant ( $k_d$ ) for the complex in different solvents have been determined where  $A_t$  is the absorbance of the complex solution at selected wavelength.  $A_\infty$  is the absorbance of the same solution after prolonged irradiation. From the variations of  $\ln(A_t - A_\infty)$  with irradiation time (t) of complex the specific rate constants ( $k_d$ ) for Co(II) complex were obtained. Table (1) shows the

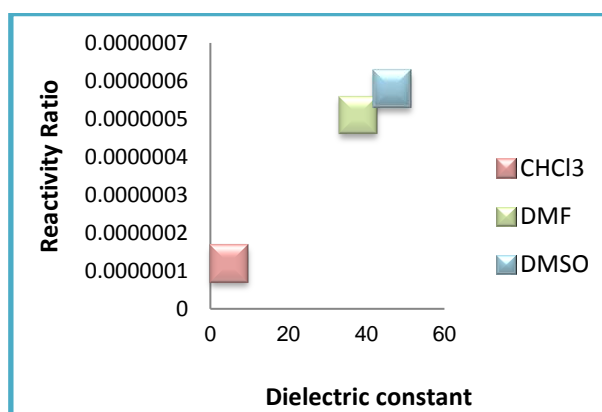
value of light intensity ( $I_{Abs}$ ), the specific rate constant ( $k_d$ ), the quantum yield ( $Q_d$ ) and reactivity ratio ( $K_2/K_{-1}$ ) of the Co(II) complex in all solvents used under same conditions. The results indicate that the  $k_d$  and  $Q_d$  values are dependent on the type of solvent used. They always increase as the polarity of the solvent increases and follow the order:



The variation of the values of quantum yield with dielectric constant values of solvents are shown in Fig.(1). These results are shown in this Figure. Generally, indicate that  $Q_d$  increases as the dielectric constant increases; and this might point out to the ionic nature of the excited transition state of the Co(II) complex in these solvents.



*Fig.(1): Quantum yields ( $Q_d$ ) with the dielectric constant of the solvent for the photodecomposition of Co(L)<sub>2</sub> complex in different polar aprotic solvents.*



*Fig.(2): Reactivity ratio with the dielectric constant of each solvent for the photodecomposition of Co(L)<sub>2</sub> complex.*

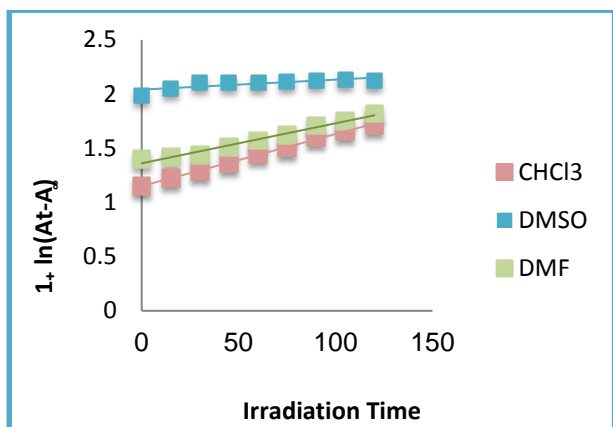
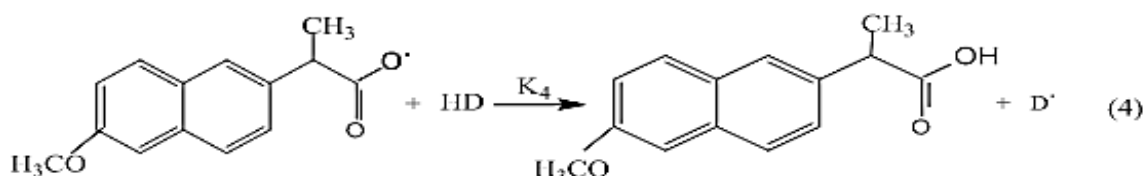
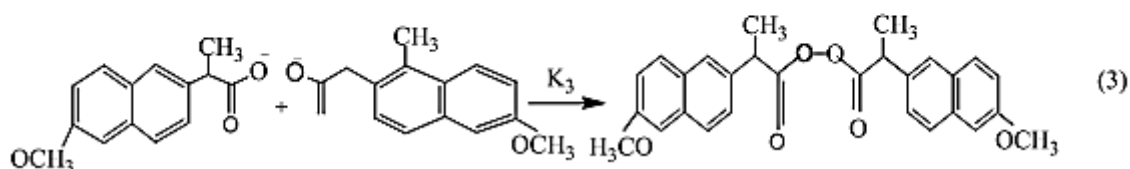
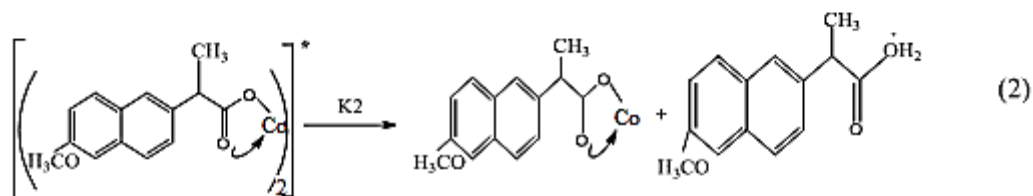
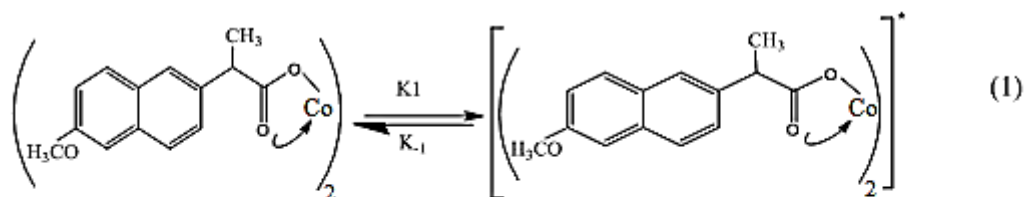


Fig.(3): Variation of  $\ln(A_t/A_\infty)$  of  $\text{Co(L)}_2$  complex with irradiation time in different solvents.

### Mechanism of the 2-(6-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl) propanoic acid cobalt (II) photodecomposition.

The UV-Visible spectral changes are related to the photolytic products and other species that are produced upon. The following mechanism (Eq.(1-8)) may be suggested for the photodecomposition process.



The low values of quantum yields of Photodecomposition process indicate that the deactivation of the photo excited chelate ( $K_{-1}$ ) is an important process on this mechanism.

$$\text{The rate of decomposition} = I_{\text{Abs}} - \frac{I_{\text{Abs}}K_{-1}}{K_{-1} + K_2} - \frac{d[\text{CoL}_2]}{dt} \quad (6)$$

$$Q_d = \frac{\text{rate of photodecomposition}}{I_{\text{Abs}}} \quad (7)$$

than

$$\frac{K_2}{K_{-1}} = \frac{Q_d}{1 - Q_d} \quad (8)$$

### Conclusion

In this work, the photochemical of chelate complex 2-(6-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)propanoic acid cobalt (II)  $\text{Co(L)}_2$  using three solvents: dimethyl sulfoxide, dimethylformamide, chloroform was studied. The quantum yield ( $Q_d$ ), rate of photodecomposition and reactivity ratio ( $k_2/k_{-1}$ ) was determined in each solvent. These values increase as the polarity of the solvent increases and follow the order:  $\text{DMSO} > \text{DMF} > \text{CHCl}_3$ .

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## الخلاصة

تم دراسة الكيمياء الضوئية لمعدن الكوبلت الثنائي مع الليكاند ثنائي السن:

-methoxynaphthalen-2-yl)propanoic acid

(6-2 في ثلاث مذيبات قطبية لا بروتونية هي: ثنائي مثيل سلفواوكسايد وثنائي مثيل فورم اميد والكلوروفورم. وتم استخدام ضوء أحادي وبطول موجي قدره 311 نانوميتر وبدرجة حرارة 25<sup>°</sup>م. لقد دلت التغيرات الطيفية الحاصلة على حصول تفاعل أكسدة-اختزال داخلي خلال عملية 2 مع انفصام متجانس للأصرة Co-L. لقد تم حساب الناتج الكمي (Q<sub>d</sub>) وسرعة التفكك الضوئي ونسبة الفعالية K<sub>2</sub>/K<sub>1</sub> في كل مذيب من المذيبات أعلاه ووجد ان هذه القيم تزداد بزيادة قطبية المذيب ووفق الترتيب الآتي:



ووفقا للنتائج العملية المستحصلة، تم اقتراح ميكانيكية التفكك الضوئي لمعدن الكوبلت الثنائي.