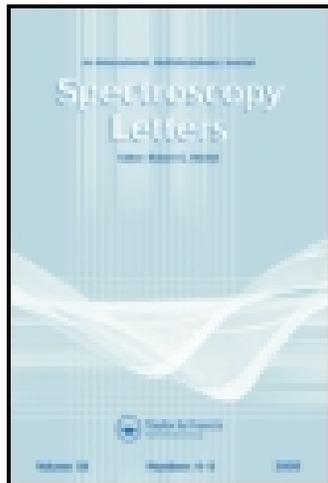


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## Spectroscopy Letters: An International Journal for Rapid Communication

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/Istl20>

### Synthesis, Thermal Behavior, and Antimicrobial Activity of a Novel Macrocyclic and its Transition Metal Complexes Derived from Thiosemicarbazide

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Published online: 06 Aug 2010.

To cite this article: Nahid Nishat, Rhis-ud-din Manisha & Swati Dhyani (2010) Synthesis, Thermal Behavior, and Antimicrobial Activity of a Novel Macrocyclic and its Transition Metal Complexes Derived from Thiosemicarbazide, Spectroscopy Letters: An International Journal for Rapid Communication, 43:6, 465-473, DOI: [10.1080/00387010903278341](https://doi.org/10.1080/00387010903278341)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00387010903278341>

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# Synthesis, Thermal Behavior, and Antimicrobial Activity of a Novel Macrocyclic and its Transition Metal Complexes Derived from Thiosemicarbazide

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**ABSTRACT** The present study reports the synthesis of Co(II), Ni(II), Mn(II), Cu(II), and Zn(II) complexes with a new macrocyclic ligand (L<sub>2</sub>)-1,2,8,9,11,14-hexaazacyclopentadeca-12,13-dioxo-10,15-dithione-2,7-diene. The macrocycle was derived from thiosemicarbazone (L<sub>1</sub>) and diethylxalate that were prepared by the reaction of thiosemicarbazide and glutaraldehyde in the ratio of 2:1. The synthesized complexes and ligands were characterized by elemental analysis and molar conductance, magnetic susceptibility, <sup>1</sup>HNMR, IR, electronic, and thermogravimetric analyses. The molar conductance values confirmed that the Ni(II), Cu(II), Zn(II), Mn(II) and Co(II) complexes were 1:2 electrolytes. On the basis of electronic spectral studies and molar conductance measurements, the authors proposed an octahedral structure for Ni(II), Mn(II), and Co(II) complexes, tetrahedral geometry for Zn(II) complex, and square planar geometry for Cu(II) complex. The thermal behavior of the compounds was studied by TGA in a nitrogen atmosphere up to 750°C at the rate of 20°C/min. The TGA results revealed that the complexes had higher thermal stability than the macrocycle. All the synthesized compounds were screened against 4 bacteria (i.e., *Streptococcus aureus*, *Escherichia coli*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Salmonella typhimurium*) and 2 fungi (i.e., *Fusarium oryzae*, *Candida albicans*). The results showed that the metal complexes inhibited the growth of bacteria to a greater extent as compared to the ligand.

**KEYWORDS** antibacterial and antifungal activity, macrocyclic complexes, thiosemicarbazones

Received 14 August 2008;  
accepted 8 August 2009.

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## INTRODUCTION

A large number of natural macrocycles like porphyrin and cobalamine display remarkable properties, and their coordination chemistry has been intensely investigated.<sup>[1]</sup> Macrocyclic complexes have attracted research interest due to their analytical, biological, and catalytic applications.<sup>[2,3]</sup> The macrocyclic ligands play an important role in transition metal complexes due to kinetic and thermodynamic stabilities.<sup>[4,5]</sup> Interest in synthetic macrocycles derived from Schiff base is growing due to their wide applications in catalysts, radiopharmaceuticals, and magnetic-imaging reagents.<sup>[6]</sup> They provide an environment of controlled geometry and ligand field strength to the metal ions. The formation of macrocyclic complexes mainly depends on the internal cavity and the rigidity of the macrocycle formed. The macrocyclic ligand based on thiosemicarbazone and their metal complexes have shown themselves to be pharmacologically active against several viruses, bacteria, and fungi and certain kinds of tumors.<sup>[7-9]</sup> The importance of these compounds is mainly the result of their antimicrobial activities.<sup>[10,11]</sup> It has been observed that the pharmacological activities are enhanced in the presence of transition metal ion.<sup>[12]</sup> The fungicidal activity of these compounds is due to their ability to form stable chelates with metal ions that fungi need for metabolism.<sup>[13]</sup> Keeping the above views in mind, we synthesized a series of transition metal complexes having macrocyclic ligand based on thiosemicarbazone. They were characterized by elemental

analysis, molar conductance measurements, magnetic susceptibility measurements, <sup>1</sup>HNMR spectra, IR spectra, electronic spectra, and thermogravimetric studies.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Glutaraldehyde, transition metal chloride (S.D. Fine-Chemicals, India), thiosemicarbazide (BDH) and diethyl oxalate (Merck) were used as received. Solvents were distilled before use. Microorganisms were isolated in suitable environment.

### Synthesis of L<sub>1</sub>

An ethanolic solution of thiosemicarbazide (20 mmol, 1.82 g) was added to ethanolic solution of glutaraldehyde (10 mmol, 0.942 ml) with constant stirring in the presence of a few drops of hydrochloric acid. After addition of all the reagents, the mixture was heated at 60°C with constant stirring for 7 hr. On keeping it overnight at room temperature, a red colored amorphous solid was formed. It was filtered, washed with acetone and diethyl ether, and dried in vacuum over CaCl<sub>2</sub>. The synthesis is represented in Fig. 1.

### Synthesis of L<sub>2</sub>

An ethanolic solution of L<sub>1</sub> (10 mmol, 2.47 g) was added to ethanolic solution of diethyl oxalate (10 mmol, 1.36 ml). The diethyl oxalate solution was taken in burette and added drop-wise to the solution of L<sub>1</sub> in such a manner that the addition

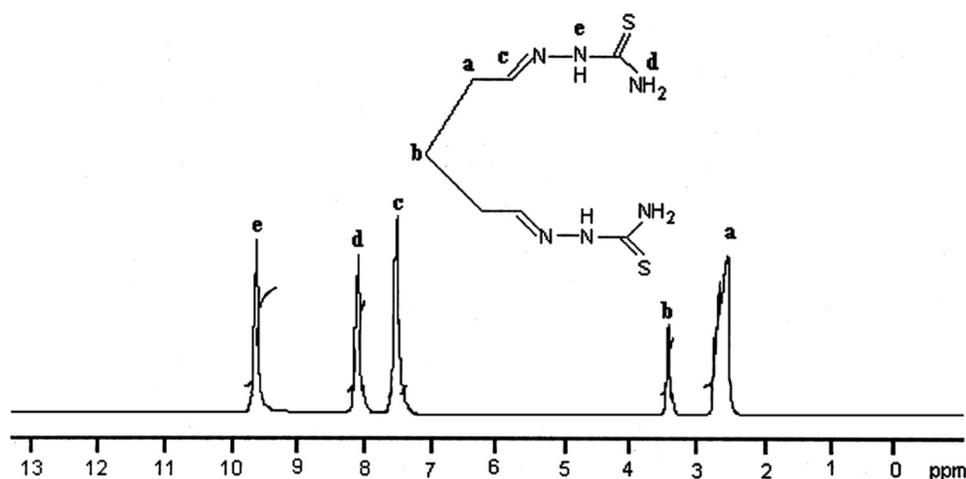


FIGURE 1 <sup>1</sup>H NMR of L<sub>1</sub>.

would take at least 1 hr. Then, the mixture was heated at 60°C with stirring for 10 hr. After that period, the mixture was reduced by more than half of its volume by rotatory evaporator. After that, we left the mixture at room temperature till all the solvent vaporized. The obtained product was washed with acetone and diethyl ether in vacuum over CaCl<sub>2</sub>. The synthesis is represented in Fig. 1.

## Synthesis of ML<sub>2</sub>

An ethanolic solution of L<sub>2</sub> (10 mmol, 3.01 g) was added to ethanolic solution of Ni(II) chloride (10 mmol, 2.37 g) in 1:1 ratio with constant stirring at 50°C. The green precipitate of nickel complex was obtained. This precipitate was washed several times with acetone and diethyl ether and dried in vacuum over CaCl<sub>2</sub>. The complexes from Co(II), Mn(II), Zn(II), and Cu(II) chlorides were prepared by the same method. Template synthesis also gave the same products as obtained by the above described method. Template synthesis was followed by the addition of ethanolic solution of diethyloxalate to the ethanolic solution of L<sub>1</sub> at 60°C and stirred for 10 hr. Instant precipitate was obtained by adding metal chlorides to the above solution. All the properties of L<sub>2</sub> and metal complexes prepared from both the methods were found to be similar.

## Physical Measurements

The IR spectra of the compounds were recorded on PerkinElmer FTIR spectrometer, model 983 (PerkinElmer; United States), using KBr disc in the range of 4000–200 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The percentages of carbon, hydrogen, and nitrogen of the ligands and the complexes were determined by Elemental Analyzer System GMBH varion, ELIII. The conductivity measurements were carried out on a CM-82T Elico conductivity bridge, and magnetic measurements were done with a model 155 Allied Research vibration sample magnetometer at room temperature. UV-visible spectra of the complexes were done on a Lambda EZ201 spectrometer (PerkinElmer; United States) in DMSO. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of L<sub>1</sub>, macrocyclic ligands, and the complexes were run in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> on a Bruker Spectrospin DPX-300 MHz Spectrometer (Bruker; United States). The thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) of the compounds was done by Perkin Elmer at 200-ml/min-flowing

nitrogen atmosphere. Chlorine was estimated gravimetrically, and metals were determined by EDTA complexometric titration followed by decomposition of their complexes with fuming nitric acid. The antibacterial and antifungal activity was performed by agar disc diffusion method. The samples were prepared by using DMSO as solvent at a concentration of 50 µg/ml. The test was performed at 37°C, and bacteria were incubated for 24 hr, while fungi were incubated for 48 hr.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The proposed analytical data of the complexes with their colors are summarized in Table 1. The thiosemicarbazone (L<sub>1</sub>) was obtained by the reaction of glutraldehyde with thiosemicarbazide in the ratio of 2:1. The L<sub>1</sub> was refluxed and stirred with diethyloxalate (1:1 molar ratio), which yielded orange-colored macrocyclic ligand (L<sub>2</sub>). The ligands L<sub>1</sub> and L<sub>2</sub> were found to be soluble in ethanol and DMSO, whereas all the synthesized metal complexes were insoluble in common organic solvents except DMSO. On heating of all the metal complexes, they underwent decomposition and did not give a sharp melting point. The L<sub>2</sub> and its metal complexes were found to be stable in air. The molar conductance of the metal complexes of Mn(II), Co(II), and Ni(II) fell into the expected range in DMSO for nonelectrolytes, and that circumstance indicated the absence of chloride ions, while the higher values of molar conductance of Cu(II) and Zn(II) complexes showed their electrolytic nature and confirmed the presence of chloride ions outside the coordination sphere.

## IR Spectral Studies

The most relevant bands of the ligands and of their metal complexes are tabulated in Table 2 with their assignments. L<sub>1</sub> and L<sub>2</sub> exhibited strong IR bands at 1625 and 1629 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=N), respectively, which were higher than those of metal complexes (1610–1619 cm<sup>-1</sup>). That is, on coordination, ν<sub>C=N</sub> shifts to lower wavelength. The band of NH<sub>2</sub> stretching was found to be absent from L<sub>2</sub> and all metal complexes, but the band appeared in the L<sub>1</sub> at 3280 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The L<sub>1</sub>, L<sub>2</sub>, and metal complexes exhibited a band in the range of 3162–3150 cm<sup>-1</sup> assigned to ν<sub>NH</sub> for secondary amine. The band's appearance in range of

**TABLE 1** Analytical Data, Color, Melting Point, Percentage Yield, and Molar Conductance of Ligands and the Metal Complexes

Compounds (formula weight)	Color	M.p. (°C)	Yield % (gm)	Molar Conductance · ( $\Omega^{-1}\text{cm}^2 \text{mole}^{-1}$ )	Analysis % found (calcd.)					
					C	H	S	N	Cl	M
$\text{C}_7\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_6\text{S}_2$ , ( $\text{L}_1$ ) (247.056)	Red	230	68 (3.80)	—	34.24 (34.31) $\pm 0.002$	5.68 (5.71) $\pm 0.005$	25.79 (25.95) $\pm 0.006$	33.95 (34.02) $\pm 0.002$	—	—
$\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_6\text{O}_2\text{S}_2$ , ( $\text{L}_2$ ) (301.258)	Orange	280	55 (2.16)	—	36.10 (36.18) $\pm 0.002$	4.10 (4.01) $\pm 0.02$	21.11 (21.29) $\pm 0.008$	27.72 (27.89) $\pm 0.006$	—	—
$[\text{MnL}_2\text{Cl}_2]$ (427.102)	Pale yellow	320	73 (3.63)	12	25.70 (25.51) $\pm 0.007$	2.80 (2.83) $\pm 0.010$	14.98 (15.01) $\pm 0.003$	19.52 (19.68) $\pm 0.008$	16.49 (16.60) $\pm 0.006$	12.76 (12.86) $\pm 0.007$
$[\text{CoL}_2\text{Cl}_2]$ (431.097)	Dark green	320	82 (4.41)	32	25.30 (25.28) $\pm 0.000$	2.96 (2.80) $\pm 0.057$	14.68 (14.87) $\pm 0.012$	19.28 (19.49) $\pm 0.010$	16.42 (16.45) $\pm 0.002$	13.76 (13.67) $\pm 0.006$
$[\text{NiL}_2\text{Cl}_2]$ (430.857)	Light green	333	75 (4.03)	28	26.01 (25.29) $\pm 0.028$	2.74 (2.80) $\pm 0.021$	14.62 (14.88) $\pm 0.017$	19.42 (19.50) $\pm 0.004$	16.38 (16.45) $\pm 0.004$	13.54 (13.62) $\pm 0.006$
$[\text{CuL}_2]\text{Cl}_2$ (435.710)	Green	328	70 (3.29)	132	24.98 (25.01) $\pm 0.001$	2.72 (2.77) $\pm 0.018$	14.68 (14.71) $\pm 0.002$	19.21 (19.29) $\pm 0.004$	16.32 (16.27) $\pm 0.003$	14.55 (14.58) $\pm 0.002$
$[\text{ZnL}_2]\text{Cl}_2$ (437.554)	White	330	64 (2.79)	140	24.88 (24.90) $\pm 0.000$	2.68 (2.76) $\pm 0.028$	14.60 (14.65) $\pm 0.003$	19.14 (19.20) $\pm 0.003$	16.12 (16.20) $\pm 0.005$	14.89 (14.94) $\pm 0.003$

1655–1665  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in  $\text{L}_2$  and metal complexes shows the formation of oxamide group (NH-CO) from the diethylxalate.<sup>[14]</sup> The absence of  $\text{NH}_2$  group and the presence of oxamide group in  $\text{L}_2$  are some of the evidence for the formation of macrocycle. The band observed at 1148 and 1153  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in  $\text{L}_1$  and  $\text{L}_2$ , respectively, is attributed to  $\nu_{\text{N-N}}$ . This band is shifted to higher frequency in metal complexes, that is, in the range of 1160–1163  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . This increase in the frequency is due to the increase in the bond strength and also confirms the coordination via

azomethine nitrogen.<sup>[15]</sup> The IR spectra of  $\text{L}_1$ ,  $\text{L}_2$ , and all the metal complexes showed a band in the region 2920–2929  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  due to the  $\text{CH}_2$  stretching frequency. The frequency of  $\nu_{\text{C=S}}$  band lies in the range of 848–855  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in  $\text{L}_2$  and metal complexes. The band observed in the spectra of  $\text{L}_1$ ,  $\text{L}_2$ , and metal complexes in the range of 1313–1328  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  is attributed to  $\delta_{\text{C=S}}$ , that is, deformation of C=S group. The bands in the ranges of 440–457  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and 328–350  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  are assigned to M-N and M-Cl, respectively.<sup>[16]</sup>

**TABLE 2** Characteristic IR Bands ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) of the Ligands and the Complexes

Compounds	$\nu(\text{N-H})$	$\nu/\delta(\text{C=S})$	$\nu(\text{C=O})$ (oxalate group)	$\nu(\text{C-H})$	$\nu(\text{C=N})$	$\nu(\text{N-N})$	$\nu(\text{M-N})$	$\nu(\text{M-Cl})$
Ligand ( $\text{L}_1$ )	—	1328, 868	—	2929 s	1629 s	1148	—	—
Macrocycle ( $\text{L}_2$ )	3162 m	1326, 855	—	2923	1625 s	1153	—	—
$[\text{MnL}_2\text{Cl}_2]$	3155 m	1314, 851	1654	2921 s	1615 s	1160	447 s	350 s
$[\text{CoL}_2\text{Cl}_2]$	3150 m	1316, 849	1662	2920 s	1619 s	1160	457 s	335 s
$[\text{NiL}_2\text{Cl}_2]$	3152 m	1316, 849	1657	2920 s	1619 s	1161	455 s	330 s
$[\text{CuL}_2]\text{Cl}_2$	3158 m	1314, 850	1665	2920 s	1611 s	1163	442 s	—
$[\text{ZnL}_2]\text{Cl}_2$	3154 m	1315, 848	1657	2921 s	1610 s	1162	450 s	—

Note. m, medium; s, strong.

**TABLE 3**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR Spectra of the Ligands ( $\text{L}_1$  and  $\text{L}_2$ ) and the Zn Complex of  $\text{L}_2$   $\delta$  (ppm)

Compound	N=CH–(4H)	–(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> –(2H)	–(CH <sub>2</sub> )–(4H)	–CSNH <sub>2</sub> (2H)	–CONH–(2H)	N-NH (2H)
$\text{L}_1$	(2.55)t	(3.57)m	(8.14)s	—	(9.64)s	(7.58)d
$\text{L}_2$	(2.54)t	(3.57)m	—	(8.80)s	(9.81)s	(7.62)d
$[\text{ZnL}_2]\text{Cl}_2$	(2.55)t	(3.58)m	—	(8.87)s	(9.94)s	(7.90)d

Note. s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; m, multiplet.

## $^1\text{HNMR}$ Spectra

The  $^1\text{HNMR}$  spectrum of  $\text{L}_1$ ,  $\text{L}_2$ , and Zn complex is described in Table 3. The  $^1\text{HNMR}$  spectra of  $\text{L}_1$  and  $\text{L}_2$  gave a CH=N signal at 7.58 and 7.62 ppm, which shifted downfield in the Zn complex at 7.90 ppm due to the complexation of nitrogen with metal ions.<sup>[17]</sup> The spectra of  $\text{L}_1$  showed the –NH<sub>2</sub> protons at 8.14 ppm,<sup>[18]</sup> which shifted downfield in the spectra of  $\text{L}_2$  (i.e., 8.80 ppm due to the formation of oxamide group).<sup>[12]</sup> In Zn complex, this peak placed at 8.87 ppm due to the complexation of –NH with metal. The peak of N-NH for  $\text{L}_1$ ,  $\text{L}_2$ , and the Zn complex appeared in the range of 9.64–9.94 ppm.<sup>[19]</sup> This peak was found to shift downfield in case of Zn complex due to the complexation of nitrogen with metal. The spectra of  $\text{L}_1$ ,  $\text{L}_2$ , and Zn complex displayed a quadruplet in the range of 2.55–2.56 ppm, which we attributed to –CH<sub>2</sub> protons. A multiplet also appeared in all the spectra in the range of 3.57–3.58 ppm due to the presence of –CH<sub>2</sub>, having different environment from the former.

## Electronic Spectra

The magnetic moment and the significant electronic absorption bands with various ligand field parameters of Co, Ni, Mn, Zn, and Cu complexes are given in Table 4. The magnetic moment for the Co(II) complex (4.53 B.M.) was found to lie in the range of octahedral complexes. The cobalt complex displayed two bands at 8855 and 20219 cm<sup>–1</sup> and a shoulder at 14814 cm<sup>–1</sup>, which may be assigned to  $^4\text{T}_{2g}(\text{F}) \leftarrow ^4\text{T}_{1g}(\nu_1)$ ,  $^4\text{T}_{1g}(\text{P}) \leftarrow ^4\text{T}_{1g}(\nu_3)$ , and  $^4\text{A}_{2g} \leftarrow ^4\text{T}_{1g}(\nu_2)$  transitions, respectively,<sup>[20]</sup> corresponding to six-coordinated octahedral geometry. The  $\beta$  value indicated that the complex exhibited 61%-covalent character. The electronic spectra of Ni(II) complex showed two bands at 12036 and 16000 cm<sup>–1</sup> and a charge transfer band at 24390 cm<sup>–1</sup>. The bands indicated that the complex revealed an octahedral geometry.<sup>[21]</sup> The ground state of Ni (II) in an octahedral coordination was found to be  $^3\text{A}_{2g}$ . Thus, three spin-allowed transitions are  $^3\text{T}_{2g}(\text{F}) \leftarrow ^3\text{A}_{2g}(\text{F}) (\nu_1)$ ,  $^3\text{T}_{1g}(\text{F}) \leftarrow ^3\text{A}_{2g}(\text{F}) (\nu_2)$ , and  $^3\text{T}_{1g}(\text{P}) \leftarrow ^3\text{A}_{2g}(\text{F}) (\nu_3)$ . The magnetic moment of

**TABLE 4** Electronic Spectral Bands and Magnetic Moments of the Macrocyclic Complexes

Compound	Magnetic moment (B.M.)	Electronic bands (cm <sup>–1</sup> )	Possible assignment	$\epsilon^a$	10 Dq (cm <sup>–1</sup> )	(B) (cm <sup>–1</sup> )	$\beta$
$[\text{MnL}_2\text{Cl}_2]$	5.88	28655	$^4\text{E}_g(4\text{D}) \leftarrow ^6\text{A}_{1g}$	12	1754	582	0.60
		24572	$^4\text{E}_g(4\text{G}) \leftarrow ^6\text{A}_{1g}$	15			
		17610	$^4\text{T}_{1g}(4\text{G}) \leftarrow ^6\text{A}_{1g}$	10			
$[\text{CoL}_2\text{Cl}_2]$	4.53	20219	$^4\text{T}_{1g}(\text{P}) \leftarrow ^4\text{T}_{1g}(\text{F})$	15	1067	689	0.71
		14814	$^4\text{A}_{2g}(\text{F}) \leftarrow ^4\text{T}_{1g}(\text{F})$	11			
		8855	$^4\text{T}_{2g}(\text{F}) \leftarrow ^4\text{T}_{1g}(\text{F})$	13			
$[\text{NiL}_2\text{Cl}_2]$	2.98	24390	$^3\text{T}_{1g}(\text{P}) \leftarrow ^3\text{A}_{2g}(\text{F})$	18	12011	751	0.69
		16000	$^3\text{T}_{1g}(\text{F}) \leftarrow ^3\text{A}_{2g}(\text{F})$	14			
		12036	$^3\text{T}_{2g}(\text{F}) \leftarrow ^3\text{A}_{2g}(\text{F})$	15			
$[\text{CuL}_2]\text{Cl}_2$	1.73	23980	Charge transfer	14	—	—	—
		17500	$^2\text{A}_{1g} \leftarrow ^2\text{B}_{1g}$	12			
		11110	$^2\text{E}_g \leftarrow ^2\text{B}_{1g}$	10			
$[\text{ZnL}_2]\text{Cl}_2$	Diamagnetic	—	—	—	—	—	—

<sup>a</sup> $\epsilon = \text{dm}^3 \text{mol}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$ .

**TABLE 5** Thermal Properties of Ligands (L<sub>1</sub> and L<sub>2</sub>) and Their Metal Complexes

Compounds	Weight loss (%) at given temperature (°C)							% wt at 800°C
	100	200	300	400	500	600	700	
L <sub>1</sub>	7	14	40	55	68	75	78	20
L <sub>2</sub>	5	11	38	55	63	70	76	23
[NiL <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ]	3	9	35	55	57	65	70	27

nickel complex was 2.95 B.M., which showed the presence of two unpaired electrons.

The Cu(II) complex exhibited bands at 11110, 17500, and 23980 cm<sup>-1</sup>, corresponding to square planar geometry.<sup>[22]</sup> The first two bands were assigned to <sup>2</sup>E<sub>g</sub> ← <sup>2</sup>B<sub>1g</sub> and <sup>2</sup>A<sub>1g</sub> ← <sup>2</sup>B<sub>1g</sub> transitions, respectively. The third band was probably enveloped into a strong charge transfer band. The band at 22220–26040 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the spectra of complexes was observed due to ligand metal charge transfer (LMCT).<sup>[23]</sup> The Mn(II) complex showed a magnetic moment corresponding to five unpaired electrons (5.88 B.M.), which indicated the presence of high spin in case of Mn(II). The electronic spectral bands of the complex possessed weak absorption bands at 17610, 24572, and 28655 cm<sup>-1</sup>. These bands were assigned to <sup>4</sup>T<sub>1g</sub>(4G) ← <sup>6</sup>A<sub>1g</sub>, <sup>4</sup>E<sub>g</sub>(4G) ← <sup>6</sup>A<sub>1g</sub>, and <sup>4</sup>E<sub>g</sub>(4D) ← <sup>6</sup>A<sub>1g</sub>, respectively.<sup>[24]</sup> This result corresponded to octahedral geometry of Mn(II) complex. The calculated value of β indicated that the complex had appreciable covalent character. The Zn(II) complex was diamagnetic as expected for a d<sup>10</sup> electronic configuration and was found to be tetrahedral as indicated by elemental analysis and spectral data.

## Mass Spectra

The FAB mass spectrum of Cu(II) complex showed a molecular ion peak m/z at 437.34 amu, which confirms the stoichiometry of metal complex as [ML<sub>2</sub>]Cl<sub>2</sub> type. It also showed a peak at 72.01 amu, which probably corresponding to free chlorine. The mass spectra of other metal complexes support the described stoichiometry. This stoichiometry was further supported by the elemental analysis of the complexes. The mass spectrum of macrocyclic ligand (L<sub>2</sub>) confirmed the probable formula by showing a peak at 302.588 amu corresponding to the molecular ion (M<sup>+</sup> + 1).

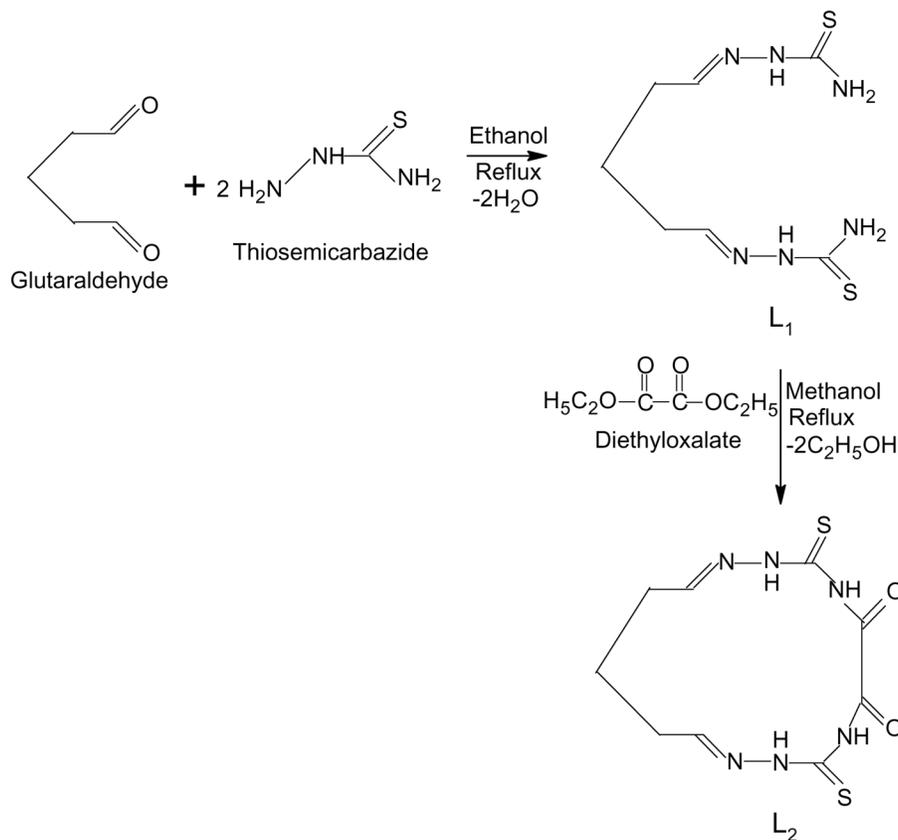
## Thermal Studies

The thermogravimetric results are given in Table 5. The thermogravimetric studies of L<sub>1</sub>, L<sub>2</sub>, and metal complexes showed weight loss in the temperature range of 100–200°C due to the elimination of entrapped moisture. L<sub>1</sub> showed 7% weight loss in this region, while L<sub>2</sub> as well as all metal complexes showed about 6 wt% loss in the same range. The coordinated and noncoordinated chlorine in all the metal complexes were eliminated in the

**TABLE 6** Antibacterial and Antifungal Activity of Macrocyclic Ligand and Complexes: Zone of Inhibition<sup>a</sup> (in mm) at 50 μg/ml Concentration

Compounds	<i>S. aureus</i>	<i>E. coli</i>	<i>B. subtilis</i>	<i>S. typhimurium</i>	<i>F. oryzae</i>	<i>C. albicans</i>
Ligand (L <sub>2</sub> )	10 ± 3	—	9 ± 2	10 ± 2	—	11 ± 2
[MnL <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ]	11 ± 2	15 ± 3	18 ± 2	14 ± 2	15 ± 2	19 ± 2
[CoL <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ]	18 ± 2	20 ± 2	14 ± 3	16 ± 2	12 ± 2	12 ± 2
[NiL <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ]	15 ± 3	18 ± 3	20 ± 2	16 ± 3	24 ± 2	11 ± 2
[CuL <sub>2</sub> ]Cl <sub>2</sub>	18 ± 2	15 ± 2	22 ± 2	20 ± 2	15 ± 3	19 ± 2
[ZnL <sub>2</sub> ]Cl <sub>2</sub>	10 ± 2	12 ± 2	24 ± 2	11 ± 2	20 ± 2	12 ± 2
Kanamycin	29	32	31	31	—	—
Miconazole	—	—	—	—	31	28

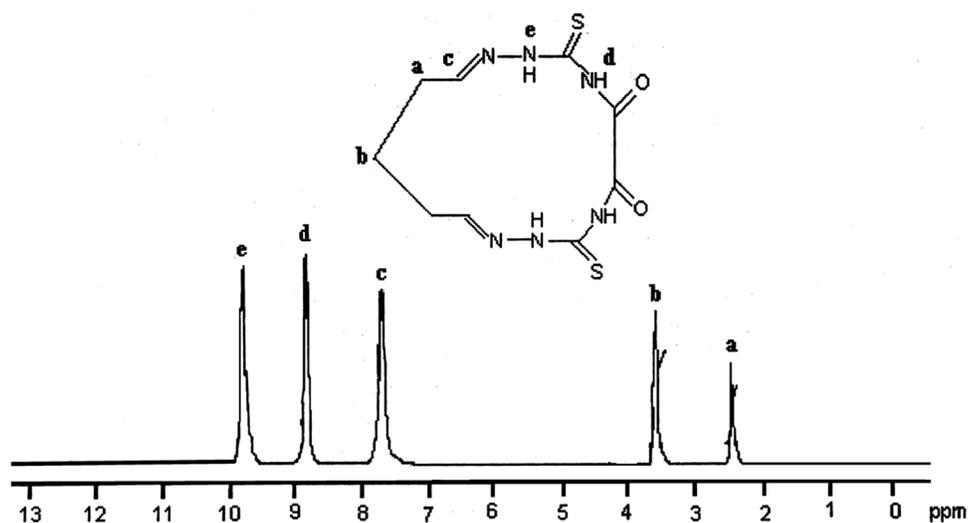
<sup>a</sup>Including disc diameter.



**SCHEME 1** Synthesis of ligands (L<sub>1</sub> and L<sub>2</sub>).

temperature range of 250–350°C, which showed approximately 16.80 wt% loss. The organic and inorganic parts of the L<sub>2</sub> and metal complexes decomposed up to 700°C, and after this temperature, negligible weight loss was observed. The metal complexes decomposed to their metal oxides

in the temperature range of 780–800°C. During the study of thermogravimetric curves, we found that L<sub>1</sub> and L<sub>2</sub> showed high weight loss in almost every step in comparison to all metal complexes and that the metal complexes were more thermally stable than L<sub>1</sub> and L<sub>2</sub>.



**FIGURE 2** <sup>1</sup>H NMR of L<sub>2</sub>.

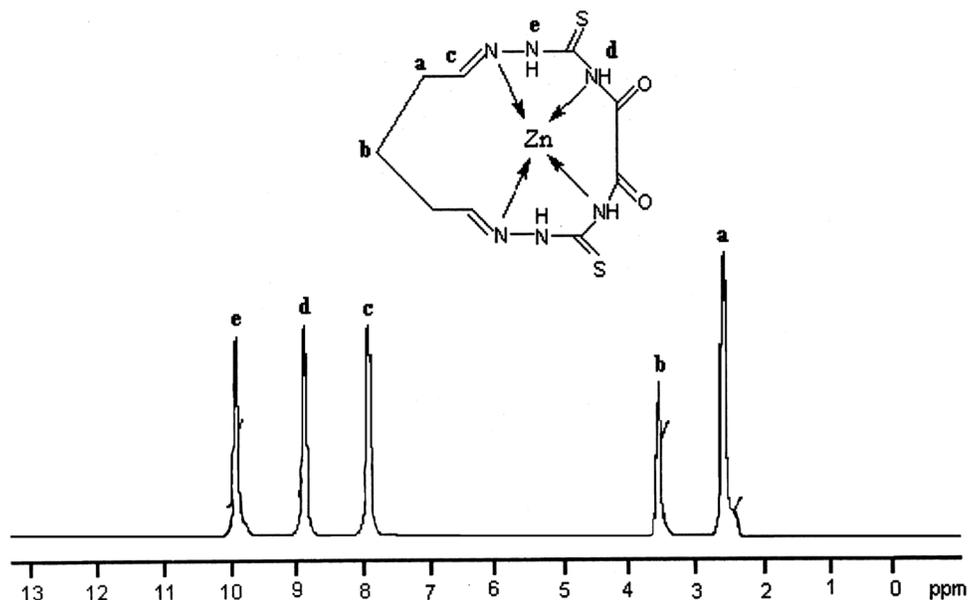


FIGURE 3  $^1\text{H}$ NMR of Zn Complex.

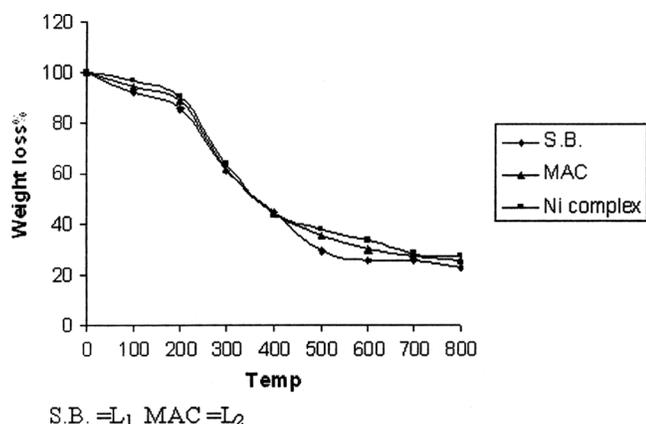


FIGURE 4 TGA of  $L_1$ ,  $L_2$  and its Nickel complex.

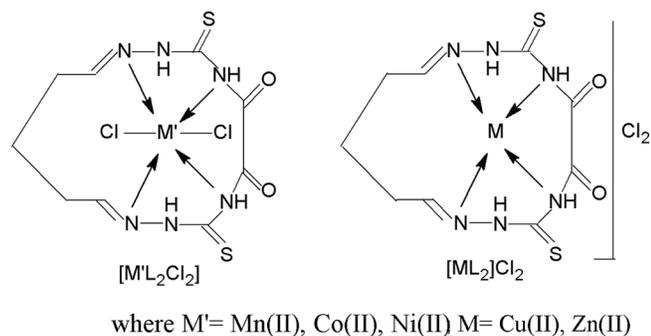


FIGURE 5 Suggested structures of the metal complexes with ligand  $[L_2]$ .

## Antimicrobial Activity

The macrocyclic ligands and its transition metal complexes were screened against four bacteria and two fungi with respect to kanamycin (antibacterial) and miconazole (antifungal) as standard drug. The antifungal and antibacterial activity was carried out by agar disc diffusion method. The results shown in Table 6 revealed that the metal complexes exhibited higher activity as compared with the macrocyclic ligand due to the chelation of the metal ion in the complexes. The chelation was found to enhance the lipophilic character of central metal ion, which subsequently favored its permeation through the lipid layer of all membrane. The maximum bacterial and fungal inhibition was exhibited by Zn(II) complex.

## CONCLUSION

A novel macrocycle derived from thiosemicarbazone ( $L_1$ ) and diethyloxalate that was prepared by the reaction of thiosemicarbazide and glutaraldehyde in the ratio of 2:1. The Co(II), Ni(II), Mn(II), Cu(II), and Zn(II) complexes with a new macrocyclic ligand ( $L_2$ ) – 1,2,8,9,11,14-hexaazacyclopentadeca-12,13-dioxo-10,15-dithione-2,7-diene were characterized by elemental analysis, molar conductance measurements, magnetic susceptibility measurements,  $^1\text{H}$ NMR spectra, IR spectra, electronic spectra, and

thermogravimetric studies. The complexes were found to be thermally more stable than the parent ligand. The maximum bacterial and fungal inhibition was exhibited by Zn(II) complex, which can be used for pharmaceutical application. Further testing of these complexes has been undertaken.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors sincerely thank Third World Academy of Sciences, Italy, for U.V./Visible spectrophotometer EZ-201 (PerkinElmer, United States) through research grant 00-047RG/CHE/AS.

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