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## Synthesis, Characterization, and Thermal Studying of VO(II), Cu(II), Zn(II), Cd(II), and Au(III) Complexes with Azo Dye and Evaluation as Antioxidants

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## RESEARCH ARTICLE

# Synthesis, Characterization, and Thermal Studying of VO(II), Cu(II), Zn(II), Cd(II), and Au(III) Complexes with Azo Dye and Evaluation as Antioxidants

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## ABSTRACT

Complexes of Vanadyl, Copper, Zinc, Cadmium, and Aureate with their double valence and Aureate with its triple valence were prepared using the azo dye (2,4,6-trihydroxy-3-((3-hydroxyphenyl) dioxenyl)phenyl)ethane-1-one prepared newly from diazonium salt With 2,4,6-trihydroxyacetophenone, after isolation. The prepared materials were identified by available spectroscopic methods and diagnostic techniques for C.H.N, IR, UV-Vis, <sup>1</sup>H&<sup>13</sup>C-NMR, Mass, thermogravimetric analysis curve, differential scanning calorimetry, and complexes, these techniques included as well as determining the metal percentage, determining the chlorine content, magnetic susceptibility, and molar conductivity. The results showed that the ligand is anionic (negative) tetradentate when coordinated with Vanadyl, Copper, Zinc, Cadmium through the phenolic oxygen atom, the carbonyl oxygen atom, and the azo nitrogen atom. It was tridentate e when it coordinated with Aureate through the phenolic oxygen atom and the azo nitrogen atom, giving the planar square shape (neutral) while the zinc and cadmium were (neutral) octahedral containing two coordinated water molecules and copper was tetrahedral shape (neutral) and Vanadyl complex give trigonal bipyramidal shape (neutral). Then the potential of these prepared compounds as antioxidants was determined by inhibiting free radicals using DPPH as a free radical and vitamin C as a reference to determine The Radical scavenging activities gave the results (Au-complex > H<sub>4</sub>L > Ascorbic acid > Zn-complex > Cu-complex > Cd-complex > V-complex).

**Keywords:** Azo complexes, Azo dyes, Antioxidant effectiveness, Thermo gravimetric analysis, 2,4,6-Trihydroxyacetophenone

## Introduction

Azo dyes are a crucial component in the textile and printing industries; and they find applications in various fields, including food coloring, acid-base exponents, beam sensors, cosmetics, optical information retention, stimulated emission, LCD, and fiber-optical apparatus.<sup>1–3</sup> Additionally, heteroaryl-based azo pigments have been found to have living utilization such as free radical inhibitor, hygienic, antineoplastic, antidiabetic drug, and antiviral agents.<sup>4–6</sup> Azo-dyes contain a chromophore (-N=N-) which is a nitrogen-

to-nitrogen double bond.<sup>7–9</sup> These dyes are produced by adding diazonium salt to a strongly activated aromatic system.<sup>10–12</sup> The history of dyeing can be divided into two periods: the “pre-aniline” period, which lasted until 1856, and the “post-aniline” period. The former was characterized by a limited range of colors that were produced from animals and plants.<sup>13–15</sup> Dyes are unsaturated and colored organic compounds that can dye a substrate, such as textiles. Disperse dyes are a type of water-insoluble dye that can dye acetate fibers, polyester, and other hydrophobic fibers like nylon, cellulose acetate, acrylic,

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polyester, and most manufactured fibers that lack ionizing groups.<sup>16-18</sup> Research was conducted on azo complexes that are used as antioxidants.<sup>19-21</sup> We did not find a study similar to our research. The research included preparing a new azo dye using as a ligand and then reacting it with some metal ions VO(II), Cu(II), Zn(II), Cd(II) and Au(III) to create novel complexes of the mentioned metal ions.<sup>22</sup> In addition to characterization with spectroscopic analysis, thermal stability, and thermal decomposition were studied using DSC and TGA curves, and the antioxidant activity of these compounds was assessed against the DPPH radical and compared to that of a reference natural antioxidant, Ascorbic acid.<sup>23</sup> This research aims to create novel complexes of the metal ions of VO(II), Cu(II), Zn(II), Cd(II), and Au(III) using the azo ligand H<sub>2</sub>L. In addition to characterization the antioxidant activity of these compounds.

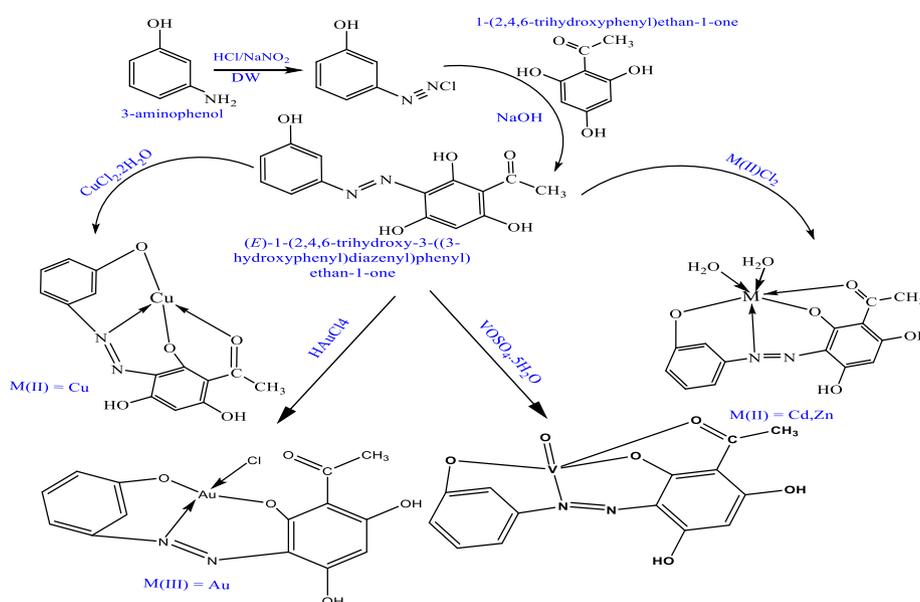
## Materials and methods

All the reactants, substances and firms for the prepared compounds were of analytical class. Absolute. Ethanol, dimethyl sulphoxide, and other solvents were of high purity and supplied by Merck Co., Fluka Co. and Sigma-Aldrich Co., and metal salts [3-aminophenol, 2,4,6-trihydroxy acetophenone, [NaNO<sub>2</sub>, NaOH, ZnCl<sub>2</sub>, CuCl<sub>2</sub>.2H<sub>2</sub>O, CdCl<sub>2</sub>, HAuCl<sub>4</sub>, VOSO<sub>4</sub>.5H<sub>2</sub>O] were supplied by Sigma-Aldrich Co. and BDH Co. The Bruker (400MHz) Spectrometer was used to obtain the <sup>1</sup>H & <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra. The melting point of the prepared com-

pounds was measured by a Stuart electrothermal melting point apparatus. The elemental (C. H. N.) micro-analysis was used to search using the EA 3000 single V.3 model vector device. LC-MSQ-P-50-A(EI30ev) Shimadzu device. Infrared spectra were measured with a device (Shimadzu-8000S). Thermogravimetric curves (TG-DSC) were recorded using a device TGA Shimadzu. The ultraviolet-visible spectra of the ligand and its complexes were recorded using a Shimadzu UV-visible spectrophotometer. The balancing susceptibility model MSR-MKI utilized magnetic characteristics. Molar electrical conductivity measurements were carried out using BC3020 Professional Bench Top Conductivity device. Metals were determined using a Shimadzu (A-A) 680G atomic absorption spectrometer. The chlorine content was determined gravimetrically.

### Synthesis of Ligand 1-(2,4,6-trihydroxy-3-((3-hydroxyphenyl)diazenyl)phenyl)ethan-1-one

The synthesis process of the ligand is carried out in two steps, Scheme 1, first one is the preparation of diazonium salt at which (2g, 0.01mol) from 2,4,6-trihydroxyacetophenone dissolved in circular-bottomed flask its volume is 250 mL with the mixture of (3 mL Hydrochloric acid HCl 37% with 35 ml distilled water DW) then the prepared mixture was cooled between 0-5°C. After that the solution of (1 g, 0.01 mol.) sodium nitrate NaNO<sub>2</sub> that dissolved in 30 mL of distilled water was added to the last mixture as drop wise with continuous stirring, with good monitoring of temperature it must not rise more



Scheme 1. Synthesis of ligand and its complexes.

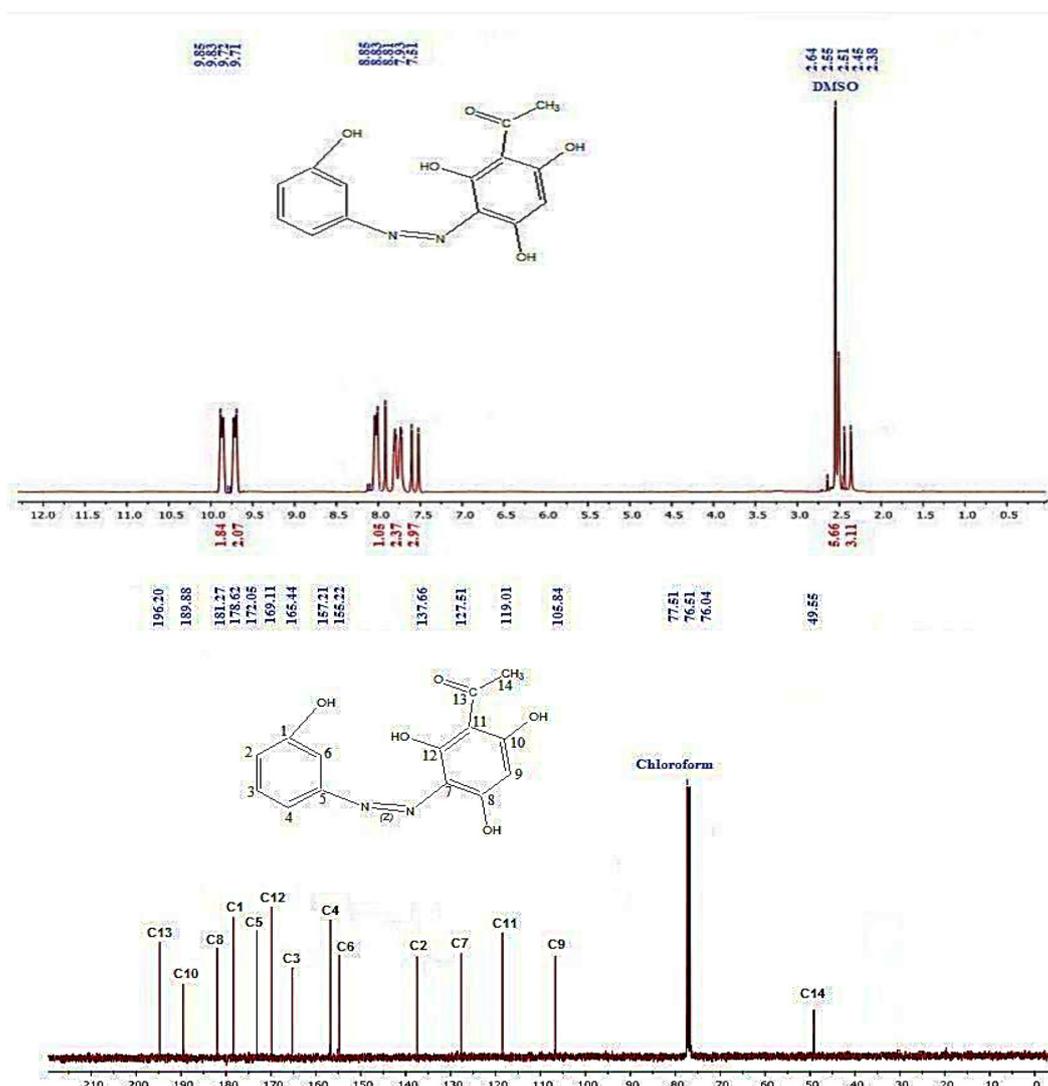


Fig. 1.  $^1\text{H}$  &  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectra of ligand.

than  $5^\circ\text{C}$ , for 30 minutes, the next step included the solution was left for 15 minutes resulting in diazonium salt as a product of the first step. Followed by diazotization coupling reaction between diazonium salt of 3-aminophenol and the solution of (3 g, 0.03 mol.) (2,4,6-trihydroxyacetophenone) dissolved in 50 mL absolute Ethanol and 15 mL of 10% sodium hydroxide NaOH with cooling and continuous stirring during this process observed the precipitates were obtained in different colors. Fig. 1 shows both  $^1\text{H}$  &  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR data for the ligand. Proton NMR demonstrates the next chemical shifts a ppm:  $2.6\delta\text{ppm}$  (3H, Singlet),  $7.5\text{--}8.0\delta\text{ppm}$  (5H, multiplet), and  $9.75\text{--}9.98\delta\text{ppm}$  (4H, doublet). Corresponding to protons of methyl group of ketone, Ar-H protons and protons of phenolic groups respectively. On the other hand, carbon NMR spectrum which was tested using chloroform as solvent demonstrates the next peaks: 178.8

(C1), 137.4 (C2), 165 (C3), 156.2 (C4), 174.0 (C5), 155 (C6), 127.0 (C7), 182.0 (C8), 106.5 (C9), 190.0 (C10), 119.0 (C11), 170.0 (C12), 195.0 (C13), 49.9 (C14).<sup>24-26</sup>

### Synthesis of vanadium

To create the targeted complex, you need to add of (0.5 g, 0.002 mol) Azo ligand that has been dissolved in 15 ml absolute EtOH as a drop-wise addition, while continuously stirring. This should be added to the exact quantity of metal salt (0.30 g, 0.002 mol) ( $\text{VOSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) dissolved in 10 ml of distilled water. The mixture should then be heated and refluxed for six hours at  $60^\circ\text{C}$ . After this, let the mixture cool to room temperature and keep it in a cabinet for 24 hours to allow for complete formation and precipitation. Filter the solution and wash it with distilled

water multiple times. Finally, wash it with a small quantity of hot EtOH. This product was collected after being filtered and dried. Its melting point was (231D) °C and dark red precipitate, and its yield was 77%.

#### Preparation of metallic metal ions complexes

Following the same approach used in Vanadyl complex synthesis, the complexes of the next metalsalts. [CuCl<sub>2</sub>.2H<sub>2</sub>O] (0.29 g, 0.002 mol, CdCl<sub>2</sub>) (0.31 g, 0.002 mol, ZnCl<sub>2</sub>) (0.24 g, 0.0017 mol, HAuCl<sub>4</sub>) (0.68 g, 0.0014 mol) were prepared. To dissolve the salts, 30 ml of ethanol and distilled water is used. Next, drop by drop we added the solution of salts to 30 ml of azo ligand weighting (0.5 g, 0.002 mol). The mixture is then heated and refluxed for 6 hours at a temperature of up to 60°C. After that, any unreacted components are removed by briefly immersing them in hot ethanol. The solid complexes formed are then separated, collected, dried and weighted. The melting points of the complexes, colours and yields are listed in Table 1 below.

## Results and discussion

Table 1 shows the comparison between the estimated and theoretical results of the percentage of each element involved in synthesized complexes, as well as the chloride involvement and metal ratio. The estimated results were obtained both technically and theoretically and were found to be in good agreement with each other.

#### FT-IR spectroscopy

Infrared spectroscopy determines the composition of new complexes by comparing the spectra of the complexes with the spectrum of the ligand. The mod-

ifications observed in the spectra of the complexes may involve changes in the intensities or shapes of the major bands, or a shifting in their wavelengths towards wave length low or high. In Fig. 2, the ligand exhibited the following extension a captivating and: A very strong band at 3580 cm<sup>-1</sup> belong to trembling of phenolic O-H, A strong to weak band at 3120 cm<sup>-1</sup> for the trembling of C-H aromatic group, a weak band at 2912 cm<sup>-1</sup> belonging to C-H aliphatic group, a moderate, sharp band at 1631 cm<sup>-1</sup> for the vibrational mode of carbonyl group (C=O). Moreover, a unique band at 1463 cm<sup>-1</sup> was observed, which was not present in the starting materials, this band may be attributed to the vibrational mode of azo-group (N=N) and is considered strong evidence of azo formation.<sup>27</sup> The cadmium complex shows the following absorption peaks: a weak stretching absorption band of the C-H aromatic group at 3000 cm<sup>-1</sup>, overlapped with the broad band of the phenolic group (O-H) appearing at 3400 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Additionally, we can clearly see the stretching weak band of the C-H aliphatic group at 2950 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The change in the intensity of the azo-band that appeared at 1462 cm<sup>-1</sup> may have happened due to the coordinative behavior with the metal ion through this group. The strong evidence that supports this fact is the appearance of a new band called M-N band at 524 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The shifting in the location of the carbonyl absorption band compared to its location in the free ligand to be shown at 1612 cm<sup>-1</sup> is also a good indication that proves the coordinative behavior through this group. Finally, the appearance of the Cd-O band at 443 cm<sup>-1</sup> also proves the coordination through carbonyl and carbinol groups.<sup>28</sup> The zinc complex exhibits various stretching absorption bands, including a broad band of phenolic group O-H, C-H aromatic group that overlaps with O-H and aqua group, C-H aliphatic group, azo-group (N=N), carbonyl group C=O, and carbinol

**Table 1.** Micro elemental analysis, some physical features, metal ratio, and chloride content data.

Compound (M. wt.)	Elemental microanalysis % found (calc.)					Yield%	M p°C	Color
	C	H	N	M	Cl			
C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> 288.26	57.89 (58.33)	4.67 (4.20)	10.11 (9.72)	–	–	50	146–148	Brown
C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6</sub> V 353.18	47.99 (47.61)	3.46 (2.85)	8.88 (7.93)	13.91 (14.42)	–	77	231 D	Dark red
C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Cu 349.79	49.01 (48.07)	3.46 (2.88)	9.00 (8.01)	17.68 (18.17)	Nil	61	264D	Brown
C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub> Zn 387.66	44.19 (43.38)	4.41 (3.64)	6.69 (7.23)	15.95 (16.87)	Nil	85	184–186	Dark brown
C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub> Cd 434.68	39.33 (38.68)	3.98 (3.25)	7.34 (6.44)	26.81 (25.86)	nil –	71	>300	Reddish brown
C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> AuCl 518.66	33.19 (32.42)	1.14 (1.94)	6.19 (5.40)	37.25 (37.98)	7.10 (6.84)	76	193–195	Brown light

D=decompose.

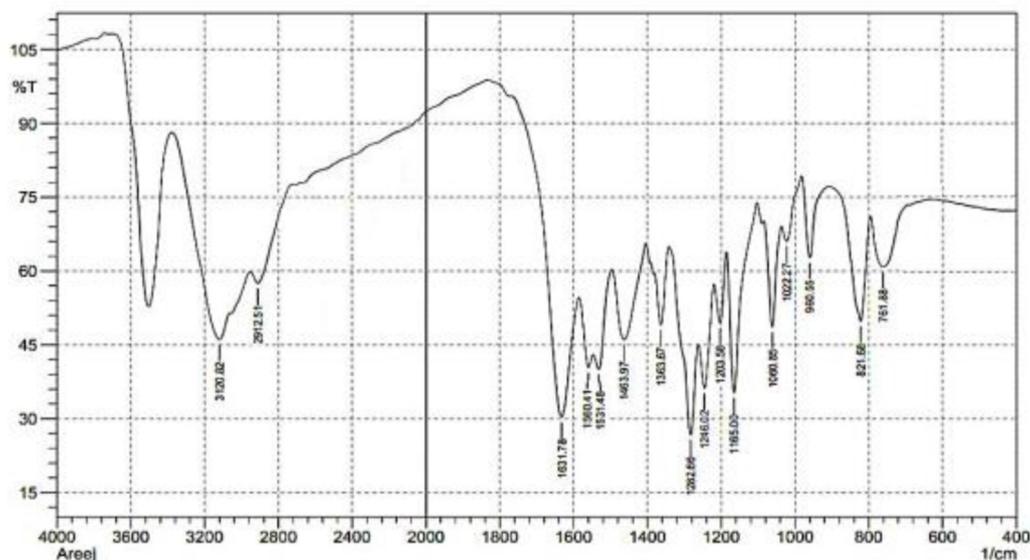


Fig. 2. FT-IR spectrum for ligand.

Table 2. FT-IR spectral data for ligand and complexes.

Compounds	(H <sub>2</sub> O) aqua	(OH) phenolic	(C-H) aromatic	(C-H) aliphatic	(N=N)	C-O carbinol	(C=O)	M-N (M-O)
C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (H <sub>4</sub> L)	–	3580	3120	2912	1463	1282	1631	–
C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Cd	3400 1620 657	3400	3000	2950	1456	1305	1612	524 (443)
C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6</sub> ClZn	3415 1620 657	3473	3178	2926	1452	1305	1612	500 (466)
C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub> Cu	–	3450	3178	2926	1452	1307	1598	520 (470)
C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> AuCl	–	3412	3011	2925	1449	1305	1632	510 (477)
C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6</sub> V	–	3406	3100	2900	1401	1136	1625	493 (478)

group C-O. These bands were detected at 3473 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 3178 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 2926 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1462 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1598 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and 1305 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. The same bands were observed in the ligand with some modifications, such as shifting and changing in their intensities due to the interaction with the metal ion. Additionally, there are new bands, including the aqua band H<sub>2</sub>O (3415, 1620 and 657 cm<sup>-1</sup>), Zn-N (524 cm<sup>-1</sup>), and Zn-O (443 cm<sup>-1</sup>),<sup>29</sup> as displayed in Table 2. The Copper complex exhibits several stretching absorption bands, including a broad band of phenolic group O-H, C-H aromatic group that overlaps with O-H, C-H aliphatic group, azo-group (N=N), carbonyl group C=O, and carbinol group C-O. These bands were detected at 3450 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 3178 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 2926 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1452 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1598 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and 1307 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. These same bands are observed in the ligand, but with some modifications such as shifting and changing in their intensities due to the interaction with metal ion. There are also new bands to consider, which are Cu-N and Cu-O at 520 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 470 cm<sup>-1</sup> respectively. Those bands

are the same bands that observed in ligand with some modifications such as shifting and changing in their intensities due to the interaction with metal ion. The Au-complex exhibits several stretching absorption bands, including a broad band of phenolic group O-H, C-H aromatic group that overlaps with O-H, C-H aliphatic group, azo-group (N=N), carbonyl group C=O, and carbinol group C-O, these bands were detected at 3412 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 3011 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 2925 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1401, 1449 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1632 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and 1305 cm<sup>-1</sup> respectively. These same bands are observed in the ligand, but with some modifications such as shifting and changing in their intensities due to the interaction with metal ion. There are also new bands to consider, which are Au-N and Au-O at 510 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 477 cm<sup>-1</sup> respectively.<sup>30</sup> Those bands are the same bands that observed in ligand with some modifications such as shifting and changing in their intensities due to the interaction with metal ion. for Vanadyl complex, displays the next stretching absorption bands: (broad band of phenolic group O-H, C-H aromatic group that

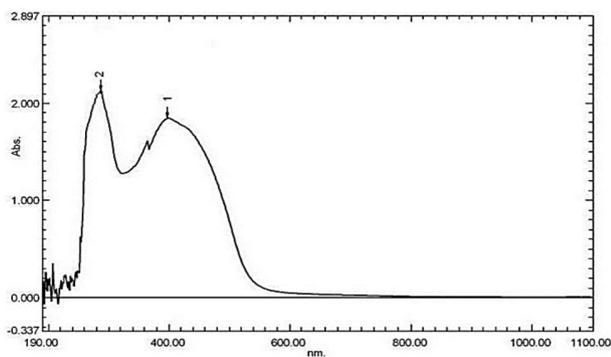


Fig. 3. UV-vis spectrum of ligand.

overlapped with O-H and aqua groups, C-H aliphatic group, azo-groups (N=N), carbonyl group C=O and carbinol group C-O). Those bands were detected at ( $3406\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $3100\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $2900\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $1401\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $1625\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $1136\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) respectively. Those bands are the same bands that observed in ligand with some modifications such as shifting and changing in their intensities due to the interaction with metal ion.<sup>31</sup>

#### Electronic spectra for compounds molar conductivity and magnetic susceptibility

The UV-vis spectrum of ligand which Fig. 3 shows with a moderately broad absorption band at 300 nm,  $33333\text{ cm}^{-1}$  corresponding to ( $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ ) electronic transition, and another broad band at 391 nm,  $25575\text{ cm}^{-1}$  corresponding to  $n \rightarrow \pi^*$  electronic transition.<sup>32</sup> Fig. 4 demonstrates the spectrum of Copper complex and the next transitions: ( $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ ,  $n \rightarrow \pi^*$  and C. T M $\rightarrow$ L) at (245 nm,  $40816\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), (265 nm,  $37735\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) respectively. The transitions of ligand with some shifting in their wavelengths because of coordination with metal. In addition to d-d transitions at visible region (570 nm,  $17543\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) belonging  ${}^2T \rightarrow {}^2E$ ,  $\mu_{\text{eff}} = 1.76$  which is an indicative

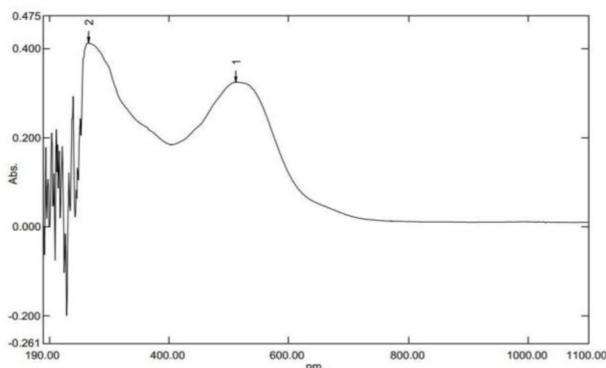


Fig. 4. UV-vis spectrum of Cu-complex.

of a Tetrahedral geometry.<sup>33</sup> The spectrum of Cadmium complex and the next transitions: ( $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ ,  $n \rightarrow \pi^*$  and C. T M $\rightarrow$ L) at (295 nm,  $33898\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), (350 nm,  $28571\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and (395 nm,  $25316\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) respectively the transitions of ligand with some shifting in their wavelengths because of coordination with metal. The spectrum of Zinc complex and the next transitions: ( $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ ,  $n \rightarrow \pi^*$  and C. T M $\rightarrow$ L) at (371 nm,  $26932\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), and (509 nm,  $19623\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) respectively the transitions of ligand with some shifting in their wavelengths because of coordination with metal. The complexes of zinc and cadmium is diamagnetic and their  $\mu_{\text{eff}}$  is equal to zero which is indicative of an Octahedral geometry. The UV-Vis spectrum of Au-complex demonstrates the next electronic transition peaks: ( $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ ) at (306 nm,  $33679\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and intra ligand at (387 nm,  $25839\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). The previous transitions resemble to those found in the ligand itself and the noticeable shifting proves the occurrence of coordination with metal. Other electronic transitions attribute to the transitions in metal itself (d-d) transitions, those are as follows:  ${}^1A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^1B_{1g}$  and  ${}^1A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^1E_g$  observed at (667 nm,  $14992\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and (739 nm,  $13531\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) respectively which support the square planer geometry.<sup>34</sup> The UV-Vis spectrum of vanadium complex displays the next transitions: at ultra-violet region ( $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$  and  $n \rightarrow \pi^*$ ) transitions corresponding to (280 nm,  $35714\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and 310 nm,  $32258\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) respectively. Additionally, to transitions of d-d at visible region at (490 nm,  $20408\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and (630 nm,  $15873\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) had attributed to  ${}^2B_2 \rightarrow {}^2B_{and}$   ${}^2B_2 \rightarrow {}^2B_1$  transitions.<sup>35</sup> The electronic spectrum of the Au(III) compound was studied, exhibits peak of (362, 489 and 568) nm assigned to  $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ ,  ${}^1A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^1B_{1g}$  and  ${}^1A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^1A_{2g}$  respectively which is an indicative of a square planer geometry. All complexes exhibit the same absorption bands as those found in the ligand, located in the ultraviolet region. However, there are some alterations, involving a shifting in absorption bands due to the coordination binding with metal ions. Furthermore, a new absorption peaks were show in the visible region, which belong to transitions of d-d, as shown in Table 3. The molar conductivity of the synthesized complex solutions was measured by preparing  $1 \times 10^{-3}\text{ M}$  from the complexes in DMSO solvent at room temperature. It was found that all measurements shown in Table 3 were consistent with the suggested structural formula of all complexes, indicating that all complexes are non-electrolytes and confirming the geometries of the obtained complexes. Magnetic susceptibility measurements have been widely used in the diagnosis and study of complex transition metals. The most important aspect in this field relates to the effects resulting

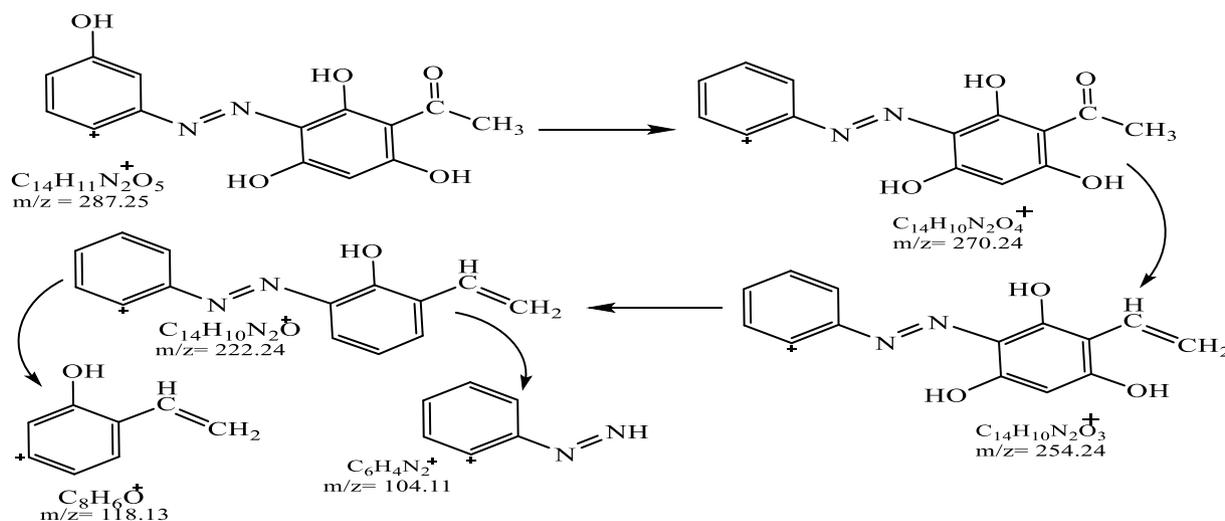
**Table 3.** Electronic spectral data of the compounds and magnetic moment.

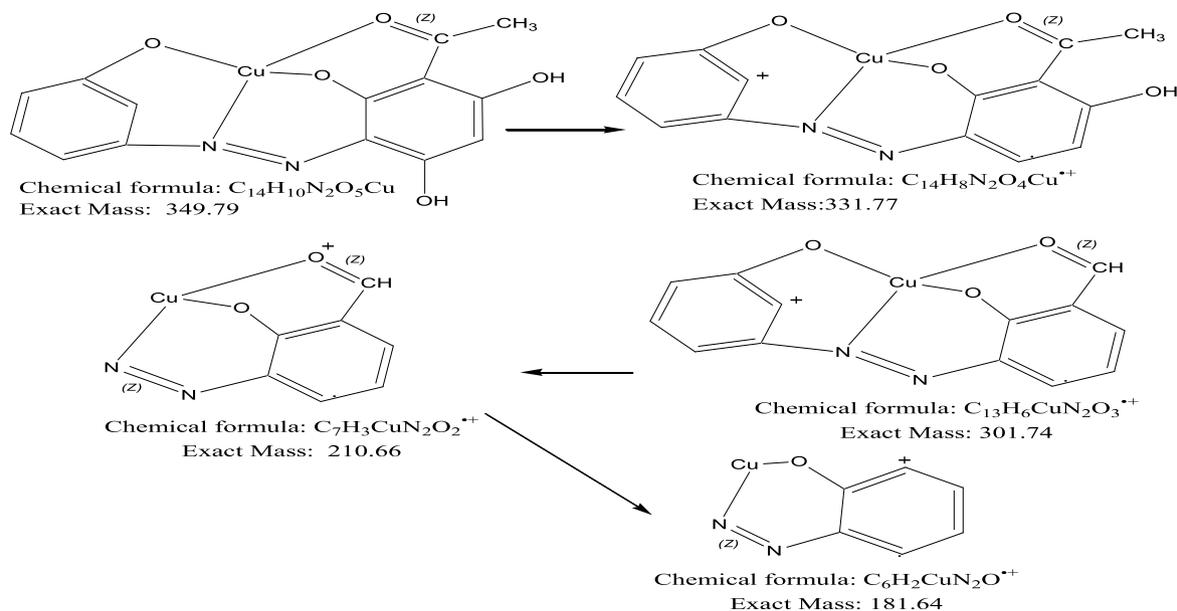
Compound	$\lambda_{\max}$ (nm)	$\nu_{\text{cm}^{-1}}$	ABS.	$\epsilon_{\max} L$ $\text{mol}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$	$\Lambda_m \text{cm}^2$ $\Omega^{-1}\text{mol}^{-1}$	Assignment	$\mu_{\text{eff}}$
$\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5$ (H <sub>4</sub> L)	300	33333	2.090	2090	-	$\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$	-
	391	25575	1.850	1850		$n \rightarrow \pi^*$	
$\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6\text{ClCu}$ Tetrahedral	245	40816	0.300	300.0	15	$\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$	1.76
						$n \rightarrow \pi^*$	
						C.T (M→L) ${}^2\text{T} \rightarrow {}^2\text{E}$	
$\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6\text{ClCd}$ Octahedral	265	37735	0.410	410.0	19	$\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$	Diamagnetic
	570	17543	0.400	400.0		$n \rightarrow \pi^*$	
	295	33898	2.200	220		$n \rightarrow \pi^* + \text{C.T}$	
	350	28571	0.050	50.0		(M→L)	
$\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5\text{Zn}$ Octahedral	390	25641	0.800	800	11	$\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$	Diamagnetic
	371.3	26932	0.521	521		$n \rightarrow \pi^*$	
$\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_2\text{O}_5\text{AuCl}$ Square Planar	509.6	19623	0.120	120	17	C.T (M→L)	Diamagnetic
	362	27624.3	4.0	4000		$\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$	
	489	20449.8	1.18	1180		$n \rightarrow \pi^*$	
$\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6\text{V}$ (Trigonal Bipyramid)	568	17605.6	1.70	1700	9	${}^1\text{A}_{1g} \rightarrow {}^1\text{B}_{1g}$	1.77
	280	35714	0.400	400		$\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$	
	310	32258	0.550	550		$n \rightarrow \pi^*$	
	450	22222	0.680	680		C.T M→L	
	490	20408	0.500	500		${}^2\text{B}_2 \rightarrow {}^2\text{B}$	
	630	15873	0.600	600	${}^2\text{B}_2 \rightarrow {}^2\text{B}_1$		

from the partially filled outer casings with electrons. Magnetic measurements provide information about the compound in terms of the electronic arrangement and the oxidation state of the transition metal atoms. The number of lone electrons of a transition metal ion indicates the state of the spin of the studied complex, whether it is spinning low or high.<sup>36</sup>

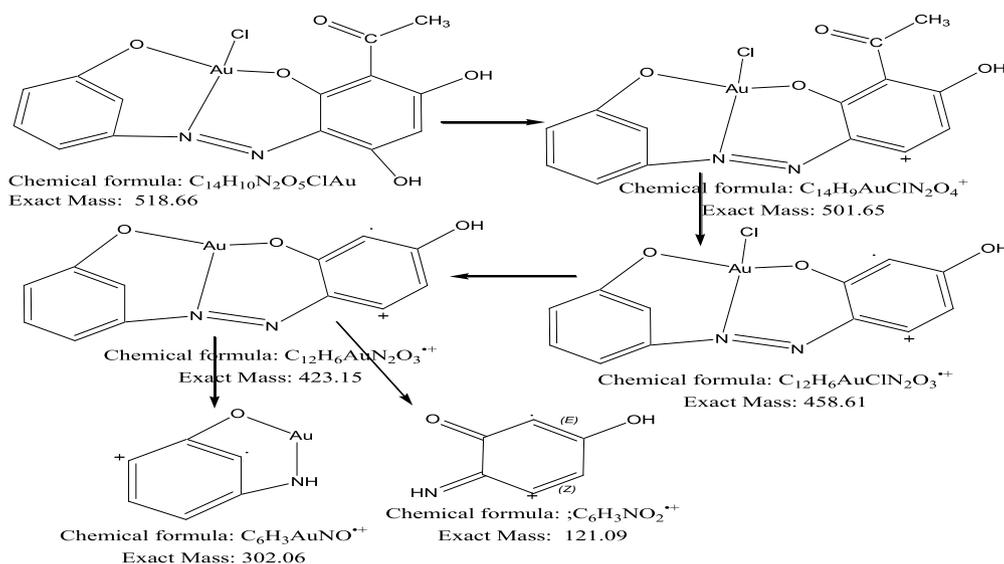
#### LC-Mass spectra for ligand and some complexes

LC-Mass spectrum testing is one of the most crucial methods for characterizing the ligand and some products. It supplements other methods that estimate the molecular weight of the chemical. The fragmentation pattern and the extract mass for each pattern are shown in Scheme 2 to provide mass

**Scheme 2.** The proposed mass fragmentation pathways of ligand.



**Scheme 3.** The proposed mass fragmentation pathways of Cu-complex.



**Scheme 4.** The proposed mass fragmentation pathways of Au-complex.

information for the ligand. The fragment's molecular ion peak  $[M]^+$  is easily visible, such as  $C_{14}H_{11}N_2O_5^+$  with a relative abundance of about 9% in Fig. 5. Other abundances are also present for the rest of the peaks:  $C_{14}H_{10}N_2O_4^+$ ,  $C_{14}H_{10}N_2O_3^+$ ,  $C_{14}H_{10}N_2O^+$ ,  $C_8H_6O^+$  and  $C_6H_4N_2^+$  corresponded the next abundances :270.24 m/z, 254.24 m/z, 222.24 m/z, 118.13 m/z and 104.11 m/z respectively.<sup>37</sup> For copper complex, Fig. 6 and Scheme 3, we can also detect the molecular ion peak ( $M^+$ ) at 349.79 m/z with relative abundance 16% and next pattern:  $C_{14}H_8N_2O_4Cu^+$ ,  $C_{13}H_6CuN_2O_3^+$ ,  $C_7H_3CuN_2O_2^+$ ,  $C_6H_2CuN_2O^+$  corresponded to: 331.97 m/z, 301.74 m/z, 210.66

m/z, 181.64 m/z respectively, corresponded the next abundances: 44%, 49%, 48%, 60% respectively. For Au-complex, Scheme 4, we can also detect the molecular ion peak ( $M^+$ ) at 518.66 m/z with relative abundance 20% and next pattern:  $C_{14}H_9AuClN_2O_4^+$ ,  $C_{12}H_6AuClN_2O_3^+$ ,  $C_{12}H_6AuN_2O_3^+$ ,  $C_6H_3AuNO^+$ ,  $C_6H_3NO_2^+$  corresponded to: 501.65 m/z, 458.61 m/z, 423.15 m/z, 302.06 m/z, 121.09 m/z respectively, For Zinc complex, Scheme 5, we can also detect the molecular ion peak ( $M^+$ ) at 387.66 m/z with relative abundance 24% and next pattern:  $C_{14}H_{11}N_2O_6Zn^+$ ,  $C_{14}H_8N_2O_4Zn^+$ ,  $C_6H_3N_2O_4Zn^+$ ,  $C_8H_6O_3^+$  corresponded to: 368.64

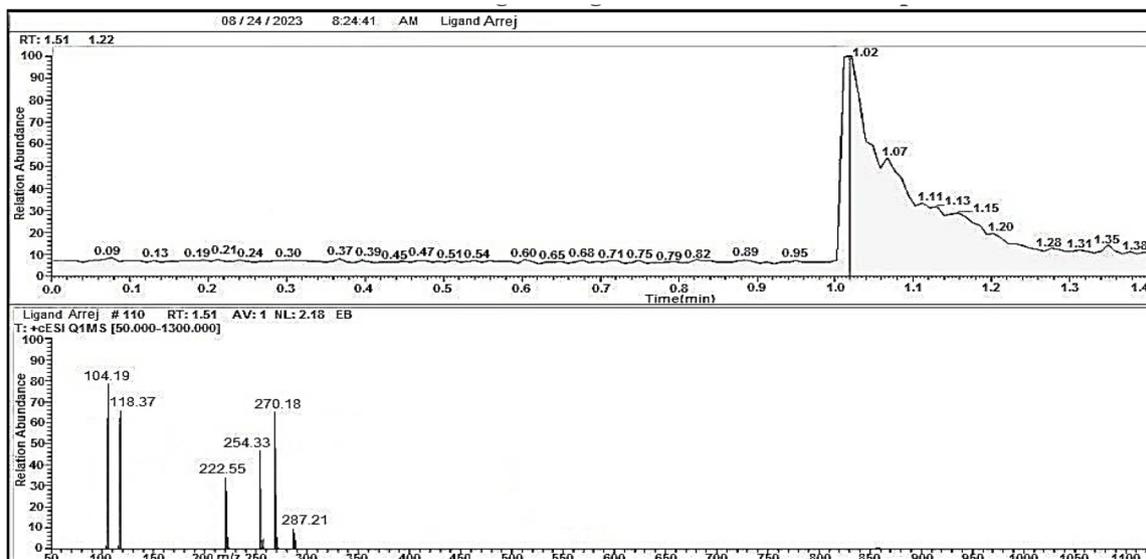


Fig. 5. LC-Mass spectrum of ligand ( $H_4L$ ).

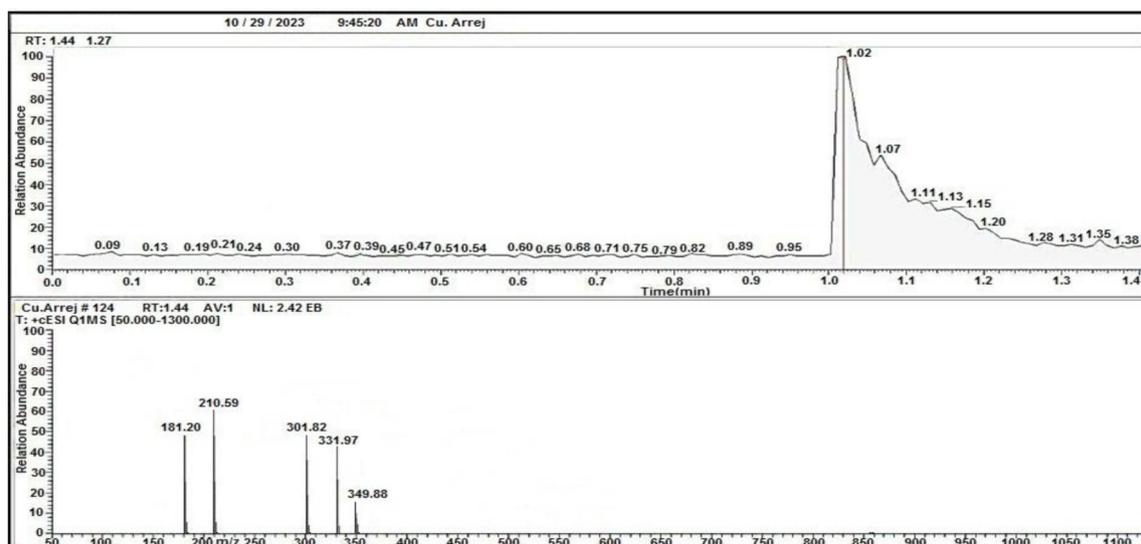


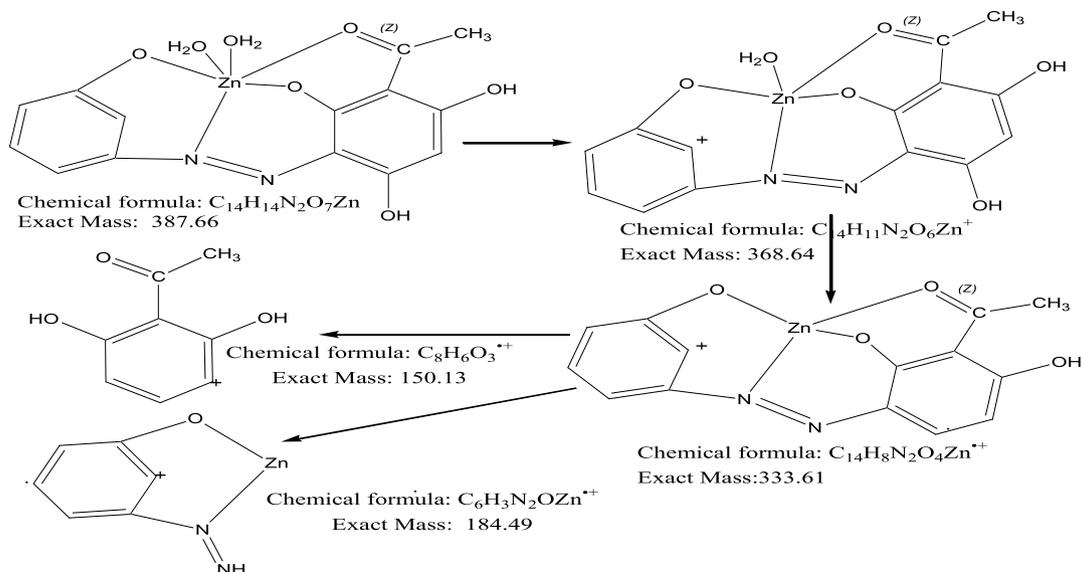
Fig. 6. LC-Mass spectrum of Cu-complex.

$m/z$ , 333.61  $m/z$ , 184.49  $m/z$ , 302.06  $m/z$ , 150.13  $m/z$  respectively corresponded the next abundances: 56%, 34%, 63%, 72% respectively. For Cadmium complex, Scheme 6, we can also detect the molecular ion peak ( $M^+$ ) at 434.68  $m/z$  with relative abundance 10% and next pattern:  $C_{14}H_{11}N_2O_6Cd^+$ ,  $C_{14}H_8N_2O_4Cd^+$ ,  $C_{13}H_6CdN_2O_4^+$ ,  $C_7H_3CdN_2O_3^+$ ,  $C_6H_2CdN_2O_2^+$  corresponded to: 415.66  $m/z$ , 380.64  $m/z$ , 366.61  $m/z$ , 275.52  $m/z$ , 246.50  $m/z$  respectively corresponded the next abundances: 22%, 48%, 36%, 34%, 28% respectively. For vanadium complex show the molecular ion peak ( $M^+$ ) for  $C_{14}H_{10}VN_2O_6$  formula at 353  $m/z$  which matches the molecular weight of the complex.<sup>38</sup>

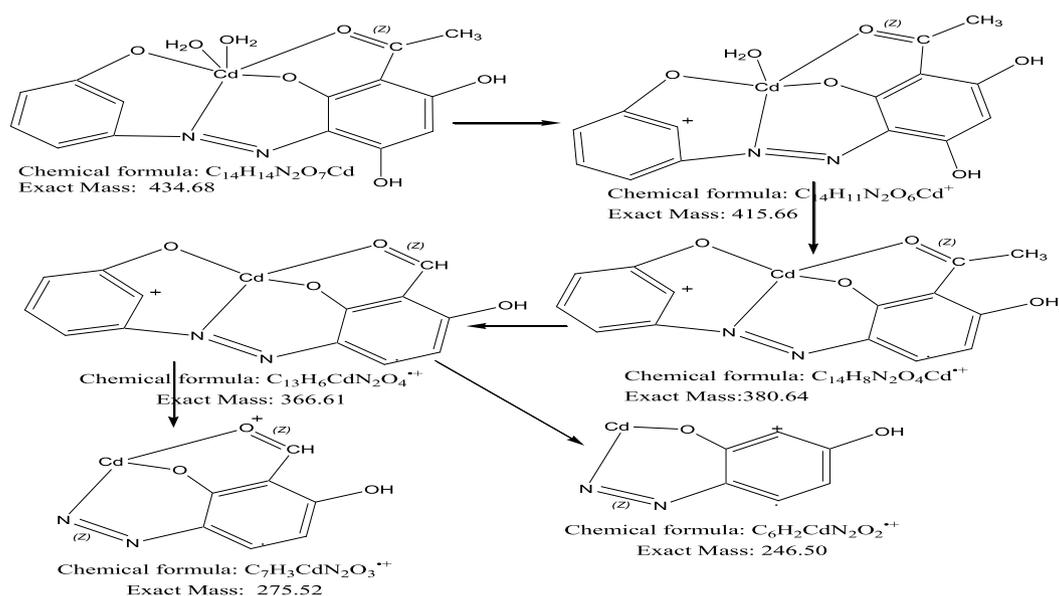
Moreover, the next fragmentation patterns were also observed in the spectrum: ( $C_{14}H_{10}VN_2O_4$   $m/z$  = 321.18,  $C_{12}H_8VN_2O_3$   $m/z$  = 279.15,  $C_{12}H_8VN_2O_2$   $m/z$  = 263.15,  $C_6H_4NO_2$   $m/z$  = 123.11 and  $C_6H_4NV$   $m/z$  = 141.04).<sup>39</sup>

#### Thermal analysis diagnosis

DSC (differential scanning calorimetry) is a pyrolysis technique that helps to determine the amount of temperature absorbed and released during thermal changes in a substance. It is widely used in various fields such as minerals, organic compounds, pharmaceuticals, polymers, inorganic substances and



**Scheme 5.** The proposed mass fragmentation pathways of Zn-complex.



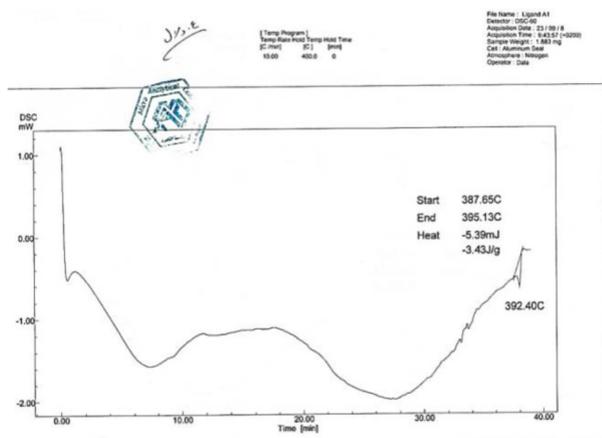
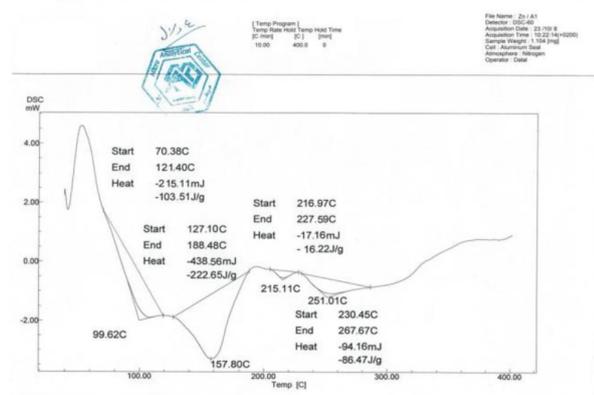
**Scheme 6.** Partitioning analogues for Cd-complex.

food to determine their purity and stability.  $T_i/^\circ C$ ,  $T_f/^\circ C$  and heat amount  $\Delta H$  J/g enthalpy in units are measured for exothermic or endothermic reactions,  $\Delta S$  entropy a measure of the unavailable energy in a closed thermodynamic system that is also usually considered to be a measure of the system's disorder, that is a property of the system's state, and that varies directly with any reversible change in heat in the system and inversely with the temperature of the system all compounds undergo regular thermal decomposition in their final stages, and  $\Delta G$  energy Gibbs the standard Gibbs free energy change,  $\Delta G^\circ$ , indicates the thermodynamic favorability of a physi-

cal or chemical process. When  $\Delta G^\circ < 0$ , the process is thermodynamically favored. For a given process, the value of  $\Delta G^\circ$  can be calculated directly from the values of  $\Delta H^\circ$  and  $\Delta S^\circ$  using the following equation:  $\Delta G^\circ = \Delta H^\circ - T\Delta S^\circ$ , all processing is thermodynamically favored, as shown in Table 4 Figs. 7 and 8. Thermal study of ligand and some complexes are done using TGA (thermogravimetric analysis) and DSC curves. TGA measures the mass change of a substance with temperature when subjected to a controlled thermal program in a specific time. The obtained curve is referred to as a thermogravimetric curve and gives information about thermal stability, reaction rates,

**Table 4.** Differential scanning calorimetry data for ligand and some complexes.

Compound	T <sub>i</sub> /°C	T <sub>f</sub> /°C	Max. T. point °C	ΔH J/g	ΔS J	ΔG J	Type
C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	387.65	395.13	7.48	-3.43	-0.4588	-183.463	Endothermic
C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Zn	70.38	121.40	51.02	-103.51	-1.039	-0.00482	Endothermic
	127.10	188.48	61.38	-222.65	-1.410	-0.152	Endothermic
	216.97	277.592	60.62	-16.22	-0.075	32.35	Exothermic
	230.45	67.67	37.22	-88.47	-0.352	-0.12256	Endothermic
C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6</sub> V	111.25	595.955	484.705	-39.70	-0.154	79.388	Exothermic

**Fig. 7.** DSC. Curve for ligand.**Fig. 8.** DSC. Curve for Zn complex.

chemical structure, and the thermal stability of the products. The thermal behavior of ligand and Zn-complex was characterized using thermogravimetric analysis curve (TGA) Figs. 9 and 10. Schemes 7, 8 give identical results with suggested chemical formula of ligand and tested complex and also demonstrate information for each pyrolysis step that occurred.<sup>38–40</sup>

### Determination of DPPH radical scavenging efficiency

The inhibitory effect of ligand and its minerals, including Cu(II), Zn(II), Cd(II), VO(II) and Au(III) on reactive oxygen species was evaluated using DPPH. The combination of the ligand and its mineral causes a change in color of DPPH from purple to yellow due to the transfer of hydrogen from the ligand to the DPPH molecule. The color conversion was detected using a UV-Vis spectrophotometer at 517 nm. The Radical scavenging activities of the ligand and its minerals on reactive oxygen species was ranked in the following order: Au-complex > H<sub>4</sub>L > Ascorbic acid > Zn-complex > Cu-complex > Cd-complex > V-complex based on the higher IC<sub>50</sub> value indicating lower antioxidant effectiveness.<sup>32–34</sup> The ligand and molybdenum complex demonstrated higher antioxidant activity.<sup>35–37</sup> The free radical scavenging effects of all the compounds with the DPPH radical were evaluated using the following Eq. (1) and presented in Table 5 under the same conditions.<sup>38–40</sup>

$$PI \% = \frac{\text{Absorbance of control} - \text{Absorbance of sample}}{\text{Absorbance of control}} \times 100\% \quad (1)$$

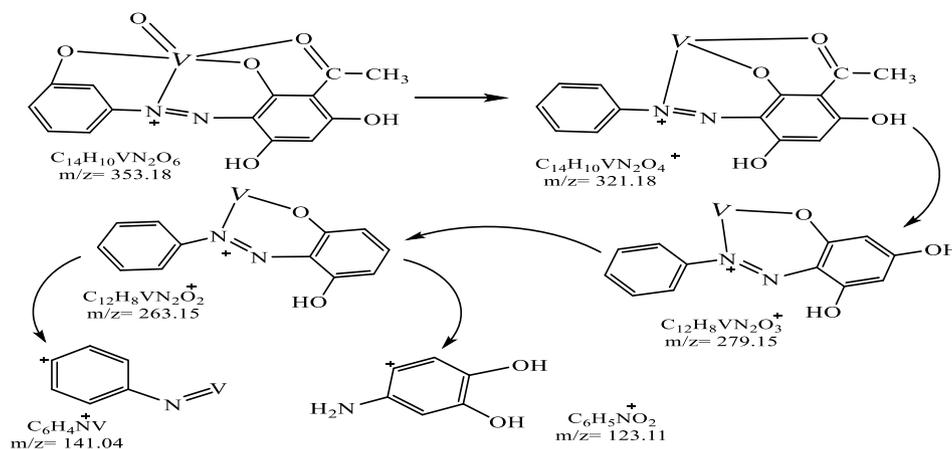
PI = Percentage Inhibition

RSA = 100 - PI;

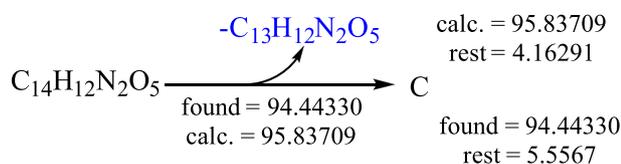
RSA = Radical Scavenging Activity

### Conclusion

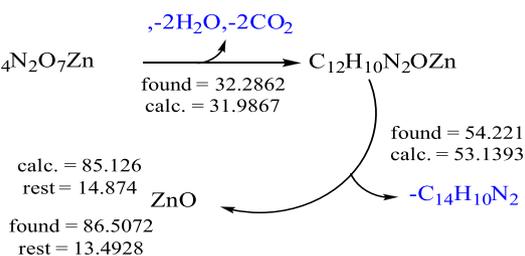
The Azo-dye ligand, known as H<sub>4</sub>L, was synthesized through the diazotization process. This involved the reaction of the diazonium salt of 3-aminophenol with 2, 4, 6-trihydroxy acetophenone. The resulting product was the ligand (E)-1-(2,4,6-trihydroxy-3-((3-hydroxyphenyl) diaziny)phenyl)ethan-1-one = (H<sub>4</sub>L). Stable azo-ligand complexes were successfully synthesized by reacting the azo-ligand with various metal ions, including Cu(II), Cd(II), Zn(II), VO(II) and Au(III). This binding of metal ions occurred through the oxygen and nitrogen atoms of the azo-group in the



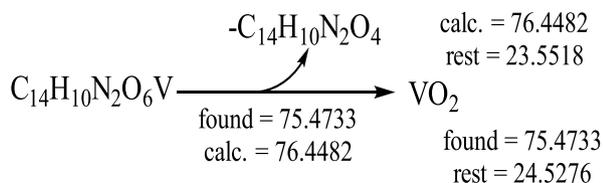
Scheme 7. Partitioning analogues for Vanadium complex.



Scheme 8. Pyrolysis pathway for ligand.



Scheme 9. Pyrolysis pathway for Zn-complex.



Scheme 10. Pyrolysis pathway for vanadyl complex.

ligand. The formation of M-O and M-N bands, which do not occur in the spectrum of free ligand, clearly indicated the interaction of metal ions with the ligand. FT-IR study of the compounds revealed the shifting of carbinol and carbonyl absorption bands, which are attributed to the coordination through these groups. Furthermore, the spectra indicated the binding of aqua water molecules in some complexes. Based on electronic spectra and molar conductivity measurements, we were able to confirm that

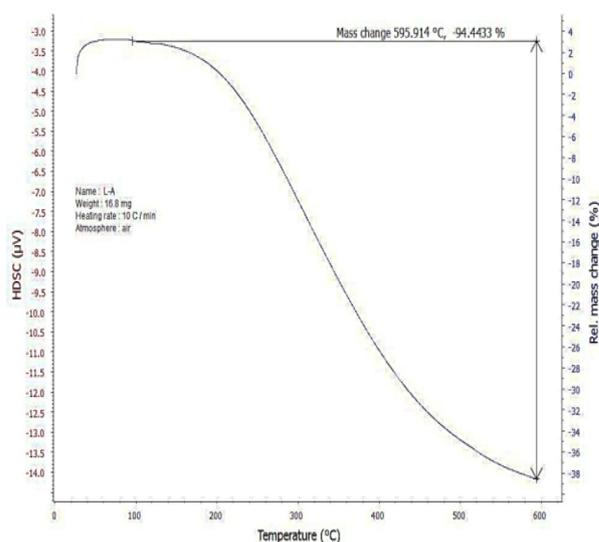


Fig. 9. Thermo gravimetric analysis of ligand.

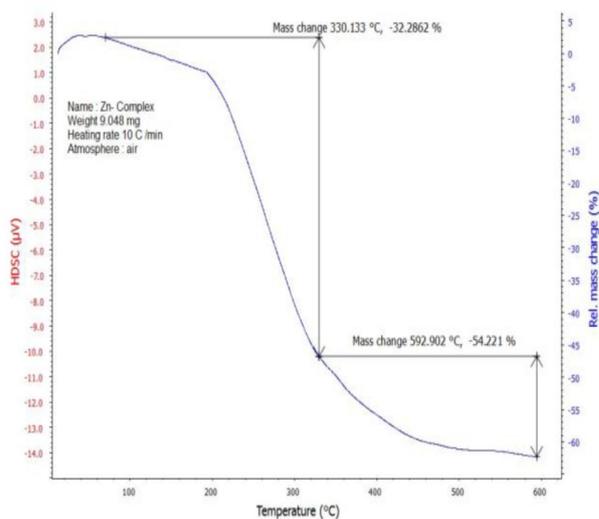


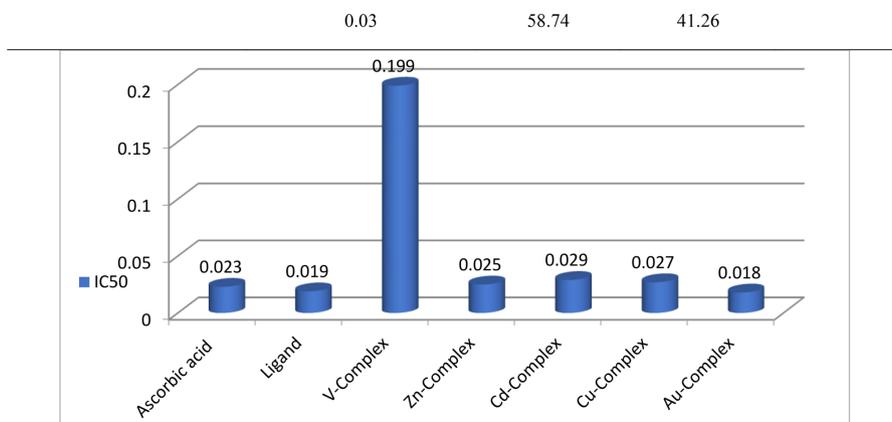
Fig. 10. Thermo gravimetric analysis of Zn complex.

**Table 5.** Thermo gravimetric analysis data for ligand and some complexes.

Compound (M. wt.)	% Estimated (calculated)		Assignment
	Mass loss	Total mass loss	
C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> 288.26	94.4433 (95.837)	94.4433 (95.837)	-C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> C
Calculated:95.837% final =4.16291%; Estimated 94.4433 % final =5.5567%			
C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>6</sub> V 345.17	(76.4482) 75.4733	(76.4482) 75.4733	-C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>
Calculated: 76.4482% final = 23.5518%; Estimated 75.4733% final =24.5276%			
C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub> Zn 387.66	32.2862(31.9867)	54.221 (53.1393)	-2H <sub>2</sub> O, -2CO <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub>
Calculated: 85.126% final = 14.874%; Estimated 86.5072% final = 13.4928%			

**Table 6.** Radical scavenging activities, Percentage Inhibition and IC<sub>50</sub> values.

Compound	Conc. $\mu\text{g/ml}$	PI %	RSA %	IC <sub>50</sub>
C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.375	9.95	90.05	0.019
	0.186	42.17	57.83	
	0.093	58.99	41.01	
	0.046	66.08	33.92	
Cu-Complex	0.068	10.13	89.87	0.027
	0.034	35.18	64.82	
	0.017	50.25	49.75	
	0.008	57.92	42.08	
Zn-Complex	0.076	21.05	78.95	0.025
	0.038	38.43	61.57	
	0.019	45.48	54.52	
	0.009	53.12	46.88	
Cd-Complex	0.084	20.46	79.54	0.029
	0.042	38.43	61.57	
	0.021	46.03	53.97	
	0.010	54.18	45.82	
Au-Complex	0.049	22.46	77.54	0.018
	0.024	48.03	51.97	
	0.012	51.33	48.67	
	0.006	56.78	43.22	
V-Complex	0.664	59.48	40.52	0.199
	0.332	74.38	25.62	
	0.166	79.49	20.51	
	0.083	84.38	15.62	
Ascorbic acid	0.374	12.29	87.80	0.023
	0.186	36.75	63.25	
	0.03	58.74	41.26	

**Fig. 11.** Variations of IC<sub>50</sub> values for ligand and its complexes.

all complexes had octahedral shapes, except for the Cuppercomplex, which had a tetrahedral shape and Au-complex which had square planar shape. LC-Mass spectra, the fragmentation cognate of the complexes, and elementary diagnoses establish the molecular formulas obtained through comparing the theoretical and experimental results. Thermal identification tests showed whether water molecules were included in some complexes or excluded, and this test also demonstrated the various stabilities of the compounds. Finally, the antioxidant effectiveness of the compounds was tested using DPPH and ascorbic acid as a standard, with satisfactory results. The Radical scavenging activities of the ligand and its minerals were ranked in order of inhibitory activity on reactive oxygen species as follows: Au-complex > H<sub>4</sub>L > Ascorbic acid > Zn-complex > Cu-complex > Cd-complex > V-complex. This ranking included the higher antioxidant activity of the synthesized azo-dye due to the presence of four hydroxyl-groups, as detailed in the manuscript.

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## Authors' declaration

- Conflicts of Interest: None.
- We hereby confirm that all the Figures and Tables in the manuscript are ours. Furthermore, any Figures and images, that are not ours, have been included with the necessary permission for republication, which is attached to the manuscript.
- Ethical Clearance: The project was approved by the local ethical committee at Ministry of Education.
- No animal studies are present in the manuscript.
- No human studies are present in the manuscript.
- No potentially identified images or data are present in the manuscript.

## Author's contributions statement

This work carried out in collaboration between all authors. A. M. F. prepared the samples, wrote and

edited the manuscript with revision. A. A. S. did the tests and interpreted the data with revision and W. Al. Z. did the tests of antioxidants and listed their data in the manuscript.

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## تحضير,تشخيص ودراسة حرارية لمعقدات Cd(II), Zn(II), Cu(II), VO(II) و Au (III) معليكاند صبغة الازو وتقييمها كمضادات أكسدة

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### الخلاصة

حضرت معقدات كل من الفنادايل, الخارصين, النحاس والكادميوم بتكافؤهم الثنائي والذهب بتكافؤه الثلاثي باستخدام صبغة ازوجديدة (2,4,6-ثلاثي هيدروكسي-3-((3-هيدروكسي فينيل) ثنائي زينيل) فينيل) ايثان-1-اون المحضرة من ملح الديازونيوم مع 2,4,6- ثلاثي هيدروكسي اسيتوفينون بعد عزل (E)-1-(2,4,6-trihydroxy-3-((3-hydroxyphenyl)diazenyl)phenyl)ethan-1-one تم تشخيصها بواسطة الطرق الطيفية المتاحة والتقنيات التشخيصية لكل من التحليل الدقيق للعناصر واطياف كل من الكتلة, الرنين النووي البروتوني والكاربوني, الاشعة فوق البنفسجية, الاشعة تحت الحمراء ومنحنى التحلل الحراري الوزني والمسعر التفاضلي والمعقدات شملت التقنيات هذه فضلا عن تحديد نسبة الفلز وتحديد محتوى الكلور والحساسية المغناطيسية والتوصيلية المولارية. أعطت النتائج أن الليكاند ايوني (سالبة) رباعي السن مرة عند تناسقه مع النحاس والخارصين والكادميوم عن طريق ذرة الاوكسجين الفينولية وذرة الاوكسجين الكاربونيلية وذرة نتروجين الازو, بينما كان ثلاثي السن عند التناسق مع الذهب الثلاثي من خلال ذرة الاوكسجين الفينولية وذرة نتروجين الازو حيث اعطى الذهب شكل مربع مستوي متعادل بينما الخارصين والكادميوم ثماني السطوح متعادل حاوي على جزيئين ماء متناسقة واعطى النحاس شكل رباعي السطوح متعادل اما الفنادايل فاعطى شكلا ثنائي الهرم المثلاثي متعادل. ثم تم تحديد قابلية هذه المركبات المحضرة كمضادات اكسدة من خلال كبحها للجذور الحرة باستعمال مادة DPPH كجذر حر وفيتامين C كمرجع لتحديد قيمة IC<sub>50</sub> التي اعطت النتائج (Au-complex > H4L > Ascorbic acid > Zn-complex > Cu-complex > Cd-complex > V-complex)

**الكلمات المفتاحية:** معقدات الازو، أصباغ الازو، تأثير مضادات الاكسدة، التحليل الحراري الوزني، 2,4,6-هيدروكسي اسيتوفينون.