



## Substituted Macrocycles good Catalysts for Oxidations of Hydroquinones and 1, 2 Diphenylhydrazine

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**ABSTRACT:** Novel Co (II), Ni (II) and Cu (II) Complexes are synthesized with catalytic oxidation of Hydroquinones and 1, 2-Diphenylhydrazine. Macrocyclic ligands and their complexes were characterized by elemental analysis, molar conductivity measurements, UV/Vis, IR, NMR, and catalytic oxidation. On the basis of IR, and spectral studies, an octahedral geometry has been assigned for the Co (II), Ni (II) and Cu (II) Complexes. Further the complexes have been subjected to laundry application, chemical industry, and biological interest. The results suggest quasireversible behavior of most of the redox processes.

**Keywords:** Macrocyclic Complexes, Spectral Studies, Catalytic Oxidation

### INTRODUCTION

A large amount of interest in the field of macrocyclic Chemistry of Cobalt, Copper and Nickel has arisen during past decades because of their multifarious role in Chemistry and Industry. The study of the macrocyclic complexes has also been received attention for synthetic catalysts which increased the oxidizing ability of  $H_2O_2$ . The use of  $H_2O_2$  along with the synthetic macrocycles (termed as activators developed by Torrence Collins of Carnegie Mellon University) are being used as catalyst [1-15]. The use of  $H_2O_2$  synthetic macrocyclic activators has the potential to replace the chlorine containing complexes that are currently in use in paper delignification and bleaching processes. The  $H_2O_2$  bleaching produces only environmentally benign byproduct such as  $H_2O$  and  $O_2$ , thus eliminating the chlorinated organic byproducts which are associated with chlorine delignification and bleaching processes. The macrocyclic activators have made the use of  $H_2O_2$  as a bleaching agent more efficient as the macrocyclic complexes catalyze the reaction to promote the dissociation of  $H_2O_2$  into hydroxyl radicals which are involved in the oxidation or bleaching of the remaining lignin, thus making  $H_2O_2$  a more powerful oxidizing agent. The macrocyclic activators allow  $H_2O_2$  to break down more lignin in a shorter amount of time of 1 hour in comparison to 6 hours as well as these retain high selectivity towards oxidizing lignin over Cellulose. Additionally in the presence of macrocyclic complexes for bleaching process by  $H_2O_2$  lower reaction temperatures can be used as  $50^\circ C$  instead of  $120^\circ C$  [16-32]. In addition to catalyzing bleaching or delignification reaction macrocyclic activators can also be used in

laundry application because they can keep dyes from transferring between fabrics and can activate the peroxides found in many bleaches. As the problem of dye transfer is in part flowing the adsorption of reduced-water washing machines, the use of macrocyclic activators in laundry applications could also result in reduced use of water supplies. Although the extensive investigations of oxygenation reactions have also been carried out in the presence of Cobaloxime because of biological interest [33-45].

### EXPERIMENTAL

#### Materials

All the chemical and solvent used in this study were of Anal R grade. 1, 2-diphenylhydrazine, Catechol, Resorcinol and Triphenylphosphine procured from Sigma-Aldrich and Fluka. All Metal salts were purchased from E. Merck and used received. All solvent used were of standard/spectroscopic grade.

#### Isolation complexes

All the complexes were synthesized by template methods. The synthesis and catalytic oxidation of Hydroquinones and 1, 2-Diphenylhydrazine in the synthesized macrocyclic complexes of Co (II), Ni (II) and Cu (II) have presence been carried out [46-51]. The axial ligation constants and thermodynamic parameters for these types of macrocyclic complexes have already been reported [52-55].  $Me_6$  dibenzotetraazaatetradecatetraene- $N_4$  Complexes of Co (II), Ni (II) and Cu (II) were used for catalytic oxidation of Hydroquinones and 1,2-Diphenylhydrazine. The oxidation was carried out in atmosphere of air in  $CHCl_3$  solvent.

It has also been observed with substituted macrocyclic complex of Co (II) that substituent groups affect the rate of oxidation due to steric and/or electronic effects. Macrocyclic complexes Ni (II) and Cu (II) did not work as good catalyst for the oxidation of Hydroquinones. Accordingly, the results of an investigation of catalytic oxidation of some substrates using Co (II) macrocyclic complex (A) have been taken into account for these studies [56-60].

Proton NMR measurements were carried out in  $\text{CdCl}_2$  at room temperature with (Bruker) model AC-300 spectrometer operating in the fourier transform mode. Chemical shifts were reported in ppm relative to TMS as an internal reference standard. Ultraviolet and visible spectra covering the 240-500 nm range were measured with a Shimadzu UV-VIS double beam spectrophotometer in  $\text{CHCl}_3$  at room temperature.

Methyl substituted  $\text{Me}_6$  Dibenzo [1, 4, 8, 11] tetraazacyclotetradecatetraene  $-\text{N}_4$  Macrocyclic

Complexes of Co (II) (A), Ni (II) (B) and Cu (II) (C) respectively were prepared according to literature method.

The autoxidation studies of hydroquinones and 1, 2-diphenylhydrazine in the presence macrocyclic complexes Co (II), Ni (II) and Cu (II) were carried out. The complex (0.25 mmol) was added to a solution of the hydroquinone (0.3 mmol) in chloroform (200 ml). Air was bubbled into the resulting mixture for 8 hrs with continuous stirring.

The crude reaction mixture was filtered and the filtrate was concentrated on rotavap and thus concentrate was applied on the top of a chromatographic silica gel (60-80 mesh) column and eluted with dichloromethane. The solid material, which was recovered by evaporating the eluate to dryness on rotavap and the recrystallized with petroleum ether to give the pure 1, 4-benzoquinone yellow needles. The data for all compounds are listed in Table 1.

**Table 1: Oxidation products for a various of Hydroquinones in  $\text{CHCl}_3$ .**

| Substituent Group                | Yield (%) of 1,4-benzoquinones | IR ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) $\nu(\text{C}=\text{O})$ | $^1\text{H}$ NMR(ppm) aromatic  | Melting point ( $^\circ\text{C}$ ) $-\text{CH}_3$ |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|---|
| H                                | 46                             | 1665   | 6.77(s)   | 114-116   |
| 2- $\text{CH}_3$                 | 60                             | 1656   | 6.62(q), 6.75(m), 2.11(d)<br>( $J=1.2\text{Hz}$ ) ( $J=1.2\text{Hz}$ )                      | 65-69   |
| 2-Cl                             | 50                             | 1660   | 6.85(d), 6.85(s), 7.00(d)<br>( $J=1.4\text{Hz}$ ) ( $J=1.4\text{Hz}$ )                      | 52-56   |
| 2- $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$     | 75                             | 1655   | 6.62(d), 6.63(s), 6.66(d), 1.29(s)<br>( $J=1.0\text{Hz}$ ) ( $J=1.0\text{Hz}$ )             | 55-58   |
| 2,3,5- $\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ | 70                             | 1645   | 6.56(q), 2.02(s), 2.04(d)<br>( $J=1.8\text{Hz}$ ) ( $J=1.8\text{Hz}$ ) ( $J=1.8\text{Hz}$ ) | 32  |

#### The Autoxidation of Hydroquinone in the Presence of Cobalt (II) Macrocyclic Complex (A).

The oxidation reaction of Cobalt macrocyclic complex (A) (0.25mmol), hydroquinone (3.0 mmol) and base (5.0 mmol), following the above procedure, gave the pure 1, 4-benzoquinone with the yield as shown in Table 2. It has been observed that the oxidation reaction of macrocyclic complex Co (II) (0.25 mmol) and substrates (catechol, resorcinol etc.)

(2.0mmol) gave no product as shown in Table 4. Procedure for the autoxidation of 1, 2-diphenylhydrazine in the presence of Co (II) macrocyclic complex (A). The oxidation reaction of Macrocyclic (A) (0.25 mmol) and 1, 2-diphenylhydrazine (2.70 mmol), gave pure azobenzene as reddish orange needles; yield (70%), and 452 nm. IR (KBr disk):  $1585 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (N = N str.). M.P. 65-69  $^\circ\text{C}$  UV 235 nm, 320 nm.

**Table 2: Catalytic oxidation for hydroquinone in  $\text{CHCl}_3$  in the presence of bases.**

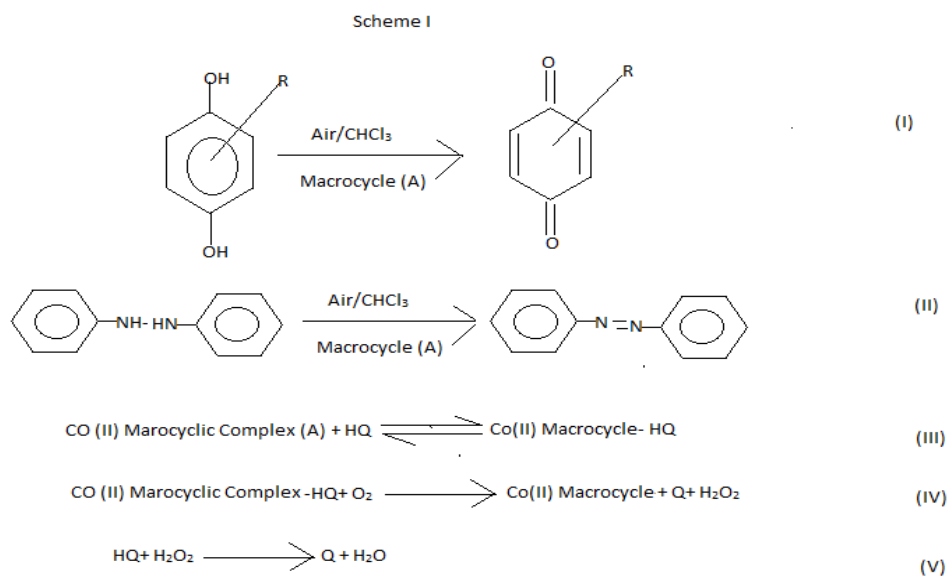
| Catalyst (m. mol) | Base (m. mol)   | Yield % of 1,4-benzoquinone |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| 0.25              | pyridine        | 36                          |
| 0.25              | pyridine        | 35                          |
| 0.25              | 4-aminopyridine | 10                          |
| 0.25              | No base         | 44                          |

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the presence of air, the cobalt (II) macrocyclic complex (A) catalyzes the oxidation of a variety of hydroquinones and 1, 2-diphenylhydrazine, added in a 10 fold over the catalyst. The oxidation reactions shown in scheme-1.

The yields of the oxidation products in equation (I) and (II) are in good agreement given in Tables 1 and 3. The catalytic effect of macrocycle (A) has been observed by the yields of the products, which has been compared with the blank experiments give in Table 4. 2, 3, 5-Trimethyl-hydroquinone was oxidized to 2, 3, 5-trimethyl-1, 4-benzoquinone. On the other hand, the yields of 1, 4-benzoquinone and 2-chloro-1, 4-benzoquinone were low ~40% and ~50% respectively. It seems that, with substituted Co (II) macrocyclic Complex (A), and substituent groups in the aromatic ring affect the rate of oxidation due to steric and/or electronic effects. Rest of the complexes Ni (II) (B) and

Cu (II) (C) showed no catalytic effect for the oxidation of hydroquinone Table 4. The oxidation of hydroquinone catalyzed by Co (II) macrocyclic Complex (A) did not work in the presence under an atmosphere of nitrogen. However, this system could not catalyze the oxidation of catechol, resorcinol and triphenylphosphine under similar conditions Table 3. Me<sub>6</sub> Dibenzo [1, 4, 8, 11] tetraazacyclotetradecatetraene -N<sub>4</sub> Macrocylic Complexes of Co (II) (A), Ni (II) (B) and Cu (II) (C) respectively. It has been observed that the catalytic activity of Co (II) macrocyclic complex (A) depends upon the properties of the added axial base. The yield of the oxidation product was low on addition of 4-aminopyridine as an axial base. It seems that 4-aminopyridine coordinates with cobalt atom at the axial site in Co (II) macrocyclic complex (A) and hinders the coordination of the substrates to the cobalt atom.



**Table 3: Catalytic Oxidation for Various Substrates in CHCl<sub>3</sub>.**

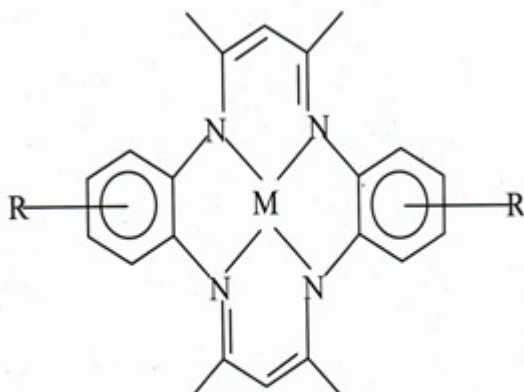
| Substrate             | Product                  | (Yield %) |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| 1,2-Diphenylhydrazine | azobenzene               | (75)      |
| Catechol              | 1,2-benzoquinone         | (0)       |
| Resorcinol            | .....                    | (0)       |
| Triphenylphosphine    | Triphenylphosphine oxide | (0)       |

**Table 4: Catalytic Oxidation for Various Substrates in CHCl<sub>3</sub>.**

| Catalyst          | Used gas | Yield (%) of 1,4-benzoquinone |
|-------------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| Co (II) (A)       | air      | 44                            |
| Ni (II) (B)       | air      | 0                             |
| Cu (II) (C)       | air      | 0                             |
| No catalyst added | air      | 0                             |

It may be concluded that, the catalytic oxidations involve dehydrogenation for a variety of hydroquinones and 1, 2-diphenylhydrazine. However the dehydrogenation of hydroquinone (HQ) can be considered by stepwise H-atom transfer to O<sub>2</sub> and in the formation of 1,4-benzoquinon (Q) and hydrogen peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) take place.

Similarly the oxidation mechanism of 1, 2-diphenylhydrazine in CHCl<sub>3</sub> can be shown. Thus the cobalt (II) macrocycle complex (A) function as more efficient catalyst for the oxidation of a variety of Hydroquinones and 1, 2-diphenylhydrazine. The substituent groups on the aromatic ring of hydroquinones may also influence the rate of oxidation due to steric and/ or electronic effects. Thus it has been observed that the substituted macrocycle complex (A) is also behaving like unsubstituted macrocycle more effectively [61-64].



Where= Co(II) (A), Ni (II) (B), Cu(II) (C)

R = CH<sub>3</sub>

## CONCLUSION

The present study revealed an octahedral geometry around the Co(II), Ni(II) and Cu(II) complexes, a square planar for Ni(II) and a tetragonal for Cu(II) complexes, in which the ligand acts as tetradentate manner coordination through the nitrogen atoms of v(C=N) group. The catalytic oxidations involve dehydrogenation for a variety of hydroquinones and 1, 2-diphenylhydrazine. However the dehydrogenation of hydroquinone (HQ) can be considered by stepwise H-atom transfer to O<sub>2</sub> and in the formation of 1,4-benzoquinon (Q) and hydrogen peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>). It has also been proposed that concentration plays a vital role in increasing the degree of inhibition; as the concentration increase, the activity increases.

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