



# Synthesis, Characterization and Biological Application of Rhodium, Platinum and Gold Metal Complexes Derived from Bidentate Schiff Base Ligand

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## Abstract

The derived bidentate schiff base (N-(2-((E)-4 hydroxy benzylidene) amino) phenyl)-1-(p tolyl) methenamine) by condensing 4-Hydroxy Benzaldehyde and o-Phenylenediamine have been synthesized. The above synthesized Schiff base forms stable coordinated metal complexes, using salts of Rhodium, Platinum and Gold. The synthesized Schiff base and metal complexes were characterized by U.V, FTIR, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and the percentage of elemental detections were determined by CHNS analyzer. The thermal stability of metal complexes was studied using TGA indicating the synthesized metal complexes up to 450- 650 °C. The characterization study confirms the formation of stable octahedral Rh (III) complex whereas Pt (II) and Au (III) complexes shows square planar structures. The crystal systems of the metal complexes were studied X-ray diffractometer. Further the comparative antimicrobial activities of the Schiff base and corresponding metal complexes have been studied.

## Keywords

Antimicrobial activity, Metal complexes, Schiff bases, Spectral studies.

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## INTRODUCTION:

A large number of studies have been published on Schiff bases and their metal complexes. In general Schiff bases show very good coordinating ability with the transition metal ions. <sup>[1][2][3]</sup> The variety of studies on transition metal complexes of Schiff bases show interesting properties such as chemical, antimicrobial, analytical as well as physiochemical effects. <sup>[4]-[8]</sup> We tried to synthesize, characterized the Rh(III), Pt(II) and Au(III) complexes of Schiff base derived from 4-Hydroxy Benzaldehyde and o-Phenylenediamine and also studied their biological activities and crystal lattice parameter of corresponding metal Schiff base complexes.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS:

### Chemicals

All the chemicals used were of Analytical reagent grade. 4-Hydroxy Benzaldehyde, o-Phenylenediamine metal salts were obtained from S.D. fine-Chem. Ltd. Distilled solvents were used throughout the experiments. Purity of the synthesized Schiff base and metal complexes were checked by TLC using Merck silica gel plates. The melting points of all the Schiff base compounds were obtained on a VMP-D /DS melting point apparatus. The percentages of C, H & N in Schiff base metal complexes were determined using a Thermo finnigan FLASH EA 1112 series CHN analyzer. The IR spectra were recorded in KBr pellets on Shimadzu IR Prestige

21. UV Visible spectra were recorded with Shimadzu UV1800A spectrophotometer. ECZR Series 600 MHz NMR spectrometer were used for <sup>1</sup>H NMR. XRD analysis were done using LabX XRD-6100 whereas thermal analysis were done using Perkin Elmer 4000. The antimicrobial activity of the Schiff base and their complexes are determined by the zone inhibition method against bacterial strains of Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus pyogenes, Escherichia coli and Klebsiella Pneumonia.

**Synthesis of Ligand (HL): N-(2-((E)-4 hydroxy benzylidene) amino) phenyl)-1- (p tolyl) methenamine.**

**Procedure:** The Schiff base was prepared by condensing (1:2) quantities of o-Phenylenediamine (1.08g) and 4-Hydroxy Benzaldehyde (2.44g) respectively. Using two-neck round bottom flask, 25 mL hot alcoholic solution of 4-Hydroxy Benzaldehyde was slowly added to 25 mL hot alcoholic solution of o-Phenylenediamine. The reaction mixture was then refluxed for five hours on water bath then hot reaction mixture was poured in ice-cold water. The precipitate obtained was filtered, washed with cold water, recrystallized from ethanol and air dried. Its physical and analytical data given in (TABLE 1).

**Synthesis of Metal Complexes:**

**Synthesis of [Rh (HL)Cl<sub>3</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O].2H<sub>2</sub>O:**

**Procedure:** The metal complex was synthesized by reflux-precipitation method in a two necked round bottom flask. The hot alcoholic solution of Schiff base (HL) (0.001 mol) was mixed with alcoholic solution of with constant stirring. The Rh (III) complex Rh (III) was precipitated at pH = 8.50 by refluxing alcoholic solution of Schiff base (0.001 mol) with RhCl<sub>3</sub>.3H<sub>2</sub>O (0.001 mol) for about 6-8 hours. The buff-colored metal complexes separated were filtered, washed with hot water and then with 5% hot ethanol, air dried and melting point recorded.

**Synthesis of [Pt (HL)Cl<sub>2</sub>]. H<sub>2</sub>O:**

**Procedure:** The Pt (II) metal complex was synthesized by reflux-precipitation method in a two necked round bottom flask. The hot alcoholic solution of Schiff base (HL) (0.001 mol) was mixed with alcoholic solution of K<sub>2</sub>PtCl<sub>4</sub> (0.001 mol) with constant stirring. The pH of reaction mixture was adjusted to 3.26. The red coloured precipitate Pt (II) metal complex separated was filtered, washed with hot water and then with 5% hot ethanol air dried and melting point was recorded.

**Synthesis of [Au (HL)Cl<sub>2</sub>] Cl.H<sub>2</sub>O:**

**Procedure:** The Au (III) metal complex was synthesized by reflux-precipitation method in a two necked round bottom flask. The hot alcoholic solution of Schiff base (HL) (0.001 mol) was mixed with alcoholic solution of NaAuCl<sub>4</sub>.2H<sub>2</sub>O (0.001 mol) with constant stirring. The pH of reaction mixture was adjusted to 3.26. The reddish-brown colored Au (III) metal complex precipitated was separated, filtered, washed with hot water and then with 5% hot ethanol, air dried and melting point was recorded. The physical and analytical data of metal complexes are given in (TABLE 1).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

The Schiff base is synthesized by using equimolar quantities of 4-Hydroxyl Benzaldehyde and o-Phenylenediamine. The metal complexes of Rh (III), Pt (II) and Au (III) were synthesized using 1:1 stoichiometric proportions. The metal complexes derived varied in their color. All the complexes are air stable, non-hygroscopic, colored solids. The metal complexes are insoluble in water but soluble in DMSO and DMF. All the complexes show very low molar conductance values which indicate that the complexes are non-electrolytic in nature. The physical and analytical data of Schiff base and metal complexes are shown in (TABLE 1).

**TABLE 1: PHYSICAL AND ANALYTICAL DATA OF SCHIFF BASE AND ITS METAL COMPLEXES**

Ligand/ Complexes	Colour	M.P. °C	Mol. Wt. g	Elemental analysis %					Molar Cond. (Scm <sup>2</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> )
				Calculated (Found)					
				C	H	N	Cl	Metal	
HL	Pale Yellow	135	316.36	75.94 (74.57)	5.06 (5.24)	8.86 (8.82)	-	-	-
[Rh(HL)Cl <sub>3</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O].2H <sub>2</sub> O	Dark Brown	185	577.68	41.59 (42.10)	3.81 (3.20)	4.85 (4.92)	18.19 (18.48)	17.85 (17.32)	0.030
[Pt(HL)Cl <sub>2</sub> ] H <sub>2</sub> O	Brown	210	599.03	40.06 (45.38)	3.00 (3.01)	4.60 (4.81)	11.62 (11.40)	32.55 (33.72)	0.048
[Au(HL)Cl <sub>2</sub> ]Cl.H <sub>2</sub> O	Brown	162	637.26	37.79 (38.01)	2.83 (2.38)	4.40 (4.09)	16.62 (16.10)	30.25 (30.41)	0.094

### The FTIR spectral data of the Schiff base and the Metal Complexes:

The I.R. spectral data of the Schiff base and the Metal Complexes are recorded in **TABLE 2A**. Schiff base showed a strong absorption band at  $1623\text{ cm}^{-1}$  characteristic of  $\nu(\text{C}=\text{N})$ . The azomethine  $\nu(\text{C}=\text{N})$  band at  $1623\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in Schiff base is shifted to lower frequency in Rh(III), Pt(II) and Au(III) complexes by  $12\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $9\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $10\text{ cm}^{-1}$  respectively which indicates the co-ordination of azomethine nitrogen in complexation.<sup>[12]</sup> The values around  $3600\text{--}3550\text{ cm}^{-1}$  indicates free  $-\text{OH}$  stretching frequency in case of ligand and metal complexes. Thus it suggests that the phenolic oxygen of Schiff base is not coordinated with the metal. The new frequency band observed from  $550\text{--}580\text{ cm}^{-1}$  indicates formation of M-N bond whereas frequency band observed from  $320\text{--}330\text{ cm}^{-1}$  indicates formation of M-X bond.

### Electronic Spectral data of the Schiff base and the Metal Complexes:

Electronic spectrum of ligand showed three high intensity bands at  $20833\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $22540\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $36487\text{ cm}^{-1}$  indicates  $n \rightarrow n^*$  and  $\sigma \rightarrow \sigma^*$  transitions.

The electronic spectra of Pt(II) complex showed bands at  $21250\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $25970\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $30950\text{ cm}^{-1}$  which may be assigned to  $^1\text{A}_{1g} \rightarrow ^1\text{B}_{1g}$ ,  $^1\text{A}_{1g} \rightarrow ^1\text{E}_{1g}$  and  $^1\text{A}_{1g} \rightarrow ^1\text{A}_{2g}$  respectively. The band at  $36870\text{ cm}^{-1}$  is considered as charge transfer transition. Hence, a square planar geometry may be assigned for Pt (II) complex.<sup>[15]</sup>

Similarly the electronic spectra of Au(III) complex showed bands at  $21260\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $25290\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $30250\text{ cm}^{-1}$  which may be assigned to  $^1\text{A}_{1g} \rightarrow ^1\text{B}_{1g}$ ,  $^1\text{A}_{1g} \rightarrow ^1\text{E}_{1g}$  and  $^1\text{A}_{1g} \rightarrow ^1\text{A}_{2g}$  respectively. The band at  $33200\text{ cm}^{-1}$  is considered as charge transfer transition. Hence, a square planar geometry may be assigned for Au (III) complex.<sup>[16]</sup>

The electronic spectrum of Rh(III) complex showed bands at  $22230\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $25650\text{ cm}^{-1}$  which have been assigned to  $^1\text{A}_{1g} \rightarrow ^1\text{T}_{1g}$  and  $^1\text{A}_{1g} \rightarrow ^1\text{T}_{2g}$  transitions respectively whereas the band appearing at  $38750\text{ cm}^{-1}$  is a charge transfer transition.<sup>[17]</sup> The Rh(III) complex may be assigned octahedral geometry.<sup>[18]</sup> The Electronic spectral data have shown in **TABLE 2B**.

**TABLE 2A: FTIR DATA**

Ligand/Complexes	I.R Spectral data $\text{cm}^{-1}$			
	$\nu(\text{O-H})$	$\nu(\text{C}=\text{N})$	$\nu(\text{M-N})$	$\nu(\text{M-X})$
(HL)	3540 (br)	1623 (s)	-----	-----
[Rh(HL)Cl <sub>3</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O].2H <sub>2</sub> O	3550 (br)	1611 (s)	570 (m)	330 (m)
[Pt(HL)Cl <sub>2</sub> ] H <sub>2</sub> O	3542 (br)	1614 (s)	565 (m)	325 (m)
[Au(HL)Cl <sub>2</sub> ]Cl.H <sub>2</sub> O	3545 (br)	1613 (s)	568 (m)	335 (m)

\* s = sharp br = broad m = medium

**TABLE 2B: ELECTRONIC SPECTRAL DATA**

Ligand/Complexes	Electronic spectral data $\text{cm}^{-1}$
(HL)	20833 , 22540 and 36487
[Rh(HL)Cl <sub>3</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O].2H <sub>2</sub> O	22230 , 25650 and 38750
[Pt(HL)Cl <sub>2</sub> ] H <sub>2</sub> O	21250 , 25970 , 30950 and 36870
[Au(HL)Cl <sub>2</sub> ]Cl.H <sub>2</sub> O	21260 , 25290, 30250 and 33200

### <sup>1</sup>H NMR:

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of Schiff base and its metal complexes were recorded in DMSO. The aromatic protons in Schiff base were appeared in the range  $6.85\text{--}7.66\text{ ppm}$  and metal complexes were appeared in the range  $6.70\text{--}8.25\text{ ppm}$ . The azomethine proton

in Schiff base appeared ( $\delta=8.64\text{ ppm}$ ) have showed downfield shifting in metal complexes ( $\delta=8.72\text{--}8.88\text{ ppm}$ ) this indicates the co-ordination of azomethine nitrogen atom in metal complexation. The appearance of peaks ( $\delta=9.65\text{--}9.68\text{ ppm}$ ) indicates the presence of hydroxyl protons and also suggests no

deprotonation of hydroxyl proton. The NMR spectral data have shown in **TABLE 3A**.

**TABLE 3A: <sup>1</sup>H NMR SPECTRAL DATA**

Ligand/Complexes	<sup>1</sup> H NMR (δ ppm)		
	Ar-OH	CH=N	Ar-H
(HL)	9.68	8.64	6.85-7.66
[Rh(HL)Cl <sub>3</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O].2H <sub>2</sub> O	9.65	8.72	6.70-8.25
[Pt(HL)Cl <sub>2</sub> ] H <sub>2</sub> O	9.68	8.83	6.70-8.25
[Au(HL)Cl <sub>2</sub> ]Cl.H <sub>2</sub> O	9.67	8.88	6.70-8.25

### Thermal analysis:

The thermal analysis of the metal complexes was carried out to get information about the stability of the metal complexes and amount of organic content present in complexes. Thermal analysis was carried out in the range 30-1000°C at 10°C/min. The Rh (III), Pt(II) and Au(III) complexes have shown the initial weight loss of 6.27 %, 3.00%, and 8.39 % respectively in the temperature range 30-100°C which indicates the presence of two and one molecules of water in Rh(III) and Pt(II) complexes respectively. In Aurum complex, one molecule of

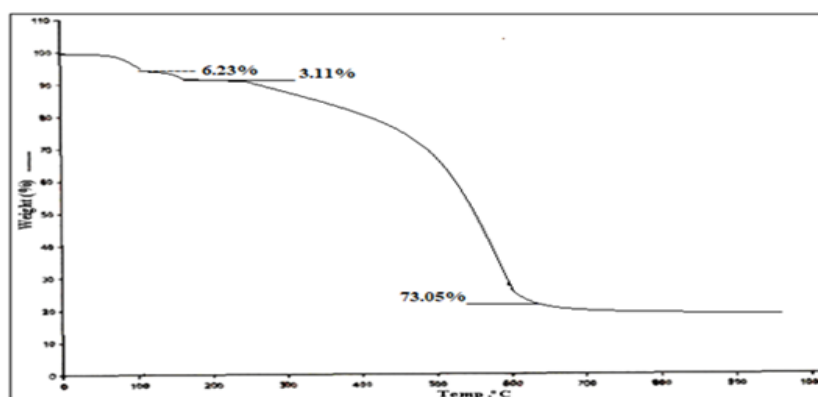
lattice water in all the complexes along with loss of chloride ion from.<sup>[19]</sup>

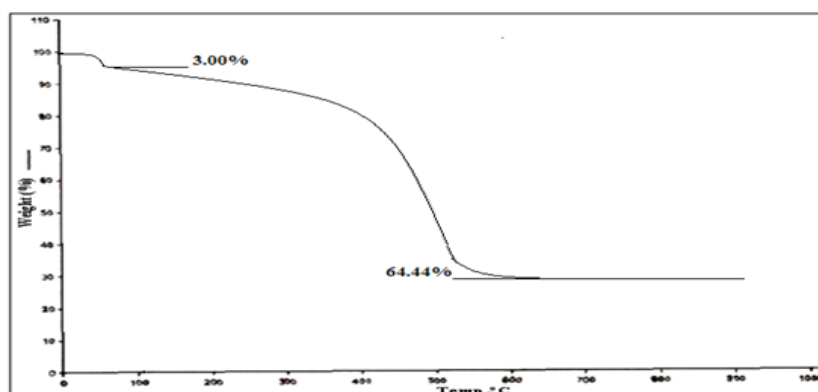
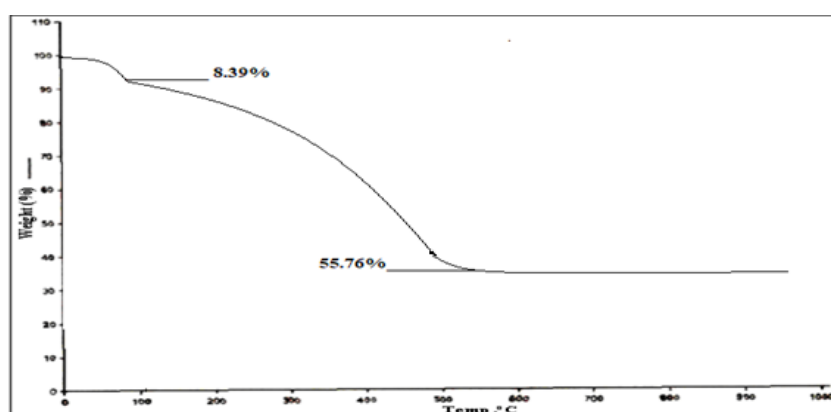
The Rh (III) complex have shown weight loss by 3.11 % in the temperature range 110°C-160°C indicating the presence of one molecule of coordinated water in Rh (III) complex. Rh (III), Pt(II) and Au(III) complexes have shown weight loss by 73.05%, 64.44 % and 55.76 % indicating the loss of organic content resulting in the formation of corresponding oxides with further increase in the temperature. The thermal data and graphs have shown in **TABLE 3B** and in Figure No 1, 2 and 3.

**TABLE 3B: THERMAL DATA**

Ligand/Complexes	Calculated %			Found %		
	Lattice Content	Co-ordinated Water	Organic Content	Lattice Content	Co-ordinated Water	Organic Content
[Rh(HL)Cl <sub>3</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O].2H <sub>2</sub> O	6.23	3.11	73.05	6.16	3.84	72.99
[Pt(HL)Cl <sub>2</sub> ] H <sub>2</sub> O	3.00	-	64.44	3.15	-	64.76
[Au(HL)Cl <sub>2</sub> ]Cl.H <sub>2</sub> O	8.39	-	55.76	8.89	-	58.58

### Graphical images of thermal analysis of metal complexes


**Figure.No 1 : TGA of [Rh(HL)Cl<sub>3</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O].2H<sub>2</sub>O**


Figure.No 2 : TGA of [Pt(HL)Cl<sub>2</sub>]H<sub>2</sub>O

Figure.No 3 : TGA of [Au(HL)Cl<sub>2</sub>]Cl.2H<sub>2</sub>O

#### Structure of Rh (III), Pt (II) and Au (III) complexes:

The Schiff base of 4-Hydroxyl Benzaldehyde and o-Phenylenediamine and its Rh (III), Pt(II) and Au(III) complexes were characterized by elemental analysis, spectral studies (<sup>1</sup>H NMR, IR, UV-Vis.), molar conductance and thermal analysis. Based on above data Pt (II) and Au (III) complex show square planar

structure whereas Rh (III) complex show octahedral structure. The synthesis and structures of the Schiff Base have shown in Figure No 4. whereas the proposed structures of the metal complexes have shown in Figure No 5, 6 and 7 for Rh (III), Pt (II) and Au (III) respectively.

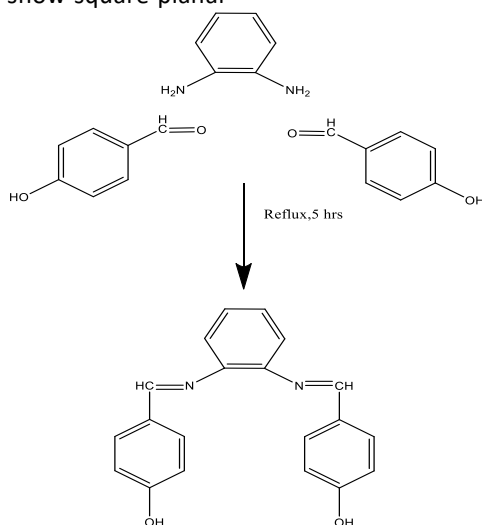
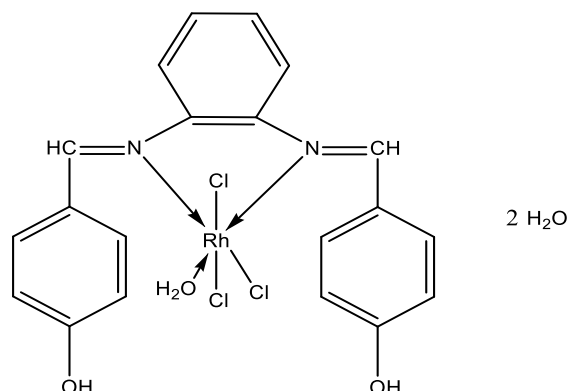
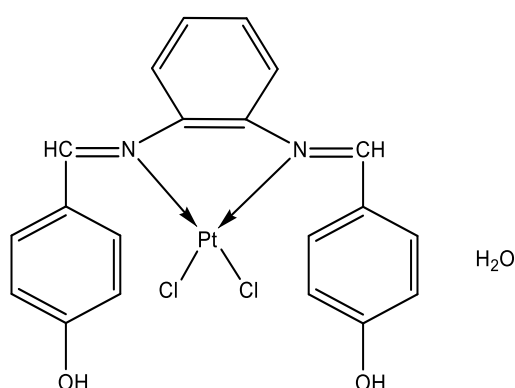


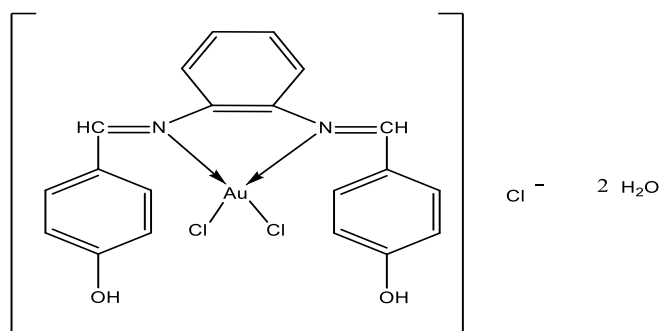
Figure No.4. Structure and synthesis of Schiff base (HL).



**Figure No.5. Structure of Rhodium (III) complex.**



**Figure No.6. Structure of Pt (II) complex**

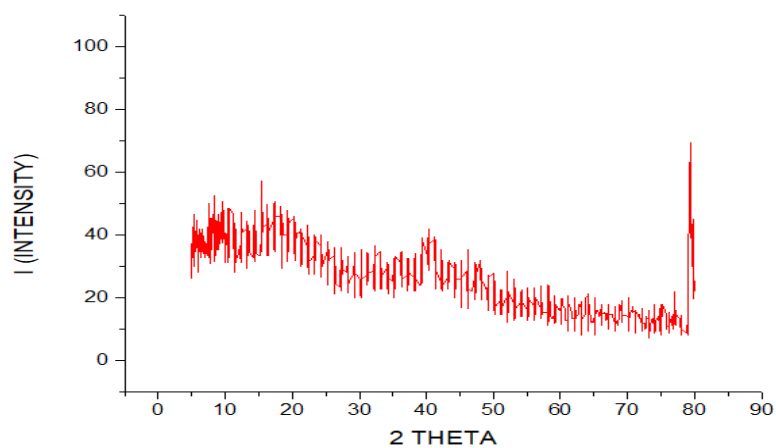


**Figure No.7. Structure of Au (III) complex.**

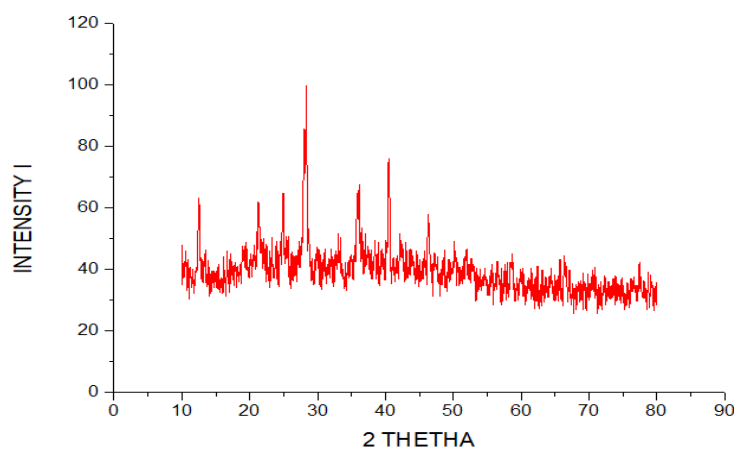
#### X-Ray Studies of Rh (III), Pt (II) and Au (III) complexes:

The crystal structure of synthesized Rh(III), Pt(II) and Au(III) complexes was analyzed and studied using X-ray diffractograms by scanning in the range  $2\theta = 5^\circ - 80^\circ$  and an independent indexing for the X-ray

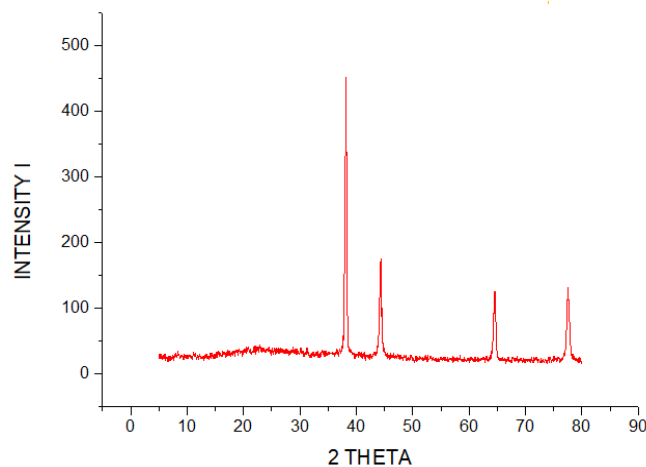
powder diffraction data was done and compared to the documented X-Ray diffractograms. The original X-ray diffractograms are reproduced in Figure No. 8, 9 and 10 for Rh (III), Pt (II) and Au (III) complexes, respectively.



**Figure.No 8 : [Rh(HL)Cl<sub>3</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O].2H<sub>2</sub>O**



**Figure.No.9 : [Pt(HL)Cl<sub>2</sub>]H<sub>2</sub>O**



**Figure.No.10 : [Au(HL)Cl<sub>2</sub>]Cl.2H<sub>2</sub>O**

The X-ray diffractogram of Rh (III) complex are good, indicating the high crystalline nature. The Rh (III)

complex were successfully indexed to monoclinic crystal system having lattice parameters  $a = 15.2355$

$\text{\AA}$ ,  $b = 15.5224 \text{ \AA}$  and  $c = 11.4099 \text{ \AA}$ .<sup>[20]</sup> The X-ray data of the Rh (III) complex of (HL) having M: L stoichiometry as 1:1 and can be assigned space group  $P_2/m$  for with conditions on hkl values for. The calculated density of Rh (III) complexes of (HL) is  $1.806 \text{ g/cm}^3$ .

The X-ray diffractogram of Pt (II) complex are good, indicating the high crystalline nature. The Pt (II) complex was successfully indexed to monoclinic crystal system having lattice parameters.

$a = 14.0540 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b = 23.6330 \text{ \AA}$  and  $c = 16.5250 \text{ \AA}$ .<sup>[21]</sup>

The X-ray data of the Pt (II) complex of (HL) having M:L stoichiometry as 1:1 can be assigned space group

$P121/n1$  for with conditions on hkl values for  $[\text{Pt}(\text{HL})\text{Cl}_2]\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . The calculated density of Pt (II) complex of (HL) is  $2.570 \text{ g/cm}^3$ .

The X-ray diffractogram of Au (III) complex are good indicating the high crystalline nature. The Au (III) complex was successfully indexed to cubic crystal system having lattice parameters.

$a = b = c = 3.8560 \text{ \AA}$ .<sup>[19]</sup> The X-ray data of the Au (III) complex of (HL) having M: L stoichiometry as 1:1 and can be assigned space group  $Pm-3m$  for with conditions on hkl values for  $[\text{Au}(\text{HL})\text{Cl}_2]\text{Cl}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . The calculated density of Au (III) complexes of (HL) is  $6.445 \text{ g/cm}^3$ .

TABLE 4: CRYSTAL LATTICE PARAMETERS

Complex	Crystal system	Space group	Lattice parameters ( $\text{\AA}$ )			Density $\text{g/cm}^3$
			a	b	c	
$[\text{Rh}(\text{HL})\text{Cl}_3\text{H}_2\text{O}]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	Monoclinic ( $\alpha = \gamma = 90^\circ$ $\beta = 98.05^\circ$ )	$P_2/m$	15.235	15.5224	11.4099	1.806
$[\text{Pt}(\text{HL})\text{Cl}_2]\text{H}_2\text{O}$	Monoclinic ( $\alpha = \gamma = 90^\circ$ $\beta = 102.55^\circ$ )	$P 1 21/n 1$	14.054	14.054	16.525	2.570
$[\text{Au}(\text{HL})\text{Cl}_2]\text{Cl}\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	Cubic ( $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^\circ$ )	$P m -3 m$	3.8560	3.8560	3.8560	6.445

#### Antimicrobial Studies of Schiff bases and their Rh (III), Pt (II) and Au (III) metal complexes.

The majority of metal complexes possessing antimicrobial activity are chelates. The relationship of metal complexes to biological response has been investigated by the Kirby-Bauer test. The Kirby-Bauer test is a standard test used for antimicrobial susceptibility also called as the disc diffusion test. If the organism is killed or inhibited by the concentration of the antibiotic, there will be no growth in the immediate area around the disc. This area is called as the zone of inhibition.<sup>[25][29]</sup>

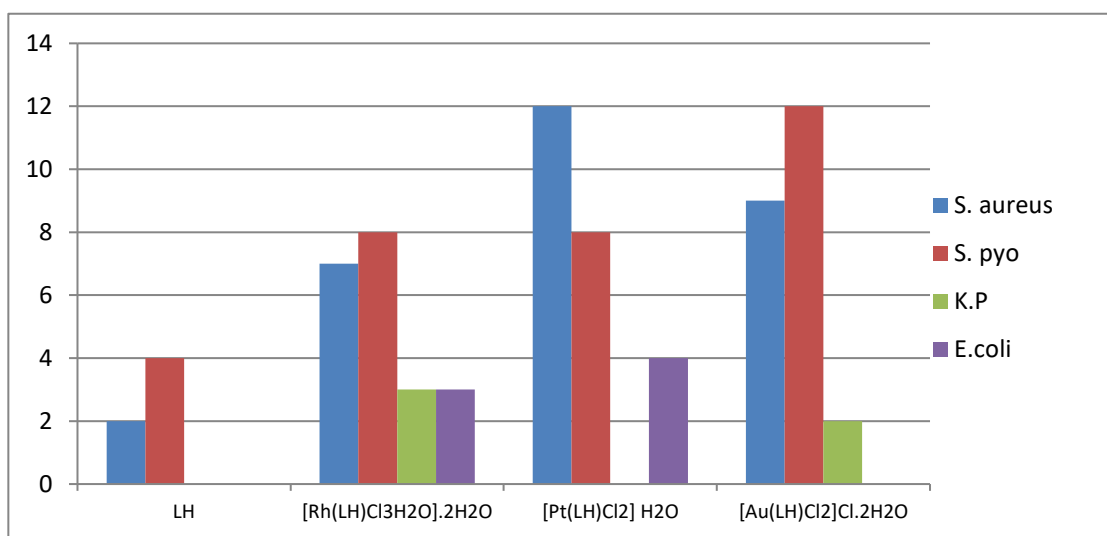
The biological screening effects of the investigated compounds were tested against the bacteria: *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Staphylococcus pyogenes*, *Escherichia coli* and *Klebsiella Pneumonia*, this was carried out by the disk diffusion technique, using

agar nutrient as the medium. The stock solution (5mmol) of new compounds was prepared by dissolving the compounds in DMSO. In a typical procedure, a well was made on the agar medium inoculated with bacterial strains. The well was filled with the test solution using a micropipette and the plate was incubated for 24 h at  $37^\circ\text{C}$ . During this period, the test solution diffused and the growth of the inoculated microorganisms was affected. The results were recorded by measuring the growth inhibition surrounding the disk.

The results (TABLE 5) reveal that the ligand is less active towards the bacterial strain. All metal complexes were found to have moderate activity and quite better activity over the ligand. In general it is concluded that metal complexes are more active than that of the corresponding ligand.

TABLE 5: ANTIBACTERIAL STUDIES OF SCHIFF BASES AND THEIR METAL COMPLEXES

Sr. No.	Compound	Zone of inhibition for Gram positive strain (mm)		Zone of inhibition for Gram negative strain (mm)	
		<i>S. aureus</i>	<i>S. pyo</i>	<i>K.P</i>	<i>E.coli</i>
1	HL	02	04	00	00
2	$[\text{Rh}(\text{HL})\text{Cl}_3\text{H}_2\text{O}]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	07	08	03	03
3	$[\text{Pt}(\text{HL})\text{Cl}_2]\text{H}_2\text{O}$	12	08	-	04
4	$[\text{Au}(\text{HL})\text{Cl}_2]\text{Cl}\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	09	12	02	-



*S. aureus*:- *Staphylococcus aureus*

*S. pyo*:- *Staphylococcus pyogenes*

*E.coli*:- *Escherichia coli* K.P:-*Klebsiella Pneumonia*

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#### CONCLUSION:

The Schiff base of 4-Hydroxyl Benzaldehyde and o-phenyl diamine and its Rh (III) Pt (II) and Au (III) complexes were synthesized and characterized by elemental analysis, spectral studies (<sup>1</sup>HNMR, IR, UV-Vis.), molar conductance and thermal analysis. On the basis of above data Pt (II) and Au (III) complex show square planar structure whereas Rh (III) complex show octahedral structure.

The synthesized Rh (III) and Pt (II) metal complexes shows monoclinic crystal system by calculating cell lattice parameters whereas Au (III) complexes show cubic crystal system.

It was also found that Antimicrobial activities of metal complexes showed better potency against the said bacteria as compared to the Schiff base ligand.

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