Proceedings of the Peradeniya University Research Sessions, Sri Lanka, Vol. 16, 24th November 2011

Determination Of CO₂ and SCN⁻ Binding Capacities of [5,12-dioxa-7,14,dimethyl-1,4,8,11-tetraazacyclotetradeca-1,8 diene(L)] Co(II) Complex

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Cobalt(II) complex of [5,12-dioxa-7,14,dimethyl-1,4,8,11-tetraazacyclotetradeca-1,8-diene(L)] was synthesised using a template synthesis and characterised using UV-visible spectroscopy, cyclic voltammetry (CV) and FT-IR techniques. CO_2 trapping capacity was studied with a Vernier CO_2 gas sensor capable of measuring the transmitted amount of CO_2 . The solid Co(II) complex shows more CO_2 absorption than that of solid starting material, $CoCl_2$.

In UV-visible spectroscopic analysis, the intensity of the orange colour in an aqueous solution of the complex increases with the addition of 0.1 M potassium thiocyanate solution to the metal complex. The intensity of the d-d band at 500 nm decreases while the intensity of CT band around 210 nm increases. This occurs through an isobestic point at 260 nm indicating a SCN⁻ association to the complex and FT-IR data confirm the presence of the desired complex.

Cyclic voltammetric studies of the Co(II) complex shows a reversible band corresponding to the Co(II)/Co(I) redox couple. When the DMSO solution of the complex is saturated with CO₂, the current intensity of the oxidation peak disappears and that of the reduction peak slightly increases. The reappearance of the original reversible redox band after passing N₂ may be indicative of its affinity towards CO₂. Reduced Co(I) centre of the complex may coordinate with CO₂, and the coordinated complex may not be easily oxidised back to the original compound.