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CHARACTERIZATION AND CRYSTAL STRUCTURES OF NEW SCHIFF BASE MACROCYCLIC COMPOUNDS

A.D. Khalaji¹, S. Hafez Ghoran¹, M. Pojarová², M. Dušek²

¹Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Golestan University, Gorgan, Iran E-mail: alidkhalaji@yahoo.com ²Institute of Physics, Czech Academy of Sciences, Praha, Czech Republic

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We report the synthesis and characterization of two new macrocyclic Schiff base compounds: a 15-membered (1) and 16-membered (2) one. Their synthesis involves a Schiff base condensation of 2,2-dimethylpropanediamine and two dialdehydes: 5,5'-dimethoxy-2,2'-(ethane-1,2diyldioxy)dibenzaldehyde and 5,5'-dimethoxy-2,2'-(propane-1,3-diyldioxy)dibenzaldehyde. The compounds are characterized by elemental analysis (CHN), FT-IR, ¹H & ¹³C—NMR spectroscopy, and single crystal X-ray diffraction. Compound 1 crystallizes in the monoclinic space group *Cc* with *a* = 11.0668(5) Å, *b* = 11.7962(5) Å, *c* = 17.1980(9) Å, β = 103.611(5)°, *V* = 2182.08(18) Å³, *Z* = 4, *R*[*F*² > 3 σ (*F*²)] = 0.048 and *wR*(*F*²) = 0.150, while compound 2 crystallizes in the monoclinic space group *C2/c* with *a* = 38.4782(15) Å, *b* = 5.6309(2) Å, *c* = 20.4029(7) Å, β = 102.524(4)°, *V* = 4315.4(3) Å³, *Z* = 8, *R*[*F*² > 3 σ (*F*²)] = 0.051 and *wR*(*F*²) = 0.130.

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Schiff base compounds are widely used ligands due to the ease of preparation and remarkable versatility. The ability to form stable complexes designates Schiff bases to play an important role in the development of transition metal coordination chemistry [1-10]. The research field on Schiff base complexes is very broad because of their structural diversity and many potential applications [1-10]. Macrocyclic Schiff bases have attracted much attention since the early 1980's. They can be prepared by condensation of different dicarbonyl groups with a wide range of different diamines [11-21]. The direct preparation of free macrocyclic Schiff bases is sometimes complicated, and in such cases they must be prepared by the template effect [1, 3]. Nevertheless, in recent years, considerable effort has

been made to avoid the template effect in the preparation of macrocyclic Schiff bases [11—16], because the template effect has two substantial disadvantages. First, it does not allow one to synthesize metal-free macrocyclic compounds and the second, the template method usually affords symmetric macrocyclic complexes [13]. We report herein the direct synthesis, characterization, and crystal structures of two new Schiff base macrocycles (Scheme 1).



Scheme 1. Chemical structures of macrocylic Schiff bases 1 (n = 2) and 2 (n = 3)

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Experimental. Materials and characterization. All reagents and solvents for synthesis and analysis were commercially available and used as received without further purifications. Infrared spectra were recorded using KBr disks on a FT-IR Perkin—Elmer spectrophotometer. Elemental analyses were carried out using a Heraeus CHN-O-Rapid analyzer. ¹H-NMR spectra were measured on a BRUKER DRX-500 AVANCE spectrometer at 500 MHz. All chemical shifts are reported in δ units downfield from TMS. The dialdehydes 5,5'-dimethoxy-2,2'-(ethane-1,3-diyldioxy)dibenzaldehyde and 5,5'-dimethoxy-2,2'-(propane-1,3-diyldioxy)dibenzaldehyde were prepared according to the literature procedure [22, 23].

X-ray crystallography. Suitable single crystals of 1 and 2 were chosen for the X-ray diffraction study. Crystallographic measurements were performed at 120 K with a four circle Oxford Diffraction Gemini CCD diffractometer with mirrors-collimated Cu K_{α} radiation ($\lambda = 1.54184$ Å). The crystal structures were solved by direct methods using the SHELXS-97 program [24] and refined using the SHELX-97 program package [24] by the full-matrix least-squares technique on F^2 . For the final refinement of 1 we used the Jana2006 program package [25]. The molecular structure plots were prepared using ORTEP III [26]. All hydrogen atoms were discernible in difference Fourier maps and could be refined to reasonable geometry. According to common practice H atoms bonded to C atoms were kept in ideal positions with C-H = 0.96 Å while positions of H atom bonded to O atoms were refined freely. In both cases, $U_{iso}(H)$ was set to 1.2 $U_{eq}(C)$ and 1.5 $U_{eq}(O)$. Crystallographic data and details of the data collection and structure solution and refinements 1: $C_{23}H_{28}N_2O_4$, M = 396.5, monoclinic, space group Cc, a = 11.0668(5), b = 11.7962(5), c = 17.1980(9) Å, $\beta = 103.611(5)^{\circ}$, $V = 100.611(5)^{\circ}$ = 2182.08(18) \mathring{A}^3 , Z = 4, $\mu = 0.67 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, 8562 measured reflections, 2957 independent, 2819 observed $(I > 3\sigma(I))$, $R_{\text{int}} = 0.041$, S = 3.19, $R(F^2 > 3\sigma(F^2)) = 0.048$, $wR(F^2) = 0.150$, 262 parameters. (Final refinement of 1 was made by Jana2006. This package calculates the true goodness of fit (S) based on the experimental weighting scheme while SHELX used for the refinement of 2 refines the weighting scheme and forces S to be one. Large exposition times and strong bonding effects caused high S for 1). **2**: $C_{24}H_{30}N_2O_4$, M = 410.50, monoclinic, space group C2/c, a = 38.4782(15), b = 5.6309(2), c = 10.50= 20.4029(7) Å, β = 102.524(4)°, V = 4315.4(3) Å³, Z = 8, μ = 0.69 mm⁻¹, 28989 measured reflections, 3862 independent, 2655 observed $(I > 3\sigma(I))$, $R_{int} = 0.103$, S = 1.07, $R(F^2 > 3\sigma(F^2)) = 0.051$, $wR(F^2) = 0.130$, 275 parameters. (High R_{int} was caused by low quality data with diffuse scattering and smeared and split diffraction spots.)

Synthesis of 1. 5,5'-Dimethoxy-2,2'-(ethane-1,3-diyldioxy)dibenzaldehyde (0.2 mmol) and 2,2dimethylpropane-1,2-diamine (0.2 mmol) were dissolved in methanol at room temperature. The mixture was stirred and heated for 60 min to give a clear solution. The mixture was then cooled and allowed to crystallize at room temperature. After keeping the solution in air for several days, by slow evaporation of the solvent colorless crystals were formed at the bottom of the vessel. The resulting crystals were collected by filtration and dried at room temperature. Yield: 73 %. *Anal.* Calc. for $C_{23}H_{28}N_2O_4$: C, 69.67; H, 7.12; N, 7.06 %. Found: C 69.55, H 7.19, N 7.011 %. FT-IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 1632 (C=N). ¹H-NMR (DMSO- d^6 , δ (ppm)): 1.26 (s, 3H), 3.35 (s, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 4.47 (s, 2H), 6.98 (dd, 1H), 7.08 (t, 1H), 7.52 (dd, 1H), 8.75 (s, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (DMSO- d^6 , δ (ppm)): 25.85, 37.05, 55.89, 67.89, 72.49, 76.81, 77.07, 77.33, 114.18, 119.25, 123.83, 130.42, 147.59, 152.44, 159.36.

Synthesis of 2. Compound 2 was synthesized using the same procedure as that for 1, except that 5,5'-dimethoxy-2,2'-(propane-1,3-diyldioxy)dibenzaldehyde was used instead of 5,5'-dimethoxy-2,2'-(ethane-1,3-diyldioxy)dibenzaldehyde. Yield: 73 %. *Anal.* Calc. for $C_{24}H_{30}N_2O_4$: C 70.22, H 7.37, N 6.82 %. Found: C 70.26, H 7.44, N 6.79 %. FT-IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 1628 (C=N). ¹H-NMR (DMSO- d^6 , δ (ppm)): 1.29 (s, 3H), 2.26 (q, 1H), 3.34 (s, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 4.29 (t, 2H), 6.99 (d, 1H), 7.10 (t, 1H), 7.66 (d, 1H), 8.64 (s, 1H). ¹³C-NMR (DMSO- d^6 , δ (ppm)): 25.86, 31.10, 37.08, 55.88, 67.23, 69.69, 76.79, 77.04, 77.29, 114.13, 118.94, 124.11, 130.32, 147.87, 152.87, 157.08.

Results and discussion. Synthesis and characterization. Herein, we explored the possibility of the preparation of two new 15- and 16-membered Schiff base macrocycles *via* the non-template method. This synthesis involves the reaction of dialdehydes 5,5'-dimethoxy-2,2'-(ethane-1,3-diyldioxy)dibenzaldehyde or 5,5'-dimethoxy-2,2'-(propane-1,3-diyldioxy)dibenzaldehyde with 2,2-dimethyl-

propane-1,3-diamine in the 1:1 molar ratio in methanol in the air atmosphere at reflux. Compounds 1 and 2 are stable as solids.

In the FT-IR spectra of **1** and **2**, the appearance of a strong intensity band at 1632 cm⁻¹ and 1628 cm⁻¹ attributed to the v(C=N) stretching vibration, provides a strong evidence for the successful preparation of **1** and **2** [11, 12].

The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of **1** and **2** were recorded using CDCl₃ as the solvent. In the downfield region of each spectrum, one singlet peak appearing at 8.74 ppm in **1** and 8.64 ppm in **2** is attributed to the -HC=N- proton. The peaks are seen about 6.9-7.7 ppm, which corresponds to the protons of aromatic rings. The aliphatic protons of methyl and methoxy groups appear at about 3.88 ppm and 1.26 ppm, respectively, as singlet signals. The CH₂ groups in **1** appear as two singlet signals at 3.35 ppm and 4.47 ppm, while the CH₂ groups in **2** appear as one singlet signal at 3.34 ppm, one triplet signal at 4.29 ppm, and one quintet signal at 2.26 ppm.

In the ${}^{13}C$ —NMR spectra of 1 and 2, the peaks at 55 ppm are assigned to methyl carbon atoms. The peaks at 159.36 ppm (1) and 157.08 ppm (2) are due to the azomethine carbon atoms. Peaks appearing between 114—152 ppm are assigned to aromatic carbon atoms and the peaks appears between 25—77 ppm are assigned to aliphatic carbon atoms.

Molecular geometry of 1 and 2. The molecular structures of titled compounds **1** and **2** with the atom numbering scheme are shown in Figs. 1 and 2, respectively. The molecules of both compounds are not planar. The bond lengths and angles of **1** and **2** are very close to the corresponding ones in the Cambridge structural database [11]. The N11—C10 (1.264(5)), N15—C16 (1.262(5)), N2—C1 (1.258(3)), and N1—C19 (1.255(3)) bond distances in **1** and **2** are consistent with the distances of the C=N double bonds, while the N11—C12 (1.462(5)), N15—C14 (1.453(5)), N2—C22 (1.450(3)), and N1—C20 (1.454(3)) bond distances in **1** and **2** are consistent with the distances of the C—N single bonds. The C12—N11—C10 (117.34(10)), C16—N15—C14 (117.55(9)), C19—N1—C20 (119.83(19)), and C1—N2—C22 (119.1(2)) bond angles are consistent with the *sp*² hybrid character of N11, N15, N1, and N2 atoms. The distances between the atoms N15…N11, O1…O19, N1…N2, and O3…O2 are 3.788 Å, 2.743 Å, 3.788 Å, and 3.865 Å in **1** and **2**, respectively. The O…O distance is shorter in **1** than the similar distance in **2**, while the N…N distances is equal in both compounds. In both compounds **1** and **2**, there are four distances between N and O atoms: O1…N15 = 4.709 Å, O1…N11 = 3.923 Å, O19…N11 = 4.655 Å, and O19…N15 = 3.935 Å for **1** and O3…N2 = 5.501 Å, O3…N1 = 4.136 Å, O2…N1 = 5.709 Å, and O2…N2 = 4.102 Å.

In 1, there are two intermolecular hydrogen bonds of the C—H \cdots O type, while in 2, the potential non-classical C—H \ldots O hydrogen bonds (Tables 1) have rather sharp angles between 116 and 130°, as





Fig. 1. Molecular structure of compound **1**. Thermal ellipsoids have been drawn at the 50 % probability level

Fig. 2. Molecular structure of compound **2**. Thermal ellipsoids have been drawn at the 50 % probability level

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Table 1

Hvdrogen	bonds paramet	ers (Å. deg.)	for 1 and 2
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D—H···A	D—H	$H \cdots A$	$D \cdots A$	D—H···A
$C24$ — $H243$ ···· $O4^{i}$	0.960	2.567	3.489(5)	161.1
C5—H2c5…O23 ⁱⁱ	0.960	2.577	3.525(5)	169.8
C8—H8b…O5 ⁱ	0.961(2)	2.5299(16)	3.237(3)	130.46(15)
С5—Н9b…О4	0.969(2)	2.4677(17)	3.024(3)	116.30(14)
С11—Н11b…О5	0.971(2)	2.4197(17)	2.997(3)	117.71(15)

Symmetry codes for 1: ${}^{i}x-1/2, -y+3/2, z-1/2; {}^{ii}x, -y+1, z+1/2.$ Symmetry code for 2: ${}^{i}-x, -y+1, -z+1.$ compared with 1 where the angles are between 161 and 170°. However, the H...A distance is also shorter so we may consider these bonds. Unlike 1, the molecules are only connected to dimers through bifurcated hydrogen bonds.

Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structures reported in this paper have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Center, CCDC Nos. 1050169

(1) and 1050170 (2). Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to the Director, CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK, fax: +44 1223 336 033, e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk or http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk.

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