



Synthesis, Characterization & Antimicrobial Activity of Mixed Metal Oxides of Iron Cobalt Nickel and Zinc.

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Abstract

Mixed metal oxides are the potential intermediates for the synthesis of semiconducting materials. Has wide application in solid state chemistry as nanomaterials. mixed metal oxides of transition metals are well known for their role in semiconducting materials. in the present study, an attempt has been made synthesis these materials and characterize them by various methods such as IR UV etc. The synthesized solid materials iron ferrites, nickel ferrites and zinc ferrites possess significant antimicrobial activity with *E. coli* and *Staphylococcus aureus*.

Keywords: Ammonium oxalate, iron nickel, zinc solid state material, antimicrobial activity, UV, IR etc.

Introduction:

Research in the field of Solid state materials has gained immense importance because of their variety of application in the field of technology including Rf system, permanent magnets, advanced memories, sintered electrodes, microwave devices, sheath technology, catalysis, semiconducting materials, etc. The solid state materials of CoFe_2O_4 , NiFe_2O_4 and specially due to ferromagnetic behavior has typical application in the field of magnets and semiconductors.

The materials can be prepared by methods such as co precipitation, microwave synthesis, sol gel methods. At present investigation the typical precipitation method has been attempted, method suggesting easy way for preparation, under normal conditions with good yield of product and purification. Iron ferrite, cobalt ferrite, nickel ferrite and zinc ferrite materials were tested for biological application by pathogenic microorganism such as *Pseudomonas*, *E. coli* etc. The magnetic properties tested by gyogy balance.

Materials and Methods

All reagents used were of analytical grade (Merck). Standard solutions Prepared. Iron sulphate heptahydrate, Nickel sulphate hexahydrate, zinc sulphate heptahydrate, Ammonium oxalate, petri plates, agar agar powder (antimicrobial activity).

Experimental:

Synthesis of Cobalt, nickel, iron and zinc ferrites.

A) Synthesis of iron ferrites:

In this method 1:1:2 mole ratio in the stoichiometric amount has been prepared (metal to ligand ratio)

In 250 ml beaker take 3.5 gm of iron sulphate in 20 ml Distilled water. add 1-2 drops of conc. H_2SO_4 . In another beaker take 4 gm ammonium oxalate monohydrate, dissolved in 100ml warm water. Heat both the solution. Add ammonium oxalate solution to metal solution with constant stirring at about 80 °C. PPT will be formed, filtered off at a Buchner funnel, then calcined the precursor material at about 600 -800 °C.

By the similar method all ferrites were prepared.^{7, 10}

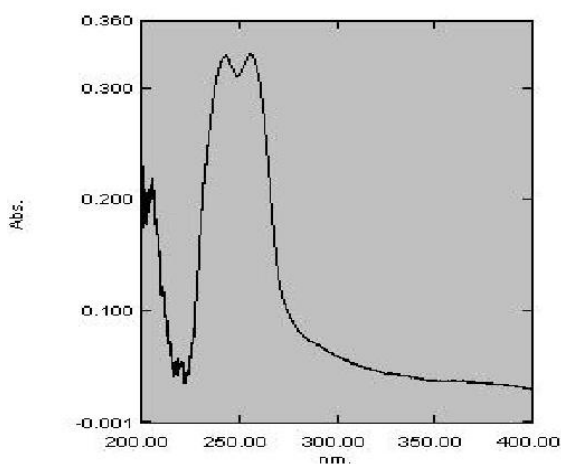
Characterization:

For characterization the following methods were adopted⁴

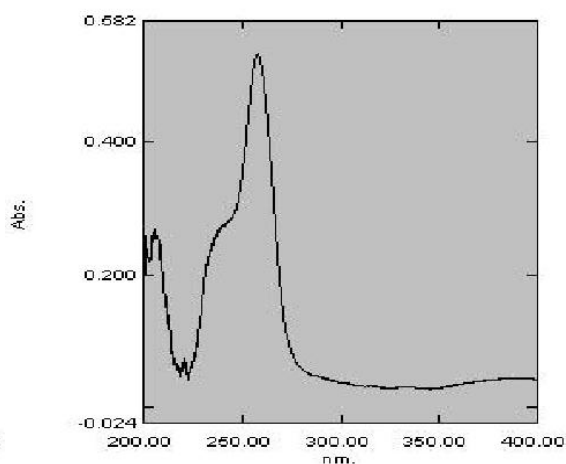
i) UV ii) IR iii) MAGNETIC STUDY.

UV-Visible analysis:

analysis of materials carried out for electronic study of metals. By analyzing the transitions of metals in precursor compound, the presence of metals was confirmed, giving expected transitions in the UV-visible spectrum. The typical spectrum of materials can be seen as-



Iron ferrite complex
(Electronic transitions)



Nickel ferrite complex

IR Spectroscopy study:

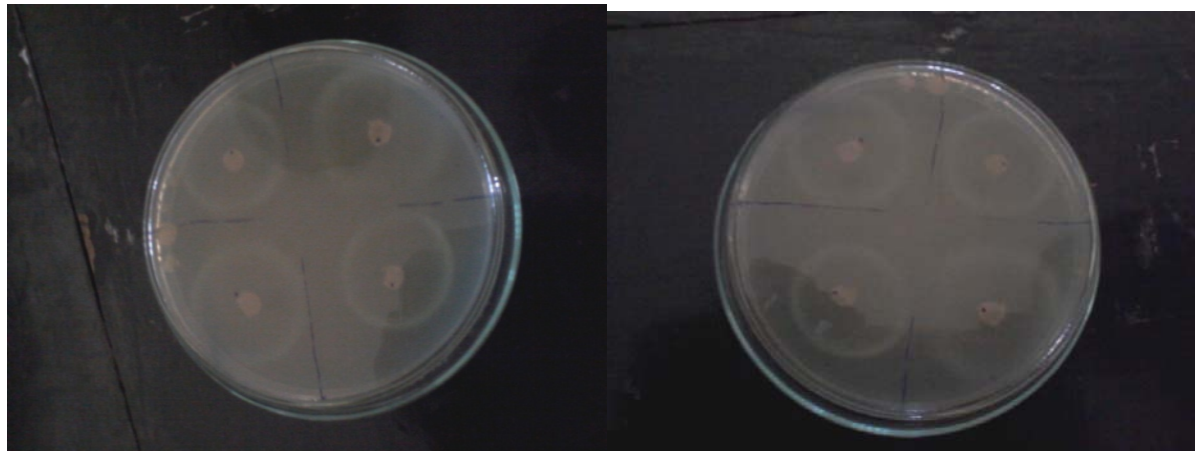
The IR interpretation of the materials was carried out to conclude the attachment of oxalates to metals in the precursor materials. The IR Spectroscopy shows the typical IR stretch frequencies of oxalates to the metals.

Microbial Assay:

The bioassay is crucial in determining bioactivity of compounds. In the present study antimicrobial activity of zinc, nickel and cobalt ferrites tested against the microorganism such as *E. coli* and *Staphylococcus aureus*. The test was carried by quadrant plate method, that involves freshly prepared agar nutrient growth medium enriched with culture of selected microorganisms. Quadrant method

involves preparation of four quadrant in a single petri plate ,so as to carry out simultaneous study of all the selected materials.⁵

Study shows, this method is developed best at room temperature. In this method after pouring the culture of microorganism and sample in petri plate ,plates were incubated for overnight at 40° C.



A) Ni,Co,Fe,Zn ferrites in *E. Coli* B) Ni,Co,Fe,Zn Ferrites in *Staphylococcus aureus*.

S.N	COMPLEX	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (Inhibition zone mm)	<i>E.coli</i> (Inhibition zone mm)
1	Nickel ferrite	10	10
2	Iron ferrite	12	09
3	Zinc ferrite	09	11
4	Cobalt ferrite	11	13

Results and conclusions

The study of mixed valence compound gives a route to various applications in the solid state materials. Various methods can be adopted for the synthesis of these materials but easy and cheap method suggested to prepare solid state materials like nickel, cobalt, iron and zinc ferrite is precipitation method. By studying bioassay of these materials the zone of inhibition suggested that the compounds have antibacterial activity at room temperature and these materials can be used in biomedical applications.

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