

**DEVELOPMENT AND OPTIMIZATION OF ORGANIC-
BASED CHEMOSENSOR FOR CATION AND ANION
RECOGNITION IN AQUEOUS MEDIUM**

BY

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INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA

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**A thesis submitted in fulfilment of the requirement for the
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ABSTRACT

Heavy metal toxicity has proven to be a major threat and exhibit a several health risks associated with it. The use of thiosemicarbazone has recently gained interest as potential receptors regarding to the ease of synthetic approach and possess to active chelating sites. Chemosensor is an alternative devices and developed by organic-based that have the ability to recognize metal ion or anion in aqueous medium by displaying colour change upon detection of targeted ion. Therefore, in this research study, we have developed four organic-based chemosensor namely 2-acetylpyrrole thiosemicarbazone (AP1) and 3-acetylpyridine 2-hydroxyphenyl thiosemicarbazone (AP4) for Cu^{2+} recognition meanwhile 3-acetylpyridine thiosemicarbazone (AP2) and 4-aminoacetophenone thiosemicarbazone (AP3) for IO_3^- recognition, respectively. All the chemosensors were favourable to DMSO solvent where they showed the strong interaction binding in solvent-ligand interaction. The results showed that AP1 produced high absorbance in 5:5 ratio with co-solvent, AP4 in 8:2 ratio while AP2 and AP3 shared the same ratio which is 9:1 ratio. Both ligands AP1 and AP4 were good making interaction in pH 7 neutral while AP2 and AP3 were optimum in pH 11 alkali. Interference analysis indicate that chemosensor AP1 - AP4 did not involve in any interference from other tested metal ions and anions. The interaction of all the ligand complex had clearly observed on its respected wavelength and the colour for all ligand complex were also successfully changed upon the recognition of metal ion and anion. The experimental data had identified the AP1 chemosensor coordinates Cu^{2+} ion in 1:1 stoichiometry, while AP4 is in 2:1 stoichiometry. In other hand, AP2 and AP3 coordinates IO_3^- showed the 2:1 stoichiometry for both chemosensor. Using computational study of COSMO-RS, it showed the compatibility of AP1 - AP4 with the solvent DMSO through hydrogen bonding interaction. The DFT study and calculations were conducted to analyse the stability of the formation of energy complex and their stability. The application of the chemosensor AP1-AP4 towards environmental samples, which were distilled water, tap water and lake water were successfully showed the positive results in recognition of Cu^{2+} and IO_3^- ion. In this study, the detection limit of chemosensor AP1 was determined at 41.8 μM and at 67.9 μM for AP4. Moreover, the detection limit of AP2 and AP3 chemosensor were determined at 114 μM and 788 μM , respectively. Thus, all respective thiosemicarbazone-based chemosensor were successfully able to make a recognition for aqueous Cu^{2+} and IO_3^- ions as they can served as affordable, portable, convenient and can used as off-site device.

خلاصة البحث

تشكل سمية المعادن الثقيلة تهديدا كبيرا لدورها في العديد من المخاطر الصحية. شاع استخدام الثيوسيميكاربازون مؤخرا كمستقبلات واعدة وذلك لسهولة الطريقة الاصطناعية واحتوائها على مواقع مخرجة نشطة. المستشعرات الكيميائية هي أدوات بديلة مطورة عضويا له القدرة على التعرف على الأيونات المعدنية أو الأنيونات في وسط مائي عن طريق عرض تغيرات في اللون عند اكتشاف الأيونات المستهدفة. تم في هذه البحث تطوير أربعة مستشعرات كيميائية عضوية وهي: 2-أسيتيلبيرول ثيوسيميكاربازون (AP1) و 3-أسيتيلبيردين 2-هيدروكسيلفينيل ثيوسيميكاربازون (AP4) لاستشعار Cu^{2+} ، و 3-أسيتيلبيردين ثيوسيميكاربازون (AP2) و 4-أمينو أسيتوفينون ثيوسيميكاربازون (AP3) لاستشعار IO_3^- . فضلت جميع المستشعرات مذيب الـ DMSO حيث أظهرت ارتباطات تفاعل قوية في تفاعلات المذيب والرابط. أظهرت النتائج أن AP1 قد أنتج نسبة امتصاص عالية بنسبة 5:5 مع المذيب المشترك، وكان AP4 بنسبة 8:2 بينما كان لـ AP2 و AP3 نفس النسبة وهي نسبة 9:1. كانت لدى كلا الرابطتين AP1 و AP4 تفاعلا جيدا في درجة الحموضة 7 المحايدة، بينما AP2 و AP3 كانتا المثلى في درجة pH 11 القلوية. أشار تحليل التداخل إلى عدم إنتاج AP4-AP1 لأي تداخل للأيونات والأنيونات المعدنية المختبرة الأخرى. لوحظ تفاعل كل مركبات الرابطات بوضوح على طول موجته، وبالتالي تم أيضا تغير لون جميع مركبات الرابطات بنجاح حيث تم استشعار وجود أيون معدني أو أنيون. حددت البيانات التجريبية إحداثيات AP1 المستشعر الكيميائي لأيون Cu^{2+} في ستيكومترية 1:1، بينما كان AP4 في ستيكومترية 2:1، وأظهرت إحداثيات AP2 و AP3 لـ IO_3^- ستيكومترية 2:1 لكلاهما. أظهرت الدراسة الحاسوبية لـ COSMO-RS توافق AP1-AP4 مع الـ DMSO من خلال تفاعل ارتباط الهيدروجين. تم إجراء دراسة وحسابات الـ DFT لتحليل ثبات تكوين مجمع الطاقة واستقرارها. أظهر تطبيق AP1-AP4 على العينات البيئية (الماء المقطر، وماء الصنبور، وماء البحيرة) نتائج إيجابية في الكشف عن Cu^{2+} و IO_3^- . تم أيضا تحديد حد الاستشعار لـ AP1 عند 41.8 ميكرومتر، ولـ AP4 عند 67.9 ميكرومتر، ولـ AP2 عند 114 ميكرومتر، ولـ AP3 عند 788 ميكرومتر. وهكذا تمكنت جميع المستشعرات الكيميائية المعتمدة على الثيوسيميكاربازون من الكشف بنجاح على أيونات Cu^{2+} و IO_3^- المائية، حيث تعتبر هذه المستشعرات الكيميائية رخيصة، ومحمولة، وسهلة الاستعمال، وبالامكان استخدامها كجهاز ميداني.

APPROVAL PAGE

I certify that I have supervised and read this study and that in my opinion, it conforms to acceptable standards of scholarly presentation and is fully adequate, in scope and quality, as a thesis for the degree of Master of Science (Biosciences).

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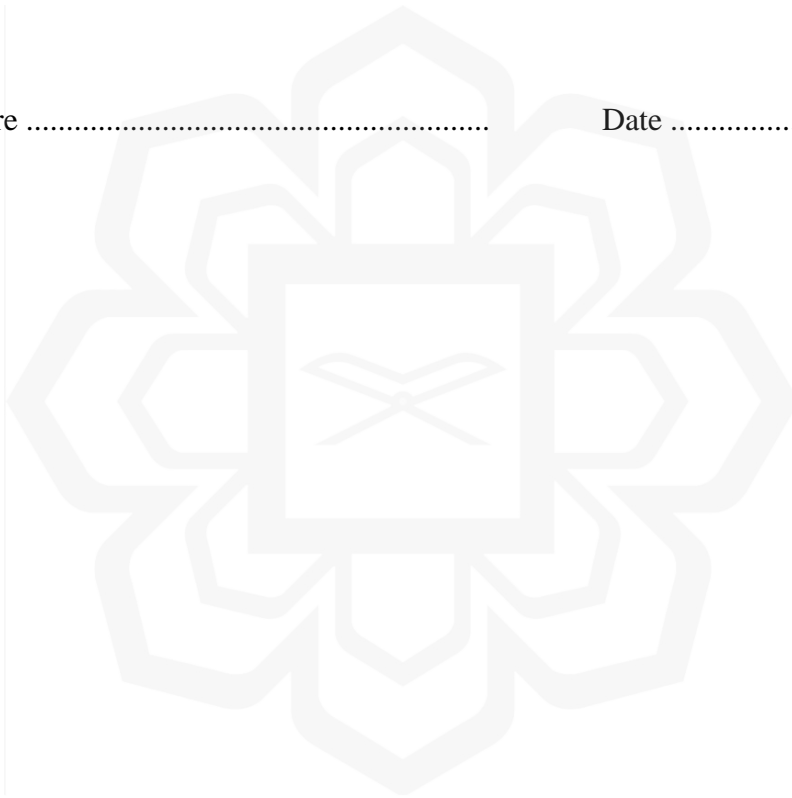
DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this thesis is the result of my own investigations, except where otherwise stated. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted as a whole for any other degrees at IIUM or other institutions.

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*All of my hard works is dedicated to my beloved husband, parents, family and friends
for all their kindness, love and continuous support.*

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Abstract	ii
Approval Page.....	iv
Declaration	v
Copyright Page.....	vi
Acknowledgements	viii
Table of Contents	ix
List of Tables	xii
List of Figures	xiii
List of Equations	xx
List of Symbols	xxi
List of Abbreviations	xxii
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Research Background	1
1.2 Problem Statements	8
1.3 Significance of Study.....	9
1.4 Research Objectives.....	10
1.5 Research Questions.....	11
1.6 Research Hypothesis.....	12
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	13
2.1 Metal Ions and Anions.....	13
2.2 Harmful Effects of Cu and IO ₃	18
2.3 Chemosensor for Metal Ions and Anions Detection.....	22
2.4 Thiosemicarbazone Derivatives as Chemosensor	32
2.4.1 Chemistry of Thiosemicarbazones.....	32
2.4.2 Nature of Thiosemicarbazone	35
2.5 Interaction of Ligand and Metal	36
2.6 Instrumentation	40
2.6.1 Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR)	41
2.6.2 Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy (NMR)	42
2.6.3 Ultraviolet Visible spectroscopy (UV-Vis).....	44
2.7 Computational Study and Approach on Thiosemicarbazones.....	46
2.7.1 Conductor-like Screening Model for Real Solvents (COSMO-RS).....	47
2.7.2 Density Functional Theory (DFT)	50
CHAPTER THREE: MATERIALS AND METHODS	57
3.1 Chemicals and Reagents	57
3.2 Instrumentation of Technique.....	59
3.3 General Methodology of Study	60
3.4 Synthesis of Thiosemicarbazone Derivatives	63
3.4.1 Synthesis of 2-Acetylpyrrole Thiosemicarbazone (AP1)	66
3.4.2 Synthesis of 3-Acetylpyridine Thiosemicarbazone (AP2).....	67

3.4.3 Synthesis of 4-Aminoacetophenone Thiosemicarbazone (AP3).....	68
3.4.4 Synthesis of 3-Aethylpyridine 2-Hydroxyphenyl Thiosemicarbazone (AP4).....	69
3.5 Characterization of Thiosemicarbazone Derivatives.....	73
3.5.1 Melting Point.....	73
3.5.2 Elemental Analysis.....	74
3.5.3 Ultraviolet (UV) Visible	74
3.5.4 Fourier Transform Infrared Resonance (FTIR)	74
3.5.5 Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR).....	75
3.6 Optimization of Chemosensors from Synthesized Thiosemicarbazones....	76
3.6.1 Sensitivity Optimization	76
3.7 Selectivity of Optimization.....	77
3.7.1 Metal Ions and Anions Selection	77
3.7.2 Interference Analysis	78
3.8 Limit of Detection.....	78
3.9 Job's Plot	79
3.10 Application of Chemosensor in Water Samples.....	79
3.10.1 Test-Strips Testing/ Naked-Eye (Colorimetric) Detection	79
3.10.2 UV-Vis Analysis	80
3.11 Computational Study and Approach.....	80
3.11.1 COSMO-RS Profile	80
3.11.2 Density Functional Theory.....	81
CHAPTER FOUR: RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	82
4.1 Synthetic Works.....	82
4.1.1 Thiosemicarbazone Derivatives	82
4.2 Characterization of Synthesis Compounds.....	86
4.2.1 Melting Point.....	86
4.2.2 CHNSO Elemental Analysis	87
4.2.3 Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) Spectroscopy	89
4.2.4 Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Analysis.....	93
CHAPTER FIVE: CATION CHEMOSENSOR.....	101
5.1 Sensitivity Optimization	101
5.1.1 Effect of Solvents	102
5.1.2 Effect of Co-Solvent	104
5.1.3 Effect of pH.....	107
5.2 Selectivity Optimization	109
5.2.1 Metal Ion Selectivity	110
5.2.2 Interference Analysis	114
5.3 Limit of Detection.....	116
5.4 Job Plot Measurement	120
5.5 Theoretically Chemical Properties Characterization	122
5.5.1 COSMO-RS	122
5.5.2 Density Function Theory (DFT)	128
5.6 Chemosensor Application.....	142
5.6.1 Naked-Eye (Colorimetric) Detection	142
5.6.2 UV-Vis Analysis	144

CHAPTER SIX: ANION CHEMOSENSOR	147
6.1 Sensitivity Optimization	147
6.1.1 Effect of Solvents	147
6.1.2 Effect of Co-Solvent.....	150
6.1.3 Effect of pH.....	152
6.2 Selectivity Optimization	154
6.2.1 Anion Selectivity.....	155
6.2.2 Interference Analysis	158
6.3 Limit of Detection.....	160
6.4 Job Plot Measurement	164
6.5 Theoretically Chemical Properties Characterization	166
6.5.1 COSMO-RS	166
6.5.2 Density Function Theory (DFT)	173
6.6 Colorimetric Probe Evaluation	185
6.6.1 Naked-Eye (Colorimetric) Detection	185
6.6.2 UV-Vis Analysis	187
CHAPTER SEVEN: CONCLUSION	190
7.1 Conclusion	190
7.2 Future Works	193
REFERENCES.....	195
APPENDICES	209

LIST OF TABLES

<u>Table No.</u>		<u>Page No.</u>
3.1	List of Main Chemicals and Reagents	57
4.1	Yield Analysis of Each Synthesised Compound	83
4.2	Melting Point and Physical Appearance of Each Synthesised Compounds	87
4.3	Elemental Analysis of Each Synthesised Compound	88
4.4	Summary of IR Absorption Data Band of Interest	89
4.5	¹ H NMR Data of the Synthesized Compounds (AP1-AP4)	94
4.6	¹³ C NMR Data of the Synthesised Compounds (AP1-AP4)	98
5.1	The Calculated and Experimented Bond Length of AP1	130
5.2	The Calculated and Experimented Bond Length of AP4	131
5.3	Condensed Fukui Minus Function using Mulliken Charge Analyses for AP1	135
5.4	Condensed Fukui Minus Function using Mulliken Charge Analyses for AP4	137
6.1	The Calculated and Experimented Bond Length of AP2	174
6.2	The Calculated and Experimented Bond Length of AP3	175
6.3	Condensed Fukui Minus Function using Mulliken Charge Analyses for AP2	180
6.4	Condensed Fukui Minus Function using Mulliken Charge Analyses for AP3	181
7.1	Summary of Chemosensor Optimization	193

LIST OF FIGURES

<u>Figure No.</u>		<u>Page No.</u>
1.1	The Structure of Thiosemicarbazone where R ₁ , R ₂ , R ₃ , R ₄ , and R ₅ = CH ₃ , H or any Derivative Substituent	7
2.1	The Absorption Spectra of Ligand in Organic Solvents with Different Polarities	25
2.2	The Spectra for N'-(4-Diphenylamino)Benzylidene) Hydrazinecarbothiohydrazide-Hg ²⁺ Complex in Different DMSO:H ₂ O Ratio	26
2.3	Absorption Intensity of Complexes of HL and Cu ²⁺ in the Presence of Various Metal Ions at 454 nm	27
2.4	(a) The Naked Eyes Observation Analysis for Anion (b) UV-Vis Absorption Spectra of Metal Selection Anion Analysis	28
2.5	DPT Selectivity Against Cu ²⁺ with Different Equivalent of Other Cations	29
2.6	The UV-Vis Spectrum of HL (10 μM) upon Gradual Addition of 10 μM Ni ²⁺ . Inset Shows the Visual Effect of Addition of Ni ²⁺ to HL in Ambient Light	30
2.7	(a) The Job Plot of Chemosensor and Fe ²⁺ in DMF (b) The Job plot of Chemosensor and Fe ³⁺ in DMF	31
2.8	The Proposed Structures of a 1:1 Complex of the Chemosensor with Fe ²⁺ and Fe ³⁺	31
2.9	Structure of Thiosemicarbazone	33
2.10	Mechanism of Thiosemicarbazone Formation from Ketone and Aldehyde	34
2.11	Colorimetric Changes of R1-R4 in Fluoride and Copper Ions Detections	37
2.12	The Visual Response of JUTH with Mercury and Manganese Ions	38
2.13	Naked Eyes Observation under Portable UV Lamp (365 nm) of Thiosemicarbazone and Metal Ions	38

2.14	Naked-Eye Detection of Anion, from Left to Right: Free Ligand (L), L-H ₂ PO ₄ ⁻ , L-F ⁻ , L-Cl ⁻ , L-Br ⁻ , L-NO ₃ ⁻ , L-HSO ₄ ⁻	39
2.15	Naked Eyes Observation by Fluorescence Changes in Metal Ion Analysis in HEPES Buffer pH 7.4/Propylene Glycol Solution under Backlight (365 nm)	39
2.16	Colour Changes of the Sensor Solution in the Presence of 10 Equiv. of F ⁻ , Cl ⁻ , Br ⁻ , I ⁻ , CN ⁻ , NO ₃ ⁻ , AcO ⁻ , ClO ₄ ⁻ , HSO ₄ ⁻ and H ₂ PO ₄ ⁻	40
2.17	IR Spectrum of Ni-Complex of 1-(3-Bromo-4-Hydroxy-5-Methoxybenzylidene)-4-(4-Bromophenyl)Thiosemicarbazide	42
2.18	¹ H NMR Spectra (DMSO-d ₆) of the Product of Reaction between 4-Benzoylpyridine and Thiosemicarbazide using BF ₃ /OEt ₂ as Catalyst	44
2.19	Types of Shift in UV-Visible Spectrum	46
2.20	COSMO-RS, Electronic Surface Charge Distribution of the Synthesized Ionic Liquids	49
2.21	The Sigma Profile Depicted the Chemical Behavior of 1,5-Diphenylthiocarbazone and DMSO	50
2.22	Optimized Structure of Sensor and Ni ²⁺ Complex by DFT/B3LYP Method	52
2.23	DFT Optimized Structure of Sensor-F ⁻ Complexes in 2-Diketopyrrolopyrrole Thiosemicarbazone	53
2.24	DFT Optimized Structure of JUTH-Mn ²⁺ and JUTH-Hg ²⁺	54
2.25	Contour Plots of HOMO, LUMO and HOMO–LUMO Energy Gap in HL and HL–Zn ²⁺ Complex	55
2.26	Energy Level Diagrams of the HOMO and LUMO of (a) L (b) L CN ⁻ (1:1) and (c) L CN ⁻ (1:2) Complexes (using the DFT/B3LYP/6-31pG(d) Method)	56
3.1	The Overall Methodology Applied in this Study	62
3.2	The Schematic for Method of Synthesis AP1, AP2 and AP3	64
3.3	The Schematic for Synthesis of AP4	65
3.4	Schematic Preparation of 2-Acetylpyrrole Thiosemicarbazone (AP1)	67

3.5	Schematic Preparation of 3-Acetylpyridine Thiosemicarbazone (AP2)	68
3.6	Schematic Preparation of 4-Aminoacetophenone Thiosemicarbazone (AP3)	69
3.7	Schematic Preparation Production of Methyl Hydrazinecarbodithioate (I)	70
3.8	Schematic Preparation Production of Methyl 4-(1-(3 Pyridyl) Ethylidene Hydrazinecarbodithioate (II)	71
3.9	Schematic Preparation Production of 3-Acetylpyridine 2-Hydroxyphenyl Thiosemicarbazone (III)	72
3.10	Molecular Structure of Synthesized Compounds AP1, AP2, AP3 and AP4	72
4.1	Synthesis Reaction between Thiosemicarbazide (Blue Region) and Ketone (red region) While Pink Region Represent of OH Group and act as Withdrawing Group in the Reaction, Green Represent Formation of C=N Linkage	84
4.2	Synthesis Reaction –Nucleophilic Substitution between Carbonyl-Primary Amine and Thiol-Primary Amine at Second and Third Stage Respectively	85
4.3	Infrared Spectrum of 3-Acetylpyridine 2-Hydroxyphenyl Thiosemicarbazone (AP4)	92
4.4	¹ H NMR Spectrum of 4-Aminoacetophenone Thiosemicarbazone (AP3)	95
4.5	¹³ C NMR Spectrum of 3-Acetylpyridine Thiosemicarbazone (AP2)	98
5.1	Absorption Spectra of AP1 in Different Solvents	102
5.2	Absorption Spectra of AP4 in Different Solvents	103
5.3	Absorption Spectra of AP1 for Various DMSO: Water Ratios	105
5.4	Absorption Spectra of AP4 for Various DMSO: Water Ratios	106
5.5	Line Graph for Absorbance AP1 for Different pH at 395 nm	109
5.6	Line Graph for Absorbance AP4 for Different pH at 430 nm	109
5.7	Colour Changes Upon the Addition of Various Metal Ions in DMSO:pH 7 in AP1(5:5)	110

5.8	Colour Changes Upon the Addition of Various Metal Ions in DMSO:pH 7 in AP4 (8:2)	111
5.9	Absorption Spectra of AP1 with Metal Ions in a 5:5 Ratio at pH of 7	113
5.10	Absorption Spectra of AP4 with Metal Ions in a 8:2 Ratio at pH of 7.	113
5.11	Bar Graph for the Behavior of AP1 with Cu ²⁺ and the Other Cations Measured by UV-Vis in (5:5) Ratio at 395 nm	114
5.12	Bar Graph for the Behavior of AP4 with Cu ²⁺ and the Other Cations Measured by UV-Vis in (8:2) Ratio at 430 nm	115
5.13	Absorption Spectra of AP1 with the Addition of Different Concentration of Cu ²⁺	117
5.14	Absorption Spectra of AP4 with the Addition of Different Concentration of Cu ²⁺	118
5.15	Calibration Curve for Absorbance at 395 nm Versus Concentration of Cu ²⁺	119
5.16	Calibration Curve for Absorbance at 395 nm Versus Concentration of Cu ²⁺	119
5.17	Jobs Plot at 395 nm for AP1	121
5.18	Jobs Plot at 430 nm for AP4	121
5.19	The Surface Charge Density and Solid Surface Charge Density of AP1	123
5.20	The Surface Charge Density and Solid Surface Charge Density of AP4	123
5.21	σ- Profile of AP1 and Different Solvents used.	124
5.22	σ- Profile of AP4 and Different Solvents Used	125
5.23	σ- Profile of AP1 and DMSO	126
5.24	σ- Profile of AP4 and DMSO	127
5.25	The Optimized Molecular Structure of AP1	129
5.26	The Optimized Molecular Structure of AP4	131
5.27	The Molecular Electrostatic Potential of the AP1 Compound	133

5.28	The Molecular Electrostatic Potential of the AP4 Compound	133
5.29	Energy Level Diagram of HOMO and LUMO for a) AP1 and b) AP1-Cu Complex	139
5.3	Energy Level Diagram of HOMO and LUMO for a) AP4 and b) AP4-Cu Complex	140
5.31	Colour Changes of Test Strips of AP1 and AP1 + Cu ²⁺ in (a) Lake Water (b) Tap Water and (c) Distilled Water	143
5.32	Colour Changes of Test Strips of AP4 and AP4 + Cu ²⁺ in (a) Lake Water (b) Tap Water and (c) Distilled Water	143
5.33	UV-Vis Detection of Cu ²⁺ in Distilled Water, Tap Water and Lake Water for AP1	145
5.34	UV-Vis Detection of Cu ²⁺ in Distilled Water, Tap Water and Lake Water for AP4	146
6.1	Absorption Spectra of AP2 in Different Solvents	148
6.2	Absorption Spectra of AP3 in Different Solvents	148
6.3	Absorption Spectra of AP2 for Various DMSO: Water Ratios	151
6.4	Absorption Spectra of AP3 for Various DMSO: Water Ratios	152
6.5	Line Graph for Absorbance AP2 for Different pH at 365 nm	154
6.6	Line Graph for Absorbance AP3 for Different pH at 370 nm	154
6.7	Color Changes Upon the Addition of Various Metal Ions in DMSO:H ₂ O in AP2 (9:1)	155
6.8	Color Changes Upon the Addition of Various Metal Ions in DMSO:H ₂ O in AP3 (9:1)	155
6.9	Absorption Spectra of AP2 with Metal Ions in a 9:1 Ratio DMSO:H ₂ O	157
6.10	Absorption Spectra of AP3 with Metal Ions in a 9:1 Ratio DMSO:H ₂ O	158
6.11	Bar Graph for the Behavior of AP2 with IO ₃ ⁻ and the Other Cations Measured by UV-Vis in (9:1) Ratio at 365 nm	159
6.12	Bar Graph for the Behavior of AP3 with IO ₃ ⁻ and the Other Cations Measured by UV-Vis in (9:1) Ratio at 370 nm	159

6.13	Absorption Spectra of AP2 with the Addition of Different Concentration of IO_3^-	161
6.14	a) Absorption Spectra of AP3 with the Addition of Different Concentration of IO_3^- ; b) The Zoom in of Absorption Spectra Addition of Different Concentration of IO_3^-	162
6.15	Calibration Curve for Absorbance in AP2 at 365 nm Versus Concentration of IO_3^-	163
6.16	Calibration Curve for Absorbance in AP3 at 370 nm Versus Concentration of IO_3^-	163
6.17	Jobs Plot at 365 nm for AP2	165
6.18	Jobs Plot at 370 nm for AP3	165
6.19	The Surface Charge Density and Solid Surface Charge Density of AP2	167
6.20	The Surface Charge Density and Solid Surface Charge Density of AP3	167
6.21	σ - Profile of AP2 and Different Solvents Used	169
6.22	σ - Profile of AP3 and Different Solvents Used	170
6.23	σ - Profile of AP2 and DMSO	171
6.24	σ - Profile of AP3 and DMSO	171
6.25	The Optimized Molecular Structure of AP2	173
6.26	The Optimized Molecular Structure of AP3	175
6.27	The Molecular Electrostatic Potential of the AP2 Compound	177
6.28	The Molecular Electrostatic Potential of the AP3 Compound	177
6.29	Energy Level Diagram of HOMO and LUMO for a) AP2 and b) AP2- IO_3^- Complex	182
6.30	Energy Level Diagram of HOMO and LUMO for a) AP3 and b) AP3- IO_3^- Complex	183
6.31	Colour Changes of Test Strips of AP2 and AP2 + IO_3^- in (a) Tap Water (b) Distilled Water and (c) Lake Water	186
6.32	Colour Changes of Test Strips of AP3 and AP3 + IO_3^- in (a) Tap Water (b) Distilled Water and (c) Lake Water	186

6.33	UV-Vis Detection of IO_3^- in Distilled Water, Tap Water and Lake Water for AP2	188
6.34	UV-Vis Detection of IO_3^- in Distilled Water, Tap Water and Lake Water for AP3	189



LIST OF EQUATIONS

<u>Equation</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
Percentage of element CHNSO (%)	$\frac{\% \text{ of element} = \text{Relative atomic mass (respective atom)}}{\text{Relative molecular mass (total MW)}} \times 100\%$ 88
Limit of detection	$C_{DL} = 3 \delta / K$ 118
Fukui function for nucleophilic attack	$f_k^+ = [q(N + 1) - q(N)] \text{ for nucleophilic attack}$ 135,179
Fukui function for electrophilic attack	$f_k^- = [q(N) - q(N - 1)] \text{ for electrophilic attack}$ 135,179
Fukui function for radical attack	$f_k^0 = 1 / 2 [q(N + 1) - q(N - 1)] \text{ for radical attack}$ 135,179

LIST OF SYMBOLS

%	percentage
°C	degree Celcius
π	pi
nm	nanometers
σ	sigma
eV	electron Volt
mL	millilitres
g	gram
λ_{\max}	maximum wavelength
M	molar
μM	micro molar
mM	millimolar
g/mol	gram per mol
LOD	limit of detection
δ	standard deviation
K	slope of calibration curve
Å	angstrom
$e/\text{Å}^2$	charge density
ΔE	energy gap
a.u.	atomic unit
R ²	coefficient determination
ppm	parts per million

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AAS	Atomic absorption spectroscopy	H ₂ O	Water
ICP-MS	Inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry	UV-VIS	Ultraviolet–visible spectroscopy
ICC	Indian Childhood Cirrhosis	COSMO-RS	Conductor like Screening Model for Real Solvents
DFT	Density function theory	MEP	Molecular Electrostatic Potential
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid	HOMO	Highest occupied molecular orbital
DMSO	Dimethyl sulfoxide	LUMO	Lowest unoccupied molecular orbital
DCM	Dichloromethane	B3LYP	Becke, 3-parameter, Lee-Yang Parr

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 RESEARCH BACKGROUND

In the vast developing area, the environmental pollution from heavy metals has become one of the most important focuses in the world. Heavy metals are highly associated with human life from several centuries. Transition metal ions play critical roles in various biological, industrial and environmental processes (Tavallali et al., 2016). These metal ions are crucial element that present in our earth. These metals present from the natural components of the earth's crust which also can be found at surrounding for instance soil, water and also atmosphere that can lead environmental contamination. Nowadays, heavy metals can be found in distinct area of field such as pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, food industry and also water supply treatment.

Metal ions are categorized as essential and non-essential and which are diverged based on their importance and essentiality towards human and living things. Heavy metals are known as metals and semi-metals have relative potential towards toxicity which may cause to earth's pollution. The unethical activities like industrial production, domestic and also agricultural use by these heavy metals are from human activities itself. However, there are also some metals that contain acute elements for asserting human biological activities such as copper, iron, manganese and zinc. Cobalt, chromium, magnesium, nickel are known as essential nutrients that are required for many biochemical and physiological functions in human body system (Tchounwou et al., 2012).