## COMPLEX FORMATION OF COPPER(II) WITH A PROLINE SUBSTITUTED 8-HYDROXYQUINOLINE: SOLUTION STUDIES AND STRUCTURAL CHARACTERIZATION

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#### Abstract

8-hydroxyquinoline and its substituted derivatives are a well-known class of bidentate ligands widely used in bioanalytical and supramolecular chemistry due to wide specter of their applications and high coordination binding activity [1, 2]. 8-hydroxyquinolines and their metal complexes often exhibit anticancer activity [2], and the most prominent example is orally active tris(8-hydroxyquinolato)gallium(III), which is tested under clinical trials phase I and II [3]. The cytotoxicity of 8-hydroxyquinolines is also related to complexation with endogenous metals such as the redox active copper and iron ions [4]. 8-Hydroxyquinolines generally suffer from limited water solubility, and in this work a more water soluble D-proline hybrid molecule, (D)-5-chloro-7-((proline-1-yl)methyl)8-hydroxyquinoline (8HQCl-D-Pro, Fig. 1.a), was developed and its complexation with copper(II) was investigated.



Figure 1. a) Scheme of 8HQCl-D-Pro ligand; b) Crystal structure of 8HQCl-D-Pro.

The ligand was synthesized similarly as the analogous 8HQCl-L-Pro in our previous work [5]. The solution equilibrium processes of 8HQCl-D-Pro, whose crystal structure was obtained and determined by X-ray analysis (Fig. 1.b), with copper(II) was investigated in a 30% (v/v) dmso/water solvent mixture using pH-potentiometry and UV-visible spectroscopy. A model containing mononuclear  $[Cu(LH)]^+$ ,  $[Cu(L_2H)]^-$  and  $[Cu(LH)_2]$  species is proposed (Fig. 2).



Figure 2. a) a) UV-visible absorption spectra of 8HQCl-D-Pro at pH range 1.9–12.6 in a 30% (v/v) DMSO/H<sub>2</sub>O solvent mixture; b) individual UV-visible absorption spectra of the different complexes (red lines) and ligand species (black lines) calculated for the Cu(II) – 8HQCl-D-Pro system ( $c_{ligand} = 42,5 \mu$ M;  $c_{Cu(II)} = 23 \mu$ M; T = 25.0 °C; I = 0.1 M (KCl), I = 1 cm).

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