

# The Interaction of Nickel (II) ion with Ethylene Diamine (en) Chelate using Ethaline (ionic liquid) as Solvent

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## ABSTRACT

For this experiment, this is the first time using 1 choline chloride (ChCl) : 2 ethylene glycol (EG) based liquid (ethaline) to study the interaction between Ni (II) with ethylene diamine. Two of the optical methods for analyzing spectrophotometric measurements have been utilized for determination of, the stoichiometry and whenever possible, the stability constants of the chelates formed. Job's method was necessary to determine whether, the metal ion and the ligand ethylene diamine form one or more than one chelate, when more than one chelate formed, the results obtained depend on the maximum wavelength and for meaningful conclusions the wavelengths were carefully chosen. The empirical formulae of the chelates were further substantiated by the molar ratio method. The effect of time and temperature on the formation and stability of these chelates in solution is also investigated. The stability constants,  $K_1$ ,  $K_2$  and  $K_3$  for the nickel (II) chelates were calculated by both optical methods, though reliable, and are comparable to literature values.

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*Keywords: Ni (II), en, ionic liquid, deep eutectic solvent (DES), Job's method, molar ratio, stability constant and UV spectra*

## INTRODUCTION

The transition elements are classically defined as those which, the elements have been partially filled d- or f- subshells. However, a broader definition the elements which have been partially filled d- or - subshells in any of their commonly occurring oxidation states, includes the coinage metal ions<sup>1</sup>, Cu, Ag and Au as transition elements. Cu(II) has a 3d configuration, Ag, (II) ion a 4d configuration and Au (III) ion a 5d configuration. From a purely chemical point of view it is also appropriate to consider these elements as transition elements, since their chemical behavior is, on the whole quite similar to that of other transition elements. Thus, with the above broad definition in mind, one finds that the majority of all known elements are transition elements.

The transition elements display all the properties common to metal ions. They have relatively low ionization potentials, they are good conductors of heat and electricity and they are lustrous, malleable and ductile too. The fact that they have small sizes and high electro positivity renders them a high charge to size ratio; a fact responsible for their ability to form a large group of binary compounds, commonly known as coordination compounds, with a large variety of ligands. In this respect, transition elements display a marked ability to react with a large variety of ligands above and beyond that expected on the basis of normal valence rules.

Werner's<sup>2</sup> recognition of the existence of two types of valence, primary and secondary, was a major breakthrough in the history of coordination compounds. Recently, however progress in the chemistry of

45 transition elements has occurred across two broad fronts, classical coordination chemistry and  
46 organometallic chemistry, which have been tended by two separate schools of chemists. There are no  
47 universally valid principles on the basis of which the relative values of formation constants of complexes  
48 of different metal ion ions with the same ligand, or of the same metal ion ions with different ligands can  
49 be predicted. Ligands supply the electron density for the covalent bond formation. The strength of this  
50 link partly depends on the nature of the donor atom directly attached to the metal ion atom, and partly  
51 on the nature of the complexing agent. The nature of the complexing agent varies considerably from  
52 inorganic to organic species. The organic species usually contain one or more non-metal ionic  
53 elements of group IV, V or VI which are electron donating atoms. The potential part of an organic  
54 species differs greatly; some are aromatic as catechol and some are basic such as amines and  
55 diamines aliphatic or aromatic.

56 The nature of the donor atom has a distinct influence on the strength of the ligand and eventually on the  
57 stability of the metal ion complex. In an extended form of the spectrochemical series it is also seen that  
58 the position of the ligand depends largely on the donor atom in the order:



60  
61 Thus, the nitrate which donates through O is a weaker ligand than the nitrite which donates through N.  
62 An even more striking example is in the thiocyanate, SCN, group with a weak ligand field when  
63 coordinated through S and a much stronger field when coordinated through N. These features govern  
64 the effect of ligands by their contribution to the crystal field stabilization energy, but this term may only  
65 be a minor contribution to the overall stabilization and it is also therefore necessary to not to equate  
66 strong crystal field unthinkingly with metal ion complex stability<sup>3</sup>.

67  
68 Within a particular transitional group the tendency of complex formation increases, in a way, with the  
69 availability of d-electrons for hybridization. Data available on the correlation of stability of transition  
70 metal ion complexes indicated a considerable increase along the series Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, and that in  
71 every case the stability drops off with Zn. It seems, therefore, that the values of the stability constants  
72 increase in a regular manner with some property related to the atomic number, and that the regular  
73 variation of this property reaches a discontinuity in the case of In. It is important to note that there is a  
74 regular increase in the number of 3d-electrons and that in all cases excepting Zn<sup>2+</sup> the d-orbitals can  
75 take part in homopolar bond formation. Thus, it seems that covalent bond formation involving d-orbitals  
76 is of primary importance among the factors affecting the stability of these chelates. The above order of  
77 stability of metal ion chelates is part of a more extensive order<sup>4</sup>, known as the Irving-Williams order.  
78 It was also particularly noted that the Zn (II) chelates are much less stable than Cu (II) chelates<sup>4</sup>. It is  
79 also interesting to note that, in general agreement with the above the relative stabilities of glycine  
80 chelates of the transition metal ions as determined by Ley<sup>5</sup>, from conductance measurements, fall in the  
81 order:



83  
84 Atomic structure is found to affect the tendency of the metal ion towards complex formation. Metal  
85 ion ions with an inert gas structure show a lower coordination tendency than those with pseudo-inert  
86 gas structure.

## 87 **Ionic liquids**

88  
89  
90 High temperature molten salts have long been used for metal ion extraction and metal ions such as Li,  
91 Na, Ti and Al have been electrowin for molten salts<sup>6,78</sup>, the main limitation with high temperature molten

92 salts is clearly the operation temperature which makes operation difficult and limits the range of  
93 substrates that can be used. In an endeavour to reduce the melting temperature of salts numerous  
94 studies focussed on  $\text{Li}^+/\text{K}^+/\text{AlCl}_3$  eutectics which have freezing points close to  $100^\circ\text{C}$ .<sup>9</sup> The use of  
95 quaternary ammonium salts particularly pyridinium and imidazolium salts has pushed the freezing point  
96 down to ambient conditions. The term “ionic liquids” has been used to distinguish between high  
97 temperature and low temperature systems.

98 Ionic Liquids have clearly been reported to be green solvents most notably for their low vapour pressure  
99 compared to molecular alternatives. In the application of ionic liquids to metal ion deposition the green  
100 credentials of this methodology could also come from a significant reduction in the volume of low level 1  
101  $\text{ChCl}: 2 \text{EG}$  based liquid (ethaline) streams that would need to be processed. Today, it is generally  
102 recognised that this is only part of the picture since many ionic liquids do have significant toxicity. Some  
103 ionic liquids have been designed to contain ions which are known to have lower toxicity and these  
104 include functionalised imidazoles,<sup>10</sup> lactams,<sup>11</sup> amino acids<sup>12</sup> and choline<sup>13</sup> although it is only the last of  
105 these which have been extensively applied to metal ion deposition.

106 The requirements for ionic liquids to be used on a bulk scale for metal ion deposition are that they need  
107 to be; low cost, non-toxic, pre-registered and water insensitive<sup>14,15,16</sup>.

108 The majority of discrete anions do not achieve all of these criteria and so it is more likely that eutectic  
109 based ionic liquids will be more applicable for bulk-scale electro deposition.

110 The systems studied so far described can be expressed in terms of the general formula

111  $\text{Cat}^+ \text{X}^z \text{Y}$ .

112 Where  $\text{Cat}^+$  is in principle any ammonium or phosphonium cation, X is generally a halide anion (usually  
113  $\text{Cl}^-$ ). They are based on equilibria set up between  $\text{X}^-$  and a Lewis or Brønsted acid Y; z refers to the  
114 number of Y molecules which complex  $\text{X}^-$ .

115 One of the key advantages of these types of ionic liquids is the ease of manufacture. The liquid  
116 formation is generally mildly endothermic and requires simply mixing the two components with gentle  
117 heating. Another key advantage is that they are water insensitive which is very important for practical  
118 electroplating systems. The final key advantage of eutectic based systems is that because they are  
119 simple mixtures of known chemicals they do not have to be registered as new entities as they revert to  
120 their constituent components upon excessive dilution in water.

121 The ionic liquids described can be subdivided into four types depending on the nature of the  
122 complexing agent used.

123 Eutectic Type 1  $\text{Y} = \text{MCl}_x, \text{M} = \text{Zn},^{17,18,19,20} \text{Sn},^{21}$

124 Eutectic Type 2  $\text{Y} = \text{MCl}_x \cdot y\text{H}_2\text{O}, \text{M} = \text{Cr},^{22} \text{Co}, \text{Cu}, \text{Ni}, \text{Fe}$

125 Eutectic Type 3  $\text{Y} = \text{RZ}, \text{Z} = \text{CONH}_2,^{23} \text{COOH}^{24}, \text{OH}$

126 Eutectic Type 4  $\text{MCl}_x + \text{RZ} = \text{MCl}_{x-1}^+ \cdot \text{RZ} + \text{MCl}_{x+1}^- \cdot \text{M} = \text{Al}, \text{Zn}$  and  $\text{Z} = \text{CONH}_2, \text{OH}^{25}$

127 In current years, the advantages of ionic liquids (ILs) in inorganic nanomaterials synthetic processes  
128 have been gradually realized and have received more and more attention due to their unique physical  
129 and chemical properties<sup>26,27,28,29,30</sup>. Various approaches to the fabrication of inorganic nanomaterials  
130 with unprecedented and sometimes unique structures and properties have been reported in ILs. The  
131 most fascinating objective is that it cannot only replicate traditional inorganic particulates, nevertheless  
132 also supply routes towards new inorganic particulate with features that cannot or hardly be produced by

133 applying traditional processes. Because of the significance and the rapid expansion of ILs in inorganic  
134 nanomaterials, this will open the door for the researchers to dig deep in this field or types of these kinds  
135 of tunable solvents in all type of research areas. The inorganic–organic hybrids such as metal ion–  
136 organic frameworks synthesized in ILs have been reviewed recently by Parnham and Morris<sup>31</sup>.

137 Deep eutectic solvents( DES ) are easy to synthesise, economically viable to produce on a large scale,  
138 relatively insensitive to water, exhibit high metal ion solubility, pre-registered for reach and can be  
139 recycled make them useful in wide range of application, such as metal ion plating, electro-polishing and  
140 metal ion recycling. Type III eutectics have the ability to dissolve high concentrations of metal ion oxides  
141 which allows them to be used for metallurgy.As a consequence they can be applied to large-scale  
142 processes.

143 Deep Eutectic Solvents have been used by a variety of groups in a range of applications which are  
144 summarised briefly here. The largest number of applications has been in the field of synthesis. In the  
145 same way that ionic liquids have been used as bulk solvents for synthesis, the same is true for DESs.  
146 There are a limited number of applications in organic synthesis,<sup>32, 33</sup> although the applications to  
147 inorganic synthesis and particularly in the area of template growth of solids is more  
148 extensive.<sup>34,35,36,37,38,39</sup> DESs have also been used as media for biocatalysts as several enzymes have  
149 been found to be stable in these liquids.<sup>40,41,42,43,44,45,46</sup> There are two reports of DESs based on choline  
150 chloride and glycerol being used for the purification of biodiesel through the extraction of excess  
151 glycerol.<sup>47</sup>There are also reports of DESs being used as electrolytes in dye sensitised solar cells<sup>48,49</sup>.

152 The novelty of Type 3 eutectics is that they use a simple hydrogen bond donor to complex the simple  
153 anion (usually chloride). The majority of the work to date has focussed on simple amides, alcohols and  
154 carboxylic acids. The first reported eutectics were those formed between choline chloride and amides  
155 such as urea and acetamide.<sup>24</sup>These materials have been called Deep Eutectic Solvents to differentiate  
156 them from ionic liquids with discrete anions. A eutectic forms when there is a large interaction between  
157 the two species in the mixture. An example of this is the choline chloride: urea mixture. By themselves  
158 they have freezing points of 303 °C and 135 °C respectively. By combining these two compounds in a  
159 ratio of 1:2 (choline chloride: urea), the product formed has a freezing point of 12 °C which is a  
160 depression of freezing point of is 178 °C. For comparison the freezing point depression for the choline  
161 chloride-zinc chloride system was much larger (272 °C)<sup>50</sup>due to the covalent bonds formed in the metal  
162 ion chloride case. The main reason behind choline chloride being such a useful quaternary ammonium  
163 salt is to do with the fact it is an asymmetric quaternary ammonium salt with a polar functional group,  
164 but is also small. The asymmetric nature of this molecule reduces the freezing point of the ionic-  
165 molecular liquid, as does the polar functional group. *Abbott et.al* has published extensively on the subject  
166 of choline chloride  $\text{HOC}_2\text{H}_4\text{N}^+$   $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{Cl}^-$  (ChCl) because it is non-toxic and readily available as a bulk  
167 commodity chemical. Its common use stems in part from its simple manufacture; an efficient gas phase  
168 reaction between trimethylamine, ethylene oxide and HCl. This means that the Sheldon E factor<sup>51</sup>  
169 for this salt is close to zero because almost no waste products are formed during this reaction.

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## 171 **EXPERIMENTAL**

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173 Although much worthy research has been dedicated recently to the development of new instrumental  
174 techniques, the use of chemical reactions still remains the true basis of numerous methods of detection,  
175 separation and determination. In this respect the reaction of organic reagents with inorganic substances  
176 are very important in inorganic analysis.

177 There are many solution properties which change measurably as a result of complex formation and  
178 which are very informative on the existence and stability of the different species present in solution. A  
179 careful consideration is necessary, however, as to whether the effects of complex formation are  
180 quantitatively reflected in the measured property. The choice of an adequate method is a prerequisite  
181 for obtaining reliable equilibrium or stability constants. Following is an outline of some of the methods  
182 frequently used for the determination of stoichiometry and stability of metal ion complexes.  
183

## 184 MOLAR RATIO METHOD

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186 This method was introduced by Yoe and Jones<sup>52</sup> and is considered a more reliable method in the case  
187 of successive complex formation. A series of solutions is prepared in which the total concentration of  
188 the metal ion is kept constant and the concentration of the ligand is varied under similar conditions. A  
189 plot of absorbance as a function of the ratio of moles of ligand to moles of the metal ion is prepared.  
190 This plot is expected to give a straight line from the origin to the point where equivalent amounts of the  
191 constituents are present. The curve will then become horizontal, if only one complex of high stability is  
192 formed (Figure 1a). This is because all of one constituent is used up, and the addition of more of the  
193 other constituent can produce no more of the absorbing complex.

194 A complex that undergoes, appreciable dissociation in solution, however, gives a continuous curve  
195 which becomes approximately parallel to the molar ratio axis only when an appreciable excess of the  
196 variable component is added, (Figure 1b), and results obtained by extrapolation of this curve are  
197 unreliable<sup>53</sup>, Harvey and Manning<sup>54,55</sup> found that in some cases such a curve can be made to break up  
198 sharply at the perfect molar ratio, if the ionic strength of the solutions is adjusted by addition of an inert  
199 electrolyte.

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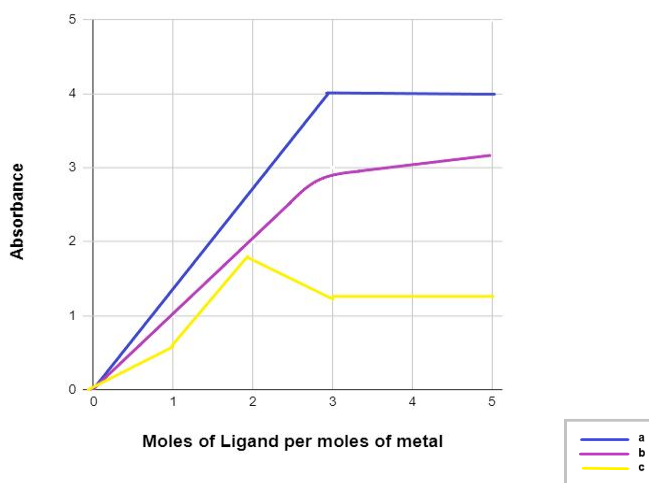
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219 In the case of successive complex formation of different absorbances more than two linearly  
220 intersecting parts are observed in the graph; (Figure 1c). The corresponding point at the molar ratio axis  
221 to each intersecting point gives directly the ligand to metal ion ratio in each complex.  
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Figure(1) Molar Ratio Plot



223 A series of solutions which contain a constant amount of metal ion solution and varying amounts of  
224 ligand solution were prepared. The initial concentration of both metal ion and ligand was kept the same.  
225 Deep eutectic solvent (ethaline) was added to make the total volume 5.00 cm<sup>3</sup>. Absorbance of the  
226 solutions were recorded similarly.

227

## 228 CONTINUOUS VARIATION METHOD

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230 A series of solutions of varying mole fractions of metal ion and ligand were prepared keeping the  
231 total volume 5.0 cm<sup>3</sup>. To determine the wavelength of maximum absorption, three samples of different  
232 mole fractions of metal ion and ligand from the series were selected. The solution absorbance was  
233 then measured at the wavelengths where only the complex absorbs as a function of the mole fraction of  
234 the metal ion.

235 A series of solutions of varying mole fractions of metal ion and ligand were prepared keeping the  
236 total volume 5.0 cm<sup>3</sup>. To determine the wavelength of maximum absorption, three samples of different  
237 mole fractions of metal ion and ligand from the series were selected. The solution absorbance was  
238 then measured at the wavelengths where only the complex absorbs as a function of the mole fraction of  
239 the metal ion.

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242

## 243 MATERIALS

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245 Choline chloride [HOC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>N (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>Cl] (ChCl) (-Choline Chloride / Glenthman LLFE SCIENCES /1 kg  
246 Prod code GV0479 -99 %) was, when necessary, recrystallised from absolute ethanol, filtered and dried  
247 under vacuum. Ethylene glycol (EG) (Ortanal + 99 %), was used as received. The mixtures were  
248 formed by stirring the two components together (in a 1: 2 molar ratio of ChCl: hydrogen bond donor)at  
249 60 °C until a homogeneous, colourless liquid formed. The metal ion salts Nickel (II) Chloride  
250 hexahydrate (**Scharlau** 90%) / NI0139, ethylene diamine / Merck- Schuchardt 96% / 1L / Art 800947  
251 were used as received. The concentrations of metal ion salts and ethylene diamine were in the range  
252 between 0.004 mol dm<sup>-3</sup> to 0.05 mol dm<sup>-3</sup>. Balance / METTLER TOLEDO (AB54-S)/5 digit/ **10 mg**  
253 minimum SNR 1125180005 / Made in Switzerland.

### UV visible spectrophotometer

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255 A Shimadzu model uv-1601 spectrophotometer made in China was used with the cell path length equal  
256 to 10mm. Values for  $\lambda_{\max}$  were determined using the spectrophotometer's built-in peak-pick feature,  
257 using UV- probe software.

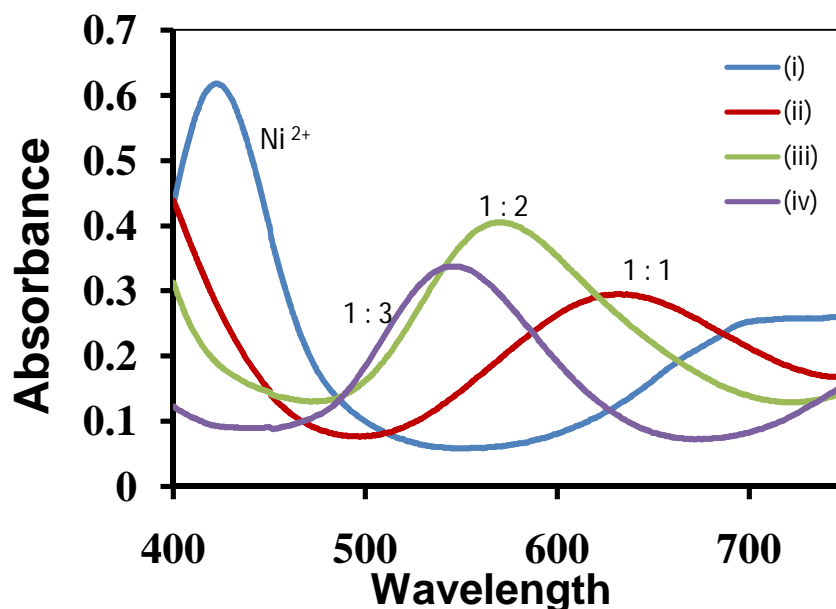
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## 259 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

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261 The ligand ethylene diamine produces three different colours with nickel (II) depending on the number of  
262 moles of ligand per mole of the nickel (II) ions. This color reaction forms the basis for the application of  
263 spectrophotometric methods for the determination of the empirical formulae of the colored chelates of  
264 nickel (II) with ethylene diamine and their approximate stability constants. The method of molar ratio was  
265 applied first to establish the empirical formulae for the colored chelates of nickel (II) and ethylene  
266 diamine. A series of solutions was prepared in which the mole fractions of nickel (II) and ethylene

267 diamine were varied between 0.00 and 1.00 at constant total volume and under exactly similar  
 268 conditions. Four of these solutions with different mole fractions were selected and their absorption  
 269 spectra were then measured in the range 750 to 400 nm, as shown in **Figure 2a** and **Figure 2b**  
 270 represents the photo of the colour of Ni (II) complexes formed after the successive addition of ethylene  
 271 diamine. The spectra (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) refer to Ni(II) ions in 1 ChCl: 2 EG based liquid (ethaline)  
 272 solution, the 1:1 chelate, the 1:2 chelate and the 1:3 chelate, From these spectra it has been concluded  
 273 that Ni(II) ions react with ethylene diamine to form the chelates  $[\text{Ni}(\text{en})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4]^{2+}$ ,  $[\text{Ni}(\text{en})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]^{2+}$  and  
 274  $[\text{Ni}(\text{en})_3]^{2+}$  in 1 ChCl: 2 EG based ionic liquid (ethaline) solutions, depending on the number of moles of  
 275 ligand per mole of metal ion and with maximum wavelength of 626 nm, 604 nm and 587 nm,  
 276 respectively. The absorption of the  $[\text{Ni}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6]^{2+}$  ion is centered at maximum wavelength 650 nm. The  
 277 successive shift to higher energy on moving from Ni (II) ions to the 1:3 chelate is in accordance with the  
 278 stronger ligand field of the chelating ligand as compared to  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .  
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Figure 2a shows the visible absorption of nickel chelate with ethylene diamine  
 281 in ionic liquids.

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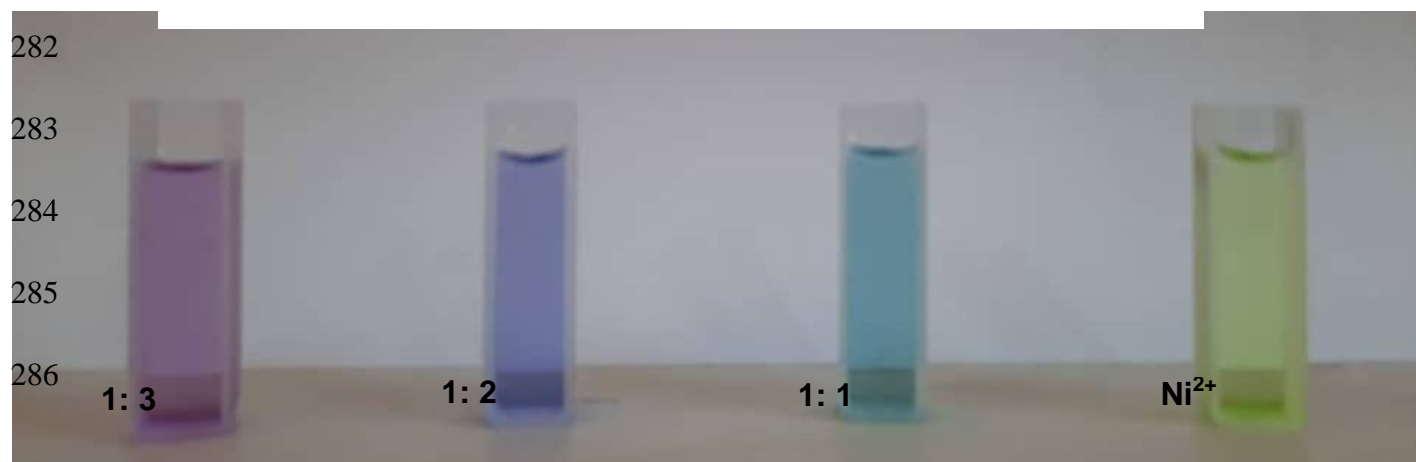


Figure 2b represents photo the colour change after successive addition of ethylene diamine (en)  
 substance to  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  in ionic liquids.

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301 **The 1:1 Chelate;  $[\text{Ni en}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4]^{2+}$**

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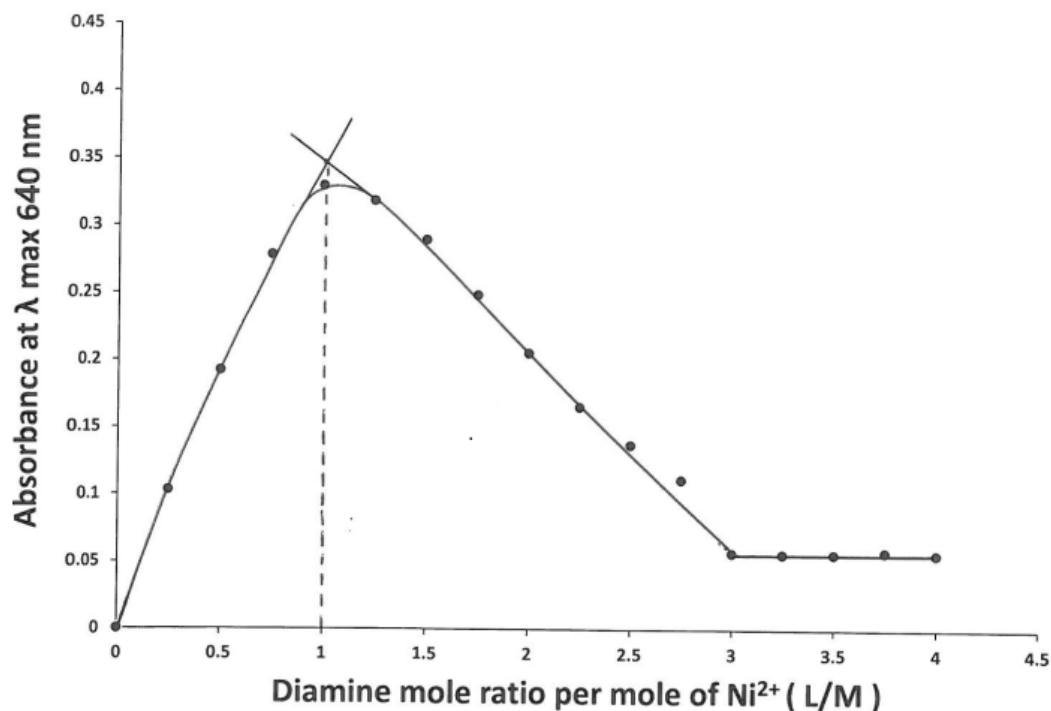
303 The molar ratio method was first applied to confirm the fact that Ni (II) ions react with ethylene diamine  
304 in 1 ChCl: 2 EG based liquid (ethaline) solutions to form a stable complex in the ratio of 1:1.

305 A series of solutions 0.25 M in both metal ion and ligand was prepared in the usual manner according  
306 to the molar ratio method. The absorbance of the above solutions was measured at maximum  
307 wavelength 640 nm and a temperature of 27 °C. The plot of the complex absorbance, corrected for  
308 excess metal ion and/or excess ligand, against the mole ratio of ligand to metal ion, L/M, is represented  
309 in **Figure 3**.

310 If only one complex of high stability is formed in solution, one would expect the plot to give a semi  
311 straight line from the origin to the point where the equivalent amounts of constituents are present. The  
312 curve will then become horizontal since all of one constituent is used up and the addition of more of the  
313 other constituent can produce no more of the absorbing complex, unless the constituent which is in  
314 excess itself absorbs at the same wavelength. In such cases, the curve will show a positive slope after  
315 the equivalence point, but of smaller magnitude than that prior to equivalence.

316 The stability constant  $\text{Log } K_1$  is calculated in this investigation from **Figure 3** and was found  $\text{Log } K_1 =$   
317 6.87, 27°C which is fairly in good agreement with the literature value<sup>4</sup>( $\text{Log } K_1 = 7.52$ ). The little  
318 difference between the value obtained in this study and the published work value could be due to the  
319 experimental settings at which the values were achieved.

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**Figure 3 depicts the plot of absorbance against ethylene diamine (en) mole ratio per a mole of Ni (II) in ethaline.**

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325 Another series of solutions 0.25M in both metal ion and ligand was prepared according to the Job's  
 326 method. The temperature was maintained at 26°C. The absorbance of the above solutions was  
 327 measured at 640 nm wavelength. The net absorbance was then plotted against the mole ratio as shown  
 328 in **Figure 4**. From **Figure 4**, the value of  $\text{Log } K_1 = 6.52$  which is obtained using deep eutectic solvent  
 329 (ethaline) as solvent have been found reliable, the calculation of the stability of formation constant ( $K_1$ )  
 330 of 1:1 Ni- diamine complex was found consistent.

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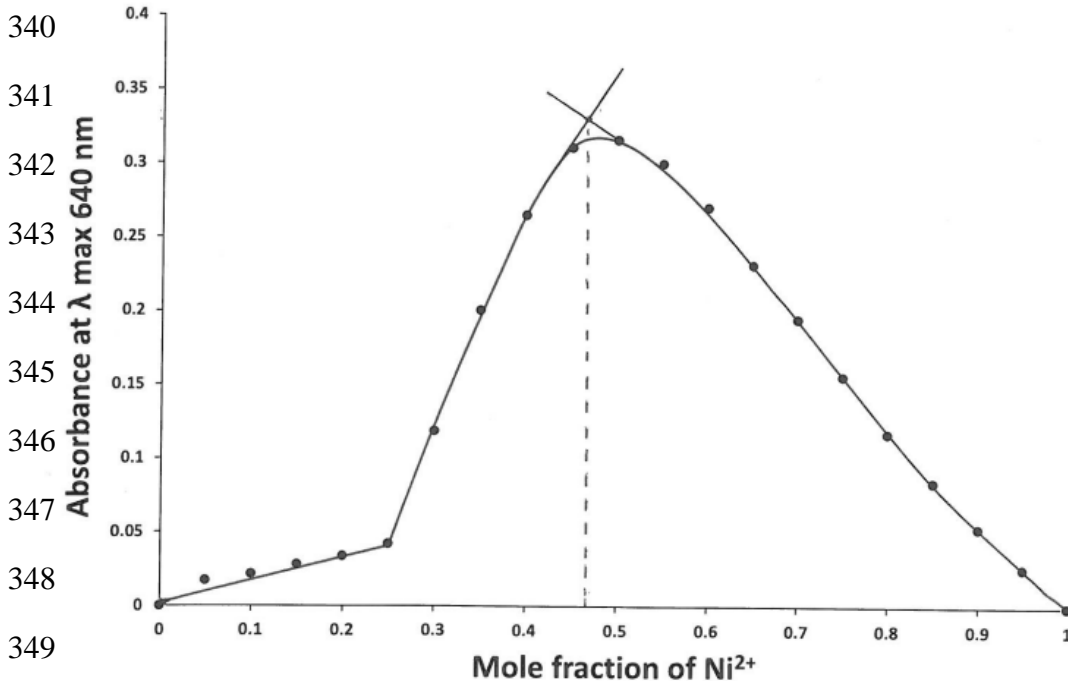
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Figure 4 shows the plot of absorbance versus mole fraction of Ni (II) in deep eutectic solvent (ethaline).

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It is very interesting to observe that the value of the stability constant of the 1:1 Ni (II)-diamine complex obtained by the molar ratio ( $\text{Log } K_1 = 6.87$ ) is in consistent with the value calculated by using continuous variation method ( $\text{Log } K_1 = 6.52$ ) and more over are both are close to the literature value in aqueous media<sup>4</sup>. The slight difference between the values obtained in this study and the literature values could be attributed to the experimental conditions at the values were calculated.

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### 359 EFFECT OF CONCENTRATION

The effect of the concentrations of both Ni(II) ion and ethylene diamine ( en ) ligand have been investigated using molar ratio method on the extent of the 1 : 1 Cu-diamine complex. It has been noticed that the successive increase in absorbance at mole fraction = 1 as the initial concentration of both metal ion and the ligand increase.

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365

366 Table1. Calibration Curve Data for Nickel (II) Ethylene diamine Complex (1:1)

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Molar Concentration of Ni(II) –en Complex	Absorbance
0	0
0.0125	0.099
0.025	0.183
0.0375	0.266
0.0500	0.358
0.0625	0.436

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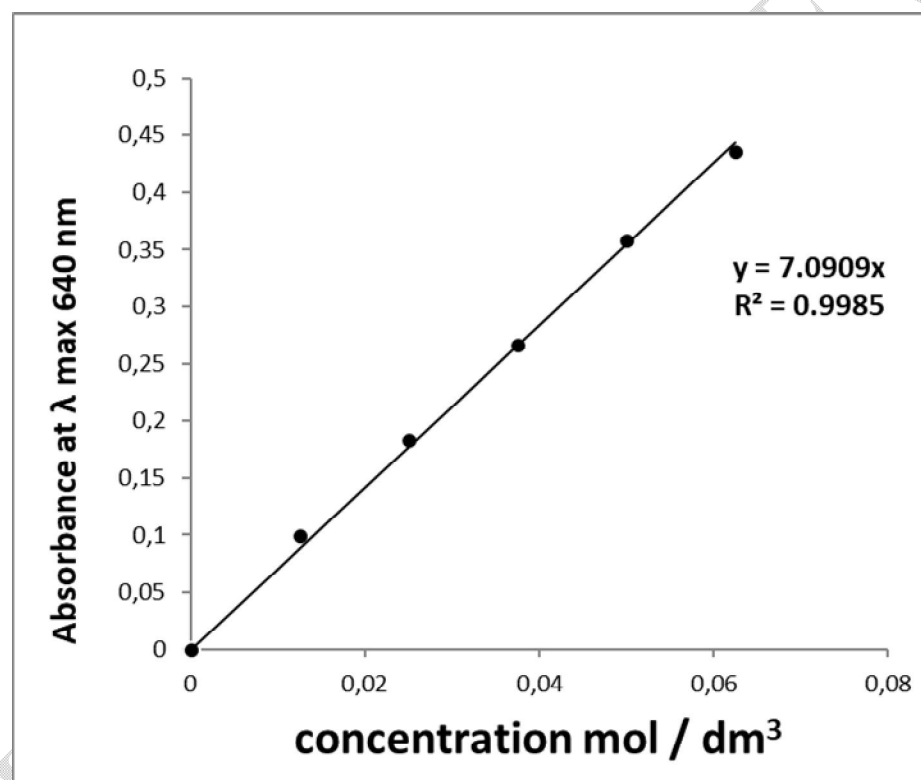
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383 Figure 5 shows the plot of [Ni(en)]<sup>2+</sup> complex absorbance versus its concentrations.

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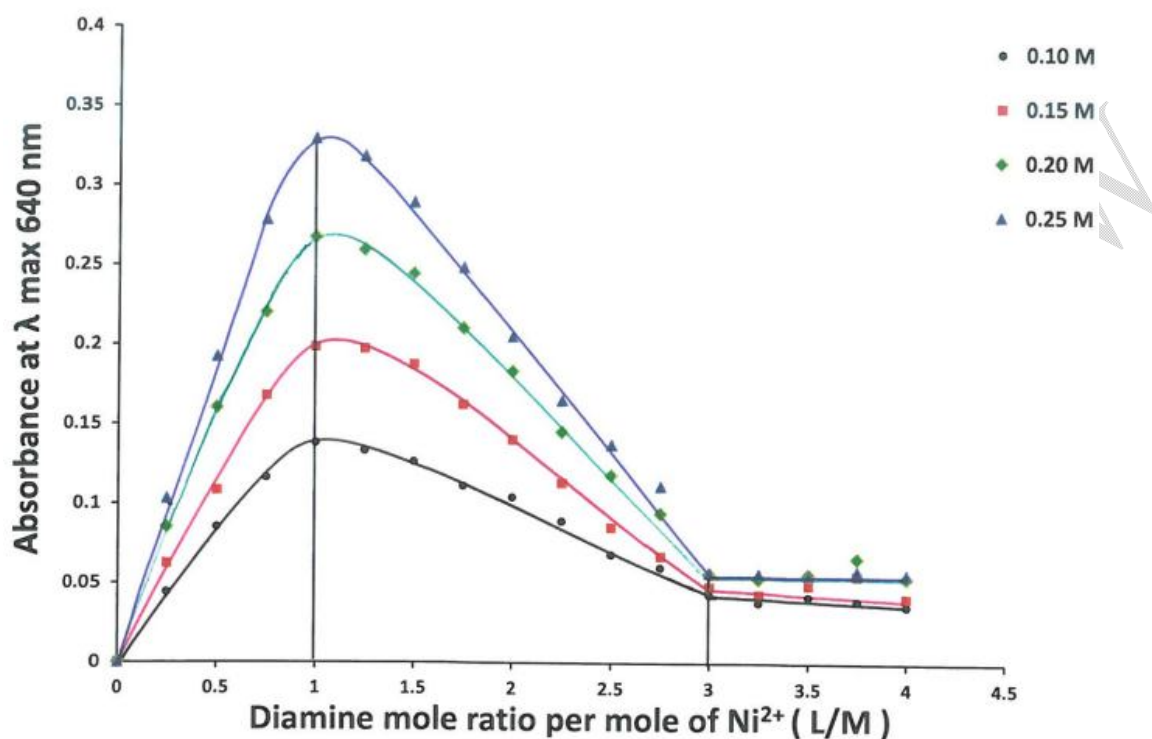
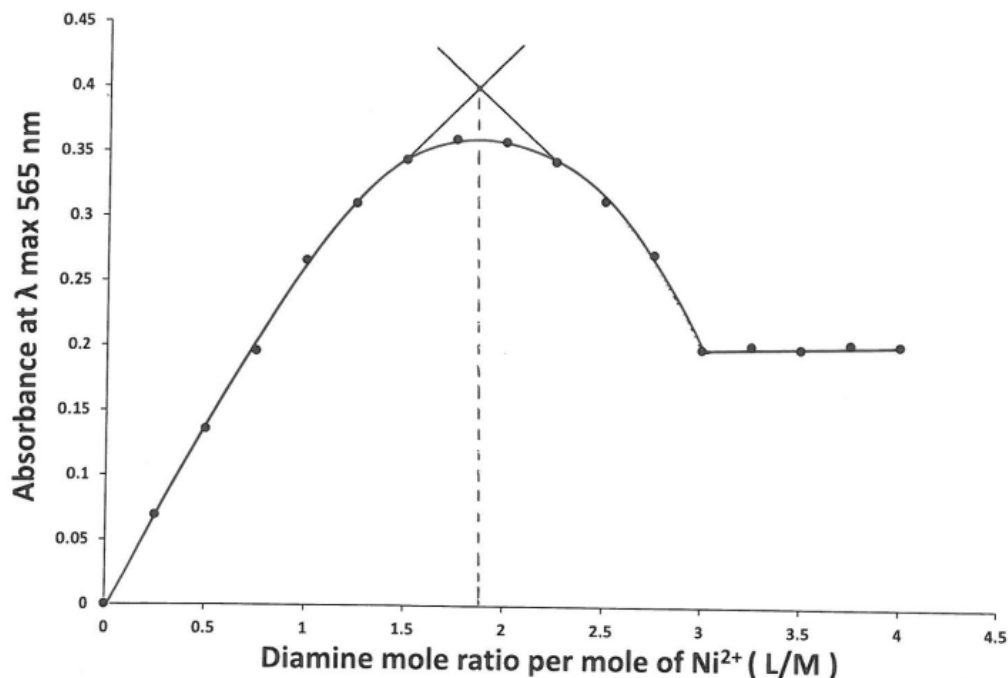


Figure 6 depicts the plot of absorbance against ethylene diamine (en) mole ratio per a mole of Ni (II) in ethaline.

The absorbance of the complex increases remarkably with increase of initial concentration of both Ni (II) ion and ethylene diamine. The plot of absorbance versus molar ratio of ethylene diamine, L / M for different initial concentration is depicted in **Figure 6**. It was found that the Ni (II) ion-diamine complex obey Beer's law, which is shown in **Figure 5**

#### The 1:2 Chelate; $[\text{Ni}(\text{en})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]^{2+}$

The molar ratio method was first applied to establish the fact that Ni (II) ions and ethylene diamine react under the specified conditions to form a stable complex in the ratio of 1:2. A series of solutions was prepared according to the molar ratio method. The concentration of these solutions was exactly 0.20 M in both metal ion and ligand. The absorbance of these solutions was measured at maximum wavelength 565 nm and 27°C. The plot of the net absorbance corrected for excess metal ion and/or ligand against the mole fraction of ligand -L/M- is shown in Figure 7.



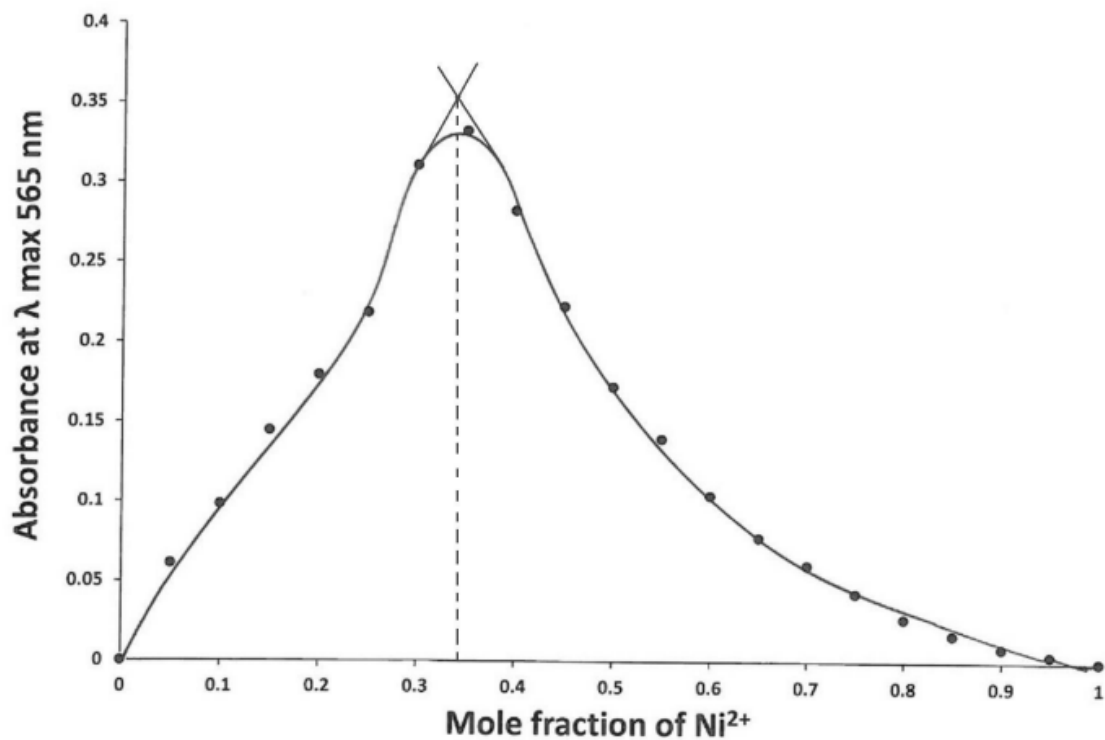
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**Figure 7 depicts the plot of absorbance against ethylene diamine (en) mole ratio per a mole of Ni (II) in ethaline.**

415

416 The profile of **Figure 7** indicates a stepwise formation of more than one complex where the mole ratio  
 417 of Ni (II) equal three comprehensibly indicating the possibility between Ni(II) and the diamine ligand in 1  
 418 ChCl: 2 EG based liquid (ethaline) solution. The value of the stability constant was obtained from  
 419 **Figure 7** ( $\text{Log } K_2 = 5.18$ ), which is comparable to the value obtained in aqueous media ( $\text{Log } = 6.28$ )<sup>4</sup>. The  
 420 method of continuous variations was also applied to confirm the results outlined above. A series of  
 421 solutions 0.20 M in both metal ion and ligand was prepared under the same conditions of temperature  
 422 and ionic strength. The plot of net absorbance versus mole fraction of the metal ion is shown in **Figures**  
 423 **8a**, further confirmed by the image of the successive colour change as a function of mole fraction of Ni  
 424 (II) ion, this is shown in **Figure 8b** the straight lines resulting from the extrapolation of the two legs of  
 425 **Figures 8a** intersect each other at a mole fraction of 0.33 indicating the formation of a 1:2 chelate. Also,  
 426 it has been observed that a break at mole fraction equal to 0.5 indicating the stepwise complex  
 427 formation of 1 : 1 Ni(II) and ethylene diamine complex, which is shown in **Figures 8a**. The stability  
 428 constant of the 1:2 chelate was determined from **Figure 8a** has the value  $\text{Log } K_2 = 4.48$ . The value  
 429 obtained by continuous variation was found uncertain; this could be attributed to the asymmetrical bell  
 430 curve due to stepwise complex formation of 1:1 complex. But the value of  $K_2$  calculated using molar  
 431 ratio method was found is in good agreement with literature values.



432

433

Figure 8a shows the plot of absorbance versus mole fraction of Ni (II) in deep eutectic solvent (ethaline).

434



435

436

Figure 8b represents photo the colour change after successive addition of ethylene diamine (en) substance to Ni<sup>2+</sup> in ionic liquids (continuous variation method).

437

438

439 It is very impressive to observe that the value of the stability constant of the 1:2Cu (II)-diamine complex  
440 obtained by the molar ratio is in good agreement with the literature value in aqueous media<sup>4</sup>. The slight  
441 difference between the values obtained in this study and the literature values could be attributed to the  
442 experimental conditions at the values were calculated.

443 Furthermore, many values have been published for the formation constants of various metal ion-ligand  
444 systems, especially in past and recent years, but the experimental methods and precision attained have  
445 varied considerably. Some authors have worked at unspecified "room temperature" and with solutions  
446 in which the ionic strength must have varied appreciably in aqueous media which is not in our case as  
447 solvent with high ionic strength (ionic liquids solvents) during the experiments and can only be  
448 estimated approximately from their Figures<sup>56</sup>

#### 449 **EFFECT OF INITIAL CONCENTRATION**

450  
451 Again the molar ratio method was introduced to explore the effect of initial concentration of both metal  
452 ion and ligand on the extent of formation of the 1:2 Ni-diamine complexes in deep eutectic solvent.  
453 It was observed that the 1:2 Ni (II)-diamine complex obeys Beer's law. A plot of absorbance the 1:2 Ni  
454 (II)-diamine complex versus concentration at maximum wavelengths of 565nm summarized in Table 2  
455 show linearity as evident in Figure 9.

456 **Table2. Calibration Curve Data forNickel (II) Ethylene diamine Complex (1:1)**

457

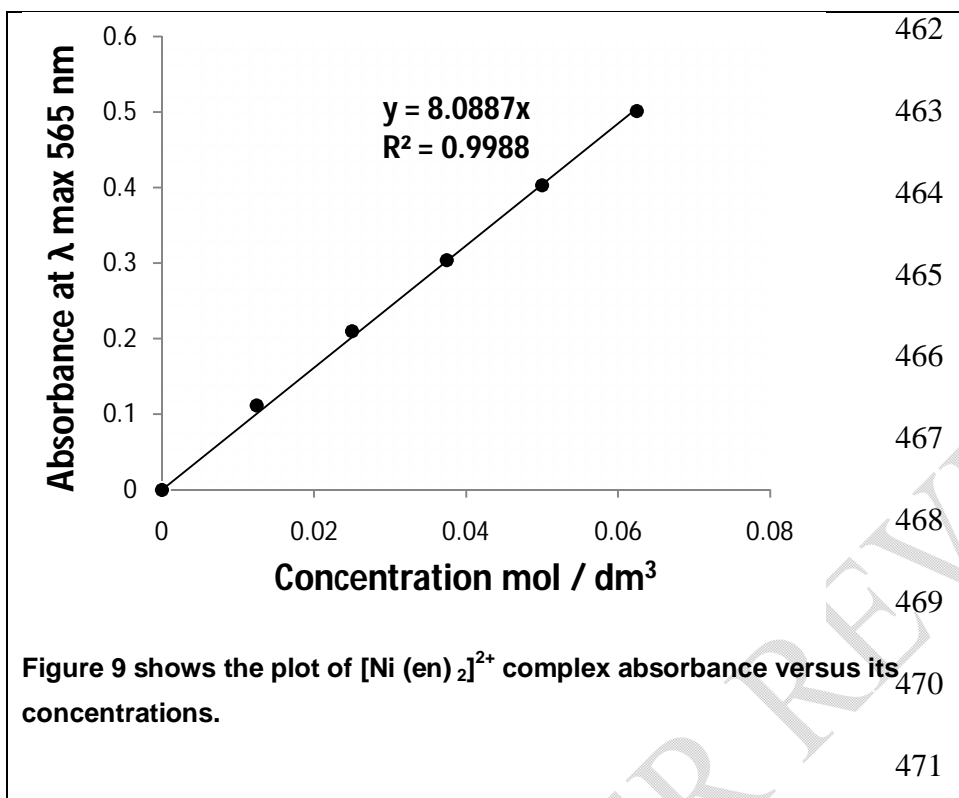
458

Molar Concentration of Ni(II) –en Complex	Absorbance
0	0
0.0125	0.112
0.025	0.21
0.0375	0.304
0.0500	0.403
0.0625	0.501

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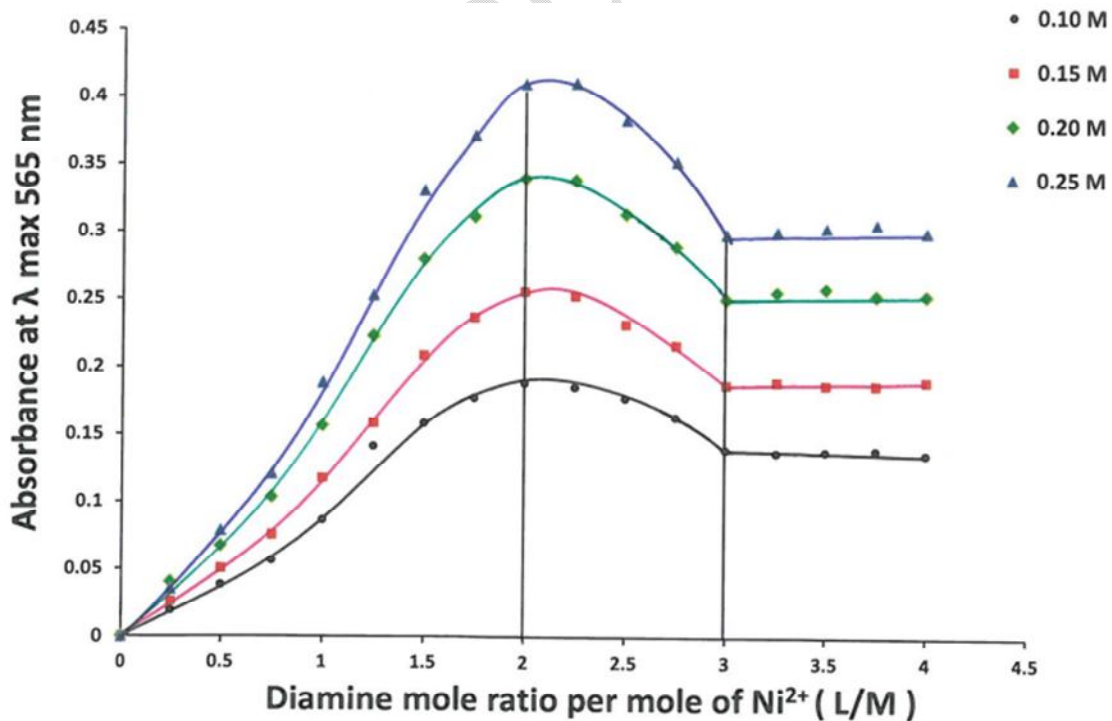
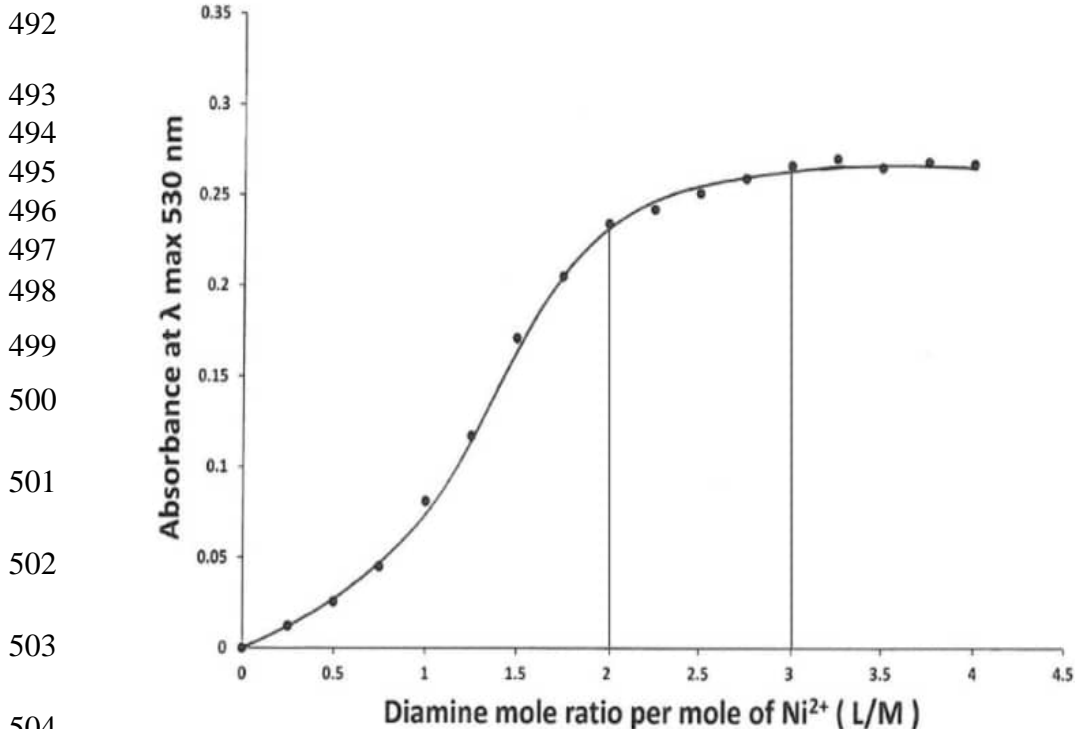


Figure 10 shows the plot of absorbance against ethylene diamine (en) mole ratio per a mole of Ni (II) in ethaline.

484 It has been noticed that the break in **Figure 10**, at mole fraction = 3 which becomes more apparent as  
485 the initial concentrations of both metal ion and the ethylene diamine increase.

#### 486 **The 1:3 Chelate; $[\text{Ni}(\text{en})_3]^{2+}$**

487 The Molar ratio method was used to determine the stoichiometry and stability constant of the 1:3  
488 chelate if possible. The absorbance of the solutions was measured at maximum wavelength 530 nm,  
489 the temperature was exactly 26°C, and the data is shown in **Figure 11** which reveals the plot of net  
490 absorbance of the complex against diamine ratio to Ni (II) (L/M).  
491

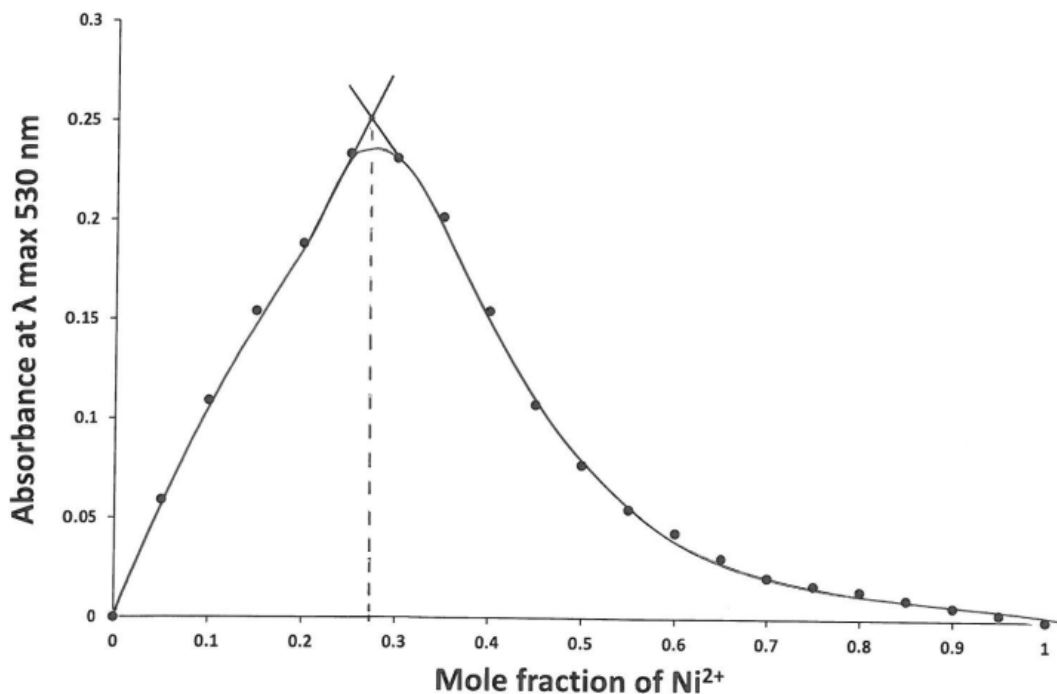


505 **Figure 11 reveals the plot of absorbance against ethylene**  
506 **diamine (en) mole ratio per a mole of Ni (II) in ethaline.**

507 The complications arising from stepwise formation of complexes in deep eutectic solvent (ionic liquid) is  
508 observed in Figure 11. The curve in mentioned Figure shows more than linear intersecting parts  
509 breaking off at ligand to metal ion ratio of approximately 2.00 and 3.00; a conclusion which confirms the  
510 formation of 1: 2 and 1: 3 complexes. In view of these complications, attempts to calculate the stability  
511 constant using Figure 11 will be uncertain.

512 A series of solutions 0.20 M in both metal ion and ligand was prepared in the usual manner according  
513 to continuous variations under the same conditions as in the molar ratio method. The absorbance of the

514 solutions at maximum wavelength 530 nm at 27 °C. The plot of net absorbance against the mole  
 515 fraction of the metal ion is shown in Figure 12.



516

517

**Figure 12 shows the plot of absorbance versus mole fraction of Ni (II) in deep eutectic solvent (ethaline).**

518

519 Figure 12 reveals that the 1:3 complexes are reasonably symmetrical in the 1 ChCl: 2 EG based liquid  
 520 (ethaline) solutions. The stability constant of the ethylene diamine chelate was calculated from Figure 12  
 521 was found  $\text{Log } K_3 = 4.81$  which is consistent with the literature value<sup>4</sup> ( $\text{Log } K_3 = 4.26$ ). Furthermore  
 522 ethylene diamine was used as complexing agent (brightener) in the electro deposition of metal ions  
 523 such as nickel resulting in even distribution of nickel coating and bright finish<sup>57</sup>.

524

Complex	1 : 1	1 : 2	1 : 3
Molar Ratio	$\text{Log } K = 6.87$	$\text{Log } K = 5.18$	$\text{Log } K = \text{Unreliable}$
Job's Method	$\text{Log } K = 6.52$	$\text{Log } K = 4.48$	$\text{Log } K = 4.81$

525

## 526 CONCLUSION

527 The reaction of Ni (II) ion with ethylene diamine chelate in 1 ChCl: 2 EG based on liquid (ethaline)  
 528 has been investigated using spectrophotometric methods. Three complexes instantaneously are formed  
 529 the first 1 : 1 mole ratio, the second 1 : 2 mole ratio at maximum and the third 1 : 3 mole ratio at  
 530 maximum wavelengths 626 nm, 604 nm and 587 nm respectively. The empirical formula and stability  
 531 constant for the three complexes were determined by continuous variations and molar ratio methods.  
 532 The values of stability constants  $K_1$ ,  $K_2$  and  $K_3$  were found in good agreement with the values obtained

533 in aqueous solution, despite the different settings and methods which is encouraged to use the ionic  
534 liquids in coordination chemistry researches. The effect of concentration of the complexes formed  $[\text{Ni}$   
535  $(\text{en})_1]^{2+}$ ,  $[\text{Ni}(\text{en})_2]^{2+}$  and  $[\text{Ni}(\text{en})_3]^{2+}$  was also studied and revealed that the three complexes obey Beer's  
536 law. The absorbance increases considerably as the concentration increases. For  $[\text{Ni}(\text{en})_1]^{2+}$  it has been  
537 observed that there is a break at mole ratio 3 as the initial concentration of both the metal ion and the  
538 chelate increases. Also it has been noted that the value of stability constant  $K_3$  calculated from molar  
539 ratio method is undertrained, this may be attributed to isosbestic point. The deep eutectic solvent type III  
540 (ionic liquids) is found to be an excellent solvent in coordination chemistry. That will allow expansion  
541 into the research area, for example inorganic synthesis, organic synthesis and catalyst etc.

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