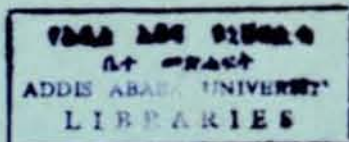


179



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CARBON DIOXIDE AND CARBON DISULPHIDE

BY
TESFAHUN KEBEDE

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TETRAISOPROPOXONICKELATES(II) WITH CARBONDIOXIDE
AND SOME OTHER π -ACIDIC LIGANDS

by

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I am most grateful to my advisors, Dr. ... and Dr. ... for their ... and ...

To my Wife, Asegedech Kabtimer, for understanding my deepest desire for further education and making it possible.

I am also grateful to Dr. ... for ... and ...

I am also grateful to Dr. ... for ... and ...

I am also grateful to Dr. ... for ... and ...

I am also grateful to Dr. ... for ... and ...

I am also grateful to Dr. ... for ... and ...

I am also grateful to Dr. ... for ... and ...

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am most grateful to my advisors, Dr. W. Kalies And Dr. Negussie Retta for their skillful advices and encouragement throughout the course of the project. I appreciate their special concern and systematic ways of solving problems which were indispensable for the progress of the work. I am particularly indebted to Dr. W. Kalies for providing me with reprints of inaccessible journals and other useful materials by making correspondence.

My deep appreciation also goes to Ato Kiros Habtegabrael for kindly sharing his rich experience in the most difficult job of handling materials in an inert condition.

I am most thankful to Dr. B. S. Chandravanshi; to Ato Ghirma Moges and to Ato Negussie Negazh for helpful discussions and analytical services they offered.

My gratitude also goes to Ato Abdu Detango for creative modification of glasswares used for handling moisture sensitive compounds. My thanks are due to Ato Sahle Demei; Ato Naod Kebede; W/t Yordanos Woldu and their colleagues for their services. My thanks are also due to the analysts Ato Fissehaie Derso and his colleagues of plant protection laboratory of the ministry of Agriculture, for recording the infrared spectra; and to W/t Elizabeth Kebede of the Biology Department for running the

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flame photometer.

It is a pleasure to thank my hearty friend Ato Demelash Megerssa for encouragement and facilitating success in my studies. My deepest appreciation also goes to Ato Endale Befkadu and W/O Ethiopia Belay for nicely typing and preparing the thesis into a useful document.

I am most grateful to all administrative and academic staff members of Ethiopia Tikdem No 1 Senior Secondary School for their encouragement. All my friends and colleagues who helped me in any way are also acknowledged.

I also take the opportunity to acknowledge the Swedish Agency for Research Cooperation with Developing countries (SAREC) for the financial assistance obtained through Ministry of Education.

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ABBREVIATIONS

acac	acetylacetonate anion
Bu	butyl
s-Bu	secondary butyl
t-Bu	tertiary butyl
COD	1,5- Cyclooctadiene
cy	cyclo - C_8H_{16}
DME	1,2- dimethoxyethane
dppe	1,2- bis (diphenyl phosphino) ethane
Et	ethyl
Hex	hexyl
OiPr	isopropoxide
iPr	isopropyl
iPrOCO ₂ ⁻	isopropyl carbonate anion
iPrOCS ₂ ⁻	isopropyldithiocarbonato anion (or isopropylxanthato anion)
m	medium
Me	methyl
M	metal atom
Ph	phenyl
Pr	propyl
R	alkyl group
vs	very strong
s	strong

w	weak
THF	tetrahydrofuran
PPh ₃	triphenyl phosphine
VIS	visible spectra
IR	infrared Spectra
NMR	nuclear magnetic resonance
PMes	trimethylphosphine
Cp	η^5 -C ₅ H ₅
Cp ⁺	η^5 -C ₅ Mes ₅
tetren	tetraethylene diamine

ABSTRACT

The reactions of the novel alkoxides of nickel (II), $\text{Li}_2\text{Ni}(\text{OiPr})_4 \cdot 3\text{THF}$ and $\text{Na}_2\text{Ni}(\text{OiPr})_4 \cdot 2\text{THF}$ with CO_2 gave the first alkyl carbonate complexes of Ni(II), viz., $\text{Li}_2\text{Ni}(\text{O}_2\text{COiPr})_4 \cdot 2\text{THF}$ and $\text{Na}_2\text{Ni}(\text{O}_2\text{COiPr})_4 \cdot 2\text{THF}$. The analogous reactions with CS_2 instead of CO_2 gave the corresponding isopropyl xanthato derivatives: $\text{Li}_2\text{Ni}(\text{S}_2\text{COiPr})_4 \cdot 2\text{THF}$ and $\text{Na}_2\text{Ni}(\text{S}_2\text{COiPr})_4 \cdot 2\text{THF}$. The last product was also obtained by reaction of $\text{Na}_2\text{Ni}(\text{O}_2\text{COiPr})_4 \cdot 2\text{THF}$ with CS_2 .

These isolated products were characterized on the basis of elemental analyses, electronic and IR Spectra. Octahedral structures are proposed for nickel (II) complexes containing unidentate and bidentate modes of coordinations for the isopropyl carbonate (iPrOCO_2^-) and isopropyl xanthato (iPrOCS_2^-) groups which are expected to be formed by insertion reactions of CO_2 and CS_2 , respectively, into the Ni-OR bonds.

Reactions of the products with dilute mineral acids resulted in the evolution of CO_2 and CS_2 , respectively, indicating that these molecules were indeed inserted. In addition a THF solution of the lithium based CO_2 product was observed to show reversible colour changes under mild condition and CO_2 atmosphere suggesting that "insertion-deinsertion" processes can occur repeatedly without any decomposition of the product.

Preliminary survey was also carried out to study the

1. INTRODUCTION

The fixation of carbon dioxide by green plants using solar energy is the most important chemical process observed on Earth. In photosynthesis, CO_2 is reduced by H_2O into carbohydrates with sun light as the energy source (eq. 1):



It is this photoreduction of CO_2 that serves as the only source of food, there by energy, for the entire world of the animal kingdom and for certain microorganisms which, by themselves, are incapable of utilizing CO_2 as the source of carbon.

The total amount of CO_2 in the atmosphere and in the ocean is estimated to represent 10^{14} tons of carbon while carbonates make up 10^{16} tons of carbon [1]. And nowadays the gas is enormously discharged to the atmosphere as a by-product in several technical processes [2].

Understanding the fact that CO_2 is the major source of carbon in nature scientists began to study actively other types of CO_2 fixation or reduction processes so as to use the gas as a one-carbon precursor of organic chemicals. This was dated back 1828 when F. Woehler [3] prepared the first organic compound, urea, from the inorganic substances, CO_2 and NH_3 .

Eversince the time of the synthesis of urea, a lot of other similar processes have been widely in use in industrial and organic preparations of a wide variety of products with CO_2 as a C₁ source.

Ofcourse, the principal reaction possibilities with CO_2 are [4,5]: i) the oxidation to carbonate (CO_3^{2-}); ii) the electrophilic attack at the oxygen atom (in protonation alkylation and complex formation); iii) the reduction to carbon monoxide, formic acid, oxalic acid, etc.; and iv) the nucleophilic attack at the carbon atom (in alcoholysis, aminolysis, carbanion attack and complex formation).

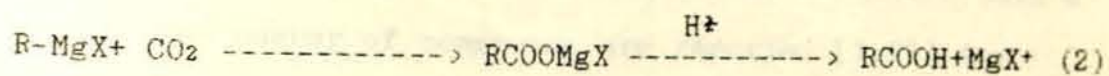
However, the problem of high thermodynamic stability of the molecule and its kinetic inertness, still remains a permanent challenge to the art of the chemist to 'force' this substrate into selective reactions, particularly at metal centers, under mild conditions.

In its reactions CO_2 is a poor electrophile and needs always to be activated by energy supply. The common means are the chemical, thermal, and photochemical activations and in some cases radio chemical methods are also used [4,5]. Using a chemical means CO_2 can thus be converted into useful forms of organic compounds but only by way of coupling it with an organic substrate. To this effect the CO_2 molecule and/or the organic precursors have to be primarily activated by forming metal complexes or organometallic compounds.

In this regard two of the most important CO_2 chemical

activations are: i) the formation of metal-carbon dioxide coordination complexes and, ii) insertion of CO_2 into metal-heteroatom (H,C,N,O) bond [8]. Catalytic CO_2 insertions into organic precursors (e.g., into sodium phenolate in the Kolbe-Schmidt reaction [7] and reduction by substances like hydrogen are no less important means of CO_2 activations. In addition to these there are still other reactions such as the photochemical and electrochemical reductions of CO_2 which are at present gaining much more interest in the field, particularly in the recently developed systems involving transition metal complexes as catalysts [3,9].

In its reaction with nucleophiles and bases, CO_2 reacts through addition at its carbon-oxygen double bond. These nucleophilic additions are the most significant CO_2 reactions particularly in the synthesis of different carboxylic acids. One of such reactions is the reaction with organomagnesium compounds (Grignard Compounds [6]) involving the carboxylation of hydrocarbons via an insertion of CO_2 into R-Mg bond which may be given by eq. (2):



Thus under normal conditions CO_2 is capable of reacting with sufficiently activated groups [5,7] (for an electrophilic attack) to provide stable products. The groups usually are carbanions, or potential carbanions (as metal organyls, CH-acidic compounds); activated aromatics

(phenols, amines); electron-rich heterocycles; activated and electron-rich olefins, enamines, enols, endiols or O⁻, S⁻, and N-nucleophiles.

Regarding the reactions with metal organyls the overcoming of the kinetic restrictions at metal centers is still a young field of complex and organometallic chemistry. In spite of this, the development in this field, particularly in the area of investigations of reactions at transition metal centers, which was mainly initiated by Volpin [6], is now making a rapid progress.

Despite the fact that only a few number of studies have been reported until recently, new and surprising results should be expected in this area, including development of new catalytic transformations of CO₂. This applies to both homogeneous and heterogeneous catalytic processes which are now emerging as a promising field of research.

A number of cases are found in the literature [63] concerning the reactions of CO₂ both with transitional and non-transitional ^{metal} compounds leading either to the formation of metal-carbon dioxide coordination compounds or carboxylation products of the organometals. Besides this a comparative number of compounds are reported [1,63] for "normal" type CO₂ insertion reactions into metal-carbon bonds leading to insertion products. In this respect nickel and palladium compounds are well-known representatives of transition metal compounds that are frequently used as the most active CO₂- substrate coupling

catalysts; this behaviour however is more common with main group organometallic compounds.

A number of works have also been devoted to the reactions of CO₂ with metal-hydrides and metal amines. But with metal alkoxo complexes only very few cases are reported.

Nevertheless the reaction with the later is characterized as being a reversible insertion of CO₂ into the M-OR bond to form alkyl carbonate or mixed alkoxo-alkyl carbonate complexes of transition metals such as Ti, Zr, Nb, Fe, Cu, W and Ni [10]. These alkyl carbonate complexes have been known in their function as a new class of reversible CO₂- carriers in the carboxylation of several organic precursors [11]. Similar cases are also known for non-transition metals [5], among which the most prominent is magnesium metal carbonate commonly known as the Stiles-reagent. [12].

In spite of the fact that most nickel complexes have exceptionally high catalytic activity, as is observed for many nickel containing catalytic systems, there is not even a single case reported so far referring to an alkoxo complex of nickel serving as a metal substrate for insertion of CO₂ into the Ni-OR bond. This holds true also of some other Π -acidic ligands with the exception of one particular work, reported by Yamamoto [13] in which reactions occurred between an alkyl-alkoxo complex of nickel (II) (RNi(L)OR) and CO and CS₂. This has been observed for the earlier

types of alkoxides of nickel (II) [14] which are supposed to be providing only less basic centers for an electrophilic attack by the CO₂ molecule and by its likes.

However, later in 1985 a new class of alkoxo complexes of nickel (II) based on alkoxo metal alkoxo nickelates (II) was reported by Kalies et al [15]. In addition to their relatively more basic nature, which is imparted by the four alkoxo groups coordinated to the nickel center, these novel complexes are observed to show intramolecular redox property which may result in the reduction of Ni(II) to Ni(I) and Ni(0). This later property of the complex makes them reactive towards phosphines or phosphites in order to form hydrido nickel (I) and nickel (0) ligand complexes. These typical and important properties of the new complexes of nickel (II) allow them to act as precatalysts.

Therefore, as part of the investigations on the reactivities of this new class of complexes of nickel towards π -acceptor (electrophilic) ligands we wish to report in this work the syntheses and characterization of some adducts of these complexes by reactions with CO₂ and CS₂ (as π -acceptor substrates).

In view of this the following objective is set: To

investigate the reactivities of Li₂Ni(OiPr)₄.LiBr.3THF and Na₂Ni(OiPr)₄.2THF towards CO₂ and CS₂. To this effect the steps are:

- i) Synthesize the starting complexes based on the literature procedure [15]

- ii) Synthesize and isolate stable products by reactions of the above compounds with CO_2 and CS_2 and characterize them by elemental analyses and spectroscopic methods (VIS and IR).

(II) LITERATURE REVIEW

1. Transition Metal Alkoxides

1.1 General Features Of "3d" Transition Metal Alkoxides

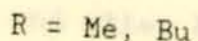
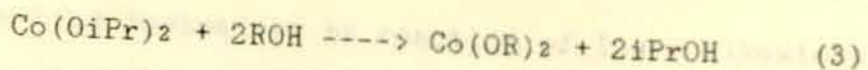
As reported in some earlier works [14], the alkoxo group (-OR), as a ligand, is capable of forming strong covalent bonds with almost all elements and tends to act as a bridging group between similar as well as different metal atoms.

Bridging in similar atoms gives rise in coordination oligomers $[M(OR)_n]_x$ [16]. Where as bimetallic alkoxides are described as coordination compounds formed by neutralization of basic with acidic (or amphoteric) alkoxides (main group metal alkoxides are more basic than that of transition metals); in these compounds the alkoxo groups act as bridging between the different metal atoms.

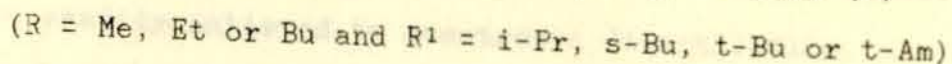
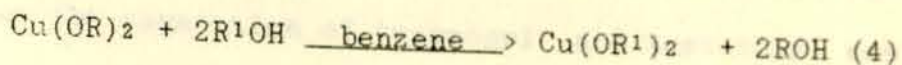
A survey of the rapidly growing literature on alkoxide chemistry of the elements in the periodic table had already been compiled in a book Metal Alkoxides [17]. In the book the main focus of attention was on the main group elements and the earlier transition metals (particularly in the d^0 state), except for some work on alkoxides of $3d^{5-9}$ elements, which were investigated mainly from the points of

view of their magnetochemistry and electronic spectra. The recent development in the area of alkoxide chemistry of many other transition metals has also been reviewed in later works [14].

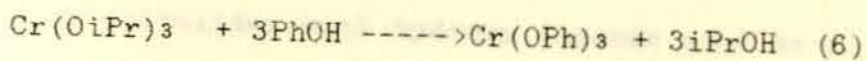
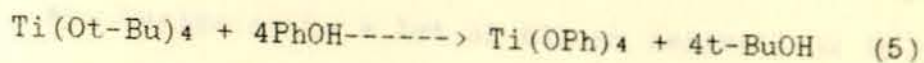
Metal alkoxides have, at least one M-O-C grouping which is strongly polar because of the large electronegativity of oxygen atom. The polarity of the M-O bonds is further enhanced by the type of the metal. Thus, the physical and chemical properties of metal alkoxides are determined by the polarity of their bond, and by the well-developed tendency of the coordinatively unsaturated metal atom to expand its coordination number by intermolecular bonding with oxygen. Indeed, in some circumstances, steric hinderance can preclude intermolecular bonding so that a volatile monomeric alkoxides (or mixed alkoxide-phenoxides) results at low coordination number. Jasunki and his coworkers [19] have reported that all phenoxides and alkoxidephenoxides of silicon are monomers in benzene. Metal alkoxides are extremely susceptible to hydrolysis and required strictly anhydrous conditions for their handling [10]. They react with a variety of primary, secondary and tertiary alcohols as well as phenols [18]. This property has been utilized extensively for preparing new alkoxide. An example of transition metal alkoxide which interchanges its alkoxy groups readily with primary alcohols at room temperature is [10]:



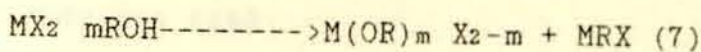
An example of transition metal alkoxide which interchanges its alkoxide group with secondary or tertiary alcohols is [14]:



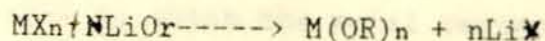
Alkoxides which undergo an interchange reaction with phenol are [14, 18]:



However, the most direct method of synthesis of alkoxides involves reaction of alcohols with a binary compound of the metal commonly the halide (chloride or bromide) according to (eq (7))



The other very important method is the reaction of the metal halide with an alkali metal alkoxide given by the equation

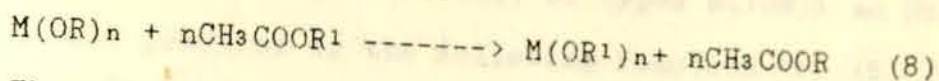


(Na)

Alcohol exchange reaction and transesterification in cyclohexane are also two of the alternative synthetic routes. eqs (3), (4) and eq (8) [14]

This principle has been exploited for the purpose of synthesis of a wide variety of higher alkoxides and

interesting derivatives by reaction of lower alkoxides with higher alcohols and other hydroxy ligands.



The alkoxide usually employed is either *i*-PrO⁻ or *t*-BuO⁻ as the separation of isopropyl- and tert-butyl acetate is more readily achieved by azeotropic distillation.

With many research activities on the alkoxo derivatives of '3d' transition metals it has been possible to synthesize quite a lot of alkoxo derivatives by reactions of the alkoxides with hydroxy ligands such as silanols, glycols, β -diketones, β -ketoesters, alkanolamines, oximes, hydroxylamines, and Schiff bases as well as other reagents like organics esters, silyl esters, β -ketoamines, thiols, thio- β -diketones, acyl halides, acid amides and acid anhydrides [14].

The transition metal alkoxides can also undergo various reactions with molecules such as CO₂, COS, CS₂, and isocyanates quantitatively to give insertion products [10,14,18] in which the metal center is electrophilic.

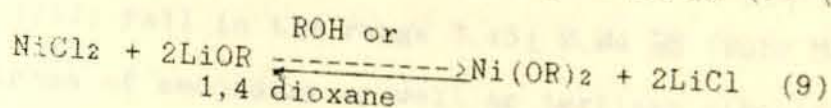
1.2 Alkoxides of Nickel(II) And Their Derivatives

1.2.1 Earlier Types of Nickel(II) Alkoxides

The alkoxides of nickel(II) have been studied earlier [14] by classifying them into three types: i) the binary alkoxides of the form Ni(OR)₂; ii) nickel (II) tetraalkoxy

aluminates of the form $\text{Ni}[\text{Al}(\text{OR})_4]_2$, where $\text{R}=\text{Me, Et, i-Pr, n-Bu}$; and iii) the mixed alkoxides of the type $\text{Ni}(\text{OR})_x\text{X}$, where X is any other anionic group.

The alkoxides of nickel(II) of types $\text{Ni}(\text{OR})_2$ and $\text{Ni}(\text{OR})_x\text{X}$, have been prepared by the following reaction (e.g. (9) [14]):



(where $\text{R}=\text{Me, Et, Pr, Bu, iPr, s-Bu, t-Bu}$)

All of these alkoxides of nickel (II) are non-volatile, coloured solids, which are sparingly soluble in common organic solvents.

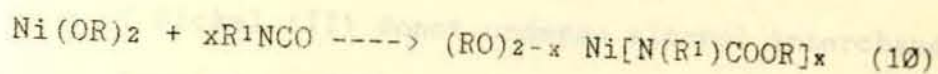
In the case of the binary alkoxides, the primary alkoxides are light green in colour, whereas the secondary and tertiary alkoxides are blue to violet. All of these alkoxides are sensitive to moisture, in the presence of which they are hydrolyzed with a sharp colour change ^{for the latter} from blue (violet) to green. All of the secondary and tertiary alkoxides are unstable towards heat and tend to decompose at around $90-100^\circ\text{C}$ [10].

The spectra of primary alkoxides exhibit three well-defined spin-allowed bands [14] at 8750 ± 250 ($\text{V}_1: {}^3\text{T}_2\text{g}$), $14,810 \pm 115$ [V_2]; ${}^3\text{A}_2\text{g} \rightarrow {}^3\text{T}_1\text{g}$ (F)] and $24,980 \pm 125$ cm^{-1} [$\text{V}_3: {}^3\text{A}_2\text{g} \rightarrow {}^3\text{T}_4\text{g}$ (P)], which are characteristic of an octahedral environment for nickel in these primary alkoxides. On the other hand, the spectra of secondary and tertiary alkoxides of nickel (II) indicate a

tetrahedral geometry with well-defined spin-allowed transitions at 7580 ± 100 [$V_2: {}^3T_1 \rightarrow {}^3A_2$] & $15,850 \pm 70$ cm^{-1} [$v_3: {}^3\bar{E}_1 \rightarrow {}^3T_1(P)$]

The magnetic moment of the primary alkoxides of nickel(II) fall in the range 3.45 ± 0.04 BM (Bohr Magneton) and those of secondary as well as tertiary alkoxides are found in the range 3.65 ± 0.05 BM at room temperature. These observations are also in accord with their octahedral and tetrahedral configurations respectively [10,14]

It is interesting to note that nickel alkoxides undergo insertion reaction with substrates like phenyl and naphthyl isocyanates [20]:



R=Me and i-Pr; R^1 = Ph and Naph; X=1,2

All these reactions are exothermic in benzene and their completion was indicated by the disappearance of band at ~ 2250 cm^{-1} (due to $N=C=O$). The appearance of an intense band ~ 1700 cm^{-1} (due to $C=O$) in the addition products suggests that insertion has occurred at the C=N site.

Very recently, Yamamoto reported [13] that alkyl alkoxide nickel(II) complex ($RNi(OR^1)L$) L= phosphine or phosphite, and R, R^1 = alkyl groups) can react with a dative ligand, CO, and with a more electrophilic reagent CS_2 via insertions into Ni-OR bonds. Regarding the insertion reaction of CO_2 into the Ni-OR bond nothing substantial has been reported to this

date. However, in one particular report [19] there was an attempt to carry out a reaction of CO_2 with $\text{Ni}(\text{OMe})_2$ in pyridine which resulted in no possible outcome. But the same reaction in DMF/Py mixture with the corresponding alkoxide of Copper (II), $\text{Cu}(\text{OMe})_2$, was found to give copper (II) methyl carbonate. This was assumed, according to the author, to be due to the less basicity of the nickel alkoxide for the electrophilic attack of CO_2 .

The binary alkoxides, $\text{Ni}(\text{OR})_2$ have also been observed to undergo reactions with alcohols, halides, β -diketones and carboxylic acids by ligand exchange reactions.

It was established by Mehrotra et al. [10] that primary alkoxides of Nickel (II) do not undergo alcohol interchange even under forcing conditions. Whereas branched alkoxides of nickel e.g., $\text{Ni}(\text{OR})_2$: R=iPr, s-Bu, t-Bu, t-Am undergo facile interchange with primary alcohol even at room temperature.

On the other hand, extensive work [20,21] has been carried out since 1977 on the exchange reaction of nickel alkoxides with alkanolamines, β -diketones and carboxylic acids to give the corresponding derivatives. And on the basis of IR, electron reflectance, and electron-spin resonance spectra as well as magnetic measurements, all of these derivatives ^{of} nickel alkoxides have been shown to have distorted octahedral structures.

In the case of the carboxylic acid derivatives the

monocarboxylates are tetrameric while the dicarboxylate derivatives are trimeric in refluxing benzene. The IR spectra of the later derivatives appear to suggest a bidentate nature of the carboxylate moieties in them. But still the electron reflectance and magnetic measurements indicate the same octahedral environment for nickel in all these derivatives and are non volatile colored solids, soluble in benzene but insoluble in alcohols [10]

1.2.2 The Novel Alkoxides of Nickel (II): Alkali Metal Alkoxonickelates (II)

The synthesis and characterization of the novel alkoxides of nickel were discussed in the report on the works of Kalies and his coworkers [15]

These new alkoxides are based, according to the authors, on the lithium, sodium and potassium alkoxonickelates (II); and are shown to have different compositions and with a partially good solubility in organic solvents.

The compounds were prepared by the reaction of nickel (II) salts ($\text{NiBr}_2 \cdot 2\text{THF}$; NiBr_2 ; $\text{Ni}(\text{acac})_2$; or $\text{NiBr}_2 (\text{PPh}_3)_2$) with alkalimetal alkoxides of primary, secondary as well as tertiary monovalent alcohols in aprotic organic solvents like THF and toluene. The maximum temperature for the preparation of the primary and secondary alkoxides is found to be 50°C , but 90°C for the tertiary alkoxides. Above 50°C the

alkalimetal primary and secondary alkoxonickelates (II) are found to decompose giving nickel (o) (metallic nickel), aldehydes or diketones and the corresponding alcohol. This is a result of β -hydrogen transfer from the primary or secondary alkyl group to give a Ni(H) complex and the corresponding aldehyde or Ketone followed by reductive elimination of hydrogen under the influence of other alkoxide to give Ni(0) and the corresponding alcohol.

Magnetic moment determination using Gouy method on the tetra alkoxonickelate (II) of lithium sodium and potassium show typical tetrahedral as well as octahedral coordination. Where as the sodium isopropoxonickelate (II) is found to be nearly diamagnetic in the ground state.

The ligand field spectrum of the isopropoxo complexes in THF as well as of the solids in nujol showed tetrahedral coordination with three spin allowed transitions.

${}^3T_1(F) \rightarrow {}^3T_2(V_1)$; ${}^3T_1(F) \rightarrow {}^3A_2(v_2)$ and ${}^3T_1(F) \rightarrow {}^3T_1(p)(v_3)$. Ligand field parameters ($Dq = 460\text{cm}^{-1}$, $B = 800\text{cm}^{-1}$, $\beta = 0.77$) further indicated tetrahedral coordination for the isopropoxo complex.

Regarding the chemistry of these novel alkoxides of nickel much more investigation has been carried out for the last five years. The most important thing about these compounds is that they are extremely more reactive towards moisture and are more easily hydrolyzable than the former types of alkoxides of nickel.

The more basic nature of these compounds makes them capable of reacting with electrophilic reagents. Thus they are expected to be prone to the electrophilic attack by CO₂ and other π -acidic ligands. Their internal redox property has been shown to be an advantage by applying them in preparative work as precatalysts.

2.1 Complex Formation of CO₂ with Transition Metal Compounds

2.1 General

As a linear triatomic molecule of the AB₂ type, CO₂ has a carbon atom forming two equivalent bonds with the oxygen atoms via the σ - and π -bonds, the planes of overlapping π -orbitals of oxygen and carbon being mutually perpendicular.

Carbonyl dioxide molecule has some important functional properties (Carbon is a Lewis acid and Oxygen a Lewis base) that influence its co-ordination to metal centers. Arising from these donor acceptor properties of CO₂, there are several possibilities for complex formation with a transition metal atom [24] as shown in Fig. 1.

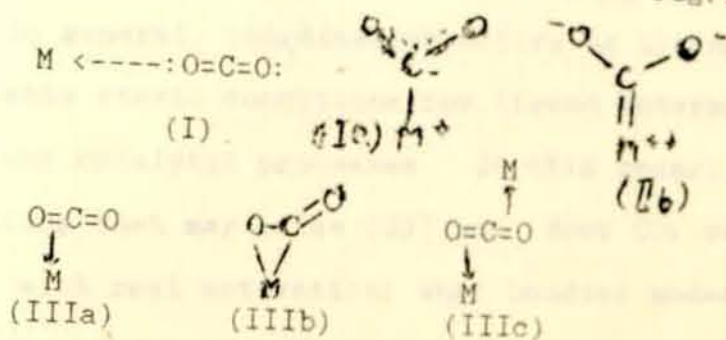


Fig-1

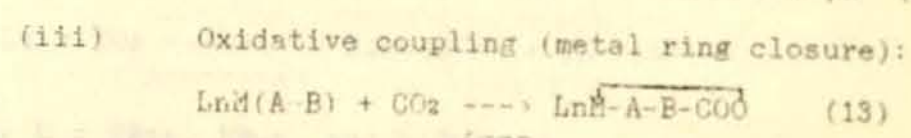
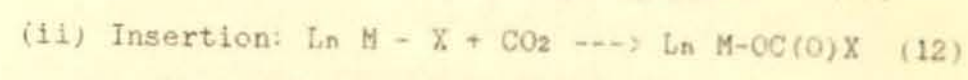
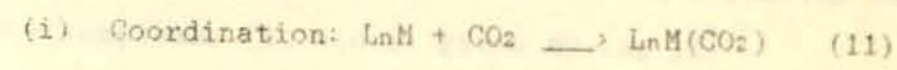
Since the CO₂ molecule is the poorer electron donor and better acceptor of electrons with respect to its isoelectronic CS₂ molecule, a priori one may expect that less typical for CO₂ would be complexes of type (I) and more typical structures (II) and (III). (Fig. 1)

Thus from these bonding modes of CO₂ to the metal M one can see that (Fig. 1): In type (I) it is shown that coordination is through M-O bonding by transfer of the Oxygen p electrons (lone-pair) to the metal; and in type (II) a and b there is a M-C bonding through electron donation from the metal to the antibonding orbital ($2\pi^*u$) of CO₂. Donation of two electrons to the antibonding orbital of CO₂ in a limiting case may result in the formation of carbene-like complexes (IIb). Where as in type (III) a, b and c it is displayed here the possibilities of bonding by π -complex formations (IIIa and IIIc) or by a formation of a three-membered ring in the limiting case (IIIb).

In general, coordination activates ligands and creates favorable steric conditions for ligand interactions and numerous catalytic processes. In this regard possible questions that may arise [19] are: does CO₂ co-ordination agree with real activation: what bonding modes are possible; what reaction routes do the different bonding modes prefer; are these influenced by the nature of the metal complex?

The answers to the above questions have been considered as the basis for the investigations of the different metal-CO₂ complex formation reactions which may be grouped into two major classes: fixation and insertion reactions. However, it is not always possible to distinguish between the two classes, completely since many insertion reactions proceed Via a "fixation" intermediate. Furthermore, Tusuda and co-workers [24] in one side, Chisholm and Extine [25] on the other side separately described many systems as fixation processes but actually they are seen to involve insertion reactions. It follows that all processes in which CO₂ is bound directly to the metal center can, therefore, be described as fixation reactions, and those in which CO₂ is bound Via the breakage of a metal-ligand or internal ligand bond, as insertion reactions.

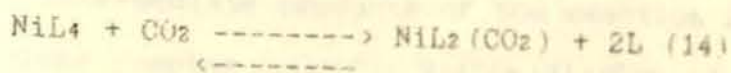
Generally reversible CO₂ fixations involve the following basic reactions [4]:



Coordination of CO₂ to transition metals has long been thought as a reversible initial step in the catalytic conversion of CO₂ [1]. In such a case, metal basicity is an important pre requisite to M-CO₂ coordination. Highly basic Ir (I), Rh(I), and Ni(0) complexes [8] have been found to cause CO₂ activation. In several cases, CO₂ seems to require a bifunctional system, i.e. acid-base for its fixation and activation. Therefore, in addition to the basic metal center, the assistance of an acidic partner is needed. For example, in a Co complex, [Co (Salen)M¹(CO₂)] [26] (where Salen = O-N-N-O: dianion of Substituted salicylaldehyde ethylene diamine), M¹= Alkali metalion) CO₂ is bonded through a basic (Co) and acidic (M¹) centers.

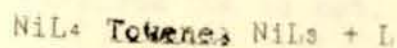
It is known that Ni(0), in general, forms stable CO₂ complexes. The complex synthesized by Aresta and his co-workers [27], [Ni(PCy₃)₂(η²-CO₂)], was the first structure ever to be reported for a metal-CO₂ complex.

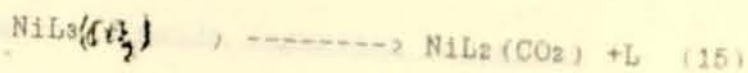
A common reaction could account for the formation of Ni(0) CO₂ complexes [8] and is given by (eq 14)



for L = PEt₃, PBus, and P(C₆H₅)₃

For this the suggested mechanism is (eq 15)





In some isolation experiments it was demonstrated that two types of nickel- CO₂ complexes could be detected [6] as shown in Fig-2 as η^1 -end-on and as η^2 -side-on coordinations.

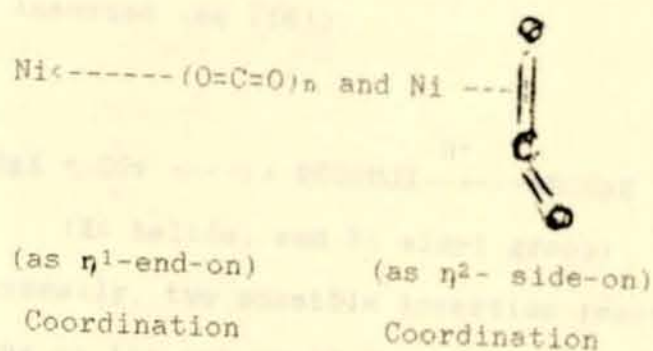


Fig.2: Modes of Coordination Of Ni-CO₂- complexes

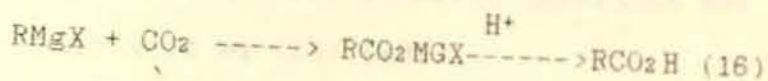
For example, the complex [(CysP)₂Ni(CO₂)] [27] has side-on CO₂ coordination (established by X-ray analysis) and reacts at slightly higher temperatures with splitting of CO₂. Intermediate products of the reaction in which the binuclear complex [(CysP)₂ Ni(CO₂)Ni(PCys)₂] [28] is also formed with olefin - analogous bonding of bridge-forming CO₂ to give two nickel centers were also studied in which the complex-fixed CO₂ is not, however, active enough to be transferred to organic substrates. This was also confirmed to be true in a number of Co, Ni, ^{Rh} and Ir [1] complexes at

which reversible coordination of CO₂ takes place.

2.3. Carbon Dioxide Insertion Reactions

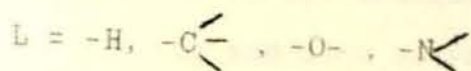
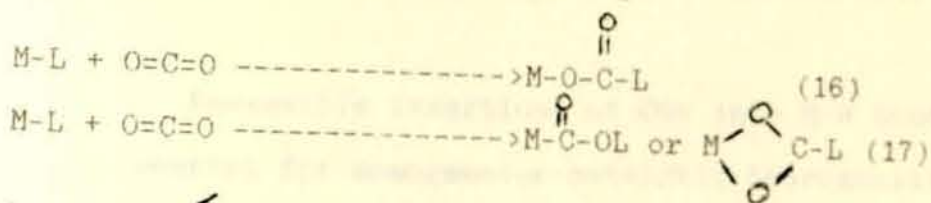
Carbon dioxide is reactive enough to undergo insertion into a series of metal-ligand bonds. The most common insertion reaction is found in the preparation of organic acids Via the Grignard reagent [6]

In this reaction the metal-carbon bond (Mg-R) is broken and CO₂ is inserted (eq (16)).



(X = halide, and R = alkyl group)

Generally, two possible insertion reactions can occur depending on the nature of the metal-ligand bond as described in eqs (17) and (18) [8]:



In many systems insertion is preceded by a fixation step, eq. (19):

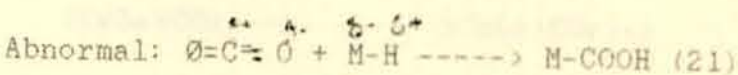
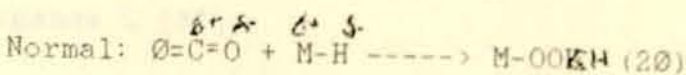


The following presentation provides a brief look at

some typical insertion reactions involving M-C, M-H and M-N bonds and a detailed discussion on insertion reaction into M-O bonds particularly those reaction with transition metal alkoxides (M-OR)

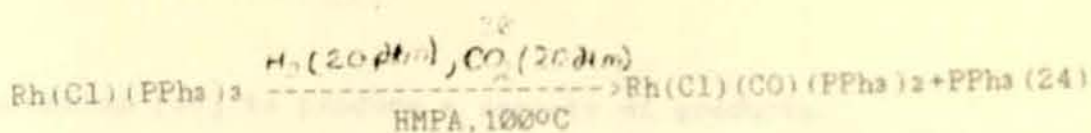
2.3.1 Insertion Into M-H Bonds

Reacting with a transition metal hydride, CO₂ may insert at a M-H bond to give formate complexes, eq(20). Also depending on polarity of the transition metal-hydrogen bond, a reverse and abnormal insertion may offer metal-formic acid eq (21) [29]

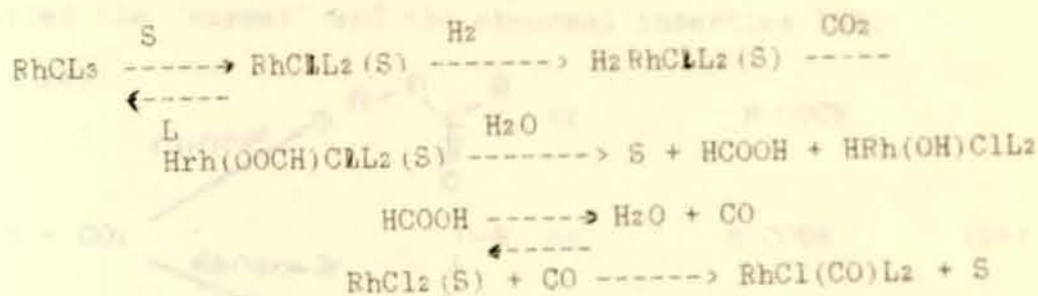


Reversible insertions of CO₂ into M-H bonds is essential for homogeneous-catalytic hydrogenation reaction of CO₂ and also plays a role in the water gas shift reaction [30].

Carbon dioxide insertion into transitional metal-hydrogen bond has been studied for a number of examples. The first example was observed by Misano et al. [31] for the cobalt complex (Ph₃P)₃Co(N₂)H. Bubbling CO₂ through a

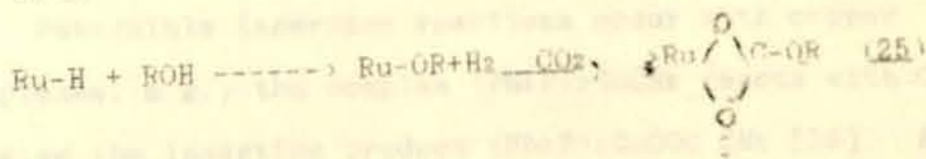


and suggested generalized mechanisms can be formulated as:



L=PPh₃ ; S=HMPA= hexamethylphosphoroamide

In another work [34] it was reported that no formate product (insertion of CO₂ was detected during the reaction of Rh(H)L₃ (L=P(i-Pr)₃, PPh(t-Bu)₂, P(C₆H₁₁)₃) with CO₂. Instead a bicarbonate product was isolated, viz., (H)₂RhL₂(O₂COH), and the structure was determined for L=P(i-Pr)₃. This shows that there are different possible routes for the reactions considered above. The formation of a bidentate carbonato complex was also reported [35] in the reaction of [Ru(H)(PMe₂Ph)₃]PF₆ with CO₂ in MeOH or EtOH. The following mechanism was suggested based on NMR and IR data.

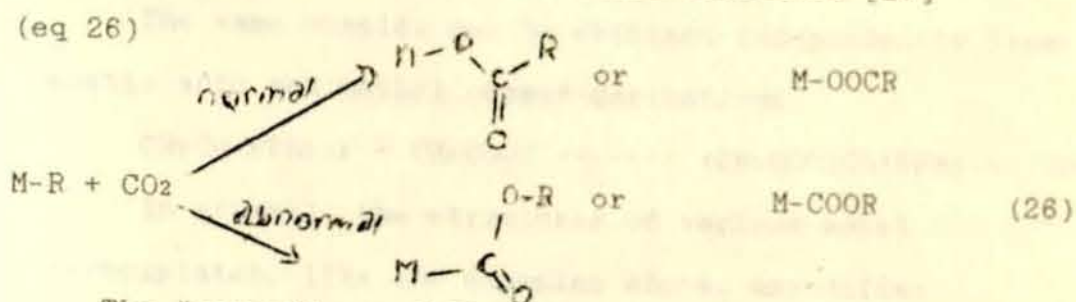


2.3.2 Insertion Into M-C Bonds

In a number of cases the insertion reactions into M-C bonds involve preliminary coordination of CO₂ followed by

insertion [36] to produce a variety of products.

There are two possible path ways for this reaction called the "normal" and the abnormal insertion [27]

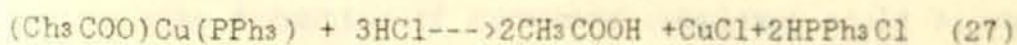


The "normal" way follows for the organometallic compounds giving alkyl carboxylic acid, and the reverse, abnormal ways, with formation of metalloacid ester.

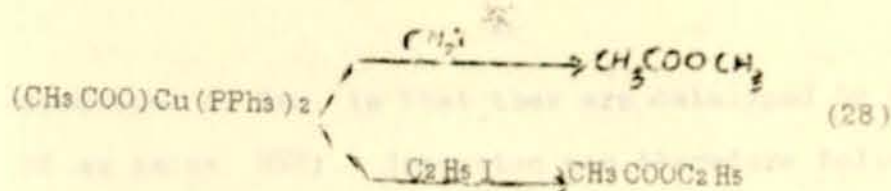
Examples of "normal" reactions with a carbanion transfer to the CO₂ carbon were shown for some titanium and zirconium compounds [36-37]

Carbondioxide inserts comparatively easily into the I-Rhodium-carbon bond by the action of CO₂ on the complexes (Ph₃P)₃RhR (where R=CH₃, Ph) with formation of carboxylates [38]. After esterification of such compounds by means of a solution of BF₃ in methanol or CH₃I, methyl acetate and methyl benzoate form, respectively.

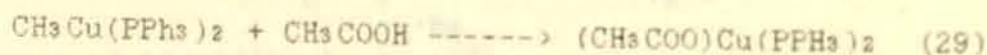
Reversible insertion reactions occur with copper complexes, e.g., the complex (Ph₃P)₂CuCH₃ reacts with CO₂ to give the insertion product (Ph₃P)₂CuOOC CH₃ [39]. Acetic acid is formed in the reaction of HCl with the complex:



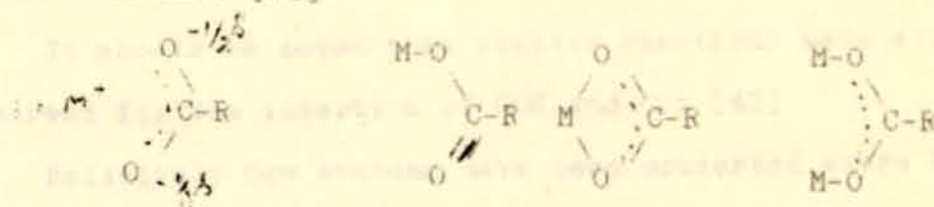
Methyl or ethyl iodides give the corresponding esters:



The same complex can be obtained independently from acetic acid and methyl copper derivatives:



In general, the structures of various metal carboxylates, like the examples above, may differ considerably. For example, the following types of structures are known to date [81]:



It is to be expected that the IR spectra of these types differ substantially [40]

2.3.3 Insertion Into M-N Bonds

Transition metal carbamate complexes are formed as the result of insertion of CO₂ into transition metal-nitrogen bond. These species are observed to be labile towards CO₂ exchange. A mechanism was suggested [41] (Fig.3) in which a step wise formation of carbamate complexes could be observed and various models for CO₂ exchange were also suggested. These insertion reactions differ from the other types

discussed so far, in that they are catalyzed by the presence of an amine, HNR_2 . Insertion can therefore follow the normal mode:

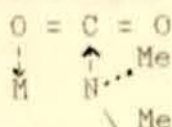
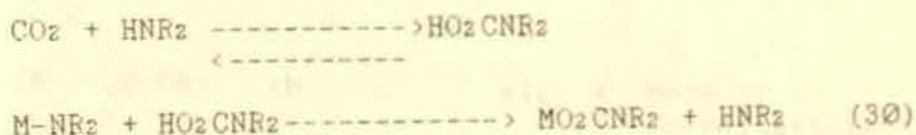


Fig. 3

or proceed according to eq (30)

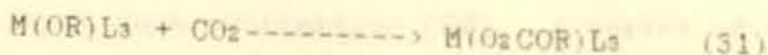


It should be noted that similar reactions were also observed for the insertion of COS and CS_2 [42]

Relatively few systems have been presented where CO_2 insertion into M-N bonds occur. A number of complexes of transition metal dimethyl amides $\text{M}(\text{NMe}_2)_n$ [$\text{M} = \text{Ti, Zr, V}$ and $n = 4$ [43]; $\text{M} = \text{Nb, Ta}$ and $n = 5$ [44]; $\text{W}_2(\text{NMe}_2)_8$ [45]; $\text{W}(\text{NMe}_2)_8$ [46] and $\text{M}_2(\text{NR}_2)_4\text{R}^{12}$ [$\text{M} = \text{W, R} = \text{Et, R}^1 = \text{Me}$ [44]; $\text{M} = \text{W}$ [46], Mo [46,47], $\text{R} = \text{Me, R}^1 = \text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$] have been reported as reacting with CO_2 to give carbamate complexes: $\text{M}(\text{O}_2\text{CNMe}_2)_n$; $\text{W}_2(\text{O}_2\text{CNMe}_2)_8$; $\text{W}(\text{NMe}_2)_3(\text{O}_2\text{CNMe}_2)_3$ and $\text{M}_2(\text{O}_2\text{CNR}_2)_4\text{R}^{12}$ respectively.

2.3.4 Insertion Into M-O Bonds

Insertion of CO_2 into M-O bonds results generally in the formation of carbonate (CO_3^{2-}) or similar type complexes. The insertion into transition metal-alkoxide bond (M-OR) therefore provides monoalkyl carbonate complexes:



The species so obtained may be coordinated as a bidentate (I) or a monodentate (II) Ligands (Fig.4)

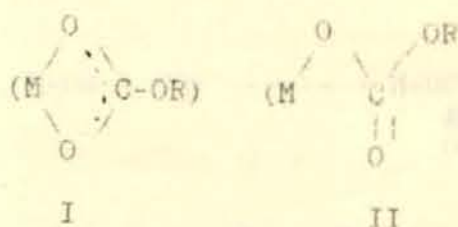


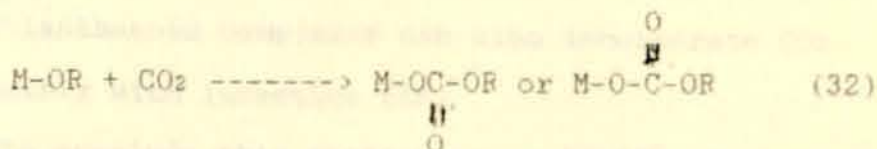
Fig. 4: Mode of Coordinations In Alkyl carbonate Complexes.

Similar alkyl carbonate complexes have been obtained [48] from hydride complexes of transition metals, by reaction with CO_2 in the presence of alcohols. However, the mechanism suggested for such processes (eq (25)) involves formation of an alkoxo complex as an intermediate. This is a result of the attack of the alcohol on the transition metal-hydrogen (M-H) bond. The next step is then the formal insertion of CO_2 into the newly formed H-OR bond [49].

The other version of the insertion of CO_2 into M-O bond is the one observed in transition-metal hydroxo complexes. With these complexes the reaction proceeds via a CO_2 uptake by the hydroxo ligand.

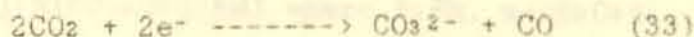
Stability of the alkyl carbonate complexes could be controlled by presence of ancillary ligands such as phosphines or phosphites. In this manner a number of

complexes were synthesized [50]. A series of molybdenum complexes [51] exhibit completely reversible CO₂ insertion reaction, the mechanism in the solid state proceeds via a direct attack on either M or R while the mechanism in solution was suggested to be eq (32):



(For cases where R=H insertion preferable occurs into the O-H bond)

Fachinetti et al. suggested [52] that the formation of Ti-CO₃ species follow a route that correspond to CO₂ reductive disproportionation [53]:



In this reaction the two electrons are supplied by oxidation of the metal center from M(0) or M(I) to M(II) or M(III) respectively.

Later on in 1985 Kato and Ito [54] showed that monoalkyl carbonate complexes were formed by reversible reactions of Zinc (II)-tetrazocycloalkanone complexes with CO₂ in the presence of bases in alcohol. The results of structure analysis of these CO₂ adducts [55] confirmed that they are indeed alkyl carbonate complexes.

Schiff-base-chelate complexes with Cu-O bonds likewise

react with reversible insertion of CO₂ into the Cu-O bond [56] similar to a phosphine complex, (HO)C(PR₃)_n in which CO₂ reacts with the Cu-OH bond [57]. The later complex being soluble in water is capable of transferring CO₂ to propylene oxide or cyclohexanone to form polypropylene carbonate and the cyclohexanone-2-carboxylic acid which was isolated as a methyl ester [57]. Similarly alkoxolanthanoid complexes can also incorporate CO₂ reversibly with insertion [58].

To conclude this section we would like to include reports on syntheses of transition metal alkyl carbonate complexes following studies of the insertion reaction of the corresponding alkoxides, to mention a few:

M(OBu)₄, M¹=Ti, Zr; M¹(OEt)₄, M¹=Zr, Nb, Fe [51];

Mo₂(OCH₂CMes)₈ [51]; Cu(OMe)₂ [59]; (t-BuO)Cu(CN-t-Bu) [59];

[Et₄N][W(CO)₅OR] [60] where R=Ph, m-CH₃C₆H₄;

Cp*Ir(Ph₃P)(H)(OEt) [61].

3 Carboxylation By Means of Metal Alkyl carbonates and Metal-Carbon Dioxide Complexes

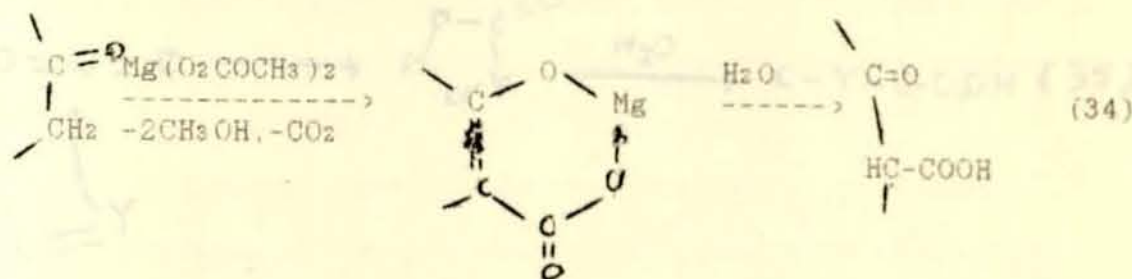
As we have seen in the introduction, the activation of the low-energy CO₂ can be achieved by a "metal phenolate-CO₂-adduct" (metal phenyl carbonate) [5].

It is also of a synthetic significance that main group metal (eg. Mg, Li) alkyl carbonates [5] can be used as efficient carboxylating agents instead of CO₂ as it is. To prepare the reagent metal alkoxides of the monovalent

alcohols must react with CO₂. The solution prepared from the species in organic solvents is directly used for carboxylation of an organic substrate.

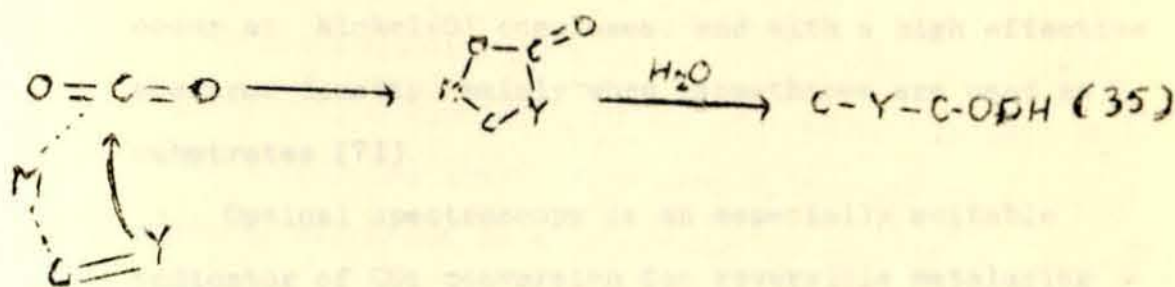
The very reactive but properly to be handled substance that is frequently used as a carboxylating agent is magnesium methyl carbonate commonly known as Stiles-reagent [62]

Thus by means of metal alkyl carbonates it is possible to carboxylate numerous substrates specially C-H acidic carbonyl compounds, nitrocompounds, and also activated aromatic and heterocyclic compounds. A typical reaction is given by eq (34)



It has also been indicated that [1] other "metal-CO₂-substrate" complexes are active precursors that are the result of formation of a new C-C bond between an organic substrate and CO₂ with retention of both oxygen atoms of CO₂ in the product. Alkynes, alkenes, dienes, strained cycles, and benzene react catalytically with CO₂ to afford pyrones, lactones, esters, and acids in the presence of ruthenium, rhodium, nickel, or palladium complexes. A lot of examples are found in literature [1, 4, 63]

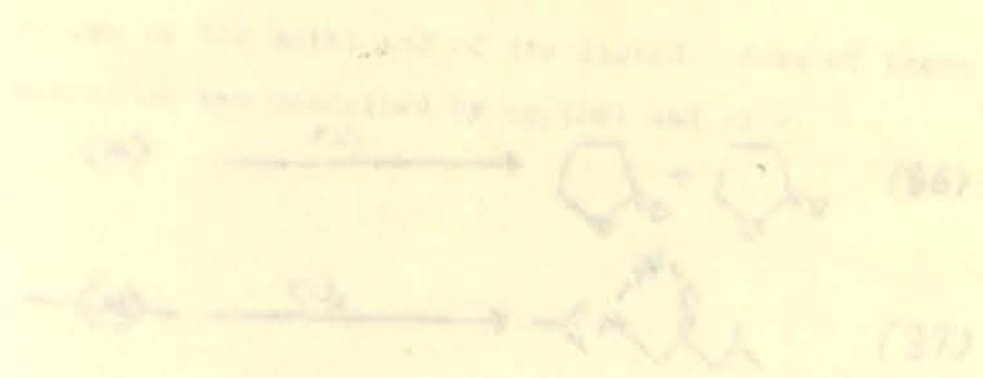
In this connection it should be noted that the activation of CO₂ is caused by the transition metal centers, and this must lead to the coordination of CO₂ at the metal atom in the given complex. The formation of a new C-C bond with an organic substrate, eg.: C=Y, is then catalyzed by the Metal-CO₂- complex. Hydrolysis of the intermediate metal-CO₂-substrate Complex results in the detachment of the metal center from the carboxylated product of C=Y eg (35)



Reversible metalating cleavage reactions with CO₂ and unsaturated substrates have been observed by various authors, eg. [Inoue et al (84,85) and Walter et al (86)]. These reactions occur as nickel-CO₂ complexes with a high efficiency.

Optical spectroscopy is an especially suitable monitor of CO₂ coordination for reversible metalating cleavage reactions. Carbonyl transfer reactions with the formation of new metal-organic compounds can also be carried out where nickel heterocycles with 2-carboxylate structures are used [87].

Nickel (II) complexes are also known as the most active CO₂-substrate coupling catalysts [88]. For example, ferrocenyl nickel (II) complexes have been reported to give several types of products, such as acylated aldehydes or lactones [89] depending on the



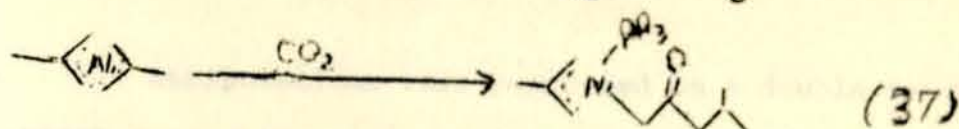
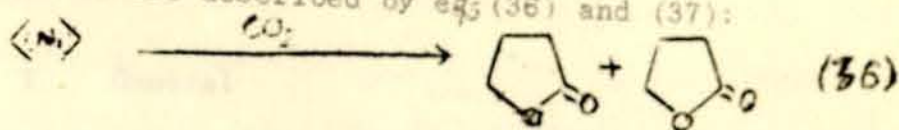
4. Some Useful Applications Of Nickel-Carbon Dioxide Complexes:

Reversible metalaring closure reactions with CO₂ and unsaturated substrate have been observed, by authors such as, Inoue et al [64,65] and Walter et al [80]. These reactions occur at Nickel(0) complexes, and with a high effective electron density, mainly when azomethines are used as substrates [71].

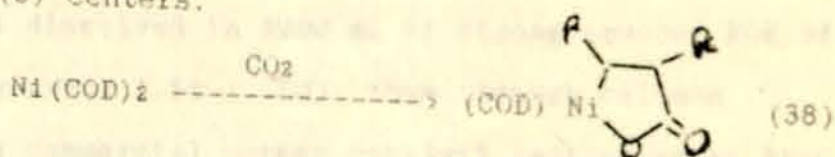
Optical spectroscopy is an especially suitable indicator of CO₂ conversion for reversible metalaring closure reactions. Carbondioxide transfer reactions with the formation of new metalacyclic compounds can also be carried out where nickel heterocycles with N-carboxylate structure are used [62].

Nickel (II) complexes are also known as the most active CO₂-substrate coupling catalysts [23]. For example, carbondioxide insertion into allylic metal complexes has been observed to give several types of products, such as carboxylato species or lactones [1,66] depending on the

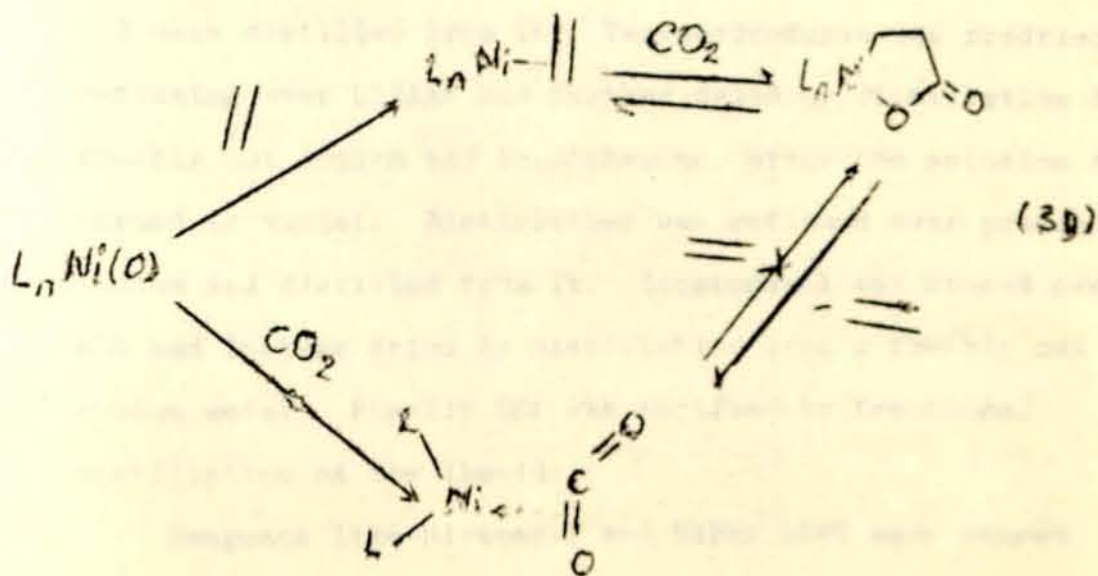
nature of the metal and of its ligand. Some of these reactions are described by eqs (36) and (37):



Very interesting results have also been published on the coupling reactions between alkynes (eq (38) [68]; alkene [67], conjugated dienes [68] or cumulenes [69] and CO_2 on $\text{Ni}(0)$ centers.



No intermediate, such as Ni-CO_2 complexes, could be observed in the formation of the five-membered oxanickela cycles type in eq (38). With alkenes, carbon-carbon bonds forming was found to be sometimes reversible eq (39) [67]



III. EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

1. General

All manipulations were performed on a double-manifold Schlenk vacuum line under an atmosphere of dry Nitrogen. Nitrogen with original purity of 99.6% was further purified by passing it through two columns (Length 100cm. diameter 5 cm) each containing an alkaline pyrogallol Solution (30g of pyrogallol dissolved in 3000 mL of strong aqueous KOH of specific gravity 1.54) [70]; then through columns containing commercial copper catalyst (activated at 55°C to absorb oxygen); dry KOH (Pellets); dry P₂O₅ (powder) and Molecular sieve type 4A.

All solvents and reagents were dried and purified according to established procedures [71]. Benzene, toluene, n-hexane and n-haptene were dried over pressed sodium metal and were distilled from it. Tetrahydrofuran was predried by refluxing over LiAlH₄ and further dried by distillation from freshly cut sodium and benzophenone. after the solution had turned to violet. Diethylether was refluxed over pressed sodium and distilled from it. Isopropanol was stored over KOH and further dried by distillation from a freshly cut sodium metal. Finally CS₂ was purified by fractional distillation of the liquid.

Reagents like Ni(acac)₂ and NiBr₂.2DME were stored

(after synthesized) under nitrogen and transferred into reaction vessels under nitrogen where needed. Moreover, all drying and purifications of solvents were done under nitrogen and deaerated before use.

Carbondioxide gas used in the synthesis was dried and purified following an established procedure [71]. According to this procedure the gas was first passed through a column of conc. H_2SO_4 (A.R.). Possible acid contamination could be neutralized by sodium bicarbonate packed as a powder in a second column in the line. A third column was charged with powdered phosphorous (V) oxide with the aim of removing any water still carried by the gas.

$NiBr_2 \cdot 2DME$, PPh_3 , and diphos used in the synthesis were taken from previously prepared source [72] without further treatment. Other reagents and chemicals needed for the preparations were obtained from commercial sources available in the department store and were directly used with out any further purification.

2. Methods Of Analysis

2.1 Preparation Of Solutions Of The Isolated Products

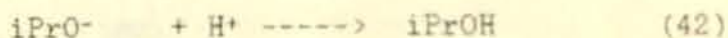
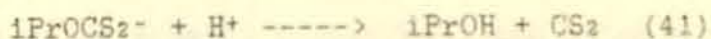
30 mg of each of the isolated CO_2 reaction product containing nickel was decomposed by a dilute nitric acid solution (1ml of conc. HNO_3 (A.R) dissolved in 30 ml of distilled water). A final solution of 100 ml was made by

adding distilled water. For the same amount of CS₂ reaction products the dissolution was effected with a solution of 10ml conc. HNO₃ in 20ml distilled water, and the final solution was made to 100 ml by further dilution.

2.2 Determination Of Basic Components In The Isolated Compounds And Determination Of Isopropoxide In LiOiPr And NaOiPr Solutions

By a basic component we mean the substance that would consume a certain equivalent of an acid in an acidimetric titration of the solutions of an isolated compound obtained by reaction of CO₂ or CS₂ with compound (I) or (II).

The Possible reaction are:



For analysis of the basic component in CO₂ reaction products, 30 mg of a given sample was dissolved in 25ml of excess of 0.1 M HCl and the resulting solution was diluted to a final volume of 100 ml. The excess acid was then

determined by titrating a known volume of this solution with 0.1M NaOH (A.R).

Determination of the base in CS₂ reaction products was impossible in this condition.

For the purpose of defemination of LiO_iPr and NaO_iPr, exactly measured 1ml of the corresponding solution in THF was taken from the reaction vessel at a time, and diluted to 50mL with distilled water. The resulting solution was then titrated against 0.1 M HCl in order to determine the equivalent amount of the base (eq. (42)).

2.3 Determination of Nickel

Analysis for the nickel content in solutions prepared according to 5.1 were done based on the procedure given by Vogel[73]. A known volume of a sample solution was taken each time and a known volume of excess of 0.01M EDTA was added. The mixture was buffered with hexamine (~1g) to adjust the pH of the solution to 5. The excess EDTA was finally determined by titration with standard 0.01M Pb(NO₃)₂ solution using xylenol orange/NaCl indicator mixture (XO:NaCl = 1:100).

2.4 Determination Of Bromide

The bromide content of a given sample was determined by using a bromide selective electrode with calomel as

reference electrode. The potential of the solution was recorded by FW 9409 digital PH meter. Standard solutions were prepared as 10^{-1} , 10^{-2} , 10^{-3} , 10^{-4} and 10^{-5} M solutions of KBr. The concentration of Br^- in a given solution was obtained by the direct method as well as by the standard additions method (Gran's plot). distilled water was added. The final solution was heated to boiling on a hot plate, cooled to room temperature and then

2.5. Determination Of Lithium and Sodium

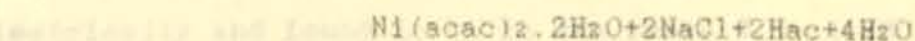
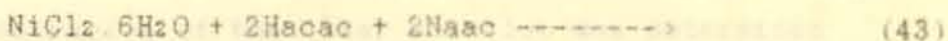
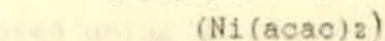
The content of Li or Na in a given sample was determined by flame photometric technique using Beckmann 652210 KLiNa Flame Photometer.

2.6. Spectroscopic Measurements

IR spectra of the compounds were recorded on a Pye Unicam FU 9512 IR Spectrometer. Samples were handled as mulls with nujol or as KBr pellets and spectra were recorded using NaCl Windows. (range $4000-200\text{ cm}^{-1}$)
Visible Spectra were recorded on Beckman Model 24 UV/Vis Spectrophotometer. (range: $750-350\text{nm}$)

3. Preparation of Starting Compounds

3.1. Anhydrous Bis (acetylacetonato)Nickel (II)



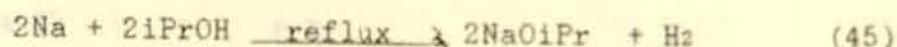
For the synthesis of $\text{Ni}(\text{acac})_2$ first the dihydrate salt (eq (43)) was prepared according to literature procedure [74]. A solution (25ml) of $\text{NiCl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (59.4g) in distilled water was added to a second solution (100ml) of acetylacetone (50.0g) in methanol while stirring. To the resulting mixture a solution of sodium acetate (41.0g) in 100ml distilled water was added. The final solution was heated to boiling on a hot plate, cooled to room temperature and then placed in a refrigerator for several hours. It was filtered-off on a Buchner funnel as a green solid; washed with ice-cold water and dried in vacuum desiccator for a few days. Finally the anhydrous salt ($\text{Ni}(\text{acac})_2$) was obtained by azeotropic distillation of the dihydrated salt in toluene (1:50 by weight). The final product was further dried in vacuum and collected as a dark green solid.

3.2 Lithium Isopropoxide



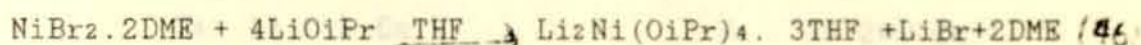
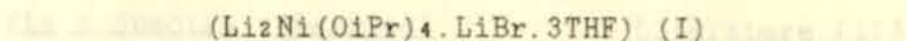
Lithium isopropoxide was prepared by the reaction of an excess of LiH (1.5g) with 10ml of isopropanol in 100ml THF solution. The mixture was refluxed for about 4h and then filtered using G4 sintered funnel to remove the excess LiH. Concentration of the clear solution was determined acidimetrically and found to be in the range 0.9- 1.2M.

3.3 Sodium Isopropoxide



Sodium isopropoxide was prepared by a similar procedure as in 3.2 using sodium metal (2.5g) and isopropanol (10ml) in 100 ml THF solution; refluxed for 3 1/2 h and filtered to remove the excess sodium. Concentration of the clear NaOiPr solution was also determined acidimetrically to be in the same range 0.9-1.2M.

3.4 Dilithium tetraisopropoxo nickelate (II)-Lithium Bromide -3 Tetrahydrofuran.



Following the procedure given by Kalies et al[14], compound (I) was prepared by reaction of a THF solution (80ml) of excess LiOiPr 72-96 mmol with NiBr₂·2DME 12.7mmol at room temperature in a Schlenk tube under nitrogen. Blue suspension resulted. This suspension was stirred for 1h at room temperature. The blue suspension was then filtered-off by a G3 sintered funnel to separate the blue solid from the deep blue solution. The ligand field spectra of the filtrate (blue) was recorded. The blue crystalline solid was analysed for its composition and its IR spectra was recorded in Nujol.

*5

<u>Analysis</u>	<u>Exptl Value</u>	<u>Calculated for CPd. (I)</u>
% Li	2.8	3.4
% Ni	9.4	9.5
% (OiPr)-	32.8	38.6
% Br-	13.5	13.1

IR Spectrum:

$$\nu_{\text{C-H}} (\text{R}_2\text{CH}) = 2380 \text{ cm}^{-1} \quad \nu_{\text{C=O}} (\text{R}_2\text{C-O}) = 1140 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

$$\nu_{\text{C-O-C}} \text{ as } = 1040 \text{ cm}^{-1} \quad \nu_{\text{Ni-O}} = 420 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

$$\nu (\text{C-O-C})_s = 970 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

Vis = Spectra (Observed)

Literature [17]

$$\nu_3: 18,018 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

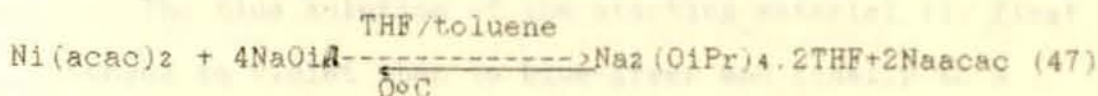
$$\nu_2: 18,200 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

$$16,950 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

$$16,900 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

3.5 Disodium Tetraisopropoxonickelate (II)-2-

Tetrahydrofuran (Na₂Ni(OiPr)₄·2THF). (II)



To the THF solution (90ml) containing excess of NaOiPr (81-108 m mol), a solution of anhydrous Ni(acac)₂ (28 m mol) in 90 ml toluene was added at room temperature. The mixture was stirred for 1h at 0°C. A violet solution and a white precipitate of Naacac were obtained. The white precipitate was filtered-off by a G3 sintered funnel. The

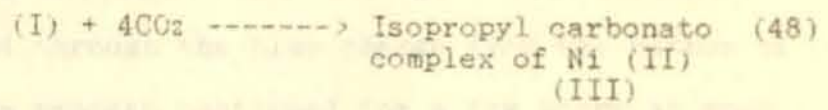
clear violet solution was stored at low temperature under nitrogen in a Schienk tube. Its ligand field spectra was later recorded in an atmosphere of nitrogen.

<u>Vis. Spectra Observed</u>	<u>Literature [17]</u>
18,450 cm ⁻¹	18.850 cm ⁻¹
16,530 cm ⁻¹	16.450 cm ⁻¹

4. Reactions Of Carbon dioxide With Alkali Metal Alkoxonickelates.

4.1 With Li₂Ni(OiPr)₄.LiBr.3THF (I)

4.1.1 Reaction In THF Solution



Carefully dried CO₂ was slowly bubbled through 80ml of THF solution containing compound (I) filled in a three-necked flask. The reaction was carried out for 1h at 0°C with continuous stirring.

The blue solution of the starting material (I) first changed to violet then to blue-green and finally to a complete green. The solution was then filtered to remove any solid material. The filtrate (green) was saturated with CO₂ gas and left over night in a refrigerator expecting a precipitate. However, no precipitate was observed in this condition. It was also noticed that the colour change is reversible. i.e, heating upto 50°C results in change of

colour from green to blue and cooling to room temperature in an atmosphere of CO₂ results in a reverse change of colour (from blue to green).

Vis. Spectra of the green solution;

Observed: V_2 : 14,815 cm⁻¹

V_3 : 24,700 cm⁻¹

4.1.2 Reaction In Solid Phase

Compound (I) (blue powder) 6.11g (10 mmol) was packed in a 50 ml sintered funnel under nitrogen. Dry CO₂ gas was slowly generated through the blue charge from the bottom of the funnel. The process continued for a few hours at room temperature. During this time the blue solid gradually became leafy-green probably indicating formation of product (III). This reaction may also be described by the same equation (eg. (47)).

	<u>Analysis</u>	<u>Calc. for Li₂Ni(O₂CO₁Pr)₄.LiBr.2THE</u>
% Li	2.8	2.9
% Ni	8.2	8.2
% Base:	54.7	57.6
% Br ⁻ :	11.8	11.2

Experimental

Molar ratio. Li: Ni: Br⁻: Base = 2.9: 1:1.1 : 3.8

(apprx 3:1:1:4)

Vis. spectra of solution of (III) in THF:

ν_2 : 15,528 cm^{-1}

16,260 cm^{-1}

ν_3 : 25,000 cm^{-1}

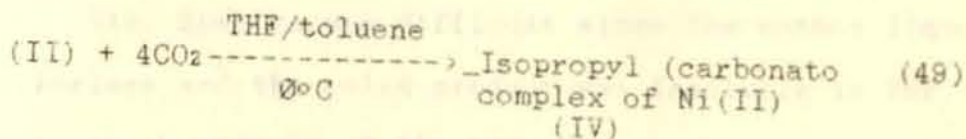
IR. Spectra of Cpd. (III) in Nujol

$\nu(\text{C}=\text{O}) = 1612 \text{ cm}^{-1}(\text{m}), 1578 \text{ cm}^{-1}(\text{m}); \nu(\text{C}-\text{O}-\text{C})_{\text{as}} = 1085 \text{ cm}^{-1}(\text{s})$

$\nu(\text{C}-\text{O}-\text{C})_{\text{s}} = 950 \text{ cm}^{-1}(\text{s}); \nu(\text{c}-\text{o}) = 1290 \text{ cm}^{-1}(\text{w})$

$\nu(\text{Ni}-\text{O}) = 360(\text{w})(\text{s})$

4.2 Reaction of Carbondioxide with $\text{Na}_2\text{Ni}(\text{O}i\text{Pr})_4 \cdot 2\text{THF}$



The violet solution of THF/toluene (1:1) (45 ml) containing compound (II) about (11.1 mmol) was filled into a two-necked flask under nitrogen. An adaptor connecting the CO_2 -line was suitably fitted to the reaction flask. Carefully dried CO_2 gas was then slowly bubbled into the solution for nearly 2h at 0°C with continuous stirring. A light-green greasy substance was formed in the solution. After adding an equal volume of THF, the mixture was saturated with CO_2 and was left for a few hours to allow the reaction to be completed. The solid product was filtered-off from the mother liquor by vacuum technique under a condition of an over pressure of CO_2 above the solution.

Finally product (IV) was collected as a light-green solid after it was completely dried in vacuo.

Analysis Calc. for Na₂Ni(O₂COiPr)₄·2THF

% Na:	5.4	6.9
% Ni:	8.4	8.9
% Base:	66.2	62.4

Experimental

Molar Ratio Na: Ni: Base == 1.7 : 1 : 4.5
(approx. 2: 1: 4)

Vis. Spectra was difficult since the mother liquor was colorless and the solid product was insoluble in THF, toluene or mixture of the two.

IR spectra of solid in Nujol (cm⁻¹)

v(C=O) 1646(s), 1590 (s); v(C-O)_{as} = 1298(s)
C(C-O-C)_{as} = 1030(s); v(C-O-C)_s = 922(m) v(Ni-O)=360(w)

4.3 Qualitative Reactions Of Carbon Dioxide With

Na₂(OiPr)₄·2THF In The Presence of Phosphine:

4.3.1 Triphenyl Phosphine (PPh₃)

(II) + PPh₃ + (excess) CO₂ -----> Product (V) (50)

A THF/toluene solution (45 ml) containing compound (II) (6.75 m mol) was taken in a gas-bubbler. Triphenyl phosphine (6.75 m mol) was added to the solution. The

mixture was then stirred at room temperature for 15 min. to give a homogeneous solution. The resulting solution became dark-brown. Dry CO₂ gas was bubbled through this solution with stirring for about 2h at room temperature. A dark-green suspension was obtained. The suspension was then filtered and the residue was washed twice with THF and dried in vacuo. The product (V) was finally collected as a dark-green solid. The filtrate (yellow-green) was used in recording the ligand field spectra.

Vis. spectra of the filtrate:

(No Significant band was observed)

Analysis:

% Ni = 13.5%

4.3.2 1,2-Bis(diphenyl Phosphino)ethane (diphos)

(II) + 0.5 diphos + (excess) CO₂ -----> Product (VI) (51)

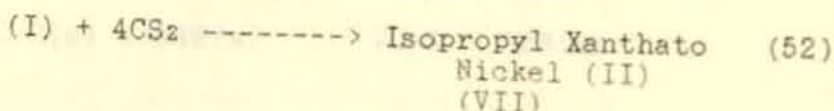
A THF/toluene solution (45 ml) containing compound (II) (6.75 mmol) was taken in a gas bubbler as in section 4.3.1. Diphos (3.375 mmol) was added to the solution and the mixture was stirred for 15 min to make a homogeneous solution. The resulting solution became also dark-brown. Dry CO₂ gas was bubbled through the solution with stirring for a few hours at room temperature. A greenish-brown suspension was forming during this time. The suspension was

allowed to stand for fe w hours a gray material depositing on the walls of the reaction vessel giving a mirror like apperance.

The final product was dried in vacuo but uncharacterized.

5. Reactions Of Carbon Disulphide With Alkali Metal Alkoxonickelates

5.1 With Li₂Ni(OiPr)₄.LiBr.3THF (I)



A THF solution (40 ml) of compound (I) (8.4 mmol) maintained at 0°C was taken in a three-necked flask. To this solution excess of CS₂ (40 ml) was added with stirring . After 1 1/2 h. a dark-yellow brown solution was obtained. The solution was vacuum concentrated to about 1/3 of the initial volume and filtered. The residue was washed with THF and dried in vacuo using vacuum desiccator. A dark brown solid was finally collected as a product; analysed for its composition and the IR spectrum was recorded in nujol. The filtrate first diluted with THF was used in measuring the ligand field spectra of the compound.

Vis. Spectra of the filtrate (diluted eight times)

λ₂ : 15,630 cm⁻¹

λ₂ : 21,280 cm⁻¹

Analysis: Calc. for Li₂Ni(S₂COiPr)₄.2THF

5.

5A

% Li: 1.85	1.84
% Ni: 7.04	7.74
% Br ⁻ : 8.32	-

Ratio: Li:Ni= 2.3 : 1; approx. (2:1)

IR. Spectra of VII in nujol (Cm⁻¹)

VC=O = 1720 (m) ; VC-O = 1260 (vs);

VS-C-O(as)= 1080(s) Vc-S = 1020(w) (broad)

VS-C-O(s) = 940(w) VC-S = 720(m)

5.2 With Na₂Ni(OiPr)₄ · 2THF (II)
(II) + 4CS₂ -----> Isopropylxanthato nickel (II) (53)

A THF/toluene solution (20 ml) of compound (II) was taken in a three-necked flask and excess CS₂ (20ml) was added at 0°C with continuous stirring for 2h. A Yellow-brown solution was formed. The solution was then vacuum concentrated to about 1/3 of the initial volume and filtered. The residue (dark-yellow brown) was washed with THF and dried in a vacuum desiccator. The product was collected as yellow-brown solid and analysed for its composition. IR spectra was recorded for the solid while the ligand field spectra was measured from the filtrate (yellow green).

Vis. Spectra of filtrate

$V_2 : 16,600 \text{ Cm}^{-1}$

$V_3 : 22,100 \text{ Cm}^{-1}$

<u>Analysis</u>	<u>calc. for. $\text{Na}_2\text{Ni}(\text{S}_2\text{COR})_4 \cdot 2\text{THF}$</u>
% Na: 6.13	5.82
% Ni: 8.03	7.43

EXPT. ratio Na: Ni=1.9:1, approx = 2.1

IR. Spectra of Solid (VIII) in nujol

$V(\text{C}=\text{O}) = 1680 \text{ (m)}, 1580 \text{ (m)}, V(\text{C}=\text{S}) 1205 \text{ (w)}, 1110 \text{ (s)}$

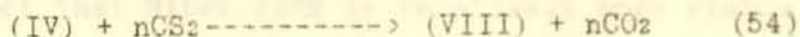
$V(\text{C}-\text{O}) = 1280 \text{ (vs)} \quad V(\text{C}-\text{S}) = 620 \text{ (m)}$

$V(\text{S}-\text{C}-\text{A})_{\text{as}} = 1052 \text{ (s)} \quad V(\text{Ni}-\text{S}) = 340$

$V(\text{S}-\text{C}-\text{O})_{\text{s}} = 930 \text{ (w)}$

5.3 Displacement Reaction of Carbon Dioxide

Reaction Product (IV) With Carbon Disulphide



The product (VIII) was also prepared by stirring a THF/toluene suspension of compound (IV) with equal volume of CS₂ at room temperature for 48h. The compound (IV) was observed to be dissolved with the addition of CS₂. The resulting solution (greenish brown) gradually became yellow-brown. It was then vacuum concentrated to about 1/4 of the initial volume. A dispersion of solid substance appeared in the solution which was then filtered-off as a residue and washed with THF. Product (VIII) was finally collected as a golden-brown solid after being dried in a vacuum desiccator. It was analysed for its composition,

<u>Analysis</u>	<u>calc. for Na₂Ni(S₂(O_iPr)₄.2THF</u>
% Na: 6.13	5.82
% Ni: 7.7	7.43
Molar ratio: Na: Ni = 2:1	

IV RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1. Results of Analyses of Starting Compounds

The starting compounds (I) and (II) were prepared following the general procedure given by Kalies [17], except that NiBr₂.2THF was replaced by NiBr₂.2DME in the synthesis of (I). This change was made following the advice made by a recent report [72] to modify the earlier procedure owing to the fact that NiBr₂.2DME is relatively more stable to air and easy to prepare than its THF analogue. On the other hand a very recent report [75] on the same substance indicated that the previous assignment of its structure (octahedral) was wrong. The new report shows that reinvestigation was carried out on the magnetic moment of the substance and found to be $\mu_{\text{exp}} = 3.5\mu_B$. This value suggests that Ni is tetrahedral coordinated. Moreover the authors [90] claimed that the substance contains less than two moles of DME (ca. 1.2 moles). Despite these opposing views on the same material we employed NiBr₂.2DME in our stoichiometric reaction for the preparation of (I) (See Chapter (III) Section 3.4).

The necessary data in the preparations of (I) and (II) were obtained in a fairly good agreement with those given in the original work [15]. Ligand field spectra measurements indicated the expected tetrahedral coordination in (I) and strongly distorted tetrahedral one in (II).

The colours are observed to be blue for the THF solution of (I) and violet for the THF/toluene solution of (II). A blue stable solid of (I) was also obtained at room temperature.

Like the binary nickel(II) alkoxides [10], compounds (I) and (II) are sensitive to moisture and rapidly hydrolyzed with a sharp colour change from blue (violet) to bright green.

In addition the THF solution of (I) was found to be relatively more stable at room temperature under nitrogen than the THF/toluene solution of (II). The later solution rather undergoes facile decomposition reaction owing to the result of internal redox activity of the substance (II) which may lead to subsequent reduction of Ni(II) to Ni(I) and finally to Ni(0) species [15]. This was observed in our solution of (II) with the formation of a dark solution and gray deposit when the former was stored at room temperature even under a nitrogen atmosphere for more than two days.

The IR spectra measurements and results of elemental analyses suggested that the structures and compositions of (I) and (II) are very similar to those reported earlier [15]

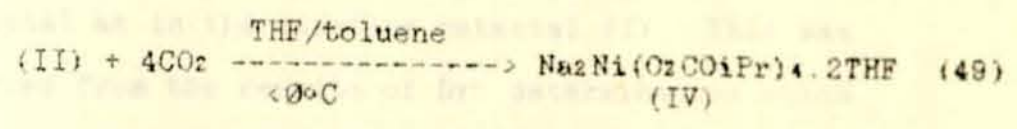
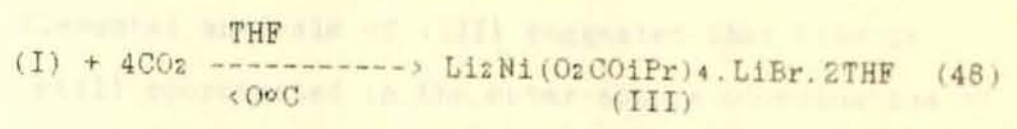
1. The liquid field spectra of (III) in THF indicated an octahedral geometry for a Ni(II) in the d⁸ state. This follows from observation of bands for the following transitions:

2. Reaction Products Of Carbon Dioxide:

Lithium And Sodium Isopropyl Carbonatonickelates

2.1 Composition And Structure

From the reactions of Li₂Ni(OiPr)₄.LiBr.3THF (I) and Na₂Ni(OiPr)₄.2THF (II) in THF or THF/toluene at lower temperatures (<0°C) isopropylcarbonato complexes (III) and (IV) were formed (Eqs. (48) and (49))



Although the reactions could also give products with a variety of possible stoichiometries, the products with compositions (III) and (IV) are most probable from the results of the elemental analysis and spectroscopic data provided in the experimental section. This may be explained by the fact that insertion of CO₂ had actually occurred in all of the Ni-OiPr bonds of (I) and (II) marking the complexes among the ones that provide more basic centers for an electrophilic attack by CO₂.

The ligand field spectra of (III) in THF indicated an octahedral environment for a metal in the d^6 state. This follows from observation of bands for the spin-allowed transitions:

$\nu_1: {}^3A_{2g} \longrightarrow {}^3T_{1g}(P)$ at ca. $25,000\text{cm}^{-1}$ and
 $\nu_2: {}^3A_{2g} \longrightarrow {}^3T_{1g}(F)$ (two splitted bands) at ca. $15,258\text{cm}^{-1}$
and ca. $16,260\text{cm}^{-1}$.

However the band for the transition $\nu_3: {}^3A_{2g} \longrightarrow {}^3T_{2g}$ did not appear in the spectrum which was measured only for the range 750-350 nm (Section 5 of Chapter III)

The ν_1 band may be expected at $\sim 8000 - 10000\text{Cm}^{-1}$ for octahedral nickel (II) complexes [10]

Elemental analysis of (III) suggested that LiBr is found still coordinated in the outer-sphere coordination of the metal as in the starting material (I). This was inferred from the results of Br^- determination which indicated its presence in a 1:1 stoichiometric ratio with nickel. The overall composition of (III) was found to be ca. 2.9: 1:3.8:1.1 corresponding to ratio of Li: Ni: base: Br^- and may be approximated to 3:1 :4:1 to fit the formula $\text{Li}_2\text{NiCO}_2\text{O}(\text{Pr})_4 \text{LiBr} \cdot 2\text{THF}$. Calculation gives only two coordinated THF (which is three for the starting compound).

Spectroscopic (IR,Vis.) results and analyses of composition of complex (III) may lead us to suggest two structures only owing to the possibility of unidentate

In the same manner structures (C) and (D) [Fig. 2.2] may be suggested for complex (IV) whose composition was given in the experimental section as ca. 1.7:1:4.5 corresponding to the ratio ca.2:1:4 for Na:Ni: base in the formula $\text{Na}_2\text{Ni}(\text{O}_2\text{COiPr})_4 \cdot 2\text{THF}$.

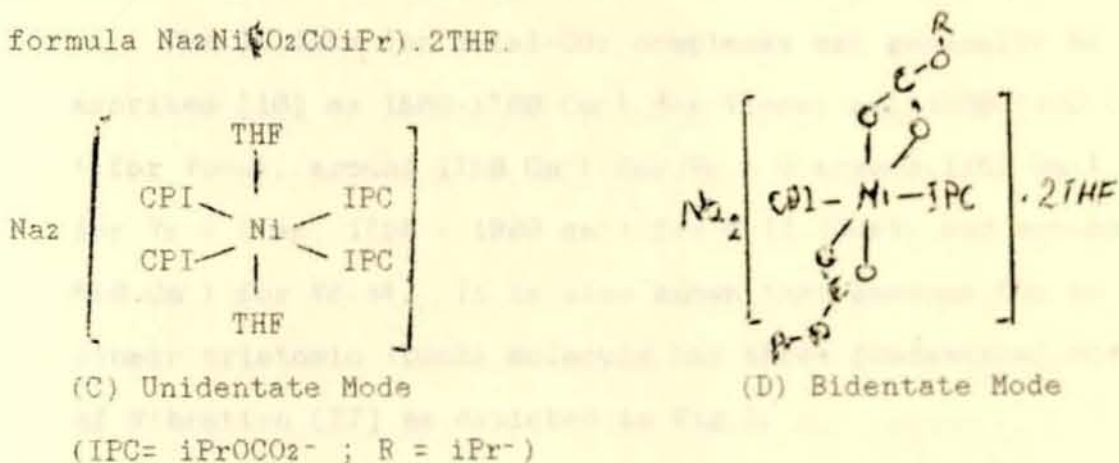


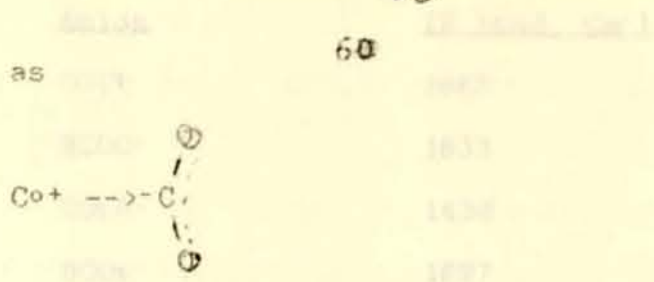
Fig. 2.2.: The possible structures of $\text{Na}_2\text{Ni}(\text{O}_2\text{COiPr})_4 \cdot 2\text{THF}$

Structure (C) is based on the unidentate mode of coordination of iPrOCO_2^- in all case, while structure (D) implies two bidentate and two unidentate modes for the groups in the octahedral complex of (IV).

A more comprehensive analysis of structure of this type of complex requires additional information from spectroscopic measurements (IR, NMR) and X-rays crystallographic data.

The later method was used, for example, to elucidate structure of $[\text{Ni}(\text{CO}_2) \{ \text{P}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_{11})_3 \}] \cdot 0.75 \text{ MePh}$ [27] in which CO_2 is co-ordinated to the metal center in a η^2 -mode and that of $[\text{Co}(\text{Pr-salen})(\text{CO}_2)\text{K}(\text{THF})]_n$ [76]

(pr-salen = N,N'-ethylenebis (Salicylidensaminato)) in which CO_2 is co-ordinated via the carbon atom to the Co(I) centers



The IR data for metal-CO₂ complexes can generally be ascribed [10] as 1500-1700 Cm^{-1} for $\text{V}(\text{oco})$ as; 1200-1400 Cm^{-1} for Voco^s ; around 1750 Cm^{-1} for $\text{Vc} = \text{O}$ around 1150 cm^{-1} for $\text{Vc} = \text{O}$ as, 1750 - 1900 cm^{-1} for M-II (CO₂); and around 820 Cm^{-1} for Vc-o^s . It is also known that gaseous CO₂ as a linear triatomic (Dooh) molecule has three fundamental modes of Vibration [77] as depicted in Fig.2.

The following way.

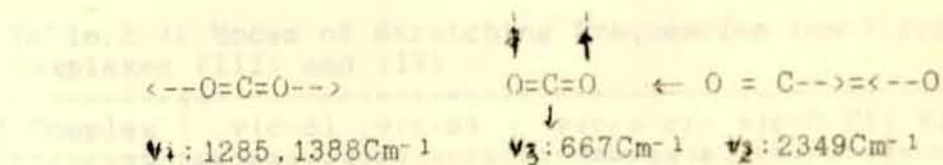


Fig 2. Fundamental Modes of Vibration for CO₂

Molecule	ν_1	ν_2	ν_3
Where, ν_1 = Symmetric Stretching Mode			
ν_2 = Asymmetric Stretching Mode			
ν_3 = degenerate "C = O" deformational Mode.			

According to the IR investigations some values of the prominent band of some selected CO₂ derivatives [78] are summarized in Tabel-1

Anion	IR band, cm^{-1}
CO_3^{2-}	1665
HCOO^-	1633
CO_3^{2-}	1430
HCO_3^-	1697

Table. of Prominent IR peaks of anionic derivatives of CO_2

Thus using the complete set of infrared data (Table 2.1) from the spectra of the two complexes (III) and IV) we may discuss the structures of the alkyl carbonato complexes in the following way.

Table.2.1: Modes of Stretching Frequencies (cm^{-1}) for Complexes (III) and (IV)

Complex	$\nu(\text{C}=\text{O})$	$\nu(\text{C}-\text{O})$	$\nu(\text{C}-\text{O}-\text{C})$	$\nu(\text{C}-\text{O}-\text{C})$	$\nu(\text{Ni}-\text{O})$
III(Nujol)	1612(m) 1578(m)	1290(w)	1085(s)	950(s)	360(s)
III(Neat)	1615(s) 1575(s)	1270(m)	1070(s)	960(m)	360(s)
IV(Nujol)	1646(s) 1590(s)	1298(s)	1030(s)	922(m)	360(w)
IV(Neat)	1652(m) 1586(vs)	1260(vs)	1020(vs)	925(s)	375(s)

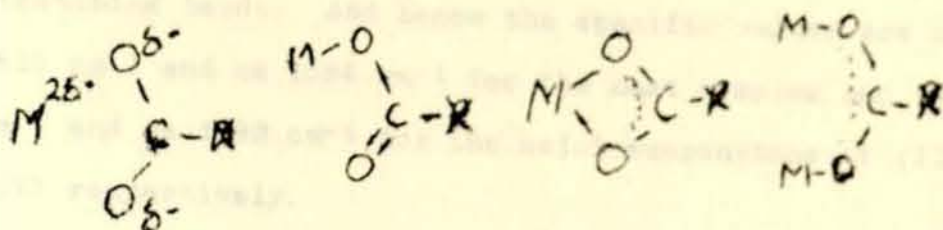
For metal acetate complexes, Holtzclaw and Collman [79] and West and Riley [80] claimed that the order of the carbonyl stretching frequencies is the same as the stability order of the metal complexes, if the highest frequency band near 1600 cm^{-1} is selected as the $\text{C}=\text{O}$ stretching band. Calculation shows however, that $\nu(\text{C}=\text{O})$ is the $\text{C}=\text{C}$ stretching frequency. Thus the frequency order of $\nu(\text{C}=\text{O})$ for elements (d⁷⁻¹⁰) is:

Metal: Pd < Cu < Zn < Ni < Co

$\nu(\text{C}=\text{O})\text{ cm}^{-1}$: 1570 1580 1592 1598 1601

This observation may ^{also} be useful for $\nu(\text{C}=\text{O})$ band assignments for other types of metal complexes having the COO groups.

For metal chelate compounds containing COO , IR studies are useful for distinguishing the un-ionized, the coordinated and the free ionized COO groups in such compounds. The method is based on the simple rule that the un-ionized and uncoordinated COO stretching band occurs at $1750\text{-}1700\text{ cm}^{-1}$, where as the coordinated COO stretching band is at $1650\text{-}1590\text{ cm}^{-1}$, the exact frequency depends on the nature of the metal [77]. According to Nakamoto [77] metal - COO coordinations in carbonates, acetates, formate and similar complexes the COO group coordinates with the metal in one of the following ways. (as already discussed in the literature section):



Where M = metal atom, X = R, H, OR, NR₂, etc.

For any one physical state, the same frequency order for a series of metals is always found, regardless of the nature of the ligand. In other words, when the antisymmetric frequencies increase, the symmetric frequencies decrease, and the separation between the two frequencies increases in the following series of metals: Ni(II) < Zn(II) < Cu(II) < Co(II) < Pd(II) < Pt(II) < Cr(III)

In general, these results indicate that the effect of coordination is still the major factor in determining the frequency order in a given physical state. This order can best be explained if it is assumed that the covalent character of the M-O bond increases along the series, since an increase of covalent character leads to more asymmetrical carboxyl group and results in an increase in the frequency separation of the two COO stretching bands [93].

In view of the above discussion we may assign the bands very close to the 1600 cm⁻¹ in the IR spectra of the two isolated complexes (III) and (IV) for the coordinated COO

stretching bands. And hence the specific values are ca. 1615 cm^{-1} and ca 1586 cm^{-1} for the neat samples and ca. 1612 cm^{-1} and ca 1590 cm^{-1} for the nujol suspensions of (III) and (IV) respectively.

Nakamoto [77] also studied the IR spectra of carbonate (CO_3^-) complexes of Co (II) and found that the C - O stretching modes of the monodentate complexes (type (II) above) are observed at $1360 - 1380\text{ cm}^{-1}$ and $1450-1500\text{ cm}^{-1}$ while the corresponding modes of bidentate complexes (type (III)) are at $1260-1290$ and $1590-1640\text{ cm}^{-1}$. For the analogous Ni(II) complexes we expect the corresponding frequency bands at lower values owing to the fact that Ni is lower in the frequency order than Co for similar metal-ligand coordinations.

In particular nickel chelate complexes of amino acids $\nu(\text{COO})_{\text{as}}$ are observed at [81] ca. 1589 cm^{-1} 1560 cm^{-1} 1606 cm^{-1} [], 1590 cm^{-1} and the corresponding $\nu(\text{COO})_{\text{s}}$ are observed at 1420 cm^{-1} , 1402 cm^{-1} , 1418 cm^{-1} and 1430 cm^{-1} respectively. Monica and coworkers [82] also assigned absorption frequencies, $\nu(\text{COO})_{\text{as}}$ at 1540 cm^{-1} and $\nu(\text{COO})_{\text{s}}$ at 1320 cm^{-1} for CO_2 groups of carbonate ligands as bands that are always present in metal carbamate complexes. The authors also noted that the higher frequency band (1540 cm^{-1}) lies in the same position as $\nu(\text{C=O})_{\text{as}}$ of chelated carboxylate derivatives [83].

Concerning the monoalkyl carbonate complexes of

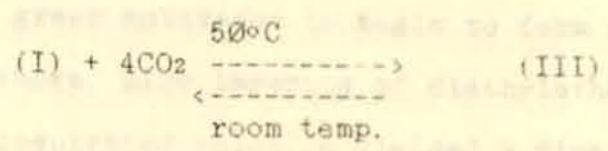
transition metals such as Cu[58], Pd [48] the absorption frequency of $\nu(\text{C}=\text{O})$ were observed above 1600 cm^{-1} upto 1670 cm^{-1} for which the alkyl carbonato moiety behaves as a unidentate ligand.

However, no literature precedents are found for the synthesis of alkyl carbonato complexes of nickel from which we may draw analogy on the IR data of the prominent frequency bands of the ROCO_2^- group. Therefore our assignment of the characteristic frequency bands for the products (III) and (IV) are indirect i.e., by analogy with similar complex of other metals. Based on the preceding literature evidences the relatively strong bands of the $\nu(\text{C}=\text{O})$ for our complexes lie in the range $1575\text{-}1652\text{ cm}^{-1}$ suggesting the presence of both monodentate and bidentate mode of coordination for the iPrOCO_2^- groups. This may lead us to conclude that complexes (III) and (IV) have structures (B) and (D) (Fig.2.1 and 2.2) respectively as their most probable structures.

2.2 Properties

An interesting feature of the reaction of CO_2 with compound (I) is its reversibility that was observed under very mild condition. When the green THF solution of product (III) was heated upto 50°C . the blue solution of compound (I) was regenerated. On the other hand, when the blue THF solution of (I) was cooled to room temperature in CO_2

atmosphere the green product (III) was obtained. This "insertion-deinsertion" of CO₂ into the Ni-OR bonds could be repeated several times without any decomposition product being observed.



Similar reactions involving CO₂ insertion have been observed for alkyl carbonate complexes of Cu[58]a, W[59], Pa[48a] showing the same behaviour.

The corresponding reversible colour change by reaction of CO₂ with compound (II) was not carried out because of the insolubility of product (IV) in THF, toluene or mixture of the two. Unlike its reactions in solution, CO₂ does not react reversibly with compounds (I) and (II) in solid phase, since the solid products (III) and (IV) are thermally stable upto temperatures between 90-100°C. Above this temperature they would rather be decomposed to unidentified products than to regenerate the starting compounds (I) and (II). Melting of the products was not also possible for the same reason.

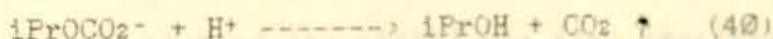
Complex (III) was observed to dissolve in solvents like THF, alcohols (ethanol, isopropanol), diethyl ether, and organic acids: while complex (IV) was found to be insoluble in most organic solvents. This remarkable properties of the two complexes are attributable to the more solvent

polarizing ability of Li⁺ ion than Na⁺ ion owing to the small size of the former compared to the later.

Both complexes are affected by the presence of water. The addition of water to the THF solution of (III) caused a bright green substance to begin to form in the solution. Furthermore, slow layering of diethylether and n-hexane to the concentrated solution yielded a final pale green precipitate. This precipitate was insoluble in THF but soluble in more polar solvents like acetone or acetonitrile. This behaviour with water was also indicated in the IR spectrum of an exposed product (III) which happened to show the characteristic OH band.

Following these observations and from the literature evidences [14,84] we may possibly suggest that bicarbonate complexes could be formed by reactions of (III) and (IV) with water. The pH of the sparingly water soluble products also indicated alkaline property (PH=9-10) of the substances.

Moreover, on the reaction with dilute mineral acids in solid as well as in THF solution of (III), CO₂ gas was evolved according to reaction (64)



A dilute HNO₃ solution of (III) was observed to give a pale yellow precipitate when treated with AgNO₃ solution owing to the presence of bromide in the product (III).

Attempts were also made to synthesize complexes (III)

and (IV) by reactions of the corresponding alkoxides (LiOiPr) and (NaOiPr) with CO₂ followed by subsequent addition of NiBr₂.2OME in the former and Ni(acac)₂ in the later. However, results of these reactions showed that the products were completely different from those obtained in the earlier reactions. The products were having colours ranging from blue to blue-green and distinct from the light green products (III) and (IV).

2.3 Influence Of Phosphines On The Formation of The Products

Preliminary survey was carried out to study the influence of donor ligands - phosphines in this case, on reaction of CO₂ with compounds (I) and (II). For this purpose 1 mole of PPh₃ and 0.5 mole of diphos were made to react with 1 mole of compound (II) in THF/toluene solution with subsequent generation of CO₂ into the two solutions. A deep green product was formed in the presence of PPh₃. The ligand field spectrum measured for the mother liquor (filtrate) of PPh₃ product gave no meaningful band assignable to any of the transitions of nickel in the d⁸ state. The content of the nickel was also analysed to be ca. 13.5 % and correspond to none of the possible triphenyl phosphino isopropyl-carbonate nickel (II) complex formulas. This may lead us to conclude that a mixture of several possible products might be formed as a result of different

possible reaction routes. Further attempts in the investigation of the products of the reactions could not be made at this stage.

The corresponding reaction of CO₂ with compound (II) in the presence of diphos led to the formation of decomposition products including a deposit of grayish material probably Ni(O) on the walls of the reaction vessel. No attempts were also made to characterize the decomposition products.

The infrared spectra of the products (VII) and (VIII) show absorption bands for an octahedral environment of the central metal. This is due to the appearance of bands for the spin-allowed transitions $t_{2g} \rightarrow e_g$ at 15,400 cm⁻¹ (ν₁), $t_{2g} \rightarrow e_g$ (ν₂) and at 21,200 cm⁻¹ (ν₃). The corresponding bands are observed at 16,000 cm⁻¹ (ν₁), 21,200 cm⁻¹ (ν₂) and at 21,200 cm⁻¹ (ν₃). However, the band for the transition $t_{2g} \rightarrow e_g$ did not appear in both spectra of (VII) and (VIII) in the range 10,000 to 17,000 cm⁻¹.

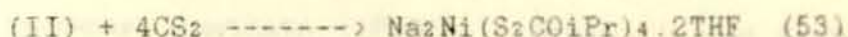
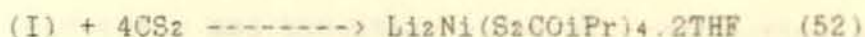
Elemental analysis of (VII) indicated the atomic ratio of Ni:PO₄ to be 1:1. This ratio is in accord with the presence of Ni(II) in the complex as an impurity. Thus the composition of (VII) may be assigned to (VII) based on the ratio of Ni:PO₄ to be 1:1.

3. Reaction Products of Carbon Disulphide:

Lithium And Sodium Isopropylxanthato nikelates (II)

3.1 Composition And Structure

The analogous reactions of compounds (I) and (II) with CS₂ were also possible leading to the formation of isopropyl xanthato complexes (VII) and (VIII) according to the equations.

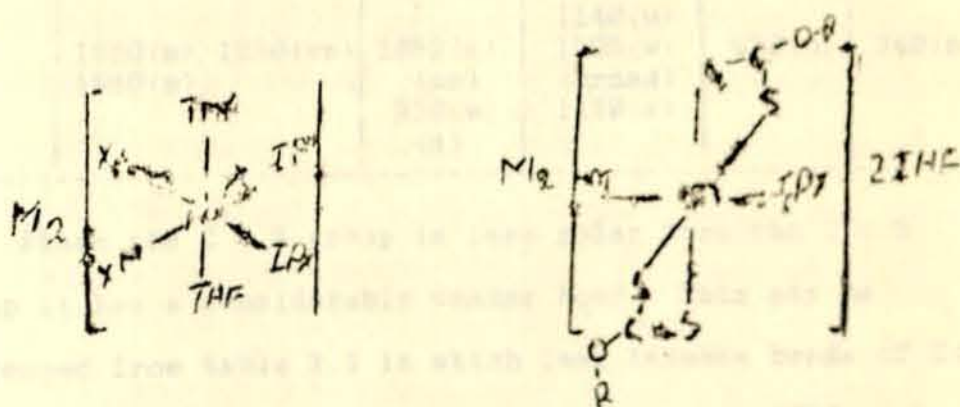


The ligand field spectra of the products (VII) and (VIII) have also values for an octahedral environment at the nickel center. This is due to the appearance of bands for the spin-allowed transitions for (VII) at 15,630 cm⁻¹ [$v_2: {}^3A_{2g} \longrightarrow {}^3T_{1g} (F)$] and at 21,280 cm⁻¹ [$v_3: {}^3A_{2g} \longrightarrow {}^3T_{1g} (P)$]; and for complex (VIII) the corresponding bands are observed at 16,000 cm⁻¹ [$v_2: {}^3A_{2g} \longrightarrow {}^3T_{1g}(F)$] and at 22,100 cm⁻¹ [$v_3: {}^3A_{2g} \longrightarrow {}^3T_{1g} (P)$]. However, the v_1 band for the transition [${}^3A_{2g} \longrightarrow {}^3T_{2g}$] did not appear in both spectra of (VII) and (VIII) in the range 750-350 nm for the same reason as in 2.1.

Elemental analyses of (VII) indicated the atomic ratio of Ni:Br, ca. 1:0.67 (expected ratio for coordinated Br is 1:1). This leads us to assume that bromide was present in the sample as an impurity. Thus the composition $Li_2Ni(S_2COiPr)_4 \cdot 2THF$ may be assigned to (VIII) based on the ratio of Ni:Li, ca. 1:2.3 (theoretical value 1:2).

Similarly the formula $\text{Na}_2\text{Ni}(\text{S}_2\text{COiPr})_4 \cdot 2\text{THF}$ may be assigned to (VIII) based on the ratio of Ni:Na, ca. 1:1.9 (Theoretical value 1:2).

Regarding the structures of (VII) and (VIII) spectroscopic (vis. IR) measurements and elemental analyses data allow us to suggest similar structures as in section 2.1. These are also based on the assumptions of possible unidentate and bidentate modes of coordination of the isopropyl xanthato (iPrOCS_2^-) groups in the same fashion like those of the isopropylcarbonato (iPrOCO_2^-) moiety. The suggested structures are given for (VII) and (VIII) in Fig. 3.1 as (A) and (B) respectively for the unidentate and bidentate modes for each complex.



(A) Unidentate mode

(B) Bidentate mode

M = Li in (VII) and M = Na in (VIII).

IPX = isopropylxanthato group, R = iPr

Fig. 3.1 Possible structures of (VII) and (VIII) for non-chelated and chelated modes in each complex.

The infrared data interpretation for band assignments in alkyl xanthato metal complexes and similar other sulphur compounds have been investigated by several workers [83,84]. Our formulation of the isopropylxanthato complexes as having chelated and no-chelated ligands is supported by IR evidence (Table 3.1).

Both complexes show the weak C-S stretching frequency bands in the general region $700-600\text{ cm}^{-1}$ characteristic of C-S bonds (ca. $720(\text{m})$ for (VII) and ca. 620 cm^{-1} for VIII).

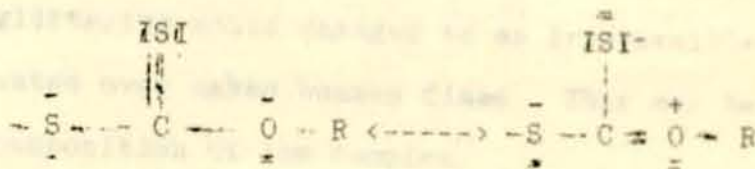
Table.3.1

IR Data For Complexes VII and VIII in Nujol; cm^{-1}

Complex	$\nu_{\text{C=O}}$	$\nu_{\text{C-O}}$	$\nu_{\text{SC-O}}$	$\nu_{\text{C=S}}$	$\nu_{\text{C-S}}$	$\nu_{\text{M-S}}$
VII	1720(m)	1260(vs)	1050(s) 940(w)	1020(w) (broad) 1140(w)	720(m)	-
VIII	1630(m) 1580(m)	1280(vs)	1052(s) (as) 930(w) (s)	1205(w) (broad) 1110(s)	620(m)	340(m)

Since the C = S group is less polar than the C = O group it has a considerably weaker bond. This may be evidenced from table 3.1 in which less intense bands of C=S appeared in the lower frequency regions, ca. 1020 cm^{-1} (w) for (VII) and ca. 1205 cm^{-1} (w) for (VIII). The existence of the xanthato (dithiocarbonato) groups in the complexes is ascertained by appearance of bands of medium intensity in the C=O stretching frequency region (at ca. 1630 cm^{-1} and 1580 cm^{-1} , for example in complex (VIII)). The occurrence of these bands (more than any other) in this region is

usually attributed to the partial double bond character of the C-O group [85]. Thus we may explain the existence of such bands in the xanthato complexes by occurrence of possible resonance forms as:



In addition several other bands appeared in the broad region 1580 - 600cm⁻¹ which can be assigned to vibrations involving interactions between C = S, S - C = S, S - C - O and C - O stretching frequencies [77,85]. Some of these bands, for example, the band at 1280 cm⁻¹ (vs) is typical of the ν_{C-O} of the iPrOCS₂⁻ group of complex (VIII). Similarly the band at 1580 cm⁻¹ (m) may be assigned as the ν_{C-O} of the same group indicating a partial double bond nature of the C-O bond. We may cite a literature evidence [86] for typical ν_{C-O} absorptions of iPrOCS₂⁻ in similar complexes of osmium:

[OsCl(PMe₂Ph)₃(S₂COEt)], ca. 1250 cm⁻¹ (vs) and cis-[Os₂(PMe₂Ph)₂(S₂CNMe₂)(S₂COEt)], ca. 1520 cm⁻¹ (m), 1230 cm⁻¹ (s)

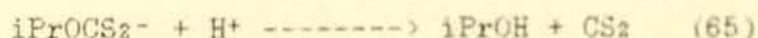
3.2 Properties

Complexes (VII) and (VIII) were obtained as stable solids at room temperature. The colour of the complexes ranges from dark-yellow brown to golden brown. Complex (VIII) was observed to be affected by heat as a result by which the glittering solid changed to an irreversible black tar when heated over naked bunsen flame. This may be due to thermal decomposition of the complex.

Complex (VII) was found to be soluble in polar solvents like acetone, diethylether, isopropanol, THF, forming yellow-brown solutions. Hydrocarbon solvents like benzene, toluene do not dissolve this complex. Unlike complex (IV), the xanthato analogue (VIII) is found to be soluble in the above mentioned polar solvents, but like (VII) it is insoluble in the hydrocarbon solvents. However solutions of these xanthato complexes are quite stable at room temperature under nitrogen.

Both complexes were seen to be affected by water forming a yellowish-green suspension that is insoluble in water and most organic solvents. The pH of the slurry, however, indicates an alkaline pH (8-9).

Both products (VII) and (VIII) were shown also to react with dilute mineral acids with the liberation of CS₂ (recognized by its characteristic smell). The reaction can be described by eq(65):



3.3. Alternative Routes For Synthesis of
Complexes (VII) And (VIII)

More interestingly it was possible for us to react complex (IV) with CS₂ at room temperature with the displacement of CO₂ and the formation of the corresponding xanthato complex derivative (VIII). Our formation of the xanthato complex by this reaction was confirmed by elemental analyses that suggested a similar ratio of the relative number of atoms as in section 3.1 of this Chapter. And this was found to be ca. 1:2 for Ni:Na. The values calculated for the formula Na₂Ni(S₂COiPr)₄ · 2THF 7.4 % Ni, 5.8% Na are very close to the experimental values, 7.7% Ni and 6.13% Na. The ligand field spectra of the product obtained by this reaction indicates transition bands at 16,900 cm⁻¹ [V₂: ³A_{2g} → ³T_{1g} (f) and 21,800 cm⁻¹ [v₃: ³A_{2g} → ³T_{1g} (P)]. These values are very close to those obtained for the normal CS₂ insertion product (VIII). A similar displacement reaction was reported by Monica [8f] for the preparation of a dithiocarbomato complex of Re(I) by reaction of CS₂ with the corresponding carbamato complex.

V. CONCLUSION

From the results obtained it can be remarked that several points have arisen from this work:

- i) Alkalimetal isopropoxonickelates may react reversibly under mild conditions with CO_2 to give the first examples of the alkyl carbonate complexes of nickel (II); and similar reactions are also possible with CS_2 to form the corresponding alkyl xanthato complexes.
- ii) There are evidences that CO_2 and CS_2 reaction products with the novel alkoxo complexes are supposed to be octahedral nickel (II) complexes containing monodentate as well as bidentate modes of coordination for the iPrOOCO_2^- and iPrOCS_2^- groups.
- iii) All products of the reactions with CO_2 and CS_2 are stable in the solid state under nitrogen at room temperature. However, solutions in organic solvents (ethers, alcohols) of these compounds are generally unstable under the same condition. It has been observed for example, that solution of complex (III) in THF gave an insoluble precipitate on prolonged standing. Moreover, the solid isopropyl carbonate derivatives are relatively unaffected by temperature up to 90-

100°C unlike in solutions where reaction was seen to be reversible at (~50°C) for the THF solution of (III). The solids were observed to become pale when heated above 100°C.

However the corresponding isopropyl xanthato complexes are found to be stable both in the solid state as well as in solutions.

The work on the substances formed by reactions of CO₂ with the novel alkoxo complexes of nickel (II) in the presence of phosphine (which may allow a conclusion to be drawn as to what effect they may influence the reactions) is at infantile stage.

However, we may think, in general, that a way to novel complexes of nickel (II) is opened up by the reactions of the alkalimetal alkoxonickelates with CO₂ and CS₂ and it is likely also with SO₂. These new complexes of nickel particularly the alkylcarbonato nickelates may have the potentiality to act as reversible CO₂ carriers by behaving as precatalysts in many catalytic transformations, utilizing CO₂ as a C₁ source. However, to bring these prospective materials for actual services of synthetic chemists a challenging work is awaiting those interested in the field.

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The anhydrous nickel chelate complexes of amino acids investigated include:
(a) α - alanine, $Ni[NH_2CH(CH_3)COO]$
(b) β - alanine, $Ni[NH_2CH_2CH_2COO]_2$
(c) N - Methylglycine, $Ni[(CH_3)NHCH_2COO]_2$
(d) N - Phenylglycine, $Ni[(Ph)NHCH_2COO]_2$
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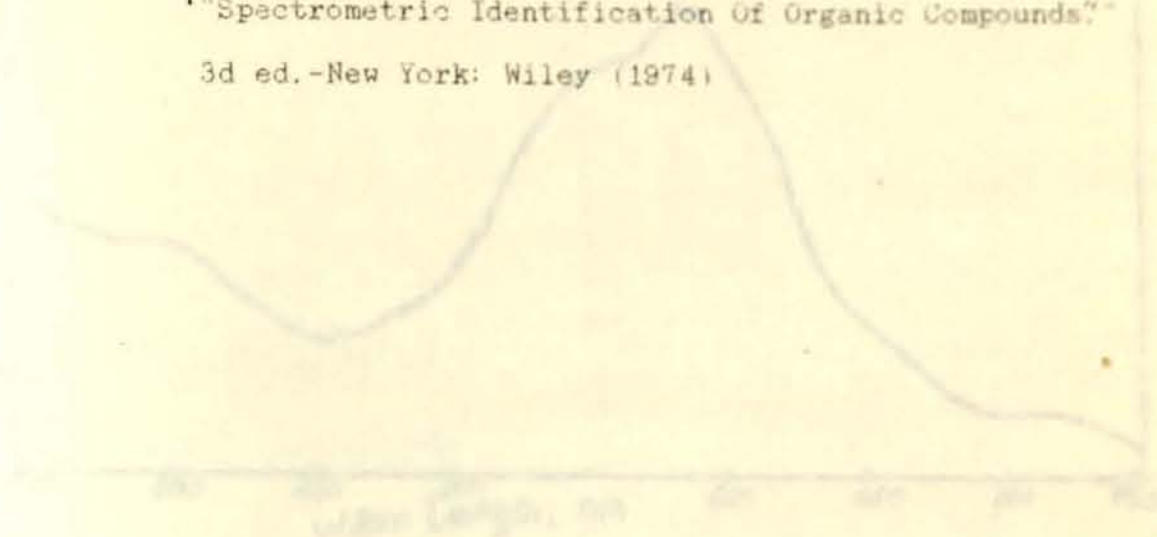
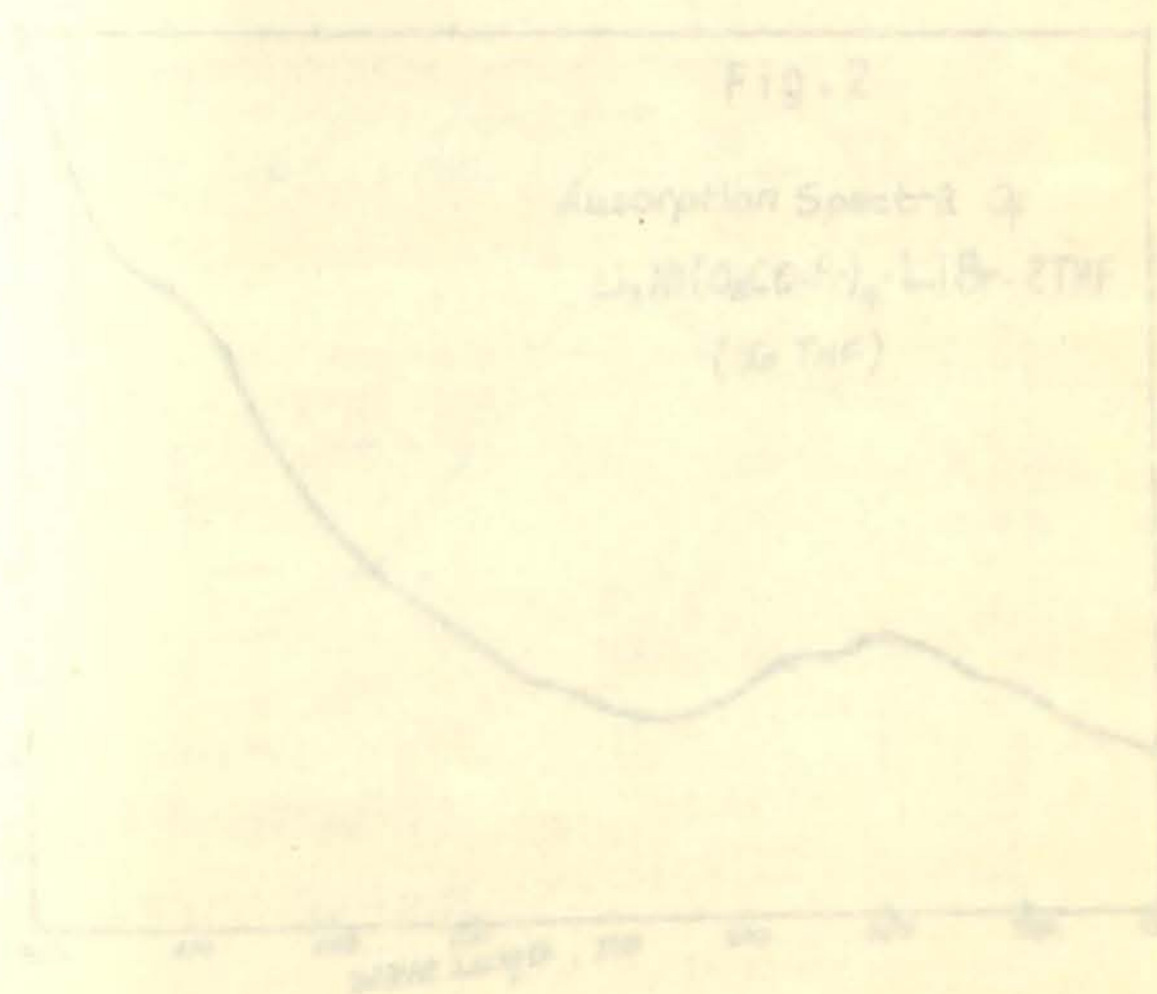
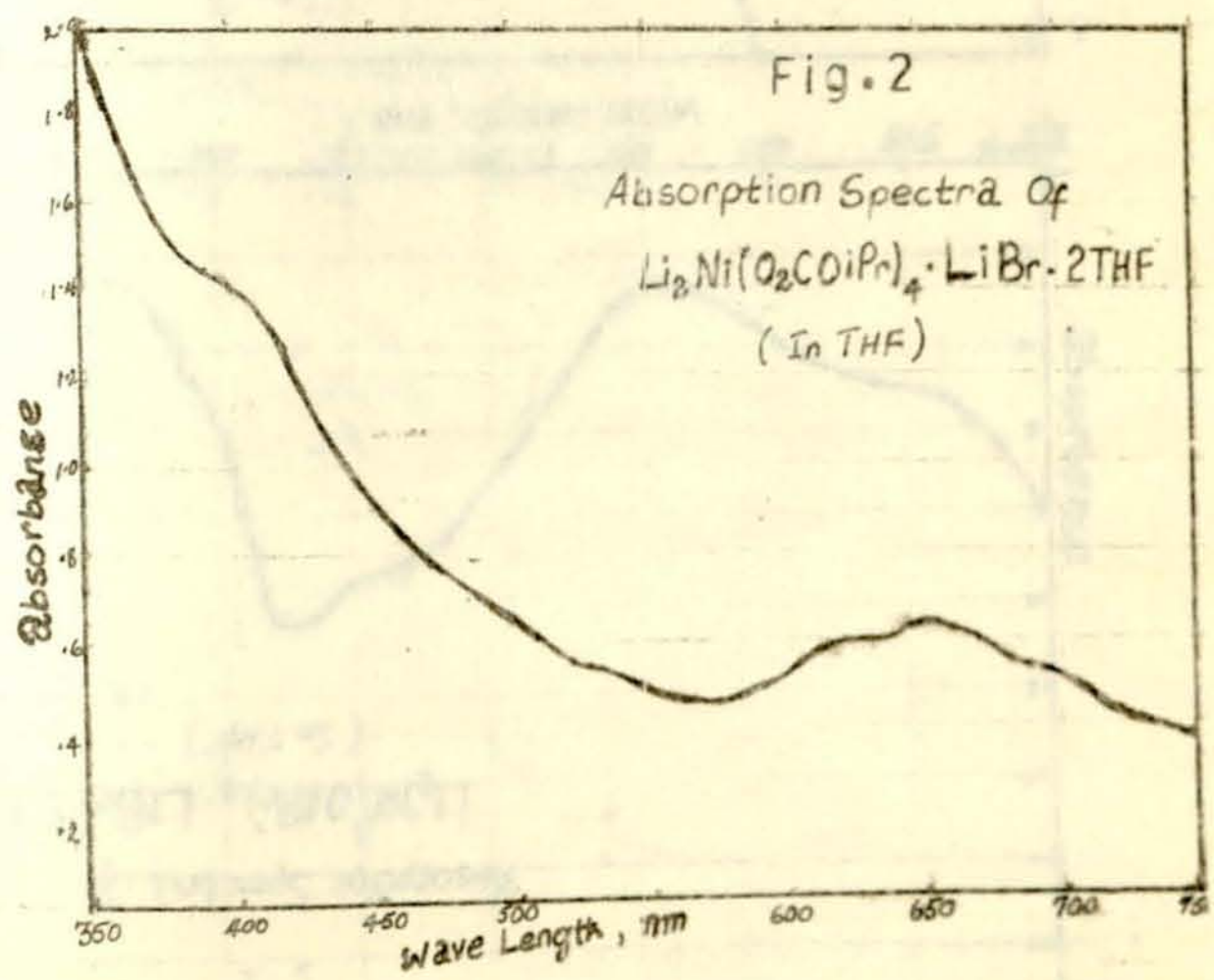
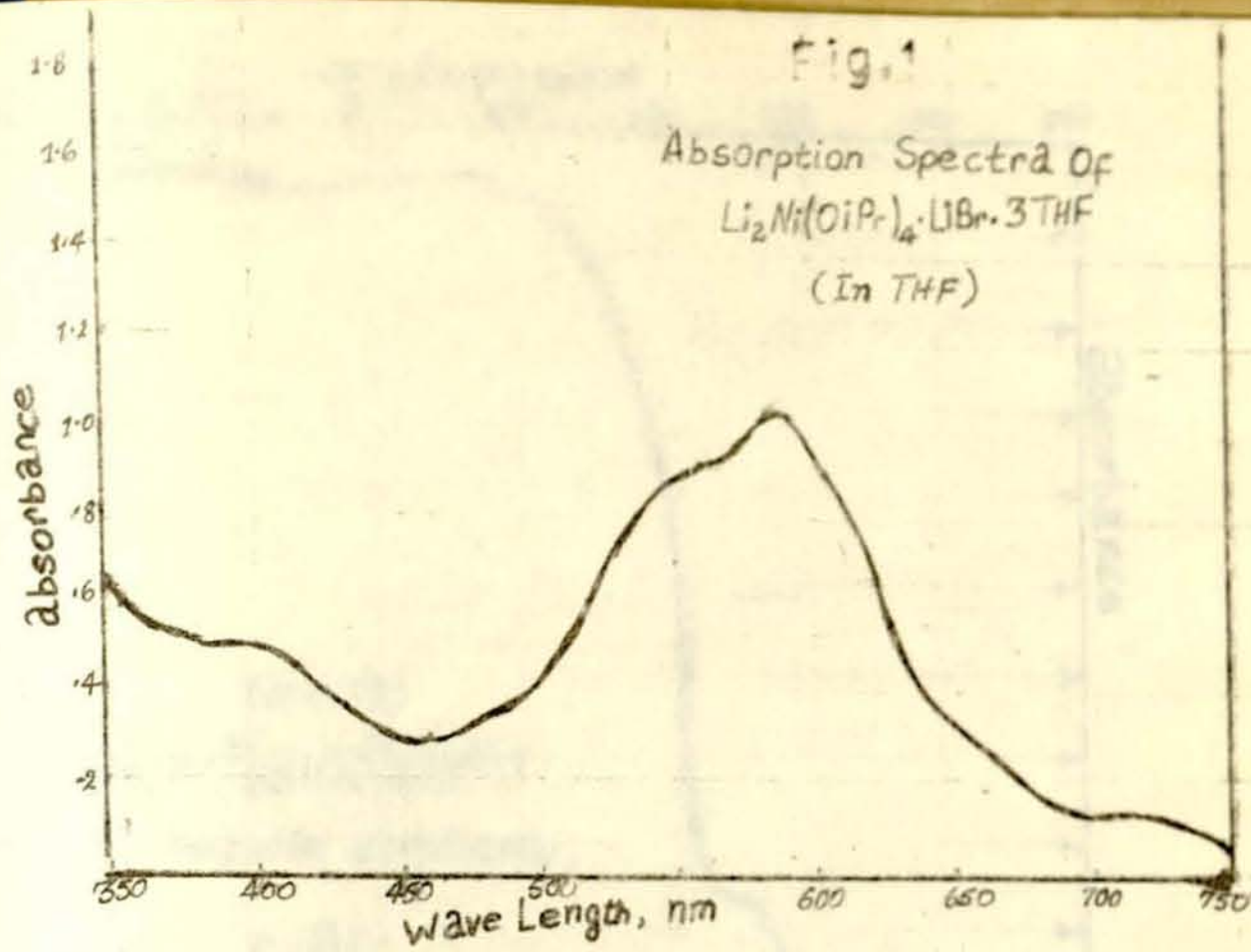
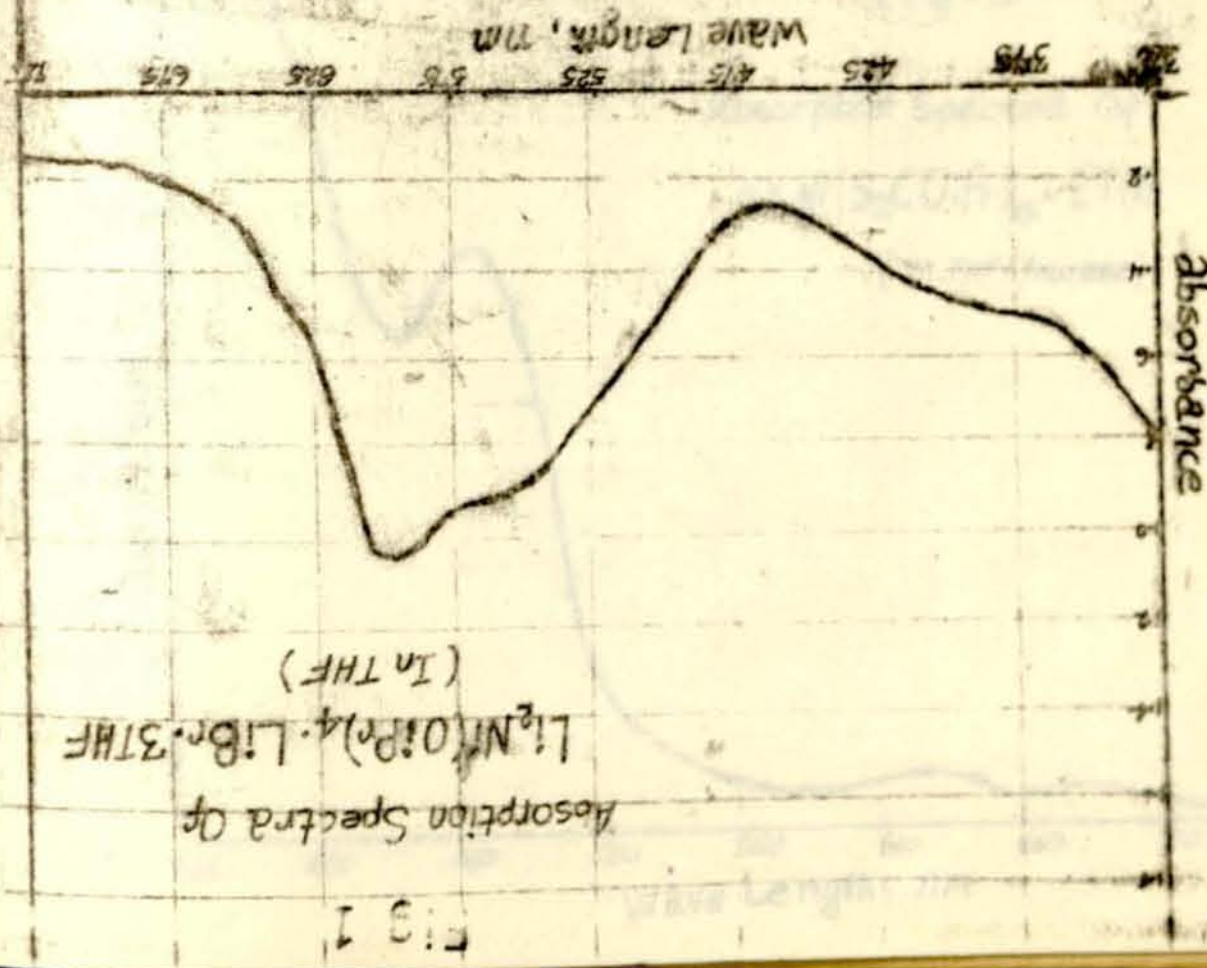
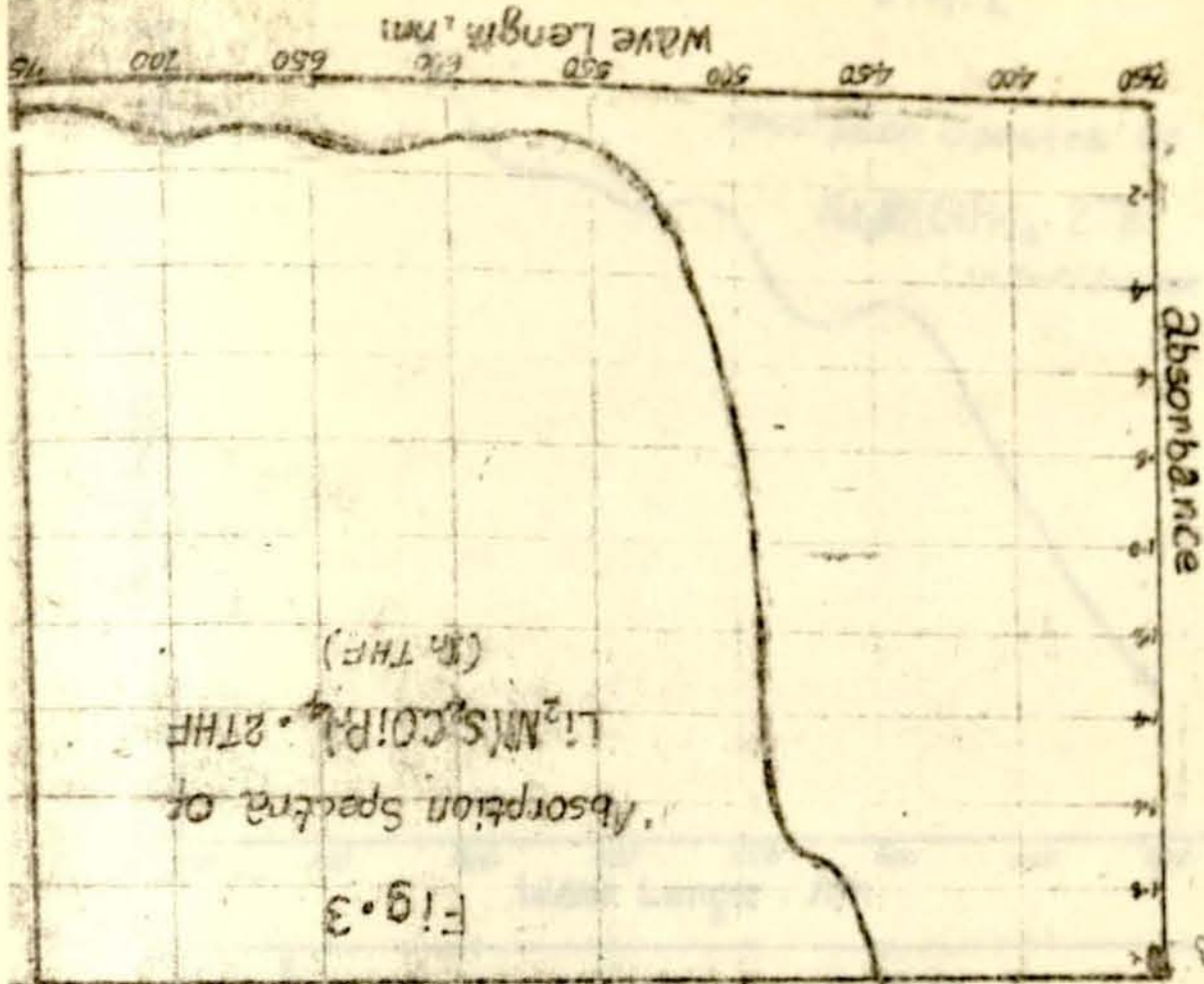


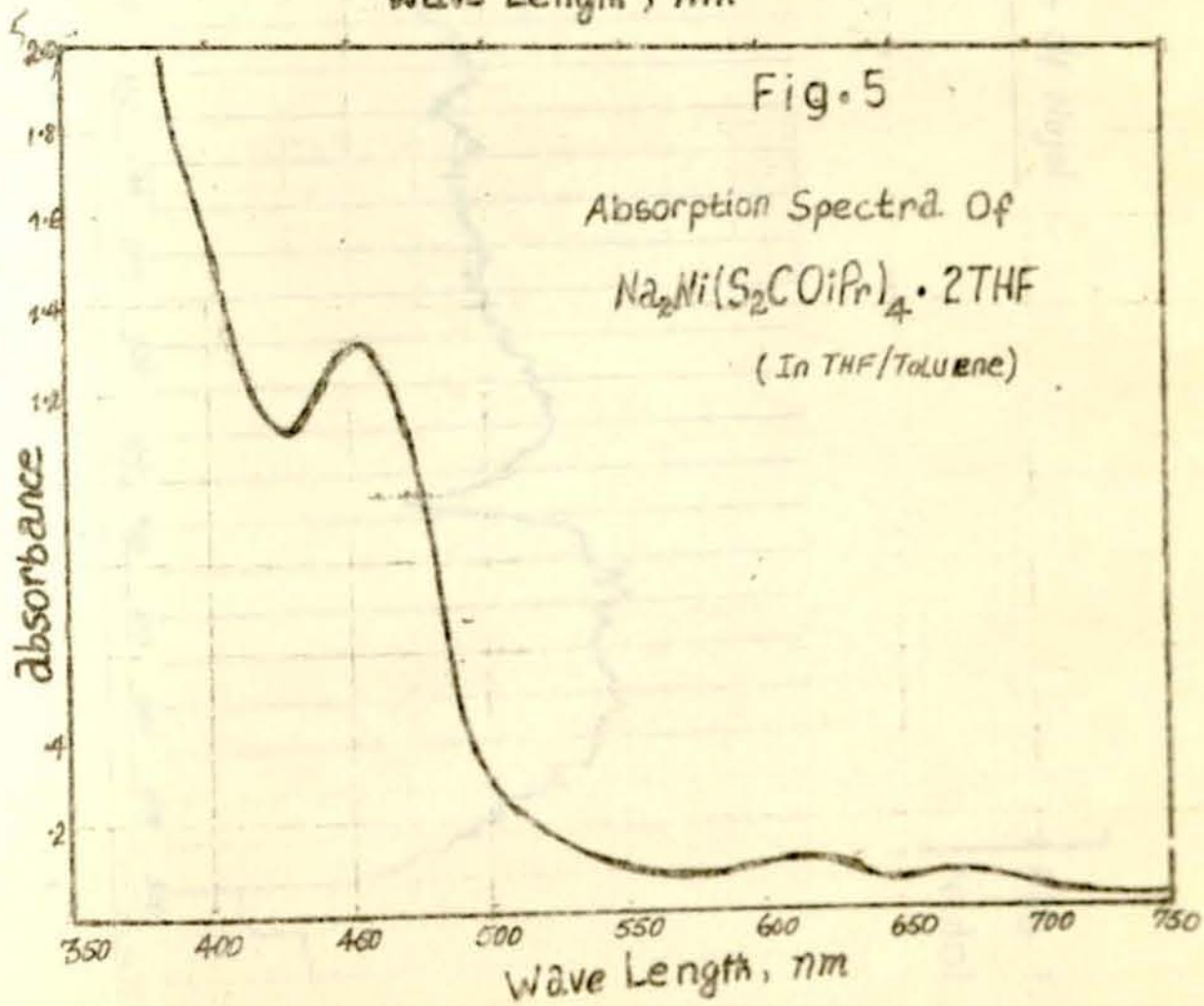
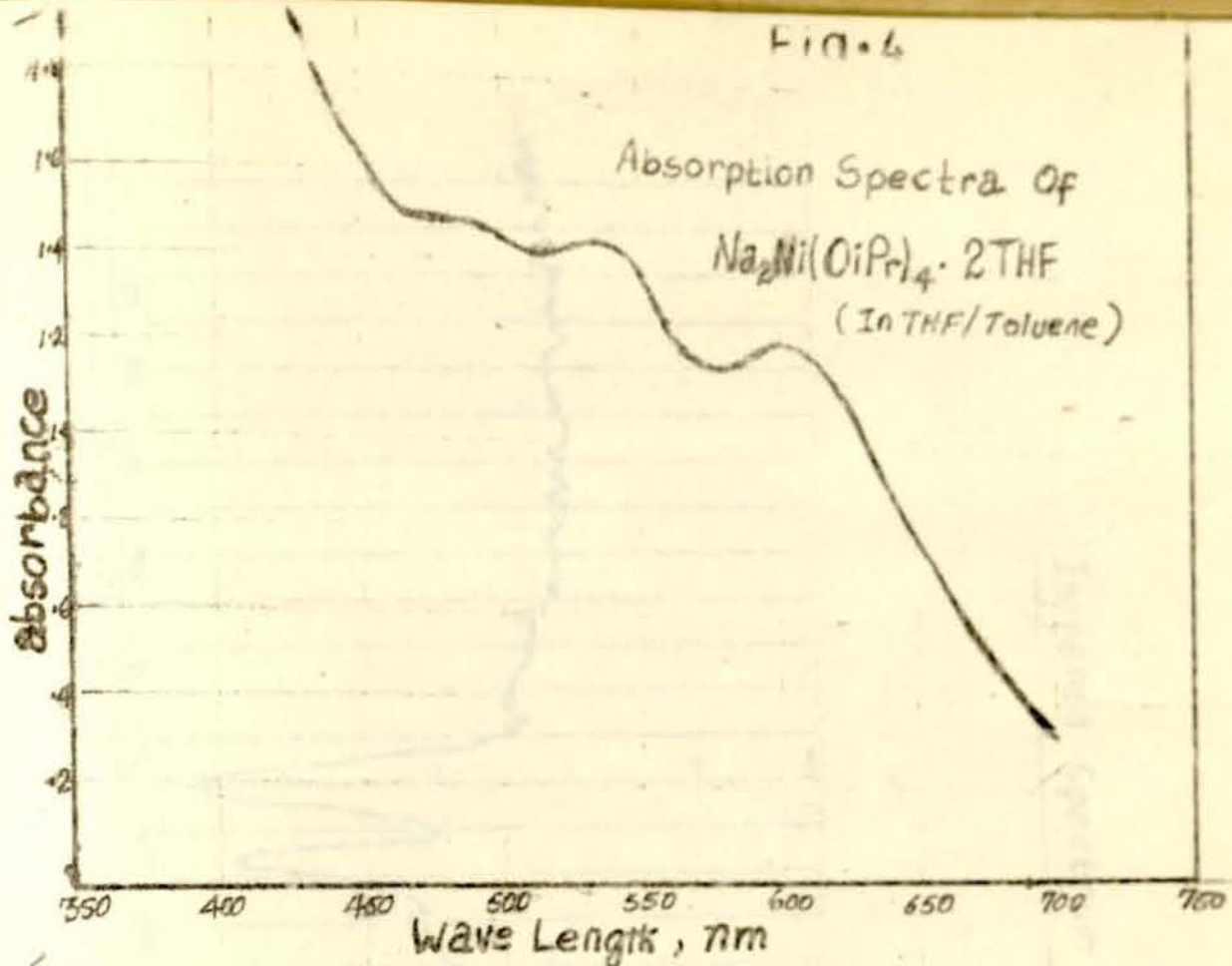
FIG. 2

Absorption Spectra of
 LiAl(OEt)_4 - LiBr - THF
(in THF)









Infrared Spectrum Of Nujol

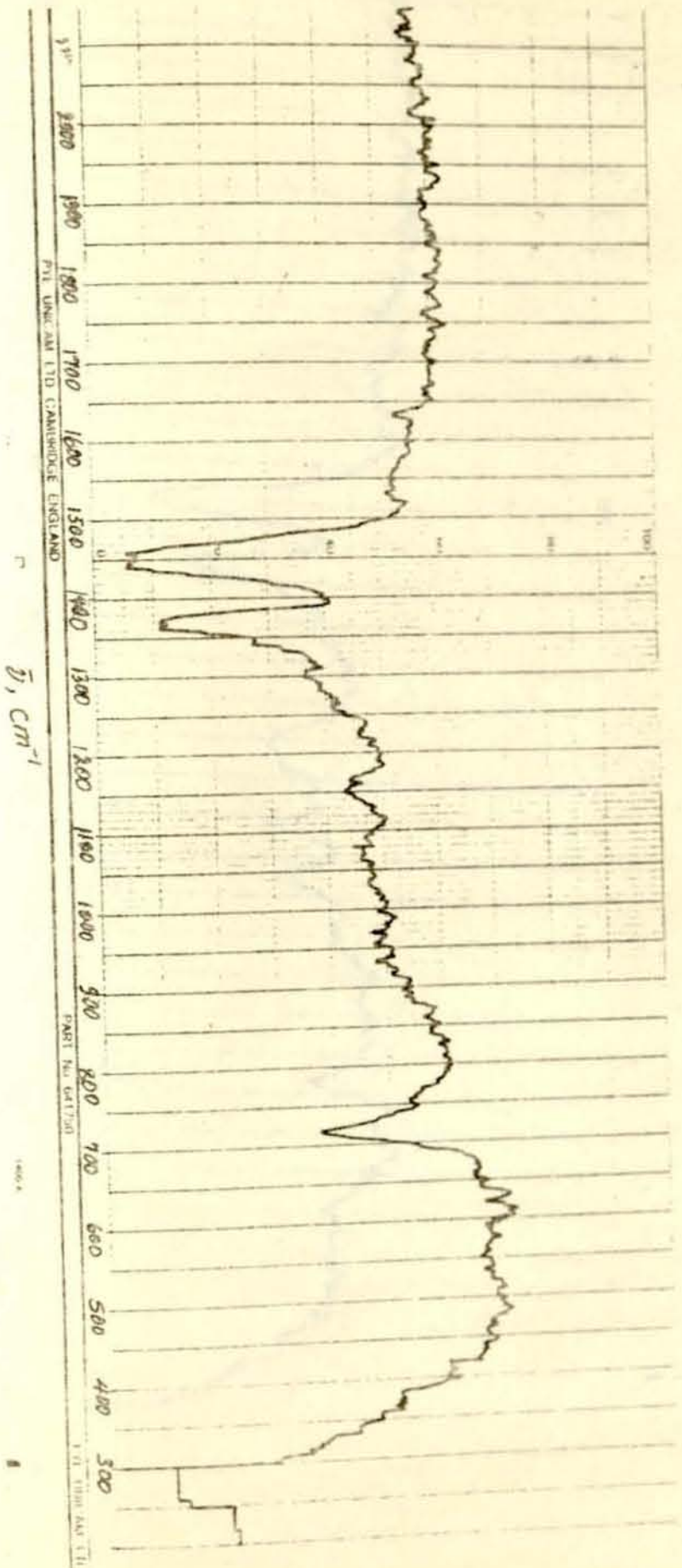


FIG 6
Nujol

Infrared Spectrum of
 $\text{Li}_2\text{Ni}(\text{OIPr})_4 \cdot \text{LiBr} \cdot 3\text{THF}$ (In nujol)

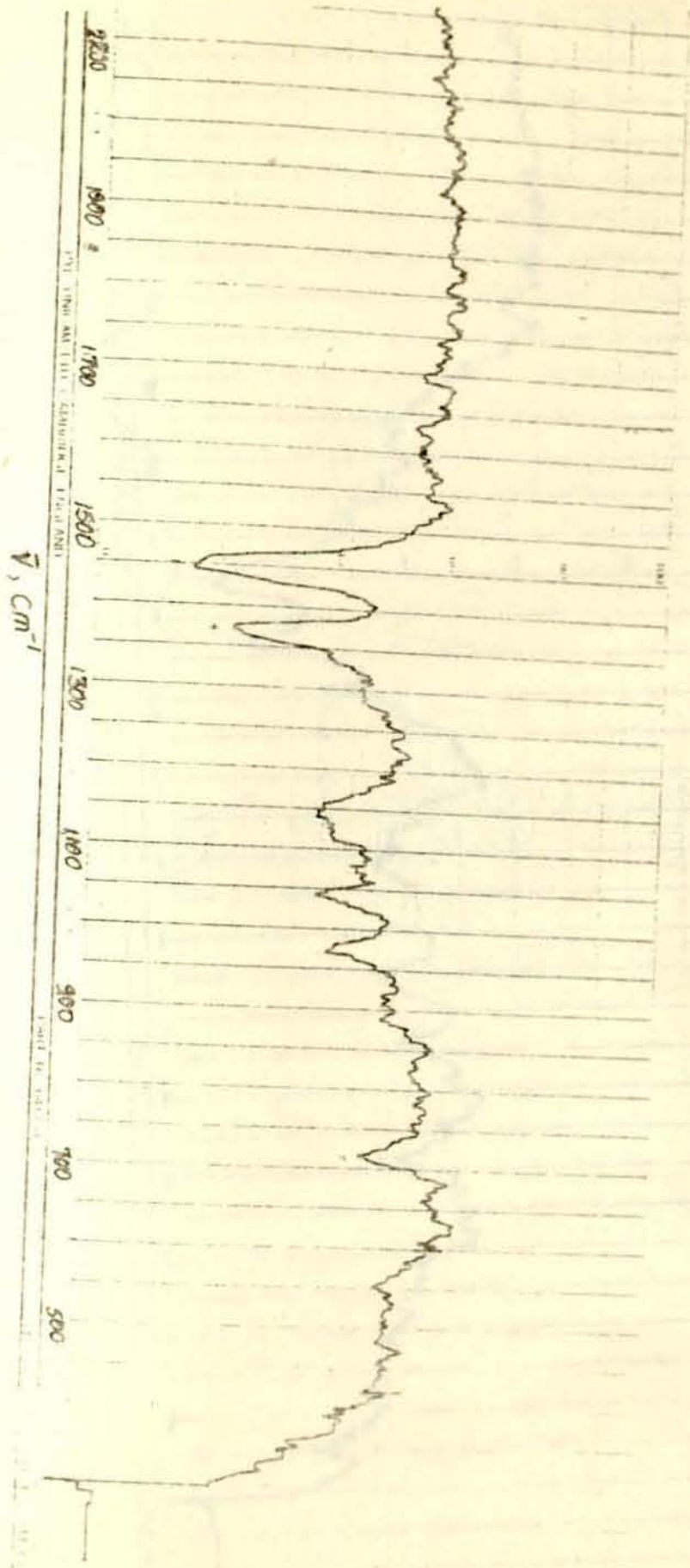


FIG 7

Infrared Spectrum of

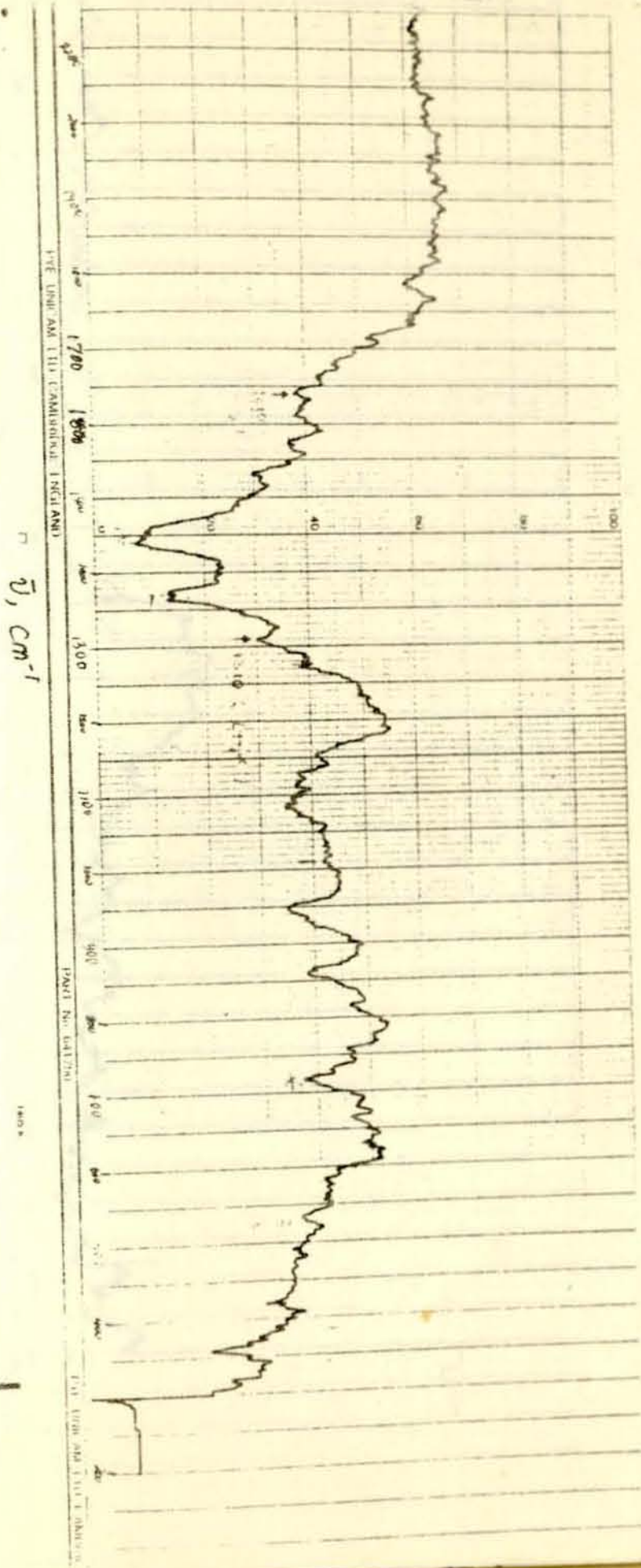
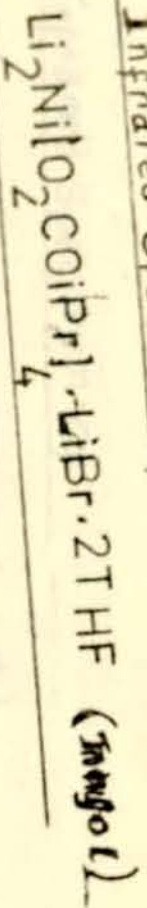
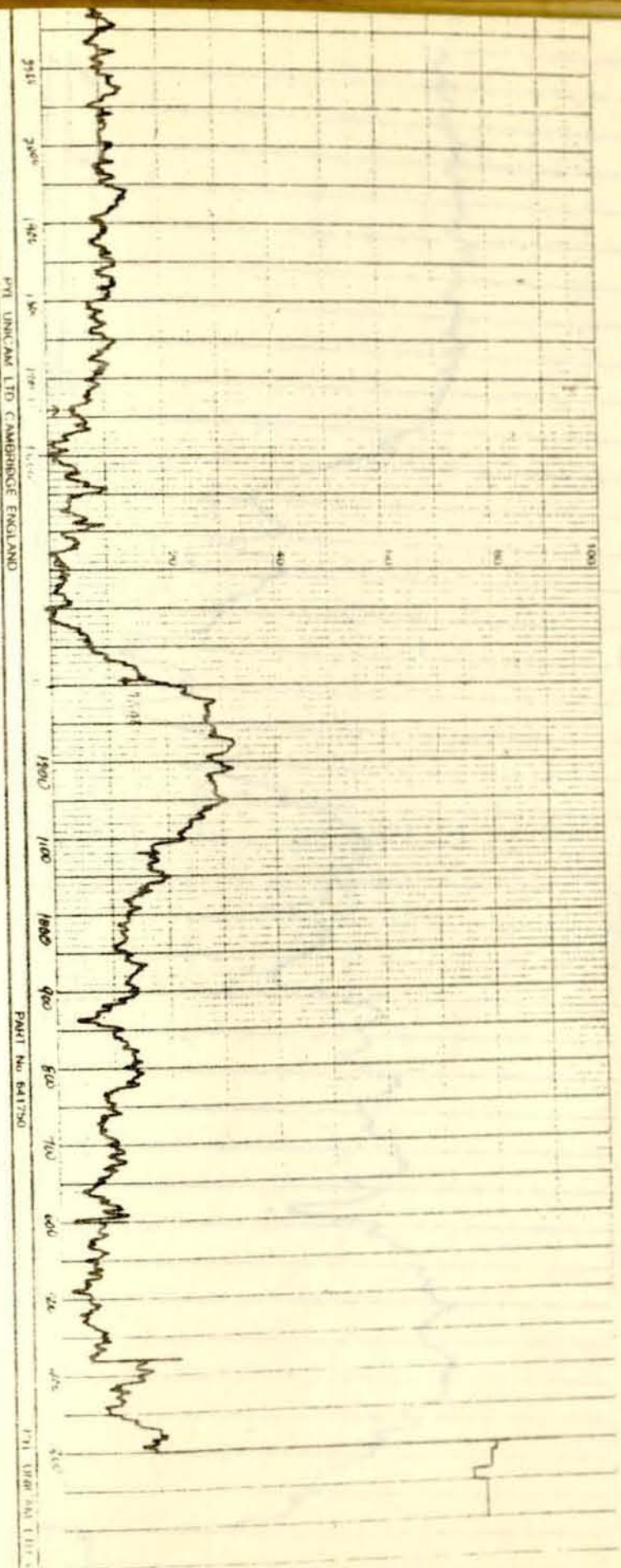


FIG 8

Infrared Spectrum of



(KBr pellet)



$\bar{\nu}, \text{cm}^{-1}$

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PART No. B41750

771 (IR) 541 (117)

FIG 9

Infrared Spectrum of

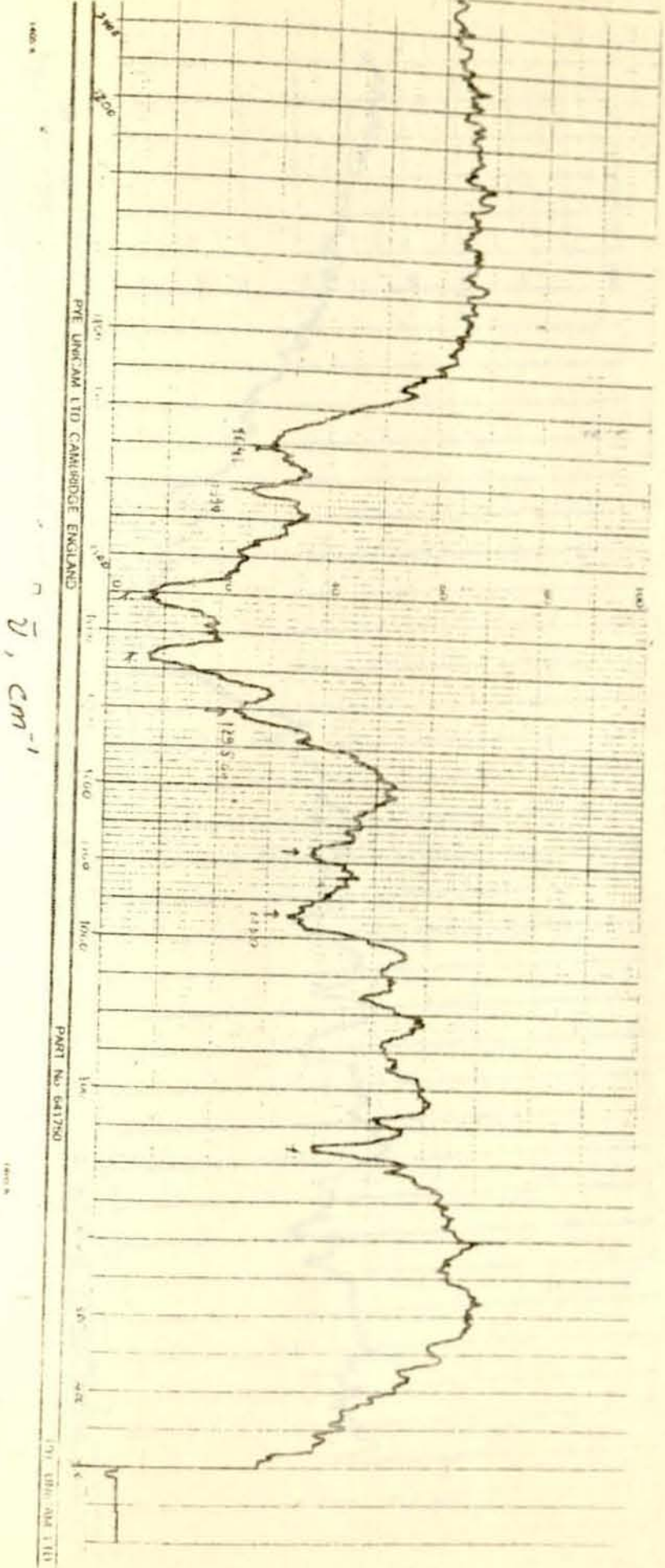
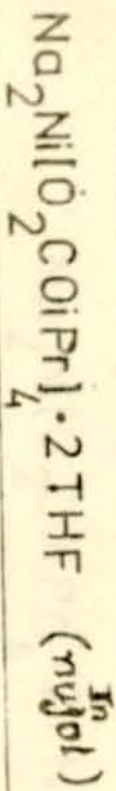


FIG 10

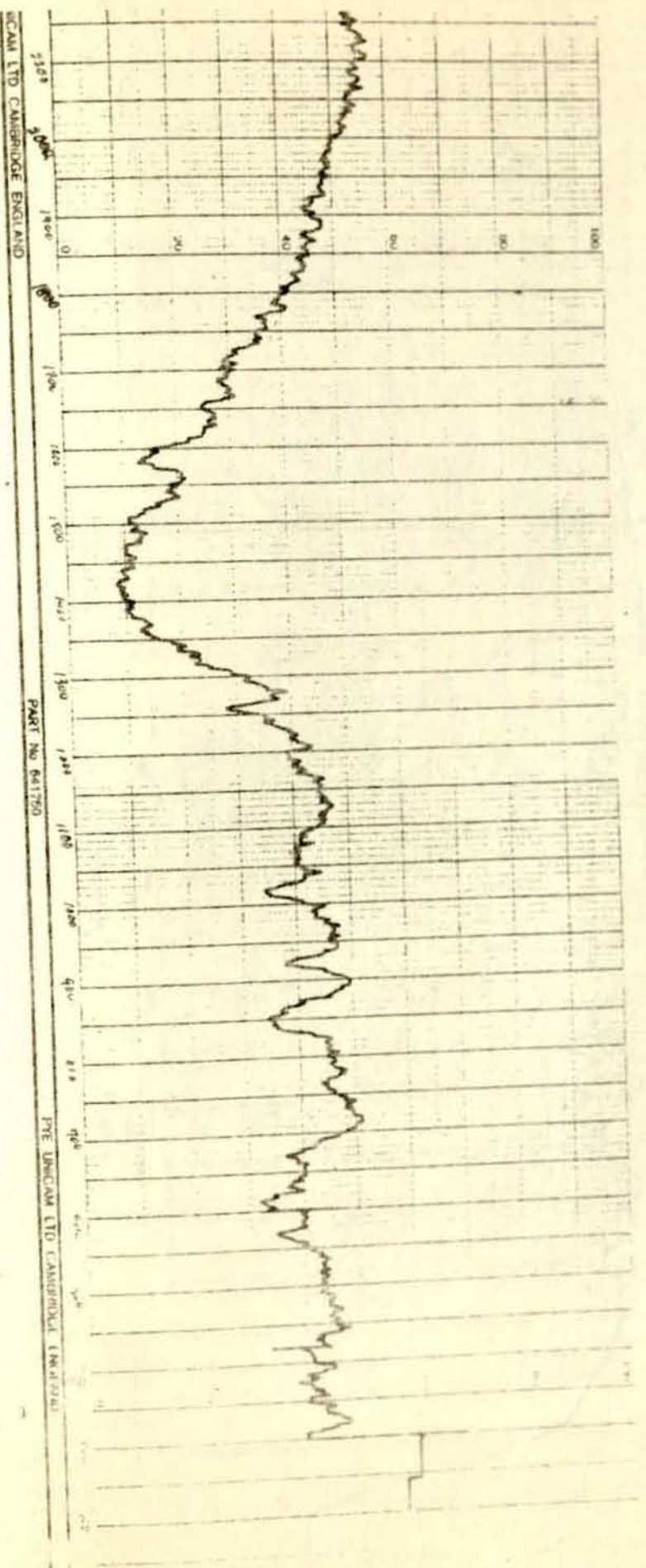
PYE UNICAM LTD CAMBRIDGE ENGLAND

PART No. 641750

$\bar{\nu}$, cm^{-1}

Infrared Spectrum of
 $\text{Na}_2\text{Ni}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (solid)
(KBr Pellet)

FIG 11



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71. cm^{-1}
1000 x

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Infrared Spectrum Of
 $\text{Na}_2\text{Ni}(\text{S}_2\text{CO}_3)_4 \cdot 2\text{THF}$ (In solid)

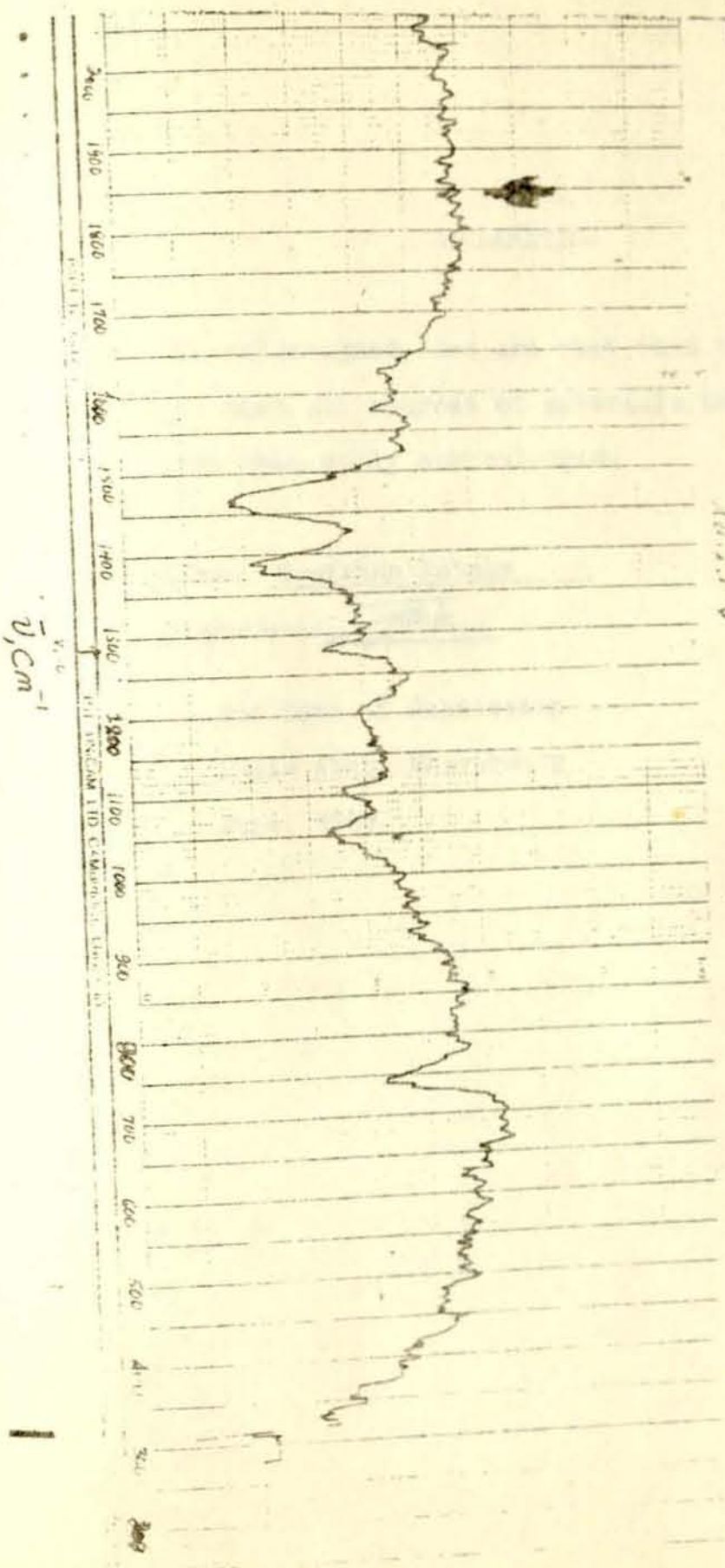
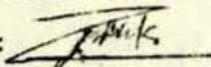


FIG. 13

DECLARATION

I, The undersigned, declare that this thesis is my work and that all sources of materials used for the thesis have been dully acknowledged.

Name: Tesfahun Kebede

Signature: 

Place and Date of Submission

Addis Ababa University

June, 1989