

Original Research Article

## Computational approach of palladium (II) complex ions with binuclear diamine ligands thermo-physical, chemical, and biological properties: a dft study

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### KEYWORDS

Palladium (II)

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QSAR

HOMO

LUMO

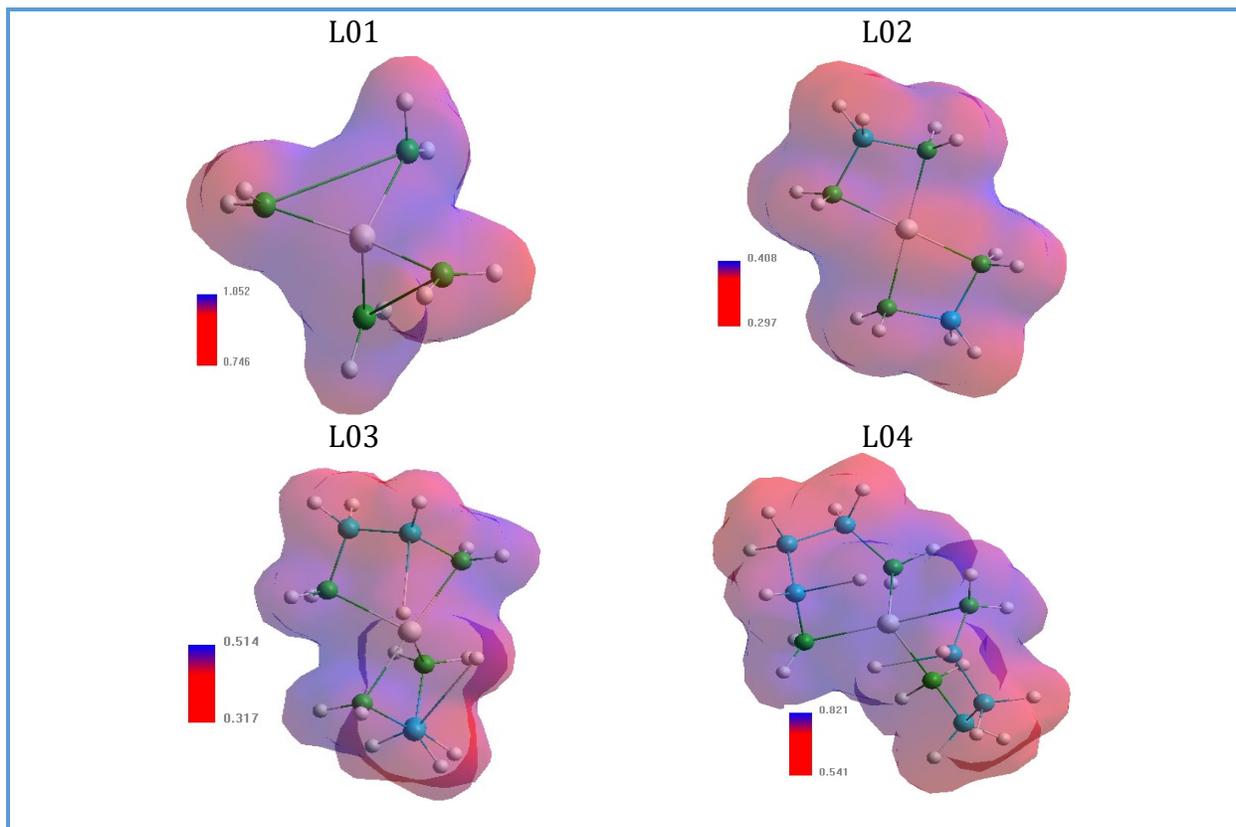
Vibrational spectroscopy

Electronic spectroscopy

### ABSTRACT

In computational chemistry through various basis sets, it is possible to design new molecules and discuss their use through their physical, chemical, biochemical studies. Chemical activity, biological activity, physical chemical activities can be diagnosed using density functional theory (DFT) for some palladium (II) complex ions. In this research study, the optimized dihydrazine palladium (II) complex ion (L01), di(1, 2- diaminemethane) palladium (II) complex ion (L02), di(1, 2- diamineethane) palladium (II) complex ion (L03), and di (1, 2- diamine propane) palladium (II) complex ion (L04) were simulated. Finally a comparative study of the palladium (II) complex ions were designed to show what ions are biologically more active using their QSAR data and orbital diagrams for HOMO and LUMO of the study of electronic properties. The HOMO-LUMO gap was also evaluated for chemical reactivity. The PIC50 value was calculated using the QSAR data where the value of L01, L02, and L03 L04 where -15.757, 13.128, -6.111 and -5.955, respectively. If PIC50 is below -6, then the compound is said to be biologically active. It was found that, the L04 is highly biological active and L03 is almost similar to L04. Also, by enhancing the methyl group in palladium chain, the biological activity increased.

## Graphical Abstract



## Introduction

Palladium (II) complexes are currently being widely used worldwide for cancer treatment, so the palladium (II) complexes have been brought to the center of research as target molecule to design anti-cancer drugs. Palladium is known as the versatile catalyst for coupling reaction in organic chemistry and useful metal in the chemical industry [1]. palladium (II) complex ions have low cytotoxicity [2] and anticancer properties against different cancer cell [3]. To estimate the biological activity of palladium (II) complex ions, some computing method from computational chemistry overviews was performed to calculate different properties. The thermo-physical, chemical reactivity and biological interaction are considered the most

expected parameters in any area of chemical industry, pharmaceutical industry and academia [4, 5].

Due to the widespread applications of the density functional theory (DFT) in the field of chemistry, material science, and drug design in the last 30 years, it has been applied to organometallics and co-ordinate chemistry to develop the theoretical concept for the palladium ligand based complexes [6-12]. It is probably impossible to enumerate all the achievements made in cooperation between these two fields. Due to gain the Nobel Prize awarded in 2010 to Heck, Negishi, and Suzuki for palladium-catalyzed cross-coupling reactions for the widely used class of transformation of organic synthesis, the experimental work was being a lot in the last ten years [13, 14]. However, there have been

quite a few evolutions and works trying to describe the main theoretical data and study. Due to the size limit and the richness of the palladium chemistry in case of experimental data, there is a great lack of computational works. In recent time, some physical and thermophysical, reaction mechanism and chemical kinetics research were been being and in views of DFT which is not enough to predict and design the new bioactive molecules and their biological properties that is why in this work, is focused on concepts and theoretical study on thermophysical, thermochemical, chemical reactivity and biological activity [15, 16].

Palladium (II) complexes currently attract considerable interest because of their potentially beneficial pharmacological properties [17, 18]. Palladium complexes have been worked against cancer cells. Although palladium has low cytotoxic effects, it has good cytotoxic effects. In this study, the palladium (II) complex was optimized with DFT/B3LYP. Some geometrical parameters, HOMO, LUMO, HOMO-LUMO gap, and LogP play the role of the chemical reactivity, biological activity [9, 12, 19]. The LogP can predict the hydrophilicity and hydrophobicity of molecule which is considered as the parameters of toxicity. The HOMO and LUMO energy level of the complex was calculated at B3LYP of DFT. On the other hand, the QSAR study can provide some useful information on biological and pharmacokinetics by which these molecules are considered as a new drug or bioactive molecule.

To design new bioactive molecules, the binuclear ligands were used which is attached with the palladium (II) ion to form different palladium (II) complex ion with binuclear ligands. The hydrazine was selected as a primary ligand and increasing one carbon atom in the next compound. Similar way, the

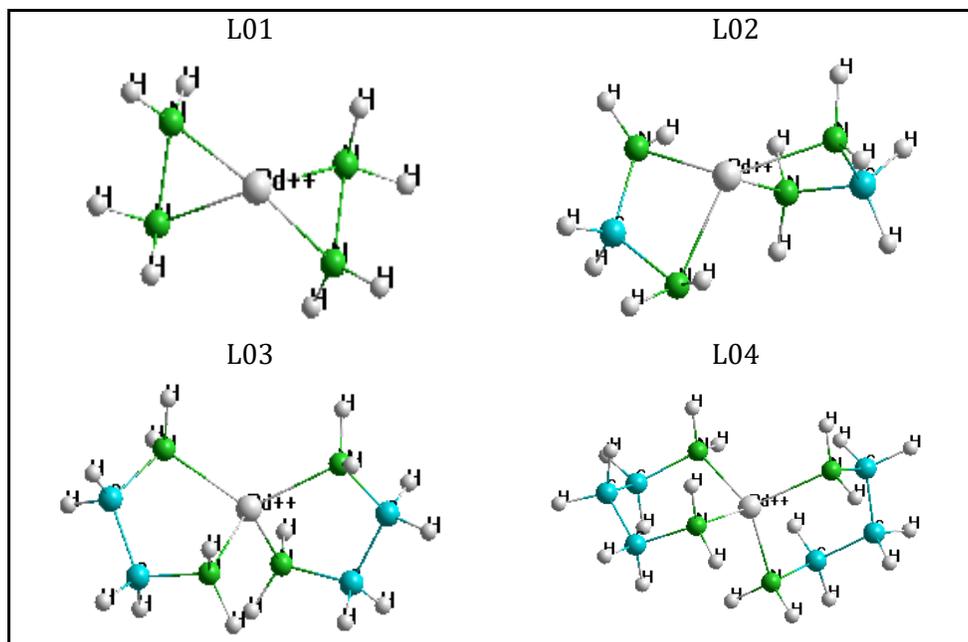
hydrazine, 1, 2 diamino-methane, 1, 2 diamino-ethane, and 1, 2 diamino-propane ligands were used to make a comparative activity study on the basis of the alkyl chain.

#### *Procedure for simulation*

The molecular modeling program permits to build and analyze different molecular structures and determine the molecular, electronic, and biological properties. To create the spatial chemical structure of each calculated molecule, the two-dimensional structure of the molecule shall be built step-by-step by drawing. Then hydrogen atoms are automatically added from building option and chemical structure is converted into a 3D structure. The first step in getting the main characteristic parameters of molecules is to optimize the molecular structure to obtain a configuration characterized by minimum free energy. In sitting the DFT was fixed via 6G-31G\*, and B3-LYP [20]. After completing optimization, the theoretical properties of the studied compound such as free energy, entropy, dipole moment, binding energy, nuclear energy, electronics energy, the heat of formation, the HOMO, LUMO are recorded. The QSAR properties of molecules such as charge density, surface area grid, volume, LogP, polarizability, refractivity, and molecular mass were calculated. The UV visible spectroscopy and IR spectroscopy were determined using the computing in vibrational optimization

#### **Results and Discussions**

Symmetry is a very powerful tool to establish the molecular symmetry calculation. In [Figure 1](#), the palladium (II) complex ions such as L01, L02, L03, and L04 are presented of a molecular orbital diagram having both of molecular symmetry and asymmetry properties.

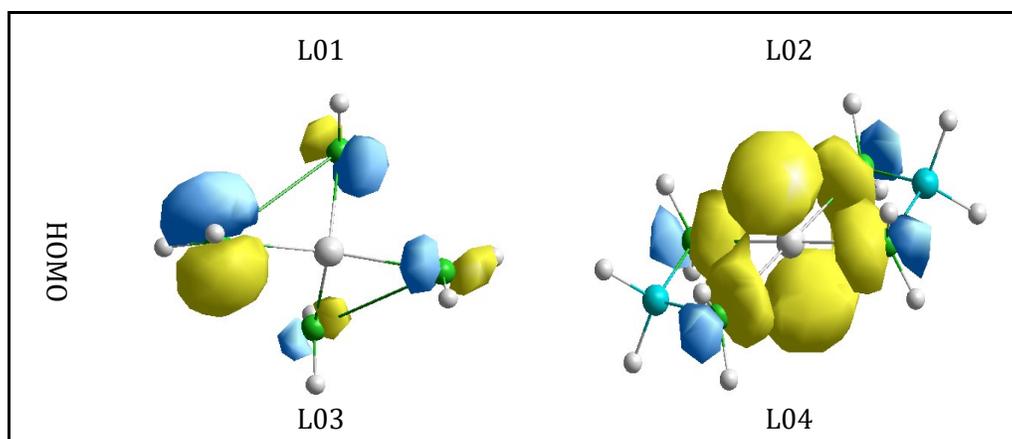


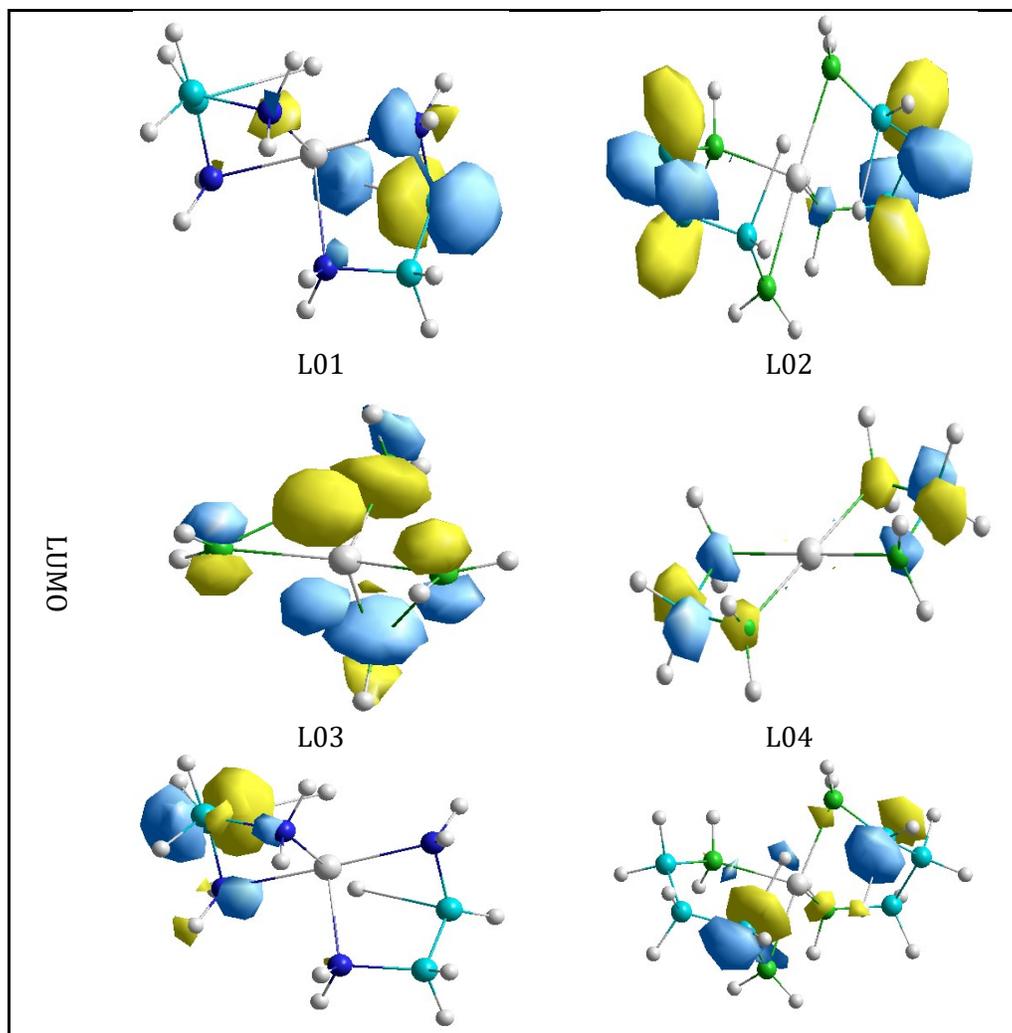
**Figure 1.** Optimized structure in the cylinder shape

#### HOMO-LUMO

The energy levels of the molecular orbitals order HOMO (Highest Occupied Molecular Orbital) and LUMO (Lowest Unoccupied Molecular Orbital) for palladium (II) complexes ion with different diamine ligands give information on the possible electronic transition. The HOMO and LUMO also indicated the electrophilic and nucleophilic attraction region in the molecule shown in

**Table 1.** The LUMO-HOMO gap is the most important parameter for chemical reactivity. The shorter LUMO- HOMO gap is considered as the high reactivity, they are highlighted in **Figure 2** (color: yellow is a positive value and light blue is a negative value). The values of HOMO-LUMO gap for L01, L02, L03 and L04 are 11.8486, 8.1936, 8.2712 and 8.4493, respectively. It shows that, increasing the alkyl chain decreased the HOMO-LUMO gap.





**Figure 2.** The frontier orbitals: a) HOMO and b) LUMO

**Table 1.** Data of HOMO, LUMO in different energy levels

	L01	L02	L03	L04
HOMO(0), eV	-8.2622	-4.8274	-4.2916	-4.9073
HOMO(-1), eV	3.5864	3.3662	3.9796	3.5420
HOMO(-2), eV	4.2991	4.2627	4.1991	4.4534
LUMO, (0), eV	3.5864	3.3662	3.9796	3.5420
LUMO, (-1), eV	-8.26622	-4.8274	-4.2916	-4.9073
LUMO, (-2), eV	-9.6501	-7.7879	-5.3493	-5.3396

#### *Chemical reactivity by DFT calculations*

The Energy of the HOMO is directly related to the ionization potential, and LUMO Energy is directly related to the electron affinity. The energy difference between HOMO and LUMO

orbital is called an energy gap which is an important parameter that determines the stability of the structures. The energy gap is used in determining molecular electrical transport properties. In addition, according to Koopmans' theorem the energy gap,  $E_{gap}$ ,

defined as the difference between HOMO and LUMO energy and presented in Table 2 [21].

$$E_{\text{gap}} = (E_{\text{LUMO}} - E_{\text{HOMO}}) \approx \text{IP} - \text{EA}$$

The ionization potential (I) and electron affinity (A) can be estimated from the HOMO and LUMO energy values as following.

$$I = -E_{\text{HOMO}} \quad (1)$$

$$A = -E_{\text{LUMO}} \quad (2)$$

**Table 2.** Data for HOMO, LUMO, IP, EA, and LUMO- HOMO gap ( $\Delta E$ )

	L01	L02	L03	L04
HOMO, (eV)	-8.2622	-4.8274	-4.2916	-4.9073
LUMO, (eV)	3.5864	3.3662	3.9796	3.5420
$\Delta E$ , (LUMO-HOMO) gap	11.8486	8.1936	8.2712	8.4493
Ionization potential (I),eV	8.2622	4.8274	4.2916	4.9073
Electron affinity (A),eV	-3.5864	-3.3662	-3.9796	-3.5420

The HOMO and LUMO energies are used to determine the global reactivity descriptors. It is important that electrophilicity ( $\omega$ ), the chemical potential ( $\mu$ ), electronegativity ( $\chi$ ), hardness ( $\eta$ ) and softness (S) be put into a molecular orbital's framework and calculated value is listed in Table 3. We focus on the HOMO and LUMO energies in order to determine the interesting molecular properties and chemical quantities are calculated as the following equations [22].

$$(\mu) = -\frac{I+A}{2} \quad (3)$$

$$(\eta) = \frac{I-A}{2} \quad (4)$$

$$(S) = \frac{1}{\eta} \quad (5)$$

$$(\chi) = \frac{I+A}{2} \quad (6)$$

$$(\omega) = \frac{\mu^2}{2\eta} \quad (7)$$

**Table 3.** Biological Indices as pharmacokinetics

	L01	L02	L03	L04
Hardness, ( $\eta$ )	5.9263	4.0968	4.1356	4.2246
Softness, (S)	0.1687	0.2440	0.2418	0.2367
Electrophilicity ( $\omega$ ),	0.4209	0.0651	0.0025	0.0552
Chemical potential, ( $\mu$ )	-2.3379	-0.7306	-0.1560	-0.6826
Electronegativity, ( $\chi$ )	2.3379	0.7306	0.1560	0.6826

### Thermophysical properties

The physical condition of any substance is known to relate to the environment of the substance and the overall condition of the substance. Various physical and chemical properties of the palladium (II) complex ion with the density functional theory were evaluated. It was found that, the change in properties can be seen by modifying the

methyl group with ammonium ligand. First of all, the binding energy is accounted for methyl groups in ligand in such way that increasing the methyl groups, it is grew up, which means that the ability to connect with any of these substances increases, resulting in the form being more active as a drug. On the other hand, entropy is a property referring to the physical condition of the environment in the substance. Entropy's value increased as the stability of

the environment decreased. As seen in Table 4, all the complexes are entropy values zero, showing that their stability is almost the same. Table 5 pretends about the entropy which is

raised with respect to rising temperature and with increasing methyl groups in ligand denotes the level of entropy and heat of capacity are changed with upward trends.

**Table 4.** Thermophysical properties

Properties	L01	L02	L03	L04
Total energy, (kcal/mol)	-48762.5718	-58196.0644	-67735.6903	-72551.6342
Entropy, (kcal/mol-deg)	0	0	0	0
Free energy, (kcal/mol)	-48762.5718	-58196.0644	-67735.6903	-72551.6343
Heat capacity, (kcal/mol-deg)	0	0	0	0.00008
Dipole moment, (D)	1.065	8.887	0	5.38
RMS gradient, (kcal/mol)	0.00009051	0.0000893	0.0015	0.000189
Binding energy, (kcal/mol)	-2186.5669	-3349.2609	-4618.0882	-5298.6328
Heat of formation, (kcal/mol)	-1227.7509	-1840.2569	-2558.8962	-2964.3468
Electronic energy, (kcal/mol)	-144659.699	-224647.0356	-305288.6746	-356862.6386
Nuclear energy, (kcal/mol)	95897.12715	166450.9712	237552.9842	28431.0044

**Table 5.** Entropy and Heat capacity in different temperature

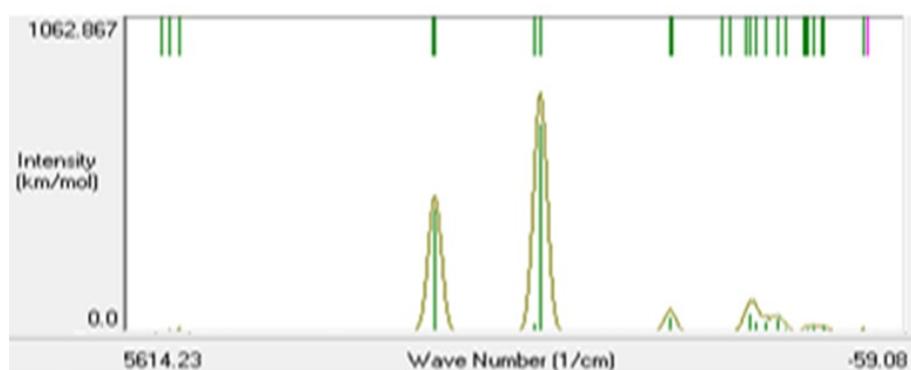
	273 K		298 K		323 K	
	Entropy	Heat capacity, (kcal/mol-deg)	Entropy	Heat capacity, (kcal/mol-deg)	Entropy	Heat capacity, (kcal/mol-deg)
L01	0.0741	0.0199	0.0761	0.0216	0.0781	0.0232
L02	0.0782	0.0275	0.0809	0.0304	0.0836	0.0330
L03	0.0909	0.0389	0.0946	0.0424	0.0984	0.0459
L04	0.0714	0.0094	0.0724	0.0093	0.0733	0.0097

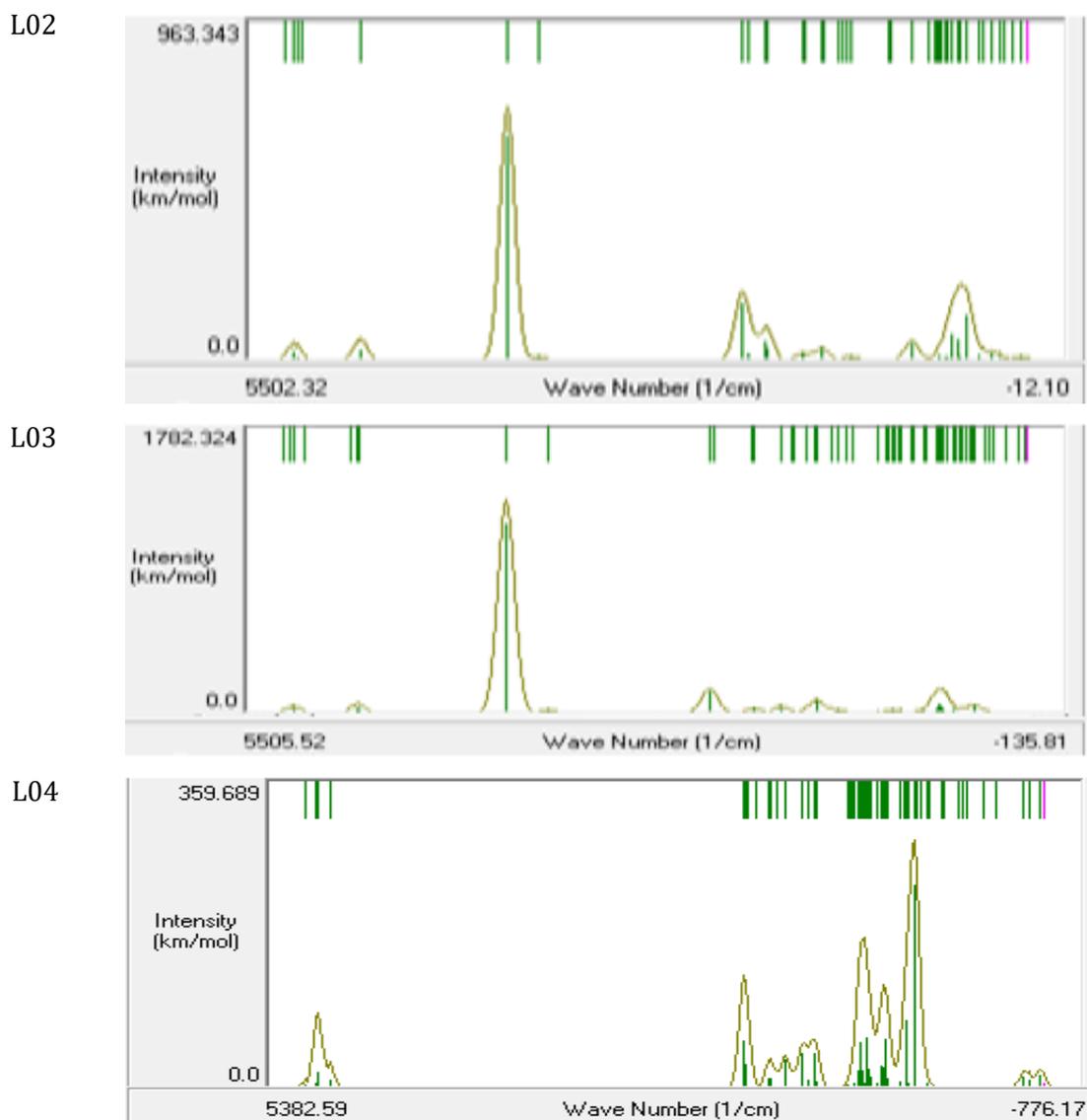
### Vibrational spectrum

The vibrational spectrum is the characteristic peak of any molecule for identification similar to the FTIR peaks. To optimize these molecules for vibrational spectra, identified peak is noted in the

different region about 0 to 4000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The main characteristic peak of diamine palladium (II) complex ion is almost recorded at 4000-3500, 3525-3300 and 2600-2250  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and represented in Figure 3 and condition in Table 6.

L01





**Figure 3.** Vibrational spectrum

**Table 6.** Data for a vibrational spectrum of palladium (II) complex ions

	Normal Mode	Degeneracy	Frequency	Intensity	Symmetry
L01	1	1	198.80	0.206	1 A
L02	1	1	238.56	0.266	1 A
L03	1	1	120.62	0.608	1 A
L04	1	1	-496.23	6.971	1 A

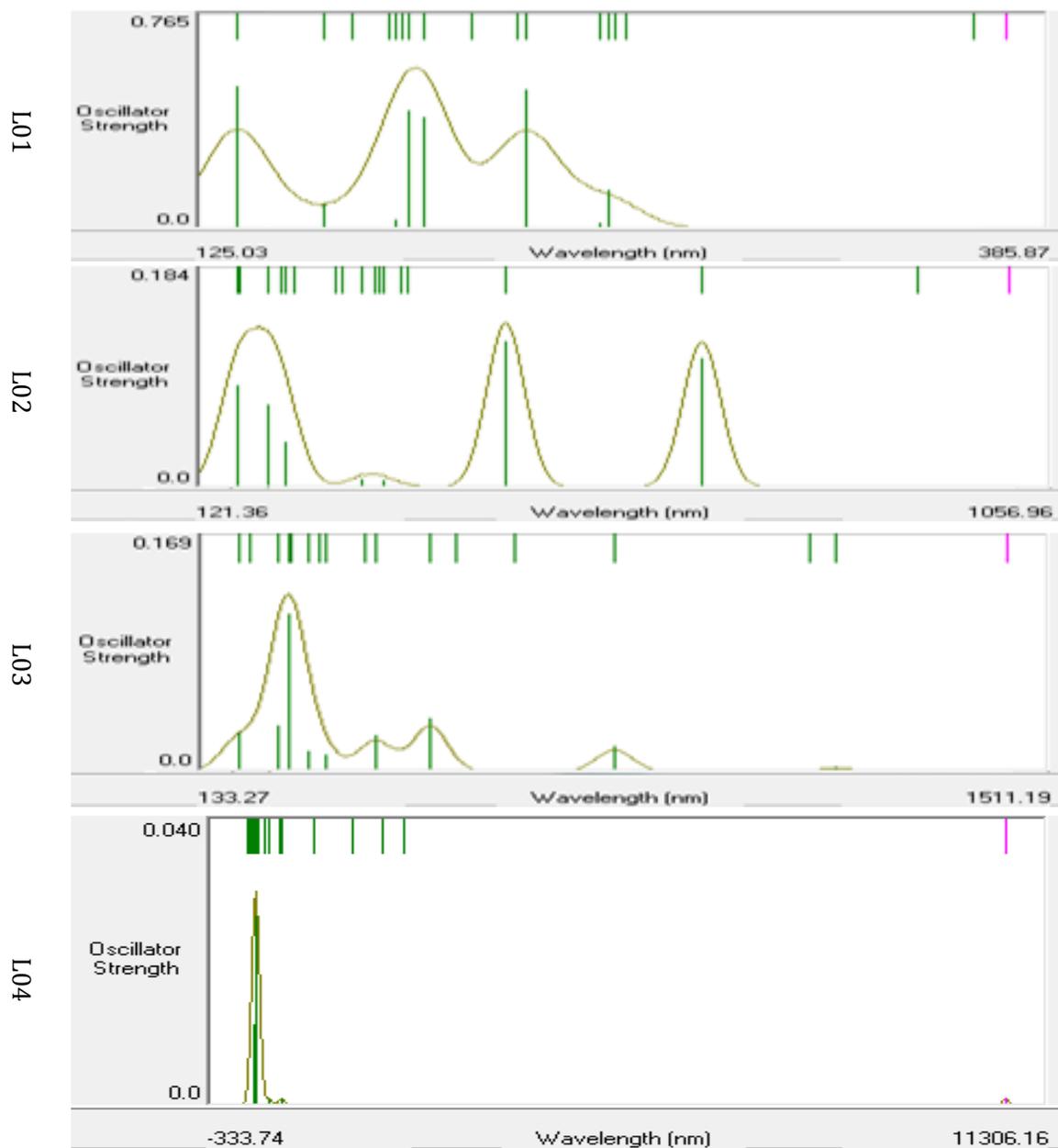
#### *UV-visible spectrum*

UV-visible spectrum provides a powerful technique by which the nature of metal-ligands bonding may be identified. A

remarkable covalence between almost all of the upper filled molecular orbitals of the ligand cluster and the metal d orbitals of suitable symmetry can be calculated. The interaction between symmetry orbital like

4dxz and 4dyz for palladium metal illustrates the equality the bonding and ant-bonding levels. However, the interactions with orbitals of symmetry involve empty 4 dxy and 5 s metal orbitals, result in important ligand-to-metal charge transfer [23]. The UV-visible spectrum

of the diamine palladium (II) complex ion shows a strong transition near 135 and 170-180 nm, as well as an ultraviolet band of weaker intensity after 250 nm (Figure 4 and Table 7).



**Figure 4.** UV-visible Spectrum

**Table 7.** Data for different transition state, spin multiplicity, wavelength and oscillator strength for UV –visible spectrum

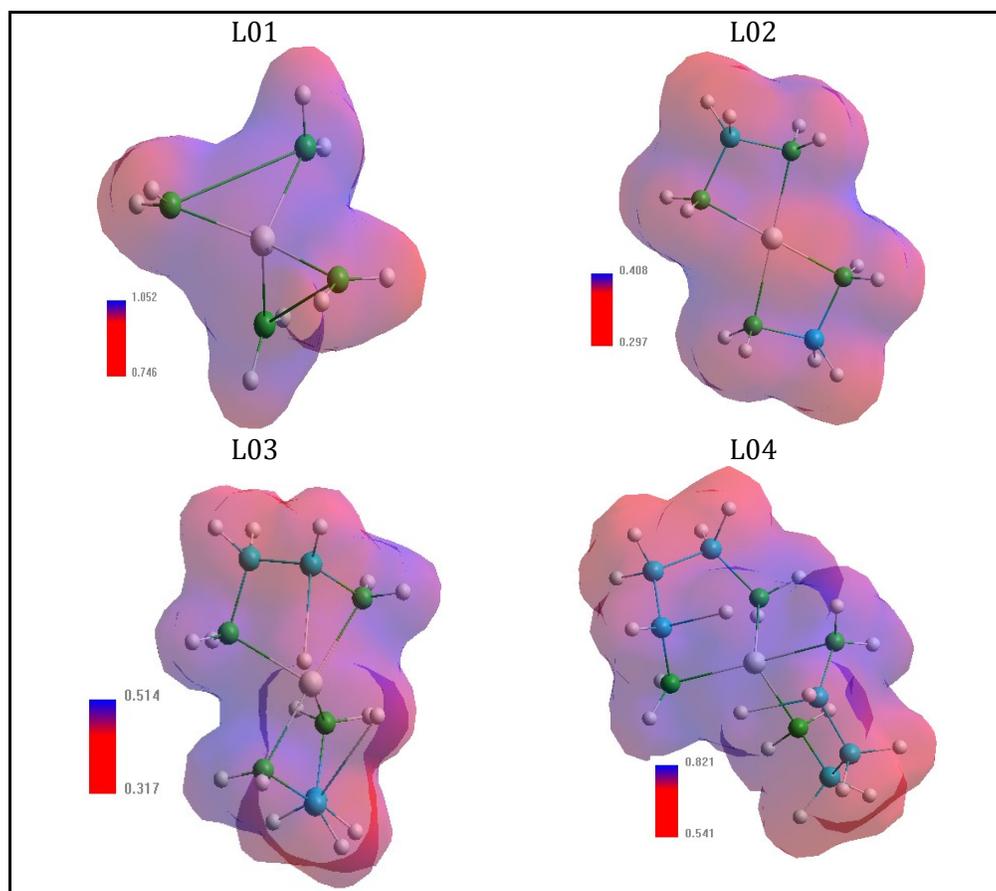
	Transition	Degeneracy	Spin Multiplicity	Wavelength	Oscillator Strength
L01	1	1	Triplet	374.01	0.0
L02	1	1	Triplet	1014.43	0.0
L03	1	1	Triplet	1448.56	0.0
L04	1	1	Triplet	10777.07	0.0

### Biological activity of optimized molecules

#### *Distribution electrostatic potential due to 3d mapped structure*

The electrostatic potential is an important property through which it can be easily detected by a different charge distribution over molecule. Increasing the amount of charge in a single molecule will increase the

same biological activity. The three-dimensional geometry of molecular electrostatic potential distribution highlights the existence of three regions with increased electronegativity in the whole molecule of L01, L02 and highly positivity in L03 and L04 (shown in Figure 5 and Table 8), playing an important role in their coupling to different structures in which ions are positively charged

**Figure 5.** The 3D geometry of the distribution electrostatic potential



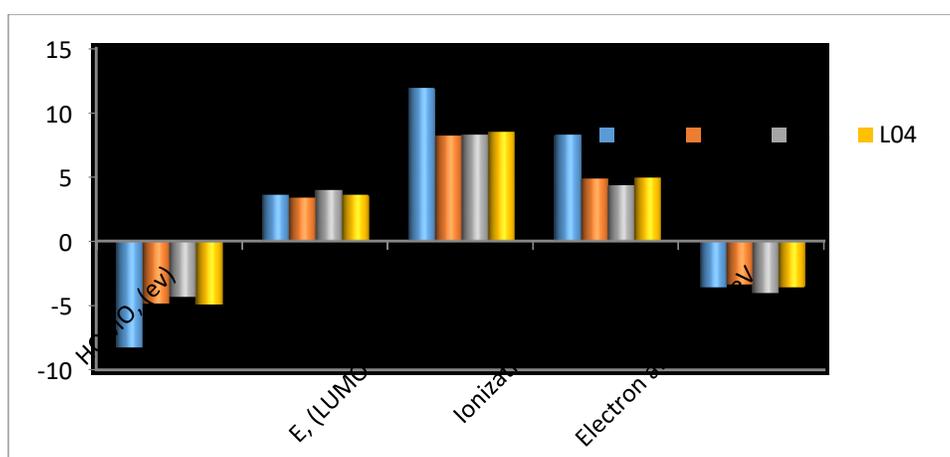
**Table 10.** Data of PIC50

	L01	L02	L03	L04
PIC50	-15.757	-13.128	-6.111	-5.955

*Correlation and comparison study in case of substituent groups in amine ligands*

In the case of chemical reactivity from [Figure 6](#), the LUMO-HOMO gap at the presence of L02, L03, and L04 is almost the same means that

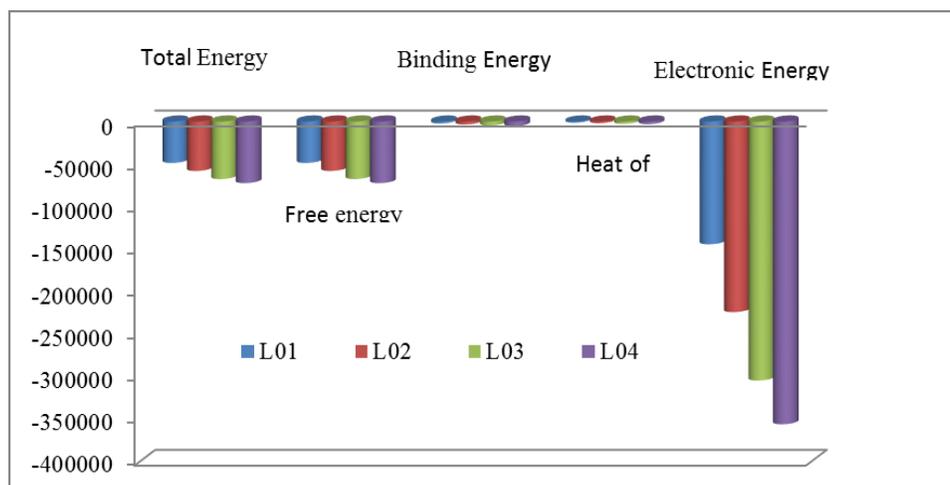
with increasing alkyl chain with the nitrogen atom in ligands, the chemical reactivity is changed poorly. However, the chemical reactivity in hydrazine is lower than the others, showing that attaching carbon chain with nitrogen atom has higher reactivity.



**Figure 6.** Comparison of chemical reactivity of palladium (II) complex ion with binuclear amine ligands

By increasing the carbon chain in nitrogen atom of ligands, the total energy, binding

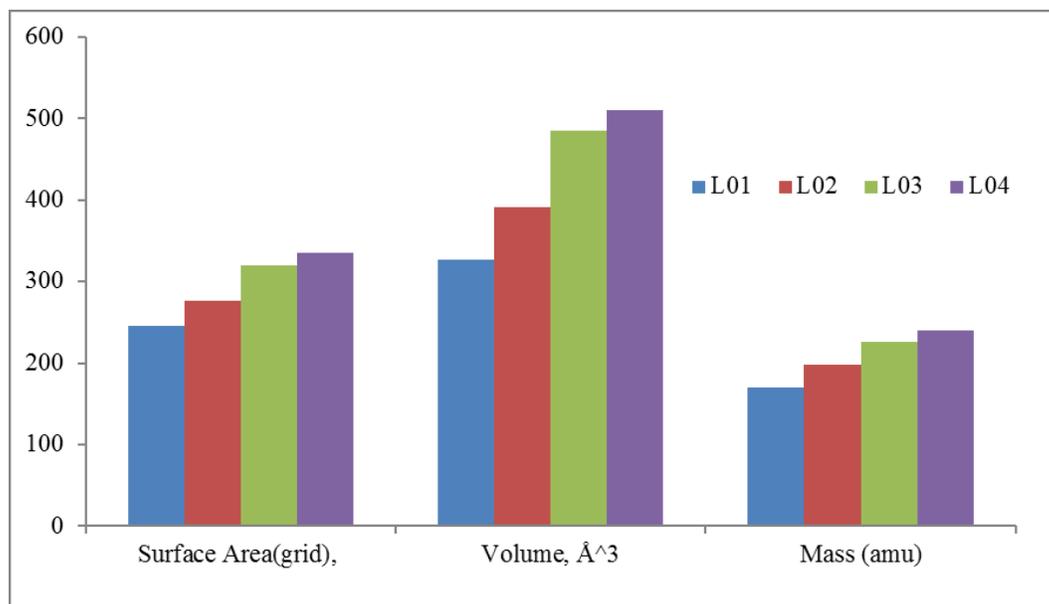
energy, free energy, heat of formation, and electronics energy were increased ([Figure 7](#)).



**Figure 7.** Comparison of thermophysical properties of palladium (II) complex ion with binuclear amine ligands

As seen in [Figure 8](#), the attaching of carbon chain in amine ligand had higher surface area,

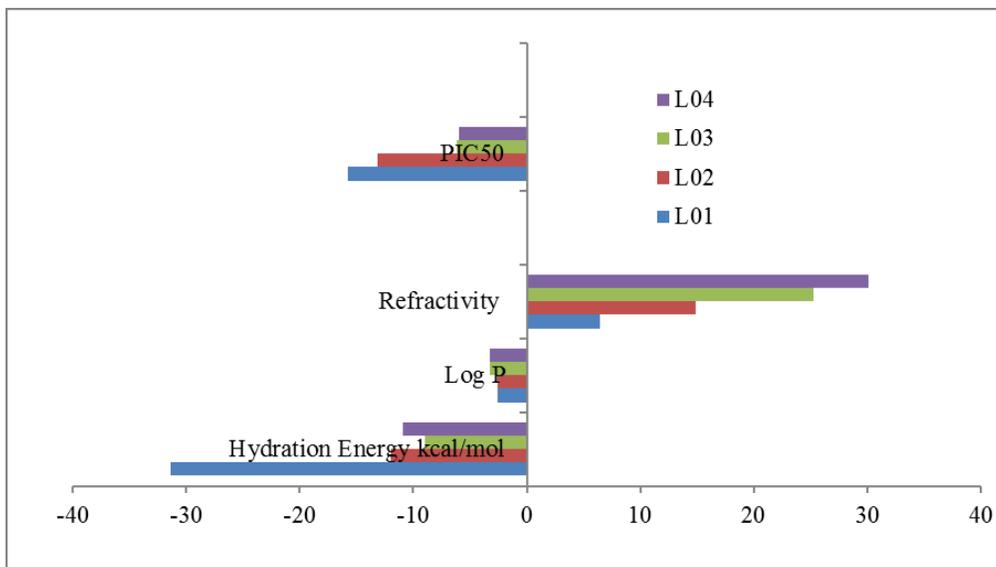
volume, and molecular mass, showing that the biological activity was increased.



**Figure 8.** Comparison of biological activity of palladium (II) complex ion with binuclear amine ligands

In case of QSAR study, the PIC50 value of L04 and L03 is -5.955 and -6.111, indicating the highly biological active molecules. The L01 and L02 have the PIC50 -15.757 and -13.128, showing that lower biological activity. From the

data of LogP, all molecules pose the negative value and is regarded as hydrophilic nature and tend to no toxicity. By increasing the alkyl chain in nitrogen atom of ligands, the toxicity decreased ([Figure 9](#)).



**Figure 9.** Comparison of QSAR study of palladium (II) complex ion with binuclear amine ligand

## Conclusion

In this research study, the DFT method was used to characterize and optimize the palladium (II) complex ions with binuclear amine ligands and the thermophysical and chemical and biological properties were recorded. The vibration, degeneracy, symmetry, and splitting of d orbitals provided information in the analytical method. In the case of HOMO, LUMO, and HOMO–LUMO gap can be informed that palladium (II) complex ions with binuclear amine ligands are chemically reactive for further uses. As the value of LogP was negative, palladium (II) complex ions with binuclear amine ligands are hydrophilic nature. This is why the toxicity was very low, supporting the safe uses in all areas

## Disclosure Statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

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