

## Synthesis, Structural, Density Functional Theory, and X-Ray Diffraction Study of Zn(II) N-Isopropylbenzylidithiocarbamate: Anti-Corrosion Screening in Acid Media

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### ABSTRACT

Corrosion of metal is a serious issue across many industries and is considered costly. Acids used during the cleaning process in industries may contribute to metal erosion. Dithiocarbamate is a ligand that can act as a corrosion inhibitor due to the presence of sulfur and nitrogen as electronegative atoms. Zn(II) N-isopropylbenzylidithiocarbamate ( $Zn[N\text{-isopbenzdtc}]_2$ ) complex was synthesized through direct synthetic method of  $< 4^\circ\text{C}$  and characterized using Fourier Transform Infrared-Attenuated Total Reflectance (FTIR-ATR), Ultraviolet-Visible (UV-Vis), Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR), X-ray crystallography study, molar conductivity, melting point, and gravimetric analysis. Corrosion inhibition of mild steel was studied for different corrosive media (1 M HCl and 1 M  $H_2SO_4$ ). The synthesized inhibitor was studied at different concentrations of 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 mM at  $40^\circ\text{C}$ . As a conclusion, as the inhibitor concentration decreased, the efficiency of the corrosion inhibitor also decreased at a constant temperature. In this study, it showed that the corrosion activity of mild steel in 1 M  $H_2SO_4$  was higher compared to 1 M HCl due to the higher concentration of  $H^+$ , which makes  $H_2SO_4$  more corrosive than HCl.

**Keywords:** dithiocarbamate; corrosion inhibitor; mild steel; acid

### ABSTRAK

Korosi logam merupakan masalah serius di banyak industri dan dianggap mahal. Asam yang digunakan selama proses pembersihan dalam industri dapat menyebabkan erosi logam. Ditiokarbamat adalah ligan yang dapat bertindak sebagai inhibitor korosi karena kehadiran sulfur dan nitrogen sebagai atom elektronegatif. Zn(II) N-isopropilbenzilditiokarbamat ( $Zn [N\text{-isopbenzdtc}]_2$ ) kompleks disintesis melalui metode sintetik langsung  $< 4^\circ\text{C}$  dan dikarakterisasi menggunakan Fourier Transform Infrared-Attenuated Total Reflectance (FTIR-ATR), Ultraviolet-Visible (UV-Vis), Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR), studi kristalografi sinar-X, konduktivitas molar, titik leleh, dan analisis gravimetri. Penghambatan korosi baja ringan dipelajari untuk media korosif yang berbeda (1 M HCl dan 1 M  $H_2SO_4$ ). Inhibitor yang disintesis dipelajari pada konsentrasi yang berbeda dari 1, 2, 3, 4, dan 5 mM pada  $40^\circ\text{C}$ . Sebagai kesimpulan, ketika konsentrasi inhibitor menurun, efisiensi inhibitor korosi juga menurun pada suhu konstan. Dalam penelitian ini, menunjukkan bahwa aktivitas korosi baja ringan dalam 1 M  $H_2SO_4$  lebih tinggi dibandingkan dengan 1 M HCl karena konsentrasi  $H^+$  yang lebih tinggi, yang membuat  $H_2SO_4$  lebih korosif daripada HCl.

**Kata Kunci:** ditiokarbamat; inhibitor korosi; baja ringan; asam

### INTRODUCTION

Acids are normally used for the removal of undesirable scale and rust in metalwork, especially in

chemical cleaning process [1]. Dithiocarbamates are sulfur-nitrogen containing ligands that possess a diversity of coordination chemistry. Dithiocarbamate is a flexible class of monoanionic 1,1-dithio ligand which

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molds a stable compound that displays a diversity of coordination modes either with transition or non-transition metal ions [2]. In previous studies, metal dithiocarbamate complexes have been recognized as compounds that are widely studied in different fields. Dithiocarbamate in the definition of inorganic chemistry is known as a flexible ligand with its ability to chelate with numerous types of metal ions [3]. The possession of two donor sulfur atoms that exist in the ligand greatly influences the chelating properties of dithiocarbamate [3]. Heterocyclic organic compounds are competent corrosion inhibitors used to prevent the corrosion of mild steel due to the  $\pi$  system [4].

Mirzakhazadeh et al., reported zinc aluminum polyphosphate (ZAPP) as a corrosion inhibitor. This corrosion inhibition provided by zinc aluminum polyphosphate on a mild steel due to the formation of a protective layer and bound the contact of the corrosive agent to resurface on the steel apparent [5]. Phosphate-based pigments are known as a non-toxic inorganic inhibitor that is widely used for the shield of various metals [5]. The corrosion inhibition mechanism of polyphosphates lay about the existence of high phosphate content and its chelate building potential with zinc metal cation [5]. Meanwhile, the application of zinc ferrocyanide ion exchange compounds was acknowledged as inhibiting and sensing pigments in protective paints and primers for metals and alloys [6]. The inhibition routine of zinc ferrocyanide in the coating was inspected by salt spray tests [6]. The work suggests that zinc ferrocyanide can discharge the inhibitors at enough rate to inhibit the corrosion of aluminium alloys in aggressive salt spray tests [6]. In comparison with this new research on zinc dithiocarbamate, the corrosion inhibition evaluation was performed with weight loss analysis in acid by using mild steel. Throughout the study, zinc has been known as a strong cathodic inhibitor of localized corrosion.

Dithiocarbamate has various applications for industrial which one of them is applied as a corrosion inhibitor. Typically, zinc is used as a protective coating in the galvanization process to avert rust and erosion of metals such as iron. Zinc coating provides protection against a steel exterior that prevents oxygen and moisture from interacting with the steel surface, which can lead to deterioration. Corrosion is a serious environmental issue in the industrial sector [7]. The effectiveness of the inhibitor against corrosion was studied on mild steel. Mild steel was used in trials for corrosion analysis. Mild steel is one of the essential engineering materials due to its low cost and also has excellent mechanical properties that are broadly used as a construction material in the industries [8]. The use of mild steel as a construction material in the industrial sector has become a challenge for corrosion engineers or scientists these days. Mild steel is severely

attacked by acid solutions that are used in various industries. Acid inhibitors are frequently used in order to reduce corrosion dependent or independent attack by an acid on metals [9]. This inhibitor produced due to the corrosion problem in industrial. An acid used during the cleaning process lead to metal corrosion. Therefore, this research aimed at the synthesis of an eco-environmental friendly corrosion inhibitor based on zinc by an in-situ method. The effectiveness of dithiocarbamate inhibitor determined by a using weight loss method where a mild steel immersed in the absence and presence of inhibitor in an acidic environment. For this research, Dithiocarbamate inhibitor was cast-off for industrial by adding it into an acid that used for the metal cleaning process. Hence, the aims of this study were synthesized, characterization, and anticorrosion screening of Zn(II) *N*-isopropylbenzylidithiocarbamate ( $\text{Zn}[\text{N-isopbenzdtc}]_2$ ) complex on a mild steel with different acids. Besides, the chemical properties of the title compound were studied using density functional theory (DFT) calculation. Anti-corrosion inhibitor is the most fitting product to avert the corrosion problem when it comes to metal corrosion inhibition. It is able to provide a good lubrication and long-term prevention to the metals which exposed to rust and corrosion. This anti-corrosion inhibitor breaches and coats the metal surfaces and gives the rust protection.

## EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

### General Methods

The melting point of the synthesized complex was determined in an open capillary tube with an electrothermal melting point apparatus (SMP10 Stuart). The value of molar conductivity of the complex was measured with dimethylformamide (DMF) solvent at room temperature using Lab 970 conductivity meter (SI Analytics) at the concentration of  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  M. The percentage of metal was determined by gravimetric analysis. The electronic spectra were measured by a spectrophotometer (T80/80+, PG Instruments) in the region of 200–600  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The infrared spectra of the compounds were verified within the spectral range of 4000–650  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  using Perkin Elmer model GX spectrophotometer.  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of dithiocarbamate complex were recorded in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) solution at room temperature and the chemical shifts were given in ppm ( $\sigma$  scale). X-ray crystallography study was executed on a Bruker Apex II CCD diffractometer at 0 K. The structural and bonding properties of the complex were studied using DFT calculations.

## Chemical Synthesis

### Synthesis of Zn(II) dithiocarbamate complex, Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub>

The ratios of amine, carbon disulfide (CS<sub>2</sub>), and salt were 2:2:1, respectively. 2 mmol of *N*-isopropylbenzyl amine was stirred in a conical flask for 30 min at < 4 °C. A cold methanolic solution of 2 mmol of CS<sub>2</sub> was added to the flask containing the previous solution. The mixture was stirred for another 30 min. Multiple drops of ammonia were mixed continuously into the solution while the pH of the solution was maintained at a range of 6–7 and the stirring was resumed for another 1 h. After 1 h, a methanolic solution of 1 mmol Zn(II) chloride was added to the mixture with continuous stirring for another 2 h. A precipitate started to form throughout 2 h of stirring. Next, the precipitate was filtered and rinsed with methanol. After that, the precipitate was dried overnight in an oven at 70 °C. The purity of the precipitate was checked using Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC) plate. The precipitate was recrystallized by methanol to obtain a single crystal suitable for analysis by X-ray crystallography.

## Corrosion Inhibition Study

### Preparation of acids and different concentrations of inhibitor

1 M HCl and 1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> were prepared using the formula  $M_1V_1 = M_2V_2$ . The acid was diluted in a 250 mL volumetric flask. Different concentrations of inhibitor were set at 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 mM.

## Weight Loss Analysis

Mild steels with the dimension of 2 cm × 2 cm were selected to be tested for weight loss analysis. The mild steels were cut into rectangular sheets. The mild steels were scraped by emery paper and washed with distilled water, followed by acetone, and dried with clean tissue paper. After that, the initial weights of mild steels were measured using an analytical balance. The mild steels were then immersed in 10 mL of 1 M HCl for different inhibitor concentrations of 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 mM for about 24 h. Then, the mild steels were rinsed with distilled water, followed by acetone, and dried with clean tissue paper. The mild steels were reweighed to compare the final weight after immersion with the initial weight before immersion to determine the weight loss that reflected the

corrosion rate. Weight loss was determined in the presence and absence of inhibitors at 40 °C and at different inhibitor concentrations. The procedures were repeated using another acid, 1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, with same concentrations and a constant temperature of 40 °C.

## Computational Method

The crystal structure was optimized in solution phase using a continuum solvent model (CPCM) by a B3LYP/LANL2DZ basis set and further study was continued to calculate the chemical properties of the title compound using the Gaussian 09 software. The GaussView 5.0 program was used to construct the highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO), lowest unoccupied molecular orbital (LUMO) energy distributions, and molecular electrostatic potential [10–11].

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### Physical Measurements

The in-situ method was used for the synthesis of Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub> in which the ligand is the intermediate of the complete synthesis. The synthesis was performed by the reaction of carbon disulfide (CS<sub>2</sub>), amine (*N*-isopropylbenzylamine), and salt (Zn(II) chloride). The white-colored precipitate was observed, indicating the complete synthesis of the complex. The percentages of carbon, nitrogen, hydrogen, and sulfur were determined using an elemental analyzer for Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub>. Table 1 shows the percentages of the elements in Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub>. Fig. 1 shows the proposed structure of the synthesized inhibitor. The melting point recorded for the complex was 144 °C. The molar conductivity measurement recorded was 15 μS/cm. Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub> complex is categorized as a non-electrolyte where the non-electrolyte behavior shows that the complex does not contain any counterion and the ligand is directly coordinated to the metal center.

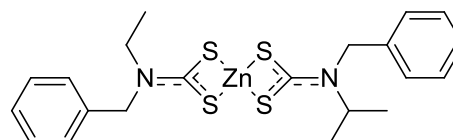


Fig 1. The proposed structure of Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub>

Table 1. The percentage of the element of Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub>

Complex	Color	% Y	M (°C)	Elemental analysis (calculated)			
				C	H	N	S
Zn[N-isopbenzdtc] <sub>2</sub>	Colorless	82	144	51.38 (51.40)	5.40 (5.49)	5.42 (5.45)	24.78 (24.95)

% Y; percentage yield, M (°C); melting points

**Table 2.** Electronic spectra data for Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub> and raw materials

Compounds	Transition	$\lambda_{\text{max}}$ (nm)	Molar absorptivity, $\epsilon$ ( $\text{M}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$ )
Carbon disulphide, CS <sub>2</sub>	$n \rightarrow \sigma^*$	210	66900
N-isopropylbenzylamine	$n \rightarrow \sigma^*$	225	94000
	$n \rightarrow \sigma^*$	250	70000
Zn[N-isopbenzdtc] <sub>2</sub>	$\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$	290	15400
	$n \rightarrow \sigma^*$	230	25700
	$n \rightarrow \sigma^*$	260	66800
	$\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$	284	36400

**Table 3.** Selected FTIR-ATR absorption for starting materials and Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub>,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ 

Compound	Wavenumber, $\text{cm}^{-1}$					
	$\nu(\text{C-H})$	$\nu(\text{N-H})$	$\nu(\text{C=S})$	$\nu(\text{C}\equiv\text{S})$	$\nu(\text{C-N})$	$\nu(\text{C}\equiv\text{N})$
Carbon disulphide, CS <sub>2</sub>	-	-	1497	-	-	-
N-isopropyl Benzylamine	2966	3448	-	-	1453	-
Zn[N-isopbenzdtc] <sub>2</sub>	2972	-	-	1413	1452	1472

The calculated percentage of the analyte, Zn(II) obtained from the gravimetric analysis was 12.72%.

### Ultraviolet-Visible (UV-Vis)

Table 2 represents the electronic spectra data for the complex and raw materials. The  $n \rightarrow \sigma^*$  transition of CS<sub>2</sub> was recorded at 210 nm and for N-isopropylbenzylamine, the transitions were recorded at 225 and 250 nm. Meanwhile, for Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub>, the  $n \rightarrow \sigma^*$  transitions were observed at 230 and 260 nm. The absorption peaks at 205 to 280 nm were identified as the intraligand transition due to  $n \rightarrow \sigma^*$ , whereas the absorption peaks around 280 to 355 nm were also recognized as the intraligand transition due to  $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$  [12]. The existence of  $n \rightarrow \sigma^*$  transition showed the presence of sulfur and nitrogen atoms [13]. Besides, the  $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$  transition also appeared in N-isopropylbenzylamine at 290 nm. Meanwhile, the  $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$  transition for Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub> was verified at 284 nm peak with molar absorptivity,  $\epsilon$ , recorded at  $36400 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . By comparing between the amine and the synthesized inhibitor, the  $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$  transition moved downward, which showed higher energy for the complex. The complex undergoes a hypsochromic shift, which is a shift of a spectral band to higher energy with a shorter wavelength due to the coordination of the metal [14]. There is an absence of  $n \rightarrow \pi^*$  transition because the transition is Laporte forbidden, which is a weak absorption. No absorption occurred at a range higher than 400 nm, which represents the  $d-d$  transition because Zinc ( $d^{10}$ ) is full of electrons in the  $d$  orbital.

### Fourier Transform Infrared-Attenuated Total Reflectance

The stretching band of  $\nu(\text{C-N})$  was  $1453 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  for N-isopropylbenzylamine. Meanwhile,  $\nu(\text{C-N})$  for the synthesized complex was  $1452 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . According to [15],

the  $\nu(\text{C}\equiv\text{N})$  appeared at  $1470\text{-}1500 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  is assigned as a thioureide band. The complex showed a new stretching band,  $\nu(\text{C}\equiv\text{N})$  at  $1472 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  due to its partial double-bond character, where there was partial delocalization of  $\pi$ -electron density within dithiocarbamate [16]. The band appeared at greater wavenumber due to the delocalization of electrons toward the center metal after being coordinated with dithiocarbamate ligands [17]. The region of  $\nu(\text{C=S})$  of CS<sub>2</sub> was observed at the peak of  $1497 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  while for Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub>, the band of  $\nu(\text{C}\equiv\text{S})$  was observed at  $1413 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . This condition has proven that for the structure of Zn(II) complex, the stretching band shifted to lower wavenumber due to the decrease of carbon-sulfur double-bond character to partial double-bond character. The stretching band of  $\nu(\text{N-H})$  disappeared at the complex after the hydrogen from amine has been deprotonated by ammonia as tabulated in Table 3. The infrared absorption spectrum of the metal dithiocarbamate complex has been acknowledged as a vital element in order to allocate the coordination mode, either monodentate or bidentate dithiocarbamate ligands. The  $\nu(\text{C}\equiv\text{S})$  band was detected at  $1012 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , which designated the bidentate chelating mode of the ligand coordinated towards the metal cation [18]. As a whole, the existence of only one band in the  $1000 \pm 70 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  region is due to the bidentate character, while the splitting of the same band in the same region is due to the monodentate character [19]. The bidentate chelating mode of Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub> has been affirmed with the appearance of a single peak at  $1063 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

### Nuclear Magnetic Resonance

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub> displayed a doublet at 1.095–1.112 ppm corresponding to methyl proton ( $-\text{CH}_3$ ). The CH proton attached to the nitrogen still appeared upfield due to its proton integration corresponding which is more shielded [20].

**Table 4.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR of  $\text{Zn}[N\text{-isopbenzdtc}]_2$  complex

Complex	Signal position ( $\delta$ , ppm)	Compound	Structure
$^1\text{H}$ NMR	1.095-1.112 (a)	-CH <sub>3</sub>	
	3.332 (b)	-CH	
	5.118 (c)	-CH <sub>2</sub>	
	5.281-5.331 (h)	-CH	
$^{13}\text{C}$ NMR	7.221-7.365 (d, e, f, g)	-CH (benzene)	
	20.44 (a)	-CH <sub>3</sub>	
	51.51 (b)	-CH	
	56.27 (c)	-CH <sub>2</sub>	
	126.93, 127.15 (g)	-CH (benzene)	
	128.65-129.22 (e,f)	-CH (benzene)	
	138.06 (d)	-CH (benzene)	
	206.14 (h)	-C=S	

**Table 5.** Crystal data and structure refinement for  $\text{Zn}[N\text{-isopbenzdtc}]_2$ 

Empirical formula	$\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_2\text{S}_4\text{Zn}$	
Formula weight	514.07	
Temperature	293(2) K	
Wavelength	0.71076 Å	
Crystal system	Orthorhombic	
Space group	$\text{P}2_12_12_1$	
Unit cell dimensions	$a = 9.044(8)$ Å	$a = 90^\circ$
	$b = 11.464(10)$ Å	$b = 90^\circ$
	$c = 24.36(2)$ Å	$\gamma = 90^\circ$
Volume	$2525(4)$ Å <sup>3</sup>	
Z	4	
Density (calculated)	$1.352$ Mg/m <sup>3</sup>	
Absorption coefficient	$1.314$ mm <sup>-1</sup>	
F(000)	1072	
Crystal size	$0.470 \times 0.460 \times 0.310$ mm <sup>3</sup>	
Theta range for data collection	2.988 to 28.338°	
Index ranges	$-12 \leq h \leq 12, -15 \leq k \leq 13, -32 \leq l \leq 32$	
Reflections collected	39026	
Independent reflections	6264 [R(int) = 0.1167]	
Completeness to theta = 25.243°	99.8 %	
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on $F^2$	
Data / restraints / parameters	6264 / 0 / 266	
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.083	
Final R indices [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ]	R1 = 0.0695, wR2 = 0.1694	
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.1068, wR2 = 0.1937	

The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR CH (b) proton was found at the region of 3.332 ppm while CH (h) at 5.281–5.331 ppm. CH<sub>2</sub> appeared at the region of 5.118 ppm. The presence of nitrogen atom causes the hydrogen attached to the carbon to be deshielded downfield. Based on [13], the nitrogen atom is attracted toward the carbon atom due to its electron-drawing effect and this reduces the electron density of the proton attached to the carbon. The region at 7.221–7.365 ppm indicates the CH proton of the benzene ring. The transition is the deshielding factor of the anisotropy of the ring and the resonance that steals electron density of nitrogen while alters its hybridization [13]. The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of  $\text{Zn}[N\text{-isopbenzdtc}]_2$  is also

compatible with its structure as stated in Table 4. There were seven peaks in  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR, which means that the amount of carbon in  $\text{Zn}[N\text{-isopbenzdtc}]_2$  was symmetric. The first peak of  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR was observed at 20.44 ppm, which showed the transition of CH<sub>3</sub> carbon.  $^{13}\text{C}$  chemical shifts of thioureide carbon atoms are associated with the  $\pi$  bonding in  $\text{NCS}_2^-$ . Meanwhile, the methyl carbons, CH and CH<sub>2</sub> in  $\text{Zn}[N\text{-isopbenzdtc}]_2$  were deshielded due to the bonding with the nitrogen of thioureide  $\pi$  system and the signals were detected at 51.51 and 56.27 ppm, respectively. The compounds with carbon-carbon double bonds or aromatic rings contribute to the increase of chemical shifts in the range from 100 to 175 ppm [13]. The

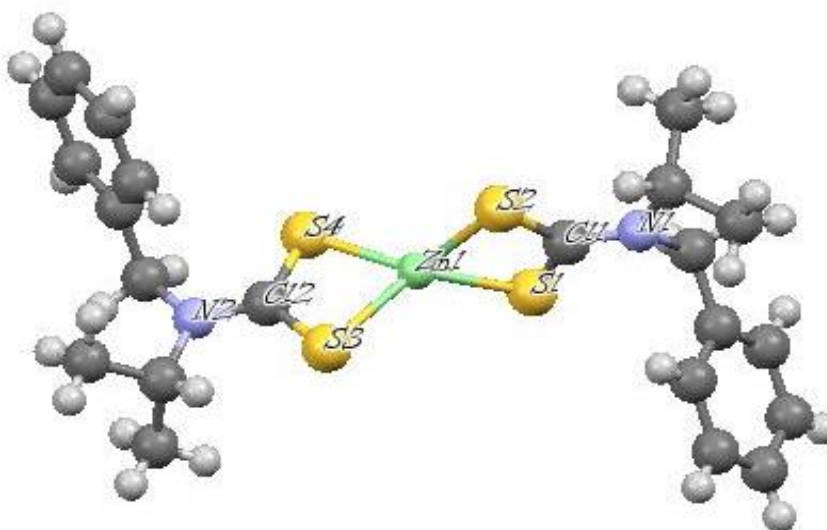


Fig 2. Crystal structure of Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub> complex

Table 6. Bond lengths [Å] and angles [°] for Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub>

Bond lengths [Å]			
Zn(1)-S(1)	2.324(3)	S(1)-C(11)	1.728(8)
Zn(1)-S(3)	2.332(3)	S(2)-C(11)	1.739(7)
Zn(1)-S(2)	2.342(3)	S(3)-C(12)	1.730(8)
Zn(1)-S(4)	2.344(2)	S(4)-C(12)	1.726(7)
N(1)-C(11)	1.306(9)	N(2)-C(12)	1.312(9)
N(1)-C(7)	1.473(9)	N(2)-C(16)	1.459(11)
N(1)-C(8)	1.492(11)	N(2)-C(13)	1.486(11)
Bond angles [°]			
S(1)-Zn(1)-S(3)	131.88(9)	C(11)-S(1)-Zn(1)	83.1(2)
S(1)-Zn(1)-S(2)	78.25(7)	C(11)-S(2)-Zn(1)	82.4(3)
S(3)-Zn(1)-S(2)	119.36(10)	C(12)-S(3)-Zn(1)	82.9(2)
S(1)-Zn(1)-S(4)	125.05(10)	C(12)-S(4)-Zn(1)	82.6(2)
S(3)-Zn(1)-S(4)	77.89(9)	C(11)-N(1)-C(7)	120.0(6)
S(2)-Zn(1)-S(4)	132.64(9)	C(11)-N(1)-C(8)	121.1(6)
C(12)-N(2)-C(16)	121.1(7)	C(7)-N(1)-C(8)	117.9(6)
C(12)-N(2)-C(13)	120.3(7)	C(16)-N(2)-C(13)	118.5(6)

benzene ring showed three peaks in the aromatic carbon area of a proton-decoupled <sup>13</sup>C spectrum since ortho and meta carbon are symmetric, where the spectrum appeared at 128.65 to 129.22 ppm. Meanwhile, para carbon aromatic ring was recorded at 126.93 to 127.15 ppm. The singlet arose from CH carbon of benzene ring that has no attached hydrogen appeared at 138.07 ppm. Benzylic carbon is deshielded by the anisotropic field of the ring created by π electrons in the ring system, but the distance is getting further from the ring, which results in a smaller effect [13]. The spectrum at 206.14 ppm was defined as C=S peak as the carbon is deshielded due to the attachment to a sulfur atom that acts as an electronegative atom. The carbon attached to the double bond is also deshielded due to diamagnetic anisotropy [13].

### X-Ray Crystallographic Study

The synthesized complex was crystallized in an orthorhombic crystal system with a space group of a = 9.044 (8) Å, P2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub>. The crystallographic data are summarized in Table 5. Selected bond lengths and angles of the complex are listed in Table 6. The crystal of Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub> compound adopts a distorted tetrahedral geometry as shown in Fig. 2. The metal atom Zn was coordinated to four sulfur atoms with the bond angles of S(1)-Zn(1)-S(2), S(1)-Zn(1)-S(3), S(1)-Zn(1)-S(4), S(2)-Zn(1)-S(3), S(2)-Zn(1)-S(4), and S(3)-Zn(1)-S(4), which correspond to 78.25, 131.87, 125.05, 119.35, 132.64, and 77.89°, respectively. Zn(1)-S(3)-S(4)-C(12) moiety was twisted (79.73°) with respect to Zn(1)-S(1)-S(2)-C(11) plane. Meanwhile,

**Table 7.** Corrosion inhibition data of Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub> in 1 M HCl

Inhibitor	Inhibitor concentrations (mM)	Weight loss, ΔW (g)	Corrosion rate, C <sub>RW</sub> (g cm <sup>-2</sup> h <sup>-1</sup> )	Inhibitor efficiency, η <sub>w</sub> (%)
Blank	1000 (1 M)	0.186	1.9375 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	-
Zn[N-isopbenzdtc] <sub>2</sub>	1	0.153	1.5938 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	17.74
	2	0.131	1.3646 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	29.57
	3	0.115	1.1979 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	38.17
	4	0.104	1.0833 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	44.09
	5	0.100	1.0417 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	46.23

**Table 8.** Corrosion inhibition data of Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub> in 1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

Inhibitor	Inhibitor concentrations (mM)	Weight loss, ΔW (g)	Corrosion rate, C <sub>RW</sub> (g cm <sup>-2</sup> h <sup>-1</sup> )	Inhibitor efficiency, η <sub>w</sub> (%)
Blank	1000 (1 M)	0.429	4.4688 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	-
Zn[N-isopbenzdtc] <sub>2</sub>	1	0.362	3.7708 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	15.62
	2	0.309	3.2188 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	27.97
	3	0.274	2.8542 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	36.13
	4	0.251	2.6146 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	41.49
	5	0.238	2.4792 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	44.52

S(3)-S(4)-C(12) moiety was twisted (116.5° [4]) from S(2)-S(1)-C(11), which was 116.3° [4]. The bond angles were slightly different from the ideal bond angle for tetrahedral geometry, which was 109.5° [21]. The structure constriction leads to the alteration in the coordination of metal ion as compared to an ideal geometry [22]. A large divergence in the metal to S<sub>short</sub> with the metal to S<sub>long</sub> bond distances is attributed to the coordinating features of the metal dithiocarbamate complex [23]. The bidentate features of the synthesized complex are also characterized by a large difference in C-S bond length: S(1)-C(11) = 1.7281 Å, S(2)-C(11) = 1.7392 Å, S(3)-C(12) = 1.7298 Å, and S(4)-C(12) = 1.7261 Å. The presence of thioureide bond in the synthesized complex was also verified in X-ray crystallography study, which is consistent with the infrared result [23]. According to [24], the C=S bond length is shorter than the C-S single bond length of 1.81 Å and longer than the C=N bond length of 1.69 Å, which are suggestive of partial double-bond properties. The thioureide length of N(1)-C(11) = 1.3064 Å and N(2)-C(12) = 1.3119 Å suggests that the molecule contains the partial double-bond character as compared to the normal C-N and C=N bond length of 1.47 Å and 1.28 Å, correspondingly [25]. The short thioureide bond length compared to the normal bond distance of C-N is due to the delocalization of π-electron density over S<sub>2</sub>CN moiety.

### Corrosion Inhibition Study

The effect of the addition of synthesized inhibitor at different concentrations on the corrosion of mild steel in 1 M HCl and 1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> was studied using weight loss method at 40 °C after 24 h immersion [26]. Different concentrations of synthesized inhibitor were also studied

in acidic media of 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 mM. Table 7 and 8 present the influence of different concentrations of the inhibitor on inhibition efficiency in 1 M HCl and 1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, respectively. The calculated values of η<sub>w</sub> of the synthesized inhibitor indicated that η<sub>w</sub> increased with increasing inhibitor concentration, with a maximum η<sub>w</sub> of Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub> in 1 M HCl of 46.23%. The inhibitory action of the inhibitor was determined as the adsorption on the mild steel surface and able to form an opaque protective layer, which was found to increase with the increasing concentration of the inhibitor [27]. Meanwhile, in 1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, there was a maximum η<sub>w</sub> of 44.52% using 5 mM inhibitor concentration. The corrosion inhibition of Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub> in 1 M HCl and 1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> can be explained through the adsorption of respective molecules on the exterior of mild steel [26]. The adsorption of the inhibitor on the mild steel surface creates a blockage for mass and charge transfer and accordingly, mild steel is protected from hostile acid solution [26]. Fig. 3 shows the graph of a comparison of corrosion activity between 1 M HCl and 1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The corrosion activity in H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> was higher than HCl, where the corrosion rate in H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> was greater compared to HCl, as shown in Fig. 4. This is because the presence of high concentrations of H<sup>+</sup> in H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> makes the acid more corrosive compared to HCl [28]. H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> is highly corrosive as emphasized by its highly exothermic (generates heat) reaction with water [29]. The formula for corrosion rate, C<sub>RW</sub> and inhibitor efficiency, η<sub>w</sub> is shown in Eq. (1).

$$\Delta W = W_1 - W_2 \quad (1)$$

$$C_{RW} = \frac{\Delta W}{s \times t} \quad (2)$$

$$\theta = \frac{C_{RW}^{\circ} - C_{RW}}{C_{RW}^{\circ}} \quad (3)$$

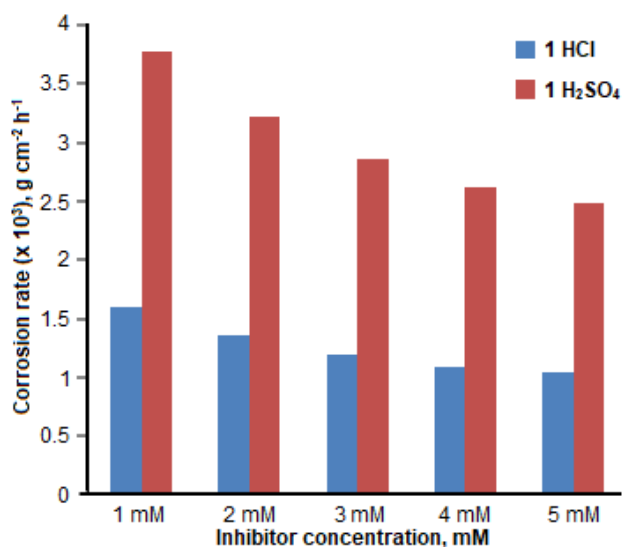


Fig 3. Graph of inhibitor concentration versus corrosion rate between 1 M HCl and 1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

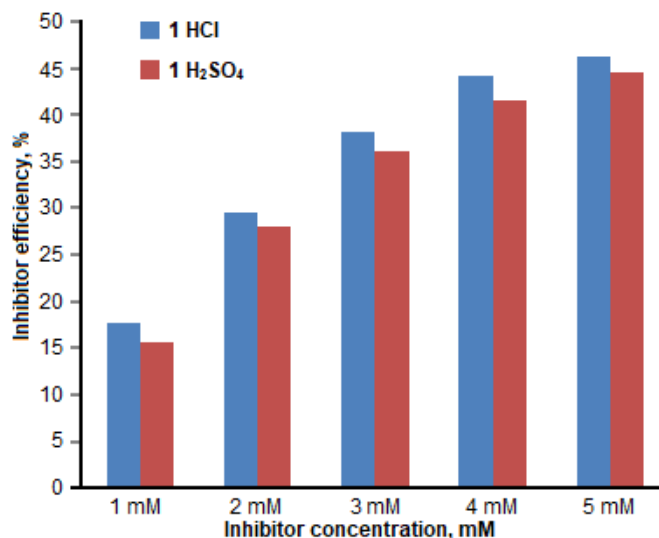


Fig 4. Graph of inhibitor concentration versus inhibitor efficiency between 1 M HCl and 1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

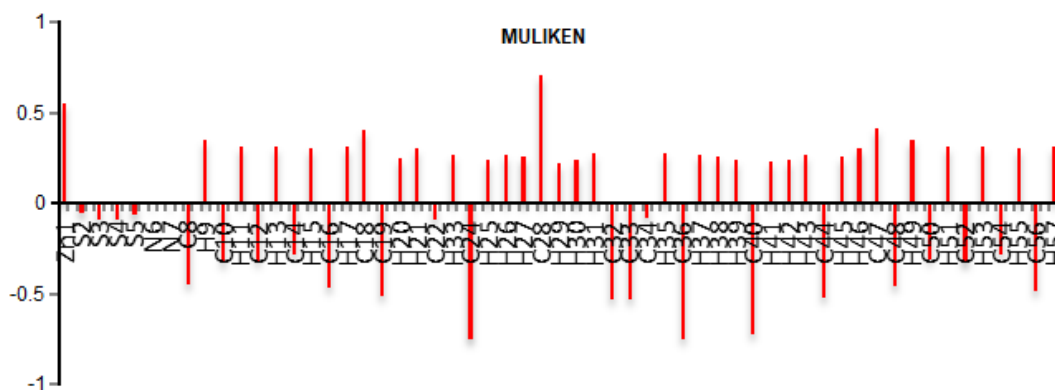


Fig 5. Bar diagram representing the charge distribution of the Zn[N-isopbenzdtc]<sub>2</sub>

$$\eta_w = \frac{C_{RW}^{\circ} - C_{RW}}{C_{RW}^{\circ}} \times 100\% \quad (4)$$

where,

W<sub>1</sub> = The initial weight of mild steel before immersion (g);

W<sub>2</sub> = The final weight of mild steel after immersion (g);

ΔW = The weight loss (g); s = The surface area of the mild steel (cm);

T = Time of immersion (h); C<sub>RW</sub> = The corrosion rate in the presence of inhibitor (g cm<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>);

C<sub>RW</sub><sup>o</sup> = The corrosion rate in the absence of inhibitor (g cm<sup>-2</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>);

η<sub>w</sub> = The percentage of inhibitor efficiency (%).

involved [30]. As shown in Fig. 5, the atoms that exhibit positive charges are Zn1, H9, H11, H13, H15, H17, C18, H20, H21, H33, H25, H26, H27, C28, H29, H30, H31, H35, H37, H38, H39, H41, H42, H43, H45, H46, C47, H45, H46, H49, H51, H53, H55, and H57, whereas S2, S3, S4, N6, N7, C8, C10, C12, C14, C16, C19, C22, C24, C32, C34, C36, C40, C44, C48, C50, C52, C54, and C56 exhibit negative charges. All hydrogen atoms possess positive charges. The bar diagram also shows that the negative charges of S atoms decreased due to the complex formation.

## Chemical Properties Study

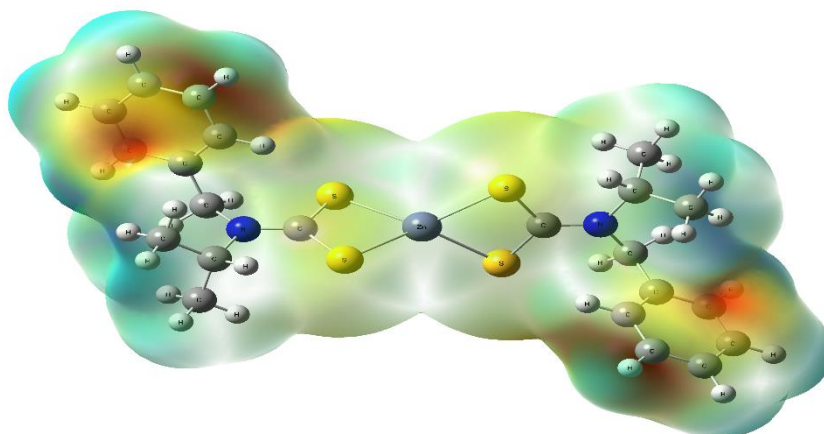
### Atomic charge analysis

The charge distribution of the molecule was calculated on the basis of Mulliken method using B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p) level calculations. This calculation represents the charges of every atom in the molecule. Mulliken population analysis computes charges by dividing the orbital overlap evenly between the two atoms

### Chemical reactivity properties

Chemical reactivity properties can be evaluated by calculating Frontier Molecular Orbital (FMO) energies. The results are listed in Table 9. The negative formation energy showed that the complex formed was thermodynamically stable with value -1061.241 eV. The value of the dipole moment is related to the corrosion inhibitor property. The dipole moment of the title complex





**Fig 6.** The molecular electrostatic potential (MEP) of the  $\text{Zn}[\text{N-isopbenzdtc}]_2$

**Table 9.** The calculated chemical reactivity properties of the  $\text{Zn}[\text{N-isopbenzdtc}]_2$

Chemical Properties	Value
Energy	-1070.672362 eV
Dipole moment	0.3289 Debye
Ionization energy	-7.09455595 eV
Electron affinity	-4.9405016 eV

was 1.1829 Debye, showed that the compound was polarizable and act effectively as a corrosion inhibitor in this study. Theoretical study of ionization energy and affinity electron involved to the chemical inertness and stability of the compound. Higher ionization energy is needed to ensure the stability of the compound to act as a corrosion inhibitor. The calculation showed that the ionization and the affinity electron of the title complex are 6.8975 and 4.9780 eV, respectively. These theoretical results also were supported by experiments that showed the complex ability to act effectively as a corrosion inhibitor.

#### **Molecular electrostatic potential**

Molecular electrostatic potential (MEP) of the title compound is illustrated in Fig. 6. MEP is widely used as a reactivity map displaying the regions for electrophilic and nucleophilic attacks [31-33]. As can be seen from the figure, the most electronegative atoms in this complex are S atoms, which have pale yellow color. This situation showed that S atoms had donated their electron and formed a coordinate bond with Zn in the complex formation.

#### **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, by using the in-situ method,  $\text{Zn}[\text{N-isopbenzdtc}]_2$  complexes have been successfully synthesized, which gave sharp melting point and characterized by FTIR-ATR, NMR, UV-Vis, gravimetric

analysis, molar conductivity, and X-ray single-crystal diffraction. The structure of the synthesized complex revealed that the coordination in the complex is S,S-bidentate coordination. The NMR and IR spectra were in full agreement with X-ray single-crystal diffraction. The crystal structure of  $\text{Zn}[\text{N-isopbenzdtc}]_2$  complex adopts a distorted tetrahedral geometry, which is coordinated to thiolate sulfur of ligand. The chemical properties such as the energy of complex formation, dipole moment, ionization energy, and electron affinity of the title complex have been successfully calculated using DFT approach. The theoretical study through charge analysis and molecular electrostatic potential also showed that the electron density of electronegative sulfur atoms decreased after the formation of the title complex. The weight loss analysis of mild steel revealed a result in as the inhibitor concentration is increased, the efficiency of the inhibitor also increased in which the maximum inhibitor efficiency recorded. The inhibitor efficiency in 1 M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  is lower compared to 1 M HCl as the increase of inhibitor concentration. It is because of the presence of high concentrations of  $\text{H}^+$  in  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  which makes it more corrosive compared to HCl.

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