



## PREPARATION OF NEW COMPLEXES OF METHYL METHACRYLAT WITH POLYVINYL ALCOHOL AND STUDY OF SOME ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS

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Received 8/ 3/ 2023, Accepted 3/ 7/ 2023, Published 30/ 6/ 2024

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### ABSTRACT

A new copolymer from Methyl methacrylate and polyvinyl alcohol [methyl-5-hydroxy-2-methylhexanoate] and its complexes were synthesized for some metals ( $\text{Cr}^{+3}$ ,  $\text{Mn}^{+2}$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{+3}$ ,  $\text{Co}^{+2}$ ,  $\text{Ni}^{+2}$ ,  $\text{Cu}^{+2}$ ,  $\text{Zn}^{+2}$ ,  $\text{Cd}^{+2}$ ). This ligand and its metal complexes were characterized using (FTIR) spectral, UV-Vis spectroscopy, conductivity, magnetic moment, and Thermo Gravimetric analysis. The nanoparticles for two complexes were characterized using x-ray diffraction, scanning electron microscope, and atomic force microscope. Zeolite 5A was prepared from local kaolin by hydrothermal preparation, then characterization, and used as a supporting material with prepared copolymer as a composite to remove several metals from polluted water taken from industrial water electric power stations in Dora and South of Baghdad. Trace concentrations of these metals were estimated before and after applying the prepared copolymer by atomic absorption spectroscopy. The removal using composite materials is significantly more effective, with the concentration recorded as very low and the concentrations of some metal ions like  $\text{Fe}^{+2}$ , which completely disappeared from polluted water according to a polluted water analysis before and after using the produced compounds.

**Keywords:** Removal of metal contaminants, Copolymer, Methyl methacrylate, Metal complexes, and Zeolite.

تحضير معقدات جديدة لميثيل ميثا اكريلات مع بولي فنييل الكحول ودراسة بعض التطبيقات البيئية .

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### الخلاصة:

في هذا العمل حضرنا بوليمر مشترك جديد من ميثيل ميثا أكريلات مع بولي فنييل الكحول [ميثيل-5-هيدروكسي-2-ميثيل هكسانوات] مع بعض العناصر الثقيلة ( $\text{Cr}^{+3}$ ,  $\text{Mn}^{+2}$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{+3}$ ,  $\text{Co}^{+2}$ ,  $\text{Ni}^{+2}$ ,  $\text{Cu}^{+2}$ ,  $\text{Zn}^{+2}$ ,  $\text{Cd}^{+2}$ ). تم تشخيص ميثيل-5-هيدروكسي-2-ميثيل هكسانوات المحضر ومعقداته باستخدام طيف الأشعة تحت الحمراء والتحليل الطيفي المرئي للأشعة فوق البنفسجية، والتوصيلية والعزم المغناطيسي، وانحراف الأشعة السينية، ومجهر المسح الإلكتروني ومجهر القوة الذرية. تم استخدام البوليمر المشترك المحضر لإزالة عدد من العناصر من المياه الملوثة المسحوبة من المياه الصناعية لمحطات توليد الطاقة الكهربائية في الدورة وجنوب بغداد وتقدير التراكيز الضئيلة لهذه العناصر قبل وبعد استخدام البوليمر المشترك المحضر باستخدام مطيافية الامتصاص الذري. تعتبر الإزالة باستخدام المواد المترابطة أكثر فاعلية بشكل ملحوظ مع تسجيل التركيز على أنه

\*The research is extracted from the doctoral thesis of the first researcher.

منخفض جدًا واختفت تمامًا تراكيز بعض أيونات المعادن مثل  $Fe^{+2}$  من المياه الملوثة وفقًا لتحليل المياه الملوثة قبل وبعد استخدام المركبات المحضرة.

الكلمات المفتاحية: إزالة ملوثات المعادن ، بوليمر مشترك ، مثيل ميثا اكريلات، معقدات المعادن والزيولايت.

## INTRODUCTION

Water contamination continues to pose a threat to people's health on a global scale (Soubh *et al.*, 2018). Metal poisoning offers a severe risk because of its toxicity, non-biodegradability, and bioaccumulation in the food chain (Ashvinder, *et al.*, 2021). Industrial waste is the leading cause of heavy metal contamination in water systems. The effective removal of hazardous ions from wastewater is an important and urgent issue due to its negative and direct effects on flora and fauna. As a result of heavy metals ingested by other species in the food chain, their carcinogenic effects on humans and animals were increased. These metals are absorbed by plants, which then pass them to animals and humans (Mahmoud *et al.*, 2020).

A hydrophilic polymeric network forms the three-dimensional structures known as hydrogels. They are cross-linked polymer networks containing water in them. Hydrophilic functional groups connected to the polymeric backbone absorb water, whereas cross-links between network chains allow them to resist dissolution (Balbir *et al.*, 2021). Alcohols, carboxylic acids, amides, and other hydrophilic groups are among the hydrophilic groups that give hydrogels their hydrophilicity (Tain *et al.*, 2021). Polymer gels play an essential role in many technical fields like gene delivery and drug delivery (Noreen *et al.*, 2022), scaffolds for tissue engineering (Abdullah *et al.*, 2021) and superabsorbent materials because of their exceptional characteristics, such as biocompatibility and smart response behavior (Pishnamazi *et al.*, 2021). In the past, polymers made from methyl methacrylate have been used to remove dyes in environmentally friendly ways (Uzma *et al.*, 2022).

Zeolites are available in two types: natural zeolites, which are non-porous and synthetic zeolites, which are porous and have a structure. They are prepared by heating soda ash, feldspar, and china clay together. Compared to natural zeolites, these have a higher exchange capacity per unit weight. (Karmen & Anamarija, 2022).

Zeolites can potentially remove various chemicals, such as heavy metals, organic compounds, dyes, pigments, reagents, and nitrogen compounds, due to their cationic exchange negative charge features and relatively low production cost (Luciano *et al.*, 2022). They are used as efficient adsorbents for various environmental pollutants, especially in water treatment techniques for removing heavy metals due to the porous structure of zeolites and other special features (Veena *et al.*, 2021).

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Methyl methacrylate provided by (P.D.H). Absolute Ethanol (B.D.H), PVA provided by (SIGMA), ( $CrCl_3 \cdot H_2O$ ,  $MnCl_2 \cdot 4H_2O$ ,  $FeCl_3$ ,  $CoCl_2 \cdot 6H_2O$ ,  $NiCl_2 \cdot 6H_2O$ ,  $CuCl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$ ,  $ZnCl_2$ , and  $CdCl_2 \cdot H_2O$ ) provided by (B.D.H).

## Instruments

Melting points of the synthesized compounds were measured by GMMallenKampm. MF-370 devised electro-thermal at the University of Baghdad, College of Sciences for Women. Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) spectra were obtained using a SHIMADZUE FT-IR 8400S Fourier transform within the wavenumber region between  $4000 - 400 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  using a KBr disc



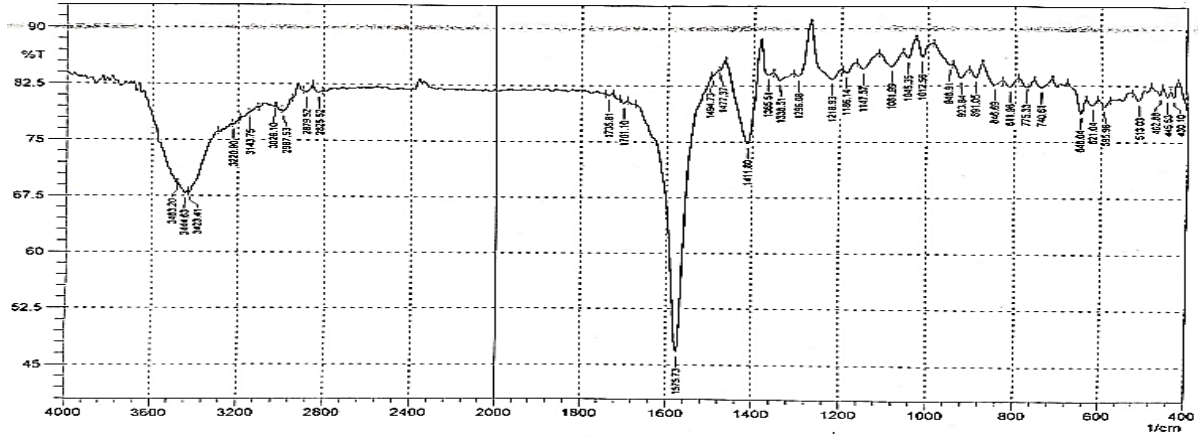
## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

### FTIR Spectra

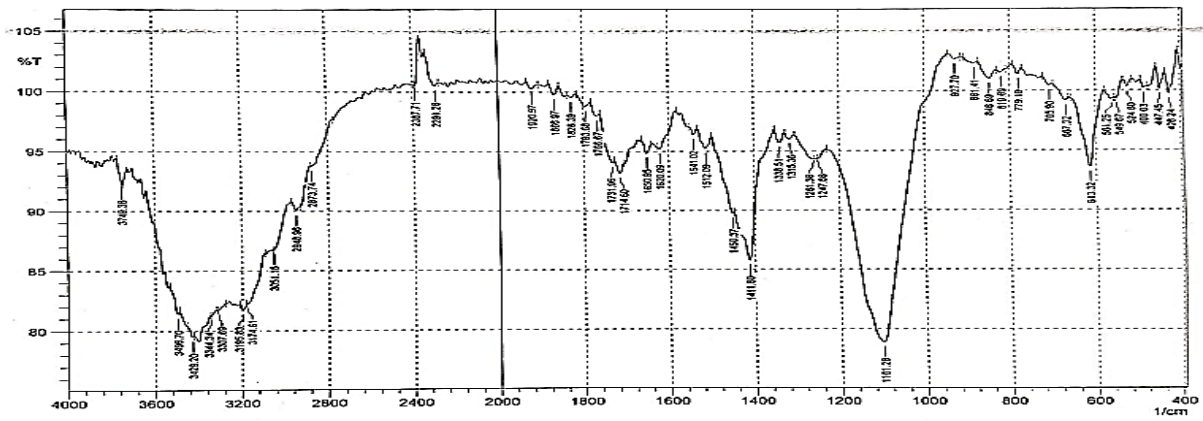
Specific vibrations of chemical bonds or functional groups within molecules were reflected as peaks in FTIR spectra (Mathur *et al.*, 2018). It is shown in Figure 1 that KBr FTIR spectroscopy in the range of 4000-400  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and CsI FTIR spectroscopy in the range of 4000-200  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  were used to determine the experimental and theoretical structure of the (PMMA-PVA) polymer complexes. Experimental FT-IR showed a distinctive band of the -OH functional group in the range of 3446-3213  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in the IR spectra of the compounds, suggesting its nonparticipation in coordinate bond formation towards all metal ions. Furthermore, as shown in Figure 1. b, the peak's width expanded after coordination. This may be due to moisture in the sample or complexes containing coordinated water molecules (Abdi *et al.*, 2020; Anacona *et al.*, 2021). Other stretching bands were found at 1701-1616  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for  $\nu(\text{C}=\text{O})$  carboxylic of ester (Nabeel *et al.*, 2022; Tabarek & Ahlam 2023). The loss of the C=O signal, originally at 1616-1650  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , was consistent, providing strong evidence for the coordination of Ligand (PMMA-PVA) towards the central metal ion, Figure 1. Table 1 shows that the typical peak at  $\sim 1700 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  for compounds containing the (C=O) ester group relocated to 1600  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (Muna *et al.*, 2022). In complexes, the carbonyl group was weakened after bonding due to creating a coordination bond between the oxygen of the C=O group and the central metal ion, as indicated by the peak displacement.

**Table (1):** The FT-IR spectrum of the synthesized ligand and its complexes.

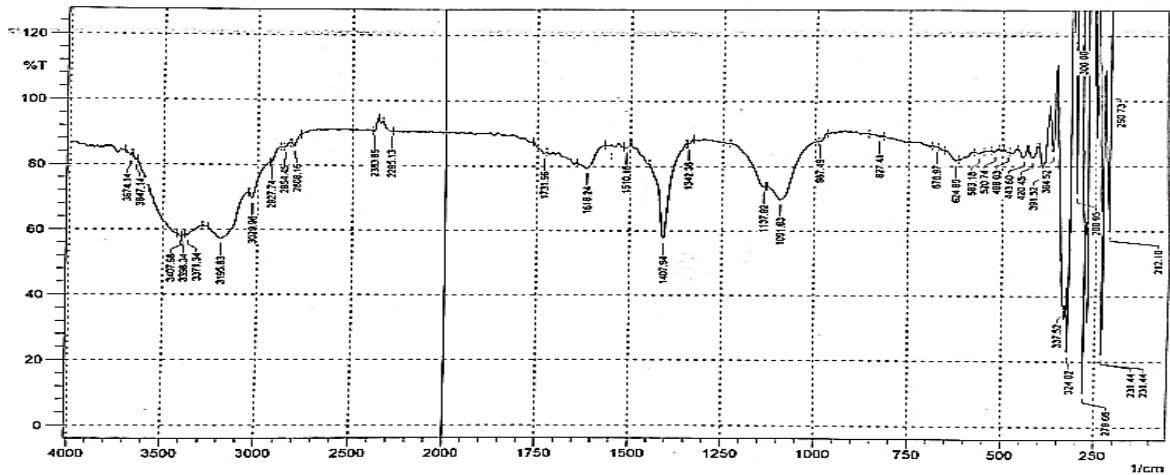
| Comp. | $\nu(\text{OH})$ | $\nu(\text{COO})$<br>ester | $\nu(\text{C-OCH}_3)$ | $\nu(\text{CH-CH}_2)$ | $\nu(\text{M-O})$ | $\nu(\text{M-Cl})$ | Others.  |
|-------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--|
| L     | 3444             | 1701                       | 1147                  | 2987-<br>2879         | -                 |                    |  |
| CrL   | 3434             | 1647                       | 1124                  | 2921-<br>2871         | 599               | 335                | w $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ = 910<br>$\rho$ OH =846 |
| MnL   | 3446             | 1622                       | 1118                  | 2947-<br>2860         | 559               | 329                | w $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ = 984<br>$\rho$ OH =833 |
| FeL   | 3429             | 1623                       | 1118                  | 2929-<br>2873         | 597               | 327                | w $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ = 997<br>$\rho$ OH =864 |
| CoL   | 3438             | 1649                       | 1083                  | 2925-<br>2856         | 557               | 316                | w $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ = 983<br>$\rho$ OH =846 |
| NiL   | 3240             | 1616                       | 1095                  | 2927-<br>2854         | 567               | 324                | w $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ = 987<br>$\rho$ OH =827 |
| CuL   | 3417             | 1714                       | 1101                  | 2948-<br>2873         | 549               | 335                | w $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ = 927<br>$\rho$ OH =846 |
| ZnL   | 3240             | 1620                       | 1095                  | 2927-<br>2856         | 567               | 331                | w $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ = 983<br>$\rho$ OH =881 |
| CdL   | 3213             | 1650                       | 1101                  | 2950-<br>2875         | 520               | 329                | w $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ = 987<br>$\rho$ OH =875 |



A



B



C

Figure (1): The FTIR Spectra for (a) PMMA-PVA -L (b) NiL (c) CuL



### The Electronic spectra, (UV-Vis) of ligand and its complexes:

Intense absorption at (323) nm (20661)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in the UV-Vis spectrum of (PMMA-PVA)-ligand was ascribed to the ( $n \rightarrow \pi^*$ ) transition, while intense absorption at (229) nm (43668)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  was ascribed to the ( $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ ) transition, Figure 2. Table 3 contains information about the spectra, molar conductivity, and magnetic moments of all metal complexes of the (PMMA-PVA)-ligand in ethanol for MnL, FeL, CdL complexes and in DMSO for CrL, CoL, NiL, CuL, and ZnL complexes.

Where three bands of complexes were uncultivated: Three bands, corresponding to  ${}^6A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^4T_{1g}$  (G),  ${}^6A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^4T_{2g}$  (G), and  ${}^6A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^4A_{2g} + E_g$  (G) were seen for the Mn (II)-PMMA-PVA complex at 12468, 20080 and 28248  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  respectively (Al-Issa *et al.*, 2017).

Co (II)-PMMA-PVA complex showed three bands in the visible region with an average of 14749  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . This value which assigned to transition  ${}^4T_{1g} \rightarrow {}^4T_{2g}$  (F) (Nuha & Naser, 2023) and a value with an average of 16260  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for  $\nu {}^4T_{1g} \rightarrow {}^4T_1$  (P) while  ${}^4T_{1g} \rightarrow {}^4A_{2g}$  appeared at 17211 and it forbidden transition Scheme 2(a).

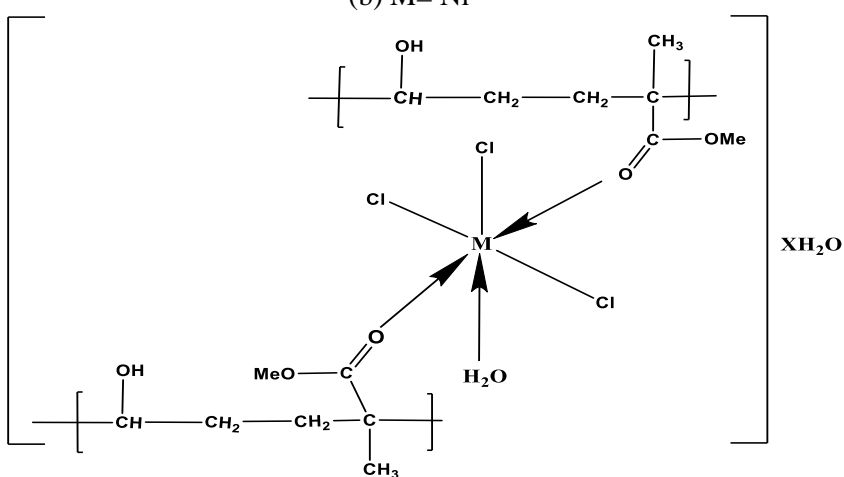
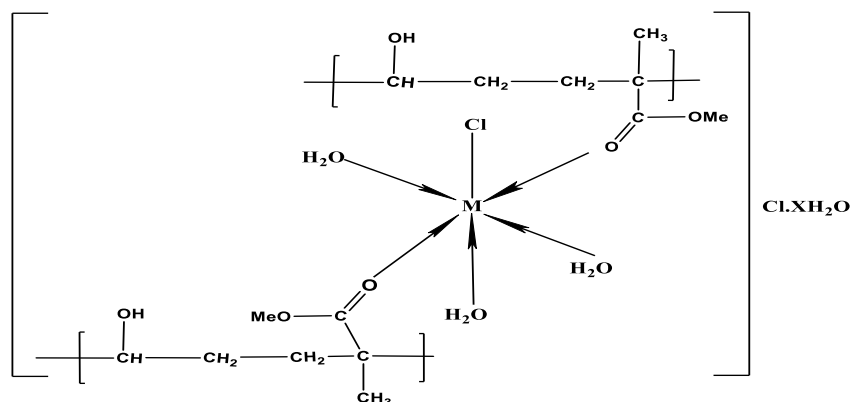
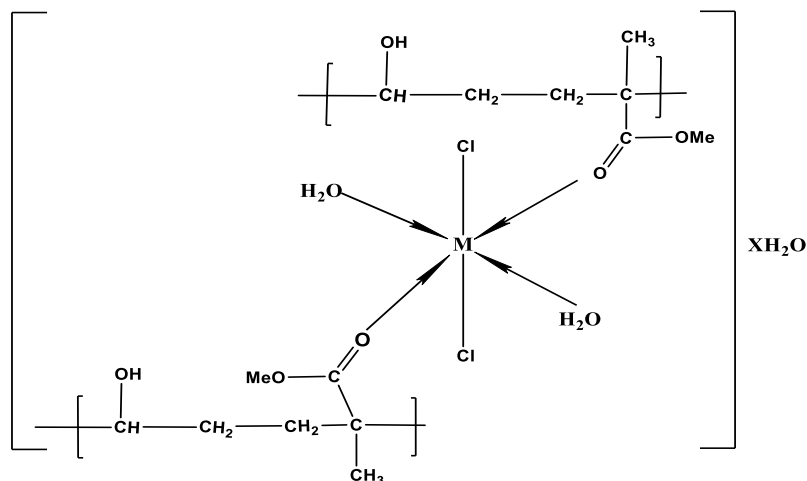
The spectrum of Cr (III) complex olive showed three absorption bands at (619, 451, and 259) nm (16155, 222172, and 38610)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  assigned to  ${}^4A_{2g} \rightarrow {}^4T_{2g}$ ,  ${}^4A_{2g(F)} \rightarrow {}^4T_{1g}$  and  ${}^4A_{2g(F)} \rightarrow {}^4A_{2g}$  transitions, suggesting an octahedral geometry (Sahar *et al.*, 2020; Rasha & Abbas, 2023).

The Fe (III) complex spectrum showed three bands at 682, 590, 416 nm (14662, 16949, 24038)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  assigned to  ${}^6A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^4T_{1g}$ ,  ${}^6A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^4T_{2g}$ , and  ${}^6A_{1g} \rightarrow {}^4A_{1g} + {}^4E_g$  respectively. Transition at 336 nm (29776)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  attributed to C.T (LMCT) and that suggesting an octahedral geometry (Anum *et al.*, 2022 the magnetic moment value is 5.6 BM, Scheme 2(c).

For Ni(II) complex spectrum showed three bands at (920, 769, 502, 385, and 290) nm (10809, 13003, 19920, 25974, and 34482)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  assigned to  ${}^3A_{2g} \rightarrow E_g$ ,  ${}^3A_{2g} \rightarrow {}^3T_{2g}$ ,  ${}^3A_{2g} \rightarrow {}^3T_{1g(F)}$  and  ${}^3A_{2g} \rightarrow {}^3T_{1g(P)}$  transition, respectively; the magnetic moment value is 2.3 BM suggesting an octahedral geometry (Sahar *et al.*, 2018; Veyan *et al.*, 2020), Scheme 2 (b)

Cu (II) complex spectrum showed one band at 920 nm (10869)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , assigned to  ${}^2E_g \rightarrow {}^2T_{2g}$  and C.T transition; the magnetic moment value is 1.2 BM suggesting an octahedral geometry, Scheme 1 (a) (Sahar *et al.*, 2021).

Finally, the magnetic moment value is diamagnetic for both Zn (II) and Cd (II) complexes (ZnL) and (CdL), which is attributed to metal to ligand charge transfer, but the spectra show no d-d electronic transitions in the visible region. The absorption bands are 505 and 498 nm (34364, 20080)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (Haneen & Sahar, 2022). Scheme 1(a)



**Scheme (2).** The geometrical structure of a. Octahedral  $[\text{ML}_2 (\text{Cl}_2)] \cdot \text{XH}_2\text{O}$  b. Octahedral  $[\text{ML}_2\text{Cl}] \text{Cl} \cdot \text{XH}_2\text{O}$  c. Octahedral  $[\text{ML}_2\text{Cl}_3] \cdot \text{XH}_2\text{O}$



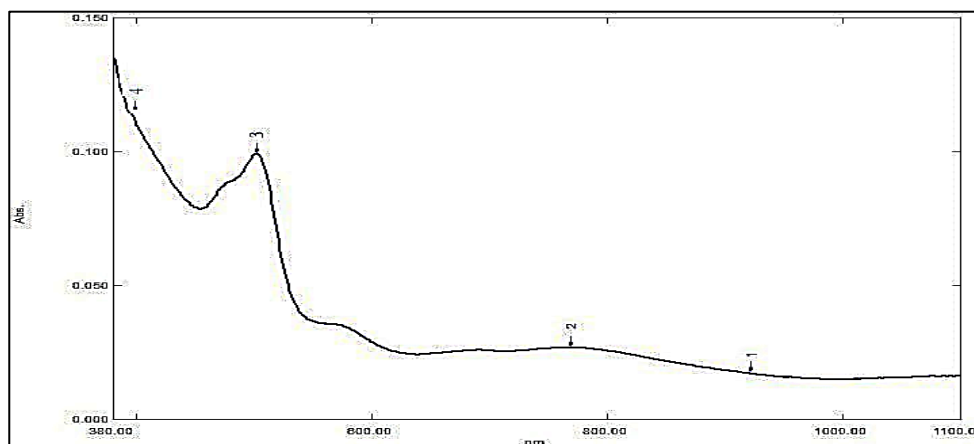
**Table (2):** Electronic spectra, spectral parameters, molar conductivity, and  $\mu_{eff}$  of L- metal complexes.

| Comp. | $\lambda_{nm}$                        | $\nu_{cm^{-1}}$                           | Assignments  | Molarcond. | $\mu_{eff}(B.M)$ | Structure  |
|-------|---------------------------------------|---|--|------------|------------------|------------|
| L     | 323<br>229                            | 30959<br>43668                            | $n \rightarrow \pi^*$<br>$\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$   |            |                  |            |
| Cr-L  | 619<br>451<br>397(cal.)<br>259        | 16155<br>22172<br>25188<br>38610          | $4A_{2g} \rightarrow 4T_{2g}$<br>$4A_{2g} \rightarrow 4T_{1g}$<br>$4A_{2g} \rightarrow 4T_{1g}$<br>Intra ligand                                    | 6.1        | 3.7              | Octahedral |
| Mn-L  | 802<br>498<br>354(cal.)<br>275        | 12468<br>20080<br>28248<br>36363          | $6A_{1g} \rightarrow 4T_{1g}(G)$<br>$6A_{1g} \rightarrow 4T_{2g}(G)$<br>$6A_{1g} \rightarrow 4A_{2g} + 4E_g(G)$<br>Intra ligand                    | 27         | 5.2              | Octahedral |
| Fe-L  | 682<br>590<br>416(cal.)<br>336<br>266 | 14662<br>16949<br>24038<br>29776<br>37594 | $6A_{1g} \rightarrow 4T_{1g}$<br>$6A_{1g} \rightarrow 4T_{2g}$<br>$6A_{1g} \rightarrow 4A_{1g} + 4E_g$<br>C.T (LMCT)<br>Intra ligand               | 17.3       | 5.6              | Octahedral |
| Co-L  | 678<br>615<br>581<br>275              | 14749<br>16260<br>17211<br>36363          | $4T_{1g} \rightarrow 4T_{2g}(F)$<br>$4T_{1g} \rightarrow 4T_{1g}(P)$<br>$4T_{1g} \rightarrow 4A_{2g}$<br>Intra ligand                              | 11.5       | 5.3              | Octahedral |
| Ni-L  | 920<br>769<br>502<br>385<br>290       | 10869<br>13003<br>19920<br>25974<br>34482 | $3A_{2g} \rightarrow E_g$<br>$3A_{2g} \rightarrow 3T_{2g}$<br>$3A_{2g} \rightarrow 3T_{1g}(F)$<br>$3A_{2g} \rightarrow 3T_{1g}(p)$<br>Intra ligand | 42         | 2.3              | Octahedral |
| Cu-L  | 920<br>296<br>209                     | 10869<br>33783<br>47846                   | $2E_g \rightarrow 2T_{2g}$<br>C.T<br>Intra ligand  | 8.9        | 1.2              | Octahedral |
| Zn-L  | 505<br>268                            | 34364<br>28571                            | C.T<br>Intra ligand  | 17.3       | Diam.            | Octahedral |
| Cd-L  | 498<br>286                            | 20080<br>33223                            | C.T<br>Intra ligand  | 3.5        | Diam.            | Octahedral |

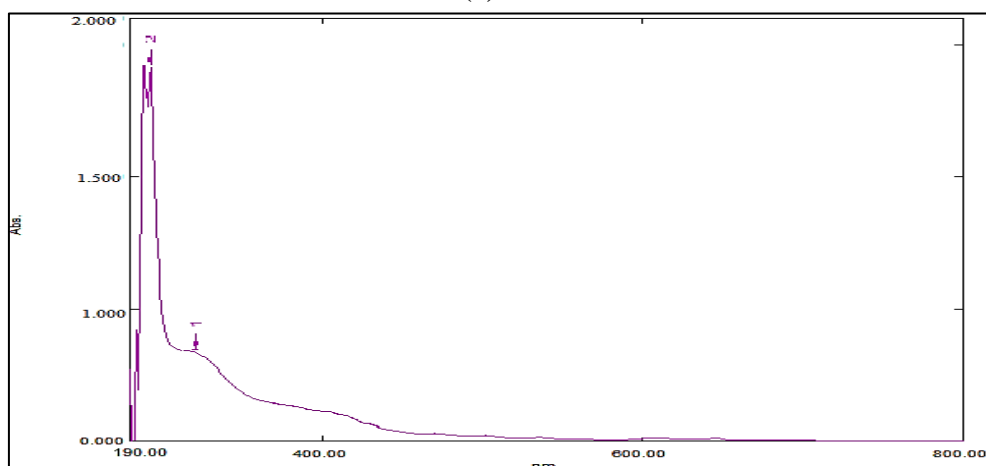


**Table (3):** Physical properties of the ligand and its complexes.

| Compounds | M.p <sup>o</sup> C<br>(dec) °C | Color           |
|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| L         | 180-182                        | Pink            |
| FeL       | 190-192                        | Yellow          |
| CuL       | 138-140                        | greenish yellow |
| MnL       | 170-172                        | Pink            |
| CdL       | 188-190                        | Off-white       |
| CrL       | 248-250                        | Olive           |
| NiL       | 198-200                        | Yellow          |
| CoL       | 240-242                        | turquoise       |
| ZnL       | 230-232                        | Light Pink      |



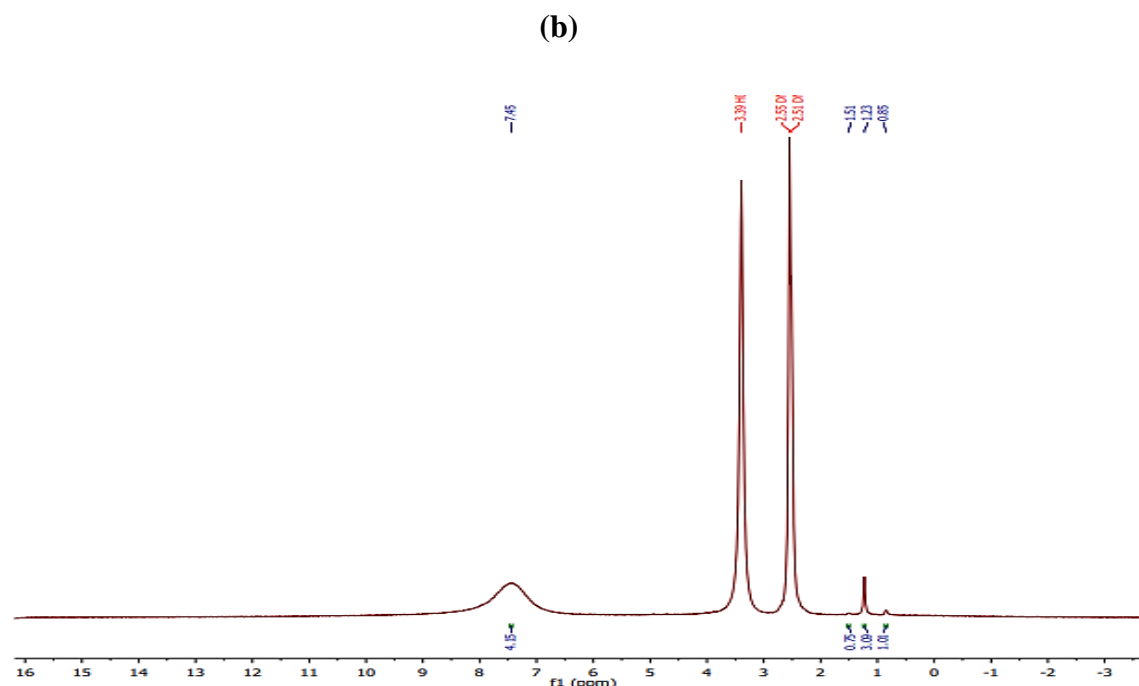
(a)



(b)

**Figure (2):** Electron spectrum of a. (PMMA-PVA) ligand b. NiL complex





**Figure (3):** HNMR spectrum of (a) L (PMMA- PVA) and (b) CrL

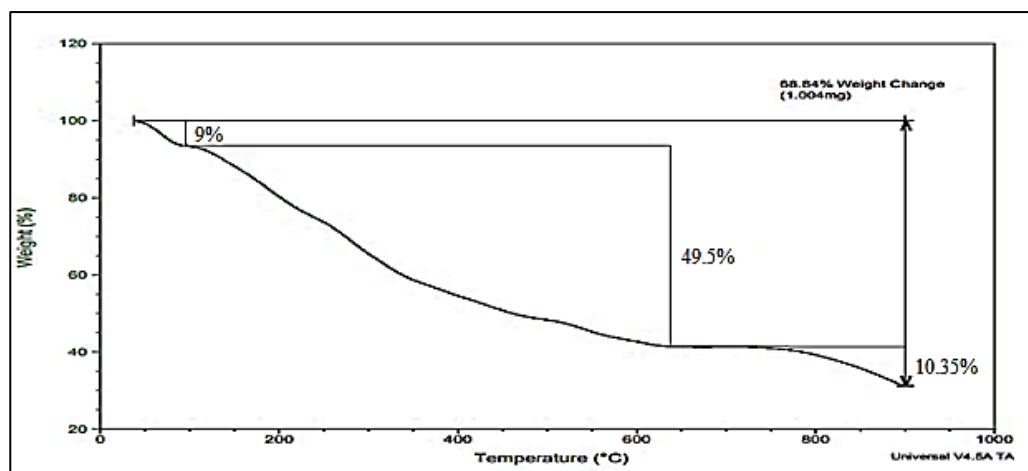
### Thermal Gravimetric Analysis (TGA)

Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) was used to understand the effects of temperature and time on the weight of polymeric materials. Polymeric materials can undergo weight changes due to decomposition, oxidation reactions, and physical processes, including sublimation, evaporation, and desorption (**Dilkes *et al.*, 2019**). TGA-curve of two (PMMA-PVA)-complexes as illustrated in Figure 4 and Table 5. Thermal stability of Cr and Fe complexes studied by TGA. The TGA tests were performed at ~30 °C to 900 °C. The CrL complex was shown to be disassembled into three parts in Figure 4.a. First, a small loss of 10.31% from total mass when compared to a temperature of 110°C suggests that water molecules were evaporated from the sample. The polymer (ligand) chains, CO<sub>2</sub>, CO, and Cl fragments caused a 40.34% weight loss when heated to around 625°C. The remaining complex lost 7.8% of its mass upon decomposing from 625-900 °C (**Ashok *et al.*, 2020**). The degradation of polymer residues for the coordinated ligand molecules accounted for the modest increase in degradation observed compared to the previous stage. Upon further heating, the polymer chains and metal oxide residue were left as the final residue at 41.55 %. Almost similar changes were observed in the FeL complex TGA curve (Figure 4. b). However, the intermediate residue stability was less than the CrL complex, which gradually decomposed in three stages. The loss of water molecules results in (9%) at about 130 °C. The second weight loss of 49% was observed at 631 °C, again due to the first weight loss along with the polymer chains and CO<sub>2</sub>, CO, and Cl as gases from the ligand (PMMA-PVA) Scheme 3. The residue of polymer (ligand) chains and the Fe<sup>+3</sup> oxides contributed nearly 31.16 %. Our results were supported by previous knowledge of the stabilities of other complexes containing these transition metals (**Neha *et al.*, 2018**; **Wu *et al.*, 2003**).

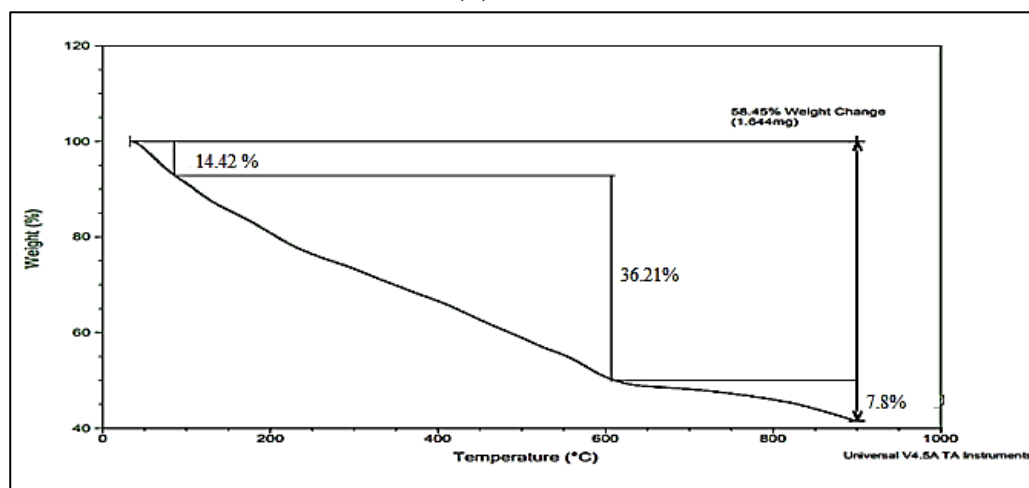
**Table (5):** Thermal analyses data for CrL and FeL.

| Comp. | Dissociation stages | Temp range in °C | Weight loss found % | Weight loss (Cal.) % | Final Weight residue found % | Final Weight residue (cal.) %                         |
|-------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|---|
| CrL   | StageI              | 20-150           | 14.42               | 5                    | 41.55                        | 42 it represent residue of polymer and metal oxide    |
|       | StageII             | 150-625          | 36.21               | 48                   |                              |   |
|       | StageIII            | 625-900          | 7.8                 | 5                    |                              |   |
| FeL   | StageI              | 20-126.05        | 9                   | 8.61                 | 31.16                        | 31.15 it represent residue of polymer and metal oxide |
|       | StageII             | 126.05-631.81    | 49.5                | 49.9                 |                              |   |
|       | StageIII            | 631.81-900       | 10.35               | 10.34                |                              |   |

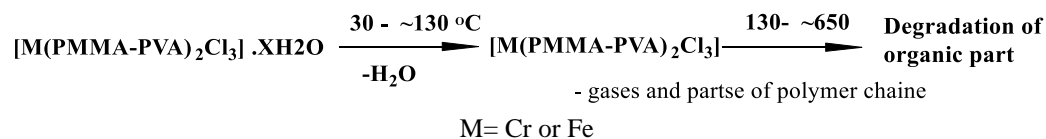
(a)



(b)



**Figure (4):** TGA analysis for: (a) CrL and (b)FeL

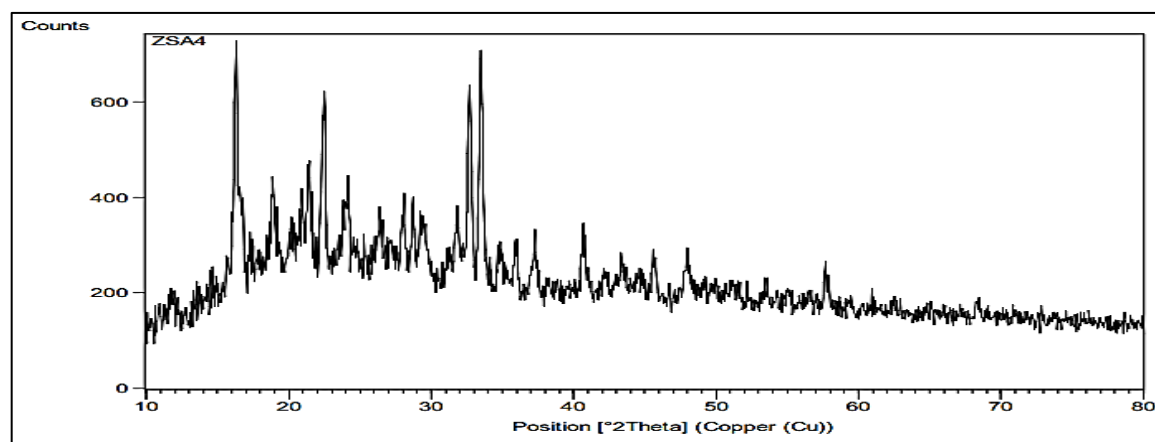


**Scheme (3):** Thermal behavior of CrL and FeL complexes.

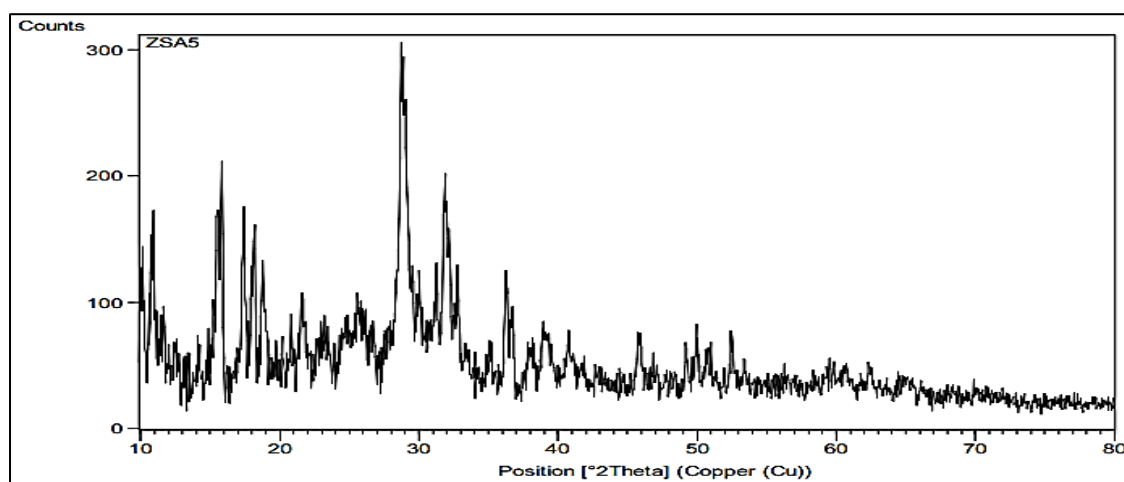
### XRD analysis

X-ray diffraction helps investigate nanoparticles (**Peighambardoust *et al.*, 2020**), which were performed on a category of ligands. The sharp peaks demonstrated the Nanoscale feature of Cu(II) and Fe(II) complexes. Comparatively distinct peaks at  $2\theta$  (16, 18.5, 22, 33, 34, and 41) were observed for the CuL Nano complex, but for the FeL Nano complex, the spectra were entangled, and the unique peaks vanished. Probably, X-ray spectroscopy cannot figure it out because of the shielding effect of the represented ligand-polymer molecules (**Siva *et al.*, 2019**) Figure 5.

(a)



(b)



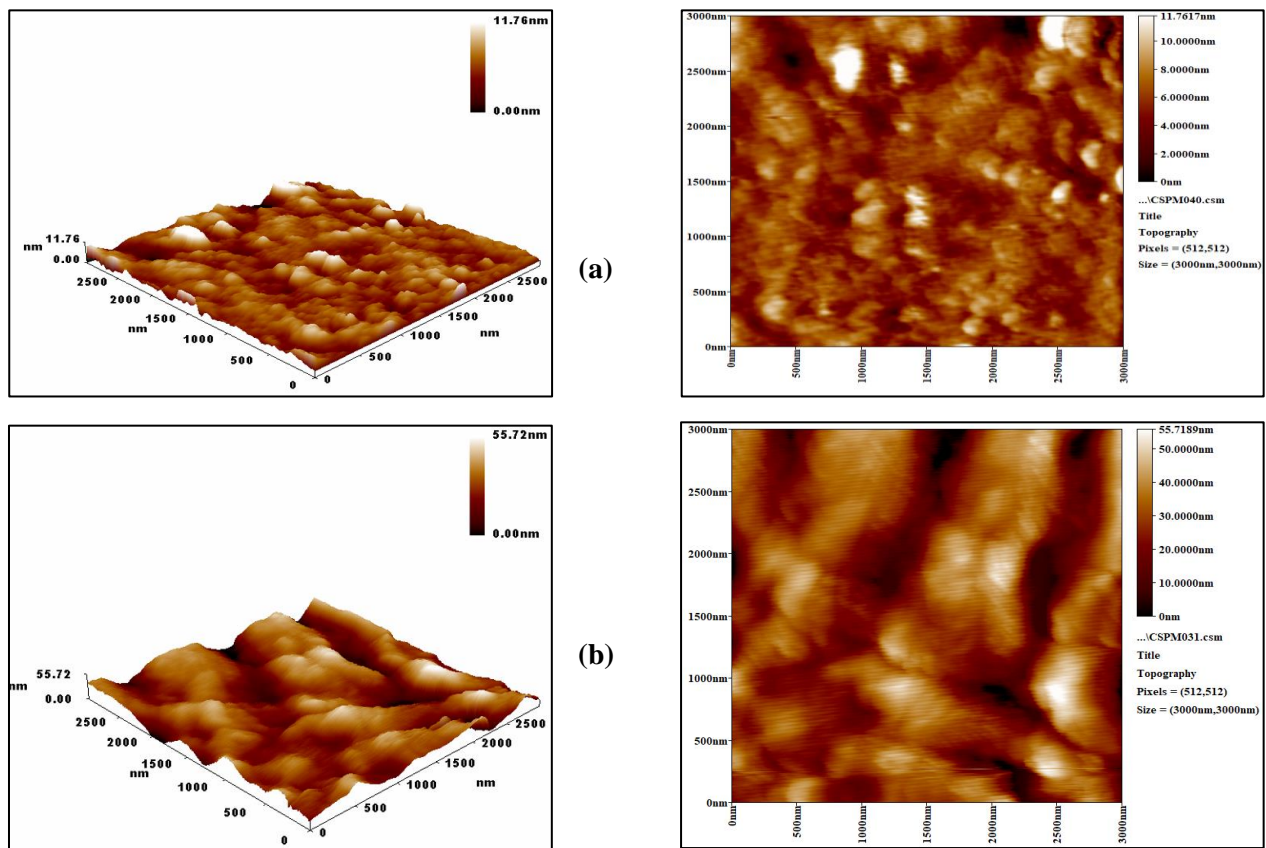
**Figure (5):** XRD patterns of a. CuL Nano complex b. FeL Nano complex.

### Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM)

The method measures the forces exerted by a sharp cantilever tip on a surface at a very close distance, yielding two- and three-dimensional surface profiles at the nanoscale. The 3D and two-dimensional pictures of nano (CuL and FeL) complexes are shown in Figure 6. The granularity accumulation distribution charts for these complexes were displayed and shown in Figure 7. The average diameters and ten high of CuL and FeL nano complexes particles were displayed in Table 6, with a mean diameter ranging from (4.5-9.0 nm) and an average diameter of 82.96 nm. The diameters of the particles making up FeL nano complex range between (20-45 nm), with an average diameter of 97.74 nm.

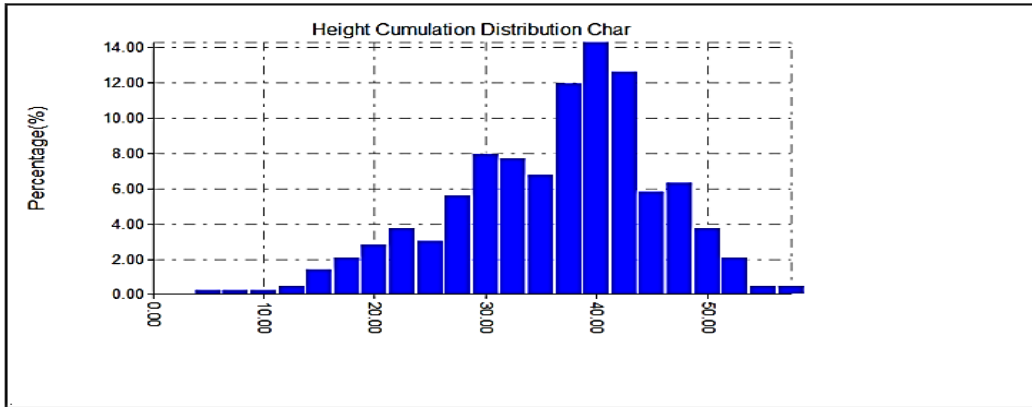
**Table (6):** Summary of the AFM information for CuL and FeL nano complexes

| Sample | Roughness Average (nm) | Root Mean Square (nm) | Average Hight (nm) | Average Diameter (nm) |
|--------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| CuL    | 1.31                   | 1.73                  | 6.89               | 82.9                  |
| FeL    | 8.3                    | 10.3                  | 42                 | 97                    |

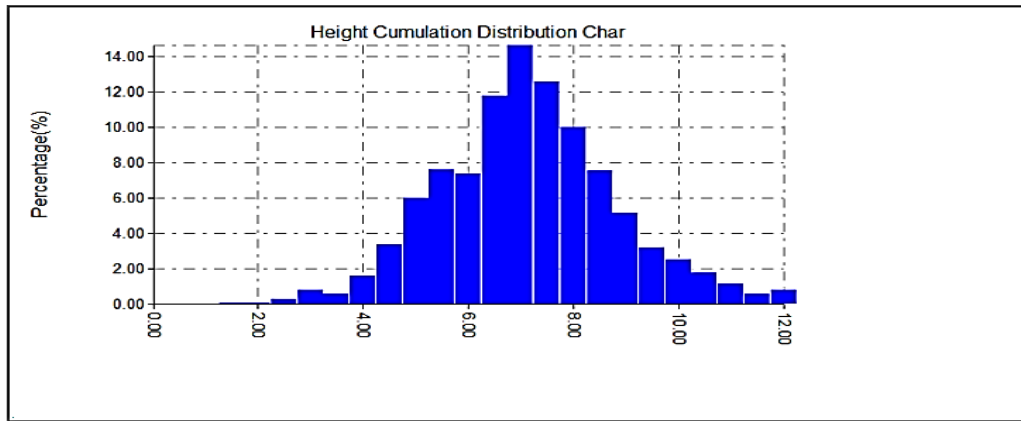


**Figure (6):** AFM three and two-dimensional image for (a) CuL (b) FeL nanoparticles complexes

(a)



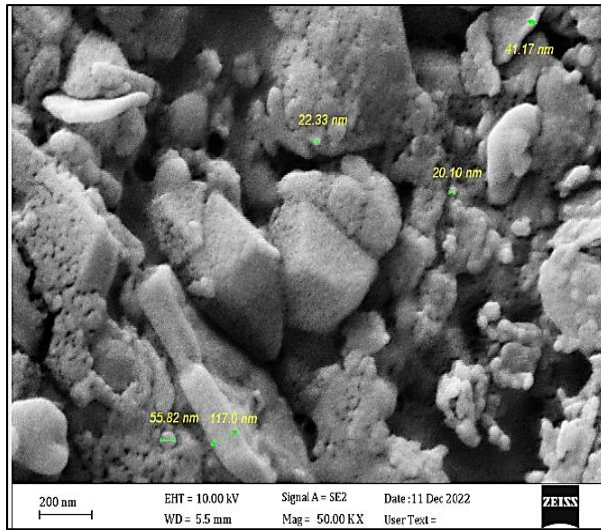
(b)



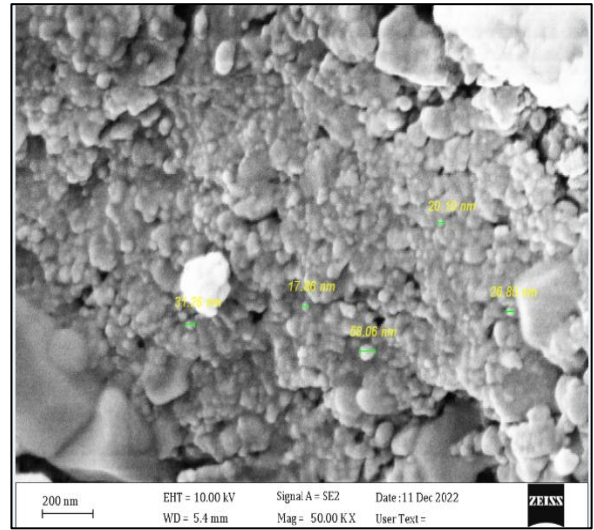
**Figure (7):** Granularity accumulation distribution of (a) CuL (b) FeL nanoparticles complexes.

**(SEM) Scanning Electron Microscopy and Energy Distributed X-Ray Spectrometry (EDS)**

Pictures of the CuL Nano complex taken using a scanning electron microscope (SEM) reveal particles with sizes ranging from around (20-55nm), Figure 8. Similar results are seen for the FeL Nano complex; scanning electron microscopy (SEM) pictures of the FeL Nano complex were also displayed, revealing particle sizes of around (35-46nm).

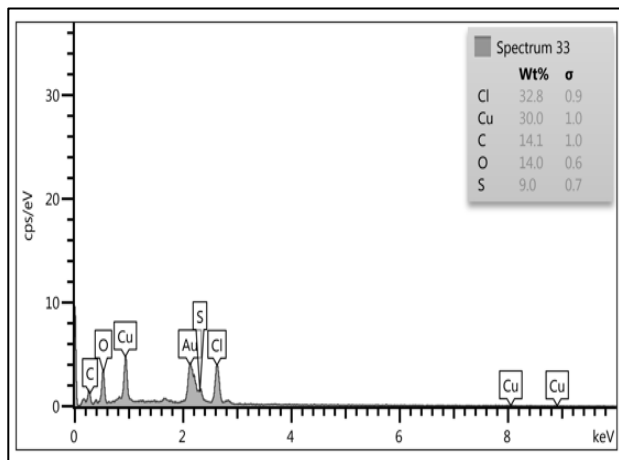


(a)

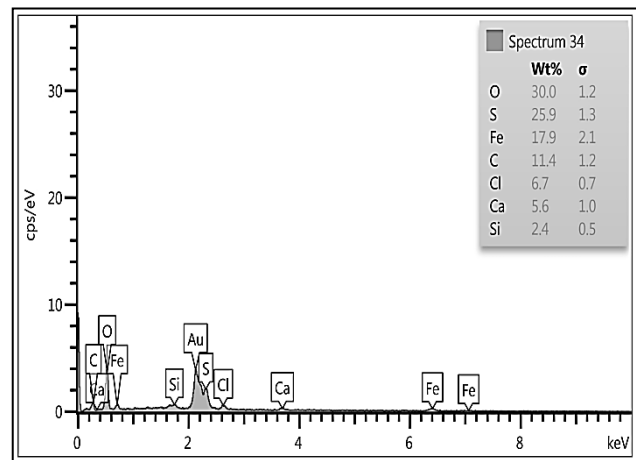


(b)

Figure (8): SEM of (a) CuL (b) FeL nanoparticles complexes.



(a)



(b)

Figure (9): EDS of (a) CuL (b) FeL nanoparticles complexes.

### Application of PMMA-PVA to remove elements from contaminated water.

Traditional and membrane approaches are available for removing heavy metal pollutants from wasted streams. Contaminated heavy metals must be recovered to prevent further contamination and gain economic benefit.

An internal standard method (In) and a multi-standard calibration method were used to precisely analyze metals in water samples (Husam *et al.*, 2013; Maysoon *et al.*, 2022).

PMMA-PVA was applied to remove some of the elements in polluted water that were left over from the power stations, where very trace concentrations of the elements that were previously detected in the samples taken from the liquid waste left over from two power



stations were prepared, which are (20, 40, and 60) ppm, using the atomic absorption technique to determine its percentage after the removal process, which conducted through the preparation of a polymeric composite of each of the prepared PMMA-PVA and zeolite. The obtained results are listed in Table (7).

**Table (7):** The experimental result of removal metals (Mn(II), Fe(III), Ni(II) and Cu(II)) by designed PMMA-PVA - composite.

| Metal   | Initial concentration ppm. | Final concentration (after applying PMMA-PVA) ppm. | Final concentration (after applying PMMA-PVA with composite at 40 ppm from each metal) | Concentration ppm. (in the wastewater from Al Doraa power station after application PMMA-PVA with composite) | Concentration ppm. (in the wastewater from South of Baghdad power station after application PMMA-PVA with composite) |
|---------|----------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Mn(II)  | 20                         | 4  | 0.9  | 0.95   | 0.54   |
|         | 40                         | 10   |  |  |  |
|         | 60                         | 37.5   |  |  |  |
| Fe(III) | 20                         | 4.5  | ND   | ND   | ND   |
|         | 40                         | 10   |  |  |  |
|         | 60                         | 17.5   |  |  |  |
| Ni(II)  | 20                         | 2.8  | 0.27   | 0.23   | 0.06   |
|         | 40                         | 17   |  |  |  |
|         | 60                         | 38   |  |  |  |
| Cu(II)  | 20                         | 15   | 0.088  | 0.16   | 0.06   |
|         | 40                         | 20   |  |  |  |
|         | 60                         | 44   |  |  |  |

## CONCLUSION

The findings point to the potential for producing Nanocomposites by complexation of polymeric ligand methyl(S)-5-hydroxy-2-methylhexanoate (PMMA-PVA) with metals that were only partially soluble in solvents like water, ethanol, and DMSO. Because of the copolymer's fast complexation with elements, this property of the (PMMA-PVA) copolymer allows for its wide range of use.

Complexation and adsorption are two mechanisms by which it successfully purges water of harmful substances, wherein one approach involves ligand-to-metal interactions in polluted water. In contrast, in the adsorption method, composites were made by combining zeolite and poly (Methyl methacrylate-co-polyvinyl alcohol) or (PMMA-PVA). Examination of polluted water before and after using the produced compounds revealed that the removal utilizing the composite materials was significantly more effective, with the concentration being recorded as very low and the concentrations of some metals completely disappearing from polluted water.

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