**RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS**

Dated: 12-09-2016

**Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society**

**Manuscript ID:** **JSCS2896**

**Submission Title:** **Synthesis, spectral studies and *in vitro* antimicrobial activity of some new Di/Triorganotin (IV) complexes of Schiff bases derived from 2-benzoyl pyridine**

Thanks for your useful comments and suggestions on the structure of our manuscript submitted for publication in Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society (JSCS). We have revised/modified the manuscript accordingly and detailed corrections are listed below point by point:

**Reviewer A:**

Does the manuscript contain enough significant original material?:

yes

Is the manuscript clearly and concisely written?:

yes

Are the conclusions adequately supported by the data?:

no

Does the manuscript give appropriate credit to related recent publications?:

yes

Are the references appropriate and free of important omissions?:

yes

Is the length of the manuscript appropriate?:

yes

Does the manuscript need condensation or extension?:

yes

Is the quality of the figures (including legends and axes labelling)

satisfactory?:

yes

Are the nomenclature and units in accordance with SI?:

yes

Are the English grammar and syntax satisfactory?:

no

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Please indicate the page numbers for suggested corrections.

Please, be as specific as possible if major correction by the author(s) is

recommended! :

The manuscript entitled “Synthesis, spectral studies and in vitro antimicrobial activity of some new Di/Triorganotin(IV) complexes of Schiff bases derived from 2benzoylpyridine” is not suitable in present form due to a lot of grammatical and typographic mistakes.

Thanks for your valuable advice. We have checked the whole manuscript carefully and tried to remove typo/grammatical/syntax errors in the manuscript. We believe that the manuscript is now free from such errors/mistakes.

**Comment 1:** Page 1 Line 11, correct the general formula R3SnCl. The ligand skeleton

 not mentioned.

**Response:** On Page 1, Line 11, the formula R3SnCl has been replaced by R3SnL.

**Comment 2:** No need to mention the names of all the microbial strains in abstract.

**Response:** The names of all the microbial strains in abstract have been removed.

**Comment 3:** Remove the errors and unnecessary words from Lines 25-26 at Page 1.

**Response:** All the errors and unnecessary words from Lines 25-26 at Page 1 have been removed.

**Comment 4:** Page 2 Line 35, a full stop is missing.

**Response:** A full stop has been added after chelating complexes at Page 2 Line 35.

**Comment 5:** Page 3 Line 76, include the reference.

**Response:** The reference has been included on Page 3 line 76.

**Comment 6:** Page 3 Line 80, delete the word “Synthesized” for the word “The”

**Response:** The word “Synthesized” has been replaced by “The” at Page 3 Line 80.

**Comment 7:** Delete the words “about” from the whole synthetic methodology (Page3).

**Response:** The word “about” has been deleted from synthetic methodology as desired.

**Comment 8:** Page 3 Line 85, replace the word “salt” with “salts”.

**Response:** The word “salt” is replaced by “salts” at Page 3 Line 85.

**Comment 9:** Page 3 Line 87-88, for the organotin chloride precursors (dichlorodialkyltin/trialkyltinchloride), use their systematic names in the same style (dialkyltin dichloride/trialkyltin chloride) along with their proper symbols.

**Response:** Thanks for your kind suggestion! As desired by the reviewer, the precursors dichlorodialkyltin/trialkyltinchloride along with their proper symbols has been replaced by dialkyltin dichloride/trialkyltin chloride at Page 3 Line 87-88.

**Comment 10:** There are errors in scheme 1. There is no need to repeat the values of R’ and R’’ two times in the same scheme. What is meant by R’ H, 9 in the scheme? Remove the + sign to differentiate by the symbol /to differentiate the di and triorgotin(IV) complexes.

**Response:** We have checked the Scheme 1 thoroughly and necessary corrections/modifications have been made according to the reviewer’s instructions. R’ H, 9 in the scheme was a typing mistake and authors apologize for this.

**Comment 11:** Page 4 Line 101, use the word concentrations instead of concentration.

**Response:** At Page 4 Line 101, the word concentration has been replaced by concentrations.

**Comment 12:** Page 4 Line 102, Replace the sentence “and then it was kept” by “The solutions were then kept”.

**Response:** The sentence “and then it was kept” is replaced by “The solutions were then kept” Page 4 Line 102.

**Comment 13:** Page 5 Line 109, Replace the word “dichlorodialkyltinchloride” by “dialkyltin dichloride”.

**Response:** At Page 5 Line 109, the word “dichlorodialkyltinchloride” has been replaced by “dialkyltin dichloride”.

**Comment 14:** Page 5 Line 113, use the word “ligands” instead of “ligand”.

**Response:** Page 5 Line 113, the word “ligand” has been replaced by “ligands”.

**Comment 15:** Remove the grammatical errors from Page 5 Line 119-120. Insert the word “and” instead of “comma” between the values of 1345 cm−1, 1210 cm−1.

**Response:** The grammatical errors from Page 5 Line 119-120 have been removed and the word “and” has been inserted instead of “comma” between the values of 1345 cm−1 and 1210 cm−1.

**Comment 16:** Page 6 Line 144, Replace the word “has” by “have”.

**Response:** The word “has” at Page 6 Line 144, has been replaced by “have”.

**Comment 17:** Use the unit “ppm” for each NMR value discussed under the heading “NMR spectral analysis”. The appearance of aromatic carbons at 153.94 ppm is strange.

**Response:** Thanks for your constructive suggestion! We have introduced the unit “ppm” for each NMR value. The peaks due to the Carbon adjacent to Nitrogen of pyridine nucleus appeared in the downfield aromatic region.

**Comment 18:** The authors claim regarding the appearance of molecular ion peak in all cases is strange. It is recommend to provide the mass spectral spectra of all the complexes and to display the better ones in manuscript. Moreover, the m/z peaks mentioned at Page 7, Line 176-177 are not molecular ion peaks.

**Response:** Thanks for your valuable advice and kindly reminding. We apologize for not explaining the mass spectra in an effective manner. We have made necessary corrections/modifications and explained in an improved and better way as per reviewer’s instruction. In the mass spectra, the [M+H]+ peaks were observed with very low abundance as we have mentioned in the manuscript. The mass spectra of all the complexes have been provided in the supplementary file as recommended by the reviewer. Further, the mass spectra of one of the complex i.e. (Bu2SnL3Cl) has been provided in the manuscript. We agree that all peaks were not the molecular ion peaks. The peaks shown at page 7 includes the peaks due to [M+H]+, ligand, isotope of tin and loss of chlorine [M-Cl]+ as shown in the spectrum in the manuscript.

**Comment 19:** Single crystal XRD for none of the complex has been reported so there is doubt about authenticity of results. Single crystal XRD data must be incorporated for at least one compound.

**Response:** Thanks for your constructive suggestion! However, the single crystal XRD is not possible for us at this stage for any of the complex.

**Comment 20:** There is needed to revise the abstract and conclusion in an impressive manner.

**Response:** Thanks for your great advice! The language of abstract and conclusion has been refined carefully. We believe that the language is now acceptable for further action.

In my opinion, this manuscript should be published after major revision and additional review.

**Response:** **The authors are grateful to the reviewer for his valuable comments to improve the quality of the manuscript.**

**Referee’s Report Ms. Ref. No. 2896**

The synthesis of organotin(IV) complexes of the type [R2SnLX, R3SnCl] by the condensation of 2-benzoylpyridine Schiff bases with R2SnCl2, R’3SnCl (R, R’ = Me, n-Bu, Ph) is reported in this ms. The complexes were characterized by IR, 1H, and 13C, 119Sn NMR, XRD and mass spectral techniques. The complexes were evaluated for their in vitro antimicrobial activities against four bacterial strains i.e. Gram positive Bacillus ceres (MTCC 10072), Staphyllococus aureus (MTCC NICM 2901) and Gram negative Escherichia coli (MTCC 732), Pseudomonas aeruginosa (MTCC 424), and two fungal strains i.e. Aspergillus flavus (ITCC 7680), Aspergillus niger (MTCC 7678) by serial dilution method.

The work reported in this ms is interesting. It can be accepted for publication in JSCS after minor revision

**Comment**: The antitumor activity of organotin compounds should be supported by updated references in introduction part (eg. Coord Chem Rev. 253, 2009, 235-249) The last reaction in scheme 1 is wrong written.

**Response:** Thanks for your great advice and kindly reminding! We have introduced the recent references into the introductory part of the manuscript for anticancer activity. [Reference no. 18] has beenupdated by “S. F. B. Kamalidehghan, K. M. Lo, N. M. Hashim, K. M. Chow, F. Ahmadipour, *Drug Des. Dev. Ther.,* **9** (2015) 6191–6201” and the reaction has been corrected. The scheme has been thoroughly checked by us as recommended by the reviewer.

**The authors are thankful to the reviewer for his helpful comments to improve the quality of the manuscript.**

The manuscript has been resubmitted to your journal. We believe that the manuscript is now acceptable for publication in your esteemed journal. We look forward to your positive response.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sonika