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Solution Thermochromic Properties of the $Bis(\beta$ -diimino-tetracyano-pyrrolizinido)Nickel(II) Complex

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Among the metal complex dyes 1 having the basic formula of $M(C_{11}N_7H_2)_2$, the nickel (II) derivative shows a peculiar behavior in solution: its color changes from blue at 248 K to pale yellow at 373 K. The largest variation of absorbance with temperature has been observed in AcOEt solution in the range of 278 – 313 K, and the corresponding specific value is – 4.75×10^2 M⁻¹cm⁻¹K⁻¹. Reversibility, reproducibility and good response make it suitable for the construction of optical temperature sensors.

1. Introduction

We are currently investigating the chemicophysical properties of the metal complexes of pyrrolizinates 1, $M(C_{11}N_7H_2)_2$, the structure of which is shown in Fig. 1, with the aim of evaluating them as functional materials. Metal complexes 1, which are neutral, planar and centrosymmetric molecules, were synthesized and characterized by us for the first time. (1-6) They can be applied in the fabrication of technological devices since they represent an important and new class of dyes, showing extreme similarity to the metal-phthalocyanines. (7)

In this note we report the thermochromic properties of $bis(\beta$ -diimino-tetracyano-pyrrolizinido)nickel(II) complex (1a) in ethyl acetate (AcOEt) solution.