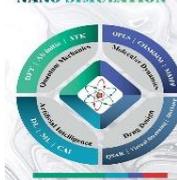




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Intramolecular hydrogen bond and tautomeric stability of 5-Bromo-salicylideneiminpo-ethylimino-pentan-2-one

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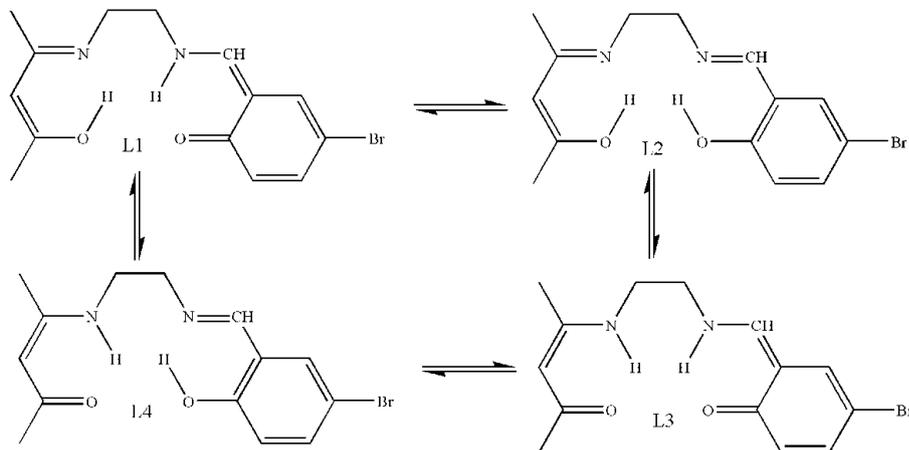
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HIGHLIGHTS

- L3, L4 tautomers are more stable than the L1, L2 tautomers.
- With increasing polarity of the solvents, L3 form finds more stability.
- The following trend in hydrogen bond strength is concluded: BrSEIPO > SEIPO > APO.

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT



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ABSTRACT

The tautomerism and intramolecular hydrogen bond of 5-Bromo-salicylideneimino-ethylimino-pentan-2-one (BrSEIPO) was studied by theoretical method. The tautomeric mole fraction calculations show that the L4 and L3 forms are the more stable form of SEIPO with 99.29% and 0.71% values in gas phase and for L4 form more than 67.91% in solution phase. It can be seen that with increasing the polarity of the solvent the molar fractions of two more stable forms are changed. The molar fraction of L4 and L3 forms decreases and increases, respectively. Besides, the mole fraction of L3 tautomer becomes in the range from ca. 0.87% to 33.69%, while the polarity of solvent increases. By comparing the value of the geometrical results ($RO\dots N$, $RN-H$, $O\dots H$, θOHN), AIM results (ρ_{BCP} , $\nabla^2\rho_{BCP}$, H_{BCP} , H-bond energy), and spectroscopic result (ν_{NH} , δ_{OH}) it can be seen that the intramolecular hydrogen bonding (IHB) of BrSEIPO is stronger than that in salicylideneimino-ethylimino-pentan-2-one (SEIPO) and 4-amino-3-pentan-2-one (APO).

1. Introduction

The tetradentate Schiff bases with an N_2O_2 donor group have received special attention due to being able to coordinate to different metal ions [1], formation metallo-organic complexes [2,3] and coordination compounds with diamine [4], salen-type [5,6], pyridine [7,8]. Asymmetrical Schiff base ligands are one of the most important compounds and received much attention due to the bounding of central metal ions with asymmetrical ligands in natural systems [9] and also optoelectronic, electrochemical and magnetic properties [10].

α,β -unsaturated- β -ketoenamines, are capable to exist in three different tautomers at equilibrium, i.e., ketoimine, aminoketone, and iminoenol forms.

The aminoketone and iminoenol forms of β -Enaminones are more stable than ketoimine form. Therefore, we investigate the behavior of tautomerism in these two more stable forms. Schiff bases with the N_2O_2 group coexistence of different isomeric forms, the aminoketone and iminoenol tautomers are engaged in a six-member ring by intramolecular hydrogen bonded system, with the N-H...O and O-H...N systems, respectively [11]. The calculated electronic energies of aminoketone forms are usually less than those of imino enol forms. This is in agreement with the reported studies, which is shown the aminoketone forms as a major form in β -Enaminones [12-14].

Hydrogen bonds are a key aspect of molecular structure and are one of the most important interactions in many chemical and biochemical processes. The N-H...O system is more important than the O-H...O bond because of its importance in protein folding, DNA pairing and so on [15-17].

Some of the effective factors such as temperature, the polarity of the solvent, and type of α and β substitutions can change the mentioned tautomerization equilibrium. These effective factors were studied by theoretical and experimental methods such as quantum-mechanical calculation, IR, Raman, microwave, UV, and NMR spectroscopies, X-ray, electron, and neutron diffraction measurements [12-14, 18-22].

The aim of this research is the study of tautomerism stability (see Figure 1) and comparison its intramolecular hydrogen bond strength with familiar molecules by theoretical and experimental methods.

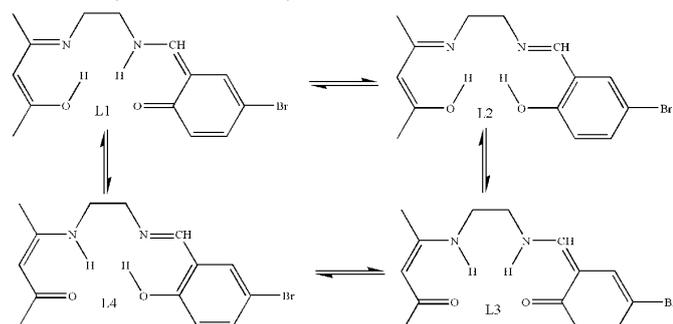


Figure 1 Possible tautomeric forms of 5-Bromo-salicylideneimino-ethylimino-pentan-2-one.

2. Computational details

All calculations of the four tautomers of the title compound were calculated using B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p) method using GAUSSIAN 03 program package [23]. The electronic properties are computed with the time-dependent DFT (TD-DFT) method with polarizable continuum models (PCM) [24]. AIM 2000 software [25] was applied to obtain an electron density at the hydrogen bond critical points. The natural atomic charges and charge transfer energies (E^2) are calculated via the NBO analysis.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1 Conformational studies and optimized geometry

Structural optimization calculations for four tautomers in the gas and solution phases are done and relative energies presented in Table 1. The L4 form has the most stability. The tautomeric mole fraction (according to their calculated ΔG energies [26]) show that the L4 and L3 forms are the more stable forms with 99.29% and 0.71% values in the gas phase. The selected solvents for comparison of mole fractions are CCl_4 ($\epsilon=2.2$), C_2H_5OH ($\epsilon=24.5$), and CH_3CN ($\epsilon=37.5$). Based on the results of Table 1, it can be seen that with increasing the polarity of the solvent the molar fractions of two more stable forms are changed. The molar fraction of L4 and L3 forms decreases and increases, respectively. The L3 form has more polarity than L4 form; therefore, with increasing solvent polarity L3 form becomes more stable and the molar fraction increases from 0.87 to 33.69.

As mentioned in conformational studies, the L3 form has a greater polarity than L4 form and with increased the polarity of the solvent the molar fraction of L3 form increases (see table 1). Table 1 show that increasing polarity of the solvent is not enough for the appearance of L3 form, in acetonitrile with

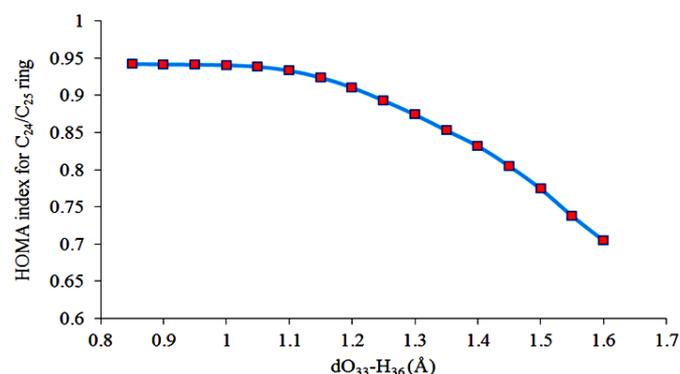


Figure 2. The changes in HOMA index of C_{24}/C_{25} ring during the proton transfer process.

Table 1: The selected molecular features for the L1, L2, L3 and L4 tautomers forms at DFT-B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p) level of theory.

	Gas				CCl_4				EtOH				CH_3CN			
	L1	L2	L3	L4	L1	L2	L3	L4	L1	L2	L3	L4	L1	L2	L3	L4
μ (Debye)	4.92	2.60	4.05	2.09	7.54	4.95	7.54	2.53	9.73	5.99	5.03	3.20	9.83	6.03	6.43	3.23
ΔE_0 (kcal/mol)	9.530	6.32	3.20	0.00	8.43	7.07	8.43	0.00	7.42	8.02	1.81	0.00	7.34	8.04	0.30	0.00
ΔG (kcal/mol)	9.51	6.59	2.92	0.00	8.38	7.23	2.81	0.00	7.71	8.46	1.60	0.00	7.40	8.43	0.44	0.00
Mole fractions (%)	0.00	0.00	0.71	99.29	0.00	0.00	0.87	93.76	0.00	0.00	32.09	66.31	0.00	0.00	33.69	67.91

Table 2: Optimized geometrical parameters of BrSEIPO at B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p) level.

Parameters	B3LYP				X-ray	X-ray
	L1	L2	L3	L4		
Bond lengths (Å)						
C ₁ -C ₂	1.369	1.368	1.437	1.435	1.419 ^a	1.413 ^b
C ₁ -C ₃	1.446	1.448	1.385	1.386	1.381 ^a	1.390 ^b
C ₂ -O ₁₃	1.328	1.328	1.248	1.248	1.232 ^a	1.241 ^b
H ₃₄ -N ₁₄	1.611	1.605	1.028	1.027	0.857 ^a	0.860 ^b
O ₁₃ ...H ₃₄	1.021	1.023	1.786	1.798	1.981 ^a	2.021 ^b
N ₁₄ -C ₃	1.303	1.300	1.352	1.348	1.317 ^a	1.328 ^b
N ₁₄ -O ₁₃	2.546	2.543	2.646	2.654	2.692 ^a	2.702 ^b
C ₂₂ -C ₂₄	1.303	1.300	1.352	1.348	1.454 ^c	
C ₂₄ -C ₂₆	1.447	1.449	1.446	1.449	1.394 ^c	
C ₂₂ -N ₁₉	1.403	1.456	1.401	1.454	1.269 ^c	1.278 ^d
N ₁₉ ...H ₃₆	1.463	1.419	1.463	1.419	1.858 ^c	1.780 ^d
H ₃₆ -O ₃₃	1.714	0.998	1.702	0.996	0.829 ^c	0.940 ^d
N ₁₉ -O ₃₃	2.590	2.619	2.583	1.726	2.610 ^c	2.613 ^d
C ₂₆ -O ₃₃	1.453	1.452	1.322	1.450	1.337 ^c	1.351 ^d
Bond angles (°)						
A(1,2,13)	122.0	122.0	123.1	123.2	123.9 ^a	123.6 ^b
A(1,3,14)	118.4	118.5	120.4	120.7	121.4 ^a	121.7 ^b
A(13,34,14)	149.8	150.0	138.6	138.5	136.4 ^a	135.5 ^b
A(24,22,19)	123.2	122.4	123.0	122.5	122.8 ^c	121.5 ^d
A(24,26,33)	122.1	121.7	122.0	121.8	121.6 ^c	121.3 ^d
A(19,36,33)	123.2	148.2	139.3	148.0	150.1 ^c	147.0 ^d

^a Ref. ²⁸.^b Ref. ²⁹.^c Ref. ³⁰.^d Ref. ³¹.

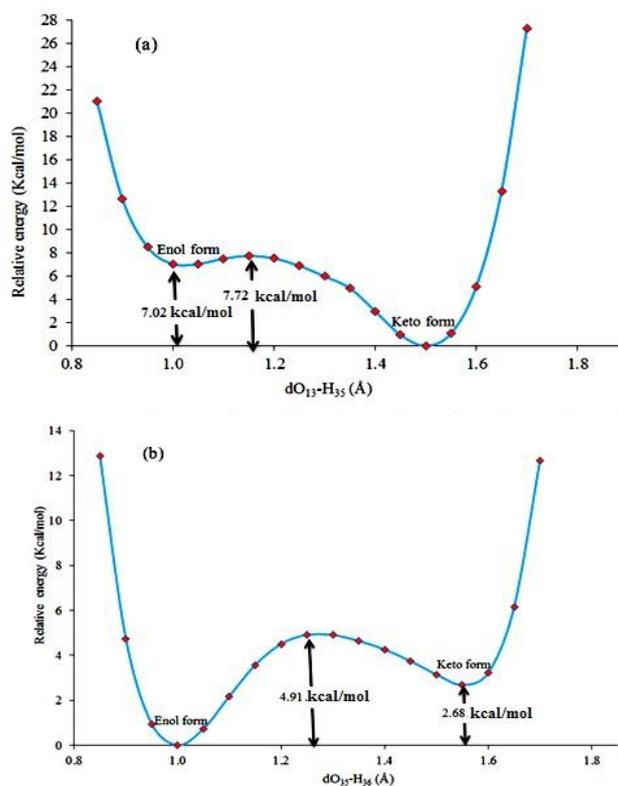
highest polarity L3 form has not appeared. The CH₃OH solvent is a protic and polar solvent; this property makes it possible for both forms L3 and L4 to be stable in this solvent. The polarity of the solvent and hydrogen bond formation between solvent and title compound plays a main role in the formation and fixation of L3 form.

For this compound, the calculated harmonic oscillator model of aromaticity (HOMA) [27] index for the C₂₄/C₂₅ ring is 0.942 (see Figure 2). As expected, the aromaticity level of the C₂₄/C₂₅ ring decreases as the L4 form changed to the L3 form, and confirms that L4 form is more stable than L3 form.

Schiff bases show tautomerism by intramolecular proton transfer from oxygen atom to the nitrogen atom. As a result of this, Schiff bases can exist in two tautomeric structures as enol (O-H...N in enol-imine) and keto (N-H...O in keto-amine) form in the solid state. In order to investigate the effects of proton transfer on molecular geometry a potential energy surface (PES) scan process was done at the B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p) level (see Figure 3). In Figure 3a, the keto form is more stable than the enol form, 7.72 kcal/mol is needed for this conversion, and Figure 3b shows that the enol form is more stable and less energy (4.91 kcal/mol) is required for exchange.

The optimized geometry of BrSEIPO is given in Figure 4, and geometrical parameters are listed in Table 2. To the best of our knowledge, exact experimental data on the geometrical parameters of BrSEIPO is not available in the literature. Therefore, the optimized structure can only be compared with other similar systems for which the crystal structures have been solved [28-31].

This table shows that the bond lengths and bond angles calculated in L3 and L4 forms are more consistent with the reported experimental results.

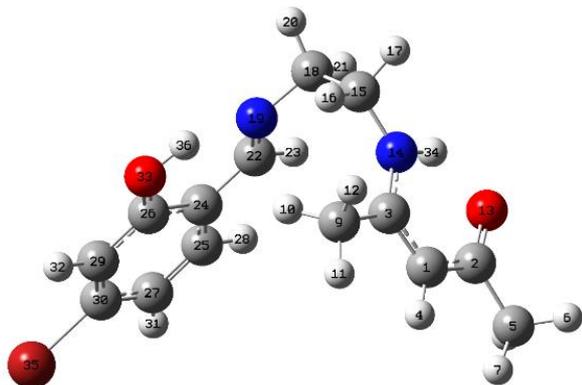
**Figure 3** Schematic energy profile of intramolecular proton transfer in gas phase; a) L1 form; b) L4 form.

The bond lengths of C₂=O₁₃=1.248 Å in L4, L3 forms, and C₂₂=N₁₉=1.283 Å in L4 form show that these bonds are of the double bond. Also, the bond length C₁₉-N₁₈ and C₁₄-N₁₅ are shorter than the normal C-N single bond length of about 1.48 Å.

Table 3: Calculated and observed ^1H chemical shifts for the most stable tautomeric forms of BrSEIPO.

Assignment	Theoretical		
	L3 form	L4 form	Averaged values
H _{10,11,12}	1.881	1.784	1.832
H _{6,7,8}	1.894	1.902	1.898
H ₂₁	3.327	3.235	3.281
H ₁₇	3.464	3.455	3.460
H ₁₆	3.864	3.669	3.767
H ₂₀	4.283	3.851	4.067
H ₄	5.082	5.170	5.126
H ₃₁	7.065	6.477	6.771
H ₃₂	7.336	7.054	7.195
H ₂₈	7.396	7.091	7.243
H ₂₃	8.514	7.752	8.133
H ₃₄	11.238	11.500	11.369
H ₃₆	13.191	---	---
	---	14.073	---

The bond angles C₁–C₃–N₁₄, C₂₄–C₂₂–N₁₉, C₃–N₁₅–C₁₆ and C₂₂–N₁₉–C₁₈ are about 120° which are consistent with the sp^2 hybrid character of C₃, C₂₃, N₁₄ and N₁₉ atoms³². In the keto-amine and enol-imine tautomers, the C–O and the C–N bonds are the double and single bonds, respectively.

**Figure 4.** The theoretical geometric structure of the title compound (B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p) level), with the atom numbering.

3.2 NMR spectral studies

The ^1H theoretical chemical shifts using the Gauge-Included Atomic Orbital (GIAO) method [33] and the assignments of BrSEIPO are presented in Table 3. In ^1H NMR spectrum, the absorption peaks of the aromatic ring, methyl, ethane and imino proton the aliphatic protons are observed in 6.77–7.24, 1.83–1.89, 3.28–4.07 and 8.13 ppm. A singlet peak at 11.37 ppm is related to intramolecular hydrogen bonding (O₁₃···H₃₄–N₁₄). The signals at $\delta = 13.91$ and $\delta = 14.07$ are assigned to the keto-amine (NH) and enol-imine (OH) protons, respectively.

3.3 Intramolecular hydrogen bonding

Some spectroscopic properties, AIM results and the averaged values of some optimized geometrical parameters of the chelated rings, related to the hydrogen bond strength for BrSEIPO, SEIPO and APO [34] are listed in Table 4. According to Table 4, in BrSEIPO the averaged values of O...N and O...H distances decrease, while the OHN bond angle and N–H bond length increase in comparison with SEIPO and APO. This is due to of high steric effect of ethyl group. This is in agreement with the averaged of the AIM results (see Table 4). Rozas et al. [35] reported that medium hydrogen bonds show the

Laplacian of electron density at the critical point ($\nabla^2\rho_{BCP}$) > 0 and the energy density at the bond critical point (H_{BCP}) < 0. The electron density at bond critical point (ρ_{BCP}) in BrSEIPO is greater than that of in SEIPO and APO. Thus, it is another evidence for the stronger IHB in BrSEIPO than that in SEIPO and APO. The hydrogen bond energy can be calculated using the relationship $E_{HB} = V(r_{BCP})/2$ described by Espinosa et al [36]. The average values of the E_{HB} for BrSEIPO (11.03), SEIPO (10.97), and for APO (8.20), calculated at the B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p) level, are also compared in Table 4, which is in agreement with the above trend for IHB strength.

This result is consistent with the NMR proton chemical shift of 9.7 and 10.91 ppm for the hydrogen-bonded proton in APO [37] and SEIPO, respectively.

To increase the power of hydrogen bonding, its better the proton chemical shift (δOH) and out-of-plane bending mode frequency (νNH) increase, and also the stretching mode frequency (νNH) decrease. By comparing the value of these quantities that presented in Table 4, the following trend in hydrogen bond strength is concluded: BrSEIPO > SEIPO > APO

To increase the power of hydrogen bonding, its better the OHO bond angle, N–H bond length, electron density at bond critical point (ρ_{BCP}), hydrogen bond energy ($E_{HB} = V(r_{BCP})/2$ [36]), proton chemical shift (δOH) and out-of-plane bending mode frequency (νNH) increase, and also the O...N, O...H distances and stretching mode frequency (νNH) decrease. By comparing the value of these quantities that presented in Table 4, the following trend in hydrogen bond strength is concluded: BrSEIPO > SEIPO > APO

3.4 NBO analysis

To understand the charge redistribution in the BrSEIPO, the NBO analysis for calculating the natural atomic charges and charge transfer energies (E^2) over all atoms involved in the chelated ring specially between the $\text{lp}(\text{O}) \rightarrow \sigma^*\text{N–H}$ and $\text{lp}(\text{N}) \rightarrow \sigma^*\text{O–H}$ in gas phase and different solvents in order to understand the solvent effects on interactions done by using NBO 3.1 program [38] and listed in table 5. By increasing of hydrogen bond strength, electron resonance in the chelate ring increases. With increasing the polarity of solvents the charge transfer energies (E^2) for $\text{LP}(\text{O}_{13}) \rightarrow \text{BD}^*\text{N}_{14}\text{–H}_{34}$ reduced whereas $\text{LP}(\text{O}_{33}) \rightarrow \text{BD}^*\text{N}_{19}\text{–H}_{36}$ and $\text{LP}(\text{N}_{19}) \rightarrow \text{BD}^*\text{O}_{33}\text{–H}_{36}$ interactions increases and

decrease, respectively. Actually, L3 form becomes more stable with increasing solvent polarity.

5. In Figure 5, this molecule has several possible sites for the electrophilic attacks over the nitrogen and oxygen atoms with the fitting point charge - 0.675 (O₁₃), -0.604 (N₁₄) -0.682 (O₃₃), -0.537 (N₁₉) (The values are for the more

Table 4: Comparing several properties related to the hydrogen bond strength (O₁₃H₃₄N₁₄) for BrSEIPO, SEIPO, and APO (All calculated at the B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p) level).

	BrSEIPO	SEIPO ^a	AP0 ^c
<i>Geometrical results^d</i>			
RO...N	2.650	2.652	2.666
RN-H	1.029	1.028	1.019
O...H	1.792	1.794	1.885
∠OHN	138.6	138.5	130.9
<i>AIM results^b</i>			
ρ_{BCP}	0.0401	0.0399	0.0324
$\nabla^2\rho_{BCP}$	0.0331	0.0330	0.0290
H_{BCP}	-0.0352	-0.0350	-0.0014
H-bond energy	11.0296	10.9679	8.2048
<i>Spectroscopic results^e</i>			
ν_{NH}	3148	3151(3060)	3422(3179)
γ_{NH}	849	847(836)	811(818)
δ_{OH}	11.37	11.36(10.91)	10.26(9.7 ^f)

^a R is the intramolecular O...N, N-H, O...H distances in Å, θ : the hydrogen bond angle N-H...O in degree (for BrSEIPO, the average values are given).

^b The units of AIM results are: ρ_{BCP} (e au⁻³), $\nabla^2\rho_{BCP}$ (e au⁻³), H_{BCP} (hartree au⁻³) and H-bond energy (kcal/mol).

^c ν and γ are stretching and out-of-plane bending modes frequencies, respectively, in cm⁻¹. δ : proton chemical shift in ppm. (Experimental values are given in parenthesis).

^d Data source: Ref. ²².

^e Data source: Ref. ³⁴.

^f Data source: Ref. ³⁷.

Table 5: Second order perturbation theory analysis of the fock matrix in NBO basis in different solvents.

Solvent	L4 form			L3 form		
	Donor	Acceptor	E^2	Donor	Acceptor	E^2
Gas phase	LP(2)O ₁₃	BD*(1)N ₁₄ -H ₃₄	13.18	LP(2)O ₁₃	BD*(1)N ₁₄ -H ₃₄	13.91
	LP(1)N ₁₉	BD*(1)O ₃₃ -H ₃₆	20.37	LP(1)O ₃₃	BD*(1)N ₁₉ -H ₃₆	25.71
CCl ₄	LP(2)O ₁₃	BD*(1)N ₁₄ -H ₃₄	11.95	LP(2)O ₁₃	BD*(1)N ₁₄ -H ₃₄	12.63
	LP(1)N ₁₉	BD*(1)O ₃₃ -H ₃₆	17.47	LP(1)O ₃₃	BD*(1)N ₁₉ -H ₃₆	27.30
CH ₂ Cl ₂	LP(2)O ₁₃	BD*(1)N ₁₄ -H ₃₄	10.49	LP(2)O ₁₃	BD*(1)N ₁₄ -H ₃₄	10.88
	LP(1)N ₁₉	BD*(1)O ₃₃ -H ₃₆	13.86	LP(1)O ₃₃	BD*(1)N ₁₉ -H ₃₆	29.55
EtOH	LP(2)O ₁₃	BD*(1)N ₁₄ -H ₃₄	10.53	LP(2)O ₁₃	BD*(1)N ₁₄ -H ₃₄	10.83
	LP(1)N ₁₉	BD*(1)O ₃₃ -H ₃₆	13.75	LP(1)O ₃₃	BD*(1)N ₁₉ -H ₃₆	29.48
CH ₃ CN	LP(2)O ₁₃	BD*(1)N ₁₄ -H ₃₄	10.47	LP(2)O ₁₃	BD*(1)N ₁₄ -H ₃₄	10.81
	LP(1)N ₁₉	BD*(1)O ₃₃ -H ₃₆	13.72	LP(1)O ₃₃	BD*(1)N ₁₉ -H ₃₆	29.57

^a E^2 means energy of hyper-conjugative interactions (stabilization energy in kcal/mol)

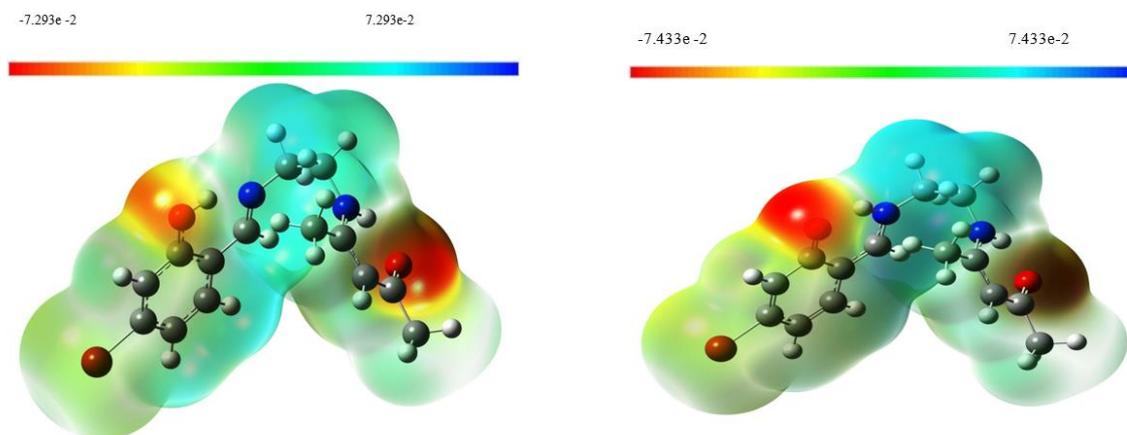


Figure 5. Molecular electrostatic potential surface for L3 and L4 forms calculated by B3LYP/6-311G++(d,p) level. (For interpretation of the references to color in this figure, the reader is referred to the web version of the article.)

3.5 Molecular electrostatic potential (MEP) surface

The plot of the MEP (3D) reveals maximum values of positive and negative potentials corresponding to chemical reactivity (electrophilic and nucleophilic region). The 3D plot of the MEP surface for the DABMISO is shown in Figure

stable L4). Also, maximum positive and negative potential regions are localized to the hydrogen atoms (particular H atoms of ethane) and electronegative atoms indicating possible sites for nucleophilic and electrophilic attacks.

From figure 5 it can be concluded that the strong and weak negative area associated with the O and N atoms and the feeble positive area of the around H₁₄, H₃₆ atoms are the demonstrator of intramolecular (intramolecular (O₁₃...H₃₄-N₁₄, N₁₉...H₃₆-O₃₃) hydrogen bonding.

(4) Cummings, S. D.; Cheng, L.-T.; Eisenberg, R. Metalloorganic Compounds for Nonlinear Optics: Molecular Hyperpolarizabilities of M (diimine)(dithiolate) Complexes (M= Pt, Pd, Ni). *Chemistry of materials* **1997**, *9* (2), 440-450.

(5) Lenoble, G.; Lacroix, P. G.; Daran, J. C.; Di Bella, S.; Nakatani, K. *Syntheses*,

Table 6 Calculated absorption wavelengths and oscillator strengths of L3 and L4 forms.

Solvent	Calculated (L3 form)			Calculated (L4 form)		
	λ (nm)	f	Major contribution ($\geq 10\%$)	λ (nm)	f	Major contribution ($\geq 10\%$)
CCl ₄	383	0.1408	H \rightarrow L(75%), H-1 \rightarrow L(24%)	352	0.0322	H \rightarrow L(100%)
	367	0.0804	H-1 \rightarrow L(75%), H \rightarrow L(23%)			
	304	0.0002	H-2 \rightarrow L(69%), H-2 \rightarrow L+1(30%)			
	294	0.0233	H \rightarrow L+1(74%), H-2 \rightarrow L+1(15%)			
C ₂ H ₅ OH	382	0.1337	H \rightarrow L(75%), H-1 \rightarrow L(24%)	348	0.0282	H \rightarrow L(100%)
	366	0.0796	H-1 \rightarrow L(75%), H \rightarrow L(23%)			
	303	0.0003	H-2 \rightarrow L(66%), H-2 \rightarrow L+1(33%)			
	293	0.0269	H \rightarrow L+1(94%)			
	279	0.0150	H-2 \rightarrow L(90%)	279	0.0150	H-2 \rightarrow L(90%)
	266	0.0018	H-4 \rightarrow L(96%)	266	0.0035	H-4 \rightarrow L(95%)

For both L3 and L4 forms in CCl₄ and C₂H₅OH solvents, wavelength (λ), oscillator strength (f) and major contributions of transitions calculated and compared with experimental results (see Table 6).

4. Conclusion

The tautomeric equilibria in 5-Bromo-salicylideneiminopent-2-one and tautomerism in selected solvents have been studied. The results showed that the L4 and L3 forms are the more stable forms with 99.29% and 0.71% values in the gas phase. The L3 form has more polarity than L4 form; therefore, with increasing solvent polarity L3 form becomes more stable and the molar fraction increases from 0.87 to 32.09. By comparing the value of the effective parameters for the hydrogen bond (AIM results, spectroscopic properties and optimized geometrical parameters), the following trend in hydrogen bond strength is concluded: BrSEIPO > SEIPO > APO.

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