



# Structural characterisation of some vanillic Mannich bases: Experimental and theoretical study

Vladimir P. Petrović<sup>a,\*</sup>, Dušica Simijonović<sup>a</sup>, Sladjana B. Novaković<sup>b</sup>, Goran A. Bogdanović<sup>b</sup>, Svetlana Marković<sup>a</sup>, Zorica D. Petrović<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Faculty of Science, University of Kragujevac, P.O. Box 60, 34000 Kragujevac, Serbia

<sup>b</sup> Vinča Institute of Nuclear Sciences, University of Belgrade, P.O. Box 522, 11001 Belgrade, Serbia

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## ABSTRACT

In this paper, synthesis and structural determination of 2-[1-(*N*-4-fluorophenylamino)-1-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)]methylcyclohexanone (**MB-F**) is presented. To determine the structure of this new compound, IR and NMR spectral characterisation was performed experimentally and theoretically. Simulation of spectral data was carried out using three functionals: B3LYP, B3LYP-D2, and M06-2X. The results obtained for **MB-F** were compared to those attained for similar, known compound 2-[1-(*N*-phenylamino)-1-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)]methylcyclohexanone (**MB-H**), whose crystal structure is presented here. Taking into account all experimental and theoretical findings, the structure of **MB-F** was proposed.

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## 1. Introduction

Mannich-type reactions are of great importance in organic synthesis. The products of these reactions are  $\beta$ -amino-carbonyl compounds [1–5]. Many alkaloids, nucleotides, steroids, peptides, antibiotics and vitamins [6–10] comprise Mannich base fragments. Bioactivity, such as antioxidative [11], antifungal [12], anti-inflammatory [13], antimalarial [14], vasorelaxing [15], antitubercular [16], analgesic [17], anticancer [18–21], etc., is a common feature of this class of compounds. Recently, the details on the synthesis and biological activity of some Mannich bases were reported [22]. To elucidate physico-chemical properties of compounds various methods have been developed, such as analytical techniques X-ray, NMR, IR, ESI-MS, etc., as well as quantum chemical calculations.

In this study we report the synthesis of the new Mannich base, 2-[1-(*N*-4-fluorophenylamino)-1-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)]methylcyclohexanone (**MB-F**). In addition we present various results related to **MB-F** and 2-[1-(*N*-phenylamino)-1-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)]methylcyclohexanone (**MB-H**) [22]. This investigation includes the spectroscopic and crystallographic data, as well

as the results of quantum chemical calculations, and is focused towards structural determination of both compounds. Our additional goal was to test the performance of different theoretical methods in determination of structural and spectroscopic properties of the investigated Mannich bases.

## 2. Experimental

### 2.1. Reagents

The compounds chloroacetic acid, vanillin, 4-fluoroaniline, cyclohexanone, were obtained from Aldrich Chemical Co. Diethanolamine (DEA) was purchased from Fluka. All common chemicals were of reagent grade.

### 2.2. Measurements

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were run in CDCl<sub>3</sub> on a Varian Gemini 200 MHz spectrometer. The IR spectra in the solid state were recorded on a Perkin–Elmer Spectrum One FT-IR spectrometer using KBr pellet technique. The resolution of the scanning was 400 cm<sup>−1</sup> at 16 scans. Melting points were determined on a Mel-Temp capillary melting points apparatus, model 1001. Elemental microanalyses for carbon, hydrogen, and nitrogen were performed at the Faculty of Chemistry, University of Belgrade.

\* Corresponding author.

E-mail address: [vladachem@kg.ac.rs](mailto:vladachem@kg.ac.rs) (V.P. Petrović).











