

Synthesis, Crystal Structure and Luminescence of Zinc(II) Complex with 2,6-Pyridinedicarboxylic Acid Radical and 1,10-Phenanthroline

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Received: 31 October 2013;

Accepted: 18 March 2014;

Published online: 30 September 2014;

AJC-16123

A new zinc(II) complex, $[\text{Zn}(\text{pydc})_2] \cdot [\text{Zn}(\text{phen})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2] \cdot 7.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$, has been synthesized by the reaction of zinc sulfate, 2,6-pyridinedicarboxylic acid (pydcH₂) and 1,10-phenanthroline (phen) and characterized by elemental analysis, IR, UV-visible, TG and X-ray single-crystal diffraction. It crystallizes in triclinic, space group $P\bar{1}$, with $a = 1.0091$ (3), $b = 1.4799$ (4), $c = 1.4984$ (4) nm, $\alpha = 73.783$ (4), $\beta = 78.374$ (4), $\gamma = 74.886$ (4)°, $V = 2.0543$ (9) nm³, $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{41}\text{N}_6\text{O}_{17.5}\text{Zn}_2$, $M_r = 992.36$, $Z = 2$, $D_c = 1.574$ Mg/m³, $\gamma(\text{MoK}\alpha) = 0.071073$ nm, $\mu = 1.252$ mm⁻¹, $F(000) = 984$, $S = 1.040$, the final $R = 0.0412$ and $wR = 0.1335$ for 6128 observed reflections ($I > 2\sigma(I)$). The structure unit of the complex consists of two zinc ions with different coordination modes. Each 6-coordinated geometry of the Zn atom is a distorted octahedral coordination geometry. The complex shows a strong fluorescence emission at around 367 nm in methanol solution (CCDC: 848466).

Keywords: Zinc complex, Crystal structure, Luminescent property.

INTRODUCTION

The construction of metal organic complexes is one of the most active research areas of materials due to their interesting properties and various potential applications, such as electrical conductivity, magnetism, host-guest chemistry, ion exchange, catalysis and nonlinear optics¹⁻³. Pyridinedicarboxylic acid is an active ligand not only for its multivariate coordination modes with transition metals and rare metals, but also for its biological activities in organism, so its complexes are widely studied and used in the fields of biochemistry and analytical chemistry⁴⁻⁷. Zinc is an essential trace element for organism and plays important roles in many vital movements. Some mono- and dinuclear zinc complexes with pyridinedicarboxylic acid ligand have already been observed^{8,9}. Though structures of zinc complexes with pydcH₂ have been studied⁸, there are some crystallographic differences between previous studies and the present one. The changes reflected not only in terms of the number of the crystal water molecules but also in terms of the synthetic methods. A new zinc complex, $[\text{Zn}(\text{pydc})_2] \cdot [\text{Zn}(\text{phen})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2] \cdot 7.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$, was obtained by using solvent evaporation method. Here we report the synthesis, crystal structure, thermal stability and fluorescence property of the complex.

EXPERIMENTAL

Zinc sulfate, 1,10-phenanthroline and NaOH were of analytically pure grade and the purity of 2,6-pyridinedicarboxylic acid was 99%. Elemental analyses (C, H and N) were performed on Vario E1 elemental. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Nicolet 5700 FT-IR spectrophotometer (4000-400 cm⁻¹) using KBr pellets. UV-visible spectra were recorded on a Lambda 650s UV-visible spectrophotometer. Thermogravimetric analysis was carried out on a Netzsch STA 449C thermal analyzer in flowing N₂ atmosphere at a heating rate of 10 °C/min from room temperature to 700 °C. The fluorescence property of the complex was tested using a CARY Eclipse fluorescence spectroscopy.

Synthesis of Zn(II) complex: 2,6-Pyridinedicarboxylic acid (1 mmol, 0.17 g), 1,10-phenanthroline (1 mmol, 0.20 g) and NaOH (2 mmol, 0.08 g) were dissolved in 20 mL mixed solvent of C₂H₅OH/H₂O by stirring and ZnSO₄·7H₂O (1 mmol, 0.29 g) in 10 mL H₂O was added slowly and further stirred for 3 h at room temperature. The resulting solution was filtered and the filtrate was kept at room temperature for several days. Colorless block crystals (Yield: 44%) suitable for X-ray diffraction were obtained. Anal. calcd. (%) for C₃₈H₄₁N₆O_{17.5}Zn₂: Calcd. (%): C, 46.00; H, 4.13; N, 8.47. Found (%): C, 45.87;

H, 4; N, 8.21. IR (KBr, ν_{\max} , cm^{-1}) 3429 (s); 1626 (s); 1584 (m); 1520 (w), 1430 (m), 1364 (s), 728 (m), 678 (w).

X-ray crystallographic determination: X-ray diffraction data were collected at 296 (2) K on a Bruker SMART APEX-II CCD diffractometer equipped with a graphite-monochromated $\text{MoK}\alpha$ radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ nm) by using a ϕ - ω scan mode. In the range of $1.79 \leq \theta \leq 25^\circ$, a total of 10523 reflections together with 7182 unique ones ($R_{\text{int}} = 0.0136$) were collected and 6128 observed reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$ were used in the succeeding refinements. The structure was solved by direct methods using SHELXS-97 program¹⁰ and refined with SHELXL-97¹¹ by full-matrix least-squares techniques on F^2 . The hydrogen atoms of water molecules in complex were not added. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically and hydrogen atoms isotropically by full-matrix least-squares refinement. The final cycle of refinement converged to $R = 0.0412$ and $wR = 0.1335$ ($w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0987 P)^2 + 0.9035 P]$, where $P = (F_o^2 + 2 F_c^2)/3$), $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.000$, $(\Delta\rho)_{\max} = 1.430$ and $(\Delta\rho)_{\min} = -0.789 \text{ e}/\text{\AA}^3$. The selected bond lengths and bond angles are listed in Table-1.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Crystal structure: The crystal structure and packing diagram of the complex are shown in Figs. 1-3, respectively. The two zinc atoms in the complex $[\text{Zn}(\text{pydc})_2] \cdot [\text{Zn}(\text{phen})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2] \cdot 7.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ shows two coordination modes (Fig. 1). The Zn(1) is coordinated with four nitrogen atoms from two 1,10-phenanthroline molecules and two oxygen atoms from two water molecules. The Zn(2) is coordinated with two nitrogen atoms and four oxygen atoms from two pydcH₂ molecules. Each 6-coordinated geometry of the Zn atom is a distorted octahedral coordination geometry. Phen and pydcH₂ are bidentate and tridentate ligands, respectively, an anionic $[\text{Zn}(\text{pydc})_2]^{2-}$ and cationic $[\text{Zn}(\text{phen})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]^{2+}$ are formed simultaneously.

In the Zn(1)O₂N₄ octahedron, O(2W), N(1), N(3) and N(4) locate at the equatorial plane and N(2) and O(1W) occupy the axial positions. Bond angles of O(2W)-Zn(1)-N(1), N(1)-Zn(1)-N(4), N(4)-Zn(1)-N(3) and N(3)-Zn(1)-O(2W) are 89.18 (10), 96.06 (10), 77.94 (10) and 97.13 (9)°, respectively. The sum of these angles is 360.31° (close to 360°), suggesting a planar nature of O(2W), N(1), N(3), N(4) and Zn(1). Bond

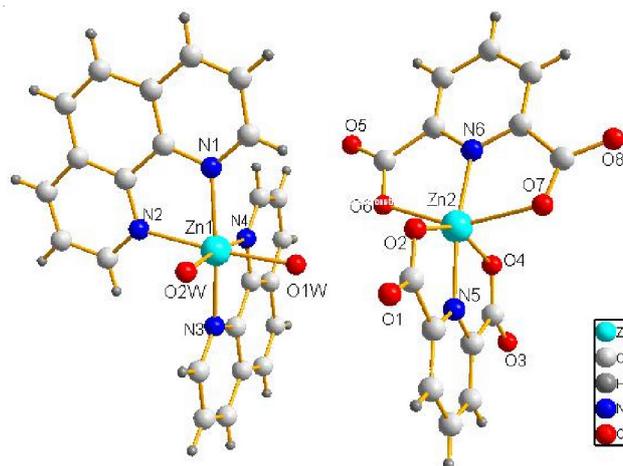


Fig. 1. Molecular structure of the Zn(II) complex; (H₂O molecules have been omitted for clarity)

angle of O(1W)-Zn(1)-N(2) is 174.93°. The dihedral angle between the two phen molecules is 87°.

In the Zn(2)N₂O₄ octahedron, the two planes of pydcH₂ molecules is almost vertical, the dihedral angle between them is 89.8°. The angles of O(2)-Zn(2)-O(4) and O(6)-Zn(2)-O(7) are 152.81(9) and 151.99(9)°, respectively, indicating a distorted octahedron.

The complex molecules are arranged in zigzag chain along *c* axis (Fig. 2). Though the hydrogen atoms of water molecules were not added, but hydrogen bonds could be deduced from the distances of oxygen atoms (O (1W) and O (6), 0.270 nm; O (2W) and O (4), 0.277 nm). One chain is packed trans to the other forming a column, in which the phen molecules of one chain and pydcH₂ molecules of the other are arranged alternately. The columns are stacked and the channels are filled with water molecules (Fig. 3).

IR and UV-visible spectra: In the IR spectrum, a strong and wide adsorption band around 3429 cm^{-1} is the characteristic vibration of water. Bands at 1626 and 1364 cm^{-1} could be attributed to the stretching vibration ($\nu_{\text{as}}(\text{COO}^-)$ and $\nu_{\text{s}}(\text{COO}^-)$) of coordinated carboxyl. Compared with those of free ligand of 2,6-pyridinedicarboxylic acid ($\nu_{\text{as}} = 1698$, $\nu_{\text{s}} = 1458 \text{ cm}^{-1}$), a clearly red shift appears. $\Delta\nu$ ($\Delta\nu = \nu_{\text{as}}(\text{COO}^-) - \nu_{\text{s}}(\text{COO}^-)$) is 262

TABLE-1
SELECTED BOND LENGTHS (nm) AND BOND ANGLES (°)

Bond	Dist.	Bond	Dist.	Bond	Dist.
Zn(1)-N(1)	0.2133(3)	Zn(1)-N(3)	0.2119(2)	Zn(1)-O(1W)	0.2141(2)
Zn(1)-N(2)	0.2164(3)	Zn(1)-N(4)	0.2179(3)	Zn(1)-O(2W)	0.2128(2)
Zn(2)-N(5)	0.2016(2)	Zn(2)-O(2)	0.2153(3)	Zn(2)-O(6)	0.2155(2)
Zn(2)-N(6)	0.2017(2)	Zn(2)-O(4)	0.2260(2)	Zn(2)-O(7)	0.2230(2)
Angle	(°)	Angle	(°)	Angle	(°)
N(3)-Zn(1)-O(2W)	97.13(9)	N(3)-Zn(1)-N(1)	171.00(10)	N(1)-Zn(1)-O(2W)	89.18(10)
N(3)-Zn(1)-O(1W)	89.77 (9)	O(2W)-Zn(1)-O(1W)	86.84 (9)	N(1)-Zn(1)-O(1W)	97.02(10)
N(3)-Zn(1)-N(2)	95.20(9)	O(2W)-Zn(1)-N(2)	93.52(10)	N(1)-Zn(1)-N(2)	77.94(10)
N(2)-Zn(1)-O(1W)	174.93(9)	N(3)-Zn(1)-N(4)	77.94(10)	O(2W)-Zn(1)-N(4)	174.24(9)
N(1)-Zn(1)-N(4)	96.06(10)	O(1W)-Zn(1)-N(4)	90.15(9)	N(2)-Zn(1)-N(4)	89.92(10)
N(5)-Zn(2)-N(6)	168.56(10)	N(5)-Zn(2)-O(2)	77.76(10)	N(6)-Zn(2)-O(2)	112.45(10)
N(5)-Zn(2)-O(6)	108.28(9)	N(6)-Zn(2)-O(6)	77.10(9)	O(2)-Zn(2)-O(6)	93.40(11)
N(5)-Zn(2)-O(7)	99.72(9)	O(7)-Zn(2)-N(6)	75.49(9)	O(2)-Zn(2)-O(7)	91.74(11)
O(6)-Zn(2)-O(7)	151.99(9)	N(5)-Zn(2)-O(4)	75.08(9)	N(6)-Zn(2)-O(4)	94.72(9)
O(2)-Zn(2)-O(4)	152.81(9)	O(6)-Zn(2)-O(4)	93.77(9)	O(7)-Zn(2)-O(4)	94.12(9)

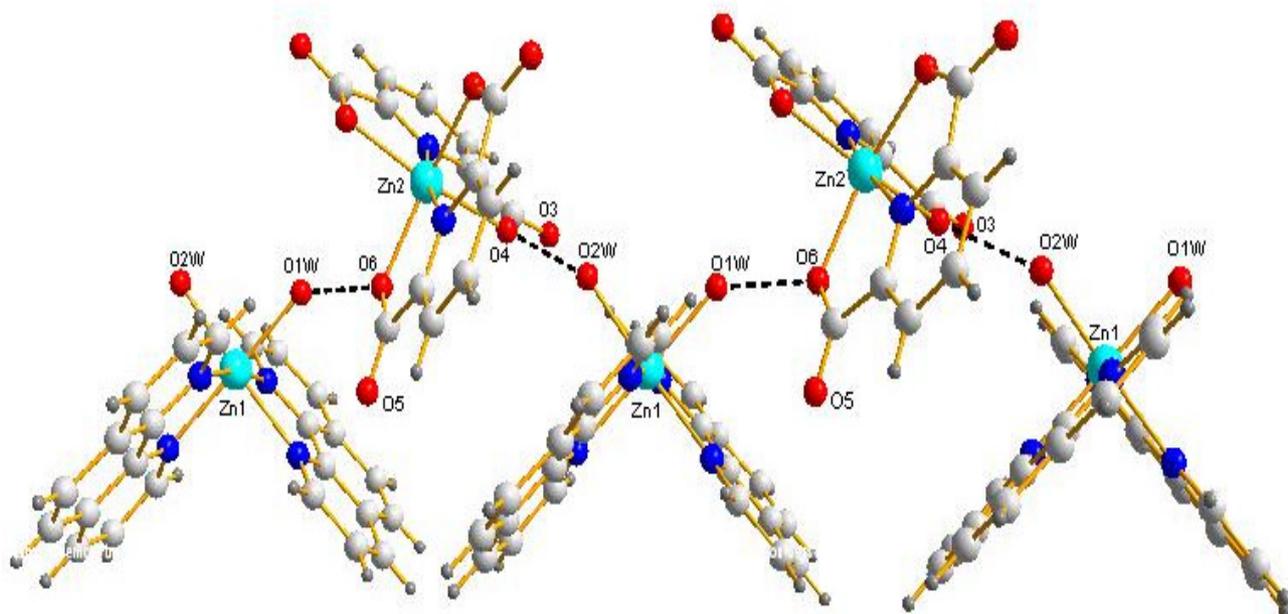


Fig. 2. Zigzag diagram of the Zn(II) complex; (H₂O molecules have been omitted for clarity)

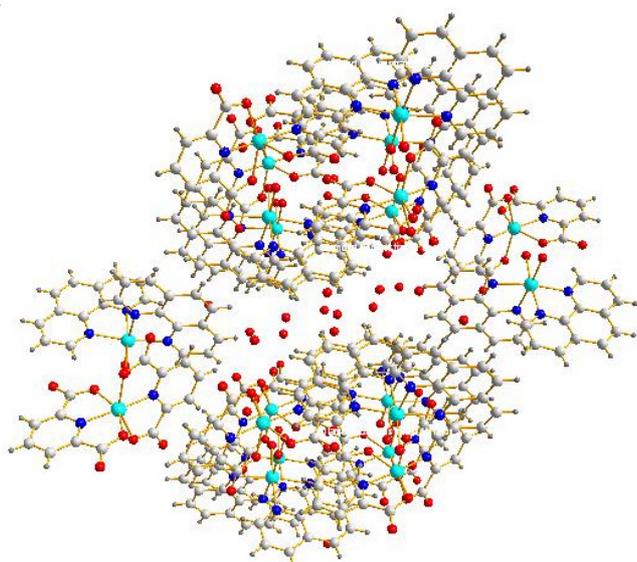


Fig. 3. Packing diagram of the Zn(II) complex

cm⁻¹, indicating a monodentate coordination mode^{6,12}. Bonds at 1520 and 1430 cm⁻¹ could be assigned to the characteristic of phen. The shift in some extent suggests that the two nitrogen atoms of phen both have participated in coordination. UV-visible absorption spectra of the title complex and the two ligands were recorded at room temperature in the wavelength range of 200–600 nm in ethanol solution. The absorption peaks of the complex at around 227 and 270 nm are assigned to the π - π^* transition and the n - π^* transition of the ligand⁵.

Thermogravimetric analysis: The thermal stability of the present Zn(II) complex was investigated under the thermogravimetric experiment. The weight loss in the range of 60–180 °C was 16.6 %, with a maximal endothermic peak appeared at 122 °C, this may be attributed to the elimination of the crystal and the coordinate water molecules (Calcd. 17.2 %). Then obvious weight loss with an endothermic peak at 400 °C indicated

the framework of the complex began to collapse. It didn't decompose completely at 700 °C, for the mass percent of the residue (39.8 %) is greater than that of ZnO (Calcd. 16.4 %).

Fluorescence spectra: The fluorescence of the Zn(II) complex in methanol solution was investigated at room temperature. Figs. 4 and 5 are the excitation and emission spectra, with both slits of 5 nm, respectively.

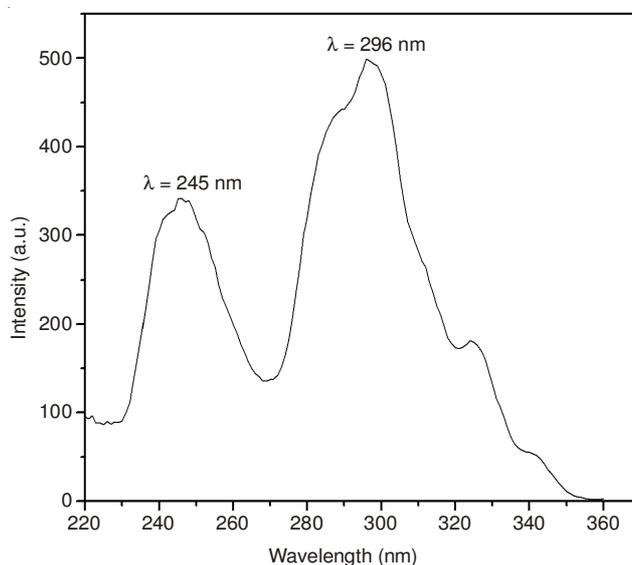


Fig. 4. Excitation spectrum of the Zn(II) complex

Present complex has strong fluorescence intensity. At the excitation wavelengths of 245 and 296 nm, both fluorescence emission wavelengths are around 367 nm and the intensity of the later (a) is much stronger than that of the former (b). This intensive emission spectrum may have relationship with the rigid structure and big conjugate system of 1,10-phenanthroline. It may be caused by the π - π^* transition in the 1,10-phenanthroline ring¹³.

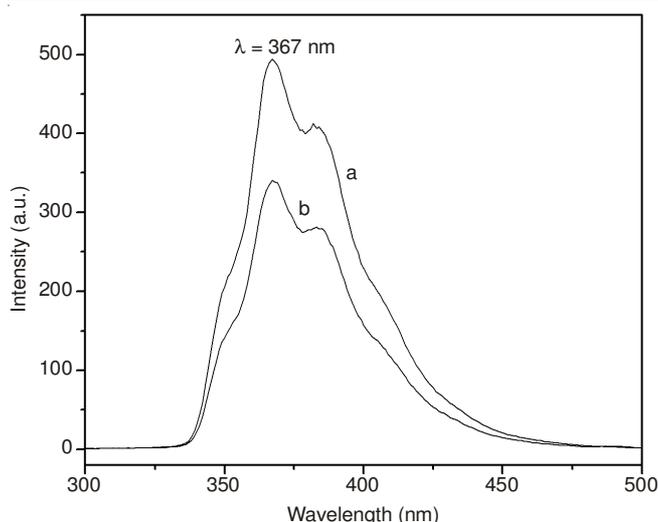


Fig. 5. Emission spectra of the Zn(II) complex

Conclusion

In summary, a new zinc(II) complex $[\text{Zn}(\text{pydc})_2] \cdot [\text{Zn}(\text{phen})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2] \cdot 7.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ had been prepared and characterized. The result shows that the complex belongs to triclinic system, space group $P\bar{1}$. The structure unit of this complex consists of two zinc ions with different coordination modes. Each 6-coordinated geometry of the Zn atom is a distorted octahedral coordination geometry. The complex shows a strong fluorescence emission at around 367 nm in methanol solution.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors are grateful to the Natural Science Foundation of Henan Education Department (2011B150025) supporting this study.

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