Synthesis, Characterization and Structural Analysis of Cobaloximes Complexes

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A series of bioactive cobalt(III) complexes were synthesized with bidentate ligand have been investigated as vitamin B_{12} models. The experiment was two pot snythesis, in the first part was green microcrystalline dihalo(dimethylglyoximato)cobalt(III) and second part was brown microcrystalline halo(pyridine based ligand) cobaloximes. Final part of synthesized complexes was characterized by IR, electronic and NMR spectral studies. Infrared spectra of metal complexes indicated the formation of Co-N axial bond and Co-N equatorial bond. Thermal analysis revealed that the Co(III) complexes were stable up to 350 °C. The experimental results of antimicrobial were showed good zone of inhibition towards selected microbes.

Keywords: Cobaloximes, Vitamin B₁₂, Antimicrobial activities.

INTRODUCTION

Metal complexes with oximes has become more attention for their interesting physico-chemical properties, reaction mechanism and potential applications in the areas of bioorganic systems, catalysis, molecular modelling, drug designing, electrochemical and electro optical sensors [1]. The metallo-drugs have more attention due to their role in cellular regulation and signaling. Cobaloximes have been widely described as structural and functional mimics for the coenzyme vitamin B_{12} [2]. The development of cobaloximes complexes in the past few years, for their promising hydrogen-evolving catalytic capability at their reduced Co(I) state because of their low-cost, high activity and direct synthesis methodology [3-5].

The most common octahedral cobaloximes, Co(III) were synthesized with a chemical composition of XCo(dmgH)₂L, where the equatorial dmgH ligands are monoanions of dimethylglyoxime (dmgH₂) and the axial ligands are nitrogen based ligands. Each model possess strong equatorial ligand field strength [6,7]. Herein, we report the synthesis, characterization and antimicrobial activities of a series of Co(III) glyoximato complexes using two different dioxime ligands (dmgH₂ and dpgH₂) and five different axial ligands (pyridine, pyrazine, 2-methylpyrazine, pyrazine carboxylic acid and pyrimidine). Various characterization techniques such as ¹H NMR, FT-IR,

UV-Vis and thermal analysis were employed for understanding of the structural properties of the synthesized complexes.

EXPERIMENTAL

Two types of cobalt(III) complexes containing pyrazine based axial ligands with two different dioxime networks viz. dimethylglyoxime (dmgH₂) and diphenylglyoxime (dpgH₂). Type-1: [Co(dmgH)₂LX] and Type-2: [Co(dpgH)₂LX], where $X = Cl^- \text{ or } Br^-; L = \text{pyridine (Py), pyrazine (Pyz), 2-methyl}$ pyrazine (MPyz), pyrimidine (Pym) and pyrazinecarboxylic acid (PyzC). The analytical grade chemicals were used for the synthetic process. The UV-visible spectra of the complexes of suitable concentrations in aqueous ethanol were obtained from Double Beam spectrophotometer using 1 cm matched quartz cells. The complexes were subjected to IR analysis using Shimadzu IR spectrophotometer in KBr disc. The proton NMR spectra of the complexes were characterized by Joel-500 MHz NMR spectrophotometer at SAIF IIT Madras, Chennai, India. The TGA curves of the complexes were obtained using SII TG-DTA 6300 Exstar at Avinashilingam University, Coimbatore, India. The antimicrobial studies were carried out by diffusion method and ciprofloxacin was used as standard.

Synthesis of trans-hydrogendihalobisdimethylglyoximatocobaltate(III) {H[Co(dmgH)_2Cl_2]/H[Co(dmgH)_2Br_2]}:

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Exactly 0.01 mol of cobalt (II) chloride hexahydrate/cobalt (II) bromide was dissolved in 50 mL of acetone in a 250 mL iodine flask and stirred using magnetic stirrer for about 15 min. A dark blue coloured solution was obtained. To this, 0.02 mol of dimethylglyoxime was added and the solution was stirred for about 1 h under aerobic condition. The blue coloured solution turned light green and then to dark green. The green coloured mass was filtered by acetone and then ether finally dried over vacuum desiccator (yield: 60%).

Synthesis of complexes: trans-Pyrazinechlorobisdimethylglyoximatocobalt(III) {[Co(dmgH)₂(Pyz)Cl]}: The green coloured dichloro complex, H[Co(dmgH)₂Cl₂] (0.01 mol) was placed in 50 mL of ethanol. The slurry was stirred for 10 min and mixed with 0.01 mol of pyrazine [8]. The reactants were stirred for about 1 h at 60 °C. The green colour turned into pale brown indicating the completion of the reaction. It was allowed to stand for an hour and then filtered through sintered crucible. The light brown colour complex formed, which was filtered and dried over vacuum desiccator and yield was about 60%. Similarly, other trans-pyrazine(axial ligands)halobisdimethylglyoximatocobalt (III), [Co(dmgH)₂LX] were also synthesized.

Synthesis of complexes: trans-Pyrazinechlorobisdiphenylglyoximatocobalt(III) [Co(dpgH)₂(Pyz)Cl]: Exactly 0.01 mol of CoCl₂·6H₂O was dissolved in 75 mL of ethanol in a 250 mL iodine flask and stirred using magnetic stirrer for about 15 min. A dark blue coloured solution was obtained. To this, 0.02 mol of diphenylglyoxime was added and the solution was stirred for about 60 min under aerobic condition. The blue coloured solution turned light green and then to dark green. Exactly, 0.01 mol of pyrazine was added to the green coloured dichloro complex solution, H[Co(dpgH)₂Cl₂]. The reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C for about 1 h. The green coloured turned into pale brown indicating the completion of the reaction. It was allowed to stand for an hour and filtered through sintered crucible. The light brown colour complex formed and then washed with solvent and dried [9]. Similarly, other transpyrazine(axial ligands)halobisdiphenylglyoximatocobalt(III), [Co(dpgH)₂LX] were also synthesized.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

FTIR studies: In the IR spectra of the synthesized metal complexes indicates that the electron density around the metal is increased due to nitrogen of glyoximate moeities, which

facilitates back-donation from cobalt(III), thereby the electron density increase in C=N and N=O bonds. The N=O stretching vibrations shift to higher frequency because of increase in electron density of which leads to stronger hydrogen bridges of O=H...O. The IR spectra of Co(III) complexes of type [Co(dmgH)₂LX] revealed that the C=N stretching frequency ranging from 1600 to 1560 cm⁻¹ may be ascribed to dimethylglyoxime moiety in its complex. A strong peak in 1150-1080 cm⁻¹ region may be recognized the -N-O stretching frequency of dimethylglyoxime moiety. Appearance of the peaks at 450 cm⁻¹ and 550 cm⁻¹ indicated the formation of Co-N axial bond and Co-N equatorial bond, respectively. The band around 1050 cm⁻¹ indicated the presence of O-H stretching in the metal complexes. The band ranges from 1430-1390 cm⁻¹ indicating the presence of C-H stretching of *sp*³ hybridization (Table-1).

The IR spectra of the metal complexes of type [Co(dpgH)₂-LX] described the band around 610 cm⁻¹ is assignable to Co-N stretching of diphenylglyoxime moiety and central metal atom. The stretching frequency at the range of 460-440 cm⁻¹ attributed to Co-N bond of axial pyrazine based moiety and central metal atom. The peaks around 880 cm⁻¹ and 2900-2800 cm⁻¹ may be attributed to the presence of phenyl ring in the complex *i.e.* phenyl ring in the equatorial diphenylglyoxime moiety and the C=N stretching of the axial pyrazine based moieties, respectively (Table-1).

 1 H NMR studies: The proton NMR spectra of complexes of type [Co(dmgH)₂LX] revealed that a sharp singlet at around δ 2.404 ppm corresponds to the twelve methyl protons of equatorial dimethylglyoxime moiety [9], which shows the chemical equivalence of four methyl groups. The -OH proton of oxime resonates above 8 ppm for all the complexes [10]. The substituted axial pyrazine moiety appeared as multiplet in the range δ 8.0-8.5 ppm. A singlet appeared at δ 2.503 ppm correspond to methyl proton of methyl pyrazine which is an axial ligand.

The ¹H NMR spectra of the metal complexes of type $[\text{Co}(\text{dpgH})_2\text{LX}]$ The peak appeared in downfield around δ 7.5-8.5ppm is due to the aromatic nature of the equatorial ligand. The oxime proton appeared as singlet above δ 8.5 ppm. The -OH proton of oxime resonates above around 7 ppm for all the complexes [10]. The pyrimidine and pyrazine ring appeared as multiplet in the range δ 7-8 ppm supporting the presence of the axial ligands [11]. The peak positions and multiplicity of the some synthesized complexes are listed in Table-2.

TABLE-1 IR SPECTRAL DATA (cm ⁻¹) OF COMPLEXES OF THE TYPE [Co(dmgH/dpgH) ₂ LX]									
		Dimet	hylglyoxime i	noiety		M-N (#Ax	cial ligand)	Axial	ligands
(dmgH) ₂ complex	v(CH ₃)	v(C=N)	v(N-O)	ν(O-H)	ν(C=N-O)	v(Co-N)	ν(Co-N) [#]	v(C=N)	v(C-N)
PyzC	1382	1594	1170	1058	730	520	446	3333	1240
MPyz	1437	1559	1086	1030	734	550	440	2370	1241
(Py)Cl	1373	1558	1095	1095	740	509	424	2368	1242
(Pym)Cl	1373	1558	1087	1087	740	509	447	2376	1242
(Pyz)Br	1381	1558	1087	1087	740	516	432	2376	1242
(Pym)Br	1373	1558	1087	1087	709	509	447	2276	1242
(dpgH) ₂ complex	$V(C_6H_5)$	ν(C=N)	v(N-O)	ν(O-H)	ν(C=N-O)	ν(Co-N)	ν(Co-N) [#]	ν(C=N)	ν(-N-H)
MPyz	879	1489	1010	1140	732	609	439	2862	3433

Thermal analysis: Thermal analysis revealed that the complexes are stable up to 350 °C and follow a three stage decomposition pattern depending up on the configuration finally to give Co₃O₄ as residue [12]. Thermal analysis of complexes of the [Co(dmgH)₂LX] and [Co(dpgH)₂LX] showed three stage decomposition pattern (Fig. 1). In the first stage, weight loss occurred at 160-200 °C corresponds to the removal of axial halide ligand. The second stage weight loss at 320-350 °C corresponds to the leaving of pyrazine based moieties. The residual complex *viz*. [Co(dmgH)₂]⁺ and [Co(dpgH)₂]⁺ seems to be stable up to 350 °C after which, it decomposed without any sharp change in the mass to leave Co₂O₃ as the final residue [13].

Electronic spectra: Electronic spectra of complexes of type [Co(dmgH)₂LX] showed an absorption band in the range 200-230 nm, which may be due to $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ transition of the heterocyclic moiety [14]. This absorption band remains unaltered in their complexes. The moderately intense band around 250-280

nm, which may be ascribed to $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$ [15] of the dmgH₂, also remain unaltered in the complexes [16]. A shoulder around 280-310 nm may be due to the ligand to metal charge transfer (LMCT) transition [17]. The weak absorption at around 370 nm may be due to the spin allowed *d-d* transition *viz*. $^1A_{1g} \rightarrow ^1T_{2g}$. The electronic spectra of the type [Co(dpgH)₂LX] revealed that the diphenylglyoxime complexes showed a similar trend, with dimethylglyoxime complexes. The slight shift in absorption maximum of these complexes may be attributed to the presence of the phenyl ring in the system. Fig. 2 showed the electronic spectra of some dimethylglyoxime and diphenylglyoxime complexes. The electronic spectral data of these complexes are given in Table-3.

Antimicrobial activity: The cobalt complexes showed good antimicrobial activity against various pathogens due to the chelation effect.

Antibacterial activity: The antibacterial activity of cobalt complexes of type [Co(dmgH)₂LX]showed fairly good level of zone of inhibition towards the tested microbes. The complex containing pyrazine carboxylic acid as the axial ligand showed good activity than all the other synthesized complexes when compared with the standard ciproflaxcin. The presence of axial pyrazine based ligands has much influence on the activity against pathogens in chloro complexes whereas the presence of axial moiety has not much influence on the activity in bromo complexes.

The antibacterial activity of type $[Co(dpgH)_2LX]$ showed moderate activity when compared to dimethylgloxime complex

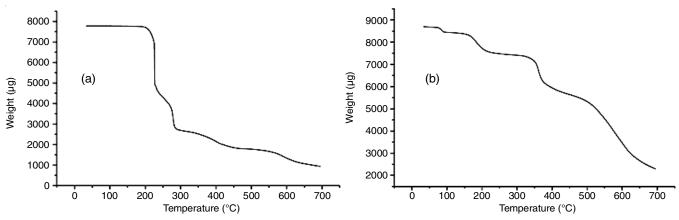


Fig. 1. (a) TGA curve of [Co(dmgH)₂(PyzC)Cl] (b) TGA curve of [Co(dpgH)₂(MPyz)Cl]

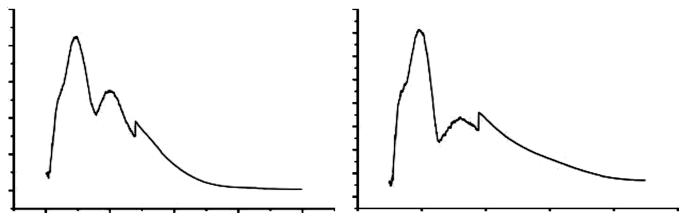


Fig. 2. Electronic spectrum of the complex 1×10^{-5} M [Co(dmgH)₂(MPyz)Br] and [Co(dpgH)₂(Pyz)Br]

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TABLE-3
UV DATA OF THE 1×10^{-5} M
[Co(dmgH/dpgH) ₂ (L)X] IN ETHANOL

	λ_{\max} (nm)						
[Co(dmgH/dpgH) ₂ (L)X]	π→π* of pyridine based ligand	π→π* of (dmgH/ dpgH)	LMCT	<i>d–d</i> transition			
[Co(dmgH) ₂ (Py)Cl]	230	261	312	_			
[Co(dmgH) ₂ (Pyz)Cl]	206	237	261	370			
[Co(dmgH) ₂ (MPyz)Cl]	203	223	246	340			
[Co(dmgH) ₂ (PyzC)Cl]	220	250	300	380			
[Co(dmgH) ₂ (Pym)Cl]	226	258	359	-			
$[Co(dmgH)_2(Py)Br]$	219	292	272	320			
[Co(dmgH) ₂ (Pyz)Br]	237	262	293	339			
$[Co(dmgH)_2(MPyz)Br]$	224	246	301	340			
$[Co(dmgH)_2 (Pym)Br]$	218	234	293	-			
[Co(dpgH) ₂ (Pyz)Cl]	225	246	-	343			
[Co(dpgH) ₂ (MPyz)Cl]	210	253	-	339			
[Co(dpgH) ₂ (PyzC)Cl]	217	247	-	340			
[Co(dpgH) ₂ (Pyz)Br]	220	246	-	340			
[Co(dpgH) ₂ (MPyz)Br]	226	245	-	341			

against the tested microbes. All the diphenylglyoxime complexes showed greater activity against gram negative bacterium *viz. Escherichia coli* when compared with the Gram positive bacterium *Staphylococcus aureus*. In these complexes presence of different axial pyrazine based and halide moieties have not much influence on the activity of complexes against tested microbes. The zone of inhibition of both diphenylgloxime and dimethylglyoxime complexes with different microbes are listed in Table-4.

Single crystal XRD studies: This cobaloxime crystallizes in orthorhombic system with space group, $P2_12_12_1$. The asymmetric unit contains one complex molecule and there are four complex molecules present per unit cell (Tables 5-7). The coordination geometry around cobalt is slightly distorted octahedron with the four nitrogen atoms of dimethyl glyoximato ligand forming an approximate square plane. The axially coordinating bromide and methylpyridine nitrogen [N(5)-Co(1)-Br(1) =178.67(7)] are perpendicular to the equatorial plane composed by the four N atoms of two dimethyl glyoxime moieties. The bond length between central metal ion and the bromine Co(1)-Br(1) = 2.3739(4) Å. The two glyoximate moieties are linked by strong internal O-H···O hydrogen bonds (Table-8). The structure is further stabilized through van der Waals interaction.

TABLE-4 ANTIMICROBIAL ACTIVITY OF THE [Co(DH)₂LX] COMPLEXES

	Zone of inhibition (mm)					
$[Co(DH)_2(L)X]$	Bacte	Bacterial				
	S. aureus	E. coli	A. niger			
[Co(dmgH) ₂ (Pyz)Cl]	12	20	14			
[Co(dmgH) ₂ (MPyz)Cl]	20	20	16			
[Co(dmgH) ₂ (PyzC)Cl]	21	22	20			
$[Co(dmgH)_2(Pyz)Br]$	20	18	15			
[Co(dmgH) ₂ (MPyz)Br]	19	18	13			
[Co(dpgH) ₂ (Pyz)Cl]	10	16	15			
[Co(dpgH) ₂ (MPyz)Cl]	13	14	14			
[Co(dpgH) ₂ (PyzC)Cl]	13	15	21			
$[Co(dpgH)_2(Pyz)Br]$	12	12	14			
[Co(dpgH) ₂ (MPyz)Br]	13	18	15			
Ciproflaxcin	30	33	_			
Flucanazole	_	_	23			

TABLE-5 CRYSTAL DATA AND REFINEMENT OF STRUCTURE FOR [Co(dmgH)2(MP)Br]

STRUCTURE FOR [Co(dmgH) ₂ (MP)Br]							
Empirical formula	$C_{14}H_{21}BrCoN_5O_{4,50}$						
Formula weight	470.20						
Temperature	293(2) K						
Wavelength	0.71073 Å						
Crystal system, space group	$P2_{1}2_{1}2_{1}$						
Orthorhombic							
Unit cell dimensions	$a = 8.3670(3) \text{ Å}, \alpha = 90^{\circ}$						
	$b = 14.3325(6) \text{ Å}, \beta = 90^{\circ}$						
	$c = 15.9336(6) \text{ Å}, \gamma = 90^{\circ}$						
Volume	$1910.76(13) A^3$						
Z, Calculated density	4, 1.634 Mg/m ³						
Absorption coefficient	3.020 mm ⁻¹						
F(000)	952						
Crystal size	$0.30 \times 0.25 \times 0.25 \text{ mm}$						
θ range for data collection	2.56 to 29.75°						
Limiting indices	-11<= h <=11, -18<= k <=20,						
	-22<= 1 <=21						
Reflections collected/unique	13618/5426 [R(int) = 0.0334]						
Completeness to θ	29.75 99.8%						
Absorption correction semi-empirical	0.5189 and 0.4644						
from equivalents max. and min.							
transmission							
Refinement method full-matrix least-	5426/2/243						
squares on F ²							
data/restraints/parameters							
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	0.987						
Final R indices [I>2 σ (I)]	R1 = 0.0346, $wR2 = 0.0682$						
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0567, $wR2 = 0.0744$						
Absolute structure parameter	0.033(9)						
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.357 and -0.475 e.A ⁻³						

TABLE-6 ATOMIC COORDINATES (× 10 ⁴) AND EQUIVALENT ISOTROPIC DISPLACEMENT PARAMETERS (A ² × 10 ³) FOR [Co(dmgH),(MP)Br]									
C(1)	2603(3)	3850(3)	2493(2)	40(1)	C(14)	8326(5)	2597(3)	5132(2)	63(1)
C(2)	2893(4)	4779(2)	2824(2)	40(1)	N(1)	3735(3)	3552(2)	2010(2)	32(1)
C(3)	8403(3)	4878(2)	1260(2)	41(1)	N(2)	4253(3)	5127(2)	2572(1)	35(1)
C(4)	8109(4)	3950(3)	931(2)	44(1)	N(3)	7252(3)	5179(2)	1723(2)	35(1)
C(5)	1133(4)	3296(3)	2683(3)	60(1)	N(4)	6772(3)	3607(2)	1161(2)	37(1)
C(6)	1782(5)	5304(3)	3380(3)	71(1)	N(5)	6506(3)	3819(2)	2875(1)	28(1)
C(7)	9866(4)	5434(3)	1084(3)	68(1)	O(1)	4714(3)	5976(2)	2810(1)	48(1)
C(8)	9283(5)	3454(3)	371(3)	79(1)	O(2)	3656(3)	2727(2)	1640(2)	47(1)
C(9)	6575(3)	2891(2)	2975(2)	34(1)	O(3)	6303(3)	2767(2)	900(2)	54(1)
C(10)	7159(4)	2492(2)	3687(2)	41(1)	O(4)	7307(3)	6033(2)	2063(2)	50(1)
C(11)	7724(3)	3027(2)	4339(2)	40(1)	Co(1)	5502(1)	4361(1)	1879(1)	26(1)
C(12)	7690(4)	3983(2)	4221(2)	40(1)	Br(1)	4231(1)	4996(1)	675(1)	45(1)
C(13)	7075(4)	4347(2)	3495(2)	35(1)	O(1W)	1424(9)	1387(5)	990(4)	102(2)

	TABLE-7 BOND LENGTHS (Å) AND BOND ANGLES (°) FOR [Co(dmgH ₂)(MP)Br]							
Bond ler	ngth (Å)		Bond angles (°)					
N(1)-Co(1)	1.891(2)	C(1)-N(1)-Co(1)	115.8(2)	N(1)-Co(1)-N(3)	178.72(11)			
N(2)-Co(1)	1.875(2)	O(2)-N(1)-Co(1)	122.54(18)	N(2)-Co(1)-N(4)	178.82(11)			
N(3)-Co(1)	1.893(2)	C(2)-N(2)-O(1)	120.9(3)	N(1)-Co(1)-N(4)	98.93(11)			
N(4)-Co(1)	1.899(2)	C(2)-N(2)-Co(1)	116.4(2)	N(3)-Co(1)-N(4)	80.85(11)			
N(5)-Co(1)	1.957(2)	O(1)-N(2)-Co(1)	122.8(2)	N(2)-Co(1)-N(5)	89.66(9)			
Co(1)-Br(1)	2.3739(4)	C(3)-N(3)-Co(1)	116.4(2)	N(1)-Co(1)-N(5)	90.13(10)			
		O(4)-N(3)-Co(1)	122.70(19)	N(3)-Co(1)-N(5)	91.14(10)			
		C(4)-N(4)-Co(1)	116.4(2)	N(4)-Co(1)-N(5)	91.25(10)			
		O(3)-N(4)-Co(1)	122.5(2)	N(2)-Co(1)-Br(1)	90.10(7)			
		C(13)-N(5)-Co(1)	122.0(2)	N(1)-Co(1)-Br(1)	88.54(7)			
		C(9)-N(5)-Co(1)	120.64(18)	N(3)-Co(1)-Br(1)	90.19(7)			
		N(2)-Co(1)-N(1)	81.83(10)	N(4)-Co(1)-Br(1)	89.01(8)			
		N(2)-Co(1)-N(3)	98.38(11)	N(5)-Co(1)-Br(1)	178.67(7)			

TABLE-8 HYDROGEN BONDS FOR [Co(dmgH ₂)(MP)Br]							
D-H···A $d(D-H) = d(H···A) = d(D···A) = \angle(DHA)$							
O(3)-H(3A)···O(2)	0.903(10)	1.619(13)	2.510(3)	169(4)			
O(4)-H(4A)···O(1) 0.906(10) 1.587(14) 2.476(3) 166(4)							

Fig. 3a gives ortep representation of the molecule with the atom numbering scheme. Atoms are represented as 50% probability ellipsoids. Fig. 3b gives packing of the molecules in the unit cell.

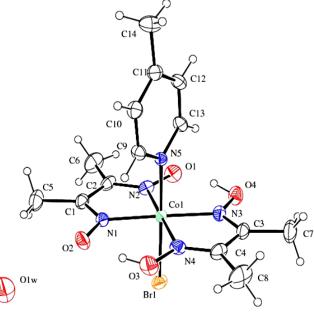


Fig. 3a. ORTEP of [Co(dmgH)₂(MP)(Br)]

Conclusion

Few cobaloximes were synthesized and spectroscopically characterized. The yield of mononuclear octahedral cobalt complexes was found to be in the range from 60-70% and all the spectral data were in agreement with the expected results. All the metal complexes are thermally stable at room temperature. All the synthesized complexes showed good results against selected pathogens when compared to standard. The XRD data clearly represents the molecular structure of cobaloximes.

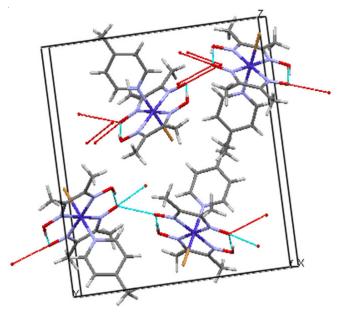


Fig. 3b. Packing of [Co(dmgH)₂(MP)Br] [dotted lines indicate hydrogen

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests regarding the publication of this article.

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