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One-dimensional coordination polymers generated from a new triazole bridging ligand and HgX_2 (X = Cl, Br and I): characterization and luminescent properties

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The new 4-amino-1,2,4-triazole asymmetric bridging ligand 4-amino-5-(pyridin-3-yl)-3-[4-(pyridin-4-yl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4triazole (L) has been used to generate three novel isomorphic one-dimensional coordination polymers, viz. catena-poly-[[tris[dichloridomercury(II)]-bis{ μ_3 -4-amino-5-(pyridin-3-yl)-3-[4-(pyridin-4-yl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole}] acetonitrile monosolvate], {[Hg₃Cl₆($C_{18}H_{14}N_6$)₂]·CH₃CN}_n, (I), and the bromido, $\{[Hg_3Br_6(C_{18}H_{14}N_6)_2] \cdot CH_3CN\}_n$, (II), and iodido, $\{[Hg_3I_6(C_{18}H_{14}N_6)_2] \cdot CH_3CN\}_n, (III), analogs. The asymmetric$ ligand acts as a tridentate ligand to coordinate the three different Hg^{II} centers (two of which are symmetry-related). Two ligands and two symmetry-related Hg^{II} centers form centrosymmetric rectangular units which are linked into onedimensional chains via the other unique Hg atoms, which sit on mirror planes. The chains are elaborated into a threedimensional structure via interchain hydrogen bonds. The acetonitrile solvent molecules are located in ellipsoidal cavities. The luminescent character of these three coordination complexes was investigated in the solid state.

Comment

Coordination polymers containing metal nodes and organic ligands have attracted tremendous attention over the past 30 years because of their wide application as functional materials (Long & Yaghi, 2009; Spokoyny *et al.*, 2009). The syntheses of coordination polymers by the judicious choice of organic spacers and metal centers can be an efficient method for obtaining new types of luminescent materials, especially for d^{10} or $d^{10}-d^{10}$ systems of metal centers (Morsali & Masoomi, 2009; Tang *et al.*, 2011). The design and construction of coor-

dination polymers based on rigid and bent organic ligands bridged by 4-amino-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole have been pursued because of their specific geometry (Liu *et al.*, 2009; Du *et al.*, 2006). In addition, hydrogen bonds play an important role in constructing high-dimensional supramolecular compounds (Mu *et al.*, 2008).



The study of the asymmetric oxadiazole ligand with d^{10} metal centers has been previously carried out by our group (Song *et al.*, 2010), but the coordination polymers generated by asymmetric 4-amino-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole-based organic ligands are extremely rare. As part of our systematic studies into self-assembly based on asymmetric ligands, we have synthesized a novel asymmetric rigid ligand, *viz.* 4-amino-5-(pyridin-3-yl)-3-[4-(pyridin-4-yl)phenyl]-4*H*-1,2,4-triazole (*L*), which has a short (pyridin-3-yl) and a long arm [4-(pyridin-4-yl)phenyl]. Three novel isomorphous coordination complexes, *viz.* {[Hg₃X₆(*L*)₂]·CH₃CN}_n, with *X* = Cl, (I), Br, (II), and I, (III), were obtained and their structures explored.

The isomorphous compounds (I), (II) and (III) crystallized in the orthorhombic space group *Pnma*, with one and a half Hg^{II} centers, one L ligand, three halide atoms and half an acetonitrile solvent molecule in the asymmetric unit. One of the Hg^{II} centers and the acetonitrile molecule sit on crystallographic mirror planes. The following discussion focuses on the description of the structure of (I), but the comments apply equally well to (II) and (III). Complex (I) contains two crystallographically independent Hg^{II} centers, as shown in Fig. 1(a). The Hg1 center is coordinated by one pyridine N atom from the long arm of one L ligand, one N atom of the triazole group of a second L ligand and two halide atoms. The Hg2 center, which sits on a mirror plane, is coordinated by two pyridine N atoms from the short arms of two different L ligands in addition to two halide atoms. The Hg1...Hg2 distance is 8.7286 (18) Å, which is similar to the Hg $\cdot\cdot\cdot$ Hg distance in our previous report on [2,5-bis(3-pyridyl)-1,3,4oxadiazole]diiodidomercury (Dong et al., 2003). As shown in



Figure 1

(a) The molecular structure of (I), with displacement ellipsoids drawn at the 30% probability level. H atoms have been omitted for clarity. Only one position of disordered atom Cl4 is shown. (b) The rectangular 20-membered macrocycle formed by two ligands and two Hg^{II} centers. [Symmetry codes: (i) $x, -y + \frac{3}{2}, z$; (ii) -x + 1, -y + 1, -z + 1; (iii) $-x + 1, y + \frac{1}{2}, -z + 1$.]



The $\pi - \pi$ interactions in the rectanglular units of (I) $[\pi - \pi = 3.799 (8) \text{ Å}]$.

Fig. 1(*b*), two ligands, two Hg1 centers and four halide atoms form rectangular units, in which the long arms of two ligands and part of the triazole ring with two Hg1 centers form a rectangular 20-membered macrocycle. The pyridine and benzene rings of the long arms of the ligand are almost coplanar, with a dihedral angle of 4.4 (7)° between the planes. In the 'rectangle', there are π - π interactions [π - π = 3.799 (8) Å] between the aromatic groups (Fig. 2), while the two pyridine rings and the two benzene rings in the macrocycle are parallel. As shown in Fig. 3, the nearby Hg2 centers link the rectangles through Hg—N bonds involving the



Figure 3

Extension of the centrosymmetric units of (I) along the [110] direction. [Symmetry codes: (i) $x, -y + \frac{3}{2}, z$; (ii) -x + 1, -y + 1, -z + 1; (iii) $-x + 1, y + \frac{1}{2}, -z + 1$; (iv) $x, -y + \frac{1}{2}, z$; (v) $-x + 1, y - \frac{1}{2}, -z + 1$; (vi) x, y + 1, z; (vii) -x + 1, -y + 2, -z + 1.]

metal-organic compounds



Figure 4

(a) Hydrogen-bonding interactions extending along the c axis of (I), (b) the three-dimensional networks formed via the two kinds of hydrogen bonds ($d_1 = 2.39$ Å and $d_2 = 2.70$ Å) and (c) the three-dimensional hydrogen-bonded network viewed down the a axis ($d_3 = 2.75$ Å).

terminal pyridin-3-yl N atom of the short arm on the ligands to form one-dimensional zigzag chains which run parallel to the [110] direction. The Hg2 center is located in a distorted



Figure 5 Ellipsoid cavities containing acetonitrile solvent molecules.



Figure 6

Solid-state luminescent emission properties of the three novel coordination polymers at room temperature.

tetrahedral environment, similar to our previous report on [2,5-bis(3-pyridyl)-1,3,4-oxadiazole]diiodidomercury (Dong *et al.*, 2003).

As shown in Figs. 4(*a*) and 4(*b*), the chains are linked by two types of hydrogen-bonding interactions $(N-H\cdots N \text{ and } N-H\cdots X; X = Cl$, Br or I; Tables 1–3) into three-dimensional networks. Weaker hydrogen-bonding interactions, *viz.* C-H\cdots X, extend along the *a* axis (Fig. 4*c*). In the three-dimensional network, there are ellipsoidal cavities, within which the acetonitrile solvent molecules are arranged regularly (Fig. 5).

The luminescent properties of these three new coordination polymers were investigated in the solid state at room temperature. Upon excitation at $\lambda = 395$ nm, compounds (I)– (III) showed emission maxima at 469, 474 and 474 nm, respectively. Notably, in the cases of (I), (II) and (III), almost identical emission bands were observed with different intensities (Fig. 6); thus, the different emission luminescent intensities of (I)-(III) might be attributed to the halide-to-ligand charge transfer (XLCT) (Park et al., 2009).

In summary, the asymmetric rigid ligand L can be used as a tridentate ligand to coordinate transition metal ions. Three novel one-dimensional coordination polymers have been synthesized based on L and HgX_2 (X = Cl, Br and I), and their luminescent properties investigated in the solid state at room temperature.

Experimental

For the preparation of 4-amino-5-(3-bromophenyl)-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-4H-1,2,4-triazole, a mixture of hydrazine hydrate (6.90 g, 110 mmol), 3-bromobenzonitrile (5.00 g, 27.5 mmol) and pyridine-3-carbonitrile (2.86 g, 27.5 mmol) in ethanediol (10 ml) was stirred at 413 K for 12 h. The reaction was monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC). Sufficient water was added to the mixture to cause precipitation. The precipitate was purified by silica-gel column chromatography using dichloromethane (DCM) and MeOH (30:1 v/v) as eluent to afford 4-amino-5-(3-bromophenyl)-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-4H-1,2,4-triazole as a white crystalline solid (yield 2.40 g, 7.6 mmol, 27.6%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO, 298 K, TMS): δ 9.18 (s, 1H, -C₅H₄N), 8.73 (*d*, 1H, -C₅H₄N), 8.39 (*d*, 1H, -C₅H₄N), 8.27 (*s*, 1H), 8.06 (d, 1H, -C₆H₄-), 7.75 (d, 1H, -C₆H₄-), 7.61 (m, 1H, -C₆H₄-), 7.54 $(t, 1H, -C_6H_4-), 6.42 (s, 2H, -NH_2);$ IR (KBr pellet, cm⁻¹): 3417 (s), 3355 (s), 1623 (m), 1598 (m), 1567 (m), 1515 (w), 1477 (s), 1447 (m), 1399 (vs), 1331 (w), 1192 (w), 1070 (m), 1030 (w), 1015 (m), 997 (w), 976 (w), 892 (m), 815 (m), 794 (m), 766 (m), 690 (w). Analysis calculated for C12H12BrN5: C 22.45, H 1.54, N 8.96%; found: C 22.48, H 1.51, N 9.01%.

For the preparation of 4-amino-5-(pyridin-3-yl)-3-[4-(pyridin-4yl)phenyl]-4H-1,2,4-triazole (L), a mixture of 4-amino-5-(3-bromophenyl)-3-(pyridin-3-yl)-4H-1,2,4-triazole (2.0 mmol) and pyridine-4boronic acid (2.4 mmol), Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.048 mmol), K₂CO₃ (6 mmol) in an EtOH-H₂O system was stirred at 348-353 K for 48 h. After removal of the solvent under vacuum, the residue was purified by silica-gel column chromatography using DCM-MeOH (10:1 v/v) as eluent to afford L as a white crystalline solid (yield 2.40 g, 7.6 mmol, 90.2%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO, 298 K, TMS): δ 9.22 (s, 1H, $-C_5H_4N$), 8.73 (d, 3H, $-C_5H_4N$), 8.44 (d, 2H, $-C_5H_4N$), 8.13 (d, 1H, -C₅H₄N), 8.01 (d, 1H, -C₅H₄N), 7.90 (d, 2H, -C₆H₄-), 7.75 (t, 1H, -C₆H₄-), 7.63 (m, 1H, -C₆H₄-), 6.47 (s, 2H, -NH₂); IR (KBr pellet, cm^{-1}): 3406 (s), 3355 (s), 1637 (m), 1593 (m), 1509 (w), 1463 (m), 1400 (vs), 1264 (w), 1193 (w), 1070 (m), 1026 (w), 970 (w), 919 (w), 901 (m), 814 (w), 795 (m), 713 (m), 692 (m), 610 (m). Analysis calculated for C₁₈H₁₄N₆: C 68.78, H 4.49, N 24.73%; found: C 68.80, H 4.47, N 24.73%.

For the preparation of (I), a solution of HgCl₂ (10.86 mg, 0.04 mmol) in CH₃CN (7 ml) was layered onto a solution of L (6.28 mg, 0.02 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (7 ml). The solution was left for about 5 d at room temperature and colorless crystals of (I) were obtained (yield 80%). IR (KBr pellet, cm⁻¹): 3417 (s), 3330 (s), 2170 (w), 1607 (s), 1518 (w), 1459 (m), 1400 (vs), 1231 (m), 1192 (m), 1122 (m), 1076 (m), 1015 (m), 987 (m), 794 (s), 686 (m), 641 (m), 574 (m).Analysis calculated for C₃₈H₃₁Cl₆Hg₃N₁₃: C 30.75, H 2.11, N 12.27%; found: C 30.78, H 2.06, N 12.28%.

For the preparation of (II), a solution of HgBr₂ (14.42 mg, 0.04 mmol) in CH₃CN (7 ml) was layered onto a solution of L (6.28 mg, 0.02 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (7 ml). The solution was left for about 5 d at room temperature and colorless crystals of (II) were obtained (yield 78%). IR (KBr pellet, cm⁻¹): 3417 (s), 3330 (s), 2170

0.04 mmol) in CH₃CN (7 ml) was layered onto a solution of L (6.28 mg, 0.02 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (7 ml). The solution was left for about 5 d at room temperature and colorless crystals of (III) were obtained (yield 80%). IR (KBr pellet, cm⁻¹): 3417 (s), 3332 (s), 2170

found: C 26.09, H 1.76, N 10.41%.

(w), 1607 (s), 1515 (m), 1458 (m), 1400 (vs), 1230 (m), 1191 (m), 1121 (m), 1074 (m), 1013 (m), 986 (m), 796 (s), 687 (m), 640 (m), 573 (m).Analysis calculated for C₃₈H₃₁Hg₃I₆N₁₃: C 22.45, H 1.54, N 8.96%; found: C 22.46, H 1.52, N 8.98%.

(w), 1607 (s), 1518 (w), 1459 (m), 1400 (vs), 1231 (m), 1192 (m), 1122

(m), 1076 (m), 1015 (m), 987 (m), 794 (s), 686 (m), 641 (m), 574 (m).

Analysis calculated for C₃₈H₃₁Br₆Hg₃N₁₃: C 26.07, H 1.78, N 10.40%;

For the preparation of (III), a solution of HgI₂ (18.18 mg,

Compound (I)

Crystal data

$[Hg_{3}Cl_{6}(C_{18}H_{14}N_{6})_{2}]\cdot C_{2}H_{3}N$	$V = 4506.9 (14) \text{ Å}^3$
$M_r = 1484.23$	Z = 4
Orthorhombic, Pnma	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
a = 12.773 (2) Å	$\mu = 10.60 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
b = 27.267 (5) Å	T = 298 K
c = 12.941 (2) Å	$0.32 \times 0.18 \times 0.05 \text{ mm}$

Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector diffractometer Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 2003) $T_{\min} = 0.133, T_{\max} = 0.619$

Refinement

 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.061$ $wR(F^2) = 0.188$ S = 1.024277 reflections 287 parameters

Compound (II)

Crystal data

 $V = 4651.0 (10) \text{ Å}^3$ $[Hg_3Br_6(C_{18}H_{14}N_6)_2] \cdot C_2H_3N$ $M_r = 1750.99$ Z = 4Orthorhombic, Pnma Mo $K\alpha$ radiation a = 12.8037 (16) Å $\mu = 15.08 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ b = 27.890 (4) Å T = 298 Kc = 13.0245 (17) Å $0.25 \times 0.20 \times 0.03 \text{ mm}$

Data collection

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Bruker SMART CCD area-detector
  diffractometer
Absorption correction: multi-scan
  (SADABS; Bruker, 2003)
  T_{\min} = 0.117, \ T_{\max} = 0.661
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23320 measured reflections 4422 independent reflections 3338 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$ $R_{\rm int}=0.075$

22532 measured reflections 4277 independent reflections

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.077$

12 restraints

 $\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 2.67 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^-$

 $\Delta \rho_{\min} = -1.89 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$

3278 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$

H-atom parameters constrained

Table 1

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, $^{\circ}$) for (I).

$D - H \cdots A$	$D-{\rm H}$	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - \mathbf{H} \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	
$C7-H7\cdots Cl1^{i}$	0.93	2.75	3.613 (12)	154	
$N5-H5A\cdots Cl3^{ii}$	0.89	2.70	3.512 (12)	152	
$N5 - H5B \cdot \cdot \cdot N3^{ii}$	0.89	2.39	3.149 (12)	143	

Symmetry codes: (i) $x - \frac{1}{2}$, $y, -z + \frac{1}{2}$; (ii) $x - \frac{1}{2}$, $y, -z + \frac{3}{2}$.

Table 2					
Hydrogen-bond geometry	(Å,	°)	for	(II).	

$D-\mathrm{H}\cdots A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - H \cdots A$	
$C7-H7\cdots Br1^{i}$	0.93	2.85	3.678 (9)	150	
$N5-H5A\cdots Br3^{n}$	0.91	2.78	3.599 (10)	150	
$N5-H5B\cdots N3^{ii}$	0.90	2.39	3.153 (10)	142	

Symmetry codes: (i) $x - \frac{1}{2}$, $y, -z + \frac{1}{2}$; (ii) $x - \frac{1}{2}$, $y, -z + \frac{3}{2}$.

Table 3

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °) for (III).

$D - H \cdots A$	$D-{\rm H}$	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D{\cdots}A$	$D - \mathbf{H} \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	
C7-H7···I1 ⁱⁱ	0.93	3.02	3.842 (10)	148	
$N5-H5A\cdots I3^{i}$	0.94	2.86	3.706 (10)	150	
$N5-H5B\cdots N3^{i}$	0.92	2.42	3.173 (12)	139	

Symmetry codes: (i) $x - \frac{1}{2}$, $y, -z + \frac{3}{2}$; (ii) $x - \frac{1}{2}$, $y, -z + \frac{1}{2}$.

Refinement

 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.049$ 281 parameters $wR(F^2) = 0.133$ H-atom parameters constrainedS = 1.03 $\Delta \rho_{max} = 2.17$ e Å⁻³4422 reflections $\Delta \rho_{min} = -2.04$ e Å⁻³

Compound (III)

Crystal data

Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector diffractometer Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 2003) T_{min} = 0.059, T_{max} = 0.623

Refinement

 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.050$ $wR(F^2) = 0.138$ S = 1.044701 reflections 280 parameters V = 4945 (2) Å³ Z = 4Mo K α radiation $\mu = 13.08 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ T = 298 K $0.50 \times 0.20 \times 0.04 \text{ mm}$

24554 measured reflections 4701 independent reflections 3888 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$ $R_{int} = 0.060$

 $\begin{array}{l} 18 \mbox{ restraints} \\ \mbox{H-atom parameters constrained} \\ \Delta \rho_{max} = 2.60 \mbox{ e } \mbox{ Å}^{-3} \\ \Delta \rho_{min} = -1.85 \mbox{ e } \mbox{ Å}^{-3} \end{array}$

For (I), H atoms were placed in geometrically idealized positions and included as riding atoms, with C-H = 0.93 Å and $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$ (aromatic) and C-H = 0.96 Å and $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$ (acetonitrile). The NH₂ group was assumed to be NH₃ and three H atoms were added in geometrically idealized positions. One H atom without an acceptor was then deleted and the remaining H atoms refined as a riding model, with N-H = 0.89 Å and $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(N)$. One Cl atom (Cl4) is disordered over two positions with refined site-occupation factors in the ratio 0.64 (8):0.36 (8), and the anisotropic displacement parameters (ADPs) of atoms Cl4 and Cl4' were restrained to be pseudo-isotropic within a standard uncertainty of 0.01 Å². The acetonitrile solvent molecule lies on a mirror plane. The highest peak of residual electron density was located at (0.0982, 0.7500, 0.0785), 1.00 Å from atom Hg2.

For (II), H atoms on C and N atoms were treated as for (I). The acetonitrile solvent molecule lies on a mirror plane. The highest peak of residual electron density was located at (0.0488, 0.7500, 0.9981), 0.99 Å from atom Hg2.

For (III), H atoms on C and N atoms were treated as for (I). The acetonitrile solvent molecule lies on a mirror plane. The ADPs of the solvent atoms were restrained to be pseudo-isotropic within a standard uncertainty of 0.01 Å^2 . The highest peak of residual electron density was located at (0.1152, 0.7500, 0.2023), 0.99 Å from atom I4.

For all three compounds, data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 2003); cell refinement: *SMART*; data reduction: *SAINT* (Bruker, 2003); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 2008); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 2008); molecular graphics: *SHELXTL* (Sheldrick, 2008); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*.

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Supplementary data for this paper are available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: WQ3013). Services for accessing these data are described at the back of the journal.

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