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Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 KMean $\sigma(C-C) = 0.007 \text{ Å}$ H-atom completeness 58% R factor = 0.044 wR factor = 0.125 Data-to-parameter ratio = 15.2

For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e. Received 21 March 2001

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Infinite chain of $[Ba{Cr(ox)_2(phen)}_2]_n$

The title compound, *catena*-poly[[diaquabarium(II)-bis[di- μ -oxalato-[(1,10-phenanthroline)chromate(III)]]] tetrahydrate], [Ba{Cr(C₂O₄)₂(C₁₂H₈N₂)}₂(H₂O)₆]_n, with ten-coordinate barium(II) and six-coordinate chromium(III), consists of infinite chains along the *b* axis and exhibits stacking with π -interactions between the chains. Even though the crystal is racemic, only one of the enantiomers of the chromium anion is present in the single chain due to the twofold axis passing through the barium, making the chains chiral.

Comment

The structure of several compounds with the $[Cr(ox)_2(L-L)]^-$ (ox = oxalate, L–L = phen or bipy, phen = 1,10-phenanthroline, bipy = bipyridine) anion have been published. By using different counter-ions, such as Na⁺, K⁺, Mn²⁺ and Ba²⁺, onedimensional chains as well as two- and three-dimensional nets have been obtained (Rochon & Massarweh, 1999; Marinescu *et al.*, 2000). In Ba[Cr(ox)₂(bipy)]₂, the complex forms a threedimensional network. This is, however, not the case for the title compound, (I), which forms an infinite one-dimensional structure similar to [Mn{Cr(ox)₂(bipy)}₂]_n (Rochon *et al.*, 1996).



The title compound has an asymmetric unit containing one barium and one chromium with two oxalates and one 1,10phenanthroline (Fig. 1). Barium exhibits a ten-coordinate environment with four oxalates and two water molecules and chromium coordinates two oxalates and one phenanthroline in a distorted octahedral environment (Table 1). The asym-

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Figure 1

View of (I) shown with 50% probability displacement ellipsoids.



Figure 2

View of the chain in (I) along the twofold axis.

metric unit forms infinite chains along the b axis and has a twofold symmetry (Fig. 2). The two chromium complex anions acts as a bridge between the barium ions with solvent water located in the cavities around barium. Within the chains, the Ba $\cdot \cdot \cdot$ Ba distance is 10.154 (1) Å and the bridging Cr atoms are 6.892 (12) Å apart. The four chains in the unit cell are related to each other by a twofold screw axis and a *c*-glide plane normal to the b axis. This results in the enantiomers forming layers along the c axis which are stacked together by π -interactions. These interactions result in the phenanthrolines being 3.4 Å apart with a parallel displacement of 3 Å, not uncommon in aromatic compounds containing heteroatoms (Janiak, 2000). Even though the structure contains both enantiomers of the octahedral Cr anion, only one of the enantiomers, Δ or Λ , is found in the individual chains. This makes the chains chiral as in the [Mn(Cr(bi-

$py)(ox)_2)_2]_n$ analog (Rochon *et al.*, 1996).

The structure, which differs from its bipyridine analog, shows the importance of π -interactions in crystal design which, in this case, plays a key role in the topology of the framework.

Experimental

The compound was synthesized according to the method described by Broomhead (1962).

 $D_{\rm r} = 1.822 {\rm Mg m}^{-3}$

Cell parameters from 25

Mo $K\alpha$ radiation

reflections

T = 293 (2) K

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.028$

 $\theta_{\rm max} = 27.0^{\circ}$

 $h = 0 \rightarrow 33$

 $k = 0 \rightarrow 12$

 $l = -18 \rightarrow 18$

4 standard reflections

frequency: 120 min

intensity decay: 21%

Prism, red-violet

 $0.3 \times 0.2 \times 0.2 \text{ mm}$

 $\begin{array}{l} \theta = 3.1 {-} 27^{\circ} \\ \mu = 1.65 \ \mathrm{mm}^{-1} \end{array}$

Crystal data

$$\begin{split} & [\text{Ba}\{\text{Cr}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_2(\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_8\text{N}_2)\}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6] \\ & M_r = 1061.92 \\ & \text{Monoclinic, } C2/c \\ & a = 26.1127 \ (18) \text{ \AA} \\ & b = 10.1535 \ (6) \text{ \AA} \\ & c = 14.6165 \ (9) \text{ \AA} \\ & \beta = 92.367 \ (7)^\circ \\ & V = 3872.0 \ (4) \text{ \AA}^3 \\ & Z = 4 \end{split}$$

Data collection

Enraf–Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer ω –2 θ scans Absorption correction: ψ scan (North *et al.*, 1968) $T_{min} = 0.593, T_{max} = 0.760$ 4442 measured reflections 4203 independent reflections 2749 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$

Refinement

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{Refinement on } F^2 & w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0627P)^2 \\ R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.044 & + 13.8292P] \\ wR(F^2) = 0.125 & where \ P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3 \\ S = 1.01 & (\Delta/\sigma)_{max} < 0.001 \\ 4203 \ reflections & \Delta\rho_{max} = 2.09 \ e\ {\rm \AA}^{-3} \\ 276 \ parameters \ constrained & \\ \ H\ -atom \ parameters \ constrained & \end{array}$

Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Ba1-O43 ⁱ	2.729 (4)	Cr1-O41	1.946 (3)
Ba1-O32	2.861 (4)	Cr1-O30	1.959 (3)
Ba1-O3	2.869 (7)	Cr1-O31	1.959 (3)
Ba1-O33	2.883 (4)	Cr1-N11	2.062 (4)
Ba1-O42 ⁱ	2.955 (4)	Cr1-N10	2.065 (4)
Cr1-O40	1.946 (3)		
O32-Ba1-O33	57.29 (11)	O30-Cr1-O31	82.70 (14)
O43 ⁱ -Ba1-O42 ⁱ	58.33 (11)	N11-Cr1-N10	80.11 (15)
O40-Cr1-O41	83.52 (14)		

Symmetry code: (i) x, 1 + y, z.

No H atoms were assigned to the water molecules. A correction for intensity decay was applied by the default method in *XCAD*4 (Harms & Wocadlo, 1995)

Data collection: *CAD-4 Software* (Enraf–Nonius, 1989); cell refinement: *CAD-4 Software*; data reduction: *XCAD4* (Harms & Wocadlo, 1995); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEP-3* (Farrugia, 1997).

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