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Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study
T = 293 K
Mean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.009 \text{ \AA}$
R factor = 0.043
wR factor = 0.114
Data-to-parameter ratio = 15.0

For details of how these key indicators were
automatically derived from the article, see
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

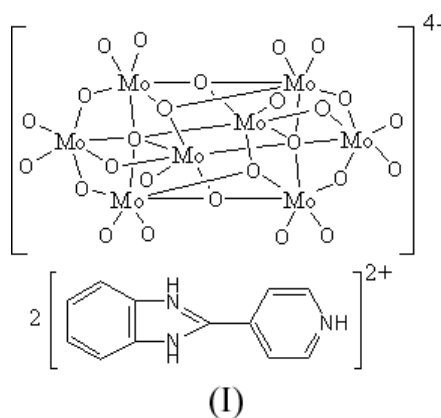
Bis[2-(4-pyridinio)-1H-benzimidazolium]
hexacosaoxooctamolybdate(VI)

The title compound, $(\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_3)_2[\text{Mo}_8\text{O}_{26}]$, was prepared by the hydrothermal method. The centrosymmetric β -octamolybdate anions are linked to form a three-dimensional structure by the 2-(4-pyridinio)benzimidazolium cations through $\text{N}-\text{H} \cdots \text{O}$ hydrogen bonds.

Comment

The rapid progress in exploring inorganic/organic hybrid materials has been driven by the interest in their fascinating structural diversity and promising potential applications in chemistry, biology and materials science (Pope & Müller, 1991; Moulton & Zaworotko, 2001). Integration of organic components and polyoxometalate (POM) moieties into a single structure has characterized one fruitful subclass of organic/inorganic hybrid materials (Lü *et al.*, 2004). According to the role of the organic components, the POM-based hybrids may be divided into three groups, namely (i) charge-compensating cations, (ii) ligands bonded directly to the metal oxide scaffolding and (iii) ligands bonded to a secondary metal centre (Hagrman *et al.*, 1999). It is well known that POM building blocks may be linked into extended structural topologies *via* coordination bonds, π - π stacking and hydrogen bonds, and combinations of these (Luo *et al.*, 2003; Randy *et al.*, 2003; Chen *et al.*, 2004). We report here the synthesis and crystal structure of the title compound, (I), in which the organic component acts as a charge-compensating cation.

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Compound (I) consists of centrosymmetric β -octamolybdate anions and doubly protonated 2-(4-pyridinio)benzimidazole cations. The $[\text{Mo}_8\text{O}_{26}]^{4-}$ anion is built up of eight edge-sharing MoO_6 octahedra and displays the characteristic β -octamolybdate arrangement, which contains two μ_5 -O atoms, O11 and O11ⁱ [symmetry code (i) $-x, -y, -z$]. Extensive bond-valence sum calculations (Brown & Altermatt, 1985;

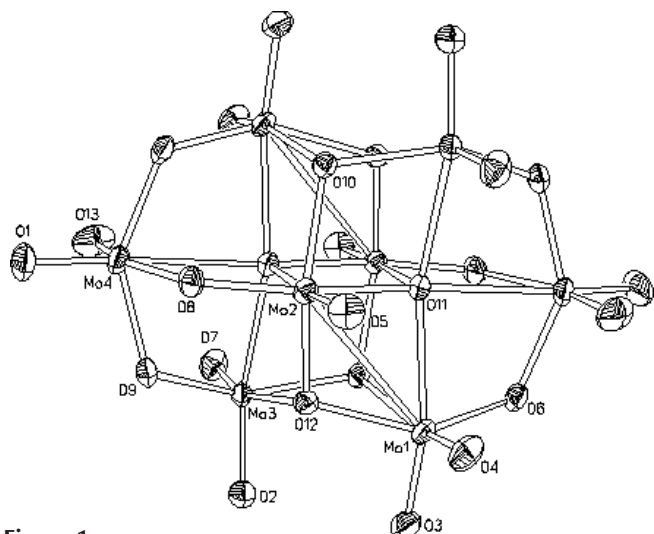


Figure 1
Structure of the β -[Mo₈O₂₆]⁴⁻ anion, showing 30% probability displacement ellipsoids. Unlabelled atoms are related to labelled atoms by $(-x, -y, -z)$.

Breese & O'Keeffe, 1991) indicate the valences of Mo and O atoms to be +6 and -2, respectively. Each Mo atom is coordinated octahedrally by six O atoms, which can be divided into four groups: (i) Mo—O(*t*) bonds, 1.679 (4)–1.709 (4) Å; (ii) Mo—O(μ_2 -O), 1.757 (4)–2.253 (4) Å; (iii) Mo—O(μ_3 -O), 1.932 (4)–2.360 (4) Å; (iv) Mo—O(μ_5 -O), 2.118 (3)–2.492 (3) Å. The β -octamolybdate anions and the 2-(4-pyridinio)benzimidazolium cations are linked to form a three-dimensional structure *via* N—H \cdots O hydrogen bonds (Fig. 2 and Table 2). There is a short C11 \cdots O2($x, \frac{1}{2} - y, z - \frac{1}{2}$) contact of 2.967 (9) Å. However, it is not a C—H \cdots O interaction, the H11A \cdots O2 distance being 3.05 Å.

Experimental

A mixture of MoO₃, ZnSO₄·7H₂O, 2-(4-pyridyl)benzimidazole and water in the molar ratio 1.0:1.2:1.0:1835 was sealed in a Teflon-lined stainless steel reactor and heated for 3 d at 453 K and autogeneous pressure. After allowing the reaction mixture to cool to room temperature, yellow crystals of (I) were collected, washed with water and air-dried (yield *ca* 34%).

Crystal data

(C ₁₂ H ₁₁ N ₃) ₂ [Mo ₈ O ₂₆]	$D_x = 2.764 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
$M_r = 1578.00$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$	Cell parameters from 5270 reflections
$a = 11.304$ (3) Å	$\theta = 2.0$ – 27.5°
$b = 9.485$ (3) Å	$\mu = 2.66 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$c = 17.835$ (5) Å	$T = 293$ (2) K
$\beta = 97.434$ (2)°	Prism, yellow
$V = 1896.1$ (9) Å ³	$0.20 \times 0.10 \times 0.10 \text{ mm}$
$Z = 2$	

Data collection

Rigaku Mercury CCD diffractometer	4335 independent reflections
ω scan	3867 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
Absorption correction: multi-scan (CrystalClear; Rigaku, 2002)	$R_{\text{int}} = 0.033$
$T_{\text{min}} = 0.683$, $T_{\text{max}} = 0.766$	$\theta_{\text{max}} = 27.5^\circ$
14 344 measured reflections	$h = -13 \rightarrow 14$
	$k = -12 \rightarrow 12$
	$l = -23 \rightarrow 22$

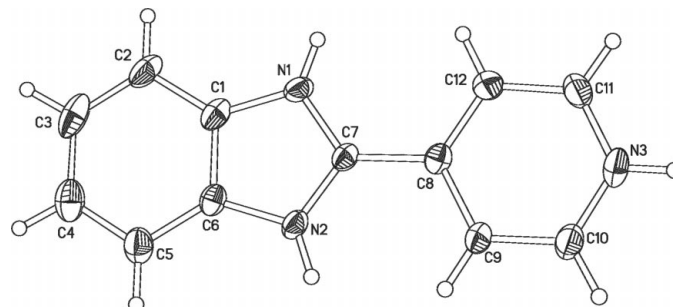


Figure 2
Structure of the 2-(4-pyridinio)benzimidazolium cation, showing 30% probability displacement ellipsoids.

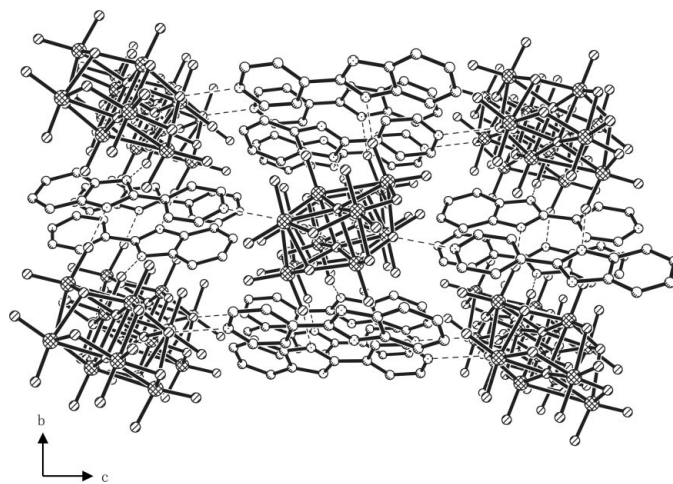


Figure 3
Packing diagram of (I). Broken lines indicate hydrogen bonds. All H atoms have been omitted for clarity.

Refinement

Refinement on F^2
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.043$
 $wR(F^2) = 0.114$
 $S = 1.09$
 4335 reflections
 289 parameters
 H-atom parameters constrained

$$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0575P)^2 + 5.8052P]$$

$$\text{where } P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$$

$$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$$

$$\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 1.87 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$$

$$\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -2.90 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$$

Table 1

Selected bond distances (Å).

Mo1—O3	1.695 (4)	Mo3—O7	1.687 (4)
Mo1—O4	1.709 (4)	Mo3—O2	1.689 (4)
Mo1—O6	1.893 (4)	Mo3—O9	1.909 (4)
Mo1—O12	1.993 (4)	Mo3—O10 ⁱ	2.018 (4)
Mo1—O11	2.321 (3)	Mo3—O11 ⁱ	2.333 (4)
Mo1—O10 ⁱ	2.338 (4)	Mo3—O12	2.360 (4)
Mo2—O5	1.679 (4)	Mo4—O13	1.705 (6)
Mo2—O8	1.757 (4)	Mo4—O1	1.698 (5)
Mo2—O12	1.932 (4)	Mo4—O9	1.904 (4)
Mo2—O10	1.980 (4)	Mo4—O6 ⁱ	1.941 (4)
Mo2—O11	2.118 (3)	Mo4—O8	2.253 (4)
Mo2—O11 ⁱ	2.374 (4)	Mo4—O11 ⁱ	2.492 (3)

Symmetry code: (i) $-x, -y, -z$.

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

	D—H	H···A	D···A	D—H···A
N1—H1A···O13 ⁱⁱ	0.86	2.07	2.764 (7)	138
N2—H2B···O4 ⁱⁱⁱ	0.86	1.85	2.674 (7)	160
N3—H3B···O10	0.86	1.95	2.794 (6)	168

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

H atoms bound to N atoms were located in difference density maps, but, after refinement, N—H bond distances were a little shorter than normal. All H atoms were positioned geometrically, with C—H = 0.93 Å and N—H = 0.86 Å, and allowed to ride with $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{parent atom})$.

Data collection: *CrystalClear* (Rigaku Corporation, 2002); cell refinement: *CrystalClear*; data reduction: *CrystalClear*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *SHELXTL* (Sheldrick, 1995); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*.

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