metal-organic papers

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Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 296 KMean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.003 \text{ Å}$ R factor = 0.028 wR factor = 0.100 Data-to-parameter ratio = 18.0

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

Diaquabis(vanillinato- $\kappa^2 O, O'$)manganese(II)

In the title complex, $[Mn(C_8H_7O_3)_2(H_2O)_2]$, the Mn^{II} atom is located on a twofold axis and is coordinated by two vanillinate anions and two water molecules in a distorted octahedral geometry. The vanillinate ligand chelates to the Mn^{II} atom through its methoxy and hydroxy O atoms, with greatly differing Mn-O bond distances [2.3506 (14) and 2.0901 (12) Å].

Comment

Water oxidation in the photosynthetic process of green plants (Bruckner *et al.*, 1993) is generally believed to occur at the manganese cluster located in the reaction centre of photosystem II (Vincent & Christou, 1989). In order to mimic this manganese cluster, a series of manganese complexes have been synthesized, among which some crystal structures revealed the existence of significant electrostatic interaction between the Mn atom and the ligand (Nie *et al.*, 2001; Hu *et al.*, 2001; Liu & Xu, 2003). The structure of the title complex, (I), provides a new example of this electrostatic interaction in an Mn^{II} complex.



The molecular structure of (I) is illustrated in Fig. 1. The Mn^{II} atom is located on a twofold axis. Two vanillinate anions and two water molecules coordinate to the Mn^{II} atom in a *cis* fashion in a distorted octahedral geometry. The vanillinate ligand chelates to the Mn^{II} atom with greatly differing Mn-O bond distances: the Mn-O1 bond is longer than the Mn-O2 bond by 0.2605 (18) Å (Table 1), implying a weaker coordination interaction between atoms Mn and O1. However, the O1-Mn-O4 angle of 168.45 (5)° is close to the expected value of 180° and much larger than the O2-Mn-O2ⁱⁱⁱ angle of 156.79 (5)°</sup> [symmetry code: (iii) -x, y, $\frac{1}{2} - z$], implying significant overlap between the atomic orbitals of atoms Mn and O1. This fact clearly suggests a significant contribution from the electrostatic interaction in the Mn-O bonding.

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Figure 1

The structure of (I), showing 30% probability displacement ellipsoids [symmetry code: (iii) -x, y, $\frac{1}{2} - z$].

The coordinated water molecules are hydrogen bonded to the aldehyde and hydroxyl O atoms of neighbouring complex molecules (Fig. 2 and Table 2).

Experimental

An ethanol solution (20 ml) containing vanillin (0.152 g, 1 mmol), Mn(OAc)₂·4H₂O (0.245 g, 1 mmol) and NaOH (0.08 g, 2 mmol) was refluxed for 2 h. The yellow solution was cooled to room temperature and filtered. Yellow crystals of (I) were obtained from the filtrate after one week.

Crystal data

Mn-O2

Mn-O4

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	Figure 2
	A male selen and in a second for (I) with dashed lines indicate

A molecular packing diagram for (I), with dashed lines indicating the hydrogen bonding.

Table 2	
Hydrogen-bond geor	netry (Å, °).

$D - H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - \mathbf{H} \cdot \cdot \cdot A$
$\begin{array}{c} O4 - H4A \cdots O3^{i} \\ O4 - H4B \cdots O2^{ii} \end{array}$	0.85 0.79	1.88 1.93	2.726 (2) 2.6977 (18)	176 166
a	1 . 1	1 (**)		

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

Water H atoms were located in a difference Fourier map and their positional parameters and displacement parameters were fixed $[U_{iso}(H) = 0.05 \text{ Å}^2]$. The H atoms of the vanillinate anions were placed in calculated positions, with C–H = 0.93 Å (phenyl and aldehyde group) or 0.96 Å (methyl), and included in the final cycles of refinement in a riding model, with $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{ca}(\text{carrier atom})$.

Data collection: *PROCESS-AUTO* (Rigaku, 1998); cell refinement: *PROCESS-AUTO*; data reduction: *CrystalStructure* (Rigaku/ MSC, 2002); program(s) used to solve structure: *SIR92* (Altomare *et al.*, 1993); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEP3 for Windows* (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *WinGX* (Farrugia, 1999).

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1.312 (2)

1.223 (3)

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2.0901 (12)

2.1118 (14)

1.380 (2)

O2 - C6

03 - C7