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## Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study
$T=295 \mathrm{~K}$
Mean $\sigma(\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C})=0.003 \AA$
$R$ factor $=0.041$
$w R$ factor $=0.110$
Data-to-parameter ratio $=16.3$

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

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## A one-dimensional helical chain polymer: catena-poly[[[bis(1H-imidazole)zinc(II)]-$\mu$-3-carboxylatophenoxyacetato] trihydrate]

In the title one-dimensional polymer, $\{[\mathrm{Zn}(3-\mathrm{CPOA})$ $\left.\left.\left(\mathrm{C}_{3} \mathrm{H}_{4} \mathrm{~N}_{2}\right)_{2}\right] \cdot 3 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right\}_{n}\left(3-\mathrm{CPOA}^{2-}\right.$ is the 3-carboxylatophenoxyacetate dianion, $\mathrm{C}_{9} \mathrm{H}_{6} \mathrm{O}_{5}$ ), the Zn atom shows tetrahedral coordination, as it is linked to two N atoms from two imidazole molecules and two carboxylate O atoms from two different 3-$\mathrm{CPOA}^{2-}$ groups. Adjacent Zn atoms are linked by $3-\mathrm{CPOA}^{2-}$ ligands into a helical chain. The chains are linked into a threedimensional network by hydrogen bonds.

## Comment

3-Carboxyphenoxyacetic acid (3-CPOAH 2$)$ is a dicarboxylic acid that is capable of complex formation. Recently, we reported two $\mathrm{Zn}^{\mathrm{II}}$ polymers of the dianion, namely $\left\{\left[\mathrm{Zn}\left(4,4^{\prime}-\right.\right.\right.$ bipyridine) $\left.\left.\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)_{4}\right](3-\mathrm{CPOA})\right\}_{n}$ (in which the $3-\mathrm{CPOA}^{2-}$ ligands exist as free counterions) (Zhao et al., 2005) and [ $\mathrm{Zn}(3-$ CPOA) $\left.(1 \mathrm{H} \text {-benzimidazole })_{2}\right]_{n}$ (in which the $3-\mathrm{CPOA}^{2-}$ ligand acts in a bis-monodentate mode to connect two adjacent tetrahedrally coordinated $\mathrm{Zn}^{\mathrm{II}}$ atoms to form a linear chain; Gao et al., 2005). In our investigations on the bonding nature of carboxylato-bridged zinc complexes, we now report the structure of the title helical chain polymer, $\{[\mathrm{Zn}(3-\mathrm{CPOA})-$ $\left.\left.\left(\mathrm{C}_{3} \mathrm{H}_{4} \mathrm{~N}_{2}\right)_{2}\right] \cdot 3 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right\}_{n}$, (I).

(I)

As depicted in Fig. 1, the asymmetric unit consists of the $\left[\mathrm{Zn}(3-\mathrm{CPOA})\left(\mathrm{C}_{3} \mathrm{H}_{4} \mathrm{~N}_{2}\right)_{2}\right]$ molecule and three uncoordinated water molecules. The water molecules form hydrogen bonds with the uncoordinated imidazole N 2 atom and the carboxyl O atoms ( O 2 and O 4 ) (Table 2). The $\mathrm{Zn}^{\mathrm{II}}$ centre exhibits a deformed tetrahedral coordination geometry defined by two N atoms from two imidazole molecules and two carboxyl O atoms from two different $3-\mathrm{CPOA}^{2-}$ groups. The $\mathrm{Zn}-\mathrm{O}$ and $\mathrm{Zn}-\mathrm{N}$ lengths are similar to the corresponding distances in the reported complexes. The oxyacetate group is twisted out of the benzene plane, the $\mathrm{C} 12-\mathrm{O} 3-\mathrm{C} 14-\mathrm{C} 15$ torsion angle being $-71.5(2)^{\circ}$. On the other hand, in the $4,4^{\prime}$-bipyridine adduct, the oxyacetate group is coplanar with the ring, the $\mathrm{C} 13-\mathrm{O} 3-$ $\mathrm{C} 12-\mathrm{C} 11$ torsion angle being 6.0 (2) ${ }^{\circ}$ (Zhao et al., 2005).


Figure 1
A plot of the title complex, with displacement ellipsoids drawn at the $30 \%$ probability level and H atoms shown as small spheres of arbitrary radii. Hydrogen bonds are shown as dashed lines. [Symmetry code: (i) $\frac{3}{2}-x$, $1+y, \frac{3}{2}-z$.]

The chain in (I) is helical and is parallel to the crystallographic $b$ axis (Fig. 2). The chains are connected through extensive intermolecular hydrogen bonds involving the water molecules, the imidazole N atom and the carboxyl O atom, to yield a three-dimensional supramolecular network (Table 2 and Fig. 3).

## Experimental

The title complex was synthesized by the addition of zinc diacetate dihydrate ( $2.20 \mathrm{~g}, 10 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) and imidazole ( $0.68 \mathrm{~g}, 10 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) to a hot aqueous solution of 3-carboxyphenoxyacetic acid ( $1.96 \mathrm{~g}, 10 \mathrm{mmol}$ ). The pH was adjusted to 6 with 0.2 M NaOH . The solution was allowed to evaporate at room temperature, and colourless prismatic crystals were obtained after several days. CHN analysis, calculated for $\mathrm{C}_{15} \mathrm{H}_{20} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{8} \mathrm{Zn}: \mathrm{C} 40.06, \mathrm{H} 4.48, \mathrm{~N} 12.46 \%$; found: C 40.02 , H 4.45 , N 12.48\%.

## Crystal data

| $\left[\mathrm{Zn}\left(\mathrm{C}_{9} \mathrm{H}_{6} \mathrm{O}_{5}\right)\left(\mathrm{C}_{3} \mathrm{H}_{4} \mathrm{~N}_{2}\right)_{2}\right] \cdot 3 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ | $D_{x}=1.552 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| $M_{r}=449.74$ | Mo K radiation |
| Monoclinic, $P 2_{1} / n$ | Cell parameters from 17845 |
| $a=11.320(2) \AA$ | reflections |
| $b=10.122(2) \AA$ | $\theta=3.2-27.5^{\circ}$ |
| $c=17.690(4) \AA$ | $\mu=1.33 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}$ |
| $\beta=108.28(3)^{\circ}$ | $T=295(2) \mathrm{K}$ |
| $V=1924.7(7) \AA^{3}$ | Prism, colourless |
| $Z=4$ | $0.38 \times 0.26 \times 0.19 \mathrm{~mm}$ |
|  |  |
| Data collection |  |
| Rigaku R-AXIS RAPID | 4408 independent reflections |
| $\quad$ diffractometer | 3606 reflections with $I>2 \sigma(I)$ |
| $\omega$ scans | $R_{\text {int }}=0.047$ |
| Absorption correction: multi-scan | $\theta_{\text {max }}=27.5^{\circ}$ |
| $\quad(A B S C O R ;$ Higashi, 1995) | $h=-14 \rightarrow 14$ |
| $T_{\text {min }}=0.633, T_{\text {max }}=0.787$ | $k=-12 \rightarrow 13$ |
| 18076 measured reflections | $l=-22 \rightarrow 22$ |



Figure 2
The helical chain structure of the title complex. The water molecules and H atoms are not shown.

## Refinement

Refinement on $F^{2}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& w=1 /\left[\sigma^{2}\left(F_{\mathrm{o}}^{2}\right)+(0.062 P)^{2}\right. \\
& \quad+0.5348 P] \\
& \text { where } P=\left(F_{\mathrm{o}}^{2}+2 F_{\mathrm{c}}^{2}\right) / 3 \\
& (\Delta / \sigma)_{\max }=0.001 \\
& \Delta \rho_{\max }=0.51 \mathrm{e} \AA^{-3} \\
& \Delta \rho_{\min }=-0.41 \mathrm{e}^{-3}
\end{aligned}
$$

$w R\left(F^{2}\right)=0.110$
$S=1.04$
4408 reflections
271 parameters independent and constrained refinement

Table 1
Selected geometric parameters ( $\mathrm{A},{ }^{\circ}$ ).

| $\mathrm{Zn} 1-\mathrm{N} 1$ | $1.9776(19)$ | $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{C} 7$ | $1.270(3)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: |
| $\mathrm{Zn} 1-\mathrm{N} 3$ | $2.000(2)$ | $\mathrm{O} 2-\mathrm{C} 7$ | $1.237(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{Zn} 1-\mathrm{O} 1$ | $1.9507(16)$ | $\mathrm{O} 4-\mathrm{C} 15$ | $1.232(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{Zn} 1-\mathrm{O} 5^{\mathrm{i}}$ | $1.9782(19)$ | $\mathrm{O} 5-\mathrm{C} 15$ | $1.274(3)$ |
|  |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{Zn} 1-\mathrm{N} 3$ | $111.80(8)$ | $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{Zn} 1-\mathrm{N} 3$ | $97.90(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{Zn} 1-\mathrm{O} 5^{\mathrm{i}}$ | $121.55(8)$ | $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{Zn} 1-\mathrm{O} 5^{\mathrm{i}}$ | $105.38(7)$ |
| $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{Zn} 1-\mathrm{N} 1$ | $113.12(8)$ | $\mathrm{O} 5^{\mathrm{i}}-\mathrm{Zn} 1-\mathrm{N} 3$ | $104.18(8)$ |

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

Table 2
Hydrogen-bond geometry ( $\AA{ }^{\circ}{ }^{\circ}$ ).

| $D-\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ | $D-\mathrm{H}$ | $\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ | $D \cdots A$ | $D-\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| N2-H16 $\cdots$ O2 W | 0.86 | 1.96 | 2.770 (3) | 156 |
| N4-H17 $\cdots$ O $5^{\text {ii }}$ | 0.86 | 1.99 | 2.814 (3) | 160 |
| $\mathrm{O} 1 W-\mathrm{H} 1 W 1 \cdots \mathrm{O} 4$ | 0.85 (4) | 2.03 (4) | 2.864 (3) | 166 (4) |
| $\mathrm{O} 1 W-\mathrm{H} 1 W 2 \cdots \mathrm{O} 3 W^{\text {iii }}$ | 0.85 (3) | 2.04 (3) | 2.874 (3) | 166 (4) |
| $\mathrm{O} 2 W-\mathrm{H} 2 W 1 \cdots \mathrm{O} 2^{\text {iv }}$ | 0.84 (3) | 2.01 (3) | 2.825 (3) | 163 (3) |
| $\mathrm{O} 2 W-\mathrm{H} 2 W 2 \cdots \mathrm{O} 1 W^{\mathrm{v}}$ | 0.84 (3) | 2.11 (3) | 2.854 (4) | 148 (3) |
| $\mathrm{O} 3 W-\mathrm{H} 3 W 1 \cdots \mathrm{O}^{\text {vi }}$ | 0.85 (3) | 2.05 (3) | 2.906 (3) | 178 (4) |
| $\mathrm{O} 3 W-\mathrm{H} 3 W 2 \cdots \mathrm{O} 2$ | 0.86 (4) | 2.17 (2) | 2.983 (3) | 158 (4) |

Symmetry codes: (ii) $x, y+1, z$; (iii) $x-\frac{1}{2},-y+\frac{3}{2}, z+\frac{1}{2}$; (iv) $-x+2,-y+2,-z+1$; (v)
$-x+1,-y+2,-z+1 ;(\mathrm{vi})-x+2,-y+1,-z+1$.
H atoms on C and N atoms were placed in calculated positions $[\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}=0.93 \AA$ (aromatic) or $0.97 \AA$ (aliphatic), and $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}=0.86 \AA$ (imidazole)] and refined using the riding-model approximation, with $\left.U_{\text {iso }}(\mathrm{H})=1.2 U_{\text {eq }}(\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{N})\right]$. The H atoms of the water molecules were located in a difference Fourier map and refined with $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}$ distance restraints of $0.85(1)$ and with $U_{\text {iso }}(\mathrm{H})=1.5 U_{\text {eq }}(\mathrm{O})$.

## metal-organic papers

Data collection: RAPID AUTO (Rigaku, 1998); cell refinement: RAPID AUTO; data reduction: CrystalStructure (Rigaku/MSC, 2002); program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: ORTEPII (Johnson, 1976); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXL97.

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Figure 3
A packing diagram for the title complex. Hydrogen bonds are shown as dashed lines.

[^1]
[^0]:    © 2005 International Union of Crystallography

[^1]:    Zhao, J.-G., Gu, C.-S., Huo, L.-H., Liu, J.-W. \& Gao, S. (2005). Acta Cryst. E61, m76-m78.

