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## Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study  
T = 193 K  
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.002 \text{ \AA}$   
R factor = 0.026  
wR factor = 0.075  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 12.0For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.Poly[[bis(benzimidazole)manganese(II)]-di- $\mu$ -1,5-dicyanamido]

In the crystal structure of the title complex,  $[\text{Mn}(\text{C}_2\text{N}_3)_2(\text{C}_7\text{H}_6\text{N}_2)_2]_n$  or  $[\text{Mn}(\text{dca})_2(\text{bim})_2]_n$ , where dca is dicyanamide and bim is benzimidazole, each  $\text{Mn}^{\text{II}}$  atom is located on a center of symmetry and is in a six-coordinated distorted octahedral environment. Four N atoms from four dca ligands fill the equatorial positions, and two N atoms from two bim ligands occupy the axial positions. The dicyanamide ligands adopt an end-to-end coordination mode and link the Mn atoms to form a two-dimensional network.

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## Comment

Metal coordination polymers with multidimensionality have attracted great interest in coordination chemistry because of their intriguing structural topologies and their interesting applications as functional materials (Batten & Robson, 1998; Blake *et al.*, 1999; Carlucci *et al.*, 2004). The dicyanamide ligand  $[\text{N}(\text{CN})_2]^-$  (dca), is a remarkably versatile building block for the construction of coordination polymers, since it can act in a mono-, bi- or tridentate coordination manner (Riggio *et al.*, 2001; Li *et al.*, 2003). The introduction of N-based bridging and terminal ligands into the metal–dca system has led to many fascinating structures with interesting magnetic properties (Manson *et al.*, 1998; Manna *et al.*, 2006; Escuer *et al.*, 2000, 2002). In this work, a new  $\text{Mn}^{\text{II}}$  coordination polymer  $[\text{Mn}(\text{dca})_2(\text{bim})_2]_n$ , (I) (bim = benzimidazole), is presented.

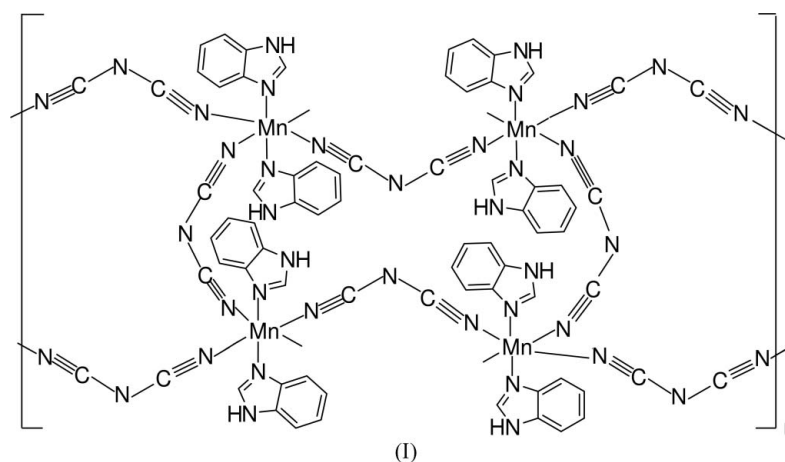
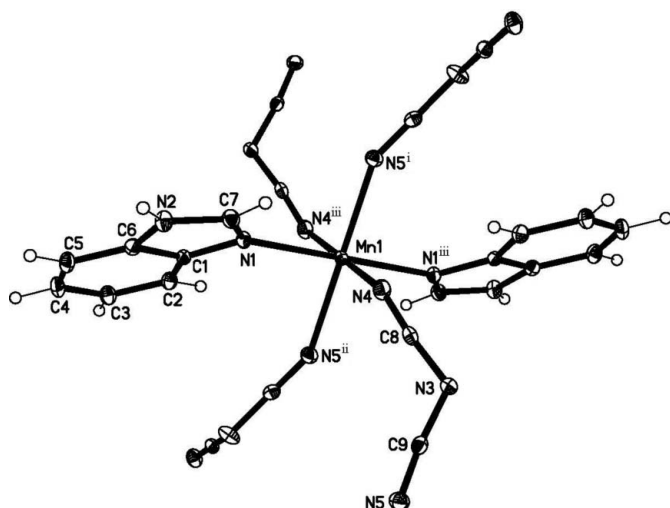


Fig. 1 shows the coordination of the  $\text{Mn}^{\text{II}}$  atom, which is situated on a center of symmetry. The coordination geometry of the  $\text{Mn}^{\text{II}}$  atom is slightly distorted octahedral, coordinated equatorially by four N atoms from four symmetry-related dca ligands and axially by two N atoms from two benzimidazole molecules (Table 1). The  $\text{Mn}-\text{N}_{\text{dca}}$  bond lengths are similar to



**Figure 1**

Local coordination of Mn<sup>II</sup> in (I), with displacement ellipsoids drawn at the 30% probability level. [Symmetry codes: (i)  $\frac{1}{2} + x, \frac{1}{2} - y, \frac{1}{2} + z$ ; (ii)  $\frac{3}{2} - x, \frac{1}{2} + y, \frac{1}{2} - z$ ; (iii)  $2 - x, 1 - y, 1 - z$ .]



**Figure 2**

The packing of (I). H atoms have been omitted.

the corresponding values in other Mn–dca complexes (Escuer *et al.*, 2000, 2002; Manson *et al.*, 1999, 2001).

The dicyanamide ligand (dca) adopts an end-to-end coordination mode. Each dca ligand links two Mn<sup>II</sup> atoms to give a two-dimensional network, resulting in an ‘hourglass-shaped’ 24-membered Mn<sub>4</sub>(dca)<sub>4</sub> metallacycle (Manson *et al.*, 2001). The Mn···Mn distance bridged by one dca ligand is 7.6512 (9) Å, which is similar to the corresponding distance

(8.405 Å) in [Mn(dca)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>](2,5-bismethylpyrazine)<sub>2</sub> (Manson *et al.*, 2001). There is a weak N–H···N hydrogen bond (Table 2).

## Experimental

A water/methanol (1:1, v/v) solution (20 ml) of bim (0.117 g, 1.0 mmol) and MnSO<sub>4</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O (0.085 g, 0.5 mmol) was added to one leg of an H-shaped tube and a water/methanol (1:1, v/v) solution (20 ml) of sodium dicyanamide (0.089 g, 1.0 mmol) was added to the other leg of the tube. Colorless crystals suitable for X-ray analysis were obtained after about one month. Elemental analysis found: C 49.95, H 2.81, N 33.04%; calculated for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>12</sub>MnN<sub>10</sub>: C 51.07, H 2.85, N 33.10%.

### Crystal data

[Mn(C<sub>2</sub>N<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>6</sub>N<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]

*M<sub>r</sub>* = 423.32

Monoclinic, *P*2<sub>1</sub>/*n*

*a* = 9.2994 (17) Å

*b* = 9.9531 (18) Å

*c* = 9.9585 (19) Å

β = 105.839 (4)°

*V* = 886.7 (3) Å<sup>3</sup>

*Z* = 2

*D<sub>x</sub>* = 1.585 Mg m<sup>−3</sup>

Mo Kα radiation

μ = 0.77 mm<sup>−1</sup>

*T* = 193 (2) K

Block, colorless

0.50 × 0.40 × 0.30 mm

### Data collection

Rigaku Mercury CCD diffractometer

ω scans

Absorption correction: multi-scan

(Jacobson, 1998)

*T<sub>min</sub>* = 0.698, *T<sub>max</sub>* = 0.801

8337 measured reflections

1618 independent reflections

1567 reflections with *I* > 2σ(*I*)

*R<sub>int</sub>* = 0.020

θ<sub>max</sub> = 25.3°

### Refinement

Refinement on *F*<sup>2</sup>

*R* [*F*<sup>2</sup> > 2σ(*F*<sup>2</sup>)] = 0.026

*wR* (*F*<sup>2</sup>) = 0.075

*S* = 1.02

1618 reflections

135 parameters

H-atom parameters constrained

*w* = 1/[σ<sup>2</sup>(*F<sub>o</sub>*<sup>2</sup>) + (0.0487*P*)<sup>2</sup> + 0.3634*P*]

where *P* = (*F<sub>o</sub>*<sup>2</sup> + 2*F<sub>c</sub>*<sup>2</sup>)/3

(Δ/σ)<sub>max</sub> < 0.001

Δρ<sub>max</sub> = 0.25 e Å<sup>−3</sup>

Δρ<sub>min</sub> = −0.29 e Å<sup>−3</sup>

Extinction correction: *SHELXL97*

Extinction coefficient: 0.032 (3)

**Table 1**

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Mn1–N5 <sup>i</sup>	2.2199 (15)	N3–C9	1.310 (2)
Mn1–N4	2.2369 (14)	N4–C8	1.157 (2)
Mn1–N1	2.2598 (12)	N5–C9	1.156 (2)
N3–C8	1.307 (2)		
N5 <sup>i</sup> –Mn1–N4	90.28 (5)	C8–N3–C9	119.33 (13)
N5 <sup>i</sup> –Mn1–N1	92.79 (5)	N4–C8–N3	174.47 (15)
N4–Mn1–N1	89.30 (5)	N5–C9–N3	173.85 (16)

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

**Table 2**

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

<i>D</i> –H··· <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> –H	H··· <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> ··· <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> –H··· <i>A</i>
N2–H2B···N3 <sup>ii</sup>	0.88	2.22	3.043 (2)	155

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

H atoms were placed in idealized positions and refined as riding, with C–H distances of 0.95 Å and N–H distances of 0.88 Å, and with  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C}, \text{N})$ .

Data collection: *CrystalClear* (Rigaku Corporation, 2000); 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* (Bruker, 1998); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*.

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