

**Ji-Yang Xu,<sup>a</sup> Damacio S. Contreras,<sup>b</sup> Frank R. Fronczek<sup>c</sup> and Banglin Chen<sup>b\*</sup>**

<sup>a</sup>Department of Biochemistry, China Pharmaceutical University, Nanjing 210009, People's Republic of China, <sup>b</sup>Department of Chemistry, The University of Texas-Pan American, Edinburg, TX 78541-2999, USA, and <sup>c</sup>Department of Chemistry, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803-1804, USA

Correspondence e-mail: banglin@utpa.edu

**Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study  
*T* = 105 K  
 Mean  $\sigma(C-C)$  = 0.006 Å  
 H-atom completeness 87%  
*R* factor = 0.065  
*wR* factor = 0.140  
 Data-to-parameter ratio = 15.4

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

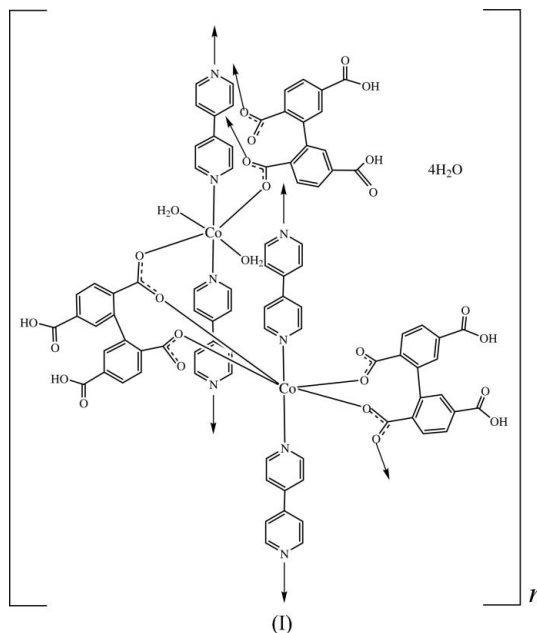
**Poly[*diaquabis*( $\mu_2$ -4,4'-bipyridine)*bis*( $\mu_3$ -5,5'-dicarboxybiphenyl-2,2'-dicarboxylato)-dicobalt(II) tetrahydrate]**

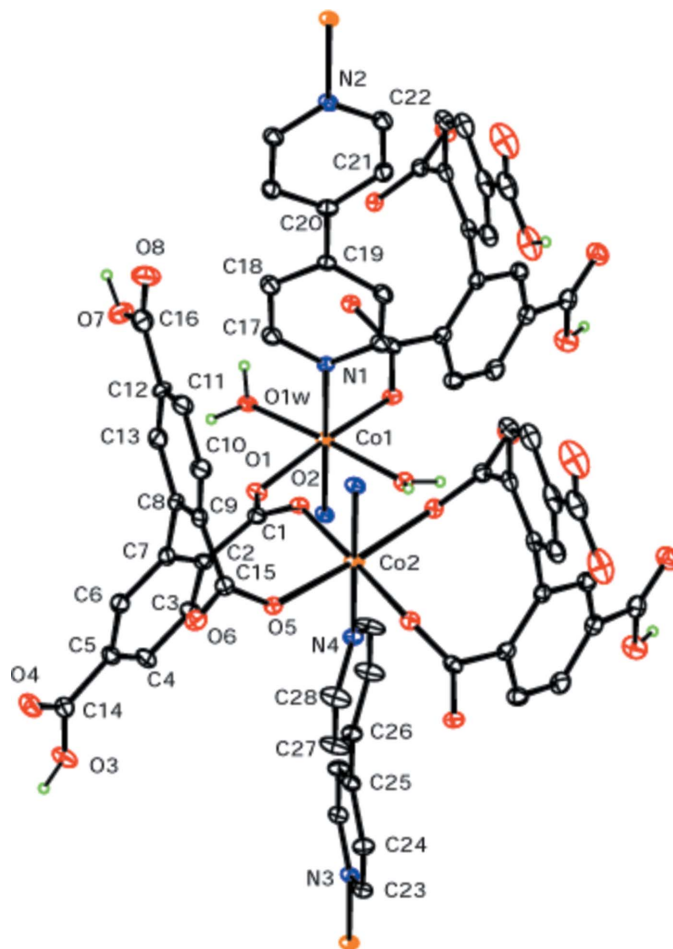
In the title compound,  $\{[Co_2(C_{16}H_8O_8)_2(C_{10}H_8N_2)_2(H_2O)_2] \cdot 4H_2O\}_n$ , two types of Co atoms are bridged by 5,5'-dicarboxybiphenyl-2,2'-dicarboxylate and 4,4'-bipyridine ligands to form a rectangular two-dimensional (4,4) grid. Packing of these grids mediated by hydrogen bonding leads to a three-dimensional porous metal-organic framework with water molecules inside the cavities. Both of the independent Co atoms lie on a twofold axes, upon which the long axes of both bipyridine ligands also lie, forming chains in the [010] direction. Both Co atoms have a *trans*-O<sub>4</sub>N<sub>2</sub> coordination, but one has four carboxylate O atoms in the equatorial plane, while the other has two carboxylates and two water molecules in this plane.

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**Comment**

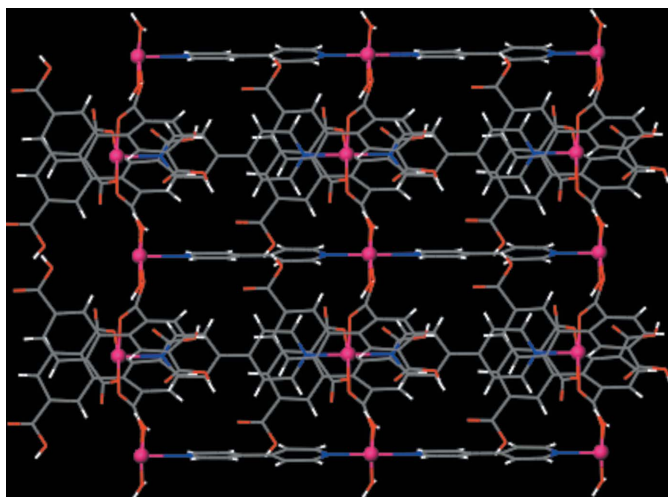
There has been extensive research interest in porous metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) for their potential applications in gas storage, separation, molecular recognition, magnetism and catalysis (Eddaoudi *et al.*, 2001; Kitagawa *et al.*, 2004; Yaghi *et al.*, 2003; Janiak, 2003). These kinds of porous MOFs can not only be constructed from single organic linkers (Chen *et al.*, 2005), but can also be self-assembled from mixed organic linkers (Rather & Zaworotko, 2003; Chun *et al.*, 2005; Ma *et al.*, 2005; Chen *et al.*, 2006). The title compound, (I), is one of the MOFs constructed from cobalt(II) nitrate and the organic linkers biphenyl-2,2',5,5'-tetracarboxylic acid (H<sub>4</sub>BPTC) and 4,4'-bipyridine, and its structure is reported here.





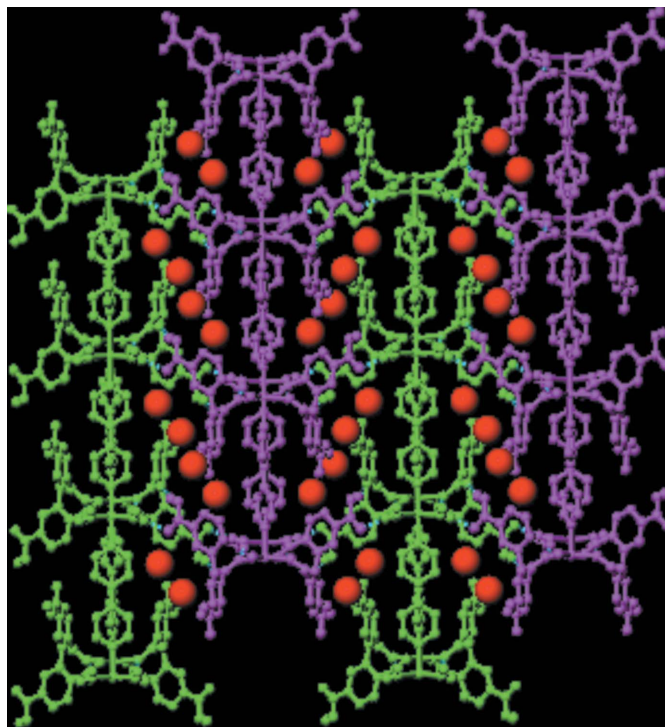
**Figure 1**

A portion of the structure of (I), with the asymmetric unit labelled, apart from the uncoordinated water molecules, and with displacement ellipsoids drawn at the 40% probability level. C-bound H atoms have been omitted for clarity. The twofold axis through Co1 relates atoms by the symmetry operator  $(\frac{1}{2} - x, y, \frac{3}{2} - z)$ , while the twofold axis through Co2 relates atoms by the symmetry operator  $(\frac{3}{2} - x, y, \frac{3}{2} - z)$ . Bipyridine molecules in each coordination environment are related by translation in the *b* direction.



**Figure 2**

The distorted rectangular two-dimensional (4,4) grid sheet of (I). Co atoms are pink, C atoms grey, N atoms blue and O atoms red.



**Figure 3**

The crystal packing in (I), indicating the *ABAB* arrangement to form a three-dimensional porous MOF, with water molecules residing in the cavities.

A portion of the structure of (I) is shown in Fig. 1. There are two types of Co atoms, both of which lie on a twofold axis, both having an  $O_4N_2$  coordination, with the N atoms *trans*. Atom Co1 has two water molecules and two carboxylate O atoms in the equatorial plane, while atom Co2 has four carboxylate O atoms in this plane. Also along these twofold axes lie two independent 4,4'-bipyridine bridging ligands, forming parallel  $\cdots\text{bipy-Co-bipy-Co}\cdots$  chains in the [010] direction. One BPTC ligand has two of its COOH groups deprotonated (at C1 and C15), while the other two (at C14 and C16) remain protonated. The C1  $\text{COO}^-$  group bridges the Co1 and Co2 chains through two O atoms, while the C15  $\text{COO}^-$  group is monodentate to Co2, with atom O6 uncoordinated and accepting two hydrogen bonds, discussed below.

The  $\text{H}_2\text{BPTC}$  ligand deviates significantly from planarity, with a torsion angle about its central C7–C8 bond of  $-114.1(5)^\circ$ , while the bipyridyl ligands are slightly nonplanar, with twists about their central C–C bonds of about 20 and  $30^\circ$ , respectively (Table 1).

Topologically, the structure can be viewed as a rectangular two-dimensional (4,4) grid, with Co nodes bridged by  $\text{H}_2\text{BPTC}$  and 4,4'-bipy to form a layer (Fig. 2). These two-dimensional layers are further packed in an  $\cdots\text{ABAB}\cdots$  fashion by hydrogen bonding (Table 2) to form a three-dimensional porous structure, in the cavities of which a small number of water molecules reside (Fig. 3). Both COOH groups are donors in the hydrogen-bonding scheme, as are both H atoms of the coordinated water molecule. Hydrogen

bonding by the cavity water molecules is less clear, as only one H atom could be located.

Experimental

The title compound was synthesized by the hydrothermal reaction of Co(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O, biphenyl-2,2',5,5'-tetracarboxylic acid and 4,4'-bipyridine (1:1:1 mole ratio) in dimethylformamide-ethanol-water (3:3:2 v/v) at 353 K. Very small pink crystals of the title compound were formed and these were collected in 36% yield.

Crystal data

[Co<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O<sub>8</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>n</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O  
*M<sub>r</sub>* = 1194.78  
 Monoclinic, *P*2<sub>1</sub>/*n*  
*a* = 9.877 (4) Å  
*b* = 11.393 (4) Å  
*c* = 21.763 (10) Å  
 β = 93.25 (2)°  
*V* = 2445.0 (17) Å<sup>3</sup>  
*Z* = 2  
*D<sub>x</sub>* = 1.623 Mg m<sup>-3</sup>  
 Mo Kα radiation  
 μ = 0.77 mm<sup>-1</sup>  
*T* = 105 K  
 Prism, pink  
 0.10 × 0.07 × 0.05 mm

Data collection

Nonius KappaCCD area-detector diffractometer (with an Oxford Cryosystems Cryostream cooler) ω scans with κ offsets  
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (SCALEPACK; Otwinowski & Minor, 1997)  
*T<sub>min</sub>* = 0.932, *T<sub>max</sub>* = 0.962  
 18159 measured reflections  
 5795 independent reflections  
 3130 reflections with *I* > 2σ(*I*)  
*R<sub>int</sub>* = 0.085  
 θ<sub>max</sub> = 27.9°

Refinement

Refinement on *F*<sup>2</sup>  
*R* [*F*<sup>2</sup> > 2σ(*F*<sup>2</sup>)] = 0.065  
*wR* (*F*<sup>2</sup>) = 0.140  
*S* = 1.02  
 5795 reflections  
 377 parameters  
 H-atom parameters constrained  
*w* = 1/[σ<sup>2</sup>(*F<sub>o</sub>*<sup>2</sup>) + (0.0391*P*)<sup>2</sup> + 1.6222*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> = 0.95 e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 Δρ<sub>min</sub> = -0.77 e Å<sup>-3</sup>

Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

|                             |             |                          |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Co1—O1W                     | 2.057 (3)   | Co2—O2                   | 2.056 (3)   |
| Co1—O1                      | 2.087 (3)   | Co2—N3 <sup>ii</sup>     | 2.111 (5)   |
| Co1—N1                      | 2.137 (4)   | Co2—N4                   | 2.160 (5)   |
| Co1—N2 <sup>i</sup>         | 2.165 (4)   | Co2—O5                   | 2.214 (3)   |
| O1W <sup>iii</sup> —Co1—O1W | 175.56 (16) | O2—Co2—N3 <sup>ii</sup>  | 91.12 (7)   |
| O1W <sup>iii</sup> —Co1—O1  | 97.06 (12)  | O2—Co2—N4                | 88.88 (7)   |
| O1W—Co1—O1                  | 82.68 (11)  | O2—Co2—O5 <sup>iv</sup>  | 81.89 (11)  |
| O1—Co1—O1 <sup>iii</sup>    | 173.34 (15) | N4—Co2—O5 <sup>iv</sup>  | 93.24 (7)   |
| O1W—Co1—N1                  | 92.22 (8)   | O2—Co2—O5                | 98.23 (11)  |
| O1—Co1—N1                   | 93.33 (7)   | O2 <sup>iv</sup> —Co2—O5 | 81.89 (11)  |
| O1—Co1—N2 <sup>i</sup>      | 86.67 (7)   | N4—Co2—O5                | 93.24 (7)   |
| O2—Co2—O2 <sup>iv</sup>     | 177.77 (15) | O5 <sup>iv</sup> —Co2—O5 | 173.52 (14) |
| C2—C7—C8—C9                 | -114.1 (5)  | C24—C25—C26—C27          | -31.0 (3)   |
| C18—C19—C20—C21             | -159.9 (3)  |                          |             |

Symmetry codes: (i) *x*, *y* + 1, *z*; (ii) *x*, *y* - 1, *z*; (iii) -*x* + ½, *y*, -*z* + ½; (iv) -*x* + ½, *y*, -*z* + ½.

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> |
|-------------------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| O3—H3O···O6 <sup>v</sup>      | 0.84        | 1.91          | 2.724 (4)             | 162                     |
| O7—H7O···O2W <sup>vi</sup>    | 0.84        | 1.83          | 2.651 (5)             | 166                     |
| O1W—H11W···O4 <sup>viii</sup> | 0.84        | 1.94          | 2.775 (4)             | 172                     |
| O1W—H12W···O5 <sup>viii</sup> | 0.84        | 1.81          | 2.636 (4)             | 168                     |
| O2W—H21W···O6 <sup>v</sup>    | 0.84        | 1.93          | 2.768 (5)             | 171                     |

Symmetry codes: (v) -*x* + 2, -*y* + 1, -*z* + 1; (vi) *x* - 1, *y* - 1, *z*; (vii) -*x* + 1, -*y* + 1, -*z* + 1; (viii) *x* - 1, *y*, *z*.

C-bound H atoms were included in the riding-model approximation, with C—H = 0.95–0.99 Å and with *U*<sub>iso</sub>(H) = 1.2*U*<sub>eq</sub>(C). O-bound H atoms were placed with O—H = 0.84 Å, guided by difference maps, and with *U*<sub>iso</sub>(H) = 1.5*U*<sub>eq</sub>(O). One of the H atoms on water molecule O2W and both of those on water molecule O3W could not be located with certainty and were not included in the model.

Data collection: COLLECT (Nonius, 2000); cell refinement: SCALEPACK (Otwinowski & Minor, 1997); data reduction: SCALEPACK and DENZO (Otwinowski & Minor, 1997); program(s) used to solve structure: SIR97 (Altomare *et al.*, 1999); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: ORTEP-3 for Windows (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXL97.

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