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#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study  
T = 150 K  
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.003 \text{ \AA}$   
R factor = 0.029  
wR factor = 0.082  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 13.8

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

## catena-Poly[[diaquadinitratozinc(II)]- bis( $\mu$ -1,4-di-3-pyridyl-2,3-diaza-1,3- butadiene)]

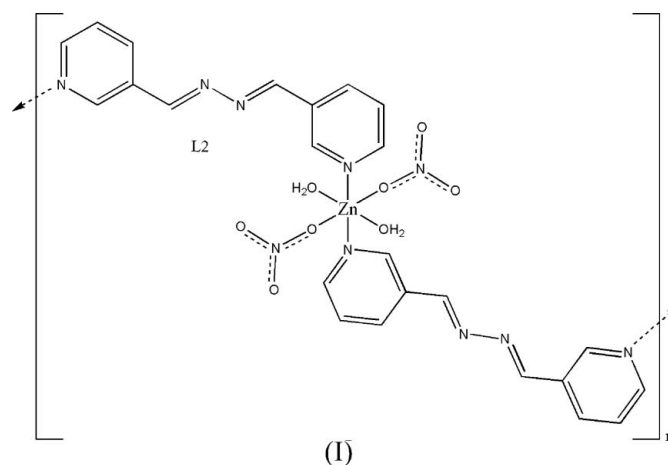
The polymeric title complex,  $[\text{Zn}(\text{NO}_3)_2(\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_8)(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_n$ , features distorted  $\text{ZnN}_2\text{O}_4$  octahedra with each  $\text{Zn}^{\text{II}}$  atom being located on an inversion center. Adjacent Zn ions are doubly bridged by two equivalent 1,4-di-3-pyridyl-2,3-diaza-1,3-butadiene ligands to form linear chains.

Received 13 November 2006

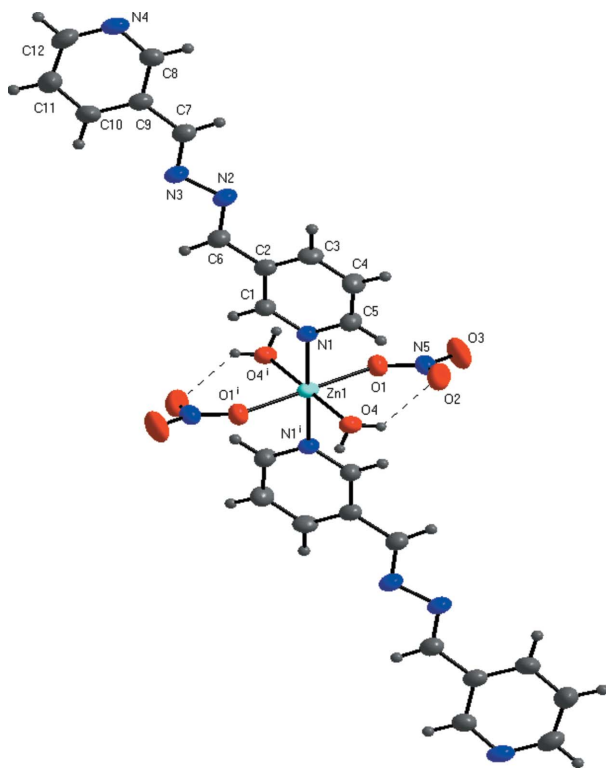
Accepted 3 January 2007

#### Comment

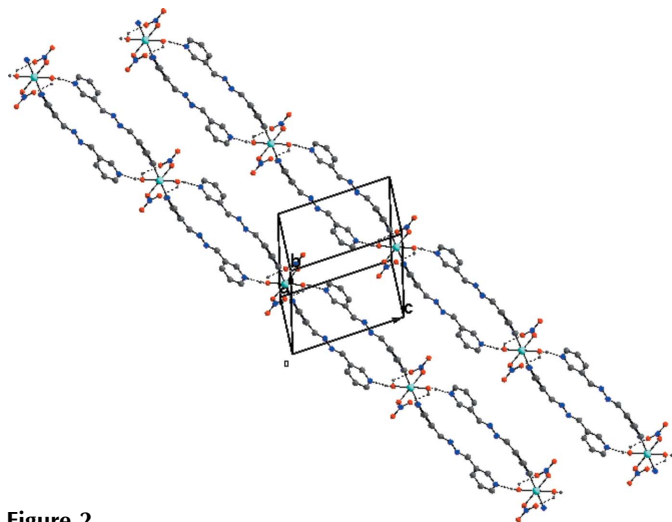
There has been much effort directed at the construction of new coordination polymers due to their potentially interesting and useful properties (Chin *et al.*, 1993; Kitagawa *et al.*, 2004; Janiak, 2003). In this context, we have been highly successful in utilizing  $N,N'$ -bipyridyl-type ligands to link metal centers to form such polymeric materials (Perkins *et al.*, 2005; Khalil *et al.*, 2005; Davis *et al.*, 2004; Dong *et al.*, 2000*a,b*). As a continuation of this work, we report the details of the crystal structure of the title complex, (I), in which 1,4-di-3-pyridyl-2,3-diaza-1,3-butadiene (*L2*) is used to link  $\text{Zn}^{\text{II}}$  centers into one-dimensional chains.



The crystal structure of (I) is built upon neutral  $\text{Zn}(\text{L}2)_2(\text{OH}_2)_2(\text{NO}_3)_2$  units (Fig. 1). The  $\text{Zn}^{\text{II}}$  ion is located on an inversion center and is situated in a distorted  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  octahedral coordination environment. The axial positions are occupied by two N atoms from pairs of equivalent *L2* ligands. The equatorial positions are occupied by four O atoms, two from equivalent pairs of water molecules and two O atoms from equivalent pairs of monodentate nitrates (Table 1). For *L2*, the two pyridyl rings N1/C1–C5 and N4/C8–C12 are twisted at a dihedral angle of  $34.6(1)^\circ$ . As expected for the nitrate, the N–O bond corresponding to the coordinated O atom is slightly longer than the other two N–O bonds (Table 1). One of the uncoordinated nitrate O atoms is



**Figure 1**  
The structure of (I), with the atom-labeling scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level. Hydrogen bonds are represented by dashed lines. [Symmetry code: (i)  $1 - x, 1 - y, -z$ ]



**Figure 2**  
View of the crystal packing in (I) showing the one-dimensional chains. All H atoms except for those of water have been omitted for clarity. Hydrogen bonds are represented by dashed lines.

involved in an intramolecular O4—H4B···O2 hydrogen bond (Table 2) to a coordinated water molecule located on the same Zn<sup>II</sup> center.

It is noteworthy that only one of the two pyridyl N atoms of *L2* directly coordinates a Zn<sup>II</sup> ion. The other pyridyl N atom interacts indirectly with an adjacent Zn<sup>II</sup> ion by forming an outer-sphere O4—H4A···N4 hydrogen bond (Table 2) with a coordinated water molecule located on the adjacent Zn<sup>II</sup> center. This interaction, along with the inner-sphere Zn<sup>II</sup>—N2

coordination bond noted previously, generates a double chain structure (Fig. 2) involving two equivalent *L2* ligands. The chains run along the [111] direction with a non-bonded Zn<sup>II</sup>···Zn<sup>II</sup> distance of 15.578 (1) Å. To our knowledge, the generation of such a double chain structure involving both inner- and outer-sphere coordination by *L2* is the first of its kind for this ligand.

## Experimental

All chemicals and solvents were purchased from commercial sources and used without further purification. The *L2* ligand (Dong *et al.*, 2000) was prepared as previously described. Complex (I) was obtained by slow diffusion of an ethanol solution containing zinc nitrate hexahydrate (0.50 mmol) into a dichloromethane solution (8 ml) containing a mixture of *L2* (1.0 mmol) and of 4,4'-bipyridine (1.0 mmol). A mixture of yellow, irregularly shaped crystals of (I) and colorless bar-shaped crystals of formula [Zn<sup>II</sup>(4,4'-bipyridine)<sub>2</sub>(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sub>n</sub> were obtained at the interface of the two solutions after several weeks.

### Crystal data

[Zn(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (C <sub>24</sub> H <sub>20</sub> N <sub>8</sub> )(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> ]	$V = 689.12 (16) \text{ \AA}^3$
$M_r = 645.90$	$Z = 1$
Triclinic, $P\bar{1}$	$D_x = 1.556 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
$a = 7.8267 (11) \text{ \AA}$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
$b = 8.5320 (11) \text{ \AA}$	$\mu = 0.96 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$c = 11.7409 (16) \text{ \AA}$	$T = 150 (1) \text{ K}$
$\alpha = 81.113 (2)^\circ$	Irregular fragment, yellow
$\beta = 73.696 (2)^\circ$	$0.40 \times 0.26 \times 0.14 \text{ mm}$
$\gamma = 66.468 (2)^\circ$	

### Data collection

Bruker SMART APEX CCD diffractometer	6421 measured reflections
$\omega$ scans	2831 independent reflections
Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 2001)	2720 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
$T_{\min} = 0.670, T_{\max} = 0.870$	$R_{\text{int}} = 0.027$
	$\theta_{\max} = 26.4^\circ$

### Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0472P)^2 + 0.1395P]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.029$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$wR(F^2) = 0.082$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} < 0.001$
$S = 1.07$	$\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.28 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
2831 reflections	$\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.27 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
205 parameters	Extinction correction: SHELXL97
H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement	Extinction coefficient: 0.026 (4)

**Table 1**

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Zn1—O1	2.1839 (12)	N5—O3	1.236 (2)
Zn1—O4	2.0795 (12)	N5—O2	1.239 (2)
Zn1—N1	2.1487 (13)	N5—O1	1.2653 (18)
O1—Zn1—O1 <sup>i</sup>	180	O4—Zn1—N1	89.21 (5)
O4—Zn1—O1	95.05 (5)	N1—Zn1—O1 <sup>i</sup>	87.98 (5)
O4 <sup>i</sup> —Zn1—O1	84.95 (5)	N1 <sup>i</sup> —Zn1—N1	180
O4—Zn1—O4 <sup>i</sup>	180		

Symmetry code: (i)  $-x + 1, -y + 1, -z$ .

**Table 2**

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D-H\cdots A$	$D-H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-H\cdots A$
$O4-H4A\cdots N4^{ii}$	0.79 (3)	1.97 (3)	2.750 (2)	170 (2)
$O4-H4B\cdots O2$	0.78 (3)	2.29 (3)	2.856 (2)	130 (2)

Symmetry code: (ii)  $x + 1, y + 1, z - 1$ .

The water-bound H atoms were refined without constraint; see Table 2. The remaining H atoms were included in the riding-model approximation, with  $C-H = 0.95$  Å and  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$ .

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 2001); cell refinement: *SAINTE* (Bruker, 2001); data reduction: *SAINTE-Plus*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *SHELXTL* (Sheldrick, 2000) and *DIAMOND* (Brandenburg, 2005); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*.

Financial support from the National Science Foundation, awards CHE-0314164 and CHE-0315152, is gratefully acknowledged.

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