Topologically Different Two Pseudo-decahedral Hydrogen-bond Networks Composed of Triphenylmethylammonium Phosphonates

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Novel two pseudo-decahedral hydrogen-bond networks with different topology are constructed with triphenylmethylammonium phosphonates. Phosphonate anions show four different hydrogen-bond manners, which lead to the topological diversity.

Supramolecular clusters based on organic compounds have attracted much attention for future materials because of their nano-order scale and uniform size.^{1,2} On these clusters, topological issue is often attendant and has been well discussed with covalent-bonded networks such as catenanes and knots for the further development of molecular informatics.¹

We also focused on the topology of hydrogen-bond network.³ Here, we demonstrate that the multiplicity and usefulness of the phosphonate anions for the design of topological diversity by means of the design and construction of two novel pseudodecahedrons consisting of hydrogen-bond networks (Figures 1a and 1b). Since each pseudo-decahedron consists of two quadrangles and eight triangles, they are topological isomers of square antiprism (Figure 1c). Up to now, some kinds of discrete hydrogen-bond networks, such as pseudo-tetrahedron,⁴ pseudo-hexahedron,^{3,5–9} and pseudo-octahedron,¹⁰ have been reported with organic components, but we have never seen such asymmetric pseudo-decahedrons.

We designed the pseudo-decahedral networks by the extension of conventional [4 + 4]-type clusters. To date, we and other research groups have reported the [4 + 4] ion pair clusters consisting of organic ammonium with chloride,⁵ carboxylate,^{3,6} thiolate,⁷ phosphonothioate,⁸ and sulfonate.⁹ Cations and anions act as a tridentate hydrogen-bond donor and acceptor, respectively and link together with robust pseudo-cubic supramolecular synthon.¹¹

In the aim of extending the conventional [4+4]-type



Figure 1. Decahedrons consisting of two quadrangles and eight triangles with different topology.



Scheme 1. Salt formation of triphenylmethylamine with phosphonic acids.



Figure 2. [4 + 4]-Type clusters of (a) TPMA–PPA, and (b) TPMA–*n*PrPA. Phosphorus, nitrogen, and oxygen atoms are orange, blue, and red, respectively. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Pattern diagrams of hydrogen-bond networks of (c) TPMA–PPA, and (d) TPMA–*n*PrPA with different OH…O topology. Black and red dashed lines show NH…O and OH…O hydrogen bonds, respectively.

clusters, we adopted phosphonic acids which have an additional hydrogen-bond donor as the anion moiety.¹² (Scheme 1).

Triphenylmethylamine (TPMA) and phenylphosphonic acid (PPA) or *n*-propylphosphonic acid (*n*PrPA) were mixed in methanol with a 1:1 molar ratio. Evaporating the solutions yielded their powdered salts, which were recrystallized from 1,2-dichloroethane. Single-crystal X-ray analysis revealed that TPMA–PPA and TPMA–*n*PrPA formed the [4 + 4]-type clusters (Figures 2a and 2b).^{13,14}

The clusters are built with discrete hydrogen-bond networks which are surrounded by bulky substituents. Four anions and four cations align alternately and are linked by twelve NH···O charge-assisted hydrogen bonds similar to the networks composed of carboxylates⁶ or sulfonates.⁹ However, unlike these conventional networks, the surplus hydrogen atoms of phosphate anions behave as hydrogen-bond donors for additional four OH···O hydrogen bonds. In these two crystals, different OH···O hydrogen-bond networks are observed. Thereby, two novel pseudo-decahedral hydrogen-bond networks with different topology are formed with totally sixteen hydrogen bonds (Figures 2c and 2d). Each pseudo-decahedron of TPMA–PPA and TPMA–nPrPA corresponds to the decahedron shown in Figures 1a and 1b, respectively.

Since four faces in the pseudo-cube are parted by the OH…O hydrogen bonds (see Figures 2c and 2d, red dashed arrows), pseudo-decahedral hydrogen-bond networks are constructed



Figure 3. [4 + 4]-Type clusters and hydrogen-bond networks with graph sets on opened-up cube of (a) TPMA–PPA and (b) TPMA–*n*PrPA. Phosphorus, nitrogen, and oxygen atoms are orange, blue, and red, respectively. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Black and red bold lines show the difference between two networks. Light-blue- and yellow-colored areas show different and the same network areas, respectively.



Figure 4. Four manners of phosphonate anions on the corner of the pseudo-cube (black dash lines and red dash lines show NH…O and OH…O hydrogen bonds, respectively).

with ten ringed hydrogen-bond networks. Two networks of TPMA–PPA and TPMA–*n*PrPA look very similar in graph sets¹⁵ which represent the numbers of molecules, hydrogen bonds, and atoms of the rings. However, from the topological point of view, linking mode of four rings among ten (light-blue-colored area) differs Owing to recombination of three hydrogen bonds (bold lines shown in Figure 3).

These topological differences in hydrogen-bond networks originate from distinctive hydrogen-bond manners of each phosphonate anion (Figure 4). Different from other anions which act as tridentate hydrogen-bond acceptor,^{3,5–9} in the two crystals of phosphonates, four different manners of phosphonate anions (Figure 4 I-IV) are confirmed: TPMA-PPA consists of one I, two II and one IV, TPMA-nPrPA consists of two II and two III. In these manners, phosphonate anions accept at least three hydrogen bonds in a similar fashion to sulfonate and carboxylate anions.^{3,6,9} However, depending on the topology of the additive four OH---O hydrogen bonds, phosphonate anions have possibility to accept extra one or two hydrogen bonds (Figure 4 II-IV). The topological diversity depends heavily on the conformational diversity of anion moiety. Therefore, the diversity and adjustability of the phosphonate anion play an important role in constructing a variety of supramolecular assemblies. We also confirmed these assemblies in solution (see Supporting information).¹⁶ These results give us the possibility for the dynamic control of the topology, which may contribute the molecular informatics.

In conclusion, we demonstrated that design and construction of novel pseudo-decahedral hydrogen-bond networks from the conventional hydrogen-bond networks. In the networks, newly four OH...O hydrogen bonds participated into the network through the extra hydrogen atoms of phosphonate anions. In the crystals, phosphonate anions play multimodal hydrogenbond manners, which turn to be widely engaged in topological diversity. These results give us novel insight into the topology of hydrogen-bond network as well as an instrumental method to design further complicated nano-order fabrications. Topology–property correlations are under investigation for the realization of molecular informatics.

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- 13 Crystallographic data of TPMA–PPA: $C_{102}H_{100}O_{12}N_4P_4Cl_2$, $M_r = 1768.73$, triclinic, space group $P\bar{1}$, a = 14.013(3), b = 14.983(3), c = 23.595(5) Å, $\alpha = 85.485(13)$, $\beta = 80.455(11)$, $\gamma = 67.351(12)^\circ$, V = 4508.0(16) Å³, T = 273 K, Z = 2, $D_{calcd} = 1.303$ g cm⁻³. 50040 total reflections, 15310 unique, 11995 observed $[I > 2\delta(I)]$. The final R_1 $[I > 2\delta(I)]$ and wR_2 (all data) were 0.0594 and 0.1597, respectively. Crystallographic data of TPMA–nPrPA: $C_{22}H_{26}O_3N_1P_1$, $M_r = 383.43$, monoclinic, space group Cc, a = 26.6767(7), b = 13.7847(4), c = 25.0072(6) Å, $\beta = 113.0821(12)^\circ$, V = 8459.7(4) Å³, T = 213 K, Z = 16, $D_{calcd} = 1.204$ g cm⁻³. 44341 total reflections, 13954 unique, 7753 observed $[I > 2\delta(I)]$. The final R_1 $[I > 2\delta(I)]$ and wR_2 (all data) were 0.1146 and 0.3425, respectively.
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