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Supplementary Material Available: A description of the experimental crystallography for $FeCl_3[P(t-Bu)_3]$ and tables of complete crystal data, bond distances and angles, anisotropic displacement parameters, and hydrogen atom coordinates for $[PH(t-Bu)_3]_2[Fe_2(\mu-OEt)_2Cl_6]$ (8 pages); a listing of calculated and observed structure factors for $[PH(t-Bu)_3]_2$ - $[Fe_2(\mu-OEt)_2Cl_6]$ (18 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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Crystal Structure and Magnetic Properties of Potassium Bis(dithiooxalato)nitrosylferrate(2-), a Compound with a Sulfur-Bridged Iron Dimer

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A dimer of potassium bis(dithiooxalato)nitrosylferrate(2-) monohydrate formula units, $\{K_2Fe(C_2O_2S_2)_2NO\cdot H_2O\}_2$, crystallizes in the monoclinic space group C^2/c with unit cell dimensions of a = 18.416 (6) Å, b = 15.800 (6) Å, c = 9.834 (4) Å, and β = 111.26 (3)° with Z = 4. The coordination around the iron atom is distorted tetragonal pyramidal with an average basal Fe-S distance of 2.27 Å. The sixth coordination position of iron is filled by a sulfur atom from an adjacent complex ion with an Fe-S distance of 3.823 Å. The Fe-N-O fragment has an angle of 161.8 (3)°, and the N-O distance is 1.148 (3) Å. The loosely bound dimer exhibits surprisingly strong intramolecular antiferromagnetic interactions. The magnetic susceptibility data may be fit with a dimer model by using the exchange Hamiltonian $H_{ex} = -2JS_1 \cdot S_2$ with $S_1 = S_2 = 1/2$ and an exchange-coupling constant of -23.8 cm⁻¹. This is a large exchange-coupling constant in view of the long Fe-S superexchange pathway.

Introduction

Studies have shown that sulfur atoms as bridging ligands are very effective in transmitting superexchange interactions over long distances between paramagnetic metal ions in clusters and lowdimensional systems.¹ To more fully understand the chemical and structural features that govern these superexchange interactions, we have undertaken a systematic study of the structural and magnetic properties of sulfur-bridged transition-metal clusters, chains, and sheets. Here, we report the crystal structure and magnetic properties of the dimer $K_4[Fe_2(C_2O_2S_2)_4(NO)_2]\cdot 2H_2O^2$ a compound that has been found to have an unsymmetrical Fe_2S_2 antiferromagnetically exchange-coupled unit with two short iron-sulfur distances and two rather long iron-sulfur distances.

Experimental Section

Synthesis. Commercially available ferric chloride, potassium nitrite, and potassium dithiooxalate were used without further purification. A crystalline sample of the compound was prepared by a modification of the procedure described by Coucouvanis and co-workers.² All experimental manipulations were carried out under a nitrogen atmosphere, and deoxygenated distilled water was used. K₂C₂O₂S₂ (0.047 mol) was dissolved in 20 mL of H_2O , and 20 mL of an aqueous solution of FeCl₃ $6H_2O$ (0.015 mol) was added. The solution turned violet, and an aqueous solution of KNO₂ (20 mL, 0.015 mol) was added dropwise to this violet solution. The resulting solution was maintained at 70 °C with stirring for 2 h, and the hot solution was then filtered. The green precipitate was discarded, and the green solution was cooled slowly to room temperature and then placed in a refrigerator for several days. Black crystals were obtained upon filtration, and these were recrystallized from aqueous solution. Elemental analysis and the X-ray single-crystal determination, described below, confirmed the identity of the material.

Crystallographic Data Collection. X-ray diffraction data were collected by using a Nicolet $R3m/\mu$ diffractometer that was equipped with a graphite monochromator and molybdenum radiation (wavelength 0.7107 Å). Cell dimensions were obtained by least-squares fitting from 25 high-angle reflections. Systematic absences indicated that the crystal belonged to the monoclinic space group Cc or C2/c. The latter was confirmed as the correct space group by the successful refinement of the structure. Two check reflections collected after every 90 reflections revealed no unexpected variation in intensity. Of the 3238 unique re-

Table I. Crystallographic Data for $K_4[Fe_2(C_2O_2S_2)_4(NO)_2]\cdot 2H_2O$

fw 844.66	space group C20c
a = 18.416 (6) Å	$\tilde{T} \simeq 20$ °C
b = 15.800 (6) Å	$\lambda = 0.7107 \text{ Å}$
c = 9.834 (4) Å	$\rho_{\rm obsd} = 2.08 \ {\rm g \ cm^{-3}}$
$\beta = 111.26 (3)^{\circ}$	$\rho_{\rm calcd} = 2.10 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$
$V = 2667 (2) \text{ Å}^3$	R = 0.035
Z = 4	$R_{\rm w} = 0.05$

Table II.	Atomic	Coordinates	(×10 ⁴)	and	Isotropic	Thermal
Paramete	rs (Ų ×	10 ³)				

	x	у	z	Ua
K(1)	0	4656 (1)	2500	38 (1)
K(2)	5000	4229 (1)	2500	66 (1)
K(3)	4296 (1)	1880 (1)	252 (1)	46 (1)
Fe	8044 (1)	1262 (1)	1547 (1)	33 (1)
S (1)	7175 (1)	1734 (1)	2540 (1)	36 (1)
S(2)	7205 (1)	190 (1)	484 (1)	49 (1)
S(3)	8512 (1)	1050 (1)	-250 (1)	52 (1)
S(4)	8460 (1)	2619 (1)	1709 (1)	38 (1)
N	8784 (1)	829 (1)	2945 (3)	46 (1)
C(1)	6425 (1)	1013 (1)	2068 (2)	31 (1)
C(2)	6454 (1)	253 (2)	1115 (3)	34 (1)
C(3)	9119 (1)	1882 (2)	-159 (3)	37 (1)
C(4)	9105 (1)	2646 (2)	813 (2)	32 (1)
O (1)	5852 (1)	1081 (1)	2442 (2)	42 (1)
O(2)	5925 (1)	-262 (1)	810 (2)	48 (1)
O(3)	9549 (1)	1924 (1)	-861 (2)	46 (1)
O(4)	9533 (1)	3249 (1)	851 (2)	39 (1)
O(5)	9396 (1)	615 (2)	3680 (3)	76 (1)
O(6)	8609 (2)	1612 (2)	5948 (3)	67 (1)

^a Equivalent isotropic U defined as one-third of the trace of the orthogonalized U_{ij} tensor.

flections recorded in the range $3^{\circ} < 2\theta < 55^{\circ}$, 2880 reflections having $I > 3\sigma(I)$ were used in the structure determination. Data were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects but not for absorption owing to a moderately low absorption coefficient (23.4 cm⁻¹). An isotropic sec-

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Table	Ш.	Bond	Lengths	(Å) ^a
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Fe-S(1)	2.282 (1)	Fe-S(2)	2.275 (1)	
Fe-S(3)	2.255 (1)	Fe-S(4)	2.263 (1)	
Fe-N	1.690 (2)	S(1)-C-(1)	1.719 (2)	
S(2)-C(2)	1.712 (3)	S(3) - C(3)	1.707 (3)	
S(4) - C(4)	1.717 (3)	N-O(5)	1.148 (3)	
C(1) - C(2)	1.536 (4)	C(1) - O(1)	1.231 (4)	
C(2) - O(2)	1.220 (3)	C(3) - C(4)	1.546 (4)	
C(3)-O(3)	1.227 (4)	C(4) - O(4)	1.227 (3)	

^a Potassium atoms coordinate to oxygen atoms with an average distance of 2.78 Å. The shortest distance between potassium atoms is 4.103 (1) Å.

Table IV. Bond Angles (deg) Involving Iron

S(1)-Fe- $S(2)$	88.6 (1)	S(1)-Fe- $S(3)$	155.6 (1)
S(2)-Fe- $S(3)$	85.3 (1)	S(1)-Fe- $S(4)$	86.1 (1)
S(2)-Fe- $S(4)$	153.4 (1)	S(3)-Fe- $S(4)$	88.9 (1)
S(1)-Fe-N	105.6 (1)	S(2)-Fe-N	106.6 (1)
S(3)-Fe-N	98.8 (1)	S(4)-Fe-N	100.0 (1)
Fe-S(1)-C(1)	106.7 (1)	Fe-S(2)-C(2)	107.1 (1)
Fe-S(3)-C(3)	105.9 (1)	Fe-S(4)-C(4)	105.4 (1)
Fe-N-O(5)	161.8 (3)		

ondary extinction correction was made (secondary extinction coefficient 6.4×10^{-7}). Atomic scattering factors for all atoms were taken from ref 3. Pertinent crystal data, details of data collection, and refinement parameters are summarized in Tables I and SI (supplementary material).

Refinement of the Structure. The iron, potassium, and sulfur atoms were located by the direct methods program SOLV of the crystallographic program package SHELXTL.⁴ The remaining non-hydrogen atoms were found by conventional difference Fourier techniques to give a trial structure. The structure was refined by the block-diagonal least-squares technique using SHELXTL on a Data General Microelipse computer. The quantity minimized was $\sum w(\Delta F)^2$, where $w = 1/(\sigma_F^2 + 0.00042F^2)$. The non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic temperature factors. No attempt was made to place the hydrogen atoms, since the final difference Fourier map did not show clear hydrogen peaks. The refined structure was plotted by using the SHELXTL graphics package. Anisotropic temperature factors and calculated and observed structure factors are available as supplementary material. Atomic positions, bond lengths, and bond angles are given in Tables II-IV and SIII (supplementary material).

Magnetic Measurements. Magnetic susceptibility data from 4 to 80 K were collected by using a Princeton Applied Research Model 155 Foner vibrating-sample magnetometer with procedures that have been described earlier.⁵ The magnetometer was calibrated with HgCo(NC- $S_{4}^{6,7}$ Samples of the standard and the compound under study were contained in precision-milled Lucite sample holders. Approximately 150 mg of each were used. Magnetic data from 80 to 280 K were collected by using a Faraday system that was calibrated with HgCo(NCS)₄. Corrections for the diamagnetism of the constituent atoms were estimated from Pascals constants.8,9

Spectral Determinations. Electron paramagnetic resonance spectra at X-band frequency of a powdered sample were recorded at a number of temperatures between 5 and 300 K with a Varian Instruments E109 EPR spectrometer equipped with a continuous-flow helium cryostat.

An infrared spectrum of a powdered sample in a KBr pellet recorded on a Beckman 4250 spectrometer exhibited a band at 1665 cm⁻¹, which may be attributed to the N-O stretching vibration. The ultravioletvisible spectrum, which was recorded on a methanol solution by using a HP8450 UV/vis spectrophotometer, exhibited bands at 14800, 24000, 31 700, 37 500, 45 900, and 49 000 cm⁻¹. The bands at 37 500 and 49 000 are likely ligand-based transitions, since the spectrum of $K_2C_2O_2S_2$ in methanol exhibited bands at 38 900 and 48 800 cm⁻¹.

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Figure 1. ORTEP diagram of the dimeric structure of $\{K_2[Fe(C_2O_2S_2)_2 NO]|_2$



Figure 2. Magnetic behavior of $\{K_2[Fe(C_2O_2S_2)_2NO] \cdot H_2O\}_2$. The solid line corresponds to the best fit of the dimer model to the experimental data designated by +'s.

Results

Description of the Structure. The structure of the complex anion $[Fe(C_2O_2S_2)_2NO]^{2-}$ is shown in Figure S1 (supplementary material). There are no unusual aspects of the structure other than the bent nature of the Fe-N-O fragment of the molecular ion. The average Fe-S distance in the plane of the tetragonal pyramid is 2.27 Å, and the cis-S-Fe-S angles range from 85.3 (1) to 88.9 (1)°. The iron atom is 0.5 Å above the best basal plane formed by the four sulfur atoms. Thus, the trans-S-Fe-S angles are 153.4 (1) and 155.6 (1)°. The apical position of the tetragonal pyramid is occupied by the nitrogen atom of the nitrosyl ligand with an Fe-N distance of 1.690 (2) Å. The N-O bond distance is 1.148 (3) Å, and the Fe–N–O angle is 161.8 (3)°

As shown in Figure 1, two symmetry-related $Fe(C_2O_2S_2)_2NO^{2-1}$ complex anions form a loosely bound dimer. An iron ion in one of the dianions is weakly bonded to the sulfur S(4') in the neighboring dianion. The Fe-S(4') distance is 3.823 Å, and the Fe-S(4')-Fe angle is 104.8°. Within the dimer, the Fe-Fe' distance is 4.915 Å, and the shortest interdimer Fe-Fe distance is 6.331 Å.

There are two noteworthy features of the structures. First, even though the iron is semicoordinated to a sulfur atom of a neighboring dianion, the iron is displaced 0.5 Å from the plane of four sulfur atoms toward the apical nitrosyl ligand. A comparable displacement has been found in the analogous dianionic complex $[Fe(C_2[CN]_2S_2)_2]^{2-10}$ Second, the iron-sulfur linkage that binds two anionic fragments into the dimer is rather long, but as noted in the following section, there is substantial intradimeric exchange

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coupling. The significance of these observations will be explored in the Discussion.

Magnetic Properties. Magnetic susceptibility data were collected in the temperature range 4.2–280 K, and the data are shown as $\chi_M T$ versus temperature in Figure 2. A maximum in magnetic susceptibility versus temperature plot, which is characteristic of antiferromagnetic interactions, occurs at approximately 40 K. In view of the structural features, which include pairs of tetragonal pyramidal $[Fe(C_2O_2S_2)_2(NO)]^{2-}$ dianions loosely bound into dimers with long Fe-S(4') semicoordinate bonds, it is reasonable to conclude that the antiferromagnetic interaction is intradimeric in nature. Assuming isotropic exchange, the exchange Hamiltonian is $H_{ex} = -2JS_1 \cdot S_2$ with $S_1 = S_2 = 1/2$, and the magnetic susceptibility per mole of dimer is given by¹¹

$$\chi_{\rm M} = (2Ng^2\mu_{\rm B}^2/k_{\rm B}T)[3 + \exp(-2J/k_{\rm B}T)]^{-1}(1-\delta) + (Ng^2\mu_{\rm B}^2/2k_{\rm B}T)\delta$$

where the symbols have their usual meaning. This expression includes a correction for a monomeric impurity with 100 δ being the percent of that impurity. A least-squares fit of the magnetic susceptibility equation to the data using a nonlinear Simplex fitting routine yielded $J = -23.8 \text{ cm}^{-1}$, g = 2.09, and $\delta = 6.2\%$. The percent impurity is probably high because a spin S = 1/2 was used in the calculations. If the impurity were high-spin iron(III) with S = 5/2, then δ would have been only 0.5%. The solid line shown in Figure 2 was generated with these best-fit parameters.

The EPR spectrum of the powdered sample at a number of temperatures ranging from 5 to 300 K consisted of a broad line centered at g = 2.061. Unexpectedly, at low temperatures where the population of paramagnetic triplet states is low, thus yielding a near-diamagnetic host for the triplet states present, there were no features on the band arising from superhyperfine interactions. Presumably, the presence of the paramagnetic impurity augmented by the Boltzmann population of triplet states leads to a mechanism for broadening the resonance line and obscures the expected superhyperfine from the nitrogen atom. The g value obtained from the magnetic susceptibility data is in good agreement with the EPR g value and lends support for the model selected for the analysis of the magnetic susceptibility data.

Discussion

Structural Aspects. The nature of the bonding of NO, NO⁺, and NO⁻ to transition-metal ions has been of interest for many years.¹² The short Fe–N bond length of 1.690 (2) Å indicates a strong covalent bond between iron and the nitrosyl ligand, although the bond is 0.13 Å longer than the corresponding bond in $[Fe(C_2[CN]_2S_2)_2NO]^{2-.10}$ The N–O bond length in $[Fe-(C_2O_2S_2)_2NO]^{2-}$ is also longer than that in the ditholene complex anion, it being 1.148 (3) Å in the former and 1.06 Å in the latter. These metrical parameters lead to interesting considerations. The N–O bond length in N–O⁺ is 1.06 Å,¹³ while the comparable bond length in NO(g) is 1.15 Å.¹³ The lengthening of the N–O bond in the complex dianion may be easily understood in terms of highly effective dative π bonding from the filled d_{xz}, d_{yz} orbitals to the unfilled π^* on the N–O ligand. Effective overlap is enhanced by the bent nature of the Fe–N–O fragment, which brings the π^* orbitals in close contact with the filled π orbitals on the iron ion. The influence of dative π bonding in N–O is further reflected by the relatively low N–O vibrational frequency of 1665 cm⁻¹. The frequency of the N–O stretching vibration in N–O⁺ is 2150–2400 cm⁻¹.¹³

The relatively short Fe–N bond length of 1.69 Å is indicative of a strong iron-nitrogen bond, a conclusion that is supported by the 0.5-Å displacement of the iron from the plane of the four sulfur donor atoms toward the apical nitrogen atom. The long Fe–S(4') semicoordinate bond becomes important in this regard. Even though this semicoordinate bond is responsible for consociating neighboring tetragonal pyramidal complex ions into loosely held dimeric units, this bonding arrangement is of secondary importance when compared to the bonding attraction between the iron and the nitrosyl ligand.

Exchange-Coupling Mechanism. In view of the long iron-iron distance of 4.915 Å in the bimetallic exchange-coupled unit, it is reasonable to conclude that direct exchange, resulting from overlap of magnetic orbitals on the iron ions, contributes little to the exchange-coupling mechanism. Rather, the exchange coupling occurs by a superexchange mechanism that operates through the orbitals of the bridging sulfur atoms. In this regard it is important to establish the identity of the magnetic orbitals. An early EPR study¹⁴ of liquid and frozen solutions of $[Fe(C_2O_2S_2)_2NO]^{2^-}$ in methylene chloride or a methanol-glycerol mixture led to the conclusion that the unpaired electron was in either the d₂₂ or the d_{x²-y²} orbital, with the probability of it being in d₂₂ being more likely.

To address the problem of the identity of the magnetic orbital, we carried out an extended Hückel calculation¹⁵ on a monomer fragment. Since the monomer fragment has no symmetry, there are contributions from several orbitals to the HOMO, but the major contributions, by far, are from iron $3d_{z^2}$ and $4p_z$. These orbitals overlap effectively with the orbitals of the bridging sulfur atom, and this overlap results in the relatively large superexchange interaction.

The charge distribution in the dianion resulting from the Hückel calculation is $[Fe^{0}(C_{2}O_{2}S_{2})_{2}^{-1.67}(NO)^{-0.33}]$. Thus, the low N–O stretching vibration of 1665 cm⁻¹ and the bond length of 1.15 Å may be understood in terms of the partial negative charge on NO.

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Supplementary Material Available: Figure S1, showing the monomeric unit, and Tables SI-SIV, listing details of the structure determination, thermal parameters, and angles in the dithioxalate ligand (5 pages); a table of calculated and observed structure factors (19 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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