

Communications

Synthesis, Characterization, and Structure of a Novel Hexanuclear Iron-Sulfur-Carbonyl Cluster, the $[\text{Fe}_6\text{S}_6(\text{CO})_{12}]^{2-}$ Ion

Sir:

Clusters containing iron and sulfide² are of substantial interest, both as models for the iron-sulfur centers found in many proteins³ and as examples of novel structural units in inorganic chemistry. Structurally characterized systems with thiolate, halide, or phenoxide terminal ligands include binuclear ($[\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2\text{L}_4]^{2-4}$), trinuclear ($[\text{Fe}_3\text{S}(\text{S}_2\text{-}o\text{-xyl})_3]^{2-5}$ and $[\text{Fe}_3\text{S}_4\text{L}_4]^{3-6}$), tetranuclear ($[\text{Fe}_4\text{S}_4\text{L}_4]^{1-,2-,3-2,7}$), and hexanuclear ($[\text{Fe}_6\text{S}_6\text{L}_6]^{2-,3-8}$ and $[\text{Fe}_6\text{S}_9\text{L}_2]^{4-9}$) clusters. Related systems with carbonyl or phosphine ligation include binuclear ($\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2(\text{CO})_6^{10}$), trinuclear ($\text{Fe}_3\text{S}_2(\text{CO})_9^{11}$), tetranuclear ($\text{Fe}_4\text{S}_4(\text{CO})_{12}^{12}$ and $[\text{Fe}_4\text{S}_4(\text{CO})_{12}]^{2-13}$), and hexanuclear ($[\text{Fe}_6\text{S}_8(\text{PEt}_3)_6]^{2+14}$) examples. The hexanuclear clusters are of particular interest as possible examples of novel structures that may be present in proteins and as starting materials for the synthesis of new structural models for the iron-molybdenum cofactor of nitrogenase.¹⁵ We report herein the synthesis,

structure, and some properties of a novel hexanuclear iron-sulfur-carbonyl cluster, the $[\text{Fe}_6\text{S}_6(\text{CO})_{12}]^{2-}$ dianion (I).

Addition of a solution of $\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2(\text{CO})_6^{16}$ (857 mg, 2.95 mmol) in 10 mL of THF to a solution of "[*o*-xyl-S₂]₂"²⁻ (prepared from 424 mg (2.42 mmol) of *o*-xyl(SH)₂¹⁷) in 25 mL of THF produces a green solution that gradually becomes purple upon stirring at 22 °C for 4 days. Filtration of the purple solution into a solution of $\text{BzEt}_3\text{N}^+\text{Cl}^-$ (1.13 g, 4.95 mmol) in 10 mL of *i*-PrOH results in precipitation of a purple microcrystalline solid, which is collected, washed with Et₂O, and recrystallized from a minimum volume of MeCN. Cooling to -20 °C gives $[\text{BzEt}_3\text{N}]_2^+[\text{I}]^-$ as analytically pure¹⁸ purple crystals (29%). The $[\text{BzEt}_2\text{MeN}]^+$ and $[\text{PPN}]^+$ salts are obtained in similar fashion. Complex I can also be prepared by reaction of a solution of $\text{Fe}_2(\text{SH})_2(\text{CO})_6^{19}$ (1.20 mmol) in THF (63 mL) with a solution of $[\text{Et}_4\text{N}]_2[\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2\text{Cl}_4]^{20}$ (3.48 g, 0.602 mmol) and Et₃N (0.33 mL, 2.4 mmol) in 20 mL of DMF at 0 °C. Optical spectra of the reaction mixture show that I is produced in ~70% yield.²¹

Crystals of $[\text{BzEt}_2\text{MeN}]_2[\text{I}]$ suitable for X-ray diffraction studies²² were obtained from MeCN/*i*-PrOH at -20 °C. The

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- The term "[*o*-xyl-S₂]₂"²⁻ is used to designate the thiolate-disulfide mixture arising from reaction of *o*-xyl(SH)₂ (424 mg) in THF with 2 equiv of *n*-BuLi followed by oxidation of half the thiolates with 0.5 equiv of I₂ (316 mg) in THF. This undoubtedly produces a complex and dynamic mixture of polymeric disulfides and thiolates rather than the single species [*o*-xyl-S₂]₂²⁻.
- Anal. Calcd for C₃₉H₄₄Fe₆N₂O₁₂S₆: C, 36.57; H, 3.55; Fe, 26.85; N, 2.24; S, 15.41. Found: C, 37.01; H, 3.44; Fe, 26.44; N, 2.37; S, 16.03.
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- $[\text{Et}_4\text{N}]_2[\text{I}]$ could not be obtained from this solution in analytically pure form due to difficulty in separating it from Et₃NH⁺Cl⁻, which has similar solubility characteristics.
- (a) Measurements were performed on an Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer using graphite-filtered Mo K α radiation. The θ - 2θ technique was used as previously described^{22b} to record intensities for all nonequivalent reflections with $1.4^\circ < 2\theta < 52^\circ$. Intensities were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects and for absorption. A total of 3690 independent data with $F^2 > 3\sigma(F^2)$ were used in the refinement. $[\text{BzEt}_2\text{MeN}]_2[\text{I}]$ crystallizes in space group $P\bar{1}$ with $a = 8.025$ (7) Å, $b = 12.956$ (8) Å, $c = 13.676$ (7) Å, $\alpha = 68.43$ (4)°, $\beta = 72.15$ (5)°, $\gamma = 89.44$ (4)°, $V = 1250$ Å³, $Z = 1$, and $d_{\text{calcd}} = 1.62$. Heavy atoms were located from a three-dimensional Patterson synthesis; other non-hydrogen atoms were located from successive Fourier syntheses. The $[\text{BzEt}_2\text{MeN}]^+$ cation is partially disordered over two sites, assigned occupancies of 0.55 and 0.45. Full-matrix least-squares refinement^{22b} with anisotropic temperature factors for the anion and isotropic temperature factors for the cation converged with $R = 9.9\%$ and $R_w = 10.8\%$. The computing programs used are described in ref 22b. (b) Freyberg, D. P.; Mockler, G. M.; Sinn, E. *J. Chem. Soc., Dalton Trans.* **1976**, 447.

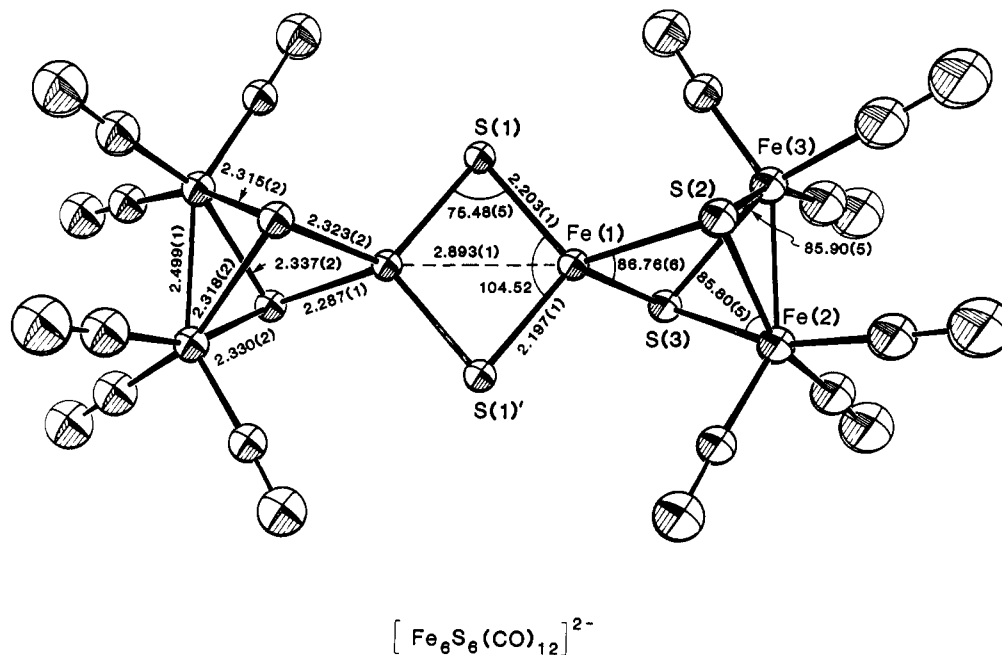


Figure 1. Structure of the $[\text{Fe}_8\text{S}_6(\text{CO})_{12}]^{2-}$ ion, showing the atomic labeling scheme and selected distances and angles.

structure of I (Figure 1) consists of a central $[\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2]^{2+}$ core ligated by a $[\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2(\text{CO})_6]^{2-}$ unit on each Fe. Noteworthy features of the structure include (i) the acute $\text{S}(2)\text{-Fe}(1)\text{-S}(3)$ angle ($86.76(6)^\circ$), (ii) the relatively large $\text{S}(2)\text{-Fe}(2,3)\text{-S}(3)$ angle (average 85.95°), and (iii) the short $\text{Fe}(2)\text{-Fe}(3)$ distance ($2.499(1) \text{ \AA}$), consistent with an Fe-Fe bonding interaction. Structural feature i constitutes by far the smallest angle between terminal ligands to an $[\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2]^{2+}$ core;⁴ the smallest such angle previously reported is the O-Fe-O angle of 96.1° in $[\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2(o,o'\text{-C}_{12}\text{H}_8\text{O}_2)_2]^{2-4d}$. This result suggests that the rigid $[\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2(\text{CO})_6]^{2-}$ unit can accommodate only a small bite angle at a coordinated metal ion. This is consistent with feature ii, where coordination of the bridging sulfides of $[\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2(\text{CO})_6]^{2-}$ increases the S-Fe-S angle only slightly beyond that in $\text{Fe}_2(\text{SEt})_2(\text{CO})_6$ (81.0° ;²³), where there is no S-S bonding interaction. Dimensions within the central, planar $[\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2]^{2+}$ core are virtually identical with those in other $[\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2\text{L}_4]^{2-}$ systems.⁴ Similarly, dimensions within the coordinated $[\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2(\text{CO})_6]^{2-}$ groups are very similar to those in $\text{Ge}(\text{S}_2\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_6)_2$,²⁴ $[\text{MoFe}_3\text{S}_6(\text{CO})_6]^{2-}$,^{25a} and $[\text{MoOFe}_5\text{S}_6(\text{CO})_{12}]^{2-}$.^{25b}

Physical and spectroscopic properties of I are consistent with its formulation as a mixed-valence cluster containing localized Fe(I) and Fe(III) sites. The IR spectrum (ν_{CO} : 2032, 2004, 1943 cm^{-1} (MeCN)) is similar to those reported for other complexes containing the $[\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2(\text{CO})_6]^{2-}$ unit.²⁴⁻²⁶ Electronic spectra show two principal bands (λ_{max} , nm (ϵ , $\text{mM}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$): 335 (42.7), 508 (14.4), 655 (sh) (MeCN)). The 508-nm band is reasonably assigned to a $\mu_3\text{-S} \rightarrow \text{Fe(III)}$ charge-transfer transition,^{4a,20} while the highest energy feature is probably a composite of $\mu_2\text{-S} \rightarrow \text{Fe(III)}$ charge transfer^{4a,20} and transitions within the $\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2(\text{CO})_6$ unit.²⁷ Variable-temperature magnetic susceptibility studies show that χ_m increases with increasing temperature, with $\mu_{\text{eff}} = 1.96 \mu_B/\text{formula unit}$ at 25°C and $-J = 156 \pm 6 \text{ cm}^{-1}$.²⁸ These results

are very similar to those observed for $[\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2\text{L}_4]^{2-}$ complexes^{23,30,31} and indicate that I behaves magnetically as an $[\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2]^{2+}$ core with diamagnetic $[\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2(\text{CO})_6]^{2-}$ ligands. The ^{57}Fe Mössbauer spectrum of $[\text{BzEt}_3\text{N}]_2[\text{I}]$ at 4.2 K shows two overlapping quadrupole doublets with relative intensities 1:2 ($\delta_1 = 0.30$, $\Delta E_{\text{Q}1} = 0.91 \text{ mm/s}$; $\delta_2 = 0.07$, $\Delta E_{\text{Q}2} = 0.80 \text{ mm/s}$; vs. metallic Fe at 298 K). Doublet 2 has parameters similar to those of $\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2(\text{CO})_6$ ($\delta = 0.08$, $\Delta E_{\text{Q}} = 1.11 \text{ mm/s}$) and clearly arises from the four Fe atoms of the $\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2(\text{CO})_6$ units. Doublet 1 exhibits an isomer shift in the range reported for $[\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2\text{L}_4]^{2-}$ complexes,^{2,30,31} but the quadrupole splitting is significantly larger than those observed for such complexes, due to the significant distortion of the central Fe sites in I from tetrahedral symmetry (structural feature i above). Electrochemical measurements³² show that I exhibits two quasi-reversible one-electron reductions at -1.13 and -1.73 V vs. SCE and an irreversible multielectron oxidation and reduction at -0.08 and -2.02 V , respectively. The first reduction process approximates electrochemical reversibility (CV: $E_{\text{pc}} - E_{\text{pa}}$, 70 mV; $i_{\text{pc}}/i_{\text{pa}}$, 1.13). The pattern of two reductions in these potential ranges is typical of $[\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2(\text{SR})_4]^{2-}$ salts.^{2,4a,31}

The synthesis of I from $\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2(\text{CO})_6$ and the α -xylylene- α,α' -dithiolate-disulfide mixture is an example of partial oxidative decarbonylation of $\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2(\text{CO})_6$. Previous work^{4a} has shown that treatment of $\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2(\text{CO})_6$ with benzenethiolate-diphenyl disulfide mixtures results in complete decarbonylation with quantitative formation of $[\text{Fe}_4\text{S}_4(\text{SPh})_4]^{2-}$. We find that formation of I is highly dependent on the nature of the thiol and on both the RS^-/RSSR and $(\text{RS}^- + \text{RSSR})/\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2(\text{CO})_6$ ratios. Our results indicate that the precise product obtained in such systems depends strongly on the effective potential of the "redox buffer" used. Work in progress in our laboratory has shown that other new iron-sulfur-carbonyl clusters are formed when conditions are varied.

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 (32) In MeCN solution with 100-mM $[\text{Bu}_4\text{N}][\text{ClO}_4]$ supporting electrolyte. Potentials measured vs. 0.1 M $\text{AgNO}_3(\text{MeCN})/\text{Ag}$ (+0.337 V vs. SCE). Techniques used: dc and differential pulse polarography at a dropping-Hg electrode; cyclic voltammetry (CV) at a glassy carbon electrode (100 mV/s).

Supplementary Material Available: Tables of atomic coordinates, interatomic distances and angles, and thermal parameters and a figure showing a cyclic voltammetry scan (5 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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High-Salt and Low-Salt Models for Kinked Adducts of *cis*-Diamminedichloroplatinum(II) with Oligonucleotide Duplexes

Sir:

DNA, the likely *in vivo* target of the anticancer drug *cis*-diamminedichloroplatinum(II) (*cis*-DDP), undergoes certain geometrical changes upon drug binding. There is general agreement that *cis*-DDP binds predominantly to d(GpG) units,¹ and following the recent crystal structure determination of the complex *cis*-[Pt(NH₃)₂d(pGpG)],² metrical parameters for the platinum-d(GpG) chelate have been provided. Details about the structural changes caused by *cis*-DDP binding to oligonucleotide duplexes and to DNA itself, however, are not yet available and are currently the subject of several theoretical and experimental investigations.

By using molecular mechanics calculations, we recently derived a model³ for the adduct of *cis*-[Pt(NH₃)₂]²⁺ with oligonucleotides that revealed disruption of GC base-pairing at the 5'-end-coordinated guanine of the platinum-cross-linked d(GpG) site, a switching of sugar pucker to C(3')-endo for the same 5'-guanosine, and a hydrogen bond between the coordinated ammine ligand and the 5'-phosphate group. The directionality of the helix axis, however, was largely unperturbed. In this study we have found two alternative models having comparable conformational energies where the helix axis is substantially kinked. These new results prove that kinking of DNA upon platination, as previously suggested,⁴ is energetically feasible and provide atomic coordinates for refined model structures of kinked *cis*-[Pt(NH₃)₂]²⁺-oligonucleotide adducts.

The kinked models were constructed by using coordinates from the platinated adduct (1) of the single-stranded hexanucleotide, d(AGGCCT), which, after energy refinement, showed a kink of approximately 67° (Figure 1).⁵ We started with the unplatinated, energy-refined B-DNA structure of the decanucleotide duplex investigated previously,³ [d(TCTCG*G*TCTC)-d(GAGACC-GAGA)] (2), where the asterisks designate the platinum binding sites, in which the sugar pucker of the 5'-G* guanosine was switched from C(2')-endo to C(3')-endo. The duplex was divided into two parts along the G*pG* site (dashed line in Chart I). Each of the G* designated guanine rings of 2 was then fit by a least-squares procedure into the appropriate guanine residue of the platinated hexanucleotide 1, so that the resultant kinked duplex had the same G*pG* fragment geometry as the single-stranded adduct 1. The *cis*-[Pt(NH₃)₂]²⁺ unit with coordinates from 1 was then added to the new coordinate file, yielding a kinked platinated

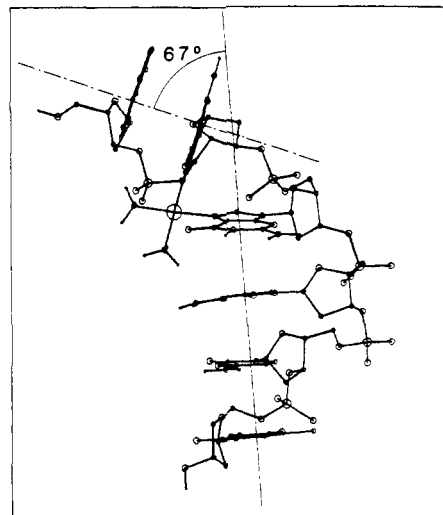


Figure 1. Side view of *cis*-[Pt(NH₃)₂]-[d(AGGCCT)-N7(2),N7(3)] (B-DNA model⁵ after energy minimization).

duplex. This duplex showed a gap at p16-C15 in the backbone of the unplatinated strand, with a P-O(3') bonding distance of ~10 Å. In order to reduce this distance and enable the energy-minimizing program AMBER⁷ to close the gap without destroying the kink, we subsequently rotated each duplex part about an axis passing through the coordinated N(7) atom and paralleling the helix axis of the rotated part, so that the P-O(3') distance was diminished. The factors limiting the extent of the rotations were the two cytosines base-paired with the central G*pG* unit, the amino groups of which would have clashed if the rotation were carried too far. The final P-O(3') distance at the site of the break was 4-5 Å. This distance could have been diminished even further by rotating the O(5')-P group at the 5'-side of the gap about the C(4')-C(5') bond. This adjustment was also easily accomplished by AMBER, and the outcome of the refinement did not depend on whether or not we had performed the latter rotation. Manual rotations were accomplished by using the computer graphics system FRODO PS-300.⁸ The resultant kinked structures were then refined with the program AMBER. In the first three cycles we constrained all base atoms to their positions with a penalty function $E = \sum k(\Delta r_i)^2$, where Δr_i are the shifts of the atoms from their initial sites, added to the total energy.⁷ The constant k was reduced from 100 to 10 kcal/(mol Å²) in the second step of refinement and finally to 1 kcal/(mol Å²). Subsequently, the constraint was completely removed and the structure refined again. The purpose of the constraint was to allow the backbone to adjust while the kinked structure of the duplex remained unchanged. This procedure of rotating the least-squares-fitted structure followed by energy minimization yielded two distinct models, identified as B and C in the following text in order to distinguish them from the uninked model A reported previously.³

The AMBER refinements were carried out by using standard parameters.⁹ To examine the robustness of the solutions, several models for the environmental dielectric constant were used. While these models had a substantial effect on the magnitude of the energies, they had little effect on the relative energies or the resultant geometry. Here we report models and energies derived by using a dielectric constant of 4 r , where r is the internuclear separation, and with no additional shielding of 1-4 neighbors.

The refined structures showed a number of unusual backbone torsional angles at the site of kinking and an unexpected N-type

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