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### A new organic-inorganic hybrid material constructed from Keggin polyanion and transition metal complexes: $[\text{Co}(2,2'\text{-bipy})_3]_{1.5}[\text{SiW}^{\text{V}}\text{W}^{\text{VI}}_{11}\text{O}_{40}\text{Co}(2,2'\text{-bipy})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})] \cdot 0.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$

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**A new organic-inorganic hybrid material constructed  
from Keggin polyanion and transition metal complexes:  
[Co(2,2'-bipy)<sub>3</sub>]<sub>1.5</sub>[SiW<sup>V</sup>W<sup>VI</sup><sub>11</sub>O<sub>40</sub>Co(2,2'-bipy)<sub>2</sub>  
(H<sub>2</sub>O)] · 0.5H<sub>2</sub>O**

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A new organic-inorganic hybrid compound constructed from Keggin-type polyanion clusters and transition metal complexes, [Co(2,2'-bipy)<sub>3</sub>]<sub>1.5</sub>[SiW<sup>V</sup>W<sup>VI</sup><sub>11</sub>O<sub>40</sub>Co(2,2'-bipy)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)] · 0.5H<sub>2</sub>O (**1**), has been hydrothermally prepared and characterized by elemental analysis, IR, UV-Vis, TG-DTA and single crystal X-ray diffraction. Compound **1** crystallized in the monoclinic system, space group *C2/c*, *a* = 46.995(15), *b* = 14.487(5), *c* = 26.205(9) Å, *β* = 90.000(0)°, *V* = 17841(10) Å<sup>3</sup>, *Z* = 4. Compound **1** contains a [SiW<sup>V</sup>W<sup>VI</sup><sub>11</sub>O<sub>40</sub>Co(2,2'-bipy)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)]<sup>3-</sup> polyoxoanion in which [Co(2,2'-bipy)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)]<sup>2+</sup> is covalently bonded to the *α*-Keggin-type heteropolyanion [SiW<sup>V</sup>W<sup>VI</sup><sub>11</sub>O<sub>40</sub>]<sup>5-</sup> via a terminal oxygen.

**Keywords:** Polyoxometalates; Hydrothermal synthesis; Dodecatungstosilicate; Keggin-type

## 1. Introduction

The rational design and synthesis of organic-inorganic materials has been attracting particular interest owing to their intriguing structural diversity and potential applications in the fields of catalysis, medicine and materials science [1–3]. One of the recent important advances in the design of new organic-inorganic hybrid materials is the decoration of polyoxoanions with various organic and/or transition metal complex moieties [4–6]. Owing to the remarkable features of transition metal oxide surfaces [7] and the diversities in geometric topology and oxidation state of polyoxometalate clusters [1–3, 8], it is attractive to exploit chemically robust polyoxometalate clusters as building blocks to prepare polyoxometalate-based hybrid compounds. Hydrothermal crystallization, in the presence of organic templating species, is a versatile technique for synthesis of these hybrid materials [9–10]. A large number of such materials constructed from polyoxometalate clusters and transition metal complexes have been

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hydrothermally synthesized and characterized. Typical examples include  $[\{M(\text{phen})_2\}_2(\text{Mo}_8\text{O}_{26})]$  ( $M=\text{Ni}$  or  $\text{Co}$ ) [5],  $[\{\text{Ni}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2(4,4'\text{-bpy})_2\}_2\text{Mo}_8\text{O}_{26}]$  [11],  $[\{\text{Cu}_3(4,7\text{-phen})_3\}_2\text{Mo}_{14}\text{O}_{45}]$  [12],  $[\{\text{Cu}(\text{enMe})_2\}_7\{\text{V}_{16}\text{O}_{38}(\text{H}_2\text{O})\}_2] \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$  ( $\text{enMe}=1,2\text{-diaminopropane}$ ) [13],  $[\text{Ni}(\text{phen})_2\text{V}_4\text{O}_{11}]$  [14] and  $\text{Ni}(\text{en})_3\{\text{V}^{\text{IV}}_{11}\text{V}^{\text{V}}_5\text{O}_{38}\text{Cl}[\text{Ni}(\text{en})_2]_3\} \cdot 8.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$  [15]. However, the hydrothermal synthesis of tungsten oxide based organic-inorganic hybrid materials remains largely unexplored, except for a few Keggin [16–17] and Dawson species [18–19]. As an expansion of organic-inorganic hybrid materials, we attempted to explore the assembly of tungstate silicates with transition metals and organodiamines under hydrothermal condition. Herein we report the hydrothermal synthesis and structural characterization of  $\alpha$ -Keggin dodecatungstosilicate anion supported cobalt-bipyridyl complex,  $[\text{Co}(2,2'\text{-bipy})_3]_{1.5}[\text{SiW}^{\text{V}}\text{W}^{\text{VI}}_{11}\text{O}_{40}\text{Co}(2,2'\text{-bipy})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})] \cdot 0.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , **1**.

## 2. Experimental

### 2.1. Materials and methods

All reagents were purchased from commercial sources and used without further purification. C, H and N elemental analyses were performed on a Perkin-Elmer 2400II elemental analyzer. Inductively coupled plasma (ICP) analysis was performed on a Jarrel-Ash J-A1100 spectrometer. IR spectra were recorded on a Nicolet 170FT-IR spectrometer using KBr pellets in the range 4000–400  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The UV–Vis spectra were obtained on a U-4100 spectrophotometer in the range 190–850 nm. TG-DTA curves were obtained with an EXSTAR 6000 instrument under air with a heating rate of 10°C min.

### 2.2. Synthesis of $[\text{Co}(2,2'\text{-bipy})_3]_{1.5}[\text{SiW}^{\text{V}}\text{W}^{\text{VI}}_{11}\text{O}_{40}\text{Co}(2,2'\text{-bipy})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})] \cdot 0.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (**1**)

A mixture of  $\text{Na}_2\text{WO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (2.0 mmol, 0.66 g),  $\text{NaSiO}_3 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (1.5 mmol, 0.42 g),  $\text{NaCH}_3\text{COO} \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (1.0 mmol, 0.13 g),  $\text{CoCl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (0.8 mmol, 0.19 g),  $\text{H}_2\text{C}_2\text{O}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (1.5 mmol, 0.19 g), 2,2'-bipyridine (0.4 mmol, 0.06 g) and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (888.9 mmol, 16 ml) was stirred for 3 h in air. Then the pH was adjusted to 4.20 by hydrochloric acid (6 mol  $\text{L}^{-1}$ ) and the mixture was transferred to a 30 mL Teflon-lined autoclave and kept at 165°C for 5 days. After slow cooling to room temperature, dark red block crystals of **1** were filtered off, washed with distilled water, and dried at ambient temperature. Anal. Calcd for **1**: Co, 3.62; Si, 0.69; W, 54.03; C, 19.19; H, 1.35; N, 4.47(%). Found: Co, 3.79; Si, 0.92; W, 53.76; C, 19.12; H, 1.23; N, 4.61(%).

### 2.3. X-ray crystallography

The structure of **1** was determined by single crystal X-ray diffraction. A dark red single crystal of **1** with approximate dimensions 0.12 × 0.10 × 0.09  $\text{mm}^3$  was mounted on a glass fiber. Data were collected on a Bruker APEX-II CCD detector with  $\text{Mo-K}\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda=0.71073 \text{ \AA}$ ) at 293(2)K in the range  $2.07 < \theta < 25.00^\circ$ . A total of 44108(15630 unique,  $R_{\text{int}}=0.1701$ ) reflections were measured ( $-55 \leq h \leq 55$ ,

Table 1. Crystallographic data and structure refinement for compound **1**.

Formula	C <sub>65</sub> H <sub>55</sub> Co <sub>2.5</sub> N <sub>13</sub> O <sub>41.5</sub> SiW <sub>12</sub>
Formula weight	4063.82
Temperature (K)	293(2)
Wavelength (Å)	0.71073
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	C2/c
Unit cell dimensions (Å, °)	
<i>a</i>	46.995(15)
<i>b</i>	14.487(5)
<i>c</i>	26.205(9)
β	90.000(0)
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> ), Z	17841(10), 4
<i>D</i> <sub>Calcd</sub> (Mg m <sup>-3</sup> )	3.024
Absorption coefficient (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	15.960
<i>F</i> (000)	14684
Crystal size (mm <sup>3</sup> )	0.12 × 0.10 × 0.09
θ range for data collection (°)	2.07 to 25.00
Limiting indices	-55 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 55, -9 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 17, -31 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 31
Reflections collected	44108
Independent reflections	15630 ( <i>R</i> <sub>int</sub> = 0.1701)
Completeness to θ = 25.00° (%)	99.5
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>
Data/restraints/parameters	15630/198/1218
Goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	0.970
Final <i>R</i> indices [ <i>I</i> > 2σ( <i>I</i> )]	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.0660, ω <i>R</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.1519
Largest diffraction peak and hole (e Å <sup>-3</sup> )	3.081 and -3.882

$$R_1 = \Sigma ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \Sigma F_o, \quad wR_2 = \Sigma [w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2] / \Sigma [w(F_o^2)^2]^{1/2}.$$

-9 ≤ *k* ≤ 17, -31 ≤ *l* ≤ 31). The structures were solved by direct methods and refined using full-matrix least-squares calculations with anisotropic thermal parameters for all non-hydrogen atoms. The hydrogen atoms were geometrically fixed to allow riding on the parent atoms to which they are attached. Full crystallographic information is provided in the Supporting Information in CIF format. All calculations were performed using SHELXTL-97 [20]. Crystallographic data are summarized in Table 1. Selected bond lengths and angles are listed in Table 2.

### 3. Result and discussion

#### 3.1. Synthesis

Hydrothermal synthesis is an effective strategy in the preparation of new organic-inorganic hybrid solid materials [21–22]. Under hydrothermal conditions, factors such as the type of initial reactants, temperature, pH values, reactant stoichiometry and reaction time can influence crystal growth and composition of products. In our synthesis, H<sub>2</sub>C<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> · 2H<sub>2</sub>O was used as a reducing agent and to maintain the pH of the reaction mixture; the pH was found to be critical for crystallization of products. After parallel experiments, it was found that dark red crystals of **1** could only be obtained in the pH range 4.0–4.5, and no crystalline product could be obtained beyond this pH range.

Table 2. Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) for **1**.

Co(1)–N(2')	2.096(18)	Co(1)–N(1')	2.111(17)
Co(1)–N(2)	2.112(19)	Co(1)–O(1W)	2.118(14)
Co(1)–N(1)	2.119(19)	Co(1)–O(5)	2.126(12)
Co(2)–N(3')	2.103(17)	Co(2)–N(4)	2.107(15)
Co(2)–N(5')	2.141(15)	Co(2)–N(5)	2.148(16)
Co(2)–N(3)	2.147(16)	Co(2)–N(4')	2.147(16)
Co(3)–N(6)#1	2.104(16)	Co(3)–N(6)	2.104(16)
Co(3)–N(7')	2.159(15)	Co(3)–N(7')#1	2.159(15)
Co(3)–N(7)#1	2.169(18)	Co(3)–N(7)	2.169(18)
Si(1)–O(40)	1.554(12)	Si(1)–O(37)	1.567(12)
Si(1)–O(38)	1.606(14)	Si(1)–O(39)	1.634(12)
W(1)–O(1)	1.710(11)	W(1)–O(31)	1.912(13)
W(1)–O(34)	1.917(10)	W(1)–O(33)	1.939(11)
W(1)–O(32)	1.941(11)	W(1)–O(37)	2.381(11)
W(2)–O(2)	1.728(12)	W(2)–O(26)	1.912(12)
W(2)–O(13)	1.915(11)	W(2)–O(27)	1.943(11)
W(2)–O(33)	1.948(11)	W(2)–O(37)	2.370(12)
W(3)–O(3)	1.693(12)	W(3)–O(32)	1.922(11)
W(3)–O(28)	1.928(11)	W(3)–O(27)	1.929(11)
W(3)–O(17)	1.958(12)	W(3)–O(37)	2.378(11)
W(4)–O(4)	1.737(14)	W(4)–O(16)	1.896(12)
W(4)–O(18)	1.913(12)	W(4)–O(13)	1.938(11)
W(4)–O(22)	1.940(12)	W(4)–O(38)	2.381(12)
W(5)–O(5)	1.724(11)	W(5)–O(20)	1.893(11)
W(5)–O(14)	1.894(13)	W(5)–O(36)	1.910(13)
W(5)–O(18)	1.939(12)	W(5)–O(38)	2.321(11)
W(6)–O(6)	1.760(12)	W(6)–O(17)	1.886(12)
W(6)–O(15)	1.912(13)	W(6)–O(22)	1.952(11)
W(6)–O(20)	1.989(11)	W(6)–O(38)	2.340(12)
W(7)–O(7)	1.694(13)	W(7)–O(28)	1.905(11)
W(7)–O(15)	1.922(12)	W(7)–O(35)	1.947(13)
W(7)–O(30)	1.952(11)	W(7)–O(39)	2.315(11)
W(8)–O(8)	1.702(13)	W(8)–O(24)	1.900(12)
W(8)–O(30)	1.925(12)	W(8)–O(21)	1.927(12)
W(8)–O(14)	1.947(13)	W(8)–O(39)	2.361(11)
W(9)–O(9)	1.734(12)	W(9)–O(34)	1.907(10)
W(9)–O(35)	1.917(11)	W(9)–O(29)	1.928(12)
W(9)–O(21)	1.943(11)	W(9)–O(39)	2.367(11)
W(10)–O(10)	1.702(11)	W(10)–O(26)	1.902(11)
W(10)–O(19)	1.914(11)	W(10)–O(25)	1.924(12)
W(10)–O(16)	1.925(12)	W(10)–O(40)	2.374(10)
W(11)–O(11)	1.703(13)	W(11)–O(31)	1.902(13)
W(11)–O(29)	1.910(12)	W(11)–O(19)	1.913(11)
W(11)–O(23)	1.919(12)	W(11)–O(40)	2.401(10)
W(12)–O(12)	1.690(12)	W(12)–O(36)	1.896(13)
W(12)–O(24)	1.928(12)	W(12)–O(25)	1.936(12)
W(12)–O(23)	1.950(12)	W(12)–O(40)	2.346(10)
O(38)–Si(1)–O(39)	108.4(7)	O(40)–Si(1)–O(37)	110.4(7)
N(4)–Co(2)–N(5')	169.5(6)	N(3')–Co(2)–N(3)	76.2(7)
N(7')–Co(3)–N(7)	76.5(6)	N(7')–Co(3)–N(7')#1	174.6(8)

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms. #1:  $-x + 1, y, -z + 1/2$ .

### 3.2. Crystal structure of **1**

Single-crystal X-ray diffraction reveals that the asymmetric unit of **1** consists of a  $[\text{SiW}^{\text{V}}\text{W}^{\text{VI}}_{11}\text{O}_{40}\text{Co}(2,2'\text{-bipy})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^{3-}$  polyoxoanion, 1.5 isolated  $[\text{Co}(2,2'\text{-bipy})_2]^{2+}$  cations and 0.5 lattice water molecules (figure 1). The polyoxoanion  $[\text{SiW}^{\text{V}}\text{W}^{\text{VI}}_{11}\text{O}_{40}\text{Co}(2,2'\text{-bipy})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^{3-}$  is composed of a reduced heteropolyanion

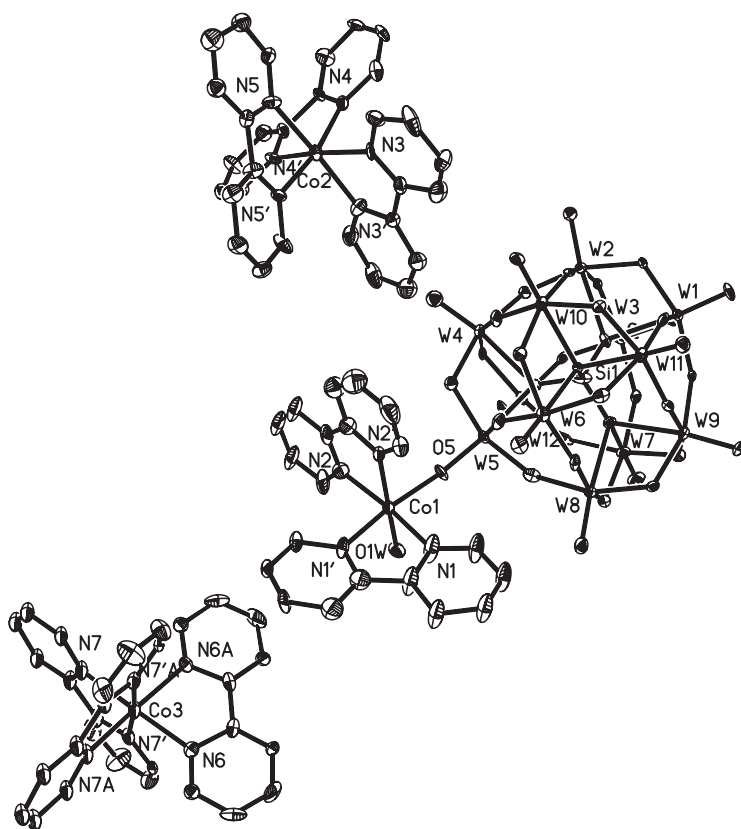


Figure 1. ORTEP view of the molecular structure of **1** with atom labeling (30% probability displacement ellipsoids). All the H atoms and lattice water molecules are omitted for clarity. Symmetry code:  $-x+1, y, -z+1/2$ .

and a covalently linked cobalt(II) complex fragment  $[\text{Co}(2,2'\text{-bipy})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^{2+}$  (figure 2). The heteropolyanion  $[\text{SiW}^{\text{VI}}\text{O}_{40}]^{5-}$  exhibits the well-known  $\alpha$ -Keggin-type structure, which consists of a central  $\text{SiO}_4$  tetrahedron surrounded by twelve  $\text{WO}_6$  octahedra. The twelve  $\text{WO}_6$  octahedra are arranged in four  $\text{W}_3\text{O}_{13}$  groups, each of which is composed of three  $\text{WO}_6$  octahedra in edge-sharing mode. These four  $\text{W}_3\text{O}_{13}$  groups are linked to each other by sharing corners and linked to the central  $\text{SiO}_4$  tetrahedron. In the heteropolyanion, the oxygen atoms can be divided into five different coordination environments: Ot (terminal oxygen atoms), Ot' (terminal oxygen atoms linked to Co), Ob (oxygen atoms located in the shared corners between two  $\text{W}_3\text{O}_{13}$  units), Oc (oxygen atoms connecting edge-sharing  $\text{WO}_6$  octahedra in the  $\text{W}_3\text{O}_{13}$  unit) and Oa (oxygen atoms connecting the Si and W atoms). Relevant W–O bonds can be classified into four categories: W–Ot 1.690(12)–1.760(11), W–Ot' 1.724(11), W–Ob,c 1.886(12)–1.989(11), and W–Oa 2.315(11)–2.401(10) Å. The Si–O bond lengths fall in the range 1.554(12)–1.634(12) Å, and the O–Si–O bond angles are within the 108.4(7)–110.4(7)° range. These bond lengths and bond angles are in agreement with those found in the literature [23].

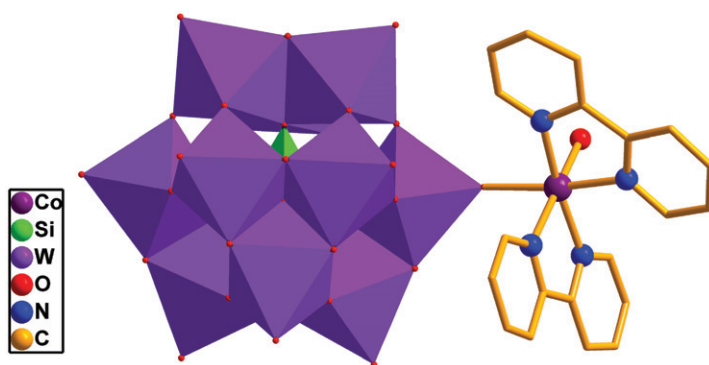


Figure 2. Polyhedral and ball-stick representation of the polyoxoanion  $[\text{SiW}^{\text{V}}\text{W}^{\text{VI}}_{11}\text{O}_{40}\text{Co}(\text{2,2}'\text{-bipy})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^{3-}$  in compound **1**.

The assignment of oxidation states for the W atoms in **1** has been confirmed by valence sum calculation [24] which gives values of 5.64–6.10 for W(1)–W(12), respectively (Table S1). The average value for the calculated oxidation state of W is 5.88 (the expected average value for  $\text{W}^{\text{VI}}_{11}\text{W}^{\text{V}}$  5.91), indicating that there is one reduced  $\text{W}^{5+}$  center with one electron delocalized within the whole  $[\text{SiW}^{\text{V}}\text{W}^{\text{VI}}_{11}\text{O}_{40}]^{5-}$  cluster. The calculated result is consistent with the formula of **1**.

The prominent feature in the structure of **1** is that each  $[\text{SiW}^{\text{V}}\text{W}^{\text{VI}}_{11}\text{O}_{40}]^{5-}$  cluster is linked to a  $[\text{Co}(\text{2,2}'\text{-bipy})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^{2+}$  fragment through one terminal oxygen atom of  $\text{W}(5)\text{O}_6$  octahedron ( $\text{Co1}-\text{O5} = 2.126(12)\text{\AA}$ ) to form a supporting complex cluster. In comparison with the Co–O distance in  $[\text{Co}(\text{en})_2]_2\{[\text{Co}(\text{en})_2][\text{HMo}^{\text{VI}}_4\text{Mo}^{\text{VIV}}_8\text{O}_{40}(\text{PO}_4)]\} \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$  [25], the Co–O distance in **1** is much shorter, indicating that the  $[\text{Co}(\text{2,2}'\text{-bipy})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^{2+}$  is more strongly bonded to the polyoxoanions. Co1 is six-coordinate in a distorted octahedral coordination geometry, which is completed by four nitrogens from two 2,2'-bipy ligands with Co1–N distances of 2.096(18)–2.119(19) Å and N–Co1–N bond angles of 77.4(7)–171.9(7)°, one terminal oxygen atom (O5) from the Keggin-type polyoxoanions, and one water with Co1–O1W distance of 2.118(14) Å. The structure of **1** is isomorphous with  $[\text{Ni}(\text{2,2}'\text{-bipy})_3]_{1.5}[\text{PW}_{12}\text{O}_{40}\text{Ni}(\text{2,2}'\text{-bipy})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})] \cdot 0.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$  [6] and  $[\text{Co}(\text{2,2}'\text{-bipy})_3]_{1.5}\{[\text{Co}(\text{2,2}'\text{-bipy})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})][\text{HCoW}_{12}\text{O}_{40}]\} \cdot 0.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$  [26]. The linkage between the heterometal complexes and the Keggin polyanions in **1** is similar to that in  $[\text{Ni}(\text{bipy})_3]_{1.5}\{[\text{Ni}(\text{bipy})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})]\text{H}_3\text{W}_{12}\text{O}_{40}\} \cdot 0.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$  [27],  $[\text{Cu}(\text{en})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})]_2\{[\text{Cu}(\text{en})_2]\text{H}_2\text{W}_{12}\text{O}_{40}\} \cdot 10\text{H}_2\text{O}$  [28],  $[\text{Cu}(\text{en})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})]_2\{[\text{Cu}(\text{en})_2]\text{HPW}_{12}\text{O}_{40}\} \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  [29] and the two reported isomorphous compounds [6, 26], but different from that in  $[\text{Zn}(\text{2,2}'\text{-bipy})_3]_2[\text{ZnW}_{12}\text{O}_{40}\text{Zn}(\text{2,2}'\text{-bipy})_2] \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$  [30]. In the structure of the latter compound, the Keggin unit  $[\text{ZnW}_{12}\text{O}_{40}]^{6-}$  is covalently linked to a transition metal complex through a terminal oxygen atom and a bridging atom.

Each Co in the discrete cations exhibits distorted octahedral geometry, defined by six nitrogen atoms from three 2,2'-bipy ligands with Co(2)–N and Co(3)–N distances in the range of 2.103(17)–2.148(16) Å (av. 2.132 Å) and 2.104(16)–2.169(18) Å (av. 2.144 Å), respectively. While the N–Co(2)–N and N–Co(3)–N angles are in the range of 76.2(7)–169.5(6)° and 76.5(6)–174.6(8)°, respectively.

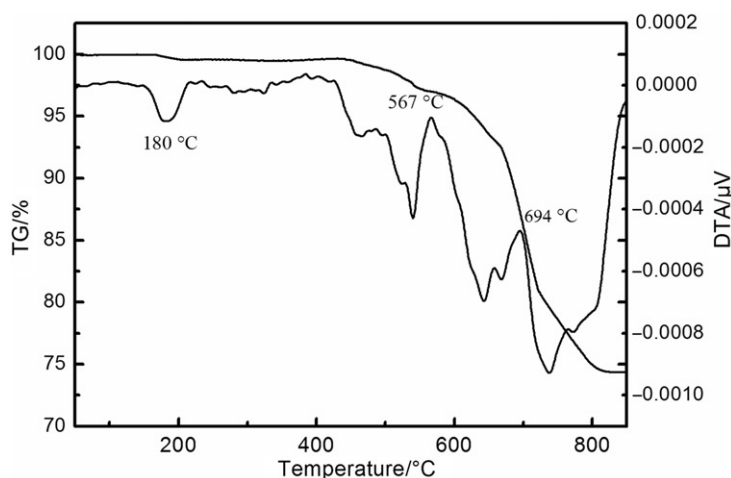


Figure 3. The TG-DTA curve of compound **1**.

### 3.3. IR and UV-Vis spectra

The IR spectrum, (fig. S1) of **1** exhibits four characteristic vibration peaks resulting from the Keggin-type heteropolyanion, namely,  $\nu_{\text{as}}$  (Si-Oa),  $\nu_{\text{as}}$  (W-Ob),  $\nu_{\text{as}}$  (W-Oc) and  $\nu_{\text{as}}$  (W=Ot), at 906; 894; 767 and 951  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , respectively. Comparing the IR spectrum of **1** with that of  $\alpha\text{-H}_4\text{SiW}_{12}\text{O}_{40} \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$  [31], the vibrational band of the Si-Oa, W=Ot and W-Oc bonds are red-shifted from 928, 981 and 785  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  to 906, 951 and 767  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , respectively. The W-Ob vibration is blue-shifted from 880 to 894  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . These results indicate that the heteropolyanions in compound **1** still maintain basic Keggin structure but are distorted due to coordination, in agreement with the single-crystal X-ray diffraction analysis. The bands in the 1574–1104  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  region are ascribed to characteristic vibrations of 2,2'-bipy groups. Absorptions at 1175 and 1104  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  can be regarded as the ring stretch of 2,2'-bipy [32]; 1597  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  can be assigned to lattice water.

The UV-Vis spectrum (fig. S2) of **1** in distilled water shows absorption bands at 192 and 255 nm (characteristic of Keggin anion), assigned to the charge-transition absorption of Ot  $\rightarrow$  W and Ob,c  $\rightarrow$  W [33], respectively.

### 3.4. TG-DTA analysis

As shown in figure 3, the TG curve of **1** exhibits two steps of weight loss. The first weight loss is 0.45% at 50–210°C, corresponding to release of coordinated and lattice water molecules (Calc 0.66%). There is an endothermic peak at 180°C in the corresponding DTA curve from release of water. The second weight loss of 25.20% in the temperature range 272–850°C is attributed to decomposition of 2,2'-bipy ligands (Calc 24.98%). In the second step, the DTA curve reveals two exothermic peaks at 567 and 694°C which correspond to the combustion of the 2,2'-bipy ligands and decomposition of the polyoxoanion framework, respectively. The whole weight loss (25.65%) is in agreement with the calculated value (25.64%).



## 4. Conclusion

Success in preparing compound **1** demonstrates that the combination of hydrothermal synthesis and incorporation of appropriate templates provides a method for isolation of hybrids containing covalently bonded transition metal complexes and polyoxotungstate clusters. The success opens up an interesting area of research in which versatile organic-inorganic hybrid compounds based on polyoxotungstate could be isolated by introducing various transition metal complex moieties and optimizing the reaction conditions. Further investigations of this work are underway.

## Supplementary materials

Crystallographic data for the structural analysis reported in this paper has been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre with the deposited CCDC number 659924. Copies of this information may be obtained free of charge from The Director, CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge, CB2 1EZ, UK (Fax: +44-1223-336033; Email: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

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