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# Syntheses, structures, and fluorescence of two cadmium compounds $[Cd_2(pqc)_4(phen)_2(H_2O)_2] \cdot 2H_2O$ and $\{[Cd(pqc)_2(bpy)(H_2O)_2] \cdot 2H_2O\}_n$

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# Syntheses, structures, and fluorescence of two cadmium compounds $[Cd_2(pqc)_4(phen)_2(H_2O)_2] \cdot 2H_2O$ and $\{[Cd(pqc)_2(bpy)(H_2O)_2] \cdot 2H_2O\}_n$

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Assembly of 2-phenylquinoline-4-carboxylic acid and Cd(CH<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O or CdSO<sub>4</sub>·8H<sub>2</sub>O gave two new complexes  $[Cd_2(pqc)_4(phen)_2(H_2O)_2]\cdot2H_2O$  (1) and  $\{[Cd(pqc)_2(bpy)(H_2O)_2]\cdot2H_2O\}_n$  (2) (pqcH = 2-phenylquinoline-4-carboxylic acid, phen = 1,10-phenanthroline, bpy = 4,4'-bpy). Complexes 1 and 2 have been characterized by single-crystal X-ray diffraction, IR, powder X-ray diffraction, thermogravimetric analyses, and fluorescence spectra. Structural analyses reveal that 1 is binuclear; the binuclear Cd(II) units are linked by intermolecular hydrogen bonds and  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions to generate a supramolecular structure. Complex 2 possesses a 1-D infinite chain with chains further assembled into a 3-D supramolecular network by  $\pi$ - $\pi$ , H-bonding, and C-H  $\cdots \pi$  interactions.

Keywords: Cadmium compounds; Crystal structures; Fluorescence

# 1. Introduction

Coordination compounds with novel structural motifs and potential applications in photoluminescence, catalysis, sensor, and electronics [1–3] have been reported, of which the structures or properties have been successfully attempered by controlling the inorganic/organic components, such as the sizes/shapes of functional groups, coordination geometries of metal ions, and flexibility/symmetry of the organic ligands [4–6]. However, there are still many challenges involving preparation of complexes with directed dimensional networks, exhibiting distinct physical or chemical properties. A key step to assemble structures is to select appropriate ligands with coordination functional groups. Previous studies have proved that rigid multidentate ligands with N/O donors are good choices [7, 8]. 2-Phenylquinoline-4-carboxylic acid (pqcH) possesses interesting characteristics: (a) it has a carboxylate and a pyridine nitrogen, which are apt to form strong bonding to metal ions; (b) it has a large conjugated unit, which can have  $\pi$ -electron transitions resulting in photoluminescence emission.

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A few coordination compounds of 2-phenylquinoline-4-carboxylates have been assembled [9–21], but cadmium(II) complexes with 2-phenylquinoline-4-carboxylates have not been reported. Herein, we report two new compounds constructed from Cd(II) and pqc<sup>-</sup>, characterized by IR, thermogravimetric analyses (TGA), fluorescence, powder, and single-crystal X-ray diffraction.

# 2. Experimental

# 2.1. Materials and physical measurements

All commercially available chemicals were of reagent grade and used as received. FT-IR spectra were recorded from 4000 to  $400 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in KBr pellets on a Shimadzu FTIR-8900 spectrometer. Fluorescence measurements were obtained on a LS 50B Luminescence Spectrometer (Perkin-Elmer, Inc., USA). TGA were carried out on a STA449C integration thermal analyzer in air with a heating rate of  $10^{\circ}$ Cmin<sup>-1</sup>. Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) data were collected on a Bruker D8 Focus X-ray diffractometer using Cu-K $\alpha$  radiation. The calculated PXRD patterns were produced using the *SHELXTL-XPOW* programs.

**2.1.1.** Synthesis of  $[Cd_2(pqc)_4(phen)_2(H_2O)_2] \cdot 2H_2O$  (1). 2-Phenylquinoline-4carboxylic acid (0.0120 g, 0.05 mmol), Cd(CH<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub> · 2H<sub>2</sub>O (0.0159 g, 0.05 mmol), and 1,10-phen (0.0098 g, 0.05 mmol) in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O solution (1 : 1, 10 mL) were placed in a 25 mL stainless steel reactor fitted with a Teflon liner, heated to 100°C for 3 days, and then cooled to room temperature. Colorless block-like crystals were obtained and dried in air. Yield: 76% (based on Cd). Anal. Calcd (%) for C<sub>88</sub>H<sub>64</sub>Cd<sub>2</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>12</sub>: C, 64.04; H, 3.91; N, 6.79. Found (%): C, 63.87; H, 3.84; N, 7.36. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3438(s), 3059(w), 1573(s), 1547(m), 1518 (m), 1494(w), 1445(w), 1429(w), 1387(vs), 1371(m), 1319(s), 1234(m), 1154(w), 1101(w), 1078 (w), 1028(m), 912(w), 865(w), 842(s), 813(s), 770 (vs), 725(s), 698(s), 652(s), 567(w), 517(w).

**2.1.2.** Synthesis of  $\{[Cd(pqc)_2(bpy)(H_2O)_2] \cdot 2H_2O\}_n$  (2). 2-Phenylquinoline-4carboxylic acid (0.0240 g, 0.10 mmol), CdSO<sub>4</sub> · 8H<sub>2</sub>O (0.0774 g, 0.10 mmol), 4,4'-bpy (0.0198 g, 0.10 mmol), and KOH (0.0056 g, 0.10 mmol) in H<sub>2</sub>O solution (10 mL) were placed in a 25 mL stainless steel reactor fitted with a Teflon liner, heated to 100°C for 2 days, and then cooled to room temperature. Colorless block-like crystals were obtained and dried in air. Yield: 85% (based on Cd). Anal. Calcd (%) for C<sub>88</sub>H<sub>64</sub>Cd<sub>2</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>12</sub>: C, 60.26; H, 4.33; N, 6.69. Found (%): C, 61.04; H, 4.48; N, 6.73. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3381(m), 3120(m), 3062(m), 1600(s), 1562(m), 1545(w), 1491(s), 1415(s), 1392(s), 1318(vs), 1222(vs), 1149(m), 1107(m), 1043(w), 964(m), 893(m), 851(m), 806(vs), 769(vs), 730(s), 697(s), 653 (s), 628(s), 604(vs), 569(m), 517(w), 492(vs).

### 2.2. X-ray crystallography

A high quality crystal of the complex was mounted on a glass fiber. Data were collected on a BRUKER APEX II CCD diffractometer equipped with graphite-monochromated

Compound	1	2
Empirical formula	$C_{88}H_{64}Cd_2N_8O_{12}$	C42H36CdN4O8
Formula weight	1650.27	837.15
Temperature (K)	298(2)	298(2)
Wavelength (Å)	0.71073	0.71073
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Triclinic
Space group	$P2_1/c$	P-1
Unit cell dimensions (Å, °)		
a	14.8706(2)	11.7397(13)
b	13.8406(2)	11.7658(13)
С	17.8687(3)	15.2204(17)
α	90	75.4580(10)
β	96.034(2)	70.9740(10)
γ	90	69.2060(10)
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> ), Z	3657.32(9), 2	1836.1(4), 2
Calculated density $(mg m^{-3})$	1.499	1.514
Absorption coefficient $(mm^{-1})$	0.654	0.656
F(000)	1680	856
Crystal size (mm <sup>3</sup> )	$0.32 \times 0.29 \times 0.09$	$0.28 \times 0.19 \times 0.12$
$\theta$ range for data collection (°)	3.70-25.00	1.87-27.54
Limiting indices	$-17 \le h \le 17; -9 \le k \le 16;$	$-15 \le h \le 15; -15 \le k \le 14;$
	$-21 \le l \le 21$	$-16 \le l \le 19$
Reflections collected/unique	$22,103/6407 \ [R(int) = 0.0305]$	16,055/8269 [R(int) = 0.0323]
Completeness to theta $= 32.27$	99.5%	97.6%
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on $F^2$	Full-matrix least-squares on $F^2$
Data/restraints/parameters	6407/3/624	8269/12/528
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	0.920	1.031
Final <i>R</i> indices $[I > 2\sigma(I)]$	$R_1 = 0.0276, wR_2 = 0.0591$	$R_1 = 0.0396, wR_2 = 0.0769$
R indices (all data)	$R_1 = 0.0410, wR_2 = 0.0611$	$R_1 = 0.0658, wR_2 = 0.0916$

Table 1. Crystallographic and refinement data for 1 and 2.

Mo-K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å) using an  $\omega$  scan mode at 298(2) K. Empirical absorption corrections were applied using SADABS [22]. The structure was solved by direct methods and refined with a full-matrix least-squares technique using SHELXTL-97 [23]. Anisotropic thermal parameters were applied to all nonhydrogen atoms. Hydrogens were generated geometrically. Crystallographic data and details of data collection and refinement for **1** and **2** are listed in table 1. Selected bond lengths and angles are given in table 2.

#### 3. Results and discussion

# 3.1. Crystal structure of $[Cd_2(pqc)_4(phen)_2(H_2O)_2] \cdot 2H_2O(1)$

Compound 1 is stable in air and insoluble in common solvents. Single-crystal X-ray diffraction analysis indicates that 1 is a binuclear structure and crystallizes in the monoclinic, space group  $P2_I/c$  with Z=2. The asymmetric unit consists of two pqc<sup>-</sup> of which one is monodentate and the other bidentate bridging, one 1,10-phen, one cadmium, one coordinated water molecule, and one guest water molecule. The bidentate bridging pqc<sup>-</sup> connects two Cd(II) by carboxylates, forming the binuclear structure. As shown in figure 1, Cd1A is symmetrically related by Cd1 (symmetry code: -x, -y+1, -z+1) and the two Cd(II) ions possess the same

Compound 1		Compound 2		
Cd(1)–O(1)	2.1995(17)	Cd(1)–O(3)	2.311(2)	
Cd(1) - O(3)	2.2779(17)	Cd(1) - O(1)	2.317(2)	
Cd(1)–O(2)#1	2.3132(16)	Cd(1)-O(6)	2.322(3)	
Cd(1)-O(5)	2.3771(18)	Cd(1)–N(4)#1	2.335(2)	
Cd(1) - N(4)	2.3331(19)	Cd(1)-O(5)	2.339(2)	
Cd(1) - N(3)	2.3432(19)	Cd(1)-N(3)	2.358(2)	
O(2)-Cd(1)#1	2.3132(16)	O(3) - Cd(1) - O(1)	169.09(8)	
O(1)-Cd(1)-O(3)	88.40(7)	O(3)-Cd(1)-O(6)	91.45(10)	
O(1)-Cd(1)-O(2)#1	93.07(6)	O(1)-Cd(1)-O(6)	94.10(10)	
O(3)-Cd(1)-O(2)#1	93.07(6)	O(3)-Cd(1)-N(4)#1	92.76(9)	
O(1)-Cd(1)-N(4)	109.40(8)	O(1)-Cd(1)-N(4)#1	96.88(9)	
O(3)-Cd(1)-N(4)	161.91(7)	O(6)-Cd(1)-N(4)#1	87.16(10)	
O(2)#1-Cd(1)-N(4)	89.31(6)	O(3)-Cd(1)-O(5)	91.05(9)	
O(1)-Cd(1)-N(3)	173.37(6)	O(1)-Cd(1)-O(5)	83.87(9)	
O(3)-Cd(1)-N(3)	90.28(7)	O(6)-Cd(1)-O(5)	176.34(10)	
O(2)#1-Cd(1)-N(3)	93.49(6)	N(4)#1-Cd(1)-O(5)	90.05(9)	
N(4)-Cd(1)-N(3)	71.66(7)	O(3)-Cd(1)-N(3)	87.37(9)	
O(1)-Cd(1)-O(5)	80.17(7)	O(1)-Cd(1)-N(3)	83.36(8)	
O(3)-Cd(1)-O(5)	94.37(7)	O(6)-Cd(1)-N(3)	88.90(10)	
O(2)#1-Cd(1)-O(5)	169.79(7)	N(4)#1-Cd(1)-N(3)	176.05(10)	
N(4)-Cd(1)-O(5)	85.78(7)	O(5)-Cd(1)-N(3)	93.89(9)	

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

Symmetry code: #1 - x, -y + 1, -z + 1 for **1**; #1 x - 1, *y*, *z* for **2**.



Figure 1. Binuclear structure of 1.

coordination environment. Cd(II) is a slightly distorted octahedron formed by two nitrogens of phenanthroline and four oxygens, three from different  $pqc^-$  and one from coordinated water, with Cd–O distances ranging from 2.199 to 2.377 Å and Cd–N distances of 2.343 and 2.333 Å.



Figure 2. View of hydrogen-bonding and  $\pi - \pi$  interaction of **1**.



Figure 3. The local coordination environment of Cd(II) for 2.

In 1, the centroid-to-centroid separation of the nearest two benzene rings of pqc<sup>-</sup> (N1, C8, C3, C2, C10, C9) and phen ligand (N3, C33, C34, C35, C36, C44) is 3.672 Å, which implies strong intermolecular  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking interaction. The dinuclear Cd(II) units are linked by intermolecular hydrogen bonding (O5–H5B···N1=2.855 Å, symmetry code: x, -y + 1/2, z - 1/2) and  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interaction to generate a 1-D chain (figure 2); the chains are further assembled into a supramolecular structure by intermolecular interactions.

# 3.2. Crystal structure of $\{ [Cd(pqc)_2(bpy)(H_2O)_2] \cdot 2H_2O \}_n$ (2)

Compound **2** consists of 1-D chains  $\{[Cd(pqc)_2(bpy)(H_2O)_2] \cdot 2H_2O\}_n$ . The basic structural unit of **2** is shown in figure 3. The central Cd<sup>2+</sup> in **2** is six-coordinate with two nitrogens from different 4,4'-bpy ligands, two oxygens from pqc<sup>-</sup>, and two oxygens from two coordinated water molecules. Two oxygens are axial and the other four



Figure 4. 1-D chain structure of 2.



Figure 5. 3-D structure in the *bc* plane for 2.

equatorial with Cd–O distances ranging from 2.311 to 2.339 Å and Cd–N distances being 2.335 and 2.358 Å, respectively. Therefore, cadmium is a slightly distorted octahedral geometry. The 4,4'-bpy bridges two symmetry related metal centers. The distance of the two adjacent Cd(II) is 11.979 Å, and the Cd···Cd···Cd angle formed by three adjacent cadmiums is 180.00°, as the crystallographic coordinates for the Cd ion are refined it is possible to calculate the error in Cd–Cd distance and Cd–Cd–Cd angle in **2**. Each 4,4'-bpy bridges two cadmiums to generate a 1-D infinite chain (figure 4), the coordination style is similar to the previous work [24, 25]. The chains are further extended into an infinite 3-D network coordination polymer via  $\pi$ - $\pi$ interactions and C–H··· $\pi$  interactions and H-bonding interactions (figure 5).

### 3.3. PXRD analyses

To confirm the homogeneity of the material synthesized under the solvo(hydro)thermal conditions, the experimental/simulated PXRD analyses of 1 and 2 were collected.



Figure 6. Experimental (b for 1 and d for 2) and simulated (a for 1 and c for 2) powder XRD patterns of 1 and 2.

As depicted in figure 6, the experimental pattern resembles the simulated single crystal data, indicating that the bulk products obtained are homogeneous in nature.

## 3.4. Thermogravimetric analyses

TGA experiments were performed on crystalline samples of **1** and **2** from 40°C to 700°C to determine the thermal stabilities, an important aspect for metal–organic frameworks [26, 27]. For **1**, the first weight loss of 3.27% (Calcd: 3.32%) corresponds to three water molecules per formula unit  $[Cd_2(pqc)_4(phen)_2(H_2O)_2] \cdot 2H_2O$  from 80 to 140°C, implying removal of the guest water molecule and part of the coordinated water molecule. A sharp drop in weight is observed after 280°C, indicating decomposition of the framework of the complex. In **2**, the weight loss of 8.68% (Calcd: 8.60%) from 122°C to 312°C corresponds to loss of four water molecules per formula unit  $[Cd(pqc)_2(bpy)(H_2O)_2] \cdot 2H_2O_n$ ; then a sharp weight loss with increasing temperature (figure 7) indicates decomposition of the framework.

# 3.5. Fluorescence and UV-Vis spectra

The solid-state photoluminescence spectra of **1** and **2** and the ligands have been measured at room temperature. As shown in figure 8, the ligands exhibit strong emission with maximum wavelength centered at *ca* 420 nm for free pqcH, 363 and 380 nm for free phen and 360 nm for free 4,4'-bipyridine, which originate from the ligand-to-ligand  $\pi_L - \pi_L^*$  charge transfer (LLCT). In the solid state, **1** displays intense fluorescent emission at 400 nm upon photoexcitation at 308 nm, while **2** displays intense



Figure 7. TGA curve of the title 1 and 2.



Figure 8. Solid-state emission spectra of the free organic ligand, 1 and 2.

fluorescent emission at 380 nm upon photoexcitation at 310 nm. The strong maximum emission peak (400 nm) of 1 may originate from the LLCT transition emission of the pqc and phen ligands. The strong emission peak (380 nm) of 2 may originate from the LLCT transition emission of the 4,4'-bpy and pqc ligands. More detailed theoretical



Figure 9. UV-Vis spectra of pqcH ligand and 1 and 2.

and spectroscopic studies are in progress for a better understanding of the luminescent mechanism [28–30].

The UV-Vis spectra of 1, 2, and pqc<sup>-</sup> at room temperature are illustrated in figure 9. The ligand exhibits high-energy bands at 270 and 350 nm due to  $\pi$ - $\pi$ \* transitions of pqcH. The slightly less intense absorptions of 1 and 2 at 270 and 350 nm are tentatively ascribed to metal-perturbed  $\pi$ - $\pi$ \* transitions in pqc<sup>-</sup>, probably mixed with some d(Cd)- $\pi$ \* metal-to-ligand charge transfer (MLCT) character [31].

#### Supplementary material

Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the complex in this article have been deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center as supplementary publication (CCDC-780024 for 1 and 791279 for 2). Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center, 2 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; Fax: (+44)-1223-336033; E-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk; www: www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk

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