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# Di-radical dinuclear copper complex: synthesis, structure, and magnetic properties

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# Di-radical dinuclear copper complex: synthesis, structure, and magnetic properties

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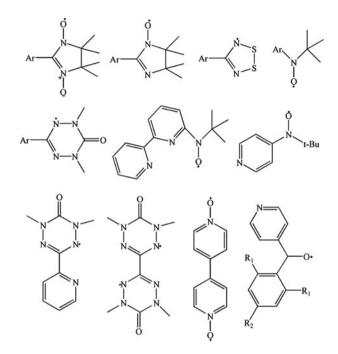
The reaction of  $Cu(Ac)_2 \cdot 4H_2O$  with 2-[(3,5-dichloro-2-hydroxy-benzylidene)-amino]-2hydroxymethyl-propane-1,3-diol (H<sub>4</sub>L) and 4,4'-bipyridyl-N,N'-dioxide (4,4'-bipy-NO) in DMF under solvothermal conditions leads to the formation of a di-radical dinuclear copper complex [ $Cu_2(4,4'-bipy-NO)(dcdmap)_4$ ] (1) (dcdmap is the anion of 2,4-dichloro-6dimethylaminomethyl-phenol, synthesized by an *in situ* reaction). Compound 1 was characterized by elemental analysis, IR spectroscopy, and X-ray single-crystal diffraction. Complex 1 displays dominant anti-ferromagnetic interaction between oxyradicals and copper ion and oxyradical.

Keywords: Radical ligand; Crystal structure; Magnetic properties

# 1. Introduction

Metal complexes of radicals have been actively pursued as components of new molecular magnetic materials [1–4]. An advantage of paramagnetic ligands is that direct magnetic exchange coupling between metal and ligand spins is possible. Various 2-pyridyl-substituted ligands containing paramagnetic 1,5-dimethyl-3-(2,2'-bipyridin-6-yl)-6-oxoverdazyl (bipyvd) [1], *N*-tert-butyl-n-4-pyridylaminoxyl (4NOpy) [2], nitronyl nitroxide (NN) [5–7], imino nitroxide (IN) [8, 9], oxoverdazyl (VD) [10, 1], and dithiadiazolyl (DTDA) [11, 12] groups form chelate rings where a radical center is directly bonded to the metal ion (scheme 1). Heteroaromatic rings have a weaker stabilizing effect than phenyl, as indicated by the fact that intact pyridyl-NOs are not isolable [13]. A paramagnetic bridging ligand, 4,4'-bipyridyl-N,N'-dioxide (4,4'-bipy-NO) [14, 15], is a synthetic target whose stability would be improved owing to an additional aromatic ring and  $\pi$ -conjugation. Furthermore, NO has some advantage. The spin density on the ligating O of 4,4'-bipy-NO is assumed to be almost twice as large as that of other conventional radicals such as ArNN [16, 17], because of the almost half size of the spin delocalizable  $\pi$ -conjugation in the radical

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Scheme 1. Radical ligands.

groups (which also leads to the undesired instability of ArNO). Magnetic exchange coupling is proportional to the spin densities at the interacting atoms [18]. Thus, ArNO radicals are promising to bestow stronger exchange coupling to metal-radical hybrid solids. Herein, we constructed a di-radical dinuclear copper complex  $[Cu_2(4,4'-bipy-NO) (dcdmap)_4]$  (1) by an *in situ* reaction.

### 2. Experimental

#### 2.1. General

All chemicals were commercially available and used as received without purification. The C, H, N microanalyses were carried out with a PE 2400 series II elemental analyzer. FT–IR spectra were recorded from KBr pellets at 4000–400 cm<sup>-1</sup> on a Bio-Rad FTS-7 spectrophotometer. The crystal structure was determined on a Bruker Smart Apex CCD area-detector diffractometer using SHELXS-97 and SHELXL-97 for structure solution and refinement, correspondingly. Magnetization measurements were carried out with a Quantum Design PPMS model 600 magnetometer working under an applied field of 5 T for 1.

#### 2.2. Solvothermal syntheses

Preparation of H<sub>4</sub>L and 4,4'-bipy-NO: 2-[(3,5-dichloro-2-hydroxybenzylidene)amino]-2hydroxymethyl-propane-1,3-diol (H<sub>4</sub>L) was prepared according to a literature procedure

[19], and 4,4'-bipyridyl-N,N'-dioxide (4,4'-bipy-NO) was prepared according to a literature procedure [14, 15].

## 2.3. $[Cu_2(4,4'-bipy-NO)(dcdmap)_4]$ (1)

A mixture of H<sub>4</sub>L (0.295 g, 1 mM), 4,4'-bipy-NO (0.188 g, 1 mM), Cu(Ac)<sub>2</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O (0.248 g, 1 mM), triethylamine (0.6 mL), and DMF (8.0 mL) was placed in a Teflon-lined stainless steel vessel and heated to 120 °C for 5 days. The autoclave was cooled over a period of 8 h at a rate of 10 °C h<sup>-1</sup>. Blue block crystals of 1 were obtained by filtration, washed with ethanol, and dried in air. Phase-pure crystals of 1 were collected by manual separation. Yield 0.181 g (31.22% based on Cu). Elemental analysis for 1: C<sub>46</sub>H<sub>48</sub>Cl<sub>8</sub>Cu<sub>2</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>6</sub>, Calcd C 46.36; H 4.06; N 7.05%; Found: C 46.32; H 4.11; N 7.08%. IR data for 1 (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3431(m), 2976(w), 1583(w), 1459(s), 1356(m), 1178(m), 1022 (w), 751(m), 544(w) (figure S1).

# 2.4. X-ray crystallography

Intensity data for 1 were collected at 296 K on a Bruker Smart Apex CCD area-detector diffractometer using graphite-monochromated Mo-K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda$ =0.71073 Å) using the  $\omega$ - $\theta$  scan mode from 1.44  $\leq \theta \leq 25.01^{\circ}$ . Raw frame data were integrated with SAINT [20]. The structure was solved by direct methods using SHELXS-97 and refined by full-matrix least-squares on  $F^2$  using SHELXS-97 [20]. An empirical absorption correction was applied with SADABS [20]. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. Hydrogens were set in calculated positions and refined by a riding mode with a common

Table 1. Crystal data and structure refinement for 1.

Formula	C <sub>46</sub> H <sub>48</sub> C <sub>18</sub> Cu <sub>2</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>6</sub> 1191.58
Fw T (V)	
T (K)	296(2) Triclinic
Cryst. syst.	
Space group	$P\bar{i}$
a (Å)	8.978(1)
b (Å)	10.361(1)
$c$ (Å) $\alpha/^{\circ}$	14.303(1)
$\alpha / ^{\circ}$	81.518(4)
β/°	83.452(4)
$\gamma/^{\circ}$	72.860(4)
$V/Å^3$	1254.0(2)
Z	1
$D_{\rm calcd}/{\rm gcm^{-3}}$	1.578
$\mu/\text{mm}^{-1}$	1.328
$\theta$ Range/°	1.44 to 25.01
Reflection collected	4371
Unique reflection	3535
R <sub>int</sub>	0.0175
GOF	1.042
$R_1 \left[ I \ge 2\sigma(I) \right]^{[a,b]}$	0.0408
$wR_2$ (all data) <sup>[a,b]</sup>	0.0811
Residues/e Å <sup>-3</sup>	0.375 and -0.215

 ${}^{a}R_{1} = \Sigma ||F_{o}| - |F_{c}|| / \Sigma |F_{o}|. {}^{b}wR_{2} = [\Sigma w (F_{o}^{2} - F_{c}^{2})^{2} / \Sigma w (F_{o}^{2})^{2}]^{1/2}.$ 

thermal parameter. All calculations and graphics were performed with SHELXTL [20]. Crystal data and details of the structure determination are given in table 1.

# 3. Results and discussion

#### 3.1. Synthesis

 $[Cu_2(4,4'-bipy-NO)(dcdmap)_4]$  was synthesized by H<sub>4</sub>L, 4,4'-bipy-NO, and Cu(Ac)<sub>2</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O in DMF. The ligand 2-[(3,5-dichloro-2-hydroxy-benzylidene)amino]-2-hydroxymethylpropane-1,3-diol (H<sub>4</sub>L) underwent an *in situ* reaction to form 2,4-dichloro-6dimethylaminomethyl-phenol (Hdcdmap) during the solvothermal process, as shown in scheme S1. The reaction using 2,4-dichloro-6-methylaminomethyl-phenol instead of H<sub>4</sub>L only affords unknown white precipitates, though 2,4-dichloro-6-dimethylaminomethyl-phenol (Hdcdmap) can be formed by an *in situ* reaction. Herein, the structure of dcdmap in the synthesis system seems to be the most important synthetic parameter in formation of **1**.

# 3.2. Crystal structure

Single-crystal X-ray structure analysis reveals that **1** crystallizes in the triclinic space group  $P\overline{1}$ . As shown in figure 1, **1** is a centro-symmetric dinuclear complex. The molecule can be viewed as two [Cu(dcdmap)<sub>2</sub>] units connected by a bridging 4,4'-bipy-NO. Copper(II) is five-coordinate by two O and two N from two different dcdmap ligands, one O from 4,4'-bipy-NO, forming a slightly distorted square pyramid where O from 4,4'-bipy-NO lies in the apical position. The apical Cu1–O3 distance (2.445(1)Å) is significantly longer than the Cu1–O, N distances within the basal plane (table 2), indicating that the bridging

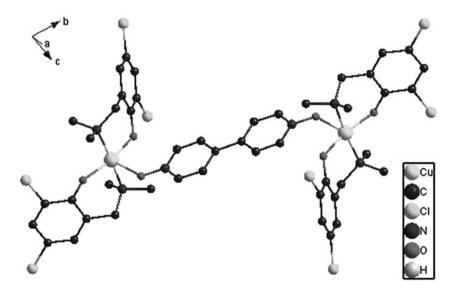


Figure 1. The structure of 1.

Cu1–O1	1.916(2)	Cu1–N1	2.049(2)
Cu1–O2	1.929(2)	Cu1–N2	2.063(2)
Cu1–O3	2.445(1)	N1–Cu1–N2	172.98(9)
O1–Cu1–O2	165.4(1)	O1–Cu1–N1	86.16(8)
O2–Cu1–N1	92.20(8)	O1–Cu1–N2	91.79(7)
O2-Cu1-N2	88.09(7)		

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

Cu1–O3 interaction is a weak coordination bond [21, 22]. Each pair of Cu(II) ions is bridged by 4,4'-bipy-NO to form a dinuclear compound. The Cu...Cu distance of 13.280 (1) Å is longer than the copper ... copper distance in other dimeric copper(II) 4,4'-bipy-NO complexes (11.830–12.977 Å) [23–25]. The complex further constructed a 1-D chain through C–H...Cl hydrogen bonds (C18–H18...Cl3<sup>i</sup>, 3.574(1) Å, symmetry code: (i) *x*, 1 +*y*, *z*) and C-H...O hydrogen bonds (C21–H21...O3<sup>ii</sup>, 3.439(1) Å, symmetry code: (ii) 3/2–*x*, 2–*y*, 3/2–*z*) (figure 2).

### 3.3. Magnetic studies

The magnetic susceptibility of **1** was measured on crushed single crystals. The dc susceptibility was measured under an applied field of 1 kOe at 2 to 300 K (see figure 3). The value of  $\chi_m T$  at room temperature is 1.05 cm<sup>3</sup>Kmol<sup>-1</sup>, which is significantly smaller than that expected for two non-interacting S = 1/2 Cu(II) ions and two S = 1/2 radicals (1.5 cm<sup>3</sup> KM<sup>-1</sup> for g = 2) [19]. But the  $\chi_m T$  value is slightly higher than the value of 0.9 cm<sup>3</sup> KM<sup>-1</sup> for a reported tetranuclear copper complex [Cu<sub>4</sub>L<sup>1</sup>Cl<sub>2</sub>(OH)<sub>2</sub>](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (H<sub>2</sub>L<sup>1</sup>=13,27-dichloro-6,20-bis-(2-phenyl amino-ethyl)-3,6,9,17,20,23-hexaaza-tricyclo[23.3.1.1<sup>11,15</sup>]triaconta-1(28),2,9,11,13,15(30),16, 23, 25(29),26-decaene-29,30-diol) [26]. The  $\chi_m T$  slowly falls on cooling to a value of 0.84 cm<sup>3</sup> KM<sup>-1</sup> at 16 K, after which the values rapidly decrease to 0.61 cm<sup>3</sup> KM<sup>-1</sup> at 2 K. This indicates the occurrence of an antiferromagnetic intramolecular interaction between radicals and Cu(II) ions and radicals.

The temperature dependence of the reciprocal susceptibility  $\chi_m^{-1}$  vs. *T* above 50 K follows the Curie–Weiss law ( $\chi_m = C/(T-\theta)$ ) with a Weiss constant  $\theta = -17.148(1)$  K and Curie constant C = 1.087(1) cm<sup>3</sup> KM<sup>-1</sup> (figure 4). The larger negative Weiss constant also indicates dominant intramolecular anti-ferromagnetic interaction between radicals and Cu(II) ion and

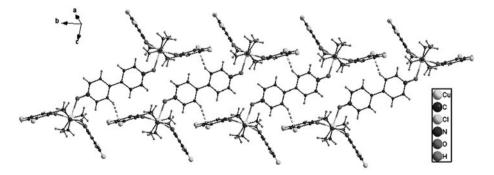


Figure 2. The 1-D chain of 1.

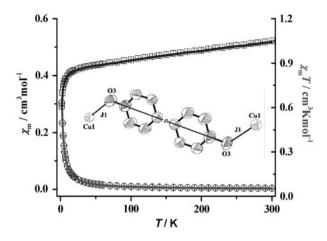


Figure 3. Plot of  $\chi_M T$  and  $\chi_M$  vs. T measured in a 1000 Oe field for 1. The solid lines repesent the best fits of data between 300 and 2 K as described in the text.

radical. This pattern is compatible with moderate anti-ferromagnetic coupling which is different from the orbital model previously described for the copper-radical complex [Cu (6bpyNO)Cl<sub>2</sub>], where 6bpyNO is 2,2'-bipyridin-6-yl *tert*-butyl nitroxide [3]. Inspection of the molecular structure reveals two main exchange pathways:  $J_1$ , the interaction between copper ion and radical,  $J_2$ , the interaction between radicals. The linear paramagnetic ion and radicals give the Van Vleck equation (1) [27] based on the Hamiltonian:  $\hat{H} = -2J_1(\hat{S}_1\hat{S}_2 + \hat{S}_3\hat{S}_4) - 2J_2\hat{S}_2\hat{S}_3$ .

$$\chi_{\mathbf{M}} = \frac{2Ng^2\beta^2}{kT} \times \frac{5e^{a/kT} + e^{b/kT} + e^{c/kT} + e^{d/kT}}{5e^{a/kT} + 3e^{b/kT} + 3e^{c/kT} + 3e^{d/kT} + e^{h/kT} + e^{f/kT}}$$
(1)

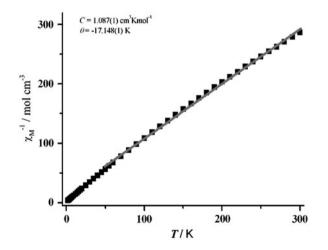


Figure 4. Plot of  $\chi_M^{-1}$  vs. T for **1**. The solid line represents a fit of data in the temperature range 50–300 K.

where  $a=J_1+0.5J_2$ ,  $b=0.5J_2-J_1$ ,  $c=-0.5J_2-(J_1^2+J_2^2)^{0.5}$ ,  $d=(J_1^2+J_2^2)^{0.5}-0.5J_2$ ,  $h=-J_1-0.5J_2-(4J_1^2-2J_1J_2+J_2^2)^{0.5}$ ,  $f=(4J_1^2-2J_1J_2+J_2^2)^{0.5}-J_1-0.5J_2$ . The best fitting gave: g=2.05,  $J_1=-1.874$  cm<sup>-1</sup>,  $J_2=-0.125$  cm<sup>-1</sup> with

$$R = \frac{\sum [(\chi_{\rm M} T)_{\rm calc} - (\chi_{\rm M} T)_{\rm obs}]^2}{\sum (\chi_{\rm M} T)_{\rm obs}^2} = 5.2 \times 10^4.$$

Further evidence of *anti*-ferromagnetic coupling between radicals and copper ion and radical was observed in the variable-field magnetization curve in figure S2. At low fields from 0 to 2 T, the magnetization of 1 sharply increases. Above 4 T, the magnetization increases continually and does not saturate until 5 T.

#### 4. Conclusion

We have synthesized a di-radical dinuclear copper complex with the composition  $[Cu_2(4,4'-bipy-NO)(dcdmap)_4]$  (1), where dcdmap is the anion of 2,4-dichloro-6dimethyl-aminomethyl-phenol which was synthesized by an *in situ* reaction. Magnetic measurements show that 1 displays dominant anti-ferromagnetic interactions between copper ion and radical and very weak ferromagnetic interactions between radicals.

# Supplementary material

CCDC 875356 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for **1**. These data can be obtained free of charge via http://www.ccdc.ac.uk/conts/retrieving.html, or from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB21EZ, UK; Fax: +44 1223 336 033; or E-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk.

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