BRIEF COMMUNICATION

A Novel Coordination Polymer with an Interwoven Double-Layer Structure: Synthesis and Characterization of [Zn(4,4'-bipy)(H₂O)(SO₄)].0.5H₂O

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The *pseudo* three-dimensional coordination polymer [Zn(4,4'-bipy)(H₂O)(SO₄)] \cdot 0.5H₂O (1) was synthesized by the ethanothermal reaction of 4,4'-bipyridine with ZnSO₄ \cdot 7H₂O in the molar ratio of 1:1 in a sealed tube at 120°C. The compound was characterized by FT–IR, diffuse reflectance UV/vis, X-ray powder diffraction, and single crystal X-ray analysis. The structure features two-dimensional interwoven networks stacked together by the complementary hydrogen bonding between layers. Crystallographic data for 1, C₁₀H₁₁N₂O_{5.5}SZn are monoclinic C2/c (#15), *a* = 20.545(1), *b* = 9.6492(6), *c* = 12.3949(8) Å, β = 104.089(1)°, V = 2383.3(2) Å³, Z = 8, ρ_{calcd} = 1.921 g cm⁻³, μ = 2.260 mm⁻¹, T = 295 K, R = 0.0310, R_w = 0.0398, and goodness-of-fit = 1.663. © 1998 Academic Press

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It has been shown that the use of 4, 4'-bipyridine or pyrazine as linear T_2 tectons (1) along with suitably chosen metal ions can lead to the spontaneous formation of infinite one- (1-D), two-(2-D), and three-dimensional (3-D) frameworks by molecular self-assembly (2–6). Because of their robust and crystalline structures with well-defined stoichiometries, intrinsic tailorability and synthetic simplicity, coordination polymers have emerged as new materials with unique chemical and physical properties. These materials bridge the gap between molecular and solid state chemistry. Of particular interest are the 2-D and 3-D structures with pores comparable to those found in some zeolites (7). In addition to the host–guest chemistry, the potential applications of such metal–organic microporous materials may range from separations (8), ion exchange (6(a)), and shapeselective catalysis (3(b)) to ordered matrices for nonlinear optical (NLO) chromophores (9).

We have launched a research program aimed at exploring the use of two or more different organic/inorganic tectons to create novel coordination polymers. In this report, we describe the synthesis and characterization of a *pseudo*-threedimensional coordination polymer $[Zn(4,4'-bipy)(H_2O)$ $(SO_4)] \cdot 0.5H_2O$ (1) consisting of interwoven double layers. The compound was formed between the linear T_2 4,4'-bipyridine and the coordinate SO_4^{2-} anion. The latter acts as a tecton with unusual topology.

The reaction of 4,4'-bipyridine with $ZnSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$ in ethanol in the molar ratio 1: 1 in a sealed tube at 120° C for 2 days gave 1 as a pure crystalline product in 77% yield (13). The compound is insoluble in common organic solvents such as THF, acetone, CH₂Cl₂, and CH₃CN or water. The single crystal X-ray structure analysis showed that 1 crystallizes in the space group C2/c (#15) (10). The asymmetric unit contains a Zn²⁺ ion, a 4,4'-bipy ligand, a coordinated H_2O molecule, a SO_4^{2-} anion, and half a crystallization water situated on the inversion center. The Zn²⁺ ions are first coordinated by the H₂O molecules and linked by the η^1, η^2, μ_2 -SO₄²⁻ anions to form a one-dimensional $[Zn(H_2O) (SO_4)]_n$ chains (see Fig. 1). The metal centers in the $[Zn(H_2O) (SO_4)]_n$ chains have distorted square planar coordination and alternate in two different directions at a dihedral angle of $49.9(1)^{\circ}$ between the adjacent ZnO₄ planes. When such metal centers are further connected with the rod-like 4,4'-bipy molecules, the neighboring linkages run across each other at an angle approximately corresponding to the above-mentioned dihedral angle. Figure 2 depicts the one-dimensional across-running [Zn(4,4'bipy)] $_{n}^{2+}$ chains. The compound possesses two-dimensional interwoven networks of double layers as shown in Fig. 3. In addition, each coordinated water molecule forms strong

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FIG. 1. The one-dimensional $[Zn(H_2O)(SO_4)]_n$ chain. Color code: green = zinc, yellow = sulfur, and red = oxygen.

FIG. 2. The cross-running one-dimensional $[Zn(4,4'-bipy)]_n^{2+}$ chains.

hydrogen bonds with the two oxygen atoms in the sulfate anion from the adjacent layer (i.e., O(5)–O(1) = 2.744(3) and O(5)–O(2) = 2.719(3) Å). Figure 4 shows such complementary hydrogen bonding between two layers. Thus, the compound is actually *pseudo* three-dimensional. The most common coordination modes of the SO₄²⁻ anion are monodentate, bidentate, and μ_2 - and μ_3 -bridging (11). To the best of our knowledge, **1** is the first example of the SO₄²⁻-containing compounds to show the η^1 , η^2 , μ_2 -coordination. It should be noted that when weakly or noncoordinating anions such as ClO_4^- or NO_3^- are used, the metal-4,4'bipyridine complexes will form 1-D, 2-D, 3-D structures consisting of metal-ligand square grids (2–6). However, 1 possesses an unprecedented structural motif for such complexes because of the unusual coordination of the SO_4^{2-} anion. In this sense, the novel structure of 1 is formed as a result of the strong structural directing force of this anion.



FIG. 3. The two-dimensional intervoven $[Zn(4,4'-bipy)(H_2O)(SO_4)]$ network.

In the diffuse reflectance UV/VIS spectrum, **1** shows a broad band at ~280 nm, an absorption essentially identical to that of free 4,4'-bipyridine, and can be considered optically transparent in the entire visible region. The characteristic mid-IR bands include a strong and very broad peak at 1115 cm^{-1} and a medium peak at 1066 cm^{-1} attributable to the coordinate SO₄²⁻ ions. In addition, the aromatic C–C and C–N stretching vibrations appear at 1610 (s, sh), 1535 (m, sh), 1486 (m, sh), and 1417 (s, sh) cm⁻¹. The product was examined by X-ray powder diffraction to ensure phase purity. The observed X-ray powder diffraction patterns of the

bulk materials match well with those calculated from the X-ray single-crystal data.

In conclusion, we have synthesized and structurally characterized a *pseudo*-three-dimensional coordination polymer $[Zn(4,4'-bipy)(H_2O)(SO_4)] \cdot 0.5H_2O$. The formation of such material seems to represent a new approach to designing and constructing unprecedented solids; i.e., different tectons can be used in combination to create novel structural motifs. This may open up a new avenue to a potentially large class of coordination polymers.



FIG. 4. The complementary hydrogen bonding between two $[Zn(4,4'-bipy)(H_2O)(SO_4)]$ layers.

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