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# A 2-D coordination polymer with Cu<sub>4</sub><sup>1</sup>S<sub>4</sub>-core as joints

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A coordination polymer based on copper(I) and a heterocyclic thione ligand, HPPT4 (HPPT4=4-pyridin-4-yl-pyrimidine-2-thiol) has been prepared. The compound  $C_{21}H_{19}Cu_2N_7OS_2$  (1) has a 2-D polymeric structure with  $Cu_4^1$ -core as joints linked by  $\mu$ -thiolate bridges. Crystal data for compound 1: Monoclinic, space group C2/c, a=22.346(14) Å, b=15.649(10) Å, c=13.588(9) Å,  $\beta=97.183(12)^\circ$ , V=4714(5) Å<sup>3</sup>, and Z=8. Compound 1 displays multiple emissions with maximum wavelength at 391 and 469 nm under photoexcitation at 340 nm.

Keywords: Copper(I); Multinuclear cluster; NS-donor; Crystal structure

## 1. Introduction

Multinuclear copper(I) complexes are ubiquitous in synthetic chemistry and biological systems due to their special luminescence and bio-functions in metalloenzymes [1]. For example, nitrous oxide reductase ( $N_2OR$ ) from *Pseudomonas nautica* (Pn) and Paracoccus denitrificans (Pd) contain so-called CuA and CuZ active sites, of which  $Cu_Z$  comprises a  $\mu_4$ -sulfide bridged  $Cu_3^I Cu^{II}$  cluster embedded in seven histidine residues [2]. In our recent study on the assembly of Cu(I) with a multidentate ligand containing O, N, and S donors, a tetranuclear copper(I) cluster,  $Cu_4(PPT2)_4$ , was obtained via a C-S bond cleavage [3]; the structure is very close to that of the Cu<sub>z</sub>-core of N<sub>2</sub>OR. The  $Cu_4(PPT2)_4$  cluster could be alternatively generated by direct reaction of CuCl with the heterocyclic-thione ligand of HPPT2 (HPPT2 = 4-pyridin-2-ylpyrimidine-2-thiol). Encouraged by these results, we decided to continue studying the self-assembly of Cu(I) with HPPT4 (HPPT4=4-pyridin-4-yl-pyrimidine-2-thiol) (the procedure for preparation of HPPT4 ligand is similar to that for HPPT2 which has been reported in our previous work, see reference [3]), which is distinct from HPPT2 only in the position of the substituted group on pyridine (scheme 1). In this article, we report reaction of CuCl with HPPT4 produces an intriguing 2-D coordination polymer 1 with Cu<sub>4</sub><sup>1</sup>-core as joints linked by  $\mu$ -thiolate bridges instead of the discrete  $Cu_4^IS_4$  cluster found for HPPT2.

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HPPT2 = 4-pyridin-2-yl-pyrimidine-2-thiol



HPPT4 = 4-pyridin-4-yl-pyrimidine-2-thiol Scheme 1. Heterocyclic thione HPPT4.

# 2. Experimental

### 2.1. Synthesis and characterization

**2.1.1. Preparation of 1.** A solution of CuCl (0.100 g, 1.00 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (100 mL) was added to a solution of H**PPT4** (0.189 g, 1.00 mmol) in MeOH (100 mL) with a small amount of Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.3 mL, 2.0 mmol). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 min and left for 3 days to generate dark red micro-crystals. Yield: 0.150 g, 52%. IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>):  $\nu$  = 3434 s, 1626 w, 1558 s, 1525 m, 1400 m, 1337 m, 1188 w. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>19</sub>Cu<sub>2</sub>N<sub>7</sub>OS<sub>2</sub>(%): C, 43.74; H, 3.32; N, 17.00. Found: C, 43.70; H, 3.39; N, 16.87. TGA-DSC analysis showed the onset temperature for decomposition to be *ca* 320°C.

Elemental analyses (C, H, and N) were performed on a CHN-O-Rapid analyzer. Infrared spectra were conducted on a Bruker Vector 22 spectrophotometer with KBr pellets in the 400–4000 cm<sup>-1</sup> region. Thermal analysis data were collected on a PerkinElmer Pyris 1 TGA analyzer in N<sub>2</sub> at a rate of  $10^{\circ}$ C min<sup>-1</sup>. Luminescence spectra for solid samples were recorded at room temperature on an Aminco Bowman Series 2 spectrophotometer.

## 2.2. Single-crystal X-ray diffraction

Single-crystal data were collected on a Bruker Smart Apex CCD diffractometer using graphite-monochromated Mo-K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å) at room temperature. The crystal structure was solved by direct methods and refined using a full-matrix least-square technique with SHELXL-97 [4]. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically, whereas all hydrogen atoms were placed at idealized positions. Experimental details of the X-ray analysis for 1 are given in table 1. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) are listed in table 2.

mpirical formula $C_{21}H_{19}Cu_2N$		
Molecular weight 576.67		
Crystal system	Monoclinic	
pace group $C2/c$		
Unit cell dimensions (Å, °)		
a	22.346(14)	
b	15.649(10)	
С	13.588(9)	
β	97.183(12)	
$V(Å^3)$	4714(5)	
$Z, \rho_{\text{Calcd}} (\text{Mg m}^{-3})$	8, 1.625	
$\mu$ (Mo-K $\alpha$ ) (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	2.010	
<i>F</i> (000)	2336	
Goodness of fit	0.922	
$R_1 \left[ I > 2\sigma(I) \right]$	0.0694	
$wR_2 [I > 2\sigma(I)]$	0.1599	

Table 1. Crystal data and structure refinement for 1.

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

Cu1-S1	2.220(2)	Cu1–S2	2.238(2)
Cu1–N6a	2.049(5)	Cu2–S2	2.300(2)
Cu2-N1	2.082(5)	Cu2–S1a	2.350(3)
Cu2–N4b	2.139(5)		
S1-Cu1-S2	133.61(7)	S1-Cu1-N6a	105.23(14)
S2-Cu1-N6a	119.97(14)	S2-Cu2-N1	122.22(15)
S1a-Cu2-S2	118.16(7)	S2-Cu2-N4b	107.08(14)
S1a-Cu2-N1	106.91(15)	N1-Cu2-N4b	97.80(19)
S1a-Cu2-N4b	100.32(19)		

Note: Symmetry codes (a): 1 - x, y, 1/2 - z; (b): 1/2 - x, 1/2 - y, 1/2 - z.

#### 3. Results and discussion

### 3.1. Structure description

Compound 1 crystallizes in the C2/c space group with a simple asymmetric unit consisting of two HPPT4 ligands, two cuprous ions, and two solvent molecules (CH<sub>3</sub>CN and CH<sub>3</sub>OH). Similar to the reported Cu<sub>4</sub>(PPT2)<sub>4</sub>, compound 1 also has a  $Cu_4^1$ -core supported by six individual HTTP4 ligands, wherein four  $Cu^1$  ions are joined together by four S atoms in  $\mu_2$  coordination to form a saddle-shaped, eightmembered  $Cu_4S_4$  ring (figure 1). The Cu–S bond distances vary in the range 2.220(2)– 2.350(3) Å, comparable to those of  $Cu_{Z}$  [2]. The inter-metallic distances of Cu1–Cu1a (2.517(2) Å), Cu1–Cu2a (2.982(2) Å), Cu1–Cu2 (2.708(2) Å), Cu2–Cu1a (2.982(2) Å), and Cu1a–Cu2a (2.708(2) Å) are close to the sum of the van der Waals radii of  $Cu^{I}$ centers (2.80 Å) [5], which imply the existence of  $Cu^{I}$ -Cu<sup>I</sup> interactions [6]. The relatively longer Cu2–Cu2a separation of 3.945(3) Å suggests that the inter-metallic interaction is rather weak. Cu<sup>I</sup>-Cu<sup>I</sup> interactions have been widely invoked to be a driving force for assembly of Cu<sup>I</sup> aggregates [7]. In our case, Cu<sup>I</sup>-Cu<sup>I</sup> interactions may also play an important role in the formation of the  $Cu_4^IS_4$  core in addition to the inherent propensity of sulfur to bridge. Notably, the Cu<sub>4</sub><sup>I</sup>-core consists of a tetrahedron of copper(I) atoms, which resembles those found in  $[Cu_4(tpdt)_3]^{2-}$  (tpdt = 3,4-thiophenedithiolate) and



Figure 1. Structure of  $Cu_4^1S_4$  cluster in 1 (hydrogen atoms and solvent molecules omitted for clarity) and  $Cu_4S_4$  eight-membered ring indicated with thick ball-and-stick model [selected interatomic distances (Å): Cu1-Cu1a, 2.571(2); Cu1-Cu2a, 2.982(2); Cu1-Cu2, 2.708(2); Cu1a-Cu2a, 2.708(2); Cu1a-Cu2, 2.982(2); Cu2-Cu2a, 3.945(3)].

 $[Cu_4L_3]^+$  [8], but is different from the square-planar arrangement of  $Cu_4^I$  cores found both in the synthetic product  $Cu_4^I(SR)_4$  and in the embedded  $Cu_4S_4$  cofactor of a synthetic miniature metalloprotein [9]. It should be noted that the number of coordinated nitrogens around  $Cu_4^I$ -core in 1 is one less than in  $Cu_Z$  and  $Cu_4(PPT2)_4$ . Among four  $Cu^I$  ions in the  $Cu_4^I$ -core, two are three-coordinate by one  $N_{pym}$  and two sulfurs belonging to three different ligands; the other two are four-coordinate by one  $N_{pym}$ , one  $N_{py}$ , and two sulfurs from four different ligands (pym = pyrimidine, py = pyridine). The mean Cu-N bond length of 1 is quite close to that in  $Cu_Z$  ( $Cu_Z$ , 2.06 Å; 2, 2.09 Å). Complex 1 is remarkably dissimilar to the reported  $Cu_4(PPT2)_4$ which is made up of three four-coordinate  $Cu^I$  ions and one three-coordinate  $Cu^I$  [3].

Each  $Cu_4^I$ -core is coordinated by six HPPT4 ligands which behave differently. Among them, four ligands share four adjacent  $Cu_4^I$ -cores with  $N_{pym}$  and S-donors bridging three  $Cu^I$  ions in one  $Cu_4^I$ -core unit and one  $N_{py}$  bound to one  $Cu^I$  ion from another  $Cu_4^I$ -core, while the remaining two are connected to copper only through  $N_{pym}$  and S-donors with the  $N_{py}$  uncoordinated, forming  $\pi$ - $\pi$  offset stacking with a separation of ~3.4 Å and an intercrossing angle ~62°. By repeating the unit in the *ab* plane, an infinite rhombus 2-D network is formed with the  $Cu_4^I$ -core as joints and



Figure 2. (a) 2-D rhombus network of 1 viewed along the *c*-axis; (b) side view of packing structure of 1 [solvent molecules indicated with ball-and-stick model and  $Cu_4S_4$  core highlighted with thick sticks].

**PPT4**<sup>-</sup> as linkers; the Cu<sub>4</sub>S<sub>4</sub> unit lies on a crystallographic two-fold axis parallel to *b* (figure 2a). Along the *c*-axis, layers are stacked in a reversed fashion and the solvent molecules (CH<sub>3</sub>OH and CH<sub>3</sub>CN) occupy the interlayer space (figure 2b). Thus, the extended structure of **1** could be described as a 2-D coordination polymer with  $Cu_4^IS_4$ -core as network joints.



Figure 3. The luminescence emission spectra for 1 and HPPT4.

# 3.2. Luminescent properties of 1

Metal-organic polymers have the ability to affect the emission wavelength and intensity of the organic material through metal coordination [10]. Han *et al.* [11] have previously reported on a copper(I) organosulfide  $[Cu_3^I (pymt)_3]$  (pymt = pyrimidine-2-thiolate) with strong red photoluminescence. Thus, the solid emission spectra of 1 together with the free ligand HPPT4 are measured at room temperature (figure 3). Upon excitation at 340 nm, 1 exhibits emission peaks at 391 and 469 nm whereas HPPT4 gives emission peaks centered at 388 and 468 nm. Obviously, the luminescence of 1 originates from HPPT4. The slight shifts are probably resulted from coordination.

## 4. Conclusion

We have studied the self-assembly of heterocyclic thione ligand of HPPT4 with CuCl, which results in a 2-D coordination polymer with  $Cu_4^I$ -core as joints, in striking contrast with the discrete  $Cu_4^IS_4$  cluster for HPPT2.

### Supplementary material

Crystallographic data for 1 has been deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publications (CCDC-643415). This data can be obtained free of charge *via* http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\_request/cif

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