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CRYSTAL STRUCTURE, AND FLUORESCENT PROPERTIES OF A 1D Zn(II) COORDINATION POLYMER BASED ON 5-NITRO-1,3-BENZENEDICARBOXYLIC ACID

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A one-dimensional Zn(II) complex $[Zn(Im)_2(NO_2 BDC)]_n$ (1) (Im = Imdazole, NO₂-H₂BDC = = 5-nitro-1,3-benzenedicarboxylic acid) is synthesized and characterized using single crystal X-ray diffraction, IR spectroscopy and elemental analysis. Single crystal X-ray diffraction analysis reveals that complex 1 is a one-dimensional chain polymer with a Zn···Zn separation of 9.6190(2) Å arranged parallel to the (1 0 0) crystal direction. In addition, the luminescence measurements reveal that complex 1 exhibits strong fluorescent emissions in the solid state at room temperature.

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The design and characterization of coordination polymers remains a popular basic research not only because of the intriguing variety of topologies but also the potential utility in nonlinear optics, magnetism, gas storage, ion exchange, luminescence, second harmonic generation and catalysis, etc. [1-3]. It is well known that the choice of the organic ligand is the key factor that influences the construction of coordination polymers with interesting structures [4-5]. The most effective and facile approach to coordination polymers is to utilize aromatic dianionic dicarboxylate ligands to link metal ions while providing the structural integrity [6-8]. Because of the versatile bridging modes for two carboxyl groups and one nitro group, the 5-nitro-1,3-benzenedicarboxylic acid ligand has been widely used to build coordination polymers [9-10]. On the other hand, imdazole is a good building block for the construction of coordination polymers and multidimensional supramolecular networks [11, 12]. Here, we use 5-nitro-1,3-benzenedicarboxylic acid (NO_2-H_2BDC) and imdazole (Im), generating a new one dimensional Zn(II) coordination complex $[Zn(Im)_2(NO_2-BDC)]_n$ (1), the crystal structure of which we now report. In addition, the fluorescent properties of complex 1 have been investigated.

Experimental. All reagents and solvents were purchased and used without further purification. The IR spectra were obtained within 4000—400 cm⁻¹ as KBr disks on a VECTOR 22 spectrometer. Elemental analysis was performed on a Perkin Elmer 240C elemental analyzer. Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) patterns were obtained on a Shimadzu XRD-6000 X-ray diffractometer with CuK_{α} ($\lambda = 1.5418$ Å) radiation at room temperature. Solid-state fluorescence spectra were recorded on a Fluoro Max-P spectrophotometer at room temperature.

Synthesis of $[Zn(Im)_2(NO_2 - BDC)]_n$. A mixture of $NO_2 - H_2BDC$ (21.1 mg, 0.1 mmol), Im (13.8 mg, 0.2 mmol), $Zn(NO_3)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$ (29.7 mg, 0.1 mmol), LiOH·H₂O (4.2 mg, 0.1 mmol), and H₂O

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Table 1

	5	5 1		
Parameter	1	Parameter	1	
Empirical formula Formula weight	C ₁₄ H ₁₁ N ₅ O ₆ Zn 410.65	$\rho_{calcd}, g/cm^3$	1.692 1.568	
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Crystal size, mm	0.21×0.19×0.17	
Space group	$P2_{1}/c$	θ range, deg.	2.13-26.00	
<i>a</i> , <i>b</i> , <i>c</i> , Å	9.6190(10), 8.783(9), 20.1010(18)	<i>F</i> (000)	832	
α , β , γ , deg.	90, 108.290(4), 90	$R_1^{a} / w R_2^{b} [I > 2\sigma(I)]$	0.0587 / 0.1657	
$V, Å^3$	1612.4(17)	GOOF	1.082	
Ζ	4			

Crystal data and structure refinement for complex 1

Table 2

Selected bond distances	(Ă) and angles	(deg.)) for complex	1
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Zn(1)—N(2)	2.015(5)	O(3)— $Zn(1)$ — $N(4)$	107.15(18)	$O(5)^{i}$ —Zn(1)—N(2)	111.74(17)
$Zn(1) - O(5)^{i}$	1.987(4)	$O(5)^{i}$ —Zn(1)—N(4)	111.48(18)	N(4)— $Zn(1)$ — $N(2)$	116.13(19)
Zn(1)—N(4)	2.002(4)				

ⁱ *x*+1, *y*, *z*.

(8 ml) was placed in a Teflon-lined stainless steel vessel, heated to 150 °C for 3 days, and then cooled to room temperature over 24 h. Colorless crystals of **1** were obtained. Yield: 32.1 % based on Zn. Elemental analysis (%) calcd. for $ZnC_{14}N_5H_{11}O_6$: C, 40.94; H, 2.70; N, 17.05. Found: C, 40.99; H, 2.71; N, 17.08. Selected IR (KBr, cm⁻¹): 3257 (m), 1623 (s), 1561 (s), 1457 (m), 1376 (s), 1273 (m), 981 (m), 781 (m), 729 (s).

X-ray crystallography. The crystal structure was determined on a Siemens (Bruker) SMART CCD diffractometer using monochromated Mo K_{α} radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å) at 296 K. Absorption correction was applied using the SADABS program [13]. Intensities were collected by the ω scan technique and the structures were solved by direct methods and refined with full-matrix least-squares (SHELXTL-97) [14]. All non-hydrogen atoms were located in difference Fourier maps and refined anisotropically. Positions of hydrogen atoms in Im and aromatic dicarboxylate were determined by a theoretical calculation. The crystallographic data are summarized in Table 1. The selected bond lengths and angles are listed in Table 2.

Results and discussion. Single crystal X-ray diffraction reveals that complex 1 crystallizes in the monoclinic space group $P2_1/c$ with an asymmetric unit consisting of a divalent zinc atom, a fully deprotonated NO₂—H₂BDC ligand, and two crystallographically distinct Im ligands. As shown in Fig. 1,



Fig. 1. 1D chain structure of complex 1; all hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity



Fig. 2. H-bonds (dotted lines) between polymer chains. Projection of the crystal structure on the (100) plane; polymer chains are perpendicular to this plane

each Zn^{II} center is coordinated by two N donor atoms from two different Im ligands [Zn1—N2 = = 2.015(5), Zn1—N4 = 2.002(4) Å] and two O donor atoms from monodentate carboxylate groups belonging to two different NO₂—BDC²⁻ ligands [Zn1—O3 = 1.965(5), Zn1—O5ⁱ = 1.987(4) Å, symmetry codes: ⁱ x+1, y, z]. The distortion of the tetrahedron can be indicated by the calculated value of the τ_4 parameter; for a perfect square-planar geometry, $\tau_4 = 0$, and a perfect tetrahedral geometry is described when $\tau_4 = 1$ [15]. In complex **1**, the calculated value of the τ_4 parameter for the Zn1 atom is 0.93, showing that the tetrahedral geometry is not perfect but distorted.

As to the NO₂—BDC²⁻ anion, two carboxylate groups at C7 and C8 have the dihedral angles of $32.5(1)^{\circ}$ and $11.5(2)^{\circ}$ relative to the plane of their linking aromatic ring, respectively. The NO₂—BDC²⁻ ligands in complex **1** adopt an exobidentate μ_2 - κ^2 -O:O' binding mode, conjoining two Zn1 atoms. Each Zn atom is linked covalently to two others through two NO₂—BDC²⁻ ligands, forming neutral 1D chains arranged parallel to the (1 0 0) crystal direction, while the Im ligands point in the same direction (Fig. 1). The Zn…Zn contact distance through the NO₂—BDC²⁻ ligands is 9.6190(2) Å.

As seen in Fig. 2, adjacent 1D chains are linked with each other through N(3)—H(3)···O(4)ⁱⁱ, N(5)—H(5)···O(6)ⁱⁱⁱ and C(9)—H(9)···O(5)^{iv} (ⁱⁱ = x, y-1, z; ⁱⁱⁱ = -x+2, y+1/2, -z+1/2; ^{iv} = -x+1, -y, -z) hydrogen bonding interactions to construct a 3D supramolecular architecture. In addition, this framework is reinforced by C—H—C π and N—O—C π interactions [H10—CCg1ⁱⁱ = 2.54(3) Å, C10—CCg1ⁱⁱ = 3.402(8) Å and C10—H10—CCg1ⁱⁱ = 154(1)°; O2—CCg1^v = 3.166(6) Å, N1—CCg1^v = 3.399(6) Å and N1—O2—CCg1^v = 90.1(3)°; O1—CCg2^{vi} = 3.789(6) Å, N1—CCg2^{vi} = 3.390(6) Å and N1—O1—CCg2^{vi} = 62.0(3)°; O2—CCg2^{vi} = 3.663(6) Å, N1—CCg2^{vi} = 3.390(6) Å and N1—O2—CCg2^{vi} = 67.6(3)°; Cg1 and Cg2 are the centroids of the N4—N5/C12—C14 and C1—C6 rings respectively; symmetry code: ^v x-1, -y+1/2, z-1/2; ^{vi} -x+1, -y+1, -z].

The phase purity of as-synthesized complex 1 was testified by X-ray powder diffraction (XRPD) experiment. The peak positions of the experimental and simulated XRPD patterns are in good agreement with each other, which demonstrates that complex 1 has been obtained successfully as a pure crystalline phase (Fig. 3). The differences in intensity may be due to the preferred orientation of the powder samples.

The solid state luminescent properties of complex 1 were investigated at room temperature. As shown in Fig. 4, complex 1 displays two emission peaks at 291 nm and 390 nm, upon excitation at



Fig. 3. Simulated (*a*) and experimental (*b*) PXRD of complex 1



240 nm. According to a recent review of d^{10} metal coordination polymer luminescence [16], the emissive behavior of 1 can be ascribed to ligand-centered electronic transitions.

In summary, we have presented the synthesis and crystal structure of a new 1D Zn(II) complex $[Zn(Im)_2(NO_2 - BDC)]_n$ (1). The single crystal X-ray diffraction analysis reveals that complex 1 is a one-dimensional chain polymer with a Zn…Zn separation of 9.6190(2) Å. The chains are arranged parallel to the (1 0 0) crystal direction. Adjacent 1D chains are linked by N-H…O, C-H…T, and N-O… π interactions to form a three-dimensional supramolecular architecture. In addition, the luminescence measurements reveal that complex 1 exhibits strong fluorescent emissions in the solid state at room temperature.

Crystallographic data for the structural analysis of complex 1 has been deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, CCDC No. 1019869. Copy of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EQ, UK (fax: +44 1223 336 033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

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