

Full Paper

# Synthesis and Molecular Structures of Two [1,4-bis(3-pyridyl)-2,3-diazo-1,3-butadiene]-dichloro-Zn(II) Coordination Polymers

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**Abstract:** Two novel coordination polymers with 3D metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) have been synthesized by reacting 1,4-bis(3-pyridyl)-2,3-diazo-1,3-butadiene (**L**) with zinc dichloride. Both compounds have the same repeating unit consisting of a distorted tetrahedral Zn(II) center coordinated by two chlorides and two pyridyl nitrogen atoms of two bridging bismonodentate **L** ligands, however, different structural conformations have been found, one forming a helical chain and the other producing a square-wave chain. The intermolecular C–H…Cl hydrogen bonds in **1** and **2** play important roles in the formation of three-dimensional coordination polymers. Compound **1** crystallized in an orthorhombic space group Pna2<sub>1</sub> with a = 7.9652(3), b = 21.4716(7), c = 8.2491(3)Å, V = 1410.81(9) Å<sup>3</sup> and Z = 4. Compound **2** crystallized in a monoclinic space group P2<sub>1</sub>/n with a = 9.1752(3), b = 14.5976(4), c = 10.3666(3) Å,  $\beta = 98.231(2)^{\circ}$ , V = 1374.16(7) Å<sup>3</sup> and Z = 4.

Keywords: Coordination Polymer, Metal-organic Framework, X-ray Crystal Structure.

# Introduction

The coordinative and hydrogen bond approaches have been widely used in crystal engineering in the construction of coordination compounds with one- (1D), two- (2D) or three-dimensional (3D) metal-organic frameworks (MOFs). Rigid organic ligands containing pyridine rings, such as

4,4'-bipyridine, 1,2-bis(4-pyridyl)ethene and 1,2-bis(4-pyridyl)ethyne, have been proven to be useful for assembling MOFs [1-5] in recent years.

The organic ligand 1,4-bis(3-pyridyl)-2,3-diazo-1,3-butadiene (**L**), containing two pyridyl groups joined by a zigzag -CH=N-N=CH- group, possesses effective sites for accommodating transition metal ions. The structure of  $[Co(SCN)_2(L)_2 \cdot 2CH_2Cl_2]_n$  shows a 2D non-interpenetrating MOF with a distorted square pattern as the basic building unit [6]. The isomorphous structures of  $[Co(NO_3)_2(L)_{1.5} \cdot CH_2Cl_2]_n$  and  $[Cd(NO_3)_2(L)_{1.5} \cdot CH_2Cl_2]_n$  with polycyclohexane structural MOFs have also been reported [7]. In this paper, we report the synthesis of compounds **1** and **2**, both having the same chemical composition,  $[ZnCl_2(L)]_n$ , but different MOFs.

### **Results and Discussion**

Compound 1 was synthesized by reacting of  $ZnCl_2$  with L (molar ratio 1:1) under solvothermal conditions. Figure 1 shows the crystal structure of compound 1. The structure reveals that compound 1 consists of a distorted tetrahedral Zn(II) center coordinating to two chlorides and two pyridyl nitrogen atoms from two symmetry-related L ligands [Zn(1)-Cl(1) = 2.2229(11) Å; Zn(1)-Cl(2) = 2.2123(9) Å; Zn(1)-N(1) = 2.049(3) Å; Zn(1)-N(4A) = 2.057(3) Å, symmetry operation code: A= <math>-x+3/2, y+1/2, z-1/2]. Some selected bond lengths and angles around the Zn center are listed in Table 1. It is noteworthy that the ligand L is not planar, but twisted around the -CH=N-N=CH- with a dihedral angle of 46.65(13)° between the two pyridine rings and acts as a *bis*-monodentate mode to the Zn(II) ion. Hence, a 1D polymeric helical chain is formed. The distance between the neighboring zinc ions is 12.1834(4) Å.

# **Figure 1.** One-dimensional polymeric helical chain of compound **1**. Atomic displacement ellipsoids were plotted at 50% probability level.



Hydrogen bonding has been widely used in constructing coordination polymers [8-10]. Intermolecular C–H…Cl hydrogen bonds were observed in our coordination polymers. The packing diagram viewed along the c axis is shown in Figure 2. Two Cl<sup>-</sup> anions produce four intermolecular C–H…Cl interactions in the crystal packing [C(8)–H…Cl(1), 3.554(4)Å; C(9)–H…Cl(1), 3.629(4)Å; C(1)–H…Cl(2), 3.546(4)Å and C(12)–H…Cl(2), 3.445(4)Å]. These C–H…Cl hydrogen bonds formed between adjacent 1D polymer helical chains result in a 3D network.

Bond Length [Å]		Bond Angle [°]	
Zn(1)-Cl(1)	2.2229(11)	N(1)-Zn(1)-N(4A)	99.56(13)
Zn(1)-Cl(2)	2.2123(9)	N(1)-Zn(1)-Cl(2)	110.25(10)
Zn(1)-N(1)	2.049(3)	N(4A)-Zn(1)-Cl(2)	104.18(9)
Zn(1)-N(4A)	2.057(3)	N(1)-Zn(1)-Cl(1)	107.14(9)
N(2)-C(6)	1.281(5)	N(4A)-Zn(1)-Cl(1)	107.54(9)
N(2)-N(3)	1.415(4)	Cl(2)-Zn(1)-Cl(1)	125.13(4)
N(3)-C(7)	1.272(5)	C(6)-N(2)-N(3)	109.6(3)
C(4)-C(6)	1.477(5)	C(7)-N(3)-N(2)	112.1(3)
C(7)-C(11)	1.467(5)	N(2)-C(6)-C(4)	120.0(4)
		N(3)-C(7)-C(11)	119.5(4)

**Table 1.** Selected bond lengths and angles around the Zn(II) for compound 1.

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: A = -x+3/2, y+1/2, z-1/2

**Figure 2.** The packing diagram of compound **1**, viewed along the c axis. Dotted lines indicate hydrogen bonds.



Compound 2, synthesized under solvothermal conditions by the reaction of  $ZnCl_2$  with NaSCN and L in a 1:2:1 molar-ratio, has an unexpected but interesting structure. The molecular drawing of the 1D polymeric chain of compound 2 is shown in Figure 3. The structure reveals that the zinc ions in compound 2 also have a distorted tetrahedral geometry and bond to two chlorides and two pyridyl nitrogen atoms from two symmetry-related L ligands [Zn(1)-Cl(1) = 2.2205(6)Å; Zn(1)-Cl(2) = 2.2336(7)Å; Zn(1)-N(1) = 2.047(2)Å; Zn(1)-N(4A) = 2.052(2)Å, symmetry operation code: A= -x+3/2, y+1/2, -z+1/2]. Some selected bond lengths and angles around the Zn center are listed in Table 2. It is noteworthy that the geometry of ligand L is nearly planar and the dihedral angle between two pyridine rings is 2.96(16)°, which is much smaller than the 46.65(13)° one in compound 1. The bond angle of

N(1)-Zn(1)-N(4A) is 116.22(8)°, which is significantly larger than that of 99.56(13)° observed in compound **1**. The structure of compound **2** reveals a 1D square-wave arrangement with the separation of neighboring zinc ions of 12.4319(6) Å.

Figure 3. One-dimensional polymeric square-wave chain of compound 2. Atomic displacement ellipsoids were drawn at 50% probability level.



Table 2. Selected bond lengths and angles around the Zn(II) for compound 2.

Bond Length [Å]		Bond Angle [°]	
Zn(1)-Cl(1)	2.2205(6)	N(1)-Zn(1)-N(4A)	116.22(8)
Zn(1)-Cl(2)	2.2336(7)	N(1)-Zn(1)-Cl(2)	104.83(6)
Zn(1)-N(1)	2.047(2)	N(4A)-Zn(1)-Cl(2)	107.56(6)
Zn(1)-N(4A)	2.052(2)	N(1)-Zn(1)-Cl(1)	103.00(6)
N(2)-C(6)	1.262(3)	N(4A)-Zn(1)-Cl(1)	105.31(6)
N(2)-N(3)	1.415(3)	Cl(2)-Zn(1)-Cl(1)	120.49(3)
N(3)-C(7)	1.274(3)	C(6)-N(2)-N(3)	111.7(2)
C(4)-C(6)	1.473(3)	C(7)-N(3)-N(2)	111.5(2)
C(7)-C(11)	1.466(3)	N(2)-C(6)-C(4)	121.3(2)
		N(3)-C(7)-C(11)	120.7(2)

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: A = -x+3/2, y+1/2, -z+1/2.

The packing diagram viewed along the c axis is shown in Figure 4. Similar to compound 1, compound 2 also shows intermolecular C–H···Cl hydrogen bonds [C(3)–H···Cl(2), 3.509(4)Å and C(9)–H···Cl(2), 3.507(3)Å] to form a 3D network. The pyridyl rings in the adjacent polymeric chains are nearly parallel. They have the shortest distances of 3.85Å and 4.22Å respectively. The result indicates the presence of weak  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking. In contrast, compound 1 does not show  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions in the crystal packing, because the two pyridyl rings attached to the –CH=N–N=CH– are twisted.

**Figure 4.** The packing diagram of compound **2**, viewed along the c axis. Dotted lines indicate hydrogen bonds.



# Conclusions

We have successfully synthesized two novel coordination polymers. Although the compounds have the same chemical composition,  $[ZnCl_2(L)]n$ , they show different structural conformations with one forming a helical chain and the other a square-wave chain, determined by X-ray crystallography. The intermolecular C–H…Cl hydrogen bonds in **1** and **2** play important roles in the formation of 3D coordination polymers.

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# Experimental

# General

Solvents and metal salts for syntheses (analytical grade) were used without further purification. The ligand L was prepared according to the literature [7]. IR spectra were recorded using KBr discs on a Nicolet FT-IR CGB- 2400 FT-IR spectrophotometer. Elemental analysis (EA) were performed on a Heraeus CHN-Rapid elemental analyzer.

#### Synthesis of compound 1

A mixture of ZnCl<sub>2</sub> (27.2 mg, 0.2 mmol) and L (42.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) in ethanol (5 mL) was placed in a 23 mL Teflon-lined stainless steel autoclave container and heated at 150 °C for 48 h. Afterwards the mixture was cooled to room temperature at a rate of 5°C/h. The resulting colorless crystals were collected in 50% yield. IR ( $v_{max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1632.9 (s), 1605.0 (s), 1467.1 (m), 1432.9 (s), 1311.4 (m), 1215.4 (w), 1192.3 (m), 1126.7 (w), 1103.1 (w), 1057.3 (m), 1031.7 (w), 966.6 (w), 935.1 (w), 882.8 (w), 815.3 (w), 697.1 (m), 653.7 (m); Elemental analysis: Calcd.: C, 41.59; H, 2.91; N, 16.17. Found: C, 41.82; H, 2.88; N, 16.52.

### Synthesis of compound 2

A mixture of ZnCl<sub>2</sub> (27.2 mg, 0.2 mmol), NaSCN (42.4mg, 0.4 mmol) and L (42.0 mg, 0.2 mmol) in ethanol (5 mL) was placed in a 23 ml Teflon-lined stainless steel autoclave container and heated at 150 °C for 48 h. Afterwards the mixture was cooled to room temperature at a rate of 5°C/h. The light brown crystals were collected in 55% yield. IR ( $v_{max}$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1632.0 (s), 1605.0 (s), 1473.8 (s), 1430.9 (s), 1309.9 (m), 1215.4 (m), 1187.9 (m), 1126.2 (m), 1101.6 (m), 1057.3 (s), 1030.8 (m), 971.0 (m), 948.8 (m), 883.7 (s), 814.3 (s), 699.1 (vs), 652.8 (s); Elemental analysis: Calcd.: C, 41.59; H, 2.91; N, 16.17. Found: C, 41.93; H, 2.90; N, 16.49.

### X-ray techniques

Suitable single crystals were mounted on a glass fiber. The data collection was carried out on a NONIUS Kappa CCD diffractometer with Mo-K $\alpha$  ( $\lambda$  = 0.71073 Å) radiation with the crystal cooled to 150K in a stream of N<sub>2</sub> from Oxford Cryostream-700 cooler. A preliminary orientation matrix and the unit cell parameters were determined from the 15 frames, each frame corresponding to a 1°  $\omega$  scan in 20 sec. Data were measured (program COLLECT [11]) by using an  $\omega$  scan of 0.5° per frame for 20 sec. until a complete data had been collected. Program DENZO-SMN [12] was used for cell refinement and data reduction. The SORTAV [13] program was used to apply absorption correction. The structure was solved by direct method with the SHELXS97 [14] and refined on F<sup>2</sup> with SHELXL97 [15]. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. Hydrogen atoms were constrained to the ideal geometry applying an appropriate riding model. The molecular graphic were plotted using SHELXTL [16] and MERCURY [17]. Crystallographic data are listed in Table 3. CCDC-605741 and 605742 contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/conts/retrieving.html. [or from the CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; fax: (+44) 1223 336033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk].

Compound	1	2
Formula	$C_{12}H_{10}N_4C_{12}Zn$	$C_{12}H_{10}N_4C_{12}Zn$
Formula weight	346.51	346.51
Crystal system	Orthorhombic	monoclinic
Space group	Pna2 <sub>1</sub>	$P2_{1}/n$
Formula per unit cell, Z	4	4
Unit-cell dimensions	a = 7.9652(3) Å	a = 9.1752(3) Å
	b = 21.4716(7) Å	b = 14.5976(4) Å
	c = 8.2491(3)  Å	c = 10.3666(3) Å
	$\alpha=\beta=\gamma=90^\circ$	$\alpha = \gamma = 90^{\circ}, \beta = 98.231(2)^{\circ}$
Unit-cell volume, V (Å <sup>3</sup> )	1410.81(9)	1374.16(7)
Dcalcd. (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	1.631	1.675
Absorption coefficient, $\mu(mm^{-1})$	2.109	2.165
F(000)	696	696
Crystal size (mm)	0.50 x 0.08 x 0.05	0.25 x 0.15 x 0.03
$\theta$ ranges (°) for data collection	1.90 ~ 27.50	2.43 ~ 27.50
Index ranges	$-10 \leq h \leq 10$	$-11 \leq h \leq 11$
	$-27 \leq k \leq 23$	$-17 \leq k \leq 18$
	$-10 \leq 1 \leq 10$	$-13 \leq 1 \leq 13$
Reflections collected	9123	9083
Independent reflections	3184 (Rint = 0.0641)	3145 (Rint = 0.0453)
Completeness to $\theta$ =27.50 (%)	100.0	99.7
Absorption correction	Multi-scan	Multi-scan
Max. and min. transmission	0.900 and 0.418	0.939 and 0.700
Refinement method	Full-matrix L. S. on F <sup>2</sup>	Full-matrix L. S. on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	3184 / 1 / 172	3145 / 0 / 173
Goodness-of-fir on $F^2$	1.007	1.013
Final R indices $[I > 2\sigma(I)]$	R1 = 0.0398, wR2 = 0.0695	R1 = 0.0326, wR2 = 0.0598
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0718, $wR2 = 0.0765$	R1 = 0.0694, wR2 = 0.0672
Largest diff. peak and hole (e/ Å $^{3}$ )	0.320 and -0.394	0.347 and -0.363

Table 3. Crystallographic and experimental data for compounds 1 and 2.

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Sample Availability: Samples of the title compounds may be obtained from the authors.

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