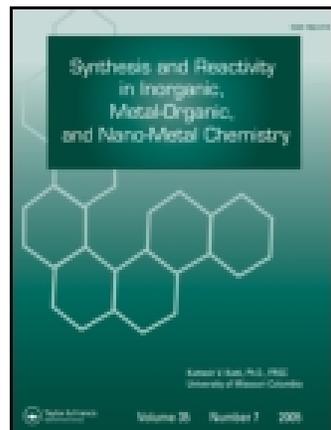


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Two Novel Supramolecular Complexes Built by 2-propyl or 2-p-methoxyphenyl Imidazole Dicarboxylate Ligands

Chengjie Wang^a, Zhifang Xiong^a, Tao Wang^a & Gang Li^a

^a Department of Chemistry, Zhengzhou University, Zhengzhou, Henan, P. R. China

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Two Novel Supramolecular Complexes Built by 2-propyl-1H-imidazole-4,5-dicarboxylic acid or 2-p-methoxyphenyl Imidazole Dicarboxylate Ligands

Chengjie Wang, Zhifang Xiong, Tao Wang, and Gang Li

Department of Chemistry, Zhengzhou University, Zhengzhou, Henan, P. R. China

Two complexes, [Cu(H₂PIDC)₂(H₂O)] (H₃PIDC = 2-propyl-1H-imidazole-4,5-dicarboxylic acid) (1) and [Co(H₂MOPhIDC)₂(H₂O)₂] (H₃MOPhIDC = 2-p-methoxyphenyl-1H-imidazole-4,5-dicarboxylic acid) (2), have been hydro(solvo)thermally synthesized and characterized by IR spectroscopy, elemental analysis, PXRD, and single-crystal X-ray diffraction. Both two complexes show three-dimensional supramolecular structures supported by intermolecular H-bonds. The thermal properties of the two complexes have been investigated as well.

Keywords Co(II), Cu(II), imidazole dicarboxylate, supramolecular complex

INTRODUCTION

In coordination chemistry field, synthesis and design of novel coordination compounds have attracted much interest not only owing to their interesting structural multiformity but also due to their potential applications.^[1–8] Among them, the interactions among the molecules including weak intra- and intermolecular H-bonds, π - π stacking effects, and van der Waals interactions play a vital role in the construction of supramolecular structures. In this context, the derivatives of 4,5-imidazoledicarboxylic acid (H₃IDC) have been well studied because of their versatile coordination modes and potential hydrogen-bonding donors and acceptors.^[9–24] In contrast to the well-studied ligand H₃IDC, complexes comprising 2-methyl-1H-imidazole-4,5-dicarboxylic acid (H₃MIDC) or 2-ethyl-1H-imidazole-4,5-dicarboxylic acid (H₃EIDC) are still limited, especially of 2-propyl-1H-imidazole-4,5-dicarboxylic acid (H₃PIDC). Indeed, to the best of our knowledge, only two examples of 2D coordination compounds reported by Wang et al.^[25] and Li et al.^[26] and one example of 0D com-

plex gave by He et al.^[27] bearing H₃PIDC ligands. Moreover, complexes bearing 2-(p-methoxyphenyl)-1H-imidazole-4,5-dicarboxylate (H₃MOPhIDC) have never been studied. These findings prompted us to prepare more complexes containing H₃PIDC or H₃MOPhIDC. Herein, we report the syntheses and structural determinations of two novel complexes, [Cu(H₂PIDC)₂(H₂O)] (1), and [Co(H₂MOPhIDC)₂(H₂O)₂] (2) (Scheme 1), and determine their powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) and thermal behaviors.

EXPERIMENTAL

General Details

All chemicals were of reagent-grade quality obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification. The organic ligands H₃PIDC and H₃MOPhIDC were prepared according to the literature procedures.^[28,29]

The C, H, and N analyses were carried out on a FLASH EA 1112 analyzer (USA). IR spectra were recorded on a BRUKER TENSOR 27 spectrophotometer (Germany) as KBr pellets in the 400–4000 cm⁻¹ region. TG-DSC measurements were performed by heating the sample from 20 to 700°C at a rate of 10°C·min⁻¹ in air on a Netzsch STA 409 PC differential thermal analyzer (Germany). The PXRD measurements were characterized on a RIGAKU D/MAX 2200 VPC diffractometer (Japan).

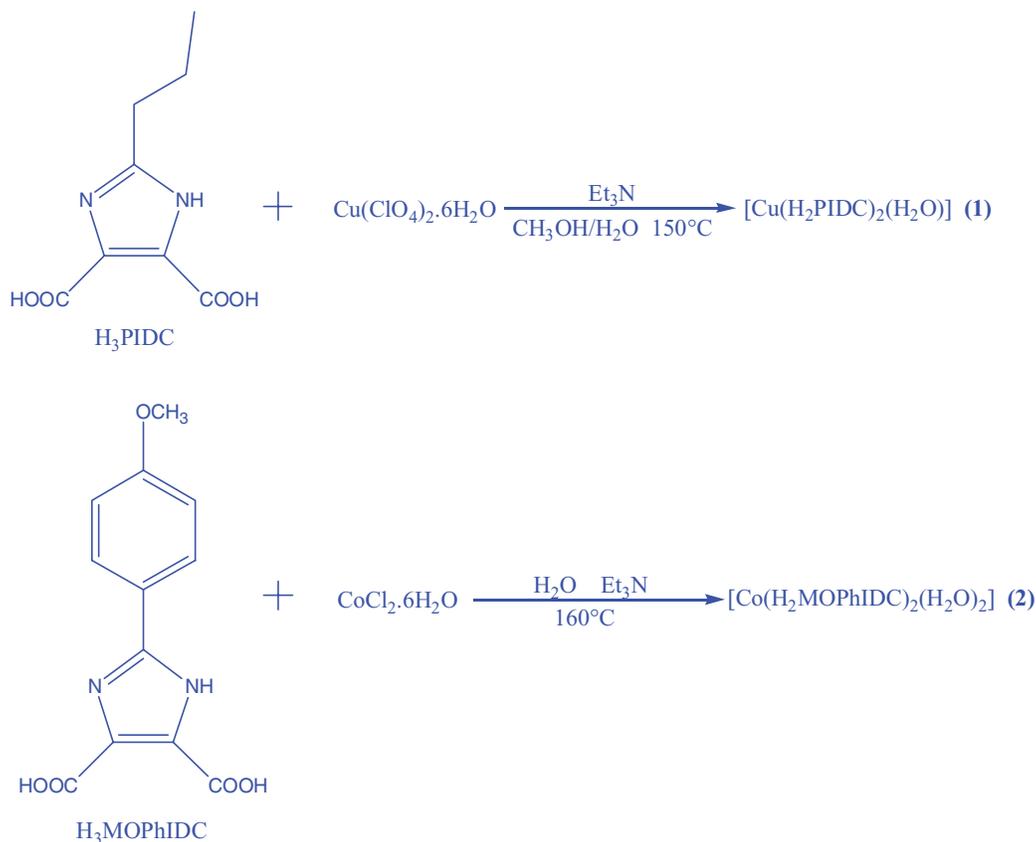
Preparation of [Cu(H₂PIDC)₂(H₂O)] (1)

A mixture of H₃PIDC (19.7 mg, 0.1 mmol), Cu(ClO₄)₂·6H₂O (74.2 mg, 0.2 mmol), CH₃OH/H₂O (3/4, 7 mL), and Et₃N (0.056 mL, 0.4 mmol) was sealed in a 25 mL Teflon-lined bomb and heated at 150°C for 72 h. The reaction mixture was then allowed to cool to room temperature, thus, blue solution was got. Then the blue resulting solution was put aside at room temperature. Good quality blue crystals of **1** were collected after one week. Crystals of **1** are stable in the air. Yield: 58% (based on Cu). Anal. Calcd. for C₁₆H₁₈CuN₄O₉ (%): C, 40.51; H, 3.80; N, 11.81; O, 30.38. Found (%): C, 40.82; H, 3.58; N, 11.56; O, 30.98. IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3461 m, 3206 m, 2785 w, 1717 s, 1601 s, 1587 s, 1496 s, 1453 s, 1384 m, 1277 m, 1116 m, 1060 m, 993 w, 858 m, 772 m, 742 w, 527 w, 474 w.

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Address correspondence to Gang Li, Department of Chemistry, Zhengzhou University, Zhengzhou 450052, Henan, P. R. China. E-mail: gangli@zzu.edu.cn.



SCH. 1. The syntheses of complexes **1** and **2** (color figure available online).

Preparation of [Co(H₂MOPhIDC)₂(H₂O)₂] (**2**)

A mixture of H₃MOPhIDC (26.3 mg, 0.1 mmol), CoCl₂·6H₂O (23.8 mg, 0.1 mmol), H₂O (7 mL), and Et₃N (0.056 mL, 0.4 mmol) was sealed in a 25 mL Teflon-lined bomb and heated at 160°C for 72 h. The reaction mixture was then allowed to cool to room temperature; yellow strip crystals of **2** were isolated. The crystals of **2** are stable in the air. Yield: 43% (based on Co). Anal. Calcd. for C₂₄H₂₂CoN₄O₁₂ (%): C, 46.65; H, 3.56; N, 7.77%. Found (%): C, 46.38; H, 3.38; N, 7.49%. IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3485 m, 3219 m, 2952 w, 2846 w, 1924 w, 1715 m, 1612 s, 1493 s, 1407 s, 1299 m, 1189 m, 1041 w, 867 w, 834 s, 701 m, 624 m, 523 m, 499 w, 462 w.

X-Ray Crystallography

Crystal data and experimental details for compounds **1** and **2** are contained in Table 1. All measurements of **1** and **2** were made on a Bruker smart APEXII CCD diffractometer (Germany), with graphite-monochromated Mo-*K*α radiation (λ = 0.71073 Å). Single crystals of **1** and **2** were selected and mounted on a glass fiber. All data were collected at a temperature of 296(2) K for complex **1** and 296.15 K for complex **2** using the ω-2θ scan technique and corrected for Lorenz-polarization effects. A correction for secondary extinction was applied.

The two structures were solved by direct methods and expanded using the Fourier technique. The non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic thermal parameters. Hydrogen atoms were included but not refined. The final cycle of full-matrix least square refinement for complex **1** was based on 3691 observed reflections and 268 variable parameters and for complex **2** was based on 2502 observed reflections and 197 variable parameters. All calculations were performed using the SHELX-97 crystallographic software package.^[30] Selected bond lengths and angles are listed in Table 2.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Crystal Structure of [Cu(H₂PIDC)₂(H₂O)] (**1**)

Single crystal X-ray diffraction shows that complex **1** is a discrete neutral mononuclear complex. The asymmetric unit of the compound contains one crystallographically independent Cu(II) ion, two H₂PIDC⁻ units with the same coordination mode, and one coordination water molecule (Figure 1). The Cu1 ion is five-coordinated, and the Addison parameter (τ = 0.027) of Cu1 reveals that the geometry around the Cu(II) atom is a largely distorted square pyramidal geometry. The Cu1 atom is surrounded by two carboxylate oxygen atoms and two nitrogen atoms from two chelating H₂PIDC⁻, and one oxygen atom from a

TABLE 1
Crystallographic data for complexes **1** and **2**

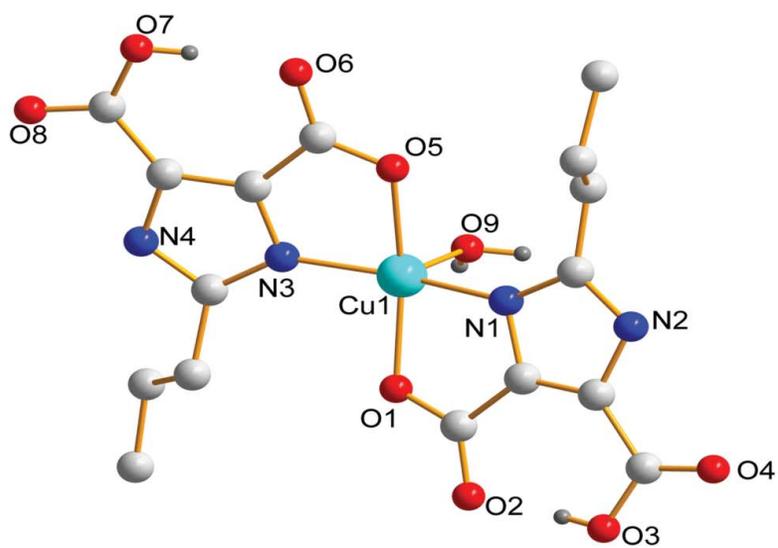
Formula	C ₁₆ H ₁₈ N ₄ O ₉ Cu	C ₂₄ H ₂₂ N ₄ O ₁₂ Co
Formula weight	473.88	617.39
<i>T</i> (K)	296(2)	296.15
Crystal system	Triclinic	Triclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> – 1	<i>P</i> – 1
Crystal size(mm ³)	0.21 × 0.18 × 0.15	0.20 × 0.20 × 0.20
<i>a</i> (Å)	8.5280(13)	6.3231(15)
<i>b</i> (Å)	11.4840(18)	7.7385(19)
<i>c</i> (Å)	12.500(2)	13.419(3)
α (°)	70.6170(15)	75.021(3)
β (°)	71.6650(17)	80.218(3)
γ (°)	73.3970(15)	83.354(3)
<i>V</i> (Å ³)	1073.5(3)	623.3(3)
<i>D</i> _c (Mg m ⁻³)	1.466	1.645
<i>Z</i>	2	1
μ (mm ⁻¹)	1.071	0.765
<i>F</i> (000)	486	317
Reflns collected/unique	7680/3691 <i>R</i> (int) 0.1139	5192/2502/ <i>R</i> (int) 0.0359
Data/restraints/parameters	3691/15/268	2502/0/197
Final <i>R</i> indices [<i>I</i> > 2 <i>sigma</i> (<i>I</i>)]	<i>R</i> ₁ = 0.0890; <i>wR</i> ₂ = 0.1790	<i>R</i> ₁ = 0.0427; <i>wR</i> ₂ = 0.0908
<i>R</i> indices (all data)	<i>R</i> ₁ = 0.2633; <i>wR</i> ₂ = 0.2064	<i>R</i> ₁ = 0.0664; <i>wR</i> ₂ = 0.0995
Goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> ²	1.012	1.008

coordination water molecule. The Cu-L (L=N or O) distances are in the range of 1.950(9)–2.181(6) Å, and the L–Cu–L bond angles vary from 82.7(3)° to 164.4(3)°, all of which are comparable to those reported for other imidazole-based dicarboxyate Cu(II) complexes.^[25,26]

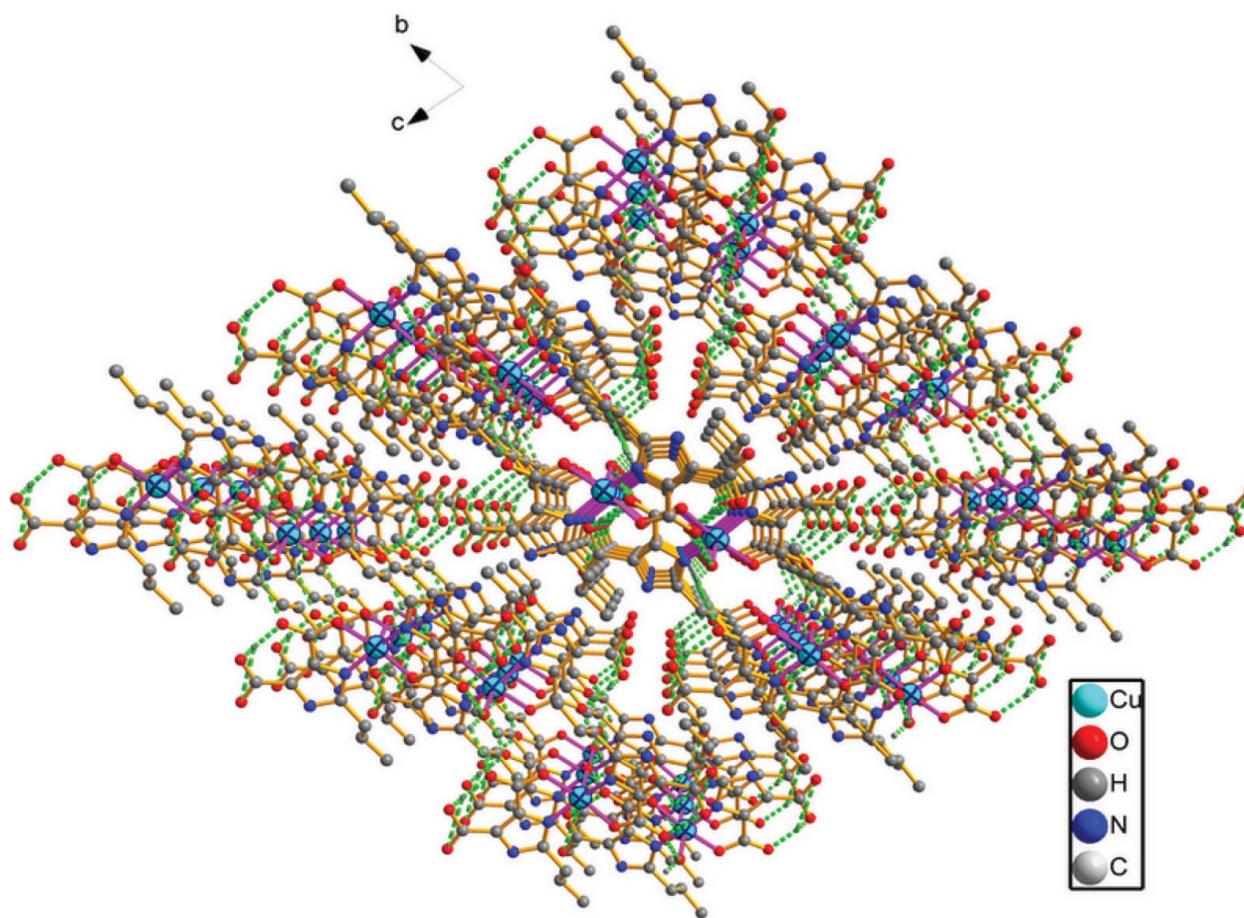
Two kinds of hydrogen bonds can be observed in this compound: (a) hydrogen bonds between the coordinated water molecule and uncoordinated carboxylate oxygen atoms (O(9)–H(1W) ... O(2)#1 2.869(8) Å, O(9)–H(2W) ... O(6)#2 2.841(8) Å); and (b) hydrogen bonds among the uncoordinated

TABLE 2
Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) for **1** and **2**

1					
Cu(1)–N(3)	1.950(9)	Cu(1)–N(1)	1.957(8)	Cu(1)–O(1)	2.030(6)
Cu(1)–O(5)	2.032(6)	Cu(1)–O(9)	2.181(6)		
N(3)–Cu(1)–O(1)	95.1(3)	N(1)–Cu(1)–O(1)	82.7(3)	N(3)–Cu(1)–O(5)	82.8(3)
N(1)–Cu(1)–O(5)	95.5(3)	O(1)–Cu(1)–O(5)	166.0(3)	N(3)–Cu(1)–O(9)	97.7(3)
N(1)–Cu(1)–O(9)	97.9(3)	O(1)–Cu(1)–O(9)	97.9(3)	O(5)–Cu(1)–O(9)	96.1(2)
N(3)–Cu(1)–N(1)	164.4(3)				
2					
Co(1)–O(1a)	2.045(2)	Co(1)–O(6)	2.110(2)	Co(1)–O(1)	2.045(2)
Co(1)–O(6a)	2.110(2)	Co(1)–N(1)	2.245(2)	Co(1)–N(1a)	2.245(2)
O(1)–Co(1)–O(1a)	180.0(1)	O(1)–Co(1)–O(6)	90.2(8)	O(1a)–Co(1)–O(6)	89.8(8)
O(1)–Co(1)–O(6a)	89.8(8)	O(1a)–Co(1)–O(6a)	90.2(8)	O(1)–Co(1)–N(1)	79.2(7)
O(1a)–Co(1)–N(1)	100.8(7)	O(1a)–Co(1)–N(1a)	79.2(7)	O(1)–Co(1)–N(1a)	100.8(7)
O(6a)–Co(1)–O(6)	180.0	O(6)–Co(1)–N(1)	89.2(8)	O(6a)–Co(1)–N(1)	90.8(8)
O(6)–Co(1)–N(1a)	90.8(8)	O(6a)–Co(1)–N(1a)	89.2(8)	N(1a)–Co(1)–N(1)	180.0



(a)



(b)

FIG. 1. (a) Molecular structure of complex 1 (partial H atoms omitted for clarity). (b) Crystal packing view from the a-axis of 1 (color figure available online).

carboxylate oxygen atoms (O(3) - H(3) ... O(2) 2.581(9) Å, O(7) - H(7) ... O(6) 2.564(10) Å). Thus, the previous H-bond interactions together with van der Waals forces represent the main contribution for the stabilization of the crystal packing (Figure 1).

To the best of our knowledge, only one 0D Cu(II) complex and two 2D sheet Cu(II) polymers of complexes constructed by H₃PIDC ligand can be found in the recent publications.^[25-27]

Compound **1** is the second example of mononuclear Cu(II) complex built by H₃PIDC ligand.

Crystal Structure of [Co(H₂MOPhIDC)₂(H₂O)₂] (**2**)

Complex **2** with one crystallographically independent Co(II) ion in the crystal lattice, it is a discrete neutral mononuclear complex. As shown in Figure 2, the Co(II) atom is six-coordinated in a slightly distorted octahedral environment with two oxygen

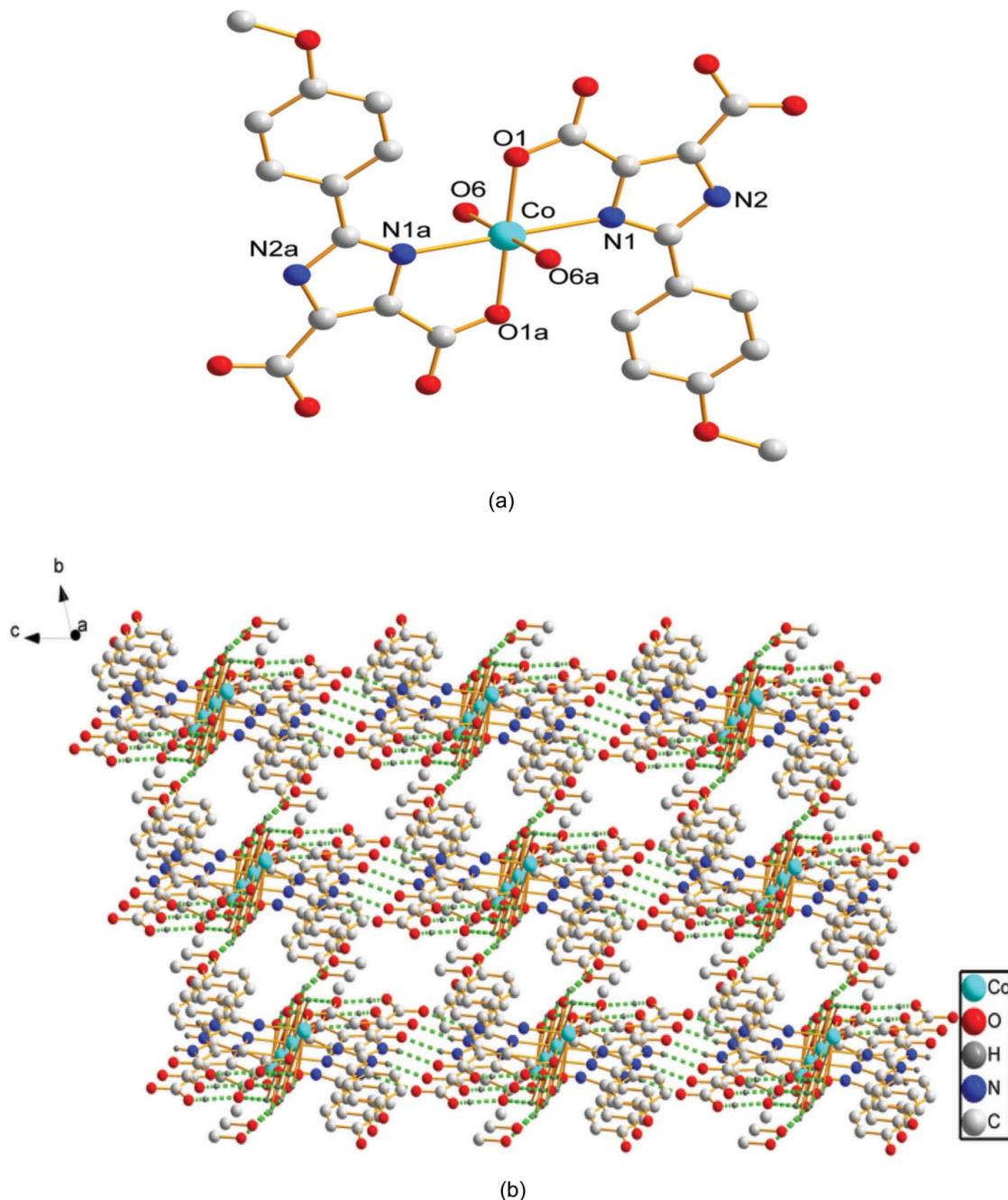


FIG. 2. (a) Diagram showing the molecular structure of complex **2** (H atoms omitted for clarity). (b) The 3D supramolecular architecture of **2** along a-axis supported by H-bonds (color figure available online).

TABLE 3

Distances (Å) and angle (°) of hydrogen bonds for **1** and **2**

D–H...A	d(H...A)	d(D...A)	∠(DHA)
1			
O(3)–H(3)...O(2)	1.76	2.581(9)	175.9
O(7)–H(7)...O(6)	1.76	2.565(1)	167.9
O(9)–H(1W)...O(2)#1	2.04	2.869(8)	164.3
O(9)–H(2W)...O(6)#2	2.40	2.841(8)	112.8
2			
O(3)–H(3)...O(2)	1.67	2.492(3)	176.2
O(6)–H(6A)...O(5)#1	2.15(4)	2.900(3)	159(4)
O(6)–H(6B)...O(2)#2	1.95(4)	2.728(3)	169(4)
N(2)–H(2)...O(4)#3	2.04(3)	2.835(3)	168(3)

Symmetry codes for **1**: #1: $-x + 1, -y, -z$; #2: $-x + 1, -y + 1, -z$.
 For **2**: #1: $-x + 1, -y, 1 - z$; #2: $-x - 1, 1 - y, 1 - z$; #3: $-x, 1 - y, -z$.

atoms (O1, O1a) and two nitrogen atoms (N1, N1a) from two different H₂MOPhIDC⁻ ligands in the equatorial plane, and two oxygen atoms (O6, O6a) from two water molecules in axial positions. The bond lengths of Co–O and Co–N from H₂MOPhIDC⁻ are 2.0446(18) Å and 2.245(2) Å, respectively, while the Co–O_{water} distance is 2.110(2) Å. The bond angles around each Co(II) ion vary from 79.17(7)° to 180.0(1)°.

In the solid-state structure of complex **2**, the imidazole dicarboxylate ligands have one kind of coordination mode. There are two types of hydrogen bonds formed by coordination water and H₂MOPhIDC⁻, namely, O–H...O and N–H...O. The H-bonding parameters are listed in Table 3. Obviously, as can be seen from Figure 2, countless of [Co(H₂MOPhIDC)₂(H₂O)₂] units are interconnected together by the interaction of the intermolecular and intramolecular hydrogen bonds to form a 3-D supermolecular structure.

So far, complexes bearing H₃MOPhIDC ligand have never been reported. The successful preparation of complex **2** gives us more chance to study the structures and properties of this kind of complex.

IR Spectroscopy

The IR spectra (400–4000 cm⁻¹) display characteristic absorption bands for water molecules, carboxylate, imidazolyl units, and phenyl units. Compounds **1** and **2** show strong broad absorption bands in the range of 3400–3500 cm⁻¹, which indicates the presence of the ν_{O-H} and ν_{N-H} stretching frequencies of the coordinated water molecules and imidazole ring, respectively. The coordination of the carboxylate units can be seen from the absorption bands in the frequency range 1295–1623 cm⁻¹ in **1** and **2** due to ν_{as}(COO⁻) and ν_s(COO⁻) vibrations, respectively. The frame vibration of phenyl ring is observed at 1493 cm⁻¹ for **2**. In conclusion, the infrared spectral data of the complexes **1** and **2** are consistent with crystal structure analysis.

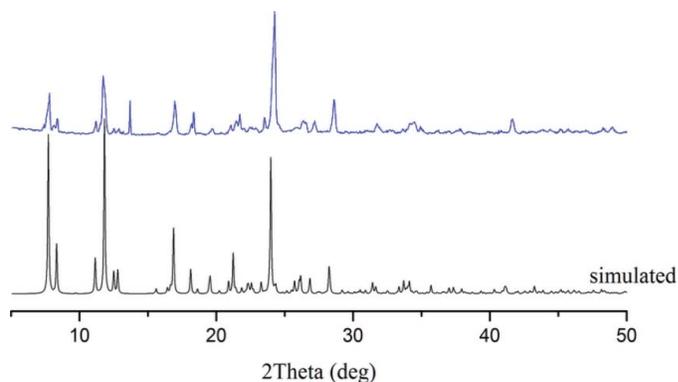


FIG. 3. XRPD pattern of the single crystal of complex **1** (color figure available online).

XRPD

X-ray powder diffraction (XRPD) was used to check the purity of complexes **1** and **2**. As shown in Figures 3 and 4, all the peaks revealed in the measured patterns closely match those in the simulated patterns generated from single-crystal diffraction data, indicating single phases of **1** and **2** are formed.

Thermogravimetric Analysis

The TG-DSC curves have been obtained under flowing air for crystalline samples of **1** and **2** in the temperature range of 20–700°C. As shown in Figure 5, complex **1** shows four-step weight loss process. The complex is stable until 30.0°C, and then first loses weight from 30.0°C to 199.0°C (observed 4.25%) corresponding to the loss of coordinated water molecule. The second, the third and the fourth weight loss steps are from 199.0°C to 344.0°C and from 344.0°C to 416.0°C and from 416.0°C to 509.0°C, respectively. The total weight loss of the three steps is 79.15% (calcd. 79.34%) corresponds to the decomposition of the organic ligand. Finally, a plateau region is observed from 509.0°C to 689.0°C. A blue amorphous residue of CuO remained (observed 16.60%, calcd. 16.88%). There are two weak endothermic peaks at 141.6°C and 376.0°C, one

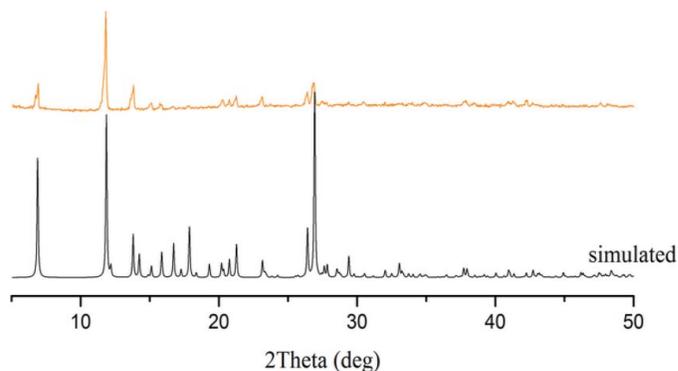


FIG. 4. XRPD pattern of the single crystal of complex **2** (color figure available online).

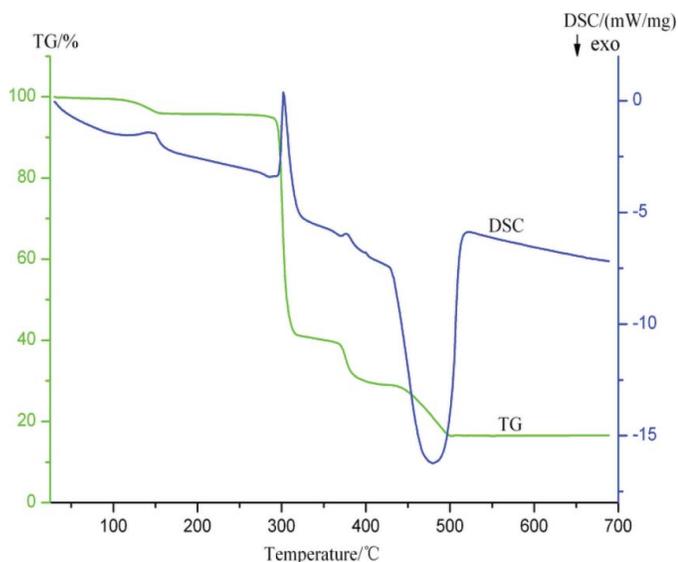


FIG. 5. TG-DSC curves of complex 1 (color figure available online).

middle endothermic peak at 302.2°C, and one strong exothermic peak at 479.8°C on the DSC curve of compound **1**.

As can be seen from Figure 6, there are two weak endothermic peaks at 198.9°C and 312.1°C, and one strong exothermic peak at 443.9°C on the DSC curve of complex **2**. The first weight loss of 5.69% (calcd. 5.83%) occurs from 142.0°C to 224.0°C, which is attributed to the loss of coordinated water molecules. The second weight loss of 36.71% (calcd. 36.28%) between 224.0°C and 354.0°C corresponds to the loss of two -COOH and two COO⁻ and two -OCH₃. The third weight loss of 44.28% (calcd. 44.38%) ranges from 354.0°C to 607.0°C corresponding to the loss of the remaining organic ligand. The remaining weight of

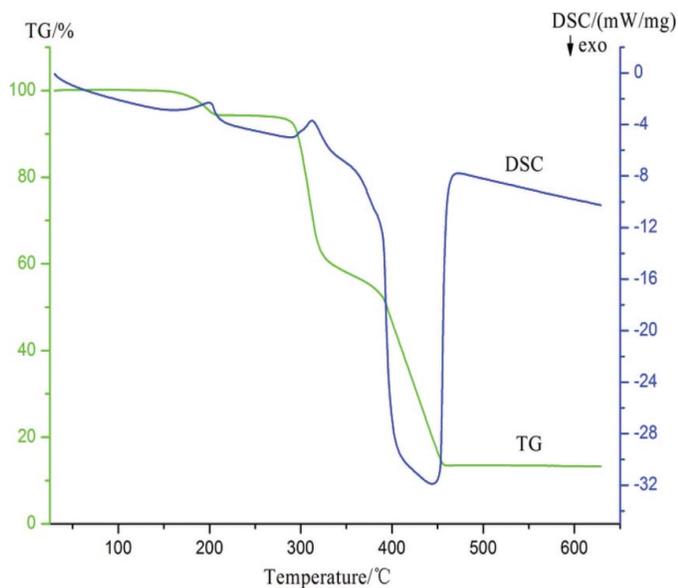


FIG. 6. TG-DSC curves of complex 2 (color figure available online).

13.32% corresponds to the percentage (calcd. 13.44%) of the Co and O components, indicating that the final product is 0.5Co₂O₃.

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Crystallographic data for the structural analysis has been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, CCDC Nos. 851963 for **1** and 851964 for **2**, respectively. Copies of this information may be obtained free of charge from The Director, CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge, CB2 1EZ, UK (fax: + 44-1223-336033; E-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk or www: <http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk>).

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