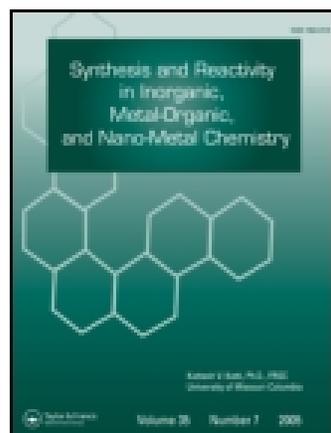


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# An Oxo-Bridged Dinuclear Vanadium(V) Complex of *N,N'*-bis(salicylidene)-1,5-diimino-3-azapentane: Synthesis and Structure

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The reaction of vanadyl acetylacetonate with *N,N'*-bis(salicylidene)-1,5-diimino-3-azapentane (H<sub>2</sub>SDA) affords an oxo-bridged dinuclear Schiff base vanadium(V) complex, [VO<sub>2</sub>(HSDA)]<sub>2</sub>. The structure of the complex was characterized by elemental analysis, infrared spectroscopy, and single-crystal X-ray diffraction. The complex crystallizes as monoclinic space group *P*2<sub>1</sub>/*n*, with *a* = 6.619(2), *b* = 32.592(3), *c* = 8.715(2) Å, β = 104.001(3)°, *V* = 1824.2(7) Å<sup>3</sup>, *Z* = 4, *R*<sub>1</sub> = 0.0637, *wR*<sub>2</sub> = 0.1228 for 1989 observed data. The complex exhibits a distorted octahedral geometry, involving in the equatorial plane the phenolate, imine, and amine donors of the Schiff base ligand and the bridging oxo O group and in the axial positions two other oxo O groups. The intramolecular V...V distance is 3.226(1) Å.

**Keywords** crystal structure, dinuclear complex, Schiff base, vanadium complex

## INTRODUCTION

There is considerable interest in the biological chemistry of vanadium due to the recent discovery of two types of vanadium-dependent enzymes. One has a nitrogenase activity, catalyzing the reduction of dinitrogen to ammonia,<sup>[1]</sup> and the other has bromoperoxidase activity, catalyzing the peroxidase-dependent halogenation of organic compounds in the presence of halide ion.<sup>[2,3]</sup> The latter is thought to contain a vanadium(V) active site.<sup>[4]</sup> Vanadium has also attained increasing interest in the past few years because of its application in medicine especially for its insulin-mimetic behaviour.<sup>[5–7]</sup> The importance of vanadium in biological and medicinal chemistry has stimulated our interest in the coordination and reaction chemistry of this element. In the last years, a variety of vanadium complexes have been introduced as structural and/or functional models for biologically active vanadium compounds.<sup>[8–10]</sup> A few examples of oxovanadium complexes of Schiff bases derived from the

reaction of salicylaldehyde and primary amines have also been prepared previously.<sup>[11–13]</sup> In this article we report the synthesis and structure of a new oxo-bridged dinuclear vanadium complex of the Schiff base ligand *N,N'*-bis(salicylidene)-1,5-diimino-3-azapentane (H<sub>2</sub>SDA).

## EXPERIMENTAL

### Materials and Physical Measurement

Salicylaldehyde and diethylenetriamine were purchased from Aldrich Chemical Co. (USA) and used as received. All other chemicals and solvents were of analytical grade and used as received. Infrared spectrum was recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 783 spectrometer (Dezhou University, China) as KBr pellet. Micro-analytical (C, H, N) data were obtained from a Perkin-Elmer 240C elemental analyzer (Dezhou University, China). Solution electrical conductivity was measured with the DDS-11a conductivity meter (INESA Scientific Instrument Co., Dezhou University, China). UV-vis spectrum was recorded on a Perkin-Elmer Lambda 9 instrument.

### Preparation of the Complex [VO<sub>2</sub>(HSDA)]<sub>2</sub>

Salicylaldehyde (0.30 g, 2 mmol) and diethylenetriamine (0.10 g, 1 mmol) were added to 30 mL methanol and allowed to react for 1 h. Vanadyl acetylacetonate (0.26 g, 1 mmol), dissolved in 20 mL of methanol, was added to the solution. The final mixture was further stirred for 2 h at room temperature to obtain a clear yellow solution. X-ray quality single crystals were obtained by slow evaporation of the solution in air for a week. The crystals were filtered, washed with methanol and finally dried in vacuum over phosphorus pentoxide. Yield: 73%. Found (%): C, 54.8; H, 5.2; N, 10.7. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>V (%): C, 55.0; H, 5.1; N, 10.7. IR frequencies in cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3448, 3227, 1642, 1628, 1597, 1550, 1497, 1471, 1452, 1417, 1406, 1344, 1303, 1280, 1208, 1150, 1123, 1190, 1040, 1011, 975, 931, 894, 857, 803, 763, 623, 576, 551, 462, 443.

### X-Ray Crystallography

A suitable single crystal of the complex was mounted on a thin glass fiber without protection. Cell dimensions were determined at 298 K from the setting angles of a Bruker

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SMART 1000 CCD diffractometer (Dezhou University, China) using a graphite monochromated Mo  $K\alpha$  ( $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å) radiation source. Data collection was completed using the  $\omega/2\theta$  scan techniques. Pertinent cell parameters, data collection conditions, and refinement details are provided in Table 1. The structure was solved by direct methods, developed by successive difference Fourier synthesis and refined on  $F^2$  by a full-matrix least-squares procedure using the SHELXL-97 program (Bruker AXS, Lanzhou University, China).<sup>[14]</sup> The positions of all non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement factors. The amino hydrogen atom was located from a difference map, and with N–H distance restrained to 0.90(1) Å. The remaining hydrogen atoms were geometrically calculated and isotropically fixed at positions recalculated after each cycle of refinement [ $d(\text{C–H}) = 0.93\text{--}0.97$  Å,  $d(\text{O–H}) = 0.82$  Å, with the isotropic thermal parameter of  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2 U_{\text{iso}}(\text{C})$  and  $1.5 U_{\text{iso}}(\text{O})$ ]. In all the cases, absorption corrections based on multiscan using SADABS software (Bruker AXS, Lanzhou University, China)<sup>[15]</sup> were applied. Data reduction was accomplished using the SAINT plus software (Bruker AXS, Lanzhou University, China).<sup>[16]</sup> The crystal data and refinement details are listed in Table 1.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Schiff base  $\text{H}_2\text{SDA}$  was used to prepare complexes with Cu,<sup>[17,18]</sup> Gd, Tb, Nd, Sm, Pr,<sup>[19–21]</sup> Cd,<sup>[22]</sup> and Sn.<sup>[23]</sup> In the reported complexes, the Schiff base ligands coordinate to the metal atoms through all the five donor atoms. The vanadium complexes with  $\text{H}_2\text{SDA}$  have never been reported. In the present work, it is interesting that we have prepared an oxo-bridged dinuclear vanadium(V) complex, with three of the five donor atoms of the Schiff base ligand coordinate to each V atom, and with the other two forms an intramolecular O–H...N hydrogen bond. The molar conductance of a  $ca$  0.10 mmol  $\text{dm}^{-3}$  solution of the complex in acetonitrile at 25°C is 8.3  $\Omega^{-1} \text{cm}^2 \text{mol}^{-1}$ . The data indicate nonelectrolytic behavior in the solution.<sup>[24]</sup> In the absorption spectrum of the complex, two absorption bands at 232 and 527 nm were observed. Absorption bands at 232 nm can be assigned to  $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$  transition based on the ligand. Absorption bands at 527 nm can be assigned to a  $d_{xy} \rightarrow (d_{xz}, d_{yz})$  transition.

TABLE 1  
Crystal data and structure refinement for the complex

Formula weight	$\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_3\text{O}_4\text{V}$
Temperature (K)	298(2)
Wavelength (Å)	0.71073
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	$P2_1/n$
Unit cell dimensions	
$a$ (Å)	6.619(2)
$b$ (Å)	32.592(3)
$c$ (Å)	8.715(2)
$\beta$ (°)	104.001(3)
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	1824.2(7)
$Z$	4
$D_{\text{calc}}$ ( $\text{g cm}^{-3}$ )	1.432
Absorption coefficient ( $\text{mm}^{-1}$ )	0.572
$F(000)$	816
Crystal size (mm)	$0.30 \times 0.28 \times 0.27$
Limiting indices	$-8 < h < 8, -41 < k < 41, -11 < l < 11$
Reflections collected/unique	14878/3972
Observed reflections [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ]	1989
Completeness to $\theta = (\%)$	99.5
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on $F^2$
Data/restraints/parameters	3972/1/239
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.031
Final $R$ indices [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ]	0.0637
$R$ indices (all data)	0.1228
Largest difference in peak and hole ( $\text{e Å}^{-3}$ )	0.386, $-0.279$

## Description of the Structure of the Complex

An ORTEP diagram of the complex is illustrated in Figure 1, and important bond lengths and angles are provided in Table 2. X-ray single-crystal structure analysis reveals that the complex possesses crystallographic inversion center symmetry,

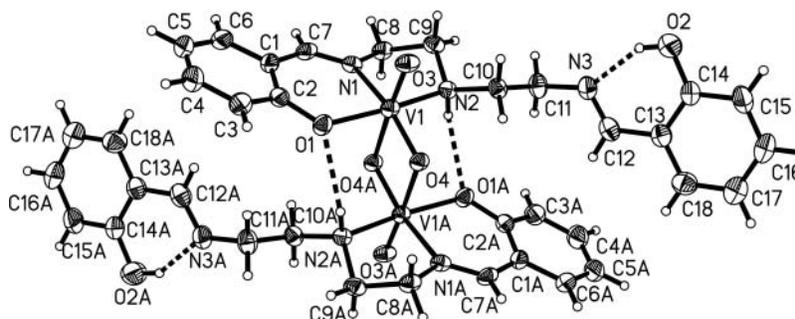


FIG. 1. An ORTEP drawing of the crystal structure of the complex with the atomic numbering scheme. The hydrogen bonds are shown as dashed lines. Symmetry atoms with the suffix A are related to the operation  $2-x, 1-y, 2-z$ .

TABLE 2  
Selected bond lengths (Å) and bond angles (°)

Bond lengths			
V1-O1	1.914(3)	V1-O3	1.614(3)
V1-O4	1.652(3)	V1-O4A	2.440(3)
V1-N1	2.152(3)	V1-N2	2.155(3)
Bond angles			
O3-V1-O4	107.33(14)	O3-V1-O1	101.67(14)
O4-V1-O1	98.20(12)	O3-V1-N1	99.88(13)
O4-V1-N1	151.27(13)	O1-V1-N1	84.91(13)
O3-V1-N2	92.52(13)	O4-V1-N2	92.17(13)
O1-V1-N2	158.99(13)	N1-V1-N2	77.37(13)
O3-V1-O4A	169.11(12)	O4-V1-O4A	77.67(12)
O1-V1-O4A	86.91(11)	N1-V1-O4A	73.97(11)
N2-V1-O4A	77.47(10)		

with the inversion center located at the midpoint of the two V atoms. There form two intermolecular N-H...O hydrogen bonds between the two [VO<sub>2</sub>(HSDA)] units. The intramolecular V...V distance is 3.226(1) Å. Each V atom is six-coordinated with two distinct oxo groups being apparent. The distance between V1 and the oxo O3 proves it a typical double bond. The other oxo O4 group is involved in the bridge between V1 and V1A. The O4 atom is strongly coordinated to V1 (1.652(3) Å) and is weakly associated with V1A (2.440(3) Å). The remaining three coordination sites are occupied by the phenolate O (1.914(3) Å), imine N (2.152(3) Å), and amine N (2.155(3) Å) atoms of the Schiff base ligand. Thus, the coordination spheres of the vanadium atoms are best described as distorted octahedral geometry. The distortion of the octahedral coordination can also be observed from the coordinate bond angles. The *cis* angles surrounded at the V1 atom are range from 74.0(1) to 107.3(1)°, and the *trans* angles are range from 151.3(1) to 169.1(1)°. The coordinate bond lengths are within normal values.<sup>[25,26]</sup>

In the crystal of the complex, the [VO<sub>2</sub>(HSDA)]<sub>2</sub> complex molecules are stack along the *a*-axis by weak  $\pi \cdots \pi$  interactions, as shown in Figure 2.

### IR Spectra

In the IR spectrum of the complex, the dioxo nature of the complex is confirmed by the presence of two V = O bands at 931 and 894 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The  $\nu_{C=N}$  in the complex are found at 1642 and 1628 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The former can be assigned to the free C12 = N3 bond, and the later can be assigned to the coordinated C7 = N1 bond. The IR spectrum of the complex shows a single sharp band at 3227 cm<sup>-1</sup> designated to the N-H stretching mode of the coordinated secondary amino group. The weak and broad absorption centered at 3448 cm<sup>-1</sup> is attributed to the O-H bond, which participates in the formation of intramolecular O-H...N hydrogen bond.

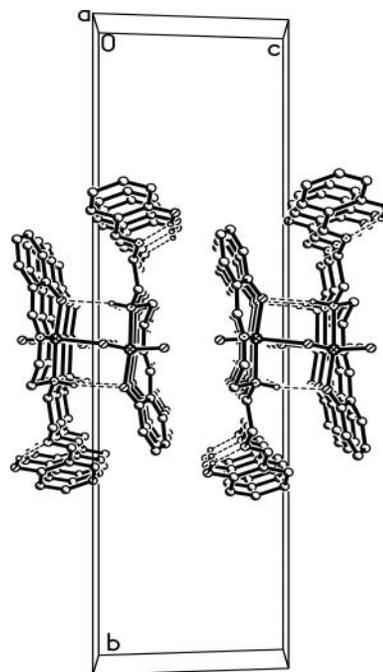


FIG. 2. The molecular packing of the complex, viewed along the *a*-axis. H atoms, except those related to hydrogen bonding, are omitted for clarity.

### CONCLUSION

A novel centrosymmetric vanadium(V) complex with the Schiff base *N,N'*-bis(salicylidene)-1,5-diimino-3-azapentane has been prepared and characterized. The V atom is six-coordinated in an octahedral geometry. The Schiff base ligand coordinates to the V atom through three of the five donor atoms, with the other two generate an intramolecular O-H...N hydrogen bond.

### SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

Supplementary crystallographic data are available from the CCDC, Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK on request quoting the deposition number CCDC 859119 (fax: +44 1223 336 033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

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