Synthesis and Characterization of Molecular Composite Prepared from Layered Perovskite Oxide, HLa₂Ti₂NbO₁₀

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A layered perovskite oxide, RbLa₂Ti₂NbO₁₀, was prepared and investigated for proton exchange and intercalation behaviors. Its protonated form, HLa₂Ti₂NbO₁₀, exhibits the Brφnsted acidity and reacts with organic amines. Polyoxonuclear cation, Al₁₃, was then introduced into the interlayer by refluxing octylamine-intercalated compound with an Al₁₃ pillaring solution. These layered oxides were characterized by X-ray diffractometer, thermogravimeter, FT-infrared spectrometer and elemental analyzer. It is observed that the polyoxonuclear cation-pillared material exhibits a bilayer structure and is thermally more stable than organic counterpart at higher temperatures. The surface area of the pillared material annealed at 400 °C was the value of 25.1 m²/g.

Introduction

Since the discovery of zeolites as a fluid-cracking catalyst, many alternatives, such as clay minerals, phosphates and layered oxides, have been extensively synthesized to exploit the selectivity differences possible with different pore geometries and catalyst compositions. 1-8 It has been shown that the microporous materials with various pores can be constructed by incorporating inorganic pillars between the two layers of layered oxides. However, these pillaring procedures are not applicable to some layered oxides because the layers are not readily opened up to introduce pillars. Therefore, new synthetic approaches have been created by utilizing organically preswelled intercalation compounds, which facilitate the replacement by a large polyoxonuclear cation such as Al₁₃O₄(OH)₂₄(H₂O)₁₂⁷⁺ (Al₁₃) having Keggin ion structure.4 There is an obvious interest as a route to develope the pillared materials with specific properties.

In 1981, Dion et al. synthesized a new family of the layered oxides, $MCa_2Nb_3O_{10}$ with the general formula of $MA_{n-1}B_nO_{3n+1}$, where M and $A_{n-1}B_nO_{3n+1}$ indicate interlayer alkali metal and perovskite structured layer, respectively. Subsequently, other related oxides such as $KCa_2Na_{n-3}Nb_nO_{3n+1}$, $K_{1-x}La_xCa_{2-x}Nb_3O_{10}$, $MPb_2Nb_3O_{10}$, $MCa_2Nb_{3-x}Al_xO_{10-x}$ and $MCa_2Nb_{3-x}Fe_xO_{10-x}$, $MCa_{2-x}La_xNb_{3-x}Ti_xO_{10}$ and $KSr_2Nb_3O_{10}$ have been also described and recently dubbed the Dion-Jacobson phases. $^{10-14}$ These oxides have a lower layer charge than the Ruddlesden-Popper phases of $M_2A_{n-1}B_nO_{3n+1}$ and, therefore, can be transformed into protonated forms, which can react further with organic bases by acid-base reaction.

Recently, the pillaring of Al₁₃ have been tried to develope porous materials, based on the layered oxide, KCa₂Nb₃O₁₀. ^{15,16} However, its structure has been identified as the stuffed form composed of pillars and perovskite layers, because of fligh layer charge. Mohan Ram and Clearfield proposed new strategies for producing porous materials based on the Dion-Jacobson phases as follows: 1) partial intercalation of Al₁₃, 2) further reduction of the layer charge and 3) use of narrower pillars. ¹⁵

Among them, the partial intercalation of Al₁₃ may be

achieved by the layered oxide, RbLa₂Ti₂NbO₁₀ (RbLTN), which was first prepared by Gopalakrishnan *et al.*¹³ Its protonated phase, HLa₂Ti₂NbO₁₀·1.5H₂O, was proposed to a weak acid hardly intercalating organic bases due to the ordering of titanium and niobium in perovskite layers. In the present study, we have synthesized organic amine-intercalated compounds using the protonated phase of RbLTN and then obtained a Al₁₃-pillared material (Al₁₃-PM) by the incorporation of Al₁₃. In addition, the thermal stabilities and the surface areas of Al₁₃-PM and organic counterpart were compared with each other.

Experimental

Preparation. The compound RbLTN was prepared by firing stoichiometric amounts of Rb₂CO₃, La₂O₃, TiO₂ and Nb₂O₅ at 1150 °C in air for 2 days. An excess of Rb₂CO₃ (25 mol%) was added to compensate for the loss due to the volatilization of the rubidium component. Ten grams of RbLTN was converted to a protonated form, HLTN, by refluxing with aqueous 4 N HCl solution at 60 °C for 4 days, with acid being replaced everyday. Organic amine-intercalated compounds were prepared by refluxing the HLTN with 10% alkylamine and alkyldiamine in water or heptane for 3 days at 60-90 °C. After that, the products were centrifuged, decanted, washed and dried under vacuum.

A pillaring solution was prepared by slowly adding 0.4 N NaOH to 0.4 N AlCl₃ with vigorous stirring as reported previously. ¹⁴ The Al₁₃ in pillaring solution was checked by ²⁷Al NMR spectrum using a [Al(H₂O)₆]³⁺ as an external reference. As NaOH is added a sharp line appears at 62.8 ppm. Akitt *et al.* have assigned that the peak is attributed to the tetrahedral aluminum of Al₁₃. ¹⁷ The octylamine-intercalated compound of 600 mg was reacted with a 50 mL portion of the pillaring solution (23.5 mmol Al³⁺) for 2 days.

Characterization. The characterization of the layered oxides was conducted by powder X-ray diffractometer (XRD, Rigaku D-MAX III-b), FT-infrared spectrometer (FT-IR, BOMEN MB-102), thermogravimeter (TGA, STAN-TON RED CROFT TGA-1000), elemental analyzer (EA,

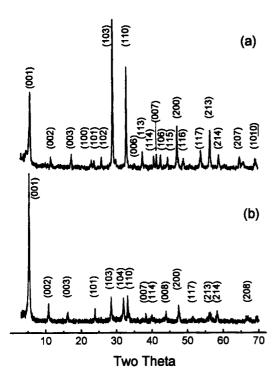


Figure 1. X-ray diffraction patterns of layered oxides. (a) $RbLa_2$ Ti_2NbO_{10} and (b) its protonated form.

CARLO ERBA EA 1108) and energy-dispersive X-ray spectrometer (EDS, JEOL JSM-35F). BET surface areas were measured on a Quantachrome Autosorb-6 automated surface analysis instrument.

Results and Discussion

Structural analysis of RbLa₂Ti₂NbO₁₀ and its protonated form. Figure 1 shows the powder XRD patterns of RbLTN and HLTN. In RbLTN all the reflections could be indexed in tetragonal structure with the lattice parameter of a=3.834 Å and c=15.240 Å. This indicates a half basal spacing of corresponding KCa₂Nb₃O₁₀, which crystallizes in an orthorhombic structure as listed in Table 1. The difference of basal spacing between the two layered oxides is in the way that the interlayer ions such as rubidium or potassium occupy the interlayer sites. The larger size of rubidium ion leads to an eclipsed arrangement of adjacent perovskite layers, stacked with one directly above the next, to give an 8-fold coordination resulting in a half c axis as

Table 1. Lattice parameters of $RbLa_2Ti_2NbO_{10}$ and its protonated phases

Designation	Composition	a (Å)	b (Å)	c (Å)
RbLTN	RbLa ₂ Ti ₂ NbO ₁₀	3.834		15.240
RbLTN [†]	RbLa ₂ Ti ₂ NbO ₁₀	3.833		15.240
KCN [†]	KCa ₂ Nb ₃ O ₁₀	3.853	3.868	29.470
HLTN	HLa ₂ Ti ₂ NbO ₁₀ ·1.3H ₂ O	3.828		16.462
HLTN [†]	HLa ₂ Ti ₂ NbO ₁₀ ·1.5H ₂ O	3.831		16.440
HCN [†]	$HCa_2Nb_3O_{10} \cdot 1.3H_2O$	3.849		16.210

^{†, †:} from reference 13 and 9, respectively

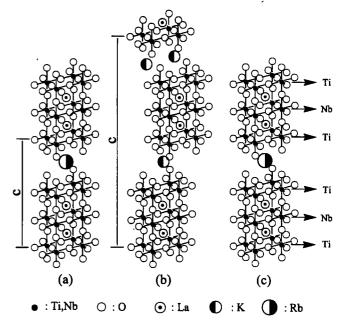


Figure 2. Schematic structures of layered oxides. (a) disordered RbLa₂Ti₂NbO₁₀, (b) KCa₂Nb₃O₁₀ and (c) ordered RbLa₂Ti₂NbO₁₀.

shown in Figure 2. Unlike this, in KCa₂Nb₃O₁₀, perovskite layers are staggered by a/2 translation to give a 6-fold coordinated potassium ions. The basal spacing of HLTN is similar with those of RbLTN and HCa₂Nb₃O₁₀·1.3H₂O due to large interlayer hydroxonium ion, H₃O⁺, likewise rubidium ion. Typical elemental analysis of HLTN revealed that the replacement of Rb⁺ by proton had proceeded above 95%. TG experiment also confirms that HLTN can be formulated as HLa₂Ti₂NbO₁₀·1.3H₂O.

The synthesis of layered oxides of MLa₂Ti₂NbO₁₀ (M=Na, K, Rb and Cs) strongly depended on the size of interlayer ions. For M=Rb and Cs, the layered oxides were successfully obtained, but potassium analog was consisted of a mixed phase of layered oxide, KLa₂Ti₂NbO₁₀, and unknown phase, and sodium analog was not synthesized at all. In addition, we have tried to synthesize a new series of Rb_{1-x}La₂Ti_{2-x}Nb_{1+x}O₁₀ (x=0.2, 0.4, 0.6 and 0.8) oxides to obtain layered oxides with low layer charge by modifying the composition of B-site cation. However, single-phase layered oxides were not obtained because of the impurity phases like La₄Ti₉O₂₄ (JCPDS No. 15-324), amount of which was increased with decreasing rubidium content.

Intercalation reaction. The protonated phase, HLTN, was reacted with organic bases such as alkylamines and alkyldiamines. Figure 3 shows the XRD patterns of organic amine-intercalated compounds, which exhibit the large shift of (001) peak indicating the change of basal spacing. These are absolutely contrast to the result of Gopalakrishnan *et al.*¹³ They did not observe an intercalation reaction in HLTN and explained as follows: the NbO₆ octahedra in perovskite layers are in the middle position flanked by the two TiO₆ octahedra, as shown in Figure 2(c), and then the interlayer protons are attached to the TiO₆ octahedra. This leads to the lower acidity due to lower oxidation state of titanium than that of niobium, as is supported by the acidity order of HNb₃O₈·H₂O > HTiNbO₅ > H₂Ti₄O₉. That is, HLTN can not intercalate organic bases due to lower acidity of Ti-O-H

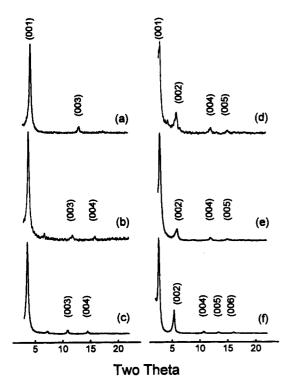


Figure 3. X-ray diffraction patterns of organic amine-intercalated compounds of (a) butyldiamine, (b) hexyldiamine, (c) octyldiamine, (d) butylamine, (e) hexylamine and (f) octylamine.

than that of Nb-O-H.18,19

However, many organic amines with $pK_a>9$ have been intercalated into $H_2Ti_4O_9$, even weak bases with $pK_a>6$ can intercalate into HTiNbO₅. 18 In addition, as is noted by them, it is well known that B' and B" ions in perovskite structured A(B'1/3B"2/3)O3 compounds can be ordered when there are significant differences in their size and charge.²⁰ The sizes of Nb5+ (0.64 Å) are nearly the same with that of Ti4+ (0.605 A) and their charge difference is only one. Therefore, the explanation that intercalation reaction cannot occur because of the lowered acidity of Ti-O-H due to ordering of niobium and titanium, is not reasonable to this system. HLTN can act as solid Bronsted acid as well as HTiNbO5 and react with organic amines such as alkylamines with pK_a 10.6 to give organic ammonium ions as follows: xRNH₂+ $HLTN \rightarrow (RNH_3)_r H_{1-r} LTN$ or $xH_2NRNH_2 + HLTN \rightarrow$ (H₃NRNH₃)_xH_{1-2x}LTN.²¹ The difference of reactivity may be ascribed to the reaction conditions. The refined unit cell parameters and intercalated organic contents for organic amine-intercalated compounds are listed in Table 2. For alkyldiamine-intercalated compounds, the organic content is rather larger than stoichiometric content. This may be considered as neutral alkyldiamines flanked between the alkyldiammonium ions.

Spatial arrangement of organic ammonium ions.

Figure 4 shows the expansion of basal spacing for the alkylamine-intercalated compounds, (1), and alkyldiamine-intercalated compounds, (2), indicating the formation of bilayer and monolayer structures, respectively. Least squares fits of the data for the two types give the following lines:

$$c=1.924 n+17.916 \text{ Å for (1) } \alpha=49.2^{\circ}$$

Table 2. Lattice parameters and intercalated amine contents of the organic amine-intercalated compounds

Composition	a (Å)	c (Å)
[CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₃ NH ₃] _{0.90} H _{0.10} La ₂ Ti ₂ NbO ₁₀	3.828	25.606
[CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₅ NH ₃] _{0.90} H _{0.10} La ₂ Ti ₂ NbO ₁₀	3.833	29.466
$[CH_3(CH_2)_7NH_3]_{0.87}H_{0.13}La_2Ti_2NbO_{10}$	3.834	33.300
[NH ₃ (CH ₂) ₄ NH ₃] _{0.50} La ₂ Ti ₂ NbO ₁₀	3.840	20.284
[NH ₃ (CH ₂) ₆ NH ₃] _{0.50} [NH ₂ (CH ₂) ₆ NH ₂] _{0.07} La ₂ Ti ₂ NbO ₁₀	3.835	22.342
$[\mathrm{NH_3(CH_2)_8NH_3}]_{0.50}[\mathrm{NH_2(CH_2)_8NH_2}]_{0.09}La_2\mathrm{Ti_2NbO_{10}}$		

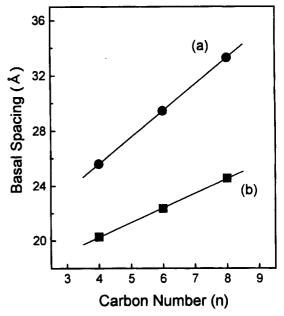


Figure 4. Basal spacing of (a) alkylamine- and (b) alkyldiamine-intercalated compounds.

$$c=1.070 n+15.978 \text{ Å for (2) } \alpha=57.4^{\circ},$$

where c and n indicate the c axis spacing and the carbon number, respectively. Assuming the methylene groups in alkyl chain would have all trans conformations, the chain length grows by 1.27 Å per an added methylene group. For (1) and (2), the inclination angles (α) of the alkyl chain to the basal plane are different each other.

According to the result of Jacobson et~al., intercalation compounds based on $HCa_2Nb_3O_{10}$ have been divided into four distinct groups (I~IV), depending on the relative strength between van der Waals interaction of alkyl chains and hydrogen bond of the ammonium head group and the oxygen atom of layer surface. In (1), the inclination angle is similar to the group II (α =56.5°). In (2), the inclination angle is in the middle of group II and group III (α =40.5°). It can be concluded, therefore, that the strength of hydrogen bonding in (2) is stronger than van der Waals interaction because of the presence of two active binding sites in diamines. On the other hand, in (1) the bilayer structure is stabilized by the increase of van der Waals interaction by increasing contact area between the alkyl chains.

Pillaring of polyoxoaluminate ion, Al₁₃. The mainshortcomings of organic amine-intercalated compounds are their insufficient thermal stability for application as ca-

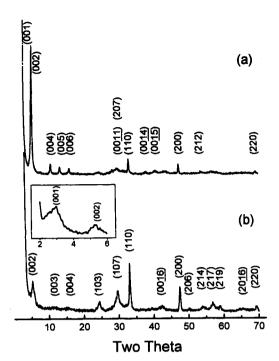


Figure 5. X-ray diffraction patterns of (a) OALTN (b) Al₁₃-PM.

talysts in high-temperature process. Accordingly, a pillaring has been undertaken to develop a thermostable porous material by introduction of Al₁₃ pillar.²³ Figure 5 shows the XRD patterns of octylamine-intercalated compound (OALTN) and Al₁₃-PM. While the spacing of the (00l) reflections varied, the peaks corresponding to (110) and (200) reflections remain unchanged suggesting that the perovskite layers are robust and intact during the pillaring reaction. The broad reflections in Al₁₃-PM may be ascribed to some disorder in Al₁₃ arrangements or incorporation of lower charged species with Al₁₃ in the interlayer space, resulting in stresses on the layers.

The basal spacing of Al_{13} -PM, 34.1 Å, indicates a double layer of Al_{13} , diameter of which is in the range of 8.6-11.0 Å. The thickness of $La_2Ti_2NbO_{10}$ layers can be estimated by subtracting the diameter of 8-fold Rb⁺ ion (3.22 Å) from the interlayer distance of RbLTN (15.240 Å), and a value of 12.02 Å is obtained. It is concluded, from the calculated basal spacing of ca. 29.2-33.0 Å for bilayer arrangement, that the arrangement of Al_{13} in Al_{13} -PM is a bilayer. ¹⁵

FT-IR study. The FT-IR spectra of RbLTN, HLTN, OALTN and Al₁₃-PM provide the informations on the nature of interlayer ions. (Figure 6). The broad bands at 750-500 cm⁻¹, assigned to metal-oxygen stretching vibrations were not nearly varied. However, the band at 939 cm⁻¹ in RbLTN changed successively to 962, 951 and 993, and 950 cm⁻¹ for HLTN, OALTN, and Al₁₃-PM, respectively. The peak at 962 cm⁻¹ in HLTN disappeared after thermal treatment at 700 °C, indicating the bending modes of interlayer ions. In addition, a pair of strong bands in 2911 and 2845 cm⁻¹ at OALTN can be assigned to the methylene group. As the organic amines incorporated into the layer, the N-H bending mode of ammonium group due to acid-base reaction appeared at 1610-1530 cm⁻¹, which disappeared by a substitution of Al₁₃.

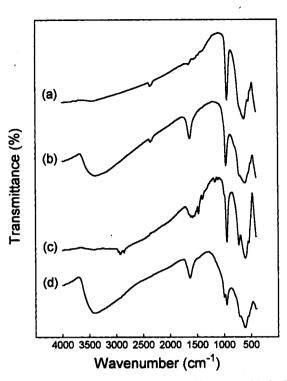


Figure 6. FT-IR spectra of (a) RbLTN, (b) HLTN, (c) OALTN and (c) Al₁₃-PM.

Thermal Stability of OALTN and Al₁₃-PM. Calcining of OALTN and Al₁₃-PM were conducted to investigate for the thermal behavior. Figure 7 shows the XRD

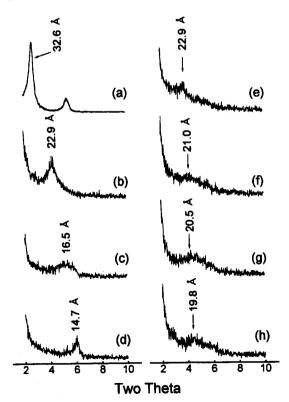


Figure 7. X-ray diffraction patterns of OALTN calcined at (a) 200, (b) 300, (c) 400 °C for 10 min and annealed at (d) 400 °C for 1 h, and Al₁₃-PM calcined at (e) 200, (f) 300, (g) 400 °C for 10 min and annealed at (h) 400 °C for 1 h, respectively.

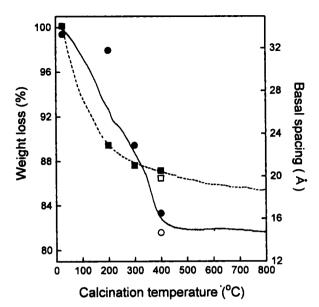


Figure 8. TG curves $(-, \cdots)$ and the changes of basal spacing (symbols) of OALTN and Al₁₃-PM with calcination temperature at a heating rate of 10 °C/min. (\bullet, \bullet) : calcined for 10 mim; \circ , \circ : annealed for 1 h)

patterns of OALTN and Al13-PM calcined at various temperatures. The changes of basal spacing are plotted with TG curves (Figure 8). TG analysis of Al₁₃-PM shows that decomposition proceeds in two stages: dehydration begins just above room temperature and reaches a plateau above 500 °C. This is very close relation to the result of XRD. In Al₁₃-PM the large weight loss on calcination was accompanied by an initial rapid contraction of the interlayer spacing from 34.1 Å to 22.9 Å after heat treatment at 200 °C. Further heating levelled off the basal spacing to ca. 20.0 Å. This is good agreement with the result of Hardin et al. 15 The Al₁₃ pillars have been completely condensated to give an alumina pillars according to the following reaction, protons are released, and they in part balance the negative charge of the host layers, thereby producing coordinatively unsaturated Lewis acid sites in alumina and Bronsted acid sites in host layers to impart chemical catalytic properties. 6,24 On the other hand, the corresponding basal spacing of OALTN initially remained constant in value but abruptly decreased as organic components were decomposed above 300 °C.

The chemical composition of Al₁₃-PM was determined by TGA and EDS analysis. Assuming that the composition of Al₁₃-PM to (Al₁₃)_xLTN·yH₂O, the value of x, calculated from aluminum content using EDS based on the relative ratio of aluminum to niobium, is 0.09. In Al₁₃-PM the content of hydrated water was calculated from the weight loss of interlamellar water and the water bonded to aluminum in TG, over a temperature range of 25-300 °C. After pillaring of Al₁₃, residual octylammonium ion was not almost detected by FT-IR and EA. Then, Al₁₃-PM can be formulated as (Al₁₃)_{0.09}[CH₃(CH₂)₇NH₃]_{0.24}H_{0.13}LTN·6.7H₂O. The observed aluminum content is smaller than that expected from the layer charge (1/7=0.14). This may be critically important to the synthesis of porous nanocomposites. Clearfield *et al.* and

Hardin *et al.* have reported the KCa₂Nb₃O₁₀-based nanocomposites with no large increase in surface area due to the stuffed structure, resulted from a large amount of Al₁₃.^{15,16} The surface area of the Al₁₃-PM annealed at 400 °C for 1 h was the value of 25.1 m²/g, which was rather higher than that of the KCa₂Nb₃O₁₀-based materials, ~5 m²/g. However, we have not certainly determined whether the increase of surface area of Al₁₃-PM may be from a porous structure or a small particle size. And the surface area is still small for pillared materials.

In summary, we have successfully prepared the organic amine-intercalated compounds irrespective of layer acidity. The spatial arrangements of organic compound were dependent on the relative strength between van der Waals interaction and hydrogen bonding. The Al₁₃ was also introduced into the interlayer by using preswelled OALTN. The Al₁₃-PM was more stable than OALTN up to 400 °C for prolonged thermal treatment. Finally, the surface area of the Al₁₃-PM annealed at 400 °C was higher than that of the KCa₂Nb₃O₁₀-based pillared materials, but is rather small.

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Temperature-Dependent Redox Isomerism via Intramolecular Electron Transfer. Synthesis and Properties of Co(dmppz)₂(3,6-dbq)₂ (dmppz=1,4-dimethylpiperazine; 3,6-dbq=3,6-di-tert-butyl-1,2-quinone)

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The preparation and characterization of Co(dmppz)₂(3,6-dbq)₂ (dmppz=1,4-dimethylpiperazine; 3,6-dbq=3,6-ditert-butyl-1,2-quinone) are established. Temperature-dependent magnetic moments (100-400 K), variable-temperature IR, and electronic spectra are presented to show that the title complex exhibits an equilibrium via a catechol to cobalt intramolecular electron transfer. At temperatures below 350 K, the charge distribution of the complex is Co^{III}(dmppz)₂(3,6-dbsq)(3,6-dbcat) (3,6-dbsq=3,6-di-tert-butyl-1,2-semiquinonato; 3,6-dbcat=3,6-ditert-butylcatecholato) whereas at the temperature beyond 390 K, the complex is predominantly Co^{II}(dmppz)₂(3, 6-dbsq)₂ form in the solid state. At the temperature range of 350-390 K a mixture of Co(III) and Co(II) redox isomers exist at equilibrium. The transition temperature (Tc) of Co(III)/Co(II) in solution is approximately 50° lower than that in the solid state. In particular, thermal analysis on solid sample of the complex discloses that the transition for the Co(III)/Co(II) is accompanied by the change in heat content of 12.30 kcal/mol.

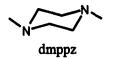
Introduction

The striking facet of the challanging issues in molecular chemistry deals with the use of molecular compounds in electronic devices and systems.¹⁻³ Small collections of these molecules could be expected to exhibit bistability which can be switched from one state to another by an external perturbation.⁴⁻¹⁰ For instance, structural changes that accompany shifts in metal oxidation state have been applied to materials that exhibit photomechanical and optical switching signal creating an addressable memory effect. Charge transfer, *cis-trans* isomerism, proton transfer, and *etc*. have been investigated for some molecules with either structural mobility or chemical sensitivity.¹¹⁻¹³ Among the various systems, coordination metal complexes that exhibit intramolecular electron transfer phenomena have been the subjects of most intense study.

One of the most intriguing aspects of transition metal complexes containing 1,2-semiquinone (sq) and catechol (cat)¹⁴ ligands is a unique facility for intramolecular electron transfer between the metal and chelated catechol ligands. This has been most prominently illustrated for the cobalt complexes, Co^{III}(N-N)(sq)(cat) where temperature- or photo-induced equilibria between the following redox isomers have been observed in solution and in the solid state (1).^{15,16} One isomer consists of Co(III) with one semiquinonate and one catecholate ligand and a diimine ligand, and the other

$$Co^{II}(N-N)(sq)(cat) \longrightarrow Co^{II}(N-N)(sq)_2$$
 (1)

of Co(II) with two semiquinonate ligands and a diimine ligand. The intramolecular electron transfer is a consequence of charge localization within the molecule and the close energy separation between localized quinone and metal electronic levels. In particular, an intense band near 2500 nm (4000 cm⁻¹) assigned as cat to Co(III) charge transfer has been characteristically observed for Co(III) forms.¹⁷⁻²⁰ Moreover, for such complexes, the bistability and its Tc have been elucidated to be very sensitive to the nature of the diimine coligands.²⁰ In the present report, we describe the synthesis and characteristic properties of the Co(dmppz)₂ (3,6-dbq)₂ based on spectroscopic, magnetic, and thermal analyses. The physicochemical properties induced by the bistability of the complex is primarily discussed.



Experimental

Materials and Instrumentation. Dicobaltoctacarbonyl (Co₂(CO)₈) and 1,4-dimethylpiperazine (dmppz) were purchased from Strem and Aldrich, respectively. 3,6-Di-tertbutyl-1,2-benzoquinone (3,6-dbbq) was prepared according to literature procedure.²¹ Elemental analysis (C,H,N) was carried out at the Korea Basic Science Center. Infrared spectra were obtained in 5000-400 cm⁻¹ range on a Perkin Elmer 16F PC FTIR spectrophotometer with sample prepared as