Oxidation-State and Coordination-Site Specificity Influencing Dimensional Extension and Properties of Two Iron Complexes with Similar Helical Chains

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Two new iron coordination frameworks, {[NH₂(CH₃)₂]₂Fe^{II}- $(pydc)_2$ _n (1) and $\{[NH_2(CH_3)_2]Fe^{III}(pydc)_2\}_n$ (2) (pydc = 2.5pyridinedicarboxylate), have been synthesized through the reaction of FeCl₃ with H₂pydc in dimethylformamide (DMF). 1 crystallizes in an achiral space group C2/c, while 2 crystallizes in a chiral space group $P4_32_12$. Both crystal structures consist of 2₁ helices with similar units: [Fe^{II}(pydc)₂]²⁻ and [Fe^{III}(pydc)₂]⁻, respectively. The iron oxidation states have been confirmed by means of ESR spectra and bond valence calculations. Quantum chemistry calculations and thermogravimetric analysis have demonstrated their energy and thermal stability. Magnetic studies have revealed that 1 and 2 show weak antiferromagnetic and ferromagnetic interactions between the metal centers, respectively.

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Introduction

Metal-organic coordination networks are the largest class of engineered crystal structures. They expand coordination in diverse dimensions by means of polydentate organic ligands coordinating to metal atoms.^[1] Much work has been done towards understanding the molecular packing^[2-4] and the relationship between inner structure and collective properties.^[5,6] The selection or design of suitable ligands containing certain features, such as functionality and versatile binding modes, plays an important role in determining the topologies and properties of coordination networks.^[7-11] Metal atoms, especially their metal oxidation state, also significantly affect the structural extension and properties of coordination networks.[12,13] However, the influence of the metal oxidation state has been comparatively less well investigated. [14,15] Our efforts have focused on constructing coordination networks by assembling multidentate ligand H₂pydc and multiple oxidation state iron atoms. Herein, we report the syntheses and characterizations of two new iron coordination frameworks with 2₁ helical chains: $\{[NH_2(CH_3)_2]_2Fe^{II}(pydc)_2\}_n$ (1) and $\{[NH_2-1]_n$ $(CH_3)_2$ | Fe^{III}(pydc)₂ $\}_n$ (2), assembled from iron ions and pydc in different coordination modes (Scheme 1).

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Scheme 1. Coordination modes of pydc in (a) 1 and (b) 2

Results and Discussion

Syntheses

Although the formation mechanisms are poorly understood, solvothermal synthesis under mild conditions (T <200 °C, autogenous pressure) is a good way of generating complexes with interesting structures or functional materials, as the nature of organic solvent may drastically effect the formation of compounds.[16-19] In this respect, DMF is a good polar, aprotic solvent with a high boiling point. Consequently, we carried out the solvothermal reaction of iron(III) chloride and H₂pydc (1:2 molar ratio) in DMF, which was used to remove the carboxylate group protons and to avoid coordination between the iron atoms and water solvent molecules. Two kinds of well-shaped crystals, dark red blocks for 1 and light yellow dipyramids for 2, were separated with a moderate yield for 1 and a very low yield for 2. To obtain a higher yield of 2, 0.1 mL of H₂O₂ (30%) was added to the reaction system, only compound 2 was isolated (44% yield). The formulae of {[NH₂- $(CH_3)_2]_2Fe^{II}(pydc)_2\}_n$ for 1 and $\{[NH_2(CH_3)_2]Fe^{III}(pydc)_2\}_n$ for 2 were revealed by X-ray single-crystal diffraction analy-

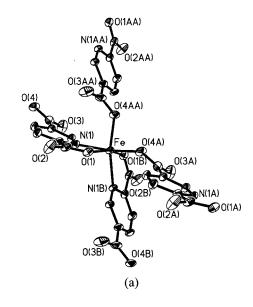
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ses and elemental analyses. Clearly, some Fe^{III} was reduced to Fe^{II} as part of a redox reaction. Earlier reports show that the reaction of aromatic N ligands such as pyridine or imidazole derivatives with a transition-metal salt can result in spontaneous metal ion reduction.[20-23] The presence of [NH₂(CH₃)₂]⁺ in the two compounds results from the decomposition of DMF. No crystals or precipitation were obtained when using N,N-dimethylacetamide instead of DMF.

Crystal Structures

${[NH_2(CH_3)_2]_2Fe^{II}(PYDC)_2}_n$ (1)

Single-crystal X-ray diffraction analysis reveals that complex 1 has a two-dimensional layer structure and crystallizes in a monoclinic space group C2/c. Figure 1 (a) shows a perspective view of the local coordination environment around



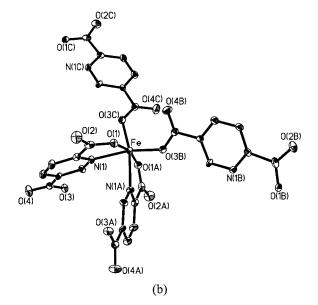


Figure 1. Coordination environments of 1 (a) and 2 (b); ellipsoids are shown at 30% probability

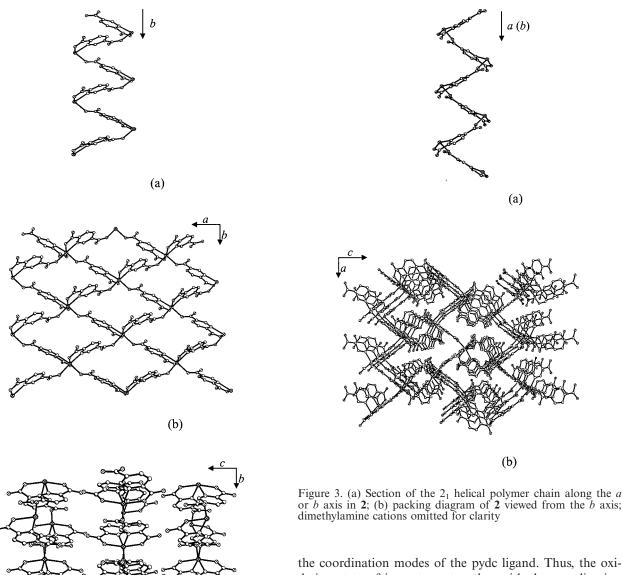
the Fe^{II} atom of 1. The iron atom is hexacoordinate in an N₂O₄ environment with a distorted octahedral geometry. Two pyridyl nitrogen donors from different pydc ligands are in an L-shaped arrangement with the central iron atom at the corner; the Fe-N bond length and N(1)-Fe-N(1B)bond angle are 2.170(2) Å and 102.77(14)°, respectively. Four oxygen atoms from different pydc ligands complete its coordination sphere. Fe-O(1) and Fe-O(4A) are 2.098(2) and 2.084(2) Å, respectively. A pydc ligand bridges two Fe^{II} atoms in a trans mode through the pyridyl nitrogen atom and an adjacent carboxylate oxygen atom, forming a fivemembered chelate ring, while one oxygen atom of the second carboxylate group coordinates another Fe^{II} atom in trans position (Scheme 1, a). Thus, an extended two-dimensional layer structure is formed (Figure 2, b) that contains rhombic grids with four Fe^{II} atoms at the corners, with pydc ligands as linkers. The lateral Fe···Fe distances of the Fe₄ rhombus are 8.602 Å, the diagonal Fe···Fe distances are 15.066 Å and 8.305 Å.

In 1, the 2D layer $\{[Fe^{II}(pydc)_2]^{2-}\}_n$ can also be considered as arising from 2₁ helices (Figure 2, a). The helix winds along the b axis and the pitch of the helix is the length of b (8.305Å). All the helices extend along the same direction, generating a 2D layer structure (Figure 2, b). The layers are parallel to the ab plane with a C_2 symmetry for neighboring 2₁ helices. All layers are stacked on top of each other along the c axis, with a separation of one half of the c length. However, adjacent layers arranged in antiparallel orientation lead to an overall centrosymmetric structure with an achiral space group C2/c (Figure 2, c). The [NH₂(CH₃)₂]⁺ cations, omitted in the figures for clarity, lie between the layers to balance charges.

${[NH_2(CH_3)_2]Fe^{III}(PYDC)_2}_n$ (2)

Single-crystal X-ray diffraction analysis reveals that complex 2 has a three-dimensional structure and crystallizes in the tetragonal chiral space group $P4_32_12$. Figure 1 (b) gives a perspective view of the local coordination environment around the Fe^{III} atom of 2. As in 1, the iron atom is hexacoordinate in an N₂O₄ environment with a distorted octahedral geometry. Two pyridyl nitrogen donors from different pydc ligands form an L-shaped arrangement with the central iron atom at the corner. The Fe-N(1) bond length and N(1)-Fe-N(1A) bond angle are 2.201(5) Å and 79.8(3)°, respectively. Four oxygen atoms from different pydc ligands complete its coordination sphere. Fe-O(1) and Fe-O(3B) are 1.983(4) and 1.954(4) Å, respectively. Unlike 1, a pydc ligand bridges two Fe^{III} atoms in a cis mode (Scheme 1, b) through the pyridyl nitrogen atom and an adjacent carboxylate oxygen atom, forming a five-membered chelate ring, and one oxygen atom of the second carboxylate group coordinating another Fe^{III} atom on the same side as the chelate ring. Thus, a helical polymer chain is formed that is similar to that in 1 (Figure 2, a; Figure 3,

Compound 2 contains 2_1 helices along the a or b axis with the pitch being 8.896 Å (Figure 3, a). In contrast to 1,



the coordination modes of the pydc ligand. Thus, the oxidation state of iron atoms together with the coordination

Figure 2. (a) Section of the 2_1 helical polymer chain along the b axis in 1; (b) 2D layer structure along the ab plane in 1; (c) the stacking 2D layers viewed from the a axis in 1; dimethylamine cations omitted for clarity

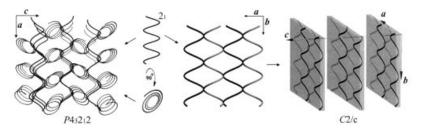
(c)

all the helices in 2 are arranged parallel to or perpendicular with the metal atoms as the connective nodes, and so compound 2 has noncentrosymmetry for the overall structure (Figure 3, b). Infinite 3D networks with 43 helices along the c axis are formed with the chiral space group $P4_32_12$. [NH₂(CH₃)₂]⁺ cations lie within the networks to balance charges (omitted from the figures for clarity).

We also found that FeII atoms coordinated to pydc ligands in a trans mode, whereas Fe^{III} atoms coordinated in a cis mode, even though both ions underwent the same reaction - the oxidation state of the iron atom might affect site of pydc ligands specifically influence the dimensional extensions of the two iron compounds. Scheme 2 illustrates the packing, which features two different kinds of inner structures for 1 and 2.

Bond Valence Calculation and ESR Spectrum

According to X-ray analyses, element analyses and charge-balance requirements, the bond valence of the Fe atoms in 1 and 2 should be +2 and +3, respectively. This is verified through X-band ESR spectra recorded on polycrystalline samples at room temperature. As expected, 1 is ESR-silent due to non-Kramer spin states (S = 2) of the Fe^{II} ion, as a result of either large zero-field splitting or fast relaxation processes.^[24] Compound 2 gave a strong, typical response of high-spin Fe^{III} with g = 3.6615. Typical lowspin Fe^{III} species have g values around 2.^[25] Furthermore, bond valence calculations carried out for the FeN2O4 octahedrons gave bond valence sums (bvs) of +2.39 and +2.92valence unit (v.u.) for iron atoms in 1 and 2, respectively. The calculations used reported bond valence parameters for Fe-O and Fe-N bonds. [26] Similar bond valence calcu-



Scheme 2. Arrangement models of 2_1 helices in complexes 1 and 2: for 1, 2_1 helices along the b axis form the 2D layer structure in the ab plane, and the adjacent antiparallel layers produce a centrosymmetric achiral space group C2/c; for 2, 2_1 helices along the a or b axis perpendicular or parallel to each other construct a 3D network with the chiral space group $P4_32_12$

lations have been used successfully for a polyoxovanadate complex. [27]

Single-Point Energy Calculations and TGA

The organic ligand adopts trans and cis coordination patterns in 1 and 2, respectively. Taking account of the energy distinction between the two octahedral coordination units (Figure 1, a, b), single-point energy calculations for them were carried out using the unrestricted Hartree-Fock (UHF) method. For Fe atoms the Los Alamos ECP plus DZ basis set (Lanl2dz)^[28] was used, and for C, N, O and H atoms the 6-31G* basis set was employed. Calculations were completed using the Gaussian 98 program. [29] Computational values of -2596.10205193 and -2605.17304136 Hartrees were obtained for 1 and 2, respectively. These single-point energy calculations show that the energy of the central atom of the octahedral unit in 2 (Figure 1, b) is lower, by ca. 9 Hartrees, than that of the unit in 1 (Figure 1, a), indicating that 2 is thermodynamically slightly more stable than 1. In agreement, TGA analysis revealed decomposition temperatures of 264 and 315 °C for 1 and 2, respectively.

Magnetic Properties

Magnetic measurements were performed for polycrystal-line samples of 1 and 2 in the temperature range 270–2 K. For both complexes, as the temperature is lowered to around 35 K, χ_M increases gradually, and then increases dramatically (Figures 4 and 5). The measured effective magnetic moments μ_{eff} per iron atom in 1 and 2 are ca. 4.92 μ_B and 5.80 μ_B , respectively, at 270 K, in agreement with the 4.90 μ_B for free-ion Fe^{II} in high spin (S=2) and 5.91 μ_B for high-spin Fe^{III} (S=5/2). The results confirm that the oxidation state of iron atoms in 1 and 2 are +2 and +3, respectively.

The magnetic behavior of 1 over the whole temperature range (270–2 K) can be well expressed using Equation (1) derived by Fisher,^[30] based on the Hamiltonian $H = -J\Sigma S_i S_{i+1}$ for local spin values S = 2, where J is the exchange coupling between two adjacent paramagnetic centers.

$$\chi_{\mathbf{M}} = \{ [Ng^2 \beta^2 S(S+1)] / 3kT \} \cdot [(1+u)/(1-u)]$$

$$u = \coth\{ [JS(S+1)] / kT \} - kT / [JS(S+1)]$$
(1)

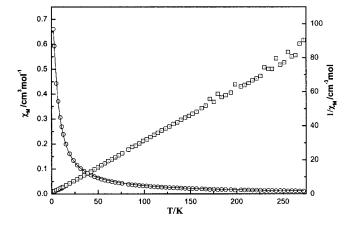


Figure 4. $\chi_{\rm M}$ vs. T (open circles) and $1/\chi_{\rm M}$ vs. T (open squares) for 1; for clarity, only 50% of the recorded data is shown; the line through the symbols (open circles) corresponds to the calculated data of $\chi_{\rm M}$ for 1 with g=2.14 and J=-0.36 cm⁻¹

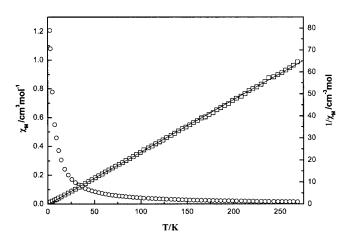


Figure 5. $\chi_{\rm M}$ vs. T (open circles) and $1/\chi_{\rm M}$ vs. T (open squares) for 2; for clarity, only 50% of the recorded data is shown; the line through the symbols (open squares) correspond to the calculated data of $1/\chi_{\rm M}$ for 2 with calcd. $C = 4.17~{\rm cm^3 \cdot mol^{-1} \cdot K}$ and $T_{\rm p} = 1.75~{\rm K}$

For 1, the best fit parameters are $J = -0.36 \text{ cm}^{-1}$, g = 2.14 and $R = 7.66 \times 10^{-6}$, where $R = \Sigma [(\chi_{\rm M})_{\rm i}^{\rm exp} - (\chi_{\rm M})_{\rm i}^{\rm calcd}]^2/\Sigma [(\chi_{\rm M})_{\rm i}^{\rm exp}]^2$, illustrating the very weak Fe^{II}-Fe^{II} antiferromagnetic interactions in 1 bridged by pydc ligands. However, the case in 2 is much more complicated, as the network has a three-dimensional extension, and we were

unable to model the experimental data. Thus, the $1/\chi_{\rm M}$ data of **2** was fitted to a Curie–Weiss law $[\chi_{\rm M}=C/(T-T_{\rm P})]$, with $C=4.17~{\rm cm^3 \cdot mol^{-1} \cdot K}$, $T_{\rm p}=1.75~{\rm K}$ and relation factor 0.9997. The small positive Weiss temperature indicates the presence of a weak Fe^{III}–Fe^{III} ferromagnetic interaction, although a detailed elucidation of the magnetic interaction in **2** is awaited.

Decomposition of DMF

X-ray diffraction analyses revealed the presence of dimethylamine cations [NH₂(CH₃)₂]⁺ in both 1 and 2, which result from the decomposition of DMF. IR spectra of 1 and 2 further confirm the presence of $-NH_2^+$ and $-CH_3$ groups. Broad bands in the range of 2700-2250 cm⁻¹, together with a weak peak at ca. 2000 cm⁻¹, correspond to N-H vibration modes of the -NH₂⁺ group. In addition, peaks at ca. 2967 and 1460 cm⁻¹ indicate C-H stretching and bending modes, respectively, of -CH₃ groups. Moreover, elemental analyses are also consistent with the presence of [NH₂(CH₃)₂]⁺ cations. The decomposition of solvent DMF has been used previously to develop a synthesis of gallium compounds.^[19] The product of DMF decomposition could be taken as the unique source of a structuredirecting agent for the formation of coordination networks.[19] In fact, dimethylamine, triethylamine, etc. appear to be suitable agents, under solvo(hydro)thermal conditions, to maintain a relatively stable pH and to serve as a mineralizer.[19,31,32-34]

Conclusion

Two iron complexes with diverse metal oxidation states and coordination patterns of organic ligand have been synthesized by solvothermal reaction. Our focus on the variations in molecular packing, which lead to different dimensional extensions, demonstrates that both the metal oxidation state and the coordination-site of ligands are important in the formation of these compounds.

Experimental Section

Materials and Methods: All reagents and solvents were purchased from commercial sources and used as received. Elemental analyses were determined with an Elementar Vario ELIII elemental analyzer. IR spectra were measured as KBr pellets with a Nicolet Magna 750 FT-IR spectrometer in the range of 200–4000 cm⁻¹. ESR spectra were recorded as powder samples at the X-band frequency with a Bruker ER420 spectrometer at room temperature. TGA was recorded with a NETZSCH STA 449C instrument, with samples under nitrogen (15 mL/min), at a heating rate of 15 °C/min. Temperature-dependent magnetic measurements were determined with a Quantum Design SQUID-XL7 magnetometer in an external field of 20 kG.

Syntheses of Complexes: Complexes **1** and **2** were obtained from the solvothermal reactions of iron(III) chloride (16.2 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2,5-pyridinedicarboxylic acid ($C_7H_5NO_4$, 99%, denoted H_2 pydc) (33.4 mg, 0.2 mmol) in dimethylformamide as solvent (C_3H_7NO , 99.8%, denoted DMF) (14 mL). Reactions were performed in Teflon-lined stainless steel Parr bombs (23 mL) under

autogenous pressure for 3 d. After cooling the reaction system at a rate of 13 °C/h to 30 °C, dark red crystals (1) and light yellow crystals (2) were separated, with yields of 36 mg (75%) for 1 and 2 mg (5%) for 2. To increase the yield of 2, $\rm H_2O_2$ (30%, 0.1 mL) was added to the system; only compound 2 was obtained, with a higher yield of 19 mg (44%).

{ $[NH_2(CH_3)_2]_2Fe^{II}(pydc)_2$ }_n (1): $C_{18}H_{22}FeN_4O_8$ (478.25): calcd. C 45.21, N 11.72, H 4.64; found C 44.88, N 11.29, H 4.50. IR (KBr pellet, cm⁻¹): $\tilde{v}=3437$ (br., m), 3145 (m), 3029 (m), 2967 (m), 2761 (br., m), 2452 (br., m), 2349 (w), 2000 (w), 1892 (w), 1620(s), 1475 (m), 1455 (m), 1386(s), 1341(s), 1275 (w), 1246 (w), 1165 (w), 1098 (w), 1032 (w), 887 (w), 822 (m), 769 (m), 694 (w), 512 (w). Decomposition temperature: 264 °C.

{[NH₂(CH₃)₂]Fe^{III}(pydc)₂}_n (2): C₁₆H₁₄FeN₃O₈(432.15): calcd. C 44.47, H 3.27, N 9.72; found C 43.82, H 3.39, N 9.68. IR (KBr pellet, cm⁻¹): $\tilde{v} = 3436$ (br., m), 3105 (m), 3074 (m), 2960 (m), 2799 (br., m), 2465 (br., w), 2014 (w), 1902 (w), 1778 (w), 1648(s), 1574 (m), 1462 (w), 1391 (m), 1322(s), 1277 (m), 1257 (m), 1233 (m), 1164 (w), 1143 (m), 1117 (w), 1034 (m), 1005 (w), 887 (w), 862 (w), 827 (m), 761 (m), 688 (w), 658 (w), 589 (m), 538 (m), 520 (w). Decomposition temperature: 315 °C.

X-ray Crystallographic Study: Crystal data collections were performed at 293 K with a Siemens Smart-CCD diffractometer with graphite-monochromated Mo- K_a radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å). Empirical absorption corrections were applied using the SADABS program. [35] Structures were solved with direct methods and refined by full-matrix least squares. [36] Non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically, and the hydrogen atoms were positioned with idealized geometry. All calculations were performed using the SHELXTL program. [37] Crystallographic data and other pertinent

Table 1. Crystal data collection and refinement parameters for $\{[NH_2(CH_3)_2]_2Fe^{II}(pydc)_2\}_n$ (1) and $\{[NH_2(CH_3)_2]Fe^{III}(pydc)_2\}_n$ (2)

Complex	1	2
Empirical formula	C ₁₈ H ₂₂ FeN ₄ O ₈	C ₁₆ H ₁₄ FeN ₃ O ₈
Formula mass	478.25	432.15
a [Å]	15.0657(9)	8.8956(6)
b [Å]	8.3054(5)	8.8956(6)
c [Å]	17.0198(10)	21.905(2)
β [°]	100.851(2)	90
$V[\mathring{\mathbf{A}}^3]$	2091.6(2)	1733.4(2)
Z	4	4
Crystal system	monoclinic	tetragonal
Space group	C2/c	$P4_{3}2_{1}2$
λ[Å]	0.71073	0.71073
ρ [g·cm ⁻³]	1.519	1.656
μ [cm ⁻¹]	7.74	9.23
T[K]	293(2)	293(2)
Number of data collected	3048	4254
Number of unique data collected	1836	1514
$R_{ m int}$	0.0210	0.0851
Data/restraints/parameters	1836/0/141	1514/0/128
$R_1^{[a]}[I > 2\sigma(I)]$	0.0443	0.0607
$wR_2^{[a]}[I > 2\sigma(I)]$	0.1105	0.1166
R_1 [a] (all data)	0.0560	0.1054
wR_2 [a] (all data)	0.1208	0.1342
GOF	1.036	1.157
$\Delta \rho_{\min} [e \cdot \mathring{A}^{-3}]$	-0.464	-0.337
$\Delta \rho_{\text{max.}} \left[e \cdot \mathring{A}^{-3} \right]$	0.363	0.401

[a] $R_1 = \Sigma ||F_0| - |F_c||/\Sigma |F_0|$, $wR_2 = [\Sigma w(F_0^2 - F_c^2)^2/\Sigma w(F_0^2)^2]^{1/2}$.

Table 2. Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°] for 1 and 2

Complex 1			
Fe-N(1)	2.170(2)	Fe-O(1)	2.098(2)
Fe-O(4A)	2.084(2)	Fe-O(4AA)	2.084(2)
Fe-O(1B)	2.098(2)	Fe-N(1B)	2.170(2)
O(4AA)-Fe- $O(4A)$	87.38(14)	O(4AA)-Fe- $O(1B)$	92.27(11)
O(4A)-Fe- $O(1B)$	99.34(11)	O(4AA)-Fe- $O(1)$	99.34(11)
O(4A)-Fe- $O(1)$	92.27(11)	O(1B)-Fe- $O(1)$	163.95(14)
O(4AA)-Fe- $N(1B)$	165.95(11)	O(4A)-Fe- $N(1B)$	86.13(10)
O(1B)-Fe- $N(1B)$	76.53(9)	O(1)-Fe-N(1B)	93.36(9)
O(4AA)-Fe- $N(1)$	86.13(10)	O(4A)-Fe- $N(1)$	165.95(11)
O(1B) - Fe - N(1)	93.36(9)	O(1)-Fe-N(1)	76.53(9)
N(1B)-Fe- $N(1)$	102.77(14)		

Complex 2

for 2

N(1)-Fe	2.201(5)	O(1)-Fe	1.983(4)		
Fe-O(3C)	1.954(4)	Fe-O(3B)	1.954(4)		
Fe-O(1A)	1.983(4)	Fe-N(1A)	2.201(5)		
O(3C)-Fe- $O(3B)$	109.2(3)	O(3C)-Fe- $O(1)$	96.04(18)		
O(3B)-Fe- $O(1)$	93.24(18)	O(3C)-Fe- $O(1A)$	93.24(18)		
O(3B)-Fe- $O(1A)$	96.04(18)	O(1)-Fe- $O(1A)$	164.0(3)		
O(3C)-Fe- $N(1A)$	162.95(19)	O(3B)-Fe- $N(1A)$	86.16(19)		
O(1)-Fe-N(1A)	90.31(19)	O(1A)-Fe- $N(1A)$	77.33(19)		
O(3C)-Fe-N(1)	86.16(19)	O(3B) - Fe - N(1)	162.95(19)		
O(1)-Fe-N(1)	77.33(19)	O(1A) - Fe - N(1)	90.31(19)		
N(1A)-Fe-N(1)	79.8(3)				
Symmetry codes: (A) = $x + 1/2$, $y - 1/2$, z ; (B) = $-x$, y , $-z + 1/2$					
2; $(AA) = -x - 1/2$,	y - 1/2, -z	+ 1/2 for 1; (A) = y,	$x, -z; (\mathbf{B}) =$		
-v + 1/2 + 1/2	$\tau = 1/4 \cdot (C)$	= v + 1/2 - v + 1/2	2 - 7 + 1/4		

information are summarized in Table 1; selected bond lengths and angles for the two complexes are given in Table 2. CCDC-226709 and -226710 contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge at www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/conts/retrieving.html [or from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; Fax: (internat.) + 44-1223-336-033; E-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk].

Acknowledgments

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