

Synthesis and structural characterization of infinite single-stranded coordination polymers of optically active bis(oxazoline) ligands with silver trifluoromethanesulfonate

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Three novel complexes, $[\text{Ag}(\text{S,S-1})][\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3]$ (**3**), $[\text{Ag}(\text{S,S-2})][\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3] \cdot 0.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (**4**) and $[\text{Ag}(\text{R,R-2})][\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3] \cdot 0.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (**5**) [**1** = 2,2-bis(4'-benzyloxazolin-2'-yl)propane, **2** = 2,2-bis(4'-phenyloxazolin-2'-yl)propane] were obtained from silver trifluoromethanesulfonate and the corresponding bis(oxazoline) ligands. The crystal structures of compounds **3** and **4** were determined by X-ray diffraction. The subtle difference in the substitution at the 4-position of the oxazoline ring in the ligands led to a remarkable change in the structures of complexes **3** and **4**. Complex **3** is an infinite single-stranded helical coordination polymer with two-fold symmetry and left-handed helicity, while complex **4** is an infinite single-stranded polymer with zig-zag conformation. However, the extended structures are not maintained in solution, undergoing rapid ligand redistribution and rapid dynamic exchange among several nonequivalent species as determined by ESMS spectra.

The design and construction of metal coordination polymers is currently of interest due to their potential applications in materials science,¹ supramolecular chemistry² and catalytic processes.^{3,4} One recently highlighted topic in this area is concerned with chiral and helical assemblies, which are not only the object of molecular architecture, but also used as asymmetric catalysts.⁵ For this reason, in a preliminary communication,⁶ we have examined the synthesis and X-ray crystallography of a non-racemic helical polymer $\{[\text{Ag}(\text{S,S-bis(oxazoline)})(\text{OTf})]\}_\infty$. The use of bis(oxazolines)⁷ presents advantages over other nitrogen-containing ligands in that they are easily prepared, both enantiomers being readily available from optically pure amino alcohols. Furthermore, optically active oxazoline-ligated metal complexes may possess desirable catalytic properties with high enantioselectivity. On the other hand, among d¹⁰ metals helical coordination polymers have been mostly observed with silver(I) complexes.⁸ Utilization of Ag⁺ salts as well as their complexes as catalysts in organic transformations, such as cyclization of 1,2-allene derivatives,⁹ the asymmetric cyclization reaction of isocynoacetic acid or isocyanomethane toluenesulfonate with aldehydes,¹⁰ asymmetric intramolecular carbene C–H insertion reactions,¹¹ and enantioselective addition of allylic tin reagents to aldehydes,¹² has become a new focus. In this paper, we report the full details of the synthesis and structural characterization of the optically active helical polymer $\{[\text{Ag}(\text{S,S-bis(oxazoline)})(\text{OTf})]\}_\infty$, **3**. As an extension to this work, two other chiral coordination polymers of Ag(I) with bis(oxazoline) ligands, **4** and **5**, have also been synthesized and structurally characterized.

Experimental

¹H NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker AM 300 or 400 spectrometers using CDCl₃ or CD₃CN as the solvent. Electrospray MS (ESMS) spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer Mariner LC-MS spectrometer; the sample was loaded using acetonitrile as the solvent. Silver trifluoromethanesulfonate

was prepared by the reaction of trifluoromethanesulfonic acid and silver carbonate;¹³ the bis(oxazoline) ligands S,S-(–)-**1**,¹⁴ S,S-(–)-**2** and R,R-(+)-**2**¹⁵ were prepared according to the literature methods, that is by the treatment of dimethylmalonyl chloride with the corresponding amino alcohols, followed by dehydrative cyclization.

Synthesis

[Ag(S,S-1)][CF₃SO₃] (3). To a solution of S,S-(–)-**1** (36.1 mg, 0.1 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) was added a solution of silver trifluoromethanesulfonate (25.7 mg, 0.1 mmol) in diethyl ether (10 mL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature to gradually afford a white precipitate. After 1.5 h, the white solid (54.0 mg, 87.2%) was collected by filtration and washed with diethyl ether. Mp ≥ 160 °C (dec). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN): δ 1.76 (s, 6H), 3.20–3.22 (d, *J* = 6.2, 4H), 4.46–4.48 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 6.2 Hz, 2H), 4.73–4.78 (m, 4H), 7.58–7.69 (m, 10H). ESMS: *m/z* (%) 469.1 (100.00), 471.1 (93.58). Anal. calc. for C₂₄H₂₆AgF₃N₂O₅S: C 46.53, H 4.23, N 4.52; found C 46.31, H 4.35, N 4.44%.

[Ag(S,S-2)][CF₃SO₃]·0.5H₂O (4). To a solution of S,S-(–)-**2** (33.4 mg, 0.1 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) was added a solution of silver trifluoromethanesulfonate (25.7 mg, 0.1 mmol) in diethyl ether (10 mL). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1.5 h and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) and filtered. The filtrate was treated with hexane (15 mL) to give the product as white solids, 43.5 mg (72.5%). Mp 208 °C (dec). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.59 (s, 6H), 4.23 (t, *J* = 8.2, 2H), 4.86 (t, *J* = 9.6, 2H), 5.17–5.42 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 2.3 Hz, 2H), 7.11–7.14 (m, 4H), 7.25–7.35 (m, 6H). ESMS: *m/z* (%) 441.1 (100.00), 443.1 (96.84), 775.3 (74.08), 777.2 (54.77). Anal. calc. for C₄₄H₄₆Ag₂F₆N₄O₁₁S₂: C 44.01, H 3.86, N 4.67; found C 44.10, H 4.01, N 4.80%.

[Ag(R,R-2)][CF₃SO₃]·0.5H₂O (5). Complex **5** was prepared as for complex **4**. R,R-(+)-**2** (33.4 mg, 0.1 mmol) and silver trifluoromethanesulfonate (25.7 mg, 0.1 mmol) gave 41.3

mg of the white solid product (68.2%). Mp 208 °C (dec). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 1.61 (s, 6H), 4.23 (t, *J* = 8.2, 2H), 4.86 (t, *J* = 9.5, 2H), 5.40 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 2.7 Hz, 2H), 7.11–7.14 (m, 4H), 7.25–7.34 (m, 6H). ESMS: *m/z* (%) 441.1 (99.74), 443.1 (93.67), 775.3 (95.80), 777.3 (100.00). Anal. calc. for C₄₄H₄₆Ag₂F₆N₄O₁₁S₂: C 44.01, H 3.86, N 4.67; found C 43.80, H 3.89, N 4.59%.

X-Ray crystallography

Single crystals of **3** were obtained *via* diffusion of diethyl ether into its CH₃CN solution while single crystals of **4** were obtained *via* diffusion of hexane into its CH₂Cl₂ solution. Crystals both with approximate dimensions of 0.20 × 0.20 × 0.30 mm³ were chosen and mounted on glass fibres. All measurements were made on a Rigaku AFC 7R diffractometer with graphite monochromated Mo-Kα (λ = 0.710 69 Å) radiation. Diffraction intensities were collected at 20.0 °C using the ω – 2 θ technique.

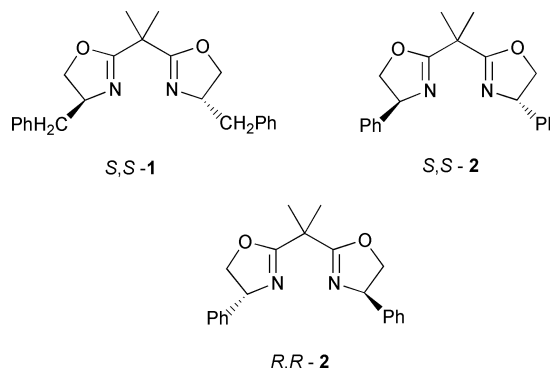
The structures were solved by direct methods and expanded using Fourier techniques. Some non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically, while the rest were refined isotropically. Some hydrogen atoms were refined isotropically, the rest were included in fixed positions. Neutral atom scattering factors were taken from ref. 16. Calculations were performed using TEXSAN.¹⁷ The crystallographic data for both complexes are listed in Table 1.

CCDC reference numbers 166479 and 166480. See <http://www.rsc.org/suppdata/nj/b1/b103402m/> for crystallographic data in CIF or other electronic format.

Results and discussion

The optically pure bis(oxazoline) ligands (*S,S*)-**1**, (*S,S*)-**2** and (*R,R*)-**2** were easily prepared from the corresponding amino alcohols and dimethylmalonyl chloride.^{14,15} The corresponding reactions with AgO₃SCF₃ (1 : 1 metal-to-ligand ratio) in CH₂Cl₂–diethyl ether at room temperature afforded complexes **3**, **4** and **5**, respectively, as white solids. They have the chemical formulae [Ag(*S,S*-**1**)](CF₃SO₃), [Ag(*S,S*-**2**)](CF₃SO₃) · 0.5H₂O and [Ag(*R,R*-**2**)](CF₃SO₃) · 0.5H₂O, respectively. The water molecules probably came either from the solvent or from air. Complex **3** is both air-stable and light-stable in the solid state, and insoluble in common organic solvents such as diethyl ether, THF, acetone, ethanol, CH₂Cl₂ and CHCl₃ and readily soluble in CH₃CN; but complexes **4** and **5** are light-sensitive and easily dissolved in CH₂Cl₂, CHCl₃ and CH₃CN. These different properties suggest that they probably have different structures in the solid state.

From the single crystal X-ray analysis described below, the Ag(I) compound **3** is shown to be a helical polymer while **4** only forms zig-zag chains in the solid state. The ¹H NMR spectra reveal that all of them are present as monomeric species in solution.



Single crystal X-ray structural analysis

The crystal structure of **3** is shown in Fig. 1 and 2. It has an infinite single-stranded helical structure consisting of Ag(I) atoms and the bridging ligands. The Ag⁺ ions, coordinated by two nitrogen atoms of two adjacent ligands, are not sited on the screw axis, but symmetrically arranged on two sides of it. Perfect stackings of the oxazoline and phenyl rings were also observed. With regard to the structural parameters, the bond angle N(1)–Ag–N(2) is 169.7(3)°, slightly deviating from perfect linear geometry. The torsion angles N(1)–C(1)–O(1)–C(2) and O(1)–C(1)–N(1)–C(3) are 8(1) and 4(1)° respectively, demonstrating that the oxazoline ring displays a twisted conformation. The bond lengths of Ag–N(1) and Ag–N(2) are 2.156(1) and 2.16(10) Å, typical for a two-fold coordinated Ag(I).^{8,19} The shortest distance between Ag and the oxygen atoms of OTf[–] is 5.19 Å, which reveals that the triflate counterion is fully dissociated from the metal center.

Recently, two other coordination complexes¹⁸ of similarly structured ligands (*S,S*)-2,6-bis(4-benzyloxazolin-2-yl)pyridine and (*R,R*)-bis(4-phenyloxazolin-2-yl)pyridine, with AgBF₄ have been reported, however, only *non-infinite double* [Ag₂{(*S,S*)-2,6-bis(4-benzyloxazolin-2-yl)pyridine}₂]²⁺ or *triple* [Ag₃{(*R,R*)-bis(4-phenyloxazolin-2-yl)pyridine}₃]³⁺ helicates were obtained. Hence, compound **3** is the first example of a helical coordination polymer from Ag(I) and

Table 1 Summary of crystal data of complexes **3** and **4**

	3	4
Chemical formula	C ₂₄ H ₂₆ O ₅ N ₂ AgSF ₃	C ₄₄ H ₄₂ O ₁₁ N ₄ Ag ₂ S ₂ F ₆
Formula weight	619.40	1196.68
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> 2 ₁ (no. 4)	<i>P</i> 2 ₁ (no. 4)
<i>a</i> /Å	9.417(3)	14.684(4)
<i>b</i> /Å	11.007(3)	10.869(3)
<i>c</i> /Å	12.204(2)	16.467(6)
β /°	98.31(2)	109.14(2)
<i>U</i> /Å ³	1251(1)	2483(1)
<i>Z</i>	2	2
<i>T</i> /°C	20.0	20.0
μ (Mo-Kα)/mm ^{–1}	94.7	95.3
Total reflections	4598	4639
Unique reflections	4299	4451
<i>R</i> _{int}	0.025	0.055
Obs. reflections	1931 [<i>I</i> > 2.50σ(<i>I</i>)]	3160 [<i>I</i> > 3.00σ(<i>I</i>)]
Residuals: <i>R</i> , <i>R</i> _w ^a	0.054; 0.069	0.057; 0.069

^a $R = \sum \|F_o\| - |F_c| / \sum \|F_o\|$, $R_w = [\sum_w (\|F_o\| - |F_c|)^2 / \sum_w |F_o|^2]^{1/2}$, $w = 4F_o / \sigma^2(F_o)^2$.

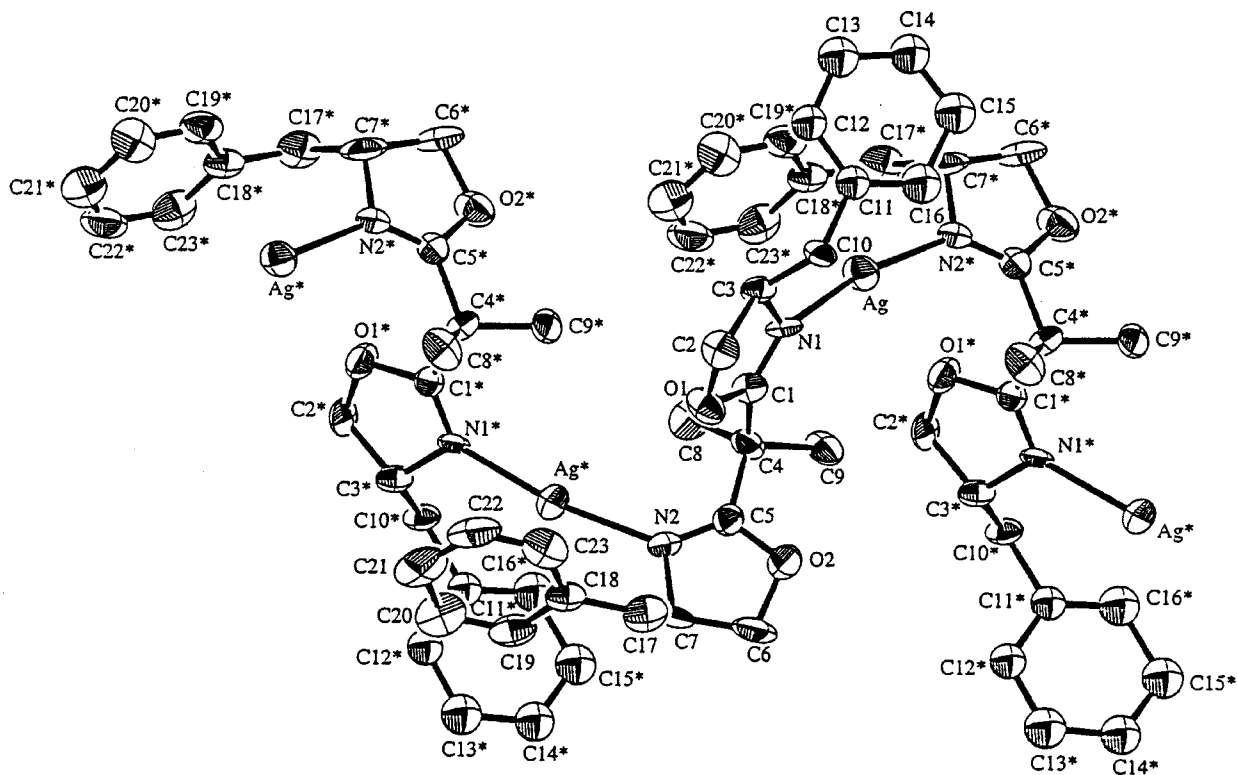


Fig. 1 ORTEP drawing of the coordination environment in complex **3** with thermal ellipsoids at 30%. Ag–N(1) = 2.156(10), Ag–N(2) = 2.16(1) Å; N(1)–Ag–N(2) = 169.7(3)°.

bis(oxazoline) ligands. It is noteworthy that complex **3** is also one of the few non-racemic helical polymers¹⁹ structurally characterized.

The crystal structure of **4**²⁰ (Fig. 3 and 4) is also an infinite single-stranded polymer consisting of Ag(I) atoms and bis(oxazoline) bridges. However, no helical conformations were found; only zig-zag chains with a periodicity of two Ag⁺ ions and two ligand molecules were formed. As in **3**, each Ag⁺ ion is ligated by two nitrogen atoms belonged to two ligands. All Ag⁺ ions are located on a non-crystallographic axis parallel to the *a* axis. The triflate counterion is fully dissociated from the metal center, as in the case of complex **3**. The interstices are occupied by water molecules, which have no direct interaction with the polymer chains, forming weak hydrogen bonds with the triflates.

In the periodic fragment of **4** (Fig. 3), two nonequivalent Ag⁺ ions are identified. Ag(1) is coordinated by two nitrogen atoms in a linear fashion with a N(1)–Ag(1)–N(2) bond angle of 177.6(4)°, while Ag(2) displays a distorted linear coordination geometry with N(3)–Ag(2)–N(4) equal to 158.4(4)°. Ag–N distances range from 2.12(1) to 2.18(1) Å.

It is clear that the drastic change in the structures of **3** and **4** results from the subtle difference in the substitution at the 4-position of the oxazoline ring in the ligands. The phenomenon that diverse conformations can be achieved by subtle changes in the nature of the constituent groups has also been found in related Ag⁺ complexes.¹⁸ In our examples, the benzyl group at the 4-position of oxazoline makes ligand **1** more flexible than ligand **2**. In a sense, helical conformations can be achieved by using flexible ligands.²¹

¹H NMR and ESMS study in solution

The ¹H NMR data of **3** in CD₃CN solution are somewhat different from those of the free ligand in the same solvent.⁶ Notable differences are that one of the OCH₂ signals in complex **3** is thoroughly overlapped with that of the NCH proton and an apparent ABX splitting pattern for the C₆H₅CH₂ protons in the free ligand has changed to an AX spin system in the complex. This spectrum also revealed the presence of only one kind of oxazoline moiety, demonstrating the equivalence of the two heterocycles, probably caused by fluctuation based on rapid cleavage and re-formation of the Ag–N bond. Electrospray (ES) mass spectrometry of **3** in CH₃CN solution only shows a pair of peaks at *m/z* 469.1 and 471.1, which can be assigned to monomeric 1-¹⁰⁷Ag⁺ and 1-¹⁰⁹Ag⁺.

¹H NMR spectra of **4** and **5** in CDCl₃ solution show six sets of peaks, which are virtually the same as those of the free ligands¹⁵ in the same solvent and also show the presence of only one kind of oxazoline moiety. Electrospray (ES) mass spectra of **4** and **5** in CH₃CN solution show peaks at *m/z* 441.1 (2-¹⁰⁷Ag⁺) and 443.1 (2-¹⁰⁹Ag⁺). However, another set of peaks at *m/z* 775.3 and 777.3 suggests that [(2)₂-Ag]⁺ is present. Thus, it is concluded that the extended structures are

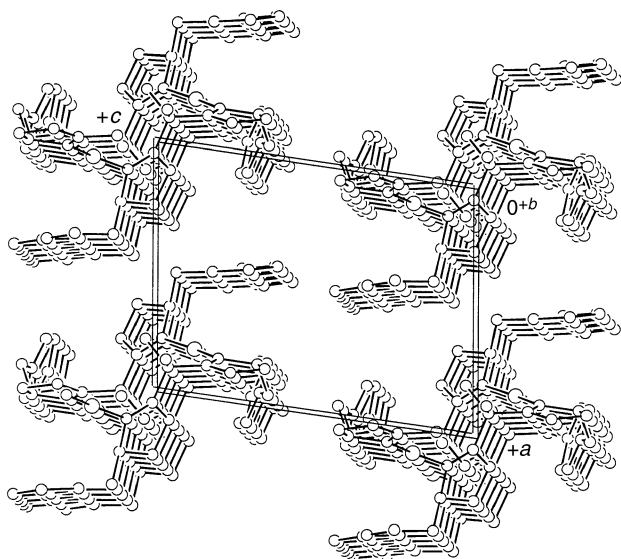


Fig. 2 Molecular packing of complex **3** viewed along the *b* axis.

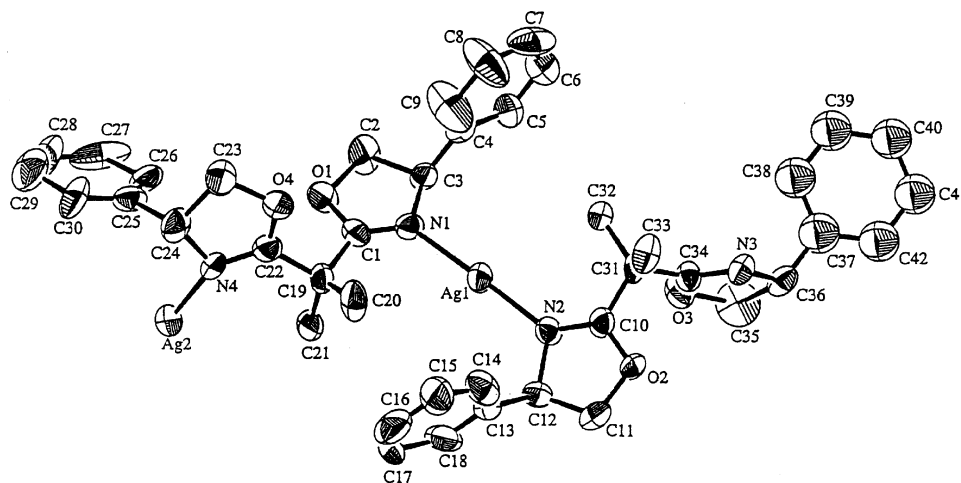


Fig. 3 ORTEP drawing of the coordination environment in complex **4** with thermal ellipsoids drawn at 30%. Ag(1)–N(1) = 2.12(1), Ag(1)–N(2) = 2.16(1), Ag(2)–N(3) = 2.18(1), Ag(2)–N(4) = 2.16(1) Å; N(1)–Ag(1)–N(2) = 177.6(4)°, N(3)–Ag(2)–N(4) = 158.4(4)°.

not maintained in solution and undergo rapid ligand redistribution and rapid dynamic exchange among several non-equivalent species.

Conclusion

Three novel coordination polymers **3**, **4** and **5** have been prepared from silver trifluoromethanesulfonate and the corresponding optically active bis(oxazoline) ligands (*S,S*)-**1**, (*S,S*)-**2** and (*R,R*)-**2**. All three complexes consist of infinite single-stranded chains in the solid state. Complex **3** is a helical coordination polymer with left-handed helicity, while complexes **4** and **5** are polymers with zig-zag conformations. The subtle difference in the substitution at the 4-position of the oxazoline ring in the ligands led to a remarkable change in the structures of complexes **3** and **4**. Helical conformation can be achieved by using flexible ligands. All three extended struc-

tures are not maintained in solution, undergoing rapid ligand redistribution and rapid dynamic exchange among several nonequivalent species.

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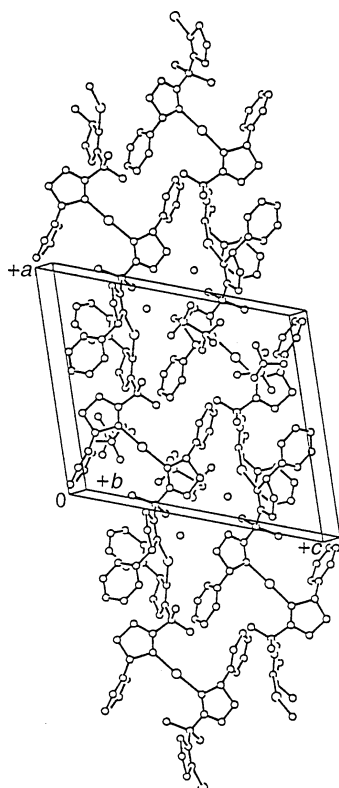


Fig. 4 The cell unit for complex **4**.

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