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Semiconducting lanthanide polymers of pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylate: Hydrothermal synthesis, structural characterization, electrical conductivity and luminescence properties

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1. Introduction

Design and synthesis of metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) have drawn special attention owing to their diverse and intriguing structures. Especially, lanthanide based MOFs (Ln-MOFs) have been an area of rapid growth due to their various potential applications such as catalysis, sensors, adsorption, luminescence, separation, gas storage, ion exchange [1–10], and so on. A great number of study have been done for the synthesis of Ln-MOFs and still continues [11–14]. Lanthanides have high coordination numbers (varies from 7 to 13), and water molecules are often coordinated beside the ligands. These ions are hard Lewis acids and display strong affinity for O-donor ligands [15]. Some polydentate ligands, such as multicarboxylic acids, pyridinecarboxylates and pyrazinecarboxylates are employed to construct Ln-MOFs [16]. Among the types of these ligands, pyridinecarboxylates are able to stabilize lanthanide ions can provide diverse structures with different coordination modes in the construction of supermolecular frameworks. H₂pydc and its deprotonated anions (Hpydc⁻ and pydc²⁻) are highly effective ligands for the construction of Ln-MOFs [17–19]. It behaves as multifunctional ligands to act as bridging ligands, and has got five potential coordination sites

ABSTRACT

This paper describes the hydrothermal synthesis of two novel lanthanide coordination polymers (CPs) $(H_2pip)_n[Ln_2(pydc)_4(H_2O)_2]_n$ (Ln = La (1) and Nd (2), $H_2pydc = 2,6$ -pyridinedicarboxylic acid, $H_2pip =$ piperazine). The synthesized polymers were structurally characterized by the elemental analysis, ICP-OES, IR spectroscopy, TGA, single-crystal X-ray diffraction and powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) analysis. For the morphological analysis field emission scanning electron microscopy (FESEM) was used. CPs are isomorphous, showing three-dimensional Ln–O–Ln chains. Ln(III) ions in 1–2 adopt nine-coordinated mode to construct a mono-capped square antiprism coordination environments. The electrical conductivity and luminescence properties of insoluble 1–2 have been investigated. CPs exhibited luminescence emission bands at 612 nm for 1 and 624 nm for 2 at room temperature when excited at 320 nm.

involving the –O atoms of the –COOH groups and the –N atoms of the pyridine ring [20]. Moreover, the angle between pyridine ring and two carboxylate groups is 120°. With this rigid angle H₂-pydc, and its deprotonated anions offer various coordination modes to form unusual and unexpected CPs under hydrothermal conditions.

In this study, we have designed two novel Ln-MOFs, $(H_2pip)_n$ [La₂(pydc)₄(H₂O)₂]_n (1) and $(H_2pip)_n$ [Nd₂(pydc)₄(H₂O)₂]_n (2) (H₂pydc = 2,6-pyridinedicarboxylic acid, H₂pip = piperazine) incorporating pydc²⁻, aqua ligands, and piperazine as a counter moieties. Solubility tests were performed for the 1 and 2. The test showed that the synthesized coordination polymers are insoluble in all common organic and inorganic solvents (Table S1). Due to the this feature, electrical conductivity and luminescence properties of the MOFs were investigated in solid phase.

2. Experimental

2.1. Materials and methods

All chemicals and solvents were purchased from commercial sources and used without further purification. All hydrothermal syntheses were carried out in 23 mL PTFE-lined stainless steel containers under autogenous pressure. A Perkin-Elmer RX-1 FT-IR with KBr pellets spectrometer in the range of 4000–400 cm⁻¹







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| Table 1 | |
|---|----------------|
| Crystal data and structure refinement for 1 | and 2 . |

| Code | 1 | | 2 | |
|--|--|------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Empirical formula | C ₁₆ H ₁₃ N ₃ O ₉ La | | C ₁₆ H ₁₃ N ₃ O ₉ Nd | |
| Formula weight | 529.91 g/mol | | 535.24 g/mol | |
| Temperature (K) | 296(2) | | 296(2) | |
| Wavelength (Å) | 0.71073 | | 0.71073 | |
| Crystal system | triclinic | | triclinic | |
| Crystal size | $0.21\times0.38\times0.19~mm$ | | $0.17 \times 0.28 \times 0.31 \text{ mm}$ | |
| Space group | P-1 | | P-1 | |
| Unit cell dimensions | a = 7.0177(10) Å | $\alpha = 112.95(5)^{\circ}$ | a = 6.9370(2) Å | $\alpha = 112.803(10)^{\circ}$ |
| | b = 10.9132(16) Å | $\beta = 96.256(5)^{\circ}$ | b = 10.8872(3) Å | $\beta = 95.7460(10)^{\circ}$ |
| | c = 12.4544(18) Å | $\gamma = 95.013(5)^{\circ}$ | c = 12.3184(3) Å | $\gamma = 95.0290(10)^{\circ}$ |
| Volume (Å ³) | 864.2(2) | | 845.17(4) | |
| Ζ | 1 | | 2 | |
| Density (calculated) (g/cm ³) | 1.942 | | 2.096 | |
| Absorption coefficient (mm ⁻¹) | 2.503 | | 3.134 | |
| F(000) | 492 | | 520 | |
| Theta range for data collection | 1.80 to 28.4° | | 1.81 to 28.33° | |
| Index ranges | $-9 \leq h \leq$ 9, $-14 \leq k \leq$ 13, $-15 \leq l \leq$ 16 | | $-9 \leq h \leq$ 9, $-14 \leq k \leq$ 14, $-16 \leq l \leq$ 16 | |
| Reflections collected | 32257 | | 38387 | |
| Unique reflections | 4081 [<i>R</i> (int) = 0.0203] | | 4216 [<i>R</i> (int) = 0.0251] | |
| Coverage of independent reflections | 93.5% | | 98% | |
| Max. and min. transmission | 0.6046 and 0.3910 | | 0.6140 and 0.4430 | |
| Data/restraints/parameters | 4081/0/274 | | 4216/0/275 | |
| Goodness-of-fit on F ² | 1.010 | | 0.966 | |
| Final R indices $[I > 2\sigma(I)]$ | $R_1 = 0.0232, wR_2 = 0.0915$ | | $R_1 = 0.0177, wR_2 = 0.0662$ | |
| R indices (all data) | $R_1 = 0.0237, wR_2 = 0.0924$ | | $R_1 = 0.0177, wR_2 = 0.0664$ | |
| Largest diff. peak and hole $(e \cdot A^{-3})$ | 0.785 and -0.807 | | 1.037 and -0.650 | |

Table 2

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

| 1 | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| La1-02 | 2.5804(4) | 02-La1-05 | 72.05 (1) |
| La1-05 | 2.6060(4) | 02-La1-03 | 122.42(1) |
| La1-03 | 2.5202(4) | 02-La1-N1 | 60.96(1) |
| La1-N1 | 2.6413(4) | 02-La1-09 | 139.76(1) |
| La1-09 | 2.6398(4) | 05-La1-03 | 98.75 (1) |
| 02-C1 | 1.2625(1) | 05-La1-N1 | 83.70(1) |
| O5-C8 | 1.2933(1) | 05-La1-09 | 69.30(1) |
| 07-C14 | 1.2644(1) | 03-La1-N1 | 61.56(1) |
| 01-C1 | 1.2458(2) | 03-La1-09 | 74.82 (1) |
| 03-C7 | 1.2546(1) | N1-La1-09 | 123.91 (1) |
| 04-C7 | 1.2409(2) | La1-02-C1 | 124.31 (1) |
| N1-C2 | 1.3304(2) | La1-05-C8 | 117.08 (2) |
| N1-C6 | 1.3353(2) | La1-03-C7 | 126.15 (1) |
| 06-C8 | 1.2272(2) | La1-N1-C2 | 120.53 (1) |
| | | | |
| 2 | | | |
| 2 Nd1–07 | 2.4286 (17) | Nd1-02-C1 | 124.21 (15) |
| 2 Nd1-07 Nd1-03 | 2.4286 (17) 2.4643 (17) | Nd1-02-C1 Nd1-05-C14 | 124.21 (15) 124.30 (16) |
| 2 Nd1-07 Nd1-03 Nd1-05 | 2.4286 (17) 2.4643 (17) 2.5161 (16) | Nd1-02-C1 Nd1-05-C14 Nd1-03-C7 | 124.21 (15) 124.30 (16) 125.36 (16) |
| 2 Nd1-07 Nd1-03 Nd1-05 Nd1-02 | 2.4286 (17) 2.4643 (17) 2.5161 (16) 2.5250 (16) | Nd1-02-C1 Nd1-05-C14 Nd1-03-C7 Nd1-07-C8 | 124.21 (15) 124.30 (16) 125.36 (16) 127.32 (18) |
| 2 Nd1-07 Nd1-03 Nd1-05 Nd1-02 Nd1-01 | 2.4286 (17) 2.4643 (17) 2.5161 (16) 2.5250 (16) 2.5363 (17) | Nd1-O2-C1 Nd1-O5-C14 Nd1-O3-C7 Nd1-O7-C8 Nd1-N2-C2 | 124.21 (15) 124.30 (16) 125.36 (16) 127.32 (18) 120.78 (15) |
| 2 Nd1-07 Nd1-03 Nd1-05 Nd1-02 Nd1-01 Nd1-05 | 2.4286 (17) 2.4643 (17) 2.5161 (16) 2.5250 (16) 2.5363 (17) 2.5580 (16) | Nd1-02-C1 Nd1-05-C14 Nd1-03-C7 Nd1-07-C8 Nd1-N2-C2 Nd1-N2-C6 | 124.21 (15) 124.30 (16) 125.36 (16) 127.32 (18) 120.78 (15) 119.38 (15) |
| 2 Nd1-07 Nd1-03 Nd1-05 Nd1-02 Nd1-01 Nd1-05 Nd1-09 | 2.4286 (17) 2.4643 (17) 2.5161 (16) 2.5250 (16) 2.5363 (17) 2.5580 (16) 2.560 (2) | Nd1-02-C1 Nd1-05-C14 Nd1-03-C7 Nd1-07-C8 Nd1-N2-C2 Nd1-N2-C6 Nd1-N1-C13 | $\begin{array}{c} 124.21 \ (15) \\ 124.30 \ (16) \\ 125.36 \ (16) \\ 127.32 \ (18) \\ 120.78 \ (15) \\ 119.38 \ (15) \\ 120.83 \ (15) \end{array}$ |
| 2 Nd1-07 Nd1-03 Nd1-05 Nd1-01 Nd1-05 Nd1-05 Nd1-09 Nd1-N1 | 2.4286 (17) 2.4643 (17) 2.5161 (16) 2.5250 (16) 2.5363 (17) 2.5580 (16) 2.560 (2) 2.5620 (18) | Nd1-02-C1 Nd1-05-C14 Nd1-03-C7 Nd1-07-C8 Nd1-N2-C2 Nd1-N2-C6 Nd1-N1-C13 Nd1-N1-C9 | $\begin{array}{c} 124.21 \ (15) \\ 124.30 \ (16) \\ 125.36 \ (16) \\ 127.32 \ (18) \\ 120.78 \ (15) \\ 119.38 \ (15) \\ 120.83 \ (15) \\ 119.47 \ (17) \end{array}$ |
| 2 Nd1-07 Nd1-03 Nd1-05 Nd1-01 Nd1-05 Nd1-05 Nd1-09 Nd1-N1 Nd1-N2 | $\begin{array}{c} 2.4286 \ (17) \\ 2.4643 \ (17) \\ 2.5161 \ (16) \\ 2.5250 \ (16) \\ 2.5363 \ (17) \\ 2.5580 \ (16) \\ 2.560 \ (2) \\ 2.5620 \ (18) \\ 2.5744 \ (18) \end{array}$ | Nd1-02-C1 Nd1-05-C14 Nd1-03-C7 Nd1-07-C8 Nd1-N2-C2 Nd1-N2-C6 Nd1-N1-C13 Nd1-N1-C9 02-Nd1-05 | $\begin{array}{c} 124.21 \ (15) \\ 124.30 \ (16) \\ 125.36 \ (16) \\ 127.32 \ (18) \\ 120.78 \ (15) \\ 119.38 \ (15) \\ 120.83 \ (15) \\ 119.47 \ (17) \\ 75.44 \ (6) \end{array}$ |
| 2 Nd1-07 Nd1-03 Nd1-05 Nd1-02 Nd1-01 Nd1-05 Nd1-09 Nd1-N1 Nd1-N2 O2-C1 | 2.4286 (17) 2.4643 (17) 2.5161 (16) 2.5250 (16) 2.5580 (16) 2.560 (2) 2.5620 (18) 2.5744 (18) 1.264 (3) | Nd1-02-C1 Nd1-05-C14 Nd1-03-C7 Nd1-07-C8 Nd1-N2-C2 Nd1-N2-C6 Nd1-N1-C13 Nd1-N1-C9 02-Nd1-05 05-Nd1-03 | $\begin{array}{c} 124.21 \ (15) \\ 124.30 \ (16) \\ 125.36 \ (16) \\ 127.32 \ (18) \\ 120.78 \ (15) \\ 119.38 \ (15) \\ 119.47 \ (17) \\ 75.44 \ (6) \\ 150.66 \ (6) \end{array}$ |
| 2 Nd1-07 Nd1-03 Nd1-05 Nd1-02 Nd1-01 Nd1-05 Nd1-09 Nd1-N1 Nd1-N2 O2-C1 O5-C14 | 2.4286 (17) 2.4643 (17) 2.5161 (16) 2.5250 (16) 2.5363 (17) 2.5580 (16) 2.560 (2) 2.5620 (18) 2.5744 (18) 1.264 (3) 1.294 (3) | Nd1-02-C1 Nd1-05-C14 Nd1-03-C7 Nd1-07-C8 Nd1-N2-C2 Nd1-N2-C6 Nd1-N1-C13 Nd1-N1-C13 Nd1-N1-C9 O2-Nd1-05 O5-Nd1-03 O3-Nd1-N2 | $\begin{array}{c} 124.21 \ (15) \\ 124.30 \ (16) \\ 125.36 \ (16) \\ 127.32 \ (18) \\ 120.78 \ (15) \\ 119.38 \ (15) \\ 120.83 \ (15) \\ 119.47 \ (17) \\ 75.44 \ (6) \\ 150.66 \ (6) \\ 62.86 \ (6) \end{array}$ |
| 2 Nd1-07 Nd1-03 Nd1-05 Nd1-02 Nd1-01 Nd1-05 Nd1-09 Nd1-N1 Nd1-N2 O2-C1 O5-C14 O5-Nd1 | $\begin{array}{c} 2.4286 \ (17) \\ 2.4643 \ (17) \\ 2.5161 \ (16) \\ 2.5250 \ (16) \\ 2.5363 \ (17) \\ 2.5580 \ (16) \\ 2.560 \ (2) \\ 2.5620 \ (18) \\ 2.5744 \ (18) \\ 1.264 \ (3) \\ 1.294 \ (3) \\ 2.5580 \ (16) \end{array}$ | Nd1-02-C1 Nd1-05-C14 Nd1-03-C7 Nd1-N2-C2 Nd1-N2-C6 Nd1-N1-C13 Nd1-N1-C9 02-Nd1-05 05-Nd1-03 03-Nd1-N2 N1-Nd1-09 | $\begin{array}{c} 124.21 \ (15) \\ 124.30 \ (16) \\ 125.36 \ (16) \\ 127.32 \ (18) \\ 120.78 \ (15) \\ 119.38 \ (15) \\ 120.83 \ (15) \\ 119.47 \ (17) \\ 75.44 \ (6) \\ 150.66 \ (6) \\ 62.86 \ (6) \\ 120.91 \ (7) \end{array}$ |
| 2 Nd1-07 Nd1-03 Nd1-05 Nd1-02 Nd1-01 Nd1-05 Nd1-09 Nd1-N1 Nd1-N2 02-C1 05-C14 05-Nd1 01-Nd1 | $\begin{array}{c} 2.4286 \ (17) \\ 2.4643 \ (17) \\ 2.5161 \ (16) \\ 2.5250 \ (16) \\ 2.5363 \ (17) \\ 2.5580 \ (16) \\ 2.560 \ (2) \\ 2.5620 \ (18) \\ 2.5744 \ (18) \\ 1.264 \ (3) \\ 1.294 \ (3) \\ 2.5580 \ (16) \\ 2.5364 \ (17) \end{array}$ | Nd1-02-C1 Nd1-05-C14 Nd1-03-C7 Nd1-07-C8 Nd1-N2-C2 Nd1-N2-C6 Nd1-N1-C13 Nd1-N1-C9 02-Nd1-05 05-Nd1-03 03-Nd1-N2 N1-Nd1-09 N2-Nd1-N1 | $\begin{array}{c} 124.21 \ (15) \\ 124.30 \ (16) \\ 125.36 \ (16) \\ 127.32 \ (18) \\ 120.78 \ (15) \\ 119.38 \ (15) \\ 120.83 \ (15) \\ 119.47 \ (17) \\ 75.44 \ (6) \\ 150.66 \ (6) \\ 62.86 \ (6) \\ 120.91 \ (7) \\ 116.42 \ (6) \end{array}$ |

was used for the IR analysis of the compounds. Thermo Flash 2000 CHNS analyzer was used for the elemental analysis. The melting points of the coordination polymers were determined using a Gallenkamp MPD 350 BM 2.5 capillary melting point apparatus. Quantitative lanthanide analyses were performed with Perkin-Elmer Optima 2100DV ICP-OES instrument. Perkin Elmer Pyris Diamond TG/DTA equipment was used for the TG analyses. The FESEM images of the compounds were recorded using Carl Zeiss, SUPRA-55. Rigaku Miniflex system with CuK α radiation (λ = 1.54059 Å)

was used for the PXRD studies. The electrical conductivity properties of the coordination polymers were determined by four-point probe method with an Electrometer Entek Electronic FPP-470. Perkin-Elmer LS 55 Luminescence Spectrometer was used for the solid state phosphorescence excitation and emission spectra. LEICA EZ4W stereo microscope was used for the high definition views of the MOFs.

2.2. Synthesis of $(H_2 pip)_n [La_2(pydc)_4(H_2O)_2]_n$

A solution of lanthanum (III) nitrate hexahydrate (0.130 g, 0.30 mmol), 2,6-pyridinedicarboxylic acid (0.150 g, 0.90 mmol), piperazine (0.078 g, 0.90 mmol), and H₂O (5 mL, 278 mmol) with the mole ratio of 1:3:3:927 was stirred before heating at 170 °C for 84 h under hydrothermal conditions. The initial and final pH values were measured as 4.80 and 6.75, respectively. The heterogeneous solution mixture was separated from the solid phase and the crystals washed by the water and dried at room temperature. Colorless crystals (Fig. S1-a) suitable for X-ray diffraction were isolated in 93.3% yield (based on La). *Anal.* Calc. for C₁₆H₁₃N₃O₉La: C, 36.25; H, 2.47; N, 7.93. Found: C, 36.02; H, 2.64; N, 7.50%. The ICP analysis (%) showed that **1** contained La: 26.17; Calcd.: La: 26.20. IR data (cm⁻¹): 3640(w), 3238(w), 3083(m), 1649(s), 1615(s), 1588(s), 1443(m), 1373(s), 1280(m), 1179(m), 1072(m), 1018(m), 910(w), 765(m), 726(s), 596(m), 521(m), 432(w), 417(m).

2.3. Synthesis of $(H_2pip)_n[Nd_2(pydc)_4(H_2O)_2]_n$

The preparation of **2** was similar to that of **1** except that Nd $(NO_3)_3 \cdot 6H_2O$ (0.132 g, 0.30 mmol) was used instead of $La(NO_3)_3 \cdot 6H_2O$. The initial and final pH values were measured as 5.00 and 6.30, respectively. The crystals were obtained under hydrothermal conditions. Violet crystals (Fig. S1-b) suitable for X-ray diffraction were isolated in 76% yield (based on Nd). *Anal.* Calc. for C₁₆H₁₃N₃-O₉Nd: C, 35.88; H, 2.45; N, 7.85. Found: C, 35.01; H, 2.54; N, 7.20%. The ICP analysis (%) showed that **2** contained Nd: 26.37; Calcd.: Nd: 26.93. IR data (cm⁻¹): 3645(m), 3328(w), 3043(m), 1653(m), 1615 (m), 1589(m), 1445(m), 1372(s), 1339(m), 1268(m), 1073(m), 1020

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