

# Synthesis, Crystal Structure of Mg(II) Complex Material and its Application as Catalysts for A<sup>3</sup> Coupling Reaction

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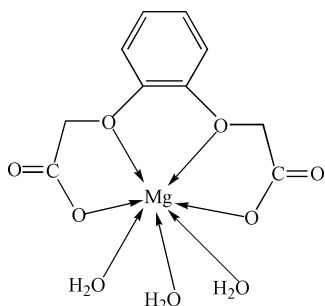
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**Abstract:** The ligand of 1, 2-phenylenedioxydiacetic acid (H<sub>2</sub>L) has been employed to react with MgCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O in water/ethanol solution (v:v = 1:1), to yield a novel Mg(II) complex [MgL(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub>]-3.5H<sub>2</sub>O. The complex was characterized by infrared spectroscopy and single crystal X-ray diffraction structural analysis. The results show that the Mg(II) complex belongs to monoclinic, space group C<sub>2</sub>/c with *a* = 2.9160(6) nm, *b* = 0.67617(14) nm, *c* = 1.7319(4) nm, β = 109.06(3)°, *V* = 3.2275(11) nm<sup>3</sup>, *Z* = 8, *D<sub>c</sub>* = 1.562 μg·m<sup>-3</sup>, μ = 0.184 mm<sup>-1</sup>, *F*(000) = 1560, and final *R*<sub>1</sub> = 0.0703, ω*R*<sub>2</sub> = 0.2256. The complex molecules form a 3D network structure through hydrogen bonds and π-π stack. The A<sup>3</sup> coupling reaction of phenylacetylene, aldehyde and amine (piperidine) in the presence of Au@Mg(II) complex as an efficient heterogeneous catalyst has been studied.

**Keywords:** 1,2-phenylenedioxydiacetic acid, catalytic property, crystal structure, Mg(II) complex, synthesis.

## INTRODUCTION

Metal complex materials have been to attract the interest of chemists for many years, which may bring both intriguing architectures and promising potential applications in fields such as catalysis, gas storage, magnetics, luminescence materials, and so on [1-7]. In particular, aromatic carboxylic acid ligands play an important role in the construction of metal complex materials by their multiform coordination ways [8-12]. Early reports on aromatic carboxylate complexes are mostly focused on the transition metal complexes [13-15]. Magnesium ions take part in many biochemical activities in life. So the studies on the synthesis, structure and properties of Mg(II) complexes have important significance. With considering the points mentioned above, 1, 2-phenylenedioxydiacetic acid (H<sub>2</sub>L) was chosen as the organic ligand to construct new Mg(II) complex materials. We report here the synthesis, crystal structure and catalytic property of a novel Mg(II) complex (Scheme 1).



**Scheme 1.** The coordination mode Mg(II) ion.

## EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

### Materials and Methods

The 1,2-phenylenedioxydiacetic acid ligand, MgCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O, HAuCl<sub>4</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O, 2,2-bipyridine, 1,4-dioxane, benzaldehyde, phenylacetylene, and piperidine were commercial materials of analytical grade.

C, H and N were carried out on Elementar Vario EL III elemental analyzer. The FT-IR spectra were obtained on a Nicolet AVATAR 360 FTIR spectrometer with KBr pellets in the range of 4,000 cm<sup>-1</sup>~400 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The catalytic products were quantified by GC analysis (GC-1100 equipped with a 0.25 mm×0.25 mm×30 m SE-54 capillary column). The single crystal diffraction data of the Mg(II) complex was collected on a Bruker smart CCD diffractometer.

### Synthesis of Mg(II) Complex

Amounts of 0.5 m mol (0.1131 g) of H<sub>2</sub>L, 1.0 m mol (0.040 g) of NaOH and 0.5 m mol (0.1015 g) of MgCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O were dissolved in 10 mL of CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH/H<sub>2</sub>O (v:v = 1:1) solution. The mixture was reacted for 1.5 h at room temperature, then 0.5 mmol (0.0782 g) 2,2-bpy solid was added to the solution and the mixture was further heated for 3 h at refluxing temperature. The reaction mixture was filtrated. The crystals were obtained by evaporating methanol solution of Mg(II) complex. Elementary analysis: calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>21</sub>MgO<sub>12.5</sub>: C, 32.88; H, 5.75; found: C, 33.16; H, 5.38. IR ν<sub>max</sub> (cm<sup>-1</sup>): ν(O-H): 3,250 cm<sup>-1</sup>, ν<sub>as</sub>(COO<sup>-</sup>):1,638 cm<sup>-1</sup>, ν<sub>s</sub>(COO<sup>-</sup>):1,442 cm<sup>-1</sup>, ν(C-O-C): 1,220 cm<sup>-1</sup>, ν(Mg-O):421 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

### X-Ray Crystallography

Suitable single crystals with approximate dimensions of 0.38 mm × 0.32 mm × 0.28 mm was mounted on a glass

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fiber and used for X-ray diffraction analyses. Data were collected on a Bruker smart CCD diffractometer at 273(2) K using a graphite-monochromatic Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$ ). The structure was solved by direct methods with SHELXL-97 [16]. The molecular graphics were drawn with the SHELXTL-97 program package [17]. The data collection and handling for the Mg(II) complex structure are listed in Table 1. Important bond lengths and angles have been shown in Table 2.

**Table 1. The data collection and handling details for Mg(II) complex.**

Formula	$C_{10}H_{11}MgO_{14}$
Formula weight	379.50
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	$C_2/c$
$a / \text{nm}$	2.9160(6)
$b / \text{nm}$	0.67617(14)
$c / \text{nm}$	1.7319(4)
$\beta(^{\circ})$	109.06(3)
Z	8
$F(000)$	1560
Temperature (K)	293(2)
$V / \text{nm}^3$	3.2275(11)
Calculated density ( $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ )	1.562
Crystal size ( $\text{mm}^3$ )	$0.38 \times 0.32 \times 0.28$
Limiting indices	$-38 \leq h \leq 28,$ $-8 \leq k \leq 8,$ $-22 \leq l \leq 22$
Reflections collected/unique	9920 / 3142
Data/restraints/parameters	3887 / 0 / 226
$R_{\text{int}}$	0.0199
$R_1, wR_2$ (all data)	0.0818, 0.2361
$R_1, wR_2$ ( $I > 2\sigma(I)$ )	0.0703, 0.2256
Largest diff. peak and hole ( $\text{e}\cdot\text{nm}^{-3}$ )	849, -1192

### Preparation of Au@Mg(II) Complex Catalyst (AMCC)

For synthesis of Au@Mg(II) complex catalyst by impregnation, a solution of  $\text{HAuCl}_4 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (0.020 g) in 0.5 ml MeCN was dropwise added to the Mg(II) complex support at room temperature and was sonicated for about 0.5 h. Then the sample was aged at room temperature for 12 h and dried at 50 °C for 10 h under air atmosphere. The as-synthesized sample was finally dried overnight at 323 K under air atmosphere to yield Au@Mg(II) complex catalyst.

### Catalytic Measurements

Typical procedure for the  $A^3$  coupling reaction: the mixture of benzaldehyde (0.25 mmol, 0.027 g), phenylacetylene (0.325 mmol, 0.034 g), piperidine (0.300 mmol, 0.026 g), and supported gold catalyst (0.07 g) were

added into 1.500 g 1,4-dioxane. The mixture was reacted at 120 °C for 11 h. Then the catalysts were removed from the solution. The products were quantified by GC analysis (GC-1100 equipped with a 0.25 mm $\times$ 0.25 mm $\times$ 30 m SE-54 capillary column). The GC analysis conditions were as follows: initial column temperature 50°C, to 280 °C at 10 °C/min, and hold for 20 min.

**Table 2. Selected bond lengths ( $\text{\AA}$ ) and angles ( $^{\circ}$ ) for Mg(II) complex.**

Bonds	Bond Parameter	Bonds	Bond Parameter
Mg1-O1	0.2431(2)	Mg1-O7	0.2068(2)
Mg1-O2	0.2117(2)	Mg1-O8	0.2030(2)
Mg1-O4	0.23966(19)	Mg1-O9	0.2052(2)
Mg1-O5	0.21416(19)		
O1-Mg1-O4	62.50(6)	O2-Mg1-O5	160.89(8)
O1-Mg1-O5	130.97(7)	O7-Mg1-O5	80.85(7)
O1-Mg1-O2	67.80(7)	O9-Mg1-O5	86.92(8)
O7-Mg1-O1	148.01(8)	O8-Mg1-O5	90.03(9)
O1-Mg1-O9	88.44(8)	O2-Mg1-O7	80.77(8)
O1-Mg1-O8	85.96(9)	O2-Mg1-O9	90.48(8)
O4-Mg1-O5	68.49(6)	O2-Mg1-O8	95.63(9)
O2-Mg1-O4	129.94(7)	O9-Mg1-O7	97.88(9)
O4-Mg1-O7	149.28(8)	O7-Mg1-O8	91.58(9)
O4-Mg1-O9	82.78(8)	O9-Mg1-O8	169.47(9)
O4-Mg1-O8	86.72(8)		

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### IR Spectra

The conspicuous  $\text{COO}^-$  vibration of free ligand is at 1,718  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and 1,492  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , respectively. In the Mg(II) complex, they shift 80  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and 50  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  towards lower wavenumbers, respectively, the C-O-C vibration is at 1,258  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in the free ligand, and appears at 1,220  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in the complex, all this indicating that the oxygen atoms of  $\text{COO}^-$  and C-O-C coordinate to Mg(II) ions [18]. The strong peak at 3,250  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  is ascribed to the O-H stretching vibrations of the coordinated and uncoordinated water. The  $\nu$  (Mg-O) vibration band is observed at 421  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Unfortunately, the 2,2-bpy ligand does not take part in coordination with Mg(II) ion, which is in accordance with the results of X-ray single crystal diffraction analysis.

### Structure Description

The structural analysis shows that the Mg(II) complex crystallizes in the monoclinic, space group  $C_2/c$ . From Fig. (1), we can see that the Mg(II) cation is coordinated by four oxygen atoms from 1, 2-phenylenedioxydiacetic acid ligand (Mg1-O1 = 2.431(2)  $\text{\AA}$ , Mg1-O2 = 2.1190(15)  $\text{\AA}$ , Mg1-O4 = 2.3923(14)  $\text{\AA}$ , Mg1-O5 = 2.1460(14)  $\text{\AA}$ ), and three oxygen atoms from coordinated water molecules (Mg1-O7 = 2.068(2)  $\text{\AA}$ , Mg1-O8 = 2.030(2)  $\text{\AA}$ , Mg1-O9 = 2.052(2)  $\text{\AA}$ ) in

a distorted orthorhombic geometry. Also, the distances of Mg-O are comparable with that observed in other Mg-based complexes [19-21]. The molecules stack with each other *via* hydrogen bonds in arrays to form a 2D supramolecular structure (Figs. 2, 3).

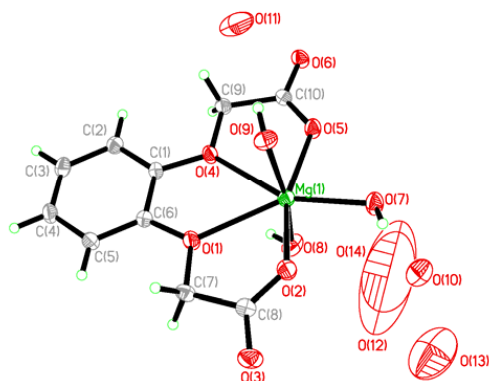


Fig. (1). The molecular structure of the Mg(II) complex.

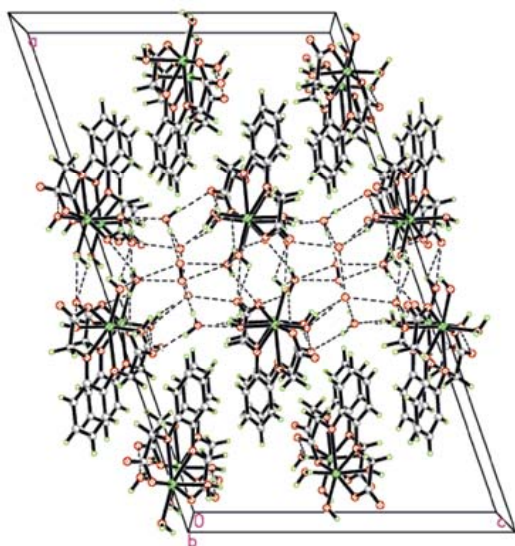


Fig. (2). The molecular packing arrangement of the Mg(II) complex.

### Catalytic Properties

The catalytic performance of the Au@Mg(II) complex catalyst was assessed in the  $A^3$  coupling reaction of benzaldehyde, phenylacetylene, and piperidine. The results are summarized in Table 3. Effect of reaction temperature on the conversion of benzaldehyde over gold functionalized metal-organic frameworks was investigated (Table 3, entries 1, 2). No higher than 2% conversion of benzaldehyde was found at the reaction temperature less than 80°C, and a good

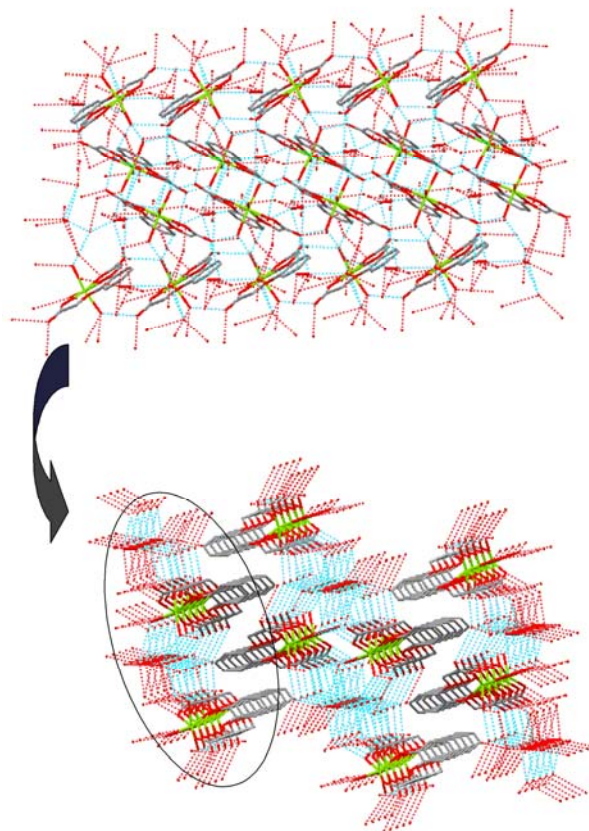
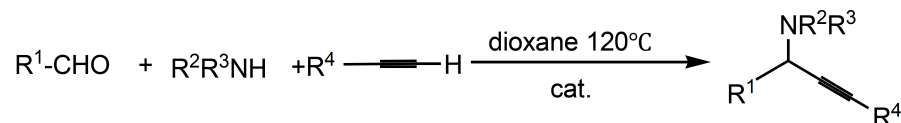


Fig. (3). Infinite 2D networks of Mg(II) complex.

conversion (94.1%) can be obtained at 120°C. Gold functionalized Mg(II) complex catalysts feature 100% selectivity to the product of propargylamine for the  $A^3$  coupling reaction.

To examine the scope of the  $A^3$  coupling reaction, both aromatic aldehydes and aliphatic aldehydes were coupled with phenylacetylene and piperidine in the presence of Au@Mg(II) complex catalyst. Both aromatic aldehydes and aliphatic aldehydes were able to undergo the corresponding three-component-coupling, and afforded good conversions of aldehydes in the  $A^3$  coupling reaction at 120 °C (Table 3, entries 2-6). It was found that aromatic aldehydes possessing electron-withdrawing groups (Table 3, entry 4) afforded higher conversions than aryl aldehydes with electron-donating groups bound to the benzene ring (Table 3, entries 3) over Au@Mg(II) complex catalyst. Aliphatic aldehydes such as cyclohexanecarboxaldehyde and n-octaldehyde also display good to excellent conversions with the catalyst Au@Mg(II) complex (Table 3, entries 5, 6).

The reusability studies of Au@Mg(II) complex catalyst were carried out on the  $A^3$  coupling reaction of benzaldehyde, phenylacetylene, and piperidine at 120 °C. The results are summarized in Table 4. The benzaldehyde conversion is 94.1% within 11h at 120°C over the fresh Au@Mg(II) complex catalyst. After three successive cycles with intermediate extensive washing with 1,4-dioxane, the conversions were 64.1%, 48.2%, and 47.6% at the reaction time of 18 h, 24 h, and 26 h, respectively. Clearly, the gold

Table 3. Coupling of aldehyde, alkyne, and amine catalyzed by Au@Mg(II) complex catalyst complex in dioxane<sup>[a]</sup>.

Entry	Cat.	R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup> R <sup>3</sup> NH	R <sup>4</sup>	T(°C)	T(h)	Conv.(%)
1	AMCC	Ph	piperidine	Ph	80	12	2.0
2	AMCC	Ph	piperidine	Ph	120	11	94.1
3	AMCC	4-MeC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	piperidine	Ph	120	11	16.3
4	AMCC	3-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	piperidine	Ph	120	11	75.3
5	AMCC	Cyclohexyl	piperidine	Ph	120	11	98.5
6	AMCC	Heptyl	piperidine	Ph	120	11	94.1

<sup>[a]</sup>Reaction conditions: aldehyde (0.250mmol), amine (0.300mmol), alkyne (0.325mmol), catalyst (0.07 g); <sup>[b]</sup>the reaction time was not optimization.

functionalized Mg(II) complex catalyst features a significant deactivation by around 30% for the first run, while further recycling leads to 15.9% and 0.6% deactivation.

Table 4. Recyclability of Au@Mg(II) complex catalyst in A<sup>3</sup> coupling reaction of benzaldehyde, piperidine, and phenylacetylene<sup>[a]</sup>.

Run	Cat.	Time (h)	Conv. (%)	Selectivity (%)
Fresh	AMCC	11	93.1	100
1	AMCC	18	64.1	100
2	AMCC	24	48.2	100
3	AMCC	26	47.6	100

<sup>[a]</sup>Reaction conditions: benzaldehyde (0.250 mmol), piperidine (0.300 mmol), phenylacetylene (0.325 mmol), and dioxane (1.5 g), catalyst (0.07 g), 120 °C.

## CONCLUSION

In summary, a Mg(II) complex material was prepared and characterized. In complex the two chains of carboxylate ligands exhibit different coordination modes. The molecules form two dimensional structures by the hydrogen bonds and  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stack. In addition, the catalytic properties reveal that the Au@Mg(II) complex catalyst exhibits good conversion and selectivity for the A<sup>3</sup> coupling reaction.

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors confirm that this article content has no conflict of interest.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Crystallographic data for the structure reported in this paper has been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication No. CCDC 991526. Copy of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (Fax: +44-1223-336-033; E-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

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