

A novel open-framework zinc phosphate with intersecting helical channels

S. Neeraj, Srinivasan Natarajan and C. N. R. Rao*

Chemistry and Physics of Materials Unit, Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Jakkur P.O., PO Box 6436, Bangalore 560 064, India. E-mail: cnrrao@jncasr.ac.in

Received (in Cambridge, UK) 16th November 1998, Accepted 9th December 1998

A new open-framework zinc phosphate, possessing two interpenetrating 8-membered helical channels, has been synthesized under mild hydrothermal conditions.

Materials required for enantioselective separation and synthesis are becoming increasingly important in recent years.¹ For example, it is known that chiral rhodium complexes supported on a zeolite matrix give rise to asymmetric hydrogenation of *N*-acyldehydrophenylalanine derivatives with an enantioselectivity of >95%.² In this context, it is desirable to have materials which are chiral or possess helical channels. There have been some efforts to make chiral solids which could also be shape-selective. Zeolite- β (polymorph A) is chiral with a 4-fold screw axis but it has not been possible to synthesize this material in a pure form.³ Chiral open-framework phosphates have been prepared in the presence of chiral metal complexes and structure-directing agents.^{4,5} Recently, a chiral tin(II) phosphate has been prepared using an achiral template, and both the enantiomers of this material have been isolated and characterized.⁶ A helical metal borophosphate with the helix running along the 6_1 screw axis has also been reported.⁷ Very recently, Gier *et al.*⁸ have reported chiral zinc and beryllium arsenates with three-dimensional helical structure containing two independent crosslinked helical channels. We have been able to isolate a new chiral zinc phosphate formed under hydrothermal conditions in the presence of an achiral structure-directing amine, diethylenetriamine. Here we report the synthesis and structure of a chiral zinc phosphate, $[\text{NH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NH}_2(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NH}_3]^{3+}[\text{Zn}_4(\text{PO}_4)_3(\text{HPO}_4)]^{3-} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$, **1**.

Compound **1** was synthesized hydrothermally using diethylenetriamine (DETA) as the structure-directing agent⁹ and characterized by single crystal X-ray diffraction using the Siemens SMART system.¹⁰ The asymmetric unit contains 32 non-hydrogen atoms and the atomic coordinates are given as supplementary data (see <http://www.rsc.org/suppdata/cc/1999/165>). The structure is built from the networking of ZnO_4 , PO_4 and HPO_4 tetrahedral units. The vertex linkage between these units creates an anionic framework of formula $[\text{Zn}_4(\text{PO}_4)_3(\text{HPO}_4)]^{3-}$ and charge compensation is achieved by the protonated amine $[\text{NH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NH}_2(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NH}_3]^{3+}$. The structure has one water molecule in the channels formed by the networking of the various units.

The most interesting aspect of this Zn phosphate is that it crystallizes in a polar space group $P2_1$. The entire framework of **1**, can be considered to be built from the networking of three-, four-, six- and eight-membered rings. The three- and four-membered rings are connected together, edge wise, forming one-dimensional helical columns along the b axis as shown in Fig. 1 which shows how these columns are interconnected via the HPO_4 group forming an eight-membered channel system along the a axis. This eight-membered channel along the a axis is connected to another eight-membered channel along the b axis, forming a helical interconnected one-dimensional channel system within which the amine and water molecules are situated. Fig. 2 shows the connectivity between the ZnO_4 and PO_4 moieties that creates the other eight-membered channel system along the b axis. Thus, **1** possesses an interpenetrating eight-membered channel system. There is a strong hydrogen bonded interaction between the framework and the structure-

directing amine providing structural stability. The framework density¹¹ (number of tetrahedral framework atoms in 1000 \AA^3) for this material is 16.7, indicating a degree of openness comparable to aluminophosphate molecular sieves such as AIPO-12¹¹ and AIPO-16.¹¹

A few comments on the structural parameters of **1** would be in order. Of the sixteen oxygens in the asymmetric unit, one

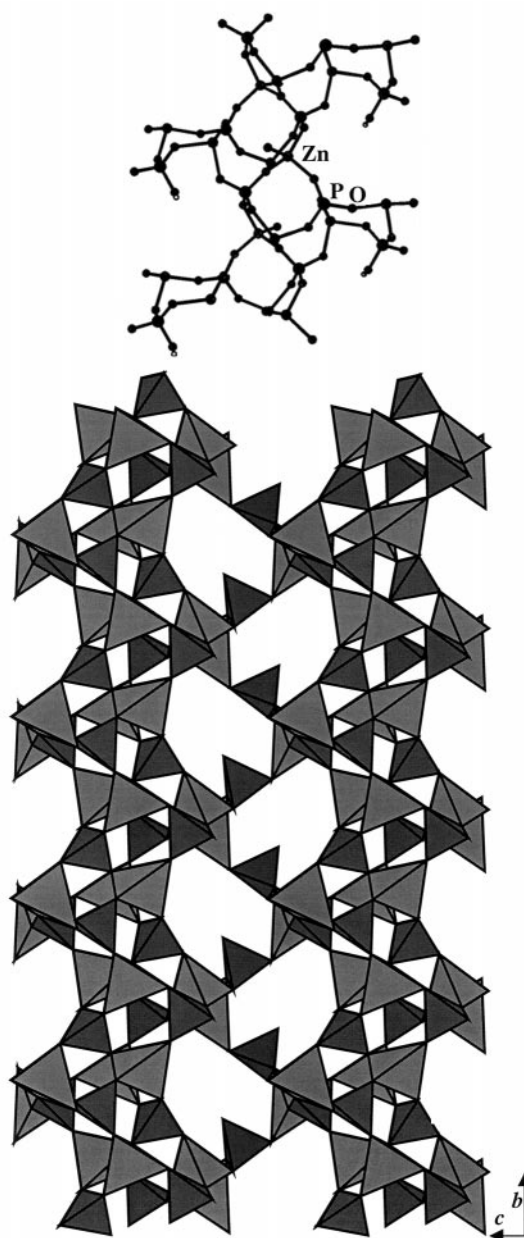


Fig. 1 Structure of $[\text{NH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NH}_2(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NH}_3]^{3+}[\text{Zn}_4(\text{PO}_4)_3(\text{HPO}_4)]^{3-} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ showing the eight-membered cavities (channels) along the 100 direction and the helical channels. Amine and water molecules are omitted for clarity. The connectivity in the one-dimensional columns is also shown.

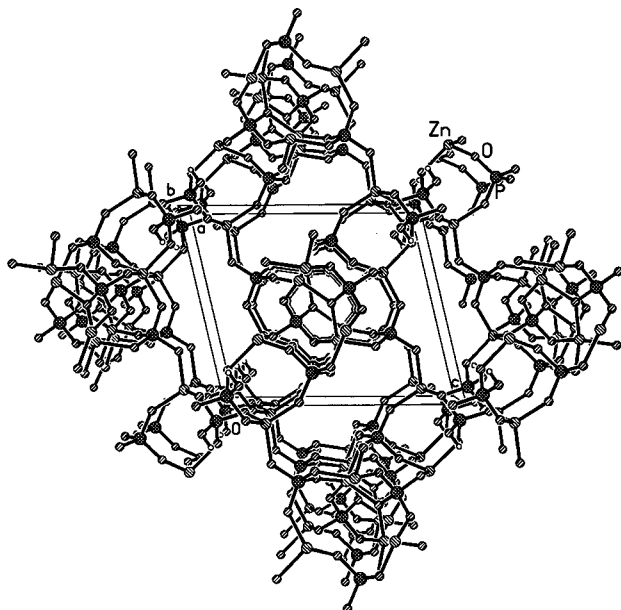


Fig. 2 Structure of $[\text{NH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NH}_2(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NH}_3]^{3+}[\text{Zn}_4(\text{PO}_4)_3(\text{HPO}_4)]^{3-} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ showing the eight-membered channels along the 010 direction. Amine and water molecules are not shown.

makes a trigonal connection with two Zn atoms and one P atom forming a three-membered ring and one is a terminal oxygen while the remainder of the oxygens form Zn–O–P linkages. The P–O bond distances are in the range 1.502–1.581 Å (av. 1.537 Å) and the bond angles are in the range 104.8–114.5° (av. 109.5°), in agreement with those observed previously in such materials. The P–O distance of 1.581 Å [P(3)–O(16)] indicates protonation leading to the formation of the HPO_4 unit. The Zn atoms are all connected with P through oxygens, with the Zn–O distances in the range 1.890–2.004 Å (av. 1.954 Å). The O–Zn–O bond angles are in the range 94.5–120.6° (av. 109.4°). The

longest Zn–O distance and the largest O–Zn–O angle are found for oxygens involved in three-coordination.

References

- 1 A. Baiker, *Curr. Opin. Solid State Mater. Sci.*, 1998, **3**, 86.
- 2 A. Corma, M. Iglesias, C. del Pina and F. Sanchez, *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.*, 1991, 1235; *Organomet. Chem.*, 1992, **431**, 233.
- 3 J. M. Newsam, M. M. J. Treacy, W. T. Koetsier and C. B. de Gruyter, *Proc. R. Soc. London, Sect A*, 1998, **420**, 375.
- 4 K. Morgan, G. Gainsford and N. Milestone, *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.*, 1995, 425; D. A. Bruce, A. P. Wilkinson, M. G. White and J. A. Bertrand, *J. Solid State Chem.*, 1996, **125**, 228.
- 5 H.-M. Lin and K.-H. Lii, *Inorg. Chem.*, 1998, **37**, 4220.
- 6 S. Ayyappan, X. Bu, A. K. Cheetham and C. N. R. Rao, *Chem. Mater.*, 1998, **10**, 3308.
- 7 R. Kniep, H. G. Will, I. Boy and C. Röhr, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. Engl.*, 1997, **36**, 1013.
- 8 T. E. Gier, X. Bu, P. Feng and G. D. Stucky, *Nature*, 1998, **395**, 154.
- 9 0.407 g of ZnO was dispersed in 9 ml of water and 0.365 g of HCl and 0.98 g of 85 wt% of H_3PO_4 were added to the mixture and stirred for 10 min. To this mixture 0.516 g of diethylenetriamine (DETA) was added and the mixture homogenized, transferred into a Parr pressure bomb and heated initially at 150 °C for 5 days which resulted in the formation of a large number of needles. The final composition of the mixture was $\text{ZnO} : 2\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4 : 2\text{HCl} : \text{DETA} : 80\text{H}_2\text{O}$.
- 10 *Crystal data for 1*: $[\text{NH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NH}_2(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NH}_3]^{3+}[\text{Zn}_4(\text{PO}_4)_3(\text{HPO}_4)]^{3-} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$, $M = 766.6(1)$, monoclinic, space group = $P2_1$ (no. 4), $a = 10.021(4)$, $b = 8.286(3)$, $c = 11.856(7)$ Å, $\beta = 103.13(1)^\circ$, $V = 958.7(7)$ Å³, $Z = 9$, $D_c = 2.655$ g cm⁻³, $\mu(\text{Mo-K}\alpha) = 5.37$ mm⁻¹, Mo-K α radiation, $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å, $1.76 < \theta < 23.26^\circ$. Data collection was performed using a Siemens SMART-CCD diffractometer. A total of 4056 data were collected and were merged to give 2565 unique reflections of which 2217 were considered to be observed [$I > 2\sigma(I)$]. The structure was solved and refined using SHELXTL-PLUS package of program against $|F^2|$. Final $R = 0.054$, $R_w = 0.13$, S (goodness of fit) = 0.838 were obtained for all the data and 289 parameters. The final Fourier map had a minimum and maximum of -0.880 and 0.897 e Å⁻³, respectively. CCDC 182/1109
- 11 *Atlas of zeolite structure types* ed. W. H. Meier, D. H. Olson and Ch. Baerlocher, Elsevier, Boston, MA, 1996.

Communication 8/08899C