

How C–H-based interactions affect the packing of mercury halide complexes

Alireza Salimi¹, Ali Samie¹, Jered C. Garrison²

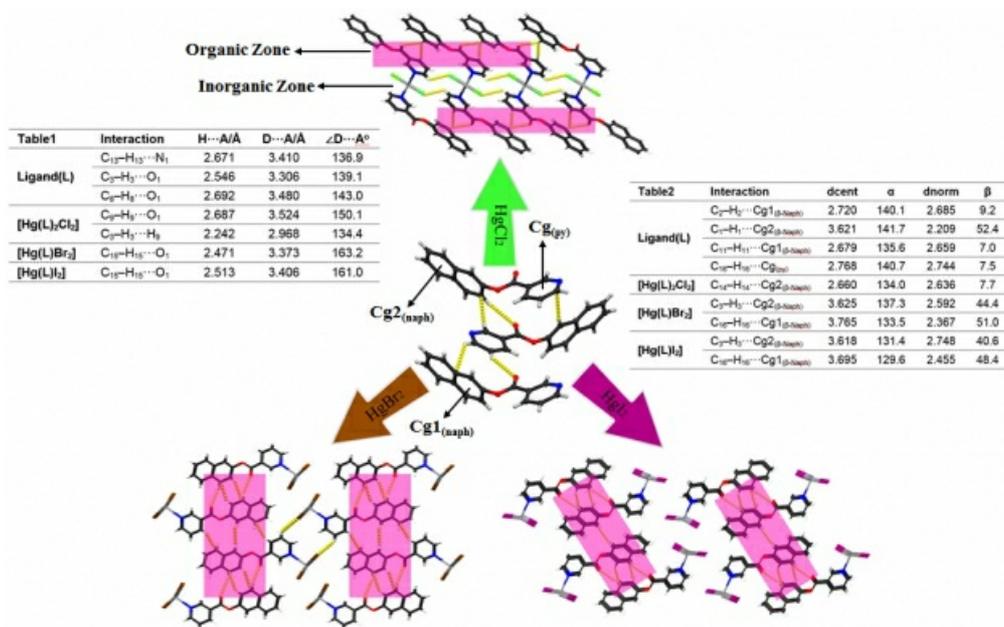
¹Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Mashhad, Iran, Islamic Rep., ²Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, Nebraska, United States
E-mail: salimigroup1@gmail.com

In the present study, the organic ligand (2-naphthyl pyridine-2-carboxylate) (L), which was designed to make exclusive C–H based interactions, was employed for the synthesis of three new mercury (II) halide complexes, [Hg(L)2Cl2] (1), [Hg(L)Br2] (2) and [Hg(L)I2] (3). All of the compounds were fully characterized using FT-IR, TGA, DSC, mass spectrometry, CHNS elemental analyses, PXRD, NMR and SCXRD. Interestingly, the crystal structure analysis revealed that the coordination geometry of metal center and structural motifs of complexes have been affected by accompanying anions. Furthermore, the repetitiveness of C-H based interactions (e.g. C-H...O and C-H...n) in coordination compounds emphasized the critical role of these weak interactions in the stability of self-assembly process. The coordination geometry around the Hg (II) ion has seesaw shape in distorted tetrahedral geometry for (1) with a τ_4 index of 0.727, while there is geometry of square-based pyramid for (2) and (3) with a trigonality index, τ_5 of 0.037 and 0.082 respectively. In the case of (2) and (3) the 1D linear chain are constructed as a consequence of one dimensional coordination polymers. The resulting 1D chain is linked together by the weak C–H based interactions between adjacent organic ligands to generate two distinct inorganic-organic zones in the crystal packing. In the structure of (1) the coordination environment of Hg atom consists of two crystallography independent ligands and two chloride ions. The discrete molecules of (1) are also engaged in the similar weak interactions to represent a unique combination of weak forces that contributes to the self-assembly process. The titled structures clearly illustrate how weak C–H based interactions play an important role in the 2D and 3D packing of metal complexes by the formation of repeatable supramolecular associations.

[1] Desiraju. G. R. et al. (2011) Crystal Engineering: A Textbook, World Scientific, Singapore.

[2] Khavasi. H. R. et al. (2011) CrystEngComm. 13, 3710-3717.

[3] Rahmani, M. et al. (2016) CrystEngComm, 18, 8953-8960.



Keywords: [crystal engineering](#), [weak intermolecular interaction](#), [metal complexes](#)