Influence of Ligand Geometry on the Formation of In–O Chains in Metal-Oxide Organic Frameworks (MOOFs)

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Three indium-oxide organic frameworks, In$_2$O(1,3-BDC)$_2$, 1; In(OH)(2,6-NDC)(H$_2$O), 2; and In(OH)(2,7-NDC)(H$_2$O), 3 (BDC = benzene dicarboxylic acid and NDC = naphthalene dicarboxylic acid), were synthesized and characterized by thermogravimetric analysis, infrared spectroscopy, and single-crystal X-ray diffraction. Previously, we reported the structure of In(OH)(1,4-BDC)-(0.75H$_2$BDC), 0, where the framework is built by interconnecting In–OH–In chains with the BDC anions to form large diamond-shaped one-dimensional channels filled with guest molecules. Compounds 0–3 all contain In–O(H) chains, but the coordination and geometry depend on the nature of the dicarboxylate ligand. Compound 0 contains In–O octahedral centers that connect to form a single trans octahedral chain, while in compound 1, they connect to form a more complex double chain of octahedra. Both compounds 2 and 3 contain chains of connected pentagonal bipyramidal InO$_6$(OH)$_2$ units. In 2, these units share trans vertices that are cross-linked by chelating 2,6-NDC anions, whereas in compound 3, cis vertices are shared to form chains that are linked by the 2,7-NDC anions.

Introduction

The synthesis and characterization of porous solids with either purely inorganic or organic— inorganic hybrid frameworks has been an area of rapid growth. Many new compounds have been synthesized and studied for possible application in, for example, catalysis, molecular separations, and gas storage.1–4 Early studies of purely inorganic frameworks such as zeolites have been extended to hybrid frameworks constructed from metal ions linked by organic ligands such as organo-phosphonates, sulfonates, and carboxylates. Metal-organic frameworks often have very large porosities, and the ability to modify their pore space with a wide range of functional groups can be used to introduce sorption selectivity.5–7

Metal-oxide organic frameworks are a subgroup of metal-organic frameworks and are characterized by the presence of extended metal-oxide layers8 or metal-oxide chains6 in their structures. The extended metal-oxide [–O–M–O–M–O–]$_n$ components distinguish this class of compounds from those with isolated metal centers9 or small metal-oxide clusters.10 Several examples of metal-oxide organic frameworks containing metal-oxide layers or chains connected by bridging organic ligands, for example, 1,4-benzenedicarboxylate (BDC), have been reported. Férey and co-workers in a series of papers described the synthesis and structures of the M(OH)BDC phases where M = Al, V, and Cr,7,11–12 and we have extended the series to include phases with M = In, Fe, Ga, and Y.13–16

In the present work, we report the synthesis and single-crystal structure determination of \( \text{In}_2\text{O}(1,3\text{-BDC})_2 \), \( 1 \); \( \text{In(OH)-(2,6-NDC)(H}_2\text{O}) \), \( 2 \); and \( \text{In(OH)(2,7-NDC)(H}_2\text{O}) \), \( 3 \), which are examples of metal-oxide organic frameworks containing metal-oxide chains connected by different dicarboxylate anions. We discuss the influence of the ligand geometry on the coordination of the In atoms and on the formation of the \( \text{In-O} \) chains.

Experimental Section

Materials and Methods. All reagents were reagent grade and used as purchased without further purification. Elemental analyses were performed by Galbraith Laboratories (Knoxville, Tennessee). Compound \( 1, 2, \) and \( 3 \) were first formulated through crystal structure determination, and then the compositions were confirmed by chemical and thermogravimetric analysis. The thermal decomposition behavior of compounds \( 1, 2, \) and \( 3 \) was determined by heating in air at 3 °C/min on a TA Instruments thermogravimetric analyzer. X-ray powder diffraction indicated that the final residue is \( \text{InO}_3 \) for all three compounds. The IR spectra were recorded on a Galaxy Fourier transform infrared 5000 series spectrometer at room temperature in the range of 4000–400 cm\(^{-1}\) using the KBr pellet method. UV diffuse reflectance measurements were performed with a Cary 500 spectrophotometer. The absorption spectrum of the sample was approximated using the Kubelka–Munk function: \( \{\alpha/S\} = ((1 - R^2)/(2R)) \), where \( R \) is the reflectance at a given wavelength, \( \alpha \) is the absorption coefficient, and \( S \) is the scattering coefficient. The band gap \( (E_g) \) value is extracted from the \( \{\alpha/S\}^2 \) versus energy plot. \( E_g \) is taken as the point where the extrapolated linear portion of the plot intersects the energy axis at \( (\alpha/S)^2 = 0 \).

Synthesis of \( \text{In}_2\text{O}(1,3\text{-BDC})_2 \) (1). Compound 1 was synthesized from a mixture of indium metal (2 mmol), isophthalic acid (1 mmol), and deionized water (10 mL) in molar ratio of 2:1:560. The starting chemicals and deionized water were mixed into a hydrothermal reaction vessel and heated at 200 °C for 15 d. After quenching to room temperature, the product was filtered and washed with distilled water and dried at ambient temperature. The final product was a mixed phase containing excess beads of In metal, a minor phase of unidentified powder, and a major phase of light yellow crystals of \( \text{In(OH)(2,7-NDC)(H}_2\text{O}) \) suitable for single-crystal X-ray analysis. After removal of the indium beads, the crystals were physically separated from the small amount of unidentified powder.Elem Anal.: In, 30.90% obs. (31.54% calcd); C, 38.55% obs. (39.56% calcd); H, 2.33% obs. (2.47% calcd). IR (KBr): 3386.4w(br), 3275.5w(br), 1669.1w, 1631.5w, 1590.4w, 1542.8m, 1446.3s, 1390.4m, 1351.9s, 1236.2w, 1188.9w, 1150.3w, 1106.0w, 1036.6w, 959.4w, 942.1w, 865.9s, 797.4s, 768.5m, 660.5m, 615.2m, 574.7w, 536.1w, 478.3w cm\(^{-1}\). The IR spectrum of \( \text{In(OH)(2,7-NDC)(H}_2\text{O}) \) shows a broad band in the area 3100–3600 cm\(^{-1}\), indicating the presence of the OH and \( \text{H}_2\text{O} \) group vibrations. The absence of a band at ~1700 cm\(^{-1}\) confirms the complete deprotonation of the carboxyl groups of \( \text{H}_2\text{NDC} \).

Crystallographic Studies. X-ray single-crystal analyses for \( 1, 2, \) and \( 3 \) were performed on a Siemens SMART platform diffractometer outfitted with an Apex II area detector and monochromatized graphite Mo K\( \alpha \) radiation. The structures were solved by direct methods and refined using SHELXTL. The hydrogen atoms of the carboxylate ligands were generated geometrically and allowed to ride on their respective parent atoms. The hydrogen atoms of the OH and \( \text{H}_2\text{O} \) were located from difference maps and refined with atom–distance constraints. Crystal data for compounds \( 1, 2, \) and \( 3 \) are summarized in Table 1. The structures are shown in Figures 1 and 2; compound \( 0 \) is included for comparison in Figures 3 and 4.

Results and Discussion

Crystal Structures. \( \text{In}_2\text{(O)(C}_8\text{H}_4\text{O}_4)_2 \), \( 1 \). The local coordination geometry around each indium atom in \( \text{In}_2\text{(O)(C}_8\text{H}_4\text{O}_4)_2 \), \( 1 \), is a slightly distorted octahedron of oxygen atoms. Each In\(^{3+} \) ion is coordinated to four oxygen atoms from four different carboxylate groups and to two oxygen atoms \( \text{O(1)} \) that are each coordinated to three other In atoms (see Figure 1).

Vougo-Zanda et al.

The In(1)–O(1) bond lengths between the tetrahedrally coordinated oxygen atoms and the In atoms are 2.1980(1) Å, and the other four In–O bond lengths are In(1)–O(3) = 2.131(1) Å (×2) and In(1)–O(2) = 2.165(1) Å (×2). Each InO₆ octahedron shares an edge with a neighboring octahedron to form In dimers. The dimers are connected to each other through O(1) to form double chains of In₂O along the c axis. Each In₂O chain is linked to four neighboring In₂O chains through the 1,3-BDC ligands to form the extended structure. Compound 1 decomposes in a single step (Figure 5a) between 450 and 500 °C, and the weight loss corresponds to the loss of one 1,3-BDC anion (51.94% measured, 51.61% calculated) per In atom.

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In(OH)(2,6-NDC)(H₂O), 2. The indium atom in In(OH)-(2,6-NDC)(H₂O) (2) is seven-coordinated by five oxygen atoms from NDC, one oxygen atom from an –OH, and one from a water molecule and has approximately pentagonal bipyramidal geometry. The axial hydroxyl oxygen atoms are shared with adjacent In atoms to form a trans chain (see Figure 2a). The carboxylate anions are chelating, and their oxygen atoms lie in the equatorial plane together with the oxygen atom from a coordinated water molecule. The equatorial In–O bond lengths are In(1)–O(4)w = 2.175(4) Å, In(1)–O(1) = 2.247(3) Å (×2), and In(1)–O(2) = 2.266(2) Å (×2), and the shorter axial bond lengths are 2.080(2) and 2.084(3) Å. The In–O pentagonal bipyramidal centers are linked by sharing trans hydroxyl groups to form bent ⋯In–OH–In–OH⋯ chains with In–OH–In angles of 140.2(1)°. Four of the equatorial oxygen atoms are shared with the NDC anions where each carboxylic group is attached to the same In atom.

This connection mode results in the formation of a framework with no channels. In contrast, in Al(OH)NDC, reported by Férey et al., each of the carboxylic groups of
the NDC ligand are attached to two consecutive octahedral metal centers, resulting in a 3D framework with accessible 1D channels.\textsuperscript{17} In 2, The NDC ligand bridges the chains in a zigzag fashion to form a dense three-dimensional framework. The structure is further stabilized by the presence of hydrogen bonds (Figure 2a) between the coordinated water molecules and the carboxylate oxygen atoms \([O4W\cdots O2] = 2.811(4) \text{ Å}\]. Thermal decomposition of 2 shows the loss of the framework water molecule in the temperature range of 100–150 °C (Figure 5b). The second weight loss between 400 and 500 °C corresponds to the loss of 1 mol of framework NDC (56.68% measured, 58.84% calculated).

In(OH)(2,7-NDC)(H\textsubscript{2}O), 3. In 3, the local coordination geometry around the In atom is also pentagonal bipyramidal. Each In\textsuperscript{3+} is coordinated to two oxygen atoms, one from a coordinated water molecule and the other from a hydroxyl group in the axial positions. Four oxygen atoms from two carboxylate groups and one hydroxyl oxygen atom occupy the equatorial positions.

The In–O distances are 2.0917(3) and 2.0902(3) Å for the In–OH bonds, 2.0902(3) Å for the In–OH\textsubscript{2} bonds, and 2.2142(3) Å for the four In–O bonds from the carboxylate anions (see Figure 2b). The InO\textsubscript{4}(OH)\textsubscript{2}(OH\textsubscript{2}) centers are linked by sharing cis hydroxyl groups to form zigzag chains with In–O–In angles of 132.586(3)° and OH–In–OH angles of 103.966(3)°. The chains are connected through the 2,7-NDC ligands in the [100] direction to form a layer. The layers are linked through strong hydrogen bonds between H\textsubscript{2}O molecules and carboxylate oxygen atoms \([O4w\cdots O3] = 2.709(5) \text{ Å}\]. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) data show that the decomposition of compound 3 occurs in two steps (Figure 5c). The first weight loss in the temperature range of 200–300 °C corresponds to the removal of one water molecule from the

\[\text{In}(\text{OH})(2,7-	ext{NDC})(\text{H}_2\text{O})\]

**Table 1. Crystallographic Data for Compounds 1–3**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chemical formula</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fw</td>
<td>In\textsubscript{2}O(C\textsubscript{8}H\textsubscript{4}O\textsubscript{4})\textsubscript{2}</td>
<td>In(OH)(C\textsubscript{12}H\textsubscript{6}O\textsubscript{4})\textsuperscript{3+}(H\textsubscript{2}O)</td>
<td>In(OH)(C\textsubscript{12}H\textsubscript{6}O\textsubscript{4})\textsuperscript{3+}(H\textsubscript{2}O)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cryst syst</td>
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<td>orthorhombic</td>
<td>orthorhombic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Space group</td>
<td>P4\textsubscript{2}1/n</td>
<td>Pnma</td>
<td>Pnma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a, Å</td>
<td>16.0978(8)</td>
<td>7.8360(6)</td>
<td>12.339(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b, Å</td>
<td>16.0978(8)</td>
<td>25.456(2)</td>
<td>7.4473(12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c, Å</td>
<td>5.9217(6)</td>
<td>5.7985(4)</td>
<td>6.0339(10)</td>
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<tr>
<td>V, Å\textsuperscript{3}</td>
<td>1534.5(2)</td>
<td>1156.7(2)</td>
<td>554.5(2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Z</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Density, g cm\textsuperscript{-3}</td>
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<td>2.090</td>
<td>2.180</td>
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<tr>
<td>μ(Mo Kα), mm\textsuperscript{-1}</td>
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<td>2.064</td>
<td>2.153</td>
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<tr>
<td>R1, wR2</td>
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<td>0.0273, 0.0667</td>
<td>0.0134, 0.0349</td>
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<tr>
<td>R1, wR2 (all data)</td>
<td>0.0185, 0.0437</td>
<td>0.0290, 0.0675</td>
<td>0.0134, 0.0349</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[\text{R1} = \frac{\sum |F_o| - |F_c|}{\sum |F_o|}, \text{ wR2} = \frac{\sum w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2}{\sum w(F_o^2)^2} \]  

Figure 3. The In–O chains in compounds 0, 1, 2, and 3. The indium, oxygen, carbon, and hydrogen atoms are shown as blue, red, black, and white spheres, respectively. The coordinated water molecules are represented by blue spheres.
framework (4.47% measured, 4.94% calculated). The second weight loss between 300 and 475 °C corresponds to the loss of one framework 2,7-NDC (56.50% measured, 58.84% calculated). Compound 3 is also an insulating material with a band gap at room temperature of 5.6 eV.

Discussion

Compounds 1, 2, and 3 along with the previously reported \( \text{In(OH)(1,4-BDC)} \cdot (0.75\text{H}_{2}\text{BDC}), \) 0, all have indium-oxide organic frameworks, but each has a distinct extended metal-oxide chain with an arrangement that is determined by the geometry of the organic ligand. The various chain arrangements are summarized in Figure 3. In compound 0, the axial oxygen groups of each \( \text{InO}_6 \) unit are shared by neighboring octahedra to form a single zigzag \( \cdots \text{In} \cdots \text{OH} \cdots \text{In} \cdots \) chain.

In compound 1, each \( \text{In} \cdots \text{O} \) octahedral center shares an edge with a neighboring octahedron to form \( \text{In} \) dimers. The dimers are connected to each other through a tetrahedrally coordinated oxygen atom to form double chains of \( \text{In}_2 \text{O} \) along the \( c \) axis. In compounds 2 and 3, the \( \text{In} \) atoms are seven-coordinated to form pentagonal bipyramidal centers. In the case of 2, the \( \text{In} \cdots \text{O} \) centers are linked by sharing trans hydroxyl groups to form \( \cdots \text{In} \cdots \text{OH} \cdots \text{In} \cdots \) chains and by sharing cis hydroxyl groups in the case of 3 to also form distorted single chains.

The differences between the various structures reflect primarily the geometrical arrangement of the two carboxylate groups. In compounds 0 and 1, all of the carboxylate anions bridge between different \( \text{InO}_6 \) octahedra. The 180° angle between the carboxylate anions in 1,4-BDC results in the
characteristic diamond-shaped open framework shown in Figure 4. In contrast, the carboxylate groups in 1,3-BDC are at an angle of 120° to each other, and this leads to further condensation with the formation of a μ3-oxygen ion. Compound 1 is the only example of an indium-dicarboxylate chain structure that does not contain a bridging OH− ion. In 1, the aromatic rings are too far apart for π bonding; there is space between pairs of aromatic rings, but because of the tetragonal symmetry, adjacent pairs are orthogonal. Recently, the structure of In(OH)-1,2-BDC H2O was reported.18 The 60° angle between the carboxylate groups further constrains the geometry. The In atom is six-coordinated by two hydroxyl groups that are shared between pairs of indium atoms, one water molecule, and three oxygen atoms from three different BDC anions, InO3/2 (OH)2/2 (H2O)1/1. Pairs of trans In−−(OH)−−In chains are connected by bridging dicarboxylate groups to form a double chain. One-half of the BDC anions have one unshared oxygen atom. The chains in the structure are connected by π−π interactions between the aromatic rings.

The structures of 2 and 3 are similar in several respects. Both contain indium atoms that are seven-coordinated by four oxygen atoms from two chelating NDC anions, one oxygen atom from a water molecule and two axial hydroxide ions that bridge adjacent indium atoms to form the chain. In both structures, the coordinated water molecule is strongly hydrogen-bonded to one carboxylate oxygen atom (see Figure 6). In 2, the linear arrangement of the two carboxylate groups permits cross-linking of adjacent trans chains into a three-dimensional array, whereas the bent geometry of 2,7-NDC causes the structure to “fold up”; a cis geometry for the chain connections and a layer structure result. As apparent in the TGA data and bond lengths, the hydrogen bonding is stronger in 3 than in 2.

Conclusion

The synthesis and crystal chemistry of indium dicarboxylates are now quite extensive. Examples are known with 6-, 7-, and 8-coordinated indium ions and with all coordination modes of the dicarboxylate ligand, namely, monodentate, and bidentate, bridging, and chelating. A survey of compounds with BDC ligands is given in Table 2. In the two 8-coordinated systems, the indium atoms are isolated from each other by three chelating ligands; InH(1,4-BDC)2 was obtained in N,N-dimethylformamide, whereas In(1,4-BDC)3(bipy) was synthesized in water. It is likely that the chelating bipyridine stabilizes this structure since all of the other examples synthesized contain bridging oxide or hydroxide ions. Only 6- and 8-coordination numbers have been observed with BDC ligands, but 7-coordination is observed with NDC with the inclusion of one water molecule into the indium coordination sphere.

Other In compounds with benzene carboxylate ligands include \( \text{In}_2(\text{BTC})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2\) and \( \text{In}_2(\text{BTEC})_2(\text{OH})_2\) 2H2O (where H3BTC = 1,3,5-benzenetricarboxylic acid and H2BTEC = 1,2,4,5-benzetetracarboxylic acid).22 The BTC compound contains indium atoms 7-coordinated by the oxygen atoms from two chelating and two bridging carboxylate groups and from a water molecule. In the tetracarboxylate compound, the indium atoms form hydroxide-bridged octahedral chains similar to those in compound 0. One other mode of indium coordination that has been reported is based on trimers containing three octahedra sharing one central μ3-oxo anion, for example, \( \text{In}_3\text{O}_3\text{H}_2\text{O} \) [15]. Similar trimeric units are found in \( \text{In}_3\text{O}_3\text{H}_2\text{O}_2\text{H}_2\text{O} (\text{NO}_3)_2 \) [BTC]6~3H2O, which also contains layers comprising groups of three trans-connected indium oxide octahedra that are each cis-connected to four other trimers.24

Finally, we note that the characterization of the modes of oxide and hydroxide ion coordination to indium(III) presented here may have relevance to studies of the kinetics of ligand binding and hydrolysis of In(III) in aqueous solution.25,26

Acknowledgment. We thank the R. A. Welch Foundation for support of this work.

Supporting Information Available: X-ray crystallographic data, in CIF format, for the structure determinations of 1–3. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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Table 2. A Survey of Indium BDC Compounds

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<tr>
<th>compound</th>
<th>in CN</th>
<th>in connectivity</th>
<th>carboxylate</th>
<th>bridging ligand</th>
<th>OCO angle(s)</th>
<th>ref</th>
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<td>InH(1,4-BDC)2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>chelating</td>
<td>bridging, mono</td>
<td>OH−</td>
<td>124.7, 125.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In(1,4-BDC)3(bipy)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>chelating</td>
<td>bridging, mono</td>
<td>OH−</td>
<td>124.7, 125.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In2(OH)(1,4-BDC)2.75H2BDC</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>chain</td>
<td>bridging</td>
<td>2 × OH− (trans)</td>
<td>120.0,125.9</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>In2(OH)(1,4-BDC)2.6H2O</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>layer</td>
<td>bridging</td>
<td>4 × OH−, F−</td>
<td>124.2</td>
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<tr>
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<td>double chain</td>
<td>bridging, bridging,</td>
<td>OH−</td>
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<td>In(1,4-BDC)3(bipy)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>chelating</td>
<td>bridging</td>
<td>OH− (cis)</td>
<td>120.7</td>
<td>19</td>
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<td>In2(1,4-BDC)2(1,4-BDC)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>bridging</td>
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<td>4 × OH− (trans)</td>
<td>120.0,125.9</td>
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<td>In2(OH)(1,4-BDC)2(phen)2</td>
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