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Synthesis of long-chained oligo- α -aminopyridines by tandem Pd-catalyzed cross-coupling aminations and their helical dinuclear complexes

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Abstract—Three novel multidentate long-chained oligo- α -aminopyridine ligands, nonapyridyloctaamine (1, npoa), decapyridylonaamine (2, dpna), and undecapyridyldecaamine (3, upda) were synthesized successfully by tandem Pd-catalyzed cross-coupling aminations. The helical structures of protonated ligand npoa {4, [H₄·npoa](SO₃CF₃)₄} and the related dinuclear complexes 5–10 were synthesized and characterized by X-ray diffractions. © 2004 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

Aminopyridines are frequently used as building blocks for synthetic transformations.¹⁻³ On the basis of their polynucleating abilities, their derivatives are often studied in organometallic chemistry,⁴ and have industrial applications such as fluorescent dyes.^{5,6} Oligo- α -aminopyridines provide multidentate sites with significant flexibility that can produce the helical structures either by intramolecular hydrogen bond formation or self-assembly with metal ions into distinct binding sites. A series of α -aminopyridine ligands and various helicates have been reported, such as tetrapyridyltriamine,² pentapyridyl-tetraamine,² hexapyridylpentaamine,^{7a} heptapyridylhexaamine,^{7b} and octapyridylheptaamine^{7c} from our laboratory, and dinuclear triple helicates from Albrecht's bis-catecholate ligands⁸ and Piguet's bis-terdentate ligands;⁹ dinuclear double helicates from Rice's pyridylthiazole ligands¹⁰ and Constable's quaterpyridine ligands.¹¹ A key to success in assembling these helical aminopyridines is the efficient reaction process from the halopyridines as the starting materials. The preparation of aminopyridines in most studies utilized aromatic nucleophilic substitution S_NAr, benzyne or S_{RN}1 reac-

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tions.^{12,13} These methods are difficult to apply in the consecutive synthesis of polyaminopyridines due to the poor yields, low selectivity from the nucleophilic regiocontrol, the high reaction temperature, and the presence of specific functionality on the heterocyclic rings.¹² Buchwald and others have recently developed cross-coupling amination to generate mono-aminopyridines starting from their corresponding halopyridines catalyzing with Pd(0)/bis-phosphine complexes.^{12,14,15} The advantages of Pd-catalyzed C–N aminations are mild reaction conditions with high yields; hence this method is utilized to synthesize helical long-chained oligo- α -aminopyridines **1–3** effectively.

Oligo- α -aminopyridines provide multibinding capabilities with the metal centers, either (i) through nitrogen atoms from both pyridines and amines,¹⁶ or (ii) only pyridines,¹⁷ or (iii) only amines, with three different binding modes, *syn–syn*, *anti–anti*, and *syn–anti* (Fig. 1).¹⁸ These metal complexes are very interesting for



Figure 1. Types of (a) syn-syn, (b) anti-anti, (c) syn-anti.

Keywords: Helical; Dinuclear metal complexes; Oligo- α -amino-pyridines.

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fundamental studies of special physical properties, coordination,¹⁹ metal-metal interactions,²⁰⁻²⁵ the assembly of helicates,9 and biological enzymatic transformations.^{26–32} For example, dinickel and dicopper com-plexes promote urease³⁰ and oxygenase reactions, respectively.³¹ Furthermore, the syn-syn conformation was first found in linear $Cu_3(dpa)_4Cl_2$ ³³ anti-anti con-formation was observed in $Cu(bipyam)_2$ ³⁴ and Cu-(mpa)₂,¹⁷ and *anti-syn* conformation was only observed in the dimers of free ligands.³³ In short, the geometries of the metal helicates are mainly controlled by the partition of binding sites from the ligands while linked to distinct metal centers. It is interesting to assemble long-chained oligo-a-aminopyridines, such as nonapyridyloctaamine (1, npoa), decapyridylnonaamine (2, dpna), and undecapyridyldecaamine (3, upda) by employing Buchwald's tandem cross-coupling amination with catalyzation by the Pd(0) complex/BINAP or DPPP, and their helical dinuclear metal complexes 5-10. The complexes possess unique features, and have the general formula $[M_2(L)(ClO_4)_m(S)_n](ClO_4)_{o'}(sol$ vent)_p where M = Ni or Cu, S = solvent, m = 0-1, n = 0-3, o = 3-4, p = 0-5.

The synthesis of novel long-chained oligo- α -aminopyridines 1–3 are shown in Scheme 1 where pyridine was employed as the media to replace the commonly used solvents due to its high solvating ability for the desired adducts, and successful catalyzation of the cross-coupling reaction.¹⁸

Ligand 1 was obtained via double Pd-catalyzed crosscoupling aminations from (A) and (B), and then subsequent reaction with a half equivalent of 2,6-diaminopyridine.³⁵ A final yield of 63% was achieved. Ligand 2, in a similar manner, was produced from (A) with an overall 41% yield via four sequential Pd-catalyzed aminations.³⁶



Figure 2. The ORTEP structure of the cationic part in compound 4, thermal ellipsoids 30% probability level.

Ligand **3** was prepared through a Pd-catalyzed amination from bromo-substrate (**E**) and amino-substrate (**F**) in 33% yield.³⁷ The crystal structure **4**,³⁸ [H₄·**npoa**]-(SO₃CF₃)₄, a protonated form of ligand **1**, is shown in Figure 2. It has a highly helical conformation due to its unique intramolecular hydrogen bonds (N1– \mathbf{H} ···N3, N5– \mathbf{H} ···N7, N11– \mathbf{H} ···N9, N11– \mathbf{H} ···N13, and N17– \mathbf{H} ···N15). The TGA data of ligands **1**–**3** show high thermal stability (~500 °C), which is consistent with Jorgenson's theory.³

The dinuclear metal complexes 5-10 (Fig. 4) were prepared by mixing 1 equiv of $Ni(ClO_4)_2$ or $Cu(ClO_4)_2$ with 0.55 equiv of synthetic ligands 1-3, respectively, and then growing crystals in the appropriate solvent systems by diffusion techniques. The geometry for both nickel centers demonstrate slightly distorted octahedral in the light blue compound 5 { $[(Ni_2npoa)(CH_3CN)_2(H_2O)]$ - $[ClO_4]_3(OH)(H_2O)(CH_3CN)_4$ (Fig. 4),³⁹ N(11)–N– (12)-N(13) has a syn-syn conformation, and this molecule has a 'bent-helical' structure (Fig. 3) with approximately 1.5 helical turns, and the full length is around 4.2nm. The molecular structure of the deep green compound 6 {[(Cu_2npoa)][ClO_4]₄·(CH_3CN)₃· $(H_2O)_{1,5}$, with a distorted square planar geometry for Cu(1), and a distorted square pyramidal geometry for Cu(2),⁴⁰ and a 'regular-helical' structure (Fig. 3) with a syn-anti arrangement of N(9)-N(10)-N(11). This molecule shows more than two helical turns, and its full length is approximately 4.3 nm. Different coordination geometries for two nickel centers are observed in the yellowish-green compound 7 $\{[(Ni_2dpna)(ClO_4)][ClO_4]_3$ $(CH_3NO_2)\cdot(CH_3CN)\cdot(C_2H_5OC_2H_5)_2\cdot(CH_3OH)$ where Ni(1) exhibits a distorted square pyramid geometry and Ni(2) has an octahedral shape.⁴¹ The conformation of N(7)–N(8)–N(9) has a syn-syn arrangement, and the whole molecule has a 'bent-helical' structure with approximately two turns, and a length of around 4.8 nm. In the structure of the deep green compound 8 $\{[(Cu_2dpna)][ClO_4]_4 \cdot (CH_3OH)_2\}$ where both copper ions have distorted square pyramid geometries,⁴² the conformation of N(9)–N(10)–N(11) has a syn-syn geometry, and the whole molecule also has a 'bent-helical' structure with approximately two turns, its full length is around





Figure 4. The ORTEP structure of cationic part of 5 {[[Ni_2-npoa](CH₃CN)₂(H₂O)][ClO₄]₃·(OH)·(H₂O)·(CH₃CN)₄, 30%}, 6 {[[Cu_2-npoa]][ClO₄]₄·(CH₃CN)₃·(H₂O)_{1.5}, 50%}, 7 {[[Ni_2dpna](ClO₄)][ClO₄]₃·(CH₃NO₂)·(CH₃CN)·(C₂H₅OC₂H₅)₂·(CH₃OH), 30%}, 8 {[[Cu_2dpna]][ClO₄]₄·(CH₃OH)₂, 50%}, 9 {[[Ni_2upda]][ClO₄]₄·(CH₃NO₂)·(CH₃OH)₂, 50%}, 10 {[[Cu_2upda]][ClO₄]₄·(CH₃NO₂)·(CH₃OH)_{3.5}, 30%}, 10 {[[Cu_2upda]][ClO₄]₄·(CH₂Cl₂)_{0.5}·(CH₃NO₂)₄·(H₂O)₃, 20% thermal ellipsoids probability level}.

4.6 nm. The geometry for the nickel ions in the yellowish-orange compound **9**, {[(Ni₂upda)][ClO₄]₄·(CH₃-NO₂)·(CH₃OH)_{3.5}} where Ni(1) has a distorted square pyramid geometry and Ni (2) exhibits an octahedral shape;⁴³ N(11)–N(12)–N(13) has a *syn–syn* conformation, and the whole molecule has a 'bent-helical' structure with more than two turns, its rough length is around 5.2 nm. Both copper ions have distorted square planer shapes (Fig. 4)⁴⁴ in the deep green compound **10** {[(Cu₂upda)][ClO₄]₄·(CH₂Cl₂)_{0.5}·(CH₃NO₂)₄·(H₂O)₃}, and all the nitrogen linkage arrangements have *anti–anti* conformations, the whole molecule has a 'regular-helical' structure with more than three complete turns, and its rough length is around 5.8 nm.

The magnetic properties were measured using ground powders of the dinuclear compounds **5–10**^{35–40} (at 10kG), and a simple spin-only model of magnetic moment $(\mu_{eff})^{45}$ was adapted due to their long metalmetal distances. The $\mu_{eff} = [n_1(n_1 + 2) + n_2(n_2 + 2)]^{1/2}$, where n_1 represents the unpaired electrons of metal (1), and n_2 represents the unpaired electrons of metal (2), was calculated. Dinickel compounds **5**, **7**, and **9** have $\mu_{eff} = 3.9$, 4.0, and 4.2, respectively, that are close to the high spin predicted value, $\mu_{eff} = [2(2 + 2) + 2(2 +$ $2)]^{1/2} = 4.0$. The dicopper compounds **6**, **8**, and **10** all have $\mu_{\text{eff}} = 2.3$, which agrees with the predicted value $\mu_{\text{eff}} = [1(1+2) + 1(1+2)]^{1/2} = 2.4$. The magnetic studies have revealed that the dinickel complexes (5, 7, and 9) exhibit a slight antiferromagnetic behavior at temperature < 50 K, and paramagnetic properties at all other tested temperatures. The dicopper complexes (6, 8, and 10) show paramagnetic behaviors at all recorded temperatures. This indicates that these magnetic behaviors for the dinuclear complexes are actually similar to their corresponding mononuclear complexes. The paramagnetic behaviors are also consistent with the NMR observations where the downfield peaks occur at 10–20 ppm for metal complexes versus their corresponding free ligands.

This work reports the effective synthesis of novel helical oligo- α -aminopyridine ligands 1–3 by tandem Pd-catalyzed cross-coupling amination, and their corresponding dinuclear (Ni²⁺/Ni²⁺ and Cu²⁺/Cu²⁺) metal complexes 5–10. Ligands 1–3 show coordination to the metal centers only through the nitrogen atoms on the pyridine rings. Only dinuclear complexes 6 and 10 show 'regular-helical' structures and with weak π – π interactions. It is worthwhile to note that the dinuclear complexes 5–10 exhibit the longest metal–metal distances that have been reported for complexes with oligo- α -aminopyridine ligands, with distances between the metal centers of 6.042, 4.639, 6.231, 5.836, 5.900, and 7.420 Å, respectively.

Crystallographic data for the structural analysis have been registered in the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center: compound **4** was registered as CCDC No. 201554, compound **5** as CCDC No. 201556, compound **6** as CCDC No. 201555, compound **7** as CCDC No. 201558, compound **8** as CCDC No. 201557, compound **9** as CCDC No. 201560, and compound **10** as CCDC No. 201559. Information may be obtained free of charge from the Director, CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge, CB2 1EZ, UK (fax: +44-1223-336033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk or http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

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- 35. npoa, nonapyridyloctaamine, 1: Anal. Calcd for C₄₅H₃₇N₁₇: C 66.25, H 4.57, N 29.18. Found: C 66.36, H 4.56, N 29.08. IR (KBr): 3408, 3310, 3205, 3021, 1674, 1582, 1431, 1307, 1149, 1774, 1149, 715 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 9.38 (s, 2H, NH), 9.09 (s, 6H, NH), 6.83–8.21 (m, 29H, aromatic H). FAB/MS [*m*/*z*]: [816 (M)⁺].
- 36. dpna, decapyridylnonaamine, 2: Anal. Calcd for C₅₀H₄₁N₁₉: C 66.14, H 4.55, N 29.31. Found: C 66.43, H 4.42, N 29.15. IR (KBr): 3448, 3310, 3198, 1635, 1562, 1516, 1418, 1352, 1155 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 8.49 (s, 2H, NH), 8.20 (s, 7H, NH), 5.99–7.35 (m, 32H, aromatic H). FAB/MS [*m*/*z*]: [908 (M)⁺].
- 37. upda, undecapyridyldecaamine, 3: Anal. Calcd for C₅₅H₄₅N₂₁: C 66.05, H 4.54, N 29.41. Found: C 66.30, H 4.38, N 29.32. IR (KBr): 3416, 3204, 2952, 1587, 1514, 1434, 1308, 778 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ 9.36 (s, 2H, NH), 9.06 (s, 8H, NH), 6.84–8.20 (m, 35H, aromatic H). FAB/MS [m/z]: [1000 (M)⁺].
- 38. Crystallographic data for 4: $C_{52}H_{45.50}F_{12}N_{18.50}O_{12}S_4$, M = 1477.81, monoclinic, space group C_2/c , a = 26.5696(11), b = 14.6662 (6), c = 33.9125 (14), $\alpha = 90^{\circ}$, $\beta = 111.3060^{\circ}$ (10), $\gamma = 90^{\circ}$, V = 12311.7 (9)Å³, Z = 8, $D_{calcd} = 1.595 g/cm^3$, $\mu(MoK_{\alpha}) = 0.268 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å, T = 150 (1) K, $\theta = 1.29-26.43^{\circ}$, $T_{min}/T_{max} = 0.8562/$ 0.9280, independent reflns. = 12606 ($R_{int} = 0.0850$), $R_f = 0.0549$, GOF = 1.059. The structure was solved in Bruker SMART by direct method and expanded by using Fourier techniques, the functions were minimized during least-squares cycles where $R = \Sigma ||F_0| - |F_c||/\Sigma |F_0|$; $(F_0^2) = [\Sigma \{w(F_0^2 - F_c^2)^2\}/\Sigma \{w(F_0^2)^2\}]^{1/2}$. The nonhydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically.
- 39. Crystallographic data for **5**: $C_{57}H_{60}Cl_3N_{23}Ni_2O_{15}$, M = 1531.05, triclinic, space group $P\bar{1}$, a = 11.8920 (6), b = 13.8128 (7), c = 22.5784 (12), $\alpha = 83.140^{\circ}$ (1), $\beta = 83.697^{\circ}$ (1), $\gamma = 86.049^{\circ}$ (1), V = 1852.83 (3)Å³, Z = 2, $D_{calcd} = 1.392 \text{ g/cm}^3$, $\mu(MoK_{\alpha}) = 0.701 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ Å}$, T = 150 (1) K, $\theta = 0.91-26.37^{\circ}$, $T_{min}/T_{max} = 0.6904/$ 0.8621, independent reflns. = 14936 ($R_{int} = 0.0881$). $R_{f} = 0.0896$, GOF = 1.024. The structure was solved in Bruker SMART with the same method described previously.
- 40. Crystallographic data for **6**: $C_{51}H_{49}Cl_4N_{20}Cu_2O_{17.50}$, M = 1490.98, monoclinic, space group $P2_1/c$, a = 22.3833(12), b = 13.1494 (7), c = 20.6251 (11), $\alpha = 90^{\circ}$, $\beta = 101.995^{\circ}$ (1), $\gamma = 90^{\circ}$, V = 5938.0 (5)Å³, Z = 4, $D_{calcd} = 1.668 \text{ g/cm}^3$, $\mu(MoK_{\alpha}) = 0.987 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ Å}$, T = 150 (1) K, $\theta = 2.43-27.50^{\circ}$, $T_{min}/T_{max} = 0.7154/$ 0.8311, independent reflns. = 13624 ($R_{int} = 0.0331$). $R_f = 0.0451$, GOF = 1.014. The structure was solved in

Bruker SMART with the same method described previously.

- 41. Crystallographic data for 7: $C_{62}H_{71}Cl_4N_{21}Ni_2O_{21}$, M = 1705.62, triclinic, space group $P\bar{1}$, a = 14.6520 (1), b = 15.4574 (1), c = 17.5339 (2), $\alpha = 100.7550^{\circ}$ (4), $\beta = 98.3837^{\circ}$ (4), $\gamma = 110.4784^{\circ}$ (4), V = 3557.37 (5) AA³, Z = 2, $D_{calcd} = 1.592 \text{ g/cm}^3$, μ (MoK_{α}) = 0.770 mm⁻¹, $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å, T = 150 (1) K, $\theta = 2.43-27.50^{\circ}$, $T_{min}/T_{max} = 0.774/0.942$, independent refins. = 16291 ($R_{int} = 0.0665$), $R_{f} = 0.0665$, GOF = 1.021. The structure was solved in Nonius KappaCCD with the same method described previously.
- 42. Crystallographic data for **8**: $C_{52}H_{49}Cl_4N_{19}Cu_2O_{18}$, M = 1496.98, monoclinic, space group $P2_1/c$, a = 15.4476(3), b = 14.4702 (2), c = 25.9158 (6), $\alpha = 90^{\circ}$, $\beta = 98.3837^{\circ}$ (4), $\gamma = 90^{\circ}$, V = 5735.39 (19)Å³, Z = 4, $D_{calcd} = 1.734 \text{ g/}$ cm³, $\mu(MoK_{\alpha}) = 1.022 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ Å}$, T = 150 (1) K, $\theta = 1.92-25^{\circ}$, $T_{min}/T_{max} = 0.5449/0.8950$, independent refins. = 10088 ($R_{int} = 0.0768$). $R_{f} = 0.0546$, GOF = 1.051. The structure was solved in Nonius KappaCCD with the same method described previously.
- 43. Crystallographic data for **9**: $C_{59,50}H_{62}Cl_4N_{22}Ni_2O_{21,50}$, M = 1688.53, monoclinic, space group $P2_1/n$, a = 11.0634(1), b = 24.8780 (2), c = 25.0143 (2), $\alpha = 90^{\circ}$, $\beta = 101.0158^{\circ}$ (3), $\gamma = 90^{\circ}$, V = 6757.96 (10)Å³, Z = 4, $D_{calcd} = 1.660 g/$ cm³, μ (MoK_{α}) = 0.811 mm⁻¹, $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å, T = 150 (1) K, $\theta = 1.84-27.50^{\circ}$, $T_{min}/T_{max} = 0.646/0.931$, independent refins. = 15455 ($R_{int} = 0.0581$). $R_f = 0.0826$, GOF = 1.040. The structure was solved in Nonius KappaCCD with the same method described previously.
- 44. Crystallographic data for **10**: $C_{59,50}H_{64}Cl_5N_{25}Cu_2O_{27}$, M = 1865.69, monoclinic, space group $P2_1/n$, a = 11.6942(2), b = 26.4115 (5), c = 25.0251 (5), $\alpha = 90^{\circ}$ (1), $\beta = 99.730^{\circ}$ (1), $\gamma = 90^{\circ}$, V = 7618.1 (2)Å³, Z = 4, $D_{calcd} = 1.627$ g/cm³, μ (MoK_{α}) = 0.832 mm⁻¹, $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å, T = 150 (1) K, $\theta = 2.07-25^{\circ}$, $T_{min}/T_{max} = 0.830/0.974$, independent reflns. = 13385 ($R_{int} = 0.0747$). $R_{f} = 0.1624$, GOF = 1.058. The structure was solved in Nonius KappaCCD with the same method described previously.
- 45. Teweldemedhin, Z. S.; Fuller, R. L.; Greenblatt, M. *J. Chem. Edu.* **1996**, *73*, 906–909.