Synthesis, Spectral and Thermal Studies, and Crystal Structure of cis-Bis(4-methylimidazole)bis(picolinato)copper(II) [Cu(pic)₂(4-MeIm)₂]

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The mixed-ligand picolinato (pic) complex of Cu(II) with 4-methylimidazole (4-MeIm), $[Cu(pic)_2(4-MeIm)_2]$, was synthesized and characterized by elemental analysis, magnetic susceptibility, spectroscopic methods (UV/vis and FT-IR) and X-ray diffraction. In the slightly distorted octahedral *cis*-bis(4-methylimidazole)bis(picolinato)copper(II) complex, the pic ligands are coordinated to the Cu(II) ion as bidentate N, O-donors forming chelate rings. The 4-MeIm ligands are N-coordinated in *cis* positions. The complex crystallizes in the triclinic space group $P\bar{1}$ with unit cell parameters a = 9.204(5), b = 9.498(5), c = 13.095(5) Å, $\alpha = 90.395(5)$, $\beta = 101.687(5)$, $\gamma = 112.291(5)^\circ$ and Z = 2. Hydrogen bondings and C-H··· π interactions occur between picolinato and methylimidazole ligands of neighboring complex molecules. The thermal decomposition of the complex is described.

Key words: Copper(II) Complex, 4-Methylimidazole, Picolinic Acid, Thermal Decomposition