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# Synthesis, Molecular structure, Photophysical Properties and Spectroscopic Characterization of New 1D-Magnesium (II) Porphyrin-Based Coordination Polymer

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**Abstract** Chemical preparation, X-ray diffraction, spectral and photophysical studies were performed for  $H_2TPBP$  (5,10,15,20-tetrakis[4 (benzoyloxy)phenyl] porphyrin), [Mg(TPBP)], and the [Mg<sup>II</sup>(TPBP)(4,4'-bpy)<sub>2</sub>] (**I**) complex (4,4'-bpy = 4,4'-bipyridine). This study shows a 1D coordination polymer chain of alternating [Mg<sup>II</sup>(TPBP)] and 4,4'-bipyridine molecule located at the axial position of the magnesium(II) coordination sphere. The magnesium ion is coordinated to four nitrogen atoms from the porphyrin ring and two nitrogen atoms from the axial ligands, forming a regular octahedron. The crystal packing and the linear coordination chains for this complex are stabilized by weak inter and intramolecular interactions involving centroids (Cg) porphyrin pyrrole and the pyridyl group of the 4,4'-bipyridine rings. Infrared (IR), proton nuclear magnetic resonance (<sup>1</sup>H NMR) spectroscopies, mass spectroscopy, and elemental analysis were also investigated to confirm the crystal structure. UV-Visible absorption spectrum of complex **I** displayed a red shifted *Soret* (430 nm) and *Q* (571 and 614 nm) bands due to the extended conjugation. However, fluorescence emission spectrum shows larger blue shift of ~ 41 and ~ 54 nm for *Q* (0,0) and *Q* (0.1), respectively.

**Keywords** Crystal structure • Mg(II)-porphyrin coordination polymer • FT-IR and NMR spectroscopies • UV-visible • Fluorescence

### Introduction

Synthesis and functionalization of porphyrins and associating metal complexes have long been of great interest in the chemistry community because of their remarkable applications such as catalysis [1-3], solar cells [4], chemical sensors [5], building blocks of assemblies [6] and so forth. Porphyrins were reported to exhibit a variety of biological activities [7-11], notably several derivatives based on this molecule had been developed as excellent photosensitive agents of photodynamic therapy (PDT) in clinical applications [12-14]. During the past decade, numerous porphyrinic coordination polymers have been designed by using different methods [15-19], especially based on the axial coordination to the metal of a metalloporphyrin through the nitrogen atoms of a bidentate ligand [20]. The ditopic ligands (i.e., a ligand with two coordination sites) such as 4,4'-bipyridine, pyrazine, DABCO, and 4,4'-dipyridylamine have been extensively used to construct different coordination polymers [21-25]. Goldberg and co-workers [26], reported a 1Dcoordination polymers ([Mn<sup>III</sup>(TIPP)(L)]<sub>n</sub>) with other type of ligands: isonicotinate or pyrimidine-5-carboxylate. Based on 3,4,5-trimethoxyphenylporphyrin, two complexes have been synthesised, MgTMPP and ZnTMPP [27]. These structures consist of a onedimensional (1D) networks connected by the bond between metals (Mg or Zn) and oxygen atoms of the m-methoxy groups. The specific geometry of these materials determines their physicochemical properties, especially their photophysical behaviour in energy or electron transfer processes [29,30]. Recently, our research group has been working on the design and characterization of new metalloporphyrin-based materials, in which 4,4'-bipyridine ligand was used  $\{[Co^{II}(porph)(4,4'-bpy)_2]\}_n$  (porph = TpivPP or TPP) [21]. In the present study we have synthesised a new meso-substituted porphyrin [Mg<sup>II</sup>(TPBP)] by combining an ester function comprising two benzene rings with magnesium(II) atom. Development of ester functions with porphyrins have attracted much attention thanks to their wide range of applications [30-32]. The porphyrin framework was then combined with 4,4'-bipyridine to design a novel 1D coordination polymer bis(4,4'-bpy)(5,10,15,20-tetrakis[4-(benzoyloxy)phenyl] porphyrinato) magnesium(II) (**I**). Prepared compound was characterized by single crystal X-Ray diffraction, FT-IR, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR, UV-Visble, and fluorescence spectroscopies.

#### **Materials and methods**

#### **Syntheses and Crystallization**

Synthesis of meso-tetrakis[4-(benzoyloxy)phenyl]porphyrin (H<sub>2</sub>TPBP) and meso-tetrakis[4-(benzoyloxy)phenyl]porphyrinato)mangesium(II) complex [Mg<sup>II</sup>(TPBP)] were made according to methods described in the literature [33,34]. Scheme S1 gives the main steps of the preparation method.

Synthesis meso-tetrakis[4-(benzoyloxy) phenyl] porphyrin  $(H_2TPBP)$ : formylphenylbenzoate (500 mg, 2.21 mmol), and pyrrole (153 µL, 2.21 mmol) were added to distilled chloroform (300 mL) in a double necked round bottom flask under argon and shielded from light. Boron trifluoride diethyl etherate, BF<sub>3</sub>.OEt<sub>2</sub> (192.4 µL, 0.73 mmol) was added. The reaction was kept at room temperature for two hours. Two pipettes of triethylamine and 0.75 equivalents of p-chloranil (179.2 mg, 1.66 mmol) were added and the solution was heated to reflux (light protection was removed). After 1 hour, obtained solution was cooled to room temperature. Solvent was evaporated and the residue was filtered over silica with CHCl<sub>3</sub>/hexane/ (1:9). Expected compound was obtained as a purple solid (yield 57%). Spectroscopic analysis: <sup>1</sup>H NMR [300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>]  $\delta$ (ppm) 8.91 (s, 8H, H $\beta$ -pyrrol), 8.42 (d, 8H, J=7.5 Hz), 8.33 (d, 8H, J=7.6 Hz), 7.71 (d, 8H, J=7.5 Hz), 7.59 (m, 12H), -2.80 (s, 2H, Hpyrrol). UV/vis [ $\lambda_{max}$  (nm) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, (log  $\varepsilon$ )]: 419 (5.90), 514 (4.46), 551 (4.13), 590 (3.94), 646 (3.84). MS [ESI]: m/z calcd for C<sub>72</sub>H<sub>46</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>8</sub>: 1095.16 found: 1095.17. Anal. Calcd. For C<sub>72</sub>H<sub>46</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>8</sub>: C 78.96 H 4.23, N 5.12 %; found: C 78.72, H 4.22, N 5.20 %. FTR-IR cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3329 ( $v_{NH}$  porphyrin), 2964–2861 ( $v_{CH}$  porphyrin), 1735 ( $v_{C=O}$  ester), 1267 ( $v_{C-O}$ ester), 987 ( $\delta_{CCH}$  porphyrin).

Synthesis of the (meso-tetrakis[4 (benzoyloxy)phenyl] porphyrinato)magnesuim(II) complex [Mg(TPBP)]: H<sub>2</sub>TPBP (0.6 g, 0.54 mmol) was dissolved in DMF (150 mL). The solution was heated under reflux with magnetic stirring. Upon dissolution of the H<sub>2</sub>TPBP, MgCl<sub>2</sub> (1 g, 10.8 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 6 hours. thin-layer chromatography (alumina, using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> as eluant) indicated no free base porphyrins at this point. After that, the solution was cooled to 50-60 °C and H<sub>2</sub>O (50 mL) was added into it. Obtained solid was filtrated and washed with hexane. The resulting was vacuum-dried to afford 66 % yield of MgTPBP. Spectroscopic analysis: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ (ppm) 8.96 (s, 8H, Hβ-pyrrol), 8.67 (d, 8H, J=6.4 Hz), 8.36 (d, 8H, J=8.33 Hz), 7.78 (d, 8H, J=8.8 Hz), 7.59 (m, 12H). UV/vis [ $\lambda$ <sub>max</sub> (nm) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, (log  $\varepsilon$ )]: 427 (5.86), 565 (4.42), 605 (4.16). MS [ESI]: m/z calcd for C<sub>72</sub>H<sub>44</sub>MgN<sub>4</sub>O<sub>8</sub>: 1117, 3082, found: 1117, 3848. Anal. Calcd. For C<sub>72</sub>H<sub>44</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>8</sub>: C 77.39 H 3.97, N 5.01 %; found: C 75.22, H 3.22, N 5.20 %. FTR-IR cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2965-1860 ( $\nu$ <sub>CH</sub> porphyrin), 1735 ( $\nu$ <sub>C=0</sub> ester), 1267 ( $\nu$ <sub>C-0</sub> ester), 993 ( $\delta$ <sub>CCH</sub> porphyrin).

Synthesis and crystallization of  $[Mg^{II}(TPBP)(4,4'-bpy)_2]$  (I):  $[Mg^{II}(TPBP)]$  (20 mg, 0.017 mmol) and 4,4'-bipyridine (90 mg, 0.57 mmol) in 5 mL of dichloromethane (DCM) were stirred overnight at room temperature and the color of the reaction mixture changed from purple to blue–purple. Crystals of the desired complex were obtained by slow diffusion of n-hexane through the dichloromethane solution.

*Spectroscopic analysis*:  $^{1}$ H NMR [CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz]:  $\delta_{H}$  (ppm.) 8.98 (s, 8H, H $\beta$ -pyrrol), 8.46 (d, 8H, J=6.4 Hz), 8.37 (d, 8H, J=8.80 Hz), 7.77 (d, 8H, J=8.6 Hz), 7.67 (m, 12H), 6.64 (d, 4H-ligand, J=6.4 Hz). UV/vis [ $\lambda_{max}$  (nm) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, (log  $\varepsilon$ )]: 430 (6.04), 571 (5.08), 614 (5.00). MS [ESI]: m/z calcd for C<sub>82</sub>H<sub>52</sub>MgN<sub>6</sub>O<sub>8</sub>: 1274.6306 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, found: 1274.3146. Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>82</sub>H<sub>52</sub>MgN<sub>6</sub>O<sub>8</sub>: C; 77.32; H; 4.11; N; 6.59. Found: C; 77.15; H; 4.13; N; 6.59. FTR-IR cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2928-2855 ( $\nu_{CH}$  porphyrin), 1735 ( $\nu_{C=O}$  ester), 1609 ( $\nu_{C=N}$  4,4'-bpy), 1602 ( $\nu_{C=C}$  4,4'-bpy), 1463 ( $\delta_{C=H}$ ,  $\delta_{C=N}$  4,4'-bpy), 1267 ( $\nu_{C=O}$  ester), 1000 ( $\delta_{CCH}$  porphyrin), 846 ( $\nu_{C=H}$  4,4'-bpy).

#### X-ray diffraction analysis

Blue-purple crystal with approximate dimensions of 0.12 mm  $\times$ 0.25 mm  $\times$ 0.08 mm was selected for the X-ray diffraction experiment. Data collection was performed on a Bruker APEX-II diffractometer. Diffractometer was equipped with graphite monochromated Mo K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å) and intensity data were collected by the narrow frame method at low temperature (150 K). The structure was solved by direct method using SIR-2004 [35] and refined by full-matrix least-squares on F2 using the SHELXL-97 program [36] and Data were corrected for absorption effects by the Multi-Scan method [37]. Since the dichloromethane solvent molecule was grossly disordered and could not be modelled, its contribution was excluded using the subroutine SQUEEZE [38].

#### **Spectroscopy and photophysical measurements**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AVANCE spectrometer (300 MHz). FT-IR spectra were recorded in the region of 400–4000 cm<sup>-1</sup> on a Nicolet Impact 410 spectrophotometer. UV-Vis spectra were measured with a Varian Cary 5000 spectrophotometer. Fluorescence spectra and quantum yield measurements were performed using a Varian Cary Eclipse luminescence spectrophotometer. Elemental analyses were carried out on a Flash EA 1112 Series Thermo Electron fitted with a Porapak column 2m PTFE + MX5 microbalance Mettler Toledo. The mass spectra were operated under electrospray ionization (ESI) positive.

## **Results and discussion**

## **Crystal structure description**

The molecular structure of studied  $[Mg^{II}(TPBP)(4,4'-bpy)_2]$  complex was investigated by single crystal X-ray crystallography. Single crystals were obtained by slow diffusion of hexane into dichloromethane solution of porphyrin at room temperature. Crystallographic data and structure refinement of  $[Mg^{II}(TPBP)(4,4'-bpy)_2]$  are given in Table 1. The complex crystallizes in the monoclinic system, space group P 2/c, with a = 17.5238(6) Å, b = 17.5238(6)

11.6748(4) Å, c = 18.1690(5) Å,  $\beta$  = 114.212(1) °, V = 2707.32 Å<sup>3</sup>, Z = 2. Selected bond distances and angles are listed in Table S1.

A view of the repetitive unit is presented in Fig. 1, while two views of the one-dimensional polymeric chain along a axis, and the molecular packing arrangement are shown in Fig. 2 and 3, respectively. As reported in the literature, magnesium metalloporphyrins with monodentate axial ligands are generally exist as five-coordinated species [Mg(Porph)(X)] (X = neutral or anionic ligand) [39-41]. In few cases there exit also as six-coordinated derivatives [Mg(Porph)(L)<sub>2</sub>] (L = neutral axial monodentate ligand) i.e. [Mg(TPP)(py)<sub>2</sub>] [42] and [Mg(TPP)(4-pic)<sub>2</sub>] complexes [43]. In the title magnesium(II) complex, the asymmetric unit presents one half [Mg(TPBP)(L)] (L = 4,4'-bipyridine) complex. The coordination geometry around the Mg(II) cation is octahedral (Fig. 1), where the four donor N atoms of pyrrole rings of TPBP porphyrin occupy the equatorial positions. The apical positions of the Mg(II) are occupied by heterocyclic 4,4'-bpy trans- coordinated N3 and N4' atoms. Figure 2 and 3 show that the structure consist of 1D coordination polymer in which the bpy ligand serves as a bridge between adjacent magnesium(II) cations forming a linear chain.

The Mg—Nax distances range between 2.319 Å (Mg—N3) and 2.290 Å (Mg—N4') indicating the strong coordination of 4,4'-bpy to metalloporphyrin which seems in agreement with Mg—Nax bond length observed in [Mg(TPP)(py)<sub>2</sub>] (2.369 Å) [42]. For [Mg(TPP)(4-pic)<sub>2</sub>] [43], and [Mg(OEP)(py)<sub>2</sub>] [44], the Mg—Nax bonds are 2.386 and 2.389 Å, respectively, which seem very similar to those observed in our complex. However, the Mg—Nax distance for {[Mg(tn-OEP)(4,4'-bpy)<sub>2</sub>]}<sub>n</sub> polymer is found to be little shorter with 2.259 and 2.272 Å values [22]. In comparison with other polymeric (bpy)-cobalt porphyrin complexes, the Mg—Nax (bpy) distances is around ~2.311-2.342 Å [10]. The four Mg—Np bonds consist of two sets of equal length 2.062 and 2.069 Å as exists in the opposite pairs and fall on the range [2.063 – 2.100 Å] of other reported Mg(II)-porphyrins (Table 2).

As observed in previously reported polymeric structures [21,22,45], the adjacent parallel porphyrin planes are perpendicular to the polymer chain direction (Fig. 3). The porphyrin core in this crystal structure is quasi-plane. The displacement of meso and betacarbons from the least-squares plane of  $C_{20}N_4$  pophyrinato core are  $\pm$  0,2497 and  $\pm$  0,0983 Å respectively. The displacement of the Mg(II) atom from the mean porphinato core is 0.072 Å. These displacements values are very close to those observed in analogous compounds with 4,4'-bipyridine [21]. The dihedral angles between Np-Mg-N(bpy) plan (Np is the closest pyrrole nitrogen atom) and the first pyridyl moiety of 4,4'-bipyridine axial ligand is 1.67°, and the 4,4'-bpy molecule is twisted with dihedral angle  $\Phi$  = 58.45° between the two pyridyl moieties (Fig. 4). In general, values of this dihedral angle in several 4,4'-bpy complexes range between 24° and 46° [10,21,46,47].

Crystal structure of studied complex consists of 1D polymeric chain extending along the [010] direction (Fig. 2 and 3) where the magnesium centres are bridged by 4,4'-bipy ligands, forming a linear Mg-bipy-Mg chain in which the Mg···Mg distance across the 4,4'-bipy ligand is equal to 11.675 Å. This arrangement is similar to other described assemblies reported by Marijuan et all [45] and Mansour et all [21], in which the crystal structures are based on FeTPP and CoTPP units. They consist of 1D coordination polymers extending along the [010] and [100] directions respectively, where iron and cobalt porphyrins are axially

bonded to two bipy ligands. The stability and cohesion of crystal packing are assured by intramolecular C37–H37L N2 non-conventional hydrogen bonds, and by weak C37–H37L Cg2 interactions involving a carbon atom (C37) from coordinated 4,4'-bipyridine and the centroid of the pyrrole of the meso-porphyrin. The linear one-dimensional coordination chains are linked through weak C22-H22L Cg3 interactions (Fig. 5) involving a carbon atom (C22) of 4-formylphenylbenzoate and the centroid of 4,4'-bipyridine of neighbouring chains (CL centroid distance range 3.474 Å) (Table 3).

## IR and <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopies

In order to give more insights in the structure of porphyrin, metalloporphyrin and axial ligand, a detailed IR and  $^1$ H NMR studies were made. FT-IR spectrum of the *meso*-porphyrin TPBP shows a band at 3329 cm $^{-1}$ , which is due to -NH<sub>2</sub> stretching frequencies (Fig. S1a). The bands observed between 2964 and 2855 cm $^{-1}$  are assigned to a C–H vibration for the *meso*-porphyrin. The C=O esters and  $\delta$ (CCH) vibration modes occurred at ca.1735 cm $^{-1}$  and 987 cm $^{-1}$  respectively. After insertion of magnesium ion into the porphyrin ring, the N–H vibration frequency of free base porphyrin disappeared, indicating the formation of magnesium(II) porphyrin compound (Fig. S1b). According to the literature, IR spectrum of 4,4'-bipyridine undergoes a modification when coordinated with a metal cation [48-50]. The blue and red shift of observed bands are due to the formation of Mg-N(bpy) coordination bonds. In our present work (Fig. S1c), the C—C and C—N stretching vibration of 4,4'-bpy observed for the title complex, are relatively blue shifted from 1589 cm $^{-1}$  to 1602 and 1609 cm $^{-1}$  compared to those reported by Xiu-min et all. Moreover, the out-of-plane bending mode  $\gamma$ (C—H), for 4,4'-bpy occurred at 807 cm $^{-1}$  was blue-shifted to 846 cm $^{-1}$ . The in plane bending  $\delta$ (C—H) and  $\delta$ (C—N) modes for 4,4'-bpy at 1486 cm $^{-1}$  were red shifted to 1463 cm $^{-1}$ .

For porphyrin  $H_2TPBP$ , the  $^1H$  NMR spectroscopy allows us to identify eight  $\beta$ -pyrrole protons. The aromatic protons of the *meso*-phenyl rings resonating in the 8.91 to 7.59 ppm, which correspond to a classical case for all *meso*-porphyrins. The NH pyrrole protons are very shielded and appears at -2.80 ppm as low-intensity singlet (Fig. S2a). The insertion of magnesium metal ion into porphyrin ring is illustrated by the absence of inner imino proton (NH) signal. A light shift of resonances towards low-field is also observed (at higher frequency) (Fig. S2b). The  $^1H$  NMR spectrum of [Mg(TPBP)(4,4'-bpy)<sub>2</sub>] (Fig. S2c) indicates that the  $\beta$ -pyrrole protons resonate as a singlet at 8.98 ppm. The aromatic protons of the *meso*-phenyl rings resonating in the 8.46 to 7.67 ppm range, which are slightly downfield (deshielded) compared to Mg(TPBP) and  $H_2$ TPBP compounds. The aromatic protons (C-H) of the axial 4,4'-bipyridine ligand are shifted to the weak field at 6.64 ppm.

#### Photophysical properties

*UV-vis absorption spectroscopy*. The UV-Vis spectrum of free base porphyrin  $H_2TBPP$ , starting materials [Mg(TBPP)] and synthesized complex, recorded in dichloromethane, are depicted in Fig. 6. The  $H_2TBPP$  shows a strong absorbance in the near-UV called the *Soret* or B band located at 419 nm (corresponding to strongly allowed transitions to the second excited state  $SO \rightarrow S2$ ). In the visible region, four weak bands were

observed, called the Q bands, located at 527, 578, 582 and 655 nm (corresponding to the weakly allowed electronic transition to the first excited state  $S0 \rightarrow S1$ ). The spectral features of Magnesium derivatives show that the [Mg(TBPP)] exhibits an intense Soret band, together with two weak Q-bands between 500 and 700 nm and the complex [Mg<sup>II</sup>(TBPP)(4,4'-bpy)<sub>2</sub>], its Soret band appeared at 430 nm and its Q bands at 571 mn and 614 mn. Interestingly, the bands in the absorption spectrum of [Mg(TPBP)] are red shifted compared to H<sub>2</sub>TBPP. Also, the [Mg<sup>II</sup>(TBPP)(4,4'-bpy)<sub>2</sub>] associated spectrum is significantly red shifted up to 11 nm and 3 nm than these of the H<sub>2</sub>TPBP as well as for [Mg(TBrPP)] respectively. Since both Soret and Q bands arise from  $\pi \to \pi^*$  transitions, they can be explained by the Gouterman four orbital model (frontier HOMO and LUMO orbitals) [51,52]. The red shift of these bands indicates  $\pi$ conjugation increasing and a HOMO-LUMO energy gap reduction [53-55] caused by the molecules symmetry increasing. The change in the symmetry from D2h in free base porphyrin to D4h in the metalloporphyrin leads only to two absorptions of O(0.0) and O(1.0) and a red shift. The UV/Vis. spectra data of all complex, with those of same species are collected in Table S2, indicate a bathochromic shift due to the insertion of the magnesium in the porphyrin core gives rise to the red shift of the visible absorption bands.

Steady-state emission spectroscopy. fluorescence spectra of free base porphyrin H<sub>2</sub>TBPP, metalloporphyrin [Mg<sup>II</sup>(TPBP)], and synthesised complex have been recorded in dichloromethane ( $\sim 10^{-6} \text{ mol L}^{-1}$ ) at room temperature and shown in Fig. 7. The fluorescence wavelength values of the Q(0,0) and Q(0,1) bands, the fluorescence quantum yields  $(\Phi_f)$  of the magnesium porphyrin complex, the starting material H<sub>2</sub>TBPP and those of analogues magnesium complexes are summarised in Table S3. For excitation in the *Soret* region of the spectrum (420 nm), the emission spectrum of the free porphyrin base is composed of two bands; a weak band around 719 nm assigned to Q(0,1) (S2  $[Q(0,1)] \rightarrow$ S0), and a stronger one at 651 nm assigned to the Q(0,0) (S2  $[Q(0,0)] \rightarrow$ S0) electronic transition (Fig. S3a). The fluorescence spectra of starting material [Mg<sup>II</sup>(TPBP)] and final prepared complex are blue shifted compared, unlike the H<sub>2</sub>TPBP free base. Excitation of the Soret bands results in two emission bands S2 \rightarrow S0 which are nearly at the same energy; around 610 nm and 665 nm for Q(0,0) and Q(0.1), respectively. (Figs. S3b and S3c). As shown in Table S3 and Fig. 7, the main impact of the magnesium insertion resides in the huge blue shifts of ~ 41 nm for the strongest emission band Q(0,0), and ~ 54 nm for the second band Q(0,1). The fluorescence characteristics of our complex are similar to those already reported in the literature for [Mg<sup>II</sup>(TPP)(HTMA)<sub>2</sub>] [56] and [Mg<sup>II</sup>(TPP)(NCO)]<sup>-</sup> [40]. The fluorescence quantum yields of H<sub>2</sub>TPBP, [Mg<sup>II</sup>(TPBP)], and synthesised complex are in the range of [0.050 - 0.065] which are close to related magnesium metalloporphyrins.

#### **Conclusions**

In summary, the synthesis, spectral and photophysical properties of the new *meso*-porphyrin tetrakis[4-(benzoyloxy)phenyl]porphyrin  $H_2TPBP$ , the [Mg(TPBP)] starting material and the synthesised magnesium (II) porphyrin complex [Mg<sup>II</sup>(TPBP)(4,4'-bpy)<sub>2</sub>] were performed. The UV-visible spectrum exhibits red-shifted *Soret* band compared to the [Mg(TPBP)] and the fluorescence data are practically the same as those of known magnesium porphyrin complexes. The single crystal molecular structure of this specie shows a 1D

coordination polymer packing where the linear chains are arranged along the b axis and are linked together by  $C-H\cdots N$  non-conventional hydrogen bonds and  $C-H\cdots \pi$  interactions.

# **Supplementary data**

Crystallographic data for the structure reported in this paper have been deposited within the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as a supplementary publication **No. CCDC 1581320**. Copies of the data can be obtained, free of charge, on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK, (fax: +44 1223 336033 or e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

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#### **Conflicts of interest**

The authors confirm that "there are no conflicts of interest to declare".

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# **Table Caption**

- Table 1 Crystal and refinement data of complex (I).
- $\begin{table c} \textbf{Table 2} & Selected bond lengths $[\mathring{A}]$ in several hexacoordinate magnesium porphyrin complexes$^a$. \end{table}$

**Table 3** Inter-and intramolecular interactions for (I).

Table 1

	Complex (I)
Chemical formula	C <sub>82</sub> H <sub>55</sub> Mg N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>8</sub>
Formula weight	1273.61
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P 2/c
a [Å]	17.5238(6)
b [Å]	11.6748(4)
c [Å]	18.1690(5)
$lpha[ ext{Å}]$	90
β [Å]	114.212(1)
heta [Å]	90
$V$ [Å $^3$ ]	3390.16(19)
Z	2
Dcalcd. [g/cm <sup>3</sup> ]	1.248
$u [mm^{-1}]$	0.090
Max./min. transmission	0.982 / 0.991
F(000)	1324
Crystal size [mm]	0.28 / 0.17 / 0.1
T(K)	150
Unique data	7778
Unique obsd data	5967
Final R indices	$R_1 = 0.0765, wR_2 = 0.2652$

Table 2

Compound	M-N <sub>p</sub> b	M-N <sub>ax</sub> <sup>c</sup>	Ref
$[Mg(TPP)(py)_2]$	2.063	2.369	[42]
$[Mg(TPP)(4-pic)_2]$	2.071	2.386	[43]
$[Mg(TPP)(pip)_2]$	2.071	2.419	[43]
$[Mg(OEP)(py)_2]$	2.068	2.389	[44]
$[Mg(tn-OEP)(4,4'-bpy)_2]$	2.087-2.100	2.259 - 2.272	[22]
$[Mg(TPBP)(4,4'-bpy)_2](1)$	2.065	2.319 - 2.290	this work

Table 3

D-HA <sup>a</sup>	Symmetry of A	D-HA [Å]	DA [°]
C37-H37N2	1-x,y,3/2-z	122	3.189(3)
C37-H37Cg2	1-x,y,3/2-z	147	3.665(3)
C22-H22Cg3	2-x,1-y,2-z	167	3.474(2)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Distances in [Å]
<sup>b</sup>: Average equatorial metal–nitrogen pyrrole distance;
<sup>c</sup>: Distance between the metal and the nitrogen of the N-donor ligand.

 $<sup>^{</sup>a}D=donor\ atom\ and\ A=acceptor\ atom.$  Cg2 is the centroid of the N2-C6-C7-C8-C9 five membered ring, Cg3 is the centroid of the N3-C37-C38-C39-C38D-C37d six membered ring,

#### Figure caption

- **Fig. 1** The building repetitive unit of [Mg<sup>II</sup>(TPBP)(4,4'-bpy)<sub>2</sub>] (**I**).
- Fig. 2 View of the 1D polymeric chain along a axis.
- **Fig. 3** Projection along the *c* axis of the atomic arrangement (for clarity, the H atoms are omitted).
- **Fig. 4** Diagram of porphyrin core of (**I**) showing the mean plane displacements of the Mg(II) ion and the core atoms (Å) and the dihedral angle (°) between the two pyridyl moieties of the 4,4'-bpy molecule.
- **Fig. 5** Schematic representation showing the weak C–HL N and C–HL Cg intermolecular interactions in (**I**). Cg are the centroids of pyrrole and 4,4'-bipyridine ligand.
- **Fig. 6** UV-vis absorption spectra of  $H_2$ TPBP, [Mg<sup>II</sup>(TPBP)], and [Mg<sup>II</sup>(TPBP)(4,4'-bpy)<sub>2</sub>], in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution at concentrations of 1.34  $10^{-6}$ , 1.6  $10^{-6}$ , and 1.2  $10^{-6}$  mol. L<sup>-1</sup> respectively.
- **Fig. 7** Emission spectra of the starting material  $H_2TPBP$ , [Mg(TPBP)], and  $[Mg^{II}(TPBP)(4,4'-bpy)_2]$  complex.

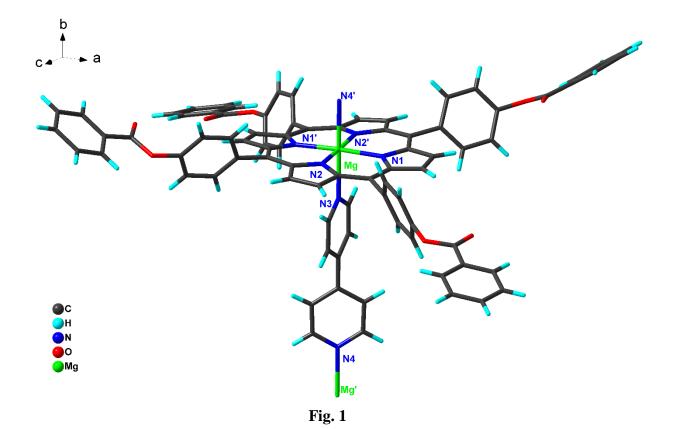
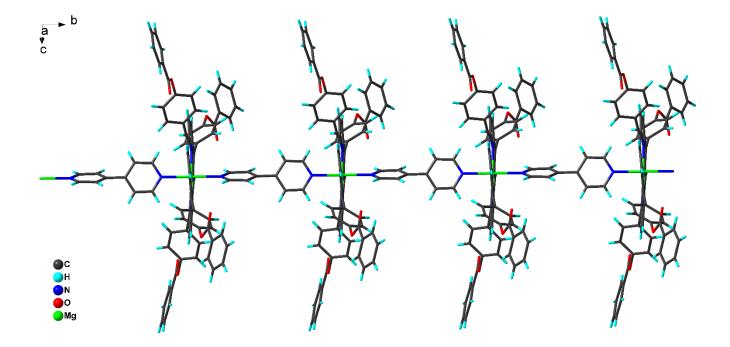


Fig. 2



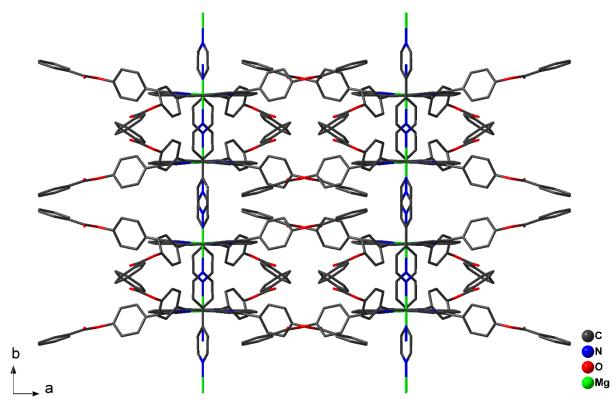


Fig. 3

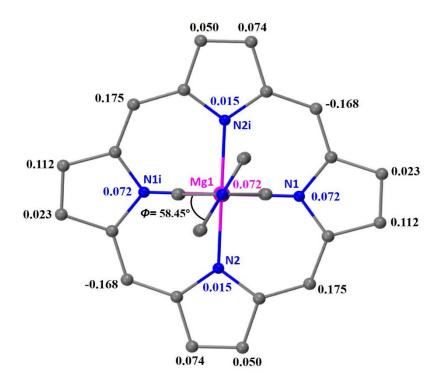


Fig. 4

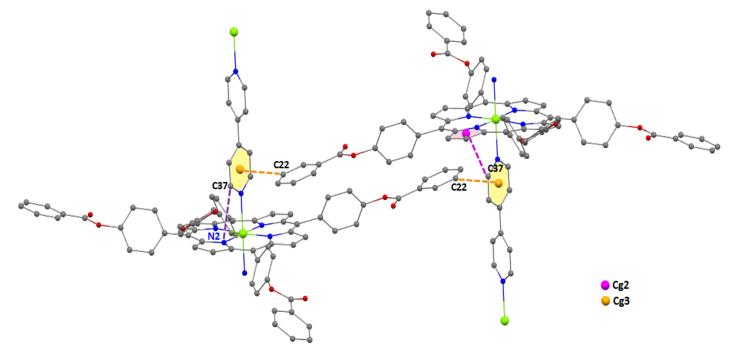
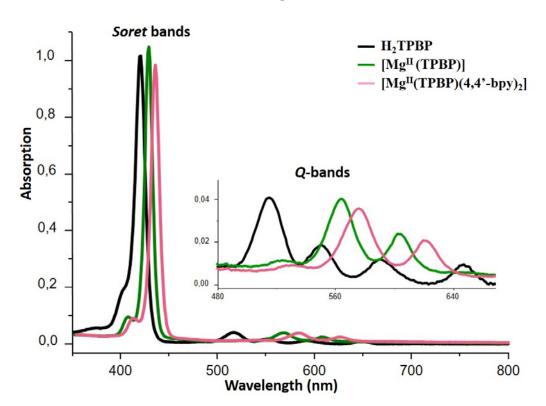
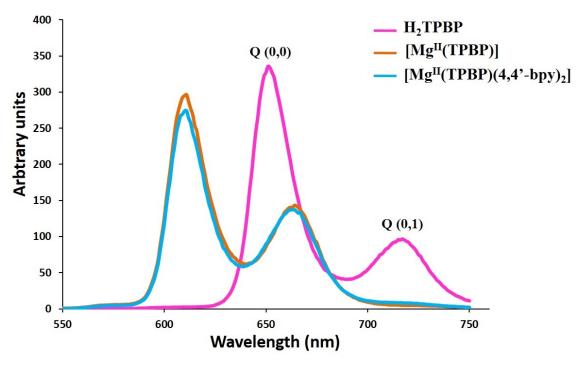


Fig. 5

Fig. 6





**Fig. 7** 

# **Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)**

# Synthesis, Molecular structure, Photophysical Properties and Spectroscopic Characterization of New 1D-Magnesium (II) Porphyrin-Based Coordination Polymer

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$$\frac{\mathsf{MgCl2}}{\mathsf{DMF}}[\mathsf{Mg^{II}}(\mathsf{TPBP})] \xrightarrow{4,4'-\mathsf{bipyridine}} [\mathsf{Mg^{II}}(\mathsf{TPBP})(4,4'-\mathsf{bpy})_2]$$

$$\mathsf{H_2TPBP}$$

Scheme S1 Main chemical preparation steps.

Table S1 Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°].

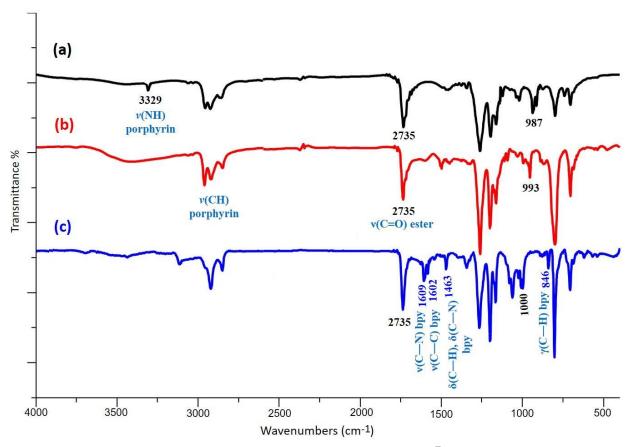
Cobalt coordination polyhedron						
Mg1-N1	2.062(2)	N1-Mg1-N2	90.81(9)			
Mg1-N2	2.069(2)	N1-Mg1-N3	88.29(6)			
Mg1-N3	2.319(3)	N1-Mg1-N4	91.71(6)			
Mg1-N4	2.290(3)					
4,4'-bipyridine ligand						
N3-C37	1.339(3)	C42-N4-Mg1	121.57(15)			
.N4-N42	1.329(3)	C37–N3–Mg1	121.75(15)			

**Table S2** UV/Vis data of several free base *meso*-porphyrins, our complex and a selection of magnesium *meso*-metalloporphyrins in dichloromethane.

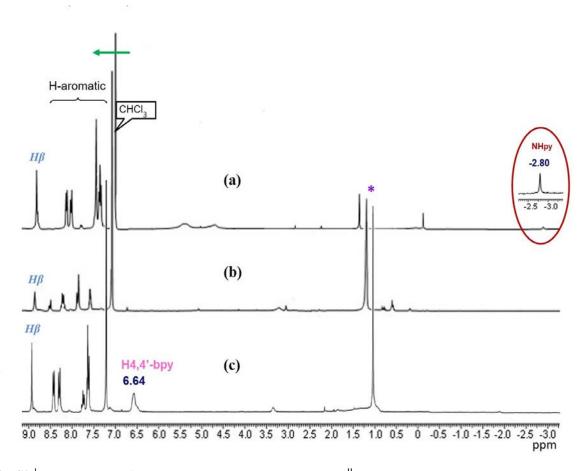
Compound	Soret band $\lambda$ [nm] (log $\varepsilon$ )	$Q$ bands $\lambda$ [nm] (log $arepsilon$ )				[ref]
H <sub>2</sub> TPP	416 (6.10)	513 (5.70)	550 (4.36)	590 (4.24)	646 (4.19)	[1]
$H_2TTP$	420 (5.95)	515 (5.82)	555 (4.28)	595 (4.17)	650 (4.10)	[1]
$H_2TPBP$	419 (5.92)	515 (4.47)	551 (4.14)	590 (3.95)	646 (3.84)	this work
[Mg <sup>II</sup> (TPP)]	424 (5.87)	563 (4.52)	603 (4.39)			[2]
$[Mg^{II}(TPP)]$	424 (8.09)	563 (6.54)	602 (6.30)			[2]
[Mg <sup>II</sup> (TPBP)]	427 (5.88)	565 (4.45)	605 (4.17)			this work
$[Mg^{II}(TPBP)(4,4'-bpy)_2]$ ( <b>I</b> )	430 (6.03)	571 (5.07)	614 (5.00)			this work
$[Mg^{II}(TPP)(HTMA)_2]$	434 (6.22)	575 (4.97)	617 (4.98)			[3]

Table S3 Emission data of H<sub>2</sub>TPBP and a selection of magnesium *meso*-tetraphenylporphyrins.

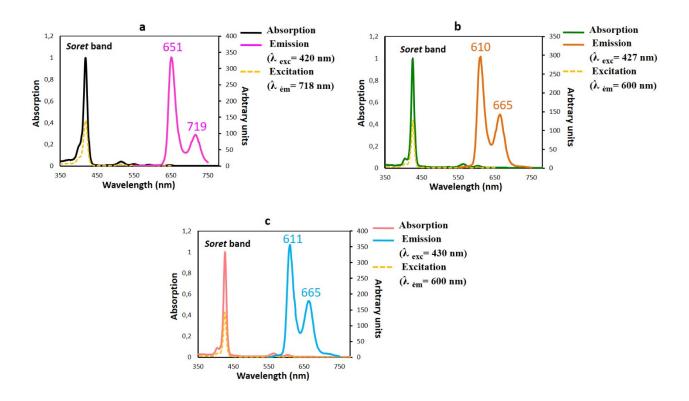
Compound	Q(0,0) [nm]	Q(0,1)[nm]	$\mathbf{\Phi}_{\!f}$	Solvent	[Ref]
H <sub>2</sub> TPP	654	712	0.110	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	[4]
$H_2$ TPP	656	717	0.09	$CH_2Cl_2$	[5]
$H_2$ TPBP	653	715	0.038	$CH_2Cl_2$	[6]
$H_2$ TPBP	651	719	0.054	$CH_2Cl_2$	this work
$[Mg^{II}(TPP)]$	608	665	0.150	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl	[4]
[Mg <sup>II</sup> (TPP)]	608	661	0.150	$CH_2Cl_2$	[2]
[Mg <sup>II</sup> (TPBP)]	610	665	0.050	$CH_2Cl_2$	this work
$[Mg^{II}(TPBP) (4,4'-bpy)_2] (I)$	611	665	0.065	$CH_2Cl_2$	this work
$[Mg^{II}(TPP) (HTMA)_2]$	620	665	0.14	$CH_2Cl_2$	[3]
[Mg <sup>II</sup> (TPP) (NCO)]	609	659	0.11	$CH_2Cl_2$	[2]



 $\textbf{Fig. S1} \; IR \; spectrum \; spectra \; of: \; H_2TPBP \; (a), \; [Mg(TPBP)] \; (b) \; and \; [Mg^{II}(TPBP)(4,4'-bpy)_2] \; \textbf{(I)} \; (c).$ 



 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{Fig. S2} \ ^1HNMR \ spectra \ of: \ $H_2TPBP$ (a), \ [Mg(TPBP)]$ (b) and \ [Mg^{II}(TPBP)(4,4'-bpy)_2]$ (I) (c). The green arrow indicates the shift of protons towards low-field. \\ \end{tabular}$ 



**Fig. S3** Absorption, excitation and emission spectra in dichloromethane. (a):  $H_2TPBP$ , (b): [Mg(TPBP)], (c):  $[Mg^{II}(TPBP)(4,4'-bpy)_2]$  (I). Concentration ~  $10^{-6}$  M.

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