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Heteroleptic Iron(III) {Quinolylsalicylaldimine/Thiosemicarbazone- salicylaldimine} Complexes: Spin crossover, intermolecular structural and solvation features, magnetism and Mössbauer spectra

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The relationship between intermolecular interactions and spin-crossover features such as the abruptness of the spin transition and cooperativity, in crystalline complexes of iron(II) and iron(III), is of much current interest.¹ We were particularly interested to make heteroleptic complexes of Hqsal and H2thsa ligands (where Hqsal = quinolylsalicylaldimine² and H2thsa = thiosemicarbazone-salicylaldimine³) for the first time, to explore the intermolecular interactions when two different ligands are present around each Fe(III) centre. A family of neutral, heteroleptic iron(III) complexes, [Fe(qsal)(thsa)]·solvent, is presented where solvent is 0.4BuOH, 0.5MeCN, 0.5THF, as well as two polymorphs of solvent free compounds i.e. [Fe(qsal)(thsa)]. We describe a fascinating array of intermolecular interactions occurring in the various crystals, all containing two distinct Fe sites, including similarities and differences and the importance of a void in the lattice structure wherein solvate molecules sit (or do not sit, in [Fe(qsal)(thsa)] polymorphs), and how these all relate to differences in spin states of neighbouring [Fe(qsal)(thsa)] molecules i.e. HS-HS and spin crossover HS-HS to HS-LS. Supporting information and insights are provided by TGA, PXRD and Mössbauer spectral data.

Keywords

Spin crossover, Fe(III), Single crystal X-ray diffraction

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