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Synthesis, Structural Characterization, and Biological Activities of Organically Templated Cobalt Phosphite (H₂DAB)[Co(H₂PO₃)₄]·2H₂O

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Abstract: A novel hybrid cobalt phosphite, (H₂DAB)[Co(H₂PO₃)₄]·2H₂O, was synthesized by using a slow evaporation method in the presence of cobalt nitrate, phosphorous acid, and 1,4-diaminobutane (DAB = 1,4-diaminobutane) as a structure-directing agent. Single-crystal X-ray diffraction analysis showed that the compound crystallizes in the triclinic system (space group P-1(n.2)) with the following unit cell parameters (Å, °) a = 5.4814 (3), b = 7.5515 (4), c = 10.8548 (6), α = 88.001 (4), β = 88.707 (5), γ = 85.126 (5), and V = 447.33 (4) Å³. The crystal structure is built up from corner-sharing [CoO₆] octahedra, forming chains parallel to [001], which are interconnected by H₂PO₃[−] pseudo-tetrahedral units. The diprotonated cations, residing between the parallel chains, interact with the inorganic moiety via hydrogen bonds, thus leading to the formation of the 3D crystal structure. The Fourier transform infrared spectrum showed characteristic bands corresponding to the phosphite group and the organic amine. The thermal behavior of the compound mainly consisted of the loss of its organic moiety and the water molecules. The biological tests exhibited significant activity against *Candida albicans* and *Escherichia coli* strains at different concentrations, while less inhibitory activity was pronounced against *Staphylococcus epidermidis* and *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, and in the case of multi-cellular organisms, no activity against the nematode model *Steinernema feltiae* was detected.

Keywords: hybrid phosphite; X-ray crystal structure; FTIR; thermal behavior; biological activities; antimicrobial; micro-organisms

1. Introduction

Crystalline metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) are porous materials with promising physicochemical properties and applications [1–7]. The applications of such materials range from chemical catalysis, energy storage, and drug delivery to food preservation, sterilization, and environmental protection [8]. Several successful examples containing varying metals, e.g., Ag⁺, Cu²⁺, Co²⁺ and Zn²⁺, have been investigated [1]. In this context, the class of hybrid phosphite compounds remains an important focus of many materials scientists due to their wide range of structures exhibiting a richness of geometry, dimensionality, and connectivity [9]. Hybrid phosphite compounds have sustained release capability and structural flexibility in combination with other materials [10,11].

Perhaps one of the most appealing characteristics of hybrid organic–inorganic compounds is their enhanced functionality and performance as compared to individual inorganic

dients [12]. The combination of inorganic and organic motifs has been shown to result in a synergic effect towards the desired application [8]. MOFs containing Ag^+ , Zn^{2+} , and CO^{2+} have been shown to be promising antimicrobial activity [13]. Hence, they can effectively inhibit bacterial and fungal growth in food, pharmaceutical, and cosmetic products [14]. These compounds can be synthesized through different methods one of which is slow evaporation, which is time-consuming, yet produces pure high yields of the compounds and is generally considered simple [15–26]. While silver-based MOFs are indeed effective and stable they remain relatively expensive and unsuitable for application in corrosive conditions [27,28]. Comparatively, much fewer Co hybrid compounds are known; they are relatively cheaper and can be applied effectively as antimicrobial agents, especially as they are less toxic when compared with Ag hybrid compounds [10].

Therefore, we opted to synthesize a novel hybrid cobalt phosphite porous compound and evaluate its biological activity against different micro-organisms. In this context, in the present manuscript, we describe the synthesis achieved via slow evaporation, the crystal structure, the spectroscopic characterization achieved via Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) analysis, and the thermal behavior of the new hybrid phosphite $(\text{H}_2\text{DAB})[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3)_4]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$. Moreover, we also report on the biological activity of the compound against *Candida albicans*, *Escherichia coli*, *Staphylococcus epidermidis*, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, *Steinernema feltiae*.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1. Materials and Instrumentation

All reagents were acquired from commercial sources and used without further purification. The infrared spectrum of the compound was recorded on a VERTEX 70 FTIR Spectrometer in the range $4000\text{--}400\text{ cm}^{-1}$ using the ATR technique at 4 cm^{-1} resolutions. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) data were recorded on an SDT-Q600 analyzer from TA Instruments (Eschborn, Germany). The temperature varied from RT to 1273.15 K at a heating rate of 10 degrees per minute. Measurements were carried out on samples in open platinum crucibles under air flow.

2.2. Synthesis

Individual crystals of $(\text{H}_2\text{DAB})[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3)_4]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ were synthesized under ambient conditions. The reaction mixture of $\text{Co}(\text{NO}_3)_2\cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (1 mmol, 300 mg), 1,4-diaminobutane (DAB) (1.92 mmol, 170 mg), and H_3PO_3 (3.65 mmol, 300 mg) was shaken in distilled water for 6h and then left at room temperature to cool. After 2 weeks, hexagonal purple crystals arose on the bottom of the beaker; these were harvested, washed with water–ethanol mixture (80:20), and dried in air.

2.3. Crystal Structure Determination

Single-crystal X-ray diffraction measurement was carried out at room temperature using an Agilent Gemini S diffractometer equipped with a CCD detector and molybdenum (Mo) radiation source. Acquired data were processed with the CrysAlisPro software [29]. Using Olex2 [30], the structure was solved with the olex2.solve [31] structure solution program using Charge Flipping and refined with the olex2.refine [31] refinement package using Gauss–Newton minimization. All non-hydrogen atoms were anisotropically refined, and hydrogen atoms were included in the model at calculated positions and refined with a rigid model with their Uiso value fixed at 1.2Ueq of their parent atoms.

Table 1 reports the crystallographic data and experimental details of data collection and structure refinements. The structural graphics were produced using both DIAMOND program [32] and Mercury [33].

The supplementary materials containing crystal structure and refinement, the full list of bond lengths and angles, and the anisotropic thermal parameters were deposited with the Inorganic Crystal Structure Database, FIZ, Hermann von Helmholtz Platz 1, 76344 Eggen-

stein Leopoldshafen, Germany; Fax: (+49)-7247-808-132; Email: crysdata@fiz-karlsruhe.de. The deposition number is CCDC 1882579.

Table 1. Experimental X-ray data collection from $(\text{H}_2\text{DAB})[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3)_4] \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

Chemical Formula	$(\text{C}_4\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2)[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3)_4] \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Mr (g/mol)	509.08
F(000)	263.9
Symmetry, S.G.	Triclinic P-1 (n. 2)
Cell parameters/V	$A = 5.4814 (3) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 7.5515 (4) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 10.8548 (6) \text{ \AA}$, $\alpha = 88.001 (4)^\circ$, $\beta = 88.707 (5)^\circ$, $\gamma = 85.126 (5)^\circ / 447.33 (4) \text{ \AA}^3$
Z	1
λ (Mo K α radiation) ($\text{\AA}$)	0.71073
T(K)/ $\mu(\text{mm}^{-1})$	298/1.39
Crystal size (mm)	$0.25 \times 0.25 \times 0.3$
Measured reflections/independent reflections (reflections with $I \geq 2\sigma(I)$)/parameters	9480/2005 (1878)/137
$\Theta_{\text{min}}-\Theta_{\text{max}} (^\circ)/\text{Rint}$	1.9–27.8/0.024
Reciprocal space limiting indices	h: $-6-7$, k: $-9-9$, l: $-13-14$
$R[F_2 > 2\sigma(F_2)]/\text{wR}(F_2)/\text{G.O.F.}$	0.026/0.072/1.03

2.4. Biological Assays

2.4.1. The Antimicrobial Activity

The activity of $(\text{H}_2\text{DAB})[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3)_4] \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ compound against *C. albicans*, *E. coli* strains, *S. epidermidis*, *S. cerevisiae*, and *S. feltiae* was investigated in routine microbial growth assays based on optical density and recorded in the form of growth curves. Fresh cultures of *S. epidermidis*, *E. coli*, *C. albicans*, and *S. cerevisiae* were prepared on bacterial tryptic soy broth, Luria-Bertani broth (LB), Sabouraud Dextrose Agar (SDA), and Yeast Peptone Dextrose (YPD) agar media, respectively. After 18–24 h of incubation, the microbial colonies from these agar plates were then transferred into 10 mL solution of 0.9% *w/v* NaCl (saline), and the turbidity of the suspension was adjusted to 0.5 of McFarland standard. These microbial suspensions were then exposed to the samples as described in Section 3.4. Bacterial and yeast culture with growth medium were employed as negative controls and sterile distilled water was utilized as a solvent control, whilst the positive control consisted of a mixture of 10,000 units. mL^{-1} of penicillin, 10,000 $\mu\text{g. mL}^{-1}$ of streptomycin, and 25 $\mu\text{g. mL}^{-1}$ of amphotericin B. The sample was evaluated at various dilutions (of 250, 500, and 1000 μM), and the plates were incubated at 37 °C for 24 h. Microbial growth was monitored by recording the optical density of the samples at 0 h and 24 h using a Micro Plate Reader E800 at 593 nm. These absorbance values were converted into percentages and compared to the negative control, whose absorbance values were normalized to 100% and served as references at each time interval. All experiments were carried out in triplicate at three different occasions ($n = 9$). Results are represented as mean $\pm$ SD, and statistical significances were calculated by one-way ANOVA using GraphPad Prism (Version 5.03, GraphPad Software, La Jolla, CA, USA) with $p < 0.05$ considered to be of statistical significance.

2.4.2. Nematocidal Activity

The model nematode, *S. feltiae*, was purchased from Sautter und Stepper GmbH (Ammerbuch, Germany) in the form of powder and stored at 4 °C in the dark. Fresh samples were utilized prior to each experiment. A homogeneous mixture was prepared by dissolving 200 mg of nematode powder in 50 mL distilled water. Later, the nematode suspension

was placed for 15 min at room temperature with shaking and in moderate light. Viability was examined under a light microscope at four-fold magnification (TR 200, VWR International, Leuven, Belgium). The viability of nematodes above 80% in each sample was considered a prerequisite for each experiment. 10 microliters of nematode suspension was added to each well of a 96-well plate. The hybrid cobalt phosphite $(\text{H}_2\text{DAB})[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3)_4] \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ was then added into the wells to achieve concentrations of 250, 500 and 1000 μM . Afterwards, the volume in each well was adjusted to 100 μL by adding Phosphate Buffered Saline (PBS pH = 7.4). PBS and ethanol (10 μL per well) were employed as negative and positive controls, respectively, and sterile distilled water was the solvent control. Each experiment was performed independently on three different occasions and in triplicate ($n = 9$). Living and dead nematodes were counted under the microscope prior to treatment, and the viability fraction (V_0) was calculated (usually > 0.9). Prior to recounting at V_{24} , 50 μL of lukewarm water (40 $^\circ\text{C}$) was added to each well to stimulate the nematodes. The V_{24} fraction was calculated in terms of living and dead nematodes and was expressed as a percentage of initial viability V_0 according to the equation:

$$\text{Viability (\%)} = [V_{24}/V_0] \times 100 \quad (1)$$

Results are represented as mean $\pm$ SD, and GraphPad Prism (Version 5.03, GraphPad Software, La Jolla, CA, USA) was used to calculate the statistical significances by one-way ANOVA. $p < 0.05$ was statistically significant.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Structural Description

As shown in Figure 1, there was one crystallographically distinct Co located at special position $(\frac{1}{2} \ 0 \ \frac{1}{2})$ (Table 1). The asymmetric unit of $(\text{H}_2\text{DAB})[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3)_4] \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ contained 13 non-hydrogen atoms located at general positions (Table 1), including one water oxygen named O(13). The cobalt cation showed octahedral geometry, coordinating six oxygen atoms from adjacent phosphite groups. The Co–O bond lengths ranged from 2.0919(12) Å to 2.1336(12) Å, with an average Co–O distance of 2.1258 Å, in good agreement with the value 2.113 Å reported in $[(\text{C}_4\text{N}_8\text{H}_{12})\text{Co}(\text{HPO}_3)_2(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_3]$ [34] and to that of 2.1205 Å for $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_2)[\text{Co}_3(\text{HPO}_3)_4]$ [35]. All H_2PO_3^- units adopted pseudo-tetrahedral coordination geometry. P(5) shared two oxygens with adjacent Co atoms, while P(7) was connected by one P–O–Co bond and possessed a short terminal P–O bond (1.4955 (15) Å). The P–O bond distances were in the range 1.5050(13)–1.5732(14) Å for P(5) atom [$d_{(\text{P}-\text{O})}$ Av. 1.5283 Å] and 1.4987(13)–1.5625(15) Å for P(7) [$d_{(\text{P}-\text{O})}$ Av. 1.5189 Å]. P(5) and P(7) atoms had a terminal phosphite P–H bond 1.241 (1) and 1.3127 (1) Å, respectively. These values are in good agreement with those reported in $(\text{C}_2\text{NH}_8)_2[\text{Co}_3(\text{HPO}_3)_4]$, $(\text{C}_4\text{N}_2\text{H}_{12})[\text{Co}(\text{HPO}_3)_2]$ [36], and $(\text{H}_2\text{DAB})_{0.5}\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3)(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)$ [37].

The strict alternation of $[\text{CoO}_6]$ octahedra and H_2PO_3^- pseudo tetrahedral via oxygen vertices resulted in an anionic network with a Co/P ratio of 1/2. The polyhedral units were joined through corners sharing four-membered rings, which were thereby connected through their edges, forming an infinite one-dimensional chain rising along [100], Figure 2.

The individual chain units were further linked together through hydrogen bond interactions (Figure 3, Table 2). The 1,4-butanediammonium templates made up of N12, C11, and C10 atoms and their symmetry-related N12^i , C11^i and C10^i , which reside between the parallel chains, were deprotonated. Together with the free-standing water molecules, they were further ensuring the stability of the three-dimensional network.

3.2. Infrared Spectroscopy

The infrared spectrum of $(\text{H}_2\text{DAB})[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3)_4] \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Figure 4) exhibited bands corresponding to the vibration modes of the organic template, phosphite groups, and water molecules. The stretching vibration of NH_2 in 1,4-butanediammonium cation was observed in the high frequencies of 3090–3200 cm^{-1} , while its bending appeared at 1600 cm^{-1} [38].

The values pointing between 2600 and 2736 cm^{-1} corresponded to the symmetric and asymmetric stretching of NH_3^+ , and also confirmed the protonation form of the organic amine molecule. The two large vibrations at around 2813 and 2923 cm^{-1} were down to the stretching mode of $\nu(\text{-CH}_2\text{-})$, while the medium band at 1314 cm^{-1} coincided with the stretching vibration of $\nu(\text{C-N})$. The characteristic bond of phosphite groups was manifested by a small and medium vibration at around 2420 and 2430 cm^{-1} and it corresponded to the stretching vibration of $\nu(\text{P-H})$, while the bands from 990 to 1030 cm^{-1} were assigned to the bending mode of $\delta(\text{P-H})$. The vibration modes centered at 1057 and 1164 cm^{-1} were ascribed to the symmetric and asymmetric stretching of PO_3 group, while its symmetric and asymmetric bending were observed at 670 and 460 cm^{-1} , respectively. The broad vibration located at 916 cm^{-1} was attributed to the stretching vibration of P-OH bond [25]. The set of bands related to the stretching vibration and deformation of the OH group and belonging to water molecules was observed at around 3000 and 1645 cm^{-1} [19,20].

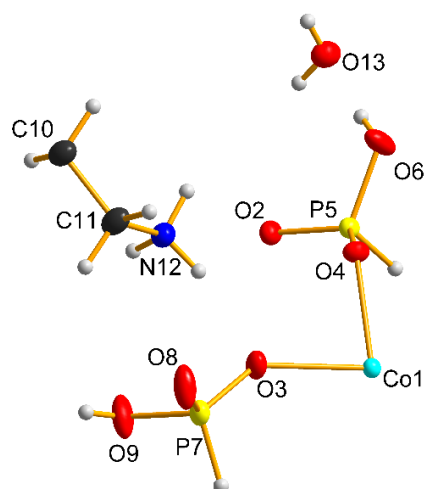


Figure 1. Asymmetric unit of $(\text{H}_2\text{DAB})[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3)_4]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$. Thermal ellipsoids are shown at 60% probability.

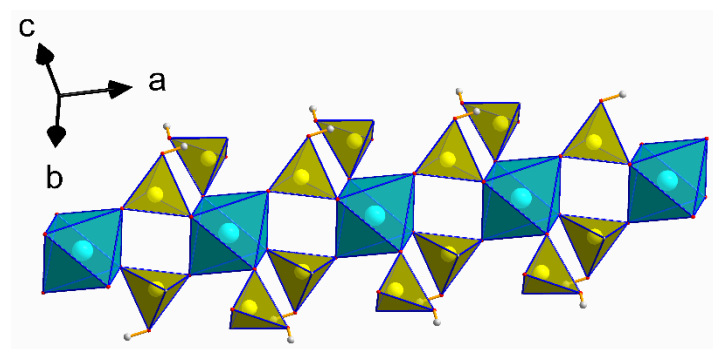


Figure 2. A fragment of the structure of $(\text{H}_2\text{DAB})[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3)_4]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ along [010], showing the infinite four-membered ring chain propagating along [100]. Polyhedrons: cyan $[\text{CoO}_6]$, yellow H_2PO_3^- .

Table 2. Hydrogen bonding network in the framework of $(\text{H}_2\text{DAB})[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3)_4]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

D-H...A	D-H/ $\text{\AA}$	H...A/ $\text{\AA}$	D...A/ $\text{\AA}$	DHA/ $^\circ$
O6-H6...O13	0.80 (3)	1.80 (3)	2.605 (2)	175 (3)
O9-H9...O8	0.82 (1)	1.77 (1)	2.574 (2)	169 (1)
N12-H12A...O6	0.89 (1)	2.16 (1)	2.900 (2)	140 (1)
N12-H12B...O3	0.89 (1)	2.02 (1)	2.887 (2)	166 (1)
N12-H12C...O8	0.89 (1)	1.91 (1)	2.776 (2)	165 (1)
O13-H13A...O2	0.71 (3)	2.22 (3)	2.888 (2)	159 (3)
O13-H13B...O4	0.76 (3)	2.11 (3)	2.863 (2)	179 (4)

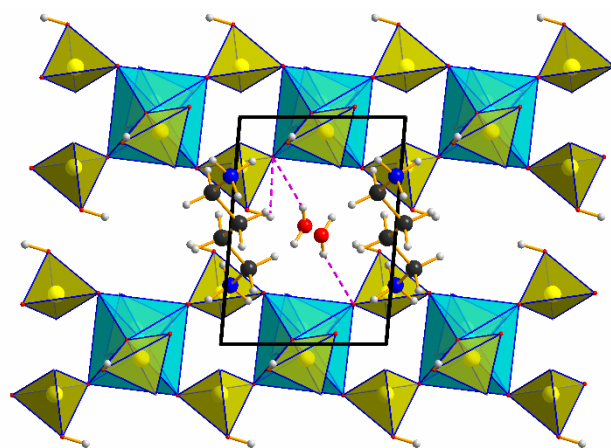


Figure 3. The crystal structure of $(\text{H}_2\text{DAB})[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3)_4] \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ in a projection along c -axis emphasizing the hydrogen bonds (dashed lines).

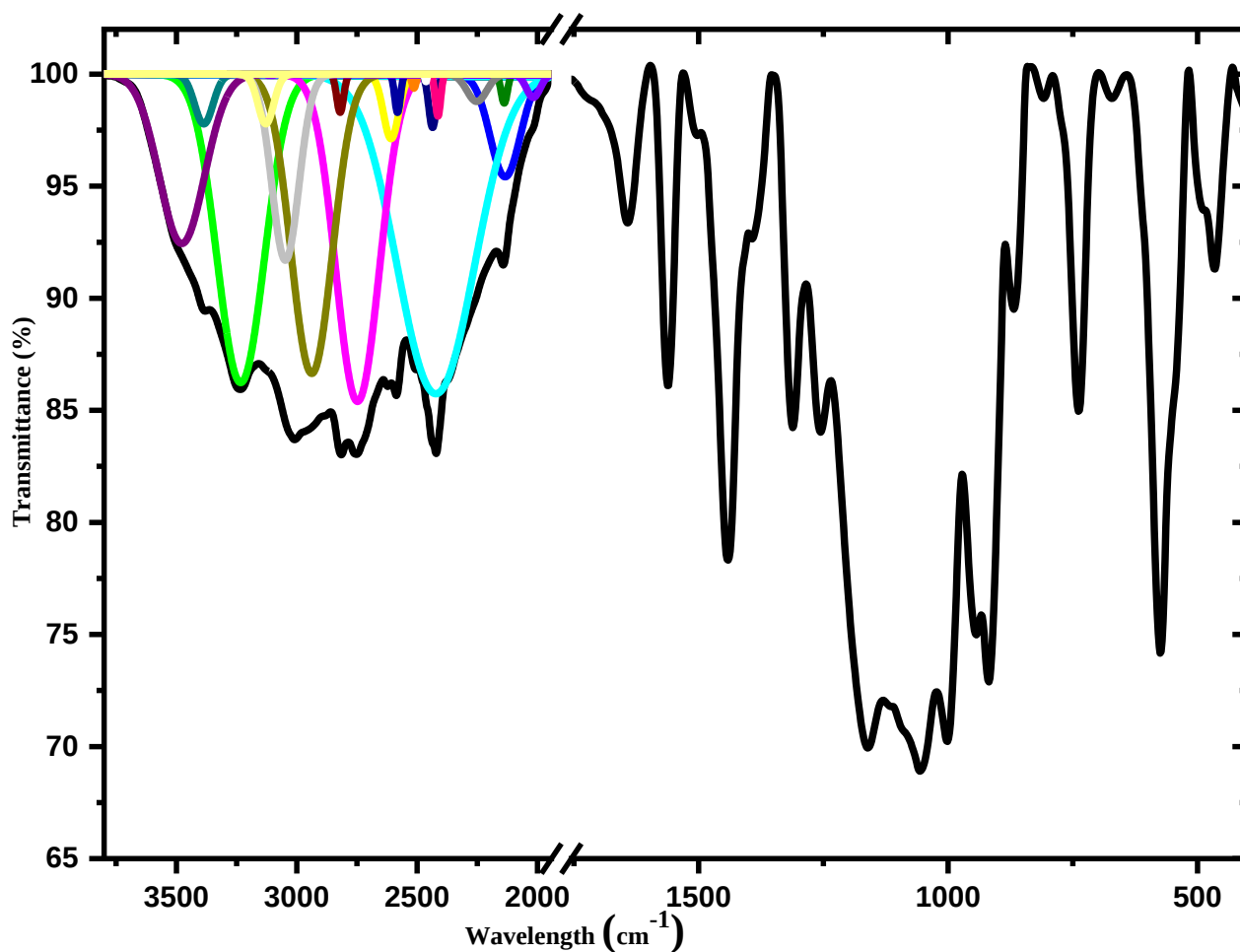


Figure 4. Infrared spectrum of $(\text{H}_2\text{DAB})[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3)_4] \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

3.3. Thermal Behavior

Thermal analysis was performed under air atmosphere, and as depicted in Figure 5, the experimental data of $(\text{H}_2\text{DAB})[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3)_4] \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ showed four separated stages of weight loss in a total of 52.75% ranging from 25 to 1000 °C. The first experimental mass loss (5.45%) occurred between 150 and 270 °C and corresponded to the easy departure of one and half molecules of the two structural water molecules (calculated value 5.30%). This quick dehydration of the hybrid cobalt phosphite may be explained by the engagement of

the water molecules in a weak network of hydrogen bonds. This variation was coupled with a sharp exothermic signal in the differential thermal analysis trace at 174 °C. The second weight loss of 5.35%, ranging from 271 to 358 °C on the TG curve, was related to the departure of the remaining half water molecule and the release of NH_3 unit from the organic moiety (calculated value 5.11%). This degradation was manifested by an intense exothermic peak at 292 °C. The experimental value of 8.95%, pointing at 385 °C on the TG profile and highlighted by a small set of signals on the DTA measurement, coincided with the continuous volatilization of the organic moiety (calculated value 8.85%). The last experimental mass loss (33%), observed between 497 and 973 °C can be associated with the total degradation of the organic moiety and the formation of the cobalt metaphosphate compound $\text{Co}(\text{PO}_3)_2$ through a condensation reaction of phosphite groups (calculated value 37%). This formation was mainly characterized by a small exothermic heat flow at 632 °C.

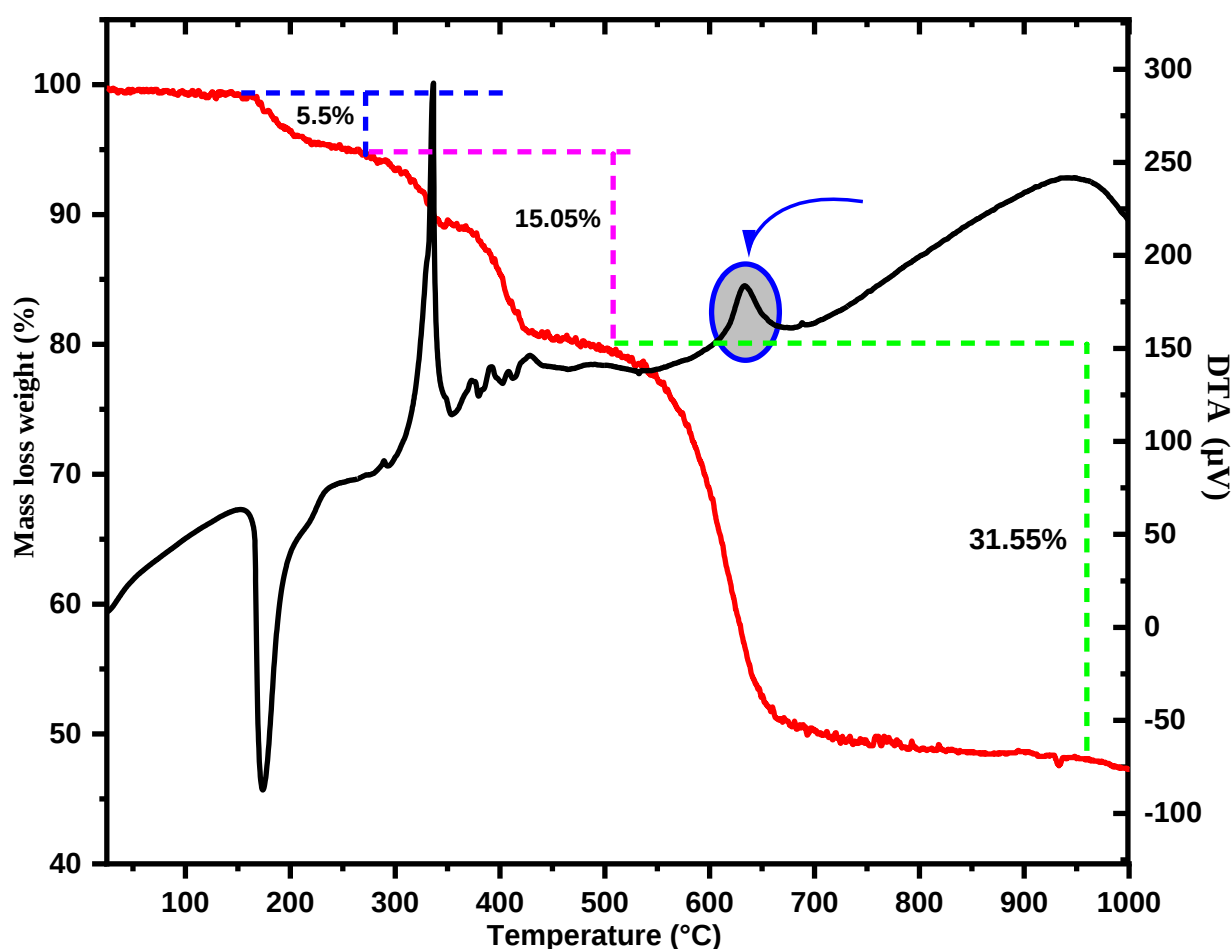


Figure 5. Thermogravimetric (TG) and differential thermal analysis (TDA) curves of $(\text{H}_2\text{DAB})[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3)_4] \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

3.4. Biological Activities

The hybrid cobalt phosphite compound was tested for its antimicrobial activity against two bacteria (*E. coli* and *S. epidermidis*) and two fungi (*S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans*) strains. A mixture of 10,000 units. mL^{-1} of penicillin, 10,000 $\mu\text{g. mL}^{-1}$ of streptomycin, and 25 $\mu\text{g. mL}^{-1}$ of amphotericin B was used as a control at three different concentrations, 250, 500 and 1000 $\mu\text{g. mL}^{-1}$. Ethanol was used as a positive control. The percentage inhibition and minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) values of the compound based on the growth of micro-organisms are shown in Figure 6.

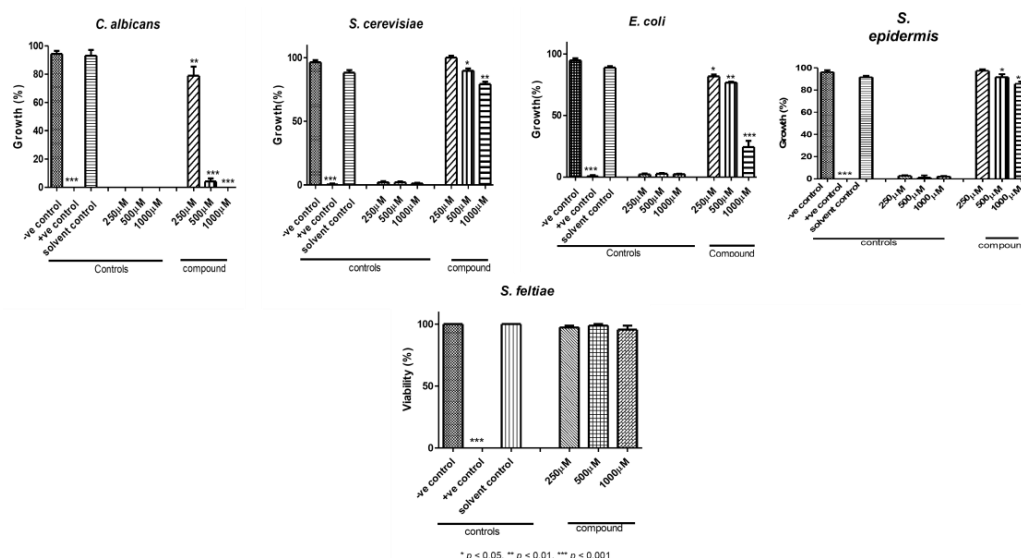


Figure 6. Antimicrobial activity of $(\text{H}_2\text{DAB})[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3)_4] \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ against *C. albicans*, *S. cerevisiae*, *E. coli*, *S. epidermidis* and *S. feltiae*.

The mechanism of action attributed to the antimicrobial activity of MOFs resides in their metal-ion reservoir and their controlled degradation and release of the soft metal ions from the hard organic ligands [38,39]. Several MOFs containing silver and copper have been investigated extensively and shown to have significant antibacterial antiviral and antifungal activities [40–43]. Cobalt phosphite MOFs are stable in water and more affordable [44–47]. These Co compounds are believed to affect micro-organisms through two main mechanisms: (1) the release of Co^{2+} ions, similar to silver and copper compounds and (2) the direct interaction between the Co^{2+} with the microbial cellular membrane [47–52].

Statistically, our hybrid cobalt phosphite compound exhibited significant inhibitory activity against *C. albicans*, *E. coli* strains, *S. epidermidis* and *S. cerevisiae*, and but not against the multi-cellular organism *S. feltiae*. In terms of growth reduction observed, the hybrid cobalt phosphite compound demonstrated strong antifungal activity against *C. albicans* at an MIC value of 500 and 1000 $\mu\text{g/mL}$. Notably, the inhibition of growth was much less in the case of *S. cerevisiae*. The compound showed lower activity as an antibacterial agent. Here, *E. coli* demonstrated higher inhibition than *S. epidermidis*. The nematode assay showed that the compound had almost no impact on viability against this organism.

4. Conclusions

A novel organically templated cobalt phosphite $(\text{H}_2\text{DAB})[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3)_4] \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ was synthesized by slow evaporation. Single-crystal structure analysis showed that the framework displays a chain-like structure, containing vertex-sharing four-membered rings formed by the connectivity between $[\text{CoO}_6]$ octahedrons and $[\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3]$ -pseudo-tetrahedral units bound through their edges. The 1,4-butanediammonium acts as a stabilizer of the inorganic network through hydrogen bonds. The thermogravimetric analysis showed that the dehydration of the hybrid phosphite takes place in three steps, resulting mainly from the loss of the organic moiety and water molecules. The antimicrobial investigation exhibited significant activity against *C. albicans* and *E. coli* strains, while less activity was noted against *S. cerevisiae* and *S. epidermidis*. Further studies on hybrid phosphite compounds are needed to assess their safety and applicability in the fields of medicine and agriculture. More studies should also focus on comparing the utility gain between cobalt, copper, zinc, and silver MOFs.

Supplementary Materials: The following are available online at <https://www.mdpi.com/article/10.3390/sci4010005/s1>, Figure S1. Asymmetric unit of $(\text{H}_2\text{DAB})[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3)_4] \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$. Thermal ellipsoids are shown at 60% probability. Figure S2. A fragment of the structure of $(\text{H}_2\text{DAB})[\text{Co}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_3)_4] \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$

along [010], showing the infinite four-membered ring chain propagating along [100]. Polyhedrons: cyan [CoO₆], yellow [H₂PO₃]. Figure S3. The crystal structure of (H₂DAB)[Co(H₂PO₃)₄]·2H₂O in a projection along c-axis emphasizing the hydrogen bonds (dashed lines). Figure S4. Infrared spectrum of (H₂DAB)[Co(H₂PO₃)₄]·2H₂O. Figure S5. Thermogravimetric (TG) and differential thermal analysis (TDA) curves of (H₂DAB)[Co(H₂PO₃)₄]·2H₂O. Figure S6. Antimicrobial activity of (H₂DAB)[Co(H₂PO₃)₄]·2H₂O against *Candida albicans*, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, *Escherichia coli*, *Staphylococcus epidermidis* and *Steinernema feltiae*. Table S1. Experimental X-ray data collection from (H₂DAB)[Co(H₂PO₃)₄]·2H₂O. Table S2. Hydrogen bonding network in the framework of (H₂DAB)[Co(H₂PO₃)₄]·2H₂O.

Author Contributions: Investigation, N.H., S.C., I.d.S., M.E. and R.A.; Project Administration, B.E.B.; Supervision, M.L., C.J. and B.E.B.; Visualization, I.d.S., R.A. and B.E.B.; Writing—Original Draft, N.H., S.C. and I.d.S.; Writing—Review and Editing, A.Y.A. and B.E.B. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

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