

ESI – Complete Crystallographic Information

The crystals of **1** were synthesised as discussed previously in the literature.⁴

A typical red crystal was chosen 0.20 x 0.10 x 0.07 mm, mounted in fluoropolyether oil on a hair and quench cooled to 200 K using an Oxford Cryosystems Cryostream 600 series open flow N₂ cooling device.⁷ Using a Bruker SMART-CCD 1000 area detector diffractometer, with graphite-monochromated Mo-K α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å), several sets of ω -scans (0.3°/frames) at different ϕ settings were collected. On completion, the crystal was cooled to 120 K at 240 K/hr, where the data collection was repeated. The crystal was then warmed to 200 K at 180 K/hr then to 290 K at 360 K/hr where the crystal was removed. The Cryostream was then replaced with an Oxford Cryosystems HeliX open flow helium cryostat,⁸ and the crystal was cooled to 30 K in stages. At 30 K a hemisphere of data was collected (ω -scans, 0.9°/frames), after which the crystal was irradiated for approximately 30 mins with a 25 mW red laser ($\lambda = 633$ nm) after which data were collected as at 200 K and 120 K. Cell parameters were determined and refined using the SMART software⁹ and raw frame data were integrated using the SAINT program.¹⁰ The structures were solved by direct methods and refined by full-matrix least squares on F^2 using SHELXTL software¹¹ (crystal data are listed below). Reflection intensities were corrected for absorption effects by numerical integration based on measurements and indexing of the crystal faces (using SHELXTL software). Non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically and hydrogen atoms were located in the difference map and refined with isotropic displacement parameters.

Single Crystal Data: C₂₂H₂₄B₂FeN₁₀, $M_r = 505.98$, monoclinic, C2/c, $Z = 4$.

200 K – $a = 16.2215(15)$ Å, $b = 15.0254(15)$ Å, $c = 11.0397(11)$ Å, $\beta = 114.858(4)^\circ$, $V = 2441.5(4)$ Å³, Data/restraints/parameters – 3510/0/207, $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0514$, Final $R_1 = 0.0521$, $wR_2 = 0.0777$ ($I > 2\sigma(I)$).

120 K – $a = 16.1373(8)$ Å, $b = 14.6208(8)$ Å, $c = 10.8120(6)$ Å, $\beta = 113.775(2)^\circ$, $V = 23334.5(2)$ Å³, Data/restraints/parameters – 3351/0/207, $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0567$, Final $R_1 = 0.0501$, $wR_2 = 0.0856$ ($I > 2\sigma(I)$).

30 K – $a = 16.1106(11)$ Å, $b = 14.5909(10)$ Å, $c = 10.8281(8)$ Å, $\beta = 113.895(3)^\circ$, $V = 2327.2(3)$ Å³, Data/restraints/parameters – 2662/0/207, $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0606$, Final $R_1 = 0.0491$, $wR_2 = 0.0823$ ($I > 2\sigma(I)$).

30 K-Irr – $a = 16.0350(9)$ Å, $b = 14.9377(9)$ Å, $c = 11.0470(7)$ Å, $\beta = 114.986(2)^\circ$, $V = 2398.4(2)$ Å³, Data/restraints/parameters – 2700/0/207, $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0629$, Final $R_1 = 0.0630$, $wR_2 = 0.0969$ ($I > 2\sigma(I)$).

$\Delta\rho_{\text{min,max}} < \pm 1 \text{ e.}\text{\AA}^{-3}$ in all cases.

The crystals of **2** were synthesised as discussed previously in the literature.⁴

A typical red crystal was chosen (0.28 x 0.10 x 0.02 mm), mounted in epoxy resin (Araldite[®]) on a hair and quench cooled to 200 K using an Oxford Cryosystems Cryostream 600 series open flow N₂ cooling device.⁸ Using a Bruker SMART-CCD 6000 area detector diffractometer, with graphite-monochromated Mo-K α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å), data were collected as for **1**. On completion, the crystal was cooled to 100 K at 360 K/hr, where the data collection was repeated. A second red crystal (0.28 x 0.10 x 0.02 mm) was selected, mounted (as before), and quenched to 200 K using an Oxford Cryosystems HeliX.⁷ Cell parameters recorded using a Bruker ProteumM diffractometer with Bede Microsource[®] (Mo-K α radiation, $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å), agreed with those seen previously at 200 K, so the crystal was cooled to 30 K at 360 K/hr, where a hemisphere was collected (as before). On completion, the crystal was irradiated for approximately 2 mins with a 25 mW red laser ($\lambda = 633$ nm) after which another hemisphere was collected. The data treatment was carried out as for **1**, except that hydrogen atoms were positioned geometrically and refined using a riding model.

Single Crystal Data: C₂₂H₂₄B₂FeN₁₀, $M_r = 505.98$.

200 K – monoclinic, C2/c, $Z = 4$, $a = 17.3607(16)$ Å, $b = 16.0397(14)$ Å, $c = 10.5614(9)$ Å, $\beta = 121.617(4)^\circ$, $V = 2504.4(4)$ Å³, Data/restraints/parameters – 3370/0/216, $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0485$, Final $R_1 = 0.0461$, $wR_2 = 0.0888$ ($I > 2\sigma(I)$).

100 K – triclinic, $P\bar{1}$, $Z = 2$, $a = 11.6730(13)$ Å, $b = 11.0458(13)$ Å, $c = 10.5651(12)$ Å, $\alpha = 69.520(3)^\circ$, $\beta = 109.777(3)^\circ$, $\gamma = 93.368(3)^\circ$, $V = 1198.1(2)$ Å³, (the related larger cell: $a = 16.5354(14)$ Å, $b = 15.5923(13)$ Å, $c = 10.5651(12)$ Å, $\alpha = 89.688(4)^\circ$, $\beta = 118.202(3)^\circ$, $\gamma = 93.168(3)^\circ$, $V = 2396.2(3)$ Å³) Data/restraints/parameters – 6409/0/403, $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0539$, Final $R_1 = 0.0628$, $wR_2 = 0.1296$ ($I > 2\sigma(I)$).

30 K – triclinic, $P\bar{1}$, $Z = 2$, $a = 16.655(2)$ Å, $b = 11.0156(19)$ Å, $c = 10.5664(8)$ Å, $\alpha = 69.492(3)^\circ$, $\beta = 109.755(3)^\circ$, $\gamma = 93.280(3)^\circ$, $V = 1192.9(4)$ Å³, Data/restraints/parameters – 5832/0/407, $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0546$, Final $R_1 = 0.0545$, $wR_2 = 0.0894$ ($I > 2\sigma(I)$).

30 K-Irr – triclinic, $P\bar{1}$, $Z = 2$, $a = 10.727(7)$ Å, $b = 12.415(8)$ Å, $c = 10.712(6)$ Å, $\alpha = 67.473(15)^\circ$, $\beta = 110.377(15)^\circ$, $\gamma = 93.505(11)^\circ$, $V = 1231.0(13)$ Å³, Data/restraints/parameters – 5369/0/350, $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0302$, Final $R_1 = 0.0798$, $wR_2 = 0.1620$ ($I > 2\sigma(I)$).

$\Delta\rho_{\text{min,max}} < \pm 1.2 \text{ e.}\text{\AA}^{-3}$ in all cases.

All structures have been deposited with the CCDC (Nos 233281- 233288). The data is also available in CIF format.