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Thermal property and structural molecular dynamics of organic–inorganic hybrid perovskite 1,4-butanediammonium tetrachlorocuprate †

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We investigate the thermal behaviour and physical properties of the crystals of the organic inorganic hybrid perovskite $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$. The compound's thermal stability curve as per thermogravimetric analysis exhibits a stable state up to ~ 495 K, while the weight loss observed near 538 K corresponds to partial thermal decomposition. The ^1H nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) chemical shifts for NH_3 change more significantly with temperature than those for CH_2 , because the organic cation motion is enhanced at both ends of the organic chain. The ^{13}C NMR chemical shifts for the ' CH_2 -1' units of the chain show an anomalous change, and those for ' CH_2 -2' (units closer to NH_3) are shifted sharply. Additionally, the ^{14}N NMR spectra reflect the changes of local symmetry near T_C ($=323$ K). Moreover, the ^{13}C $T_{1\rho}$ values for CH_2 -2 are smaller than those for CH_2 -1, and the ^{13}C $T_{1\rho}$ data curve for CH_2 -1 exhibits an anomalous behaviour between 260 and 310 K. These smaller $T_{1\rho}$ values at lower temperatures indicate that ^1H and ^{13}C in the organic chains are more flexible at these temperatures. The NH_3 group is attached to both ends of the organic chain, and NH_3 forms a $\text{N}-\text{H}\cdots\text{Cl}$ hydrogen bond with the Cl ion of inorganic CuCl_4 . When H and C are located close to the paramagnetic Cu^{2+} ion, the $T_{1\rho}$ value is smaller than when these are located far from the paramagnetic ion.

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1. Introduction

The search for new and improved functional materials in recent years has resulted in considerable progress in the synthesis of many families of organic–inorganic compounds. The properties and structural phase transition of these compounds are related to their structures and the interaction of the cationic units with complex anionic sublattices. One such group of hybrid compounds, whose structure can be expressed by the general formula $[\text{NH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{NH}_3]\text{MX}_4$ (M = divalent metal ion and $X = \text{Cl}, \text{Br}$) is known to crystallise in a 2D perovskite-like structure, and these compounds are usually referred to as organic–inorganic hybrid perovskites or organic–metal–halide composites.^{1–6} These perovskites combine the advantages of both organic and inorganic materials in a single molecular scale.^{1,7,8} In particular, in the diammonium hybrid perovskite with its formula of $[\text{NH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{NH}_3]\text{MX}_4$, the NH_3 group is attached to both ends of the organic chain.^{3,7,8} At the end of the

organic part of the chain, the ammonium ion forms a $\text{N}-\text{H}\cdots\text{X}$ hydrogen bond with the halide ion of the metallic inorganic layer.⁹ These perovskite hybrids tend to exhibit a number of phase transitions such as order–disorder transitions. Here, we note that the properties of organic–inorganic hybrid perovskites depend on the organic cation, divalent metal, and halogen ion, and thus, it is necessary to investigate the 'structure-directing' properties of these new materials. In general, 2D hybrid perovskites can find use in the fields of energy, optoelectronics, photonics, and catalysis in green chemistry applications.^{9–13}

The compound $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$, or 1,4-butanediammonium tetrachlorocuprate, with $M = \text{Cu}$ and $X = \text{Cl}$, undergoes a reversible phase transition at 325 K ($=T_C$)¹⁴ between the two monoclinic phases II and I. The transition can be explained by order–disorder mechanisms involving a model of twisted conformation chains, which was introduced to explain the decrease in interlayer distance with increasing temperature from X-ray diffraction experiment. From structural considerations, these results can be explained by the conformational change of organic chains from the left-handed conformation in phase II to an all-trans conformation in phase I.¹⁴ The structural geometry of $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ in the room-temperature phase II and high-temperature phase I are represented in Fig. 1(a) and (b), respectively. The crystal structure at room temperature is monoclinic, corresponding to space group $P2_1/c$. The unit cell dimensions are $a = 9.270$ Å, $b = 7.600$ Å, $c = 7.592$ Å, $\beta = 103.14^\circ$, and $Z = 2$.^{14,15} Structural

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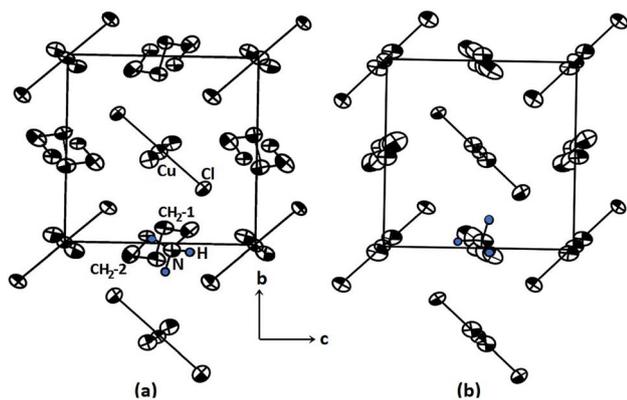


Fig. 1 Crystal arrangement on the *bc*-plane in $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ for (a) room temperature phase II and (b) high temperature phase I. Here, CH_2 -1 represents two CH_2 between four CH_2 , and CH_2 -2 represents two CH_2 close to NH_3 .

cohesion is achieved *via* $\text{N-H}\cdots\text{Cl}$ hydrogen bonds. $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ is composed of alternating inorganic CuCl_4^{2-} layers and organic $[\text{NH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{NH}_3]^{2+}$ sheets. The CuCl_4^{2-} layers are sandwiched by $[\text{NH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{NH}_3]^{2+}$ cations, which possess centrosymmetrical chains with left-handed conformations at both ends, thereby forming the organic sheets. Above 325 K, the symmetry changes to that of a monoclinic structure with space group $P2_1/c$, and the corresponding lattice constants are $a = 10.420 \text{ \AA}$, $b = 7.442 \text{ \AA}$, $c = 7.225 \text{ \AA}$, $\beta = 93.46^\circ$, and $Z = 2$.¹⁵

In the context of the property measurements of such compounds, Snively *et al.* conducted magnetic susceptibility measurements of $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ powdered and single-crystals in the temperature range of 4 to 200 K.^{16,17} They reported that the interplanar superexchange interaction along the linear Cu-Cl-Cl-Cu path exhibits a significantly stronger Cu-Cu -distance dependence than that along the Cu-Cl-Cu path. This crystal structure has been reported in phases I and II by Garland *et al.*¹⁸ Subsequently, the phase transitions occurring in the perovskite-type 2D molecular composite $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ have been studied by means of differential scanning calorimetry (DSC), X-ray diffraction (XRD),¹¹ and electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR).^{14,19,20}

Understanding the structural dynamics of organic-inorganic hybrid perovskite $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ is essential for their advanced use as new materials. Here, we study the structural dynamics of the organic-inorganic hybrid perovskite $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ *via* magic angle spinning (MAS) nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) and static NMR experiments. The chemical shifts and spin-lattice relaxation times in the rotating frame $T_{1\rho}$ in the low- and high-temperature phases are measured by means of MAS ^1H NMR and cross-polarisation (CP)/MAS ^{13}C NMR to understand the role of the organic cation in this crystal. The ^{14}N NMR spectra of the compound in the laboratory frame are also obtained as a function of temperature. We use these results to discuss the structural dynamics of the $\text{NH}_3\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-NH}_3$ chain below and above the phase transition temperature T_c . In particular, an

examination of the hydrogen bonding of $\text{N-H}\cdots\text{Cl}$ between the Cu-Cl layer and the alkylammonium chain within $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ can provide important insights into the operational mechanism as regards potential applications.

II. Experimental method

Crystals of $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ were prepared by mixing equimolar amounts of $\text{NH}_2(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{NH}_2\cdot 2\text{HCl}$ and CuCl_2 in aqueous solution and allowing the resulting mixture to slowly evaporate. The light-green-coloured crystals grew as rectangular parallelepipeds with dimensions of $5 \text{ mm} \times 5 \text{ mm} \times 1 \text{ mm}$.

The crystal structure of $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ was determined with a X-ray diffraction system, using a $\text{Cu-K}\alpha$ radiation source at the KBSI, Seoul Western Center. DSC (TA, DSC 25) experiments were carried out at a heating rate of $10^\circ\text{C min}^{-1}$ in the temperature range of 190 to 600 K in a nitrogen-gas atmosphere. Thermogravimetry analysis (TGA) experiments were conducted using a thermogravimetric analyser (TA Instruments) under conditions identical to those of DSC over a temperature range of 300 to 680 K. The DSC and TGA experiments were performed by using crystal sample quantities of 6.23 and 7.53 mg, respectively.

Solid-state MAS NMR investigations of the $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ crystals were conducted by using a 400 MHz Avance II+ Bruker NMR spectrometer at the same facility. The MAS ^1H NMR and CP/MAS ^{13}C NMR experiments were performed at the Larmor frequencies of $\omega_0/2\pi = 400.13$ and 100.61 MHz, respectively. Solid samples were packed into 4 mm-diameter zirconia rotors and closed off using Vespel caps. The samples were spun at 10 kHz MAS by using dry nitrogen gas. The ^1H and ^{13}C NMR chemical shifts were obtained with the use of tetramethylsilane (TMS) as a standard. The $T_{1\rho}$ data for ^1H and ^{13}C were obtained by applying a $\pi/2$ pulse, immediately followed by a long spin-locking pulse phase-shifted by $\pi/2$ with respect to the $\pi/2$ pulse. The width of the $\pi/2$ pulse used for $T_{1\rho}$ measurements was $3.3 \mu\text{s}$, which yields the frequency of the rotating frame as $\omega_1 = 75.75$ kHz. The $T_{1\rho}$ data were obtained by varying the length of the spin-locking pulse. In addition, the ^{14}N NMR spectra of a $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ single-crystal were obtained at the Larmor frequency of $\omega_0/2\pi = 28.90$ MHz in the laboratory frame. The ^{14}N resonance frequency was referenced with NH_3NO_3 as the standard sample. The ^{14}N NMR spectrum was obtained by the application of the following solid-state echo sequence: $8 \mu\text{s}-\tau$ ($16 \mu\text{s}$)- $8 \mu\text{s}-\tau$ ($16 \mu\text{s}$). The temperature change was maintained within the error range of ± 0.5 K by adjusting the nitrogen gas flow and heater current.

III. Results and discussion

The powder X-ray diffraction pattern of $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ at 300 K is described in the ESI,[†] and this data is consistent with previously reported results.¹⁴ Fig. 2 shows the DSC curve of the $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ crystals obtained with the heating rate of $10^\circ\text{C min}^{-1}$. An endothermic signal corresponding to the previously reported¹⁴ II-I phase transition is detected at 323 K. In addition, a very large exothermic peak is



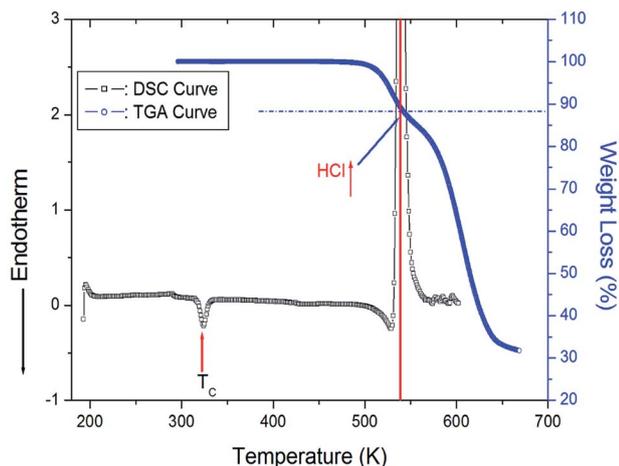


Fig. 2 Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC) and thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) curves of $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$.

observed at 538 K. To understand the origins of this peak, we performed TGA experiments; these results are also shown in Fig. 2. In the TGA curve, a stable state is observed up to ~ 495 K, whereas a weight loss is observed at higher temperatures, which represents partial thermal decomposition. Here, we note that $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ crystals show the weight loss with temperature increase. From the TGA experimental results and possible chemical reactions, we compared the weight loss. The weight loss of 12% around 538 K obtained from the DSC experiment is consistent with the calculated decomposition of HCl moieties. From the figure, we note that the weight sharply decreases between 500 and 650 K, with a corresponding weight loss of 67% near 650 K.

Next, we acquired the MAS ^1H NMR spectrum of the $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ crystals at various temperatures (Fig. 3). In the figure, we can observe two resonance signals for ^1H . The spinning sidebands corresponding to CH_2 are indicated

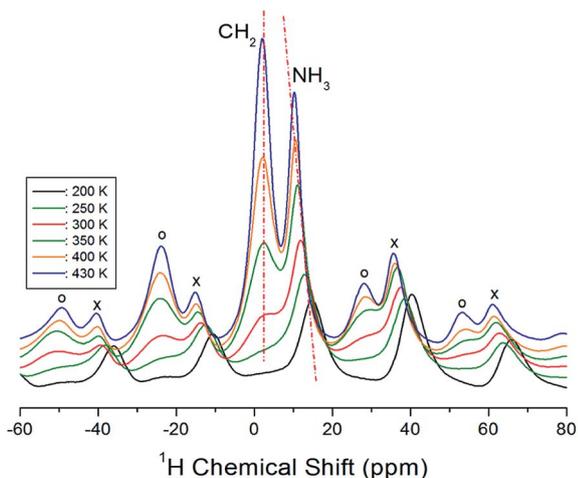


Fig. 3 MAS ^1H NMR spectra for CH_2 and NH_3 of $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ at various temperatures (spinning sidebands for CH_2 and NH_3 are indicated by open circles and crosses, respectively).

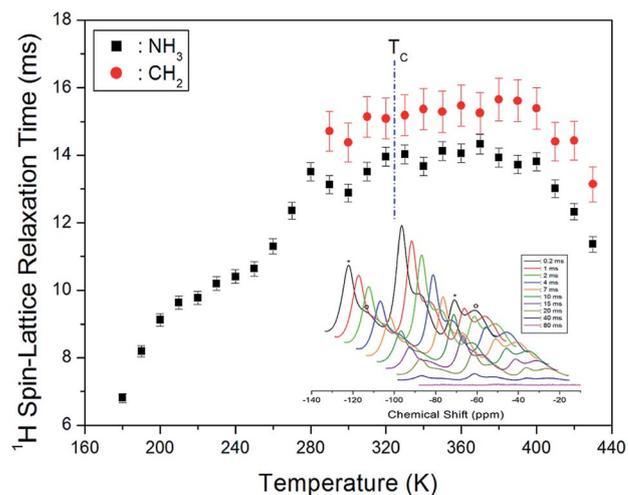


Fig. 4 ^1H NMR spin-lattice relaxation times $T_{1\rho}$ for CH_2 and NH_3 ions of $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ as a function of temperature (inset: ^1H NMR spectrum at several delay times at 300 K).

by open circles, and those of NH_3 are indicated by crosses. At 300 K, the ^1H NMR chemical shifts for CH_2 and NH_3 are observed at $\delta = 2.73$ ppm and $\delta = 11.86$ ppm, respectively. Below 300 K, the ^1H resonance signal bonded to CH_2 mostly merges with the ^1H resonance signal bonded to NH_3 , which makes it difficult to distinguish the two signals. In addition, the ^1H resonance signal for CH_2 is related to the number of bonded protons, which means that the signal exhibits a stronger intensity and wider linewidth than the corresponding ones for NH_3 . The ^1H NMR chemical shifts according to the temperature exhibit a greater change for NH_3 than CH_2 . These results indicate that NH_3 is temperature-sensitive.

Next, we measured the MAS ^1H NMR spectrum at various temperatures, and the intensity change for the delay time was observed to obtain the spin-lattice relaxation time in the rotating frame ($T_{1\rho}$) for ^1H at each temperature. Normally, the $T_{1\rho}$ data can be obtained as the slope of the intensity or the ratio of the area of the resonance signal to the delay time. The change in the proton magnetisation intensity in terms of $T_{1\rho}$ is expressed as below:^{21–23}

$$P(\tau) = P(0) \exp(-\tau/T_{1\rho}), \quad (1)$$

where $P(\tau)$ and $P(0)$ denote the signal intensities at time τ and $\tau = 0$, respectively. Next, at 300 K, the MAS ^1H NMR signals of CH_2 and NH_3 were plotted for various delay times in the range from 0.2 to 80 ms (Fig. 4); we note that the intensities of the ^1H NMR signal as a function of the delay times exhibit considerable variation. From the slope of the intensity vs. delay time curve, the ^1H $T_{1\rho}$ data of $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ were obtained for CH_2 and NH_3 in the low-temperature phase II and high-temperature phase I. From Fig. 4, we note that no changes are observed in the $T_{1\rho}$ value near T_c , and $T_{1\rho}$ slightly increases according to the temperature change. The ^1H $T_{1\rho}$ values for CH_2 and NH_3 at 300 K are 14.37 and 12.88 ms, respectively. Here, the ^1H $T_{1\rho}$ value for NH_3 is smaller than that for CH_2 . This is



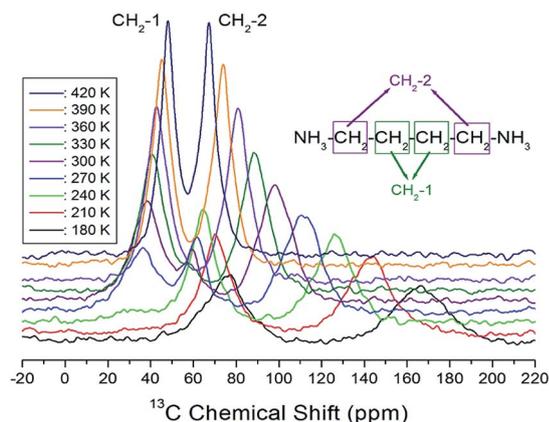


Fig. 5 *In situ* MAS ^{13}C NMR spectra for CH₂-1 and CH₂-2 of [(NH₃)(CH₂)₄(NH₃)]CuCl₄ as a function of temperature.

possibly because NH₃ is closer to the inorganic CuCl₄ layer; the $T_{1\rho}$ value becomes smaller as the distance between H and the paramagnetic Cu²⁺ ion reduces. This is because $T_{1\rho}$ is inversely proportional to the square of the magnetic moment of the paramagnetic ion.²¹

The CP/MAS ^{13}C NMR chemical shifts measured at various temperatures are shown in Fig. 5. In the study, the MAS ^{13}C NMR spectrum for TMS was recorded at 38.3 ppm at 300 K, and this value was calibrated to determine the chemical shift in ^{13}C . Here, the two inner CH₂ groups of the four CH₂ ones are together designated as CH₂-1, and the two CH₂ units close to the NH₃ ones are designated as CH₂-2. We note from the figure that the ^{13}C chemical shifts for CH₂-1 (far from NH₃) are different from those for CH₂-2, which is closer to NH₃. In the ^{13}C NMR spectra obtained for CH₂-1 and CH₂-2, two unusual resonance lines are observed between 260 and 310 K. At 300 K, the two resonance signals for CH₂-1 are recorded at chemical shifts of $\delta = 38.44$ and 59.56 ppm. Furthermore, the signal of $\delta = 98.23$ ppm corresponds to CH₂-2. The ^{13}C chemical shifts

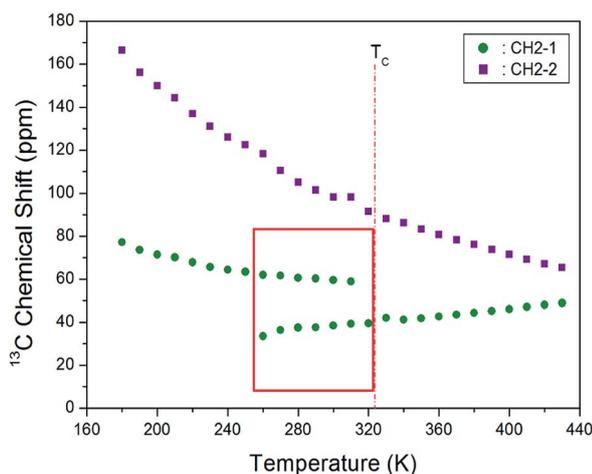


Fig. 6 MAS ^{13}C chemical shifts for CH₂-1 and CH₂-2 of [(NH₃)(CH₂)₄(NH₃)]CuCl₄ at low temperature phase II and high temperature phase I.

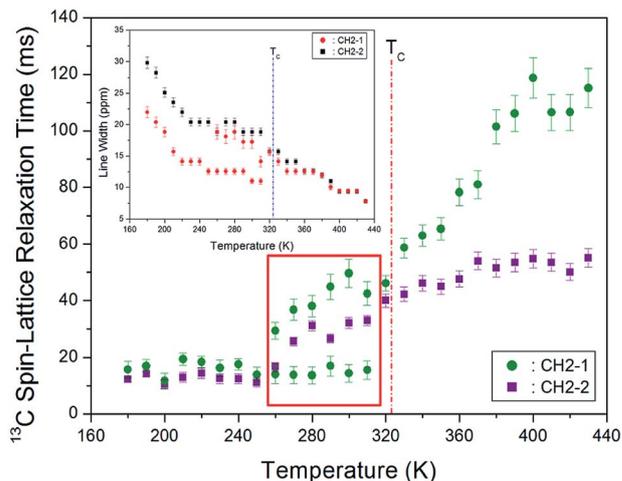


Fig. 7 MAS ^{13}C NMR spin-lattice relaxation times $T_{1\rho}$ for CH₂-1 and CH₂-2 of [(NH₃)(CH₂)₄(NH₃)]CuCl₄ as a function of temperature (inset: line widths for CH₂-1 and CH₂-2 according to the temperature).

for CH₂-1 exhibit an anomalous change with increase in temperature, whereas those for CH₂-2 shift abruptly with increasing temperature, as shown in Fig. 6. The two resonance lines between 260 and 310 K correspond to CH₂-1, and hitherto unreported anomalous phenomena are observed in this temperature range.

We next remark that line broadening in the MAS ^{13}C NMR spectra is influenced by relaxation processes such as the spectral modulations of the chemical shift anisotropy and dipolar carbon-proton coupling. Fig. 7 shows the ^{13}C full-width at half-maximum (FWHM) linewidth of [(NH₃)(CH₂)₄(NH₃)]CuCl₄. The ^{13}C NMR line shapes vary from the Gaussian type at lower temperatures to the Lorentzian shape at higher temperatures. The appearance of these two-component spectra is caused by difference in different molecular motions. The linewidth near the phase transition temperature T_c shows

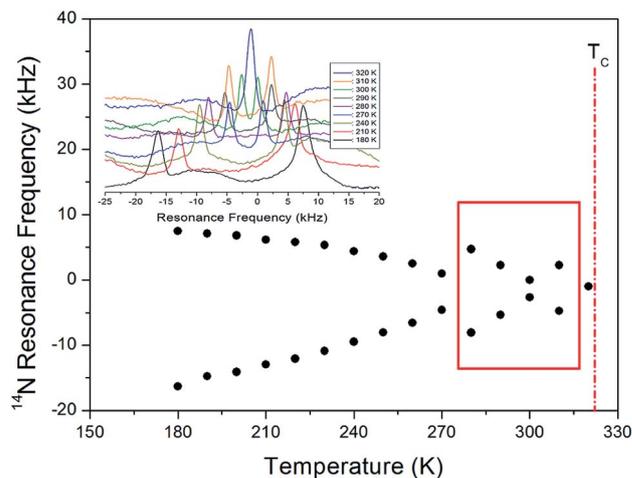


Fig. 8 ^{14}N resonance frequency of [(NH₃)(CH₂)₄(NH₃)]CuCl₄ single crystal as a function of temperature (inset: *in situ* ^{14}N resonance frequency at several temperatures).



Table 1 Phase transition temperature T_C , decomposition temperature T_d , structure, space group, lattice constant, spin-lattice relaxation time $T_{1\rho}$ for $[\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{NH}_3]_2\text{CuCl}_4$ and $[\text{NH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{NH}_3]\text{CuCl}_4$ crystals

	$[\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{NH}_3]_2\text{CuCl}_4$	$[\text{NH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{NH}_3]\text{CuCl}_4$
T_C (K)	236, 330, 357, 371 (ref. 26–31)	325 (ref. 14)
T_d (K)	430	495
Structure	Orthorhombic ^{32–34}	Monoclinic ^{14,15}
Space group	<i>Pbca</i>	<i>P2₁/c</i>
Lattice constant	$a = 7.47$	$a = 9.270$
(Å)	$b = 7.35$	$b = 7.600$
	$c = 21.18$	$c = 7.592$
		$\beta = 103.14^\circ$
$^1\text{H } T_{1\rho}$ (ms)	7–20 (ref. 35)	6–16
$^{13}\text{C } T_{1\rho}$ (ms)	2–200	10–120

a monotonic decrease, thereby indicating the presence of motional narrowing at high temperatures.

The spin–lattice relaxation time in the rate of relaxation is due to spin–lattice interactions in the rotating frame. The ^{13}C $T_{1\rho}$ relaxations are not influenced by spin diffusion because of the small dipolar coupling which arises from the low natural abundance and large separation of the nuclei. Under these conditions, we next analysed differences in the chain motions. The integration change of the ^{13}C NMR spectrum obtained for various delay times was measured, and all the decay curves for CH_2 -1 and CH_2 -2 were plotted by using a single exponential function. From the slope of their recovery traces, the ^{13}C $T_{1\rho}$ data were obtained for CH_2 -1 and CH_2 -2 as a function of temperature, as shown in Fig. 7. It can be observed that although no change in the $T_{1\rho}$ value is observed near T_C , $T_{1\rho}$ above T_C abruptly increases with increasing temperature. The ^{13}C $T_{1\rho}$ values for CH_2 -1 and CH_2 -2 at lower temperatures (below T_C) are nearly identical; however, the ^{13}C $T_{1\rho}$ values for CH_2 -2 close to NH_3 at high temperatures are smaller than that for CH_2 -1. At high temperatures, smaller ^{13}C $T_{1\rho}$ values for CH_2 -2 are more flexible than the CH_2 -1. Just as the ^{13}C resonance lines for CH_2 -1 exhibited anomalies between 260 and 310 K, the ^{13}C $T_{1\rho}$ also exhibits two different sets of values. The relaxation time for Arrhenius-type random motions with correlation time τ_C is described in term of slow motions; for $\tau_C \ll \omega_L$, $T_{1\rho} \sim \tau_C = \tau_0 \exp(-E_a/k_B T)$, where ω_L denotes the Larmor frequency and E_a the activation energy.

The ^{14}N NMR spectrum in the laboratory frame was next measured in the temperature range from 180 to 430 K by using the solid-state echo method at the Larmor frequency of 28.90 MHz by means of static NMR. The two resonance lines are obtained by spin number $I = 1$,^{24,25} and the resonance frequency around T_C (=323 K) changes as shown in Fig. 8. The observed change in the ^{14}N resonance frequency with temperature is due to structural geometry change, which means a change in the quadrupole coupling constant. The linewidth at 300 K is ~ 44 ppm, and this spectrum is relatively broader than the ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra. The ^{14}N resonance frequency decreases almost continuously until 270 K, while that of the ^{14}N signal between 280 and 310 K exhibits an anomalous pattern. Similar to the anomaly of the ^{13}C resonance line observed between 260

and 310 K, an abnormal phenomenon is observed in the ^{14}N resonance line in this region. At 320 K near T_C , there is only one ^{14}N resonance line, and at temperatures >320 K, no resonance lines are observed. At the transition point of 323 K, the ^{14}N NMR lines merge into one line. This single ^{14}N resonance line indicates that there is no electric field gradient (EFG) tensor at the N site in phase I because of site symmetry. The EFG tensor changes around the N site, which indicates a change in the structural configuration around the N site near T_C .

IV. Conclusions

In this study, we investigated the thermal behaviour and physical properties of organic–inorganic hybrid perovskite $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ crystals. The structural dynamics of $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]\text{CuCl}_4$ with emphasis on the role of the $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]$ cation, were discussed by MAS ^1H NMR, MAS ^{13}C NMR, and static ^{14}N NMR as a function of temperature. Firstly, we found that the TGA curve exhibited stability until 495 K, and the observed weight loss of 12% near 538 K was due to the partial thermal decomposition of HCl moieties.

Secondly, the ^1H NMR chemical shift of NH_3 for crystallographic environments changed more significantly with temperature than that for CH_2 because the $[(\text{NH}_3)(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)]$ cation motion is enhanced at both ends of the cation of the NH_3 group. The ^{13}C NMR chemical shifts for CH_2 -1 showed an anomalous change, and those for CH_2 -2 shifted sharply to lower values when compared with that of CH_2 -1. The ^{13}C chemical shifts of the CH_2 -2 unit (closer to the N–H \cdots Cl bond) sharply changed relative to those of CH_2 -1. In addition, the ^{14}N NMR spectra reflected the changes in the local symmetry of the crystal near T_C .

The ^1H $T_{1\rho}$ values for CH_2 and NH_3 slightly increased with temperature increase. Moreover, the ^{13}C $T_{1\rho}$ value for CH_2 -2 was smaller than that of CH_2 -1, and the ^{13}C $T_{1\rho}$ value for CH_2 -1 exhibited an anomalous trend between 260 and 310 K. At low temperatures, the ^1H and ^{13}C $T_{1\rho}$ values were smaller than at high temperatures. Smaller $T_{1\rho}$ values at lower temperatures indicate that ^1H and ^{13}C in the organic chains are more flexible at these temperatures. Moreover, the ^{13}C of CH_2 -2 close to NH_3 of the organic chain is more flexible than the ^{13}C of CH_2 -1



between the four CH₂ sites. The NH₃ group is attached to both ends of the organic chain, and it forms a N–H···Cl hydrogen bond with the Cl ion of the inorganic CuCl₄. The T_{1ρ} value is smaller when H and C are located close to the paramagnetic Cu²⁺ ion than when far away. Additionally, the NH₃ groups are coordinated by CuCl₄, and thus, atomic displacements in the environment of the ¹⁴N nuclei with temperature are correlated with CuCl₄. We also note here that detailed studies are required to examine the anomalies observed in the range of 260 to 310 K.

Here, we compared the phase transition temperatures, decomposition temperatures, crystal structures, space groups, lattice constants, and spin-lattice relaxation times of the previously reported [C₂H₅NH₃]₂CuCl₄ (ref. 26–35) and those of [NH₃(CH₂)₄NH₃]₂CuCl₄ examined in this study; this is summarised in Table 1. The difference between the two crystals is only the presence of organic cation. The two compounds have four and one phase transition temperatures, respectively. The decomposition temperature of [NH₃(CH₂)₄NH₃]₂CuCl₄ is higher than that of [C₂H₅NH₃]₂CuCl₄, and the [NH₃(CH₂)₄NH₃]₂CuCl₄ has a high thermal stability. Furthermore, the ¹H and ¹³C T_{1ρ} values in [C₂H₅NH₃]₂CuCl₄ are slightly different from those for [NH₃(CH₂)₄NH₃]₂CuCl₄. Although the two crystals have same anions, the molecular motions according to the ¹³C bond lengths of the (C₂H₅NH₃) cation in [C₂H₅NH₃]₂CuCl₄ and [NH₃(CH₂)₄NH₃]₂CuCl₄ are different. The above results suggest that the molecular motions obtained from ¹H and ¹³C T_{1ρ} will be considered as good examples of potential applicability.

Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts to declare.

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