

## The Influence Of $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ on Growth and Characterization of L-Cysteine Hydrochloride Monohydrate NLO Single Crystals



### PHYSICS

**KEYWORDS :** NLO material, Crystal Growth,  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ : L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O, HRXRD and SHG

<b>K. Ramachandra Rao</b>	Lecturer in Physics, Crystal Growth and Nano Science Research Centre, Department of Physics, Government College (A), Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh, INDIA.
<b>P.V.Prasad</b>	Research Scholar, Crystal Growth and Nano Science Research Centre, Department of Physics, Government College (A), Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh, INDIA
<b>Ch.Satya Kamal</b>	Research Scholar, Crystal Growth and Nano Science Research Centre, Department of Physics, Government College (A), Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh, INDIA
<b>T.K.V. Rao</b>	Lecturer in Physics, Crystal Growth and Nano Science Research Centre, Department of Physics, Government College (A), Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh, INDIA
<b>T.Samuel</b>	Research Scholar, Crystal Growth and Nano Science Research Centre, Department of Physics, Government College (A), Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh, INDIA
<b>S.Rajya Lakshmi</b>	Research Scholar, Department of Physics, Andhra University Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, INDIA

### ABSTRACT

*The influence of transition metal  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  on the L-Cysteine Hydrochloride monohydrate (L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O), a non-linear optical single crystal has been studied through XRD, HRXRD, FT-IR, UV-Vis and SHG. A close observation of FT-IR and HRXRD profiles of doped and undoped samples showed some minor structural variations. FT-IR spectra also reveal that S-H and C-S functional groups are involved in Zn coordination through S-ligand in L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O. A HRXRD and UV-Vis study infers the good crystalline perfection and high optical transparency. The nonlinear optical efficiency estimation was done by Kurtz technique of grown crystal, which was 1.3 times that of standard KDP.*

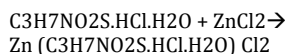
### INTRODUCTION

In recent years, wide range applications for nonlinear optical (NLO) materials have been traced in optical communication, data storage; frequency conversion and optical information process [1-6]. Pure organic NLO single crystals show poor results in mechanical and thermal stability due to weak hydrogen bonding or van der Waals forces. To overcome these limitations, many researchers explored semi-organic materials for nonlinear optical properties. The process of organic based NLO materials in inorganic class is to form the complex in which organic ligand is attached to the transition metal. Amino acid crystals doped with transition metals (Cu, Mn) are significant materials to understand the role of metal-amino acid interaction [7-9]. L-Cysteine hydrochloride monohydrate is a sulphur-containing amino acid NLO single crystal belonging to orthorhombic crystal system with space group  $P2_12_12_1$  [10] and is characterized by the presence of a mercapto group (-SH). The mercapto group has a high affinity for heavy metals, Hence L-Cys. HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O bind metals such as mercury, lead, and cadmium tightly (Baker and Czarnecki-Maulden 1987). Moreover, the space group of L-Cys. HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O also indicates that the crystal is non-centrosymmetric and is suitable for NLO applications [11]. The transition metal ions doped in L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O crystals provide valuable information on the binding mechanism of metal ion in L-Cysteine rich environments and the formation of phytochelatin metallothionein complexes [12]. In the cysteine molecule, the functional groups, such as  $-\text{NH}_2$ ,  $-\text{COOH}$  and  $-\text{SH}$ , have a strong tendency to coordinate with inorganic cations and metals, which has been demonstrated by Burford and co-workers on the basis of the observations of mass spectrometry [13]. In addition to this, doping of transition metal  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  with KHP crystals shows a significant improvement in the SHG efficiency of the host crystal [14]. In view of this, we have undertaken the growth and characterization of  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  doped L-Cys. HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O single crystal. The aim of the present paper is to study the effect of  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  on the lattice parameters, crystalline perfection, functional groups, optical transparency, and SHG of L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O crystal.

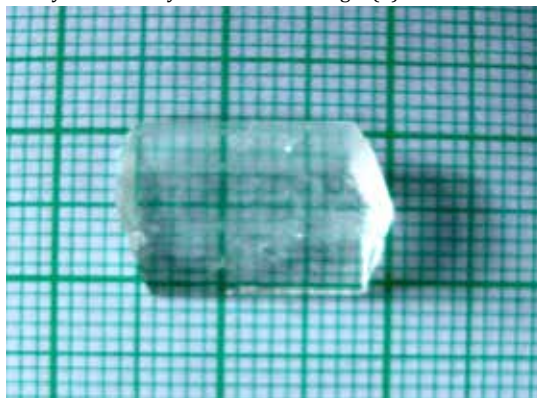
### EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

Single crystals of pure and  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  doped L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O were grown by conventional slow evaporation solution technique at

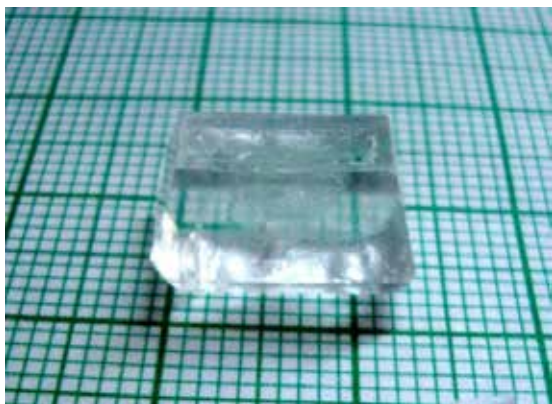
a constant temperature. In both cases, double distilled water is used as solvent. The saturated solution of pure L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O was prepared 30°C with continuous stirring for 24h. The solution was filtered and kept in a constant temperature bath (CTB) at 30°C. Spontaneous nucleation resulted in growth of a few small sized good quality crystals. These were used subsequently for growth by slow evaporation technique in the temperature range of 30 – 35°C with an increasing rate of 0.5°C/day. A bulk crystal of pure L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O with dimensions  $15 \times 12 \times 5 \text{ mm}^3$  was harvested in 12 days. The grown crystal is shown in Fig. 1(a). To get  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ : L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O single crystals, saturated aqueous solution of L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O with 1mol% Zinc Chloride ( $\text{ZnCl}_2$ ) was prepared at 30°C. The reaction takes place in the processes as follows



and the same method was followed as that of pure L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O. The good quality  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  doped L-Cysteine HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O with dimensions  $16 \times 12 \times 10 \text{ mm}^3$  was obtained after a period of 14 days and the crystal is shown in Fig. 1(b)



**Figure.1 (a). Photograph of pure L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O. grown single Crystal**



**Figure.1 (b) Photograph of  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ -doped L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O grown single Crystal**

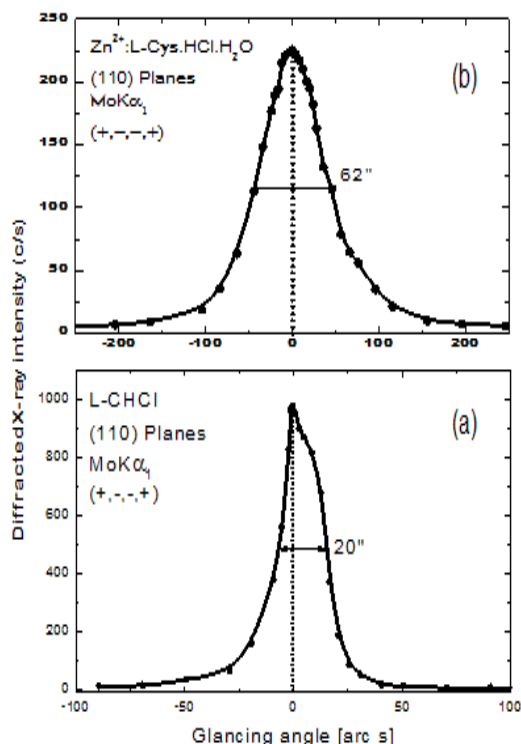
#### POWDER X-RAY DIFFRACTION ANALYSIS

The powder XRD spectra for Zinc doped L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O were obtained after mounting the sample and scanning it by (Powder X-ray diffraction) PXRD machine. The doped crystal belongs to orthorhombic system and space group is P2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub>. The unit cell dimensions are  $a = 19.518\text{\AA}$ ,  $b = 7.032\text{\AA}$  and  $c = 5.712\text{\AA}$  which were calculated using POWDERX refinement software and observed values shown in Table.1 and are within the standard deviations as reported in Bhagavannarayana et al, 2010 [11].

Sample	a(Å)	b(Å)	c(Å)	V(Å <sup>3</sup> )	Space Group
L-Cys (Pure)	19.480	7.120	5.520	765.611	P2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub>
L-Cys (doped)	19.518	7.032	5.712	783.975	P2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub>

**Table.1. Lattice parameters and volume of doped and undoped L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O**

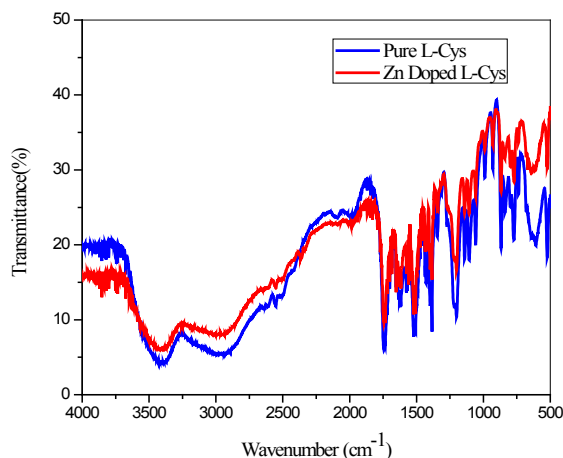
#### HRXRD ANALYSIS



**Figure.2. Diffraction curves recorded for  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ -L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O and pure single crystal for (110) diffracting planes.**

The high-resolution diffraction curve (DC) recorded for pure and doped L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O crystal using (110) diffracting planes in symmetrical Bragg geometry by employing the multicrystal X-ray diffractometer with MoK $\alpha$ 1 radiation shown in Fig. 2. As shown in the figure, both the DCs contain a single peak and indicate that the specimens are free from structural grain boundaries. The FWHM (full width at half maximum) of the curves are 20 and 62 arc seconds which is somewhat more than that expected from the plane wave theory of dynamical X-ray diffraction [15]. In the case of pure L-Cysteine HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O grown crystal Fig (a), for a particular angular deviation ( $\Delta\theta$ ) of glancing angle with respect to peak position, the scattered intensity is much greater in positive direction than in negative direction. This indicates predominantly interstitial type defect rather than vacancy defects. Due to the interstitial defects, the local sub-lattice around the defect core undergoes stress and the interplanar spacing  $d$  of the lattice around the defect core contracts. Such defects are very common to observe in almost all real crystals and are many times unavoidable due to thermodynamical conditions. More details may be obtained from the study of high-resolution diffuse X-ray scattering measurements [16], which is not the main focus of the present investigation. Fig. (b) shows the recorded DC for Zn doped L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O single crystal. The FWHM value is much higher than the undoped single crystal. This increase in the FWHM without having any multiple peaks due to doping indicates the distribution of Zn dopant in the lattice. It is interesting to find an asymmetry of the DC with respect to the peak position for a particular angular deviation ( $\Delta\theta$ ), the scattered intensity in the positive direction is slightly larger than that in negative direction. This investigation clearly shows that the dopants occupy the interstitial sites in the crystal lattice. Due to incorporation of dopants in interstitial sites, the lattice around the dopants shows compressed stress and interplanar spacing  $d$  decreases [17].

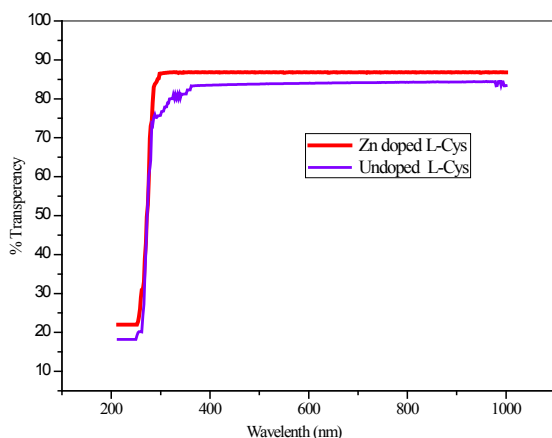
#### FTIR ANALYSIS



**Figure.3. FTIR spectrum of the grown Zinc doped L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O**

The pure and  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  doped L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O FTIR spectra were recorded in the range 400-4000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  using KBr pellet on Perkin Elmer RXI FTIR spectrometer and the recorded spectra of grown crystals are shown in Fig. 3. The broad band appeared at 3404  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and 3399  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  is assigned to O-H stretching vibration in pure and doped L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O. The S-H stretching appeared in pure at 2440  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  is shifted to 2363  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ -L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O and also found C-H stretching at 2927  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The sharp and strong peak observed at 1736  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  indicates the C=O stretching of carbonyl group. The FTIR clearly shows an appreciable shift in C-S stretching from 608 to 638  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  doped crystal. Based on these shifts in stretchings, the presence of  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  in the crystal lattice of L-Cysteine HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O is clearly established. From these observations, it is concluded that S-H and C-S functional groups are directly involved in Zn coordination through S-ligand in L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O [12].

## UV VIS TRANSMITTANCE STUDIES



**Figure 4. The UV-Vis transmission spectrum of the  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  doped and pure L-Cys HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O Crystal**

The transmittance spectra of pure and  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  doped L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O single crystals were recorded at room temperature using Lambda 35 UV-vis spectrometer shown in Fig.4. For the pure L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O the UV cutoff wavelength is found at 264 nm and the  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  doped L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O shows a slight shift in UV cut-off wavelength to 256 nm. From these results, it is evident that the dopants have an influence in the cut-off wavelength of the pure crystal. So these materials can be used in the ultraviolet region for the device applications.

## SECOND HARMONIC STUDIES (NLO)

The Second Harmonic Generation (SHG) test on the  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ : L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O crystal was performed by Kurtz powder technique [18]. The randomly oriented micro crystals of  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ : L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O single crystal was irradiated using the fundamental beam of 1064 nm from Q-switched Nd: YAG laser. The energy of the incident laser beam is 2.5 mJ/pulse and pulse width about 10 ns with a repetition rate of 10 Hz. The second harmonic signal was about 13.0 mV. But the standard KDP crystals gave an SHG of 10 mV/pulse from the same input energy. Hence, it is seen that the SHG efficiency of  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ : L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O crystal is 1.3 times that of the pure KDP crystal. The output could be seen as a bright green color emission from the sample. The green emission confirmed the second harmonic generation in the grown crystals and the metal doping influenced the efficiency of undoped L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O.

## CONCLUSION

The powdered XRD, HRXRD, FTIR, and Kurtz technique reveal the influence of Zn doped L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O single crystals. The powder X-ray diffraction analysis of doped samples shows some minute structural variations. FTIR study shows the incorporation of  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  ions through S-group in L-Cys.HCl.H<sub>2</sub>O and also shows slight shifts in peak positions. High-resolution XRD of the metal doped crystal had reasonably crystalline perfection and free from grain boundaries. HRXRD also confirms the incorporation of  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  in the crystal lattice. The nonlinear optical character of the title compound was observed by measuring the SHG efficiency, which is 1.3 times of KDP as assessed by Kurtz technique. UV-vis spectrum shows that there is a slight change in the cut-off wavelength for doped crystal. From these observations, it can be concluded that the influence of metal ion improved the optical transparency and SHG efficiency and hence doped crystals are promising materials for laser technology and electro-optic modulator applications.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors are grateful to Dr. G. Bhagavannarayana, NPL Delhi for HRXRD studies. KRR is grateful to Dr. V. Sudarshan, Baba Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Mumbai for XRD and FTIR studies and Dr. Sunil Verma, RRCAT, Indore for his valuable suggestions. He also wishes to thank Prof. P.K. Das, IASc, Bangalore and Dr. Ch. Mastanaiah, Principal, Government College (A), Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh for SHG measurements and Lab facilities.

## REFERENCE

- [1] Mark Haw, Nature Holographic data storage: The light fantastic, Nature 422 p.556 (2003). || [2] Assanto, G. and Torelli, I. Cascading effects in type II second harmonic generation: applications to all-optical processing, Opt. Commun. 119, p.143-148 (1995). || [3] G. C. La Rocca Organic photonics: Polariton lasing Nature, Photonics 4, p.343 (2010). || [4] J.F. Heanue, M.C. Bashaw, L. Hesselink. Volume holographic storage and retrieval of digital data, Science 265, p.749, (1994). || [5] M.H. Dunn, M. Ebrahimzadeh. Parametric Generation of Tunable Light from Continuous-Wave to Femtosecond Pulses, Science 286, p.1513, (1999) || [6] H. Kang, Chang Xi Yang, et al, Real-time holographic associative memory using doped LiNbO<sub>3</sub> in a phase-conjugating resonator Optic Letters volume 15, p.637, (1990). || [7] Lydia Caroline M, Kandasamy A, et al. Growth and characterization of dichlorobis L-proline Zn (II): a semiorganic nonlinear optical crystal. J Cryst Growth, 311, p.1161 (2009). || [8] Ramachandra Raja C et al. Growth and spectroscopic characterization of a new organic nonlinear optical crystal: L-alaninium succinate. Spectrochimica Acta A. 72, p.753 (2009). || [9] Aruna S, Bhagavannarayana G, Sagayaraj P. Investigation on the physicochemical properties of nonlinear optical single crystal: L-histidinium dinitrate. J Cryst Growth, 304 p.184 (2007). || [10] Chapman et al. A High-Field Solid-State 35Cl, 37Cl NMR and Quantum Chemical Investigation of the Chlorine Quadrupolar and Chemical Shift Tensors in Amino Acid Hydrochlorides, Physical Chemistry Chemical 9, p.6219-6230 (2007). || [11] G. Bhagavannarayana et al. Unidirectional growth of L-cysteine hydrochloride monohydrate: first time observation as nonlinear optical material and its characterization. Appl. Cryst. 43, p.710 (2010). || [12] Jason G. Parsons, et al. FTIR, XAS, and XRD. Study of cadmium complexes with L-cysteine. Polyhedron, 56, p.237 (2013). || [13] Fan Zuo, Bin Zhang, Xinzhen Tang and Yi Xie. Porous metastable  $\gamma$ -MnS networks: biomolecule-assisted synthesis and optical properties Nanotechnology, 18, p.15608 (6pp) (2007). || [14] S. Parthiban et al. Effect of zinc (II) doping on thermal and optical properties of potassium hydrogen phthalate (KHP) crystals J Therm Anal Calorim 100, p.751, (2010). || [15] B.W. Batterman, H. Cole, Dynamical Diffraction of X Rays by Perfect Crystals Rev. Mod. Phys. 36 p.681, (1964). || [16] Bhagavannarayana, G. et al. Study of point defects in as-grown and annealed bismuth germanate single crystals. J. Appl. Cryst. 38, p.448, (2005). || [17] S.K. Kushwaha, et al. Enhancement in second harmonic generation efficiency, laser damage threshold and optical transparency of  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  doped L-alanine crystals: A correlation with crystalline perfection Journal of Crystal Growth 328, p.81 (2011). || [18] S.K. Kurtz, T.T. Perry, A Powder Technique for the Evaluation of Nonlinear Optical Materials J. Appl. Phys. 39 p.3798 (1968) ||