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***catena*-Poly[[[dichloridomercury(II)]- μ -1,4-bis(3-pyridylaminomethyl)benzene- $^{2}N:N'$] *N,N*-dimethylformamide monosolvate]**

S. Gao and S. W. Ng

Abstract: The crystal structure of the polymeric title compound, $\{[\text{HgCl}_2(\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_4)] \cdot \text{C}_3\text{H}_7\text{NO}\}_n$, features an *N*-heterocyclic ligand which links adjacent HgCl_2 units into a helical chain running along the *b* axis. The coordination geometry of the Hg^{II} atom is a distorted tetrahedron. The dimethylformamide molecule is disordered over two positions in a 1:1 ratio, and is linked to the complex molecules *via* N-H...O hydrogen bonds.