$\omega$ scans	6628 reflections with
Absorption correction:	$I > 2\sigma(I)$
empirical via $\psi$ scan	$R_{\rm int} = 0.036$
(SADABS; Sheldrick,	$\theta_{\rm max} = 29.43^{\circ}$
1996)	$h = -12 \rightarrow 9$
$T_{\rm min} = 0.012, T_{\rm max} = 0.047$	$k = -18 \rightarrow 18$
	$l = -16 \rightarrow 21$

#### Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$ R(F) = 0.051	$w = 1/[\sigma^{2}(F_{o}^{2}) + (0.0765P)^{2}]$ where $P = (F_{o}^{2} + 2F_{c}^{2})/3$ $(A/\pi) = -0.010$
$wR(F^{-}) = 0.141$	$(\Delta \rho)_{\text{max}} = 0.010$
S = 1.006	$\Delta \rho_{\text{max}} = 3.63 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
9112 reflections	$\Delta \rho_{\text{min}} = -2.73 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
495 parameters	Extinction correction: none
H atoms treated by a	Scattering factors from
mixture of independent	International Tables for
and constrained refinement	Crystallography (Vol. C)
	0

#### Table 1. Selected geometric parameters (Å, °)

Os1A01A	2.100 (9)	Os2B—O1B	2.112 (9)
Os1A—Os2A	2.7897 (7)	Os2B—Os3B	2.8104 (7)
Os1AOs3A	2.8195 (7)	OIA—CIA	1.462 (17)
Os2A—O1A	2.109 (9)	O2A—C2A	1.418 (18)
Os2A—Os3A	2.8098 (7)	O1 <i>B</i> C1 <i>B</i>	1.413 (16)
Os1 <i>B</i> —O1 <i>B</i>	2.108 (9)	O2B—C2B	1.41 (2)
Os1B—Os2B	2.8040 (7)	C1A-C2A	1.51 (2)
Os1B—Os3B	2.8282 (7)	C1 <i>B</i> —C2 <i>B</i>	1.50 (2)
Os2A—Os1A—Os3A	60.120 (18)	Os2BOs1BOs3B	59.866 (18)
Os1A—Os2A—Os3A	60.466 (18)	Os1 <i>B</i> —Os2 <i>B</i> —Os3 <i>B</i>	60.495 (18)
Os2A—Os3A—Os1A	59.415 (18)	Os2B—Os3B—Os1B	59.640 (18)

The H atoms on the glycol fragment were placed in calculated idealized positions and allowed to ride on their attached C or O atoms. Of the two metal hydrides, one was located by a low angle  $(2\theta < 30^\circ)$  difference map and allowed to refine with restraints on the Os—H bond lengths to be equal, while the other was placed in a calculated position using the *XHYDEX* program (Orpen, 1997) and refined with the Os—H distance fixed at 1.84 (1) Å. The largest residual peak in the final difference map was 3.63 e Å<sup>-3</sup>, at a distance of 0.95 Å from Os1A.

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 1997). Cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 1997). Data reduction: SHELXTL (Bruker, 1997). Program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXTL. Program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXTL. Molecular graphics: ORTEPII (Johnson, 1976) in SHELXTL. Software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXTL.

Supplementary data for this paper are available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: TA1235). Services for accessing these data are described at the back of the journal.

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## A monomeric and a dimeric copper(II) trigonelline adduct with chloride, and a dimeric copper(II) 1-methyl-2-pyrrolecarboxylate adduct with 3-methylpyridine

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#### Abstract

In the crystal structure of *trans*-dichlorobis(trigonelline-*O*,*O'*)copper(II) (trigonelline is *N*-methylpyridinium-3carboxylate), [CuCl<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>7</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>], (I), the monomeric Cu<sup>II</sup> complex has a distorted octahedral coordination. In the crystal structure of tetrakis( $\mu$ -trigonelline-*O*:*O'*)bis[chlorocopper(II)] dichloride octahydrate, [Cu<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-(C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>7</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]Cl<sub>2</sub>·8H<sub>2</sub>O, (II), the dinuclear Cu<sup>II</sup> complex has a slightly elongated cage structure, with a Cu···Cu distance of 2.770(1) Å. In the crystal structure of tetrakis[ $\mu$ -(1-methylpyrrole-2-carboxylato)-*O*:*O'*]bis[(3-methylpyridine-*N*)copper(II)], [Cu<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>4</sub>-(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>7</sub>N)<sub>2</sub>], (III), the dinuclear Cu<sup>II</sup> complex has a cage structure, with a Cu···Cu distance of 2.671(1) Å. The magnetic -2J value for (III) is 343 cm<sup>-1</sup> ( $H = -2JS_1.S_2$ ).

#### Comment

The title complexes, *trans*-dichlorobis(trigonelline)copper(II), (I), tetrakis( $\mu$ -trigonelline)bis[chlorocopper(II)] dichloride octahydrate, (II), and tetrakis[ $\mu$ -(1-methylpyrrole-2-carboxylato)]bis[(3-methylpyridine)copper(II)], (III), all have a center of symmetry. The rotation angles ( $\varphi_{rot}$ ) of the *N*-methylpyridyl ring relative to the COO<sup>-</sup> moiety in the trigonelline ligands are 7.0 (3)° in (I), and 14.2 (3) and 20.0 (3)° in (II). The corresponding  $\varphi_{rot}$  values in other reported dimeric copper(II) benzoates range from 5.3 (4) to 19.5 (8)° (Kawata *et al.*, 1992). The corresponding  $\varphi_{rot}$  angles of the *N*-methylpyrrole moieties of (III) are 1.7 (3) and 6.0 (3)°.



The Cu···Cu distance of 2.770(1) Å in (II) is ca 0.10 Å longer than in (III), and the average value of the trans-O—Cu—O angles of  $164.7(1)^{\circ}$  in (II) is 2.6(2)° smaller than in (III). These observations indicate a shift of the Cu atom from the O<sub>4</sub> pyramidal basal plane toward the axial Cl<sup>-</sup> ion. A similar deformation of the square-pyramidal coordination and elongation of the Cu...Cu distance has been observed for the dimeric copper(II) benzoylformates (Harada et al., 1997), in which the Cu...Cu distance is elongated from 2.735(1) to 2.843(1)Å by replacement of the axial pyridine ligand with a Cl<sup>-</sup> ion. The total charge of the trigonelline bridge is neutral. Few structures of this type of dimeric copper carboxylate have been reported; examples include [Cu<sub>2</sub>(Me<sub>3</sub>NCH<sub>2</sub>-COO)<sub>4</sub>(ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (McEwen, 1973), [Cu<sub>2</sub>(Me<sub>3</sub>N- $CH_2COO_4Cl_2Cl_2\cdot 2[Cu(Me_3NCH_2COO_2Cl_2]]$  (Chen & Mak, 1993) and  $[Cu_2(H_3NCH_2CH_2COO)_4(H_2O)_2]$ - $(NO_3)_4 \cdot 4H_2O$  (Kamwaya et al., 1984). In (II), layers of binuclear Cu<sup>II</sup> complex cations, and layers of Cl<sup>-</sup> anions and interstitial water molecules are stacked alternately, perpendicular to b.

The antiferromagnetic interaction is greatly reduced when nitrogen is directly bonded to the COObridge;  $-2J = 80 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  for  $[\text{Cu}(\text{Et}_2\text{NCOO})_2(\text{NHEt}_2)]_2$ (Agostinelli et al., 1988). In (III), an N atom is bonded to the  $\alpha$ -carbon of the carboxylate ions. The -2J and the g values of (III) were determined in the present study to be  $343 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and 2.29, respectively. The corresponding 2-methylpyridine adduct,  $[Cu(pyr)_2(C_6H_7N)]_2$ (pyr is 1-methylpyrrole-2-carboxylate), (IV), was also prepared [crystal data:  $M_r = 809.83$ , monoclinic,  $P2_1/n$ ,  $a = 11.704(3), b = 9.722(2), c = 16.580(1) \text{ Å}, \beta =$ 92.88 (1)°, V = 1884.2 (6) Å<sup>3</sup>, Z = 2, Cu···Cu = 2.674 (2) Å; magnetic data:  $-2J = 356 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , g = 2.28]. The -2J values of (III) and (IV) are slightly larger than that of  $[Cu(PhCOO)_2(py)]_2$  (py is pyridine; -2J = $328 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; Kawata *et al.*, 1992). Compound (II) was not suitable for magnetic measurement because of the



Fig. 1. The molecular structure of (I), with displacement ellipsoids at the 50% probability level. H atoms are represented by circles of arbitrary radii.



Fig. 2. The molecular structure of (II), with displacement ellipsoids at the 50% probability level. H atoms are represented by circles of arbitrary radii.

color change from green to blue under reduced pressure, suggesting a transformation of the dimer (II) to the monomer (I) after removal of the crystal water. The typical cage structure of a dimeric copper(II) benzoyl-DL-alanine adduct of water,  $[Cu{PhCONHCH(CH_3)} COO_{2}(H_{2}O)_{2}$ , (V), was reported by Sandhu *et al.* (1989). Crystals of (V) have also been prepared and the lattice constants confirmed. The -2J and g values of (V) were determined to be  $348 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and 2.26, respectively. The magnetic data for (III)-(V) indicate that there is a negligible influence on the antiferromagnetic interaction when the N atom is bonded to the  $\alpha$ -carbon of the bridging carboxylate ions.



Fig. 3. The molecular structure of (III), with displacement ellipsoids at the 50% probability level. H atoms are represented by circles of arbitrary radii.

#### **Experimental**

For the preparation of (I), trigonelline hydrochloride (173 mg, 1.0 mmol) and Cu(CH<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O (100 mg, 0.5 mmol) were suspended in water (25 ml), and the solution was stirred for 25 min at room temperature. When pyridine (40 mg, 0.5 mmol) was added to the solution, the color changed from light blue to blue, and crystals of (I) were obtained. For the preparation of (II), aqueous solutions of trigonelline hydrochloride and Cu(CH<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O were mixed and stirred for 10 min, and then evaporated to dryness. The blue residue was dissolved in aqueous methanol (1:1), from which lightgreen plate-like crystals of (II) were obtained together with the light-blue powder of (I). For the preparation of (III), 1-methylpyrrole-2-carboxylic acid (pyrH; 83 mg, 0.66 mmol) and  $CuCO_3 \cdot Cu(OH)_2 \cdot H_2O$  (40 mg, 0.17 mmol) were suspended in aqueous methanol (1:1, 20 ml). The solution was

stirred for 40 min and then evaporated to dryness. The green residue was dissloved in acetonitrile and 3-methylpyridine (31 mg, 0.33 mmol) was added. From this solution, green crystals of (III) were obtained. The magnetic susceptibilities over the temperature range 80-300 K were determined by the Faraday method at Saga University. The procedure for determining -2J values from cryomagnetic data, based on the Bleaney-Bowers equation, is the same as described by Harada et al. (1997).

## Compound (I)

Crystal data

 $[CuCl_2(C_7H_7NO_2)_2]$ Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  $M_r = 408.73$  $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ Å}$ Monoclinic Cell parameters from 25  $P2_1/n$ reflections a = 8.401(1) Å  $\theta = 14 - 15^{\circ}$  $\mu = 1.697 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ *b* = 10.704 (1) Å T = 295 Kc = 9.325(1) Å  $\beta = 104.96(1)^{\circ}$ Prism V = 810.1 (2) Å<sup>3</sup>  $0.70 \times 0.20 \times 0.13$  mm Z = 2Blue  $D_x = 1.676 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$  $D_m$  not measured

#### Data collection

Rigaku AFC-5 diffractometer  $\omega$  scans Absorption correction: by integration (Coppens et al., 1965)  $T_{\rm min} = 0.539, T_{\rm max} = 0.834$ 2489 measured reflections 2348 independent reflections

#### Refinement

Refinement on F	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F) + 0.000225F^2]$
R = 0.044	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} = 0.03$
wR = 0.045	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 1.09 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
S = 1.23	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.55 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
1927 reflections	Extinction correction: none
106 parameters	Scattering factors from Inter
H-atom parameters	national Tables for X-ray
constrained	Crystallography (Vol. IV)

1927 reflections with

 $|F_o| > 3\sigma(|F_o|)$  $R_{\rm int} = 0.041$ 

3 standard reflections

every 100 reflections intensity decay: none

 $\theta_{\rm max} = 30^{\circ}$  $h = 0 \rightarrow 11$ 

 $k = 0 \rightarrow 14$ 

 $l = -12 \rightarrow 12$ 

Table 1. Selected geometric parameters (A, $^{\circ}$ ) for (I)					
Cu1—Cl2	2.280(1)	O3—C6	1.266 (3)		
Cu1—O3	1.948 (2)	O4—C6	1.232 (3)		
Cu1-04	2.747 (1)				
Cl2-Cu1O3	90.4 (1)	Cu1O3C6	109.3 (2)		
Cl2—Cu1—O4	89.2 (2)	O3C6O4	125.1 (2)		
O3-Cu1O4	53.1 (1)				

#### Compound (II)

Crystal data

$[Cu_2Cl_2(C_7H_7NO_2)_4]Cl_2$ -	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
8H <sub>2</sub> O	$\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ Å}$
$M_r = 961.58$	Cell parameters from 25
Triclinic	reflections
PĪ	$A = 10 - 15^{\circ}$

a = 10.156 (2) Å b = 13.883 (2) Å c = 7.793 (1) Å  $\alpha = 99.40 (1)^{\circ}$  $\beta = 109.29 (1)^{\circ}$  $\gamma = 75.57 (1)^{\circ}$ V = 1000.5 (2) Å<sup>3</sup> Z = 1 $D_x = 1.596 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$  $D_m$  not measured

#### Data collection

Rigaku AFC-5 diffractometer  $\theta$ -2 $\theta$  scans Absorption correction: by integration (Coppens et al., 1965)  $T_{\min} = 0.705, T_{\max} = 0.872$ 4848 measured reflections 4586 independent reflections

#### Refinement

Refinement on F	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F) + 0.000225F^2]$
R = 0.043	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} = 0.02$
wR = 0.043	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.64 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
S = 1.48	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.99 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
3714 reflections	Extinction correction: none
244 parameters	Scattering factors from Inter-
H-atom parameters	national Tables for X-ray
constrained	Crystallography (Vol. IV)

## Table 2. Selected geometric parameters (Å, °) for (II)

Cul-Cul'	2.770(1)	Cul—O7	1.978 (2
Cu1Cl2	2.413 (1)	O4C14	1.255 (3
Cu1-04'	1.994 (2)	O5C14	1.255 (3
Cu105	1.985 (2)	O6-C21	1.253 (3
Cu106'	1.989 (2)	O7C21	1.256 (3
Cl2Cu1O4'	97.2 (1)	O5-Cu1-O7	87.9 (1
Cl2Cu1O5	98.2 (1)	06 <sup>i</sup> Cu107	164.7 (1
Cl2Cu1O6 <sup>1</sup>	97.4 (1)	Cu1'04C14	126.7 (2
Cl2Cu107	97.9(1)	Cu1-05-C14	122.4 (2
O4 <sup>1</sup> Cu1O5	164.6(1)	Cu1 <sup>i</sup> —O6—C21	125.3 (2
O4 <sup>1</sup> Cu1O6 <sup>1</sup>	87.5 (1)	Cu1-07-C21	122.8 (2
O4'Cu107	90.7 (1)	O4-C14-O5	126.2 (2
O5Cu1O61	89.9 (1)	O6-C21-O7	126.8 (2
-			

Symmetry code: (i) 2 - x, 1 - y, 2 - z.

## Table 3. Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °) for (II)

DH····A	D—H	$\mathbf{H} \cdot \cdot \cdot \mathbf{A}$	$D \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D = H \cdots A$
O8H8A· · ·Cl3	0.955	2.163	3.107 (4)	169
O8—H8B···O10 <sup>1</sup>	0.956	1.739	2.689 (5)	172
O8—H8 <i>C</i> ···O8 <sup>ii</sup>	0.959	1.848	2.746 (5)	155
O9—H9A· · ·C13	0.957	2.209	3.128 (4)	161
O9H9 <i>B</i> ···O10	0.971	1.802	2,728 (5)	158
O10—H10A···Cl2 <sup>iii</sup>	0.965	2.291	3.220 (3)	161
O10—H10B· · ·N12 <sup>™</sup>	0.966	2.366	3.203 (4)	145
O11—H11A···O9	0.960	1.787	2.669 (5)	151
$O11 - H11B \cdot \cdot \cdot C13^{\circ}$	0.961	2.234	3,102 (4)	150
011—H11 <i>C</i> · · · 011 <sup>vi</sup>	0.961	1.844	2.716(6)	150

Symmetry codes: (i) x, y, z - 1; (ii) 1 - x, -y, -z; (iii) x - 1, y, z; (iv) 1 - x, 1 - y, 1 - z; (v) x, y, 1 + z; (vi) 2 - x, -y, 2 - z.

 $\mu = 1.401 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ Compound (III) Crystal data

T = 299 K

Plate-like

Blue

 $0.50 \times 0.25 \times 0.10$  mm

3714 reflections with

 $|F_o| > 3\sigma(|F_o|)$ 

3 standard reflections

every 100 reflections

intensity decay: 22.6%

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.021$ 

 $\theta_{\rm max} = 27.5^{\circ}$ 

 $h = 0 \rightarrow 13$ 

 $k = -18 \rightarrow 18$ 

 $l = -10 \rightarrow 10$ 

 $[Cu_2(C_6H_6NO_2)_4(C_6H_7N)_2]$  $M_r = 809.83$ Monoclinic  $P2_{1}/a$ a = 10.431 (2) Å b = 17.795 (3) Å c = 10.685 (2) Å  $\beta = 114.40 (1)^{\circ}$ V = 1806.3 (6) Å<sup>3</sup> *Z* = 2  $D_x = 1.489 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$  $D_m$  not measured

## Data collection

eter  $\theta - 2\theta$  scans Absorption correction: by integration (Coppens et al., 1965) 4366 measured reflections 4141 independent reflections

#### Refinement

Refinement on F	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F) + 0.000225F^2]$
R = 0.052	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} = 0.01$
wR = 0.043	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.40 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
S = 1.26	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.45 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
2525 reflections	Extinction correction: none
235 parameters	Scattering factors from Inter-
H-atom parameters	national Tables for X-ray
constrained	Crystallography (Vol. IV)

Table 4. Selected geometric parameter	·s (	Ά,	°)	for	(III	)
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Cu1Cu1 <sup>i</sup>	2.671 (1)	Cu1—N8	2.206 (4)
Cu1O2	1.975 (4)	O2—C9	1.265 (6)
Cu1O3 <sup>i</sup>	1.962 (4)	O3—C9	1.267 (6)
Cu1O4	1.973 (4)	O4—C15	1.261 (6)
Cu1O5 <sup>i</sup>	1.975 (4)	O5—C15	1.262 (6)
02Cu1O3 <sup>i</sup>	167.4 (2)	05 <sup>1</sup> —Cu1—N8	98.2 (2)
02Cu1O4	89.3 (2)	Cu1—O2—C9	119.8 (3)
02Cu1O5 <sup>i</sup>	88.4 (2)	Cu1 <sup>1</sup> —O3—C9	128.2 (4)
02Cu1N8	98.2 (2)	Cu1—O4—C15	125.9 (3)
03 <sup>i</sup> Cu1O4	89.6 (2)	Cu1 <sup>1</sup> —O5—C15	121.7 (3)
03 <sup>i</sup> Cu1O5 <sup>i</sup>	89.8 (2)	Cu1—N8—C21	119.8 (4)
O3 <sup>i</sup> Cu1N8	94.4 (2)	Cu1—N8—C26	122.9 (3)
O4—Cu1—O5'	167.2 (2)	O2C9O3	124.5 (5)
O4—Cu1—N8	94.6 (2)	O4C15O5	124.8 (4)

### Symmetry code: (i) 2 - x, -y, 2 - z.

Intensity decay of the standard reflections was 22.6% for (II). which was corrected; it may be due to the partial loss of crystal water in air. The water H atoms of (II) were located from difference syntheses. The water O8 and O11 atoms lie near the center of symmetry and form a hydrogen bond with the corresponding symmetry-related molecule. One of two H atoms bonded to O8 or O11 has two possible positions with site-occupation factors of 50%. The positions of all other H atoms were calculated geometrically. A riding model was used

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ Å}$ Cell parameters from 25 reflections  $\theta = 10 - 15^{\circ}$  $\mu = 1.237 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ T = 299 KPlate-like  $0.35\,\times\,0.35\,\times\,0.07$  mm Green

2525 reflections with

 $|F_o| > 3\sigma(|F_o|)$ 

3 standard reflections

every 100 reflections intensity decay: none

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.061$ 

 $\theta_{\rm max} = 27.5^{\circ}$ 

 $h = 0 \rightarrow 14$ 

 $k = 0 \rightarrow 23$ 

 $l = -14 \rightarrow 14$ 

Rigaku AFC-5 diffractom- $T_{\rm min} = 0.628, T_{\rm max} = 0.902$  in their refinement [O/C—H 0.96 Å,  $U_{iso}(H) = 0.2 \text{ Å}^2$  for water H atoms and 0.1 Å<sup>2</sup> for other H atoms].

For all compounds, data collection: AFC/MSC Diffractometer Control System (Rigaku Corporation, 1993); cell refinement: AFC/MSC Diffractometer Control System; data reduction: local programs; program(s) used to solve structures: CRYSTAN-GM (Edwards et al., 1996); program(s) used to refine structures: CRYSTAN-GM; molecular graphics: CRYSTAN-GM; software used to prepare material for publication: CRYSTAN-GM.

Supplementary data for this paper are available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: DA1057). Services for accessing these data are described at the back of the journal.

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# Tris(2-pyridylmethyl)triazacyclododecane complexes of Fe<sup>II</sup> and Cu<sup>II</sup>

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#### Abstract

The title complexes,  $[1,5,9-\text{tris}(2-\text{pyridylmethyl})-1,5,9-\text{triazacyclododecane}-\kappa^3N]$  iron(II) tetrachloroferrate,  $[\text{Fe}(C_{27}\text{H}_{36}\text{N}_6)]$ [FeCl<sub>4</sub>], and  $[1,5,9-\text{tris}(2-\text{pyridyl})-1,5,9-\text{tris}(2-\text{pyridy$  methyl)-1,5,9-triazacyclododecane- $\kappa^3 N$ ]copper(III) bis-(hexafluorophosphate) acetonitrile hemisolvate, [Cu-(C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>36</sub>N<sub>6</sub>)](PF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·0.5CH<sub>3</sub>CN, differ significantly in their conformations. The iron complex is nearoctahedral, with Fe—N distances of 2.257 (5) (ring) and 2.226 (5) Å (pyridine), and fused chelate rings predominately in the boat form. The copper complex is tetragonally distorted, with four shorter and two longer Cu— N bonds [2.049 (6)–2.199 (7) and 2.280 (6)–2.473 (7) Å, respectively]; its chelate rings are disordered in boat, chair and skew forms.

#### Comment

Metal complexes of tris(2-pyridylmethyl)triazacyclononane ([9]-N3py<sub>3</sub>) have been extensively investigated for their electrochemical, magnetic, spectroscopic and structural properties (Christiansen *et al.*, 1986; Wieghardt *et al.*, 1986). However, the corresponding cyclododecane complexes are less well known, partly because ligand synthesis has proved much more difficult. This problem has been overcome recently, and characterization and molecular mechanics studies of examples of these complexes have been reported by Zhang & Busch (1994).

We report here the structures of the iron and copper complexes of the ligand [12]-N3py<sub>3</sub> as the [FeCl<sub>4</sub>]<sup>2-</sup>, (1), and [PF<sub>6</sub>]<sup>-</sup> salts, (2), respectively. Both complexes exist as discrete cations; the iron complex is symmetrical, with a crystallographic threefold axis, while the two independent copper cations have somewhat different conformations. In these complexes, the three fused six-membered rings formed by the ring N atoms can take up chair, boat or skew conformations. The metal geometry can vary between octahedral and trigonal prismatic, depending on the twist angle between the M----N(macrocycle) and M---N(py) directions.



The most obvious difference between the nine- and 12-membered ring complexes is that the Fe<sup>II</sup> ion changes from low to high spin when the ring size increases. The iron complex (Fig. 1) is disordered at C2. The major position [C2A, 0.69(1) occupancy] corresponds to chair conformations for the chelate rings. For the minor position (C2B), the rings are in the boat form,

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