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## Di- $\mu$ -methoxo-bis({*N*,*N*'-bis[2-(3,5-dimethylpyrazol-1-yl)ethyl]amine- $\kappa^3 N$ }copper(II)) bis(hexafluorophosphate)

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The title compound,  $[Cu_2(C_{14}H_{23}N_5)_2(CH_3O)_2](PF_6)_2$ , has a doubly methoxo-bridged centrosymmetric copper dimer cation involving two tridentate bis(pyrazolyl)amine ligands. The geometry of each Cu<sup>II</sup> atom is a distorted square pyramid with two N atoms of the pyrazole in bis[2-(3,5-dimethyl-1pyrazolyl)ethyl]amine (bpea) and two  $\mu_2$ -bridging O atoms of the methoxo ligands forming the basal plane, and the amine N atom occupying the axial position. In the bridging plane, the Cu–O bond lengths are 1.940 (4) and 1.942 (4) Å, and the bond angles for O–Cu–O and Cu–O–Cu are 76.1 (2) and 103.9 (2)°, respectively. The Cu···Cu distance is 3.058 (1) Å. The central four-membered ring lies on an inversion centre.

### Comment

Copper plays an important role in a variety of biological functions as an essential trace element (Kaim & Rall, 1996). The copper ions as centres of the active site in metalloproteins are involved in biological processes like electron transfer, oxidation and dioxygen transport (Solomon et al., 1992). A great number of transition metal complexes of poly-(pyrazolyl)borate (Trofimenko, 1993) and pyrazole-based chelating ligands (Mukherjee, 2000) have been found in coordination chemistry. However, the bis(pyrazolylethyl)amine derivative is rare in spite of the extensive studies for various nitrogen heterocyclic ligand systems (Sorrell & Malachowski, 1983; Martens et al., 1995). The Cu<sup>I</sup> compound of bis[2-(3,5-dimethyl-1-pyrazolyl)ethyl]amine was investigated as well as that of bis[2-(3,5-dimethyl-1-pyrazolyl)ethyl] ether having the unsaturated T-shape arrangement (Sorrell & Malachowski, 1983), but its crystal structure was not explored. More recently, the mononuclear Cu<sup>II</sup> complexes of bis[2-(3,5dimethyl-1-pyrazolyl)ethyl]amine involving T-shape and square pyramidal coordination geometry were prepared and their structures have been characterized (Martens et al., 1995), but their dicopper(II) complexes have not been reported yet. In this context, we report the crystal structure of the title compound, (I), as an extension of the doubly methoxobridged dimeric copper complex type. The title compound consists of doubly methoxo-bridged dinuclear copper(II) units, two bpea ligands and two hexafluorophosphates.



The dinuclear unit has a centre of symmetry at the midpoint of the bridging plane. The  $Cu-Cu^{i}$  [symmetry code: (i) -x, 2-y, -z distance [3.058 (1) Å] is slightly longer than the values in the range 2.970 (7)-3.037 (2) Å in analogous methoxo-bridged copper(II) complexes (Willett & Breneman, 1983; Drew et al., 1988; van Albada et al., 1995, 1997; Komaei et al., 1999). In the bridging plane, bond lengths of Cu-O1 and  $Cu-O1^{i}$  are 1.940 (4) and 1.942 (4) Å, and bond angles of  $O1-Cu-O1^{i}$  and  $Cu-O1-Cu^{i}$  are 76.1 (2) and 103.9 (2)°, respectively. Each copper ion is five-coordinate, surrounded by three N atoms of bpea and two O atoms of methoxy. The coordination geometry around each Cu atom is described as a distorted square pyramid. In the title compound, the N atom of each pyrazole in bpea and  $\mu_2$ -bridging O atom in each methoxy are in the equatorial positions with bond angles ranging between 76.1 (2) and 94.4 (2) $^{\circ}$ , whereas N atom of amine in bpea is in the axial position. The Cu-N bond lengths [1.991 (5)-2.317 (5) Å] are slightly longer than those [1.923 (1)-2.075 (8) Å] in the related mononuclear copper complexes (Martens et al., 1995); these values are consistent with the distances between copper and typical  $\sigma$ -donor nitrogen heterocyclic rings. Each amine N atom is in an axial position trans to the equatorial plane containing N atom of each pyrazole in bpea and O atom of each methoxy. The Cu-N(amine) [2.317 (5) Å] bond distance of the axial position, due to an elongation of Jahn-Teller effect, is about 0.309 Å longer than Cu-N(pyrazole) bond distances [average 2.009(5) Å] in the equatorial plane.

### **Experimental**

All chemicals were purchased from Aldrich and used as received. All reactions were performed under argon using standard Schlenk technique and the solvents were freshly distilled prior to use. Elemental analyses were carried out on a FIFONS, EA 1110/EA1108 by Chemical Analysis Laboratory of Korea Basic Science Institute at Kyungpook National University. To a solution of 5 g (0.019 mol) of bis[2-(3,5-dimethyl-1-pyrazolyl)ethyl]amine (bpea), prepared according to the synthetic procedures of Sorrell and Martens groups (Sorrell & Malachowski, 1983; Martens *et al.*, 1995), in 200 ml of acetonitrile was added slowly 7.13 g (0.019 mol) of [Cu(CH<sub>3</sub>-CN)<sub>4</sub>](PF<sub>6</sub>), prepared by the method of Kubas (1979) and the mixture was stirred for 5 days at room temperature. The white solid was precipitated within 1 day and the resulting solid was filtered off and

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dried *in vacuo*. The white solid (7.87 g) was dissolved in 50 ml of methanol, the solution was rapidly converted to dark green and was left to stand at room temperature for several days to afford the green crystals. Yield: 8.45 g (82% based on copper atom). Analysis calculated for  $C_{30}H_{52}N_{10}O_2Cu_2P_2F_{12}$ : C 35.97, H 5.23, N 13.98%; Found: C 36.12, H 5.16, N 13.98%.

#### Crystal data

 $[Cu_{2}(C_{14}H_{23}N_{5})_{2}(CH_{3}O)_{2}](PF_{6})_{2}$   $M_{r} = 1001.86$ Orthorhombic, *Pbca*  a = 15.1607 (7) Å b = 12.7860 (9) Å c = 23.316 (1) Å V = 4519.7 (4) Å<sup>3</sup> Z = 4 $D_{x} = 1.472$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>

#### Data collection

Enraf–Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer  $\omega/2\theta$  scans 4256 measured reflections 4174 independent reflections 2065 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$  $R_{\rm int} = 0.0071$ 

#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.069$   $wR(F^2) = 0.189$  S = 1.3804174 reflections 255 parameters Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation Cell parameters from 25 reflections  $\theta = 9.8-12.5^{\circ}$  $\mu = 1.101 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ T = 293 (2) K Tetragonal rod, green  $0.40 \times 0.30 \times 0.30 \text{ mm}$ 

 $\begin{array}{l} \theta_{\max} = 25.47^{\circ} \\ h = 0 \rightarrow 18 \\ k = 0 \rightarrow 15 \\ l = 0 \rightarrow 28 \\ 2 \text{ standard reflections} \\ \text{frequency: } 60 \text{ min} \\ \text{intensity decay: } 0.2\% \end{array}$ 

H-atom parameters constrained  $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0720P)^2]$ where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   $(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} = 0.014$   $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.98 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$  $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.53 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$ 

A C atom of the methyl group at pyrazole and all F atoms were disordered, and were refined with isotropic displacement parameters.

Data collection: *CAD-4 Software* (Enraf–Nonius, 1989); cell refinement: *CAD-4 Software*; data reduction: *XCAD* (McArdle, 1999); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL*97.

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