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Melaminium chloride hemihydrate

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The crystals of a new melaminium salt, 2,4,6-triamino-1,3,5 triazin-1-ium chloride hemihydrate, $C_3H_7N_6^+$ ·Cl⁻-0.5H₂O, are built up from single-protonated melaminium residues, chloride anions and water molecules. The protonated melaminium cations lie on a twofold axis, while the chloride anions and water molecule lie on the m plane. The melaminium residues are interconnected by $N-H\cdots N$ hydrogen bonds, forming chains parallel to the (001) plane. The chains of melaminium residues form a three-dimensional network through hydrogen-bond interactions with chloride anions and water molecules.

Comment

The present study is a continuation of our investigation of the characterization of hydrogen bonds formed by the melamine molecule in the solid state (Janczak & Perpétuo, 2001 a,b). The melamine molecule and its organic and inorganic complexes or salts can develop supramolecular structures via multiple hydrogen-bonding systems by self-assembly of components which contain complementary arrays of hydrogen-bonding sites (MacDonald & Whitesides, 1994; Row, 1999; Krische & Lehn, 2000; Sherrington & Taskinen, 2001). Solid-state properties, such as electrical conductivity, solid-state reactivity or non-linear optical properties, are influenced by the solid-state structure, i.e. the molecular structure and the orientation of the molecules with respect to each other in the crystal. Knowledge of the molecular architecture can provide a better understanding of the observed macroscopic properties of the crystals.

To expand the understanding of the solid-state physical– organic chemistry of compounds containing multiple and different hydrogen-bonding systems, we studied the solid-state structure of protonated melaminium chloride hemihydrate, (I). To our knowledge, this is the third structurally characterized melaminium salt which is protonated at only one ring N atom. The two previous structurally characterized compounds were the cocrystal of barbituric acid with melamine (Zerkowski et al., 1994) and melaminium phthalate (Janczak & Perpétuo, 2001a). In addition to these singleprotonated melaminium salts, double-protonated melaminium salts have also been structurally characterized (Wang et al., 1990; Martin & Pinkerton, 1995; Janczak & Perpétuo, 2001b).

The asymmetric unit of the title compound consists of two halves of melaminium residues, two halves of chloride anions and half a water molecule. The protonated melaminium cations lie on the twofold axis, while the chloride anions and water molecule lie on the m plane. The two melaminium residues (Fig. 1) do not differ significantly from one another.

Figure 1

The molecular structure of the title compound showing 50% probability displacement ellipsoids. H atoms are shown as spheres of arbitrary radii. [Symmetry code: (i) $-x$, y, $1 - z$.]

The six-membered aromatic ring of both melaminium residues are similar and exhibit significant distortions from the ideal hexagonal form. The internal $C-N-C$ angle at the protonated N atom is greater than the other two $C-N-C$ angles of the ring. These differences are due to the steric effect of a lone pair of electrons and are fully consistent with the valence-shell electron-pair repulsion theory (VSEPR; Gillespie, 1963, 1992). A similar correlation between the internal $C-N-C$ angles of the melaminium ring is observed in the crystal structure of the cocrystal of barbituric acid with melamine (Zerkowski et al., 1994) and melaminium phthalate (Janczak $&$ Perpétuo, $2001a$). As a result of the protonation of the melamine ring at the N atom, the internal $N - C - N$ angles involving the nonprotonated ring N atoms are significantly greater than those containing protonated and non-protonated N atoms.

The melaminium residues are interconnected by four $N-H\cdots N$ hydrogen bonds, forming chains parallel to the (001) plane (Fig. 2). The chains are \sim 3.2 Å apart; this distance is shorter than the distance (\sim 3.4 Å) between π -aromatic rings (Pauling, 1960) and indicates interaction between the melaminium rings of neighbouring chains. The chains of melaminium residues are interconnected by $N-H\cdots$ Cl and $N-H\cdots$ O hydrogen bonds, developing a three-dimensional supramolecular structure (Fig. 2). Each melaminium residue in the crystal is involved in 12 hydrogen bonds, i.e. four $N-H\cdots N$ bonds with two neighbouring melaminium residues, two $N-H\cdots O$ bonds with two distinct water molecules and six $N-H\cdots$ Cl bonds. Each H atom of the amine group para with respect to the protonated ring N atom is involved in one hydrogen bond with water. The H atom of the protonated ring N atom is involved in two hydrogen bonds with two chloride ions (Cl2 and its symmetry equivalent). One of the amine H atoms of the group ortho with respect to the protonated ring N atom is involved in two $N-H\cdots$ Cl hydrogen bonds, while the other forms one $N-H\cdots N$ bond with a neighbouring melamine residue (Fig. 2).

The Cl1 ion acts as an acceptor in four hydrogen bonds with four neighbouring melaminium residues, forming $N-H\cdots$ Cl bonds. Additionally, it interacts with one water H atom. The second chloride ion (Cl2) interacts with two neighbouring melaminium residues through the H atom of the protonated ring N atom and with two other melaminium residues through the H atom of the protonated ring N atom, as well as through one of the H atoms of the melaminium group.

The water molecule is involved as an acceptor in two hydrogen bonds with amine groups (para with respect to the protonated ring N atom) of two different melaminium resi-

Figure 2

The molecular arrangement in the unit cell showing the hydrogenbonding interactions (dashed lines).

dues and as a donor in hydrogen bonds with both chloride ions (Cl1 and Cl2). Details of the hydrogen-bonding geometry are given in Table 2.

Experimental

A 10% solution of HCl was added slowly to a solution of melamine in hot water. After several days, colourless crystals of the title salt appeared.

Crystal data

Data collection

Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (\mathring{A}, \degree) .

Symmetry codes: (i) $-x$, y , $-z$; (ii) $-x$, y , $1 - z$.

Symmetry codes: (i) $\frac{1}{2} - x$, $\frac{1}{2} - y$, $-z$; (ii) $x - \frac{1}{2}$, $y - \frac{1}{2}$, $z - 1$; (iii) $\frac{1}{2} - x$, $\frac{1}{2} - y$, $1 - z$.

Refinement

The positions of the H atoms of the melamine residues were refined ($U_{\text{iso}} = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}$ of the parent N atom), but the water H atoms were located from a difference Fourier map and were not refined $(U_{iso} = 1.5U_{eq}$ of the parent O atom).

Data collection: KM-4 CCD Software (Kuma, 1999); cell refinement: KM-4 CCD Software; data reduction: KM-4 CCD Software; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: SHELXTL (Sheldrick, 1990); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXL97.

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Supplementary data for this paper are available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: NA1530). Services for accessing these data are described at the back of the journal.

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