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(2,2'-Bipyridine- $\kappa^2 N, N'$)(dichromato- κO)copper(II)

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The title compound, $[Cu(Cr_2O_7)(C_{10}H_8N_2)_2]$, a new mixedmetal molecular compound, contains isolated molecular units, each comprised of one Cu^{II} atom coordinated to two 2,2'bipyridine ligands and also to an oxygen vertex of a dichromate anion. The Cu^{II} atom has an approximate trigonal–bipyramidal geometry, which is consistent with previous studies. Both enantiomers of the chiral complex molecule are present and are related by inversion centers. In a reported pyridine analogue, achiral [Cu(Cr₂O₇)(pyridine)₄] chains pack in the non-centrosymmetric space group *Pna*2₁. Differences in the organic ligands influence the chirality and dimensionality of the Cu–Cr₂O₇ bonding.

Comment

Non-centrosymmetric molecular units, such as those with tetrahedral or distorted octahedral geometries, have been cited for their roles in the synthesis of non-centrosymmetric (NCS) solids (Halasyamani & Poeppelmeier, 1998). Recently, $[Cu(Cr_2O_7)(pyridine)_4]$ (Norquist *et al.*, 2001) was reported in an NCS space group, with chains comprising alternating octahedral CuN₄O₂ and tetrahedral Cr₂O₇ polyhedra, which are connected through shared oxygen vertices. The chains are reported to exhibit similarities to the helical $TiO_{4/2}O_{2/2}$ chain (4/2 refers to four oxygen vertices each shared between two titanium polyhedra) found in non-centrosymmetric KTiOPO₄ (Tordjman et al., 1974). In separate research, prior physicochemical and reactivity studies of the title compound, (I), have focused on the importance of weak Cr₂O₇ coordination to Cu for either selective oxidation or mutagenic activity (Cieslak-Golonka et al., 1991; Szyba et al., 1992). In light of the above interests, a complete crystallographic study of (2,2'-bipyridine)(dichromato)copper(II), (I), seemed justified.

Crystals of (I) were hydrothermally synthesized from Cu and Cr oxides and 2,2'-bipyridine inside an autoclave. A view of the resulting mixed-metal (Cu/Cr) molecule is shown in Fig. 1. The inversion symmetry occurs between separate leftand right-handed molecules of (I). The crystal structures of (I) and $[Cu(Cr_2O_7)(pyridine)_4]$ (Norquist *et al.*, 2001) exhibit similar Cr–O and Cu–N bond lengths. The shared oxygen vertex (O4) between the chromium centers is approximately 0.12 Å further from the chromium centers than are the unshared oxygen vertices, as in $[Cu(Cr_2O_7)(pyridine)_4]$. The dihydrate of (I) also exhibits similar molecular units spaced by water molecules (Ii *et al.*, 1996).



Two dramatic differences between the non-centrosymmetric structure of $[Cu(Cr_2O_7)(pyridine)_4]$ and (I) are caused by the ligand change. The first is that in (I), the copper coordination is approximately trigonal bipyramidal (CuON₄), as in the dihydrate (Ii *et al.*, 1996), while in $[Cu(Cr_2O_7)(pyridine)_4]$, it is octahedral (CuN₄O₂). The distortion of the Cu atom from regular octahedral geometry has been associated with the predicted d_{z^2} ground state of (I) from electron-spin resonance (ESR) data (Cieslak-Golonka *et al.*, 1991). Both a trigonal bipyramidal and octahedral copper coordination is consistent with a +2 oxidation state, which balances the 2– charge on the $[Cr_2O_7]^{2-}$ anion. Structurally, the approximate bipyramidal coordination in (I) occurs because a second Cr₂O₇ group does not bind (*trans*) to copper, likely related to the greater steric









The molecular packing of one layer of (I). Each layer stacks on top of the next, with an inversion and shift in a/2.

effects of 2,2'-dipyridine compared with pyridine. The second difference is that (I) contains isolated molecular units rather than the infinite chains seen in the pyridine analogue. Again, this is a result of the monodentate coordination of Cr_2O_7 , which eliminates extended Cu-O-Cr-O-Cr-O-Cu bonding. The next closest Cu-Cr₂O₇ contact between neighboring molecules in (I) is 3.250 (3) Å (drawn with a dotted line in Fig. 2), much longer than the shorter $Cu-Cr_2O_7$ distance of 2.116 (2) Å. Similar arguments also apply to the dihydrate structure of (I) (Ii et al., 1996), where internal water molecules probably do not influence the Cu-Cr₂O₇ bonding.

Non-coordinated O atoms at the end of the dichromate anion (O5, O6 and O7) have more lone pairs of electrons available and are compensated by additional short O···H distances to the 2,2'-bipyridine ligand. Both O2 and O4 are coordinated to two cations, one Cu and one Cr, and each has only one short distance to hydrogen (2.4-2.5 Å). The remaining O atoms (O1 and O3 on the coordinated CrO₄ tetrahedron) also have few short O···H contacts; H···O1 2.66 and 2.59 Å, and $H \cdots O3$ 2.62 Å. The non-coordinated CrO₄ tetrahedron has relatively more O···H contacts: O5 2.41, 2.43 and 2.55 Å; O6 2.48, 2.52 and 2.60 Å; O7 2.36, 2.50, 2.67, 2.76 and 2.81 Å.

The crystal packing of one layer of molecules of (I) is shown in Fig. 2. In contrast to the non-centrosymmetric structure of $[Cu(Cr_2O_7)(pyridine)_4]$, which contains infinite chains, the full crystal packing of (I) contains an inversion center between the successive layers. When considering if a solid will crystallize in a centrosymmetric or non-centrosymmetric space group, it is required that a solid is restricted to non-centrosymmetric space groups when a single enantiomer of a chiral unit, such as a helix, is present. However, the chiral title molecules are racemically mixed, and the three-dimensional structure is noncentrosymmetric. In contrast, the individual Cu-Cr₂O₇ chains in $[Cu(Cr_2O_7)(pyridine)_4]$ are achiral, so that enantiomer formation does not influence its (non)centricity.

Experimental

The title compound was synthesized by placing CuO (89.4 mg), $(NH_4)_2Cr_2O_7$ (157.5 mg) and 2,2'-bipyridine (195.2 mg) in a Teflon pouch (Harrison et al., 1993). To the pouch were added NH₄HF₂ (178.2 mg) and deionized H₂O (1125 mg). The pouch was heat-sealed and placed in a 125 ml autoclave, which was back-filled with H₂O (45 ml). The autoclave was heated inside an oven for 24 h at 423 K and cooled to room temperature at a rate of 6 K h^{-1} . The pouch was opened in air and (I) was recovered in 85% yield based on CuO by filtration.

Crystal data

$[Cu(Cr_2O_7)(C_{10}H_8N_2)_2]$	$D_m = 1.840 (3) \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$	
$M_r = 591.91$	D_m measured by flotation	
Triclinic, P1	pycnometry	
a = 7.7958 (11) Å	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation	
b = 9.9319 (14) Å	Cell parameters from 5015	
c = 14.849 (2) Å	reflections	
$\alpha = 74.673 (2)^{\circ}$	$\theta = 4-28^{\circ}$	
$\beta = 81.960 (2)^{\circ}$	$\mu = 2.01 \text{ mm}^{-1}$	
$\gamma = 79.617 \ (2)^{\circ}$	T = 153 (2) K	
V = 1085.5 (3) Å ³	Block, translucent dark green	
Z = 2	$0.16 \times 0.12 \times 0.09 \text{ mm}$	
$D_x = 1.811 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$		

5015 independent reflections

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.038$ $\theta_{\rm max} = 28.3^{\circ}$

 $h = -10 \rightarrow 10$

 $k = -13 \rightarrow 12$

 $l = -19 \rightarrow 19$

4227 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$

Data collection

Bruker SMART 1000	
diffractometer	
ω scans	
Absorption correction: empirical	
(SADABS; Blessing, 1995)	
$T_{\min} = 0.649, \ T_{\max} = 0.838$	
10 019 measured reflections	

Refinement

Refinement on F^2	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0666P)^2]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.039$	+ 0.4903P]
$wR(F^2) = 0.109$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
S = 1.06	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} = 0.001$
5015 reflections	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 1.21 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
307 parameters	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.71 \text{ e Å}^{-3}$
H-atom parameters constrained	

Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Cu-N3	1.977 (2)	Cr1-O2	1.6429 (18)
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Cu-N1	1.990 (2)	Cr1-O4	1.7720 (19)
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Cu-N4	2.030 (2)	Cr2-O6	1.610 (2)
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Cu-N2	2.054 (2)	Cr2-O5	1.615 (2)
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Cu-O2	2.1161 (18)	Cr2-07	1.626 (2)
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Cr1-O3	1.609 (2)	Cr2-O4	1.7880 (18)
$ \begin{array}{llllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll$	Cr1-O1	1.612 (2)		
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	N3-Cu-N1	174.48 (8)	O3-Cr1-O4	109.53 (10)
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	N3-Cu-N4	81.16 (9)	O1-Cr1-O4	106.18 (10)
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	N1-Cu-N4	100.63 (8)	O2-Cr1-O4	110.14 (10)
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	N3-Cu-N2	101.57 (9)	O6-Cr2-O5	110.62 (11)
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	N1-Cu-N2	81.06 (8)	O6-Cr2-O7	109.43 (13)
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	N4-Cu-N2	133.32 (8)	O5-Cr2-O7	110.13 (13)
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	O3-Cr1-O1	111.36 (12)	O6-Cr2-O4	110.88 (10)
O1-Cr1-O2 110.93 (10) O7-Cr2-O4 106.71 (10	O3-Cr1-O2	108.68 (10)	O5-Cr2-O4	108.99 (10)
	O1-Cr1-O2	110.93 (10)	O7-Cr2-O4	106.71 (10)

H atoms of the 2,2'-bipyridine ligand were constrained to ride at distances of 0.93 Å, with an isotropic displacement parameter 1.5 times that of the associated C atom. The largest residual electrondensity peak was 0.85 Å from atom Cr2.

Data collection: *SMART-NT* (Siemens, 1996); cell refinement: *SAINT-Plus* (Siemens, 1996); data reduction: *SAINT-Plus*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ATOMS* (Dowty, 1999).

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Supplementary data for this paper are available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: FR1351). Services for accessing these data are described at the back of the journal.