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## Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study
$T=300 \mathrm{~K}$
Mean $\sigma(\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C})=0.004 \AA$
$R$ factor $=0.037$
$w R$ factor $=0.099$
Data-to-parameter ratio $=15.8$
For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e.
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## Aqua $\left[( \pm)\right.$-lactate- $\left.O, O^{\prime}\right](1,10$-phenan-throline- $\left.\kappa^{2} N, N^{\prime}\right)$ copper(II) nitrate

In the structure of the title compound, $\left[\mathrm{Cu}\left(\mathrm{C}_{3} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{O}_{3}\right)\right.$ $\left.\left(\mathrm{C}_{12} \mathrm{H}_{8} \mathrm{~N}_{2}\right)\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)\right] \mathrm{NO}_{3}$, the $\mathrm{Cu}^{\text {II }}$ ion is five-coordinated through two N atoms of the 1,10-phenanthroline ligand, two O atoms of the lactate anion and a water molecule. The cations are well separated in the unit cell, the shortest metal-metal separation being 6.2127 (8) $\AA$.

## Comment

A large number of mixed copper chelates of the type $[\mathrm{Cu}(\text { phen })(\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{O})]^{n+}(n=0$ or 1 , phen $=$ different substituted 1,10-phenanthrolines and $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{O}=$ acetylacetonate, salycilaldehydate, oxalate or malonate) have been reported. We have studied their relative stability via solution equilibrium studies, as well as from far IR spectroscopy in the solid state (Gasque, Medina et al., 1999). To validate the latter, isostructurality has first to be established by X-ray diffraction. In this context, most of the crystal structures for the compounds under study have been reported (Fabretti et al., 1985; Kwik et al., 1986; Solans et al., 1987; Su et al., 1995; Gasque, Moreno-Esparza et al., 1999).

(I)

Our current interest in relation to this topic is focused on mixed complexes where the $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{O}$ ligand is an $\alpha$-hydroxy acid anion, such as glycolate (Medina et al., 2000) or lactate, of which an example, (I), is presented here.

The asymmetric unit of (I) (Fig. 1) contains one cation and one nitrate anion, both lying on general positions. The copper center is five-coordinated, in a common distorted squarepyramidal geometry, with a $\tau$ descriptor (Addison et al., 1984) very close to $0, \tau=0.08$. The base of the pyramid is occupied by two O atoms of the racemic lactate ligand and two N atoms of the 1,10-phenanthroline ligand, with the expected coordination bond lengths (Table 1). The metal center is significantly displaced from this plane, the deviation from the calculated least-squares plane (N1, N12, O15 and O18) being 0.2206 (3) A. This displacement is, for instance, $0.06 \AA$ larger than that observed for the related complex including glycolate instead of lactate (Medina et al., 2000). This difference results from the ability of the nitrate ion to interact with $\mathrm{Cu}^{\text {II }}$ in the glycolate-containing complex, giving a typical Jahn-Teller distorted octahedral coordination geometry, while in (I), an actual five-coordinated complex is obtained; the shortest


Figure 1
The structure of (I), with displacement ellipsoids drawn at the $40 \%$ probability level. H atoms are shown as small spheres of arbitrary radii.


Figure 2
The one-dimensional chains running along [101], formed by hydrogen bonds in (I). Four asymmetric units are displayed and, for the sake of clarity, H atoms not involved in this network have been omitted.
separation between the anion and the metallic center is $\mathrm{Cu} 1 \cdots \mathrm{O} 22$ of 5.000 (3) $\AA$. Finally, the apical coordination site in (I) is occupied by a water molecule, with a long bond length of 2.2283 (19) $\AA$.

The functionality of the cation, together with the presence of nitrate as anion, greatly favors hydrogen bonding in the crystalline state (Table 2). Thus, the hydroxy group O18-H18 of the lactate ligand forms a remarkably strong hydrogen bond with the carboxylate atom O19 of a symmetry-related cation. Other significant $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{O}$ hydrogen bonds involve the coordinated water molecule. The resulting network is a onedimensional supramolecular aggregate with [101] as base vector (Fig. 2), the steric hindrance of the 1,10-phenanthroline ligand avoiding inter-chain contacts. These features result in large metal-metal separations in the cell, the shortest $\mathrm{Cu} \cdots \mathrm{Cu}$ distance being $\mathrm{Cu} \cdots \mathrm{Cu}^{\mathrm{i}}$ of 6.2127 (8) $\AA$ [symmetry code: (i) $1-x,-y, 2-z]$.

## Experimental

The title compound was obtained by mixing 1 mmol of $\mathrm{Cu}\left(\mathrm{NO}_{3}\right)_{2} \cdot 2.5 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(0.233 \mathrm{~g})$ with 1 mmol of 1,10 -phenanthroline $(0.180 \mathrm{~g})$ in 20 ml of MeOH and adding 1 mmol of lithium lactate $(0.096 \mathrm{~g})$, previously dissolved in the minimal amount of water. This solution was left standing and air-stable crystals were collected the following day.

## Crystal data

$\left[\mathrm{Cu}\left(\mathrm{C}_{3} \mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{O}_{3}\right)\left(\mathrm{C}_{12} \mathrm{H}_{8} \mathrm{~N}_{2}\right)\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)\right] \mathrm{NO}_{3}$
$M_{r}=412.84$
Monoclinic, $P 2_{1} / n$
$a=8.5646(13) \AA$
$b=19.985(3) \AA$
$c=9.7854(13) \AA$
$\beta=104.960(11)^{\circ}$
$V=1618.2(4) \AA^{3}$
$Z=4$

## Data collection

Bruker $P 4$ diffractometer
$\omega$ scans
Absorption correction: Gaussian
(XSCANS; Siemens, 1996)
$T_{\text {min }}=0.599, T_{\text {max }}=0.782$
4687 measured reflections
3706 independent reflections
3156 reflections with $I>2 \sigma(I)$

## Refinement

Refinement on $F^{2}$
$R\left[F^{2}>2 \sigma\left(F^{2}\right)\right]=0.037$
$w R\left(F^{2}\right)=0.099$
$S=1.04$
3706 reflections
235 parameters
H -atom parameters constrained
$D_{x}=1.695 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}$
Mo $K \alpha$ radiation
Cell parameters from 68 reflections
$\theta=4.8-12.5^{\circ}$
$\mu=1.40 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}$
$T=300$ (1) K
Prism, blue
$0.62 \times 0.26 \times 0.22 \mathrm{~mm}$
$R_{\text {int }}=0.023$
$\theta_{\text {max }}=27.5^{\circ}$
$h=-1 \rightarrow 11$
$k=-25 \rightarrow 1$
$l=-12 \rightarrow 12$
3 standard reflections every 97 reflections intensity decay: $1.5 \%$

$$
\begin{gathered}
w=1 /\left[\sigma^{2}\left(F_{o}{ }^{2}\right)+(0.0487 P)^{2}\right. \\
+0.9828 P] \\
\text { where } P=\left(F_{o}{ }^{2}+2 F_{c}^{2}\right) / 3 \\
(\Delta / \sigma)_{\max }=0.001 \\
\Delta \rho_{\max }=0.47 \mathrm{e} \AA^{-3} \\
\Delta \rho_{\min }=-0.54 \mathrm{e} \AA^{-3}
\end{gathered}
$$

Table 1
Selected geometric parameters $\left(\AA^{\circ},{ }^{\circ}\right)$.

| Cu1-O15 | 1.9256 (16) | C8-C9 | 1.407 (4) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cu1-O18 | 1.9516 (17) | C9-C10 | 1.369 (4) |
| $\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{N} 1$ | 1.9970 (19) | C10-C11 | 1.395 (4) |
| $\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{N} 12$ | 2.0096 (19) | C11-N12 | 1.331 (3) |
| $\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{O} 1$ | 2.2283 (19) | N12-C13 | 1.360 (3) |
| N1-C2 | 1.328 (3) | C13-C14 | 1.429 (3) |
| N1-C14 | 1.357 (3) | O15-C16 | 1.267 (3) |
| C2-C3 | 1.402 (4) | C16-O19 | 1.238 (3) |
| C3-C4 | 1.367 (4) | C16-C17 | 1.528 (3) |
| C4-C5 | 1.409 (4) | C17-O18 | 1.435 (3) |
| C5-C14 | 1.404 (3) | C17-C20 | 1.502 (4) |
| C5-C6 | 1.437 (4) | N21-O24 | 1.231 (3) |
| C6-C7 | 1.360 (4) | N21-O22 | 1.239 (3) |
| C7-C8 | 1.435 (4) | N21-O23 | 1.243 (3) |
| C8-C13 | 1.403 (3) |  |  |
| O15-Cu1-O18 | 82.49 (7) | C10-C9-C8 | 118.7 (2) |
| $\mathrm{O} 15-\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{N} 1$ | 93.24 (7) | C9-C10-C11 | 120.6 (2) |
| $\mathrm{O} 18-\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{N} 1$ | 164.40 (9) | N12-C11-C10 | 122.0 (2) |
| $\mathrm{O} 15-\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{N} 12$ | 169.12 (8) | C11-N12-C13 | 118.0 (2) |
| $\mathrm{O} 18-\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{N} 12$ | 99.07 (7) | C11-N12-Cu1 | 130.06 (17) |
| N1-Cu1-N12 | 82.40 (8) | C13-N12-Cu1 | 111.93 (14) |
| O15-Cu1-O1 | 95.03 (8) | N12-C13-C8 | 123.4 (2) |
| $\mathrm{O} 18-\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{O} 1$ | 94.78 (8) | N12-C13-C14 | 116.73 (19) |
| $\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{O} 1$ | 100.55 (8) | C8-C13-C14 | 119.9 (2) |
| N12-Cu1-O1 | 95.57 (8) | N1-C14-C5 | 123.3 (2) |
| C2-N1-C14 | 118.2 (2) | N1-C14-C13 | 116.18 (19) |
| $\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{Cu} 1$ | 129.05 (17) | C5-C14-C13 | 120.6 (2) |
| C14-N1-Cu1 | 112.74 (15) | C16-O15-Cu1 | 116.12 (14) |
| N1-C2-C3 | 122.2 (2) | O19-C16-O15 | 125.1 (2) |
| C4-C3-C2 | 119.9 (2) | O19-C16-C17 | 116.8 (2) |
| C3-C4-C5 | 119.3 (2) | O15-C16-C17 | 118.15 (19) |
| C14-C5-C4 | 117.1 (2) | O18-C17-C20 | 110.5 (2) |
| C14-C5-C6 | 118.8 (2) | O18-C17-C16 | 106.91 (17) |
| C4-C5-C6 | 124.1 (2) | C20-C17-C16 | 112.1 (2) |
| C7-C6-C5 | 120.3 (2) | C17-O18-Cu1 | 115.01 (12) |
| C6-C7-C8 | 121.8 (2) | $\mathrm{O} 24-\mathrm{N} 21-\mathrm{O} 22$ | 120.7 (3) |
| C13-C8-C9 | 117.3 (2) | $\mathrm{O} 24-\mathrm{N} 21-\mathrm{O} 23$ | 120.5 (2) |
| C13-C8-C7 | 118.6 (2) | $\mathrm{O} 22-\mathrm{N} 21-\mathrm{O} 23$ | 118.8 (3) |
| C9-C8-C7 | 124.2 (2) |  |  |

Table 2
Hydrogen-bonding geometry $\left(\AA^{\circ}{ }^{\circ}\right)$.

| $D-\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ | $D-\mathrm{H}$ | $\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ | $D \cdots A$ | $D-\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| O18-H18 $\cdots$ O19 $9^{\text {ii }}$ | 0.87 | 1.70 | $2.562(2)$ | 172 |
| O1-H1 $B \cdots 3^{\text {iii }}$ | 0.88 | 1.94 | $2.819(3)$ | 174 |
| ${\text { O1-H1A } \cdots \mathrm{O}^{\text {iv }}}^{\text {iv }}$ | 0.77 | 2.17 | $2.871(3)$ | 151 |

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

H atoms for water molecule ( $\mathrm{H} 1 A$ and $\mathrm{H} 1 B$ ) and hydroxyl group (H18) were found in difference maps. The remaining H atoms, bonded to $s p^{2}$ - and $s p^{3}$-hybridized C atoms, were placed at idealized positions. In the final cycles, all H atoms were constrained to ride on their parent atoms, with $U_{\text {iso }}(\mathrm{H})=x U_{\text {eq }}($ parent $)$, where $x=1.5$ for $\mathrm{Csp}{ }^{3}-\mathrm{H}$ and $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}$, and $x=1.2$ for for $\mathrm{Csp}{ }^{2}-\mathrm{H}$ groups. Constrained distances: methine $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}=0.98 \AA$, methyl $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}=0.96 \AA$ and aryl $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}=0.93 \AA$.

Data collection: XSCANS (Siemens, 1996); cell refinement: $X S C A N S$; data reduction: XSCANS; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXTL-Plus (Sheldrick, 1998); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics:

SHELXTL-Plus; software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXL97.

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