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**Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study  
 T = 293 K  
 Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.007 \text{ \AA}$   
 R factor = 0.052  
 wR factor = 0.138  
 Data-to-parameter ratio = 14.9

For details of how these key indicators were  
 automatically derived from the article, see  
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

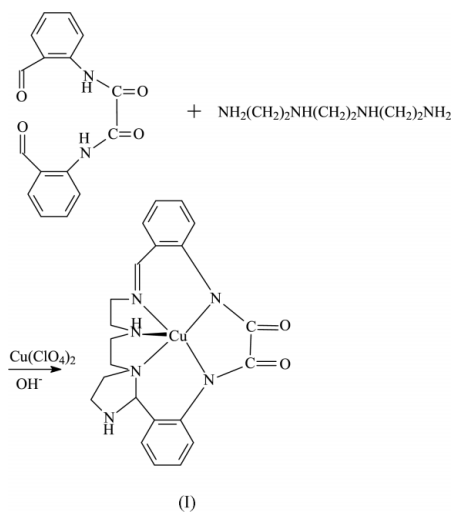
**[3,6,9,12,23-Pentaazatetracyclo[22.4.0.0<sup>2,6</sup>.0<sup>14,19</sup>]-  
 octacosa-1(28),12,14,16,18,24,26-heptaene-21,22-  
 dione(2-)- $\kappa^5\text{N}^6, \text{N}^9, \text{N}^{12}, \text{N}^{20}, \text{N}^{23}$ ]copper(II)**

In the title compound,  $[\text{Cu}(\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_6\text{O}_2)]$ , the copper(II) ion is coordinated by five N atoms from the chelating macrocyclic ligand, forming a distorted square-pyramidal geometry. The complexes associate as dimers, disposed about a centre of symmetry, linked through weak intermolecular  $\text{Cu} \cdots \text{O}$  coordination and  $\text{N}-\text{H} \cdots \text{O}$  hydrogen bonding.

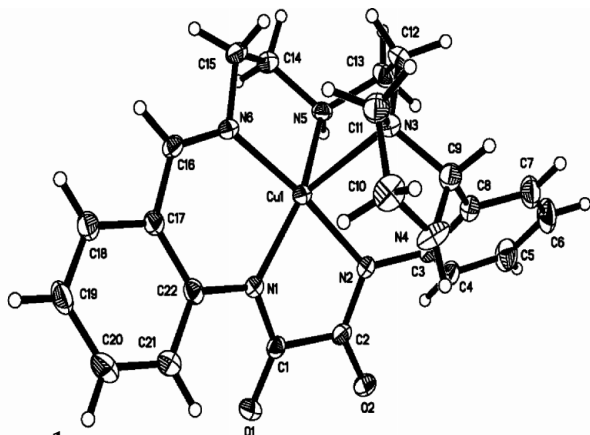
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**Comment**

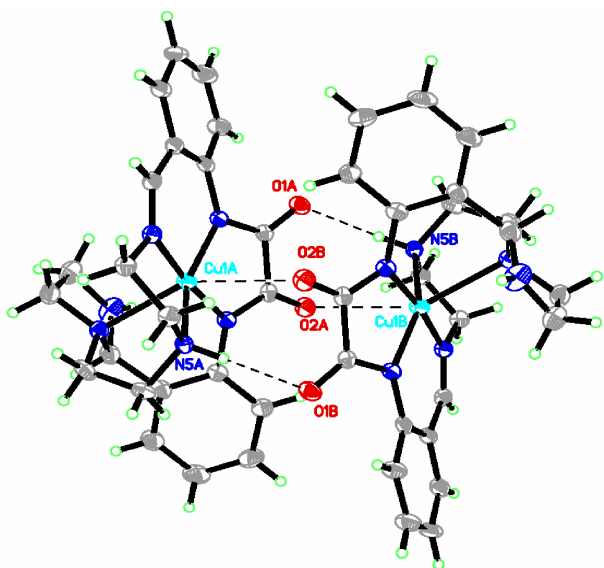
The coordination properties of *N,N*-bisoxamides have been investigated thoroughly both in aqueous solution and in the solid state (Ruiz *et al.*, 1999). However, the insolubility of oxamide in common solvents and the hydrolytic reactions it undergoes under deprotonation to yield oxalate preclude an exhaustive exploration of its coordination chemistry (Armendarez & Nakamoto, 1966). These difficulties can be overcome, in the presence of metals ions and when the oxamide has another coordinating group at a position that can form five- or six-membered chelate rings as a consequence of deprotonation of the amide at high pH and subsequent coordination (Ojima & Nakamoto, 1980). Consequently, we designed and synthesized the macrocyclic oxamide complex, (I).



The crystal structure of the title complex is composed of monomeric copper(II) complexes (Fig. 1). The 2,3-dioxo-5,6,16,17-dibenzo-14,15-imidazolidinepentaazacycloheptadeca-7-ene ligand coordinates to the Cu ion in a chelating mode, leading to a significant distortion from square pyramidal, with  $\text{Cu}-\text{N}$  bonds lengths ranging from 1.950 (3) to 2.318 (4)  $\text{Å}$ . The  $\text{N}1-\text{C}1$  bond length is 1.349 (5)  $\text{Å}$ , indicating this bond to be a partial double bond. Fig. 2 shows how the



**Figure 1**  
An ORTEP view of the title compound, showing displacement ellipsoids at the 50% probability level.



**Figure 2**  
View of weak coordination interactions and hydrogen bonds in the dimer.

complexes associate as dimers disposed about a centre of symmetry, with an intermolecular  $\text{Cu1}\cdots\text{O2}^i$  distance of 3.129 (3) Å and a hydrogen-bonding contact distance,  $\text{N5}\cdots\text{O1}^i$ , of 2.974 (5) Å [symmetry code: (i)  $1 - x, -y, 1 - z$ ].

## Experimental

The title compound was prepared by refluxing and stirring diformyloxanilide (2.49 g, 0.01 mol), triethylenetetramine (2.96 g, 0.02 mol) and copper(II) perchlorate (3.70 g, 0.01 mol) for 3.5 h in 50 ml of MeOH in the presence of four drops of 2 M NaOH. The mixture was cooled and filtered. The resulting deep-green filtrate, kept at room temperature for several days, gave rise to deep-green crystals suitable for X-ray analysis. Analysis calculated for

$\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{24}\text{CuN}_6\text{O}_2$ : C 56.45, H 5.16, N 17.96%; found: C 56.43, H 5.21, N 17.87%.

## Crystal data

$[\text{Cu}(\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_6\text{O}_2)]$   
 $M_r = 468.01$   
Monoclinic,  $P2_1/n$   
 $a = 13.178$  (7) Å  
 $b = 11.587$  (6) Å  
 $c = 14.516$  (7) Å  
 $\beta = 112.949$  (8)°  
 $V = 2041.0$  (18) Å<sup>3</sup>  
 $Z = 4$

$D_x = 1.523$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>  
Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
Cell parameters from 755 reflections  
 $\theta = 2.5\text{--}23.1^\circ$   
 $\mu = 1.10$  mm<sup>-1</sup>  
 $T = 293$  (2) K  
Block, green  
0.26 × 0.24 × 0.20 mm

## Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector diffractometer  
 $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans  
Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Sheldrick, 1996)  
 $T_{\text{min}} = 0.650$ ,  $T_{\text{max}} = 0.802$   
11 388 measured reflections

4174 independent reflections  
2632 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.060$   
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 26.4^\circ$   
 $h = -10 \rightarrow 16$   
 $k = -13 \rightarrow 14$   
 $l = -18 \rightarrow 16$

## Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.052$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.138$   
 $S = 1.06$   
4174 reflections  
281 parameters  
H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0669P)^2]$   
where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} = 0.002$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.60$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.57$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
Extinction correction: SHELXL97  
Extinction coefficient: 0.0131 (10)

H atoms were constrained as riding atoms, with C—H distances of 0.93, 0.97 and 0.98 Å, and N—H distances of 0.86 and 0.91 Å.  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H})$  values were set at  $1.1U_{\text{eq}}$  of the parent atom.

Data collection: SMART-NT (Bruker, 1998); cell refinement: SMART-NT; data reduction: SAINT-NT (Bruker, 1998); program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1990); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: ORTEPIII (Burnett & Johnson, 1996); software used to prepare material for publication: WinGX (Farrugia, 1999).

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