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## Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study  
*T* = 293 K  
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C})$  = 0.005 Å  
*R* factor = 0.023  
*wR* factor = 0.060  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 15.7For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.Di- $\mu$ -iodo-bis[(3-cyanopyridine- $\kappa$ N)copper(I)]The Cu<sup>I</sup> atom in the centrosymmetric title compound, [Cu<sub>2</sub>I<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>N)<sub>4</sub>], shows tetrahedral coordination; the I atom functions as a  $\mu_2$  bridge.

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## Comment

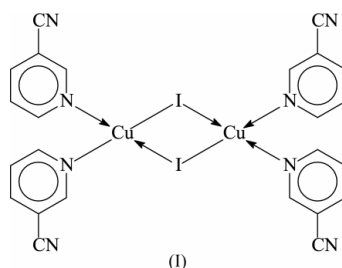
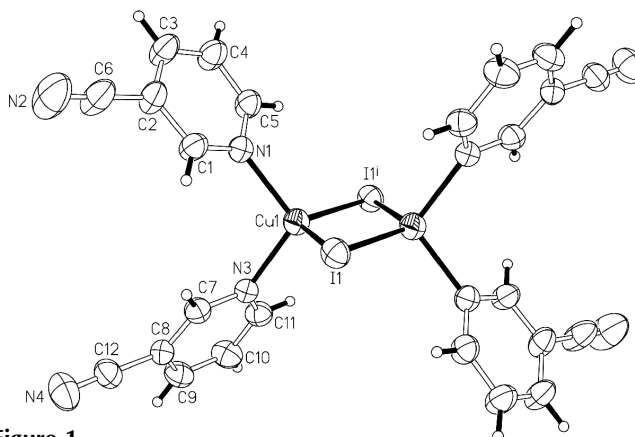
Cuprous halide clusters display a wide variety of structural motifs in their complexes with nitrogen heterocycles, as well as in their nitrile complexes. Such complexes possess diverse photophysical properties (Ford *et al.*, 1999). Cuprous iodide forms a large number of adducts with substituted pyridine heterocycles in which one adduct molecule associates with another through iodide bridges, forming a dimeric entity, *e.g.* [CuI(C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>N)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> (Dyason *et al.*, 1984). 3-Cyanopyridine is a heterocyclic ligand having both a Lewis-basic aromatic site and a cyano group; it does not cause steric crowding, unlike, for example, 2-methylpyridine (Habiyakare *et al.*, 1992; Healy *et al.*, 1983). This reagent also affords a dinuclear compound, (I), in which the Cu—I bonds are of nearly identical lengths [2.6450 (5) and 2.6496 (5) Å] (Fig. 1).This centrosymmetric compound has a structure similar to that of the 3-cyanopyrazine adduct, with the Cu<sup>I</sup> atom in a

Figure 1

ORTEP (Johnson, 1976) plot of (I), with displacement ellipsoids drawn at the 50% probability level. H atoms are drawn as spheres of arbitrary radii. [Symmetry code: (i) 1 - *x*, 1 - *y*, 1 - *z*.]

tetrahedral  $N_2I_2Cu$  geometry. The structure of the 3-cyanopyridine adduct has been described in detail (Rossenbeck & Sheldrick, 1999).

## Experimental

A mixture of cuprous iodide (0.19 g, 1.0 mmol), 3-cyanopyridine (0.10 g, 1.0 mmol) and acetonitrile (10 ml) was sealed in a 23-ml Teflon-lined bomb, which was heated in an oven to 433 K for 80 h. The oven was cooled to room temperature at a rate of 5 K h<sup>-1</sup>. Orange crystals were collected and washed with water. Elemental analysis calculated (%) for  $C_{24}H_{16}Cu_2I_2N_8$ : C 36.15, H 2.02, N 14.05; found: C 36.08, H 2.12, N 14.01.

### Crystal data

$[Cu_2I_2(C_6H_5N)_4]$	$Z = 1$
$M_r = 797.33$	$D_x = 2.010 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
Triclinic, $P\bar{1}$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
$a = 8.0880$ (6) Å	Cell parameters from 2924 reflections
$b = 8.9192$ (6) Å	$\theta = 2.4\text{--}28.3^\circ$
$c = 9.7063$ (7) Å	$\mu = 3.99 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$\alpha = 92.372$ (1)°	$T = 293$ (2) K
$\beta = 95.354$ (1)°	Block, orange
$\gamma = 108.663$ (1)°	$0.28 \times 0.25 \times 0.20 \text{ mm}$
$V = 658.60$ (8) Å <sup>3</sup>	

### Data collection

Bruker SMART APEX area-detector diffractometer	2565 independent reflections
$\varphi$ and $\omega$ scans	2382 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 2002)	$R_{int} = 0.014$
$T_{min} = 0.325$ , $T_{max} = 0.450$	$\theta_{max} = 26.3^\circ$
4801 measured reflections	$h = -9 \rightarrow 10$
	$k = -11 \rightarrow 11$
	$l = -11 \rightarrow 12$

### Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0357P)^2 + 0.0903P]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.023$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$wR(F^2) = 0.060$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} = 0.001$
$S = 1.02$	$\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.42 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
2565 reflections	$\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.50 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
163 parameters	
H-atom parameters constrained	

**Table 1**

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

I1—Cu1	2.6450 (5)	Cu1—N1	2.073 (2)
I1—Cu1 <sup>i</sup>	2.6496 (5)	Cu1—N3	2.082 (2)
Cu1—I1—Cu1 <sup>i</sup>	60.43 (2)	N3—Cu1—I1	106.07 (7)
N1—Cu1—N3	107.55 (9)	N3—Cu1—I1 <sup>i</sup>	107.96 (7)
N1—Cu1—I1	107.12 (7)	I1—Cu1—I1 <sup>i</sup>	119.57 (2)
N1—Cu1—I1 <sup>i</sup>	108.03 (7)		

Symmetry code: (i)  $1 - x, 1 - y, 1 - z$ .

H atoms were placed in calculated positions [ $C-H = 0.93$  Å and  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$ ] and were included in the refinement in the riding-model approximation.

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 2002); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 2002); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: ORTEPII (Johnson, 1976); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXL97.

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