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## Structure Reports

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## Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study
$T=298 \mathrm{~K}$
Mean $\sigma(\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C})=0.009 \AA$
$R$ factor $=0.066$
$w R$ factor $=0.162$
Data-to-parameter ratio $=12.3$

For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e.
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## Triaqua $\{\mu-2-[N, N$-bis(carboxylatomethyl)amino-methyl]-6-[ $N$-(carboxylatomethyl)- N -(carboxy-methyl)aminomethyl]-4-nitrophenolato\}dicopper(II) trihydrate

The structure of the title compound, $\left[\mathrm{Cu}_{2}\left(\mathrm{C}_{16} \mathrm{H}_{15} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{11}\right)\right.$ $\left.\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)_{3}\right] \cdot 3 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, shows two distinct distorted octahedral $\mathrm{Cu}^{\mathrm{II}}$ centres, with each $\mathrm{Cu}^{\mathrm{II}}$ ion bound to carboxylate O atoms, amine N atoms, a phenolate O atom and water O atoms.

## Comment

The synthesis and characterization of dinuclear $\mathrm{Cu}^{\text {II }}$ complexes have received a great deal of attention, owing to their importance in haemocyanin, tyrosinase, laccase and ascorbate oxidase (Kitajima \& Moro-oka, 1994; Solomon et al., 1994; Sorrell, 1989; Karlin, 1993). The $R$-HXTA ligands [where $R$ is Cl or $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ and HXTA is $N, N^{\prime}$-(2-hydroxy-5- $R-1,3-$ xylene)bis( $N$-carboxymethylglycine)] have been used extensively to incorporate various dinuclear cores, such as $\mathrm{Cu}, \mathrm{Fe}$, Ni and Ce (Holz et al., 1994; Murch et al., 1987; Meng, Huang \& Gao, 2004; Meng, Gao \& Zhu, 2004; Branum et al., 2001). In this paper, we report the title novel triaquadicopper complex of $\mathrm{NO}_{2}$-HXTA, (I).

(I)

A displacement ellipsoid drawing of (I) is shown in Fig. 1. Each $\mathrm{Cu}^{\mathrm{II}}$ ion exhibits a distorted octahedral geometry, the two environments being different. The coordination sphere of Cu 1 is composed of atoms $\mathrm{O} 1, \mathrm{O} 2, \mathrm{O} 6$ and N 2 forming a plane, with carboxylate distances $\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{O} 4=2.286$ (5) and $\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O} 3^{v}$ $=3.018$ (5) $\AA$ [symmetry code: (v) $1-x,-y,-z$ ]; the long $\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O} 3^{\mathrm{v}}$ distance is to a ligand in a neighbouring complex. The coordination sphere of Cu 2 has atoms $\mathrm{O} 7, \mathrm{O} 9, \mathrm{O} 13$ and N 3 in a plane, with $\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{O} 1=2.301$ (4) and $\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{O} 14=$ 2.674 (5) A. Hydrogen bonds are formed between the uncoordinated water molecules and the carboxylate carbonyl O atoms, as well as the coordinated water molecules.

The structural aspects of (I) are similar to those of the analogous complex $\left[\mathrm{Cu}_{2}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.\right.$-HXTA $\left.) \mathrm{H}\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)_{2}\right] \cdot 4 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(\mathrm{Holz}$ et al., 1994; Meng, Huang \& Gao, 2004). However, the Cu $\mathrm{O}_{\text {phenolate }}$ distances in (I) $[1.922$ (4) and 2.301 (4) $\AA$ ] are longer than those found in $\left[\mathrm{Cu}_{2}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}-\mathrm{HXTA}\right) \mathrm{H}\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)_{2}\right] \cdot 4 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ [1.897 (3) and 2.246 (4) A (Holz et al., 1994), and 1.906 (2) and 2.229 (2) A (Meng, Huang \& Gao, 2004)].

## Figure 1



The structure of (I), with the atom-numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the $30 \%$ probability level and H atoms are shown as small spheres of arbitrary radii. [Symmetry code: (A) $1-x,-y,-z$.]

Interestingly, we also note that one H atom is attached to a carboxylate carbonyl O atom in (I), as was observed in $\left[\mathrm{Cu}_{2}-\right.$ $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right.$-HXTA) $\left.\mathrm{H}\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)_{2}\right] \cdot 4 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ (Meng, Huang \& Gao, 2004).

## Experimental

All chemicals were of reagent grade and commercially available from the Beijing Chemical Reagents Company of China. The $\mathrm{NO}_{2}$-HXTA ligand was synthesized by a modification of published procedures (Murch et al., 1987; Branum et al., 2001). To an aqueous solution $(100 \mathrm{ml})$ containing iminodiacetic acid $(0.125 \mathrm{~mol})$ and $p$-nitrophenol ( 0.063 mol ) was added $\mathrm{NaOH}(0.25 \mathrm{~mol})$ in water $(40 \mathrm{ml})$, and the mixture was cooled in an ice-water bath. Upon dissolution, $37 \%$ formaldehyde ( 15 ml ) was added dropwise at 273 K . The solution was stirred for 30 min , heated at 343 K for 4 h , and then concentrated to dryness. Recrystallization of the solid from methanol yielded the product $\mathrm{Na}_{4}\left(\mathrm{NO}_{2}\right.$-HXTA $) . \mathrm{Cu}\left(\mathrm{ClO}_{4}\right)_{2} \cdot 6 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(0.5422 \mathrm{~g}, 0.002 \mathrm{~mol})$ and $\mathrm{Na}_{4}\left(\mathrm{NO}_{2}\right.$-HXTA) $(0.4293 \mathrm{~g}, 0.001 \mathrm{~mol})$ were dissolved in water $(10 \mathrm{ml})$. After stirring for 10 min , the solution was left in the refrigerator for 10 d . Dark-green crystals of (I) were obtained by slow evaporation of the aqueous solvent.

## Crystal data

$\left[\mathrm{Cu}_{2}\left(\mathrm{C}_{16} \mathrm{H}_{15} \mathrm{~N}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{11}\right)\left(\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)_{3}\right] \cdot 3 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$
$M_{r}=660.49$
Monoclinic, $P 2_{1} / n$
$a=15.137$ (4) A
$b=10.787$ (3) $\AA$
$c=15.240(4) \AA$
$\beta=104.936$ (3) ${ }^{\circ}$
$V=2404.3(10) \AA^{3}$
$Z=4$

## Data collection

Bruker SMART 1K CCD areadetector diffractometer $\varphi$ and $\omega$ scans
Absorption correction: multi-scan
(SADABS; Sheldrick, 2000)
$T_{\text {min }}=0.708, T_{\text {max }}=0.836$
9744 measured reflections
$D_{x}=1.825 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}$
Mo $K \alpha$ radiation
Cell parameters from 2284 reflections
$\theta=2.3-23.2^{\circ}$
$\mu=1.86 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}$
$T=298$ (2) K
Block, green
$0.20 \times 0.20 \times 0.10 \mathrm{~mm}$

4233 independent reflections
3335 reflections with $I>2 \sigma(I)$
$R_{\text {int }}=0.054$
$\theta_{\text {max }}=25.0^{\circ}$
$h=-18 \rightarrow 13$
$k=-12 \rightarrow 12$
$l=-18 \rightarrow 17$

## Refinement



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

| $\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{O} 1$ | $1.922(4)$ | $\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{O} 9$ | $1.960(4)$ |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | ---: |
| $\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{O} 2$ | $1.939(4)$ | $\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{O} 7$ | $1.960(4)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{O} 6$ | $1.954(4)$ | $\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{N} 3$ | $2.004(5)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{N} 2$ | $2.040(4)$ | $\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{O} 1$ | $2.301(4)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{O} 4$ | $2.286(5)$ | $\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{O} 14$ | $2.674(5)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{O} 13$ | $1.954(4)$ |  |  |
| $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{O} 2$ | $166.71(19)$ | $\mathrm{O} 13-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{N} 3$ | $172.90(19)$ |
| $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{O} 6$ | $91.49(17)$ | $\mathrm{O} 9-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{N} 3$ | $83.36(19)$ |
| $\mathrm{O} 2-\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{O} 6$ | $89.11(17)$ | $\mathrm{O} 7-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{N} 3$ | $84.70(19)$ |
| $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{N} 2$ | $96.1(18)$ | $\mathrm{O} 13-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{O} 1$ | $94.44(16)$ |
| $\mathrm{O} 2-\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{N} 2$ | $83.87(17)$ | $\mathrm{O} 9-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{O} 1$ | $92.35(17)$ |
| $\mathrm{O} 6-\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{N} 2$ | $172.24(19)$ | $\mathrm{O} 7-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{O} 1$ | $93.84(16)$ |
| $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{O} 4$ | $90.16(18)$ | $\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{O} 1$ | $92.61(17)$ |
| $\mathrm{O} 2-\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{O} 4$ | $102.90(19)$ | $\mathrm{O} 13-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{O} 14$ | $80.93(17)$ |
| $\mathrm{O} 6-\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{O} 4$ | $98.2(2)$ | $\mathrm{O} 9-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{O} 14$ | $81.13(18)$ |
| $\mathrm{N} 2-\mathrm{Cu} 1-\mathrm{O} 4$ | $80.21(18)$ | $\mathrm{O} 7-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{O} 14$ | $93.65(18)$ |
| $\mathrm{O} 13-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{O} 9$ | $95.53(19)$ | $\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{O} 14$ | $91.97(18)$ |
| $\mathrm{O} 13-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{O} 7$ | $95.62(19)$ | $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{O} 14$ | $171.55(16)$ |
| $\mathrm{O} 9-\mathrm{Cu} 2-\mathrm{O} 7$ | $166.78(17)$ |  |  |

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

| $D-\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ | $D-\mathrm{H}$ | $\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ | $D \cdots A$ | $D-\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{O} 17-\mathrm{H} 75 \cdots \mathrm{O} 4^{\mathrm{i}}$ | 0.87 | 2.07 | 2.793 (8) | 141 |
| O16-H73 . O 15 | 0.85 | 2.00 | 2.851 (10) | 173 |
| O17-H76 . O 10 | 0.84 | 1.84 | 2.531 (9) | 138 |
| $\mathrm{O} 16-\mathrm{H} 74 \cdots \mathrm{O} 8^{\text {ii }}$ | 0.85 | 1.95 | 2.741 (7) | 155 |
| $\mathrm{O} 15-\mathrm{H} 72 \cdots \mathrm{O} 8^{\text {iii }}$ | 0.85 | 2.00 | 2.841 (7) | 169 |
| O14-H66 . O 16 | 0.85 | 2.43 | 3.154 (10) | 144 |
| O15-H71 . ${ }^{\text {O17 }}$ | 0.85 | 2.26 | 3.005 (12) | 147 |
| $\mathrm{O} 14-\mathrm{H} 65 \cdots \mathrm{O}^{\text {iv }}$ | 0.85 | 2.05 | 2.888 (7) | 169 |
| O13-H64 . . $\mathrm{O}^{\text {16 }}$ | 0.85 | 1.82 | 2.631 (7) | 159 |
| $\mathrm{O} 13-\mathrm{H} 63 \cdots \mathrm{O}^{\mathrm{v}}$ | 0.85 | 1.84 | 2.689 (6) | 174 |
| O6-H62 $\cdots$ O $8^{\text {iii }}$ | 0.85 | 1.90 | 2.728 (6) | 167 |
| O6-H61 . ${ }^{\text {O }} 9$ | 0.85 | 1.86 | 2.708 (6) | 172 |
| $\mathrm{O} 5-\mathrm{H} 5 \cdots \mathrm{O}^{\text {vi }}$ | 0.86 | 1.69 | 2.541 (9) | 170 |

Symmetry codes: (i) $\frac{1}{2}-x, \frac{1}{2}+y, \frac{1}{2}-z$; (ii) $\frac{3}{2}-x, \frac{1}{2}+y, \frac{1}{2}-z$; (iii) $x-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}-y, z-\frac{1}{2}$; (iv)
$\frac{1}{2}+x, \frac{1}{2}-y, \frac{1}{2}+z$; (v) $1-x,-y,-z$; (vi) $x, y-1, z$.
H atoms attached to C atoms were placed in geometrically idealized positions, with $\mathrm{Csp}^{3}-\mathrm{H}=0.97$ and $\mathrm{Csp}^{2}-\mathrm{H}=0.93 \AA$, and constrained to ride on their parent atoms, with $U_{\text {iso }}(H)=1.2_{U_{\text {eq }}}(\mathrm{C})$. H atoms attached to O atoms were located in difference Fourier maps and constrained to ride on their parent atoms, with $U_{\text {iso }}(\mathrm{H})=1.2 U_{\text {eq }}$.

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 2000); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 2000); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: SHELXTL/PC (Sheldrick, 1999); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXTL/PC.

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Figure 2
A packing diagram for the structure of (I), viewed along the $c$ axis. The dashed lines represent hydrogen bonds.

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