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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 298 K Mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.005 Å R factor = 0.027 wR factor = 0.079 Data-to-parameter ratio = 13.2

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

# Poly[[*trans*-dibromocopper(II)]-di- $\mu$ -3-pyridine-carbonitrile- $\kappa^4 N^1$ : $N^3$ ]

In the title centrosymmetric compound,  $[CuBr_2(C_6H_4N_2)_2]$ , each Cu<sup>II</sup> atom is 4 + 2-coordinated by two pyridine N atoms from two 3-pyridinecarbonitrile ligands, two Br<sup>-</sup> anions and two semicoordinated cyano N atoms from two symmetry-related 3-pyridinecarbonitrile ligands. The 3-pyridinecarbonitrile ligands link molecules into chains running parallel to the *c* axis.

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## Comment

In recent years, interest has been shown in the preparation and properties of molecular-based magnets (Galteschi et al., 1991; Kahn, 1993; Miller & Epstein, 1994). A major subfield within molecular magnetism has been the construction of molecular ferrimagnets, and some excellent work has been performed in this area (Pei et al., 1986). It was found that the cyanide anion can be used to construct specific dimensional crystal lattices with high magnetic ordering (Mallah et al., 1993; Entley & Girolami, 1995). 4-Pyridinecarbonitrile, as a bridging ligand, has been investigated and the synthesis, crystal structures and magnetic properties of linear-chain 4-pyridinecarbonitrile compounds have already been reported (Vasilevesky et al., 1991; Zhang et al., 1993, 1997), but the 3-pyridinecarbonitrile compounds have rarely been considered. We report here the preparation and crystal structure of a complex of copper(II) bridged by 3-pyridinecarbonitrile, namely poly[[trans-dibromocopper(II)]-di- $\mu$ -3-pyridinecarbonitrile- $\kappa^2 N^1:N^3$ ], (I).



The structural unit of the title compound, (I), consists of a  $Cu^{II}$  center, two  $Br^-$  anions and two 3-pyridinecarbonitrile molecules. The  $Cu^{II}$  atom lies on an inversion center. The geometry around the  $Cu^{II}$  atom is distorted octahedral, with bonds to two pyridine N atoms from two 3-pyridinecarbonitriles [Cu-N = 2.011 (3) Å] and two  $Br^-$  anions [Cu-Br = 2.4185 (4) Å] occupying the equatorial plane. The pyridine rings are tilted out of the equatorial plane by 58.6 (3)° (Table 1

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View of the structure of (I), with atom numbering (50% probability displacement ellipsoids). The two long bonds from the copper to the semicoordinated nitrile N atom are shown as dashed lines and the suffixes B and C refer to the symmetry codes (x, y, z - 1) and (-x, -y, 1 - z), respectively.

and Fig. 1). The axial sites are occupied by two semicoordinated cyano N atoms [Cu-N = 2.854 (4) Å] from the cyano N atoms of two symmetry-related 3-pyridinecarbonitrile ligands. This gives the copper ion a 4 + 2-coordination geometry and links the units into chains running parallel to the c axis (Fig. 2), with an intrachain  $Cu \cdots Cu$  separation of 8.067 (4) Å. Deviations from ideal  $D_{2h}$  symmetry around the copper site are very small. The N-Cu-Br and N-Cu-N angles are within experimental uncertainty of being exactly  $90^{\circ}$  (see Table 1).

## **Experimental**

Copper(I) bromide (0.45 g, 2 mmol) was dissolved in water (10 ml) and the solution was mixed with a dimethylformamide solution (10 ml) of 3-pyridinecarbonitrile (0.42 g, 4 mmol) and 1,2,4benzenetricarboxylic acid (0.42 g, 2 mmol). The reaction mixture was filtered; green block-shaped crystals were separated from the filtrate after about a month. As shown by the crystal structure analysis, the 1,2,4-benzenetricarboxylic acid was not incorporated into the product.

### Crystal data

$[CuBr_2(C_6H_4N_2)_2]$	Z = 1
$M_r = 431.58$	$D_x = 2.161 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
Triclinic, $P\overline{1}$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
a = 7.0410 (10)  Å	Cell parameters from 1171
b = 7.2791 (10)  Å	reflections
c = 8.0673 (11)  Å	$\theta = 3.1 - 25.1^{\circ}$
$\alpha = 116.563 \ (2)^{\circ}$	$\mu = 7.66 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$\beta = 107.909 \ (2)^{\circ}$	T = 298 (2)  K
$\gamma = 98.437 \ (3)^{\circ}$	Block, green
V = 331.70 (8) Å <sup>3</sup>	$0.24 \times 0.17 \times 0.13 \text{ mm}$
Data collection	
Bruker SMART APEX area-	1171 independent reflections
detector diffractometer	1098 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
$\varphi$ and $\omega$ scans	$R_{\rm int} = 0.016$
Absorption correction: multi-scan	$\theta_{\rm max} = 25.1^{\circ}$
(SADABS; Bruker, 2000)	$h = -8 \rightarrow 8$
$T_{\min} = 0.23, T_{\max} = 0.37$	$k = -5 \rightarrow 8$
1758 measured reflections	$l = -9 \rightarrow 9$



#### Figure 2

The linear structure of (I), bridged by 3-pyridinecarbonitrile. Dashed lines indicate the semicoordination of Cu by N atoms.

#### Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.043P)^2]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.028$	+ 0.2371P]
$wR(F^2) = 0.080$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
S = 1.10	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001$
1171 reflections	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.65 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
89 parameters	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.53 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
H-atom parameters constrained	Extinction correction: SHELXL97
	Extinction coefficient: 0.022 (4)

Table 1 Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

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N1-Cu1	2.011 (3)	Cu1-Br1	2.4185 (4)
C5-N1-Cu1 C1-N1-Cu1 N1-Cu1-N1 <sup>i</sup>	120.1 (2) 121.4 (2) 180	$\begin{array}{c} N1 - Cu1 - Br1^i \\ N1 - Cu1 - Br1 \\ Br1^i - Cu1 - Br1 \end{array}$	90.10 (9) 89.90 (9) 180
C2-C1-N1-Cu1 C5-N1-Cu1-Br1 <sup>i</sup> C1-N1-Cu1-Br1 <sup>i</sup>	-178.7 (3) 61.3 (3) -121.4 (3)	C5-N1-Cu1-Br1 C1-N1-Cu1-Br1	-118.7 (3) 58.6 (3)

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

The H atoms were positioned geometrically and allowed to ride on their parent atoms at distances of 0.93 Å (C-H), with  $U_{iso}(H) =$  $1.2U_{eq}$ (parent atom).

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: XP in SHELXTL (Bruker, 2000); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXL97.

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