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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 K Mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.008 Å R factor = 0.073 wR factor = 0.205 Data-to-parameter ratio = 14.4

For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e. In the title compound,  $[Mn(C_{12}H_8N_6)_3](ClO_4)_2 \cdot 2CHCl_3$ , the Mn<sup>II</sup> ion is chelated by three 1,10-phenanthroline molecules in a twisted octahedral coordination geometry. In the crystal structure, there are intermolecular  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions between adjacent phenanthroline rings.

bis(perchlorate) chloroform disolvate

Tris(1,10-phenanthroline-κN,N')manganese(II)

# Comment

There has been increasing interest in the mechanism of the racemization of tris-phenanthroline metal complexes in solid and solution phases (Gillard & Mitchell, 1988; Fujiwara & Yamamoto, 1980). In considering such mechanisms, a fundamental requirement is knowledge of the crystal structure. With these compounds, some basic information as to phase identification and a proper understanding of the role played by water in determining the structure have been reported (Gillard *et al.*, 1989). Here, we report the structure of the title complex,  $[Mn(L)_3](ClO_4)_2 \cdot 2CHCl_3$ , (I), where *L* is 1,10-phenanthroline. This complex probably offers some useful information on the mechanism of the racemization of tris-phenanthroline metal complexes lacking water of crystal-lization.



X-ray structure analysis reveals that (I) is an ionic monomeric  $Mn^{II}$  complex (Fig. 1) with solvent chloroform molecules. The coordination geometry around the  $Mn^{II}$  centre is twisted (from trigonal prismatic towards regular octahedral) about the quasi- $C_3$  axis, approaching the octahedral extreme. The Mn-N bond distances lie in a narrow range from 2.277 (4) to 2.293 (3) Å.

In addition, there are  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions between the centroids of adjacent phenanthroline rings. For Cg1 (the centroid of ring C16–C24) and Cg1A (ring C16A–C24A) [symmetry code (A): -x, -y, 1 - z], the centroid–centroid distance is 3.739 (3) Å and the dihedral angle is 18.41 (3)°. For Cg2 (C28–C36) and Cg2B (C28B–C36B) [symmetry code (B): 1 - x, -y, -z], the centroid–centroid distance is 3.758 (3) Å and the dihedral angle is 18.61 (3)°.

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## metal-organic papers



#### Figure 1

The structure of (I), showing the atom-numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level and H atoms are shown as small spheres of arbitrary radii.

#### **Experimental**

Complex (I) was prepared by reacting  $Mn(ClO_4)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$  (0.361 g, 1 mmol) and 1,10-phenanthroline (0.593 g, 3 mmol) in a methanolchloroform (1:1) solution. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min and then filtered. Pale-yellow block crystals of (I) were obtained from the filtrate after 10 d. Yield 0.216 g, 21% (based on Mn).

#### Crystal data

$[Mn(C_{12}H_8N_6)_3](ClO_4)_2 \cdot 2CHCl_3$	Z
$M_r = 1033.19$	L
Triclinic, P1	N
a = 12.642 (3) Å	C
b = 12.987 (3) Å	
c = 14.501 (3) Å	$\theta$
$\alpha = 86.15 \ (3)^{\circ}$	$\mu$
$\beta = 75.77 \ (3)^{\circ}$	7
$\gamma = 70.17 \ (3)^{\circ}$	E
V = 2170.4 (9) Å <sup>3</sup>	0
Data collection	
Rigaku R-AXIS RAPID	7
diffractometer	4

$\omega$ scans
Absorption correction: multi-scan
(ABSCOR; Higashi, 1995)
$T_{\min} = 0.796, T_{\max} = 0.808$
13 078 measured reflections

#### Z = 2 $D_x = 1.581 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ Mo K\alpha radiation Cell parameters from 3351 reflections $D = 6.7-54.2^{\circ}$ $u = 0.86 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ T = 293 (2) KBlock, yellow $0.28 \times 0.28 \times 0.26 \text{ mm}$

7909 independent reflections
4953 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
$R_{\rm int} = 0.037$
$\theta_{\rm max} = 25.5^{\circ}$
$h = -15 \rightarrow 15$
$k = -15 \rightarrow 15$
$l = -17 \rightarrow 17$

#### Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	H-atom parameters constrained
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.073$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2 (F_o^2) + (0.1288P)^2]$
$wR(F^2) = 0.205$	where $P = (F_0^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
S = 1.00	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001$
7909 reflections	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.67 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
550 parameters	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.64 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$

#### Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Mn1-N1	2.292 (4)	Mn1-N4	2.277 (4)
Mn1-N2	2.284 (4)	Mn1-N5	2.293 (3)
Mn1-N3	2.291 (3)	Mn1-N6	2.282 (3)
N1-Mn1-N5	158.9 (1)	N4-Mn1-N3	73.4 (1)
N2-Mn1-N1	73.8 (1)	N4-Mn1-N5	102.5 (1)
N2-Mn1-N3	93.0 (1)	N4-Mn1-N6	99.2 (1)
N2-Mn1-N5	94.4 (1)	N6-Mn1-N1	91.3 (1)
N3-Mn1-N1	105.4 (1)	N6-Mn1-N2	98.3 (1)
N3-Mn1-N5	92.4 (1)	N6-Mn1-N3	162.0 (1)
N4-Mn1-N1	93.6 (1)	N6-Mn1-N5	72.8 (1)
N4-Mn1-N2	158.6 (1)		

All H atoms were placed in calculated positions and included in the final cycles of refinement in the riding model. For aromatic H atoms, C-H = 0.93 Å and  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$ . For chloroform H atoms, C-H = 0.98 Å and  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$ .

Data collection: *PROCESS-AUTO* (Rigaku, 1998); cell refinement: *PROCESS-AUTO*; data reduction: *CrystalStructure* (Rigaku/ MSC, 2002); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *SHELXL97*; software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL97*.

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