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## Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 295$  K  
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.004$  Å  
Disorder in main residue  
 $R$  factor = 0.039  
 $wR$  factor = 0.097  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 10.7For details of how these key indicators were  
automatically derived from the article, see  
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

## The co-crystal tetraaquabis(2-oxido-3,5-dinitrobenzoato)bis(2-oxido-3,5-dinitrobenzoic acid)tri-copper–diaquabis(2-hydroxy-3,5-dinitrobenzoato)-(2-oxido-3,5-dinitrobenzoic acid)copper–water (0.54/0.92/4): a reformulation?

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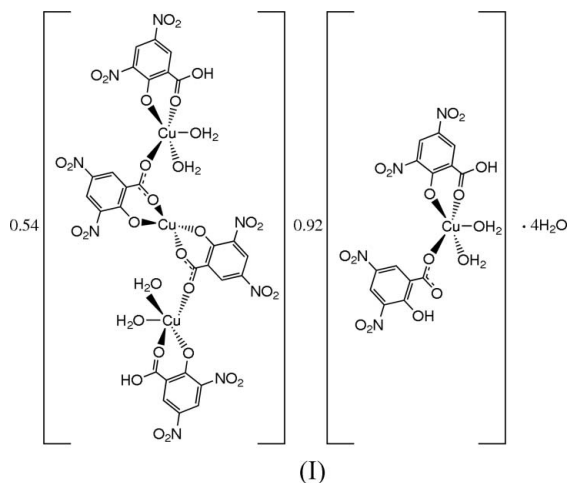
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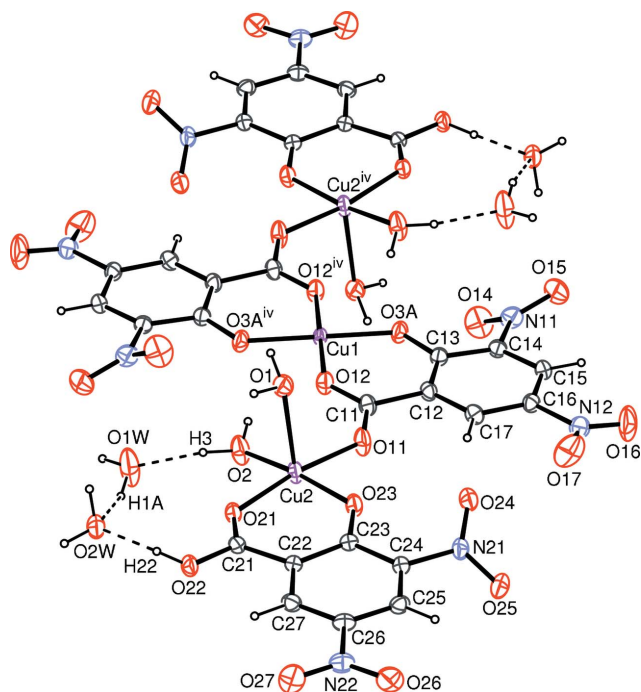
In the title compound,  $[\text{Cu}_3(\text{C}_7\text{H}_3\text{N}_2\text{O}_7)_2(\text{C}_7\text{H}_2\text{N}_2\text{O}_7)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4]_{0.54}[\text{Cu}(\text{C}_7\text{H}_3\text{N}_2\text{O}_7)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]_{0.92} \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , the  $\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}$  ion located on an inversion centre has a fractional site occupancy of 0.54. When this  $\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}$  ion is present, a trinuclear complex also involving two adjacent  $\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}$  ions arises; when it is not, then the result is two discrete mononuclear complexes. A very similar structure was reported previously by Valigura, Melnik, Koman, Martiška, Korabik, Mroziński & Glowiak [*Inorg. Chem. Commun.* (2004), **7**, 548–552]. However, in their material, arising from a different synthesis, the  $\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}$  ion with  $\bar{1}$  site symmetry is fully occupied, and thus only a trinuclear complex is formed. Here, the mononuclear  $\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}$  complex assumes a square-pyramidal coordination geometry, formed by two water molecules and two 3,5-dinitrosalicylate anions, one of which is monodentate and the other bidentate.

## Comment

The structures and properties of multinuclear complexes have attracted much scientific attention, due to their potentially useful electronic or magnetic properties (Holton *et al.*, 1983). As part of our investigations of multinuclear complexes (Su & Xu, 2005), the title compound, (I) (Figs. 1 and 2), has been prepared and its crystal structure is presented here. We interpret it as a co-crystal of two different types of Cu complex.



The  $\text{Cu}1$  atom of  $\bar{1}$  site symmetry in (I) has a fractional site occupancy of 0.54. When  $\text{Cu}1$  is present, a centrosymmetric trinuclear  $\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}$  complex (Fig. 1) also involving two nearby  $\text{Cu}2$  species arises. When  $\text{Cu}1$  is absent, then a mononuclear complex containing  $\text{Cu}2$  (Fig. 2) is the result. The ligand molecule containing atom C11 is bridging in the trinuclear complex and terminal (to  $\text{Cu}2$ ) in the mononuclear complex.


**Figure 1**

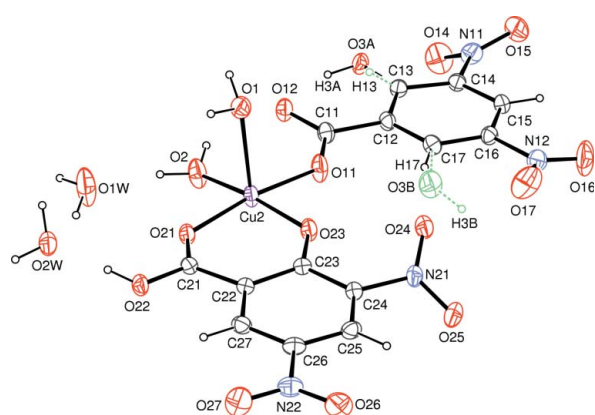
The centrosymmetric trinuclear Cu<sup>II</sup> complex obtained when atom Cu1 is present [symmetry code: (iv)  $-x, 1 - y, 1 - z$ ]. Dashed lines indicate hydrogen bonding. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level.

A very similar structure was reported previously by Valigura *et al.* (2004a). However, in their study, the Cu1 site is fully occupied, and only a trinuclear complex is present. It should be noted that the syntheses are different: the present study began from a 1:1 molar ratio of Cu and 3,5-dinitrosalicylic acid in the presence of sodium carbonate, while Valigura *et al.* (2004b) began from a 1:2 Cu:ligand ratio without any added base. Analytical data from Valigura *et al.* (2004b) support the existence of the trinuclear complex (*i.e.* the Cu1 site fully occupied) and their structure does not show any anomalous atomic displacement parameters that might correlate with unmodelled partial site occupancies for some of the atoms.

The structure of the trinuclear complex in (I) is the same as that reported previously. In the mononuclear complex, the Cu2 atom is coordinated by two water molecules and two 3,5-dinitrosalicylate anions, one monodentate and one bidentate, resulting in a square-pyramidal coordination geometry. The hydroxy group of the phenolate monoanion is disordered and occupies two positions (Fig. 2). Both disordered hydroxy groups form O—H...O hydrogen-bond interactions (Table 2). Because of the complex disorder in this co-crystal, some of the H-atom positions and partial site occupancies should be regarded as tentative.

## Experimental

All reagents were of analytical grade and used as received. CuCl<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O (0.17 g, 1 mmol), 3,5-dinitrosalicylic acid (0.25 g, 1 mmol) and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.05 g, 0.5 mmol) were dissolved in water (10 ml). The solution was refluxed for 5 h, then cooled to room


**Figure 2**

The mononuclear Cu<sup>II</sup> complex obtained when atom Cu1 is not present. Dashed lines show the minor disordered component. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level.

temperature and filtered. Slow evaporation of the resulting filtrate yielded dark-green single crystals of (I) after 6 d.

## Crystal data

[Cu<sub>3</sub>(C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>4</sub>]<sub>0.54</sub>[Cu(C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>0.92</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O

*M<sub>r</sub>* = 1212.89

Monoclinic, *P*2<sub>1</sub>/*c*

*a* = 10.8491 (3) Å

*b* = 14.2301 (3) Å

*c* = 13.3928 (3) Å

β = 94.671 (1)°

*V* = 2060.76 (9) Å<sup>3</sup>

*Z* = 2

*D<sub>x</sub>* = 1.955 Mg m<sup>-3</sup>

*D<sub>x</sub>* = 1.935 Mg m<sup>-3</sup>, measured by flotation in CH<sub>2</sub>BrCH<sub>2</sub>Br-CCl<sub>4</sub>

Mo Kα radiation

Cell parameters from 11957 reflections

θ = 2.9–24.2°

μ = 1.44 mm<sup>-1</sup>

*T* = 295 (2) K

Block, dark green

0.30 × 0.28 × 0.15 mm

## Data collection

Rigaku R-Axis RAPID

diffractometer

ω scans

Absorption correction: multi-scan

(*ABSCOR*; Higashi, 1995)

*T<sub>min</sub>* = 0.647, *T<sub>max</sub>* = 0.802

16047 measured reflections

3725 independent reflections

3466 reflections with *I* > 2σ(*I*)

*R<sub>int</sub>* = 0.025

θ<sub>max</sub> = 25.2°

*h* = -13 → 13

*k* = -17 → 16

*l* = -15 → 16

## Refinement

Refinement on *F*<sup>2</sup>

*R* [*F*<sup>2</sup> > 2σ(*F*<sup>2</sup>)] = 0.039

*wR* (*F*<sup>2</sup>) = 0.097

*S* = 1.20

3725 reflections

349 parameters

H-atom parameters constrained

*w* = 1/[σ<sup>2</sup>(*F<sub>o</sub>*<sup>2</sup>) + (0.0308*P*)<sup>2</sup> + 3.2758*P*]

where *P* = (*F<sub>o</sub>*<sup>2</sup> + 2*F<sub>c</sub>*<sup>2</sup>)/3

(Δ/σ)<sub>max</sub> = 0.001

Δρ<sub>max</sub> = 0.44 e Å<sup>-3</sup>

Δρ<sub>min</sub> = -0.44 e Å<sup>-3</sup>

**Table 1**

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Cu1—O12	1.975 (2)	Cu2—O11	1.946 (2)
Cu1—O3A	1.845 (3)	Cu2—O21	1.951 (2)
Cu2—O1	2.372 (3)	Cu2—O23	1.906 (2)
Cu2—O2	1.920 (2)		
O12—Cu1—O3A	89.81 (11)	O2—Cu2—O11	93.91 (10)
O12—Cu1—O3A <sup>i</sup>	90.19 (11)	O2—Cu2—O21	90.73 (10)
O1—Cu2—O2	95.72 (11)	O2—Cu2—O23	169.99 (12)
O1—Cu2—O11	94.12 (10)	O11—Cu2—O21	172.32 (10)
O1—Cu2—O21	91.51 (9)	O11—Cu2—O23	83.65 (10)
O1—Cu2—O23	94.14 (10)	O21—Cu2—O23	90.74 (9)

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

**Table 2**  
Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

<i>D</i> — <i>H</i> ... <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> — <i>H</i>	<i>H</i> ... <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> ... <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> — <i>H</i> ... <i>A</i>
O1—H1...O17 <sup>ii</sup>	0.90	2.26	2.943 (4)	133
O1—H1...O24 <sup>ii</sup>	0.90	2.51	3.239 (3)	139
O1—H2...O27 <sup>iii</sup>	0.91	2.03	2.916 (3)	164
O2—H3...O1 <sup>W</sup>	0.88	1.71	2.579 (4)	169
O2—H4...O12	0.86	2.08	2.742 (3)	133
O1 <sup>W</sup> —H1 <sup>A</sup> ...O2 <sup>W</sup>	0.81	2.27	2.954 (4)	143
O1 <sup>W</sup> —H1 <sup>B</sup> ...O16 <sup>iv</sup>	0.88	2.19	2.889 (4)	136
O1 <sup>W</sup> —H1 <sup>B</sup> ...O15 <sup>i</sup>	0.88	2.51	3.226 (4)	139
O2 <sup>W</sup> —H2 <sup>A</sup> ...O1 <sup>ii</sup>	0.82	1.99	2.775 (3)	159
O2 <sup>W</sup> —H2 <sup>B</sup> ...O23 <sup>ii</sup>	0.89	2.16	2.949 (3)	148
O2 <sup>W</sup> —H2 <sup>B</sup> ...O24 <sup>ii</sup>	0.89	2.20	2.903 (3)	136
O22—H22...O2 <sup>W</sup>	0.89	1.64	2.532 (3)	178
O3 <sup>A</sup> —H3 <sup>A</sup> ...O12	0.92	1.83	2.698 (4)	157
O3 <sup>B</sup> —H3 <sup>B</sup> ...O1 <sup>W</sup> <sup>v</sup>	0.91	2.64	3.423 (16)	145

Symmetry codes: (i)  $-x, -y + 1, -z + 1$ ; (ii)  $-x + 1, y + \frac{1}{2}, -z + \frac{1}{2}$ ; (iii)  $x - 1, y, z$ ; (iv)  $x, y + 1, z$ ; (v)  $-x + 1, -y + 1, -z + 1$ .

Modelling atom Cu1 with full occupancy resulted in a very large displacement parameter, suggesting partial site occupancy. The fractional site occupancy of Cu1 was refined and rapidly converged to 0.536 (2), and was fixed at 0.54 in the final cycles of refinement. The hydroxy O atom of the carboxylate anion occurred in two positions and the occupancies converged to 0.826 (3) and 0.174 (3) for atoms O3<sup>A</sup> and O3<sup>B</sup>, respectively. They were fixed at 0.8 and 0.2 in the final cycles of refinement. Thus, the occupancies of atoms H17 and H13 were also fixed at 0.8 and 0.2, respectively. The occupancies of atoms H3<sup>A</sup> and H3<sup>B</sup> were fixed at 0.26 and 0.2, respectively. In this way, the charge of (I) becomes zero. H atoms on the aromatic rings were

placed in calculated positions, with C—H = 0.93 Å, and were refined as riding, with  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{carrier})$ . Other H atoms (including H3<sup>A</sup> and H3<sup>B</sup>) were located in a difference map and refined as riding in their as-found relative positions, with a fixed isotropic displacement parameter of 0.08 Å<sup>2</sup>.

Data collection: *PROCESS-AUTO* (Rigaku, 1998); cell refinement: *PROCESS-AUTO*; data reduction: *CrystalStructure* (Rigaku/MSK, 2002); program(s) used to solve structure: *SIR92* (Altomare *et al.*, 1993); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEP-3* (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *WinGX* (Farrugia, 1999).

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