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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 K Mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.002 Å R factor = 0.033 wR factor = 0.088 Data-to-parameter ratio = 11.4

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

# N-(4-Chlorophenyl)-N'-(4-nitrobenzoyl)urea

The title compound,  $C_{14}H_{10}ClN_3O_4$ , was obtained by the reaction of *N*-(4-chlorophenyl)-*N'*-(4-nitrobenzoyl)thiourea with cupric chloride dihydrate. Intermolecular N-H···O hydrogen bonds link the molecules into centrosymmetric dimers. The crystal packing is further stabilized by weak C-H···O interactions.

## Comment

Thiourea derivatives have been studied intensively in recent years (Koch, 2001; Foss et al., 2004; Bombicz et al., 2004). Acyl thiourea derivatives are known to form various coordination compounds with transition metals. They can act as reducing agents to reduce the oxidation state of transition metal ions. They may also produce unexpected compounds in ordinary coordination reactions. Recently, Zhang et al. (2003) reported that an oxazoline ring was formed in the coordination reaction of cupric chloride dihydrate with N-benzoyl-N'-(2-hydroxyethyl)thiourea. In this reaction, desulfurization and cyclization have occurred, and two oxazoline rings were formed in the resulting coordination compound. In the coordination reaction of N-ethoxycarbonyl-N'-o-chlorophenylthiourea with cupric chloride dihydrate in ethanol solution (Su, Xian et al., 2005), an unusual compound was obtained, containing the Cu<sub>6</sub> cluster unit, where the copper(I) ions form a hexagonal ring structure via Cu-Cu bonds.



The title compound, (I) (Fig. 1), was obtained by the reaction of *N*-*p*-nitrobenzoyl-*N'*-*p*-chlorophenylthiourea with cupric chloride dihydrate, in which the S atom on the thiocarbonyl group of the thiourea ligand was replaced by an O atom. The bond lengths and angles in (I) (Table 1) are normal (Allen *et al.*, 1987). The intramolecular N1-H1···O2 hydrogen bond (Table 2) determines the molecular conformation. The intermolecular N-H···O hydrogen bonds (Table 2) link the molecules into centrosymmetric dimers. The crystal packing (Fig. 2) is further stabilized by weak C-H···O interactions (Table 2).

The title compound was obtained unexpectedly in the coordination reaction of thiourea with copper(II). To validate the results of the structural analysis, IR and <sup>1</sup>H NMR measurements have been carried out. The IR and <sup>1</sup>H NMR

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2368 independent reflections 1941 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ 

 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_0^2) + (0.0423P)^2]$ 

where  $P = (F_0^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ 

+ 0.161P]

 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001$ 

 $\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.26 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$ 

 $\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.21 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$ 

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.009$  $\theta_{\rm max} = 25.0^{\circ}$  $h = -8 \rightarrow 8$  $k = -9 \rightarrow 8$  $l = -10 \rightarrow 14$ 



# Figure 1

View of (I), with displacement ellipsoids at the 50% probability level. The intramolecular hydrogen bond is indicated by a dashed line.



# Figure 2

The crystal packing viewed along the b axis. Intermolecular hydrogen bonds are indicated by dashed lines.

data indicated that the thiocarbonyl group was replaced by the carbonyl group, i.e. the S atom was replaced by the O atom in air when the solution was heated. We suppose that in this process the copper(II) ion acts as an electron transferring unit, allowing the replacement of the S atom by an O atom in air. This reaction is different from other coordination reactions. which commonly form 1:2 thiourea coordination compounds having a central triangular structure (Su et al., 2004); the reasons for this difference are still unknown.

# **Experimental**

All chemicals used for the preparation of compound (I) were of reagent grade quality. N-(4-Chlorophenyl)-N'-(4-nitrobenzoyl)thiourea was obtained from a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution using the known method (Su, Liu et al., 2005). The thiourea ligand and cupric chloride dihydrate were dissolved in ethanol. The two solutions were mixed and heated for a while with stirring; a yellow product was deposited. Single crystals were obtained after one week by slow evaporation of a mixed solution in 1:1 dimethyl sulfoxide/acetone. Yield 28%. Analysis required for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>10</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C 52.55, H 3.13, N 13.15%; found: C 50.04, H 2.59, N 13.13%. IR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3131 (NH), 1701 (C=O), 1596, 1525, 1499 (C=C), 1346, 1270, 1227, 1091, 831, 723,

### Crystal data

$C_{14}H_{10}ClN_3O_4$	<i>Z</i> = 2
$M_r = 319.70$	$D_x = 1.558 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
Triclinic, $P\overline{1}$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
a = 7.1737 (10)  Å	Cell parameters from 1727
b = 8.2486 (12)  Å	reflections
c = 12.1873 (17)  Å	$\theta = 2.5 - 27.7^{\circ}$
$\alpha = 91.418 \ (2)^{\circ}$	$\mu = 0.30 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$\beta = 106.157 \ (2)^{\circ}$	T = 293 (2) K
$\gamma = 99.400 \ (2)^{\circ}$	Block, yellow
$V = 681.50 (17) \text{ Å}^3$	$0.26 \times 0.24 \times 0.18 \text{ mm}$

### Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector	
diffractometer	
$\varphi$ and $\omega$ scans	
Absorption correction: multi-scan	
(SADABS; Sheldrick, 1996)	
$T_{\min} = 0.911, \ T_{\max} = 0.947$	
3693 measured reflections	

## Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$  $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.033$  $wR(F^2) = 0.088$ S = 1.062368 reflections 207 parameters H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement

Table 1 Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

N1 C1	1 228 (2)	01 C1	1 2207 (10)
N1-C1 N1-C3	1.338 (2)	01-C1 02-C2	1.2207 (19)
N2-C2 N2-C1	1.365 (2) 1.404 (2)	C2-C9	1.498 (2)
C1-N1-C3 C2-N2-C1	127.58 (14) 128.49 (13)	N1-C1-N2 N2-C2-C9	116.09 (14) 115.93 (14)

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

$D - H \cdots A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - H \cdots A$
N1-H1···O2	0.87(1)	1.96 (1)	2.6699 (18)	138 (2)
C8−H8···O1	0.93	2.28	2.868 (2)	121
$N2-H2 \cdot \cdot \cdot O1^{i}$	0.86(1)	2.02(1)	2.8763 (17)	172 (2)
C10−H10···O3 <sup>ii</sup>	0.93	2.58	3.390 (2)	146
$C14-H14\cdots O1^{i}$	0.93	2.47	3.089 (2)	124

Symmetry codes: (i) -x + 1, -y + 1, -z + 1; (ii) x + 1, y, z.

The C-bound H atoms were positioned geometrically and allowed to ride on their parent atoms, with C-H = 0.93 Å and  $U_{iso}(H)$  =  $1.2U_{eq}(C)$ . The amine atoms H1 and H2 were located in a difference Fourier map and refined isotropically with a restrained N-H distance of 0.87 (1) Å.

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:

# organic papers

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

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