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# Xiang-Gao Meng<sup>a</sup>\* and Jin-Liang Qian<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Chemistry Department, Central China Normal University, Wuhan 430079, People's Republic of China, and <sup>b</sup>The Second Middle School of Zhi-le Country, Yan-ling County, Xu-Chang 461232, People's Republic of China

Correspondence e-mail: mengxianggao@mail.ccnu.edu.cn

#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 292 KMean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.004 Å R factor = 0.052 wR factor = 0.139 Data-to-parameter ratio = 13.8

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

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# Bis(1,2,3-benzotriazolium) chloranilate

In the title compound,  $2C_6H_6N_3^+ \cdot C_6Cl_2O_4^{2-}$ , the chloranilate dianion lies on an inversion centre. Ions are linked by three N-H···O hydrogen bonds into layers in the form of a (4,4)-net built up from  $R_8^6(32)$  and  $R_1^2(5)$  rings. The layers are further linked into a three-dimensional network by  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking interactions.

#### Comment

Supramolecular chemistry remains one of the most active research areas at the forefront of chemistry and biology (Leininger *et al.*, 2000). Much of the fundamental work in current crystal engineering is geared toward developing reliable supramolecular reactions (Aakeröy *et al.*, 2001, 2002). As a continuation of our studies on the molecular and supramolecular structures in cocrystals of organic salts (Liu & Meng, 2006), we now report our findings on the title compound, (I).



The title compound crystallizes with one benzotriazolium cation in a general position and one-half chloranilate dianion, with an inversion centre at the centre of the benzene ring (Fig. 1 and Table 1). As expected, (I) exists as an organic salt, with the H atoms of the chloranilic hydroxyl groups being transferred to the triazole N atoms.

The supramolecular structure of (I), based on N-H···O hydrogen bonds and aromatic  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions, is very similar to that recently reported to be present in the complex between a chloranilic acid dianion and a 4-methylimidazole cation (Wang & Wei, 2005). It is convenient to analyse the formation of the three-dimensional supramolecular network in (I) in terms of layers running parallel to the (100) plane. Atom N1 forms a three-centre hydrogen bond, *via* H1, with the two carbonyl O atoms of the anion at (1 + x, y, z), building a  $R_1^2(5)$ ring. In addition, triazole atom N3 acts as a donor, *via* H3A, to carbonyl O2 atom in the anion located at  $(x + 1, -y + \frac{3}{2}, z + \frac{1}{2})$ . Expanding hydrogen bonds generate the (100) reference sheet Received 2 August 2006 Accepted 23 August 2006



#### Figure 1

The molecular structure of (I), showing the atom-numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level. Atoms labeled with the suffix 'a' are located at the equivalent position (-x, 1 - y, -z).





Part of the crystal structure of (I), showing the formation of a layer of  $R_8^6(32)$  and  $R_1^2(5)$  rings parallel to (100). The supramolecular structure is generated by  $N-H\cdots O$  hydrogen bonds (dotted bonds). For the sake of clarity, H atoms bonded to C atoms have been omitted.

in the domain bounded by -0.235 < x < 2.235 (Fig. 2), in the form of a (4,4)-net (Batten & Robson, 1998), built up from a combination of  $R_8^6(32)$  and  $R_1^2(5)$  rings.

The only effective direction-specific interaction between adjacent layers is a  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking interaction between symmetry-related cations at (x, y, z) and (x - 1, y, z) (Fig. 3). The dihedral angle between interacting rings is only 1.4 (1)°, with an interplanar spacing of 3.272 (1) Å and a centroid-to-centroid separation of 3.517 (2) Å. The  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking interactions link the reference cation at (x, y, z), which forms part of the hydrogen-bonded layer at -0.235 < x < 2.235, with two



#### Figure 3

The packing structure of 1,2,3-benzotriazolium cations, showing the  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions (dashed lines) along the [100] direction. Atoms marked with an asterisk (\*) and ampersand (&) are at equivalent positions (x - 1, y, z) and (x + 1, y, z), respectively.

cations at (x - 1, y, z) and (x + 1, y, z), which lie in the hydrogen-bonded layers at -1.235 < x < 1.235 and 0.765 < x < 3.235, respectively. The effect of this interaction is to link the layers parallel to (100) into a three-dimensional network.

### **Experimental**

Reagents and solvents were used as obtained without further purification. Chloranilic acid (1 mmol, 0.21 g) and 1,2,3-benzotriazole (1 mmol, 0.12 g) were dissolved in methanol (30 ml). The mixture was stirred for 30 min. at 298 K and then filtered. The resulting clear red solution was kept in air for two weeks. Crystals of (I) suitable for single-crystal X-ray diffraction analysis were grown by slow evaporation of the solution at the bottom of the vessel.

#### Crystal data

$2C_6H_6N_3^+ \cdot C_6Cl_2O_4^{2-}$	Z = 2
$M_r = 447.24$	$D_x = 1.633 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
$a = 4.4423 (13) \text{\AA}$	$\mu = 0.40 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
p = 17.401 (5)  Å	T = 292 (2) K
r = 11.851 (3)  Å	Plate, red
$\beta = 96.882 \ (5)^{\circ}$	$0.30 \times 0.05 \times 0.02 \text{ mm}$
$V = 909.5 (4) \text{ Å}^3$	

## Data collection

Bruker SMART APEX CCD areadetector diffractometer  $\omega$  scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (*SADABS*; Bruker, 2001)  $T_{\min} = 0.890, T_{\max} = 0.992$ 

# Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.052$   $wR(F^2) = 0.139$  S = 0.991964 reflections 142 parameters 4958 measured reflections 1964 independent reflections 1338 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$  $R_{\text{int}} = 0.047$  $\theta_{\text{max}} = 27.0^{\circ}$ 

H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement 
$$\begin{split} &w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0711P)^2] \\ &where \ P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3 \\ (\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001 \\ \Delta\rho_{\rm max} = 0.32 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3} \\ \Delta\rho_{\rm min} = -0.25 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3} \end{split}$$

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).					
1.352 (4)	C8-O1	1.225 (3)			
1.363 (3)	C8-C9	1.522 (4)			
1.370 (4)	$C9-C7^{i}$	1.370 (4)			
1.429 (4)	N1-N2	1.317 (3)			
1.736 (3)	N2-N3	1.309 (3)			
123.2 (2)	N2-N1-C1	112.3 (2)			
118.6 (2)	N2-N3-C6	111.5 (2)			
	c parameters (Å, 1.352 (4) 1.363 (3) 1.370 (4) 1.429 (4) 1.736 (3) 123.2 (2) 118.6 (2)	c parameters (Å, °). 1.352 (4) C8-O1 1.363 (3) C8-C9 1.370 (4) C9-C7 <sup>i</sup> 1.429 (4) N1-N2 1.736 (3) N2-N3 123.2 (2) N2-N1-C1 118.6 (2) N2-N3-C6			

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

# Table 2

Table 1

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - \mathbf{H} \cdots A$
0.86 (1)	2.00 (1)	2.761 (3)	148 (3)
0.86(1)	2.35(2)	3.041(3) 2.592(3)	138(3) 169(3)
	<i>D</i> -H 0.86 (1) 0.86 (1) 0.86 (1)	$\begin{array}{c ccc} D-H & H\cdots A \\ \hline 0.86 (1) & 2.00 (1) \\ 0.86 (1) & 2.35 (2) \\ 0.86 (1) & 1.74 (1) \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

Symmetry codes: (ii) x + 1, y, z; (iii) x + 1,  $-y + \frac{3}{2}$ ,  $z + \frac{1}{2}$ .

Aromatic H atoms were placed at idealized positions and refined with C-H distances constrained to 0.93 Å and  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$ . Triazole H atoms H1 and H3A were located in a difference map and refined with N-H distances restrained to 0.86 (1) Å and with  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(N)$ .

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 2001); cell refinement: *SAINT-Plus* (Bruker, 2001); data reduction: *SAINT-Plus*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *PLATON* (Spek, 2003); software used to prepare material for publication: *PLATON*.

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