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## Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 292$  K  
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.004$  Å  
 $R$  factor = 0.025  
 $wR$  factor = 0.062  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 13.5For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.Dichlorobis(pyrazino[2,3-*f*][1,10]phenanthroline- $\kappa^2N,N'$ )cadmium(II)

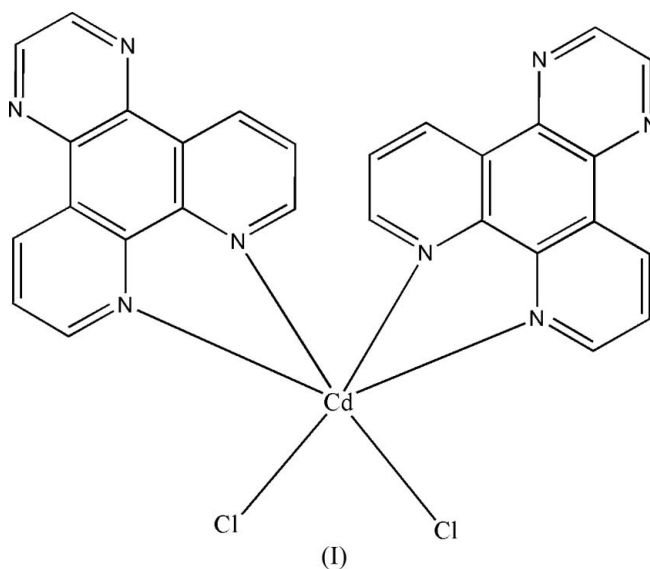
In the title compound,  $[\text{CdCl}_2(\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_8\text{N}_4)_2]$ , the central  $\text{Cd}^{\text{II}}$  ion is six-coordinate in an octahedral geometry, coordinated by two  $\text{Cl}^-$  ions and four N atoms from two chelating pyrazino[2,3-*f*][1,10]phenanthroline ligands. The metal atom lies on a twofold rotation axis.

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## Comment

The 1,10-phenanthroline ligand has been widely used for the synthesis of coordination compounds; these are sometimes assembled into supramolecular architectures through aromatic  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions (Chen & Liu, 2002). Pyrazino[2,3-*f*][1,10]phenanthroline (PyPhen) is a similarly useful ligand, and several complexes have been reported (Che *et al.*, 2006). The title compound,  $[\text{CdCl}_2(\text{PyPhen})_2]_n$  (I), has the metal lying on a twofold rotation axis in an octahedral geometry (Fig. 1). It is coordinated by two  $\text{Cl}^-$  ions and four N atoms from two PyPhen ligands.



There are  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking interactions ( $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking distance = 3.363 Å), giving rise to a supramolecular structure (Fig. 2).

## Experimental

Pyrazino[2,3-*f*][1,10]phenanthroline was synthesized according to the literature method of Dickeson & Summers (1970). To a solution of  $\text{CdCl}_2$  (0.092 g, 0.5 mmol) and the ligand (0.045 g, 0.2 mmol) in 30 ml water was added aqueous sodium hydroxide to a pH of about 7.5. The mixture was placed in a stainless steel, Teflon-lined reaction vessel (40 ml) and heated to 453 K for 4 d. Dark-brown crystals were obtained (65% yield on Cd).

## Crystal data

[CdCl<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>8</sub>)]  
*M<sub>r</sub>* = 647.80  
 Monoclinic, *C*2/*c*  
*a* = 8.4987 (11) Å  
*b* = 12.5070 (17) Å  
*c* = 22.768 (3) Å  
 $\beta$  = 95.267 (2)°  
*V* = 2409.8 (6) Å<sup>3</sup>

*Z* = 4  
*D<sub>x</sub>* = 1.786 Mg m<sup>-3</sup>  
 Mo *K*α radiation  
 $\mu$  = 1.17 mm<sup>-1</sup>  
*T* = 292 (2) K  
 Block, dark brown  
 0.38 × 0.21 × 0.16 mm

## Data collection

Bruker APEX CCD area-detector diffractometer  
 $\omega$  scans  
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 2002)  
*T<sub>min</sub>* = 0.751, *T<sub>max</sub>* = 0.828

6690 measured reflections  
 2382 independent reflections  
 2170 reflections with *I* > 2σ(*I*)  
*R<sub>int</sub>* = 0.019  
 $\theta_{\max}$  = 26.0°

## Refinement

Refinement on *F*<sup>2</sup>  
*R*[*F*<sup>2</sup> > 2σ(*F*<sup>2</sup>)] = 0.025  
*wR*(*F*<sup>2</sup>) = 0.062  
*S* = 1.07  
 2382 reflections  
 177 parameters  
 H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.031P)^2 + 2.0151P]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.48 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.22 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$

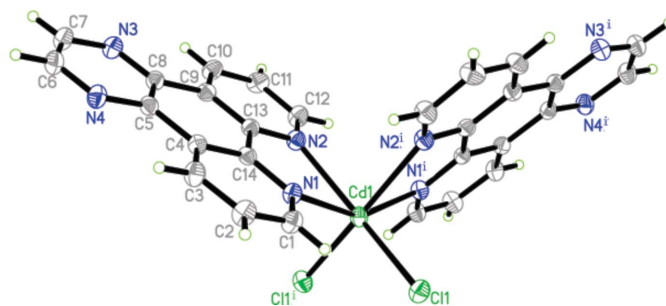
**Table 1**

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Cd1—N1	2.3805 (18)	Cd1—Cl1	2.5382 (7)
Cd1—N2	2.425 (2)		
N1—Cd1—N2	68.85 (6)	N2—Cd1—Cl1	162.22 (5)
N1—Cd1—Cl1	94.44 (5)		

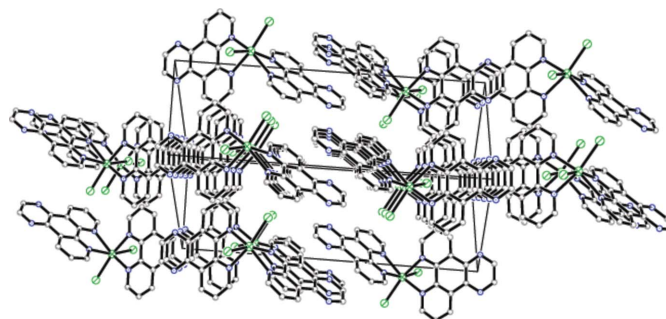
All H atoms were positioned geometrically and refined as riding atoms, with C—H = 0.93 Å and *U<sub>iso</sub>*(H) = 1.2*U<sub>eq</sub>*(C).

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 2002); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 2002); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: SHELXTL (Bruker, 2002); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXTL.



**Figure 1**

The molecular structure of (I). Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level. [Symmetry code: (i)  $-x, y, \frac{1}{2} - z$ .]



**Figure 2**

A view of the layer structure arising from  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions.

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## References

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