

Mihaela-Diana Şerb,<sup>a</sup> Beatrice Calmuschi-Cula,<sup>b\*</sup> Florina Dumitru,<sup>a</sup> Thomas Dols,<sup>b</sup> Ulli Englert<sup>b</sup> and Cornelia Guran<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Inorganic Chemistry, University "Politehnica" of Bucharest, Polizu 1 011061, Bucharest, Romania, and <sup>b</sup>Institute of Inorganic Chemistry, RWTH Aachen University, Landoltweg 1, 52074 Aachen, Germany

Correspondence e-mail:  
 beatrice.calmuschi@ac.rwth-aachen.de

**Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study  
 T = 130 K  
 Mean  $\sigma(C-C)$  = 0.003 Å  
 Disorder in main residue  
 R factor = 0.049  
 wR factor = 0.109  
 Data-to-parameter ratio = 16.1

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

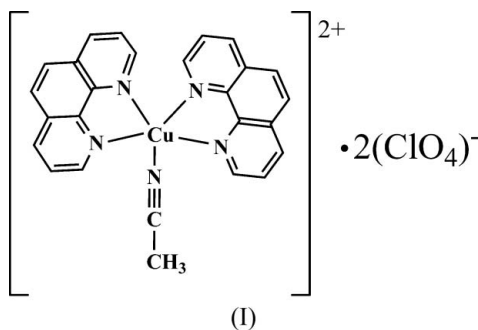
**(Acetonitrile)bis(1,10-phenanthroline)copper(II) bis(perchlorate)**

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In the title complex,  $[Cu(C_{12}H_8N_2)_2(CH_3CN)](ClO_4)_2$ , the five-coordinate  $Cu^{II}$  ion has a distorted square-pyramidal coordination geometry composed of five N atoms, four from two bidentate chelating phenanthroline ligands and one from acetonitrile. The acetonitrile molecule and the Cu atom are situated on a crystallographic twofold rotation axis.

**Comment**

Transition metal complexes with potential biological activity are the subject of intensive ongoing research. Copper has been recognized as an essential trace element for living organisms since the late 1930s (Linder, 2001). 1,10-Phenanthroline (phen) is a chelating ligand with high affinity for metal ions (Calatayud *et al.*, 2003; Devereux *et al.*, 1999). Furthermore,  $Cu^{II}$  complexes of phen and its derivatives have attracted great attention because they exhibit numerous biological activities such as antitumor, anti-Candida, antimycobacterial and antimicrobial (Sigman & Perrin, 1993; Schaeffer *et al.*, 1996; Mahadevan & Palaniandavar, 1998; Zoroddu *et al.*, 1996; Ranford & Sadler, 1993; Geraghty *et al.*, 1999; Saha *et al.*, 2004). In this context, the title complex, (I), of  $Cu^{II}$  with phen has been prepared and its crystal structure is reported here.



The complex crystallizes in the centrosymmetric space group  $C2/c$ . The N atoms of two phen molecules, together with the acetonitrile N atom, form a distorted square-pyramidal geometry. Both the metal atom and the acetonitrile ligand are situated on a crystallographic twofold rotation axis. Selective bond lengths and angles are given in Table 1.

**Experimental**

$Cu(ClO_4)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$  (0.371 g, 1 mmol) and phen (0.396 g, 2 mmol) were dissolved in acetonitrile (40 ml) and stirred under reflux to promote the complete formation of the title complex. Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction studies were obtained by slow diffusion from a acetonitrile/diisopropylether solution at room temperature.

## Crystal data

[Cu(C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>3</sub>N)](ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>  
*M<sub>r</sub>* = 663.90  
 Monoclinic, *C*2/*c*  
*a* = 19.597 (4) Å  
*b* = 8.820 (2) Å  
*c* = 14.659 (3) Å  
 $\beta$  = 96.618 (4)°

*V* = 2516.9 (9) Å<sup>3</sup>  
*Z* = 4  
 Mo *K*α radiation  
 $\mu$  = 1.15 mm<sup>-1</sup>  
*T* = 130 (2) K  
 0.32 × 0.16 × 0.06 mm

## Data collection

Bruker SMART APEX CCD  
 diffractometer  
 Absorption correction: multi-scan  
 (SADABS; Sheldrick, 1996)  
*T*<sub>min</sub> = 0.711, *T*<sub>max</sub> = 0.935

12454 measured reflections  
 3125 independent reflections  
 2663 reflections with *I* > 2σ(*I*)  
*R*<sub>int</sub> = 0.062

## Refinement

$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.049$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.109$   
*S* = 1.14  
 3125 reflections

194 parameters  
 H-atom parameters constrained  
 $\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.48 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.58 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$

Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Cu1—N1	1.9836 (19)	Cu1—N2	2.0984 (19)
Cu1—N3	2.048 (3)		
N1 <sup>i</sup> —Cu1—N1	176.16 (11)	N3—Cu1—N2	124.69 (5)
N1—Cu1—N3	91.92 (5)	N2 <sup>i</sup> —Cu1—N2	110.62 (10)
N1—Cu1—N2	81.55 (7)		

Symmetry code: (i)  $-x, y, -z + \frac{1}{2}$ .

H atoms were positioned geometrically and refined using a riding model, with C—H = 0.98 (CH<sub>3</sub>) and 0.95 Å (CH), and with *U*<sub>iso</sub>(H) = 1.2*U*<sub>eq</sub>(C) or 1.5*U*<sub>eq</sub>(methyl C).

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 2001); cell refinement: SAINT-Plus (Bruker, 1999); 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: SHELXL97.

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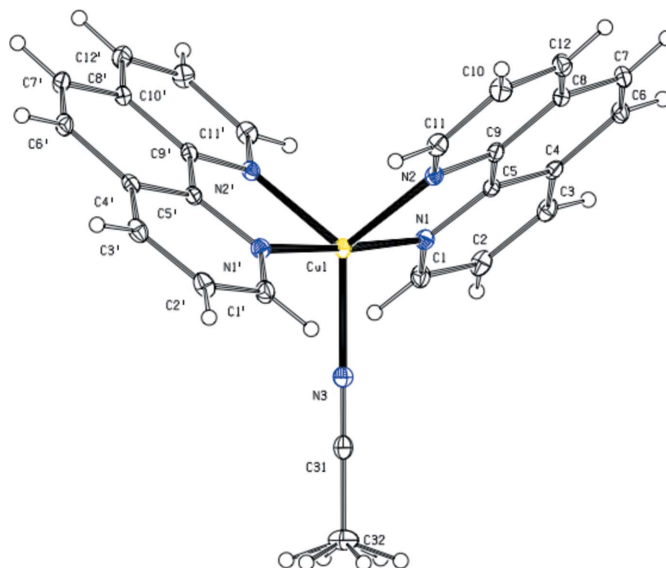


Figure 1

The molecular structure of the title complex, showing the atom-labeling scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level and H atoms are represented by spheres of arbitrary radius. Both disorder components are shown.

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