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# **Synthesis, Structure, and Spectroscopic and Magnetic Properties of a New Class of Dimeric, Fluoro-Bridged High-Spin Cobalt (11) Compounds Containing Substituted-Pyrazole Ligands**

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A new type of dimeric, five-coordinate, high-spin  $Co(II)$  compound, containing an asymmetric  $(CoF_2Co)$  bridge, is described. The product is formed upon reaction of cobalt(I1) tetrafluoroborate with a 4-substituted 3,5-dimethylpyrazole in ethanol solution with triethyl orthoformate added for dehydration. The X-ray structure of one compound in the series, i.e., p-difluoro-hexakis( **3,5-dimethylpyrazole)dicobalt(II)** bis(tetrafluoroborate), is described in detail. The compound crystallizes in the monoclinic space group  $P2_1/c$  with  $a = 10.325$  (5) Å,  $b = 13.753$  (5) Å,  $c = 17.234$  (6) Å,  $\beta = 117.92$  (5)<sup>o</sup>, and  $Z = 4$ . Single-crystal X-ray diffraction data, complete to  $\theta = 26^{\circ}$  (Mo K $\alpha$  radiation), were collected with a Nonius CAD-3 automated diffractometer, and the structure was solved by conventional Patterson, Fourier, and least-squares refinement techniques. The final discrepancy index is  $R_F = 5.6\%$  for 3084 independent reflections. The symmetry around Co(II) is nearly trigonal bipyramidal. Ligand field spectra of the compounds can be interpreted on the basis of this symmetry. A unique type of hydrogen bonding is observed. This so-called trifurcated hydrogen bonding may cause the observed splitting of the (stretching) vibration at frequencies of the  $BF_4^-$  anion and the appearance of "forbidden" bands in the infrared spectra. In all compounds the magnetic-exchange coupling constant between the Co(I1) ions is close to zero. The bridging Co-F-Co angle is 98.8 (2) $\degree$ , in agreement with theories relating the Co-F-Co angle and magnetic exchange.

# **Introduction**

The  $BF_4^-$  anion is frequently used in coordination chemistry as a stabilizing counterion in cationic complexes. This ion is comparable in size with the perchlorate ion and has the advantage of not being a potential explosive. The anion is supposed to be stable in both aqueous and nonaqueous solution, although heating or strong bases may cause decomposition.

Recently, it has been shown that, in the presence of strong bases having bulky substituents (such as quinuclidine and 3,5-dimethylpyrazole), decomposition of the  $BF_4^-$  anion occurs, resulting in anhydrous metal fluorides for quinuclidine' and polymeric products of stoichiometry  $MF_2(iigand)_2$  for 3,5dimethylpyrazole.<sup>2</sup> In the case of 3-hydroxypyridine, a monomeric product  $MF_2(ligand)_4$  has been analyzed, with trans fluoride anions.<sup>3</sup> Recently, a molybdenum fluoride coordination compound has been described.<sup>4</sup> Upon reaction of hydrated  $Co(BF_4)_2$  with excess 3,5-dimethylpyrazole (and its 4-substituted products) under dehydrating conditions, compounds of empirical formula  $Co(ligand)<sub>3</sub>BF<sub>5</sub>$  are obtained, which appeared to be low-molecular-weight products, with coordinated F<sup>-</sup> ions, distorted  $BF_4^-$  anions, and Co(II) in a trigonal-bipyramidal geometry.

The present paper describes the spectroscopic and magnetic properties of this class of compounds. The molecular structure of one of these compounds is described in detail. Preliminary reports of this work have appeared. $5$ 

### **Experimental Section**

**Syntheses of the New Compounds.** 4-Substituted 3,5-dimethylpyrazoles were prepared by condensation of acetylacetone (or its 3-substituted products) with hydrazine according to standard procedures.<sup>6</sup> In this way products of formula I with  $R = H (DMPZ)$ ,



Me (TMPZ), Et (EDMPZ), n-Pr (PDMPZ), and benzyl (BDMPZ) were obtained, which were purified by crystallization and characterized by NMR techniques. Cobalt(I1) tetrafluoroborate was commercially available as the hydrate. Upon reaction of  $Co(H_2O)_{6}(BF_4)_{2}$  with the pyrazole ligands in the ratio 1:4 using ethanol as a solvent and an excess of triethyl orthoformate as a dehydrating agent, violet crystals of composition  $Co(ligand)_3BF_5$  separate.

With smaller amounts of the dehydrating agent or a lower ligand: metal ratio, pink products of formula  $Co(ligand)<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>$  separate, as described previously.2 Upon reaction of a 1:3 mixture of  $Co(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>6</sub>(ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>$  and  $Co(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>6</sub>(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>$  with DMPZ, a product of composition  $Co(DMPZ)_3F(CIO_4)$  can be isolated, which appears to be isomorphous with the corresponding  $BF_4$  compound. The same product can also be prepared from equimolar amounts of Co-  $(DMPZ)_{2}F_{2}$  and  $Co(DMPZ)_{4}(ClO_{4})_{2}$  in CHCl<sub>3</sub>.

**Determination of the Molecular Structure.** Violet crystals of  $CoF(DMPZ)_{3}(BF_{4})$  were prepared as described above. The nearly octahedrally shaped crystal selected for X-ray analysis measured approximately 0.15 mm along the edges. Weissenberg photographs, taken with Cu K $\alpha$  radiation, showed monoclinic diffraction symmetry and systematic extinctions of  $P2_1/c$ . The unit cell dimensions, deduced from measurements on a Nonius automatic single-crystal diffractometer (CAD-3), are  $a = 10.325$  (5),  $b = 13.753$ <sub>(5)</sub>,  $c = 17.234$ (6) Å, and  $\beta = 117.92$  (5)<sup>o</sup> (Mo K $\alpha_1 = 0.70926$  Å). The volume of the unit cell is 2162.58 **A3** and contains four molecules.

The intensities were measured up to  $\theta = 26^{\circ}$  with the  $\theta - 2\theta$  scan mode using Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation and a graphite monochromator (monochromator angle 6°). High intensities were reduced by nickel filters, From the 3084 reflections above background, 1664 were significantly ( $>$ 2.85  $\sigma$ (I)) different from the background intensity. In the reduction of the intensities to structure factors no correction for absorption has been applied ( $\mu_{(M_0 \text{ K}\alpha)} = 9.7 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). Crystal data and experimental parameters are summarized in Table I.

The structure was solved by the heavy-atom method and refined by (blocked) full-matrix least-squares calculations using unit weights. The form factors used for Co, F, N, C, and B were obtained from Cromer and Mann<sup>7</sup> and those for H from Stewart et al.<sup>8</sup> In the last difference map a rest density was found, indicating a large thermal motion of the protons of the methyl groups. Therefore, these protons were not placed. Assigned isotropic temperature factors of the remaining hydrogen atoms were not refined. The final conventional

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#### Table **I.** Crystal Data and Experimental Parameters

		A. Crystal Data			
Formula	$CoF(DMPZ)$ <sub>3</sub> $(BF4)$	c	$17.234(6)$ Å	Density (obsd)	$1.4 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$
Formula wt	453	β	$117.92(5)^{\circ}$	Density (calcd)	$1.41 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$
α	$10.325(5)$ Å		$2162.6 \text{ A}^3$	Space group	$P2$ ,/c
	$13.753(5)$ Å			$\mu(M \circ K \alpha)$	$9.7 \text{ cm}^{-1}$
		<b>B.</b> Experimental Parameters			
Radiation	$\lambda$ (Mo K $\alpha_1$ ) 0.709 26 Å	Takeoff angle	$4.4^{\circ}$	Data collected	3084
Monochromator	Graphite	Max $(\sin \theta)/\lambda$	0.6180	Data with $I > 2.85\sigma(I)$	1664
	Table II. Final Parameters <sup>a</sup> with Esd's in Parentheses				



 $a$  The fractional atomic coordinates are  $\times 10^4$  for the nonhydrogen atoms and  $\times 10^3$  for the hydrogen atoms with the anisotropic thermal parameters for Co given in  $A^2 \times 10^4$  and the other atoms in  $A^2 \times 10^3$ . The  $U_{ij}$  coefficients are given by the expression  $\exp[-2\pi^2(U_{11}h^2a^{*2}$  $+ U_{22}k^2b^{*2} + U_{33}l^2c^{*2} + 2U_{12}hka^*b^* + 2U_{13}hla^*c^* + 2U_{23}klb^*c^*)$ .

*R* index  $(\sum ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \sum |F_o| \times 100)$  is 5.6%. All calculations were performed on an IBM 370/158 computer, using the computer programs from XRAY 72.<sup>9</sup> The final set of atomic and thermal parameters is given in Table 11. A table of observed and calculated structure factors is available.<sup>10</sup>

Spectral and Magnetic Measurements. Infrared and far-infrared spectra were obtained on Hilger and Watts  $(4000-650 \text{ cm}^{-1})$ , Beckman Acculab 6 (4000-250 cm<sup>-1</sup>), Perkin-Elmer 521 (700-250 cm<sup>-1</sup>), and Beckman IR 720 (500-100 cm-') instruments. Samples were recorded either as Nujol mulls between NaCl or KBr plates (4000-400 cm-') or as pressed polythene disks (500-100 cm-'). Ligand field spectra were recorded on a Beckman DK-2 instrument (30000-4000 cm<sup>-1</sup>) by the diffuse-reflectance technique and in  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$  solution.

Room-temperature magnetic susceptibility measurements were obtained by the NMR method in solution.<sup>11</sup> Proton and fluorine NMR spectra were performed on standard Varian T60 and XL100 instruments. Low-temperature susceptibilities were performed on a PAR vibrating-sample magnetometer in the 4-100 K region as described elsewhere.12

#### **Results and Discussion**

**General Data.** Analytical data, melting point, and conductivity data of the new compounds are summarized in Table 111. Ligand field spectra and magnetic data are listed in Table IV, together with a Co-F vibration. According to the empirical formula of the compounds, the  $BF_4^-$  anion must have reacted

with the solvent or the ligand, delivering  $F$  ions. Such a decomposition is unusual and has been observed previously in a few cases. Musgrave and  $Lin<sup>1</sup>$  observed products  $BF<sub>3</sub>$ -(ligand), with ligand = quinuclidine, Guichelaar observed linear-chain systems  $MF_2($ ligand)<sub>2</sub> for 3,5-dimethylpyrazole,<sup>2</sup> Smit<sup>3</sup> found tetragonal species  $MF_2($ ligand)<sub>4</sub> in case of 3hydroxypyridine, whereas very recently Hidai and co-workers found a species  $[Mo(F)(N_2H_2)(dppe)_2](BF_4)$ . The new products were analyzed by standard spectroscopic and magnetic techniques; the results will be described below.

Conductivity measurements in methylene chloride showed that the compounds are hardly dissociated in solution (Table III), indicating either coordinated  $BF<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>$  ions or strong cation-anion pairing. The compounds are readily soluble in weakly polar solvents, whereas the compound with  $R = Et$ dissolves even in benzene and CC4.

**Description of the Molecular Structure of (Co-**   $(DMPZ)_{3}F)_{2}(BF_{4})_{2}$ . Figure 1 provides an illustration of the crystallographic independent half of the dimeric molecule. A part of the second half of the molecule, generated by the inversion center, is also shown in Figure 1 to illustrate the interaction between cation and anion. Bond distances and angles are given in Table V.

Two Co atoms and two F atoms are involved in a strictly



<sup>*a*</sup> Measured as 10<sup>-3</sup> M solutions; conductivity expressed in cm<sup>2</sup>  $\Omega^{-1}$  mol<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>b</sup> Melting with decomposition.

Table **IV.** Ligand Field Spectra, Far-IR Co-F Stretch, and Solution Magnetic Moments at Room Temperature of Dimeric Fluoro-Bridged Co(I1) Compounds

Compd	$Co-F str, cm^{-1}$	Ligand field max, cm <sup>-1</sup> $\times$ 10 <sup>3</sup>	Magnetic moment in CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> , $\mu_{\bf B}$
$Co2(DMPZ)6F2(BF4)$ ,	458	20.0 sh 17.9 12.2 5.5	4.5
$Co2(TMPZ)6F2(BF4)$	440	20.0 sh 18.0 11.6 5.5	$-4.5$
$Co, (EDMPZ)_6F, (BF_4),$	445	20.0 sh $17.8$ $11.8^a$ 5.4	4.6
$Co, (PDMPZ)_{6}F, (BF_{4})_{2}$	446	20.0 sh 18.2 11.8 5.4	
$Co$ , $(BDMPZ)$ , $F$ , $(BF4)$ ,	447	20.0 sh 17.5 12.0 5.4	4.6
$Co$ , $(DMPZ)$ , $F$ , $ClO4$ ),	460	20.0 sh 17.9 12.2 5.5	

*a* **A** small splitting is observed.





planar bridging system. The Co-Co distance is 3.092 (2) A. The bridging  $Co-F-Co$  angle is 98.8 (2)<sup>o</sup>. The maximum deviation from perfect trigonal-bipyramidal geometry at the Co centers is  $8^\circ$ . One F atom and two ring ligands are in the equatorial plane and the F atom of the bridge, together with the third ligand, are in the axial direction. The equatorial Co-F bond length differs significantly from the axial Co-F bond length: 1.924 (4) and 2.146 (4) **A,** respectively. The Co-N bond lengths of 2.033 **(5),** 2.040 **(5),** and 2.042 (6) A are intermediate between those found for tetrahedral and octahedral  $Co(II)$  azole compounds.<sup>13</sup> The geometry of the bridge and of the coordination around Co is shown in Figure 2. The two BF<sub>4</sub> groups interact with the dimer via hydrogen contacts. Each N hydrogen atom of a pyrazole ring has one contact with an axial F atom and two contacts with two F



Figure **2.** ORTEP drawing of the geometry around cobalt in the dimer

atoms of a  $BF_4$  group. The geometry of the interion contacts is depicted in Figure 3. The  $N-H \cdot F$  distances are, in most cases, shorter than the accepled van der Waals distance of 2.65 A. So it looks like the rings accept a rotational position around the Co-N bonds as to minimize all  $N-H...F$  contacts. This hydrogen bonding system is an example of the rarely observed trifurcated hydrogen bond.14 The divergence in the different bonds is smaller than found in a recent study,<sup>14</sup> where H<sup>...</sup>Cl contacts between 2.38 and 3.29 Å and N<sub>u</sub>Cl contacts between 3.29 and 3.67 Å were observed. The symmetry of the  $BF_4^$ anion is distorted tetrahedral, with the B-F bond not involved in hydrogen bonding being the smallest.

The structure shows an example of a distorted  $BF_4^-$  ion not caused by coordination to a metal ion but by its unique hydrogen bonding.

Spectroscopic Measurements. Infrared spectra of the compounds show the usual pattern of a coordination compound containing a coordinated organic molecule and a counterion.

The vibrations of the  $BF_4^-$  ion (and also those of the  $ClO_4^$ ion in the corresponding perchlorate) show a distinct splitting of the degenerate asymmetric vibrations and an appearance of the "forbidden" symmetrical stretching vibration. This

# Table V. Bond Distances and Angles in  $[Co_2(DMPZ)_6F_2](BF_4)$ ,



*a* Atom generated by center of symmetry.



Figure 3. Interaction of the BF<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> anion with the N-H groups of the  $[\overline{Co}_2F_2(DMPZ)_6]^{2+}$  cation. H-F distances are given in the figure. N-F distances vary between 2.74 and 3.26 **A.** Angles N-H-F vary between 105 and 163°.

phenomenon is well-known in the literature and is usually ascribed to coordination of the anion.

As shown by the crystal-structure determination, the present phenomenon is due to the unusual type of hydrogen bonding. Therefore, one should be aware of the fact that splitting of the degenerate B-F stretching vibration and the appearance of the forbidden bands in the infrared do not necessarily imply coordination of the  $BF_4$  group.

Far-infrared spectra show a strong band around  $450 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . assigned to a Co-F stretching vibration. Below 350 cm<sup>-1</sup> several bands are observed that cannot be assigned unambiguously but must be due to Co-N and Co-F vibrations.

Ligand field spectra of the compounds are almost identical for the several ligands (Table **IV)** and hardly change upon going to the solute state. This indicates that the same species is present in the solid state and in solution of  $CHCI<sub>3</sub>$  and  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The strong interaction between the BF<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> ions and the N-H groups seems to be present in solution as well, as deduced from the conductivity data listed in Table 111. The shape of the absorption bands and the positions agree with a trigonal-bipyramidal coordination geometry for high-spin  $Co(II).$ <sup>15</sup> Addition of extra ligands to this solution does not change the ligand field spectrum, indicating that a single Co(I1) species must be present. Proton NMR spectra of the compounds dissolved in  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$  revealed the magnetic moments of the compounds that are listed in Table IV. The observed paramagnetic shifts in the proton resonances are well-known and agree with high-spin Co(I1). Upon addition of extra ligand molecules, the paramagnetic shifts decrease, which is indicative for a fast ligand exchange with respect to the NMR time scale. Cooling of the solution did not yield separate signals for free and coordinated ligands (down to 210  $K$ ).

The magnetic behavior in the solid state and the interpretation of the low-temperature magnetic data are described below.

To obtain more information about the ion pairing, <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of a few solutions were recorded. It appeared that only resonances attributed to  $BF_4^-$  were observed. Signals due to F- ions were not observed, probably due to a too large shift and a too large paramagnetic line broadening.

Even the signal of the  $BF_4^-$  ion appeared to be shifted with respect to a free  $BF_4^-$  ion such as in  $Bu_4NBF_4$ . This shift must

Table VI. Magnetic Data and  $\nu$ (Co-F) of Several Dimeric Co(II) Compounds (Uncertainties in the Last Digits are in Parentheses)

Compd	$\mu$ (4.2 K)	$\mu(10 \text{ K})$	$\mu(120 \text{ K})$	$\mu(310 \text{ K})^a$	$\nu$ (Co-F), cm <sup>-1</sup>	
$Co,(BDMPZ),F,(BF_4),$	4.32(4)	4.6 $(1)$		4.6(2)	447	
$Co, (DMPZ)_{6}F, (BF_{4})_{2}$	4.20(4)	4.4 $(1)$	4.6 $(1)$	4.5(2)	458	
$Co, (EDMPZ)$ <sub>s</sub> $F, (BF_4)$ ,	3.51(4)	3.9(1)	4.5(1)	4.6 $(2)$	445	
$Co2(TMPZ)6F2(BF4)2$	2.11(3)	2.9(1)	4.3(1)	4.5(2)	440	

<sup>a</sup> NMR method (Table IV).  $\mu$  values are in  $\mu_{\rm B}$ . <sup>b</sup> Not investigated.



**Figure 4.** Values of  $\mu^2_{\text{eff}}$  as a function of temperature for three dimeric  $Co(II)$  compounds: A,  $Co_2(DMPZ)_{6}F_2(BF_4)_{2}$ ; B,  $Co_2$ - $(EDMPZ)_{6}F_{2}(BF_{4})_{2}$ ; C, Co<sub>2</sub>(TMPZ)<sub>6</sub>F<sub>2</sub>(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>.

be due to the unusual interaction between the cation and the anion. After addition of extra  $BF_4^-$  ions, a single signal shifted in the direction of free  $BF_4^-$  is observed, indicative of fast exchange between  $BF_4^-$  and ion-paired  $BF_4^-$ . This cationanion pairing must be responsible for the good solubility and high stability of the dimeric species in a weakly polar solvent.

**Magnetic Interaction.** The dimeric species  $\text{CoF}_2\text{Co}$  is unusual among transition-metal complexes. In fact, only Cp,TiF has been suggested to be dimeric in nature with fluoro bridges, although the structure has not yet been proven crystallographically.16 To study the nature of the magnetic interaction between the Co(I1) ions, magnetic susceptibility measurements of a few compounds were determined down to 4 K. The results of these measurements are listed in Table VI. A graphical representation is given in Figure 4. The accurate magnitude of the magnetic exchange coupling constant is hard to determine from these data alone. More accurate data down to 2 K and saturation studies in strong magnetic field are needed for detailed information between structural and magnetic data.<sup>17</sup> Nevertheless, from the table and the figure it is clear that a small but distinct interaction occurs between the metal ions. The magnitude of the interaction varies from compound to compound. The bridge geometry actually determines sign and magnitude of the exchange.<sup>18</sup> It seems likely that a particular ligand influences the molecular structure and probably the bridge symmetry to such an extent that different Co-F-Co angles and Co-F distances result. It is known that the Co-F-Co angles close to  $100^{\circ}$  result in a small magnetic exchange.<sup>19,20</sup>

Additional information about the variation of Co-F distances and co-F-Co angles in the different compounds may come from far-IR spectra, since it is well-known that metal-ligand vibrations vary as a function of bonding distances and angles. $21$ 

To investigate a possible relationship between the magnitude of the exchange and far-IR data, the value of the highest Co-F stretching frequency (near 450 cm<sup>-1</sup>) has also been listed in Table VI. It appears that at least for the alkyl substituted compounds the largest exchange (in case of TMPZ) corresponds with the smallest Co-F stretch, whereas the smallest exchange (in case of DMPZ) corresponds with the highest Co-F stretch.

To find out whether or not different substituents yield different Co-F distances and Co-F-Co angles, and to see to what extent these are related to differences in far-IR spectra and magnetic exchange, more structural data are needed. This is left for future investigation. Table VI finally shows that the NMR room-temperature susceptibility data are in fair agreement with the low-temperature solid-state data. The small differences are due to the fact that at low temperatures different electronic levels become occupied due to depopulation of the upper  $S = \frac{3}{2}$  levels.

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**Registry No.**  $Co_2(DMPZ)_6F_2(BF_4)_2$ , 60308-08-9;  $Co_2$ - $(TMPZ)_{6}F_{2}(BF_{4})_{2}$ , 61003-06-3; Co<sub>2</sub>(EDMPZ)<sub>6</sub>F<sub>6</sub>(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, 61003-24-5;  $Co_2(PDMPZ)_{6}F_{2}(BF_4)_{2}$ , 61003-26-7;  $Co_2(BDMPZ)_{6}F_{2}(BF_4)_{2}$ , 61003-28-9;  $Co_2(DMPZ)_{6}F_2(ClO_4)_2$ , 66538-06-5.

supplementary Material Available: **A** listing of structure factor amplitudes (13 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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