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H2O2-Reactivity of Copper(II) Complexes Supported by Tris[(pyridin-2-yl)methyl]amine Ligands with 6-Phenyl Substituents

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The structure and H₂O₂-reactivity of a series of copper(II) complexes supported by tris[(pyridin-2-yl)methyl]amine (TPA) derivatives having a phenyl group at the 6-position of pyridine donor group(s) [(6-phenylpyridin-2-yl) methyl]bis[(pyridin-2-yl)methyl]amine (Ph₁TPA), bis[(6-phenylpyridin-2-yl)methyl][(pyridin-2-yl)methyl]amine (Ph₂TPA), and tris[(6-phenylpyridin-2-yl)methyl]amine (Ph₃TPA) have systematically been examined to get insights into the aromatic substituent (6-Ph) effects on the coordination chemistry of TPA ligand system. The X-ray crystallographic analyses have revealed that $\lceil \text{Cu}^{\parallel}(\text{TPA})(\text{CH}_3\text{CN}) \rceil \cdot (\text{Cl}_4)_2$ (**CuTPA**) and $\lceil \text{Cu}^{\parallel}(\text{Ph}_3\text{TPA})(\text{CH}_3\text{CN}) \rceil \cdot (\text{Cl}_4)_2$ (3) exhibit a trigonal bipyramidal structure, whereas $\lceil \text{Cu}^{\parallel}(\text{Ph}_1\text{TPA})(\text{CH}_3\text{CN})\rceil(\text{Cl}_4)_2$ (1) shows a slightly distorted square pyramidal structure and $\text{[Cu}^{\text{II}}(\text{Ph}_2\text{TPA})(\text{CH}_3\text{CN})$ [ClO4]_2 (2) has an intermediate structure between trigonal bipyramidal and square pyramidal. On the other hand, the UV-vis and ESR data have suggested that all the copper(II) complexes have a similar trigonal bipyramidal structure in solution. The redox potentials of **CuTPA**, **1**, **2**, and **3** have been determined as $E_{1/2} = -0.34$, -0.28 , -0.16 , and -0.04 mV vs Ag/AgNO₃, respectively, demonstrating that introduction of each 6-Ph group causes positive shift of $E_{1/2}$ about 0.1 V. Notable difference in H₂O₂-reactivity has been found among the copper(II) complexes. Namely, **CuTPA** and **1** afforded mononuclear copper(II)-hydroperoxo complexes **CuTPA-OOH** and **1-OOH**, respectively, whereas complex **2** provided bis(*µ*-oxo)dicopper(III) complex **2-oxo**. On the other hand, copper(II) complex **3** was reduced to the corresponding copper(I) complex **3red**. On the basis of the H_2O_2 -reactivity together with the X-ray structures and the redox potentials of the copper(II) complexes, the substituent effects of 6-Ph are discussed in detail.

Introduction

TPA, tris[(pyridin-2-yl)methyl]amine, is one of the most popular tetradentate tripodal ligands in coordination chemistry.^{1,2} A large number of transitional metal complexes of

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this ligand have been prepared, and their structure, physicochemical properties, and reactivity have been explored in detail.^{1,2} Recently, several types of TPA derivatives have also been developed to tune the structure and properties of the supported complexes, where steric constraints and/or electronic effects induced by the substituents are crucial. $1-9$ For instance, Suzuki, Tanaka, and co-workers systematically investigated the structures and the redox properties of

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Chart 1

 $[Cu^{II}(Me_nTPA)(Cl)]^{+}$ (Me_nTPA, $n = 1-3$, see Chart 1) to find that structural perturbation induced by the 6-Me substituent(s) leads to positive shift of the redox potential of the copper(II) complexes ($E_{1/2} = -0.33, -0.20,$ and -0.04 mV vs Ag/AgCl, respectively, in H₂O (pH 7)).¹⁰ The results have been attributed mainly to steric repulsion between the 6-methyl substituent and the bound metal ion, which causes reduction of electron-donor ability of the pyridine donor groups.10 Such effects of the 6-Me group(s) of Me*n*TPA have also been evaluated in the iron system, by which not only $E_{1/2}$ but also the spin state of the metal center can be altered to control the reactivity of the supported iron complexes.⁴

More recently, TPA ligands with 6-Ph substituent(s) (Ph*n*TPA, Chart 1) have also been investigated in anticipation of larger and/or different types of effects on the coordination chemistry of TPA. For instance, Canary and co-workers have examined the substituent effects of the 6-Ph groups on the structures and redox properties of Cu(I) and Cu(II) complexes using Ph3TPA (Chart 1), where the 6-Ph substituents causes a positive shift of the redox potential by 300-480 mV relative to that of the copper(II) complex of TPA itself depending on the solvent used.¹¹ The positive shift of the redox potential has been attributed to an electron withdrawing effect by 6-Ph and a reduction of the local dielectric character because of steric shielding in the metal center.¹¹ However, little has been discussed about the aromatic substituent effects on the reactivity of Ph*n*TPA complexes. In this study, we have systematically investigated the $Cu(II)-H₂O₂$ reactivity in the Ph*n*TPA ligand system to disclose the aromatic substituent effects on the redox reactivity of the copper-TPA complexes.

It has been reported that the reaction of the copper(II) complex of TPA and H_2O_2 gives a mononuclear copper(II)

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hydroperoxo complex LCu^{II} -OOH,¹² which is one of the important active oxygen intermediates involved in copper oxidases and copper monooxygenases as well as in numerous copper-catalyzed oxidation reactions.13 Karlin and his coworkers have recently demonstrated that the LCu^{II}-OOH intermediate generated by using a Ph_1TPA derivative having a *p*-*tert*-butyl group on 6-Ph has an ability to induce an aromatic ligand hydroxylation in acetone.¹⁴ Here we have found that the copper(II) complexes supported by $Ph₂TPA$ and Ph_3TPA exhibit totally different reactivity toward H_2O_2 , providing more insights into the substituent effects on the TPA coordination chemistry.

Experimental Section

General Procedures. The reagents and the solvents used in this study, except the ligand and the copper complexes, were commercial products of the highest available purity and were further purified by the standard methods, if necessary.15 Ligands TPA and Ph*n*TPA were synthesized according to the reported procedures.^{11,16-18} The copper(II) complexes of $\lbrack\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}(\text{TPA})(\text{CH}_3\text{CN})\rbrack(\text{ClO}_4)_2$ (**CuTPA**) and [CuII(Ph3TPA)(CH3CN)](ClO4)2 (**3)** were prepared as reported previously.11,12 FT-IR spectra were recorded on a Jasco FTIR-4100, and UV-visible spectra were taken on a Jasco V-570 or a Hewlett-Packard 8453 photo diode array spectrophotometer equipped with a Unisoku thermostatted cell holder USP-203. 1H NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL FT-NMR Lambda 300WB. Electron spin resonance (ESR) spectra were recorded on a BRUKER E-500 spectrometer at -150 °C. Mass spectra were recorded on a JEOL JMS-AX500 mass spectrometer and JMS-700T Tandem MS-station mass spectrometer. ESI-MS (electrospray ionization mass spectra) measurements were performed on a PE SCIEX API 150EX or a Micromass LCT spectrometer. Resonance Raman scattering was excited at 406.7 nm from a Kr⁺ laser (Spectra Physics, BeamLok 2060). Resonance Raman scattering was dispersed by a single

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polychromator (Ritsu Oyo Kogaku, MC-100) and was detected by a liquid nitrogen cooled CCD detector (Roper Scientific, LNCCD-1100-PB). The resonance Raman measurements were carried out using a rotated cylindrical cell thermostatted at -80 °C or a rotating NMR tube (outer diameter $= 5$ mm) thermostatted at -40 °C by flashing cold nitrogen gas. A 135° back-scattering geometry was used. Cyclic voltammetric measurements were performed on an ALS-630A electrochemical analyzer in deaerated CH3CN containing 0.10 M NBu₄ClO₄ as a supporting electrolyte. A Pt working electrode (BAS) was polished with BAS polishing alumina suspension and rinsed with acetone before use. The counter electrode was a platinum wire. The measured potentials were recorded with respect to a Ag/AgNO₃ (0.01 M) reference electrode. All electrochemical measurements were carried out in a glovebox filled with Ar gas at 25 °C. Elemental analyses were recorded with a Perkin-Elmer or a Fisons instruments EA1108 Elemental Analyzer.

Synthesis of Copper(II) Complexes. *Caution! The perchlorate salts in this study are all potentially explosive and should be handled with care.*

[CuII(Ph1TPA)(CH3CN)](ClO4)2 (1). CuII(ClO4)2 · 6H2O (148.0 mg, 0.40 mmol) was added to a CH₃CN solution (5 mL) of ligand Ph₁TPA (146.4 mg, 0.40 mmol). After stirring for 10 min at room temperature, insoluble material was removed by filtration. Addition of ether (100 mL) to the filtrate gave a blue powder that was precipitated by standing the mixture for several minutes. The supernatant was then removed by decantation, and the remained blue solid was washed with ether three times and dried to give complex **1** in 69%. Single crystals of **1** were obtained by vapor diffusion of ether into a CH3CN solution of the complex. FT-IR (KBr) 1109, 1094, and 623 cm⁻¹ (ClO₄⁻); HR-MS (FAB, pos.) $m/z = 429.1145$ calcd for C₂₄H₂₂N₄Cu: 429.1140; Anal. Calcd for [Cu^{II}(Ph₁TPA)(CH₃CN)](ClO₄)₂ (C₂₆H₂₅CuCl₂N₅O₈): C, 46.61; H, 3.76; N, 10.45. Found: C, 46.64; H, 3.69; N, 10.32.

 $[Cu^H(Ph₂TPA)(CH₃CN)](ClO₄)₂$ (2). This compound was prepared by following the same procedures as described for **1** in 89%. Single crystals of **2** were obtained by vapor diffusion of ether into a CH₃CN solution of the complex. FT-IR (KBr) 1091 and 623 cm⁻¹ $(CIO₄⁻)$; HR-MS (FAB, pos.) $m/z = 505.1448$ calcd for
 $C₂₂H₂₂N₂CW₂₂$ 505.1453; Anal Calcd for $[C₁U₂Pb₂TDA)(CH₂CW)$ $C_{30}H_{26}N_4Cu$: 505.1453; Anal. Calcd for $[Cu^{II}(Ph_2TPA)(CH_3CN)]$ -(ClO4)2 · 0.5H2O **(**C21H31CuCl2N4O8.5): C, 50.90; H, 4.00; N, 9.28. Found: C, 50.62; H, 3.81; N, 9.27.

[Cu^{II}₂(Ph₂TPA)₂(μ **-OH)₂](CF₃SO₃)₂(4). Cu^{II}(CF₃SO₃)₂ (109.0)** mg, 0.30 mmol) and Et₃N (1eq) were added to an MeOH solution (2 mL) of ligand Ph₂TPA (132.6 mg, 0.30 mmol). After stirring the solution for 10 min at room temperature, insoluble material was removed by filtration. Addition of ether (100 mL) to the filtrate gave blue powder that was precipitated by standing the mixture for several minutes. The supernatant was then removed by decantation, and the remaining blue solid was washed with ether three times and dried to give complex **4** in 71%. Single crystals of **4** were obtained by vapor diffusion of ether into a CH₃CN solution of the complex. FT-IR (KBr) 3600 cm^{-1} (OH⁻), 1222, 1165, 1032, and 638 cm⁻¹ (CF₃SO₃⁻); ESI-MS (pos.) m/z $=$ 523.4 [Cu^{II}(Ph₂TPA)(OH)]⁺ and $m/z = 1193.5$ [Cu^{II}₂(Ph₂TPA)₂- $(OH)_2(CF_3SO_3)]^+$; Anal. Calcd for $[Cu^H₂(Ph₂TPA)₂(μ -OH)₂]-$ (CF3SO3)2 · H2O **(**C62H56Cu2F6N8O9S2): C, 54.66; H, 4.14; N, 8.22. Found: C, 54.62; H, 4.03; N, 8.19.

X-ray Structure Determination. Each single crystal was mounted on a glass-fiber. Data of X-ray diffraction were collected by a Rigaku RAXIS-RAPID imaging plate two-dimensional area detector using graphite-monochromated Mo K α radiation (λ = 0.71069 Å) to $2\theta_{\text{max}}$ of 55°. All the crystallographic calculations were performed by using the Crystal Structure software package

Figure 1. Oak Ridge Thermal Ellipsoid Plot (ORTEP) drawing of **1** showing 50% probability thermal ellipsoids. The counteranion and the hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

Figure 2. ORTEP drawing of **2** showing 50% probability thermal ellipsoids. The counteranion and the hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

of the Molecular Structure Corporation [Crystal Structure: Crystal Structure Analysis Package version 3.8.1, Molecular Structure Corp. and Rigaku Corp. (2005)]. The structures were solved with SIR92 and refined with CRYSTALS. All non-hydrogen atoms and hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically and isotropically, respectively. Atomic coordinates, thermal parameters, and intramolecular bond distances and angles are deposited in the Supporting Information (CIF file format).

Kinetic Measurements. The reaction of copper(II) complexes with H_2O_2 was performed in a 1 cm path length UV-vis cell that was held in a Unisoku cryostat holder USP-203. After CH₃CN or $CH₃CH₂CN$ solutions of copper(II) complexes (0.6 mM) in the cell was kept at a desired temperature for several minutes, H_2O_2 (10 equiv) and then Et₃N (2 eq) were injected into the cell though a septa cap with use of a microsyringe. The reaction was monitored by following an increase of the characteristic absorption band of the $Cu(II)$ -H₂O₂ adduct.

Results

Structural Characterization of Copper(II) Complexes. First of all, the structures of the copper(II) complexes of TPA and Ph*n*TPA (Chart 1) have been examined. The crystal structures of **CuTPA** and **3** have already been reported in the literature,^{11,12} and those of **1** and **2** have newly been determined in this study as shown in Figures 1 and 2. The crystallographic data of **1** and **2** are listed in Table 1, and

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Table 1. Summary of the X-ray Crystallographic Data of Compound **1** and **2**

compound	1	$\mathbf{2}$		
formula	$C_{26}H_{25}N_5CuCl_2O_8$	$C_{32}H_{30}N_5CuCl_2O_8$		
formula weight	669.96	747.07		
crystal system	monoclinic	monoclinic		
space group	$P2_1/c$ (No. 14)	$P2_1/n$ (No. 14)		
a, A	10.585(6)	14.696(8)		
b, Ă	10.625(5)	11.748(6)		
c , \AA	24.121(19)	18.660(14)		
α , deg	90	90		
β , deg	95.73(4)	99.98(2)		
γ , deg	90	90		
$V. \AA^3$	2699.2 (30)	3172.9 (33)		
Z	4	$\overline{4}$		
F(000)	1372.00	1536.00		
D_{calcd} , g/cm ⁻³	1.649	1.564		
T, K	153	153		
crystal size, mm	$0.50 \times 0.50 \times 0.30$	$0.30 \times 0.20 \times 0.10$		
μ (Mo K α), cm ⁻¹	10.679	9.176		
$2\theta_{\text{max}}$, deg	55.0	55.0		
no. of reflns measd	25191	28922		
no. of reflns obsd	$5071([I > 2.00\sigma(I)])$	4744 ($[I > 0.8\sigma(I)]$)		
no. of variables	404	460		
R^a	0.0500	0.0343		
R_{w}^{b}	0.0632	0.0422		
GOF	0.995	0.947		
${}^{a}R = \sum F_{o} - F_{c} /\sum F_{o} $. ${}^{b}R_{w} = [\sum w(F_{o} - F_{c})^{2}/\sum wF_{o}^{2}]^{1/2}$.				

their selected bond lengths and angles are summarized in Table 2 together with those of reported **CuTPA**¹² and **3**¹¹ for comparison. The copper center in **1** exhibits a slightly distorted square pyramidal geometry $(\tau = 0.12)$,¹⁹ where two pyridine nitrogen atoms $N(1)$ and $N(2)$, tertiary amine nitrogen atom $N(3)$, and the acetonitrile nitrogen atom $N(5)$ occupy each corner of the equatorial plane and the pyridine nitrogen atom N(4) of PhPy (6-phenylpyridin-2-yl) group exists at the axial position. On the other hand, copper(II) complex **2** carrying two PhPy groups exhibits an intermediate structure between square pyramidal and trigonal bipyramidal $(\tau = 0.58)$ as shown in Figure 2. Since other copper(II)complexes **CuTPA** and **3** show trigonal bipyramidal structure $(\tau = 0.90$ and 1.0, respectively), ^{11,12} it is obvious that the 6-Ph substituent(s) largely affect the solid state structure of the copper(II) complexes.

It should be noted that the average distance between Cu and $P^hPy\text{-nitrogen } (2.159 \text{ Å})$ is significantly longer than the average distance between Cu and Py-nitrogen (2.015 Å). This can be attributed to the steric repulsion between the bound Cu^H ion and the 6-Ph and/or that between the bound $CH₃CN$ coligand and the 6-Ph.

The ESR parameters of the copper(II) complexes determined by the computer simulation are summarized in Table 3. The ESR spectra themselves are presented in Supporting Information, Figures $S1-S4$. In spite of having the different structures in the solid state [square pyramidal (SP) vs trigonal bipyramidal (TBP), see above], all copper(II) complexes exhibit relatively similar ESR parameters in frozen $CH₃CN$ solution. This clearly indicates that they adopt a similar structure in solution. Judging from the relatively small *A*¹ values ($90-130$ G), they may have a trigonal bipyramidal structure as in the case of **CuTPA** and **3** in crystal. This

Table 2. Selected Bond Lengths (Å) and Angles (deg) of Compounds **CuTPA**, **1**, **2**, and **3***^a*

Compound CuTPA ¹²						
$Cu(1)-N(1)$	2.027(4)	$Cu(1)-N(2)$	2.054(4)			
$Cu(1)-N(3)$	2.007(4)	$Cu(1)-N(4)$	2.045(4)			
$Cu(1)-N(5)$	1.960(4)					
$N(1) - Cu(1) - N(2)$	117.95(17)	$N(1) - Cu(1) - N(3)$	82.46(16)			
$N(1) - Cu(1) - N(4)$	123.60(17)	$N(1) - Cu(1) - N(5)$	97.57(17)			
$N(2)-Cu(1)-N(3)$	82.65(17)	$N(2)-Cu(1)-N(4)$	113.19(17)			
$N(2)-Cu(1)-N(5)$	99.15(18)	$N(3)-Cu(1)-N(4)$	81.97(17)			
$N(3)-Cu(1)-N(5)$	177.92(19)	$N(4)-Cu(1)-N(5)$	96.31(19)			
	Compound 1					
$Cu(1)-N(1)$	1.962(2)	$Cu(1)-N(2)$	1.989(2)			
$Cu(1)-N(3)$	2.042(2)	$Cu(1)-N(4)$	2.330(2)			
$Cu(1)-N(5)$	1.986(2)					
$N(1) - Cu(1) - N(2)$	164.59(8)	$N(1) - Cu(1) - N(3)$	83.67(8)			
$N(1) - Cu(1) - N(4)$	100.53(8)	$N(1) - Cu(1) - N(5)$	98.28(9)			
$N(2)-Cu(1)-N(3)$	82.69(8)	$N(2)-Cu(1)-N(4)$	84.79(8)			
$N(2) - Cu(1) - N(5)$	94.26(9)	$N(3)-Cu(1)-N(4)$	82.57(7)			
$N(3)-Cu(1)-N(5)$	171.86(8)	$N(4)-Cu(1)-N(5)$	104.78(8)			
Compound 2						
$Cu(1)-N(1)$	2.232(2)	$Cu(1)-N(2)$	2.067(2)			
$Cu(1)-N(3)$	2.000(2)	$Cu(1)-N(4)$	2.010(2)			
$Cu(1)-N(5)$	1.953(2)					
$N(1) - Cu(1) - N(2)$	108.27(9)	$N(1) - Cu(1) - N(3)$	78.28(9)			
$N(1) - Cu(1) - N(4)$	103.14(9)	$N(1) - Cu(1) - N(5)$	105.68(10)			
$N(2) - Cu(1) - N(3)$	80.18(10)	$N(2)-Cu(1)-N(4)$	140.69(9)			
$N(2)-Cu(1)-N(5)$	97.36(10)	$N(3)-Cu(1)-N(4)$	83.74(10)			
$N(3)-Cu(1)-N(5)$	175.89(9)	$N(4)-Cu(1)-N(5)$	96.29(10)			
Compound 3^{11}						
$Cu(1)-N(1)$	2.108(5)	$Cu(1)-N(2)$	2.124(7)			
$Cu(1)-N(3)$	1.996(6)	$Cu(1)-N(4)$	2.091(6)			
$Cu(1)-N(5)$	1.935(6)					
$(1)-Cu(1)-N(2)$	117.3(2)	$N(1) - Cu(1) - N(3)$	80.0(2)			
$N(1) - Cu(1) - N(4)$	118.6(2)	$N(1) - Cu(1) - N(5)$	99.1(2)			
$N(2)-Cu(1)-N(3)$	81.3(2)	$N(2)-Cu(1)-N(4)$	116.0(2)			
$N(2)-Cu(1)-N(5)$	98.2(2)	$N(3)-Cu(1)-N(4)$	80.1(2)			
$N(3)-Cu(1)-N(5)$	178.7(2)	$N(4)-Cu(1)-N(5)$	101.2(2)			
^a The date are taken from the literatures; ref 12 for CuTPA and ref 11						

for **3**.

Table 3. Redox Potential, UV-vis, and ESR Parameters of **CuTPA**, **1**, **2**, and **3**

complex	$E_{1/2}$ $(V)^{a}$	$\Delta E_{\rm p}$ $(V)^b$	λ_{max} $(\varepsilon, M^{-1}$ cm ⁻¹)		ESR parameters c
CuTPA	-0.34	0.10	$628 \text{ nm} (85)$	$g_1 = 2.170$	$A_1 = 100$ G
			855 nm (300)	$g_2 = 2.068$	$A_2 = 30$ G
				$g_3 = 2.145$	$A_3 = 30$ G
1	-0.28	0.08	$625 \text{ nm} (95)$	$g_1 = 2.235$	$A_1 = 100$ G
			820nm (180)	$g_2 = 2.043$	$A_2 = 5$ G
				$g_3 = 2.090$	$A_3 = 30$ G
$\mathbf{2}$	-0.16	0.08	630 nm (100)	$g_1 = 2.230$	$A_1 = 130$ G
			800 nm (300)	$g_2 = 2.040$	$A_2 = 18$ G
				$g_3 = 2.140$	$A_3 = 18$ G
3	-0.04	0.08	$650 \text{ nm} (65)$	$g_1 = 2.185$	$A_1 = 90$ G
			865 nm (380)	$g_2 = 2.110$	$A_2 = 2 G$
				$g_3 = 2.120$	$A_3 = 22 G$
α In CH ₃ CN containing 0.1 M tetrabutylammonium perchlorate (TBAP)					

at 25 °C; working electrode Pt, counter electrode Pt, reference electrode Ag/0.01 M AgNO₃, sweep rate 50 mV s⁻¹. ^{*b*} Peak separation. ^{*c*} In CH₃CN at 128-129 K, microwave frequency 9.40-9.41 GHz, modulation frequency
100 kHz, modulation amplitude 5 G, microwave nower 0.32-0.33 mW 100 kHz, modulation amplitude 5 G, microwave power 0.32-0.33 mW.

notion is supported by the absorption spectral data presented in Table 3. Namely, two distinctive d-d bands at ∼630 nm and ∼850 nm of all complexes in CH3CN are indicative of a large contribution of trigonal bipyramidal (TBP) geometry in solution.20

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Redox Potential of Copper(II) Complexes. The redox potential of the complex is an important indicator of the electron-donor ability of the supporting ligand. The cyclic voltammograms of the complexes were measured under the same experimental conditions (Supporting Information, Figures $S5-S8$). In all cases, a reversible Cu^{II}/Cu^I redox couple was obtained, from which the redox potentials $(E_{1/2})$ of the copper(II) complexes were determined as the midpoint of the oxidation and reduction peaks as summarized in Table 3. Apparently, the redox potential of the complexes largely increases in the order of $\text{CuTPA} \leq 1 \leq 2 \leq 3$. This can be attributed to the weaker electron-donor ability of the PhPy group. Namely, the steric repulsion between the bulky 6-Ph substituent and the bound copper(II) ion and/or the repulsion between the 6-Ph substitutes and the $CH₃CN$ coligand weakens the coordinative interaction between the metal ion and PhPy-nitrogen. In addition, electron-withdrawing nature of 6-Ph may also reduces the electron donor ability of PhPy. Thus, increasing number (n) of ^{Ph}Py resulted in the reduction of the overall electron-donating nature of the TPA derivatives. The reduction in the local dielectric character because of the steric shielding of the metal center may also cause the positive shift in $E_{1/2}$ as discussed previously.¹¹

Reaction of Copper(II) Complexes and H₂O₂. Masuda and co-workers reported that the reaction of **CuTPA** and $H₂O₂$ gave a mononuclear copper(II)-hydroperoxo complex **CuTPA-OOH** in the presence of triethylamine (eq 1).¹² The hydroperoxo complex exhibited a ligand-to-metal charge transfer (LMCT) band at 379 nm ($\varepsilon = 1700 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$)
together with d-d bands at 668 nm (170 M⁻¹ cm⁻¹) and 828 together with d-d bands at 668 nm $(170 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1})$ and 828 nm (200 M⁻¹ cm⁻¹),¹² and the ESR parameters of $g_{\parallel} = 2.01$,
 $g_{\perp} = 2.19$, $A_{\parallel} = 87$ G, and $A_{\perp} = 99$ G. These spectral data $g_{\perp} = 2.19$, $A_{\parallel} = 87$ G, and $A_{\perp} = 99$ G. These spectral data indicate that **CuTPA-OOH** has a trigonal bipyramidal structure as in the case of the starting material.¹² Furthermore, **CuTPA-OOH** showed a resonance Raman band at 847 cm-¹ assignable to the ${}^{16}O-{}^{16}O$ stretching vibration, which shifted to 792 cm⁻¹ upon ¹⁸O-substitution.¹²

CuTPA

 $(S = CH₃CN, Py = pyridin-2-yI)$ **CuTPA-OOH**

In this study, reactions of other copper(II) complexes and H_2O_2 have been examined under similar experimental conditions. Figure 3 shows the spectral change for the reaction of complex 1 and H_2O_2 (10 equiv) in CH₃CN at -40 °C in the presence of 2 equiv of Et₃N, where an absorption band at 384 nm ($\varepsilon = 1550$ M⁻¹ cm⁻¹) appears
together with a d-d band at 620 nm (170 M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). In this together with a d-d band at 620 nm (170 M⁻¹ cm⁻¹). In this case, the resonance Raman spectrum of the resulting solution exhibited a peak at 840 cm⁻¹ attributable to the $^{16}O-^{16}O$ stretching vibration of a hydroperoxo species, although the Raman band of the 18O-derivative was difficult to detect because of its weak intensity (inset of Figure 3). The UV -vis and the resonance Raman data are very close to those of

Figure 3. Spectral change for the reaction of $1(0.6 \text{ mM})$ with $H_2O_2(6.0 \text{ m})$ mM) in the presence of NEt₃ (1.2 mM) in CH₃CN at -40 °C. Inset: Resonance Raman spectrum of **1-OOH** (6 mM) generated by the reaction of **1** and $H_2^{16}O_2$ in CH₃CN at -40 °C ($\lambda_{ex} = 406.7$ nm); s denotes the solvent bands solvent bands.

CuTPA-OOH, confirming that the generated species is also a copper(II)-hydroperoxo complex **1-OOH** (eq 2).

The ESR spectrum of **1-OOH** shown in Supporting Information, Figure S9 exhibits a larger A_1 value (166 G) as compared with that of the stating material **1** (100 G), suggesting that the trigonal bipyramidal structure of **1** in solution becomes a distorted square pyramidal structure in **1-OOH**. This notion is supported by the UV-vis spectral change shown in Figure 3, where the relatively intense d-d band at 820 nm of **1**, which is a characteristic d-d band for copper(II) complexes with trigonal bipyramidal structure, is diminished in **1-OOH**. Binding of the stronger electrondonating ligand like HOO^{-} to copper(II) center shifts its position from the axial of trigonal bipyramidal geometry to the equatorial of square pyramidal structure as illustrated in eq 2. Moreover, double integration of the ESR spectrum of **1-OOH** demonstrated that 99% of the spin remained, confirming the mononuclearity of **1-OOH**.

The reaction of 2 and H_2O_2 was then examined in propionitrile at -70 °C in the presence of Et₃N. The spectral change of the reaction is shown in Figure 4, where an intense absorption band at 379 nm ($\varepsilon = 6200 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$) readily
appears ²¹ Notably, the spectrum is different from that of appears.21 Notably, the spectrum is different from that of the mononuclear copper(II) hydroperoxo complex **1-OOH** shown in Figure 3, and the generated intermediate was ESR silent. The resonance Raman spectrum measured at -80 °C with $\lambda_{\rm ex}$ = 406.7 nm exhibited a characteristic peak at 607 cm^{-1} that shifted to 577 cm⁻¹ upon $\text{H}_2{}^{18}\text{O}_2$ substitution (inset of Figure 4). All these spectral characteristics are very close

⁽²¹⁾ The reaction of H_2O_2 and **2** in CH₃CN at -40° C gave the same spectrum as shown in Supporting Information, Figure S10.

Figure 4. Spectral change for the reaction of $2(0.6 \text{ mM})$ and $H_2O_2(6.0 \text{ m})$ mM) in the presence of NEt₃ (1.2 mM) in CH₃CH₂CN at -70 °C. Inset: Resonance Raman spectra of 2 -oxo (6 mM) generated by using $H_2{}^{16}O_2$ (solid line) and H₂¹⁸O₂ (dashed line) with excitation at $\lambda_{ex} = 406.7$ nm in CH₂CH₂CN at -80 °C; s denotes the solvent bands CH₃CH₂CN at -80 °C; s denotes the solvent bands.

Figure 5. ORTEP drawing of **4** showing 50% probability thermal ellipsoids. The counteranion and the hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

to those of the reported bis(μ -oxo)dicopper(III) complexes,²² strongly suggesting the formation of a similar complex **2-oxo** as indicated in (eq 3).

At first glance, it seems to be difficult to assess such a doubly bridged dinuclear copper complex using the sterically demanding ligand $Ph₂TPA$, but such a possibility has been realized by the formation of $bis(\mu-hydroxo)dicopper(II)$ complex 4 (Figure 5) in the treatment of 2 with Et₃N in MeOH. The crystallographic data and the selected bond

Table 4. Summary of the X-ray Crystallographic Data of Compound **4**

compound	4
formula	$C_{31}H_{26}N_{4}CuF_{3}O_{4}S$
formula weight	671.17
crystal system	triclinic
space group	$P\bar{1}$ (No. 2)
a, \overline{A}	11.700(8)
b, À	12.320(9)
c, \overline{A}	12.710(10)
α , deg	106.76(2)
β , deg	107.09(2)
γ , deg	112.149(20)
V, \AA^3	1447.9(18)
Z	2
F(000)	688.0
D_{calcd} , g/cm ⁻³	1.539
T. K	153
crystal size, mm	$0.30 \times 0.30 \times 0.20$
μ (Mo K α), cm ⁻¹	8.906
$2q_{\text{max}}$, deg	55.0
no. of reflns measd	14207
no. of reflns obsd	4252([I > 0.50s(I)])
no. of variables	423
R^a	0.0450
$R_{\rm w}{}^b$	0.0497
GOF	0.974
$R^a R = \sum F_0 - F_c /\sum F_0 $. $^b R_w = [\sum w(F_0 - F_c)^2/\sum wF_0^2]^{1/2}$.	

Table 5. Selected Bond Lengths (Å) and Angles (deg) of Compound **4**

lengths and angles of **4** are presented in Table 4 and Table 5, respectively.

Complex 4 consists of a centrosymmetric $Cu_2(\mu$ -OH)₂ core supported by two $Ph₂TPA$ ligands. Each copper ion has a square planar geometry consisting of a N_2O_2 donor set with the pyridyl nitrogen atom N(4), *tert*-amine nitrogen atom N(3), and two bridging hydroxo oxygen atoms O(1) and $O(1)^*$, whereas the two pyridine donor groups having the 6-Ph substituent (^{Ph}Py) interact with the copper ion very weakly from the axial position $(Cu-N(1)$ and $Cu-N(2)$ are 2.754 Å and 2.924 Å, respectively). Thus, the ligand Ph_2TPA seems to behave as a bidentate ligand in this particular system. The overall structure of **4** is similar to that of $[Cu₂(OH)₂(Me₂-TPA)₂](ClO₄)₂$ reported by Suzuki and coworkers,²³ but the average distances of Cu-N_{axial} (2.839 Å) and $Cu \cdots Cu^*$ (2.998 Å) bonds are substantially elongated as compared with those of Suzuki's complex $\left[Cu-N_{\text{axial}}\right]$ (2.596 Å) , and Cu \cdots Cu^{*} (2.936 Å)].²³ The larger values of $Cu-N_{axial}$ and $Cu \cdots Cu^*$ bond distances in 4 relative to those of $[Cu_2(OH)_2(Me_2-TPA)_2]^2$ ⁺ reflect the larger steric bulkiness of 6-Ph as compared with that of 6-Me.

Interestingly, complex **3** behaved quite differently in the reaction with H_2O_2 . Namely, copper(II) complex **3** was reduced to the corresponding copper(I) complex **3red**. The (22) (a) Que, L., Jr.; Tolman, W. B. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **²⁰⁰²**, *⁴¹*,

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Figure 6. Spectral change for the reaction of $3(0.6 \text{ mM})$ with $H_2O_2(6.0 \text{ m})$ mM) in the presence of Et₃N (1.2 mM) in CH₃CN at -40 °C.

d-d bands at 650 and 865 nm of the copper(II) complex **3** completely disappeared (see Figure 6) and the resulting solution became ESR silent. The ESI-MS data and the elemental analysis on the isolated product confirmed the formation of **3red** (Supporting Information, Figure S11). The reduction of copper(II) to copper(I) in **3** may proceed via Cu^H-O bond homolysis of an initially formed copper(II)hydroperoxo intermediate **3-OOH** as previously reported in a related system.²⁴

Discussion

In this study, substituent effects of 6-Ph on the structure, physicochemical properties, and H_2O_2 -reactivity of the copper(II) complexes supported by Ph*n*TPA ligands (see, Chart 1) have systematically been examined. The copper(II) centers of **CuTPA** and **3** (Ph3TPA-complex) exhibit trigonal bipyramidal structure in the crystal, whereas complex **1** supported by Ph_1TPA shows a slightly distorted square pyramidal geometry (Figure 1). Complex **2** supported by Ph2TPA, on the other hand, takes an intermediate structure between trigonal bipyramidal and square pyramidal in the solid state. However, the UV-vis and ESR data suggest that all copper(II) complexes exhibit a similar trigonal bipyramidal geometry in solution. Thus, the difference in the solidstate structures of the complexes can be attributed to the crystal packing force.

Copper(II) complexes **CuTPA**, **1**, **2**, and **3** have redox potential at -0.34 , -0.28 , -0.16 , and -0.04 V vs Ag/ AgNO3, respectively. Thus, incorporation of each 6-Ph group causes ∼0.1 V increase of *E*1/2. The positive shift of *E*1/2 has been attributed to the steric repulsion between the bulky 6-Ph substituent and the cupric ion and/or the repulsion between the 6-Ph and the $CH₃CN$ coligand, which cause reduction of the coordinative interaction between the pyridine donor groups and the copper (II) ion. In fact, the average distance between Cu and PhPy-nitrogen (2.159 Å) is substantially elongated as compared to the average distance between Cu and Py-nitrogen (2.015 Å) (vide ante). The electron-withdrawing effect by 6-Ph as well as a reduction of the local dielectric character because of the steric shielding in the metal center may also contribute to the positive shift of $E_{1/2}$.

The Cu(II)-H₂O₂ reactivity is drastically altered by the supporting ligands. **CuTPA** and **1** supported by TPA itself and Ph₁TPA, respectively, afforded the mononuclear copper(II)-hydroperoxo complex **CuTPA-OOH** and **1-OOH**. It should be noted here that no ligand modification (neither *N*-dealkylation nor aromatic hydroxylation) took place from these copper(II)-hydroperoxo species, even though the reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature before the workup treatment. This is in contrast to Karlin's system with a Ph1TPA having *p*-*tert*-butyl substituent on 6-Ph, where a aromatic ligand hydroxylation reaction was observed (20%) .¹⁴ This can be attributed to the existence of the electron-donating *tert*-butyl substituent on 6-Ph in Karlin's system, which may increase the susceptibility of the aromatic substituent toward the electrophilic attack by the Cu-OOH moiety.

Incorporation of an extra 6-Ph group to Ph_1TPA to give Ph₂TPA resulted in totally different reactivity of the supported copper(II) complex toward H_2O_2 . In this case, bis(μ oxo)dicopper(III) complex **2-oxo** was generated. Replacement of two pyridine (Py) groups of TPA by the bulkier PhPy groups may enforce the TPA derivative to act as a bidentate ligand using the non-substituted Py group and the *tert*-amine nitrogen as the donor groups. Such a bidentate 2-pyridylmethylamine (PyCH2NR2) type ligand has been well-demonstrated to stabilize the bis(*µ*-oxo)dicopper(III) complex.²⁵ This may be the reason why Ph₂TPA affords **2-oxo**. Suzuki and his co-workers reported that the reaction of $[Cu^{I}(Me_{2}TPA)]^{+}$ and O₂ also gave a bis(μ -oxo)dicopper(III) complex, in which the copper(III) center exhibited a four-coordinate square planar geometry with a N_2O_2 donor set (consisting of Py nitrogen, *tert*-amine nitrogen, and two oxo groups) and the remaining MePy groups interact with copper(III) ion very weakly from the axial positions.²³

In the case of **2-oxo**, *N*-dealkylation reaction took place to give 6-phenyl-2-pyridinecarboxaldehyde in 36%. However, we did not see any ligand modification on the 6-Ph aromatic group. This is in contrast to Suzuki's $Me₂TPA$ system, where they observed peroxygenation of the 6-Me substituent in the reaction of $[Cu^{II}(Me₂TPA)]^{2+}$ complex and $H_2O_2.^{26}$

Because of the high $E_{1/2}$ of the Ph₃TPA system, on the other hand, the copper(II) complex **3** was easily reduced to the corresponding copper(I) complex by the reaction with $H₂O₂$. The reaction may proceed via Cu-O bond homolysis of an initially formed Cu^{II}-OOH intermediate.

Although the factors that control the H_2O_2 -reactivity of the supported copper(II) complexes have yet to be clarified completely, the results reported herein will provide important insights into the aromatic substituent effects on the redox chemistry of the TPA-complexes.

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Supporting Information Available: The ESR spectra (Figures S1-S4) and the cyclic voltammograms (Figures S5-S8) of the copper(II) starting materials, the ESR spectrum of **1-OOH** (Figure S9), UV-vis spectrum of 2-oxo generated by using H₂O₂ in CH₃CN (Figure S10), and ESI-MS of **3red** generated by the reaction of **3** and H_2O_2 in CH₃CN. (Figure S10). This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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