

Thus, overall, the cis complex appears to be subject to more internal strain than a comparable trans complex. In addition, the oxalate ligand, having a bite of only 80° , allows the N-Ru-N bond angle for the equatorial pyridine rings to expand to 98° . Thus if the oxalate ligand were replaced by two chlorine atoms, the resultant cis complex, requiring a larger Cl-Ru-Cl angle, would certainly be more crowded

and thus would be expected to be unstable relative to the trans complex.

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The Crystal and Molecular Structure of Dichlorobis(4-methylpyridine 1-oxide)copper(II), Yellow Modification

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The crystal structure of the yellow modification of dichlorobis(4-methylpyridine 1-oxide)copper(II), $[(C_6H_7NO)_2CuCl_2]_2$, has been determined by single-crystal X-ray diffraction methods. Counter methods were used to collect 1469 nonzero reflections. The complex crystallizes in the monoclinic space group $P2_1/n$ with two dimeric molecules per unit cell. The cell dimensions are $a = 7.368$ (10), $b = 19.857$ (5), $c = 10.773$ (5) Å, and $\beta = 111^\circ 25$ (10)'. The observed and calculated densities are 1.60 and 1.59 g cm⁻³, respectively. The structure was refined by least-squares methods to a conventional R factor of 0.061%. The molecules consist of oxygen-bridged dimer units. The coordination around the copper ion may be described as a highly distorted square-based pyramid with a chlorine atom at the apical site at a distance of 2.354 (3) Å. The oxygen bridging system contains unequal Cu-O bond lengths of 1.957 (6) and 2.153 (6) Å, and the magnetic moment should be larger than those observed for the 1:1 dimeric species. The unstable dimeric molecule of the yellow modification is postulated to be an intermediate in the formation of the thermodynamically stable trans 2:1 monomer.

Introduction

The various types of 2:1 aromatic *N*-oxide complexes of copper(II) have been discussed in previous papers.^{1,2} The infrared spectra have been reported for many of these complexes, and copper(II) coordination geometries were predicted from a consideration of the metal-chlorine stretching modes.³ The green form of the 2:1 4-methylpyridine 1-oxide complex was shown to have a trans square-planar geometry about the copper(II) ions.² The monomers are isolated units which show little intramolecular steric interaction and exhibit normal magnetic moments from 77°K to well above room temperature. This form is thermodynamically the most stable, and all 2:1 green crystalline forms are predicted to be trans square planar.

The yellow form of the dichlorobis(2,6-dimethylpyridine 1-oxide)copper(II) complex was shown to have a geometry intermediate between tetrahedral and cis square planar.⁴ This is consistent with the prediction of Hatfield and Morrison⁵ based upon the diffuse reflectance spectrum of dibromobis(2,6-dimethylpyridine 1-oxide)copper(II). The magnetic moments of these two complexes were normal. In general, only small quantities of the yellow form can be prepared, and the infrared spectra and magnetic moments of only a few of the complexes have been reported. The dichlorobis(pyridine 1-oxide) copper(II)

complex has been shown to be an oxygen-bridged dimer,⁶ and the complex has a magnetic moment around 0.5 BM.⁷ The corresponding bromide and dibromobis(4-methylpyridine 1-oxide)copper(II) complexes have magnetic moments of 1.4⁷ and 1.33⁸ BM, respectively. Since the 1:1 dimeric bromide complexes usually have lower magnetic moments than the corresponding chloride complexes, these intermediate moments are not consistent with the known structures in this series. A dimeric structure was predicted,² but some significant differences in geometry must exist.

We wish to report the structure of the yellow form of dichlorobis(4-methylpyridine 1-oxide)copper(II) and rationalize the physical properties in terms of this structure.

Experimental Section

Small quantities of the yellow 2:1 complex were prepared by mixing an excess of 4-methylpyridine 1-oxide with the 1:1 complex in boiling ethanol. The solution was allowed to evaporate slowly at room temperature, and a few yellow crystals were found together with a large excess of the green form. Attempts to improve the yield of yellow modification were unsuccessful. The crystals were unstable, and the small quantities of sample hindered the complete chemical and physical characterization of this material.

The yellow complex was irreversibly converted to the green form above 73°, and the converted green form retained its color on returning to room temperature. An infrared spectrum was obtained of the yellow form pressed into a KBr pellet. Two

(1) W. H. Watson, *Inorg. Chem.*, **8**, 1879 (1969).

(2) D. R. Johnson and W. H. Watson, submitted for publication.

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(6) J. C. Morrow, presented at the National Meeting of the American Crystallographic Association, Gatlinburg, Tenn., June 1965.

(7) S. J. Gruber, C. M. Harris, E. Kohot, S. L. Lenzer, T. N. Lockyer, and E. Sinn, *Aust. J. Chem.*, **20**, 2403 (1967).

(8) W. E. Hatfield, Y. Muto, H. B. Jonassen, and J. S. Paschal, *Inorg. Chem.*, **4**, 97 (1965).

N-O stretching bands at 1200 and 1222 cm^{-1} were observed. This indicates the presence of two distinct types of N-oxide ligands in the complex. The far-infrared spectrum of the complex was not resolved sufficiently to obtain accurate frequencies for the copper-chlorine vibrational modes. Hatfield and Whyman reported copper-chlorine modes at 339, 316, and 296 cm^{-1} for the green modification of the dichlorobis(4-methylpyridine 1-oxide)copper(II) complex.³ Only the band at 339 cm^{-1} is associated with the green trans square-planar complex, and the remaining two bands probably can be assigned to the yellow form. The two frequencies 316 and 296 cm^{-1} are consistent with those observed for the yellow form of dichlorobis(2,6-pyridine 1-oxide)copper(II), 319 and 297 cm^{-1} , and dichlorobis-(2,4,6-trimethylpyridine 1-oxide)copper(II), 317 and 303 cm^{-1} .

A yellow plateletlike crystal having the dimensions $0.25 \times 0.06 \times 0.98$ mm was used in collecting all intensity data. The crystal was mounted with the long axis coincident with the spindle axis of the instrument. The unit cell parameters were determined at room temperature from an a axis rotation and an $0kl$ Weissenberg photograph, both calibrated with superimposed NaCl powder lines, $a = 5.6402$ Å. The photographs were obtained using zirconium-filtered Mo $K\alpha$ radiation.

Crystal Data

$[(\text{CH}_3\text{C}_5\text{H}_4\text{NO})_2\text{CuCl}_2]_2$, mol wt 705.4, crystallizes in the monoclinic space group $P2_1/n$ with $a = 7.368$ (10), $b = 19.857$ (5), $c = 10.773$ (5) Å, $\beta = 111^\circ 25$ (10)', $Z = 2$, $V = 1468.3$ Å³, $\mu = 19.00$ cm^{-1} (Mo $K\alpha$), $d_{\text{obsd}} = 1.60$ g cm^{-3} , and $d_{\text{calcd}} = 1.59$ g cm^{-3} . The systematic absences are: $0k0$, $k = 2n + 1$; $h0l$, $h + l = 2n + 1$ (observed on $hk0$ and $h0l$ precession and $0kl$ Weissenberg photographs). The errors in the cell edges are the average deviations calculated from measurements of several higher angle reflections or layer lines. The error in the angle is the average deviation calculated from several measurements of the same angle. The density was measured by the flotation technique using a mixture of chloroform and bromoform.

Three-dimensional intensity data were collected through the seventh level ($0kl-7kl$) with a Philips PAILRED diffractometer using equiinclination geometry and a continuous ω -scan technique. Mo $K\alpha$ radiation ($\lambda 0.71069$ Å) and a silicon monochromator crystal [$d(111) = 3.1355$ Å] were used. The ω -scan range varied from 2.0° for the zero level to 4.0° for the seventh level and a scan speed of $0.5^\circ/\text{min}$ was used throughout. In general all of the nonequivalent reflections of the types hkl and $hk\bar{l}$ were scanned up to a 2θ limit of 51.6° . For the zero level, where $0kl = 0k\bar{l}$, the equivalent reflections were averaged to give one unique set of data. Several reference reflections were monitored throughout the data collection period, and the intensities decreased by 15% during this time. The zero-level data were retaken and the decrease in intensity was uniform for all reflections. Since the complex is thermodynamically unstable, the deterioration upon exposure to X-rays was expected. The standard reflections were used initially to scale the levels together.

A total of 2213 nonequivalent reflections were obtained, of which 1459 were tabulated as having an observed intensity. An intensity was designated as observed if the intensity was greater than twice the calculated standard deviation for the reflection. The raw data were reduced to the structure factors using a standard data reduction program with Lorentz and polarization corrections applied to the data.⁹ Standard

(9) A listing of all computer programs may be found in the Ph.D. dissertation of N. R. Stemple, Texas Christian University, 1970.

deviations for the structure factors were assigned on the basis of counting statistics. Included in the standard deviation is a term for instrument instability which was chosen as 3% of the magnitude of the observed raw intensity. The standard deviation is given by

$$\sigma(F_o) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{Lp}} \sqrt{\frac{N_S + RN_B + (0.03I_o)^2}{I_o}}$$

$$I_o = K(N_S - RN_B)$$

where N_S is the total count obtained during a scan cycle, N_B is the total background count, R is a constant which scales the background count time to the total scan time, I_o is the raw magnitude of the peak, and K is a scaling constant for the raw data.

If a cylindrical shape is assumed for the crystal, the maximum error introduced in the structure factor by neglecting the absorption correction is approximately 11%. An absorption correction program for Weissenberg geometry¹⁰ was used to make the necessary corrections. The program is general and depends upon the equations of the crystal faces and not on the crystal class. The maximum and minimum transmission factors for the intensity were calculated as 0.891 and 0.640, respectively.

The scattering factors of Cromer and Waber¹¹ were used for all nonhydrogen atoms. The scattering factors of copper and chlorine were corrected for the real part of the anomalous dispersion using the values of Cromer.¹² The hydrogen scattering factors were those calculated by Stewart, Davidson, and Simpson.¹³

Structure Determination

A three-dimensional Patterson map was calculated with the origin peak removed. Evaluation of the Harker planes and Harker lines from the map indicated the vector (0.05, 0.12, 0.16) was a copper-copper vector. This places two copper atoms within approximately 3 Å of each other, which is consistent with a dimeric structure for the complex. Further evaluation of the map gave the chlorine atomic positions as (0.29 0.07, 0.27) and (-0.02, 0.18, -0.08). The vectors generated from the assignment of these heavy-atom positions accounted for all of the large peaks in the map.

The positions of the heavy atoms were used to calculate structure factors for the 894 reflections with $(\sin \theta)/\lambda \leq 0.45$, and a conventional R value of 0.47 was obtained, where $R = \Sigma |F_o| - |F_c| / \Sigma |F_o|$. A three-dimensional Fourier map was computed using the calculated phases from structure factors if $2F_o \geq F_c$. Reasonable positions for two oxygen and two nitrogen atoms were found, and a structure factor calculation based on the coordinates of a copper atom and two chlorine, two oxygen, and two nitrogen atoms yielded an $R = 0.44$ for the 894 reflections. Two cycles of least-squares refinement with isotropic temperature factors improved the agreement to $R = 0.37$. Tentative coordinates for several ring carbon atoms were

(10) J. A. Ibers, Northwestern University, absorption correction program for Weissenberg geometry; modified for the IBM 1800 by N. R. Stemple, Texas Christian University, 1969.

(11) D. T. Cromer and J. T. Waber, *Acta Crystallogr.*, **18**, 104 (1965).

(12) D. T. Cromer, *ibid.*, **18**, 17 (1965).

(13) R. F. Stewart, E. R. Davidson, and W. T. Simpson, *J. Chem. Phys.*, **42**, 3175 (1965).

included in a structure factor calculation, and R dropped to 0.30. A new three-dimensional Fourier map revealed the positions of the remaining nonhydrogen atoms. A structure factor calculation which included all of the atomic positions gave $R = 0.22$ for the 894 reflections.

Anisotropic temperature factors were assigned to the copper atom. Three cycles of full-matrix least-squares refinement reduced the R factor to $R = 0.087$. $R(\text{wtd})$ was calculated as 0.079 at the conclusion of the refinement. $R(\text{wtd})$ is defined as $R(\text{wtd}) = \sum w |F_o| - |F_c| / \sum w |F_o|$. The weighting scheme used in the refinement was $w = [1/\sigma(F_o)]^2$.

Refinement with anisotropic thermal parameters assigned to the chlorine atoms yielded $R = 0.076$ and $R(\text{wtd}) = 0.066$ for the same 894 reflections. The inclusion of anisotropic thermal parameters for the chlorine atoms was found to be significant at the $\alpha = 0.005$ level based on Hamilton's significance test.¹⁴

Anisotropic thermal parameters were assigned to all the remaining atoms, and three cycles of full-matrix refinement were carried out for the 1469 observed reflections. The R factor dropped from $R = 0.102$ to $R = 0.083$ at the conclusion of the refinement. All of the last shifts were less than the estimated standard deviations of the parameters, which were calculated from the inverse of the normal-equations matrix.

Bond lengths calculated from the final positional parameters indicated a variation in the C-C bond lengths of one of the ring systems. The calculated C-C bond lengths for this ring were C(8)-C(9) = 1.28, C(9)-C(10) = 1.39, C(10)-C(11) = 1.41, and C(11)-C(12) = 1.30 Å. Two of the bond lengths are much shorter than expected. A three-dimensional difference Fourier technique¹⁵ was used to examine the positions of the atoms in the distorted ring. New parameters always refined to the original positions. All other bond lengths were within 2σ of the expected values.

Since the carbon atoms did not refine to chemically reasonable positions, the data were analyzed for systematic errors. Plots of the function $Q_s = \sum (|F_o| - |F_c|) / \sigma(F_o)$ for incremental ranges of F_o , $(\sin \theta) / \lambda$, h , k , and l indicated the presence of systematic errors in level scaling and as a function of the Bragg angle θ . The least-squares program refines only an overall scale factor, and the errors in scaling of the levels are not minimized during refinement unless they can be absorbed by the temperature factors. The θ dependence was found to be associated with an instrument error which depended upon the counter angle. This was traced to a faulty part which was replaced.

The data could be corrected to provide proper scaling and to compensate for the instrument malfunction. The forms of the corrections were determined from the plots of the Q_s function for incremental ranges of h and $\sin 2\psi$, where h is the rotation axis index and 2ψ is the counter angle for a particular reflection. The maximum corrections were 7% for scaling of the levels and 5% for the errors associated with the counter angle. A re-collection of some data indicated the instrument error correction was adequate.

Least-squares refinement with all atoms and anisotropic thermal parameters yielded $R = 0.052$ and

$R(\text{wtd}) = 0.049$ for 1210 reflections of the corrected data set. This may be compared with $R = 0.063$ and $R(\text{wtd}) = 0.059$ for the uncorrected set. The C-C bond lengths which had been too short were now observed as C(8)-C(9) = 1.37 and C(11)-C(12) = 1.39 Å. All other bond lengths changed by less than two standard deviations.

The structural model is chemically reasonable, and the data corrections appear to be justified. The complex is an unstable intermediate which decomposes slowly upon exposure to X-rays, and some peculiarities might be expected to occur in the anisotropic temperature factors. The thermal parameters of O(1), which is located at the point of bond breaking, are abnormal; however, the thermal parameters probably have absorbed some of the inaccuracies in the data and physical interpretation may be questionable.

Ring hydrogen positions were calculated by assuming the hydrogen atoms were in the plane of the ring at a distance of 1.08 Å from the carbon atoms. The inclusion of the ring hydrogen atoms in the structure factor calculation yielded $R = 0.050$ and $R(\text{wtd}) = 0.048$ for 1210 reflections. The addition of the hydrogen atoms to the model was significant at the $\alpha = 0.01$ level. Calculation of the structure factors for all 1469 observed reflections gave $R = 0.061$ and $R(\text{wtd}) = 0.052$. Those reflections initially assigned a zero magnitude generally were found to have a calculated magnitude less than the observed minimum. The final observed and calculated structure factors are given in Table I.

A final three-dimensional difference Fourier map was calculated and the largest peak was $0.5 \text{ e}^-/\text{Å}^3$. Some peaks about the methyl carbon atoms were observed and might correspond to methyl hydrogen atoms, but no attempt was made to assign these positions.

All shifts of the parameters during the final cycle of full-matrix refinement were less than one-seventh of the estimated standard deviations of the parameters. The final positional and thermal parameters are given in Table II. The estimated standard deviations of the parameters were calculated from the inverse of the normal-equations matrix of the last least-squares cycle.

Discussion

The calculated bond lengths and bond angles are given in Table III. Also included in the table are several nonbonding distances which determine the packing in the unit cell. Figures 1 and 2 are projections of the unit cell along the crystallographic a and c axes, and the numbering of the atoms can be related to these figures.

Several features distinguish this structure from previously reported oxygen-bridged dimeric copper(II) complexes of aromatic N -oxides.¹⁶⁻¹⁹ The two Cu-O bonds in the bridging system are significantly different, 1.957 (6) and 2.153 (6) Å. The copper(II) ion is five-coordinate with chlorine atom Cl(1) more tightly bonded in the apical site of a square-based pyramidal

(16) (a) R. S. Sager, R. J. Williams, and W. H. Watson, *Inorg. Chem.*, **6**, 951 (1967); (b) *ibid.*, **8**, 694 (1969).

(17) R. S. Sager and W. H. Watson, *ibid.*, **7**, 2035 (1968).

(18) J. C. Morrow, Presented at the National Meeting of the American Crystallographic Association, Gatlinburg, Tenn., June 1965.

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(14) W. C. Hamilton, *Acta Crystallogr.*, **18**, 502 (1965).

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TABLE III
INTERATOMIC DISTANCES (Å) AND BOND ANGLES (DEG) FOR
DICHLOROBIS(4-METHYLPYRIDINE 1-OXIDE)COPPER(II),
YELLOW MODIFICATION^a

Cu-Cl(1)	2.354 (3)	N(2)-C(8)	1.340 (10)
Cu-Cl(2)	2.258 (3)	N(2)-C(12)	1.346 (9)
Cu-O(1)	1.957 (6)	C(8)-C(9)	1.386 (14)
Cu-O(1')	2.153 (6)	C(9)-C(10)	1.371 (11)
Cu-O(2)	1.925 (5)	C(10)-C(11)	1.384 (12)
O(1)-N(1)	1.349 (9)	C(11)-C(12)	1.374 (13)
N(1)-C(2)	1.348 (14)	C(12)-C(M2)	1.532 (15)
Cu-Cu	3.348 (2)	O(2)-C(2)	3.02 (1)
O(1)-O(1)	2.391 (7)	O(2)-N(1)	2.95 (1)
O(1)-O(2)	2.760 (9)	Cu-H(2)	3.10
Cl(1)-Cl(2)	3.990 (4)	Cu-H(8)	2.84
Cl(1)-O(1)	3.216 (7)	Cl(1)-H(8)	2.89
Cl(1)-O(2)	3.255 (5)	Cl(1)-H(2)	2.71
Cl(2)-O(1)	3.116 (6)	Cl(1)-H(6)	2.97
Cl(2)-O(2)	3.117 (6)	Cl(1)-H(26)	2.62
N(1)-C(6)	1.347 (10)	Cl(2)-H(8)	2.89
C(2)-C(3)	1.382 (12)	Cl(22)-H(9)	2.66
C(3)-C(4)	1.393 (11)	O(24)-H(5)	2.55
C(4)-C(5)	1.404 (15)	O(24)-H(6)	2.72
C(5)-C(6)	1.407 (12)	Cl(24)-H(5)	2.77
C(4)-C(M1)	1.514 (13)	Cl(24)-H(43)	2.66
O(2)-N(2)	1.349 (10)	C(M2)-C(46)	3.41
Cl(1)CuCl(2)	119.8 (1)	N(1)C(2)C(3)	119.0 (7)
Cl(1)CuO(1)	96.1 (2)	C(2)C(3)C(4)	120.2 (9)
Cl(1)CuO(2)	103.0 (2)	C(3)C(4)C(5)	118.6 (8)
Cl(1)CuO(1')	98.5 (2)	C(3)C(4)C(M1)	121.9 (8)
Cl(2)CuO(1)	95.1 (2)	C(4)C(5)C(6)	120.5 (7)
Cl(2)CuO(1')	136.3 (3)	C(5)C(6)N(1)	117.2 (9)
Cl(2)CuO(2)	96.0 (2)	CuO(2)N(2)	123.9 (4)
O(1)CuO(1)	71.0 (2)	O(2)N(2)C(8)	123.0 (7)
O(1)CuO(2)	154.1 (5)	C(12)N(2)C(8)	121.1 (8)
O(2)CuO(1)	85.0 (2)	N(2)C(8)C(9)	119.8 (7)
CuO(1)Cu	109.0 (2)	C(8)C(9)C(10)	120.2 (8)
CuO(1)N(1)	123.6 (5)	C(9)C(10)C(11)	118.8 (9)
O(1)N(1)C(2)	118.5 (6)	C(9)C(10)C(M2)	120.2 (9)
O(1)N(1)C(6)	117.0 (7)	C(10)C(11)C(12)	119.7 (7)
C(6)N(1)C(2)	124.5 (7)	C(11)C(12)N(2)	120.4 (7)

^a Figures in parentheses are estimated standard deviation of the last significant digit.

arises as a consequence of several factors. These include the compressed O(1)-Cu-O(1') bond angle of 71°, due to oxygen bridging, and the expanded Cl(2)-Cu-O bond angles of 95 and 96° which arise from the interaction of Cl(2) with each of the ring systems. The Cl(2) atom is distorted from the basal plane by an interaction with the ortho ring hydrogen attached to C(8). The interaction distance is 2.89 Å. The two chlorine atoms achieve positions of minimum steric interaction consistent with the fivefold geometry.

The approximate square-based pyramidal geometry about the copper ion has been observed for the 1:1 pyridine *N*-oxide complex¹⁵ and the 2:3 2-methylpyridine 1-oxide complex.¹⁷ Both complexes have chloride ions occupying the apical site of the pyramid. The Cu-Cl bond lengths of 2.836 and 2.635 Å may be compared to the 2.354-Å distance in this complex. This is a significant structural difference and indicates a much stronger coordination.

The one Cu-O bond length of 2.153 Å in the bridging system is significantly longer than Cu-O bond lengths observed in the bridged complexes of pyridine 1-oxide (1.98 and 2.04 Å)¹⁵ and 2-methylpyridine 1-oxide (1.98 and 2.01 Å).¹⁷ In the bridging system the Cu-O(1)-Cu angle is 109.0° and the O(1)-Cu-O(1') angle is 71.0°. The oxygen atoms are compressed to within 2.39 Å of each other and the Cu-Cu distance is 3.348 Å. These angles and distances are comparable to those

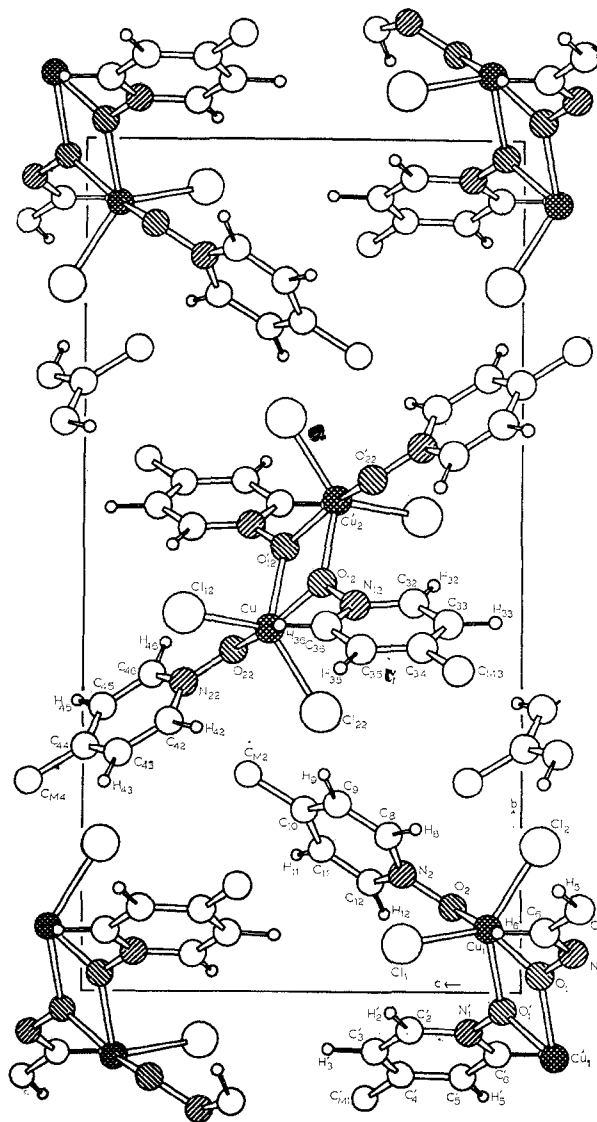


Figure 1.—Projection of the structure of dichlorobis(4-methylpyridine 1-oxide)copper(II) onto the *bc* plane.

observed in the 1:1 pyridine 1-oxide complex¹⁵ where the Cu-O-Cu angle is 107.3°, the O-Cu-O angle is 72.2°, and the O-O and Cu-Cu distances are 2.37 and 3.245 Å, respectively. The greater Cu-Cu separation for the complex reported here is due to the elongated Cu-O bond.

The distorted copper-oxygen bridging system is consistent with a reduction in the efficiency of the superexchange mechanism. The elongation of the Cu-O bond reduces the overlap of the magnetic orbitals and leads to a reduction in the magnitude of the exchange interaction. An insufficient quantity of sample has prevented an accurate determination of the magnetic moment; however, the magnetic moment of the corresponding bromide complex is reported to be 1.33 BM.⁸ A recent communication has described the structure of the complex dibromobis(pyridine 1-oxide)copper(II)²⁰ which has a magnetic moment of 1.4 BM at room temperature.⁷ The bridging system in this complex is similar to the one reported here. The Cu-O bond lengths in the bridging system are 1.975

(20) A. D. Mighell, C. W. Reimann, and A. Santoro, *Chem. Commun.*, 204 (1970).

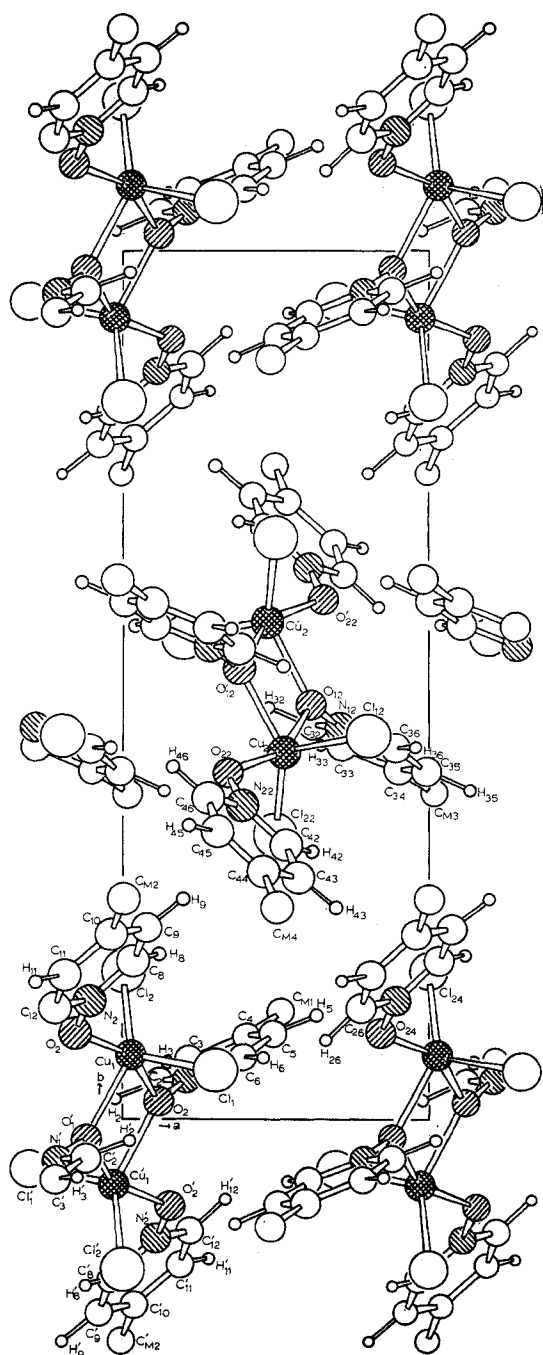


Figure 2.—Projection of the structure of dichlorobis(4-methylpyridine 1-oxide)copper(II) onto the *ab* plane.

and 2.162 Å. On the basis of the similarities of the two bridging systems, the yellow modification should have an intermediate moment. The increase in magnetic moment, the elongation of the Cu–O bond, and the short Cu–Cl(1) distance are all intimately related.

A unit weighted least-squares plane fitted to the bridging *N*-oxide ligand gives the equation $0.429x + 0.903y - 0.007z - 0.032 = 0$. The average deviation of the six ring atoms from the plane is 0.006 Å, and all atoms lie within one standard deviation of the plane. The ring is planar within experimental error. The oxygen atom is 0.04 Å from the ring plane and the N–O bond makes an angle of 1.7° with the plane. This distortion is consistent with that observed in

the 1:1 pyridine 1-oxide complex, where the angle is 1.4°. The methyl carbon atom lies within the plane of the ring. All of the C–C bond distances, which average 1.396 Å, are within one standard deviation of the expected value of 1.395 Å. The N–C distances of 1.347 and 1.348 Å are normal.

The dihedral angle between the normal to the copper–oxygen bridging plane and the normal to the bridging pyridine ring plane is 57.6°. This is smaller than the 70.0° angle or the 89° angle observed in the 1:1 pyridine 1-oxide and the 2:3 2-methylpyridine 1-oxide complexes. The orientation of the ring is determined by nonbonding interactions with the apical chlorine atom Cl(1), the oxygen atom of the second *N*-oxide ligand O(2), the oxygen atom O(24), and chlorine atom Cl(24). The two ortho hydrogens on the ring are pointing toward the apical chloride ions, but the ring does not achieve perpendicular orientation due to interactions with the adjacent dimer. The N–O bond makes an angle of 14.1° with the bridging plane.

A unit weighted least-squares plane fitted to the nonbridging *N*-oxide ligand yields the equation $-0.457x + 0.704y - 0.544z - 1.304 = 0$. The average deviation for the six ring atoms from the plane is 0.006 Å, and the ring is planar within experimental error. The oxygen atom is 0.038 Å out of the plane and the N–O bond makes an angle of 1.6° with the ring plane. The methyl carbon is 2.1° out of the ring plane. The average C–C bond length of 1.379 Å is within experimental error of the expected value, and the average N–C bond length of 1.343 Å also is normal.

Figures 1 and 2 show the dimer units are not associated by intermolecular interactions between chlorine and copper atoms. The short nonbonding distances given in Table III indicate the packing restrictions imposed by interactions between the atoms. The dimer units are held in the crystal lattice by van der Waals forces.

The method of preparing the 2:1 trans square-planar complex from the 1:1 4-methylpyridine 1-oxide complex, together with the structure of the yellow modification, indicate the yellow modification may be an intermediate in the formation of the thermodynamically stable trans square-planar form. Although the structure of the 1:1 complex has not been determined, magnetic studies indicate the structure is similar to that of the 1:1 pyridine 1-oxide complex.²¹ In solution, each copper ion in the 1:1 dimer can be considered to have a cis square-planar geometry. Additional ligand initially adds to the bridged square-planar structure in the trans configuration. The geometry about each copper ion can be thought of as a square-based pyramid with the extra *N*-oxide ligand in the apical site. The *N*-oxide ligand is a stronger ligand than the chloride ion, and the complex tends to rearrange with a chloride ion ending up in the apical site. Whether this is a concerted or a two-step process is not known. The Cu–O bond cis to the added *N*-oxide ligand elongates and breaks. This probably is assisted by steric interactions. The resulting product is the 2:1 trans square-planar complex. When the *N*-oxide ligand contains methyl groups in the ortho positions, the ligand may remain at the apical site due to steric interactions. When either bridge bond breaks, a

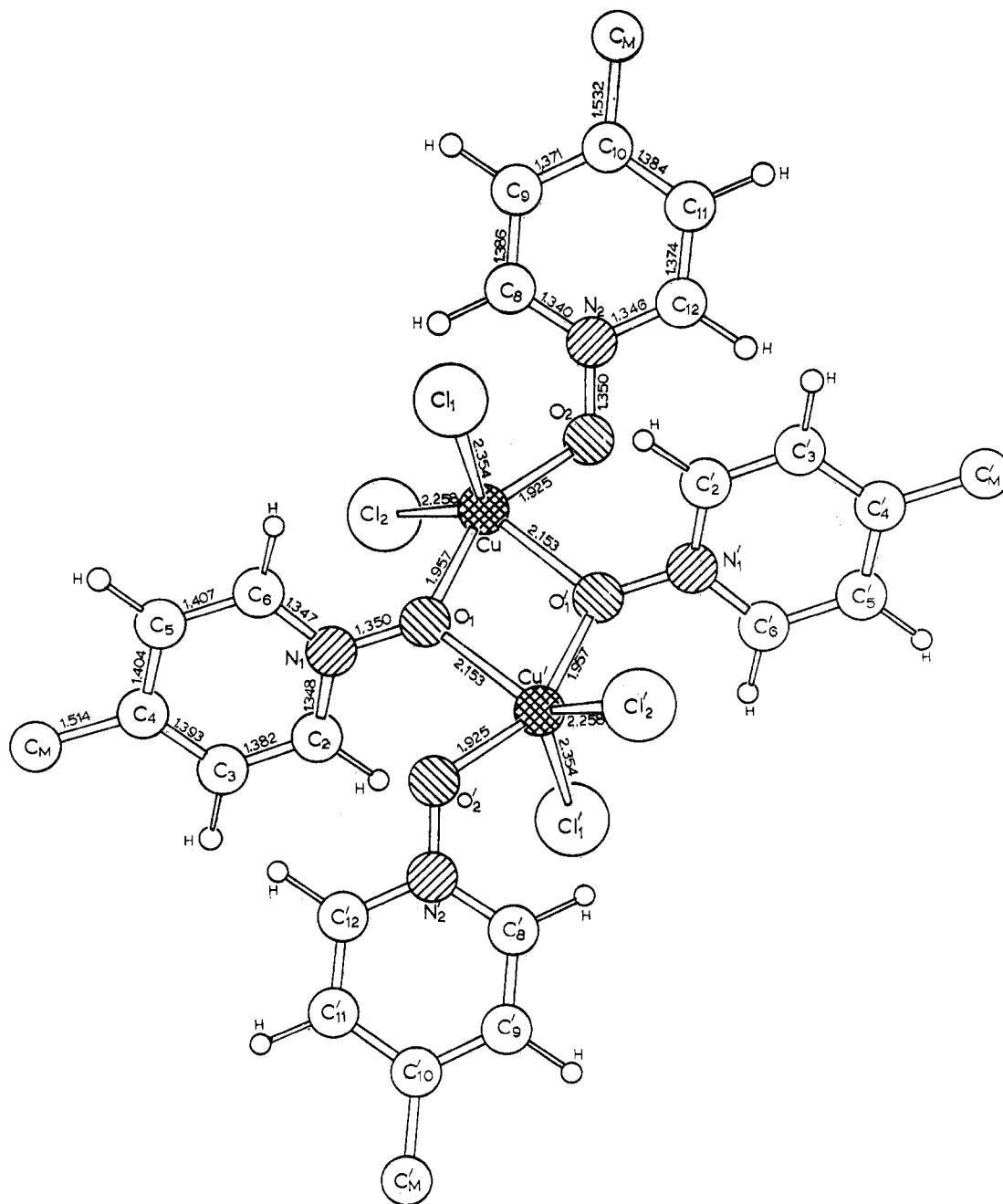


Figure 3.—Projection of the structure of dichlorobis(4-methylpyridine 1-oxide)copper(II) onto the plane of the copper-oxygen bridge.

structure intermediate between tetrahedral and cis square-planar is obtained. If this material crystallizes rapidly enough, the yellow 2:1 monomer is obtained. In solution the complex rearranges to the more stable trans configuration. We postulate the yellow 2:1 dimer molecule and the yellow 2:1 monomer molecule are both intermediates in the formation of the trans isomer.

The two forms may be identified by the magnitudes of their magnetic moments.

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