

Crystal Structure of $(\text{Et}_2\text{Me}_2\text{N})_3\text{Cu}_4\text{Cl}_{11}$: An Antiferromagnetic Chain of Ferromagnetically Coupled Tetramers

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Crystals of the title compound are orthorhombic, space group $Pna2_1$, with $a = 25.155(5)$ Å, $b = 16.080(3)$ Å, $c = 9.027(2)$ Å, and $V = 3651.2(13)$ Å³ with $Z = 4$ and $\rho_{\text{calc}} = 1.729$ g cm⁻³. The structure consists of tribridged $\text{Cu}_4\text{Cl}_{11}^{3-}$ tetrameric units that are linked into infinite chains through the formation of bibridged Cu_2Cl_2 groups. Refinement of 2915 observed reflections ($|F| \geq 3\sigma(F)$) yielded a value of $R = 0.0516$ and $R_w = 0.0600$. Magnetic susceptibility measurements in the range 4–100 K revealed the presence of dominant ferromagnetic coupling at high temperature with the onset of substantially weaker antiferromagnetic coupling at lower temperature. The data are consistent with ferromagnetic coupling within the tetrameric units ($J/k \sim 50$ K). The ground states of these units ($S = 2$) are essentially fully occupied before the antiferromagnetic interactions become significant. These interactions ($J/k \sim -2.6$ K) link the units into an effective $S = 2$ antiferromagnetic chain.

Introduction

Copper(II) halides provide a plethora of structural characteristics. This is due both to the stereochemical flexibility of the Cu(II) ions¹ and to the nonstereospecific nature and bridging capability of the halide ions. The presence of multiple coordination geometries within the same structure,² as well as the almost continuous distribution of geometries,³ belies the relative insensitivity of the coordination potential surface for copper(II) halides. The ability of the halide ions to form μ_2 or μ_3 bridges, the ability of one to three halides to bridge adjacent copper ions, and the existence of both normal and semicoordinate Cu–X bonds provides a nearly infinite, and certainly unpredictable, array of solid state structures. Certain well-defined classes of structures are formed,⁴ but other groups of compounds incorporate aspects of several of the structure types in a single material.

Associated with this structural richness is an associated wealth of physical behavior. Much of the interest has focused on spectroscopic properties.⁵ The thermal behavior, with respect to thermochromism⁶ or with the onset of the dynamic Jahn–Teller effect,⁷ has also attracted considerable attention. Our

interest has centered on the influence of coordination geometry and bridging characteristics on the solid state magnetic behavior.⁷

In this paper, we report on a novel compound of stoichiometry $\text{A}_3\text{Cu}_4\text{Cl}_{11}$ encountered in our study of the crystal chemistry of the $\text{Et}_{4-n}\text{Me}_n\text{NX}/\text{CuX}_2$ system. Structurally, it embodies elements both of the face-sharing chains of distorted octahedra found in several ACuCl_3 or CuX_2L systems⁹ and of the edge-sharing polyhedra present in many $\text{A}_2\text{Cu}_2\text{X}_6$ dimer chains.¹⁰ The magnetic behavior is such as to yield an $S = 2$ antiferromagnetic chain at low temperatures. Thus, this represents the first realization of a model system to test the Haldane conjecture for spin systems with $S \geq 2$.

Experimental Section

Brown crystals of the title compound were prepared by the recrystallization of $(\text{Et}_2\text{Me}_2\text{N})\text{CuCl}_3$ from CH_3CN solution containing a small excess of CuCl_2 . The latter was added to prevent the formation of $(\text{Et}_2\text{Me}_2\text{N})_2\text{CuCl}_4$. Samples of $\text{Et}_2\text{Me}_2\text{NCl}$ had been prepared by the reaction of Et_2MeN with MeI , followed by precipitation of AgI upon addition of AgOH and subsequent acidification with HCl . The trichloride was prepared by crystallization from a solution of 1-propanol containing an approximately 1:1 ratio of CuCl_2 and $\text{Et}_2\text{Me}_2\text{NCl}$.

X-ray diffraction data were collected on a Syntex P21 diffractometer upgraded to Siemens P4 specifications utilizing the XSCANS set of programs.¹¹ Important details are specified in Table 1. A small crystal of maximum dimension 0.4 mm was found to be orthorhombic, space group $Pnam$ or $Pna2_1$, with $a = 25.155(5)$ Å, $b = 16.080(3)$ Å, and $c = 9.027(2)$ Å with $V = 3651.2(13)$ Å³ to give $\rho_{\text{calc}} = 1.729$ g cm⁻³ for $Z = 4$. The lattice constants were based on the least-squares refinement of 50 high-angle reflections ($25 \leq 2\theta \leq 30^\circ$) obtained with $\text{Mo K}\alpha$ radiation. A total of 3414 reflections (2915 with $|F| \geq 3\sigma(F)$) were

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Table 1. Crystallographic Data

C ₁₈ H ₄₈ Cl ₁₁ Cu ₄ N ₃	space group <i>Pna2</i> ₁ (No. 33)
fw 950.7	<i>T</i> = 22 °C
<i>a</i> = 25.155(5) Å	<i>λ</i> = 0.710 73 Å
<i>b</i> = 16.080(3) Å	<i>ρ</i> _{calc} = 1.729 g cm ⁻³
<i>c</i> = 9.027(2) Å	<i>μ</i> = 3.12 cm ⁻¹
<i>V</i> = 3651.2(13) Å ³	<i>R</i> (<i>F</i> _o) ^a = 0.0506
<i>Z</i> = 4	<i>R</i> _w (<i>F</i> _o) ^b = 0.062

$$^a R = \sum ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \sum |F_o|. \quad ^b R_w = [\sum w(|F_o| - |F_c|)^2 / \sum |F_o|^2]^{1/2}.$$

collected out to $2\theta = 45^\circ$ via an ω scan with variable scan speeds between 3 and 30°/min. Semiempirical absorption corrections were made ($\mu = 3.12 \text{ mm}^{-1}$) based on ψ scan data, with transmission factors ranging from 0.331 to 0.605.

Structure solution and refinement were carried out in a straightforward fashion utilizing the SHELXTL PLUS crystallographic programs on a Micro VAX 3100 workstation.¹² Intensity statistics indicated the choice of a noncentrosymmetric space group, so solution and refinement were carried out in the space group *Pna2*₁. Initial copper and chlorine positions were obtained via the direct methods routine TREF, and nitrogen and carbon positions were located on subsequent electron difference syntheses. Hydrogen atoms were included at calculated positions. Refinement with anisotropic thermal parameters proceeded to a final *R* value of 0.051 ($R = \sum ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \sum |F_o|$) with $R_w = 0.061$ ($R_w = \sum w(|F_o| - |F_c|)^2 / \sum w|F_o|^2$) where $w^{-1} = \sigma^2(F) + 0.0009F^2$, for 326 parameters. The goodness of fit was 1.40, and the maximum residual on the final difference map was 0.6 e/Å³. Extinction corrections were applied by the relation $F^* = F[1 + 0.002\chi F^2/\sin(2\theta)]^{-1/4}$ with $\chi = 0.00058(5)$. Refinement of a parameter to determine the correct handedness for the coordinate system of this polar space group was indeterminate. Final positional parameters are given in Table 2 with significant Cu–Cl bond distances and angles given in Tables 3 and 4 respectively. Complete listings of all bond distances and angles are included in the supplementary material.

Magnetic data were collected on a PAR vibrating-sample magnetometer over the temperature range 2.0–100 K on a powdered sample weighing 0.1816 g. The applied magnetic field was 5000 Oe.

Structure Description

The structure consists of discrete cations and of copper(II) chloride anionic chains running parallel to the crystallographic *a* axis. Four crystallographically independent Cu(II) ions exist, two with severely tetragonally elongated octahedral coordination geometry (Cu(3) and Cu(4)) and two with distorted square pyramidal geometry (Cu(1) and Cu(2)). This can be seen in Figure 1. The equatorial Cu–Cl bond distances are typically 2.23–2.34 Å. In the square pyramidal coordinated species, the apical Cu–Cl distances are 2.603(3) Å for Cu(2)–Cl(2) and 2.647(3) Å for Cu(1)–Cl(3) while the smaller of the *trans* angles are 157.7 and 158.1°, respectively. Each elongated octahedron contains one shorter semicoordinate Cu···Cl bond (2.8–2.9 Å) and one very long Cu···Cl interaction (≥ 3.2 Å).

Each Cl⁻ ion is involved in a μ_2 bridge between pairs of Cu(II) ions, resulting in the formation of the anionic chains. The existence of only bridging halide ions is consistent with the lack of hydrogen bonding or strong electrostatic interaction capability of the cations. Within each chain, tetrameric units can be envisioned in which adjacent coordination polyhedra share faces, as seen in Figure 2. The two distorted octahedral polyhedra are in the middle of each unit, and the square pyramidal polyhedra are at the ends. These define tribridged linkages. The chains are then formed by edge sharing of square pyramidal polyhedra between adjacent tetrameric units. In this manner, bibringed linkages are produced. Systematic variations in the lengths of the equatorial Cu–Cl bonds are associated with the nature of the μ_2 linkages. Those involving two

Table 2. Atomic Coordinates ($\times 10^4$) and Equivalent Isotropic Displacement Coefficients ($\text{\AA}^2 \times 10^3$)

	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	<i>U</i> (eq) ^a
Cu(1)	970(1)	7254(1)	2264	38(1)
Cu(2)	2255(1)	7863(1)	1727(2)	38(1)
Cu(3)	-262(1)	7643(1)	2408(2)	40(1)
Cu(4)	-1503(1)	7519(1)	1912(2)	37(1)
Cl(1)	2910(1)	8235(2)	3407(5)	52(1)
Cl(2)	2840(1)	6533(2)	1518(5)	48(1)
Cl(3)	388(1)	8617(2)	2534(5)	53(1)
Cl(4)	284(1)	6916(2)	705(5)	53(1)
Cl(5)	-853(1)	6537(2)	2457(5)	45(1)
Cl(6)	-806(1)	8320(2)	4046(5)	65(1)
Cl(7)	585(1)	6587(2)	4162(5)	67(1)
Cl(8)	1539(1)	7469(2)	300(5)	54(1)
Cl(9)	1687(1)	7606(2)	3676(5)	59(1)
Cl(10)	2635(1)	8578(2)	-107(5)	63(1)
Cl(11)	-977(1)	8074(2)	158(5)	56(1)
N(1)	879(4)	4096(5)	2228(12)	45(3)
N(2)	810(5)	9139(6)	7215(13)	61(4)
C(4)	930(5)	4244(9)	3878(13)	61(5)
C(1)	1187(7)	3365(9)	1857(22)	129(9)
C(7)	812(6)	8250(8)	6897(22)	93(6)
C(6)	-79(5)	4564(8)	2282(22)	89(7)
C(3)	1625(7)	5078(9)	1590(29)	130(9)
C(5)	342(7)	4009(20)	1935(33)	277(24)
C(2)	1117(7)	4755(13)	1322(20)	135(10)
C(8)	358(10)	9571(16)	6448(29)	223(18)
C(10)	-131(7)	9078(15)	7605(33)	194(15)
C(9)	803(11)	9346(14)	8781(26)	246(24)
N(3)	2351(4)	1080(6)	1779(13)	49(3)
C(11)	2378(7)	924(10)	161(18)	88(7)
C(14)	1617(6)	83(12)	2218(25)	124(9)
C(12)	2794(8)	852(24)	2395(29)	286(26)
C(13)	2308(10)	1900(10)	2033(29)	204(16)
C(18)	3340(5)	695(11)	2084(27)	115(9)
C(16)	1784(6)	9293(11)	6623(29)	124(9)
C(17)	1954(13)	638(22)	2329(29)	428(34)
C(15)	1256(8)	9494(18)	6468(47)	244(23)

^a Equivalent isotropic *U* defined as one-third of the trace of the orthogonalized U_{ij} tensor.

Table 3. Bond Lengths (Å)

Cu(1)–Cu(3)	3.162(2)	Cu(1)–Cl(3)	2.647(3)
Cu(1)–Cl(4)	2.291(4)	Cu(1)–Cl(7)	2.240(4)
Cu(1)–Cl(8)	2.305(4)	Cu(1)–Cl(9)	2.281(3)
Cu(2)–Cl(1)	2.319(4)	Cu(2)–Cl(2)	2.603(3)
Cu(2)–Cl(8)	2.304(3)	Cu(2)–Cl(9)	2.304(4)
Cu(2)–Cl(10)	2.231(4)	Cu(2)–Cu(4a)	3.189(2)
Cu(3)–Cu(4)	3.160(2)	Cu(3)–Cl(3)	2.266(3)
Cu(3)–Cl(4)	2.370(4)	Cu(3)–Cl(5)	2.320(3)
Cu(3)–Cl(6)	2.290(4)	Cu(3)–Cl(11)	2.801(4)
Cu(4)–Cl(5)	2.325(3)	Cu(4)–Cl(6)	2.905(4)
Cu(4)–Cl(11)	2.247(4)	Cl(1)–Cu(4a)	2.339(4)
Cl(2)–Cu(4a)	2.277(3)		

equatorial bonds are longer than normal (2.28–2.34 Å), while the ones with one equatorial and one axial or semicoordinate bond tend to be shorter (2.23–2.29 Å).

For interpretation of the magnetic data, examination of possible interchain interactions is also important. Figure 2 shows that adjacent chains pack in a pseudo hexagonal array with the chains separated by the organic cations. Thus no significant exchange pathways link adjacent chains. Figure 2 also demonstrate that the structure is closely related to the ideal hexagonal ABX₃ structures, despite the loss of chloride ions from within the metal–halide chains. The observed *b*:*c* ratio is 1.781, very close to the ideal value of 1.732 for a hexagonal unit cell indexed on an orthorhombic lattice. Since the cations lack hydrogen bonding capabilities, the interaction between the chains and the cations is purely electrostatic. Similar packing is observed in (Me₄N)CuCl₃ and in (EtMe₃N)₄Cu₅Cl₁₄. In this latter structure, the smaller cation allows for a 4:5 cation:Cu

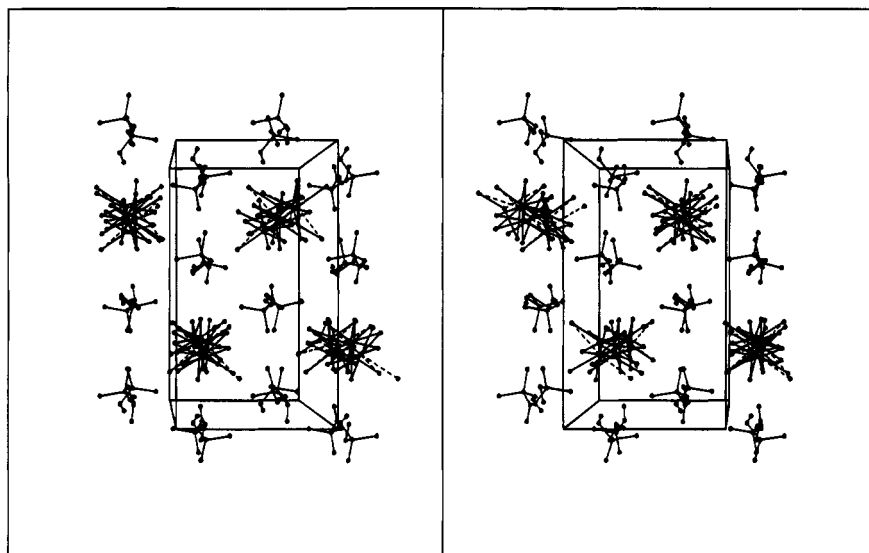


Figure 2. Stereographic packing diagram of the unit cell viewed parallel to the a axis.

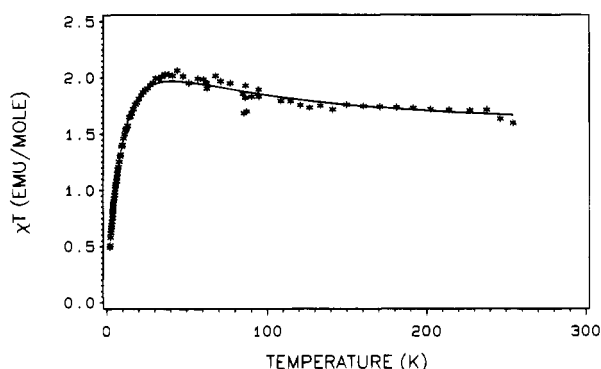


Figure 3. Plot of χT vs T . Solid curve is calculated with $J/k = 50$ K, $\theta = -10.5$ K, and $g = 2.00$.

Me_3EtN^+ and $\text{Me}_2\text{Et}_2\text{N}^+$ cations only. For $A = \text{Me}_4\text{N}^+$, a simple face-shared chain of octahedra is obtained.¹⁷ For larger cations, isolated oligomers are obtained with stoichiometry $A_n\text{-Cu}_n\text{Cl}_{3n}$ with $n = 2, 3$, or 4 .¹⁸ Indeed, even for the $\text{Me}_2\text{Et}_2\text{N}^+$ cation, an isolated $\text{Cu}_4\text{Cl}_{12}^{4-}$ cation can be obtained.¹⁹

This family is closely related to a recently reported family of $A_{n-1}\text{Ni}_n\text{Cl}_{3n-1}\text{L}_2$ salts with $n = 3$ and 5 .²⁰ These also contain oligomers of n face-shared polyhedra, with the bridged linkages connecting the oligomers into chains. However, in this case, the additional ligands coordinate to the two terminal Ni atoms of each oligomer, so that all polyhedra have octahedral coordination.

Magnetically, this is a member of a series of copper(II) halide oligomeric chains in which strong ferromagnetic coupling occurs within the oligomer and weaker exchange coupling exists between oligomers. At low temperature, the systems can be approximated as $S = n/2$ chains. Because of the nearly isotropic nature of the exchange coupling in copper(II) salts, these will be realizations of one-dimensional Heisenberg $S = n/2$ systems. Previous examples include $n = 2$ ($S = 1$) chains with both ferromagnetic and antiferromagnetic coupling between oligomers,²¹ $n = 3$ ($S = 3/2$) chains with ferromagnetic coupling,²² and $n = 5$ ($S = 5/2$) chains with antiferromagnetic coupling.¹⁶

This report provides the $S = 2$ antiferromagnetic chain member of the series.

It has not escaped our attention that the title compound may prove useful in an examination of the Haldane gap problem. Haldane²³ predicted that the low-temperature magnetic behavior of one-dimensional Heisenberg antiferromagnets is fundamentally different for integer and half-integer values of the spin. Half-integer values such as $S = 1/2$ have no energy gap between the ground state and the excited states; such systems retain an effective moment as the temperature is reduced to zero. On the other hand, for integer values, the ground state was predicted to be a singlet, separated from the first triplet excited state by an energy gap (the Haldane gap, Δ_H). As the temperature is reduced to zero, the effective moment of integer spin systems was predicted to vanish.

The existence of the Haldane gap, initially highly controversial, has now been well confirmed both theoretically²⁴ and experimentally for $S = 1$ systems based on chains containing Ni^{2+} ions. However, whether or not the Haldane gap exists for antiferromagnetic Heisenberg chains of $S = 2$ (or higher) spins remains an open question. The major obstacle preventing an experimental test is the absence of appropriate model systems. Ground states with $S = 2$ are found for high-spin Cr^{2+} and Fe^{2+} ions (d^4 and d^6 , respectively) in cubic crystal fields. However, the large anisotropies present in these ions make the Heisenberg

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model inappropriate. For these reasons, there have been no experimental tests of $S = 2$ Haldane chains.

The present compound has the potential to test the Haldane conjecture for the case of $S = 2$. As described above, the ferromagnetic coupling within the tetrameric units and the weak antiferromagnetic coupling between the tetramers connects the oligomer into an effective $S = 2$ antiferromagnetic linear chain at low temperatures. Investigation of the magnetic susceptibility and field-dependent magnetization at low temperatures is in progress.

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Supplementary Material Available: Tables of X-ray data collection parameters, complete bond distances and angles, hydrogen atom positions, and anisotropic thermal parameters and thermal ellipsoid plots of the cations (12 pages).

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