

Syntheses and Structures of Nickel(II) and Copper(II) Complexes of 2,6-Bis[(2-acetylphenyl)carbamoyl]pyridine: Effects of Molecular Structure on Crystal Lattice Architecture

T. Kawamoto,[†] B. S. Hammes,[†] R. Ostrander,[‡]
A. L. Rheingold,[‡] and A. S. Borovik^{*,†,§}

Departments of Chemistry, Kansas State University,
Manhattan, Kansas 66506, and University of Delaware,
Newark, Delaware 19716

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Metal complexes that assemble into specific supramolecular structures in crystal lattices have generated considerable interest because of their potential use in developing new materials.¹ A variety of different synthetic methods have been recently reported² that produce intricate lattice architectures: these include coordination networks formed by polyfunctional organic ligands and transition metal salts³ and supramolecular assemblies derived from helicates.⁴ However, it is still difficult to reliably predict lattice structure because several factors, such as solvent, counterion(s), and the geometry of the ligands bonded to the metal ion(s), influence the assembly process. We have been investigating the effects of ligand geometry and solvent on the lattice structure for neutral transition metal complexes derived from the chelating ligands 2,6-bis[(2-R-phenyl)carbamoyl]pyridine (R = acetyl or carbamoyl).⁵ These ligands contain a tridentate pyridyl diamidate chelate with appended groups

having additional donors that can weakly interact with coordinated metal ions. The molecular structures of the complexes are determined by the orientations of the appended groups which in turn can direct the assembly process during crystallization to produce varied lattice architectures. This concept is illustrated herein by the syntheses and structural analyses of the Cu(II) and Ni(II) complexes of 2,6-bis[(2-acetylphenyl)carbamoyl]pyridine, **H₂1**, a ligand which contains appended acetophenone groups.

Experimental Section

All reagents and solvents were purchased from commercial sources and used as received, unless noted otherwise. Elemental analysis of all compounds was performed by Desert Analytics, Inc., Tucson, AZ. All samples were dried in vacuo prior to analysis.

2,6-Bis[(2-acetylphenyl)carbamoyl]pyridine (H₂1). A solution of 2,6-pyridinedicarbonyl dichloride (1.0 g, 4.9 mmol) in 30 mL of THF was added dropwise to a solution of 2'-aminoacetophenone (1.5 g, 11 mmol) and triethylamine (2.0 g, 20 mmol) under a nitrogen atmosphere at 0 °C. When the addition was completed, the mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred an additional 1.5 h and volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in 150 mL of ethyl acetate and extracted with two 150 mL portions of water and 100 mL of brine and dried over Na₂SO₄. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to give a light yellow solid. Purification was accomplished by layering a concentrated CH₂Cl₂ solution of **H₂1** with cyclohexane to yield 1.4 g (69%) of **H₂1** as white crystals. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K, TMS): δ 13.13 (s, 2 H, OC-NH), 8.78 (d, 2 H, H_a), 8.46 (d, 2 H, H_b), 8.12 (t, 1 H, H_i), 7.91 (d, 2 H, H_d), 7.64 (t, 2 H, H_b), 7.23 (t, 2 H, H_c), 2.58 (s, 6 H, OC-CH₃). ¹³C NMR (100.4 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ 200.7, 162.6, 149.4, 139.0, 139.1, 134.1, 131.0, 125.2, 125.0, 123.3, 122.0, 28.3. FTIR (CH₂Cl₂, cm⁻¹): ν_{NH}(amide) = 3350 (w), 3209 (w, br); ν_{CO}(amide) = 1690 (s), ν_{CO}(ketone) = 1660 (s). FTIR (KBr, cm⁻¹): ν_{NH}(amide) = 3330 (s), 3189 (w, br); ν_{CO}(amide) = 1689 (s); ν_{CO}(ketone) = 1658 (m), 1653 (m). Mp (uncorrected): 177–178 °C. MH⁺ m/e: 402 (positive FAB).

[2,6-Bis[(2-acetylphenyl)carbamoyl]pyridine]nickel(II) (Ni1). The ligand **H₂1** (0.21 g, 0.53 mmol) was dissolved in 80 mL of hot methanol. KOH (0.092 g, 1.6 mmol) and NiCl₂·6H₂O (0.19 g, 0.80 mmol) were successively added to the reaction mixture. The solution was refluxed for 24 h and then allowed to cool to room temperature. A red precipitate formed and was collected by filtration. The precipitate was redissolved in CH₂Cl₂, and excess NiCl₂·6H₂O was removed by filtration. The resulting red solution was evaporated to dryness to afford a red solid, which was crystallized from hot toluene or methanol to give 0.14 g (55%) of Ni1 as red crystals. Anal. Calcd for Ni1·H₂O, C₂₃H₁₉N₃NiO₅: C, 58.02; H, 4.02; N, 8.83. Found: C, 58.14; H, 3.55; N, 8.90. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K, TMS): δ 8.33 (d, 2 H, H_a), 8.04 (t, 1 H, H_i), 7.75 (d, 2 H, H_c), 7.68 (d, 2 H, H_d), 7.49 (t, 2 H, H_b), 7.11 (t, 2 H, H_c), 2.63 (s, 6 H, OC-CH₃). ¹³C NMR (100.4 MHz, CDCl₃, 303 K): δ 202.4, 168.4, 151.2, 144.9, 141.1, 134.5, 130.9, 130.5, 126.6, 124.3, 123.18, 28.97. FTIR (CH₂Cl₂, cm⁻¹): ν_{CO}(ketone) = 1680 (m), 1653(m); ν_{CO}(amide) = 1635 (s). FTIR (KBr, cm⁻¹): ν_{CO}(ketone) = 1676 (m), 1649 (s); ν_{CO}(amide) = 1634 (s). λ_{max} (CHCl₃; ε, M⁻¹ cm⁻¹): 326 (sh), 357 (10 200), 406 (sh), 423 (sh), 482 (2120), 528 (1320).

[2,6-Bis[(2-acetylphenyl)carbamoyl]pyridine]copper(II) (Cu1). A 0.10 g (0.25 mmol) sample of **H₂1** was dissolved in 40 mL of refluxing methanol. KOH (0.042 g, 0.76 mmol) and Cu(CH₃COO)₂·H₂O (0.075 g, 0.38 mmol) were successively added to the reaction mixture. The

* To whom correspondence should be addressed.

[†] Kansas State University.

[‡] University of Delaware.

[§] Current address: Department of Chemistry, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045.

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Table 1. Crystallographic Data for Ni1·2H₂O, Cu1·0.5C₇H₈

	Ni1·2H ₂ O	Cu1·0.5C ₇ H ₈
empirical formula	C ₂₃ H ₂₁ N ₃ NiO ₆	C _{26.5} H ₂₁ CuN ₃ O ₄
fw	494.1	509.0
T (°C)	25	20
space group	P2 ₁ /c	P1̄
a (Å)	11.655(4)	8.173(1)
b (Å)	7.449(3)	11.095(2)
c (Å)	24.432(8)	12.833(2)
α (deg)	90	93.72(3)
β (deg)	101.580(3)	103.18(1)
γ (deg)	90	98.91(1)
Z	4	2
V (Å ³)	2077.9(12)	1113.2(3)
ρ _{calc} (g/cm ³)	1.580	1.518
μ _{calc} (cm ⁻¹)	9.82	10.22
λ (Å)	0.71073	0.71073
R(F _o) ^a	0.0351	0.0497
R _w (F _o) ^b	0.0427	0.0723

$$^a R = \sum |\Delta F| / \sum |F_o|, \quad ^b R_w = \sum w(\Delta F)^2 / \sum w F_o^2.$$

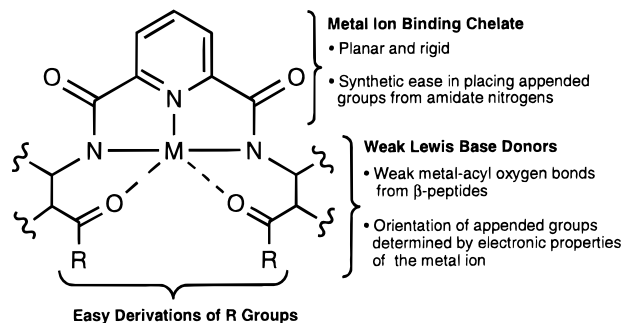
solution was refluxed for 24 h. After cooling, the methanol was removed under vacuum to give a green solid. The residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂, and the solution was filtered to remove any excess Cu(CH₃-COO)₂·H₂O. The CH₂Cl₂ was removed under reduced pressure to afford a green solid, which was crystallized from hot toluene to yield 0.055 g (43%) of Cu1 as green crystals. Anal. Calcd for Cu1·0.5C₇H₈, C_{26.5}H₂₁CuN₃O₄: C, 62.53; H, 4.16; N, 8.26. Found: C, 62.79; H, 4.03; N, 8.33. FTIR (CH₂Cl₂, cm⁻¹): ν_{CO(ketone)} = 1627 (s); ν_{CO(amide)} = 1617 (s). FTIR (KBr, cm⁻¹): ν_{CO(ketone)} = 1676 (m), 1649 (s); ν_{CO(amide)} = 1617 (s). λ_{max} (CHCl₃; ε, M⁻¹ cm⁻¹): 356 (10 100). X-band EPR (1:1 toluene/CH₂Cl₂, 77 K): g_{||} = 2.21, g_⊥ = 2.08, A_{||} = 158 G. X-band EPR (powder, 77 K): g = 2.06.

Physical Methods. ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra and NOE measurements were collected on a Bruker 400 MHz NMR spectrometer. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm relative to an internal standard of TMS. FTIR spectra were recorded on a Bio-Rad FTS-20 FTIR spectrometer interfaced to a PC computer and are reported in wavenumbers. UV-vis spectra were collected on an SLM-Aminco diode array spectrophotometer using a 1.0 cm Suprasil quartz cell. EPR spectra were collected using a Bruker TE₁₀₂ cavity and a Bruker 200D-SRC control console (which housed a Bruker ER022 signal channel, a Bruker ER031 field controller, and a Bruker ER001 time base oscilloscope). The console was interfaced to a Bruker ER040 XR microwave bridge and a Varian V3603 magnet (powered by Varian model 907015-03 power supply and a Varian V-FR2503 fieldial magnetic field regulator). Spectra were collected at 77 K, and all g values reported are referenced to DPPH.

Crystallographic Structural Determinations. Single crystals of Ni1·2H₂O and Cu1·0.5C₇H₈ were obtained under similar conditions using hot toluene as the solvent. Crystal data collection and refinement parameters for Ni1·2H₂O and Cu1·0.5C₇H₈ are given in Table 1. The systematic absences in the diffraction data are uniquely consistent with the space group, P2₁/c for Ni1·2H₂O and P1̄ for Cu1·0.5C₇H₈. For Cu1·0.5C₇H₈, P1̄ was initially chosen, and this assignment was supported by the stable and chemically reasonable results of refinement. The structures were solved using direct methods, completed by subsequent difference Fourier syntheses and refined by full-matrix least-squares procedures. The asymmetric unit of Ni1·2H₂O contains two molecules of H₂O while that of Cu1 has half a molecule of toluene. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement coefficients, and hydrogen atoms were treated as idealized contributions. All software and sources of the scattering factors are contained in the SHELXTL PLUS (5.3) program library (G. Sheldrick, Siemens XRD, Madison, WI).

Results and Discussion

Design Considerations and Syntheses. Figure 1 shows the design factors used in developing metal complexes of [1]²⁻ and

**Figure 1.** Schematic of the design concepts used in this study.

related ligands. Deprotonation of the pyridyl diamide center affords a *mer* chelate that becomes planar after coordination to a metal ion. This planar structure is caused by the rigidity of the pyridyl diamide chelate and is independent of the coordinated metal ion. The molecular structure of the complexes is determined by the relative orientation of the groups appended from each amide nitrogen. The orientations of the appended groups are directed, to a large extent, by their interactions with the bonded metal. Each appended group is designed to contain additional donor atoms capable of binding to the metal ion. These donors are relatively weak Lewis bases whose interactions depend on the stereochemical preference of the coordinated metal ion, and *not* on the geometric requirements of the ligand.⁶ For H₂1, acyl oxygen donors from the appended acetophenone groups are predisposed to furnish additional electron density to the coordinatively unsaturated metal center. A variety of molecular structures can therefore be obtained by binding metal ions with different coordination requirements. Moreover, these differences in molecular structure between complexes should result in varied lattice architectures. This is particularly true for complexes containing divalent metal ions of [1]²⁻ which are neutral. The assembly of these complexes will be governed by intermolecular hydrogen bonds and π-stacking interactions.

Molecular Structures. The structures of Ni1 and Cu1 were examined by single-crystal X-ray diffraction methods. Views of the molecular structures of Ni1 and Cu2 are found in Figures 2 and 3, and selected bond distances and angles are listed in Table 2. Both complexes have three of their coordination sites occupied by nitrogen donors from the diamide-pyridyl chelate. In Ni1 the geometry around the Ni(II) is approximately square planar, with the fourth donor provided by a carbonyl oxygen, O(4), from one of the appended acetophenone groups. The acyl oxygen coordination orients this group nearly coplanar with the rigid, tridentate chelate. The remaining acetophenone oxygen O(3) is pointed away from the Ni(II) center at a distance of ~5.5 Å (vide infra).

In contrast to those in Ni1, both acetophenone oxygens in Cu1 interact with the copper(II) center, producing a square pyramidal five-coordinate species with O(3) occupying the axial position. These oxygen donors are coordinated unsymmetrically to Cu(II), with distances of 2.357(3) and 1.933(3) Å for the Cu-O(3) and Cu-O(4) bonds, respectively. Dual coordination of carbonyl oxygens causes the appended acetophenone groups to orient on opposite faces of the plane formed by the Cu(II)-[pyridyl diamide] chelate. The structural consequence of this displacement gives Cu1 an overall helical morphology.^{5,7}

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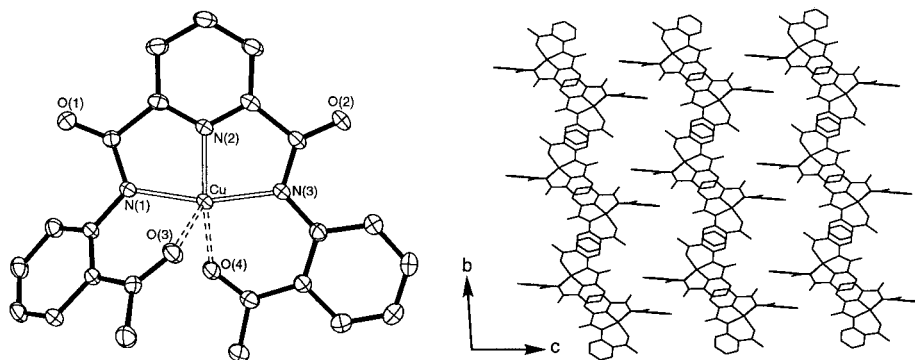


Figure 2. Thermal ellipsoid diagram of Cu1 (left) and a portion of the crystal lattice for Cu1 (view of the *b,c* plane) showing the open-framework structure. Solvent molecules have been omitted for clarity, and the ellipsoids are drawn at the 40% probability level.

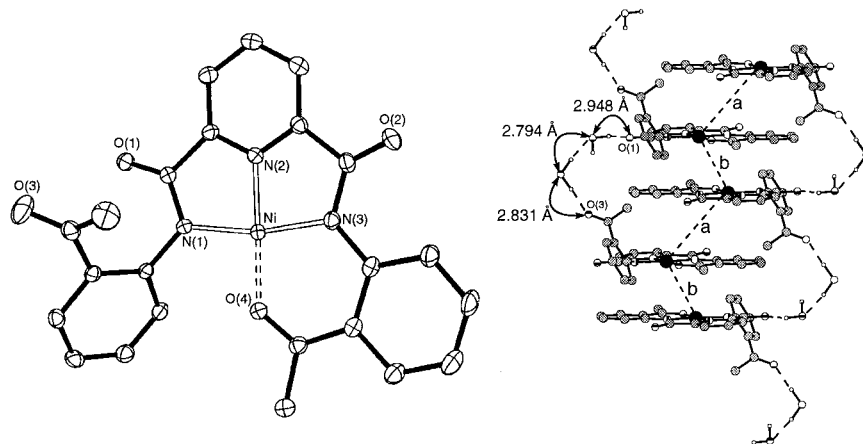


Figure 3. Thermal ellipsoid diagram of Ni1 (left) and a portion of the crystal lattice for Ni1 illustrating the hydrogen-bonding network used to stabilize the column motifs. Intracolumnar Ni–Ni distances: *a*, 4.42 Å; *b*, 6.21 Å.

Table 2. Selected Bond Distances (Å) and Angles (deg) for Ni1 and Cu1

	Ni1	Cu1
M–N(1)	1.918(3)	1.981(3)
M–N(2)	1.805(2)	1.887(3)
M–N(3)	1.885(3)	1.980(3)
M–O(3)		2.355(3)
M–O(4)	1.828(2)	1.932(3)
N(1)–M–N(2)	82.7(1)	80.9(1)
N(1)–M–N(3)	167.7(1)	163.8(1)
N(1)–M–O(3)		78.0(1)
N(1)–M–O(4)	95.2(1)	102.8(1)
N(2)–M–N(3)	85.1(1)	83.0(1)
N(2)–M–O(3)		117.4(1)
N(2)–M–O(4)	177.5(1)	161.4(1)
N(3)–M–O(3)		109.6(1)
N(3)–M–O(4)	97.1(1)	92.6(1)
O(3)–M–O(4)		81.2(1)

The equatorial Ni–O(4) and Cu–O(4) bond distances are 1.828(3) and 1.932(3) Å, which are shorter than the apical Cu–O(3) bond length of 2.355(3) Å.^{8,9} Comparison of these distances to those reported for other complexes with Ni(II)– and Cu(II)–ketonyl oxygen bonds (average M–O distance of ~1.93 Å) suggests relatively strong equatorial M–O interactions are present in Ni1 and Cu1. However, molecular modeling studies (CACHe) show that, for equatorial coordination of an

acyl oxygen to the M(II)–[pyridyl diamidate] chelate, the oxygen donor must reside ca. 1.9 Å from the bound metal center. This inflexibility in the ligand system restricts all near-planar metal–carbonyl oxygen interactions; thus we propose that these short bond lengths in Cu1 and Ni1 are actually caused by the structural constraints imposed by [1]²⁻. This hypothesis is supported by two lines of structural evidence in Ni1 which show that the Ni–O(4) interaction is indeed weak. First, the Ni–N(2) bond distance of 1.805 (2) Å is exceptionally short compared to those of known pyridine nitrogen–nickel bonds incorporated into two five-membered metallocycles (>1.95 Å).¹⁰

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This short bond length is consistent with a weak trans influence of O(4) on the Ni center. Moreover, short trans bond lengths have been documented in acyl Pd(II) and Pt(II) complexes.¹¹ Second, the C(22)–O(4) bond length of 1.260(4) Å is only slightly longer than that normally observed for a C=O bond (1.23 Å) but is still much shorter than the distance for a C–O single bond (1.43 Å).¹² This minor elongation of the C=O bond reflects the small decrease in the carbonyl bond order that occurs from the PhC=O–Ni interaction, which agrees with our FTIR measurements (see Experimental Section).

The major difference between the molecular structures of Ni1 and Cu1 is the orientation of the acetophenone groups containing O(3). In Ni1, this group is oriented such that the aryl ring is rotated 118.5° out of the coordination square plane. The acetyl oxygen O(3) is pointed away from the Ni(II) center and is hydrogen-bonded to one solvated water molecule (vide infra). However, in Cu1, where O(3) is coordinated to the Cu(II) center, this appended group is displaced only 48° from the plane of the pyridyl–diamide chelate. This structural difference has a significant influence on the assembly of the complexes in their respective crystal lattices.

Lattice Structures for Cu1 and Ni1. The Cu1 complexes are arranged in coils that are aligned along the crystallographic *b* axis. These coils are stabilized by two π -stacking interactions with centroid–centroid distances of 3.92 and 4.45 Å. Adjacent coils interact via π -stacking interactions between the aryl rings of the apically coordinated acetophenone groups (i.e., the appended group containing O(3)) with a centroid–centroid distance of 3.74 Å. An open-framework lattice structure results (Figure 2 (right)) where the distance between adjacent set of stack rings is 7.74 Å. This space in the present structure of

Cu1 is filled with toluene molecules which come from the solvent used in crystallization.¹³

The Ni1 complexes assemble into supramolecular columns that are positioned along the crystallographic *b* axis (Figure 3 (right)). The columns are stabilized by two hydrogen-bond networks that are on opposite sides of each column. The hydrogen-bond networks connect every other complex through repeated units consisting of two hydrogen-bonded water molecules. These pairs of water molecules in turn hydrogen-bond to O(3) of an appended acetophenone group from one complex and O(1) of a pyridyl diamide chelate of an alternating complex. Additional columnar stabilization comes from stacking interactions between the coordination square planes of adjacent molecules where the average interplane distance is 3.75 Å. This arrangement of Ni1 complexes results in two unique intracolumnar Ni–Ni distances of 4.42 and 6.21 Å.

Summary. In this work, we have demonstrated that neutral transition metal complexes of 2,6-bis[(2-acetylphenyl)carbamoyl]pyridine can be used as building blocks to assemble varied supramolecular species in the solid state. The structures of complexes with this ligand are affected by the orientation of the acetophenone groups appended from the pyridyl diamide chelates, which are controlled by their interactions with the metal centers. The modular design of 2,6-bis[(2-*R*-phenyl)carbamoyl]pyridine (*R* = acetyl or carbamoyl) ligands allows for additional ligands to be generated having different appended groups. For example, we recently showed that appended groups containing hydrogen-bonded arrays can form complexes with helical structures.⁵ These complexes also assemble into diverse lattice structures. Extension of this design concept to include appended redox-active groups and peptides will be reported in due course.

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Supporting Information Available: Tables of X-ray structural data for Ni1 and Cu1 (12 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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