

CONTRIBUTION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF INORGANIC CHEMISTRY,
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The Crystal Chemistry of Tri- μ -thiocyanato-triamminecopper(I)copper(II)

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The crystal structure of $\text{Cu}_2(\text{NCS})_3(\text{NH}_3)_3$ has been determined. The material crystallizes in the monoclinic system, in the form of black needles which become dark green when powdered. The space group is $P2_1/c$ with $a = 8.40$ (1), $b = 7.17$ (1), $c = 19.52$ (2) Å, $\beta = 97.3^\circ$. The measured density is 2.04 g cm^{-3} , and the calculated value, assuming $Z = 4$, is 2.01 g cm^{-3} . A total of 1146 photometrically estimated intensities were collected and the structure was refined by least-squares methods with the block-diagonal approximation to give a conventional $R = 0.111$ value. The structure is polymeric and consists of sheets of copper(I) tetrahedra cross-linked by pairs of copper(II) octahedra. The copper(II) is linked by approximately coplanar bonds to three ammonia molecules and the nitrogen atom of a thiocyanate group ($1.99\text{--}2.06 \pm 0.02$ Å). The environment of the copper(II) is completed by two thiocyanate sulfur atoms at greater distances (2.946 and 3.286 ± 0.009 Å, respectively). The copper(I) has a tetrahedral configuration consisting of two nitrogen (2.00 ± 0.02 Å) and two sulfur (2.376 and 2.470 ± 0.008 Å) atoms of four different thiocyanate groups. All the thiocyanate groups are involved in bridges.

Introduction

Although a number of mixed-valence copper(I)copper(II) compounds have been prepared, the structure determinations of only two such materials, formulated as $\text{Cu}_3(\text{CN})_4(\text{NH}_3)_3$ ¹ and $\text{Na}_4\{\text{Cu}(\text{NH}_3)_4\}\{\text{Cu}(\text{S}_2\text{O}_3)_2\}_2$ ² have been published. The results of an X-ray analysis of tri- μ -thiocyanato-triamminecopper(I)copper(II) are now reported and discussed.

The present work was undertaken as part of a study of the stereochemistry of thiocyanate as a ligand and an investigation of the relationships between the composition, structure, and redox processes of copper(II) complexes in solution.

The conditions for the preparation of a series of copper(II) thiocyanate complexes have been reported.^{3,4} The composition of these materials may be expressed by the general formula $\text{Cu}(\text{NCS})_2(\text{NH}_3)_2 \cdot n\text{Cu}(\text{NCS})(\text{NH}_3)$. The crystal structure of the first member (where $n = 0$) has been determined⁵ and some of the basic structural data for the second compound ($n = 1$) are also known.⁶ Since the monoclinic crystals of a third material ($n = 2$) decompose in the X-ray beam, this structure has not been investigated.

Experimental Section

The Unit Cell and the Space Group.—Crystals of $\text{Cu}_2(\text{NCS})_3(\text{NH}_3)_3$ belong to the monoclinic system. The density of the material, measured by a flotation technique, was found to be 2.04 g cm^{-3} . Assuming four formula units per cell, the calculated value is 2.01 g cm^{-3} . The lattice parameters are: $a = 8.40 \pm 0.01$, $b = 7.17 \pm 0.01$, $c = 19.52 \pm 0.02$ Å, $\beta = 97.3^\circ$. These parameters were obtained from rotation and Weissenberg photographs calibrated with gold. All photographs were taken with unfiltered Cu K α radiation (1.5405 Å). The unit cell volume is $V = 1166$ Å³. The ratio of the lattice parameters is $a:b:c = 1.172:1.000:2.722$.

The following systematic absences were observed: for F_{h0l} ,

$l = 2n + 1$; for F_{0k0} , $k = 2n + 1$. These correspond to space group $P2_1/c$ (no. 14).

X-Ray Collection.—Three-dimensional intensities for $\text{Cu}_2(\text{NCS})_3(\text{NH}_3)_3$ were obtained by Weissenberg equinclination photography, using the multiple-film technique. A single crystal, measuring $0.15 \times 0.2 \times 0.15$ mm, was rotated about the monoclinic axis and I_{h0l} through I_{hkl} intensities were obtained. A second crystal was ground to a sphere of 0.06-mm diameter and used for additional hkl and $hk1$ reflections. Intensities were estimated photometrically with a calibrated scale and were corrected for Lorentz-polarization factors. No absorption corrections were applied ($\mu R = 1.37$ and 0.55 , respectively).

The Lorentz-polarization corrections and all calculations in the projections were made with a ZRA 1 computer, using programs written by Bähr, *et al.*⁷ The interatomic distances and all three-dimensional calculations were carried out with an Elliot 803 B computer using the programs of Daly, Stephens, and Wheatley.⁸

A total of 1146 independent nonzero reflections were used for the crystal structure analysis. The structure factors were calculated from the atomic factor values according to Ibers.⁹

Solution and Refinement of the Structure.—The crystal structure has been determined by the heavy-atom method. The positions of copper atoms were obtained from Patterson syntheses in both projections. The approximate coordinates of the sulfur atoms were determined by the minimization method.

The atomic positions were first refined in both projections by differential Fourier syntheses. The positions thus obtained were used for determination of a scale factor for each layer. The scaled intensities were then used for the least-squares refinement of the structure. The weighting scheme of Cruickshank, *et al.*,¹⁰ was adopted for the least-squares method, and the matrix inversion involved the block-diagonal approximation. Refinement of the atomic positions, individual isotropic temperature coefficients, and over-all scale factor yielded an R value of 0.111 for observed reflections and 0.122 for all reflections listed in Table I. In the latter R value calculation, unobserved reflections were given half the calculated values. The unobserved reflections were not used in the refinement. A difference Fourier based on this refinement revealed electron density as high as

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TABLE I
OBSERVED AND CALCULATED STRUCTURE FACTORS ($\times 10^3$) FOR $\text{Cu}_2(\text{NCS})_3(\text{NH}_3)_3$

h	k	l	OBSERVED		CALCULATED		h	k	l	OBSERVED		CALCULATED		h	k	l	OBSERVED		CALCULATED	
			F _o	F _c	F _o	F _c				F _o	F _c	F _o	F _c				F _o	F _c		
0	0	0	111	106	111	106	0	0	0	111	106	111	106	0	0	0	111	106	111	106

$0.9 \text{ e}/\text{\AA}^3$. No hydrogen atoms were included in the calculations.

All of the atoms occupy general positions in the $\text{P2}_1/\text{c}$ space group. The refined atomic positions of the independent part of the unit cell are listed in Table II, and some important interatomic distances and valence angles are given in Tables III and IV, respectively. The observed and all final calculated structure factors are listed in Table I.

Discussion

The basic units of the $\text{Cu}_2(\text{NCS})_3(\text{NH}_3)_3$ structure are copper(I) tetrahedra. These tetrahedra are mutually linked by bridging thiocyanate groups, thus forming infinite sheets which are lying essentially parallel to

(001) at $Z = 1/4$ and $3/4$. The distance between neighboring sheets is 9.83 \AA (half of the lattice parameter). The sheets are cross-linked by pairs of copper(II) octahedra, arranged alternately on the left and on the right. Each copper(I) tetrahedron has a common point with one copper(II) octahedron.

The copper atoms in the structure have two coordination, octahedral and tetrahedral. The strongly distorted octahedral environment of the ligands corresponds to the bivalent copper, which is coordinated in the crystal studied by six ammonia molecules and the

TABLE II
FRACTIONAL COORDINATES ($\times 10^4$) AND ISOTROPIC TEMPERATURE
FACTORS FOR THE INDEPENDENT PART OF THE ATOMS OF
 $\text{Cu}_2(\text{NCS})_3(\text{NH}_3)_3^a$

Atom	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	<i>B</i> , Å ²
Cu(1)	2049 (3)	7609 (6)	749 (1)	1.08
Cu(2)	2532 (3)	3424 (6)	2543 (1)	1.42
S(1)	3347 (7)	1565 (14)	236 (3)	1.27
S(2)	920 (6)	4260 (11)	1457 (2)	0.29
S(3)	2832 (6)	6022 (13)	3302 (3)	1.06
N(1)	4337 (21)	6995 (39)	1129 (9)	1.09
N(2)	-1409 (21)	6415 (39)	2007 (9)	1.16
N(3)	1896 (22)	9141 (39)	1806 (9)	1.02
N(4)	-228 (20)	8440 (37)	435 (9)	0.68
N(5)	2359 (20)	6476 (37)	-138 (9)	0.76
N(7)	4577 (21)	2687 (39)	2206 (9)	1.08
C(1)	1540 (22)	1813 (45)	-159 (10)	0.48
C(2)	-478 (22)	5623 (43)	1773 (10)	0.38
C(5)	5612 (23)	1980 (43)	2001 (10)	0.41

^a Figures in parentheses after numbers are standard deviations ($\times 10^4$).

TABLE III
DISTANCES (Å) WITH STANDARD DEVIATIONS
IN PARENTHESES ($\times 10^3$)

Atoms	Value	Atoms	Value
Distances in the Copper(II) Polyhedron ^a			
Cu(1)-S(1)	3.286 (9)	N(1)-N(3)	2.913 (34)
Cu(1)-S(2)	2.946 (7)	N(1)-N(5)	2.846 (33)
Cu(1)-N(1)	2.024 (25)	N(2)-N(4)	3.570 (33)
Cu(1)-N(3)	2.061 (24)	N(2)-C(2)	1.128 (35)
Cu(1)-N(4)	1.987 (23)	C(2)-C(3)	3.688 (37)
Cu(1)-N(5)	2.048 (23)	N(3)-N(4)	2.923 (32)
Cu(1)-C(2)	3.371 (26)	N(3)-C(2)	3.243 (35)
Cu(1)-C(3)	3.161 (27)	N(4)-N(5)	2.814 (32)
S(1)-C(1)	1.638 (28)	N(4)-C(2)	3.176 (34)
S(2)-N(1)	3.617 (25)	N(5)-N(6)	3.712 (32)
S(2)-N(2)	2.835 (25)	N(5)-C(1)	3.416 (35)
S(2)-N(3)	3.613 (24)	N(6)-C(1)	1.181 (35)
S(2)-N(4)	3.424 (23)	C(2)-C(3)	3.688 (37)
N(2)-N(3)	3.550 (33)		
S(2)-C(2)	1.710 (27)		
Distances in the Copper(I) Tetrahedra ^b			
Cu(2)-S(2)	2.470 (7)	Cu(2)-C(6)	3.051 (29)
Cu(2)-S(3)	2.376 (8)	S(3)-N(9)	2.797 (26)
Cu(2)-N(7)	2.006 (25)	S(3)-C(6)	1.671 (29)
Cu(2)-N(8)	1.996 (24)	N(9)-C(6)	1.127 (38)
Cu(2)-C(4)	3.085 (26)	N(8)-C(4)	1.128 (35)

^a Nomenclature of atoms as in Figure 2. ^b Nomenclature of atoms as in Figure 3.

nitrogen atom of a thiocyanate group. The distorted octahedral coordination of the copper(II) atom is completed by two sulfur atoms, the copper-sulfur distances being greater than the four copper-nitrogen bonds (see Figures 1 and 2). The three copper(II)-ammonia bonds (2.024, 2.048, 2.061 Å) are somewhat but probably not significantly longer than the fourth bond to the thiocyanate nitrogen atom (1.987 Å). The difference between the four copper(II)-nitrogen distances and the copper(II)-sulfur bond length is significant (see Table III and Figure 1). Such differences have also been observed in other thiocyanate complexes of copper(II)⁵ and are in agreement with predictions based on the ligand field strength series of Orgel and

TABLE IV
ANGLES (DEG) WITH STANDARD DEVIATIONS IN PARENTHESES
Atoms Value Atoms Value

Angles in the Copper(II) Octahedra ^a			
S(2)-Cu(1)-N(1)	91.5 (0.7)	N(4)-Cu(1)-N(5)	88.4 (0.9)
S(2)-Cu(1)-N(3)	90.6 (0.7)	Cu(1)-N(4)-N(3)	44.8 (0.6)
S(2)-Cu(1)-N(4)	85.6 (0.7)	Cu(1)-N(4)-N(5)	46.7 (0.7)
S(2)-Cu(1)-N(5)	98.9 (0.7)	Cu(1)-N(4)-C(3)	172.3 (2.2)
Cu(1)-S(2)-N(2)	90.6 (0.5)	Cu(1)-N(5)-N(1)	45.3 (0.7)
Cu(1)-S(2)-C(2)	88.7 (0.9)	Cu(1)-N(5)-N(4)	44.9 (0.6)
N(1)-Cu(1)-N(3)	91.0 (1.0)	S(1)-C(1)-N(6)	179.3 (2.5)
N(1)-Cu(1)-N(4)	175.5 (1.0)	Cu(1)-N(2)-S(3)	179.3 (0.7)
N(1)-Cu(1)-N(5)	88.7 (0.9)	S(1)-N(6)-C(1)	0.4 (1.4)
Cu(1)-N(1)-N(3)	45.0 (0.7)	S(2)-C(2)-N(2)	175.1 (2.5)
Cu(1)-N(1)-N(5)	46.0 (0.7)	N(2)-S(2)-C(2)	1.9 (1.0)
N(3)-Cu(1)-N(4)	92.4 (0.9)	N(1)-N(3)-N(4)	86.7 (0.9)
N(3)-Cu(1)-N(5)	170.5 (0.9)	N(1)-N(5)-N(4)	90.2 (0.9)
Cu(1)-N(3)-N(1)	44.0 (0.7)	N(3)-N(4)-N(5)	91.0 (0.9)
Cu(1)-N(3)-N(4)	42.8 (0.6)	N(3)-N(1)-N(5)	90.6 (0.9)
Angles in the Copper(I) Tetrahedra ^b			
Cu(2)-N(7)-C(5)	168.2 (2.4)	Cu(2)-S(3)-N(9)	97.7 (0.9)
S(2)-Cu(2)-S(3)	111.4 (0.3)	N(7)-Cu(2)-N(8)	115.1 (1.0)
S(2)-Cu(2)-N(8)	108.5 (0.7)	N(7)-Cu(2)-C(6)	83.4 (0.9)
S(2)-Cu(2)-N(7)	100.5 (0.7)	Cu(2)-N(7)-S(4)	170.2 (1.2)
Cu(1)-S(2)-Cu(2)	113.8 (0.2)	Cu(2)-N(7)-C(5)	168.2 (2.4)
Cu(2)-S(2)-C(4)	98.3 (0.9)	Cu(2)-N(8)-C(4)	161.0 (2.3)
S(3)-Cu(2)-N(7)	113.2 (0.7)	C(6)-S(3)-N(9)	1.5 (1.1)
S(3)-Cu(2)-N(8)	108.1 (1.1)	S(2)-C(6)-N(9)	176.5 (2.7)
S(3)-Cu(2)-S(4)	104.9 (0.5)		

^a Nomenclature of atoms as in Figure 2. ^b Nomenclature of atoms as in Figure 3.

Dunitz.¹¹ The distances of the two sulfur atoms, which complete the distorted octahedral environment of the copper(II) atom, are not equal. In this respect $\text{Cu}_2(\text{NCS})_3(\text{NH}_3)_3$ differs from other thiocyanate complexes containing only copper(II) as the central atom.¹²⁻¹⁴

The formation of two nonequivalent Cu(II)-S bonds (2.946 and 3.286 Å) is due to the different function of the two thiocyanate groups. The second Cu-S distance is quite long for any kind of covalent interaction and it seems more reasonable to say that the copper(II) atom has a tetragonal-pyramidal configuration. The four nitrogen atoms are approximately coplanar, and the equation of this plane has the form (in cartesian coordinates): $0.371X + 0.859Y - 0.351Z - 4.813 = 0$. The copper(II) is displaced from this plane by 0.062 Å toward the nearer sulfur atom. The ligand-copper(II)-ligand valency angles are 85.6-92.4° (see Table IV). On the basis of the structural results, the redox stability of bivalent copper in copper thiocyanate systems can be regarded as being due to the planar coordination of copper(II) by four nitrogen ligands.

The copper(I) atom is coordinated by two sulfur atoms and two nitrogen atoms of four different thiocyanate groups. The configuration of the ligands is a distorted tetrahedron. While the copper(I)-nitrogen distances are very similar (1.996 and 2.006 Å), the copper(I)-sulfur bonds have lengths 2.376 and 2.470 Å (Table III, Figure 1). The longer Cu(I)-S bond is weakly bonded to the copper(II) atom (Figures 1 and 3).

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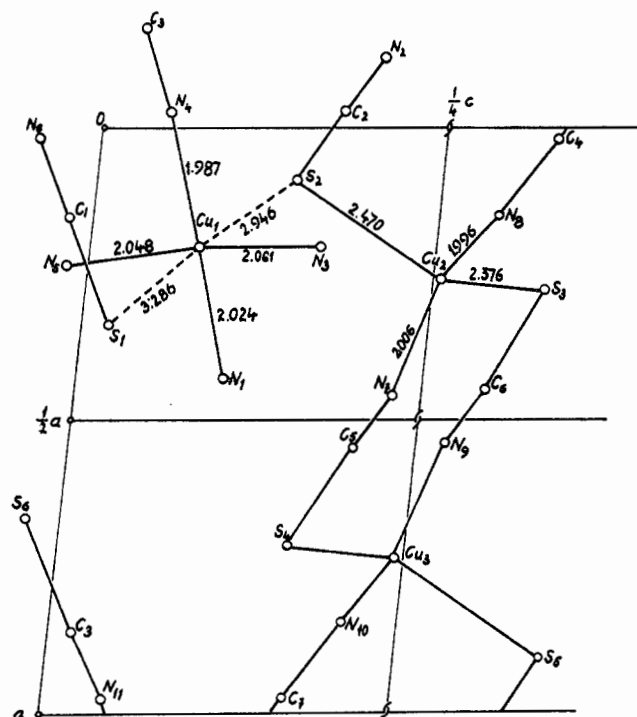
Figure 1.—The (010) projection of $\text{Cu}_2(\text{NCS})_3(\text{NH}_3)_3$.

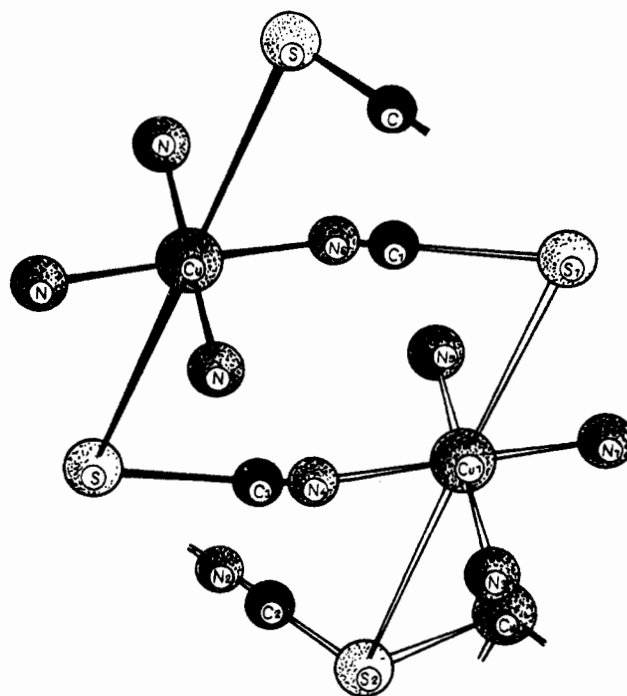
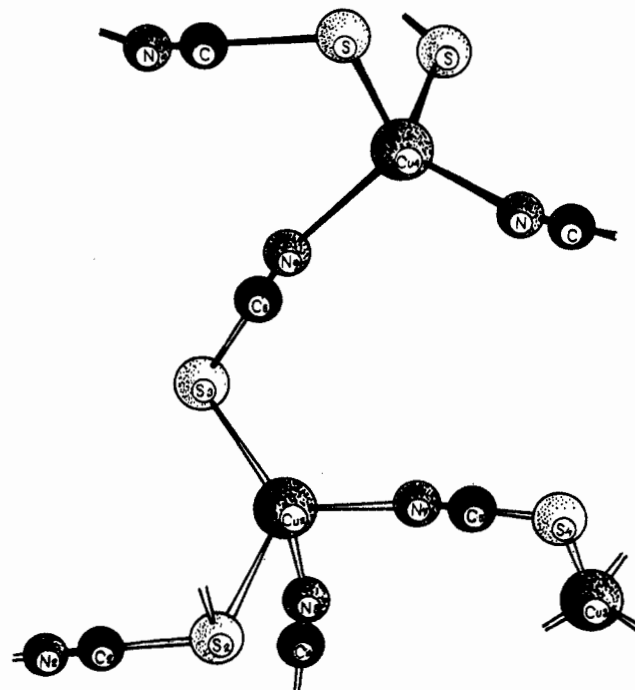
TABLE V
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN Cu-NCS-Cu DISTANCES
(Å) AND ANGLES (DEG)

No. of SCN group	Cu-N	C-N	C-S	Cu(II)-S	Cu(I)-S	S-N
I	1.987	1.181	1.638	3.286	...	2.819
II	1.996	1.128	1.710	2.946	2.470	2.830
III	2.006	1.127	1.671	...	2.376	2.798

No. of SCN group	S-C-N	Cu-N-C	Cu-S-C
I	179.3	172.3	85.2
II	175.1	162.0	88.7
III	176.3	168.1	96.3

The valence angles in the coordination polyhedron around the copper(I) atom are within the range 100.5–115.8° (see Table IV).

There are three types of thiocyanate groups in the structure, with bridging functions and bonding through the nitrogen and sulfur atoms. The first, which mutually bonds the distorted octahedra, forms a strong covalent copper(II)-nitrogen bond of the length 1.987 Å and a very weak copper(II)-sulfur link (interatomic distance 3.286 Å). The second type bonds only the copper(I) tetrahedra (with bond lengths 2.376 and 2.006 Å). The third kind of thiocyanate group forms two covalent bonds Cu(I)-N and Cu(I)-S. The sulfur atom is also bonded to the copper(II). Despite its weakness, the Cu(II)-S bond (2.946 Å) causes a restriction of the temperature oscillations of this sulfur atom (*B* for the sulfur atom S(2) has a particularly low value of 0.29). The same function of the thiocyanate

Figure 2.—Coordination of copper(II) and type of the mutual bonding of the distorted octahedra in $\text{Cu}_2(\text{NCS})_3(\text{NH}_3)_3$.Figure 3.—Coordination of copper(I) and bonding of the tetrahedra by the SCN groups in the crystal of $\text{Cu}_2(\text{NCS})_3(\text{NH}_3)_3$.

group has been observed in the structure of $\text{Cu}(\text{NCS})_2\text{-Py}_2$ (Py = pyridine) and $\text{Cu}(\text{NCS})_2(\text{NH}_3)_2$.⁵

The $\text{Cu}(\text{NCS})_2(\text{NH}_3)_2$ complex is light-blue while α - and β - $\text{Cu}(\text{NCS})_2$ are yellow-white. The dark color of the $\text{Cu}_2(\text{NCS})_3(\text{NH}_3)_3$ complex can be explained as a result of the absorption, due to the intervalence transfer

through the sulfur S(2) atom. The optically excited electron is assumed to be spread over both the copper atoms and the intervening bridging sulfur atom, in agreement with McConnell and Davidson.¹⁵ This fact might also explain the particularly low *B* factor of sulfur S(2).

The effect of these different functions of the thio-

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cyanate groups on the interatomic distances and on the valence angles is shown in Table V.

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The Crystal and Molecular Structure of the Yellow Form of Dichlorobis(2,6-lutidine N-oxide)copper(II)

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The crystal and molecular structure of dichlorobis(2,6-lutidine N-oxide)copper(II), $(C_7H_9NO)_2CuCl_2$, has been determined by single-crystal X-ray diffraction techniques. The crystals belong to the orthorhombic space group $Pna2_1$ with unit cell dimensions $a = 13.88$ (1), $b = 7.677$ (5), and $c = 16.23$ (1) Å. There are four molecules per unit cell, and the observed and calculated densities are 1.49 and 1.48 g/cm³, respectively. The equiinclination Weissenberg technique was used to record the intensities of 981 nonzero reflections. Positional and isotropic thermal parameters were refined by least-squares methods to a conventional *R* factor of 8.3%. The molecules are monomeric, and the coordination around the central Cu ion is intermediate between tetrahedral and *cis* square planar. The Cu-Cl distances are 2.221 (4) and 2.247 (4) Å while the Cu-O distances are 1.97 (1) and 1.93 (1) Å.

Introduction

Complexes of Cu(II) compounds and various N-oxide ligands have been the subject of a number of studies. Most of the ligands form complexes in both a 1:1 and a 2:1 ligand-to-metal ratio;¹⁻⁷ however, complexes with other ligand-to-metal ratios also occur. Most 1:1 complexes have low magnetic moments at room temperature, and an oxygen-bridged dimeric structure was proposed.^{8,9} A single-crystal study of dichloro(pyridine N-oxide)copper(II) showed the structure to be composed basically of oxygen-bridged dimeric units.^{10,11} The dimeric units are chlorine

bridged to adjacent dimers to form infinite chains, and the geometry around the Cu(II) ion is square pyramidal¹² with the apical chloride bond elongated to 2.836 Å. The two bridging oxygen atoms form an edge of the square base, and the apical chlorides are *trans* with respect to the joined basal planes. The low magnetic moments of the 1:1 complexes are rationalized in terms of a superexchange mechanism.

The structure and properties of the 2:1 complexes have not been studied as extensively as the 1:1 complexes. The 2:1 complexes in general are monomeric and have normal magnetic moments although both low-moment and normal-moment dimeric structures are known. The low-moment dimers are similar to the 1:1 complexes with the extra pyridine N-oxide ligands in the fifth coordination site rather than a bridging chloride ion. The normal-moment dimers are similar except one bridging oxygen is apical and the other basal. If the magnetic electrons are restricted to orbitals of approximately $d_{x^2-y^2}$ symmetry, superexchange does not occur because the orbitals of the magnetic electrons do not overlap significantly at the shared oxygen atoms.

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