

CONTRIBUTION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY,
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE, CALIFORNIA 92664

The Crystal and Molecular Structure of Copper(II) Formate Monourea

BY D. B. W. YAWNEY AND ROBERT J. DOEDENS

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The crystal and molecular structure of copper(II) formate monourea has been determined by a single-crystal X-ray structural analysis. This material forms green crystals with triclinic symmetry, space group $P\bar{1}$, $a = 6.677$ (13) Å, $b = 6.822$ (14) Å, $c = 9.093$ (18) Å, $\alpha = 76^\circ 44'$ (10'), $\beta = 116^\circ 20'$ (10'), and $\gamma = 113^\circ 0'$ (10'). Observed and calculated ($Z = 2$) densities are 2.10 (2) and 2.08 g/cm³, respectively. The structural determination was based upon 616 independent film data and a full-matrix least-squares refinement which converged to a conventional R factor of 0.089. The crystal structure is comprised of centrosymmetric dimers, $[\text{Cu}(\text{O}_2\text{CH})_2\text{OC}(\text{NH}_2)_2]_2$, packed in a manner such that alternate layers of urea and $\text{Cu}_2(\text{O}_2\text{CH})_4$ moieties are approximately perpendicular to the c axis. Intra- and intermolecular hydrogen bonds are probably present. The two metal atoms in the dimer are linked by four bridging formate ions. The monodentate urea molecules are probably O bonded to the copper atoms. The Cu–Cu and mean Cu–O(formate) distances are 2.657 (7) and 1.952 (13) Å, respectively.

Introduction

Considerable speculation has centered upon the nature of the metal–metal interaction in dimeric copper(II) carboxylates. Pertinent aspects of this problem have been discussed in several recent reviews.^{1–5} It was early established that the anomalous magnetic properties of anhydrous copper(II) n -alkanoates and their monoadducts ($\mu_{\text{eff}} \approx 1.4$ BM, $|2J| \approx 280$ cm⁻¹, $T_c \approx 255^\circ\text{K}$)⁶ could be interpreted in terms of exchange coupling between magnetically isolated pairs of copper(II) ions. Structural studies have shown that a number of the copper(II) complexes are in fact *syn-syn*^{7,8} carboxylate-bridged dimers with two copper atoms 2.6–2.7 Å apart.^{9–18} With this solid-state configuration well documented, discussion now centers upon the mechanism of exchange coupling within the dimeric unit. Direct Cu–Cu interaction^{3,19} and superexchange *via* the bridging carboxylate groups^{20,21} are

the two models which have been most frequently advanced.

The different tendencies for dimer formation by the copper(II) formate and n -alkanoate derivatives have been a related matter of interest. In particular, the contrasting structures of dimeric cupric acetate monohydrate^{9,12} and of polymeric cupric formate tetrahydrate^{22,23} prompted Martin and Waterman to investigate these systems extensively and to suggest a plausible explanation for this difference. They interpreted the relative dissociation constants of formic and acetic acids to reflect the greater σ -electron density on the hydroxyl oxygen of the latter compound and concluded that the resultant lesser residual charge on the copper atom could be the predominant factor causing the dimeric structure in cupric acetate monohydrate.⁸ These workers were subsequently able to prepare copper(II) formate monoamine and hemidioxane adducts. It was suggested on the basis of the anomalous magnetic properties of these compounds that their more basic addends favored dimer formation in cupric formate by reducing the residual charge on the copper dication. The magnetic properties of these presumably dimeric copper(II) formate adducts ($\mu_{\text{eff}} \approx 1.0$ BM, $|2J| > 408$ cm⁻¹, $T_c \approx 500^\circ\text{K}$) were considered to reflect an even stronger direct metal–metal interaction than that proposed for the related n -alkanoate complexes. The greater energy of the singlet–triplet separation in the copper(II) formate dimers with respect to that of the n -alkanoate dimers was attributed to increased $3d_{\sigma}-3d_{\sigma}$ overlap induced by the formate anions.²⁴

Only a very limited amount of detailed structural data is available for dimeric cupric formate monoadduct complexes. A two-dimensional X-ray structural determination of cupric formate hemidioxane has confirmed that in this adduct pairs of copper ions are

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syn-syn bridged by four formate groups. The $\text{Cu}_2(\text{O}_2\text{CH})_4$ units form infinite chains along the copper-copper direction with bidentate dioxane molecules bridging axial sites of adjacent metal couples.¹⁶ A recent report of the structure of the compound $[(\text{CH}_3)_4\text{N}]_2[\text{Cu}_2(\text{O}_2\text{CH})_4(\text{NCS})_2]$ has provided another example of a dimeric copper(II) formate adduct. The structure of the analogous acetate anion was also reported; comparison of these two structures showed that the formate derivative had the longer Cu-Cu distance (2.716 (2) vs 2.643 (3) Å for the acetate) in spite of its greater magnetic exchange coupling ($|2J| = 485 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ vs. 305 cm^{-1} for the acetate). Goodgame, *et al.*, considered these results to demonstrate that the contribution of a direct metal-metal interaction to the magnetic exchange interaction in copper(II) carboxylate dimers is insignificant.¹⁸

In the course of their studies of urea adducts of a series of copper(II) alkanooates, Kishita, *et al.*, showed that cupric formate forms a monourea adduct with a very low room-temperature magnetic moment of 1.08 BM. Although temperature-dependent magnetic susceptibility measurements were not reported, this result strongly suggests that dimer formation is also favored by the urea addend.²⁵ The present structural studies on this compound were undertaken to obtain reliable structural parameters on a possible copper(II) formate dimer as part of an attempt to ascertain whether any structural variations can be correlated with the appreciable differences in magnetic properties observed for the assorted adducts of copper(II) formate and *n*-alkanoates.

On the basis of infrared measurements and assignments there has been some speculation as to the nature of the copper-urea interaction in copper(II) formate monourea and other cupric alkanooate monourea compounds.²⁶ Since there are few documented structures of urea coordination compounds,²⁷⁻³¹ the urea configuration in the present structure was of interest also.

Experimental Section

Copper(II) formate diurea dihydrate was prepared as previously described.²⁵ Trituration of this compound in several small portions of methanol gave copper(II) formate monourea as a fine green powder. Crystals of this latter compound were obtained from a methanol solution by slow evaporation with a water aspirator. Difficulty was encountered in finding untwinned crystals. Examination of several suitable crystals by precession and Weissenberg X-ray photographic methods suggested their triclinic symmetry and revealed no systematic absences in their reflection data.

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Lattice constants at 23° were determined from zero-level precession photographs which were calibrated by superposition of a single-crystal zero-level sodium chloride ($a = 5.6405 \text{ Å}$) exposure. Zirconium-filtered Mo K α radiation ($\lambda 0.71069 \text{ Å}$) was used throughout the structural analysis. The direct lattice constants with standard deviations estimated by past experience with the above calibration technique are $a = 6.677 (13) \text{ Å}$, $b = 6.822 (14) \text{ Å}$, $c = 9.093 (18) \text{ Å}$, $\alpha = 76^\circ 44' (10')$, $\beta = 116^\circ 20' (10')$, and $\gamma = 113^\circ 0' (10')$. Delaunay reduction of this cell failed to reveal higher symmetry. The three shortest noncoplanar lattice translations defined a cell with $a = 6.677 \text{ Å}$, $b = 6.822 \text{ Å}$, $c = 8.567 \text{ Å}$, $\alpha = 86^\circ 31'$, $\beta = 107^\circ 58'$, and $\gamma = 113^\circ 0'$. The transformation matrix to the reduced cell is $(\bar{1}00/0\bar{1}0/101)$; all results are reported in terms of the non-reduced cell. The density of the compound, 2.10 (2) g/cm³, was determined by flotation in a $\text{CH}_2\text{Br}_2\text{-C}_6\text{H}_5\text{Br}$ mixture and agrees well with the density $d_c = 2.08 \text{ g/cm}^3$ calculated for two monomer units per cell. Of the two possible triclinic space groups, the centrosymmetric space group $\text{P}\bar{1}$ was assumed on the basis of its more frequent occurrence. Successful solution and refinement in this space group support this choice.

Multiple-film equiinclination Weissenberg intensity data were collected from a tabular crystal approximately 0.23 mm \times 0.12 mm \times 0.06 mm mounted in a Lindemann capillary roughly parallel to its long dimension and its *b* axis. A standard set of intensities was prepared from the same crystal. This intensity scale was used for visual estimation of the 616 independent, non-zero reflections on the top and bottom halves of films for the levels $h0l$ through $h5l$. Preliminary and final zero-level photographs indicated that some crystal deterioration (as evidenced by a slight broadening of the spots) had taken place over the period of data collection.

The intensity data from the top halves of the films were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects and for spot extension; only Lorentz and polarization corrections were applied to those from the bottom halves of the film. An absorption correction was omitted since it was estimated that the maximum effect of absorption on the intensities within a given layer was approximately 15%.

Solution and Refinement of the Structure

An assumed intramolecular copper-copper vector of length $\sim 2.6 \text{ Å}$ was readily identified on the three-dimensional Patterson map. The vector distribution was consistent with the assumed centrosymmetric space group. Full-matrix least-squares refinement of the copper atomic coordinates, an isotropic temperature factor, and 11 scale factors yielded discrepancy factors $R_1 = \Sigma ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \Sigma |F_o| = 0.341$ and $R_2 = [\Sigma w \cdot (|F_o| - |F_c|)^2 / \Sigma w |F_o|^2]^{1/2} = 0.399$. The remaining 10 nonhydrogen atoms of the asymmetric unit were located from a difference Fourier map phased on the copper atom contributions to F_o . As it is chemically reasonable for either the oxygen or the nitrogen of a unidentate urea to coordinate to copper, the oxygen and two nitrogens of the addend were all treated as nitrogen atoms in the initial stages of refinement. Three cycles of least-squares refinement of the 11 scale factors, all atomic coordinates, and isotropic temperature factors reduced the discrepancy factors to $R_1 = 0.145$ and $R_2 = 0.167$. Up to this point, unit weights were used in all refinements. At this stage several errors in the data were corrected and the weights were adjusted to eliminate any systematic dependence of mean $\Delta F/\sigma$ values upon observed F , uncorrected intensity, and Bragg angle. This was accomplished with the weighting scheme: $\sigma(F_o) =$

1.0 for $F_o < 9.1F_{\min}$, $\sigma(F_o) = F_o/9.1F_{\min}$ for $F_o \geq 9.1F_{\min}$. Here F_{\min} is the minimum observed F for the entire data set. Only the 33 largest structure amplitudes were given nonunit weights by this procedure; the criteria upon which the choice of weights was based were fulfilled throughout the remainder of the refinement. Comparison of partial R factors and mean $\Delta F/\sigma$ values revealed no differences between data observed on the top and bottom halves of the films. This suggests that the treatment of the data from the lower halves of the films was adequate.

Two additional cycles of isotropic least-squares refinement reduced the discrepancy factors to $R_1 = 0.124$ and $R_2 = 0.139$. Further refinement with anisotropic temperature factors assigned to the copper atom converged to R_1 and R_2 values of 0.089 and 0.104, respectively. An attempt was now made to resolve which of three possible unidentate urea arrangements exists in the present compound. Based on the previous least-squares output, two further cycles of refinement were carried out for each of the models with isotropic thermal parameters for the oxygen and the two nitrogens of the urea ligand. Refined individual positional parameters for the three models differed by less than 0.5 standard deviation. However considerable variation occurred in the isotropic thermal parameters obtained from the three refinements. These data are summarized with other relevant information in Table I. For the O-coordinated urea (model 3), all

TABLE I
SELECTED RESULTS OF REFINEMENT FOR THE
THREE UREA COORDINATION MODELS^a

Parameter	Model			
	Initial A(1), A(2), A(3) = N	1 A(2) = O	2 A(3) = O	3 A(1) = O
$B(A(1))$	2.1 (3)	2.1 (3)	2.1 (3)	3.6 (3)
$B(A(2))$	3.5 (4)	5.3 (4)	3.4 (4)	3.5 (4)
$B(A(3))$	4.3 (4)	4.2 (4)	6.2 (4)	4.2 (4)
R_1	0.089	0.088	0.090	0.089
R_2	0.104	0.104	0.105	0.105

^a Using these generalized labels A(1) refers to the urea atom coordinated to the copper while A(2) and A(3) refer, respectively, to the urea atoms next furthest and furthest away from the copper. $B(A(1))$ denotes the isotropic thermal parameter of atom A(1), etc.

three atoms have reasonable thermal parameters considering their environment and the thermal parameters of the other light atoms in the structure (Table II). By the same criteria the nitrogen-coordinated alternatives (models 1 and 2) have low thermal parameters for their atoms coordinated to the copper atom and high thermal parameters for their oxygen atoms at the next furthest [A(2)] and furthest [A(3)] sites, respectively, from the metal. Collectively these trends for the three refined urea configurations lead us to consider the O-coordinated urea as the most reasonable model for cupric formate monourea. However it must be emphasized that the accuracy of the present X-ray structural determination is insufficient to support an unequivocal distinction of O- vs. N-coordinated urea

TABLE II
ATOMIC POSITIONAL AND THERMAL PARAMETERS
FOR $[\text{Cu}(\text{O}_2\text{CH})_2\text{OC}(\text{NH}_2)_2]_2^a$

Atom	x	y	z	$B, \text{\AA}^2$
Cu	-0.0238 (5)	-0.0994 (4)	0.1381 (3)	b
O(1)	0.2812 (24)	0.1055 (25)	0.2541 (16)	4.0 (3)
O(2)	0.1378 (23)	-0.2720 (24)	0.1220 (15)	3.4 (3)
O(3)	-0.3225 (24)	-0.2718 (24)	-0.0222 (16)	4.0 (3)
O(4)	-0.1784 (25)	0.1072 (25)	0.1084 (16)	3.8 (3)
O(5)	-0.0824 (23)	-0.2869 (23)	0.3444 (15)	3.6 (3)
N(1)	-0.2882 (28)	-0.1359 (29)	0.3968 (19)	3.5 (4)
N(2)	-0.1891 (30)	-0.4156 (31)	0.5618 (21)	4.2 (4)
C(1)	0.3994 (35)	0.2549 (36)	0.1763 (24)	3.6 (4)
C(2)	0.2089 (34)	-0.2473 (35)	0.0070 (23)	3.3 (4)
C(3)	-0.1812 (31)	-0.2731 (32)	0.4339 (20)	2.5 (3)

^a Numbers in parentheses in all tables and in the text are estimated standard deviations in the least significant figures. ^b An isotropic thermal ellipsoid of the form $\exp[-(h^2\beta_{11} + k^2\beta_{22} + l^2\beta_{33} + 2hkh\beta_{12} + 2hkl\beta_{13} + 2kl\beta_{23})]$ was assigned to the copper atom. The final thermal parameters β_{ij} are 0.0314 (9), 0.0151 (24), 0.0108 (4), 0.0104 (8), 0.0127 (5), and 0.036 (4), respectively.

solely on the basis of the observed variations in isotropic thermal parameters. Some structural features relevant to the assignment of the urea model are presented in the Discussion. In line with our preference for an O-bonded urea, all tabulated data are derived from the final cycle of least-squares refinement on model 3 in which no parameter shifted by more than 0.4 standard deviation. The final standard deviation of an observation of unit weight was 0.76.

A final difference Fourier map was calculated on which the maximum peak height was $1.3 \text{ e}^-/\text{\AA}^3$. This may be compared with a peak height range 2.1–5.3 $\text{e}^-/\text{\AA}^3$ observed for the carbon, nitrogen, and oxygen atoms on the previous difference map. No convincing evidence of the effects of hydrogen atoms was found on this map.

The least-squares program UCILS2, a local version of the Busing–Martin–Levy program ORFLS, was employed throughout the refinement. The scattering factor tables compiled by Ibers were used for Cu, O, N, and C.³² The correction for anomalous scattering by Cu incorporated the $\Delta f'$ and $\Delta f''$ values of Cromer.³³ The final values of observed and calculated structure factors are listed in Table III. Unobserved data were not included in the refinement; however structure factors up to the limiting value of θ were calculated for the unobserved reflections. These revealed no significant discrepancies within the experimentally accessible region of reciprocal space.

The final atomic positional and thermal parameters for the O-coordinated urea model of copper(II) formate monourea are presented in Table II. The principal root-mean-square amplitudes of thermal motion for the copper atom are 0.141 (4), 0.167 (14), and 0.236 (4) \AA .³⁴ Interatomic distances and angles are tabulated in Tables IV and V. These values and their

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(34) The axis of minimum rms amplitude is roughly (within 10°) parallel to the Cu–Cu vector. Maximum thermal motion occurs approximately in the O(1)–O(3) direction.

TABLE III

FINAL VALUES OF OBSERVED AND CALCULATED STRUCTURE FACTORS IN ELECTRONS (×10)

H	L	FO	FC	H	L	FO	FC	H	L	FO	FC	H	L	FO	FC	H	L	FO	FC	H	L	FO	FC																
0	-2	1K	15.3	5	-4	118	135	3	4	105	99	-3	4	400	383	2	-9	307	262	-4	4	121	129	3	-8	149	152	-4	-3	210	228	-1	-2	282	275	1	3	117	81

TABLE IV

INTRAMOLECULAR DISTANCES AND ANGLES

Distances, Å		Angles, Deg	
Cu...Cu ^a	2.657 (7)	Cu-O(1)-C(1)	121.9 (13)
Cu-O(1)	1.939 (16)	Cu-O(2)-C(2)	124.8 (13)
Cu-O(2)	1.946 (14)	Cu-O(3)-C(1)'	129.0 (14)
Cu-O(3)	1.965 (16)	Cu-O(4)-C(2)'	125.9 (13)
Cu-O(4)	1.959 (16)	Cu-O(5)-C(3)	132.4 (13)
		O(1)-C(1)-O(3)'	121.6 (19)
		O(2)-C(2)-O(4)'	122.3 (19)
		O(5)-C(3)-N(1)	121.9 (17)
		O(5)-C(3)-N(2)	119.2 (18)
		N(1)-C(3)-N(2)	118.7 (16)
		N(1)...O(4)-Cu	85.2 (6)
		N(1)...O(4)-C(2)	148.4 (13)
		O(5)-Cu-O(1)	98.4 (6)
		O(5)-Cu-O(2)	93.1 (6)
		O(5)-Cu-O(3)	94.1 (6)
		O(5)-Cu-O(4)	99.8 (6)

TABLE V

INTERMOLECULAR CONTACTS LESS THAN 3.4 Å

O(1)...N(1)'	x, y, 1 + z	3.21 (2)
O(1)...N(2)'	x, y, 1 + z	3.35 (2)
O(2)...N(2)'	x, 1 - y, 1 + z	3.13 (2)
O(2)...C(2)'	x, 1 - y, z	3.30 (3)
O(3)...C(2)	1 - x, y, z	3.33 (2)
O(5)...N(2)'	x, 1 - y, 1 + z	2.97 (3)
N(1)...N(1)'	x, y, 1 + z	3.37 (3)
N(1)...C(3)'	x, y, 1 + z	3.29 (3)

of interatomic correlations and estimated errors in the lattice constants. Least-squares planes were calculated using a modified version of D. L. Smith's program PLANET. Data concerning these planes are presented in Table VI. Other programs utilized during the course of this structure determination included a version of Zalkin's Fourier summation program FORAP, and the plotting program DANFIG, by R. J. Dellaca and W. T. Robinson.

Discussion

The crystal structure of copper(II) formate monourea is composed of centrosymmetric dimers, [Cu(O₂CH)₂OC(NH₂)₂]₂. Four bidentate formate anions form syn-syn bridges between isolated pairs of copper atoms separated by 2.657 (7) Å. A diagram of the dimeric unit with pertinent intramolecular distances appears in Figure 1. The copper to formate oxygen distances range from 1.939 to 1.965 (16) Å. The copper to urea oxygen distance is 2.114 (13) Å. The metal atom is displaced 0.22 Å toward the urea ligand from the plane containing the four coordinated formate oxygen atoms. This molecular structure for copper(II) formate monourea is closely related to the reported structures of several other dimeric cupric carboxylate adducts, Cu₂(O₂CR)₄L₂: R = H, L = 1/2(dioxane),¹⁶ NCS⁻,¹⁸ R = CH₃, L = H₂O,^{9,12}

^a Throughout this paper, primes refer to atoms related by the molecular center of symmetry to atoms in the asymmetric unit.

estimated standard deviations were computed with the Busing-Martin-Levy function and error program ORFFE; the standard deviations include the effects

TABLE VI
 LEAST-SQUARES PLANES^a

 1. Plane Containing O(1), O(2), O(3), and O(4)
 Equation of Plane:^b $0.3723X + 0.4431Y - 0.8155Z = -1.1107$

Distances of atoms to plane, Å			
O(1)	-0.004	O(5)	-2.325
O(2)	0.004	C(1)	1.171
O(3)	-0.004	C(1)'	1.050
O(4)	0.004	C(2)	1.132
Cu	-0.216	C(2)'	1.090
Cu'	2.437		

 2. Plane Containing O(1), O(3), C(1), and Their
 Centrosymmetric Equivalents
 Equation of Plane: $-0.7886X + 0.6145Y - 0.0221Z = 0.0000$

Distances of Atoms to Plane, Å			
O(1)	-0.004	Cu	-0.006
O(3)	0.004	O(5)	-0.126
C(1)	0.005	N(2)	0.394

 3. Plane Containing O(2), O(4), C(2), and Their
 Centrosymmetric Equivalents
 Equation of Plane: $-0.5049X - 0.6783Y - 0.5338Z = 0.0000$

Distances of atoms to planes, Å			
O(2)	0.002	Cu	0.000
O(4)	-0.002	O(5)	0.192
C(2)	-0.003	N(2)	0.345

 4. Plane Containing O(5), N(1), N(2), and C(3)
 Equation of Plane:

$$-0.4556X - 0.6723Y - 0.5835Z = -0.0235$$

Distances of Atoms to Plane, Å			
O(5)	0.009	C(3)	-0.026
N(1)	0.009	O(2)	0.023
N(2)	0.008	O(4)	-0.112

Angles between Perpendiculars to Planes

Nos. of planes	Angle, deg	Nos. of planes	Angle, deg
1, 4	89.5	2, 4	92.3
2, 3	90.4	3, 4	4.0

^a Unit weights were employed in the calculation of all planes.

^b The equations of the planes are expressed with respect to coordinates (X, Y, Z) referred to an orthogonal coordinate system (A, B, C) oriented with respect to the crystallographic axes (a, b, c) such that A is parallel to a and B lies in the (a, b) plane.

C₃H₅N (monoclinic¹⁰ and orthorhombic¹¹ crystalline forms), NCS⁻,¹⁸ quinoline,¹⁴ RCO₂⁻ = succinate, L = H₂O;¹³ and RCO₂⁻ = acetylsalicylate, L = acetyl oxygen.¹⁷ In addition some structural data for two related anhydrous compounds (R = C₂H₅ and *n*-C₃H₇) have been briefly reported.¹⁵

Apparent differences exist between the copper-copper and copper-apical oxygen distances found in the present study and those observed for cupric formate hemidioxane, the other neutral, dimeric copper(II) formate adduct for which X-ray structural data are available. However, the structural determination of the latter compound was based upon two-dimensional data and its precision is difficult to assess.¹⁶ Hence we shall not discuss these differences further and shall employ our results in all comparisons.

The most notable point which emerges from a comparison of the molecular parameters of copper(II) formate monourea with those reported for other dimeric copper(II) carboxylates is the lack of any significant structural trends which may be related to the variations in magnetic properties of these compounds.

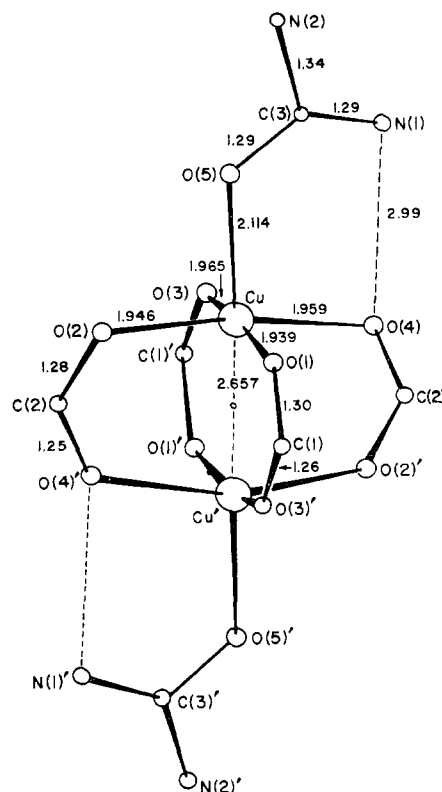


Figure 1.—Molecular structure of dimeric copper(II) formate monourea.

In particular, the Cu-Cu distance of 2.657 (7) Å in the urea adduct is 0.043 Å longer than the value of 2.614 Å reported for cupric acetate monohydrate,¹² even though the exchange coupling is greater in the former compound.³⁵ A similar observation was made by Goodgame, *et al.* (*vide supra*), for [(CH₃)₄N]₂[Cu₂(O₂CR)₄(NCS)₂], R = H, CH₃. As these workers pointed out, there is at present no simple reconciliation of the longer Cu-Cu separation and the greater exchange coupling in the formate adducts with the view that a direct metal-metal interaction is present in these dimers.¹⁸ Thus the reason for the longer Cu-Cu distance in the formate dimers together with the mechanism of exchange coupling remains uncertain.

It was noted by Goodgame, *et al.*, that in spite of the long Cu-Cu distance in the anionic formate complex, the path length *via* the bridging ligand (*i.e.*, the total Cu-O-C-O-Cu distance) was shorter in the formate than in the acetate derivative.¹⁸ Though we cannot make as direct a comparison as theirs, it is of some interest that the mean bridging path length of 6.45 Å for the present compound is the same as the corresponding distance of 6.45 Å found in hydrated cupric acetate. In fact, this distance is virtually identical (6.44 ± 0.02 Å) for all dimeric cupric carboxylates with the lone exception of Cu₂(O₂CCH₃)₄(NCS)₂²⁻ (6.54 Å). The difference of 0.10 Å for this compound is primarily due to its Cu-O bond length of 2.03 (1) Å, about

(35) Temperature-dependent magnetic susceptibility investigations have not been reported for copper(II) formate monourea. However the low room-temperature magnetic moment³⁶ and the structure suggest that exchange coupling would be of the order observed for other dimeric copper(II) formate adducts,⁸ $|2J| > 480 \text{ cm}^{-1}$.

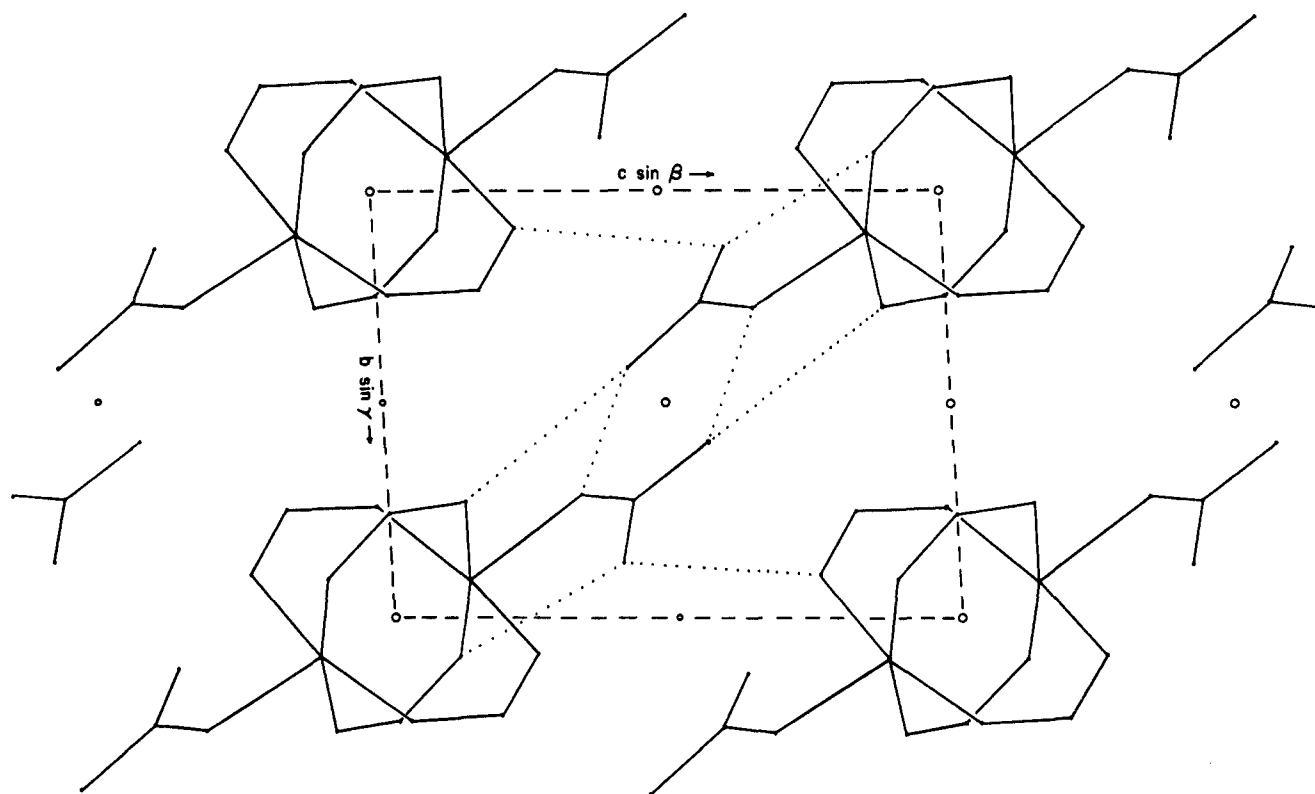


Figure 2.—Projection of the structure of copper(II) formate monourea onto a plane perpendicular to the [100] direction.

0.05 Å longer than is commonly found in bridged cupric carboxylates.

The configuration of the urea addend was another source of interest in the structure of copper(II) formate monourea. The structure of free urea has been ascertained with a high degree of accuracy³⁶ but very few reliable structural details are available on coordinated urea.^{27–31}

The experimental treatment of the question of O bonding *vs.* N bonding of the urea ligand has already been discussed (*vide supra*). The important points to be reemphasized here are: (a) The precision of this structural analysis was not sufficient to permit the determination of hydrogen atom positions or an unequivocal distinction by other means between the oxygen and nitrogen atoms. (b) The atomic positional parameters (hence the derived bond lengths and angles) are invariant to which of the three possible urea models is chosen. (c) On the basis of isotropic thermal parameters for the urea oxygen and nitrogen atoms and other considerations to be outlined below, we consider the O-bonded model for the urea (model 3 of Table I) to be the most likely alternative and have labeled the atoms accordingly throughout this paper. Infrared spectral studies of cupric formate monourea have been carried out, but were inconclusive as to the mode of urea coordination.²⁶

The urea ligand is directly bonded by O(5) to the copper atom [2.114 (13) Å] and is involved in a close intramolecular contact between N(1) and carboxylate

oxygen O(4) [2.99 (2) Å]. While this latter interatomic distance exceeds the sum of two oxygen van der Waals radii (2.8 Å), it is in close agreement with reported distances for proposed nitrogen-to-oxygen hydrogen-bonding contacts in free urea.³⁶ The angles associated with the six-membered ring completed by this plausible intramolecular hydrogen bond are of some relevance. The Cu'–Cu–O(5) angle is not linear [174.0 (4)°], the O(5)–Cu–O(1–4) angles vary in the range 93.1 (6)–99.8 (6)°, and the Cu–O(5)–C(3) angle is 132.4 (13)° (these angles appear in Table IV). The least-squares plane containing the urea ligand is very nearly parallel to the plane containing the *trans*-carboxylate ring which incorporates O(4) (*cf.* planes 3 and 4, Table VI). The above structural features are consistent with the presence of the proposed intramolecular hydrogen bond between N(1) and O(4) and thus favor model 2 or model 3 (*cf.* Table I) for the urea coordination.

The bond distances within the urea ligand are C(3)–O(5) = 1.29 (2), C(3)–N(1) = 1.29 (2), and C(3)–N(2) = 1.34 (2) Å. These may be compared with the reported distances for free urea [C–O = 1.270 (7); C–N = 1.326 (6) Å³⁶] and for O-coordinated urea in Ti(NH₂CONH₂)₆I₃ (C–O = 1.27; C–N = 1.33, 1.35 Å³¹).

The crystal packing of copper(II) formate monourea is depicted in the two projections of Figures 2 and 3. From these diagrams it can be seen that the crystal is built up of alternating layers of urea and Cu₂(O₂CH)₄ moieties (approximately perpendicular to the *c* axis). Intermolecular contacts up to 3.4 Å are

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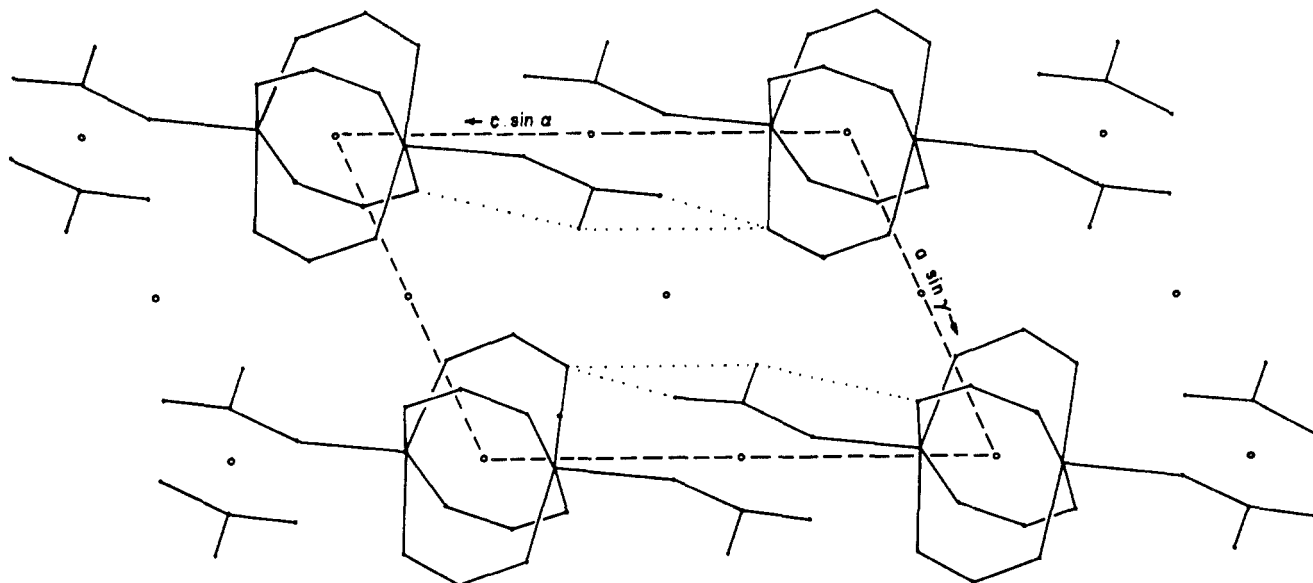


Figure 3.—Projection of the structure of copper(II) formate monourea onto a plane perpendicular to the [010] direction.

tabulated in Table V and the more plausible hydrogen-bonding interactions are illustrated in Figures 2 and 3.

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CONTRIBUTION FROM THE AEROSPACE RESEARCH LABORATORIES, ARC,
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO 45433

The Crystal and Molecular Structure of the Acetylacetonimine Adduct of Ytterbium Acetylacetonate, $\text{Yb}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_7\text{O}_2)_3(\text{CH}_3\text{COCH}=\text{C}(\text{NH}_2)\text{CH}_3)$

By MARY FRANCES RICHARDSON,¹ P. W. R. CORFIELD, DONALD E. SANDS, AND ROBERT E. SIEVERS

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The crystal structure of tris(acetylacetonato)(4-amino-3-penten-2-one)ytterbium, $\text{Yb}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_7\text{O}_2)_3(\text{CH}_3\text{COCH}=\text{C}(\text{NH}_2)\text{CH}_3)$, has been determined from three-dimensional X-ray diffraction data. A total of 1301 independent nonzero reflections were collected by counter methods. Four formula units crystallize in a monoclinic unit cell with dimensions $a = 18.070$ (7), $b = 8.538$ (10), $c = 15.938$ (6) Å; $\beta = 99.13$ (10)°. The observed and calculated densities are both 1.56 g/cm³; the space group is $P2_1/c$. The structure was refined by full-matrix least-squares methods to a conventional R factor of 0.073. The ytterbium atom is seven-coordinate, being bonded to six acetylacetonate oxygen atoms and the oxygen atom from the acetylacetonimine molecule. The coordination polyhedron is a capped trigonal prism, with an acetylacetonate oxygen as the capping atom. The NH_2 group in acetylacetonimine is hydrogen bonded to the acetylacetonate oxygen atoms in a glide-related molecule, thus linking the molecules in chains parallel to (100). The metal-acetylacetonate rings are folded about the O—O lines, at angles ranging from 10.1 to 19.6°. The Yb—O(acetylacetonimine) distance of 2.24 (2) Å is practically the same as the average of the six Yb—O(acetylacetonate) distances, 2.23 (2) Å.

In recent studies of rare earth acetylacetonates ($\text{Ln}(\text{acac})_3$),² it was found that an acetylacetonimine (Hacim) solvate, with the formula $\text{Ln}(\text{acac})_3 \cdot \text{Hacim}$, is fairly easily obtained for Yb and Lu by the ordinary Stites, McCarty, and Quill preparation method.³ Both

the Yb and Lu compounds can be recrystallized unchanged from acetylacetone and a variety of other solvents.² Infrared spectra² suggest that the Hacim exists in the amine tautomeric form, 4-amino-3-penten-2-one (1). The crystal structure of the Yb compound has been determined in order to discover what structure

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