

The Crystal Structure of Bis(isopropylammonium)tetrachlorocuprate(II)

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The structure of the low temperature (green) phase of the thermochromic compound bis(isopropylammonium)tetrachlorocuprate(II), $[(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CHNH}_3]_2\text{CuCl}_4$, has been determined by X-ray diffraction. The compound crystallizes in the triclinic space group $P1$ with lattice constants of $a = 7.245(1)\text{Å}$, $b = 14.588(1)\text{Å}$, $c = 21.738(1)\text{Å}$, $\alpha = 87.08(1)^\circ$, $\beta = 103.59(1)^\circ$ and $\gamma = 104.73(1)^\circ$ at 20°C . There are six formula units per unit cell. Least squares refinement of 3240 reflections with $I > 2\sigma_1$ led to a final value of $R = 7.3\%$. The structure contains discrete CuCl_4^{2-} ions which pack together to form infinite ribbons parallel to the a -axis. The ribbons are held together by hydrogen bonds between the CuCl_4^{2-} ions and the isopropylammonium ions. One-third of the CuCl_4^{2-} ions have a square planar geometry; the other two-thirds have a small tetrahedral distortion superimposed on the square planar configuration.

Introduction

A number of yellow (high temperature) thermochromic salts of the series $(\text{R-NH}_3)_2\text{CuCl}_4^{1-3}$ have now been studied and their structures determined. They all contain square planar CuCl_4^{2-} ions arranged to form infinite sheets as shown in Fig. 1. Of these compounds, only the isopropylammonium salt shows a first order phase transition, which occurs at 56°C .⁴ The room temperature structure of this compound has been determined.

Preparation and Data Collection

The compound $[(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CHNH}_3]_2\text{CuCl}_4$ was prepared by the evaporation of a methanol solution containing a 2:1 molar ratio of $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CHNH}_2 \cdot \text{HCl}$ and CuCl_2 . It crystallizes as needles along the $\langle 100 \rangle$ direction which, in the sample used for data collection, was .05 cm long by .03 cm by .03 cm. The lattice con-

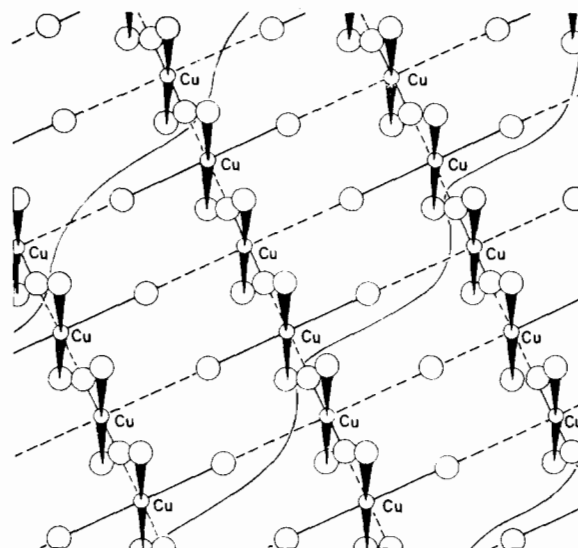


Figure 1. The infinite two-dimensional sheets found in the high temperature (yellow) phase of the $(\text{R-NH}_3)_2\text{CuCl}_4$ salts. The dashed lines indicate Cu-Cl distance in excess of 2.79Å . The curved lines represent possible fracture points for change to the ribbon structure of $[(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CHNH}_3]_2\text{CuCl}_4$.

stants for the triclinic cell, determined from 24 measurements of 2θ on a Picker 4-circle diffractometer, are $a = 7.245(1)\text{Å}$, $b = 14.588(1)\text{Å}$, $c = 21.738(1)\text{Å}$, $\alpha = 87.08(1)^\circ$, $\beta = 103.59(1)^\circ$, and $\gamma = 104.73(1)^\circ$. (The reduced cell has constants $a = 14.545\text{Å}$, $b = 21.237\text{Å}$, $c = 7.245\text{Å}$, $\alpha = 95.79^\circ$, $\beta = 104.07^\circ$ and $\gamma = 89.12^\circ$). The crystals sink very slowly in chloroform (1.47g/cc), and the calculated density for $z = 6$ (six molecules per unit cell) is 1.50g/cc .

Intensity data were collected on a manual Picker 4-circle diffractometer using Ni filtered $\text{Cu K}\alpha$ radiation. A $\theta-2\theta$ scan technique was used with 60 second scans and 20 second backgrounds before and after each scan. The linear absorption coefficient was 86.8cm^{-1} . No absorption corrections were applied. Of the 4454 reflections collected, 3240 were considered observed.⁵

TABLE I. Parameters for $[(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CHNH}_3]_2\text{CuCl}_4$.^{a, b}

Atom	x	y	z	U(1,1)	U(2,2)	U(3,3)	U(1,2)	U(1,3)	U(2,3)
Cu-1	0.5900	0.5900	0.0	0.0515(26)	0.0457(24)	0.0399(23)	0.0040(10)	0.0036(10)	-0.0001(9)
Cu-2	0.0	0.0	0.5000	0.0530(26)	0.0492(25)	0.0416(24)	0.0072(10)	0.0005(10)	-0.0008(10)
Cu-3	0.1901(4)	0.7060(7)	0.1265(1)	0.0548(19)	0.0503(18)	0.0498(18)	0.0091(8)	0.0043(7)	-0.0004(7)
Cu-4	0.4749(4)	0.1878(2)	0.3559(1)	0.0593(20)	0.0660(20)	0.0492(18)	0.0073(8)	0.0060(8)	-0.0007(8)
Cl-1	0.5337(7)	0.3937(3)	0.0810(2)	0.0485(34)	0.0321(30)	0.0294(30)	0.0032(13)	0.0039(13)	0.0037(12)
Cl-2	0.4237(8)	0.6930(4)	0.5708(3)	0.0805(46)	0.0535(37)	0.0680(42)	-0.0032(17)	0.0150(18)	-0.0146(16)
Cl-3	0.3741(7)	0.6189(3)	0.0745(2)	0.0439(34)	0.0373(32)	0.0527(35)	0.0061(13)	0.0093(14)	-0.0046(13)
Cl-4	0.2522(7)	0.7673(3)	0.6833(2)	0.0483(36)	0.0554(36)	0.0415(33)	0.0080(15)	0.0104(14)	0.0050(14)
Cl-5	0.2493(6)	0.9472(3)	0.5616(2)	0.0339(31)	0.0442(32)	0.0301(30)	0.0073(13)	-0.0001(12)	0.0023(12)
Cl-6	0.2799(6)	0.8360(3)	0.0731(3)	0.0627(40)	0.0441(36)	0.0756(43)	0.0137(16)	0.0160(17)	0.0108(15)
Cl-7	0.2715(7)	0.0955(3)	0.4137(2)	0.0364(32)	0.0503(34)	0.0315(31)	0.0032(13)	0.0046(13)	0.0016(13)
Cl-8	0.1928(6)	0.4416(3)	0.9598(2)	0.0329(30)	0.0300(29)	0.0339(30)	0.0061(12)	-0.0001(12)	0.0033(12)
Cl-9	0.0888(7)	0.1357(3)	0.5624(2)	0.0478(35)	0.0372(32)	0.0352(31)	0.0039(14)	0.0003(13)	-0.0059(13)
Cl-10	0.0770(7)	0.2341(3)	0.8355(2)	0.0547(36)	0.0500(35)	0.0359(32)	0.0115(15)	0.0056(14)	-0.0042(13)
Cl-11	0.2205(9)	0.6082(4)	0.2113(3)	0.1094(55)	0.1014(52)	0.0578(42)	0.0357(22)	0.0211(20)	0.0200(18)
Cl-12	0.2770(8)	0.1289(5)	0.2631(2)	0.0512(41)	0.1575(64)	0.0340(36)	-0.0015(21)	0.0018(16)	-0.0107(19)
N-1	0.3359(23)	0.4259(10)	0.8137(6)	0.0978(138)	0.0433(107)	0.0190(94)	0.0085(50)	-0.0013(46)	0.0009(40)
C-1	0.2800(34)	0.4747(16)	0.7477(10)	0.0964(202)	0.0753(181)	0.0429(151)	0.0240(79)	0.0016(71)	-0.0001(67)
C-2	0.2359(36)	0.3385(16)	0.7007(9)	0.1370(247)	0.1027(208)	0.0380(152)	0.0027(93)	0.0048(78)	-0.0093(72)
C-3	0.4339(31)	0.5526(14)	0.7273(10)	0.0719(110)	0.0479(149)	0.0730(170)	-0.0046(66)	0.0114(70)	0.0104(63)
N-2	0.3403(20)	0.2150(9)	0.9640(6)	0.0459(107)	0.0217(91)	0.0439(104)	-0.0014(40)	0.0070(43)	0.0056(39)
C-4	0.2437(29)	0.1299(14)	0.9936(9)	0.0628(158)	0.0476(146)	0.0485(146)	0.0035(62)	0.0060(63)	0.0002(59)
C-5	0.3756(28)	0.1136(14)	0.0597(9)	0.0522(152)	0.0605(153)	0.0568(149)	0.0051(62)	-0.0023(61)	0.0056(59)
C-6	0.2927(28)	0.0422(13)	0.9500(9)	0.0731(169)	0.0321(129)	0.0694(158)	-0.0022(60)	0.0081(66)	0.0061(58)
N-3	0.1007(21)	0.2768(10)	0.4413(7)	0.0594(16)	0.0295(97)	0.0518(111)	0.0040(44)	0.0056(46)	-0.0003(42)
C-7	0.1156(34)	0.3754(16)	0.4582(14)	0.0676(192)	0.0536(134)	0.1387(275)	0.0014(75)	0.0051(93)	0.0031(89)
C-8	0.2575(40)	0.4076(17)	0.5209(12)	0.1261(259)	0.1067(231)	0.0971(276)	-0.0007(98)	0.0059(99)	-0.0287(94)
C-9	0.1544(39)	0.4399(15)	0.4007(12)	0.1301(251)	0.0367(157)	0.1275(248)	0.0042(80)	-0.0107(99)	0.0132(78)
N-4	0.0102(22)	0.4119(10)	0.6872(7)	0.0667(125)	0.0444(103)	0.0583(118)	0.0081(46)	0.0173(50)	0.0116(44)
C-10	0.0641(30)	0.3364(14)	0.1305(9)	0.0747(174)	0.0449(147)	0.0545(155)	0.0077(66)	0.0106(66)	0.0066(60)
C-11	0.9712(35)	0.2401(15)	0.0974(10)	0.1291(230)	0.0504(159)	0.0788(181)	0.0106(79)	0.0145(82)	-0.0056(68)
C-12	0.9972(30)	0.3416(15)	0.1929(9)	0.0751(174)	0.1010(191)	0.0382(143)	0.0139(73)	0.0124(65)	0.0011(65)
N-5	0.1715(21)	0.9670(10)	0.6951(6)	0.0431(109)	0.0573(116)	0.0373(100)	0.0013(46)	-0.0030(43)	-0.0082(43)
C-13	0.3060(31)	0.0168(14)	0.7447(9)	0.0859(186)	0.0466(146)	0.0429(144)	0.0096(68)	0.0003(66)	-0.0021(58)
C-14	0.2862(32)	0.1154(15)	0.7499(9)	0.0918(194)	0.0739(179)	0.0599(164)	0.0180(77)	-0.0053(70)	0.0071(68)
C-15	0.3179(35)	0.9599(15)	0.4037(9)	0.1303(230)	0.0922(185)	0.0788(138)	0.0231(85)	-0.0039(71)	0.0072(62)
N-6	0.3894(21)	0.8696(10)	0.4666(6)	0.0599(119)	0.0524(111)	0.0212(92)	0.0030(47)	0.0031(47)	0.0072(41)
C-16	0.3615(36)	0.8186(16)	0.3866(11)	0.1071(217)	0.0647(181)	0.0708(193)	0.0197(82)	0.0099(82)	-0.0064(74)
C-17	0.2605(29)	0.8649(15)	0.3099(9)	0.0558(158)	0.1001(193)	0.0341(138)	0.0151(72)	-0.0028(60)	0.0008(65)
C-18	0.3020(40)	0.7176(16)	0.3944(10)	0.1347(299)	0.0642(182)	0.0478(159)	0.0177(97)	-0.0132(85)	0.0012(68)

^a Estimated standard deviations are given in parentheses. ^b The U_{ij} are defined by $T = \exp \{-2\pi^2 \{U_{11}(ha^*)^2 + U_{22}(kb^*)^2 + U_{33}(lc^*)^2 + 2U_{12}(ha^*kb^*) + 2U_{13}(ha^*lc^*) + 2U_{23}(hb^*lc^*)\}\}$.

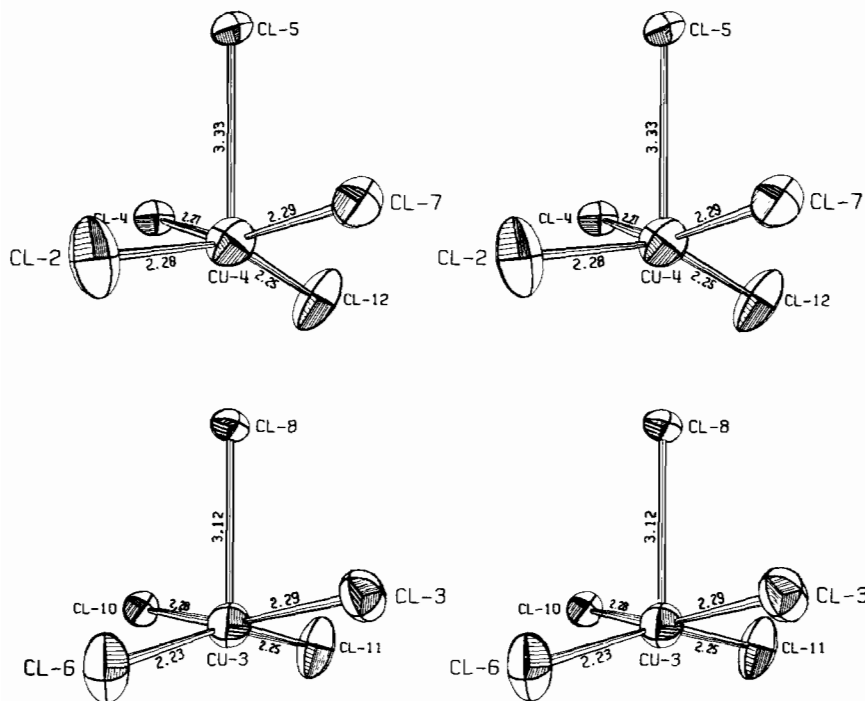


Figure 2. Copper coordination at the edges of the Cu-Cl ribbon in $[(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CHNH}_3]_2\text{CuCl}_4$ (green – low temperature phase). The upper stereo pair illustrates the coordination found in the Cu(2) ribbon, and the lower pair pictures the conformation found along the edges of the Cu(1) ribbon.

TABLE II. Bond distances and angles for $[(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CHNH}_3]_2\text{CuCl}_4$.^a

Atoms	Distance ^b (Å)	Atoms	Angle ^b (°)	Atoms	Distance ^b (Å)	Atoms	Angle ^b (°)
Centered copper coordinations							
Cu ₁ -Cl ₈ ²	2.264(11)	Cl ₈ ² -Cu ₁ -Cl ₁	89.59(39)	C ₄ -N ₂	1.46(2)	N ₂ -C ₄ -C ₅ ⁶	110.4(1.6)
Cu ₁ -Cl ₁	2.300(10)	Cl ₈ ² -Cu ₁ -Cl ₃	88.78(31)	C ₄ -C ₅ ⁶	1.57(2)	N ₂ -C ₄ -C ₆	109.8(1.6)
Cu ₁ -Cl ₃	3.103(10)	Cl ₁ -Cu ₁ -Cl ₃	92.35(21)	C ₄ -C ₆	1.56(2)	C ₅ ⁶ -C ₄ -C ₆	109.4(1.7)
Cu ₂ -Cl ₅ ³	2.264(9)	Cl ₁ -Cu ₁ -Cl ₃	92.35(21)	C ₇ -N ₃	1.53(2)	N ₃ -C ₇ -C ₈	110.6(2.1)
Cu ₂ -Cl ₉	2.322(10)	Cl ₅ ³ -Cu ₂ -Cl ₉	90.19(37)	C ₇ -C ₈	1.50(3)	N ₃ -C ₇ -C ₉	107.1(2.1)
Cu ₂ -Cl ₇	3.071(12)	Cl ₅ ³ -Cu ₂ -Cl ₇	89.73(26)	C ₇ -C ₉	1.53(3)	C ₈ -C ₇ -C ₉	117.4(2.2)
		Cl ₉ -Cu ₂ -Cl ₇	91.19(32)	C ₁₀ -N ₄	1.48(2)	N ₄ -C ₁₀ -C ₁₁ ⁴	109.1(1.7)
Non-centered copper coordination							
Cu ₃ -Cl ₆	2.233(10)	Cl ₆ -Cu ₃ -Cl ₁₁	155.38(30)	C ₁₀ -C ₁₁ ⁴	1.53(2)	N ₄ -C ₁₀ -C ₁₂ ⁴	109.7(1.6)
Cu ₃ -Cl ₁₁	2.247(10)	Cl ₆ -Cu ₃ -Cl ₁₀ ⁵	92.68(31)	C ₁₀ -C ₁₂ ⁴	1.56(2)	C ₁₁ ⁴ -C ₁₀ -C ₁₂ ⁴	111.9(1.8)
Cu ₃ -Cl ₁₀ ⁵	2.279(8)	Cl ₆ -Cu ₃ -Cl ₃	92.27(26)	C ₁₃ -N ₅ ³	1.56(2)	N ₅ ³ -C ₁₃ -C ₁₄	107.7(1.7)
Cu ₃ -Cl ₃	2.290(8)	Cl ₆ -Cu ₃ -Cl ₈ ⁵	104.04(38)	C ₁₃ -C ₁₄	1.50(2)	N ₅ ³ -C ₁₃ -C ₁₅ ³	106.8(1.7)
Cu ₃ -Cl ₈ ⁵	3.123(17)	Cl ₁₁ -Cu ₃ -Cl ₁₀ ⁵	91.73(32)	C ₁₃ -C ₁₅ ³	1.49(3)	C ₁₄ -C ₁₃ -C ₁₅ ³	116.0(1.8)
		Cl ₁₁ -Cu ₃ -Cl ₃	90.52(26)	C ₁₆ -N ₆	1.48(2)	N ₆ -C ₁₆ -C ₁₇	113.0(1.8)
		Cl ₁₁ -Cu ₃ -Cl ₈ ⁵	100.55(38)	C ₁₆ -C ₁₇	1.48(3)	N ₆ -C ₁₆ -C ₁₈	111.3(2.0)
		Cl ₁₀ ⁵ -Cu ₃ -Cl ₃	162.97(23)	C ₁₆ -C ₁₈	1.44(3)	C ₁₇ -C ₁₆ -C ₁₈	120.0(2.1)
		Cl ₁₀ ⁵ -Cu ₃ -Cl ₈ ⁵	82.40(26)	Copper-copper distances			
		Cl ₃ -Cu ₃ -Cl ₈ ⁵	80.59(29)	Cu ₁ -Cu ₃	5.39(2)		
Cu ₄ -Cl ₁₂	2.250(11)	Cl ₁₂ -Cu ₄ -Cl ₄ ¹	94.39(33)	Cu ₂ -Cu ₄	5.35(2)		
Cu ₄ -Cl ₄ ¹	2.267(8)	Cl ₁₂ -Cu ₄ -Cl ₂ ¹	147.77(35)	Cu ₁ -Cu ₂	13.48(5)		
Cu ₄ -Cl ₂ ¹	2.278(11)	Cl ₁₂ -Cu ₄ -Cl ₇	93.18(36)				
Cu ₄ -Cl ₇	2.88(10)	Cl ₁₂ -Cu ₄ -Cl ₅ ¹	117.13(32)				
Cu ₄ -Cl ₅ ¹	3.326(14)	Cl ₄ ¹ -Cu ₄ -Cl ₂ ¹	94.17(33)				
		Cl ₄ ¹ -Cu ₄ -Cl ₇	155.62(26)				
		Cl ₄ ¹ -Cu ₄ -Cl ₅ ¹	78.55(30)				
		Cl ₂ ¹ -Cu ₄ -Cl ₇	91.67(33)				
		Cl ₂ ¹ -Cu ₄ -Cl ₅ ¹	95.00(31)				
		Cl ₇ -Cu ₄ -Cl ₅ ¹	77.37(27)				
$(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CHNH}_3^+$ Ion distances and angles							
C ₁ -N ₁	1.55(2)	N ₁ -C ₁ -C ₂	102.8(1.6)				
C ₁ -C ₂	1.58(3)	N ₁ -C ₁ -C ₃	112.2(1.8)				
C ₁ -C ₃	1.48(3)	C ₂ -C ₁ -C ₃	115.4(2.0)				

^a The subscript refers to the atoms as numbered in Table I. The superscript (if present) refers to the following translations of those values:

- 1: $x-1, y-1, z-1$
- 2: $x, y, z-1$
- 3: $x, y-1, z$
- 4: $x-1, y, z$
- 5: $-x, 1-y, 1-z$
- 6: $x, y, 1+z$
- 7: $1-x, 2-y, 1-z$.

^b Estimated standard deviations in the last figures given are reported in parentheses.

Determination of Structure

An E-map calculated from the most probably set of signs produced by the University of Chicago symbolic addition programs⁶ provided locations for all the copper and chlorine atoms. Refinement of these positions to a residual index of 0.26 ($R = \sum |\Delta F| / \sum |F|$) produced several trial positions for nitrogen and carbon from a difference Fourier. Refinement of the light atoms did not proceed satisfactorily, so the copper and chlorine atom parameters only were refined with their isotropic temperature factors to an R of 0.23. At this point, a β -synthesis⁷ provided sufficient peaks for all the remaining atoms (except hydrogen). This is similar to a conventional electron density map except the coefficients are $|F_{\text{obs}}|^2 / |F_{\text{calc}}|$. This em-

phasizes the unknown atoms at the expense of the known atoms. All except one of these positions were refined successfully. The last carbon atom was located on a difference Fourier map calculated when $R = 0.12$. Temperature factors were gradually changed to anisotropic over the range $R = .16 - .08$. The unobserved reflections were omitted from the final three cycles of full-matrix least squares refinement in which all parameters were varied simultaneously.⁸ A final value of $R = 0.073$ was obtained. The largest peak remaining on the difference map after refinement was $0.7 \text{ e}/\text{\AA}^3$. Final parameters are listed in Table I. Bond distances and angles were computed with the ORFFE program⁹ and may be found in Fig. 2 and in Table II. The potential N-H...Cl interactions are listed in Table III.

TABLE III. Potential N–H...Cl interactions in the green (low temperature) phase of $[(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CHNH}_3]_2\text{CuCl}_4$. All distances below 3.75 Å are listed.^a

Atoms ^b	Distance ^c (Å)	Angle ^c (°)	Atoms ^b	Distance ^c (Å)	Angle ^c (°)
N ₁ –Cl ₃ ¹	3.23	148	N ₄ –Cl ₈ ⁵	3.29	156
N ₁ –Cl ₁₀	3.24	114	N ₄ –Cl ₃	3.33	123
N ₁ –Cl ₁ ¹	3.34	106	N ₄ –Cl ₈ ²	3.34	109
N ₁ –Cl ₈	3.56	138	N ₄ –Cl ₁ ⁴	3.37	106
N ₁ –Cl ₁₁	3.56	95			
N ₂ –Cl ₃ ¹	3.20	161	N ₅ –Cl ₁₂ ⁵	3.18	120
N ₂ –Cl ₁₀	3.21	104	N ₅ –Cl ₇ ⁵	3.20	165
N ₂ –Cl ₈	3.30	121	N ₅ –Cl ₄	3.25	99
N ₂ –Cl ₆ ¹	3.30	106	N ₅ –Cl ₅	3.28	108
N ₂ –Cl ₁ ⁶	3.52	107			
N ₃ –Cl ₄ ⁵	3.22	104	N ₆ –Cl ₅ ⁷	3.26	102
N ₃ –Cl ₉	3.26	113	N ₆ –Cl ₅	3.26	155
N ₃ –Cl ₇	3.31	155	N ₆ –Cl ₇ ¹	3.40	136
N ₃ –Cl ₂ ¹	3.43	98	N ₆ –Cl ₉ ⁵	3.41	98
N ₃ –Cl ₅ ⁵	3.58	136	N ₆ ³ –Cl ₇	3.62	110
			N ₆ –Cl ₉	3.65	62

^a The angles included are those with the listed nitrogen as vertex, the listed chlorine as one leg, and the carbon bonded to the nitrogen as the second leg. ^b The subscript refers to the atoms as numbered in Table I. The superscript (if present) refers to the following translations of those values:

- 1: $x-1, y-1, z-1$
- 2: $x, y, z-1$
- 3: $x, y-1, z$
- 4: $x-1, y, z$
- 5: $-x, 1-y, 1-z$
- 6: $x, y, 1+z$
- 7: $1-x, 2-y, 1-z$.

^c Estimated standard deviations for all distances and angles are ca. 0.02 Å and ca. 2°, respectively.

The Structure

The basic feature of the structure is a pair of crystallographically independent copper–chlorine “ribbons” extending parallel to the *a*-axis. Cu(1), Cu(3), Cl(1), Cl(3), Cl(6), Cl(8), Cl(10), and Cl(11) make up one ribbon as shown in Figure 3. The second ribbon contains Cu(2), Cu(4), Cl(2), Cl(4), Cl(5), Cl(7), Cl(9), and Cl(12). As may be noted in the schematic diagram of Figure 4, these ribbons (numbered for the centered copper that they contain) are placed diagonally across the *ab* and *ac* faces of the unit cell. The ribbons may be viewed as cut from the planar Cu–Cl sheets present in $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CuCl}_4$ as suggested by the curved lines of Figure 1. To attain the current structure, these ribbons then orient themselves at nearly right angles and relax the rigid square planar conformation for the “edge” chlorine atoms.

There are four crystallographic independent copper atoms in the unit cell. Cu(1) and Cu(2) are located at centers of symmetry and have a planar configuration with Cu–Cl bond distances of 2.26–2.35 Å. In the pseudo-octahedral positions two additional chlorine atoms are situated at either 3.10 Å [in Cu(1) chain]

or 3.07 Å [in the Cu(2) chain]. The coordination geometries of Cu(3) and Cu(4) have slight tetrahedral distortion superimposed on the basic square planar conformation, as shown in Figure 2. In both Figures 2 and 3, these non-centered copper atoms may be seen to have only one of their two octahedral “holes” occupied by chlorine atoms coordinated to the copper atoms at the center of symmetry. The Cu–Cl distances are 3.12 and 3.33 Å, respectively. This completes the chain or ribbon, although the isopropylammonium ions must be added to “flesh out” the ribbon. As may be noted after careful examination of Figure 5, these ribbons, after the addition of the cations on each face, actually resemble rectangular columns.

The nitrogen atoms of the isopropylammonium groups extend into the layer of chlorine atoms that protrudes from each face of the ribbon. These nitrogen atoms each have at least four chlorine atoms below the upper limit for H-bond distances (see below). N(4) is situated *ca.* halfway between the Cl(1) in adjacent cells [and also between the Cu(1)]. It fills the “hole” (as seen in Figure 3) that occurs once each cell unit along the $\langle 100 \rangle$ direction in the face of the Cu(1) ribbon. N(6) fulfills the same service for

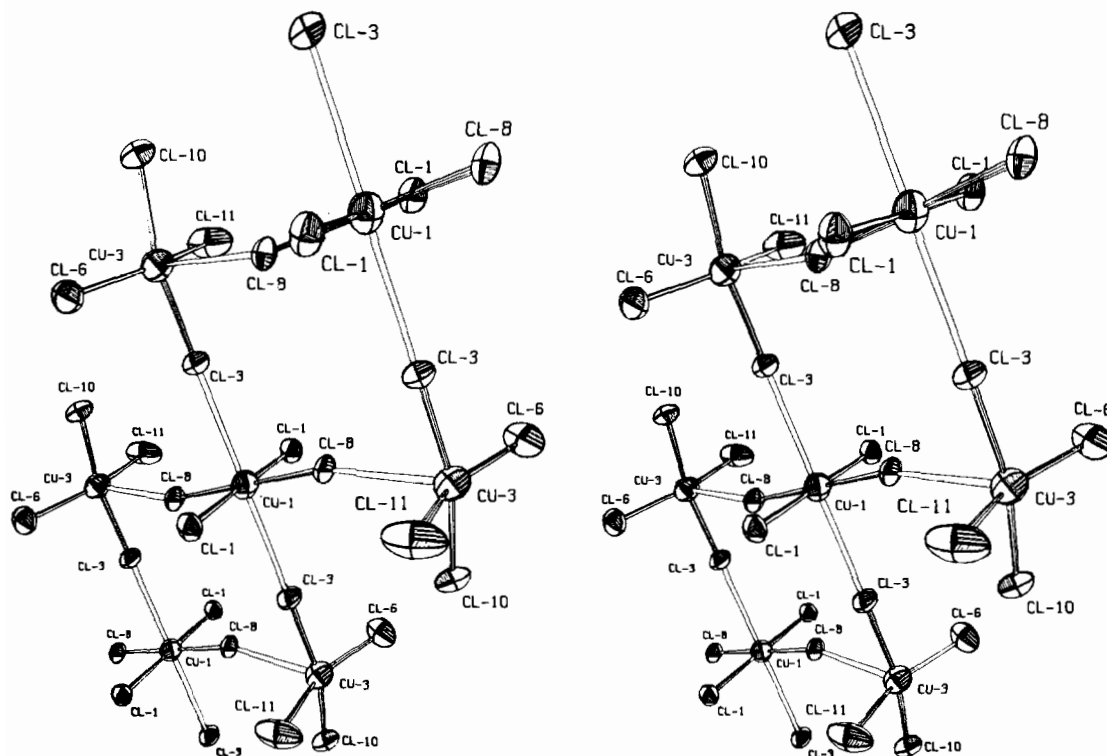


Figure 3. The structure of the Cu(1) ribbon in $[(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CHNH}_3]_2\text{CuCl}_4$ (green – low temperature phase). Copper(1) from three-unit cells in the $\langle 100 \rangle$ direction are shown.

the Cu(2) ribbon. The remaining four nitrogen atoms are at close hydrogen bond distances (3.18–3.23 Å) to the chlorine atoms which comprise the ribbon edges. These have their associated isopropyl groups tilted out away from the center of the ribbon as one might well expect by considering the steric crowding on each face

(see Figure 5). It is this tilting of the isopropyl groups which prevents the lateral extension of the ribbons into the two-dimensional sheets found in the high temperature phase of $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{NH}_3)_2\text{CuCl}_4$ and related compounds.

Hydrogen Bonding

This structure presents some interesting structural questions in interpreting N–H...Cl hydrogen bond distances. As can be seen from Table IV, the isopropylammonium groups approach the Cu–Cl layers so that the ammonium group forms an “umbrella” over one of the chloride ions, leading to C–N–Cl angles intermediate between tetrahedral and linear (range, 148–165°). Although van der Waals’ radius is not well defined for the ammonium ion, Pimentel and McClellan¹⁰ favor a value of 3.45 Å for the N–Cl distance. Since the N–Cl distances corresponding to the nearly linear C–N–Cl angles are all ≤ 3.31 Å, these must be considered hydrogen bonds although they do not fit in the familiar pattern of linear N–H...Cl bonds (the latter would lead to a C–N–Cl angle of 109°). In addition to this, there are (with one exception) three other N–Cl distances less than 3.45 Å for each isopropylammonium ion. Examination of the structure reveals that these are not ideally situated for the hy-

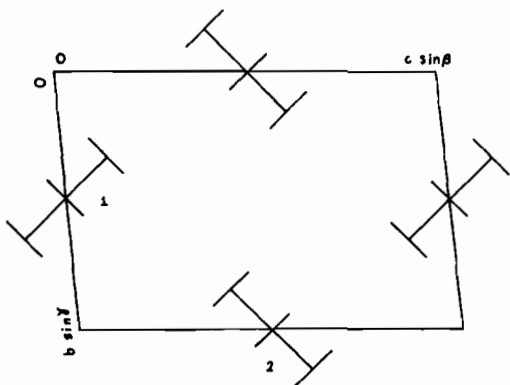


Figure 4. Schematic view of the unit cell of $[(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CHNH}_3]_2\text{CuCl}_4$ (green – low temperature phase) parallel to the $\langle 100 \rangle$ direction. The copper-chlorine ribbons extend parallel to the a-axis.

and 10|F_{calc}|, respectively. A negative sign preceding the value of 10|F_{obs}| denotes a reflection with I>2σ_I.

Table with columns for h, k, l, F_{obs}, F_{calc}, and various reflection indices. The table lists numerous reflections with their corresponding observed and calculated structure factor magnitudes.

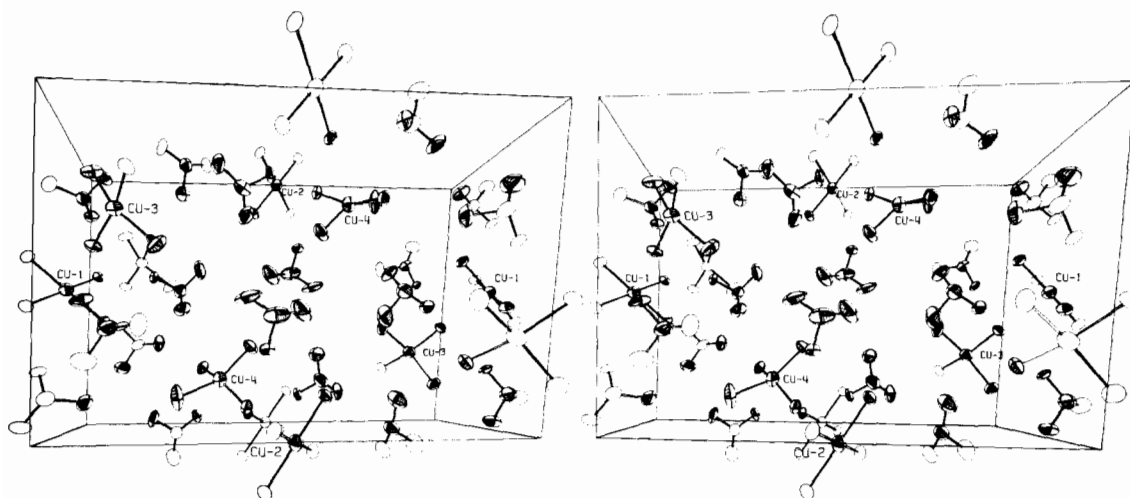


Figure 5. Contents of one unit cell in the structure of $[(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CHNH}_3]_2\text{CuCl}_4$ (green - low temperature phase). The atoms shown with blank thermal ellipsoids are outside the cell but complete a particular ion started inside.

drogen atoms on the nitrogen. Thus, the hydrogen atoms are probably disordered in this structure.

Geometry of the CuCl_4^{2-} Ion

The CuCl_4^{2-} ion has been found to assume a variety of coordination geometries in various compounds. Ions with geometries approaching square planar have been found only in compounds of the type $(\text{RNH}_3)_2\text{CuCl}_4$. It is probably hydrogen bonding which accounts for the stabilization of this geometry. Felsenfeld¹¹ has indicated in his calculations on the electronic structure of the CuCl_4^{2-} ion that it is primarily electrostatic repulsions between the chlorine atoms which favor the tetrahedral geometry. Hydrogen bonding will reduce the effective charge on the chlorine atoms, thus allowing the square planar geometry favored by the crystal field stabilization. The CuCl_4^{2-} ions then can pack in the manner shown in Figure 1 or Figure 3, leaving convenient "holes" for the R-NH_3^+ groups to pack.

Other compounds containing the CuCl_4^{2-} but without the extensive $\text{N-H}\cdots\text{Cl}$ hydrogen bonding possibilities show a distinctly different coordination. The compound Cs_2CuCl_4 ^{12,13} exhibited a distorted tetrahedral configuration with a pair of angles at *ca.* 124° . Even $[(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NH}_2]_3\text{Cl}(\text{CuCl}_4)$ ¹⁴ has a distorted tetrahedral CuCl_4^{2-} ion with two angles widened to *ca.* 136° . The present compound, with its examples of angles widened to 148 – 163° , extends this even further. It suggests the probable existence of a continuum of CuCl_4^{2-} ions from nearly tetrahedral geometry to the square planar state, depending on the specific environment. In particular, it should be noted that the greater the potential for hydrogen bonding, the closer the CuCl_4^{2-} ions approach the square-planar coordination.

Thermochromism

This structural study has elucidated the structure of the low-temperature form of one compound of the type $(\text{RNH}_3)_2\text{CuCl}_4$. The principal features are the breakdown of the two-dimensional sheets and the distortion of some of the CuCl_4^{2-} ions from strict square-planar geometry. Since the formation of the ribbon structure in this structure appears to be related to the bulk of the isopropyl group, it seems unlikely that this breakup of the two-dimensional sheets extends to those compounds with straight-chain organic groups. Indeed, recent studies¹⁵ have shown that the yellow to green thermochromism observed upon cooling several copper chloride salts is due solely to a change in the width of the electronic absorption band and not to a shift in position. The latter would be expected if a change in coordination geometry were to occur.

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- 5 Reflections were called observed if they were $2\sigma_1$ above background, where $\sigma_1 = [\text{total count} + \text{background} + (.01 \times \text{net count})^2 + (.01 \times \text{background})^2]^{1/2}$.
Weights (*w*) assigned to each $|F_{\text{obs}}|$ were ($w = 1/\sigma_F^2$, where $\sigma_F = |F_{\text{obs}}| \sigma_1/2I$, and *I* is the observed diffraction intensity).
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