

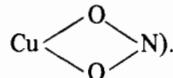
The Crystal Structure of $K_3Cu(NO_2)_5$

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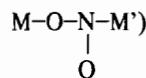
The compound crystallizes in the orthorhombic system, space group D_{2h}^{16} -Pbnm with cell constants of $a = 21.70(4)$, $b = 18.94(4)$ and $c = 10.88(2)$ Å. The unit cell volume, observed and calculated densities are, respectively, 4471.66 Å³, $2.46(2)$ g cm⁻³ and 2.44 g cm⁻³. There are 16 molecules of $K_3Cu(NO_2)_5$ in the unit cell and the anions crystallize in the lattice as four independent $Cu(NO_2)_5^{3-}$ species located at positions (c) of the space group. Molecularly, they are identical in pairs inspite of being crystallographically independent from one another. One $Cu(NO_2)_5^{3-}$ species is bound through the nitrogen of three NO_2^- ligands and by two in a symmetrical, bidentate fashion (i.e.,



The other type of $Cu(NO_2)_5^{3-}$ species present in the lattice contains all modes of coordination of NO_2^- when bound to a single metal center. That is, there are two monodentate Cu- NO_2 bonds, two monodentate Cu-O-N-O bonds and one symmetrical, bidentate attachment of the type described above. There are eight crystallographically independent potassium ions in the lattice: four sit at general positions while the other four are found at mirror planes. The coordination around the potassium ions is irregular and determined primarily by packing considerations dictated by the anions. The coordination number of the potassiu

m composition is a poor guide for the prediction of pentacoordination in such compounds. For example, $Cu(NO_3)_2$ [7], $Cu(NO_3)_2(O_2N-CH_3)$ [8a] and $Cu(O_2N-CH_3)$ [8b] contain pentacoordinated Cu(II) ions. On the other hand, the compound with composition $(NH_4)[Cu(NH_3)_5](ClO_4)_3$ has been found to contain planar $Cu(NH_3)_4^{2+}$ cations [9] and the compound originally formulated as $K_3Hg(NO_2)_5$ has been found [10, 11] to contain one simple NO_3^- lattice ion and an eight-coordinated (however, see ref. 11b) $Hg(NO_2)_4^{2-}$ anion. Finally, there are large numbers of compounds in which the central cation achieves higher coordination numbers through polymerization; a simple of example of these being Tl_2AlF_5 [12] in which the aluminium is six-coordinate and there are many other examples discussed in detail in standard references [13].

The NO_2^- anion can bind a metal through its nitrogen [14], through one of its oxygens [15, 16] and it can act as a bidentate ligand to a single metal ion [11, 17]. It can also act as a bidentate bridge to two metal centers and in that case the bridge can either be symmetrical (i.e., M-O-N-O-M') or it can be asymmetric (i.e.,



[18, 19]. Therefore, given the variety of coordination shapes and modes of ligand binding that could, in theory, occur with a compound having composition $K_3Cu(NO_2)_5$, we decided to determine its crystal structure. The unexpected results are given below. In an earlier report [20] one of us (I. B.) had discussed the magnetic and spectral properties of this substance.

Introduction

The shape of the coordination sphere around a metal ion (M) in a complex with composition MX_5 or AMX_5 (where A = a charge compensating cation(s) and X = any potential monodentate ligand such as Cl^- , SCN^- , NO_2^- , etc.) has been the object of considerable speculation and research. Two recent reviews [5, 6] summarize the results obtained up to 1972 and it is clear from these reports that chemical

Experimental

The compound was made according to the procedure of Kurtenacker [21] and its characterization by elemental analysis and other physical measurements has already been given in detail elsewhere [20]. Crystals of $K_3Cu(NO_2)_5$ were obtained from material which had been recrystallized five times from methanol and then redissolved in meth-

anol and kept at 0 °C for many days till crystals slowly deposited at the bottom of the beaker. This procedure was found necessary to obtain suitable specimens for single crystal X-ray diffraction. The resulting green-black needles were cleaved to suitable size by slicing them in the direction perpendicular to the needle axis and the specimen used for data collection was 0.2 × 0.3 × 0.4 mm and was bound by the (110), (110), (110), (001) and (001) faces. Other crystallographic data of importance are: M. W. = 410.87 g mol⁻¹; a = 21.70(4), b = 18.94(4) and c = 10.88(2) Å; V = 4471.66 Å³/unit cell, d₀ = 2.46(2) g cm⁻³ (flotation in bromoform/bromobenzene) and F(000) = 2896 electrons. The density calculated for z = 16 molecules/unit cell is 2.44 g cm⁻³, in good agreement with the observed value. Examination of films recorded in precession and Weissenberg cameras gave the following systematic extinctions: Okl with k ≠ 2n and hOl with h + l ≠ 2n, which imply that the space group is either D_{2h}¹⁶-Pbnm or C_{2v}⁹-Pbn2₁. The former choice leads to the result that for the asymmetric unit four coppers, four potassiums, twelve oxygens and twelve nitrogen atoms occupy the four-fold set of positions (c) in the space group Pbnm while the other 22 atoms in the asymmetric unit occupy the general eight-fold set. The choice of the acentric space group Pbn2₁ removes the necessity of placing atoms in special positions but requires that 228 positional parameters be specified, instead of the 130 required for the centrosymmetric choice. We decided to proceed at the beginning on the assumption that the centrosymmetric choice was the correct one, as suggested by a Wilson [22] plot and by a negative piezoelectric test.

The data crystal was mounted in a thin-walled capillary tube since the substance is sensitive to moisture and experience with film studies showed that X-ray seem to enhance this sensitivity, while X-ray by themselves (glass encased samples) do not seem to have any effect on crystal stability. Data were collected with a General Electric XRD-6 Goniostat using the θ-2θ scan technique and Mo Kα radiation ($\lambda = 0.71069$ Å). Approximately 2500 reflections were sampled in the hkl octant to a $2\theta = 41^\circ$. Of these, 1225 had satisfactory peak-to-background ratio and were, thus recorded. The resulting intensities were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects and for absorption ($\mu = 3.18$ cm⁻¹ for Mo Kα radiation [23a]).

Solution and Refinement of the Structure

An absolute scale factor and a mean isotropic temperature factor were obtained by means of Wilson statistics [22]. A three dimensional sharpened, origin-removed Patterson function was then computed from the corrected intensities and which proved difficult to interpret unambiguously for the copper and potassium atom positions since it appeared that some

atoms were in special positions but it was not clear which set of special positions were involved. Several trial sets were used which gave relatively high R-factors (ca. 70% on F²) and which did not differ significantly from one another. Thus, we decided to abandon this approach and try direct methods. The programs used for the calculation of normalized structure factors and for the direct methods have been described in detail elsewhere [24]. Three reflections were assigned a positive phase, thereby fixing the origin for the space group Pbnm. Several reflections were assigned a phase on the basis of the Σ_1 relation and three symbolic phases, a, b and c were assigned. These data are summarized in Table I.

TABLE I. Reflections Phases.

Reflections whose Phases were Assigned by the Σ_1 Relation				
h	k	l	E	Phase
0	8	4	3.3333	+
0	8	8	3.7599	+
8	0	4	3.1320	+
8	8	0	3.4557	+
8	8	8	2.6807	+
16	0	0	3.4025	+

Origin Defining Reflections				
h	k	l	E	Phase
2	10	5	4.2584	+
14	3	4	2.2942	+
15	2	4	2.1477	+

Reflections to which Symbols a, b and c were Assigned and Eventual Sign Assigned to such Symbols				
h	k	l	E	Symbol
4	4	4	4.6386	- = a
2	6	8	3.3000	+ = b
18	5	4	1.7727	+ = c

Eventual assignment of signs to the symbols a, b and c gave phases for 297 of the 410 reflections for which |E| > 1.0. An E map calculated using the sign assignments for a, b and c (Table I) gave positions for the potassium and copper atoms and a difference Fourier, based on the phases determined by these atoms, gave light atoms which made chemical sense. Eventual refinement of the structure (*vide infra*) indicates that the choice of space group and the signs assigned to the symbolic phases (a, b and c) are probably the correct ones. No attempt was made to use the acentric choice of space group. The scattering curves used were those of Cromer [23d], which were modified by the effects of anomalous dispersion for the copper and potassium atom [23b]. Refinement of the positional and anisotropic thermal parameters for the four copper and eight potassium ions in the asymmetric unit plus the positional and isotropic thermal parameters of the light atoms gave residuals

$$R_1(F) = \sum |(F_o - F_c)| / \sum |F_o| = 0.056$$

TABLE II. Positional Parameters Multiplied by 10^4 , Anisotropic Thermal Parameters Multiplied by 10^5 and Isotropic Thermal Parameters Multiplied by 10.

	x	y	z	β_{11} or B	β_{22}	β_{33}	β_{12}	β_{13}	β_{23}
Cu(1)	2517(1)	1267(1)	2500(–)	76(6)	121(9)	339(34)	– 4(5)	–	–
Cu(2)	0062(1)	3685(1)	2500(–)	81(6)	154(10)	268(33)	3(6)	–	–
Cu(3)	4984(1)	3736(1)	2500(–)	– 86(6)	143(10)	381(34)	6(6)	–	–
Cu(4)	2658(1)	3868(1)	–2500(–)	– 57(6)	130(8)	428(31)	13(6)	–	–
K(1)	0079(2)	3432(3)	–2500(–)	–133(13)	206(19)	276(54)	– 6(12)	–	–
K(2)	0101(2)	1674(3)	2500(–)	–109(13)	179(17)	446(59)	– 2(11)	–	–
K(3)	2510(2)	4150(3)	2500(–)	–122(14)	215(18)	455(61)	– 7(12)	–	–
K(4)	2528(2)	0913(3)	–2500(–)	– 95(13)	161(17)	466(58)	– 2(11)	–	–
K(5)	3665(2)	2515(2)	0099(3)	–113(8)	207(11)	549(46)	–17(7)	10(17)	8(19)
K(6)	1545(2)	2642(2)	–0123(3)	–118(9)	230(11)	651(45)	21(8)	21(16)	–19(18)
K(7)	1052(2)	0078(2)	–0086(3)	–116(9)	259(12)	416(41)	32(8)	– 2(15)	41(19)
K(8)	3945(2)	0061(2)	0014(3)	– 87(8)	212(11)	877(50)	2(8)	4(15)	–94(21)
O(1)	2028(4)	1242(5)	0032(9)	– 29(2)					
O(2)	3006(4)	1149(5)	0035(9)	– 29(2)					
O(3)	2583(4)	2723(5)	1533(10)	– 29(2)					
O(4)	4574(5)	1401(5)	–0040(10)	– 27(2)					
O(5)	0557(4)	3604(5)	0031(10)	– 29(2)					
O(6)	0030(5)	4907(6)	–1519(11)	– 31(2)					
O(7)	4867(5)	2920(6)	1158(12)	43(3)					
O(8)	0414(6)	1436(7)	–0020(13)	57(3)					
O(9)	0014(6)	–0118(8)	1572(2)	60(4)					
O(10)	3769(4)	3863(5)	1523(10)	33(2)					
O(11)	2146(5)	4085(6)	–0013(9)	37(2)					
O(12)	2788(4)	4635(5)	–1113(10)	31(2)					
O(13)	2623(5)	2776(6)	–1551(12)	48(3)					
O(14)	3871(4)	3710(5)	–1517(10)	29(2)					
O(15)	3726(7)	1604(9)	2500(–)	41(4)					
O(16)	3357(9)	0582(11)	2500(–)	63(5)					
O(17)	1402(10)	1345(11)	2500(–)	65(5)					
O(18)	1805(9)	0403(11)	2500(–)	64(5)					
O(19)	1174(8)	3922(10)	2500(–)	58(4)					
O(20)	0829(8)	2909(9)	2500(–)	47(4)					
O(21)	3846(7)	1181(9)	–2500(–)	49(4)					
O(22)	4340(8)	2124(8)	–2500(–)	44(4)					
O(23)	1225(7)	0771(8)	–2500(–)	33(3)					
O(24)	1169(7)	1885(9)	–2500(–)	44(4)					
O(25)	1397(7)	3481(8)	–2500(–)	36(3)					
O(26)	1521(6)	4594(8)	–2500(–)	32(3)					
N(1)	2517(4)	1211(6)	0637(12)	20(3)					
N(2)	0071(5)	3622(6)	0660(11)	17(2)					
N(3)	0074(6)	1961(7)	–0136(15)	36(3)					
N(4)	2534(5)	4559(7)	–0076(14)	33(3)					
N(5)	1349(11)	0730(12)	2500(–)	50(5)					
N(6)	2548(7)	2370(8)	2500(–)	16(4)					
N(7)	3768(12)	0947(14)	2500(–)	68(6)					
N(8)	3865(11)	1815(13)	–2500(–)	55(6)					
N(9)	–0003(8)	4775(10)	2500(–)	37(5)					
N(10)	1282(9)	3293(10)	2500(–)	33(4)					
N(11)	0905(8)	1293(9)	–2500(–)	26(4)					
N(12)	4977(11)	5161(14)	2500(–)	63(7)					
N(13)	4058(7)	3828(9)	2500(–)	23(4)					
N(14)	1752(8)	3988(9)	–2500(–)	25(4)					
N(15)	2583(8)	2439(11)	–2500(–)	33(4)					
N(16)	3570(7)	3767(8)	–2500(–)	21(3)					

$R_2(F) = [\sum w(F_o - F_c)^2 / \sum wF_o^2]^{1/2} = 0.075$
with an error of fit = $[\sum w(F_o - F_c)^2 / (NO - NV)]^{1/2} = 1.59$.

where NO and NV are the number of observations and variables, respectively and w, the weights were calculated from the expressions $w = 4F_o^2/\sigma^2(F_o^2)$ and

TABLE III. Bond Lengths in Å.

Cu 1-N 1	2.03(1)	Cu 3-N 11	2.02(2)	-O 20	3.29(1)	-O 16	3.15(1)
-N 6	2.09(2)	-N 13	2.02(2)	-O 8	3.35(1)	O 21	3.47(1)
-O 16	2.24(2)	-O 7	2.14(1)	-O 17	3.78(1)	-O 19	3.47(1)
-O 18	2.25(2)	-O 9	2.39(2)	K 7-O 9 ^e	2.82(1)	N 1-O 1	1.25(1)
-O 17	2.42(2)	...N 12 ^a	2.70(3)	-O 12	2.88(1)	-O 2	1.25(1)
-O 15	2.70(2)	...O 24 ^a	2.83(2)	-O 9 ^c	2.91(2)	N 2-O 4	1.27(1)
...N 5 ^a	2.73(2)	...O 10 ^a	2.85(1)	-O 8	2.92(1)	-O 5	1.26(1)
...N 7	2.78(3)			-O 10	2.92(1)		
Cu 2-N 2	2.01(1)	Cu 4-N 14	1.98(2)	-O 23	2.96(1)	N 3-O 7	1.22(2)
-N 9	2.07(2)	-N 16	1.99(2)	-O 14	3.03(1)	-O 8	1.25(2)
-O 22	2.19(2)	-O 12	2.11(1)	-O 1	3.06(1)		
-O 20	2.22(2)	-O 13	2.31(1)	-O 18	3.31(1)		
-O 19	2.45(2)	...N 15	2.71(2)	-O 17	3.77(1)		
-O 21	2.65(2)	...O 26	2.82(2)	O 1-N 1-O 2	117(1)	O 6-N 9-O 6	121(2)
...N 8 ^a	2.76(2)	...O 14	2.86(1)	O 4-N 2-O 5	115(1)	O 19-N 10-O 20	115(2)
...N 10	2.75(2)			O 7-N 3-O 8	117(2)	O 23-N 11-O 24	118(2)
N 4-O 11	1.23(1)	N 10-O 19	1.21(2)	O 11-N 4-O 12	116(1)	O 9-N 12-O 9	125(3)
-O 12	1.26(2)	-O 20	1.22(2)	O 17-N 5-O 18	116(3)	O 10-N 13-O 10	119(2)
N 5-O 17	1.17(2)	N 11-O 23	1.21(2)	O 3-N 6-O 3	115(2)	O 25-N 14-O 26	118(2)
-O 18	1.17(2)	-O 24	1.26(2)	O 15-N 7-O 16	124(3)	O 13-N 15-O 13	116(2)
N 6-O 3	1.25(1)	N 12-O 9	1.14(2)	O 21-N 8-O 22	122(2)	O 14-N 16-O 14	117(2)
N 7-O 16	1.13(3)	N 13-O 10	1.24(1)				
-O 15	1.25(3)	N 14-O 25	1.23(2)				
N 8-O 22	1.19(3)	-O 26	1.25(2)				
-O 21	1.20(3)	N 15-O 13	1.22(1)				
N 9-O 6	1.23(1)	N 16-O 14	1.26(1)				
K 1-O 25	2.86(2)	K 4-O 23	2.84(2)				
-O 15	2.94(2)	-O 21	2.91(2)				
-O 5	2.96(1)	-O 12	2.93(1)				
-O 7	2.98(1)	-O 2	2.98(1)				
-O 6	2.99(1)	-O 1	3.02(1)				
-O 4	2.99(1)	-O 26	3.24(2)				
-O 24	3.76(2)	-O 24	3.48(2)				
-O 26	3.83(2)	-O 13	3.68(1)				
K 2-O 22	2.81(2)	K 5-O 3	2.85(1)				
-O 20	2.82(2)	-O 4	2.89(1)				
-O 8	2.86(1)	-O 14	2.90(1)				
-O 17	2.89(2)	-O 13	2.93(1)				
-O 14	2.97(1)	-O 7	2.95(1)				
-O 9	3.56(2)	-O 2	2.96(1)				
K 3-O 18	2.80(2)	-O 10	2.99(1)				
-O 11	2.85(1)	-O 15	3.13(1)				
-O 3	2.90(1)	-O 22	3.27(1)				
-O 19	2.93(2)	-O 21	3.81(1)				
-O 10	2.98(1)						
-O 16	3.30(2)						
K 6-O 13	2.82(1)	K 8-O 6 ^c	2.79(1)				
-O 5	2.82(1)	-O 6 ^d	2.87(1)				
-O 1	2.86(1)	-O 4	2.88(1)				
-O 3	2.89(1)	-O 2	2.90(1)				
-O 11	3.03(1)	-O 5	2.95(1)				
-O 25	3.05(1)	-O 11	3.00(1)				
-O 24	3.07(1)	-O 26	3.05(1)				

^a... denotes an intramolecular, non-bonded contact. ^bNitrogen atoms for which only one N-O distance is quoted lie on mirror planes and, therefore, there is only one independent N-O distance for those NO_2^- ions. ^cAt x, y, z. ^dAt 1 - x, -y, -z. ^eAt -x, -y, -z.

$$\sigma(F_o^2) = 1/L_p[(I + B)^2 + (0.051)^2]^{1/2}$$

with L_p = the Lorentz and polarization factors, I is the total integrated intensity of the peak and B is the time-scaled background [25]. The final values of the positional and thermal parameters are listed in Table II and the distances and angles are listed in Table III. A table of structure amplitudes, their estimated standard deviations and the values of the calculated structure amplitudes is reproduced in Table IV. The shapes of the molecular species present in the lattice of $\text{K}_3\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_2)_5$ are shown in Figures 1-10 and a packing diagram is shown in Fig. 11.

Description of the Structure

The Environment of the Cu^{2+} Ions

Although there are four structurally independent copper species in the asymmetric unit, there are only two molecularly different entities occurring in pairs. Thus, Cu1 and Cu2 form a pair as do Cu3 and Cu4. The members of this pair have qualitative shapes which are identical to the eye; furthermore, the differences in bond lengths and angles for chemically related pairs in species 1 and 2 or 3 and 4 are of doubtful statistical significance. As a result, we felt it was unnecessary to depict the members of the pair as separate figures; instead, we labelled the central ions

TABLE IV. Structure Factors.

K	H	F0	SIG	FC	K	H	F0	SIG	FC	K	H	F0	SIG	FC	K	H	F0	SIG	FC	K	H	F0	SIG	FC					
0	4	4606	185	4587	8	17	742	35	763	2	12	433	23	450	14	9	517	30	433	7	3	1100	45	1143					
0	810974	43912147	0	2	545	25	521	2	15	324	29	356	14	11	409	31	453	7	5	444	24	365	2	18	558	28	571		
0	10	869	52	1069	9	4	345	23	417	2	16	829	36	827	15	2	324	31	315	7	6	1156	48	1120	2	20	623	31	655
0	12	3671	147	3501	9	6	897	38	909	2	18	738	33	740	15	9	364	33	436	7	7	585	35	708	3	1	1269	51	1300
0	16	3828	153	3384	9	3	1364	56	1300	2	20	519	29	608	15	11	473	29	398	7	8	502	26	523	3	2	621	28	586
0	18	1154	49	1073	9	9	1215	53	1235	3	1	304	15	291	15	12	431	31	487	7	10	673	31	630	3	4	621	28	586
0	20	3275	132	3114	9	10	1126	47	1172	3	2	423	19	415	16	0	1244	51	1224	7	12	942	40	947	3	7	706	31	627
1	3	383	18	401	0	11	591	29	604	3	4	319	19	262	16	3	464	28	585	7	14	1841	75	1732	3	8	907	38	885
1	4	263	15	244	9	12	434	28	408	3	5	816	34	839	16	4	1144	48	1276	7	16	683	32	720	3	9	346	28	378
1	6	902	37	858	9	13	370	31	456	3	6	432	23	386	16	5	573	29	548	7	17	383	30	362	3	10	481	24	474
1	7	441	23	512	9	14	908	39	831	3	7	248	34	172	16	8	593	30	638	8	0	1167	47	1114	3	11	808	35	790
1	8	2586	104	2449	9	16	398	32	410	3	8	631	28	644	16	9	493	30	544	8	3	1608	65	1613	3	12	659	30	656
1	9	1781	72	1537	9	17	623	32	675	3	9	804	37	914	17	7	498	29	404	8	4	4781	91	5226	3	15	480	28	508
1	10	1987	83	1905	9	18	353	37	523	3	11	953	40	974	18	2	1100	46	1252	8	5	1033	43	1130	3	16	568	29	600
1	11	497	24	555	10	1	342	22	399	3	12	485	25	453	18	3	517	28	558	8	6	289	26	239	3	17	371	28	382
1	12	1177	48	1161	10	2	770	33	699	3	15	462	26	553	18	5	400	30	469	8	7	381	25	395	3	19	551	29	528
1	13	369	25	292	10	3	733	32	751	3	16	565	28	549	*** L = 2 ***	8	8	1878	76	1934	3	20	444	30	488				
1	14	735	32	766	10	5	905	38	927	3	19	320	31	403	0	0	3638	146	4047	8	9	347	27	394	4	0	1070	44	1013
1	15	532	32	556	10	6	2609	105	2461	3	20	420	29	495	0	4	5208	209	5402	8	11	501	28	454	4	1	796	33	827
1	16	1570	64	1426	10	7	529	26	464	4	0	334	16	332	0	6	484	22	468	8	12	2832	114	2776	4	3	724	31	773
1	17	485	31	309	10	8	385	28	450	4	1	329	16	340	0	8	5974	239	5895	8	14	825	36	818	4	4	2723	109	2686
1	18	1115	47	1085	10	9	1208	50	1265	4	4	1448	59	1400	0	12	5095	204	4855	8	15	309	34	369	4	8	1762	71	1681
1	19	539	31	614	10	10	1397	80	1969	4	5	406	22	407	0	14	802	35	720	8	16	1462	60	1429	4	9	585	27	559
1	20	1858	75	1767	10	14	1955	73	1691	4	6	371	26	400	0	16	3825	153	3485	8	17	595	31	599	4	11	336	26	289
2	5	407	20	384	10	15	1587	57	1579	4	8	1777	60	1417	1	1	515	23	526	9	1	630	28	726	4	12	791	34	680
2	6	1895	76	1866	10	15	542	31	533	4	9	959	40	968	1	4	748	31	749	9	3	1047	43	1101	4	13	464	26	313
2	7	473	23	388	11	1	706	31	719	4	10	282	25	232	1	5	439	21	455	9	5	513	26	584	4	16	657	31	677
2	9	518	25	499	11	2	476	24	501	4	12	584	28	490	1	6	1596	64	1565	9	10	707	32	714	4	17	856	37	890
2	10	3721	169	3333	11	3	841	36	901	4	13	607	29	451	1	7	991	41	993	9	11	734	33	713	4	20	477	30	478
2	14	1880	75	1957	11	5	264	39	302	4	14	388	26	365	1	8	955	39	867	9	13	1043	44	1017	5	1	759	32	845
2	15	1636	66	1611	11	6	812	35	788	4	16	667	31	686	1	9	553	25	536	9	15	484	29	537	5	2	300	20	301
2	16	379	23	456	11	7	1135	47	1165	4	17	876	38	910	1	10	568	26	500	9	16	694	33	696	5	3	643	28	747
2	18	1385	57	1267	11	9	960	41	997	4	18	393	28	426	1	11	561	26	524	9	18	359	36	437	5	6	519	25	492
2	19	1527	62	1651	11	10	707	33	743	4	20	550	30	530	1	12	1645	67	1542	10	0	461	23	470	5	7	589	28	636
2	20	636	31	634	11	12	422	29	325	5	1	512	23	505	1	13	241	34	252	10	1	693	30	734	5	8	573	27	575
3	4	569	23	568	11	13	603	31	614	5	6	912	38	891	1	14	1103	46	1058	10	2	1205	49	1113	5	10	820	35	857
3	6	365	23	411	11	14	994	43	1020	5	7	957	40	924	1	16	1563	67	1569	10	3	687	30	704	5	11	729	32	723
3	7	535	25	532	11	16	413	29	393	5	8	306	24	204	1	18	576	29	602	10	6	732	33	660	5	12	446	26	431
3	8	478	24	481	12	0	1148	48	999	5	10	831	36	885	2	1	473	20	472	10	7	254	33	253	5	14	585	29	532
3	9	1097	45	1085	12	1	476	25	507	5	14	1011	42	956	2	5	707	30	665	10	0	2887	116	2909	5	15	511	28	515
3	10	691	32	571	12	3	794	34	726	5	18	616	31	724	2	6	4395	176	4460	10	11	2071	84	2063	5	16	375	28	343
3	11	319	25	305	12	4	2964	119	2979	6	2	2572	103	2534	2	7	1322	54	1314	10	12	360	30	311	5	18	437	28	518
3	12	450	25	434	12	5	770	34	649	6	3	638	28	667	2	10	3068	123	2891	10	16	403	29	396	6	1	555	25	578
3	14	1188	45	1177	12	12	1159	49	1104	6	5	486	24	516	2	11	1382	56	1366	11	1	420	23	411	6	2	2639	106	2822
3	15	566	29	440	12	13	564	31	598	6	6	2960	119	2926	2	14	2115	85	1917	11	2	632	29	713	6	3	394	22	410
3	16	1299	53	1272	12	14	540	30	490	6	10	2370	95	2364	2	15	854	37	723	11	3	31	269	6	4	258	26	271	
3	18	637	31	552	12	16	642	33	723	8	13	442	28	452	4	4	3055	123	3033	13	7	382	29	358	7	11	1699	69	1732
3	13	362	28	454	15	5	404	35	329	8	15	356	30	364	4	5	665	29	617	13	8	439	28	347	7	13	445	28	463
3	15	322	31	285	15	7	542	30	653	8	16	563	30	641	4	7	368	24	408	13	9	859	38	790	7	15	632	31	627
3	18	1322	54	1237	15	10	851	38	915	8	17	785	36	786	4	8	6888	276	2727	13	14	587	33	575	8</td				

TABLE IV. (continued)

7	12	324	30	259	1	10	888	37	884	12	4	1130	47	1074	5	20	813	36	940	1	9	243	24	241	10	5	577	28	609
7	15	516	30	585	1	11	608	27	571	12	5	402	26	479	6	0	597	26	607	1	10	375	22	403	10	6	2479	100	2462
7	17	681	33	764	1	12	599	27	633	12	9	368	30	332	6	1	1788	72	1829	11	6	681	30	709	10	9	504	28	455
7	18	1532	63	1572	1	13	398	23	366	12	12	382	42	317	6	2	1336	54	1392	1	12	484	25	520	10	10	2488	100	2403
8	0	8329	334	9208	1	14	327	26	338	12	13	792	36	844	6	3	465	23	494	1	13	517	26	562	10	12	390	30	369
8	1	1770	71	1661	1	15	412	27	391	13	5	308	31	313	6	5	259	25	209	1	16	392	27	341	10	14	1766	72	1796
8	2	394	22	427	1	16	790	35	736	13	6	652	31	684	6	6	4858	195	4901	1	18	396	29	404	11	1	457	24	486
8	3	290	22	235	1	17	386	29	321	13	8	296	34	275	6	7	1591	64	1535	1	19	481	28	454	11	9	489	29	465
8	4	622	30	703	1	18	320	30	292	13	10	703	33	721	6	9	453	24	438	1	20	460	29	407	11	11	377	37	344
8	6	303	25	359	2	1	190	12	160	13	12	544	30	520	6	10	265	29	260	2	1	602	26	614	11	14	478	30	501
8	7	457	26	465	2	2	3694	148	3858	13	14	829	38	811	6	11	769	34	597	2	2	1434	58	1349	13	1	348	25	324
8	8	4282	172	4198	2	3	463	21	441	14	0	284	29	250	6	13	394	29	313	2	5	255	23	264	13	6	283	34	314
8	9	475	27	438	2	5	585	25	640	14	1	686	31	676	6	14	3643	146	3462	6	6	710	31	661	13	9	522	30	483
8	10	962	41	936	2	6	644	28	664	14	2	3071	123	3029	6	15	902	39	760	2	8	312	22	289	13	10	590	31	610
8	12	1359	56	1205	2	8	579	26	601	14	3	901	38	927	6	18	335	32	325	2	10	1768	71	1742	13	14	575	31	526
8	13	635	31	638	2	9	374	22	451	14	5	688	31	662	6	19	393	30	466	2	11	439	24	484	14	1	650	30	692
8	16	1281	53	1214	2	10	2661	107	2536	14	6	2598	105	2477	7	2	670	29	664	2	12	360	24	373	14	2	2260	91	2348
K	H	F0	SIG	FC	K	H	F0	SIG	FC	K	H	F0	SIG	FC	K	H	F0	SIG	FC	K	H	F0	SIG	FC					
14	3	545	23	551	1	17	1079	46	1062	5	11	725	33	738	4	11	491	28	331	6	5	545	29	537					
14	5	332	28	302	9	1	376	23	362	5	12	830	36	781	4	12	3205	129	3071	7	11	1040	44	1004					
14	6	1702	69	1655	9	3	474	25	407	5	14	532	29	507	4	16	1515	62	1406	8	0	1291	53	1364					
14	7	579	30	592	9	5	351	26	256	5	18	574	30	576	5	5	310	35	293	8	8	492	32	581					
14	9	504	30	461	9	6	534	28	521	6	1	370	22	402	5	7	1078	45	1017	8	12	457	31	450					
14	10	2048	33	2030	9	9	532	29	460	6	2	2697	108	2873	5	8	682	32	689	8	13	529	30	560					
14	11	477	33	457	9	10	573	29	590	6	3	556	26	538	5	9	497	28	443	9	3	424	27	387					
15	3	423	27	432	9	13	491	29	524	6	5	331	27	350	5	11	542	29	511	9	4	342	28	292					
15	6	405	26	441	9	14	518	32	540	6	6	2566	103	2608	5	12	933	40	873	9	6	380	30	388					
15	11	618	32	619	10	9	313	26	387	6	9	396	27	400	5	13	601	31	619	9	7	415	31	355					
16	0	876	33	769	10	1	1046	43	1080	6	10	2069	84	1998	5	14	906	39	872	9	10	456	31	502					
16	4	900	39	853	10	2	1657	67	1642	6	11	310	31	217	5	16	471	31	450	9	12	469	31	475					
16	5	455	27	373	10	3	686	31	741	6	12	639	31	610	6	0	331	28	282	10	1	357	27	364					
16	8	551	30	527	10	4	328	26	358	6	14	1244	52	1104	6	1	562	26	539	10	2	2379	96	2494					
17	4	468	29	412	10	5	1021	43	1139	7	1	520	25	555	6	2	373	25	454	10	3	591	29	565					
*** L= 4 ***							10	6	2871	115	2758	7	3	512	25	563	6	3	597	28	596	10	6	2161	87	2209			
0	2	148	30	159	10	7	1218	50	1250	7	7	674	31	699	6	6	2714	109	2645	10	10	1837	75	1786					
0	4	437	22	555	10	9	382	29	379	7	9	296	32	269	6	7	1385	57	1359	10	11	436	32	430					
0	8	5168	237	5794	10	10	1147	43	1166	7	11	1023	43	1022	6	14	2374	96	2251	11	7	458	30	416					
0	12	2062	85	2116	10	11	391	30	392	7	12	361	31	357	6	15	925	40	901	11	9	407	31	364					
0	16	2020	82	1874	10	13	345	32	279	7	14	404	31	329	7	3	365	26	359	13	1	395	28	414					
1	1	1044	43	697	10	14	1742	71	1611	7	15	525	30	578	7	4	497	27	457	14	1	692	32	728					
1	2	1246	51	1203	10	15	1213	51	1270	8	0	413	22	465	7	6	916	39	895	14	2	2377	72	1889					
1	3	814	34	781	10	16	571	31	618	3	5	480	26	514	7	7	883	40	947	14	2	L= 8 ***							
1	6	622	27	606	11	1	954	40	958	9	9	550	29	541	7	9	449	28	489	0	0	7670	307	8321					
1	8	1183	43	1192	11	3	372	24	351	8	10	367	29	288	7	12	675	31	649	0	4	1601	65	1488					
1	11	275	27	335	11	5	399	27	377	8	12	649	29	467	7	14	1334	55	1270	0	8	3930	158	3857					
1	12	851	37	924	11	6	799	35	770	8	13	581	30	552	8	0	885	37	870	0	10	454	28	409					
1	13	519	25	511	11	7	589	30	545	8	16	384	32	462	8	1	641	29	595	0	12	1536	63	1518					
1	14	938	40	969	11	12	380	32	362	9	3	582	27	667	8	3	523	26	497	1	6	239	34	216					
1	16	734	33	750	11	13	687	33	666	9	5	661	30	694	8	4	3559	143	3758	1	8	686	32	710					
1	19	393	35	406	12	1	823	37	874	9	6	483	28	479	8	8	1031	41	1021	1	9	667	30	639					
2	1	1467	59	1420	12	2	328	23	383	9	8	322	30	306	8	9	540	29	548	1	10	596	29	558					
2	2	1602	65	1399	12	3	1101	46	1154	9	10	972	42	1007	8	12	2323	94	2211	1	12	559	28	560					
2	3	759	32	698	12	4	2418	97	2422	9	14	775	35	807	8	14	532	30	530	1	13	384	28	298					
2	5	295	29	334	13	5	349	27	442	11	1	560	27	611	10	7	615	31	625	12	12	395	28	403					
2	7	1018	42	1016	13	10	535	29	471	11	3	369	27	342	10	9	751	34	764	4	3	580	30	594					
3	3	222	34	183	13	13	886	40	988	11	6	575	30	677	10	10	2390	96	2377	4	4	3190	128	3232					
3	4	441	24	404	14	1	431	26	440																				

5 16 959 41 988	1 17 359 30 407	1 4 455 24 495	2 7 361 26 414	3 3 467 31 494
5 18 965 41 906	1 18 507 28 451	1 5 600 27 560	2 10 1408 57 1343	3 11 722 33 709
6 1 296 21 246	2 2 3045 122 2875	1 6 1042 43 996	2 12 422 28 412	4 0 310 25 375
6 2 3446 133 3693	2 6 590 27 724	1 7 1075 44 994	2 14 350 29 426	4 4 461 31 431
6 4 411 23 468	2 7 591 27 594	1 8 359 24 384	2 15 486 28 519	4 8 639 31 601
6 5 661 33 693	2 10 2273 91 2243	1 10 861 37 832	2 16 422 28 435	5 3 496 29 564
6 10 2582 103 2716	2 11 282 28 296	1 11 522 27 467	3 1 520 26 471	5 6 484 28 445
6 11 745 34 787	2 12 398 25 331	1 12 1056 44 1032	3 2 435 27 447	5 7 385 32 358
6 13 302 34 371	2 14 733 33 664	1 14 584 29 611	3 3 311 35 329	6 2 1294 53 1307
6 14 530 31 701	2 16 437 27 441	1 16 980 41 942	3 5 561 28 536	6 3 444 28 452
6 15 680 34 831	2 18 944 40 935	2 1 603 27 551	3 6 470 27 501	6 6 1333 55 1335
6 18 1469 69 1357	2 3 492 27 462	2 2 2122 86 1904	3 7 655 31 672	7 2 384 28 397
7 2 501 24 491	3 5 427 25 407	2 6 892 38 974	3 8 422 27 456	7 7 420 34 476
7 3 609 27 699	3 7 474 25 532	2 7 1596 69 1701	3 9 673 31 660	8 0 591 28 564
7 5 661 30 715	3 9 494 26 478	2 9 543 27 518	3 12 370 28 333	8 4 560 29 512
7 6 358 25 310	3 11 974 41 947	2 10 2743 110 2664	4 4 1074 45 1009	10 1 424 28 445
7 7 497 27 508	3 12 715 32 719	2 11 1059 44 1043	4 5 312 30 331	*** L = 10 ***
7 8 381 28 455	3 13 492 27 424	2 14 309 35 813	4 8 748 34 752	0 0 2475 100 2170
7 10 1308 54 1404	4 0 327 20 254	2 15 1275 53 1181	4 9 415 28 467	0 4 3094 124 2925
7 12 502 29 453	4 1 433 22 421	3 1 406 23 380	4 12 502 29 494	2 3 381 31 330
7 13 955 41 911	4 4 1334 55 1244	3 6 582 28 515	5 1 547 26 514	2 6 1116 47 968
7 14 323 34 315	4 5 489 26 557	3 7 448 26 511	5 2 277 28 260	2 7 462 28 393
7 15 481 30 549	4 8 1022 43 971	3 8 1324 54 1341	5 10 752 36 729	4 0 2894 116 3055
7 17 380 32 371	4 9 566 28 460	3 9 753 34 767	5 14 539 29 504	6 2 956 41 958
7 18 971 42 1060	4 12 590 29 556	3 10 967 41 981	6 1 359 24 381	
8 0 5016 201 5158	4 13 1235 51 1135	3 12 1020 43 979	6 2 1477 60 1626	
8 1 936 33 829	4 15 374 29 391	3 15 436 29 480	6 6 1422 58 1445	
8 3 334 23 319	4 17 513 29 570	3 16 489 28 447	6 7 412 29 410	
8 4 451 25 496	5 1 238 23 197	4 0 5511 221 5980	6 10 1841 75 1787	
8 5 335 26 321	5 3 694 31 773	4 1 529 25 574	6 11 323 34 330	
8 8 2032 82 1933	5 4 497 25 450	4 4 1208 50 1194	6 14 844 38 843	
8 9 383 27 357	5 6 508 27 524	4 7 619 30 566	7 2 432 26 455	
8 10 421 23 377	5 7 475 27 463	4 8 5473 219 5482	7 3 826 36 889	
8 12 865 30 765	5 10 666 32 657	4 10 410 27 420	7 5 332 29 288	

07/04/73 SCOPE 3 6400 B VERS SYS27 2MAC BKT
 12.10.41.C078188 7AR 477 137 20 1 4 C.P. 4
 12.10.41.BERNAL, EXT. 4378. R
 12.10.41.BSEN3,2,OUTPUT.
 12.10.43.REQUEST,TAPE20.5,Y,R,A1312.BERNAL.
 12.11.13. (55 ASSIGNED). A001312
 12.11.13.RFL(5000)
 12.11.13.G0(TAPE1=2,TAPE20=2)
 12.11.14.TAPE FILE NOT IN FNT- TAPE1
 12.11.14.RFL(115000)
 12.11.58.INPUT.
 12.12.45.EXIT
 12.12.45.MT 55*A001312 R 002307 0000 000 000
 12.12.45.MT 55*A001312 W 000000 0000 000
 12.12.45.LNCT = 1254
 12.12.45.-- 018.565 CP SEC
 12.12.45.-- 043.048 PP SEC
 12.12.45.-- 000.292 EC SEC
 12.12.45.-- 000.013 HOURS
 12.12.45.-- 000.990 KWH
 12.12.45.-- 001.822 CCU AT \$1.15/CCU (+0.45/CCU LAB OVHD)
 12.12.45.-- 000.000 NTAPES
 12.12.45.-- 001.000 LTAPES
 12.12.45.-- 001.000 TP DRIVES
 12.12.45.-- 000.000 RR/16 MAX

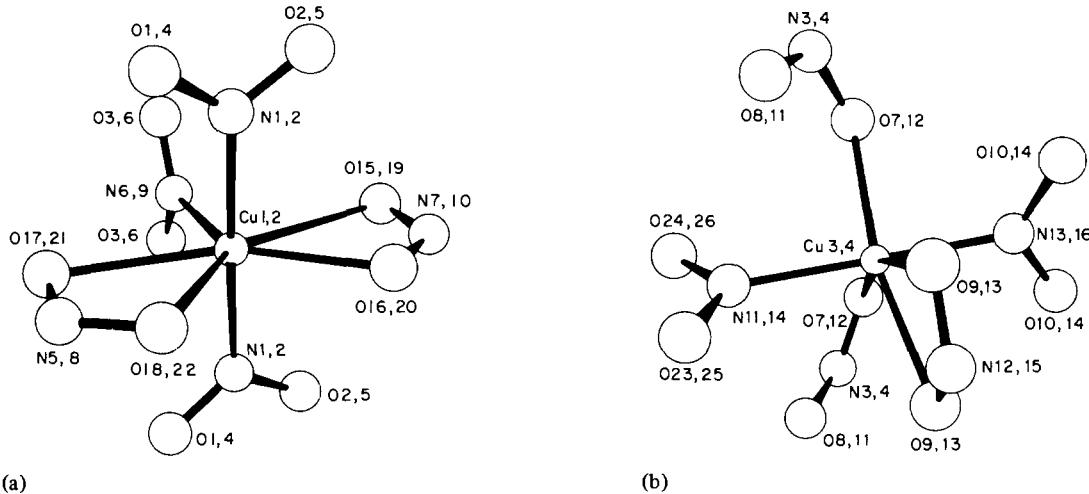
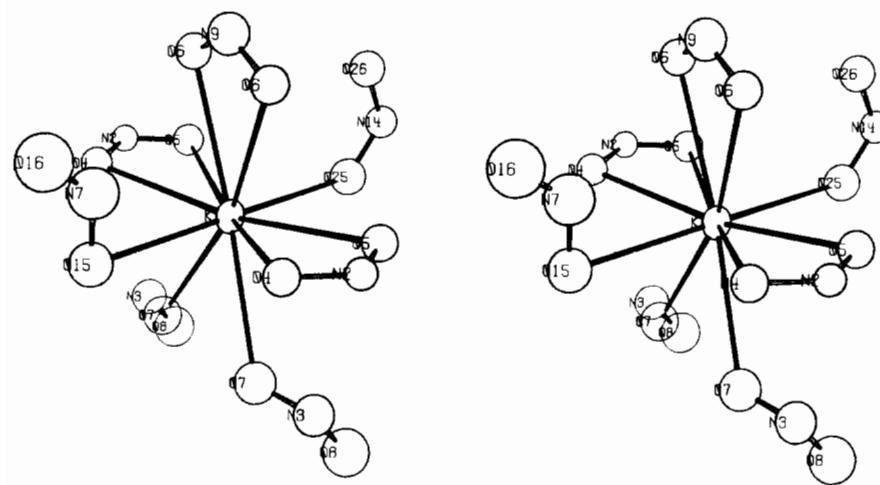
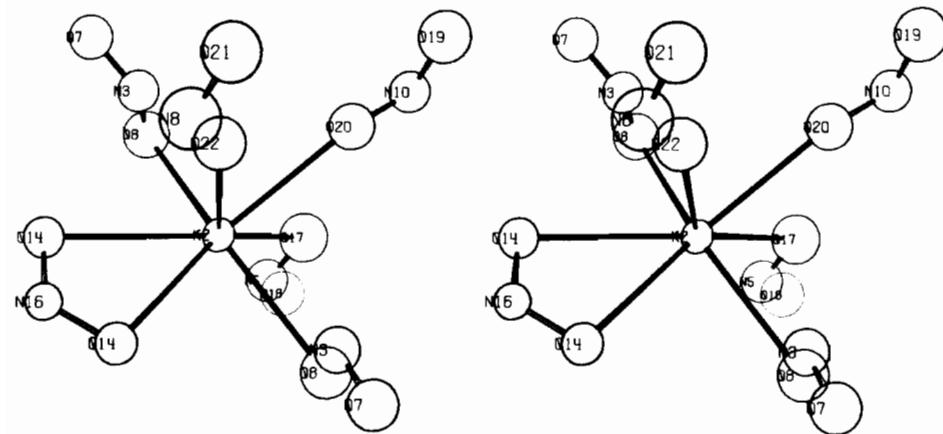


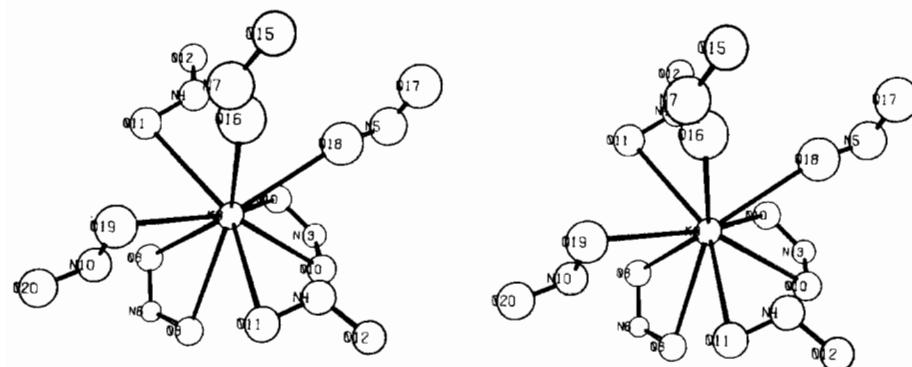
Figure 1. The shape of the coordination sphere around (a) Cu1,2 and (b) Cu3,4 and the numbering system used in labelling atoms in the crystallographic study.



(a)

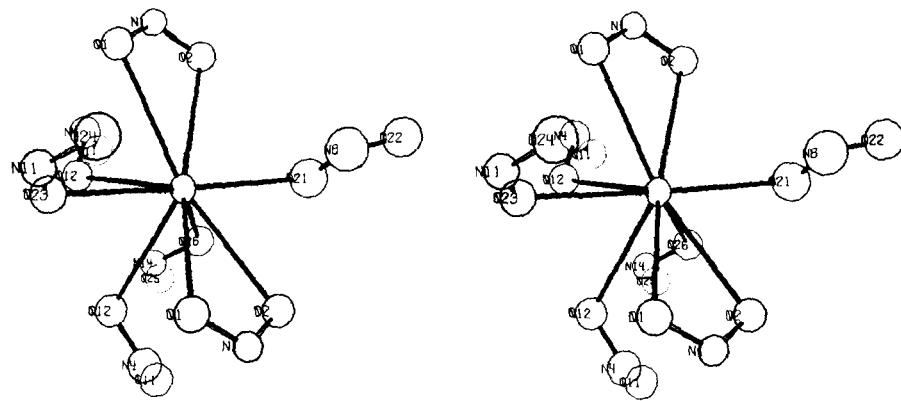


(b)

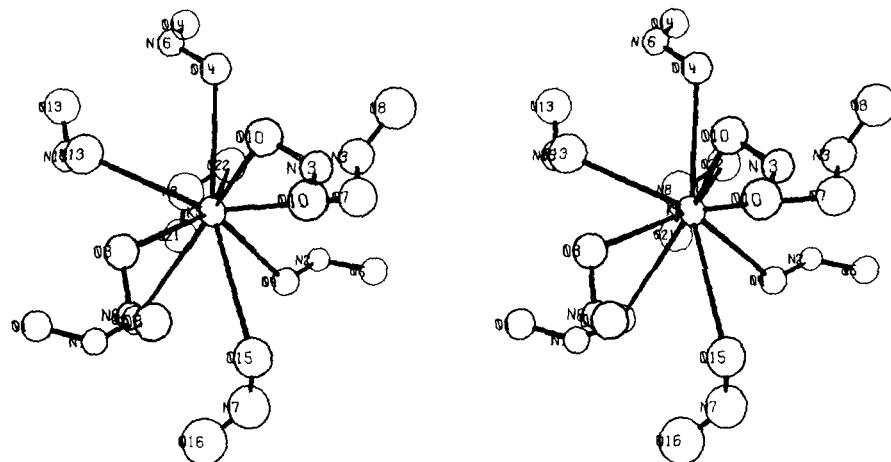


(c)

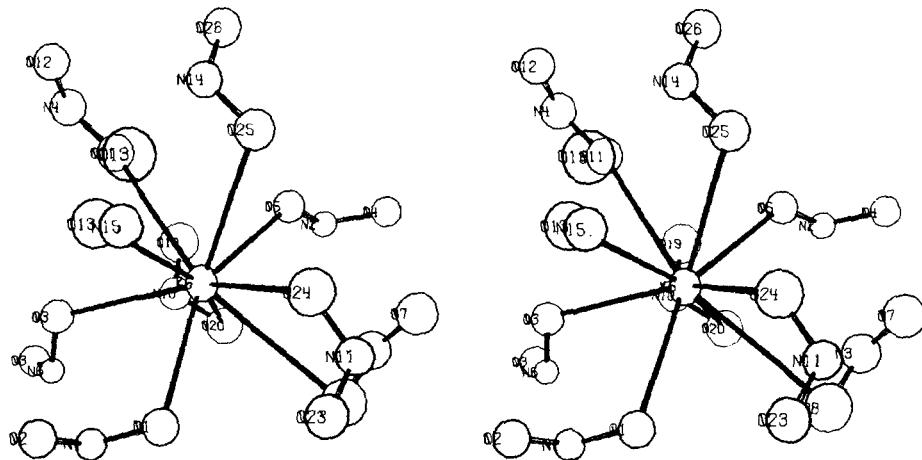
Fig. 2(a)–(c). (For caption see page 126)



(d)



(e)



(f)

Fig. 2(a)–(f). (For caption see page 126.)

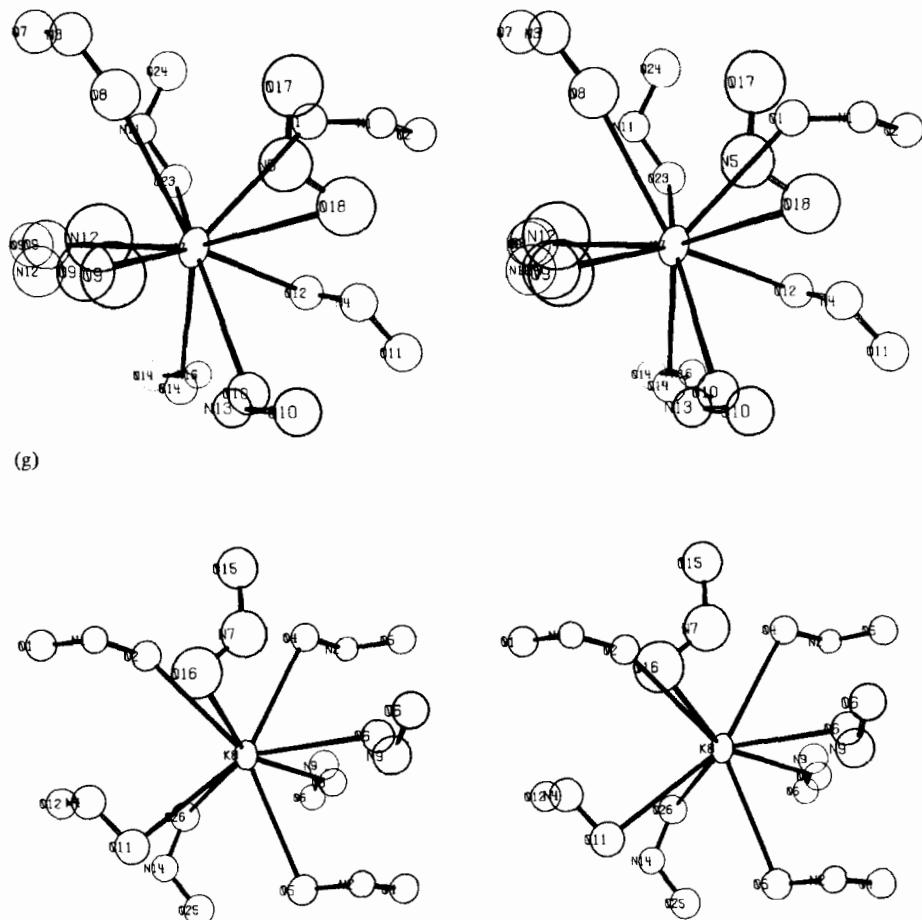


Figure 2 (a)-(h). The coordination sphere around potassium atom K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, K6, K7, K8 (according to the figure in question) and the numbering of the atoms binding the potassium atom.

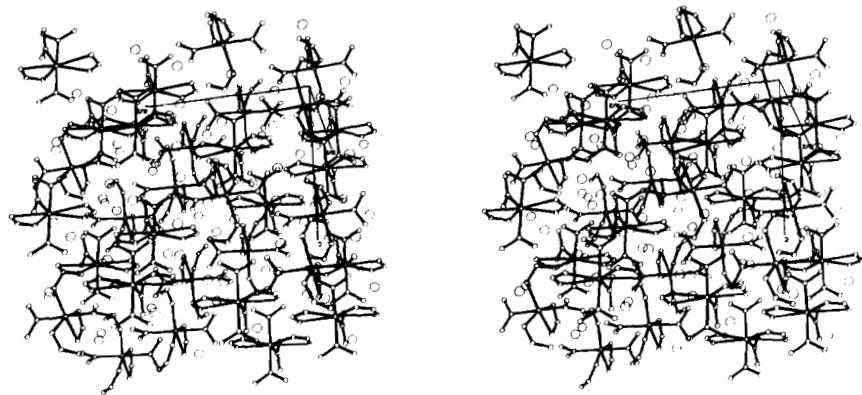


Figure 3. The packing of the cations and anions in the unit cell.

as Cu_{1,2} and Cu_{3,4}. The ligands are labelled in the same way; *i.e.*, in Fig. 1, the ligands around Cu1 are O15, O16, O18, O21, N1, N6, *etc...* that is, they are

the ligands with numbers between the atomic symbol and the comma separating the two sets of numbers. The two species labelled 1 and 2 (see Fig. 1) have

seven ligands irregularly distributed about them [26]. The two N ligands (N1 and N2, respectively for Cu1 and Cu2) are within 2.02(1) Å of their respective Cu while the other independent nitrogen (N6, 9) is 2.08(1) Å away. The small, but significant, difference is probably due to a larger metal to ligand repulsion in the basal plane of the quasi-trigonal bipyramidal Cu moiety, as was found to be the case with $CuCl_5^{2-}$ and with $CdCl_5^{2-}$ ions [27]. Since the plane of the nitro ligands belonging to N6 and N9 (the plane of the basal nitro ligands) is nearly normal to the plane containing the Cu and the two bidentate basal ligands, the amount of ligand-ligand repulsion in the trigonal plane must be nil. Therefore, we attribute the difference in axial and equatorial Cu–N distance to an increased Coulomb repulsion between metal electrons and ligand electrons and not to either steric hindrance nor to interligand repulsions in the basal plane [27].

The oxygen ligands (O16 and O18 for Cu1) are, within experimental error, at the same bonding distance to their respective copper atoms (*i.e.*, 2.32(2) Å). The sixth and seventh ligands (O15 and O17 for Cu1) are, respectively, 2.70(2) and 2.42(2) Å away from the central ion. Similar “long bonds” were found by Wallwork and Addison [7], Duffin and Wallwork [8a] and by Duffin [8b] in anhydrous copper nitrate and other related substances. It would be easy in our case to attribute these “long bonds” to attempts by the NO_2^- ligands to relieve the electronic strain imposed on the central ion by the formation of four-membered rings, Cu_2O_2N , with very small O–Cu–O angles of approximately 50°; however, this is an unlikely explanation since copper species 3 and 4 contain NO_2^- ligands (O9–N12–O9 for Cu3 and O13–N15–O13 for Cu4) for which the O–Cu–O angles are 51° and the two Cu–O distances are identical (by symmetry requirements) and equal to 2.35(6) Å, a value which is shorter than either of the two Cu–O bonds under consideration.

The second type of copper ion in the lattice (Cu3,4) contain two nitro ligands with Cu–N(av) distances of 2.00(2) Å which, within the stated e.s.d.'s are identical in length with those of the first pair of copper species (Cu1,2) despite the differences in the shapes of the coordination spheres. The two monodentate nitrito ligands (see Fig. 2) are related by a mirror plane and the unique Cu–O distance is 2.12(2) Å, which is somewhat shorter than the Cu–O distances found for the bidentate NO_2^- species shown in Fig. 1. The bidentate nitrito ligand shown in Fig. 2 has two symmetrical Cu–O distances whose average value is 2.35(6) Å, which is 0.23 Å longer than those for the monodentate nitrito ligand, as expected. It is interesting to note at this point that the copper complex shown in Fig. 2 contains all the possible binding modes that an NO_2^- ligand can exhibit when bound to a single central metal ion.

The Coordination Sphere Around the K Ions

There are eight crystallographically independent potassium ions in the asymmetric unit and the shape of the coordination sphere around each depends on the size of the radius we consider reasonable to accept as being within “bonding distance”. The results are summarized in Table V. The results of

TABLE V. Number of Ligands about Potassium in a Sphere of Given Radius.

	Radius		
	3.2 Å	3.4 Å	3.8 Å
K(1)	10	10	11
K(2)	7	7	9
K(3)	8	9	9
K(4)	8	9	12
K(5)	8	9	9
K(6)	7	9	10
K(7)	8	9	10
K(8)	8	8	10

using a cut-off radius of 3.2 Å is shown in Figs. 3–10 where the eight potassiums are shown together with their ligands and enough other atoms (N or O) to identify the NO_2^- ligand in question, unless these extra atoms made the drawing too heavily overlapped. The eight independent potassiums fall into two categories depending on whether they lie at symmetry positions (mirror planes) or whether they occupy general positions of the space group. K1 through K4 lie on mirror planes and also contain one or more bidentate NO_2^- ligands in their coordination sphere whereas K5 through K8 are found at general positions and are never coordinated by more than one oxygen of the NO_2^- ligands. The problem in describing the coordination number and the shape of the polyhedron around each of the potassium ions is that the distances of *all* the “neighboring” oxygens for a given potassium range from 2.80 to 3.80 Å. In many ways this problem is similar to that encountered by crystallographers attempting to describe the coordination polyhedra found in alloys such as $Pu_2Zn_{\sim 9}$ in which Larsson and Croner [28] state, for example, that the nearest neighbors to one of the Zn atoms (Zn(12)) are located at distances ranging from 2.546(10) Å to 3.830(10) Å. As a result, we have calculated the number of ligand atoms which are found around each potassium and present the results on Table V. As can be seen from Figs. 3 to 10, the coordination polyhedra around the potassiums do not exhibit the shapes of any of the classical polyhedra. These problems seem to be common in potassium stereochemistry; for example, Hall and Holland [10] and Power, *et al.* [11] found that the two potassiums in $K_3Kg(NO_2)_4(NO_3)$ also have irregular coordination

spheres with "neighboring" atom distances ranging 2.68 to 3.58 Å, values which are close to those found in this study and which present many close parallels as far as the nature of the ions and ligands concerned. Again, Larsson and Nahringbauer [29] found that the crystallographically independent potassium ion in $\text{KH}(\text{HCO}_2)_2$ contains eight oxygen nearest neighbors arranged in the form of a distorted square antiprism with $\text{K}-\text{O}$ distances ranging from 2.773(4) to 3.059(4) Å. However, because of symmetry requirements, the potassums in compounds of the composition $\text{K}_2\text{BaCo}(\text{NO}_2)_6$ [14] and $\text{K}_2\text{PbCu}(\text{NO}_2)_6$ [30] contain symmetrically distributed oxygen ligands. Consequently, the shape of the polyhedra around potassium ions seem to be determined primarily by packing considerations dictated by the requirements of the anions with which they are associated.

The Packing of the K^+ and $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_2)_5^{3-}$ Ions in the Lattice

As shown above, the distribution of the individual nearest neighbor atoms to the potassums is fairly complex; however, if one visualizes the potassium ions and the $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_2)_5^{3-}$ anions as spheres, the packing in the lattice becomes fairly simple. In the pseudo-cubic lattice defined by $1/2a$, $1/2b$ and c , the packing is very close to a face-centered(F) cubic lattice in which the potassums in general positions occupy tetrahedral holes between the $\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_2)_5^{3-}$ anions while those potassums in special positions are octahedrally surrounded by the same anions. There is a simple packing relationship between Cu1 and Cu2 ions; namely, they are related by a two-fold axis with a translation of $1/4y$. This pseudo-symmetry element lies approximately at $x = 1/8$ and $z = 1/4$. The stereo pair showing the packing (Fig. 11) shows reasonably clearly the packing features described in this section.

A Comment on the Electron Spin Resonance Spectrum of $\text{K}_3\text{Cu}(\text{NO}_2)_5$

Attempts to study the esr spectrum of this substance at room temperature [20] gave very distorted, broad lines which were barely above the natural noise level of the Varian 4502 spectrometer. This was true irrespective of the solvent (or solvent mixture) used in the experiment although this choice was somewhat limited by the ionic nature of the compound. However, it is sufficiently soluble in methanol, DMF, diethyl ether and mixtures of these to allow preparation of solutions with concentrations normally expected to give strong signals (*i.e.*, 0.001 to 0.050 M). However, it was noted [20] that the esr spectra are temperature dependent in such a way as to suggest an equilibrium between two or more species and/or fluxionally equilibrated isomers. We can now easily understand the nature of this phenomenon by observing the structural details of Cu1,2 and Cu3,4. For example, if bond Cu3-O9 is broken while

forming the bond Cu3-O8 (see Fig. 2), we obtain a species identical with the parent one. The reader can readily convince himself (herself) that there are four such possible pathways. Also, if we form bond Cu3-O8 (Fig. 2) while breaking bond Cu3-O7 and forming a Cu3-N3 we get the same molecule as that shown in Fig. 1. This is not unreasonable since the breaking of Cu3-O7 while forming a Cu3-N3 bond can be a simple shift of atomic positions involving no real bond breaking at that region of the molecule. The reader can easily work out a number of such rearrangements and become convinced that there is a sufficiently large number of *inter* and *intra* molecular rearrangements possible in solution to readily account for the high distortion and broadening of the solution esr spectrum.

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