Structure Determination of Methylammonium Bromomercurates(II): [(CH₃)₃NH]HgBr₃ and [(CH₃)₂NH₂]₂HgBr₄

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Abstract

The crystal structures of two methylammonium bromomercurates(II), [(CH₃)₃NH]HgBr₃ and [(CH₃)₂-NH₂]₂HgBr₄, were determined by single-crystal X-ray diffraction. Different coordination of mercury is observed. In [(CH₃)₃NH]HgBr₃, chains of trigonal almost planar [HgBr₃]⁻ units with Hg-Br distances between 2.516(1) and 2.573(1) Å and angles close to 120° are parallel to *a*. Isolated distorted tetrahedra are found for the other compound with Hg-Br distances between 2.569(1) and 2.650(1) Å in HgBr₄²⁻ units. The methylammonium groups are connected by hydrogen bridges to the bromine atoms. A bifurcated hydrogen bridge is observed for [(CH₃)₂NH₂]₂HgBr₄. A detailed review of crystal structures of several compounds containing Hg and Br reveals different Hg coordination types and a classification of Hg-Br bond lengths is discussed in terms of a correlation diagram. Crystal trimethylammonium tribromomercurate, data: $[(CH_3)_3NH]HgBr_3, M_r = 518.45, monoclinic, P2_1/a,$ Z = 4, F(000) = 880, $\lambda(Ag K\alpha) = 0.5609 \text{ Å}$, T =*c* = 297 (1) K, a = 8.080 (2), b = 14.583 (2), 8.825 (1) Å, $\beta = 90.98$ (2)°, V = 1039.6 (9) Å³, $D_x =$ 3.298 Mg m^{-3} , $\mu = 14.2 \text{ mm}^{-1}$, R = 0.031, wR =0.046 for 1149 observed independent reflections; bis(dimethylammonium) tetrabromomercurate, $[(CH_3)_2NH_2]_2HgBr_4$, $M_r = 612.41$, monoclinic, $P2_1/n$, Z = 4, F(000) = 1096, $\lambda(\text{Ag } K\alpha) = 0.5609 \text{ Å}$. T =297 (1) K, a = 8.209 (3), b = 11.778 (3), c = $15 \cdot 269 (8) \text{ Å}, \beta = 94 \cdot 42 (4)^{\circ}, V = 1471 \cdot 9 (9) \text{ Å}^3, D_x =$ 2.745 Mg m⁻³, $\mu = 11.4$ mm⁻¹, R = 0.041, $w\hat{R} =$ 0.041 for 1575 observed independent reflections.

Introduction

Double salts formed by the reaction of substituted ammonium halides and metal halides exhibit successive phase transitions owing to the rearrangement of the substituted ammonium groups. Some of these transitions are furthermore related to physical properties. The general formulae of this class of compounds may be written as $R_x NH_{4-x}MX_3$ and $(R_x NH_{4-x})_2 MX_4$ with R = alkyl or aryl, M = divalent metal ion (Hg, Cu, Mn, Cd, . . .), X = Br, Cl, I, and x = 1, 2, 3, 4.

Among the halogenomercurates CH₃NH₃HgCl₃ especially has been studied extensively (Ben Salah, Bats, Kalus, Fuess & Daoud, 1982; Fuess, Körfer, Arend & Kind, 1985). A ferro-paraelectric first-order phase transition in this compound was examined by diffraction, thermoanalysis and spectroscopy. Moreover, the crystal structures of different monomethyl-(Körfer, Fuess, Bats & Klebe, 1985; Körfer, Fuess & Bats, 1986), dimethyl- (Ben Salah, Bats, Fuess & Daoud, 1982) and trimethyl- (Ben Salah, Bats, Fuess & Daoud, 1983) ammonium halogenides have been determined. Existing chloromercurate structures have been presented in the form of a correlation diagram (Ben Salah et al., 1983) in order to obtain a common view of the various geometries found in the environment of mercury(II).

Experimental

Single crystals of the title compounds were obtained by slow evaporation of stoichiometric solutions of the substituted ammonium and mercury bromides in a mixture of acetone and methanol. $(CH_3)_2NH_2Br$ and $(CH_3)_3NHBr$ were produced from an exothermal reaction of HBr with $(CH_3)_2NH$ and $(CH_3)_3N$, respectively. Both compounds were examined by differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) using a Mettler device in the temperature range 120 to 420 K. Two peaks (273.6 and 333.3 K) were observed for $[(CH_3)_2NH_2]_2HgBr_4$ indicating possible phase transitions.

Data for structure determinations were collected on an Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer at room temperature with Ag $K\alpha$ radiation (graphite monochromator). Lattice constants were obtained from setting angles of 25 reflections. Experimental details are listed in Table 1.

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e.s.d.'s in parentheses

 $U_{eq} = \frac{1}{3} \sum_i \sum_j U_{ij} a_i^* a_j^* \mathbf{a}_i \cdot \mathbf{a}_j$. Values for hydrogen were not refined. ..

	[(CH ₃) ₃ NH]HgBr ₃	[(CH ₃) ₂ NH ₂] ₂ HgBr ₄
Scan type	ω	ω
Scan range h	0 → 9	$0 \rightarrow 10$
k	− 17 → 17	$0 \rightarrow 14$
1	$-10 \rightarrow 10$	- 18 → 18
$\sin(\theta/\lambda)_{max}(\text{\AA}^{-1})$	0.58	0.61
Crystal size (mm)	$0.06 \times 0.1 \times 0.32$	$0.15 \times 0.4 \times 0.45$
No. of reflections (measured)	3872	3458
Reflections with $l > 3\sigma(l)$	1702	2801
No. of variables	74	101
S	1.90	1.57

Data were corrected for Lorentz-polarization effects. The structures were solved by Patterson and Fourier techniques and direct methods, and refined in least-squares calculations. All calculations were performed with the SDP program package (B. A. Frenz & Associates, Inc., 1982) on a PDP11/34 computer or with the SHELX76 and SHELXS program systems (Sheldrick, 1976, 1986) on a UNIVAC 1108 computer.

A summary of the experimental conditions is given in Table 1. Atomic scattering factors and anomalousdispersion values were taken from International Tables for X-ray Crystallography (1974). The positional and thermal parameters of the atoms are given in Table 2.*

[(CH₃)₃NH]HgBr₃

Crystals were colourless, reflections were measured in a hemisphere of reciprocal space up to $2\theta = 38^{\circ}$. Three standard reflections showed intensity increases of about 1.8%. All reflections were rescaled accordingly. The data were corrected empirically for absorption effects, by ψ scans of three reflections (North, Phillips & Mathews, 1968); relative transmission 0.57-1.00. Equivalent reflections were averaged $(R_{\rm int} = 0.027).$

An attempt to determine the structure by Patterson techniques did not produce a unique solution. Additional calculations by direct methods lead to the localization of the four independent heavy atoms. A difference Fourier synthesis yielded the trimethylammonium groups. All atoms were refined with anisotropic thermal parameters by least-squares methods. An extinction coefficient g according to $|F_o| = |F_c|/(1 + gI_c)$ was included in the refinement and $g = 1.29 \times 10^{-7}$ was obtained. No hydrogen atoms could be located from the Fourier map. All positions were calculated, based on C-H and N-H distances of 0.95 Å and tetrahedral angles. They were

	x	y.	2	$U_{\rm eq}$ or $U_{\rm iso}({\rm \AA}^2)$					
[(CH ₃) ₃ NH]I	[(CH ₃) ₃ NH]HgBr ₃								
Hg(1)	0.14532 (9)	0.28703 (4)	0.27080 (7)	0.0619(1)					
Br(1)	0.1722 (2)	0.4562 (1)	0.3209 (2)	0.0593 (5)					
Br(2)	- 0.0597 (2)	0.2325 (1)	0.0639 (2)	0.0612 (5)					
Br(3)	0.2538 (2)	0.1706 (1)	0.4592 (2)	0.0622 (5)					
N(1)	0.744 (2)	0.0475 (9)	0.740 (1)	0.056 (4)					
C(1)	0.636 (3)	0.130(1)	0.754 (2)	0.081 (6)					
C(2)	0.753 (3)	-0.000(1)	0.875 (2)	0.103 (8)					
C(3)	0.912 (2)	0.076 (2)	0.686 (2)	0.100 (6)					
H(1)	0.694	0.006	0.667	0.08					
H(2)	0.628	0.162	0.659	0.10					
H(3)	0.527	0.112	0.783	0.10					
H(4)	0.680	0.171	0.829	0.10					
H(5)	0.827	-0.055	0.864	0.11					
H(6)	0.802	0.035	0.954	0.11					
H(7)	0.652	-0.023	0.908	0.11					
H(8)	0.983	0.025	0.677	0.11					
H(9)	0.902	0.106	0.591	0.11					
H(10)	0.961	0.118	0.758	0.11					
$[(CH_3)_2NH_2]$]₂HgBr₄								
Hg(1)	0.28690 (7)	0.29536(1)	0.05088 (4)	0.0493 (1)					
Br(1)	0.2882 (2)	0.5146(1)	0.0593 (1)	0.0636 (4)					
Br(2)	0.0220 (2)	0.2076(1)	0.0979 (1)	0.0751 (5)					
Br(3)	0.3280 (2)	0.2280(1)	-0.1111 (1)	0.0599 (5)					
Br(4)	0.5451 (2)	0.2175(1)	0.1400(1)	0.0626 (5)					
N(1)	0.735(1)	0.1770 (9)	0.9280 (9)	0.073 (4)					
N(2)	0.294 (2)	0.517(1)	0.8320 (8)	0.072 (4)					
C(1)	0.805 (2)	0.207 (1)	0.846(1)	0 108 (6)					
C(2)	0.718 (2)	0.054 (1)	0.947 (2)	0.109 (8)					
C(3)	0.377 (2)	0.492 (1)	0.7524 (9)	0.070 (5)					
C(4)	0.115 (2)	0.513 (1)	0.825(1)	0.075 (5)					
H(1)	0.629	0.212	0.928	0.06					
H(2)	0.805	0.211	0.976	0.06					
H(3)	0.329	0.592	0.853	0.06					
H(4)	0.335	0.465	0.878	0.06					

Table 3. Bond distances (Å) and angles (°), with e.s.d.'s in parentheses

	[(CH ₃) ₃ NH]HgBr ₃	[(CH ₃) ₂ NH ₂] ₂ HgBr ₄
Hg-Br(1)	2.517(1)	2.588 (1)
Br(2)	2.570 (1)	2:569(1)
Br(3)	2.525 (1)	2.650 (1)
Br(4)		2.603 (1)
Br(1)-Hg-Br(2)	118-75 (5)	112.87 (5)
Br(1)-Hg-Br(3)	121.07 (4)	110.24 (4)
Br(1)—Hg—Br(4)		109.01 (5)
Br(2)-Hg-Br(3)	118-19 (3)	108-34 (5)
Br(2)-Hg-Br(4)		112.90 (5)
Br(3)—Hg—Br(4)		103.02 (4)
N(1)-C(1)	1-489 (15)	1.469 (17)
C(2)	1.388 (17)	1-488 (15)
C(3)	1.508 (16)	
N(2) - C(3)		1.472 (14)
C(4)		1.476 (17)
C(1)-N(1)-C(2)	110.87 (1.07)	116.86 (1.06)
C(1) - N(1) - C(3)	109.82 (1.11)	
C(2)—N(1)—C(3)	111-78 (1-16)	
C(3) - N(2) - C(4)		117-34 (1-05)

not included in least-squares refinement. The final difference Fourier synthesis was featureless, $(\Delta/\sigma)_{max}$ = 0.05 in the last cycle of refinement.

[(CH₃)₂NH₂]₂HgBr₄

C

Data of a colourless sample were collected in a quarter of reciprocal space up to $2\theta = 40^{\circ}$ with an ω scan. Three standard reflections were repeatedly

^{*} Lists of structure factors and anisotropic thermal parameters have been deposited with the British Library Document Supply Centre as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 52840 (17 pp.). Copies may be obtained through The Technical Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England.

remeasured during the data collection. No intensity change was observed for two standard reflections of medium intensity. The intensity of the strongest reflection, however, increased over the time of data collection, which was attributed to a decrease of extinction due to radiation damage. No correction for time stability was applied. All reflections were corrected empirically for absorption effects, by ψ scans of three reflections (North, Phillips & Mathews, 1968); relative transmission 0.34–1.00. The



Fig. 1. Perspective view of the crystal structure of $[(CH_3)_3NH]HgBr_3$. Thermal ellipsoids are at the 50% probability level. Hydrogen bonds are indicated by broken lines.



Fig. 2. Perspective view of the crystal structure of $[(CH_3)_2NH_2]_2HgBr_4$.

equivalent reflections were averaged, $R_{int} = 0.051$. The structure was determined by Patterson and Fourier techniques in space group $P2_1/n$ and refined by least-squares methods with anisotropic thermal parameters. As no hydrogen atoms were detected from a difference Fourier synthesis the positions of those bonded to the nitrogen atoms were calculated. The N—H distances were supposed to be 0.95 Å and the C—N—H angles 114.6°. In the least-squares refinement positions and thermal parameters of the hydrogen atoms were fixed. A final difference Fourier synthesis showed only one peak of about $1.0 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$ near the mercury atom, but was otherwise featureless $(0.8-0.5 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3})$, $(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} = 0.03$ in the last cycle of refinement; an extinction parameter was finally refined to $g = 2.9 \times 10^{-7}$.

Discussion

Bond distances and angles are given in Table 3, the structures are displayed in Figs. 1 and 2.

The main building block of the structure of $[(CH_3)_3NH]HgBr_3$ is an almost planar $[HgBr_3]^-$ unit. These units are interconnected via Hg...Br bonds (Fig. 3) almost parallel to a. Distances are Hg. Br(2) = 3.047 (1) and Hg. Br(3) = 3.660 (1) Å. [(CH₃)₃NH]HgBr₃ is not isotypic with the chlorine analogue (Ben Salah et al., 1983). The main building units in the tetrahalogenomercurates(II) $[(CH_3)_2NH_2]_2HgX_4$ with X = Cl, Br, I are isolated tetrahedra. The tetrahedra are heavily distorted for X = Cl and Br but are almost regular for the $[(CH_3)_2NH_2]_2HgBr_4$ and iodine compound. [(CH₃)₂NH₂]₂HgCl₄ (Ben Salah, Bats, Fuess & Daoud, 1982) are isostructural (space group $P2_1/n$) with similar Hg coordination. The Hg-X distances increase from X = Cl [2.424 (2) - 2.530 (2) Å] to X =Br [2.569(1)-2.650(1) Å] to X = I (2.767-2.797 Å)(Pabst, 1990).



Fig. 3. Three parallel chains of [HgBr]³⁻ units, almost in the *a* direction, in [(CH₃)₃NH]HgBr₃.

Table 4. Hydrogen-bonding scheme (Å and °)

E.s.d.'s, given in	parentheses, w	ere calculated	without hyd	rogen.
	H…Br	N…Br	N—H	NHBr
(CH ₃) ₃ NH]HgBr ₃				
N(1)—H(1)…Br(3)	2.85(1)	3.640 (9)	0.964 (8)	139.8 (6)
[(CH ₃) ₂ NH ₂] ₂ HgBr ₄				
N(1)—H(1)…Br(3)	2.52 (1)	3.41 (1)	0.963 (9)	155-3 (6)
N(1)—H(2)…Br(2)	2.50 (2)	3-39(1)	0.97 (1)	153 4 (6)
N(2)—H(3)…Br(4)	2.47 (1)	3.41 (1)	0.97 (1)	161.5 (7)
Br(1)	2.90 (1)	3.48(1)		119.6 (6)
N(2)—H(4).			0.98(1)	
Br(3)	2.80 (1)	3.53 (1)		132-3 (6)

Hydrogen-bonding scheme

The crystal structures of double salts composed of HgX_2 and alkylammonium halides are usually characterized by building units of HgX (isolated tetrahedra, chains, double chains) which are inter-



Fig. 4. Correlation diagram showing the average value of the longer Hg-Br bonds as a function of the average value of the shorter Hg-Br bonds for tetrahedral HgBr coordinations. References: 1, [Mg(OH₂)₆][Hg₂Br₆] (Brodersen & Pezzei, 1983); 2, (C₇H₈N₂O)HgBr₂ (Lechat, Francisco & Airoldi, 1980); 3, (C₂₂H₃₁O₂S)HgBr (Terzis, Faught & Pouskoulelis, 1980); 4, HgBr₂.(C₆H₅)₂PCH₂COOH (Podlahová, Kratochvíl, Loub & Paulus, 1986); 5, ([Ph₃AsO]₂H)₂(Hg₂Br_o) (Harris, Inglis & McKechnie, 1967); 6, $[(Cu_2Au)(Budtc)_6](Hg_2Br_6)$ (Gal, Beurskens, Cras, Beurskens & Willemse, 1976); 7. $C_{10}H_{20}N_2S_4HgBr_2$ (Chieh, 1978b); C₆H₁₀O₄S₄.HgBr₂ 8, (Skol'nikova, Poraj-Košic, Djatlova, Zavodnik, Bel'skij & Podlaga, 1980); 9, $C_{10}H_{20}N_2S_4Hg_2Br_2$ (Chieh, 1978*a*); 10, [(CH₃)₂NH₂]₂HgBr₄ (this paper); 11, Cs₃HgBr₅ (Pakhomov, Fedorov & Sadikov, 1978); 12, Cs₂HgBr₄ (Pakhomov, Fedorova & Ivanova-Korfini, 1978); 13, (CH₃NH₃)₂HgBr₄ (Körfer et al., 1986); 14 [N(CH₃)₄]₂HgBr₄ (Kamenar & Nagl, 1976).

connected by hydrogen bonds of the ammonium ions. The hydrogen-bonding scheme determined from calculated hydrogen positions is presented in Table 4.

Three out of the four hydrogen bonds between ammonium and Br in $[(CH_3)_2NH_2]_2HgBr_4$ are fairly strong with N···Br distances of about 3·4 Å. The remaining one is bifurcated and the N···Br distances of about 3·5 Å classify this bond as rather weak. It is evident from inspection of Table 4 and the temperature factors of the dimethylammonium groups that the strong hydrogen bonds lead to reduction of the thermal motion of these groups. In $[(CH_3)_3NH]HgBr_3$ only one hydrogen connected to N is involved in a weak hydrogen bond. Values for hydrogen bonds between N and Br range from $3\cdot17$ Å in C₅H₁₁N.BrH to $3\cdot70$ Å in N₂H₅Br. The hydrogen bonds determined in the two title compounds are therefore of medium strength.

Coordination of bromomercurates(II)

A great variety of Hg coordinations is observed in halogenomercurates(II) especially in chloromercurates. The coordination polyhedra are often classified as trigonal, tetrahedral, trigonal bipyramidal or



Fig. 5. Correlation diagram for octahedral HgBr coordinations. References: 1, Hg(Cl,Br)₂ (Scholten & Bijvoet, 1941); 2, CH₃CN.3HgBr₂ (Leligny, Frey & Monier, 1972); 3, C₄H₈O.HgBr₂ (Frey, Leligny & Ledésert, 1971); 4, KHgBr₂CN.2H₂O (Brodersen & Frohring, 1981); 5, HgBr₂ (Braekken, 1932); 6, Tl₄HgBr₆ (Brodersen, Thiele & Görz, 1973); 7, Hg₂Br₂ (Ewald & Hermann, 1931).

octahedral and are mostly described as heavily distorted. In a previous paper (Ben Salah *et al.*, 1983) we reported an attempt to arrange all these observations in a diagram which correlates the observed distances with respect to $HgCl_2$. This molecule is linear with Hg—Cl distances of 2.252 Å and a Cl—Hg—Cl angle of 180° (Subramanian & Seff, 1980). Several other structures contain this unit more or less elongated and completed by additional chlorine atoms.

The tendency to form almost linear, isolated HgX_2 units decreases from X = Cl to I. The most common coordination in bromo- and iodomercurates is tetrahedral but other types of coordination are also observed in the bromomercurates.

The correlation scheme for the classification of the Hg^{2+} coordination has now been extended to the Hg—Br bond. 32 bromomercurate structures have been compiled and a wide range of Hg—Br distances is observed. The lower limit (*d*) is given by $HgBr_2$ with an observed distance of 2.40 Å in the gaseous state (Braune & Knoke, 1933).

The observed geometry for bromomercurates is roughly given as tetrahedral (Fig. 4), octahedral (Fig. 5) and trigonal bipyramidal (Fig. 6). The averaged



Fig. 6. Correlation diagram for bipyramidal HgBr coordinations. References: 1, C₉H₁₅O₂HgBr (Porter, Cud, Miller & McPhail, 1980); 2, CH₃CN.3HgBr₂ (Leligny *et al.*, 1972); 3, Fe-(CO)₄(HgBr)₂ (Baird & Dahl, 1967); 4, [(CH₃)₃NH]HgBr₃ (this paper); 5, [CH₃NH₃]HgBr₃ (Körfer *et al.*, 1985); 6, CsHg₂Br₅ (Pakhomov, Fedorov & Ivanova-Korfini, 1979); 7, (C₁₀H₈N₂.HgBr₂)₂ (Craig, Farhangi, Graddon & Stephenson, 1973); 8, Hg₂NHBr₂ (Brodersen, 1955); 9, (C₇H₉N)HgBr₃ (White, 1963); 11, C₈H₁₆N₂O₅S₇HgBr₄ (Book, Carty & Chieh, 1981).

longer distances (r_L) are plotted *versus* the averaged shorter distances (r_S) . The observed values are fitted by the function $r_L = d + 1/[e(d - r_S)]$ where *e* is a fitting value.

It is clear from Figs. 4, 5 and 6 that no distances shorter than 2.4 Å, the distance in gaseous HgBr₂, are observed. Some experimental values however, approach this value. The upper limit of Hg—Br distances is given by a regular polyhedron with bonds of equal length. These distances in regular polyhedra are indicated by an angle bisector in the correlation diagram. Only in the case of tetrahedral coordination, are values close to the regular ideal ones observed. For coordinations described as approximately octahedral and trigonal bipyramidal a pronounced distortion is found. The constant *e* in the fitting function has a value of e = -27.7(tetrahedral), -18.11 (octahedral) and -13.22 Å⁻² for the trigonal bipyramid.

The present survey demonstrates the great variety of Hg coordinations in bromomercurates which makes a classification in terms of regular polyhedra meaningless.

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Structures of Bis(4-aminopyridinium) Tetrachlorocuprate(II) Monohydrate, [C₅H₇N₂]₂[CuCl₄].H₂O, and Bis(2-amino-3-hydroxypyridinium) Tetrachlorocuprate(II), [C₅H₇N₂O]₂[CuCl₄]: Correlation of CuCl₄²⁻ Geometry with Hydrogen Bonding and Electronic Structure

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Abstract

 $[C_5H_7N_2]_2[CuCl_4].H_2O, M_r = 413.62, monoclinic,$ C2/c, a = 8.457 (2), b = 14.318 (2), c = 14.382 (2) Å, $\beta = 95.82 (1)^{\circ}, \quad V = 1732.4 (5) \text{ Å}^3,$ Z = 4, $D_{\rm r} =$ 1.59 g cm⁻³, λ (Mo $K\alpha$) = 0.71069 Å, μ = 18.79 cm⁻¹, F(000) = 836, T = 293 K. The 1526 unique reflections ($2\theta \le 50^\circ$), of which 1288 had $F_0 \ge$ $3\sigma(F_{o})$, refined to a final R of 0.035 and wR = 0.038. $[C_5H_7N_2O]_2[CuCl_4], M_r = 427.6, triclinic, P\overline{1}, a =$ b = 7.968 (2), c = 14.578 (3) Å, 7.554(1) $\alpha =$ 103·23 (2), $\beta = 93·30$ (2), $\gamma = 99·59$ (2)°, V = 838·0 (3) Å³, Z = 2, $D_x = 1.69$ g cm⁻³, λ (Mo K α) = 0.71069 Å, $\mu = 19.6$ cm⁻¹, F(000) = 430, T = 293 K. The 2185 unique reflections $(2\theta \le 45^\circ)$, of which 1680 had $F_o \ge 3\sigma(F_o)$, refined to a final R of 0.047 and wR = 0.040. The structures of both compounds consist of discrete CuCl₄²⁻ anions and organic cations with the stoichiometric formulas indicated in the title. The geometry of both of the $CuCl_4^2$ ions is intermediate between tetrahedral and square planar, with *trans* angles (average) of 134.6 and 137.8° respectively, and Cu—Cl distances (average) of 2.247 Å for both salts. The structural chemistry of 62 isolated CuCl₄²⁻ anions is reviewed. The *trans* Cl—Cu—Cl angles in non-disordered CuCl₄²⁻ anions range from 125 to 180°. Correlations of this *trans* Cl—Cu—Cl angle with hydrogen bonding to the cation, with the average Cu—Cl distance, and with the *d*-*d* electronic transition energy are examined. Finally, a review is given of structures in which the CuCl₄²⁻ anion acts as a coordinating ligand.

Introduction

A major goal of the research program in this laboratory has been the synthesis and characterization of various copper(II) halide oligomers. A particularly fruitful approach has employed substituted pyridinium cations as counterions. In the process of these syntheses, the 4-aminopyridinium (4AP) and 2-© 1990 International Union of Crystallography

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