

Metal Ion–Aromatic Complexes. III.

The Crystal and Molecular Structure of $C_6H_6 \cdot CuAlCl_4$

R. W. Turner^{1a} and E. L. Amma^{1b}

Contribution from the Department of Chemistry, University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina 29208. Received January 10, 1966

Abstract: A new benzene complex, $C_6H_6 \cdot CuAlCl_4$, has been synthesized and its structure determined by three-dimensional, single-crystal X-ray diffraction techniques. Cu(I) is in a distorted tetrahedral environment with three metal-to-chlorine bonds and one π -type metal ion–aromatic interaction. The three Cu–Cl (2.365, 2.398, and 2.555 Å, all ± 0.006 Å) interactions are made with different $AlCl_4^-$ tetrahedra in such a way that a pleated sheet of $CuAlCl_4^-$ is formed with Cu– C_6H_6 linkages protruding from the sheet. The sheets are separated by normal van der Waals distances. The Cu(I) is located almost directly above a C–C bond of the benzene ring with Cu–C distances of 2.15 and 2.30 Å, both ± 0.03 Å. It appears that the anions play an important role in the stability of this complex.

The existence of complexes between silver ions and olefins or aromatic donors has been known for some time.² Mulliken³ and Dewar⁴ have formulated theoretical models for the bonding in these complexes. Single-crystal X-ray structure investigations of silver (I)–olefin^{5–7} complexes and $C_6H_6 \cdot AgClO_4$ ⁸ have been carried out and the geometry and bond distances established. However, a thorough understanding of the factors involved in metal ion–olefin or aromatic complexes can be obtained only from a systematic study of complexes with various metal ions, anions, and a number of donors. Baenziger and his co-workers⁹ have examined a number of olefin complexes, and we are examining a number of metal–ion aromatic complexes. A preliminary communication has been published on $C_6H_6 \cdot CuAlCl_4$ ¹⁰ and we now present synthetic and structure details.

Experimental Section

$C_6H_6 \cdot CuAlCl_4$ was prepared by treating a slight excess of resublimed CuCl with 0.03 mole of resublimed $AlCl_3$ contained in easily broken Pyrex ampoules with an excess of dried benzene (20 ml) in one side of a dry evacuated H tube (Figure 1).

Upon breaking the tubes, the closed system was heated for 2 hr at 40° by immersing the two legs in dewars filled with warm water. Any HCl formed from residual water adsorbed on the vessel walls was pumped out; then the stopcock was sealed off. Since CuCl is insoluble in benzene, the solution of $C_6H_6 \cdot CuAlCl_4$ in the left leg was filtered into the right leg. Single crystals were grown from the

concentrated solution in the right leg by immersing the left leg in a Dry Ice–acetone bath. After excess benzene had been removed, the lower part of the right leg was cut off; this segment was transferred to a small drybox wherein single crystals were transferred to thin-walled (0.01 mm) glass capillaries. The glass capillaries were sealed off with a torch. The crystals were found to be very sensitive to air and moisture, and it was difficult to avoid some decomposition. Chemical analyses were performed, but they were only sufficiently accurate to confirm the above stoichiometry.

The crystal of approximately 0.3 × 0.3 × 0.6 mm was used for collecting the intensity data. Multiple film equiinclination Weissenberg techniques were used to collect 1200 independent hkl observed intensities with Zr-filtered Mo K α radiation from $hk0$, $hk1$, . . . , $hk6$ levels. In addition, $h0l$ and $0kl$ precession-timed exposure intensity data were collected with Zr-filtered Mo K α radiation and used for preliminary scaling purposes. All intensities were visually estimated with a calibrated strip. The linear absorption coefficient (μ) for this compound is 32 cm⁻¹ with Mo K α radiation. Since no adsorption correction could be made for unavoidable surface decomposition, no absorption corrections were made.

Calculations were made with an IBM 7094 computer at New York University.¹¹ Lorentz polarization corrections were made and intensities reduced to squared structure factors. Fourier calculations were made with the Sly–Shoemaker–Van den Hende program. The full-matrix least-squares refinement was carried out using the Busing and Levy or FLS program with the Hughes¹² weighting scheme with $4F_{min} = 10$. We minimized the function $\sum w(F_o - F_c)^2$. Atomic scattering factors were taken from the compilation of Ibers¹³ for Cu⁺, Cl⁻, Al³⁺, and neutral C. The variables were scale factors, atomic coordinates, and individual atom temperature factors for the isotropic refinement. For the anisotropic refinement, the variables were the six β_{ij} for each atom along with the atomic positional coordinates. The anisotropic temperature factors were of the form $\exp[-(\beta_{11}h^2 + \beta_{22}k^2 + \beta_{33}l^2 + 2\beta_{12}hk + 2\beta_{13}hl + 2\beta_{23}kl)]$. The scale factors were fixed after the isotropic refinement and not allowed to vary further until the refinement was completed.

Results

Unit Cell and Space Group. $C_6H_6 \cdot CuAlCl_4$ was found to crystallize with four formula units per cell in the monoclinic crystal system. With $CuK\alpha_1$ (1.5405 Å) α_2 (1.5443 Å), unit cell constants were found to be $a = 8.59 \pm 0.01$, $b = 21.59 \pm 0.03$, $c = 6.07 \pm 0.01$ Å, and $\beta = 93^\circ 0' \pm 15'$. The systematic extinctions of (for $h0l$) $h + l = 2n + 1$ and (for $0k0$) $k = 2n + 1$ uniquely specify the space group as $P2_1/n$. The calculated crystal density was found to be 1.85 g cm⁻³

(11) We wish to thank the Atomic Energy Commission and the Courant Institute of Mathematical Science at New York University for use of their computer facilities.

(12) E. W. Hughes, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **63**, 1737 (1941).

(13) J. A. Ibers, "International Tables for X-Ray Crystallography," Vol. III, Kynoch Press, Birmingham, England, 1962, pp 202, 204, 210.

(1) (a) Submitted in partial fulfillment of requirements for the Ph.D. degree, University of Pittsburgh, 1965. (b) Research performed at the University of Pittsburgh. All correspondence should be addressed to this author.

(2) (a) S. Winstein and H. J. Lucas, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **60**, 836 (1938); (b) L. J. Andrews and R. M. Keefer, *ibid.*, **71**, 3644 (1949); (c) L. J. Andrews, *Chem. Rev.*, **54**, 713 (1954).

(3) R. S. Mulliken, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **74**, 811 (1952).

(4) M. J. S. Dewar, *Bull. Soc. Chim. France*, **C79**, 18 (1951).

(5) J. A. Wunderlich and D. P. Mellor, *Acta Cryst.*, **7**, 130 (1954); **8**, 57 (1955).

(6) S. C. Nyburg and J. Hilton, *ibid.*, **12**, 116 (1959).

(7) F. S. Mathews and W. N. Lipscomb, *J. Phys. Chem.*, **63**, 845 (1959).

(8) H. G. Smith and R. E. Rundle, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **80**, 5075 (1958).

(9) (a) J. N. Dempsey and N. C. Baenziger, *ibid.*, **77**, 4984 (1955); (b) J. R. Holden and N. C. Baenziger, *ibid.*, **77**, 4987 (1955); (c) N. C. Baenziger, J. R. Doyle, and C. L. Carpenter, *Acta Cryst.*, **14**, 303 (1961); (d) N. C. Baenziger, J. R. Doyle, and G. F. Richards, *ibid.*, **18**, 924 (1965); (e) N. C. Baenziger, G. F. Richards, and J. R. Doyle, *Inorg. Chem.*, **3**, 1529 (1964); (f) N. C. Baenziger, H. L. Haight, and J. R. Doyle, *ibid.*, **3**, 1535 (1964).

(10) R. W. Turner and E. L. Amma, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **85**, 4046 (1963).

Table I. Observed and Calculated Structure Factors $F(C) = 10F(\text{Calcd})$

FIG	F(C)	7K0	3K1	-6K1	2K2	-5K2	-2K3	6K3	-2K4	-6K4	-3K5	-2K6	7K4																					
0K0	9	81	75	7	5	237	236	11	105	76	2	233	312	1	140	132	7	157	132	9	95	-136	7	159	126	8	111	74						
6 297	259	10 83	108	8	161	-135	2	93	79	6	171	-185	14	166	-167	3	387	604	2	75	58	8	186	181	14	60	68	9	98	-80	9	101	-45	
8 445	-440	14 91	-99	10	128	111	3	204	-219	7	184	-214	17	87	94	6	179	-167	3	223	-229	10	112	116	7K4	12	127	-116	12	127	-80	10	129	-97
12 154	155	15 105	96	11	185	181	4	215	-213	8	192	186	17	72	60	5	268	-328	4	59	-311	11	133	-135	1	58	-72	14	126	61	11	141	-139	
16 127	142	16 80	65	12	166	-100	5	95	78	9	192	186	17	72	60	5	268	-328	4	59	-311	11	133	-135	1	58	-72	14	126	61	11	141	-139	
20 118	-111	20 80	14	7	130	99	10	174	-155	6K2	8	243	231	7	74	8	243	231	7	74	8	13	128	128	4	182	190	4K5	15	131	-114			
5 1K3	256	5 118	-102	17	82	-89	8	143	144	12	81	74	2	627	-107	9	132	135	8	74	56	14	112	113	5	103	-93	1	35	-16	16	189	-188	
8 206	-182	4 56	60	21	75	-115	10	172	-144	14	124	127	7	90	-72	11	128	-125	11	90	79	3K4	10	135	119	4	128	-119	4	164	-116			
9 261	-311	5 76	113	-3K1	12	195	205	15	178	178	8	79	-88	12	77	61	13	97	126	1	152	-136	11	19	-20	6	12	103	6	123	-90			
10 115	128	5 76	113	-3K1	12	195	205	15	178	178	8	79	-88	12	77	61	13	97	126	1	152	-136	11	19	-20	6	12	103	6	123	-90			
11 157	153	7 86	-122	1	240	-262	15	103	-100	4	168	-154	10	87	57	14	15	156	66	-8K1	17	3	270	266	5	97	-121	13	44	63	8	110	94	
12 188	-192	11 106	119	2	292	350	16	101	-104	4	141	-100	12	70	61	15	156	166	-8K1	17	3	270	266	5	97	-121	13	44	63	8	110	94		
13 111	94	12 104	-116	3	300	165	7K1	6	49	-25	13	97	-68	16	117	-105	1	123	80	5	150	-132	8	153	156	-89	1	11	-8	10	50	-55		
14 43	30	13 90	-87	4	322	96	0	100	-94	7	52	28	14	117	-143	18	80	58	2	63	57	6	117	109	10	84	-89	1	11	-8	10	50	-55	
15 45	-44	14 91	90	6	317	-307	1	95	70	8	124	-133	-6K2	19	70	-68	3	240	-281	7	158	-161	0	74	-83	3	20	-47	13	133	-104			
16 102	90	9K0	7	134	-101	2	168	98	9	176	-163	1	222	82	0	229	4	79	-73	8	88	-50	0	74	-83	3	20	-47	13	133	-104			
17 87	68	2 96	-89	8	123	92	4	54	-35	10	111	104	8	102	-91	0	363	4	79	-73	8	88	-50	0	74	-83	3	20	-47	13	133	-104		
18 50	-37	3 79	73	9	222	220	5	85	76	11	150	150	10	94	1	222	-210	6	53	-53	13	125	-131	0	221	-290	7	80	7	15	253	225		
20 105	114	4 86	67	11	196	-179	6	93	-67	12	182	-190	9	146	-126	2	69	-53	7	173	187	15	216	252	2	103	173	8	93	61	16	113	-99	
21 70	-73	8 59	-62	12	125	-116	8	120	11	171	106	129	7	90	-73	1	222	-210	6	53	-53	13	125	-131	0	221	-290	7	80	7	15	253	225	
2 2K6		0K1																																

in good agreement with the observed value of 1.86 g cm^{-3} .

Determination of the Structure. After two false starts with the three-dimensional Patterson function,

Table II^a

Positional and Temperature Parameters and Errors						
Atom	x/a	$\sigma(x)/a$	y/b	$\sigma(y)/b$	z/c	$\sigma(z)/c$
Cu	0.1790	0.0004	0.1703	0.0001	0.0043	0.0004
Cl (1)	0.2319	0.0007	0.2838	0.0002	0.1031	0.0007
Cl (2)	0.3810	0.0009	0.4318	0.0003	0.0692	0.0012
Cl (3)	0.4200	0.0006	0.3270	0.0003	0.6351	0.0006
Cl (4)	0.1381	0.0006	0.1921	0.0002	0.6237	0.0006
Al	0.4145	0.0006	0.3398	0.0002	0.9839	0.0007
C(1)	0.4732	0.0037	0.0896	0.0016	0.8261	0.0053
C(2)	0.4833	0.0032	0.1255	0.0014	0.9892	0.0046
C(3)	0.3789	0.0047	0.1229	0.0019	0.1602	0.0066
C(4)	0.2789	0.0035	0.0796	0.0017	0.1541	0.0051
C(5)	0.2605	0.0035	0.0403	0.0019	0.9699	0.0059
C(6)	0.3606	0.0038	0.0442	0.0013	0.8187	0.0038

Thermal Parameters and Standard Deviations												
{ Anisotropic temperature factors of the form												
$\exp[-(\beta_{11}h^2 + \beta_{22}k^2 + \beta_{33}l^2 + 2\beta_{12}hk + 2\beta_{13}hl + 2\beta_{23}kl)]; \sigma' = \sigma \times 10^4$												
Atom ^a	β_{11}	σ'	β_{22}	σ'	β_{33}	σ'	β_{12}	σ'	β_{13}	σ'	β_{23}	σ'
Cu	0.0090	6	0.0020	1	0.0140	11	0.0024	2	-0.0004	5	0.0015	2
Cl(1)	0.0085	7	0.0005	1	0.0119	12	-0.0013	2	0.0067	8	-0.0014	3
Cl(2)	0.0131	13	0.0002	1	0.0353	23	0.0003	3	0.0070	12	-0.0003	4
Cl(3)	0.0027	7	0.0029	2	0.0007	11	-0.0003	3	0.0000	5	0.0000	3
Cl(4)	0.0044	7	0.0015	1	0.0017	10	-0.0015	2	-0.0008	5	0.0000	2
Al	0.0014	8	0.0001	1	0.0016	13	-0.0001	2	0.0001	7	0.0001	2
C(1)	0.0075	43	0.0023	9	0.0358	94	0.0013	18	0.0141	38	0.0008	21
C(2)	0.0071	40	0.0014	10	0.0272	89	0.0000	13	-0.0067	40	0.0042	16
C(3)	0.0165	63	0.0027	11	0.0437	121	0.0026	20	-0.0205	50	-0.0007	29
C(4)	0.0052	46	0.0025	9	0.0323	106	0.0017	17	0.0003	47	-0.0012	24
C(5)	0.0056	45	0.0038	9	0.0443	96	-0.0005	15	-0.0024	46	0.0122	17
C(6)	0.0167	61	0.0012	7	0.0131	64	0.0033	16	-0.0032	43	-0.0005	15

Layer	Scale factor	σ
hk0	0.2321	0.0043
hk1	0.3130	0.0036
hk2	0.3616	0.0042
hk3	0.2923	0.0038
hk4	0.4801	0.0063
hk5	0.3589	0.0059
hk6	0.5427	0.0085

^a To put structure factors on an absolute scale, $F(C)$ should be multiplied by $1/(\text{scale factors})$. Numbers in parentheses refer to subscripted numbers in other tables and drawings.

the correct solution was found. The Cu, 4Cl, and Al atoms were all located in the general positions of $P2_1/n$: $\pm(x, y, z; 1/2 + x, 1/2 - y, 1/2 + z)$.

The disagreement index R ($R = \Sigma||F_o| - |F_c|| / \Sigma|F_o|$) with the coordinates of the heavy atoms from the three-dimensional Patterson function was found to be 0.28. A three-dimensional electron density calculation with phases based on only Cu, Cl, and Al positions located the carbon atoms of the aromatic ring. After six cycles of full-matrix least squares with individual atom isotropic temperature factors of the form $\exp[-(\sin^2 \theta \lambda^{-2})]$, R was found to be 0.19. After eight cycles of full-matrix least squares with individual atom anisotropic temperature factors, R converged to 0.139. The maximum shift of positional coordinates for the last cycle was 0.00002 of the cell edges. A three-dimensional difference map did not indicate any unusual features. The final calculated and observed structure factors are listed in Table I. Final atomic parameters and standard deviations are tabulated in Table II. Interatomic distances, angles, and errors¹⁴ are listed in Table III. The equation for the best least-squares plane through the benzene ring carbons and the deviations of each atom from this plane are also given in Table III.¹⁵

(14) W. R. Busing, K. O. Martin, and H. A. Levy, OR FFE program.

(15) Program courtesy of L. Dahl.

Since the intensity data were only taken about one axis and no corrections were made for absorption, anomalous dispersion, or extinction, no physical interpretation should be made of the anisotropic temperature factors. For these same reasons our estimates of error may be somewhat optimistic.

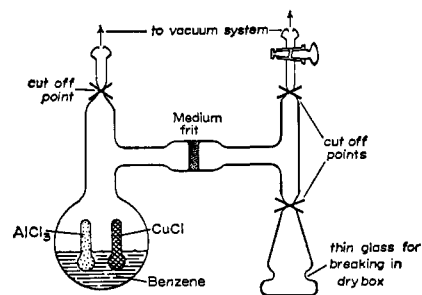


Figure 1. H tube for preparation of metal ion-benzene complexes.

Description of the Structure. The structure is made up of sheets pleated about $y = 1/4, 3/4$, or infinite extent in the a and c directions. These sheets are composed of distorted tetrahedral Cu(I) bonded to chlorine atoms of three different $AlCl_4^-$ species. For example (Figure 2), Cu^* , $z \sim 1/2c$ is bonded to Cl_1^* and Cl_3^*

Table III. Distances and Angles for $C_6H_6 \cdot CuAlCl_4$

		Bonded Distances and Angles			
Al-Cl ₁	2.136 ± 0.007 Å	Cu-Cl ₁	2.555 ± 0.066 Å	Cu-C ₃	2.15 ± 0.03 Å
Al-Cl ₂	2.078 ± 0.008 Å	Cu-Cl ₃	2.398 ± 0.006 Å	Cu-C ₄	2.30 ± 0.03 Å
Al-Cl ₃	2.141 ± 0.007 Å	Cu-Cl ₄	2.365 ± 0.004 Å	Cu-midpoint (C ₃ -C ₄)	2.13 ± 0.03 Å
Al-Cl ₄	2.153 ± 0.007 Å				
Cl ₁ -Al-Cl ₂	109.9 ± 0.3°	C ₁ -C ₂	1.25 ± 0.04 Å	C ₁ -C ₂ -C ₃	123 ± 3°
Cl ₁ -Al-Cl ₃	109.0 ± 0.2°	C ₂ -C ₃	1.41 ± 0.05 Å	C ₂ -C ₃ -C ₄	119 ± 3°
Cl ₁ -Al-Cl ₄	109.4 ± 0.3°	C ₃ -C ₄	1.26 ± 0.05 Å	C ₃ -C ₄ -C ₅	121 ± 3°
Cl ₂ -Al-Cl ₃	112.4 ± 0.3°	C ₄ -C ₅	1.40 ± 0.05 Å	C ₄ -C ₅ -C ₆	119 ± 3°
Cl ₂ -Al-Cl ₄	109.9 ± 0.3°	C ₅ -C ₆	1.29 ± 0.04 Å	C ₅ -C ₆ -C ₁	121 ± 3°
Cl ₃ -Al-Cl ₄	107.7 ± 0.3°	C ₆ -C ₁	1.37 ± 0.04 Å	C ₆ -C ₁ -C ₂	119 ± 3°
Cu-Cl ₁ -Al	125.8 ± 0.2°	Midpoint of C ₃ -C ₄ -Cu-Cl ₁	118.1 ± 0.5°		
Cu-Cl ₃ -Al	113.8 ± 0.2°	Midpoint of C ₃ -C ₄ -Cu-Cl ₃	114.3 ± 0.5°		
Cu-Cl ₄ -Al	113.1 ± 0.2°	Midpoint of C ₃ -C ₄ -Cu-Cl ₄	127.6 ± 0.5°		
Cl ₁ -Cu-Cl ₃	92.9 ± 0.2°	C ₃ -Cu-C ₄	33 ± 1°		
Cl ₁ -Cu-Cl ₄	92.9 ± 0.2°	C ₁ -C ₃ -Cu	97 ± 1°		
Cl ₃ -Cu-Cl ₄	101.7 ± 0.2°	C ₆ -C ₄ -Cu	94 ± 1°		
		Nonbonded Intermolecular Distances (Å)			
Cl ₁ -Cl ₃	3.639 ± 0.006	C ₁ -Cl ₁	3.81 ± 0.03	C ₁ -C ₃	4.13 ± 0.05
Cl ₁ -Cl ₄	3.571 ± 0.006	C ₂ -Cl ₁	3.80 ± 0.02	C ₁ -C ₄	4.31 ± 0.04
Cl ₂ -Cl ₃	4.113 ± 0.009	C ₄ -Cl ₃	3.66 ± 0.02	C ₃ -C ₆	4.36 ± 0.05
Cl ₃ -Cl ₄	3.776 ± 0.008	C ₁ -Cl ₄	3.74 ± 0.03	C ₄ -C ₆	4.12 ± 0.03
All others > 4.5		C ₃ -Cl ₁	3.70 ± 0.03	All others > 4.5	
		C ₄ -Cl ₃	3.66 ± 0.02		
		C ₁ -Cl ₁	3.81 ± 0.03		
		C ₂ -Cl ₁	3.85 ± 0.02		
		All others > 3.85			
Nonbonded Intramolecular Distances (Å) and Angles on AlCl ₄ ⁻		Dihedral Angle between Planes Each Defined by Three Atoms for Benzene Ring			
Cl ₁ -Cl ₂	3.451 ± 0.008	C ₄ -C ₁ -C ₆	5 ± 3°	C ₆ -C ₁ -C ₄	1 ± 3°
Cl ₁ -Cl ₃	3.596 ± 0.006	C ₆ -C ₅ -C ₄		C ₃ -C ₄ -C ₆	1 ± 3°
Cl ₁ -Cl ₄	3.501 ± 0.008	C ₁ -C ₁ -C ₆	2 ± 3°	C ₆ -C ₁ -C ₄	1 ± 3°
Cl ₂ -Cl ₄	3.465 ± 0.008	C ₁ -C ₄ -C ₃		C ₁ -C ₃ -C ₆	
Cl ₂ -Cl ₃	3.508 ± 0.008	C ₆ -C ₁ -C ₄	1 ± 3°	Ring is planar within experimental error	
Cl ₃ -Cl ₄	3.427 ± 0.006	C ₁ -C ₂ -C ₃			
		Equation of Best Least-Squares Plane through Benzene Ring			
		$-0.6019x + 0.6338y - 0.4859z = 1$			
		Deviations from This Plane (Å)			
		C ₁ +0.006	C ₄ -0.030		
		C ₂ -0.004	C ₅ +0.035		
		C ₃ +0.029	C ₆ -0.013		

both at $z \sim 2/3c$ and also to Cl₄^{*} at $z \sim 1/10c$ which is on the AlCl₄⁻ tetrahedron below the one containing Cl₃^{*}. The Cl₄ on the tetrahedron with Cl₃^{*} is then bonded to the Cu atom in the unit cell above. Extension of the sheet in the [100] direction is generated by the glide plane at $y = 1/4$. The coordination number of 4 for Cu(I) is completed by a π -type aromatic ring interaction (Figure 3). The Cu-Cl interactions with a particular AlCl₄⁻ ion is shown in Figure 4. Inasmuch as the sum of the tetrahedral single bond covalent radius of Cu¹⁶ and Cl is 2.34 Å, Cu-Cl distances of 2.365, 2.398, and 2.555 Å (all ± 0.006 Å) indicate a substantial Cu-Cl covalent interaction. These distances are also in good agreement with tabulated¹⁷ Cu(I)-Cl distances of 2.31–2.48 Å found in fourfold coordinated Cu(I) compounds. It is to be noted that the “free” Al-Cl distance is significantly shorter (0.07 Å) than the Al-Cl distances, wherein the Cl is also bonded to a Cu atom. This value of 2.07 Å is in good agreement with the terminal Al-Cl distance found in Al₂Cl₆¹⁸ (2.07 Å) vapor and the non-Co-bonded Al-Cl distance in Co(AlCl₄)₂¹⁹ (2.10 Å). On the other hand, the remaining Al-Cl distances are the values expected

for externally Cl-coordinated Al-Cl distances, e.g., in Co(AlCl₄)₂, ~ 2.15 Å. All Cl-Cl, Cl-C, and C-C distances between sheets are at least 3.6 Å; hence, only van der Waals interactions exist between sheets. The aromatic ring is bound to only one Cu(I) atom, and the rings are back-to-back. The neighborhood of a particular Cu(I) species with bond distances, angles, and errors is shown in Figure 5. Since a value of 2.12 Å is expected for a Cu-C “single” bond, the Cu-C closest distances of 2.15 and 2.30 Å are indicative of a strong interaction. The distance of Cu to the center of the nearest C-C bond was found to be 2.13 Å.

Discussion

Mulliken³ considered the use of the empty 5s orbital of silver as the electron acceptor and the e₁ filled molecular orbital of benzene as the donor. In addition, he considered the use of excited states of Ag(I) of the proper symmetry to give a possible C₆ complex but rejected them on energetic grounds. Dewar⁴ maintained that not only is the e₁ \rightarrow 5s interaction important but the use of a filled d orbital donating electrons to the empty e₂ molecular orbital is also important to the binding. This latter interaction, back bonding, is generally accepted as being important in platinum(II)-olefin complexes. Either or both of these interactions led to the correct gross geometry for the crystalline

(16) L. Pauling, “Nature of the Chemical Bond,” 3rd ed, Cornell University Press, Ithaca, N. Y., 1960, p 246.

(17) H. Ondik and D. Smith, ref 13, p 260.

(18) K. J. Palmer and N. Elliott, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **60**, 1852 (1938).

(19) J. A. Ibers, *Acta Cryst.*, **15**, 967 (1962).

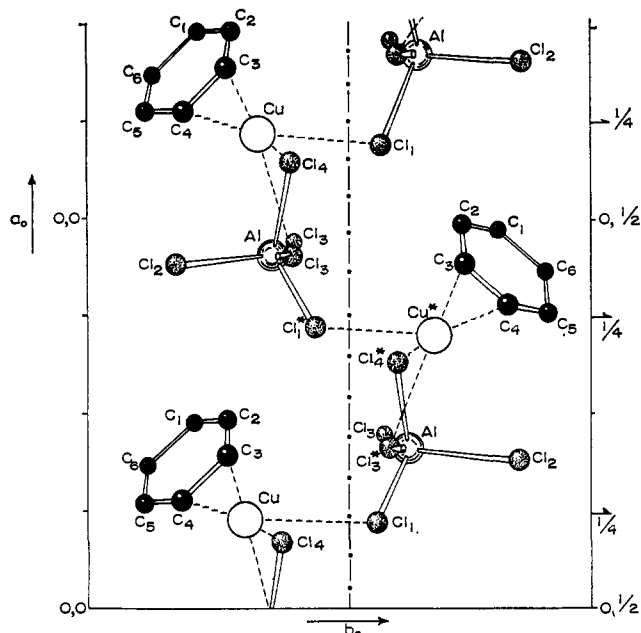


Figure 2. View of the $C_6H_6 \cdot CuAlCl_4$ sheet structure down the c axis. Dotted lines represent nearest neighbor $Cu-X$ interactions. Dot-dash line represents n glide at $y = 1/4$. Cu^* at $z \sim 1/2c$; Cl_1^* at $z \sim 2/3c$; Cl_3^* at $z \sim 2/3c$; Cl_4^* at $z \sim 1/10c$; and $c = 6.07$ Å. Cl_3 and Cl_3^* are in reality superposed, but they are displaced here for clarity.

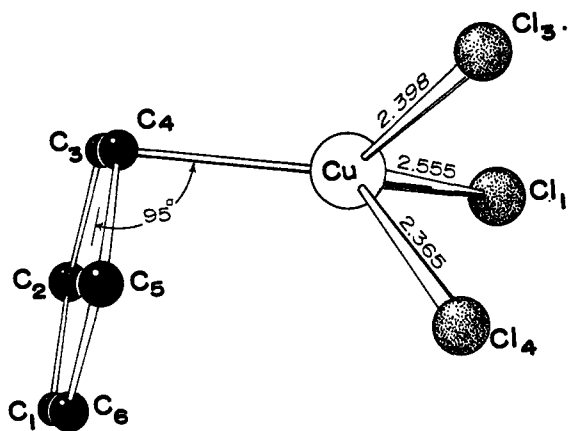


Figure 3. Local geometry around $Cu(I)$ indicating the " π " nature of the complex.

$C_6H_6 \cdot AgClO_4$ complex,⁸ and they also correctly predict the gross features of the $Cu(I) \cdot C_6H_6$ bonding in $C_6H_6 \cdot CuAlCl_4$, *i.e.*, the metal ion above and approximately between two C-C bonds of the benzene ring. Although the $C_6H_6 \cdot AgClO_4$ complex is not a 1:1 metal-aromatic complex as predicted by the theory but rather $\infty : \infty$ and each $Ag(I)$ is bonded to two benzene rings, the $Ag-O$ distances are sufficiently long (2.70 Å) that the neglect of cation-anion interactions seems reasonable and the theoretical framework is justified. However, in our present investigation the $Cu-Cl$ interactions are far from negligible and must contribute substantially to the stability of the complex.

The excited states of $Ag(I)$ that could be used as acceptors for complex formation are ~ 4 eV above the ground state, but in $Cu(I)$ the lowest-energy excited state is only 1.5 eV²⁰ above the ground state. Whether

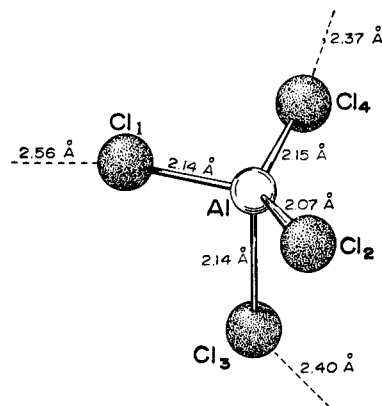


Figure 4. Bond lengths and bonding about a particular $AlCl_4^-$ species. Dotted lines indicate $Cu-Cl$ interactions.

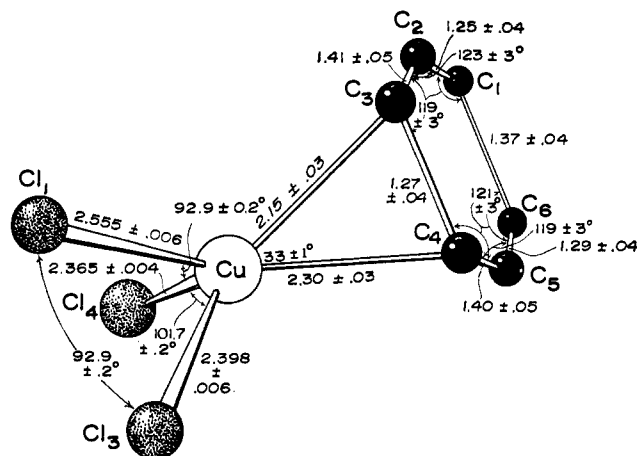


Figure 5. Bond lengths, angles, and errors about a particular $Cu(I)$ atom.

this excited state plays a significant role in complex formation is difficult to decide since the true symmetry of the $Cu(I)$ environment is low. We prefer to describe the $Cu(I)$ as a distorted tetrahedron with an sp^3 -hybrid orbital acting as an acceptor for the aromatic electrons (see $Cl-Cu-Cl$ and midpoint $C_3-C_4-Cu-Cl$ angles). Since some of the angles are $< 109^\circ$, an alternative description might be to consider the $Cu-Cl$ bonds as made up from Cu 4p orbitals and the 4s orbital being used as an acceptor.

The $Cu-C$ distances are worthy of attention, particularly since a $Cu-C$ single bond length¹⁶ would be 2.12 Å, and we observe distances of 2.15 and 2.30 Å. This indicates a substantial metal ion-aromatic interaction in comparison with the shortest $Ag-C$ distance, 2.5 Å (~ 1 Å $>$ sum of covalent radii), in $C_6H_6 \cdot AgClO_4$ and $C_6H_6 \cdot AgAlCl_4$. This is in accord with gross observations that it is more difficult to remove benzene from $C_6H_6 \cdot CuAlCl_4$ than from $C_6H_6 \cdot AgClO_4$ or $C_6H_6 \cdot AgAlCl_4$.²¹ Unfortunately, the error of ± 0.03 Å makes the difference of 0.15-Å $Cu-C$ distances only five standard deviations. We believe this is a real difference in bond lengths, because not only is it greater than three standard deviations, but also it is consistent with similar results found in $C_6H_6 \cdot AgClO_4$ and in

(20) C. E. Moore, "Atomic Energy Levels," Vol. II, No. 467, National Bureau of Standards, Washington 25, D. C., 1952, p 112.

(21) R. W. Turner and E. L. Amma, to be published.

$C_6H_6 \cdot AgClAl_4$.²¹ In the former, this asymmetry manifested itself in statistically disordered Ag positions, but it is unambiguous in the latter. It is not likely that molecular packing would be the cause of this asymmetry in metal-carbon distances, because the packing is quite different in $C_3H_6 \cdot AgClO_4$, $C_6H_6 \cdot CuAl_2Cl_4$ and $C_6H_6 \cdot AgAlCl_4$. A similar asymmetry in Cu-C distances has been observed in a copper(I)-olefin complex.^{9f}

We suggest that this asymmetry between the closest carbon-to-metal distances is a fundamental property of metal ion-aromatic complexes. Further, we suggest that the reason for this asymmetry is a compromise between the acceptor properties of the metal ion, or coordinated metal ion, and the donor properties of this same ion. That is, if the acceptor orbital were a 4s- or an sp^3 -hybrid orbital, the most advantageous position would be at the point of greatest electron density of the ring, directly above one of the carbon atoms. On the other hand, using inner d orbitals for the metal ion as donor, the most likely position would be above and symmetrically between two carbon atoms of the aromatic system. Hence, a compromise between these

two effects is reached and unequal metal-carbon distances result. However, in platinum- and palladium-olefin complexes, there has been no evidence for different metal-to-carbon distances, but it is quite likely that details of the bonding may be quite different for olefin complexes.

Although the bond distances alternate in lengths around the ring and suggest a cyclohexatriene system, the errors are sufficiently large that this variation of bond distances may not be real and caution should be applied to any interpretations based on C-C distances in this complex.

It is, in fact, an interesting question as to why the complex forms at all. In the presence of chlorine donors it is surprising that the metal-aromatic bond is preferred to M-Cl interactions. The answer may be that in the packing of anhydrous $CuAlCl_4$ large voids remain, and it becomes energetically favorable to form metal ion-aromatic bonds over metal ion-chlorine bonds. We plan to investigate the crystal structure of anhydrous $CuAlCl_4$ in the near future.

Acknowledgment. We wish to acknowledge the financial support of NSF Grant GP-1575.

Cage Compounds Containing the Trirhenium(III) Cluster:

$Re_3Br_3(AsO_4)_2(DMSO)_3$ ¹

F. Albert Cotton and Stephen J. Lippard²

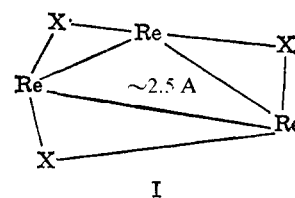
Contribution from the Department of Chemistry, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139.

Received January 12, 1966

Abstract: The preparation and molecular structure of $Re_3Br_3(AsO_4)_2(DMSO)_3$, a representative member of the new class of compounds $Re_3X_3(MO_3 \text{ or } 4)_2L_n$, are discussed. From the visible spectrum, it is apparent that the trirhenium(III) metal atom cluster occurs in this compound. Further insights into its structure are obtained from a detailed analysis of the infrared spectrum. Apparently, two tridentate arsenate ions have replaced the six axial halide ions in the Re_3Br_3 molecule to form a cage which incorporates the cluster. The solvent (DMSO) molecules are thought to occupy nonbridging equatorial sites in the cluster.

The existence of the trirhenium(III) metal atom cluster in complexes prepared from rhenium(III) chloride and rhenium(III) bromide has been well established.³⁻¹¹ Studies by Robinson and Fergusson¹¹ have shown that, of the twelve halogen atoms (six

axial, three equatorial bridging, and three equatorial nonbridging) in the $Re_3X_{12}^{3-}$ ion, only three, presumably the equatorial bridging ones, are not subject to exchange with thiocyanate or radioactively labeled halide ions. Apparently, then, the stable structural unit in the trirhenium(III) metal atom cluster compounds is the Re_3X_3 group (I).



From the known geometry (cf. ref 3-8) and net charge (+6) of I, it seemed likely to us that anions such

- (1) Supported by the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission.
- (2) National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow, 1965-1966.
- (3) J. A. Bertrand, F. A. Cotton, and W. A. Dollase, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **85**, 1349 (1963); *Inorg. Chem.*, **2**, 1106 (1963).
- (4) W. T. Robinson, J. E. Fergusson, and B. R. Penfold, *Proc. Chem. Soc.*, 116 (1963).
- (5) J. E. Fergusson, B. R. Penfold, and W. T. Robinson, *Nature*, **201**, 181, (1964).
- (6) F. A. Cotton and J. T. Mague, *Inorg. Chem.*, **3**, 1094 (1964).
- (7) F. A. Cotton and J. T. Mague, *ibid.*, **3**, 1402 (1964).
- (8) F. A. Cotton and S. J. Lippard, *ibid.*, **4**, 59 (1965).
- (9) F. A. Cotton and S. J. Lippard, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **86**, 4497 (1964).
- (10) F. A. Cotton, S. J. Lippard, and J. T. Mague, *Inorg. Chem.*, **4**, 508 (1965).
- (11) B. H. Robinson and J. E. Fergusson, *J. Chem. Soc.*, 5683 (1964).