

# Effects of $d$ -orbital occupancy on the geometry of the trigonal-bipyramidal complexes $[M^{II}Cl_3(Hdabco)(dabco)]_n$ , where $M$ is Mn, Co, Ni or Cu and dabco is 1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]-octane

Robin G. Pritchard,\* Majid Ali, Abdul Munim and Asma Uddin

School of Chemistry, Faraday Building, Sackville Street, University of Manchester, Manchester M60 1QD, England  
Correspondence e-mail: robin.pritchard@manchester.ac.uk

Received 23 August 2006

Accepted 14 September 2006

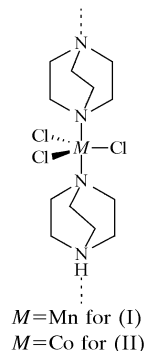
Online 14 October 2006

Geometric data from (1-aza-4-azoniabicyclo[2.2.2]octane- $\kappa N^1$ )(1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane- $\kappa N^1$ )trichloromanganese(II),  $[MnCl_3(C_6H_{13}N_2)(C_6H_{12}N_2)]$  or  $[MnCl_3(Hdabco)(dabco)]$  (dabco is 1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane), and the cobalt(II) analogue,  $[CoCl_3(C_6H_{13}N_2)(C_6H_{12}N_2)]$ , have been combined with previously reported data for the Ni and Cu analogues to show that bond-length trends across the isotypal series are consistent with a high-spin trigonal-bipyramidal system. As each transition metal is positioned on a  $D_3$  site in the space group  $R32$  (No. 155), two bond lengths fully define each trigonal-bipyramidal coordination geometry [ $Mn-Cl = 2.3903$  (7) Å and  $Mn-N = 2.367$  (2) Å, and  $Co-Cl = 2.3080$  (8) Å and  $Co-N = 2.269$  (3) Å].

## Comment

Comparison of bond lengths in transition metal compounds shows that imperfect shielding of metal nuclei by  $d$  electrons leads to a general contraction across a series. This trend is reversed at points where  $d$  orbitals that coincide with bonds are occupied. The above effects were noted for octahedral metal oxides by van Santen & van Wieringen (1952) and demonstrated more recently for a series of octahedral complexes by Cotton *et al.* (1984, 1993). The latter compounds also show evidence of Jahn–Teller distortion. Chemists usually describe the above effects in terms of crystal- or ligand-field theories, which attempt to quantify the energy cost of placing an electron in a bonding  $d$  orbital (*e.g.* for an octahedral complex, the  $d$  orbitals divide into high-energy  $d_{x^2-y^2}$  and  $d_{z^2}$ , directed along the bonds, and lower-energy  $d_{xy}$ ,  $d_{xz}$  and  $d_{yz}$ , projecting between the bonds). Importantly, the energy gap between the two sets of orbitals determines whether it is energetically favourable to pair electrons in the lowest-energy

orbitals or to semi-fill all five  $d$  orbitals before starting to pair electrons (*i.e.* low-spin *versus* high-spin configurations).



The same rationale can be used for analysing the title trigonal-bipyramidal (tbp) structures,  $[M^{II}Cl_3(Hdabco)(dabco)]_n$ , where  $M$  is Mn, Co, Ni or Cu and dabco is 1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane. The Mn and Co structures, (I) and (II), from the current study (Fig. 1) form an isotypal series with the previously reported Ni (Petrusenko *et al.*, 1997) and Cu analogues (Karan *et al.*, 1999; Viossat *et al.*, 1988). In the tbp geometry, the five  $d$  orbitals divide into three subsets, *viz.* low-energy  $d_{xz}$  and  $d_{yz}$ , medium-energy  $d_{xy}$  and  $d_{x^2-y^2}$ , lying in the same plane as the three equatorial  $M-Cl$  bonds, and high-energy  $d_{z^2}$ , pointing directly along the axial  $M-N$  bonds. When the crystallographically determined  $M-Cl$  and  $M-N$  bond lengths are plotted against  $d$ -electron configuration (Fig. 2), the curves diverge at  $Ni^{II}$ . This is as expected for a high-spin tbp system. All bonds contract as electrons fill non-bonding  $d_{xz}$  and  $d_{yz}$  orbitals in the  $d^5$  to  $d^7$  configurations, but occupation of equatorial  $d_{xy}$  and  $d_{x^2-y^2}$  in  $d^8$  and  $d^9$  causes the  $M-Cl$  bonds to lengthen, whilst allowing the  $M-N$  bonds to continue contracting. The  $M-N$  bonds would not be expected to expand until all five  $d$  orbitals are fully occupied. Support for the high-spin assignment is obtained from the tbp compounds  $[M^{II}Cl_3(dabcoH)_2]$  ( $M = Mn, Fe, Ni$  and  $Cu$ ),

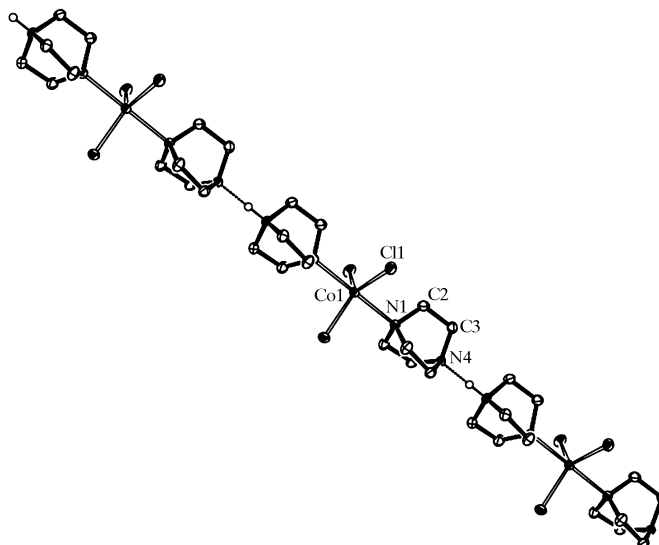
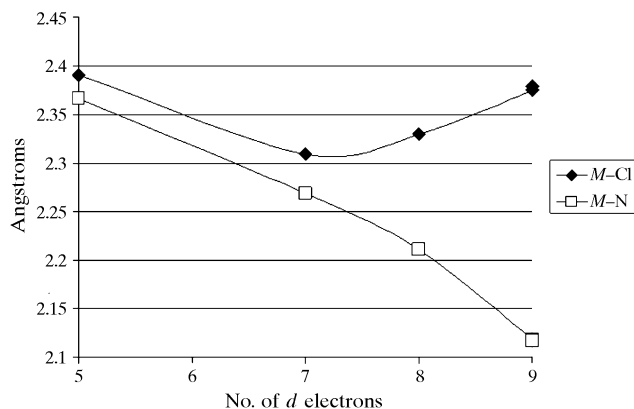


Figure 1

A view of  $[Co^{II}Cl_3(Hdabco)(dabco)]_n$  (50% probability displacement ellipsoids). Most H atoms have been omitted for clarity.



**Figure 2**  
A plot of *M*–Cl and *M*–N bond lengths (Å) versus *d*-electron configuration in  $[M^{II}Cl_3(Hdabco)(dabco)]_n$ , where *M* is Mn and Co (current work), Ni (Petrusenko *et al.*, 1997), and Cu (Viossat *et al.*, 1988; Karan *et al.*, 1999). The *M*–Cl and *M*–N s.u. values are in the ranges 0.0007–0.002 and 0.002–0.006 Å, respectively.

which were previously classified as high-spin based on spectroscopic studies (Vallarino *et al.*, 1972).

It is likely that Jahn–Teller distortion of the Ni–Cl bonds has been masked by the crystallographic threefold axis. Previous structural studies of  $[M^{II}Cl_3(CH_3dabco)_2]ClO_4$  (*M* = Ni and Cu; Rozell & Wood 1977), where all the bonds are crystallographically independent, showed a small but significant deformation in the  $d^8$  Ni complex. The dabco dimensions in the title Mn and Co structures show good agreement and are as expected (Tables 1 and 2). Interestingly, the *M*–N bonds are aligned with the crystal *c* axis in the current structures so that variations in unit-cell dimensions mirror changes in bond lengths. This suggests that spectroscopic excitation of *d* electrons may well have a macroscopic effect and that these materials should be investigated for opto-mechanical uses.

## Experimental

Crystals of the title Mn and Co compounds were prepared by mixing equal volumes of 0.2 *M* methanol solutions of dabco and *MCl*<sub>2</sub>. Long needles, suitable for crystallographic investigation, formed when these solutions were subjected to vapour diffusion using diethyl ether as the anti-solvent.

### Compound (I)

#### Crystal data

$[MnCl_3(C_6H_{13}N_2)(C_6H_{12}N_2)]$	$D_x = 1.585 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
$M_r = 386.65$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
Hexagonal, <i>R</i> 32	$\mu = 1.31 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$a = 10.601 (2) \text{ \AA}$	$T = 223 (2) \text{ K}$
$c = 12.484 (2) \text{ \AA}$	Needle, colourless
$V = 1215.0 (4) \text{ \AA}^3$	$0.3 \times 0.1 \times 0.1 \text{ mm}$
$Z = 3$	

#### Data collection

Enraf–Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer	487 independent reflections
Non-profiled $\omega/2\theta$ scans	480 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
Absorption correction: $\psi$ scan (North <i>et al.</i> , 1968)	$R_{int} = 0.019$
$T_{min} = 0.696, T_{max} = 0.881$	$\theta_{max} = 25.0^\circ$
1514 measured reflections	3 standard reflections
	frequency: 60 min
	intensity decay: 2%

### Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0248P)^2]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.015$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$wR(F^2) = 0.037$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} = 0.001$
$S = 1.07$	$\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.16 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
487 reflections	$\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.13 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
50 parameters	Extinction correction: <i>SHELXL97</i>
H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement	Extinction coefficient: 0.0011 (4)
	Absolute structure: Flack (1983),
	201 Friedel pairs
	Flack parameter: 0.01 (2)

**Table 1**

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °) for (I).

Mn1–N1	2.367 (2)	C2–C3	1.537 (2)
Mn1–Cl1	2.3903 (7)	C3–N4	1.4806 (16)
N1–C2	1.4717 (18)		
C2–N1–C2 <sup>i</sup>	108.23 (10)	N4–C3–C2	108.96 (12)
N1–C2–C3	110.77 (13)	C3–N4–C3 <sup>i</sup>	108.97 (9)

Symmetry code: (i)  $-y + 2, x - y + 1, z$ .

### Compound (II)

#### Crystal data

$[CoCl_3(C_6H_{13}N_2)(C_6H_{12}N_2)]$	$D_x = 1.644 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
$M_r = 390.64$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
Trigonal, <i>R</i> 32	$\mu = 1.59 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$a = 10.5409 (10) \text{ \AA}$	$T = 223 (2) \text{ K}$
$c = 12.303 (2) \text{ \AA}$	Needle, blue
$V = 1183.9 (2) \text{ \AA}^3$	$0.25 \times 0.1 \times 0.05 \text{ mm}$
$Z = 3$	

#### Data collection

Enraf–Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer	1463 measured reflections
Non-profiled $\omega/2\theta$ scans	470 independent reflections
Absorption correction: $\psi$ scan (North <i>et al.</i> , 1968)	457 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
$T_{min} = 0.692, T_{max} = 0.925$	$R_{int} = 0.029$
	$\theta_{max} = 25.0^\circ$

### Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0197P)^2]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.020$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$wR(F^2) = 0.041$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} < 0.001$
$S = 1.1$	$\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.15 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
470 reflections	$\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.16 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
50 parameters	Extinction correction: <i>SHELXL97</i>
H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement	Extinction coefficient: 0.0006 (3)
	Absolute structure: Flack (1983),
	194 Friedel pairs
	Flack parameter: 0.00 (2)

**Table 2**

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °) for (II).

Co1–N1	2.269 (3)	C2–C3	1.528 (3)
Co1–Cl1	2.3080 (8)	C3–N4	1.482 (3)
N1–C2	1.472 (3)		
C2–N1–C2 <sup>i</sup>	107.60 (16)	N4–C3–C2	109.0 (2)
N1–C2–C3	111.3 (2)	C3–N4–C3 <sup>i</sup>	108.62 (14)

Symmetry code: (i)  $-y, x - y, z$ .

Final refinements of both structures were carried out in the space group *R*32 (No. 155) with all non-H atoms anisotropic and H atoms isotropic, except for amine atom H4, whose  $U_{iso}(H)$  value was fixed at 0.028 (Mn) or 0.025 Å<sup>2</sup> (Co) due to the close proximity of a disordered symmetry-related position. In this space group, a disordered

amine H atom semi-populates two sites on the threefold axis between adjacent N atoms. As previous refinements of the Cu analogue were carried out in both *R32* and *R3* (No. 146), which gave an improved description of the amine H atom, refinements of the current structures were also attempted in *R3*. However, as the amine H atoms remained disordered, the *R3* refinements were discontinued. The choice of space group made negligible difference to the *M*–Cl and *M*–N bond lengths.

For both compounds, data collection: *CAD-4 EXPRESS* (Enraf–Nonius, 1994); cell refinement: *CAD-4 EXPRESS*; data reduction: *XCAD4* (Harms & Wocadlo, 1995); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS86* (Sheldrick, 1985) for (I) and *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997) for (II); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEP-3 for Windows* (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *WinGX* (Farrugia, 1999).

The authors acknowledge the use of the EPSRC's Chemical Database Service (Fletcher *et al.*, 1996; Allen *et al.*, 1983) at Daresbury and EPSRC support for the purchase of equipment.

---

Supplementary data for this paper are available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: BC3016). Services for accessing these data are described at the back of the journal.

---

## References

- Allen, F. H., Kennard, O. & Taylor, R. (1983). *Acc. Chem. Res.* **16**, 146–153.
- Cotton, F. A., Daniels, L. M., Murillo, C. A. & Quesada, J. F. (1993). *Inorg. Chem.* **32**, 4861–4867.
- Cotton, F. A., Lewis, G. E., Murillo, C. A., Schwotzer, W. & Valle, G. (1984). *Inorg. Chem.* **23**, 4038–4041.
- Enraf–Nonius (1994). *CAD-4 EXPRESS*. Enraf–Nonius, Delft, The Netherlands.
- Farrugia, L. J. (1997). *J. Appl. Cryst.* **30**, 565.
- Farrugia, L. J. (1999). *J. Appl. Cryst.* **32**, 837–838.
- Flack, H. D. (1983). *Acta Cryst.* **A39**, 876–881.
- Fletcher, D. A., McMeeking, R. F. & Parkin, D. (1996). *J. Chem. Inf. Comput. Sci.* **36**, 746–749.
- Harms, K. & Wocadlo, S. (1995). *XCAD4*. University of Marburg, Germany.
- Karan, N. K., Sen, S., Saha, M. K., Mitra, S. & Tiekink, E. R. T. (1999). *Z. Kristallogr. New Cryst. Struct.* **214**, 203–204.
- North, A. C. T., Phillips, D. C. & Mathews, F. S. (1968). *Acta Cryst.* **A24**, 351–359.
- Petrusenko, S. R., Sieler, J. & Kokozay, V. N. (1997). *Z. Naturforsch. Teil B*, **52**, 331–336.
- Rozell, W. J. & Wood, J. S. (1977). *Inorg. Chem.* **16**, 1827–1833.
- Sheldrick, G. M. (1985). *SHELXS86*. University of Göttingen, Germany.
- Sheldrick, G. M. (1997). *SHELXL97* and *SHELXS97*. University of Göttingen, Germany.
- Vallarino, L. M., Goedken, V. L. & Quagliano, J. V. (1972). *Inorg. Chem.* **11**, 1466–1469.
- Viossat, B., Khodadad, P., Rodier, N. & Dung, N. H. (1988). *Acta Cryst.* **C44**, 263–265.
- Wieringen, J. S. van & van Santen, J. H. (1952). *Recl Trav. Chim. Pays-Bas*, **71**, 420–430.