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Synthesis and structure of the mercury chloride complex of 2,2'-(2-bromo-5-*tert*-butyl-1,3-phenylene)bis(1-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazole)

Varsha Rani,^a Harkesh B. Singh^a and Ray J. Butcher^{b*}

^aDepartment of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, Powai, Mumbai 400 076, India, and ^bDepartment of Chemistry, Howard University, 525 College Street NW, Washington, DC 20059, USA. *Correspondence e-mail: rbutcher99@yahoo.com

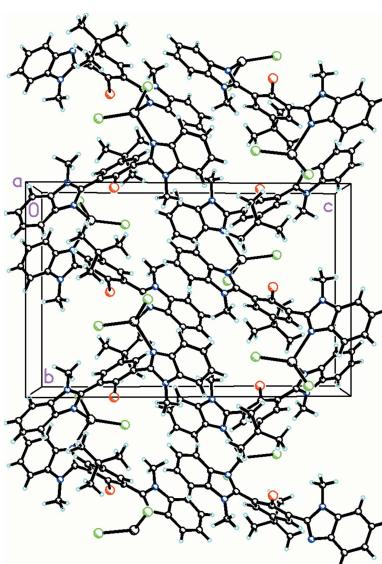
In the title mercury complex, *catena*-poly[[dichloridomercury(II)]- μ -2,2'-(2-bromo-5-*tert*-butyl-1,3-phenylene)bis(1-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazole)- $\kappa^2 N^3:N^3'$], [HgCl₂(C₂₆H₂₅BrN₄)]_n, the Hg^{II} atom is coordinated by two Cl atoms and by two N atoms from two 2,2'-(2-bromo-5-*tert*-butyl-1,3-phenylene)bis(1-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazole) ligands. The metal cation adopts a distorted tetrahedral coordination geometry with bond angles around mercury of 100.59 (15) $^\circ$ [N–Hg–N] and 126.35 (7) $^\circ$ [Cl–Hg–Cl]. This arrangement gives rise to a zigzag helical 1-D polymer propagating along the *b*-axis direction.

1. Chemical context

In the last one decade, 1,3-bis(benzimidazol-2-yl)benzene-based ligands have been studied extensively due to the presence of active sites for binding of metal atoms (Yang *et al.*, 2012; Tam *et al.*, 2011; Dorazco-Gonzalez, 2014). Very recently, dinuclear zinc complexes containing (benzimidazol-2-yl)benzene-based ligands have shown remarkable anticancer activities (Xie *et al.*, 2014). Helical and non-helical complexes with copper(I) have been reported by Ruettimann *et al.* (1992). Palladium complexes with bromo-functionalized benzimidazole derivatives have been utilized for Heck reactions (Reddy & Krishna, 2005).

A survey of the structural investigations of mercury halide complexes with benzimidazole derivatives have shown that they come in two main types, *viz.* polymeric, bridging either through the halide (Zhang *et al.*, 2015; Li *et al.*, 2007; Shen *et al.*, 2005) or through alternative N atoms from the benzimidazole moieties (Xiao *et al.*, 2009, 2011; Huang *et al.*, 2006; Li *et al.*, 2007, 2012a,b; Dey *et al.*, 2013; Du *et al.*, 2011; Chen *et al.*, 2013; Su *et al.*, 2003; Xu *et al.*, 2011), or discrete molecules, *i.e.* non-polymeric (Xiao *et al.*, 2011; Wu *et al.*, 2009; Zhao *et al.*, 2012; Lou *et al.*, 2012; Zhu *et al.*, 2009; Carballo *et al.*, 1993; Yan *et al.*, 2012; Hu *et al.*, 2012, 2015; Ding *et al.*, 2012; Matthews *et al.*, 1998; Manjunatha *et al.*, 2011; Wang *et al.*, 2007, 2009, 2012, 2015; Chen *et al.*, 2014; Su *et al.*, 2003; Quiroz-Castro *et al.*, 2000; Yang & Luo, 2012; He *et al.*, 2012; Bouchouit *et al.*, 2015).

In the present case, during the attempted synthesis of the C-2 mercurated derivative **3** from 2,2'-(2-bromo-5-*tert*-butyl-1,3-phenylene)bis(1-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazole), **1**, using *n*-BuLi and mercuric chloride, the mercury complex **2** was isolated unexpectedly (Fig. 1).



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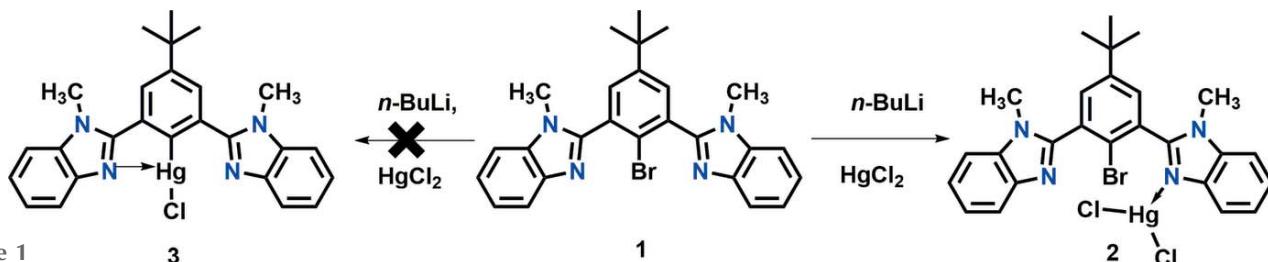
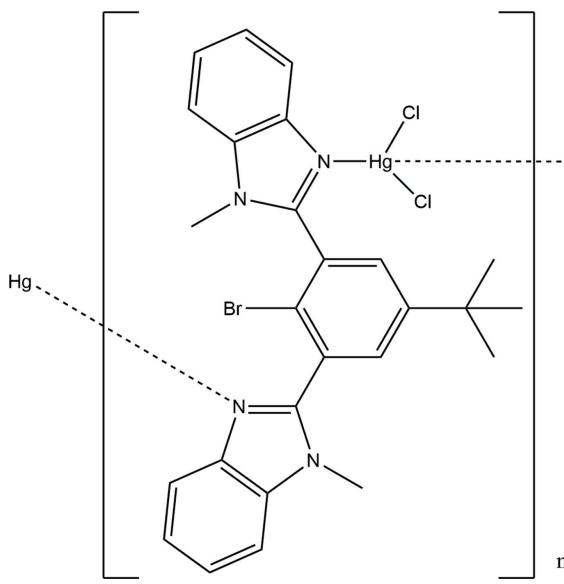


Figure 1
Diagram showing the starting compound, **1**, the title compound, **2**, and the expected product, **3**.

2. Structural commentary

The structure of **2** with empirical formula, $C_{26}H_{25}BrCl_2HgN_4$, is reported in this paper. As a result of the presence of the Br and *t*-butyl substituents on the central ring, coordination of the Hg^{II} atom to this ring is prevented and thus a monomeric complex is formed, as has previously been observed for an $HgCl_2$ complex with a similar ligand but with a central pyridine ring rather than a phenyl ring (Liu *et al.*, 2007).

Another related structure has recently been reported of a dinuclear structure of $HgCl_2$ with a similar ligand to **1** where there is a methyl substituent on the C1 atom of the imidazole ring (Hu *et al.*, 2015). In the case of **2**, however, a zigzag polymeric structure forms in the *b*-axis direction, in which the $HgCl_2$ moiety is linked by atoms N1 from one ligand and N3 from an adjoining ligand. The coordination environment around the mercury atom is distorted tetrahedral with bond angles ranging from $100.6(2)$ to $126.35(7)^\circ$ (Fig. 2). The two $Hg-N$ bond lengths are equivalent at $2.333(4)$ and $2.338(4)$ Å. However, the metal–halogen bonds are not similar [$Hg-Cl1 = 2.4424(13)$ and $Hg-Cl2 = 2.4020(15)$ Å]. The ligand adopts a conformation whereby the two benzimidazole moieties are not coplanar with each other or the central phenyl ring. The dihedral angles between the benzimidazole moieties N1/N2/C1–C7 and N3/N4/C19–C24 are $60.9(2)^\circ$ while they make dihedral angles of $55.6(2)$ and $84.2(2)^\circ$, respectively, with the central ring.



3. Supramolecular features

The combination of $HgCl_2$ with 2,2'-(2-bromo-5-*tert*-butyl-1,3-phenylene)bis(1-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazole) results in a zigzag helical 1-D coordination polymer that propagates along the *b*-axis direction. This is mediated by the $HgCl_2$ moiety, which is linked by atoms N1 from one ligand and N3 from an adjoining ligand (Fig. 2). Although helices are inherently chiral in nature, the overall structure is not chiral as the individual helices are related by a center of inversion. The internal structure of this polymer is stabilized by both C–H···Cl and C–H···N interactions (Table 1). In addition, there are both C–H···π (Table 1) and π–π interactions [$Cg6\cdots Cg6(1-x, -y, -z) = 3.531(2)$ Å, where $Cg6$ is the centroid of the benzimidazole ring system N3/N4/C19–C24 and C25]. There are no halogen bonds or C–H···Br interactions present. Apart from van der Waals interactions, there are no significant interactions between the zigzag chains of the coordination polymer (Fig. 3).

4. Database survey

A search of the Cambridge Structural Database (Version 5.37 with updates May 2016; Groom *et al.*, 2016) reveals that there

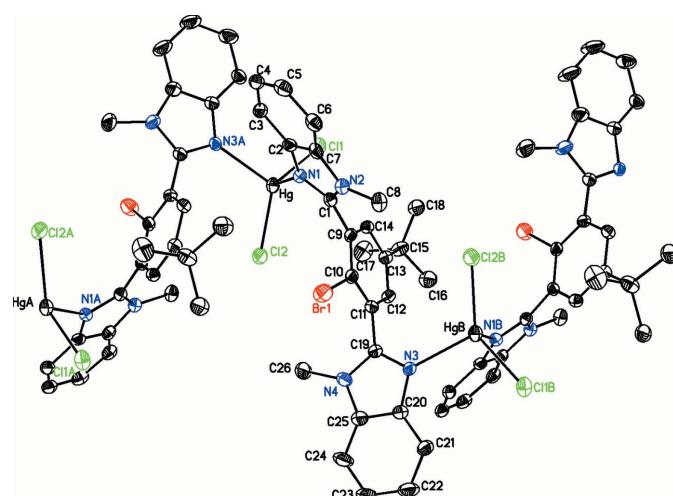


Figure 2
Diagram showing the three units which assemble to form a coordination polymer and illustrating its zigzag helical nature (with H atoms omitted for clarity). Displacement parameters are drawn at the 30% probability level. [Symmetry codes: (A) $1-x, \frac{1}{2}+y, z-\frac{1}{2}$; (B) $1-x, y-\frac{1}{2}, z-\frac{1}{2}$]

Table 1
Hydrogen-bond geometry (\AA , $^\circ$).

Cg1 is the centroid of the imidazole ring N1/N2/C1/C2/C7.

| $D-\text{H}\cdots A$ | $D-\text{H}$ | $\text{H}\cdots A$ | $D\cdots A$ | $D-\text{H}\cdots A$ |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| C3—H3A \cdots N3 ⁱ | 0.95 | 2.65 | 3.459 (7) | 144 |
| C8—H8A \cdots Cl2 ⁱⁱ | 0.98 | 2.71 | 3.643 (6) | 160 |
| C8—H8B \cdots Cl1 ⁱⁱⁱ | 0.98 | 2.82 | 3.719 (6) | 152 |
| C21—H21B \cdots Cl1 ⁱⁱ | 0.95 | 2.77 | 3.616 (3) | 149 |
| C16—H16B \cdots Cg1 ⁱⁱ | 0.98 | 2.91 | 3.671 (8) | 135 |

Symmetry codes: (i) $-x + 1, y + \frac{1}{2}, -z + \frac{1}{2}$; (ii) $-x + 1, y - \frac{1}{2}, -z + \frac{1}{2}$; (iii) $x + 1, y, z$.

is no report in the literature for a mercury complex with 2,2'-(2-bromo-5-*tert*-butyl-1,3-phenylene)bis(1-methyl-1H-benzimidazole) that has been structurally characterized. A cadmium complex, bis[1,3-bis(benzimidazol-2-yl)benzene]-dichloridocadmium(II), in which the Cd is coordinated by two Cl atoms and two N atoms in a distorted tetrahedral configuration has been reported (Jiang *et al.*, 2010). In the title complex **2**, cadmium is replaced by an Hg^{II} atom along with a slight modification of the ligand.

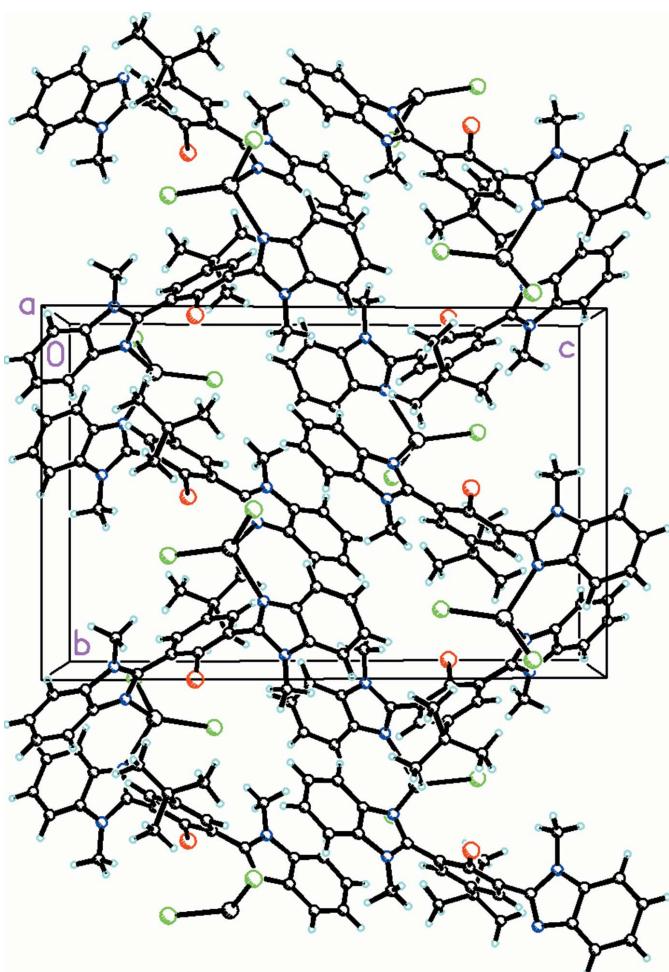


Figure 3
Packing diagram showing two units of the polymer, which repeat in the *b*-axis direction, viewed along the *a* axis.

Table 2
Experimental details.

| | |
|--|---|
| Crystal data | [HgCl ₂ (C ₂₆ H ₂₅ BrN ₄)] |
| Chemical formula | |
| M_r | 744.90 |
| Crystal system, space group | Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$ |
| Temperature (K) | 123 |
| a, b, c (Å) | 9.50481 (18), 13.3872 (2), 20.3322 (4) |
| β (°) | 93.0955 (19) |
| V (Å ³) | 2583.36 (9) |
| Z | 4 |
| Radiation type | Cu $K\alpha$ |
| μ (mm ⁻¹) | 14.57 |
| Crystal size (mm) | 0.37 × 0.09 × 0.03 |
| Data collection | |
| Diffractometer | Agilent Xcalibur, Ruby, Gemini |
| Absorption correction | Analytical [CrysAlis PRO (Agilent, 2012) based on expressions derived by Clark & Reid (1995)] |
| T_{\min}, T_{\max} | 0.331, 1.000 |
| No. of measured, independent and observed [$I > 2\sigma(I)$] reflections | 9778, 5217, 4596 |
| R_{int} | 0.034 |
| $(\sin \theta/\lambda)_{\text{max}}$ (Å ⁻¹) | 0.628 |
| Refinement | |
| $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)], wR(F^2), S$ | 0.038, 0.104, 1.07 |
| No. of reflections | 5217 |
| No. of parameters | 300 |
| H-atom treatment | H-atom parameters constrained |
| $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}}, \Delta\rho_{\text{min}}$ (e Å ⁻³) | 1.34, -1.88 |

Computer programs: CrysAlis PRO (Agilent, 2012), SHELXS2013 (Sheldrick, 2008), SHELXL2016 (Sheldrick, 2015) and SHELXTL (Sheldrick, 2008).

5. Synthesis and crystallization

To a solution of **1** (0.2 g, 0.42 mmol) in THF (15 ml) was added dropwise a solution of *n*-BuLi (0.3 ml, 0.47 mmol) at 195 K. The synthesis of compound **1** will be published elsewhere. The reaction mixture turned blue after immediate addition of *n*-BuLi. The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at 195 K followed by the addition of HgCl₂ (0.126 g, 0.466 mmol). The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 16 h. The reaction mixture was then filtered through Whatman filter paper and the solvent was evaporated on a rotary evaporator. Colourless plate-shaped crystals were obtained by the slow evaporation of an ethyl acetate solution of the compound at room temperature.

Yield 44% (0.138 g), ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.88–7.86 (*m*, 3H), 7.45–7.34 (*m*, 7H), 3.98 (*s*, 6H), 1.46 (*s*, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO): 152.3, 151.2, 141.6, 135.2, 131.8, 131.4, 123.3, 122.7, 121.6, 119.1, 111.0, 34.9, 31.1, 30.8. Analysis calculated for C₂₆H₂₅N₄Cl₂BrHg: C, 41.92; H, 3.38; N, 7.52. Found C, 42.68; H, 4.14; N, 6.29.

6. Refinement

Crystal data, data collection and structure refinement details are summarized in Table 2. H atoms were positioned geometrically and refined as riding: C—H = 0.95–0.98 Å with $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$ or $1.5U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$ for methyl H atoms.

Acknowledgements

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supporting information

Acta Cryst. (2017). E73, 341-344 [https://doi.org/10.1107/S2056989017001888]

Synthesis and structure of the mercury chloride complex of 2,2'-(2-bromo-5-*tert*-butyl-1,3-phenylene)bis(1-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazole)

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Computing details

Data collection: *CrysAlis PRO* (Agilent, 2012); cell refinement: *CrysAlis PRO* (Agilent, 2012); data reduction: *CrysAlis PRO* (Agilent, 2012); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS2013* (Sheldrick, 2008); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL2016* (Sheldrick, 2015); molecular graphics: *SHELXTL* (Sheldrick, 2008); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL* (Sheldrick, 2008).

catena-Poly[[dichloridomercury(II)]- μ -2,2'-(2-bromo-5-*tert*-butyl-1,3-phenylene)bis(1-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazole)- $\kappa^2N^3:N^3$]

Crystal data

[HgCl₂(C₂₆H₂₅BrN₄)]

$M_r = 744.90$

Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$

$a = 9.50481$ (18) Å

$b = 13.3872$ (2) Å

$c = 20.3322$ (4) Å

$\beta = 93.0955$ (19)°

$V = 2583.36$ (9) Å³

$Z = 4$

$F(000) = 1432$

$D_x = 1.915$ Mg m⁻³

Cu $K\alpha$ radiation, $\lambda = 1.54184$ Å

Cell parameters from 4457 reflections

$\theta = 3.9\text{--}74.8^\circ$

$\mu = 14.57$ mm⁻¹

$T = 123$ K

Plate, colorless

0.37 × 0.09 × 0.03 mm

Data collection

Agilent Xcalibur, Ruby, Gemini
diffractometer

Radiation source: Enhance (Cu) X-ray Source

Detector resolution: 10.5081 pixels mm⁻¹

ω scans

Absorption correction: analytical

[*CrysAlis PRO* (Agilent, 2012) based on
expressions derived by Clark & Reid (1995)]

$T_{\min} = 0.331$, $T_{\max} = 1.000$

9778 measured reflections

5217 independent reflections

4596 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$

$R_{\text{int}} = 0.034$

$\theta_{\max} = 75.6^\circ$, $\theta_{\min} = 4.0^\circ$

$h = -11 \rightarrow 11$

$k = -10 \rightarrow 16$

$l = -25 \rightarrow 20$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2

Least-squares matrix: full

$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.038$

$wR(F^2) = 0.104$

$S = 1.07$

5217 reflections

300 parameters

0 restraints

Hydrogen site location: inferred from
neighbouring sites

H-atom parameters constrained

$$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0583P)^2]$$

where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$

$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.001$

$$\Delta\rho_{\max} = 1.34 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$$

$$\Delta\rho_{\min} = -1.88 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$$

Special details

Geometry. All esds (except the esd in the dihedral angle between two l.s. planes) are estimated using the full covariance matrix. The cell esds are taken into account individually in the estimation of esds in distances, angles and torsion angles; correlations between esds in cell parameters are only used when they are defined by crystal symmetry. An approximate (isotropic) treatment of cell esds is used for estimating esds involving l.s. planes.

Fractional atomic coordinates and isotropic or equivalent isotropic displacement parameters (\AA^2)

| | <i>x</i> | <i>y</i> | <i>z</i> | $U_{\text{iso}}^*/U_{\text{eq}}$ |
|------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| Hg | 0.26669 (2) | 0.15196 (2) | 0.17398 (2) | 0.03689 (9) |
| Br1 | 0.78523 (7) | 0.01223 (6) | 0.26403 (4) | 0.05807 (19) |
| Cl1 | 0.07681 (12) | 0.04507 (10) | 0.12894 (8) | 0.0455 (3) |
| Cl2 | 0.3350 (3) | 0.17449 (13) | 0.28849 (7) | 0.0680 (5) |
| N1 | 0.4632 (4) | 0.0840 (3) | 0.12648 (19) | 0.0297 (8) |
| N2 | 0.6469 (4) | -0.0168 (3) | 0.1125 (2) | 0.0332 (8) |
| C1 | 0.5402 (5) | 0.0084 (4) | 0.1512 (2) | 0.0290 (9) |
| C2 | 0.5243 (5) | 0.1104 (4) | 0.0687 (2) | 0.0325 (10) |
| C3 | 0.4867 (6) | 0.1831 (4) | 0.0214 (2) | 0.0380 (11) |
| H3A | 0.407599 | 0.225411 | 0.026176 | 0.046* |
| C4 | 0.5690 (7) | 0.1912 (5) | -0.0326 (3) | 0.0443 (13) |
| H4A | 0.546152 | 0.239743 | -0.065535 | 0.053* |
| C5 | 0.6869 (7) | 0.1279 (5) | -0.0392 (3) | 0.0462 (13) |
| H5A | 0.742376 | 0.136244 | -0.076319 | 0.055* |
| C6 | 0.7235 (6) | 0.0557 (4) | 0.0054 (3) | 0.0415 (12) |
| H6A | 0.801480 | 0.012676 | -0.000153 | 0.050* |
| C7 | 0.6402 (5) | 0.0478 (4) | 0.0599 (2) | 0.0336 (10) |
| C8 | 0.7432 (5) | -0.1007 (4) | 0.1193 (3) | 0.0412 (11) |
| H8A | 0.706934 | -0.149329 | 0.150248 | 0.062* |
| H8B | 0.835960 | -0.077071 | 0.136067 | 0.062* |
| H8C | 0.751825 | -0.132519 | 0.076325 | 0.062* |
| C9 | 0.5103 (5) | -0.0449 (4) | 0.2128 (2) | 0.0295 (9) |
| C10 | 0.6114 (5) | -0.0530 (4) | 0.2651 (2) | 0.0328 (9) |
| C11 | 0.5801 (5) | -0.1064 (4) | 0.3208 (2) | 0.0347 (10) |
| C12 | 0.4486 (6) | -0.1492 (4) | 0.3257 (2) | 0.0340 (10) |
| H12A | 0.429536 | -0.186816 | 0.363769 | 0.041* |
| C13 | 0.3436 (5) | -0.1382 (4) | 0.2757 (2) | 0.0326 (10) |
| C14 | 0.3774 (5) | -0.0858 (4) | 0.2192 (2) | 0.0301 (9) |
| H14A | 0.307701 | -0.078004 | 0.184253 | 0.036* |
| C15 | 0.1946 (6) | -0.1774 (5) | 0.2844 (3) | 0.0446 (13) |
| C16 | 0.1931 (7) | -0.2560 (6) | 0.3375 (3) | 0.0569 (16) |
| H16A | 0.250243 | -0.313200 | 0.325066 | 0.085* |
| H16B | 0.096006 | -0.277900 | 0.342884 | 0.085* |
| H16C | 0.232117 | -0.227992 | 0.379161 | 0.085* |
| C17 | 0.1086 (9) | -0.0864 (7) | 0.3074 (4) | 0.069 (2) |
| H17A | 0.014973 | -0.108654 | 0.319073 | 0.103* |

| | | | | |
|------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| H17B | 0.098912 | -0.037282 | 0.271679 | 0.103* |
| H17C | 0.157701 | -0.055702 | 0.345930 | 0.103* |
| C18 | 0.1272 (7) | -0.2131 (5) | 0.2188 (3) | 0.0504 (14) |
| H18A | 0.189918 | -0.261007 | 0.198742 | 0.076* |
| H18B | 0.111504 | -0.155783 | 0.189316 | 0.076* |
| H18C | 0.036859 | -0.245312 | 0.226242 | 0.076* |
| N3 | 0.7624 (4) | -0.2007 (3) | 0.3870 (2) | 0.0334 (8) |
| N4 | 0.7052 (7) | -0.0512 (4) | 0.4249 (3) | 0.0574 (15) |
| C19 | 0.6851 (6) | -0.1200 (4) | 0.3764 (3) | 0.0389 (11) |
| C20 | 0.8389 (4) | -0.1846 (3) | 0.44605 (14) | 0.0393 (11) |
| C21 | 0.9323 (4) | -0.2448 (2) | 0.48302 (18) | 0.0436 (12) |
| H21B | 0.958442 | -0.308251 | 0.466606 | 0.052* |
| C22 | 0.9875 (5) | -0.2123 (3) | 0.54401 (18) | 0.0604 (18) |
| H22B | 1.051354 | -0.253523 | 0.569280 | 0.073* |
| C23 | 0.9493 (6) | -0.1196 (4) | 0.56803 (19) | 0.085 (3) |
| H23B | 0.987023 | -0.097343 | 0.609714 | 0.102* |
| C24 | 0.8559 (6) | -0.0593 (3) | 0.5311 (2) | 0.092 (4) |
| H24B | 0.829779 | 0.004111 | 0.547474 | 0.111* |
| C25 | 0.8007 (5) | -0.0918 (3) | 0.4701 (2) | 0.0562 (17) |
| C26 | 0.6419 (11) | 0.0482 (6) | 0.4279 (4) | 0.080 (3) |
| H26D | 0.560680 | 0.052189 | 0.396154 | 0.121* |
| H26E | 0.711628 | 0.098707 | 0.417059 | 0.121* |
| H26F | 0.610913 | 0.060333 | 0.472366 | 0.121* |

Atomic displacement parameters (\AA^2)

| | U^{11} | U^{22} | U^{33} | U^{12} | U^{13} | U^{23} |
|-----|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Hg | 0.03625 (13) | 0.03134 (14) | 0.04333 (13) | 0.00299 (7) | 0.00463 (8) | 0.00013 (8) |
| Br1 | 0.0463 (3) | 0.0589 (4) | 0.0671 (4) | -0.0147 (3) | -0.0146 (3) | 0.0142 (3) |
| C11 | 0.0290 (5) | 0.0381 (7) | 0.0696 (8) | -0.0006 (5) | 0.0036 (5) | 0.0048 (6) |
| Cl2 | 0.1242 (16) | 0.0414 (8) | 0.0383 (6) | 0.0101 (9) | 0.0035 (8) | -0.0041 (6) |
| N1 | 0.0269 (18) | 0.030 (2) | 0.0319 (17) | -0.0004 (15) | 0.0016 (14) | 0.0021 (15) |
| N2 | 0.0281 (18) | 0.034 (2) | 0.0383 (19) | -0.0019 (16) | 0.0042 (15) | -0.0003 (17) |
| C1 | 0.0243 (19) | 0.030 (2) | 0.033 (2) | -0.0040 (17) | 0.0014 (16) | -0.0013 (18) |
| C2 | 0.034 (2) | 0.034 (3) | 0.0289 (19) | -0.0077 (19) | -0.0034 (17) | -0.0009 (19) |
| C3 | 0.044 (3) | 0.034 (3) | 0.035 (2) | -0.010 (2) | -0.002 (2) | 0.005 (2) |
| C4 | 0.061 (3) | 0.039 (3) | 0.033 (2) | -0.018 (3) | -0.001 (2) | 0.003 (2) |
| C5 | 0.051 (3) | 0.053 (3) | 0.035 (2) | -0.023 (3) | 0.009 (2) | -0.006 (2) |
| C6 | 0.041 (3) | 0.042 (3) | 0.042 (2) | -0.011 (2) | 0.010 (2) | -0.008 (2) |
| C7 | 0.032 (2) | 0.032 (2) | 0.037 (2) | -0.0111 (19) | 0.0068 (18) | -0.0054 (19) |
| C8 | 0.030 (2) | 0.037 (3) | 0.057 (3) | 0.002 (2) | 0.008 (2) | -0.003 (2) |
| C9 | 0.030 (2) | 0.026 (2) | 0.032 (2) | 0.0013 (17) | -0.0007 (17) | 0.0030 (17) |
| C10 | 0.029 (2) | 0.026 (2) | 0.042 (2) | -0.0050 (18) | -0.0071 (18) | 0.0024 (19) |
| C11 | 0.039 (2) | 0.032 (3) | 0.032 (2) | 0.001 (2) | -0.0086 (18) | -0.0024 (19) |
| C12 | 0.039 (3) | 0.032 (3) | 0.030 (2) | 0.0009 (19) | 0.0011 (19) | 0.0045 (18) |
| C13 | 0.031 (2) | 0.036 (3) | 0.032 (2) | 0.0023 (19) | 0.0047 (18) | -0.0002 (18) |
| C14 | 0.027 (2) | 0.033 (2) | 0.0302 (19) | 0.0032 (18) | 0.0007 (16) | -0.0002 (17) |
| C15 | 0.032 (3) | 0.060 (4) | 0.042 (3) | -0.003 (2) | 0.006 (2) | 0.015 (3) |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| C16 | 0.057 (4) | 0.061 (4) | 0.053 (3) | -0.016 (3) | 0.005 (3) | 0.009 (3) |
| C17 | 0.060 (4) | 0.073 (5) | 0.075 (5) | 0.013 (4) | 0.027 (3) | 0.007 (4) |
| C18 | 0.047 (3) | 0.050 (4) | 0.054 (3) | -0.020 (3) | -0.004 (2) | 0.011 (3) |
| N3 | 0.0333 (19) | 0.027 (2) | 0.0393 (19) | -0.0024 (16) | -0.0082 (16) | 0.0031 (16) |
| N4 | 0.074 (4) | 0.044 (3) | 0.051 (3) | 0.019 (3) | -0.027 (3) | -0.016 (2) |
| C19 | 0.045 (3) | 0.034 (3) | 0.037 (2) | -0.001 (2) | -0.011 (2) | 0.003 (2) |
| C20 | 0.043 (3) | 0.039 (3) | 0.035 (2) | -0.001 (2) | -0.004 (2) | 0.002 (2) |
| C21 | 0.042 (3) | 0.042 (3) | 0.045 (3) | 0.004 (2) | -0.006 (2) | 0.007 (2) |
| C22 | 0.055 (4) | 0.077 (5) | 0.048 (3) | 0.012 (3) | -0.018 (3) | 0.002 (3) |
| C23 | 0.106 (7) | 0.090 (6) | 0.055 (4) | 0.031 (5) | -0.043 (5) | -0.027 (4) |
| C24 | 0.124 (8) | 0.075 (6) | 0.070 (5) | 0.039 (5) | -0.057 (5) | -0.037 (4) |
| C25 | 0.070 (4) | 0.049 (4) | 0.048 (3) | 0.013 (3) | -0.021 (3) | -0.005 (3) |
| C26 | 0.110 (7) | 0.047 (4) | 0.079 (5) | 0.035 (4) | -0.042 (5) | -0.021 (4) |

Geometric parameters (\AA , $\text{^{\circ}}$)

| | | | |
|--------------------|-------------|----------|------------|
| Hg—N1 | 2.333 (4) | C13—C15 | 1.530 (7) |
| Hg—N3 ⁱ | 2.338 (4) | C14—H14A | 0.9500 |
| Hg—Cl2 | 2.4020 (15) | C15—C16 | 1.508 (8) |
| Hg—Cl1 | 2.4424 (13) | C15—C18 | 1.525 (8) |
| Br1—C10 | 1.870 (5) | C15—C17 | 1.553 (10) |
| N1—C1 | 1.331 (6) | C16—H16A | 0.9800 |
| N1—C2 | 1.383 (6) | C16—H16B | 0.9800 |
| N2—C1 | 1.359 (6) | C16—H16C | 0.9800 |
| N2—C7 | 1.374 (7) | C17—H17A | 0.9800 |
| N2—C8 | 1.452 (7) | C17—H17B | 0.9800 |
| C1—C9 | 1.483 (6) | C17—H17C | 0.9800 |
| C2—C3 | 1.401 (7) | C18—H18A | 0.9800 |
| C2—C7 | 1.404 (7) | C18—H18B | 0.9800 |
| C3—C4 | 1.387 (8) | C18—H18C | 0.9800 |
| C3—H3A | 0.9500 | N3—C19 | 1.318 (7) |
| C4—C5 | 1.417 (10) | N3—C20 | 1.387 (4) |
| C4—H4A | 0.9500 | N4—C19 | 1.355 (7) |
| C5—C6 | 1.358 (9) | N4—C25 | 1.369 (6) |
| C5—H5A | 0.9500 | N4—C26 | 1.463 (9) |
| C6—C7 | 1.401 (7) | C20—C21 | 1.3900 |
| C6—H6A | 0.9500 | C20—C25 | 1.3900 |
| C8—H8A | 0.9800 | C21—C22 | 1.3900 |
| C8—H8B | 0.9800 | C21—H21B | 0.9500 |
| C8—H8C | 0.9800 | C22—C23 | 1.3900 |
| C9—C14 | 1.389 (7) | C22—H22B | 0.9500 |
| C9—C10 | 1.398 (6) | C23—C24 | 1.3900 |
| C10—C11 | 1.387 (7) | C23—H23B | 0.9500 |
| C11—C12 | 1.383 (8) | C24—C25 | 1.3900 |
| C11—C19 | 1.478 (6) | C24—H24B | 0.9500 |
| C12—C13 | 1.392 (7) | C26—H26D | 0.9800 |
| C12—H12A | 0.9500 | C26—H26E | 0.9800 |
| C13—C14 | 1.399 (7) | C26—H26F | 0.9800 |

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| N1—Hg—N3 ⁱ | 100.59 (15) | C16—C15—C18 | 112.8 (6) |
| N1—Hg—Cl2 | 105.64 (11) | C16—C15—C13 | 111.5 (5) |
| N3 ⁱ —Hg—Cl2 | 115.22 (11) | C18—C15—C13 | 110.7 (5) |
| N1—Hg—Cl1 | 102.02 (10) | C16—C15—C17 | 107.9 (6) |
| N3 ⁱ —Hg—Cl1 | 103.38 (10) | C18—C15—C17 | 107.8 (6) |
| Cl2—Hg—Cl1 | 126.35 (7) | C13—C15—C17 | 105.7 (6) |
| C1—N1—C2 | 105.5 (4) | C15—C16—H16A | 109.5 |
| C1—N1—Hg | 125.2 (3) | C15—C16—H16B | 109.5 |
| C2—N1—Hg | 129.3 (3) | H16A—C16—H16B | 109.5 |
| C1—N2—C7 | 106.8 (4) | C15—C16—H16C | 109.5 |
| C1—N2—C8 | 128.6 (4) | H16A—C16—H16C | 109.5 |
| C7—N2—C8 | 124.4 (4) | H16B—C16—H16C | 109.5 |
| N1—C1—N2 | 112.5 (4) | C15—C17—H17A | 109.5 |
| N1—C1—C9 | 123.9 (4) | C15—C17—H17B | 109.5 |
| N2—C1—C9 | 123.5 (4) | H17A—C17—H17B | 109.5 |
| N1—C2—C3 | 131.1 (5) | C15—C17—H17C | 109.5 |
| N1—C2—C7 | 108.9 (4) | H17A—C17—H17C | 109.5 |
| C3—C2—C7 | 120.0 (5) | H17B—C17—H17C | 109.5 |
| C4—C3—C2 | 117.6 (6) | C15—C18—H18A | 109.5 |
| C4—C3—H3A | 121.2 | C15—C18—H18B | 109.5 |
| C2—C3—H3A | 121.2 | H18A—C18—H18B | 109.5 |
| C3—C4—C5 | 120.8 (5) | C15—C18—H18C | 109.5 |
| C3—C4—H4A | 119.6 | H18A—C18—H18C | 109.5 |
| C5—C4—H4A | 119.6 | H18B—C18—H18C | 109.5 |
| C6—C5—C4 | 122.5 (5) | C19—N3—C20 | 106.0 (4) |
| C6—C5—H5A | 118.7 | C19—N3—Hg ⁱⁱ | 123.8 (3) |
| C4—C5—H5A | 118.7 | C20—N3—Hg ⁱⁱ | 129.2 (3) |
| C5—C6—C7 | 116.5 (6) | C19—N4—C25 | 106.3 (5) |
| C5—C6—H6A | 121.7 | C19—N4—C26 | 127.3 (5) |
| C7—C6—H6A | 121.7 | C25—N4—C26 | 126.4 (5) |
| N2—C7—C6 | 131.2 (5) | N3—C19—N4 | 112.5 (4) |
| N2—C7—C2 | 106.3 (4) | N3—C19—C11 | 125.0 (5) |
| C6—C7—C2 | 122.5 (5) | N4—C19—C11 | 122.4 (5) |
| N2—C8—H8A | 109.5 | N3—C20—C21 | 131.9 (3) |
| N2—C8—H8B | 109.5 | N3—C20—C25 | 108.0 (3) |
| H8A—C8—H8B | 109.5 | C21—C20—C25 | 120.0 |
| N2—C8—H8C | 109.5 | C20—C21—C22 | 120.0 |
| H8A—C8—H8C | 109.5 | C20—C21—H21B | 120.0 |
| H8B—C8—H8C | 109.5 | C22—C21—H21B | 120.0 |
| C14—C9—C10 | 119.3 (4) | C23—C22—C21 | 120.0 |
| C14—C9—C1 | 119.0 (4) | C23—C22—H22B | 120.0 |
| C10—C9—C1 | 121.6 (4) | C21—C22—H22B | 120.0 |
| C11—C10—C9 | 119.5 (4) | C22—C23—C24 | 120.0 |
| C11—C10—Br1 | 118.6 (3) | C22—C23—H23B | 120.0 |
| C9—C10—Br1 | 121.8 (4) | C24—C23—H23B | 120.0 |
| C12—C11—C10 | 120.4 (4) | C23—C24—C25 | 120.0 |
| C12—C11—C19 | 118.0 (5) | C23—C24—H24B | 120.0 |

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------|------------------------------|------------|
| C10—C11—C19 | 121.6 (5) | C25—C24—H24B | 120.0 |
| C11—C12—C13 | 121.3 (5) | N4—C25—C24 | 132.8 (3) |
| C11—C12—H12A | 119.4 | N4—C25—C20 | 107.2 (3) |
| C13—C12—H12A | 119.4 | C24—C25—C20 | 120.0 |
| C12—C13—C14 | 117.7 (5) | N4—C26—H26D | 109.5 |
| C12—C13—C15 | 120.7 (5) | N4—C26—H26E | 109.5 |
| C14—C13—C15 | 121.5 (4) | H26D—C26—H26E | 109.5 |
| C9—C14—C13 | 121.6 (4) | N4—C26—H26F | 109.5 |
| C9—C14—H14A | 119.2 | H26D—C26—H26F | 109.5 |
| C13—C14—H14A | 119.2 | H26E—C26—H26F | 109.5 |
| | | | |
| C2—N1—C1—N2 | -0.7 (5) | C11—C12—C13—C15 | -174.2 (5) |
| Hg—N1—C1—N2 | 178.9 (3) | C10—C9—C14—C13 | -2.4 (8) |
| C2—N1—C1—C9 | -178.7 (4) | C1—C9—C14—C13 | 179.1 (5) |
| Hg—N1—C1—C9 | 0.8 (6) | C12—C13—C14—C9 | -0.7 (8) |
| C7—N2—C1—N1 | 1.1 (5) | C15—C13—C14—C9 | 176.1 (5) |
| C8—N2—C1—N1 | -173.1 (5) | C12—C13—C15—C16 | -20.5 (8) |
| C7—N2—C1—C9 | 179.1 (4) | C14—C13—C15—C16 | 162.8 (5) |
| C8—N2—C1—C9 | 4.9 (8) | C12—C13—C15—C18 | -147.0 (5) |
| C1—N1—C2—C3 | 178.3 (5) | C14—C13—C15—C18 | 36.3 (8) |
| Hg—N1—C2—C3 | -1.2 (8) | C12—C13—C15—C17 | 96.5 (6) |
| C1—N1—C2—C7 | 0.0 (5) | C14—C13—C15—C17 | -80.2 (7) |
| Hg—N1—C2—C7 | -179.5 (3) | C20—N3—C19—N4 | -0.1 (7) |
| N1—C2—C3—C4 | -179.2 (5) | Hg ⁱⁱ —N3—C19—N4 | 169.2 (4) |
| C7—C2—C3—C4 | -1.1 (7) | C20—N3—C19—C11 | -176.2 (5) |
| C2—C3—C4—C5 | -0.1 (8) | Hg ⁱⁱ —N3—C19—C11 | -6.9 (8) |
| C3—C4—C5—C6 | 1.4 (8) | C25—N4—C19—N3 | -1.0 (8) |
| C4—C5—C6—C7 | -1.4 (8) | C26—N4—C19—N3 | 177.1 (8) |
| C1—N2—C7—C6 | -179.8 (5) | C25—N4—C19—C11 | 175.2 (6) |
| C8—N2—C7—C6 | -5.3 (8) | C26—N4—C19—C11 | -6.6 (12) |
| C1—N2—C7—C2 | -1.0 (5) | C12—C11—C19—N3 | 80.3 (8) |
| C8—N2—C7—C2 | 173.5 (4) | C10—C11—C19—N3 | -99.4 (7) |
| C5—C6—C7—N2 | 178.9 (5) | C12—C11—C19—N4 | -95.5 (7) |
| C5—C6—C7—C2 | 0.2 (7) | C10—C11—C19—N4 | 84.8 (8) |
| N1—C2—C7—N2 | 0.6 (5) | C19—N3—C20—C21 | 176.7 (4) |
| C3—C2—C7—N2 | -177.9 (4) | Hg ⁱⁱ —N3—C20—C21 | 8.2 (7) |
| N1—C2—C7—C6 | 179.5 (4) | C19—N3—C20—C25 | 1.1 (5) |
| C3—C2—C7—C6 | 1.0 (7) | Hg ⁱⁱ —N3—C20—C25 | -167.4 (3) |
| N1—C1—C9—C14 | 54.6 (7) | N3—C20—C21—C22 | -175.2 (5) |
| N2—C1—C9—C14 | -123.2 (5) | C25—C20—C21—C22 | 0.0 |
| N1—C1—C9—C10 | -123.9 (5) | C20—C21—C22—C23 | 0.0 |
| N2—C1—C9—C10 | 58.3 (7) | C21—C22—C23—C24 | 0.0 |
| C14—C9—C10—C11 | 3.6 (8) | C22—C23—C24—C25 | 0.0 |
| C1—C9—C10—C11 | -177.8 (5) | C19—N4—C25—C24 | -175.9 (4) |
| C14—C9—C10—Br1 | -173.0 (4) | C26—N4—C25—C24 | 5.9 (12) |
| C1—C9—C10—Br1 | 5.5 (7) | C19—N4—C25—C20 | 1.7 (7) |
| C9—C10—C11—C12 | -1.8 (8) | C26—N4—C25—C20 | -176.5 (8) |
| Br1—C10—C11—C12 | 175.0 (4) | C23—C24—C25—N4 | 177.4 (7) |

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|------------|
| C9—C10—C11—C19 | 177.9 (5) | C23—C24—C25—C20 | 0.0 |
| Br1—C10—C11—C19 | -5.4 (7) | N3—C20—C25—N4 | -1.8 (5) |
| C10—C11—C12—C13 | -1.4 (8) | C21—C20—C25—N4 | -178.0 (5) |
| C19—C11—C12—C13 | 178.9 (5) | N3—C20—C25—C24 | 176.2 (4) |
| C11—C12—C13—C14 | 2.6 (8) | C21—C20—C25—C24 | 0.0 |

Symmetry codes: (i) $-x+1, y+1/2, -z+1/2$; (ii) $-x+1, y-1/2, -z+1/2$.

Hydrogen-bond geometry (\AA , $^\circ$)

Cg1 is the centroid of the imidazole ring N1/N2/C1/C2/C7.

| $D\cdots H$ | $D—H$ | $H\cdots A$ | $D\cdots A$ | $D—H\cdots A$ |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| C3—H3A \cdots N3 ⁱ | 0.95 | 2.65 | 3.459 (7) | 144 |
| C8—H8A \cdots Cl2 ⁱⁱ | 0.98 | 2.71 | 3.643 (6) | 160 |
| C8—H8B \cdots Cl1 ⁱⁱⁱ | 0.98 | 2.82 | 3.719 (6) | 152 |
| C21—H21B \cdots Cl1 ⁱⁱ | 0.95 | 2.77 | 3.616 (3) | 149 |
| C16—H16B \cdots Cg1 ⁱⁱ | 0.98 | 2.91 | 3.671 (8) | 135 |

Symmetry codes: (i) $-x+1, y+1/2, -z+1/2$; (ii) $-x+1, y-1/2, -z+1/2$; (iii) $x+1, y, z$.