# Copper(II) complexes with triphenylphosphine oxide. I. Preparation and properties of $Cu(OPPh_3)_4X_2 \cdot 2H_2O$

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The preparation and some properties of  $Cu(OPPh_3)_4X_2 \cdot 2H_2O$  (OPPh<sub>3</sub> = triphenylphosphine oxide; X = Cl, Br) complexes are described. Thermal properties of these complexes as well as their infrared, electronic, e.p.r. spectra and magnetic properties were studied.

Obtained results indicate that the  $Cu(OPPh_3)_4Cl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$  complex contains chromophore [ $CuO_4Cl_2$ ] with oxygen atoms in equatorial positions and chlorine atoms in axial positions of distorted tetragonal bipyramide. In  $Cu(OPPh_3)_4Br_2 \cdot 2H_2O$  we assume that oxygen atoms of triphenylphosphine oxide are shifted from equatorial plane with indication of a distorted tetrahedron. Water in both complexes is bonded by hydrogen bonds.

В работе описан способ приготовления и некоторые свойства комплексов  $Cu(OPPh_3)_4X_2 \cdot 2H_2O$  (X = Cl, Br). Исследованы термическая устойчивостъ этих комплексов, их ИК спектры, электронные спектры поглощения, ЭПР спектры и магнитные свойства.

Полученные результаты говорят о том, что комплекс  $Cu(OPPh_3)_4Cl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$  содержит хромофор [ $CuO_4Cl_2$ ] с атомами кислорода в экваториальных положениях и атомами хлора в аксиальных положениях искаженной тетрагональной бипирамиды. В  $Cu(OPPh_3)_4Br_2 \cdot 2H_2O$  наблюдается отклонение от экваториальной, плоскости атомов кислорода трифенилфосфиноксида с признаками искаженного тетраедра. Молекулы воды в этих комплексах присоединены водородными связями.

Reaction of  $CuCl_2$  with PPh<sub>3</sub> in molar ratio 1:1 and 1:4 in acetone gives rise to Cu(I) complexes with PPh<sub>3</sub> and after a longer standing of the reaction solutions also to  $Cu(OPPh_3)_2Cl_2$ ,  $Cu_4OCl_6(OPPh_3)_4$ , and  $Cu(OPPh_3)_4Cl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$ , which were separated chromatographically on a column of  $Al_2O_3$  [1]. When the conditions of formation of  $OPPh_3$ , which is necessary for formation of Cu(II) complexes with  $OPPh_3$ , were studied it was found that the oxidation-reduction decomposition of unstable chlorotriphenylphosphine complexes of Cu(II) produces chlorine which reacts with excess PPh<sub>3</sub> to give  $Ph_3PCl_2$  [2]. The  $OPPh_3$  formed by solvolysis of  $Ph_3PCl_2$  reacts with Cu(II) to give triphenylphosphine oxide complexes.

The subject of our interest are the complexes  $Cu(OPPh_3)_4X_2 \cdot 2H_2O$  (X = Cl, Br), which were for the first time prepared in our laboratory. They are formed not only at

oxidation-reduction decomposition of the Cu(II) complexes with PPh<sub>3</sub>, but also by a direct synthesis of  $CuX_2$  and OPPh<sub>3</sub> under certain conditions. These complexes are interesting from several aspects. There is an unusually large number of ligands with possibility of coordination per one central atom. Therefore certain peculiarities can be expected in their structure which should be reflected also in chemical properties. The experiments show that by the decomposition of these complexes it is possible to prepare not only all known halocopper(II) complexes with triphenylphosphine oxide ligand, but also two thus far not described substances [3].

This paper deals with the preparation and study of some properties of  $Cu(OPPh_3)_4X_2 \cdot 2H_2O$  complexes.

# **Experimental**

#### Chemicals, analytical methods, and equipments

CuCl<sub>2</sub> was prepared by thermal dehydration of hydrate in the flow of HCl. CuBr<sub>2</sub> was prepared by reaction of hydrobromic acid with copper(II) hydroxide carbonate. Triphenylphosphine oxide was prepared by the standard method [4]. Water in the complexes was substituted by  $D_2O$  by standing of pulverized hydrates over  $D_2O$  in a desiccator.

The copper content was determined complexometrically using murexide as an indicator while chlorides and bromides content was determined argentometrically with potentiometric indication of the titration end-point. Carbon and hydrogen contents were determined by standard methods of elemental analysis.

The melting points were determined using a Kofler block and the infrared spectra of Nujol suspensions of samples were recorded on Perkin—Elmer 225 and UR-10 instruments. The electronic spectra of Nujol suspensions of samples on chromatographic paper were measured with a Perkin—Elmer 450 instrument. Thermal records were obtained using Derivatograph OD-102. Magnetic susceptibilities were measured by the Gouy method in the temperature range 90—350 K on a Newport Instrument Ltd. device.  $CuSO_4$ ·  $5H_2O$  [5] was used as a standard. Diamagnetic corrections were calculated using Pascal constants [6] and magnetic moment values were calculated according to the relation

$$\mu_{\rm eff} = 798.1 \ (\chi_{\rm M} \ T)^{1/2}.$$

The e.p.r. spectra of the polycrystalline samples were recorded on a Varian E 3 spectrometer at microwave frequency 9300 MHz.

# Preparation of the complexes

#### Cu(OPPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O

Anhydrous  $CuCl_2$  (10.45 g; 0.078 mole) was dissolved in ethanol (25 ml) and to this solution acetone (175 ml) was added. The solution was mixed with a saturated solution of OPPh<sub>3</sub> in acetone containing 105.5 g OPPh<sub>3</sub> (0.355 mole) at 20°C. The volume of resulting red-brown solution was reduced to a half by evaporation and then distilled water (3.5 ml; 0.19 mole) was added. In the course of 48 hrs blue crystals crystallized at room temperature and these were washed with ethanol and dried *in vacuo*. Melting point was found to be 142°C.

For Cu(OPPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> · 2H<sub>2</sub>O (1283.53) calculated : 4.95% Cu, 5.52% Cl, 67.37% C, 5.02% H; found : 4.76% Cu, 5.46% Cl, 67.10% C, 5.03% H.

#### Cu(OPPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O

 $CuBr_2$  (14.03 g; 0.063 mole) was dissolved in ethanol (775 ml) and to the solution distilled water (2.85 ml; 0.158 mole) was added. The solution was mixed with ethanol solution of OPPh<sub>3</sub> prepared by dissolving OPPh<sub>3</sub> (80 g; 0.284 mole) in ethanol (118 ml). In the course of 3 days at room temperature green crystals crystallized from the solution and these were washed with ethanol and dried *in vacuo*. Melting point 138°C.

For Cu(OPPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O (1372.44) calculated: 4.63% Cu, 11.64% Br, 63.01% C, 4.70% H; found: 4.59% Cu, 11.71% Br, 62.93% C, 4.75% H.

Both complexes dissolve in ethanol, acetone, chloroform, acetonitrile, and acrylonitrile. They are insoluble in water, toluene, and carbon tetrachloride and decompose in benzene and diethyl ether.

#### **Results and discussion**

# Preparation of the complexes

The complexes  $Cu(OPPh_3)_4X_2 \cdot 2H_2O$  (X = Cl, Br) can be prepared by two procedures. The first is the reaction of  $CuX_2$  with PPh<sub>3</sub> in a suitable nonaqueous solvent. This procedure uses Ph<sub>3</sub>PX<sub>2</sub> which is formed due to a mutual influence of ligands and oxidation-reduction process. Solvolysis of Ph<sub>3</sub>PX<sub>2</sub> produces OPPh<sub>3</sub> required for the formation of complexes. Disadvantage of this procedure is that besides the described complexes also other triphenyl-phosphine oxide complexes of Cu(II) are formed (depending on molar ratio of Cu(II) and PPh<sub>3</sub>) which can be separated chromatographically on a column of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>. In this way we have prepared Cu(OPPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> · 2H<sub>2</sub>O [1] and it can be assumed that analogous bromide can be also prepared by this method.

The second procedure is a direct synthesis of  $CuX_2$  with OPPh<sub>3</sub> in the presence of water in a suitable solvent. This method is simplier and less time-consuming than the first one.

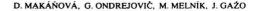
# Thermal decomposition

The course of thermal decomposition is practically the same for both complexes studied. The record of thermal decomposition of  $Cu(OPPh_3)_4Br_2 \cdot 2H_2O$  is shown in Fig. 1. Both complexes are practically stable up to 85°C. When temperature is increased further, a gradual colour change takes place, the bromide complex turning from original green to red-brown and the chloride complex from blue to orange. At temperatures 100°C for the bromide and 114°C for the chloride complex endothermic change occurs accompanied by a 2.5% loss of weight for the bromide and 2.8% for the chloride complexes, which corresponds practically to the loss of two water molecules. Another endothermic change takes place at ~145°C for the bromide and at 155°C for the chloride complex, this time without loss of weight.

From these data as well as from the results presented in [1] it follows that by thermal dehydration of the Cu(OPPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O and Cu(OPPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O complexes it is not possible to prepare nonaqueous compounds with composition Cu(OPPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>X<sub>2</sub>. Dehydration leading to a loss of two water molecules is in both cases accompanied by liberation of two OPPh<sub>3</sub> molecules and Cu(OPPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>X<sub>2</sub> results.

# Infrared spectra

Three wavenumber regions were studied. Stretching vibrations of the OH group of a water molecule were observed as a broad absorption band at 3000—3400 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Such broad



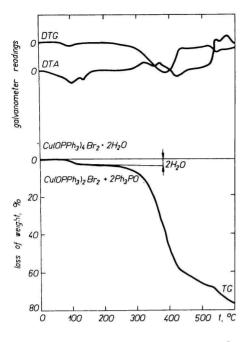


Fig. 1. Thermogram of  $Cu(OPPh_3)_4Br_2 \cdot 2H_2O$ .

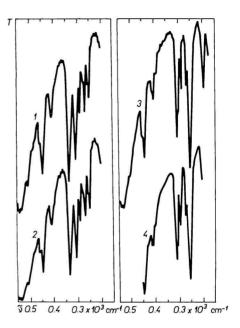


Fig. 2. The infrared spectra in 200-550 cm<sup>-1</sup> region.

 $\begin{array}{l} 1. \ Cu(OPPh_3)_4Cl_2\cdot 2H_2O\,;\\ 2. \ Cu(OPPh_3)_4Cl_2\cdot 2D_2O\,;\\ 3. \ Cu(OPPh_3)_4Br_2\cdot 2H_2O\,;\\ 4. \ Cu(OPPh_3)_4Br_2\cdot 2D_2O. \end{array}$ 

absorption bands indicate that the OH group interacts with other atoms via hydrogen bonds [7]. Possible interacting atoms are oxygen and chlorine or bromine. When water in the complexes is replaced by  $D_2O$  as can be expected [8] broad absorption bands  $\tilde{v}(OH)$  at 3000—3400 cm<sup>-1</sup> disappear and new bands corresponding to stretching vibrations of O—D group appear at about 2350 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Presented data together with the fact that dehydration of the complexes is accompanied by a more drastic decomposition to Cu(OPPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>X<sub>2</sub> and OPPh<sub>3</sub> indicate that the water molecules and their interactions via hydrogen bonds are important for existence of the structure of complexes.

Wavenumber region  $1100-1200 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  gives the information on the coordination of OPPh<sub>3</sub> on central atom. The coordination is usually manifested by a shift of P-O stretching vibrations of triphenylphosphine oxide to lower wavenumbers [9]. For pure OPPh<sub>3</sub> the P-O stretching vibration is observed at 1191 cm<sup>-1</sup>. In both complexes studied the position of  $\tilde{v}$ (P-O) bands is changed very little if compared to pure OPPh<sub>3</sub> (1193 cm<sup>-1</sup> for Cu(OPPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O and 1190 cm<sup>-1</sup> for the analogous bromide). The fact that the coordination of ligand practically does not influence the wavenumber of P-O stretching vibrations can be explained by symmetry of the structure of the complex [1, 10] and also by a contribution of the hydrogen-bond interactions of water molecules with other atoms. In the infrared spectra of both complexes a band corresponding to the bending vibration of water at about 1630 cm<sup>-1</sup> was not observed. This is a further evidence for a strong bonding of water molecules in the structure of the complexes by hydrogen bonds.

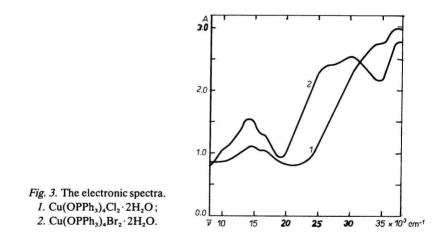
The far infrared spectra of complexes are shown in Fig. 2. The far infrared spectra

of  $D_2O$  hydrates do not show any observable differences. Comparing the spectra of  $Cu(OPPh_3)_4X_2 \cdot 2H_2O$  with those of  $Cu(OPPh_3)_4X_2 \cdot 2D_2O$  it is evident that substitution of  $H_2O$  by  $D_2O$  is not accompanied by a shift of bands to lower wavenumbers. Thus the far infrared spectra indicate that water molecules are not coordinated with central atom and they are apparently bonded in the complexes by hydrogen bonds.

Positions of the  $\bar{\nu}(Cu-O)$  bands (442 and 443 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively) clearly suggest the coordination of OPPh<sub>3</sub> through oxygen donor atom. The bands at 331 cm<sup>-1</sup> ( $\bar{\nu}(Cu-Cl)$ ) and 250 cm<sup>-1</sup> ( $\bar{\nu}(Cu-Br)$ ) suggest the presence of monofunctionally bonded X with chlorine atoms occupying apparently the terminal positions [11, 12].

#### Electronic spectra

The electronic spectra of  $Cu(OPPh_3)_4X_2 \cdot 2H_2O$  (X = Cl, Br) complexes were measured in Nujol mull in the region 8-30 × 10<sup>3</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>. The spectra of both complexes are analogous in the region above  $13 \times 10^3$  cm<sup>-1</sup>. The electronic spectrum of Cu(OPPh\_3)\_4Cl\_2 \cdot 2H\_2O (Fig. 3) in



visible region shows a band at  $14.4 \times 10^3$  cm<sup>-1</sup> and a shoulder at  $17.4 \times 10^3$  cm<sup>-1</sup>. In the u.v. region another shoulder at  $34.0 \times 10^3$  cm<sup>-1</sup> and a band at  $37.4 \times 10^3$  cm<sup>-1</sup> appear, which are apparently connected with charge transfer from the ligands to the central atom. The band and shoulder in the visible region can be assigned to the following d-d transitions of Cu(II) atom

$${}^{2}E_{g}, {}^{2}B_{2g} \leftarrow {}^{2}B_{1g}, {}^{2}A_{1g} \leftarrow {}^{2}B_{1g}.$$

The electronic spectrum of Cu(OPPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O complex shows a band at  $14.2 \times \times 10^3$  cm<sup>-1</sup> and shoulders at  $10.0 \times 10^3$  cm<sup>-1</sup> and  $17.0 \times 10^3$  cm<sup>-1</sup>, which are assigned to d-d transitions of Cu(II) atom. In the u.v. region the charge-transfer bands at  $26.0 \times \times 10^3$  cm<sup>-1</sup>,  $30.0 \times 10^3$  cm<sup>-1</sup>, and  $37.5 \times 10^3$  cm<sup>-1</sup> were observed.

# The e.p.r. spectra

The e.p.r. spectrum of the chloride complex is typically axial with hyperfine splitting in axial direction (Table 1). The form of spectrum together with the values  $g_{\parallel} > g_{\perp}$  and simultaneously g > 2.04 suggest the presence of the  $d_{x^2-y^2}$  ground state in mononuclear units with effective spin S = 1/2. While the e.p.r. spectrum of the chloride complex is axial with hyperfine splitting only in axial direction, the bromide complex exhibits this splitting also in the equatorial plane.

# Magnetic properties

The study of the temperature dependence of magnetic properties of  $Cu(OPPh_3)_4Cl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$ and  $Cu(OPPh_3)_4Br_2 \cdot 2H_2O$  shows (Tables 2 and 3) that with decreasing temperature the

Table 1

Data calculated from e.p.r. spectra of Cu(OPPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> X <sub>2</sub> · 2H <sub>2</sub> O (X=Cl, Br) complexes					
Complex	<i>g</i> 1	g <sub>II</sub>	Yav	A <sub>1</sub> 10 <sup>-4</sup>	$A_{\parallel} \cdot 10^{-4}$
Cu(OPPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> O	2.06	2.26	2.13	20	120
Cu(OPPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> Br <sub>2</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> O	2.08	2.38	2.21	30	85

#### Table 2

<i>Т</i> К	χ <sub>m</sub> ·10-9 m <sup>3</sup> kg <sup>-1</sup>	χ <sub>M</sub> <sup>′ exp</sup> · 10 <sup>−8</sup> m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>−1</sup>	$\chi_{M}^{calc} \cdot 10^{-8}$ m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup>	$\mu_{\rm eff}$ B.M. (±0.02)
100	39.06	5.914	5.979	1.94
126	28.76	4.592	4.331	1.92
138.5	25.25	4.140	3.988	1.91
151	21.98	3.723	3.722	1.89
164	19.22	3.367	3.183	1.88
178	17.33	3.125	3.102	1.88
191	14.82	2.803	2.870	1.85
205.5	12.94	2.561	2.657	1.83
216.5	11.68	2.400	2.512	1.82
229	10.30	2.223	2.358	1.80
245.5	9.29	2.094	2.184	1.81
259.5	8.42	1.981	2.058	1.81
272.5	7.66	1.883	1.962	1.81
285	6.91	1.787	1.866	1.80
293.5	7.03	1.804	1.813	1.83
310	6.40	1.723	1.708	1.84
325	5.52	1.610	1.569	1.83
339	5.02	1.545	1.555	1.83

# Magnetic data on Cu(OPPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>· 2H<sub>2</sub>O ( $\Delta$ =9.009×10<sup>-8</sup> m<sup>3</sup> mol<sup>-1</sup>)

#### Table 3

Т К	χ <sub>m</sub> · 1()−9 m <sup>3</sup> kg <sup>-1</sup>	$\chi_{M}^{\prime \exp \cdot 10^{-8}}$ m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup>	‰ <sup>calc</sup> ·1() <sup>-9</sup> m <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>−</sup>	$\mu_{\rm eff}$ B.M. (±0.02)
89.5	56.52	8.687	8.774	2.22
114	41.19	6.584	6.569	2.19
127	35.79	5.842	5.796	2.17
140.5	30.52	5.118	5.164	2.14
155	27.13	4.652	4.626	2.14
168.5	24.24	4.255	4.214	2.14
193.5	19.59	3.617	3.618	2.11
208	17.33	3.308	3.344	2.09
220	16.33	3.170	3.147	2.11
234.5	15.07	2.998	2.938	2.12
248.5	13.94	2.842	2.763	2.12
262	12.68	2.670	2.609	2.11
274	11.30	2.408	2.486	2.08
285	10.42	2.360	2.376	2.07
295	9.67	2.256	2.298	2.06

#### Magnetic data on Cu(OPPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O ( $A=9.29 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$ )

Table 4	Ta	ble	4
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Parameters obtained from magnetic measurements						
Complex	<i>Т</i> К	χ <sub>g</sub> · 10 <sup>6</sup>	χм·106	$\mu_{\rm eff}$ B.M.	С	Θ
Cu(OPPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ·2H <sub>2</sub> O	293.5	0.56	1436	1.83	0.40	+16
$Cu(OPPh_3)_4Br_2 \cdot 2H_2O$	295	0.77	1796	2.06	0.51	+16.5

values of magnetic moments moderately increase, both complexes being magnetically diluted Cu(II) complexes. In both cases the observed temperature dependence of molar susceptibility obeys the Curie—Weiss law

$$\chi'_{\mathsf{M}} = \alpha \ C/(T-\Theta).$$

The parameters are presented in Table 4. The values of Weiss constant indicate the presence of some ferromagnetic interaction which is practically the same for both complexes.

On the basis of the experimental data it is possible to assume the presence of  $[-CuO_4-Cl_2-]$  chromophore with a nondegenerate ground state in  $Cu(OPPh_3)_4Cl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$  complex. In the environment of Cu(II) atom there are four OPPh<sub>3</sub> molecules in equatorial plane, remaining two positions on longer coordinates being occupied by two chlorine atoms with a simultaneous formation of distorted tetragonal bipyramide in axial direction. Two water molecules as shown by the infrared spectra are bonded in the crystal lattice by hydrogen bonds.

From the magnitude of magnetic moment and the magnetic properties of the bromide complex as well as from the electronic spectra structural differences can be expected for bromide complex in comparison with the chloride complex. The higher value of magnetic moment  $\mu_{eff} = 2.06$  B.M. for the bromide complex compared to  $\mu_{eff} = 1.83$  B.M. for the chloride complex indicates tetrahedral structure, further evidence for this structure being the band at  $10.0 \times 10^3$  cm<sup>-1</sup> in the electronic spectrum. On the other hand, the similarity of the electronic spectra of both complexes in the region above  $13.0 \times 10^3$  cm<sup>-1</sup> as well as the band at 250 cm<sup>-1</sup> assigned to Cu—Br stretch indicate the presence of [CuO<sub>4</sub>X<sub>2</sub>] (X = Cl, Br) chromophore. On the basis of data obtained we assume that in the bromide complex the oxygen atoms of triphenylphosphine oxide do not lie in the same plane, but they are shifted from it with indication of distorted tetrahedron which could be connected also with the effect of steric factors.

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