

Organic-Inorganic Hybrid Materials: Crystal Growth and XRD Analysis of $[(C_{38}H_{30}N_8)_2 \cdot CoCl_4]$ and $[(CH_3NH_3)_2 \cdot CoCl_4]$

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Abstract: Two tetrachloridocobaltate (II) hybrid compounds were isolated and structurally characterized by single crystal X-ray crystallography. The compound $[(C_{38}H_{30}N_8)_2 \cdot CoCl_4]$ (1), crystallizes in the monoclinic space group $P2_1/c$ with $Z = 4$, $a = 12.0894(7)$ Å, $b = 15.1839(8)$ Å, $c = 19.8015(11)$ Å, $\beta = 90.786(2)^\circ$ and $V = 3634.5(3)$ Å³. Compound $[(CH_3NH_3)_2 \cdot CoCl_4]$ (2), crystallizes in the monoclinic space group $P2_1/c$ with $Z = 4$, $a = 7.6385(5)$ Å, $b = 12.6684(8)$ Å, $c = 10.8730(6)$ Å, $\beta = 96.540(2)^\circ$ and $V = 1045.31(11)$ Å³. The compound 1 consists of 2,3,5-triphenyltetrazolium cations and tetrachloridocobaltate (II) ions connected through weak C–H...Cl hydrogen bonds affording a 3D structure. Additional $\pi \cdots \pi$ interactions consolidate the stability and the compactness of the 3D framework. The tetrazolium (C1N1N2N3N4) ring forms dihedral angles of 85.04(11), 49.37(11) and 27.85(11)° with the planes of the benzene rings of the substituent groups while the tetrazolium (C20N5N6N7N8) ring forms dihedral angles of 52.92(11), 47.37(11) and 9.97(11)° with the planes of the benzene rings of the substituent groups. The compound 2 is composed of methylammonium cations and tetrachloridocobaltate (II) dianions connected by extended N–H...Cl hydrogen bonding patterns giving rise to a 3D structure. The methylammonium cations adopt a general position and are not exceptional. In both structures, the Co centre within the dianion is bonded to four chloride ligands and adopts a distorted tetrahedral geometry. The extensive hydrogen bonding patterns within compound 2 describe $R^2_2(4)$, $R^4_4(10)$, $R^4_4(12)$, $R^5_5(14)$, $R^4_6(14)$, $R^5_6(16)$ and $R^6_6(18)$ rings whereas 1, through the weak C–H...Cl hydrogen bond patterns, generates mainly $R^2_1(4)$ rings and other hydrogen bonds of D type.

Keywords: 2,3,5-Triphenyltetrazolium, Methylammonium; Cobalt (II), Single Crystal X-ray Crystallography, 3D Structure

1. Introduction

The design and synthesis of organic-inorganic hybrid materials, containing the tetrachloridocobaltate (II) dianion with various cobalt (II) complex-cations or organic cations, gained an increasing interest, during the past years, owing to the diversity of structural topologies, and photoelectric behavior, antimicrobial, thermal, absorption, magnetic,

optical, electrical and catalysis properties they aroused [1–8]. To date, countless $CoCl_4^{2-}$ hybrid materials with cobalt complex-cation or organic species as counter ion are known [9–17]. However, to our knowledge (CSD), only 16 different crystal structures with 2,3,5-triphenyltetrazolium as counter ion have been reported [18–26]. Indeed, Kawamura and coworkers isolated the hybrid 2,3,5-triphenyltetrazolium dichloro-(1,3,5-triphenylformazanato)-cobalt (ii) [27],

For **2**, a crystal of approximate dimensions 0.10×0.05×0.02 mm was used for data collection. The X-ray crystallographic data for compound **2** were collected using a Bruker D8 Venture diffractometer at T = 296 (2) K. Data were measured using ϕ scans using MoK α radiation (λ = 0.71073 Å) using a collection strategy to obtain a hemisphere of unique data determined by Bruker D8 Venture. Data were analytically corrected for absorption and polarization effects [37]. Cell parameters were determined and refined using the SAINT program [34]. The structure was solved by the direct method using SHELXS

[38] and the structure refined using least-squares minimization SHELXL-2018/3 [36].

Programs used for the representation of the molecular and crystal structures: Olex2 [39] and Mercury [40]. Crystal data, data collection and structure refinement details for 1 are summarized in Table 1. Selected bond lengths and angles are

listed in Tables 2 and 3, respectively.

CCDC 2211660 (1) and 2211661 (2) contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. Copies of these data can be obtained free of charge from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre (CCDC), 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK.

Table 1. Crystal data and structure refinement of compounds 1 and 2.

Parameters	Compound	
	1	2
Empirical Formula	C ₃₈ H ₃₀ Cl ₄ CoN ₈	C ₂ H ₁₂ Cl ₄ CoN ₂
Formula weight	799.43	264.87
Temperature (K)	120 (2)	296 (2)
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> 2 ₁ / <i>c</i>	<i>P</i> 2 ₁ / <i>c</i>
<i>a</i> , (Å)	12.0894(7)	7.6385(5)
<i>α</i> , (°)	90	90
<i>b</i> , (Å)	15.1839(8)	12.6684(8)
<i>β</i> , (°)	90.786(2)	96.540 (2)
<i>c</i> , (Å)	19.8015(11)	10.8730(6)
<i>γ</i> , (°)	90	90
Volume (Å ³)	3634.5(3)	1045.31(11)
<i>Z</i>	4	4
<i>ρ</i> _{calc} (g/cm ³)	1.461	1.683
<i>μ</i> (mm ^{−1})	0.807	2.599
<i>F</i> (000)	1636	532
Crystal size (mm ³)	0.190 × 0.184 × 0.100	0.10 × 0.05 × 0.02
Radiation (Å)	MoK α (λ = 0.71073)	MoK α (λ = 0.71073)
2 θ range for data collection (°)	3.159–36.343	2.478–33.122
Index ranges	−14 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 16	−11 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 11
	−20 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 19	−19 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 19
	−26 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 26	−16 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 16
Reflections collected	63695	102055
Independent reflections	9108 [Rint = 0.0387]	3828 [Rint = 0.0369]
Data/restraints/parameters	9108/0/460	3828/0/130
Goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> ²	1.057	1.086
Final R indexes [<i>I</i> > 2 σ (<i>I</i>)]	R1 = 0.0416	R1 = 0.0357
	wR2 = 0.1078	wR2 = 0.0683
Final R indexes [all data]	R1 = 0.0525	R1 = 0.0541
	wR2 = 0.1139	wR2 = 0.0753
Largest diff. peak/hole (e Å ^{−3})	2.200 and −0.291	0.980 and −0.691

$R1 = \Sigma(|F_o| - |F_c|) / \Sigma |F_o|$; $wR2 = [\Sigma w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2 / \Sigma w(F_o^2)^2]^{1/2}$ where $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + 2.5412P + (0.0596P)^2]$ for 1 and $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + 0.8278P + (0.0256P)^2]$ for 2 where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$; χ^2 goodness of fit = $[\Sigma w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2 / (N_o - N_r)]^{1/2}$.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Crystal and Molecular Structure of [(C₁₉H₁₅N₄)₂·CoCl₄] (1)

The organic-inorganic hybrid complex 1, [(C₁₉H₁₅N₄)₂·CoCl₄], crystallizes as green block-like crystals in the monoclinic space group *P*2₁/*c*. The asymmetric unit depicted in Figure 2, consists of one tetrachloridocobaltate (II) dianion and two 2,3,5-triphenyltetrazolium ions. The tetrachloridocobaltate (II) dianion's geometric parameters within compound 1 varying from 2.2604(6) to 2.2918(6) Å and from 106.03(2) to 115.35(2)° well corroborate, as earlier encountered [9–17], a distorted tetrahedron about Co centre. In 2018, the Dakar group has reported a copper (II) complex with mixed counter ions comprising 2,3,5-triphenyltetrazolium

cation exhibiting a π delocalization for the tetrazolium ring [26].

The N–N and C–N bond distances of the two 2,3,5-triphenyltetrazolium ions from 2.296 (2) to 1.340(3) Å and from 2.306(2) to 2.334(3) Å, compare well and are in accordance with the published values evidencing a π delocalization within the tetrazolium rings [18–26].

The inter-species weak C–H...Cl hydrogen bonds (see table 4 for details) present in compound 1 afford *R*₁²(4) rings and multiple other hydrogen bonds of D type (see Figure 3).

In the crystal structure, in addition to the weak C–H...Cl hydrogen bond patterns, the 2,3,5-triphenyltetrazolium cation (C1N1N2N3N4) exhibits π ... π interactions with the centroid to centroid distance being 3.6590 (13) Å between the phenyl ring C14 to C19 and its closest symmetry equivalent, and 3.5595 (13) Å between the phenyl ring C8 to C13 and its closest symmetry equivalent, affording a three-dimensional network (Figure 4).

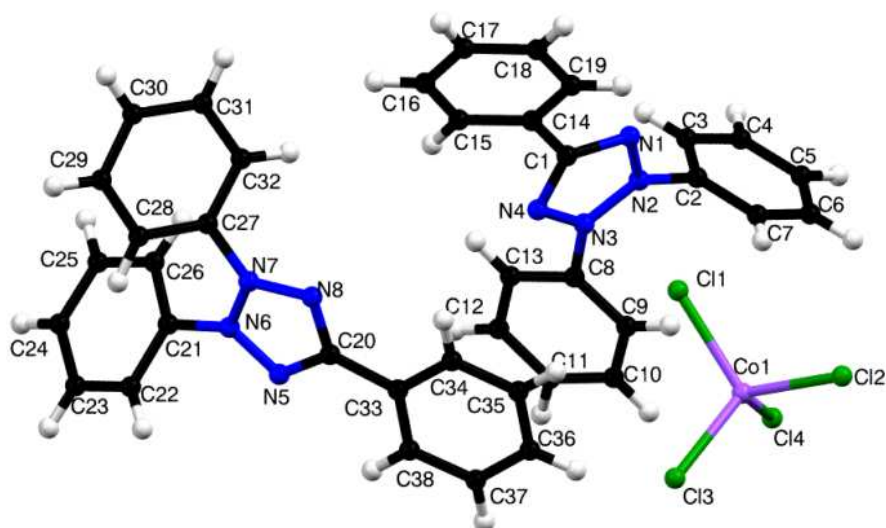


Figure 2. Molecular view of **1** showing 50% probability ellipsoids for atoms and the crystallographic numbering scheme adopted [atom color code: C, black; H, white; N, blue; Cl, green; Co, mauve].

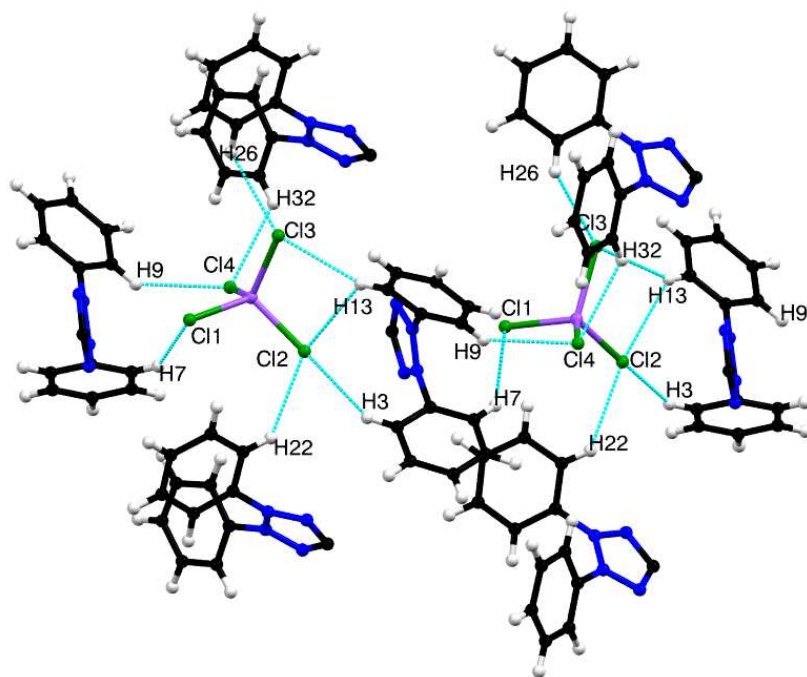


Figure 3. Molecular view of **1** showing 50% probability ellipsoids for atoms, showing the interconnections between the species. The phenyl ring which is not involved in C–H...Cl hydrogen bonds is omitted for clarity. Hydrogen bonds are represented as turquoise dashed lines [atom color code: C, black; H, white; N, blue; Cl, green; Co, mauve].

3.2. Crystal and Molecular Structure of $[(CH_3NH_3)_2 \cdot CoCl_4]$ (**2**)

Daub and coworkers reported, in 2016, the synthesis, crystal structure, and optical properties of the hybrid $[(CH_3NH_3)_2 \cdot CoCl_4]$, with final R indexes $R1 = 0.046$, $wR2 = 0.087$ and $R1$ (all data) = 0.074 [2]. In 2019, Yin and coworkers reported the crystal structure, absorption properties, photoelectric behavior of the organic–inorganic hybrid $[(CH_3NH_3)_2 \cdot CoCl_4]$, with final R indexes $R1 = 0.0446$, $wR2 = 0.1316$, $R1$ (all data) = 0.0526 and $wR2$ (all data) = 0.1350 [3]. The final R indexes for this organic–inorganic

hybrid $[(CH_3NH_3)_2 \cdot CoCl_4]$ (**2**) are $R1 = 0.0357$, $wR2 = 0.0683$, $R1$ (all data) = 0.0541 and $wR2$ (all data) = 0.0753. This study is focused on the supramolecular point of view of the organic-inorganic hybrid $[(CH_3NH_3)_2 \cdot CoCl_4]$. The compound **2**, $[(CH_3NH_3)_2 \cdot CoCl_4]$, crystallizes as blue platelet-like crystals in the monoclinic space group $P2_1/c$. The asymmetric unit, depicted in Figure 5, is comprised of a tetrachloridocobaltate (II) anion and two methylammonium counter ions, chemically identical, yet different. The difference between N1 and N2 cations consists in their involvement in hydrogen bonding patterns.

The C–N length values (see Table 2) are in agreement with

the published values for alkylammonium containing compounds [2, 3, 41]. The geometric parameters within the tetrachloridocobaltate (II) dianions, varying from 2.2645(6) to 2.2753(6) Å and from 105.80(2) to 112.52(2)° are comparable to those in 1, thus evidencing a distorted tetrahedron [9–17].

The inter-species hydrogen bonding patterns (Table 5) exhibit each dianion to be in interaction with seven cations (see Figure 6): four N1 counter ions and three N2 ones. Within these H-bond interactions, chlorine atoms, except Cl2 connected to only N1 cation, are linked to two counter ions, homogeneously for Cl1 (two N1 cations) and Cl3 (two N2 cations) however heterogeneously for Cl4 (one N1 and one N2 cations) (Figure 6). Thus, N1 counter ion is hydrogen bonded to four tetrachloridocobaltate (II) ions through two dissymmetrical N1–H1C···Cl1, one N1–H···Cl2 and one N1–H···Cl4 (see Figure 7 and table 5). Contrary to N1 counter ion, the latter N2 cation is hydrogen bonded to three tetrachloridocobaltate (II) ions via two different N2–H···Cl3 and one N2–H···Cl4 (see Figure 8 and table 5). In compound 2, the extensive inter-species hydrogen bonding interactions between dianions and counter ions exhibit six hydrogen bonded ring patterns: $R_2^2(4)$, $R_3^4(10)$, $R_4^4(12)$, $R_5^5(14)$, $R_6^4(14)$, $R_6^5(16)$ and $R_6^6(18)$. The two dissymmetrical N1–H2C···Cl2 hydrogen bonds are both involved in the $R_2^2(4)$ ring formed by two tetrachloridocobaltate (II) and two N1 methylammonium ions (Figure 9). Similarly to the $R_2^2(4)$ ring, the hydrogen bonded macrocycles $R_3^4(10)$ and $R_4^4(12)$ are built from interactions between four species: two tetrachloridocobaltate (II) and, one N1 and N2 methylammonium species for $R_3^4(10)$ (Figure 10a), two N2 methylammonium cations $R_4^4(12)$ (Figure 10b). In the contrary, the other H-bonded macrocycles are comprised of six species among with three tetrachloridocobaltate (II) ions and, one N1 and two N2 methylammonium ions for $R_5^5(14)$ and $R_6^4(14)$ (Figure 10c and d), two N1 and one N2 counter ions for $R_6^5(16)$ and $R_6^6(18)$ (Figure 11a and b).

The extended hydrogen bonding interconnections between tetrachloridocobaltate (II) dianions and methylammonium counter ions afforded a supramolecular 3D framework depicted in Figure 12.

Table 2. Selected prominent distances (Å) for compounds 1 and 2.

Compound 1			
Atom-Atom	Bond length	Atom-Atom	Bond length
Co1–Cl4	2.2604 (6)	N4–C1	1.340 (3)
Co1–Cl1	2.2749 (6)	C1–Cl4	1.452 (3)
Co1–Cl2	2.2829 (6)	N5–N6	1.306 (2)
Co1–Cl3	2.2918 (6)	N5–C20	1.334 (3)
N1–N2	1.307 (2)	N6–N7	1.330 (2)
N1–C1	1.339 (3)	N6–C21	1.440 (2)
N2–N3	1.330 (2)	N7–N8	1.306 (2)
N2–C2	1.440 (3)	N7–C27	1.437 (2)
N3–N4	1.296 (2)	N8–C20	1.340 (3)
N3–C8	1.439 (3)	C20–C33	1.450 (3)
Compound 2			
Atom-Atom	Bond length	Atom-Atom	Bond length
Co1–Cl4	2.2735 (5)	Co1–Cl1	2.2646 (6)
Co1–Cl3	2.2754 (6)	N1–C1	1.440 (4)
Co1–Cl2	2.2686 (5)	N2–C2	1.451 (3)

Table 3. Selected prominent angle values (°) for compounds 1 and 2 [Symmetry codes: (ii) $x+1/2, y, -z+1/2$].

Compound 1			
Atom-Atom-Atom	Angle value	Atom-Atom-Atom	Angle value
Cl4–Co1–Cl1	106.03 (2)	N4–N3–N2	110.28 (16)
Cl4–Co1–Cl2	109.57 (2)	N3–N4–C1	103.87 (16)
Cl1–Co1–Cl2	110.02 (2)	N1–C1–N4	112.35 (17)
Cl4–Co1–Cl3	115.35 (2)	N6–N5–C20	103.98 (16)
Cl1–Co1–Cl3	107.73 (2)	N5–N6–N7	109.72 (16)
Cl2–Co1–Cl3	108.07 (2)	N8–N7–N6	110.29 (15)
N2–N1–C1	103.54 (16)	N7–N8–C20	103.48 (16)
N1–N2–N3	109.96 (16)	N5–C20–N8	112.51 (17)
Compound 2			
Atom-Atom-Atom	Angle value	Atom-Atom-Atom	Angle value
Cl4–Co1–Cl3	112.51 (2)	Cl1–Co1–Cl4	108.65 (2)
Cl2–Co1–Cl4	110.03 (2)	Cl1–Co1–Cl3	109.51 (3)
Cl2–Co1–Cl3	105.80 (2)	Cl1–Co1–Cl2	110.32 (2)

Table 4. Hydrogen-bonds geometry in the crystal of 1 [Symmetry codes: (i) $x, -y+1/2, z-1/2$; (ii) $x-1, -y+1/2, z-1/2$].

D–H···A	d (D–H)	d (H···A)	d (D···A)	∠(D–H···A)
C3–H3···Cl2 ⁱ	0.95	2.88	3.723 (3)	148.2
C7–H7···Cl1	0.95	2.92	3.696 (2)	140.2
C9–H9···Cl4	0.95	2.89	3.682 (2)	142.1
C13–H13···Cl2 ⁱ	0.95	2.93	3.561 (2)	125.2
C13–H13···Cl3 ⁱ	0.95	2.89	3.755 (2)	151.6
C22–H22···Cl2 ⁱⁱ	0.95	2.87	3.593 (2)	133.9
C26–H26···Cl3 ⁱ	0.95	2.91	3.644 (2)	135.4
C32–H32···Cl4 ⁱ	0.95	2.88	3.486 (2)	122.6

Table 5. Hydrogen-bonds geometry in the crystal of 2 [Symmetry codes: (i) $x, -y+1/2, z+1/2$; (ii) $-x+2, -y, -z+1$; (iii) $-x+1, -y, -z+1$; (iv) $-x+1, y+1/2, -z+1/2$].

D–H···A	d (D–H)	d (H···A)	d (D···A)	∠(D–H···A)
N1–H1A···Cl4 ⁱ	0.83(5)	2.80(5)	3.524(4)	146(4)
N1–H1B···Cl2 ⁱⁱ	0.80(5)	2.65(5)	3.345(4)	147(5)
N1–H1C···Cl1	0.93(6)	2.71(7)	3.323(3)	124(5)
N1–H1C···Cl1 ⁱⁱⁱ	0.93(6)	2.66(7)	3.415(4)	139(5)
N2–H2A···Cl4 ⁱ	0.84(4)	2.41(4)	3.243(2)	174(3)
N2–H2B···Cl3 ^{iv}	0.88(3)	2.49(3)	3.273(2)	149(3)
N2–H2C···Cl3 ⁱⁱⁱ	0.86(4)	2.53(3)	3.289(2)	147(3)

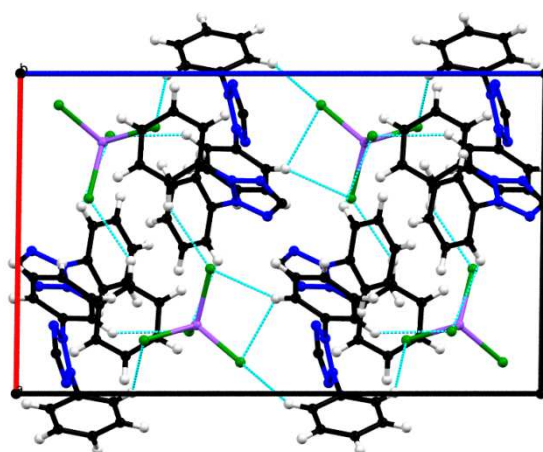


Figure 4. Molecular packing diagram of 1 showing 50% probability ellipsoids for atoms, along the crystallographic b axis showing the three-dimensional network. The phenyl ring which is not involved in C–H···Cl hydrogen bonds is omitted for clarity. Hydrogen bonds are represented as turquoise dashed lines [atom color code: C, black; H, white; N, blue; Cl, green; Co, mauve].

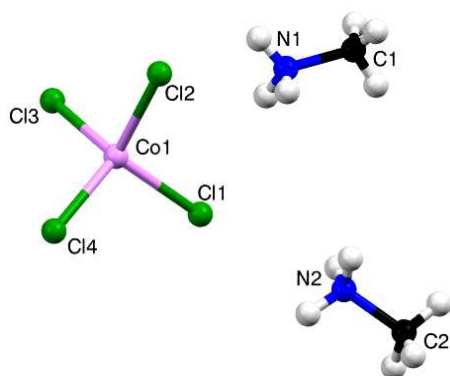


Figure 5. Molecular view of 2 showing 50% probability ellipsoids for atoms and the crystallographic numbering scheme adopted [atom color code: C, black; H, white; N, blue; Cl, green; Co, mauve].

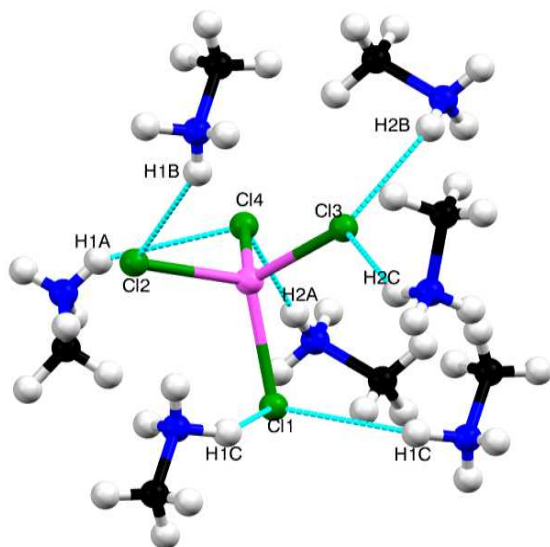


Figure 6. Molecular view of 2 showing 50% probability ellipsoids for atoms, showing the surrounding of the dianion. Hydrogen bonds are represented as turquoise dashed lines [atom color code: C, black; H, white; N, blue; Cl, green; Co, mauve].

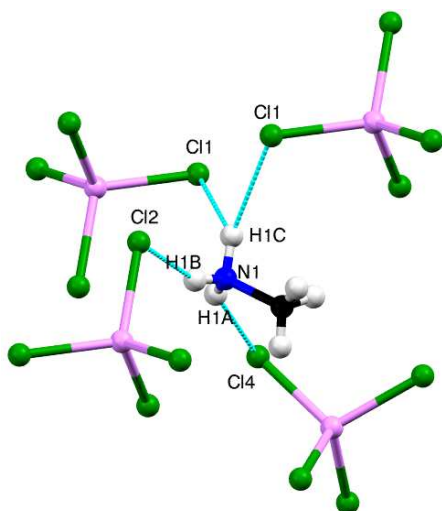


Figure 7. Molecular view of 2 showing 50% probability ellipsoids for atoms, showing the surrounding of N1 counter ion. Hydrogen bonds are represented as turquoise dashed lines [atom color code: C, black; H, white; N, blue; Cl, green; Co, mauve].

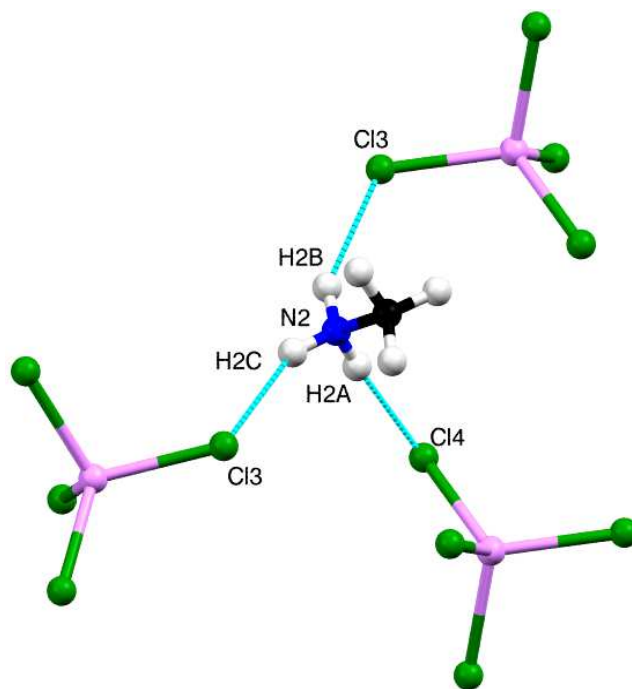


Figure 8. Molecular view of 2 showing 50% probability ellipsoids for atoms, showing the surrounding of N2 counter ion. Hydrogen bonds are represented as turquoise dashed lines [atom color code: C, black; H, white; N, blue; Cl, green; Co, mauve].

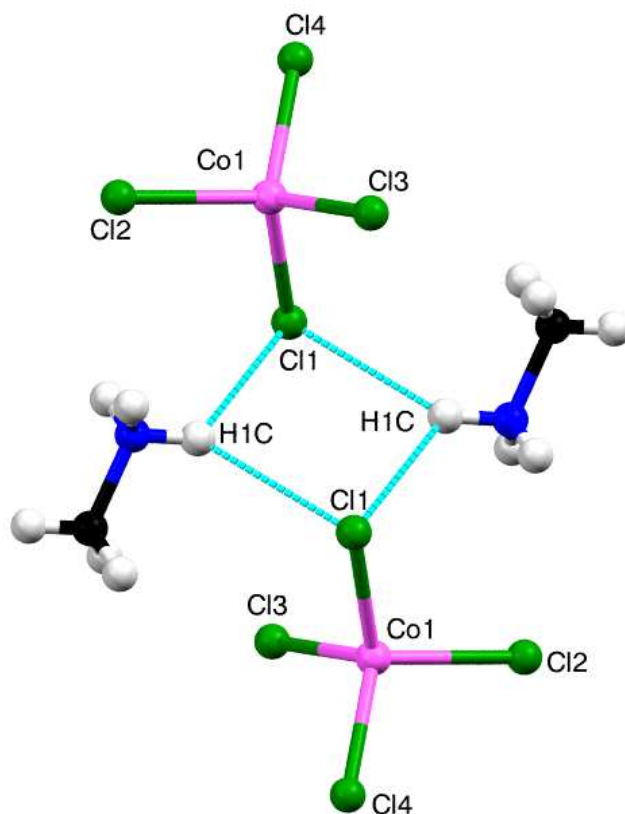


Figure 9. View of 2 showing 50% probability ellipsoids for atoms, showing the $R_2^2(4)$ ring. Hydrogen bonds are represented as turquoise dashed lines [atom color code: C, black; H, white; N, blue; Cl, green; Co, mauve].

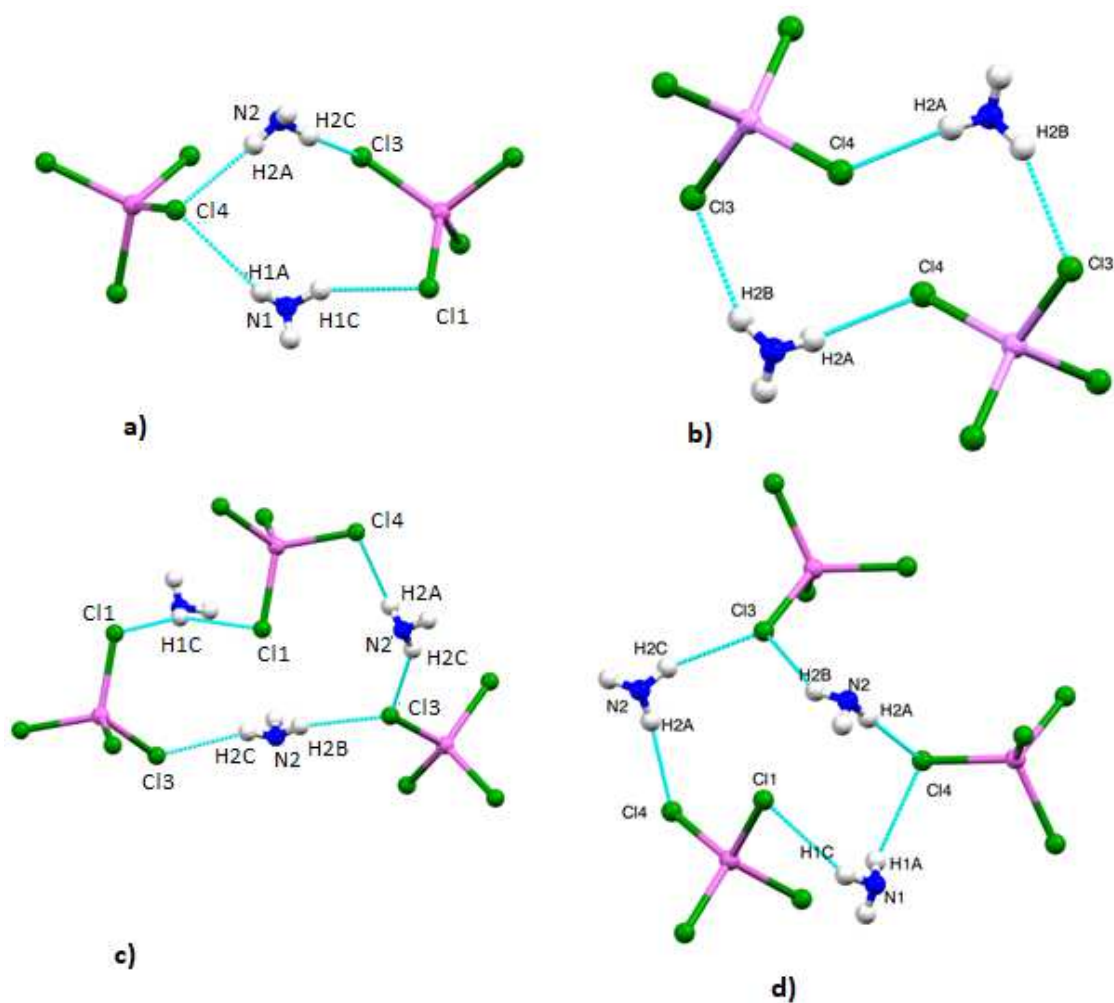


Figure 10. View of 2 showing 50% probability ellipsoids for atoms, showing $R_4^3(10)$, $R_4^4(12)$, $R_5^5(14)$ and $R_6^6(14)$ rings. Hydrogen bonds are represented as turquoise dashed lines [atom color code: C, black; H, white; N, blue; Cl, green; Co, mauve]. Methyl groups are omitted for clarity.

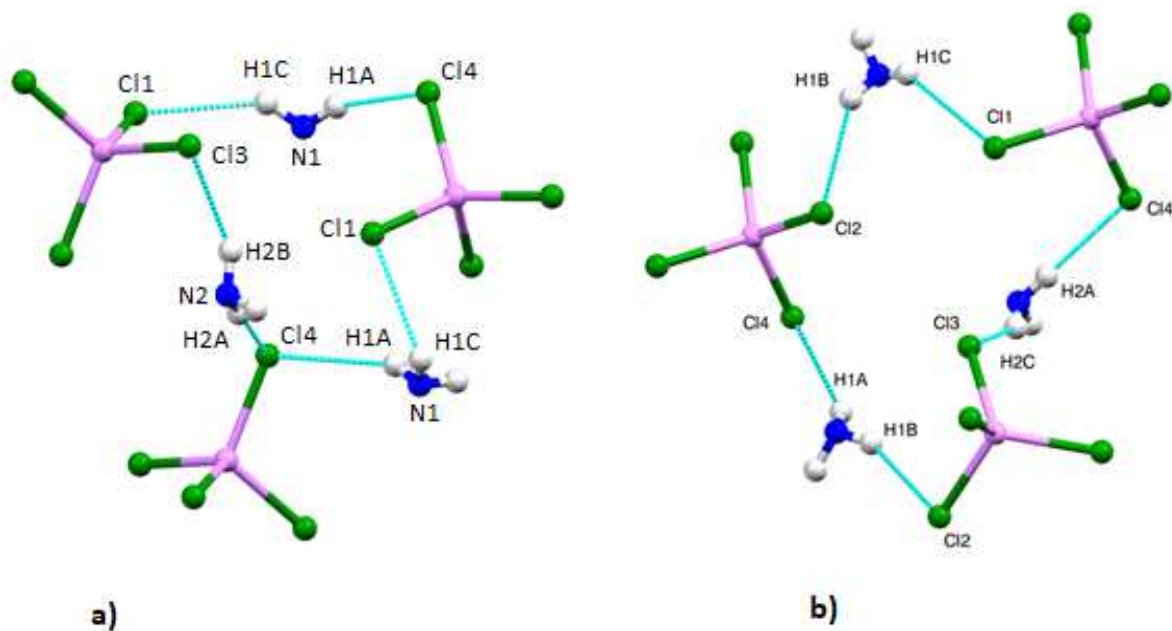


Figure 11. View of 2 showing 50% probability ellipsoids for atoms, showing $R_6^5(16)$ and $R_6^6(18)$ rings. Hydrogen bonds are represented as turquoise dashed lines [atom color code: C, black; H, white; N, blue; Cl, green; Co, mauve]. Methyl groups are omitted for clarity.

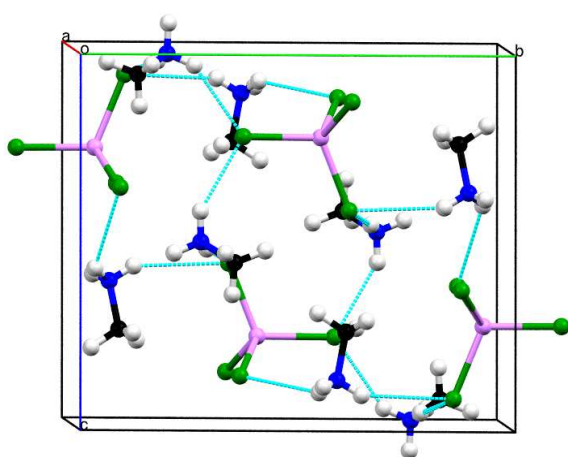


Figure 12. Molecular packing diagram of 2 showing 50% probability ellipsoids for atoms, showing the 3D framework.

4. Conclusion

Two 2,3,5-triphenyltetrazolium and methylammonium salts of tetrachloridocobaltate (II) have been synthesized by one pot reaction and structurally investigated by single crystal X-ray diffraction analysis. The tetrachloridocobaltate (II) ion's geometry is a distorted tetrahedron for the two studied compounds. Compound 1 exhibits only $R_1^2(4)$ rings, hydrogen bonds of D type and $\pi \cdots \pi$ interactions. Compound 2 as regards describes extended hydrogen bonding interactions which yield seven ring types *ie* $R_2^2(4)$, $R_4^3(10)$, $R_4^4(12)$, $R_5^5(14)$, $R_6^4(14)$, $R_6^5(16)$ and $R_6^6(18)$. In both compounds 1 and 2, the weak hydrogen bond interconnections give rise to a 3D structure. Further attempts, to isolate and characterize new organic-inorganic hybrids of both methylammonium and 2,3,5-triphenyltetrazolium with several metal reagents, are in progress.

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