

Discrete and Infinite Metallacyclic Coordination Architectures Based on a Conformationally Flexible Tripodal Aminotriazine-Derived Polypyridyl Ligand

Meng-Rong Tsai,^[a] Jing-Yun Wu,^{*,[a]} and Long-Li Lai^{*,[a]}

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A novel tripodal semi-rigid ligand, 2,4,6-tris(3-picolylamino)-1,3,5-triazine (*m*-H₃tpat), consisting of a triazine central core and three pyridine donating functions attached to flexible –NHCH₂– arms has been designed and synthesized. The self-assembly reactions of *m*-H₃tpat with copper(II) chloride and cobalt(II) chloride yielded discrete Cu^{II} complex [Cu₂Cl₄(*m*-H₃tpat)₂]·2H₂O·2EtOH (**1**·2H₂O·2EtOH) and polymeric Co^{II} complex [Co(*m*-H₃tpat)₂(H₂O)₂]Cl₂ (**2**), respectively. Complex **1** has a metallacyclopentane structure with a metal-to-ligand ratio of 2:2. Each copper(II) ion adopts a pentacoordinate square-pyramidal geometry with a N₃Cl₂ coordination sphere. Complex **2** exhibits an extended chain structure based on {Co₂(*m*-H₃tpat)₂} metallacyclic repeating units.

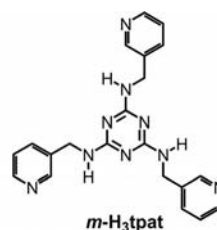
Each cobalt(II) ion adopts a hexacoordinate octahedral geometry with a N₂O₄ coordination environment. Note that the *m*-H₃tpat ligand exists in a *cis-cis-cis* conformation in **1** and a *cis-trans-trans* conformation in **2**, with the central aminotriazine moiety appearing to be an asymmetric-configured all-amino tautomer in both conformers. The stabilities of the two coordination-directed structures may be enhanced by intramolecular π – π interactions between two pyridine rings from two different *m*-H₃tpat ligands within the metallacyclopentane structure of **1** and by a set of complementary double hydrogen bonds (DA–AD arrays) between two aminotriazine moieties of two *m*-H₃tpat ligands within a metallacyclic unit for **2**.

Introduction

During the past two decades, tremendous effort has been devoted to the targeted construction of discrete and/or polymeric metallasupramolecular assemblies from tailored molecular components through metal–ligand direct coordination bonds and/or noncovalent interactions.^[1–3] So far, a variety of organic *exo*-donating ligands have been used to achieve the target structures. Among the limitless choices, semi-rigid ligands provide efficient building blocks for the development of functional metallasupramolecular assemblies.^[4–24] In general, a well-designed semi-rigid ligand has an inherent conformationally flexible yet restricted molecular structure that can self-adjust its conformation so as to adapt to a change in the self-assembled systems and to saturate the geometric requirements of different metal ions. In other words, with conformational flexibility and low symmetry, semi-rigid ligands can display many more coordination modes than rigid ligands, leading to the formation of metallasupramolecular assemblies with interesting topologies and properties.^[4–25] This, unfortunately, also means that it is difficult to predict exactly the structure of the infinite

coordination complexes when using semi-rigid ligands as molecular blocks.

On the other hand, aminotriazine derivatives are attractive due to their important hydrogen donor–acceptor abilities, which dominate potential complementary supramolecular recognitions, as well as their coordinative features.^[20,26–29] The hydrogen bonds that form between the central triazine ring and the outer-ring –NH– groups have been intensively examined in crystal engineering as directional interactions that play an important role in constructing the resulting supramolecular structures.^[20,30] Therefore we focused our attention on a novel aminotriazine-derived tripodal ligand, 2,4,6-tris(3-picolylamino)-1,3,5-triazine, abbreviated as *m*-H₃tpat, with highly flexible aminomethylene (–NHCH₂–) arms functionalized by 3-pyridyl donating groups. Herein we report on the synthesis and characterization of the *m*-H₃tpat ligand, a copper(II)-based dinuclear coordination metallacyclopentane structure, and a cobalt(II)-based one-dimensional coordination chain array based on {M₂L₂} metallacyclic repeating units.



[a] Department of Applied Chemistry, National Chi Nan University, Nantou 545, Taiwan
Fax: +886-49-2917956
E-mail: jyunwu@ncnu.edu.tw

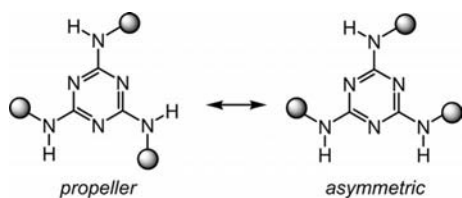
Supporting information for this article is available on the WWW under <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/ejic.201001333>.

Results and Discussion

Synthesis, Characterization, and Structural Properties of *m*-H₃tpat

The designed tripodal pyridine-amine-triazine ligand, *m*-H₃tpat, was prepared in moderate yields (74%) by the reaction of cyanuric chloride with 3-picolyamine using triethylamine as the base in THF at 80 °C for 48 h. The molecular structure was characterized by NMR, mass spectrometry, and elemental analysis (Figures S1–S3).

As shown in Scheme 1, *m*-H₃tpat may adopt propeller and asymmetric conformers owing to restricted rotation about the amino–triazine bond.^[31] In addition, with the flexible, freely rotating aminomethylene (–NHCH₂–) arms, it may also form *cis–cis–cis* (all three pyridyl donors lying above or below the basal aminotriazine plane) and *cis–trans–trans* conformations (two pyridyl donors lying above the basal aminotriazine plane and one pyridyl donor below). Moreover, the coordinative directions of the 3-pyridyl donating groups may also be taken into account. Therefore a variety of ligand conformations can be expected. Unfortunately, it appears to be difficult to produce a well-defined structure of the tripodal *m*-H₃tpat ligand by precisely controlling the experimental conditions because these conformers can interconvert.^[31] This is consistent with the results of a ¹H NMR study performed at room temperature; broadened signals were observed, which indicates possible dynamic behavior between conformers in the solution state (Figure S1).^[31]



Scheme 1. Possible conformers of the *m*-H₃tpat ligand.

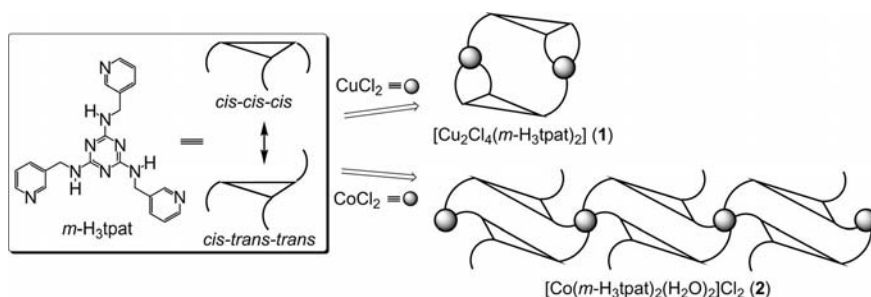
Synthesis and Crystal Structure of [Cu₂Cl₄(*m*-H₃tpat)₂]·2H₂O·2EtOH (1·2H₂O·2EtOH)

Slow diffusion of an ethanol solution of *m*-H₃tpat into an aqueous solution of CuCl₂ with a mixture of EtOH and H₂O as buffer at room temperature yielded a blue crystal-

line product (Scheme 2), formulated as [Cu₂Cl₄(*m*-H₃tpat)₂]·2H₂O·2EtOH (1·2H₂O·2EtOH) on the basis of a single-crystal X-ray diffraction analysis.

Compound **1** adopts a discrete coordination metallacyclopentane structure with a metal-to-ligand ratio of 2:2 (Figure 1). Each copper(II) ion is pentacoordinated to three *N*-coordinating pyridyl groups belonging to two different *m*-H₃tpat ligands and two chloro ligands pointing away from the cavity of the cyclic structure. This N₃Cl₂ coordination sphere, which has a τ value of 0.17,^[32] can be described as having a square-pyramidal geometry. The “axial” Cu–Cl₂ bond length is 2.4316(13) Å (Table 1), which contrasts with the shorter “equatorial” Cu–Cl₁ bond length of 2.3174(11) Å, reasonably attributed to the influence of Jahn–Teller distortion of the d⁹-configured Cu^{II} ion. The *m*-H₃tpat ligand adopts a *cis–cis–cis* conformation in which the aminotriazine moiety appears to be an asymmetric-configured all-amino tautomer with all three pyridyl donating groups bridging two copper ions separated by 9.22 Å. The two *syn–syn* oriented pyridyl donors chelate to the same copper ion and the other one, which has *syn–anti* and *anti–anti* orientations relative to the former two, respectively, coordinates to the second. The three terminal pyridine rings are slightly off-perpendicular to each other with dihedral angles of around 68, 84, and 86°, and two of them are also slightly off-perpendicular to the central triazine ring with dihedral angles of 79 and 88° with the last adopting an off-parallel orientation (the dihedral angle is 21°). On the other hand, only two of the three pyridyl donating groups of the *m*-H₃tpat ligand form the walls of the cyclic structure, the third being inside the cavity and making contact with another pyridyl unit from the second *m*-H₃tpat ligand of the metallacyclopentane through intramolecular π – π interactions. This π -stacking is offset with a centroid...centroid distance of 3.95 Å, a plane...plane distance of 3.35 Å, a horizontal displacement of 2.10 Å, and an angle of 32° between the ring normal and the centroid vector. However, it plays a role in stabilizing the whole metallacyclopentane structure.

Each metallacyclopentane interconnects with neighboring molecules through pertinent N_{amine}–H...Cl–Cu hydrogen bonds [N5...Cl1 3.261(4) Å; N5–H102...Cl1 159°; Table S1] between amine hydrogen atoms and the equatorial chloro [Cl(1)] ligands. The one-dimensional supramolecular polycyclic chain thus-obtained runs along the crystallographic *b* axis (Figure 2, a). Consequently, as the metallacyclopentanes



Scheme 2. Synthesis of discrete metallacyclopentane **1** and polymeric coordinative chain structure **2**.

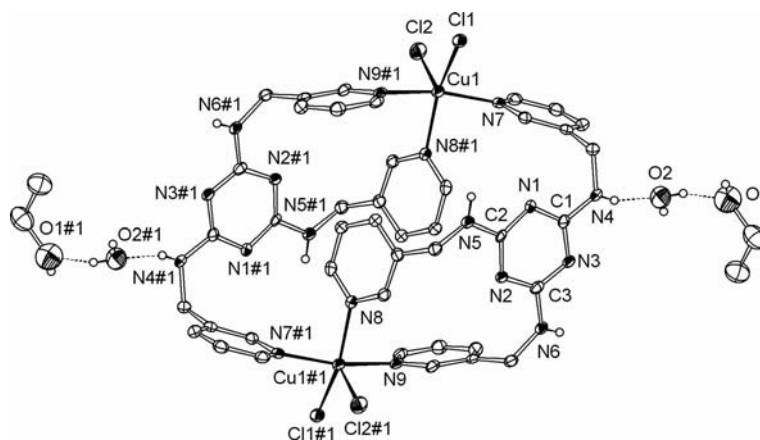


Figure 1. ORTEP drawing of the crystal structure of **1**·2H₂O·2EtOH showing the coordination environment around the metal ions and the coordination mode of *m*-H₃tpat with selected numbering scheme. Pertinent N_{amine}–H...O_{water} and O_{water}–H...O_{ethanol} hydrogen bonds are represented by dotted lines. The carbon-bonded hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level. Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: #1: $-x + 2, -y + 1, -z$.

Table 1. Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°] for **1**·2H₂O·2EtOH and **2**.^[a]

1·2H ₂ O·2EtOH		2	
Cu1–N7	2.000(4)	Co1–O1	2.0823(13)
Cu1–N9 ^{#1}	2.014(4)	Co1–O1 ^{#1}	2.0823(13)
Cu1–N8 ^{#1}	2.109(3)	Co1–N9 ^{#2}	2.1838(16)
Cu1–Cl1	2.3174(11)	Co1–N9 ^{#3}	2.1838(16)
Cu1–Cl2	2.4316(13)	Co1–N7	2.2060(16)
		Co1–N7 ^{#1}	2.2060(16)
N7–Cu1–N9 ^{#1}	164.31(15)	O1 ^{#1} –Co1–O1	180.0
N7–Cu1–N8 ^{#1}	87.06(13)	O1 ^{#1} –Co1–N9 ^{#2}	92.50(6)
N9 ^{#1} –Cu1–N8 ^{#1}	86.10(13)	O1–Co1–N9 ^{#2}	87.50(6)
N7–Cu1–Cl1	89.52(10)	O1 ^{#1} –Co1–N9 ^{#3}	87.50(6)
N9 ^{#1} –Cu1–Cl1	90.45(10)	O1–Co1–N9 ^{#3}	92.50(6)
N8 ^{#1} –Cu1–Cl1	153.97(11)	O1 ^{#1} –Co1–N7 ^{#1}	87.97(5)
N7–Cu1–Cl2	99.04(11)	O1–Co1–N7 ^{#1}	92.03(5)
N9 ^{#1} –Cu1–Cl2	96.12(11)	O1 ^{#1} –Co1–N7	92.03(6)
N8 ^{#1} –Cu1–Cl2	101.07(10)	O1–Co1–N7	87.97(5)
Cl1–Cu1–Cl2	104.95(4)	N9 ^{#2} –Co1–N9 ^{#3}	180.0
		N9 ^{#2} –Co1–N7 ^{#1}	86.05(6)
		N9 ^{#3} –Co1–N7 ^{#1}	93.95(6)
		N9 ^{#2} –Co1–N7	93.95(6)
		N9 ^{#3} –Co1–N7	86.05(6)
		N7 ^{#1} –Co1–N7	180.0

[a] Symmetry codes for **1**, #1: $-x + 2, -y + 1, -z$; symmetry codes for **2**, #1: $-x, -y + 1, -z + 2$; #2: $-x, -y + 2, -z + 1$; #3: $x, y - 1, z + 1$.

stack exactly atop of each other, small infinite open channels naturally form along the crystallographic *b* axis, in which lattice water and ethanol molecules reside forming numerous N–H...O_{water}, O_{water}–H...O_{ethanol}, O_{water}–H...N, and O_{ethanol}–H...Cl–Cu hydrogen bonds [D...A 2.788(7)–3.162(5) Å; D–H...A 146–170°; Figure S4]. Interestingly, two *m*-H₃tpat ligands, each owning a DAD-type aminotriazine moiety, and two lattice water molecules, which potentially serve pseudo-ADA-type hydrogen-bonding motifs, dominate the formation of two sets of inversion-center-related sequenced pseudo-complementary DAD–ADA triple hydrogen bonds (Figure S5). The supramolecular polycyclic chains pack through the formation of intermolecular π – π interactions between two triazine cores of two *m*-H₃tpat li-

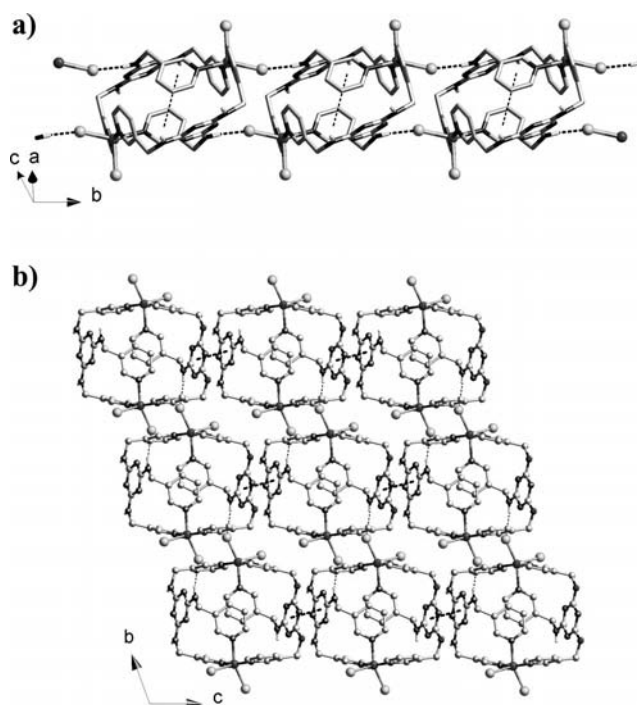


Figure 2. a) Hydrogen-bond (N_{amine}–H...Cl–Cu)-assisted supramolecular chain structure of **1** running along the crystallographic *b* axis. b) Supramolecular sheeted arrays in the *bc* plane, supported by weak intermolecular π – π interactions (dashed lines) and N_{amine}–H...Cl–Cu hydrogen bonds (dotted lines).

gands of two neighboring metallacyclophanes, which show a centroid contact of 3.57 Å, a plane...plane distance of 3.21 Å, a horizontal displacement of 1.56 Å, and an angle of 26° between the ring normal and the centroid vector, giving rise to a sheeted supramolecular assembly in the *bc* plane (Figure 2, b). Similarly, another type of sheeted supramolecular assembly forms in the *ab* plane due to a second type of intermolecular π – π interactions between two parallel out-of-cavity pyridine rings of two close *m*-H₃tpat ligands from two neighboring metallacyclophanes in two

$N_{\text{amine}}\text{--H}\cdots\text{Cl}\cdots\text{Cu}$ hydrogen-bond-assisted supramolecular chains (Figure S6). Here, the ring normal and the vector between the ring centroids form an angle of about 27° and the centroid contact, the plane \cdots plane distance, and the horizontal displacement are 3.63, 3.25, and 1.62 Å, respectively. However, such an offset π -stacking interaction also has a contribution from a π - σ attraction, which increases with increasing offset.^[33]

Synthesis and Crystal Structure of $[\text{Co}(m\text{-H}_3\text{tpat})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]\text{Cl}_2$ (**2**)

Slow diffusion of a methanol solution of *m*-H₃tpat into an aqueous solution of CoCl₂ with a mixture of MeOH and H₂O as buffer at room temperature yielded a pale-pink crystalline product characterized as $[\text{Co}(m\text{-H}_3\text{tpat})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]\text{Cl}_2$ (**2**; Scheme 2).

As shown in Figure 3, the asymmetric unit contains half of a cobalt ion lying on an exact crystallographic inversion center and one *m*-H₃tpat ligand, one coordinated aqua ligand, and one chloride counteranion in general positions. The hexacoordinate cobalt(II) ion is in an octahedral environment comprising of two crystallographically related pairs of *N*-coordinating pyridyl moieties belonging to four different *m*-H₃tpat ligands [Co–N 2.1838(16)–2.2060(16) Å; Table 1] and two *trans*-coordinating aqua ligands [Co–O 2.0823(13) Å]. The *m*-H₃tpat ligand exists in a *cis*–*trans*–*trans* conformation with an asymmetric-configured all-amino resonant aminotriazine moiety. Only two of the three pyridyl donating groups in the *m*-H₃tpat ligand, which have a relative *anti*–*anti* orientation, are involved in the binding of the two cobalt ions separated by 15.26 Å, therefore leaving the third one uncoordinated. Unlike in the case of **1**, the three terminal pyridine rings are neither perpendicular nor parallel to each other as the dihedral angles be-

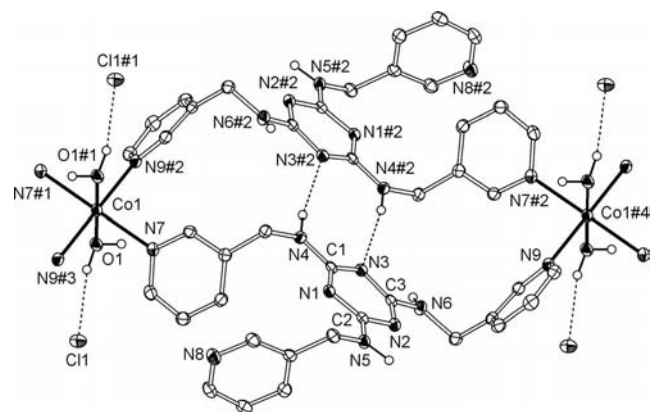


Figure 3. ORTEP drawing of the fundamental repeating unit of **2** showing the coordination environment around the metal ions and the coordination mode of the *m*-H₃tpat ligand with selected numbering scheme. Pertinent $O_{\text{aqua}}\text{--H}\cdots\text{Cl}$ and $N_{\text{amine}}\text{--H}\cdots N_{\text{triazine}}$ hydrogen bonds are represented by dotted lines. Carbon-bonded hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level. Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms, #1: $-x, -y + 1, -z + 2$; #2: $-x, -y + 2, -z + 1$; #3: $x, y - 1, z + 1$; #4: $x, y + 1, z - 1$.

tween them are around 53° , 61° , and 66° , respectively. However, they are all nearly perpendicular to the central triazine ring with slight deviations of ca. $1\text{--}15^\circ$ (the three dihedral angles are ca. 75° , 76° , and 89° , respectively).

The coordination-directed motif of **2** suits an extended cationic chain structure with metallacyclic repeating units of $\{\text{Co}_2(m\text{-H}_3\text{tpat})_2\}$ running along the crystallographic *c* axis (Figure 4, a). Of particular interest, the two *m*-H₃tpat ligands from the same $\{\text{Co}_2(m\text{-H}_3\text{tpat})_2\}$ metallacycle form a set of complementary double $N_{\text{amine}}\text{--H}\cdots N_{\text{triazine}}$ hydrogen bonds with $N\cdots N$ distances of 3.151(2) Å between the two aminotriazine moieties (see Table S1, Supporting Information), which undoubtedly increase the stability of the coordinative chain structure. Through chain-to-chain $O_{\text{aqua}}\text{--H}\cdots N_{\text{py}}$ hydrogen bonds [$O\cdots N$ 2.765(2) Å] between the coordinated aqua ligands and the uncoordinated pyridyl groups of the *m*-H₃tpat ligands, the coordinative chain can extend into a supramolecular sheeted structure further supported by $N_{\text{amine}}\text{--H}\cdots\text{Cl}$ hydrogen bonds (Figure 4, b). The chloride counteranions act as key hinges in organizing the overall three-dimensional supramolecular network through mainly $O_{\text{aqua}}\text{--H}\cdots\text{Cl}$ and $N_{\text{amine}}\text{--H}\cdots\text{Cl}$ hydrogen-bonding interactions [$O/N\cdots\text{Cl}$ 3.0618(14)–3.3727(17) Å] and also weaker $\text{C--H}\cdots\text{Cl}$ interactions [$\text{C}\cdots\text{Cl}$ 3.612(2)–3.646(2) Å; Figure S7]. However, no pertinent directed π - π interactions are observed. On the other hand, in view of the anion coordination,^[34] it is worth noting that the chloride anion has a coordination number of five, which forms contacts with two $N_{\text{amine}}\text{--H}$, one $O_{\text{aqua}}\text{--H}$, one $\text{C}_{\text{py}}\text{--H}$, and one $\text{C}_{\text{alkyl}}\text{--H}$ hydrogen atom (Figure S8).

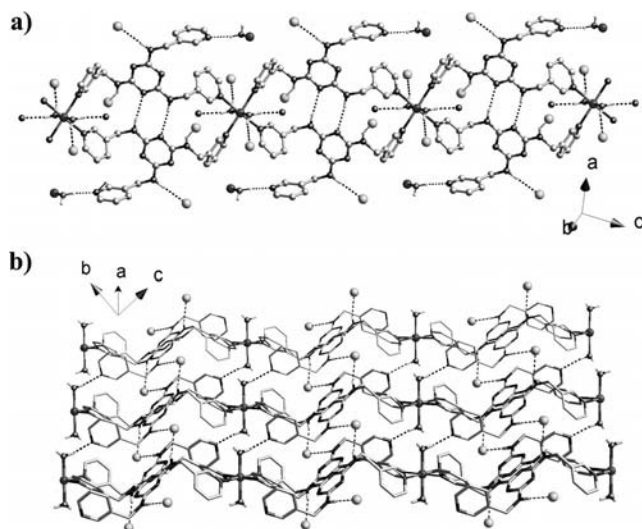


Figure 4. a) View of the coordinative chain structure in **2** illustrating the complementary double $N_{\text{amine}}\text{--H}\cdots N_{\text{triazine}}$ hydrogen bonds formed between the aminotriazine moieties. Other types of hydrogen-bonding interactions around the chain are also shown. b) View of the $O_{\text{aqua}}\text{--H}\cdots N_{\text{py}}$ and $N_{\text{amine}}\text{--H}\cdots\text{Cl}$ hydrogen-bond-assisted two-dimensional supramolecular sheet structure in **2**.

Thermogravimetric Analysis

Thermogravimetric (TG) analyses of the tripodal semi-rigid ligand *m*-H₃tpat, the discrete metallacyclophane

$1 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O} \cdot 2\text{EtOH}$, and the polymeric coordinative chain structure **2** were performed under nitrogen to examine the thermal stabilities of these compounds (Figure S9). The TG analysis of *m*-H₃tpat exhibits high thermal stability as no weight loss took place before the structure began to decompose on approaching 320 °C. The TG curve of the partially desolvated material $1 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O} \cdot 0.75\text{EtOH}$ illustrates that the lattice ethanol molecules were released between room temperature and 52 °C (found 3.0%, calcd. 3.0%), water molecules were lost between 170 and 200 °C (found 3.3%, calcd. 3.2%), and the metallacyclopentane structure of **1** decomposed when the temperature was raised to 235 °C. For **2**, the TG trace is largely unchanged until the two ligating water molecules per formula started to leave at temperatures between 150 and 185 °C (found 4.5%, calcd. 3.7%) with the coordination network decomposing at around 320 °C.

Conclusion

We have successfully synthesized a conformationally flexible, tripodal, semi-rigid ligand, *m*-H₃tpat, which was treated with copper(II) chloride and cobalt(II) chloride to yield a discrete Cu^{II}-based metallacyclopentane structure and a polymeric Co^{II}-based coordination chain structure with {Co₂(*m*-H₃tpat)₂} metallacyclic repeating units, respectively. The *m*-H₃tpat ligand in both complexes shows different geometries with a *cis-cis-cis* conformation existing in **1** and a *cis-trans-trans* conformation in **2**. However, the aminotriazine moiety of the *m*-H₃tpat ligand in both conformations appears to be an asymmetric-configured all-amino tautomer.

Experimental Section

Materials and Instruments: Chemical reagents were purchased commercially and were used as received without further purification. ¹H and ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectra were recorded with a Bruker AMX-300 Solution-NMR spectrometer. All chemical shifts are reported in δ units with reference to the residual protons of the deuterated solvent. Coupling constants are given in Hz. Matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization time-of-flight mass spectra (MALDI-TOF MS) were recorded with a Bruker Daltonics flexAnalysis mass spectrometer. Thermogravimetric (TG) analyses were performed under nitrogen with a Perkin–Elmer Pyris 1 TG analyzer. Infrared (IR) spectra were recorded with a Perkin–Elmer RX1 FT-IR spectrometer. Elemental analyses (C,H,N) were performed with an Elementar Vario EL III analytical instrument.

2,4,6-Tris(3-picolylamino)-1,3,5-triazine (*m*-H₃tpat): A solution of cyanuric chloride (1.84 g, 10.0 mmol) in THF (50 mL) was slowly added to a solution of 3-(aminomethyl)pyridine (3.57 g, 33.0 mmol) in THF (50 mL) in an ice–water bath. Triethylamine (6.68 mL, 66.0 mmol) was then added at room temperature. The mixture was stirred at 80 °C and the reaction was monitored by TLC. The reaction was completed in approximately 48 h. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was extracted with an aqueous solution of potassium carbonate [aq. K₂CO₃, 4 equiv.] and dichloromethane (2 × 50 mL) followed by H₂O/CH₂Cl₂. The organic extracts were combined and dried with anhydrous MgSO₄. The crude

product was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, MeOH/CH₂Cl₂ = 1:10 as eluent). If necessary, crystallization from MeOH/H₂O was performed to obtain the pure product as a pale-yellow solid; yield 74% (2.96 g, 7.42 mmol). ¹H NMR ([D₆]-DMSO): δ = 8.46 (br. d, *J* = 22 Hz, 3 H), 8.39 (br. s, 3 H), 7.59 (br. dd, *J* = 41, 6 Hz, 3 H), 7.38–7.12 (br. m, 6 H), 4.38 (br. s, 6 H) ppm. ¹³C{¹H} NMR ([D₆]-DMSO): δ = 165.96, 148.97, 147.94, 136.25, 135.16, 123.49, 41.22 ppm. IR (KBr pellet): ν̄ = 3424, 3250, 3112, 2945, 1629, 1539, 1509, 1449, 1407, 1359, 1317, 1216, 1162, 1102, 1072, 1030, 958, 922, 809, 785, 707, 618, 540, 432 cm^{−1}. MS (MALDI-TOF): *m/z* = 400.03 [M]⁺. C₁₂H₁₃N₃ (199.25): calcd. C 63.14, H 5.30, N 31.50; found C 63.12, H 5.31, N 31.61.

[Cu₂Cl₄(*m*-H₃tpat)₂]·2H₂O·2EtOH (1·2H₂O·2EtOH): A solution of *m*-H₃tpat (19.9 mg, 5.0 × 10^{−2} mmol) in EtOH (5 mL) was carefully layered on top of a mixture of EtOH/H₂O (6 mL, 1:1 v/v, middle) and a solution of CuCl₂ (26.9 mg, 2.0 × 10^{−1} mmol) in H₂O (5 mL, bottom) at room temperature. The solution was allowed to stand for approximately 3 weeks, which resulted in the formation of blue-colored plate-shaped crystals; yield 72% (21.6 mg, 1.8 × 10^{−2} mmol). IR (KBr pellet): ν̄ = 3783, 3435, 3328, 3071, 2969, 2933, 1563, 1526, 1437, 1413, 1359, 1329, 1162, 1114, 1060, 958, 934, 809, 707, 647, 527 cm^{−1}. C₄₂H₄₂Cl₄Cu₂N₁₈·6H₂O (1175.90): calcd. C 42.90, H 4.63, N 21.44; found C 42.71, H 4.67, N 21.02.

[Co(*m*-H₃tpat)₂(H₂O)₂]Cl₂ (2**):** A solution of *m*-H₃tpat (19.8 mg, 5.0 × 10^{−2} mmol) in MeOH (5 mL) was carefully layered on top of a mixture of MeOH/H₂O (6 mL, 1:1 v/v, middle) and a solution of CoCl₂ (25.9 mg, 1.9 × 10^{−1} mmol) in H₂O (5 mL, bottom) at room temperature. The solution was allowed to stand for approximately 3 months, which led to the formation of pale-pink crystals; yield 80% (19.4 mg, 2.0 × 10^{−2} mmol). IR (KBr pellet): ν̄ = 3741, 3262, 3112, 3041, 2939, 1610, 1563, 1532, 1503, 1431, 1341, 1192, 1150, 1114, 1054, 928, 809, 725, 635, 581, 516, 480, 420 cm^{−1}. C₄₂H₄₆Cl₂CoN₁₈O₂ (964.77): calcd. C 52.29, H 4.81, N 26.13; found C 51.56, H 4.84, N 25.86.

Crystal Structure Determination: Single-crystal X-ray diffraction analysis was performed by using a Bruker Smart CCD diffractometer equipped with graphite-monochromatized Mo-*K*_α radiation (λ = 0.71073 Å). Intensity data were collected at 296(2) K within the limits of 1.90° ≤ θ ≤ 25.13° for **1**·2H₂O·2EtOH and 1.59° ≤ θ ≤ 25.04° for **2**. Starting models for structure refinement were solved by direct methods using SIR92^[35] and the structural data were refined by full-matrix least-squares methods on *F*² using the WINGX^[36] and SHELX-97^[37] program packages. Anisotropic thermal factors were assigned to non-hydrogen atoms. Carbon-bonded hydrogen atoms were generated geometrically and assigned isotropic thermal parameters. Oxygen- and nitrogen-bonded hydrogen atoms were structurally evident in difference Fourier maps and refined isotropically in the riding-model approximation with bond length and angle restraints. Experimental details of X-ray data collection and refinements are summarized in Table 2.

CCDC-797542 (for **1**·2H₂O·2EtOH) and -797543 (for **2**) contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.

Supporting Information (see also the footnote on the first page of this article): NMR and MS spectra of *m*-H₃tpat (Figures S1–S3), additional structural diagrams for **1**·2H₂O·2EtOH (Figures S4–S6) and **2** (Figures S7 and S8), TG diagram (Figure S9), and hydrogen-bonding parameters for **1**·2H₂O·2EtOH and **2** (Table S1).

Table 2. Crystallographic data for 1·2H₂O·2EtOH and 2.

	1·2H ₂ O·2EtOH	2
Empirical formula	C ₄₆ H ₅₈ Cl ₄ Cu ₂ N ₁₈ O ₄	C ₄₂ H ₄₆ Cl ₂ CoN ₁₈ O ₂
<i>M_w</i>	1195.98	964.80
Crystal system	triclinic	triclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> $\bar{1}$	<i>P</i> $\bar{1}$
<i>a</i> [Å]	10.5935(6)	8.4202(2)
<i>b</i> [Å]	11.2647(5)	10.4541(3)
<i>c</i> [Å]	11.4417(6)	13.0111(3)
α [°]	110.344(2)	80.3150(10)
β [°]	92.304(3)	83.0550(10)
γ [°]	91.190(3)	72.5300(10)
<i>V</i> [Å ³]	1278.28(11)	1073.89(5)
<i>Z</i>	1	1
<i>T</i> [K]	296(2)	296(2)
λ [Å]	0.71073	0.71073
$\rho_{\text{calcd.}}$ [g cm ⁻³]	1.554	1.492
μ [mm ⁻¹]	1.105	0.586
<i>F</i> (000)	618	501
GOF	1.059	1.046
<i>R</i> ₁ ^[a] [<i>I</i> > 2σ(<i>I</i>)]	0.0522	0.0302
<i>wR</i> ₂ ^[b] [<i>I</i> > 2σ(<i>I</i>)]	0.1377	0.0770
<i>R</i> ₁ ^[a] (all data)	0.0712	0.0369
<i>wR</i> ₂ ^[b] (all data)	0.1511	0.0810
Largest diff. peak/hole [e Å ⁻³]	1.631/−0.663	0.571/−0.270

$$[a] R_1 = \frac{\sum |F_o| - |F_c|}{\sum |F_o|}$$

$$[b] wR_2 = \left\{ \frac{\sum [w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2]}{\sum [w(F_o^2)^2]} \right\}^{1/2}$$

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