

The Crystal Structure of the β -Form of Nickel(II) Dithiosemicarbazide Sulphate

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The β -form of nickel dithiosemicarbazide sulphate is monoclinic with space group $A2/a$ and cell dimensions $a=13.29$ Å, $b=6.74$ Å, $c=25.41$ Å, and $\beta=106.9^\circ$. The structure was determined from the three-dimensional Patterson function and by direct methods.

The data were measured on an automatic diffractometer, and refinement was carried out to an R -value of 5.0%. The structure contains two independent sets of complex ions, one of *trans*-planar, the other of *cis*-planar configuration. The Ni-S bond is significantly shorter in the *cis* complex than in the *trans* complex.

Crystallographic proof of the stereoisomerism of planar nickel complexes has not so far been given, and only a few complexes of this type have been prepared in different crystalline forms.

Jensen¹ prepared $\text{Ni}(\text{CH}_5\text{N}_3\text{S})_2\text{SO}_4$ in two different crystalline forms, which he considered *cis-trans* isomers. Single crystals of each of the two forms may be obtained without much difficulty, and this system was therefore considered suitable for a crystallographic investigation of *cis-trans* isomerism.

The so called α -form was found to be a trihydrate.² The complex ion has *trans*-planar configuration; the water is not coordinated to the nickel atom.

In a preliminary account³ it was shown that the β -compound contains two independent sets of complex-ions, one of *cis*- and another of *trans*-planar configuration.

The structure of the β -form has been redetermined with improved precision from three-dimensional counter-data for reliable comparison of bond lengths in the isomeric molecules. The Ni-S bond of the *cis* complex is significantly shorter than that of the *trans* complex.

EXPERIMENTAL

Preparation. The compound was prepared from thiosemicarbazide and $\text{NiSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$. In order to obtain crystals sufficiently large for an X-ray investigation the following procedure was adopted: Two small conical flasks, one containing $\text{NiSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ and the other thiosemicarbazide were immersed in a 2 l beaker of water which was kept at a

Table 1. Final atomic parameters.

a. Coordinates in fractions of the unit cell (standard deviations $\times 10^5$ in parentheses). For the hydrogen atoms the standard deviations $\times 10^4$ are given. Isotropic temperature factors, u , and their standard deviations, both in $\text{Å}^2 \times 10^{-4}$ are also given for these atoms.

	x	σx	y	σy	z	σz	u	σu
Ni _{cis}	0.25000	(0)	-0.10674	(8)	0.00000	(0)		
Ni _{tr}	0.00000	(0)	0.25000	(0)	0.25000	(0)		
S _{cis}	0.36508	(7)	0.11636	(11)	0.03495	(4)		
S _{tr}	0.07873	(7)	0.01611	(13)	0.21889	(4)		
C _{cis}	0.47258	(26)	-0.03829	(46)	0.05793	(13)		
C _{tr}	-0.03070	(25)	-0.12696	(47)	0.19129	(13)		
N _{1cis}	0.35619	(20)	-0.30706	(37)	0.02589	(12)		
N _{2cis}	0.45926	(22)	-0.23364	(38)	0.05214	(13)		
N _{3cis}	0.56780	(22)	0.03280	(42)	0.08154	(13)		
N _{1tr}	-0.13080	(22)	0.10963	(41)	0.22376	(13)		
N _{2tr}	-0.12372	(22)	-0.06767	(43)	0.19412	(14)		
N _{3tr}	-0.02286	(23)	-0.29712	(43)	0.16724	(13)		
S	0.20275	(7)	0.49234	(13)	0.12757	(4)		
O ₁	0.20427	(25)	0.27772	(44)	0.13704	(15)		
O ₂	0.11343	(21)	0.53917	(42)	0.07813	(12)		
O ₃	0.18887	(26)	0.59678	(65)	0.17549	(14)		
O ₄	0.30230	(23)	0.55696	(54)	0.11871	(14)		
H _{11cis}	0.3601	(46)	-0.3967	(104)	-0.0077	(25)	390	(180)
H _{12cis}	0.3358	(33)	-0.3965	(66)	0.0550	(18)	1	(103)
H _{2cis}	0.5258	(47)	-0.3278	(100)	0.0677	(24)	388	(180)
H _{31cis}	0.5669	(41)	0.1632	(86)	0.0820	(22)	218	(142)
H _{32cis}	0.6315	(39)	-0.0718	(85)	0.0940	(21)	203	(139)
H _{11tr}	-0.1752	(53)	0.0700	(125)	0.2539	(30)	693	(244)
H _{12tr}	-0.1770	(56)	0.1772	(141)	0.1979	(30)	805	(278)
H _{2tr}	-0.1821	(52)	-0.1281	(113)	0.1770	(28)	572	(218)
H _{31tr}	0.0399	(49)	-0.3403	(108)	0.1674	(26)	437	(188)
H _{32tr}	-0.0884	(49)	-0.3835	(105)	0.1520	(26)	436	(189)

b. Anisotropic temperature factor parameters, u_{ij} , (standard deviations in parentheses), in $\text{Å}^2 \times 10^{-4}$.

	u_{11}	σu_{11}	u_{22}	σu_{22}	u_{33}	σu_{33}	u_{12}	σu_{12}	u_{13}	σu_{13}	u_{23}	σu_{23}
Ni _{cis}	189	(3)	209	(3)	257	(4)	0	(0)	51	(3)	0	(0)
Ni _{tr}	210	(3)	240	(3)	283	(4)	-38	(3)	37	(3)	-19	(3)
S _{cis}	245	(5)	214	(4)	412	(6)	10	(4)	26	(4)	-41	(4)
S _{tr}	230	(5)	340	(5)	449	(6)	-79	(4)	100	(5)	-114	(5)
C _{cis}	234	(19)	262	(15)	270	(19)	1	(15)	42	(15)	-19	(15)
C _{tr}	251	(20)	274	(16)	269	(20)	-53	(15)	45	(16)	-18	(15)
N _{1cis}	204	(16)	211	(13)	345	(19)	-5	(12)	61	(14)	0	(13)
N _{2cis}	213	(16)	242	(13)	385	(20)	5	(13)	55	(14)	1	(14)
N _{3cis}	240	(18)	293	(15)	431	(21)	-20	(14)	47	(15)	-49	(15)
N _{1tr}	209	(17)	263	(15)	472	(23)	-5	(13)	17	(15)	-61	(15)
N _{2tr}	239	(18)	291	(15)	476	(23)	-35	(14)	60	(16)	-94	(16)
N _{3tr}	279	(19)	304	(15)	378	(20)	-25	(14)	99	(15)	-45	(15)
S	164	(4)	208	(3)	291	(5)	18	(3)	40	(4)	17	(3)
O ₁	333	(17)	238	(13)	672	(25)	-15	(13)	-39	(16)	150	(15)
O ₂	243	(14)	287	(13)	335	(17)	-6	(11)	-20	(12)	60	(12)
O ₃	310	(18)	778	(27)	431	(20)	140	(19)	18	(15)	-207	(20)
O ₄	237	(16)	514	(18)	512	(21)	-47	(14)	131	(15)	193	(17)

temperature of 90°C; the components mixed by diffusion. After several days a crop of well developed crystals formed in the flask which had originally contained the thiosemicarbazide.

A crystal fragment of dimensions 0.3 × 0.4 × 0.2 mm³ was used for the collection of intensities. Unit cell dimensions were obtained from precession photographs taken with CuK α and with MoK α radiation. Preliminary three-dimensional intensity data were measured from integrated equi-inclination Weissenberg, Rinsky-retigraph-, and precession films.³

Later when a linear diffractometer of the Arndt-Phillips type⁴ became available a more complete and uniform set of data was collected using Mo-radiation, balanced filters, (SrO, ZrO₂), and a pulse height analyser. Reflexions within a hemisphere of radius $\sin\theta/\lambda=0.72$ were measured. An ALGOL program was written which evaluated intensities, calculated averages, Lp corrections, and standard deviations, and checked for errors. No absorption correction was made ($\mu_{\text{Mo}}=24 \text{ cm}^{-1}$).

CRYSTAL DATA

Crystal system: monoclinic (*b* unique).

Unit cell: $a=13.29\pm 0.03 \text{ \AA}$, $b=6.74\pm 0.01 \text{ \AA}$, $c=25.41\pm 0.05 \text{ \AA}$; $\beta=106.9\pm 0.3^\circ$
 $d_{\text{obs}}=2.06 \text{ g/cm}^3$, $d_{\text{calc}}=2.055 \text{ g/cm}^3$.

8 moles of Ni(CH₅N₃S)₂SO₄ per unit cell.

No piezoelectric effect could be detected.

Systematic absences: hkl for $k+l$ odd

$h0l$ for h odd

Possible space groups: Aa and $A2/a$.

Coordinates and temperature factor parameters at the end of the refinement are given in Table 1. Table 2 is a list of observed and calculated structure factors and Table 3 gives distances and angles.

STRUCTURE DETERMINATION

Using the photographic data the structure was first solved from the three-dimensional Patterson function. The assumption that Ni was in a general 8 fold position of $A2/a$ was found incompatible with the Patterson function. The possibility that Ni should be in two 4-fold positions in Aa led to a solution which could be described in $A2/a$ with Ni on two sets of special positions, one on a centre of symmetry, the other on a twofold axis. This implied that one complex ion had the *trans*-planar, the other the *cis*-planar configuration. The sulphur atoms and most of the light atoms could be found from the Patterson map.

To test this unexpected solution "direct methods" were applied. The coincidence method⁵ was applied to two sets of reflexions: $0kl+1kl$, and $0kl+5kl$; the odd layer lines were chosen because here $F_{hki}=-F_{\bar{h}\bar{k}i}$. Both sets gave the same signs for 28 $0kl$ reflexions and also gave the signs of $1kl$ and $5kl$ reflexions. From this initial set of signs a systematic application of the triple product sign relationship led to the determination of the signs of 410 of the strongest reflexions. 386 of these turned out to be correct.

Table 2. Observed and calculated structure factors (10x absolute).

Table with columns for h, k, l, F_obs, F_calc, and multiple columns of numerical data representing structure factors for various hkl indices.

Table 2. Continued.

h	k	1	2051	Final	5	h	16	293	337	10	h	4	531	542	0	5	15	367	-374	5	h	415	336	-382	10	5	-17	72	84	k		
1	h	4	662	450	5	h	18	0	34	10	h	-2	95	91	0	5	17	136	-118	5	h	-13	101	137	10	5	-17	383	40	k		
1	h	4	91	-71	5	h	20	401	303	10	h	2	01	-136	0	5	21	150	-205	5	h	-11	409	-395	10	5	-13	643	604	k		
1	h	4	742	712	5	h	24	197	114	10	h	2	01	-136	0	5	23	228	-349	5	h	-7	894	-871	10	5	-9	397	382	k		
1	h	10	81	-96	5	h	26	272	281	10	h	2	01	-136	0	5	25	240	-513	5	h	-5	37	45	10	5	-7	304	395	k		
1	h	12	551	525	5	h	32	188	260	10	h	8	610	611	0	5	27	277	-453	5	h	-1	122	-99	10	5	-5	362	314	k		
1	h	16	64	57	5	h	36	34	-133	10	h	10	198	-139	0	5	29	396	-267	5	h	-1	732	710	10	5	-3	894	717	k		
1	h	16	83	-66	5	h	40	106	147	10	h	12	303	-27	0	5	31	489	49	82	5	h	-1	960	-822	10	5	-1	1160	1170	k	
1	h	18	163	135	5	h	44	283	179	10	h	14	125	140	0	5	33	153	-192	5	h	5	153	-133	10	5	-1	1330	321	k		
1	h	20	66	-19	5	h	48	648	699	10	h	16	435	456	0	5	35	247	312	5	h	5	412	-416	10	5	-3	582	397	k		
1	h	22	0	52	5	h	52	192	-192	10	h	18	244	-194	0	5	37	253	-275	5	h	7	346	361	10	5	-5	656	361	k		
1	h	24	76	-40	5	h	56	748	716	10	h	20	306	304	0	5	39	258	259	5	h	9	545	-243	10	5	-7	369	396	k		
1	h	26	192	11	5	h	60	451	411	11	h	22	400	0	-10	5	41	378	-407	5	h	11	637	570	10	5	-9	89	96	k		
1	h	28	0	11	5	h	64	-116	1694	1675	11	h	24	103	-5	0	5	43	-17	-27	5	h	13	262	-248	10	5	-11	249	261	k	
1	h	30	0	128	5	h	68	658	-478	11	h	26	208	-207	0	5	45	184	-438	5	h	15	420	270	10	5	-13	115	-47	k		
2	h	32	363	336	5	h	72	122	995	900	11	h	28	155	-98	0	5	47	103	-96	5	h	17	446	-419	10	5	-15	158	-40	k	
2	h	34	230	-238	5	h	76	-110	178	105	11	h	30	75	-52	0	5	49	103	-102	5	h	19	190	155	10	5	-17	0	13	k	
2	h	36	472	430	5	h	80	160	810	0	11	h	32	201	0	-96	5	51	434	440	5	h	21	109	-44	10	5	-19	427	68	k	
2	h	38	-24	179	-141	5	h	84	-1052	-1029	11	h	34	5	-55	0	5	53	-73	-137	5	h	23	77	33	10	5	-21	119	134	k	
2	h	40	-28	305	353	5	h	88	150	-1360	11	h	36	10	-376	0	5	55	376	-444	5	h	25	244	-240	10	5	-23	176	-121	k	
2	h	42	-32	691	-649	5	h	92	453	433	11	h	38	125	-105	0	5	57	-229	-481	5	h	27	39	89	10	5	-25	189	189	k	
2	h	44	-36	812	808	5	h	96	0	347	313	11	h	40	125	-953	0	5	59	-170	853	5	h	29	446	421	10	5	-27	133	120	k
2	h	46	-40	993	999	5	h	100	56	52	42	11	h	42	101	-76	0	5	61	378	-497	5	h	31	407	301	10	5	-29	301	307	k
2	h	48	-44	1166	1166	5	h	104	997	995	11	h	44	106	-71	0	5	63	761	757	5	h	33	283	188	10	5	-31	88	-28	k	
2	h	50	-48	1340	1340	5	h	108	1350	1255	11	h	46	92	-75	0	5	65	965	-967	5	h	35	208	190	10	5	-33	234	229	k	
2	h	52	-52	1504	1504	5	h	112	1369	1305	11	h	48	0	-31	0	5	67	75	-85	5	h	37	861	842	10	5	-35	201	-207	k	
2	h	54	-56	1678	1678	5	h	116	1379	1294	11	h	50	269	-255	0	5	69	1073	-1082	5	h	39	421	432	10	5	-37	242	230	k	
2	h	56	-60	1852	1852	5	h	120	1394	1301	11	h	52	330	-330	0	5	71	181	182	5	h	41	302	296	10	5	-39	242	242	k	
2	h	58	-64	2026	2026	5	h	124	1409	1309	11	h	54	409	-409	0	5	73	215	216	5	h	43	474	468	10	5	-41	242	242	k	
2	h	60	-68	2200	2200	5	h	128	1424	1316	11	h	56	488	-488	0	5	75	249	-249	5	h	45	547	541	10	5	-43	242	242	k	
2	h	62	-72	2374	2374	5	h	132	1439	1323	11	h	58	567	-567	0	5	77	283	-283	5	h	47	620	614	10	5	-45	242	242	k	
2	h	64	-76	2548	2548	5	h	136	1454	1338	11	h	60	646	-646	0	5	79	317	-317	5	h	49	693	687	10	5	-47	242	242	k	
2	h	66	-80	2722	2722	5	h	140	1469	1353	11	h	62	725	-725	0	5	81	351	-351	5	h	51	766	760	10	5	-49	242	242	k	
2	h	68	-84	2896	2896	5	h	144	1484	1368	11	h	64	804	-804	0	5	83	385	-385	5	h	53	839	833	10	5	-51	242	242	k	
2	h	70	-88	3070	3070	5	h	148	1499	1383	11	h	66	883	-883	0	5	85	419	-419	5	h	55	912	906	10	5	-53	242	242	k	
2	h	72	-92	3244	3244	5	h	152	1514	1398	11	h	68	962	-962	0	5	87	453	-453	5	h	57	985	979	10	5	-55	242	242	k	
2	h	74	-96	3418	3418	5	h	156	1529	1413	11	h	70	1041	-1041	0	5	89	487	-487	5	h	59	1058	1052	10	5	-57	242	242	k	
2	h	76	-100	3592	3592	5	h	160	1544	1428	11	h	72	1118	-1118	0	5	91	521	-521	5	h	61	1131	1125	10	5	-59	242	242	k	
2	h	78	-104	3766	3766	5	h	164	1559	1443	11	h	74	1195	-1195	0	5	93	555	-555	5	h	63	1204	1198	10	5	-61	242	242	k	
2	h	80	-108	3940	3940	5	h	168	1574	1458	11	h	76	1272	-1272	0	5	95	589	-589	5	h	65	1277	1271	10	5	-63	242	242	k	
2	h	82	-112	4114	4114	5	h	172	1589	1473	11	h	78	1349	-1349	0	5	97	623	-623	5	h	67	1350	1344	10	5	-65	242	242	k	
2	h	84	-116	4288	4288	5	h	176	1604	1488	11	h	80	1426	-1426	0	5	99	657	-657	5	h	69	1423	1417	10	5	-67	242	242	k	
2	h	86	-120	4462	4462	5	h	180	1619	1503	11	h	82	1503	-1503	0	5	101	691	-691	5	h	71	1496	1490	10	5	-69	242	242	k	
2	h	88	-124	4636	4636	5	h	184	1634	1518	11	h	84	1580	-1580	0	5	103	725	-725	5	h	73	1569	1563	10	5	-71	242	242	k	
2	h	90	-128	4810	4810	5	h	188	1649	1533	11	h	86	1657	-1657	0	5	105	759	-759	5	h	75	1642	1636	10	5	-73	242	242	k	
2	h	92	-132	4984	4984	5	h	192	1664	1548	11	h	88	1734	-1734	0	5	107	793	-793	5	h	77	1715	1709	10	5	-75	242	242	k	
2	h	94	-136	5158	5158	5	h	196	1679	1563	11	h	90	1809	-18																	

STRUCTURE OF β -Ni(CN₂N₂S)₂SO₄

Table 2. Continued.

Table with 4 columns: h, k, l, Fobs. The table contains a grid of numerical data representing diffraction intensities for various hkl reflections. The data is organized in a regular grid format, with values ranging from approximately -100 to 300. The table is divided into several sections by vertical lines, corresponding to different ranges of hkl values.

A three-dimensional Fourier synthesis, calculated using the normalized structure factors (E-values) of these 410 reflexions as amplitudes, fully confirmed the interpretation of the Patterson function. All the light atoms except hydrogen atoms were found. The trial structure gave $R=28.9\%$; least squares refinement of coordinates and isotropic temperature factor coefficients lowered the R -value to 12.2% for 1640 reflexions.

When the diffractometer data became available, refinement was continued by means of a block diagonal least squares program including anisotropic temperature factor parameters. At $R=8.44\%$ a difference Fourier map was calculated and small peaks were found where hydrogen atoms were expected. When they were included R dropped to 7.25% . Further refinement reduced R to 5.0% for reflexions with $F_o^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)$. The weights used in the least squares refinement were $w=1/(\mu(F))^2$, where $\mu(F)=\sqrt{F^2+\sigma(F^2)}-F$; $\sigma(F^2)=\sigma(F^2)_{\text{count}}+p\cdot F^2$ where $\sigma(F^2)_{\text{count}}$ was the standard deviation estimated from the counting statistics and p a constant (0.02) which was adjusted so as to give a mean value of $w|F_o-F_c|^2$ which varied little with F . This was supposed to account for possible systematic errors in the data, due to, e.g., misalignment, cell constant errors, or extinction.

The scattering factors used are those of *International Tables*,⁶ Table B for Ni and Table A for the other atoms. They were approximated by Bassi polynomials.⁷

DISCUSSION

The most remarkable feature of this structure is the presence of both *cis*- and *trans*-isomers in one crystal. This has not so far been observed in any other structure, but shortly after this structure had been solved, three papers appeared describing the co-crystallisation of two forms of the same or nearly, the same complex. The green form of bis(benzylidiphenylphosphine) dibromo nickel(II) has two molecules with tetrahedrally coordinated nickel and one with the *trans* square planar configuration in the unit cell.⁸ The yellow modification of bis(meso-stilbenediamine) nickel(II) dichloroacetate contains one molecule of square planar configuration and two of octahedral coordination in the unit cell, the extra ligands being oxygen atoms from the anion.⁹ Octamethylcyclotetrasilazane forms eight membered rings and in the crystal two conformations, called "chair" and "cradle", are found, one round a centre of symmetry, the other round a twofold axis.¹⁰

Table 3 gives the bond lengths and angles. The distances given are both the values directly obtained from the coordinates and those corrected for thermal vibration effects. An analysis of the thermal parameters indicates that the complex ions except for the amide groups vibrate as rigid bodies. The amide groups are assumed to ride on the carbon atoms. The rigid body analysis was performed by Cruickshank's method¹¹ using a program written by Trueblood. The correction for riding motion was performed according to Busing and Levy¹² using their ORFFÉ program. For the following discussion it is of little importance which set of numbers is used.

The Ni—S bond lengths found are similar to those found in other planar complexes: 2.16 \AA in $\alpha\text{-NiThio}_2\text{SO}_4\cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$,² $2.155\pm 0.004 \text{ \AA}$ in thiosemi-

Table 3. Bond lengths and angles.

The distances obtained after correction for thermal vibration are given after the uncorrected distances. The standard deviations (in parentheses) do not include cell parameter errors.

Distance	<i>cis</i> -Planar ion			<i>trans</i> -Planar ion		
	(Å)	(Å × 10 ⁻³)	corr. (Å)	(Å)	(Å × 10 ⁻³)	corr. (Å)
Ni—S	2.145	(1)	2.149	2.165	(1)	2.169
Ni—N ₁	1.926	(3)	1.930	1.920	(3)	1.926
N ₁ —N ₂	1.426	(4)	1.428	1.430	(4)	1.431
S—C	1.727	(3)	1.731	1.716	(3)	1.721
C—N ₂	1.331	(4)	1.336	1.321	(5)	1.327
C—N ₃	1.323	(4)	1.331	1.318	(5)	1.323

Angles in degrees, standard deviation in degrees × 10⁻².

S—Ni—N ₁ (5-ring)	89.14	(9)	89.96	(12)
S—Ni—S'	90.95	(4)	180.00	
N ₁ —Ni—N ₁ '	91.08	(13)	180.00	
S—Ni—N ₁ '	175.40	(12)	90.04	(12)
Ni—S—C	97.81	(13)	96.72	(15)
Ni—N ₁ —N ₂	115.17	(18)	113.77	(22)
N ₁ —N ₂ —C	118.27	(25)	119.17	(26)
S—C—N ₂	119.29	(24)	120.21	(25)
S—C—N ₃	121.54	(24)	120.45	(27)
N ₂ —C—N ₃	119.17	(29)	119.34	(29)

The sulphate ion:

Distance	(Å)	(Å × 10 ⁻³)	corr. (Å)	Angle		
S—O ₁	1.466	(3)	1.490	O ₁ —S—O ₂	108.49	(17)
S—O ₂	1.490	(3)	1.499	O ₁ —S—O ₃	109.70	(24)
S—O ₃	1.464	(4)	1.494	O ₁ —S—O ₄	110.32	(21)
S—O ₄	1.471	(4)	1.492	O ₂ —S—O ₃	109.71	(19)
				O ₂ —S—O ₄	109.86	(19)
				O ₃ —S—O ₄	108.74	(21)

carbazonato-nickel,¹³ and 2.160 ± 0.008 Å in bis(maleonitriledithiolate) nickelate.¹⁴ In tris(mercaptoethyl)phosphine-nickel¹⁵ one Ni—S bond is 2.158 ± 0.006 Å and two others are 2.216 and 2.228 Å. The latter sulphur atoms are also bonded to another nickel atom, thus forming a four membered ring, for which the Ni—S distances of 2.20–2.25 Å seem characteristic (*e.g.* α -nickel-diethyldithiocarbamate¹⁶ and (Ni(SC₂H₅)₂)₆¹⁷). In octahedral complexes the Ni—S distances are much longer as could be expected: 2.4–2.5 Å, *e.g.* 2.462 ± 0.004 Å in dichlorotetrakisithiurea nickel.¹⁸

The Ni—S bond of the *cis*-complex in the present investigation is significantly shorter than that of the *trans*-complex. This could be expected since sulphur exhibits a stronger *trans* effect than an amino group does. It is believed that the observed difference is a reliable quantitative estimate of this effect, since many of the errors which can occur in a structure determination may be assumed to affect similar bonds in the same crystal in much the same way;

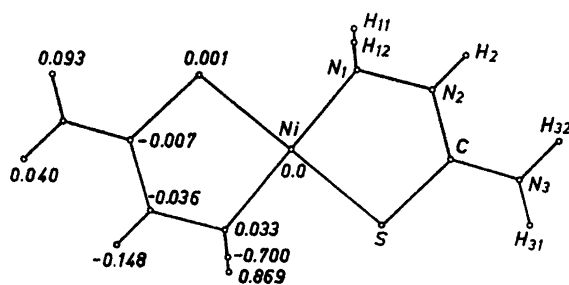


Fig. 1. The *trans*-complex projected on to the best plane through all atoms except hydrogen: The numbers indicate the distances of the atoms from this plane. The equation of the plane is:

$$0.0835 X + 0.4861 Y - 0.8699 Z = 7.6239.$$

in this connection it may be noticed that corresponding bonds in the two ligands deviate by no more than 1.5σ . Also any effects of strain or charge distribution within the ligands will be the same for both complexes.

The Ni—N bonds differ in such a way that they confirm the observed *trans* effect, although the standard deviations here are too large to allow a reliable conclusion. Similar Ni—N distances were found in α -NiThio₂SO₄·3H₂O² and Ni(CH₄SN₃)¹³ which are both *trans*-planar. Ni—N distances of 1.89–1.94 Å thus seem characteristic of square planar complexes with *sp*³-hybridized nitrogen; in complexes with trigonally hybridized nitrogen somewhat shorter Ni—N distances are observed, e.g. 1.85 Å in nickel dimethylglyoxime.¹⁹

The bond angles around Ni are close to 90° and the distances and angles in the organic ligand are the same as those of free thiosemicarbazide²⁰ suggesting that no strain is introduced by the complex formation. Both complexes are nearly but not quite planar. In the *trans*-complex (Fig. 1) the space group symmetry requires the coordination to be exactly planar but the three outer atoms of the ligand deviate from the plane. The coordination around the carbon atom is planar, the carbon atom being less than one standard deviation from the plane of its neighbours.

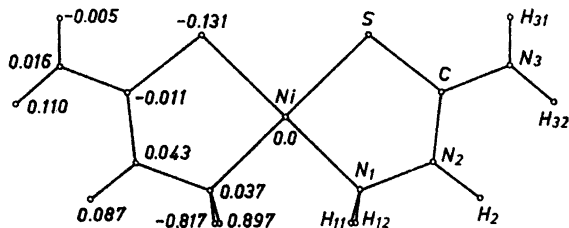


Fig. 2. The *cis*-complex projected on to the best plane through all atoms except hydrogen: The numbers indicate the distances of the atoms from this plane. The equation of the plane is:

$$0.4826 X - 0.8759 Z = -5.1690.$$

Table 4. Intermolecular distances (in Å) corresponding to possible hydrogen bonds.

	N _{1cis}	N _{2cis}	N _{3cis}	N _{1tr}	N _{2tr}	N _{3tr}
O ₁			2.859		2.721	
O ₂	2.974	2.844	2.954			
O ₃				3.075		2.851
O ₄	2.810					2.885

In the *cis* complex (Fig. 2) a slight tetrahedral deformation of the coordination plane is observed. Here also the outer part of the ligand plane is tilted somewhat with respect to the Ni—S—N₁ plane and the configuration around the carbon atoms is planar.

The packing of the ions is determined by the tendency to hydrogen bond formation. The positions of the hydrogen atoms were determined assuming that N₁ is *sp*³ hybridized and that the hydrogen atoms at N₂ and N₃ all lie in the plane of the ligand. These positions were confirmed from the difference-Fourier map. Eight hydrogen atoms are located so that the N—H bonds are close to pointing towards oxygen atoms corresponding to the shortest interionic

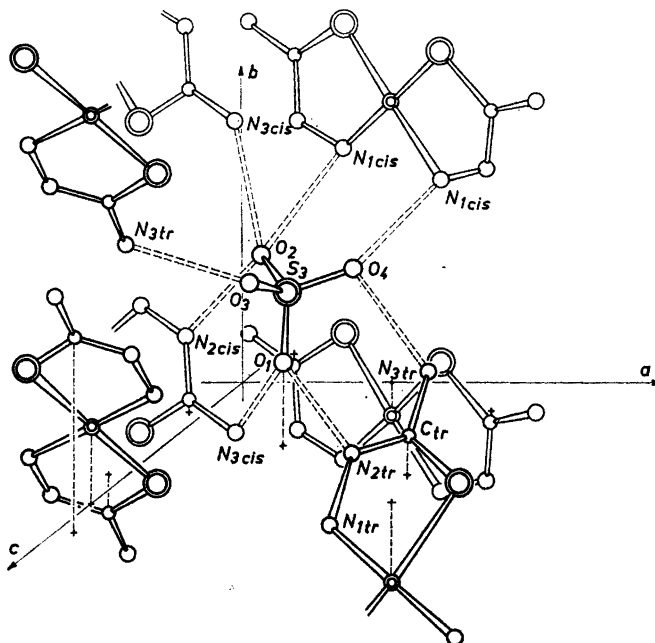


Fig. 3. Clinographic projection of part of the structure showing the hydrogen bonds.

distances found in the structure. The lengths of the hydrogen bonds are given in Table 4. The system of hydrogen bonding is shown in Fig. 3.

The sulphate ion is a practically regular tetrahedron. A rigid body motion does not account too well for the temperature factors found whereas the assumption that oxygen atoms perform a riding motion on sulphur leads to corrected distances which are very similar.

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