

Redetermination of the Crystal Structure of Chloropentamminecobalt(III) Dichloride

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The crystal structure of $[\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}]\text{Cl}_2$ has been redetermined from three-dimensional counter data at room temperature. The crystals are orthorhombic ($Pnma$) with lattice constants $a = 13.26$, $b = 10.34$, both ± 0.01 , and $c = 6.72 \pm 0.005$ Å. The structure is made up of molecular ions, $\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}^{2+}$ and Cl^- ions, separated by ordinary van der Waals distances. There is no evidence for a *trans* distortion of the Co–N bond by the Co–Cl bond. The four independent Co–N distances were found to be: 1.962 ± 0.004 , 1.964 ± 0.006 , 1.978 ± 0.006 and 1.998 ± 0.006 Å. The nitrogen associated with the longest Co–N distance appears to be involved in a N–Cl intermolecular hydrogen bond.

Introduction

We have been interested in the bond length changes that occur with *trans*-directing ligands in transition metal complexes. In some cases substantially different bond lengths have been found than would be expected from the sum of the covalent radii, e.g. in Pt(II) complexes with phosphines (Messmer & Amma, 1966; Messmer, Amma & Ibers, 1967). The previous X-ray investigation of chloropentamminecobalt(III) dichloride $[\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}]\text{Cl}_2$ reported a significantly shorter Co–N distance *trans* to the halogen compared with the other four Co–N distances (Shigeta, Komiyama & Kuroya, 1963). However, these results were based on only two-dimensional data and incomplete refinements. Further, these results have been used in the interpretation of the optical spectra of single crystals of Co(III) complexes (Wentworth & Piper, 1965). To clarify the situation regarding bond lengths in $\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}^{2+}2\text{Cl}^-$, we decided to reinvestigate the crystal structure by using counter data.

Experimental

$[\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}]\text{Cl}_2$ was prepared by the method of Hynes, Yanowski & Schiller (1938). Single crystals suitable for diffraction purposes were grown by slow evaporation of a warm, concentrated aqueous solution. A crystal $0.18 \text{ mm} \times 0.20 \text{ mm} \times 0.33 \text{ mm}$ was selected for X-ray diffraction intensity data. Since the absorption factor (μ) for this crystal with Mo $K\alpha$ radiation is only 27 cm^{-1} , no corrections were made for absorption.

Preliminary precession and Weissenberg data were used to establish the probable space groups. Calibrated precession photographs were used to find the cell constants. The crystals are orthorhombic with cell constants ($\lambda = 0.7107$ Å) $a = 13.26$, $b = 10.34$, both ± 0.01 and $c = 6.72$, ± 0.005 Å. The observed systematic absences (for $0kl$, $k+l=2n+1$, for $hk0$, $h=2n+1$) speci-

fied the possible space groups as $Pnma$ or $Pn2_1a$. The structure analysis established the space group as $Pnma$ (*vide infra*). There are four $[\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}]\text{Cl}_2$ entities per cell and the X-ray density is 1.81 g.cm^{-3} .

A total of 1011 independent pieces of hkl intensity data were collected with Zr-filtered Mo $K\alpha$ radiation on a Picker diffractometer with a General Electric single-crystal orienter. Backgrounds were estimated by stationary counting for 20 seconds at $\pm 0.67^\circ 2\theta$ from the peak maximum. The peaks were then scanned for 40 seconds by a $\theta-2\theta$ scan and the integrated intensity was simply taken as the total counts from the scan minus the sum of the two background counts. This assumes a linear variation in background through the peak. The stability of the generator and counting circuitry was checked by examining a standard reference peak every two hours.

Structure determination and refinement

Initially space group $Pnma$ (*International Tables for X-ray Crystallography*, 1952) was assumed. $Pnma$ has an eightfold set of general positions; hence, cobalt, one chlorine atom, and at least one of the nitrogen atoms in the asymmetric unit must be in special positions. In this space group there are three sets of fourfold special positions, two of which are centers of symmetry and one of which has mirror symmetry. With the molecule ion, $\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}^{2+}$, it is not possible to place the cobalt, chlorine or nitrogen atoms on centers of symmetry; but Co, Cl and at least one nitrogen atom can be placed on the mirror at $y = \frac{1}{4}$. An unsharpened three-dimensional Patterson* vector map indicated that not only cobalt, Cl(1) and one nitrogen N(1), but also N(2) and N(3) were in special positions; and N(4) and Cl(2) were in general positions. Cl(2) is the ionic chlorine, *i.e.* not directly bonded to the cobalt atom. The appropriate coordinates for all the atoms were found from this Patterson function. This assignment of atomic

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* Patterson and Fourier calculations performed with Sly-Shoemaker-van den Hende Fourier Program ERFR2 for the IBM 7090 computer.

Distances, angles and the respective errors are listed in Table 3. Root mean square thermal displacements along the principal axes of the thermal ellipsoids and the angle these axes make with an orthogonal coordinate system on the molecule ion are also listed in Table 4. The orientation of the molecular ions $\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}^{2+}$ in the unit cell and the molecular packing can be seen in Figs. 1 and 2.

Of the five Co-N distances in the $\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}^{2+}$ molecular ion two are symmetry related [Co-N(3), Co-N(3')] at 1.962 ± 0.004 Å and the other three are independent at [Co-N(1)] 1.964 ± 0.006 Å, [Co-N(2)] 1.978 ± 0.006 Å, and [Co-N(4)] 1.998 ± 0.006 . We do

not believe the differences between 1.962, 1.964 and 1.978 are statistically significant, not only because the differences are less than 3σ but also because their thermal motions are very similar (*vide infra* and Table 3). However, we believe the difference between the Co-N(4) distance and the other Co-N distances is real. An examination of the r.m.s. atomic amplitudes of motion along the principal axes of the thermal ellipsoid and the angles these ellipsoids make with the Co-Cl(1), Co-N(3') and Co-N(4) directions (Table 4) shows that these directions are to a good approximation the principal axes for all the non-hydrogen atoms in the $\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}^{2+}$ molecular ion. Further, the smal-

Table 3. *Interatomic distances and bond angles, and deviations from least-squares planes*

Intramolecular distances and errors		Intramolecular bond angles and errors	
Co—Cl(1)	2.286 ± 0.002 Å	N(1)—Co—N(3)	$91.0 \pm 0.1^\circ$
Co—N(1) apex	1.964 ± 0.006	N(1)—Co—N(4)	88.6 ± 0.3
Co—N(2)	1.978 ± 0.006	N(1)—Co—N(2)	91.6 ± 0.3
Co—N(3)	1.962 ± 0.004	Cl(1)—Co—N(2)	88.7 ± 0.2
Co—N(3')	1.962 ± 0.004	Cl(1)—Co—N(3)	89.0 ± 0.1
Co—N(4)	1.998 ± 0.006	Cl(1)—Co—N(4)	91.1 ± 0.2
Cl(1)—N(1)	> 4	Cl(1)—Co—N(1)	179.7 ± 0.2
Cl(1)—N(2)	2.989 ± 0.007	N(3)—Co—N(2)	90.2 ± 0.1
Cl(1)—N(3)	2.987 ± 0.004	N(3)—Co—N(4)	89.8 ± 0.1
Cl(1)—N(4)	3.065 ± 0.007	N(4)—Co—N(2)	179.8 ± 0.3
N(1)—N(2)	2.827 ± 0.009		
N(1)—N(3)	2.800 ± 0.006		
N(1)—N(4)	2.768 ± 0.010		
N(2)—N(3)	2.791 ± 0.006		
N(2)—N(4)	3.977 ± 0.009		
N(3)—N(4)	2.796 ± 0.006		
N(3)—N(3')	3.924 ± 0.008		
Intermolecular distances and errors			
Co—Cl(2)	4.179 ± 0.001 Å	Cl(2)—N(3')	3.554 ± 0.005 Å
Cl(1)—Cl(2)	5.801 ± 0.002	Cl(2)—N(3)	3.396 ± 0.004
N(1)—Cl(2)	3.458 ± 0.005	Cl(2)—N(4)	3.333 ± 0.005
N(2)—Cl(2)	3.559 ± 0.005	Cl(2)—N(2)	3.364 ± 0.004
Cl(2)—N(3)	3.379 ± 0.005	Cl(2)—Cl(1)	3.997 ± 0.002
Cl(2)—N(1)	3.387 ± 0.004	All others	> 4

Equations of best least-squares planes of the form $Ax + By + Cz - D = 0$.

(a) Through Co, N(2), N(3), N(3'), N(4)

A	-0.7703
B	-0.0000
C	-0.6376
D	+1.8496

Deviations from this plane

Co	-0.0006 Å	N(3')	0.0333 Å
N(2)	0.0033	N(4)	0.0036
N(3)	0.0333		

(b) Through Co, Cl(1), N(1), N(3), N(3')

A	0.6537
B	-0.0000
C	-0.7566
D	+0.0193

Deviations from this plane

Co	+0.0010 Å	N(3)	-0.0065 Å
Cl(1)	-0.0011	N(3')	-0.0065
N(1)	-0.0065		

(c) Plane through Co, Cl(1), N(1), N(2), N(4) is exact by symmetry requirements.

lest r.m.s. amplitude of motion for all the atoms but N(4) is in the Co–N(4) direction (approximately half that of the other two directions), but for N(4) the smallest r.m.s. amplitude (approximately half the other two) is in the Co–Cl(1) direction. An examination of Fig. 1 shows that the Co–Cl(1) direction is almost parallel to the N(4)–Cl(2) direction. Also Table 3 shows that the N(4)–Cl(2) intermolecular distance is the shortest N–Cl intermolecular distance. These facts lead us to believe

that N(4) is involved in a weak hydrogen bond to Cl(2) and this hydrogen bonding is what makes the Co–N(4) bond significantly longer than the other four Co–N distances. This hydrogen bond might involve two of the three hydrogen atoms on N(4) or a statistical disordering of these hydrogen atoms, but the answer to this question seems to be outside the limits of our data.

Hence, our average Co–N distance for comparison with other structures is 1.968 Å with a total spread of

Table 4. Root mean square displacements of atoms along the principal axes (1, 2, 3) of the thermal ellipsoids, and angles between these principal axes and the Co–Cl (α), Co–N(3') (β) and Co–N(4) (γ) directions

	Axis	(r^2) [†]	α	β	γ
Co	1	0.1074 0.0031 Å	90.0°	180.0°	90.0°
	2	0.1023 ± 0.0033	5.4	90.0	95.4
	3	0.0493 ± 0.0085	95.4	90.0	174.6
Cl(1)	1	0.1655 ± 0.0051	177.5	90.0	92.5
	2	0.1471 ± 0.0058	90.0	0.0	90.0
	3	0.0913 ± 0.0075	87.5	90.0	177.5
N(1)	1	0.2368 ± 0.0319	90.0	180.0	90.0
	2	0.1374 ± 0.0323	2.0	90.0	87.9
	3	0.0329 ± 0.0169	88.0	90.0	178.0
N(2)	1	0.2081 ± 0.0228	159.0	90.0	69.0
	2	0.1855 ± 0.0210	90.0	0.0	90.0
	3	0.0780 ± 0.0531	111.0	90.0	159.0
N(3)	1	0.2107 ± 0.0149	87.1	176.1	87.4
	2	0.1777 0.0139	3.0	87.1	89.2
	3	0.1299 ± 0.0170	89.0	92.6	177.2
N(4)	1	0.1864 ± 0.0196	83.8	90.0	173.8
	2	0.1290 ± 0.0218	90.0	0.0	90.0
	3	0.0786 ± 0.0423	173.8	90.0	96.2

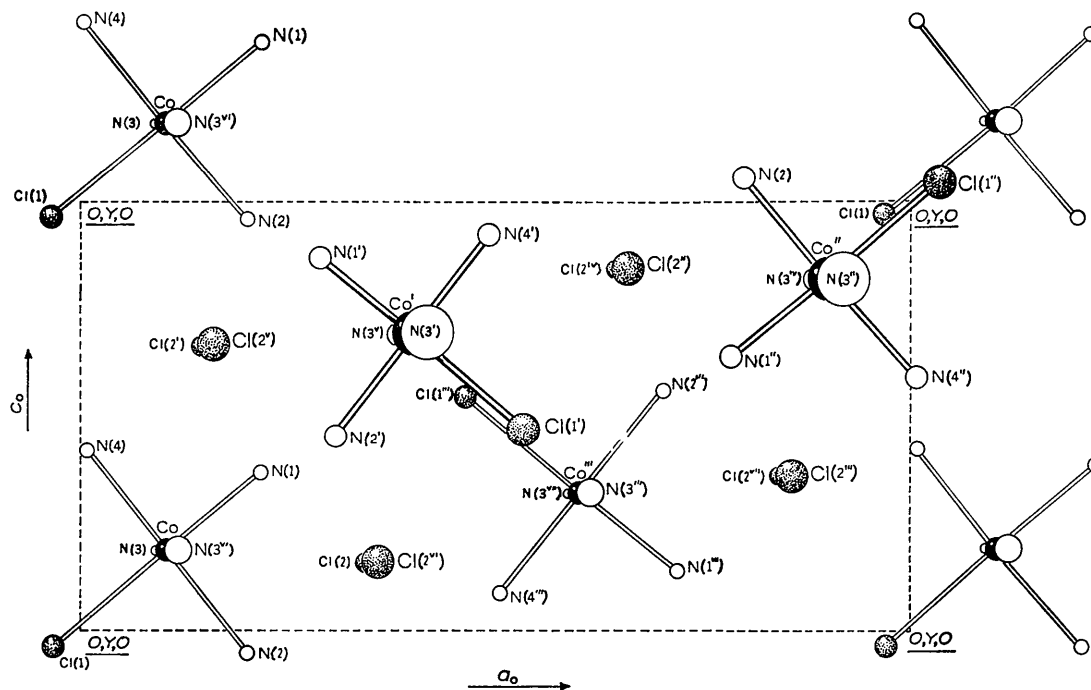


Fig. 1. Projection of the structure of $\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}_2 + 2\text{Cl}^-$ onto (010). The Co, Cl(1), N(1), N(2), N(4) atoms all lie in the mirrors at $y = \frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{4}$. The molecule ions with the larger atoms correspond to molecules with atoms at $y = \frac{3}{4}$.

$\pm 0.01 \text{ \AA}$ or less and individual standard deviations of $\pm 0.006 \text{ \AA}$ or less. This distance is in good agreement with the results of Palenik (1964) who found an average Co-N distance from five Co-N distances of 1.968 with a spread of $\pm 0.008 \text{ \AA}$ and an individual standard error of $\pm 0.007 \text{ \AA}$ in azidopentamminecobalt(III) azide, $[\text{N}_3\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_5][\text{N}_3]_2$. In contrast to the results of Shigeta, Komiyama & Kuroya (1963), we do not observe a significant 'trans' effect due to the chlorine substituent.

Stanko & Paul (1967) have also determined the geometry of the molecular ion $\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}^{2+}$ in $[\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}]^{2+}[\text{SiF}_6]^{2-}$ but their standard errors were three to five times larger than ours. However, there is general agreement within the larger standard deviations. There might be some Co-N bond elongation in $[\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}]^{2+}[\text{SiF}_6]^{2-}$ due to the presence of the highly electronegative fluorine atoms.

The cobalt-chlorine distance of $2.281 \pm 0.004 \text{ \AA}$ is only slightly longer, but nevertheless significantly longer, than the 2.21 \AA expected from the sum of the covalent radii (Pauling, 1960).

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Weak Reflexions in the X-ray Diffraction Pattern of Magnetite, Fe_3O_4

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Synthetic polycrystalline specimens of magnetite, Fe_3O_4 , were studied by X-ray diffraction. Several weak reflexions were observed which have not hitherto been reported for magnetite. These reflexions can be indexed on the spinel (f.c.c.) structure as 531, 551-711, 662 and 753. Addition of Ti^{4+} ions to the lattice results in a systematic shift of these reflexions with composition, showing that they are not simply due to a second phase. Structure-factor calculations confirm the presence of the four extra lines.

Introduction

A number of X-ray diffraction studies have been made on both natural and synthetic samples of magnetite. Basta (1957) has made an accurate determination of the cell size of natural magnetite and Rooksby (1961)

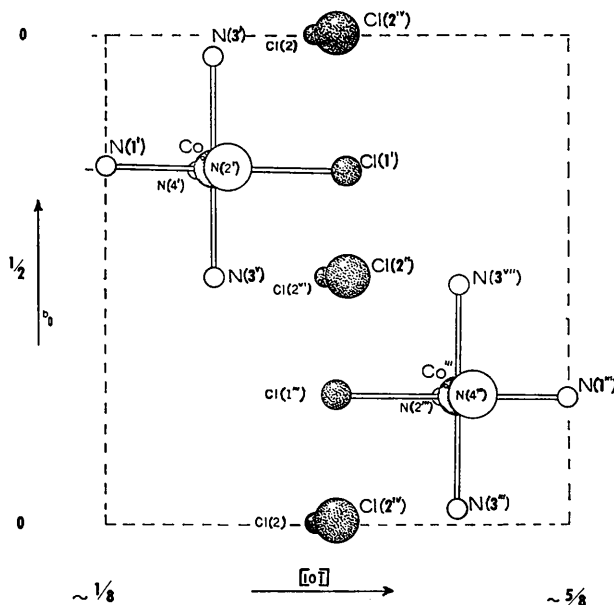


Fig. 2. View of the structure of $\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_5\text{Cl}_2 + 2\text{Cl}^-$ in the $[110]$ direction to show the reversed Co-Cl directions in adjacent molecules.

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has studied synthetic material. The *X-ray Powder Data File* card number 7-322 is based on Rooksby's work. Both authors publish a list of d values.

In the course of an investigation of the magnetic properties of the magnetite-ulvöspinel solid-solution series, X-ray powder pictures were made of synthetic