

Supplementary data for this paper are available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: OA1091). Services for accessing these data are described at the back of the journal.

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Acta Cryst. (1999). **C55**, 1812–1813

endo-{6,6'-Diethoxy-2,2'-[(*R*)-propane-1,2-diylbis(nitrilomethylidene)]diphenolato-*O,N,N',O'*}oxovanadium(IV)

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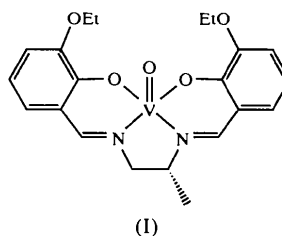
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Abstract

In the title mononuclear oxovanadium(IV) complex, [VO(C₂₁H₂₄N₂O₄)], the methyl group of the central diamine moiety in the Schiff base ligand is directed opposite to the oxo ligand. This *endo* isomer elutes more slowly than the *exo* isomer when subjected to high-performance liquid reversed-phase chromatography using CH₃CN–H₂O (1:1 *v/v*) as the eluent. Crystals of both the *endo* and *exo* isomers decompose at 473 K, with no solid-state isomerization from *endo* to *exo* or *vice versa*.

Comment

The solid-state thermal isomerization of Schiff base–oxovanadium(IV) complexes has been investigated previously by Kojima *et al.* (1994) and Hoshina, Ohba *et al.* (1999). However, the mechanism of isomerization is still unclear at present. Thus, the title complex, (I), was prepared and studied by X-ray crystallography and the results are presented here.



There are two possible geometrical isomers for (I), *exo* and *endo*, which are defined as having the substituted group (the methyl on C18) of the central diamine moiety in the Schiff base ligand directed outside or inside the O_{oxo}N₂ plane (O2, N7 and N8) of the VN₂O₃ square pyramid, respectively. In the present study, the slower eluate by high-performance liquid reversed-phase chromatography was determined to be the *endo* isomer. The methyl on C18 is in an axial position, almost antiparallel to the V1=O2 bond axis. This is in contrast to the equatorial methyl orientation of the sal-(*R*)(*S*)-pn ligand (sal = salicylidene; pn = 1,2-propylenediamine) in crystals of *endo*-(chlorotriphenylstannyloxy)[*N,N'*-1,2-propylenebis(salicylideneamino)]vanadium(IV) (Cashin *et al.*, 1989).

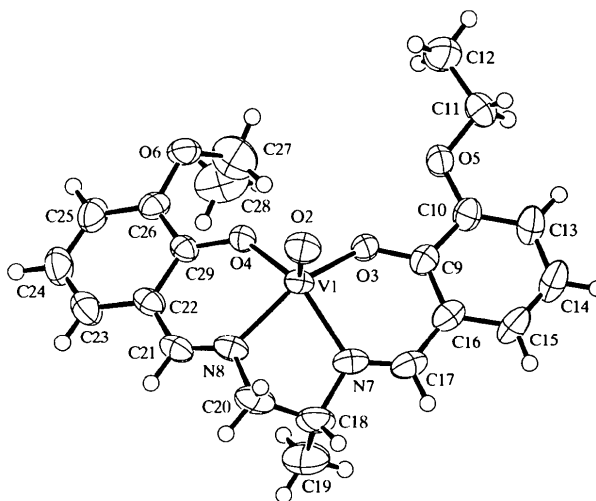


Fig. 1. ORTEPII (Johnson, 1976) drawing of (I) showing the atom-numbering scheme and 50% probability ellipsoids. H atoms are drawn as spheres of arbitrary radii.

Although Schiff base–oxovanadium(IV) complexes with two ethoxy substituents at the 3-positions have a tendency to connect with a water molecule for crystallization *via* two bifurcated hydrogen bonds (Zamian *et al.*, 1995; Kasahara *et al.*, 1996; Hoshina *et al.*, 1998; Hoshina, Tsuchimoto & Ohba, 1999), the title crystal is an exception as it is unhydrated. The O6 ethoxy group is directed perpendicular to the salicylidene moiety, which may be due to the packing efficiency.

A crystal of [VO(sal-*meso*-bn)] [H₂sal-*meso*-bn = *N,N'*-disalicylidene-(*R,S*)(*S,R*)-2,3-butanediamine] shows thermal isomerization from *endo* to *exo* in the solid state at 483 K (Hoshina, Tsuchimoto & Ohba, 1999). However, crystals of both the *endo* and *exo* isomers of the present complex decomposed at *ca* 473 K, with no isomerization having taken place.

Experimental

The H₂3-EtOsal-(*R*)-pn ligand was prepared by the reaction of (*R*)-1,2-propylenediamine (1.48 g, 20 mmol) with two equivalents of 3-ethoxysalicylaldehyde (6.64 g, 40 mmol) in ethanol. To a hot methanol solution (500 ml) of oxovanadium(IV) sulfate (5.06 g, 20 mmol) was added H₂3-EtOsal-(*R*)-pn (7.69 g, 20 mmol) and pyridine (50 ml), and the mixture was stirred for 1 h at 333 K. The resulting green precipitate was collected by filtration and washed with ether {yield of [VO(3-EtOsal-(*R*)-pn)] 6.87 g, 79.0%}. The reaction product was a mixture of *exo* and *endo* isomers (*exo:endo* \approx 1:5). The ratio of isomers was estimated by high-performance liquid reversed-phase chromatography using CH₃CN-H₂O (1:1 *v/v*) as the eluent. Green plate-like crystals of the *exo* isomer and green prisms of the *endo* isomer, (I), were grown from an acetonitrile solution. The two isomers of the present complex have similar solubilities.

Crystal data

[VO(C₂₁H₂₄N₂O₄)]

$M_r = 435.37$

Orthorhombic

$P2_12_12_1$

$a = 12.783$ (4) Å

$b = 16.645$ (3) Å

$c = 9.834$ (3) Å

$V = 2092.2$ (8) Å³

$Z = 4$

$D_x = 1.382$ Mg m⁻³

D_m not measured

Mo $K\alpha$ radiation

$\lambda = 0.71073$ Å

Cell parameters from 25 reflections

$\theta = 14.4$ – 15.0°

$\mu = 0.508$ mm⁻¹

$T = 298$ K

Prism

$0.40 \times 0.37 \times 0.27$ mm

Green

Data collection

Rigaku AFC-5S diffractometer

$\theta/2\theta$ scans

Absorption correction: by integration (numerical; Coppens *et al.*, 1965)

$T_{\min} = 0.780$, $T_{\max} = 0.878$

2737 measured reflections

2737 independent reflections

2203 reflections with

$I > 2\sigma(I)$

$\theta_{\max} = 27.5^\circ$

$h = 0 \rightarrow 16$

$k = 0 \rightarrow 21$

$l = 0 \rightarrow 12$

Intensity decay: none

Refinement

Refinement on F^2

$R(F) = 0.048$

$wR(F^2) = 0.120$

$S = 1.250$

2714 reflections ($I \geq 0$)

263 parameters

$\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.74$ e Å⁻³

$\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.48$ e Å⁻³

Extinction correction: none

Scattering factors from

International Tables for Crystallography (Vol. C)

H atoms: see below

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F^2) + 0.00348(F^2)^2]$

$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.001$

Absolute structure:

Flack (1983)

Flack parameter = 0.03 (4)

Table 1. Selected geometric parameters (Å, °)

V1—O2	1.598 (3)	V1—N7	2.066 (4)
V1—O3	1.938 (3)	V1—N8	2.053 (4)
V1—O4	1.918 (3)		
O3—V1—O4	86.9 (1)	O4—V1—N8	87.1 (1)
O3—V1—N7	86.6 (1)	N7—V1—N8	78.4 (2)
V1—N7—C18—C19	103.2 (5)	C26—O6—C27—C28	63.1 (7)
C10—O5—C11—C12	-173.7 (4)		

The coordinates of all H atoms were calculated geometrically and fixed with $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 0.076$ Å². The absolute structure was assigned based on the absolute configuration of the 3-EtOsal-(*R*)-pn ligand, and was confirmed by the Flack (1983) parameter.

Data collection: *MSCIAFC Diffractometer Control Software* (Molecular Structure Corporation, 1993). Cell refinement: *MSCIAFC Diffractometer Control Software*. Data reduction: *TEXSAN* (Molecular Structure Corporation, 1998). Program(s) used to solve structure: *SIR92* (Altomare *et al.*, 1994). Program(s) used to refine structure: *TEXSAN*. Molecular graphics: *ORTEPII* (Johnson, 1976). Software used to prepare material for publication: *TEXSAN*.

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