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## Key indicators

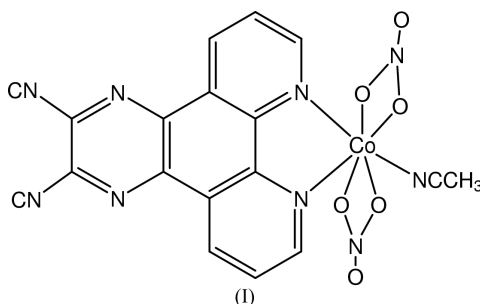
Single-crystal X-ray study  
T = 298 K  
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.004 \text{ \AA}$   
R factor = 0.028  
wR factor = 0.070  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 11.1For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.A novel heptacoordinated cobalt(II) complex of 6,7-dicyanodipyridoquinoxaline (dcdpq):  $[\text{Co}(\text{NO}_3)_2(\text{CH}_3\text{CN})(\text{dcdpq})]$ 

The title complex, (acetonitrile)(6,7-dicyanodipyrido[3,2-*f*;-2,3-*h*]quinoxaline)dinitrocobalt(II),  $[\text{Co}(\text{NO}_3)_2(\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{N})(\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_6\text{N}_6)]$ , crystallizes in the monoclinic system with space group  $P2_1$ . The  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}$  center is heptacoordinated by two N atoms of the pyridine moieties, four O atoms of two nitrate anions and one N atom of a  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  molecule. The crystal structure reveals that the  $\text{CoN}_3\text{O}_4$  coordination sphere has a distorted pentagonal-bipyramid geometry.

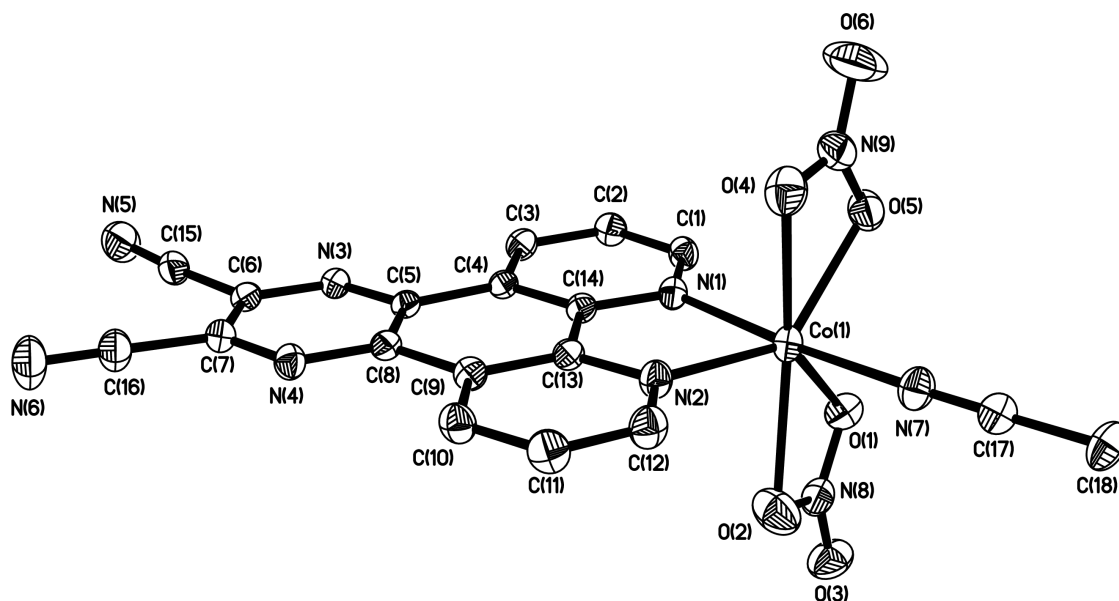
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## Comment

Polypyridyl ligands and their transition metal complexes have attracted great interest due to their potential as building blocks for supramolecular assemblies and ability to functionalize as optical sensors and probes for nucleic acid (Arkin *et al.*, 1996; Holmlin *et al.*, 1999). In recent years, ligands derived from appropriate modification of dipyrido[3,2-*a*:2',3'-*c*]phenazine (dppz) have been employed in order to suit those applications. However, most of the studies of this type of ligand have focused on metal centers such as  $\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}$  (Arounaguirri & Maiya, 1999),  $\text{Os}^{\text{II}}$  (Holmlin & Barton, 1995) and  $\text{Re}^{\text{I}}$  (Yam *et al.*, 1997), and studies on  $\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}$ ,  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}$  and  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$  are still quite rare. As part of our effort to develop new functional complexes with such ligands, we report herein the crystal structure of a novel heptacoordinated  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}$  complex, (I), with 6,7-dicyanodipyridoquinoxaline (dcdpq).



Complex (I) is a neutral molecule due to the two coordinated nitrate anions (Fig. 1). The  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}$  center has the unexpected heptacoordinated distorted pentagonal-bipyramid coordination geometry, consisting of two N atoms of the pyridine rings, four O atoms of two nitrate anions and an N atom of a  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  molecule. Two N atoms of one pyridine ring, N1 and the  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  molecule, N7, occupy the axial positions. The Co atom lies approximately in the pentagonal least-squares plane defined by N2, O1, O2, O4 and O5, deviating by 0.081 Å from the plane. Neither cyano group is coordinated to a Co atom. No significant intermolecular interactions were observed.



**Figure 1**  
ORTEP (Johnson, 1976) view of (I) with 30% probability displacement ellipsoids.

## Experimental

The ligand 6,7-dicyanodipyridoquinoxaline (dcdpq) was prepared according to the literature method of Arounagui & Maiya (1999). (I) was synthesized by mixing  $\text{Co}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (0.29 g, 1.0 mmol) and 6,7-dicyanodipyridoquinoxaline (0.28 g, 1.0 mmol) in  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  solution (30 ml). The reaction mixture was filtered and left to stand at room temperature. Brown single crystals suitable for X-ray analysis were obtained by slow evaporation of the solvent. Yield: 350 mg (70%). FT-IR data (KBr pellet,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 2934 (*w*), 2312 (*m*), 2286 (*m*), 2251 (*m*), 1767 (*m*), 1587 (*s*), 1577 (*s*), 1519 (*m*), 1472 (*vs*), 1397 (*vs*), 1383 (*vs*), 1364 (*vs*), 1302 (*s*), 1287 (*s*), 826 (*m*), 736 (*s*). Analysis calculated for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_9\text{CoN}_9\text{O}_6$ : C 42.70, H 1.79, N 24.91%; found: C 42.55, H 1.93, N 24.87%.

### Crystal data

$[\text{Co}(\text{NO}_3)_2(\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{N})(\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_6\text{N}_6)]$   
 $M_r = 506.27$   
 Monoclinic,  $P2_1$   
 $a = 8.3141$  (8) Å  
 $b = 14.6625$  (13) Å  
 $c = 9.0670$  (9) Å  
 $\beta = 115.154$  (2)°  
 $V = 1000.50$  (16) Å<sup>3</sup>  
 $Z = 2$

$D_x = 1.681$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>  
 Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 Cell parameters from 4702 reflections  
 $\theta = 2.5$ – $26.4$ °  
 $\mu = 0.92$  mm<sup>-1</sup>  
 $T = 298$  (2) K  
 Prism, pink  
 $0.35 \times 0.20 \times 0.20$  mm

### Data collection

SMART CCD diffractometer  
 $\omega$  scans  
 Absorption correction: by integration (Bruker, 1998)  
 $T_{\min} = 0.739$ ,  $T_{\max} = 0.838$   
 4749 measured reflections  
 3809 independent reflections

3559 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.018$   
 $\theta_{\max} = 26.4$ °  
 $h = -10 \rightarrow 10$   
 $k = -18 \rightarrow 17$   
 $l = -11 \rightarrow 7$

### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.028$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.070$   
 $S = 1.05$   
 3809 reflections  
 343 parameters  
 All H-atom parameters refined

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0437P)^2]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.021$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.30$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 $\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.23$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 Absolute structure: Flack (1983)  
 Flack parameter = 0.040 (11); 3809 Friedel reflections

**Table 1**

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Co1–N7	2.083 (2)	Co1–O5	2.2090 (18)
Co1–N1	2.106 (2)	Co1–O4	2.278 (2)
Co1–N2	2.130 (2)	Co1–O2	2.310 (3)
Co1–O1	2.183 (2)		
N7–Co1–N1	175.95 (9)	N1–Co1–O4	89.42 (8)
N7–Co1–N2	105.08 (9)	N2–Co1–O4	84.05 (9)
N1–Co1–N2	77.92 (8)	O1–Co1–O4	142.52 (8)
N7–Co1–O1	93.05 (8)	O5–Co1–O4	56.51 (8)
N1–Co1–O1	86.85 (8)	N7–Co1–O2	83.20 (10)
N2–Co1–O1	131.12 (8)	N1–Co1–O2	100.08 (9)
N7–Co1–O5	91.02 (8)	N2–Co1–O2	80.66 (8)
N1–Co1–O5	84.93 (7)	O1–Co1–O2	56.53 (8)
N2–Co1–O5	137.11 (9)	O5–Co1–O2	141.50 (9)
O1–Co1–O5	86.01 (8)	O4–Co1–O2	159.83 (9)
N7–Co1–O4	88.20 (9)		

All the H atoms were located by geometry and refined. The range of bond lengths to H atoms is 0.87 (4)–1.06 (5) Å.

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 1998); cell refinement: SMART; data reduction: SAINT (Bruker, 1998); program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: XP in SHELXTL (Bruker, 1998).

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