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Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 173 K Mean σ (C–C) = 0.009 Å Disorder in solvent or counterion R factor = 0.093 wR factor = 0.271 Data-to-parameter ratio = 20.5

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Bis(tetra-*n*-butylammonium) bis(2-dicyanomethylene-4,5-dimercapto-1,3-dithiole)nickel(II)

In the title complex, $(C_{16}H_{36}N)_2[Ni(C_6N_2S_4)_2]$, the centrosymmetric dianion is flat. The Ni atom has square-planar coordination, with Ni–S bond lengths of 2.1836 (16) and 2.1940 (18) Å.

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Comment

Recently dithiolate-metal complexes have received much attention as molecular conductors and superconductors. Several salts based on the $M(\text{dmit})_2$ system (dmit is 4,5dimercapto-1,3-dithiole-2-thione, M = Ni or Pd) have been found to become superconductors at low temperature (Brossard et al., 1986; Kobayashi et al., 1987; Cassoux et al., 1991; Tajima et al., 1993). In 2001, the first molecular metal composed of single component molecules, [Ni(tmdt)₂] (tmdt is trimethylenetetrathiafulvalenedithiolate), was discovered (Tanaka *et al.*, 2001). We have synthesized the title dithiolate– nickel complex, (I), derived from the 2-dicyanomethylene-4,5dimercapto-1,3-dithiole ligand (Tomura & Yamashita, 1995). This ligand in the nickel complex is expected to extend the π conjugation of the complex, resulting in decreased Coulombic repulsion. Intermolecular interactions caused by $S \cdots S$ and $S \cdot \cdot \cdot N$ heteroatom contacts may increase the dimensionality in the solid-state structure of (I) (Yamashita & Tomura, 1998). We report here the molecular and crystal structures of (I).



(I)

The dianion is located on an inversion center and is flat, with an r.m.s. deviation of 0.12 Å from the least-squares plane (Fig. 1). The central Ni atom has square-planar coordination, and the Ni1–S1 and Ni1–S2 distances and the S1–Ni1–S2 angle are 2.1940 (18), 2.1836 (16) Å and 93.29 (6)°, respectively (Table 1). These values are comparable to those in $[Ni(dmit)_2]^{2-}$ complexes (Lindqvist *et al.*, 1979; Fun *et al.*, 1996).

Fig. 2 shows the packing diagram of (I), viewed along the *a* axis. The dianion molecules stack along the *a* axis, with one butyl group of the cation inserted between adjacent molecules. There are intermolecular $S \cdots N$ heteroatom contacts [3.538 (6) Å for $S4 \cdots N2^i$ and $N2 \cdots S4^i$; symmetry code: (i) -x+1, -y+1, -z]. The $S \cdots N$ distance is 5.6% longer than the sum of the corresponding van der Waals radii (Pauling, 1960). The two dianions associated with the $S \cdots N$ contacts are almost planar (r.m.s. deviation of fitted atoms 0.19 Å).

metal-organic papers



Figure 1

The molecular structure of the dianion in (I), with the atomic numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level.

Experimental

The title complex was synthesized according to the literature method of Tomura & Yamashita (1995). Green–black crystals of (I) suitable for X-ray analysis were grown from an acetone solution.

5808 independent reflections

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.069$

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

 $h = -10 \rightarrow 9$

 $k = -14 \rightarrow 15$

 $l = -17 \rightarrow 15$

4177 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$

Crystal data

$(C_{16}H_{36}N)_2[Ni(C_6N_2S_4)_2]$	Z = 1	
$M_r = 1000.33$	$D_x = 1.260 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$	
Triclinic, P1	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation	
a = 8.252 (4) Å	Cell parameters from 4920	
b = 12.012 (6) Å	reflections	
c = 13.867 (6) Å	$\theta = 3.1-27.5^{\circ}$	
$\alpha = 76.26 \ (3)^{\circ}$	$\mu = 0.72 \text{ mm}^{-1}$	
$\beta = 80.99 \ (3)^{\circ}$	T = 173 (1) K	
$\gamma = 89.69 \ (4)^{\circ}$	Plate, green-black	
$V = 1317.9 (10) \text{ Å}^3$	$0.60 \times 0.20 \times 0.05 \text{ mm}$	
Data collection		

Rigaku/MSC Mercury CCD diffractometer φ and ω scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (Jacobson, 1998) $T_{\rm min} = 0.672, T_{\rm max} = 0.965$ 12833 measured reflections

Refinement

Refinement on F^2	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.1389P)^2]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.093$	+ 1.6175 <i>P</i>]
$wR(F^2) = 0.271$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
S = 1.11	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001$
5808 reflections	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 1.18 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
283 parameters	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.97 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
H-atom parameters constrained	

Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Ni1-S1	2.1940 (18)	S4-C2	1.742 (5)
Ni1-S2	2.1836 (16)	N1-C5	1.140 (8)
S1-C1	1.732 (6)	N2-C6	1.125 (7)
S2-C2	1.735 (5)	C1-C2	1.350 (8)
S3-C3	1.720 (5)	C3-C4	1.403 (8)
S3-C1	1.735 (5)	C4-C5	1.400 (8)
S4-C3	1.701 (6)	C4-C6	1.426 (7)
S2-Ni1-S1	93.29 (6)	C1-C2-S2	122.0 (4)
C1-S1-Ni1	101.25 (19)	C1-C2-S4	116.7 (4)
C2-S2-Ni1	101.39 (18)	\$4-C3-\$3	115.1 (3)
C3-S3-C1	96.2 (3)	C5-C4-C6	119.4 (5)
C3-S4-C2	96.0 (3)	N1-C5-C4	179.1 (6)
C2-C1-S1	121.9 (4)	N2-C6-C4	179.0 (6)
C2-C1-S3	115.9 (4)		



Figure 2

Packing diagram of (I), viewed along the *a* axis. Dotted lines show the intermolecular $S \cdots N$ contacts. The disordered methyl C atom with 41% occupancy has been omitted for clarity.

One terminal methyl C atom (C18) of the tetrabutylammonium cation is disordered over two sites with occupancies of 0.414 (15) and 0.586 (15). All H atoms were placed in geometrically calculated positions and refined using a riding model.

Data collection: *CrystalClear* (Molecular Structure Corporation & Rigaku Corporation, 2001); cell refinement: *CrystalClear*; data reduction: *TEXSAN* (Molecular Structure Corporation & Rigaku Corporation, 2000); program(s) used to solve structure: *SIR97* (Altomare *et al.*, 1999); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEPIII* (Burnett & Johnson, 1996); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL97*.

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