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#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 113 K Mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.002 Å R factor = 0.026 wR factor = 0.089 Data-to-parameter ratio = 16.2

For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e.

# A hexacarbonyldicobalt(0) complex of a 'magazine-rack' molecule, $[(\eta^2-C_{32}H_{20})Co_2(CO)_6]\cdot CH_2Cl_2$

The title compound,  $\mu$ -pentacyclo[26.4.0.0<sup>9,14</sup>.0<sup>17,22</sup>.0<sup>25,30</sup>]dotriaconta-1,3,5,9,11,13,15,17,19,21,25,27,29,31-tetradecaene-7,24-diyne-bis(tricarbonylcobalt) dichloromethane solvate,  $[Co_2(\eta^2-C_{32}H_{20})(CO)_6]\cdot CH_2Cl_2$ , has been prepared by treatment of a dehydrobenzoannulene with octacarbonyldicobalt. This cobalt complex is chiral in the solid state and exhibits alternate arrays of *P*- and *M*-conformations.

## Comment

Various types of dehydroannulenes (Diederich, 1995; Tobe et al., 1996) and their benzannelated analogs (Iyoda et al., 2001; Palmer et al., 2001) have been synthesized thus far. Much of the interest can be attributed to the recognition that such categories of compounds can potentially serve as versatile precursors for carbon-rich molecular (Tobe et al., 1998, 2001) and polymeric systems (Dosa et al., 1999). For example, it has been reported that heating of a dehydrobenzoannulene at 518 K leads to the formation of a 'graphitic onion' (Boese et al., 1997). Furthermore, it has been reported that powdered cobalt metal accelerates the growth of single-wall carbon nanotubes from vaporized carbon in an arc generator (Bethune et al., 1993). From these experimental results we expected that cobalt-coordinating dehydrobenzoannulenes might be promising precursors for carbon nanotubes, because they are easy to handle due to their stability in air, and might be transformed to carbon nanotubes at a lower temperature than those hitherto reported. Thus, as part of our project to explore  $\pi$ -conjugated cyclophane derivatives having unique structural and electronic features (Orita et al., 2002; An et al., 2002), we tackled the preparation of cobalt-coordinating  $\pi$ -conjugated cyclophanes. We envisioned that the title compound, (I), could be obtained by the reaction of  $Co_2(CO)_8$ with a 'magazine-rack' type molecule, such as a cyclophane having alternating phenylene-ethynylene, as well as phenylene-ethenylene arrays, (II) (Orita et al., 2002).



© 2002 International Union of Crystallography Printed in Great Britain – all rights reserved As shown in Fig. 1, the dicobalt complex, (I), has a linear uncoordinated acetylene moiety and a bent acetylene coordinated to the  $Co_2(CO)_6$  moiety. Although, in the crystal of (II), Received 28 August 2002 Accepted 21 October 2002 Online 31 October 2002



#### Figure 1

The molecular structure of the title complex. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level.



#### Figure 2

View of the packing of the title complex in the crystal. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level. The dichloromethane molecules have been omitted for clarity.

two phenylenes are connected by acetylene with a dihedral angle of  $23.0^{\circ}$ , in the cobalt complex, (I), the corresponding dihedral angle between the C11-C16 and C19-C24 planes

was found to be  $30.8 (1)^{\circ}$ . It has been reported that, in the solid state, the  $\pi$ -conjugated cyclophane (II) adopts a concave structure like a magazine-rack, with alternate arrays of the Pand M-conformations. Upon formation of complex (I), this concave feature was lost, but (I) is still chiral and retains alternate arrays of the P- and M-conformers with respect to the uncoordinated diphenylacetylene moiety in the crystal; this is illustrated in Fig. 2.

## **Experimental**

Preparation of (I): to a flame-dried flask were added (II) (100.1 mg, 0.5 mmol), Co<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>8</sub> (512.9 mg, 0.5 mmol) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 ml). The mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature in the dark. After evaporation, hexane was added to the residual black solids and the mixture filtered through a thin layer of silica gel. After evaporation of the resulting filtrate, dark-purple crystals were obtained in 50-60% yield.

### Crystal data

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$[Co_2(C_{32}H_{20})(CO)_6] \cdot CH_2Cl_2$	$D_x = 1.510 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
$M_r = 775.37$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$	Cell parameters from 9554
a = 13.0348 (3)  Å	reflections
$b = 10.9999 (3) \text{\AA}$	$\theta = 2.9-27.5^{\circ}$
c = 23.8599 (5)  Å	$\mu = 1.18 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$\beta = 94.584 \ (1)^{\circ}$	T = 113.1  K
$V = 3410.1 (1) \text{ Å}^3$	Plate, dark purple
Z = 4	$0.30 \times 0.15 \times 0.10 \text{ mm}$

## Data collection

Rigaku R-AXIS-IV diffractometer  $\omega$  scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (ABSCOR; Higashi, 1995)  $T_{\min} = 0.719, \ T_{\max} = 0.889$ 18 119 measured reflections 7873 independent reflections

## Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	All H-atom parameters refined
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.026$	$w = 1/[0.002F_o^2 + \sigma^2(F_o)]/(4F_o^2)$
$wR(F^2) = 0.089$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001$
S = 0.90	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.44 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
7523 reflections	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.72 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
464 parameters	

## Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Co2-Co1	2.4524 (3)	C2-C3	1.4707 (19)
Co1-C2	1.9731 (13)	C16-C17	1.440 (2)
Co1-C1 C2-C1	1.9798 (14) 1.346 (2)	C17-C18	1.201 (2)
C1-C2-C3 C16-C17-C18	147.39 (14) 178.10 (17)	C2-C3-C4	118.80 (13)
C3-C2-C1-C32	-2.8 (6)		

Data collection: PROCESS-AUTO (Rigaku, 1998); cell refinement: PROCESS-AUTO; data reduction: TEXSAN (Rigaku, 1999); program(s) used to solve structure: SIR97 (Altomare et al., 1999); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: ORTEP-3 for Windows (Farrugia, 1998); software used to prepare material for publication: CrystalStructure (Molecular Structure Corporation & Rigaku, 2001).

6460 reflections with  $F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)$ 

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.019$ 

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

 $h=-16 \rightarrow 16$ 

 $k = -14 \rightarrow 14$ 

 $l = -21 \rightarrow 30$ 

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