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## Key indicators

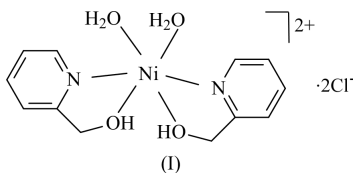
Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 133\text{ K}$   
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.002\text{ \AA}$   
 $R$  factor = 0.019  
 $wR$  factor = 0.055  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 21.5For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.*cis*-Diaquabis[2-(hydroxymethyl)pyridine]-nickel(II) dichloride

The title complex,  $[\text{Ni}(\text{mpy})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]\text{Cl}_2$  [mpy is 2-(hydroxymethyl)pyridine,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_7\text{NO}$ ], consists of two chloride anions and an  $[\text{Ni}(\text{mpy})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]^{2+}$  cation, in which the  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$  ion lies on a twofold axis and exhibits octahedral geometry, coordinated by two neutral mpy ligands and two water molecules. Mpy acts as an *N,O*-bidentate ligand, giving rise to a five-membered chelate ring. The  $\text{Ni}-\text{N}_{\text{mpy}}$ ,  $\text{Ni}-\text{O}_{\text{mpy}}$  and  $\text{Ni}-\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  bond distances are 2.0629 (8), 2.0573 (7) and 2.0490 (7) Å, respectively. The H atoms of the water molecules and the hydroxy group of mpy form  $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{Cl}$  hydrogen bonds, resulting in a three-dimensional network.

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## Comment

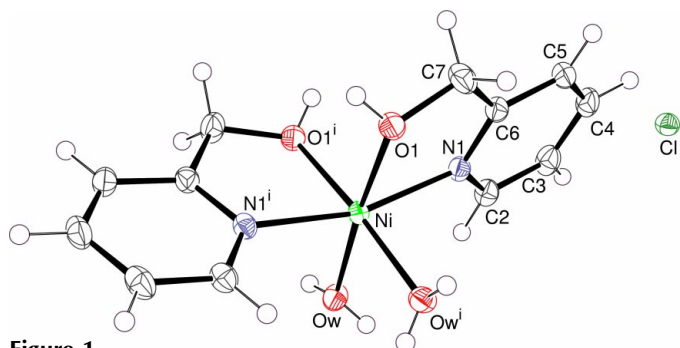
This work is a part of our study of the synthesis and structural characterization of metal complexes with 2-hydroxyalkylpyridines. We report here the crystal structure of the aqua complex of nickel(II) with 2-methanolpyridine (mpy), (I).



The structure of (I) consists of a complex cation,  $[\text{Ni}(\text{mpy})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]^{2+}$  [mpy is 2-(hydroxymethyl)pyridine,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_7\text{NO}$ ], and two symmetry-equivalent  $\text{Cl}^-$  anions. In the cation, the nickel(II) ion lies on a twofold axis and is octahedrally coordinated by two neutral mpy ligands and two water molecules, forming a  $\text{NiN}_2\text{O}_6$  core (Fig. 1). Each mpy ligand behaves as a bidentate donor *via* the pyridine N and hydroxy O atoms, forming a five-membered chelate ring with the nickel(II) ion. The coordination of two mpy and two water ligands results in a *cis* configuration.

The  $\text{Ni}-\text{N}_{\text{mpy}}$ ,  $\text{Ni}-\text{O}_{\text{mpy}}$  and  $\text{Ni}-\text{O}_{\text{water}}$  bond distances are almost identical, and the  $\text{Ni}-\text{N}_{\text{mpy}}$  and  $\text{Ni}-\text{O}_{\text{mpy}}$  bond distances are comparable to those reported for  $[\text{Ni}(\text{sac})_2(\text{mpy})_2]$  (sac is saccharinate; Yilmaz *et al.*, 2002). Some distortion from regular octahedral geometry is apparent (Table 1), especially the bite angle of the mpy ligand ( $\text{O1}-\text{Ni}-\text{N1}$ ) and the *trans*  $\text{N1}-\text{Ni}-\text{N1}^i$  angle (see Table 1 for symmetry code).

The mpy ligand is essentially planar [the deviations of atoms O1 (hydroxy) and C7 (methylene) from the least-squares pyridine ring plane are 0.007 (1) and 0.025 (1) Å, respectively]. The two mpy ligands containing atoms N1 and N1<sup>i</sup> attached to Ni are almost perpendicular to one another [the dihedral angle between the pyridine rings is 86.75 (2)°]. The



**Figure 1**  
Molecular view of (I) (50% displacement ellipsoids). [Symmetry code: (i)  $-x, y, \frac{1}{2} - z$ .]

geometry of the mpy ligand is similar to that of the same species in  $[\text{Ni}(\text{sac})_2(\text{mpy})_2]$  (Yilmaz *et al.*, 2002). The packing of (I) is shown in Fig. 2. The crystal structure exhibits three strong  $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{Cl}$  intermolecular hydrogen bonds (Table 2) between the H atoms of the water molecules and the hydroxy group of mpy and the chloride ions. Additionally, one of the H atoms of the pyridine ring is also involved in a  $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  interaction with the water O atom. The overall hydrogen-bond scheme can be described as a three-dimensional network formed by the mpy ligands, water molecules and  $\text{Cl}^-$  anions.

## Experimental

The starting tetraaquabis(saccharinato)nickel(II) dihydrate,  $[\text{Ni}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4(\text{sac})_2]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , was prepared according to the method of Haider *et al.* (1985). A methanol solution (25 ml) of  $[\text{Ni}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4(\text{sac})_2]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (0.53 g, 1 mmol) was mixed with mpy (0.22 g, 2 mmol) and HCl (0.07 g, 2 mmol) at 333 K. Crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were grown by slow diffusion of ether into the reaction solution at room temperature.

### Crystal data

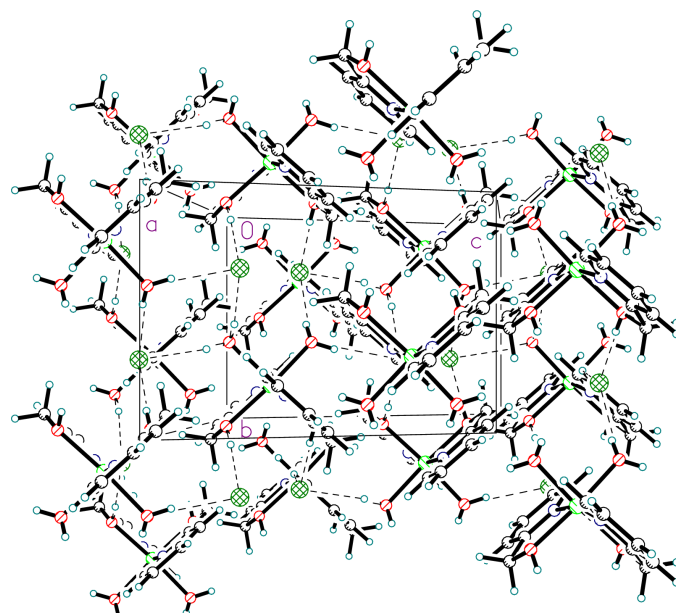
$[\text{Ni}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_7\text{NO})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]\text{Cl}_2$	$D_x = 1.617 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
$M_r = 383.89$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
Monoclinic, $C2/c$	Cell parameters from 4680 reflections
$a = 20.0943 (18) \text{ \AA}$	$\theta = 2.9\text{--}30.5^\circ$
$b = 7.6090 (6) \text{ \AA}$	$\mu = 1.58 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$c = 12.1268 (10) \text{ \AA}$	$T = 133 (2) \text{ K}$
$\beta = 121.708 (3)^\circ$	Prism, blue
$V = 1577.4 (2) \text{ \AA}^3$	$0.33 \times 0.26 \times 0.20 \text{ mm}$
$Z = 4$	

### Data collection

Bruker SMART 1000 CCD diffractometer	2318 independent reflections
$\omega$ and $\varphi$ scans	2177 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 1999)	$R_{\text{int}} = 0.020$
$T_{\text{min}} = 0.643, T_{\text{max}} = 0.729$	$\theta_{\text{max}} = 30.0^\circ$
12 845 measured reflections	$h = -28 \rightarrow 28$
	$k = -10 \rightarrow 10$
	$l = -16 \rightarrow 17$

### Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0342P)^2 + 0.588P]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.019$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$wR(F^2) = 0.055$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} = 0.001$
$S = 1.06$	$\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.43 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
2318 reflections	$\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.20 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
108 parameters	
H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement	



**Figure 2**  
Packing diagram for (I).

**Table 1**

Selected geometric parameters ( $\text{\AA}$ ,  $^\circ$ ).

Ni—OW	2.0490 (7)	Ni—N1	2.0629 (8)
Ni—O1	2.0573 (7)		
OW—Ni—OW <sup>i</sup>	87.55 (4)	OW <sup>i</sup> —Ni—N1	92.31 (3)
OW—Ni—O1	175.60 (3)	O1—Ni—N1	79.23 (3)
OW <sup>i</sup> —Ni—O1	88.56 (3)	O1 <sup>i</sup> —Ni—N1	90.33 (3)
O1—Ni—O1 <sup>i</sup>	95.40 (4)	N1—Ni—N1 <sup>i</sup>	164.54 (5)
OW—Ni—N1	98.86 (3)		

Symmetry code: (i)  $-x, y, \frac{1}{2} - z$ .

**Table 2**

Hydrogen-bonding geometry ( $\text{\AA}$ ,  $^\circ$ ).

$D-\text{H}\cdots A$	$D-\text{H}$	$\text{H}\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-\text{H}\cdots A$
$\text{C4}-\text{H4}\cdots\text{OW}^{\text{ii}}$	0.95	2.64	3.4931 (13)	149
$\text{O1}-\text{H1}\cdots\text{Cl}^{\text{iii}}$	0.776 (17)	2.236 (17)	3.0097 (8)	176 (17)
$\text{OW}-\text{HW1}\cdots\text{Cl}^{\text{iv}}$	0.819 (17)	2.315 (18)	3.1284 (8)	172 (15)
$\text{OW}-\text{HW2}\cdots\text{Cl}^{\text{v}}$	0.746 (18)	2.345 (18)	3.0831 (8)	170 (17)

Symmetry codes: (ii)  $\frac{1}{2} + x, \frac{1}{2} - y, \frac{1}{2} + z$ ; (iii)  $x - \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} + y, z$ ; (iv)  $x - \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} - y, z - \frac{1}{2}$ ; (v)  $\frac{1}{2} - x, y - \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} - z$ .

H atoms bonded to C atoms were included as riding [ $\text{C}-\text{H} = 0.95$  or  $0.99 \text{ \AA}$ , and  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$ ], while the hydroxy H atoms were refined freely [ $\text{O}-\text{H} = 0.746 (18)\text{--}0.819 (17) \text{ \AA}$ ].

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 1999); cell refinement: *SAINT* (Bruker, 1999); data reduction: *SAINT*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *XP* (Siemens, 1994); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL97*.

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