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#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 170 KMean  $\sigma(C-C) = 0.009 \text{ Å}$ Disorder in main residue R factor = 0.065 wR factor = 0.157 Data-to-parameter ratio = 14.3

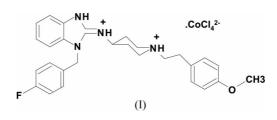
For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e. The structure of  $\{3-[(4-fluorophenyl)methyl]-1H$ -benzimidazol-2-ylidene} $\{1-[2-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl]-4-piperidin 1-io\}ammonium tetrachlorocobaltate(II), (C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>33</sub>FN<sub>4</sub>O)-$ [CoCl<sub>4</sub>], is isomorphous with its CuCl<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> analogue. It containsdiprotonated cations of astemizole hydrogen-bonded to threeCl atoms in two different CoCl<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> anions, with Cl···Ndistances in the range 3.109 (5)–3.212 (5) Å. One of the Clatoms in the CoCl<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> anion is disordered and the geometryaround cobalt is distorted tetrahedral. The phenylethyl Catoms of the (4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl group attached to thepiperidine ring are disordered, indicating the presence of two

Astemizole tetrachlorocobaltate(II)

#### Comment

conformers in the crystal.

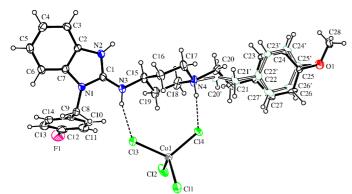
Astemizole is a potent antihistaminic drug with long-lasting effectiveness and very little or no drowsiness effect (Casy, 1991). Continued interest in the effects of anionic transition metal complexes on the conformation of antihistamines effective on  $H_1$  receptors led to the preparation and crystal structure determination of astemizole tetrachlorocuprate(II) (Parvez & Braitenbach, 2000). In this paper, the structure of astemizole tetrachlorocobaltate(II), (I), is reported; it is isomorphous with the tetrachlorocuprate salt.



The structure is composed of diprotonated astemizole hydrogen-bonded to the tetrachlorocobaltate(II) anion (Fig. 1). The molecular dimensions in the dication are normal and agree well with the corresponding dimensions reported for astemizole tetrachlorocuprate(II) (Parvez & Braitenbach, 2000) and astemizole (Peeters et al., 1995). As in the case of astemizole tetrachlorocuprate(II) (Parvez & Braitenbach, 2000), the phenylethyl C atoms are disordered over C20-C27 and C20'-C27', indicating the presence of two conformers. The methoxy and the piperidinyl groups are not affected by this disorder. The mean plane of the methoxy group is inclined at 25.5 (4) and 7.6 (6)° to the benzene rings C22–C27 and C22'– C27', respectively. The dihedral angle between the mean planes of these benzene rings is  $30.8 (3)^\circ$ . The benzimidazole and fluorophenyl rings are essentially planar and the maximum deviations of atoms from the least-squares planes are 0.026 (4) and 0.013 (4) Å, respectively. The dihedral angle

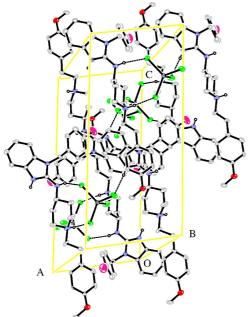
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#### Figure 1

ORTEPII (Johnson, 1976) drawing of the two conformers of (I), with displacement ellipsoids plotted at the 30% probability level; atoms C20'-C27' are shown in green.



#### Figure 2

ORTEPII (Johnson, 1976) drawing of the contents of a unit cell, showing the hydrogen bonding in (I).

between these planes is 68.04 (11)°. The piperidinyl ring adopts a classical chair conformation with puckering parameters (Cremer & Pople, 1975) Q = 0.582 (6) Å,  $\theta = 179.2$  (6)° and  $\varphi = 220 \ (22)^{\circ}$ .

The  $CoCl_4^{2-}$  anion exhibits a distorted tetrahedral geometry wherein Cl1 is disordered over two sites Cl1 and Cl1' with unequal site-occupancy factors. The hydrogen bonding in (I) is essentially identical to that observed in the isomorphous structure of astemizole tetrachlorocuprate(II) (Parvez & Braitenbach, 2000). The details of the hydrogen-bonding geometry in (I) are given in Table 2.

# **Experimental**

The preparation and crystallization of (I) was achieved following the procedure reported for astemizole tetrachlorocuprate(II) (Parvez & Braitenbach, 2000), resulting in green crystals suitable for crystallographic studies.

### Crystal data

(C <sub>28</sub> H <sub>33</sub> FN <sub>4</sub> O)[CoCl <sub>4</sub> ]	$D_x = 1.465 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
$M_r = 661.31$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
Monoclinic, $P2_1/n$	Cell parameters from 9625
a = 9.327(3) Å	reflections
b = 15.836 (6) Å	$\theta = 2.5 - 25.0^{\circ}$
c = 20.691 (9)  Å	$\mu = 0.96 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$\beta = 101.186 \ (14)^{\circ}$	T = 170 (2)  K
$V = 2998 (2) \text{ Å}^3$	Prism, blue
Z = 4	$0.10 \times 0.08 \times 0.06 \ \mathrm{mm}$

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.084$ 

 $\theta_{\rm max} = 25.0^\circ$ 

 $h=-11\rightarrow 11$ 

 $k = -17 \rightarrow 18$ 

 $l = -24 \rightarrow 24$ 

+ 2.13P]

2899 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ 

where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ 

### Data collection

Nonius KappaCCD diffractometer  $\omega$  and  $\varphi$  scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (SORTAV; Blessing, 1997)  $T_{\rm min}=0.91, \ T_{\rm max}=0.94$ 9625 measured reflections

5205 independent reflections

# Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$  $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.062P)^2]$  $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.065$ wR(F<sup>2</sup>) = 0.157  $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001$ S = 1.02 $\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.44 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$ 5205 reflections  $\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.55 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$ 363 parameters H-atom parameters constrained

## Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

2.232 (14)	N1-C7	1.397 (7)
2.240 (8)	N1-C8	1.473 (7)
2.257 (2)	N2-C1	1.333 (7)
2.268 (2)	N2-C2	1.397 (6)
2.300 (2)	N3-C1	1.329 (6)
1.367 (8)	N3-C15	1.459 (7)
1.344 (6)	N4-C20′	1.507 (8)
1.409 (6)	N4-C17	1.489 (7)
1.418 (7)	N4-C18	1.509 (7)
1.353 (6)	N4-C20	1.515 (8)
126.6 (11)	C1-N1-C7	108.2 (4)
109.3 (9)	C1-N1-C8	126.2 (5)
102.9 (9)	C7-N1-C8	125.5 (4)
112.0 (3)	C1 - N2 - C2	109.3 (4)
105.68 (7)	C1-N3-C15	124.1 (5)
102.7 (4)	C20'-N4-C17	124.4 (8)
109.7 (5)	C20'-N4-C18	103.1 (9)
104.21 (7)	C17-N4-C18	110.3 (4)
115.42 (7)	C17-N4-C20	101.3 (7)
121.6 (7)	C18-N4-C20	119.1 (10)
113.8 (7)		
	$\begin{array}{c} 2.240 \ (8) \\ 2.257 \ (2) \\ 2.268 \ (2) \\ 2.300 \ (2) \\ 1.367 \ (8) \\ 1.344 \ (6) \\ 1.409 \ (6) \\ 1.418 \ (7) \\ 1.353 \ (6) \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

#### Table 2 Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °).

$D - H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - \mathbf{H} \cdots A$
$N2-H2\cdots Cl2^{i}$	0.88	2.28	3.154 (5)	170
N3-H3···Cl3	0.88	2.42	3.212 (5)	150
$N4-H4\cdots Cl4$	0.93	2.19	3.109 (5)	171

Symmetry code: (i) x - 1, y, z.

The phenylethyl C atoms of the (4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl group attached to the piperidine ring are disordered with essentially equal site-occupancy factors. The benzene ring was restrained as a regular hexagon, with C–C distances of 1.39 (1) Å. Atom Cl1 of the anion is

also disordered over two sites Cl1 and Cl1' with site-occupancy factors 0.65 (6) and 0.35 (6), respectively. Most of the H atoms were located in difference Fourier syntheses and all were included in the refinements at geometrically idealized positions with C-H = 0.95, 0.98 and 0.99 Å, and N-H = 0.88 and 0.93 Å, and with  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.5$  (methyl) and 1.2 (the rest) times the  $U_{eq}$  of the atoms to which they were bonded. The final difference map was free of any chemically significant features.

Data collection: *COLLECT* (Hooft, 1998); cell refinement: *HKL DENZO* (Otwinowski & Minor, 1997); data reduction: *SCALE*-*PACK* (Otwinowski & Minor, 1997); program(s) used to solve structure: *SAPI*91 (Fan, 1991); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEPII* (Johnson, 1976); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL*97.

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