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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 K Mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.006 Å R factor = 0.063 wR factor = 0.148 Data-to-parameter ratio = 16.1

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

# *trans*-Bis{2-[3-(cyclohexylamino)propyliminomethyl]phenolato}nickel(II) dinitrate

The title compound,  $[Ni(C_{16}H_{24}N_2O)_2](NO_3)_2$ , is a mononuclear nickel(II) compound. The Ni<sup>II</sup> atom is coordinated by two N atoms and two O atoms from the Schiff base ligands. The four atoms around the metal are coplanar, constituting a slightly distorted square-planar geometry. The complex is located on an inversion center. All of the nitrate O atoms and all amine N atoms in the Schiff base ligands contribute to hydrogen bonds, leading to the formation of a threedimensional network. Received 7 May 2004 Accepted 26 May 2004 Online 29 May 2004

## Comment

Recently, we have reported a few Schiff base complexes (You, Lin *et al.*, 2003; You, Qu *et al.*, 2003; You, Xiong *et al.*, 2004; You, Zhu & Liu, 2004). As an extension of our work on the structural characterization of Schiff base complexes, a mononuclear nickel(II) complex, (I), is reported here.



The structure of the title compound, (I) (Fig. 1), consists of a mononuclear  $[Ni(C_{16}H_{24}N_2O)_2]^{2+}$  cation and two nitrate anions. The Ni atom, on an inversion center, is in a squareplanar geometry and is four-coordinated by two N atoms and two O atoms from the Schiff base ligands. The four coordi-



## Figure 1

The structure of (I), showing the atom-numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level and H atoms are shown as small spheres of arbitrary radii.

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### Figure 2

The crystal packing of (I), viewed along the *a* axis. Hydrogen bonds are shown as dashed lines.

nating atoms around the central metal are coplanar, forming a square-planar geometry around the Ni atom. The two trans angles at the nickel(II) center are 180°, by symmetry (Table 1), and all other angles are close to  $90^{\circ}$ , viz. 87.15 (12) and 92.85 (12)°, thus indicating a slightly distorted square-planar geometry. The Ni1–O1 bond length [1.827 (3) Å] is comparable to that observed in another Schiff base complex [1.833 (3) Å; Zhu et al., 2004]. The Ni1-N1 bond distance [1.919 (3) Å] is a little longer than the value [1.876 (3) Å]observed in the same previously reported complex.

In the crystal structure, all of the nitrate O atoms and all the amine N atoms in the Schiff base ligands contribute to the formation of hydrogen bonds, leading to the formation of a three-dimensional network (Fig. 2 and Table 2). As expected, the cyclohexyl groups in the complex adopt chair conformations to minimize steric effects.

## **Experimental**

N-Cyclohexyl-1,3-diaminopropane and salicylaldehyde were available commercially and were used without further purification. N-Cyclohexyl-1,3-diaminopropane (0.2 mmol, 31.2 mg) and salicylaldehyde (0.2 mmol, 24.4 mg) were dissolved in methanol (10 ml). The mixture was stirred for 1 h to obtain a clear orange solution of L(0.2 mmol), where L is 2-[(3-cyclohexylaminopropylimino)methyl]phenol. To the solution of L was added a solution of  $Ni(NO_3)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$ (0.1 mmol, 29.1 mg) in methanol (10 ml), with stirring. After keeping the resulting solution in air for 9 d, green block-shaped crystals were formed at the bottom of the vessel on slow evaporation of the

solvents. The crystals were isolated, washed three times with methanol and dried in a vacuum desiccator using anhydrous CaCl<sub>2</sub> (yield 70.1%). Analysis found: C 54.6, H 6.9, N 11.9%; calculated for C32H48N6NiO8: C 54.8, H 7.1, N 11.8%.

#### Crystal data

[Ni(C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>](NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>  $D_x = 1.351 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$  $M_r = 703.47$ Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation Monoclinic,  $P2_1/c$ Cell parameters from 1144 a = 6.444 (2) Å reflections b = 22.946(5) Å  $\theta = 2.5 - 19.9^{\circ}$  $\mu = 0.62~\mathrm{mm}^{-1}$ c = 11.961 (2) Å  $\beta = 102.02 \ (3)^{\circ}$ T = 293 (2) KV = 1729.9 (6) Å<sup>3</sup> Block, green Z = 2 $0.18 \times 0.15 \times 0.13 \text{ mm}$ 

## Data collection

Siemens SMART CCD areadetector diffractometer  $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Blessing, 1995)  $T_{\min} = 0.897, T_{\max} = 0.924$ 7948 measured reflections

## Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	H atoms treated by a mixture of
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.063$	independent and constrained
$wR(F^2) = 0.148$	refinement
S = 0.95	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0601P)^2]$
3573 reflections	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
222 parameters	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001$
	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.48 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.24 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$

3573 independent reflections

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.063$  $\theta_{\rm max} = 26.5^{\circ}$ 

 $h = -8 \rightarrow 4$ 

 $k = -28 \rightarrow 27$  $l = -14 \rightarrow 15$ 

1985 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ 

# Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Ni1-O1	1.827 (3)	Ni1-N1	1.919 (3)	
O1 <sup>i</sup> -Ni1-O1	180	O1-Ni1-N1	92.85 (12)	
O1 <sup>i</sup> -Ni1-N1	87.15 (12)	N1-Ni1-N1 <sup>i</sup>	180	

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

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

$D - H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - H \cdots A$
$N2-H2B\cdots N3^{ii}$	0.932 (10)	2.542 (12)	3.458 (6)	168 (3)
$N2-H2B\cdots O3^{ii}$	0.932 (10)	2.36 (2)	3.125 (5)	139 (3)
$N2-H2B\cdots O4^{ii}$	0.932 (10)	1.980 (15)	2.887 (5)	164 (3)
$N2-H2A\cdots N3$	0.926 (10)	2.558 (15)	3.462 (6)	165 (3)
$N2-H2A\cdots O2$	0.926 (10)	2.26 (2)	3.105 (5)	150 (3)
$N2-H2A\cdots O3$	0.926 (10)	2.234 (17)	3.076 (5)	151 (3)

Symmetry codes: (ii)  $x, \frac{3}{2} - y, \frac{1}{2} + z$ .

All H atoms, except H2A and H2B, were placed in idealized positions and constrained to ride on their parent atoms, with C-H distances of 0.93–0.98 Å, and with  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2 U_{eq}(C)$ . Atoms H2A and H2B were located in a difference Fourier map and were refined isotropically.

Data collection: SMART (Siemens, 1996); cell refinement: SMART; data reduction: SAINT (Siemens, 1996); program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997a); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997a); molecular graphics: *SHELXTL* (Sheldrick, 1997*b*); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*.

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