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Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study
 T = 295 K
 Mean $\sigma(C-C)$ = 0.006 Å
 R factor = 0.046
 wR factor = 0.091
 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>.

catena-Poly[[bis(1*H*-benzimidazole- κN^3)-
 cobalt(II)]- μ -isophthalato- $\kappa^2 O:O'$]

In the title polymeric complex, $[Co(C_8H_4O_4)(C_7H_6N_2)_2]_n$, the Co^{II} atom assumes distorted tetrahedral coordination geometry formed by two isophthalate dianions and two benzimidazole molecules. The isophthalate dianions bridge Co^{II} atoms through carboxy groups to form a one-dimensional polymeric association. $C-H \cdots \pi$ interactions occur between adjacent aromatic rings.

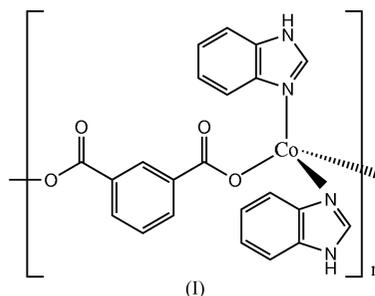
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Comment

As part of our ongoing research on non-covalent interactions, the title Co^{II} complex, (I), bridged by isophthalate dianions, has been prepared, and its crystal structure is presented here to discuss the interaction between aromatic rings.



The asymmetric unit of (I) consists of a Co^{II} cation, a $(C_8H_4O_4)^{2-}$ isophthalate dianion and two $C_7H_6N_2$ BZIM (benzimidazole) molecules (Fig. 1). While two BZIM species coordinate to a Co^{II} atom, two isophthalate dianions, related by translation symmetry along the c axis, each coordinate in a monodentate manner to the Co^{II} atom to complete the

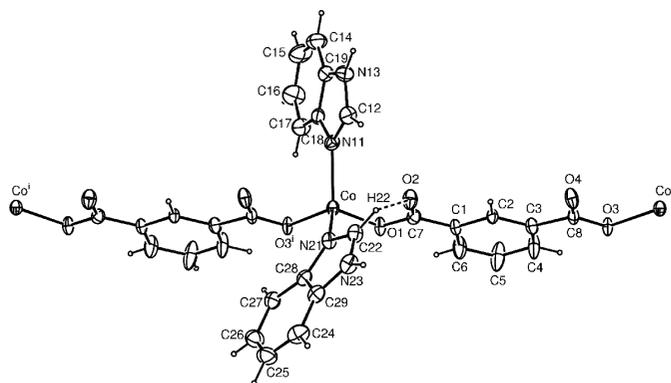


Figure 1
 The molecular structure of (I) shown with 30% probability displacement ellipsoids and H atoms represented by small spheres. The dashed line shows the $C-H \cdots O$ interaction [symmetry codes: (i) $x, y, z - 1$; (iv) $x, y, 1 + z$].

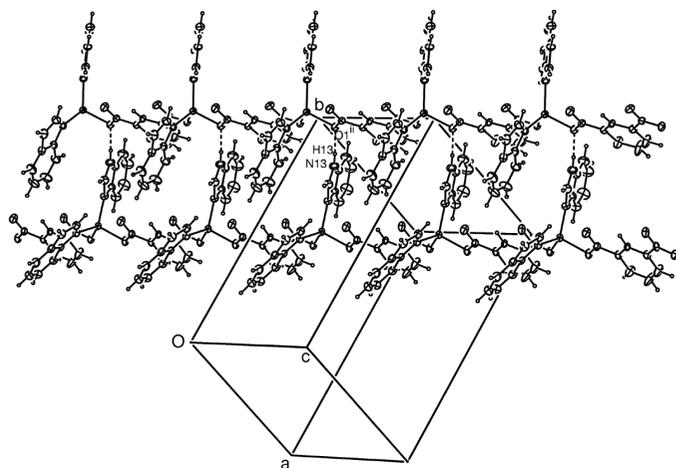


Figure 2

The molecular packing of (I); dashed lines indicate the hydrogen bonding between N13–BZIM and the carboxy group from the adjacent polymeric chain. [Symmetry code: (ii) $x - \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2} - y, z$.]

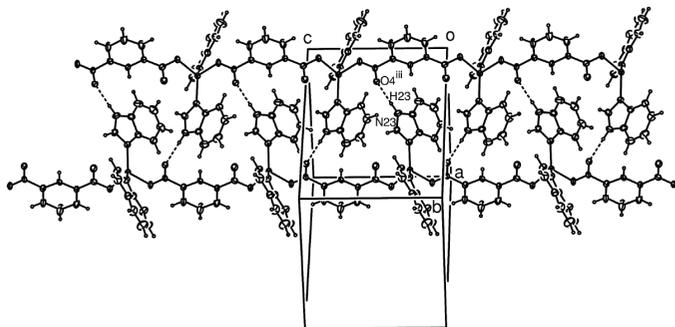


Figure 3

The molecular packing of (I); dashed lines indicate the hydrogen bonding between N23–BZIM and the carboxy group from the adjacent polymeric chain. [Symmetry code: (iii) $-x, 1 - y, z - \frac{1}{2}$.]

distorted tetrahedral coordination geometry. The N11–Co–N21 bond angle is some $24.00(15)^\circ$ larger than the O1–Co–O3 bond angle (Table 1). Uncoordinated carboxy atoms O1 and O4 accept hydrogen bonds from BZIM N–H moieties of an adjacent polymeric chain, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3.

The following H···Cg distances and C–H···Cg angles (Cg = the centroid of the ring) indicate the presence of C–H··· π interactions between aromatic rings in (I): H14···Cg(isophthalate^v) = 2.81 Å and C14–H14···Cg(isophthalate^v) = 156° [symmetry code: (v) $\frac{1}{2} - x, \frac{1}{2} + y, z - \frac{1}{2}$]; H26···Cg(N11–BZIM^{vi}) = 2.91 Å and C26–H26···Cg(N11–BZIM^{vi}) = 175° [symmetry codes: (vi) $\frac{1}{2} - x, y - \frac{1}{2}, z - \frac{1}{2}$].

Aromatic π – π stacking has commonly been found between BZIM rings in metal complexes (Liu *et al.*, 2004), but does not occur in (I).

Experimental

An ethanol solution (5 ml) of BZIM (0.24 g, 2 mmol) was mixed with an aqueous solution (5 ml) of $\text{CoCl}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (0.48 g, 2 mmol), and the mixture was refluxed for 20 min. Then an aqueous solution (8 ml) containing isophthalic acid (0.33 g, 2 mmol) and NaOH (0.16 g,

4 mmol) was added into the above mixture, and the solution was refluxed for a further 2.5 h. After cooling to room temperature, the solution was filtered. Red single crystals of (I) were obtained from the filtrate after one week.

Crystal data

$[\text{Co}(\text{C}_8\text{H}_4\text{O}_4)(\text{C}_7\text{H}_6\text{N}_2)_2]$
 $M_r = 459.32$
 Orthorhombic, $Pna2_1$
 $a = 11.5641(5) \text{ \AA}$
 $b = 17.8801(3) \text{ \AA}$
 $c = 10.1058(4) \text{ \AA}$
 $V = 2089.55(13) \text{ \AA}^3$
 $Z = 4$
 $D_x = 1.460 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$

Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
 Cell parameters from 11734 reflections
 $\theta = 2.5\text{--}26.0^\circ$
 $\mu = 0.86 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
 $T = 295(2) \text{ K}$
 Plate, red
 $0.31 \times 0.14 \times 0.07 \text{ mm}$

Data collection

Rigaku R-AXIS RAPID diffractometer
 ω scans
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (ABSCOR; Higashi, 1995)
 $T_{\text{min}} = 0.87, T_{\text{max}} = 0.94$
 19285 measured reflections

4412 independent reflections
 3681 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.059$
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 27.5^\circ$
 $h = -15 \rightarrow 15$
 $k = -23 \rightarrow 23$
 $l = -13 \rightarrow 11$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.046$
 $wR(F^2) = 0.091$
 $S = 1.11$
 4412 reflections
 274 parameters
 H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0332P)^2 + 1.1303P]$
 where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.37 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.27 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
 Absolute structure: Flack (1983),
 1880 Friedel Pairs
 Flack parameter = $-0.007(18)$

Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Co–O1	2.018 (3)	Co–N11	2.022 (2)
Co–O3 ⁱ	1.984 (3)	Co–N21	2.033 (2)
O1–Co–O3 ⁱ	94.91 (11)	O3 ⁱ –Co–N11	105.74 (13)
O1–Co–N11	107.21 (12)	O3 ⁱ –Co–N21	111.23 (13)
O1–Co–N21	115.82 (13)	N11–Co–N21	118.91 (10)

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

Table 2

Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °).

D–H···A	D–H	H···A	D···A	D–H···A
N13–H13···O1 ⁱⁱ	0.86	1.92	2.781 (5)	176
N23–H23···O4 ⁱⁱⁱ	0.86	1.89	2.735 (4)	169
C22–H22···O2	0.93	2.53	2.978 (5)	110

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

H atoms were placed in calculated positions, with C–H = 0.93 Å and N–H = 0.86 Å, and were included in the final cycles of refinement in riding mode, with $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{carrier atom})$.

Data collection: *PROCESS-AUTO* (Rigaku, 1998); cell refinement: *PROCESS-AUTO*; data reduction: *CrystalStructure* (Rigaku/MS, 2002); program(s) used to solve structure: *SIR92* (Altomare *et al.*, 1993); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEP-3 for Windows* (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *WinGX* (Farrugia, 1999).

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