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## Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study  
T = 295 K  
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.003 \text{ \AA}$   
R factor = 0.030  
wR factor = 0.076  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 12.4For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.Diaquabis(4-hydroxybenzoato- $\kappa\text{O}$ )(1,10-phenanthroline- $\kappa^2\text{N},\text{N}'$ )cobalt(II) monohydrate

The title complex,  $[\text{Co}(\text{C}_7\text{H}_5\text{O}_3)_2(\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_8\text{N}_2)(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , displays a distorted octahedral coordination geometry about the  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}$  atom, involving two 4-hydroxybenzoate anions, one 1,10-phenanthroline (phen) molecule and two water molecules. The face-to-face distance of 3.420 (5) Å between partially overlapped parallel phen rings reflects a  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking interaction between neighboring  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}$  complex molecules. A network of  $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  hydrogen bonds helps to stabilize the crystal packing.

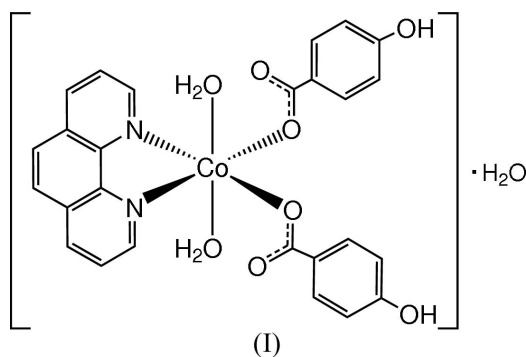
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## Comment

As part of our ongoing investigations of aromatic  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking interactions in metal complexes (Su *et al.*, 2005), the title  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}$  complex incorporating 1,10-phenanthroline (phen), (I) (Fig. 1), has been prepared and its crystal structure is presented here.



The  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}$  atom in (I) assumes a distorted  $\text{CoO}_4\text{N}_2$  octahedral coordination geometry formed by two 4-hydroxybenzoate anions, a phen molecule and two coordinated water molecules. The two monodentate 4-hydroxybenzoate anions coordinate to the  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}$  atom in a *cis* configuration, their benzene rings being nearly perpendicular, with a dihedral angle of 86.84 (5)°. The uncoordinated carboxy O atoms (O22 and O32) accept intramolecular hydrogen bonds from a coordinated water molecule (O1) (Fig. 1 and Table 2).

A partially overlapped disposition between the parallel phen ligands of neighboring  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}$  complex molecules is observed, as shown in Fig. 2. The face-to-face distance of 3.420 (5) Å between the parallel N2-phen and N2'-phen planes [symmetry code: (v)  $-x, 1-y, 1-z$ ] suggests the existence of  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking between adjacent  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}$  complex molecules.

Extensive intermolecular hydrogen-bonding interactions are observed in the crystal structure of (I). Neighboring  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}$  complexes are linked *via*  $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  hydrogen bonds (Table

2). Hydrogen bonding also occurs between uncoordinated water molecules and the Co<sup>II</sup> complex (Table 2).

**Experimental**

An aqueous solution (10 ml) containing Co(CH<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O (0.25 g, 1 mmol), 4-hydroxybenzoic acid (0.14 g, 1 mmol) and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.06 g, 1 mmol) was mixed with an ethanol solution (10 ml) of phen (0.20 g, 1 mmol). The mixture was refluxed for 5 h, then cooled to room temperature and filtered. Orange–red single crystals of (I) were obtained from the filtrate after 3 weeks.

*Crystal data*

[Co(C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>2</sub>)·(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>]·H<sub>2</sub>O  
*M<sub>r</sub>* = 567.40  
 Monoclinic, *P*2<sub>1</sub>/*c*  
*a* = 11.8707 (4) Å  
*b* = 21.2746 (6) Å  
*c* = 11.2385 (4) Å  
 β = 117.639 (8)°  
*V* = 2514.3 (2) Å<sup>3</sup>  
*Z* = 4

*D<sub>x</sub>* = 1.499 Mg m<sup>-3</sup>  
 Mo *K*α radiation  
 Cell parameters from 10537 reflections  
 θ = 2.6–24.8°  
 μ = 0.74 mm<sup>-1</sup>  
*T* = 295 (3) K  
 Block, orange–red  
 0.28 × 0.25 × 0.15 mm

*Data collection*

Rigaku R-Axis RAPID diffractometer  
 ω scans  
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (ABSCOR; Higashi, 1995)  
*T<sub>min</sub>* = 0.811, *T<sub>max</sub>* = 0.892  
 17650 measured reflections

4241 independent reflections  
 3635 reflections with *I* > 2σ(*I*)  
*R<sub>int</sub>* = 0.031  
 θ<sub>max</sub> = 25.0°  
*h* = -14 → 14  
*k* = -25 → 24  
*l* = -13 → 13

*Refinement*

Refinement on *F*<sup>2</sup>  
*R*[*F*<sup>2</sup> > 2σ(*F*<sup>2</sup>)] = 0.030  
*wR*(*F*<sup>2</sup>) = 0.076  
*S* = 1.02  
 4241 reflections  
 343 parameters  
 H-atom parameters constrained

*w* = 1/[σ<sup>2</sup>(*F<sub>o</sub>*<sup>2</sup>) + (0.0423*P*)<sup>2</sup> + 0.8385*P*]  
 where *P* = (*F<sub>o</sub>*<sup>2</sup> + 2*F<sub>c</sub>*<sup>2</sup>)/3  
 (Δ/σ)<sub>max</sub> < 0.001  
 Δρ<sub>max</sub> = 0.22 e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 Δρ<sub>min</sub> = -0.30 e Å<sup>-3</sup>

**Table 1**

Selected bond lengths (Å).

Co–O1	2.1453 (14)	Co–O31	2.0604 (13)
Co–O2	2.1361 (13)	Co–N1	2.1497 (16)
Co–O21	2.1349 (13)	Co–N2	2.1226 (16)

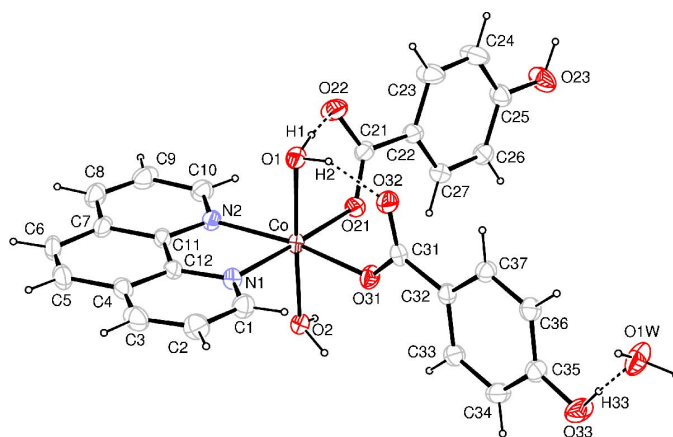
**Table 2**

Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °).

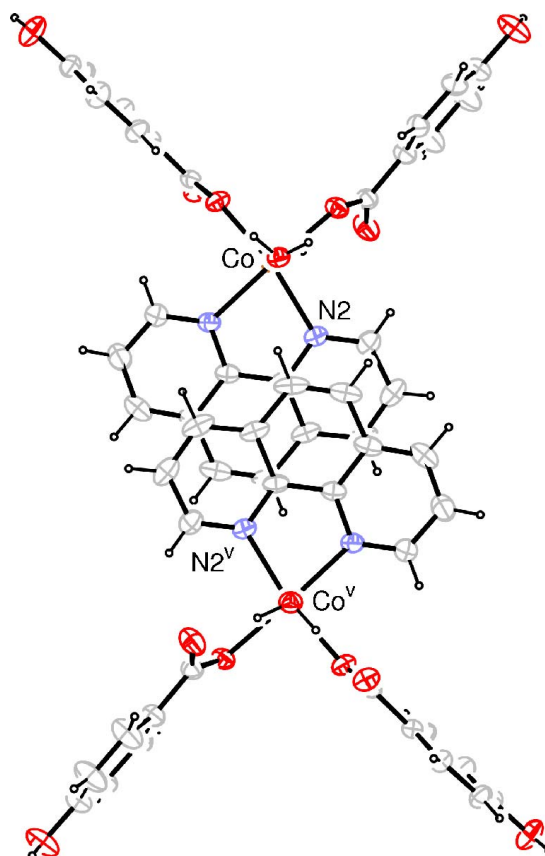
<i>D</i> –H... <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> –H	H... <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> ... <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> –H... <i>A</i>
O1–H1...O22	0.87	1.74	2.595 (2)	165
O1–H2...O32	0.94	1.77	2.650 (2)	154
O2–H3...O31 <sup>i</sup>	0.86	2.07	2.840 (2)	149
O2–H4...O21 <sup>i</sup>	0.88	1.96	2.783 (2)	155
O23–H23...O32 <sup>ii</sup>	0.92	1.77	2.687 (2)	171
O33–H33...O1W	0.93	1.70	2.631 (3)	177
O1W–H1A...O1 <sup>iii</sup>	0.88	1.87	2.745 (3)	174
O1W–H1B...O22 <sup>iv</sup>	0.89	1.94	2.820 (3)	168

Symmetry codes: (i) 1 – *x*, 1 – *y*, 1 – *z*; (ii) 1 – *x*, 1 – *y*, –*z*; (iii) 1 + *x*, ½ – *y*, ½ + *z*; (iv) 1 – *x*, ½ + *y*, ½ – *z*.

Aromatic H atoms were placed in calculated positions, with C–H = 0.93 Å, and refined as riding with the constraint *U*<sub>iso</sub>(H) =



**Figure 1**  
 The molecular structure of (I), shown with 30% probability displacement ellipsoids (arbitrary spheres for the H atoms). The dashed lines indicate hydrogen-bonding interactions.



**Figure 2**  
 π–π stacking between parallel phen rings of neighboring Co<sup>II</sup> complex molecules in (I). [Symmetry code: (v) –*x*, 1 – *y*, 1 – *z*.]

1.2*U*<sub>eq</sub>(carrier) applied. The other H atoms were located in a difference Fourier map and refined as riding in their as-found relative positions, with a fixed *U*<sub>iso</sub> of 0.05 Å<sup>2</sup>.

Data collection: *PROCESS-AUTO* (Rigaku, 1998); cell refinement: *PROCESS-AUTO*; data reduction: *CrystalStructure* (Rigaku/MSK, 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* (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *WinGX* (Farrugia, 1999).

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