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Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study
 $T = 295$ K
Mean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.004$ Å
 R factor = 0.042
 wR factor = 0.110
Data-to-parameter ratio = 15.3For details of how these key indicators were
automatically derived from the article, see
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.Diaqua(5-nitro-1*H*-benzimidazole- κN^3)(oxy-
diacetato- $\kappa O, O', O''$)cobalt(II) monohydrate

In the title compound, $[\text{Co}(\text{C}_4\text{H}_4\text{O}_5)(\text{C}_7\text{H}_5\text{N}_3\text{O}_2)(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2] \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$, the Co^{II} atom is coordinated by one tridentate oxydiacetate dianion, one monodentate nitrobenzimidazole molecule and two water molecules in a distorted octahedral geometry. The face-to-face distance of 3.345 (14) Å between parallel nitrobenzimidazole ligands of neighboring complexes indicates the existence of π - π stacking.

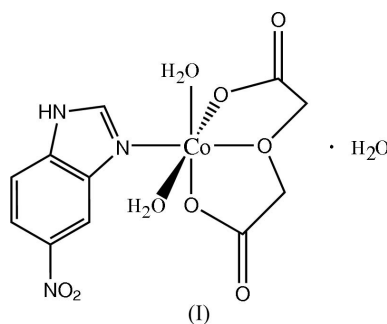
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Comment

The π - π stacking interaction between aromatic rings is correlated with the electron-transfer process in some biological systems (Deisenhofer & Michel, 1989). In such systems, the face-to-face distance between parallel aromatic rings is significantly shorter than the van der Waals thickness for the aromatic ring. In order to investigate further the nature of π - π stacking, a series of metal complexes incorporating aromatic compounds such as phenanthroline (Li *et al.*, 2002), quinoline (Pan & Xu, 2004) and benzimidazole (Li *et al.*, 2005) have been prepared in our laboratory. In this article, we present the crystal structure of a new Co^{II} complex, (I), incorporating nitrobenzimidazole (NBZIM), in order to study the influence of a substituent group of the aromatic compound on the resulting π - π stacking.



The molecular structure of (I) is shown in Fig. 1. The Co^{II} atom is coordinated by one oxydiacetate (ODA) dianion, one NBZIM molecule and two water molecules in a distorted octahedral geometry (Table 1). The tridentate ODA anion chelates to the Co^{II} atom in a facial configuration. Both five-membered chelating rings of ODA have a similar envelope conformation, with the ether O atom (O3) lying in the flap position and deviating from the mean planes formed by the other four atoms by 0.358 (4) and 0.279 (4) Å for the O1 and O4 rings, respectively. The bond angles at atom O3 indicate the normal sp^3 -hybridization for the ether O atom, while the $\text{Co}-\text{O}3$ bond distance is significantly longer than the $\text{Co}-\text{O}(\text{carboxyl})$ bonds (Table 1).

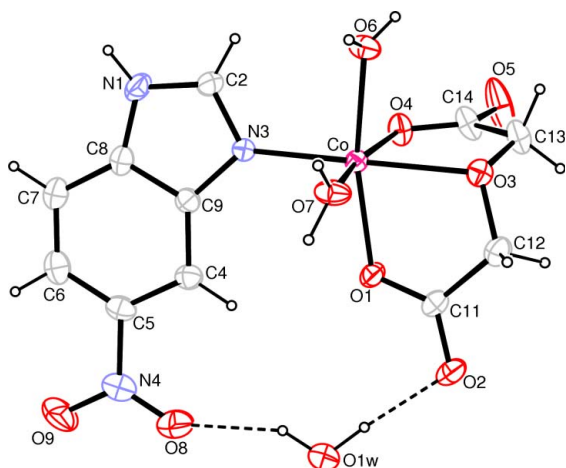


Figure 1
The molecular structure of (I), with 30% probability displacement ellipsoids (arbitrary spheres for the H atoms). Dashed lines indicate hydrogen bonds.

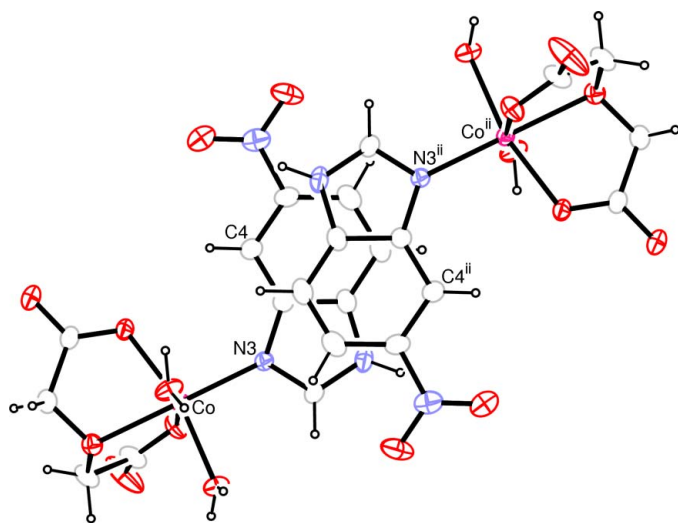


Figure 2
 π - π stacking of NBZIM rings between neighboring molecules. [Symmetry code: (ii) $1 - x, 2 - y, 1 - z$.]

The nitro group is coplanar with the benzimidazole (BZIM) ring, the maximum atomic deviation being 0.034 (2) Å for atom O8. The NBZIM ligand coordinates in a monodentate fashion to the Co^{II} atom. The Co—N3 bond distance of 2.089 (2) Å in (I) is shorter than the 2.114 (3) Å found in a corresponding Co^{II} complex with the BZIM ligand, [Co(BZIM)(malonato)(H₂O)]_n, (Xue *et al.*, 2003).

A partially overlapped arrangement between neighboring parallel NBZIM ligands is observed in (I) (Fig. 2). The face-to-face distance of 3.345 (14) Å is smaller than the 3.42 (2) Å found in the corresponding Co^{II} complex with the BZIM ligand (Xue *et al.*, 2003) and suggests the existence of strong π - π stacking interactions in (I).

An extensive hydrogen-bonding network occurs in (I) (Fig. 3). Atom H2 is involved in a bifurcated C—H...O bond (Table 2).

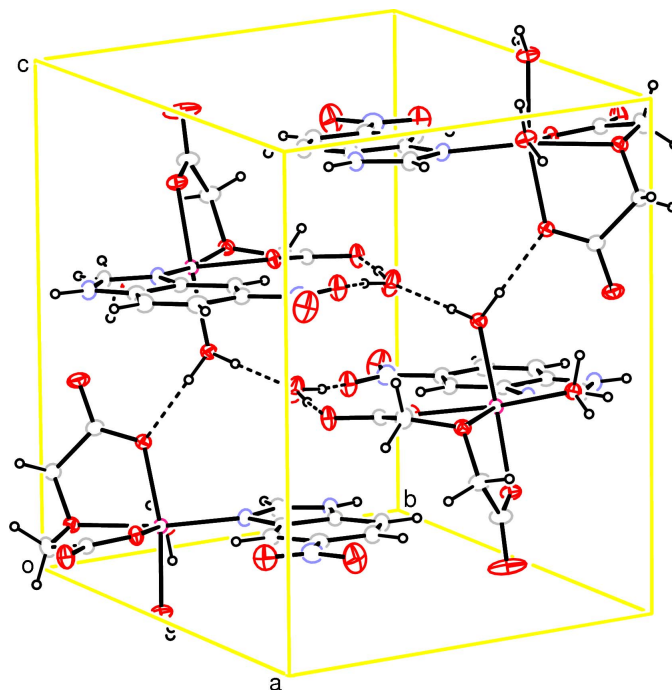


Figure 3
The packing of (I), showing the intermolecular hydrogen bonding (dashed lines).

Experimental

An aqueous solution (15 ml) of CoCl₂·6H₂O (1 mmol), H₂ODA (1 mmol) and Na₂CO₃ (1 mmol) was mixed with an aqueous solution (5 ml) of NBZIM (2 mmol). The solution was refluxed for 4 h and then filtered. Red single crystals of (I) were obtained from the filtrate after 6 d.

Crystal data

[Co(C₄H₄O₅)(C₇H₅N₃O₂)·
(H₂O)₂]·H₂O
*M*_r = 408.19
Monoclinic, *P*2₁/*c*
a = 11.5641 (5) Å
b = 10.2592 (5) Å
c = 12.7556 (6) Å
 β = 90.3721 (12)°
V = 1513.27 (12) Å³
Z = 4

*D*_x = 1.792 Mg m⁻³
Mo *K*α radiation
Cell parameters from 10 912
reflections
 θ = 2.4–25.0°
 μ = 1.20 mm⁻¹
T = 295 (2) K
Plate, red
0.31 × 0.20 × 0.08 mm

Data collection

Rigaku R-Axis RAPID
diffractometer
 ω scans
Absorption correction: multi-scan
(*ABSCOR*; Higashi, 1995)
*T*_{min} = 0.740, *T*_{max} = 0.902
14 228 measured reflections

3468 independent reflections
2938 reflections with *I* > 2σ(*I*)
*R*_{int} = 0.031
 θ _{max} = 27.5°
h = -15 → 15
k = -13 → 13
l = -16 → 14

Refinement

Refinement on *F*²
R[*F*² > 2σ(*F*²)] = 0.042
wR(*F*²) = 0.110
S = 1.10
3468 reflections
226 parameters
H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.049P)^2 + 1.5881P]$
where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
(Δ/σ)_{max} = 0.001
 $\Delta\rho$ _{max} = 0.60 e Å⁻³
 $\Delta\rho$ _{min} = -0.32 e Å⁻³

Table 1
Selected interatomic distances (Å).

Co—O1	2.0541 (19)	Co—O6	2.0876 (19)
Co—O3	2.1824 (19)	Co—O7	2.120 (2)
Co—O4	2.103 (2)	Co—N3	2.089 (2)

Table 2
Hydrogen-bond 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>
N1—H1···O2 ⁱ	0.86	1.88	2.715 (3)	164
O1W—H1A···O2	0.90	1.86	2.746 (3)	171
O1W—H1B···O8	0.90	2.07	2.891 (4)	151
O6—H6A···O5 ⁱⁱ	0.89	1.76	2.621 (3)	162
O6—H6B···O9 ⁱⁱⁱ	0.82	2.18	2.998 (3)	173
O7—H7A···O1W ^{iv}	0.90	1.82	2.709 (3)	171
O7—H7B···O4 ⁱⁱ	0.86	1.99	2.853 (3)	174
C2—H2···O6	0.93	2.54	3.069 (4)	116
C2—H2···O5 ^v	0.93	2.31	3.199 (5)	160
C7—H7···O1W ⁱ	0.93	2.58	3.498 (4)	168

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

C- and N-bound H atoms were placed in calculated positions, with C—H = 0.97 (methylene) and 0.93 Å (aromatic) and N—H = 0.86 Å, and included in the final cycles of refinement as riding atoms with the constraint $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{carrier})$ applied. Water H atoms were

located in a difference Fourier map and refined as riding in their as-found positions relative to their carrier O atoms, with fixed isotropic displacement parameters of 0.05 Å².

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 for Windows* (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *WinGX* (Farrugia, 1999).

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