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## Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 223$  K  
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.003$  Å  
 $R$  factor = 0.021  
 $wR$  factor = 0.050  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 19.6For details of how these key indicators were  
automatically derived from the article, see  
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

## Diaquatetraimidazolecobalt(II) dibromide

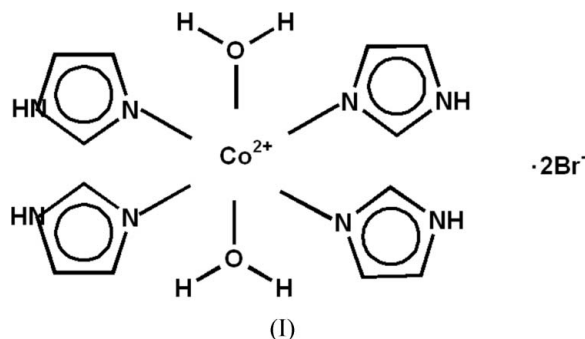
In the title compound,  $[\text{Co}(\text{C}_3\text{H}_4\text{N}_2)_4(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]\text{Br}_2$ , the Co atom is situated on an inversion center. It is coordinated by four N atoms of four imidazole ligands and two O atoms of water molecules and has an octahedral geometry. In the crystal structure, water molecules, imidazole NH groups and Br atoms contribute to the formation of a three-dimensional hydrogen-bonded network.

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## Comment

In the title complex, (I), the centrosymmetric coordination environment of cobalt is similar to that in  $[\text{Co}(\text{C}_3\text{H}_4\text{N}_2)_4(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]\text{Cl}_2$ , (II) (Furenli *et al.*, 1986). For example, the bond distances in (II) [ $\text{Co}-\text{N} = 2.103$  (2) and  $2.169$  (2) Å, and  $\text{Co}-\text{O} = 2.171$  (2) Å] are similar to those in (I) (Table 1).

## Experimental

Crystals of (I) were obtained from  $\text{CoBr}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (5 mmol) and imidazole (10 mmol) in an aqueous solution (30 ml) at room temperature. After a few days, pink prism-shaped crystals appeared.

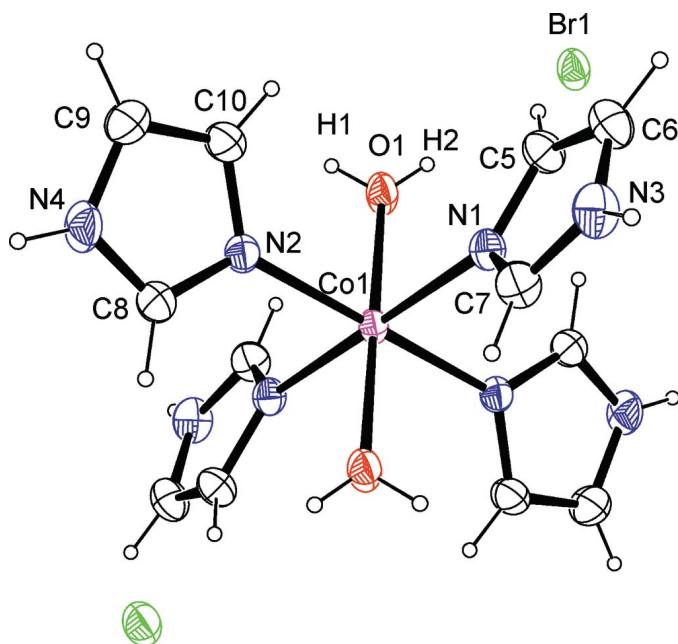
## Crystal data

 $[\text{Co}(\text{C}_3\text{H}_4\text{N}_2)_4(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2]\text{Br}_2$   
 $M_r = 527.11$   
 Monoclinic,  $C2/c$   
 $a = 12.6213$  (18) Å  
 $b = 11.2582$  (16) Å  
 $c = 14.291$  (2) Å  
 $\beta = 109.869$  (3)°  
 $V = 1909.7$  (5) Å<sup>3</sup>  
 $Z = 4$ 
 $D_x = 1.833$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>  
 Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 Cell parameters from 12889  
 reflections  
 $\theta = 2.5$ – $28.3$ °  
 $\mu = 5.11$  mm<sup>-1</sup>  
 $T = 223$  (2) K  
 Prism, pink  
 $0.30 \times 0.25 \times 0.19$  mm

## Data collection

 Bruker AXS APEX CCD  
 diffractometer  
 $\omega$  scans  
 Absorption correction: multi-scan  
 (SADABS in SAINT; Bruker  
 1998)  
 $T_{\min} = 0.24$ ,  $T_{\max} = 0.38$   
 12889 measured reflections

 2377 independent reflections  
 2121 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.030$   
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 28.3$ °  
 $h = -16 \rightarrow 16$   
 $k = -14 \rightarrow 14$   
 $l = -18 \rightarrow 18$



**Figure 1**  
The crystal structure of (I), showing 50% probability displacement ellipsoids and the atom-numbering scheme. Unlabeled atoms are related to labeled atoms by  $\frac{1}{2} - x, \frac{1}{2} - y, 1 - z$ .

#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.021$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.050$   
 $S = 1.09$   
 2377 reflections  
 121 parameters  
 H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement

$$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0204P)^2 + 1.4558P]$$

where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} < 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.32 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.46 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$

**Table 1**

Selected geometric parameters ( $\text{\AA}, ^\circ$ ).

Co1—N2	2.1120 (15)	O1—H1	0.82 (2)
Co1—N1	2.1657 (14)	O1—H2	0.76 (2)
Co1—O1	2.1672 (13)		
N2—Co1—N1	89.28 (5)	N1—Co1—O1	89.92 (5)
N2—Co1—O1	89.32 (6)	H1—O1—H2	107 (2)

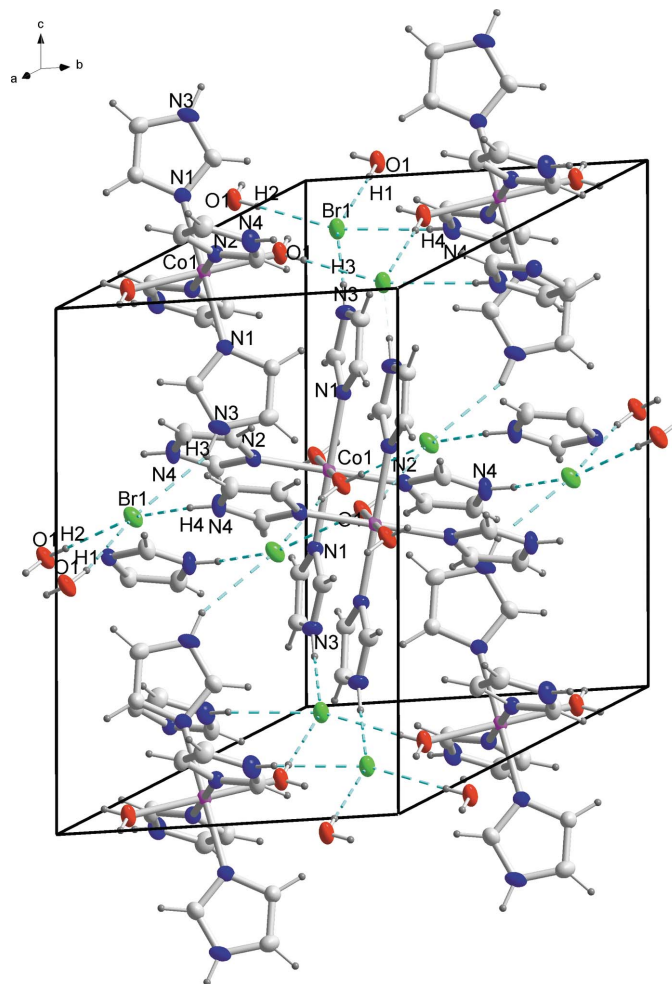
**Table 2**

Hydrogen-bond geometry ( $\text{\AA}, ^\circ$ ).

$D-H \cdots A$	$D-H$	$H \cdots A$	$D \cdots A$	$D-H \cdots A$
O1—H2 $\cdots$ Br1 <sup>i</sup>	0.76 (2)	2.54 (3)	3.2965 (14)	180 (2)
O1—H1 $\cdots$ Br1 <sup>ii</sup>	0.82 (2)	2.46 (2)	3.2659 (14)	170 (2)
N4—H4 $\cdots$ Br1	0.86	2.61	3.3875 (16)	151
N3—H3 $\cdots$ Br1 <sup>iii</sup>	0.86	2.67	3.4607 (16)	154

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

The imidazole H atoms were constrained to an ideal geometry, with  $C-H = 0.93 \text{ \AA}$  and  $N-H = 0.86 \text{ \AA}$ . Water H atoms were located in a difference Fourier map and their positions were refined freely.



**Figure 2**

The crystal packing of (I), showing the hydrogen-bonding interactions as dashed lines.

All H atoms were assigned isotropic displacement parameters  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C,N,O})$ .

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 1998); cell refinement: *SAINT* (Bruker, 1998); data reduction: *SAINT*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXTL* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXTL*; molecular graphics: *ORTEP3* (Farrugia, 1997) and *DIAMOND* (Brandenburg & Berndt, 1999); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*.

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