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**Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study  
T = 295 K  
Mean  $\sigma(C-C)$  = 0.003 Å  
R factor = 0.028  
wR factor = 0.078  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 18.1

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

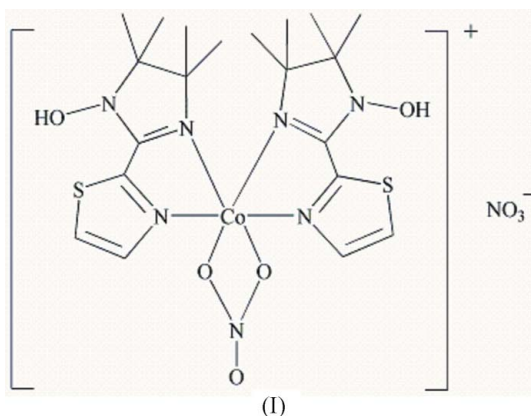
**Bis[1-hydroxy-4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-2-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-imidazole]-nitratocobalt(II) nitrate**

The title crystal structure,  $[Co(NO_3)(C_{10}H_{15}N_3OS)_2]NO_3$ , consists of  $Co^{II}$  complex cations and  $NO_3^-$  anions, located on different twofold axes and linked to each other *via*  $O-H \cdots O$  hydrogen bonding. The  $Co^{II}$  complex assumes a distorted octahedral coordination geometry, formed by a chelating nitrate and two ImTh molecules (ImTh is 1-hydroxy-4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-2-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-imidazole). Within the ImTh molecule, the N—O bond distance of 1.386 (2) Å is much longer than the N—O bonds found in related complexes with the nitroxide radical.

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**Comment**

Nitroxide radicals have attracted much attention in the past decade because of their possible magnetic properties (Fettouhi *et al.*, 2003; Fegy *et al.*, 1998; Wang *et al.*, 2003; Luneau *et al.*, 1998). In the process of preparing the  $Co^{II}$  complex with an imine nitroxide radical, we obtained the title complex, (I), in which the nitroxide radical was reduced due to an acidic impurity. Similar reduction phenomena have been reported previously (Jiang *et al.*, 1998; Li *et al.*, 2001). We present here the crystal structure of (I).



The crystal structure of (I) consists of  $Co^{II}$  complex cations and uncoordinated  $NO_3^-$  anions (Fig. 1). The  $Co^{II}$  complex lies on a twofold axis and displays a distorted octahedral coordination geometry, formed by a chelating nitrate anion and two chelating ImTh molecules (ImTh is 1-hydroxy-4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-2-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-imidazole). The N3—O1 bond distance (Table 1) is much longer than those (ranging from 1.25 to 1.31 Å) found in corresponding complexes incorporating nitroxide radicals (Awaga *et al.*, 1992; Cogne *et al.*, 2000).

The uncoordinated  $NO_3^-$  anion, lying on another twofold axis, links to the  $Co^{II}$  complex cation *via*  $O-H \cdots O$  hydrogen bonding (Table 2).

## Experimental

ImThO was prepared according to the literature method (Ullman *et al.*, 1970). ImThO (0.11 g, 0.5 mmol) was added to an ethanol solution (15 ml) of  $\text{Co}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (0.073 g, 0.25 mmol). The mixture was stirred for 2 h at room temperature and then filtered. The filtrate was kept in an atmosphere of diethyl ether vapor at room temperature. Single crystals of (I) were obtained after 10 d.

### Crystal data

$[\text{Co}(\text{NO}_3)(\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_3\text{OS})_2]\text{NO}_3$   
 $M_r = 633.59$   
 Orthorhombic,  $P2_12_12$   
 $a = 13.1701$  (8) Å  
 $b = 10.4625$  (6) Å  
 $c = 10.6961$  (7) Å  
 $V = 1473.84$  (16) Å<sup>3</sup>  
 $Z = 2$   
 $D_x = 1.428$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 Cell parameters from 5723 reflections  
 $\theta = 2.5\text{--}25.9^\circ$   
 $\mu = 0.78$  mm<sup>-1</sup>  
 $T = 295$  (2) K  
 Platelet, red  
 $0.31 \times 0.23 \times 0.10$  mm

### Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector diffractometer  
 $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans  
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Sheldrick, 1996)  
 $T_{\min} = 0.797$ ,  $T_{\max} = 0.925$   
 13046 measured reflections

3326 independent reflections  
 2897 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.019$   
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 27.5^\circ$   
 $h = -16 \rightarrow 17$   
 $k = -13 \rightarrow 13$   
 $l = -13 \rightarrow 13$

### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.028$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.078$   
 $S = 1.04$   
 3326 reflections  
 184 parameters  
 H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0407P)^2 + 0.1802P]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.17$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.16$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 Absolute structure: Flack (1983), 1385 Friedel Pairs  
 Flack parameter: 0.019 (15)

**Table 1**

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Co1—N1	2.1461 (18)	Co1—O3	2.1894 (19)
Co1—N2	2.0676 (18)	O1—N3	1.386 (2)
N1—Co1—N1 <sup>i</sup>	179.30 (11)	N2 <sup>i</sup> —Co1—N2	104.94 (10)
N1—Co1—N2	79.21 (7)	N2 <sup>i</sup> —Co1—O3	98.48 (8)
N1—Co1—N2 <sup>i</sup>	100.35 (7)	N2—Co1—O3	156.26 (7)
N1—Co1—O3	92.95 (8)	O3—Co1—O3 <sup>i</sup>	58.53 (11)
N1—Co1—O3 <sup>i</sup>	87.67 (8)		

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

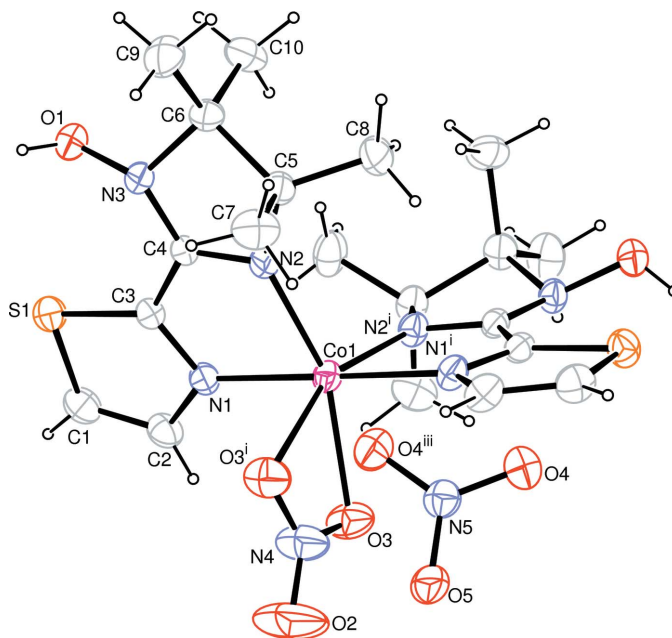
**Table 2**

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D\text{—}H\cdots A$	$D\text{—}H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D\text{—}H\cdots A$
O1—H1 <sup>i</sup> ⋯O5 <sup>ii</sup>	0.82	1.85	2.6227 (19)	158

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

Methyl H and hydroxy H atoms were placed in calculated positions, with C—H = 0.96 and O—H = 0.82 Å, and refined with free torsion angles to fit the electron density;  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.5U_{\text{eq}}(\text{carrier})$ . Other H atoms were placed in calculated positions, with C—H =



**Figure 1**

The molecular structure of (I), with 25% probability displacement ellipsoids (arbitrary spheres for H atoms) [symmetry codes: (i)  $-x + 1, -y, z$ ; (iii)  $-x + 1, -y + 1, z$ ].

0.93 Å, and refined in the riding-model approximation with  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$ .

Data collection: SMART (Bruker 2002); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker 2002); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: SHELXTL (Bruker, 2000); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXTL.

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