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Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study
 T = 273 K
 Mean $\sigma(C-C)$ = 0.007 Å
 R factor = 0.042
 wR factor = 0.141
 Data-to-parameter ratio = 16.6

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

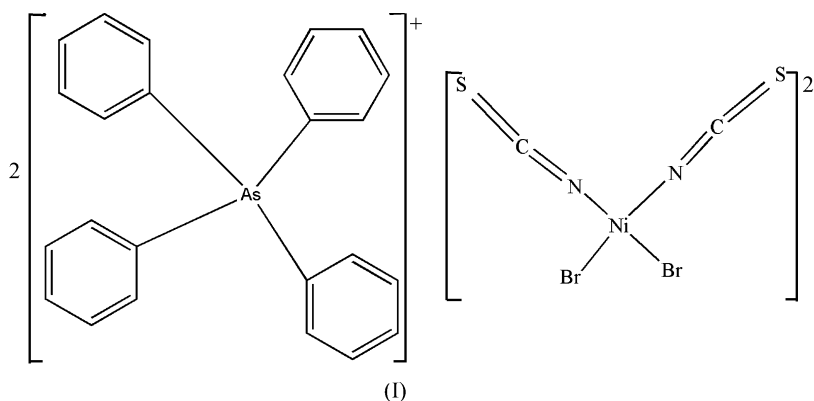
Tetraphenylarsonium diisothiocyanato-dibromonickelate(II)

Use of mixed-ligand (bromide and thiocyanate ions) coordination with nickel has led to the crystallization of the title compound, $(C_6H_5)_4As^+[Ni(NCS)_2Br_2]^{2-}$. X-ray crystal structure analysis reveals that the asymmetric unit contains one $(C_6H_5)_4As^+$ cation and one half $[Ni(NCS)_2Br_2]^{2-}$ anion, the latter lying on a crystallographic twofold axis.

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Comment

In view of our interest in the rational synthesis of mixed-ligand complex salts, for the first time single-crystal X-ray studies were conducted on mixed diisothiocyanatodibromonickelate(II) salts. The title compound, (I), and its analogues have been reported in the literature (Prasad *et al.*, 1982). Studies of the reported compounds were limited to IR and UV spectroscopic techniques. Although the structures of simple tetrachloro-, tetrakisothiocyanato-nickelates (II), and mixed tetrahalonickelates(II) are well known, a Cambridge Structural Database (Version 5.26, ConQuest Version 1.7; Allen, 2002) search showed that only a few tetrabromonickelate-based crystal structures are known so far (Bellefeuille *et al.*, 1998; Yamochi *et al.*, 2002). A comparison of the Br–Ni–Br bond angle in dibromodiisothiocyanatonickelate with that in tetrabromonickelate (Hitchcock *et al.*, 2003) shows that the replacement of two bromides with isocyanates increases this angle from 103.92 (5) to 122.37 (4)°. This is expected in view of the larger size of the bromide ligand compared to that of the nitrogen of the thiocyanate ligand. A crystallographic twofold rotation axis passes through the Ni atom.



Experimental

One of the starting materials, nickel(II) thiocyanate, was prepared in absolute ethanol by the metathetical reaction of $Ni(NO_3)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$ (0.290 g) and KNCS (0.194 g) in the presence of a small amount of triethyl orthoformate. The title compound was prepared from the

interaction of nickel(II) thiocyanate (0.174 g) and $(C_6H_5)_4AsBr$ (0.463 g) in a 1:2 molar ratio in a 2:1 (v/v) mixture of acetonitrile and absolute ethanol. The compound obtained was recrystallized from acetonitrile. The crystals were isolated, washed with a small amount of acetonitrile and then with diethyl ether and dried in an open-air oven at 363–373 K.

Crystal data

$(C_{24}H_{20}As)_2[NiBr_2(CNS)_2]$
 $M_r = 1101.31$
 Monoclinic, $C2/c$
 $a = 13.5382$ (10) Å
 $b = 15.7796$ (11) Å
 $c = 23.0555$ (16) Å
 $\beta = 105.347$ (1)°
 $V = 4749.7$ (6) Å³
 $Z = 4$

$D_x = 1.540$ Mg m⁻³
 Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
 Cell parameters from 7590 reflections
 $\theta = 2.4$ – 27.2°
 $\mu = 3.60$ mm⁻¹
 $T = 273$ (2) K
 Plate, green
 $0.35 \times 0.22 \times 0.10$ mm

Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector diffractometer
 φ and ω scans
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 2000)
 $T_{min} = 0.401$, $T_{max} = 0.711$
 17670 measured reflections

4430 independent reflections
 3556 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
 $R_{int} = 0.077$
 $\theta_{max} = 25.5^\circ$
 $h = -16 \rightarrow 16$
 $k = -18 \rightarrow 19$
 $l = -27 \rightarrow 27$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.042$
 $wR(F^2) = 0.141$
 $S = 1.08$
 4430 reflections
 267 parameters
 H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0881P)^2 + 1.9894P]$
 where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} = 0.002$
 $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.99$ e Å⁻³
 $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.88$ e Å⁻³

Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

As1—C1	1.902 (4)	As1—C7	1.912 (4)
As1—C19	1.911 (4)	Ni1—N1	1.973 (5)
As1—C13	1.911 (4)	Ni1—Br1	2.3787 (5)
C1—As1—C19	110.05 (17)	C13—As1—C7	106.97 (16)
C1—As1—C13	111.13 (17)	N1—Ni1—N1 ⁱ	105.2 (3)
C19—As1—C13	109.14 (18)	N1—Ni1—Br1 ⁱ	110.11 (13)
C1—As1—C7	107.25 (16)	N1—Ni1—Br1	103.98 (13)
C19—As1—C7	112.29 (17)	Br1 ⁱ —Ni1—Br1	122.37 (4)

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

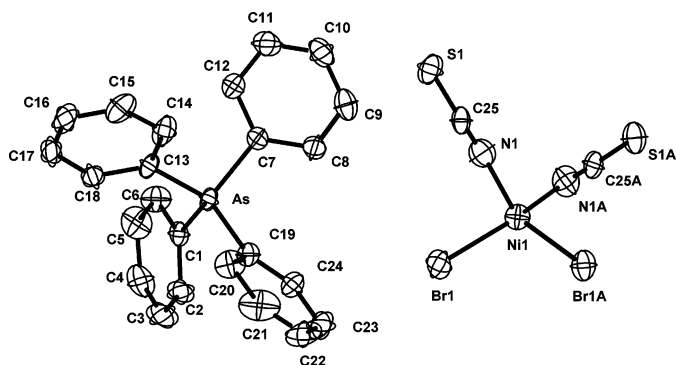


Figure 1

A view of the title compound, showing 50% probability displacement ellipsoids. Atoms labelled with the suffix A were generated by the symmetry code $(2 - x, y, \frac{1}{2} - z)$. H atoms have been omitted.

H atoms were treated as riding atoms, with C—H distances of 0.93 Å, and with $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$.

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 2001); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 2001); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1990); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: SHELXTL (Bruker, 2000) and DIAMOND (Klaus, 1999); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXTL.

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