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## Key indicators

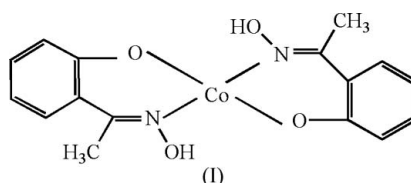
Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 295$  K  
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.005$  Å  
 $R$  factor = 0.042  
 $wR$  factor = 0.130  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 14.9For details of how these key indicators were  
automatically derived from the article, see  
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.*trans*-Bis{2-[1-(hydroxyimino)ethyl]phenolato}-  
cobalt(II)

In the title compound,  $[\text{Co}(\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{NO}_2)_2]$ , the Co atom has a distorted square-planar coordination involving two N atoms and two O atoms from two ethanone 1-(2-hydroxyphenyl)oximato ligands. The molecular structure and packing are stabilized by intramolecular  $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  hydrogen bonds and  $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\pi$  intermolecular interaction.

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## Comment

Hydroxyoximates constitute a class of organonitrogen compounds with strong coordinating properties that are known to have significant and extensive use in solvent extraction systems, in hydrometallurgy and as analytical reagents (Keeney *et al.*, 1984). Several transition metal complexes with 2-hydroxyaryloximes have been reported previously (Kantouri & Hartophylles, 1992). We report here a new cobalt(II) complex with the ethanone 1-(2-hydroxyphenyl)oximato ligand.



In the title compound, which is isostructural with the corresponding nickel(II) (Hatzidimitriou *et al.*, 1997) and copper(II) (Zhou *et al.*, 1985) complexes, the geometry of the cobalt(II) ion is best described as distorted square-planar. The Co–N bond lengths of 1.889 (3) and 1.892 (3) Å are in agreement with the corresponding distances found in other four-coordinated Co complexes (Fachinetti *et al.*, 1979; Rudolf *et al.*, 1988). The Co–O bond lengths are slightly shorter than those found in other structures (Horrocks *et al.*, 1982; Larkworthy & Povey, 1983).

The crystal packing is stabilized by intramolecular  $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  hydrogen bonds (Table 2) and intermolecular  $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\pi$  interactions [ $\text{C}9\cdots\text{C}g1 = 3.624$  (2) Å;  $\text{H}9\text{B}\cdots\text{C}g1 = 2.76$  Å;  $\text{C}9-\text{H}9\text{B}\cdots\text{C}g1 = 150^\circ$ ;  $\text{C}g1$  is the centroid of the benzene ring  $\text{C}11^i-\text{C}16^i$ ; symmetry code: (i)  $1-x, 2-y, -z$ ].

## Experimental

The title compound was prepared by the reaction of  $\text{CoCl}_2$  (0.02 mol) with ethanone 1-(2-hydroxyphenyl)oxime (0.04 mol) in ethanol with a few drops of aqueous ammonia (6.0 N). The precipitate was filtered off and washed with ethanol and water (yield 68%). Single crystals suitable for X-ray measurements were obtained by slow evaporation of a tetrahydrofuran solution at room temperature.

## Crystal data

[Co(C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>8</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]  
*M<sub>r</sub>* = 359.24  
 Monoclinic, *P*2<sub>1</sub>/*c*  
*a* = 7.8420 (16) Å  
*b* = 9.913 (2) Å  
*c* = 19.344 (4) Å  
 $\beta$  = 94.43 (3)°  
*V* = 1499.3 (5) Å<sup>3</sup>

*Z* = 4  
*D<sub>x</sub>* = 1.592 Mg m<sup>-3</sup>  
 Mo *K*α radiation  
 $\mu$  = 1.17 mm<sup>-1</sup>  
*T* = 295 (2) K  
 Block, blue  
 0.25 × 0.20 × 0.18 mm

## Data collection

Enraf–Nonius CAD-4  
 diffractometer  
 $\omega$  scans  
 Absorption correction: none  
 3496 measured reflections  
 3257 independent reflections

2614 reflections with *I* > 2σ(*I*)  
*R*<sub>int</sub> = 0.068  
 $\theta_{\max}$  = 27.0°  
 3 standard reflections  
 every 100 reflections  
 intensity decay: none

## Refinement

Refinement on *F*<sup>2</sup>  
*R*[*F*<sup>2</sup> > 2σ(*F*<sup>2</sup>)] = 0.042  
*wR*(*F*<sup>2</sup>) = 0.130  
*S* = 1.09  
 3257 reflections  
 219 parameters  
 H atoms treated by a mixture of  
 independent and constrained  
 refinement

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0702P)^2 + 1.1322P]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.94 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.79 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$   
 Extinction correction: *SHELXL97*  
 Extinction coefficient: 0.0049 (10)

Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Co1—O3	1.819 (2)	Co1—N2	1.889 (3)
Co1—O1	1.821 (2)	Co1—N1	1.892 (3)
O3—Co1—O1	178.95 (12)	O3—Co1—N1	88.31 (11)
O3—Co1—N2	92.07 (11)	O1—Co1—N1	91.91 (11)
O1—Co1—N2	87.69 (11)	N2—Co1—N1	178.49 (11)

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>
O2—H2A...O3	0.86 (4)	1.75 (3)	2.493 (3)	144 (4)
O4—H4A...O1	0.86 (4)	1.75 (4)	2.475 (4)	141 (6)

C-bound H atoms were positioned geometrically and refined as riding, with C—H = 0.93–0.96 Å, and with *U*<sub>iso</sub>(H) = 1.2–1.5*U*<sub>eq</sub>(C). The H atoms attached to O atoms were located in a difference Fourier map and freely refined.

Data collection: *CAD-4 Software* (Enraf–Nonius, 1989); cell refinement: *CAD-4 Software*; data reduction: *NRCVAX* (Gabe *et al.*,

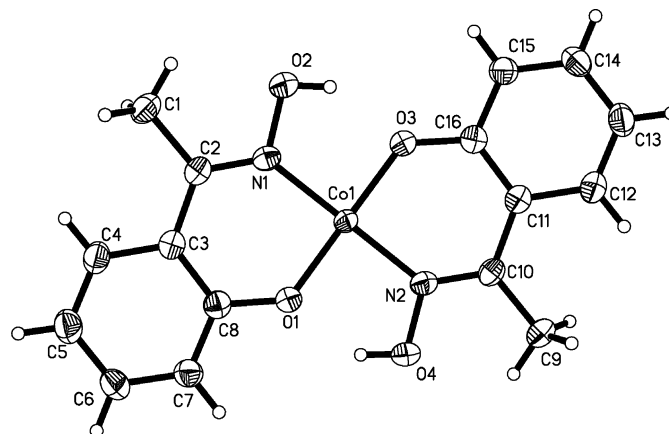


Figure 1

The structure of the title compound, showing 30% probability displacement ellipsoids and the atom-numbering scheme.

1989); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *SHELXTL* (Sheldrick, 1990); software used to prepare material for publication: *WinGX* (Farrugia, 1999).

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