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## Key indicators

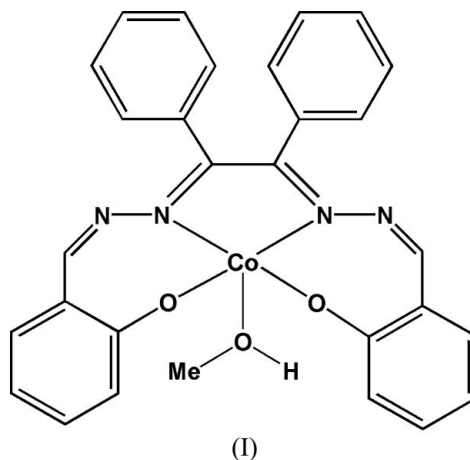
Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 293\text{ K}$   
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.006\text{ \AA}$   
 $R$  factor = 0.055  
 $wR$  factor = 0.149  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 12.8For details of how these key indicators were  
automatically derived from the article, see  
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.**{1,2-Bis[(2-oxidobenzylidene)hydrazono]-  
1,2-diphenylethane}(methanol)cobalt(II)**

The title complex,  $[\text{Co}(\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_4\text{O}_2)(\text{CH}_3\text{OH})]$ , can be described as a single-stranded helix with the  $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}$  atom having a distorted trigonal-bipyramidal configuration. Edge-to-face  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking interactions,  $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\pi$  interactions between the aromatic rings and  $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  hydrogen bonds lead to a three-dimensional network in the crystal structure.

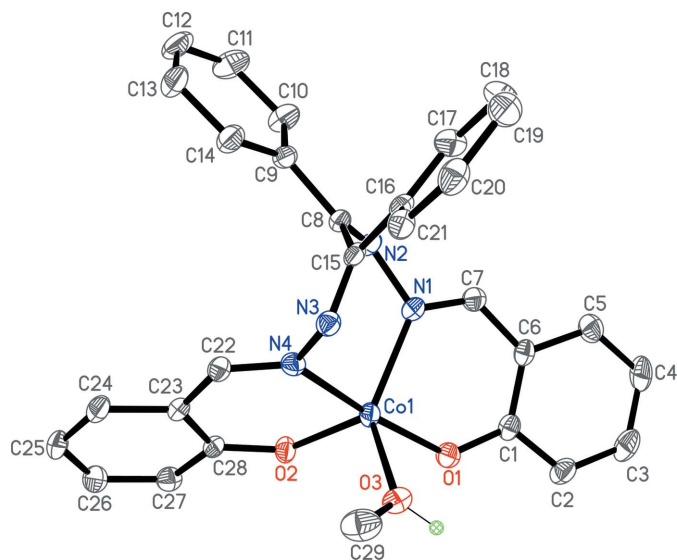
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## Comment

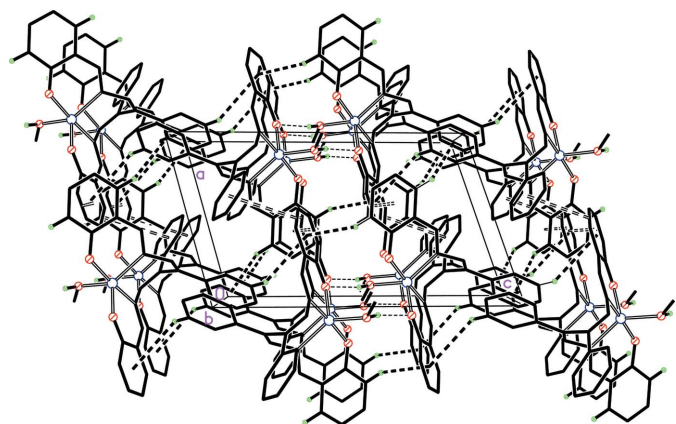
Within the field of modern supramolecular chemistry, the design of the organic ligand remains a key element for achieving a given metallo-supramolecular architecture (Lehn, 1995; Mulyana *et al.*, 2005). Polydentate diazine ligands containing N-N bridge fragments can produce a variety of structural types, such as helices, polygons and polyhedra, on the basis of the free rotation of the metal coordination planes around the N-N single bond (Grove *et al.*, 2004; Zhao *et al.*, 2004). The study of complexes of these ligands with appropriate metal ions is one of our current interests because of their unusual structures and special physical properties (Bai, Dang *et al.*, 2005; Chowdhury *et al.*, 2003; Gao *et al.*, 2003). As part of our studies of metallo-supramolecular complexes derived from polydentate diazine ligands, we became interested in designing bis-bidentate Schiff base diazine ligands with two symmetrically related coordination capabilities derived from benzil dihydrazone (Bai, Duan *et al.*, 2005; Sun *et al.*, 2006). In our previous work, a single-stranded helicate copper(II) complex generated from benzil bis[(2-oxidobenzylidene)hydrazone] ( $\text{H}_2\text{L}$ ) was reported (Bai *et al.*, 2006). Here we report a new complex, (I), of cobalt(II) which was constructed using the same ligand.



The title cobalt(II) complex, (I), exhibits a single-stranded helical construction (Fig. 1) just like that found in the related


**Figure 1**

The molecular structure, showing the atom-labelling scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level. H atoms (except that of the methanol hydroxyl group) have been omitted for clarity.


**Figure 2**

Intermolecular edge-to-face  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking (dashed open lines), C-H... $\pi$  stacking (dashed solid lines) and O-H...O hydrogen-bond interactions (dotted lines) in the title complex, viewed along the  $b$  axis. H atoms other than those of hydroxyl have been omitted for clarity.

copper(II) complex (Bai *et al.*, 2006). The ligand loses two protons and coordinates to the cobalt center as a bisbidentate ligand, forming a mononuclear neutral complex. The cobalt center is coordinated in a distorted trigonal-bipyramidal configuration by two imine N atoms, two alkoxide O atoms and one methanol O atom. The Co—O and Co—N distances are in normal ranges (Table 1). The ligand adopts a twist helical conformation with N2—C8—C15—N3, C7—N1—N2—C8 and C15—N3—N4—C22 torsion angles of 71.1 (4), 130.0 (3) and 105.1 (3) $^\circ$ , respectively. The dihedral angle between the C9—C14 and C16—C21 phenyl rings is 89.9 (1) $^\circ$ . These results are similar to the values in related compounds (Bai, Duan *et al.*, 2005; Bai *et al.*, 2006; Chowdhury *et al.*, 2003).

In the crystal structure, molecules interact with each other forming a three-dimensional network through edge-to-face  $\pi$ -

$\pi$  stacking, C—H... $\pi$  stacking and intermolecular hydrogen-bond interactions (Fig. 2). In the  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions, the shortest atom-atom separations are 3.445 (7) and 3.588 (6)  $\text{\AA}$  for C6...C26<sup>i</sup> and C16...C25<sup>i</sup> [symmetry code: (i) 1 +  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $z$ ], respectively. The dihedral angles between the interacting pair are 50.6 (1) $^\circ$  for C1—C6 and C23<sup>i</sup>—C28<sup>i</sup> and 61.1 (1) $^\circ$  for C16—C21 and C23<sup>i</sup>—C28<sup>i</sup>. Intermolecular hydrogen bonds and C—H... $\pi$  interactions are also important factors in the stabilization of the crystal structure (Table 2).

## Experimental

All chemicals were of reagent grade quality, obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification. Benzil bis(salicylidenehydrazone) ( $\text{H}_2\text{L}$ ) was readily prepared by the reaction of benzil dihydrazone with salicylaldehyde according to the literature methods (Bai *et al.*, 2006). The ligand  $\text{H}_2\text{L}$  (0.2 mmol, 0.088 g) and  $\text{Co}(\text{ClO}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (0.2 mmol, 0.074 g) were mixed in methanol (40 ml). The solution was left for 10 d at room temperature to afford red crystals (yield 83%). Analysis calculated for  $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{24}\text{CoN}_4\text{O}_3$ : C 65.0, H 4.5, N 10.5%; found: C 65.3, H 4.2, N 10.3%.

### Crystal data

$[\text{Co}(\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_4\text{O}_2)(\text{CH}_4\text{O})]$   
 $M_r = 535.45$   
 Triclinic,  $P\bar{1}$   
 $a = 9.298$  (2)  $\text{\AA}$   
 $b = 10.455$  (2)  $\text{\AA}$   
 $c = 14.523$  (3)  $\text{\AA}$   
 $\alpha = 95.668$  (4) $^\circ$   
 $\beta = 103.721$  (4) $^\circ$   
 $\gamma = 112.567$  (4) $^\circ$

$V = 1237.8$  (5)  $\text{\AA}^3$   
 $Z = 2$   
 $D_x = 1.437$   $\text{Mg m}^{-3}$   
 Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 $\mu = 0.73$   $\text{mm}^{-1}$   
 $T = 293$  (2) K  
 Block, red  
 $0.22 \times 0.20 \times 0.18$  mm

### Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector  
 diffractometer  
 $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans  
 Absorption correction: none  
 6207 measured reflections

4310 independent reflections  
 3617 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.083$   
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 25.1^\circ$

### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.055$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.149$   
 $S = 1.01$   
 4310 reflections  
 337 parameters  
 H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0888P)^2 + 0.024P]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.71$   $\text{e \AA}^{-3}$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.35$   $\text{e \AA}^{-3}$

**Table 1**

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

Co1—O1	1.951 (2)	Co1—N4	2.074 (3)
Co1—O2	1.954 (2)	Co1—N1	2.091 (3)
Co1—O3	2.073 (2)		
O1—Co1—O2	100.42 (10)	O3—Co1—N4	89.79 (10)
O1—Co1—O3	86.66 (10)	O1—Co1—N1	89.15 (10)
O2—Co1—O3	107.04 (10)	O2—Co1—N1	121.73 (10)
O1—Co1—N4	171.45 (10)	O3—Co1—N1	130.97 (10)
O2—Co1—N4	88.05 (10)	N4—Co1—N1	87.31 (10)

**Table 2**

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D-H\cdots A$	$D-H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-H\cdots A$
$O3-H3A\cdots O2^i$	0.82	1.92	2.699 (3)	159
$C29-H29C\cdots O1^i$	0.96	2.60	3.313 (6)	131
$C2-H2A\cdots Cg1^i$	0.93	2.74 (1)	3.404 (8)	127 (1)
$C5-H5A\cdots Cg1^{iii}$	0.93	3.13 (1)	3.90 (2)	139 (1)
$C5-H5A\cdots Cg2^{iii}$	0.93	2.98 (1)	3.804 (8)	145 (1)

Symmetry codes: (i)  $-x, -y+1, -z+1$ ; (ii)  $-x, -y+1, -z+2$ ; (iii)  $-x+1, -y+1, -z+2$ .  $Cg1$  and  $Cg2$  are the centroids of the C23–C28 and C9–C14 benzene rings, respectively.

The H atoms bonded to C and O atoms were constrained to ride on their parent atoms, with distances of 0.82 Å for OH, 0.96 Å for CH<sub>3</sub> and 0.93 Å for other C–H;  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(O)$  for OH,  $1.5U_{eq}(C)$  for CH<sub>3</sub> and  $1.2U_{eq}(C)$  for other C–H.

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 2000); cell refinement: *SMART*; data reduction: *SAINTE* (Bruker, 2000); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXTL* (Bruker, 2000); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXTL*; molecular graphics: *SHELXTL*; software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*.

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