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Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study
 T = 298 K
 Mean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.008 \text{ \AA}$
 R factor = 0.048
 wR factor = 0.099
 Data-to-parameter ratio = 14.5

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

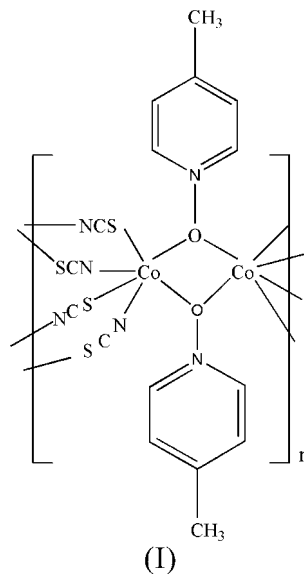
Poly[(μ -4-methylpyridine *N*-oxide)bis(μ -thiocyanato)cobalt(II)]

In the title complex, $[\text{Co}(\mu\text{-NCS})_2(\mu\text{-C}_6\text{H}_7\text{NO})]_n$, both the thiocyanate and 4-methylpyridine *N*-oxide ligands coordinate to the Co^{II} atom as bridging ligands, forming a two-dimensional sheet structure. There is a non-classical C—H \cdots S hydrogen bond in the sheet.

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Comment

Both thiocyanate and pyridine *N*-oxide are very useful bridging ligands. A number of multinuclear complexes have been synthesized with one or both of them as bridging ligands and some of the complexes display interesting physical properties (Shi, Sun *et al.*, 2006). Interest in complexes containing both ligands resulted in the synthesis of the title complex, (I), and we report its structure here. The synthesis of (I) was almost identical to that of the one-dimensional polymer $[\text{Co}(\mu_{1,3}\text{-SCN})(\mu\text{-C}_6\text{H}_7\text{NO})(\text{SCN})(\text{CH}_3\text{OH})]_n$ (Shi, Liu *et al.*, 2006), but the difference in the solvents led to the formation of the two complexes with distinct structures.



The Co^{II} atom assumes a distorted octahedral $\text{CoO}_2\text{N}_2\text{S}_2$ coordination geometry (Fig. 1 and Table 1). Two 4-methylpyridine *N*-oxide molecules coordinate to two symmetry-related Co^{II} ions, with a $\text{Co1}\cdots\text{Co1}^{\text{iii}}$ separation of 3.4452 (14) \AA (symmetry code as in Table 1), forming a binuclear four-membered ring. Adjacent pairs of Co^{II} atoms are connected by the coordination of two $\mu_{1,3}\text{-SCN}$ bridging ligands, creating an eight-membered ring; the $\text{Co}\cdots\text{Co}$ distances are 5.657 (2) and 5.690 (2) \AA for $\text{Co1}\cdots\text{Co1}^{\text{i}}$ and $\text{Co1}\cdots\text{Co1}^{\text{ii}}$, respectively (symmetry codes as in Table 1). In this complex, a two-dimensional sheet structure is formed

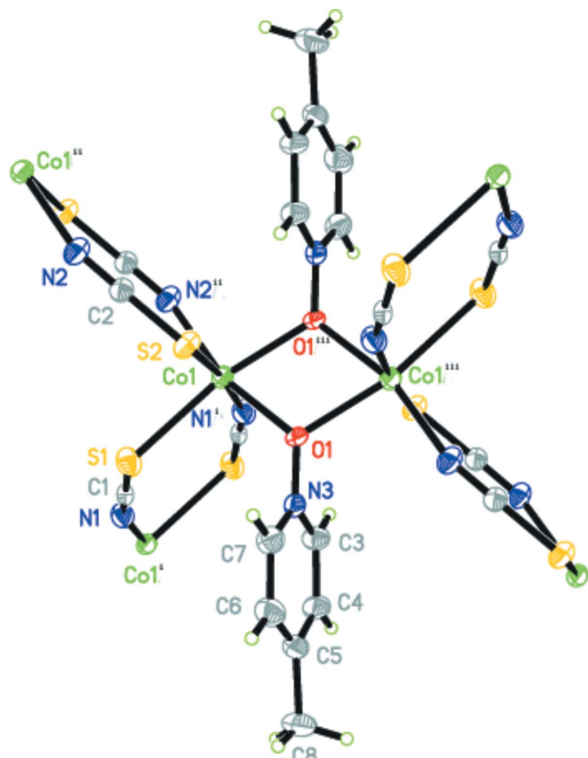


Figure 1
Part of the polymeric structure of (I), showing 30% probability displacement ellipsoids and the atom-numbering scheme (symmetry codes as in Table 1).

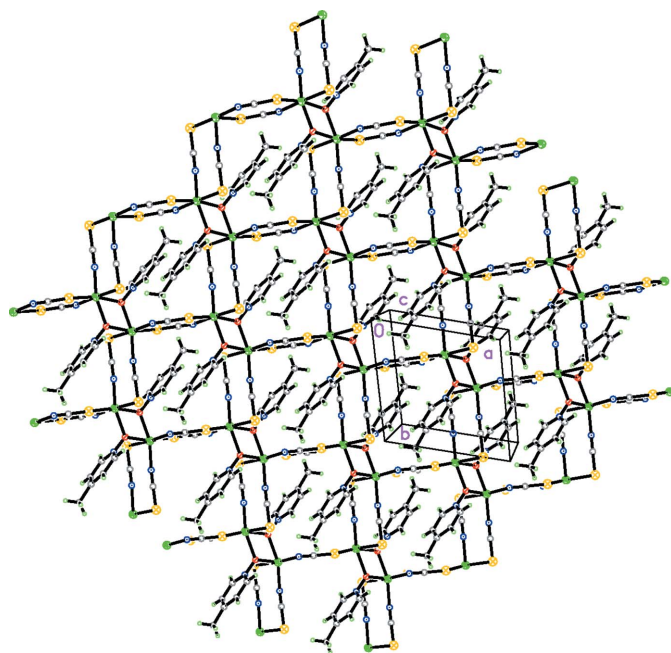


Figure 2
Packing diagram of (I), showing the two-dimensional sheet structure.

(Fig. 2). In the two-dimensional structure, there is a 34-membered ring formed by eight $\mu_{1,3}$ -SCN bridging ligands, four μ -4-methylpyridine *N*-oxide ligands and six Co^{II} ions. A non-classical C—H \cdots S hydrogen bond (Table 2) is also observed in the sheet.

The 4-methoxypyridine analogue has been reported in a previous paper (Zhang *et al.*, 2006).

Experimental

$\text{Co}(\text{ClO}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (0.2036 g, 0.556 mmol), 4-methylpyridine *N*-oxide (0.0611 g, 0.560 mmol) and NaSCN (0.0905 g, 1.12 mmol) were separately dissolved in H_2O (5 ml), and then the three solutions were mixed together. Blue single crystals of (I) were obtained after allowing the mixed solution to stand at room temperature for one month.

Crystal data

$[\text{Co}(\text{NCS})_2(\text{C}_6\text{H}_7\text{NO})]$
 $M_r = 284.24$
 Triclinic, $P\bar{1}$
 $a = 7.945$ (3) Å
 $b = 8.170$ (3) Å
 $c = 9.642$ (3) Å
 $\alpha = 71.059$ (5)°
 $\beta = 76.441$ (5)°
 $\gamma = 72.690$ (4)°

$V = 558.5$ (3) Å³
 $Z = 2$
 $D_x = 1.690$ Mg m⁻³
 Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
 $\mu = 1.88$ mm⁻¹
 $T = 298$ (2) K
 Prism, blue
 $0.46 \times 0.16 \times 0.08$ mm

Data collection

Bruker SMART APEX CCD diffractometer
 φ and ω scans
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (*SADABS*; Sheldrick, 1996)
 $T_{\text{min}} = 0.478$, $T_{\text{max}} = 0.864$

2953 measured reflections
 1981 independent reflections
 1419 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.049$
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 25.3^\circ$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.048$
 $wR(F^2) = 0.099$
 $S = 0.88$
 1981 reflections
 137 parameters

H-atom parameters constrained
 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0352P)^2]$
 where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.51$ e Å⁻³
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.31$ e Å⁻³

Table 1

Selected bond lengths (Å).

Co1—N1 ⁱ	2.052 (4)	Co1—O1 ⁱⁱⁱ	2.149 (3)
Co1—N2 ⁱⁱ	2.036 (4)	Co1—S1	2.5156 (16)
Co1—O1	2.097 (3)	Co1—S2	2.6500 (15)

Symmetry codes: (i) $-x, -y + 1, -z + 1$; (ii) $-x + 1, -y, -z + 1$; (iii) $-x + 1, -y + 1, -z + 1$.

Table 2

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D\text{—H}\cdots A$	$D\text{—H}$	$\text{H}\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D\text{—H}\cdots A$
C3—H2 \cdots S2 ⁱⁱⁱ	0.93	2.86	3.590 (6)	137

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

H atoms were placed in calculated positions (C—H = 0.93–0.96 Å) and refined as riding, with $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$ or $1.5U_{\text{eq}}(\text{methyl C})$.

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 1997); cell refinement: *SAINT* (Bruker, 1997); data reduction: *SAINT*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXTL* (Bruker, 2001); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXTL*; molecular graphics: *SHELXTL*; software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*.

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