

Tetrakis(1*H*-imidazole- $\kappa$ N<sup>3</sup>)nickel(II) dinitrate

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## Key indicators

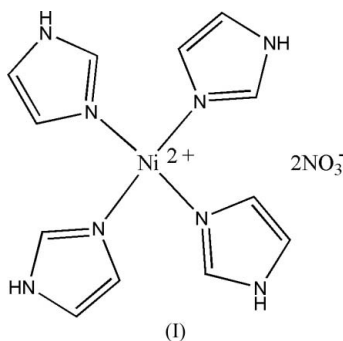
Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 298$  K  
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.008$  Å  
 $R$  factor = 0.040  
 $wR$  factor = 0.106  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 15.4For details of how these key indicators were  
automatically derived from the article, see  
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

In the title mononuclear nickel(II) complex,  $[\text{Ni}(\text{C}_3\text{H}_4\text{N}_2)_4](\text{NO}_3)_2$ , the  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$  atom is four-coordinated in a square-planar geometry by four N atoms from four imidazole ligands. The nitrate anions are linked to the nickel(II) complex cations through intermolecular  $\text{N}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  hydrogen bonds.

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## Comment

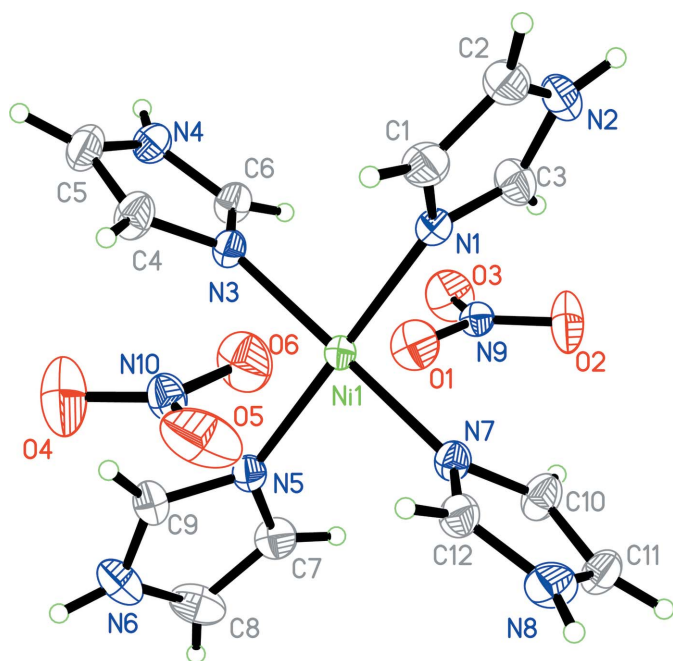
Nickel(II) complexes with multidentate ligands have received much attention in recent years (Marganian *et al.*, 1995). Some of the complexes have been found to have pharmacological and catalytic properties (Harrop *et al.*, 2003; Brückner *et al.*, 2000). Nickel is present in the active sites of several important classes of metalloproteins, as either a homodinuclear or a heterodinuclear species. As part of a project to further develop the coordination chemistry of such nickel complexes, the title nickel(II) complex, (I), is reported here.



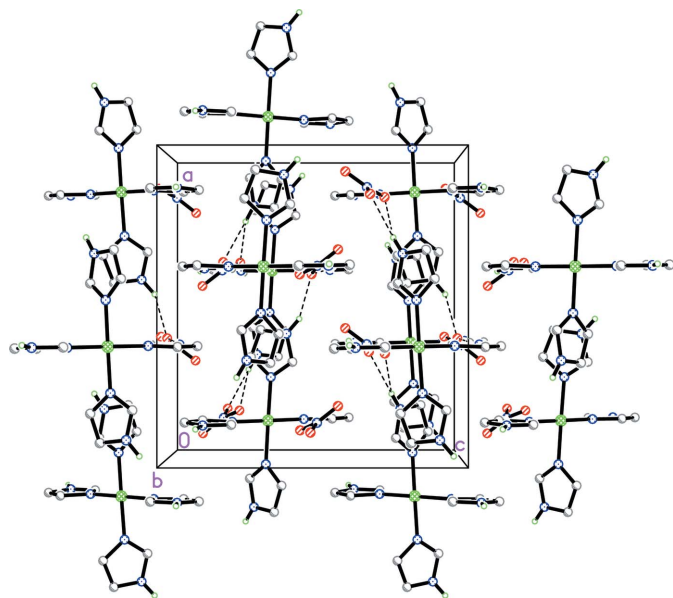
The asymmetric unit of (I) contains a mononuclear nickel(II) complex cation and two nitrate anions (Fig. 1). The  $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}$  atom in (I) is coordinated by four N atoms from four imidazole ligands, forming a four-coordinate square-planar geometry. All the bond lengths and angles (Table 1) involving Ni are comparable with the values reported for similar nickel(II) complexes (Povse *et al.*, 1998; Perec *et al.*, 1999; Spek *et al.*, 1988). Atoms O1 and O6 lie 2.515 (5) and 2.578 (6) Å, respectively, from Ni1. In the crystal structure, the nitrate anions are linked to the nickel(II) complex cations through intermolecular  $\text{N}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  hydrogen bonds (Table 2 and Fig. 2).

## Experimental

Imidazole (1.0 mmol, 63.2 mg) and  $\text{Ni}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (0.5 mmol, 145.4 mg) were dissolved in methanol (100 ml). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for about 1 h, giving a red solution. After allowing the solution to stand in air for 8 d, red block-shaped crystals were formed.



**Figure 1**  
The asymmetric unit of (I), showing the atom-numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level.



**Figure 2**  
The crystal packing of (I). C-bound H atoms have been omitted. Dashed lines indicate hydrogen bonds.

#### Crystal data

$[\text{Ni}(\text{C}_3\text{H}_4\text{N}_2)_4](\text{NO}_3)_2$   
 $M_r = 455.06$   
 Orthorhombic,  $Pna2_1$   
 $a = 13.861(2) \text{ \AA}$   
 $b = 9.793(3) \text{ \AA}$   
 $c = 13.372(2) \text{ \AA}$   
 $V = 1815.1(7) \text{ \AA}^3$

$Z = 4$   
 $D_x = 1.665 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$   
 Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 $\mu = 1.13 \text{ mm}^{-1}$   
 $T = 298(2) \text{ K}$   
 Block, red  
 $0.32 \times 0.28 \times 0.27 \text{ mm}$

#### Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector diffractometer  
 $\omega$  scans  
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 2000)  
 $T_{\min} = 0.715$ ,  $T_{\max} = 0.751$

12776 measured reflections  
 4062 independent reflections  
 2724 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.039$   
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 28.3^\circ$

#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.040$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.106$   
 $S = 1.02$   
 4062 reflections  
 263 parameters  
 H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0425P)^2 + 1.0722P]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} = 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.51 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.28 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$   
 Absolute structure: Flack (1983),  
 1771 Friedel pairs  
 Flack parameter: 0.27 (3)

**Table 1**

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

Ni1—N7	1.988 (5)	Ni1—N1	2.009 (3)
Ni1—N5	2.003 (3)	Ni1—N3	2.014 (5)
N7—Ni1—N5	89.7 (2)	N7—Ni1—N3	179.4 (2)
N7—Ni1—N1	90.2 (2)	N5—Ni1—N3	89.9 (2)
N5—Ni1—N1	178.8 (2)	N1—Ni1—N3	90.2 (2)

**Table 2**

Hydrogen-bond geometry ( $\text{\AA}$ ,  $^\circ$ ).

$D\cdots H\cdots A$	$D\cdots H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D\cdots H\cdots A$
N2—H2 $\cdots$ O3 <sup>i</sup>	0.86	2.22	2.953 (6)	142
N2—H2 $\cdots$ O1 <sup>i</sup>	0.86	2.55	3.361 (7)	158
N2—H2 $\cdots$ N9 <sup>i</sup>	0.86	2.70	3.542 (6)	168
N4—H4 $\cdots$ O5 <sup>ii</sup>	0.86	2.12	2.808 (8)	137
N6—H6 $\cdots$ O5 <sup>iii</sup>	0.86	2.15	2.939 (7)	152
N6—H6 $\cdots$ O2 <sup>iv</sup>	0.86	2.62	3.189 (8)	124
N8—H8 $\cdots$ O3 <sup>v</sup>	0.86	2.07	2.787 (7)	140

Symmetry codes: (i)  $x - \frac{1}{2}, -y + \frac{1}{2}, z$ ; (ii)  $x, y - 1, z$ ; (iii)  $x + \frac{1}{2}, -y + \frac{3}{2}, z$ ; (iv)  $-x + \frac{1}{2}, y + \frac{1}{2}, z + \frac{1}{2}$ ; (v)  $x, y + 1, z$ .

H atoms were placed in idealized positions and constrained to ride on their parent atoms, with  $C\text{—}H = 0.93 \text{ \AA}$  and  $N\text{—}H = 0.86 \text{ \AA}$ , and with  $U_{\text{iso}}(H) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(C,N)$ . The value of the Flack parameter suggests some degree of inversion twinning; attempts to refine the structure in the centrosymmetric space group  $Pnma$  (non-standard setting of  $Pnma$ ) were unsuccessful.

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 2000); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 2000); data reduction: SAINT; 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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