

the photometer recordings. On the equator the reflexion with $Q=613$, *vs*, has been omitted because of its very high intensity, being about ten times that with $Q=473$. For the 6th layer line the nearly meridional reflexions are smeared out along the layer line, which fact may be responsible for the high intensities observed. There is a good agreement between the observed and calculated intensities.

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Refinement of the Structure of Bisthiourea-nickel (II) Thiocyanate.

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The crystal structure of $\text{Ni}[\text{SC}(\text{NH}_2)_2]_2(\text{NCS})_2$ has been refined by means of three-dimensional differential syntheses. Each nickel atom lies on a symmetry centre (space group $P\bar{1}$) and is octahedrally surrounded by four sulphur atoms from thiourea molecules ($\text{Ni-S } 2.53 \pm 0.01$ and 2.56 ± 0.01 Å) and two nitrogen atoms from thiocyanate groups ($\text{Ni-N } 1.99 \pm 0.01$ Å). The octahedra are linked in chains with each thionilic S atom shared by two adjacent nickel atoms. Bond distances and angles are discussed.

The structure of bisthiourea-nickel(II) thiocyanate, $\text{Ni}[\text{SC}(\text{NH}_2)_2]_2(\text{NCS})_2$, was determined several years ago by Nardelli, Braibanti & Fava (1957) (hereafter called NBF) by means of generalized Fourier syntheses using an incomplete set of three-dimensional data (482 independent reflexions out of 1222 possible with $\text{Cu } K\alpha$ radiation). Because this compound is interesting from the point of view of the coordination of the thionilic sulphur and the thiocyanate group, the refinement of its structure was undertaken to improve the reliability of bond distances and angles with the use of all the observable data with $\text{Cu } K\alpha$ radiation.

Cell constants, remeasured, from rotation and Weissenberg photographs, are as follows:

$\text{Ni}[\text{SC}(\text{NH}_2)_2]_2(\text{NCS})_2$. $M = 327.1$; $a = 3.80 \pm 0.01$, $b = 7.58 \pm 0.01$, $c = 10.11 \pm 0.01$ Å; $\alpha = 92.3 \pm 0.2$, $\beta = 98.1 \pm 0.2$, $\gamma = 104.1 \pm 0.1^\circ$, $V = 278.7$ Å³, $Z = 1$, $D_x = 1.95$, $D_m = 1.88$ g.cm⁻³ (flotation), $\mu = 90.2$ cm⁻¹ ($\text{Cu } K\alpha$). Space group: $P\bar{1}$.

New three-dimensional intensity data were collected from integrated and non-integrated multiple film

Weissenberg photographs taken around [100] with a sample of nearly square cross-section (edge 0.008 cm) and around [010] using a fragment with a mean radius of 0.008 cm. All the crystals were parallel twins with twinning axis [100], and yet the reflexions due to the two individuals were well separated in all the photographs (excepting of course the $0kl$ reflexions which were always superimposed). The complete indexing and intensity measurement (photometrically) of the spots from both individuals were straightforward in the series of photographs taken around [100]. In the series taken around [010], only the reflexions due to the individual rotating around that axis were considered. Four levels about the a axis and seven levels about the b axis were measured, giving a total of 1010 observed independent reflexions. The absorption correction for cylindrical samples was applied to [100] – and for spherical samples to [010] – data. Upper-level Weissenberg spot shape effects were considered following Phillips (1956) for the first series and following Scouloudi (1953) for the second series of data. The structure amplitudes (with the exception of $0kl$) were put on the same relative scale by the least-squares cross-correl-

ation method of Rollett & Sparks (1960). The absolute scale factors for $0kl$ and for hkl were determined separately by comparing F_o and F_c .

The refinement, starting from the NBF atomic coordinates ($R=21.3\%$), was carried out with eleven cycles of Booth's differential synthesis, the first three with isotropic, the remainder with anisotropic thermal parameters. These parameters were derived from the second derivatives of the electron-density, following the method of Nardelli & Fava (1960). At the end of the refinement the agreement indices (R , for observed reflexions only; R' , assuming $F_o = \frac{1}{2}F_{\min}$ when $F_c \geq F_{\min}$ for unobserved reflexions; multiplicities not considered) were: $R=10.3\%$, $R'=12.2\%$.

The final coordinates with their e.s.d.'s (Cruickshank, 1949) are given in Table 1. Observed and calculated peak heights and curvatures are compared in Table 2, in which the e.s.d.'s of electron-density and second derivatives are quoted too.

In view of the uncertainty in deriving the correct scale factors, the anisotropic thermal parameters, given in Table 3, do not have strict physical meaning. Rescaling by layers along [100] improves the R and R' indices to 9.4% and 11.4% respectively. The low value of the R

Table 1. Final fractional coordinates ($\times 10^4$) and their e.s.d.'s (in 10^{-3} Å)

Ni	x/a (σ)	y/b (σ)	z/c (σ)
	0	0	0
S(1)	116 (4)	2950 (4)	4231 (3)
S(2)	3983 (3)	-2228 (3)	333 (2)
N(1)	869 (12)	1050 (10)	1892 (6)
N(2)	4453 (15)	-1916 (16)	3003 (9)
N(3)	5851 (14)	-4444 (14)	2096 (10)
C(1)	614 (13)	1847 (15)	2874 (11)
C(2)	4816 (15)	-2931 (13)	1959 (10)

Table 2. Atomic peak heights ($e.\text{Å}^{-3}$), curvatures ($e.\text{Å}^{-5}$) and e.s.d.'s

Ni	ρ	$-A_{hh}$	$-A_{kk}$	$-A_{ll}$	A_{kl}	A_{hl}	A_{hk}	
	obs.	68.3	670	697	746	41	68	181
	calc.	70.5	663	699	745	41	66	178
S(1)	obs.	38.1	390	368	423	-7	42	123
	calc.	38.5	387	367	423	-7	42	123
S(2)	obs.	46.8	478	528	538	51	39	137
	calc.	47.1	474	526	538	51	38	137
N(1)	obs.	14.6	133	141	180	-16	26	45
	calc.	14.7	131	142	179	-16	25	43
N(2)	obs.	11.9	95	97	133	12	4	29
	calc.	12.0	94	99	133	12	4	28
N(3)	obs.	12.6	106	133	129	24	2	36
	calc.	12.6	103	133	128	23	3	34
C(1)	obs.	11.3	103	108	114	23	-5	26
	calc.	11.2	101	104	113	24	-6	26
C(2)	obs.	11.1	98	121	116	17	3	31
	calc.	11.3	96	122	115	16	3	30
e.s.d.		0.3	5	4	4	2	2	3

index, obtained in this way, indicates also that further refinement of the structure in the $P1$ space group would not be worth while.

Table 3. Thermal parameters with e.s.d.'s ($\times 10$ Å²)

	$B_{11}(\sigma)$	$B_{22}(\sigma)$	$B_{33}(\sigma)$	$B_{23}(\sigma)$	$B_{13}(\sigma)$	$B_{12}(\sigma)$
Ni	28 (2)	27 (1)	21 (1)	2 (1)	0 (1)	9 (2)
S(1)	25 (2)	34 (1)	13 (0)	-4 (1)	-3 (1)	14 (2)
S(2)	18 (1)	14 (1)	9 (0)	4 (1)	-2 (1)	7 (1)
N(1)	21 (5)	19 (3)	11 (1)	0 (3)	-2 (4)	9 (5)
N(2)	39 (7)	29 (5)	10 (1)	2 (4)	-5 (5)	15 (7)
N(3)	37 (7)	21 (4)	21 (2)	6 (5)	-2 (5)	12 (7)
C(1)	20 (5)	21 (4)	12 (2)	5 (4)	-3 (4)	7 (6)
C(2)	20 (5)	13 (3)	17 (2)	2 (4)	-2 (4)	1 (5)

Introducing the H atoms at the calculated positions did not improve the R index. An $F_o - F_c$ synthesis, calculated without the hydrogen atom contributions, gave positive values of the electron density of about $1e.\text{Å}^{-3}$ in the regions in which these atoms must be present.

In Table 4 observed and calculated (with contributions of H atoms) structure factors are compared. The scattering factors used are those of Thomas & Umeda (1957) for Ni^{2+} , of Dawson (1960) for S and of Berg-huis, Haanappel, Potters, Loopstra, MacGillavry & Veenendaal (1955) for N and C, and McWeeny (1951) for H.

Discussion

The structure previously determined by NBF is confirmed: the coordination around Ni^{2+} is octahedral and concerns four S atoms from thiourea molecules and two N atoms from thiocyanate groups; the octahedra are linked in chains running along [100] with each thionilic S atom coordinated by two adjacent metal atoms. The new values of distances and angles are shown in Fig. 1.

The two Ni-S distances are just significantly different [$t_0 = (I_1 - I_2)(\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} = 3.06$; significance test of Cruickshank & Robertson, 1953]; both are greater than either the sum of Pauling's covalent radii (2.43 Å) or the value (2.46₂ Å) found by Lopez-Castro & Truter (1963) in $\text{Ni}[\text{SC}(\text{NH}_2)_2]_4\text{Cl}_2$, but lie within the range 2.4-2.6 Å which is usually observed for octahedral Ni^{2+} complexes. The Ni-N bond distance is consistent with the sum of Pauling's covalent radii (2.09 Å) and with the distances generally found in octahedral Ni^{2+} complexes [e.g. 2.02 and 1.98 Å in $\text{Ni}(\text{NH}_3)_3(\text{NCS})_2$ (Poraj-Košić, 1956), 2.12₀ Å in $\text{Ni}[\text{NH}_2(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NH}_2]_3(\text{NO}_3)_2$ (Swink & Atoji, 1960)].

The thiourea molecule is planar, the least-squares plane being: $0.9574X + 0.2771Y + 0.0812Z = 0.8072^*$; the largest distance from this plane is 0.007 Å for C(2).

* The X, Y, Z coordinates are in Å and referred to orthogonal axes. They can be obtained from those of Table 1 using the matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} a \sin \gamma & 0 & -c \sin \alpha \cos \beta^* \\ a \cos \gamma & b & c \cos \alpha \\ 0 & 0 & c \sin \alpha \sin \beta^* \end{pmatrix}$$

Bond distances in NCS indicate a prevailing double-bond character both in C–S and in N–C bonds, in agreement with an isothiocyanate structure. The lack of linearity in the NCS group is not significant; the line through NCS makes an angle of 64.3° with the plane of S(2) atoms in a chain.

The present refinement confirms the previous (NBF) observation that the van der Waals radius of S (1.85 \AA) proposed by Pauling is too long. The contacts $S(2)–S(2'') = 3.396 \pm 0.007$ and $S(1)–S(1^{vi}) = 3.446 \pm 0.008 \text{ \AA}$ are not consistent with Pauling's value, while they are in good agreement with the value of 3.43 \AA found by Ždanov & Zvonkova (1950) in $K_2Co(NCS)_4 \cdot 4H_2O$, and of 3.47 \AA found by van der Helm, Lessor & Merritt (1960) in rhodanine. The other contacts shorter than 3.5 \AA are:

N(1)–N(2)	$3.07 \pm 0.02 \text{ \AA}$
N(2)–N(1')	3.25 ± 0.02
N(1)–N(3''')	3.46 ± 0.02
N(2)–N(3 ^{iv})	3.34 ± 0.02
C(1)–N(2)	3.51 ± 0.02
N(2)–C(1')	3.24 ± 0.02
C(1)–N(3''')	3.22 ± 0.02
C(2)–N(3 ^{iv})	3.34 ± 0.02
N(1)–C(2 ^{iv})	3.33 ± 0.02
S(1)–N(2 ^v)	3.47 ± 0.01
S(1)–N(3 ^{vi})	3.48 ± 0.01

i	$1+x, y, z$	v	$1-x, \bar{y}, 1-z$
ii	$1-x, \bar{y}, \bar{z}$	vi	$x-1, 1+y, z$
iii	$x, 1+y, z$	vii	$\bar{x}, 1-y, 1-z$
iv	$x-1, y, z$		

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tronico della Università di Parma using the programs of Nardelli, Musatti, Domiano & Andreotti (1965). The authors are indebted to the *Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche* for financial support.

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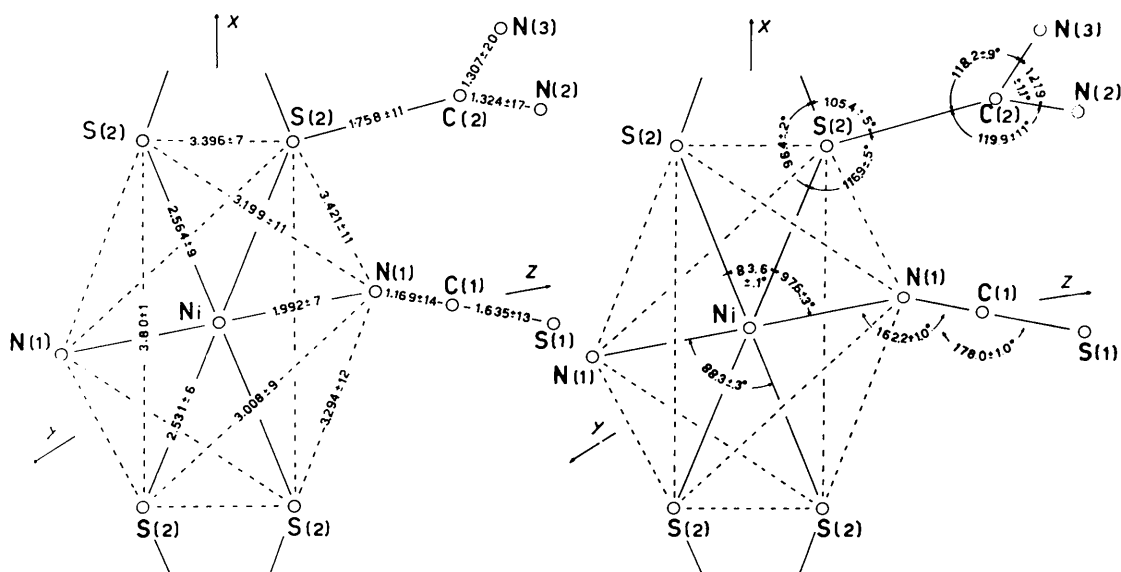


Fig. 1. $Ni[SC(NH_2)_2]_2(NCS)_2$: bond distances and angles in the coordination polyhedron and ligands. The e.s.d.'s are quoted in units of the last place.