

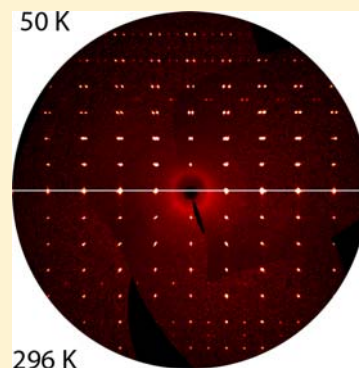
CsCoO₂ Featuring a Novel Polyoxocobaltate(III) Anion Based on a Two-Dimensional Architecture of Interconnected Tetrahedra

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S Supporting Information

ABSTRACT: CsCoO₂ has been prepared along the azide/nitrate route as a reddish black microcrystalline powder at 833 K. According to single crystal X-ray analysis, the title compound crystallizes as a structure type novel for oxides (*Cmca*, *Z* = 8, *a* = 5.9841(1) Å, *b* = 12.2458(2) Å, *c* = 8.2650(1) Å). The prominent features of the structure are pairs of edge-linked CoO₄ tetrahedra to form Co₂O₆ dimers, which are condensed by vertex sharing of the four remaining unshared oxygen atoms to form a two-dimensional architecture of a puckered polyoxyanion spreading along (010). Upon cooling, CsCoO₂ undergoes a virtually second order phase transition at ~100 K leading to a systematic dovetail twin (*C2/c*). The magnetic susceptibilities show the dominance of antiferromagnetic interactions with a remarkably high Néel temperature of 430 K indicating a very strong antiferromagnetic superexchange between the Co³⁺ ions. The spin-exchange for CsCoO₂ can be addressed as a set of strongly antiferromagnetically coupled quasi-one-dimensional chains, which are weakly coupled to neighboring chains by ferromagnetic interaction.

**INTRODUCTION**

Oxometalates of 3d transition elements feature a rich diversity of interesting physical properties, which often give rise to quite beneficial functionalities. This holds true for oxocobaltates in particular, where well performing thermoelectrics (NaCo₂O₄, Ca₃Co₄O₉),¹ battery materials (LiCoO₂),² or superconductors (Na_xCoO₂·yH₂O)³ have been encountered. From the perspective of basic research substantial progress has been achieved in recent times. In addition to the historically dominating oxidation states of 2+ and 3+, the exotically low valence state of 1+ has been realized for cobalt and its congeners iron and nickel.⁴ Furthermore, a series of well-defined oxocobaltates(IV) has become available.⁵

In retrospect, the magnetic behavior of Co³⁺ in multinary oxides⁶ appeared to be quite uniform, inasmuch as mostly the d⁶ electron configuration in octahedral coordination with a low spin was encountered. Later on, residual magnetic responses were observed in several cases. This has led to the proposal of “intermediate” spin states,^{6f} and now, after repeated observations, we consider Co³⁺ in tetrahedral coordination as quite common.^{7,5fg}

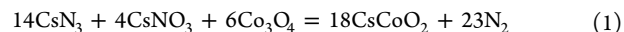
In this report we present CsCoO₂ as another example for cobalt(III) in tetrahedral coordination. For the most part the ABO₂ family of compounds is dominated by rock salt type order variants, β-LiFeO₂ and α-NaFeO₂ type of structures, by zinc blende type of arrangements, e.g., LiGaO₂, and stuffed cristobalite derived structures.⁸ Less frequently, the β-RbScO₂ type is encountered.⁹ Interestingly, the respective cobaltates-(III) display a conspicuous variety of partly singular for oxides structures, like KCoO₂ with cobalt in 5-fold square pyramidal coordination.^{7a} A second polymorph of KCoO₂,^{7b} and RbCoO₂,^{7a} forms stuffed cristobalite types of structure, while

the structure of CsCoO₂ was unknown so far. CsCoO₂, as now synthesized along the azide/nitrate route,^{5g,10} represents a crystal structure novel for oxides that is based on a two dimensionally infinite polyoxoanion of corner and edge sharing tetrahedra. This special connectivity gives rise to a strongly exchange coupled magnetic ground state.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

Material Synthesis. CsCoO₂ has been prepared along the azide/nitrate route^{5g,10} as a reddish black microcrystalline powder. Starting materials were CsN₃, CsNO₃ (Sigma-Aldrich, 99%), and Co₃O₄. The latter was prepared by decomposing Co(C₂O₄)·2H₂O (Johnson Matthey, 99%) in a flow of oxygen at 623 K for 20 h, whereas the CsN₃ was synthesized from aqueous HN₃ and cesium carbonate.¹¹

The starting materials were mixed in the ratio required according to eq 1, ground in a ball mill, pressed in pellets (ø 13 mm) under 10⁵ N, dried under vacuum (10⁻³ mbar) at 423 K overnight, and placed under argon in a closed steel vessel,^{5g,10} provided with a silver inlay. In a flow of dry argon the following temperature profile was applied: 298→533 K (100 K/h), 533→653 K (5 K/h), 653→833 K (20 K/h), with subsequent annealing for 60 h at 833 K.



Hazards. Caution! The heating profile as stated above must be followed strictly; when heating at a higher speed the containers may blow up!

Alternatively, CsCoO₂ has also been synthesized from the respective binary oxides employing the classical ceramic method. Stoichiometric amounts of starting materials (Cs₂O, CsO₂, and Co₃O₄) were thoroughly mixed, placed in a silver crucible, sealed under argon in a quartz tube, and finally thermally treated at 923 K for 20 h. The two

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alternative routes yield samples of the same quality. In contrast to the ceramic method, by employing the azide/nitrate route, the high reactivity of respective binary oxides forming “*in situ*”, together with the thermodynamic driving force and favorable kinetic conditions simplify the preparative work.

The obtained single phase CsCoO₂ powders, being extremely sensitive to humid air, were sealed in glass ampules under argon atmosphere, and all following manipulations with these substances were performed in inert atmospheres of purified argon.

Single Crystal X-ray Structure Determination. Single crystals of CsCoO₂ of sufficient size were obtained after 400 h of annealing of a powder sample at 873 K, in silver crucibles, enclosed in quartz glass ampules under dried Ar. A suitable crystal of approximate size 0.18 × 0.12 × 0.08 mm³ was singled out and mounted in a sealed glass capillary in a drybox under an argon atmosphere (O₂, H₂O < 0.1 ppm, M. Braun GmbH, Garching, Germany).

Ambient temperature single crystal diffraction data were collected on a three circle diffractometer (Bruker AXS, Karlsruhe, Germany) equipped with a SMART-CCD (APEX I), at 296 K. The collection and reduction of data were carried out with the Bruker Suite software package.¹² Intensities were corrected for absorption effects applying a multiscan method with SADABS.¹³ The structure was solved by direct methods and refined by full matrix least-squares fitting with the SHELXTL software package.¹⁴

As we found out that CsCoO₂ undergoes a phase transition upon cooling, another set of single crystal intensities was collected at 50 K using a second crystal of 0.12 × 0.04 × 0.03 mm³ in size [Smart APEX-II diffractometer, equipped with the N-Helix low temperature device, Oxford Cryosystems Ltd., Oxford, United Kingdom (28–300 K)].¹⁵ It turned out that systematic twinning occurs after phase transition (dovetail twin for the monoclinic system), and the twin-law [−100, 0−10, 001] had to be applied during data reduction. Absorption correction was performed with TWINABS.¹⁶

Both diffractometers used Mo K α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$). Details of crystallographic data and data collection are given in Table 1, and atomic coordinates and displacement parameters can be obtained from Supporting Information (Table S1–S4).

The X-ray investigation on powder samples of cesium oxocobaltate was performed using a D8-advance laboratory diffractometer (Bruker AXS, Karlsruhe, Germany) with Mo K α_1 radiation ($\lambda = 0.709300 \text{ \AA}$). Diffraction patterns were collected at room temperature in the 2θ range 4.0–55.0° with a total sample exposure time of 20 h sealed in a 0.3 mm quartz capillary (Hilgenberg), kept rotating during data collection for better particle statistics. Structural refinements have been performed with the TOPAS program¹⁸ (version 4.1, Bruker AXS) by employing the Rietveld refinement technique.¹⁹ As starting parameters in the structure refinement, the atomic coordinates found in the single crystal X-ray investigation were used. No extra reflections were observed compared to those calculated from atomic coordinates as determined by single-crystal structure analysis, see Figure 1, and Supporting Information Table S6.

Thermal analyses of as synthesized polycrystalline samples of CsCoO₂ were carried out using a DTA/TG device (STA 409, Netzsch). The sample was heated up to 1473 K at a rate of 10 K/min in a corundum crucible under dry argon.

The temperature dependence of the specific heat (C_p) of a polycrystalline sample of CsCoO₂ was measured between 4 and 200 K using a quasiadiabatic heat pulse method (Nernst calorimeter).²⁰ The powder samples (~100 mg) were encapsulated in Duran glass ampules under ~1 bar of He gas to provide sufficient thermal coupling. The glass ampules were attached with a minute amount of Apiezon vacuum grease to the sapphire sample disk platform. The heat capacity of the glass ampule, Apiezon grease, and sample holder were subtracted from total heat capacities.

The magnetic susceptibility $\chi(T)$ of polycrystalline powder samples of CsCoO₂ were measured in the temperature range from 2 to 700 K in magnetic fields up to 7 T using a MPMS-XL7 SQUID magnetometer (Quantum Design, 6325 Lusk Boulevard, San Diego). The moisture sensitive samples were sealed in carefully dried SUPRASIL ampules ($\varnothing = 3 \text{ mm}$), the magnetizations of which were

Table 1. Crystal Data, Data Collection, and Refinement Details of α - and β -CsCoO₂

T/K, type	296(2), β	50.0(2), α
cryst syst	orthorhombic	monoclinic
space group (No.), Z	<i>Cmca</i> (64), 8	<i>C2/c</i> (15), 8
lattice constants ^a / \AA or deg	$a = 5.9841(1)$	$a = 5.973(1)$
	$b = 12.2458(2)$	$b = 12.207(2)$
	$c = 8.2650(1)$	$c = 8.227(2)$
		$\beta = 91.578(3)$
$V / \text{\AA}^3$	605.66(2)	599.7(2)
$\rho_{\text{x-ray}} / \text{g cm}^{-3}$	4.910	4.959
cryst size/mm ³	0.18 × 0.12 × 0.08	0.12 × 0.04 × 0.03
diffractometer	Smart APEX I, Bruker AXS	Smart APEX II, Bruker AXS
X-ray radiation, $\lambda / \text{\AA}$	0.71073	0.71073
abs corr	multiscan, SADABS ¹³	multiscan, TWINABS ¹⁶
2θ range /deg	$6.6 \leq 2\theta \leq 73.4$	$6.6 \leq 2\theta \leq 72.9$
index range	$-9 \leq h \leq 9$	$-9 \leq h \leq 9$
	$-20 \leq k \leq 20$	$0 \leq k \leq 20$
	$-13 \leq l \leq 13$	$0 \leq l \leq 13$
reflns collected	5431	8027 ^b
unique reflections, R_{int}	806, 0.021	2464 ^b , 0.053
no. params	24	39
transm $t_{\text{max}} t_{\text{min}}$	0.339, 0.147	0.623, 0.229
$R1[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)]$	0.0163	0.0343
wR(F^2)	0.0387	0.0926
twin volume fractions		0.513(1), 0.487
deposition no. ¹⁷	CSD-424937	CSD-424936

^a296 K: Lattice constants extracted from powder data. 50 K: Lattice constants from single crystal data. ^b50 K: Reflections collected contain single and composite intensities of both twin fractions. Symmetry equivalent reflections were merged after absorption correction.

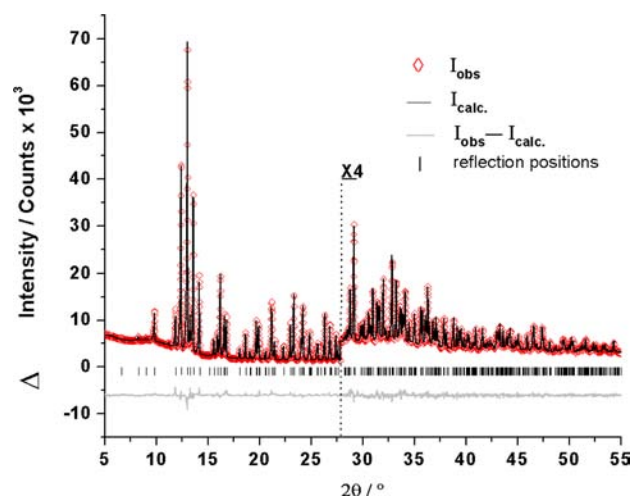


Figure 1. Scattered X-ray intensity for a polycrystalline sample of CsCoO₂ at $T = 298 \text{ K}$ as a function of diffraction angle 2θ ($\lambda = 0.709300 \text{ \AA}$), showing the observed pattern (diamonds), the best Rietveld-fit profile (black line), reflection markers (vertical bars), and difference plot $\Delta = I_{\text{obs}} - I_{\text{calc}}$ (gray line) (shifted by a constant amount).

determined in separate runs and subtracted. For the measurements above room-temperature the samples were wrapped in thin-walled gold foil in order to avoid direct contact of the samples with the glass walls. The quartz glass tubes were flushed with 1 bar He gas to provide adequate thermal contact to the cryostat. The raw data obtained was finally corrected for the temperature independent term $\chi_o = \chi_{\text{dia}} + \chi_{\text{VV}}$ which accounts for core electrons diamagnetic contribution (χ_{dia}) and

potential van Vleck paramagnetic contribution (χ_{VV}) for the Co^{3+} ion. The diamagnetic susceptibility of the core electrons in closed shells can be estimated by the incremental method using data as tabulated, e.g. by Lueken,²¹ resulting in a total diamagnetic contribution of $\chi_{\text{dia}} = -65.25 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^3/\text{mol}$ per formula unit. The Van Vleck paramagnetic contribution per Co^{3+} cation amounts to $100 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^3/\text{mol}$.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

New CsCoO_2 has been synthesized along the azide/nitrate route, and alternatively from respective mixtures of binary oxides. CsCoO_2 is stable up to $\sim 1200 \text{ K}$, where decomposition accompanied by weight loss (Figure S2) occurs leaving behind mixtures of CoO^{22} and $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4^{23}$ as the only solid residues. Conversely, upon cooling a displacive structural phase transition is encountered with an onset at $T \sim 100 \text{ K}$.

Crystal Structure. CsCoO_2 crystallizes in the BaSiN_2 type of structure,²⁴ with the orthorhombic space group $Cmca$ (No. 64), and the lattice parameters $a = 5.9841(1) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 12.2458(2) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 8.2650(1) \text{ \AA}$, determined from powder diffraction data (cf., Table 1). The prominent features of the structure are pairs of edge-linked CoO_4 tetrahedra to form Co_2O_6 dimers, and these units are condensed by vertex sharing of the four remaining unshared oxygen atoms to form a two-dimensional puckered polyoxyanion spreading along (010); parallel sheets are separated by cesium ions, see Figure 2.

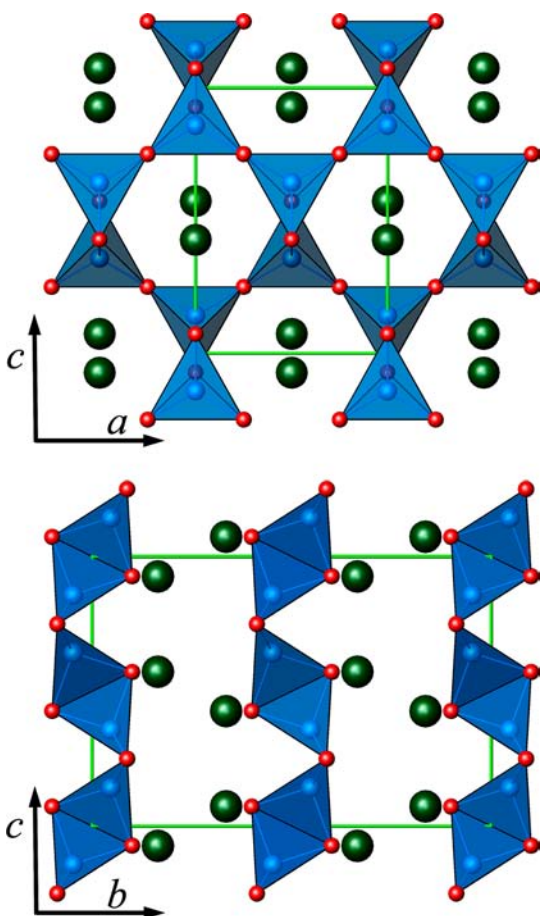


Figure 2. Projection of the crystal structure of CsCoO_2 (at 296 K). Top shows view along [010]. Bottom shows view along [100]. Color code: CoO_4 tetrahedra (blue), cesium (green), oxygen (red), with margins of the unit cell (green).

The $\text{Co}-\text{O}$ bond lengths agree, on average, well with the data reported in the literature⁷ and with the sum of ionic radii. The $\text{Co}-\text{O}1$ distances of 1.890(1), 1.896(2) \AA (common edge) are substantially longer than the two $\text{Co}-\text{O}2$ distances of 1.808(7) \AA (common vertices), cf., Table 2. Furthermore, the

Table 2. Selected Bond Distances (\AA) and Angles (deg)

distance/angle	296 K	mult	50 K	mult
$\text{Co}-\text{O}1$	1.890(1)	1	1.895(2)	1
$\text{Co}-\text{O}1$	1.896(2)	1	1.899(2)	1
$\text{Co}-\text{O}2$	1.8077(7)	2	1.819(1)	1
$\text{Co}-\text{O}3$			1.814(1)	1
$\text{Co}-\text{Co}$	2.6264(7)	1	2.6125(8)	1
$\text{Cs}-\text{O}1$	3.035(2)	1	3.015(2)	1
$\text{Cs}-\text{O}1$	3.0945(5)	2	3.084(3)	1
$\text{Cs}-\text{O}1$	3.123(2)	1	3.091(3)	1
$\text{Cs}-\text{O}1$			3.105(2)	1
$\text{Cs}-\text{O}2$	3.2037(7)	2	3.166(1)	1
$\text{Cs}-\text{O}3$			3.175(1)	1
$\text{O}1-\text{Co}-\text{O}1$	92.14(8)	1	93.0(1)	1
$\text{O}1-\text{Co}-\text{O}2$	111.64(5)	2	112.9(1)	1
$\text{O}1-\text{Co}-\text{O}2$			109.8(1)	1
$\text{O}1-\text{Co}-\text{O}2$	114.15(7)	2	112.5(1)	1
$\text{O}1-\text{Co}-\text{O}2$			116.7(1)	1
$\text{O}2-\text{Co}-\text{O}2$	111.70(6)	1		
$\text{O}2-\text{Co}-\text{O}3$			110.90(7)	1
$\text{Co}-\text{O}1-\text{Co}$	87.85(8)	1	87.0(1)	1
$\text{Co}-\text{O}2-\text{Co}$	148.5(2)	1	140.5(2)	1
$\text{Co}-\text{O}3-\text{O}3$			153.0(3)	1

$\text{O}2-\text{Co}-\text{O}2$ angle of $111.70(6)^\circ$ is close to the ideal tetrahedral angle (109.5°), whereas the $\text{O}1-\text{Co}-\text{O}1$ angle associated with the shared edge is greatly reduced to $92.14(8)^\circ$. Detailed inspection of the $\text{Co}-\text{O}$ distances and respective angles reveals a substantial distortion in the structure, as a consequence of repulsion between Co atoms separated by the shared tetrahedral edges. The scenario can be easily rationalized in terms of the different functionalities of the oxygen atoms involved. As a rule, edges shared by two polyhedra are contracted, while the centering cations repel each other; accordingly, the corresponding angle $\text{O}1-\text{Co}-\text{O}1$ (92.14°) is also contracted, cf., Table 2 and Figure S1. The cesium atoms are coordinated by six oxygen atoms in the form of a strongly distorted pentagonal pyramid with $\text{Cs}-\text{O}$ distances varying from 3.035(2) to 3.2037(7) \AA , which is in the expected range.⁵

MAPLE calculations²⁵ were performed for CsCoO_2 as a means of checking the plausibility of this new structure. The calculated value (9961 kJ/mol) for CsCoO_2 and the sums of the calculated partial Madelung energies derived from respective binary oxides (9887 kJ/mol) agree well with a deviation as low as 0.7%, which is well within the permissible limit thereby reflecting the high quality of the structure refinements (cf., Table S5).

Thermal analysis and magnetic susceptibility measurements indicated a virtually second order phase transition at $\sim 100 \text{ K}$. The structural phase transition was monitored independently by cooling down a single crystal in situ on a diffractometer. The structure of the transformation twin of the low temperature form ($\alpha\text{-CsCoO}_2$) was solved and refined using the intensity data of both twin domains (cf., Figure 3a). Its space group $C2/c$ (Table 1) is a maximal nonisomorphic subgroup of the space group $Cmca$ (type *translationengleich* of index 2), of $\beta\text{-CsCoO}_2$.

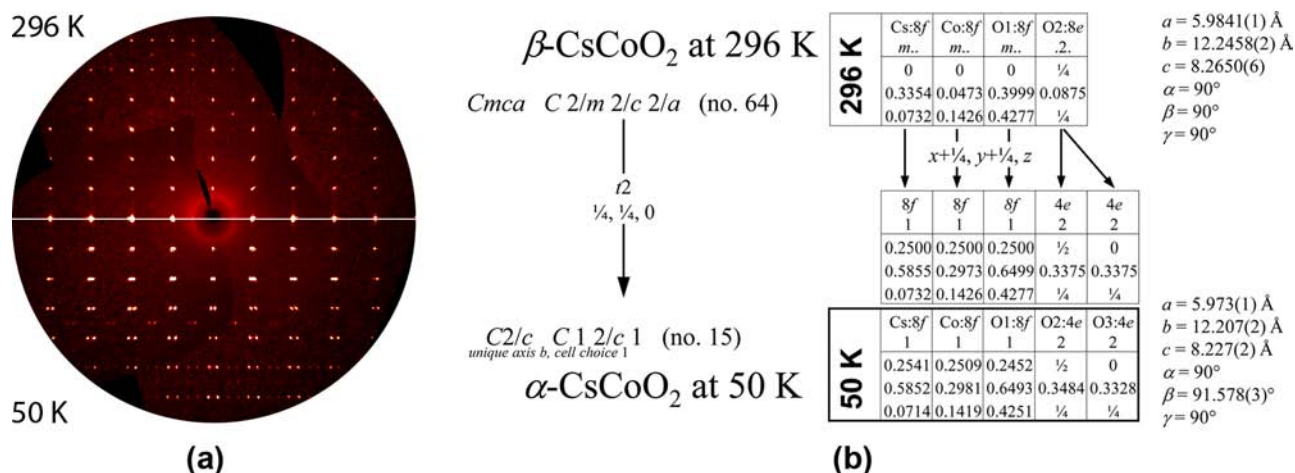


Figure 3. (a) Reciprocal layer ($h0l$) for the orthorhombic room temperature phase of CsCoO_2 , at $T = 296$ K with lower inset showing splitting of peaks (due to twinning) at $T = 50$ K attributed to monoclinic distortion. (b) Group-subgroup relation between the high temperature (296 K) and low temperature (50 K) structures of CsCoO_2 . The boxes contain: element, Wykoff symbol, site symmetry, and atomic coordinates x, y, z . Lattice parameters are specified in addition.

Figure 3b shows the group–subgroup relation, including all site transformations for both modifications.²⁶ A comparison between the atomic coordinates indicates that the major structural changes are reflected by the splitting of the former $8e$ site (296 K) of O2 in $2 \times 4e$ sites O2 and O3 (50 K), and splitting of $y = 0.3375$ to $y = 0.3484$ and 0.3328 , respectively (Figure 3). These shifts, together with the monoclinic angle of 91.578° , result in a significant tilting of the Co_2O_6 units (edge sharing tetrahedra), which is most distinctly seen by the Co–O–Co angles of the oxygen atoms (O2, O3) mediating corner sharing of tetrahedra. The Co–O2–Co bonding angle of 148.5° in $\beta\text{-CsCoO}_2$ splits into 140.5° (Co–O2–Co) and 153.0° (Co–O3–Co) upon cooling (Table 2). The distortion in $\alpha\text{-CsCoO}_2$ allows for a more dense packing of the structure, although the Co–O distances are slightly larger as compared to the β -form (Table 2).

Thermal Analysis and Magnetic Characterization.

Figure 4 displays the heat capacity, C_p/T , versus temperature in a semilogarithmic plot. The insert highlights the temperature range around 100 K. The heat capacity grows steadily and has not yet saturated at the Petit–Dulong value of $12 \times R$, where R is the molar gas constant. At 200 K the heat capacity has a value

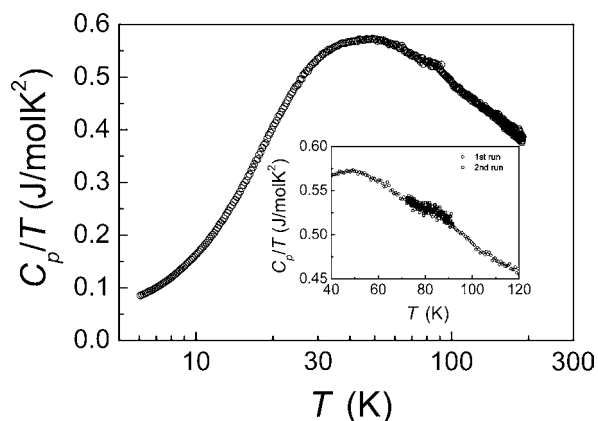


Figure 4. Heat capacity of a polycrystalline sample of CsCoO_2 versus temperature. The main frame shows C_p/T in a semilogarithmic plot; the insert highlights the temperature range around 80 K.

of 74 J/(mol K). A sluggish smeared bump is seen in the temperature centered near 85 K and extends over a temperature range $\sim \pm 10$ K indicating a considerably smeared phase transition with little entropy involved. The change of entropy amounts to ~ 0.1 to 0.2 J/(mol K). A λ -type anomaly or signatures of a thermal hysteresis were not found in the heat capacity measurements.

In order to construct a model for the spin interactions in CsCoO_2 , the magnetic properties of CsCoO_2 have been measured in the temperature range from 2 to 700 K in magnetic fields up to 7 T as displayed in Figure 5.

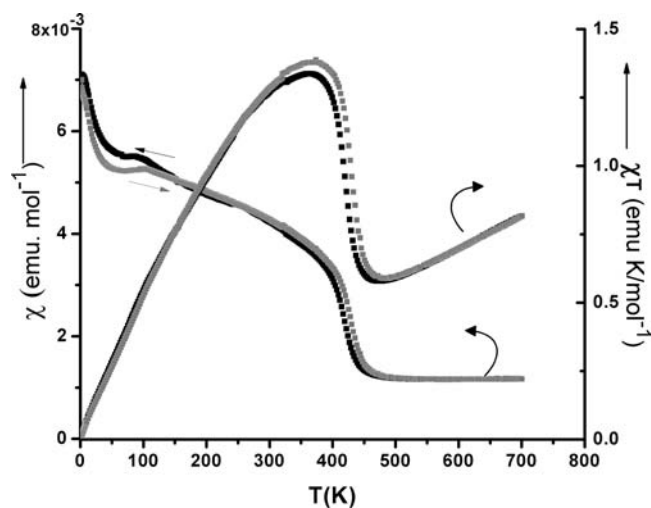


Figure 5. Temperature dependence of magnetic susceptibility for CsCoO_2 represented as χ vs T and χT vs T . The heating curve (gray squares) has been measured after the sample has been zero-field cooled (black squares) to 2 K.

Magnetic susceptibility and heat capacity data indicate long-range antiferromagnetic ordering below ~ 430 K and an additional phase transition at ~ 100 K. Both magnetic as well as structural phase transitions exhibit a thermal hysteresis. If the magnetic susceptibility is measured while cooling the sample, the anomalies appear systematically lower in temperature than the anomalies measured with increasing temperature. The 430

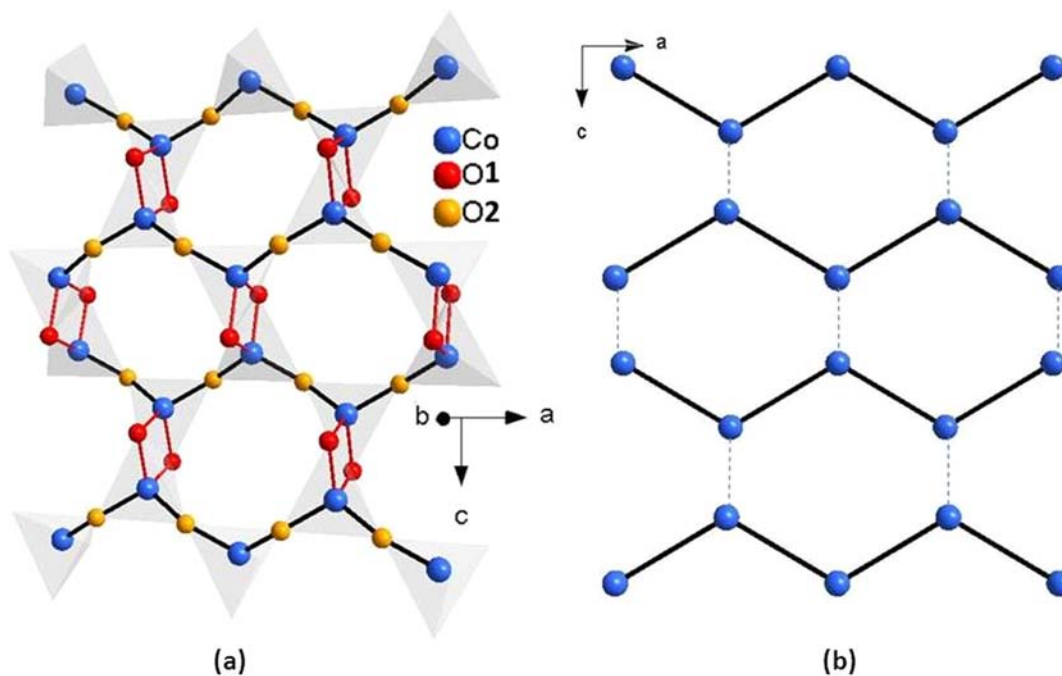


Figure 6. Crystal structure of CsCoO₂ emphasizing spin exchange paths. (a) The black solid lines connect Co atoms along the crystallographic *a* direction via O2 atoms. The Co–O2–Co bonding angle amounts to 148.4°. O1 atoms connect the chains with a Co–Co bonding angle of 87.9°. (b) Spin-exchange model suggested for CsCoO₂.

Table 3. Geometrical and Magnetic Parameters of Co(III)–O–Co(III) Spin Exchange Paths in Some Selected Oxocobaltates

compd	type	Co–Co distance/Å	Co–O–Co angle/deg	$J_{\text{FM}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$	<i>g</i>	$T_c/T_N/\text{K}$	ref
Na ₁₀ Co ₄ O ₁₀	[Co ₄ O ₁₀] ¹⁰⁻ tetramer	2.78	91.6		2.15	37	7f,g
Na ₆ Co ₂ O ₆	[Co ₂ O ₆] ⁶⁻ dimers	2.875	93.94	3.5	2.19	30	7h
CsCoO ₂	[CoO ₂] ¹⁻ chains	2.626	87.85			430	this study

K phase transition is downshifted by about 10 K and the 100 K phase transition by about 20 K. Above 450 K the magnetic susceptibility is temperature independent; a Curie–Weiss law type behavior is not seen most likely due to extended short-range ordering effects enhanced by the rather large measuring field. In view of the structural and magnetic similarities with Na₁₀Co₄O₁₀^{7f,g} showing a collinear antiferromagnetic spin structure, we propose a spin-exchange model for CsCoO₂ shown in Figure 6. The remarkably high Néel temperature of 430 K in CsCoO₂ points to a very strong antiferromagnetic superexchange between the Co³⁺ cations²⁷ in line with Goodenough–Kanamori rules.²⁸

The development of the weak spontaneous polarization below the Néel temperature points to a slight canting of the moments. In order to understand the magnetic properties we inspected possible spin-exchange paths in the crystal structure of CsCoO₂. Figure 6a displays a section of the crystal structure of CsCoO₂. It reveals that the Co atoms are connected via O2 atoms to form chains running along the crystallographic *a* direction. The bonding angle, Co–O–Co, amounts to 148.4°. This arrangement may be expected to support strong antiferromagnetic spin-exchange interaction. Such chains are connected via O1 atoms which enclose a bonding angle of 87.9° with the two adjacent Co atoms (cf., Figure S1).

Spin-exchange via such oxygen bonds with bonding angle close to 90° may be expected to be very weak and possibly ferromagnetic.²⁸ In fact, the analysis of the magnetic susceptibility of related Co³⁺ oxocobaltates with Co–O–Co bonding angles close to 90° and Co–Co distances similar to

those in CsCoO₂ (see Table 3) reveals ordering temperatures which are by at least an order of magnitude lower than that of CsCoO₂.

We therefore ascribe the strong spin-exchange interaction in CsCoO₂ to exchange coupling of the Co atoms via the O2 atoms which effectively establishes a Co–O–Co chain along *a*. Here the Co–O–Co bonding angle is of the order of ~150° and may be expected to support strong antiferromagnetic superexchange. Within this model, CsCoO₂ may be described as a set of strongly antiferromagnetically coupled quasi-one-dimensional chains which are weakly coupled to neighboring chains by a ferromagnetic interchain interaction (see Figure 6b).

The magnetic susceptibility of antiferromagnetically coupled linear chains is characterized by an extended short-range ordering bulge with its maximum at a temperature which is proportional to the intrachain spin-exchange interaction. In case of a very strong intrachain antiferromagnetic coupling the susceptibility at temperatures below the maximum slowly decreases with decreasing temperature.²⁹ Within the proposed scenario of weakly ferromagnetically coupled antiferromagnetic chains the largely temperature independent magnetic susceptibility seen for CsCoO₂ between 700 K and the Néel temperature can be understood as due to a superposition of such a weakly decreasing linear-chain susceptibility and the ferromagnetic correlations between the chains which finally lead to long-range ordering and the observed weak spontaneous magnetic polarization below the Néel temperature.

CONCLUSIONS

We report a novel oxide structure type, realized for CsCoO₂, featuring a unique polyoxocobaltate(III) anion based on a two-dimensional architecture of interconnected tetrahedra, undergoing a virtually second order phase transition at ~100 K. The magnetic susceptibilities show the dominance of antiferromagnetic interactions with a remarkably high Néel temperature of 430 K indicating a very strong antiferromagnetic superexchange between the Co³⁺ ions along quasi-one-dimensional chains, which are weakly coupled to neighboring chains by a ferromagnetic interchain interaction. To corroborate and to get further insight into the magnetic behavior of the title compound, in particular, to comprehend the interplay of intra- and inter chain exchange interactions, the neutron scattering experiments are underway.

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

Additional tables and figures. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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