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The Crystal and Molecular Structure of Bis(*o*-phenylenediamino)nickel, $Ni [C_6H_4(NH)_2]_2^1$

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Received January 3, 1968

The crystal and molecular structure of bis(o-phenylenediamino)nickel, Ni[C₆H₄(NH)₂]₂, has been determined by singlecrystal X-ray diffraction techniques. The crystals are monoclinic (P2₁/c) with $a = 5.845 \pm 0.020$ Å, $b = 7.485 \pm 0.026$ Å, $c = 25.27 \pm 0.09$ Å, $\beta = 90^{\circ} 10' \pm 10'$, and Z = 4. The observed and calculated densities are, respectively, 1.62 ± 0.02 and 1.64 ± 0.01 g/cm³. The structure was refined by least-squares methods to a conventional *R* factor of 11.1% for 792 nonzero independent reflections collected at room temperature by film techniques. The nickel atom is four-coordinate in the monomeric, planar Ni[C₆H₄(NH)₂]₂ molecule. The average Ni–N bond length of 1.832 ± 0.011 Å is one of the shortest yet observed, and the bond lengths in the chelate rings (N–C, 1.38 ± 0.02 ; C–C, 1.41 ± 0.02 Å) indicate substantial delocalization of the π bonds. The observed structure seems inconsistent with a formulation based on nickel(IV), but it supports the assignment of this compound as the neutral central member of a family of complexes which are interrelated by electrontransfer reactions.

Introduction

In 1927 Feigl and Fürth² reported the preparation of the dark purple complex $NiC_{12}H_{12}N_4$ by air oxidation of a solution of Ni^{2+} and *o*-phenylenediamine in aqueous ammonia. They formulated it as **1**, the Ni(IV) com-



plex of the dianion of *o*-phenylenediamine. Nyholm³ later suggested the bond arrangement 2, which seems unlikely to make a large contribution because of charge separation but does avoid Ni(IV); however Bardoděj⁴ questioned the correctness of the empirical formula and favored **3**. Analytical studies in our laboratory⁵ supported the composition reported by Feigl and Fürth, and convincing evidence from mass and infrared spectra has confirmed their assignment of the number and arrangement of the hydrogen atoms. These studies^{6,7} also demonstrated that $Ni[C_6H_4(NH)_2]_2$ is the central member of a five-membered series of complexes interrelated by reversible one-electron-transfer reactions. We had noticed earlier that there are appreciable differences between the 500–1000-m μ absorption spectra of the solid and solutions,⁸ and we began this structural study in order to establish firmly the geometry of the complex and to discover whether the altered absorption

(4) Z. Bardoděj, Collection Czech. Chem. Commun., 20, 176 (1955).

87, 3016 (1965).
(7) A. L. Balch and R. H. Holm, *ibid.*, 83, 5201 (1966).

spectrum of the solid is indicative of any unusual intermolecular interaction.

Experimental Section

Preparation.—The compound was prepared by the method of Feigl and Fürth² and was purified by Soxhlet extraction into acetone. The dark-purple material which crystallized from the boiling acetone consisted of thin platelets, which were both multiply twinned [on (102)] and lamellar. Thicker pseudo-hexagonal tablets were prepared by slow evaporation of a carefully filtered, nearly saturated solution of the complex in dry dimethyl sulfoxide. These were nearly always simple twins (*vide infra*), although single individuals could occasionally be found. Traces of moisture in the solution caused more or less pronounced streaking along reciprocal-lattice rows parallel to c^* , and larger amounts resulted once again in very thin, multiply twinned platelets.

Crystal Data.-Ni[C₆H₄(NH)₂]₂, mol wt 270.93, crystallizes in the monoclinic system. Unit cell constants, measured at room temperature on quartz-calibrated (a = 4.913 Å) precession photographs taken with Mo K α radiation ($\lambda 0.7107$ Å), are a = 5.845 \pm 0.020 Å, b = 7.485 \pm 0.026 Å, c = 25.27 \pm 0.09 Å, β = 90° 10′ \pm 10′, and V = 1106 Å⁸. The standard deviations reported are the sums of the standard deviations in the measurements of the cell dimensions of quartz and $Ni[C_6H_4(NH)_2]_2$. The density, measured by flotation in carbon tetrachloridebromoform, is 1.62 ± 0.02 g/cm³; and the X-ray density, using Z = 4, is 1.64 ± 0.01 g/cm³. The conditions for reflection, observed on precession films taken with Mo K α radiation, are $h0l \ (l = 2n)$ and $0k0 \ (k = 2n)$. The probable space group is $P2_1/c$. Twinned crystals, which may be either contact or interpenetration twins, have a common b axis and a reentrant angle of $130^{\circ} 20' \pm 10'$. The twin and composition plane is therefore (102). The crystals are dichroic in plane-polarized light transmitted normal to the ab plane. Very thin individuals are light green when the electric vector ϵ is parallel to b but are deep purple when ϵ is parallel to a.

Intensity Data.—The crystal used to collect intensity data was tabular (001) with a hexagonal outline, elongated a. It had approximate dimensions $0.15 \times 0.11 \times 0.06$ mm. The crystal was first mounted with the b axis as the rotation axis, and multiple-film equinclination Weissenberg photographs were taken at room temperature using nickel-filtered copper radiation for layers with k = 0-4. The crystal was then remounted for rotation about the a axis, and equiinclination Weissenberg photographs were taken for h = 0-3. Additional h0l, 0kl, and hk0 data were collected with a precession camera using zirconium-filtered molybdenum radiation. The relative intensities were estimated by visual comparison with a series of timed exposures

⁽¹⁾ Taken in part from G. L. Swartz, Master's Thesis, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N. H., 1967.

⁽²⁾ F. Feigl and M. Fürth, Monatsh., 48, 445 (1927).

⁽³⁾ R. S. Nyholm, Chem. Rev., 53, 263 (1953).

⁽⁵⁾ R. Roll, Master's Thesis, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N. H., 1964.
(6) E. I. Stiefel, J. H. Waters, E. Billig, and H. B. Gray, J. Am. Chem. Soc.,

⁽⁸⁾ The visible-near-infrared absorption spectrum of Ni[C₆H₄(NH)₂]₂ in dimethyl sulfoxide solution is described in ref 7. We have observed essentially the same spectrum for solutions in N,N-dimethylformamide and acetone. The spectrum of the solid (mineral oil mull) shows a broad band with maxima at 618 and 685 m μ with shoulders at 865 and 915 m μ . There is also an absorption maximum at 325 m μ .

of a selected reflection. A total of 792 independent reflections of measurable intensity were collected. The usual Lorentz and polarization corrections were applied,9 and the Weissenberg data were scaled to a common scale by comparison with the precession data. The linear-absorption coefficient for Cu K α radiation is 22.8 cm^{-1} , and an approximate test calculation indicates that the absorption correction factor (A^*) varies from 1.15 to 1.33. No correction was made for absorption.

Determination of the Structure

The positions of the nickel atoms were easily established from two- and three-dimensional Patterson functions. An electron-density map was calculated in the region of a nickel atom using three-dimensional data with phases obtained from the contributions from the nickel atoms alone. This revealed the positions of the four nitrogen atoms in a planar arrangement around the nickel atom. We then determined the coefficients of a plane passing approximately through these five atoms and calculated an electron density map in this plane and in several parallel to it using phases determined by the nickel and nitrogen atoms.¹⁰ The positions of all of the 17 nonhydrogen atoms in the asymmetric unit were determined from this calculation. At this point a structure factor calculation using tabulated values¹¹ of the atomic scattering factors of the neutral nickel, nitrogen, and carbon atoms, including a correction¹² for the real part of the anomalous scattering of nickel, yielded a value of R_1^{13} of 0.36.

The structure was refined by least-squares techniques by minimizing the function $\Sigma w(|F_o| - |F_c|)^2$ using isotropic temperature factors.¹⁴ The hydrogen atoms were not included in the structure factor calculations. Four cycles of refinement during which the temperature factors were not changed lowered R_1 to 0.14. Four more cycles in which both thermal and positional parameters were refined lowered R_1 to 0.111 and gave a value of $R_{2^{13}}$ of 0.133. The corrections in the last cycle were less than 30% of the estimated standard deviations. Structure factors were calculated for all of the unobserved reflections, and none was found to be significantly above the minimum value observed on our films. The standard deviation of an observation of unit weight is 4.72.¹⁵ Observed and calculated struc-

(9) This and all other calculations reported in this paper were carried out with programs written locally in the Basic language on the GE 625 computer, operating in time-sharing mode, at the Kiewit Computation Center at Dartmouth College.

(10) The lack of an efficient Fourier summation program limited our three-dimensional electron-density calculations to regions where atoms might be expected.

(11) "International Tables for X-Ray Crystallography," Vol. III, The Kynoch Press, Birmingham, England, 1962, pp 202-205.

(12) D. T. Cromer, Acta Cryst., **18**, 17 (1965). (13) $R_1 = \Sigma ||F_0| - |F_c||/\Sigma |F_0|; R_2 = [\Sigma w(|F_0| - |F_c|)^2 / \Sigma w F_0^2]^{1/2}.$ The weighting scheme used was $w = 1/(a + |F_0| + b|F_c|^2)$, where $a = 2F_{\min}$ and $b = 2/F_{max}$.

ture factors are listed in Table I, and atomic positional and thermal parameters are given in Table II.

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The unweighted least-squares plane for the nickel, nitrogen, and carbon atoms was then determined; and a final electron density map was calculated in this plane and in a region of the unit cell containing all points less than 4 Å from the nickel atom. A difference Fourier map calculated for the same region failed to give a clear indication of the positions of the hydrogen atoms and did not show evidence of anisotropic thermal motion of the nickel atom. It showed no peaks higher than 1.2 e^{-/Å³}, about 13% of the height of a carbon peak. We therefore feel that the structure has been refined to a degree appropriate to the number and quality of the intensity data.

⁽¹⁴⁾ The structure was refined with a modified diagonal approximation to least squares modeled after that described by D. W. J. Cruickshank and D. E. Pilling in "Computing Methods and the Phase Problem in X-Ray Analysis," R. Pepinsky, J. M. Robertson, and J. C. Speakman, Ed., Pergamon Press Inc., New York, N. Y., 1961, Paper 6. In the initial refinement the eight strongest reflections were omitted from the least-squares process as a precaution against extinction. This procedure was questioned by two referees and in retrospect seems foolish. An additional cycle of refinement was run with the eight reflections included. The largest parameter shifts were still less than 30% of the estimated standard deviations, so the effect of this omission on the refined structure is negligible.

⁽¹⁵⁾ The standard deviation for an observation of unit weight is defined by $[\Sigma w(|F_0|^2 - |F_c|^2)^2/(n - m)]^{1/2}$, where n is the number of observations (792) and m is the number of variables (68).

TABLE H

Positional and Thermal Parameters								
Atom	x	У	z	<i>B</i> , Å ²				
Ni_1	$0.2097 (9)^a$	0.2377(7)	0.2748(2)	2.51(10)				
N_2	0.3036(24)	0.3197(19)	0.3393(6)	5.1(9)				
C₃	0.1573(26)	0.2865(20)	0.3807(7)	8.0(14)				
C_4	0.1832(30)	0.3324(24)	0.4341(8)	6.8(12)				
$C_{\tilde{a}}$	0.0160(36)	0.2864(28)	0.4697(8)	8.7(15)				
N_6	-0.0450(25)	$0,1534\ (17)$	0.3096(4)	5.4(9)				
C7	-0.0375(27)	0.1938(23)	0.3642(5)	7.5(11)				
C_8	-0.2085(29)	0.1467(26)	0.4012(7)	6.9(12)				
C	-0.1790(34)	0.1928(28)	0.4528(8)	9.0(15)				
N_{10}	0.4633(24)	0.3210(20)	0.2397(6)	4.8(8)				
C11	0.4643(26)	0.2872(19)	0.1872(5)	7.3(12)				
C_{12}	0.6318(31)	0.3317(25)	0.1494(7)	8.3 (11)				
C ₁₃	0.6031(34)	0.2861(26)	0.0979(7)	9.2(15)				
N_{14}	0.1162(22)	0.1559(17)	0.2104(4)	5.7(10)				
C_{15}	0.2661(21)	0.1922(18)	0.1700(6)	7.2(12)				
C ₁₆	0.2362(28)	0.1428(25)	0.1156(7)	7.1(12)				
C17	0.4034(31)	0.1889(27)	0.0800(7)	8.4(12)				

^a Numbers in parentheses here and in succeeding tables are estimated standard deviations in the least significant digits.

Description of the Structure

The structure consists of planar molecules packed together in such a way (Figure 1) that their long axes are essentially parallel but their molecular planes are not. The shortest Ni–Ni distances, 4.65 Å, are between a molecule at [x, y, z] and those at $[-x, y \pm 0.5, -z +$ 0.5]. The closest intermolecular approaches to the nickel atom in the molecule at [x, y, z] are made by C_{15} (3.67 Å) and N_{10} (3.68 Å) of molecules at [-x, y +0.5, -z + 0.5] and [-x + 1, y - 0.5, -z + 0.5], respectively. Other intermolecular contacts seem reasonable; those less than 3.6 Å are listed in Table III.



Figure 1.—The projection of the structure on the *ac* plane. The long molecular axes (---) are very nearly parallel to the *ac* plane, but the molecular planes are rotated $\pm 29^{\circ}$ 50' from the *ac* plane about these axes. The *y* coordinates of the nickel atoms of molecules which are adjacent in the *a* direction and are drawn with light and heavy lines, respectively, differ by b/2 because they are related by twofold screw axes normal to the *ac* plane.

The long axes of the molecules are very nearly parallel to the ac plane and deviate about 20° from the c direction. The only contact between successive layers of molecules in this direction occurs at the ends of the phenyl groups. It is probably this minimal overlap between layers of molecules that leads to both the onedimensional disorder¹⁶ observed in that direction and the lamination parallel to the ab plane in grossly imperfect crystals. The c direction is also the direction of slowest growth.

The Ni $[C_6H_4(NH)_2]_2$ molecule is rigorously planar. The nickel atom deviates 0.002 ± 0.006 Å and the light

TABLE III INTERMOLECULAR CONTACTS LESS THAN 3.6 A

atom in mole-			
cule at x, y, z	Distance, Å	Atom	Neighboring molecule
N_2	3.50	C_8	1 + x, y, z
C_3	3.52	C_{16}	-x, 0.5 + y, 0.5 - z
C_5	3.55	C_5	-x, 1 - y, 1 - z
N_6	3.56	C_{12}	1 - x, -0.5 + y, 0.5 - z
C_8	3.55	C ₁₃	-x, -0.5 + y, 0.5 - z
C_8	3.50	N_2	-1 + x, y, z
C_{12}	3.48	N_{14}	1 + x, y, z
C_{12}	3.56	N_6	1 - x, 0.5 + y, 0.5 - z
C ₁₃	3.55	C_8	-x, 0.5 + y, 0.5 - z
C_{14}	3.48	C_{12}	-1 + x, y, z
C_{16}	3.52	C_3	-x, -0.5 + y, 0.5 - z

atoms deviate $0.001-0.007 \pm 0.016$ Å from the unweighted least-squares plane -12.57x + 29.90y - 19.95z+ 1 = 0 (monoclinic coordinate system). The principal intramolecular distances and angles are given in Table IV and Figure 2. The molecule has no crystallo-

TABLE IV						
Principal	INTRAMOLECUL	AR DISTANCES AND	ANGLES			
Atoms	Distance, Å	Atoms	Angle, deg			
Ni_1-N_2	1.826(11)	N ₂ -Ni ₁ -N ₆	86.0(7)			
Ni ₁ -N ₆	1.841(12)	N10-Ni1-N14	85.7(7)			
Ni_1-N_{10}	1.836(11)	$Ni_1-N_2-C_3$	116(1)			
Ni_1-N_{14}	1.823(11)	$Ni_1-N_6-C_7$	112(1)			
N_2-C_3	1.37(2)	$N_2 - C_3 - C_7$	112(1)			
$C_{3}-C_{4}$	1.40(2)	$N_6 - C_7 - C_3$	115(1)			
$C_{3}-C_{7}$	1.40(2)	$C_4 - C_3 - C_7$	120(1)			
C_4-C_5	1.37(2)	$C_3 - C_7 - C_8$	120(1)			
$C_5 - C_9$	1,40(3)	$C_{3}-C_{4}-C_{5}$	120(1)			
N_6-C_7	1.41(2)	$C_7 - C_8 - C_9$	119(1)			
$C_7 - C_8$	1,41(2)	$C_4 - C_5 - C_9$	120(2)			
$C_{8}-C_{9}$	1.36(2)	$C_{5}-C_{9}-C_{8}$	121(2)			
$N_{10}-C_{11}$	1.35(2)	Ni1-N10-C11	115(1)			
$C_{11} - C_{12}$	1.41(2)	$Ni_{1}-N_{14}-C_{15}$	114 (1)			
$C_{11} - C_{15}$	1,43(2)	N_{10} - C_{11} - C_{15}	113(1)			
$C_{12} - C_{13}$	1.35(2)	N_{14} - C_{15} - C_{11}	113(1)			
$C_{13} - C_{17}$	1.45(3)	C_{12} - C_{11} - C_{15}	118(1)			
$N_{14}-C_{15}$	1.37(2)	$C_{11} - C_{15} - C_{16}$	121(1)			
$C_{15} - C_{16}$	1.43(2)	$C_{11} - C_{12} - C_{13}$	120 (1)			
$C_{16} - C_{17}$	1.37(2)	$C_{15} - C_{16} - C_{17}$	118(1)			
		$C_{12} - C_{13} - C_{17}$	122(2)			
		$C_{13} - C_{17} - C_{16}$	120(2)			

graphically required symmetry, but it is described by point group D_{2h} within the limit of accuracy of the determination.¹⁷

The average Ni–N bond length of 1.83 Å is among the shortest now known, and it may be compared with values of 1.85 Å in bis(dimethylglyoximato)nickel(II)¹⁸

(16) Early in our work a crystal of this compound was grown by evaporation of a DMSO solution in an open beaker in dry weather. X-Ray examination (precession camera) showed that it was monoclinic with $a = 5.92 \pm$ $0.03 \text{ Å}, b = 7.45 \pm 0.04 \text{ Å}, c = 12.58 \pm 0.06 \text{ Å}, \beta = 91^{\circ} 50' \pm 10', V = 554$ Å^3 , and $d_c \approx d_o = 1.63 \text{ g/cm}^3$. The condition for reflection (0k0, k = 2n) indicates that the space group is either P2₁/m or P2₁. The h0l photographs for this crystal and those with c = 25.27 Å are similar, indicating that the projections of the two structures on (010) are nearly the same. The hk0photographs, however, show significant differences. This crystal was lost, and we have been unable to grow another like it. It appears that the layers of molecules can be stacked in the *c* direction in either of two distinct patterns of nearly equal energy: AAAA... (c = 12.58 Å) or ABAB... (c = 25.27 Å). Most crystals have the latter pattern with more or less one-dimensional disorder.

(17) Because the complex in the solid shows no substantial departure from planarity, the alteration of the 500-1000-m μ absorption spectrum probably results from several close intermolecular contacts (see Table III).

(18) D. E. Williams, G. Wohlauer, and R. E. Rundle, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 81, 755 (1959).



Figure 2.—The planar $Ni[C_6H_4(NH)_2]_2$ molecule showing the numbering scheme and average lengths and angles for bonds assumed to be chemically equivalent.

and 1.84 Å in bis(salicylaldiminato)nickel(II).¹⁹ The average N–N chelate "bite" distance is 2.49 Å, and the average interligand N–N distance is 2.68 Å. The average C–N bond length of 1.38 Å is significantly longer than the 1.30 Å bond found in bis(dimethylglyoximato)nickel(II)¹⁸ and the average length of 1.29 Å determined from various salicylaldimine complexes.²⁰ It is, however, much shorter than the sum (1.47 Å) of the single-bond covalent radii.²¹ We note that the C–S distances in a number of sulfur-donor complexes characterized by similar electron-transfer reactions fall in the range 1.69–1.75 Å,²² intermediate between the single- and double-bond lengths²¹ of 1.81 and 1.61 Å, respectively. Thus it appears that the π bonding is

(19) J. M. Stewart and E. C. Lingafelter, Acta Cryst., 12, 842 (1959).
(20) E. C. Lingafelter and R. L. Braun, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 88, 2951 (1966).

(21) L. Pauling, "The Nature of the Chemical Bond," 3rd ed, Cornell University Press, Ithaca, N. Y., 1960, pp 224-230.

delocalized throughout the ligand system. Although the differences in bond lengths within the benzene rings are of only marginal significance, the slightly shorter C_4-C_5 , C_8-C_9 , $C_{12}-C_{18}$, and $C_{16}-C_{17}$ bonds suggest a bit of α -diimine character.

The bond lengths in the chelate rings, especially the 1.38-Å C-N distance, seem inconsistent with the early formulation² based on nickel(IV), but the electronic delocalization of which both they and the fact of planarity itself are indicative is consistent with the convincing evidence of Balch and Holm⁷ that this is the neutral central member of a family of complexes interrelated by electron-transfer reactions. The similarity of the molecular structures of $Ni [C_6H_4(NH)_2]_2$ and $Ni [S_2C_2 (C_6H_5)_2|_2^{22}$ should be noted because the latter compound plays the same role in a family of sulfur-bonded complexes. Others^{6,7,22} have recognized that the electronic structures of highly delocalized complexes such as these cannot be adequately described by simply assigning oxidation states to the metal ions but must instead be approached through rather complete molecular orbital treatments.

Acknowledgment.—This work was supported by National Science Foundation Grant GP-5656.

(22) D. Sartain and M. R. Truter, J. Chem. Soc., A, 1264 (1967); R. Eisenberg and H. B. Gray, Inorg. Chem., 6, 1844 (1967), and references therein.

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The Crystal and Molecular Structure of Tetra-*n*-butylammonium Tribromo(quinoline)nickelate(II), $[(n-C_4H_9)_4N][Ni(C_9H_7N)Br_3]^{1a}$

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Received May 8, 1968

The structure of tetra-*n*-butylammonium tribromo(quinoline)nickelate(II), $[(n-C_4H_9)_4N][Ni(C_9H_7N)Br_3]$, has been determined by single-crystal X-ray diffraction methods. The crystals are triclinic, space group PT, with a = 12.282 Å, b = 10.291 Å, c = 12.726 Å, all ± 0.002 Å; $\alpha = 101.02^{\circ}$, $\beta = 99.51^{\circ}$, $\gamma = 106.55^{\circ}$, all $\pm 0.01^{\circ}$. For Z = 2 the measured and calculated densities are 1.51 ± 0.01 and 1.512 g/cm³, respectively. Counter data were collected for 5830 independent reflections by the θ -2 θ scan technique. The structure was refined, including hydrogens, by least-squares methods to a conventional R value of 0.061. The anion has roughly tetrahedral coordination about the nickel by three bromine atoms and the quinoline nitrogen, with an average Ni-Br distance of 2.375 Å and an Ni-N distance of 2.029 Å. The average N-Ni-Br angle is 105.1° while the Br-Ni-Br angles average 113.3°. The coordinated quinoline is accurately planar; however, the Ni-N-Q bond makes an angle of 4.5° with the quinoline plane. The bond distances internal to the quinoline correlate well with variations predicted by π -MO theory. The cations approach the anions such that there are four distances between ion centers (Ni-N-CAT) in the range 5.98-6.89 Å. Three of the four cation butyl chains adopt the *trans* conformation while the fourth has the *gauche* conformation with a dihedral angle of 66.5°.

Introduction

Reliable evidence concerning the existence of nickel-(II) complexes with tetrahedral or pseudo-tetrahedral coordination has been available only within the past decade.² These complexes fall into several stoichiometric classes: NiX_4^{2-} , $NiLX_3^-$, NiL_2X_2 , and $Ni(L-L)_2$, where X is a halogen, L a neutral ligand such as an amine, phosphine, or phosphine oxide, and L-L repre-

^{(1) (}a) This work was done at the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory and the University of California under the auspices of the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission and was supported in part by the Directorate of Chemical Sciences, Air Force Office of Scientific Research, through Contract AF 49(638)-1492; (b) Princeton University; (c) University of California; (d) Lawrence Radiation Laboratory.

⁽²⁾ For a discussion see F. A. Cotton and G. Wilkinson, "Advanced Inorganic Chemistry," 2nd ed, Interscience Publishers, New York, N. Y., 1966, p 883 ff.