

CONTRIBUTION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY,
DARTMOUTH COLLEGE, HANOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03755

The Crystal and Molecular Structure of Bis(*o*-phenylenediamino)nickel, Ni[C₆H₄(NH)₂]₂¹

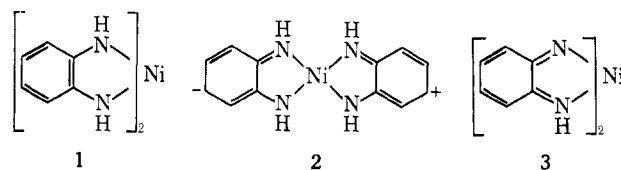
BY GRACE SWARTZ HALL AND R. H. SODERBERG

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The crystal and molecular structure of bis(*o*-phenylenediamino)nickel, Ni[C₆H₄(NH)₂]₂, has been determined by single-crystal X-ray diffraction techniques. The crystals are monoclinic (P₂₁/c) with $a = 5.845 \pm 0.020 \text{ \AA}$, $b = 7.485 \pm 0.026 \text{ \AA}$, $c = 25.27 \pm 0.09 \text{ \AA}$, $\beta = 90^\circ 10' \pm 10'$, and $Z = 4$. The observed and calculated densities are, respectively, 1.62 ± 0.02 and $1.64 \pm 0.01 \text{ g/cm}^3$. 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 $1.832 \pm 0.011 \text{ \AA}$ is one of the shortest yet observed, and the bond lengths in the chelate rings (N-C, 1.38 ± 0.02 ; C-C, $1.41 \pm 0.02 \text{ \AA}$) 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 electron-transfer reactions.

Introduction

In 1927 Feigl and Fürth² reported the preparation of the dark purple complex NiC₁₂H₁₂N₄ by air oxidation of a solution of Ni²⁺ 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[C₆H₄(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

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 ($a = 4.913 \text{ \AA}$) precession photographs taken with Mo K α radiation ($\lambda 0.7107 \text{ \AA}$), are $a = 5.845 \pm 0.020 \text{ \AA}$, $b = 7.485 \pm 0.026 \text{ \AA}$, $c = 25.27 \pm 0.09 \text{ \AA}$, $\beta = 90^\circ 10' \pm 10'$, and $V = 1106 \text{ \AA}^3$. The standard deviations reported are the sums of the standard deviations in the measurements of the cell dimensions of quartz and Ni[C₆H₄(NH)₂]₂. The density, measured by flotation in carbon tetrachloride-bromoform, is $1.62 \pm 0.02 \text{ g/cm}^3$; and the X-ray density, using $Z = 4$, is $1.64 \pm 0.01 \text{ g/cm}^3$. 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 P₂₁/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 $0.15 \times 0.11 \times 0.06 \text{ mm}$. 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 equinclination 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).

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

(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.*, **87**, 3018 (1965).

(7) A. L. Balch and R. H. Holm, *ibid.*, **88**, 5201 (1966).

(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 .

TABLE II
POSITIONAL AND THERMAL PARAMETERS

Atom	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	<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)
C ₃	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 ₅	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)
C ₇	-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 ₉	-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)
C ₁₁	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)
C ₁₇	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* ± 0.5, -*z* + 0.5]. The closest intermolecular approaches to the nickel atom in the molecule at [*x*, *y*, *z*] are made by C₁₅ (3.67 Å) and N₁₀ (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.

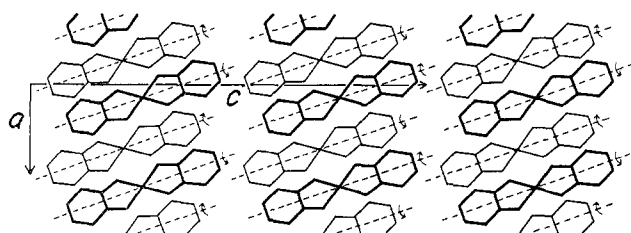


Figure 1.—The projection of the structure on the *ac* plane. The long molecular axes (---) are very nearly parallel to the *ac* plane, but the molecular planes are rotated ±29° 50' from the *ac* plane about these axes. The *y* coordinates of the nickel atoms of molecules which are adjacent in the *a* 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 one-dimensional 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[C₆H₄(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 Å

Atom in molecule at <i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>	Distance, Å	Atom	Neighboring molecule
N ₂	3.50	C ₈	1 + <i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>
C ₃	3.52	C ₁₆	- <i>x</i> , 0.5 + <i>y</i> , 0.5 - <i>z</i>
C ₅	3.55	C ₅	- <i>x</i> , 1 - <i>y</i> , 1 - <i>z</i>
N ₆	3.56	C ₁₂	1 - <i>x</i> , -0.5 + <i>y</i> , 0.5 - <i>z</i>
C ₈	3.55	C ₁₃	- <i>x</i> , -0.5 + <i>y</i> , 0.5 - <i>z</i>
C ₈	3.50	N ₂	-1 + <i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>
C ₁₂	3.48	N ₁₄	1 + <i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>
C ₁₂	3.56	N ₆	1 - <i>x</i> , 0.5 + <i>y</i> , 0.5 - <i>z</i>
C ₁₃	3.55	C ₈	- <i>x</i> , 0.5 + <i>y</i> , 0.5 - <i>z</i>
C ₁₄	3.48	C ₁₂	-1 + <i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>
C ₁₆	3.52	C ₃	- <i>x</i> , -0.5 + <i>y</i> , 0.5 - <i>z</i>

atoms deviate 0.001–0.007 ± 0.016 Å from the unweighted least-squares plane -12.57*x* + 29.90*y* - 19.95*z* + 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 INTRAMOLECULAR 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)	N ₁₀ -Ni ₁ -N ₁₄	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 ₃	1.37 (2)	C ₃ -C ₇ -C ₃	120 (1)
C ₅ -C ₉	1.40 (3)	C ₅ -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 ₃ -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)	Ni ₁ -N ₁₀ -C ₁₁	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 ± 0.03 Å, *b* = 7.45 ± 0.04 Å, *c* = 12.58 ± 0.06 Å, β = 91° 50' ± 10', *V* = 554 Å³, and *d*₀ ≈ *d*_o = 1.63 g/cm³. The condition for reflection (0*k*0, *k* = 2*n*) indicates that the space group is either P2₁/m or P2₁. The *h*0*l* 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 *h**k*0 photographs, 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 300–1000-*mμ* 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).

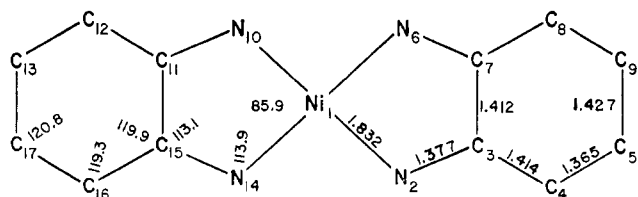


Figure 2.—The planar $\text{Ni}[\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{NH})_2]_2$ molecule showing the numbering scheme and average lengths and angles for bonds assumed to be chemically equivalent.

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(dimethylglyoximate)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 C₄–C₅, C₈–C₉, C₁₂–C₁₃, and C₁₆–C₁₇ 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 $\text{Ni}[\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{NH})_2]_2$ and $\text{Ni}[\text{S}_2\text{C}_2(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)_2]_2$ 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.

CONTRIBUTION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AND LAWRENCE RADIATION LABORATORY, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720, AND FRICK CHEMICAL LABORATORY, PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY 08540

The Crystal and Molecular Structure of Tetra-*n*-butylammonium Tribromo(quinoline)nickelate(II), $[(n\text{-C}_4\text{H}_9)_4\text{N}][\text{Ni}(\text{C}_9\text{H}_7\text{N})\text{Br}_3]^{1a}$

BY WILLIAM DE W. HORROCKS, JR.,^{1b} DAVID H. TEMPLETON,^{1c,d} AND ALLAN ZALKIN^{1d}

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The structure of tetra-*n*-butylammonium tribromo(quinoline)nickelate(II), $[(n\text{-C}_4\text{H}_9)_4\text{N}][\text{Ni}(\text{C}_9\text{H}_7\text{N})\text{Br}_3]$, has been determined by single-crystal X-ray diffraction methods. The crystals are triclinic, space group $\text{P}\bar{1}$, 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 - 2θ 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 $\text{Ni}(\text{L}-\text{L})_2$, where X is a halogen, L a neutral ligand such as an amine, phosphine, or phosphine oxide, and L–L repre-

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(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.