

The Crystal Structure of the Lattice Compound of NN'-
ethylene-bis-(acetylacetoniminato)cobalt(II) with Benzene

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NN'-ethylenebis(acetylacetoniminato)cobalt(II), Co(BAE) crystallizes from benzene with an equal mole ratio of solvent. The monoclinic unit cell, space group $P2_1/m$, with $a=11.74 \text{ \AA}$, $b=7.35 \text{ \AA}$, $c=10.60 \text{ \AA}$, $\beta=99.0^\circ$, contains two formula units, Co(BAE).C₆H₆. Least-squares refinement resulted in a final R-value of 0.075 for 836 independent observed reflections. The complex molecule has an exact tetracoordinate planar geometry. The average Co—O and Co—N bond lengths are 1.85 and 1.87 (± 0.01) Å. The complex molecules are packed in such a way to make large channels where benzene molecules are accommodated.

Introduction

Recently some stable organometallic derivatives of cobalt(III) complex of bis(salicylaldehyde)ethylenedimine (salenH₂) and bis(acetylacetonimine)ethylenedimine (BAEH₂) have been studied in this Institute.^{1,2} These compounds are of particular interest because their physico-chemical properties and reactivity show strong analogies with the vitamin B₁₂ group compounds. The crystal structure determination of the lattice compound of NN'-ethylenebis(acetylacetoniminato)cobalt(II) (CoBAE) with benzene and that of NN'-ethylenebis(acetylacetoniminato)vinylquocobalt(III), described in the following paper, are part of a program aimed to provide data on the coordination configuration and on the structure of the tetradentate ligands able to stabilize the cobalt-carbon bond.

Experimental Section

Single orange monoclinic crystals elongated along [010], prepared as previously described,³ were kindly supplied by Professor G. Costa and Dr. G. Mestroni of this Institute. Co(BAE) crystallizes from benzene with an approximately equal mole ratio of benzene. Crystals were enclosed in thin-walled glass capillary tubes under nitrogen to prevent loss of benzene and

contact with air. The cell dimensions, determined from precession photographs, taken with MoK_α radiation, are: $a=11.74 \pm 0.02 \text{ \AA}$, $b=7.35 \pm 0.02 \text{ \AA}$, $c=10.60 \pm 0.02 \text{ \AA}$, $\beta=99.0 \pm 0.3^\circ$.

The calculated density assuming two formula units Co(BAE).C₆H₆ per unit cell, is 1.32 g.cm⁻³ in agreement with approximate density measurements which were limited by the rapid loss of benzene. The only systematic absences observed, 0k0 with k odd, indicated that the possible space group is either $P2_1$ or $P2_1/m$. Intensity data were collected by the equi-inclination Weissenberg method using MoK_α radiation. Levels h0l through h8l were recorded by the multiple film technique. An approximately cylindrical crystal of mean diameter of ca. 0.15 mm was used. The precession zero-levels hk0 and 0kl, recorded with MoK_α radiation, were used to place the reflections in a common scale. The intensities of 838 independent reflections were measured by visual comparison with a standard scale. No correction for absorption was made. Lorentz and polarisation factors and the spot shape correction for non-zero levels were applied. All calculations were carried out on an IBM 7044 computer with programs written by A. Domenicano *et al.*^{4,5}

The atomic scattering factors used were those of Hanson *et al.*⁶ for oxygen, carbon, and hydrogen, that of Berghuis *et al.*⁷ for nitrogen and that, listed in the International Tables for X-ray Crystallography,⁸ for cobalt.

Structure Determination

The systematic absences cannot distinguish between the space groups $P2_1$ or $P2_1/m$, which have a twofold and a fourfold general position respectively. However, the most likely gauche conformation of ethylenediamine bridge suggests the choice of the non-centrosymmetric space group $P2_1$. In fact the space group $P2_1/m$ with two formula units per unit cell demands that the molecule of Co(BAE) possesses

(1) G. Costa, G. Mestroni, G. Tauzher, and L. Stefani, *J. Organomet. Chem.*, **6**, 181 (1966); G. Costa and G. Mestroni, *J. Organomet. Chem.*, **11**, 325 (1968).

(2) G. Costa, G. Mestroni, and L. Stefani, *J. Organomet. Chem.*, **7**, 495 (1967); H. A. O. Hill, K. G. Morallee, G. Pellizer, G. Mestroni, and G. Costa, *J. Organomet. Chem.*, **11**, 167 (1968).

(3) G. Morgan and J. Smith, *J. Chem. Soc.*, 2030 (1925).

(4) V. Albano, A. Domenicano, and A. Vaciano, *Gazz. Chim. Ital.*, **96**, 922 (1966).

(5) A. Domenicano and A. Vaciano, private communication.

(6) H. P. Hanson, F. Herman, J. D. Lea, and S. Skillman, *Acta Cryst.*, **17**, 1040 (1964).

(7) J. Berghuis, I. J. M. Haanappel, M. Potters, B. O. Loopstra, C. H. Gillavry, and A. L. Veendaaal, *Acta Cryst.*, **8**, 478 (1955).

(8) «International Tables for X-ray Crystallography», vol. III, Kynoch Press, Birmingham (1962).

exact m symmetry. Therefore the interpretation of the Patterson synthesis, for the location of the metal atom was originally based on the space group $P2_1$ in which the y coordinate of the cobalt can be chosen arbitrarily as zero. The heavy atom-phased three-dimensional Fourier synthesis was calculated. Because of the false symmetry introduced into the synthesis by inclusion of only cobalt contribution to the structure factors, peaks corresponding to the remaining non-hydrogen atoms together with an equally weighted collection of peaks reflected through the $y=0$ plane were expected. However, the electron distribution was such to indicate that the complex molecule as well as the benzene molecule, had exact m symmetry coinciding with the crystallographic mirror symmetry in the space group $P2_1/m$. y coordinates were then reassigned to agree with the standard setting of the centrosymmetric space group. A structure factor calculation including all non-hydrogen atoms and using an over-all temperature factor, B of 3 \AA^2 , gave a reliability index of 0.23. Three cycles of block-diagonal least-squares refinement of positional and isotropic thermal factors reduced R to 0.130. Three further cycles of refinement were carried out, allowing all positional parameters and the anisotropic thermal parameters to vary, and the R -value fell to 0.091. At this stage an electron density difference function, with all the atoms except hydrogen subtracted out, was calculated using the results of this refinement for the terms with $(\sin\theta) / \lambda \leq 0.4$.

Estimated positions of the hydrogen atoms all occurred in regions of positive electron-density on this map. Therefore the hydrogen atoms with an over-all isotropic temperature factor B of 5 \AA^2 were included, but they were held fixed in the last cycles of refinement. Finally two reflections, 020 and $11\bar{1}$, which seemed to be affected by extinction were removed from the refinement scheme. Block diagonal least-squares refinement, using anisotropic temperature factors for each non-hydrogen atom, was continued

Table I. Positional parameters of non-hydrogen atoms and their estimated standard deviations in parentheses, both multiplied by 10^4

	x	y	z
Co	1305 (2)	2500	4121 (2)
O(1)	1094 (8)	2500	2351 (10)
O(2)	2857 (7)	2500	3978 (10)
N(1)	-269 (10)	2500	4206 (12)
N(2)	1557 (10)	2500	5920 (12)
C(1)	287 (17)	2500	184 (19)
C(2)	127 (13)	2500	1555 (17)
C(3)	-914 (13)	2500	1920 (17)
C(4)	-1135 (12)	2500	3199 (17)
C(5)	-2372 (13)	2500	3467 (19)
C(6)	-554 (13)	2500	5522 (16)
C(7)	501 (12)	2500	6545 (15)
C(8)	2631 (17)	2500	8100 (18)
C(9)	2589 (14)	2500	6646 (16)
C(10)	3637 (13)	2500	6155 (15)
C(11)	3736 (11)	2500	4886 (16)
C(12)	4893 (13)	2500	4415 (18)
C(13)	-2874 (12)	1619 (21)	7842 (14)
C(14)	-3303 (13)	691 (20)	8707 (16)
C(15)	-3785 (10)	1613 (22)	9611 (15)

Table II. Fractional coordinates of hydrogen atoms multiplied by 10^3

	x	y	z
H(1C1)	-45	250	-39
H(2C1)	80	130	0
H(1C5)	-289	250	255
H(2C5)	-250	130	403
H(1C8)	350	250	858
H(2C8)	215	130	858
H(1C12)	563	250	512
H(2C12)	490	130	385
H(C3)	-167	250	120
H(C6)	-105	130	550
H(C7)	45	130	713
H(C10)	443	250	681
H(C13)	-252	80	708
H(C14)	-329	-80	868
H(C15)	-424	80	1041

until no parameter showed any significant change between successive cycles, giving $R=0.075$. The weighting scheme used was: $w=1/(a+b|F_o|+c|F_o|^2)$, where $a=7.10$, $b=1.0$, and $c=0.01$.

Atomic parameters and their standard deviations are listed in Tables I, II, and III. The final observed and calculated structure factors are listed in Table IV. Bond lengths and angles are listed in Table V. The scheme for the labelling of atoms is shown in Figure 1. The atoms of the benzene molecules related to the reference atoms C(13), C(14), and C(15) by the mirror symmetry are primed.

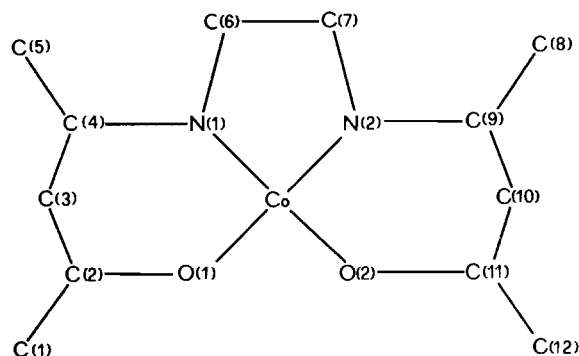


Figure 1. Numbering scheme for the atoms of the complex molecule.

Results and Discussion

The crystal packing of $\text{Co}(\text{BAE}) \cdot \text{C}_6\text{H}_6$ is very similar to that of the lattice compound of NN' ethylenebis(acetylacetonimine)copper(II)⁹ with methylammonium perchlorate. The refinement of the molecular parameters for this compound, assuming the space group $P2_1/m$, led to unacceptable values of some bond lengths and angles and of some thermal parameters. These effects were ascribed to some real distortion from $P2_1/m$ symmetry. On the contrary, no indication of distortion from $P2_1/m$ symmetry was obtained for the compound $\text{Co}(\text{BAE}) \cdot \text{C}_6\text{H}_6$ and no

(9) N. F. Curtis, E. N. Baker, D. Hall, and T. N. Waters, *Chem. Comm.*, 675 (1966).

Table V. Bond lengths (in Å) and bond angles (°), with their estimated standard deviations in parentheses

Co—O(1)	1.854 (0.011) Å	Co—O(1)—C(2)	128.3°(1.1)
Co—O(2)	1.852 (0.009)	O(1)—C(2)—C(1)	113.6 (1.5)
Co—N(1)	1.864 (0.012)	O(1)—C(2)—C(3)	123.7 (1.6)
Co—N(2)	1.884 (0.013)	C(1)—C(2)—C(3)	122.7 (1.5)
O(1)—C(2)	1.304 (0.017)	C(2)—C(3)—C(4)	126.0 (1.5)
O(2)—C(11)	1.297 (0.016)	C(3)—C(4)—C(5)	120.0 (1.4)
N(1)—C(4)	1.354 (0.019)	C(3)—C(4)—N(1)	121.7 (1.4)
N(1)—C(6)	1.484 (0.022)	C(5)—C(4)—N(1)	118.3 (1.6)
N(2)—C(9)	1.330 (0.019)	C(4)—N(1)—Co	126.1 (1.1)
N(2)—C(7)	1.494 (0.020)	C(4)—N(1)—C(6)	119.3 (1.3)
C(1)—C(2)	1.494 (0.028)	C(6)—N(1)—Co	114.6 (0.9)
C(2)—C(3)	1.338 (0.023)	N(1)—C(6)—C(7)	113.2 (1.3)
C(3)—C(4)	1.420 (0.026)	C(6)—C(7)—N(2)	109.0 (1.3)
C(4)—C(5)	1.523 (0.022)	C(7)—N(2)—Co	116.0 (0.9)
C(6)—C(7)	1.513 (0.020)	C(7)—N(2)—C(9)	119.2 (1.3)
C(8)—C(9)	1.534 (0.026)	C(9)—N(2)—Co	124.8 (1.2)
C(9)—C(10)	1.409 (0.024)	N(2)—C(9)—C(8)	117.7 (1.5)
C(10)—C(11)	1.368 (0.024)	N(2)—C(9)—C(10)	123.7 (1.5)
C(11)—C(12)	1.519 (0.022)	C(8)—C(9)—C(10)	118.6 (1.4)
C(13)—C'(13)	1.295 (0.022)	C(9)—C(10)—C(11)	125.8 (1.3)
C(13)—C(14)	1.305 (0.023)	C(10)—C(11)—C(12)	122.7 (1.3)
C(14)—C(15)	1.366 (0.022)	C(10)—C(11)—O(2)	123.4 (1.3)
C(15)—C'(15)	1.304 (0.023)	C(12)—C(11)—O(2)	113.9 (1.4)
O(1)—Co—O(2)	84.0°(0.4)	C(11)—O(2)—Co	128.2 (1.0)
O(1)—Co—N(1)	94.1 (0.5)	C'(13)—C(13)—C(14)	121.5 (1.5)
O(2)—Co—N(2)	94.7 (0.5)	C(13)—C(14)—C(15)	118.8 (1.4)
N(1)—Co—N(2)	87.2 (0.5)	C(14)—C(15)—C'(15)	119.7 (1.4)

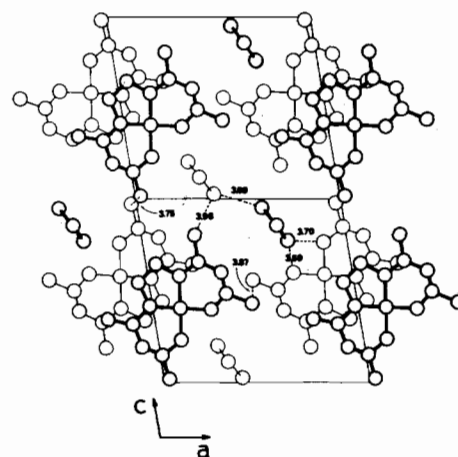
Table VI. Non-bonded intermolecular distances below 4 Å

Co—C(6)I	3.81
O(1)—C(14)I	3.79
O(1)—C(13)I	3.70
O(2)—C(13)I	3.59
O(2)—C(14)I	3.79
N(1)—N(2)I	3.97
N(1)—C(6)I	3.80
N(1)—C(7)I	3.76
N(2)—C(5)I	3.83
N(2)—C(4)I	3.84
C(1)—C(9)I	3.68
C(2)—C(7)I	3.75
C(3)—C(15)II	3.90
C(1)—C(1)III	3.75
C(1)—C(8)II	3.79
C(1)—C(7)II	3.90
C(8)—C(15)IV	3.98
C(12)—C(5)V	3.51
C(12)—C(12)VII	3.87
C(15)—C(15)VI	3.90

I	$\bar{x}, \bar{y}, 1-z$
II	$x, y, z-1$
III	$\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}$
IV	$\bar{x}, \bar{y}, 2-z$
V	$1+x, y, z$
VI	$-1-x, \bar{y}, 2-z$
VII	$1-x, \bar{y}, 1-z$

the benzene molecule to the other. The structure is most readily described as molecular units separated by van der Waals distances (Table VI). The projection of the contents of two unit cells onto (010) is shown in Figure 2. Close intermolecular contacts are involved between methyl groups of the complex molecule, which make large channels where the benzene molecules are accommodated.

The benzene ring shows no significant deviations from planarity. The equation of the best least-squares plane through the benzene carbon atoms is

**Figure 2.** Projection of the structure on (010).

$9.456x + 4.872z = 1.108$ in which x and z are crystallographic fractional coordinates. The deviations from this plane are 0.010, -0.005, and -0.005 Å for C(13), C(14), and C(15) respectively. The observed values of the bond lengths within the benzene ring are considerably smaller than the expected values. This may be ascribable to considerable librational movement and possible fractional occupancy of the sites, as suggested by the high thermal parameters for these atoms and by the easy loss of the solvent molecules.

The complex molecule adopts an exact tetra-coordinate planar geometry in spite of the steric effects of the ethylenediamine bridge for which a gauche conformation is clearly more stable. A similar situation has been found in the crystal of the lattice

(10) R. G. Clark, D. Hall, and T. N. Waters, *J. Chem. Soc.*, (A), 223 (1968).

compound $\text{Cu}(\text{BAE}) \cdot \text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{ClO}_4$ ⁹ and of $\text{Cu}(\text{BAE}) \cdot \frac{1}{2}\text{H}_2\text{O}$.¹⁰ In the latter compound the observed angle between the planes passing through the atoms of the two planar acetylacetonimine rings is 3.5° . Although it has been reported that the ethylenediamine ring is in the usual gauche conformation, the angle of rotation around the C–C bond is only 11.7° . A more marked distortion from planarity has been found in the anhydrous $\text{Cu}(\text{BAE})$,¹¹ in which strong interactions between pairs of complex molecules are involved. Thus it appears likely that, when no marked intermolecular interactions take place, the ligand planar conformation is essentially determined

(11) D. Hall, A. D. Rae, and T. N. Waters, *J. Chem. Soc.*, 5897 (1963).

by the nature of the metal-ligand bonding.

The two acetylacetonimine rings are related by an approximate mirror plane normal to the molecular plane and passing through the cobalt atom and the middle point of the C–C bond of the ethylenediamine bridge. The average values of Co–O and Co–N bond lengths are 1.85 and 1.87 Å, respectively. The bond lengths and angles of the ligand have the expected values for a conjugated system.

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