maps, were refined isotropically. All calculations were performed on a VAX3400 computer at the Computer Center, Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science. Since all attempts to obtain suitable single crystals of (2) failed, the complex was examined by X-ray powder diffraction. Accurate d_{hkl} spacings (Å) were obtained from the powder pattern recorded on a Seifert XRD-3000P diffractometer at 295 K operating at 30 kV and 30 mA with a 2° min⁻¹ scan rate. The results are summarized in Table 4. The initial cell parameters have been determined from powder data and accurate lattice parameters were obtained by least-squares refinement (Gabe, Le Page, Charland, Lee & White, 1989).

Data collection: CAD-4 Software (Enraf-Nonius, 1989) for (1). Cell refinement: CAD-4 Software for (1). Data reduction: CAD-4 Software for (1). Program(s) used to solve structures: SHELX76 (Sheldrick, 1976) for (1). Program(s) used to refine structures: SHELXL93 (Sheldrick, 1993) for (1); NRCVAX (Gabe, Le Page, Charland, Lee & White, 1993) for (2). Molecular graphics: ORTEPII (Johnson, 1976) for (1). Software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXL93 for (1).

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[*N*,*N*'-Bis(2-thiobenzylidene)-1,2-phenylenediaminato]nickel(II)†

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Abstract

The title compound, $[Ni(C_{20}H_{14}N_2S_2)]$, was formed from a Schiff base reaction of 2-*tert*-butylthiobenzaldehyde with 1,2-phenylenediamine, followed by reaction with Ni(BF₄)₂.6H₂O. The square-planar NiN₂S₂ complex has Ni—N distances of 1.8992 (17) and 1.9014 (15) Å, and Ni—S distances of 2.1519 (6) and 2.1587 (6) Å. Molecules pack in layers with a tilt angle of 46.09 (1)°; the (001) packing plane is arranged so that the molecules in superimposed layers stack approximately perpendicular to each other.

Comment

Mononuclear NiN₂S₂ complexes are well known, but continue to be studied as models for the active sites in metalloenzymes, such as nickel hydrogenases (Ni-H₂ases) (Lancaster, 1988; Halcrow & Christou, 1994). The title complex, [Ni(tsalphen)], (I), and the related 4,5-dimethyl-1,2-phenylenediamino complex [Ni(tsaldimph)] (Henderson, Bouwman, Reedijk & Powell, 1996) were synthesized and characterized as part of research in modelling the active site of the Ni-H₂ase enzyme from *Desulfovibrio Gigas*, for which an X-ray structure was recently published (Volbeda *et al.*, 1995).



The title complex contains a square-planar Ni atom, coordinated by two imino N atoms and two thiolate S atoms. The asymmetric unit corresponds to one complete molecule. No use is made of the molecular

[†] Alternative name: {2,2'-[1,2-phenylenebis(nitrilomethylidene)]diphenolato-S,N,N',S'}nickel(II).

twofold axis in the packing (see below). Atoms N1, N2 and Ni1 define a plane from which S1 is displaced by 0.392(1) Å in one direction and S2 by 0.394(1) Å in the other. The planes generated by the two Schiff base moieties containing the 2-thiobenzylidene units are essentially planar to within 0.03 Å. The phenyl ring of the phenylenediamine moiety makes angles of 4.27 (9) and 9.67 (9)° with the two Schiff base moieties.

The present structure can be compared with two similar Ni complexes. The compound [(N,N'-o-phenylenedisalicylideneaminato-N,N', O, O')nickel(II)], [Ni-(salph)] (Radha, Seshasayee, Ramalingam & Aravamudan, 1985), is the NiN₂O₂ analogue of the title compound, in which the plane defined by N1, N2 and Ni hasO1 0.015 Å above and O2 0.032 Å below it. This is considerably more planar than the title compound, an obser-



Fig. 1. Displacement ellipsoid plot (50% probability) of the title compound. H atoms are shown as small spheres of arbitrary radii.



Fig. 2. Packing diagram illustrating the packing on (001), the nonplanarity of the molecule and the non-crystallographic twofold molecular symmetry. The *b* axis runs to the right with the *c* axis vertically upwards.

vation related to the smaller radius of oxygen. The compound [Ni(tsaldimph)] (Henderson *et al.*, 1996) contains a 4,5-dimethyl-1,2-phenylenediamino unit instead of a simple 1,2-phenylenediamino unit, with the molecular twofold axis coinciding with a crystallographic twofold axis. The coordination geometry around the Ni^{II} centre in [Ni(tsaldimph)] is more planar than the title complex, with the two S atoms deviating by only 0.202 (1) Å from the plane defined by Ni and the two coordinating N atoms.

The packing characteristics in the title compound and in [Ni(tsaldimph)] (Henderson *et al.*, 1996) are similar. Molecules pack in layers with tilt angles of 46.09 (1) and 35.75 (2)° to the packing plane. Molecules in the (001) plane pack parallel, while those in successive layers in the *c*-axis direction are approximately perpendicular (Fig. 2).

Experimental

All procedures were performed in a nitrogen atmosphere using degassed solvents and Schlenk techniques. 2-tert-Butylthiobenzaldehyde was prepared according to the literature procedure of Meth-Cohn & Tarnowski (1978). To a solution of 2-tert-butylthiobenzaldehyde (0.41 g, 2.11 mmol) in dry toluene (10 ml) was added a solution of 1.2-phenylenediamine (0.13 g, 1.06 mmol) in dry toluene (10 ml) and the mixture was heated under reflux for 2 h in the presence of CaSO₄ as a drying agent. The resultant bright yellow solution was filtered and the solvent evaporated, leaving a bright yellow oil. The crude yellow oil was dissolved in 98% ethanol (10 ml) and a solution of Ni(BF₄)₂.6H₂O (0.34 g, 1.0 mmol) in ethanol (10 ml) was added. The mixture was heated under reflux for 1.5 h during which time the solution turned dark and a dark brown precipitate began to form. On cooling, the dark brown precipitate was collected on microfine filter paper [0.18 g 45% yield based on Ni(BF₄)₂]. X-ray quality crystals were obtained by recrystallization from dimethylformamide/chloroform. Calculated microanalysis for C₂₀H₁₄N₂NiS₂: C 59.41, H 3.49, N 6.93, S 15.83%; found: C 59.18, H 3.55, N 6.63%. ¹H NMR (DMSO; 2-D ¹H ¹H COSY spectrum): δ 9.42 (2H, s, H7), 8.27 (2H, d of t, J = 3.5 and 10 Hz, H9), 7.96 (2H, dd, J = 1.4 and 8 Hz, H2), 7.65 (2H, d, J = 8 Hz, H5), 7.50 (2H, d of t, J = 3.5 and 10 Hz, H10), 7.33 (t of d, J = 1.5 and 7 Hz, H4), 7.14 (t of d, J = 0.7 and 7 Hz, H3).

Crystal data

[Ni(C₂₀H₁₄N₂S₂)] $M_r = 405.17$ Monoclinic $P2_1/c$ a = 6.9518 (5) Å b = 17.6990 (13) Å c = 13.5035 (11) Å $\beta = 100.520 (6)^{\circ}$ $V = 1633.5 (2) Å^{3}$ Z = 4 $D_x = 1.648 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ D_m not measured Mo $K\alpha$ radiation $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å Cell parameters from 25 reflections $\theta = 11.6-14.1^{\circ}$ $\mu = 1.45$ mm⁻¹ T = 150 K Block $0.48 \times 0.45 \times 0.30$ mm Dark brown

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Data collection

Enraf–Nonius CAD-4T	3215 reflections with
diffractometer on rotating	$I > 2\sigma(I)$
anode source	$R_{\rm int} = 0.026$
ω scans	$\theta_{\rm max} = 27.42^{\circ}$
Absorption correction:	$h = -6 \rightarrow 9$
ψ scan (North, Phillips	$k = 0 \rightarrow 22$
& Mathews, 1968)	$l = -17 \rightarrow 17$
$T_{\rm min} = 0.600, T_{\rm max} = 0.670$	3 standard reflections
4026 measured reflections	frequency: 60 min
3703 independent reflections	intensity decay: 5%

Refinement

Refinement on F^2	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001$
R(F) = 0.029	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.41 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
$wR(F^2) = 0.071$	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min}$ = -0.34 e Å ⁻³
S = 1.066	Extinction correction: none
3703 reflections	Scattering factors from
240 parameters	International Tables for
H atoms: see below	Crystallography (Vol. C)
$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0471P)^2]$	
+ 1.1696 <i>P</i>]	
where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$	

Table 1. Selected geometric parameters (Å, °)

	Ų	-	
Ni1—S1	2.1519 (6)	S2—C20	1.736 (2)
Ni1—S2	2.1587 (6)	N1C7	1.302 (3)
Ni1N1	1.8992 (17)	N1C8	1.436 (3)
Ni1-N2	1.9014 (15)	N2-C13	1.432 (2)
S1C1	1.728 (2)	N2C14	1.297 (3)
\$1—Ni1—S2	81.85 (2)	S2-Ni1-N1	168.99 (5
S1Ni1N1	97.08 (5)	S2-Ni1-N2	96.78 (5
S1-Ni1-N2	168.93 (5)	N1Ni1N2	86.34 (7

The crystal used for data collection was cut to size in inert oil from a cluster of cube-shaped crystals. Attempts to use a face-indexed correction for absorption (de Meulenaer & Tompa, 1965) were unsatisfactory in detail but indicated a transmission range of 0.54–0.67. A more reasonable correction was possible on the basis of three close-to-axial ψ scans with the North, Phillips & Mathews (1968) method as implemented in *PLATON*97 (Spek, 1990). The correction range was scaled on the value of T_{max} given above. H atoms were taken into account at calculated positions (restrained to C—H = 0.95 Å) and refined riding on their carrier atoms with $U_{iso} = 1.2U_{eq}$ of their attached atom. The structure was checked for possible higher symmetry using the *MISSYM* algorithm as implemented in *PLATON*97. The molecular twofold axis does not coincide with a lattice translation.

Data collection: locally modified CAD-4 Software (Enraf-Nonius, 1989). Cell refinement: SET4 (de Boer & Duisenberg, 1984). Data reduction: HELENA (Spek, 1997). Program(s) used to solve structure: DIRDIF96 (Beurskens et al., 1996). Program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997). Molecular graphics: PLATON97. Software used to prepare material for publication: PLATON97.

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Bis(4-benzylpiperidinium) Tetrachloromercurate

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Abstract

The title compound, $(C_{12}H_{18}N)_2[HgCl_4]$, contains a distorted tetrachloromercurate tetrahedron, with Hg— Cl distances ranging from 2.424 (3) to 2.614 (2) Å.