

The Molecular and Crystal Structure of *trans*-Dinitrotetramminecobalt(III) Nitrate Monohydrate

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The crystal structure of *trans*-dinitrotetramminecobalt(III) nitrate monohydrate [Co(NO₂)₂(NH₃)₄]NO₃·H₂O has been determined from three dimensional X-ray diffraction data. The dimensions of orthorhombic unit cell are: $a=10.02$ Å, $b=6.02$ Å, $c=16.84$ Å, and $Z=4$. The space group is $P2_12_12_1$. The structure has been refined by the three dimensional Fourier and least-squares method to $R=0.103$. The complex ion has a slightly distorted octahedral coordination with six N atoms at about 1.98 Å (two are N atoms of nitro groups and the others ammonium groups). The complexes are tightly bound together by N-H...O and O-H...O interactions, constructing a three dimensional network.

Crystal structures of various nitroamminecobalt(III) complexes of the type, [Co(NO₂)_{*m*}(NH₃)_{6-*m*}]^{3-*m*} have been determined, where $m=1$,¹⁾ 3,²⁾ 4,³⁾ and 6.⁴⁾ Nitropentamminecobalt(III) salts ($m=5$) have not yet been synthesized, whereas for dinitrotetramminecobalt(III) complexes ($m=2$) *cis*- and *trans*-isomers are well known.

However, no crystal structure analysis of these salts has yet been reported. Knowledge of the crystal structures of the whole series of nitroamminecomplexes evidently is an important basis for the understanding of the stereochemistry of nitroamminecomplexes and their structural principles. We have initiated a study of the structure of dinitrotetramminecobalt(III) nitrate.

The crystal structure of the *trans* form is reported in this paper. That of the *cis* form will be described in the following paper.

Experimental

The crystals were prepared by the method of Jørgensen.⁵⁾

Recrystallization from water containing a small amount of acetic acid yielded thin tabular or needle-like crystals, the latter being found to be twinned. The unit cell dimensions were determined from higher-order reflections of Weissenberg photographs (NiKα, $\lambda=1.6591$ Å). The systematic absences were: $h00$ for h odd, $0k0$ for k odd and $00l$ for l odd. Hence the

space group was unequivocally determined. The crystal data are listed in Table 1. Sets of multiple film equi-inclination Weissenberg photographs were taken about the *b*-axis (0 to 5th layers), the *a*- and *c*-axes (0th layer). NiKα radiation was used throughout. The intensities were estimated visually with a standard film strip and were converted to $|F_o(hkl)|^2$ and $|F_c(hkl)|$ by applying the usual Lorentz, polarization and spot shape corrections. 998 independent reflections were observed. They are about two-thirds of those within the nickel sphere. The crystal used was a rod $0.2 \times 0.06 \times 3.0$ mm. No correction was made for absorption or extinction.

TABLE 1. CRYSTAL DATA

<i>trans</i> -[Co(NO ₂) ₂ (NH ₃) ₄]NO ₃ ·H ₂ O
Orthorhombic
$a = 10.02 \pm 0.02$ Å
$b = 6.02 \pm 0.01$
$c = 16.84 \pm 0.02$
$D_x = 1.84$ g·cm ⁻³
$D_m = 1.865$ g·cm ⁻³
$Z = 4$
Space group $D_2^2 - P2_12_12_1$
Linear absorption coefficient for NiKα,
$\mu = 40.8$ cm ⁻¹

Structure Analysis

At first Patterson projections $P(xz)$, $P(xy)$ were synthesized.

These led us to fix the position of Co at 0.2500, 0.0, 0.3750. Preliminary Fourier projections of electron density upon (010) and (001) were synthesized using $F(h0l)$ s with $2h+l=4n$ ($n=0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$) and $F(hk0)$ s with $h+k=2n$, respectively, the signs of which were calculated from the parameter values of the cobalt atom. Approximate orientations of

*¹ Deceased on Aug. 1, 1968.

1) F. A. Cotton and W. T. Edwards, *Acta Cryst.*, **B24**, 474 (1968).

2) Y. Tanito, Y. Saito and H. Kuroya, *This Bulletin*, **25**, 188 (1952).

3) Y. Komiyama, *ibid.*, **30**, 13 (1957).

4) M. Driel and H. J. Verweel, *Z. Krist.*, **95**, 308 (1936).

5) S. M. Jørgensen, *Z. anorg. Chem.*, **17**, 477 (1898).

the complex ion could be assigned from these projections. They were in good accord with the conclusion drawn from Patterson projections $P(xz)$ and $P(xy)$. However, from the Fourier maps the atoms of nitrate ion and water molecule could not be fixed. Atomic parameters of nitrate ion were assigned by packing consideration. After inclusion of the parameters of the nitrate ion and the water oxygen atom in the structure factor calculation, considerable improvement was made in the agreement between the observed and calculated structure factors. Fourier projections of electron density upon (001) and (010) were then synthesized using all $F(hk0)$ s and $F(h0l)$ s, respectively, the signs of which were calculated from the parameter values of all the atoms. On the Fourier maps all the atoms were found on the expected location. At this stage the discrepancy factor R became 0.20. The structure thus obtained was refined by three dimensional difference synthesis with isotropic temperature factor to $R=0.14$, later by a block diagonal least-squares method with HBL5 program written by T. Ashida.

In this least-squares method anisotropic temperature factors were introduced and four cycles of refinement were carried out.

A weighting scheme was employed:

$$\begin{aligned} w &= 0.2 & \text{if } F_o \leq F_{\min.} (=4.0) \\ w &= 1.0 & \text{if } F_{\min.} < F_o \leq F_{\max.} (=100.0) \\ w &= F_o/F_{\max.} & \text{if } F_o > F_{\max.} \end{aligned}$$

The final discrepancy factor, $R = \sum ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \sum |F_o|$ was 0.103 for all the reflections. Atomic scattering factors were taken from International Tables for X-ray Crystallography.⁶⁾

Final atomic parameters and their standard deviations are summarized in Table 2. The observed and calculated structure factors are listed in Table 3.

Description of the Structure and Discussion

A perspective drawing of the complex ion, $[\text{Co}(\text{NO}_2)_2(\text{NH}_3)_4]^+$, is illustrated in Fig. 1. The bond lengths and bond angles with their e.s.d.'s calculated on the basis of the atomic parameters in Table 2 are listed in Table 4. A projection of the

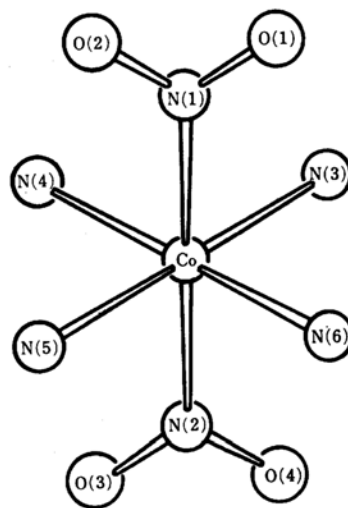


Fig. 1. A perspective drawing of the complex ion, $[\text{Co}(\text{NO}_2)_2(\text{NH}_3)_4]^+$.

TABLE 2. ATOMIC PARAMETERS AND THEIR e.s.d.'s* (10^4)

The expression of the anisotropic temperature factor is $\exp[-(h^2B_{11} + k^2B_{22} + l^2B_{33} + hkB_{12} + hlB_{13} + klB_{23})]$.

Atom	x/a	y/b	z/c	B_{11}	B_{22}	B_{33}	B_{12}	B_{13}	B_{23}
Co	2491(2)	0110(4)	3752(2)	60	207	26	-01	0	3
O(1)	3871(10)	3764(18)	4343(6)	74	188	27	-28	-31	-21
O(2)	3734(10)	3769(18)	3080(6)	69	180	28	-01	24	57
O(3)	1154(10)	-3553(18)	3149(6)	79	142	29	-70	24	41
O(4)	1211(10)	-3538(18)	4431(6)	66	204	19	-79	-10	-05
O(5)	1728(9)	3339(18)	1280(7)	7	318	34	-32	-03	14
O(6)	3450(9)	5489(16)	1281(8)	69	189	35	-29	-02	1
O(7)	3691(10)	1866(16)	1229(8)	104	197	30	19	4	30
O(8)	1221(10)	-1599(19)	1132(6)	78	273	27	23	10	-04
N(1)	3484(9)	2860(16)	3707(8)	26	98	28	-16	9	-22
N(2)	1497(9)	-2648(17)	3775(9)	25	126	30	29	-01	19
N(3)	3766(11)	-1092(19)	4518(6)	38	123	22	70	24	-34
N(4)	3601(11)	-1084(20)	2873(7)	55	117	23	50	-35	9
N(5)	1205(11)	1313(19)	2986(6)	53	70	4	8	-38	15
N(6)	1386(12)	1325(21)	4619(6)	57	145	21	53	15	-03
N(7)	2935(10)	3571(21)	1254(9)	65	274	21	29	3	-11

*e.s.d.'s in parentheses.

6) "International Tables for X-ray Crystallography," Vol. III, Kynoch Press, Birmingham (1962), p. 202

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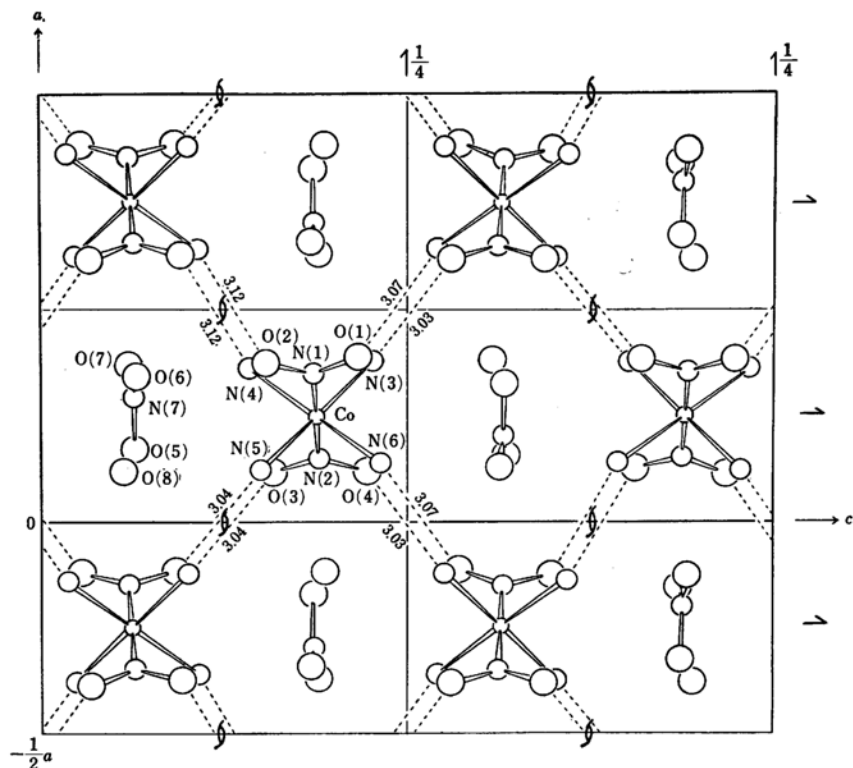


Fig. 2. Projection of the unit cell contents on the (010) plane.

TABLE 4. BOND DISTANCES AND ANGLES AND THEIR STANDARD DEVIATIONS

Co—N(1)	1.933(11) Å	N(1)—Co—N(3)	90.4(5)°
N(2)	1.937(11)	N(1)—Co—N(4)	89.6(5)
NH ₃ (3)	1.954(11)	N(1)—Co—N(5)	89.7(5)
NH ₃ (4)	1.986(12)	N(1)—Co—N(6)	90.0(5)
NH ₃ (5)	1.963(12)	N(2)—Co—N(3)	90.3(5)
NH ₃ (6)	1.973(12)	N(2)—Co—N(4)	89.6(5)
N(1)—O(1)	1.262(16)	N(2)—Co—N(5)	89.6(5)
O(2)	1.215(16)	N(2)—Co—N(6)	90.8(5)
N(2)—O(3)	1.235(17)	N(3)—Co—N(4)	89.5(5)
O(4)	1.260(17)	N(3)—Co—N(6)	90.9(5)
N(1)—NH ₃ (3)	2.758(16)	N(4)—Co—N(5)	90.6(5)
NH ₃ (4)	2.761(16)	N(5)—Co—N(6)	88.9(5)
NH ₃ (5)	2.749(15)	O(1)—N(1)—O(2)	118.7(10)
NH ₃ (6)	2.762(16)	Co—N(1)—O(1)	119.6(10)
N(2)—NH ₃ (3)	2.758(15)	Co—N(1)—O(2)	121.7(10)
NH ₃ (4)	2.764(16)	O(3)—N(2)—O(4)	119.8(10)
NH ₃ (5)	2.746(16)	Co—N(2)—O(3)	120.2(10)
NH ₃ (6)	2.784(16)	Co—N(2)—O(4)	120.0(10)
NH ₃ (3)—NH ₃ (4)	2.775(16)	O(5)—N(7)—O(6)	120.6(11)
NH ₃ (4)—NH ₃ (5)	2.808(16)	O(5)—N(7)—O(7)	119.9(12)
NH ₃ (5)—NH ₃ (6)	2.756(15)	O(6)—N(7)—O(7)	119.5(10)
NH ₃ (3)—NH ₃ (6)	2.798(16)		
N(7)—O(5)	1.218(14)		
O(6)	1.265(16)		
O(7)	1.277(16)		
O(5)—O(6)	2.157(14)		
O(7)	2.160(14)		
O(6)—O(7)	2.196(15)		

TABLE 5. INTERMOLECULAR CONTACTS NOT EXCEEDING 3.5 Å

N(1)—O(3) (1')	3.315(14) Å	N(6)—O(6) (3+1'')	3.398(16) Å
O(4) (1')	3.372(14)	O(7) (3)	3.323(16)
O(6) (4+1'')	3.388(13)	O(8) (4)	3.160(15)
N(2)—O(1) (1'')	3.352(14)	N(7)—O(2) (1)	3.180(18)
O(2) (1'')	3.323(14)	O(4) (3)	3.187(17)
O(5) (4+1'')	3.287(12)	O(8) (1')	3.383(16)
N(3)—O(1) (1'')	3.113(16)	O(1)—O(4) (1')	3.125(14)
O(4) (1'')	3.031(14)	O(8) (3)	3.283(15)
O(5) (3+1'')	3.298(16)	O(6) (4)	3.493(14)
O(6) (4+1'')	3.240(15)	O(7) (4)	3.222(14)
O(7) (4+1'')	3.096(15)	O(2)—O(3) (1')	3.048(14)
O(8) (3)	3.163(15)	O(6) (1)	3.213(16)
N(4)—O(2) (1'')	3.121(16)	O(7) (1)	3.321(16)
O(2) (4+1'')	3.117(15)	O(7) (4)	3.389(14)
O(6) (1'')	3.386(16)	O(3)—O(5) (4+1'')	3.250(14)
O(6) (4+1'')	3.414(15)	O(8) (4+1'')	3.239(15)
O(7) (1'')	3.290(17)	O(4)—O(6) (3)	3.347(16)
O(7) (4+1'')	3.342(15)	O(7) (3)	3.193(16)
N(5)—O(3) (1')	3.103(16)	O(5) (4+1'')	3.373(14)
O(3) (4)	3.041(15)	O(8) (4+1'')	3.199(14)
O(5) (1)	3.164(16)	O(5)—O(8) (1)	3.026(15)
O(8) (4)	3.114(15)	O(8) (1')	3.099(15)
N(6)—O(1) (2)	3.068(15)	O(6)—O(8) (1')	2.851(14)
O(4) (1')	3.114(17)	O(7)—O(8) (1')	3.241(14)

1)	x,	y,	z
1')	x,	1+y,	z
1'')	x,	-1+y,	z
2)	1/2+x,	1/2-y,	-z
3)	1/2-x,	-y,	1/2+z
4)	-x,	1/2+y,	1/2-z
e.s.d.'s in parentheses			

contents of one unit cell onto the (010) plane is presented in Fig. 2, and important intermolecular contacts (*i. e.*, those ≤ 3.5 Å) are listed in Table 5. The interatomic distances and bond angles were calculated by using program RSDA-4 written by T. Sakurai (1965).

The cobalt atoms are surrounded by nitrogen atoms of two nitro groups and of four ammonia molecules, which form a slightly distorted octahedron. Two nitrogen atoms of nitro groups are coordinated to a cobalt atom in *trans* positions.

The complex ion has an approximate symmetry *mmm*, with the first mirror containing the two nitro groups, the second containing N(3), N(4), N(5), and N(6), and the last perpendicular to the other two mirrors. In Table 6 are compared the distances between cobalt and ligand atoms and N—O distances in various complex ions. The distances are in agreement with those found in the related compounds. It is to be noted here that the Co—NO₂ distances are likely to increase with increase in number of the nitro groups. This may be partly due to the steric hindrance. Generally, the Co—N distances in Co—NH₃ seem to be longer than that in Co—NO₂.

TABLE 6. COMPARISON OF BOND LENGTHS IN VARIOUS NITROAMMINE COMPLEXES

	Co—NO ₂	Co—NH ₃	N—O
[Co(NO ₂)(NH ₃) ₅] ²⁺ ¹⁾	1.921 Å	1.977 Å	1.161 Å
<i>trans</i> -[Co(NO ₂) ₂ (NH ₃) ₄] ⁺	1.935	1.969	1.243
[Co(NO ₂) ₃ (NH ₃) ₃] ²⁾	1.97	1.98	1.26
[Co(NO ₂) ₄ (NH ₃) ₂] ⁻³⁾	1.96	1.98	1.23
[Co(NO ₂) ₆] ³⁻ ⁴⁾	2.03		1.11

Nitrate ion has an approximate three fold axis and N atom is 0.034 Å apart from the plane composed of three O atoms. The structure is built up of complex cations [Co(NO₂)₂(NH₃)₄]⁺, nitrate ions and water molecules, thus being essentially ionic. The arrangement of the cobalt atoms themselves has approximately the symmetry *D_{2h}²⁵-Immm*. This characteristic feature seems to be mainly due to the presence of spatial network consisting of the complex ions. The water molecules and nitrate ions also appear to play an important role. The binding force between complex ions is mainly due to the N—H...O interactions between NH₃ and NO₂ groups. Figure 3 illustrates a network of the

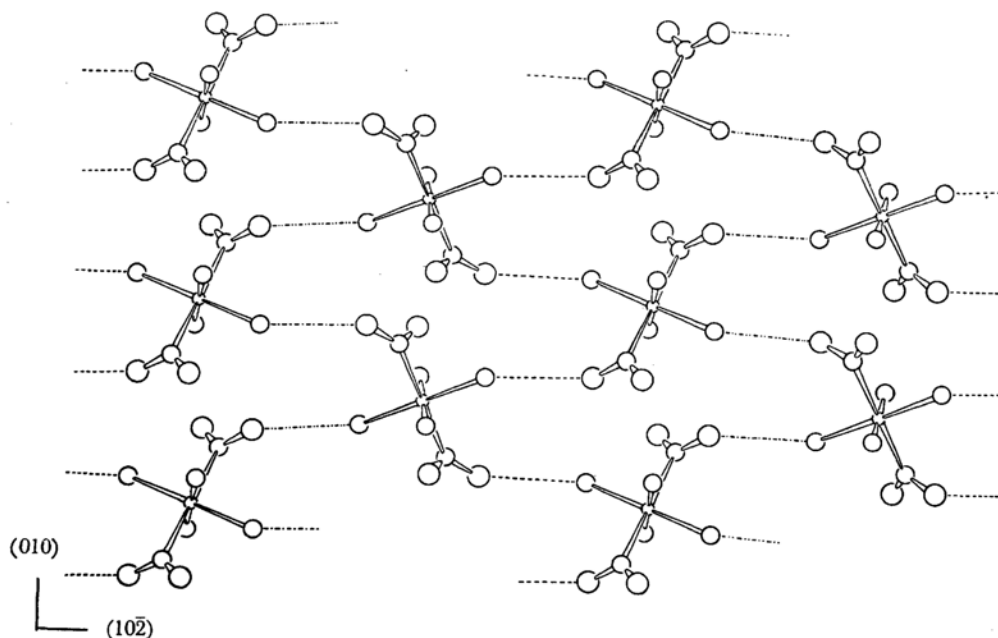


Fig. 3. Two dimensional network of complex ions found in crystal of $[\text{Co}(\text{NO}_2)_2(\text{NH}_3)_4]\text{NO}_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$.

-----: linkages of 3.041 Å; ———: linkages of 3.068 Å; — · — · —: linkages of 3.031 Å

complex ions found in this structure. Each complex ion forms four $\text{N-H}\cdots\text{O}$ bonds with four neighboring complex ions in a similar manner to that of binding found in the structure of $[\text{Co}(\text{NO}_2)_3(\text{NH}_3)_3]$. One of the two oxygen atoms of NO_2 groups is used to form $\text{N-H}\cdots\text{O}$ bonds of 3.068 Å, 3.031 Å, and 3.041 Å with NH_3 of the adjacent complex ions, thus two dimensional network parallel to the plane $(10\bar{2})$ being formed. At the same time the other oxygen atom is used to form another network with $\text{N-H}\cdots\text{O}$ distances of 3.068 Å, 3.031 Å, and 3.117 Å in the latter, parallel to the plane (102) .

Thus these layers form a three dimensional network.

The distances between two layers parallel to $(10\bar{2})$ and (102) , 6.45 Å, and 6.44 Å, respectively are the same as the corresponding ones, 6.48 Å, and 6.49 Å found in the crystals of $\text{NH}_4[\text{Co}(\text{NO}_2)_4(\text{NH}_3)_2]$, but longer than that in $[\text{Co}(\text{NO}_2)_3(\text{NH}_3)_3]$ (5.10 Å). In this three dimensional network four oxygen atoms of each complex form weak $\text{N-H}\cdots\text{O}$ bonds with four NH_3 groups of

upper and lower complex ions in the direction of the b -axis (3.103 Å, 3.113 Å, 3.114 Å, and 3.121 Å). This fact seems to account for the tendency for the crystal to grow along the b -axis. Water molecules form $\text{O-H}\cdots\text{O}$ hydrogen bond with oxygen of upper and lower nitrate ions in the direction of the b -axis (3.026 Å, and 2.851 Å). The water molecules and nitrate ions form $\text{N-H}\cdots\text{O}$ bond with NH_3 groups of complex ions (3.160 Å, 3.114 Å, 3.096 Å, etc.). These facts seem to support the conclusion drawn by Komiyama³⁾ that two nitro groups in *trans*-position are more likely to form $\text{N-H}\cdots\text{O}$ bonds than those nitro groups which are coordinated to the central cobalt atom in *trans*-positions with respect to different ligands.

The numerical calculations were carried out on the HITAC 5020 at the Computation Center, the University of Tokyo.

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