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# Crystal structure, thermal and fluorescence properties of 2,2': $6^{\prime}, 2^{\prime \prime}$-terpyridine-1, $1^{\prime}, 1^{\prime \prime}$-triium tetrachloridonickelate(II) chloride 

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The title compound, $\left(\mathrm{C}_{15} \mathrm{H}_{14} \mathrm{~N}_{3}\right)\left[\mathrm{NiCl}_{4}\right] \mathrm{Cl}$, comprises an $\mathrm{Ni}^{\text {II }}$ cation tetrahedrally coordinated by four chloride anions, a non-coordinating chloride anion and an essentially planar terpyridinium trication $\left(\operatorname{tpyH}_{3}{ }^{3+}\right)$, in which the central pyridinium ring forms dihedral angles of 5.7 (2) and 6.0 (2) ${ }^{\circ}$ with the peripheral pyridinium rings. Three inter-species $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{Cl}$ hydrogen bonds are formed with the $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$anion, which also forms a link between the $\left(\operatorname{tpyH}_{3}{ }^{3+}\right)$ cations through an aromatic $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{Cl}$ interaction, forming a zigzag chain extending along the $2_{1}(b)$ screw axis. Two of the anionic Cl atoms of the $\left[\mathrm{NiCl}_{4}\right]^{2-}$ anions form $\mathrm{Ni}-\mathrm{Cl} \cdots \pi$ interactions with separate pyridinium rings $[\mathrm{Ni} \cdots \mathrm{Cg}=$ 3.669 (3) and 3.916 (4) $\AA]$. In the crystal, successive undulating inorganic and organic layers are formed, extending across the (100) plane. Thermogravimetric and differential thermal analysis (TGA/DTA) indicate that the compound starts to decompose at 313 K and may be a candidate for use as a blue-light luminescent material.

## 1. Chemical context

The $2,2^{\prime}: 6^{\prime}, 2^{\prime \prime}$-terpyridine molecule (tpy) has been the object of numerous studies because of its excellent complexing properties on metal ions. The multitude of applications of this cation motivated a large development in the synthesis of terpyridines during the last decade. The compounds derived from the terpyridine molecule can be used in photochemistry for the realization of luminescent materials (Adeloye et al., 2012), the assembly of electrochemical sensors (Indelli et al., 1998), in photocatalysis (Mori et al., 2012) and as a sensitizing agent in photovoltaic conversion processes (Kohle et al., 1996). The literature reports some hybrid complexes of transition metal species incorporating tpy as a neutral ligand as well as complexes with its protonated forms $\left[\left(\mathrm{tpyH}^{+}\right),\left(\mathrm{tpyH}_{2}{ }^{2+}\right)\right.$, $\left.\left(\mathrm{tpyH}_{3}{ }^{3+}\right)\right]$ (Kochel, 2006). The title compound, which is a new hybrid complex, was characterized using IR spectroscopy and X-ray crystallography and its thermal and fluorescence properties have also been recorded.

## 2. Structural commentary

Crystals of $\left(\mathrm{C}_{15} \mathrm{H}_{14} \mathrm{~N}_{3}\right)\left[\mathrm{NiCl}_{4}\right] \mathrm{Cl}$, (I), are monoclinic (space group $P 2_{1}$ ), the asymmetric unit comprising an organic terpyridinium $\left(\mathrm{tpyH}_{3}{ }^{3+}\right)$ cation, a tetrachloronickelate(II) $\left[\mathrm{NiCl}_{4}\right]^{2-}$ dianion and a free chloride anion (Cl5) (Fig. 1).

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The $\left(\mathrm{tpyH}_{3}{ }^{3+}\right)$ cation has the cis-cis conformation and is essentially planar, with dihedral angles between the central pyridine ring and the two peripheral ring moieties of the ligand of 5.7 (2) and $6.0(2)^{\circ}$. The three protonated N atoms ( $\mathrm{N} 1, \mathrm{~N} 2$ and N 3 ) form hydrogen bonds with the chloride counter-anion (Cl5) (Table 1), giving short $\mathrm{H} 11 \cdots \mathrm{H} 22$ and $\mathrm{H} 22 \cdots \mathrm{H} 33$ contacts ( 1.70 and $1.68 \AA$, respectively), which are comparable to those reported for $\operatorname{tpyH}_{3} \mathrm{Cl}\left(\mathrm{PF}_{6}\right)_{2}(\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{H}$ range: 1.667-1.684 $\AA$; Yoshikawa et al., 2016). The complete protonation of an aromatic molecule that is nitrogen-enriched (a polynitrogenous derivative) is rarely observed, probably because of an unfavorable charge distribution resulting from the proximity of the nitrogen H atoms, as previously indicated in this structure. This results in an opening of the internal angles of the three N atoms $[\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{C} 5=124.0$ (4), $\mathrm{C} 10-$ $\mathrm{N} 2-\mathrm{C} 6=118.9(3)$ and $\left.\mathrm{C} 15-\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{C} 11=123.2(3)^{\circ}\right]$. These values are comparable to those found in the literature for $\left(\right.$ tpyH $\left._{3}{ }^{3+}\right)$. In $2,2^{\prime}: 6^{\prime}, 2^{\prime \prime}$-terpyridinetriium bis(hexafluoridophosphate) chloride (Yoshikawa et al., 2016), $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{C} 5=$ 122.90, $\mathrm{C} 6-\mathrm{N} 2-\mathrm{C} 10=117.60$ and $\mathrm{C} 11-\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{C} 15=123.27$, $\mathrm{C} 16-\mathrm{N} 4-\mathrm{C} 20=123.69, \mathrm{C} 21-\mathrm{N} 5-\mathrm{C} 25=118.22$ and $\mathrm{C} 26-$ $\mathrm{N} 6-\mathrm{C} 30=123.97^{\circ}$ and in catena-[(2,2':6', $2^{\prime \prime}$-terpyridinium)( $\mu_{3}$-sulfato)sulfatodioxouranium) nitrate dihydrate] (Jie Ling et al., 2010), $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{C} 5=123.33, \mathrm{C} 6-\mathrm{N} 2-\mathrm{C} 10=118.03$ and $\mathrm{C} 11-\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{C} 15=123.29^{\circ}$. The internal angles for a deprotonated terpyridine are $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{C} 5=116.9$ (8), $\mathrm{C} 10-$ $\mathrm{N} 2-\mathrm{C} 6=119.6(11)$ and $\mathrm{C} 15-\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{C} 11=117.1(8)^{\circ}$ (Maynard et al., 2009).


Figure 1
The asymmetric unit of $\left(\mathrm{C}_{15} \mathrm{H}_{14} \mathrm{~N}_{3}\right)\left[\mathrm{NiCl}_{4}\right] \mathrm{Cl}$, showing the atomnumbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the $50 \%$ probability level.

Table 1
Hydrogen-bond geometry ( $\AA^{\circ}{ }^{\circ}$ ).

| $D-\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ | $D-\mathrm{H}$ | $\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ | $D \cdots A$ | $D-\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| N1-H11 $\cdots \mathrm{Cl} 5$ | 0.86 | 2.26 | $3.026(4)$ | 149 |
| N2-H22 $\cdot \mathrm{Cl} 5$ | 0.86 | 2.67 | $3.532(4)$ | 178 |
| N3-H33 Cl5 | 0.86 | 2.25 | $3.010(4)$ | 148 |
| C14-H14 $\cdots \mathrm{Cl}^{\mathrm{i}}$ | 0.93 | 2.78 | $3.421(6)$ | 127 |

Symmetry code: (i) $-x, y+\frac{1}{2},-z$.

The nickel(II) centre of the dianion has a quasi-regular tetrahedral environment $[\mathrm{Ni}-\mathrm{Cl}$ bond length range, $2.185(2)-2.201(2) \AA$ and $\mathrm{Cl}-\mathrm{Ni}-\mathrm{Cl}$ bond angle range, 108.08 (5)-111.59 (5) ${ }^{\circ}$ (Fig. 2). The interatomic distance and angle values are in good agreement with those taken from the literature (Igashira-Kamiyama et al., 2013).

## 3. Supramolecular features

The previously described inter-species unit formed through the three individual $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{Cl}$ hydrogen bonds between the $\left(\mathrm{tpyH}_{3}{ }^{3+}\right.$ ) cation and the $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$anion (Table 1) is extended through a $\mathrm{C} 14-\mathrm{H} 14 \cdots \mathrm{Cl} 5^{\mathrm{i}}$ hydrogen bond into chains extending along the $2_{1}$ screw axis of the unit cell. Convoluted layers comprising successive $\left[\right.$ tpyH $\left.\mathrm{H}_{3}{ }^{3+}, \mathrm{Cl}^{-}\right]$(type $A$ ) and $\left[\mathrm{NiCl}_{4}\right]^{2-}$ (type $B$ ) ions extend across the (100) plane (Figs. 3 and 4). Two of the anionic Cl atoms of the $\left[\mathrm{NiCl}_{4}\right]^{2-}$ anion form $\mathrm{Ni}-\mathrm{Cl} \cdots \pi$ interactions with separate pyridine ring moieties of the cation within the asymmetric unit: Ni1$\mathrm{Cl} 1 \cdots \mathrm{Cg} 1=3.916$ (4) $\AA$ and $\mathrm{Ni} 1-\mathrm{Cl} 2 \cdots C g 2=3.669$ (3) $\AA$, where $C g 1$ and $C g 2$ are the centroids of the $\mathrm{N} 1 / \mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{C} 5$ and $\mathrm{N} 2 /$ C6-C10 rings, respectively (Fig. 3).

## 4. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA)

Thermal analyses were performed on a SETARM 92-16.18 PC/PG 1 instrument from 303 to 1273 K under a dynamic air


Figure 2
The nickel tetrahedral environment.


Figure 3
A view of the two-dimensional network of (I), showing the $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{Cl}$ and $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{Cl}$ hydrogen bonds (red dashed lines) and $\mathrm{Ni}-\mathrm{Cl} \cdots \pi$ interactions (blue dashed lines).
atmosphere and under nitrogen at $200.0 \mathrm{ml} \mathrm{min}^{-1}$ with a heating rate of $10 \mathrm{~K} \mathrm{~min}^{-1}$.

The stability of the $\left(\mathrm{C}_{15} \mathrm{H}_{14} \mathrm{~N}_{3}\right)\left[\mathrm{NiCl}_{4}\right] \mathrm{Cl}$ complex was measured by TGA and the experimental results are in agreement with the calculated data. As shown in Fig. 5, the
first weight loss of $16.5 \%$ (calculated $15.21 \%$ ) at $40-126 \mathrm{~K}$ corresponds to the loss of the two coordinated chloride anions and the second loss of $48.6 \%$ (calculated $49.9 \%$ ) at $126-281 \mathrm{~K}$ corresponds to the loss of the organic molecule $\mathrm{tpyH}_{3}{ }^{3+}$, and then the two coordinated and free chloride anions gradually


Figure 4
A perspective view of layers $A$ and $B$.


Figure 5
The thermogravimetric (TG) and differential thermal analysis (DTA) curves.
decompose $(\Delta P / P=23.14 \%$, calculated $=22.51 \%)$. In addition, the corresponding endothermic peaks (at 394.16; $554.63^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and at 638 K ) in the differential scanning ATD curve also record the processes of weight loss.

## 5. Luminescent properties

Photoluminescence spectra were measured using a Cary Eclipse (Agilent Technologies) fluorescence spectrophotometer.

The fluorescence properties of $\left(\mathrm{C}_{15} \mathrm{H}_{14} \mathrm{~N}_{3}\right)\left[\mathrm{NiCl}_{4}\right] \mathrm{Cl}$ and the free ligand tpy were investigated in the solid state at 298 K . As depicted in Fig. 6, the new compound (I) exhibits fluorescence emission at ca 481 nm (excited at 250 nm ) compared to that of tpy ( 425 nm , excited at 250 nm ), which can be attributed to $\pi-$ $\pi^{*}$ electronic transitions. Thus, the title compound may be a candidate for use as a blue-light luminescent material and it is believed that more transition metal heterocyclic compounds

Table 2
Experimental details.
Crystal data

| Chemical formula | $\left(\mathrm{C}_{15} \mathrm{H}_{14} \mathrm{~N}_{3}\right)\left[\mathrm{NiCl}_{4}\right] \mathrm{Cl}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| $M_{\mathrm{r}}$ | 472.25 |
| Crystal system, space group | Monoclinic, $P 2_{1}$ |
| Temperature $(\mathrm{K})$ | 293 |
| $a, b, c(\AA)$ | $6.689(5), 13.809(5), 10.620(5)$ |
| $\beta\left({ }^{\circ} \mathrm{A}\right)$ | $101.271(5)$ |
| $V\left(\mathrm{~A}^{3}\right)$ | $962.0(9)$ |
| $Z$ | 2 |
| Radiation type | Mo $K \alpha$ |
| $\mu\left(\mathrm{~mm}^{-1}\right)$ | 1.71 |
| Crystal size $(\mathrm{mm})$ | $0.20 \times 0.10 \times 0.08$ |
|  |  |
| Data collection |  |
| Diffractometer | Bruker APEXII CCD |
| No. of measured, independent and | $36239,8772,6308$ |
| $\quad$ observed $[I>2 \sigma(I)]$ reflections |  |
| $R$ int | 0.031 |
| $(\text { sin } \theta / \lambda)_{\text {max }}\left(\AA \AA^{-1}\right)$ | 0.828 |
| Refinement |  |
| $R\left[F^{2}>2 \sigma\left(F^{2}\right)\right], w R\left(F^{2}\right), S$ | $0.059,0.150,1.15$ |
| No. of reflections | 8772 |
| No. of parameters | 218 |
| No. of restraints | 1 |
| H -atom treatment | $\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{atom}$ |
| $\Delta \rho_{\text {max }}, \Delta \rho_{\text {min }}\left(\mathrm{e} \AA{ }^{-3}\right)$ | $0.54,-0.51$ |

Computer programs: APEX2 and SAINT (Bruker, 2006), SHELXS97 and SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 2008), ORTEP-3 for Windows (Farrugia, 2012), Mercury (Macrae et al., 2008) and POVRay (Persistence of Vision, 2004).
with good luminescent properties may be developed (Wen et al., 2007; Zhang et al., 2010; Huang et al., 2013).

## 6. Database survey

A search of the Cambridge Structural Database (Version 5.38; Groom et al., 2016) shows 4279 hits comprising the terpyridine species. However, only two structures containing the $\left(\mathrm{tpyH}_{3}{ }^{3+}\right)$ form are present (Ling et al., 2010; Yoshikawa et al., 2016).

## 7. Synthesis and crystallization

All the chemicals and solvents were purchased commercially and used as received. The infrared spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer spectrometer at room temperature in the range of $4000-500 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$. tpy $(1.67 \mathrm{~g}, 10 \mathrm{mmol})$ was dissolved in a $50 /$ 50 mixture of water and ethanol $(20 \mathrm{ml})$ in a 50 ml roundbottom flask. Nickel(II) chloride ( $2.50 \mathrm{~g}, 10 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was added to the flask to give a green-coloured solution that was stirred for 3 h under gentle heat, producing a green-coloured precipitate. The precipitate was filtered and washed twice with cold water/ethanol solvent then dried under vacuum for 20 min , producing a green powder $(2.7 \mathrm{~g}, 64 \%$ yield). Green prismatic crystals of the title complex (I) suitable for X-ray analysis were obtained from water/ethanol solvent. IR of (I) $\left(\mathrm{cm}^{-1}\right)$ : $3390(\mathrm{v} / \mathrm{s}), 2930(\mathrm{v} / \mathrm{s}), 1667.8(\mathrm{~s}), 1622.4(\mathrm{~s}), 1417.4(\mathrm{~m}), 987.6$ (w), $540.6(w)$.

## 8. Refinement

Crystal data, data collection and structure refinement details are summarized in Table 2. All H atoms were placed at calculated positions and refined as riding atoms, with $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}=$ $0.93 \AA, \mathrm{~N}-\mathrm{H}=0.86 \AA$ and with $U_{\text {iso }}(\mathrm{H})=1.2 U_{\text {eq }}(\mathrm{C}, \mathrm{N})$. Although not of relevance with this achiral molecule, the Flack parameter (Flack, 1983) was determined as 0.178 (16) for 4425 Friedel pairs. Minor non-merohedral twinning was identified and allowed for in the refinement, giving a BASF factor of 0.1783 .

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## supporting information

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# Crystal structure, thermal and fluorescence properties of $2,2^{\prime}: 6^{\prime}, 2^{\prime \prime}-$ terpyridine-1, $1^{\prime}, 1^{\prime \prime}$-triium tetrachloridonickelate(II) chloride 

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## Computing details

Data collection: APEX2 (Bruker, 2006); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 2006); data reduction: SAINT (Bruker, 2006); program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 2008); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 2008); molecular graphics: ORTEP-3 (Farrugia, 2012); software used to prepare material for publication: Mercury (Macrae et al., 2008) and POVRay (Persistence of Vision, 2004).

## (I)

## Crystal data

$\left(\mathrm{C}_{15} \mathrm{H}_{14} \mathrm{~N}_{3}\right)\left[\mathrm{NiCl}_{4}\right] \mathrm{Cl}$
$M_{r}=472.25$
Monoclinic, $P 2_{1}$
Hall symbol: P 2yb
$a=6.689$ (5) $\AA$
$b=13.809$ (5) $\AA$
$c=10.620$ (5) $\AA$
$\beta=101.271(5)^{\circ}$
$V=962.0(9) \AA^{3}$
$Z=2$

## Data collection

## Bruker APEXII CCD

 diffractometerRadiation source: fine-focus sealed tube
Graphite monochromator
$\varphi$ and $\omega$ scans
36239 measured reflections
8772 independent reflections

## Refinement

Refinement on $F^{2}$
Least-squares matrix: full
$R\left[F^{2}>2 \sigma\left(F^{2}\right)\right]=0.059$
$w R\left(F^{2}\right)=0.150$
$S=1.15$
8772 reflections
218 parameters
1 restraint
Primary atom site location: structure-invariant direct methods

$$
F(000)=476
$$

$D_{\mathrm{x}}=1.630 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}$
Mo $K \alpha$ radiation, $\lambda=0.71073 \AA$
Cell parameters from 6308 reflections
$\theta=3.0-36.1^{\circ}$
$\mu=1.71 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}$
$T=293 \mathrm{~K}$
Prism, green
$0.20 \times 0.10 \times 0.08 \mathrm{~mm}$

6308 reflections with $I>2 \sigma(I)$
$R_{\text {int }}=0.031$
$\theta_{\text {max }}=36.1^{\circ}, \theta_{\text {min }}=3.0^{\circ}$
$h=-11 \rightarrow 10$
$k=-22 \rightarrow 22$
$l=-17 \rightarrow 17$

Secondary atom site location: difference Fourier map
Hydrogen site location: inferred from neighbouring sites
H -atom parameters constrained
$w=1 /\left[\sigma^{2}\left(F_{\mathrm{o}}{ }^{2}\right)+(0.0529 P)^{2}+0.6276 P\right]$
where $P=\left(F_{\mathrm{o}}{ }^{2}+2 F_{\mathrm{c}}{ }^{2}\right) / 3$
$(\Delta / \sigma)_{\text {max }}<0.001$
$\Delta \rho_{\text {max }}=0.54$ e $\AA^{-3}$
$\Delta \rho_{\text {min }}=-0.51 \mathrm{e} \AA^{-3}$

## Special details

Geometry. Bond distances, angles etc. have been calculated using the rounded fractional coordinates. All su's are estimated from the variances of the (full) variance-covariance matrix. The cell esds are taken into account in the estimation of distances, angles and torsion angles
Refinement. Refinement of $\mathrm{F}^{2}$ against ALL reflections. The weighted R -factor wR and goodness of fit S are based on $\mathrm{F}^{2}$, conventional $R$-factors $R$ are based on $F$, with $F$ set to zero for negative $F^{2}$. The threshold expression of $F^{2}>2 \operatorname{sigma}\left(F^{2}\right)$ is used only for calculating R-factors(gt) etc. and is not relevant to the choice of reflections for refinement. R-factors based on $\mathrm{F}^{2}$ are statistically about twice as large as those based on F , and R - factors based on ALL data will be even larger.

Fractional atomic coordinates and isotropic or equivalent isotropic displacement parameters ( $\AA^{2}$ )

|  | $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | $U_{\text {iso }}{ }^{*} / U_{\text {eq }}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| N1 | $0.6965(5)$ | $0.0120(2)$ | $0.2808(3)$ | $0.0423(8)$ |
| N2 | $0.6834(4)$ | $0.1969(2)$ | $0.2073(2)$ | $0.0345(7)$ |
| N3 | $0.3276(4)$ | $0.2445(2)$ | $0.0620(3)$ | $0.0378(8)$ |
| C1 | $0.6807(7)$ | $-0.0822(3)$ | $0.3068(4)$ | $0.0564(14)$ |
| C2 | $0.8509(9)$ | $-0.1305(4)$ | $0.3730(5)$ | $0.0682(16)$ |
| C3 | $1.0290(9)$ | $-0.0823(4)$ | $0.4081(5)$ | $0.0704(16)$ |
| C4 | $1.0401(7)$ | $0.0151(4)$ | $0.3788(4)$ | $0.0570(14)$ |
| C5 | $0.8694(5)$ | $0.0637(3)$ | $0.3144(3)$ | $0.0400(9)$ |
| C6 | $0.8612(5)$ | $0.1667(3)$ | $0.2779(3)$ | $0.0377(8)$ |
| C7 | $1.0221(6)$ | $0.2299(4)$ | $0.3166(4)$ | $0.0514(13)$ |
| C8 | $0.9989(6)$ | $0.3259(3)$ | $0.2837(5)$ | $0.0566(11)$ |
| C9 | $0.8147(6)$ | $0.3578(3)$ | $0.2109(4)$ | $0.0510(11)$ |
| C10 | $0.6616(5)$ | $0.2905(2)$ | $0.1750(3)$ | $0.0360(8)$ |
| C11 | $0.4595(5)$ | $0.3173(2)$ | $0.0989(3)$ | $0.0374(8)$ |
| C12 | $0.3955(7)$ | $0.4115(3)$ | $0.0654(4)$ | $0.0493(11)$ |
| C13 | $0.1989(7)$ | $0.4256(3)$ | $-0.0041(4)$ | $0.0555(14)$ |
| C14 | $0.0724(7)$ | $0.3501(4)$ | $-0.0406(4)$ | $0.0574(14)$ |
| C15 | $0.1389(6)$ | $0.2582(3)$ | $-0.0065(4)$ | $0.0496(11)$ |
| Ni1 | $0.67429(7)$ | $0.12776(3)$ | $0.66208(4)$ | $0.0431(1)$ |
| C11 | $0.53022(16)$ | $-0.01301(7)$ | $0.60866(11)$ | $0.0556(3)$ |
| C12 | $0.55986(17)$ | $0.23114(8)$ | $0.50704(10)$ | $0.0576(3)$ |
| C13 | $0.6050(2)$ | $0.18121(10)$ | $0.84272(11)$ | $0.0672(4)$ |
| C14 | $1.00476(14)$ | $0.11245(9)$ | $0.68627(12)$ | $0.0629(4)$ |
| C15 | $0.27653(15)$ | $0.03265(7)$ | $0.11437(12)$ | $0.0576(3)$ |
| H1 | 0.55780 | -0.11470 | 0.28090 | $0.0680^{*}$ |
| H2 | 0.84260 | -0.19570 | 0.39320 | $0.0820^{*}$ |
| H3 | 1.14390 | -0.11440 | 0.45200 | $0.0840^{*}$ |
| H4 | 1.16290 | 0.04800 | 0.40240 | $0.0680^{*}$ |
| H7 | 1.14480 | 0.20740 | 0.36450 | $0.0620^{*}$ |
| H8 | 1.10530 | 0.36920 | 0.30980 | $0.0680^{*}$ |
| H9 | 0.79550 | 0.42250 | 0.18730 | $0.0610^{*}$ |
| H11 | 0.58970 | 0.04130 | 0.24020 | $0.0510^{*}$ |
| H12 | 0.48240 | 0.46380 | 0.08890 | $0.0590^{*}$ |
| H13 | 0.15350 | 0.48820 | 0.02590 | $0.0670^{*}$ |
| H14 | -0.05810 | 0.36030 | $0.0690^{*}$ |  |
| H15 | 0.05350 | 0.20540 | 0.08080 |  |


| H22 | 0.58510 | 0.15670 | 0.18310 | $0.0410^{*}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| H33 | 0.36610 | 0.18630 | 0.08330 | $0.0450^{*}$ |

Atomic displacement parameters $\left(\AA^{2}\right)$

|  | $U^{11}$ | $U^{22}$ | $U^{33}$ | $U^{12}$ | $U^{13}$ | $U^{23}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| N1 | $0.0412(14)$ | $0.0405(14)$ | $0.0434(14)$ | $0.0049(11)$ | $0.0040(11)$ | $0.0059(11)$ |
| N2 | $0.0329(11)$ | $0.0359(12)$ | $0.0329(11)$ | $-0.0041(9)$ | $0.0023(9)$ | $-0.0026(10)$ |
| N3 | $0.0373(13)$ | $0.0349(13)$ | $0.0394(13)$ | $0.0067(10)$ | $0.0029(10)$ | $-0.0032(10)$ |
| C1 | $0.069(3)$ | $0.044(2)$ | $0.057(2)$ | $0.0067(19)$ | $0.014(2)$ | $0.0092(17)$ |
| C2 | $0.099(4)$ | $0.050(2)$ | $0.059(2)$ | $0.021(3)$ | $0.024(3)$ | $0.017(2)$ |
| C3 | $0.067(3)$ | $0.081(3)$ | $0.061(2)$ | $0.032(3)$ | $0.007(2)$ | $0.016(2)$ |
| C4 | $0.047(2)$ | $0.073(3)$ | $0.048(2)$ | $0.0178(19)$ | $0.0019(16)$ | $0.0088(19)$ |
| C5 | $0.0381(15)$ | $0.0508(18)$ | $0.0295(13)$ | $0.0063(14)$ | $0.0024(11)$ | $0.0005(12)$ |
| C6 | $0.0330(13)$ | $0.0479(17)$ | $0.0306(13)$ | $-0.0024(12)$ | $0.0024(11)$ | $-0.0055(12)$ |
| C7 | $0.0339(15)$ | $0.069(3)$ | $0.0476(19)$ | $-0.0069(16)$ | $-0.0011(14)$ | $-0.0065(18)$ |
| C8 | $0.0444(19)$ | $0.061(2)$ | $0.063(2)$ | $-0.0246(17)$ | $0.0074(18)$ | $-0.0163(19)$ |
| C9 | $0.052(2)$ | $0.0391(17)$ | $0.064(2)$ | $-0.0166(15)$ | $0.0168(18)$ | $-0.0104(16)$ |
| C10 | $0.0373(14)$ | $0.0345(14)$ | $0.0361(14)$ | $-0.0030(11)$ | $0.0070(12)$ | $-0.0056(11)$ |
| C11 | $0.0431(16)$ | $0.0350(14)$ | $0.0352(14)$ | $0.0037(12)$ | $0.0106(12)$ | $-0.0022(11)$ |
| C12 | $0.061(2)$ | $0.0354(16)$ | $0.053(2)$ | $0.0041(15)$ | $0.0147(17)$ | $0.0042(14)$ |
| C13 | $0.068(3)$ | $0.050(2)$ | $0.0486(19)$ | $0.0185(19)$ | $0.0118(18)$ | $0.0102(17)$ |
| C14 | $0.057(2)$ | $0.062(3)$ | $0.049(2)$ | $0.024(2)$ | $0.0004(17)$ | $0.0058(18)$ |
| C15 | $0.0417(18)$ | $0.055(2)$ | $0.0487(19)$ | $0.0085(15)$ | $0.0002(15)$ | $-0.0056(16)$ |
| Ni1 | $0.0447(2)$ | $0.0389(2)$ | $0.0450(2)$ | $0.0022(2)$ | $0.0074(2)$ | $-0.0037(2)$ |
| C11 | $0.0557(5)$ | $0.0396(4)$ | $0.0668(6)$ | $-0.0065(4)$ | $0.0008(4)$ | $-0.0078(4)$ |
| C12 | $0.0582(6)$ | $0.0542(5)$ | $0.0578(5)$ | $0.0045(4)$ | $0.0048(4)$ | $0.0156(4)$ |
| C13 | $0.0789(7)$ | $0.0736(7)$ | $0.0531(5)$ | $0.0027(6)$ | $0.0231(5)$ | $-0.0196(5)$ |
| C14 | $0.0395(4)$ | $0.0623(7)$ | $0.0851(7)$ | $0.0057(4)$ | $0.0075(4)$ | $-0.0053(5)$ |
| C15 | $0.0413(4)$ | $0.0435(5)$ | $0.0823(7)$ | $-0.0114(4)$ | $-0.0017(4)$ | $0.0015(5)$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Geometric parameters ( $\AA$, ${ }^{\circ}$ )

| Ni1-Cl1 | 2.194 (2) | C7-C8 | 1.372 (7) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ni1-Cl2 | 2.201 (2) | C8-C9 | 1.392 (6) |
| Ni1-Cl3 | 2.188 (2) | C9-C10 | 1.380 (5) |
| Ni1-Cl4 | 2.185 (2) | C10-C11 | 1.480 (5) |
| N1-C5 | 1.347 (5) | C11-C12 | 1.394 (5) |
| N1-C1 | 1.338 (5) | C12-C13 | 1.390 (7) |
| N2-C6 | 1.342 (4) | C13-C14 | 1.351 (7) |
| N2-C10 | 1.338 (4) | C14-C15 | 1.370 (7) |
| N3-C15 | 1.341 (5) | C1-H1 | 0.9300 |
| N3-C11 | 1.344 (4) | C2-H2 | 0.9300 |
| N1-H11 | 0.8600 | C3-H3 | 0.9300 |
| N2-H22 | 0.8600 | $\mathrm{C} 4-\mathrm{H} 4$ | 0.9300 |
| N3-H33 | 0.8600 | C7-H7 | 0.9300 |
| C1-C2 | 1.387 (7) | C8-H8 | 0.9300 |
| C2-C3 | 1.352 (8) | C9—H9 | 0.9300 |


| C3-C4 | 1.386 (8) | C12-H12 | 0.9300 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| C4-C5 | 1.384 (6) | C13-H13 | 0.9300 |
| C5-C6 | 1.472 (6) | C14-H14 | 0.9300 |
| C6-C7 | 1.384 (6) | C15-H15 | 0.9300 |
| Cl1-Ni1-Cl4 | 109.13 (5) | N2-C10-C9 | 122.8 (3) |
| C11-Ni1-Cl2 | 108.08 (5) | N3-C11-C10 | 116.7 (3) |
| $\mathrm{Cl1}-\mathrm{Ni} 1-\mathrm{Cl} 3$ | 111.59 (5) | N3-C11-C12 | 118.2 (3) |
| C13-Ni1-Cl4 | 108.20 (5) | C10-C11-C12 | 125.1 (3) |
| C12-Ni1-Cl3 | 109.57 (5) | C11-C12-C13 | 118.5 (4) |
| C12-Ni1-Cl4 | 110.28 (5) | C12-C13-C14 | 121.3 (4) |
| C1-N1-C5 | 124.0 (4) | C13-C14-C15 | 119.1 (4) |
| C6-N2-C10 | 118.9 (3) | N3-C15-C14 | 119.8 (4) |
| C11-N3-C15 | 123.2 (3) | N1-C1-H1 | 121.00 |
| C5-N1-H11 | 118.00 | C2- $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{H} 1$ | 121.00 |
| $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{H} 11$ | 118.00 | $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{H} 2$ | 120.00 |
| $\mathrm{C} 10-\mathrm{N} 2-\mathrm{H} 22$ | 121.00 | C3-C2-H2 | 120.00 |
| C6-N2-H22 | 121.00 | C4-C3-H3 | 120.00 |
| C15-N3-H33 | 118.00 | C2-C3-H3 | 120.00 |
| C11-N3-H33 | 118.00 | C3-C4-H4 | 120.00 |
| N1-C1-C2 | 118.8 (4) | C5-C4-H4 | 120.00 |
| C1-C2-C3 | 119.7 (5) | C6-C7-H7 | 120.00 |
| C2-C3-C4 | 119.9 (5) | C8-C7-H7 | 120.00 |
| C3-C4-C5 | 120.4 (5) | C9-C8-H8 | 120.00 |
| N1-C5-C4 | 117.2 (4) | C7-C8-H8 | 120.00 |
| C4-C5-C6 | 125.7 (4) | C8-C9-H9 | 121.00 |
| N1-C5-C6 | 117.2 (3) | C10-C9-H9 | 121.00 |
| N2-C6-C5 | 115.5 (3) | C11-C12-H12 | 121.00 |
| N2-C6-C7 | 121.5 (4) | C13-C12-H12 | 121.00 |
| C5-C6-C7 | 123.0 (3) | C14-C13-H13 | 119.00 |
| C6-C7-C8 | 119.4 (4) | C12-C13-H13 | 119.00 |
| C7-C8-C9 | 119.4 (4) | C13-C14-H14 | 121.00 |
| C8-C9-C10 | 118.0 (4) | C15-C14-H14 | 120.00 |
| N2-C10-C11 | 115.1 (3) | C14-C15-H15 | 120.00 |
| C9-C10-C11 | 122.1 (3) | N3-C15-H15 | 120.00 |
| C5-N1-C1-C2 | 0.4 (6) | C4-C5-C6-N2 | 175.1 (3) |
| C1-N1-C5-C4 | 0.5 (5) | C4-C5-C6-C7 | -7.0 (6) |
| C1-N1-C5-C6 | 179.7 (3) | N2-C6-C7-C8 | 0.9 (6) |
| C10-N2-C6-C5 | 177.3 (3) | C5-C6-C7-C8 | -176.8 (4) |
| C10-N2-C6-C7 | -0.7 (5) | C6-C7-C8-C9 | -0.7 (7) |
| C6-N2-C10-C9 | 0.2 (5) | C7-C8-C9-C10 | 0.2 (6) |
| C6-N2-C10-C11 | -179.1 (3) | C8-C9-C10-N2 | 0.1 (6) |
| C15-N3-C11-C10 | 179.5 (3) | C8-C9-C10-C11 | 179.3 (4) |
| C15-N3-C11-C12 | 0.8 (5) | N2-C10-C11-N3 | -5.3 (4) |
| C11-N3-C15-C14 | -0.8 (6) | N2-C10-C11-C12 | 173.4 (3) |
| N1-C1-C2-C3 | -1.0 (7) | C9-C10-C11-N3 | 175.5 (3) |
| C1-C2-C3-C4 | 0.6 (8) | C9-C10-C11-C12 | -5.9 (5) |

## supporting information

| $\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 3-\mathrm{C} 4-\mathrm{C} 5$ | $0.4(7)$ | $\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{C} 11-\mathrm{C} 12-\mathrm{C} 13$ | $0.1(6)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{C} 3-\mathrm{C} 4-\mathrm{C} 5-\mathrm{N} 1$ | $-1.0(6)$ | $\mathrm{C} 10-\mathrm{C} 11-\mathrm{C} 12-\mathrm{C} 13$ | $-178.5(4)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 3-\mathrm{C} 4-\mathrm{C} 5-\mathrm{C} 6$ | $179.9(4)$ | $\mathrm{C} 11-\mathrm{C} 12-\mathrm{C} 13-\mathrm{C} 14$ | $-1.0(6)$ |
| $\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{C} 5-\mathrm{C} 6-\mathrm{N} 2$ | $-4.0(4)$ | $\mathrm{C} 12-\mathrm{C} 13-\mathrm{C} 14-\mathrm{C} 15$ | $1.0(7)$ |
| $\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{C} 5-\mathrm{C} 6-\mathrm{C} 7$ | $173.9(3)$ | $\mathrm{C} 13-\mathrm{C} 14-\mathrm{C} 15-\mathrm{N} 3$ | $-0.1(6)$ |

Hydrogen-bond geometry ( $A,{ }^{\circ}$ )

| $D — \mathrm{H} \cdots A$ | $D-\mathrm{H}$ | $\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ | $D \cdots A$ | $D-\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{~N} 1 — \mathrm{H} 11 \cdots \mathrm{Cl} 5$ | 0.86 | 2.26 | $3.026(4)$ | 149 |
| $\mathrm{~N} 1 — \mathrm{H} 11 \cdots \mathrm{~N} 2$ | 0.86 | 2.28 | $2.666(4)$ | 107 |
| $\mathrm{~N} 2 — \mathrm{H} 22 \cdots \mathrm{Cl} 5$ | 0.86 | 2.67 | $3.532(4)$ | 178 |
| $\mathrm{~N} 2 — \mathrm{H} 22 \cdots \mathrm{~N} 3$ | 0.86 | 2.29 | $2.654(4)$ | 106 |
| $\mathrm{~N} 3 — \mathrm{H} 33 \cdots \mathrm{Cl} 5$ | 0.86 | 2.25 | $3.010(4)$ | 148 |
| $\mathrm{C} 14 — \mathrm{H} 14 \cdots \mathrm{Cl}^{\mathrm{i}}$ | 0.93 | 2.78 | $3.421(6)$ | 127 |

Symmetry code: (i) $-x, y+1 / 2,-z$.

