## Data collection

CAD-4 diffractometer $\omega / 2 \theta$ scans
Absorption correction: refined from $\Delta F(D I-$
FABS; Walker \& Stuart, 1983)
$T_{\text {min }}=0.60, T_{\text {max }}=1.19$
1477 measured reflections 1456 independent reflections 676 observed reflections
[ $I>2 \sigma(I)$ ]

## Refinement

Refinement on $F$
Final $R=0.0520$
$w R=0.0562$
$S=1.278$
676 reflections
100 parameters
H atoms in calculated positions except for H attached to P which was located in a difference map and refined isotropically
$w=1 / \sigma^{2}\left(F_{o}\right)$
$R_{\text {int }}=0.024$
$\theta_{\text {max }}=24.0^{\circ}$
$h=0 \rightarrow 13$
$k=0 \rightarrow 14$
$l=0 \rightarrow 12$
3 standard reflections monitored every 150 reflections
intensity variation: none
$(\Delta / \sigma)_{\max }=0.0109$
$\Delta \rho_{\text {max }}=0.48 \mathrm{e}^{-3}$
$\Delta \rho_{\text {min }}=-0.38 \mathrm{e} \AA^{-3}$
Extinction correction: Zachariasen type 2 Gaussian isotropic
Extinction coefficient $1.88209 \times 10^{-7}$
Atomic scattering factors from International Tables for X-ray Crystallography (1974, Vol. IV)

Data collection: Enraf-Nonius CAD-4AJ. Cell refinement: Enraf-Nonius CAD-4AJ. Data reduction: TEXSAN PROCESS (Molecular Structure Corporation, 1985). Program(s) used to solve structure: MITHRIL (Gilmore, 1984). Program(s) used to refine structure: TEXSAN LS (Molecular Structure Corporation, 1985). Software used to prepare material for publication: TEXSAN FINISH (Molecular Structure Corporation, 1985).

Table 1. Fractional atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic thermal parameters $\left(\AA^{2}\right)$

| $U_{\mathrm{eq}}=\frac{1}{3} \Sigma_{i} \Sigma_{j} U_{i j} a_{i}^{*} a_{j}^{*} \mathbf{a}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{a}_{j}$. |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | $U_{\text {eq }}$ |
| Br1 | 0.5091 (1) | 0.2500 | -0.04161 (10) | 0.0655 |
| P1 | 0.3820 (3) | 0.2500 | 0.2597 (3) | 0.0640 |
| C1 | 0.4723 (9) | 0.2500 | 0.3880 (11) | 0.0550 |
| C2 | 0.5106 (9) | 0.1552 (8) | 0.4334 (9) | 0.0957 |
| C3 | 0.5831 (11) | 0.1551 (9) | 0.5297 (11) | 0.1107 |
| C4 | 0.6163 (13) | 0.2500 | 0.5764 (11) | 0.0984 |
| C5 | 0.2946 (7) | 0.1274 (7) | 0.2525 (8) | 0.0568 |
| C6 | 0.2107 (8) | 0.1033 (8) | 0.3387 (9) | 0.0634 |
| C7 | 0.1508 (8) | 0.0044 (9) | 0.3330 (8) | 0.0674 |
| C8 | 0.1696 (10) | -0.0691 (8) | 0.2484 (10) | 0.0866 |
| C9 | 0.2551 (11) | -0.0446 (11) | 0.1651 (11) | 0.0989 |
| C10 | 0.3167 (9) | 0.0541 (11) | 0.1669 (9) | 0.0825 |

Table 2. Geometric parameters $\left(\AA{ }^{\circ},^{\circ}\right)$

| P1-C1 | 1.80 (1) | C5-C10 | 1.37 (1) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| P1-C5 | . 1.785 (8) | C6-C7 | 1.38 (1) |
| C1-C2 | 1.35 (1) | C7-C8 | 1.36 (1) |
| C2-C3 | 1.38 (1) | C8-C9 | 1.39 (2) |
| C3-C4 | 1.34 (1) | C9-C10 | 1.39 (2) |
| C5-C6 | 1.40 (1) |  |  |
| $\mathrm{Cl} 1-\mathrm{Pl}-\mathrm{C} 5$ | 109.5 (4) | P1-C5-C6 | 119.8 (7) |
| C5-P1-C5 ${ }^{\text {i }}$ | 114.8 (5) | P1-C5-C10 | 119.5 (7) |
| P1-C1-C2 | 120.1 (6) |  |  |
| Symmetry code: (i) $x, \frac{1}{2}-y, z$. |  |  |  |

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Lists of structure factors, anisotropic thermal parameters, H -atom coordinates and complete geometry have been deposited with the British Library Document Supply Centre as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 55968 ( 16 pp.). Copies may be obtained through The Technical Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England. [CIF reference: HA 1023]

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## Structures of Two Ribonucleotide Reductase Inhibitors: 1-Hydroxy-1-methylurea and 1-Hydroxy-3-methylurea

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#### Abstract

The conformation of $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}$ in both 1-hydroxy-1-methylurea and 1-hydroxy-3-methylurea is antiperiplanar and is stabilized by intramolecular NH. . OO hydrogen bonding. Pyramidalization of the N atom carrying the hydroxy group is observed in both compounds and the $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{O}$ bonds are twisted by about $17^{\circ}$ out of the $\mathrm{N}-(\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O})-\mathrm{N}$ urea planes. The methyl C atom of 1 -hydroxy-1-methylurea is not situated in the urea plane but the corresponding atom in 1-hydroxy-3-methylurea is included in the plane. 1-Hydroxy-3-methylurea is consequently the more planar of the two compounds.


[^0]
## Comment

1-Hydroxy-1-methylurea (1-MeHU) and 1-hydroxy-3methylurea (3-MeHU) reduce the white-blood-cell count in L1210 leukemic mice (Lerner, Bianchi, Yiacas \& Borman, 1966). In a structure-activity study of hydroxyurea analogues, 1-MeHU was shown to inhibit DNA synthesis in HeLa cells without affecting RNA and protein synthesis (Young, Schochetman, Hodas \& Balis, 1967). It was found that substitution of the proton of the hydroxy group led to inactive compounds. In the structure-activity study of hydroxyurea analogues by Yu \& Van Scott (1974), the antimitotic activity of the compounds was tested on vaginal epithelium from ICR mice. $1-\mathrm{MeHU}$ was found to be as active as hydroxyurea, but the activity of $3-\mathrm{MeHU}$ was lower. The results indicated that the electronic and steric effects of the substituents at the 1 and 3 positions of hydroxyurea affected antimitotic activity.



The anticancer drug hydroxyurea has been shown to impair DNA synthesis by inhibiting the enzyme ribonucleotide reductase (RNR) (Krakoff, Brown \& Reichard, 1968). The drug destroys (reduces) the tyrosyl free radical of RNR, thereby leaving the enzyme inactive (Atkin, Thelander, Reichard \& Lang, 1973; Gräslund, Ehrenberg \& Thelander, 1982; Thelander, Gräslund \& Thelander, 1985; Howell et al., 1992). The hydroxyurea analogues 1 - and 3-MeHU inhibit RNR by the same mechanism, but with lower (by about half) effect than hydroxyurea (Kjøller Larsen, Sjöberg \& Thelander, 1982). On the other hand, all three compounds were found to be equally effective as radical scavengers. The study of Kjøller Larsen et al. (1982) of the effect of a series of hydroxyurea analogues directly on the $E$. coli RNR indicated that, in addition to one-electron oxidizability, the planarity of the compounds seems to be of importance. This is in good agreement with the early structure-activity studies of Young et al. (1967) and Yu et al. (1974).

Structure determinations of 1- and 3-MeHU were performed in order to compare the structures with that of hydroxyurea (Larsen \& Jerslev, 1966; Berman \& Kim, 1967; Thiessen, Levy \& Flaig, 1978) and of other hydroxamic acids (Larsen, 1988). The molecular structures including the atomic labelling of 1 - and $3-\mathrm{MeHU}$ are presented in Fig. 1. Bond lengths and angles of the two structures are very similar. The lengths of the carbonyl bonds $\mathrm{C} 2=\mathrm{O} 2$ [1.2548 (5) and 1.256 (1) $\AA$, respectively, in 1and 3-MeHU] are longer than the mean value of $1.230 \AA$ (range 1.19-1.27 $\AA$ ) found for a series of hydroxamic acids (Larsen, 1988), probably as a result of hydrogen
bonding. Hydroxyurea, formohydroxamic acid, salicylohydroxamic acid and pivalohydroxamic acid (Berman \& Kim, 1967; Larsen, 1978, 1988; Due, Rasmussen \& Larsen, 1987) have similar $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}$ bond lengths ( $>1.25 \AA$ ).

(a)

(b)

Fig. 1. Molecular structures of (a) 1-MeHU and (b) 3-MeHU (Johnson, 1976). Atomic displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the $50 \%$ probability level for non-H atoms.

1- and 3-MeHU each have a roughly planar part consisting of the urea moiety N1, C2, O2 and N3. The maximum deviations from the least-squares planes are $-0.023(1)$ and -0.015 (1) $\AA$, respectively. In $1-\mathrm{MeHU}$, the methyl C atom is situated -0.571 (1) $\AA$ from the plane of the urea moiety, while in 3-MeHU it is included in the plane [deviation 0.011 (1) $\AA$ ]. In both compounds, the N1 atom has pyramidal character in contrast to the N3 atom. This is reflected in the distances of N1 and N 3 from the planes defined by the three atoms to which they are attached $[0.310$ (1) and 0.045 (1) $\AA$, respectively, in $1-\mathrm{MeHU},-0.309$ (1) and -0.049 (1) $\AA$ in 3-MeHU]. The sums of the valence angles at N1 and N3 are 345.85 and $360^{\circ}$, respectively, in $1-\mathrm{MeHU}$, and 340 and $359^{\circ}$ in $3-\mathrm{MeHU}$. A slight pyramidal character of the hydroxylated N atom was also found in hydroxyurea (Thiessen et al., 1978); this is in agreement with results retrieved for a series of hydroxamic acids [general formula $R(\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{NHOH}$ ] from the Cambridge Structural Database (Larsen, 1988) in which the N atom carrying the hydroxy group was found to be more or less pyramidal. The distances of the N atoms from the plane defined by the three bonded atoms were found to be in the range $0-0.303 \AA$.

The $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{O}$ bond is twisted by approximately $17^{\circ}$ out of the plane of the urea moiety in both 1 - and $3-\mathrm{MeHU}$ ( $c f$. torsion angles given in Table 2). The distances of the O 1 atoms from the planes are -0.317 (1) and -0.339 (1) $\AA$, respectively, for 1 - and $3-\mathrm{MeHU}$. The geometry of O 1 $\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{C} 2=\mathrm{O} 2$ is antiperiplanar with torsion angles of 167.37 (4) and $165.62(8)^{\circ}$ for 1 - and 3-MeHU, respectively. This conformation is stabilized by intramolecular hydrogen bonding between O 1 and an H atom of N 3 in both compounds ( $c f$. Table 2). The antiperiplanar conformation is also seen in, e.g., hydroxyurea and 1hydroxybiuret (Larsen \& Jerslev, 1966; Larsen, 1977) but the conformation in hydroxamic acids in general can be synperiplanar as well as antiperiplanar, depending on the possibilities for hydrogen bonding (Larsen, 1988).

Fig. 2 shows stereoviews of the crystal packing. All possible hydrogen-bond donors and acceptors are involved in hydrogen bonding in both structures (see Table 2 and Fig. 2). In 1-MeHU, the hydrogen bond N3$\mathrm{H} 31 \cdots \mathrm{O} 2$ connects the molecules in pairs parallel to the $b$ axis with the pairs connected to each other along the $c$ axis by the hydrogen bonds $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{H} 11 \cdots \mathrm{O} 2$. The threedimensional hydrogen-bonding network is completed by the weak $\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{H} 32 \cdots \mathrm{O} 2$ bonds along the $a$ axis. In $3-\mathrm{MeHU}$, the molecules are connected in pairs around centers of symmetry through the hydrogen bonds N1$\mathrm{H} 1 \cdots \mathrm{O} 2$ and $\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{H} 3 \cdots \mathrm{O}$. The result is a continuous connection between molecules forming zigzag rows along the $a$ axis. These rows of molecules are connected along the $b$ axis by the hydrogen bond $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{H} 11 \cdots \mathrm{O} 2$.


Fig. 2. Crystal packing of molecules in (a) 1-MeHU (c horizontal, $b$ vertical) and (b) 3-MeHU (chorizontal, a vertical).

3-MeHU is the more planar of the two hydroxyurea analogues, but both structures are less planar than hydroxyurea. It was found earlier that, among hydroxyurea analogues, the most potent inhibitors of RNR of E. coli are almost planar molecules (Kjøller Larsen et al., 1982). The lower degree of planarity of 1 - and 3-MeHU might be the reason for the lower inhibitory effect of these analogues. The X-ray structure of the small tyrosyl-radical-carrying subunit of E. coli RNR has been determined (Nordlund, Sjöberg \& Eklund, 1990), but no obvious cleft or pocket leads to the tyrosyl radical, which is buried within the protein. It is not yet known whether small and/or planar molecules are able to penetrate the protein and react directly with the free radical group.

## Experimental 1-MeHU

Crystal data
$\mathrm{C}_{2} \mathrm{H}_{6} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{2}$
$M_{r}=90.08$
Orthorhombic
Fdd 2
$a=5.2049$ (9) $\AA$
$b=23.375$ (4) $\AA$
$c=13.155$ (3) $\AA$
$V=1600.4(2) \AA^{3}$
$Z=16$
$D_{x}=1.495 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}$
Mo $K \alpha$ radiation
$\lambda=0.71073 \AA$

Data collection
Enraf-Nonius CAD-4
diffractometer
$\omega / 2 \theta$ scans
Absorption correction: none
8928 measured reflections
5288 independent reflections
3271 observed reflections
[ $I>3 \sigma(I)$ ]
$R_{\text {int }}=0.018$

## Refinement

Refinement on $F$
Final $R=0.029$
$w R=0.037$
$S=0.840$
3271 reflections
78 parameters
All H -atom parameters refined
$w=1 /\left[\sigma^{2}(F)+0.0009 F^{2}\right]$

Cell parameters from 22 reflections
$\theta=21.40-21.87^{\circ}$
$\mu=0.1228 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}$
$T=122 \mathrm{~K}$
Thin rectangular plates
$0.60 \times 0.35 \times 0.10 \mathrm{~mm}$
Colourless
Crystal source: synthesized as described by Ohlin Mathieson Chemical Co. (1963, 1964); single crystals from slow cooling of hot ethyl acetate solution
$\theta_{\text {max }}=55.00^{\circ}$
$h=-10 \rightarrow 11$
$k=-52 \rightarrow 56$
$l=-32 \rightarrow 32$
2 standard reflections monitored every 300 reflections frequency: 166 min intensity variation: $-1.5 \%$
$(\Delta / \sigma)_{\max }=0.00$
$\Delta \rho_{\max }=0.546 \mathrm{e} \AA^{-3}$
$\Delta \rho_{\text {min }}=-0.449 \mathrm{e}^{-3}$
Atomic scattering factors from International Tables for X-ray Crystallography (1974, Vol. IV, Table 2.3.1)

## 3-MeHU

Crystal data
$\mathrm{C}_{2} \mathrm{H}_{6} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{2}$
$M_{r}=90.08$
Monoclinic
$P 2_{1} / N$
$a=8.202$ (1) $\AA$
$b=7.081$ (1) $\AA$
$c=7.316$ (1) $\AA$
$\beta=101.378(9)^{\circ}$
$V=416.5(2) \AA^{3}$
$Z=4$
$D_{x}=1.437 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}$
$\mathrm{Cu} K \alpha$ radiation
$\lambda=1.5418 \AA$

## Data collection

Enraf-Nonius CAD-4
diffractometer
$\omega / 2 \theta$ scans
Absorption correction:
none
3685 measured reflections
864 independent reflections 797 observed reflections
$[I>3 \sigma(I)]$
$R_{\text {int }}=0.018$

## Refinement

Refinement on $F$
Final $R=0.046$
$w R=0.066$
$S=1.498$
797 reflections
79 parameters
All H -atom parameters refined

$$
\begin{aligned}
& (\Delta / \sigma)_{\max }=0.01 \\
& \Delta \rho_{\max }=0.284 \mathrm{e} \AA^{-3} \\
& \Delta \rho_{\min }=-0.482 \mathrm{e} \AA^{-3}
\end{aligned}
$$

Atomic scattering factors from International Tables for X-ray Crystallography (1974, Vol. IV, Table 2.3.1)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \theta_{\max }=75.00^{\circ} \\
& h=-10 \rightarrow 10 \\
& k=-8 \rightarrow 8 \\
& l=-9 \rightarrow 9
\end{aligned}
$$

2 standard reflections monitored every 300 reflections.
frequency: 166 min intensity variation: $\mathbf{- 0 . 9 \%}$
$w=1 /\left[\sigma^{2}(F)+0.0016 F^{2}\right]$
All H atoms were located in a difference Fourier map after refinement of positional and anisotropic displacement parameters for the non-H atoms. Data reduction: BEGIN, SDP (B. A. Frenz \& Associates, Inc., 1982). Program(s) used to solve structure: MULTAN (Main et al., 1980) for 1-MeHU and SHELXS86 (Sheldrick, 1986) for 3-MeHU. Program(s) used to refine structure: $L S F M, S D P$ (B. A. Frenz \& Associates, Inc., 1982). Molecular grapics: ORTEPII (Johnson, 1976).

Table 1. Fractional atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic thermal parameters $\left(\AA^{2}\right)$

| $B_{\text {eq }}=(4 / 3) \sum_{i} \Sigma_{j} \beta_{i j} \mathrm{a}_{i}, \mathrm{a}_{j}$. |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\boldsymbol{x}$ | $y$ | $z$ | $B_{\text {eq }}$ |
| 1-MeHU |  |  |  |  |
| 02 | 0.65430 (7) | 0.42873 (2) | 0.531 | 1.169 (4) |
| Ol | 0.12592 (7) | 0.34428 (2) | 0.46611 (4) | 1.385 (5) |
| N3 | 0.23689 (8) | 0.45003 (2) | 0.49608 (4) | 1.189 (5) |
| N1 | 0.38937 (7) | 0.35798 (2) | 0.47351 (4) | 1.039 (4) |
| C2 | 0.43374 (8) | 0.41336 (2) | 0.50393 (4) | 0.883 (4) |
| C4 | 0.5359 (1) | 0.31064 (2) | 0.51569 (4) | 1.231 (5) |


| 3-MeHU |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| O1 | $0.37919(8)$ | $0.0727(1)$ | $1.1356(1)$ | $1.33(1)$ |
| O2 | $0.02073(9)$ | $0.1113(1)$ | $0.7881(1)$ | $1.43(1)$ |
| N1 | $0.2110(1)$ | $0.1166(1)$ | $1.0570(1)$ | $1.18(1)$ |
| N3 | $0.2955(1)$ | $0.1188(1)$ | $0.7724(1)$ | $1.29(1)$ |
| C2 | $0.1717(1)$ | $0.1126(1)$ | $0.8656(2)$ | $1.09(2)$ |
| C3 | $0.2659(1)$ | $0.1186(2)$ | $0.5699(2)$ | $1.70(2)$ |

Table 2. Selected bond lengths $(\AA)$, bond angles $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$, torsion angles $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ and hydrogen-bond geometry ( $\left(\AA,{ }^{\circ}\right)$

| 1-MeHU |  | 3-MeHU |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{N} 1$ | 1.4115 (5) | O1-N1 | 1.420 (1) |
| N1-C2 | 1.3744 (6) | N1-C2 | 1.374 (1) |
| O2-C2 | 1.2548 (5) | O2-C2 | 1.256 (1) |
| N3-C2 | 1.3399 (6) | N3-C2 | 1.331 (1) |
| N1-C4 | 1.4541 (7) | N3-C3 | 1.453 (1) |
| $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{C} 2$ | 113.39 (4) | $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{C} 2$ | 114.95 (8) |
| $\mathrm{O} 2-\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{N} 1$ | 120.41 (4) | $\mathrm{O} 2-\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{N} 1$ | 118.2 (1) |
| O2-C2-N3 | 122.57 (4) | $\mathrm{O} 2-\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{N} 3$ | 123.6 (1) |
| N3-C2-N1 | 116.85 (4) | N1-C2-N3 | 118.16 (8) |
| C2-N1-C4 | 121.17 (4) | C2-N3-C3 | 122.08 (8) |
| $\mathrm{Ol}-\mathrm{Nl}-\mathrm{C} 4$ | 111.29 (4) |  |  |
| $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{O} 2$ | 167.37 (4) | $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{O} 2$ | 165.62 (8) |
| $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{N} 3$ | -17.19 (7) | $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{N} 3$ | -17.3 (1) |
| $\mathrm{C} 4-\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{O} 2$ | 30.98 (7) | $\mathrm{C} 3-\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{O} 2$ | -2.0 (2) |
| C4-N1-C2-N3 - | -153.58 (5) | $\mathrm{C} 3-\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{N} 1$ | -178.86 (9) |
| $A-\mathrm{H} \cdots{ }^{\text {a }}$ | $A \cdots B$ | H $\cdots B$ | $A-\mathrm{H} \cdots B$ |
| 1-MeHU |  |  |  |
| O1-H11...O2 ${ }^{\text {i }}$ | 2.7465 (5) | 1.95 (1) | 159 (1) |
| $\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{H} 31 \cdots \mathrm{O} 2^{\text {ii }}$ | - 2.9264 (5) | 2.07 (1) | 170 (1) |
| $\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{H} 32 \cdots \mathrm{O} 2^{\text {iii }}$ | iii 3.1073 (5) | 2.40 (1) | 146 (1) |
| N3-H32 . Ol | 2.5690 (6) | 2.16 (1) | 111 (1) |
| 3-MeHU |  |  |  |
| O1-H11...O2 ${ }^{\text {iv }}$ | v 2.662 (1) | 1.83 (2) | 176 (2) |
| $\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{H} 1 \cdots \mathrm{O}^{2}{ }^{\text {a }}$ | 2.891 (1) | 2.03 (2) | 174 (2) |
| $\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{H} 3 \cdots \mathrm{O}{ }^{\text {vi }}$ | 2.949 (1) | 2.24 (1) | 142 (1) |
| N3-H3 . O 1 | 2.630 (1) | 2.23 (2) | 108 (1) |

Symmetry code: (i) $x-\frac{3}{4}, \frac{3}{4}-y, z-\frac{1}{4}$; (ii) $1-x, 1-y, z$; (iii) $x-1, y, z$; (iv) $\frac{1}{2}+x, \frac{1}{2}-y, \frac{1}{2}+z$; (v) $-x,-y, 2-z$; (vi) $1-x,-y, 2-z$.

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Lists of structure factors, anisotropic thermal parameters, H -atom coordinates and complete geometry have been deposited with the British Library Document Supply Centre as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 55924 (31 pp.). Copies may be obtained through The Technical Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England. [CIF reference: AB1049]

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## $N, N^{\prime}$-Dibenzylethylenediamineterphthalate Dimer

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#### Abstract

The titled macrocyclic dimer, 3,6,13,16-tetrabenzyl-3,6,13,16-tetraazatricyclo[16.2.2.2 $\left.{ }^{8,1}\right]$ tetracosa-1(21),-8,10,11,18(22),19-hexaene-2,7,12,17-tetraone, lies upon an inversion center; the $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{N}$ torsion angles of the ethylenediamine segment are $\pm 145.7(3)^{\circ}$ and the para-phenylene subcyclic moieties are distorted from planarity toward the interior of the molecule.


## Comment

The related 20 -membered macrocyclic trimer of the title compound has been shown (Vögtle, Puff, Friedrichs \& Müller, 1982) to form a stable 'neutral component complex' (Newkome, Taylor, Fronczek, Delord, Kohli \& Vögtle, 1981), in which its crystal structure confirmed the presence of a single guest chloroform molecule within the macrocyclic cavity. During our repetition of the procedure for this trimer, the corresponding dimer and tetramer were isolated and spectrally characterized (Newkome \& Rogers, 1988). Since this unusually stable host-guest relationship offers a novel entrance to microdetection using surface acoustic wave (SAW) devices (Overton, Yan, Zhang, Klinkhahorn \& Newkome, 1990), the crystal structure of the dimer was undertaken to ascertain the conformational relationship(s) to that of the trimer and to provide coordinates for use in docking computations aimed at ascertaining if a neutral component complex may form between the title dimer and small solvent molecules, such as methylene chloride.

The title dimer, illustrated in Fig. 1, lies on an inversion center. The macrocyclic nature of this dimer imposes distortions upon it such that the phenylene moieties are nonplanar, with the two substituted (para) C atoms lying 0.011 (3) and 0.019 (3) $\AA$ to the same side of the best plane of the other four, toward the exterior of the molecule. The diminished bond angles for $\mathrm{C} 5-\mathrm{C} 4-\mathrm{C} 9$ and C6-C7-C8 further denote a slight elongation of the rings. The $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{N}$ torsion angles are $\pm 145.7$ (3) ${ }^{\circ}$. The lactam C atoms C3 and C10 bonded at the para positions lie 0.183 (3) and 0.247 (3) $\AA$ out of the plane, in the same direction as C 4 and C 7 . The C (ring)- $\mathrm{C}($ lactam $)$ bonds form unequal angles with ring $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}$ bonds, averaging 116.4 (2) and 125.3 (2) ${ }^{\circ}$. The N atoms are slightly pyramidal, lying 0.099 (3) and 0.096 (3) $\AA$ out of the plane defined by the C atoms bonded to them. The


Fig. 1. The title molecule with thermal ellipsoids drawn at the $20 \%$ probability level and H atoms drawn as circles of arbitrary radii.
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