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## Comment

The structural determination of 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-oxaheptanedinitrile (I) was undertaken as part of a research program directed towards the development of new macrocyclic ligands for use in the synthesis of transition-metal complexes (Ferguson, McAlees, McCrindle, Restivo & Roberts, 1977; McCrindle, Ferguson, McAlees, Parvez, Ruhl, Stephenson & Wieckowski, 1986; McCrindle, Ferguson, McAlees, Parvez & Stephenson, 1982, 1983; McCrindle, Ferguson, McAlees & Roberts, 1981; McCrindle, Ferguson & Parvez, 1984; McAlees & McCrindle, 1981).

The crystal structure determination establishes the overall conformation and the orientation of the two nitrile moieties in the solid state, Fig. 1. (I) has pseudo-mirror symmetry with the mirror plane passing through the central ether O atom; the two nitrile groups are oriented *cis* and are almost parallel to one another [ $N\equiv C_{sp}\cdots C_{sp}\equiv N$  4.4 (5)°], and to the *a* axis. The angle between the C32— and C72— $C_{sp^3}$ — $C_{sp}\equiv N$  planes is 2.6 (6)°. The principal dimensions include:  $N\equiv C_{sp}$  1.127 (10) and 1.129 (10) Å;  $C_{sp}-C_{sp^3}$  1.464 (10) and 1.467 (10) Å;  $C_{sp^3}-C_{sp^3}$  in the range 1.506 (8)–1.532 (8) Å with a mean value of 1.512 (7) Å;  $C_{sp^3}-O$  1.409 (6) and 1.412 (6) Å. The main torsion angles defining the molecular conformation are  $O-C_{sp^3}-C_{sp^3}-C_{sp}$  58.9 (4) and  $-60.5$  (4)°. The distance between N1 and N9 is 4.70 (1) Å, and this makes the molecule a potentially useful bridging ligand in metal-cluster chemistry. Full details of other molecular dimensions are available as supplementary material.

*Acta Cryst.* (1994). **C50**, 77–78

## Structure of 2,2,6,6-Tetramethyl-4-oxaheptanedinitrile

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(Received 4 May 1993; accepted 6 July 1993)

### Abstract

The title molecule,  $C_{10}H_{16}N_2O$  (I), has approximate mirror symmetry with the main chain fully extended. The main torsion angles defining the molecular conformation are  $O-C_{sp^3}-C_{sp^3}-C_{sp}$  58.9 (4) and  $-60.5$  (4)°. The mean principal dimensions include  $N\equiv C_{sp}$  1.13 (1),  $C_{sp}-C_{sp^3}$  1.46 (1) and  $C_{sp^3}-O$  1.410 (6) Å. The two nitrile groups are oriented *cis* to one another [ $N\equiv C_{sp}\cdots C_{sp}\equiv N$  4.4 (5)°] and the intramolecular  $N\cdots N$  separation is 4.70 (1) Å.

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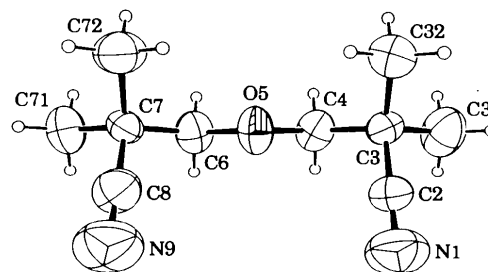


Fig. 1. An ORTEPII view of molecule (I), with the non-H atoms shown with their thermal ellipsoids drawn at the 50% probability level. For clarity, the H atoms are drawn as spheres of arbitrary size.

### Experimental

#### Crystal data

$C_{10}H_{16}N_2O$   
 $M_r = 180.25$   
Monoclinic  
 $P2_1/c$   
 $a = 6.6495$  (4) Å  
 $b = 9.8627$  (7) Å  
 $c = 17.6172$  (12) Å  
 $\beta = 91.286$  (5)°

$D_x = 1.04$  Mg m $^{-3}$   
Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å  
Cell parameters from 25 reflections  
 $\theta = 7.5$ – $15.6$ °  
 $\mu = 0.064$  mm $^{-1}$   
 $T = 293$  K  
Block

$V = 1155.1 (1) \text{ \AA}^3$   
 $Z = 4$

$0.30 \times 0.15 \times 0.15 \text{ mm}$   
 Colourless

#### Data collection

Enraf-Nonius CAD-4  
 diffractometer

$\omega/2\theta$  scans

Absorption correction:  
 none

2196 measured reflections

2021 independent reflections

588 observed reflections

$[I_{\text{net}} > 2.0\sigma(I_{\text{net}})]$

$R_{\text{int}} = 0.01$

$\theta_{\text{max}} = 25.0^\circ$

$h = -7 \rightarrow 7$

$k = 0 \rightarrow 11$

$l = 0 \rightarrow 20$

3 standard reflections

frequency: 60 min

intensity variation: 33%

decay during data col-  
 lection

#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F$

$R = 0.050$

$wR = 0.042$

$S = 1.30$

588 reflections

119 parameters

H atoms refined as riding,

C—H 0.95 Å

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F) + 0.0004F^2]$

$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$

$\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.15 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$

$\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.17 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$

Extinction correction:

Larson (1970)

Extinction coefficient:

9798 (1598)

Atomic scattering factors  
 from *International Tables*  
 for *X-ray Crystallogra-  
 phy* (1974, Vol. IV, Table  
 2.2B)

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

$$U_{\text{eq}} = \frac{1}{3} \sum_i \sum_j U_{ij} a_i^* a_j^* \mathbf{a}_i \cdot \mathbf{a}_j$$

	x	y	z	$U_{\text{eq}}$
N1	0.1872 (8)	0.5964 (6)	0.1899 (3)	0.094 (4)
N9	0.1592 (9)	0.2151 (7)	0.0299 (4)	0.111 (5)
C2	0.0185 (12)	0.5934 (7)	0.1958 (3)	0.061 (5)
C3	-0.2004 (9)	0.5938 (5)	0.2030 (3)	0.051 (4)
C31	-0.2694 (9)	0.7393 (5)	0.2181 (3)	0.087 (4)
C32	-0.2564 (9)	0.5017 (5)	0.2673 (3)	0.078 (4)
C4	-0.2957 (8)	0.5463 (5)	0.1283 (3)	0.059 (4)
O5	-0.2236 (5)	0.4149 (3)	0.1124 (2)	0.058 (2)
C6	-0.3034 (9)	0.3607 (5)	0.0441 (3)	0.060 (4)
C7	-0.2303 (9)	0.2171 (5)	0.0347 (3)	0.047 (4)
C71	-0.3152 (9)	0.1600 (5)	-0.03982 (24)	0.077 (4)
C72	-0.2950 (9)	0.1295 (5)	0.1009 (3)	0.077 (4)
C8	-0.0100 (12)	0.2177 (6)	0.0320 (4)	0.066 (5)

The crystal decomposed by 33% during data collection and this was allowed for in the data reduction by using a five-point smoothing correction in the scaling of the data. The H atoms, visible in the difference maps at an intermediate stage of refinement, were positioned geometrically and included as riding atoms in the structure-factor calculations. Data collection: *CAD-4 Software* (Enraf-Nonius, 1989). Cell refinement: *CAD-4 Software*. Data reduction: *NRCVAX DATRD2* (Gabe, Le Page, Charland, Lee & White, 1989). Program(s) used to solve structure: *NRCVAX SOLVER*. Program(s) used to refine structure: *NRCVAX LSTSQ*. Molecular graphics: *NRCVAX*; *ORTEPII* (Johnson, 1976). Software used to prepare material for publication: *NRCVAX TABLES*.

GF thanks NSERC, Canada, for research grants.

Lists of structure factors, anisotropic thermal parameters, H-atom coordinates, torsion angles and complete geometry have been deposited with the British Library Document Supply Centre as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 71475 (8 pp.). Copies may be obtained through The Technical Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England. [CIF reference: MU1064]

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*Acta Cryst.* (1994). **C50**, 78-81

### Structures of 4-Hydroxyimino-4-phenylbutanoic Acid, C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (I), and 5-Hydroxyimino-5-phenylpentanoic Acid, C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (II), at 223 K

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#### Abstract

Infinite polar chains of molecules with strong intermolecular hydrogen bonds (O—H $\cdots$ N and O—H $\cdots$ O) are observed between carboxyl and oxime