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## Flavocommelin Octaacetate

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#### Abstract

Flavocommelin, 6- $\beta$-D-glucopyranosyl-2-[4-( $\beta$-D-glu-copyranosyloxy)phenyl]-5-hydroxy-7-methoxy-4H-1-benzopyran-4-one, is a flavonoid component of a blue pigment, commelin, which is isolated from the petals of Commelina communis. The crystal structure of the octaacetate derivative, 5 -hydroxy-7-methoxy-6-(3,4,5,6-tetra- $O$-acetyl- $\beta$-d-glucopyranosyl)-2-[4-(3,4,5,6-tetra- $O$-acetyl- $\beta$-D-glucopyranosyloxy)-phenyll- 4 H -1-benzopyran-4-one, $\mathrm{C}_{44} \mathrm{H}_{48} \mathrm{O}_{23}$, has been determined by X-ray diffraction. In the crystal, the molecules are arranged parallel to each other according to the periodicity of the crystal lattice. However, intermolecular stacking of the flavanone skeletons is not observed. This suggests that the


hydrophilicity of the glucose moieties is one of the important factors governing the self association.

## Comment

The mechanism of the color variation and stabilization of anthocyanins has been investigated previously (Goto \& Kondo, 1991). The crystal structure of commelin has been determined and revealed that the pigment is a metal-complex anthocyanin (Kondo et al., 1992). In the pigment there exists hydrophobic stacking of the aromatic rings of the anthocyanin and flavone molecules. One of the components, flavocommelin (I), also shows self association in condensed aqueous solutions (Goto, Yoshida, Yoshikane \& Kondo, 1990). Because the crystallization of (I) is difficult, the acetate derivative, (II), was prepared.


There are many reports of crystal structures of flavone compounds, but none of them have a sugar moiety except aciculatin (Krause \& Eggleston, 1991). In the crystal of aciculatin (monoclinic, space group $I 2, Z=8$ ), the aromatic rings are stacked: two independent flavone molecules lie separately on $2_{1}$ screw axes with the flavanone skeletons almost perpendicular to the screw axes. The cell parameter $b$ [7.371 (2) $\AA$ ] is, therefore, roughly four times the van der Waals radius of the aromatic C atom ( $1.77 \AA$ ).
The molecular structure of the title compound is shown in Fig. 1. The C22-C23-C25-O4 plane of the hexopyranosyl ring of the glucose moiety connected by the $O$-glucopyranosyloxy bond is inclined at 30.1 (3) ${ }^{\circ}$ to the phenyl ring $B$, while the $\mathrm{C} 17-\mathrm{C} 18-$ $\mathrm{C} 20-\mathrm{O} 3$ plane of the other glucopyranosyl connected by the C-glucopyranosyl bond is almost perpendicular to the benzene ring $A\left[84.4(2)^{\circ}\right]$, as a result of steric interactions. The phenyl ring $B$ not only rotates around the $\mathrm{Cl}-\mathrm{Cl} 0$ bond but is also slightly bent with respect to the pyran plane, $C$. This bending is measured by the shift, $S$, of the center of ring $B$ from the plane of ring $C$ [ $S=0.25(2) \AA]$. Similar bending is also observed in other flavone crystals, as shown in Table 3. The $A, B$ and $C$ rings are essentially planar. The bending between the $B$ and $C$ rings must be a result of the crystal packing. Six of the 18 flavone molecules, whose deformations were calculated based on the crystal structure data, have $S$
values of less than $0.06 \AA$. The benzopyran moieties are not completely planar and the dihedral angles between the $A$ and $C$ rings are in the range 0.3 (1)4.4 (4) ${ }^{\circ}$.


Fig. 1. Molecular structure with the atom-numbering scheme; the C atoms are labeled with numbers only.

## Experimental

The compound was isolated from Commelina communis. A solution of flavocommelin ( 500 mg ) in $\mathrm{Ac}_{2} \mathrm{O}(4 \mathrm{ml}) /$ pyridine ( 6 ml ) was allowed to stand at room temperature for 24 h and then worked up as usual to give an oil which was purified by
preparative TLC using $\mathrm{CHCl}_{3} / \mathrm{AcOEt}(1: 1)$ to afford a colorless oil of acetylflavocommelin ( 480 mg ). The crystals were grown from AcOEt , benzene and acetone mixture.

## Crystal data

$\mathrm{C}_{44} \mathrm{H}_{48} \mathrm{O}_{23}$
$M_{r}=944.85$
Triclinic
P1
$a=10.299$ (4) $\AA$
$b=20.221$ (5) $\AA$
$c=5.696(5) \AA$
$\alpha=93.01$ (4) ${ }^{\circ}$
$\beta=94.46$ (6) ${ }^{\circ}$
$\gamma=81.12(3)^{\circ}$
$V=1167(1) \AA^{3}$
$Z=1$

## Data collection

Weissenberg camera diffrac-
tometer
Imaging plates
Absorption correction:
none
3838 measured reflections
3838 independent reflections

$$
D_{x}=1.34 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{~m}^{-3}
$$

Synchrotron radiation
$\lambda=1.0000 \AA$
Cell parameters from 25 reflections
$\theta=5-11^{\circ}$ (Mo $K \alpha$ )
$\mu=0.248 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}(\lambda=1 \AA)$
$T=288 \mathrm{~K}$
Needle
$0.45 \times 0.12 \times 0.07 \mathrm{~mm}$
Pale yellow

3823 observed reflections
$\left[\left|F_{o}\right|>3 \sigma\left(\left|F_{o}\right|\right)\right]$
$\theta_{\text {max }}=41.9^{\circ}$
$h=-8 \rightarrow 15$
$k=-30 \rightarrow 20$
$l=-3 \rightarrow 3$

## Refinement

Refinement on $F$
$R=0.071$
$w R=0.069$
$S=1.16$
3823 reflections
745 parameters
Only coordinates of H atoms refined

$$
\begin{aligned}
w= & 1 /\left[\sigma^{2}\left(\left|F_{o}\right|\right)\right. \\
& \left.+\left(0.015\left|F_{o}\right|\right)^{2}\right]^{1 / 2}
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& (\Delta / \sigma)_{\max }=0.15 \\
& \Delta \rho_{\max }=0.22 \mathrm{e} \mathrm{~A}^{-3} \\
& \Delta \rho_{\min }=-0.26 \mathrm{e}^{-3}
\end{aligned}
$$

Extinction correction: none
Atomic scattering factors from International Tables for X-ray Crystallography (1974, Vol. IV)

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

$$
B_{\mathrm{eq}}=\left(8 \pi^{2} / 3\right) \sum_{i} \Sigma_{j} U_{i j} a_{i}^{*} a_{j}^{*} \mathbf{a}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{a}_{j}
$$

|  | $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | $B_{\text {eq }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| O1 $\dagger$ | 0.80813 | 0.84716 | 0.65031 | 4.0 (1) |
| O2 | 0.4108 (4) | 1.0715 (2) | 0.137 (1) | 4.1 (1) |
| 03 | 1.2852 (4) | 0.6416 (2) | 1.071 (1) | 3.4 (1) |
| O4 | 0.2257 (4) | 1.0505 (2) | 0.300 (1) | 4.0 (1) |
| 05 | 1.1544 (4) | 0.7940 (3) | 0.338 (1) | 4.7 (1) |
| 06 | 1.2108 (4) | 0.6937 (3) | 0.614 (1) | 4.1 (1) |
| 07 | 0.9199 (4) | 0.6746 (3) | 1.195 (1) | 4.5 (1) |
| 08 | 1.0385 (4) | 0.5439 (2) | 0.808 (1) | 3.9 (2) |
| 09 | 1.0632 (8) | 0.5274 (4) | 0.416 (2) | 7.2 (2) |
| 010 | 1.2879 (4) | 0.4541 (2) | 0.778 (1) | 4.4 (1) |
| 011 | 1.1757 (9) | 0.3826 (3) | 0.932 (2) | 8.8 (3) |
| 012 | 1.4455 (4) | 0.4749 (2) | 1.232 (1) | 4.6 (1) |
| 013 | 1.6308 (7) | 0.4536 (4) | 1.053 (2) | 10.3 (3) |
| 014 | 1.4731 (4) | 0.6802 (2) | 1.402 (1) | 4.5 (2) |
| 015 | 1.5830 (6) | 0.6374 (4) | 1.723 (1) | 7.9 (2) |
| 016 | 0.3112 (4) | 1.2098 (2) | 0.154 (1) | 3.8 (2) |
| 017 | 0.3358 (7) | 1.1960 (4) | -0.234 (2) | 6.5 (2) |
| 018 | 0.0297 (4) | 1.2275 (2) | 0.080 (1) | 4.1 (1) |
| 019 | -0.0557 (6) | 1.3028 (3) | 0.348 (2) | 7.2 (2) |
| O 20 | -0.0769 (4) | 1.1534 (3) | 0.464 (1) | 4.7 (1) |
| 021 | -0.2307 (6) | 1.1603 (4) | 0.156 (2) | 7.6 (3) |
| O 22 | 0.1557 (5) | 0.9736 (3) | 0.641 (1) | 5.8 (2) |


| 023 | 0.0139 (6) | 0.9605 (4) | 0.901 (1) | 6.9 (2) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| C1 | 0.8348 (5) | 0.8793 (3) | 0.461 (1) | 3.6 (2) |
| C2 | 0.9476 (5) | 0.8634 (3) | 0.351 (2) | 3.8 (2) |
| C3 | 1.0480 (5) | 0.8088 (3) | 0.436 (1) | 3.5 (2) |
| C4 | 1.0158 (5) | 0.7735 (3) | 0.627 (1) | 3.2 (2) |
| C5 | 1.0989 (5) | 0.7164 (3) | 0.721 (1) | 3.1 (2) |
| C6 | 1.0674 (5) | 0.6840 (3) | 0.909 (1) | 3.2 (2) |
| C7 | 0.9446 (5) | 0.7077 (3) | 1.007 (1) | 3.3 (2) |
| C8 | 0.8580 (5) | 0.7613 (3) | 0.917 (2) | 3.7 (2) |
| C9 | 0.8963 (5) | 0.7939 (3) | 0.734 (1) | 3.4 (2) |
| C10 | 0.7242 (5) | 0.9312 (3) | 0.384 (1) | 3.8 (2) |
| Cl 1 | 0.7285 (6) | 0.9669 (4) | 0.186 (2) | 4.8 (2) |
| C 12 | 0.6238 (6) | 1.0142 (3) | 0.110 (2) | 4.7 (2) |
| C13 | 0.5109 (5) | 1.0254 (3) | 0.235 (2) | 3.6 (2) |
| C14 | 0.5045 (6) | 0.9915 (4) | 0.436 (2) | 4.8 (2) |
| C15 | 0.6109 (6) | 0.9445 (4) | 0.510 (2) | 4.8 (2) |
| C16 | 1.1555 (5) | 0.6249 (3) | 1.017 (1) | 3.0 (2) |
| C17 | 1.1677 (5) | 0.5630 (3) | 0.849 (1) | 3.2 (2) |
| C18 | 1.2589 (5) | 0.5050 (3) | 0.966 (2) | 3.5 (2) |
| C19 | 1.3864 (5) | 0.5249 (3) | 1.066 (1) | 3.2 (2) |
| C20 | 1.3644 (5) | 0.5923 (3) | 1.210 (1) | 3.2 (2) |
| C21 | 0.3080 (6) | 1.0994 (3) | 0.283 (2) | 3.8 (2) |
| C22 | 0.2313 (6) | 1.1573 (3) | 0.144 (2) | 3.6 (2) |
| C23 | 0.1028 (6) | 1.1857 (3) | 0.257 (2) | 3.5 (2) |
| C24 | 0.0269 (5) | 1.1292 (3) | 0.309 (2) | 3.5 (2) |
| C25 | 0.1206 (6) | 1.0760 (3) | 0.449 (2) | 3.7 (2) |
| C26 | 0.7896 (6) | 0.6854 (4) | 1.272 (2) | 5.3 (3) |
| C27 | 1.0004 (7) | 0.5268 (4) | 0.585 (2) | 4.2 (3) |
| C28 | 0.8646 (8) | 0.5062 (6) | 0.577 (2) | 7.8 (4) |
| C29 | 1.2297 (6) | 0.3986 (4) | 0.772 (2) | 5.0 (2) |
| C30 | 1.244 (1) | 0.3603 (4) | 0.546 (2) | 6.8 (4) |
| C31 | 1.5685 (7) | 0.4438 (3) | 1.207 (2) | 5.1 (2) |
| C32 | 1.6161 (8) | 0.3995 (4) | 1.404 (2) | 6.6 (3) |
| C33 | 1.4944 (6) | 0.6168 (3) | 1.270 (2) | 3.9 (2) |
| C34 | 1.5189 (6) | 0.6830 (4) | 1.625 (2) | 5.0 (3) |
| C35 | 1.4830 (9) | 0.7512 (5) | 1.737 (3) | 7.7 (4) |
| C36 | 0.3656 (7) | 1.2212 (3) | -0.045 (2) | 4.4 (3) |
| C37 | 0.4630 (8) | 1.2691 (4) | 0.004 (2) | 5.9 (3) |
| C38 | -0.0455 (6) | 1.2854 (3) | 0.148 (2) | 4.8 (3) |
| C39 | -0.1090 (8) | 1.3219 (5) | -0.063 (2) | 6.2 (3) |
| C40 | -0.2032 (6) | 1.1641 (4) | 0.362 (2) | 5.6 (3) |
| C41 | -0.2980 (9) | 1.1820 (6) | 0.546 (3) | 8.4 (4) |
| C42 | 0.0560 (7) | 1.0181 (4) | 0.507 (2) | 5.6 (3) |
| C43 | 0.1234 (7) | 0.9488 (3) | 0.834 (2) | 5.0 (2) |
| C44 | 0.2374 (9) | 0.9042 (4) | 0.951 (2) | 6.7 (3) |
| HO6 | 1.219 (8) | 0.717 (5) | 0.49 (2) | 5.00 |
| $\dagger$ Atom fixed. |  |  |  |  |

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

| O1-C1 | $1.357(8)$ | C5-C6 | $1.37(1)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| O1-C9 | $1.376(5)$ | C6-C7 | $1.427(8)$ |
| O2-C13 | $1.382(7)$ | C6-C16 | $1.514(8)$ |
| O2-C21 | $1.426(9)$ | C7-C8 | $1.386(8)$ |
| O5-C3 | $1.257(8)$ | C8-C9 | $1.38(1)$ |
| O6-C5 | $1.352(8)$ | C10-C11 | $1.38(1)$ |
| C1-C2 | $1.347(9)$ | C10-C15 | $1.40(1)$ |
| C1-C10 | $1.480(8)$ | C11-C12 | $1.385(9)$ |
| C2-C3 | $1.466(8)$ | C12-C13 | $1.39(1)$ |
| C3-C4 | $1.42(1)$ | C13-C14 | $1.38(1)$ |
| C4-C9 | $1.410(8)$ | C14-C15 | $1.388(9)$ |
| C4-C5 | $1.427(8)$ |  |  |
| C1-O1-C9 | $119.9(4)$ | O7-C7-C8 | $122.8(6)$ |
| C13-O2-C21 | $117.5(7)$ | O7-C7-C6 | $115.2(5)$ |
| C2-C1-O1 | $123.2(5)$ | C8-C7-C6 | $122.0(7)$ |
| C2-C1-C10 | $124.6(7)$ | C9-C8-C7 | $118.0(6)$ |
| O1-C1-C10 | $112.2(5)$ | O1-C9-C8 | $116.2(4)$ |
| C1-C2-C3 | $119.9(7)$ | O1-C9-C4 | $120.5(6)$ |
| O5-C3-C4 | $123.1(5)$ | C8-C9-C4 | $123.2(5)$ |
| O5-C3-C2 | $120.6(7)$ | C11-C10-C15 | $118.1(6)$ |
| C4-C3-C2 | $116.3(6)$ | C11-C10-C1 | $121.3(6)$ |
| C9-C4-C3 | $120.2(5)$ | C15-C10-C1 | $120.6(7)$ |
| C9-C4-C5 | $116.4(6)$ | C10-C11-C12 | $121.5(7)$ |
| C3-C4-C5 | $123.4(5)$ | C11-C12-C13 | $119.4(8)$ |
| O6-C5-C6 | $120.0(5)$ | C14-C13-O2 | $125.2(6)$ |
| O6-C5-C4 | $117.6(7)$ | C14-C13-C12 | $120.6(6)$ |
| C6-C5-C4 | $122.4(5)$ | O2-C13-C12 | $114.2(7)$ |


| C5-C6-C7 | $117.8(5)$ | C13-C14-C15 | $119.1(7)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| C5-C6-C16 | $123.6(5)$ | C14-C15-C10 | 121.4 (9) |
| C7-C6-C16 | $118.6(6)$ |  |  |

Table 3. Dihedral angles $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ between rings $A$ and $C$, and rings $B$ and $C$, and the shift $(S, \AA)$ of the center of ring $B$ from the plane of ring $C$ for flavone molecules

| Compound | $A^{\wedge} C$ | $B^{\wedge} C$ | $S$ | References |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Flavocommelin octaacetate | 1.6 (2) | 6.2 (3) | 0.25 (2) | This work |
| 6-Hydroxyflavone | 2.3 (2) | 9.8 (2) | 0.01 (2) | Seetharaman \& Rajan (1992) |
| Artemetin | 2.0 (3) | 1.2 (3) | $0.03 \text { (2) }$ | Estrada, Conde, Ma'rquez \& Jime'nez-Garay (1987) |
| 4'-Methoxyflavone | 1.1 (1) | 2.2 (1) | $0.03 \text { (1) }$ | Wallet, Gaydou, Tinant, Declercq \& Baldy (1991) |
| 4'-Fluorobenzo[fflavone | 2.0 (1) | 2.2 (1) | 0.05 (1) | Neuman et al. (1989) |
| Calycopterin | 3.1 (5) | 18.6 (6) | $0.06(1)$ | Vijayalakshmi, Rajan, Srinivasan \& Ramachandran Nair (1986) |
| Gardenin A | 1.1 (4) | 24.8 (4) | $0.06 \text { (1) }$ | Vijayalakshmi, Rajan \& Srinivasan (1987) |
| 4'-Methoxybenzo[f]flavone | 2.6 (1) | 2.5 (1) | 0.13 (1) | Neuman et al. (1989) |
| 6,2 ${ }^{\prime}, 3^{\prime}, 4^{\prime}$-Tetramethoxyflavone | 1.8 (1) | 45.0 (1) | 0.13 | Wallet et al. (1990) |
| Prudomestin | 1.8 (2) | 3.8 (2) | $0.14 \text { (1) }$ | Parmar, Vardhan, Sharma, Alcock \& Errington (1992) |
| 5-Hydroxybenzo[f]flavone | 0.3 (1) | 9.4 (1) | 0.15 (1) | Neuman et al. (1989) |
| Flavone hymenoxin | 4.4 (4) | 4.4 (1) | $0.17 \text { (1) }$ | Watson, Kashyap, Gao \& Mabry (1991) |
| 3',4'-Dimethoxyflavone | 1.5 (1) | 6.2 (1) | $0.18 \text { (1) }$ | Wallet, Gaydou, Tinant, Declercq \& Baldy (1991) |
| 2',7-Dimethoxyflavone | 2.5 (1) | 24.3 (1) | $0.26(1)$ | Wallet, Gaydou, FeneauDupont, Tinant, Declercq \& Baldy (1991) |
| Aciculatin (molecule $A$ ) (molecule B) | $\begin{aligned} & 1.2(3) \\ & 3.3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 13.8(4) \\ & 17.8(3) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.09(3) \\ & 0.09 \text { (2) } \end{aligned}$ | Krause \& Eggleston (1991) |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { 6-(4-n-Propoxybenzoyloxy)- } \\ & \text { flavone (molecule } A \text { ) } \end{aligned}$ | 1.3 (1) | 9.8 (1) | $0.17 \text { (1) }$ | Kawai, Yoshimura, Shimaoka, Nakamura \& Yano (1991) |
| (molecule $B$ ) | 2.2 (1) | 5.3 (1) | 0.15 (1) |  |
| (molecule $C$ ) | 0.5 (1) | 14.6 (1) | 0.08 (1) |  |

Determination of lattice parameters and preliminary X-ray intensity measurement were carried out on an automated AFC-5 four-circle diffractometer with graphite-monochromated Mo $K \alpha$ radiation. The X-ray diffraction data were measured using a Weissenberg camera for macromolecular crystallography (Sakabe, 1991) with imaging plates at BL- $6 A_{2}$, Photon Factory, KEK. A camera of radius 143.0 mm was used with an imaging plate of $200 \times 400 \mathrm{~mm}$. The observable $2 \theta$ range was from -70 to $90^{\circ}$ in the radial direction and $\pm 35^{\circ}$ in the axial direction of the cassette. The needle axis (c) was the rotation axis. Polychromatic synchrotron radiation was monochromated by an $\mathrm{Si}(111)$ single monochromator. Reflections with $\sin \theta / \lambda<0.668 \AA^{-1}$ were processed, scaled and then merged. The overall merging $R\left(F^{2}\right)$ factor was 0.075 . The strong low-order reflections were overloaded during read-out of imaging plates because of the dynamic range of the scanner system (BA100, Fuji Photo Film Co. Ltd) and 209 reflections were replaced with those measured with Mo $K \alpha$ radiation after scaling. The agreement factor on $F$ between the synchrotron and Mo $K \alpha$ data $\left[\left|F_{o}\right|>20 \sigma\left(\left|F_{o}\right|\right)\right]$ was 0.015 for 152 independent reflections. The absolute structure was assigned based on the absolute configuration of D-(+)-glucose. Calculations were carried out using CRYSTAN-GM software (MAC Science, 1992) on a SUN SPARC2 workstation at Keio university.

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Lists of structure factors, anisotropic displacement parameters, H -atom coordinates and complete geometry have been deposited with the British Library Document Supply Centre as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 71626 ( 16 pp .). Copies may be obtained through The Technical Editor, Intemational Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England. [CIF reference: OH1047]

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## 1-Benzyl-3-pyrazolidone Hydrochloride

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#### Abstract

The crystal of the title compound, $\mathrm{C}_{10} \mathrm{H}_{13} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}^{+} . \mathrm{Cl}^{-}$, consists of 1-benzyl-3-oxo-1 $\mathrm{H}^{+}$-pyrazolidinium cations and chloride anions. The five-membered ring


of the cation has an approximate half-chair conformation. Atom $\mathrm{N}(1)$ is $s p^{3}$ hybridized while atom $\mathrm{N}(2)$ is $s p^{2}$ hybridized. The $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{N}(2)$ bond distance of 1.373 (4) $\AA$ is a partial double bond. Both H atoms connected to $\mathbf{N}$ atoms are involved in hydrogen bonding of the $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{Cl}$ type.

## Comment

$\gamma$-Aminobutyrate (GABA) is known to be a depressant neurotransmitter. Therefore, an increase in the GABA content of the brain might be correlated with anticonvulsant activity. Since 3-pyrazolidones were reported to be a potent inhibitor of GABA-transaminase (White et al., 1982), these kinds of compounds have been expected to be effective in elevating GABA levels in the brain and correspondingly to have anticonvulsant activity. Pharmacological tests have proved that expectation (Ling, Li, Liu \& Pei, 1986; Du, Ling, Liu, Ku \& Liu, 1989; Lei, Luan, Ling, Li \& Pei, 1990; Lei, Zhang, Ling \& $\mathrm{Ku}, 1990$ ). The X-ray analysis of the title compound was undertaken as part of a search for common conformational features of 3-pyrazolidones, which may help in understanding the mechanism of action of such compounds at the molecular level, as well as providing a reliable molecular model for 3D-QSAR comparative molecular-field analysis.

According to the results of structural analysis, the crystal structure of the title compound (I) consists of cations of protonated 1-benzyl-3-pyrazolidone and chloride anions. This indicates that the lone pair of electrons on atom $\mathrm{N}(1)$ is clearly protophilic. Fig. 1 provides a view of the structural features of the cation.

(I)

The conformation of the five-membered ring is approximately a half-chair; atoms $\mathrm{N}(1)$ and $\mathrm{C}(5)$ are displaced on opposite sides of the plane through atoms $\mathrm{N}(2), \mathrm{C}(3), \mathrm{C}(4)$ and O (planar within $0.006 \AA$ ) with displacements of 0.264 and $0.220 \AA$, respectively. Examination of the intramolecular bond angles associated with atoms $\mathrm{N}(1)$ and $\mathrm{N}(2)$ suggests that $\mathrm{N}(1)$ is $s p^{3}$ hybridized, displaying bond angles $\mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(5) \quad 103.2(2), \quad \mathrm{N}(2)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ 111.4 (2), $\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{C}(6) 116.0$ (2) and $\mathrm{N}(2)-$ $\mathrm{N}(1)-\mathrm{H}(\mathrm{N} 1) 106(2)^{\circ}$, while $\mathrm{N}(2)$ is approximately $s p^{2}$ hybridized. The sum of the bond angles about atom $\mathrm{N}(2)$ is $351.0^{\circ}$. The $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{N}(2)$ bond distance

