

O(2)	0.3696 (4)	0.4947 (3)	0.1837 (3)	0.072 (2)
C(3)	0.4802 (4)	0.2601 (4)	0.2691 (4)	0.037 (2)
C(4)	0.3708 (5)	0.1255 (5)	0.3820 (4)	0.038 (2)
O(3)	0.3885 (3)	0.0024 (3)	0.3853 (3)	0.056 (1)
O(4)	0.2464 (3)	0.1700 (3)	0.4842 (3)	0.042 (1)
C(5)	0.1204 (5)	0.0775 (5)	0.6018 (4)	0.037 (2)
O(5)	0.1006 (4)	-0.0487 (3)	0.6217 (3)	0.058 (1)
C(6)	0.0181 (4)	0.1668 (4)	0.6939 (4)	0.039 (2)
C(7)	0.1433 (5)	0.2418 (5)	0.7424 (4)	0.046 (2)
O(6)	0.1319 (5)	0.3611 (4)	0.7525 (5)	0.104 (2)
O(7)	0.2646 (4)	0.1569 (3)	0.7753 (3)	0.056 (1)
C(8)	0.3968 (6)	0.2144 (5)	0.8183 (5)	0.069 (2)
C(9)	0.6046 (5)	0.2123 (4)	0.1460 (4)	0.055 (2)
C(10)	0.5795 (5)	0.3286 (4)	0.3448 (5)	0.059 (2)
C(11)	-0.0773 (6)	0.2795 (5)	0.6041 (5)	0.063 (2)
C(12)	-0.1100 (5)	0.0641 (5)	0.8310 (4)	0.062 (2)

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

O(7)—C(7)	1.308 (5)	C(3)—C(4)	1.526 (5)
O(7)—C(8)	1.436 (7)	C(3)—C(9)	1.530 (6)
O(1)—C(2)	1.326 (6)	C(3)—C(10)	1.526 (7)
O(1)—C(1)	1.434 (6)	C(6)—C(5)	1.508 (6)
O(4)—C(5)	1.389 (4)	C(6)—C(7)	1.519 (7)
O(3)—C(4)	1.182 (6)	C(6)—C(12)	1.529 (5)
C(4)—O(4)	1.373 (5)	C(6)—C(11)	1.530 (6)
O(5)—C(5)	1.178 (6)	C(2)—O(2)	1.200 (6)
C(3)—C(2)	1.505 (6)	C(7)—O(6)	1.183 (7)
C(7)—O(7)—C(8)	118.4 (4)	C(12)—C(6)—C(11)	111.1 (3)
C(2)—O(1)—C(1)	118.1 (3)	O(1)—C(2)—C(3)	111.4 (4)
C(5)—O(4)—C(4)	124.8 (3)	O(1)—C(2)—O(2)	123.3 (4)
C(2)—C(3)—C(4)	108.0 (3)	C(3)—C(2)—O(2)	125.3 (4)
C(2)—C(3)—C(9)	109.4 (3)	O(4)—C(5)—O(5)	124.0 (4)
C(4)—C(3)—C(9)	108.4 (3)	O(4)—C(5)—C(6)	108.4 (3)
C(2)—C(3)—C(10)	111.1 (3)	O(5)—C(5)—C(6)	127.6 (3)
C(4)—C(3)—C(10)	108.6 (3)	O(4)—C(4)—O(3)	124.3 (3)
C(9)—C(3)—C(10)	111.3 (3)	O(4)—C(4)—C(3)	108.6 (3)
C(5)—C(6)—C(7)	108.5 (3)	O(3)—C(4)—C(3)	127.1 (3)
C(5)—C(6)—C(12)	108.8 (3)	O(7)—C(7)—C(6)	111.8 (4)
C(7)—C(6)—C(12)	108.1 (3)	O(7)—C(7)—O(6)	123.5 (5)
C(5)—C(6)—C(11)	109.6 (4)	C(6)—C(7)—O(6)	124.7 (4)
C(7)—C(6)—C(11)	110.7 (4)		

A variable scan rate, with a scan width of  $0.6^\circ$  below  $K\alpha_1$  and  $0.6^\circ$  above  $K\alpha_2$  to a maximum  $2\theta$  value of  $40^\circ$ , was used. Refinement was completed using full-matrix least-squares methods. H atoms were included in fixed positions with isotropic  $U$  values determined by assuming that they were riding on the methyl C atoms.

Data collection: *XSCANS* (Siemens, 1991). Cell refinement: *XSCANS*. Program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS86* (Sheldrick, 1990). Program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXS86*. Molecular graphics: *XP* (Siemens, 1990). Software used to prepare material for publication: *XP*.

Lists of structure factors, anisotropic displacement parameters, H-atom coordinates and complete geometry have been deposited with the IUCr (Reference: CR1201). Copies may be obtained through The Managing Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England.

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*Acta Cryst.* (1996). **C52**, 438–441

## *N-(4-Bromophenyl)-5,6-dichloro-nicotinamide and 6-Chloro-5-fluoro-N-(3-pyridyl)nicotinamide*

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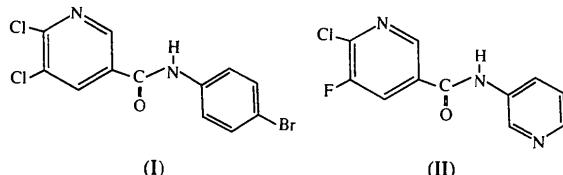
## Abstract

The title compounds, *N*-(4-bromophenyl)-5,6-dichloro-nicotinamide,  $C_{12}H_7BrCl_2N_2O$ , and 6-chloro-5-fluoro-*N*-(3-pyridyl)nicotinamide,  $C_{11}H_7ClFN_2O$ , crystallize as almost planar molecules held together by intermolecular hydrogen bonding. The dichloro compound shows C—Cl distances of 1.69 (2) and 1.725 (15)  $\text{\AA}$  at C6 and C5, respectively. These compounds are representatives of a class of compounds biologically important as herbicidal, pesticidal or fungicidal agents.

## Comment

Substituted nicotinamides (Heaney, Shephard, Crowley & Shearing, 1988), 2,5- and 5,6-disubstituted nicotinic acids (Setliff & Huie, 1981), and benzimidopyridine derivatives (Setliff & Palmer, 1987) have shown fungicidal and herbicidal activities towards barnyard grasses and wheat leaf rust. It has been observed that halogenated derivatives show increased activity. One compound, a halogenated benzimidopyridine derivative (Setliff & Rankin, 1988), effected a 70% growth reduction of giant foxtail weed. Substituted 5-bromo-6-chloronicotinic acid derivatives (Setliff & Caldwell, 1991) have proven to show activity towards the apple scab fungus and fall army worm. Based on the promise of these earlier studies, a series of halonicotinamide derivatives (Setliff & Soman, 1992; Soman, 1992) were synthesized to allow evaluation of their potential as active fungicides and herbicides, among them, *N*-

(4-bromophenyl)-5,6-dichloronicotinamide (**I**) and 6-chloro-5-fluoro-*N*-(3-pyridyl)nicotinamide (**II**). Single-crystal X-ray analyses of these materials have been undertaken to provide parameters for structure–activity relationship studies.



*N*-(4-Bromophenyl)-5,6-dichloronicotinamide and 6-chloro-5-fluoro-*N*-(3-pyridyl)nicotinamide crystallize with the amide carbonyl group and the pyridine N atom of the nicotinamide moiety *trans* to each other. In *N*-phenylnicotinamide (Gdaniec, Jaskolski & Kostkiewicz, 1979), the opposite conformation of the pyridine N atom is observed.

Both are almost planar molecules: the angle between the plane of the two aromatic rings is 12.7° in (**I**) and 7.3° in (**II**). Angles between the planes of the nicotinamide aromatic ring and the C3, N2, C7, O1 amide linkage are 3.9° in (**I**) and 2.0° in (**II**), while the angle between the planes of the amide linkage and the second aromatic ring are 8.8° in (**I**) but 6.3° in (**II**). These interplanar angles may be compared with the 64.5° angle between the planes of the aromatic rings and the 31.3 and 33.3° angles observed between those planes and the plane of the amide linkage in *N*-phenylnicotinamide (Gdaniec *et al.*, 1979).

In (**I**), the C—Cl bond lengths are 1.69 (2) and 1.725 (15) Å at the C atoms  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  to the N atom of the nicotinamide ring, respectively. The C—Cl distance at the  $\beta$ -C atom is longer than the other. The distance between the respective C atoms is 1.43 (2) Å. Comparative distances in other dichloropyridine derivatives are  $\text{C}\alpha$ —Cl,  $\text{C}\beta$ —Cl and  $\text{C}\alpha$ — $\text{C}\beta$  distances: 1.734 (5), 1.706 (5) and 1.378 (7) Å for heptachloro-5*H*-1-pyridine (Carter & Boer, 1974); average 1.76 (1), 1.74 (1) and 1.43 (1) Å for 1,3,5,6,8-hexachlorothieno[2,3-*c*:5,4-*c'*]dipyridine (Redhouse, 1974); and 1.716 (5), 1.721 (5) and 1.368 (7) Å in tetrachloro-4-hydroxypyridine (Boer, Turley & van Remoortere, 1972). These compounds all have more highly halogenated pyridine rings than (**I**).

The  $\text{C}\alpha$ —Cl distance of 1.725 (1) Å seen in (**II**) is within the range of values given above and the  $\text{C}\beta$ —F distance of 1.342 (1) Å is close to the value of 1.335 (5) Å in *N*-(2,3,5,6-tetrafluoropyridyl)-*N'*-phenylurea (Yamaguchi, Matsumura, Haga & Shudo, 1992).

There are no reported crystal structures of  $\alpha$ -chloro,  $\beta$ -fluoro pyridine derivatives. The single  $\alpha$ -fluoro,  $\beta$ -chloro compound reported (4,5-dichloro-1,3,6,8-tetrafluoro-2,7-naphthylpyridine; van den Ham & van Hummel, 1977) has  $\text{C}\alpha$ —F 1.333 (5),  $\text{C}\beta$ —Cl 1.719 (4), and  $\text{C}\alpha$ — $\text{C}\beta$  1.359 (6) Å.

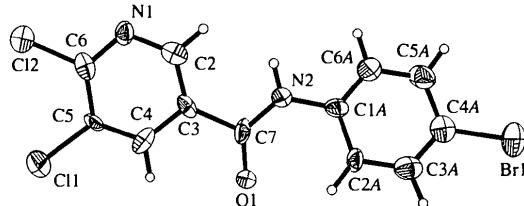


Fig. 1. View of *N*-(4-bromophenyl)-5,6-dichloronicotinamide. Displacement ellipsoids are plotted at the 30% probability level for non-H atoms; H atoms are represented as spheres of arbitrary radii.

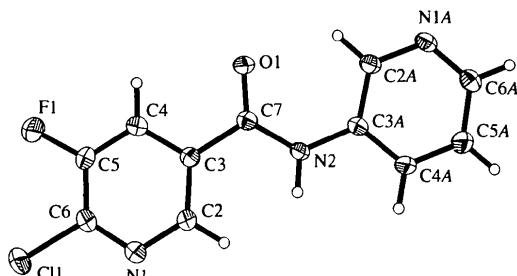


Fig. 2. View of 6-chloro-5-fluoro-*N*-(3-pyridyl)nicotinamide. Displacement ellipsoids are plotted at the 30% probability level for non-H atoms; H atoms are represented as spheres of arbitrary radii.

The carbon–halide distances of (**I**) appear influenced in some way by their positions on the aromatic ring relative to the amide linkage and the pyridine N atom. The planarity of the halogenated molecules suggests that the halide atoms participate in electron delocalization involving the entire molecule. However, there is no obvious pattern of shortening or electron localization in the lengths of other bonds of (**I**) or (**II**).

The packing of (**I**) shows an intermolecular distance of 2.57 Å between the H atom attached to N2 of the amide group and N1( $-x$ ,  $2 - y$ ,  $-\frac{1}{2} + z$ ) of the 5,6-dichloropyridyl ring. In (**II**), an intermolecular N2—H2B···N1A( $-\frac{1}{2} + x$ ,  $-\frac{1}{2} - y$ ,  $-\frac{1}{2} + z$ ) hydrogen bond [2.47 (2) Å] links the molecules together.

## Experimental

For (**I**), *N*-(4-bromophenyl)-5,6-dichloronicotinamide (Setliff & Soman, 1992) (200 mg) was recrystallized from 5 ml of hot aqueous ethanol. On slow evaporation of the solution, colourless needles formed. For (**II**), the compound was crystallized from hot dichloromethane and methanol (3:1) to produce colourless cubic crystals.

## Compound (**I**)

### Crystal data



$M_r = 346.01$

Orthorhombic

$Pca_2_1$

$a = 22.076 (3)$  Å

$b = 8.722 (1)$  Å

$c = 6.552 (1)$  Å

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation

$\lambda = 0.71073$  Å

Cell parameters from 45 reflections

$\theta = 5.258\text{--}12.673^\circ$

$\mu = 3.668 \text{ mm}^{-1}$

$T = 293 (2)$  K

$V = 1261.6(3) \text{ \AA}^3$   
 $Z = 4$   
 $D_x = 1.822 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$

#### Data collection

Siemens P4 four-circle diffractometer  
 $\theta/2\theta$  scans  
Absorption correction:  
semi-empirical from six  $\psi$  scans (10° steps) (XEMP; Siemens, 1991)  
 $T_{\min} = 0.31$ ,  $T_{\max} = 0.50$   
1706 measured reflections  
1426 independent reflections  
509 observed reflections [ $I > 4\sigma(I)$ ]

#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R(F) = 0.049$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.112$   
 $S = 0.951$   
1417 reflections  
163 parameters  
H atoms refined using a riding model  
 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0347P)^2]$   
where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = -0.015$

Needle  
 $0.15 \times 0.15 \times 0.15 \text{ mm}$   
Colorless

$R_{\text{int}} = 0.0782$   
 $\theta_{\max} = 25.0^\circ$   
 $h = 0 \rightarrow 26$   
 $k = 0 \rightarrow 10$   
 $l = -1 \rightarrow 7$   
3 standard reflections monitored every 97 reflections intensity decay: 3.2%

C6—N1—C2  
N1—C2—C3  
C2—C3—C4  
C2—C3—C7  
C4—C3—C7  
C5—C4—C3  
C4—C5—C6  
C4—C5—C11  
C6—C5—C11  
N1—C6—C5  
N1—C6—C12  
C5—C6—C12  
O1—C7—N2  
118.4 (14) 124.0 (16) 116.1 (15) 126.1 (14) 117.7 (14) 121.1 (15) 118.6 (15) 122.7 (13) 118.6 (13) 121.5 (16) 117.0 (13) 121.4 (13) 126.8 (17) O1—C7—C3  
N2—C7—C3  
C7—N2—C1A  
C6A—C1A—C2A  
C6A—C1A—N2  
C2A—C1A—N2  
C3A—C2A—C1A  
C4A—C3A—C2A  
C3A—C4A—C5A  
C3A—C4A—Br1  
C5A—C4A—Br1  
C6A—C5A—C4A  
C1A—C6A—C5A  
118.2 (16) 115.0 (15) 128.1 (13) 121.0 (17) 119.6 (15) 119.4 (15) 117.3 (16) 124.2 (17) 116.5 (18) 124.3 (16) 119.1 (15) 119.4 (17) 121.4 (18)

#### Compound (II)

##### Crystal data

$C_{11}H_7ClFN_3O$

$M_r = 251.6$

Monoclinic

$P2_1/n$

$a = 7.995 (2) \text{ \AA}$   
 $b = 12.483 (2) \text{ \AA}$   
 $c = 11.320 (2) \text{ \AA}$   
 $\beta = 108.37 (1)^\circ$   
 $V = 1072.1 (3) \text{ \AA}^3$   
 $Z = 4$   
 $D_x = 1.559 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation

$\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$

Cell parameters from 45 reflections

$\theta = 5.5\text{--}12.32^\circ$

$\mu = 0.355 \text{ mm}^{-1}$

$T = 298 \text{ K}$

Cube

$0.3 \times 0.3 \times 0.3 \text{ mm}$

Colorless

#### Data collection

Siemens P4 four-circle diffractometer

$\theta/2\theta$  scans

Absorption correction: none

2031 measured reflections  
1889 independent reflections  
1416 observed reflections [ $F > 7.0\sigma(F)$ ]

$R_{\text{int}} = 0.0162$

$\theta_{\max} = 22.5^\circ$

$h = -9 \rightarrow 8$

$k = 0 \rightarrow 10$

$l = 0 \rightarrow 13$

3 standard reflections monitored every 97 reflections intensity decay: 7.0%

#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F$

$R = 0.0398$

$wR = 0.0588$

$S = 1.57$

1416 reflections

155 parameters

H atoms refined using a riding model

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F) + 0.0008F^2]$

$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.007$

$\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.25 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$

$\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.21 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$

Extinction correction: none

Atomic scattering factors from International Tables for Crystallography (1992, Vol. C, Tables 4.2.6.8 and 6.1.1.4)

Table 3. Fractional atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters ( $\text{\AA}^2$ ) for (II)

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

	$x$	$y$	$z$	$U_{\text{eq}}$
C11	0.1976 (2)	1.1827 (7)	0.8871	0.096 (2)
C12	0.0582 (2)	1.2477 (6)	0.9362 (13)	0.078 (1)
Br1	0.1351 (1)	0.4361 (2)	-0.6591 (11)	0.093 (1)
N1	0.0441 (6)	1.104 (1)	0.599 (2)	0.057 (4)
C2	0.0632 (7)	1.024 (2)	0.436 (3)	0.060 (5)
C3	0.1220 (6)	0.972 (2)	0.411 (2)	0.046 (5)
C4	0.1637 (9)	1.021 (2)	0.556 (3)	0.062 (5)
C5	0.1467 (6)	1.109 (2)	0.714 (3)	0.046 (4)
C6	0.0841 (8)	1.148 (2)	0.733 (3)	0.057 (5)
C7	0.1459 (9)	0.876 (2)	0.230 (3)	0.060 (5)
O1	0.2002 (4)	0.853 (1)	0.219 (2)	0.085 (4)
N2	0.1044 (5)	0.829 (2)	0.102 (2)	0.060 (4)
C1A	0.1121 (6)	0.735 (2)	-0.076 (3)	0.050 (4)
C2A	0.1703 (7)	0.705 (2)	-0.148 (3)	0.066 (5)
C3A	0.1755 (8)	0.612 (2)	-0.318 (3)	0.073 (6)
C4A	0.1282 (9)	0.557 (2)	-0.423 (3)	0.066 (5)
C5A	0.0691 (9)	0.590 (2)	-0.343 (3)	0.078 (6)
C6A	0.0637 (8)	0.678 (2)	-0.169 (4)	0.081 (6)
C11	0.0675 (1)	0.2048 (1)	0.0240 (1)	0.062 (1)
F1	0.3674 (1)	0.2018 (1)	0.2482 (1)	0.086 (1)
N1	-0.0322 (1)	0.0538 (1)	0.1462 (1)	0.057 (1)
C2	-0.0102 (1)	-0.0094 (1)	0.2450 (1)	0.052 (1)
C3	0.1343 (1)	-0.0068 (1)	0.3500 (1)	0.033 (1)
C4	0.2652 (1)	0.0657 (1)	0.3524 (1)	0.045 (1)
C5	0.2436 (1)	0.1299 (1)	0.2506 (1)	0.044 (1)
C6	0.0942 (1)	0.1216 (1)	0.1503 (1)	0.041 (1)
C7	0.1605 (1)	-0.0756 (1)	0.4637 (1)	0.033 (1)
O1	0.2935 (1)	-0.0639 (1)	0.5527 (1)	0.046 (1)
N2	0.0352 (1)	-0.1490 (1)	0.4605 (1)	0.033 (1)

Table 2. Geometric parameters ( $\text{\AA}$ ,  $^\circ$ ) for (I)

Cl1—C5	1.725 (15)	C7—O1	1.22 (2)
Cl2—C6	1.69 (2)	C7—N2	1.31 (2)
Br1—C4A	1.88 (2)	N2—C1A	1.43 (2)
N1—C6	1.31 (2)	C1A—C6A	1.33 (2)
N1—C2	1.34 (2)	C1A—C2A	1.39 (2)
C2—C3	1.38 (2)	C2A—C3A	1.38 (2)
C3—C4	1.39 (2)	C3A—C4A	1.34 (2)
C3—C7	1.55 (2)	C4A—C5A	1.43 (2)
C4—C5	1.34 (2)	C5A—C6A	1.38 (2)
C5—C6	1.43 (2)		

N1A	0.1767 (1)	-0.3136 (1)	0.7473 (1)	0.042 (1)
C2A	0.1743 (1)	-0.2358 (1)	0.6650 (1)	0.037 (1)
C3A	0.0415 (1)	-0.2274 (1)	0.5512 (1)	0.032 (1)
C4A	-0.0918 (1)	-0.3025 (1)	0.5247 (1)	0.051 (1)
C5A	-0.0896 (1)	-0.3808 (1)	0.6103 (1)	0.063 (1)
C6A	0.0466 (1)	-0.3836 (1)	0.7208 (1)	0.051 (1)

Table 4. Geometric parameters ( $\text{\AA}$ ,  $^\circ$ ) for (II)

C1—C6	1.725 (1)	O1—C7	1.222 (1)
C5—F1	1.342 (1)	N2—C7	1.349 (1)
N1—C2	1.335 (1)	N2—C3A	1.408 (1)
N1—C6	1.308 (1)	N1A—C2A	1.341 (1)
C2—C3	1.372 (1)	N1A—C6A	1.318 (1)
C3—C4	1.377 (1)	C2A—C3A	1.391 (1)
C3—C7	1.506 (1)	C3A—C4A	1.379 (1)
C4—C5	1.369 (1)	C4A—C5A	1.373 (1)
C6—C5	1.368 (1)	C5A—C6A	1.376 (1)
C2—N1—C6	117.2 (1)	O1—C7—C3	119.1 (1)
C3—C2—N1	124.4 (1)	C3—C7—N2	117.5 (1)
C2—C3—C4	117.4 (1)	O1—C7—N2	123.3 (1)
C2—C3—C7	125.4 (1)	C7—N2—C3A	126.6 (1)
C4—C3—C7	117.3 (1)	C2A—N1A—C6A	119.0 (1)
C3—C4—C5	118.3 (1)	N1A—C2A—C3A	122.5 (1)
F1—C5—C4	120.7 (1)	N2—C3A—C2A	124.7 (1)
F1—C5—C6	119.3 (1)	C4A—C3A—N2	117.8 (1)
C4—C5—C6	120.0 (1)	C2A—C3A—C4A	117.5 (1)
N1—C6—C11	117.9 (1)	C3A—C4A—C5A	119.6 (1)
C11—C6—C5	119.4 (1)	C4A—C5A—C6A	119.3 (1)
C5—C6—N1	122.8 (1)	N1A—C6A—C5A	122.1 (1)

Dispersion corrections and absorption coefficients were taken from *International Tables for Crystallography*, 1992, Vol. C, Tables 6.1.1.4 and 4.2.6.8, and 4.2.4.2, respectively.

For both compounds, data collection: *XSCANS* (Siemens, 1991); cell refinement: *XSCANS*; data reduction: *XSCANS*; program(s) used to solve structures: *SHELXS86* (Sheldrick, 1985). Program(s) used to refine structures: *SHELXL93* (Sheldrick, 1993) for (I); *SHELXS86* for (II). Molecular graphics: *SHELXTL-Plus* (Sheldrick, 1992) for (I); *XP* (Siemens, 1990) for (II). Software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL-Plus* for (I); *SHELXS86* for (II).

Lists of structure factors, anisotropic displacement parameters, H-atom coordinates and complete geometry have been deposited with the IUCr (Reference: CR1196). Copies may be obtained through The Managing Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England.

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## A Chiral Mesogenic Compound

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## Abstract

Single-crystal X-ray analysis has been carried out for 4-(1-methylheptyloxy carbonyl)phenyl 4-heptyloxytolane-4'-carboxylate [C<sub>7</sub>-tolane, C<sub>37</sub>H<sub>44</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, tolane = 1,1'-(1,2-ethynediyl)bisbenzene]. The crystal has a smectic C-like layer structure composed of largely bent molecules; the chain of the chiral group is quasi-perpendicular (86°) to the core moiety. The molecular arrangement is similar to that of 4-[S]-1-methylheptyloxy carbonyl]phenyl 4'-octyloxy biphenyl-4-carboxylate and agrees with the data of the *n* = 8 homologue (C<sub>8</sub>-tolane) antiferroelectric mesophase.

## Comment

In a number of crystal structures of mesogenic materials, good correlations have been established between the crystal organization and the mesomorphic smectic arrangement. In the case of ferroelectric materials it has been shown (Hori & Ohashi, 1991, 1993; Hori & Endo, 1993) that the molecular packing in the smectic-like solid layers is controlled by the arrangement of the polar groups. In a recent paper, Hori, Kawahara & Ito (1993) described the crystalline structure of several antiferroelectric materials. The most striking behaviour in the molecular structure is that the chain of the chiral groups is almost perpendicular to the core moiety; moreover,