

Data collection: Enraf–Nonius (1977) CAD-4 diffractometer software. Cell refinement: Enraf–Nonius (1977) CAD-4 diffractometer software. Data reduction: *DATA RED* (Pèpe, 1979). Program(s) used to solve structure: *MULTAN80* (Main *et al.*, 1980). Program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELX76* (Sheldrick, 1976). Molecular graphics: *ORTEPII* (Johnson, 1976). Software used to prepare material for publication: *AME* (Software Systems, 1988).

Lists of structure factors, anisotropic displacement parameters, H-atom coordinates and complete geometry have been deposited with the IUCr (Reference: CF1058). Copies may be obtained through The Managing Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England.

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Four ω -Phthalimidoaliphatic Peracids

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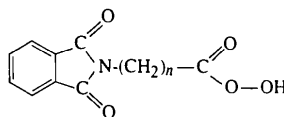
Abstract

Hydrogen bonding between the peracid proton and phthalimido carbonyl O atom connect molecules into chains in the structures of 3-phthalimidoperoxypropanoic acid, C₁₁H₉NO₅, and 4-phthalimidoperoxybutanoic acid, C₁₂H₁₁NO₅. In contrast, the peracid function acts as both a hydrogen-bond donor and acceptor in the structures of 5-phthalimidoperoxy-pentanoic

acid, C₁₃H₁₃NO₅, and 6-phthalimidoperoxyhexanoic acid, C₁₄H₁₅NO₅, resulting in a distinctly different chain motif.

Comment

Organic peracids have recently been recognized as potential low-temperature laundry bleaches. To have commercial utility, these materials are required to exhibit high solid-state thermal stability with respect to decomposition to the corresponding carboxylic acid. In order to probe the relationship between peracid crystal structure and this solid-state stability, the structures of the four homologues 3-phthalimidoperoxypropanoic acid, (I), 4-phthalimidoperoxybutanoic acid, (II), 5-phthalimidoperoxy-pentanoic acid, (III), and 6-phthalimidoperoxyhexanoic acid, (IV), have been determined. In particular, the influence of the alkyl chain length on the type of hydrogen-bonding adopted has been investigated (Feeder, 1992).



- (I) $n = 2$
 (II) $n = 3$
 (III) $n = 4$
 (IV) $n = 5$

In all four title structures (Figs. 1–4), the phthalimido groups are close to being planar and have bond lengths and angles similar to those of both a series of ω -phthalimidoaliphatic acids (Feeder & Jones, 1996a) and a series of ω -phthalimidoaliphatic acid monohydrates (Feeder & Jones, 1994a) determined previously. The alkyl chains each adopt a regular all-*trans* conformation. The position of the peracid proton could not be determined in any of the four structures, although each of the peracid groups defined by the heavy C and O atoms is planar: (I) to 0.001 (4), (II) to 0.001 (1), (III) to 0.004 (4) and (IV) to 0.002 (2) Å. The bond lengths and angles associated with the peracid functions of compounds (II), (III) and (IV) are very similar to those reported previously for peroxyperargonic acid (Belitskus & Jeffrey, 1965), *o*-nitroperoxybenzoic acid (Sax, Beurskens & Chu, 1965), *p*-nitroperoxybenzoic acid (Kim, Chu & Jeffrey, 1970), a series of *p*-amidoperoxybenzoic acids (Feeder & Jones, 1996b) and two ω -saccharinperoxyaliphatic acids (Feeder & Jones, 1994b). The low O—O bond length in compound (I) (O111—O112) of 1.357 (7) Å is an artefact related to the high atomic displacement parameter (or disorder) of the O112 atom.

Hydrogen bonding in all four structures links molecules into infinite chains. In the structures of (I) and (II), the hydrogen bond is between the peracid proton

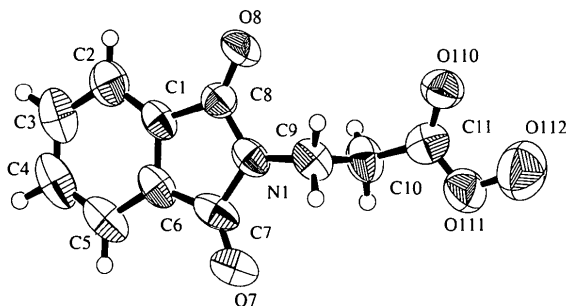


Fig. 1. ORTEP (Johnson, 1976) plot of (I) showing ellipsoids at the 50% probability level.

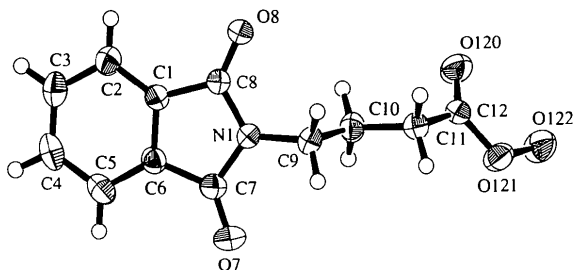


Fig. 2. ORTEP (Johnson, 1976) plot of (II) showing ellipsoids at the 50% probability level.

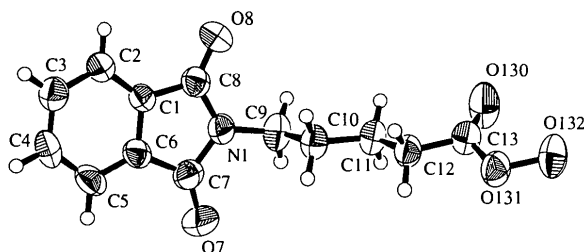


Fig. 3. ORTEP (Johnson, 1976) plot of (III) showing ellipsoids at the 50% probability level.

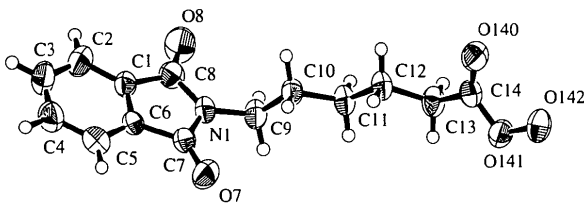


Fig. 4. ORTEP (Johnson, 1976) plot of (IV) showing ellipsoids at the 50% probability level.

and a phthalimido carbonyl O atom. This is shown for compound (I) in Fig. 5, where adjacent molecules in the chain are related by the *c*-glide plane. In compound (II), there are again hydrogen bonds from the peracid proton to the phthalimido carbonyl O atom, but adjacent molecules in the chain are related by translation only.

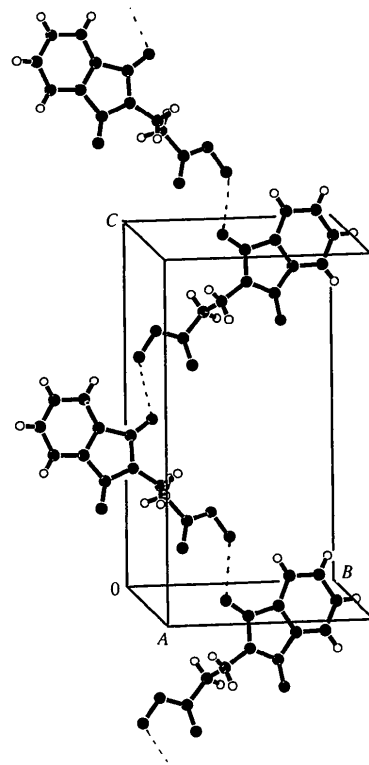


Fig. 5. Packing diagram for compound (I) demonstrating the chain motif formed through the peracid-to-phthalimido hydrogen bonds (O...O contacts are shown as dashed lines).

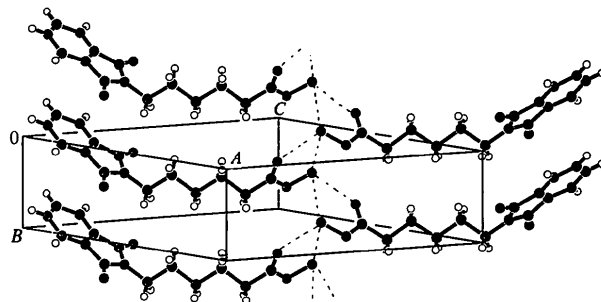


Fig. 6. Packing diagram for compound (IV) demonstrating the chain motif formed by the three-centre hydrogen bonds between peracid groups related by a twofold screw operation (O...O contacts are shown as dashed lines).

For the structures of compounds (III) and (IV), the peracid function acts as both a hydrogen-bond acceptor and donor linking molecules by a twofold screw operation into chains, shown for compound (IV) in Fig. 6. It can be seen that, based on O...O contacts, both the peracid carbonyl (O140) and terminal peroxy (O142) O atoms are the acceptor atoms for a three-centre hydrogen-bond with a peracid proton.

Experimental

Samples of compounds (I)–(IV) were provided by Solvay Intertox.

Compound (I)*Crystal data*

C₁₁H₉NO₅
M_r = 235.19
 Monoclinic
*P*2₁/*c*
a = 7.022 (2) Å
b = 9.532 (2) Å
c = 15.811 (9) Å
 β = 99.03 (3)°
V = 1045.1 (7) Å³
Z = 4
D_x = 1.495 Mg m⁻³
D_m not measured

Data collection

Enraf–Nonius CAD-4
 diffractometer
 $\omega/2\theta$ scans
 Absorption correction:
 none
 1912 measured reflections
 1842 independent reflections
 749 observed reflections
 [*I* > 2σ(*I*)]

Refinement

Refinement on *F*²
R(*F*) = 0.0707
wR(*F*²) = 0.2769
S = 1.001
 1795 reflections
 158 parameters
 Only H-atom *U*'s refined
 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.1210P)^2 + 0.7913P]$
 where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
 (Δ/σ)_{max} < 0.001

Mo *K*α radiation
 λ = 0.71069 Å
 Cell parameters from 25
 reflections
 θ = 9–14°
 μ = 0.120 mm⁻¹
T = 295 (2) K
 Cuboid
 0.40 × 0.40 × 0.40 mm
 Colourless

*R*_{int} = 0.0226
 θ_{\max} = 24.97°
h = -8 → 8
k = 0 → 11
l = 0 → 18
 2 standard reflections
 monitored every 100
 reflections
 intensity decay: 2%

$\Delta\rho_{\max}$ = 0.388 e Å⁻³
 $\Delta\rho_{\min}$ = -0.367 e Å⁻³
 Extinction correction:
 SHELXL93 (Sheldrick,
 1993)
 Extinction coefficient:
 0.005 (4)
 Atomic scattering factors
 from *International Tables*
 for *Crystallography* (1992,
 Vol. C, Tables 4.2.6.8 and
 6.1.1.4)

Compound (II)*Crystal data*

C₁₂H₁₁NO₅
M_r = 249.22
 Triclinic
*P*1
a = 7.968 (2) Å
b = 8.463 (2) Å
c = 9.4295 (10) Å
 α = 85.473 (10)°
 β = 113.31 (2)°
 γ = 105.37 (2)°
V = 562.8 (2) Å³
Z = 2
D_x = 1.471 Mg m⁻³
D_m not measured

Mo *K*α radiation
 λ = 0.71069 Å
 Cell parameters from 25
 reflections
 θ = 10–15°
 μ = 0.116 mm⁻¹
T = 295 (2) K
 Rod
 0.40 × 0.20 × 0.20 mm
 Colourless

Data collection

Enraf–Nonius CAD-4
 diffractometer
 $\omega/2\theta$ scans
 Absorption correction:
 none
 3456 measured reflections
 3271 independent reflections
 1980 observed reflections
 [*I* > 2σ(*I*)]
*R*_{int} = 0.0177

θ_{\max} = 29.97°
h = -11 → 10
k = -11 → 11
l = 0 → 13
 2 standard reflections
 monitored every 100
 reflections
 intensity decay: 3%
 (correction applied)

Refinement

Refinement on *F*²
R(*F*) = 0.0439
wR(*F*²) = 0.1378
S = 1.000
 3228 reflections
 168 parameters
 Only H-atom *U*'s refined
 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0642P)^2 + 0.1133P]$
 where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$

(Δ/σ)_{max} = 0.001
 $\Delta\rho_{\max}$ = 0.411 e Å⁻³
 $\Delta\rho_{\min}$ = -0.233 e Å⁻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 1. Fractional atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters (Å²) for (I)

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

	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	<i>U</i> _{eq}
O7	0.7323 (6)	-0.0754 (5)	0.5163 (3)	0.0855 (15)
O8	0.6521 (7)	0.1869 (5)	0.7469 (2)	0.0830 (14)
O110	0.7614 (7)	-0.2222 (5)	0.8737 (3)	0.0827 (14)
O111	0.8585 (7)	-0.3778 (6)	0.7891 (3)	0.0914 (15)
O112	0.8343 (10)	-0.4636 (6)	0.8551 (4)	0.144 (2)
N1	0.6808 (6)	0.0280 (6)	0.6422 (3)	0.0620 (13)
C1	0.7099 (7)	0.2590 (8)	0.6057 (3)	0.061 (2)
C2	0.7133 (8)	0.4038 (8)	0.6032 (4)	0.079 (2)
C3	0.7458 (9)	0.4638 (9)	0.5287 (5)	0.094 (2)
C4	0.7725 (10)	0.3865 (11)	0.4600 (5)	0.098 (3)
C5	0.7710 (9)	0.2413 (10)	0.4604 (4)	0.084 (2)
C6	0.7363 (8)	0.1803 (8)	0.5360 (4)	0.066 (2)
C7	0.7194 (8)	0.0296 (9)	0.5579 (4)	0.071 (2)
C8	0.6763 (7)	0.1640 (6)	0.6753 (4)	0.0590 (15)
C9	0.6548 (8)	-0.0992 (7)	0.6904 (4)	0.069 (2)
C10	0.8448 (9)	-0.1515 (7)	0.7385 (4)	0.076 (2)
C11	0.8163 (8)	-0.2546 (9)	0.8063 (5)	0.073 (2)

Table 2. Fractional atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters (Å²) for (II)

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

	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	<i>U</i> _{eq}
N1	0.3329 (2)	0.1899 (2)	0.25571 (15)	0.0356 (3)
O7	0.0764 (2)	-0.0320 (2)	0.2142 (2)	0.0608 (4)
O8	0.5945 (2)	0.40087 (15)	0.36936 (14)	0.0449 (3)
O120	0.1664 (2)	0.6657 (2)	-0.1408 (2)	0.0556 (4)
O121	-0.0196 (2)	0.4812 (2)	-0.33407 (15)	0.0477 (3)
O122	-0.1174 (2)	0.6093 (2)	-0.4016 (2)	0.0560 (4)
C1	0.4492 (2)	0.2078 (2)	0.5202 (2)	0.0331 (3)
C2	0.5553 (3)	0.2478 (2)	0.6742 (2)	0.0412 (4)
C3	0.4968 (3)	0.1519 (3)	0.7807 (2)	0.0482 (5)
C4	0.3387 (3)	0.0211 (2)	0.7335 (2)	0.0497 (5)
C5	0.2326 (3)	-0.0207 (2)	0.5781 (2)	0.0455 (4)
C6	0.2909 (2)	0.0753 (2)	0.4727 (2)	0.0354 (4)
C7	0.2123 (2)	0.0633 (2)	0.3012 (2)	0.0393 (4)
C8	0.4751 (2)	0.2826 (2)	0.3799 (2)	0.0333 (3)
C9	0.3121 (3)	0.2199 (2)	0.0961 (2)	0.0387 (4)
C10	0.2160 (3)	0.3559 (2)	0.0275 (2)	0.0404 (4)
C11	0.2149 (2)	0.3957 (2)	-0.1323 (2)	0.0382 (4)
C12	0.1236 (2)	0.5332 (2)	-0.1986 (2)	0.0360 (4)

Compound (III)*Crystal data*

$C_{13}H_{13}NO_5$
 $M_r = 263.24$
 Monoclinic
 $P2_1$
 $a = 6.7773 (10) \text{ \AA}$
 $b = 4.7222 (10) \text{ \AA}$
 $c = 19.935 (4) \text{ \AA}$
 $\beta = 98.22 (2)^\circ$
 $V = 631.5 (2) \text{ \AA}^3$
 $Z = 2$
 $D_x = 1.385 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
 D_m not measured

Data collection

Enraf–Nonius CAD-4
 diffractometer
 $\omega/2\theta$ scans
 Absorption correction:
 none
 2277 measured reflections
 2214 independent reflections
 1145 observed reflections
 $[I > 2\sigma(I)]$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2
 $R(F) = 0.0611$
 $wR(F^2) = 0.2020$
 $S = 1.014$
 2181 reflections
 178 parameters
 Only H-atom U 's refined
 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.1032P)^2]$
 where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.004$
 $\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.270 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
 $\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.193 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$

Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
 $\lambda = 0.71069 \text{ \AA}$
 Cell parameters from 25
 reflections
 $\theta = 8-15^\circ$
 $\mu = 0.108 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
 $T = 295 (2) \text{ K}$
 Plate
 $0.40 \times 0.40 \times 0.20 \text{ mm}$
 Colourless

$R_{\text{int}} = 0.1128$
 $\theta_{\max} = 24.99^\circ$
 $h = -8 \rightarrow 7$
 $k = -5 \rightarrow 5$
 $l = 0 \rightarrow 23$
 2 standard reflections
 monitored every 100
 reflections
 intensity decay: 1%

Extinction correction:
 $SHELXL93$ (Sheldrick,
 1993)
 Extinction coefficient:
 0.067 (15)
 Atomic scattering factors
 from *International Tables*
 for *Crystallography* (1992),
 Vol. C, Tables 4.2.6.8 and
 6.1.1.4)

Compound (IV)*Crystal data*

$C_{14}H_{15}NO_5$
 $M_r = 277.27$
 Monoclinic
 $P2_1/c$
 $a = 19.028 (5) \text{ \AA}$
 $b = 4.5724 (10) \text{ \AA}$
 $c = 15.517 (6) \text{ \AA}$
 $\beta = 90.16 (3)^\circ$
 $V = 1350.0 (7) \text{ \AA}^3$
 $Z = 4$
 $D_x = 1.364 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
 D_m not measured

Data collection

Enraf–Nonius CAD-4
 diffractometer
 $\omega/2\theta$ scans
 Absorption correction:
 none
 2496 measured reflections
 2391 independent reflections
 885 observed reflections
 $[I > 2\sigma(I)]$
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0370$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2
 $R(F) = 0.0497$
 $wR(F^2) = 0.1600$
 $S = 0.914$
 2335 reflections
 187 parameters
 Only H-atom U 's refined
 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0607P)^2]$
 where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$

Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
 $\lambda = 0.71069 \text{ \AA}$
 Cell parameters from 25
 reflections
 $\theta = 8-13^\circ$
 $\mu = 0.104 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
 $T = 295 (2) \text{ K}$
 Plate
 $0.40 \times 0.40 \times 0.20 \text{ mm}$
 Colourless

$\theta_{\max} = 24.97^\circ$
 $h = -22 \rightarrow 22$
 $k = 0 \rightarrow 5$
 $l = 0 \rightarrow 18$
 2 standard reflections
 monitored every 100
 reflections
 intensity decay: 3%
 (correction applied)

$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.004$
 $\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.262 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
 $\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.195 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
 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 (\AA^2) for (III)

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

	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	U_{eq}
N1	0.9699 (6)	-0.1681 (11)	0.2068 (2)	0.0571 (13)
O8	1.1739 (6)	-0.1546 (11)	0.1239 (2)	0.0784 (14)
O7	0.7138 (6)	-0.0776 (14)	0.2678 (2)	0.095 (2)
O130	1.7588 (7)	-0.5699 (12)	0.4191 (2)	0.097 (2)
O131	1.7438 (6)	-0.2359 (9)	0.4971 (2)	0.0700 (13)
O132	1.9133 (6)	-0.3809 (11)	0.5341 (2)	0.0884 (15)
C6	0.7335 (7)	0.1531 (13)	0.1609 (3)	0.0546 (15)
C5	0.5736 (7)	0.3306 (16)	0.1466 (3)	0.068 (2)
C4	0.5570 (8)	0.4880 (15)	0.0868 (3)	0.069 (2)
C3	0.6959 (8)	0.4597 (15)	0.0436 (3)	0.067 (2)
C2	0.8574 (8)	0.2807 (13)	0.0578 (3)	0.060 (2)
C1	0.8733 (7)	0.1271 (13)	0.1172 (3)	0.0478 (13)
C8	1.0252 (8)	-0.0747 (14)	0.1460 (3)	0.058 (2)
C7	0.7948 (8)	-0.0348 (15)	0.2196 (3)	0.062 (2)
C9	1.0874 (9)	-0.3570 (15)	0.2546 (3)	0.065 (2)
C10	1.2326 (8)	-0.1932 (13)	0.3051 (3)	0.060 (2)
C11	1.3787 (8)	-0.3814 (14)	0.3491 (3)	0.061 (2)
C12	1.5112 (7)	-0.2081 (14)	0.4006 (3)	0.061 (2)
C13	1.6832 (9)	-0.3686 (15)	0.4379 (3)	0.0578 (15)

Table 4. Fractional atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters (\AA^2) for (IV)

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

	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	U_{eq}
N1	0.2001 (2)	0.1213 (8)	0.7388 (2)	0.0450 (9)
O7	0.1195 (2)	0.2973 (8)	0.8371 (2)	0.0710 (11)
O8	0.2579 (2)	0.0208 (8)	0.6127 (2)	0.0850 (10)
O140	0.47793 (15)	0.2644 (8)	1.1141 (2)	0.0631 (12)
O141	0.41745 (14)	-0.0443 (7)	1.1994 (2)	0.0585 (9)
O142	0.45308 (15)	0.1065 (7)	1.2702 (2)	0.0658 (10)
C1	0.1582 (2)	0.3553 (10)	0.6183 (2)	0.0453 (11)
C2	0.1456 (2)	0.4564 (12)	0.5364 (3)	0.0659 (15)
C3	0.0905 (3)	0.6499 (12)	0.5248 (3)	0.073 (2)
C4	0.0491 (2)	0.7328 (12)	0.5924 (3)	0.0685 (14)
C5	0.0609 (2)	0.6259 (11)	0.6745 (3)	0.0588 (13)
C6	0.1165 (2)	0.4383 (10)	0.6857 (2)	0.0438 (12)
C7	0.1425 (2)	0.2853 (11)	0.7638 (3)	0.0488 (12)
C8	0.2124 (2)	0.1486 (11)	0.6512 (3)	0.0525 (13)
C9	0.2412 (2)	-0.0620 (10)	0.7971 (3)	0.0541 (13)
C10	0.2923 (2)	0.1105 (10)	0.8514 (2)	0.0495 (12)
C11	0.3303 (2)	-0.0827 (10)	0.9161 (2)	0.0491 (12)
C12	0.3732 (2)	0.0931 (10)	0.9809 (2)	0.0499 (12)
C13	0.4015 (2)	-0.1016 (11)	1.0521 (2)	0.0534 (13)
C14	0.4371 (2)	0.0659 (11)	1.1229 (3)	0.0487 (12)

Table 5. Selected geometric parameters (Å, °) of the peracid groups in compounds (I)–(IV)

	(I) (n = 11)	(II) (n = 12)	(III) (n = 13)	(IV) (n = 14)
On0—Cn	1.228 (7)	1.190 (2)	1.167 (7)	1.202 (5)
On1—Cn	1.252 (8)	1.340 (2)	1.348 (7)	1.345 (5)
On1—On2	1.357 (7)	1.461 (2)	1.446 (6)	1.462 (4)
Cn—On1—On2	109.7 (5)	110.73 (13)	110.4 (4)	110.9 (3)
On0—Cn—On1	122.7 (7)	124.9 (2)	124.5 (6)	124.3 (4)
On0—Cn—C(n-1)	123.6 (7)	126.6 (2)	126.9 (5)	126.4 (4)
On1—Cn—C(n-1)	113.6 (6)	108.47 (14)	108.5 (5)	109.3 (4)
On2—On1—Cn—On0	-0.2 (9)	-0.3 (2)	-0.8 (9)	-0.8 (5)
On2—On1—Cn—C(n-1)	178.1 (5)	178.24 (13)	-178.7 (4)	177.9 (3)
C(n-2)—C(n-1)—Cn—On0	-73.2 (8)	55.1 (2)	25.0 (9)	-44.4 (6)
C(n-2)—C(n-1)—Cn—On1	108.6 (7)	-123.4 (2)	-157.2 (5)	136.9 (4)

The peroxy H atom was not located in any of the four title compounds. All other H atoms were placed at the expected positions, riding with U_{iso} refined for each. The terminal peroxy O atom (O112) of compound (I) was found to be disordered over two sites. Refinement of the atom at these sites with a range of occupancies significantly lowered the R value for the structure. The displacement parameters of the atoms at these sites, however, were found to be unacceptably high and hence it was concluded that the data were not of sufficient quality to model the disorder in this way. Finally, the atom position was refined starting at some mean of the two sites with full occupancy. This accounts for the high U_{eq} value for this atom and also for the slightly high R value reported.

For all compounds, data collection: *CAD-4 Software* (Enraf–Nonius, 1989); cell refinement: *CAD-4 Software* (*SETANG*); data reduction: *TEXSAN* (Molecular Structure Corporation, 1995); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS86* (Sheldrick, 1990); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL93* (Sheldrick, 1993); molecular graphics: *TEXSAN*; software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL93*.

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Lists of structure factors, anisotropic displacement parameters, H-atom coordinates and complete geometry have been deposited with the IUCr (Reference: HA1155). Copies may be obtained through The Managing Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England.

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(±)-2-Oxocyclododecaneacetic Acid: Structure and Hydrogen-Bonding Pattern of a Large-Ring γ -Keto Acid

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Abstract

In the title compound, C₁₄H₂₄O₃, the ring adopts a typical 'square' [3333] cyclododecane conformation and enantiomeric pairs of molecules form centrosymmetric dimers across the cell corners by mutual hydrogen bonding of carboxy groups, O(2)··O(3)(-x, 2 - y, -z) [2.662 (4) Å]. The ketonic O(1) atom does not participate in the hydrogen bonding but has a close contact [2.487 (3) Å] with the ring H(12B)(x - 1, y, z) atom of an adjacent molecule. The observed carboxy C—O and C=O bond lengths and angles correspond to accepted values for a well ordered dimer.

Comment

The crystalline states of acetic and formic acids involve chains (catemers) created by repeating intermolecular O—H··O=C hydrogen bonds (Jones & Templeton, 1958; Nahrungbauer, 1978). This pattern is otherwise unusual among carboxylic acids, which typically form hydrogen-bonded dimers (Leiserowitz, 1976). Our interest in the X-ray structures of simple keto-carboxylic acids concerns such hydrogen-bonding motifs, of which four are known. The commonest forms acid dimers without the involvement of the ketone. Less frequently, intermolecular carboxy-to-ketone hydrogen bonds repeat infinitely along one cell axis to yield a catemer. A third, rare arrangement is an internal hydrogen bond, and one instance is known of acid-to-ketone dimerization. We have previously referenced and discussed numerous examples (Thompson, Lalancette & Vanderhoff, 1992; Côté, Thompson & Lalancette, 1996).