## Data collection

Stoe AED-4 four-circle diffractometer $\omega-\theta$ scans
Absorption correction: none
3174 measured reflections
1747 independent reflections
1292 observed reflections $[I>2 \sigma(I)]$

Refinement
Refinement on $F^{2}$
$R(F)=0.0377$
$w R\left(F^{2}\right)=0.1185$
$S=1.040$
1747 reflections
89 parameters

$$
\begin{aligned}
& w= 1 /\left[\sigma^{2}\left(F_{o}^{2}\right)+(0.0681 P)^{2}\right. \\
&+0.2061 P] \\
& \text { where } P=\left(F_{o}^{2}+2 F_{c}^{2}\right) / 3
\end{aligned}
$$

$R_{\text {int }}=0.0123$
$\theta_{\text {max }}=30.03^{\circ}$
$h=-23 \rightarrow 23$
$k=-12 \rightarrow 12$
$l=0 \rightarrow 11$
4 standard reflections frequency: 120 min intensity decay: $<1 \%$
$(\Delta / \sigma)_{\max }<0.001$
$\Delta \rho_{\text {max }}=0.425 \mathrm{e}_{\AA^{-3}}$
$\Delta \rho_{\text {min }}=-0.186 \mathrm{e}^{-3}$
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 $\left(A^{2}\right)$

| $U_{\mathrm{eq}}=(1 / 3) \sum_{i} \sum_{j} U_{i j} a_{i}^{*} a_{j}^{*} \mathbf{a}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{a}_{j}$ |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | $U_{\mathrm{eq}}$ |
|  | $y$ | $z(1)$ |  |  |
| O1 | $0.43274(5)$ | $0.22979(9)$ | $0.10006(13)$ | $0.0319(2)$ |
| O2 | $0.55785(6)$ | $0.10204(10)$ | $-0.0518(2)$ | $0.0475(3)$ |
| O3 | $0.64056(5)$ | $0.24775(8)$ | $-0.19972(11)$ | $0.0302(2)$ |
| C1 | $0.53848(6)$ | $0.36706(10)$ | $-0.04674(13)$ | $0.0221(2)$ |
| C2 | $0.46767(6)$ | $0.35979(10)$ | $0.04885(14)$ | $0.0232(2)$ |
| C3 | $0.43051(6)$ | $0.49337(11)$ | $0.09363(14)$ | $0.0236(2)$ |
| C7 | $0.57882(6)$ | $0.22629(12)$ | $-0.0982(2)$ | $0.0266(2)$ |
| C8 | $0.68173(7)$ | $0.11251(13)$ | $-0.2561(2)$ | $0.0351(3)$ |
| C9 | $0.74834(8)$ | $0.1629(2)$ | $-0.3680(2)$ | $0.0433(3)$ |

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

| $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{C} 2$ | 1.3580 (12) | $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{C} 2$ | 1.4114 (14) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{O} 2-\mathrm{C} 7$ | 1.2169 (14) | $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{C} 7$ | 1.4795 (14) |
| O3-C7 | 1.3290 (14) | C2-C3 | 1.3867 (14) |
| $\mathrm{O} 3-\mathrm{C} 8$ | 1.4566 (13) | C3-C1 ${ }^{\text {i }}$ | 1.3958 (14) |
| $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{C}^{\text {i }}$ | 1.3958 (14) | C8-C9 | 1.499 (2) |
| C7-O3-C8 | 116.03 (9) | C3-C2-C1 | 118.47 (9) |
| $\mathrm{C} 3-\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{C} 2$ | 119.89 (9) | $\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 3-\mathrm{Cl}^{1}$ | 121.64 (9) |
| $\mathrm{C} 3^{\mathrm{i}}-\mathrm{Cl}-\mathrm{C} 7$ | 120.46 (9) | $\mathrm{O} 2-\mathrm{C} 7-\mathrm{O} 3$ | 122.80 (10) |
| $\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{Cl}-\mathrm{C} 7$ | 119.64 (9) | $\mathrm{O} 2-\mathrm{C} 7-\mathrm{C} 1$ | 123.40 (11) |
| $\mathrm{Ol}-\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 3$ | 117.22 (9) | $\mathrm{O} 3-\mathrm{C} 7-\mathrm{Cl}$ | 113.79 (9) |
| $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{Cl}$ | 124.31 (9) | O3-C8-C9 | 106.87 (10) |
| $\mathrm{C} 8-\mathrm{O} 3-\mathrm{C} 7-\mathrm{O} 2$ | 1.1 (2) | $\mathrm{C} 3-\mathrm{Cl}-\mathrm{C} 7-\mathrm{O} 3$ | -5.0 (2) |
| C8--O3-C7-C1 | -179.14 (10) | $\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{Cl}-\mathrm{C} 7-\mathrm{O} 3$ | 174.30 (9) |
| $\mathrm{C} 3-\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{C} 7-\mathrm{O} 2$ | 174.79 (12) | C7-O3-C8-C9 | 179.93 (11) |
| $\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{C} 7-\mathrm{O} 2$ | -5.9 (2) |  |  |
| Symmetry code: (i) $1-x, 1-y,-z$. |  |  |  |

The C and O atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters. The $\mathbf{H}$ atoms were located from a difference map and refined with free isotropic displacement parameters (groupwise for methyl and methylene) using a riding model, with aromatic $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}$ distances of 0.95 , methylene ${ }^{\mathrm{C}} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}$ distances of 0.99 and methyl $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}$ distances of $0.98 \AA$. The atom HO1 was refined with free coordinates and free isotropic displacement parameters.

Data collection: DIF4 (Stoe \& Cie, 1991a). Cell refinement: DIF4. Data reduction: REDU4 (Stoe \& Cie, 1991b). Program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS86 (Sheldrick, 1990a).

Program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL93 (Sheldrick, 1993). Molecular graphics: SHELXTLPC (Sheldrick, 1990b). Software used to prepare material for publication: CIFTAB in SHELXTLPC.

This project has been supported by the A. Messer Foundation, the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, the State of Hesse and the Fonds der Chemischen Industrie.

Lists of structure factors, anisotropic displacement parameters, H atom coordinates, complete geometry and torsion angles have been deposited with the IUCr (Reference: SK 1017). Copies may be obtained through The Managing Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England.

## References

Byrn, S. R., Curtin. D. Y. \& Paul, I. C. (1972). J. Am. Chem. Soc. 94, 890-898.
Ichikawa, M. (1978). Acta Cryst. B34, 2074-2080.
Näther, C., Nagel, N., Bock, H., Seitz, W. \& Havlas, Z. (1996). Acta Cryst. B52, 697-706.
Schweitzer, B. \& Dunitz, J. D. (1982). Helv. Chim. Acta, 65, 15471554.

Sheldrick, G. M. (1990a). Acta Cryst. A46, 467-473.
Sheldrick, G. M. (1990b). SHELXTLPC Users Manual. Siemens Analytical X-ray Instruments Inc., Madison, Wisconsin, USA.
Sheldrick, G. M. (1993). SHELXL93. Program for the Refinement of Crystal Structures. University of Göttingen, Germany.
Stoe \& Cie (1991a). DIF4. Stoe 4-Circle Diffractometer Control Program. Version 7.08. Stoe \& Cie, Darmstadt, Germany.
Stoe \& Cie (1991b). REDU4. Stoe 4-Circle Data Reduction Program. Version 7.08. Stoe \& Cie, Darmstadt, Germany.
Wilson, E. B. Jr (1972). Chem. Soc. Rev. 1, 293-318.
Yang, Q., Richardson, M. R. \& Dunitz, J. D. (1985). J. Am. Chem. Soc. 107, 5535-5537.
Yang, Q., Richardson, M. R. \& Dunitz, J. D. (1989). Acta Cryst. B45, 312-323.

Acta Cryst. (1996). C52, 2633-2636

## Maltol Hydrochloride

Denis Blodeau and André L. Beauchamp*

Département de Chimie, Université de Montréal, CP 6128,
Succ. Centre-ville, Montréal, Québec, Canada H3C $3 J 7$.
E-mail: beauchmp@ere.umontreal.ca
(Received 23 February 1996; accepted 30 April 1996)

## Abstract

The unit cell of the title compound, 3-hydroxy-2-methyl4 H -pyran-4-onium chloride, $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{7} \mathrm{O}_{3}^{+} . \mathrm{Cl}^{-}$, contains $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$ anions and carbonyl-protonated maltolium cations connected into perfectly planar ribbons via hydrogen bonding. The $\mathrm{C}=0$ bond length is increased by ca $0.06 \AA$ upon protonation whereas greater delocalization in the
ring $\pi$-system makes the double bonds $0.02 \AA$ longer and the single bonds $0.02-0.03 \AA$ shorter than in the neutral molecule.

## Comment

The crystal of 3-hydroxy-2-methyl-4 H -pyran-4-onium chloride, (I), contains $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$anions and cationic maltol units protonated at the O4 carbonyl group, as found earlier for 3-hydroxy-2,6-dimethyl-4-pyrone hydrobromide (Hope, 1965). The ring and its substituents are perfectly coplanar, with all the atoms (except for two methyl H atoms) lying on a crystallographic mirror plane.

(I)

Comparison of bond lengths (Table 2) with those of 2-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-pyrone (Brown et al., 1995) shows that $\pi$-electron delocalization is enhanced by protonation (Fig. 1). The double-bond character of the $\mathrm{C} 4=\mathrm{O} 4$ bond is decreased considerably, its distance being 1.307 (3) $\AA$ compared with 1.241 (3) $\AA$ in the neutral system. The two ring double bonds are lengthened by ca $0.023 \AA$, whereas the four single bonds are shortened by $0.015-$ $0.031 \AA$. This is accompanied by relatively large variations of the intra-ring angles: +3.6 (C4), -2.2 ( C 3 , $\mathrm{C} 5),-0.7$ (C6) and $+1.3^{\circ}(\mathrm{Ol})$. Large variations are also noted for C3-C4-O4 ( $-3.4^{\circ}$ ) and C4-C3-O3 $\left(+3.4^{\circ}\right)$. Both electron distribution and hydrogen bonding most likely contribute to these angular changes.

Maltol forms chelates with various metals via the O3 and O 4 atoms (Orvig, Rettig \& Trotter, 1987; Luo, Rettig \& Orvig, 1993; Ahmet, Frampton \& Silver, 1988; Annan, Peppe \& Tuck, 1990; Archer et al., 1991; Denekamp et al., 1992; Bhattacharya et al., 1994). The bond lengths are usually not accurate enough to reveal a pattern as above, although the $\mathrm{C} 4=\mathrm{O} 4$ bond is definitely lengthened (mean 1.266, range $1.238-1.296 \AA$ ). Large variations of the angles in the $\mathrm{O} 3-\mathrm{C} 3-\mathrm{C} 4-\mathrm{O} 4$ region can be ascribed to steric strain imposed by chelate-ring closure.

A view of the unit cell is shown in Fig. 2. Maltolium cations related by the $2_{1}$ axis along a define an infinite ribbon which closely resembles that of polymorph (1) of 2-ethyl-3-hydroxy-4-pyrone (Brown et al., 1995). In the latter compound, neutral units are connected along the ribbon by intermolecular $\mathrm{O} 3-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{O} 4$ hydrogen bonds. In the present case, the similarly oriented maltolium cations are joined by a $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$anion making an O3$\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{Cl}$ bond to one cation and an $\mathrm{O} 4-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{Cl}$ bond


Fig. 1. ORTEPII (Johnson, 1976) drawing of the title molecule. Ellipsoids correspond to $40 \%$ probability.


Fig. 2. ORTEPII (Johnson, 1976) drawing of a ribbon of hydro-gen-bonded maltolium and chloride ions running along the $a$ axis in the crystallographic mirror plane perpendicular to $\mathbf{b}$. Ellipsoids correspond to $40 \%$ probability.
to the next (Table 3). Besides these two interactions, the environment of the $\mathrm{Cl}^{-}$anion includes two intraribbon $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{Cl}^{-}$contacts [with H 5 at 2.85 (3) $\AA$ and $\mathrm{H} 6\left(\frac{1}{2}+x, y, \frac{3}{2}-z\right)$ at $2.63(3) \AA$ ], as well as two interactions [3.294(1) A] with endocyclic O1 atoms in adjacent layers. These parallel ribbons running along the $a$ axis define perfectly planar layers perpendicular to $\mathbf{b}$ in the crystallographic mirror planes, separated by
$b / 2$. Contacts between the ribbons within the layer and between adjacent layers involve normal van der Waals interactions.

## Experimental

The title compound was first obtained as a byproduct during the reaction of maltol with $\mathrm{NbCl}_{5}$ in dry benzene. It was eventually prepared by bubbling HCl gas into a maltol solution in the same solvent. Moisture-sensitive colorless crystals were obtained by recrystallization from $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$.

## Crystal data

$\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{7} \mathrm{O}_{3}^{+} . \mathrm{Cl}^{-}$
$M_{r}=162.57$
Orthorhombic
Pnma
$a=9.676$ (2) $\AA$
$b=6.579(2) \AA$
$c=11.215(2) \AA$
$V=713.9(3) \AA^{3}$
$Z=4$
$D_{x}=1.512 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}$
$D_{m}$ not measured

## Data collection

Enraf-Nonius CAD-4
diffractometer
$\theta / 2 \theta$ scans
Absorption correction:
by integration from crystal
shape
$T_{\text {min }}=0.33, \quad T_{\text {max }}=0.68$
4715 measured reflections
732 independent reflections

## Refinement

Refinement on $F^{2}$
$R(F)=0.0267$
$w R\left(F^{2}\right)=0.0713$
$S=0.973$
732 reflections
81 parameters
All H-atom parameters
refined
$w=1 /\left[\sigma^{2}\left(F_{o}^{2}\right)+(0.0366 P)^{2}\right]$
where $P=\left(F_{o}^{2}+2 F_{c}^{2}\right) / 3$
$(\Delta / \sigma)_{\max }=-0.001$
$\mathrm{Cu} K \alpha$ radiation
$\lambda=1.5418 \AA$
Cell parameters from 25 reflections
$\theta=20.0-25.0^{\circ}$
$\mu=4.312 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}$
$T=213(2) \mathrm{K}$
Plate
$0.38 \times 0.26 \times 0.09 \mathrm{~mm}$
White

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 590 \text { observed reflections } \\
& {[I>2 \sigma(I)]} \\
& R_{\text {int }}=0.052 \\
& \theta_{\text {max }}=70^{\circ} \\
& h=0 \rightarrow 11 \\
& k=0 \rightarrow 8 \\
& l=0 \rightarrow 13 \\
& 5 \text { standard reflections } \\
& \text { frequency: } 30 \mathrm{~min} \\
& \text { intensity decay: } 1.6 \%
\end{aligned}
$$

$\Delta \rho_{\text {max }}=0.18 \mathrm{e}_{\AA^{-3}}$
$\Delta \rho_{\text {min }}=-0.20 \mathrm{e}^{\AA^{-3}}$
Extinction correction: SHELXL93 (Sheldrick, 1993)

Extinction coefficient: 0.0056 (7)

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 $\left(\AA^{2}\right)$

| $U_{\mathrm{eq}}=(1 / 3) \sum_{i} \Sigma_{j} U_{i j} a_{i}^{*} a_{j}^{*} \mathbf{a}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{a}_{j}$. |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $x$ | $y$ | z | $U_{\text {eq }}$ |
| CI | 0.30918 (6) | 1/4 | 0.89711 (5) | 0.0468 (2) |
| 01 | 0.1979 (2) | 1/4 | 0.38281 (14) | 0.0443 (4) |
| O3 | 0.5588 (2) | 1/4 | 0.44224 (15) | 0.0510 (5) |
| O4 | 0.4517 (2) | 1/4 | 0.66952 (15) | 0.0488 (5) |
| C1 | 0.3808 (3) | 1/4 | 0.2420 (2) | 0.0490 (7) |
| C2 | 0.3350 (2) | 1/4 | 0.3679 (2) | 0.0388 (5) |


|  |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| C3 | $0.4220(2)$ |
| C4 | $0.3656(2)$ |
| C5 | $0.2211(2)$ |
| C6 | $0.1435(3)$ |

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

| $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{C} 6$ | $1.329(3)$ | $\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 3$ | $1.368(3)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{C} 2$ | $1.338(3)$ | $\mathrm{C} 3-\mathrm{C} 4$ | $1.408(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{O} 3-\mathrm{C} 3$ | $1.46(3)$ | $\mathrm{C} 4-\mathrm{C} 5$ | $1.404(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{O} 4-\mathrm{C} 4$ | $1.307(3)$ | $\mathrm{C} 5-\mathrm{C} 6$ | $1.345(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cl}-\mathrm{C} 2$ | $1.480(3)$ |  |  |
| $\mathrm{C} 6-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{C} 2$ | $120.5(2)$ | $\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 3-\mathrm{C} 4$ | $119.2(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 3$ | $120.8(2)$ | $\mathrm{O} 4-\mathrm{C} 4-\mathrm{C} 5$ | $124.4(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 1$ | $114.6(2)$ | $\mathrm{O} 4-\mathrm{C} 4-\mathrm{C} 3$ | $117.6(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 3-\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 1$ | $124.6(2)$ | $\mathrm{C} 5-\mathrm{C} 4-\mathrm{C} 3$ | $118.0(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{O} 3-\mathrm{C} 3-\mathrm{C} 2$ | $117.5(2)$ | $\mathrm{C} 6-\mathrm{C} 5-\mathrm{C} 4$ | $118.7(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{O} 3-\mathrm{C} 3-\mathrm{C} 4$ | $123.3(2)$ | $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{C} 6-\mathrm{C} 5$ | $122.7(2)$ |

Table 3. Hydrogen-bonding geometry $\left(\AA^{\circ},^{\circ}\right)$

| $D$ - $\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{A}$ | D-H | $\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{A}$ | D..A | D-H $\cdots$ A |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| O3-H3 - . 04 | 0.85 (4) | 2.41 (4) | 2.752 (3) | 105 (3) |
| $\mathrm{O} 3-\mathrm{H} 3 \cdots \mathrm{Cl}$ | 0.85 (4) | 2.23 (4) | 3.019 (2) | 156 (3) |
| O4- $\mathrm{H} 4 \cdots \mathrm{Cl}$ | 0.87 (4) | 2.03 (4) | 2.901 (2) | 178 (3) |

Data collection: CAD-4 Software (Enraf-Nonius, 1989). Cell refinement: CAD-4 Software. Data reduction: NRCVAX (Gabe, Le Page, Charland, Lee \& White, 1989). Program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS86 (Sheldrick, 1990). Program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL93 (Sheldrick, 1993). Molecular graphics: ORTEPII (Johnson, 1976). Software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXL93.

The financial support of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada and the Fonds FCAR du Ministère de l'Éducation du Québec is gratefully acknowledged.

Lists of structure factors, anisotropic displacement parameters, Hatom coordinates, complete geometry and torsion angles have been deposited with the IUCr (Reference: FG1175). Copies may be obtained through The Managing Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England.

## References

Ahmet, M. T., Frampton, C. S. \& Silver, J. (1988). J. Chem. Soc. Dalton Trans. pp. 1159-1163.
Annan, T. A., Peppe, C. \& Tuck, D. G. (1990). Can. J. Chem. 68, 1598-1605.
Archer, C. M., Dilworth, J. R., Jobanputra, P., Harman, M. E., Hursthouse, M. B. \& Karaulov, A. (1991). Polyhedron, 10, 15391543.

Bhattacharya, S., Seth, N., Gupta, V. D., Noth, H., Polborn, K., Thomann, M. \& Schwenk, H. (1994). Chem. Ber. 127, 1895-1900.
Brown, S. D., Burgess, J., Fawcett, J., Parsons, S. A., Russell, D. R. \& Waltham, E. (1995). Acta Cryst. C51, 1335-1338.
Denekamp, C. I. F., Evans, D. F., Slawin, A. M. Z., Williams, D. J., Wong, C. Y. \& Woolins, J. D. (1992). J. Chem. Soc. Dalton Trans. pp. 2375-2382.
Enraf-Nonius (1989). CAD-4 Software. Version 5.0. Enraf-Nonius, Delft, The Netherlands.
Gabe, E. J., Le Page, Y., Charland, J.-P., Lee, F. L. \& White, P. S. (1989). J. Appl. Cryst. 22, 384-387.

Hope, H. (1965). Acta Chem. Scand. 19, 217-222.
Johnson, C. K. (1976). ORTEPII. Report ORNL-5138. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Tennessee, USA.

Luo, H., Rettig, S. J. \& Orvig, C. (1993). Inorg. Chem. 32, 4491-4497.
Orvig, C., Rettig, S. J. \& Trotter, J. (1987). Can. J. Chem. 65, 590594.

Sheldrick, G. M. (1990). Acta Cryst. A46, 467-473.
Sheldrick, G. M. (1993). SHELXL93. Program for the Refinement of Crystal Structures. University of Göttingen, Germany.

Acta Cryst. (1996). C52, 2636-2638

# 1,1'-Diketone and 1, $1^{\prime}$-Dinitrile Derivatives of $2,2^{\prime}$-Biimidazole 

Paula M. Secondo, ${ }^{a}$ W. Mark Barnett, ${ }^{a}$ Harvest L. Collerer $^{a}$ and Russell. G. Baughman ${ }^{b}$<br>${ }^{a}$ Department of Chemistry, University of Missouri-Rolla, Rolla, MO 65401, USA, and ${ }^{b}$ Division of Science, Truman State University, Kirksville, MO 63501-0828, USA. E-mail: baughman@truman.edu

(Received 7'February 1996; accepted 7 May 1996)

## Abstract

The crystal structures of $2,2^{\prime}$-biimidazole-1, $1^{\prime}$-diacetone, $\mathrm{C}_{12} \mathrm{H}_{14} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{2}$, and $2,2^{\prime}$-biimidazole-1, $1^{\prime}$-diacetonitrile, $\mathrm{C}_{10} \mathrm{H}_{8} \mathrm{~N}_{6}$, have been determined. Both molecules crystallize with coplanar rings having substituents in a trans disposition with a center of inversion located midway between the bridging C atoms.

## Comment

Derivatives containing the $2,2^{\prime}$-biimidazole moiety have been incorporated in the synthesis of various organic polymers (Liu, Kokorudz \& Collier, 1988; Elmer \& Collier, 1993) and macrocyclic complexes (Kandil \& Collier, 1988; Lehn \& Regnouf de Vains, 1989). The crystal structure determinations of $1,1^{\prime}$-di(2-propanone)-$2,2^{\prime}$-biimidazole, (I), and $1,1^{\prime}$-di(cyaomethyl)- $2,2^{\prime}$-biimidazole, (II), were undertaken to elucidate better the stereochemical reactivity of the molecules and to model the conformation of such macrocyclic and polymeric systems.

(I) $R=-\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{COCH}_{3}$
(II) $R=-\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{CN}$

In both structures, which lie about inversion centers, the biimidazole ring atoms $(\mathrm{C} 1, \mathrm{C} 2, \mathrm{C} 3, \mathrm{~N} 1, \mathrm{~N} 2$ and their inversion-related partners) exhibit an essentially
coplanar conformation, as expected in an aromatic system. The two ten-atom least-squares planes have standard deviations and maximum values of 0.0018 and 0.0048 , and 0.00042 and $0.0014 \AA$ for (I) and (II), respectively. The C 5 atoms are out of this plane by 1.312 (4) and 1.235 (3) $\AA$ and the values of the $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{C} 4-\mathrm{C} 5$ torsion angles are $-70.5(3)$ and -75.2 (2) ${ }^{\circ}$ for (I) and (II), respectively. Although both (I) and (II) adopt a trans orientation in the solid state, ongoing investigations have demonstrated that both molecules assume a cis configuration when chelating a metal center through the N atoms. Bond lengths and angles lie within $1 \sigma$ of observed ranges for $2,2^{\prime}$-biimidazole (Cromer, Ryan \& Storm, 1987) and its related dinitro derivatives (Bryan et al., 1995; Cromer \& Storm, 1990).


Fig. I. View of (I) showing the labeling of the non-H atoms [symmetry code: (i) $-x, 1-y, 1-z]$. Displacement ellipsoids are shown at $50 \%$ probability levels; $H$ atoms are drawn as small spheres of arbitrary radii.


Fig. 2. View of (II) showing the labeling of the non-H atoms [symmetry code: (i) $1-x,-y, 1-z$ ]. Displacement ellipsoids are shown at $50 \%$ probability levels; $H$ atoms are drawn as small spheres of arbitrary radii.

## Experimental

The preparation of (I) and (II) has been described by Barnett, Secondo \& Collier (1996). Crystals were grown by slow evaporation from acetone and warm methanol for compounds (I) and (II), respectively.

## Compound (I)

Crystal data
$\mathrm{C}_{12} \mathrm{H}_{14} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{2}$
Mo $K \alpha$ radiation
$M_{r}=246.3$
$\lambda=0.71073 \AA$

