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Ethyl 2-Fluoro-3-oxo-2-(*p*-toluoyl)-3-(*p*-tolyl)propanoate, C₂₀H₁₉O₄F

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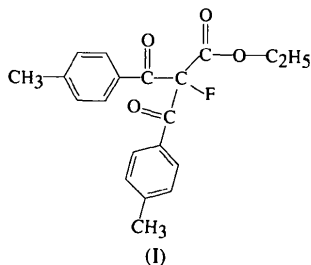
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Abstract

The structure of the title compound was determined by single-crystal X-ray methods. The carbonyl C=O bond distances are approximately 1.20 Å and van der Waals intermolecular contacts are normal. The bond distances are normal for all bonds in the molecule except for those involving C9: the C—F bond distance is 1.382 (6) Å and the C—C bond distances are 1.545 (8), 1.531 (8) and 1.529 (9) Å, all approximately 0.05 Å longer than normal for these bonds.

Comment

As part of our research programs, we have synthesized the title compound, (I), from the reaction of α -fluoro phosphonacetate with *p*-toluoyl chloride in the presence of magnesium chloride (Kim, Rhie & Oh, 1996). The X-ray crystallographic study of this compound has been undertaken to confirm its structure.



An ORTEP (Johnson, 1965) drawing of the molecule with the atom numbering is presented in Fig. 1. The bond distances are normal for all bonds in the molecule except for those involving C9, the α -C atom of the propanoic acid moiety; the C—F bond distance is 1.382 (6) Å, and the C—C lengths are all approximately 0.05 Å longer than normal for these bonds. The mol-

ecule adopts a conformation in which the three carbonyl-O atoms and the F atom are as far apart as possible, located at the vertices of a distorted tetrahedron. The atoms of the *p*-methylbenzoyl groups and ester group are each planar; O1, C1–C9 are coplanar within 0.116 (6) Å, O2, C9–C17 within 0.218 (6) Å and O3, O4, C9 and C18 within 0.002 (3) Å.

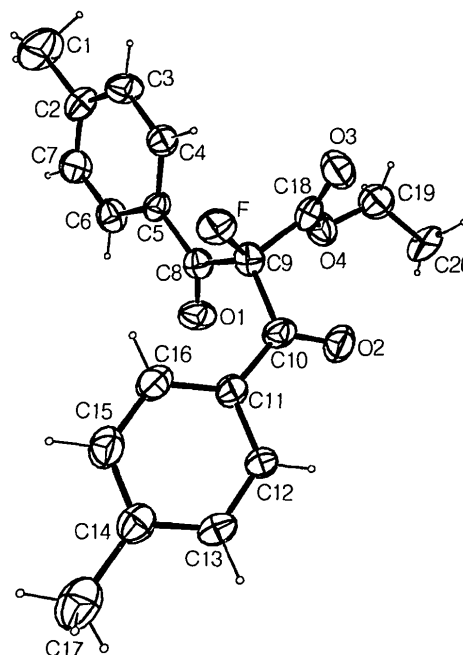


Fig. 1. ORTEP (Johnson, 1965) drawing and numbering scheme. The ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level and H atoms are represented as spheres of arbitrary radii.

In this conformation, the C_s symmetry of the molecule is disrupted with the two *p*-toluoyl groups being superimposable on each other by a rotation of 120° about the C—F bond. The torsion angles F—C9—C8—O1, F—C9—C10—O2, F—C9—C18—O3 and F—C9—C18—O4 are -126.2 (8), -134.2 (8), 18.5 (7) and -161.2 (7)°, respectively, indicating that all three carbonyl groups are skewed from parallel by 19° or more. The unusually long bond distance involving C9 and the dihedral angles involving the three carbonyl groups bonded to C9 may be rationalized in terms of electrostatic repulsion between highly electronegative elements: the bond distances are expanded to reduce the repulsion between the O and F atoms, and the torsion angles are skewed to avoid the repulsive forces introduced by having the carbon–oxygen dipoles parallel, as would be required by C_s symmetry.

Experimental

Compound (I) was obtained from the reaction of α -fluoro phosphonacetate with *p*-toluoyl chloride in the presence of magnesium chloride (Kim, Rhie & Oh, 1996).

Crystal data

C₂₀H₁₉O₄FM_r = 342.35

Monoclinic

P2₁/n

a = 14.790 (2) Å

b = 8.5620 (12) Å

c = 14.380 (3) Å

β = 98.8530 (13)°

V = 1799.3 (5) Å³

Z = 4

D_x = 1.264 Mg m⁻³D_m not measured

Data collection

Enraf-Nonius CAD-4
diffractometer

ω/2θ scans

Absorption correction:
none

2533 measured reflections

1815 independent reflections

934 observed reflections

[I > 2σ(I)]

Mo Kα radiation

λ = 0.71069 Å

Cell parameters from 25
reflections

θ = 15.5–20.2°

μ = 0.094 mm⁻¹

T = 298 K

Needle

0.23 × 0.23 × 0.20 mm

Colourless

R_{int} = 0.023θ_{max} = 23.97°

h = 0 → 16

k = 0 → 9

l = -16 → 16

3 standard reflections

monitored every 100

reflections

intensity decay: 2%

Refinement

Refinement on F²R[F² > 2σ(F²)] = 0.0675wR(F²) = 0.1321

S = 0.984

1815 reflections

254 parameters

H atoms: see text

w = 1/[σ²(F_o²) + (0.0426P)²]where P = (F_o² + 2F_c²)/3(Δ/σ)_{max} = -0.246Δρ_{max} = 0.171 e Å⁻³Δρ_{min} = -0.219 e Å⁻³

Extinction correction:

SHELXL93 (Sheldrick,
1993)

Extinction coefficient:

0.0143 (15)

Atomic scattering factors

from *International Tables*for *Crystallography* (1992),

Vol. C, Tables 4.2.6.8 and

6.1.1.4)

C17	1.0080 (10)	-0.2742 (18)	0.1773 (10)	0.130 (5)
C15	0.9835 (5)	0.0077 (11)	0.1263 (5)	0.077 (2)
C16	0.9315 (5)	0.1260 (9)	0.0843 (4)	0.066 (2)
F	0.6426 (2)	0.1512 (4)	0.0334 (3)	0.0679 (12)

Table 2. Selected geometric parameters (Å, °)

C1—C2	1.493 (11)	C18—O3	1.200 (7)
C2—C7	1.364 (8)	C18—O4	1.322 (8)
C5—C8	1.479 (8)	O4—C19	1.451 (7)
C8—O1	1.201 (7)	C19—C20	1.400 (15)
C8—C9	1.545 (8)	C10—O2	1.220 (6)
C9—F	1.382 (6)	C10—C11	1.471 (8)
C9—C18	1.529 (9)	C14—C17	1.540 (13)
C9—C10	1.531 (8)		
C6—C5—C8	124.8 (7)	O3—C18—O4	127.5 (8)
C4—C5—C8	117.9 (7)	O3—C18—C9	123.4 (7)
O1—C8—C5	121.9 (7)	O4—C18—C9	109.1 (7)
O1—C8—C9	118.4 (7)	C18—O4—C19	116.9 (6)
C5—C8—C9	119.8 (6)	C20—C19—O4	112.8 (8)
F—C9—C18	107.2 (6)	O2—C10—C11	122.4 (6)
F—C9—C10	110.6 (5)	O2—C10—C9	117.0 (6)
C18—C9—C10	110.4 (6)	C11—C10—C9	120.6 (6)
F—C9—C8	108.6 (5)	C16—C11—C10	119.7 (7)
C18—C9—C8	107.9 (6)	C12—C11—C10	123.5 (6)
C10—C9—C8	111.9 (6)		

The structure was solved by direct methods using *SHELXS86* (Sheldrick, 1985). Refinement was carried out by least-squares methods using *SHELXL93* (Sheldrick, 1993). Non-H atoms were refined anisotropically. H atoms were added in calculated positions where possible. For the three methyl groups, C1, C17 and C20, a single H atom was located from a difference map and the remaining H atoms were added in calculated positions. An isotropic thermal parameter for all H atoms was included in the refinement but H-atom positional parameters were not refined. Geometric calculations on the crystal and molecular structure were performed using *GEOM* (Shin, 1978). All computations were performed using SUN SPARC station IPC and PC486 computers.

Data collection: *CAD-4 Software* (Enraf-Nonius, 1989). Cell refinement: *CAD-4 Software*. Data reduction: *CAD-4 Software*. Program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS86* (Sheldrick, 1985). Program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL93* (Sheldrick, 1993). Molecular graphics: *ORTEP* (Johnson, 1965).

Lists of structure factors, anisotropic displacement parameters, H-atom coordinates and complete geometry have been deposited with the IUCr (Reference: KH1096). Copies may be obtained through The Managing Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England.

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Table 1. Fractional atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters (Å²)

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

	x	y	z	U _{eq}
C1	0.6135 (7)	0.8628 (13)	0.2106 (7)	0.094 (3)
C2	0.6170 (5)	0.7325 (9)	0.1422 (6)	0.063 (2)
C3	0.5850 (4)	0.7553 (8)	0.0482 (6)	0.062 (2)
C4	0.5927 (4)	0.6383 (8)	-0.0156 (5)	0.055 (2)
C5	0.6316 (4)	0.4948 (9)	0.0118 (5)	0.052 (2)
C6	0.6625 (4)	0.4733 (9)	0.1068 (5)	0.068 (2)
C7	0.6544 (5)	0.5913 (10)	0.1699 (5)	0.069 (2)
C8	0.6399 (4)	0.3784 (8)	-0.0624 (6)	0.060 (2)
O1	0.6117 (3)	0.4035 (5)	-0.1438 (3)	0.075 (2)
C9	0.6855 (4)	0.2189 (8)	-0.0354 (5)	0.052 (2)
C18	0.6681 (5)	0.1130 (10)	-0.1219 (5)	0.063 (2)
O3	0.6083 (4)	0.0172 (6)	-0.1339 (4)	0.089 (2)
O4	0.7288 (3)	0.1450 (5)	-0.1778 (3)	0.074 (2)
C19	0.7147 (6)	0.0725 (9)	-0.2701 (6)	0.099 (3)
C20	0.6780 (17)	0.1754 (18)	-0.3417 (10)	0.192 (12)
C10	0.7883 (4)	0.2354 (8)	-0.0014 (4)	0.051 (2)
O2	0.8234 (3)	0.3604 (6)	-0.0156 (3)	0.076 (2)
C11	0.8414 (5)	0.1038 (8)	0.0446 (4)	0.048 (2)
C12	0.8056 (5)	-0.0456 (8)	0.0512 (4)	0.061 (2)
C13	0.8587 (5)	-0.1662 (8)	0.0922 (5)	0.071 (2)
C14	0.9486 (5)	-0.1398 (10)	0.1302 (5)	0.071 (2)