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*Acta Cryst.* (1998). **C54**, 249–250

## 5,5-Dihydroxyethylbarbituric Acid

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(Received 1 July 1997; accepted 17 October 1997)

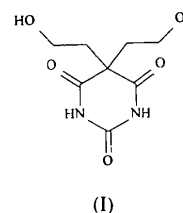
### Abstract

The title compound, C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, does not show conformational symmetry in the crystal. It is stabilized by intermolecular hydrogen bonds producing a three-dimensional network of hydrogen bonds. The two molecules in the asymmetric unit differ in the conformation of the six-membered ring and the way in which each participates in the hydrogen-bonding network.

### Comment

The title molecule, (I), was prepared as a preliminary step in the synthesis of a new achiral nucleotide analogue (Barbier *et al.*, 1993). The crystal structure was studied as part of a program to examine the packing characteristics of barbiturates containing 5,5-

polar substituents which can be involved in hydrogen bonding.



The asymmetric unit of the title structure contains two non-equivalent molecules. The two molecules are pseudo-related by  $x_A = x_B + \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $y_A = \frac{1}{2} - y_B$ ,  $z_A = z_B$ , which together with the crystal symmetry, suggests the pseudo-translation vector  $[\frac{1}{2}, 0, \frac{1}{2}]$ . This is a non-crystallographic translation symmetry because 295 reflections with  $h + l = 2n + 1$  have  $I > 10\sigma(I)$  [802 have  $I > 3\sigma(I)$ ].

The main differences between the two molecules are in the conformation of the six-membered ring and the hydrogen bonds formed by the hydroxyl groups. The six-membered ring of molecule A has a twist-boat form with the N1—C1—C4—C3, N2—C3—C4—C1 and C1—N1—C2—N2 torsion angles equal to  $-7.2(3)$ ,  $-1.8(3)$  and  $-7.3(3)^\circ$ , respectively, while that of molecule B has a boat form with corresponding torsion angles of  $3.2(3)$ ,  $5.8(3)$  and  $11.4(3)^\circ$ . Only one hydroxyl group of molecule A is involved in a hydrogen bond (O5A...O4A), while both hydroxyl groups of molecule B are involved in hydrogen bonds with O atoms of molecule A. These hydrogen bonds produce a two-dimensional network in the *ab* plane.

A search of the Cambridge Structural Database (Allen & Kennard, 1993) for 5,5-disubstituted barbiturates yielded 68 compounds for which crystal structures have been determined. All compounds, including the title

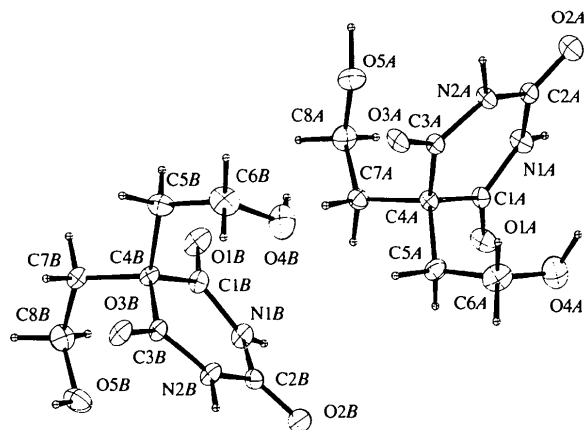


Fig. 1. The molecular structure of (I) showing 50% probability displacement ellipsoids.

compound, were found to have the triketo tautomeric form in the crystal structure. The hydrogen bonds involving the N—H groups of the barbiturate ring produce an infinite polar chain along the [101] axis. These chains are linked by the hydrogen bonds involving the hydroxyl groups to produce a three-dimensional network of hydrogen bonds.

## Experimental

Prismatic colourless crystals with well developed features were obtained by the sitting-drop vapour-phase diffusion method of a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>–acetonitrile (68:32) solution (concentration 1 mg ml<sup>-1</sup>) against a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>–acetonitrile (58:42) solution (Van der Sluis *et al.*, 1989).

### Crystal data

C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>  
*M<sub>r</sub>* = 216.20  
 Monoclinic  
*P*2<sub>1</sub>/*c*  
*a* = 12.117 (2) Å  
*b* = 12.324 (2) Å  
*c* = 13.508 (3) Å  
 $\beta$  = 108.83 (3)°  
*V* = 1909.2 (6) Å<sup>3</sup>  
*Z* = 8  
*D<sub>x</sub>* = 1.504 Mg m<sup>-3</sup>  
*D<sub>m</sub>* not measured

### Data collection

Enraf–Nonius CAD-4  
 diffractometer  
 $\omega$ -2 $\theta$  scans  
 Absorption correction: none  
 5515 measured reflections  
 5464 independent reflections  
 2675 reflections with  
 $I > 2\sigma(I)$

### Refinement

Refinement on *F*<sup>2</sup>  
*R* [*F*<sup>2</sup> > 2 $\sigma$ (*F*<sup>2</sup>)] = 0.068  
*wR*(*F*<sup>2</sup>) = 0.290  
*S* = 0.984  
 5464 reflections  
 296 parameters  
 H atoms: see below  
 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.1817P)^2]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.004$

C2A—N1A—C1A	126.83 (15)	C2B—N1B—C1B	125.73 (15)
C2A—N2A—C3A	126.0 (2)	C3B—N2B—C2B	126.6 (2)
O1A—C1A—N1A	120.6 (2)	O1B—C1B—N1B	120.5 (2)
O1A—C1A—C4A	122.0 (2)	O1B—C1B—C4B	121.4 (2)
N1A—C1A—C4A	117.20 (15)	N1B—C1B—C4B	117.92 (15)
O2A—C2A—N1A	122.7 (2)	O2B—C2B—N1B	122.7 (2)
O2A—C2A—N2A	121.2 (2)	O2B—C2B—N2B	121.2 (2)
N1A—C2A—N2A	116.1 (2)	N1B—C2B—N2B	116.1 (2)
O3A—C3A—N2A	119.8 (2)	O3B—C3B—N2B	120.3 (2)
O3A—C3A—C4A	121.8 (2)	O3B—C3B—C4B	121.4 (2)
N2A—C3A—C4A	118.35 (14)	N2B—C3B—C4B	118.15 (14)
C3A—C4A—C1A	114.3 (2)	C3B—C4B—C1B	114.2 (2)

Table 2. Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °)

<i>D</i> —H... <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> —H	H... <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> ... <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> —H... <i>A</i>
N1A—HN1A...O2B <sup>i</sup>	0.86	2.20	3.044 (3)	165
N1B—HN1B...O2A <sup>ii</sup>	0.86	2.07	2.918 (3)	168
N2A—HN2A...O3A <sup>iii</sup>	0.91 (4)	2.02 (4)	2.894 (2)	161 (3)
N2B—HN2B...O3B <sup>iv</sup>	0.85 (4)	2.00 (4)	2.835 (2)	165 (4)
O4B—HO4B...O3A	0.82	2.49	2.923 (3)	114
O5A—HO5A...O4A <sup>v</sup>	1.06 (4)	1.91 (3)	2.832 (3)	143 (2)
O5B—HO5B...O5A <sup>v</sup>	0.82	2.05	2.849 (4)	163

Symmetry codes: (i)  $1 - x, \frac{1}{2} + y, \frac{3}{2} - z$ ; (ii)  $1 - x, y - \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2} - z$ ; (iii)  $1 - x, 1 - y, 2 - z$ ; (iv)  $-x, -y, 2 - z$ ; (v)  $-x, y - \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2} - z$ .

The positions of 16 H atoms were calculated, while the remaining eight (HO4A, HO5A, HN2A, HN2B, H7A, H7A', H6B and H6B') were obtained from a difference synthesis. An overall isotropic displacement parameter was used for all H atoms. The calculated H atoms were refined using a riding model, while the remainder were refined freely.

Data collection: CAD-4/PC (Kretschmar, 1996). Cell refinement: CAD-4/PC. Data reduction: CFEO (Solans, 1978). Program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS86 (Sheldrick, 1990). Program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL93 (Sheldrick, 1993). Molecular graphics: ORTEP (Brueggemann & Schmid, 1990). Software used to prepare material for publication: PLATON (Spek, 1990).

The authors thank Dr Schwartz who kindly donated the compound investigated. This work has been supported in part by the DGICYT (grant PB93-1067). IN acknowledges financial support from the Ministerio de Educación y Ciencia, Spain.

Supplementary data for this paper are available from the IUCR electronic archives (Reference: LN1024). Services for accessing these data are described at the back of the journal.

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Table 1. Selected geometric parameters (Å, °)

N1A—C2A	1.372 (2)	N1B—C2B	1.368 (2)
N1A—C1A	1.374 (3)	N1B—C1B	1.377 (3)
N2A—C2A	1.374 (2)	N2B—C2B	1.361 (2)
N2A—C3A	1.375 (2)	N2B—C3B	1.375 (2)
C1A—C4A	1.527 (2)	C1B—C4B	1.520 (2)
C3A—C4A	1.519 (2)	C3B—C4B	1.516 (2)