Table 1. Selected geometric parameters $\left(\AA,^{\circ}\right)$

|  | $1.683(2)$ | $\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 3$ | $1.394(2)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{S}-\mathrm{C} 1$ | $1.329(2)$ | $\mathrm{C} 3-\mathrm{C} 4$ | $1.374(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{C} 2$ | $1.345(2)$ | $\mathrm{C} 4-\mathrm{C} 5$ | $1.375(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{C} 6$ | $1.380(2)$ | $\mathrm{C} 5-\mathrm{C} 6$ | $1.366(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{N} 2-\mathrm{C} 1$ | $1.396(2)$ | $\mathrm{C} 7-\mathrm{C} 8$ | $1.515(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{N} 2-\mathrm{C} 2$ | $1.324(2)$ | $\mathrm{C} 7-\mathrm{C} 9$ | $1.524(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{C} 1$ | $1.484(2)$ | $\mathrm{C} 7-\mathrm{C} 10$ | $1.515(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{C} 7$ | $130.00(12)$ | $\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{C} 7-\mathrm{C} 9$ | $104.65(13)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{N} 2-\mathrm{C} 2$ | $130.05(13)$ | $\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{C} 7-\mathrm{C} 10$ | $110.39(14)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{C} 7$ | $116.46(13)$ | $\mathrm{C} 8-\mathrm{C} 7-\mathrm{C} 9$ | $109.04(16)$ |
| $\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{N} 2$ | $126.36(11)$ | $\mathrm{C} 10-\mathrm{C} 7-\mathrm{C} 8$ | $111.13(16)$ |
| $\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{S}$ | $117.19(10)$ | $\mathrm{C} 10-\mathrm{C} 7-\mathrm{C} 9$ | $110.10(16)$ |
| $\mathrm{N} 2-\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{S}$ |  |  |  |

Table 2. Hydrogen-bonding geometry $\left(\AA^{\circ},^{\circ}\right)$

| $D — \mathrm{H} \cdots A$ | $D-\mathrm{H}$ | $\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ | $D \cdots A$ | $D-\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| N2—HN2 $\cdot \mathrm{S}^{\mathrm{i}}$ | 0.86 | 2.62 | $3.454(1)$ | 163 |
| N3—HN3 $\cdots$ N 1 | 0.86 | 1.94 | $2.668(2)$ | 142 |

Symmetry code: (i) $-x,-y, 1-z$.
The structure was solved by direct methods. All non-H atoms were refined anisotropically and H atoms were geometrically constrained with isotropic displacement parameters.

Data collection: CAD-4 EXPRESS (Enraf-Nonius, 1992). Data reduction: SDP/PDP (Enraf-Nonius, 1985). Program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS86 (Sheldrick, 1985). Program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997). Molecular graphics: ORTEPII (Johnson, 1976). Software used to prepare material for publication: KAPPA (Macíček, 1992).

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# Three 3-arylsulfonyl-1,3-oxazolidines 

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## Abstract

The structure determinations of $(1 S, 2 R)-2-[(2 S, 4 R)$ -2-ethyl-4-phenyl-3-tosyl-1,3-oxazolidin-2-yl]-1-methyl-1-phenylpropanol, $\mathrm{C}_{28} \mathrm{H}_{33} \mathrm{NO}_{4} \mathrm{~S}$, (I), ethyl (3R)-3[( $2 S, 4 R$ )-2-ethyl-4-phenyl-3-tosyl-1,3-oxazolidin-2-yl]-3-hydroxy-3-phenylpropanoate, $\mathrm{C}_{29} \mathrm{H}_{33} \mathrm{NO}_{6} \mathrm{~S}$, (II), and (1R)-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-5-[(2S,4R)-2-methyl-4-phenyl-3-tosyl-1,3-oxazolidin-2-yl]-3-methylene-5-phenylfuran-2one, $\mathrm{C}_{28} \mathrm{H}_{27} \mathrm{NO}_{5} \mathrm{~S}$, (III), were undertaken in order to determine the absolute configuration of the chiral centres. The oxazolidine rings of (I) and (II) exhibit a twist, whereas the oxazolidine ring of (III) adopts an envelope conformation. The hydroxyl groups of (I) and (II) form intramolecular hydrogen bonds.

## Comment

Various methods for asymmetric synthesis are based on the utilization of chiral 1,3-oxazolidines. Stereochemically homogeneous 3 -arenesulfonyl-1,3-oxazolidines, readily available from enantiomerically pure $\beta$-aminoalkanols, are powerful chiral templates for auxiliarydirected asymmetric synthesis (Hoppe et al., 1989, 1990; Hoffmann et al., 1993). They readily add nucleophiles to the carbonyl group, and the attack can be directed selectively from either of its diastereotopic faces (Conde Frieboes et al., 1993; Harder et al., 1994). We have determined the crystal structures of three arylsulfonyloxazolidines, in order to establish unambiguously the absolute configuration of the reaction products. In all three cases, the newly formed chiral centre [C22 in (I), C21 in (II) and (III)] shows the $R$ configuration.



(III)

The geometric parameters of all three compounds (Figs. 1, 2 and 3) agree well with those of the statistical investigations of Herbst-Irmer (1990) and Belvisi et al. (1994). The sum of the bond angles at N3 [355.5, 356.5 and $359.0^{\circ}$ in (I), (II) and (III), respectively] shows that in all three structures the N atom is in a nearly trigonal planar environment. The tosyl groups of all three compounds adopt a folded conformation, in which the phenyl ring shields the oxazolidine ring. The dihedral angles between these two rings are similar in all three structures: 72.60 (9) in (I), 79.7 (1) in (II) and $72.95(8)^{\circ}$ in (III). The conformation of the sulfonyl groups is such that one of the O atoms nearly lies in the plane of the aromatic ring, whereas the other O atom is nearly syn-periplanar with C 2 of the oxazolidine ring (see Tables 1,3 and 5 ). The oxazolidine rings of (I) and (II) adopt a twist conformation $\left[Q_{2}=0.206\right.$ and $0.297 \AA$, and $\varphi_{2}=274.92$ and $302.36^{\circ}$, for (I) and (II), respectively (Cremer \& Pople, 1975)], but whereas in (I), $\mathrm{N} 3[-0.114(6) \AA]$ and $\mathrm{C} 4[0.227(7) \AA]$ deviate from the plane formed by the remaining three atoms, in (II), the atoms $\mathrm{C} 4[0.30(1) \AA]$ and C 5 $[-0.20(1) \AA]$ deviate from the plane of $\mathrm{O} 1, \mathrm{C} 2$ and N3. The oxazolidine ring of (III) adopts an envelope conformation ( $Q_{2}=0.388 \AA, \varphi_{2}=181.24^{\circ}$ ), with O1 deviating by 0.504 (3) Å from the plane of the remaining four atoms (r.m.s. deviation $0.007 \AA$ ). The tetrahydrofuran ring in (III) appears in a twist conformation ( $Q_{2}=$ $0.241 \AA, \varphi_{2}=243.69^{\circ}$ ), with C21 and C22 deviating by 0.102 (6) and -0.299 (7) $\AA$, respectively, from the plane of the remaining three atoms. A search of the Cambridge Structural Database (Allen \& Kennard, 1993; Version 5.12, April 1998) revealed that the oxazolidine ring is a very flexible fragment. It appears in both envelope and twist conformations, with different atoms deviating from the mean ring plane. We did not find any obvious relationship between the nature of the substituents to the oxazolidine ring and its conformation. The molecular
conformations of (I) and (II) are stabilized by an intramolecular hydrogen bond; details are given in Tables 2 and 4.


Fig. 1. A perspective view of (I), with the atom-numbering scheme. Only tertiary and hydroxyl-H atoms are shown; displacement ellipsoids are at the $50 \%$ probability level.


Fig. 2. A perspective view of (II), with the atom-numbering scheme. Only tertiary and hydroxyl-H atoms are shown; displacement ellipsoids are at the $50 \%$ probability level.


Fig. 3. A perspective view of (III), with the atom-numbering scheme. Only tertiary H atoms are shown; displacement ellipsoids are at the $50 \%$ probability level.

## Refinement

Refinement on $F^{2} \quad$ Extinction correction:
$R\left[F^{2}>2 \sigma\left(F^{2}\right)\right]=0.031$
$w R\left(F^{2}\right)=0.085$
$S=1.051$
4411 reflections
310 parameters
H atoms: see below
SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997)

Extinction coefficient: 0.00174 (16)

Scattering factors from International Tables for Crystallography (Vol. C)
Absolute structure: Flack (1983)
Flack parameter $=0.009(15)$
$(\Delta / \sigma)_{\text {max }}=0.003$
$\Delta \rho_{\text {max }}=0.156 \mathrm{e}^{-3}$
$\Delta \rho_{\text {min }}=-0.180 \mathrm{e}^{-3}$

Table 1. Selected geometric parameters $\left(\AA^{\circ},{ }^{\circ}\right)$ for (I)

| $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{C} 5$ | $1.403(2)$ | $\mathrm{S} 3-\mathrm{O} 32$ | $1.4243(14)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{C} 2$ | $1.4274(19)$ | $\mathrm{S} 3-\mathrm{O} 31$ | $1.4297(15)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{N} 3$ | $1.506(2)$ | $\mathrm{S} 3-\mathrm{C} 31$ | $1.7642(18)$ |
| $\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{C} 4$ | $1.479(2)$ | $\mathrm{C} 4-\mathrm{C} 5$ | $1.518(3)$ |
| $\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{S} 3$ | $1.6368(13)$ |  |  |
| $\mathrm{C} 4-\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{C} 2$ | $111.44(12)$ | $\mathrm{O} 31-\mathrm{S} 3-\mathrm{N} 3$ | $108.09(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 4-\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{S} 3$ | $119.77(12)$ | $\mathrm{O} 32-\mathrm{S} 3-\mathrm{C} 31$ | $107.43(9)$ |
| $\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{S} 3$ | $124.29(10)$ | $\mathrm{O} 31-\mathrm{S} 3-\mathrm{C} 31$ | $106.72(9)$ |
| $\mathrm{O} 32-\mathrm{S} 3-\mathrm{O} 31$ | $120.17(10)$ | $\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{S} 3-\mathrm{C} 31$ | $106.90(8)$ |
| $\mathrm{O} 32-\mathrm{S} 3-\mathrm{N} 3$ | $106.87(7)$ |  |  |
| $\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{N} 3-\mathrm{S} 3-\mathrm{O} 32$ | $-3.9(2)$ | $\mathrm{O} 31-\mathrm{S} 3-\mathrm{C} 31-\mathrm{C} 36$ | $14.9(2)$ |

## Experimental

Compound (I) was synthesized according to Harder et al. (1994); (II) and (III) were synthesized according to Conde Frieboes et al. (1993). (I) and (II) were crystallized from ethanol, and (III) from an ethyl acetate/cyclohexane solution.

## Compound (I)

Crystal data
$\mathrm{C}_{28} \mathrm{H}_{33} \mathrm{NO}_{4} \mathrm{~S}$
$M_{r}=479.61$
Orthorhombic
$P 2_{1} 2_{1} 2_{1}$
$a=8.1110(10) \AA$
$b=13.449$ (2) $\AA$
$c=24.090(5) \AA$
$V=2627.9(7) \AA^{3}$
$Z=4$
$D_{x}=1.212 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}$
$D_{m}$ not measured

## Data collection

Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 fourcircle diffractometer $\omega$ scans
Absorption correction: empirical, measuring nine $\psi$ scans (North et al., 1968)
$T_{\text {min }}=0.649, T_{\text {max }}=0.728$
4809 measured reflections
4411 independent reflections
$\mathrm{Cu} K \alpha$ radiation
$\lambda=1.5418 \AA$
Cell parameters from 25
reflections
$\theta=30-35^{\circ}$
$\mu=1.354 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}$
$T=293$ (2) K
Block
$0.35 \times 0.30 \times 0.25 \mathrm{~mm}$
Colourless
Table 2. Hydrogen-bonding geometry $\left(A^{\circ},{ }^{\circ}\right)$ for (I)

| $D — \mathrm{H} \cdots A$ | $D-\mathrm{H}$ | $\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ | $D \cdots A$ | $D-\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{O} 22 — \mathrm{H} 22 \cdots \mathrm{O} 1$ | 0.82 | 1.98 | $2.6825(19)$ | 143.5 |

## Compound (II)

Crystal data
$\mathrm{C}_{29} \mathrm{H}_{33} \mathrm{NO}_{6} \mathrm{~S}$
$M_{r}=523.62$
Orthorhombic
$P 2_{1} 2_{1} 2_{1}$
$a=8.9010(10) \AA$
$b=11.935$ (2) $\AA$
$c=25.898(2) \AA$
$V=2751.2(6) \AA^{3}$
$Z=4$
$D_{x}=1.264 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}$
$D_{m}$ not measured

## Data collection

Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 fourcircle diffractometer
$\omega$ scans
Absorption correction: empirical, measuring nine $\psi$ scans (North et al., 1968)
$T_{\text {min }}=0.542, T_{\text {max }}=0.768$
4256 measured reflections
4256 independent reflections

## $\mathrm{Cu} K \alpha$ radiation

$\lambda=1.54180 \AA$
Cell parameters from 25 reflections
$\theta=35-40^{\circ}$
$\mu=1.395 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}$
$T=293$ (2) K
Block
$0.5 \times 0.3 \times 0.2 \mathrm{~mm}$
Colourless

3905 reflections with

$$
I>2 \sigma(I)
$$

$\theta_{\text {max }}=65.04^{\circ}$
$h=-9 \rightarrow 10$
$k=0 \rightarrow 14$
$l=0 \rightarrow 30$
3 standard reflections
frequency: 92 min intensity decay: $10.50 \%$

## Refinement

Refinement on $F^{2}$
$R\left[F^{2}>2 \sigma\left(F^{2}\right)\right]=0.042$
$w R\left(F^{2}\right)=0.109$
$S=1.048$
4256 reflections
337 parameters
H atoms: see below
$w=1 /\left[\sigma^{2}\left(F_{o}^{2}\right)+(0.0497 P)^{2}\right.$
$+0.7913 P$ ]
where $P=\left(F_{o}^{2}+2 F_{C}^{2}\right) / 3$
$(\Delta / \sigma)_{\text {max }}=0.010$
$\Delta \rho_{\max }=0.280 \mathrm{e}^{-3}$
$\Delta \rho_{\text {min }}=-0.216 \mathrm{e}^{-3}$

Extinction correction: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997)

Extinction coefficient: 0.00094 (16)

Scattering factors from International Tables for Crystallography (Vol. C) Absolute structure:
Flack (1983)
Flack parameter $=0.00(2)$

## Refinement

Refinement on $F^{2}$
$R\left[F^{2}>2 \sigma\left(F^{2}\right)\right]=0.029$
$w R\left(F^{2}\right)=0.084$
$S=1.060$
2442 reflections
318 parameters
H atoms: see below
$w=1 /\left[\sigma^{2}\left(F_{o}^{2}\right)+(0.0503 P)^{2}\right.$
$+0.2923 P]$
where $P=\left(F_{o}^{2}+2 F_{c}^{2}\right) / 3$
$(\Delta / \sigma)_{\text {max }}<0.001$
$\Delta \rho_{\text {max }}=0.139 \mathrm{e}^{-3}$
$\Delta \rho_{\text {min }}=-0.139 \mathrm{e}^{-3}$

Extinction correction: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997)

Extinction coefficient: 0.0059 (3)

Scattering factors from International Tables for Crystallography (Vol. C)
Absolute structure:
Flack (1983)
Flack parameter $=0.02(2)$

Table 5. Selected geometric parameters $\left(\AA^{\circ},^{\circ}\right)$ for (III)
Table 3. Selected geometric parameters $\left(\AA^{\circ},^{\circ}\right)$ for (II)

| O1-C5 | $1.409(4)$ | S3-O32 | $1.417(2)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| O1-C2 | $1.428(3)$ | S3-O31 | $1.429(2)$ |
| C2—N3 | $1.502(3)$ | S3-C31 | $1.755(3)$ |
| N3-C4 | $1.489(3)$ | C4-C5 | $1.515(4)$ |
| N3-S3 | $1.629(2)$ |  |  |
| C4-N3-C2 | $110.76(19)$ | O31-S3-N3 | $106.69(12)$ |
| C4—N3-S3 | $118.53(17)$ | O32-S3-C31 | $107.16(15)$ |
| C2-N3-S3 | $127.16(16)$ | O31-S3-C31 | $106.69(14)$ |
| O32-S3-O31 | $119.61(15)$ | N3-S3-C31 | $107.06(12)$ |
| O32-S3-N3 | $109.01(13)$ |  |  |
| C2-N3-S3-O31 | $-4.5(3)$ | O32-S3-C31-C36 | $11.0(3)$ |

Table 4. Hydrogen-bonding geometry $\left(\AA^{\circ},^{\circ}\right)$ for (II)

| $D-\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ | $D-\mathrm{H}$ | $\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ | $D \cdots A$ | $D \ldots \mathrm{H} \cdots A$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{O} 21-\mathrm{H} 210 \cdots \mathrm{O} 31$ | 0.82 | 1.94 | $2.724(3)$ | 158.7 |

## Compound (III)

Crystal data
$\mathrm{C}_{28} \mathrm{H}_{27} \mathrm{NO}_{5} \mathrm{~S}$
$M_{r}=489.57$
Orthorhombic
$P 2,2,2$,
$a=11.054$ (1) $\AA$
$b=14.824$ (3) $\AA$
$c=15.250(3) \AA$
$V=2498.9$ (7) $\AA^{3}$
$Z=4$
$D_{x}=1.301 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}$
$D_{m}$ not measured
$\mathrm{Cu} K \alpha$ radiation
$\lambda=1.5418 \AA$
Cell parameters from 25 reflections
$\theta=30-35^{\circ}$
$\mu=1.472 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}$
$T=293 \mathrm{~K}$
Block
$0.6 \times 0.4 \times 0.3 \mathrm{~mm}$
Colourless

## Data collection

Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 fourcircle diffractometer $\omega$ scans
Absorption correction: empirical, measuring nine $\psi$ scans (North et al., 1968)
$T_{\text {min }}=0.557, T_{\text {max }}=0.643$
2462 measured reflections
2443 independent reflections
2381 reflections with

$$
I>2 \sigma(I)
$$

$R_{\mathrm{int}}=0.029$
$\theta_{\text {max }}=64.95^{\circ}$
$h=0 \rightarrow 12$
$k=0 \rightarrow 17$
$l=-17 \rightarrow 1$
3 standard reflections frequency: 92 min intensity decay: $1.20 \%$

| $\mathrm{OI}-\mathrm{C} 2$ | 1.413 (3) | S3-031 | 1.423 (2) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{OI}-\mathrm{C} 5$ | 1.424 (4) | S3-032 | 1.433 (2) |
| C2-N3 | 1.482 (3) | S3-C31 | 1.759 (3) |
| N3-C4 | 1.482 (3) | C4-C5 | 1.523 (3) |
| N3-S3 | 1.629 (2) |  |  |
| C2-N3-C4 | 111.0 (2) | O32-S3-N3 | 106.01 (12) |
| C2-N3-S3 | 128.1 (2) | O31-S3-C31 | 106.99 (12) |
| C4-N3-S3 | 119.8 (2) | O32-S3-C31 | 106.96(12) |
| O31-S3-O32 | 119.78 (14) | N3-S3-C31 | 108.20(10) |
| O31-S3-N3 | 108.46 (11) |  |  |
| C2-N3-S3-O31 | 22.5 (2) | O32-S3-C31-C36 | 25.6 (2) |

H atoms were located by difference Fourier synthesis and refined with fixed individual displacement parameters $[U(\mathrm{H})=$ $1.5 U_{\text {eq }}(\mathrm{O}), 1.5 U_{\text {eq }}\left(\mathrm{C}_{\text {methyl }}\right)$ or $1.2 U_{\text {eq }}(\mathrm{C})$ ] using a riding model with $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}=0.82, \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}_{\text {methyl }}=0.96, \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}_{\text {secondary }}=0.97$, $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H}_{\text {teriary }}=0.98$ or $\mathrm{C} s p^{2}-\mathrm{H}=0.93 \AA$. The methyl groups attached to the aromatic rings were allowed to rotate about their local threefold axis, and the torsion angles about the O - C bonds of the hydroxyl groups were also refined. The displacement ellipsoid of C 5 in (I) is slightly elongated perpendicular to the plane of the oxazolidine ring, which might indicate some disorder. The C25-C26 and C23-O24 bond lengths in (II) are rather short. This is due to disorder in the entire ethyl ester group, as can be seen by inspecting the anisotropic displacement parameters of the corresponding atoms. Since the residual electron density was less than $0.3 \mathrm{e} \AA^{-3}$ in the final difference map, and it was impossible to refine a disordered model for this group, it was refined employing an ordered model.

For all compounds, data collection: SDP (Enraf-Nonius, 1985); cell refinement: $S D P$; data reduction: $S D P$; program(s) used to solve structures: SHELXS86 (Sheldrick, 1990); program(s) used to refine structures: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: XP (SHELXTL-Plus; Sheldrick, 1991)

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Supplementary data for this paper are available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: JZ1328). Services for accessing these data are described at the back of the journal.

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# cis-1,2,3,6-Tetrahydrophthalic anhydride at 173 K 

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#### Abstract

The title compound, $\mathrm{C}_{8} \mathrm{H}_{8} \mathrm{O}_{3}$, (I), crystallizes with two nearly identical molecules in the asymmetric unit. Each molecule has a boat conformation and noncrystallographic mirror symmetry. The structure was determined in connection with a study of the possible chemical decomposition of the compound in different solvents and in contact with the atmosphere. A similar boat conformation was found in five of six structures retrieved from the Cambridge Structural Database which contain (I) as a moiety. The present structure exhibits nearly the same packing motif as the recently found monoclinic polymorph [Ben Fredj, Ben Redjeb, Ben Amor \& Driss (1998). Acta Cryst. C54, 1710-1712].


## Comment

The structure of the title compound, (I), was determined by X-ray structure analysis during investigations on
the possibility of chemical decomposition in solution, especially hydrolysis. Solutions of (I) in toluene, hexane, acetone, ether and tetrahydrofuran were exposed to air and diffused daylight for one week. During the time of examination no decomposition could be observed.

(I)

There are only a few applications for (I) in chemistry and industry, but it offers very attractive properties as an intermediate or starting material in chemical synthesis because it provides an easy access to other cyclo-hexene-1,2-dicarboxylic anhydrides and their analogues (Bailey \& Amstutz, 1956). Furthermore, it is easily obtainable from maleic anhydride and butadiene. Also, in contrast to many other [ $4+2$ ]-cycloaddition adducts, its formation is thermally irreversible which provides an explanation for the very good yields in the synthesis described below. (I) was first described by Diels \& Alder (1928). They obtained it in theoretical yield by dissolving butadiene and maleic anhydride in a small amount of benzene and leaving this mixture for 12 h in an autoclave at room temperature. Finally, they heated it for 5 h to 373 K . The reported yield could not be reproduced by other authors, but yields better than $90 \%$ of the theoretical value have been reported (Kohler \& Jansen, 1938; Jenkins \& Costello, 1946; Fieser \& Novello, 1942). As expected, no trans adduct is formed during the synthesis. Another application of (I) was reported by Fieser \& Novello (1942), using it as a starting material for the synthesis of a benzanthracene compound.
(I) crystallizes with two nearly identical molecules in the asymmetric unit. A least-squares fit between all non-H atoms gives an r.m.s. deviation of $0.021 \AA$. Each molecule has approximate mirror symmetry. Additional symmetry elements between the similar moieties could not be detected. Bond lengths and angles do not show any extraordinary values. The molecules have a boat conformation with a central plane ( $\mathrm{C} 4, \mathrm{C} 5, \mathrm{C} 8$, C9 and C4A, C5A, C8A, C9A, respectively), a bow plane (C9, C1, O2, C3, C4 and C9A, ClA, O2A, C3A, C4A, respectively) and a stern plane (C5, C6, C7, C8 and C5A, C6A, C7A, C8A, respectively). The dihedral angles are 61.02 (6) and $61.17(6)^{\circ}$ between the central plane and the bow plane, and 47.28 (6) and $48.08(6)^{\circ}$ between the central plane and the stern plane. A search of the Cambridge Structural Database (Allen \& Kennard, 1993; Version 5.15, April 1998) revealed that (I) appears as a moiety of six structures. In five of them (Lee, Peng, Lush, Mu \& Liu, 1988; Lee, Peng,


[^0]:    Supplementary data for this paper are available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: NA1341). Services for accessing these data are described at the back of the journal.

