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azaanthracene alkaloid**

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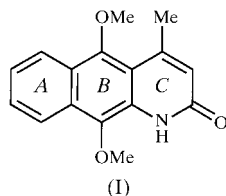
Data validation number: IUC0000160

A new azaanthracene alkaloid, namely 9,10-dimethoxy-4-methyl-1,2-dihydro-1-azaanthracen-2-one (kalasinamide), $C_{16}H_{15}NO_3$, has been isolated from the stems of *Polyalthia suberosa* collected in the northeastern part of Thailand. Each of the aromatic rings in the molecule is planar within ± 0.021 (2) Å. Molecules are linked to form centrosymmetric dimers by $N-H \cdots O$ hydrogen bonds [$N \cdots O$ 2.941 (4) Å].

Comment

Polyalthia suberosa (Roxb.), a shrubby tree native to south-east Asia and South China, has been widely investigated since 1985. Various parts of the tree, leaves, stems and barks have been investigated. The compounds identified are coumarin, sterols (Dan *et al.*, 1985; Goyal & Gupta, 1986), alkaloids (Ferdous *et al.*, 1992; Sahai *et al.*, 1996), triterpenes (Goyal & Gupta, 1986; Li *et al.*, 1993) and nitrogen heterocyclic compounds (Sahai *et al.*, 1996; Tuchinda *et al.*, 2000). Studies of *suberosa* has shown an anti-HIV principle (Li *et al.*, 1993).

The title compound, (I), extracted from the stem of the tree from Kalasin Province in the northeastern part of Thailand was found to be a new azaanthracene alkaloid (Tuchinda *et al.*, 2000). We therefore report the structure of the title compound as this might lead to a new anti-HIV active compound.



Bond lengths and angles within the anthracene rings system of (I) are in good agreement with literature values (Brown *et al.*, 1964). However, the $C2=O2$ bond length of 1.237 (6) Å is

slightly longer than that normally found in ketones. Also, the $N1-C2$ and $N1-C91$ mean distance of 1.373 (6) Å is slightly shorter than the $C-N$ bond length in heteroaromatic systems (Allen *et al.*, 1987). Appreciable electron delocalizations therefore occur here. Noticable electron delocalizations also occur at $O1$ and $O3$; the $C9-O1$ and $O1-C12$ bond lengths are 1.373 (6) and 1.435 (1) Å, and $C10-O3$ and $O3-C13$ are 1.369 (5) and 1.430 (2) Å, respectively. Mean planes through each of the three fused six-membered rings show that they are planar within ± 0.02 Å. The dihedral angles A/B 3.00, B/C 2.2 and A/C 5.15° [$A = C5-C6-C7-C8-C81-C101$, $B = C81-C9-C91-C41-C10-C101$ and $C = C91-N1-C2-C3-C4-C41$] indicate that the planes are not quite coplanar. Mean-plane calculation through the 14-membered fused $A/B/C$ ring shows a total puckering amplitude of 0.166 (3) Å. The torsion angles $C13-O3-C10-C41$ and $C12-O1-C9-C91$ of 102.5 (3) and 94.8 (3)°, respectively, are as expected. The methyl group at $C4$ has a steric effect on the methoxy group at $C10$. Molecules are linked by $N-H \cdots O$ hydrogen bonds about inversion centres to form centrosymmetric dimers with an $N \cdots O$ distance of 2.941 (4) Å.

Experimental

The orange title compound was crystallized from $EtOH-CH_2Cl_2$.

Crystal data

$C_{16}H_{15}NO_3$
 $M_r = 269.300$
Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$
 $a = 10.005$ (5) Å
 $b = 16.449$ (5) Å
 $c = 8.186$ (5) Å
 $\beta = 105.8$ (2)°
 $V = 1297.0$ (10) Å³
 $Z = 4$

$D_x = 1.380$ Mg m⁻³
Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
Cell parameters from 9 reflections
 $\theta = 8.8300-11.7400^\circ$
 $\mu = 0.096$ mm⁻¹
 $T = 298$ K
Needle, orange
0.250 × 0.040 × 0.025 mm

Data collection

Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer
 $\omega-2\theta$ scans
9602 measured reflections
2272 independent reflections
1785 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
 $R_{int} = 0.066$

$\theta_{max} = 24.93^\circ$
 $h = -11 \rightarrow 11$
 $k = -19 \rightarrow 19$
 $l = -9 \rightarrow 9$
3 standard reflections
frequency: 2608 min
intensity decay: 0.81%

Refinement

Refinement on F^2
 $R(F) = 0.053$
 $wR(F^2) = 0.163$
 $S = 1.069$
2272 reflections
184 parameters
H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0824P)^2 + 0.7373P]$
where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} = 0.001$
 $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.24$ e Å⁻³
 $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.29$ e Å⁻³

Table 1

Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °).

$D-H \cdots A$	$D-H$	$H \cdots A$	$D \cdots A$	$D-H \cdots A$
$N1-H1 \cdots O2^i$	0.86	2.10	2.941 (4)	164

Symmetry code: (i) $1-x, 1-y, 1-z$.

Based on a statistical analysis of intensity distribution, the space group was determined to be $P2_1/a$ and has been transformed to the conventional space group of $P2_1/c$. Friedel opposites were collected and merged. The H atoms were allowed in the refinement at geometrically idealized positions.

Data collection: *CAD-4 Software* (Enraf–Nonius, 1989); cell refinement: *CAD-4 Software*; data reduction: *maXus* (Mackay *et al.*, 1999); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997).

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