organic compounds

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N-(4-Nitrobenzylidene)-*N*'-phenylhydrazine

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Molecules of the title compound (alternative name: *p*-nitrobenzaldehyde phenylhydrazone), $C_{13}H_{11}N_3O_2$, adopt an *E* configuration about the azomethine C=N double bond. Molecules are approximately planar and the dihedral angle between the planes of the phenyl rings is 11.62 (9)°. Hydrogen bonding links molecules related by 4₂ screw axes to form helices with a pitch of 7.7186 (8) Å.

Comment

Hydrazones are formed when hydrazines condense with aldehydes and ketones, *e.g.* by the condensation of aldehydes (or substituted aldehydes) with phenylhydrazine at a pH of 4–5 (McMurry, 1999), and typically are crystalline compounds with sharp melting points. Hydrazones are frequently more efficient than oximes in this reaction since their greater molecular weight causes a lower solubility in most solvents and they can, therefore, often be more easily isolated and recrystallized. Hydrazones have been widely studied as chelating ligands for the spectrophotometric and fluorimetric determination of trace metal ions (Katyal & Dutt, 1975; Galiano-Roth & Collum, 1988). Many of these compounds have found widespread application in medicine, technology and analytical chemistry (Kitaev, 1977).



Molecules of the title compound, (I), adopt an *E* configuration about the azomethine C=N double bond, with an N1-N2-C7-C8 torsion angle of 178.67 (11)°. The N1-N2 [1.3479 (14) Å], O1-N3 [1.2188 (15) Å] and O2-N3 [1.2185 (14) Å] bond lengths, which are consistent with those of 1.216 (8) and 1.214 (7) Å in 2-nitrobenzaldehyde methylhydrazone, indicate that these bonds correspond to double

and single bonds. The dihedral angle between the planes of the phenyl rings is 11.62 (9)°, and the nitrophenyl and phenyl rings make dihedral angles with the central hydrazone bridge (N1/N2/C7) of 3.25 (11) and 9.47 (13)°, respectively. There is only slight asymmetry in the exocyclic angles at C11 [C12–C11–N3 = 119.68 (13)° and C10–C11–N3 = 118.40 (13)°], in contrast to the situation in 2-nitrobenzaldehyde phenyl-hydrazone (Tosi *et al.*, 1988), where enhanced asymmetry is ascribed to steric contacts involving the 2-nitro group. The more pronounced asymmetry at C8 [C13–C8–C7 = 122.35 (12)° and C9–C8–C7 = 119.55 (12)°] is also seen in studies with a methoxy group on the phenyl ring (Shanmuga Sundara Raj *et al.*, 1999, 2000; Tunç *et al.*, 2003).

Intermolecular hydrogen bonding between the H atom on atom N1 of the hydrazone bridge and atom O1 of a nitro group related by the 4_2 screw axis links molecules into helices with a pitch of 7.7186 (8) Å running along the *c* axis (Fig. 2).



Figure 1

The molecular sructure and atomic labelling scheme of the title compound (*ORTEP*-3; Farrugia, 1997). Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level.



Figure 2

A packing diagram showing the hydrogen bonding (dotted lines) which links molecules related by 4_2 screw axes into helices.

The N-H···O and N···O distances are short compared with the sum of the relevant van der Waals radii (Bondi, 1964).

Experimental

A solution of 4-nitrobenzaldehyde (3.02 g, 0.02 mol) in hot methanol (50 ml) was added dropwise to a solution of phenylhydrazine (2.16 g, 0.02 mol) in hot methanol (50 ml) at a pH of 5-6. The resulting red solid was filtered off, dried and recrystallized after refluxing in hot methanol for 3 h. The red crystals thus obtained were filtered off and dried in air.

> Mo $K\alpha$ radiation Cell parameters from 2629

reflections

 $\mu = 0.10 \text{ mm}^{-1}$

T = 293 (2) KSquare prism, dark red

 $R_{\rm int}=0.038$ $\theta_{\max} = 27.2^{\circ}$ $h = -22 \rightarrow 22$

 $k = -22 \rightarrow 22$

1 standard reflection

frequency: 30 min

intensity decay: 5%

where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$

 $l = -9 \rightarrow 9$

 $0.40 \times 0.40 \times 0.25 \text{ mm}$

 $\theta = 1.7 - 27.2^{\circ}$

Crystal data

| C ₁₃ H ₁₁ N ₃ O ₂ | |
|---|--|
| $M_r = 241.25$ | |
| Tetragonal, P4 ₂ /n | |
| a = 17.5017 (17) Å | |
| c = 7.7186 (8) Å | |
| $V = 2364.3 (4) \text{ Å}^3$ | |
| Z = 8 | |
| $D_x = 1.355 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ | |
| | |

Data collection

Stoe IPDS-2 diffractometer $\omega/2\theta$ scans Absorption correction: by integration (X-RED; Stoe & Cie, 2002) $T_{\min} = 0.963, \ T_{\max} = 0.977$ 2636 measured reflections 2629 independent reflections 1280 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0254P)^2]$ $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.032$ $wR(F^2) = 0.070$ $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001$ $\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.09 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$ S = 1.00 $\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.11 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$ 2629 reflections 164 parameters Extinction correction: SHELXL97 H-atom parameters constrained Extinction coefficient: 0.010 (2)

Table 1

| | | | 0 | |
|----------|-----------|------------|-----|-----|
| Selected | geometric | parameters | (Å, | °). |

| O1-N3 | 1.2188 (15) | N2-C7 | 1.2826 (15) |
|-----------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| O2-N3 | 1.2185 (14) | N3-C11 | 1.4637 (17) |
| N1-N2 | 1.3479 (14) | C7-C8 | 1.4494 (17) |
| N1-C1 | 1.3823 (16) | | |
| N2-N1-C1 | 120.58 (11) | N2-C7-C8 | 121.21 (12) |
| C7-N2-N1 | 117.67 (11) | C9-C8-C7 | 119.55 (12) |
| O2-N3-O1 | 122.38 (14) | C13-C8-C7 | 122.35 (12) |
| O2-N3-C11 | 118.64 (14) | C12-C11-N3 | 119.68 (13) |
| O1-N3-C11 | 118.98 (13) | C10-C11-N3 | 118.40 (13) |
| | | | |

Table 2

Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °).

| $D - H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$ | $D-{\rm H}$ | $H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$ | $D \cdots A$ | $D - \mathbf{H} \cdots A$ |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| $N1-H1\cdotsO1^i$ | 0.86 | 2.29 | 3.115 (2) | 162 |
| Commentation and as (i) | . 1 1 | | | |

Symmetry code: (i) $y - \frac{1}{2}, -x, z - \frac{1}{2}$

H atoms were placed geometrically at distances of 0.86 and 0.93 Å from their parent atoms for N–H and Csp^2 –H bonds, respectively. In the refinement, a riding model was used for all H atoms, with $U_{\rm iso}({\rm H}) = 1.3 U_{\rm eq}({\rm C,N}).$

Data collection: X-AREA (Stoe & Cie, 2002); cell refinement: X-AREA; data reduction: X-RED (Stoe & Cie, 2002); program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1990); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: ORTEP-3 (Farrugia, 1997) and DIAMOND (Brandenburg, 2001); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXS97.

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Supplementary data for this paper are available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: BM1538). Services for accessing these data are described at the back of the journal.

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