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#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 291$  K  
 Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.005$  Å  
 $R$  factor = 0.042  
 $wR$  factor = 0.096  
 Data-to-parameter ratio = 7.4

For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

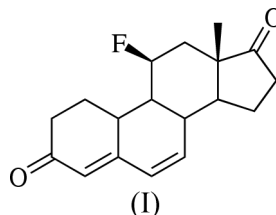
## 3,17-Dioxo-11-fluoroandrosta-4,6-diene

The title compound,  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{21}\text{FO}_2$ , (I), is a steroid with a dienone structure and six stereogenic centers. These steroids are substrates for estradiol derivatives with an alkyl chain in the  $7\alpha$ -position [Krause & Thorand (1999). *Inorg. Chim. Acta.* **296**, 1–11; Uerdingen & Krause (2000). *Tetrahedron*, **56**, 2799–2804]. The configuration of the 11-position is *S*. The diene is in conjugation with the carbonyl group and the latter is involved in a weak intermolecular  $\text{C}-\text{H} \cdots \text{O}$  hydrogen bond.

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#### Experimental

The title compound, (I), was obtained with 80–90% yield through bromination and dehydrobromination from 3-acetyl-11-fluoroandrosta-4,6-dien-17-one (Vettel, 1998). It was dissolved in a small amount of dichloromethane and cyclohexane, and crystals were obtained by vapour diffusion.



#### Crystal data

$\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{21}\text{FO}_2$   
 $M_r = 288.35$   
 Monoclinic,  $P2_1$   
 $a = 9.4058$  (5) Å  
 $b = 7.7654$  (4) Å  
 $c = 10.2125$  (6) Å  
 $\beta = 94.349$  (3)°  
 $V = 743.77$  (7) Å<sup>3</sup>  
 $Z = 2$

$D_x = 1.288$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>  
 Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 Cell parameters from 3898 reflections  
 $\theta = 3.3$ – $25.3^\circ$   
 $\mu = 0.09$  mm<sup>-1</sup>  
 $T = 291$  (1) K  
 Plate, colourless  
 $0.35 \times 0.30 \times 0.05$  mm

#### Data collection

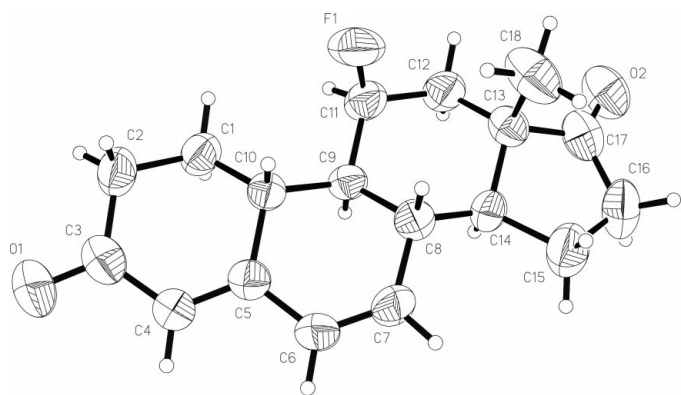
Nonius KappaCCD diffractometer  
 206 frames via  $\omega$ -rotation ( $\Delta\omega = 1\%$ ) at different  $\kappa$ -angles and two times 60 s per frame  
 3898 measured reflections  
 1409 independent reflections  
 876 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$

$R_{\text{int}} = 0.042$   
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 25.3^\circ$   
 $h = -11 \rightarrow 11$   
 $k = 0 \rightarrow 9$   
 $l = 0 \rightarrow 12$   
 Intensity decay: none

#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.042$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.096$   
 $S = 0.99$   
 1409 reflections  
 190 parameters  
 H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0429P)^2]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.11$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.14$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 Absolute structure: Flack (1983)  
 Flack parameter =  $-0.8$  (16)



**Figure 1**  
The structure of (I) showing 50% probability displacement ellipsoids and the atom-numbering scheme.

**Table 1**  
Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °).

$D-H \cdots A$	$D-H$	$H \cdots A$	$D \cdots A$	$D-H \cdots A$
$C4-H4A \cdots O1^i$	0.93	2.46	3.280 (5)	147

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

H atoms were placed in calculated positions with  $U_{iso}$  constrained to be  $1.5U_{eq}$  of the carrier atom for the methyl groups and  $1.2U_{eq}$  for

the remaining positions. The absolute structure could not be determined reliably and the Friedel reflections were merged before final refinement because of the large s.u. for the Flack parameter [ $-0.8$  (16)].

Data collection: *COLLECT* (Nonius, 1998); cell refinement: *DENZO* and *SCALEPACK* (Otwinowski & Minor, 1997); data reduction: *DENZO* and *SCALEPACK*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1990); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *SHELXTL-Plus* (Sheldrick, 1991); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL97* and *PARST95* (Nardelli, 1995).

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