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**Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study  
 T = 293 K  
 Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.004 \text{ \AA}$   
 R factor = 0.026  
 wR factor = 0.074  
 Data-to-parameter ratio = 6.2

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

**D-Serinium D-serine nitrate**

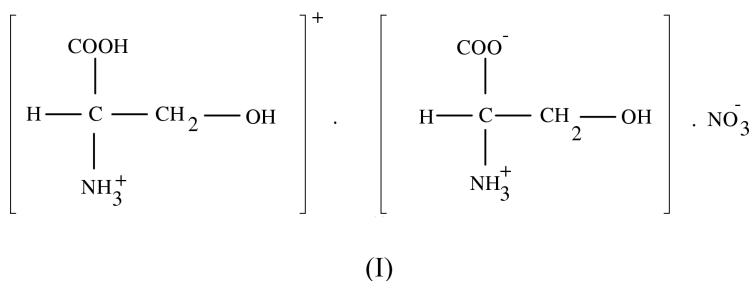
In the title compound,  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_8\text{O}_3\text{N}^+\cdot\text{NO}_3^-\cdot\text{C}_3\text{H}_7\text{O}_3\text{N}$ , the serinium and the serine as zwitterion are held together by a strong  $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  hydrogen bond. The serinium cation has a *gauche* I conformation and the serine molecule has a *gauche* II conformation for the hydroxyl O atom. The nitrate anion links the amino N atom of molecule 1 extending in a chain running along the *a* axis.

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**Comment**

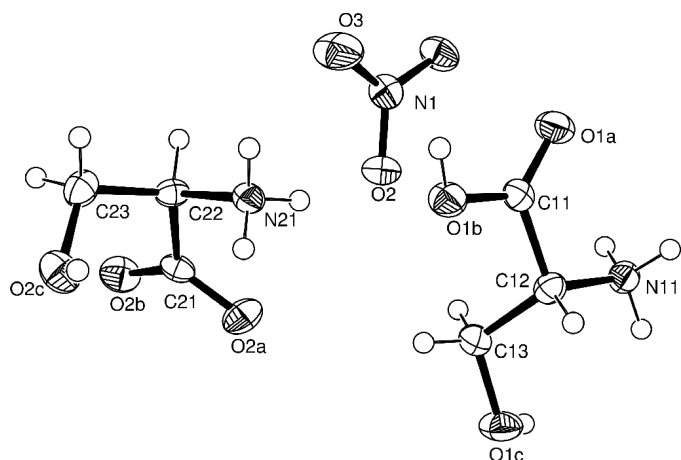
The crystal structures of L-serine (Benedetti *et al.*, 1972), DL-serine (Shoemaker *et al.*, 1953; Frey *et al.*, 1973; Kistenmacher *et al.*, 1974) and L-serine monohydrate (Frey *et al.*, 1973) have been reported previously. In the present study, the structure determination of the product of D-serine reacted with nitric acid was undertaken.

The geometry of the two crystallographically independent serine and serinium constituents are similar and agree well with earlier X-ray studies of DL-serine (Shoemaker *et al.*, 1953) and L-serine (Benedetti *et al.*, 1972). The conformation angle  $\psi_1$  is  $-1.5(3)$  and  $-3.9(3)^\circ$  for serinium and serine, respectively. This tendency of the C–N bond to twist is found in various amino acids (Lakshminarayanan *et al.*, 1967). The straight side-chain conformation angle  $\chi_1$  for the serinium cation is in a *gauche* I conformation [ $63.8(3)^\circ$ ] and for the serine molecule is in a *gauche* II conformation [ $-66.4(3)^\circ$ ].

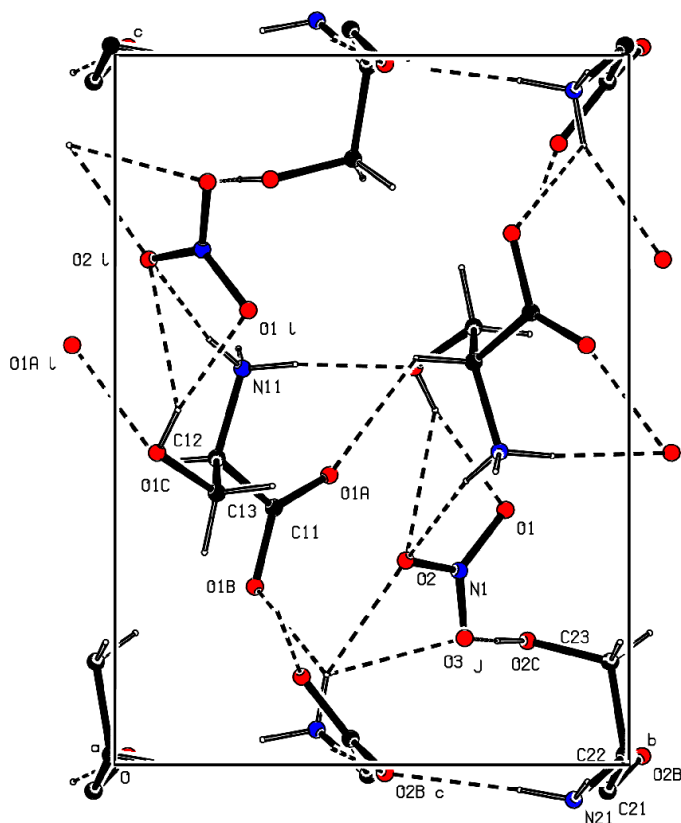


The nitrate anion plays a vital role in the hydrogen bonding with both ions and in stabilizing the structure. Serine and serinium are connected by a strong  $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  hydrogen bond  $\text{O1B}-\text{H1B}\cdots\text{O2A}^{\text{iv}}$ . The nitrate anion, as acceptor, hydrogen bonds with the amino N and hydroxyl O atom of both molecules in a three-dimensional network. The nitrate anion links the amino N atom of the serinium cation resulting in a chain running along the *a* axis. The hydroxyl O atom of serinium, as acceptor, links the amino N atom of serinium.

The serine molecule is engaged in a straight (S1) head-to-tail sequence, since the  $\text{N21}-\text{H21C}\cdots\text{O2B}^{\text{iv}}$  hydrogen bond connects two amino acids separated by a period along the *a*



**Figure 1**  
The structure of the asymmetric unit showing the atomic numbering scheme and 50% probability displacement ellipsoids (Johnson, 1976).



**Figure 2**  
The packing viewed down the *a* axis.

axis, and a zigzag (Z2) head-to-tail sequence, since N21—H21B···O2B<sup>v</sup> connects two  $2_1$ -related amino acids (Vijayan, 1988).

## Experimental

The title compound was crystallized in aqueous solution from a 2:1 stoichiometric ratio of D-serine and nitric acid. Colorless needle-shaped crystals were obtained.

## Crystal data

$C_3H_8NO_3^+ \cdot NO_3^- \cdot C_3H_7NO_3$   
 $M_r = 273.21$   
 Monoclinic,  $P2_1$   
 $a = 5.929$  (1) Å  
 $b = 8.195$  (7) Å  
 $c = 11.503$  (2) Å  
 $\beta = 100.06$  (1)°  
 $V = 550.3$  (5) Å<sup>3</sup>  
 $Z = 2$   
 $D_x = 1.649$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>  
 $D_m = 1.63$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>

$D_m$  measured by flotation in bromoform and xylene  
 Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 Cell parameters from 25 reflections  
 $\theta = 10.0$ – $13.9$ °  
 $\mu = 0.16$  mm<sup>-1</sup>  
 $T = 293$  (2) K  
 Needle, colorless  
 $0.50 \times 0.20 \times 0.07$  mm

## Data collection

Enraf–Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer  
 $\omega$ – $2\theta$  scans  
 Absorption correction:  $\psi$  scan (North *et al.*, 1968)  
 $T_{min} = 0.962$ ,  $T_{max} = 0.988$   
 1533 measured reflections  
 1030 independent reflections  
 908 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$

$R_{int} = 0.019$   
 $\theta_{max} = 25.0$ °  
 $h = -1 \rightarrow 7$   
 $k = -1 \rightarrow 9$   
 $l = -13 \rightarrow 13$   
 25 standard reflections every 3 reflections  
 frequency: 60 min  
 intensity decay: none

## Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.026$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.074$   
 $S = 0.95$   
 1030 reflections  
 166 parameters  
 H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0554P)^2 + 0.0361P]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} < 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.16$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.15$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 Extinction correction: *SHELXL97*

**Table 1**

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

|                 |           |                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|
| O1A—C11         | 1.210 (3) | O2B—C21         | 1.240 (4) |
| O1B—C11         | 1.297 (3) | O2A—C21         | 1.259 (4) |
| O1A—C11—C12—N11 | −1.5 (3)  | O2A—C21—C22—N21 | −3.9 (3)  |
| N11—C12—C13—O1C | 63.8 (3)  | N21—C22—C23—O2C | −66.4 (3) |

**Table 2**

Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °).

| D—H···A                       | D—H  | H···A | D···A     | D—H···A |
|-------------------------------|------|-------|-----------|---------|
| N11—H11A···O2 <sup>i</sup>    | 0.89 | 2.09  | 2.972 (3) | 170     |
| N11—H11B···O1 <sup>ii</sup>   | 0.89 | 2.08  | 2.963 (3) | 171     |
| N11—H11C···O1C <sup>iii</sup> | 0.89 | 1.97  | 2.853 (4) | 173     |
| O1C—H1C···O1 <sup>i</sup>     | 0.82 | 2.02  | 2.833 (3) | 168     |
| O1C—H1C···O2 <sup>i</sup>     | 0.82 | 2.55  | 3.112 (3) | 127     |
| O1B—H1B···O2A <sup>iv</sup>   | 0.82 | 1.66  | 2.462 (3) | 164     |
| N21—H21A···O2                 | 0.89 | 2.25  | 3.084 (3) | 155     |
| N21—H21A···O1B                | 0.89 | 2.48  | 2.979 (3) | 116     |
| N21—H21A···O3                 | 0.89 | 2.53  | 2.965 (4) | 111     |
| N21—H21B···O2B <sup>v</sup>   | 0.89 | 2.16  | 3.048 (4) | 172     |
| N21—H21C···O2B <sup>iv</sup>  | 0.89 | 1.99  | 2.863 (3) | 167     |
| O2C—H2C···O3 <sup>vi</sup>    | 0.82 | 2.01  | 2.792 (3) | 159     |

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

The reflection/parameter ratio is 6.20 in spite of the fact that data for 1030 of the possible 1038 reflections have been collected which has resulted in a reasonable final *R* factor of 0.026. All H atoms were fixed by geometric restraints using *HFIX* and allowed to ride on the parent atom.

Data collection: *CAD-4 Software* (Enraf–Nonius, 1989); cell refinement: *CAD-4 Software*; data reduction: *CAD-4 Software*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *PLATON* (Spek, 1999); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL97*.

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