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A. Abdul Ajees,^a* K. Sekar,^b M. Marappan^c and M. Kandaswamy^c

^aDepartment of Crystallography and Biophysics, University of Madras, Guindy Campus, Chennai 600 025, India, ^bBioinformatics Centre, Raman Building, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore 560 012, India, and ^cDepartment of Inorganic Chemistry, University of Madras, Chennai 600 025, India

Correspondence e-mail: alazeez34@yahoo.com

Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 K Mean σ (C–C) = 0.003 Å R factor = 0.057 wR factor = 0.176 Data-to-parameter ratio = 16.7

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4-tert-Butyl-2,6-bis(piperidinomethyl)phenol

The title compound, $C_{22}H_{36}N_2O$, contains piperidine as a major constituent. The two piperidine rings attached to the phenyl ring are in chair conformations. The structure is stabilized by van der Waals forces as well as $O-H\cdots N$ intramolecular hydrogen bonds.

Comment

Piperidine derivatives are found to possess pharmacological activities and generally form an essential part of the molecular structure of important drugs. For example, the piperidine ring is a feature of antihistaminic agents, oral anesthetics (McElvain, 1927) and narcotic analgesics (Lu et al., 1991). Clebopride, a 1,4-disubstituted piperidine, is used clinically to prevent post-operative vomiting, to speed up gastric emptying before anesthesia or to facilitate radiological evaluation and to correct a variety of disturbances of gastrointestinal function (Robinson, 1973). Several 2,6-disubstituted piperidines are found to be useful as tranquilizers (Bochringer & Soehne, 1961) and possess hypotensive activity. In addition, it has also a combination of stimulant and depressant effects on the central nervous system (Ganellin & Spickett, 1965), as well as bactericidal, fungicidal and herbicidal activities (Mobio et al., 1990). Many piperidine derivatives also form the skeleton of several alkaloids (Hootele et al., 1980). This compound also acts as a bridging molecule in polymetallic complexes. This property has application in the design of novel magnetic and electronic solid-state materials. Also, the complexes adopt the role of polymetallic sites in biological processes (Willet et al., 1985; Marcus & Sutin, 1985). Synthetic binuclear ligands and their complexes can serve as suitable models for the natural binuclear metal centers when they mimic some physical and



chemical properties of the protein site and thereby provide an improved understanding of the biological analogue (Fenton *et al.*, 1982). In view of this, the title compound, (I) (Fig. 1), was synthesized and characterized by X-ray diffraction analysis.

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The piperidine ring system offers a wide variety of conformational flexibility such as chair, boat and twist conformation (Hofer, 1976; Potapov, 1979), though the chair or slightly distorted chair conformations have been found to be the most favoured (Mulekar & Berlin, 1989). As in the related compound 2,6-bis(N-methylenepiperidino)-4-nitrophenol (Shanmuga Sundra Raj et al., 1994), the piperidine rings B and C adopt the chair conformation [in the notation of Cremer & Pople (1975): $Q_T = 0.574$ (2) Å, $q_2 = 0.014$ (2), $q_3 = -0.573$ (2) and $\varphi_2 = -128 \ (9)^\circ$ for ring B; $Q_T = 0.561 \ (2)$ Å, $q_2 = 0.027 \ (2)$, $q_3 = 0.560$ (2) and $\varphi_2 = 28$ (5)° for ring C]. The mean bond length for the phenyl ring is 1.392 Å. In the tert-butyl system, C24 is in a (-)synclinal position with respect to the C4-C5 bond. There is a an $O-H \cdots N$ intramolecular hydrogen bond $[H21 \cdots N15 = 1.76 (2) \text{ Å}, O21 \cdots N15 = 2.649 (2) \text{ Å} and angle}$ at H21 = $156 (2)^{\circ}$].

Experimental

4-*tert*-Butylphenol (7.5 g, 0.05 mol) in ethanol (150 ml) and piperidine (8.7 g, 0.1 mol) were added to a 250 ml round-bottomed flask. The solution was stirred as formaldehyde (3.0 g, 0.1 mol) was added slowly. The solution was refluxed for 24 h, during which time 2.5 ml formaldehyde was added at time intervals of 8 h. The ethanol was evaporated under vacuum, the resulting oil washed with sodium carbonate solution, extracted with dimethyl ether and evaporated to yield a colourless solid (m.p. 393 K). Crystals were obtained by the slow evaporation of an acetone solution of the compound.

Crystal data

Ig m ⁻³ tion ers from 25
^{−1} C urless < 0.20 mm
11 14 120 min ecay: <1%
$(2^{2}) + (0.0939P)^{2}$ P] $(F_{o}^{2} + 2F_{c}^{2})/3$

RefinementRefinement on F^2 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0939P)^2 + 0.2502P]$ $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.057$ $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0939P)^2 + 0.2502P]$ $wR(F^2) = 0.176$ where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ S = 1.09 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} = 0.001$ 3904 reflections $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.27$ e Å⁻³234 parameters $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.18$ e Å⁻³H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinementExtinction correction: SHELXL97

The phenol H atom was located from a difference map and refined freely. H atoms bonded to C atoms were placed in calculated positions, refined using a riding model and given an isotropic displacement parameter equal to 1.2 times the equivalent isotropic





The molecular structure of (I) showing displacement ellipsoids at the 30% probability level. H atoms have been omitted for clarity.

displacement parameter of the CH and CH_2 groups, and 1.5 times the equivalent isotropic displacement parameter of the CH_3 groups.

Data collection: *CAD-4 Software* (Enraf–Nonius, 1989); cell refinement: *SDP* (Frenz, 1978); data reduction: *CAD-4 Software*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEP*III (Burnett & Johnson, 1996); software used to prepare material for publication: *PARST*97 (Nardelli, 1995).

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