## organic papers

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#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 K Mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.012 Å R factor = 0.052 wR factor = 0.154 Data-to-parameter ratio = 7.6

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

### 3(S)-Acetoxymethyl-7-chloro-1,3-dihydro-1-methyl-5phenyl-2*H*-1,4-benzodiazepin-2-one

The enantiomerically pure (S) title compound,  $C_{19}H_{17}ClN_2O_3$ , was crystallized from a 1:1 mixture of ethanol and dichloromethane. The 1,4-diazepine ring has a boat conformation with the C atom in position 3 displaced by 0.729 (4) Å from the plane defined by the atoms in positions 1, 2, 4 and 5. A weak C-H···O interaction, the most prominent feature of the crystal packing, links the molecules into infinite chains stretched along the *c* axis. The title compound, as well as other 1,4-benzodiazepin-2-one derivatives, are suitable precursors for the synthesis of enantiomerically pure  $\alpha$ -amino acids and their congeners.

### Comment

1,4-Benzodiazepines are of general interest as central nervous system active drugs (Roth *et al.*, 1997). Some derivatives have also been shown to possess substantial antiviral (Hsu & Tam, 1993) and antitumour activity (Kohl *et al.*, 1993). Because of their availability, and specific chemical and conformational features, they are used in the organic synthesis of enantiomerically pure  $\alpha$ -amino acids and their congeners. The title compound, (I), as the pure *S* enantiomer, was prepared by a biocatalytic deracemization of its racemic counterpart, en route to the stereocontrolled synthesis of (*S*)-*N*-Cbz-serine (Cbz = benzyloxycarbonyl) and of its (*R*)-enantiomer (Avdagić & Šunjić, 1998).



As metal complexes of biologically active compounds often show even higher activity than the free ligands themselves, we included compound (I) in a study of metal complexes of chiral 3-substituted 1,4-benzodiazepines. Unsuccessful attempts to prepare complexes of (I) with  $Cu^{II}$  and  $Zn^{II}$  have, however, emphasised the importance of the substituent at position 5 (Fig. 1) for metal coordination. While its 5-(2-pyridyl) analogue readily reacts with  $CuCl_2$  and  $ZnCl_2$ , giving expected complexes, compound (I) does not show such reactivity (Višnjevac *et al.*, 2001).

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An ORTEPII (Johnson, 1976) drawing of (I) with the atomic numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 40% probability level.

The molecular structure of (I) is characterized by a puckered 1,4-diazepine ring in the usual boat conformation where atoms C3, C51, and C91 are displaced by 0.729 (4), 0.794 (7) and 0.765 (5) Å, respectively, from the least-squares plane defined by atoms N1, C2, N4 and C5 [maximum deviation of atom N4 from this plane is equal to 0.026 (4) Å].

A weak C16-H16B···O15<sup>i</sup> [symmetry code: (i) 1+y, 1-x+y, z-1/6 interaction [H16B···O15<sup>i</sup> 2.43, C16···O15<sup>i</sup> 3.39 (2) Å and C16-H16B···O15<sup>i</sup> 173.5°], representing the most prominent feature of the crystal packing, links the molecules into chains along the crystallographic c axis.

#### Experimental

The title compound was prepared according to a previously described procedure (Avdagić & Šunjić, 1998). Single crystals were obtained by evaporation of a 1:1 mixture of ethanol and dichloromethane at room temperature.

#### Crystal data

$C_{19}H_{17}CIN_2O_3$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
$M_r = 356.80$	Cell parameters from 20
Hexagonal, P6 <sub>1</sub>	reflections
a = 11.075 (5)  Å	$\theta = 4.9 - 20.3^{\circ}$
c = 24.40 (4)  Å	$\mu = 0.24 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$V = 2592(5) \text{ Å}^3$	T = 293 (2)  K
Z = 6	Prismatic, colourless
$D_x = 1.371 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$	$0.20\times0.20\times0.18~\mathrm{mm}$
Data collection	
Enraf–Nonius CAD-4	$\theta_{\rm max} = 26.3^{\circ}$
diffractometer	$h = -13 \rightarrow 0$
$\theta/2\theta$ scans	$k = 0 \rightarrow 13$
2904 measured reflections	$l = -30 \rightarrow 0$
1796 independent reflections	3 standard reflections
798 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$	frequency: 120 min
$R_{\rm int} = 0.113$	intensity decay: none

#### Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0712P)^2]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.052$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$wR(F^2) = 0.154$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001$
S = 0.97	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.29 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
1796 reflections	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.27 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
236 parameters	Absolute structure: Flack,1983; no
H-atom parameters constrained	Friedel pairs
	Flack parameter $= 0.1$ (2)

#### Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Cl1-C7	1.736 (9)	N1-C91	1.406 (11)
O11-C2	1.221 (12)	N4-C3	1.476 (9)
O13-C12	1.443 (11)	N4-C5	1.262 (10)
O13-C14	1.261 (17)	C2-C3	1.506 (15)
O15-C14	1.260 (17)	C5-C51	1.502 (11)
N1-C2	1.357 (11)	C51-C91	1.395 (12)
N1-C10	1.462 (14)		
C12-O13-C14	120.7 (9)	N4-C3-C12	106.0 (6)
C2-N1-C10	117.4 (8)	C2-C3-C12	115.0 (9)
C2-N1-C91	122.2 (8)	N4-C5-C51	123.4 (7)
C10-N1-C91	119.2 (7)	O13-C12-C3	106.5 (7)
C3-N4-C5	118.3 (6)	O13-C14-O15	119.2 (11)
O11-C2-N1	121.1 (9)	O13-C14-C16	115.9 (12)
O11-C2-C3	122.4 (8)	O15-C14-C16	124.9 (13)
N1-C2-C3	116.3 (8)	C5-C51-C91	120.9 (7)
N4-C3-C2	109.1 (7)	N1-C91-C51	122.9 (7)

# Table 2

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$D - H \cdots A$	$D-\mathrm{H}$	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - \mathbf{H} \cdots A$
$C16-H16B\cdotsO15^{i}$	0.96	2.43	3.39 (2)	174
		1		

Symmetry code: (i) 1 + y, 1 - x + y,  $z - \frac{1}{6}$ .

H atoms were placed in positions calculated on stereochemical grounds and included in the refinement in the riding-motion approximation. Their  $U_{iso}$  values were constrained to be  $1.2U_{eq}$  of the carrier atom ( $1.5U_{eq}$  in the case of the methyl H atoms). Even though the high s.u. value for the Flack (1983) parameter does not make determination of the absolute configuration on the basis of anomalous scattering very convincing, it in fact points to the correct configuration, i.e. the one which should have been expected on the basis of the synthetic route.

Data collection: CAD-4 Software (Enraf-Nonius, 1989); cell refinement: SET4 and CELDIM in CAD-4 Software; data reduction: HELENA (Spek, 1997); program(s) used to solve structure: SIR97 (Altomare et al., 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: ORTEPII (Johnson, 1976); software used to prepare material for publication: PLATON (Spek, 1990).

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