

# *cis*-[4a]-*cisoid*-[4a,4b]-*cis*-[4b]-4b-Ethyl-1,3,5,7,8b-hexamethylperhydro-1,3,5,7-tetraazabiphenylene-2,4,6,8-tetraone

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## Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study

$T = 170$  K

Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.002$  Å

$R$  factor = 0.040

$wR$  factor = 0.111

Data-to-parameter ratio = 18.6

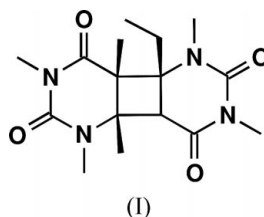
For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

The title compound,  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_4\text{O}_4$ , was prepared by [2+2]-photocycloaddition of 1,3-dimethyl-6-ethyluracil in acetone. The structure determination was undertaken in order to determine the stereoconfiguration of the product, which could not be extracted from NMR data. Single-crystal X-ray analysis revealed that the methyl groups and the ethyl group are located on the same side of the cyclobutane ring (*cis*) and that the monomers are oriented head-to-tail (*anti*).

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## Experimental

The title compound was formed as a byproduct in the [2+2]-photocycloaddition of 1,3-dimethyl-6-ethyluracil in acetone, by a mechanism which is not yet clear. The products were separated by column chromatography. Single crystals were obtained by slow evaporation of *n*-pentane into a saturated solution of the title compound in dichloromethane. Details of the synthesis are given by Krüger (2002).

### Crystal data

$\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_4\text{O}_4$   
 $M_r = 336.39$   
 Orthorhombic, *Pbca*  
 $a = 15.2661$  (9) Å  
 $b = 14.4367$  (8) Å  
 $c = 15.7200$  (12) Å  
 $V = 3464.6$  (4) Å<sup>3</sup>  
 $Z = 8$   
 $D_x = 1.290$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 Cell parameters from 8000 reflections  
 $\theta = 17$ – $23.5^\circ$   
 $\mu = 0.09$  mm<sup>-1</sup>  
 $T = 170$  (2) K  
 Irregular block, colourless  
 $0.5 \times 0.3 \times 0.3$  mm

### Data collection

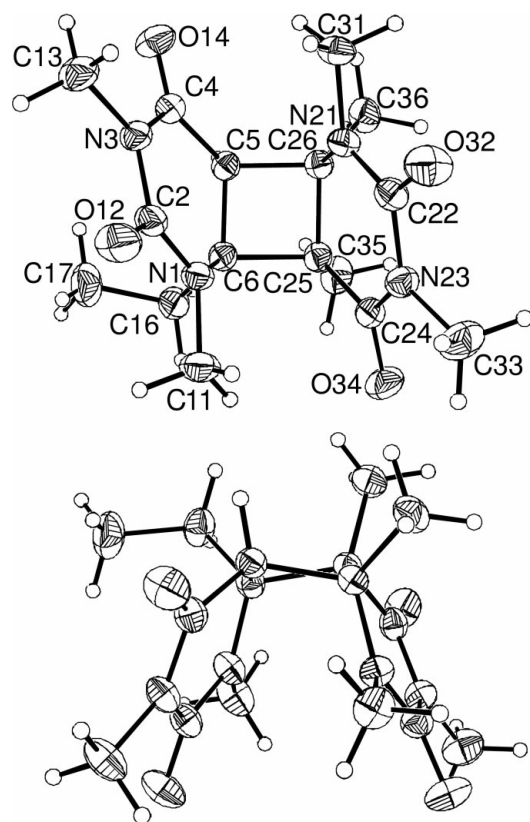
Stoe Imaging Plate Diffraction  
 System diffractometer  
 $\varphi$  scans  
 Absorption correction: none  
 27222 measured reflections  
 4171 independent reflections

3642 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.038$   
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 28.1^\circ$   
 $h = -20 \rightarrow 20$   
 $k = -17 \rightarrow 18$   
 $l = -20 \rightarrow 20$

### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.040$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.111$   
 $S = 1.04$   
 4171 reflections  
 224 parameters  
 H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0617P)^2 + 0.9107P]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.29$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.19$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 Extinction correction: *SHELXL97*  
 Extinction coefficient: 0.0088 (11)



**Figure 1**  
Top view (top) and side view (bottom) of the molecular structure of the title compound, with atom labelling and displacement ellipsoids drawn at the 50% probability level.

The methine and methylene H atoms were positioned with idealized geometry ( $C-H_{\text{methine}} = 1.00 \text{ \AA}$  and  $C-H_{\text{methylene}} = 0.99 \text{ \AA}$ ). The positions of the methyl H atoms were idealized ( $C-H = 0.98 \text{ \AA}$ ), then refined as rigid groups allowed to rotate but not tip. All H atoms were refined with fixed isotropic displacement parameters using a riding model with  $U_{\text{iso}} = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$  and  $1.5U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$  for methine/methylene and methyl H atoms, respectively.

Data collection: *IPDS Program Package* (Stoe & Cie, 1998); cell refinement: *IPDS Program Package*; data reduction: *IPDS Program Package*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *XP* in *SHELXTL* (Bruker, 1998); software used to prepare material for publication: *CIFTAB* in *SHELXL97*.

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## References

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