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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 = 0.066
 wR factor = 0.153
 Data-to-parameter ratio = 12.9

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

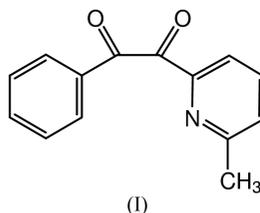
1-(6-Methylpyridin-2-yl)-2-phenylethanedione

The phenyl and pyridyl rings of the title compound, $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}_2$, are nearly perpendicular to each other, with a dihedral angle of $86.1(1)^\circ$. In the crystal, the molecules exist as centrosymmetrically hydrogen-bonded $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$ dimers and the molecular packing is stabilized by $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\pi$ and $\pi\cdots\pi$ interactions.

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Comment

Recently, we have investigated photo-induced oxygenation reactions of indolizine derivatives (Tian *et al.*, 2001). In a continuation of this work, we report here the crystal structure of the title compound, (I), which was obtained by photo-induced oxygenation of 1-benzoyl-5-methyl-2-phenylindolizine in acetonitrile.



The bond lengths in the title compound (Fig. 1) are comparable to the mean values reported by Allen *et al.* (1987). The $\text{C6}-\text{C7}$ distance of $1.536(3) \text{ \AA}$ is significantly longer than the value of 1.48 \AA expected for a $\text{Csp}^2-\text{Csp}^2$ bond. This lengthening may be due to the repulsion between the two O atoms. The two aromatic rings, phenyl and pyridyl rings, are mutually nearly orthogonal, with a dihedral angle of $86.1(1)^\circ$. In the solid state, the molecules form centrosymmetrically $\text{C4}-\text{H4}\cdots\text{O1}^i$ [symmetry code: (i) = $-x, 2 - y, -z$] hydrogen-bonded dimers (Table 1). Weak intermolecular $\text{C2}-\text{H2}\cdots\pi_{\text{phenyl}}$ interactions link the dimers to form infinite one-dimensional molecular chains parallel to $[110]$ (Fig. 2). The crystal packing is further stabilized by $\pi\cdots\pi$ stacking interactions involving the pyridyl ring and its symmetry equivalent at $(-x, 1 - y, -z)$ [centroid separation $3.659(1) \text{ \AA}$].

Experimental

The title compound was isolated from the reaction mixture, obtained by the photo-oxygenation of 1-benzoyl-5-methyl-2-phenylindolizine in acetonitrile, by column chromatography on silica gel. Single crystals suitable for X-ray crystallographic measurement were grown by slow evaporation of a petroleum ether-ethyl acetate solution (5:1 v/v) of the compound.

Crystal data

$C_{14}H_{11}NO_2$
 $M_r = 225.24$
 Triclinic, $P\bar{1}$
 $a = 7.9526$ (9) Å
 $b = 8.0441$ (10) Å
 $c = 9.1229$ (11) Å
 $\alpha = 90.953$ (2)°
 $\beta = 101.247$ (2)°
 $\gamma = 93.647$ (2)°
 $V = 570.99$ (12) Å³

$Z = 2$
 $D_x = 1.310$ Mg m⁻³
 Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
 Cell parameters from 1413 reflections
 $\theta = 2.5$ – 28.3 °
 $\mu = 0.09$ mm⁻¹
 $T = 293$ (2) K
 Slab, pale yellow
 $0.50 \times 0.42 \times 0.10$ mm

Data collection

Siemens SMART CCD area detector diffractometer
 ω scans
 Absorption correction: none
 3296 measured reflections
 2408 independent reflections

1820 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
 $R_{int} = 0.011$
 $\theta_{max} = 27.0$ °
 $h = -10 \rightarrow 9$
 $k = -10 \rightarrow 9$
 $l = -11 \rightarrow 11$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.066$
 $wR(F^2) = 0.153$
 $S = 1.15$
 2408 reflections
 187 parameters
 H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0543P)^2 + 0.2157P]$
 where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} < 0.001$
 $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.22$ e Å⁻³
 $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.27$ e Å⁻³

Table 1

Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °).

$D-H \cdots A$	$D-H$	$H \cdots A$	$D \cdots A$	$D-H \cdots A$
$C4-H4 \cdots O1^i$	0.92 (2)	2.54 (2)	3.442 (3)	169 (2)
$C2-H2 \cdots Cg(phenyl)^{ii}$	0.96 (3)	2.99 (4)	3.931 (4)	167 (2)

Symmetry codes: (i) $-x, 2 - y, -z$; (ii) $1 - x, 1 - y, -z$.

The H atoms of the aromatic rings were located from a difference Fourier map and were refined isotropically; those attached to the methyl C14 were fixed geometrically and treated as riding atoms, with a C–H distance of 0.96 Å and $U_{iso}(H)$ set equal to $1.5U_{eq}(C)$. Owing to a large fraction of weak data at higher angles, the 2θ maximum was limited to 54° during the refinement.

Data collection: SMART (Siemens, 1996); cell refinement: SAINT (Siemens, 1996); data reduction: SAINT and SADABS (Sheldrick, 1996); program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXTL (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXTL; molecular graphics: SHELXTL; software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXTL, PARST (Nardelli, 1995) and PLATON (Spek, 1990).

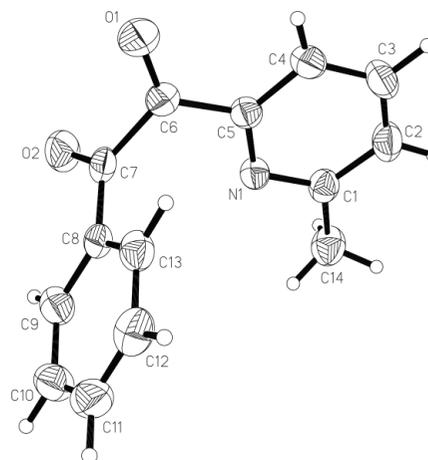


Figure 1

The structure of the title compound, showing 50% probability displacement ellipsoids and the atom-numbering scheme.

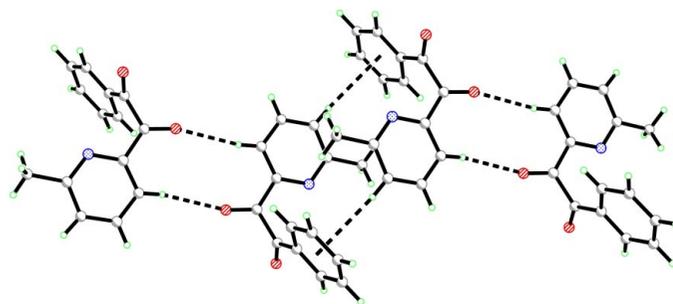


Figure 2

Arrangement of hydrogen-bonded dimers and π -stacking, viewed normal to (110).

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