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#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study  
 T = 120 K  
 Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.002 \text{ \AA}$   
 R factor = 0.041  
 wR factor = 0.110  
 Data-to-parameter ratio = 15.3

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

## 2-(Benzotriazol-1-ylmethyl)-1-phenyl-3-pyrazolidinone: two weak hydrogen bonds combine to form molecular ladders

In the supramolecular structure of  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_5\text{O}$ , weak  $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  and  $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{N}$  bonds combine to form molecular ladders, the former bonds acting as the rungs and the latter as the uprights.

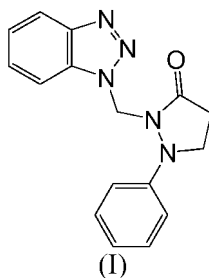
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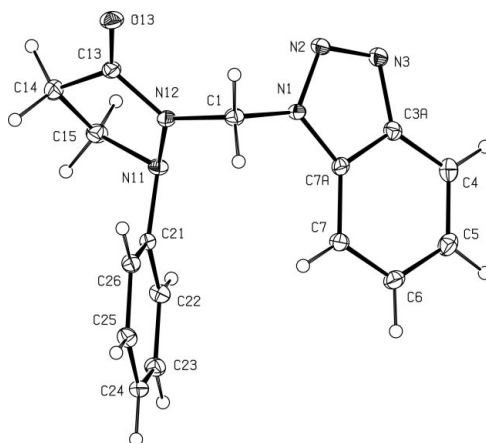
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#### Comment

The title compound, (I), was prepared for use as a precursor in the synthesis of new pyrazolo-1,2-benzodiazepines (Knight & Little, 2000, and references therein) using the benzotriazole methodology (Katritzky *et al.*, 1998).

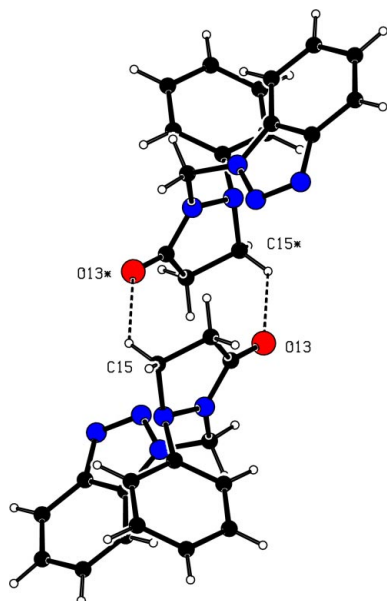


The triazole ring and the benzene ring of the benzotriazole moiety are both planar and are inclined to one another at an angle of  $0.55 (7)^\circ$ . It is a feature of N1-substituted 1,2,3-benzotriazole molecular geometry that, although bond lengths do have values in the range expected for delocalized double bonds, there is a degree of bond fixation. The bond lengths of the benzene ring show an alternation of bonds, indicating a degree of double- and single-bond character around the ring. The triazole ring shows a marked bond fixation, the differences in length of the two N–N bonds being of the order of

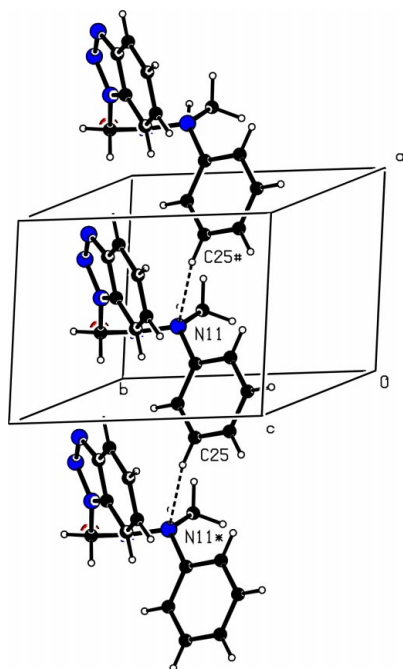


**Figure 1**

View of (I), with the atomic numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level.

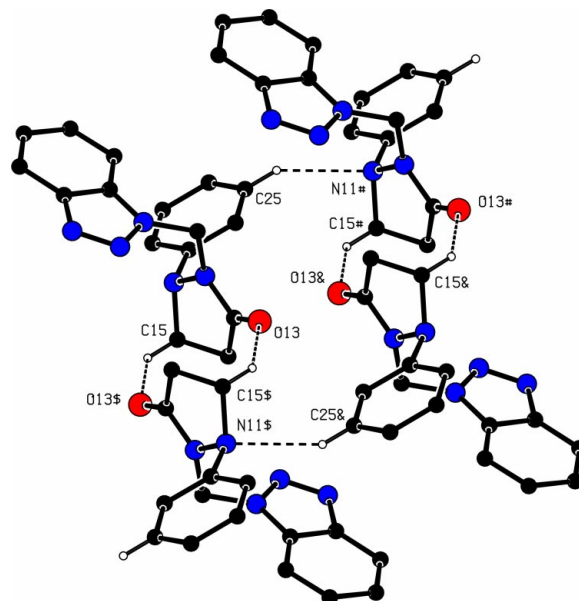


**Figure 2**  
A view of the  $R_2^2(10)$  dimer. The molecule labelled with an asterisk (\*) is at  $(1 - x, 2 - y, -z)$ .



**Figure 3**  
A view of the  $C(5)$  chains running along the  $a$  axis. The molecule labelled with an asterisk (\*) is at  $(x - 1, y, z)$  and that labelled with a hash (#) is at  $(1 + x, y, z)$ .

0.05 Å. A search of the Cambridge Structural Database (Version of April 2002; Allen, 2002), for all organic N1-substituted 1,2,3-benzotriazole compounds, excluding metal complexes, 50 in all, revealed bond lengths with a similar pattern of values as seen in (I). The conformation of the pyrazolidine ring is a half-chair, with a local pseudo-twofold axis running through N12 and the midpoint of the C14–C15 bond.

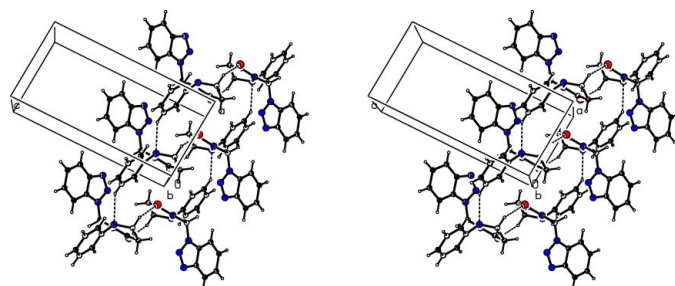


**Figure 4**  
The  $R_4^2(22)$  ring formed by the combination of the two hydrogen bonds. The molecule labelled with a dollar sign (\$) is at  $(1 - x, 2 - y, -z)$ , that labelled with a hash (#) is at  $(x - 1, y, z)$  and that labelled with an ampersand (&) is at  $(-x, 2 - y, -z)$ . The unit-cell outline and H atoms not involved in the hydrogen bonding have been omitted for clarity.

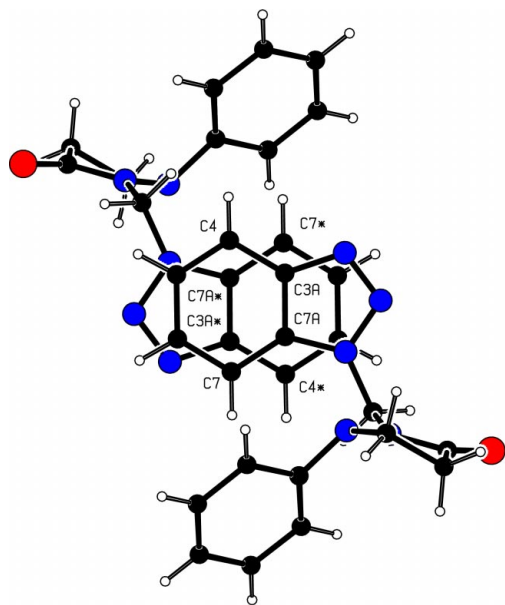
The bonds and angles of the benzotriazole moiety, along with selected torsion angles for the side chains, are given in Table 1.

The  $C-H \cdots O$  bond links the molecules into dimers consisting of an  $R_2^2(10)$  ring (Bernstein *et al.*, 1995) (Fig. 2). The bond  $C15-H15B \cdots O13^i$  and the bond related to it by the centre of symmetry at  $(\frac{1}{2}, 1, 0)$ ,  $C15^i-H15B^i \cdots O13$ , form the dimer (see Table 2 for symmetry codes). The  $C25-H25 \cdots N11^{ii}$  bond links the molecules into a  $C(5)$  chain, which runs parallel to the  $a$  axis (Fig. 3). These two interactions combine to form a molecular ladder in which the rungs are the  $C-H \cdots O$  bonds and the uprights are formed by the  $C-H \cdots N$  bonds, forming in the process an  $R_4^2(22)$  ring (Fig. 4). Fig. 5 shows a stereoview of the ladder structure.

There is a  $\pi$ - $\pi$ -stacking interaction in the structure, involving the benzotriazole moiety. This can be described in terms of two centroid-to-centroid distances, where  $Cg1$  is the centroid of the triazole ring and  $Cg2$  is the centroid of the



**Figure 5**  
Stereoview of the the molecular ladder.



**Figure 6**  
The  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking of the benzotriazole moiety, viewed perpendicular to the moiety.

fused benzene ring. The relevant distances are  $Cg2 \cdots Cg1(1-x, 2-y, 1-z) = 3.5819(17) \text{ \AA}$  and  $Cg2 \cdots Cg2(1-x, 2-y, 1-z) = 3.6393(18) \text{ \AA}$ . In Fig. 6, the molecules are viewed perpendicular to the mean plane of the benzotriazole moiety. This shows clearly that the  $C3A=C7A$  double bond lies parallel to the  $C4 \cdots C7$  direction, above the centre of the benzene ring of the overlapping benzotriazole moiety.

Examination of the structure with *PLATON* (Spek, 2002) showed that there are no solvent-accessible voids in the crystal lattice.

## Experimental

A mixture of 1-phenyl-3-pyrazolidinone (1.0 g, 6.17 mmol), benzotriazole (0.74 g, 6.21 mmol), aqueous formaldehyde (0.65 g, 37% w/w, 8 mmol) and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid (30 mg) in toluene (50 ml) was refluxed, using a Dean-Stark apparatus, for about 1 h. After cooling, the mixture was washed with aqueous NaOH solution (5%, 50 ml) followed by  $H_2O$ , and dried with  $Na_2SO_4$ . The solvent was removed under vacuum and the residue washed with methanol to give the pure product as a white solid (87% yield; m.p. 385 K). Crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were collected from a DMF solution. Found: C 66.68, H 6.19, N 17.24%; calculated for  $C_{16}H_{15}N_5O$ : C 66.65, H 6.21, N 17.27%.

### Crystal data

$C_{16}H_{15}N_5O$   
 $M_r = 293.33$   
Triclinic,  $P\bar{1}$   
 $a = 6.4009(2) \text{ \AA}$   
 $b = 8.3596(3) \text{ \AA}$   
 $c = 13.2794(5) \text{ \AA}$   
 $\alpha = 92.778(1)^\circ$   
 $\beta = 94.382(1)^\circ$   
 $\gamma = 95.039(3)^\circ$   
 $V = 704.66(4) \text{ \AA}^3$

$Z = 2$   
 $D_x = 1.382 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$   
Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
Cell parameters from 3036 reflections  
 $\theta = 3.0\text{--}27.5^\circ$   
 $\mu = 0.09 \text{ mm}^{-1}$   
 $T = 120(1) \text{ K}$   
Tablet, colourless  
 $0.36 \times 0.26 \times 0.10 \text{ mm}$

### Data collection

Nonius KappaCCD diffractometer  
 $\varphi$  scans and  $\omega$  scans with  $\kappa$  offsets  
9646 measured reflections  
3036 independent reflections  
2538 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$

$R_{\text{int}} = 0.050$   
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 27.5^\circ$   
 $h = -7 \rightarrow 7$   
 $k = -10 \rightarrow 10$   
 $l = -17 \rightarrow 17$

### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.041$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.110$   
 $S = 1.06$   
3036 reflections  
199 parameters  
H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0575P)^2 + 0.1652P]$   
where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.19 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.31 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$

**Table 1**

Selected geometric parameters ( $\text{\AA}$ ,  $^\circ$ ).

N1—N2	1.3579 (15)	C3A—C4	1.4066 (18)
N1—C7A	1.3608 (15)	C4—C5	1.377 (2)
N2—N3	1.3038 (16)	C5—C6	1.405 (2)
N3—C3A	1.3821 (16)	C6—C7	1.3777 (18)
C3A—C7A	1.388 (2)	C7—C7A	1.4026 (17)
N2—N1—C7A	110.17 (10)	C4—C5—C6	122.17 (12)
N3—N2—N1	108.80 (10)	C7—C6—C5	122.17 (12)
N2—N3—C3A	108.13 (11)	C6—C7—C7A	115.51 (13)
N3—C3A—C7A	108.50 (11)	N1—C7A—C3A	104.40 (11)
C7A—C3A—C4	120.88 (12)	C3A—C7A—C7	122.89 (12)
C5—C4—C3A	116.38 (13)		
N2—N1—C1—N12	84.60 (13)	N1—C1—N12—N11	48.05 (14)
N1—C1—N12—C13	−121.06 (13)		

**Table 2**

Hydrogen-bonding geometry ( $\text{\AA}$ ,  $^\circ$ ).

$D-H \cdots A$	$D-H$	$H \cdots A$	$D \cdots A$	$D-H \cdots A$
$C15-H15B \cdots O13^i$	0.99	2.58	3.3084 (16)	130
$C25-H25 \cdots N11^{ii}$	0.95	2.51	3.3530 (17)	149

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

H atoms were treated as riding atoms, with C—H distances in the range 0.95–0.99  $\text{\AA}$ .

Data collection: *KappaCCD Server Software* (Nonius, 1997); cell refinement: *DENZO-SMN* (Otwinowski & Minor, 1997); data reduction: *DENZO-SMN*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEPII* (Johnson, 1976) and *PLATON* (Spek, 2002); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL97* and *WordPerfect* macro *PRPKAPPA* (Ferguson, 1999).

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