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## Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study
$T=293 \mathrm{~K}$
Mean $\sigma(\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{O})=0.001 \AA$
$R$ factor $=0.037$
$w R$ factor $=0.102$
Data-to-parameter ratio $=15.6$
For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e.
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## Bis(melaminium) hydrogen phosphite tetrahydrate

The title compound, $2 \mathrm{C}_{3} \mathrm{H}_{7} \mathrm{~N}_{6}{ }^{+} \cdot \mathrm{HPO}_{3}{ }^{2-} \cdot 4 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, crystallizes as a layered structure. The intermolecular packing appears to be controlled by hydrogen bonds and $\pi-\pi$ stacking.

## Comment

The title compound, bis(melaminium) hydrogen phosphite tetrahydrate, (I) (Fig. 1), arose as an unexpected by-product during our synthetic investigations of organically templated zinc hydrogen phosphites (Rodgers \& Harrison, 2000; Harrison, 2001).

(I)

There are two distinct melaminium (2,4,6-triamino-1,3,5-triazine-1-ium) cations, both of which are singly protonated at a ring N atom. Their average ring and terminal $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{N}$ bond lengths are 1.348 (2) and 1.318 (2) $\AA$, respectively. The $C-$ $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}$ bond angles at the protonated ring N atoms ( N 2 and N 7 ) are somewhat larger than the equivalent angles for the non-protonated ring N atoms, as seen for similar materials (Janczak \& Perpétuo, 2001). Both melaminium cations are essentially planar (non-H atom r.m.s. deviations from the least-squares planes are 0.011 and $0.012 \AA$ for the C1- and C4containing molecules, respectively). For the hydrogen phosphite anion, the average $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{O}$ separation of 1.516 (2) $\AA$ and the average $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{O}$ bond angle of 112.2 (2) ${ }^{\circ}$ compare well with those seen $\left(1.516 \AA\right.$ and $111.2^{\circ}$, respectively) in $\left[\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{~N}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)_{2} \mathrm{NH}_{2}\right\}_{] 0.5} \mathrm{ZnHPO}_{3}$ (Rodgers \& Harrison, 2000).

The packing in this phase (Figs. 2 and 3) is dominated by a combination of hydrogen bonding (Table 2) and $\pi-\pi$-stacking effects, resulting in a structure with strongly layered character. In any (100) sheet, adjacent melaminium cations are linked into zigzag chains in the $c$ direction, by way of side-by-side pairs of $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{N}$ links (Fig. 2). This 'synthon' bonding motif has also been seen in melaminium chloride hemihydrate (Janczak \& Perpétuo, 2001) and melaminium acetate acetic acid solvate monohydrate (Perpétuo \& Janczak, 2002). The melaminium chains are crosslinked in the $b$ direction by the hydrogen phosphite moieties, by way of $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{O}$ bonds. As expected, the phosphite $(\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{H}) \mathrm{H}$ atom is not involved in hydrogen bonding (Harrison, 2001). The four water molecules each form two H bonds (as $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{N}$ or $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{O}$ ) and also act as acceptors for hydrogen bonds from melaminium cations or other water molecules. Overall, each melaminium cation makes seven hydrogen bonds and acts as an acceptor for two

Figure 1


The asymmetric unit of (I) ( $50 \%$ displacement ellipsoids and arbitrary spheres for the H atoms), with hydrogen bonds indicated by dashed lines.


Figure 2
Hydrogen-bonding scheme (dashed lines) for part of a (100) sheet in (I) ( $50 \%$ displacement ellipsoids and arbitrary spheres for the H atoms).


Figure 3
Packing diagram for (I), viewed approximately down [001] (50\% displacement ellipsoids, atom colours as in Fig. 1, and H atoms omitted for clarity).
more, assuming a maximum $\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{N}$ or $\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{O}$ contact of $2.5 \AA$. Intersheet bonding in the [100] direction involves probable $\pi-\pi$-stacking interactions of the melaminium species [shortest intersheet $\mathrm{C} \cdots \mathrm{N}$ separation $=3.375(2) \AA$ for $\mathrm{C} 3 \cdots \mathrm{~N} 3^{\mathrm{i}}$; symmetry code: (i) $-x,-y,-z]$. Even stronger melaminiummelaminium $\pi-\pi$-stacking interactions have been observed in related compounds (Perpétuo \& Janczak, 2002). In addition, there are intersheet $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{O}$ hydrogen bonds involving atoms H41, H51, H61, and H72 (Table 2). The acceptor species
for these interactions are three phosphite O atoms and one water molecule O atom.

## Experimental

A mixture of $0.407 \mathrm{~g}(5 \mathrm{mmol}) \mathrm{ZnO}, 0.820 \mathrm{~g}(10 \mathrm{mmol}) \mathrm{H}_{3} \mathrm{PO}_{3}$, $0.631 \mathrm{~g}(5 \mathrm{mmol})$ melamine, and $20 \mathrm{ml} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ was sealed in a plastic bottle and heated to 353 K for 5 d . After cooling to room temperature, transparent plate-shaped crystals of the title compound were recovered by vacuum filtration and washing with water and acetone.

## Crystal data

$2 \mathrm{C}_{3} \mathrm{H}_{7} \mathrm{~N}_{6}{ }^{+} \cdot \mathrm{HPO}_{3}{ }^{2-} \cdot 4 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$
$M_{r}=406.33$
Monoclinic, $P 2_{\mathrm{d}} / n$
$a=6.7702$ (3) A
$b=21.4106(11) \AA$
$c=12.3411$ ( 6 ) $\AA$
$\beta=98.108(10)^{\circ}$
$V=1771.01(15) \AA^{3}$
$Z=4$

## Data collection

Bruker SMART1000 CCD
diffractometer
$\omega$ scans
Absorption correction: multi-scan
(SADABS; Bruker, 1999)
$T_{\text {min }}=0.913, T_{\text {max }}=0.998$
13097 measured reflections

## Refinement

Refinement on $F^{2}$
$R\left[F^{2}>2 \sigma\left(F^{2}\right)\right]=0.037$
$w R\left(F^{2}\right)=0.102$
$S=0.96$
4053 reflections 259 parameters

Table 1
Selected geometric parameters ( $\left({ }^{\circ},{ }^{\circ}\right)$.

| N1-C2 | $1.3305(19)$ | $\mathrm{N} 8-\mathrm{C} 4$ | $1.3281(19)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| N1-C1 | $1.3516(19)$ | $\mathrm{N} 8-\mathrm{C} 5$ | $1.3491(19)$ |
| N2-C2 | $1.356(2)$ | $\mathrm{N} 9-\mathrm{C} 6$ | $1.3292(19)$ |
| N2-C3 | $1.365(2)$ | $\mathrm{N} 9-\mathrm{C} 5$ | $1.3620(19)$ |
| N3-C3 | $1.3351(19)$ | $\mathrm{N} 10-\mathrm{C} 4$ | $1.318(2)$ |
| N3-C1 | $1.3502(19)$ | $\mathrm{N} 11-\mathrm{C} 5$ | $1.3192(19)$ |
| N4-C1 | $1.3248(19)$ | $\mathrm{N} 12-\mathrm{C} 6$ | $1.322(2)$ |
| N5-C2 | $1.317(2)$ | $\mathrm{P} 1-\mathrm{O} 3$ | $1.5080(13)$ |
| N6-C3 | $1.309(2)$ | $\mathrm{P} 1-\mathrm{O} 2$ | $1.5154(12)$ |
| N7-C6 | $1.355(2)$ | $\mathrm{P} 1-\mathrm{O} 1$ | $1.5242(12)$ |
| N7-C4 | $1.359(2)$ | $\mathrm{P} 1-\mathrm{H} 1$ | 1.32 |
|  |  |  |  |
| C2-N1-C1 | $115.54(13)$ | $\mathrm{C} 6-\mathrm{N} 9-\mathrm{C} 5$ | $115.36(13)$ |
| C2-N2-C3 | $119.40(13)$ | $\mathrm{N} 10-\mathrm{C} 4-\mathrm{N} 8$ | $120.18(15)$ |
| C3-N3-C1 | $115.59(13)$ | $\mathrm{N} 10-\mathrm{C} 4-\mathrm{N} 7$ | $117.95(13)$ |
| N4-C1-N3 | $116.97(14)$ | $\mathrm{N} 8-\mathrm{C} 4-\mathrm{N} 7$ | $121.87(14)$ |
| N4-C1-N1 | $116.77(14)$ | $\mathrm{N} 11-\mathrm{C} 5-\mathrm{N} 8$ | $117.79(14)$ |
| N3-C1-N1 | $126.25(13)$ | $\mathrm{N} 11-\mathrm{C} 5-\mathrm{N} 9$ | $116.39(14)$ |
| N5-C2-N1 | $119.98(15)$ | $\mathrm{N} 8-\mathrm{C} 5-\mathrm{N} 9$ | $125.81(13)$ |
| N5-C2-N2 | $118.18(13)$ | $\mathrm{N} 12-\mathrm{C} 6-\mathrm{N} 9$ | $120.03(14)$ |
| N1-C2-N2 | $121.83(14)$ | $\mathrm{N} 12-\mathrm{C} 6-\mathrm{N} 7$ | $117.98(14)$ |
| N6-C3-N3 | $120.89(14)$ | $\mathrm{N} 9-\mathrm{C} 6-\mathrm{N} 7$ | $121.98(14)$ |
| N6-C3-N2 | $117.73(14)$ | $\mathrm{O} 3-\mathrm{P} 1-\mathrm{O} 2$ | $113.31(8)$ |
| N3-C3-N2 | $121.37(14)$ | $\mathrm{O} 3-\mathrm{P} 1-\mathrm{O} 1$ | $111.77(8)$ |
| C6-N7-C4 | $119.24(13)$ | $\mathrm{O} 2-\mathrm{P} 1-\mathrm{O} 1$ | $111.54(7)$ |
| C4-N8-C5 | $115.69(13)$ |  |  |

Table 2
Hydrogen-bonding geometry $\left(\AA^{\circ}{ }^{\circ}\right)$.

| $D-\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ | $D-\mathrm{H}$ | $\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ | $D \cdots A$ | $D-\mathrm{H} \cdots A$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| N2-H3 . ${ }^{\text {O }}$ 1 | 0.92 | 1.80 | 2.7171 (17) | 174 |
| $\mathrm{N} 4-\mathrm{H} 4 A \cdots \mathrm{O} 4^{\text {i }}$ | 0.86 | 2.03 | 2.873 (2) | 169 |
| $\mathrm{N} 4-\mathrm{H} 4 B \cdots \mathrm{O} 7^{\mathrm{ii}}$ | 0.86 | 2.51 | 3.335 (2) | 162 |
| N5-H5A $\cdots \mathrm{N} 9^{\text {iii }}$ | 0.86 | 2.14 | 2.991 (2) | 173 |
| N5-H5B $\cdots$ O5 | 0.86 | 2.31 | 2.9200 (19) | 128 |
| N6-H6A $\cdots$ N8 | 0.86 | 2.19 | 3.0444 (19) | 177 |
| N6-H6B $\cdots$ O2 | 0.86 | 1.98 | 2.8141 (17) | 164 |
| N7-H7 . . O3 ${ }^{\text {i }}$ | 0.95 | 1.65 | 2.5970 (17) | 170 |
| N10-H10A $\cdots$ N3 | 0.86 | 2.18 | 3.030 (2) | 168 |
| N10-H10B $\cdots \mathrm{O}^{\text {i }}$ | 0.86 | 2.25 | 2.863 (2) | 128 |
| N11-H11A $\cdots$ O6 | 0.86 | 2.06 | 2.8702 (19) | 156 |
| $\mathrm{N} 11-\mathrm{H} 118 \cdots \mathrm{O} 5^{\text {iv }}$ | 0.86 | 2.13 | 2.923 (2) | 154 |
| $\mathrm{N} 12-\mathrm{H} 12 A \cdots \mathrm{~N} 1^{\text {iv }}$ | 0.86 | 2.16 | 3.006 (2) | 168 |
| $\mathrm{N} 12-\mathrm{H} 12 \mathrm{~B} \cdots \mathrm{O}^{\text {i }}$ | 0.86 | 2.38 | 3.0951 (19) | 141 |
| $\mathrm{O} 4-\mathrm{H} 41 \cdots \mathrm{O} 1^{\text {v }}$ | 0.76 (3) | 2.07 (3) | 2.824 (2) | 169 (3) |
| O4-H42 . O 6 | 0.85 (2) | 2.02 (3) | 2.864 (2) | 171 (3) |
| $\mathrm{O} 5-\mathrm{H} 51 \cdots \mathrm{O} 3^{\text {vi }}$ | 0.84 (3) | 1.91 (3) | 2.739 (2) | 169 (2) |
| O5-H52 . O 7 | 0.88 (3) | 2.05 (3) | 2.903 (2) | 163 (2) |
| $\mathrm{O} 6-\mathrm{H} 61 \cdots \mathrm{O}^{\text {vii }}$ | 0.78 (2) | 2.11 (2) | 2.873 (2) | 168 (3) |
| O6-H62 . ${ }^{\text {O } 2}$ | 0.89 (3) | 1.82 (3) | 2.691 (2) | 166 (2) |
| O7-H71 ${ }^{\text {O }}$ O1 | 0.91 (2) | 1.91 (2) | 2.8046 (19) | 169 (2) |
| $\mathrm{O} 7-\mathrm{H} 72 \cdots \mathrm{O} 2^{\text {viii }}$ | 0.85 (3) | 1.83 (3) | 2.6743 (19) | 171 (2) |

Symmetry codes: (i) $\frac{1}{2}-x, \frac{1}{2}+y, \frac{1}{2}-z$; (ii) $\frac{1}{2}-x, \frac{1}{2}+y, \frac{3}{2}-z$; (iii) $x, y, 1+z$; (iv) $x, y, z-1$; (v) $x-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}-y, z-\frac{1}{2}$; (vi) $x-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}-y, \frac{1}{2}+z$; (vii) $\frac{1}{2}+x, \frac{1}{2}-y, z-\frac{1}{2}$; (viii) $\frac{1}{2}+x, \frac{1}{2}-y, \frac{1}{2}+z$.

The melaminium $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ and phosphite $\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{H} \mathrm{H}$ atoms were refined as riding $\left[U_{\text {iso }}(\mathrm{H})=1.2 U_{\text {eq }}\right.$ of the attached atom]. The positions of the water molecule H atoms were refined freely, with $U_{\text {iso }}(\mathrm{H})$ fixed at $1.5 U_{\text {eq }}(\mathrm{O})$.

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 1999); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 1999); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: ORTEP-3 (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXL97.

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