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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 K Mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.007 Å R factor = 0.045 wR factor = 0.107 Data-to-parameter ratio = 7.2

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

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The crystal structure of the 1:1 proton-transfer compound of 3,5-dinitrosalicylic acid with the optically active amine (S)-(-)-1-phenylethylamine, viz. (S)-(-)-1-phenylethylaminium 3,5-dinitrosalicylate,  $C_8H_{12}N^+ \cdot C_7H_3N_2O_7^-$ , shows the presence of two pseudo-centrosymmetrically related and conformationally similar carboxylate anions and two chiral but conformationally different (S)-aminium cations in the crystallographic repeat unit. In these cations, the protonated amine-N atoms have a number of hydrogen-bonding associations with carboxyl, phenol and nitro O atoms of the acid  $[N \cdot \cdot \cdot O = 2.824 (4) - 3.245 (5) Å]$ . These, together with peripheral hydrogen-bonding associations and some weak cationanion  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions, result in a three-dimensional network polymer structure.

## Comment

We have previously reported the crystal structures of a number of proton-transfer compounds of 3,5-dinitrosalicylic acid (DNSA) with Lewis bases (Smith et al., 1995, 2003a,b; Smith, Wermuth, Bott et al., 2002; Smith, Wermuth & Healy, 2002). This acid is sufficiently strong ( $pK_a = 2.2$ ) to protonate most amines and, with primary amines particularly, the resultant alkylaminium cation often gives hydrogen-bonding interactions with up to six acceptor atoms, e.g. with methylamine (1:1) (Smith, Wermuth, Bott et al., 2002). Only in rare examples with very weak bases does protonation not occur, e.g. with phenazine  $(pK_a = 1.2)$  (Kumar et al., 2002). In addition, aryl substitution in the alkylamine often aids crystallization with these compounds, e.g. with benzylamine (1:1) (Smith, Wermuth & Healy, 2002), although rarely through  $\pi$ - $\pi$ interactions. However, to date no compounds of DNSA with optically active bases have been reported, so the reaction with (S)-(-)- $\alpha$ -methylbenzylamine [S-(-)-1-phenylethylamine](PHEA)] was tried, resulting in the isolation of good crystals of the title compound, S-(-)-1-phenylethylaminium 3,5-dinitrosalicylate, (I).



Although the structure determination of (I) does not confirm with any certainty the (S) absolute configuration of the two unique 1-(-)-phenylethylaminium cations on the basis of the Flack (1983) parameter, the configuration is assumed from chemical evidence. The two PHEA cation

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The molecular configuration and atom-naming scheme for one of the PHEA cation–DNSA anion pairs (molecules D and B) in (I). Atoms are shown as 30% probability ellipsoids

molecules (C and D) which, with the two DNSA anions (molecules A and B), comprise the unit-cell contents and the asymmetric unit in the space group P1, exhibit in (I) pseudocentrosymmetry. However, the two chiral PHEA cations possess, as expected, the same (S) configuration, but there are significant conformational differences between the C and Dcation pairs, as discussed later. Fig. 1 shows one of the two cation-anion pairs (molecules D and B). The two DNSA<sup>-</sup> anions are only slightly different conformationally, the corresponding torsion angles in the carboxyl and nitro substituent groups (C2-C1-C7-O71, C2-C3-N3-O32 and C4-C5-N5-O52) for A and B being 179.6 (4)/178.6 (4), 160.0 (4)/-168.7 (4) and  $176.7 (4)/-177.0 (4)^{\circ}$ , respectively. However, the PHEA<sup>+</sup> cations, although both have the same (S) configuration, are conformationally different, as indicated by the magnitude of the side-chain torsion angle C21-C11-C71-N71 [-89.6 (5)° (C) and -54.1 (5)° (D)]. These differences are probably responsible for the failure of the compound to crystallize in a higher symmetry space group. In addition, there is significantly more thermal motion for some of the aromatic ring atoms of the PHEA cations (particularly C) than for the DNSA anions.

The protonated N atom in each PHEA cation is involved in a number of hydrogen-bonding interactions (Table 1), including one four-centred association about H74D (completing seven in all about N41D), while about N41C there are only four. These include  $A \cdots C$  and  $B \cdots D$  interactions between the stacks along the *a*-axis direction (Fig. 2), as well as inter-stack associations. The result is an extended threedimensional network polymer structure (Fig. 2). Some weak  $\pi - \pi$  interactions are in evidence between the cation-anion pairs in the stacks  $[Cg(C1A - C6A) \cdots Cg(C1C - C6C)]$ 



#### Figure 2

Perspective view of the packing in the unit cell, viewed down the *a* axis, showing hydrogen-bonding associations as broken lines.

3.640 (7) Å and  $Cg(C1B\cdots C6B)\cdots Cg(C1D-C6D) =$ 3.738 (7) Å; Cg is the centroid of each ring]. The previously mentioned high thermal motion of atoms of the cation rings might be considered analogous to phenomena observed for a number of  $\pi$ - $\pi$  associated compounds involving 2,4,6-trinitrobenzene and similar aromatic compounds (Herbstein, 1971; Herbstein & Kaftory, 1975; Smith, Wermuth & White, 2002), where the aromatic ring atoms of the adduct molecule are disordered.

With (I), the usual intramolecular hydrogen bond is found between the phenolic O atom and a carboxylate group in each of the DNSA anions  $[O2 \cdots H72 - O72 = 2.467 \text{ and } 2.482 (4) \text{ Å}]$ , with the proton located on the carboxyl oxygen, as is more often the case with DNSA proton-transfer compounds (Smith, Wermuth & Healy, 2002; Smith *et al.* 2003*a*,*b*).

## **Experimental**

The synthesis of the title compound was carried out by heating, under reflux, 1 mmol quantities of 3,5-dinitrosalicylic acid (DNSA) and (S)-(-)-1-phenylethylamine [(S)-(-)- $\alpha$ -methylbenzylamine = PHEA] (Aldrich) in 50 ml of 50% ethanol/water for 10 min. After concentration to *ca* 30 ml, partial room-temperature evaporation of the hot-filtered solution gave yellow crystals (m.p. 447–450 K); [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> =  $-2^{\circ}$  (in ethanol) [*cf* -39° for PHEA (neat)].

## Crystal data

$C_8H_{12}N^+ \cdot C_7H_3N_2O_7^-$	Z = 2
$M_r = 349.30$	$D_x = 1.464 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
Triclinic, P1	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
u = 7.5177 (8)  Å	Cell parameters from 1643
b = 9.6277 (10) Å	reflections
c = 11.1566 (12)  Å	$\theta = 2.8-26.0^{\circ}$
$\alpha = 89.008 \ (2)^{\circ}$	$\mu = 0.12 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$\beta = 79.373 \ (2)^{\circ}$	T = 293 (2)  K
$\nu = 87.054 \ (2)^{\circ}$	Block, yellow
$V = 792.57 (15) \text{ Å}^3$	$0.25 \times 0.15 \times 0.10$ mm

#### Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector diffractometer	$\begin{array}{l} R_{\rm int}=0.041\\ \theta_{\rm max}=27.5^\circ\end{array}$
$\varphi$ and $\omega$ scans	$h = -7 \rightarrow 9$
5055 measured reflections	$k = -12 \rightarrow 12$
3494 independent reflections	$l = -14 \rightarrow 14$
2511 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$	

#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$  $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.045$  $wR(F^2) = 0.107$ S=0.933494 reflections 485 parameters

#### Table 1

Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °).

$D - H \cdots A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - \mathbf{H} \cdots \mathbf{A}$
O72A−H72A····O2A	0.94 (5)	1.64 (6)	2.467 (4)	145 (5)
$O72B - H72B \cdot \cdot \cdot O2B$	0.81 (4)	1.71 (4)	2.482 (4)	157 (4)
$N71C - H72C \cdot \cdot \cdot O2A^{i}$	0.94 (6)	1.98 (5)	2.840 (4)	151 (5)
$N71C - H72C \cdot \cdot \cdot O31A^{i}$	0.94 (6)	2.53 (6)	2.940 (4)	106 (4)
$N71D - H72D \cdots O71A$	0.95 (6)	2.08 (6)	2.956 (5)	153 (5)
$N71D - H72D \cdots O72A$	0.95 (6)	2.40(7)	3.245 (5)	148 (5)
$N71C - H73C \cdot \cdot \cdot O71B^{i}$	0.85 (4)	2.04 (4)	2.865 (4)	161 (3)
$N71D - H73D \cdots O2B$	0.92 (4)	1.94 (4)	2.824 (4)	162 (3)
$N71D - H73D \cdots O31B$	0.92 (4)	2.41 (4)	3.000 (4)	122 (3)
$N71C - H74C \cdot \cdot \cdot O31B^{ii}$	0.93 (4)	2.17 (4)	3.099 (4)	178 (4)
$N71D - H74D \cdots O31A^{iii}$	0.80 (4)	2.52 (3)	3.098 (5)	131 (3)
$N71D - H74D \cdots O32A^{iii}$	0.80 (4)	2.46 (4)	3.196 (5)	153 (4)
$N71D - H74D \cdots O51B^{iv}$	0.80 (4)	2.46 (4)	2.958 (5)	121 (3)
$C31D-H31D\cdots O52A^{v}$	0.93	2.58	3.321 (6)	137
$C71D - H71D \cdots O31A^{iii}$	0.98	2.55	3.245 (5)	128
$C81C - H81C \cdots O2A$	0.96	2.57	3.506 (7)	164

refinement

 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} = 0.013$ 

 $\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.20 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$ 

 $\Delta \rho_{\rm min}$  = -0.19 e Å<sup>-3</sup>

H atoms treated by a mixture of

 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0612P)^2]$ 

where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ 

independent and constrained

Symmetry codes: (i) x - 1, y, z; (ii) x - 1, y, 1 + z; (iii) x, y, z - 1; (iv) x, y - 1, z; (v) x, 1 + y, z

H atoms involved in hydrogen-bonding interactions [H72A, H72B, H72–H74 (C and D)] were located by difference methods and their positional and isotropic displacement parameters were refined. Others were included in the refinement at calculated positions [0.93 Å (aromatic) and 0.96 Å (aliphatic)] as riding atoms, with  $U_{iso} =$  $1.2U_{eq}$  (parent atom). For refined amine H atoms, the mean N-H

distance is 0.90 (6) Å. Because of the identified pseudosymmetry for the structure (96%), an attempt to refine the structure in the space group  $P\overline{1}$  (assuming the high improbability of racemization) gave a residual R of no better than 0.11 (cf. 0.045 reported for P1). The small specific rotation for (I)  $(-2^{\circ})$  is consistent with the crystallographic observations, which include the hydrogen-bonding interactions associated with both of the (S)-aminium groups in cations C and D. In the absence of significant anomalous scattering effects, Friedel pairs were merged.

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 2000); cell refinement: SMART; data reduction: SAINT (Bruker, 1999); program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXTL (Bruker, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXTL; molecular graphics: PLATON for Windows (Spek, 1999); software used to prepare material for publication: PLATON for Windows.

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