Acta Crystallographica Section E Structure Reports Online

ISSN 1600-5368

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#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 K Mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.006 Å R factor = 0.072 wR factor = 0.207 Data-to-parameter ratio = 14.3

For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e. Two molecules of the title compound,  $C_{17}H_{21}N_2O_4P$ , are linked across a center of inversion by  $N-H\cdots O=P$  amidophosphoryl interactions  $[d(N\cdots O) = 2.894 (3) \text{ Å}]$ , forming a hydrogen-bonded dimer.

Diethyl phenyl(4-pyridylcarbonylamino)-

Received 16 December 2003 Accepted 18 December 2003 Online 10 January 2004

## Comment

methylphosphonate

The title compound, (I), was synthesized for a study of its cytotoxicity against the KB cancer cell line. The amidophosphonic acid derivative was found to be moderately cytotoxic with an  $IC_{50}$  value of 95 µg ml<sup>-1</sup>. The compound exists as a centrosymmetric hydrogen-bonded dimer (Fig. 1); the amido N atom interacts with the doubly bonded phosphoryl O atom (Table 2). The P1=O5 double bond is significantly shorter than the P1-O3 and P1-O4 single bonds (Table 1).



There are only a few related crystal structures having the  $(CH_3CH_2O)_2P(O)$ — fragment that can be used for comparison; one is 3-hydroxy-3-diethoxyphosphoryl-2-oxoindolinone, which is the alcoholysis product of 1,3,2-dioxaphospholanes having the 2-oxoindolinone unit (Gureivich *et al.*, 1998). The amide unit is also involved in hydrogen-bonding interactions with the phosphoryl O atom of a neighboring molecule  $[d(N \cdots O) = 2.824 (3) \text{ Å}]$ , but for this compound the hydroxy group is also involved in hydrogen bonding.

## **Experimental**

The hydrochloride of the  $\alpha$ -aminophosphonate, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>CH(NH<sub>2</sub>)P(O)-(OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, was prepared according to the literature procedure of Takahashi *et al.* (1994). The reagent (2.79 g, 10 mmol) was dissolved in 1,2-dichloroethane (90 ml) to which triethylamine (4 ml) was added, and the solution was added dropwise to isonicotinic acid (1.23 g, 10 mmol) in the same solvent. After completion of the reaction, the solvent was removed to give the crude product, which was purified by recrystallization from a 1:1 mixture of hexane and dichloroethane. CHN analysis, calculated for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>P: C 58.62, H 6.08, N 8.04%; found: C 58.44, H 6.10 N 7.95%.

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## Crystal data

 $\begin{array}{l} C_{17}H_{21}N_2O_4P\\ M_r = 348.33\\ \text{Monoclinic, } C2/c\\ a = 23.714 (1) \text{ Å}\\ b = 8.0928 (4) \text{ Å}\\ c = 20.012 (1) \text{ Å}\\ \beta = 110.325 (1)^\circ\\ V = 3601.4 (3) \text{ Å}^3\\ Z = 8 \end{array}$ 

### Data collection

Bruker SMART APEX areadetector diffractometer  $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans Absorption correction: none 12057 measured reflections 3162 independent reflections

Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$ $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.072$ $wR(F^2) = 0.207$ S = 1.05 3162 reflections 221 parameters Later treated has a grintene of	$w = 1/[\sigma^{2}(F_{o}^{2}) + (0.1172P)^{2} + 6.3036P]$ where $P = (F_{o}^{2} + 2F_{c}^{2})/3$ $(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} < 0.001$ $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.95 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$ $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.32 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
221 parameters	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.32 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
H atoms treated by a mixture of	
refinement	

 $D_x = 1.285 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ 

Cell parameters from 4335

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation

reflections

 $\theta = 2.3-27.5^{\circ}$  $\mu = 0.18 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ 

T = 293 (2) K

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.022$ 

 $\theta_{\rm max} = 25.0^{\circ}$ 

 $h = -28 \rightarrow 28$  $k = -9 \rightarrow 9$ 

 $l = -23 \rightarrow 23$ 

Block, colorless

 $0.35 \times 0.27 \times 0.26 \text{ mm}$ 

2774 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ 

### Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

P1-O3	1.559 (3)	N2-C6	1.330 (4)
P1-O4	1.565 (3)	N2-C7	1.447 (4)
P1-O5	1.448 (2)	O2-C6	1.210 (4)
P1-C7	1.819 (3)	O3-C14	1.425 (5)
N1-C3	1.314 (6)	O4-C16	1.407 (5)
N1-C4	1.314 (7)		
O3-P1-O4	107.1 (2)	O5-P1-C7	113.2 (1)
O3-P1-O5	116.0 (2)	C3-N1-C4	115.9 (4)
O3-P1-C7	103.2 (2)	C6-N2-C7	121.6 (3)
O4-P1-O5	108.6 (2)	C14-O3-P1	126.8 (3)
O4-P1-C7	108.3 (1)	C16-O4-P1	125.9 (3)

Table 2

Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °).

$D - H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - H \cdots A$
$N2-H1\cdots O5^i$	0.84 (1)	2.06 (1)	2.894 (3)	173 (3)
Summation and a (i) 1				

Symmetry code: (i) 1 - x, 1 - y, 1 - z.

The H atoms were positioned geometrically  $[C-H = 0.93 (aromatic), 0.93 (methine), 0.96 (methylene) and 0.97 Å (methyl)] and were included in the refinement in the riding-model approximation. The displacement parameters were set to <math>1.5U_{eq}(C)$  for the



### Figure 1

View of the hydrogen-bonded dimer in (I) (30% displacement ellipsoids). H atoms are drawn as spheres of arbitrary radii. Hydrogen bonds are shown as dashed lines. [Symmetry code: (i) 1 - x, 1 - y, 1 - z.]

methyl H atoms and to  $1.2U_{eq}$  for the other H atoms. The amido H atom was located and refined with an N–H distance restraint of 0.85 (1) Å.

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 2001); cell refinement: *SMART*; data reduction: *SAINT* (Bruker, 2001); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEP*II (Johnson, 1976); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL*97.

The authors thank the China Postdoctoral Science Foundation, the Natural Science Foundation of Fujian Province, China (No. C0110002), the Key Foundation of Science & Technology Project of Fujian Province, China (No. 2002H011) and the University of Malaya for supporting this work.

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