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 σ (C–C) = 0.003 Å Disorder in solvent or counterion R factor = 0.052 wR factor = 0.147 Data-to-parameter ratio = 12.0

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

1-Ethyl-2-oxo-5-phenyl-1,6-dihydro-2*H*oxazolo[4',5':5,6]pyrido[3,4-*b*]indole

The title compound, $C_{20}H_{15}N_3O_2 \cdot 0.5CH_3OH$, has been synthesized from the ene-lactam with P(OEt)₃ under an N₂ atmosphere. The title indole molecules are linked *via* N- $H \cdot \cdot \cdot O$ hydrogen bonds, forming one-dimensional chains.

methanol hemisolvate

Comment

Azaelliptitoxin (azatoxin) as a potent inhibitor of DNA topoisomerase II and tubulin polymerization have attracted much attention (Tepe *et al.*, 1996). However, the crystal structures of azaelliptitoxin and its analogues have rarely been reported (Abu-Safieh *et al.*, 2002). Conveniently, we have synthesized the title compound, (2), similar to azaelliptitoxin in one pot from the ene-lactam (1) with $P(OEt)_3$ under an N_2 atmosphere (Yu *et al.*, 2004).



The asymmetric unit of (2) comprises one title indole molecule and one-half of a methanol molecule of crystal-



Figure 1

The molecular structure of (2) with 30% probability displacement ellipsoids. The methanol atom O4 shows positional disorder and one of two possible positions has been omitted for clarity.

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Received 20 May 2004

Accepted 22 June 2004

Online 30 June 2004

lization (Fig. 1). The title indole molecules are linked by $N-H\cdots O$ hydrogen bonds (Table 1), forming one-dimensional chains (Fig. 2). Neighbouring molecular chains are parallel to one another, forming layers (Fig. 3); neighboring layers are cross-linked to each other through solvent methanol molecules, leading to the three-dimensional supermolecular framework.

Experimental

The ene-lactam (1) (1.06 g, 2.5 mmol) and NaHCO₃ (0.21 g, 2.5 mmol) in P(OEt)₃ (25 ml) were heated at 393 K under nitrogen. After 3 h, all ene-lactam (1) had disappeared (monitored by thinlayer chromatography). The solvent was removed *in vacuo*, then the title compound was collected by chromatography on silica gel with CH₂Cl₂–EtOAc–petroleum ether (1:10:10). Crystals of (2) suitable for X-ray analysis were obtained by recrystallization from MeOH.

> $D_x = 1.402 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ Mo K\alpha radiation Cell parameters from 883 reflections $\theta = 2.4-22.7^{\circ}$ $\mu = 0.09 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ T = 293 (2) K Block, colourless

 $0.3 \times 0.2 \times 0.2 \text{ mm}$

Crystal data

$C_{20}H_{15}N_{3}O_{2} \cdot 0.5CH_{4}O$
$M_r = 345.37$
Monoclinic, $C2/c$
$a = 17.728 (4) \text{ Å}_{-}$
b = 8.5045 (19)Å
c = 22.575(5) Å
$\beta = 105.925 \ (4)^{\circ}$
$V = 3273.0 (12) \text{ Å}^3$
Z = 8
Data collection

2884 independent reflections
2232 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
$R_{\rm int} = 0.071$
$\theta_{\rm max} = 25.0^{\circ}$
$h = -17 \rightarrow 20$
$k = -10 \rightarrow 9$
$l = -26 \rightarrow 18$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.081P)^2]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.052$	+ 0.3023P]
$wR(F^2) = 0.147$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
S = 1.06	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} = 0.011$
2884 reflections	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.28 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
241 parameters	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.23 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
H-atom parameters constrained	

Table 1

Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °).

$D - H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - \mathbf{H} \cdot \cdot \cdot A$
N6-H6···O1 ⁱ	0.86	2.16	2.938 (2)	150
Symmetry code: (i)	$\frac{1}{2} + x, \frac{1}{2} + y, z.$			

Methanol atom C19 lies on a twofold axis parallel to *b*, and atom O4 shows positional disorder over two sites. All H atoms were positioned geometrically, with C-H = 0.93-0.97 Å, O-H = 0.85 Å



Figure 2

The one-dimensional chain of molecules linked by hydrogen bonds (dashed lines). Symmetry code of atom O1: $\frac{1}{2} + x$, $\frac{1}{2} + y$, z.



Figure 3 The crystal structure of (2).

and N-H = 0.86 Å, and were refined as riding, with $U_{iso}(H)$ set at 1.2 or 1.5 times U_{eq} of the parent atom.

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 2000); cell refinement: *SMART*; data reduction: *SAINT* (Bruker, 2000); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXTL* (Bruker, 2000); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXTL*; molecular graphics: *SHELXTL* and *Mercury* (Version 1.2.1; Bruno *et al.*, 2002); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*.

We are grateful to the National Natural Science Foundation of China for financial support (No. 0205B026).

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Yu, G., Wang, S.-Z., Wang, K., Hu, Y.-F. & Hu, H.-W. (2004). Synthesis, 7, 1021–1028.