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#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study

$T = 293\text{ K}$

Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.005\text{ \AA}$

$R$  factor = 0.068

$wR$  factor = 0.194

Data-to-parameter ratio = 16.8

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

# 1-(3-Mesityl-3-methylcyclobutyl)-2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-ethan-1-one

In the title molecule,  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{29}\text{NO}$ , the cyclobutane ring is puckered, with a dihedral angle of  $19.8(3)^\circ$  between the two planes. The pyrrolidine ring adopts an envelope conformation. There are intermolecular  $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  and  $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\pi$  interactions.

#### Comment

3-Substituted cyclobutane carboxylic acid derivatives exhibit anti-inflammatory and antidepressant activities (Dehmlow & Schmidt, 1990), and liquid crystal properties (Coghi *et al.*, 1976). A recent communication showed that compounds incorporating 1,3,4-trisubstituted pyrrolidine ring scaffolds were potent CCR5 antagonists (Lynch *et al.*, 2002). The pyrrolidine ring is a structure very often encountered in the alkaloid field (Martin & Brossi, 1987). Furthermore, numerous chiral non-racemic substituted pyrrolidines and pyrrolidones are used as intermediates, chiral ligands or auxiliaries in asymmetric synthesis (Huryn *et al.*, 1991). The development of new methods for the preparation of enantiomerically pure, highly substituted pyrrolidines and pyrrolidones is then of increasing interest. Taking into account the importance of cyclobutane and pyrrolidine, we have undertaken an X-ray diffraction study of the title compound, (I).

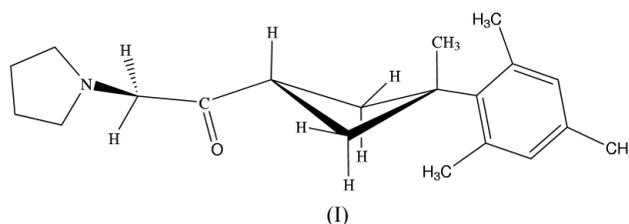


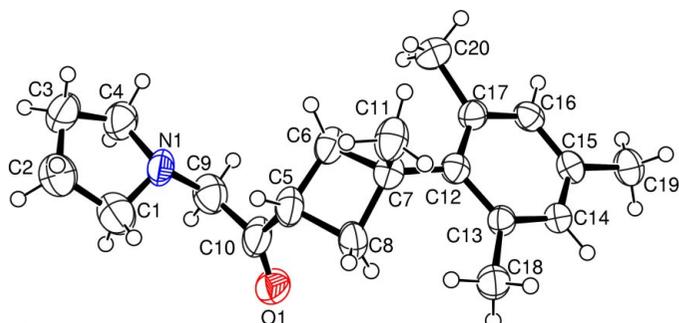
Fig. 1 shows the molecular structure and conformation of (I), with the atomic numbering scheme. The four-atom bridge (N1/C9/C10/C5) linking the cyclobutane and pyrrolidine rings is not planar, the  $\text{N1}-\text{C9}-\text{C10}-\text{C5}$  torsion angle being  $-54.1(4)^\circ$ , which corresponds to the (–)synclinal configuration. Although close to planar, the cyclobutane ring is more puckered than that in a related compound; the  $\text{C8}/\text{C5}/\text{C6}$  plane forms a dihedral angle of  $19.8(3)^\circ$  with the  $\text{C6}/\text{C7}/\text{C8}$  plane in (I) [ $11.55(3)^\circ$  in the related compound; Özdemir *et al.*, 2004]. However, the bond lengths in the cyclobutane ring are similar to those in the related compound. In (I), the pyrrolidine ring is close to an envelope conformation, with atom N1 deviating by  $0.257(4)\text{ \AA}$  from the  $\text{C1}-\text{C4}$  plane, and puckering parameters (Cremer & Pople, 1975)  $Q_2 = 0.408(5)\text{ \AA}$  and  $\varphi_2 = 354.1(7)^\circ$ .

The crystal structure does not exhibit intramolecular or  $\pi-\pi$  interactions. There are, however,  $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  and  $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\pi$

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**Figure 1**  
An ORTEP-3 (Farrugia, 1997) drawing of (I), showing the atomic numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids of non-H atoms are drawn at the 50% probability level.

intermolecular interactions (Table 2). Atom O1 and the centroid, Cg3, of the C12–C17 benzene ring act as a double acceptor for C–H···O and C–H··· $\pi$  interactions, respectively.

### Experimental

A mixture of 1-phenyl-1-mesityl-3-(2-chloro-1-oxoethyl)cyclobutane (5.29 g, 20 mmol) and pyrrolidine (2.874 g, 40 mmol) in dry benzene (50 ml) was refluxed with continuous stirring. The course of the reaction was monitored by IR spectroscopy. The product was formed after about half an hour. After cooling to room temperature and filtration of the pyrrolidine salt, benzene was removed under reduced pressure through a rotary evaporator. The oily product was treated with diethyl ether and dried over magnesium sulfate. Shiny crystals of (I) suitable for X-ray analysis were obtained from a diethyl ether solution by deep freezing at 253 K (yield 78%, m.p. 412 K). IR (KBr): 1724 cm<sup>-1</sup> (C=O). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>, p.p.m.): 1.59 (*s*, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub> on cyclobutane), 1.85 (*s*, 3H, *p*-CH<sub>3</sub> on mesitylene), 2.24–2.74 (*br*, 10H, *o*-CH<sub>3</sub> on mesitylene plus –CH<sub>2</sub>– on pyrrolidine), 2.78–3.04 (*br*, 8H, –CH<sub>2</sub>–N–CH<sub>2</sub>– plus –CH<sub>2</sub>– in cyclobutane), 3.31 (*q*, *j* = 7.8 Hz, 1H, >CH–), 3.58 (*s*, 2H, –CO–CH<sub>2</sub>–N), 6.77 (*s*, 2H, aromatics on mesitylene).

#### Crystal data

C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>29</sub> NO	Mo K $\alpha$ radiation
<i>M<sub>r</sub></i> = 299.44	Cell parameters from 18 614 reflections
Tetragonal, <i>P</i> <sub>4</sub> <sub>2</sub> / <i>n</i>	$\theta$ = 1.4–26.0°
<i>a</i> = 21.2110 (9) Å	$\mu$ = 0.07 mm <sup>-1</sup>
<i>c</i> = 7.8940 (4) Å	<i>T</i> = 293 (2) K
<i>V</i> = 3551.6 (3) Å <sup>3</sup>	Prism, yellow
<i>Z</i> = 8	0.42 × 0.29 × 0.20 mm
<i>D<sub>x</sub></i> = 1.120 Mg m <sup>-3</sup>	

#### Data collection

Stoe IPDS-II diffractometer	<i>R</i> <sub>int</sub> = 0.068
$\omega$ scans	$\theta_{\max}$ = 26.0°
Absorption correction: none	<i>h</i> = –26 → 26
23 972 measured reflections	<i>k</i> = –26 → 26
3390 independent reflections	<i>l</i> = –9 → 8
1642 reflections with <i>I</i> > 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> )	

#### Refinement

Refinement on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0947P)^2]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.068$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$wR(F^2) = 0.194$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} < 0.001$
<i>S</i> = 1.01	$\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.74 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
3390 reflections	$\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.24 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
202 parameters	Extinction correction: <i>SHELXL97</i>
H-atom parameters constrained	Extinction coefficient: 0.0042 (12)

**Table 1**

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

O1–C10	1.186 (4)	C7–C12	1.525 (4)
N1–C1	1.401 (5)	C7–C11	1.534 (4)
N1–C9	1.450 (4)	C7–C8	1.554 (4)
N1–C4	1.561 (5)	C9–C10	1.572 (5)
C5–C10	1.498 (5)	C13–C18	1.508 (4)
C5–C6	1.527 (5)	C15–C19	1.521 (4)
C5–C8	1.540 (4)	C17–C20	1.521 (4)
C6–C7	1.565 (4)		
C1–N1–C9	114.5 (3)	C5–C6–C7	90.4 (3)
C1–N1–C4	105.5 (3)	C12–C7–C11	111.2 (2)
C9–N1–C4	108.3 (3)	C11–C7–C8	111.9 (3)
N1–C1–C2	104.7 (3)	C11–C7–C6	111.3 (2)
C1–C2–C3	106.1 (4)	C8–C7–C6	86.9 (2)
C4–C3–C2	106.7 (3)	C5–C8–C7	90.3 (3)
C3–C4–N1	98.0 (3)	O1–C10–C5	122.9 (3)
C6–C5–C8	88.8 (2)	O1–C10–C9	119.0 (3)
N1–C9–C10–C5	–54.1 (4)		

**Table 2**

Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °).

Cg3 is the centroid of the C12–C17 benzene ring.

<i>D</i> –H··· <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> –H	H··· <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> ··· <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> –H··· <i>A</i>
C6–H6B···O1 <sup>i</sup>	0.97	2.65	3.594 (4)	164
C9–H9A···O1 <sup>i</sup>	0.97	2.69	3.450 (5)	136
C9–H9B···Cg3 <sup>ii</sup>	0.97	3.05	3.994 (4)	165
C11–H11A···Cg3 <sup>iii</sup>	0.96	2.96	3.818 (3)	149

Symmetry codes: (i)  $-x, 1-y, 1-z$ ; (ii)  $-x, -y, 2-z$ ; (iii)  $-\frac{1}{2}-y, x, \frac{1}{2}-z$ .

H atoms were positioned geometrically and treated as riding, with C–H bond lengths of 0.93–0.98 Å, and with  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$  [ $1.5U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$  for methyl]. In the final difference Fourier map, the maximum residual density was located 1.27 Å from atom H1A, and the minimum was 0.26 Å from H18C.

Data collection: *X-AREA* (Stoe & Cie, 2002); cell refinement: *X-AREA*; data reduction: *X-RED32* (Stoe & Cie, 2002); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEP-3 for Windows* (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *WinGX* (Farrugia, 1999).

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