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# Yu-Xi Sun\* and Yi Nie

Department of Chemistry, Qufu Normal University, Qufu 273165, People's Republic of China

Correspondence e-mail: yuxisun@163.com

#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 K Mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.003 Å R factor = 0.059 wR factor = 0.197 Data-to-parameter ratio = 11.3

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

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# Ammonium 2,6-dicarboxy-4-nitrophenolate

The title compound,  $NH_4^+ \cdot C_8H_4NO_7^-$  consists of a 2,6dicarboxy-4-nitrophenolate anion and an ammonium cation, both of which possess crystallographic twofold rotation symmetry. All the O atoms of the anion and the H atoms of the cation contribute to hydrogen bonds, forming a threedimensional network. Received 31 August 2004 Accepted 7 September 2004 Online 11 September 2004

## Comment

Supramolecular chemistry, broadly the chemistry of multicomponent molecular assemblies in which the component structural units are typically held together by a variety of weaker non-covalent interactions, has developed rapidly over recent years (Lindoy & Atkinson, 2000). Non-covalent bonds, such as electrostatic interactions (Price & Stone, 1987), hydrogen bonding (Jeffrey, 2003), van der Waals interactions, halogen-halogen interactions (Bent, 1968),  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking (Hunter & Sanders, 1990), anion $-\pi$  interactions (Tarakeshwar & Dongwook, 2004), halogen $-\pi$  stacking (Berg & Seddon, 2003), and CH<sub>3</sub>- $\pi$  facial hydrogen bonding (Desiraju, 1995), form the main toolbox in modern supramolecular chemistry. We can use this toolbox to describe the crystallization process as a self-assembly process. Each one of these forces has its importance in describing the complete theory of how building blocks take their final geometric positions to form a model of packing that is different from or similar to another with the same synthons.



As an extension of studies on weak non-covalent bonds in crystal systems, the crystal structure of the title compound, (I), is reported here.

The title compound, (I), consists of a dicarboxy-4-nitrophenolate anion and an ammonium cation, both of which possess  $C_2$  symmetry (Fig. 1). All the bond lengths are within normal ranges (Allen *et al.*, 1987). In the anion, the dihedral angle between the two carboxy groups is 44.9 (2)°. The dihedral angle between the O1/C5/O2 plane of the carboxy group and the benzene ring is 25.8 (2)°.

In the crystal structure, molecules are linked together by intermolecular  $N-H\cdots O$  and  $O-H\cdots O$  hydrogen bonds, forming a three-dimensional network (Table 1 and Fig. 2).



Figure 1

The structure of (I), showing the atom-numbering scheme and displacement ellipsoids drawn at the 30% probability level.

# **Experimental**

2,4-Dicarboxy-4-nitrophenol (0.1 mmol, 22.6 mg) was dissolved in methanol (10 ml). To the methanol solution was added an ammonia solution (5 ml, 30%). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 min to give a clear colourless solution. After allowing the solution to stand in air for 5 d, colourless block-shaped crystals were formed on slow evaporation of the solvent.

1038 independent reflections

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

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.024$ 

 $\theta_{\rm max} = 27.0^{\circ}$ 

 $h = -8 \rightarrow 9$ 

 $k = -16 \rightarrow 17$  $l = -25 \rightarrow 20$ 

#### Crystal data

Mo $K\alpha$ radiation		
Cell parameters from 872		
reflections		
$\theta = 2.3-25.7^{\circ}$		
$\mu = 0.15 \text{ mm}^{-1}$		
T = 293 (2)  K		
Block, colourless		
$0.35 \times 0.28 \times 0.25 \text{ mm}$		

#### Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector diffractometer  $\omega$  scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Sheldrick, 1996)  $T_{\min} = 0.948, T_{\max} = 0.963$ 

5300 measured reflections

## Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.117P)^2]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.059$	+ 2.7596P]
$wR(F^2) = 0.197$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
S = 1.12	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001$
1038 reflections	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.55 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
92 parameters	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.52 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
H atoms treated by a mixture of	Extinction correction: SHELXL
independent and constrained	Extinction coefficient: 0.006 (2)
refinement	

## Table 1

Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °).

$D - H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$
$\overline{O1-H1\cdots O4^{i}}$	0.846 (10)	2.48 (3)	3.172 (4)	139 (4)
$N1-H1B\cdots O2^{ii}$	0.892 (10)	2.209 (15)	3.053 (3)	158 (3)
$N1-H1A\cdots O2^{iii}$	0.892 (10)	2.46 (4)	2.948 (3)	115 (3)
$N1-H1A\cdots O3^{iii}$	0.892 (10)	1.966 (16)	2.832 (2)	163 (4)

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

Atoms H1A and H1B were located in a Fourier difference map and refined isotropically, with the N-H and H...H distances restrained to 0.90 (1) and 1.43 (2) Å, respectively. Atom H1 was also located in a difference Fourier map and refined isotropically, and the  $U_{\rm iso}({\rm H})$  value fixed at 0.08 Å<sup>2</sup>. Atom H3 was placed in an idealized





position and allowed to ride on its parent atom, with C-H = 0.96 Å, and  $U_{iso}(H)$  fixed at 0.08 Å<sup>2</sup>.

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 1998); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 1998); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997a); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997a); molecular graphics: SHELXTL (Sheldrick, 1997b); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXTL.

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