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## Key indicators

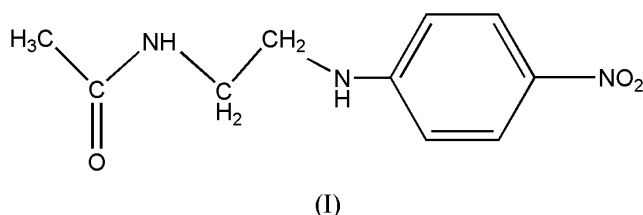
Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 293\text{ K}$   
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.004\text{ \AA}$   
 $R$  factor = 0.059  
 $wR$  factor = 0.147  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 12.4For details of how these key indicators were  
automatically derived from the article, see  
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.***N*-[2-(4-Nitrophenylamino)ethyl]acetamide**In the title compound,  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$ , the planar nitrophenyl-  
amine and acetamide fragments are linked in a *trans* fashion.  
The molecules are arranged as  $\text{N}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  hydrogen-bonded  
layers parallel to the (100) planes.

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## Comment

Imidazolium chemistry has been intensively investigated  
and found to be of great utility in organic synthesis, as  
exemplified by the Meyers synthetic method for optically  
active carboxylic acids (Gant & Meyers, 1994; Kaida *et al.*,  
1989). These properties stimulated our interest in this field.  
The title compound, (I), was obtained as an important inter-  
mediate in our synthetic investigations of imidazolium  
compounds.The title molecule contains two planar fragments linked by  
the C7—C8 bond in a *trans* fashion (Fig. 1); the r.m.s deviation  
in the nitrophenylamine fragment (C1—C7/N1/N2/O1/O2) is  
0.064 Å, while that in the acetamide (C8—C10/N3/O3) frag-  
ment is 0.013 Å. The dihedral angle between these two planes  
is 10.66 (5)°. As shown in Fig. 2,  $\text{N}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  hydrogen bonds  
(Table 2) link the molecules into a layered structure parallel to  
the (100) planes.

## Experimental

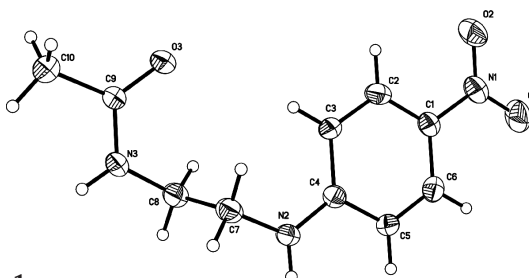
The title compound was prepared according to the method of Cola-  
pietro *et al.* (1982). Acetic anhydride (1 mmol) was added dropwise to

Figure 1

The structure of (I), showing 30% probability displacement ellipsoids and  
the atomic numbering. H atoms are shown as small spheres of arbitrary  
radii.

a solution of *N*-(*p*-nitrophenyl)ethylenediamine (1 mmol) in dry ethyl alcohol (50 ml) cooled in an ice-water bath and the reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature. A yellow precipitate was collected by filtration and recrystallized from ethyl alcohol. The product was dissolved in methanol and the solution was kept at room temperature. Yellow block-shaped crystals appeared after two weeks by slow evaporation of the solvent.

Crystal data

$C_{10}H_{13}N_3O_3$   $Z = 2$   
 $M_r = 223.23$   $D_x = 1.392 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$   
 Triclinic,  $P\bar{1}$  Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 Cell parameters from 716 reflections  
 $a = 6.731(3) \text{ \AA}$   $\theta = 3.0\text{--}25.9^\circ$   
 $b = 6.882(3) \text{ \AA}$   $\mu = 0.11 \text{ mm}^{-1}$   
 $c = 11.508(5) \text{ \AA}$   $T = 293(2) \text{ K}$   
 $\alpha = 88.620(6)^\circ$  Block, yellow  
 $\beta = 89.988(5)^\circ$   $0.4 \times 0.2 \times 0.2 \text{ mm}$   
 $\gamma = 88.106(6)^\circ$   
 $V = 532.6(4) \text{ \AA}^3$

Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector 1817 independent reflections  
 diffractometer 1258 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans  $R_{int} = 0.014$   
 Absorption correction: multi-scan  $\theta_{max} = 25.0^\circ$   
 (SADABS; Sheldrick, 2000)  $h = -6 \rightarrow 8$   
 $T_{min} = 0.959, T_{max} = 0.979$   $k = -6 \rightarrow 8$   
 2180 measured reflections  $l = -13 \rightarrow 13$

Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$  H-atom parameters constrained  
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.059$   $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.072P)^2]$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.147$  where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $S = 1.02$   $(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} < 0.001$   
 1817 reflections  $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.22 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$   
 146 parameters  $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.14 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$

Table 1

Selected interatomic distances ( $\text{\AA}$ ).

O1—N1	1.237 (3)	N2—C7	1.459 (3)
O2—N1	1.240 (3)	N3—C9	1.335 (3)
N1—C1	1.417 (3)	N3—C8	1.456 (3)
N2—C4	1.344 (3)	C9—O3	1.227 (3)

Table 2

Hydrogen-bonding geometry ( $\text{\AA}, ^\circ$ ).

$D\text{--}H\cdots A$	$D\text{--}H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D\text{--}H\cdots A$
$N3\text{--}H3\cdots O2^i$	0.86	2.31	3.146 (3)	164
$N2\text{--}H2\cdots O3^{ii}$	0.86	2.03	2.888 (3)	173

Symmetry codes: (i)  $x, y, z - 1$ ; (ii)  $x, 1 + y, z$ .

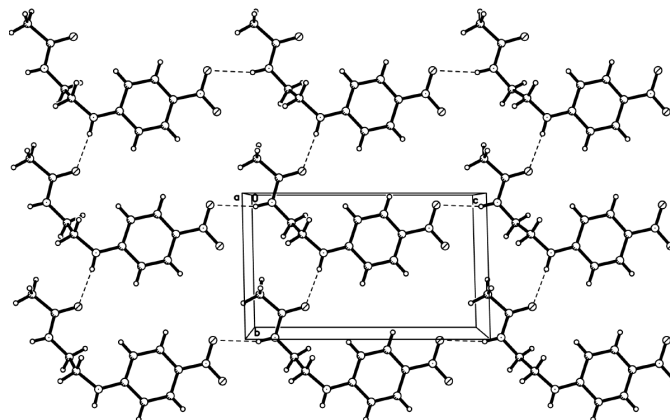


Figure 2

A view of the  $N\text{--}H\cdots O$  hydrogen-bonded network. The hydrogen bonds are shown as dashed lines.

H atoms were positioned geometrically ( $N\text{--}H = 0.86 \text{ \AA}$  and  $C\text{--}H = 0.93\text{--}0.97 \text{ \AA}$ ) and allowed to ride on their parent atoms, with  $U_{iso}(H)$  fixed at  $1.5U_{eq}(C)$  for the methylene H atoms and  $1.2U_{eq}(C, N)$  for other H atoms.

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

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