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Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study
 $T = 293\text{ K}$
Mean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.008\text{ \AA}$
 R factor = 0.078
 wR factor = 0.249
Data-to-parameter ratio = 12.8For details of how these key indicators were
automatically derived from the article, see
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.6-Methoxycarbonyl-2-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-3-ium nitrate hemihydrateThe title compound, $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2^+\cdot\text{NO}_3^-\cdot 0.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$, crystallizes in a monoclinic unit cell with two benzimidazolium cations, two NO_3^- anions and one water molecule in the asymmetric unit. Intermolecular hydrogen bonds link the cations, anions and water molecules into two-dimensional layers.

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Comment

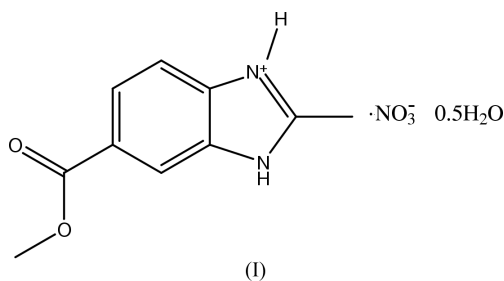
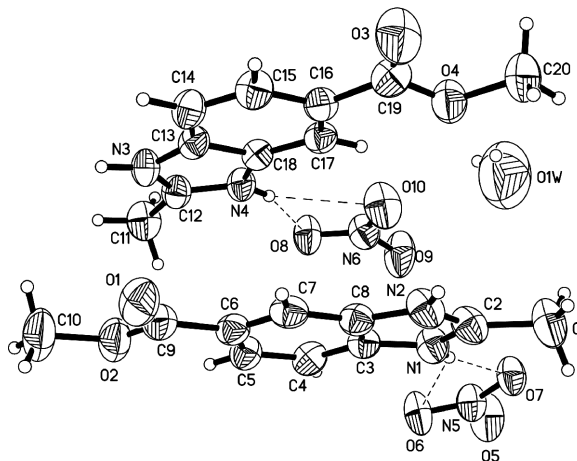
Benzimidazole derivatives and their metal complexes are of considerable interest due to their biological activities (Matthews *et al.*, 1998), and are widely used for medicaments (David *et al.*, 1993). Benzimidazole derivatives are also used as metal antiseptics, photosensitizers, surfactants, fluorescence whitening agents and photosensitive dyes (Matthews *et al.*, 1996; Raban *et al.*, 1985). In this paper, we report the synthesis and crystal structure of the title compound, (I).The asymmetric unit of (I) contains two crystallographically independent benzimidazolium cations *A* and *B*, two NO_3^- anions and one water molecule (Fig. 1). The cations are parallel to each other, with a dihedral angle of $2.5(2)^\circ$ between the mean planes of the two benzimidazole moieties.

Figure 1

View of the asymmetric unit of (I), showing 50% probability displacement ellipsoids. Dashed lines indicate hydrogen bonds.

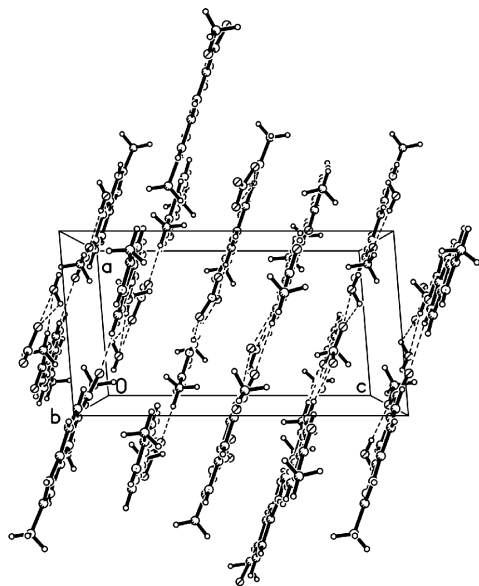


Figure 2
Packing diagram of (I), showing the layers. Dashed lines denote short-contact interactions.

Compound (I) is a hemihydrated nitrate salt.

The bond lengths in the benzimidazole skeleton (Table 1) show a character intermediate between single and double bonds, implying a highly π -conjugated delocalization effect, comparable with those observed in other benzimidazole derivatives (Bei *et al.*, 2004; Ozbey *et al.*, 1998). Each cation is almost planar, with dihedral angles of 1.6 (3) and 0.6 (3) $^\circ$ between the benzene ring and the five-membered ring in A and B, respectively.

Within the asymmetric unit, the water molecule is linked to the cation and anion, acting as a hydrogen-bond donor *via* O1W—H1W1 \cdots O4 and O1W—H2W1 \cdots O10 interactions (Table 2). In the crystal packing, the cations, anions and water molecules are connected into two-dimensional layers, which are stacked along the *c* axis (Fig. 2).

Experimental

A solution of ethyl 3,4-diaminobenzoate (1 g, 6 mmol) in acetic acid (30 ml) was heated under reflux for 10 h. The mixture was then poured into a beaker containing 50 ml ice water, yielding quantities of precipitate. After filtration, the residue was dissolved in ethanol (30 ml) and Cu(NO₃)₂·9H₂O (3.5 g, 10 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at 351 K for 2 h. The yellow solution was left to stand at room temperature, and single crystals of the title compound were obtained unexpectedly.

Crystal data

C₁₀H₁₁N₂O₂⁺·NO₃⁻·0.5H₂O
M_r = 262.23
 Monoclinic, *P*₂₁/*c*
a = 7.9107 (6) Å
b = 21.5276 (17) Å
c = 14.2691 (11) Å
 β = 94.573 (2) $^\circ$
V = 2422.3 (3) Å³
Z = 8

D_x = 1.438 Mg m⁻³
 Mo *K* α radiation
 Cell parameters from 937 reflections
 θ = 2.4–25.0 $^\circ$
 μ = 0.12 mm⁻¹
T = 293 (2) K
 Block, brown–yellow
 0.20 × 0.15 × 0.09 mm

Data collection

Bruker SMART 1000 CCD area-detector diffractometer
 ω scans
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (*SADABS*; Sheldrick, 1996)
 T_{\min} = 0.977, T_{\max} = 0.989
 12579 measured reflections

4284 independent reflections
 1703 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
 R_{int} = 0.056
 θ_{max} = 25.0 $^\circ$
 h = -5 \rightarrow 9
 k = -25 \rightarrow 25
 l = -16 \rightarrow 15

Refinement

Refinement on F^2
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)]$ = 0.078
 $wR(F^2)$ = 0.249
 S = 0.97
 4284 reflections
 334 parameters

H-atom parameters constrained
 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.1161P)^2]$
 where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}}$ = 0.002
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}}$ = 0.21 e Å⁻³
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}}$ = -0.32 e Å⁻³

Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, $^\circ$).

O2—C9	1.354 (7)	N2—C2	1.321 (6)
O2—C10	1.474 (6)	N3—C12	1.327 (6)
O4—C19	1.329 (6)	N3—C13	1.384 (6)
O4—C20	1.455 (6)	N4—C12	1.321 (5)
N1—C2	1.318 (6)	N4—C18	1.383 (6)
N1—C3	1.385 (6)		
C2—N1—C3	110.1 (5)	C8—C3—N1	105.8 (5)
C2—N2—C8	109.4 (5)	C3—C8—N2	106.1 (5)
C12—N3—C13	110.4 (4)	N4—C12—N3	107.8 (5)
C12—N4—C18	110.2 (4)	C14—C13—C18	122.0 (5)
N1—C2—N2	108.7 (5)	N4—C18—C13	106.2 (4)

Table 2

Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, $^\circ$).

<i>D</i> —H \cdots <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> —H	H \cdots <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> \cdots <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> —H \cdots <i>A</i>
N1—H1A \cdots O6	0.86	2.34	3.040 (6)	138
N1—H1A \cdots O7	0.86	2.07	2.906 (6)	163
N2—H2A \cdots O8 ⁱ	0.86	2.36	3.120 (6)	148
N2—H2A \cdots O9 ⁱ	0.86	2.00	2.804 (7)	154
N3—H3A \cdots O5 ⁱⁱ	0.86	2.43	3.135 (6)	139
N3—H3A \cdots O7 ⁱⁱⁱ	0.86	2.04	2.868 (5)	160
N4—H4A \cdots O8	0.86	2.01	2.839 (6)	163
N4—H4A \cdots O10	0.86	2.40	3.090 (6)	138
O1W—H1W1 \cdots O4	0.85	2.43	3.28 (2)	173
O1W—H2W1 \cdots O10	0.85	2.15	2.72 (2)	124
C1—H1B \cdots O9 ⁱ	0.96	2.55	3.350 (8)	140
C5—H5A \cdots O3 ⁱⁱⁱ	0.93	2.49	3.140 (7)	127
C10—H10A \cdots O1W ⁱⁱ	0.96	2.47	3.42 (2)	173
C15—H15A \cdots O6 ^{iv}	0.93	2.56	3.359 (7)	145
C17—H17A \cdots O10	0.93	2.55	3.258 (7)	133

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

After their location in a difference Fourier map, all H atoms were positioned geometrically (O—H = 0.95, N—H = 0.86 and C—H = 0.93–0.96 Å) and refined as riding, with $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2$ or 1.5 times $U_{\text{eq}}(\text{parent atom})$.

Data collection: *SMART* (Siemens, 1996); cell refinement: *SAINTE* (Siemens, 1996); data reduction: *SAINTE*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXTL* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXTL*; molecular graphics: *SHELXTL*; software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*, *PARST* (Nardelli, 1995) and *PLATON* (Spek, 2003).

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