

16 $\beta$ -Bromo-17 $\alpha$ -hydroxypregn-4-ene-3,20-dione

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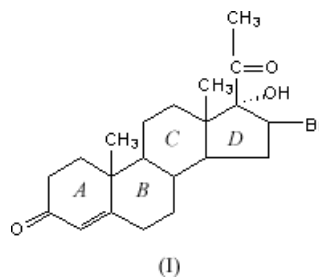
## Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 293$  K  
Mean  $\sigma(C-C) = 0.007$  Å  
 $R$  factor = 0.043  
 $wR$  factor = 0.093  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 14.5For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

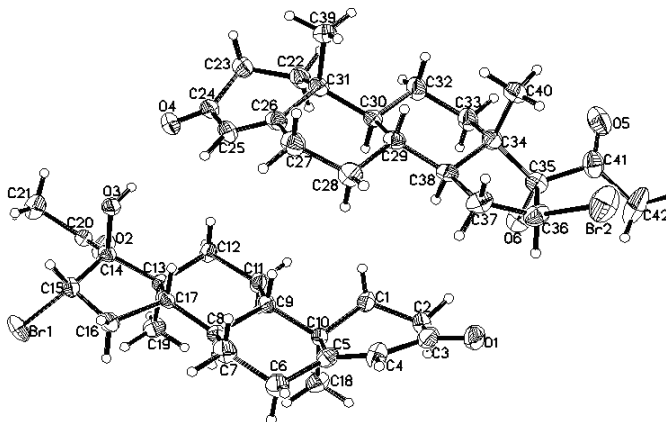
The title compound,  $C_{21}H_{29}BrO_3$ , is a steroid used as an intermediate in medicine. The asymmetric unit consists of two molecules and the structure contains intermolecular hydrogen bonds.

## Comment

The title compound, (I), is a steroid derivative used as an intermediate in medicine, and was obtained from the reaction of 16,17-epoxypregn-4-ene-3,20-dione and HBr in acetic acid. In the present paper, we report the crystal structure of (I). 16,17-Epoxypregn-4-ene-3,20-dione does not contain heavy atoms, so it is difficult to determine the absolute configuration; this problem was solved by bromination of the molecule.



Ring *A* (see scheme) is in a  $1\alpha$ -sofa conformation, rings *B* and *C* are in chair conformations and ring *D* is in a  $14\alpha$ -envelope conformation (Fig. 1). The conformations are similar to those in 17 $\alpha$ -hydroxyprogesterone (Declercq *et al.*, 1972). The title compound crystallizes in the monoclinic space group  $C2$ , different from 17 $\alpha$ -hydroxyprogesterone, which crystallizes in the orthorhombic space group  $P2_12_12_1$ . The asymmetric unit consists of two molecules and the structure contains intermolecular hydrogen bonds ( $O3-H3\cdots O4$  and



**Figure 1**  
The asymmetric unit of the title compound, with displacement ellipsoids drawn at the 30% probability level.

O6—H6···O1<sup>1</sup>; Table 1 and Fig. 2). The two molecules are slightly different in shape. For example, the distance between C3 and C21 is 11.146 (7) Å, while the distance between C24 and C42 is 10.971 (9) Å.

### Experimental

The title compound (m.p. 469.25 K) was prepared by reaction of 16,17-epoxypregn-4-ene-3,20-dione and HBr in acetic acid. Colorless single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were obtained by slow evaporation of a solution in acetone.

#### Crystal data

C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>29</sub> BrO <sub>3</sub>	$D_x = 1.352 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
$M_r = 409.35$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
Monoclinic, $C2$	Cell parameters from 2865 reflections
$a = 22.565 (7) \text{ \AA}$	$\theta = 2.4\text{--}21.6^\circ$
$b = 9.393 (3) \text{ \AA}$	$\mu = 2.06 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$c = 21.052 (7) \text{ \AA}$	$T = 293 (2) \text{ K}$
$\beta = 115.682 (8)^\circ$	Block, colorless
$V = 4021 (2) \text{ \AA}^3$	$0.24 \times 0.18 \times 0.14 \text{ mm}$
$Z = 8$	

#### Data collection

Bruker SMART 1000 CCD area-detector diffractometer	6647 independent reflections
$\varphi$ and $\omega$ scans	4103 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 1998)	$R_{\text{int}} = 0.035$
$T_{\text{min}} = 0.605$ , $T_{\text{max}} = 0.749$	$\theta_{\text{max}} = 25.0^\circ$
10528 measured reflections	$h = -23 \rightarrow 26$
	$k = -10 \rightarrow 11$
	$l = -23 \rightarrow 25$

#### Refinement

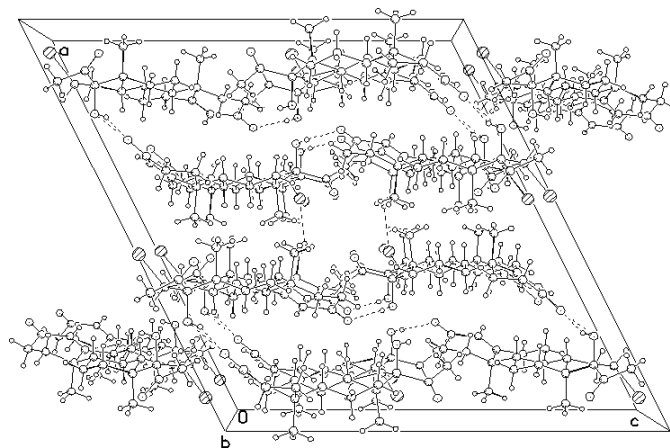
Refinement on $F^2$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2)]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.043$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$wR(F^2) = 0.093$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$
$S = 1.00$	$\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.57 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
6647 reflections	$\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.50 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
459 parameters	Absolute structure: Flack (1983),
H-atom parameters constrained	2214 Friedel pairs
	Flack parameter = 0.012 (9)

**Table 1**

Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °).

$D\text{---}H\cdots A$	$D\text{---}H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D\text{---}H\cdots A$
O6—H6···O1 <sup>1</sup>	0.82	2.04	2.836 (5)	163
O3—H3···O4	0.82	2.02	2.798 (5)	158

Symmetry code: (i)  $\frac{1}{2} - x, \frac{1}{2} + y, 1 - z$ .



**Figure 2**

The molecular packing of the title compound, viewed along the  $b$  axis. Dashed lines indicate the intermolecular hydrogen-bonding interactions.

H atoms were positioned geometrically and treated as riding atoms, with O—H = 0.82 Å and C—H = 0.93–0.98 Å.  $U_{\text{iso}}$  values were set at  $1.5U_{\text{eq}}$ (parent atom) for H atoms on oxygen and of methyl groups or at  $1.2U_{\text{eq}}$ (parent atom) for H atoms on other C atoms.

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 1998); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 1998); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: SHELXTL (Bruker, 1998) and ORTEPII (Johnson, 1976); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXTL.

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