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People's Republic of ChinaCorrespondence e-mail:
zhangshush@public.qd.sd.cn**Key indicators**Single-crystal X-ray study
 $T = 293$ K
Mean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.003$ Å
 R factor = 0.068
 wR factor = 0.185
Data-to-parameter ratio = 16.9For details of how these key indicators were
automatically derived from the article, see
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.***N,N'*-Bis(*p*-methoxyphenyl)-2,2'-(*p*-phenylene-
dioxy)diacetamide**

The title compound, $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_6$, crystallizes in the triclinic space group $P\bar{1}$ with two half molecules in the asymmetric unit. The two independent molecules differ in the orientation of the carbonyl group. In the crystal packing, the molecules are linked into chains *via* intermolecular $\text{N}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$ interactions. The packing is further stabilized by $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\pi$ interactions.

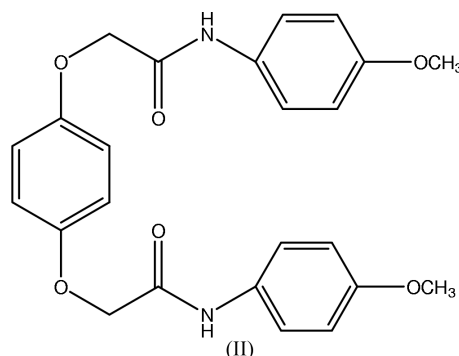
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Comment

Recently, we have reported the crystal structure of an amide-type acyclic polyether with 1,4-dihydroxybenzene as a skeleton, *N,N'*-bis(*p*-methylphenyl)-2,2'-(*p*-phenylenedioxy)diacetamide, (I) (Wen *et al.*, 2004). We report here the crystal structure of *N,N'*-bis(*p*-methoxyphenyl)-2,2'-(*p*-phenylenedioxy)diacetamide, (II).



The asymmetric unit of (II) contains two half molecules, the other halves being related by crystallographic inversion centres (Fig. 1). The corresponding bond lengths and angles in the two independent molecules *A* (containing O3) and *B*

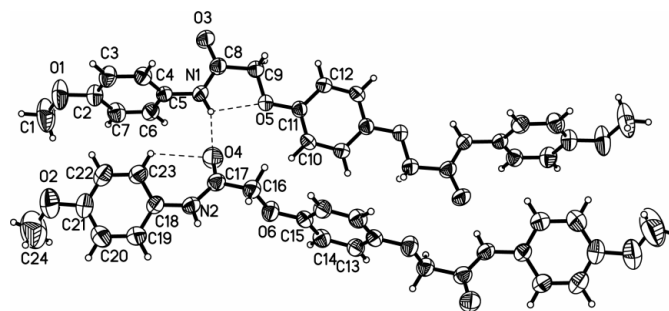


Figure 1
The structure of the two molecules of the asymmetric unit of (II), showing 50% probability displacement ellipsoids and the atom-numbering scheme. Unlabelled atoms in molecule *A* are related to labelled atoms by $(1-x, 1-y, -1-z)$. Unlabelled atoms in molecule *B* are related to labelled atoms by $(2-x, 1-y, -1-z)$.

(containing O4) agree with each other, and are comparable to those in (I) (Wen *et al.*, 2004). However, the N—C—C—O and O—C—C—O torsion angles in the acetamide linkage of *A* and *B* deviate significantly from one another (Table 1). The dihedral angle between the central and each of the outer benzene rings is 66.6 (1)° in *A* and 69.9 (1)° in *B*. In the centrosymmetric compound, (I), this dihedral angle is 9.69 (12)°.

In the asymmetric unit of (II), the two independent molecules are linked by N1—H1...O4 hydrogen bonds (Table 2). There is an intramolecular hydrogen bond in both *A* and *B*, forming five- and six-membered rings, respectively. Molecules of (II) are linked into chains *via* intermolecular N2—H2...O3(1 + *x*, *y*, *z*) interactions. The packing is further stabilized by C—H... π interactions (Table 2)

Experimental

To a solution of *N-p*-methoxyphenyl chloroacetamide (2.00 g, 10 mmol) in acetone (35 ml) were added 1,4-dihydroxybenzene (0.55 g, 5.0 mmol), K₂CO₃ (1.52 g, 11 mmol) and KI (0.5 g), and the mixture was stirred at 328 K for 5 h. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was washed three times with water and then filtered. The filtered solid was recrystallized from ethanol and water. The title compound was obtained after drying the resulting yellow powder at room temperature for 48 h. Colourless single crystals of (II) suitable for X-ray diffraction analysis were obtained by slow evaporation of a solution in dimethylformamide–ethanol (1:20, *v/v*) over a period of one month.

Crystal data

C ₂₄ H ₂₄ N ₂ O ₆	Z = 2
<i>M_r</i> = 436.45	<i>D_x</i> = 1.342 Mg m ⁻³
Triclinic, <i>P</i> $\bar{1}$	Mo <i>K</i> α radiation
<i>a</i> = 9.8370 (7) Å	Cell parameters from 6061 reflections
<i>b</i> = 10.1922 (8) Å	θ = 1.9–28.0°
<i>c</i> = 10.9181 (8) Å	μ = 0.10 mm ⁻¹
α = 94.327 (1)°	<i>T</i> = 293 (2) K
β = 92.633 (1)°	Block, colourless
γ = 97.719 (1)°	0.34 × 0.22 × 0.16 mm
<i>V</i> = 1079.90 (14) Å ³	

Data collection

Siemens SMART 1000 CCD area-detector diffractometer	4932 independent reflections
ω scans	3671 reflections with <i>I</i> > 2 σ (<i>I</i>)
Absorption correction: multi-scan, (SADABS; Sheldrick, 1996)	<i>R</i> _{int} = 0.019
<i>T</i> _{min} = 0.968, <i>T</i> _{max} = 0.985	θ _{max} = 28.0°
9528 measured reflections	<i>h</i> = -12 → 12
	<i>k</i> = -13 → 13
	<i>l</i> = -14 → 14

Refinement

Refinement on <i>F</i> ²	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0865P)^2 + 0.3355P]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.068$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$wR(F^2) = 0.185$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} < 0.001$
<i>S</i> = 1.04	$\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.39 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
4932 reflections	$\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.27 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
291 parameters	
H-atom parameters constrained	

Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

O1—C2	1.365 (3)	O5—C9	1.406 (2)
O1—C1	1.413 (4)	O6—C15	1.380 (2)
O2—C24	1.284 (5)	O6—C16	1.419 (3)
O2—C21	1.365 (3)	N1—C8	1.324 (3)
O3—C8	1.225 (2)	N1—C5	1.432 (2)
O4—C17	1.217 (3)	N2—C17	1.339 (3)
O5—C11	1.375 (2)	N2—C18	1.409 (3)
C1—O1—C2—C7	5.8 (5)	C16—O6—C15—C14	-176.51 (19)
C8—N1—C5—C4	-70.5 (3)	C15—O6—C16—C17	175.41 (17)
C5—N1—C8—O3	5.1 (3)	C18—N2—C17—O4	-6.0 (4)
C11—O5—C9—C8	-174.49 (17)	O6—C16—C17—O4	-89.5 (3)
O3—C8—C9—O5	-171.9 (2)	O6—C16—C17—N2	90.5 (2)
N1—C8—C9—O5	8.9 (3)	C17—N2—C18—C23	-22.7 (3)
C9—O5—C11—C10	171.12 (19)	C24—O2—C21—C20	-25.1 (6)

Table 2

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

*Cg*1 and *Cg*2 are the centroids of the central benzene rings of molecules *A* and *B*, respectively, and *Cg*3 is the centroid of the outer ring of molecule *B*.

<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>
N1—H1...O4 ⁱ	0.86	2.19	2.965 (2)	149
N1—H1...O5 ⁱ	0.86	2.24	2.624 (2)	107
N2—H2...O3 ⁱⁱ	0.86	1.94	2.793 (2)	172
C23—H23...O4 ⁱ	0.93	2.40	2.941 (3)	117
C3—H3... <i>Cg</i> 1 ⁱⁱⁱ	0.93	2.75	3.57	147
C12—H12... <i>Cg</i> 2 ^{iv}	0.93	2.89	3.67	142
C13—H13... <i>Cg</i> 3 ^v	0.93	2.96	3.72	140

Symmetry codes: (i) *x*, *y*, *z*; (ii) *x* + 1, *y*, *z*; (iii) *x*, *y*, *z* + 1; (iv) *x* - 1, *y*, *z*; (v) *x*, *y*, *z* - 1.

All H atoms were positioned geometrically, with C—H = 0.93–0.97 Å and N—H = 0.86 Å, and were treated as riding, with *U*_{iso}(H) = 1.2 or 1.5 times *U*_{eq} of the parent atoms.

Data collection: *SMART* (Siemens, 1996); cell refinement: *SAINT* (Siemens, 1996); data reduction: *SAINT*; 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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