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#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 120$  K  
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.002$  Å  
 $R$  factor = 0.050  
 $wR$  factor = 0.136  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 16.2

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

## 10-Methoxydibenz[*b,f*]azepine-5-carboxamide

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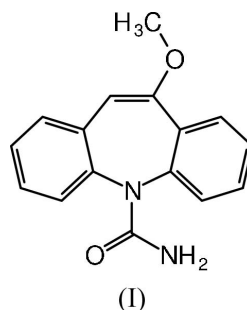
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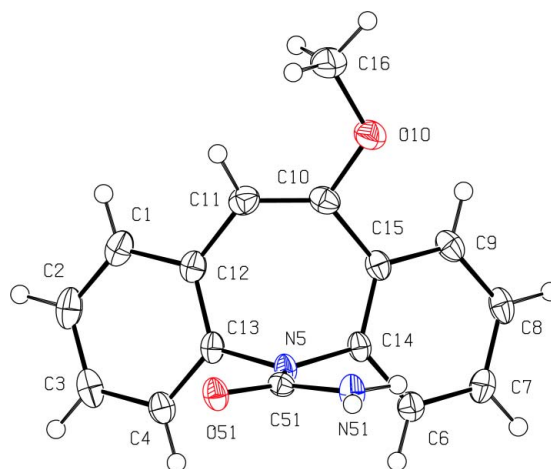
The structure of the title compound,  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{14}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ , contains a seven-membered ring that adopts a boat conformation, and the overall molecular shape is that of a butterfly. In the packing, the molecules form a convoluted hydrogen-bonded polymer *via* a typical  $R_2^2(8)$  graph-set dimer, between carboxamide groups, and an  $R_2^2(16)$  graph-set dimer formed through an interaction between the second carboxamide NH group and an adjacent methoxy O atom (in each molecule). The dihedral angle between the benzene rings is  $56.09$  ( $5^\circ$ ).

#### Comment

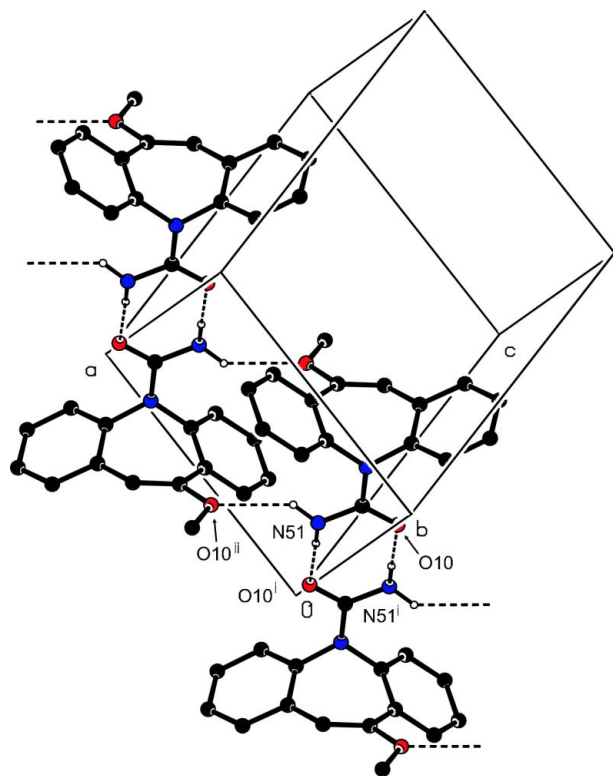
The title compound, (I), is an intermediate in the synthesis of the anticonvulsant drug oxcarbazepine (Kricka & Ledwith, 1974), being the next step on from 10-methoxy-5*H*-dibenz[*b,f*]azepine, the structure of which we reported recently (Nagaraj *et al.*, 2005).



The structure of (I) (Fig. 1) contains a seven-membered ring that adopts a boat conformation (Cremer & Pople, 1975), and



**Figure 1**  
The molecular structure and atom-numbering scheme for (I). Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level and H atoms are shown as spheres of arbitrary radii.



**Figure 2** Partial packing diagram for (I), showing the hydrogen-bonding interactions as dashed lines. For clarity, H atoms not involved in the hydrogen-bonding interactions have been omitted. [Symmetry codes: (i)  $-x, 1 - y, -z$ ; (ii)  $1 - x, 1 - y, -z$ .]

the overall molecular shape is that of a butterfly. In the packing of (I), the molecules form two types of dimers, thus creating a convoluted hydrogen-bonded polymer (Fig. 2). A typical  $R_2^2(8)$  graph-set (Etter, 1990) dimer is formed by interaction between carboxamide groups, while an interaction between the second carboxamide NH group and an adjacent methoxy O atom (in each molecule) creates an  $R_2^2(16)$  graph-set dimer, listed in Table 1. The dihedral angle between the benzene rings is  $56.09(5)^\circ$ .

## Experimental

The title compound was prepared by heating 10-methoxy-5H-dibenz[*b,f*]azepine (2.23 g, 10 mmol) with NaOCN (0.65 g, 10 mmol) in the presence of monochloroacetic acid (2.95 g, 10 mmol) in toluene (5 ml). The compound was recrystallized from a dichloromethane-ethanol solution (1:1 v/v).

### Crystal data

$C_{16}H_{14}N_2O_2$	$Z = 2$
$M_r = 266.29$	$D_x = 1.328 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
Triclinic, $P\bar{1}$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
$a = 8.8003(2) \text{ \AA}$	Cell parameters from 3002 reflections
$b = 9.2012(2) \text{ \AA}$	$\theta = 2.9\text{--}27.5^\circ$
$c = 9.3735(3) \text{ \AA}$	$\mu = 0.09 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$\alpha = 64.6999(16)^\circ$	$T = 120(2) \text{ K}$
$\beta = 76.0520(15)^\circ$	Block, colourless
$\gamma = 83.7398(18)^\circ$	$0.54 \times 0.36 \times 0.19 \text{ mm}$
$V = 665.95(3) \text{ \AA}^3$	

### Data collection

Nonius KappaCCD diffractometer  
 $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans  
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Sheldrick, 2003)  
 $T_{\min} = 0.953, T_{\max} = 0.983$   
 14 982 measured reflections  
 3054 independent reflections

2527 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.030$   
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 27.6^\circ$   
 $h = -11 \rightarrow 11$   
 $k = -11 \rightarrow 11$   
 $l = -11 \rightarrow 12$

### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.050$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.136$   
 $S = 1.07$   
 3054 reflections  
 189 parameters  
 H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0757P)^2 + 0.2176P]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.43 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.40 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$   
 Extinction correction: SHELXL97  
 Extinction coefficient: 0.155 (14)

**Table 1**

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

$D\text{--}H\cdots A$	$D\text{--}H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D\text{--}H\cdots A$
$N51\text{--}H51\cdots O51^i$	0.893 (19)	2.05 (2)	2.9426 (16)	174.1 (16)
$N51\text{--}H52\cdots O10^{ii}$	0.893 (19)	2.339 (18)	3.0720 (16)	139.4 (15)

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

All H atoms not included in the hydrogen-bonding associations were included in the refinement at calculated positions, in the riding-model approximation, with C—H distances of 0.95 (ArH) and 0.98  $\text{\AA}$  (CH<sub>3</sub>). The isotropic displacement parameters for the aromatic H atoms were set equal to  $1.2U_{\text{eq}}$  of the carrier atom while the methyl H atoms were set equal to  $1.5U_{\text{eq}}$  of the carrier atom. The two amide H atoms were located in difference syntheses and their positional parameters were refined. The isotropic displacement parameters for these located H atoms were set equal to  $1.2U_{\text{eq}}$  of the carrier N atom.

Data collection: COLLECT (Hooft, 1998); cell refinement: DENZO (Otwinowski & Minor, 1997) and COLLECT; data reduction: DENZO and COLLECT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: PLATON (Spek, 2003); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXL97.

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