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Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 298 KMean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.005 \text{ Å}$ Disorder in main residue R factor = 0.059 wR factor = 0.214 Data-to-parameter ratio = 17.0

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

In the title compound, $C_7H_7N_2^+ \cdot C_9H_7O_4^-$, hydrogen phenylmalonate anions are connected by $O-H\cdots O$ hydrogen bonds to form zigzag chains. The chains are connected to each other by $N-H\cdots O$ hydrogen bonds through benzimidazolium cations, forming a layer.

Benzimidazolium hydrogen phenylmalonate

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Comment

The title compound, (I), was investigated as part of a structural study on $D-H\cdots A$ hydrogen bonding (D = N, O or C; A = N or O) in carboxylic acid and pyridine systems (Kashino *et al.*, 2001; Ishida *et al.*, 2001, 2002; Fukunaga *et al.*, 2003, 2004). Phenylmalonic acid is an interesting candidate for the selective synthesis and crystallization of optically active substances, because its acidic anion, the hydrogen phenylmalonate ion, is optical active. However, no crystal data of compounds composed of phenylmalonic acid and organic bases are recorded in the Cambridge Structural Database (Version 5.26; Allen, 2002). To our knowledge, this is the first report of a phenylmalonic acid–organic base system.



In (I), the asymmetric unit is composed of benzimidazolium and hydrogen phenylmalonate ions and an acid-base interaction involving a proton transfer is observed between phenylmalonic acid and benzimidazole (Fig. 1). Anions related by an inversion center are connected by $O-H\cdots O$ hydrogen bonds ($O1-H1\cdots O1^{ii}$ and $O3-H3\cdots O3^{iii}$; symmetry codes are as in Table 2) and form a zigzag chain running along [110]. In the hydrogen bonds, atoms H1 and H3 are disordered between two positions (Fig. 2). Benzimidazolium cations connect neighboring chains through N1- $H1N\cdots O2$ and N2- $H2N\cdots O4^{i}$ hydrogen bonds, forming a layer extending parallel to the *ab* plane (Fig. 3). In the layer, a $C-H\cdots O$ hydrogen bond and a $C-H\cdots\pi$ interaction are observed.

Experimental

Crystals of (I) were grown by slow evaporation at room temperature of a methanol solution of phenylmalonic acid and benzimidazole in a molar ratio of 1:1.

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Figure 1

ORTEP-3 (Farrugia, 1997) drawing of the asymmetric unit of (I). Displacement ellipsoids of non-H atoms are drawn at the 50% probability level. The occupancy factors for H1 and H3 are 0.5. The hydrogen bond is indicated by a dashed line.



Figure 2

The zigzag chain formed by hydrogen phenylmalonate anions. The H atoms attached to O atoms are disordered between two positions (symmetry codes are as in Table 2). Dashed lines indicate hydrogen bonds.



Figure 3

Packing diagram of (I). Dashed lines indicate the N-H···O and O- $H \cdots O$ hydrogen bonds and $C - H \cdots \pi$ interactions (symmetry codes are as in Table 2).

$C_7H_7N_2^+ \cdot C_9H_7O_4^-$	Z = 2
$M_r = 298.30$	$D_x = 1.430 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
Triclinic, $P\overline{1}$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
a = 5.1003 (13) Å	Cell parameters from 25
b = 9.244(3) Å	reflections
c = 15.274 (4) Å	$\theta = 10.5 12.4^{\circ}$
$\alpha = 102.2 \ (5)^{\circ}$	$\mu = 0.11 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$\beta = 90.64 \ (2)^{\circ}$	$T = 298 { m K}$
$\gamma = 99.87 \ (2)^{\circ}$	Prism, colorless
$V = 692.6 (14) \text{ Å}^3$	$0.50 \times 0.30 \times 0.25 \text{ mm}$

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.042$ $\theta_{\rm max} = 29.0^{\circ}$

 $h = -6 \rightarrow 6$

 $k = -1 \rightarrow 12$

 $l = -20 \rightarrow 20$

3 standard reflections

every 97 reflections

 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.1P)^2]$

where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$

+ 0.25P]

 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} = 0.001$

 $\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.32 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$

 $\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.35 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$

intensity decay: 0.2%

Data collection

Rigaku AFC-5R diffractometer ω –2 θ scans Absorption correction: ψ scan (North et al., 1968) $T_{\min} = 0.95, \ T_{\max} = 0.97$ 4300 measured reflections 3657 independent reflections 2059 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.059$ wR(F²) = 0.214 S = 1.003657 reflections 215 parameters H atoms: see below

Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

01-C1	1.280 (4)	N2-C10	1.316 (5)
O2-C1	1.225 (5)	N2-C16	1.383 (4)
O3-C3	1.278 (3)	C1-C2	1.528 (5)
O4-C3	1.237 (3)	C2-C4	1.520 (4)
N1-C10	1.316 (5)	C2-C3	1.533 (6)
N1-C11	1.379 (6)		
C10-N1-C11	108.4 (3)	C4-C2-C3	110.9 (4)
C10-N2-C16	108.1 (4)	C1-C2-C3	110.9 (5)
O2-C1-O1	124.3 (3)	O4-C3-O3	124.6 (3)
O2-C1-C2	120.1 (3)	O4-C3-C2	119.5 (3)
O1-C1-C2	115.6 (4)	O3-C3-C2	115.9 (6)
C4-C2-C1	111.1 (4)	N2-C10-N1	111.0 (3)

Table 2 Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °).

$D - H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - \mathbf{H} \cdot \cdot \cdot A$
N1-H1N···O2	0.89 (4)	1.78 (4)	2.645 (4)	163 (4)
$N2-H2N\cdots O4^{i}$	0.87 (4)	1.94 (4)	2.788 (3)	165 (4)
O1−H1···O1 ⁱⁱ	0.82 (6)	1.70 (7)	2.504 (3)	167 (8)
O3−H3···O3 ⁱⁱⁱ	0.87 (6)	1.63 (6)	2.494 (3)	177 (8)
C10−H10···O3 ^{iv}	0.93	2.40	2.972 (4)	119
$C15-H15\cdots Cg^{i}$	0.93	2.92	3.713 (4)	144

Symmetry codes: (i) 1 + x, y - 1, z; (ii) 1 - x, 1 - y, 2 - z; (iii) 2 - x, 2 - y, 2 - z; (iv) 2 - x, 1 - y, 2 - z. Note: Cg donates the centroid of the benzene ring of the anion.

H atoms attached to C atoms were treated as riding, with C-H =0.98 (methine H) or 0.93 Å (aromatic H), and $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$. H atoms involved in $O{-}H{\cdots}O$ and $N{-}H{\cdots}O$ hydrogen bonds were refined [N-H = 0.87 (4)-0.89 (4) Å and O-H = 0.82 (6)-0.86 (5) Å].At the final stage of the least-squares refinement, the occupancy factors of H1 and H3 were fixed at 0.5.

Data collection: MSC/AFC Diffractometer Control Software (Molecular Structure Corporation, 1990); cell refinement: MSC/AFC Diffractometer Control Software; data reduction: TEXSAN for Windows (Molecular Structure Corporation, 1999); program(s) used to solve structure: SIR92 (Altomare et al., 1994); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: ORTEP3 (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: TEXSAN for Windows.

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