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#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 298$  K  
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.003$  Å  
Disorder in main residue  
 $R$  factor = 0.039  
 $wR$  factor = 0.111  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 10.3

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

## 5-Nitro-2-furaldehyde *N*-(hydroxymethyl)-semicarbazone

The title compound,  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_8\text{N}_4\text{O}_5$ , which is a potential anti-Chagas' derivative, was synthesized using a simple hydroxymethylation method in a basic medium with formaldehyde. The structure reveals two infinite two-dimensional networks in the  $(\bar{1}02)$  and  $(001)$  planes, stabilized by intermolecular hydrogen bonds.

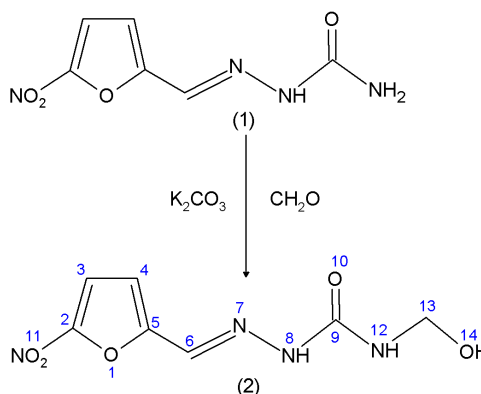
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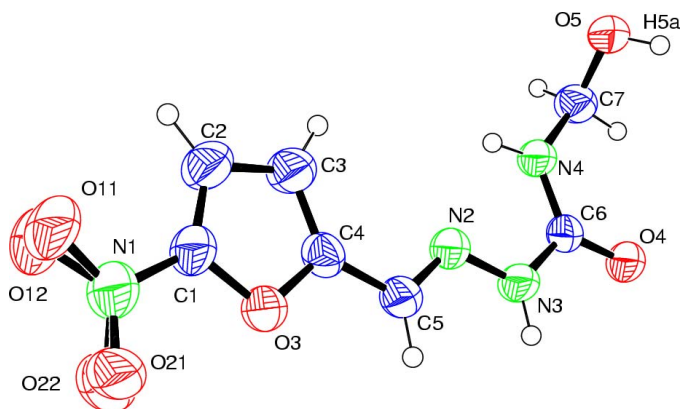
#### Comment

Chagas' disease has re-emerged as an important medico-social problem for people living in the Americas (Moncayo, 1992; World Health Organization, 2003). It is endemic in 21 countries, with approximately 16 to 18 million individuals infected with *Trypanosoma cruzi* and about 100 million people at risk of contracting the parasitosis. Among many compounds that are active against *T. cruzi*, aromatic nitroheterocyclic derivatives are, generally, very active (Cerecetto & Gonzalez, 2002; Maya *et al.*, 2003). Despite their toxicity, this class of compounds has been considered as important leads for molecular modification.

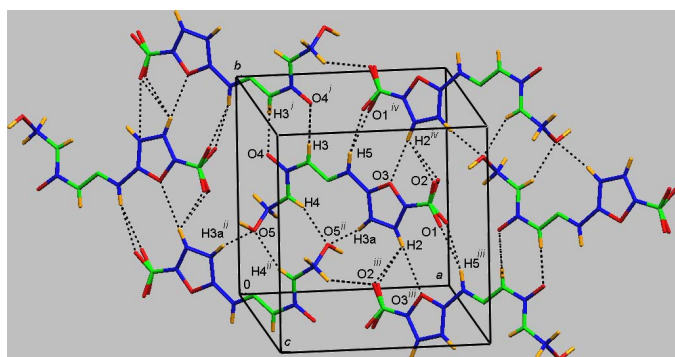


Nitrofurazone (1) is a 5-nitro-2-furfurylidene-semicarbazone and is primarily an antimicrobial agent active against Gram-positive microorganisms (Korolkovas, 2004). It has been used as a precursor to obtain potential anti-Chagas' derivatives (Chung & Ferreira, 1999). An intermediate compound in this synthesis is the title hydroxymethylnitrofurazone, (2), which has been shown to be active against the trypomastigote or amastigote forms of *T. cruzi*, as well as being about four times less mutagenic than nitrofurazone (Chung *et al.*, 2003).

Fig. 1 shows an ORTEP-3 (Farrugia, 1997) view of (2). Relevant geometric parameters are given in Table 1. The molecule is essentially planar except for the hydroxyl group. Atom O5 deviates by 1.106 (7) Å from the least-squares plane through the furan ring. The C6–N4–C7–O5 torsion angle is



**Figure 1**  
A view of (2), with displacement ellipsoids for shown at the 50% probability level. Both disorder components are shown.



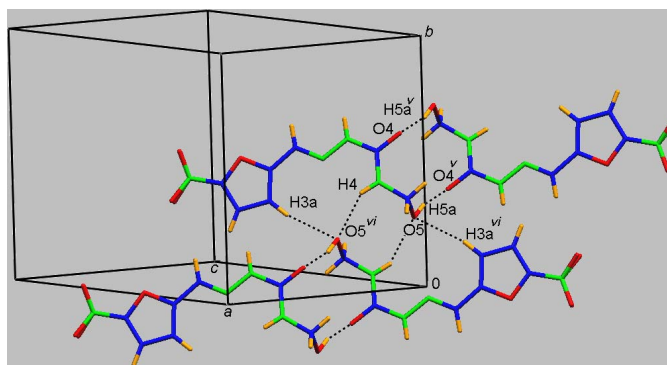
**Figure 2**  
The packing of (2), showing the infinite two-dimensional network along the (102) plane. [Symmetry codes: (i)  $\frac{1}{2} - x, \frac{3}{2} - y, -z$ ; (ii)  $\frac{1}{2} - x, \frac{1}{2} - y, -z$ ; (iii)  $\frac{3}{2} - x, y - \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} - z$ ; (iv)  $\frac{3}{2} - x, \frac{1}{2} + y, \frac{1}{2} - z$ .] Both disorder components are shown.

$-113.39(18)^\circ$ . Due to the disorder observed in the nitro group, the O atoms linked to atom N1 are also slightly displaced from the overall molecular plane. Atoms O11, O12, O21 and O22 deviate by 0.24 (1),  $-0.21$  (1), 0.12 (1) and  $-0.30$  (2) Å, respectively, from the best lequares plane through the furan ring.

The crystal packing of (2) is formed by two infinite two-dimensional networks. One of them, which is stabilized by several intermolecular hydrogen bonds (Fig. 2), is parallel to the (102) plane. The networks parallel to the (102) plane are themselves hydrogen-bonded *via* O5–H5A $\cdots$ O4 associations, forming another infinite two-dimensional network parallel to the (001) plane (Fig. 3). Details of all hydrogen-bond contacts involved in the networks are given in Table 2.

## Experimental

5-Nitro-2-furfurylidene-semicarbazone, (1) (0.99 g, 5 mmol), was mixed with potassium carbonate (0.69 g, 5 mmol) and suspended in water (10 ml). Formaldehyde solution (37%, 18 ml) was added in two steps, half at the start of the reaction and the other half 2.5 h later. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 5 h and then



**Figure 3**  
Part of the packing of (2), showing the infinite two-dimensional network parallel to the (001) plane. Both disorder components are shown. [Symmetry codes: (v)  $-x, 1 - y, -z$ ; (vi)  $\frac{1}{2} - x, \frac{1}{2} - y, -z$ .]

filtered. The filtrate was evaporated under low pressure. The product, (2), was crystallized from methanol–water (6:0.1) and yellow crystals were obtained (yield 61.4%). The compound was identified as (2) by IR,  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR and mass spectrometry.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectroscopic data (300 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ,  $\delta$ , p.p.m.): 11.02 (*s*, 1H, H<sub>8</sub>), 7.81 (*d*,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H, H<sub>4</sub>)\*, 7.80 (*s*, 1H, H<sub>6</sub>)\*, 7.64 (*t*,  $J = 6.3$  Hz, 1H, H<sub>12</sub>), 7.25 (*d*,  $J = 3.9$  Hz, 1H, H<sub>3</sub>), 5.57 (*t*,  $J = 6.9$  Hz, 1H, H<sub>14</sub>), 4.61 (*t*,  $J = 6.6$  Hz, 2H, H<sub>13</sub>) (\* denotes superimposed signals);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectroscopic data (75 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ,  $\delta$ , p.p.m.): 154.47 (C<sub>9</sub>), 152.42 (C<sub>5</sub>), 151.25 (C<sub>2</sub>), 127.82 (C<sub>6</sub>), 115.11 (C<sub>4</sub>), 112.63 (C<sub>3</sub>), 63.07 (C<sub>13</sub>); IR data (KBr,  $\nu$ ,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 3410 ( $\nu_{\text{O-H}}$ ), 3334 and 3162 ( $\nu_{\text{N-H}}$ ), 2980 and 2860 ( $\nu_{\text{C-H}}$ ), 1674 ( $\nu_{\text{C=O}}$ ), 1522 and 1359 ( $\nu_{\text{NO}_2}$ ). Mass spectrometry:  $m/z$ : 228 [ $M^+$ ], 210, 198, 155.

## Crystal data

$\text{C}_7\text{H}_8\text{N}_4\text{O}_5$   
 $M_r = 228.17$   
Monoclinic,  $C2/c$   
 $a = 10.3757(5)$  Å  
 $b = 10.8125(5)$  Å  
 $c = 16.9455(8)$  Å  
 $\beta = 92.095(3)^\circ$   
 $V = 1899.8(2)$  Å<sup>3</sup>  
 $Z = 8$

$D_x = 1.596$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>  
Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
Cell parameters from 16323 reflections  
 $\theta = 2.9\text{--}27.5^\circ$   
 $\mu = 0.14$  mm<sup>-1</sup>  
 $T = 298(2)$  K  
Block, yellow  
 $0.2 \times 0.1 \times 0.1$  mm

## Data collection

Nonius KappaCCD area-detector diffractometer  
 $\varphi$  scans, and  $\omega$  scans with  $\kappa$  offsets  
Absorption correction: none  
13352 measured reflections  
1755 independent reflections

1367 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.036$   
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 25.5^\circ$   
 $h = -12 \rightarrow 12$   
 $k = -13 \rightarrow 13$   
 $l = -20 \rightarrow 20$

## Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.039$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.111$   
 $S = 1.07$   
1755 reflections  
170 parameters  
H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0609P)^2 + 0.6344P]$   
where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.18$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.17$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
Extinction correction: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997)  
Extinction coefficient: 0.013 (2)

**Table 1**  
Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

N1—C1	1.415 (2)	N4—C7	1.436 (2)
N2—C5	1.274 (2)	O3—C1	1.355 (2)
N2—N3	1.354 (2)	O3—C4	1.373 (2)
N3—C6	1.369 (2)	O4—C6	1.240 (2)
N4—C6	1.335 (2)	O5—C7	1.400 (2)
C7—O5—H5A	109 (2)	O5—C7—N4	112.6 (1)

**Table 2**  
Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D-H\cdots A$	$D-H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-H\cdots A$
N3—H3 $\cdots$ O4 <sup>i</sup>	0.86	2.08	2.909 (2)	162
N4—H4 $\cdots$ O5 <sup>ii</sup>	0.86	2.28	3.047 (2)	148
C2—H2 $\cdots$ O21 <sup>iii</sup>	0.93	2.50	3.10 (2)	122
C2—H2 $\cdots$ O22 <sup>iii</sup>	0.93	2.47	3.04 (2)	120
C3—H3A $\cdots$ O5 <sup>ii</sup>	0.93	2.55	3.446 (2)	162
C5—H5 $\cdots$ O11 <sup>iv</sup>	0.93	2.48	3.37 (2)	162
C5—H5 $\cdots$ O12 <sup>iv</sup>	0.93	2.51	3.42 (2)	167
O5—H5A $\cdots$ O4 <sup>v</sup>	0.90 (2)	1.92 (2)	2.799 (2)	166 (2)

Symmetry codes: (i)  $-x + \frac{1}{2}, -y + \frac{3}{2}, -z$ ; (ii)  $-x + \frac{1}{2}, -y + \frac{1}{2}, -z$ ; (iii)  $-x + \frac{3}{2}, +y - \frac{1}{2}, -z + \frac{1}{2}$ ; (iv)  $-x + \frac{3}{2}, +y + \frac{1}{2}, -z + \frac{1}{2}$ ; (v)  $-x, -y + 1, -z$ .

The hydroxyl H atom, H5A, was located in a difference Fourier synthesis and refined isotropically. The H atoms of the amino and methyl groups were positioned geometrically and were refined using a riding model, with N—H = 0.86 Å and C—H = 0.93–0.97 Å, and with fixed individual displacement parameters of  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C,N})$ . Several least-squares refinements were performed in an attempt to model the disordered nitro group. The model splitting each O atom of the nitro group over two positions, O11 and O12, and

O21 and O22, with 50% occupancy each, was found to be the best one.

Data collection: *COLLECT* (Nonius, 1998); cell refinement: *HKL SCALEPACK* (Otwinowski & Minor 1997); data reduction: *HKL DENZO* (Otwinowski & Minor 1997) and *SCALEPACK*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEP-3* for Windows (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *WinGX* (Farrugia, 1999).

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