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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 298 KMean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.006 Å R factor = 0.036 wR factor = 0.105 Data-to-parameter ratio = 7.2

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

# Propyl 3,6-diphenyl-1,4-dihydro-1,2,4,5tetrazine-1-carboxylate

The title compound,  $C_{18}H_{18}N_4O_2$ , was prepared from propyl chloroformate and 3,6-diphenyl-1,2-dihydro-1,2,4,5-tetrazine. The central six-membered ring has a boat conformation. In the crystal structure, molecules are linked *via* N-H···N [N···N = 3.015 (4) Å] and C-H···O [C···O = 3.265 (6) Å] hydrogen bonds to form extended chains along [100].

### Comment

1,2,4,5-Tetrazine derivatives have a high potential for biological activity, possessing a wide range of antiviral and antitumour properties, and these derivatives have been widely used in pesticides and herbicides (Sauer, 1996). In a continuation of our work on the structure–activity relationships of 1,2,4,5-tetrazine derivatives (Hu *et al.*, 2002, 2004), we have obtained a yellow crystalline compound as the product of the reaction of propyl chloroformate and 3,6-diphenyl-1,2dihydro-1,2,4,5-tetrazine. The structure of our product, (I), was solved using single-crystal X-ray diffraction.



The molecular structure of (I) is illustrated in Fig. 1. In (I), atoms N2, C3, N5 and C6 are coplanar [deviations within 0.0348 (16) Å] and atoms N1 and N4 deviate from the plane by 0.456 (5) and 0.380 (5) Å, respectively, indicating a boat conformation. In the crystal structure, molecules are linked *via*  $N-H\cdots N$  [ $N\cdots N = 3.015$  (4) Å] and  $C-H\cdots O$  [ $C\cdots O = 3.265$  (6) Å] hydrogen bonds to form extended chains along [100] (see Table 1 for hydrogen-bond geometries).

# **Experimental**

The title compound was prepared according to the procedure of Rao & Hu, (2004). A solution of the compound in ethanol was concentrated gradually at room temperature to afford yellow prisms (m.p. 414-415 K).

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#### Crystal data

 $C_{18}H_{18}N_4O_2$   $M_r = 322.36$ Orthorhombic, *Pna2*<sub>1</sub> a = 10.212 (3) Å b = 10.051 (2) Å c = 16.611 (3) Å V = 1705.0 (7) Å<sup>3</sup> Z = 4 $D_x = 1.256$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>

#### Data collection

Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer  $\omega/2\theta$  scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (*ABSCOR*; Higashi, 1995)  $T_{min} = 0.967, T_{max} = 0.983$ 1699 measured reflections 1584 independent reflections 997 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ 

# Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.036$   $wR(F^2) = 0.106$  S = 1.051584 reflections 219 parameters H-atom parameters constrained

Table 1

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D - H \cdots A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$
$N4-H3\cdots N2^i$	0.86	2.32	3.015 (4)	139
$C14-H14\cdots O1^{i}$	0.93	2.34	3.265 (6)	172
<b>a</b> , <b>1</b> (1)	1 . 5			

Symmetry code: (i)  $x - \frac{1}{2}, -y + \frac{5}{2}, z$ .

H atoms were included in calculated positions [C-H(methyl) = 0.96, other C-H =0.97, N-H = 0.86 Å] and refined using a riding model, with  $U_{iso}(H)$  equal to 1.2 (or 1.5 for methyl H atoms) times  $U_{eq}(\text{parent atom})$ . In the absence of significant anomalous dispersion effects, Friedel pairs were merged.

Data collection: *CAD-4 EXPRESS* (Enraf–Nonius, 1994); cell refinement: *CAD-4 EXPRESS*; data reduction: *XCAD4* (Harms & Wocadlo, 1995); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* 

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation Cell parameters from 25 reflections  $\theta = 10.7-12.5^{\circ}$  $\mu = 0.09 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ T = 298 (2) K Prism, yellow  $0.40 \times 0.30 \times 0.20 \text{ mm}$ 

 $\begin{aligned} R_{\rm int} &= 0.017\\ \theta_{\rm max} &= 25.2^\circ\\ h &= 0 \rightarrow 12\\ k &= 0 \rightarrow 12\\ l &= -19 \rightarrow 1\\ 3 \text{ standard reflections}\\ frequency: 60 \text{ min}\\ \text{intensity decay: } 0.3\% \end{aligned}$ 

 $w = 1/[\sigma^{2}(F_{o}^{2}) + (0.0614P)^{2} + 0.0145P]$ where  $P = (F_{o}^{2} + 2F_{c}^{2})/3$   $(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} < 0.001$   $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.16 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$   $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.20 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$ Extinction correction: SHELXL97 Extinction coefficient: 0.012 (2)





(Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEP3 for Windows* (Version 1.05; Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *WinGX* (Farrugia, 1999).

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