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#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 296$  K  
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.003$  Å  
 $R$  factor = 0.049  
 $wR$  factor = 0.124  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 13.7

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

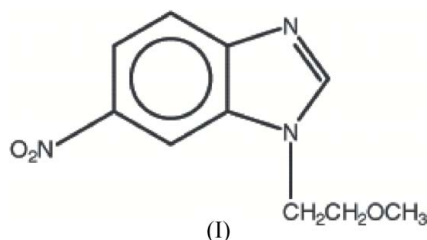
## 1-Methoxyethyl-5-nitrobenzimidazole

The title compound,  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$ , was synthesized by the reaction of 5-nitrobenzimidazole, 2-chloroethyl methyl ether and KOH in ethanol. The bond lengths and angles are unexceptional.

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#### Comment

Nitrobenzimidazoles have attracted considerable interest due to their presence in a number of therapeutically and biologically active compounds. Nitrobenzimidazoles represent a group of nitro compounds that have seldom been characterized, although some of them possess antitrychomonal and other types of antimicrobial activities. Some nitrobenzimidazoles are relatively efficient substrates for DT-diaphorase and this enzyme is partly responsible for their cytotoxicity to bovine leukemia virus-transformed fibroblast culture (Sarlauskas *et al.*, 1997). We have also synthesized and investigated the crystal structures of some benzimidazole and nitrobenzimidazole derivatives (Öztürk *et al.*, 2003). We report here the synthesis of a biologically interesting nitrobenzimidazole compound; the results may be compared with those of a related heterocycle (Akkurt *et al.*, 2004).



The molecular structure with the atom-numbering scheme is shown in Fig. 1. The bond lengths and angles in (I) are within normal ranges (Allen *et al.*, 1987). The results agree with those for the benzimidazole and nitrobenzimidazole compounds (Akkurt, Karaca *et al.*, 2005; Akkurt, Türktekin *et al.*, 2005; Akkurt, Yıldırım Öztürk *et al.*, 2005). The benzimidazole ring is planar. The dihedral angle between the benzene and the fused five-membered ring system is  $0.88(11)^\circ$ . The molecular packing is shown in Fig. 2.

#### Experimental

5-Nitrobenzimidazole (2.0 g, 12.26 mmol) and 2-chloroethyl methyl ether (2.3 ml, 25.18 mmol) were added to a solution of KOH (1.02 g, 18.39 mmol) in ethanol (25 ml) and the mixture was refluxed for 5 h. The precipitated KCl was then filtered off while the solution was hot. The solution was cooled to room temperature and a crude product precipitated. The precipitate was crystallized from ethanol (10 ml)

(yield: 2.32 g, 77%; m.p. 351–352 K).  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  3.4 (s,  $\text{OCH}_3$ , 3H), 3.8 (t,  $\text{N-CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ , 2H), 4.4 (t,  $\text{N-CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ , 2H), 7.2–8.4 (m, Ar–H, 3H), 8.7 (s, benzimidazole- $\text{C}^2$ –H, 1 H). Elemental analysis calculated for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$ : C 54.29, H 4.98, N 19.00%; found: C 54.25, H 4.95, N 18.87%.

#### Crystal data

$\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3$	$Z = 2$
$M_r = 221.22$	$D_x = 1.399 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
Triclinic, $P\bar{1}$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
$a = 4.7940$ (7) Å	Cell parameters from 7061 reflections
$b = 8.4531$ (13) Å	$\theta = 2.7$ – $27.9^\circ$
$c = 13.411$ (2) Å	$\mu = 0.11 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$\alpha = 97.350$ (12)°	$T = 296 \text{ K}$
$\beta = 94.854$ (12)°	Plate, colorless
$\gamma = 101.266$ (12)°	$0.80 \times 0.37 \times 0.05 \text{ mm}$
$V = 525.25$ (14) Å <sup>3</sup>	

#### Data collection

Stoe IPDS-II diffractometer	1327 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
$\omega$ scans	$R_{\text{int}} = 0.049$
Absorption correction: integration ( <i>X-RED32</i> ; Stoe & Cie, 2002)	$\theta_{\text{max}} = 27.7^\circ$
$T_{\text{min}} = 0.920$ , $T_{\text{max}} = 0.995$	$h = -6 \rightarrow 6$
8616 measured reflections	$k = -11 \rightarrow 11$
2443 independent reflections	$l = -17 \rightarrow 17$

#### Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	H-atom parameters constrained
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.049$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0607P)^2]$
$wR(F^2) = 0.124$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$S = 0.98$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$
2443 reflections	$\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.14 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
178 parameters	$\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.20 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$

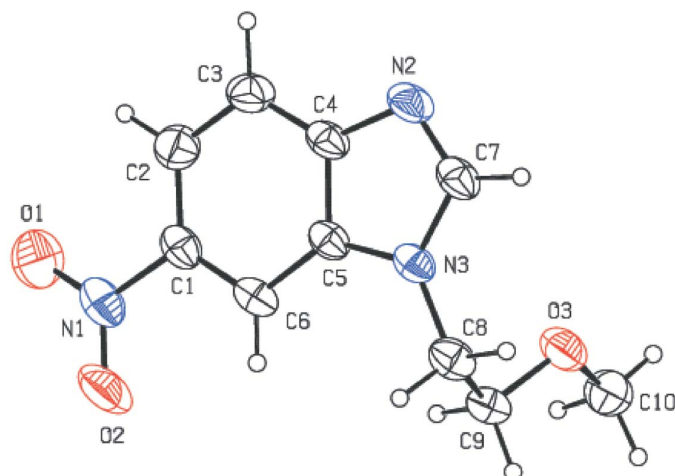
H atoms were located in a difference synthesis and refined isotropically [ $\text{C-H} = 0.92$  (3)– $1.02$  (4) Å]. The  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H})$  values were set at 1.2 (1.5 for methyl group) times  $U_{\text{eq}}$  of the carrier atom.

Data collection: *X-AREA* (Stoe & Cie, 2002); cell refinement: *X-AREA*; data reduction: *X-RED32* (Stoe & Cie, 2002); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEP3* for Windows (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *WinGX* (Farrugia, 1999).

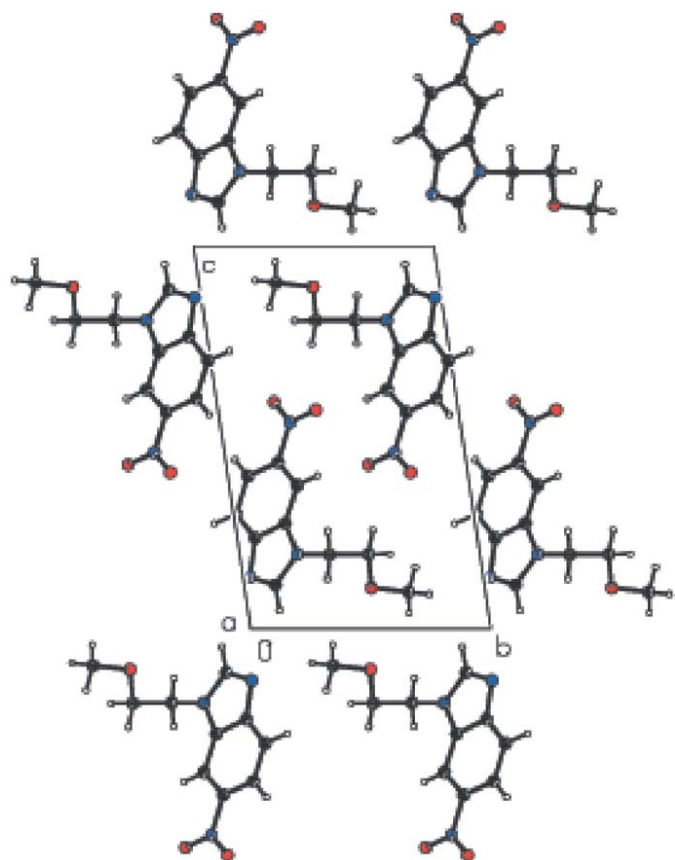
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**Figure 1**  
An *ORTEP3* drawing of (I), showing the atom-numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level.



**Figure 2**  
The packing of molecules of (I) in the crystal structure.

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