

Zhi-Gang Yin\* and  
Heng-Yu QianSchool of Material and Chemical Engineering,  
Zhengzhou University of Light Industry,  
Zhengzhou 450002, People's Republic of ChinaCorrespondence e-mail:  
hengyuqian@yahoo.com

## Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 291\text{ K}$   
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.007\text{ \AA}$   
 $R$  factor = 0.058  
 $wR$  factor = 0.113  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 15.8For details of how these key indicators were  
automatically derived from the article, see  
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>. $\alpha$ -Ferrocenyl-*N*-(1-phenylethyl)benzylamineThe title compound,  $[\text{Fe}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_5)(\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{N})]$ , possesses normal geometrical parameters. A network of  $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\pi$  interactions, one of which is bifurcated, helps to consolidate the crystal packing.

Received 26 September 2005

Accepted 14 October 2005

Online 22 October 2005

## Comment

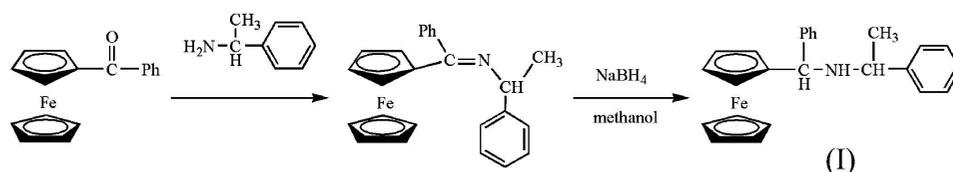
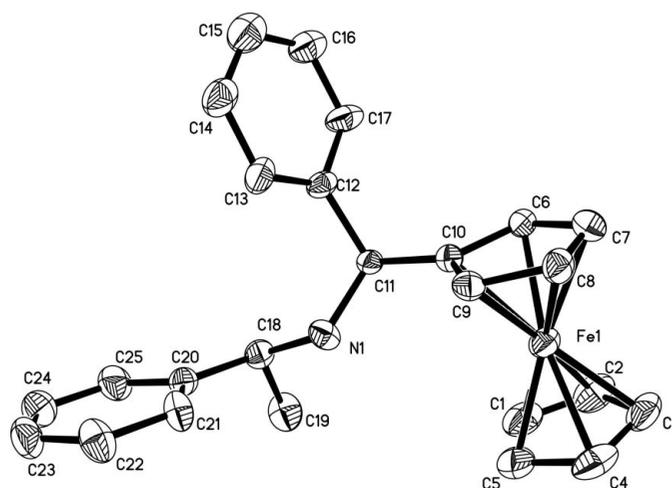
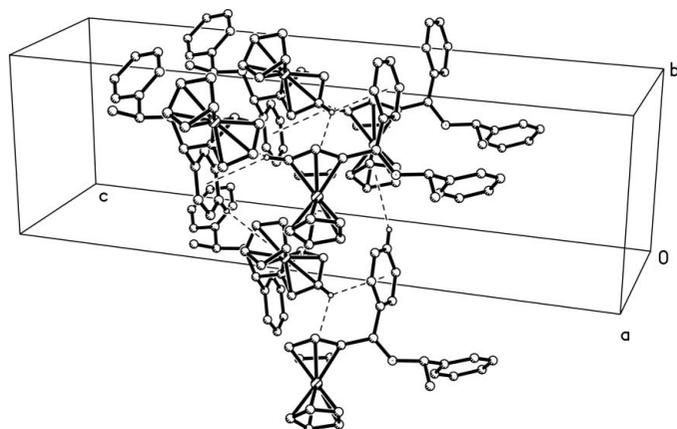
Functionalized ferrocene derivatives have recently been the subject of renewed interest owing to their promise in applications such as homogeneous catalysis (Sawamura & Ito, 1992; Togni, 1996; Borman, 1996) and the construction of carbon-carbon or carbon-heteroatom bonds (Trost *et al.*, 1996; Sesay *et al.*, 1998). We report here the synthesis and crystal structure of the title compound, (I) (Fig. 1).All geometrical values for (I) are normal. The two ferrocene rings are almost parallel [dihedral angle =  $2.7(3)^\circ$ ]. Conversely, the dihedral angle between the two side-chain phenyl rings is  $75.2(4)^\circ$ .In the crystal structure of (I), the molecules are linked by  $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\pi$  interactions (Table 1), which involve both ferrocene rings (C1-C5 and C6-C10) and the phenyl ring (C12-C17) as acceptors (Steiner *et al.*, 1995). These bonds result in the formation of a two-dimensional network (Fig. 2).

Figure 1

The structure of (I), showing 30% probability displacement ellipsoids. H atoms have been omitted for clarity.



**Figure 2** Packing of (I), with dashed lines indicating C—H... $\pi$  interactions. All H atoms except, H7A and H15A, have been omitted for clarity.

## Experimental

The method of David *et al.* (1990) was followed; an equimolar mixture of benzoylferrocene and 1-phenylethylamine in dry toluene was refluxed for 24 h and afforded a crude mixture in 85% yield. The mixture was reduced by sodium borohydride in methanol at 273 K for 20 h (see scheme). The product was purified by chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/dichloromethane, 2:1) to give a 65% yield and recrystallized from dichloromethane/hexane to yield orange blocks of (I). IR (KBr,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  3325, 3022, 2962, 1742, 1599, 1449, 1102, 1021, 699;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.2–7.36 (*m*, 10H), 4.57 (*s*, 1H), 4.18 (*s*, 1H), 4.08–4.10 (*m*, 3H), 4.01 (*s*, 5H), 3.76 (*d*  $\times$  *d*, 1H,  $J = 6.2$  and 8.8 Hz), 1.93 (*s*, 1H), 1.39 (*d*, 3H,  $J = 6.6$  Hz). Analysis calculated for  $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{25}\text{FeN}$ : C 75.95, H 6.33, N 3.54%; found: C 75.46, H 6.58, N 3.02%.

### Crystal data

$[\text{Fe}(\text{C}_5\text{H}_5)(\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{N})]$   
 $M_r = 395.31$   
 Orthorhombic,  $P2_12_12_1$   
 $a = 8.0109$  (16) Å  
 $b = 8.7198$  (17) Å  
 $c = 28.718$  (6) Å  
 $V = 2006.0$  (7) Å<sup>3</sup>  
 $Z = 4$   
 $D_x = 1.309$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 Cell parameters from 1875 reflections  
 $\theta = 2.1$ – $24.6^\circ$   
 $\mu = 0.76$  mm<sup>-1</sup>  
 $T = 291$  (2) K  
 Block, orange  
 $0.20 \times 0.19 \times 0.18$  mm

### Data collection

Bruker SMART APEX CCD area-detector diffractometer  
 $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans  
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 2000)  
 $T_{\min} = 0.863$ ,  $T_{\max} = 0.875$   
 9952 measured reflections

3866 independent reflections  
 2675 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.043$   
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 26.0^\circ$   
 $h = -9 \rightarrow 9$   
 $k = -10 \rightarrow 10$   
 $l = -35 \rightarrow 35$

### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.058$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.113$   
 $S = 0.99$   
 3866 reflections  
 244 parameters  
 H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.1P)^2]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.61$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.42$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 Absolute structure: Flack (1983),  
 1578 Friedel pairs  
 Flack parameter: 0.08 (3)

**Table 1**

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

Cg1, Cg2 and Cg3 are the centroids of the C1–C5, C6–C10 and C12–C17 rings, respectively.

$D-H\cdots A$	$D-H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-H\cdots A$
C7–H7A...Cg2 <sup>i</sup>	0.98	3.20	3.895 (5)	129
C7–H7A...Cg3 <sup>i</sup>	0.98	3.00	3.749 (5)	134
C15–H15A...Cg1 <sup>ii</sup>	0.93	2.85	3.744 (7)	161

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

All H atoms were placed in calculated positions (N–H = 0.86 Å and C–H = 0.93–0.98 Å) and were refined as riding, with  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{carrier})$ .

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 2000); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 2000); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXTL (Bruker, 2000); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXTL; molecular graphics: SHELXTL; software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXTL.

The authors thank the Center of Test and Analysis, Zhengzhou University, for support. The work was supported by the Outstanding Youth Fund for Henan Natural Scientific Research (No. 0412001100) and the Startup Fund for PhD of the Natural Scientific Research of Zhengzhou University of Light Industry (No. 2005001).

## References

- Borman, S. (1996). *Chem. Eng. News*, **22**, 38–40.  
 Bruker (2000). SMART, SAINT, SADABS and SHELXTL. Bruker AXS Inc., Madison, Wisconsin, USA.  
 David, D. M., Kane-Maguire, A. P. & Pyne, S. G. (1990). *J. Chem. Soc. Chem. Commun.* pp. 889–990.  
 Flack, H. D. (1983). *Acta Cryst.* **A39**, 876–881.  
 Sawamura, M. & Ito, Y. (1992). *Chem. Rev.* **92**, 857–871.  
 Sesay, S. J., Williams, J. M. J. (1998). *Adv. Asymm. Synth.* **3**, 235–271.  
 Steiner, T., Starikov, E. B., Amado, A. M., Teixeira-Dias, J. J. C. (1995). *J. Chem. Soc. Perkin Trans. 2*, pp. 1321–1326.  
 Togni, A. (1996). *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* **35**, 1475–1477.  
 Trost, B. M., Vranken, D. L. (1996). *Chem. Rev.* **96**, 395–422.