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## Key indicators

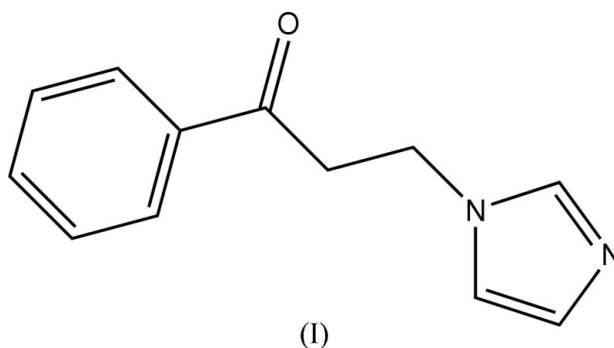
Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 293\text{ K}$   
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.002\text{ \AA}$   
 $R$  factor = 0.045  
 $wR$  factor = 0.122  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 14.9For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.3-(1*H*-Imidazol-1-yl)-1-phenylpropan-1-oneIn the title compound,  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ , the benzene and imidazole rings are almost perpendicular to each other, displaying a dihedral angle of  $89.3(1)^\circ$ .

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## Comment

A view of the molecule of the title compound, (I), is shown in Fig. 1. The bond lengths and angles are within normal ranges (Allen *et al.*, 1987) and are comparable to those observed in a related compound (Wan *et al.*, 2005). The molecule of (I) is non-planar; the benzene and imidazole rings are almost perpendicular to each other, displaying a dihedral angle of  $89.3(1)^\circ$ . The packing is stabilized by van der Waals interactions.

## Experimental

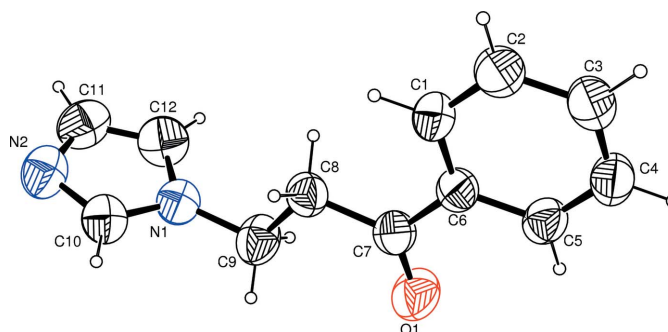
To a solution of 3-(dimethylamino)-1-phenylpropan-1-one (10.35 g, 0.05 mol) in water (40 ml) was added imidazole (4.08 g, 0.06 mol). The mixture was heated under reflux for 4 h, yielding a copious precipitate. Colorless single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction study were obtained by slow evaporation of a dichloromethane–petroleum ether (1:1 *v/v*) solution over a period of 5 d.

Figure 1

A view of the molecule of (I), showing 50% probability displacement ellipsoids and the atom-numbering scheme. H atoms are shown as small spheres of arbitrary radii.

*Crystal data*

C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O  
*M<sub>r</sub>* = 200.24  
 Monoclinic, *P*2<sub>1</sub>/*c*  
*a* = 12.5860 (14) Å  
*b* = 10.3777 (12) Å  
*c* = 8.0771 (9) Å  
 $\beta$  = 102.095 (2)°  
*V* = 1031.6 (2) Å<sup>3</sup>  
*Z* = 4

*D<sub>x</sub>* = 1.289 Mg m<sup>-3</sup>  
 Mo *K*α radiation  
 Cell parameters from 2368 reflections  
 $\theta$  = 2.6–25.7°  
 $\mu$  = 0.08 mm<sup>-1</sup>  
*T* = 293 (2) K  
 Block, colorless  
 0.48 × 0.21 × 0.17 mm

*Data collection*

Siemens SMART 1000 CCD area-detector diffractometer  
 $\omega$  scans  
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (*SADABS*; Sheldrick, 1996)  
*T<sub>min</sub>* = 0.961, *T<sub>max</sub>* = 0.984  
 5671 measured reflections

2028 independent reflections  
 1748 reflections with *I* > 2σ(*I*)  
*R<sub>int</sub>* = 0.018  
 $\theta_{\text{max}}$  = 26.0°  
*h* = -15 → 15  
*k* = -12 → 12  
*l* = -9 → 5

*Refinement*

Refinement on *F*<sup>2</sup>  
*R* [*F*<sup>2</sup> > 2σ(*F*<sup>2</sup>)] = 0.045  
*wR* (*F*<sup>2</sup>) = 0.122  
*S* = 1.04  
 2028 reflections  
 136 parameters  
 H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0644P)^2 + 0.1568P]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.15 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.21 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$

**Table 1**

Selected bond lengths (Å).

O1–C7	1.2152 (16)	C7–C8	1.5052 (19)
C6–C7	1.4960 (19)	C8–C9	1.514 (2)

All H atoms were located in difference Fourier maps and constrained to ride on their parent atoms, with C–H distances in the range 0.93–0.97 Å and with *U<sub>iso</sub>*(H) = 1.2*U<sub>eq</sub>*(C).

Data collection: *SMART* (Siemens, 1996); cell refinement: *SAINTE* (Siemens, 1996); data reduction: *SAINTE*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXTL* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXTL*; molecular graphics: *ORTEP3* (Burnett & Johnson, 1996) and *ORTEP3* for Windows (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*, *PARST* (Nardelli, 1995) and *PLATON* (Spek, 2003).

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