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#### **Key indicators**

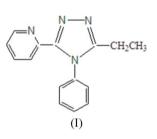
Single-crystal X-ray study T = 273 K Mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.003 Å Disorder in main residue R factor = 0.057 wR factor = 0.122 Data-to-parameter ratio = 13.5

For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e. In the crystal structure of the title compound,  $C_{15}H_{14}N_4$ , all three aromatic rings, *viz*. 1,2,4-triazole, pyridine and benzene. The crystal structure shows that all three rings are not coplanar.

3-Ethyl-4-phenyl-5-(2-pyridyl)-1,2,4-triazole

### Comment

The coordination chemistry of substituted 1,2,4-triazoles has gained considerable attention in recent years (Bencini *et al.*, 1987; Koningsbruggen *et al.*, 1997; Moliner *et al.*, 1998; Moliner *et al.*, 2001; Klingele & Brooker, 2003). This is mainly because of the fact that their ligand strength is in the region to give spin-crossover complexes with iron(II) salts, which could be used as molecular-based memory devices, displays and optical switches (Garcia *et al.*, 1997; Kahn & Martinez, 1998). Recently, we have prepared some new substituted 1,2,4-triazole derivatives and their transition-metal complexes, and we report here the crystal structure analysis of 3-ethyl-4-phenyl-5-(2-pyridyl)-1,2,4-triazole, (I).



In the title structure, all three aromatic rings, *viz*. 1,2,4-triazole, pyridine and benzene. All three aromatic rings are not coplanar. The dihedral angle between the 1,2,4-triazole and the pyridine rings is  $11.71 (15)^{\circ}$ , and that between the 1,2,4-triazole and the benzene rings is 84.61 (7)°. The ethyl group is disordered.

# **Experimental**

The title compound was synthesized by reaction of diphenylphosphazoanilide with *N*-propionyl-*N'*-(2-pyridoyl)hydrazine in *o*dichlorobenzene at 463–473 K (Grimmel *et al.*, 1946; Klingsberg, 1958). Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were recrystallized from ethyl acetate.

### Crystal data

| C15H14N4                       |
|--------------------------------|
| $M_r = 250.30$                 |
| Monoclinic, $P2_1/n$           |
| a = 10.4365 (14)  Å            |
| b = 9.0713 (12)  Å             |
| c = 14.1861 (18)  Å            |
| $\beta = 94.107 \ (3)^{\circ}$ |
| V = 1339.6 (3) Å <sup>3</sup>  |
| Z = 4                          |

 $D_x = 1.241 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ Mo K\alpha radiation Cell parameters from 1381 reflections  $\theta = 2.3-20.0^{\circ}$   $\mu = 0.08 \text{ mm}^{-1}$  T = 273 (2) K Rhombohedron, colorless  $0.30 \times 0.24 \times 0.22 \text{ mm}$  Received 26 September 2005 Accepted 21 October 2005 Online 31 October 2005

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# organic papers

Data collection

Bruker SMART APEX CCD areadetector diffractometer  $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (*SADABS*; Bruker, 2000)  $T_{\min} = 0.98, T_{\max} = 0.98$ 7002 measured reflections

### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.057$   $wR(F^2) = 0.122$  S = 1.072625 reflections 194 parameters H-atom parameters constrained 2625 independent reflections 1547 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   $R_{int} = 0.035$   $\theta_{max} = 26.0^{\circ}$   $h = -8 \rightarrow 12$   $k = -11 \rightarrow 11$  $l = -17 \rightarrow 17$ 

$$\begin{split} w &= 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.05P)^2] \\ \text{where } P &= (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3 \\ (\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001 \\ \Delta\rho_{\text{max}} &= 0.13 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3} \\ \Delta\rho_{\text{min}} &= -0.12 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3} \\ \text{Extinction correction: SHELXL97} \\ \text{Extinction coefficient: } 0.0071 (18) \end{split}$$

# Table 1

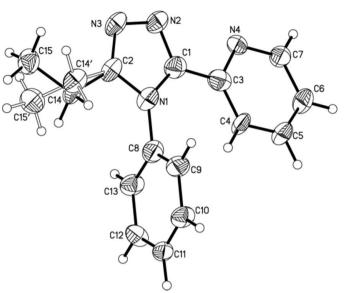
Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

| C1-N2    | 1.307 (3)   | C2-N3    | 1.277 (3)   |
|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|
| C1-N1    | 1.357 (3)   | C2-N1    | 1.356 (3)   |
| C1-C3    | 1.454 (3)   | N1-C8    | 1.432 (3)   |
| N2-C1-N1 | 110.2 (2)   | C2-N1-C8 | 124.4 (2)   |
| N2-C1-C3 | 123.4 (2)   | C1-N1-C8 | 130.7 (2)   |
| N1-C1-C3 | 126.4 (2)   | C1-N2-N3 | 106.35 (19) |
| N3-C2-N1 | 110.69 (19) | C2-N3-N2 | 107.93 (17) |
| C2-N1-C1 | 104.85 (19) |          |             |

All H atoms were located in a difference Fourier map and allowed to ride on their parent atoms at C–H distances of 0.93 (arometic), 0.96 (methyl) and 0.97 Å (methylene), with  $U_{\rm iso}$ (H) values of 1.2–1.5 times  $U_{\rm eq}$  of the parent atom.

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 2000); cell refinement: *SAINT* (Bruker, 2000); data reduction: *SAINT*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *SHELXTL* (Bruker, 2000); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*.

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### Figure 1

The molecular structure of the title compound, with the atomic labelling. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level. Both disorder components are shown.

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