

## 4'-(4-Methoxybenzoyl)-1'-methylspiro-[indole-3(2H),2'-pyrrolidine-3',3''(2''H)-indole]-2,2''-dione

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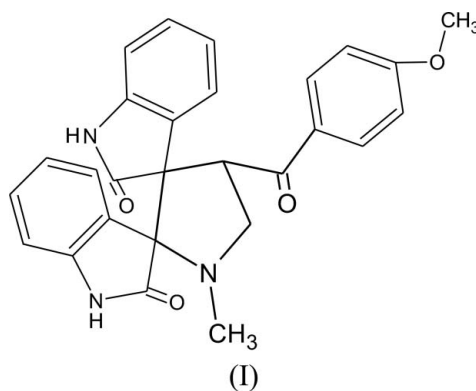
In the title compound, C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, the pyrrolidine ring adopts a half-chair conformation. Inversion-related molecules are linked *via* N—H···O hydrogen bonds into a zigzag chain. In addition, intermolecular C—H···O and C—H··· $\pi$  hydrogen bonds are observed.

## Comment

Spiro-compounds are a particular class of naturally occurring substances characterized by highly pronounced biological properties (Kobayashi *et al.*, 1991; James *et al.*, 1991). In this paper, the crystal structure of the title compound, (I), is reported.

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## Key indicators

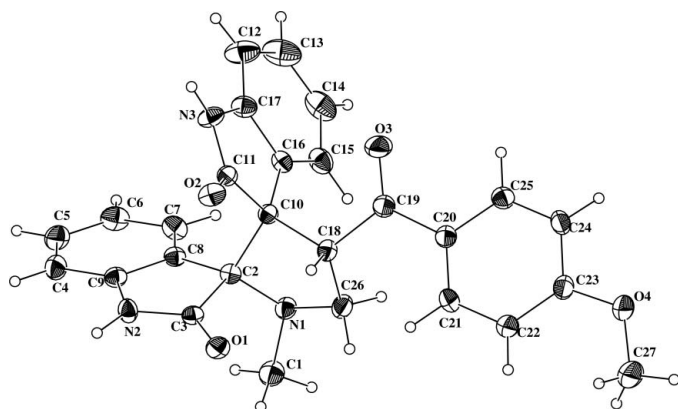
Single-crystal X-ray study  
*T* = 293 K  
Mean  $\sigma$ (C—C) = 0.004 Å  
*R* factor = 0.074  
*wR* factor = 0.130  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 12.9For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

A *ZORTEP* (Zsolnai, 1997) plot of the molecule is shown in Fig. 1. The pyrrolidine ring adopts a half-chair conformation with puckering parameters  $q_2 = 0.454$  (3) Å and  $\varphi_2 = 231.2$  (4)<sup>o</sup> (Cremer & Pople, 1975), and the asymmetry parameter  $\Delta C_2(C26) = 0.0167$  (1) (Nardelli, 1995). This puckering causes significant contraction of the N1—C26—C18 angle [105.3 (2)<sup>o</sup>]. The bond lengths in both oxindole ring systems indicate electron delocalization. The methoxy group is coplanar with the C20—C25 benzene ring [C24—C23—O4—C27 = -176.2 (6)<sup>o</sup>].

The crystal packing shows that inversion-related molecules are linked through N—H···O hydrogen bonds into a zigzag chain (Fig. 2). In addition, the packing is stabilized by C—H···O and C—H··· $\pi$  hydrogen bonds (Table 2).

## Experimental

A mixture of (*E*)-3-(4'-methoxyphenacylidine)oxindole (1 mmol), isatin (indole-2,3-dione) (1 mmol), and sarcosine (*N*-methylglycine) (1 mmol) was refluxed in aqueous methonal for 3 h. On completion of the reaction the solvent was evaporated in a vacuum and the resulting crude product was purified by column chromatography using an *n*-



**Figure 1**  
A view of (I), showing the atom-labelling scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level.

hexane–ethyl acetate mixture (7:3) as eluent. The title compound was recrystallized from a methanol–chloroform mixture (2:1 v/v).

#### Crystal data

$C_{27}H_{23}N_3O_4$   
 $M_r = 453.48$   
 Monoclinic,  $P2_1/n$   
 $a = 8.684$  (5) Å  
 $b = 11.485$  (7) Å  
 $c = 22.751$  (13) Å  
 $\beta = 90.852$  (10)°  
 $V = 2269$  (2) Å<sup>3</sup>  
 $Z = 4$

$D_x = 1.328$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>  
 Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 Cell parameters from 4532 reflections  
 $\theta = 1.8$ – $26.5$ °  
 $\mu = 0.09$  mm<sup>-1</sup>  
 $T = 293$  (2) K  
 Block, colourless  
 $0.30 \times 0.20 \times 0.20$  mm

#### Data collection

Bruker SMART APEX CCD area-detector diffractometer  
 $\omega$  scans  
 Absorption correction: none  
 17380 measured reflections  
 5167 independent reflections

3371 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{int} = 0.040$   
 $\theta_{max} = 27.4$ °  
 $h = -11 \rightarrow 11$   
 $k = -14 \rightarrow 13$   
 $l = -29 \rightarrow 28$

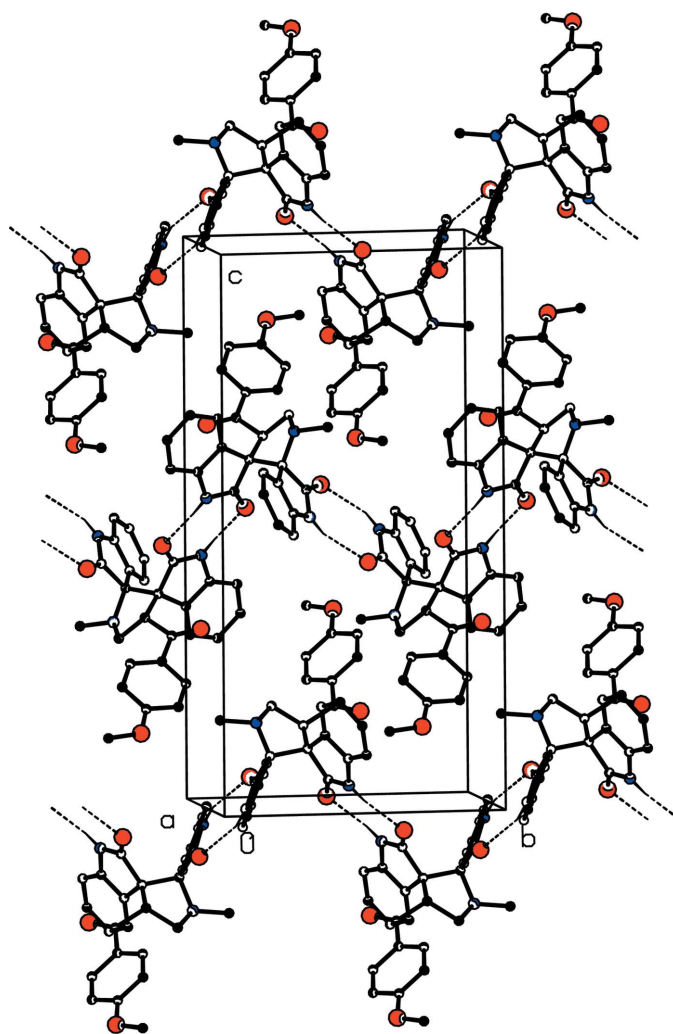
#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.074$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.130$   
 $S = 1.19$   
 5167 reflections  
 399 parameters  
 All H-atom parameters refined

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0254P)^2 + 1.7317P]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} = 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.27$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.20$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>

**Table 1**  
Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

O2—C11	1.223 (3)	N1—C26	1.470 (3)
O1—C3	1.226 (3)	C2—C10	1.573 (4)
N2—C3	1.346 (3)	C10—C18	1.543 (3)
N3—C11	1.349 (3)	C18—C26	1.531 (4)
N1—C2	1.456 (3)		
C2—N1—C1	116.2 (2)	C7—C8—C9	119.1 (2)
C2—N1—C26	108.7 (2)	C15—C16—C17	119.1 (3)
C1—N1—C26	114.0 (2)	N1—C26—C18	105.3 (2)
N1—C2—C10	99.98 (19)	C12—C17—C16	122.4 (3)
C4—C9—C8	122.4 (3)		
C20—C19—C18—C26	-51.4 (4)	C27—O4—C23—C24	-176.2 (4)
C1—N1—C26—C18	-150.2 (3)		



**Figure 2**  
The crystal packing of (I), showing N—H...O hydrogen-bonded (dashed lines) chains. H atoms have been omitted.

**Table 2**  
Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D-H\cdots A$	$D-H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-H\cdots A$
C18—H18...O1	0.95 (2)	2.47 (2)	3.049 (4)	120 (2)
N2—H2...O1 <sup>i</sup>	0.89 (3)	2.19 (3)	3.039 (3)	162 (3)
N3—H3...O2 <sup>ii</sup>	0.86 (3)	2.11 (3)	2.941 (4)	163 (2)
C6—H6...O2 <sup>iii</sup>	0.93 (3)	2.57 (3)	3.421 (4)	151 (2)
C22—H22...O3 <sup>iv</sup>	0.94 (3)	2.53 (2)	3.464 (4)	169 (2)
C24—H24...O1 <sup>v</sup>	0.92 (3)	2.59 (3)	3.380 (4)	145 (2)
C14—H14...Cg <sup>iii</sup>	0.97 (3)	2.76 (3)	3.610 (4)	146 (3)

Symmetry codes: (i)  $-x, -y, -z$ ; (ii)  $-x, -y + 1, -z$ ; (iii)  $x + 1, y, z$ ; (iv)  $-x - \frac{1}{2}, y - \frac{1}{2}, -z + \frac{1}{2}$ ; (v)  $-x - \frac{1}{2}, y + \frac{1}{2}, -z + \frac{1}{2}$ . Note: Cg is the centroid of the C20—C25 ring.

H atoms were located in a difference Fourier map and refined isotropically. The ranges of C—H and N—H bond lengths are 0.91 (3)–1.03 (4) Å and 0.86 (3)–0.89 (3) Å, respectively.

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 2001); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 2001); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics:

*ZORTEP* (Zsolnai, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *PLATON* (Spek, 2003).

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