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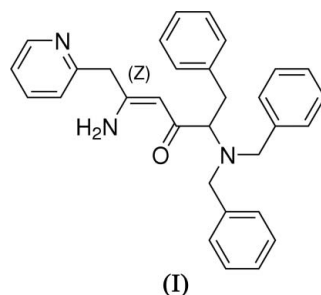
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Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study
 $T = 273$ K
Mean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.004$ Å
R factor = 0.064
 wR factor = 0.178
Data-to-parameter ratio = 13.7For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.**(Z)-5-Amino-2-dibenzylamino-1-phenyl-6-(2-pyridyl)hex-4-en-3-one**The title compound, $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{31}\text{N}_3\text{O}$, was obtained by the reaction of 4-dibenzylamino-3-oxo-5-phenylpentanenitrile with 2-methylpyridinylmagnesium chloride. The crystal structure involves intermolecular $\text{N}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$ hydrogen bonds.

Comment

In the process of the synthesis of hydroxyethylene dipeptide isosteres used as key structures for the preparation of biologically active candidates with anti-HIV properties, a very important intermediate, (Z)-5-amino-2-dibenzylamino-1-phenyl-6-(2-pyridyl)hex-4-en-3-one, (I), was prepared by the reaction of 4-dibenzylamino-3-oxo-5-phenylpentanenitrile with 2-methylpyridinylmagnesium chloride.

There is an $\text{N}3-\text{H}3\text{B}\cdots\text{O}1^i$ hydrogen bond between two molecules (see Table 1), which links the molecules into a centrosymmetric dimer.

Experimental

To a 268 K solution of 4-dibenzylamino-3-oxo-5-phenylpentanenitrile (1.0 g, 2.2 mmol) in tetrahydrofuran (THF, 10 ml) was added 2-methylpyridinylmagnesium chloride (9.0 ml, 1 M in THF, 9.0 mmol). The solution was warmed to ambient temperature and stirred until no starting material was detected by thin-layer chromatography. The solution was then cooled to 278 K and added slowly to a solution of 15% citric acid (20 ml). The organic layer was separated and washed with 10% sodium chloride (10 ml). After concentration *in vacuo*, the residue was crystallized to give a yellow solid (0.9 g, yield 72%) (Stuk *et al.*, 1994). Single crystals were obtained by crystallization from ethyl acetate and petroleum ether (1:2 *v/v*).

Crystal data

 $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{31}\text{N}_3\text{O}$
 $M_r = 461.59$
Triclinic, $P\bar{1}$
 $a = 9.003$ (3) Å
 $b = 10.892$ (4) Å
 $c = 13.802$ (5) Å
 $\alpha = 76.427$ (6)°
 $\beta = 71.484$ (6)°
 $\gamma = 84.656$ (7)°
 $V = 1247.2$ (8) Å³ $Z = 2$
 $D_x = 1.229$ Mg m⁻³
Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
Cell parameters from 2165 reflections
 $\theta = 2.4-25.6$ °
 $\mu = 0.08$ mm⁻¹
 $T = 273$ (2) K
Block, yellow
 $0.56 \times 0.34 \times 0.21$ mm

Data collection

Bruker APEX area-detector diffractometer
 φ and ω scans
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 2001)
 $T_{\min} = 0.959$, $T_{\max} = 0.984$
 6380 measured reflections

4319 independent reflections
 3386 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.032$
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 25.0^\circ$
 $h = -10 \rightarrow 10$
 $k = -12 \rightarrow 12$
 $l = -15 \rightarrow 16$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.064$
 $wR(F^2) = 0.178$
 $S = 1.06$
 4319 reflections
 316 parameters
 H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0812P)^2 + 0.1595P]$
 where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.19 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.19 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$

Table 1Hydrogen-bond geometry (\AA , $^\circ$).

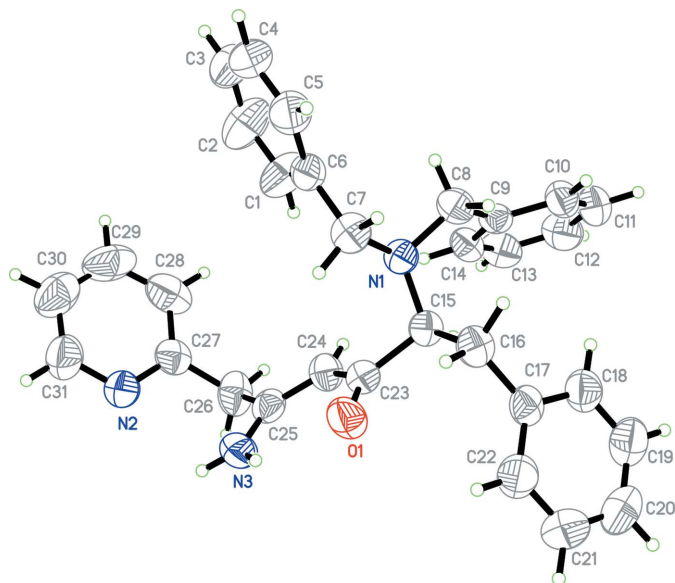
$D-H \cdots A$	$D-H$	$H \cdots A$	$D \cdots A$	$D-H \cdots A$
$N3-H3B \cdots O1^i$	0.86	2.35	2.987 (3)	131

Symmetry code: (i) $-x, -y + 1, -z$.

The H atoms were positioned geometrically and refined as riding, with $C-H = 0.93-0.98 \text{ \AA}$ and $N-H = 0.86 \text{ \AA}$. H-atom displacement parameters were set equal to $1.5U_{\text{eq}}$ of their parent atoms.

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: *ORTEP-3* (Farrugia, 1997) and *ViewerPro* (Accelrys, 2001); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL97*.

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**Figure 1**

ORTEP-3 (Farrugia, 1997) plot of the title compound. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level and the H atoms are shown as spheres of arbitrary radii.

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