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Key indicators

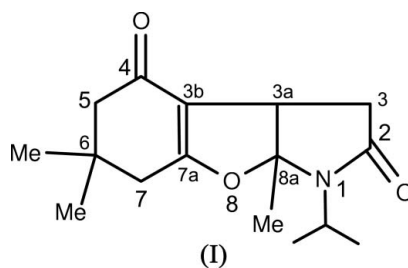
Single-crystal X-ray study
 $T = 120$ K
Mean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.002$ Å
 R factor = 0.039
 wR factor = 0.101
Data-to-parameter ratio = 10.7For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.1-Isopropyl-6,6,8a-trimethyl-1,3a,5,6,7,8a-hexahydro-3H-1-benzofuro[2,3-*b*]pyrrole-2,4-dione

The crystal structure of the title benzofuran derivative, $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{23}\text{NO}_3$, has been elucidated. The tricyclic core, *i.e.* the tetrahydrobenzo-dihydrofuro-pyrrolidine ring system, is non-planar owing to the folding of the five-membered rings at their *cis* junction. The cyclohexene ring assumes a half-chair conformation, while the dihydrofuran and pyrrolidine rings each adopt an envelope conformation. Intramolecular C—H \cdots O hydrogen bonds form *S*(6) closed patterns.

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Comment

The title compound, (I), has been shown to exhibit a moderate hypoglycemic activity in a previous structure-activity relationship study (Nagarajan *et al.*, 1988). Compound (I) is a new tricyclic benzofuran derivative containing linearly fused tetrahydrobenzo-dihydrofuro-pyrrolidine (*A-B-C*) rings. This chiral molecule formally derives from a perhydro-furo (or -pyrrolo)-benzofuran system (Nagarajan *et al.*, 1988) and is structurally related to a structure containing a tetrahydrobenzo-furo-furan ring system, which we recently published (Nagaraj *et al.*, 2005).



The molecular structure is shown in Fig. 1. The *BC* ring-junction is *cis* (Bucourt, 1974). The shape of the tricyclic core is non-planar owing to the folding at the *BC* junction. The torsion angles at this junction, namely $\text{N1}-\text{C1}-\text{C4}-\text{C5}$ and $\text{O1}-\text{C1}-\text{C4}-\text{C3}$, are -99.69 (11) and 132.78 (11) $^\circ$, respectively. The structure of the analogous molecule based on a chiral tetrahydrobenzo-furo-furan core (Nagaraj *et al.*, 2005) also has a non-planar shape for its tricyclic core, and the equivalent torsion angles are 103.98 (10) and -127.17 (10) $^\circ$, respectively. The torsion angle $\text{C1}-\text{N1}-\text{C14}-\text{C15}$ in (I), describing the conformation of the *N*-isopropyl substituent, is 121.51 (14) $^\circ$. The internal torsion angles of individual rings are shown in Fig. 1. Ring *A* (cyclohexene) adopts a half-chair (C_2) conformation (Bucourt, 1974) with the following values of puckering parameters (Cremer & Pople, 1975): $q_2 = 0.347$ (2), $q_3 = -0.275$ (2) Å, $\varphi_2 = 345.7$ (3), $\theta_2 = 128.4$ (2) $^\circ$ and $Q = 0.443$ (2) Å. Rings *B* and *C* adopt envelope (C_s) conforma-

