# organic papers

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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 120 KMean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.002 \text{ Å}$  R factor = 0.039 wR factor = 0.101 Data-to-parameter ratio = 10.7

For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e.

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# 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,  $C_{16}H_{23}NO_3$ , 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 ringjunction 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 N1-C1-C4-C5 and O1-C1-C4-C3, are -99.69 (11) and 132.78 (11)°, 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 C1-N1-C14-C15 in (I), describing the conformation of the N-isopropyl substituent, is 121.51 (14)°. 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)° and Q =0.443 (2) Å. Rings B and C adopt envelope  $(C_s)$  conforma-



#### Figure 1

The molecular structure of (I). Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level and numerical values refer to the internal torsion angles (°) of individual rings (s.u. values lie in the range  $0.1-0.2^{\circ}$ ). Intramolecular C-H···O hydrogen bonds are displayed with dashed lines.

tions (Fuchs, 1978) with atoms C1 and C4, respectively, at the flap positions. Atoms C1 and C4 are 0.24 (1) and 0.33 (1) Å out of the mean planes formed by the remaining ring atoms. The puckering amplitudes q (Å) and the phase angles  $\varphi$  (°) of the five-membered rings are 0.146(2) and 39.7(7), and 0.210 (2) and 80.3 (5), respectively. Two S(6) hydrogenbonded closed patterns (Bernstein et al., 1995) are formed by C15-H···O2 and C16-H···O2 intramolecular contacts (Table 1). The lengths and directionality suggest that these hydrogen bonds are very weak. The crystal packing is entirely due to van der Waals interactions.

## **Experimental**

The synthesis of (I) was described by Nagarajan et al. (1988). Suitable single crystals were obtained by slow evaporation of a benzenehexane (1:1) solution.

Z = 2

 $D_x = 1.237 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ 

Cell parameters from 3368

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation

reflections

 $\theta = 2.9 - 27.5^{\circ}$ 

 $\mu = 0.09 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ 

T = 120 (2) K

Plate, colourless

 $0.22 \times 0.18 \times 0.05 \ \mathrm{mm}$ 

### Crystal data

C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>  $M_r = 277.35$ Triclinic, P1 a = 8.9725 (3) Å b = 10.2472 (3) Å c = 10.4372 (3) Å  $\alpha = 101.733 \ (2)^{\circ}$  $\beta = 109.290 \ (1)^{\circ}$  $\gamma = 115.765 \ (1)^{\circ}$ V = 744.67 (4) Å<sup>3</sup>

### Data collection

Nonius KappaCCD diffractometer	2548 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
$\varphi$ and $\omega$ scans	$R_{\rm int} = 0.038$
Absorption correction: multi-scan	$\theta_{\rm max} = 26.0^{\circ}$
(SADABS; Sheldrick, 2003)	$h = -11 \rightarrow 11$
$T_{\min} = 0.890, \ T_{\max} = 0.996$	$k = -12 \rightarrow 12$
14657 measured reflections	$l = -12 \rightarrow 12$
2911 independent reflections	

#### Refinement

+ 0.3291P]
where $P = (F_0^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} = 0.001$
$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.21 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.26 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$

Hydrogen-bond	geometry	(Å	°)

$D - H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - \mathbf{H} \cdot \cdot \cdot A$
C15-H153···O2	0.99 (3)	2.54 (2)	3.122 (2)	118 (2)
$C16-H161\cdots O2$	1.02 (3)	2.58 (2)	3.186 (2)	118 (1)

Larger than expected values of residual electron density were observed and attributed to the presence of a few poorly fitting reflections ( $\overline{122}$ ,  $1\overline{11}$ , 011,  $2\overline{21}$ ,  $\overline{222}$  and  $\overline{111}$ ). The application of an extinction correction [extinction parameter = 0.57(3)] further degraded the model quality. In the absence of any obvious cause, these reflections were omitted during the last cycles of refinement. Residual electron density was then featureless and the residual factor R dropped from 0.056 to 0.039 for observed data. H atoms were located in a difference map and were refined freely [C-H = 0.97 (2)-1.02 (2) Å].

Data collection: COLLECT (Hooft, 1998); cell refinement: DENZO (Otwinowski & Minor, 1997) and COLLECT; data reduction: DENZO and COLLECT; 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 PLATON (Spek, 2003); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXL97 and PLATON.

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