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Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study
 $T = 298\text{ K}$
Mean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.003\text{ \AA}$
 R factor = 0.045
 wR factor = 0.125
Data-to-parameter ratio = 13.9For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

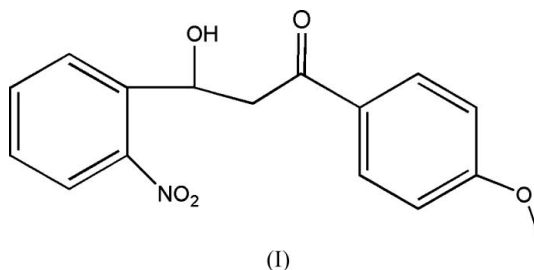
3-Hydroxy-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-(2-nitrophenyl)propan-1-one

In the title compound, $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_5$, all bond lengths and angles are within normal ranges. The dihedral angle between the two benzene rings is $15.6(2)^\circ$. In the crystal structure, the molecules are linked through weak intermolecular $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$ hydrogen bonds, forming chains along the b axis.

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Comment

Recently, we have reported the structures of two chalcone derivatives (Qiu, Liu & Zhu, 2006; Qiu, Yang *et al.*, 2006). As an extension of our work on the structural characterization of chalcone derivatives, the title compound, (I), is reported here.



The asymmetric unit of (I) (Fig. 1) consists of one molecule of 3-hydroxy-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-(2-nitrophenyl)propan-1-one. In the molecule, all bond lengths and angles are within normal ranges (Allen *et al.*, 1987). The dihedral angle between the two benzene rings is $15.6(2)^\circ$.

In the crystal structure, the molecules are linked through weak intermolecular $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$ hydrogen bonds, forming chains along the b axis (Table 1 and Fig. 2).

Experimental

The reagents were commercial products and were used without further purification. An aqueous solution of potassium hydroxide

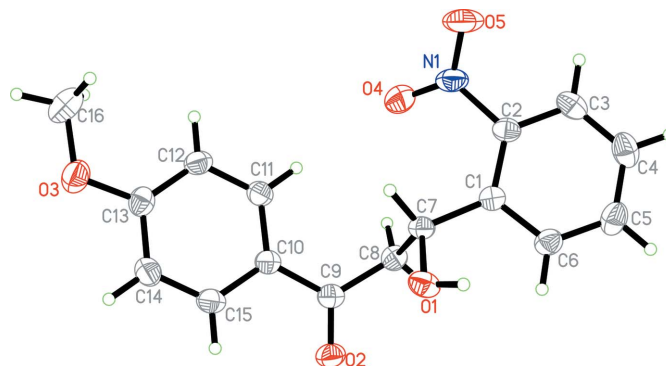


Figure 1
The structure of (I) showing 30% probability displacement ellipsoids and the atom-numbering scheme.

(10%, 1 ml) was added, with stirring, overnight to a solution of 2-nitrobenzaldehyde (1 mmol, 0.15 g) and 1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethanone (1 mmol, 0.15 g) in ethanol (15 ml) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was then poured into ice and neutralized with hydrochloric acid (5%), yielding a yellow solid. The latter was dissolved in acetone (12 ml) and stirred for about 10 min to give a clear yellow solution. After allowing the solution to stand in air for 12 d, yellow block-shaped crystals were formed at the bottom of the vessel on slow evaporation of the solvent. These were collected, washed three times with acetone, and dried in a vacuum desiccator using CaCl_2 . (I) was isolated in 62% yield.

Crystal data

$\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_5$	$Z = 4$
$M_r = 301.29$	$D_x = 1.376 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
Monoclinic, $P2_1/n$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
$a = 13.5530 (3) \text{ \AA}$	$\mu = 0.10 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$b = 7.3761 (2) \text{ \AA}$	$T = 298 (2) \text{ K}$
$c = 14.5524 (4) \text{ \AA}$	Block, yellow
$\beta = 90.172 (1)^\circ$	$0.36 \times 0.12 \times 0.07 \text{ mm}$
$V = 1454.77 (6) \text{ \AA}^3$	

Data collection

Bruker SMART APEX area-detector diffractometer	7701 measured reflections
ω scans	2834 independent reflections
Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Sheldrick, 1996)	1973 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
$T_{\min} = 0.982$, $T_{\max} = 0.991$	$R_{\text{int}} = 0.029$
	$\theta_{\text{max}} = 26.0^\circ$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0555P)^2 + 0.3026P]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.045$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$wR(F^2) = 0.125$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$
$S = 1.03$	$\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.31 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
2834 reflections	$\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.35 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
204 parameters	
H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement	

Table 1

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

$D-H\cdots A$	$D-H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-H\cdots A$
$\text{O1}-\text{H1}\cdots\text{O2}^1$	0.82	2.29	2.832 (2)	124

Symmetry code: (i) $-x + \frac{3}{2}, y - \frac{1}{2}, -z + \frac{3}{2}$.

The methine H atom, H7, was located in a difference Fourier map and refined with a C—H distance restraint of 1.009 (19) \AA . The other H atoms were placed in geometrically idealized positions and constrained to ride on their parent atoms with C—H and O—H distances of 0.93–0.97 and 0.82 \AA , respectively; $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H})$ values were set at 1.2 or $1.5U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$ and $1.5U_{\text{eq}}(\text{O})$.

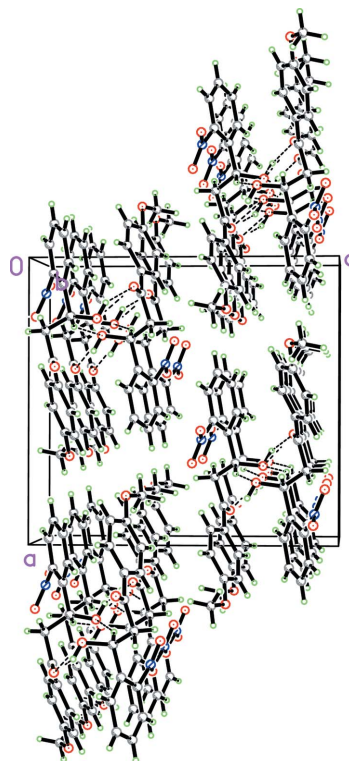


Figure 2

The crystal packing of (I), viewed approximately along the c axis. Dashed lines indicate O—H \cdots O hydrogen bonds.

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 1998); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 1998); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: SHELXTL (Sheldrick, 2000); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXTL.

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