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Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study

$T = 293$ K

Mean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.003$ Å

R factor = 0.044

wR factor = 0.116

Data-to-parameter ratio = 15.4

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

N,N'-Bis(2-ethoxyphenyl)oxamide

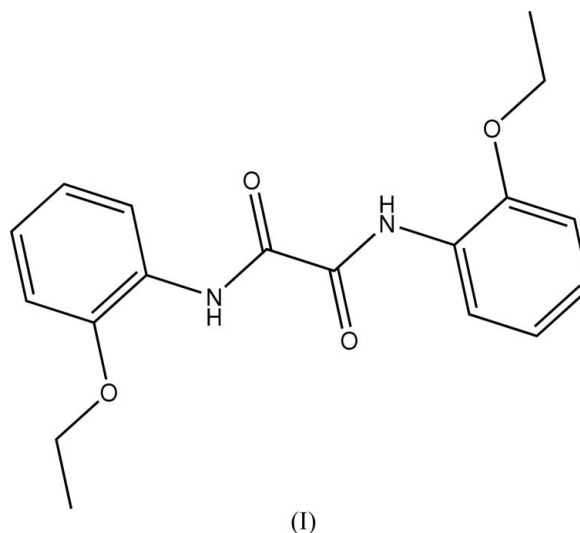
The title compound, $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$, has an inversion center at the mid-point of the C—C bond of the oxamide unit. Intramolecular N—H···O and C—H···O hydrogen bonds make the molecule essentially planar.

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Comment

We have recently reported the synthesis and crystal structure of *N,N'*-diphenyloxamide, (II) (Wen *et al.*, 2006). In our ongoing studies of oxamide derivatives, the title compound, (I), was obtained.



The compound (I) has an inversion center at the mid-point of the C—C bond of the oxamide unit (Fig. 1). The bond lengths and angles are within normal ranges (Allen *et al.*, 1987) and are comparable to those in (II). The molecule of (I) is essentially planar, with the two ethoxy groups twisted slightly to opposite sides of the molecular plane [the dihedral angle between the main molecular plane and the OCC chain is $4.15(2)^\circ$]. Intramolecular hydrogen bonds (Table 1) form five- and six-membered rings, contributing to the planarity of the molecule.

Experimental

To a solution of 2-ethoxyaniline (27.4 g, 0.2 mol) in benzene (90 ml) was added dropwise a solution of oxalyl chloride (6.4 g, 0.05 mol) in benzene (30 ml), and the mixture was stirred at 343 K for 8 h. After cooling to room temperature, water (50 ml) was added to the reaction mixture and the organic phase was washed three times with water to obtain (I) as a solid (yield 62%). Crystals of (I) suitable for X-ray analysis were obtained by slow evaporation of an *N,N*-dimethylformamide solution over a period of 9 h.

Crystal data

$C_{18}H_{20}N_2O_4$
 $M_r = 328.36$
 Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$
 $a = 8.7343$ (10) Å
 $b = 14.5983$ (16) Å
 $c = 7.1682$ (8) Å
 $\beta = 110.157$ (2)°
 $V = 858.01$ (17) Å³

$Z = 2$
 $D_x = 1.271$ Mg m⁻³
 Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
 $\mu = 0.09$ mm⁻¹
 $T = 293$ (2) K
 Column, colorless
 $0.32 \times 0.16 \times 0.12$ mm

Data collection

Siemens SMART 1000 CCD area
 detector diffractometer
 ω scans
 Absorption correction: multi-scan
 (SADABS; Sheldrick, 1996)
 $T_{\min} = 0.972$, $T_{\max} = 0.989$

4858 measured reflections
 1675 independent reflections
 1208 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.023$
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 26.0^\circ$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.044$
 $wR(F^2) = 0.116$
 $S = 1.05$
 1675 reflections
 109 parameters
 H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0588P)^2 + 0.0318P]$
 where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.13$ e Å⁻³
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.14$ e Å⁻³

Table 1

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D-H\cdots A$	$D-H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-H\cdots A$
$N1-H1A\cdots O1$	0.86	2.15	2.576 (2)	110
$N1-H1A\cdots O2^i$	0.86	2.23	2.668 (2)	112
$C7-H7A\cdots O2$	0.93	2.39	2.976 (2)	121

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

All H atoms were located in difference Fourier maps and constrained to ride on their parent atoms, with $C-H = 0.93-0.97$ Å, $N-H = 0.86$ Å and $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C}, \text{N})$ and $1.5U_{\text{eq}}(\text{methyl C})$.

Data collection: SMART (Siemens, 1996); cell refinement: SAINT (Siemens, 1996); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXTL (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXTL; molecular graphics: SHELXTL; software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXTL, PARST (Nardelli, 1995) and PLATON (Spek, 2003).

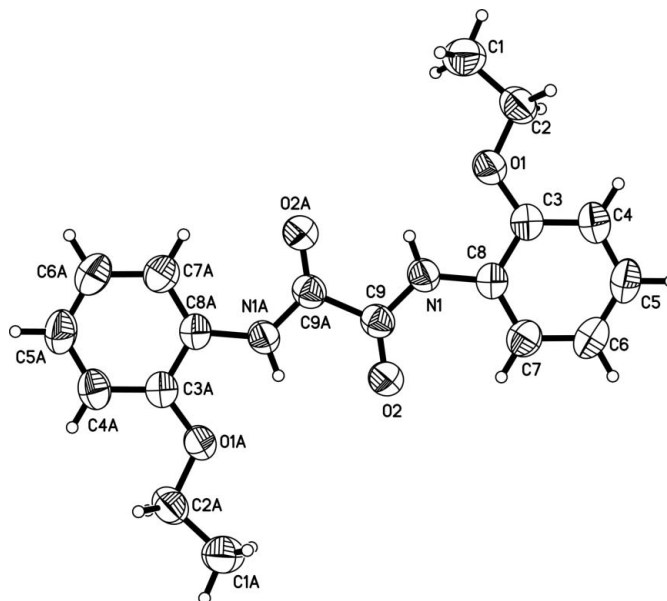


Figure 1

The structure of (I), showing 50% probability displacement ellipsoids and the atom-numbering scheme. The suffix A corresponds to symmetry code $(1 - x, 1 - y, 1 - z)$.

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