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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 298 KMean  $\sigma(C-C) = 0.003 \text{ Å}$  R factor = 0.042 wR factor = 0.109 Data-to-parameter ratio = 14.1

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

# Acetaldehyde 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazone

The molecule of the title Schiff base compound,  $C_8H_8N_4O_4$ , is not planar, with a dihedral angle of 9.3 (2)° between the N– N=C-C plane and the benzene ring. There is an intramolecular N-H···O hydrogen bond, and N-O··· $\pi$  interactions, which help to stabilize the structure. Received 14 July 2006 Accepted 22 July 2006

### Comment

2,4-Dinitrophenylhydrazine is a reagent which is widely used for condensation with aldehydes and ketones. Several phenylhydrazone derivatives have been shown to be potentially DNA-damaging and are mutagenic agents (Okabe *et al.*, 1993). Some phenylhydrazone derivatives have been synthesized in our laboratory (Qian, Liu, Yin & Ng, 2006, Qian, Liu & Yin, 2006). As part of our work, we have synthesized the title compound, (I), and report the crystal structure here.



In (I), there is a dihedral angle of 9.3 (2)° between the benzene ring and the N3/N4/C7/C8 plane (Fig.1). The dihedral angles between the benzene ring and the O1/O2/N2/C4/C5/C6 and O1/O2/N2/C4/C3/C2 planes are 4.70 (11) and 4.43 (11)°, respectively. The C1-C2 and C1-C6 bond lengths are slightly longer than the other C-C bond lengths in the benzene ring (Table 1).

There is an intramolecular N-H···O hydrogen bond (Fig. 1 and Table 2), while the molecules are linked by N-O··· $\pi$ interactions between N1-O4 and the benzene ring (Steiner *et al.*, 1995) [O4···*Cg*1<sup>i</sup> = 3.35 Å and N1-O4···*Cg*1<sup>i</sup> = 94.04°, where *Cg*1 is the centroid of the benzene ring; symmetry code: (i) -1 + x, y, z].

## Experimental

2,4-Dinitrophenylhydrazine (1 mmol, 0.198 g) was dissolved in anhydrous ethanol (15 ml).  $H_2SO_4$  (98% 0.5 ml) was added and the mixture stirred for several minutes at 351 K. Acetaldehyde (1 mmol, 0.044 g) in ethanol (5 ml) was added dropwise and the mixture was stirred at refluxing temperature for 3 h. The product was separated and recrystallized from dichloromethane. Yellow single crystals of (I) were obtained after 2 d.

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# organic papers

#### Crystal data

 $\begin{array}{l} C_8 H_8 N_4 O_4 \\ M_r = 224.18 \\ \text{Monoclinic, } P_{2_1}/c \\ a = 5.353 \ (1) \text{ Å} \\ b = 10.872 \ (2) \text{ Å} \\ c = 17.725 \ (3) \text{ Å} \\ \beta = 96.160 \ (4)^{\circ} \\ V = 1025.6 \ (3) \text{ Å}^3 \end{array}$ 

#### Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector diffractometer  $\omega$  scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (*SADABS*; Sheldrick, 2002)  $T_{\rm min} = 0.973, T_{\rm max} = 0.979$ 

#### Refinement

# w $1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0488P)^2]$ $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.042$ where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ $wR(F^2) = 0.110$ $(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} < 0.001$ S = 0.82 $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.11 \text{ e Å}^{-3}$ 2120 reflections $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.16 \text{ e Å}^{-3}$ 150 parametersExtinction correction: SHELXL97H atoms treated by a mixture of<br/>independent and constrained<br/>refinementExtinction coefficient: 0.0029 (11)

Z = 4

 $D_x = 1.452 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ 

 $0.23 \times 0.21 \times 0.18 \text{ mm}$ 

8012 measured reflections

2120 independent reflections

931 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ 

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation

 $\mu = 0.12 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ 

T = 298 (2) K

Block, yellow

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.068$ 

 $\theta_{\rm max} = 26.5^\circ$ 

#### Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

C1-C2	1.411 (3)	C3-C4	1.370 (3)
C1-C6	1.428 (3)	C4-C5	1.379 (3)
C2-C3	1.385 (3)	C5-C6	1.363 (3)
O4-N1-C2-C3	177.78 (18)	O1-N2-C4-C3	-174.4 (2)
O3-N1-C2-C1	177.16 (18)	O2-N2-C4-C5	-175.4 (2)

Table 2

		0	
Hydrogen-bond	geometry	(A,	°).

$\overline{D-\mathrm{H}\cdots A}$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - H \cdots A$
N3-H3A····O4	0.899 (9)	1.927 (16)	2.622 (2)	132.7 (18)

H3A attached to N3 was located in a difference map and refined freely; N-H = 0.899 (9) Å. Methyl H atoms were placed in calculated positions, with C-H = 0.96 Å, and refined with  $U_{iso}(H)$  =



## Figure 1

The molecular structure of (I). Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level and H atoms are shown as small spheres of arbitrary radii.

1.5 $U_{eq}(C)$ . Other H atoms were placed in calculated positions, with C-H = 0.93 Å, N-H = 0.89 Å and  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$ .

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, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*.

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