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## Key indicators

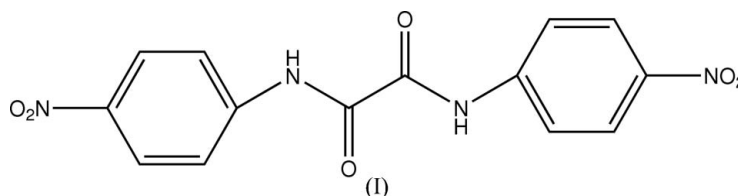
Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 293\text{ K}$   
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.003\text{ \AA}$   
 $R$  factor = 0.048  
 $wR$  factor = 0.120  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 12.0For details of how these key indicators were  
automatically derived from the article, see  
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.*N,N'*-Bis(4-nitrophenyl)oxamide

The molecule of the title compound,  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{O}_6$ , lies on a crystallographically imposed center of symmetry at the mid-point of the C—C bond of the oxamide unit. Molecules are linked into zigzag chains by  $\text{N}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  hydrogen bonds. The packing is further stabilized by van der Waals forces.

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## Comment

*N,N'*-Diphenyloxamide and its derivatives have been widely applied in a number of materials as anti-oxidants, ultraviolet absorbents and/or metal ion passivators (Feng *et al.*, 1997). We report here the synthesis and crystal structure of *N,N'*-bis(4-nitrophenyl)oxamide, (I).



In the molecule of (I), the bond lengths and angles are within normal ranges (Allen *et al.*, 1987). There is a crystallographically imposed center of symmetry at the mid-point of the  $\text{C}7-\text{C}7^i$  bond [symmetry code: (i)  $1 - x, -y, -z$ ] and an intramolecular  $\text{C}5-\text{H}5\text{A}\cdots\text{O}3$  hydrogen bond forms a six-membered ring (Fig. 1).

In the crystal structure, molecules of (I) are linked into zigzag chains by intermolecular  $\text{N}2-\text{H}2\text{A}\cdots\text{O}2^{ii}$  hydrogen bonds [symmetry code: (ii)  $1 + x, -\frac{1}{2} - y, \frac{1}{2} + z$ ] (Fig. 2 and Table 2). The packing is further stabilized by van der Waals forces.

## Experimental

To a solution of 4-nitrophenylamine (27.6 g, 0.2 mol) in benzene (60 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

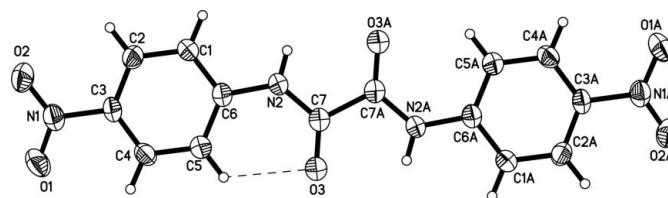


Figure 1

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

6 h. After cooling to room temperature, 50 ml water was added to the reaction and the organic phase was washed three times with water to give a solid. The title compound was obtained after drying at room temperature for 3 d. Colourless single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction study were obtained by slow evaporation of a *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) solution over a period of 6 d.

#### Crystal data

$C_{14}H_{10}N_4O_6$	$Z = 2$
$M_r = 330.26$	$D_x = 1.579 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
$a = 3.7185 (8) \text{ \AA}$	$\mu = 0.13 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$b = 13.942 (3) \text{ \AA}$	$T = 293 (2) \text{ K}$
$c = 13.571 (3) \text{ \AA}$	Needle, colorless
$\beta = 99.059 (6)^\circ$	$0.50 \times 0.08 \times 0.06 \text{ mm}$
$V = 694.8 (3) \text{ \AA}^3$	

#### Data collection

Siemens SMART 1000 CCD area-detector diffractometer	3825 measured reflections
$\omega$ scans	1370 independent reflections
Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Sheldrick, 1996)	1001 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
$T_{\min} = 0.939$ , $T_{\max} = 0.992$	$R_{\text{int}} = 0.031$
	$\theta_{\max} = 26.0^\circ$

#### Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0562P)^2 + 0.0313P]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.048$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$wR(F^2) = 0.120$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} < 0.001$
$S = 1.07$	$\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.24 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
1370 reflections	$\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.19 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
114 parameters	
H-atom parameters constrained	

**Table 1**

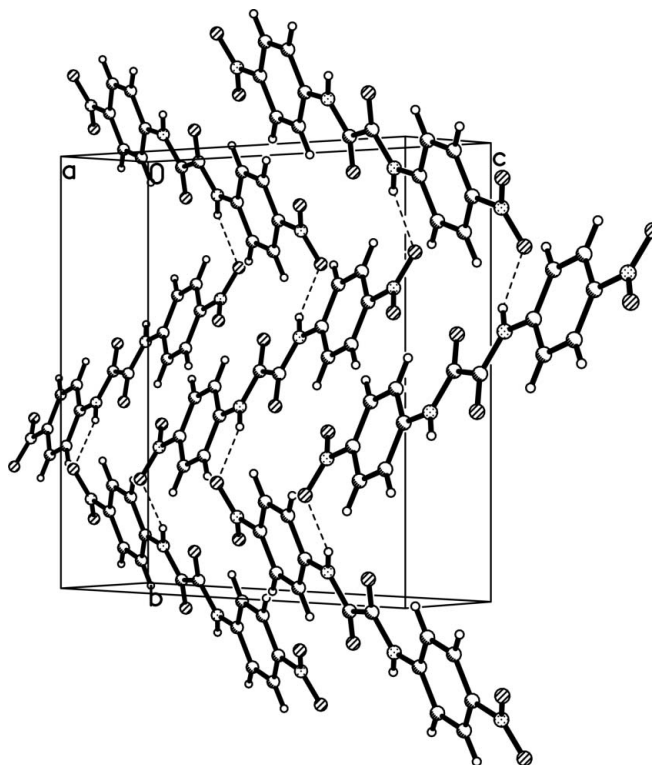
Hydrogen-bond geometry ( $\text{\AA}$ ,  $^\circ$ ).

$D-H\cdots A$	$D-H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-H\cdots A$
$N2-H2A\cdots O3^i$	0.86	2.25	2.677 (2)	110
$N2-H2A\cdots O2^{ii}$	0.86	2.32	3.148 (2)	161
$C5-H5A\cdots O3$	0.93	2.29	2.898 (3)	122

Symmetry codes: (i)  $-x + 1, -y, -z$ ; (ii)  $x + 1, -y - \frac{1}{2}, z + \frac{1}{2}$ .

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

Data collection: *SMART* (Siemens, 1996); cell refinement: *SAINT* (Siemens, 1996); data reduction: *SAINT*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997a); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997a); molecular graphics: *SHELXTL* (Sheldrick, 1997b); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*, *PARST* (Nardelli, 1995) and *PLATON* (Spek, 2003).



**Figure 2**

Packing diagram of (I), showing the hydrogen-bonded (dashed lines) zigzag chain.

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