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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 295 K Mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.002 Å R factor = 0.039 wR factor = 0.105 Data-to-parameter ratio = 12.9

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

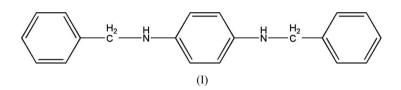
# 1,4-Bis(benzylamino)benzene

The molecule of 1,4-bis(benzylamino)benzene, C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>, lies on a center of inversion in its crystal structure; adjacent pyramidal amino groups are linked by hydrogen bonds into a layer motif.

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#### Comment

The title compound, (I), is a spacer ligand used in the synthesis of coordination polymers (Diskin-Posner et al., 2001). The molecule is an N-substituted o-phenylenediamine. The molecule lies on an inversion site: the amino group is pyramidal (Fig. 1). Adjacent molecules are linked into a layer structure by a weak hydrogen bond  $[N \cdot \cdot \cdot N = 3.328 (1) \text{ Å}].$ 



### **Experimental**

p-Phenylenediamine (1 mmol, 0.108 g) was dissolved in methanol (6 ml) and to the solution was added benzaldehvde (2 mmol, 0.212 g) dissolved in the same solvent (6 ml). The mixture was stirred for 3 h, and then treated with sodium borohydride in methanol at 273 K for 20 h. The reduced product was separated and recrystallized from methanol.

| Crystal data                 |                                  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| $C_{20}H_{20}N_2$            | Z = 2                            |
| $M_r = 288.38$               | $D_x = 1.222 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$  |
| Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$         | Mo $K\alpha$ radiation           |
| a = 11.912 (1)  Å            | $\mu = 0.07 \text{ mm}^{-1}$     |
| b = 5.5402 (8) Å             | T = 295 (2) K                    |
| c = 11.895 (1) Å             | Plate, colorless                 |
| $\beta = 93.47 (1)^{\circ}$  | $0.44 \times 0.34 \times 0.14$ m |
| V = 783.5 (2) Å <sup>3</sup> |                                  |

Data collection

Bruker APEX-II area-detector diffractometer  $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans Absorption correction: none 6428 measured reflections

1800 independent reflections 1420 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$  $R_{\rm int} = 0.020$ 

 $\theta_{\rm max} = 27.5^\circ$ 

 $\times 0.34 \times 0.14$  mm

Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$  $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.039$  $wR(F^2) = 0.105$ S = 1.051800 reflections  $\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.15 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$ 140 parameters All H-atom parameters refined

 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_0^2) + (0.0508P)^2]$ + 0.0816P] where  $P = (F_0^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$  $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} = 0.001$  $\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.12 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$ 

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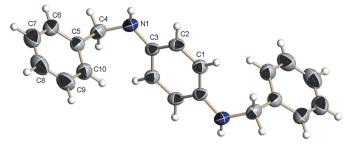
The amino and carbon-bound H atoms were located in a difference Fourier map, and were refined with distance restraints of N-H = 0.85 (1) Å and C-H = 0.95 (1) Å; their displacement parameters were freely refined.

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 2004); cell refinement: *SAINT* (Bruker, 2004); data reduction: *SAINT*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEPII* (Johnson, 1976); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL97*.

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#### References

Bruker (2004). *SMART* (Version 7.12A) and *SAINT* (Version 7.12A). Bruker AXS Inc., Madison, Wisconsin, USA.



#### Figure 1

Plot of the title compound, with displacement ellipsoids drawn at the 50% probability level and H atoms as spheres of arbitrary radii. Unlabelled atoms are related to labelled atoms by  $(\frac{1}{2} - x, \frac{1}{2} - y, \frac{1}{2} - z)$ .

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