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## Key indicators

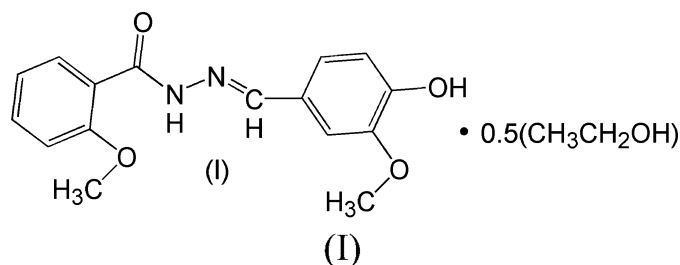
Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 294$  K  
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.003$  Å  
Disorder in solvent or counterion  
 $R$  factor = 0.047  
 $wR$  factor = 0.148  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 12.1For details of how these key indicators were  
automatically derived from the article, see  
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.***N'*-(4-Hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene)-2-methoxy-  
benzohydrazide ethanol hemisolvate**

In the title compound,  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4 \cdot 0.5\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ , the Schiff base is approximately planar. An intramolecular  $\text{N}-\text{H} \cdots \text{O}$  hydrogen bond stabilizes the molecular structure. The molecules are linked by  $\text{O}-\text{H} \cdots \text{O}$  hydrogen bonds to form a chain along the  $b$  axis.

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## Comment

Metal complexes involving Schiff bases have attracted much attention because they can be utilized as model compounds of active centres in various proteins and enzymes (Kahwa *et al.*, 1986; Santos *et al.*, 2001). As part of an investigation of the coordination properties of Schiff bases functioning as ligands, we report here the synthesis and crystal structure of the title compound, (I).

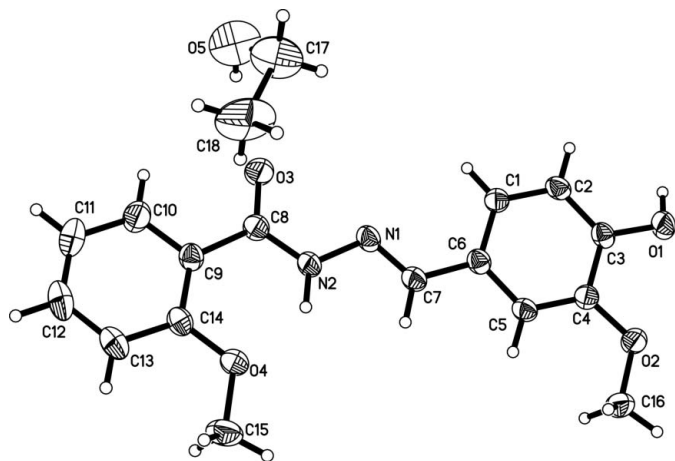


The asymmetric unit of (I) comprises one 2-methoxybenzoic acid (4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzylidene)hydrazide molecule, and an ethanol solvent molecule with an occupancy factor of 0.5 (2) (Fig. 1). The Schiff base is approximately planar; the central chromophore (C8–C15/N1/N2/O3/O4) and the 4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzaldehyde moiety (C1–C7/O1/O2/C16) are each planar, with r.m.s. deviations of 0.033 and 0.020 Å, respectively. The dihedral angle between these planes is 7.85 (6)°.

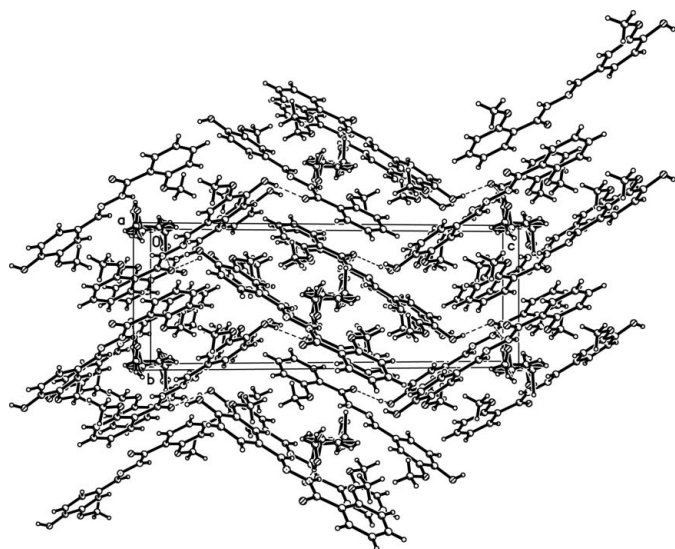
An intramolecular  $\text{N}-\text{H} \cdots \text{O}$  hydrogen bond stabilizes the molecular structure, while intermolecular  $\text{O}-\text{H} \cdots \text{O}$  hydrogen bonds stabilize the crystal structure (Table 1 and Fig. 2). Screw-related Schiff base molecules are linked *via*  $\text{O}-\text{H} \cdots \text{O}$  hydrogen bonds involving the carbonyl and hydroxyl groups to form zigzag chains along the  $b$  axis.

## Experimental

An anhydrous ethanol solution (50 ml) of 4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzaldehyde (1.52 g, 10 mmol) was added to an anhydrous ethanol solution (50 ml) of 2-methoxybenzoic acid hydrazide (1.66 g, 10 mmol), and the mixture was stirred at 330 K for 6 h under  $\text{N}_2$ , whereupon a yellow precipitate appeared. The product was isolated, recrystallized from anhydrous ethanol and then dried *in vacuo* to give



**Figure 1**  
The structure of (I). Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level. Only one disorder component is shown.



**Figure 2**  
The crystal packing of (I), viewed down the *a* axis. Hydrogen bonds are indicated by dashed lines. Both components of the disordered ethanol molecules are shown.

pure compound (I) in 92% yield. Yellow single crystals of (I) suitable for X-ray analysis were obtained by slow evaporation of an anhydrous ethanol solution.

#### Crystal data

$C_{16}H_{16}N_2O_4 \cdot 0.5C_2H_6O$   
 $M_r = 323.34$   
 Monoclinic,  $P2_1/c$   
 $a = 8.764$  (1) Å  
 $b = 8.2705$  (9) Å  
 $c = 22.348$  (3) Å  
 $\beta = 99.784$  (2)°  
 $V = 1596.3$  (3) Å<sup>3</sup>

$Z = 4$   
 $D_x = 1.345$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>  
 Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 $\mu = 0.10$  mm<sup>-1</sup>  
 $T = 294$  (2) K  
 Block, yellow  
 0.22 × 0.20 × 0.16 mm

#### Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector diffractometer  
 $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans  
 Absorption correction: none  
 8355 measured reflections

2823 independent reflections  
 2222 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{int} = 0.014$   
 $\theta_{max} = 25.0^\circ$

#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.047$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.148$   
 $S = 1.07$   
 2823 reflections  
 234 parameters  
 H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0788P)^2 + 0.4458P]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} = 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.39$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.28$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>

**Table 1**

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

<i>D</i> —H... <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> —H	H... <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> ... <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> —H... <i>A</i>
O1—H1...O3 <sup>i</sup>	0.88 (3)	1.90 (3)	2.704 (2)	152 (3)
N2—H2...O4	0.90 (3)	1.93 (3)	2.635 (2)	134 (2)
O5—H5A...O3	0.85	2.36	3.185 (7)	165

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

The ethanol molecule is disordered across a crystallographic inversion centre and it was refined with an occupancy of 0.5 (2), and with the C17—C18, O5—C17 and O5...C18 distances restrained to 1.54 (2), 2.54 (11) and 2.45 (2) Å, respectively. The  $U^{ij}$  components of atoms O5, C17 and C18 were approximated to isotropic behaviour. H atoms attached to N and O atoms of the main molecule were located in a difference Fourier map and refined freely (Table 1). The remaining H atoms were included in calculated positions [O—H = 0.85 Å and C—H = 0.93 Å (aromatic) or 0.96 Å (methyl)] and refined using a riding-model approximation, with  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$  or  $1.5U_{eq}(methyl\ C\ or\ O)$ .

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 1999); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 1999); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: SHELXTL (Bruker, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXTL.

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