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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 153 K Mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.004 Å R factor = 0.058 wR factor = 0.137 Data-to-parameter ratio = 14.7

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

# *syn-N*-[2-Benzoyl-1-(4-methylphenyl)propyl]acetamide: supramolecular structure formed by N—H···O, C—H···O and C—H··· $\pi$ (arene) hydrogen bonds

In the title compound,  $C_{19}H_{21}NO_2$ , the asymmetric unit contains two independent molecules (A and B) linked by a strong N-H···O hydrogen bond. The molecular assembly in the structure is established by N-H···O, C-H···O and C-H··· $\pi$  (arene) interactions. Intermolecular N-H···O hydrogen bonds involving different types of molecules generate an infinite *ABAB*... chain running parallel to the [001] direction. The combination of N-H···O and C-H···O hydrogen bonds results into a two-dimensional supramolecular framework of  $R_5^6(32)$  rings in the (011) plane.

## Comment

 $\beta$ -Acetamido ketones serve as potential intermediates in the synthesis of natural products and antibiotics (Wabnitz & Spencer, 2002). Depending on the types of substitution at the  $C_{\alpha}$ -,  $C_{\beta}$ - and keto-C atoms, and the conformational flexibility of the substituent groups, a variety of  $\beta$ -acetamido ketones offering the possibility of intermolecular interactions can be obtained (Ghosh *et al.*, 2005). In a continuation of our studies (Ghosh *et al.*, 2006) of one-pot stereoselective synthesis of  $\beta$ -acetamido ketones, the title compound, (I), has been prepared and the crystal structure is reported here.



The asymmetric unit of (I) consists of two molecules, A (C1-C19, N1, O1, O2) and B (C20-C38, N2, O3, O4), with similar bond lengths and angles. The normal probability plot analyses (International Tables for X-ray Crystallography, 1974, Vol. IV, pp. 293-309) for both bond lengths and angles show that the differences between the two symmetry independent molecules (Fig. 1) are of a statistical nature; the squares of the correlation factors for bond lengths and angles are 0.97 and 0.95, respectively. The difference in the conformation of the molecules in (I) can be described by the torsion angles (Table 1) involving the C atoms of the propyl chain, which links the phenyl and benzene rings. In both symmetryindependent molecules, the orientations of the carbonyl and the acetamido groups with respect to the  $C_{\alpha}-C_{\beta}$  bond is antiperiplanar; the values of the C(carbonyl) $-C_{\alpha}-C_{\beta}-$ N(acetamide) torsion angles are close to 180° (Table 1). The

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The asymmetric unit of (I), showing the atom-lebelling scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level. The dashed line indicates a hydrogen bond.





Part of the crystal structure, showing the formation of a  $R_5^6(32)$  ring involving four *A* type and two *B* type molecules. H atoms not involved in hydrogen bonding have been omitted for clarity. Atoms marked with the symbols (#), (\$) and (\*) are at the symmetry positions  $(x, \frac{1}{2} - y, \frac{1}{2} + z)$ ,  $(x, \frac{1}{2} - y, -\frac{1}{2} + z)$  and (x, y - 1, z), respectively. Hydrogen bonds are shown as dotted lines.

bond lengths and angles in (I) are comparable with those reported for the *anti* isomer of the title  $\beta$ -acetamido ketone (Ghosh *et al.*, 2006).

The intermolecular aggregation in (I) is determined by a combination of  $N-H\cdots O$ ,  $C-H\cdots O$  and  $C-H\cdots \pi$ (arene) hydrogen bonds (Table 2). Considering only *A*-type molecules, the phenyl atom C5 acts as a donor to the acetamido atom O2, forming a polymeric *C*(10) chain (Bernstein *et al.*, 1995) running parallel to the [001] direction. The interlinking of *A* and *B* molecules *via* strong  $N-H\cdots O$  hydrogen bonds



#### Figure 3

Part of the crystal structure of (I), showing the formation of a (011) sheet of  $R_5^6(32)$  rings. H atoms not involved in hydrogen bonding have been omitted for clarity. Hydrogen bonds are shown as dotted lines.

generates an infinite ABAB... chain running parallel to the [001] direction. Additional reinforcement between the molecules of the ABAB... chain is provided by C-H··· $\pi$ (arene) hydrogen bonds. Intermolecular N-H···O and C-H···O hydrogen bonds connect four A and two B molecules into an  $R_5^6(32)$  ring (Fig. 2); these rings are edge-fused, forming a two-dimensional supramolecular grid parallel to the (011) plane (Fig. 3).

## **Experimental**

To a solution of p-tolualdehyde (1 mmol) and propiophenone (1 mmol) in dry acetonitrile (4 ml),  $ZrOCl_2{\cdot}8H_2O$  (20 mol%) was added. To the resulting suspension, acetyl chloride (2 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at ambient temperature. After completion of the reaction [checked by thin-layer chromatography (TCL) with ethyl acetate-petroleum ether (333-353 K)], the mixture was diluted with  $CH_2Cl_2$ , washed with brine (1 × 20 ml) and the aqueous layer was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3  $\times$  15 ml). The combined organic layer was washed with NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (1  $\times$ 15 ml) followed by water (1  $\times$  20 ml). The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the crude residue was purified on a silica gel (60-120 mesh) column after elution with 3:2 EtOAc-petroleum ether (333-353 K) (yield 94%). Diastereomers were separated by preparative TLC on silica plates using 1:2 EtOAc-petroleum ether (333-353 K). syn-Isomer (I): m.p. 392 (1) K; analysis found: C 77.23, H 6.94, N 4.35%; calculated for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N: C 77.25, H 7.16, N 4.74%. Single crystals of the syn-isomer of (I) were grown by slow evaporation of an EtOAc-hexane (1:10) solution.

Crystal data

$C_{19}H_{21}NO_2$
$M_r = 295.37$
Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$
a = 18.3820 (18)  Å
b = 11.7845 (12) Å
c = 16.4961 (16)  Å
$\beta = 111.444 (2)^{\circ}$
V = 3326.1 (6) Å <sup>3</sup>

### Data collection

#### Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_0^2) + (0.049P)^2]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.058$	+ 0.971P]
$wR(F^2) = 0.137$	where $P = (F_0^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
S = 1.04	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} = 0.001$
5844 reflections	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.33 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
398 parameters	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.26 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
H-atom parameters constrained	

#### Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

O1-C7	1.224 (3)	C8-C9	1.525 (3)
O2-C18	1.242 (3)	C8-C10	1.538 (3)
O3-C26	1.218 (3)	C10-C11	1.521 (3)
O4-C37	1.237 (3)	C18-C19	1.497 (3)
N1-C18	1.337 (3)	C20-C26	1.498 (3)
N1-C10	1.458 (3)	C26-C27	1.526 (3)
N2-C37	1.338 (3)	C27-C29	1.528 (3)
N2-C29	1.468 (3)	C27-C28	1.530 (3)
C1-C7	1.498 (3)	C29-C30	1.524 (3)
C7-C8	1.517 (3)	C37-C38	1.498 (3)
C1-C7-C8-C10	-128.1 (2)	C20-C26-C27-C29	-141.3 (2)
C18-N1-C10-C11	-108.4(2)	C37-N2-C29-C30	-101.4(2)
C7-C8-C10-N1	-179.21(18)	C26-C27-C29-N2	174.28 (18)
C7-C8-C10-C11	57.0 (3)	C26-C27-C29-C30	53.6 (3)
N1-C10-C11-C16	105.7 (2)	C27-C29-C30-C35	30.1 (3)
C8-C10-C11-C12	50.7 (3)	N2-C29-C30-C31	82.3 (2)

Z = 8
$D_x = 1.180 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
Mo Kα radiation
$\mu = 0.08 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
T = 153 (2)  K
Block, colourless
$0.35 \times 0.12 \times 0.10 \text{ mm}$

17160 measured reflections 5844 independent reflections 4060 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$  $R_{\rm int} = 0.063$  $\theta_{\rm max} = 25.0^\circ$ 

#### Table 2 Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D - H \cdots A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - \mathbf{H} \cdot \cdot \cdot A$
$N2-H2A\cdots O2$	0.86	2.15	2.902 (3)	145
$N1 - H1A \cdots O4^{i}$	0.86	1.96	2.818 (3)	175
C5−H5···O2 <sup>ii</sup>	0.93	2.47	3.354 (3)	160
$C34-H34\cdots Cg1^{i}$	0.93	2.75	3.564 (3)	146

Symmetry codes: (i)  $x, -y + \frac{3}{2}, z + \frac{1}{2}$ ; (ii)  $x, -y + \frac{1}{2}, z + \frac{1}{2}$ . Cg1 is the centroid of ring C11– C16

H atoms were placed in calculated positions and treated as riding, with N-H = 0.86 Å, C-H = 0.93 (aromatic), 0.96 (methyl H) and 0.98 Å (CH group), and  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C,N)$ .

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: ORTEP-3 for Windows (Farrugia, 1997) and CAMERON (Watkin et al., 1993); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXL97, PARST95 (Nardelli, 1995) and PLATON (Spek, 2003).

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