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Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study
 $T = 294$ K
Mean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.004$ Å
 R factor = 0.054
 wR factor = 0.146
Data-to-parameter ratio = 14.3For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

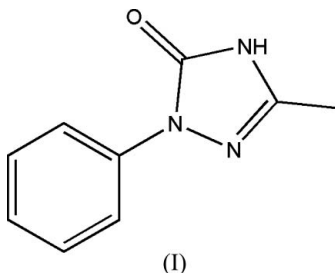
3-Methyl-1-phenyl-4,5-dihydro-1,2,4-triazol-5(1H)-one

In the molecule of the title compound, $\text{C}_9\text{H}_9\text{N}_3\text{O}$, the dihedral angle between the planar rings is $7.49(3)^\circ$. In the crystal structure, intermolecular $\text{N}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$ hydrogen bonds link the molecules into dimers, which may be effective in the stabilization of the crystal structure.

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Comment

1-Aryl-1,2,4-triazolin-5-one derivatives have herbicidal activity (Kajioka & Kurono, 1982) and can be used as herbicides in soybeans (Keifer & Tymonko, 1990) and to prevent or destroy undesired plant growth (Theodoridis, 1991). The title compound, (I), is an important intermediate in the synthesis of triazolone. We report here its crystal structure.



In the molecule of the title compound, (I) (Fig. 1), the bond lengths and angles are within normal ranges (Allen *et al.*, 1987). Intramolecular $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{N}$ and $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$ [$\text{H}4\text{A}\cdots\text{N}1 = 2.44$ Å, $\text{C}4\cdots\text{N}1 = 2.781(3)$ Å and $\text{C}4-\text{H}4\text{A}\cdots\text{N}1 = 101^\circ$; $\text{H}6\text{A}\cdots\text{O} = 2.32$ Å, $\text{C}6\cdots\text{O} = 2.955(3)$ Å and $\text{C}6-\text{H}6\text{A}\cdots\text{O} = 125^\circ$] hydrogen bonds lead to the formation of five- and six-membered rings (Fig. 1). Rings *A* (C1–C6) and *B* (N1–N3/C7/C8) are, of course, planar and the dihedral angle between them is $7.49(3)^\circ$.

As can be seen from the packing diagram (Fig. 2), intermolecular $\text{N}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$ [$\text{H}3\text{A}\cdots\text{O}^i = 1.97$ Å, $\text{N}3\cdots\text{O}^i = 2.815(3)$ Å and $\text{N}3-\text{H}3\text{A}\cdots\text{O}^i = 169^\circ$; symmetry code: (i) $-x, 1-y, 1-z$] hydrogen bonds link the molecules into dimers, which may be effective in the stabilization of the crystal structure. Dipole–dipole and van der Waals interactions are also effective in the molecular packing.

Experimental

For the preparation of the title compound, 3-methyl-1-phenyl-1,2,4-triazolidin-5-one (20 g, 0.17 mol) was dissolved in aqueous sodium hypochlorite (350 ml, 5%) and stirred at room temperature. After 15 min, the mixture became cloudy, the temperature had risen to 303 K, bubbling took place and an oily solid formed on the surface. Sodium hydroxide (7 g, 0.17 mol) was added to the mixture, which

was then extracted with diethyl ether, after which the aqueous phase was neutralized with HCl. The mixture was collected by filtration and recrystallized from ethyl acetate/heptane (40:15) by slow evaporation (yield 13.5 g; m.p. 434–435 K).

Crystal data

$C_9H_9N_3O$
 $M_r = 175.19$
 Orthorhombic, *Pbca*
 $a = 13.812$ (3) Å
 $b = 7.5400$ (15) Å
 $c = 16.708$ (3) Å
 $V = 1740.0$ (6) Å³

$Z = 8$
 $D_x = 1.338$ Mg m⁻³
 Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
 $\mu = 0.09$ mm⁻¹
 $T = 294$ (2) K
 Block, colorless
 $0.30 \times 0.30 \times 0.20$ mm

Data collection

Enraf–Nonius CAD-4
 diffractometer
 $\omega/2\theta$ scans
 Absorption correction: ψ scan
 (North *et al.*, 1968)
 $T_{\min} = 0.973$, $T_{\max} = 0.982$
 1707 measured reflections

1707 independent reflections
 1014 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
 $\theta_{\max} = 26.0^\circ$
 3 standard reflections
 every 200 reflections
 intensity decay: none

Refinement

Refinement on F^2
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.055$
 $wR(F^2) = 0.146$
 $S = 1.02$
 1707 reflections
 119 parameters
 H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.06P)^2 + 0.34P]$
 where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} < 0.001$
 $\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.17$ e Å⁻³
 $\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.21$ e Å⁻³
 Extinction correction: *SHELXL97*
 Extinction coefficient: 0.023 (2)

H atoms were positioned geometrically, with N–H = 0.86 Å (for NH) and C–H = 0.93 and 0.96 Å for aromatic and methyl H atoms, respectively, and constrained to ride on their parent atoms, with $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = xU_{\text{eq}}(\text{C},\text{N})$, where $x = 1.5$ for methyl and $x = 1.2$ for all other H atoms.

Data collection: *CAD-4 Software* (Enraf–Nonius, 1989); cell refinement: *CAD-4 Software*; data reduction: *XCAD4* (Harms & Wocadlo, 1995); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *SHELXTL* (Siemens, 1996); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*.

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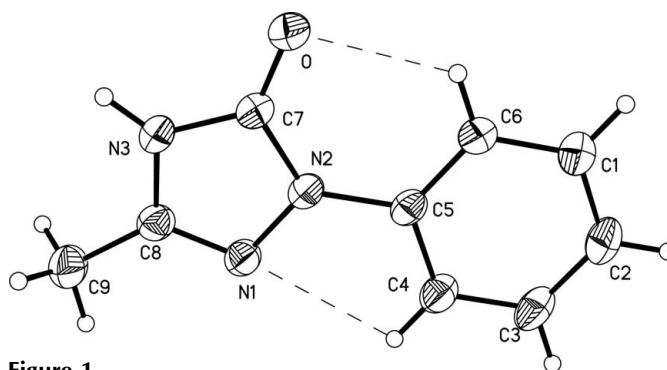


Figure 1
 The molecular structure, showing the atom-numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level. Hydrogen bonds are shown as dashed lines.

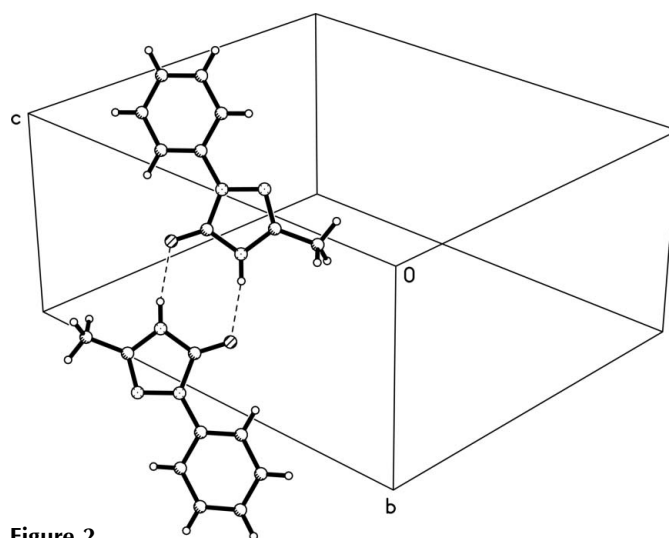


Figure 2
 A partial packing diagram of (I). Hydrogen bonds are shown as dashed lines.

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