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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 100 KMean  $\sigma(C-C) = 0.001 \text{ Å}$  R factor = 0.047 wR factor = 0.129 Data-to-parameter ratio = 36.0

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

# Methyl pyrrolo[2,1-a]isoquinoline-1-carboxylate

In the title compound,  $C_{14}H_{11}NO_2$ , the indolizine unit is almost planar. The carboxylate group is oriented almost coplanar with the indolizine unit.

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## Comment

Indolizines are electron-rich heterocycles. 3-Unsubstituted indolizine is especially important in the family of indolizines, since the highest electron population occurs on C3, which allows many electrophilic substitutions (Reid *et al.*, 1979). The structure of the title compound, (I), was obtained when we used 3-unsubstituted indolizine as an electrophilic substitution reagent.



The bond lengths and angles in (I) are within normal ranges (Allen *et al.*, 1987), and comparable with those in related structures (Usman *et al.*, 2002). In the title structure (Fig. 1), the indolizine unit is completely planar and almost coplanar with the the carboxylate group, with a dihedral angle between the aromatic rings and the carboxylate group of 7.38 (4)°. No classical hydrogen bonds were found.

#### **Experimental**

A suspension of 2-(carboxymethyl)isoquinolinium bromide (10 mmol), methyl acrylate (50 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.5 ml) in toluene (80 ml) was stirred at 363 K for 2 h (monitored by thin-layer chromatography). The solid was filtered off and the organic layer was evaporated and chromatographed to give (I) in a yield of 83% (Zhang *et al.*, 2000). Single crystals suitable for X-ray crystallographic analysis were obtained by recrystallization from acetone and petroleum ether (1:3 v/v).

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Crystal data

C_{14}H_{11}NO_{2}

M_{r} = 225.24

Monoclinic, P2_{1}/c

a = 9.8733 (1) Å

b = 6.9155 (1) Å

c = 15.7532 (2) Å

\beta = 97.283 (1)°

V = 1066.93 (2) Å<sup>3</sup>
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Z = 4  $D_x = 1.402 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ Mo K $\alpha$  radiation  $\mu = 0.10 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ T = 100.0 (1) K Block, colorless  $0.48 \times 0.35 \times 0.24 \text{ mm}$ 

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Bruker SMART APEX CCD areadetector diffractometer  $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (SABADS; Bruker, 2005)  $T_{\min} = 0.956, T_{\max} = 0.978$ 

# Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.047$   $wR(F^2) = 0.129$  S = 1.005583 reflections 155 parameters H-atom parameters constrained 49755 measured reflections 5583 independent reflections 4751 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$  $R_{\text{int}} = 0.047$  $\theta_{\text{max}} = 37.5^{\circ}$ 

$$\begin{split} w &= 1/[\sigma^2(F_{\rm o}^2) + (0.073P)^2 \\ &+ 0.2336P] \\ \text{where } P &= (F_{\rm o}^2 + 2F_{\rm c}^2)/3 \\ (\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} &= 0.007 \\ \Delta\rho_{\rm max} &= 0.55 \text{ e } \text{ \AA}^{-3} \\ \Delta\rho_{\rm min} &= -0.29 \text{ e } \text{ \AA}^{-3} \end{split}$$

### Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

| N1-C3                       | 1.3847 (9)               | C12-C13         | 1.4596 (9) |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| C3-N1-C11                   | 124.21 (6)               | C9-C10-C11      | 123.11 (6) |
| C2-N1-C3-C4<br>C11-N1-C3-C4 | 178.83 (7)<br>-0.41 (11) | C10-C11-C12-C13 | 2.10 (14)  |

H atoms were positioned geometrically and refined as riding on their parent C atoms, with C-H = 0.93–0.97 Å and  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$  or  $1.5U_{eq}(methyl C)$ .

Data collection: *APEX2* (Bruker, 2005); cell refinement: *APEX2*; data reduction: *SAINT* (Bruker, 2005); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXTL* (Sheldrick, 1998); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXTL*; molecular graphics: *SHELXTL*; software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL* and *PLATON* (Spek, 2003).



#### Figure 1

The molecular structure of (I), showing 30% probability displacement ellipsoids and the atom-numbering scheme.

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