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**Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study  
*T* = 123 K  
Mean  $\sigma(C-C)$  = 0.002 Å  
*R* factor = 0.040  
*wR* factor = 0.104  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 16.6

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

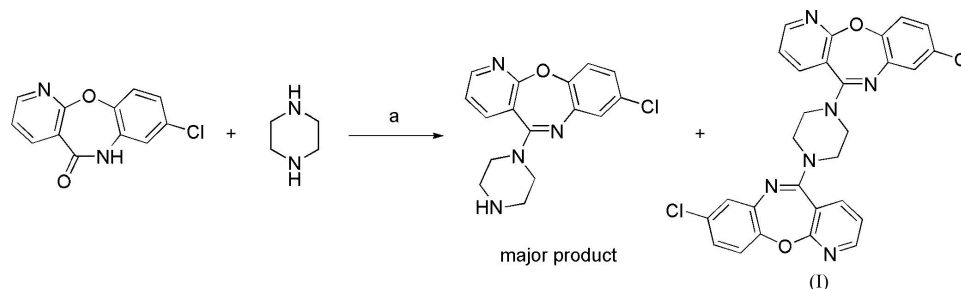
## 5,5'-(Piperazine-1,4-diyl)bis(8-chloropyrido[2,3-*b*][1,5]benzoxazepine)

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The centrosymmetric title compound, C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>20</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, features a tricyclic framework with the characteristic V-shape of the pyridobenzoxazepine nucleus and with the central seven-membered heterocycle having a classical boat conformation. The piperazine ring displays an almost-perfect chair conformation, with the tricyclic nuclei assuming a pseudo-equatorial orientation.

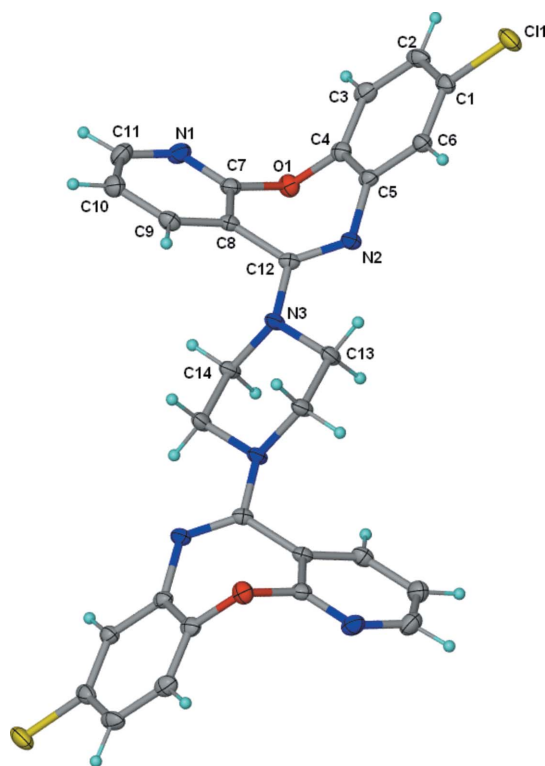
### Comment

Clozapine is an efficacious atypical antipsychotic used in the treatment of schizophrenia (Andreasen *et al.*, 1994; Gerlach, 1991). However, clozapine is found to induce a 1–2% incidence of agranulocytosis, a blood dyscrasia which can be fatal in some cases (Veys *et al.*, 1992; Gerson & Meltzer, 1992). Our anti-psychotic drug discovery programme (Capuano *et al.*, 2002, 2003) entails the synthesis of structurally related compounds that contain a tricyclic motif attached to piperazine, with an additional  $\pi$ -system anchored to the distal N atom of the piperazine ring system by a suitable spacer. The NH group of the central seven-membered ring of clozapine has been isosterically replaced with O, and the adjacent benzene ring replaced with a pyridine ring, affording the ‘pyridobenzoxazepine’ structural class. To expedite the chemical synthesis programme, we envisaged the synthetic utility of 8-chloro-5-piperazinopyrido[2,3-*b*][1,5]benzoxazepine (desmethyl JL13) as a versatile intermediate towards a library of clozapine-like analogues through parallel synthesis. During the synthesis, the title compound, (I), was isolated as a by-product, purified and structurally characterized by X-ray diffraction.



Reagents and conditions: (a) TiCl<sub>4</sub>/toluene, 1,4-dioxane,  $\Delta$ , 24 h.

The molecule of compound (I) (Fig. 1) is located about a centre of inversion and exhibits the characteristic buckled nature of the pyridobenzoxazepine nucleus, with the central seven-membered heterocycle in a classical boat conformation. The dihedral angle between the planes of the aromatic rings (defined as the obtuse angle subtended by the plane normals)



**Figure 1**

The molecular structure of (I), showing the atomic labelling scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level. Unlabelled atoms are related to labelled atoms by  $2 - x, 2 - y, 1 - z$ .

is  $120.04(5)^\circ$ , which is comparable with the values of  $113.99(7)^\circ$  observed for 8-chloro-5-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)-11*H*-pyrido[2,3-*b*][1,5]benzoxazepine (JL13) (Dupont & Liégeois, 2003) and  $115^\circ$  observed for the prototype atypical anti-psychotic drug clozapine (Petcher & Weber, 1976). The piperazine ring adopts a chair conformation, with the tricyclic group assuming a pseudo-equatorial orientation, by virtue of the  $sp^2$ -like nature of the piperazine N atoms (sum of angles =  $347.2^\circ$ ). However, the piperazine ring is rotated slightly away from the pyridyl ring, as shown by the torsion angles  $N2-C12-N3-C13 = 4.5(2)^\circ$  and  $C8-C12-N3-C14 = 51.5(2)^\circ$  [for JL13 and clozapine, the corresponding angles are  $-1.4(2)^\circ$  and  $37.2(2)^\circ$  (Dupont & Liégeois, 2003) and  $9$  and  $-34^\circ$  (Petcher & Weber, 1976), respectively].

There are no significant interactions between molecules of (I), which pack parallel to the *c* axis.

## Experimental

Compound (I) was synthesized (Vom, 2006) according to the scheme from the tricyclic lactam 8-chlorobenzo[*b*]pyrido[3,2-*f*][1,4]oxazepin-5(6*H*)-one (Liégeois *et al.*, 1994) and commercially available anhydrous piperazine in the presence of the Lewis acid titanium tetrachloride. To a stirred solution of piperazine (2.67 g, 30.3 mmol) in anhydrous 1,4-dioxane (30 ml) was added a solution of titanium tetrachloride in dry toluene (1.0 M, 6.7 ml, 6.7 mmol). A hot solution of the tricyclic lactam (1.50 g, 6.06 mmol) in anhydrous 1,4-dioxane (85 ml) was then added to the titanium-amine complex and the

reaction mixture heated at reflux for 24 h. Following work-up, the title compound was purified by flash chromatography (silica gel, ethyl acetate) and recrystallized from  $CH_2Cl_2$ -hexane (3:1) as yellow prismatic crystals suitable for X-ray crystallography (1.4% yield; m.p. 596–597 K).  $^1H$  NMR (300 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ,  $\delta$ , p.p.m.): 3.66 (8H, *br s*, H2', H3', H5', H6'), 6.99 (2H, *d*,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, H9, H9''), 7.17–7.28 (6H, *m*, H3, H7, H10, H3'', H7'', H10''), 7.77 (2H, *d*,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, H4, H4''), 8.45 (2H, *br s*, H2, H2'').

## Crystal data

$C_{28}H_{20}Cl_2N_6O_2$	$Z = 2$
$M_r = 543.40$	$D_x = 1.451$ Mg m $^{-3}$
Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
$a = 8.6940(2)$ Å	$\mu = 0.30$ mm $^{-1}$
$b = 8.9993(2)$ Å	$T = 123(2)$ K
$c = 16.2542(4)$ Å	Prism, pale yellow
$\beta = 102.089(1)^\circ$	$0.20 \times 0.10 \times 0.10$ mm
$V = 1243.52(5)$ Å $^3$	

## Data collection

Enraf–Nonius KappaCCD area-detector diffractometer	13846 measured reflections
$\varphi$ and $\omega$ scans	2860 independent reflections
Absorption correction: multi-scan (SORTAV; Blessing 1997)	2080 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
$T_{min} = 0.932$ , $T_{max} = 0.971$	$R_{int} = 0.044$
	$\theta_{max} = 27.5^\circ$

## Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0512P)^2 + 0.2669P]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.040$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$wR(F^2) = 0.104$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} < 0.001$
$S = 1.05$	$\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.30$ e Å $^{-3}$
2860 reflections	$\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.29$ e Å $^{-3}$
172 parameters	
H-atom parameters constrained	

All H atoms were included in the riding-model approximation, with C–H distances in the range 0.95–0.99 Å and with  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$ .

Data collection: *COLLECT* (Bruker, 2004); cell refinement: *HKL2000* (Bruker, 2004); data reduction: *HKL2000*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *X-SEED* (Barbour, 2001) and *POV-RAY* (Cason, 2003); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL97*.

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