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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 298 KMean  $\sigma(C-C) = 0.002 \text{ Å}$  R factor = 0.038 wR factor = 0.104 Data-to-parameter ratio = 11.6

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

# Ammonium 2,4-dihydroxybenzoate monohydrate

The two independent ammonium cations of the title compound,  $NH_4^+C_7H_5O_4^-H_2O$ , lie on twofold rotation axes. The ammonium cations, 2,4-dihydroxybenzoate anions and water molecules are linked into a three-dimensional structure *via* O-H···O and N-H···O hydrogen bonds and  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions.

### Comment

Various hydrogen bonds have recently been used in the design and construction of crystalline architectures due to their strength and directionality (Vishweshwar *et al.*, 2002). 2,4-Dihydroxybenzoic acid can build some salts or cocystals with other organic molecules, acting as an excellent hydrogen-bond donor (Wang & Wei, 2006; Lin *et al.*, 2006). Ammonia is a weak base which can be protonated easily when it interacts with organic acids. Here, we report the crystal structure of the title compound, (I).



The asymmetric unit of (I) consists of half each of two ammonium cations, one 2,4-dihydroxybenzoate anion and one uncoordinated water molecule (Fig. 1). The ammonium cations lie on twofold rotation axes. The 2,4-dihydroxybenzoate anion shows an intramolecular  $O-H\cdots O$  hydrogen bond (Table 1), forming an S(6) ring. The cations, anions and water molecules are linked into a three-dimensional structure *via*  $O-H\cdots O$  and  $N-H\cdots O$  hydrogen bonds, and  $\pi-\pi$  interactions between dihydroxybenzoate anions (Fig. 2). The centroid-to-centroid distances between the benzene ring (C1-C6) and the symmetry-related rings at  $(\frac{1}{2} - x, \frac{1}{2} - y, -z)$  and  $(\frac{1}{2} - x, \frac{1}{2} - y, 1 - z)$  are 3.8305 (9) and 3.8512 (9) Å, respectively.

# **Experimental**

All reagents were commercially available and of analytical grade. 2,4-Dihydroxybenzoic acid (0.31 g, 2.0 mmol) was slowly added to a vigorously stirred aqueous solution of ammonia (13 M, 1 ml). The solution was then stirred for 15 min at room temperature and filtered. Distilled water (10 ml) was then added to the filtrate to slow the rate

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5274 measured reflections

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.024$ 

 $\theta_{\rm max} = 26.0^{\circ}$ 

1700 independent reflections

 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_0^2) + (0.0555P)^2]$ 

+ 0.6723*P*] where  $P = (F_0^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ 

 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} = 0.004$  $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.23 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$ 

 $\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.21 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$ 

1492 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ 



## Figure 1

The asymmetric unit of (I), with symmetry-related H atoms of ammonium ions, showing 30% probability displacement ellipsoids. Dashed lines indicate hydrogen bonds.



#### Figure 2

The crystal structure of (I). Hydrogen bonds are shown as dashed lines. Other H atoms have been omitted.

of evaporation. After 7 d, red crystals of (I) were obtained (yield 52%).

#### Crystal data

7 0
Z = 8
$D_x = 1.451 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
$\mu = 0.12 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
T = 298 (2) K
Block, red
$0.36 \times 0.30 \times 0.20 \text{ mm}$

#### Data collection

Bruker SMART APEX CCD areadetector diffractometer ω scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Sheldrick, 2001)

 $T_{\min} = 0.957, T_{\max} = 0.976$ 

# Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.038$   $wR(F^2) = 0.104$  S = 1.071700 reflections 147 parameters H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement

Table 1	
Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å,	°).

$D - H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - \mathbf{H} \cdot \cdot \cdot A$
$O3-H3A\cdots O1$	0.82	1.80	2.5298 (13)	147
$O4-H4\cdots O2^{i}$	0.82	1.90	2.7151 (15)	174
$O5-H51\cdots O2^{i}$	0.843 (9)	1.960 (11)	2.7902 (16)	168 (2)
$O5-H52 \cdot \cdot \cdot O2^{ii}$	0.847 (9)	2.041 (12)	2.8567 (16)	161 (2)
N1−H11···O5	0.914 (9)	1.930 (10)	2.8432 (17)	177.8 (18)
N1−H12···O3	0.900 (9)	2.020 (12)	2.8792 (18)	159.3 (19)
$N2-H21\cdots O1^{iii}$	0.906 (9)	2.018 (10)	2.9193 (13)	173.2 (16)
$N2-H22\cdots O1^{ii}$	0.901 (9)	2.065 (10)	2.9606 (14)	172.9 (17)
Symmetry codes: $x + \frac{1}{2}, y + \frac{1}{2}, z + 1.$	(i) $-x + \frac{1}{2}, y$	$+\frac{1}{2}, -z + \frac{1}{2};$ (ii)	$-x + \frac{1}{2}, -y + \frac{1}{2},$	-z + 1; (iii)

H atoms of the ammonium cations and water molecule were located in difference maps and refined with distance restraints [N–H = 0.90 (1), O–H = 0.82 (1) and H···H = 1.34 Å]. Hydroxy H atoms were placed in calculated positions and treated as riding, with O–H = 0.82 Å and  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(O)$ . C-bound H atoms were positioned geometrically and treated as riding, with C–H = 0.93 Å and  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$ .

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 2001); cell refinement: *SAINT-Plus* (Bruker, 2001); data reduction: *SAINT-Plus*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *PLATON* (Spek, 2003); software used to prepare material for publication: *PLATON*.

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