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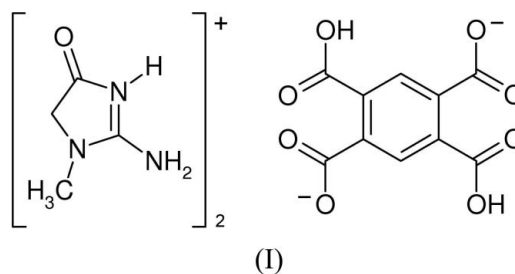
## Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study  
*T* = 293 K  
Mean  $\sigma(C-C)$  = 0.002 Å  
*R* factor = 0.045  
*wR* factor = 0.113  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 16.1For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

## Bis(creatininium) 2,5-dicarboxybenzene-1,4-dicarboxylate

In the title compound,  $2C_4H_7N_5O^+ \cdot C_{10}H_6O_8^{2-}$ , the benzene-1,2,4,5-tetracarboxylate anion lies on a centre of inversion, the two carboxyl H atoms being transferred to the endocyclic imine N atoms of two creatinine molecules. Hydrogen bonds link the ions into a two-dimensional network.Received 5 January 2007  
Accepted 20 January 2007

## Comment

Proton-transfer reactions, involving intra- or intermolecular transfer of a proton from an acidic group to a basic group, are important in many chemical and biological processes. Investigations involving hydrogen-bonded clusters provide insight into the process of proton transfer (Cleland & Kreevoy, 1994; Chojnacki, 2003). Over the last decade, there have been an increasing number of reports of proton-transfer compounds including carboxylic acids and amines (Aghabozorg *et al.*, 2006; Aghabozorg *et al.*, 2005; Moghimi, Aghabozorg, Sheshmani, Kickelbick & Soleimannejad, 2005; Moghimi, Aghabozorg, Sheshmani & Soleimannejad, 2005; Moghimi, Aghabozorg, Soleimannejad & Ramezanipour, 2005; Moghimi, Sheshmani *et al.*, 2004). Creatinine has previously been used as a proton acceptor in the synthesis of some 1:1 proton-transfer compounds (Moghimi, Sharif & Aghabozorg, 2004; Soleimannejad *et al.*, 2005).The title compound,  $(C_4H_7N_5O)_2(C_{10}H_6O_8)$ , (I), is a new proton-transfer system obtained from creatinine and benzene-1,2,4,5-tetracarboxylic acid. The crystal structure of (I) (Fig. 1) shows that protons from two of the carboxyl groups are transferred to the double-bonded N atoms of two creatinine molecules. This results in localization of the exocyclic  $C2=N2$  double bond [1.3108 (18) Å] and the adjacent  $C2-N3$  single bond [1.3612 (17) Å]. These values may be compared with the intermediate, delocalized, values in the parent neutral creatinine molecule [1.320 (3) and 1.349 (3) Å, respectively] (Smith & White, 2001). The anion lies on an inversion centre.A number of  $N-H \cdots O$  and  $O-H \cdots O$  hydrogen bonds are observed in the structure (Table 1), linking the ions into two-dimensional networks parallel to the (100) plane (Fig. 2).

## Experimental

A solution of benzene-1,2,4,5-tetracarboxylic acid (0.254 g, 1 mmol) and creatinine (0.113 g, 1 mol) was refluxed in water (50 ml) for 3 h. The solid residue was filtered and the filtrate was kept at 293 K. Colourless crystals of the title compound were obtained after a few days.

### Crystal data

$2C_4H_7N_5O^+ \cdot C_{10}H_6O_8^{2-}$	$Z = 2$
$M_r = 480.40$	$D_x = 1.545 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
$a = 7.4863 (16) \text{ \AA}$	$\mu = 0.13 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$b = 12.825 (2) \text{ \AA}$	$T = 293 (2) \text{ K}$
$c = 10.846 (2) \text{ \AA}$	Prism, colourless
$\beta = 97.418 (16)^\circ$	$0.40 \times 0.13 \times 0.13 \text{ mm}$
$V = 1032.6 (3) \text{ \AA}^3$	

### Data collection

Stoe IPDS II diffractometer	8191 measured reflections
$\varphi$ scans	2757 independent reflections
Absorption correction: numerical ( <i>X-SHAPE</i> ; Stoe & Cie, 2005)	2450 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
$T_{\min} = 0.980, T_{\max} = 0.985$	$R_{\text{int}} = 0.021$
	$\theta_{\max} = 29.2^\circ$

### Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0512P)^2 + 0.3677P]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.045$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$wR(F^2) = 0.113$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} < 0.001$
$S = 1.11$	$\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.36 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
2757 reflections	$\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.19 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
171 parameters	
H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement	

**Table 1**

Hydrogen-bond geometry ( $\text{\AA}, ^\circ$ ).

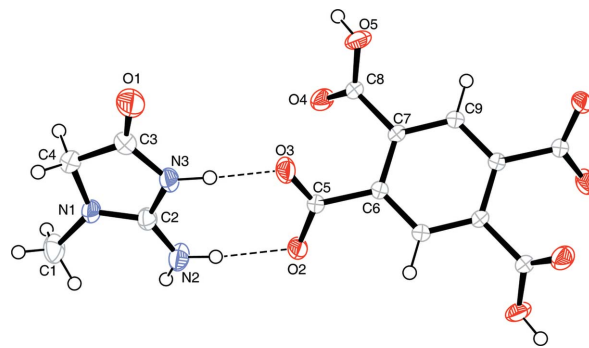
$D-H \cdots A$	$D-H$	$H \cdots A$	$D \cdots A$	$D-H \cdots A$
$N3-H3 \cdots O3$	0.93 (2)	1.76 (2)	2.6965 (15)	176 (2)
$N2-H2A \cdots O2$	0.88 (2)	1.99 (2)	2.8672 (17)	173.7 (18)
$N2-H2B \cdots O4^i$	0.89 (2)	2.02 (2)	2.9004 (17)	170 (2)
$O5-H5 \cdots O2^{ii}$	0.86 (2)	1.75 (3)	2.5743 (15)	159 (2)

Symmetry codes: (i)  $-x + 1, -y + 1, -z + 1$ ; (ii)  $-x + 1, y - \frac{1}{2}, -z + \frac{3}{2}$ .

H atoms bound to C atoms were placed in calculated positions ( $C-H = 0.93-0.97 \text{ \AA}$ ) and allowed to ride during refinement, with  $U_{\text{iso}}(H) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(C)$ , or  $1.5U_{\text{eq}}(C)$  for the methyl group. The remainder of the H atoms were located in difference Fourier maps and refined isotropically without restraint. The range of  $Y-H$  distances is  $0.87 (2)-0.99 (3) \text{ \AA}$ .

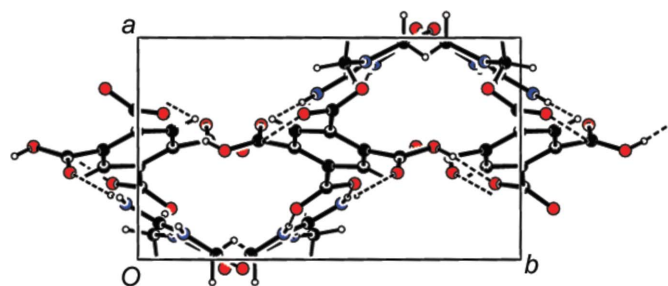
Data collection: *X-AREA* (Stoe & Cie, 2005); cell refinement: *X-RED* (Stoe & Cie, 2005); data reduction: *X-RED*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEP-3 for Windows* (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *WinGX* (Farrugia, 1999).

The authors are grateful to Islamic Azad University, Yazd Branch, for support of this work.



**Figure 1**

The structure of the ions of (I), showing displacement ellipsoids at the 50% probability level. Dashed lines denote hydrogen bonds. Unlabelled atoms are related to labelled atoms by the symmetry operator  $(1 - x, 1 - y, 2 - z)$ .



**Figure 2**

A view of (I) along the  $c$  direction, showing ions linked by hydrogen bonds (dashed lines) into a two-dimensional network.

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