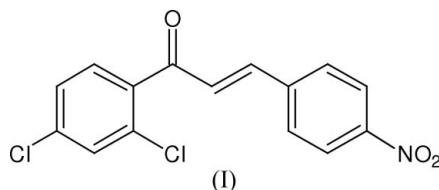


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## Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study  
*T* = 173 K  
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C})$  = 0.005 Å  
*R* factor = 0.037  
*wR* factor = 0.093  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 12.1For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.(2*E*)-1-(2,4-Dichlorophenyl)-3-(4-nitrophenyl)-prop-2-en-1-oneIn the title compound, C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>9</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>, the central double bond is *trans* configured and the dihedral angle between the two planar fragments of the molecule is 44.53 (4)°. The crystal packing is stabilized by C—H···O and C—H···Cl contacts.Received 18 December 2006  
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## Comment

In continuation of our work on chalcones (Yathirajan *et al.*, 2006) as possible non-linear optical hosts (Sarojini *et al.*, 2006), the present paper reports the crystal structure of a newly synthesized chalcone, (I) (Fig. 1). The crystal structures of some other dichloro-substituted chalcones have been reported recently (Teh *et al.*, 2006; Ng *et al.*, 2006). We have previously described the crystal structures of 1-(2,4-dichloro-5-fluorophenyl)-3-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)prop-2-en-1-one (Yathirajan *et al.*, 2006) and (2*E*)-1-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfanyl) phenyl]prop-2-en-1-one (Butcher *et al.*, 2007).The bond lengths and angles in (I) can be regarded as normal (Cambridge Structural Database, Version 5.27, November 2005, updated August 2006; *MOGUL* Version 1.1; Allen, 2002). The central double bond is *trans* configured and the O1—C1—C2—C3 torsion angle is  $-7.5$  (5)°. The nitro group is almost coplanar with the aromatic ring to which it is attached. Thus, the molecule consists of two essentially planar moieties, one of which is the dichlorophenyl ring (r.m.s. deviation = 0.015 Å) while the other consists of the remaining non-H atoms (r.m.s. deviation = 0.059 Å). The dihedral angle between these mean planes is 44.53 (4)°.

The crystal packing of (I) is stabilized by C—H···O and C—H···Cl contacts (Table 1).

## Experimental

2,4-Dichloroacetophenone (1.89 g, 0.01 mol) in methanol (25 ml) was mixed with 4-nitrobenzaldehyde (1.51 g, 0.01 mol) and the mixture was treated with 30% potassium hydroxide solution (4 ml) at 278 K. The reaction mixture was then brought to room temperature and stirred for 10 h. The precipitated solids were filtered and washed with water, dried and recrystallized from an acetone–toluene (1:1 *v/v*) mixture (m.p. 427–429 K). Analysis for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>9</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>: found (calculated): C 55.83 (55.93), H 2.76 (2.82), N 4.24 (4.35)%.

## Crystal data

$C_{15}H_9Cl_2NO_3$   
 $M_r = 322.13$   
 Monoclinic,  $P2_1$   
 $a = 3.7973$  (5) Å  
 $b = 7.1528$  (9) Å  
 $c = 25.336$  (3) Å  
 $\beta = 90.386$  (11)°  
 $V = 688.14$  (15) Å<sup>3</sup>

$Z = 2$   
 $D_x = 1.555$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>  
 Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 $\mu = 0.48$  mm<sup>-1</sup>  
 $T = 173$  (2) K  
 Plate, light yellow  
 $0.22 \times 0.18 \times 0.09$  mm

## Data collection

Stoe IPDS-II two-circle  
 diffractometer  
 $\omega$  scans  
 Absorption correction: multi-scan  
 (MULABS; Spek, 2003; Blessing,  
 1995)  
 $T_{\min} = 0.892$ ,  $T_{\max} = 0.948$

3300 measured reflections  
 2313 independent reflections  
 2046 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.027$   
 $\theta_{\max} = 25.1^\circ$

## Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.037$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.093$   
 $S = 1.00$   
 2313 reflections  
 191 parameters  
 H-atom parameters constrained  
 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0649P)^2]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$

$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.21$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 $\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.26$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 Extinction correction: SHELXL97  
 (Sheldrick, 1997)  
 Extinction coefficient: 0.049 (5)  
 Absolute structure: Flack (1983),  
 with 994 Friedel pairs  
 Flack parameter:  $-0.03$  (8)

Table 1

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D-H\cdots A$	$D-H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-H\cdots A$
C13—H13 <sup>i</sup> ···Cl2 <sup>i</sup>	0.95	2.83	3.678 (3)	149
C22—H22···O11 <sup>ii</sup>	0.95	2.58	3.455 (4)	153
C23—H23···O12 <sup>iii</sup>	0.95	2.51	3.216 (4)	131
C25—H25···O1 <sup>iv</sup>	0.95	2.46	3.255 (4)	141

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

The H atoms were found in a difference map, repositioned in idealized locations with  $C-H = 0.95$  Å, and refined as riding, with  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$ .

Data collection: X-AREA (Stoe & Cie, 2001); cell refinement: X-AREA; data reduction: X-AREA; program(s) used to solve

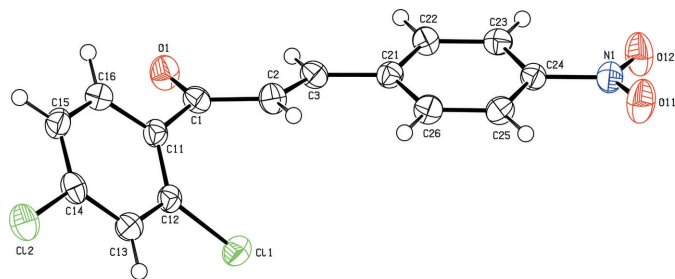


Figure 1

A view of the molecular structure of (I), showing 50% probability displacement ellipsoids (arbitrary spheres for H atoms).

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: SHELXL97 and PLATON.

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