

Akira Uchida,<sup>a\*</sup> Ayako Komori<sup>a</sup>  
and Soichiro Watanabe<sup>a,b</sup><sup>a</sup>Department of Biomolecular Science, Faculty of Science, Toho University, Miyama 2-2-1, Funabashi, Chiba 274-8510, Japan, and<sup>b</sup>Research Center for Materials with Integrated Properties, Toho University, Miyama 2-2-1, Funabashi, Chiba 274-8510, JapanCorrespondence e-mail:  
auchida@biomol.sci.toho-u.ac.jp

## Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 90$  K  
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.002$  Å  
 $R$  factor = 0.035  
 $wR$  factor = 0.094  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 17.3For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

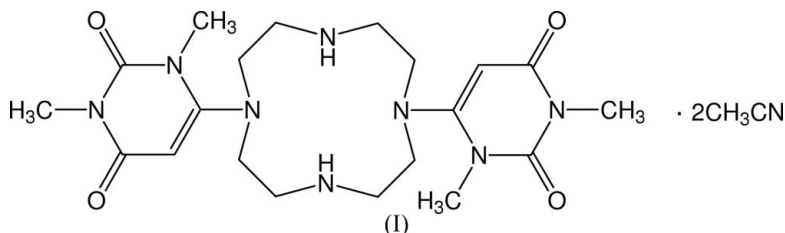
## 1,7-Bis(1,3-dimethyluracil-6-yl)-1,4,7,10-tetraazacyclododecane acetonitrile disolvate at 100 K

The title compound [systematic name: 1,1',3,3'-tetramethyl-1,1',2,2',3,3',4,4'-octahydro-6,6-(1,4,7,10-tetraazacyclododecane-1,7-diyl)dipyrimidine-2,2',4,4'-tetraone acetonitrile disolvate],  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{32}\text{N}_8\text{O}_4 \cdot 2\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ , an *N*-uracil-substituted cyclen derivative, is located on a crystallographic twofold rotation axis running through the center of the 12-membered ring and adopts a [3333] quadrangular conformation with C atoms occupying the corners.

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## Comment

Cyclen (1,4,7,10-tetraazacyclododecane) is one of the most important macrocycles as a metal-chelating ligand (Curtis, 2004). Numerous *N*-alkyl cyclen derivatives have been reported to improve their affinity, modify their metal-chelating properties, prepare MRI contrast reagents (Gries & Schering, 2002), and so on. However, there are few reports on *N*-aryl-substituted cyclen derivatives because an efficient general synthetic approach is lacking (Michael & Burkhart, 2001). We report here the structure of compound, (I), prepared in the course of our studies on new *N*-aryl-substituted cyclen derivatives.The molecule possesses twofold rotation symmetry, the axis of which passes through the center of the 12-membered cyclen ring (Fig. 1). The cyclen ring assumes a [3333] quadrangular conformation with four repeating units, each containing two successive *gauche* and one *anti* conformations (Table 1). All four N atoms of the cyclen ring lie on one side of the mean plane through the macrocycle. Due to the steric hindrance caused by the dimethyluracil group at N1, the N1–C1 and N1–C4<sup>i</sup> distances are significantly longer [1.4814 (13) and 1.4972 (13) Å, respectively; symmetry code: (i)  $1 - x, y, \frac{1}{2} - z$ ] than the N2–C2 and N2–C3 distances [1.4659 (13) and 1.4627 (13) Å, respectively], and C5 of the uracil ring lies out of the mean plane by 0.440 (1) Å.

## Experimental

A solution of cyclen (3.53 mmol), 1,3-dimethyl-6-chlorouracil (7.50 mmol) and sodium carbonate (7.03 mmol) in acetonitrile

(25 ml) was stirred overnight under reflux. After filtration of the inorganic salt, a white solid of (I) precipitated from the filtrate (yield 61%, 2.15 mmol). Single crystals were obtained from an acetonitrile solution.

#### Crystal data

$C_{20}H_{32}N_8O_4 \cdot 2C_2H_3N$   
 $M_r = 530.64$   
 Monoclinic,  $C2/c$   
 $a = 24.2718$  (18) Å  
 $b = 7.5477$  (6) Å  
 $c = 14.3193$  (11) Å  
 $\beta = 92.4510$  (10)°  
 $V = 2620.8$  (3) Å<sup>3</sup>

$Z = 4$   
 $D_x = 1.345$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>  
 Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 $\mu = 0.10$  mm<sup>-1</sup>  
 $T = 100$  (1) K  
 Block, colorless  
 $0.40 \times 0.40 \times 0.25$  mm

#### Data collection

Bruker APEX-II CCD  
 diffractometer  
 $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans  
 Absorption correction: multi-scan  
 (SADABS; Sheldrick, 1996)  
 $T_{\min} = 0.963$ ,  $T_{\max} = 0.977$

7243 measured reflections  
 3096 independent reflections  
 2681 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.015$   
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 28.7^\circ$

#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.035$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.094$   
 $S = 1.04$   
 3096 reflections  
 179 parameters  
 H atoms treated by a mixture of  
 independent and constrained  
 refinement

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0465P)^2 + 1.6563P]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} = 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.28$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.21$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>

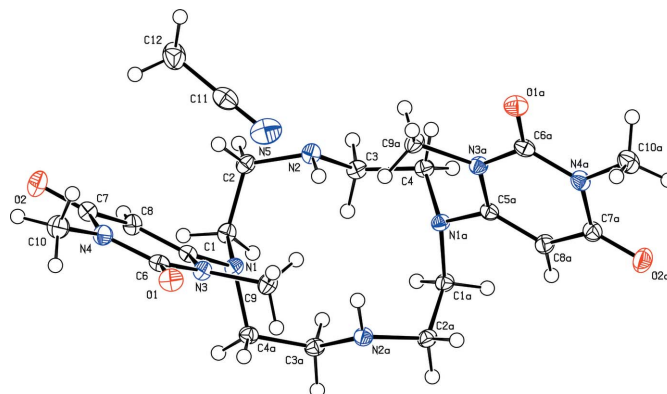
**Table 1**

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

C3—C4	1.5232 (14)	C2—C1	1.5287 (14)
C1—N1—C4 <sup>i</sup>	112.48 (8)	C3—N2—C2	113.65 (8)
N2—C3—C4—N1 <sup>i</sup>	73.27 (11)	C4 <sup>i</sup> —N1—C1—C2	−150.35 (8)
C4—C3—N2—C2	−170.94 (8)	N2—C2—C1—N1	60.59 (11)
C1—C2—N2—C3	70.45 (11)	C1—N1—C4 <sup>i</sup> —C3 <sup>i</sup>	70.80 (10)

Symmetry code: (i)  $-x + 1, y, -z + \frac{1}{2}$ .

All H atoms were located in a difference Fourier map. Except for the imino H atom, they were repositioned in calculated positions



**Figure 1**

The molecular structure of (I), showing displacement ellipsoids drawn at the 50% probability level. H atoms are represented as spheres of arbitrary radius. The suffix a corresponds to symmetry code (i) in Table 1.

(C—H = 0.93–0.98 Å) and refined as riding, with  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$ . For the imino H atom, the N—H distance was restrained to 0.86 (1) Å and the isotropic displacement parameter was refined freely.

Data collection: APEX2 (Bruker–Nonius, 2004); cell refinement: APEX2; data reduction: SAINT-Plus (Bruker–Nonius, 2004); program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: PLATON (Spek, 2003) and ORTEP III (Burnett & Johnson, 1996); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXL97 and PLATON.

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