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**Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 291$  K  
 Mean  $\sigma(C-C) = 0.002$  Å  
 $R$  factor = 0.032  
 $wR$  factor = 0.086  
 Data-to-parameter ratio = 15.6

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

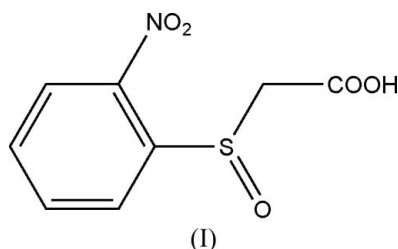
**[(2-Nitrophenyl)sulfinyl]acetic acid**

In the title compound,  $C_8H_7NO_5S$ , all bond lengths and angles are normal. Intermolecular  $O-H \cdots O$  hydrogen bonds link the molecules into helical chains running along the  $b$  axis. The crystal packing is further stabilized by weak intermolecular  $C-H \cdots O$  interactions.

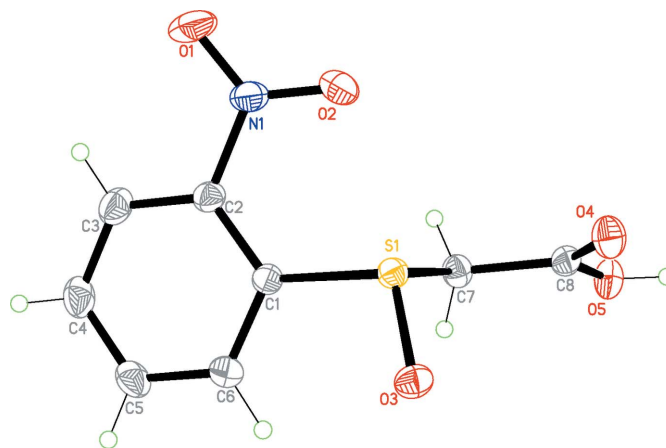
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**Comment**

Simple carboxylic acids containing the nitrophenyl group exhibit a variety of supramolecular aggregation patterns (Glidewell *et al.*, 2002). In recent years, the crystal structures of several 4-nitrophenyl carboxylic acids have been reported, namely, (4-nitrophenoxy)acetic acid (Gao *et al.*, 2006a); (4-nitrophenylsulfanyl)acetic acid (Glidewell *et al.*, 2002; Gao *et al.*, 2006b) and (4-nitrophenylsulfinyl)acetic acid (Glidewell *et al.*, 2003). In contrast, less attention has been paid to 2-nitrophenyl carboxylic acids. The title compound, (I), belongs to the latter family of compounds.



In (I) (Fig. 1), all bond lengths and angles are normal (Allen *et al.*, 1987). The nitro group is twisted out the benzene ring



**Figure 1**  
 The molecular structure of (I), showing displacement ellipsoids drawn at the 50% probability level.

plane by  $13.4 (2)^\circ$ . Intermolecular O—H...O hydrogen bonds (Table 1) link the molecules into helical chains running along the *b* axis (Fig. 2). The crystal packing is further stabilized by weak intermolecular C—H...O interactions (Table 1).

## Experimental

2-Nitrophenylthioacetic acid was prepared by the nucleophilic reaction of chloroacetic acid (9.4 g, 0.1 mol) and 2-nitrothiophenol (15.5 g, 0.1 mol) under basic conditions. 2-Nitrophenylthioacetic acid (21.3 g, 0.1 mol) was then oxidized using 30% aqueous hydrogen peroxide (30 ml) in acetic anhydride solution (50 ml), producing [(2-nitrophenyl)sulfinyl]acetic acid (Nobles *et al.*, 1965). Crystals of (I) suitable for single-crystal X-ray diffraction were grown by slow evaporation of an ethanol solution.

### Crystal data

$C_8H_7NO_5S$	$Z = 4$
$M_r = 229.21$	$D_x = 1.625 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
$a = 13.809 (3) \text{ \AA}$	$\mu = 0.35 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$b = 7.7892 (16) \text{ \AA}$	$T = 291 (2) \text{ K}$
$c = 8.7858 (18) \text{ \AA}$	Block, yellow
$\beta = 97.47 (3)^\circ$	$0.18 \times 0.16 \times 0.14 \text{ mm}$
$V = 937.0 (3) \text{ \AA}^3$	

### Data collection

Rigaku RAXIS-RAPID diffractometer	8862 measured reflections
$\omega$ scan	2133 independent reflections
Absorption correction: multi-scan (ABSCOR; Higashi, 1995)	1770 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
$T_{\min} = 0.941$ , $T_{\max} = 0.953$	$R_{\text{int}} = 0.027$
	$\theta_{\max} = 27.5^\circ$

### Refinement

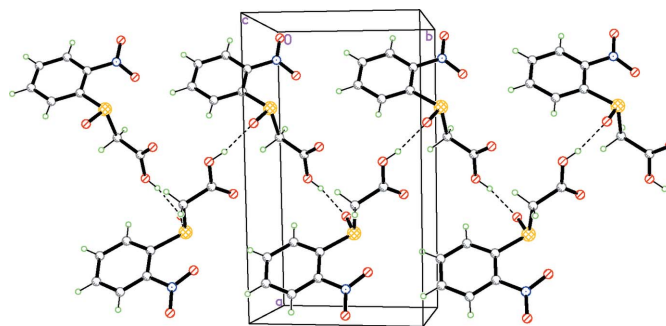
Refinement on $F^2$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0472P)^2 + 0.1946P]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.032$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$wR(F^2) = 0.086$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.001$
$S = 1.04$	$\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.29 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
2133 reflections	$\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.26 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
137 parameters	
H-atom parameters constrained	

**Table 1**

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

$D-H\cdots A$	$D-H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-H\cdots A$
O5—H7...O3 <sup>i</sup>	0.82	1.83	2.6422 (17)	168
C3—H1...O1 <sup>ii</sup>	0.93	2.49	3.223 (2)	136
C7—H6...O4 <sup>iii</sup>	0.97	2.51	3.262 (2)	135

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



**Figure 2**

A portion of the crystal packing, showing the hydrogen bonded helical chain. Dashed lines indicate intermolecular O—H...O hydrogen bonds.

All H atoms were placed in calculated positions and treated as riding on their parent atoms, with C—H = 0.93 ( $C_{\text{aromatic}}$ ) or 0.97  $\text{\AA}$  ( $C_{\text{methylene}}$ ) and O—H = 0.82  $\text{\AA}$ , and with  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$  and  $1.5U_{\text{eq}}(\text{O})$ .

Data collection: *RAPID-AUTO* (Rigaku, 1998); cell refinement: *RAPID-AUTO*; data reduction: *CrystalStructure* (Rigaku/MS, 2002); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *SHELXTL* (Bruker, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL97*.

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