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## Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study

T = 293 K

Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.003 \text{ \AA}$ 

R factor = 0.028

wR factor = 0.074

Data-to-parameter ratio = 12.8

For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.*trans*-4,5-Dihydroxyimidazolidine-2-thione

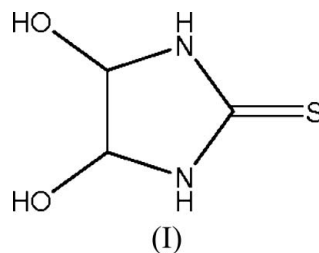
In the title compound,  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_6\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}$ , the five-membered ring has an envelope conformation and the two hydroxyl groups lie on opposite sides of the ring. The crystal structure is stabilized by intermolecular  $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{S}$  and  $\text{N}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  hydrogen bonds, and also a close  $\text{O}\cdots\text{O}$  intermolecular approach, to form a two-dimensional network parallel to *bc*.

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## Comment

It is known that both imidazolidine-2-thione and imidazolidin-2-one derivatives exhibit powerful bioactivities. For example, *N,N'*-disubstituted 4,5-dihydroxyimidazolidine-2-thiones have a powerful ectoparasitocidal action (Enders *et al.*, 1979) and *N,N'*-disubstituted 4,5-dihydroxyimidazolidin-2-ones possess good herbicidal activity (Perronnet & Teche, 1973). A number of molecules having this heterocyclic ring exhibit potent antidiabetic properties (Lenzen & Ahmad, 2001) and anti-HIV activity (Lam *et al.*, 1994). *N,N'*-disubstituted 4,5-dihydroxyimidazolidine-2-thiones (ones) can be readily prepared by condensation of disubstituted thioureas with glyoxal and they exhibit great stability (Enders *et al.*, 1979; Perronnet & Teche, 1973). In the course of our research on imidazolidinones, we recently needed to prepare *N,N'*-unsubstituted 4,5-dihydroxyimidazolidine-2-thione as a synthetic intermediate. However, initial synthetic efforts in our laboratory indicated that the title *N,N'*-unsubstituted 4,5-dihydroxyimidazolidine-2-thione, (I), is not easily accessible under the reported conditions, because of its instability. Thus, it seemed desirable to try to understand what structural factors affect its stability. Therefore, an X-ray crystallographic analysis of the compound has been completed and the results are presented here.



The molecular structure of (I) is shown in Fig. 1. The five-membered ring (N1/N2/C1–C3) has a flattened envelope conformation; C3 is the flap atom, displaced by 0.311 (2) Å from the plane of the other four atoms. The conformation of the five-membered ring and coplanarity of the S1/C1/N1/N2/C2 fragment are similar to the situation found in a complex of 1,3-imidazole-2-thione with mercury(II) chloride (Pavlović *et*

*al.*, 2000). The two hydroxyl groups lie on opposite sides of the ring. The C1–N1 and C1–N2 bonds [1.336 (2) and 1.335 (2) Å, respectively] are shorter than the corresponding bonds in 1,3-dibenzoylimidazolidine-2-thione [1.377 (1) Å; Kazak *et al.*, 2005]. Conversely, the C1=S1 bond is longer [1.684 (2) versus 1.650 (1) Å].

The crystal structure is held together by a combination of two intermolecular N–H···O and two O–H···S hydrogen bonds. There is also a close O···O intermolecular approach [O2···O2<sup>v</sup> = 2.895 (2) Å; symmetry code: (v) 1 – x, 2 – y, 1 – z]. These interactions result in the assembly of the molecules into layers parallel to *bc* (Fig. 2 and Table 1).

### Experimental

Into a three-necked round-bottomed flask equipped with a mechanical stirrer were introduced thiourea (38 g, 0.5 mol) and water (50 ml). Glyoxal (75 g, 40%) was added in one portion and the mixture was then heated at about 343 K with stirring for 30 min under an inert atmosphere. Natural cooling of the reaction mixture overnight gave single crystals of (I) (yield 54 g, 80%).

#### Crystal data

C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> S	$\gamma = 102.494 (3)^\circ$
$M_r = 134.16$	$V = 272.93 (10) \text{ \AA}^3$
Triclinic, $P\bar{1}$	$Z = 2$
$a = 5.8092 (13) \text{ \AA}$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
$b = 6.5152 (13) \text{ \AA}$	$\mu = 0.49 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$c = 7.9189 (17) \text{ \AA}$	$T = 293 (2) \text{ K}$
$\alpha = 98.595 (3)^\circ$	$0.50 \times 0.40 \times 0.15 \text{ mm}$
$\beta = 106.740 (3)^\circ$	

#### Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector diffractometer	1137 measured reflections
Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Sheldrick, 1996)	938 independent reflections
$T_{\min} = 0.644, T_{\max} = 0.929$	913 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
	$R_{\text{int}} = 0.014$

#### Refinement

$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.028$	73 parameters
$wR(F^2) = 0.074$	H-atom parameters constrained
$S = 1.10$	$\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.21 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
938 reflections	$\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.23 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$

**Table 1**

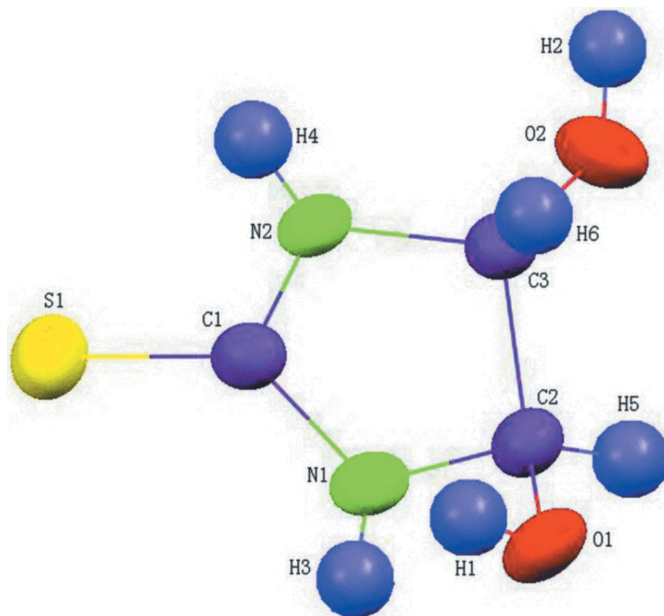
Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

<i>D</i> –H··· <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> –H	H··· <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> ··· <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> –H··· <i>A</i>
O1–H1···S1 <sup>i</sup>	0.82	2.44	3.245 (3)	167
O2–H2···S1 <sup>ii</sup>	0.82	2.42	3.238 (3)	175
N1–H3···O2 <sup>iii</sup>	0.86	2.35	3.004 (2)	133
N2–H4···O1 <sup>iv</sup>	0.86	2.00	2.826 (2)	162

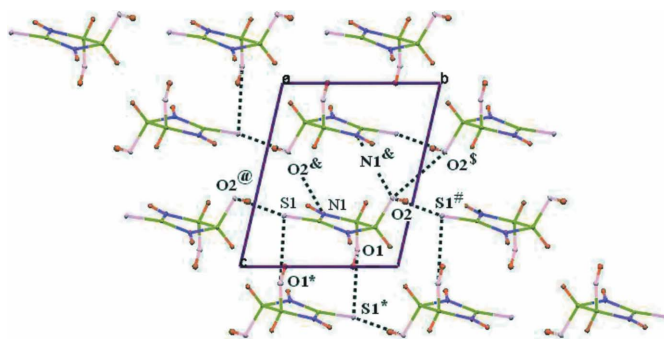
Symmetry codes: (i)  $-x + 1, -y + 1, -z + 2$ ; (ii)  $x, y + 1, z$ ; (iii)  $-x + 1, -y + 1, -z + 1$ ; (iv)  $x - 1, y, z$ .

H atoms were placed in idealized positions and allowed to ride on their respective parent atoms, with C–H = 0.98 Å, O–H = 0.82 Å and N–H = 0.86 Å, and with  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = xU_{\text{eq}}(\text{carrier atom})$ , where  $x = 1.2$  for C–H and N–H or 1.5 for O–H.

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 1998); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 1998); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve



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



**Figure 2**

A packing diagram for (I), with intermolecular interactions represented by dashed lines. Non-H atoms are shown as 10% probability displacement ellipsoids and H atoms are drawn as small spheres of arbitrary radius. Atoms marked with an asterisk (\*), hash (#), dollar sign (\$), ampersand (&) or 'at' symbol (@) are at the symmetry positions (1 – x, 1 – y, 2 – z), (x, 1 + y, z), (1 – x, 2 – y, 1 – z), (1 – x, 1 – y, 1 – z) and (x, –1 + y, z), respectively.

structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997a); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997a); molecular graphics: SHELXL97; software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXL97.

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