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Key indicators

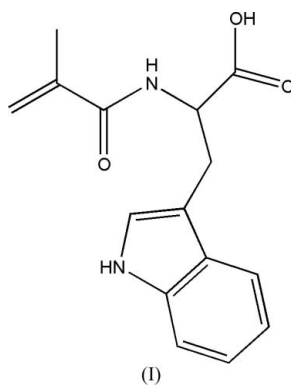
Single-crystal X-ray study
 $T = 294$ K
Mean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.008$ Å
 R factor = 0.069
 wR factor = 0.200
Data-to-parameter ratio = 9.2For details of how these key indicators were
automatically derived from the article, see
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.3-(1*H*-Indol-3-yl)-2-(2-methylacryloyl)propanoic acid

In the crystal structure of the title compound, $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$, $\text{N}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$ and $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$ hydrogen bonds link the molecules into a three-dimensional network, in which they may be effective in the stabilization of the crystal structure.

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Comment

The crystal structure determination of (I) has been carried out in order to elucidate the molecular conformation. We here report its synthesis and crystal structure.



In the molecule of (I) (Fig. 1), the bond lengths and angles are within normal ranges (Allen *et al.*, 1987).

As can be seen from the packing diagram (Fig. 2), intermolecular $\text{N}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$ and $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$ hydrogen bonds

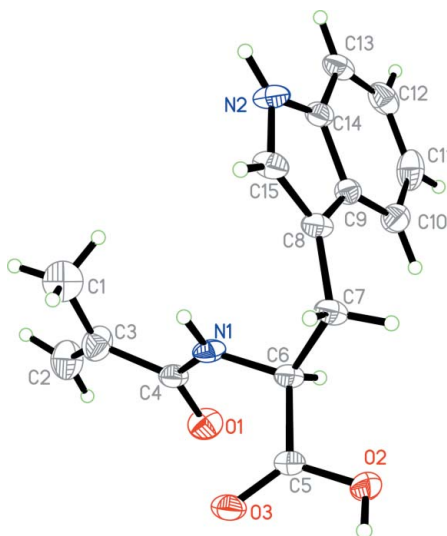


Figure 1
The molecular structure of the title compound, with the atom-numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level.

(Table 1) link the molecules into a three-dimensional network, in which they may be effective in the stabilization of the crystal structure. Dipole–dipole and van der Waals interactions are also effective in the molecular packing.

Experimental

To a well stirred aqueous solution of tryptophan (2.5 g in 50 ml H₂O) and sodium hydroxide (0.54 g in 5 ml of H₂O), acryloyl chloride (1.3 ml) containing diphenylpicrylhydrazyl (0.01%) polymerization inhibitor and sodium hydroxide solution (0.54 g in 5 ml of H₂O) were added dropwise simultaneously over a 30 min period and the stirring was continued for 1 h. The reaction mixture was kept at 273 K in an ice–water bath. The solution was acidified to pH 2 with 6 N HCl and the resulting solid was filtered off and crystallized from ethyl acetate (yield 45%, m.p. 415–416 K).

Crystal data

C ₁₅ H ₁₆ N ₂ O ₃	$V = 1429.2 (5) \text{ \AA}^3$
$M_r = 272.30$	$Z = 4$
Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
$a = 9.4220 (19) \text{ \AA}$	$\mu = 0.09 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$b = 10.587 (2) \text{ \AA}$	$T = 294 (2) \text{ K}$
$c = 14.328 (3) \text{ \AA}$	$0.30 \times 0.20 \times 0.20 \text{ mm}$

Data collection

Enraf–Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer	1612 independent reflections
Absorption correction: ψ scan (North <i>et al.</i> , 1968)	1211 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
$T_{\min} = 0.974$, $T_{\max} = 0.982$	$R_{\text{int}} = 0.021$
1634 measured reflections	3 standard reflections
	frequency: 120 min
	intensity decay: none

Refinement

$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.069$	1 restraint
$wR(F^2) = 0.200$	H-atom parameters constrained
$S = 1.06$	$\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.61 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
1612 reflections	$\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.67 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
175 parameters	

Table 1

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

$D-H\cdots A$	$D-H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-H\cdots A$
$O2-H2A\cdots O1^i$	0.82	1.76	2.580 (5)	176
$N2-H2D\cdots O3^{ii}$	0.86	2.14	2.946 (6)	157

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

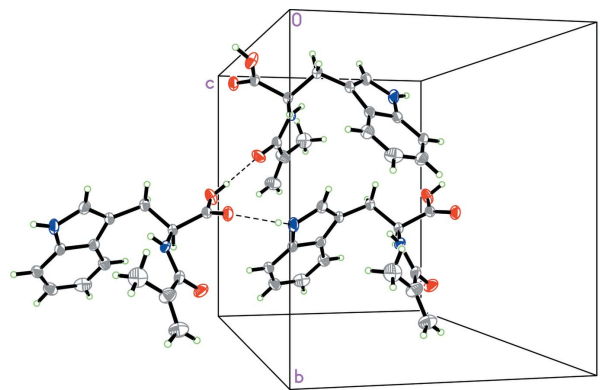


Figure 2

A partial packing diagram for (I). O–H...O hydrogen bonds are shown as dashed lines.

H atoms were positioned geometrically, with O–H = 0.82 Å, N–H = 0.86 Å, and C–H = 0.93 and 0.98 Å (for aromatic and methine, respectively), 0.93 and 0.97 Å (for methylene), and 0.96 Å (for methyl), and constrained to ride on their parent atoms, with $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = xU_{\text{eq}}(\text{C}, \text{N}, \text{O})$, where $x = 1.5$ for hydroxy and methyl H, and $x = 1.2$ for all other H atoms.

Data collection: *CAD-4 Software* (Enraf–Nonius, 1989); cell refinement: *CAD-4 Software*; data reduction: *XCAD4* (Harms & Wocadlo, 1995); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *SHELXTL* (Bruker, 2000); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*.

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