

Acta Crystallographica Section E

Structure Reports

Online

ISSN 1600-5368

(E)-6-Methoxy-9-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-9H-carbazol-4-one oxime

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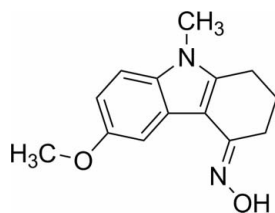
Received 21 June 2008; accepted 1 July 2008

Key indicators: single-crystal X-ray study;  $T = 293$  K; mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.004$  Å;  $R$  factor = 0.056;  $wR$  factor = 0.165; data-to-parameter ratio = 15.5.

The title compound,  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ , is dimerized by inversion-related intermolecular  $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  and  $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{N}$  hydrogen bonding. There is also an intramolecular  $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{N}$  bond, resulting in a six-membered ring.

Related literature

For general background, see: Hester (1967, 1970). For related literature, see: Sheng *et al.* (2008).



Experimental

Crystal data

$\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$   
 $M_r = 244.29$   
Monoclinic,  $P2_1/c$   
 $a = 8.833$  (5) Å  
 $b = 6.460$  (4) Å  
 $c = 22.247$  (12) Å  
 $\beta = 104.14$  (2)°

$V = 1231.0$  (12) Å<sup>3</sup>  
 $Z = 4$   
Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 $\mu = 0.09$  mm<sup>-1</sup>  
 $T = 293$  (2) K  
 $0.15 \times 0.08 \times 0.08$  mm

Data collection

Bruker SMART APEX CCD area-detector diffractometer  
Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Sheldrick, 1996)  
 $T_{\min} = 0.987$ ,  $T_{\max} = 0.993$

5647 measured reflections  
2626 independent reflections  
1396 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.037$

Refinement

$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.055$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.165$   
 $S = 0.89$   
2626 reflections  
169 parameters  
2 restraints

H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement  
 $\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.61$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 $\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.32$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>

Table 1

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D-\text{H}\cdots A$	$D-\text{H}$	$\text{H}\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-\text{H}\cdots A$
$\text{C5}-\text{H5}\cdots\text{N1}$	0.93	2.76	3.236 (3)	113
$\text{O1}-\text{H1X}\cdots\text{O1}^i$	0.827 (18)	2.54 (3)	3.177 (5)	134 (3)
$\text{O1}-\text{H1X}\cdots\text{N1}^i$	0.827 (18)	2.00 (2)	2.810 (4)	166 (4)

Symmetry code: (i)  $-x + 1, -y, -z$ .

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 2000); cell refinement: SMART; data reduction: SAINT (Bruker, 2000); program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXTL (Sheldrick, 2008); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXTL; molecular graphics: SHELXTL and ORTEP-3 (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXTL.

This work is funded in part by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (grant No. 30472088).

Supplementary data and figures for this paper are available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: OM2245).

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**supplementary materials**

*Acta Cryst.* (2008). E64, o1418 [ doi:10.1107/S1600536808020047 ]

## (*E*)-6-Methoxy-9-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-9*H*-carbazol-4-one oxime

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### Comment

The most famous of the rearrangements in which *R* migrates from carbon to nitrogen is undoubtedly the conversion of ketoximes to *N*-substituted amides, the Beckmann rearrangement. The most interesting feature of the rearrangement is that, it is not the nature (*e.g.* relative electron-releasing ability) but the stereochemical arrangement of the *R* and *R'* groups that determines which of them migrates. Almost without exception it is found to be the *R* group *anti* to the OH group that migrates from C to N. Thus, the structure of the amide produced is quite often used to establish the configuration of the oxime from which it was derived.

Surprisingly, in our study we obtained two different amides from one oxime by applying two different Beckmann conditions. This particular oxime, 6-methoxy-9-methyl-1,2,3,9-tetrahydro-4*H*-carbazol-4-one oxime (I), is found to yield only 6-methyl-9-methoxy-2,3,4,5-tetrahydroazepino[4,3-*b*]indol-1(6*H*)-one (II) while treated with polyphosphoric acids. However, by converting the OH group of (I) into a better leaving tosyl group followed a catalysis using Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, (I) undergoes the rearrangement to 6-methyl-9-methoxy-3,4,5,6-tetrahydroazepino[3,2-*b*]indol-2(1*H*)-one (III) exclusively. Here we report the crystal structure of (I) in order to get a better understanding of the mechanism of this peculiar process.

Fig. 1. shows the molecular structure of the title compound (I), which is almost planar and has the (*E*)-configuration. As shown in Fig. 2, the title compound is dimerized by inversion of (*E*)-6-methoxy-9-methyl-1,2,3,9-tetrahydro-4*H*-carbazol-4-one oxime through intermolecular H-bond *viz* O1—H1X···O1<sup>i</sup> and O1—H1X···N1<sup>i</sup> [symmetry code *i* = -*x* + 1, -*y*, -*z*]. There is also an intramolecular hydrogen bond of C5—H5···N1 resulting in a six-membered ring.

### Experimental

The title compound (I) was prepared in three steps as follows. Firstly, with use of a method described by Sheng *et al.* (2008), 6-Methoxy-1,2,3,9-tetrahydro-4*H*-carbazol-4-one (IV) was prepared as starting material. Then, (IV) was methylated using dimethyl sulfate in a mixed solution of acetone and NaOH aq. to give 6-methoxy-9-methyl-1,2,3,9-tetrahydro-4*H*-carbazol-4-one (V). A mixture of (V) and hydroxylamine hydrochloride was dissolved in methanol and the solution was refluxed with a catalytic amount of pyridine. The crude product of the title compound was recrystallized in acetone to afford colorless prismatic crystals suitable for X-ray analysis.

### Refinement

The H atoms bonded to N and O in the carbazolone oxime were located in a difference map and refined with distance restraints of O—H = 0.82 (2) and N—H = 0.89 (2) Å. The H atoms attached to O and all carbon-bound H atoms were placed in calculated positions and refined as riding; O—H = 0.82 and C—H = 0.93–0.98 Å;  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = xU_{\text{eq}}(\text{parent atom})$  where  $x = 1.5$  for O and 1.2 for C.

## Figures

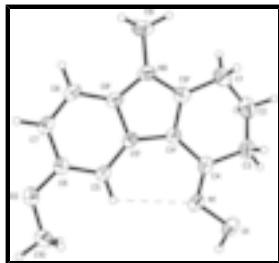


Fig. 1. The molecular structure of the title compound, showing ellipsoids at the 20% probability level.

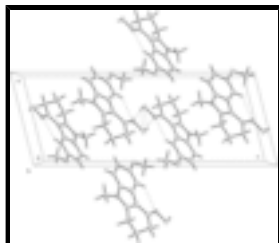


Fig. 2. A view of the crystal packing, showing the hydrogen-bonding network.

### (*E*)-6-Methoxy-9-methyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-9H-carbazol-4-one oxime

#### Crystal data

$C_{14}H_{16}N_2O_2$

$M_r = 244.29$

Monoclinic,  $P2_1/c$

Hall symbol:  $-P\ 2ybc$

$a = 8.833\ (5)\ \text{\AA}$

$b = 6.460\ (4)\ \text{\AA}$

$c = 22.247\ (12)\ \text{\AA}$

$\beta = 104.14\ (2)^\circ$

$V = 1231.0\ (12)\ \text{\AA}^3$

$Z = 4$

$F_{000} = 520$

$D_x = 1.318\ \text{Mg m}^{-3}$

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation

$\lambda = 0.71073\ \text{\AA}$

Cell parameters from 777 reflections

$\theta = 2.4\text{--}22.7^\circ$

$\mu = 0.09\ \text{mm}^{-1}$

$T = 293\ (2)\ \text{K}$

Prism, colorless

$0.15 \times 0.08 \times 0.08\ \text{mm}$

#### Data collection

Bruker SMART APEX CCD area-detector diffractometer

Radiation source: fine-focus sealed tube

Monochromator: graphite

$T = 293\ (2)\ \text{K}$

$\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans

Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Sheldrick, 1996)

$T_{\min} = 0.987$ ,  $T_{\max} = 0.993$

5647 measured reflections

2626 independent reflections

1396 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$

$R_{\text{int}} = 0.037$

$\theta_{\max} = 27.0^\circ$

$\theta_{\min} = 1.9^\circ$

$h = -11 \rightarrow 11$

$k = -8 \rightarrow 8$

$l = -27 \rightarrow 17$

Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	Secondary atom site location: difference Fourier map
Least-squares matrix: full	Hydrogen site location: inferred from neighbouring sites
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.055$	H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement
$wR(F^2) = 0.165$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0985P)^2]$
$S = 0.89$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
2626 reflections	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} < 0.001$
169 parameters	$\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.61 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
2 restraints	$\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.32 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
Primary atom site location: structure-invariant direct methods	Extinction correction: none

Special details

**Geometry.** All e.s.d.'s (except the e.s.d. in the dihedral angle between two l.s. planes) are estimated using the full covariance matrix. The cell e.s.d.'s are taken into account individually in the estimation of e.s.d.'s in distances, angles and torsion angles; correlations between e.s.d.'s in cell parameters are only used when they are defined by crystal symmetry. An approximate (isotropic) treatment of cell e.s.d.'s is used for estimating e.s.d.'s involving l.s. planes.

**Refinement.** Refinement of  $F^2$  against ALL reflections. The weighted  $R$ -factor  $wR$  and goodness of fit  $S$  are based on  $F^2$ , conventional  $R$ -factors  $R$  are based on  $F$ , with  $F$  set to zero for negative  $F^2$ . The threshold expression of  $F^2 > \sigma(F^2)$  is used only for calculating  $R$ -factors(gt) *etc.* and is not relevant to the choice of reflections for refinement.  $R$ -factors based on  $F^2$  are statistically about twice as large as those based on  $F$ , and  $R$ -factors based on ALL data will be even larger.

Fractional atomic coordinates and isotropic or equivalent isotropic displacement parameters ( $\text{\AA}^2$ )

	$x$	$y$	$z$	$U_{\text{iso}}^*/U_{\text{eq}}$
O1	0.3608 (3)	-0.1623 (4)	-0.01619 (11)	0.0908 (7)
H1X	0.392 (4)	-0.054 (4)	0.0026 (18)	0.127 (16)*
O2	1.0030 (2)	0.1510 (3)	-0.09437 (10)	0.0781 (6)
N1	0.4790 (2)	-0.1762 (4)	-0.04926 (10)	0.0618 (6)
C1	0.4333 (3)	-0.7039 (4)	-0.16677 (13)	0.0631 (7)
H1A	0.4711	-0.8230	-0.1409	0.076*
H1B	0.4036	-0.7496	-0.2096	0.076*
C2	0.2945 (4)	-0.6123 (6)	-0.14878 (16)	0.0868 (10)
H2A	0.2228	-0.7231	-0.1455	0.104*
H2B	0.2410	-0.5203	-0.1816	0.104*
C3	0.3335 (3)	-0.4929 (5)	-0.08831 (13)	0.0656 (7)
H3A	0.2402	-0.4226	-0.0834	0.079*
H3B	0.3647	-0.5901	-0.0543	0.079*
C4	0.4606 (2)	-0.3367 (4)	-0.08413 (11)	0.0485 (6)
C4'	0.5725 (2)	-0.3745 (3)	-0.12087 (9)	0.0422 (5)
C5'	0.7093 (2)	-0.2625 (3)	-0.12699 (9)	0.0407 (5)

## supplementary materials

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C5	0.7843 (2)	-0.0819 (4)	-0.10084 (10)	0.0445 (5)
H5	0.7437	-0.0036	-0.0734	0.053*
C6	0.9189 (3)	-0.0218 (4)	-0.11637 (11)	0.0511 (6)
C7	0.9790 (3)	-0.1381 (4)	-0.15859 (12)	0.0587 (7)
H7	1.0704	-0.0947	-0.1685	0.070*
C8	0.9066 (3)	-0.3127 (4)	-0.18535 (11)	0.0536 (6)
H8	0.9468	-0.3879	-0.2136	0.064*
C8'	0.7708 (2)	-0.3758 (4)	-0.16943 (9)	0.0441 (5)
C9	0.7019 (3)	-0.6996 (4)	-0.23323 (12)	0.0674 (8)
H9A	0.6501	-0.8262	-0.2277	0.101*
H9B	0.8117	-0.7251	-0.2273	0.101*
H9C	0.6599	-0.6479	-0.2744	0.101*
N9	0.6779 (2)	-0.5471 (3)	-0.18818 (8)	0.0499 (5)
C9'	0.5588 (3)	-0.5450 (4)	-0.15895 (10)	0.0477 (6)
C10	0.9545 (3)	0.2735 (4)	-0.04983 (13)	0.0669 (7)
H10A	0.8514	0.3259	-0.0673	0.100*
H10B	1.0254	0.3872	-0.0379	0.100*
H10C	0.9536	0.1907	-0.0141	0.100*

### Atomic displacement parameters ( $\text{\AA}^2$ )

	$U^{11}$	$U^{22}$	$U^{33}$	$U^{12}$	$U^{13}$	$U^{23}$
O1	0.0865 (15)	0.1012 (18)	0.1098 (17)	-0.0189 (14)	0.0724 (14)	-0.0310 (15)
O2	0.0703 (12)	0.0740 (13)	0.1042 (15)	-0.0285 (10)	0.0485 (11)	-0.0276 (11)
N1	0.0588 (13)	0.0686 (15)	0.0708 (14)	-0.0054 (11)	0.0408 (11)	-0.0104 (12)
C1	0.0635 (15)	0.0564 (16)	0.0647 (16)	-0.0101 (13)	0.0067 (13)	-0.0052 (13)
C2	0.0733 (18)	0.091 (2)	0.101 (2)	-0.0302 (17)	0.0300 (17)	-0.0095 (18)
C3	0.0569 (15)	0.0730 (19)	0.0708 (17)	-0.0128 (14)	0.0233 (13)	0.0026 (14)
C4	0.0447 (12)	0.0537 (15)	0.0499 (13)	0.0003 (11)	0.0167 (10)	0.0059 (12)
C4'	0.0406 (11)	0.0448 (13)	0.0413 (12)	0.0003 (10)	0.0104 (9)	0.0019 (10)
C5'	0.0384 (11)	0.0489 (13)	0.0354 (11)	0.0046 (10)	0.0100 (9)	0.0029 (10)
C5	0.0441 (12)	0.0484 (14)	0.0448 (12)	-0.0004 (10)	0.0185 (10)	-0.0026 (10)
C6	0.0472 (12)	0.0525 (15)	0.0574 (14)	-0.0061 (11)	0.0198 (11)	-0.0045 (12)
C7	0.0480 (13)	0.0679 (18)	0.0688 (16)	-0.0044 (13)	0.0311 (12)	-0.0021 (14)
C8	0.0530 (13)	0.0642 (17)	0.0496 (13)	0.0078 (12)	0.0243 (11)	-0.0033 (12)
C8'	0.0434 (12)	0.0499 (14)	0.0391 (11)	0.0055 (10)	0.0102 (9)	-0.0019 (10)
C9	0.0851 (19)	0.0615 (17)	0.0577 (15)	0.0048 (14)	0.0216 (14)	-0.0169 (13)
N9	0.0531 (11)	0.0521 (12)	0.0450 (11)	0.0026 (10)	0.0132 (9)	-0.0093 (9)
C9'	0.0473 (12)	0.0495 (14)	0.0444 (12)	0.0018 (11)	0.0074 (10)	0.0019 (11)
C10	0.0744 (17)	0.0602 (17)	0.0676 (17)	-0.0170 (14)	0.0204 (14)	-0.0140 (14)

### Geometric parameters ( $\text{\AA}$ , $^\circ$ )

O1—N1	1.419 (3)	C5'—C5	1.397 (3)
O1—H1X	0.827 (18)	C5'—C8'	1.405 (3)
O2—C6	1.364 (3)	C5—C6	1.373 (3)
O2—C10	1.414 (3)	C5—H5	0.9300
N1—C4	1.281 (3)	C6—C7	1.404 (3)
C1—C9'	1.489 (3)	C7—C8	1.360 (3)

C1—C2	1.502 (4)	C7—H7	0.9300
C1—H1A	0.9700	C8—C8'	1.392 (3)
C1—H1B	0.9700	C8—H8	0.9300
C2—C3	1.516 (4)	C8'—N9	1.380 (3)
C2—H2A	0.9700	C9—N9	1.457 (3)
C2—H2B	0.9700	C9—H9A	0.9599
C3—C4	1.495 (3)	C9—H9B	0.9599
C3—H3A	0.9700	C9—H9C	0.9599
C3—H3B	0.9700	N9—C9'	1.365 (3)
C4—C4'	1.449 (3)	C10—H10A	0.9599
C4—C9'	1.377 (3)	C10—H10B	0.9599
C4—C5'	1.443 (3)	C10—H10C	0.9599
N1—O1—H1X	97 (3)	C5'—C5—H5	120.6
C6—O2—C10	118.53 (19)	O2—C6—C5	124.8 (2)
C4—N1—O1	111.4 (2)	O2—C6—C7	114.6 (2)
C9'—C1—C2	109.3 (2)	C5—C6—C7	120.6 (2)
C9'—C1—H1A	109.8	C8—C7—C6	121.5 (2)
C2—C1—H1A	109.8	C8—C7—H7	119.3
C9'—C1—H1B	109.8	C6—C7—H7	119.3
C2—C1—H1B	109.8	C7—C8—C8'	118.3 (2)
H1A—C1—H1B	108.3	C7—C8—H8	120.9
C1—C2—C3	114.4 (3)	C8'—C8—H8	120.9
C1—C2—H2A	108.7	N9—C8'—C8	130.1 (2)
C3—C2—H2A	108.7	N9—C8'—C5'	108.78 (19)
C1—C2—H2B	108.7	C8—C8'—C5'	121.1 (2)
C3—C2—H2B	108.7	N9—C9—H9A	109.5
H2A—C2—H2B	107.6	N9—C9—H9B	109.5
C4—C3—C2	113.8 (2)	H9A—C9—H9B	109.5
C4—C3—H3A	108.8	N9—C9—H9C	109.5
C2—C3—H3A	108.8	H9A—C9—H9C	109.5
C4—C3—H3B	108.8	H9B—C9—H9C	109.5
C2—C3—H3B	108.8	C9'—N9—C8'	108.57 (17)
H3A—C3—H3B	107.7	C9'—N9—C9	126.4 (2)
N1—C4—C4'	118.3 (2)	C8'—N9—C9	125.0 (2)
N1—C4—C3	124.5 (2)	N9—C9'—C4'	109.8 (2)
C4'—C4—C3	117.2 (2)	N9—C9'—C1	125.1 (2)
C9'—C4'—C5'	107.03 (19)	C4'—C9'—C1	125.0 (2)
C9'—C4'—C4	120.8 (2)	O2—C10—H10A	109.5
C5'—C4'—C4	132.2 (2)	O2—C10—H10B	109.5
C5—C5'—C8'	119.57 (19)	H10A—C10—H10B	109.5
C5—C5'—C4'	134.6 (2)	O2—C10—H10C	109.5
C8'—C5'—C4'	105.8 (2)	H10A—C10—H10C	109.5
C6—C5—C5'	118.9 (2)	H10B—C10—H10C	109.5
C6—C5—H5	120.6		
C9'—C1—C2—C3	-46.4 (3)	C6—C7—C8—C8'	-0.6 (4)
C1—C2—C3—C4	50.2 (4)	C7—C8—C8'—N9	-178.2 (2)
O1—N1—C4—C4'	-179.6 (2)	C7—C8—C8'—C5'	0.2 (3)
O1—N1—C4—C3	-1.5 (4)	C5—C5'—C8'—N9	179.49 (18)

## supplementary materials

C2—C3—C4—N1	155.9 (3)	C4'—C5'—C8'—N9	-0.1 (2)
C2—C3—C4—C4'	-26.0 (3)	C5—C5'—C8'—C8	0.8 (3)
N1—C4—C4'—C9'	179.7 (2)	C4'—C5'—C8'—C8	-178.8 (2)
C3—C4—C4'—C9'	1.5 (3)	C8—C8'—N9—C9'	178.7 (2)
N1—C4—C4'—C5'	0.0 (4)	C5'—C8'—N9—C9'	0.2 (2)
C3—C4—C4'—C5'	-178.2 (2)	C8—C8'—N9—C9	-3.0 (4)
C9'—C4'—C5'—C5	-179.6 (2)	C5'—C8'—N9—C9	178.4 (2)
C4—C4'—C5'—C5	0.2 (4)	C8'—N9—C9'—C4'	-0.3 (2)
C9'—C4'—C5'—C8'	0.0 (2)	C9—N9—C9'—C4'	-178.4 (2)
C4—C4'—C5'—C8'	179.7 (2)	C8'—N9—C9'—C1	-179.9 (2)
C8'—C5'—C5—C6	-1.4 (3)	C9—N9—C9'—C1	1.9 (4)
C4'—C5'—C5—C6	178.1 (2)	C5'—C4'—C9'—N9	0.2 (2)
C10—O2—C6—C5	3.4 (4)	C4—C4'—C9'—N9	-179.64 (19)
C10—O2—C6—C7	-177.7 (2)	C5'—C4'—C9'—C1	179.9 (2)
C5'—C5—C6—O2	179.8 (2)	C4—C4'—C9'—C1	0.0 (3)
C5'—C5—C6—C7	1.0 (3)	C2—C1—C9'—N9	-157.9 (2)
O2—C6—C7—C8	-178.9 (2)	C2—C1—C9'—C4'	22.4 (3)
C5—C6—C7—C8	0.0 (4)		

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

<i>D</i> —H $\cdots$ <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> —H	H $\cdots$ <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> $\cdots$ <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> —H $\cdots$ <i>A</i>
C5—H5 $\cdots$ N1	0.93	2.76	3.236 (3)	113
O1—H1X $\cdots$ O1 <sup>i</sup>	0.827 (18)	2.54 (3)	3.177 (5)	134 (3)
O1—H1X $\cdots$ N1 <sup>i</sup>	0.827 (18)	2.00 (2)	2.810 (4)	166 (4)

Symmetry codes: (i)  $-x+1, -y, -z$ .



Fig. 1

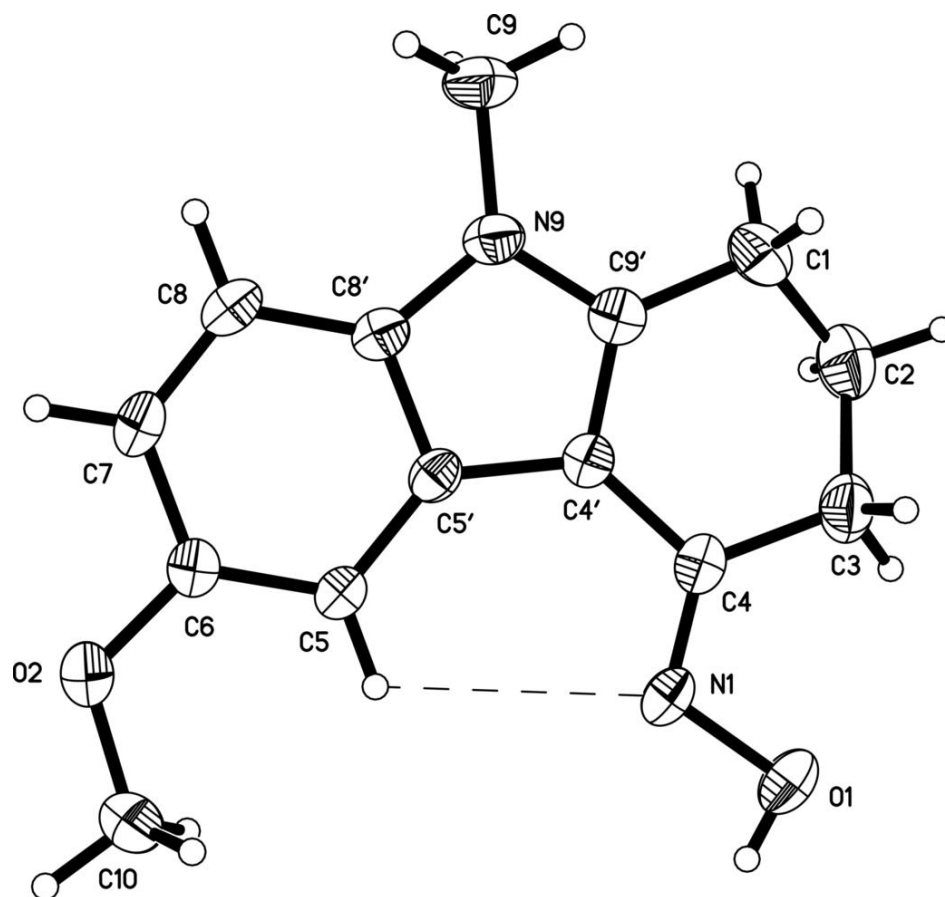


Fig. 2

