1683 independent reflections

3 standard reflections

every 200 reflections intensity decay: 1%

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.017$ 

1374 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ 

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# (E,E)-N,N'-Bis[4-(methylsulfonyl)benzylidene]ethane-1,2-diamine

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Key indicators: single-crystal X-ray study; T = 293 K; mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.004 Å; R factor = 0.045; wR factor = 0.153; data-to-parameter ratio = 14.3.

In the crystal structure of the title Schiff base compound, C18H20N2O4S2, the molecule lies across a crystallographic inversion centre. The torsion angle of the N-C-C-N fragment is 180°, as the inversion centre bisects the central C-C bond. The crystal packing is stabilized by C-H $\cdots$ O hydrogen bonds and aromatic  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking interactions with a centroid-centroid distance of 3.913 (2) Å.

#### **Related literature**

For bond-length data, see: Allen et al. (1987); For the crystal structure of a similar Schiff base compound, see: Sun et al. (2004). For the crystal structure of a precursor molecule used in the synthesis of the title compound, see: Qian & Cui (2009).



## **Experimental**

#### Crystal data

Enraf–Nonius CAD-4	
diffractometer	
Absorption correction: multi-scan	
(SHELXTL; Sheldrick, 2008)	
$T_{\min} = 0.940, \ T_{\max} = 0.969$	
1830 measured reflections	

#### Refinement

$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.045$	118 parameters
$wR(F^2) = 0.153$	H-atom parameters constrained
S = 1.00	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.20 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
1683 reflections	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.33 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$

#### Table 1 Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D - H \cdots A$	$D-\mathrm{H}$	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - \mathbf{H} \cdots A$
$C4-H4A\cdotsO1^{i}$	0.93	2.52	3.241 (4)	135

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

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, 2008); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 2008); molecular graphics: SHELXTL (Sheldrick, 2008); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXTL.

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Supplementary data and figures for this paper are available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: WM2281).

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supplementary materials

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# (E,E)-N,N'-Bis[4-(methylsulfonyl)benzylidene]ethane-1,2-diamine

## S.-S. Qian and H.-Y. Cui

#### Comment

The title compound, (I), acts as an important precursor for the synthesis of Schiff base complexes. As an extension of our work on the structural characterization of Schiff base compounds, the crystal structure is reported here.

The asymmetric unit contains one-half of the molecule of (I), the other half being inversion-related by symmetry operation (-x, -y, 2-z) (Fig.1). All the bond lengths are within normal ranges (Allen *et al.*, 1987) and comparable to the values observed in other similar compounds (Qian & Cui, 2009; Sun *et al.*, 2004). The crystal packing is stabilized by C—H···O hydrogen bonds and aromatic  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking interactions with a centroid-centroid distance of 3.913 (2) Å (Figure 2, Table 1). The torsion angle of the N—C—C—N fragment is 180°, as the inversion centre bisects the central C—C bond.

#### Experimental

4-(methylsulfonyl)benzaldehyde (0.184 g, 1 mmol) (Qian & Cui, 2009) and ethylene diamine (0.03 g, 0.5 mmol) were dissolved in acetonitrile (20 ml). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 10 min to give a clear yellow solution. After keeping the solution in air for 10 d, yellow block-shaped crystals of (I) were formed at the bottom of the vessel on slow evaporation of the solvent.

#### Refinement

All H atoms were placed in geometrical positions and constrained to ride on their parent atoms with C—H distances in the range 0.93–0.96 Å, They were treated as riding atoms, with  $U_{iso}(H) = kU_{eq}(C)$ , where k = 1.5 for methyl and 1.2 for all other H atoms.

#### Figures



Fig. 1. The structure of (I), showing the atom-labelling scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 35% probability level. The molecule is completed by symmetry operation (-x, -y, 2-z) across the central C—C bond.

Fig. 2. Plot of the crystal packing of compound (I). C—H…O hydrogen bonds are indicated with dotted lines.

#### (E,E)-N,N'-Bis[4- (methylsulfonyl)benzylidene]ethane-1,2-diamine

Crystal data

 $C_{18}H_{20}N_{2}O_{4}S_{2} \\$ 

Z = 1

# supplementary materials

$M_r = 392.48$	$F_{000} = 206$
Triclinic, <i>P</i> T	$D_{\rm x} = 1.409 {\rm Mg m}^{-3}$
Hall symbol: -P 1	Mo K $\alpha$ radiation, $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å
a = 7.0100 (14)  Å	Cell parameters from 25 reflections
b = 8.0530 (16)  Å	$\theta = 9-13^{\circ}$
c = 8.8740 (18)  Å	$\mu = 0.31 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$\alpha = 88.06 \ (3)^{\circ}$	T = 293  K
$\beta = 67.56 \ (3)^{\circ}$	Block, yellow
$\gamma = 87.60 \ (3)^{\circ}$	$0.20\times0.10\times0.10\ mm$
$V = 462.53 (19) \text{ Å}^3$	

#### Data collection

Enraf–Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer	$R_{\rm int} = 0.017$
Radiation source: fine-focus sealed tube	$\theta_{max} = 25.3^{\circ}$
Monochromator: graphite	$\theta_{\min} = 2.5^{\circ}$
T = 293  K	$h = 0 \rightarrow 8$
$\omega/2\theta$ scans	$k = -9 \rightarrow 9$
Absorption correction: multi-scan (SHELXTL; Sheldrick, 2008)	$l = -9 \rightarrow 10$
$T_{\min} = 0.940, \ T_{\max} = 0.969$	3 standard reflections
1830 measured reflections	every 200 reflections
1683 independent reflections	intensity decay: 1%
1374 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$	

#### Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	Secondary atom site location: difference Fourier map
Least-squares matrix: full	Hydrogen site location: inferred from neighbouring sites
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.045$	H-atom parameters constrained
$wR(F^2) = 0.153$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.1P)^2 + 0.140P]$ where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
S = 1.00	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001$
1683 reflections	$\Delta \rho_{max} = 0.20 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$
118 parameters	$\Delta \rho_{min} = -0.33 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
Primary atom site location: structure-invariant direct methods	Extinction correction: none

#### Special details

**Geometry**. All esds (except the esd in the dihedral angle between two l.s. planes) are estimated using the full covariance matrix. The cell esds are taken into account individually in the estimation of esds in distances, angles and torsion angles; correlations between esds in cell parameters are only used when they are defined by crystal symmetry. An approximate (isotropic) treatment of cell esds is used for estimating esds 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  $F^2 > 2 \text{sigma}(F^2)$  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.

	x	У	Ζ	$U_{\rm iso}*/U_{\rm eq}$
S	0.75133 (11)	0.83172 (8)	0.57111 (9)	0.0414 (3)
Ν	0.1391 (4)	0.1964 (3)	0.9738 (3)	0.0443 (6)
01	0.9506 (3)	0.7668 (3)	0.5545 (4)	0.0715 (8)
C1	-0.0335 (5)	0.0843 (4)	1.0382 (4)	0.0479 (8)
H1B	-0.1492	0.1292	1.0136	0.057*
H1C	-0.0774	0.0735	1.1557	0.057*
O2	0.7244 (4)	0.8981 (3)	0.4285 (3)	0.0532 (6)
C2	0.1219 (4)	0.3116 (3)	0.8807 (3)	0.0410 (7)
H2B	0.0013	0.3200	0.8601	0.049*
C3	0.2822 (4)	0.4346 (3)	0.8017 (3)	0.0366 (6)
C4	0.2457 (4)	0.5596 (4)	0.7043 (4)	0.0422 (7)
H4A	0.1227	0.5624	0.6871	0.051*
C5	0.3882 (4)	0.6802 (3)	0.6324 (3)	0.0405 (7)
H5A	0.3619	0.7641	0.5677	0.049*
C6	0.5702 (4)	0.6742 (3)	0.6579 (3)	0.0362 (6)
C7	0.6120 (5)	0.5482 (4)	0.7525 (4)	0.0503 (8)
H7A	0.7364	0.5441	0.7675	0.060*
C8	0.4670 (5)	0.4292 (4)	0.8242 (4)	0.0472 (8)
H8A	0.4937	0.3447	0.8881	0.057*
C9	0.6747 (6)	0.9854 (4)	0.7201 (4)	0.0578 (9)
H9A	0.7652	1.0772	0.6829	0.087*
H9B	0.6811	0.9399	0.8195	0.087*
H9C	0.5357	1.0231	0.7393	0.087*

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

### Atomic displacement parameters $(Å^2)$

	$U^{11}$	$U^{22}$	$U^{33}$	$U^{12}$	$U^{13}$	$U^{23}$
S	0.0377 (4)	0.0343 (4)	0.0478 (5)	-0.0113 (3)	-0.0116 (3)	0.0135 (3)
Ν	0.0499 (15)	0.0369 (13)	0.0412 (14)	-0.0182 (11)	-0.0110 (11)	0.0078 (11)
O1	0.0380 (13)	0.0554 (14)	0.111 (2)	-0.0117 (10)	-0.0194 (13)	0.0313 (14)
C1	0.0466 (17)	0.0404 (16)	0.0470 (17)	-0.0190 (13)	-0.0059 (13)	0.0091 (13)
O2	0.0648 (15)	0.0483 (12)	0.0440 (12)	-0.0185 (10)	-0.0178 (10)	0.0166 (10)
C2	0.0378 (15)	0.0369 (15)	0.0445 (16)	-0.0103 (12)	-0.0106 (13)	0.0008 (12)
C3	0.0399 (15)	0.0289 (13)	0.0362 (14)	-0.0081 (11)	-0.0086 (12)	0.0024 (11)
C4	0.0345 (15)	0.0385 (15)	0.0533 (18)	-0.0040 (12)	-0.0167 (13)	0.0079 (13)
C5	0.0419 (16)	0.0330 (14)	0.0455 (16)	-0.0032 (12)	-0.0160 (13)	0.0109 (12)
C6	0.0372 (15)	0.0300 (13)	0.0387 (14)	-0.0081 (11)	-0.0116 (12)	0.0078 (11)
C7	0.0437 (17)	0.0461 (17)	0.067 (2)	-0.0149 (13)	-0.0280 (15)	0.0225 (15)
C8	0.0528 (18)	0.0381 (15)	0.0572 (18)	-0.0143 (13)	-0.0287 (15)	0.0213 (13)

# supplementary materials

С9	0.068 (2)	0.0509 (19)	0.055 (2)	-0.0248 (16)	-0.0214 (17)	0.0071 (15)
Geometric paran	neters (Å. °)					
r 01		1 426 (2)	C2	C4	1 20	4 (4)
S-01		1.420(2) 1.422(2)	C3-		1 379 (4)	
S-02		1.433(2)	C4-		0.02	9 (4)
S-C9		1.733(4) 1.771(3)	C4-		0.93	00 7 (4)
S=C0		1.771(3) 1.254(4)	C5-	—С0 —Н5А	0.93	/ (+) 00
N—C1		1.254 (4)	C5-		1 38	8 (4)
		1.512 (6)	C0	C?	1 380 (4)	
		0.0700	C7-		1.38	0 (4)
CI—HIB		0.9700	C/-	H/A	0.9300	
C1 - HIC		0.9700	C8-		0.9300	
$C_2 = C_3$		1.470 (4)	C9-	—П9А ЦОР	0.9600	
$C_2 = \Pi_2 B$		0.9300	C9-	—П9Б НОС	0.9600	
C3—C8		1.362 (4)	09-		0.90	
01—S—02		118.21 (16)	C5-	C4H4A	119.4	
01—S—C9		108.72 (19)	C3-	C4H4A	119.4	
02—S—C9		108.48 (16)	C6-	-C5C4	118.9 (3)	
01 - s - C6		108.36 (14)	C6-	—С5—Н5А	120.6	
$02 - s - c_6$		108.51(14) 102.57(15)	C4-	—С5—Н5А	120.6	
C9 = S = C6		103.37(13)	C5-		121.0(3)	
		110.2 (3)	07		119.4 (2)	
$N - C1 - C1^{1}$		109.3 (3)	C/-		119.6 (2)	
N—C1—H1B		109.8	C8-	C7C6	119.	2 (3)
C1 <sup>1</sup> —C1—H1B		109.8	С8—С7—Н7А		120.4	
N—C1—H1C		109.8	C6-	—С7—Н7А	120.	4
C1 <sup>i</sup> —C1—H1C		109.8	С7-	C8C3	120.	6 (3)
H1B—C1—H1C		108.3	C7-	C8H8A	119.	7
N—C2—C3		123.8 (3)	С3—С8—Н8А		119.7	
N—C2—H2B		118.1	SC9H9A		109.5	
C3—C2—H2B		118.1	S—	С9—Н9В	109.5	
C8—C3—C4		119.1 (2)	H9A—C9—H9B		109.5	
C8—C3—C2		121.7 (3)	S—C9—H9C		109.5	
C4—C3—C2		119.2 (3)	H94	А—С9—Н9С	109.5	
C5—C4—C3		121.2 (3)	H9I	З—С9—Н9С	109.	5
C2—N—C1—C1 <sup>i</sup>	i	110.1 (4)	O2-	—S—C6—C5	-26.	6 (3)
C1—N—C2—C3		-178.8 (3)	С9-	-S-C6-C5	88.5	(3)
N—C2—C3—C8		0.9 (5)	01-	—S—C6—C7	24.9	(3)
N—C2—C3—C4		-178.3 (3)	02-	—S—C6—C7	154.	4 (3)
C8—C3—C4—C	5	-1.3 (5)	С9-	-S-C6-C7	-90.	4 (3)
C2—C3—C4—C	5	177.9 (3)	C5-	C6C7C8	-1.2	(5)
C3—C4—C5—C6	6	0.4 (4)	S—	C6—C7—C8	177.	8 (3)
C4—C5—C6—C	7	0.8 (5)	C6-	C7C8C3	0.3 (	5)
C4—C5—C6—S		-178.2 (2)	C4-	C3C7	0.9 (	5)
O1—S—C6—C5		-156.1 (3)	C2—C3—C8—C7 -178.2 (3)		3.2 (3)	
Symmetry codes:	(i) $-x, -y, -z+2$ .					

# Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °) D—H H···A D···A D—H···A C4—H4A···O1<sup>ii</sup> 0.93 2.52 3.241 (4) 135 Symmetry codes: (ii) x-1, y, z. X = 1, y, z. X = 1, y, z. X = 1, y, z.







Fig. 2