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## Ethyl 2-(2-methyl-4-nitro-1*H*-imidazol-1yl)acetate

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Key indicators: single-crystal X-ray study; T = 103 K; mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.003 Å; R factor = 0.033; wR factor = 0.082; data-to-parameter ratio = 9.5.

In the title compound,  $C_8H_{11}N_3O_4$ , the dihedral angle between the imidazole ring and the ethyl acetate plane is 103.1 (8)°. The crystal packing is stabilized by weak intermolecular C–  $H \cdots O$  and C– $H \cdots N$  hydrogen bonds.

#### **Related literature**

For the possible use of nitroimidazole derivatives as radio sensitizers, to enhance the lethal effect of ionizing radiation on hypoxic tissues, see: Brown (1989); Chapman (1979); Chu *et al.* (2004).



Experimental

Crystal data  $C_8H_{11}N_3O_4$  $M_r = 213.20$ 

Orthorhombic,  $P2_12_12_1$ *a* = 4.416 (3) Å b = 10.290 (6) Å c = 20.769 (12) Å V = 943.7 (10) Å<sup>3</sup> Z = 4

#### Data collection

Rigaku SPIDER diffractometer 7883 measured reflections 1306 independent reflections

#### Refinement

 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.033$  $wR(F^2) = 0.082$ S = 1.001306 reflections Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  $\mu = 0.12 \text{ mm}^{-1}$  T = 103 K $0.53 \times 0.53 \times 0.18 \text{ mm}$ 

1161 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$  $R_{\text{int}} = 0.037$ 

138 parameters H-atom parameters constrained  $\Delta \rho_{max} = 0.24 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$  $\Delta \rho_{min} = -0.20 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$ 

## Table 1

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D - H \cdots A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - \mathbf{H} \cdots A$
$C5-H5A\cdots O4^{i}$	0.99	2.56	3.338 (3)	135
$C5-H5A\cdots N2^{i}$	0.99	2.56	3.509 (3)	160
$C5-H5B\cdots O2^{ii}$	0.99	2.39	3.175 (3)	136
$C7 - H7A \cdots O2^{iii}$	0.99	2.46	3.362 (3)	151

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

Data collection: *RAPID-AUTO* (Rigaku, 2004); cell refinement: *RAPID-AUTO*; data reduction: *RAPID-AUTO*; 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: PV2327).

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supplementary materials

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## Ethyl 2-(2-methyl-4-nitro-1*H*-imidazol-1-yl)acetate

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#### Comment

Nitroimidazole derivatives have a tendency to be accumulated in the hypoxic regions leading to the possibility of envisaging these compounds as radio sensitizers, the agents which enhance the lethal effect of ionizing radiations on hypoxic tissues (Chapman, 1979; Brown, 1989; Chu *et al.*, 2004). As a contribution to this field, we present here the title compound, (I), synthesized by a simple and efficient method.

In (I) (Fig. 1), the imidazole group is essentially planar and forms a dihedral angle of 103.1 (8)° with the ethyl acetate plane defined by atoms C5–C8/O1/O2. The nitro group lies in the plane of the imidazole group. In the cystal structure, the packing is stabilized by weak C—H…O and C—H…N interactions.

#### **Experimental**

The title compound was prepared by the following procedure. To a solution of 2-methyl-4-nitroimidazole (2.11 g, 0.01 mol) in ethyl 2-chloroacetate (14.2 ml, 0.1 mol), propionic acid (6.66 ml) was added and refluxed for 16 h. The mixture was filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, ehtyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:1). Single crystals were obtained by using ethanol/water (2:1) as solvents for recrystallization (m.p. 383–385 K).

#### Refinement

The H atoms were positioned geometrically and allowed to ride on their parent atoms at distances C—H = 0.95, 0.98 or 0.99 Å for aryl, methyl and methylene H-atoms with  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2 U_{eq}$  (parent atom). An absolute structure could not be established by anomalous dispersion effects in diffraction measurements on the crystal. Therefore, 858 Friedel pairs were merged.

Figures



Fig. 1. The molecular structure of the title compound, with the atomic numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level.

#### Ethyl 2-(2-methyl-4-nitro-1*H*-imidazol-1-yl)acetate

*Crystal data* C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>

F(000) = 448

$M_r = 213.20$	$D_{\rm x} = 1.501 {\rm ~Mg~m}^{-3}$
Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$	Mo <i>K</i> $\alpha$ radiation, $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å
Hall symbol: P 2ac 2ab	Cell parameters from 2529 reflections
a = 4.416 (3) Å	$\theta = 3.6 - 27.6^{\circ}$
b = 10.290 (6) Å	$\mu = 0.12 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
c = 20.769 (12)  Å	T = 103  K
$V = 943.7 (10) \text{ Å}^3$	Chunk, colorless
Z = 4	$0.53 \times 0.53 \times 0.18 \text{ mm}$
Data collection	

1161 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
$R_{\rm int} = 0.037$
$\theta_{\text{max}} = 27.6^{\circ}, \ \theta_{\text{min}} = 3.6^{\circ}$
$h = -5 \rightarrow 5$
$k = -13 \rightarrow 13$
$l = -27 \rightarrow 27$

#### Refinement

Primary atom site location: structure-invariant direct methods
Secondary atom site location: difference Fourier map
Hydrogen site location: inferred from neighbouring sites
H-atom parameters constrained
$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0463P)^2 + 0.16P]$ where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} < 0.001$
$\Delta \rho_{max} = 0.24 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
$\Delta \rho_{min} = -0.20 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$

#### 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.

	x	У	Z	$U_{\rm iso}*/U_{\rm eq}$
01	0.3643 (3)	0.58804 (13)	0.42377 (6)	0.0166 (3)
O2	0.7058 (4)	0.74979 (13)	0.42394 (6)	0.0192 (3)
O3	1.0605 (4)	0.80751 (14)	0.14662 (6)	0.0249 (4)
O4	1.1820 (4)	1.00386 (14)	0.17463 (7)	0.0232 (4)
N1	0.5079 (4)	0.82884 (15)	0.30422 (7)	0.0138 (3)
N2	0.7748 (4)	1.00021 (15)	0.27284 (7)	0.0153 (4)
N3	1.0373 (4)	0.90341 (16)	0.18170 (7)	0.0177 (4)
C1	0.6719 (5)	0.78850 (18)	0.25230 (8)	0.0158 (4)
H1	0.6754	0.7046	0.2332	0.019*
C2	0.8285 (5)	0.89536 (18)	0.23422 (8)	0.0146 (4)
C3	0.5780 (5)	0.95693 (18)	0.31538 (9)	0.0154 (4)
C4	0.4430 (5)	1.03335 (19)	0.36860 (9)	0.0188 (4)
H4A	0.5425	1.1183	0.3711	0.023*
H4B	0.4712	0.9868	0.4093	0.023*
H4C	0.2262	1.0455	0.3606	0.023*
C5	0.3162 (5)	0.74537 (19)	0.34314 (8)	0.0163 (4)
H5A	0.2462	0.6708	0.3170	0.020*
H5B	0.1357	0.7945	0.3576	0.020*
C6	0.4893 (5)	0.69604 (18)	0.40139 (8)	0.0155 (4)
C7	0.5214 (5)	0.52893 (19)	0.47784 (9)	0.0200 (4)
H7A	0.4783	0.5775	0.5180	0.024*
H7B	0.7428	0.5295	0.4704	0.024*
C8	0.4071 (6)	0.39131 (19)	0.48318 (10)	0.0237 (5)
H8A	0.1868	0.3921	0.4889	0.028*
H8B	0.5021	0.3489	0.5203	0.028*
H8C	0.4582	0.3435	0.4438	0.028*

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

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

	$U^{11}$	$U^{22}$	$U^{33}$	$U^{12}$	$U^{13}$	$U^{23}$
O1	0.0165 (8)	0.0124 (6)	0.0210 (6)	-0.0005 (6)	0.0002 (6)	0.0040 (5)
O2	0.0182 (8)	0.0166 (7)	0.0228 (7)	-0.0028 (7)	-0.0031 (6)	-0.0004 (5)
O3	0.0315 (9)	0.0198 (7)	0.0233 (7)	0.0025 (8)	0.0062 (6)	-0.0028 (6)
O4	0.0218 (9)	0.0181 (7)	0.0298 (7)	-0.0029 (8)	0.0051 (6)	0.0062 (6)
N1	0.0141 (9)	0.0111 (7)	0.0161 (7)	-0.0023 (7)	-0.0004 (6)	0.0009 (6)
N2	0.0175 (9)	0.0113 (7)	0.0171 (7)	-0.0002 (7)	-0.0004 (6)	0.0006 (6)
N3	0.0188 (10)	0.0151 (8)	0.0191 (7)	0.0027 (8)	0.0007 (7)	0.0041 (6)
C1	0.0193 (11)	0.0118 (9)	0.0164 (8)	-0.0006 (9)	-0.0007 (8)	-0.0003 (7)
C2	0.0159 (10)	0.0128 (9)	0.0151 (8)	0.0010 (9)	-0.0004 (7)	0.0012 (7)
C3	0.0177 (11)	0.0093 (8)	0.0193 (8)	-0.0015 (8)	-0.0029 (8)	0.0004 (7)
C4	0.0225 (12)	0.0147 (9)	0.0193 (8)	0.0001 (9)	0.0018 (8)	-0.0004 (7)
C5	0.0144 (10)	0.0137 (9)	0.0207 (9)	-0.0033 (9)	0.0008 (7)	0.0029 (7)
C6	0.0163 (10)	0.0117 (8)	0.0184 (8)	0.0016 (9)	0.0042 (8)	-0.0009 (7)
C7	0.0219 (12)	0.0187 (10)	0.0193 (9)	0.0028 (9)	-0.0005 (8)	0.0058 (7)

# supplementary materials

C8	0.0308 (13)	0.0164 (10)	0.0239 (10)	0.0040 (10)	0.0011 (9)	0.0039 (8)
Geometric param	neters (Å, °)					
O1—C6		1.325 (2)	C3–	C4		1.482 (3)
O1—C7		1.453 (2)	C4–	-H4A		0.9800
O2—C6		1.199 (2)	C4–	-H4B		0.9800
O3—N3		1.231 (2)	C4—	-H4C		0.9800
O4—N3		1.224 (2)	С5—	C6		1.518 (3)
N1—C1		1.364 (2)	С5—	-H5A		0.9900
N1—C3		1.374 (2)	C5–	-H5B		0.9900
N1—C5		1.452 (2)	С7—	С8		1.507 (3)
N2—C3		1.317 (3)	С7—	-H7A		0.9900
N2—C2		1.365 (2)	C7–	–H7B		0.9900
N3—C2		1.431 (2)	C8-	-H8A		0.9800
C1—C2		1.352 (3)	C8–	-H8B		0.9800
C1—H1		0.9500	C8-	-H8C		0.9800
C6—O1—C7		115.04 (16)	H4B	B-C4-H4C		109.5
C1—N1—C3		107.79 (17)	N1-	-C5-C6		110.35 (17)
C1—N1—C5		124.75 (16)	N1-	-С5—Н5А		109.6
C3—N1—C5		127.24 (17)	C6–	-C5—H5A		109.6
C3—N2—C2		103.97 (16)	N1-	C5H5B		109.6
O4—N3—O3		124.24 (17)	C6–	-C5—H5B		109.6
O4—N3—C2		118.48 (16)	H5A	—С5—Н5В		108.1
O3—N3—C2		117.28 (17)	02–	-C6O1		125.57 (18)
C2-C1-N1		104.11 (16)	02–	-C6-C5		123.93 (18)
С2—С1—Н1		127.9	01–	C6C5		110.49 (17)
N1—C1—H1		127.9	O1–	С7С8		106.88 (17)
C1—C2—N2		112.99 (17)	O1–	—С7—Н7А		110.3
C1—C2—N3		126.05 (17)	C8-	С7Н7А		110.3
N2—C2—N3		120.94 (17)	O1–	С7Н7В		110.3
N2—C3—N1		111.11 (17)	C8–	С7Н7В		110.3
N2—C3—C4		125.90 (17)	H7A	—С7—Н7В		108.6
N1—C3—C4		122.98 (18)	С7—	-C8—H8A		109.5
С3—С4—Н4А		109.5	С7—	-C8—H8B		109.5
C3—C4—H4B		109.5	H8A	—C8—H8B		109.5
H4A—C4—H4B		109.5	С7—	-C8-H8C		109.5
С3—С4—Н4С		109.5	H8A	<b>—С8—</b> Н8С		109.5
H4A—C4—H4C		109.5	H8B	G-C8-H8C		109.5
C3—N1—C1—C	2	-1.0 (2)	C1-	-N1-C3-N2		0.8 (2)
C5—N1—C1—C	2	-176.05 (18)	C5–	-N1-C3-N2		175.61 (18)
N1-C1-C2-N	2	1.0 (2)	C1-	-N1-C3-C4		-179.65 (18)
N1—C1—C2—N	3	179.56 (18)	C5–	-N1-C3-C4		-4.8 (3)
C3—N2—C2—C	1	-0.6 (2)	C1-	-N1-C5-C6		94.6 (2)
C3—N2—C2—N	3	-179.20 (17)	С3—	-N1-C5-C6		-79.4 (2)
O4—N3—C2—C	1	-173.7 (2)	С7—	-O1-C6-O2		-3.9 (3)
O3—N3—C2—C	1	5.9 (3)	С7—	-O1-C6-C5		177.17 (16)
O4—N3—C2—N	2	4.7 (3)	N1-	-C5-C6-O2		23.4 (3)
O3—N3—C2—N	2	-175.69 (18)	N1-	-C5-C6-O1		-157.72 (16)

C2—N2—C3—N1	-0.1 (2)	С6—О1—С7—С8		-163.26 (16)
C2—N2—C3—C4	-179.70 (19)			
Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °)				
D—H···A	<i>D</i> —Н	$H \cdots A$	$D \cdots A$	D—H··· $A$
C5—H5A····O4 <sup>i</sup>	0.99	2.56	3.338 (3)	135
C5—H5A····N2 <sup>i</sup>	0.99	2.56	3.509 (3)	160
C5—H5B····O2 <sup>ii</sup>	0.99	2.39	3.175 (3)	136
C7—H7A····O2 <sup>iii</sup>	0.99	2.46	3.362 (3)	151
Symmetry codes: (i) $-x+1$ , $y-1/2$ , $-z+3$	1/2; (ii) <i>x</i> -1, <i>y</i> , <i>z</i> ; (iii) <i>x</i> -1	/2, - <i>y</i> +3/2, - <i>z</i> +1.		

Fig. 1

