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

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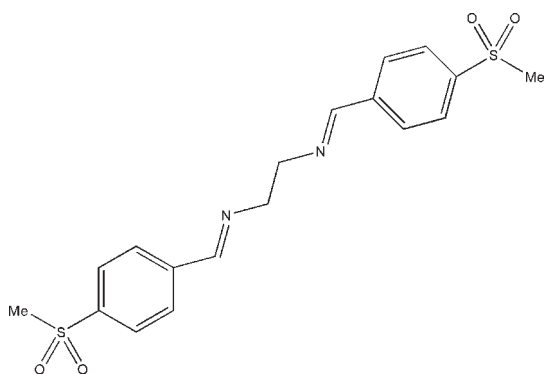
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 Key indicators: single-crystal X-ray study; $T = 293$ K; mean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.004$ Å; R factor = 0.045; wR factor = 0.153; data-to-parameter ratio = 14.3.

In the crystal structure of the title Schiff base compound, $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}_2$, the molecule lies across a crystallographic inversion centre. The torsion angle of the $\text{N}-\text{C}-\text{N}$ fragment is 180° , as the inversion centre bisects the central $\text{C}-\text{C}$ bond. The crystal packing is stabilized by $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$ 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

$\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{20}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}_2$
 $M_r = 392.48$
 Triclinic, $P\bar{1}$
 $a = 7.0100$ (14) Å
 $b = 8.0530$ (16) Å
 $c = 8.8740$ (18) Å
 $\alpha = 88.06$ (3)°
 $\beta = 67.56$ (3)°
 $\gamma = 87.60$ (3)°
 $V = 462.53$ (19) Å³
 $Z = 1$
 Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
 $\mu = 0.31$ mm⁻¹
 $T = 293$ K
 $0.20 \times 0.10 \times 0.10$ mm

Data collection

Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (*SHELXTL*; Sheldrick, 2008)
 $T_{\min} = 0.940$, $T_{\max} = 0.969$
 1830 measured reflections
 1683 independent reflections
 1374 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.017$
 3 standard reflections every 200 reflections
 intensity decay: 1%

Refinement

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

Table 1

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D-\text{H}\cdots A$	$D-\text{H}$	$\text{H}\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-\text{H}\cdots A$
$\text{C4}-\text{H4A}\cdots\text{O1}^i$	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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supporting information

Acta Cryst. (2009). E65, o3093 [doi:10.1107/S1600536809047527]

(*E,E*)-*N,N'*-Bis[4-(methylsulfonyl)benzylidene]ethane-1,2-diamine**Shao-Song Qian and Hong-You Cui****S1. 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.

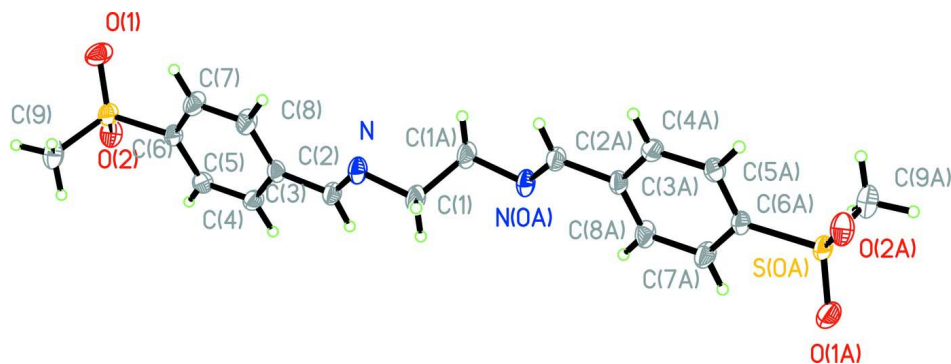
The asymmetric unit contains one-half of the molecule of (I), the other half being inversion-related by symmetry operation $(-x, -y, 2-z)$ (Fig.1). All the bond lengths are within normal ranges (Allen *et al.*, 1987) and comparable to the values observed in other similar compounds (Qian & Cui, 2009; Sun *et al.*, 2004). The crystal packing is stabilized by C—H \cdots O hydrogen bonds and aromatic π - π 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.

S2. 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.

S3. 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 $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = kU_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$, where $k = 1.5$ for methyl and 1.2 for all other H atoms.

**Figure 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.

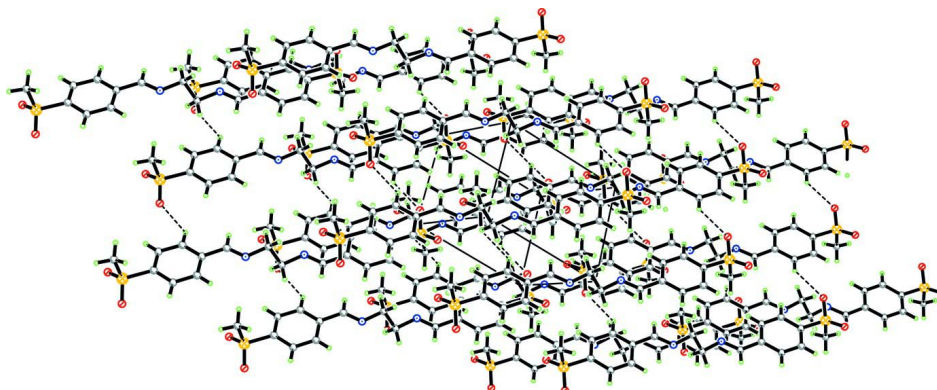


Figure 2

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

$C_{18}H_{20}N_2O_4S_2$

$M_r = 392.48$

Triclinic, $P\bar{1}$

Hall symbol: -P 1

$a = 7.0100$ (14) Å

$b = 8.0530$ (16) Å

$c = 8.8740$ (18) Å

$\alpha = 88.06$ (3)°

$\beta = 67.56$ (3)°

$\gamma = 87.60$ (3)°

$V = 462.53$ (19) Å³

$Z = 1$

$F(000) = 206$

$D_x = 1.409$ Mg m⁻³

Mo $K\alpha$ radiation, $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å

Cell parameters from 25 reflections

$\theta = 9\text{--}13^\circ$

$\mu = 0.31$ mm⁻¹

$T = 293$ K

Block, yellow

$0.20 \times 0.10 \times 0.10$ mm

Data collection

Enraf–Nonius CAD-4

diffractometer

Radiation source: fine-focus sealed tube

Graphite monochromator

$\omega/2\theta$ scans

Absorption correction: multi-scan

(*SHELXTL*; Sheldrick, 2008)

$T_{\min} = 0.940$, $T_{\max} = 0.969$

1830 measured reflections

1683 independent reflections

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

$R_{\text{int}} = 0.017$

$\theta_{\max} = 25.3^\circ$, $\theta_{\min} = 2.5^\circ$

$h = 0\text{--}8$

$k = -9\text{--}9$

$l = -9\text{--}10$

3 standard reflections every 200 reflections

intensity decay: 1%

Refinement

Refinement on F^2

Least-squares matrix: full

$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.045$

$wR(F^2) = 0.153$

$S = 1.00$

1683 reflections

118 parameters

0 restraints

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

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.1P)^2 + 0.140P]$

where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$

$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} < 0.001$

$\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.20$ e Å⁻³

$\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.33$ e Å⁻³

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 $F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)$ 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 (\AA^2)

	x	y	z	$U_{\text{iso}}^*/U_{\text{eq}}$
S	0.75133 (11)	0.83172 (8)	0.57111 (9)	0.0414 (3)
N	0.1391 (4)	0.1964 (3)	0.9738 (3)	0.0443 (6)
O1	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*

Atomic displacement parameters (\AA^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)
N	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)
C9	0.068 (2)	0.0509 (19)	0.055 (2)	-0.0248 (16)	-0.0214 (17)	0.0071 (15)

Geometric parameters (Å, °)

S—O1	1.426 (2)	C3—C4	1.384 (4)
S—O2	1.433 (2)	C4—C5	1.379 (4)
S—C9	1.755 (4)	C4—H4A	0.9300
S—C6	1.771 (3)	C5—C6	1.377 (4)
N—C2	1.254 (4)	C5—H5A	0.9300
N—C1	1.461 (3)	C6—C7	1.388 (4)
C1—C1 ⁱ	1.513 (6)	C7—C8	1.380 (4)
C1—H1B	0.9700	C7—H7A	0.9300
C1—H1C	0.9700	C8—H8A	0.9300
C2—C3	1.476 (4)	C9—H9A	0.9600
C2—H2B	0.9300	C9—H9B	0.9600
C3—C8	1.382 (4)	C9—H9C	0.9600
O1—S—O2	118.21 (16)	C5—C4—H4A	119.4
O1—S—C9	108.72 (19)	C3—C4—H4A	119.4
O2—S—C9	108.48 (16)	C6—C5—C4	118.9 (3)
O1—S—C6	108.36 (14)	C6—C5—H5A	120.6
O2—S—C6	108.51 (14)	C4—C5—H5A	120.6
C9—S—C6	103.57 (15)	C5—C6—C7	121.0 (3)
C2—N—C1	116.2 (3)	C5—C6—S	119.4 (2)
N—C1—C1 ⁱ	109.3 (3)	C7—C6—S	119.6 (2)
N—C1—H1B	109.8	C8—C7—C6	119.2 (3)
C1 ⁱ —C1—H1B	109.8	C8—C7—H7A	120.4
N—C1—H1C	109.8	C6—C7—H7A	120.4
C1 ⁱ —C1—H1C	109.8	C7—C8—C3	120.6 (3)
H1B—C1—H1C	108.3	C7—C8—H8A	119.7
N—C2—C3	123.8 (3)	C3—C8—H8A	119.7
N—C2—H2B	118.1	S—C9—H9A	109.5
C3—C2—H2B	118.1	S—C9—H9B	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)	H9A—C9—H9C	109.5
C5—C4—C3	121.2 (3)	H9B—C9—H9C	109.5
C2—N—C1—C1 ⁱ	110.1 (4)	O2—S—C6—C5	-26.6 (3)
C1—N—C2—C3	-178.8 (3)	C9—S—C6—C5	88.5 (3)
N—C2—C3—C8	0.9 (5)	O1—S—C6—C7	24.9 (3)
N—C2—C3—C4	-178.3 (3)	O2—S—C6—C7	154.4 (3)
C8—C3—C4—C5	-1.3 (5)	C9—S—C6—C7	-90.4 (3)
C2—C3—C4—C5	177.9 (3)	C5—C6—C7—C8	-1.2 (5)
C3—C4—C5—C6	0.4 (4)	S—C6—C7—C8	177.8 (3)

C4—C5—C6—C7	0.8 (5)	C6—C7—C8—C3	0.3 (5)
C4—C5—C6—S	-178.2 (2)	C4—C3—C8—C7	0.9 (5)
O1—S—C6—C5	-156.1 (3)	C2—C3—C8—C7	-178.2 (3)

Symmetry code: (i) $-x, -y, -z+2$.

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °)

<i>D—H...A</i>	<i>D—H</i>	<i>H...A</i>	<i>D...A</i>	<i>D—H...A</i>
C4—H4A...O1 ⁱⁱ	0.93	2.52	3.241 (4)	135

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