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N-(4-Methoxy-2-nitrophenyl)acetamide

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In the title compound, $C_9H_{10}N_2O_4$, the three substituents vary in the degree of lack of planarity with the central phenyl ring. The methoxy group is nearest to being coplanar, with a C-C-O-C torsion angle of 6.1 (5)°. The nitro group is less coplanar, with a 12.8 (5)° twist about the C-N bond and the acetamido group is considerably less coplanar with the central ring, having a 25.4 (5)° twist about the C-N bond to the ring. The NH group forms an intramolecular N-H···O hydrogen bond to a nitro-group O atom.



Structure description

The analgesic use of 4-alkoxyacetanilides, in particular 4-ethoxyacetanilide or 4-EA, predates the First World War. 4-Hydroxyacetanilide (popularly known as Tylenol or acetaminophen) and 4-EA were introduced into the markets at around the same time; however, 4-EA was withdrawn from sale some decades ago due to its carcinogenic and kidney-damaging properties (Dubach et al., 1983; Nakanishi et al., 1982). Although there has been extensive information on phase I and phase II biotransformation of 4-alkoxyacetanilides (Hinson, 1983; Kapetanović et al., 1979; Mulder et al., 1984; Veronese et al., 1985), little or no information is available on nitrated or other oxidation products that could be formed in reactions with cellular oxidants, such as hypochlorite (^{OCl})/hypochlorous acid (HOCl; $pK_a \simeq 7.53$) and peroxynitrite (ONOO⁻)/peroxynitrous acid (ONOOH; $pK_a \simeq 6.2$; ONOOH and ONOO⁻ are collectively referred to as peroxynitrite or PN). We have shown, for instance, that 4-hydroxyacetanilide forms nitrated and chlorinated products along with varying amounts of dimers when reacted with HOCI/OCI and PN/CO₂ under physiologically relevant conditions (Uppu & Martin, 2005; Deere et al., 2022). We suspect that similar products (or their positional isomers) may be formed in the reactions of 4-alkoxyacetanilides with the cellular oxidants refer-







The title molecule with 50% displacement ellipsoids with the intra-molecular $N{-}H{\cdots}O$ hydrogen bond shown as a blue dashed line.

enced above. Towards a better understanding of this and to shed light on molecular targets (Bertolini *et al.*, 2006), we have synthesized the title compound, $C_9H_{10}N_2O_4$: single crystals grown from aqueous solution were analyzed by X-ray diffraction.

The title compound is shown in Fig. 1. It is significantly nonplanar, and its deviation from planarity may be described by torsion angles about bonds from the central C1–C6 phenyl ring to the three substituents. The methoxy group is nearest to being coplanar, with a C9–O2–C4–C3 torsion angle of $6.1 (5)^{\circ}$. The nitro group deviates more from coplanarity with the central ring, with the O3–N2–C2–C1 torsion angle



Figure 2 The unit cell, viewed down the [010] direction, showing intramolecular hydrogen bonds.

Table	1			
Hydro	gen-bond	geometry	(Å,	°).

$D - H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D - H \cdots A$
N1−H1 <i>N</i> ···O3	0.87 (5)	1.92 (5)	2.632 (4)	137 (4)
$C5-H5\cdots O2^{i}$	0.95	2.48	3.418 (4)	171
$C6-H6\cdots O1$	0.95	2.30	2.864 (4)	117
$C8-H8B\cdots O3^{ii}$	0.98	2.64	3.578 (4)	160
$C8-H8C\cdots O4^{iii}$	0.98	2.63	3.546 (4)	156

Symmetry codes: (i) -x + 1, -y, -z + 1; (ii) $-x + \frac{1}{2}, y + \frac{1}{2}, -z + \frac{3}{2}$; (iii) $x + \frac{1}{2}, -y + \frac{5}{2}, z + \frac{1}{2}$.

being -12.8 (5)°. The acetamido group is considerably less coplanar with the central ring, with a C7-N1-C1-C6 torsion angle of 25.4 $(5)^{\circ}$. These deviations are similar to those seen in the analogous 4-ethoxy compound (Uppu et al., 2020), in which the corresponding torsion angles are 0.56 (12), -14.94(13) and $18.23(15)^{\circ}$, respectively. N-(4-Hydroxy-2nitrophenyl)acetamide (Hines et al., 2022) is considerably more planar, with torsion angles to the nitro group and to the acetamido group being -0.79 (19) and 3.1 (2)°, respectively, likely as a result of intermolecular hydrogen bonding by the OH group. The structure of N-(4-hydroxy-3-nitrophenyl)acetamide, in which the OH group likewise participates in intermolecular hydrogen bonding, has also been reported (Salahifar et al., 2015: Deere et al., 2019). It is also more planar than the title compound, with a torsion angle of -11.8 (2)° for the nitro group and 9.0 (2) $^{\circ}$ for the acetamido group. An intramolecular N1-H1N···O3 hydrogen bond (Table 1) is observed in the title compound.

The unit cell of the title compound is shown in Figs. 2 and 3. The closest intermolecular contact is $C5-H5\cdots O2$ (at 1-x, -y, 1-z), forming dimers about inversion centers with a $C\cdots O$ distance of 3.418 (4) Å and 171° angle about H. Molecules form a herringbone pattern in the [101] direction with alternate phenyl rings forming a dihedral angle of 65.7 (2)°.

Synthesis and crystallization

N-(4-Methoxy-2-nitrophenyl)acetamide was synthesized by acetylation of 4-methoxy-2-nitroaniline using acetic anhydride in acetic acid solvent: 3.36 g (20 mmol) of 4-methoxy-2nitroaniline in 30 ml of glacial acetic was allowed to react with 2.46 g (24 mmol) of acetic anhydride for 18 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred continuously during the reaction. In the end, the mixture was dried under



Figure 3 The unit cell, viewed down the [101] direction. H atoms are not shown.

Table 2Experimental details.

Crystal data	
Chemical formula	$C_9H_{10}N_2O_4$
$M_{ m r}$	210.19
Crystal system, space group	Monoclinic, $P2_1/n$
Temperature (K)	90
a, b, c (Å)	14.8713 (7), 3.9563 (2), 17.2057 (9)
β (°)	114.051 (3)
$V(Å^3)$	924.42 (8)
Z	4
Radiation type	Cu Kα
$\mu (\mathrm{mm}^{-1})$	1.03
Crystal size (mm)	$0.42 \times 0.06 \times 0.01$
Data collection	
Diffractometer	Bruker Kappa APEXII DUO CCD
Absorption correction	Multi-scan (SADABS; Krause et al., 2015)
T _{min} , T _{mm}	0.692, 0.990
No. of measured, independent and	11516, 1638, 1211
observed $[I > 2\sigma(I)]$ reflections	,,,
Rint	0.122
$(\sin \theta / \lambda)_{\text{max}} (\text{\AA}^{-1})$	0.595
Refinement	
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)], wR(F^2), S$	0.071, 0.203, 1.09
No. of reflections	1638
No. of parameters	141
H-atom treatment	H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement
$\Delta \rho_{\rm max}, \Delta \rho_{\rm min} \ ({\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3})$	0.24, -0.27

Computer programs: *APEX2* and *SAINT* (Bruker, 2016), *SHELXT2014/5* (Sheldrick, 2008), *SHELXL2017/1* (Sheldrick, 2015), *Mercury* (Macrae *et al.*, 2020), and *publCIF* (Westrip, 2010).

vacuum, and the *N*-(4-methoxy-2-nitrophenyl)acetamide in the residue was purified by recrystallization twice from aqueous solution. Single crystals in the form of yellow laths were grown in water by slow cooling of a hot and nearly saturated solution of the title compound.

Refinement

Crystal data, data collection and structure refinement details are summarized in Table 2.

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full crystallographic data

IUCrData (2022). 7, x220277 [https://doi.org/10.1107/S2414314622002772]

N-(4-Methoxy-2-nitrophenyl)acetamide

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F(000) = 440

 $\theta = 3.3-66.3^{\circ}$ $\mu = 1.03 \text{ mm}^{-1}$

Lath, yellow

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.122$

 $h = -17 \rightarrow 17$

 $k = -4 \longrightarrow 4$ $l = -20 \longrightarrow 20$

 $0.42 \times 0.06 \times 0.01 \text{ mm}$

 $\theta_{\rm max} = 66.7^{\circ}, \ \theta_{\rm min} = 3.3^{\circ}$

11516 measured reflections

1638 independent reflections

1211 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$

T = 90 K

 $D_{\rm x} = 1.510 {\rm Mg} {\rm m}^{-3}$

Cu *K* α radiation, $\lambda = 1.54184$ Å

Cell parameters from 2102 reflections

N-(4-Methoxy-2-nitrophenyl)acetamide

Crystal data

C₉H₁₀N₂O₄ $M_r = 210.19$ Monoclinic, $P2_1/n$ a = 14.8713 (7) Å b = 3.9563 (2) Å c = 17.2057 (9) Å $\beta = 114.051$ (3)° V = 924.42 (8) Å³ Z = 4

Data collection

Bruker Kappa APEXII DUO CCD diffractometer Radiation source: I μ S microfocus QUAZAR multilayer optics monochromator φ and ω scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Krause *et al.*, 2015) $T_{\min} = 0.692, T_{\max} = 0.990$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2	Hydrogen site location: mixed
Least-squares matrix: full	H atoms treated by a mixture of independent
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.071$	and constrained refinement
$wR(F^2) = 0.203$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + 0.298P]$
S = 1.09	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
1638 reflections	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001$
141 parameters	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.24 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$
0 restraints	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.27 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$

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. All H atoms were located in difference maps and those on C were thereafter treated as riding in geometrically idealized positions with C—H distances 0.95 Å for phenyl and 0.98 Å for methyl. Coordinates of the N—H hydrogen atom were refined. U_{iso} (H) values were assigned as $1.2U_{eq}$ for the attached atom (1.5 for methyl).

	x	У	Ζ	$U_{ m iso}$ */ $U_{ m eq}$	
01	0.58485 (18)	0.7604 (7)	0.81731 (16)	0.0512 (7)	
O2	0.36866 (18)	0.2368 (6)	0.43490 (15)	0.0455 (6)	
03	0.23210 (18)	0.9412 (7)	0.67288 (16)	0.0529 (7)	
04	0.16683 (18)	0.9595 (6)	0.53559 (16)	0.0480 (7)	
N1	0.4165 (2)	0.7462 (7)	0.75182 (18)	0.0447 (7)	
H1N	0.363 (4)	0.830 (11)	0.753 (3)	0.054*	
N2	0.2326 (2)	0.8718 (7)	0.60286 (18)	0.0416 (7)	
C1	0.4018 (3)	0.6185 (9)	0.6716 (2)	0.0428 (8)	
C2	0.3144 (2)	0.6751 (8)	0.5992 (2)	0.0420 (8)	
C3	0.3005 (2)	0.5555 (8)	0.5182 (2)	0.0415 (8)	
H3A	0.241073	0.602472	0.470197	0.050*	
C4	0.3736 (3)	0.3699 (8)	0.5092 (2)	0.0417 (8)	
C5	0.4605 (3)	0.3057 (8)	0.5806 (2)	0.0431 (8)	
H5	0.511084	0.176401	0.574482	0.052*	
C6	0.4740 (3)	0.4264 (9)	0.6593 (2)	0.0442 (8)	
H6	0.533915	0.378381	0.706654	0.053*	
C7	0.5054 (3)	0.8178 (8)	0.8187 (2)	0.0435 (8)	
C8	0.4928 (3)	0.9743 (9)	0.8926 (2)	0.0475 (8)	
H8A	0.473964	0.799894	0.923540	0.071*	
H8B	0.441299	1.147414	0.872021	0.071*	
H8C	0.554993	1.078496	0.930706	0.071*	
C9	0.2843 (3)	0.3245 (9)	0.3589 (2)	0.0488 (9)	
H9A	0.224837	0.228708	0.361637	0.073*	
H9B	0.292327	0.233462	0.309172	0.073*	
H9C	0.278101	0.571021	0.354165	0.073*	

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}
01	0.0331 (14)	0.0634 (15)	0.0497 (14)	0.0015 (10)	0.0093 (11)	-0.0066 (11)
02	0.0413 (14)	0.0494 (13)	0.0439 (13)	-0.0005 (10)	0.0154 (10)	-0.0013 (10)
O3	0.0419 (14)	0.0706 (16)	0.0434 (14)	0.0026 (12)	0.0145 (11)	-0.0053 (11)
O4	0.0361 (13)	0.0553 (14)	0.0444 (13)	0.0047 (10)	0.0079 (10)	0.0026 (10)
N1	0.0398 (17)	0.0513 (16)	0.0424 (15)	0.0000 (12)	0.0162 (13)	0.0006 (12)
N2	0.0308 (15)	0.0463 (15)	0.0425 (16)	-0.0030 (11)	0.0097 (13)	-0.0028 (12)
C1	0.0376 (18)	0.0453 (17)	0.0429 (18)	-0.0019 (13)	0.0140 (15)	0.0030 (13)
C2	0.0354 (18)	0.0430 (17)	0.0458 (19)	-0.0024 (13)	0.0148 (15)	0.0032 (13)
C3	0.0342 (17)	0.0411 (17)	0.0432 (17)	-0.0037 (13)	0.0095 (14)	0.0033 (13)
C4	0.0381 (18)	0.0425 (17)	0.0446 (18)	-0.0025 (13)	0.0170 (15)	-0.0011 (13)
C5	0.0331 (18)	0.0454 (17)	0.0469 (19)	-0.0008(13)	0.0125 (15)	-0.0009 (14)
C6	0.0366 (18)	0.0437 (17)	0.0495 (19)	0.0007 (13)	0.0146 (15)	0.0033 (14)
C7	0.0342 (19)	0.0449 (17)	0.0452 (18)	-0.0005 (13)	0.0099 (15)	0.0039 (13)
C8	0.0412 (19)	0.0501 (19)	0.0462 (18)	0.0005 (15)	0.0126 (15)	-0.0017 (15)
C9	0.045 (2)	0.0517 (19)	0.0416 (18)	0.0030 (15)	0.0089 (16)	-0.0008 (14)

Geometric parameters (Å, °)

01—C7	1.214 (4)	С3—НЗА	0.9500	
O2—C4	1.357 (4)	C4—C5	1.395 (5)	
02—C9	1.438 (4)	C5—C6	1.371 (5)	
O3—N2	1.239 (4)	С5—Н5	0.9500	
O4—N2	1.222 (4)	С6—Н6	0.9500	
N1—C7	1.383 (5)	С7—С8	1.492 (5)	
N1—C1	1.401 (5)	C8—H8A	0.9800	
N1—H1N	0.87 (5)	C8—H8B	0.9800	
N2—C2	1.467 (4)	C8—H8C	0.9800	
C1—C6	1.400 (5)	С9—Н9А	0.9800	
C1—C2	1.405 (5)	С9—Н9В	0.9800	
C2—C3	1.404 (5)	С9—Н9С	0.9800	
C3—C4	1.372 (5)			
C4—O2—C9	117.1 (3)	С6—С5—Н5	119.5	
C7—N1—C1	127.4 (3)	C4—C5—H5	119.5	
C7—N1—H1N	118 (3)	C5—C6—C1	121.7 (3)	
C1—N1—H1N	113 (3)	С5—С6—Н6	119.1	
04—N2—O3	122.6 (3)	C1—C6—H6	119.1	
O4—N2—C2	117.9 (3)	01—C7—N1	123.6 (3)	
O3-N2-C2	119.6 (3)	01	123.8 (3)	
C6-C1-N1	121.6 (3)	N1—C7—C8	112.7 (3)	
C6-C1-C2	116.2 (3)	С7—С8—Н8А	109.5	
N1—C1—C2	122.2 (3)	C7—C8—H8B	109.5	
C3—C2—C1	122.4 (3)	H8A—C8—H8B	109.5	
C3—C2—N2	115.6 (3)	C7—C8—H8C	109.5	
C1 - C2 - N2	122.0 (3)	H8A—C8—H8C	109.5	
C4-C3-C2	119.2 (3)	H8B—C8—H8C	109.5	
C4—C3—H3A	120.4	O2—C9—H9A	109.5	
C2—C3—H3A	120.4	O2—C9—H9B	109.5	
02-C4-C3	124.9 (3)	H9A—C9—H9B	109.5	
O2-C4-C5	115.7 (3)	O2—C9—H9C	109.5	
C3-C4-C5	119.4 (3)	H9A—C9—H9C	109.5	
C6-C5-C4	121.0 (3)	H9B—C9—H9C	109.5	
			10010	
C7—N1—C1—C6	25.4 (5)	C9—O2—C4—C3	6.1 (5)	
C7 - N1 - C1 - C2	-154.6(3)	C9 - C2 - C4 - C5	-174.3(3)	
C6-C1-C2-C3	-1.8(5)	$C^2 - C^3 - C^4 - O^2$	179 1 (3)	
N1 - C1 - C2 - C3	178.2(3)	$C_2 = C_3 = C_4 = C_5$	-0.4(5)	
C_{6} C_{1} C_{2} C_{3}	170.2(3) 180.0(3)	$0^{2}-0^{4}-0^{5}-0^{6}$	-1799(3)	
N1 - C1 - C2 - N2	-0.1(5)	C_{3} C_{4} C_{5} C_{6}	-0.3(5)	
$04 - N^2 - C^2 - C^3$	-109(4)	C4 - C5 - C6 - C1	-0.1(5)	
03 - N2 - C2 - C3	168 8 (3)	N1 - C1 - C6 - C5	-1789(3)	
$04 - N^2 - C^2 - C^1$	167 5 (3)	$C^2 - C^1 - C^6 - C^5$	11(5)	
03 - N2 - C2 - C1	-12.8(5)	C1 - N1 - C7 - O1	-39(6)	
$C_1 = C_2 = C_3 = C_4$	12.0(3)	C1 - N1 - C7 - C8	175 8 (3)	
$\sim \sim \sim \sim \sim \sim$	1.0 (0)		1,0,0 (0)	

N2—C2—C3—C4 179.9 (3)

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °)

D—H···A	<i>D</i> —Н	$H \cdots A$	$D \cdots A$	D—H···A
N1—H1 <i>N</i> ···O3	0.87 (5)	1.92 (5)	2.632 (4)	137 (4)
C5—H5····O2 ⁱ	0.95	2.48	3.418 (4)	171
С6—Н6…О1	0.95	2.30	2.864 (4)	117
C8—H8 <i>B</i> ···O3 ⁱⁱ	0.98	2.64	3.578 (4)	160
C8—H8C····O4 ⁱⁱⁱ	0.98	2.63	3.546 (4)	156

Symmetry codes: (i) -x+1, -y, -z+1; (ii) -x+1/2, y+1/2, -z+3/2; (iii) x+1/2, -y+5/2, z+1/2.