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2,2'-(2,2'-Biimidazole-1,1'-diyl)diethanoic acid

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Key indicators: single-crystal X-ray study; T = 295 K; mean σ (C–C) = 0.002 Å; R factor = 0.032; wR factor = 0.086; data-to-parameter ratio = 14.9.

In the title compound, $C_{10}H_{10}N_4O_4$, the two imidazole rings adopt a *trans* conformation and are inclined to one another at a dihedral angle of 55.64 (4)°. In the crystal structure, molecules are linked by intermolecular $O-H\cdots N$ hydrogen bonds into chains running parallel to [010] and layers are formed from these by intermolecular $C-H\cdots O$ hydrogen bonds. Additional $C-H\cdots O$ hydrogen bonds produce a three-dimensional network.

Related literature

For the use of 2,2'-biimidazole ligands in metal complex formation, see: Pereira *et al.* (2006); Ion *et al.* (2007). For related structures, see: Barnett *et al.* (1999, 2002); Zhang & Liang (2009). For preparation of the starting material, see: Barnett *et al.* (1996).



Experimental

Crystal data

 $\begin{array}{l} C_{10}H_{10}N_4O_4\\ M_r=250.22\\ \text{Orthorhombic, }Pbca\\ a=8.4327\ (17)\ \text{\AA}\\ b=15.116\ (3)\ \text{\AA}\\ c=16.702\ (3)\ \text{\AA} \end{array}$

 $V = 2129.0 (7) Å^{3}$ Z = 8Mo K\alpha radiation $\mu = 0.12 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ T = 295 K $0.51 \times 0.27 \times 0.2 \text{ mm}$

Data collection

Rigaku R-AXIS RAPID

diffractometer Absorption correction: multi-scan (*ABSCOR*; Higashi, 1995) $T_{min} = 0.961, T_{max} = 0.978$

Refinement

$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.032$	163 parameters
$wR(F^2) = 0.086$	H-atom parameters constrained
S = 1.05	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.33 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
2436 reflections	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.21 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$

18907 measured reflections

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.026$

2436 independent reflections

2159 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$

Table 1

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D - H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D-\mathrm{H}$	$H \cdots A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - \mathbf{H} \cdot \cdot \cdot A$
$O1-H1\cdots N2^{i}$	0.87	1.75	2.6137 (13)	176
O3−H10· · ·N4 ⁱⁱ	0.85	1.72	2.5666 (13)	176
$C4 - H2 \cdot \cdot \cdot N4$	0.97	2.54	3.2234 (17)	127
C4−H3···O2 ⁱⁱⁱ	0.97	2.24	3.0675 (16)	142
$C2-H5\cdots O4^{iv}$	0.93	2.48	3.2286 (16)	138
$C8 - H7 \cdot \cdot \cdot O1^{v}$	0.93	2.55	3.3610 (15)	146
C9−H8···N2	0.97	2.62	3.2611 (16)	124
$C9-H9\cdots O4^{vi}$	0.97	2.59	3.3391 (15)	135

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

Data collection: *RAPID-AUTO* (Rigaku, 1998); cell refinement: *RAPID-AUTO*; data reduction: *CrystalStructure* (Rigaku/MSC, 2004); 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: *SHELXL97*.

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Supplementary data and figures for this paper are available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: SJ2599).

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2,2'-(2,2'-Biimidazole-1,1'-diyl)diethanoic acid

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S1. Comment

2,2'-Biimidazole (H₂biim) derivatives as versatile ligands are widely used in the construction of metal complexes (Pereira *et al.*, 2006; Ion *et al.*, 2007). Here, we report the synthesis and crystal structure of the title compound. As shown in Fig.1, the two imidazole rings adopt a *trans* conformation and are inclined to one another at dihedral angle of 55.64 (4)°. while most unconjugated disubstituted biimidazole derivatives show an almost coplanar orientation of the two imidazole rings (Barnett, *et al.*, 1999, 2002). This is probably due to the presence of the strong intermolecular O–H…N hydrogen bonds as observed before (Zhang & Liang, 2009). The values of the C1–N1–C4–C5 and C6–N3–C9–C10 torsion angles are -119.21 (11)° and -111.87 (12)°, respectively.

In the crystal, molecules are linked by intermolecular O–H···N hydrogen bonds into chains running parallel to [010] (Table 1, Fig.2). The chains are linked by intermolecular C–H···O hydrogen bonds into layers. The layers are further held together *via* C–H···O hydrogen bonds into a three-dimensional network.

S2. Experimental

1,1'-Di(cyanomethyl)-2,2'-biimidazole (Barnett *et al.*, 1996) (0.5 g, 2.36 mmol) was dissolved in 1 *M* aqueous sulfuric acid (50 ml) and heated at 100°C for 6 h before cooling to room temperature. A white precipitate of the title compound was obtained by adjusting pH to 5, filtered, washed with water, and finally dried *in vacuo* (yield: 0.35 g, 59.4%). The solid was dissolved in hot *N*,*N*-dimethylformamide and cooled to room temperature slowly to afford colorless block-like crystals.

S3. Refinement

H atoms bonded to C atoms were placed in geometrically calculated positions and were refined using a riding model, with $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2 U_{eq}(C)$. H atoms attached to O atoms were found in a difference Fourier synthesis and were refined using a riding model, with the O—H distances fixed as initially found and with $U_{iso}(H)$ values set at 1.5 Ueq(O).



Figure 1

A view of (I), showing the labeling of the non-H atoms and 45% probability ellipsoids.



Figure 2

A perspective view of a one-dimensional chain running parallel to [010], showing the packing mode and the O–H…N. hydrogen bonds as dashed lines. All H atoms not involved in the hydrogen-bond motifs have been omitted for clarity.

2,2'-(2,2'-Biimidazole-1,1'-diyl)diethanoic acid

Crystal data

 $C_{10}H_{10}N_4O_4$ $M_r = 250.22$ Orthorhombic, *Pbca* Hall symbol: -P 2ac 2ab a = 8.4327 (17) Å b = 15.116 (3) Å c = 16.702 (3) Å V = 2129.0 (7) Å³ Z = 8

Data collection

Rigaku R-AXIS RAPID	18907 measured reflections
diffractometer	2436 independent reflections
Radiation source: fine-focus sealed tube	2159 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
Graphite monochromator	$R_{\rm int} = 0.026$
Detector resolution: 0 pixels mm ⁻¹	$\theta_{\rm max} = 27.5^{\circ}, \theta_{\rm min} = 3.0^{\circ}$
ω scans	$h = -10 \rightarrow 10$
Absorption correction: multi-scan	$k = -19 \rightarrow 19$
(ABSCOR; Higashi, 1995)	$l = -21 \rightarrow 21$
$T_{\min} = 0.961, \ T_{\max} = 0.978$	
Refinement	
_	

F(000) = 1040

 $\theta = 3.1 - 27.5^{\circ}$ $\mu = 0.12 \text{ mm}^{-1}$

Prism, colorless $0.51 \times 0.27 \times 0.2$ mm

T = 295 K

 $D_{\rm x} = 1.561 {\rm Mg} {\rm m}^{-3}$

Mo *K* α radiation, $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å

Cell parameters from 17425 reflections

Refinement on F^2	Secondary atom site location: difference Fourier
Least-squares matrix: full	map
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.032$	Hydrogen site location: inferred from
$wR(F^2) = 0.086$	neighbouring sites
S = 1.05	H-atom parameters constrained
2436 reflections	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0416P)^2 + 1.0303P]$
163 parameters	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
0 restraints	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{ m max} < 0.001$
Primary atom site location: structure-invariant	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.33 \ { m e} \ { m \AA}^{-3}$
direct methods	$\Delta ho_{\min} = -0.21 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$

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.

Fractional atomic coordinates and isotropic or equivalent isotropic displacement parameters $(Å^2)$

	x	У	Ζ	$U_{ m iso}$ */ $U_{ m eq}$	
01	0.09214 (10)	0.31447 (5)	0.31089 (5)	0.01700 (19)	
H1	0.1441	0.2674	0.2969	0.050*	
O2	0.21420 (10)	0.38341 (5)	0.20945 (5)	0.01586 (18)	
04	0.24120 (10)	0.83984 (6)	0.49664 (5)	0.01865 (19)	

N3	0.11682 (11)	0.68000 (6)	0.44503 (5)	0.0121 (2)
03	0.10682 (10)	0.91340 (5)	0.40169 (5)	0.01702 (19)
H10	0.1596	0.9575	0.4189	0.050*
C5	0.12876 (13)	0.38415 (7)	0.26763 (6)	0.0124 (2)
N1	0.11865 (11)	0.54801 (6)	0.26858 (5)	0.0123 (2)
N2	0.23979 (12)	0.67789 (6)	0.26608 (5)	0.0145 (2)
N4	0.23766 (12)	0.55062 (6)	0.44669 (6)	0.0148 (2)
C6	0.18459 (13)	0.61528 (7)	0.40021 (6)	0.0121 (2)
C8	0.12794 (14)	0.65457 (7)	0.52369 (6)	0.0147 (2)
H7	0.0916	0.6857	0.5681	0.018*
C10	0.14467 (13)	0.84266 (7)	0.44296 (6)	0.0127 (2)
C1	0.18552 (13)	0.61380 (7)	0.31285 (6)	0.0120 (2)
C4	0.04544 (14)	0.46687 (7)	0.29809 (7)	0.0146 (2)
H3	-0.0647	0.4654	0.2814	0.017*
H2	0.0477	0.4670	0.3562	0.017*
С9	0.04736 (13)	0.76275 (7)	0.41703 (7)	0.0137 (2)
H9	-0.0594	0.7682	0.4381	0.016*
H8	0.0405	0.7617	0.3591	0.016*
C3	0.13028 (14)	0.57281 (7)	0.18970 (6)	0.0148 (2)
H4	0.0941	0.5413	0.1455	0.018*
C7	0.20265 (14)	0.57488 (8)	0.52384 (7)	0.0159 (2)
H6	0.2264	0.5419	0.5693	0.019*
C2	0.20507 (14)	0.65256 (8)	0.18896 (7)	0.0154 (2)
H5	0.2291	0.6850	0.1432	0.019*

Atomic displacement parameters $(Å^2)$

	U^{11}	U^{22}	U^{33}	U^{12}	U^{13}	U^{23}
01	0.0212 (4)	0.0099 (4)	0.0199 (4)	0.0007 (3)	0.0056 (3)	0.0007 (3)
O2	0.0179 (4)	0.0146 (4)	0.0151 (4)	0.0005 (3)	0.0031 (3)	-0.0006 (3)
O4	0.0233 (4)	0.0155 (4)	0.0172 (4)	-0.0035 (3)	-0.0063 (3)	0.0016 (3)
N3	0.0147 (4)	0.0096 (4)	0.0120 (4)	0.0001 (4)	-0.0002 (3)	-0.0005 (3)
03	0.0196 (4)	0.0103 (4)	0.0212 (4)	-0.0015 (3)	-0.0053 (3)	0.0019 (3)
C5	0.0118 (5)	0.0114 (5)	0.0140 (5)	-0.0021 (4)	-0.0025 (4)	-0.0014 (4)
N1	0.0143 (4)	0.0092 (4)	0.0134 (4)	-0.0002 (4)	0.0011 (3)	-0.0010 (3)
N2	0.0187 (5)	0.0116 (4)	0.0131 (5)	-0.0011 (4)	0.0000 (4)	0.0015 (3)
N4	0.0184 (5)	0.0121 (4)	0.0138 (4)	0.0022 (4)	0.0008 (4)	0.0017 (3)
C6	0.0141 (5)	0.0092 (5)	0.0132 (5)	-0.0008 (4)	0.0002 (4)	0.0000 (4)
C8	0.0178 (5)	0.0154 (5)	0.0108 (5)	-0.0012 (4)	0.0012 (4)	0.0001 (4)
C10	0.0140 (5)	0.0118 (5)	0.0124 (5)	0.0008 (4)	0.0023 (4)	-0.0009 (4)
C1	0.0137 (5)	0.0087 (5)	0.0135 (5)	0.0009 (4)	0.0001 (4)	-0.0004 (4)
C4	0.0151 (5)	0.0102 (5)	0.0184 (5)	-0.0023 (4)	0.0034 (4)	-0.0010 (4)
C9	0.0152 (5)	0.0098 (5)	0.0160 (5)	0.0017 (4)	-0.0016 (4)	0.0000 (4)
C3	0.0168 (5)	0.0154 (5)	0.0122 (5)	0.0020 (4)	-0.0005 (4)	-0.0020 (4)
C7	0.0198 (5)	0.0162 (5)	0.0118 (5)	-0.0003 (4)	0.0007 (4)	0.0024 (4)
C2	0.0191 (5)	0.0153 (5)	0.0119 (5)	0.0007 (4)	0.0002 (4)	0.0012 (4)

Geometric parameters (Å, °)

01—C5	1.3140 (13)	N4—C6	1.3260 (14)
01—H1	0.8677	N4—C7	1.3718 (14)
O2—C5	1.2098 (14)	C6—C1	1.4592 (15)
O4—C10	1.2117 (14)	C8—C7	1.3594 (17)
N3—C6	1.3579 (14)	C8—H7	0.9300
N3—C8	1.3720 (14)	C10—C9	1.5230 (15)
N3—C9	1.4583 (13)	C4—H3	0.9700
O3—C10	1.3116 (13)	C4—H2	0.9700
O3—H10	0.8513	С9—Н9	0.9700
C5—C4	1.5217 (15)	С9—Н8	0.9700
N1C1	1.3614 (14)	C3—C2	1.3605 (17)
N1—C3	1.3733 (14)	С3—Н4	0.9300
N1C4	1.4589 (14)	С7—Н6	0.9300
N2—C1	1.3259 (14)	С2—Н5	0.9300
N2—C2	1.3752 (14)		
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C5—O1—H1	113.0	N2—C1—C6	125.43 (10)
C6—N3—C8	107.30 (9)	N1—C1—C6	123.50 (10)
C6—N3—C9	127.61 (9)	N1—C4—C5	112.49 (9)
C8—N3—C9	125.08 (9)	N1—C4—H3	109.1
C10—O3—H10	109.5	С5—С4—Н3	109.1
02—C5—O1	125.04 (10)	N1—C4—H2	109.1
O2—C5—C4	123.44 (10)	C5—C4—H2	109.1
01—C5—C4	111.49 (9)	H3—C4—H2	107.8
C1—N1—C3	106.98 (9)	N3—C9—C10	111.88 (9)
C1—N1—C4	127.30 (9)	N3—C9—H9	109.2
C3—N1—C4	125.72 (9)	С10—С9—Н9	109.2
C1—N2—C2	105.96 (9)	N3—C9—H8	109.2
C6—N4—C7	106.27 (9)	С10—С9—Н8	109.2
N4-C6-N3	110.50 (10)	Н9—С9—Н8	107.9
N4-C6-C1	124.91 (10)	C2—C3—N1	106.48 (9)
N3—C6—C1	124.37 (10)	C2—C3—H4	126.8
C7—C8—N3	106.36 (9)	N1—C3—H4	126.8
С7—С8—Н7	126.8	C8—C7—N4	109.57 (10)
N3—C8—H7	126.8	С8—С7—Н6	125.2
O4—C10—O3	125.52 (10)	N4—C7—H6	125.2
O4—C10—C9	122.99 (10)	C3—C2—N2	109.69 (10)
O3—C10—C9	111.47 (9)	С3—С2—Н5	125.2
N2—C1—N1	110.89 (9)	N2—C2—H5	125.2

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °)

D—H···A	D—H	H···A	D····A	<i>D</i> —H··· <i>A</i>
O1—H1···N2 ⁱ	0.87	1.75	2.6137 (13)	176
O3—H10…N4 ⁱⁱ	0.85	1.72	2.5666 (13)	176
C4—H2…N4	0.97	2.54	3.2234 (17)	127

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C4—H3···O2 ⁱⁱⁱ	0.97	2.24	3.0675 (16)	142
C2—H5····O4 ^{iv}	0.93	2.48	3.2286 (16)	138
C8—H7···O1 ^v	0.93	2.55	3.3610 (15)	146
С9—Н8…N2	0.97	2.62	3.2611 (16)	124
С9—Н9…О4 ^{vi}	0.97	2.59	3.3391 (15)	135

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