# organic compounds

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## 1,3-Dihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)propan-2-aminium formate

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Key indicators: single-crystal X-ray study; T = 296 K; mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.002 Å; *R* factor = 0.034; *wR* factor = 0.095; data-to-parameter ratio = 11.7.

The title compound,  $C_4H_{12}NO_3^+$ ·CHO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>, was obtained from 1,3-dihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)propan-2-aminium acetate and ethyl formate. In the crystal, the cations and anions are held together by intermolecular N-H···O and O-H···O hydrogen bonds.

#### **Related literature**

For background to the use of tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane in biochemistry and molecular biology, see: Gomori (1955). For related structrues, see: Stepniak *et al.* (2003); Yu & Qian (2009).



#### **Experimental**

*Crystal data* C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>12</sub>NO<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>·CHO

$C_4H_{12}NO_3^+ \cdot CHO_2^-$	b = 11.8740(1) Å
$M_r = 167.16$	c = 20.5897 (2)  Å
Orthorhombic, Pbca	V = 1588.64 (3) Å <sup>3</sup>
a = 6.4980 (1)  Å	Z = 8

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Cu K\alpha radiation
\mu = 1.08 \text{ mm}^{-1}
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#### Data collection

Bruker APEXII diffractometer Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 2005) T<sub>min</sub> = 0.789, T<sub>max</sub> = 0.899

#### Refinement

$$\begin{split} R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] &= 0.034 & \text{H atoms treated by a mixture of} \\ wR(F^2) &= 0.095 & \text{independent and constrained} \\ S &= 1.09 & \text{refinement} \\ 1368 \text{ reflections} & \Delta\rho_{\text{max}} &= 0.28 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3} \\ 117 \text{ parameters} & \Delta\rho_{\text{min}} &= -0.20 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3} \end{split}$$

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

 $D - H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$  $D - H \cdots A$ D - H $H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$  $D \cdot \cdot \cdot A$  $O1 - H1A \cdots O4$ 0.82 1.92 2.7378 (14) 175  $O2-H2A\cdots O3^{i}$ 0.82 1.87 2.6845 (12) 173 O3−H3A···O5<sup>ii</sup> 0.82 1.85 2.6659 (14) 180  $N1 - H1B \cdot \cdot \cdot O2^{iii}$ 0.918 (18) 1 933 (19) 2.8233 (14) 163.0(15) $N1 - H1C \cdot \cdot \cdot O4^{ii}$ 0.960 (18) 1.861 (18) 2.8171 (15) 173.4 (15)  $N1 - H1D \cdots O5^{iv}$ 0.946 (18) 1.857 (19) 2.7876 (14) 167.2 (15)

T = 296 K

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.016$ 

 $0.23 \times 0.18 \times 0.10 \text{ mm}$ 

4402 measured reflections

1368 independent reflections

1304 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ 

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

Data collection: *APEX2* (Bruker, 2005); cell refinement: *SAINT* (Bruker, 2005); data reduction: *SAINT*; 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: CV5073).

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# supporting information

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# 1,3-Dihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)propan-2-aminium formate

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## S1. Comment

Tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane (*Tris*) is extensively used in biochemistry and molecular biology (Gomori, 1955). In biochemistry, *Tris* is widely used as a component of buffer solutions. In this paper, we report the crystal structure of its formate salt - the title compound (I).

The structure of (I) is built up from cations and anions (Fig. 1) connected through strong intermolecular hydrogen bonds (Table 1, Fig. 2). The bond lengths and angles in the molecule are normal and comparable with those observed in the related compounds (Stepniak *et al.*, 2003; Yu *et al.*, 2009).

## S2. Experimental

Suitable X-ray crystals of the title compound was obtained by dissolving 1,3-dihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)propan-2aminium asiatate in ethyl formate, and standing overnight at room temperature.

## S3. Refinement

The formic acid and N-bound H atoms located in a difference Fourier map and isotropically refined. All others H atoms were geometrically positioned [C—H 0.97 Å; O—H 0.82 Å] and refined as riding with  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2-1.5 U_{eq}$  of the parent atom.



## Figure 1

The content of asymmetric unit of (I) showing the atom-labelling scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level.



## Figure 2

The packing of the title compound, viewed down the *a* axis. The dashed lines indicate the hydrogen bonds.

## 1,3-Dihydroxy-2-(hydroxymethyl)propan-2-aminium formate

Crystal data

 $C_4H_{12}NO_3^+ CHO_2^ M_r = 167.16$ Orthorhombic, *Pbca* Hall symbol: -P 2ac 2ab a = 6.4980 (1) Å b = 11.8740 (1) Å c = 20.5897 (2) Å V = 1588.64 (3) Å<sup>3</sup> Z = 8

#### Data collection

Bruker APEXII diffractometer Radiation source: fine-focus sealed tube Graphite monochromator Detector resolution: 0 pixels mm<sup>-1</sup>  $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (*SADABS*; Bruker, 2005)  $T_{\min} = 0.789, T_{\max} = 0.899$ 

### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$ Least-squares matrix: full  $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.034$  $wR(F^2) = 0.095$ S = 1.091368 reflections 117 parameters 0 restraints Primary atom site location: structure-invariant direct methods Secondary atom site location: difference Fourier map F(000) = 720  $D_x = 1.398 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ Cu K\alpha radiation,  $\lambda = 1.54178 \text{ Å}$ Cell parameters from 3109 reflections  $\theta = 7.5-66.8^{\circ}$   $\mu = 1.08 \text{ mm}^{-1}$  T = 296 KBlock, colourless  $0.23 \times 0.18 \times 0.10 \text{ mm}$ 

4402 measured reflections 1368 independent reflections 1304 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$  $R_{int} = 0.016$  $\theta_{max} = 67.3^{\circ}, \ \theta_{min} = 7.5^{\circ}$  $h = -7 \rightarrow 7$  $k = -13 \rightarrow 13$  $l = -22 \rightarrow 24$ 

Hydrogen site location: inferred from neighbouring sites H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement  $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.055P)^2 + 0.4117P]$ where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$  $(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} < 0.001$  $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.28 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$  $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.20 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$ Extinction correction: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 2008), Fc\*=kFc[1+0.001xFc^2\lambda^3/sin(2\theta)]^{-1/4} Extinction coefficient: 0.0049 (6)

### 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	y	Ζ	$U_{ m iso}$ */ $U_{ m eq}$	
01	0.12876 (16)	0.52355 (9)	0.22191 (4)	0.0392 (3)	
H1A	0.1666	0.5765	0.2445	0.059*	
O2	0.20496 (15)	0.43932 (8)	0.02376 (4)	0.0340 (3)	
H2A	0.2808	0.3926	0.0407	0.051*	
O3	0.06605 (15)	0.77248 (7)	0.07395 (5)	0.0349 (3)	
H3A	-0.0395	0.7945	0.0917	0.052*	
N1	-0.06449 (16)	0.55746 (9)	0.10599 (5)	0.0254 (3)	
C1	0.16134 (18)	0.58258 (10)	0.10896 (6)	0.0251 (3)	
C2	0.2530 (2)	0.51726 (11)	0.16588 (6)	0.0322 (3)	
H2B	0.2694	0.4389	0.1535	0.039*	
H2C	0.3883	0.5472	0.1758	0.039*	
C3	0.2620 (2)	0.54863 (11)	0.04459 (6)	0.0308 (3)	
H3B	0.2234	0.6026	0.0114	0.037*	
H3C	0.4103	0.5516	0.0495	0.037*	
C4	0.1855 (2)	0.70956 (11)	0.11900 (7)	0.0318 (3)	
H4A	0.1435	0.7288	0.1628	0.038*	
H4B	0.3293	0.7298	0.1142	0.038*	
O4	0.23553 (18)	0.69672 (9)	0.30298 (5)	0.0481 (3)	
O5	0.22296 (18)	0.84393 (9)	0.36823 (5)	0.0454 (3)	
C5	0.1807 (2)	0.79327 (12)	0.31701 (7)	0.0360 (4)	
H5A	0.098 (3)	0.8304 (16)	0.2871 (8)	0.051 (5)*	
H1B	-0.120 (3)	0.5727 (13)	0.0659 (9)	0.040 (4)*	
H1C	-0.142 (2)	0.6018 (15)	0.1363 (8)	0.041 (4)*	
H1D	-0.098 (3)	0.4814 (16)	0.1148 (8)	0.044 (4)*	

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	0.0514 (6)	0.0413 (6)	0.0248 (5)	-0.0045 (5)	-0.0007 (4)	-0.0006 (4)
02	0.0468 (6)	0.0275 (5)	0.0277 (5)	0.0099 (4)	-0.0082 (4)	-0.0036 (3)
O3	0.0403 (6)	0.0239 (5)	0.0406 (6)	0.0002 (4)	0.0064 (4)	0.0060 (4)
N1	0.0302 (6)	0.0215 (5)	0.0244 (6)	-0.0025 (4)	-0.0019 (4)	0.0015 (4)
C1	0.0274 (6)	0.0227 (6)	0.0253 (6)	-0.0020 (5)	-0.0008 (5)	-0.0011 (5)
C2	0.0378 (7)	0.0317 (7)	0.0272 (7)	0.0042 (5)	-0.0046 (5)	-0.0019 (5)
C3	0.0352 (7)	0.0297 (7)	0.0276 (7)	0.0003 (5)	0.0027 (5)	-0.0001 (5)
C4	0.0354 (7)	0.0239 (7)	0.0360 (7)	-0.0044 (5)	-0.0009(5)	-0.0019 (5)
04	0.0633 (7)	0.0367 (6)	0.0444 (6)	0.0148 (5)	-0.0142 (5)	-0.0112 (4)
05	0.0551 (7)	0.0359 (6)	0.0451 (6)	0.0153 (5)	-0.0088 (5)	-0.0116 (4)
C5	0.0388 (8)	0.0327 (7)	0.0366 (8)	0.0069 (6)	-0.0024 (6)	-0.0001 (6)

Geometric parameters (Å, °)

O1—C2	1.4100 (16)	C1—C4	1.5299 (16)
O1—H1A	0.8200	C1—C3	1.5317 (17)
O2—C3	1.4163 (16)	C2—H2B	0.9700

# supporting information

O2—H2A	0.8200	C2—H2C	0.9700
O3—C4	1.4217 (16)	C3—H3B	0.9700
O3—H3A	0.8200	С3—НЗС	0.9700
N1—C1	1.4987 (15)	C4—H4A	0.9700
N1—H1B	0.918 (18)	C4—H4B	0.9700
N1—H1C	0.960 (18)	O4—C5	1.2348 (18)
N1—H1D	0.946 (18)	O5—C5	1.2449 (18)
C1—C2	1.5265 (17)	C5—H5A	0.928 (19)
C2—O1—H1A	109.5	01—C2—H2C	109.2
$C_3 = O_2 = H_2 A$	109.5	C1 - C2 - H2C	109.2
C4—O3—H3A	109.5	$H_2B$ $C_2$ $H_2C$	107.9
C1—N1—H1B	112.4 (11)	02—C3—C1	113.05 (10)
C1—N1—H1C	112.2 (10)	O2—C3—H3B	109.0
H1B—N1—H1C	105.7 (14)	C1—C3—H3B	109.0
C1—N1—H1D	113.9 (10)	O2—C3—H3C	109.0
H1B—N1—H1D	105.7 (14)	C1—C3—H3C	109.0
H1C—N1—H1D	106.2 (14)	H3B—C3—H3C	107.8
N1—C1—C2	108.19 (10)	O3—C4—C1	111.94 (10)
N1—C1—C4	107.59 (10)	O3—C4—H4A	109.2
C2—C1—C4	110.91 (10)	C1—C4—H4A	109.2
N1—C1—C3	109.28 (10)	O3—C4—H4B	109.2
C2—C1—C3	111.35 (10)	C1—C4—H4B	109.2
C4—C1—C3	109.43 (10)	H4A—C4—H4B	107.9
O1—C2—C1	112.20 (10)	O4—C5—O5	125.67 (14)
O1—C2—H2B	109.2	O4—C5—H5A	116.9 (12)
C1—C2—H2B	109.2	O5—C5—H5A	117.4 (11)
N1—C1—C2—O1	-43.81 (13)	C4—C1—C3—O2	-165.66 (10)
C4—C1—C2—O1	73.96 (13)	N1—C1—C4—O3	-49.91 (13)
C3—C1—C2—O1	-163.92 (11)	C2—C1—C4—O3	-168.05 (10)
N1-C1-C3-O2	-48.09 (14)	C3—C1—C4—O3	68.72 (13)
C2-C1-C3-02	71.38 (14)		

## Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °)

D—H···A	D—H	Н…А	D····A	<i>D</i> —H··· <i>A</i>
01—H1A…04	0.82	1.92	2.7378 (14)	175
O2—H2A···O3 <sup>i</sup>	0.82	1.87	2.6845 (12)	173
O3—H3 <i>A</i> ···O5 <sup>ii</sup>	0.82	1.85	2.6659 (14)	180
N1—H1 <i>B</i> ···O2 <sup>iii</sup>	0.918 (18)	1.933 (19)	2.8233 (14)	163.0 (15)
N1—H1C····O4 <sup>ii</sup>	0.960 (18)	1.861 (18)	2.8171 (15)	173.4 (15)
N1—H1 $D$ ····O5 <sup>iv</sup>	0.946 (18)	1.857 (19)	2.7876 (14)	167.2 (15)

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