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Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study
T = 293 K
Mean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.003 \text{ \AA}$
R factor = 0.033
wR factor = 0.103
Data-to-parameter ratio = 9.8

For details of how these key indicators were
automatically derived from the article, see
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

**Possible strong symmetric hydrogen bonding in
disodium trihydrogen bis(2,2'-oxydiacetate) nitrate**

In the title compound, $2\text{Na}^+ \cdot \text{C}_8\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_{10}^- \cdot \text{NO}_3^-$, the Na^{I} atom is heptacoordinate with an approximately pentagonal–bipyramidal geometry. A possible strong symmetric hydrogen bond, with the H atom located at an inversion centre and an $\text{O} \cdots \text{O}$ distance of $2.450(2) \text{ \AA}$, is observed in the crystal structure.

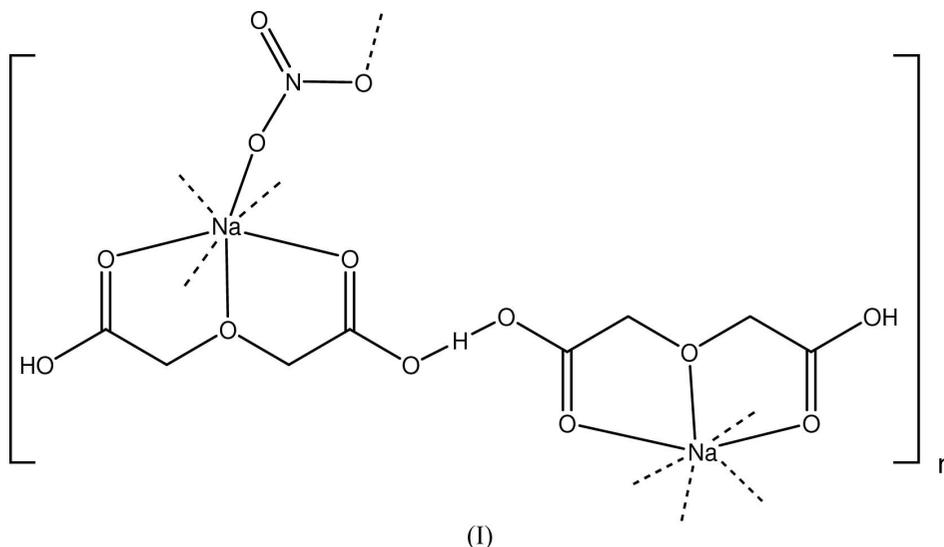
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Comment

The nature of short hydrogen-bonding interactions is still a subject of much interest and debate (Meot-Ner, 2005). It appears that, for $\text{O}-\text{H}-\text{O}$ interactions where $\text{O} \cdots \text{O}$ is less than about 2.50 \AA , examples can be found of truly symmetric hydrogen bonds (Catti & Ferraris, 1976), most of which have crystallographic equivalence between donor–acceptor atoms. The title sodium compound, (I), displays just such a short and possibly symmetric hydrogen-bonding interaction.



The compound can be viewed as a mixed sodium salt containing two monoanionic components, *viz.* nitrate and trihydrogen bis(2,2'-oxydiacetate) (a hydrogen-bonded adduct formed by the loss of a single H atom from two of the dicarboxylic acid molecules). These 2,2'-oxydiacetate molecules adopt the fairly common planar all-*trans* configuration (Albertsson & Grenthe, 1973; Albertsson *et al.*, 1973*a,b*; Hatfield *et al.*, 1987). The Na^{I} cation in (I) is heptacoordinate with an approximately pentagonal–bipyramidal geometry (Fig. 1); $\text{Na}-\text{O}$ distances range from $2.4075(17)$ to $2.5861(18) \text{ \AA}$. A tridentate chelating 2,2'-oxydiacetate molecule occupies three of the equatorial sites bonding through the two carboxyl and one ether O atoms. Symmetry-equivalent carboxyl atoms $\text{O}2^{\text{iii}}$, $\text{O}5^{\text{iv}}$ and $\text{O}1^{\text{v}}$ [symmetry codes: (iii)

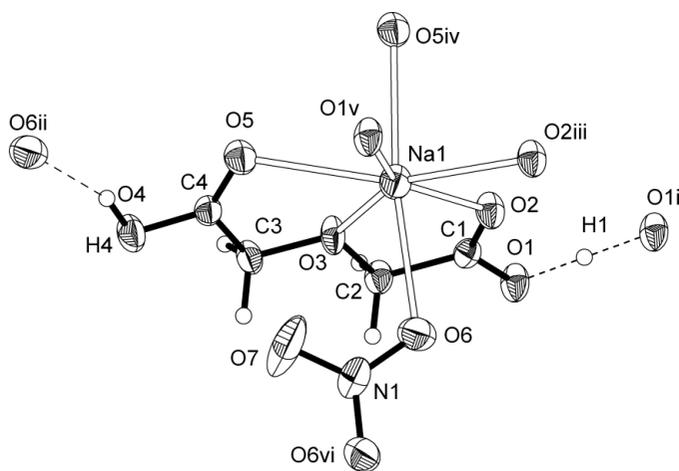


Figure 1

The molecular structure and sodium environment, with 50% probability displacement ellipsoids and the atom-labelling scheme. Dashed lines indicate hydrogen bonds. [Symmetry codes: (i) $\frac{3}{2} - x, \frac{3}{2} - y, 1 - z$; (ii) $x, y - 1, z$; (iii) $1 - x, 1 - y, 1 - z$; (iv) $1 - x, -y, 1 - z$; (v) $x - \frac{1}{2}, y - \frac{1}{2}, z$; (vi) $1 - x, y, \frac{3}{2} - z$].

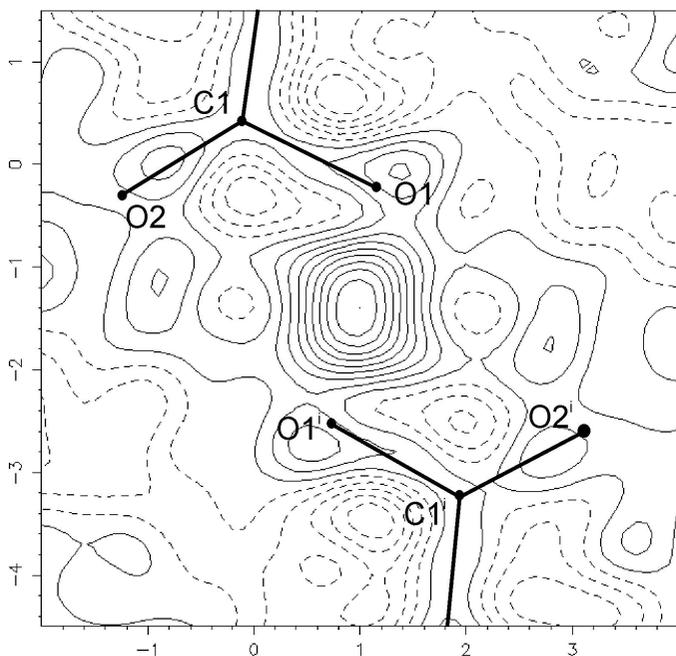


Figure 2

Difference Fourier map from a refined model where atom H1 is absent. The O1/C1/O2 plane is shown with the crystallographic inversion in the centre of the plot.

$1 - x, 1 - y, 1 - z$; (iv) $1 - x, -y, 1 - z$; (v) $x - \frac{1}{2}, y - \frac{1}{2}, z$] from neighbouring 2,2'-oxydiacetate molecules and atom O6 of a bridging nitrate make up the rest of the coordination sphere.

The nitrate anion lies on the crystallographic twofold axis and links pairs of Na¹ ions in an *anti-anti*-1,3-bridging coordination mode. The carboxyl O atoms act in a bis- μ -bridging capacity between Na¹ ions, forming the polymeric structure.

In addition to these ionic interactions, the crystal structure is also held together by a network of two types of hydrogen

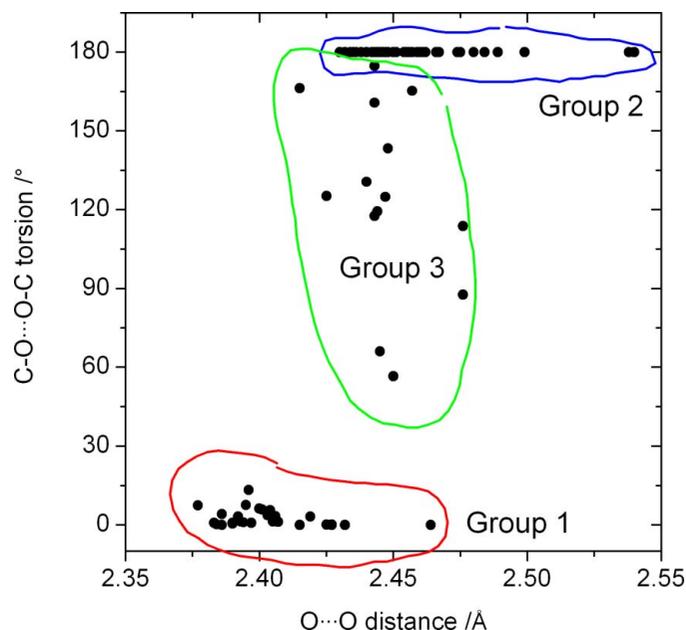


Figure 3

Graph showing the distribution of C—O...O—C torsion angles as a function of O...O interatomic separations for short hydrogen-bonded interactions between two carboxylic acid groups. Data taken from 78 structures in the CSD (Version 5.25; Allen, 2002).

bonds. The first is formed between the O4-carboxyl group and the nitrate anion (Table 1). This hydrogen bond is asymmetric and non-linear. The nature of the second type of hydrogen bond is ambiguous. Certainly there exists a short hydrogen-bond interaction between the O1-carboxyl group and its crystallographically equivalent group; the O1...O1ⁱ distance of 2.450 (2) Å [symmetry code:(i) $\frac{3}{2} - x, \frac{3}{2} - y, 1 - z$] falls within the normal range for symmetric hydrogen bonds (Catti & Ferraris, 1976). A Fourier map section in the O1/C1/O2 plane (MAPVIEW; Farrugia, 1999) clearly indicates a peak of electron density centred on the crystallographic inversion (Fig. 2). Two alternative structural models have been studied. Placing atom H1 on the inversion centre gives a symmetric structure. Full-matrix least-squares refinement converged to a stable solution which is reported here. The residual difference Fourier map has a largest peak and hole of 0.16 and $-0.23 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$, respectively. The crystallographic symmetry constrains the hydrogen-bond angle to 180° and the O1—H1 distance to 1.23 Å. A second structural model is one with the H1-atom site half occupied and displaced from the inversion centre towards O1. Free refinement of the x, y, z and U_{iso} parameters for the H1 atom (118 parameters in total) converged to give a sensible asymmetric hydrogen-bonding interaction; the crystallographic residuals are insignificantly different and the difference map shows essentially the same features. The limited data quality and resolution mean that we cannot unambiguously determine the nature of this hydrogen-bonding interaction. The compound clearly merits further study, if only to resolve this issue. Despite this uncertainty in the H-atom position, such a linear hydrogen-bonding interaction linking two 2,2'-oxydiacetate molecules in a *trans*

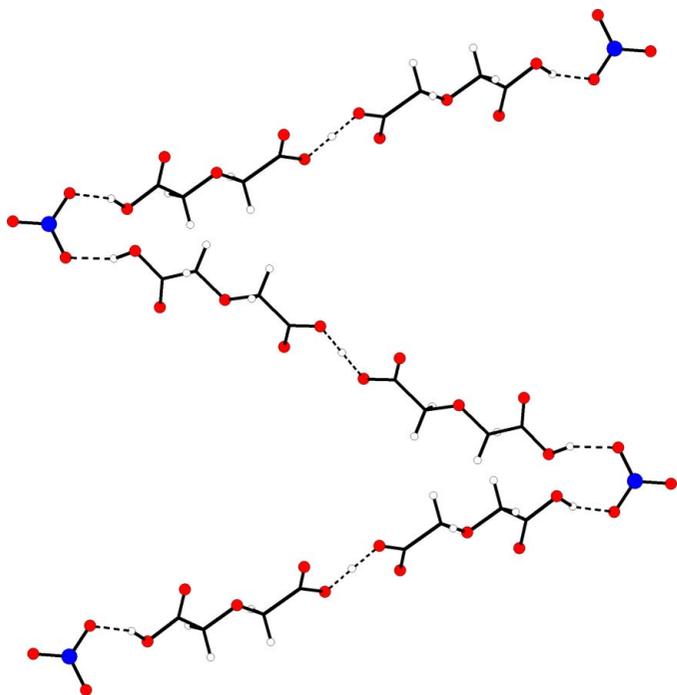


Figure 4
The hydrogen-bonded network formed by both types of hydrogen-bonding interaction (dashed lines).

fashion is not an unusual motif when an H atom is shared between two carboxylic acid groups (Nahringbauer, 1969; Longo & Richardson, 1982; Misaki *et al.*, 1989).

An examination of the Cambridge Structural Database (CSD; Version 5.25; Allen, 2002) for short hydrogen bonds between two carboxylate groups reveals three distinct conformational/geometric groups (Fig. 3). Group 1 have a C—O...O—C torsion angles of about 0° and have O...O separations mostly in the range 2.38–2.43 Å. Group 2 have C—O...O—C torsion angles of 180° (invariably fixed by crystallographic symmetry) and O...O separations in the range 2.43–2.53 Å. Group 3 have intermediate torsion angles (unrestricted by symmetry) and have O...O distances all within the range 2.42–2.47 Å. The possibly symmetric hydrogen bond observed in (I) falls well within the known range for group 2 conformations, and this geometry is seen for many other dicarboxylate compounds (see, for example, Kalsbeek & Larsen, 1991; Leban & Rupnik, 1992; Flensburg *et al.*, 1995) and also in other 2,2'-oxydiacetate salts (Albertsson & Grenthe, 1973; Albertsson *et al.*, 1973*a,b*; Herbertsson & Hedman, 1982; Urbańczyk-Lipkowska, 2000).

We also note that the first hydrogen-bonding pattern (between the carboxylic acid and the nitrate anion), although asymmetric, seems to be a strong and important structural motif. In nine out of 14 reported structures that contain both a carboxylic acid and a nitrate anion, the acid is hydrogen bonded to the nitrate, and none of the structures displays the common $R_2^2(8)$ dimeric carboxylic acid motif (see, for example, Sridhar *et al.*, 2002).

Together, these two hydrogen-bonded motifs form a network. Using the nomenclature for graph theoretical

analysis developed by Etter *et al.* (1990), we can describe this system as $N_1 = D_2^2(4)D$; $N_2 = C_3^3(20)$, where the second-order net consists of infinite chains that zigzag through the crystal structure (Fig. 4).

Experimental

Crystals of (I) were grown by slow evaporation from a methanolic solution which contained the bis(2,2'-oxydiacetic acid), sodium hydroxide and aluminium nitrate nonahydrate.

Crystal data

$2\text{Na}^+ \cdot \text{C}_8\text{H}_{11}\text{O}_{10}^- \cdot \text{NO}_3^-$	$D_x = 1.808 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
$M_r = 375.16$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
Monoclinic, $C2/c$	Cell parameters from 101 reflections
$a = 12.010 (2) \text{ \AA}$	$\theta = 3.2\text{--}24.8^\circ$
$b = 7.0290 (14) \text{ \AA}$	$\mu = 0.22 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$c = 16.382 (3) \text{ \AA}$	$T = 293 (2) \text{ K}$
$\beta = 94.84 (3)^\circ$	Block, colourless
$V = 1378.0 (4) \text{ \AA}^3$	$0.16 \times 0.16 \times 0.06 \text{ mm}$
$Z = 4$	

Data collection

Rigaku R-Axis-IIc diffractometer	$R_{\text{int}} = 0.016$
φ scans	$\theta_{\text{max}} = 24.8^\circ$
Absorption correction: none	$h = 0 \rightarrow 14$
1999 measured reflections	$k = -8 \rightarrow 8$
1124 independent reflections	$l = -19 \rightarrow 19$
996 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$	

Refinement

Refinement on F^2	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0446P)^2 + 1.8079P]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.033$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$wR(F^2) = 0.103$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$
$S = 1.17$	$\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.16 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
1124 reflections	$\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.23 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
115 parameters	
H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement	

Table 1

Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °).

$D\text{—}H\cdots A$	$D\text{—}H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D\text{—}H\cdots A$
$\text{O1—H1}\cdots\text{O1}^i$	1.225	1.225	2.450 (2)	180
$\text{O4—H4}\cdots\text{O6}^i$	0.92 (4)	1.82 (4)	2.703 (3)	160 (3)

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

All methylene H atoms were located in idealized positions and refined in riding mode. C—H distances were set at 0.97 Å and $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H})$ values were constrained to be $1.5U_{\text{eq}}$ of the parent C atom. Both H atoms involved in hydrogen bonding were found in a Fourier difference map and were refined, subject only to the inversion centre constraint.

Data collection: *MSC R-Axis-II Control Software*; cell refinement: *DENZO* (Otwinowski & Minor, 1997); data reduction: *SCALEPACK* (Otwinowski & Minor, 1997); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS86* (Robinson & Sheldrick, 1988); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997) in *WinGX* (Farrugia, 1999); molecular graphics: *DIAMOND* (Brandenburg, 1999).

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