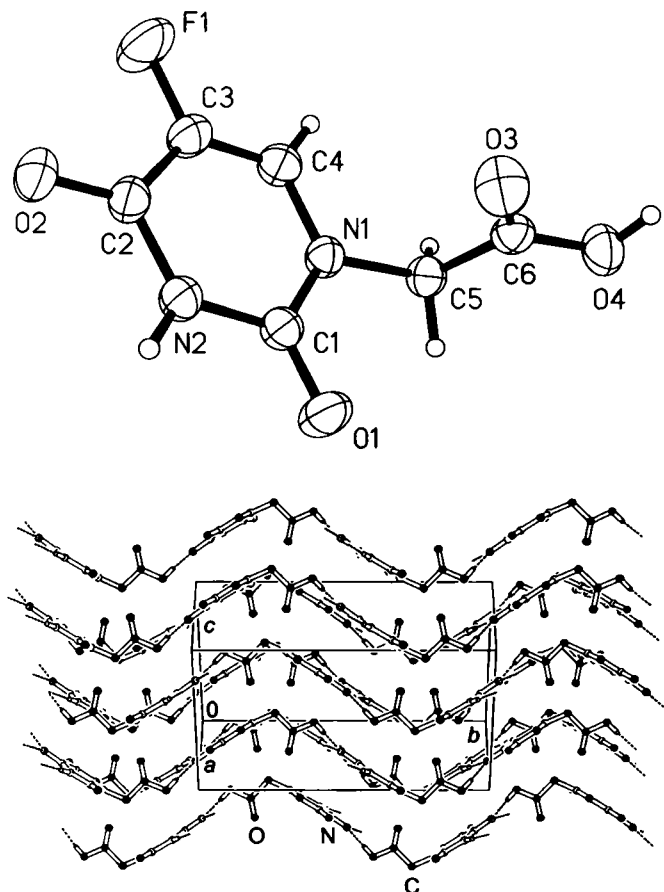


Crystal structure of 5-fluoro-1-(carboxymethyl)uracil, $C_6H_5FN_2O_4$

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Received January 3, 2006, accepted and available on-line February 27, 2006; CCDC no. 1267/1711



Discussion

A great deal of attention has been devoted to the role of nucleobases, since they are responsible for a wide range of biochemical processes, such as complementary base pairings in genetic information storage, transfer and some enzymatic reactions [1]. Consequently, much interest has been focused on nucleobases and their derivatives. 5-Fluorouracil (5FU) is one of the antitumor agents most frequently used for treating solid tumors, such as breast, colorectal, and gastric cancers, in either monotherapy or combination therapy with various cytotoxic drugs [2–3]. Because of its poorly tumor selective and high incidences of toxicity in the bone marrow, gastrointestinal tract, central nervous system and skin, many derivatives of 5FU have been developed to improve its topical delivery and reduce the side effects [4–6]. To our knowledge, the crystal structure of 5-fluoro-1-(carboxymethyl)uracil has never been reported so far.

In the title structure, the carboxyl group (C6/O3/O4/H4) and uracil ring (C1–C4/N1/N2) are each almost planar (figure, top). The dihedral angle between the above planes is $82.1(8)^\circ$. Moreover, the C–N bond lengths in the uracil ring range from 1.374(2) to 1.380(2) Å, which are shorter than a C–N single bond length of ca 1.443 Å [7], but longer than a typical C=N bond length of ca 1.269 Å, indicating the electron delocalization. Two distinct hydrogen bonds occur in the crystal structure: each pair molecules of the title structure are linked by intermolecular N2–H2...O2ⁱ (i: $-x+1, -y+1, -z+1$) hydrogen bond to form a dimer structure, and adjacent dimers are linked by intermolecular O4–H4...O2ⁱⁱ (ii: $-x, y+1/2, -z+1/2$) hydrogen bonds, leading to a hydrogen-bonded corrugated layers parallel to the (102) plane (figure, bottom).

Abstract

$C_6H_5FN_2O_4$, monoclinic, $P12_1/c1$ (no. 14), $a = 4.9363(5)$ Å, $b = 17.056(2)$ Å, $c = 9.4940(8)$ Å, $\beta = 114.466(4)^\circ$, $V = 727.6$ Å³, $Z = 4$, $R_{\text{gt}}(F) = 0.044$, $wR_{\text{ref}}(F^2) = 0.109$, $T = 298$ K.

Source of material

Bromoacetic acid (45 mmol, 6.25 g) in water (10 ml) was added to a solution of 5-fluoro-uracil (30 mmol, 3.89 g), potassium hydroxide (11.5 mmol, 6.41 g) and water (20 ml) at 313 K. The mixture was cooled after 2 h reaction and the pH value was adjusted to 5.5 using hydrochloric acid. The precipitate was filtered off and the pH of the filtrate was adjusted to 1, again using hydrochloric acid, and the solution was cooled for 6 h in a refrigerator and then filtered. The precipitate was washed with water and dried. Single crystals were obtained by recrystallization from anhydrous ethanol.

Table 1. Data collection and handling.

Crystal:	colorless block, size $0.15 \times 0.19 \times 0.23$ mm
Wavelength:	Mo K_α radiation (0.71073 Å)
μ :	1.61 cm^{-1}
Diffractionmeter, scan mode:	Bruker APEX SMART CCD, φ/ω
$2\theta_{\text{max}}$:	50.38°
$N(hkl)_{\text{measured}}$, $N(hkl)_{\text{unique}}$:	3810, 1305
Criterion for I_{obs} , $N(hkl)_{\text{gt}}$:	$I_{\text{obs}} > 2 \sigma(I_{\text{obs}})$, 1190
$N(\text{param})_{\text{refined}}$:	119
Programs:	SHELXS-97 [8], SHELXL-97 [9]

Table 2. Atomic coordinates and displacement parameters (in Å²).

Atom	Site	x	y	z	U_{iso}
H(4)	4e	0.2298	0.9294	0.1936	0.066
H(2)	4e	0.5836	0.5645	0.4519	0.040
H(4A)	4e	−0.0475	0.6739	0.0106	0.042
H(5A)	4e	0.3255	0.7693	0.0338	0.036
H(5B)	4e	0.6254	0.7719	0.1832	0.036

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Table 3. Atomic coordinates and displacement parameters (in Å²).

Atom	Site	x	y	z	U ₁₁	U ₂₂	U ₃₃	U ₁₂	U ₁₃	U ₂₃
F(1)	4e	−0.2607(3)	0.55144(9)	0.0707(2)	0.0445(8)	0.062(1)	0.0634(9)	−0.0253(7)	−0.0051(7)	0.0092(7)
O(1)	4e	0.7772(3)	0.68825(9)	0.4096(2)	0.0366(9)	0.0455(9)	0.0389(9)	−0.0128(7)	0.0020(7)	0.0079(7)
O(2)	4e	0.1259(3)	0.49076(9)	0.3512(2)	0.0428(9)	0.0326(8)	0.0507(9)	−0.0073(6)	0.0151(7)	0.0092(7)
O(3)	4e	0.1535(4)	0.81286(9)	0.2924(2)	0.060(1)	0.0445(9)	0.049(1)	0.0010(7)	0.0359(9)	0.0042(7)
O(4)	4e	0.3316(3)	0.89748(8)	0.1724(2)	0.0482(9)	0.0293(8)	0.062(1)	0.0011(7)	0.0313(8)	0.0045(7)
N(1)	4e	0.3514(4)	0.68637(9)	0.1883(2)	0.0318(9)	0.0263(8)	0.0297(9)	−0.0014(7)	0.0115(7)	0.0022(7)
N(2)	4e	0.4569(4)	0.58688(9)	0.3699(2)	0.0325(9)	0.0298(9)	0.0314(9)	−0.0015(7)	0.0070(7)	0.0067(7)
C(1)	4e	0.5460(4)	0.6565(1)	0.3280(2)	0.030(1)	0.030(1)	0.028(1)	−0.0003(8)	0.0111(8)	0.0017(8)
C(2)	4e	0.1895(4)	0.5494(1)	0.2957(2)	0.034(1)	0.026(1)	0.039(1)	−0.0021(8)	0.0174(9)	−0.0013(9)
C(3)	4e	0.0040(5)	0.5860(1)	0.1522(3)	0.032(1)	0.036(1)	0.038(1)	−0.0065(8)	0.0068(9)	−0.0011(9)
C(4)	4e	0.0818(4)	0.6514(1)	0.1033(2)	0.032(1)	0.036(1)	0.029(1)	0.0000(9)	0.0047(8)	0.0040(9)
C(5)	4e	0.4121(4)	0.7644(1)	0.1456(2)	0.032(1)	0.029(1)	0.031(1)	−0.0007(8)	0.0140(8)	0.0061(8)
C(6)	4e	0.2840(4)	0.8266(1)	0.2133(2)	0.028(1)	0.032(1)	0.029(1)	−0.0018(8)	0.0080(8)	0.0028(8)

Acknowledgments. We acknowledge financial support by the Wenzhou Technology Project Foundation of China (grant no. G2004053), the Zhejiang Provincial Natural Science Foundation of China (grant no. Y405078) and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (grant no. 20571057).

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