# Crystal Structure of 3,4,5,6-Tetrahydrophthalic Anhydride at 150 K 

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#### Abstract

The crystal structure of 3,4,5,6-tetrahydrophthalic anhydride, ( $=4,5,6,7$-tetrahydroisobenzofuran- 1,3 dione; $\mathbf{1} ; \mathrm{C}_{8} \mathrm{H}_{8} \mathrm{O}_{3}$ ) was determined and refined by an analysis of three-dimensional X-ray-diffraction data at 150 K . This bicyclic compound crystallizes in space group Pbca with two symmetry-independent molecules I and II per asymmetric unit. The cyclohexene ring in both molecules adopts a half-chair conformation. The obtained conformational descriptions of the six-membered rings in the crystal phase are consistent with conformational data derived from molecular-orbital calculations. The structure analysis evidences considerable distorsion of the partially hydrogenated six-membered ring; the furan ring is flattened in molecule $\mathbf{I}$ and slightly deviated from planarity in molecule II. The short intermolecular distances found for $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}$ are interpreted as evidence for nonbonded interactions of the dipole - dipole type. The rather long $\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{H}$ distances indicate that the $\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{sp}^{3}\right)$ $\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{O}$ interactions are weak.


Introduction. - Within the context of studies on the conformations of bicyclic anhydrides, the structure of cis-1,2,3,6-tetrahydrophthalic anhydride $\mathrm{C}_{8} \mathrm{H}_{8} \mathrm{O}_{3}$ has been determined by X-ray diffraction [1]; its crystal structure consists of two symmetryindependent molecules per asymmetric unit. Their conformations are folded, both possessing a boat form for the cyclohexene ring, in agreement with experimental NMR solution data [2][3]. Crystal packing of the two independent molecules in the unit cell has also been investigated [4], establishing non-bonded interactions of the dipole-dipole type between local electrical dipoles of the carbonyl groups $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}$. Concomitantly, several techniques of semi-empirical and ab initio molecular-orbital calculations have been applied for the determination of the molecular geometry of this compound and its isomers, $3,4,5,6-, 1,2,5,7$-, and 1,4,5,6-tetrahydrophthalic anhydrides [5]. These calculations confirmed the preference of the folded conformation for cis-1,2,3,6-tetrahydrophthalic anhydride and revealed large differences in the stereochemical behavior of these isomeric tetrahydrophthalic anhydrides. In view of the considerable interest in the structural properties of this series of anhydride isomers, it appeared desirable to have precise structural data for a selected compound to provide a check of the theory and possibly to aid in formulating refinements in the calculations. Experimental structures of the gas-phase molecules have not yet been reported, and, besides two crystallographic studies on derivatives of 3,4,5,6-tetrahydrophthalic anhydride [6][7], no experimental data on the parent compound are available. Thus, in the present work, an investigation of the crystal structure of 3,4,5,6-tetrahydrophthalic anhydride ( $=4,5,6,7$-tetrahydroisobenzofuran-1,3-dione; $\mathbf{1}$ ) was undertaken to reveal the most stable conformation and to elucidate the structural differences between
the 3,4,5,6-tetrahydrophthalic and cis-1,2,3,6-tetrahydrophthalic isomers. Because the tetrahedral C -atoms exhibit unusually large anisotropic displacement parameters without apparent statistical disorder and interatomic distances shorter than the normal $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}$ bonds at room temperature [8], a low-temperature structure determination was performed. The results of such an analysis for a single crystal of $\mathbf{1}$ at 150 K led to an improved agreement of the crystal-structure model and the experimental data of the related compounds.


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Results and Discussion. - The asymmetric unit of the single crystal of $\mathbf{1}$ contains two symmetry-independent molecules I and II as has been shown for the crystal of the cis-$1,2,3,6$-tetrahydrophthalic isomer [1]. The structures of the two independent molecules are very similar (Fig. 1). As implied by the semiquantitative rules of Bucourt for conformational analysis [9][10], the cyclohexene ring is assumed to exist in a distorted half-chair form in the two independent molecules. This typical conformation of the sixmembered ring observed for $\mathbf{1}$ has also been established to be the preferred one by geometry-optimized AM1, PM3, and MNDO semi-empirical methods and ab initio calculations at both the RHF/PS-31G* and MP2/PS-31G* levels by using the gradient method [5]. The present results obtained for the crystal phase of $\mathbf{1}$ add additional support to the conformational data derived from IRC calculations by using the PM3 semi-empirical method, which indicate the presence of two conformational minima for 1 (Fig. 2,a), both possessing a half-chair conformation for the cyclohexene ring (Fig. 2,b). This significant difference from the conformational preference of the cyclohexene ring in the crystal of the cis-1,2,3,6-tetrahydrophthalic isomer was expected. The dissimilarities may be attributed mainly to the difference in the position of the $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}$ bond in the bicyclic system. The degree of freedom between the bonds in the cyclohexene ring is more restricted in cis-1,2,3,6-tetrahydrophthalic anhydride owing to the cis orientation of the furan ring with respect to the cyclohexene ring [11].

A comparison of structural parameters between the two independent molecules I and II shows internal consistency. The most-prominent discrepancies are displayed among the parameters determining the geometry of the cyclohexene ring, which shows significant deviations from a $C_{2}$ symmetric internal top. The ring dihedral angles at the bonds $C(7)-C(6), C(6)-C(5)$, and $C(4)-C(5)$ in molecule $\mathbf{I}$ (absolute values 16.8(3), $46.2(2)$, and $61.5(2)^{\circ}$, resp.) are larger than the corresponding angles in molecule II (absolute values $13.1(3), 42.9(2)$, and $61.3(2)^{\circ}$, resp.) (Table 1) ${ }^{1}$ ). For the $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ and $C(3)-C(4)$ bonds, the absolute values of the dihedral angles of $\mathbf{I}$ (11.6(3) and 41.1(2) ${ }^{\circ}$, resp.) are both lower than those observed in II (14.5(3) and 44.1(2) ${ }^{\circ}$, resp.). All the dihedrals indicated above deviate significantly from the values of unfused cyclohexene rings [12] (absolute values $15.2,44.9$, and $60.2^{\circ}$ at the bonds $\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{sp}^{2}\right)-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{sp}^{3}\right)$

[^0]

Fig. 1. ORTEP View of the molecules $\mathbf{I}$ and $\mathbf{I I}$ in the asymmetric unit, showing the labelling of the non-H-atoms ${ }^{1}$ ). Ellipsoids are drawn at the $50 \%$ probability level.
$(\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}), \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{sp}^{3}\right)-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{sp}^{3}\right)(\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C})$, and $\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{sp}^{3}\right)-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{sp}^{3}\right)$, resp. $)$, which adopt an ideal halfchair conformation. We may assume that deviations from these values are an index of strain with respect to the undistorted cyclohexene derivatives, and that the differences represent the angular deformations from the ideal half-chair conformations. Also, in both independent molecules I and II, the torsional angles deviate significantly from the corresponding values calculated for the two conformers of $\mathbf{1}$ at the MP2/PS-31G* level [5] (absolute values 14.6, 44.3, and $63.0^{\circ}$ at the bonds $\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{sp}^{2}\right)-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{sp}^{3}\right)(\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}), \mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{sp}^{3}\right)-$ $\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{sp}^{3}\right)(\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C})$, and $\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{sp}^{3}\right)-\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{sp}^{3}\right)$, resp. $)$. The distortion of the cyclohexene ring in $\mathbf{1}$, owing to the fusion with the furan ring, could not be detected theoretically at the $a b$ initio MP2 level as well as at different levels of semiempirical molecular-orbital calculations [5]. This indicates that the distortion of the cyclohexene rings detected in the crystal phase is undoubtly due to crystal-packing forces and, as will be discussed later, the differences in the changes in the chemically equivalent parts of the cyclohexene rings are nevertheless consistent with packing effects. As far as the valence angles are concerned, very slight differences are found in some intra-cyclohexene ring angles such as $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ and its chemical equivalent $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(6)$, which deviate by $0.6(2)$ and $0.5(2)^{\circ}$, respectively, in molecule II compared to molecule I. These differences are obviously due to packing effects since there is no chemical difference between the two molecules. The angles within the furan ring in both molecules are normal compared to those observed in maleic anhydride [13] and some of its derivatives [6][7], which exhibit similar deviations from the data of succinic


Fig. 2. a) Energy profile of 3,4,5,6-tetrahydrophthalic anhydride (1) obtained from IRC by the PM3 semiempirical method. b) Calculated ground-state conformations I and II of $\mathbf{1}$ and the structure of the transition state (TS).
anhydride [14] and cis-1,2,3,6-tetrahydrophthalic anhydride [1]. The geometry of the furan ring in molecule $\mathbf{I}$ is planar or nearly so: all of the ring dihedral angles are less than or equal to $0.2(2)^{\circ}$ in absolute values. In molecule II, however, the ring dihedrals are in the range $0.9(2)-2.9(2)^{\circ}$ with absolute values of $2.3(2), 2.9(2)$, and $2.4(3)^{\circ}$ at the bonds $C(10)-C(9), O(4)-C(9)$, and $C(16)-O(4)$, respectively. Accordingly it seems appropriate to describe the geometry of molecule II as slightly nonplanar, being puckered at the $\mathrm{O}(4)$ atom. The $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{O}$ and $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}$ bond lengths as well as the $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}$ bond length in the furan ring of the two independent molecules agree well with those found in maleic anhydride [13] and its derivatives [6] [7]. The $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}$ bond distance (1.331(2) A in I and $1.332(2) \AA$ in II) is in good agreement with those observed in 3,4,5,6-

Table 1. Selected Geometric Parameters for 3,4,5,6-Tetrahydrophthalic Anhydride (1) ${ }^{1}$. Esd. are given in parentheses.

| Molecule I |  | Molecule II |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bond lengths [ $\AA$ ]: $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | 1.396 (2) | Bond lengths [ $\AA$ ]: $\mathrm{O}(4)-\mathrm{C}(9)$ | 1.399 (2) |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | 1.401 (2) | $\mathrm{O}(4)-\mathrm{C}(16)$ | $1.396(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | 1.193(2) | $\mathrm{O}(5)-\mathrm{C}(9)$ | 1.193(2) |
| $\mathrm{O}(3)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | $1.192(2)$ | $\mathrm{O}(6)-\mathrm{C}(16)$ | 1.193(2) |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | 1.472 (2) | $\mathrm{C}(16)-\mathrm{C}(15)$ | 1.474(3) |
| $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | 1.331(3) | $\mathrm{C}(15)-\mathrm{C}(10)$ | 1.332 (3) |
| $\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | 1.474 (3) | $\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{C}(10)$ | 1.480(3) |
| $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | 1.487(3) | $\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{C}(15)$ | 1.487(3) |
| $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ | $1.526(3)$ | $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{C}(14)$ | 1.528(3) |
| $\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(5)$ | 1.527 (3) | $\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(13)$ | 1.531(3) |
| $\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ | $1.528(3)$ | $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(12)$ | 1.530(3) |
| $\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | 1.487(3) | C(10)-C(11) | 1.490 (3) |
| Valence angles [ ${ }^{\circ}$ ]: |  | Valence angles [ ${ }^{\circ}$ : |  |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | 107.5(1) | $\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{O}(4)-\mathrm{C}(16)$ | 107.6(1) |
| $\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | 108.5(2) | $\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{C}(15)$ | 108.0(2) |
| $\mathrm{O}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1)$ | 120.3(2) | $\mathrm{O}(6)-\mathrm{C}(16)-\mathrm{O}(4)$ | 121.0(2) |
| $\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(5)$ | 108.8(2) | $\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(12)$ | 109.3(2) |
| $\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ | 112.1(2) | $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(13)$ | 112.3(2) |
| $\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | 109.8(2) | $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{C}(15)$ | 109.6(2) |
| $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | 125.4(2) | $\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{C}(15)-\mathrm{C}(10)$ | 124.8(2) |
| $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ | 124.9(2) | $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{C}(15)$ | 125.4(2) |
| Dihedral angles [ ${ }^{\circ}$ : |  | Dihedral angles [ ${ }^{\circ}$ : |  |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | -0.2(2) | $\mathrm{O}(4)-\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{C}(15)$ | -2.3(2) |
| $\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | 0.2(2) | $\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{C}(15)-\mathrm{C}(16)$ | 0.9(2) |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | -0.1(2) | $\mathrm{O}(4)-\mathrm{C}(16)-\mathrm{C}(15)-\mathrm{C}(10)$ | 0.9(2) |
| $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ | -0.1(2) | $\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{O}(4)-\mathrm{C}(16)-\mathrm{C}(15)$ | -2.4(2) |
| $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ | -0.6(3) | $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{C}(15)-\mathrm{C}(14)$ | 1.2(3) |
| $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(5)$ | -16.8(3) | $\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{C}(15)$ | 13.1(3) |
| $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ | -61.5(2) | $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{C}(14)$ | 61.3(2) |
| $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(5)$ | 41.1(2) | $\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{C}(15)$ | -44.1(2) |
| $\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | -11.6(3) | $\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{C}(15)-\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{C}(13)$ | 14.5(3) |
| $\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | 46.2(2) | $\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(13)$ | -42.9(2) |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{C}(8)-\mathrm{C}(7)$ | 0.2(2) | $\mathrm{C}(10)-\mathrm{C}(9)-\mathrm{O}(4)-\mathrm{C}(16)$ | 2.9(2) |

tetrahydrophthalimide [15] and 8,9,10-trinorborn-2-ene-2,3-dicarboxylic anhydride$\mathrm{C}_{9} \mathrm{H}_{8} \mathrm{O}_{3}[6](1.324(5)$ and $1.332(4) \AA$, resp.), which possess a similar furan-ring moiety.

One of the most interesting features is the crystal packing of $\mathbf{1}$ (Fig. 3). The packing pattern reveals a large number of close intermolecular contacts among the electrophilic C -atoms (El) and their concomitant nucleophilic O -atoms ( Nu ) of symmetry-related molecules I and II as well as between the H - and the O -atoms of symmetryindependent molecules I and II that are within the range of the Van der Waals interactions. The significant intermolecular $\mathrm{Nu}-\mathrm{El} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}$ bonds that are within the presently acceptable limit $(d(\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{C}) \leq 3.4 \AA)$ [16], the noncovalent angles $\theta$ $(\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{CO})$, and the dihedral angles $\varphi(\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{COC})$ ( CO being a carbonyl group) defining the $\mathrm{Nu}-\mathrm{El} \mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{C}$ atom abstraction distance are reported in Table 2. The minimum intermolecular $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}$ distance is 2.957(2) $\AA$ between molecules $\mathbf{I}$ and $2.926(2) \AA$ between molecules II (Fig. 4). The latter short contacts are significantly smaller than the sum of the Van der Waals radii, which is assumed to be $3.2 \AA$ [17]. All


Fig. 3. View of the structural arrangement of $\mathbf{1}$ down [0 1 0]. O-Atoms black, C -atoms grey, and H -atoms white.
the distances indicated above and the other ones reported in Table 2 are within the range of values observed for several contacts of the same type in the crystal structure of cis-1,2,3,6-tetrahydrophthalic anhydride [1][4]. They are also in good agreement with the corresponding values found by Cossu et al. [16] for a series of mono- and polycyclic anhydride compounds that also exhibit solid-state intermolecular $\mathrm{Nu}-\mathrm{El}$ $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}$ interactions. The values of the noncovalent angles $\theta(\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{CO})$ are in the range $83.1(1)-89.5(1)^{\circ}$ with only two $\theta$ values out of the bisector criteria $\left(\varphi \approx 90^{\circ}\right)$ [16]. If we exclude these uncertain interactions, we can state that the carbonyl groups are involved in significant $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}$ dipole - dipole interactions. In the two other cases $\left(\theta=83.4(1)\right.$ and $\left.83.1(1)^{\circ}\right)$, the nucleophilic O -atom is in close contact with the electrophilic carbonyl group $(\mathrm{O}(5) \cdots \mathrm{C}(16)$ distance of $3.195(2) \AA$ and $\mathrm{O}(3) \cdots \mathrm{C}(1)$ distance of $3.191(2) \AA$; see Table 2), and both correspond to carbonyl groups forming dimers held together by somewhat weaker $\mathrm{Nu}-\mathrm{El}$ dipole-dipole $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}$ interactions.

In addition to the $\mathrm{Nu}-\mathrm{El} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}$ interactions, the crystal packing of 3,4,5,6tetrahydrophthalic anhydride (1) is stabilized by weak $\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{sp}^{3}\right)-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{O}$ intermolecular interactions [18]. Geometric details of the H -bonds that are within the accepted range $\left(d(\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{H}) \leq 2.8 \AA\right.$ and $\left.\theta(\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{O})>120^{\circ}\right)$ are given in Table 3. The most-significant intermolecular H-bonds observed in this molecular packing are $\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{H}(15) \cdots \mathrm{O}(5)$ $\left(2.59(2) \AA, 130(2)^{\circ}\right)$ and $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{H}(9) \cdots \mathrm{O}(5)\left(2.66(2) \AA, 161(2)^{\circ}\right)$ between H -atoms of


Fig. 4. Details of some interactions between molecules of 3,4,5,6tetrahydrophthalic anhydride (1). The figure evidences the shortest contacts $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}$ between molecules of the same type I or II and the H -bonds interconnecting the molecules I and II.

Table 2. Geometric Parameters ( $d, \theta$ and $\varphi$ ) of the Intermolecular $C=O \cdots C=O$ Bonds

| $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}$ | Type | $d(\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{C})[\AA]$ | $\theta(\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{CO})\left[{ }^{\circ}\right]$ | $\varphi(\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{COC})\left[{ }^{\circ}\right]$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)=\mathrm{O}(2) \cdots \mathrm{C}(8)=\mathrm{O}(3)$ | $\mathbf{I}-\mathbf{I}$ | $2.957(2)$ | $89.0(1)$ | 91.8 |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)=\mathrm{O}(2) \cdots \mathrm{C}(8)=\mathrm{O}(3)$ | $\mathbf{I}-\mathbf{I}$ | $3.109(2)$ | $87.2(1)$ | 107.2 |
| $\mathrm{C}(8)=\mathrm{O}(3) \cdots \mathrm{C}(1)=\mathrm{O}(2)$ | $\mathbf{I}-\mathbf{I}$ | $3.148(2)$ | $88.8(1)$ | 71.0 |
| $\mathrm{C}(8)=\mathrm{O}(3) \cdots \mathrm{C}(1)=\mathrm{O}(2)$ | $\mathbf{I}-\mathbf{I}$ | $3.191(2)$ | $83.4(1)$ | 66.9 |
| $\mathrm{C}(16)=\mathrm{O}(6) \cdots \mathrm{C}(9)=\mathrm{O}(5)$ | $\mathbf{I I}-\mathbf{I I}$ | $2.926(2)$ | $89.5(1)$ | 100.2 |
| $\mathrm{C}(9)=\mathrm{O}(5) \cdots \mathrm{C}(16)=\mathrm{O}(6)$ | $\mathbf{I I}-\mathbf{I I}$ | $3.195(2)$ | $83.1(1)$ | 115.1 |

the six-membered ring and the carbonyl O -atom of molecules II. The shortest intermolecular $\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{sp}^{3}\right)-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{O} \mathrm{H}$-bonds observed between molecules I are $\mathrm{C}(3)-$ $\mathrm{H}(1) \cdots \mathrm{O}(3)\left(2.71(2) \AA, 129(2)^{\circ}\right)$ and $\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{H}(7) \cdots \mathrm{O}(1)\left(2.79(2) \AA, 155(2)^{\circ}\right)$ involving both the $\mathrm{O}(3)$ and $\mathrm{O}(1)$ atoms of the anhydride moiety. Further analysis shows that symmetry-independent molecules I and II are arranged into infinite chains along the $c$-axis through four weak H -bonds: $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{H}(13) \cdots \mathrm{O}(1)\left(2.67(2) \AA, 141(2)^{\circ}\right)$, $\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{H}(12) \cdots \mathrm{O}(3)\left(2.77(2) \AA, 153(2)^{\circ}\right), \mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{H}(3) \cdots \mathrm{O}(6)\left(2.76(2) \AA 157(2)^{\circ}\right)$, and $\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{H}(6) \cdots \mathrm{O}(5)\left(2.80(2) \AA, 132(2)^{\circ}\right)$ (Fig. 4). These chains are connected in the lateral directions by more-significant interactions between symmetry-dependent molecules (type $\mathbf{I}-\mathbf{I}$ or $\mathbf{I I}-\mathbf{I I}$ ), as specified in Table 2 for the $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}$ interactions and in Table 3 for the $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{O}$ H-bonds.

Clearly, the strong acceptor ability of the carbonyl O-atoms dominates the packing of 3,4,5,6-tetrahydrophthalic anhydride (1) and its isomer cis-1,2,3,6-tetrahydrophthalic anhydride [1][4]. Both structures contain $\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O} \cdots \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O}$ and $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{O}$

Table 3. Geometric Parameters ( $d$ and $\theta$ ) of the Intermolecular $C\left(s p^{3}\right)-H \cdots O$ Hydrogen Bonds

| $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{O}$ | Molecules | $d(\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{O})[\AA]$ | $\theta(\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{O})\left[{ }^{\circ}\right]$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{H}(1) \cdots \mathrm{O}(3)$ | $\mathbf{I}-\mathbf{I}$ | $2.71(2)$ | $129(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{H}(3) \cdots \mathrm{O}(6)$ | $\mathbf{I}-\mathbf{I I}$ | $2.76(2)$ | $157(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{H}(6) \cdots \mathrm{O}(5)$ | $\mathbf{I}-\mathbf{I I}$ | $2.80(2)$ | $132(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{H}(7) \cdots \mathrm{O}(1)$ | $\mathbf{I}-\mathbf{I}$ | $2.79(2)$ | $155(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{H}(9) \cdots \mathrm{O}(5)$ | $\mathbf{I I}-\mathbf{I I}$ | $2.66(2)$ | $121(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{H}(10) \cdots \mathrm{O}(6)$ | $\mathbf{I I}-\mathbf{I I}$ | $2.76(2)$ | $153(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{H}(12) \cdots \mathrm{O}(3)$ | $\mathbf{I I}-\mathbf{I}$ | $2.77(2)$ | $141(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(13)-\mathrm{H}(13) \cdots \mathrm{O}(1)$ | $\mathbf{I I}-\mathbf{I}$ | $2.67(2)$ | $130(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{C}(14)-\mathrm{H}(15) \cdots \mathrm{O}(5)$ | $\mathbf{I I}-\mathbf{I I}$ | $2.59(2)$ |  |

Table 4. Crystal Data, Experimental Conditions, and Details of Structure Refinement

| Empirical formula | $\mathrm{C}_{8} \mathrm{H}_{8} \mathrm{O}_{3}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Formula weight $\left[\mathrm{g} \cdot \mathrm{mol}^{-1}\right]$ | 152.15 |
| Temperature [K] | 150 |
| Crystal system | Orthorhombic |
| Space group | $P b c a$ |
| Unit-cell dimensions: |  |
| $\quad a[\AA]$ | $9.7936(2)$ |
| $\quad b[\AA]$ | $9.0338(1)$ |
| $\quad c[\AA]$ | $31.7069(6)$ |
| $\quad \alpha=\beta=\gamma\left[{ }^{\circ}\right]$ | 90 |
| $\quad V\left[\AA^{3}\right]$ | $2805.22(7)$ |
| $Z$ | 16 |
| Calc. density $D_{x}\left[\mathrm{Mg} \cdot \mathrm{m}^{-3}\right]$ | 1.441 |
| Crystal size [mm] | $0.68 \times 0.34 \times 0.31$ |
| Radiation, wavelength $[\AA]$ | $\mathrm{Ag} K_{\alpha}, 0.5608$ |
| Absorption coefficient $\mu\left[\mathrm{mm}^{-1}\right]$ | 0.068 |
| Measurement method | $\phi$ and $\omega$ scans |
| Bragg-angle limits [ $\left.{ }^{\circ}\right]$ | $3.0-20.0$ |
| Limiting indices | $-11 \rightarrow 11,-10 \rightarrow 10,-38 \rightarrow 29$ |
| Measured reflections | 13803 |
| Independent reflections | 2535 |
| Observed reflections | 1882 with $I>2 \sigma(I)$ |
| Number of variables | 264 |
| Final agreement factors | $R=0.038, w R=0.044$ |
| Goodness-of-fit on $F$ | $S=1.44$ |
| Largest peak and hole in the last |  |
| difference-Fourier synthesis [e $\left.\AA \AA^{-3}\right]$ | $0.24,-0.23$ |

bonds, together with interactions involving the carbonyl O -atom and either $\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{sp}^{3}\right)-\mathrm{H}$ or $\mathrm{C}\left(\mathrm{sp}^{2}\right)-\mathrm{H}$ (in cis-1,2,3,6-tetrahydrophthalic anhydride). As pointed out in our structure analysis of cis-1,2,3,6-tetrahydrophthalic anhydride [1][4] and its derivatives [16], an obvious relationship between the postulated typical intermolecular interactions and the packing modes of $\mathbf{1}$ can be predicted. The study of the efficiency of these intermolecular interactions in inducing geometrical deformation of the structure of $\mathbf{1}$ is undertaken and the results obtained will be reported in an independent work.

## Experimental Part

Synthesis. The 3,4,5,6-tetrahydrophthalic anhydride (1) was prepared by complete isomerization of a pure sample of cis-1,2,3,6-tetrahydrophthalic anhydride (m.p. 376 K ) at 473 K , with $\mathrm{P}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{5}$ as acid catalyst according to Bailey and Amstutz [19]. Subsequent purification by recrystallization from anh. cyclohexane yielded pure 1. M.p. $357 \mathrm{~K},{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right): 1.5\left(m, 2 \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 2.5\left(m, 2 \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right) .{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$-NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right):-56.41\left(s, 2 \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right) ;-56.27(s$, $2 \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ); $68.12(s, \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}) ; 87.86(s, 2 \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{O})$.

Colorless crystals were obtained by slow evaporation of a dilute soln. of pure samples of $\mathbf{1}$ in anh. cyclohexane at r.t. in a dry-box.
$X$-Ray Structure Determination. As the crystals were hygroscopic, the single crystal used was mounted in a thin-walled glass capillary of the Lindemann type during data collection. The intensity data were collected at 150 K on a Nonius four-circle diffractometer equipped with a CCD bidimensional detector and an Oxford Cryostream crystal-cooling system. Crystal data, details of data collection, and structure refinement are summarized in Table 4. Intensities were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects. No absorption corrections were applied. The structure was solved by direct methods with the SIR92 program [20] and refined by the full-matrix least-squares method, based on $F$, by using the teXsan software [21]. The refinement was performed with anisotropic temperature factors for all non-H-atoms. H-Atoms were refined isotropically. A correction for secondary extinction [22] was applied with a value of the extinction parameter equal to $1.0(2) \cdot 10^{-6}$. The pictures of the crystal structure are shown in Figs. 1, 3, and 4. The ORTEPII program [23] was used to produce the asymmetric unit of the structure (Figs. 1), while the Cerius2 software [24] was applied to represent the molecular arrangement (Figs. 3 and 4). Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, as deposition No. CCDC 223922, and can be obtained via http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/conts/retrieving.html (or from the CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; fax: +441223336033 ; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

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[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ ) Arbitrary numbering, according to Fig. 1.

