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Five related N'-(2,2,2-trichloroethanimidoyl)benzene-1-carboximidamides

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In the solid state, 4-methoxy-N'-(2,2,2-trichloroethanimidoyl)-benzene-1-carboximidamide, $C_{10}H_{10}Cl_3N_3O$, (I), N'-(2,2,2-trichloroethanimidoyl)benzene-1-carboximidamide, $C_9H_8Cl_3N_3$, (II), 4-chloro-N'-(2,2,2-trichloroethanimidoyl)benzene-1-carboximidamide, $C_9H_7Cl_4N_3$, (III), 4-bromo-N'-(2,2,2-trichloroethanimidoyl)benzene-1-carboximidamide, $C_9H_7BrCl_3N_3$, (IV), and 4-trifluoromethyl-N'-(2,2,2-trichloroethanimidoyl)benzene-1-carboximidamide, $C_{10}H_7Cl_3F_3N_3$, (V), display strong intramolecular $N-H\cdots N$ hydrogen bonding across the chelate ring and also intramolecular $N-H\cdots Cl$ contacts. Additional intermolecular hydrogen bonds link the molecules into chains, double chains or sheets in all cases except for compound (V). For compound (II), there are three independent molecules per asymmetric unit.

Comment

N-Imidoylamidines (i.e. N'-imidoylcarboximidamides) are trinitrogen analogues of pentadienes containing unsaturated N:--C:--N chains which may have different degrees of substitution at nitrogen. If the substituents at carbon are further N-containing groups, the familiar biguanides are obtained; imidoylamidines have carbon substituents on the backbone C atoms. Primary N-imidoylamidines have three ionizable H atoms on N atoms with the possibility of several tautomeric structures. Tertiary exemplars retain a single ionizable H atom. Both primary and, more commonly, tertiary imidoylamidines are potent chelating ligands as deprotonated monoanions. Applications of metal complexes of this ligand type include the development of molecular magnets (Zheng et al., 2007) and switches (Atkinson et al., 2002), and π -activation agents for alkynes (Dias et al., 2009), as well as applications in catalysis (Flores et al., 2009). Both the chemistry of the neutral molecules and the coordination chemistry of the deprotonated anions have recently been comprehensively reviewed (Kopylovich & Pombeiro, 2011). Crystal structure reports of neutral primary *N*-imidoylamidines are rare. We recently reported the synthesis and crystal structures of a number of aryltrifluoromethyl *N*-imidoylamidines (Boeré *et al.*, 2011). We report here the crystal structures of five new trichloromethyl analogues, (I)–(V), bearing electron-releasing and electron-withdrawing substituents on the aryl rings.

Scheme1

The average bond lengths show that $C1 \rightarrow N1$ and $C1 \rightarrow N2$ are of intermediate length between single and double bonds, as is characteristic of delocalized amidines, and are identical within their s.u. values. The $C2 \rightarrow N3$ bonds are short and more characteristic of imines, while the N2-C2 bonds are longer and approximate to single bonds. By contrast, the two C-N bonds to which the $-CCl_3$ group is attached in (Z)-2,2,2-trichloro- N^2 -cyanoacetamidine differ in length by only 0.008 Å (Baker & Boeré, 2009). The averaged bond lengths are nearly identical, within their s.u. values, to the recently reported trifluoromethyl series (Boeré *et al.*, 2011). Other known structures of primary imidoylamidines include an unusual chloroimidoylamidinium salt and two biguanides

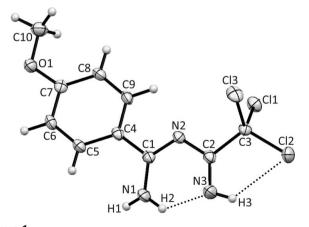


Figure 1 Displacement ellipsoid plot (drawn at the 30% probability level) of (I) at 173 (2) K. The same atom-numbering scheme is used for (I)–(V), except that in (II) the three independent molecules in the asymmetric unit have suffixes A, B and C. All seven independent molecules display intramolecular N1···N3 and N3···Cl2 hydrogen bonding within the crystal structure, indicated by dotted lines.

organic compounds

[Cambridge Structural Database (Allen, 2002) refcodes HDCADPZ (Privett et al., 1987): BIGUAN (Pinkerton & Schwarzenbach, 1978) and BIGUAN01 (Ernst & Cagle, 1977); NIWCAY (Zheng et al., 2007)]. The molecular structure of the new compounds (I)-(V) is reminiscent of diiminoisoindoline (Zhang, Njus et al., 2004), including the observation of the amino tautomer in the solid state. Furthermore, the hydrogenbonding pattern in the new compounds is similar to that in diiminoisoindoline and 1-amino-3-phenyliminoisoindoline (Zhang, Uth et al., 2004).

The pentaazadiene cores of (I)-(V) are close to being planar and form six-membered rings through N1-H2···N3

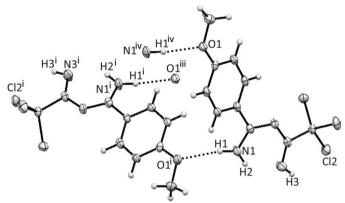


Figure 2

The intermolecular N1-H1···O1 hydrogen bonds in (I) (dotted lines), linking the molecules into a twofold helix in the [010] direction. The two (equivalent) linked molecules are viewed approximately down the b axis; extension of the chain to the N1-H1 unit above and to atom O1 below is also shown. Ellipsoids are shown at the 30% probability level. [Symmetry codes: (i) -x, $y + \frac{1}{2}$, $-z - \frac{1}{2}$; (iii) x, y + 1, z; (iv) -x, $y + \frac{1}{2}$, $z - \frac{1}{2}$.]

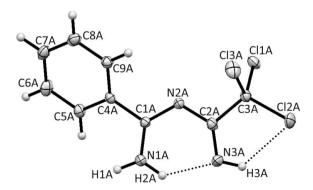


Figure 3 Displacement ellipsoid plot (drawn at the 30% probability level) of molecule A of (II) at 173 (2) K.

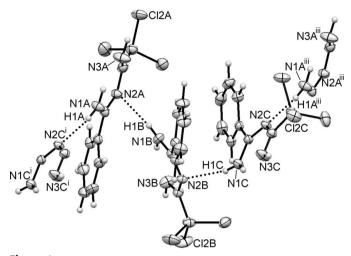


Figure 4

The intermolecular N1-H1···N2 hydrogen bonds in (II) (dotted lines), linking the three unique molecules into a threefold helix in the [100] direction with a noncrystallographic threefold screw axis. The three unique molecules A, B and C are shown, along with the adjacent triazapenta-1,3-diene cores at either end. The view is approximately perpendicular to the bc diagonal. Ellipsoids are shown at the 30% probability level. [Symmetry codes: (i) x + 1, y, z; (iii) x - 1, y, z.]

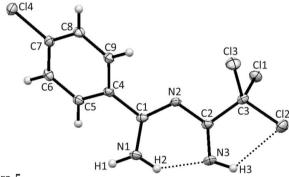


Figure 5 Displacement ellipsoid plot (drawn at the 30% probability level) of (III) at 173 (2) K.

hydrogen bonding [labelled Δ in Scheme 2, which shows a summary of the intra- (labelled Δ and Φ) and intermolecular (labelled Γ , Λ and Π) hydrogen bonds present in compounds (I)-(V)]. Donor-acceptor $N \cdots N$ distances for the Δ interaction are in the range 2.616 (2)-2.657 (4) Å. The average distance in all seven independent molecules is 2.638 (14) Å. The related trifluoromethyl series displays a very similar N···N distance of [2.66 (2) Å] (Boeré et al., 2011). Each example also shows short N3-H3···Cl2 contacts (Φ in Scheme 2), with an average donor-acceptor distance of 2.984 (18) Å. This weak contact is sufficient to orient atom Cl2 so that it is close to being coplanar with the pentaazadiene core in all seven independent molecules.

The intermolecular hydrogen bonding is also very noteworthy. Within the crystal structure, molecules of (I) are linked by N1-H1···O1^{i,iii} hydrogen bonds that form a twofold helix along the [010] direction (see Fig. 2 and Table 1 for symmetry codes). N3-H3···Cl3ⁱⁱ hydrogen bond (Π in Scheme 2) serves to link the chains thus formed into two-

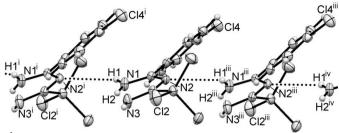


Figure 6

The intermolecular N1—H1···N2 hydrogen bonds in (III) (dotted lines), forming chains of equivalent molecules aligned exactly with the *ac* diagonal of the unit cell, resulting in a twofold helix along the [101] direction. Compound (IV) is isomorphous with (III). Ellipsoids are shown at the 30% probability level. [Symmetry codes: (i) $x - \frac{1}{2}$, $-y + \frac{1}{2}$, $z - \frac{1}{2}$; (iii) $z + \frac{1}{2}$, $z + \frac{1}{2}$, (iv) z + 1, z + 1.]

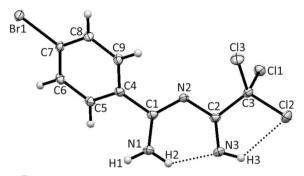


Figure 7 Displacement ellipsoid plot (drawn at the 30% probability level) of (IV) at 173 (2) K.

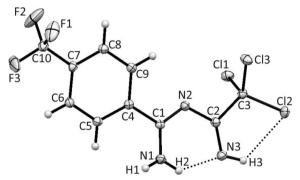


Figure 8Displacement ellipsoid plot (drawn at the 30% probability level) of (V) at 173 (2) K.

dimensional sheets that run parallel to (101) planes. More significantly, the three independent molecules of (II) form threefold helices along the [100] direction, defining a noncrystallographic threefold screw axis through N1–H1··· N2^{i,iii} contacts (see Fig. 4 and Table 2 for symmetry codes). This helix is associated to a second related by inversion by the N3B-H3B···Cl1Aⁱⁱ hydrogen bond (Π in Scheme 2), which occurs only once in the asymmetric unit. In both (III) and isomorphous (IV), there are twofold helices in the [100] direction, also through N1–H1···N2^{i,iii} contacts (see Fig. 6 for symmetry codes). This helical chain is expanded into a layer along the (040) plane through the N3–H3···Cl4ⁱⁱ hydrogen bond in (III) or N3–H3···Br1ⁱⁱ in (IV) (Π in Scheme 2). Only

(V) does not display intermolecular hydrogen bonding, presumably a consequence of the rather bulky CF₃ group on the aryl ring. In (II), (III) and (IV), hydrogen bonds of the type N1-H1···N2^{i,iii} link a terminal NH₂ group on one molecule with the central (backbone) N atom of a neighbouring molecule (A in Scheme 2). The average donoracceptor distance for this interaction is 3.12 (3) Å, which is also, within the s.u. values, equal to such bonds in the trifluoromethyl series at 3.09 (9) Å. While complete atom transfer would generate a diimine tautomer, all seven examples here and from the trifluoromethyl series (Boeré et al., 2011) show the single tautomeric form in the solid-state structure. The terminal NH₂ group is typically involved in ringforming (H2) and chain-forming (H1) interactions, while the terminal =NH group has contacts to atom Cl2 and, except in (V), displays additional intermolecular interactions with other Cl or Br atoms (Γ in Scheme 2). In molecule C of (II), there is an additional intermolecular hydrogen bond between the N1C-H1C group and atom Cl1B of a neighbouring CCl₃ group (Λ in Scheme 2).

Experimental

Compounds (I)–(V) were prepared using a modification of a literature procedure (Peters & Schaefer, 1964) by addition of trichloroacetonitrile to the corresponding *para*-substituted benzamidines in acetonitrile. Crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were grown by vacuum sublimation in a three-zone tube furnace, or by slow cooling of acetonitrile solutions [m.p. 377–379 K for (I), 341–342 K for (II), 384–386 K for (III), 371–372 K for (IV) and 369–370 K for (V)]. A full hemisphere of data was collected for all five structures at low temperature (173 K) using molybdenum radiation.

Compound (I)

Crystal data

$C_{10}H_{10}Cl_3N_3O$	$V = 1217.23 (17) \text{ Å}^3$
$M_r = 294.56$	Z = 4
Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
a = 12.0988 (10) Å	$\mu = 0.74 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
b = 8.6425 (7) Å	T = 173 K
c = 12.2023 (10) Å	$0.21 \times 0.19 \times 0.07 \text{ mm}$
$\beta = 107.445 (1)^{\circ}$	

Data collection

Bruker APEXII CCD area-detector diffractometer 2812 independent reflections 2812 independent reflections 2448 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$ $R_{\rm int} = 0.026$

Table 1 Hydrogen-bond geometry (\mathring{A} , $^{\circ}$) for (I).

$D-\mathbf{H}\cdot\cdot\cdot A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D-\mathrm{H}\cdots A$
N1-H2···N3	0.86 (1)	2.00 (2)	2.647 (2)	132 (2)
N3-H3···Cl2	0.86 (2)	2.43 (2)	2.9791 (15)	123 (2)
N1-H1···O1 ⁱ	0.85 (1)	2.20 (2)	3.0315 (17)	166 (2)
N3-H3···Cl3 ⁱⁱ	0.86 (2)	2.76 (2)	3.4077 (15)	134 (2)

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

organic compounds

Table 2 Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °) for (II).

$D - H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D-\mathrm{H}\cdots$
N1 <i>A</i> − H2 <i>A</i> · · · N3 <i>A</i>	0.89 (2)	1.99 (3)	2.657 (4)	130 (3)
N3 <i>A</i> − H3 <i>A</i> · · · Cl2 <i>A</i>	0.88 (2)	2.38 (3)	2.969 (3)	125 (3)
$N1A - H1A \cdot \cdot \cdot N2C^{i}$ $N1B - H1B \cdot \cdot \cdot N2A$	0.88 (2)	2.26 (2)	3.126 (4)	172 (3)
	0.87 (2)	2.28 (2)	3.136 (4)	171 (3)
$N3B-H3B\cdots Cl2B$	0.88 (2)	2.41 (3)	2.978 (3)	122 (3)
$N1B-H2B\cdots N3B$	0.89 (2)	1.94 (3)	2.646 (4)	135 (3)
$N3B-H3B\cdots Cl1A^{ii}$	0.88 (2)	2.91 (3)	3.383 (3)	115 (3)
$N1C-H2C\cdots N3C$	0.89 (2)	1.91 (3)	2.644 (4)	138 (3)
$N3C-H3C\cdots Cl2C$	0.87 (2)	2.47 (3)	3.023 (3)	122 (3)
$N1C-H1C\cdots N2B$	0.87 (2)	2.24 (2)	3.072 (3)	160 (3)
$N1C-H1C\cdots Cl1B$	0.87 (2)	2.90 (3)	3.511 (3)	128 (3)

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

Table 3 Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °) for (III).

D $ H$ $\cdots A$	$D-\mathrm{H}$	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	D $ H$ $\cdot \cdot \cdot A$
N1−H2···N3	0.87(2)	1.92 (3)	2.628 (4)	137 (3)
N3−H3···Cl2	0.88(2)	2.42 (4)	2.982 (3)	122 (3)
$N1-H1\cdots N2^{i}$	0.87(2)	2.68 (4)	3.125 (4)	113 (3)
N1-H1···Cl1i	0.87(2)	2.95 (3)	3.507 (3)	124 (3)
N3-H3···Cl4 ⁱⁱ	0.88 (2)	2.85 (3)	3.585 (3)	143 (3)

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

Table 4 Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °) for (IV).

D $ H$ $\cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D-\mathrm{H}$	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D-\mathrm{H}\cdots A$
N1-H2···N3	0.88 (2)	1.93 (2)	2.616 (2)	135 (2)
N3-H3···Cl2	0.85 (2)	2.42 (2)	2.9809 (19)	124 (2)
N1-H1···N2 ⁱ	0.85 (2)	2.56 (2)	3.116 (2)	124 (2)
N3-H3···Br1 ⁱⁱ	0.85 (2)	2.95 (2)	3.6523 (18)	141 (2)

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

Refinement

$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.026$
$wR(F^2) = 0.064$
S = 1.05
2812 reflections
164 parameters
3 restraints

H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement

 $\Delta \rho_{\text{max}} = 0.30 \text{ e Å}^{-3}$ $\Delta \rho_{\text{min}} = -0.25 \text{ e Å}^{-3}$

Compound (II)

Crystal data

-	
$C_9H_8Cl_3N_3$	$\gamma = 81.5436 \ (11)^{\circ}$
$M_r = 264.53$	$V = 1741.67 (8) \text{ Å}^3$
Triclinic, $P\overline{1}$	Z = 6
a = 10.2999 (3) Å	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
b = 10.9423 (3) Å	$\mu = 0.76 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
c = 15.6902 (4) Å	T = 173 K
$\alpha = 85.5518 \ (12)^{\circ}$	$0.18 \times 0.15 \times 0.10 \text{ mm}$
$\beta = 86.5092 \ (12)^{\circ}$	

Data collection

Nonius KappaCCD area-detector diffractometer Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 2006) $T_{\min} = 0.876$, $T_{\max} = 0.928$

14588 measured reflections 7908 independent reflections 4900 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$ $R_{\rm int} = 0.076$

Table 5 Hydrogen-bond geometry (\mathring{A} , $^{\circ}$) for (V).

$D-\mathbf{H}\cdot\cdot\cdot A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D-H\cdots A$
N1−H2···N3	0.87 (2)	1.96 (2)	2.628 (2)	133 (2)
N3−H3···Cl2	0.87 (2)	2.45 (2)	2.9779 (17)	119 (2)

Table 6

Average bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) for compounds (I)–(V), and comparison with the averages in two biguanides [CSD refcodes BIGUAN01 (Ernst & Cagle, 1977) and NIWCAY (Zheng *et al.*, 2007)].

Bond	Average in (I)–(V)	Average in biguanides	Angle	Average in (I)–(V)	Average in biguanides
N1-C1 C1-N2 N2-C2 C2-N3 C2-C3 C1-C4	1.327 (5) 1.323 (7) 1.370 (3) 1.278 (3) 1.552 (7) 1.488 (5)	1.325 (2) 1.329 (2) 1.382 (2) 1.295 (2)	N1-C1-N2 N1-C1-C4 C4-C1-N2 C1-N2-C2 N2-C2-N3 N2-C2-C3 N3-C2-C3	125.6 (2) 117.8 (4) 116.7 (3) 120.1 (2) 127.3 (3) 110.0 (4) 122.7 (4)	128.6 (2) 118.1 (2) 128.1 (2)

Refinement

$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.055$	H atoms treated by a mixture of
$wR(F^2) = 0.151$	independent and constrained
S = 0.97	refinement
7908 reflections	$\Delta \rho_{\text{max}} = 0.47 \text{ e Å}^{-3}$ $\Delta \rho_{\text{min}} = -0.49 \text{ e Å}^{-3}$
434 parameters	$\Delta \rho_{\min} = -0.49 \text{ e Å}^{-3}$
9 restraints	

Compound (III)

Crystal data

C ₉ H ₇ Cl ₄ N ₃	$V = 1221.7 (8) \text{ Å}^3$
$M_r = 298.98$	Z = 4
Monoclinic, $P2_1/n$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
a = 5.762 (2) Å	$\mu = 0.94 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
b = 22.711 (8) Å	T = 173 K
c = 9.713 (4) Å	$0.32 \times 0.10 \times 0.08 \text{ mm}$
$\beta = 106.031 \ (4)^{\circ}$	

Data collection

Bruker APEXII CCD area-detector	16666 measured reflections
diffractometer	2803 independent reflections
Absorption correction: multi-scan	2248 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
(SADABS; Bruker, 2006)	$R_{\rm int} = 0.041$
$T_{\min} = 0.613, T_{\max} = 0.746$	

Refinement

$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.050$	H atoms treated by a mixture of
$wR(F^2) = 0.122$	independent and constrained
S = 1.21	refinement
2803 reflections	$\Delta \rho_{\text{max}} = 0.50 \text{ e Å}^{-3}$
154 parameters	$\Delta \rho_{\min} = -0.35 \text{ e Å}^{-3}$
3 restraints	

Compound (IV)

Crystal data

C ₉ H ₇ BrCl ₃ N ₃	$V = 1259.7 (6) \text{ Å}^3$
$M_r = 343.44$	Z = 4
Monoclinic, $P2_1/n$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
a = 5.8124 (17) Å	$\mu = 3.87 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
b = 23.379 (7) Å	T = 173 K
c = 9.715 (3) Å	$0.22 \times 0.20 \times 0.11 \text{ mm}$
$\beta = 107.407 (3)^{\circ}$	

organic compounds

Data collection

Bruker APEXII CCD area-detector diffractometer
Absorption correction: multi-scan

Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 2006) $T_{\min} = 0.483$, $T_{\max} = 0.684$ 17762 measured reflections 2898 independent reflections 2563 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$ $R_{\rm int} = 0.068$

Refinement

 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.024$ $wR(F^2) = 0.062$ S = 1.082898 reflections 157 parameters

H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement $\Delta \rho_{max} = 0.61 \ e \ \mathring{A}^{-3}$ $\Delta \rho_{min} = -0.36 \ e \ \mathring{A}^{-3}$

Compound (V)

Crystal data

 $C_{10}H_7Cl_3F_3N_3$ $V = 1274.0 (3) Å^3$ $N_r = 332.54$ $N_r = 32.54$ $N_r = 1.2939 (17) Å <math>N_r = 1.2939 (17) Å$ $N_r = 1.2939 (17) Å$ $N_r = 1.73 M_r = 1.2939 (17) Å$ $N_r = 1.2$

Data collection

Bruker APEXII CCD area-detector diffractometer Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 2006) $T_{\min} = 0.699$, $T_{\max} = 0.746$

18460 measured reflections 3191 independent reflections 2862 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$ $R_{\rm int} = 0.018$

Refinement

 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.036$ $wR(F^2) = 0.098$ S = 1.063191 reflections 181 parameters 3 restraints H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement $\Delta \rho_{max} = 0.90 \text{ e Å}^{-3} \\ \Delta \rho_{min} = -0.58 \text{ e Å}^{-3}$

C-bound H atoms were treated as riding, with C—H = 0.98 Å and $U_{\rm iso}({\rm H})$ = 1.5 $U_{\rm eq}({\rm C})$ for methyl and C—H = 0.95–0.96 Å and $U_{\rm iso}({\rm H})$ = 1.2 $U_{\rm eq}({\rm C})$ for all other H atoms. The three N-bound H-atom positions were refined using a distance restraint of 0.88 Å and with $U_{\rm iso}({\rm H})$ = 1.2 $U_{\rm eq}({\rm N})$.

For all five compounds, data collection: *APEX2* (Bruker, 2006); cell refinement: *SAINT-Plus* (Bruker, 2006); data reduction: *SAINT-Plus*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 2008); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXTL* (Sheldrick, 2008); molecular graphics: *Mercury* (Macrae *et al.*, 2008); software used to prepare material for publication: *publCIF* (Westrip, 2010).

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Supplementary data for this paper are available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: YP3005). Services for accessing these data are described at the back of the journal.

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