

## 2-(1,2,3,4-Tetrahydro-9H-carbazol-1-ylidene)propanedinitrile

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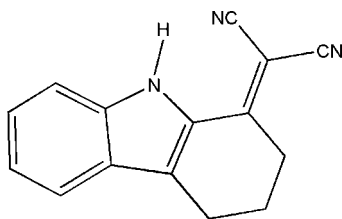
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Key indicators: single-crystal X-ray study;  $T = 293$  K; mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.002$  Å;  $R$  factor = 0.041;  $wR$  factor = 0.130; data-to-parameter ratio = 17.4.

In the title compound,  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_3$ , the cyclohexene ring adopts a sofa conformation. An intramolecular  $\text{N}-\text{H}\cdots\text{N}$  hydrogen bond generates an  $S(7)$  ring motif. In the crystal, molecules are linked by intermolecular  $\text{N}-\text{H}\cdots\text{N}$ ,  $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{N}$  and  $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\pi$  interactions into a three-dimensional network.

## Related literature

For the biological activity of carbazole derivatives, see: Shufen *et al.* (1995); Magnus *et al.* (1992); Abraham (1975); Saxton (1983); Phillipson & Zenk (1980); Bergman & Pelcman (1990); Kirtikar & Basu (1933); Chakraborty *et al.* (1973). For puckering parameters, see: Cremer & Pople (1975). For asymmetry parameters, see: Nardelli (1983). For hydrogen-bond motifs, see: Bernstein *et al.* (1995).



## Experimental

## Crystal data

$\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_3$   
 $M_r = 233.27$   
 Triclinic,  $P\bar{1}$   
 $a = 7.7631$  (10) Å  
 $b = 8.0003$  (10) Å  
 $c = 9.8933$  (13) Å  
 $\alpha = 87.461$  (8)°  
 $\beta = 82.392$  (8)°

$\gamma = 75.038$  (7)°  
 $V = 588.35$  (13) Å<sup>3</sup>  
 $Z = 2$   
 Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 $\mu = 0.08$  mm<sup>-1</sup>  
 $T = 293$  K  
 $0.20 \times 0.18 \times 0.17$  mm

## Data collection

Bruker SMART APEXII area-detector diffractometer  
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 2008)  
 $T_{\min} = 0.984$ ,  $T_{\max} = 0.986$

10589 measured reflections  
 2924 independent reflections  
 2339 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.039$

## Refinement

$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.041$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.130$   
 $S = 1.06$   
 2924 reflections  
 168 parameters  
 2 restraints

H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement  
 $\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.23$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 $\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.15$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>

Table 1

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

Cg3 is the centroid of the C8–C13 ring.

$D-\text{H}\cdots A$	$D-\text{H}$	$\text{H}\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-\text{H}\cdots A$
$\text{N1}-\text{H1}\cdots\text{N16}$	0.885 (17)	2.623 (17)	3.3314 (16)	137.8 (13)
$\text{N1}-\text{H1}\cdots\text{N16}^i$	0.885 (17)	2.279 (17)	3.0656 (17)	148.1 (14)
$\text{C12}-\text{H12}\cdots\text{N16}^i$	0.93	2.62	3.3254 (19)	133
$\text{C4}-\text{H4B}\cdots\text{Cg3}^{ii}$	0.97	2.86	3.6950 (15)	145

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

Data collection: APEX2 (Bruker, 2008); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 2008); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 2008); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 2008); molecular graphics: ORTEP-3 (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXL97 and PLATON (Spek, 2009).

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Supplementary data and figures for this paper are available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: BT5359).

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**supplementary materials**

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## 2-(1,2,3,4-Tetrahydro-9H-carbazol-1-ylidene)propanedinitrile

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### Comment

Carbazole alkaloids obtained from naturally occurring sources have been the subject of extensive research, mainly because of their widespread application in traditional medicine (Bergman & Pelcman, 1990; Kirtikar & Basu, 1933). Aminocarbazoles are widely used as intermediates for the preparation of carbazole-based synthetic dyes, agrochemicals, pharmaceuticals, light-sensitive materials (Shufen *et al.*, 1995). Tetrahydrocarbazole systems are present in the framework of a number of indole-type alkaloids of biological interest (Magnus *et al.*, 1992; Abraham, 1975; Saxton, 1983; Phillipson *et al.*, 1980). These types of compounds possess significant antibiotic, anti-carcinogenic, antiviral and anti-inflammatory properties (Chakraborty *et al.*, 1973). Against this background and to ascertain the molecular structure and conformation, the X-ray structure determination of the title compound has been carried out.

The *ORTEP* plot of the molecule is shown in Fig. 1. The cyclohexane ring in the carbazole ring system adopts sofa conformation with the puckering parameters (Cremer & Pople, 1975) and the asymmetry parameters (Nardelli, 1983) are:  $q_2 = 0.378$  (1) Å,  $q_3 = -0.274$  (1) Å,  $\varphi_2 = 353.6$  (2)° and  $\Delta_s(\text{C2 \& C5}) = 6.11$  (13)°. The sum of the bond angles around N1 [359.6°] is in accordance with  $sp^2$  hybridization. The bond angles of (C14—C15—N16) 178.3 (1)° and (C14—C17—N18) 178.9 (2)° show linear character of the cyano group, a feature observed in carbonitrile compounds.

The crystal packing reveals that symmetry-related molecules are linked through a network by C—H $\cdots$ N, N—H $\cdots$ N, C—H $\cdots$  $\pi$  and  $\pi\cdots\pi$  types of intra and intermolecular interactions. The intramolecular N1—H1 $\cdots$ N16 hydrogen bond generates a S(7) ring motif. The molecules at ( $x, y, z$ ) and ( $-x, -y + 1, -z$ ) are linked by C12—H12 $\cdots$ N16 hydrogen bonds into cyclic centrosymmetric  $R_2^2(18)$  dimer. The dimers are cross-linked *via* C—H $\cdots$  $\pi$  intermolecular interactions.

### Experimental

A mixture of 1-oxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole (7.5 mmol), and melanonitrile (7.5 mmol), ammonium acetate (0.57 g, 8.125 mmol) and acetic acid (1.5 ml, 24.75 mmol) in 12.5 ml of toluene was stirred at 105°C for five 5 h. On cooling the precipitate that formed was filtered off, washed with hexane (20 ml) and dried at 100°C to give a crude product of 1-(dicyanomethylene)-2,3,4-tetrahydrocarbazole. The crystals of the title compound suitable for single XRD analysis were obtained by the slow evaporation method by using dichloroethane as solvent at room temperature.

### Refinement

N-bound H atom was located in a difference map and refined isotropically. C-bound H atoms were positioned geometrically (C—H = 0.93–0.97 Å) and allowed to ride on their parent atoms, with  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$  for all H atoms. The components of the anisotropic displacement parameters of (C14–C15) and (C14–C17) in the direction of the bond between them were restrained to be equal within an effective standard deviation of 0.001.

## Figures

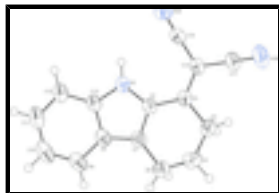


Fig. 1. The molecular structure of the title compound, showing the atomic numbering and displacement ellipsoids drawn at the 50% probability level.

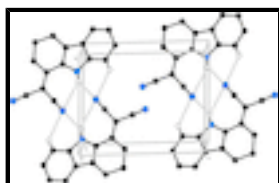


Fig. 2. The crystal packing of the title compound. H atoms not involved in hydrogen bonding (dashed lines) have been omitted for clarity.

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### Crystal data

$C_{15}H_{11}N_3$	$Z = 2$
$M_r = 233.27$	$F(000) = 244$
Triclinic, $P\bar{1}$	$D_x = 1.317 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
Hall symbol: $-P 1$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation, $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$
$a = 7.7631 (10) \text{ \AA}$	Cell parameters from 1654 reflections
$b = 8.0003 (10) \text{ \AA}$	$\theta = 2.1\text{--}28.4^\circ$
$c = 9.8933 (13) \text{ \AA}$	$\mu = 0.08 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$\alpha = 87.461 (8)^\circ$	$T = 293 \text{ K}$
$\beta = 82.392 (8)^\circ$	Block, colorless
$\gamma = 75.038 (7)^\circ$	$0.20 \times 0.18 \times 0.17 \text{ mm}$
$V = 588.35 (13) \text{ \AA}^3$	

### Data collection

Bruker SMART APEXII area-detector diffractometer	2924 independent reflections
Radiation source: fine-focus sealed tube graphite	2339 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
$\omega$ and $\phi$ scans	$R_{\text{int}} = 0.039$
Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 2008)	$\theta_{\text{max}} = 28.4^\circ$ , $\theta_{\text{min}} = 2.1^\circ$
$T_{\text{min}} = 0.984$ , $T_{\text{max}} = 0.986$	$h = -10 \rightarrow 10$
10589 measured reflections	$k = -10 \rightarrow 10$
	$l = -12 \rightarrow 13$

### Refinement

Refinement on $F^2$	Secondary atom site location: difference Fourier map
Least-squares matrix: full	Hydrogen site location: inferred from neighbouring sites

$$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.041$$

$$wR(F^2) = 0.130$$

$$S = 1.06$$

2924 reflections

168 parameters

2 restraints

Primary atom site location: structure-invariant direct methods

H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement

$$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0748P)^2 + 0.0374P]$$

$$\text{where } P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$$

$$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.003$$

$$\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.23 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$$

$$\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.15 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$$

Extinction correction: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 2008),

$$F_c^* = kF_c[1+0.001xF_c^2\lambda^3/\sin(2\theta)]^{-1/4}$$

Extinction coefficient: 0.038 (8)

### 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.

### Fractional atomic coordinates and isotropic or equivalent isotropic displacement parameters ( $\text{\AA}^2$ )

	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	$U_{\text{iso}}^*/U_{\text{eq}}$
N1	0.18203 (13)	0.14402 (13)	0.01388 (9)	0.0404 (2)
H1	0.118 (2)	0.252 (2)	0.0038 (17)	0.068 (4)*
C2	0.25866 (13)	0.06198 (14)	0.12645 (10)	0.0375 (2)
C3	0.26818 (13)	0.13570 (14)	0.25321 (10)	0.0380 (3)
C4	0.36565 (17)	0.01146 (17)	0.35406 (13)	0.0491 (3)
H4A	0.3179	0.0527	0.4456	0.059*
H4B	0.4918	0.0112	0.3398	0.059*
C5	0.35020 (18)	-0.17242 (16)	0.34360 (13)	0.0532 (3)
H5A	0.2257	-0.1756	0.3670	0.064*
H5B	0.4204	-0.2461	0.4078	0.064*
C6	0.41700 (17)	-0.23982 (16)	0.20031 (13)	0.0518 (3)
H6A	0.5464	-0.2582	0.1830	0.062*
H6B	0.3889	-0.3498	0.1910	0.062*
C7	0.32980 (14)	-0.11254 (14)	0.09931 (11)	0.0412 (3)
C8	0.29475 (14)	-0.13856 (15)	-0.03433 (12)	0.0430 (3)
C9	0.32862 (18)	-0.28496 (18)	-0.11570 (14)	0.0559 (3)
H9	0.3900	-0.3926	-0.0849	0.067*
C10	0.26989 (19)	-0.2670 (2)	-0.24143 (15)	0.0621 (4)
H10	0.2916	-0.3636	-0.2963	0.075*
C11	0.17753 (18)	-0.1052 (2)	-0.28854 (13)	0.0561 (3)
H11	0.1390	-0.0972	-0.3743	0.067*

## supplementary materials

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C12	0.14204 (16)	0.04168 (17)	-0.21264 (11)	0.0486 (3)
H12	0.0815	0.1487	-0.2451	0.058*
C13	0.20122 (14)	0.02303 (15)	-0.08386 (11)	0.0407 (3)
C14	0.20193 (15)	0.30577 (15)	0.28668 (11)	0.0436 (3)
C15	0.11508 (19)	0.43809 (15)	0.19901 (13)	0.0519 (3)
N16	0.0464 (2)	0.54705 (16)	0.13082 (13)	0.0753 (4)
C17	0.22133 (19)	0.36577 (18)	0.41741 (14)	0.0575 (3)
N18	0.2367 (2)	0.4156 (2)	0.51944 (15)	0.0918 (5)

### Atomic displacement parameters ( $\text{\AA}^2$ )

	$U^{11}$	$U^{22}$	$U^{33}$	$U^{12}$	$U^{13}$	$U^{23}$
N1	0.0490 (5)	0.0377 (5)	0.0343 (5)	-0.0091 (4)	-0.0075 (4)	-0.0041 (4)
C2	0.0391 (5)	0.0380 (5)	0.0360 (5)	-0.0103 (4)	-0.0051 (4)	-0.0024 (4)
C3	0.0375 (5)	0.0424 (6)	0.0356 (5)	-0.0120 (4)	-0.0056 (4)	-0.0026 (4)
C4	0.0505 (6)	0.0526 (7)	0.0441 (6)	-0.0081 (5)	-0.0158 (5)	0.0000 (5)
C5	0.0597 (7)	0.0476 (7)	0.0496 (7)	-0.0054 (5)	-0.0160 (5)	0.0062 (5)
C6	0.0517 (6)	0.0408 (6)	0.0591 (7)	-0.0023 (5)	-0.0114 (5)	-0.0020 (5)
C7	0.0392 (5)	0.0395 (6)	0.0435 (6)	-0.0073 (4)	-0.0035 (4)	-0.0055 (4)
C8	0.0418 (5)	0.0427 (6)	0.0433 (6)	-0.0102 (4)	0.0009 (4)	-0.0103 (5)
C9	0.0591 (7)	0.0477 (7)	0.0585 (8)	-0.0100 (5)	0.0009 (6)	-0.0191 (6)
C10	0.0647 (8)	0.0658 (9)	0.0577 (8)	-0.0225 (7)	0.0074 (6)	-0.0300 (7)
C11	0.0576 (7)	0.0769 (9)	0.0397 (6)	-0.0278 (7)	0.0000 (5)	-0.0173 (6)
C12	0.0521 (6)	0.0592 (7)	0.0371 (6)	-0.0183 (5)	-0.0043 (5)	-0.0075 (5)
C13	0.0418 (5)	0.0458 (6)	0.0357 (5)	-0.0140 (4)	-0.0010 (4)	-0.0075 (4)
C14	0.0511 (6)	0.0433 (6)	0.0391 (5)	-0.0133 (5)	-0.0107 (4)	-0.0061 (4)
C15	0.0725 (8)	0.0386 (6)	0.0466 (6)	-0.0132 (5)	-0.0150 (5)	-0.0068 (5)
N16	0.1197 (11)	0.0434 (6)	0.0624 (8)	-0.0100 (7)	-0.0318 (7)	0.0008 (6)
C17	0.0693 (8)	0.0528 (7)	0.0502 (7)	-0.0071 (6)	-0.0194 (6)	-0.0137 (6)
N18	0.1192 (12)	0.0874 (10)	0.0674 (9)	-0.0048 (9)	-0.0392 (8)	-0.0328 (8)

### Geometric parameters ( $\text{\AA}$ , $^\circ$ )

N1—C13	1.3655 (14)	C7—C8	1.4193 (16)
N1—C2	1.3906 (14)	C8—C9	1.3991 (16)
N1—H1	0.885 (17)	C8—C13	1.4114 (17)
C2—C7	1.3865 (15)	C9—C10	1.370 (2)
C2—C3	1.4278 (15)	C9—H9	0.9300
C3—C14	1.3634 (16)	C10—C11	1.401 (2)
C3—C4	1.5098 (16)	C10—H10	0.9300
C4—C5	1.5156 (19)	C11—C12	1.3698 (18)
C4—H4A	0.9700	C11—H11	0.9300
C4—H4B	0.9700	C12—C13	1.3997 (16)
C5—C6	1.5159 (18)	C12—H12	0.9300
C5—H5A	0.9700	C14—C15	1.4257 (17)
C5—H5B	0.9700	C14—C17	1.4386 (16)
C6—C7	1.4921 (16)	C15—N16	1.1413 (17)
C6—H6A	0.9700	C17—N18	1.1334 (17)
C6—H6B	0.9700		

C13—N1—C2	108.44 (9)	C2—C7—C8	106.56 (10)
C13—N1—H1	121.1 (11)	C2—C7—C6	123.35 (10)
C2—N1—H1	130.1 (11)	C8—C7—C6	130.04 (10)
C7—C2—N1	109.30 (9)	C9—C8—C13	119.21 (12)
C7—C2—C3	122.29 (10)	C9—C8—C7	133.37 (12)
N1—C2—C3	128.42 (10)	C13—C8—C7	107.37 (10)
C14—C3—C2	125.47 (10)	C10—C9—C8	118.88 (13)
C14—C3—C4	119.15 (10)	C10—C9—H9	120.6
C2—C3—C4	115.36 (10)	C8—C9—H9	120.6
C3—C4—C5	113.84 (10)	C9—C10—C11	120.89 (12)
C3—C4—H4A	108.8	C9—C10—H10	119.6
C5—C4—H4A	108.8	C11—C10—H10	119.6
C3—C4—H4B	108.8	C12—C11—C10	122.23 (12)
C5—C4—H4B	108.8	C12—C11—H11	118.9
H4A—C4—H4B	107.7	C10—C11—H11	118.9
C4—C5—C6	110.58 (11)	C11—C12—C13	116.83 (13)
C4—C5—H5A	109.5	C11—C12—H12	121.6
C6—C5—H5A	109.5	C13—C12—H12	121.6
C4—C5—H5B	109.5	N1—C13—C12	129.73 (11)
C6—C5—H5B	109.5	N1—C13—C8	108.31 (10)
H5A—C5—H5B	108.1	C12—C13—C8	121.95 (11)
C7—C6—C5	109.78 (10)	C3—C14—C15	125.01 (10)
C7—C6—H6A	109.7	C3—C14—C17	120.54 (11)
C5—C6—H6A	109.7	C15—C14—C17	114.43 (11)
C7—C6—H6B	109.7	N16—C15—C14	178.28 (13)
C5—C6—H6B	109.7	N18—C17—C14	178.87 (17)
H6A—C6—H6B	108.2		
C13—N1—C2—C7	0.92 (12)	C7—C8—C9—C10	177.34 (12)
C13—N1—C2—C3	-179.03 (10)	C8—C9—C10—C11	0.1 (2)
C7—C2—C3—C14	179.75 (10)	C9—C10—C11—C12	0.2 (2)
N1—C2—C3—C14	-0.31 (19)	C10—C11—C12—C13	-0.53 (18)
C7—C2—C3—C4	1.66 (15)	C2—N1—C13—C12	178.09 (11)
N1—C2—C3—C4	-178.40 (10)	C2—N1—C13—C8	-1.16 (12)
C14—C3—C4—C5	150.75 (11)	C11—C12—C13—N1	-178.53 (11)
C2—C3—C4—C5	-31.03 (14)	C11—C12—C13—C8	0.64 (17)
C3—C4—C5—C6	56.40 (14)	C9—C8—C13—N1	178.93 (10)
C4—C5—C6—C7	-50.35 (13)	C7—C8—C13—N1	0.97 (12)
N1—C2—C7—C8	-0.30 (12)	C9—C8—C13—C12	-0.40 (17)
C3—C2—C7—C8	179.65 (9)	C7—C8—C13—C12	-178.35 (10)
N1—C2—C7—C6	-177.95 (10)	C2—C3—C14—C15	-1.19 (19)
C3—C2—C7—C6	2.00 (17)	C4—C3—C14—C15	176.84 (11)
C5—C6—C7—C2	23.15 (15)	C2—C3—C14—C17	-179.26 (11)
C5—C6—C7—C8	-153.90 (12)	C4—C3—C14—C17	-1.23 (17)
C2—C7—C8—C9	-177.95 (12)	C3—C14—C15—N16	-161 (5)
C6—C7—C8—C9	-0.5 (2)	C17—C14—C15—N16	17 (5)
C2—C7—C8—C13	-0.40 (12)	C3—C14—C17—N18	149 (9)
C6—C7—C8—C13	177.03 (11)	C15—C14—C17—N18	-30 (9)
C13—C8—C9—C10	0.02 (18)		

## supplementary materials

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### Hydrogen-bond geometry ( $\text{\AA}$ , $^\circ$ )

Cg3 is the centroid of the C8–C13 ring.

$D-H\cdots A$	$D-H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-H\cdots A$
N1—H1 $\cdots$ N16	0.885 (17)	2.623 (17)	3.3314 (16)	137.8 (13)
N1—H1 $\cdots$ N16 <sup>i</sup>	0.885 (17)	2.279 (17)	3.0656 (17)	148.1 (14)
C12—H12 $\cdots$ N16 <sup>i</sup>	0.93	2.62	3.3254 (19)	133
C4—H4B $\cdots$ Cg3 <sup>ii</sup>	0.97	2.86	3.6950 (15)	145

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



Fig. 1

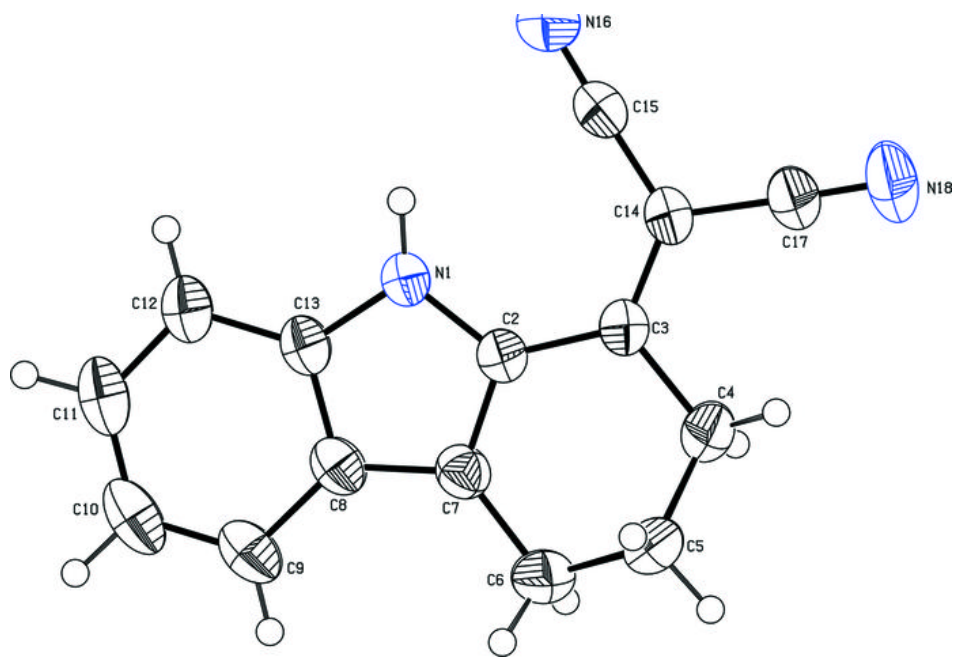


Fig. 2

