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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 173 KMean  $\sigma(C-C) = 0.002 \text{ Å}$ R factor = 0.026 wR factor = 0.067 Data-to-parameter ratio = 7.3

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

# 5-Amino-3*H*-isobenzofuran-1-one (5-aminophthalide)

The title compound, C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>7</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>, serves as an intermediate for the synthesis of citalogram. The packing of the planar molecules is stabilized by N-H···O and N-H···N hydrogen

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### Comment

Phthalide is a versatile synthetic building block, particularly for the synthesis of carbocyclic and heterocyclic compounds (Bradley et al., 1997). The title compound, (I), is an intermediate for the synthesis of citalogram, which is a versatile antidepressant (Liechti et al., 2000). A perspective view is shown in Fig. 1.

Bond lengths and angles can be regarded as normal (Cambridge Structural Database, Version 1.6 plus three updates; MOGUL Version 1.0; Allen, 2002). They agree with the values determined for o-phthalaldehyde (Majeed et al., 1998; Mendenhall et al., 2003), 6-nitrophthalide (Bradley et al., 1997), 3-hydroxyphthalide (Khoo & Hazell, 1999) and 5bromophthalide (Yathirajan et al., 2005). All non-H atoms are coplanar (r.m.s. deviation = 0.017 Å). The crystal packing (Fig. 2) is stabilized by N-H···O and N-H···N hydrogen bonds. The NH vector of the donor group is almost perpendicular (85.8°) to the plane formed by the acceptor NH2 group and the adjacent C atom.

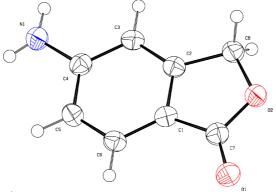


Figure 1 Perspective view of the title compound with the atom numbering; displacement ellipsoids are shown at the 50% probability level.

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### **Experimental**

5-Aminoisoindole-1,3-dione (1 g, 6.17 mmol) was heated at 353 K with zinc dust (1 g, 15.38 mmol) in 30% NaOH solution (10 ml) for 4 h. The residue was filtered off, the filtrate was acidified with concentrated HCl (20 ml) and the mass was heated at 353 K for 2 h. It was then cooled; the pH was adjusted to neutral using liquid NH $_3$ , and the resulting solid was filtered off and recrystallized from acetonitrile (m.p. 463–466 K).

## Crystal data

$C_8H_7NO_2$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation		
$M_r = 149.15$	Cell parameters from 12 413		
Orthorhombic, $P2_12_12_1$	reflections		
a = 4.6858 (7)  Å	$\theta = 4.0 - 25.7^{\circ}$		
b = 8.2573 (9)  Å	$\mu = 0.11 \text{ mm}^{-1}$		
c = 17.627 (2)  Å	T = 173 (2)  K		
$V = 682.02 (15) \text{ Å}^3$	Block, light brown		
Z = 4	$0.42 \times 0.38 \times 0.36 \text{ mm}$		
$D_x = 1.453 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$			

#### Data collection

Stoe IPDS-II two-circle	676 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$		
diffractometer	$R_{\rm int} = 0.050$		
$\omega$ scans	$\theta_{\rm max} = 25.7^{\circ}$		
Absorption correction: none	$h = -5 \rightarrow 5$		
8516 measured reflections	$k = -10 \rightarrow 9$		
789 independent reflections	$l = -21 \rightarrow 21$		

Refinement	
Refinement on $F^2$ $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.026$ $wR(F^2) = 0.067$ S = 1.04 789 reflections 108 parameters	H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0472P)^2]$ where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001_{\frac{1}{2}}$
	$\Delta \rho_{\text{max}} = 0.12 \text{ e Å}^{-3}$
	$\Delta \rho_{\min} = -0.13 \text{ e Å}^{-3}$

**Table 1** Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, °).

$D-H\cdots A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D-H\cdots A$
$N1-H1A\cdots O1^{i}$	0.96 (2)	2.03 (3)	2.953 (2)	161 (2)
$N1-H1B\cdots N1^{ii}$	0.82 (2)	2.40 (3)	3.200 (2)	166 (2)

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

H atoms were located in a difference map. Those bonded to carbon were positioned geometrically and refined with fixed individual displacement parameters [ $U_{\rm iso}({\rm H})=1.2U_{\rm eq}({\rm C})$ ] using a riding model, with C—H = 0.99 and 0.95 Å for methylene and aromatic CH groups, respectively. H atoms bonded to nitrogen were refined isotropically. In the absence of significant anomalous scattering effects, Friedel pairs were merged.

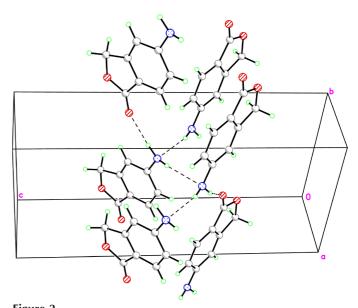


Figure 2
Packing diagram of the title compound; hydrogen bonds are shown as dashed lines.

Data collection: *X-AREA* (Stoe & Cie, 2001); cell refinement: *X-AREA*; data reduction: *X-AREA*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1990); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *PLATON* (Spek, 2003); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL97*.

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