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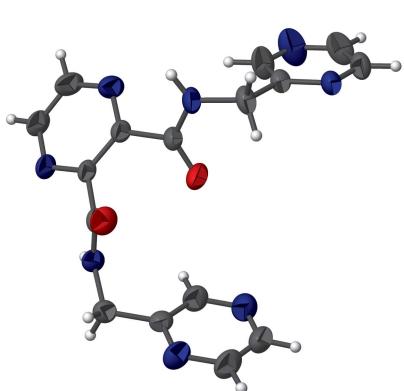
N,N'-Bis(pyrazin-2-ylmethyl)pyrazine-2,3-dicarboxamide

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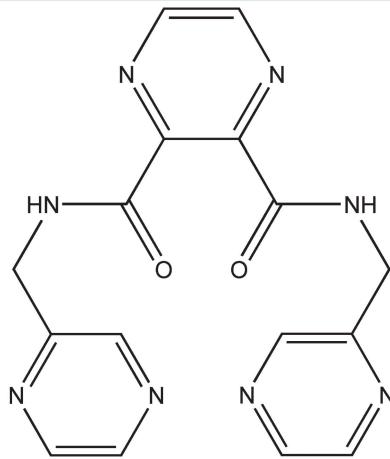
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The title compound, $C_{16}H_{14}N_8O_2$, was prepared by a condensation reaction between the dimethyl ester of pyrazine-2,3-dicarboxylic acid and an excess of 2-(aminomethyl)pyrazine. The molecule is approximately V-shaped with the central pyrazine ring joined through amide linkages to two pyrazin-2-ylmethyl substituents. In the crystal, molecules are linked by $N-H\cdots O$, $N-H\cdots N$ and $C-H\cdots O$ hydrogen bonds, forming a three-dimensional framework.

3D view



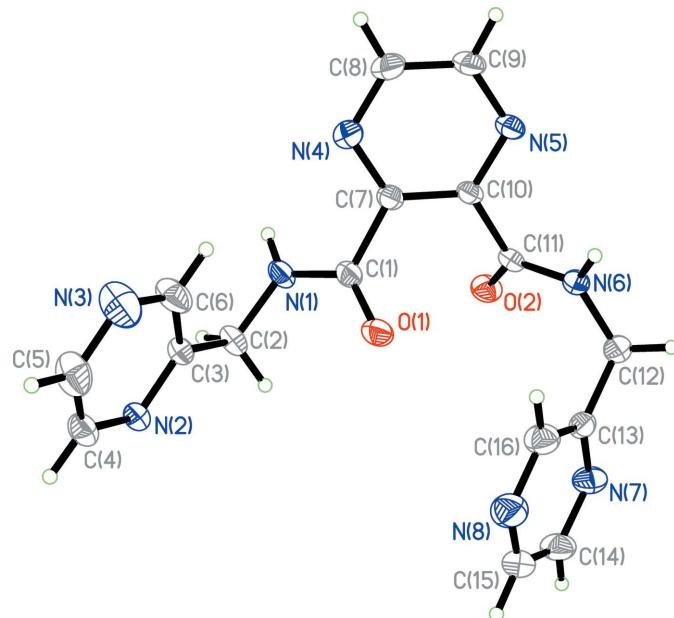
Chemical scheme



Structure description

Pyrazine-based amide ligands have played a very important role in coordination chemistry (Cati *et al.*, 2004; Cati & Stoeckli-Evans, 2004*a,b*; Klingele *et al.*, 2007). The crystal structure of a symmetrical diamide ligand (Cati & Stoeckli-Evans, 2004*c*) and its bi- and tetranuclear copper(II) complexes have also been reported (Cati & Stoeckli-Evans, 2004*d*; Hausmann *et al.*, 2003; Hausmann & Brooker 2004). In order to expand the research scope of this pyrazine-2,3-bisamide ligand system, we have prepared the title compound to investigate its potential use as a ligand in transition metal chemistry.

There are three pyrazine rings in the title compound (Fig. 1). The outer pair are linked to the central pyrazine ring by two $CH_2-NH-C(O)-amide$ units, forming a V-shaped structure. The two outer pyrazine rings are inclined to the central ring by $48.98(8)$ and $47.87(8)^\circ$. In the crystal, $N-H\cdots O$, $N-H\cdots N$ and $C-H\cdots O$ hydrogen bonds generate a three-dimensional framework (Table 1 Fig. 2). The coordination modes of the ligand system could be more flexible than those of previously reported pyrazine-based ligands due to the N atoms of the outer pyrazine rings. These could be used in a bridging sense with the potential to construct metal-organic frameworks.

**Figure 1**

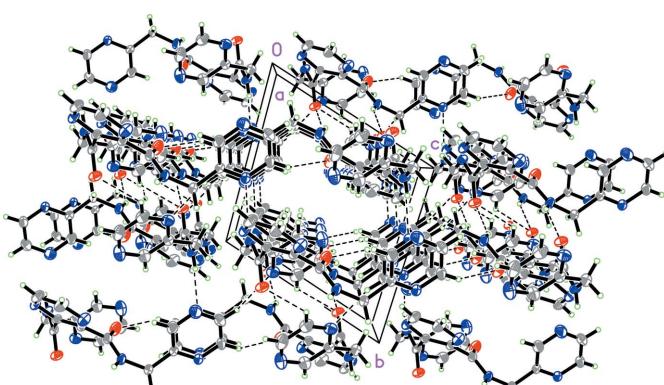
The stucture of the title compound, showing the atom numbering with ellipsoids drawn at the 30% probability level

Synthesis and crystallization

All reagents and solvents for the synthesis were purchased from commercial sources and used as received without further purification. The title compound was prepared by the condensation reaction of the dimethyl ester pyrazine-2,3-dicarboxylate (3.92g, 20mmol) with 2-aminomethylpyrazine (2.18g, 20mmol) under reflux in 15mL of methanol for 12h. Solvent was removed by rotary evaporation to give a light-yellow solid. Recrystallization from CH₃OH solution gave colorless crystals suitable for X-ray analysis.

Refinement

Crystal data, data collection and structure refinement details are summarized in Table 2.

**Figure 2**

Crystal packing viewed along the *a* axis direction with hydrogen bonds shown as dashed lines

Table 1
Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

<i>D</i> —H··· <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> —H	H··· <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> ··· <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> —H··· <i>A</i>
N1—H1···O2 ⁱ	0.86	2.26	2.9940 (18)	144
N6—H6···N2 ⁱⁱ	0.86	2.06	2.914 (2)	174
C4—H4···O1 ⁱⁱⁱ	0.93	2.52	3.369 (2)	152
C5—H5···N7 ^{iv}	0.93	2.46	3.359 (3)	162
C14—H14···O2 ^v	0.93	2.56	3.236 (2)	130

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

Table 2
Experimental details.

Crystal data	
Chemical formula	C ₁₆ H ₁₄ N ₈ O ₂
M _r	350.35
Crystal system, space group	Triclinic, <i>P</i> ̄ <i>1</i>
Temperature (K)	296
<i>a</i> , <i>b</i> , <i>c</i> (Å)	9.1166 (18), 10.022 (2), 10.781 (2)
α, β, γ (°)	116.951 (2), 97.130 (2), 102.195 (2)
<i>V</i> (Å ³)	830.5 (3)
<i>Z</i>	2
Radiation type	Mo <i>K</i> α
μ (mm ⁻¹)	0.10
Crystal size (mm)	0.22 × 0.20 × 0.20
Data collection	
Diffractometer	Bruker SMART APEXII CCD area-detector
No. of measured, independent and observed [<i>I</i> > 2σ(<i>I</i>)] reflections	3527, 3527, 2595
<i>R</i> _{int}	0.016
(sin θ/λ) _{max} (Å ⁻¹)	0.653
Refinement	
<i>R</i> [F ² > 2σ(F ²)], <i>wR</i> (F ²), <i>S</i>	0.041, 0.132, 1.05
No. of reflections	3527
No. of parameters	235
H-atom treatment	H-atom parameters constrained
Δρ _{max} , Δρ _{min} (e Å ⁻³)	0.15, -0.17

Computer programs: *APEX2* and *SAINT* (Bruker, 2013), *SHELXT* (Sheldrick, 2015a), *SHELXL2014* (Sheldrick, 2015b) and *OLEX2* (Dolomanov *et al.*, 2009).

Acknowledgements

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full crystallographic data

IUCrData (2016). **1**, x161588 [https://doi.org/10.1107/S2414314616015881]

N,N'-Bis(pyrazin-2-ylmethyl)pyrazine-2,3-dicarboxamide

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N,N'-Bis(pyrazin-2-ylmethyl)pyrazine-2,3-dicarboxamide

Crystal data

$C_{16}H_{14}N_8O_2$	$Z = 2$
$M_r = 350.35$	$F(000) = 364$
Triclinic, $P\bar{1}$	$D_x = 1.401 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
$a = 9.1166 (18) \text{ \AA}$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation, $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ \AA}$
$b = 10.022 (2) \text{ \AA}$	Cell parameters from 2164 reflections
$c = 10.781 (2) \text{ \AA}$	$\theta = 2.3\text{--}26.7^\circ$
$\alpha = 116.951 (2)^\circ$	$\mu = 0.10 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$\beta = 97.130 (2)^\circ$	$T = 296 \text{ K}$
$\gamma = 102.195 (2)^\circ$	Block, colourless
$V = 830.5 (3) \text{ \AA}^3$	$0.22 \times 0.20 \times 0.20 \text{ mm}$

Data collection

Bruker SMART APEXII CCD area-detector diffractometer	2595 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
Radiation source: fine focus sealed tube	$R_{\text{int}} = 0.016$
Graphite monochromator	$\theta_{\text{max}} = 27.7^\circ, \theta_{\text{min}} = 2.2^\circ$
φ and ω scans	$h = -11 \rightarrow 11$
3527 measured reflections	$k = -13 \rightarrow 11$
3527 independent reflections	$l = -13 \rightarrow 13$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2	Hydrogen site location: mixed
Least-squares matrix: full	H-atom parameters constrained
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.041$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0759P)^2 + 0.0242P]$
$wR(F^2) = 0.132$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$S = 1.05$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$
3527 reflections	$\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.15 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
235 parameters	$\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.17 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
0 restraints	

Special details

Geometry. All esds (except the esd in the dihedral angle between two l.s. planes) are estimated using the full covariance matrix. The cell esds are taken into account individually in the estimation of esds in distances, angles and torsion angles; correlations between esds in cell parameters are only used when they are defined by crystal symmetry. An approximate (isotropic) treatment of cell esds is used for estimating esds involving l.s. planes.

Fractional atomic coordinates and isotropic or equivalent isotropic displacement parameters (\AA^2)

	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	$U_{\text{iso}}^*/U_{\text{eq}}$
O1	0.44574 (13)	0.72355 (16)	0.68709 (12)	0.0573 (4)
O2	0.72074 (13)	1.03109 (13)	0.82972 (12)	0.0489 (3)
N1	0.35307 (13)	0.81613 (15)	0.88449 (13)	0.0423 (3)
H1	0.3740	0.8582	0.9766	0.051*
N2	-0.04468 (13)	0.59908 (14)	0.66043 (13)	0.0385 (3)
N3	0.0331 (2)	0.3695 (2)	0.7075 (2)	0.0799 (6)
N4	0.59054 (16)	0.72344 (19)	0.99377 (15)	0.0525 (4)
N5	0.88003 (14)	0.81968 (16)	0.94792 (13)	0.0432 (3)
N6	0.84472 (14)	0.86414 (16)	0.69834 (13)	0.0398 (3)
H6	0.8840	0.7905	0.6898	0.048*
N7	0.68896 (18)	0.96134 (17)	0.43602 (15)	0.0522 (4)
N8	0.48052 (19)	0.6643 (2)	0.32238 (17)	0.0695 (5)
C1	0.46175 (16)	0.77287 (18)	0.81589 (15)	0.0379 (4)
C2	0.20077 (16)	0.79296 (18)	0.80565 (17)	0.0424 (4)
H2A	0.2119	0.8171	0.7291	0.051*
H2B	0.1541	0.8659	0.8699	0.051*
C3	0.09378 (16)	0.62856 (17)	0.74138 (15)	0.0360 (3)
C4	-0.14353 (18)	0.45555 (19)	0.60466 (18)	0.0490 (4)
H4	-0.2414	0.4312	0.5482	0.059*
C5	-0.1042 (2)	0.3430 (2)	0.6286 (2)	0.0665 (6)
H5	-0.1766	0.2443	0.5879	0.080*
C6	0.1310 (2)	0.5138 (2)	0.7640 (2)	0.0610 (5)
H6A	0.2285	0.5379	0.8211	0.073*
C7	0.60761 (16)	0.78146 (17)	0.90534 (15)	0.0363 (3)
C8	0.7197 (2)	0.7138 (2)	1.0583 (2)	0.0603 (5)
H8	0.7136	0.6766	1.1230	0.072*
C9	0.8614 (2)	0.7568 (2)	1.03266 (18)	0.0517 (4)
H9	0.9465	0.7416	1.0757	0.062*
C10	0.75270 (16)	0.83414 (17)	0.88594 (14)	0.0334 (3)
C11	0.77139 (16)	0.91900 (18)	0.80107 (15)	0.0358 (3)
C12	0.86012 (18)	0.9254 (2)	0.60010 (17)	0.0454 (4)
H12A	0.9436	0.8978	0.5560	0.054*
H12B	0.8884	1.0391	0.6544	0.054*
C13	0.71396 (17)	0.86430 (18)	0.48330 (15)	0.0397 (4)
C14	0.5594 (2)	0.9103 (2)	0.33497 (19)	0.0607 (5)
H14	0.5376	0.9763	0.3013	0.073*
C15	0.4576 (2)	0.7646 (3)	0.2793 (2)	0.0645 (6)
H15	0.3686	0.7342	0.2084	0.077*
C16	0.6093 (2)	0.7170 (2)	0.42593 (19)	0.0561 (5)
H16	0.6294	0.6515	0.4609	0.067*

Atomic displacement parameters (\AA^2)

	U^{11}	U^{22}	U^{33}	U^{12}	U^{13}	U^{23}
O1	0.0428 (7)	0.0868 (9)	0.0372 (6)	0.0231 (6)	0.0054 (5)	0.0262 (6)

O2	0.0534 (7)	0.0522 (7)	0.0530 (7)	0.0304 (6)	0.0143 (5)	0.0292 (6)
N1	0.0275 (6)	0.0489 (8)	0.0373 (7)	0.0097 (6)	0.0023 (5)	0.0130 (6)
N2	0.0311 (6)	0.0396 (7)	0.0400 (7)	0.0083 (6)	0.0054 (5)	0.0178 (6)
N3	0.0610 (11)	0.0556 (10)	0.1300 (16)	0.0145 (9)	0.0086 (11)	0.0567 (11)
N4	0.0498 (8)	0.0739 (10)	0.0550 (9)	0.0270 (7)	0.0203 (7)	0.0436 (8)
N5	0.0369 (7)	0.0564 (8)	0.0423 (7)	0.0211 (6)	0.0057 (6)	0.0273 (7)
N6	0.0383 (7)	0.0510 (8)	0.0449 (7)	0.0226 (6)	0.0131 (6)	0.0311 (6)
N7	0.0629 (9)	0.0526 (9)	0.0490 (8)	0.0239 (7)	0.0090 (7)	0.0301 (7)
N8	0.0603 (10)	0.0770 (12)	0.0580 (10)	-0.0004 (9)	0.0033 (8)	0.0346 (9)
C1	0.0301 (8)	0.0415 (8)	0.0363 (8)	0.0077 (6)	0.0034 (6)	0.0170 (7)
C2	0.0281 (8)	0.0388 (8)	0.0516 (9)	0.0095 (6)	0.0037 (6)	0.0171 (7)
C3	0.0297 (7)	0.0378 (8)	0.0404 (8)	0.0123 (6)	0.0079 (6)	0.0186 (7)
C4	0.0351 (9)	0.0474 (10)	0.0492 (9)	0.0037 (7)	0.0023 (7)	0.0173 (8)
C5	0.0553 (12)	0.0404 (10)	0.0930 (15)	0.0037 (9)	0.0122 (11)	0.0304 (10)
C6	0.0423 (10)	0.0547 (11)	0.0892 (14)	0.0126 (8)	0.0000 (9)	0.0432 (11)
C7	0.0344 (8)	0.0415 (8)	0.0331 (7)	0.0147 (6)	0.0068 (6)	0.0176 (6)
C8	0.0671 (12)	0.0868 (14)	0.0607 (11)	0.0385 (11)	0.0240 (9)	0.0551 (11)
C9	0.0493 (10)	0.0729 (12)	0.0515 (10)	0.0335 (9)	0.0106 (8)	0.0400 (9)
C10	0.0306 (7)	0.0388 (8)	0.0303 (7)	0.0151 (6)	0.0042 (5)	0.0156 (6)
C11	0.0275 (7)	0.0416 (8)	0.0381 (8)	0.0122 (6)	0.0018 (6)	0.0203 (7)
C12	0.0424 (9)	0.0545 (10)	0.0485 (9)	0.0144 (8)	0.0123 (7)	0.0329 (8)
C13	0.0430 (9)	0.0454 (9)	0.0382 (8)	0.0173 (7)	0.0146 (7)	0.0241 (7)
C14	0.0647 (12)	0.0776 (14)	0.0540 (11)	0.0323 (11)	0.0099 (9)	0.0407 (10)
C15	0.0495 (11)	0.0973 (17)	0.0501 (11)	0.0189 (11)	0.0059 (8)	0.0422 (11)
C16	0.0582 (11)	0.0573 (11)	0.0551 (10)	0.0100 (9)	0.0067 (9)	0.0348 (9)

Geometric parameters (\AA , $^\circ$)

O1—C1	1.2210 (17)	C2—C3	1.505 (2)
O2—C11	1.2291 (18)	C2—H2A	0.9700
N1—C1	1.3376 (19)	C2—H2B	0.9700
N1—C2	1.4479 (18)	C3—C6	1.377 (2)
N1—H1	0.8599	C4—C5	1.372 (3)
N2—C4	1.3328 (19)	C4—H4	0.9300
N2—C3	1.3333 (18)	C5—H5	0.9300
N3—C5	1.323 (3)	C6—H6A	0.9300
N3—C6	1.335 (2)	C7—C10	1.395 (2)
N4—C7	1.3312 (19)	C8—C9	1.375 (3)
N4—C8	1.336 (2)	C8—H8	0.9300
N5—C9	1.3327 (19)	C9—H9	0.9300
N5—C10	1.3347 (18)	C10—C11	1.507 (2)
N6—C11	1.3278 (19)	C12—C13	1.509 (2)
N6—C12	1.4523 (18)	C12—H12A	0.9700
N6—H6	0.8601	C12—H12B	0.9700
N7—C14	1.328 (2)	C13—C16	1.379 (2)
N7—C13	1.3311 (19)	C14—C15	1.359 (3)
N8—C15	1.326 (3)	C14—H14	0.9300
N8—C16	1.335 (2)	C15—H15	0.9300

C1—C7	1.5046 (19)	C16—H16	0.9300
C1—N1—C2	120.84 (13)	N4—C7—C10	121.72 (14)
C1—N1—H1	119.6	N4—C7—C1	116.92 (13)
C2—N1—H1	119.6	C10—C7—C1	121.09 (13)
C4—N2—C3	116.98 (14)	N4—C8—C9	122.50 (15)
C5—N3—C6	115.74 (17)	N4—C8—H8	118.8
C7—N4—C8	115.88 (14)	C9—C8—H8	118.7
C9—N5—C10	116.27 (13)	N5—C9—C8	121.79 (15)
C11—N6—C12	121.60 (13)	N5—C9—H9	119.1
C11—N6—H6	119.2	C8—C9—H9	119.1
C12—N6—H6	119.2	N5—C10—C7	121.65 (13)
C14—N7—C13	116.96 (15)	N5—C10—C11	117.86 (12)
C15—N8—C16	115.45 (17)	C7—C10—C11	120.38 (12)
O1—C1—N1	123.67 (14)	O2—C11—N6	124.70 (14)
O1—C1—C7	119.96 (14)	O2—C11—C10	119.93 (13)
N1—C1—C7	116.32 (13)	N6—C11—C10	115.38 (13)
N1—C2—C3	113.38 (13)	N6—C12—C13	113.24 (12)
N1—C2—H2A	108.9	N6—C12—H12A	108.9
C3—C2—H2A	108.9	C13—C12—H12A	108.9
N1—C2—H2B	108.9	N6—C12—H12B	108.9
C3—C2—H2B	108.9	C13—C12—H12B	108.9
H2A—C2—H2B	107.7	H12A—C12—H12B	107.7
N2—C3—C6	120.59 (14)	N7—C13—C16	120.23 (15)
N2—C3—C2	115.50 (13)	N7—C13—C12	116.23 (14)
C6—C3—C2	123.90 (14)	C16—C13—C12	123.54 (15)
N2—C4—C5	121.50 (16)	N7—C14—C15	122.10 (17)
N2—C4—H4	119.3	N7—C14—H14	119.0
C5—C4—H4	119.3	C15—C14—H14	119.0
N3—C5—C4	122.44 (17)	N8—C15—C14	122.35 (17)
N3—C5—H5	118.8	N8—C15—H15	118.8
C4—C5—H5	118.8	C14—C15—H15	118.8
N3—C6—C3	122.74 (17)	N8—C16—C13	122.89 (17)
N3—C6—H6A	118.6	N8—C16—H16	118.6
C3—C6—H6A	118.6	C13—C16—H16	118.6
C2—N1—C1—O1	5.8 (2)	C9—N5—C10—C11	174.14 (14)
C2—N1—C1—C7	−171.79 (12)	N4—C7—C10—N5	4.4 (2)
C1—N1—C2—C3	81.57 (18)	C1—C7—C10—N5	−169.43 (14)
C4—N2—C3—C6	0.5 (2)	N4—C7—C10—C11	−171.71 (14)
C4—N2—C3—C2	−178.48 (14)	C1—C7—C10—C11	14.5 (2)
N1—C2—C3—N2	−176.08 (12)	C12—N6—C11—O2	−5.5 (2)
N1—C2—C3—C6	5.0 (2)	C12—N6—C11—C10	174.84 (12)
C3—N2—C4—C5	−0.5 (2)	N5—C10—C11—O2	−125.27 (15)
C6—N3—C5—C4	0.7 (3)	C7—C10—C11—O2	50.96 (19)
N2—C4—C5—N3	−0.1 (3)	N5—C10—C11—N6	54.42 (18)
C5—N3—C6—C3	−0.6 (3)	C7—C10—C11—N6	−129.35 (15)
N2—C3—C6—N3	0.1 (3)	C11—N6—C12—C13	−77.41 (19)

C2—C3—C6—N3	178.94 (18)	C14—N7—C13—C16	1.2 (2)
C8—N4—C7—C10	-2.3 (2)	C14—N7—C13—C12	-178.84 (14)
C8—N4—C7—C1	171.75 (16)	N6—C12—C13—N7	148.37 (14)
O1—C1—C7—N4	-132.13 (17)	N6—C12—C13—C16	-31.7 (2)
N1—C1—C7—N4	45.6 (2)	C13—N7—C14—C15	-1.4 (3)
O1—C1—C7—C10	42.0 (2)	C16—N8—C15—C14	1.0 (3)
N1—C1—C7—C10	-140.35 (15)	N7—C14—C15—N8	0.3 (3)
C7—N4—C8—C9	-1.7 (3)	C15—N8—C16—C13	-1.2 (3)
C10—N5—C9—C8	-2.0 (3)	N7—C13—C16—N8	0.1 (3)
N4—C8—C9—N5	4.0 (3)	C12—C13—C16—N8	-179.88 (16)
C9—N5—C10—C7	-2.0 (2)		

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °)

D—H···A	D—H	H···A	D···A	D—H···A
N1—H1···O2 ⁱ	0.86	2.26	2.9940 (18)	144
N6—H6···N2 ⁱⁱ	0.86	2.06	2.914 (2)	174
C4—H4···O1 ⁱⁱⁱ	0.93	2.52	3.369 (2)	152
C5—H5···N7 ^{iv}	0.93	2.46	3.359 (3)	162
C14—H14···O2 ^v	0.93	2.56	3.236 (2)	130

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