

Acta Crystallographica Section E

## Structure Reports

Online

ISSN 1600-5368

## [1,1-(Butane-1,4-diyl)-2,3-dicyclohexyl-guanidinato]dimethylaluminum(III)

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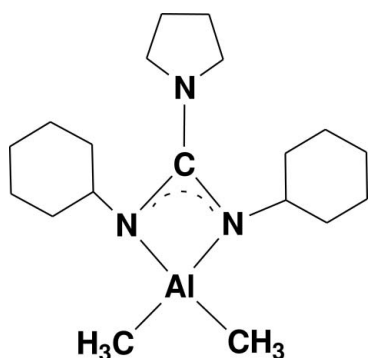
Received 17 October 2010; accepted 12 November 2010

Key indicators: single-crystal X-ray study;  $T = 293$  K; mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.008$  Å;  $R$  factor = 0.095;  $wR$  factor = 0.232; data-to-parameter ratio = 16.6.

In the crystal structure of the title complex,  $[\text{Al}(\text{CH}_3)_2(\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_3)]$ , the  $\text{Al}^{\text{III}}$  cation is coordinated by two methyl ligands and two N atoms from the guanidinato ligand in a distorted tetrahedral geometry. The dihedral angle between the  $\text{CN}_2$  and  $\text{AlC}_2$  planes is  $85.37(2)^\circ$ . The two N atoms of the guanidinato ligand exhibit an almost uniform affinity to the metal atom.

## Related literature

For related guanidinato compounds, see: Chandra *et al.* (1970); Coles & Hitchcock (2004); Corey *et al.* (2006); Zhou *et al.* (2007). For related *ortho* metalation reactions, see: Kondo *et al.* (2007).



## Experimental

## Crystal data

$[\text{Al}(\text{CH}_3)_2(\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_3)]$   
 $M_r = 333.49$   
 Orthorhombic, *Pbcn*  
 $a = 18.263(4)$  Å  
 $b = 10.596(2)$  Å  
 $c = 10.449(2)$  Å

$V = 2022.0(7)$  Å<sup>3</sup>  
 $Z = 4$   
 Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 $\mu = 0.11$  mm<sup>-1</sup>  
 $T = 293$  K  
 $0.40 \times 0.30 \times 0.30$  mm

## Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector diffractometer  
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (*SADABS*; Sheldrick, 1996)  
 $T_{\text{min}} = 0.959$ ,  $T_{\text{max}} = 0.969$

7156 measured reflections  
 1772 independent reflections  
 1630 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.059$

## Refinement

$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.095$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.232$   
 $S = 1.42$   
 1772 reflections

107 parameters  
 H-atom parameters constrained  
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.31$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.43$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>

Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

|                       |           |                          |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Al—N1                 | 1.922 (4) | Al—C18                   | 1.961 (6) |
| N1—Al—N1 <sup>i</sup> | 69.8 (2)  | C18 <sup>i</sup> —Al—C18 | 114.2 (4) |

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

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 2000); cell refinement: *SAINT* (Bruker, 2000); data reduction: *SAINT*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 2008); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 2008); molecular graphics: *DIAMOND* (Brandenburg, 1999); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL97*.

This work was carried out under the sponsorship of the Nature Science Foundation of Shanxi Province (2008012013-2).

Supplementary data and figures for this paper are available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: JH2223).

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## supporting information

*Acta Cryst.* (2010). E66, m1598 [https://doi.org/10.1107/S1600536810046787]

**[1,1-(Butane-1,4-diyl)-2,3-dicyclohexylguanidinato]dimethylaluminum(III)****Haoyang Li, Yonggang Xiang and Hongfei Han****S1. Comment**

Since the first guanidinato complexes have been reported in 1970 by Lappert *et al.* (Chandra *et al.*, 1970), guanidinato ligands have been used extensively in the coordination chemistry of transition, f-block, and main-group metals (Corey *et al.*, 2006). Moreover many guanidinato complexes were reported showing good performance in ethylene polymerization (Zhou *et al.*, 2007) and in Ring-Opening Polymerisation (Coles & Hitchcock, 2004). It implied that the guanidinato complex would behave better in catalysis application.

There has been a great deal of research in directed ortho metalation reactions (Kondo *et al.*, 2007). We had expected guanidinato lithium, the result of the addition of *N,N'*-dicyclohexyl carbodiimide with *N*-tetrahydropyrrolyl lithium, when reacting with trimethyl aluminum, to produced a new kind of complex containing Al and Li atoms. However, X-ray diffraction on the complex obtained in the reaction revealed that the Li atom was replaced by Al atom surprisingly. Its molecular structure is shown in Fig. 1. In the molecular structure of the complex, the metal atom is chelated with the guanidinato ligand. The four-coordinate Al(III) center demonstrates a highly distorted tetrahedral geometry. The distances from the two N atoms to Al atom are almost equal [N1-Al: 1.918 (4) Å, N2-Al: 1.925 (4) Å]. It indicates that the two N atoms of guanidinato ligand exhibit almost uniform affinity to the metal center.

**S2. Experimental**

A solution of *N*-tetrahydropyrrolyl lithium in diethylether (0.232g, 3mmol) was added dropwise with stirring at 273K to a solution of 0.619g (3mmol) of *N,N'*-dicyclohexyl carbodiimide in ether. The mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 2h. A 2M solution of trimethylaluminum in heaxene (1.5mL, 3mmol) was added at 195K to the mixed solution. The mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 12h. Concentration of the filtrate under reduced pressure produced the colorless crystals suitable for X-ray analysis 3 days later (yield 0.620g, 62%).

**S3. Refinement**

Positional parameters of all H atoms were calculated geometrically.

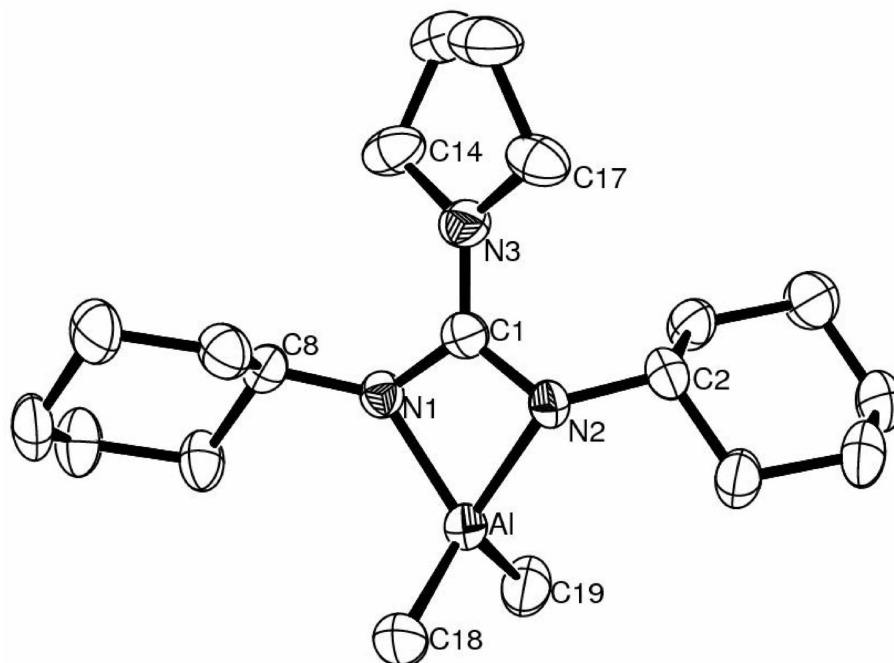


Figure 1

The molecular structure, showing the atom-numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level. H atoms are presented as a small spheres of arbitrary radius.

**[1,1-(Butane-1,4-diyl)-2,3-dicyclohexylguanidinato]dimethylaluminum(III)**

*Crystal data*

[Al(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>3</sub>)]

$M_r = 333.49$

Orthorhombic, *Pbcn*

$a = 18.263$  (4) Å

$b = 10.596$  (2) Å

$c = 10.449$  (2) Å

$V = 2022.0$  (7) Å<sup>3</sup>

$Z = 4$

$F(000) = 736$

$D_x = 1.095$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation,  $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å

Cell parameters from 4606 reflections

$\theta = 3.0$ – $27.0^\circ$

$\mu = 0.11$  mm<sup>-1</sup>

$T = 293$  K

Block, colorless

$0.40 \times 0.30 \times 0.30$  mm

*Data collection*

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector  
diffractometer

Radiation source: fine-focus sealed tube

Graphite monochromator

phi and  $\omega$  scans

Absorption correction: multi-scan

(*SADABS*; Sheldrick, 1996)

$T_{\min} = 0.959$ ,  $T_{\max} = 0.969$

7156 measured reflections

1772 independent reflections

1630 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$

$R_{\text{int}} = 0.059$

$\theta_{\max} = 25.0^\circ$ ,  $\theta_{\min} = 2.2^\circ$

$h = -21 \rightarrow 21$

$k = -12 \rightarrow 7$

$l = -11 \rightarrow 12$

*Refinement*

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 Least-squares matrix: full  
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.095$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.232$   
 $S = 1.42$   
 1772 reflections  
 107 parameters  
 0 restraints  
 Primary atom site location: structure-invariant  
 direct methods

Secondary atom site location: difference Fourier  
 map  
 Hydrogen site location: inferred from  
 neighbouring sites  
 H-atom parameters constrained  
 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.P)^2 + 5.155P]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.005$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.31 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.43 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$

*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.

**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  $F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)$  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 ( $\text{Å}^2$ )*

|      | <i>x</i>     | <i>y</i>     | <i>z</i>   | $U_{\text{iso}}^*/U_{\text{eq}}$ |
|------|--------------|--------------|------------|----------------------------------|
| Al   | 0.5000       | 0.29276 (18) | 0.2500     | 0.0381 (6)                       |
| N1   | 0.45266 (19) | 0.1440 (3)   | 0.1850 (3) | 0.0310 (8)                       |
| N3   | 0.5000       | -0.0569 (5)  | 0.2500     | 0.0397 (13)                      |
| C1   | 0.5000       | 0.0706 (6)   | 0.2500     | 0.0318 (13)                      |
| C2   | 0.3760 (2)   | 0.1118 (4)   | 0.1598 (4) | 0.0334 (10)                      |
| H2   | 0.3744       | 0.0415       | 0.0989     | 0.040*                           |
| C3   | 0.3350 (3)   | 0.0733 (5)   | 0.2815 (5) | 0.0418 (12)                      |
| H3A  | 0.3575       | -0.0019      | 0.3170     | 0.050*                           |
| H3B  | 0.3392       | 0.1402       | 0.3444     | 0.050*                           |
| C4   | 0.2546 (3)   | 0.0474 (5)   | 0.2557 (7) | 0.0611 (15)                      |
| H4A  | 0.2302       | 0.0270       | 0.3355     | 0.073*                           |
| H4B  | 0.2501       | -0.0247      | 0.1991     | 0.073*                           |
| C5   | 0.2177 (3)   | 0.1614 (6)   | 0.1948 (6) | 0.0569 (15)                      |
| H5A  | 0.1673       | 0.1407       | 0.1743     | 0.068*                           |
| H5B  | 0.2175       | 0.2309       | 0.2551     | 0.068*                           |
| C6   | 0.2573 (3)   | 0.2010 (6)   | 0.0742 (5) | 0.0539 (14)                      |
| H6A  | 0.2349       | 0.2770       | 0.0405     | 0.065*                           |
| H6B  | 0.2525       | 0.1352       | 0.0102     | 0.065*                           |
| C7   | 0.3384 (2)   | 0.2255 (5)   | 0.1001 (5) | 0.0435 (12)                      |
| H7A  | 0.3626       | 0.2465       | 0.0203     | 0.052*                           |
| H7B  | 0.3432       | 0.2972       | 0.1571     | 0.052*                           |
| C14  | 0.4666 (3)   | -0.1349 (4)  | 0.1484 (5) | 0.0473 (13)                      |
| H14A | 0.4815       | -0.1066      | 0.0641     | 0.057*                           |
| H14B | 0.4136       | -0.1338      | 0.1538     | 0.057*                           |
| C15  | 0.4971 (3)   | -0.2657 (5)  | 0.1782 (6) | 0.0613 (16)                      |

|      |            |            |            |             |
|------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| H15A | 0.4642     | -0.3314    | 0.1486     | 0.074*      |
| H15B | 0.5447     | -0.2777    | 0.1388     | 0.074*      |
| C18  | 0.4388 (3) | 0.3932 (5) | 0.3656 (6) | 0.0586 (16) |
| H18A | 0.4076     | 0.3382     | 0.4141     | 0.088*      |
| H18B | 0.4093     | 0.4505     | 0.3165     | 0.088*      |
| H18C | 0.4695     | 0.4403     | 0.4229     | 0.088*      |

*Atomic displacement parameters (Å<sup>2</sup>)*

|     | $U^{11}$    | $U^{22}$    | $U^{33}$    | $U^{12}$     | $U^{13}$    | $U^{23}$     |
|-----|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Al  | 0.0304 (10) | 0.0312 (10) | 0.0526 (12) | 0.000        | -0.0093 (9) | 0.000        |
| N1  | 0.0254 (17) | 0.0324 (18) | 0.0351 (19) | -0.0015 (15) | 0.0006 (15) | 0.0007 (16)  |
| N3  | 0.037 (3)   | 0.033 (3)   | 0.049 (3)   | 0.000        | 0.007 (3)   | 0.000        |
| C1  | 0.032 (3)   | 0.032 (3)   | 0.032 (3)   | 0.000        | 0.010 (3)   | 0.000        |
| C2  | 0.029 (2)   | 0.037 (2)   | 0.034 (2)   | -0.0060 (18) | 0.0002 (18) | -0.0059 (19) |
| C3  | 0.036 (2)   | 0.043 (3)   | 0.047 (3)   | 0.004 (2)    | 0.006 (2)   | 0.009 (2)    |
| C4  | 0.033 (2)   | 0.057 (3)   | 0.094 (4)   | -0.005 (2)   | 0.011 (3)   | 0.020 (3)    |
| C5  | 0.026 (2)   | 0.061 (3)   | 0.084 (4)   | -0.002 (2)   | -0.001 (3)  | 0.006 (3)    |
| C6  | 0.037 (3)   | 0.070 (4)   | 0.055 (3)   | 0.001 (3)    | -0.014 (2)  | 0.000 (3)    |
| C7  | 0.032 (2)   | 0.056 (3)   | 0.042 (2)   | 0.000 (2)    | -0.006 (2)  | 0.013 (2)    |
| C14 | 0.051 (3)   | 0.037 (3)   | 0.054 (3)   | -0.009 (2)   | 0.018 (2)   | -0.012 (2)   |
| C15 | 0.057 (3)   | 0.036 (2)   | 0.091 (4)   | -0.006 (3)   | 0.035 (3)   | -0.012 (3)   |
| C18 | 0.049 (3)   | 0.048 (3)   | 0.079 (4)   | 0.011 (3)    | -0.019 (3)  | -0.025 (3)   |

*Geometric parameters (Å, °)*

|                                      |           |                      |            |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------|------------|
| Al—N1                                | 1.922 (4) | C4—H4B               | 0.9700     |
| Al—N1 <sup>i</sup>                   | 1.922 (4) | C5—C6                | 1.512 (8)  |
| Al—C18 <sup>i</sup>                  | 1.961 (6) | C5—H5A               | 0.9700     |
| Al—C18                               | 1.961 (6) | C5—H5B               | 0.9700     |
| N1—C1                                | 1.346 (5) | C6—C7                | 1.528 (7)  |
| N1—C2                                | 1.465 (5) | C6—H6A               | 0.9700     |
| N3—C1                                | 1.351 (8) | C6—H6B               | 0.9700     |
| N3—C14                               | 1.477 (6) | C7—H7A               | 0.9700     |
| N3—C14 <sup>i</sup>                  | 1.477 (6) | C7—H7B               | 0.9700     |
| C1—N1 <sup>i</sup>                   | 1.346 (5) | C14—C15              | 1.526 (7)  |
| C2—C7                                | 1.520 (6) | C14—H14A             | 0.9700     |
| C2—C3                                | 1.531 (6) | C14—H14B             | 0.9700     |
| C2—H2                                | 0.9800    | C15—C15 <sup>i</sup> | 1.505 (13) |
| C3—C4                                | 1.517 (7) | C15—H15A             | 0.9700     |
| C3—H3A                               | 0.9700    | C15—H15B             | 0.9700     |
| C3—H3B                               | 0.9700    | C18—H18A             | 0.9600     |
| C4—C5                                | 1.522 (7) | C18—H18B             | 0.9600     |
| C4—H4A                               | 0.9700    | C18—H18C             | 0.9600     |
| N1—Al—N1 <sup>i</sup>                | 69.8 (2)  | C4—C5—H5A            | 109.5      |
| N1—Al—C18 <sup>i</sup>               | 119.0 (2) | C6—C5—H5B            | 109.5      |
| N1 <sup>i</sup> —Al—C18 <sup>i</sup> | 114.0 (2) | C4—C5—H5B            | 109.5      |

|   |            |                              |            |
|---|------------|------------------------------|------------|
| N1—Al—C18                               | 114.0 (2)  | H5A—C5—H5B                   | 108.0      |
| N1 <sup>i</sup> —Al—C18                 | 119.0 (2)  | C5—C6—C7                     | 111.3 (4)  |
| C18 <sup>i</sup> —Al—C18                | 114.2 (4)  | C5—C6—H6A                    | 109.4      |
| C1—N1—C2                                | 124.8 (3)  | C7—C6—H6A                    | 109.4      |
| C1—N1—Al                                | 90.4 (3)   | C5—C6—H6B                    | 109.4      |
| C2—N1—Al                                | 133.2 (3)  | C7—C6—H6B                    | 109.4      |
| C1—N3—C14                               | 124.0 (3)  | H6A—C6—H6B                   | 108.0      |
| C1—N3—C14 <sup>i</sup>                  | 124.0 (3)  | C2—C7—C6                     | 112.1 (4)  |
| C14—N3—C14 <sup>i</sup>                 | 112.0 (5)  | C2—C7—H7A                    | 109.2      |
| N1 <sup>i</sup> —C1—N1                  | 109.4 (5)  | C6—C7—H7A                    | 109.2      |
| N1 <sup>i</sup> —C1—N3                  | 125.3 (3)  | C2—C7—H7B                    | 109.2      |
| N1—C1—N3                                | 125.3 (3)  | C6—C7—H7B                    | 109.2      |
| N1—C2—C7                                | 108.7 (3)  | H7A—C7—H7B                   | 107.9      |
| N1—C2—C3                                | 112.3 (4)  | N3—C14—C15                   | 102.2 (5)  |
| C7—C2—C3                                | 109.3 (4)  | N3—C14—H14A                  | 111.3      |
| N1—C2—H2                                | 108.8      | C15—C14—H14A                 | 111.3      |
| C7—C2—H2                                | 108.8      | N3—C14—H14B                  | 111.3      |
| C3—C2—H2                                | 108.8      | C15—C14—H14B                 | 111.3      |
| C4—C3—C2                                | 111.9 (4)  | H14A—C14—H14B                | 109.2      |
| C4—C3—H3A                               | 109.2      | C15 <sup>i</sup> —C15—C14    | 103.2 (3)  |
| C2—C3—H3A                               | 109.2      | C15 <sup>i</sup> —C15—H15A   | 111.1      |
| C4—C3—H3B                               | 109.2      | C14—C15—H15A                 | 111.1      |
| C2—C3—H3B                               | 109.2      | C15 <sup>i</sup> —C15—H15B   | 111.1      |
| H3A—C3—H3B                              | 107.9      | C14—C15—H15B                 | 111.1      |
| C3—C4—C5                                | 111.0 (4)  | H15A—C15—H15B                | 109.1      |
| C3—C4—H4A                               | 109.4      | Al—C18—H18A                  | 109.5      |
| C5—C4—H4A                               | 109.4      | Al—C18—H18B                  | 109.5      |
| C3—C4—H4B                               | 109.4      | H18A—C18—H18B                | 109.5      |
| C5—C4—H4B                               | 109.4      | Al—C18—H18C                  | 109.5      |
| H4A—C4—H4B                              | 108.0      | H18A—C18—H18C                | 109.5      |
| C6—C5—C4                                | 110.9 (5)  | H18B—C18—H18C                | 109.5      |
| C6—C5—H5A                               | 109.5      |                              |            |
|   |            |                              |            |
| N1 <sup>i</sup> —Al—N1—C1               | 0.0        | Al—N1—C2—C7                  | 40.9 (5)   |
| C18 <sup>i</sup> —Al—N1—C1              | 106.9 (2)  | C1—N1—C2—C3                  | 51.3 (5)   |
| C18—Al—N1—C1                            | -113.6 (2) | Al—N1—C2—C3                  | -80.2 (5)  |
| N1 <sup>i</sup> —Al—N1—C2               | 142.0 (5)  | N1—C2—C3—C4                  | 176.7 (4)  |
| C18 <sup>i</sup> —Al—N1—C2              | -111.0 (4) | C7—C2—C3—C4                  | 55.9 (5)   |
| C18—Al—N1—C2                            | 28.4 (5)   | C2—C3—C4—C5                  | -56.6 (6)  |
| C2—N1—C1—N1 <sup>i</sup>                | -146.9 (4) | C3—C4—C5—C6                  | 55.6 (7)   |
| Al—N1—C1—N1 <sup>i</sup>                | 0.0        | C4—C5—C6—C7                  | -55.1 (6)  |
| C2—N1—C1—N3                             | 33.1 (4)   | N1—C2—C7—C6                  | -178.3 (4) |
| Al—N1—C1—N3                             | 180.0      | C3—C2—C7—C6                  | -55.4 (5)  |
| C14—N3—C1—N1 <sup>i</sup>               | -158.0 (3) | C5—C6—C7—C2                  | 56.0 (6)   |
| C14 <sup>i</sup> —N3—C1—N1 <sup>i</sup> | 22.0 (3)   | C1—N3—C14—C15                | 167.3 (2)  |
| C14—N3—C1—N1                            | 22.0 (3)   | C14 <sup>i</sup> —N3—C14—C15 | -12.7 (2)  |

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|                            |            |                             |          |
|----------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| C14 <sup>i</sup> —N3—C1—N1 | -158.0 (3) | N3—C14—C15—C15 <sup>i</sup> | 33.5 (6) |
| C1—N1—C2—C7                | 172.4 (4)  |                             |          |

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Symmetry code: (i)  $-x+1, y, -z+1/2$ .