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Diethyl 2,2'-(ethane-1,2-diyldioxy)dibenzoate

Huaduan Shi, Haisha Qin and Zhen Ma*

School of Chemistry and Chemical Engeneering, Guangxi University, Guangxi 530004, People's Republic of China Correspondence e-mail: mzmz2009@sohu.com

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Key indicators: single-crystal X-ray study; T = 298 K; mean σ (C–C) = 0.002 Å; disorder in main residue; R factor = 0.041; wR factor = 0.132; data-to-parameter ratio = 15.7.

The molecular title compound, $C_{20}H_{22}O_6$, was obtained by the reaction of ethyl 2-hydroxybenzoate with 1,2-dichloroethane. The molecule lies on a twofold rotation axis which passes through the middle of the central ethylene bridge. This group exhibits a *gauche* conformation with the corresponding O-C-C-O torsion angle being 73.2 (2)°. The C atoms of the carboxyl group, the aryl and the O-CH₂ group are coplanar, with an r.m.s. deviation of 0.01 Å. The two aryl rings form a dihedral angle of 67.94 (4)°. The ester ethyl group is disordered over two sets of sites with an occupancy ratio of 0.59 (2):0.41 (2). The crystal packing is dominated by van der Waals forces.

Related literature

For synthesis and structures of diesters, see: Ma *et al.* (2012); Hou & Kan (2007). For properties and applications of diesters, see: Chen & Liu (2002). For the synthesis of the title compound, see: Ma & Liu (2002). For standard bond lengths, see: Allen *et al.* (1987). For background to the applications of organic acids and esters, see: Chanthapally *et al.* (2012); Yan *et al.* (2012).



Experimental

Crystal data

 $\begin{array}{l} C_{20}H_{22}O_6 \\ M_r = 358.38 \\ \text{Orthorhombic, } Pbcn \\ a = 21.805 \ (4) \ \text{\AA} \\ b = 9.871 \ (2) \ \text{\AA} \\ c = 8.8646 \ (18) \ \text{\AA} \end{array}$

Data collection

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Bruker SMART CCD
diffractometer
Absorption correction: multi-scan
(SADABS; Bruker, 2002)
T<sub>min</sub> = 0.858, T<sub>max</sub> = 1.000
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Refinement

 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.041$ $wR(F^2) = 0.132$ S = 1.042192 reflections 140 parameters V = 1908.0 (6) Å³ Z = 4Mo K α radiation $\mu = 0.09 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ T = 298 K $0.35 \times 0.31 \times 0.28 \text{ mm}$

11280 measured reflections 2192 independent reflections 1543 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$ $R_{\text{int}} = 0.023$

CrossMark

24 restraints H-atom parameters constrained $\begin{array}{l} \Delta \rho_{max} = 0.17 \ e \ \ A^{-3} \\ \Delta \rho_{min} = -0.14 \ e \ \ A^{-3} \end{array}$

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 2002); cell refinement: *SAINT* (Bruker, 2002); data reduction: *SAINT*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 2008); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 2008); molecular graphics: *SHELXTL* (Sheldrick, 2008); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL97*.

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Supporting information for this paper is available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: WM5015).

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supplementary materials

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Diethyl 2,2'-(ethane-1,2-diyldioxy)dibenzoate

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1. Comment

In recent years the chemistry of carboxylic compounds has been the subject of intense studies because of the potential applications of these compounds as ligands for metal complexes or of potential applications as luminescent, non-linear optical, electrical conductive and liquid-crystalline materials (Yan *et al.*, 2012. Chanthapally *et al.*, 2012). Esters are also very important since these compounds are commodity chemicals used as intermediates in the manufacture of acids and in the production of numerous important industrial products. Hence, the current work aims to synthesize new esters for acid production and for investigation of their coordination behaviors with metal ions (Ma *et al.*, 2012; Chen & Liu, 2002). Here, we report the crystal structure of a new diester, $C_{20}H_{22}O_6$, which was obtained by reaction of ethyl 2-hydroxybenzoate with 1,2-dichloroethane.

The structure of $C_{20}H_{22}O_6$ consists of a neutral molecular unit (Fig. 1). The molecule lies on a twofold rotation axis which passes through the middle of the central ethylene bridge that has a *gauche* conformation with the corresponding O —C—C—O torsion angle being 73.2 (2) °. All bond lengths and angles are within normal ranges (Allen *et al.*, 1987). The carbon atom of the carboxyl group, and the aryl and O—CH₂ moeities of one half molecule are coplanar with an r.m.s. deviation of 0.01 Å. The two aryl rings form a dihedral angle of 67.94 (4) °. The ester ethyl group is disordered over two sets of sites in a 0.59 (2):0.41 (2) occupancy ratio. The packing of the molecules in the crystal structure is shown in Fig. 2.

2. Experimental

The title compound was obtained by the reaction of ethyl 2- hydroxybenzoate with 1,2-dichloroethane in *N*,*N*'- dimethylformamide (DMF) according to a reported procedure (Ma & Liu, 2002). In a 100 cm³ flask fitted with a funnel, ethyl 2hydroxybenzoate (8.3 g, 50 m*M*) and potassium carbonate were mixed in 50 cm³ of DMF. To this solution was added dropwise a stoichiometric quantity of 1,2-dichloroethane (2.5 g, 25 m*M*) dissolved in 20 cm³ of DMF for a period of an hour under stirring. The mixture was further stirred for 24 h at 353 K. The solution was concentrated under reduced pressure and the white solid precipitated by adding a large quantity of water (200 cm³) was filtered off and recrystallized from ethanol and decolored with activated carbon. A colorless solid was finally obtained (yield 81 %, m.p: 417–419 K). Slow evaporation of a solution of the title compound in ethanol and dichloromethane (1:1) led to the formation of colorless crystals, which were suitable for X-ray characterization.

3. Refinement

All H atoms were positioned geometrically and refined using a riding model with C—H = 0.93 - 0.97 Å and with $U_{iso}(H)$ = 1.2 times $U_{eq}(C)$ or 1.5 times U_{eq} (methyl C). The two carbon atoms of the ethyl group are disordered over two sets of sites with an occupancy ratio of 0.59 (2):0.41 (2). The C atoms of this group were additionally refined with the ISOR command in SHELXL.



Figure 1

The molecular structure of the title compound with the atom numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level. H atoms are presented as small spheres of arbitrary radius. [symmetry code: (A) 1-x, y, 1/2-z]



Figure 2

A view of the crystal packing along the *c* axis.

Diethyl 2,2'-(ethane-1,2-diyldioxy)dibenzoate

Crystal data $C_{20}H_{22}O_6$ $M_r = 358.38$ Orthorhombic, *Pbcn* Hall symbol: -P 2n 2ab a = 21.805 (4) Å b = 9.871 (2) Å c = 8.8646 (18) Å V = 1908.0 (6) Å³ Z = 4

F(000) = 760 $D_x = 1.248 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ Mo Ka radiation, $\lambda = 0.71073 \text{ Å}$ Cell parameters from 11280 reflections $\theta = 1.9-27.6^{\circ}$ $\mu = 0.09 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ T = 298 KPrism, colourless $0.35 \times 0.31 \times 0.28 \text{ mm}$ Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD	11280 measured reflections
Unitation second fine forms sealed take	1542 independent reflections
Radiation source: fine-focus sealed tube	1543 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
Graphite monochromator	$R_{\rm int} = 0.023$
Detector resolution: 0 pixels mm ⁻¹	$\theta_{\rm max} = 27.6^{\circ}, \ \theta_{\rm min} = 1.9^{\circ}$
phi and ω scans	$h = -28 \rightarrow 27$
Absorption correction: multi-scan	$k = -10 \rightarrow 12$
(SADABS; Bruker, 2002)	$l = -10 \rightarrow 11$
$T_{\min} = 0.858, \ T_{\max} = 1.000$	
Refinement	
Refinement on F^2	Hydrogen site location: inferred from
Least-squares matrix: full	neighbouring sites
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.041$	H-atom parameters constrained
$wR(F^2) = 0.132$	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_0^2) + (0.0606P)^2 + 0.335P]$
S = 1.04	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
2192 reflections	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001$
140 parameters	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.17 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$
24 restraints	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.14 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$
Primary atom site location: structure-invariant	Extinction correction: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick
direct methods	2008), $Fc^* = kFc[1+0.001xFc^2\lambda^3/sin(2\theta)]^{-1/4}$
Secondary atom site location: difference Fourier	Extinction coefficient: 0.0102 (19)
map	

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 $(Å^2)$

	x	у	Z	$U_{ m iso}$ */ $U_{ m eq}$	Occ. (<1)
01	0.36609 (7)	0.94335 (11)	0.09160 (14)	0.0784 (4)	
O2	0.41410 (7)	0.77861 (13)	-0.03024 (15)	0.0880 (5)	
03	0.43658 (5)	0.59258 (11)	0.20505 (13)	0.0632 (3)	
C1	0.38057 (7)	0.81417 (15)	0.06775 (17)	0.0570 (4)	
C02A	0.3859 (9)	1.0477 (15)	-0.0051 (11)	0.075 (3)	0.41 (2)
H02A	0.4024	1.0099	-0.0976	0.090*	0.41 (2)
H02B	0.3518	1.1066	-0.0307	0.090*	0.41 (2)
C02B	0.4008 (7)	1.0397 (13)	-0.0105 (13)	0.114 (4)	0.59 (2)
H02C	0.4421	1.0064	-0.0273	0.137*	0.59 (2)
H02D	0.3804	1.0466	-0.1074	0.137*	0.59 (2)
C2	0.34747 (7)	0.72278 (14)	0.17329 (15)	0.0522 (4)	
C01A	0.4309 (8)	1.120 (2)	0.0708 (15)	0.127 (4)	0.41 (2)
H01A	0.4127	1.1683	0.1536	0.191*	0.41 (2)
H01B	0.4497	1.1835	0.0029	0.191*	0.41 (2)
H01C	0.4614	1.0587	0.1084	0.191*	0.41 (2)

C01B	0.4030 (7)	1.1719 (7)	0.0618 (8)	0.119 (3)	0.59 (2)
H01D	0.3620	1.2059	0.0738	0.179*	0.59 (2)
H01E	0.4262	1.2333	0.0004	0.179*	0.59 (2)
H01F	0.4220	1.1637	0.1590	0.179*	0.59 (2)
C3	0.28631 (8)	0.74645 (17)	0.20651 (18)	0.0654 (4)	
H3A	0.2668	0.8215	0.1650	0.078*	
C4	0.25382 (8)	0.6610 (2)	0.3000 (2)	0.0766 (5)	
H4A	0.2126	0.6773	0.3198	0.092*	
C5	0.28283 (8)	0.55161 (18)	0.3634 (2)	0.0730 (5)	
H5A	0.2611	0.4946	0.4275	0.088*	
C6	0.34359 (7)	0.52495 (15)	0.33381 (19)	0.0634 (4)	
H6A	0.3627	0.4505	0.3778	0.076*	
C7	0.37642 (7)	0.60994 (14)	0.23769 (16)	0.0518 (4)	
C8	0.46777 (7)	0.48215 (15)	0.27597 (19)	0.0609 (4)	
H8A	0.4482	0.3972	0.2493	0.073*	
H8B	0.4662	0.4922	0.3848	0.073*	

Atomic displacement parameters $(Å^2)$

	U^{11}	U^{22}	U^{33}	U^{12}	U^{13}	U^{23}
01	0.1251 (11)	0.0471 (6)	0.0631 (7)	0.0001 (6)	0.0089 (7)	0.0031 (5)
O2	0.1222 (11)	0.0685 (8)	0.0732 (8)	0.0098 (7)	0.0363 (8)	0.0084 (6)
O3	0.0597 (6)	0.0607 (6)	0.0692 (7)	0.0009 (5)	0.0008 (5)	0.0183 (5)
C1	0.0753 (9)	0.0505 (8)	0.0451 (7)	0.0019 (7)	-0.0047 (7)	-0.0018 (6)
C02A	0.128 (7)	0.054 (4)	0.043 (3)	-0.014 (4)	-0.014 (4)	0.008 (3)
C02B	0.174 (9)	0.065 (4)	0.104 (6)	-0.006 (4)	0.034 (5)	0.020 (4)
C2	0.0654 (9)	0.0485 (7)	0.0425 (7)	-0.0015 (6)	-0.0024 (6)	-0.0060 (6)
C01A	0.146 (10)	0.103 (9)	0.133 (7)	-0.059 (7)	0.022 (6)	0.010 (7)
C01B	0.228 (10)	0.057 (3)	0.073 (3)	-0.031 (4)	-0.001 (4)	0.003 (2)
C3	0.0717 (10)	0.0647 (9)	0.0597 (9)	0.0118 (8)	0.0008 (8)	-0.0057 (8)
C4	0.0655 (10)	0.0869 (12)	0.0774 (12)	-0.0004 (9)	0.0129 (9)	-0.0070 (10)
C5	0.0767 (11)	0.0687 (10)	0.0735 (11)	-0.0147 (9)	0.0173 (9)	0.0001 (9)
C6	0.0733 (10)	0.0530 (8)	0.0640 (9)	-0.0065 (7)	0.0039 (8)	0.0054 (7)
C7	0.0580 (8)	0.0487 (7)	0.0488 (8)	-0.0043 (6)	-0.0011 (6)	-0.0018 (6)
C8	0.0677 (8)	0.0487 (8)	0.0662 (9)	-0.0034 (7)	-0.0087 (7)	0.0060 (7)

Geometric parameters (Å, °)

01—C1	1.3306 (18)	C01A—H01B	0.9600	
O1—C02A	1.408 (14)	C01A—H01C	0.9600	
O1—C02B	1.516 (14)	C01B—H01D	0.9600	
O2—C1	1.1884 (19)	C01B—H01E	0.9600	
O3—C7	1.3541 (18)	C01B—H01F	0.9600	
O3—C8	1.4304 (17)	C3—C4	1.379 (2)	
C1—C2	1.487 (2)	С3—НЗА	0.9300	
C02A—C01A	1.39 (2)	C4—C5	1.372 (3)	
C02A—H02A	0.9700	C4—H4A	0.9300	
C02A—H02B	0.9700	C5—C6	1.376 (2)	
C02B—C01B	1.455 (15)	С5—Н5А	0.9300	
С02В—Н02С	0.9700	C6—C7	1.394 (2)	

C02B—H02D	0.9700	С6—Н6А	0.9300
C2—C3	1.386 (2)	C8C8 ⁱ	1.479 (3)
C2—C7	1.402 (2)	C8—H8A	0.9700
C01A—H01A	0.9600	C8—H8B	0.9700
C1	122.1 (7)	C02B—C01B—H01F	109.5
C1	112.8 (5)	H01D-C01B-H01F	109.5
C02A—O1—C02B	12.6 (12)	H01E-C01B-H01F	109.5
С7—О3—С8	117.59 (11)	C4—C3—C2	121.27 (16)
O2-C1-O1	123.04 (15)	С4—С3—Н3А	119.4
O2—C1—C2	125.41 (14)	С2—С3—НЗА	119.4
O1—C1—C2	111.49 (13)	C5—C4—C3	119.41 (16)
C01A—C02A—O1	107.4 (10)	C5—C4—H4A	120.3
C01A—C02A—H02A	110.2	C3—C4—H4A	120.3
O1—C02A—H02A	110.2	C4—C5—C6	121.09 (16)
C01A—C02A—H02B	110.2	C4—C5—H5A	119.5
O1—C02A—H02B	110.2	C6—C5—H5A	119.5
H02A—C02A—H02B	108.5	C5—C6—C7	119.74 (15)
C01B—C02B—O1	108.4 (10)	С5—С6—Н6А	120.1
C01B—C02B—H02C	110.0	С7—С6—Н6А	120.1
O1-C02B-H02C	110.0	O3—C7—C6	123.51 (13)
C01B—C02B—H02D	110.0	O3—C7—C2	116.73 (12)
O1-C02B-H02D	110.0	C6—C7—C2	119.73 (14)
H02CC02BH02D	108.4	O3—C8—C8 ⁱ	108.37 (12)
C3—C2—C7	118.74 (14)	O3—C8—H8A	110.0
C3—C2—C1	119.91 (13)	C8 ⁱ —C8—H8A	110.0
C7—C2—C1	121.32 (13)	O3—C8—H8B	110.0
C02B—C01B—H01D	109.5	C8 ⁱ —C8—H8B	110.0
C02B—C01B—H01E	109.5	H8A—C8—H8B	108.4
H01D-C01B-H01E	109.5		
C02A—O1—C1—O2	4.9 (7)	C1—C2—C3—C4	177.81 (15)
C02B-O1-C1-O2	-4.7 (6)	C2—C3—C4—C5	1.1 (3)
C02A—O1—C1—C2	-172.4 (7)	C3—C4—C5—C6	-0.8 (3)
C02B—O1—C1—C2	177.9 (6)	C4—C5—C6—C7	-0.1 (3)
C1	-107.6 (14)	C8—O3—C7—C6	-1.2 (2)
C02B-O1-C02A-C01A	-63 (4)	C8—O3—C7—C2	176.78 (13)
C1	-156.1 (10)	C5—C6—C7—O3	178.61 (15)
C02A—O1—C02B—C01B	64 (4)	C5—C6—C7—C2	0.7 (2)
O2—C1—C2—C3	-136.02 (18)	C3—C2—C7—O3	-178.45 (13)
O1—C1—C2—C3	41.24 (19)	C1—C2—C7—O3	3.3 (2)
O2—C1—C2—C7	42.3 (2)	C3—C2—C7—C6	-0.4 (2)
O1—C1—C2—C7	-140.48 (14)	C1—C2—C7—C6	-178.72 (13)
C7—C2—C3—C4	-0.5 (2)	C7—O3—C8—C8 ⁱ	179.76 (14)

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