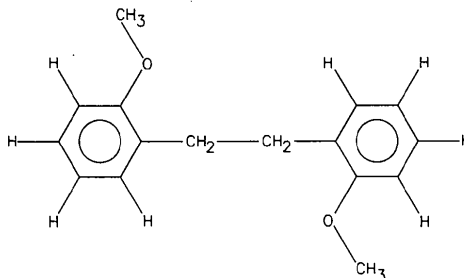


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large *R* factors (15% and 18%, respectively) so that no real comparison with bond lengths and angles can be made, except to say that the current structural details are in broad agreement with those found from the earlier studies.



(I)

The benzene ring is not planar at a 3σ level, the deviations of some of the ring atoms from the ring mean plane being as large as 6σ . The ring also shows a range of angle values which reflect angular distortion due to the ring substituents (Domenicano & Hargittai, 1992). Initially, we were surprised to find a value of $115.28(10)^\circ$ for the angle $C1-C2-O2$, but a search of the April 1993 release of the Cambridge Structural Database for the o - $C_6H_4(OMe)CH_2$ fragment yielded ten 'hits' for which the mean value of the $C-C-O$ angle was 115.2° (range 112.0 - 118.8°). Similarly, the mean values of the torsion angles $CH_2-C-C-O$ and $C-C-O-CH_3$ are 1.7 and 172.6° , respectively. It would appear that the geometry reported here for the title molecule is entirely in accord with that reported in all previous examples.

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2,2'-Dimethoxybibenzyl

JENNIFER-NICOLA ROSS AND JAMES WARDELL

*Department of Chemistry, University of Aberdeen,
Meston Walk, Aberdeen AB9 2UE, Scotland*

GEORGE FERGUSON

*Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry,
University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario,
Canada N1G 2W1*

JOHN N. LOW

*Department of Applied Physics and
Electronic & Manufacturing Engineering,
University of Dundee, Dundee DD1 4HN,
Scotland*

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Abstract

The 2,2'-dimethoxybibenzyl molecule, $C_{16}H_{18}O_2$, has the midpoint of the $-CH_2-CH_2-$ bond on an inversion centre. Each benzene ring deviates slightly from planarity, shows marked angular distortion and is inclined at $81.5(1)^\circ$ to the plane of the $C(Ar)-CH_2-CH_2-$ moiety.

Comment

There are only two structures similar to that of the title compound, (I), in the Cambridge Structural Database (1993): dibenzyl (Cruickshank, 1949) and 4,4'-dimethylbibenzyl (Brown, 1954). The structures are similar in that, in each case, the centre of the molecule coincides with a crystallographic centre of symmetry. Both structures have

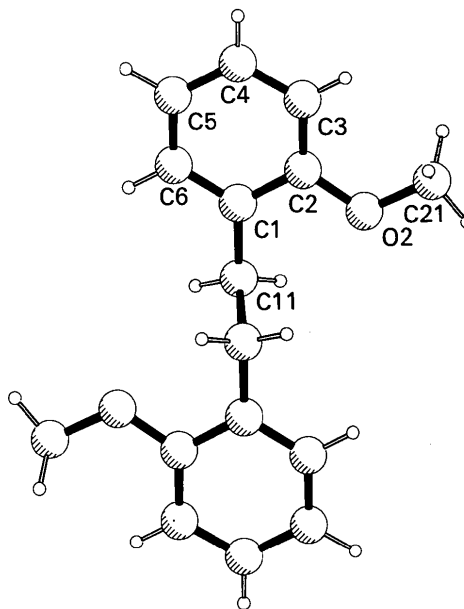


Fig. 1. View of the title molecule.

Experimental

The title compound (m.p. 363–364 K) was obtained as a by-product in the formation of the Grignard reagent from 2-methoxybenzyl chloride in thf. It was recrystallized from ethyl acetate and petroleum ether.

Crystal data

$C_{16}H_{18}O_2$
 $M_r = 242.31$
 Monoclinic
 $P2_1/n$
 $a = 7.1487$ (24) Å
 $b = 12.1026$ (11) Å
 $c = 7.8726$ (8) Å
 $\beta = 99.542$ (21)°
 $V = 671.70$ (24) Å³
 $Z = 2$
 $D_x = 1.198$ Mg m⁻³

Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
 $\lambda = 0.7107$ Å
 Cell parameters from 24 reflections
 $\theta = 10.00$ – 15.00 °
 $\mu = 0.07$ mm⁻¹
 $T = 293$ K
 Plate
 $0.67 \times 0.50 \times 0.33$ mm
 Colourless

Data collection

Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer
 $\theta/2\theta$ scans
 Absorption correction: none
 2074 measured reflections
 1944 independent reflections
 1343 observed reflections
 $[I > 3\sigma(I)]$

$R_{int} = 0.007$
 $\theta_{max} = 29.89$ °
 $h = -10 \rightarrow 9$
 $k = 0 \rightarrow 17$
 $l = 0 \rightarrow 11$
 3 standard reflections
 frequency: 60 min
 intensity variation: < 1%

Refinement

Refinement on F
 $R = 0.044$
 $wR = 0.069$
 $S = 2.11$
 1348 reflections
 119 parameters
 All H-atom parameters refined
 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F) + 0.0008F^2]$
 $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.19$ e Å⁻³
 $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.17$ e Å⁻³

Extinction correction: Larson (1970)
 Extinction coefficient: 0.19 (19) $\times 10^4$
 Atomic scattering factors from *International Tables for X-ray Crystallography* (1974, Vol. IV, Table 2.2B)

Table 1. Fractional atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters (Å²)

$$U_{eq} = (1/3)\sum_i \sum_j U_{ij} a_i^* a_j^* \cdot a_i \cdot a_j$$

	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	U_{eq}
C1	0.29089 (16)	0.53098 (10)	0.12087 (16)	0.0479 (6)
C11	0.40879 (18)	0.46976 (10)	0.00939 (19)	0.0528 (7)
C2	0.17137 (15)	0.61770 (10)	0.05199 (16)	0.0461 (6)

O2	0.17646 (13)	0.64255 (9)	-0.11646 (12)	0.0618 (5)
C21	0.0592 (3)	0.72917 (17)	-0.1934 (3)	0.0779 (10)
C3	0.05748 (18)	0.67199 (11)	0.15253 (19)	0.0552 (7)
C4	0.06580 (21)	0.64305 (15)	0.32228 (21)	0.0661 (8)
C5	0.18634 (22)	0.56125 (16)	0.39496 (21)	0.0713 (9)
C6	0.29678 (20)	0.50565 (13)	0.29319 (20)	0.0622 (8)

Table 2. Selected geometric parameters (Å, °)

C1—C11	1.5082 (17)	C2—C3	1.3910 (17)
C1—C2	1.4043 (17)	O2—C21	1.4141 (18)
C1—C6	1.3846 (20)	C3—C4	1.3732 (22)
C11—C11 ⁱ	1.5238 (25)	C4—C5	1.374 (3)
C2—O2	1.3662 (15)	C5—C6	1.3884 (24)
C11—C1—C2	120.35 (11)	O2—C2—C3	124.10 (11)
C11—C1—C6	122.16 (12)	C2—O2—C21	118.01 (12)
C2—C1—C6	117.49 (12)	C2—C3—C4	119.89 (13)
C1—C11—C11 ⁱ	112.98 (10)	C3—C4—C5	120.81 (14)
C1—C2—O2	115.28 (10)	C4—C5—C6	119.10 (14)
C1—C2—C3	120.62 (12)	C1—C6—C5	122.02 (14)

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

All H atoms were clearly visible in difference maps at an intermediate stage of the refinement and were refined isotropically. Data collection and refinement: *CAD-4 Software* (Enraf-Nonius, 1989). Data reduction, program used to solve and refine structure and software used to prepare material for publication: *NRCVAX* (Gabe, Le Page, Charland, Lee & White, 1989). Molecular graphics: *PLUTON92* (Spek, 1992).

Lists of structure factors, anisotropic displacement parameters, H-atom coordinates and complete geometry have been deposited with the IUCr (Reference: HA1088). Copies may be obtained through The Managing Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England.

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