



NOTE

Synthesis and Crystal Structure of 3,3'-Dimethoxy-1,1'-[butane-1,4-diylidioxybis(nitrilomethylidyne)]dibenzene

LI WANG*, JUN-JIANG WU, YANG ZHANG, GANG LI and XIANG LI

School of Chemical and Biological Engineering, Lanzhou Jiaotong University, Lanzhou 730070, P.R. China

*Corresponding author: E-mail: wangli_78@126.com

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The compound 3,3'-dimethoxy-1,1'-[butane-1,4-diylidioxybis(nitrilomethylidyne)]dibenzene with the m.f. $C_{20}H_{24}N_2O_4$, was synthesized by the reaction of 3-methoxybenzaldehyde with 1,4-bis(aminooxy)butane in ethanol. The molecule, which lies about an inversion centre, adopts a linear structure, in which the oxime groups and benzene ring systems assume an anti conformation. The intramolecular interplanar distance between parallel benzene rings is 0.901(3) Å. Weak intermolecular C10-H10B...O2 hydrogen bonds link two other molecules into infinite zig-zag supramolecular structure.

Key Words: Bisoxime compound, Synthesis, Crystal structure.

As we know, Salen-type compounds are important multidentate ligands in modern coordination chemistry¹, the development of their bisoxime analogues and complexes can provide new topologies for functional materials, in which coordination forms and functionality are important variables². And can be used to obtain non-linear optical materials³, biological systems⁴, interesting magnetic properties⁵ and building blocks for cyclic supramolecular structures⁶. Thus, new materials can be produced by using these compounds, which seem to be suitable candidates for further chemical modifications⁷. Herein, we report on the synthesis and crystal structure of 3,3'-dimethoxy-1,1'-[butane-1,4-diylidioxybis(nitrilomethylidyne)]dibenzene.

3-Methoxybenzaldehyde was purchased from Alfa Aesar and used without further purification. 1,4-Bis(aminooxy)butane was synthesized according to an analogous method reported earlier⁸. The other reagents and solvents were analytical grade reagents from Tianjin Chemical Reagent Factory. C, H and N analyses were carried out with a GmbH VariuoEL V3.00 automatic elemental analyzer. X-Ray single crystal structure was determined on a Bruker Smart 1000 CCD area detector. Melting points were measured by the use of a microscopic melting point apparatus made in Beijing Taike Instrument Limited Company and the thermometer was uncorrected.

General procedure: 3,3'-Dimethoxy-1,1'-[butane-1,4-diylidioxybis(nitrilomethylidyne)]dibenzene was synthesized according to an analogous method reported earlier⁹. To an

ethanolic solution (10 mL) of 3-methoxybenzaldehyde (542.5 mg, 3.98 mmol) was added an ethanol solution (5 mL) of 1,4-bis(aminooxy)butane (234.5 mg, 1.95 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at 328-333 K for 6 h. The formed precipitate was separated by filtration and washed with ethanol and ethanol-hexane (1:4)(3 mL × 4 mL), respectively. The product was dried under vacuum to yield 473.4 mg of the title compound. Yield, 68.0 %. m.p. 335-336 K. Anal. calcd. (%) for $C_{20}H_{24}N_2O_4$: C, 67.40; H, 6.79; N, 7.86. Found (%): C, 67.72; H, 6.83; N, 7.65.

Colourless prismatic single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction studies were obtained after 45 days by slow evaporation from a methanol/acetone (1:1) solution of the title compound.

X-Ray structure determination: The single crystal of the title compound, with approximate dimensions of 0.45 mm × 0.44 mm × 0.07 mm was placed on a Bruker Smart 1000 diffractometer equipped with Apex CCD area detector. The diffraction data were collected using a graphite monochromated MoK_{α} radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å) at 298(2) K. The structure was solved by using the program SHELXS-97 and Fourier difference techniques and refined by full-matrix least-squares method on F^2 using SHELXL-97. Details of the data collection and refinements of title compound are given in Table-1. The non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. Hydrogen atoms were added theoretically. CCDC: 877859.

X-Ray crystallographic analysis revealed the crystal structure of the title compound. And the structure is shown in Fig. 1.

TABLE-2
SELECTED BOND DISTANCES (Å) AND ANGLES (°) FOR THE TITLE COMPOUND

Bond	Lengths	Bond	Lengths	Bond	Lengths
N(1)-C(3)	1.264(4)	C(1)-C(2)	1.510(5)	C(5)-C(6)	1.387(4)
N(1)-O(1)	1.410(3)	C(2)-C(2) ^{#1}	1.518(7)	C(6)-C(7)	1.384(5)
O(1)-C(1)	1.424(4)	C(3)-C(4)	1.473(5)	C(7)-C(8)	1.358(5)
O(2)-C(6)	1.370(4)	C(4)-C(9)	1.378(5)	C(8)-C(9)	1.385(5)
O(2)-C(10)	1.422(4)	C(4)-C(5)	1.400(5)	—	—
Bond	Angles	Bond	Angles	Bond	Angles
C(3)-N(1)-O(1)	111.1(3)	C(9)-C(4)-C(5)	120.6(4)	C(7)-C(6)-C(5)	120.5(3)
N(1)-O(1)-C(1)	108.9(3)	C(9)-C(4)-C(3)	118.7(3)	C(8)-C(7)-C(6)	120.2(4)
C(6)-O(2)-C(10)	117.9(3)	C(5)-C(4)-C(3)	120.7(3)	C(7)-C(8)-C(9)	120.7(4)
O(1)-C(1)-C(2)	107.3(3)	C(6)-C(5)-C(4)	118.5(3)	C(4)-C(9)-C(8)	119.5(4)
C(1)-C(2)-C(2) ^{#1}	111.6(4)	O(2)-C(6)-C(7)	115.8(3)	—	—
N(1)-C(3)-C(4)	121.9(4)	O(2)-C(6)-C(5)	123.7(3)	—	—

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: ^{#1}-x + 1, -y, -z + 1.

TABLE-1
CRYSTAL DATA AND STRUCTURE
REFINEMENT FOR THE TITLE COMPOUND

Empirical formula	C ₂₀ H ₂₄ N ₂ O ₄
Formula weight	356.41
Temperature	298(2) K
Wavelength	0.71073 Å
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	P2(1)/c
Cell dimensions	a = 17.2666(14) Å, b = 5.6832(8) Å, c = 9.8073(7) Å β = 101.5540(10)°
Volume	942.88(17) Å ³
Z	2
Density (calculated)	1.255 mg/m ³
Absorption coefficient	0.088 mm ⁻¹
F(000)	380
Index ranges	-19 ≤ h ≤ 20, -6 ≤ k ≤ 6, -10 ≤ l ≤ 11
Reflections collected/unique	4509/1666 [R _(int) = 0.0788]
Independent reflections	825
Data/restraints/parameters	1666/0/120
Goodness of fit indicator	1.052
R [I > 2σ(I)]	R ₁ = 0.0422, wR ₂ = 0.0825
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.0188 and -0.0249 e Å ⁻³

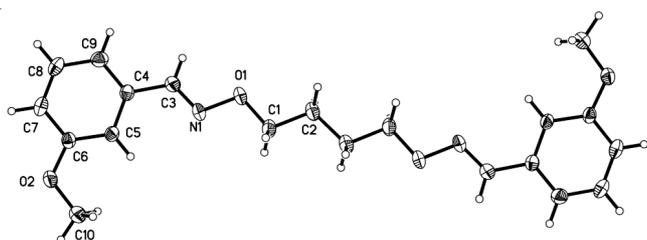


Fig. 1. Molecule structure of the title compound with atom numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids for non-hydrogen atoms are drawn at the 30 % probability level

Selected bond distances and angles are listed in Table-2. The structure of the title compound consists of discrete C₂₀H₂₄N₂O₄ molecule, in which all bond lengths and angles are in normal ranges. The molecule is disposed about a crystallographic centre of symmetry with the (-CH=N-O-(CH₂)₄-O-N=CH-) bridge, adopts a linear-shaped structure, in which the oxime groups and benzene rings assume anticongformation. This structure is not similar to previously reported Salen-type compounds containing four-methene bridge, which often adopt an E configuration^{9,10}.

The two benzene rings in each molecule of the title compound are parallel and the distance between them is 0.901(3) Å. In the crystal structure, there are no intramolecular hydrogen bonds, four weak intermolecular hydrogen bonds, C10-H10B...O2 (d(C10-H10B) = 0.96 Å, d(H10B...O2) = 2.65 Å, d(C10...O2) = 3.461(3) Å, ∠C10-H10B...O2 = 129°), link two other molecules into infinite zig-zag supramolecular structure (Fig. 2)¹¹⁻¹⁴.

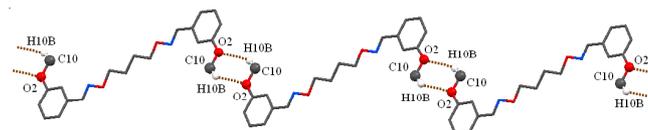


Fig. 2. Part of zig-zag supramolecular structure of the title compound. Intermolecular hydrogen bonds are shown as dashed lines

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