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# Bis(2,4-dichlorophenyl) Ether* 

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Abstract. $\quad \mathrm{C}_{12} \mathrm{H}_{6} \mathrm{Cl}_{4} \mathrm{O}, \quad M_{r}=308 \cdot 0$, orthorhombic, Fdd2, $\quad a=21.782$ (3), $\quad b=11.309$ (3), $\quad c=$ $10 \cdot 137$ (3) $\AA, V=2497 \cdot 1 \AA^{3}, Z=8$ (one half of the molecule in the asymmetric unit), $D_{x}=1.64 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}$, $\lambda($ Mo $K \alpha)=0.71073 \AA, \quad \mu=0.93 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}, \quad F(000)=$ 1232, $T=296 \mathrm{~K}$, final $R=0.025$ for 278 unique observed reflections. The oxygen atom is situated on the twofold axis and the angle ( $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{C}$ ) between the symmetry-related phenyl rings is $120.6(6)^{\circ}$. The molecule has a twist conformation, with a twist angle of $68.4(8)^{\circ}$ between the phenyl rings. The chlorine substituents do not deviate markedly from the leastsquares plane formed by the oxygen and the benzene carbon atoms [deviations 0.030 (2) and 0.092 (2) $\AA$ ].

Introduction. Polychlorinated diphenyl ethers occur, together with related chlorinated aromatics, as impurities in various commercial chlorophenol preparations (Garå, Andersson, Nilsson \& Norström, 1981) and are now turning up in environmental samples (Paasivirta, Tarhanen \& Soikkeli, 1986). Under photochemical exposure, polychlorinated diphenyl ethers give rise by ring closure to polychlorinated dibenzofurans (Norström, Andersson \& Rappe, 1976). Some of these, especially 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzofuran, are considered acutely toxic. The problem of the preferred conformations of diphenyl ethers and the mechanism of the interconversion between stable conformers have been studied extensively for several years mainly by NMR techniques (Benjamins, Dar \& Chandler, 1974; Edlund \& Norström, 1977). A major reason for this interest is the structural relationships between diphenyl ethers and thyroid hormones (Lehmann, 1972). Four possible forms have been suggested to be involved in the conformational equilibrium of diphenyl ethers (Edlund \& Norström, 1977; Fig. 1). The non-toxicity of the

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polychlorinated diphenyl ethers compared to polychlorinated biphenyls has been explained by the non-planarity of the diphenyl ethers. Thus they do not fit into the rectangular $(3 \times 10 \AA)$ dioxin receptor as do the toxic biphenyls (Singh \& McKinney, 1980). The crystal structures of halogenated diphenyl ethers have not been extensively studied; only the crystal structure of bis(3,4-dichlorophenyl) ether has been published (Singh \& McKinney, 1980). In this series we will be reporting the crystal and molecular structures of various polychlorinated diphenyl ethers, beginning here with the crystal structure of bis(2,4-dichlorophenyl) ether.

Experimental. Colourless crystals synthesized by known method (Nilsson, Norström, Hansson \& Andersson, 1977), $0.20 \times 0.20 \times 0.20 \mathrm{~mm}$, mounted on a glass fibre, Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer, graphite-monochromatized Mo $K \alpha, \omega-2 \theta$ method, lattice parameters from 25 reflections with $3<\theta<12^{\circ}$, two standard reflections measured every hour, no loss of intensity, 629 reflections ( $h: 0 \rightarrow 25, k: 0 \rightarrow 13, l: 0 \rightarrow 12$ ) with $\theta<25^{\circ}, 629$ independent, 278 with $I>3 \sigma(I), \mathrm{Lp}$ correction, empirical absorption correction (Walker \& Stuart, 1983); correction factors: max. $=1.352$ and min. $=0.572$, direct methods, refinement by full-matrix


Planar


Skew

'Butterfly'


Twist

Fig. 1. Possible conformers of diphenyl ether according to Edlund \& Norström (1977).
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least-squares method using $F$ 's, all non-H atoms anisotropic, H atoms calculated and used as riding atoms in the final refinement with fixed isotropic temperature factor ( $B_{\mathrm{eq}}=5.0 \AA^{2}$ ), 77 parameters, max. shift $/ \sigma=0.01$ on final cycle, $R=0.025, w R=0.035$, $w=1 /\left[(\sigma F)^{2}+(0.032 F)^{2}\right], \sigma F$ from counting statistics, $S=0.99$, in final difference map max. and min. peaks 0.13 (4) and $-0.13(4) \mathrm{e} \AA^{-3}$, scattering factors from International Tables for X-ray Crystallography (1974), computer programs MULTAN11/82 (Main et al., 1982), SDP (Frenz, 1978), PLUTO (Motherwell, 1978) and ORTEPII (Johnson, 1976).

Discussion. The atomic coordinates and isotropic temperature factors are listed in Table 1, and the bond distances and angles are given in Table 2.* A view of the molecule and the numbering scheme are shown in Fig. 2. A stereoscopic view of the packing is presented in Fig. 3.

Bond distances and angles are normal. The oxygen atom is situated on the twofold axis and the angle between the symmetry-related phenyl rings is $120.6(6)^{\circ}$. The angle does not deviate markedly from the values observed in the bis ( 3,4 -dichlorophenyl) ether, $119.6(3)^{\circ}$ (Singh \& McKinney, 1980) and in a highly substituted diphenyl derivative isolated from the aqueous extract of the brown alga, Cystophora congesta, 120.9 (5) and 118.3 (5) ${ }^{\circ}$ (Gregson \& Daly, 1982). In bis(2-bromobenzyl) ether (Berndt, Corey \& Glick, 1981) the same angle is $113.9(10)^{\circ}$. The steric repulsions between the phenyl rings of diphenyl ethers cause the angle to have a larger value than in less sterically hindered ethers. The chlorine-carbon bonds are slightly longer in the title compound than in the bis(3,4-dichlorophenyl) ether (Singh \& McKinney, 1980) owing to the meta situation of the chlorine atoms. The chlorine substituents are situated on the benzene plane, deviations from the calculated least-squares plane being 0.030 (2) and 0.092 (2) $\AA$ for $\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ and $\mathrm{Cl}(4)$, respectively, and are comparable to the values observed in bis(3,4-dichlorophenyl) ether (Singh \& McKinney, 1980). The title molecule has a twist conformation, with a twist angle of $68.4(8)^{\circ}$, which is slightly smaller than the same angle ( $73.2^{\circ}$ ) in bis(3,4-dichlorophenyl) ether (Singh \& McKinney, 1980). The small difference between the twist angles can be explained by the cis orientation of the chlorine substituents occupying the ortho positions in the title compound. Thus the hydrogen atoms in ortho positions are the main determinants for the twist angle observed in both compounds. There may be a weak $\pi$-electron

[^1]Table 1. Fractional coordinates and equivalent isotropic temperature factors with e.s.d.'s in parentheses

| $B_{\mathrm{eq}}=\frac{4}{3}\left[a^{2} B(1,1)\right.$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 2,2)+c^{2} \\ & (1,3)+b c \end{aligned}$ | $a b(\cos \gamma) B(1,2)$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | $B_{\text {eq }}\left(\AA^{2}\right)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(2)$ | 0.8514 (1) | 0.1516 (2) | 0.383 | 5.25 (4) |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(4)$ | 0.9891 (1) | 0.3263 (2) | 0.7777 (3) | 5.74 (5) |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)$ | 0.750 | 0.250 | 0.5259 (7) | 5.1 (2) |
| C(1) | 0.8041 (3) | 0.2651 (6) | 0.5938 (7) | 3.9 (1) |
| C(2) | 0.8560 (3) | 0.2234 (6) | 0.5341 (7) | $3 \cdot 6$ (1) |
| C(3) | 0.9139 (3) | 0.2389 (6) | 0.5887 (8) | $4 \cdot 2$ (1) |
| C(4) | 0.9167 (4) | 0.2999 (6) | 0.7089 (7) | 3.9 (2) |
| C(5) | 0.8658 (3) | 0.3454 (7) | 0.7690 (8) | 4.5 (2) |
| C(6) | 0.8090 (4) | 0.3234 (7) | 0.7121 (8) | $4 \cdot 7$ (2) |

Table 2. Bond distances $(\AA)$ and angles $\left(^{\circ}\right)$ with e.s.d.'s in parentheses

| $\mathrm{Cl}(2)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | $1.738(7)$ | $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | $1.366(10)$ | $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ | $1.402(10)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(4)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ | $1.749(8)$ | $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ | $1.372(10)$ | $\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(5)$ | $1.366(11)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | $1.376(8)$ | $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | $1.389(10)$ | $\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ | $1.389(11)$ |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(2)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | $120.2(6)$ | $\mathrm{Cl}(2)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | $117.6(6)$ |  |  |
| $\mathrm{Cl}(4)-\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | $118.0(6)$ | $\mathrm{Cl}(4)-\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(5)$ | $119.3(6)$ |  |  |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)$ | $116.4(6)$ | $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ | $124.2(6)$ |  |  |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ | $120.0(6)$ | $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)$ | $122.1(7)$ |  |  |
| $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(6)-\mathrm{C}(5)$ | $121.2(7)$ | $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ | $119.3(7)$ |  |  |
| $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ | $116.6(7)$ | $\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(5)$ | $122.5(7)$ |  |  |
| $\mathrm{C}(4)-\mathrm{C}(5)-\mathrm{C}(6)$ | $118.1(7)$ |  |  |  |  |



Fig. 2. PLUTO plot (Motherwell, 1978) and the numbering scheme for bis(2,4-dichlorophenyl) ether.


Fig. 3. A stereoscopic view (ORTEPII; Johnson, 1976) of packing for bis(2,4-dichlorophenyl) ether. The $a$ axis is vertical and the $b$ axis horizontal.
overlap between the adjacent molecules, which can also have some effect on the twist angle between the phenyl rings, as in $2,2^{\prime}, 3,4^{\prime}, 5^{\prime}$-pentachloro-4-methoxybiphenyl (Rissanen, Valkonen \& Mannila, 1988). There are no intermolecular contacts shorter than the sums of the van der Waals radii.

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# Functionalized Hydrocarbons with Condensed Ring Skeletons. I. Tricyclo[7.4.0.0 ${ }^{2,6}$ ]tridecane Skeleton 

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 oxymethyl-2-methoxymethoxy-1-methyltricyclo[7.4.0.$0^{2,6}$ ]tridec-7-ene-4,4-dicarboxylate, $\quad \mathrm{C}_{28} \mathrm{H}_{38} \mathrm{O}_{7}, \quad M_{r}$ $=486.57, \quad$ triclinic $, \quad P \overline{1}, \quad a=12.822(2), \quad b=$ 15.560 (1), $\quad c=6.5851$ (7) $\AA, \quad \alpha=85.73$ (1),$\quad \beta=$ $96.42(1), \quad \gamma=98.26(1)^{\circ}, \quad V=1289.71 \AA^{3}, \quad D_{x}=$ $1.253 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}, \quad Z=2, \quad \lambda($ Mo $K \bar{\alpha})=0.71069 \AA, \quad \mu=$ $0.0924 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}, F(000)=524$, room temperature, final $R=0.043$ for 4285 observed reflexions. The title compound possesses a condensed ring skeleton closely related to the $B, C$, and $D$ rings of steroid-like molecules. Ring $B$ adopts a chair conformation with the methyl group axial at $C(1)$, ring $C$ has a boat conformation owing to the double bond between $\mathrm{C}(7)-\mathrm{C}(8)$ and ring $D$ has a $\beta$-envelope conformation, with the benzyloxymethyl group equatorial at $\mathrm{C}(11)$. The relative stereochemistry is trans for the $B C$ junction, syn for the orientation of the methyl and

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methoxymethyl groups, and trans for the $C D$ junction ( $T-S-T$ ).

(1)

(2)

(3)

Fig. 1. Molecular schemes $\left(X=\mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{OCH}_{3}, Y=\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{OCH}_{2} \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{5}\right.$,

$$
\left.E=\mathrm{COOCH}_{3}\right)
$$

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[^0]:    * Structures of Chlorinated Diphenyl Ethers. I.

[^1]:    * Lists of structure factors, H -atom parameters and anisotropic thermal parameters have been deposited with the British Library Document Supply Centre as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 51027 ( 5 pp .). Copies may be obtained through The Executive Secretary, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH 1 2HU, England.

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