



Fig. 2. The crystal packing viewed along the c axis.

Related literature. Pharmacological study demonstrates that this substance is a selective $5-HT_{1A}$ (serotonin_{1A}) receptor agonist (Matsuda, Seong, Aono, Kanda, Baba, Saito, Tobe & Iwata, 1989).

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Structure of 2,2-Bis(3,5-di-*tert*-butylphenyl)propane-2',2''-dithiol

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Abstract. $C_{31}H_{48}S_2$, $M_r = 484.86$, monoclinic, $C2/c$, $a = 18.479$ (2), $b = 9.294$ (1), $c = 18.126$ (2) Å, $\beta = 99.41$ (1)°, $V = 3071.3$ Å³, $Z = 4$, $D_x = 1.049$ Mg m⁻³, $\lambda(Cu K\alpha) = 1.54184$ Å, $\mu = 1.627$ mm⁻¹, $F(000) = 1064$, $T = 293$ K. The final R value was 0.055 for 2413 significant [$I > 3\sigma(I)$] reflections. The crystal structure confirms the close relationship of the thiol groups ($S \cdots S' = 4.29$ Å) which explains the observed elimination of hydrogen sulfide leading to the formation of the corresponding thioxanthene.

Experimental. The compound was synthesized by a Newman–Kwart rearrangement (Newman & Karnes, 1966; Kwart & Evans, 1966). In contrast to the very stable 2,4,6-tri-*tert*-butylbenzenethiol (Rundel, 1968), the title compound proved to be rather sensitive, in that it readily eliminates hydrogen sulfide, for instance when heated to its melting point (440 K). Crystals were grown by slowly cooling a warm saturated ethyl acetate solution of the pure (crystallized twice from ethyl acetate) compound. A yellow single crystal of approximate dimensions $0.15 \times 0.15 \times$