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# 1,1'-Diphenyl-1,1'-bicyclopropyl and 1,1'-Diphenyl-1,1'-bicyclobutyl 

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#### Abstract

The molecules of $1,1^{\prime}$-diphenyl-1, $1^{\prime}$-bicyclopropyl, $\mathrm{C}_{18} \mathrm{H}_{18}$, and $1,1^{\prime}$-diphenyl-1, $1^{\prime}$-bicyclobutyl, $\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{22}$, each possess a crystallographic centre of symmetry. Both molecules adopt the trans conformation. The cyclopropyl rings are approximately symmetric while the cyclobutyl rings are slightly folded.


## Comment

The study of steric influences is of increasing importance not only in organic chemistry. Studies of the relationships between structure and activity of drugs attest to intermolecular effects as one of the reasons for the high selectivity of biochemical and recognition processes, which have been described, inter alia, as docking processes between an active substance and its receptor (Yalkowsky, Sinkuk \& Valvani, 1980). During a study of the relationship between thermal stability, strain and structure in a series of $1,1^{\prime}$-diphenyl-1, $1^{\prime}$ bicycloalkyls ( $\mathrm{C}_{4}-\mathrm{C}_{8}$ ), Bernlöhr, Beckhaus, Lindner \& Rüchardt (1984) determined the crystal structure of $1,1^{\prime}$ -diphenyl-1,1'-bicyclooctyl and found it to have a trans conformation. Using MM2 calculations, they concluded that the bicycloheptyl and -hexyl compounds would have the trans conformation but that the -pentyl and
-butyl compounds would adopt the gauche form. We have recently investigated the structures and conformational equilibrium of $1,1^{\prime}$-diphenyl-1,1'-bicycloheptyl, -hexyl and -pentyl (Zhang, Xu, Koh, Lam \& Huang, 1993). In view of our interest in diphenylethane derivatives, we decided to investigate the structures of other members of the $1,1^{\prime}$-diphenyl-1, $1^{\prime}$-bicycloalkyl family of compounds to provide the experimental structural data which had hitherto been lacking. In this paper, we report the crystal structures of $1,1^{\prime}$-diphenyl-1,1'-bicyclopropyl, (1), and $1,1^{\prime}$-diphenyl-1,1'-bicyclobutyl, (2).

(1)

(2)

Molecule (1) is centrosymmetric and takes the trans conformation in the crystal, as in $1,1^{\prime}$-bicyclopropyl (Eraker \& Rømming, 1967). This contrasts with 1 -nitro-$1^{\prime}$-nitroso-1,1'-bicyclopropyl, $1,1^{\prime}$-dinitro-1, $1^{\prime}$-bicyclopropyl (Kai et al., 1982) and 1,1'-dicyano-1,1'-bicyclopropyl (Schrumpf \& Jones, 1987), which each exist as the gauche rotamer. The $\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ plane makes an angle of $86.9(2)^{\circ}$ with the plane through the central C atoms $\mathrm{C}(11), \mathrm{C}(1)$ and $\mathrm{C}(1 a)$. The central $\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1 a)$ bond is longer than the corresponding bonds in $1,1^{\prime}$-bicyclopropyl (Eraker \& Rømming, 1967) and the other substituted bicyclopropyls (Schrumpf \& Jones, 1987; Kai et al., 1982). The length of the central C-C bond appears not to be correlated with a single parameter, but to be influenced by several factors, e.g. conjugation between the two cyclopropane moieties, steric factors and electronic effects of the substituents at $\mathrm{C}(1)$ and $\mathrm{C}(1 a)$.
The bond angles around the two central C atoms reveal evidence of intramolecular stress, the angle $\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(16)$ showing the largest deviation from $120^{\circ}$ of any of the internal phenyl ring angles.
Molecule (2) is situated at a centre of symmetry with approximate $C_{2 h}$ symmetry and adopts the trans conformation. The $\mathrm{C}(12)-\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(1)$ plane is orientated at an angle of $90.8(2)^{\circ}$ to the $\mathrm{C}(11)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(1 a)$ plane. The cyclobutyl rings are slightly folded forming a 'butterfly'-type square with C(3) bending away from the phenyl ring attached to $\mathrm{C}(1)$. The dihedral angle between the $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ and $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(3)-\mathrm{C}(4)$ planes is $17.5(2)^{\circ}$. This contrasts with $1,1^{\prime}$-dinitro- $1,1^{\prime}$ bicyclobutyl which exists as a gauche conformer in the crystalline state and has approximately planar cyclobutane rings (Kai et al., 1982). The central C(1)-C(1a) bond is much longer than in (1). This is consistent with


Fig. 1. ORTEP (Johnson, 1965) plots of (a) compound (1), and (b) compound (2), with ellipsoids at the $50 \%$ probability level.
the increased steric crowding expected on expansion of the ring. Table 5 summarizes the values of the central $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}$ bond lengths and $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(n)$ angles $(n=$ 3-8) in various $1,1^{\prime}$-disubstituted-1, $1^{\prime}$-bicycloalkyl compounds. The central $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}$ bond length increases as the crowding around the two central $C$ atom increases. The bond length is shortest for $n=3$ and reaches a maximum length at $n=7$. Further increase in ring size shows no effect on the central $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{C}$ bond length. Replacing the phenyl rings with nitro or cyano groups causes angle $\mathrm{C}(2)-\mathrm{C}(1)-\mathrm{C}(n)$ to widen relative to those of the $1,1^{\prime}-$ diphenyl-1, $1^{\prime}$-bicycloalkyl series. This degree of widening, however, decreases as $n$ gets smaller. Bernlöhr et al. (1984) have calculated the energies of the rotamers of some $1,1^{\prime}$-diphenyl-1, $1^{\prime}$-bicycloalkyl compounds ( $n=$ 4-8) using an empirical force field (EFF) combined with the MM2 force field. Their calculations showed that in $1,1^{\prime}$-diphenyl-1, $1^{\prime}$-bicyclobutyl, the gauche conformer is more stable than the trans. Our semi-empirical molecular orbital calculations carried out using $A M$ PAC5.0 (1994) with AMI parametrization (Dewar, Zoebisch, Healey \& Stewart, 1985) show that the energy difference between the gauche and trans conformation $\left(\Delta E=E_{g}-E_{t}\right)$ are -2.31 and $-6.86 \mathrm{~kJ} \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ in (1) and (2), respectively. From the Boltzmann distribution, the gauche populations would be 83.6 and $96.9 \%$ at 298 K.

The AMI calculations also failed to reproduce the greater stability of the trans form as observed in X-ray results. Analysis of the optimized geometries showed that although the trans and gauche conformers have similar bond lengths and angles, in the trans arrangement the interatomic distance ( $\sim 2.6 \AA$ ) between the $\beta-\mathrm{H}$ atoms on the cycloalkyl rings and the nearest C atoms of the vicinal phenyl groups is $1.4 \AA$ smaller than that in the gauche form. As the $\pi$-electron clouds could extend 1.5-2.0 $\AA$ beyond the plane of the ring, this implies that in the trans conformer the $\beta-\mathrm{H}$ atoms on the cycloalkyl rings would be strongly interacting with the $\pi$-electron clouds. However, it should be borne in mind that AMI calculations strictly refer to the situation in the gas phase and it is highly probable that the gas phase geometry may differ from that imposed by the solid state.

## Experimental

1, $1^{\prime}$-Diphenyl-1,1'-bicyclopropyl, (1), was synthesized in two steps from 2,3-diphenyl-1,3-butadiene, according to the method described by Beckhaus, Schoch \& Rüchardt (1976). The compound was purified by silica column chromatography with petroleum ether:benzene (6:1) as the eluant. M.p. $331-332 \mathrm{~K}$ (literature m.p. 330-331 K; Beckhaus, Schoch \& Rüchardt, 1976). Single crystals for X-ray measurements were obtained from ethanol under dry ice/ethanol temperature. $1,1^{\prime}$-Diphenyl-$1,1^{\prime}$-bicyclobutyl, (2), was prepared by the coupling of 1-phenylcyclobutanol with titanium trichloride and lithium aluminium hydride (McMurry, 1975). 1-Phenylcyclobutanol was obtained in quantitative yield by the reaction of cyclobutanone with phenylmagnesium bromide. Compound (2) was purified by silica column chromatography using hexane:ethyl acetate (3.5:0.5) as eluant. M.p. 377-378 K (literature m.p. $377-378$ K; Beckhaus, Schoch \& Rüchardt, 1976). Over a period of several months, well formed crystals were grown from a mixture of hexane/benzene solution.

## Compound (1)

Crystal data
$\mathrm{C}_{18} \mathrm{H}_{18}$
$M_{r}=234.3$
Monoclinic
$P 2_{1} / n$
$a=7.679(2) \AA$
$b=5.891(1) \AA$
$c=14.800(3) \AA$
$\beta=91.28(3)^{\circ}$
$V=669.4(3) \AA^{3}$
$Z=2$
$D_{x}=1.163 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}$

## Data collection

Siemens $R 3 m / V$ diffractometer
$\omega$ scans
Absorption correction: none

Mo $K \alpha$ radiation
$\lambda=0.71073 \AA$
Ccll parameters from 15
reflections
$\theta=2.8-12.8^{\circ}$
$\mu=0.065 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}$
$T=298 \mathrm{~K}$
Plate
$0.40 \times 0.30 \times 0.30 \mathrm{~mm}$
Colourless
$R_{\text {int }}=0.0316$
$\theta_{\text {max }}=24^{\circ}$
$h=0 \rightarrow 9$
$k=0 \rightarrow 7$
$l=-17 \rightarrow 17$

1270 measured reflections 1178 independent reflections 720 observed reflections $[F>4 \sigma(F)]$

## Refinement

Refinement on $F$
$R=0.0397$
$w R=0.0473$
$S=1.24$
720 reflections
83 parameters
H -atom parameters not refined
$w=1 /\left[\sigma^{2}(F)+0.0006 F^{2}\right]$
$(\Delta / \sigma)_{\max }=0.010$

3 standard reflections monitored every 97 reflections
intensity variation: $\pm 1.5 \%$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \Delta \rho_{\max }=0.16 \mathrm{e} \AA^{-3} \\
& \Delta \rho_{\min }=-0.12 \mathrm{e}^{-3}
\end{aligned}
$$

Extinction correction:

$$
\begin{aligned}
F^{*}= & F[1+(0.002 \chi \\
& \left.\left.\times F^{2} / \sin 2 \theta\right)\right]^{-1 / 4}
\end{aligned}
$$

Extinction coefficient:

$$
\chi=0.0016(10)
$$

Atomic scattering factors from International Tables for X-ray Crystallography (1974, Vol. IV)

Table 1. Fractional atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters $\left(\dot{A}^{2}\right)$ for (1)

| $U_{\text {eq }}=(1 / 3) \sum_{i} \Sigma_{j} U_{i j} a_{i}^{*} a_{j}^{*} \mathbf{a}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{a}_{j}$. |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | $U_{\text {eq }}$ |
| C(1) | -0.0722 (2) | 0.0412 (3) | 0.0306 (1) | 0.041 (1) |
| C(2) | -0.2581 (3) | 0.0109 (4) | -0.0006 (1) | 0.061 (1) |
| C(3) | -0.1794 (3) | 0.2435 (4) | 0.0000 (1) | 0.059 (1) |
| C(11) | -0.0376 (2) | 0.0229 (3) | 0.1311 (1) | 0.040 (1) |
| C(12) | 0.0482 (3) | 0.1953 (3) | 0.1784 (1) | 0.048 (1) |
| C(13) | 0.0775 (3) | 0.1806 (4) | 0.2706 (1) | 0.057 (1) |
| C(14) | 0.0223 (3) | -0.0070 (4) | 0.3178 (1) | 0.059 (1) |
| C(15) | -0.0620 (3) | -0.1799 (4) | 0.2721 (1) | 0.059 (1) |
| C(16) | -0.0914 (3) | -0.1659 (4) | 0.1796 (1) | 0.050 (1) |

```
\(V=1500(2) \AA^{3}\)
\(Z=4\)
\(D_{x}=1.162 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}\)
```


## Prism

$0.50 \times 0.50 \times 0.40 \mathrm{~mm}$ Colourless

Data collection
Siemens $R 3 m / V$ diffractometer

$$
h=0 \rightarrow 12
$$

$\omega$ scans

$$
k=0 \rightarrow 8
$$

Absorption correction: none
1182 measured reflections
1182 independent reflections
818 observed reflections

$$
[F>4 \sigma(F)]
$$

$$
\theta_{\max }=24^{\circ}
$$

$l=0 \rightarrow 19$
3 standard reflections monitored every 97 reflections intensity variation: $\pm 1.5 \%$

## Refinement

Refinement on $F$
$R=0.0354$
$w R=0.0437$
$S=1.37$
818 reflections
92 parameters
H -atom parameters not refined

$$
\begin{aligned}
& w=1 /\left[\sigma^{2}(F)+0.0004 F^{2}\right] \\
& (\Delta / \sigma)_{\max }=0.002
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \Delta \rho_{\max }=0.11 \mathrm{e} \AA^{-3} \\
& \Delta \rho_{\min }=-0.10 \AA^{-3}
\end{aligned}
$$

Extinction correction:

$$
\begin{aligned}
F^{*}= & F[1+(0.002 \chi \\
& \left.\left.\times F^{2} / \sin 2 \theta\right)\right]^{-1 / 4}
\end{aligned}
$$

Extinction coefficient:

$$
\chi=0.0021
$$

Atomic scattering factors from International Tables for X-ray Crystallography (1974, Vol. IV)

Table 3. Fractional atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters ( $\AA^{2}$ ) for (2)

| $U_{\mathrm{eq}}=(1 / 3) \sum_{i} \sum_{j} U_{i j} a_{i}^{*} a_{j}^{*} \mathbf{a}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{a}_{j}$. |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | $U_{\text {eq }}$ |
| C(1) | 0.5116 (1) | 0.0397 (2) | 0.4595 (1) | 0.041 (1) |
| C(2) | 0.4624 (2) | 0.2303 (2) | 0.4500 (1) | 0.055 (1) |
| C(3) | 0.5878 (2) | 0.3030 (2) | 0.4607 (1) | 0.071 (1) |
| C(4) | 0.6393 (2) | 0.1188 (2) | 0.4511 (1) | 0.056 (1) |
| C(11) | 0.4760 (2) | -0.0846 (2) | 0.3961 (1) | 0.047 (1) |
| C(12) | 0.3612 (2) | -0.0815 (2) | 0.3650 (1) | 0.057 (1) |
| C(13) | 0.3282 (2) | -0.1960 (3) | 0.3074 (1) | 0.079 (1) |
| C(14) | 0.4091 (3) | -0.3151 (3) | 0.2795 (1) | 0.095 (1) |
| C(15) | 0.5230 (3) | -0.3191 (3) | 0.3081 (1) | 0.086 (1) |
| C(16) | 0.5571 (2) | -0.2043 (2) | 0.3659 (1) | 0.063 (1) |

Table 4. Selected geometric parameters $\left(\AA^{\circ},^{\circ}\right)$ for (2)
Symmetry code: (i) $-x,-y,-z$.

## Compound (2)

Crystal data
$\mathrm{C}_{20} \mathrm{H}_{22}$
$M_{r}=262.4$
Orthorhombic
Pbca
$\mathrm{Pb} a=11.20$ (1) $\AA$
$b=7.627$ (7) $\AA$
$c=17.56(1) \AA$
Mo $K \alpha$ radiation
$\lambda=0.71073 \AA$
Cell parameters from 20
reflections
$\theta=5.0-19.2^{\circ}$
$\mu=0.065 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}$
$T=298 \mathrm{~K}$


Table 5. Central inter-ring $C-C$ bond lengths $(\AA)$ and carbocyclic ring angles $C(2)-C(1)-C(n)\left(^{\circ}\right)$ at the central $C(1)$ atom in the solid state of various $1,1^{\prime}-(R)(R)-$ 1,1'-bicycloalkyl molecules

Carbocyclic ring

| $R=$ nitro | $R=$ cyano | $R=$ phenyl |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $1.476(3)^{*}$ | $1.501(4) \ddagger$ | $1.527(4)$ q |
| $1.508(9)^{*}$ | - | $1.569(3) \Phi$ |
| $1.486(4) \dagger$ | $1.537(5) \S$ | $1.575(5)^{* *}$ |
| $1.579(3) \dagger$ | $1.582(10) \S$ | $1.627(5)^{* *}$ |
| $1.601(9) \dagger$ | $1.591(6) \S$ | $1.630(5)^{* *}$ |
| - | - | $1.622 \dagger \dagger$ |
| $59.1(1)^{*}$ | $58.6(2) \ddagger$ | $59.6(1) \Phi$ |
| $89.0(2)^{*}$ | - | $87.3(1) \Phi$ |
| $105.4(3) \dagger$ | $101.9(2) \S$ | $98.9(3)^{* *}$ |
| $110.2(1) \dagger$ | $108.9(4) \S$ | $105.5(2)^{* *}$ |
| $113.2(6) \dagger$ | $111.4(3) \S$ | $108.0(4)^{* *}$ |
| - | - | $107.6 \dagger \dagger$ |

* Kai et al. (1982); † Lam, Huang \& Hambley (1990); $\ddagger$ Schrumpf \& Jones (1987); §Koh, Huang \& Sim (1992); \|this work; ** Zhang et al. (1993); † $\dagger$ Bernlöhr et al. (1984).
The structures of (1) and (2) were solved by direct methods using XS (SHELXTL-Plus; Siemens, 1989) and refined by full-matrix least-squares analysis using XLS (SHELX76: Sheldrick, 1976; SHELXS86: Sheldrick, 1985). Data were reduced using the above-mentioned programs. C atoms were refined anisotropically whereas H atoms were placed at calculated positions with fixed isotropic displacement parameters.

Lists of structure factors, anisotropic displacement parameters, $\mathbf{H}$ atom coordinates and complete geometry have been deposited with the IUCr (Reference: AS1191). Copies may be obtained through The Managing Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England.

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# Bis(methylthio)ethylenedithiotetrathiafulvalene 

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## Abstract

The title compound \{alternative nomenclature: 2-[4,5-bis(methylthio)-1,3-dithiol-2-ylidene]-5,6-dihydro-1,3dithiolo $[4,5-b][1,4]$ dithiine $\}, \mathrm{C}_{10} \mathrm{H}_{10} \mathrm{~S}_{8}$, is a molecular crystal with typical values for bond distances and angles. The molecules form columns along the $c$ axis. The intermolecular S...S distances indicate the presence of van der Waals interactions between the columns.

## Comment

Many charge-transfer complexes based on donors containing the tetrathiafulvalene (TTF) unit have been reported (Bechgaard et al., 1981; Bender et al., 1984; Karpova, Konovalikhin, Dyachenko, Lyubovskaya \& Zhilyaeva, 1992; Mori et al., 1990; Qian et al., 1988; Shibaeva, Kaminskii \& Yagubskii, 1985). We have prepared a new organic compound, (6), which is a derivative of TTF.

(6)

The bond distances and angles at $S$ are dependent on the hybridization state of the C atom to which S is bound, so that $\mathrm{S}-\mathrm{C}_{s p^{3}}$ is longer than $\mathrm{S}-\mathrm{C}_{s p^{2}}$ and the angles are wider in the case of an $s p^{2}$-hydridized C

