## organic papers

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#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 262 KMean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.004 Å R factor = 0.040 wR factor = 0.093 Data-to-parameter ratio = 15.1

For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e.

## (–)-(4*S*)-1-Chloro-3-(2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl)propan-2-one

The crystal structure of the title compound,  $C_8H_{13}ClO_3$ , has been determined at 262 (2) K following *in-situ* growth from the liquid.

#### Comment

This work forms part of a continuing study devoted to improving the techniques for determining the crystal structures of substances which are liquids at room temperature [see, for example, Davies & Bond (2001)]. The structure of (-)-(4*S*)-1-chloro-3-(2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolan-4-yl)propan-2-one, (2), is reported here.



### Experimental

The sample was obtained from methyl ester (1), prepared using the method of Steel & Thomas (1997). Treatment of (1) with in-situ generated chloromethyllithium (Barluenga et al., 1995)) at 195 K in dichloromethane afforded the title compound (2) in 94% yield. The crystal was grown in a 0.3 mm glass capillary tube at 278 K. This temperature is less than 1 K below the observed melting point of the solid in the tube and allowed solid and liquid to exist together in the tube for a period of at least several hours. With the axis of the capillary parallel to the  $\varphi$  axis and horizontal on the instrument (a Nonius KappaCCD diffractometer equipped with an Oxford Cryosystems Cryostream cooler), the crystal was obtained overnight from the very slow movement of the solid/liquid interface (the tube remaining stationary during the period of crystal growth). Attempts to grow a suitable crystal by moving a plug of solid material up and down the tube using a method reported earlier (Davies & Bond, 2001) were unsuccessful, but one of the best of these attempts was used as the starting point for the stationary-tube method which produced the crystal used in the structure determination.

Crystal data  $C_8H_{13}CIO_3$   $M_r = 192.63$ Orthorhombic,  $P2_12_12_1$  a = 5.3067 (2) Å b = 9.3552 (6) Å c = 20.0955 (12) Å V = 997.65 (10) Å<sup>3</sup> Z = 4 $D_x = 1.283 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ 

Mo K $\alpha$  radiation Cell parameters from 3592 reflections  $\theta = 1.0-25.0^{\circ}$  $\mu = 0.35 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ T = 262 (2) K Cylinder, colourless 0.125 mm (radius) 0.25 mm (length)

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Data collection

Nonius KappaCCD diffractometer Fine-slice  $\omega/\varphi$  scans 5899 measured reflections 1704 independent reflections 1385 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ 

#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.040$   $wR(F^2) = 0.093$  S = 1.201701 reflections 113 parameters H-atom parameters constrained  $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0247P)^2 + 0.1484P]$ where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   $\begin{aligned} R_{\text{int}} &= 0.090\\ \theta_{\text{max}} &= 25.0^{\circ}\\ h &= -5 \rightarrow 6\\ k &= -8 \rightarrow 11\\ l &= -23 \rightarrow 22 \end{aligned}$ 

 $\begin{array}{l} (\Delta/\sigma)_{max} < 0.001 \\ \Delta\rho_{max} = 0.16 \ e \ Å^{-3} \\ \Delta\rho_{min} = -0.18 \ e \ Å^{-3} \\ \text{Extinction correction: SHELXL97} \\ \text{Extinction coefficient: 0.019 (5)} \\ \text{Absolute structure: Flack (1983)} \\ \text{Flack parameter} = -0.17 (12) \end{array}$ 

#### Figure 1

The molecular structure and atom-labelling scheme of (2). Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level.

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H atoms were placed geometrically and refined using the usual riding model. The absolute configuration was determined satisfactorily from the X-ray data [Flack (1983) parameter = -0.2 (1), number of Friedel pairs = 649], confirming the known configuration of the starting material.

Data collection: *COLLECT* (Nonius, 1998); cell refinement: *HKL SCALEPACK* (Otwinowski & Minor, 1997); data reduction: *HKL DENZO* (Otwinowski & Minor, 1997) and *SCALEPACK*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SIR*92 (Altomare *et al.*, 1994); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *XP* (Sheldrick, 1993).