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#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 K Mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.004 Å R factor = 0.040 wR factor = 0.112 Data-to-parameter ratio = 13.9

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

## 1,5-Bis(ethylsulfonyl)pentane

The title compound,  $C_9H_{20}O_4S_2$ , has been obtained as an unexpected product when attempting to prepare a zinc(II) complex with the disulfoxide ligand 1,5-bis(ethylsulfinyl)-pentane. The average S–C and S=O bond lengths are 1.781 (3) and 1.436 (2) Å, respectively. The two O–S–O angles [118.0 (1) and 117.2 (1)°] are nearly equivalent, with an average value of 117.6 (1)°. The molecular skeleton is almost fully extended in the crystalline state.

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## Comment

Over ten years ago, many bis-sulfone compounds, such as (Z)-1,2-bis(benzenesulfonyl)ethylene (Podlaha *et al.*, 1986), *dl*-2,3bis(ethylsulfonyl)butane (Julia *et al.*, 1986), 1,2-bis(methylsulfonyl)ethane (Mo & Berg, 1982) and bis(phenylsulfonyl)ethane (Hauback & Mo, 1990) *etc.*, were synthesized by the oxidation of their corresponding thioether precursors. In the preparation of the sulfoxide, a sulfone was often obtained because of over-oxidation. During our recent research on complexes containing disulfoxide ligands, a bis-sulfone, namely 1,5-bis(ethylsulfonyl)pentane, (I), was isolated unexpectedly.



The molecular structure of (I) is shown in Fig. 1. The skeleton is extended, with no crystallographic symmety. The four O atoms (O1–O4) are located on the same side of the molecular chain formed by the C and S atoms. The dihedral angle between the two sulfonyl planes, defined by atoms O1/S1/O2 and O3/S2/O4, is  $5.7 (3)^{\circ}$ . The S–O bond lengths within each SO<sub>2</sub> group are almost equal, with an average value of 1.438 (7) Å at S1 and 1.433 (2) Å at S2. The average bond length for the four S–C bonds is 1.781 (3) Å. The two O–S–O angles [118.0 (1) and 117.2 (1)°] are nearly equivalent, with an average value of 117.6 (1)°. These bond lengths and angles are all in the normal ranges, and compare well those observed in other analogues (Podlaha *et al.*, 1986; Julia *et al.*, 1986; Mo & Berg, 1982; Hauback & Mo, 1990).



### Figure 1

View of the title compound, shown with ellipsoids at the 50% probability level. H atoms have been omitted.

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## Experimental

1,5-Bis(ethylsulfinyl)pentane was synthesized according to a method described previously (Zhang *et al.*, 1995), and was identified by IR and <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra, and elemental analysis. Further details will be described elsewhere. The crystals of (I) were obtained when attempting to prepare a zinc(II) complex of 1,5-bis(ethylsulfinyl)pentane, using  $Zn(ClO_4)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$  as salt and acetone/chloroform as solvent in an open container. IR spectra were recorded on an FT–IR 170SX (Nicolet) spectrometer (KBr pellet, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2944 (*m*), 1309 (*m*), 1289 (*s*), 1139 (*m*), 723 (*m*), 583 (*m*). The reason for the formation of the sulfone is unclear.

### Crystal data

 $\begin{array}{l} C_9H_{20}O_4S_2\\ M_r = 256.37\\ Triclinic, P\overline{1}\\ a = 5.545~(2)~\text{\AA}\\ b = 8.187~(3)~\text{\AA}\\ c = 13.867~(5)~\text{\AA}\\ \alpha = 96.463~(6)^\circ\\ \beta = 96.731~(6)^\circ\\ \gamma = 91.288~(6)^\circ\\ V = 620.8~(4)~\text{\AA}^3 \end{array}$ 

Z = 2  $D_x = 1.371 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ Mo K\alpha radiation Cell parameters from 925 reflections  $\theta = 2.8-26.3^{\circ}$   $\mu = 0.42 \text{ mm}^{-1}$  T = 293 (2) KBlock, colourless  $0.40 \times 0.35 \times 0.20 \text{ mm}$ 

#### Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector	2181 independent reflections
diffractometer	1766 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
$\varphi$ and $\omega$ scans	$R_{\rm int} = 0.014$
Absorption correction: multi-scan	$\theta_{\rm max} = 25.0^{\circ}$
(SADABS; Sheldrick, 1996;	$h = -6 \rightarrow 6$
Blessing, 1995)	$k = -9 \rightarrow 4$
$T_{\min} = 0.849, \ T_{\max} = 0.920$	$l = -16 \rightarrow 16$
2545 measured reflections	

#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.040$   $wR(F^2) = 0.112$  S = 1.012181 reflections 157 parameters Only H-atom *U*'s refined 
$$\begin{split} w &= 1/[\sigma^2(F_o{}^2) + (0.0553P)^2 \\ &+ 0.4839P] \\ \text{where } P &= (F_o{}^2 + 2F_c{}^2)/3 \\ (\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} &< 0.001 \\ \Delta\rho_{\text{max}} &= 0.31 \text{ e} \text{ Å}{}^{-3} \\ \Delta\rho_{\text{min}} &= -0.36 \text{ e} \text{ Å}{}^{-3} \end{split}$$

# Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

S1-O1	1.433 (2)	S2-O4	1.420 (2)
S1-O2	1.444 (2)	S2-O3	1.445 (2)
S1-C2	1.777 (3)	S2-C7	1.782 (3)
S1-C3	1.780 (3)	S2-C8	1.783 (3)
01-\$1-02	118.02 (13)	O4-S2-O3	117.19 (14)
O1-S1-C2	109.15 (14)	O4-S2-C7	108.70 (13)
O2-S1-C2	108.85 (13)	O3-S2-C7	108.66 (13)
O1-S1-C3	107.97 (13)	O4-S2-C8	109.90 (13)
O2-S1-C3	108.09 (13)	O3-S2-C8	109.19 (13)
C2-S1-C3	103.85 (13)	C7-S2-C8	102.12 (12)

The H atoms were included in calculated positions, and only their isotropic displacement parameters were allowed to refine.

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 1998); cell refinement: *SMART*; data reduction: *SAINT* (Bruker, 1998); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS*97 (Sheldrick, 1997*a*); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL*97 (Sheldrick, 1997*a*); molecular graphics: *SHELXTL* (Sheldrick, 1997*b*); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*.

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