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#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 K Mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.005 Å R factor = 0.039 wR factor = 0.094 Data-to-parameter ratio = 14.0

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

# 1,2-Bis(benzothiazol-2-ylsulfanyl)ethane

The title compound,  $C_{16}H_{12}N_2S_4$ , was synthesized by reaction of 1,2-dibromoethane with the sodium salt of 2-mercaptobenzothiazole. The molecule has an approximate inversion centre, with two benzothiazole fragments having an antiparallel orientation, their least-squares planes forming a dihedral angle of 4.12 (12)°. The central four-atom S-C-C-S link is almost planar, its plane being approximately orthogonal to the benzothiazole planes [dihedral angles 84.98 (14) and 84.13 (15)°]. Intermolecular  $S \cdots S$  interactions [3.657 (3) Å] link the molecules in the crystal structure into infinite chains stretching along the [101] direction.

## Comment

Numerous flexible or rigid multi-thioether ligands containing N-heterocyclic entities have been synthesized and studied. They attract substantial attention due to their diverse coordination capabilities and the important properties of their metal complexes (Bu *et al.*, 2002; Hong *et al.*, 2000; Alcock *et al.*, 1978). In addition, studies of the S-containing compounds have also been carried out with the goal of designing an improved optical sensor for the Ag<sup>I</sup> ion (Lerchi *et al.*, 1996). As a continuation of our systematic studies of the coordination chemistry of various multi-thioether ligands and the architecture of their polymeric metal complexes, a dithioether ligand with 'terminal' benzothiazole groups, namely 1,2-bis-(benzothiazol-2-ylsulfanyl)ethane, (I), has been synthesized.



As shown in Fig. 1, the molecule of (I) has an approximate inversion centre, with two benzothiazole rings having an antiparallel orientation, the dihedral angle formed by their mean planes being 4.12 (12)°. The central four-atom S-C-C-S link is planar to within 0.01 Å and almost orthogonal to the benzothiazole mean planes, the dihedral angles being 84.98 (14) and 84.13 (15)° for the S1- and S4-containing benzothiazole systems, respectively.

Intermolecular S1···S4<sup>i</sup> interactions [3.657 (3) Å; symmetry code (i):  $\frac{1}{2} + x$ ,  $\frac{1}{2} - y$ ,  $-\frac{1}{2} + z$ ] link the molecules in the crystal structure into infinite chains stretching along the [101] direction. In addition,  $\pi$ - $\pi$ -stacking interactions between the benzothiazole fragments of neighbouring molecules are observed; the average separation is 3.895 Å.

### **Experimental**

 $\odot$  2003 International Union of Crystallography Printed in Great Britain – all rights reserved The title compound has been synthesized by the reaction of 1,2dibromoethane and the sodium salt of 2-mercaptobenzothiazole in Received 20 January 2003 Accepted 24 February 2003 Online 7 March 2003



#### Figure 1

View of the title compound, with displacement ellipsoids at the 30% probability level. H atoms have been omitted.

EtOH at 353 K, as described by Liu et al. (2001) (yield: 80%, m.p.: 411-413 K). Yellow single crystals of the title compound were obtained by recrystallization from chloroform.

#### Crystal data

C16H12N2S4  $M_r = 360.53$ Monoclinic,  $P2_1/n$ a = 11.534 (4) Å b = 10.719 (4) Åc = 14.006(5) Å  $\beta = 114.029 (5)^{\circ}$  $V = 1581.5 (10) \text{ Å}^3$ Z = 4

### Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector 2791 independent reflections diffractometer  $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Sheldrick, 1996)  $T_{\rm min}=0.841,\ T_{\rm max}=0.890$ 6363 measured reflections

#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$  $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.039$  $wR(F^2) = 0.094$ S=1.002791 reflections 199 parameters H-atom parameters constrained

1833 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$  $R_{\rm int} = 0.037$  $\theta_{\rm max} = 25.0^{\circ}$  $h = -13 \rightarrow 13$  $k=-12\rightarrow 6$  $l=-15\rightarrow 16$ 

 $D_r = 1.514 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ 

Cell parameters from 719

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation

reflections

 $\theta=3.7{-}25.6^\circ$  $\mu = 0.60 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ 

T = 293 (2) K

Needle, yellow

 $0.30 \times 0.25 \times 0.20$  mm

 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0413P)^2]$ + 0.2548P] where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$  $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001$  $\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.27 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$  $\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.21 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$ 

# Table 1

Selected	geometric parameters	(Å.	°).
Sciected	geometric parameters	(11,	<i>)</i> .

C7-S2-C8	100.64 (14)	C10-S3-C9	100.98 (14)
S3-C10	1.743 (3)	N2-C11	1.391 (3)
S3-C9	1.827 (3)	N2-C10	1.284 (3)
S2-C8	1.821 (3)	N1-C7	1.294 (3)
S2-C7	1.742 (3)	N1-C6	1.390 (3)
S1-C7	1.754 (3)	S4-C16	1.730 (3)
S1-C1	1.738 (3)	S4-C10	1.755 (3)

H atoms were added theoretically, riding on their attached atoms and were refined with fixed displacement parameters.

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 1998); cell refinement: SMART; data reduction: SAINT (Bruker, 1998); program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: SHELXTL (Bruker, 1998); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXTL.

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