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#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 KMean  $\sigma(C-C) = 0.004 \text{ Å}$  R factor = 0.035 wR factor = 0.068 Data-to-parameter ratio = 10.5

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# 2-Methoxymethyl-1,3-dithiepane 1,1,3,3-tetraoxide

The title compound,  $C_7H_{14}O_5S_2$ , consists of a sevenmembered dithiepane ring with two O atoms bonded to each S atom and a methoxymethyl group at the 2-position. A few close contacts seem to influence the geometry of the dithiepane ring. Received 21 July 2003 Accepted 28 July 2003 Online 8 August 2003

## Comment

During the last decade, compounds having two geminal sulfones have been shown to be useful dienophiles, and they have received considerable attention. A number of aryl-substituted ketenedithioacetal tetraoxides have been shown to be good dienophiles (De Lucchi *et al.*, 1992) in Diels–Alder reactions. The cycloadducts desulfonylate to the corresponding norbornenes.

Similarly, bis(phenylsulfonyl)ethene has been reported (De Lucchi *et al.*, 1991) and the bis-sulfone undergoes highly diastereoselective cycloadditions with unsymmetrical dienes. The bis-sulfone has been shown to be a useful acetylene equivalent in cycloaddition reactions (De Lucchi *et al.*, 1991).

Recently, a sulfone-containing dienophile, benzenesulfonylallene, has been reported (Trudell & Pavri, 1997), and found to undergo a Diels–Alder reaction with *N*-Boc-pyrrole. The cycloadduct transformed into the epibatidine precursor in three steps. The sulfonyl group has versatile functionality in organic synthesis and can be conveniently eliminated, resulting in an alkene (Little & Myong, 1980; Lopez & Carretero, 1991). Moreover, the sulfonyl group may undergo desulfonylation and oxidative desulfonylation with the formation of the corresponding ketones (Leon & Carretero, 1991).



Racemic 2-methoxymethyl-1,3-dithiolane 1,3-dioxide has been shown to be a useful starting material for the preparation of (1R,3R)-2-methylene-1,3-dithiolane 1,3-dioxide (Aggarwal *et al.*, 1998). The crystal structure of the five-membered ring analogue of the title compound, (I), *viz*. 2-methoxymethyl-1,3dithiolane 1,1,3,3-tetraoxide has been reported previously (Özcan *et al.*, 2003). Compound (I) may also prove to be a useful starting material for the preparation of a new sulfonecontaining dienophile.

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#### Figure 1

An *ORTEP*-3 (Farrugia, 1997) drawing of the title molecule, with the atom-numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level.

The title compound, (I) (Fig. 1), consists of a sevenmembered dithiepane ring with two O atoms bonded to each S atom and a methoxymethyl group attached at the 2-position. The S atoms of the dithiepane ring have electron-releasing properties, but the O atoms bonded to the S atoms have electron-withdrawing properties, thereby influencing the bond lengths and angles of the dithiepane ring (Table 1). The dithiepane ring is, of course, not planar.

The structure reveals a number of short contacts:  $O1 \cdots H22(C2) = 2.51(2), O2 \cdots H62(C6) = 2.50(3),$   $O3 \cdots H21(C2) = 2.58(3), O4 \cdots H61(C6) = 2.45(3),$   $O1^{i} \cdots H11(C1) = 2.59(2), O2^{ii} \dots H42(C4) = 2.52(3),$   $O3^{ii} \cdots H22(C2) = 2.59(2), O4^{iv} \cdots H31(C3) = 2.63(3)$  and  $O5^{i} \cdots H32(C3) = 2.68(3)$  Å [symmetry codes: (i) -x, 1 - y, 1 - z; (ii) x - 1, y, z; (iii)  $x + \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} - y, \frac{1}{2} z;$  (iv)  $\frac{1}{2} - x, y - \frac{1}{2},$   $\frac{1}{2} - z$ ]. These interactions may have an influence on the bond lengths and angles and also the shape of the molecule.

## Experimental

The title compound, (I), was prepared according to a literature method (Aggarwal *et al.*, 1998) from 2-methoxymethyl-1,3-dithiepane (3.3 g, 18.5 mmol) in dry ether (40 ml) and purified *m*-CPBA (*m*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid; 7.03 g, 40.7 mmol) in diethyl ether (70 ml). The reaction was stirred for 4 h at 273 K, after which the white solid was collected by filtration and purified by column chromatography. Eluting with EtOAc gave racemic (1RS,3RS)-2-methoxymethyl-1,3-dithiepane 1,3-dioxide (yield 0.5 g, 45%) and 2-methoxymethyl-1,3-dithiepane 1,1,3,3-tetraoxide (yield 0.5 g, 13%); the latter was crystallized from EtOAc (m.p. 361 K).

### Crystal data

$C_7H_{14}O_5S_2$	$D_x = 1.546 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
$M_r = 242.30$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
Monoclinic, $P2_1/n$	Cell parameters from 25
a = 7.8972 (9) Å	reflections
b = 14.627 (2)  Å	$\theta = 10-22^{\circ}$
c = 9.5192 (10)  Å	$\mu = 0.51 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$\beta = 108.739 \ (8)^{\circ}$	T = 293 (2)  K
V = 1041.3 (2) Å <sup>3</sup>	Prism, yellow
Z = 4	$0.35 \times 0.20 \times 0.15 \text{ mm}$

#### Data collection

Siemens P4 diffractometer			
Non-profiled $\omega$ scans			
Absorption correction: none			
1933 measured reflections			
1800 independent reflections			
1255 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$			
$R_{\rm int} = 0.052$			
Refinement			

Refinement on  $F^2$   $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.035$   $wR(F^2) = 0.068$  S = 0.991800 reflections 171 parameters

Table 1Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

S1-O2	1.4259 (19)	\$2-C1	1.810 (2)
S1-O1	1.439 (2)	O5-C6	1.398 (3)
S1-C2	1.776 (3)	O5-C7	1.423 (3)
S1-C1	1.816 (3)	C5-C4	1.515 (4)
S2-O4	1.429 (2)	C3-C2	1.518 (4)
S2-O3	1.4308 (19)	C3-C4	1.520 (4)
S2-C5	1.762 (3)	C1-C6	1.521 (4)
O2-S1-O1	119.86 (13)	C5-S2-C1	104.78 (13)
O2-S1-C2	107.49 (13)	C6-O5-C7	111.8 (2)
O1-S1-C2	107.99 (13)	C4-C5-S2	117.6 (2)
O2-S1-C1	107.47 (13)	C2-C3-C4	114.5 (2)
O1-S1-C1	104.47 (12)	C5-C4-C3	116.1 (2)
C2-S1-C1	109.24 (12)	C3-C2-S1	115.0 (2)
O4-S2-O3	118.63 (12)	C6-C1-S2	109.78 (17)
O4-S2-C5	107.94 (14)	C6-C1-S1	108.92 (19)
O3-S2-C5	110.34 (13)	S2-C1-S1	116.44 (14)
O4-S2-C1	105.41 (11)	O5-C6-C1	107.2 (2)
O3-S2-C1	108.78 (12)		
C1-S2-C5-C4	-78.5 (2)	C1-S1-C2-C3	-52.1 (2)
S2-C5-C4-C3	64.1 (3)	C5-S2-C1-S1	77.89 (18)
C2-C3-C4-C5	-76.7(3)	C2-S1-C1-S2	-27.0(2)
C4-C3-C2-S1	97.1 (3)		

 $\begin{array}{l} \theta_{\max} = 26.0^{\circ} \\ h = 0 \rightarrow 9 \\ k = 0 \rightarrow 18 \\ l = -11 \rightarrow 11 \\ 2 \text{ standard reflections} \\ \text{every 50 reflections} \\ \text{intensity decay: 1\%} \end{array}$ 

refinement

 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001$ 

 $\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.17 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$ 

 $\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.16 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$ 

H atoms treated by a mixture of

 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0236P)^2]$ where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ 

independent and constrained

Atoms H7A, H7B and H7C were positioned geometrically at a distance of 0.96 Å from C7, and a riding model was used during the refinement process. The  $U_{\rm iso}$  value was set equal to  $1.5U_{\rm eq}$ (C7). The remaining H atoms were located in a difference synthesis and refined isotropically [C-H = 0.89 (2)–1.01 (3) Å].

Data collection: XSCANS (Siemens, 1996); cell refinement: XSCANS; data reduction: SHELXTL (Siemens, 1997); program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: ORTEP-3 for Windows (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: WinGX (Farrugia, 1999).

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