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#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study

$T = 293$  K

Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.004$  Å

$R$  factor = 0.034

$wR$  factor = 0.103

Data-to-parameter ratio = 13.7

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

## Bis(2,4,6-trichlorophenyl) 2-ethylmalonate

2-Ethyl-1,3-propanedioic (malonic) acid forms a diester, bis(2,4,6-trichlorophenyl) ester, with 2,4,6-trichlorophenol to give the non-planar title compound,  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{10}\text{Cl}_6\text{O}_4$ .

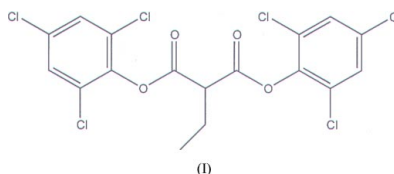
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#### Comment

2,4,6-Trichlorophenyl esters of malonic acid, dubbed 'magic malonates', are particularly reactive (Kappe, 1967). Reactions of these esters are often carried out at 423–533 K in the condensed phase. It is possible that the high reactivity is due to aryloxycarbonyl ketene formation, especially in the higher-temperature range. The present paper reports the crystal structure determination for 2-ethylmalonic acid *syn*-bis(2,4,6-trichlorophenyl)ester, (I). The non-planar diester packs in the triclinic space group  $P\bar{1}$  with a non-bonding distance of 3.437 (2) Å for Cl2 across the centre of symmetry (Table 1).



#### Experimental

The synthesis of (I) has been described by Kappe (1967).

##### Crystal data

$\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{10}\text{Cl}_6\text{O}_4$

$M_r = 490.95$

Triclinic,  $P\bar{1}$

$a = 7.648$  (3) Å

$b = 8.532$  (2) Å

$c = 16.947$  (6) Å

$\alpha = 91.41$  (2)°

$\beta = 92.98$  (2)°

$\gamma = 112.26$  (2)°

$V = 1020.8$  (6) Å<sup>3</sup>

$Z = 2$

$D_x = 1.597$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation

Cell parameters from 25

reflections

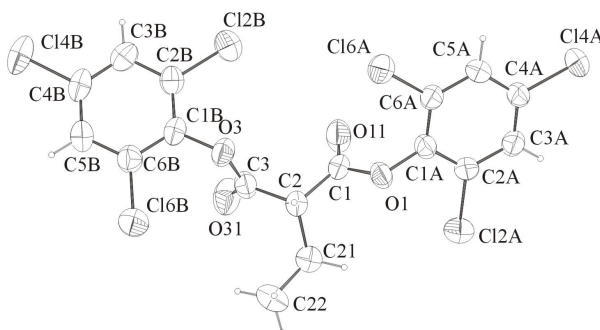
$\theta = 10.0$ – $12.0$ °

$\mu = 0.86$  mm<sup>-1</sup>

$T = 293$  (2) K

Block, colourless

$0.20 \times 0.15 \times 0.15$  mm



**Figure 1**

ORTEP plot (Spek, 1988) of (I), with displacement ellipsoids at the 50% probability level.

Data collection

Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer  
 Non-profiled  $\omega/2\theta$  scans  
 Absorption correction:  $\psi$  scan (North *et al.*, 1968)  
 $T_{\min} = 0.839$ ,  $T_{\max} = 0.879$   
 3834 measured reflections  
 3352 independent reflections  
 2430 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$

$R_{\text{int}} = 0.008$   
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 25.0^\circ$   
 $h = -1 \rightarrow 7$   
 $k = -10 \rightarrow 9$   
 $l = -20 \rightarrow 20$   
 3 standard reflections  
 frequency: 60 min  
 intensity decay: none

Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.034$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.103$   
 $S = 0.94$   
 3352 reflections  
 244 parameters  
 H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0572P)^2 + 0.6749P]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} = 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.26 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.18 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$

Table 1

Selected geometric parameters ( $\text{\AA}$ ,  $^\circ$ ).

C1—O1	1.369 (3)	C3—O31	1.190 (3)
O1—C1A	1.384 (3)	C3—O3	1.345 (3)
C2—C3	1.516 (4)	O3—C1B	1.392 (3)
O11—C1—C2	129.1 (2)	O31—C3—C2	127.1 (3)
O1—C1—C2	108.4 (2)	O3—C3—C2	108.9 (2)
C1—O1—C1A	117.8 (2)	C3—O3—C1B	118.4 (2)
C1—C2—C3	108.8 (2)		
C2A—C1A—O1—C1	-101.4 (3)	C1—C2—C3—O3	-90.0 (3)
C1A—O1—C1—C2	177.8 (2)	C2—C3—O3—C1B	-178.6 (2)
O1—C1—C2—C3	163.6 (2)	C3—O3—C1B—C2B	-104.3 (3)

H atoms were treated as riding, with C—H distances in the range 0.93–0.98  $\text{\AA}$  and  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H})$  values of  $1.5U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$  for methyl H atoms and  $1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$  for all other H atoms.

Data collection: *SDP* (Frenz, 1985); cell refinement: *SDP*; data reduction: *WinGX* (Farrugia, 1999); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97*; molecular graphics: *PLATON98* (Spek, 2003); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL97*.

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