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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 180 K Mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.006 Å R factor = 0.054 wR factor = 0.105 Data-to-parameter ratio = 16.5

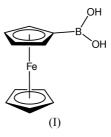
For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e.

# Hydrogen-bonding motifs in the solid-state structure of ferroceneboronic acid

At 180 K, the crystal structure of ferroceneboronic acid,  $[Fe(C_5H_5)(C_5H_6BO_2)]$ , consists of centrosymmetric  $[FcB(OH)_2]_2$  dimers [Fc is  $(\eta^5-C_5H_5)Fe(\eta^5-C_5H_4)]$ , formed by a pair of complementary  $O-H\cdots O$  hydrogen-bonding interactions  $[O\cdots H \ 1.97 \text{ Å}$  and  $O\cdots O \ 2.806 \ (3) \text{ Å}]$ . The remaining two O-bound H atoms per  $[FcB(OH)_2]_2$  moiety serve to link the dimeric units to adjacent dimers in a crisscross fashion, very similar to that between hydrogen-bonded chains in solid  $Fe[\eta^5-C_5H_4B(OH)_2]_2$ .

### Comment

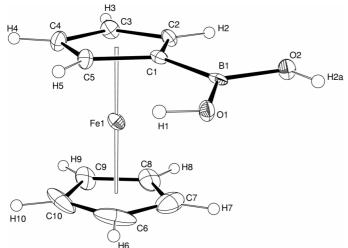
The title compound, ferroceneboronic acid,  $FcB(OH)_2$  [Fc is  $(\eta^5-C_5H_5)Fe(\eta^5-C_5H_4)]$ , has been known since the late 1950s, having been initially synthesized by Nesmeyanov et al. (1959) by the reaction of lithioferrocene with (BuO)<sub>3</sub>B, and subsequent hydrolytic work-up. A number of alternative syntheses have been reported in the interim (Shechter & Helling, 1961; McVey et al., 1967), and continued interest in this compound and related derivatives is in part due to their implication in Suzuki-type coupling reactions (Hua et al., 2001) and in anion and neutral molecule sensing (Dusemund et al., 1995; Ori & Shinkai, 1995). Although the solid-state structures of a number of related compounds, including the diboronic acid  $Fe[\eta^5-C_5H_4B(OH)_2]_2$  (Braga *et al.*, 2003), the cyclic boronic anhydride (FcBO)<sub>3</sub> (Bats et al., 2002), boronic esters (such as FcBO<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-1,2; Aldridge & Bresner, 2003; Aldridge, Bresner & Fallis, 2004) and [5]trovacenylboronic acid,  $(\eta^7 - C_7 H_7)V[\eta^5 C_5H_4B(OH)_2$ ] (Elschenbroich *et al.*, 2004), have been determined, to our knowledge there have been no reports to date concerning the crystal structure of FcB(OH)<sub>2</sub>. The title compound, (I), was isolated in this instance as the main organometallic product from the aerobic hydrolysis of FcB(OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>S in a mixed toluene-hexane solvent (Aldridge et al., 2004).



The structural parameters relating to the individual  $FcB(OH)_2$  units of (I) are unremarkable, with the geometries at the Fe and B centres mirroring those found in related compounds (Bats *et al.*, 2002; Braga *et al.*, 2003; Aldridge *et al.*,

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A view of the molecular structure of (I), showing the atom-labelling scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level and H atoms are represented by spheres of arbitrary size.

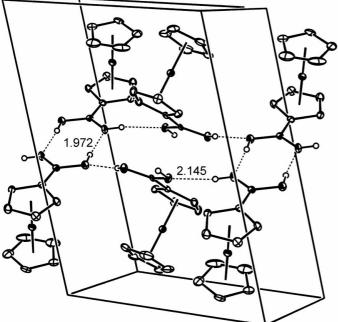


Figure 2

A packing diagram, showing the hydrogen-bonding motifs both within and between the dimeric  $[FcB(OH)_2]_2$  units in solid (I). Distances are in Å.

2004). In particular, the small degree of bending of the boronic acid moiety out of the plane of the cyclopentadienyl ligand [Cp centroid-C1-B1 176.4 (2)°] mirrors that observed in related ferrocenes containing weakly Lewis acidic boryl (BX<sub>2</sub>) substituents [*e.g.* 178.5 (3)° for FcBO<sub>2</sub>C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>Ph<sub>2</sub>; Aldridge *et al.*, 2004], but contrasts with that found in the much more electron-deficient FcBBr<sub>2</sub> (*ca* 162° for both crystallographically independent molecules; Appel *et al.*, 1996; Aldridge & Bresner, 2003).

In the solid state, the molecular units of (I) aggregate into centrosymmetric dimers, [FcB(OH)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>, formed by a pair of complementary O-H···O hydrogen-bonding interactions characterized by  $O \cdots H$  distances of 1.97 Å and  $O - H \cdots O$ angles of 172°. The eight-membered ring thus formed is very similar to that seen in the crystal structures of  $Fe[\eta^5 C_5H_4B(OH)_2]_2$  and PhB(OH)<sub>2</sub> (Braga *et al.*, 2003; Rettig & Trotter, 1977). Indeed, the  $O \cdots O$  separations between the two components of the dimer [2.806 (3) Å] are essentially identical to those found in  $Fe[\eta^5-C_5H_4B(OH)_2]_2$  [2.81 (1) Å]. The remaining two O-bound H atoms per [FcB(OH)2]2 moiety serve to link the dimeric units to adjacent dimers in a crisscross fashion, very similar to the linking between hydrogenbonded chains in solid  $Fe[\eta^5-C_5H_4B(OH)_2]_2$  (Braga *et al.*, 2003). The 16-membered ring thus formed (Fig. 2) incorporates two [FcB(OH)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub> dimers from within the same layer, bridged by two FcB(OH)<sub>2</sub> moieties from different dimeric units of the intervening stack. The O···H and O···O distances [2.14 and 2.930 (3) A, respectively] are somewhat longer than those found within each dimeric unit, but are consistent with the O···O distance found for the very similar structural motif present in  $Fe[\eta^5 - C_5H_4B(OH)_2]_2$  [O···O 2.89 (1) Å].

## Experimental

The title compound was isolated as the main organometallic product from the aerobic hydrolysis of  $FcB(OCH_2CH_2)_2S$  (Aldridge *et al.*, 2004). Attempted recrystallization of  $FcB(OCH_2CH_2)_2S$  in air by hexane diffusion into a toluene solution led to the isolation of  $FcB(OH)_2$ , (I), as single yellow–orange crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction. Spectroscopic data obtained (<sup>11</sup>B, <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR, and mass spectrometry) were in agreement with those reported previously (Shechter & Helling, 1961; McVey *et al.*, 1967).

## Crystal data

$[Fe(C_5H_5)(C_5H_6BO_2)]$	$D_x = 1.607 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
$M_r = 229.85$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
Monoclinic, $P2_1/a$	Cell parameters from 1453
a = 10.0680 (7)  Å	reflections
b = 7.0080 (5)  Å	$\theta = 2.9-27.5^{\circ}$
c = 14.0300 (13) Å	$\mu = 1.55 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$\beta = 106.320 \ (3)^{\circ}$	T = 180 (2)  K
$V = 950.02 (13) \text{ Å}^3$	Triangular plate, yellow
Z = 4	$0.13 \times 0.10 \times 0.03 \text{ mm}$

#### Data collection

Nonius KappaCCD area-detector diffractometer  $\varphi$  scans Absorption correction: multi-scan (SORTAV; Blessing, 1995)  $T_{min} = 0.824, T_{max} = 0.955$ 6820 measured reflections

# Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$ w $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.055$  $wR(F^2) = 0.105$  $wR(F^2) = 0.105$ S = 1.03S = 1.03(4)2130 reflections $\Delta$ 129 parameters $\Delta$ H-atom parameters constrained

2130 independent reflections 1398 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   $R_{int} = 0.092$   $\theta_{max} = 27.4^{\circ}$   $h = -12 \rightarrow 12$   $k = -9 \rightarrow 9$  $l = -18 \rightarrow 18$ 

$$\begin{split} &w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0264P)^2 \\ &+ 0.3652P] \\ &where \ P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3 \\ (\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001 \\ \Delta\rho_{\rm max} = 0.49 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3} \\ \Delta\rho_{\rm min} = -0.57 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3} \end{split}$$

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Table 1Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Fe1-C6	2.020 (4)	Fe1-C1	2.054 (3)
Fe1-C10	2.032 (4)	Fe1-C8	2.056 (4)
Fe1-C7	2.039 (4)	C1-B1	1.551 (5)
Fe1-C5	2.043 (3)	B1-O2	1.375 (4)
Fe1-C4	2.047 (4)	B1-O1	1.376 (4)
Fe1-C3	2.048 (3)	O1-H1	0.84
Fe1-C2	2.049 (3)	O2-H2A	0.84
Fe1-C9	2.053 (3)		
O2-B1-O1	118.0 (3)	O1-B1-C1	123.9 (3)
O2-B1-C1	118.1 (3)		

Table 2

#### Hydrogen-bonding geometry (Å, $^{\circ}$ ).

$D - H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - \mathbf{H} \cdots A$
$\begin{array}{c} O1 - H1 \cdots O2^{i} \\ O2 - H2A \cdots O1^{ii} \end{array}$	0.84	2.14	2.930 (3)	156
	0.84	1.97	2.806 (3)	172

Symmetry codes: (i)  $\frac{1}{2} + x$ ,  $-\frac{1}{2} - y$ , z; (ii) -x, -1 - y, -1 - z.

Aromatic H atoms were constrained as riding atoms, with C–H distances of 0.95 Å. Hydroxyl H atoms were located in a difference Fourier map and refined as a rigid rotor, with O–H distances of 0.84 Å. The  $U_{\rm iso}$ (H) values were fixed at 1.2 times  $U_{\rm eq}$ (C) or 1.5 times  $U_{\rm eq}$ (O).

Data collection: *COLLECT* (Nonius, 2000); cell refinement: *HKL SCALEPACK* (Otwinowski & Minor, 1997); data reduction: *HKL SCALEPACK* and *DENZO* (Otwinowski & Minor, 1997); program(s) used to solve structure: *DIRDIF*99 (Beurskens et al., 1999); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEP*-3 for Windows (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *WinGX* (Farrugia, 1999).

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