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Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 K Mean σ (C–C) = 0.002 Å R factor = 0.042 wR factor = 0.138 Data-to-parameter ratio = 12.3

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

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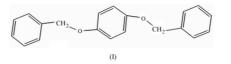
1,4-Bis(benzyloxy)benzene

The structure of the title compound, $C_{20}H_{18}O_2$, has been determined previously [Zaslow & Dubchansky (1967). *Mol. Cryst.* **3**, 297–298], but no three-dimensional coordinates are available. The molecule contains a crystallographic inversion center which lies in the middle of the central benzene ring.

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Comment

Crystals of the title compound, (I), were isolated from the marine algae *Hydroclathrus Tenuis* collected from the Xisha Islands in the South China Sea. This is the first time that the compound has been obtained from a marine natural product.



The title molecule is shown in Fig. 1. It lies on a crystallographic center of symmetry and the dihedral angle formed by the planes through the benzene and benzyloxy groups is $61.99 (3)^{\circ}$. The bond lengths and angles (listed in Table 1) are usual for this type of molecule.

In the crystal structure, there are no significant π - π stacking interactions or C-H··· π (ring) interactions and the molecules pack with normal van der Waals separations.

Experimental

The chopped algae were extracted with EtOH at room temperature and then partitioned between EtOAc and H_2O . The resulting organic layer was chromatographed twice on a silica-gel column, yielding the title compound. A sample was dissolved in a mixture of hexane/ether/ acetic acid (81.7/18/0.3) at room temperature and normal pressure, and crystals grew over a period of two weeks when the solution was exposed to the air.

Crystal data	
$C_{20}H_{18}O_2$	$D_x = 1.249 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
$M_r = 290.34$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$	Cell parameters from 25
a = 17.565(5) Å	reflections
b = 5.6820 (17) Å	$\theta = 12 - 18^{\circ}$
c = 7.804 (2) Å	$\mu = 0.08 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$\beta = 97.622 \ (6)^{\circ}$	T = 293 (2) K
V = 772.0 (4) Å ³	Block, colorless
<i>Z</i> = 2	$0.29 \times 0.20 \times 0.11 \ \mathrm{mm}$
Data collection	
Bruker SMART CCD	1686 independent reflections
diffractometer	1103 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
ω scans	$R_{\rm int} = 0.027$
Absorption correction: multi-scan	$\theta_{\rm max} = 27.0^{\circ}$
(SADABS; Sheldrick, 1996)	$h = -21 \rightarrow 22$
$T_{\rm min} = 0.977, \ T_{\rm max} = 0.991$	$k = -7 \rightarrow 7$
4597 measured reflections	$l = -6 \rightarrow 9$

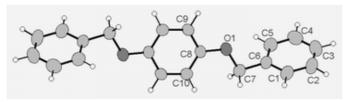


Figure 1

View of the title molecule, showing ellipsoids at the 50% probability level. Unlabeled atoms are related by the symmetry operator (-x, 1-y, 1-z).

Refinement

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0795P)^2]$
where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001$
$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.20 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$
$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.16 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
Extinction correction: SHELXL97
Extinction coefficient: 0.036 (8)

Table 1

Selected bond lengths (Å).

O1-C8	1.3756 (18)	C4-C5	1.380 (3)
O1-C7	1.4253 (19)	C5-C6	1.388 (2)
C1-C2	1.380 (2)	C6-C7	1.499 (2)
C1-C6	1.383 (2)	C8-C9	1.381 (2)
C2-C3	1.371 (3)	C8-C10	1.382 (2)
C3-C4	1.374 (3)	$C9 - C10^{i}$	1.386 (2)

Symmetry code: (i) -x, 1 - y, 1 - z.

The H atoms were refined independently with isotropic displacement parameters. The final C-H distances are in the range 0.974 (17)-1.023 (18) Å.

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 1999); cell refinement: *SMART*; data reduction: *SAINT* (Bruker, 1999); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine

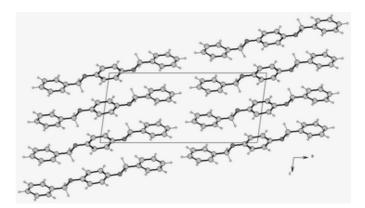


Figure 2

Packing structure of the title compound, viewed along [010].

structure: *SHELXL*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEX* (McArdle, 1995); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL*97.

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