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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 K Mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.002 Å R factor = 0.065 wR factor = 0.186 Data-to-parameter ratio = 17.7

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

# 1,3-Bis(3,4-dicyanophenoxy)benzene

The title compound,  $C_{22}H_{10}N_4O_2$ , has been designed and synthesized as a precursor of dye pigments.

### Comment

The title compound, (I), is a precursor in the synthesis of network polymeric phthalocyanines and high-performance aromatic polymers (McKeown, 1998; Takekoshi, 1987). Phthalocyanines are traditionally used as dyes and pigments (Moser & Thomas, 1983). They belong to an interesting class of compounds with increasingly diverse industrial and biomedical applications, including photosensitization, linear optics, catalysis, liquid crystals and gas sensing (Leznoff & Lever, 1989–1996).



The molecular structure of (I) is shown in Fig. 1. Selected bond lengths and angles are given in Table 1. Compound (I) has four cyano groups. The C7 $\equiv$ N1, C8 $\equiv$ N2, C21 $\equiv$ N3 and C22 $\equiv$ N4 bond distances are 1.137 (2), 1.144 (2), 1.140 (2) and 1.138 (2) Å, respectively, showing N $\equiv$ C triple-bond character. These values agree well with literature values (Ocak *et al.*, 2004).

### **Experimental**

1,3-Benzenediol (0.32 g, 2.91 mmol) and 4-nitrophthalonitrile (1.00 g, 5.78 mmol) were dissolved in dry dimethylformamide (40 ml) with stirring under N<sub>2</sub>. Dry fine-powdered potassium carbonate (1.14 g, 8.26 mmol) was added in portions (10 × 1 mmol) every 10 min. The reaction mixture was stirred for 48 h at room temperature and poured into ice–water (150 g). The product was filtered off and washed with an NaOH solution (10%) and water until the filtrate was neutral. Recrystallization from ethanol gave a brown product (yield 0.55 g, 52.43%). Single crystals were obtained from ethanol at room temperature *via* slow evaporation (m.p. 458 K); elemental analysis calculated for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C 72.93, H 2.78, N 15.46%; found: C 72.83, H 2.80, N 15.56%. IR: 3090–3038 (Ar-CH<sub>2</sub>), 2227 (CN).

Crystal data

$C_{22}H_{10}N_4O_2$	Z = 2
$M_r = 362.34$	$D_x = 1.333 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
Triclinic, P1	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
a = 8.2296 (6) Å	Cell parameters from 16095
b = 8.6309 (7)  Å	reflections
c = 13.4708 (10)  Å	$\theta = 1.6-28.4^{\circ}$
$\alpha = 75.085 \ (6)^{\circ}$	$\mu = 0.09 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$\beta = 88.710~(6)^{\circ}$	T = 293 (2) K
$\nu = 77.777 \ (6)^{\circ}$	Prism., brown
$V = 903.10 (12) \text{ Å}^3$	$0.80 \times 0.42 \times 0.10 \text{ mm}$

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# organic papers

Data collection

Stoe IPDS-2 diffractometer  $\omega$  scans Absorption correction: by integration (*X-RED*32; Stoe & Cie, 2002)  $T_{min} = 0.946, T_{max} = 0.991$ 16274 measured reflections

### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.065$   $wR(F^2) = 0.186$  S = 0.964496 reflections 254 parameters H-atom parameters constrained 4496 independent reflections 2856 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   $R_{int} = 0.155$   $\theta_{max} = 28.4^{\circ}$   $h = -11 \rightarrow 10$   $k = -11 \rightarrow 11$  $l = -17 \rightarrow 17$ 

 $w = 1/[\sigma^{2}(F_{o}^{2}) + (0.1113P)^{2}]$ where  $P = (F_{o}^{2} + 2F_{c}^{2})/3$  $(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} < 0.001$  $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.30 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$  $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.27 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$ Extinction correction: *SHELXL*97 Extinction coefficient: 0.134 (15)

### Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

O2-C15	1.3617 (18)	C21-N3	1.140 (2)
O2-C11	1.4033 (18)	C8-N2	1.144 (2)
C18-C21	1.435 (2)	C8-C2	1.437 (2)
C19-C22	1.440 (2)	C22-N4	1.138 (2)
O1-C5	1.372 (2)	C1-C7	1.436 (2)
O1-C9	1.382 (2)	C7-N1	1.137 (2)
C16-C15-C20	121.10 (14)	C11-C12-C13	118.26 (18)
C12-C11-C10	121.88 (15)	C4-C5-C6	121.33 (16)
C14-C9-C10	121.17 (17)	C9-C14-C13	118.67 (16)
C4-C3-C2	120.98 (16)	C12-C13-C14	121.50 (18)
C11-C10-C9	118.51 (16)		
C11-O2-C15-C16	6.1 (2)	C9-O1-C5-C6	51.8 (3)

H atoms were positioned geometrically and refined using a riding model, with a C-H distance of 0.93 Å and  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$ .

Data collection: X-AREA (Stoe & Cie, 2002); cell refinement: X-AREA; data reduction: X-RED32 (Stoe & Cie, 2002); program(s)



### Figure 1

An *ORTEPIII* (Burnett & Johnson, 1996) drawing of (I), showing the atomic numbering scheme. Displacements ellipsoids of non-H atoms are shown at the 50% probability level.

used to solve structure: *SHELXS*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEP*III (Burnett & Johnson, 1996); software used to prepare material for publication: *WinGX* (Farrugia, 19999).

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