Acta Crystallographica Section E Structure Reports Online

ISSN 1600-5368

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#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 K Mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.006 Å R factor = 0.037 wR factor = 0.105 Data-to-parameter ratio = 10.8

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

# Benzyl 2-(2-chloro-4,5-dicyanophenoxy)benzoate

The title phthalonitrile derivative,  $C_{22}H_{13}ClN_2O_3$ , contains three aromatic rings, which are not coplanar. The crystal structure is stabilized by intermolecular  $C-H \cdots N$  contacts.

Received 29 April 2005 Accepted 24 May 2005 Online 31 May 2005

## Comment

Phthalonitriles such as benzyl 2-(2-chloro-4,5-dicyanophenoxy)benzoate, (I), are generally used for the synthesis of symmetrically and unsymmetrically substituted phthalocyanines and subphthalocyanines (Leznoff & Lever, 1989–1996). Phthalocyanines have long been the subject of research as a result of their wide range of applications, such as in organic pigments, chemical sensors, electrochromic display devices, photovoltaic cells, xerography, optical disks, catalysis and nonlinear optics (McKeown, 1998).



The lengths of the two N=C triple bonds in (I) are consistent with those found in similar compounds (Atalay *et al.*, 2003; Erdem *et al.*, 2004; Iskeleli & Ağar, 2005). The C=O bond distance is close to the values reported in dimethyl 2,2'-(4,5-dicyano-*o*-phenylenedioxy)dibenzoate (Ocak *et al.*, 2004). The dihedral angle between the planes of rings A (C3–C8) and B (C9–C14) is 72.56 (8)°, while the dihedral angle between the planes of rings A and C (C17–C22) is 3.16 (12)°. The angle between the planes of rings B and C is 69.96 (14)°.

The crystal structure of (I) is stabilized by  $C-H\cdots N$  intermolecular contacts, namely  $C7-H7\cdots N1^{i}$  [symmetry code: (i) -x,  $y + \frac{1}{2}$ , -z + 1].

## Experimental

Benzyl 2-hydroxybenzoate (3.54 g, 15.51 mmol) and 4-nitrophthalonitrile (1.0 g, 5.78 mmol) were dissolved in dry DMF (50 ml). After stirring for 30 min at 313 K, dry fine-powdered potassium carbonate (3.00 g, 21.74 mmol) was added portionwise over a period of 2 h with stirring. The reaction was stirred for 48 h at 313 K and poured into ice-water (200 g). The product was filtered off and washed with 10%(w/w) NaOH solution and water until the filtrate was neutral. Recrystallization from ethanol gave a white product (yield 1.78 g, 90.36%). Single crystals were obtained from absolute

© 2005 International Union of Crystallography Printed in Great Britain – all rights reserved ethanol at room temperature *via* slow evaporation (m.p. 358 K). Analysis calculated for  $C_{22}H_{13}ClN_2O_3$ : C 67.96, H 3.37, N 7.20%; found: C 67.90, H 3.36, N 7.26%.

 $D_x = 1.360 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ 

Cell parameters from 5493 reflections

2127 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ 

 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0587P)^2]$ 

where  $P = (F_0^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ 

Extinction correction: SHELXL97

Extinction coefficient: 0.017 (3)

Absolute structure: Flack (1983),

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation

 $\theta = 2.5 - 27.9^{\circ}$  $\mu = 0.23 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ 

T = 293 (2) K

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.055$ 

 $\theta_{\rm max} = 26.0^\circ$ 

 $h = -10 \rightarrow 10$ 

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

 $\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.13 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$ 

 $\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.14 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$ 

1200 Friedel pairs

Flack parameter: 0.01 (8)

 $k = -8 \rightarrow 7$  $l = -20 \rightarrow 19$ 

Prism, colourless  $0.36 \times 0.31 \times 0.26$  mm

## Crystal data

 $C_{22}H_{13}ClN_2O_3$   $M_r = 388.79$ Monoclinic,  $P2_1$  a = 8.1240 (10) Å b = 7.2832 (5) Å c = 16.3599 (19) Å  $\beta = 101.298$  (9)° V = 949.24 (17) Å<sup>3</sup> Z = 2

#### Data collection

Stoe IPDS-II diffractometer  $\omega$  scans Absorption correction: integration (X-RED32; Stoe & Cie, 2002)  $T_{min} = 0.936$ ,  $T_{max} = 0.964$ 5547 measured reflections 3213 independent reflections

#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.037$   $wR(F^2) = 0.105$  S = 0.923213 reflections 298 parameters H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement

## Table 1

Selected interatomic distances (Å).

C1-N1	1.136 (5)	C15-O2	1.206 (4)
C2-N2	1.137 (5)	C15-O3	1.336 (4)
C5-O1	1.354 (4)	C16-O3	1.452 (4)
C9-O1	1.403 (3)		

#### Table 2

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D - H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - \mathbf{H} \cdots \mathbf{A}$
$C7-H7\cdots N1^i$	0.93 (4)	2.45 (4)	3.322 (5)	155 (3)
C	. 1			

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

Friedel pairs were not merged. Atoms H20 and H22 were included in calculated positions and treated using a riding model [C– H(aromatic) = 0.93 Å, with  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}$ (parent C atom)]. The other H atoms were found in a difference electron-density map and were refined with isotropic displacement parameters.





An ORTEPIII drawing of (I) showing the atomic numbering. Displacement ellipsoids of non-H atoms are drawn at the 30% probability level.

Data collection: X-AREA (Stoe & Cie, 2002); cell refinement: X-AREA; data reduction: X-RED32 (Stoe & Cie, 2002); program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: ORTEPIII (Burnett & Johnson, 1996); software used to prepare material for publication: WinGX (Farrugia, 1999).

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