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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 292 KMean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.004 \text{ Å}$  R factor = 0.057 wR factor = 0.168 Data-to-parameter ratio = 13.6

For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e. Received 26 September 2005 Accepted 3 October 2005

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# Ethyl 3-oxo-3-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)propanoate

The molecules of the title compound,  $C_{14}H_{18}O_6$ , are linked into a three-dimensional network by a combination of C-H···O hydrogen bonds and C-H··· $\pi$  and  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interacions

#### Comment

Recently published work forms part of our studies focused on structures and driving forces in solid-state packing involving C-H··· $\pi$  and  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions (Hu & Wu, 2005; Meng & Wu, 2005). We present here the structural characterization of ethyl 3-oxo-3-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)propanoate, (I), the synthesis of which has been reported previously by Wu *et al.* (1997).



Compound (I) crystallizes in the space group  $P2_1/c$  with Z' = 1. The 3- and 5-methoxy groups have their methyl C atoms essentially in the plane of the benzene ring, but the central methyl C atom at the 4 position is directed away from the ring (Fig. 1 and Table 1). There are no unremarkable bond lengths and angles.

The molecules are linked into a network by two  $C-H\cdots O$  hydrogen bonds and one  $C-H\cdots \pi$  interaction (Table 2). The second  $C-H\cdots O$  interaction produces a centrosymmetric



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Figure 2

The crystal packing, showing C-H···O hydrogen bonds, C-H··· $\pi$ (dashed lines) and  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions. H atoms not involved in the hydrogen bonds have been omitted for clarity. [Symmetry codes: (a) 1  $x, -y, -z; (b) x, \frac{1}{2} - y, \frac{1}{2} + z; (c) -1 + x, \frac{1}{2} - y, -\frac{1}{2} + z.$ ]

dimer with an  $R_2^2(9)$  ring, which is also stabilized by an aromatic  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking interaction with a perpendicular separation of 3.60 (2) Å and a centroid-centroid distance of 4.096 (2) Å. These dimers are linked into a sheet in the bcplane, built from alternating  $R_2^2(9)$  rings and C11-H11B···O4<sup>i</sup> hydrogen bonds (Table 2 and Fig. 2). Adjacent sheets are linked into a network by means of a  $C-H\cdots\pi$ interaction in which atom C14 acts as the hydrogen-bond donor to the benzene ring.

# **Experimental**

Compound (I) was synthesized according to the literature procedure of Wu et al. (1997). Single crystals of (I) suitable for X-ray diffraction were obtained by slow evaporation of an ethanol solution at room temperature.

### Crystal data

$C_{14}H_{18}O_{6}$	$D_{\rm x} = 1.308 {\rm Mg} {\rm m}^{-3}$
$M_r = 282.28$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$	Cell parameters from 1675
a = 9.7267 (13)  Å	reflections
b = 16.584 (2) Å	$\theta = 2.5 - 22.3^{\circ}$
c = 9.0476 (12)  Å	$\mu = 0.10 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$\beta = 100.734 \ (2)^{\circ}$	T = 292 (2) K
V = 1433.9 (3) Å <sup>3</sup>	Block, colorless
Z = 4	$0.30 \times 0.20 \times 0.15 \text{ mm}$

#### Data collection

2522 independent reflections 1815 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
$\Lambda_{\rm int} = 0.029$
$\theta_{\rm max} = 25.0^{\circ}$
$h = -10 \rightarrow 11$
$k = -16 \rightarrow 19$
$l = -10 \rightarrow 10$
$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_0^2) + (0.0853P)^2]$
+ 0.459P]
where $P = (F_0^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} < 0.001$
$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.37 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.22 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$

Table 1 Selected torsion angles (°).

H-atom parameters constrained

C4-C5-O1-C1	5.3 (4)	C7-C6-O2-C2	-118.6(3)	
C6-C5-O1-C1	-177.2(3)	C8-C7-O3-C3	4.1 (4)	
C5-C6-O2-C2	67.8 (3)	C6-C7-O3-C3	-175.5(2)	

Table 2 Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

	D II	11 4	D 4	
$D - H \cdots A$	D-H	$\mathbf{H}\cdots \mathbf{A}$	$D \cdots A$	$D - H \cdots A$
$C11 - H11B \cdots O4^{i}$	0.97	2.49	3.450 (3)	172
$C2-H2A\cdots O4^{ii}$	0.96	2.47	3.409 (4)	168
$C14-H14B\cdots Cg1^{iii}$	0.96	2.80	3.600 (1)	141

Symmetry codes: (i)  $x, -y + \frac{1}{2}, z + \frac{1}{2}$ ; (ii) -x + 1, -y, -z; (iii)  $x - 1, -y - \frac{1}{2}, z - \frac{3}{2}$ . Cg1 is the centroid of the benzene ring.

All the H atoms were placed in idealized positions (methyl C-H =0.96 Å, methylene C-H = 0.97 Å and aromatic C-H = 0.93 Å) and included in the refinement in a riding-model approximation  $[U_{iso}(H)]$ =  $1.5U_{eq}$ (methyl C) or  $1.2U_{eq}$ (other C)].

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 2001); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 2001); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: PLATON (Spek, 2003); software used to prepare material for publication: PLATON.

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