

Lei Zheng,^a Xiu-Fang Zheng,^a
Dan Zhang^b and Jun-Biao
Chang^{a*}^aCollege of Pharmaceuticals and Biotechnology,
Tianjin University, Tianjin 300072, People's
Republic of China, and ^bCollege of Science,
Tianjin University, Tianjin 300072, People's
Republic of ChinaCorrespondence e-mail:
zhengsanshi_zl@yahoo.com.cn

Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study
 $T = 294$ K
Mean $\sigma(C-C) = 0.005$ Å
 R factor = 0.046
 wR factor = 0.124
Data-to-parameter ratio = 12.6For details of how these key indicators were
automatically derived from the article, see
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.4-Methoxyphenyl 4-bromo-7-methoxy-
1,3-benzodioxole-5-carboxylate

The title compound, $C_{16}H_{13}BrO_6$, was synthesized in an anhydrous medium. The methylenedioxybenzoate moiety and the methoxyphenyl fragment form a dihedral angle of $65.06(8)^\circ$.

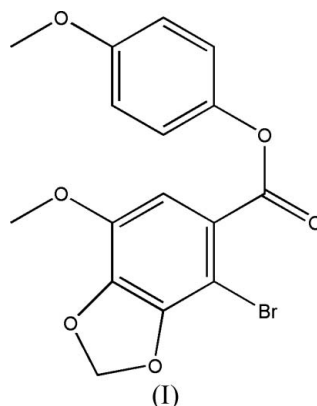
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Comment

Schizandrin-type lignans have shown a broad range of biological activities, such as antihepatotoxic, anti-HIV and anti-cancer activity (Chen *et al.*, 1997; Song & Xiao, 1982). The biphenyl unit of these natural products is crucial for their pharmacological activity (Chang *et al.*, 2003). The title compound, (I), is an intermediate used for the synthesis of benzocoumarin lactone by intramolecular coupling (Gray *et al.*, 2003) and the lactone can be converted to biphenyl derivatives which may have some useful biological activity.



The molecular structure of (I) is illustrated in Fig. 1. The bond lengths and angles within the methylenedioxybenzoate moiety agree with those reported in a related structure (Ammon *et al.*, 1986). This dioxobenzoate moiety is planar, as expected, with the largest deviation being $0.0195(2)$ Å for atom O2. Atom Br1, atom O3 of the methoxy fragment and atom C9 are roughly in this plane, being only $0.009(4)$, $0.013(5)$ and $0.093(5)$ Å, respectively, away from it. Atoms O4 and O5 are only $0.13(6)$ Å out of this plane. The benzene ring is twisted by $65.06(8)^\circ$ with respect to this plane.

Experimental

The title compound was prepared according to the published procedure of Gerhard *et al.* (2003). The reaction was initiated by the addition of one molar equivalent of 4-methoxyphenol and one molar equivalent of 4-bromo-7-methoxybenzo[*d*][1,3]dioxole-5-carboxylic acid to dichloromethane and subsequent stirring at room temperature for 12 h. A white powder (m.p. 399 K) resulted (yield 86%) and

single crystals of (I) suitable for X-ray analysis were obtained by slow evaporation of an acetonitrile solution.

Crystal data

$C_{16}H_{13}BrO_6$
 $M_r = 381.17$
 Monoclinic, $P2_1/n$
 $a = 4.1749$ (12) Å
 $b = 18.874$ (5) Å
 $c = 19.335$ (6) Å
 $\beta = 90.618$ (5)°
 $V = 1523.5$ (8) Å³
 $Z = 4$

$D_x = 1.662$ Mg m⁻³
 Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
 Cell parameters from 2617 reflections
 $\theta = 2.4$ – 26.1 °
 $\mu = 2.73$ mm⁻¹
 $T = 294$ (2) K
 Block, colourless
 $0.40 \times 0.24 \times 0.20$ mm

Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector diffractometer
 φ and ω scans
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Sheldrick, 2002)
 $T_{\min} = 0.345$, $T_{\max} = 0.580$
 6964 measured reflections

2653 independent reflections
 1942 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.072$
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 25.0$ °
 $h = -4 \rightarrow 4$
 $k = -22 \rightarrow 16$
 $l = -22 \rightarrow 22$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.046$
 $wR(F^2) = 0.124$
 $S = 1.01$
 2653 reflections
 210 parameters

H-atom parameters constrained
 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0661P)^2]$
 where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} = 0.001$
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.76$ e Å⁻³
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.54$ e Å⁻³

All H atoms were positioned geometrically and refined as riding, with C–H = 0.93–0.97 Å and with $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{CH}_2 \text{ or } \text{C}_{\text{phenyl}})$, or $1.5U_{\text{eq}}(\text{CH}_3)$.

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 1997); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 1997); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: ORTEPIII (Burnett & Johnson, 1996) and ORTEP-3 for Windows (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXTL (Bruker, 1997).

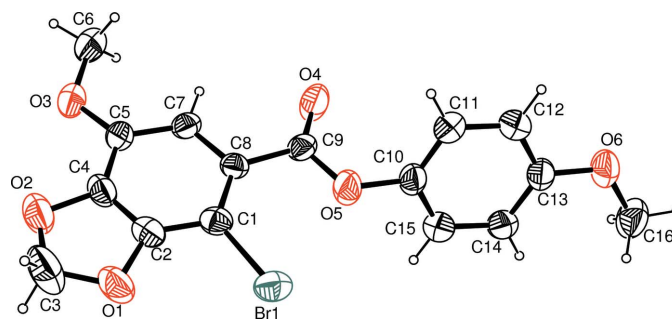


Figure 1

A view of the molecule of (I), showing the atom-labelling scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level and H atoms are represented by circles of arbitrary size.

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