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Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study
 $T = 296$ K
Mean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.003$ Å
 R factor = 0.046
 wR factor = 0.109
Data-to-parameter ratio = 13.4For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see <http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

Bis(3-formyl-4-hydroxy-5-methoxyphenyl)-methane

In the title compound, $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_3$, the asymmetric unit contains one half-molecule; a twofold rotation axis bisects the molecule. The structure is stabilized by $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{N}$ intramolecular hydrogen bonds and $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\pi$ and $\pi-\pi$ intermolecular interactions.

Comment

Hydroxy-substituted benzaldehyde reagents used for condensation with primary amines, hydrazines, hydroxylamine and other primary amine derivatives afford imine derivatives which can function as ligands towards a number of metal cations (Loudon, 2002; Khandar & Nejati, 2000; Khandar & Rezvani, 1999).

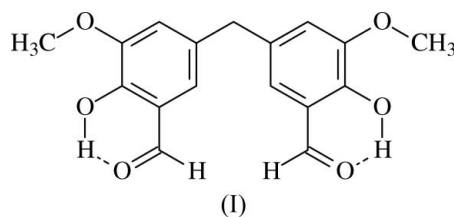
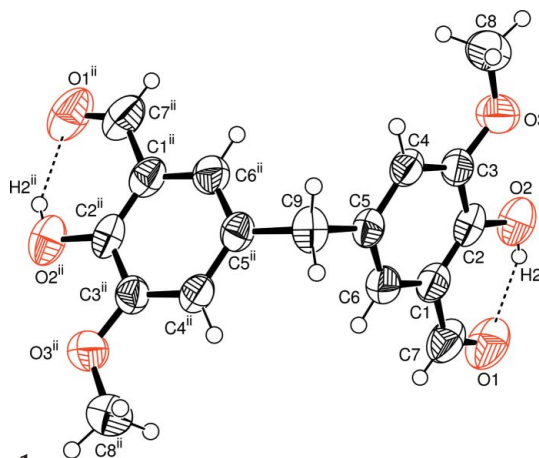
The asymmetric unit of the title compound, (I), contains one half-molecule; a twofold rotation axis passes through C9 (Fig. 1). The bond lengths and angles (Table 1) are in normal ranges (Allen *et al.*, 1987).In (I), molecules have strong intramolecular $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$ hydrogen bonds (Table 2) and they are linked through $\text{C}8-\text{H}8a\cdots\text{C}g1$ ($\text{C}g1$ is the centroid of the $\text{C}1-\text{C}6$ ring) and $\text{C}g1\cdots\text{C}g1$ intermolecular interactions (Fig. 2). For the $\text{C}8-$ 

Figure 1

The molecular structure of (I), with the atomic numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level. The intramolecular hydrogen bonds are shown as dashed lines. [Symmetry code: (i) $1 - x, y, \frac{1}{2} - z$.]

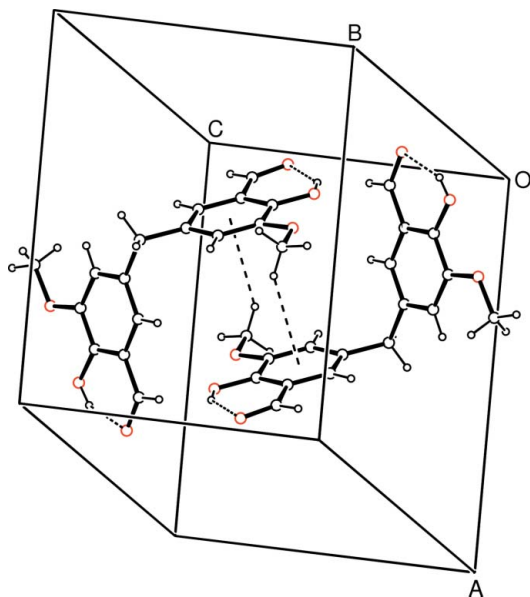


Figure 2
A packing diagram of (I) with the C—H... π intermolecular interactions shown as dashed lines.

H8a...Cg1 contact, the distance between atom H8a and the aromatic ring centroid is 3.01 (3) Å (symmetry code: $1 - x, 1 - y, -z$). There is also π - π stacking between adjacent molecules at (x, y, z) and $(-x, y, \frac{1}{2} - z)$, with distances of 3.608 (16) Å between the rings centroids and perpendicular distances of 2.481 (16) Å between the rings.

Experimental

A mixture of *o*-vanillin (0.1 mol) and formaldehyde (0.1 mol) was stirred at 393 K for 2 h. The solution was added to boiling ethyl alcohol and stirred at 393 K for 20 min and cooled to room temperature. The precipitate was filtered off and recrystallized from ethyl alcohol by slow evaporation (yield 1.58 g, 10%, m.p. 424–426 K).

Crystal data

$C_{17}H_{16}O_6$	$D_x = 1.411 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
$M_r = 316.30$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
Monoclinic, $C2/c$	Cell parameters from 3016 reflections
$a = 14.960$ (3) Å	$\theta = 2.9\text{--}27.5^\circ$
$b = 8.2889$ (11) Å	$\mu = 0.11 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$c = 13.249$ (3) Å	$T = 296$ (2) K
$\beta = 115.015$ (15)°	Plate, yellow
$V = 1488.8$ (5) Å ³	$0.40 \times 0.24 \times 0.07 \text{ mm}$
$Z = 4$	

Data collection

Stoe IPDS-II diffractometer	828 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
ω scans	$R_{\text{int}} = 0.065$
Absorption correction: integration	$\theta_{\text{max}} = 26.0^\circ$
(<i>X-RED32</i> ; Stoe & Cie, 2002)	$h = -18 \rightarrow 18$
$T_{\text{min}} = 0.963, T_{\text{max}} = 0.993$	$k = -10 \rightarrow 10$
6042 measured reflections	$l = -16 \rightarrow 16$
1470 independent reflections	

Refinement

Refinement on F^2
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.046$
 $wR(F^2) = 0.109$
 $S = 1.00$
 1470 reflections
 110 parameters

H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.049P)^2]$
 where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.12 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.11 \text{ e } \text{Å}^{-3}$

Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

C1—C2	1.388 (3)	C3—C4	1.381 (3)
C1—C6	1.399 (3)	C4—C5	1.400 (3)
C2—O2	1.360 (2)	C5—C6	1.368 (3)
C2—C3	1.395 (3)	C7—O1	1.219 (3)
C2—C1—C7	120.9 (2)	O3—C3—C4	124.8 (2)
O2—C2—C3	118.0 (2)	C5—C9—C5 ⁱ	113.6 (3)
C6—C1—C7—O1	−176.1 (2)	C4—C5—C9—C5 ⁱ	108.23 (19)
C6—C5—C9—C5 ⁱ	−72.25 (18)	C4—C3—O3—C8	−1.6 (3)

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

Table 2

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D\text{—}H\cdots A$	$D\text{—}H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D\text{—}H\cdots A$
O2—H2...O1	0.82	1.94	2.648 (3)	145

Atom H9, attached to C9, was located in a difference map and refined isotropically [$C\text{—}H = 0.98$ (2) Å]. The remaining H atoms were positioned geometrically [0.82 (OH), 0.93 (CH) and 0.96 Å (CH₃)] and constrained to ride on their parent atoms with $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H})$ values of 1.5 (1.2 for methine) times $U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C}, \text{O})$.

Data collection: *X-AREA* (Stoe & Cie, 2002); cell refinement: *X-AREA*; data reduction: *X-RED32*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEP3 for Windows* (Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *WinGX* (Farrugia, 1999).

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