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## Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 292$  K  
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.002$  Å  
 $R$  factor = 0.044  
 $wR$  factor = 0.125  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 14.7For details of how these key indicators were  
automatically derived from the article, see  
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

## 2-(Carboxymethyl)-4,6-dimethoxybenzoic acid

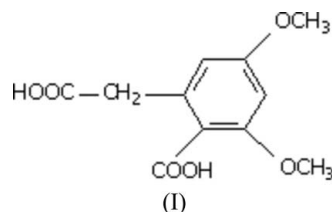
The title compound,  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6$ , is a key intermediate for the synthesis of naturally occurring biologically active isocoumarin derivatives. In the crystal packing, molecules are linked into a two-dimensional network structure *via* intermolecular  $\text{C}-\text{H} \cdots \text{O}$  hydrogen bonds.

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## Comment

The title compound, (I), alternatively named 4,6-dimethoxy-homophthalic acid, is a key intermediate in the synthesis of naturally occurring biologically active isocoumarin and dihydroisocoumarin derivatives.

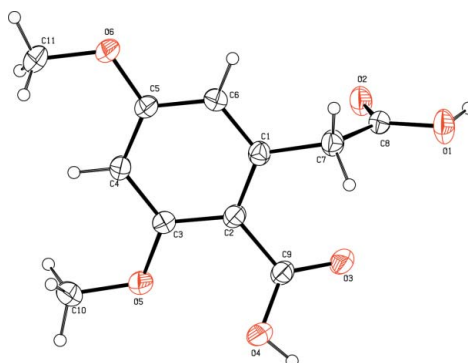


The molecular structure of (I) is shown in Fig. 1. The  $\text{C}9/\text{O}3/\text{O}4$  carboxyl group is tilted by  $30.34$  ( $9^\circ$ ) with respect to the plane of the benzene ring, possibly as a result of the steric hindrance of the *ortho* substituents. The  $\text{O}3-\text{C}9-\text{C}2-\text{C}3$  and  $\text{O}3-\text{C}9-\text{C}2-\text{C}1$  torsion angles are  $149.68$  ( $14$ ) and  $-29.6$  ( $2$ ) $^\circ$ , respectively.

In the crystal packing, intermolecular  $\text{C}-\text{H} \cdots \text{O}$  hydrogen-bond interactions (Table 1) link the molecules, forming a two-dimensional network (Fig. 2).

## Experimental

The title compound was synthesized from 3,5-dimethoxybenzaldehyde according to a literature procedure (Furniss *et al.*,



**Figure 1**  
View of the title compound, with displacement ellipsoids drawn at the 30% probability level.

1989). Light-yellow single crystals suitable for X-ray analysis were obtained by recrystallization from an ethyl acetate solution.

#### Crystal data

$C_{11}H_{12}O_6$   
 $M_r = 240.21$   
 Triclinic,  $P\bar{1}$   
 $a = 7.2886$  (10) Å  
 $b = 7.9631$  (11) Å  
 $c = 10.2758$  (14) Å  
 $\alpha = 105.937$  (2)°  
 $\beta = 103.444$  (2)°  
 $\gamma = 93.211$  (2)°  
 $V = 553.17$  (13) Å<sup>3</sup>

$Z = 2$   
 $D_x = 1.442$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>  
 Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 Cell parameters from 2688 reflections  
 $\theta = 2.7$ – $28.2$ °  
 $\mu = 0.12$  mm<sup>-1</sup>  
 $T = 292$  (2) K  
 Block, light yellow  
 $0.24 \times 0.20 \times 0.20$  mm

#### Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector diffractometer  
 $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans  
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Sheldrick, 1996)  
 $T_{\min} = 0.966$ ,  $T_{\max} = 0.977$   
 4782 measured reflections

2380 independent reflections  
 2074 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.048$   
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 27.0$ °  
 $h = -9 \rightarrow 9$   
 $k = -10 \rightarrow 10$   
 $l = -12 \rightarrow 13$

#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.044$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.126$   
 $S = 1.08$   
 2380 reflections  
 162 parameters  
 H atoms treated by a mixture of independent and constrained refinement

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0658P)^2 + 0.0652P]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.24$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.19$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>

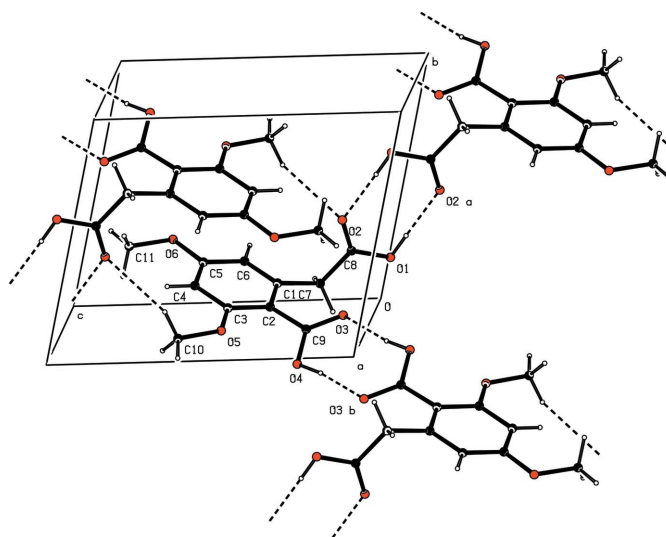
**Table 1**

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D-H\cdots A$	$D-H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-H\cdots A$
$C7-H7B\cdots O3$	0.97	2.43	2.7829 (19)	101
$C10-H10C\cdots O2^i$	0.96	2.56	3.4144 (19)	148
$O4-H4A\cdots O3^{ii}$	0.850 (10)	1.821 (11)	2.6606 (14)	169 (2)
$O1-H1\cdots O2^{iii}$	0.853 (10)	1.801 (10)	2.6532 (14)	178 (2)

Symmetry codes: (i)  $-x, -y + 1, -z + 1$ ; (ii)  $-x, -y + 2, -z + 2$ ; (iii)  $-x + 1, -y + 1, -z + 2$ .

The H atoms of the carboxylic groups were located in a difference Fourier map and refined isotropically. All other H atoms were placed in idealized positions and constrained to ride on their parent atoms,



**Figure 2**

The crystal packing of the title compound, viewed approximately along the  $a$  axis. Hydrogen bonds are shown as dashed lines [symmetry codes: (a)  $1 - x, 1 - y, 2 - z$ ; (b)  $-x, 2 - y, 2 - z$ ; (c)  $-x, 1 - y, 1 - z$ ].

with  $C-H = 0.93$ – $0.96$  Å, and  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2$  (aromatic and methylene H atom) or  $1.5$  (methyl H atoms) times  $U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$ .

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 1998); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 1999); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: SHELXTL (Bruker, 1999); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXTL.

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