

4,4'-Dibromo-2,2'-[ethylenedioxybis(nitrilomethylidyne)]diphenol

Wen-Kui Dong* and Jian-Hua Feng

School of Chemical and Biological Engineering,
Lanzhou Jiaotong University, Lanzhou 730070,
People's Republic of China

Correspondence e-mail: dongwk@mail.lzjtu.cn

The title compound, $C_{16}H_{14}Br_2N_2O_4$, has been synthesized by the reaction of 1,2-bis(aminooxy)ethane with 5-bromo-2-hydroxybenzaldehyde in ethanol. The molecule is centrosymmetric. Intramolecular $O-H \cdots N$ hydrogen bonding is observed between hydroxy groups and oxime N atoms.

Received 21 June 2006

Accepted 23 July 2006

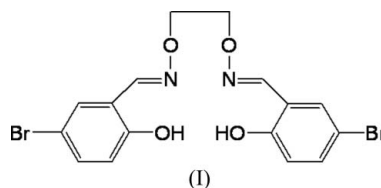
Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study
 $T = 293$ K
 Mean $\sigma(C-C) = 0.004$ Å
 R factor = 0.030
 wR factor = 0.083
 Data-to-parameter ratio = 14.0

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

Comment

(*N,N'*-Disalicylideneethylenediamine) (salen) and its analogues are versatile chelating ligands in inorganic chemistry with metal complexes used as catalysts in organic reactions (Katsuki, 1995), non-linear optical materials (Lacroix, 2001), or with interesting magnetic properties (Costes *et al.*, 2000). Although most complexes containing salen ligands are stable in solution and in the solid state, $C=N$ bonds can undergo exchange reactions (Koehler *et al.*, 1964) as well as hydrolysis (Cordes & Jencks, 1962). Reversible $C=N$ bond formation (Rowan *et al.*, 2002) is sometimes useful for the synthesis of thermodynamically stable macrocyclic (Akine *et al.*, 2004) and interlocked compounds (Cantrill *et al.*, 1999) in high yields. In some cases, a macrocyclic imine is formed *via* $C=N$ bond recombination of an acyclic diamine (Houjou *et al.*, 2001). Rate constants of oxime formation are smaller than those of imine formation and the equilibrium constants are larger by several orders of magnitude (Korpela & Makela, 1981). Hence, oxime-type ligands should be stable enough to resist metathesis of the $C=N$ bonds. To explore this, we have synthesized a new series of salen-type chelating ligands, based on *O*-alkyl oxime instead of the imine group. Linear derivatives bearing two salicylaldehyde units at both ends have been reported in preliminary studies (van Veggel *et al.*, 1989; Akine *et al.*, 2006) and in this paper, we report the structure of the new oxime-type chelating ligand 4,4'-dibromo-2,2'-[ethylenedioxybis(nitrilomethylidyne)]diphenol, (I).



The structure of (I) is shown in Fig. 1. The molecule is centrosymmetric. For comparison, the parent 1,2-bis(salicylideneaminoxy)ethane crystallizes in the triclinic system, with two crystallographically independent molecules in the unit cell (Akine *et al.*, 2005). An intramolecular $O-H \cdots N$ hydrogen bond is observed between the hydroxy group and the oxime N atom.

Generally, salicylaldimine derivatives exist as a mixture of two tautomers, *viz.* the imine-OH and keto-NH forms. The present results indicate that the oxime-OH form is more favorable in the crystalline state of (I).

Experimental

To an ethanol solution (10 ml) of 5-bromo-2-hydroxybenzaldehyde (201.0 mg, 1.00 mmol) was added an ethanol solution (5 ml) of 1,2-bis(aminooxy)ethane (46.1 mg, 0.50 mmol). After the solution had been stirred at 328 K for 3 h, the mixture was filtered and washed successively with ethanol and hexane. The product was dried under reduced pressure and purified by recrystallization from ethanol to yield 179.12 mg of a colorless crystalline solid (yield 78.2%; m.p. 417.5–418.5 K). Analysis calculated for $C_{16}H_{14}Br_2N_2O_4$: C 41.95, H 3.08, N 6.125%; found: C 41.78, H 3.04, N 6.065%. Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction studies were obtained after several weeks by slow evaporation of an acetone solution.

Crystal data

$C_{16}H_{14}Br_2N_2O_4$	$Z = 2$
$M_r = 458.12$	$D_x = 1.812 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$
Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
$a = 19.249 (3) \text{ \AA}$	$\mu = 4.85 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
$b = 5.7607 (8) \text{ \AA}$	$T = 293 (2) \text{ K}$
$c = 7.6200 (10) \text{ \AA}$	Block, colorless
$\beta = 96.312 (2)^\circ$	$0.37 \times 0.27 \times 0.12 \text{ mm}$
$V = 839.82 (19) \text{ \AA}^3$	

Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector diffractometer	4208 measured reflections
φ and ω scans	1544 independent reflections
Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Sheldrick, 2002)	1297 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
$T_{\min} = 0.266$, $T_{\max} = 0.596$	$R_{\text{int}} = 0.020$
(expected range = 0.250–0.559)	$\theta_{\text{max}} = 25.5^\circ$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0512P)^2 + 0.2088P]$
$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.030$	where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
$wR(F^2) = 0.083$	$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} = 0.001$
$S = 1.05$	$\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.64 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
1544 reflections	$\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.43 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$
110 parameters	
H-atom parameters constrained	

Table 1

Hydrogen-bond geometry (\AA , $^\circ$).

$D-H\cdots A$	$D-H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-H\cdots A$
$O1-H1\cdots N$	0.82	1.94	2.658 (3)	146

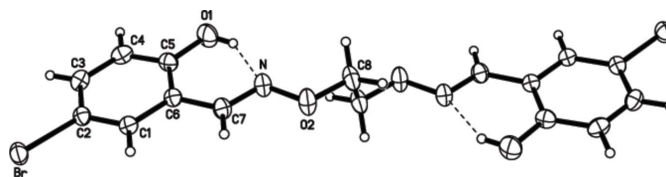


Figure 1

The molecular structure of (I) with the atom numbering. Displacement ellipsoids for non-H atoms are drawn at the 30% probability level. Unlabeled atoms are related to labeled atoms by $(-x, 1 - y, 1 - z)$. Dashed lines indicate hydrogen bonds.

H atoms were treated as riding atoms, with $C-H = 0.97$ (CH_2) or 0.93 \AA (CH), $O-H = 0.82 \text{ \AA}$ and $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$ or $1.5U_{\text{eq}}(\text{O})$.

Data collection: SMART (Bruker, 1998); cell refinement: SAINT (Bruker, 2003); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: SHELXTL (Sheldrick, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXTL.

The Natural Science Foundation of Gansu and the Qing Lan Talent Engineering Funds of Lanzhou Jiaotong University are gratefully acknowledged for their support of this work.

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