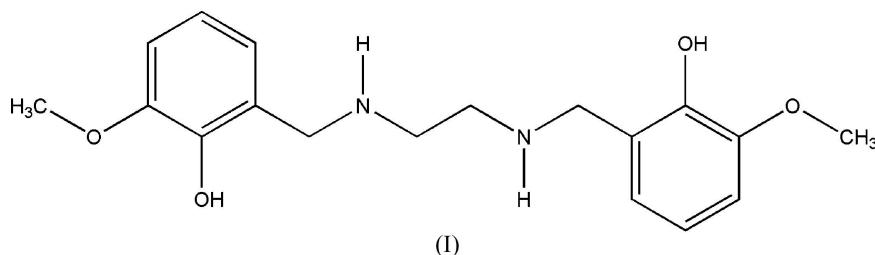
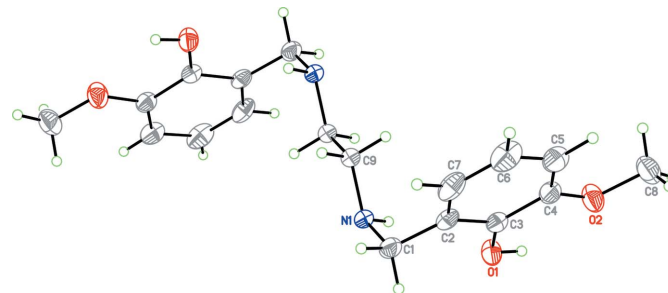


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xht161006@hhit.edu.cn**Key indicators**Single-crystal X-ray study
 $T = 298$ K
Mean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.003$ Å
 R factor = 0.041
 wR factor = 0.136
Data-to-parameter ratio = 14.0For details of how these key indicators were
automatically derived from the article, see
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.**6,6'-Dimethoxy-2,2'-(ethane-1,2-diyl-diimino-
dimethylene)diphenol**In the crystal structure of the title compound, $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_2\text{N}_4$,
centrosymmetric molecules are linked into a layer *via* $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$
and $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{N}$ hydrogen bonds.Received 6 November 2006
Accepted 22 November 2006**Comment**As part of our investigation of crystal structure of ethylene-
diamine derivatives, we report here the crystal structure of a
new ethylenediamine derivative, (I).

The title molecule has a center of symmetry (Fig. 1). In the crystal structure, molecules are linked *via* $\text{C}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$ and $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{N}$ hydrogen bonds (Table 1), forming a layer extending parallel to the (001) plane (Fig. 2). The hydrogen bonds in the layer form an $R_2^2(8)$ ring (Bernstein *et al.*, 1995). There are no significant intermolecular interactions between the layers.

Experimental

Solutions of *N,N'*-bis(2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzyl)ethylenediamine (10 mmol) in methanol–chloroform (1:1 *v/v*, 20 ml) and solid NaBH_4 (40 mmol) were mixed. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h and then filtered. The filtrate was allowed to evaporate slowly, giving single crystals of (I).

**Figure 1**

The molecular structure of (I), showing the atom-labelling scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level. Unlabelled atoms are related to labelled atoms by $1-x, 1-y, 1-z$.

Crystal data

$C_{18}H_{24}N_2O_4$
 $M_r = 332.39$
 Orthorhombic, $Pbca$
 $a = 9.431$ (3) Å
 $b = 10.512$ (4) Å
 $c = 17.414$ (6) Å
 $V = 1726.4$ (10) Å³

$Z = 4$
 $D_x = 1.279$ Mg m⁻³
 Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
 $\mu = 0.09$ mm⁻¹
 $T = 298$ (2) K
 Block, white
 $0.56 \times 0.54 \times 0.32$ mm

Data collection

Bruker SMART 1000 CCD area-detector diffractometer
 φ and ω scans
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Sheldrick, 1996)
 $T_{\min} = 0.951$, $T_{\max} = 0.972$

8220 measured reflections
 1525 independent reflections
 1104 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.049$
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 25.0^\circ$

Refinement

Refinement on F^2
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.041$
 $wR(F^2) = 0.136$
 $S = 1.02$
 1525 reflections
 109 parameters
 H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0429P)^2 + 0.7829P]$
 where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.25$ e Å⁻³
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.20$ e Å⁻³

Table 1

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D-H\cdots A$	$D-H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-H\cdots A$
$C1-H1C\cdots O2^i$	0.97	2.68	3.284 (3)	121
$O1-H1\cdots N1^{ii}$	0.82	2.02	2.723 (2)	144

Symmetry codes: (i) $-x + \frac{3}{2}, y - \frac{1}{2}, z$; (ii) $-x + \frac{3}{2}, y + \frac{1}{2}, z$.

All H atoms were located in a difference Fourier map and then treated as riding atoms, with $C-H = 0.93-0.97$ Å, $N-H = 0.90$ Å and $O-H = 0.82$ Å, and with $U_{\text{iso}}(H) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{aryl and methylene C, and N})$ and $1.5U_{\text{eq}}(\text{methyl C, O})$.

Data collection: SMART (Siemens, 1996); cell refinement: SAINT (Siemens, 1996); data reduction: SAINT; program(s) used to solve

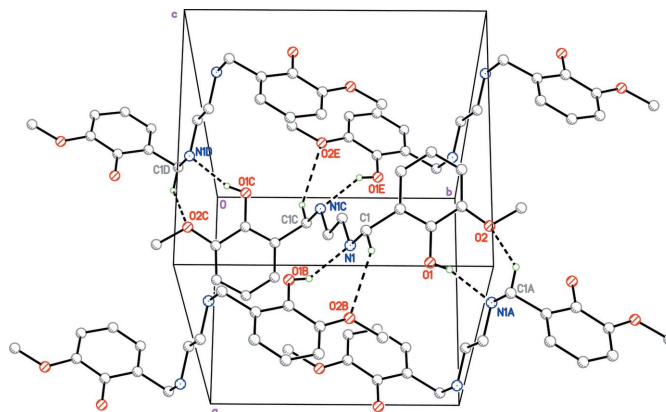


Figure 2

A packing diagram of (I), showing a hydrogen-bonded layer built by $C-H\cdots O$ and $O-H\cdots N$ interactions (dashed lines). For clarity, H atoms not involved in the hydrogen bonds have been omitted. [Symmetry codes: (A) $\frac{3}{2} - x, \frac{1}{2} + y, z$; (B) $\frac{3}{2} - x, -\frac{1}{2} + y, z$; (C) $1 - x, 1 - y, 1 - z$; (D) $-\frac{1}{2} + x, \frac{1}{2} - y, 1 - z$; (E) $-\frac{1}{2} + x, \frac{3}{2} - y, 1 - z$.]

structure: SHELXS97 (Sheldrick, 1997a); program(s) used to refine structure: SHELXL97 (Sheldrick, 1997a); molecular graphics: SHELXTL (Sheldrick, 1997b); software used to prepare material for publication: SHELXTL.

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