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**Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 173$  K  
 Mean  $\sigma(C-C) = 0.003$  Å  
 $R$  factor = 0.043  
 $wR$  factor = 0.109  
 Data-to-parameter ratio = 16.1

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

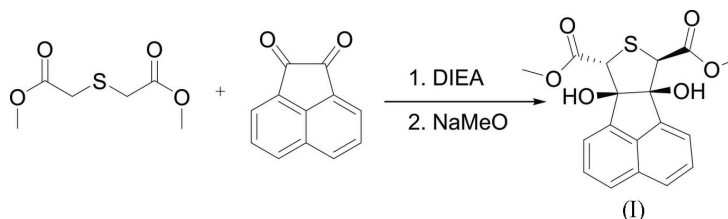
**Dimethyl 6b,9a-dihydroxyacenaphtho-[1,2-c]thiophene-7,9-dicarboxylate**

In the title compound,  $C_{18}H_{16}O_6S$ , two hydroxy groups, having a *syn* regiochemistry, act as both hydrogen-bond donors and acceptors, resulting in the formation of an infinite molecular chain.

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**Comment**

We have investigated the title compound, (I), as a dihydroxythiophene derivative *en route* to the synthesis of aromatic thiophenes.



Bond lengths and angles in (I) are within their normal ranges (Allen *et al.*, 1987). The five-membered ring containing the S atom adopts an envelope conformation with the S atom as the flap, and the mean plane of the four C atoms of the ring makes a dihedral angle of  $58.4(1)^\circ$  with the naphthalene ring system.

An intermolecular O—H...O hydrogen bond is established between one of the *cis*-diols and an ester carbonyl O atom of an adjacent molecule (Table 1), forming a zigzag molecular chain along the *c* axis. The other hydroxy group of the *cis*-diol is intramolecularly hydrogen-bonded to a neighbouring hydroxy group.

**Experimental**

A mixture of *N,N*-diisopropylethylamine (DIEA) (0.5 ml, 2.9 mmol), diacetyl sulfide (0.51 g, 2.9 mmol) and acenaphthaquinone (0.46 g, 2.5 mmol) in methanol (7.5 ml) was stirred at 303 K. After an hour, tetrahydrofuran (30 ml) was added and the solution was then stirred overnight at 328 K. Sodium methoxide (5 ml of 0.5 M NaOMe in MeOH) was then added to the mixture. After an hour, the reaction mixture was added to saturated  $NH_4Cl$  (50 ml), extracted with diethyl ether and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was separated by column chromatography on silica gel with hexane–ethyl acetate (15:1, *v/v*) as eluant, followed by hexane–ethyl acetate (7:1, *v/v*). Appropriate fractions were then combined and concentrated under reduced pressure to afford a product (0.062 g). The product was then recrystallized from a water–acetone (1:1, *v/v*) solution (2 ml) over 3 d (yield 0.051 g, 6%).

## Crystal data

$C_{18}H_{16}O_6S$   
 $M_r = 360.37$   
 Monoclinic,  $P2_1/c$   
 $a = 7.992(2) \text{ \AA}$   
 $b = 18.501(8) \text{ \AA}$   
 $c = 11.165(5) \text{ \AA}$   
 $\beta = 101.34(2)^\circ$   
 $V = 1618.6(11) \text{ \AA}^3$

$Z = 4$   
 $D_x = 1.479 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$   
 Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 $\mu = 0.23 \text{ mm}^{-1}$   
 $T = 173(2) \text{ K}$   
 Cubic, colourless  
 $0.20 \times 0.10 \times 0.08 \text{ mm}$

## Data collection

Nonius KappaCCD area-detector diffractometer  
 $\omega$  and  $\varphi$  scans  
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (SORTAV; Blessing, 1997)  
 $T_{\min} = 0.955$ ,  $T_{\max} = 0.982$

6842 measured reflections  
 3692 independent reflections  
 2649 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.041$   
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 27.5^\circ$

## Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.043$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.109$   
 $S = 1.02$   
 3692 reflections  
 229 parameters  
 H-atom parameters constrained

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.045P)^2 + 0.65P]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} < 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.32 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.34 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$

Table 1

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

$D-H\cdots A$	$D-H$	$H\cdots A$	$D\cdots A$	$D-H\cdots A$
$O5-H05\cdots O2^i$	0.84	1.95	2.754(2)	161
$O6-H06\cdots O5$	0.84	2.16	2.633(2)	115

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

H atoms were located in a difference Fourier map and were included in the refinement at geometrically idealized positions in the riding-model approximation, with  $O-H = 0.86 \text{ \AA}$  and  $C-H = 0.96$  or  $0.98 \text{ \AA}$ , and with  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.5U_{\text{eq}}(\text{O})$  and  $1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$ .

Data collection: *COLLECT* (Nonius, 1998); cell refinement: *DENZO* (Otwinowski & Minor, 1997); data reduction: *SCALEPACK* (Otwinowski & Minor, 1997); program(s) used to solve structure: *SAPI91* (Fan, 1991); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *ORTEP-3*

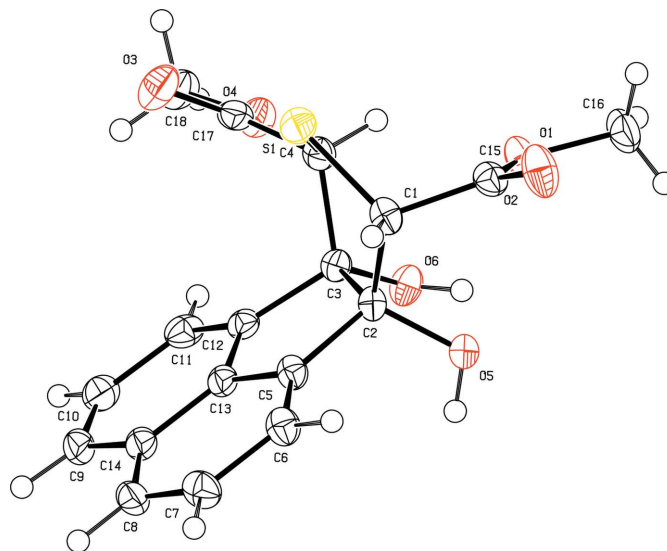


Figure 1

The molecular structure of (I), with displacement ellipsoids drawn at the 50% probability level.

(Farrugia, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *PLATON* (Spek, 2003).

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