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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 292 KMean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.005 \text{ Å}$ Disorder in main residue R factor = 0.040 wR factor = 0.117 Data-to-parameter ratio = 14.3

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

# In the title molecule, $[Fe(C_5H_5)(C_{23}H_{21}OS_2)]$ , the C=C double bond has a *trans* configuration, and the dihedral angle between the thiophene rings is 66.9 (1)°.

1-[(E)-5-Ferrocenylvinyl-2-methylthien-3-yl]-

2-(5-formyl-2-methylthien-3-yl)cyclopentene

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# Comment

Diarylethenes, notably the bis(thien-3-yl) system, are the most promising photochromic compounds for use in photoelectronic applications such as optical data storage, molecular wires and photo-switching devices because of their fatigue resistance and thermal stability (Irie, 2000). In this paper, we present the crystal structure of (I) which was synthesized by a Wittig reaction of ferrocenylmethylphosphonium bromide (Yuan *et al.*, 2005) with 1,2-bis(5-formyl-2-methylthien-3-yl)cyclopentene (Lucas *et al.*, 2003).



The molecular structure of (I) is shown in Fig. 1 and selected bond lengths and angles are given in Table 1. In the ferrocenyl unit, the cyclopentadienyl (Cp) rings are essentially fully eclipsed. The C=C double bond (defined by atoms C17–C19) forms a dihedral angle of 11.2 (3)° with the plane of atoms C19–C23. The two cyclopentadienyl rings are essentially parallel, making a dihedral angle of 0.8 (2)°. The thiophene ring (C12/C13/S2/C16/C15) makes a dihedral angle of 17.1 (2)° with the Cp ring (C19–C23) and the dihedral angle between the two thiophene rings is 66.9 (1)°. The crystal structure is, in part, stabilized by weak C–H···O hydrogen bonds (Table 2).

# Experimental

To a slurry of FcCH<sub>2</sub>PPh<sub>3</sub>Br (1.08 g,2.0 mmol) in THF (50 ml), NaN(TMS)<sub>2</sub> [0.6 ml of a 2.5*M* solution in THF, 1.2 mmol; TMS is bis(trimethylsilyl)amide] was added. The slurry was stirred at room temperature for 30 min, then a solution of 1,2-bis(5-formyl-2methylthien-3-yl)cyclopentene (0.7 g in 20 ml of THF, 2.21 mmol) was added slowly *via* a syringe and the resulting solution was stirred for 30 min, quenched with 50 ml water, and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3×50 ml). The organic layers were combined and washed with brine,

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# metal-organic papers

then dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvents were removed *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by chromatography [silica gel, eluent hexane/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2:1)], giving the title compound as a red solid (0.30 g, 30%). Crystals appropriate for data collection were obtained by slow diffusion of hexane into a solution of (I) in dichloromethane at 293 K.

V = 2470.4 (5) Å<sup>3</sup>

Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation

 $0.30 \times 0.20 \times 0.20$  mm

4312 independent reflections

3663 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ 

 $\mu = 0.80 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ 

T = 292 (2) K

 $R_{\rm int} = 0.023$ 

Z = 4

#### Crystal data

 $[Fe(C_5H_5)(C_{23}H_{21}OS_2)]$   $M_r = 498.46$ Monoclinic,  $P2_1/c$  a = 25.665 (3) Å b = 7.8952 (8) Å c = 12.1933 (13) Å  $\beta = 90.996$  (2)°

# Data collection

Bruker SMART-CCD diffractometer Absorption correction: none 11447 measured reflections

#### Refinement

 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.040$ 30 restraints $wR(F^2) = 0.117$ H-atom parameters constrainedS = 1.05 $\Delta \rho_{max} = 0.42$  e Å $^{-3}$ 4312 reflections $\Delta \rho_{min} = -0.26$  e Å $^{-3}$ 301 parameters

#### Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Fe1-C19	2.046 (3)	C7-C11	1.341 (4)
O1-C1	1.206 (5)	C11-C12	1.471 (4)
S1-C2	1.719 (3)	C16-C17	1.448 (3)
S2-C16	1.729 (3)	C17-C18	1.333 (4)
C1-C2	1.442 (4)	C18-C19	1.458 (4)
C4-C7	1.469 (4)		
O1-C1-C2	125.2 (4)	C18-C17-C16	126.6 (3)
C1-C2-S1	122.4 (3)	C17-C18-C19	124.9 (3)
C6-C5-S1	119.7 (2)	C20-C19-C23	107.2 (3)
C11-C7-C4	129.1 (2)	C20-C19-C18	126.7 (3)
C7-C11-C12	129.2 (3)	C23-C19-C18	126.1 (3)
C14-C13-S2	119.3 (2)	C21-C20-C19	107.6 (3)
C17-C16-S2	122.6 (2)		

# Table 2

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

$D - H \cdots A$	D-H	$H \cdot \cdot \cdot A$	$D \cdots A$	$D - \mathbf{H} \cdot \cdot \cdot A$
$\begin{array}{c} \hline C3-H3\cdots O1^{i} \\ C8-H8D\cdots O1^{ii} \end{array}$	0.93	2.43	3.263 (4)	149
	0.95	2.50	3.336 (5)	146

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



Figure 1

The molecular structure of (I) with displacement ellipsoids drawn at the 50% probability level. H atoms are represented by circles of arbitrary radius. The minor disorder component is not shown.

Atoms C8, C9 and C10 atoms are disordered over two sites with refined occupancies of 0.60 (3) and 0.40 (3) for the major and minor components, respectively. All H atoms were placed in idealized positions, C-H = 0.96 Å (methyl H), 0.97 Å (methylene H), 0.98 Å (cyclopentadienyl H) or 0.93 Å (all other H), and refined as riding, with  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$  or  $1.5U_{eq}(C_{methyl})$ .

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 2001); cell refinement: *SAINT-Plus* (Bruker, 2001); data reduction: *SAINT-Plus*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *PLATON* (Spek, 2003); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL* (Bruker, 2001).

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