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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 293 K Mean  $\sigma$ (C–C) = 0.002 Å R factor = 0.046 wR factor = 0.111 Data-to-parameter ratio = 19.3

For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e. The title compound,  $C_{22}H_{26}O_6$ , was synthesized by the reaction of ethyl 4-hydroxybenzoate and 1,4-dichlorobutane. In the slightly bow-shaped molecule with an extended conformation, the dihedral angle between the two benzene rings is 76.02 (7)°.

Diethyl 4,4'-(butane-1,4-diyldioxy)dibenzoate

## Comment

Ester ligands can stabilize the resulting compounds by coordinating to main group and transition metals (Ríos-Moreno *et al.*, 2003). Much attention has been devoted to the synthesis of new ester ligands. In this work, a diester compound was synthesized and the molecular structure of the title compound, (I), is presented (Fig. 1).



The molecule has an extended, slightly bow-shaped conformation, the dihedral angle between the two benzene ring being 76.02 (7)°. The bond distances involving O atoms (Table 1) are in agreement with those found in related compounds (Chen *et al.*, 2006; Herrera *et al.*, 2003).

## **Experimental**

A mixture of ethyl 4-hydroxybenzoate (0.83 g, 5 mmol) and NaOH (0.20 g, 5 mmol) in DMF (10 ml) was stirred at 333 K for 1 h, and then 1,4-dichlorobutane (0.32 g, 2.5 mmol) was added. After stirring at 333 K for 2 h, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and then poured into 200 ml of water. A white solid was formed immediately, which was recrystallized from an ethanol–water solution (2:1). Elemental analysis calculated for  $C_{22}H_{26}O_6$ : C 68.38, H 6.78; found C 68.34, H 6.75%.

#### Crystal data

$C_{22}H_{26}O_{6}$	V = 2028.1 (2) Å <sup>3</sup>
$M_r = 386.43$	Z = 4
Monoclinic, $P2_1/c$	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
u = 12.8522 (7) Å	$\mu = 0.09 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
p = 8.3689 (5)  Å	T = 293 (2) K
e = 19.6835 (11) Å	$0.43 \times 0.22 \times 0.11 \text{ mm}$
$B = 106.676 \ (1)^{\circ}$	

### Data collection

Bruker APEX CCD area-detector diffractometer Absorption correction: none 12266 measured reflections 4871 independent reflections 2391 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$  $R_{\text{int}} = 0.082$  Received 1 March 2007 Accepted 25 March 2007

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Refinement

 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.046$  $wR(F^2) = 0.111$ S = 0.844871 reflections

# Table 1

Selected bond lengths (Å).

1.4551 (17)	C13-O4	1.4284 (17)
1.2047 (17)	C15-O4	1.3687 (16)
1.3290 (18)	C20-O5	1.2038 (18)
1.3611 (15)	C20-O6	1.3345 (19)
1.4360 (16)	C21-O6	1.4533 (16)
	1.4551 (17) 1.2047 (17) 1.3290 (18) 1.3611 (15) 1.4360 (16)	$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 1.4551 \ (17) & C13-O4 \\ 1.2047 \ (17) & C15-O4 \\ 1.3290 \ (18) & C20-O5 \\ 1.3611 \ (15) & C20-O6 \\ 1.4360 \ (16) & C21-O6 \end{array}$

253 parameters

 $\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.20 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^-$ 

 $\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.25 \text{ e} \text{ Å}^{-3}$ 

H-atom parameters constrained

H atoms were positioned geometrically and refined as riding, with C-H = 0.93-0.97 Å and  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$  or  $1.5U_{eq}(methyl C)$ .

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 1997); 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-Plus* (Sheldrick, 1990); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL-Plus*.

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## Figure 1

The molecular structure of (I), shown with 30% probability displacement ellipsoids (arbitrary spheres for H atoms).

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