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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 294 KMean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.002 \text{ Å}$  R factor = 0.038 wR factor = 0.114 Data-to-parameter ratio = 12.9

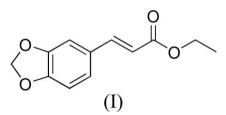
For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e.

# Ethyl 3-(1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)acrylate

The title compound,  $C_{12}H_{12}O_4$ , was synthesized by the reaction of 1,3-benzodioxole-5-carbaldehyde with diethoxy-phosphorylacetic acid ethyl ester in the presence of sodium hydride in tetrahydrofuran. The 1.3-benzodioxolane system is planar and subtends an angle of 0.82 (8)° with the acrylate unit.

### Comment

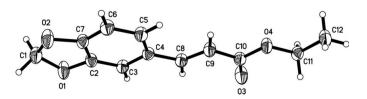
The title compound, (I), is an intermediate in the synthesis of selective antagonists of the endothelin receptor (Hoekstra & Maryanoff, 1996). A process has been developed recently to synthesize the pyrrolidine ester using compound (I) as an intermediate (Boyd & Mantei, 1999), and we report its crystal structure here (Fig. 1).



Both the 1.3-benzodioxolane system (r.m.s. deviation from the mean plane through the two rings is 0.0266 Å) and the acrylate unit (r.m.s. deviation 0.0389 Å from the plane through C8–C10/O3/O4/C11) are essentially planar. The molecule is almost flat, with a dihedral angle of 0.82 (8)° between these planes.

#### **Experimental**

A 60% suspension of sodium hydride in mineral oil (3.39 g, 84.6 mmol) was added to a solution of triethyl phosphonoacetate (19.0 g, 84.6 mmol) in tetrahydrofuran (150 ml). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 20 min and then added dropwise at room temperature to a stirred mixture of 1,3-benzodioxole-5-carbaldehyde (11.4 g, 76.9 mmol) in tetrahydrofuran (15 ml). After the addition was complete, the reaction mixture was stirred at room



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Received 21 March 2007 Accepted 28 March 2007 temperature for a further 1 h. Water was added (15 ml) and the organic layer separated. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate and the extract was washed with brine and dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. The filtrate was concentrated to obtain the product in high yield (88%). Colourless prisms of (I) were grown from ethyl acetate (m.p. 339 K).

#### Crystal data

 $\begin{array}{l} C_{12}H_{12}O_4 \\ M_r = 220.22 \\ \text{Triclinic, } P\overline{1} \\ a = 7.420 \ (2) \ \text{\AA} \\ b = 7.673 \ (3) \ \text{\AA} \\ c = 10.590 \ (4) \ \text{\AA} \\ \alpha = 75.534 \ (5)^\circ \\ \beta = 74.094 \ (5)^\circ \end{array}$ 

#### Data collection

Bruker SMART 1000 CCD areadetector diffractometer Absorption correction: multi-scan (*SADABS*; Sheldrick, 1998)  $T_{min} = 0.970, T_{max} = 0.974$ 

#### Refinement

 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.038$  $wR(F^2) = 0.114$ S = 1.051897 reflections  $\gamma = 70.637 (6)^{\circ}$   $V = 538.6 (3) \text{ Å}^3$  Z = 2Mo K\alpha radiation  $\mu = 0.10 \text{ mm}^{-1}$  T = 294 (2) K $0.30 \times 0.28 \times 0.26 \text{ mm}$ 

2814 measured reflections 1897 independent reflections 1336 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$  $R_{int} = 0.015$ 

147 parameters H-atom parameters constrained 
$$\begin{split} &\Delta \rho_{\rm max} = 0.14 \text{ e } \text{ Å}^{-3} \\ &\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -0.15 \text{ e } \text{ Å}^{-3} \end{split}$$

All H atoms bound to carbon were positioned geometrically and refined using a riding model, with C-H = 0.93 Å and  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$  for aromatic H, C-H = 0.97 Å and  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.2U_{eq}(C)$  for CH<sub>2</sub>, and C-H = 0.96 Å and  $U_{iso}(H) = 1.5U_{ea}(C)$  for CH<sub>3</sub>.

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 1999); cell refinement: *SAINT* (Bruker, 2001); data reduction: *SAINT*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *SHELXTL* (Bruker, 1997); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*.

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