

(1*S,4*S**,5*R**,8*R**)-8-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-4-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)-3,7-dioxabicyclo[3.3.0]octan-2-one****Mark E. Light* and Michael B. Hursthouse**

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The X-ray study of the title compound, C₂₃H₂₆O₈, (I), confirmed the *endo,exo*-furofuranone structure of the important intermediate compound in the process of the total synthesis of (±)-epimagnolin A, which employs a new approach involving a highly diastereoselective C—H insertion reaction [Brown *et al.* (2001). *Tetrahedron Lett.* **42**, 473–475].

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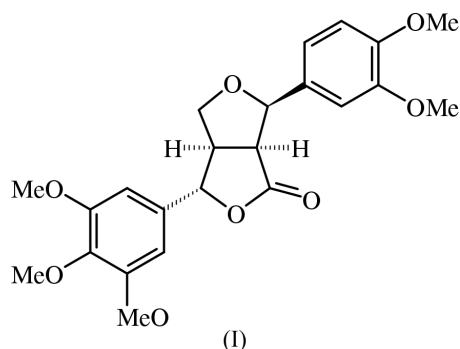
Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study

T = 150 KMean $\sigma(\text{C—C}) = 0.014 \text{ \AA}$ *R* factor = 0.086*wR* factor = 0.334

Data-to-parameter ratio = 10.7

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

**Experimental**

The synthesis of the title compound was reported by Brown *et al.* (2001). The crystals were grown from chloroform; all of them, however, diffracted very poorly and were barely usable for the X-ray diffraction experiment.

*Crystal data*C₂₃H₂₆O₈*M_r* = 430.44Monoclinic, *P*2₁/*n**a* = 11.839 (2) Å*b* = 8.0773 (10) Å*c* = 22.695 (4) Å β = 91.84 (3)°*V* = 2169.1 (6) Å³*Z* = 4*D_x* = 1.318 Mg m^{−3}Mo *K*α radiation

Cell parameters from 2999

reflections

 θ = 3.0–23.2° μ = 0.10 mm^{−1}*T* = 150 (2) K

Block, colourless

0.10 × 0.10 × 0.10 mm

Data collection

Nonius Kappa CCD area-detector diffractometer

 φ and ω scans to fill Ewald sphere

13 956 measured reflections

2999 independent reflections

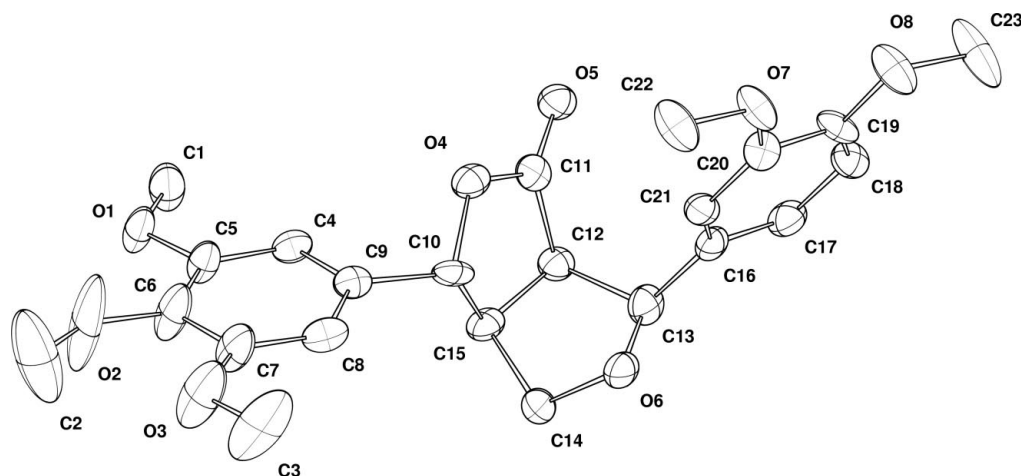
947 reflections with *I* > 2σ(*I*)*R*_{int} = 0.361 θ_{max} = 23.2°*h* = −13 → 13*k* = −8 → 8*l* = −25 → 25*Refinement*Refinement on *F*² $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.086$ *wR*(*F*²) = 0.334*S* = 0.81

2999 reflections

281 parameters

H-atom parameters constrained

 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.1905P)^2]$ where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} = 0.010$ $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.40 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$ $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.27 \text{ e \AA}^{-3}$

**Figure 1**

View of (I) showing 50% probability displacement ellipsoids. The H atoms have been omitted for clarity.

The poor diffracting ability of the crystals is most probably due to the thermal disorder of the methoxy groups in both phenyl rings. Attempts to model their disorder, however, did not improve the refinement.

Data collection: *COLLECT* (Hooft, 1998); cell refinement: *SCALEPACK* (Otwinoski & Minor, 1997) and *COLLECT*; data reduction: *DENZO* (Otwinoski & Minor, 1997), *COLLECT* and *maXus* (Mackay *et al.*, 1998); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1990); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *CAMERON* (Watkin *et al.*, 1993); software used to prepare material for publication: *WinGX* (Farrugia, 1998).

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