Acta Crystallographica Section E

# **Structure Reports Online**

ISSN 1600-5368

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#### **Key indicators**

Single-crystal X-ray study  $T=296~\mathrm{K}$  Mean  $\sigma(\mathrm{C-C})=0.006~\mathrm{\mathring{A}}$  R factor = 0.057 wR factor = 0.145 Data-to-parameter ratio = 8.5

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

# (2*E*)-3-(Biphenyl-4-yl)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-prop-2-en-1-one

The title compound,  $C_{22}H_{18}O_2$ , was prepared from biphenyl-4-carbaldehyde and 4-methoxyacetophenone. The molecule deviates significantly from planarity.

Received 30 January 2007 Accepted 9 February 2007

## Comment

For a structurally simple group of compounds, chalcones have displayed an impressive array of biological activities, among which antimalarial (Liu et al., 2003), antiprotozoal (Nielson et al., 1998), nitric oxide inhibition (Rajas et al., 2002) and anticancer activities (Dinkova-Kostova et al., 1998) have been cited in the literature. Among several organic compounds reported for non-linear optical (NLO) properties, chalcone derivatives are notable materials for their excellent blue-light transmittance and good crystallizability. They provide the necessary configuration to show NLO properties, with two planar rings connected through a conjugated double bond (Goto et al., 1991; Uchida et al., 1998; Tam et al., 1989; Indira et al., 2002, Sarojini et al., 2006). Substitution on either of the benzene rings greatly influences the non-centrosymmetric crystal packing. It is speculated that, in order to improve the activity, more bulky substituents should be introduced to increase the spontaneous polarization of non-centrosymmetric crystals (Fichou et al., 1988). The molecular hyperpolarizability is strongly influenced, not only by the electronic effect, but also by the steric effect of the substituent (Cho et al., 1996). Prompted by this, and in a continuation of our quest to synthesize new materials which can find use in the photonics industry, we have synthesized new chalcones and studied their SHG (second harmonic generation) efficiency. In a continuation of our work on chalcones (Harrison et al., 2005; Harrison, Yathirajan, Sarojini, Narayana & Vijaya Raj, 2006; Harrison, Yathirajan, Sarojini, Narayana & Indira, 2006; Harrison, Yathirajan, Anilkumar et al., 2006), the present paper reports the crystal structure of a newly synthesized chalcone, (I), which was synthesized from biphenyl-4-carbaldehyde and 4methoxyacetophenone.

Fig. 1 shows the molecular structure of (I). The geometry of the molecule is unexceptional. The molecule deviates signifi-

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# organic papers

cantly from planarity, with dihedral angles of 8.51 (13)° between the rings of the biphenyl group and 54.14 (12)° between the C7–C12 ring and the C16–C21 ring.

# **Experimental**

4-Methoxyacetophenone (1.5 g, 0.01 mol) in methanol (20 ml) was mixed with biphenyl-4-carbaldehyde (1.82 g, 0.01 mol) and the mixture was treated with 30% potassium hydroxide solution (3 ml) at 278 K. The reaction mixture was then brought to room temperature and stirred for 3 h. The solid precipate was filtered off, washed with water, dried and recrystallized from acetone (m.p. 419–421 K). Analysis (%) for  $C_{22}H_{18}O_2$  found (calculated): C 83.94 (84.05), H 5.66 (5.77).

## Crystal data

$C_{22}H_{18}O_2$	$V = 1633.08 (18) \text{ Å}^3$
$M_r = 314.38$	Z = 4
Monoclinic, Cc	Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
a = 35.232 (3) Å	$\mu = 0.08 \text{ mm}^{-1}$
b = 7.4972 (5)  Å	T = 296  K
c = 6.2113 (3) Å	$0.58 \times 0.33 \times 0.12 \text{ mm}$
$\beta = 95.509 (6)^{\circ}$	

### Data collection

Bruker-Nonius KappaCCD	1843 independent reflections
diffractometer	1408 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
Absorption correction: none	$R_{\rm int} = 0.048$
10464 measured reflections	

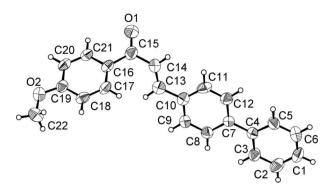
## Refinement

$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.057$	217 parameters
$wR(F^2) = 0.145$	H-atom parameters constrained
S = 1.12	$\Delta \rho_{\text{max}} = 0.33 \text{ e Å}^{-3}$
1843 reflections	$\Delta \rho_{\min} = -0.18 \text{ e Å}^{-3}$

Due to the absence of significant anomalous dispersion effects, Friedel pairs were merged prior to refinement. H atoms were placed at calculated positions and refined as riding on the respective carrier atom, with C—H = 0.93 Å and  $U_{\rm iso}({\rm H})$  = 1.2 $U_{\rm eq}({\rm C})$  for Cs $p^2$  or C—H = 0.96 Å and  $U_{\rm iso}({\rm H})$  = 1.5 $U_{\rm eq}({\rm C})$  for methyl H atoms.

Data collection: *COLLECT* (Nonius, 1999); cell refinement: *DIRAX/LSQ* (Duisenberg, 1992); data reduction: *EVALCCD* (Duisenberg *et al.*, 2003); program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *DIAMOND* (Brandenburg, 2006); software used to prepare material for publication: *publCIF* (Westrip, 2007).

One of the authors (BKS) thanks AICTE, Government of India, for financial assistance through the Career Award for Young Teacher's Scheme, and BVA thanks Mangalore University for permission to carry out the research work. The



**Figure 1** The molecular structure of the title compound. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level.

Swedish Research Council (VR) is acknowledged for providing funding for the single-crystal diffractometer.

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