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***trans*-Tetracarbonylbis(triphenylphosphane- κ P)molybdenum(0)**

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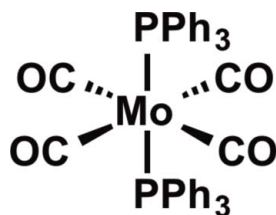
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Key indicators: single-crystal X-ray study; $T = 300$ K; mean $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.004$ Å; R factor = 0.022; wR factor = 0.058; data-to-parameter ratio = 13.6.

The well known title compound, *trans*-[Mo(C₁₈H₁₅P)₂(CO)₄], has not been studied previously by X-ray crystallography, unlike its *cis* isomer. The complex possesses crystallographically imposed inversion symmetry, with the Mo atom residing on an inversion centre (1*a* Wyckoff position). The two triphenylphosphane groups are arranged in a staggered orientation. Each of the phenyl groups exhibits significantly different Mo–P–C–C torsion angles ranging from 2.6 (2) to 179.4 (1)°, most likely due to steric interactions based upon their positions relative to the carbonyl ligands.

Related literature

For the synthesis of the title compound and a structural study of its *cis* isomer, see: Cotton *et al.* (1982). For ligand dissociation and thermal reactivity of similar compounds, see: Darensbourg & Kump (1978). For an IR analysis of metal carbonyls, see: Haas & Sheline (1967). For kinetic investigations of metal–phosphanes, see: Darensbourg & Bischoff (1993).



Experimental

Crystal data

[Mo(C₁₈H₁₅P)₂(CO)₄]
 $M_r = 732.52$
 Triclinic, $P\bar{1}$
 $a = 9.3443$ (13) Å
 $b = 10.2267$ (15) Å
 $c = 10.7258$ (16) Å
 $\alpha = 64.794$ (4)°
 $\beta = 69.417$ (4)°

$\gamma = 83.699$ (4)°
 $V = 867.2$ (2) Å³
 $Z = 1$
 Mo $K\alpha$ radiation
 $\mu = 0.51$ mm⁻¹
 $T = 300$ K
 $0.62 \times 0.45 \times 0.33$ mm

Data collection

Bruker SMART X2S benchtop diffractometer
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 2012)
 $T_{\min} = 0.70$, $T_{\max} = 0.85$

7865 measured reflections
 2907 independent reflections
 2770 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.020$

Refinement

$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.022$
 $wR(F^2) = 0.058$
 $S = 1.11$
 2907 reflections
 214 parameters

61 restraints
 H-atom parameters constrained
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.25$ e Å⁻³
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.28$ e Å⁻³

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 2007); cell refinement: *SAINTE* (Bruker, 2013); data reduction: *SAINTE*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 2008); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL2013* (Sheldrick, 2008); molecular graphics: *Mercury* (Macrae *et al.*, 2006); software used to prepare material for publication: *pubCIF* (Westrip, 2010).

The Department of Chemistry and the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences at UIC are acknowledged for purchasing a Bruker SMART X2S bench-top diffractometer, and for providing supplies and equipment for the inorganic teaching lab that motivated this study.

Supporting information for this paper is available from the IUCr electronic archives (Reference: PJ2007).

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supporting information

Acta Cryst. (2014). E70, m36 [doi:10.1107/S1600536814000300]

***trans*-Tetracarbonylbis(triphenylphosphane- κ P)molybdenum(0)**

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S1. Comment

We initiated this study as part of an undergraduate teaching lab using the Bruker *SMART* X2S bench-top diffractometer. Students use FT—IR spectroscopy to propose whether unknown samples are either the *cis*- or *trans*-isomer, and then use crystallography to test their hypotheses. To our surprise, the *trans*-isomer had not been reported in the CSD. In our hands, dissolving the *trans*-isomer in dichloromethane causes reversion to the *cis*-isomer. Crystallization from chloroform, on the other hand, provides the *trans* arrangement cleanly.

The 0 1 0 and 0 0 1 reflections were omitted from final refinements because of the suspicion that they were affected by the beamstop. Hydrogen atoms were placed at calculated positions 0.93 angstroms from the phenyl carbons and refined using the standard riding model with $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H})$ set to 1.2 times $U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$.

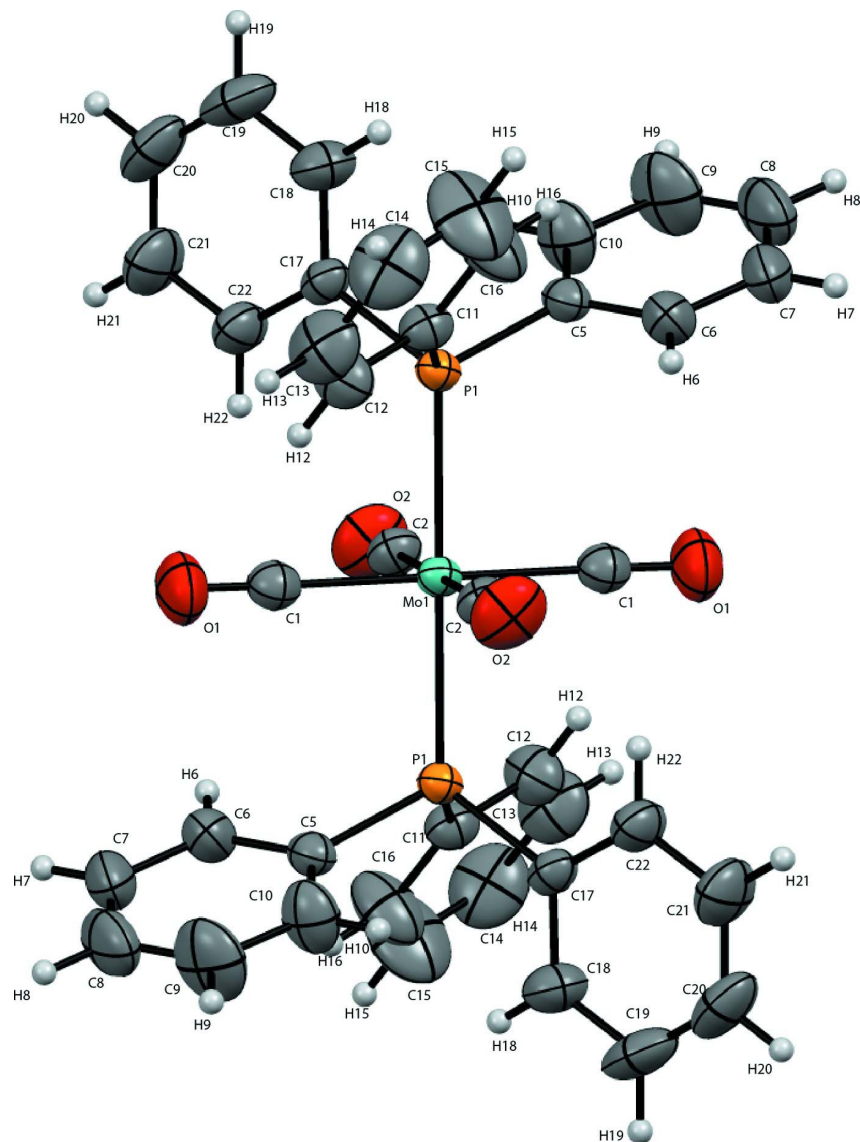


Figure 1

Thermal ellipsoid plot of the title compound (50% probability).

***trans*-Tetracarbonylbis(triphenylphosphane- κ P)molybdenum(0)**

Crystal data

[Mo(C₁₈H₁₅P)₂(CO)₄]

$M_r = 732.52$

Triclinic, $P\bar{1}$

$a = 9.3443$ (13) Å

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$c = 10.7258$ (16) Å

$\alpha = 64.794$ (4)°

$\beta = 69.417$ (4)°

$\gamma = 83.699$ (4)°

$V = 867.2$ (2) Å³

$Z = 1$

$F(000) = 374$

$D_x = 1.403$ Mg m⁻³

Mo $K\alpha$ radiation, $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å

Cell parameters from 6345 reflections

$\theta = 2.2$ – 25.1 °

$\mu = 0.51$ mm⁻¹

$T = 300$ K

Block, yellow

$0.62 \times 0.45 \times 0.33$ mm

*Data collection*Bruker SMART X2S benchtop
diffractometerRadiation source: XOS X-beam microfocus
source

Doubly curved silicon crystal monochromator

Detector resolution: 8.3330 pixels mm⁻¹ ω scansAbsorption correction: multi-scan
(SADABS; Bruker, 2012) $T_{\min} = 0.70$, $T_{\max} = 0.85$

7865 measured reflections

2907 independent reflections

2770 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$ $R_{\text{int}} = 0.020$ $\theta_{\max} = 24.7^\circ$, $\theta_{\min} = 2.3^\circ$ $h = -10 \rightarrow 10$ $k = -12 \rightarrow 12$ $l = -12 \rightarrow 12$ *Refinement*Refinement on F^2

Least-squares matrix: full

 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.022$ $wR(F^2) = 0.058$ $S = 1.11$

2907 reflections

214 parameters

61 restraints

Primary atom site location: structure-invariant
direct methodsSecondary atom site location: difference Fourier
mapHydrogen site location: inferred from
neighbouring sites

H-atom parameters constrained

 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0238P)^2 + 0.3878P]$ where $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.001$ $\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.25 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$ $\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.28 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$ *Special details*

Experimental. For synthesis of the compound, see Cotton (1982). Yellow crystals of the title compound suitable for X-ray diffraction were obtained by layering methanol above a chloroform solution of the title compound and allowing the layers to mix gradually. This crystallization method was performed on the bench with reagent grade solvents and without use of an inert atmosphere.

Geometry. All e.s.d.'s (except the e.s.d. in the dihedral angle between two l.s. planes) are estimated using the full covariance matrix. The cell e.s.d.'s are taken into account individually in the estimation of e.s.d.'s in distances, angles and torsion angles; correlations between e.s.d.'s in cell parameters are only used when they are defined by crystal symmetry. An approximate (isotropic) treatment of cell e.s.d.'s is used for estimating e.s.d.'s involving l.s. planes.

Refinement. Refinement of F^2 against ALL reflections. The weighted R -factor wR and goodness of fit S are based on F^2 , conventional R -factors R are based on F , with F set to zero for negative F^2 . The threshold expression of $F^2 > \sigma(F^2)$ is used only for calculating R -factors(gt) etc. and is not relevant to the choice of reflections for refinement. R -factors based on F^2 are statistically about twice as large as those based on F , and R -factors based on ALL data will be even larger.

Fractional atomic coordinates and isotropic or equivalent isotropic displacement parameters (\AA^2)

| | <i>x</i> | <i>y</i> | <i>z</i> | $U_{\text{iso}}^*/U_{\text{eq}}$ |
|-----|-------------|---------------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| Mo1 | 0 | 0 | 1.0 | 0.02814 (8) |
| P1 | 0.21394 (5) | 0.16894 (5) | 0.79865 (5) | 0.02888 (12) |
| O1 | 0.0078 (2) | 0.1374 (2) | 1.21320 (19) | 0.0659 (5) |
| O2 | 0.2517 (2) | -0.22032 (19) | 1.0879 (2) | 0.0677 (5) |
| C1 | 0.0065 (2) | 0.0886 (2) | 1.1355 (2) | 0.0396 (4) |
| C2 | 0.1594 (2) | -0.1425 (2) | 1.0585 (2) | 0.0400 (4) |
| C5 | 0.2591 (2) | 0.3109 (2) | 0.8425 (2) | 0.0360 (4) |
| C6 | 0.3274 (3) | 0.2769 (3) | 0.9478 (2) | 0.0516 (5) |
| H6 | 0.3582 | 0.1834 | 0.99 | 0.062* |
| C7 | 0.3502 (3) | 0.3800 (3) | 0.9906 (3) | 0.0643 (7) |
| H7 | 0.3976 | 0.3557 | 1.0602 | 0.077* |
| C8 | 0.3043 (4) | 0.5164 (3) | 0.9327 (3) | 0.0750 (8) |

| | | | | |
|-----|------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| H8 | 0.3201 | 0.5855 | 0.9619 | 0.09* |
| C9 | 0.2344 (4) | 0.5514 (3) | 0.8306 (4) | 0.0842 (9) |
| H9 | 0.2014 | 0.6445 | 0.7915 | 0.101* |
| C10 | 0.2122 (3) | 0.4496 (3) | 0.7848 (3) | 0.0604 (6) |
| H10 | 0.1654 | 0.4753 | 0.7146 | 0.072* |
| C11 | 0.3989 (2) | 0.0886 (2) | 0.7434 (2) | 0.0375 (4) |
| C12 | 0.3988 (3) | -0.0338 (2) | 0.7195 (3) | 0.0527 (6) |
| H12 | 0.3059 | -0.0751 | 0.7371 | 0.063* |
| C13 | 0.5324 (3) | -0.0962 (3) | 0.6703 (3) | 0.0684 (7) |
| H13 | 0.5289 | -0.1772 | 0.6529 | 0.082* |
| C14 | 0.6677 (3) | -0.0407 (4) | 0.6475 (3) | 0.0800 (9) |
| H14 | 0.7578 | -0.0844 | 0.6167 | 0.096* |
| C15 | 0.6720 (3) | 0.0795 (4) | 0.6694 (4) | 0.0992 (12) |
| H15 | 0.7659 | 0.119 | 0.6516 | 0.119* |
| C16 | 0.5381 (3) | 0.1452 (3) | 0.7183 (4) | 0.0735 (8) |
| H16 | 0.5431 | 0.2271 | 0.7339 | 0.088* |
| C17 | 0.1953 (2) | 0.27353 (19) | 0.61689 (19) | 0.0348 (4) |
| C18 | 0.3120 (3) | 0.3699 (2) | 0.5024 (2) | 0.0542 (6) |
| H18 | 0.4008 | 0.3822 | 0.5174 | 0.065* |
| C19 | 0.2971 (3) | 0.4474 (3) | 0.3666 (3) | 0.0668 (7) |
| H19 | 0.3751 | 0.5128 | 0.2912 | 0.08* |
| C20 | 0.1676 (4) | 0.4284 (3) | 0.3421 (2) | 0.0657 (7) |
| H20 | 0.1576 | 0.4813 | 0.2506 | 0.079* |
| C21 | 0.0550 (3) | 0.3322 (3) | 0.4515 (3) | 0.0659 (7) |
| H21 | -0.0316 | 0.3174 | 0.4346 | 0.079* |
| C22 | 0.0681 (3) | 0.2555 (2) | 0.5893 (2) | 0.0485 (5) |
| H22 | -0.0109 | 0.1909 | 0.6641 | 0.058* |

Atomic displacement parameters (Å²)

| | U^{11} | U^{22} | U^{33} | U^{12} | U^{13} | U^{23} |
|-----|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Mo1 | 0.02853 (13) | 0.02430 (12) | 0.02774 (12) | -0.00060 (8) | -0.00954 (9) | -0.00693 (9) |
| P1 | 0.0288 (3) | 0.0261 (2) | 0.0290 (2) | -0.00119 (18) | -0.00896 (19) | -0.00910 (19) |
| O1 | 0.0699 (12) | 0.0822 (12) | 0.0664 (11) | 0.0004 (9) | -0.0223 (9) | -0.0497 (10) |
| O2 | 0.0675 (11) | 0.0606 (10) | 0.0694 (11) | 0.0316 (9) | -0.0346 (10) | -0.0197 (9) |
| C1 | 0.0355 (11) | 0.0402 (11) | 0.0406 (11) | -0.0005 (8) | -0.0115 (9) | -0.0150 (9) |
| C2 | 0.0432 (12) | 0.0351 (10) | 0.0358 (10) | 0.0027 (9) | -0.0130 (9) | -0.0100 (8) |
| C5 | 0.0347 (10) | 0.0355 (10) | 0.0353 (10) | -0.0054 (8) | -0.0057 (8) | -0.0156 (8) |
| C6 | 0.0599 (14) | 0.0485 (12) | 0.0477 (12) | -0.0108 (10) | -0.0196 (11) | -0.0170 (10) |
| C7 | 0.0701 (17) | 0.0782 (18) | 0.0525 (14) | -0.0245 (14) | -0.0167 (12) | -0.0311 (13) |
| C8 | 0.088 (2) | 0.0738 (19) | 0.0778 (19) | -0.0188 (15) | -0.0106 (16) | -0.0531 (16) |
| C9 | 0.110 (3) | 0.0520 (16) | 0.115 (3) | 0.0194 (16) | -0.046 (2) | -0.0537 (17) |
| C10 | 0.0742 (17) | 0.0479 (13) | 0.0787 (17) | 0.0172 (12) | -0.0379 (14) | -0.0379 (13) |
| C11 | 0.0330 (10) | 0.0387 (10) | 0.0354 (10) | 0.0038 (8) | -0.0102 (8) | -0.0122 (8) |
| C12 | 0.0471 (13) | 0.0524 (13) | 0.0599 (14) | 0.0043 (10) | -0.0101 (11) | -0.0314 (11) |
| C13 | 0.0693 (18) | 0.0652 (16) | 0.0713 (17) | 0.0220 (13) | -0.0159 (14) | -0.0399 (14) |
| C14 | 0.0568 (17) | 0.099 (2) | 0.087 (2) | 0.0381 (16) | -0.0221 (15) | -0.0508 (19) |
| C15 | 0.0332 (14) | 0.136 (3) | 0.151 (3) | 0.0142 (17) | -0.0281 (18) | -0.085 (3) |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| C16 | 0.0379 (13) | 0.0846 (19) | 0.114 (2) | 0.0031 (12) | -0.0185 (14) | -0.0620 (19) |
| C17 | 0.0421 (11) | 0.0287 (9) | 0.0281 (9) | 0.0027 (8) | -0.0091 (8) | -0.0094 (7) |
| C18 | 0.0534 (14) | 0.0503 (13) | 0.0410 (12) | -0.0077 (10) | -0.0067 (10) | -0.0080 (10) |
| C19 | 0.0797 (19) | 0.0506 (14) | 0.0345 (12) | -0.0025 (13) | 0.0013 (12) | -0.0006 (10) |
| C20 | 0.092 (2) | 0.0577 (15) | 0.0327 (12) | 0.0155 (14) | -0.0212 (13) | -0.0079 (11) |
| C21 | 0.0777 (18) | 0.0697 (16) | 0.0470 (13) | 0.0055 (14) | -0.0362 (13) | -0.0097 (12) |
| C22 | 0.0520 (13) | 0.0496 (12) | 0.0361 (11) | -0.0042 (10) | -0.0186 (10) | -0.0062 (9) |

Geometric parameters (Å, °)

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Mo1—C1 | 2.034 (2) | C11—C16 | 1.373 (3) |
| Mo1—C1 ⁱ | 2.034 (2) | C11—C12 | 1.380 (3) |
| Mo1—C2 ⁱ | 2.035 (2) | C12—C13 | 1.376 (3) |
| Mo1—C2 | 2.035 (2) | C12—H12 | 0.93 |
| Mo1—P1 ⁱ | 2.4879 (5) | C13—C14 | 1.343 (4) |
| Mo1—P1 | 2.4879 (5) | C13—H13 | 0.93 |
| P1—C5 | 1.8341 (19) | C14—C15 | 1.353 (4) |
| P1—C11 | 1.8430 (19) | C14—H14 | 0.93 |
| P1—C17 | 1.8430 (19) | C15—C16 | 1.395 (4) |
| O1—C1 | 1.143 (3) | C15—H15 | 0.93 |
| O2—C2 | 1.141 (2) | C16—H16 | 0.93 |
| C5—C10 | 1.376 (3) | C17—C22 | 1.370 (3) |
| C5—C6 | 1.389 (3) | C17—C18 | 1.390 (3) |
| C6—C7 | 1.378 (3) | C18—C19 | 1.381 (3) |
| C6—H6 | 0.93 | C18—H18 | 0.93 |
| C7—C8 | 1.354 (4) | C19—C20 | 1.374 (4) |
| C7—H7 | 0.93 | C19—H19 | 0.93 |
| C8—C9 | 1.367 (4) | C20—C21 | 1.352 (4) |
| C8—H8 | 0.93 | C20—H20 | 0.93 |
| C9—C10 | 1.386 (3) | C21—C22 | 1.390 (3) |
| C9—H9 | 0.93 | C21—H21 | 0.93 |
| C10—H10 | 0.93 | C22—H22 | 0.93 |
| C1—Mo1—C1 ⁱ | 180.00 (11) | C5—C10—H10 | 119.8 |
| C1—Mo1—C2 ⁱ | 89.09 (8) | C9—C10—H10 | 119.8 |
| C1 ⁱ —Mo1—C2 ⁱ | 90.91 (8) | C16—C11—C12 | 117.4 (2) |
| C1—Mo1—C2 | 90.91 (8) | C16—C11—P1 | 124.63 (17) |
| C1 ⁱ —Mo1—C2 | 89.09 (8) | C12—C11—P1 | 117.92 (16) |
| C2 ⁱ —Mo1—C2 | 180.0 | C13—C12—C11 | 121.8 (2) |
| C1—Mo1—P1 ⁱ | 89.67 (6) | C13—C12—H12 | 119.1 |
| C1 ⁱ —Mo1—P1 ⁱ | 90.33 (6) | C11—C12—H12 | 119.1 |
| C2 ⁱ —Mo1—P1 ⁱ | 87.97 (6) | C14—C13—C12 | 120.3 (3) |
| C2—Mo1—P1 ⁱ | 92.03 (6) | C14—C13—H13 | 119.9 |
| C1—Mo1—P1 | 90.33 (6) | C12—C13—H13 | 119.9 |
| C1 ⁱ —Mo1—P1 | 89.67 (6) | C13—C14—C15 | 119.4 (3) |
| C2 ⁱ —Mo1—P1 | 92.04 (6) | C13—C14—H14 | 120.3 |
| C2—Mo1—P1 | 87.97 (6) | C15—C14—H14 | 120.3 |
| P1 ⁱ —Mo1—P1 | 180.0 | C14—C15—C16 | 121.2 (3) |

| | | | |
|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| C5—P1—C11 | 104.37 (9) | C14—C15—H15 | 119.4 |
| C5—P1—C17 | 102.38 (9) | C16—C15—H15 | 119.4 |
| C11—P1—C17 | 99.19 (9) | C11—C16—C15 | 119.8 (3) |
| C5—P1—Mo1 | 112.63 (6) | C11—C16—H16 | 120.1 |
| C11—P1—Mo1 | 116.61 (6) | C15—C16—H16 | 120.1 |
| C17—P1—Mo1 | 119.47 (6) | C22—C17—C18 | 117.96 (19) |
| O1—C1—Mo1 | 178.84 (18) | C22—C17—P1 | 121.05 (14) |
| O2—C2—Mo1 | 178.21 (19) | C18—C17—P1 | 120.96 (16) |
| C10—C5—C6 | 117.94 (19) | C19—C18—C17 | 120.5 (2) |
| C10—C5—P1 | 121.47 (16) | C19—C18—H18 | 119.8 |
| C6—C5—P1 | 120.24 (16) | C17—C18—H18 | 119.8 |
| C7—C6—C5 | 120.8 (2) | C20—C19—C18 | 120.4 (2) |
| C7—C6—H6 | 119.6 | C20—C19—H19 | 119.8 |
| C5—C6—H6 | 119.6 | C18—C19—H19 | 119.8 |
| C8—C7—C6 | 120.8 (3) | C21—C20—C19 | 119.7 (2) |
| C8—C7—H7 | 119.6 | C21—C20—H20 | 120.2 |
| C6—C7—H7 | 119.6 | C19—C20—H20 | 120.2 |
| C7—C8—C9 | 119.3 (2) | C20—C21—C22 | 120.3 (3) |
| C7—C8—H8 | 120.3 | C20—C21—H21 | 119.9 |
| C9—C8—H8 | 120.3 | C22—C21—H21 | 119.9 |
| C8—C9—C10 | 120.7 (3) | C17—C22—C21 | 121.2 (2) |
| C8—C9—H9 | 119.6 | C17—C22—H22 | 119.4 |
| C10—C9—H9 | 119.6 | C21—C22—H22 | 119.4 |
| C5—C10—C9 | 120.4 (2) | | |

Symmetry code: (i) $-x, -y, -z+2$.