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# 1, $\mathbf{1}^{\prime}, 3,3^{\prime}$-Tetramesitylquinobis(imidazole)-2,2'-dithione 

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The solid-state structural analysis of the title compound [systematic name: 5,11-disulfanylidene-4,6,10,12-tetrakis(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-4,6,10,12-tetraazatricyclo[7.3.0.0 $0^{3,7}$ ]dodeca-1(9),3(7)-diene-2,8-dione], $\quad \mathrm{C}_{44} \mathrm{H}_{44} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{~S}_{2} \quad$ [+solvent], reveals that the molecule crystallizes in a highly symmetric cubic space group so that one quarter of the molecule is crystallographically unique, the molecule lying on special positions (two mirror planes, two twofold axes and a center of inversion). The crystal structure exhibits large cavities of $193 \AA^{3}$ accounting for $7.3 \%$ of the total unit-cell volume. These cavities contain residual density peaks but it was not possible to unambiguously identify the solvent therein. The contribution of the disordered solvent molecules to the scattering was removed using a solvent mask and is not included in the reported molecular weight. No classical hydrogen bonds are observed between the main molecules.


Chemical scheme


## Structure description

A variety of substituted imidazole-2-thiones have been synthesized and used as precursors for the generation of free $N$-heterocyclic carbenes (Kuhn \& Kratz, 1993). Other uses for these types of molecules include the stabilization of gold nanoparticles (Moraes et al., 2017; Okamoto et al., 2006) and as ligands for metal coordination studies (Parveen et al., 2019). As part of our ongoing effort with bis( $N$-heterocyclic carbene) and its transitionmetal complexes (Tennyson et al., 2010), the title compound (1, $1^{\prime}, 3,3^{\prime}$ 'tetra-mesitylquinobis(imidazole)-2, $2^{\prime}$-dithione) was synthesized and its single-crystal X-ray analysis is reported here.

The molecular structure of the title compound is presented in Fig. 1. The molecules crystallize in a rare cubic space group ( $\operatorname{Im} \overline{3}$ ) with $Z=6$ and lie on special positions (two mirror planes, two twofold axes and a center of inversion). A search in the Cambridge Structural Database revealed that only $0.3 \%$ of the crystals were reported to crystallize in
the $\operatorname{Im} \overline{3}$ space group. Three imidazolidine-thione structures closely related to the title compound were reported: 1-methyl-3-phenylimidazolidine-2-thione (Nor et al., 2014), 1,3-di-benzylimidazolidine-2-thione (Mietlarek-Kropidłowska et al., 2012), and 7-amino-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinazoline-2,4-dithione, (Yang et al., 2006). The $\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{S} 1$ bond distance of 1.659 (3) $\AA$ falls well within the range observed for other reported thione-type compounds ( $1.653-1.686 \AA$ ). The N1$\mathrm{C} 1-\mathrm{N} 1^{\prime}$ bond angle of $105.3(3)^{\circ}$ is also very similar to those reported in other thione-type compounds $\left(108-116^{\circ}\right)$. The imidazole and mesityl rings are found to be perpendicular to each other. The two imidazole rings that are on the opposite side of the quino-bis(imidazolidine)dithione share the same plane with the mesityl units oriented perpendicular to it.

The crystal structure exhibits large cavities of $193 \AA^{3}$ accounting for $7.3 \%$ of the total unit-cell volume of 5933.5 (11) $\AA^{3}$ (Fig. 2) These cavities contain residual density peaks but it was not possible to unambiguously identify the solvent therein. The contribution of the disordered solvent molecules to the scattering was removed using the solvent mask in OLEX2 (Dolomanov et al., 2009) and was not included in the reported molecular weight. No classical hydrogen bonds are observed between the main molecules.

## Synthesis and crystallization

To the stirred solution of $1,1^{\prime}, 3,3^{\prime}$-tetramesitylquinobis(imidazole) dichloride ( $73 \mathrm{mg}, 1 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) (Tennyson et al., 2010)

Figure 1


Molecular structure of the title compound with atom labeling. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the $50 \%$ probability level and all hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Unlabeled atoms are generated by the symmetry operation $(-x,-y, z),(-x, y,-z$ and $(x,-y,-z)$.


Figure 2
A three-dimensional packing diagram of the title compound viewed along the $b$ axis.
in THF $(10 \mathrm{~mL}), \mathrm{NaN}\left(\mathrm{Si}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)_{3}\right)_{2}(40 \mathrm{mg}, 2.2 \mathrm{mmol})$ in THF $(2 \mathrm{~mL})$ was added drop wise at $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. After stirring for 60 min , elemental sulfur ( $76 \mathrm{mg}, 2.4 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) was added as a solid and the solution was stirred for another 60 min . The resulting reaction mixture was filtered through a celite plug and the volatiles were removed under vacuum. The resulting residue was dissolved in a minimum amount of dichloromethane $(3 \mathrm{ml})$ and precipitated with hexane $(15 \mathrm{~mL})$ to yield $1,1^{\prime}, 3,3^{\prime}-$ tetramesitylquinobis(imidazole)- $2,2^{\prime}$-dithione as a fine yellow solid: $62 \mathrm{mg}, 85 \%$ yield. Black-colored diffraction-quality single crystals were obtained by diffusing hexane into a saturated solution of the title compound in 1,2-dichloroethane. FT-IR (NaCl): 3027, 2974, 2917, 2850, 1672, 1546, 1397, 1321, 1286, 1042, 1033, 849, 612; ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, 300 \mathrm{MHz}$ ): $\delta 6.98$ $(s, 8 \mathrm{H}), 2.31(s, 12 \mathrm{H}), 2.07(s, 24 \mathrm{H}) ;{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right.$, $75 \mathrm{MHz}): \delta 169.31,163.93,139.70,134.59,131.24,129.77$, 126.78, 21.33, 21.97.

## Refinement

Crystal data, data collection and structure refinement details are summarized in Table 1. A solvent mask was generated revealing voids at $(0,0,0)$ and $\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$ with a volume of $192.6 \AA^{3}$ and containing about 43 electrons. The solvent could not be unambiguously identified.

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Table 1
Experimental details.

| Crystal data |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Chemical formula | $\mathrm{C}_{44} \mathrm{H}_{44} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{~S}_{2}$ |
| $M_{\text {r }}$ | 724.98 |
| Crystal system, space group | Cubic, $\operatorname{Im} \overline{3}$ |
| Temperature (K) | 100 |
| $a(\AA)$ | 18.1038 (11) |
| $V\left(\AA^{3}\right)$ | 5933.5 (11) |
| Z | 6 |
| Radiation type | Mo $K \alpha$ |
| $\mu\left(\mathrm{mm}^{-1}\right)$ | 0.18 |
| Crystal size (mm) | $0.25 \times 0.15 \times 0.1$ |
| Data collection |  |
| Diffractometer | Bruker APEXII CCD |
| Absorption correction | Multi-scan (SADABS; Bruker, 2016) |
| $T_{\text {min }}, T_{\text {max }}$ | 0.969, 0.983 |
| No. of measured, independent and observed $[I>2 \sigma(I)]$ reflections | 82590, 1249, 1074 |
| $R_{\text {int }}$ | 0.035 |
| $(\sin \theta / \lambda)_{\text {max }}\left(\AA^{-1}\right)$ | 0.649 |
| Refinement |  |
| $R\left[F^{2}>2 \sigma\left(F^{2}\right)\right], w R\left(F^{2}\right), S$ | 0.049, 0.122, 1.11 |
| No. of reflections | 1246 |
| No. of parameters | 76 |
| H -atom treatment | H -atom parameters constrained |
| $\Delta \rho_{\text {max }}, \Delta \rho_{\text {min }}\left(\mathrm{e} \AA^{-3}\right)$ | $0.49,-0.33$ |

Computer programs: APEX2 and SAINT (Bruker, 2016), SHELXT (Sheldrick, 2015a), SHELXL (Sheldrick, 2015b) and OLEX2 (Dolomanov et al., 2009).

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## full crystallographic data

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## 1,1',3,3'-Tetramesitylquinobis(imidazole)-2,2'-dithione

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5,11-Disulfanylidene-4,6,10,12-tetrakis(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-4,6,10,12- $\backslash$ tetraazatricyclo[7.3.0.0 ${ }^{\text {[3,77]dodeca-1(9),3(7)- }}$
diene-2,8-dione [+solvent]

## Crystal data

$\mathrm{C}_{44} \mathrm{H}_{44} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{2} \mathrm{~S}_{2}$
$M_{r}=724.98$
Cubic, Im $\overline{3}$
$a=18.1038$ (11) $\AA$
$V=5933.5(11) \AA^{3}$
$Z=6$
$F(000)=2304$
$D_{\mathrm{x}}=1.217 \mathrm{Mg} \mathrm{m}^{-3}$

## Data collection

Bruker APEXII CCD
diffractometer
$\varphi$ and $\omega$ scans
Absorption correction: multi-scan
(SADABS; Bruker, 2016)
$T_{\text {min }}=0.969, T_{\text {max }}=0.983$
82590 measured reflections

Mo $K \alpha$ radiation, $\lambda=0.71073 \AA$
Cell parameters from 9582 reflections
$\theta=2.8-27.5^{\circ}$
$\mu=0.18 \mathrm{~mm}^{-1}$
$T=100 \mathrm{~K}$
Needle, black
$0.25 \times 0.15 \times 0.1 \mathrm{~mm}$

1249 independent reflections
1074 reflections with $I>2 \sigma(I)$
$R_{\text {int }}=0.035$
$\theta_{\text {max }}=27.5^{\circ}, \theta_{\text {min }}=3.2^{\circ}$
$h=-23 \rightarrow 23$
$k=-23 \rightarrow 23$
$l=-23 \rightarrow 23$

## Refinement

Refinement on $F^{2}$
Least-squares matrix: full
$R\left[F^{2}>2 \sigma\left(F^{2}\right)\right]=0.049$
$w R\left(F^{2}\right)=0.122$
$S=1.11$
1246 reflections
76 parameters
0 restraints
Primary atom site location: dual

## Special details

Geometry. All esds (except the esd in the dihedral angle between two l.s. planes) are estimated using the full covariance matrix. The cell esds are taken into account individually in the estimation of esds in distances, angles and torsion angles; correlations between esds in cell parameters are only used when they are defined by crystal symmetry. An approximate (isotropic) treatment of cell esds is used for estimating esds involving l.s. planes.
Refinement. Aromatic C-H hydrogen atoms were added as riding-model approximation with C-H bond length $0.95 \AA$. Methyl $\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right) \mathrm{H}$ atoms were treated as a rotating group and added as riding-model approximation to the carbon atom to which they are attached, the methyl H atoms were fixed at a distance of $0.98 \AA$ with $U_{\text {iso }}(\mathrm{H})=1.5 U_{\text {eq }}\left(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\right)$.

Fractional atomic coordinates and isotropic or equivalent isotropic displacement parameters ( $\hat{A}^{2}$ )

|  | $x$ | $y$ | $z$ | $U_{\text {iso }} / U_{\mathrm{eq}}$ | Occ. $(<1)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| S1 | 0.500000 | 1.000000 | $0.77751(5)$ | $0.0225(2)$ |  |
| O1 | 0.500000 | $0.84916(13)$ | 0.500000 | $0.0217(5)$ |  |
| N1 | 0.500000 | $0.93936(10)$ | $0.63961(10)$ | $0.0155(4)$ |  |
| C2 | 0.500000 | $0.96233(12)$ | $0.56706(12)$ | $0.0152(4)$ |  |
| C3 | 0.500000 | $0.91602(17)$ | 0.500000 | $0.0160(6)$ |  |
| C4 | 0.500000 | $0.86372(12)$ | $0.66431(12)$ | $0.0154(4)$ |  |
| C1 | 0.500000 | 1.000000 | $0.68589(18)$ | $0.0170(6)$ |  |
| C5 | $0.43245(9)$ | $0.82885(9)$ | $0.67454(9)$ | $0.0191(4)$ |  |
| C6 | $0.43410(10)$ | $0.75514(10)$ | $0.69637(10)$ | $0.0231(4)$ |  |
| H6 | 0.389700 | 0.730325 | 0.703546 | $0.028^{*}$ |  |
| C7 | 0.500000 | $0.71749(14)$ | $0.70777(15)$ | $0.0262(6)$ |  |
| C8 | $0.36117(9)$ | $0.86931(10)$ | $0.66228(11)$ | $0.0273(4)$ | $0.041^{*}$ |
| H8B | 0.358366 | 0.910622 | 0.695412 | $0.041^{*}$ |  |
| H8A | 0.320463 | 0.836567 | 0.671379 | $0.041^{*}$ |  |
| H8C | 0.359060 | 0.886643 | 0.612208 | $0.0495(9)$ |  |
| C9 | 0.500000 | $0.63900(17)$ | $0.7330(2)$ | $0.074^{*}$ | 0.5 |
| H9B | 0.485357 | 0.636818 | 0.783948 | $0.074^{*}$ | 0.5 |
| H9A | 0.548719 | 0.618737 | 0.727763 | $0.074^{*}$ | 0.5 |
| H9C | 0.465923 | 0.610968 | 0.703621 |  |  |

Atomic displacement parameters $\left(A^{2}\right)$

|  | $U^{11}$ | $U^{22}$ | $U^{\beta 3}$ | $U^{12}$ | $U^{13}$ | $U^{23}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| S1 | $0.0309(5)$ | $0.0219(4)$ | $0.0146(4)$ | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| O1 | $0.0315(13)$ | $0.0132(11)$ | $0.0203(12)$ | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| N1 | $0.0183(9)$ | $0.0148(9)$ | $0.0135(9)$ | 0.000 | 0.000 | $0.0005(7)$ |
| C2 | $0.0154(10)$ | $0.0146(11)$ | $0.0155(10)$ | 0.000 | 0.000 | $0.0013(8)$ |
| C3 | $0.0148(14)$ | $0.0163(15)$ | $0.0168(14)$ | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| C4 | $0.0189(10)$ | $0.0148(10)$ | $0.0125(10)$ | 0.000 | 0.000 | $0.0019(8)$ |
| C1 | $0.0177(15)$ | $0.0156(14)$ | $0.0177(15)$ | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| C5 | $0.0196(8)$ | $0.0229(8)$ | $0.0149(7)$ | $0.0002(6)$ | $-0.0011(6)$ | $0.0023(6)$ |
| C6 | $0.0225(8)$ | $0.0219(8)$ | $0.0250(8)$ | $-0.0051(7)$ | $-0.0004(7)$ | $0.0058(7)$ |
| C7 | $0.0293(13)$ | $0.0202(12)$ | $0.0292(13)$ | 0.000 | 0.000 | $0.0082(10)$ |
| C8 | $0.0179(8)$ | $0.0306(9)$ | $0.0334(10)$ | $0.0003(7)$ | $-0.0021(7)$ | $0.0081(8)$ |
| C9 | $0.0341(16)$ | $0.0296(15)$ | $0.085(3)$ | 0.000 | 0.000 | $0.0253(17)$ |

Geometric parameters ( $\AA$, ${ }^{\circ}$ )

| $\mathrm{S} 1-\mathrm{C} 1$ | $1.659(3)$ | $\mathrm{C} 5-\mathrm{C} 8$ | $1.500(2)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{O} 1-\mathrm{C} 3$ | $1.210(4)$ | $\mathrm{C} 6-\mathrm{H} 6$ | 0.9300 |
| $\mathrm{~N} 1-\mathrm{C} 2$ | $1.378(3)$ | $\mathrm{C} 6-\mathrm{C} 7$ | $1.389(2)$ |
| $\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{C} 4$ | $1.440(3)$ | $\mathrm{C} 7-\mathrm{C} 9$ | $1.493(4)$ |
| $\mathrm{N} 1-\mathrm{C} 1$ | $1.381(3)$ | $\mathrm{C} 8-\mathrm{H} 8 \mathrm{~B}$ | 0.9600 |
| $\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 2^{\mathrm{i}}$ | $1.364(4)$ | $\mathrm{C} 8-\mathrm{H} 8 \mathrm{~A}$ | 0.9600 |
| $\mathrm{C} 2-\mathrm{C} 3$ | $1.475(3)$ | $\mathrm{C} 8-\mathrm{H} 8 \mathrm{C}$ | 0.9600 |



Symmetry codes: (i) $-x+1,-y+2, z$; (ii) $-x+1, y, z$; (iii) $x, y,-z+1$.

