

5,10,15,20-Tetrakis(diphenylmethyl)porphyrin – A Nonplanar Porphyrin with Intermediate Degree of Ruffling

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The title compound was prepared by condensation of pyrrole and diphenylacetaldehyde in 16% yield. Based on spectroscopic data, the free base porphyrin exhibits a nonplanar macrocycle in solution with a degree of distortion between that of 5,10,15,20-tetracyclohexylporphyrin and 5,10,15,20-tetra(*t*-butyl)porphyrin. A crystal structure determination of the cobalt(II) complex reveals a ruffled macrocycle conformation with an average out-of-plane displacement of the *meso* carbon atoms by 0.55 Å.

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