3-Methoxy-5-(4-methylphenyldiazenyl)salicylaldehyde and 3-methoxy-5-(2-methylphenyldiazenyl)salicylaldehyde

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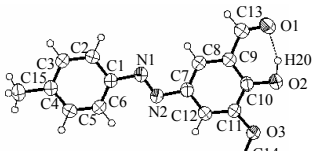
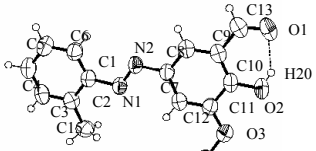
The two title molecules, both $C_{15}H_{14}N_2O_3$, are roughly planar and display a *trans* conformation with respect to the -N=N- double bond, as found for other diazene derivatives. In both compounds, there are intramolecular O–H...O hydrogen bonds and the crystal packing is governed by weak intermolecular C–H...O hydrogen bonds and π-π stacking.



(I)



(II)

The structures of both (I) and (II) (Figs. 1 and 2) contain two essentially planar fragments, *viz*. one monosubstituted (C1-C6) and one trisubstituted phenyl ring (C7-C12). The aromatic rings are in a *trans* conformation with respect to the azo double bond. The C14–O3 bond length [1.413(2)Å in (I) and 1.429(4)Å in (II)] is approximately equal to that usually associated with a methyl C–O bond in a methoxy group attached to an aromatic ring (1.424Å; Allen *et al*., 1987).

[1] Allen F. H., Kennard O., Watson D. G., Brammer L., Orpen A. G., *J. Chem. Soc. Perkin Trans*., 1987, **2**, S1-19.

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