

BULLETIN OF THE CHEMICAL SOCIETY OF JAPAN, VOL. 44, 3020—3027 (1971)

The Crystal and Molecular Structure of Miyaconitine Hydrobromide Dihydrate

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(Received June 1, 1971)

The structure of an *Aconitum* alkaloid, miyaconitine, $C_{23}H_{29}O_6N$, has been determined by the X-ray analysis of crystals of the hydrobromide dihydrate, which are monoclinic with four formula units in a unit cell of the dimensions; $a=10.41$, $b=13.85$, $c=9.63$ Å and $\beta=113.8^\circ$; space group, $P2_1$. The structure was solved by the heavy-atom method and was refined by the least-squares method. The final R index was 0.151. The absolute configuration was determined using the anomalous dispersion effect of the bromine atom. It was thus established that miyaconitine is a novel type of *Aconitum* alkaloid.

Introduction

Miyaconitine, $C_{23}H_{29}O_6N$, was isolated from *Aconitum miyabei* Nakai as a major alkaloid; the first preliminary investigation of its structure by chemical methods was reported in 1950.¹⁾ Since then the structure has been investigated by many workers,²⁻⁴⁾ but certain reactions still remained uninterpretable, thus precluding a conclusive elucidation of the structure. Miyaconitine seemed to have an unusual skeleton, capable of a facile cyclization. In view of this, an X-ray structure analysis was undertaken in cooperation with the chemical

work by Ichinohe, Yamaguchi, Katsui, and Kakimoto.⁵⁾

A heavy-atom derivative, miyaconitine hydrobromide dihydrate, was prepared and supplied by Professor Ichinohe. A preliminary report of the present X-ray work has already been published.⁶⁾

Experimental

Crystals of miyaconitine hydrobromide dihydrate are colorless scales, the (001) plane being well developed. The unit-cell dimensions were determined from zero-layer Weissenberg photographs about the a and the b axes, calibrated with superimposed Al-powder photographs.

Multiple-film equi-inclination Weissenberg photographs were taken at room temperature for the layer lines from 0 to

1) H. Suginome, S. Furusawa, Y. Chiba, and S. Kakimoto, *J. Fac. Sci. Hokkaido Univ. Ser. III, Chem.*, **4**, 1 (1950).

2) S. Kakimoto, *This Bulletin*, **32**, 349 (1959).

3) H. Suginome and S. Kakimoto, *ibid.*, **32**, 352 (1959).

4) S. Kakimoto, N. Katsui, and Y. Ichinohe, *ibid.*, **32**, 1153 (1959).

5) Y. Ichinohe, M. Yamaguchi, N. Katsui, and S. Kakimoto, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, **1970**, 2323.

6) H. Shimanouchi, Y. Sasada, and T. Takeda, *ibid.*, **1970**, 2327.

7 about the *a* axis and from 0 to 9 about the *b* axis, using $\text{CuK}\alpha$ radiation. The crystals used were square in cross-section, with rectangular dimensions of 0.02×0.002 cm and 0.05×0.002 cm for the *a* and *b* axis rotation respectively. Almost no reflections were observed with $2\theta > 100^\circ$. Therefore, only 1342 were indexed out of the 2900 possible independent reflections within the limiting sphere for $\text{CuK}\alpha$. The intensities of those 1342 reflections were estimated by visual comparison with a standard scale prepared with the same crystal, of which 211 were unobserved above the background. The accuracies of the intensity data were rather low, because only very thin crystals were available. The corrections for the Lorentz and polarization factors were made in the usual way, and those for the spot-size variation in the high-layer photographs, by the method of Phillips.⁷⁾ The correction for absorption was omitted.

Crystal Data

The crystallographic and physical data obtained are: Miyaconitine hydrobromide dihydrate $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{29}\text{O}_6\text{N}$.

TABLE 1. FINAL ATOMIC COORDINATES AND TEMPERATURE FACTORS

The anisotropic temperature factors are expressed in the form of

$$\exp\{-(B_{11}h^2 + B_{22}k^2 + B_{33}l^2 + B_{12}hk + B_{13}hl + B_{23}kl)\}.$$

Atom	<i>x/a</i>	<i>y/b</i>	<i>z/c</i>	
Br	0.1017	0.0000	0.1711	
Atom	B_{11}	B_{22}	B_{33}	
Br	0.01676	0.00446	0.02593	
Atom	B_{12}	B_{13}	B_{23}	
Br	0.00205	0.02904	0.00071	
Atom	<i>x/a</i>	<i>y/b</i>	<i>z/c</i>	<i>B</i> (Å ²)
O(1)	0.4864	0.4022	0.3369	4.14
O(2)	0.1601	0.5844	0.6034	2.30
O(3)	0.2090	0.4567	0.8366	2.26
O(4)	0.0220	0.2954	0.4435	2.47
O(5)	0.5542	0.2117	0.7295	4.01
O(6)	0.5289	0.2757	0.2128	9.60
OW(1)	-0.0835	0.1781	0.1885	4.56
OW(2)	-0.2241	0.3130	-0.0098	11.37
N	0.3650	0.4897	0.6325	1.19
C(1)	0.2753	0.3216	0.3201	3.33
C(2)	0.3363	0.3907	0.2379	2.55
C(3)	0.2617	0.4902	0.2086	3.62
C(4)	0.2469	0.5300	0.3611	2.19
C(5)	0.1613	0.4618	0.4210	1.53
C(6)	0.2108	0.4886	0.5850	1.98
C(7)	0.1655	0.4241	0.6933	1.55
C(8)	0.2249	0.3173	0.6864	1.09
C(9)	0.1717	0.2880	0.5217	1.45
C(10)	0.2534	0.3559	0.4574	1.53
C(11)	0.2112	0.1744	0.5220	1.00
C(12)	0.3116	0.1502	0.6667	2.58
C(13)	0.4336	0.2222	0.7108	-0.84
C(14)	0.3830	0.3219	0.7334	1.21
C(15)	0.1847	0.2515	0.7933	2.73
C(16)	0.2607	0.1470	0.7904	4.62
C(17)	0.2554	0.0771	0.8885	3.58
C(18)	0.1439	0.6239	0.2817	4.05
C(19)	0.3824	0.5566	0.4981	3.05
C(20)	0.3868	0.3801	0.5970	2.27
C(21)	0.5935	0.3480	0.3265	7.78
C(22)	0.7281	0.3609	0.4408	10.50
C(23)	0.4570	0.5273	0.7868	4.02

7) D. C. Phillips, *Acta Cryst.*, **7**, 746 (1954).

$\text{HBr} \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$, mp 270°C (decomp.). Monoclinic, $a=10.41$ Å, $b=13.85$ Å, $c=9.63$ Å and $\beta=113.8^\circ$. Absent spectra, $(0k0)$ when k is odd. Space group, $P2_1$. Two molecules per unit cell. Volume of the unit cell, 1270.5 Å³. Density (by flotation), 1.399 g·cm⁻³. Density (calculated), 1.391 g·cm⁻³. Linear absorption coefficient for $\text{CuK}\alpha$ radiation, $\mu=28.4$ cm⁻¹. Total number of electrons per unit cell, $F(000)=556$.

Structure Determination

The three-dimensional sharpened Patterson function was synthesized, and the bromine atom was easily located. A three-dimensional Fourier synthesis was subsequently carried out using the phases of the bromine atom. The resulting map necessarily exhibited the space group symmetry of $P2_1/m$, causing the superposition of the real atoms with their related mirror-image peaks. The 108 peaks were picked out within the asymmetric unit; we then tried to assemble them together to give a three-dimensional molecular model. By studying the distances and angles between peaks, the twenty-three peaks were tentatively assigned to

TABLE 2. ESTIMATED STANDARD DEVIATIONS ($\sigma(x)$, $\sigma(y)$, and $\sigma(z)$ in Å, $\sigma(B)$ in Å²)

Atom	$\sigma(x)$	$\sigma(y)$	$\sigma(z)$	
Br	0.005	0.000	0.005	
Atom	$\sigma(B_{11})$	$\sigma(B_{22})$	$\sigma(B_{33})$	
Br	0.0006	0.0002	0.0008	
Atom	$\sigma(B_{12})$	$\sigma(B_{13})$	$\sigma(B_{23})$	
Br	0.0008	0.0011	0.0009	
Atom	$\sigma(x)$	$\sigma(y)$	$\sigma(z)$	$\sigma(B)$
O(1)	0.025	0.025	0.026	0.53
O(2)	0.021	0.020	0.020	0.39
O(3)	0.021	0.019	0.021	0.39
O(4)	0.021	0.020	0.021	0.41
O(5)	0.026	0.024	0.025	0.52
O(6)	0.040	0.042	0.040	1.02
OW(1)	0.028	0.025	0.027	0.56
OW(2)	0.045	0.048	0.046	1.22
N	0.021	0.024	0.020	0.39
C(1)	0.037	0.034	0.036	0.72
C(2)	0.034	0.031	0.033	0.64
C(3)	0.034	0.043	0.033	0.71
C(4)	0.032	0.027	0.031	0.63
C(5)	0.030	0.026	0.029	0.54
C(6)	0.028	0.034	0.027	0.56
C(7)	0.030	0.027	0.029	0.55
C(8)	0.028	0.025	0.028	0.49
C(9)	0.029	0.026	0.028	0.52
C(10)	0.030	0.027	0.029	0.54
C(11)	0.028	0.025	0.027	0.48
C(12)	0.034	0.032	0.033	0.63
C(13)	0.025	0.021	0.023	0.41
C(14)	0.029	0.026	0.028	0.50
C(15)	0.034	0.032	0.034	0.66
C(16)	0.043	0.040	0.041	0.87
C(17)	0.038	0.036	0.036	0.74
C(18)	0.041	0.038	0.038	0.81
C(19)	0.036	0.033	0.035	0.70
C(20)	0.033	0.031	0.033	0.60
C(21)	0.056	0.053	0.057	1.31
C(22)	0.067	0.068	0.068	1.80
C(23)	0.040	0.035	0.038	0.82

[illegible]

10) K. B. Birnbaum, *Tetrahedron Letters*, 5245 (1969).

TABLE 4. BOND ANGLES (deg.)
The corresponding e.s.d.'s, given in parentheses, refer to the last decimal positions.

C(21)	O(1)	C(2)	125(3)	C(9)	C(8)	C(15)	117(2)
C(23)	N	C(6)	119(3)	C(14)	C(8)	C(15)	112(2)
C(6)	N	C(20)	99(2)	C(8)	C(9)	O(4)	113(2)
C(19)	N	C(20)	107(2)	C(8)	C(9)	C(10)	103(2)
C(6)	N	C(19)	102(2)	C(10)	C(9)	C(11)	114(2)
C(19)	N	C(23)	111(2)	C(11)	C(9)	O(4)	107(2)
C(23)	N	C(20)	117(2)	O(4)	C(9)	C(10)	114(2)
C(2)	C(1)	C(10)	120(3)	C(11)	C(9)	C(8)	106(2)
O(1)	C(2)	C(1)	107(3)	C(5)	C(10)	C(9)	104(2)
O(1)	C(2)	C(3)	110(3)	C(5)	C(10)	C(20)	103(2)
C(1)	C(2)	C(3)	112(3)	C(1)	C(10)	C(20)	116(3)
C(2)	C(3)	C(4)	111(3)	C(1)	C(10)	C(9)	117(3)
C(3)	C(4)	C(19)	118(3)	C(9)	C(10)	C(20)	103(2)
C(3)	C(4)	C(5)	114(3)	C(1)	C(10)	C(5)	111(2)
C(5)	C(4)	C(18)	107(3)	C(9)	C(11)	C(12)	109(2)
C(18)	C(4)	C(19)	114(3)	C(11)	C(12)	C(13)	109(3)
C(19)	C(4)	C(5)	107(3)	C(11)	C(12)	C(16)	116(3)
C(3)	C(4)	C(18)	97(3)	C(13)	C(12)	C(16)	109(3)
C(4)	C(5)	C(10)	104(2)	O(5)	C(13)	C(12)	131(3)
C(6)	C(5)	C(4)	104(2)	O(5)	C(13)	C(14)	119(2)
C(6)	C(5)	C(10)	94(2)	C(12)	C(13)	C(14)	109(2)
N	C(6)	O(2)	111(2)	C(8)	C(14)	C(13)	108(2)
N	C(6)	C(5)	101(2)	C(8)	C(14)	C(20)	99(2)
C(5)	C(6)	C(7)	119(3)	C(13)	C(14)	C(20)	103(2)
C(7)	C(6)	O(2)	102(2)	C(8)	C(15)	C(16)	104(3)
O(2)	C(6)	C(5)	111(3)	C(12)	C(16)	C(15)	108(3)
N	C(6)	C(7)	112(3)	C(12)	C(16)	C(17)	135(4)
C(6)	C(7)	C(8)	106(2)	C(15)	C(16)	C(17)	117(3)
C(6)	C(7)	O(3)	115(2)	C(4)	C(19)	N	101(2)
C(8)	C(7)	O(3)	112(2)	N	C(20)	C(10)	104(2)
C(14)	C(8)	C(7)	110(2)	C(10)	C(20)	C(14)	108(3)
C(15)	C(8)	C(7)	107(2)	N	C(20)	C(14)	105(2)
C(9)	C(8)	C(14)	103(2)	O(1)	C(21)	O(6)	107(4)
C(9)	C(8)	C(7)	108(2)	O(1)	C(21)	C(22)	117(5)
				O(6)	C(21)	C(22)	134(5)

served and calculated structure factors are listed in Table 3.

The computations were done on a HITAC 5020E computer in the University of Tokyo, with programs written by Tamaichi Ashida¹²⁾

TABLE 5. SOME LEAST-SQUARES PLANES

	Plane					
	I		II		III	
<i>l</i>	-0.667		0.157		-0.445	
<i>m</i>	-0.334		0.207		-0.634	
<i>n</i>	-0.666		-0.966		0.632	
<i>p</i>	5.054		5.140		3.350	
Deviation of atoms (Å)						
C(12)	0.01	O(5)	-0.00	O(1)	0.02	
C(16)	-0.03	C(12)	-0.00	O(6)	0.03	
C(15)	0.01	C(13)	0.00	C(21)	-0.07	
C(17)	0.01	C(14)	-0.00	C(22)	0.02	

The equations of the planes are expressed in the form of $lx' + my' + nz' + p = 0$ where $x' = x + z \cos \beta$, $y' = y$ and $z' = z \sin \beta$.

12) T. Ashida, "HBLS-4, The Universal Crystallographic Computing System (I)", Japanese Crystallographic Association, Tokyo (1967), p. 65.

Validity of Assignment of Atomic Species

The intramolecular bond lengths and angles are shown in Fig. 1 and Table 4 respectively. Although the standard deviations were quite large, it is possible to distinguish the exocyclic C-O bonds from the C-C

TABLE 6. COMPARISON OF THE STRUCTURE FACTORS IN BIJVOET PAIRS

<i>h</i>	<i>k</i>	<i>l</i>	Calcd.		Obs.	
			$ F(hkl) $	$ F(h\bar{k}l) $	$ I(hkl) $	$ I(h\bar{k}l) $
2	1	2	26.4	< 27.5		>
2	1	4	13.2	> 12.6		<
2	3	4	26.2	< 27.8		>
3	1	4	7.6	> 7.5		<
4	1	3	22.5	< 23.3		>
4	2	1	39.1	< 42.1		>
4	3	5	28.1	< 28.2		>
5	1	2	20.2	< 20.8		>
5	2	3	15.0	< 15.3		>
6	3	4	18.5	< 19.1		>
7	2	2	23.4	< 24.7		>

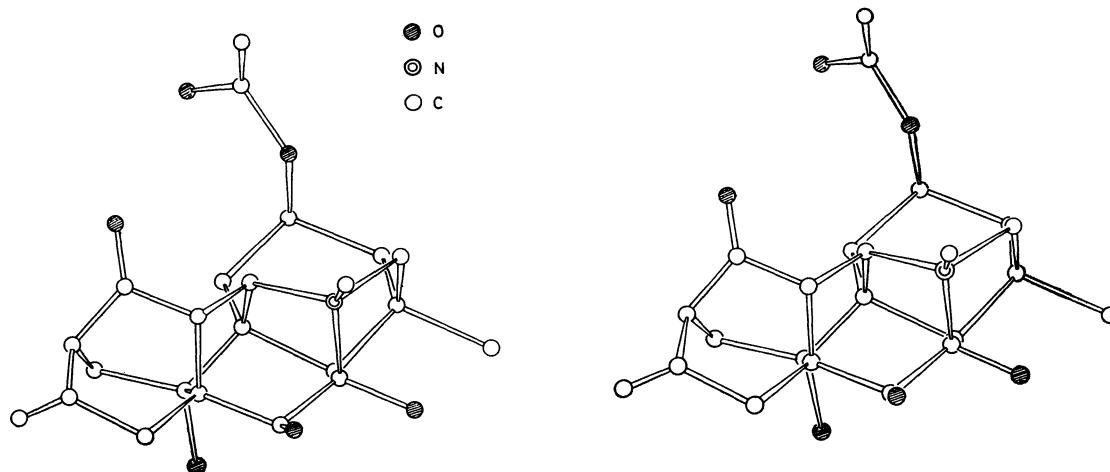


Fig. 2. Stereoscopic drawing of the structure.

bonds. That is, the C(sp^3)-O bond lengths are in the range of 1.35–1.47 Å, while the length of the C(4)–C(18) bond is 1.66 Å.

The equations for the least-squares planes of the planar groups are summarized in Table 5. The C(12), C(16), C(15), and C(17) atoms are essentially planar within the limits of error, and the O(5), C(12), C(13), and C(14) atoms are completely planar, showing that the C(13) and C(16) atoms are in the sp^2 hybridization. The bond lengths, 1.20 Å for C(13)–O(5) and 1.37 Å for C(16)–C(17), clearly distinguish the C=O group from the C=C bond.

The O(1), O(6), C(21), and C(22) atoms are also nearly planar, compatible with the identification of the acetoxyl group. Although there is no significant difference between the C(21)–O(6) and C(21)–C(22) distances, the peak of the electron-density of O(6) was higher than that of C(22) throughout all the stages of Fourier synthesis, so the oxygen atom can tentatively be assigned to the O(6).

Determination of Absolute Configuration

The absolute configuration of the present compound was determined by means of the anomalous scattering of the CuK α radiation by the bromine atom. The Bijvoet pairs selected as most advantageous for visual comparison are given in Table 6. From these observations, it can be concluded that the atomic coordinates in Table 1 should be referred to a left-handed coordinate system. All the drawings in this paper are based on the correct absolute configuration. The absolute configuration found is in agreement with those of related compounds.^{8–10}

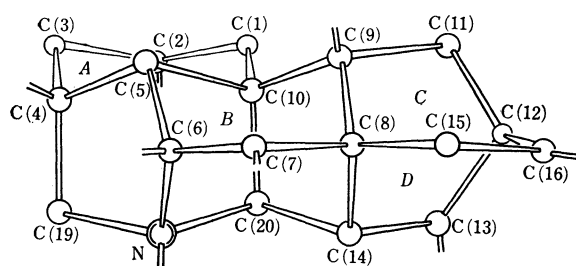


Fig. 3. Molecular skeleton, viewed down the vector between C(7) and the midpoint of C(10)–C(20).

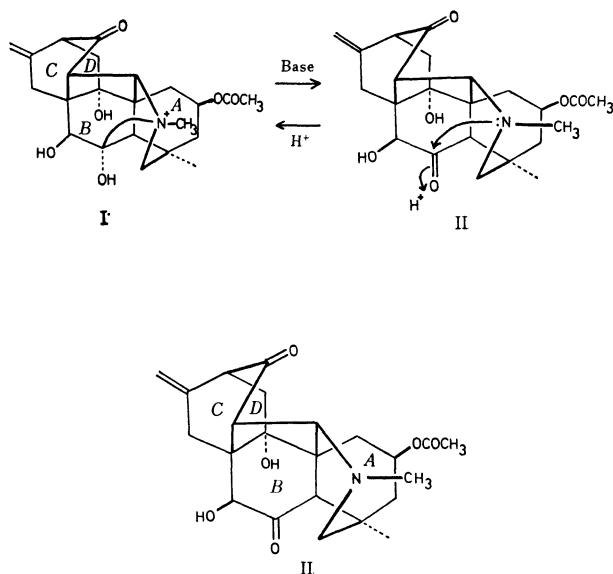


Fig. 4. Rings C and D, viewed down the C(12)–C(8) vector showing the twisting of the carbocycle.

Results and Discussion

From the X-ray analysis described in the preceding sections, the structure of the present molecule has been determined to be I, including the absolute configuration. A three-dimensional view of the molecule can be obtained from the stereodrawings in Fig. 2. On the basis of the present results, the structure of miyaconitine itself can be deduced to be II, which can easily be converted to I in acidic media.⁵⁾ Although the skeleton of the resultant hydrobromide molecule (I) is identical with those of hetisine⁸⁾ and kobusine methiodide,⁹⁾ the free alkaloid, miyaconitine itself (II), has a new type of skeleton. This is the first substance isolated as a biogenetic intermediate in the transformation from an atisine to a hetisine skeleton in *Aconitum* alka-

loids.⁵⁾

The drawing of the skeleton viewed along the vector between the C(7) and the midpoint of the C(10)–C(20) bond is shown in Fig. 3. The A ring takes the chair form, with the acetoxyl group in the axial position. If the fusion of the A ring and the difference in atomic species are disregarded, the main skeleton possesses an approximate mirror plane through the C(6), C(7), and C(8) atoms. The C and D rings make a bicyclo-[2,2,2]octane-like system, as is shown in Fig. 4. The conformation of this system is slightly staggered, with the projected angles ranging from 4° to 10°. The presence of a bridge between C(9) and C(14) through the C(10)–C(20) bond causes an appreciable closing of the projected angle, C(9)–C(8)–C(14) (111°). These indicate a significant deviation from D_3 symmetry.¹³⁾

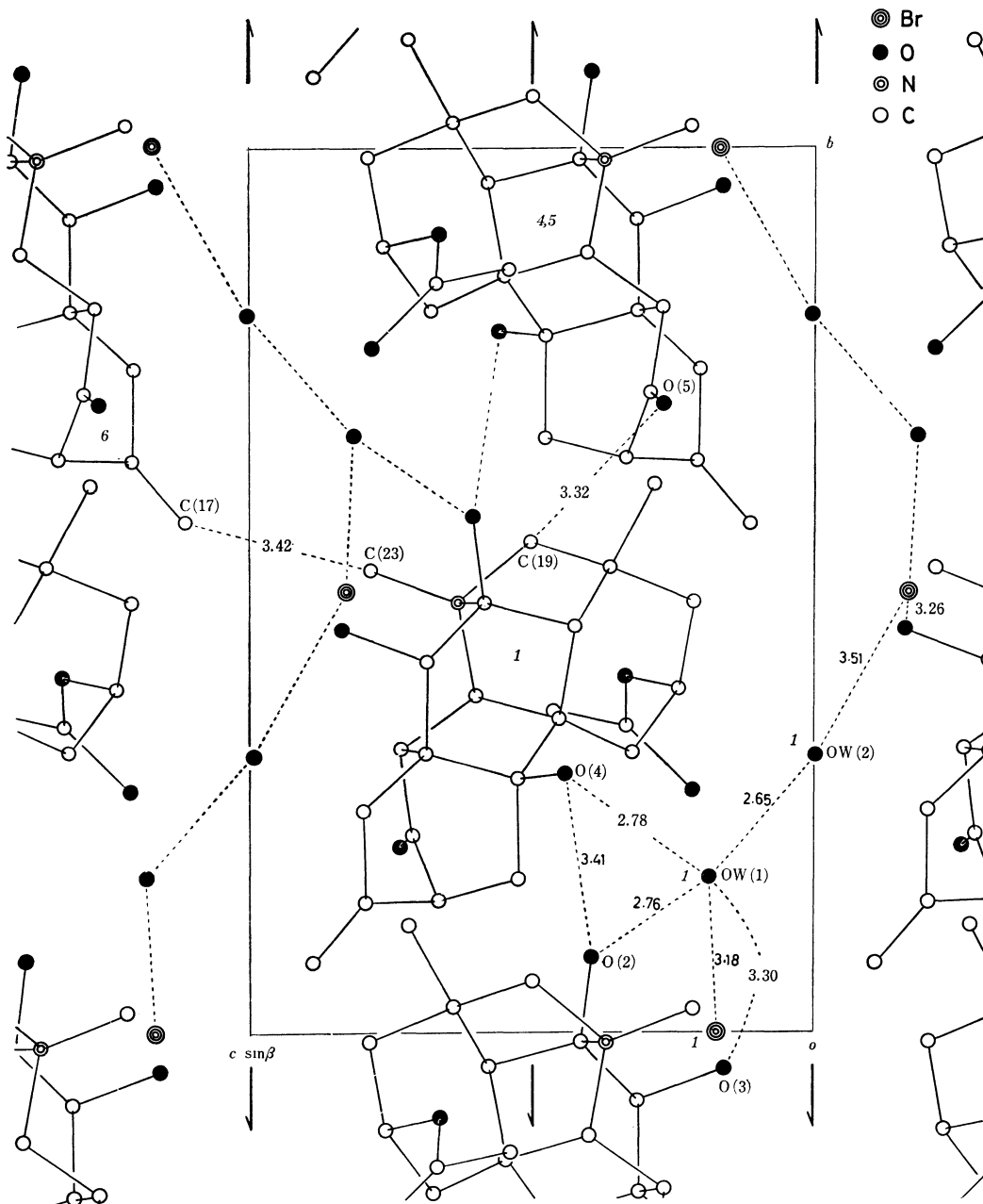


Fig. 5. The crystal structure projected along the *a* axis with some short intermolecular contacts in Å.

13) A. F. Cameron, G. Ferguson, and D. G. Morris, *J. Chem. Soc. (B)*, **1968**, 1249.

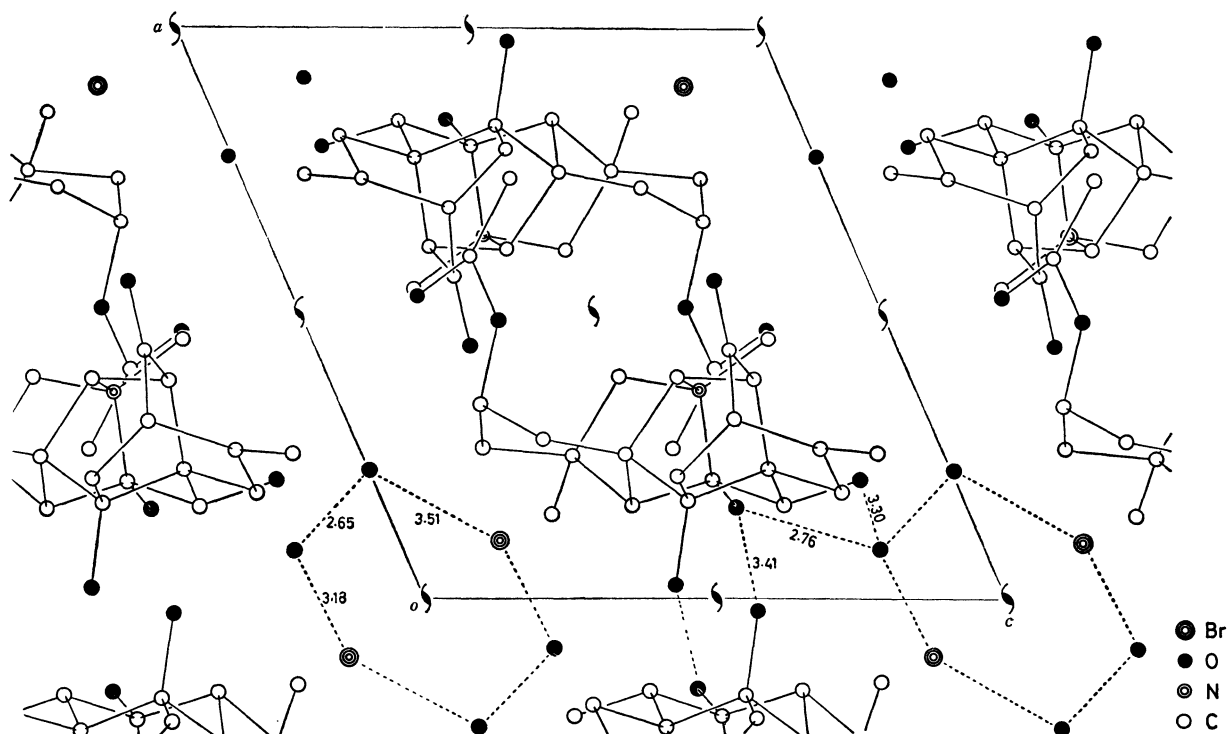


Fig. 6. The crystal structure projected along the b axis.

TABLE 7. SHORT INTERMOLECULAR DISTANCES

Atom (position 1)	Atom	in position	Distance	Atom (position 1)	Atom	in position	Distance
C...C shorter than 4.00 Å				Br...O shorter than 4.00 Å			
C(18)	C(16)	4	4.00 Å	Br	OW(1)	1	3.18
C(18)	C(15)	4	3.66	OW(2)	Br	3	3.51
C(18)	C(17)	4	3.86	O(3)	Br	4	3.26
C(23)	C(17)	6	3.42	O...O shorter than 4.00 Å			
C...O shorter than 3.50 Å				O(4)	OW(1)	1	2.78
C(11)	OW(1)	1	3.43	OW(2)	OW(1)	1	2.65
O(3)	C(3)	2	3.43	O(3)	OW(1)	4	3.30
C(19)	O(5)	5	3.32	O(2)	O(4)	4	3.41
C(23)	O(6)	5	3.44	O(2)	OW(1)	4	2.76
C(18)	O(5)	5	3.41	Position ^{a)} General coordinates			
Br...C shorter than 4.00 Å				1	x,	y,	z
Br	C(11)	1	3.93	2	x,	y,	1+z
C(17)	Br	2	3.82	3	$\bar{x}$,	$\frac{1}{2}+y$,	$\bar{z}$
C(7)	Br	4	3.67	4	$\bar{x}$,	$\frac{1}{2}+y$,	1-z
C(22)	Br	5	3.93	5	1-x,	$\frac{1}{2}+y$,	1-z
				6	1-x,	$\frac{1}{2}+y$,	2-z

a) These are also indicated in Fig. 5.

The UV spectrum of this compound shows a somewhat higher intensity at 295 nm than that of normal saturated ketones.⁵⁾ This may correlate with the distance between, and the relative orientation of, the carbonyl and the exocyclic methylene groups; the C(13)...C(16) distance is 2.46 Å, and the tilt of the C=O bond with respect to the C=C bond is 62°.

The packing diagrams of the crystal viewed along the a and b axes are shown in Figs. 5 and 6 respectively. The intermolecular distances are listed in Table 7.

All the C...C intermolecular distances can be considered to be normal; only four of them are shorter than 4 Å, the shortest being 3.42 Å of the C(sp³)...C(sp²)

approach shown in Fig. 5. The closest C...O distance is 3.32 Å, while the Br...C distances are all larger than 3.67 Å. The close Br...O and O...O approaches are also given in Fig. 5, suggesting that the hydrogen bonds may play an important role in the packing. The shortest N⁺...Br⁻ distance is 5.09 Å, which might indicate no simple cation-anion interaction in the crystal structure.

The authors are grateful to Professor Yoshiyuki Ichinohe for supplying the sample and for his helpful discussions, and to Dr. Tsukasa Iwadare for his continued encouragement. Thanks are also due to Miss Makiko Yamaguchi for her assistance.