

## Reaction of Picryl Azide with *N*-Methylindoles: the Crystal Structure of 1-Methyl-2-picryliminoindoline

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Picryl azide reacts with *N*-methylindoles to form 2-*N*-picryl derivatives of 2-aminoindole. These compounds exist in the amino-form (I) in solution, but the three-dimensional crystal structure determination for the 1-methyl-2-*N*-picryl derivative shows it to be in the iminoindoline form (II). The structure was determined from diffractometer data by direct methods and refined by least squares to *R* 0.053. The carbon-carbon bonds at C(3) are both of length 1.52 Å, and the positions of the two hydrogen atoms were clearly established from difference Fourier syntheses.

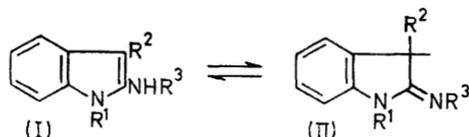
**2-ALKYLINDOLES** react with picryl azide forming **3,3'**-azoindoles and with toluene-*p*-sulphonyl azide to form a mixture of the azo-compound and the 3-*p*-tolyl-

<sup>1</sup> A. S. Bailey and J. J. Merer, *J. Chem. Soc. (C)*, 1966, 1345.

<sup>2</sup> A. S. Bailey, M. C. Churn, and J. J. Wedgwood, *Tetrahedron Letters*, 1968, 5953.

sulphonylaminoindole.<sup>1</sup> Simple indoles unsubstituted in the 2-position form 2-*p*-tolylsulphonylaminoindoles [(I), (II); R<sup>3</sup> = tosyl] when warmed with toluene-*p*-sulphonyl azide.<sup>2,3</sup> We now report the reaction of <sup>3</sup> A. S. Bailey and (Mrs.) W. A. Warr, unpublished observations.

picryl azide with *N*-substituted indoles, together with the crystal and molecular structure of one of the adducts, in order to check the spectral assignment.



## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Chemistry.**—*N*-Methylindole, 1,3-dimethylindole, and indole-*N*-acetic acid react smoothly with picryl azide at room temperature. The products are sparingly soluble crystalline materials having similar u.v. spectra (Figure 1; the values of  $\epsilon$  for curve A are probably too small, since the compound is very insoluble).

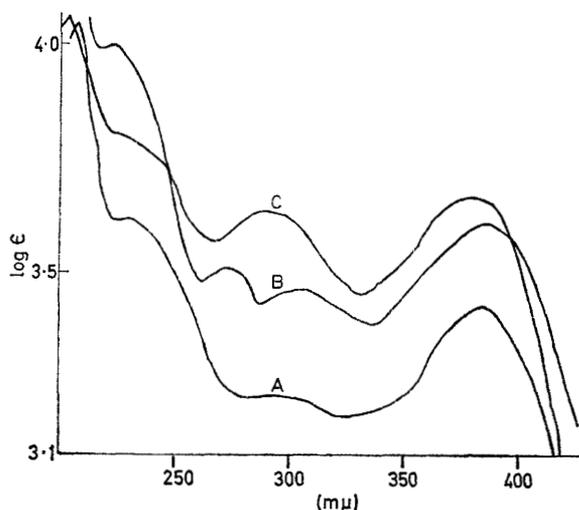


FIGURE 1 U.v. spectra of A, (I;  $R^1 = \text{Me}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{H}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{picryl}$ ); B, (I;  $R^1 = R^2 = \text{Me}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{picryl}$ ); and C, (I;  $R^1 = \text{CH}_2\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{H}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{picryl}$ ), all in solution in ethanol

The mass spectra of these compounds gave little structural information. The base peak in the spectrum of (I;  $R^1 = \text{Me}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{H}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{picryl}$ ) appeared at  $m/e$  339 ( $M - \text{H}_2\text{O}$ ). The molecular ion signal  $m/e$  357 (14%) was small. Main peaks in the higher mass region arise from loss of NO or  $\text{NO}_2$ : 309 (13%,  $339 - \text{NO}$ ), 293 (14%,  $339 - \text{NO}_2$ ), and 247 (30%,  $293 - \text{NO}_2$ ). The second most intense peak in the spectrum [ $m/e$  224 (42%)] ( $\text{C}_7\text{H}_4\text{N}_4\text{O}_5$ ) probably arises by cleavage of the indole ring. There were no strong signals in the region of  $m/e$  144, suggesting that picryl cleavage is unimportant and no peaks at 227–229 or 131, suggesting that C–N-picryl cleavage is not occurring. A small signal at  $m/e$  328 ( $M - 29$ ) corresponds to loss of H and CO (less likely is  $2\text{H} + \text{HCN}$ ). This may indicate oxygen transfer to C(3) of the indole structure followed by loss of carbon monoxide (*cf.* 1-nitronaphthalene<sup>4</sup>). The third

strongest signal,  $m/e$  105 (30%,  $\text{PhCO}^+$ ), may be formed in this manner.

The mass spectrum of (I;  $R^1 = R^2 = \text{Me}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{picryl}$ ) contains a weak molecular ion  $m/e$  371 (4%), 356 (10%,  $M - \text{CH}_3$ ), 355 (40%,  $M - \text{O}$ ), 341 (10%,  $M - \text{NO}$ ), and 340 (34%,  $M - \text{H} - \text{NO}$ ). The base peak is at  $m/e$  337 (100%,  $M - \text{H} - \text{CH}_3 - \text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) and the second most intense peak at  $m/e$  312 (54%,  $355 - \text{CH}_3 - \text{CO}$ ). Other intense signals were formed by loss of NO or  $\text{NO}_2$ : 323 (23%,  $M - \text{H}_2\text{O} - \text{NO}$ ), 307 (31%,  $M - \text{H}_2\text{O} - \text{NO}_2$ ), 293 (22%,  $323 - \text{NO}$ ), 291 (18%,  $337 - \text{NO}_2$ ), 245 (22%,  $337 - 2\text{NO}_2$ ), 266 (8%,  $312 - \text{NO}_2$ ), and 220 (13%,  $266 - \text{NO}_2$ ). There were no strong peaks below  $m/e$  220. The following transformations were indicated by metastable peaks: 338  $\rightarrow$  337 (336.0), 355  $\rightarrow$  340 (325.6), 355  $\rightarrow$  312 (274.5), 320  $\rightarrow$  290 (262.8), 312  $\rightarrow$  266 (226.6), and 266  $\rightarrow$  220 (181.9).

The n.m.r. spectra ( $[\text{C}_6\text{H}_6]$ dimethyl sulphoxide) of the three products all show the signals of the 'picryl' protons split into a pair of doublets with separations varying from 42 to 62 Hz and coupling constants of 2 Hz. The compound formed from 1-methylindole is rather insoluble in dimethyl sulphoxide and gives a poor spectrum; the spectra of the compound formed from 1,3-dimethylindole is shown (Figure 3). The splitting persists in trifluoroacetic acid and, for the indole-*N*-acetic acid adduct, in deuterium oxide–sodium carbonate. The n.m.r. spectrum of *N*-phenylpicramide shows a sharp singlet [ $\tau$  ( $\text{Me}_2\text{SO}$ ) 1.1;  $\tau$  ( $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) 0.92] for the picryl protons.

The n.m.r. spectrum of 1,1-diphenyl-2-(2,4,6-trinitrophenyl)hydrazine showed the picryl signals as a broad band at 36° (methylene chloride) which had split into an AB system at –60°;<sup>5</sup> the signal from *N*-methylpicramide consisted of a sharp singlet at +38° and an AB system at –60°. The difference in chemical shifts for the hydrazine derivative varied with solvent, being smaller in acetone than in methylene chloride. A sample of (I;  $R^1 = R^2 = \text{Me}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{picryl}$ ) was heated in a variable-temperature probe; the AB spectrum of the picryl protons persisted up to 160°; the compound then decomposed.

The spectral information suggested two structural possibilities for these compounds.

(i) That the adducts were oxidation–reduction products—alkylindoles are readily oxidised at the 3-position, and aromatic nitro-compounds oxidise enamines.<sup>6</sup>

(ii) That the adducts were as predicted [either (I) or (II)], with severe restriction of free rotation of the *o*-nitro-groups.

This latter effect has been observed before.<sup>5</sup> The restriction in rotation is presumably due to hydrogen bonding between an *o*-nitro-group and a hydrogen atom attached to the nitrogen. This hypothesis requires that in solution the adduct is present in the indole (I) rather

<sup>4</sup> H. Budzikiewicz, C. Djerassi, and D. H. Williams, 'Mass Spectrometry of Organic Compounds,' Holden Day, London, 1967, 518.

<sup>5</sup> J. Heidberg, J. A. Weil, G. A. Janusonis, and J. K. Anderson, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 1964, **41**, 1033.

<sup>6</sup> S. Danishefsky and R. Cavanaugh, *Chem. and Ind.*, 1967, 2171.

than the indoline (II) form. Strong hydrogen bonding has been observed in the crystal structure of 2,3,4,6-tetranitroaniline<sup>7</sup> ( $O \cdots H$  contacts of 1.92 and 2.04 Å). An accurate crystal structure analysis ( $R = 0.053$ ) of the *N*-methylindole adduct showed that it is of type (II) and is in the indoline form (Figure 2).

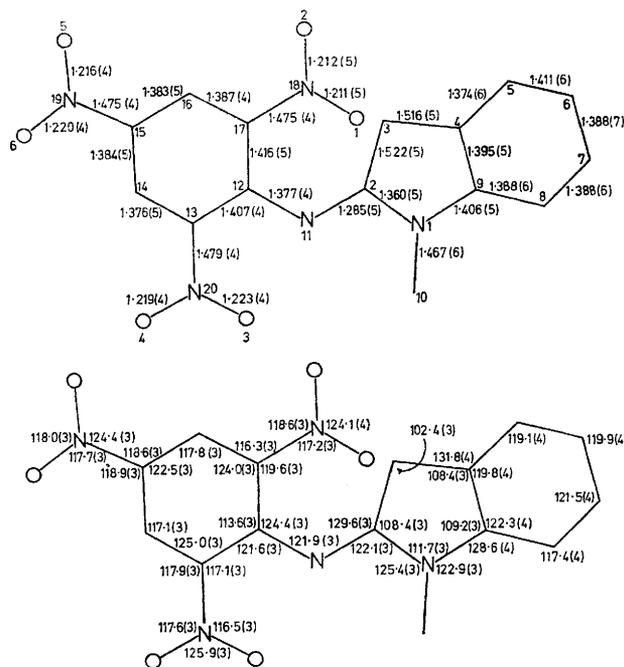


FIGURE 2 Bond distances (Å) and angles ( $^{\circ}$ ), together with their estimated standard deviations

The n.m.r. spectra (Figure 3) can be explained if, in solution ( $Me_2SO$ ), the compound exists as the indole

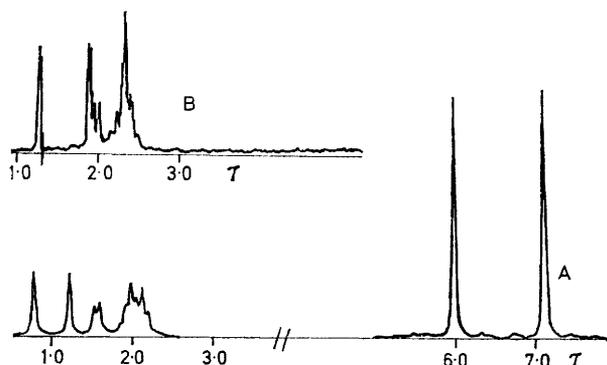


FIGURE 3 N.m.r. spectra of (I;  $R^1 = R^2 = Me$ ,  $R^3 = picryl$ ) in solution in A, trifluoroacetic acid and B, dimethyl sulphoxide

(I;  $R^1 = Me$ ,  $R^2 = H$ ,  $R^3 = picryl$ ), as there is no sign of the signal to be expected from the methylene group in (II;  $R^1 = Me$ ,  $R^2 = H$ ,  $R^3 = picryl$ ), although the corresponding tolylsulphonyl derivative ( $R^1 = Me$ ,  $R^2 =$

$H$ ,  $R^3 = tosyl$ ) is mainly (80%) in the imino-form (II).<sup>3</sup> The proton at C(3) in the picryl compound is deshielded by the picryl group and its signal is moved into the aromatic region. This contrasts with the signal from H-C(3) in (I;  $R^1 = Me$ ,  $R^2 = H$ ,  $R^3 = tosyl$ ), which appears at  $\tau$  4.1.<sup>3</sup> A similar effect is seen in the 3-methyl-substituted compounds. In (I;  $R^1 = R^2 = Me$ ,  $R^3 = tosyl$ ) this signal (Me) appears at  $\tau$  8.38; when  $R^3 = picryl$  the signal is moved down to  $\tau$  7.48. The acid ( $R^1 = CH_2 \cdot CO_2H$ ,  $R^2 = H$ ,  $R^3 = picryl$ ) is entirely in form (I) in both dimethyl sulphoxide and deuterium oxide-sodium carbonate, and the signal from H-C(3) is in the aromatic region. The 1-methyl compound and the 1,3-dimethyl compound ( $R^3 = picryl$ ) exist in the indole form (I) in trifluoroacetic acid (see Figure 3), whereas the corresponding tosyl derivatives exist in form (II;  $R^3 = tosyl$ ).

*Crystal Structure of the N-Methylindole Adduct.*—The atom numbering, interatomic distances, and interbond angles, together with their estimated standard deviations, are shown in Figure 2.

The compound is formulated as an indoline adduct on the basis of the following evidence. (i) On a difference Fourier map at the convergence of isotropic refinement ( $R$  0.128), two clearly resolved peaks of *ca.* 0.7e at *ca.* 1 Å from C(3), completed a tetrahedron about this atom, and must correspond to hydrogen atom positions. The other nine hydrogen atom positions were equally well defined, but no maxima were observed about N(11). (ii) Table 1 gives a comparison of bond lengths reported

TABLE 1

Comparison of the dimensions (Å) of indole compounds

Bond	L-Tryptophan hydrochloride <sup>a</sup>	Indole-3-acetic acid <sup>b</sup>	This work	Calc. for indole <sup>c</sup>
N(1)–C(2)	1.377	1.401	1.360	1.36
C(2)–C(3)	1.344	1.342	1.522	1.36
C(3)–C(4)	1.451	1.470	1.516	1.42
C(4)–C(5)	1.412	1.434	1.374	1.41
C(5)–C(6)	1.397	1.409	1.411	1.38
C(6)–C(7)	1.386	1.396	1.388	1.40
C(7)–C(8)	1.399	1.409	1.388	1.38
C(8)–C(9)	1.400	1.422	1.388	1.40
C(4)–C(9)	1.382	1.407	1.395	1.41
N(1)–C(9)	1.391	1.385	1.406	1.37
$\sigma$ (mean)	0.015	0.018	0.005	

<sup>a</sup> Ref. 8. <sup>b</sup> Ref. 9. <sup>c</sup> Ref. 10.

for indole compounds with those obtained in this work. Of especial interest is the bond C(2)–C(3). In the known indole structures the length of this bond agrees well with the calculated value (1.34 Å):<sup>10</sup> the  $\pi$ -bond order is 0.5. Our bond length (1.522 Å) corresponds to that of a carbon-carbon (C–C=C) single  $\sigma$ -bond (1.510 Å),<sup>11</sup> as required by the indoline formulation. Other bond lengths in the heterocycle show the expected deviations from the indole values. (iii) On the basis of a semi-empirical

<sup>9</sup> I. L. Karle, K. Butts, and P. Gum, *Acta Cryst.*, 1964, **17**, 496.

<sup>10</sup> H. C. Longuet-Higgins and C. A. Coulson, *Trans. Faraday Soc.*, 1947, **43**, 87.

<sup>11</sup> *Chem. Soc. Special Publ.*, No. 18, 1965.

<sup>7</sup> C. Dickinson, J. M. Stewart, and J. R. Holden, *Acta Cryst.*, 1966, **21**, 663.

<sup>8</sup> T. Takigawa, T. Ashida, Y. Sasada, and M. Kakudo, *Bull. Chem. Soc. Japan*, 1966, **39**, 2369.

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bond-order-bond-length relationship,<sup>12</sup> the  $\pi$ -bond order of C(2)-N(11) (1.285 Å) is very nearly one. N(11)-C(12) is longer (1.377 Å), although not as long as expected for a single  $\sigma$ -bond, *e.g.* in a picryl azide molecular complex the corresponding bond length is 1.46 Å.<sup>13</sup> The indoline formulation requires double and single bonds in these respective positions. (iv) The indoline structure requires that N(11) should be  $sp^2$  hybridised and that the hybrid orbitals should be coplanar with the indoline ring. C(12) is coplanar and N(11) is only slightly out of plane

TABLE 2  
Least-squares planes

(a) Distances (Å) of atoms from planes (parentheses indicate atoms not in calculation)

	Indoline	Picryl nucleus
N(1)	-0.002	
C(2)	0.007	
C(3)	-0.011	
C(4)	0.009	
C(5)	0.008	
C(6)	-0.002	
C(7)	-0.011	
C(8)	-0.005	
C(9)	-0.003	
C(10)	0.009	
C(11)	(0.055)	
C(12)	(-0.0002)	-0.002
C(13)		0.016
C(14)		-0.014
C(15)		-0.001
C(16)		0.014
C(17)		-0.013

(b) Equations of planes:  $ax + by + cz = 1$  where  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  are fractional co-ordinates

Plane	$a$	$b$	$c$
Indoline	-1.788	21.25	-37.46
Picryl nucleus	1.098	0.926	-0.381
Nitro-group on C(13)	-1.340	0.800	1.250
Nitro-group on C(15)	1.012	0.917	-0.340
Nitro-group on C(17)	0.186	1.101	-0.185

(0.05 Å) as can be seen from Table 2, which shows the equations of some least-squares planes through the molecule, together with deviations of atoms from the planes. For the indoline ring, no atom deviates by  $>2\sigma$  from the plane, but the picryl ring is significantly non-planar (deviations  $>3\sigma$ ). This effect is believed to be a real one, having been noticed before for polysubstituted benzene nuclei,<sup>7</sup> and is possibly due to a steric effect.

The angle between the least-squares planes through the indoline and picryl nuclei is  $96^\circ$ . The *o*-nitro-groups are twisted out of the plane of the picryl nucleus by  $137$  and  $125^\circ$ , while the *p*-nitro-group is almost coplanar with it. The direction of rotation is that suggested in ref. 14, *i.e.* right-handed about the direction of numbering.

The crystal lattice consists of isolated molecules held together by van der Waals forces. The picryl rings stack on top of each other but to minimise interactions between the noncoplanar nitro-groups at C(13) and C(17) and the corresponding nitro-groups in neigh-

bouring molecules, the rings are staggered with respect to their neighbours. The stacks of rings are parallel to the  $a$  axis, with the ring nuclei almost parallel to  $c$

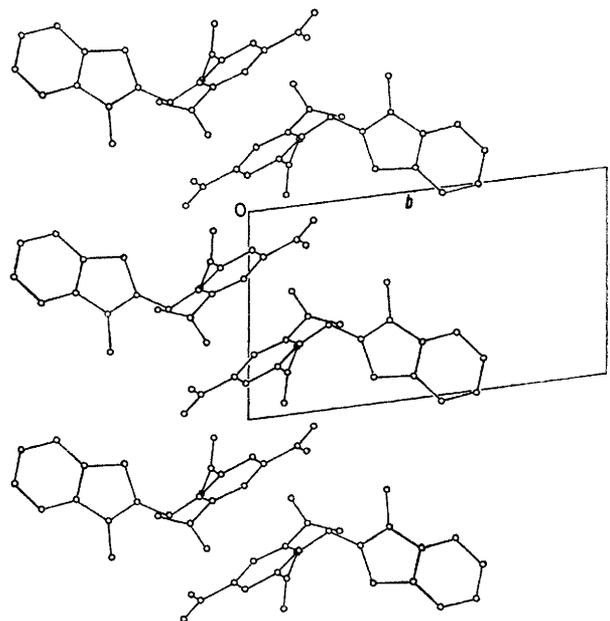


FIGURE 4 The crystal structure of 1-methyl-2-picrylimino-indoline projected down  $c$

(Figure 4). The indoline rings are packed parallel to each other up  $c$ , but are not overlapping as are the picryl rings.

The carbon-carbon bond lengths of the picryl nucleus are similar to those reported for 2,3,4,6-tetranitro-aniline,<sup>7</sup> where the carbon-carbon bonds attached to the amine nitrogen are significantly larger than the normal (1.397 Å) reported for benzene,<sup>15</sup> and average 1.412 Å. The remaining four average 1.381 Å, which is significantly shorter than the benzene value. Also, in common with other polynitro-compounds,<sup>7,13</sup> the ring has internal angles significantly  $>120^\circ$  at the carbon atoms attached to nitro-groups. This effect now appears to be general in such compounds.

The root-mean-square displacements along the principal axes of the thermal ellipsoids (Table 3) show definite evidence for considerable rigid-body motion of the indoline ring about N(11), since the magnitude of the principal displacement increases in the indoline ring with distance from this atom. The almost isotropic displacements in the picryl nucleus show that this unit remains essentially stationary during movement of the indoline ring. The nitro-groups show the expected rotational movement about the C-N vectors.

**Conclusion.**—Although the nature of these compounds is as expected (*i.e.* they are not oxidation-reduction

<sup>14</sup> J. T. Edsall, P. J. Flory, J. C. Kendew, A. M. Liquori, G. Nemethy, G. M. Ramachandran, and H. A. Scherago, *J. Mol. Biol.*, 1966, **15**, 399.

<sup>15</sup> A. Langseth and B. P. Stoicheff, *Canad. J. Phys.*, 1956, **34**, 350.

<sup>12</sup> C. A. Coulson and A. Golebiewski, *Proc. Phys. Soc.*, 1961, **78**, 1310.

<sup>13</sup> A. S. Bailey and C. K. Prout, *J. Chem. Soc.*, 1965, 4867.

products), the crystal structure with the compound in the indoline form does not indicate whether one (or both) of the *o*-nitro-groups is locked in position by hydrogen bonding when in the indole form.

TABLE 3

The root-mean-square magnitudes and direction cosines of the principal axes of the thermal ellipsoids (the direction cosines are with respect to the crystallographic axes)

Atom	Axis <i>i</i>	$U_i$ (Å)	$l_i$	$m_i$	$n_i$
O(1)	1	0.348	0.723	0.577	-0.460
	2	0.271	-0.662	0.815	0.212
	3	0.188	-0.199	-0.053	-0.862
O(2)	1	0.356	0.409	0.861	-0.187
	2	0.288	0.729	-0.414	0.376
	3	0.177	-0.549	0.297	0.908
O(3)	1	0.322	-0.102	0.957	0.231
	2	0.267	0.864	0.132	-0.705
	3	0.185	0.494	-0.260	0.671
O(4)	1	0.311	0.827	0.333	0.063
	2	0.244	-0.463	0.202	0.957
	3	0.188	-0.319	0.921	-0.284
O(5)	1	0.297	0.743	0.576	-0.360
	2	0.242	0.487	-0.497	0.604
	3	0.178	-0.460	0.649	0.711
O(6)	1	0.308	0.836	0.450	-0.325
	2	0.242	-0.047	0.133	0.945
	3	0.182	-0.547	0.883	-0.029
N(1)	1	0.254	0.250	-0.144	0.848
	2	0.230	-0.643	-0.686	0.326
	3	0.162	-0.724	0.714	0.419
C(2)	1	0.239	0.702	0.560	0.030
	2	0.196	0.134	-0.555	0.791
	3	0.171	-0.700	0.615	0.611
C(3)	1	0.244	0.104	-0.175	0.914
	2	0.219	0.723	0.604	-0.236
	3	0.178	-0.683	0.778	0.330
C(4)	1	0.270	0.327	-0.175	0.802
	2	0.236	0.939	0.052	-0.584
	3	0.221	0.106	-0.983	-0.126
C(5)	1	0.280	0.571	-0.274	0.599
	2	0.273	0.810	-0.104	-0.800
	3	0.212	-0.134	-0.156	-0.036
C(6)	1	0.289	0.970	0.115	-0.224
	2	0.271	-0.047	-0.182	0.962
	3	0.186	-0.238	0.977	0.158
C(7)	1	0.263	0.872	0.370	-0.171
	2	0.246	-0.043	-0.197	0.959
	3	0.186	-0.488	0.908	0.227
C(8)	1	0.239	0.763	0.247	0.269
	2	0.214	-0.403	-0.375	0.927
	3	0.185	-0.505	0.894	0.262
C(9)	1	0.238	0.712	0.271	0.334
	2	0.215	-0.390	-0.472	0.882
	3	0.189	-0.584	0.839	0.333
C(10)	1	0.338	0.241	-0.299	0.835
	2	0.262	-0.501	-0.795	0.104
	3	0.181	-0.831	0.528	0.541
N(11)	1	0.233	0.549	-0.008	0.623
	2	0.220	-0.452	-0.764	0.536
	3	0.170	-0.703	0.645	0.570
C(12)	1	0.204	0.192	-0.568	0.759
	2	0.189	0.498	0.708	0.171
	3	0.169	-0.846	0.420	0.628
C(13)	1	0.209	0.331	0.802	0.233
	2	0.187	-0.816	0.123	0.792
	3	0.180	0.475	-0.585	0.565
C(14)	1	0.214	0.206	-0.812	0.546
	2	0.205	0.598	0.495	0.314
	3	0.131	-0.774	0.311	0.776
C(15)	1	0.202	-0.034	-0.590	0.819
	2	0.189	0.659	0.512	0.199
	3	0.165	-0.752	0.624	0.538
C(16)	1	0.196	-0.150	-0.963	0.197
	2	0.193	0.328	-0.014	0.797
	3	0.181	0.933	-0.271	-0.571

TABLE 3 (continued)

Atom	Axis <i>i</i>	$U_i$ (Å)	$l_i$	$m_i$	$n_i$
C(17)	1	0.203	0.232	-0.928	0.336
	2	0.197	0.924	0.213	-0.101
	3	0.164	0.305	-0.306	-0.937
N(18)	1	0.263	0.974	0.077	-0.187
	2	0.208	-0.132	0.935	-0.370
	3	0.177	0.184	-0.345	-0.910
N(19)	1	0.227	-0.129	-0.463	0.902
	2	0.208	0.703	0.490	0.143
	3	0.178	-0.699	0.739	0.407
N(20)	1	0.276	0.531	0.704	0.117
	2	0.193	0.279	-0.584	0.705
	3	0.177	-0.800	0.404	0.699

## EXPERIMENTAL

N.m.r. spectra were measured with a Perkin-Elmer R14 (100MHz) instrument and mass spectra with an AEI MS 9 instrument.

**1-Methyl-2-picrylaminoindole** (I;  $R^1 = \text{Me}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{H}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{picryl}$ ).—1-Methylindole (2 g.; distilled from sodium) <sup>16</sup> and picryl azide (3 g.) were dissolved in ethyl acetate (30 ml.) and the resulting red solution was kept for 6 days. Nitrogen was evolved and solid started to separate after 6 hr. The solid was collected, washed with ethyl acetate, and dried (3.28 g., 78%). (With dimethyl sulphoxide as solvent the reaction appeared to be complete in 4 hr.). Crystallisation from dioxan gave material which softened and slowly decomposed without melting above 170°. From dimethylformamide the *compound* crystallised with solvent (n.m.r.); it softened at 180° and decomposed at 210° (Found: C, 50.4; H, 3.5; N, 18.8, 19.2  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_5\text{O}_6$  requires C, 50.4; H, 3.1; N, 19.5%). N.m.r. spectra:  $\tau$  ( $\text{CF}_3\cdot\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ ) 0.95 (1H, d, *J* 2 Hz), 1.08 (1H, d, *J* 2 Hz), 1.8—2.5 (5H, m), and 5.67 (3H, s, NMe);  $\tau$  [ $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$ ] -0.2 (NH), 1.3 (1H, d, *J* 2 Hz), 1.82 (1H, d, *J* 2 Hz), 1.8—2.6 (5H, m), and 6.4 (3H, s, NMe).

**1,3-Dimethyl-2-picrylaminoindole** (I;  $R^1 = R^2 = \text{Me}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{picryl}$ ) was prepared from 1,3-dimethylindole (4 g.; obtained by methylation of skatole <sup>16</sup>) and picryl azide (6 g.) in ethyl acetate (45 ml.) (yield 67% after 6 days). The *compound* formed yellow needles from *n*-propanol, darkening at 229°, m.p. 240—241° (decomp.) (Found: C, 51.5; H, 3.5; N, 19.0.  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{13}\text{N}_5\text{O}_6$  requires C, 51.8; H, 3.5; N, 18.9%),  $\tau$  ( $\text{CF}_3\cdot\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ ) 0.80 (1H, d, *J* 2 Hz), 1.24 (1H, d, *J* 2 Hz), 1.58 (1H, split d, *J* 7 and 2 Hz), 1.8—2.4 (3H, m), 6.01 (3H, s, NMe), and 7.12 (3H, s, CMe);  $\tau$  [ $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$ ] -1.75 (NH), 1.30 (1H, d, *J* 2 Hz), 1.92 (1H, d, *J* 2 Hz), 1.9—2.5 (4H, m), 6.38 (3H, s, NMe), and 7.5 (3H, s, CMe).

The reaction between indole-*N*-acetic acid (2.1 g.) and picryl azide (3.0 g.) in ethyl acetate (70 ml.) was slow. After 11 days the solid (36% yield) was collected. Recrystallisation from acetic acid gave the *compound* (I;  $R^1 = \text{CH}_2\cdot\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ ,  $R^2 = \text{H}$ ,  $R^3 = \text{picryl}$ ) as yellow needles which contained acetic acid (n.m.r., and i.r. band at 1705  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) and which darkened at 210° and decomposed between 254 and 290° (Found: C, 47.8; H, 3.0; N, 16.8.  $(\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{11}\text{N}_5\text{O}_8)_2$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{O}_2$  requires C, 47.4; H, 3.0; N, 16.2%),  $\tau$  [ $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$ ] -0.23 (NH), 1.27 (1H, d, *J* 2 Hz), 1.79 (1H, d, *J* 2 Hz), 1.9—2.8 (5H, m), 5.12 (2H, s,  $\text{N}\cdot\text{CH}_2\cdot\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ ), and 8.09 (acetic acid of crystallisation);  $\tau$  ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}-\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ ) 1.26 (1H, d, *J* 2.5 Hz), 1.68 (1H, d, *J* 2.5 Hz), 2.0—2.8 (5H, m), and 5.03 (2H, s). The *compound* decomposed in the mass spectrometer inlet (270°).

<sup>16</sup> K. T. Potts and J. E. Saxton, *Org. Synth.*, 1960, **40**, 68.

TABLE 4

Observed structure amplitudes and calculated structure factors

$l$	$ F_o $	$F_c$																		
1	178	173	10	197	197	19	399	379	28	104	104	37	122	122	46	166	166	55	215	215
2	334	334	11	151	151	20	199	199	38	114	114	47	133	133	56	175	175	65	234	234
3	481	481	12	107	107	21	145	145	39	171	171	48	152	152	57	200	200	66	263	263
4	628	628	13	63	63	22	96	96	40	220	220	49	201	201	58	249	249	67	292	292
5	775	775	14	19	19	23	47	47	41	269	269	50	250	250	59	288	288	68	316	316
6	922	922	15	11	11	24	2	2	42	317	317	51	299	299	60	327	327	69	339	339
7	1069	1069	16	1	1	25	0	0	43	366	366	52	348	348	61	358	358	70	350	350
8	1216	1216	17	0	0	26	0	0	44	415	415	53	397	397	62	367	367	71	341	341
9	1363	1363	18	0	0	27	0	0	45	464	464	54	446	446	63	376	376	72	332	332
10	1510	1510	19	0	0	28	0	0	46	513	513	55	497	497	64	385	385	73	323	323
11	1657	1657	20	0	0	29	0	0	47	562	562	56	548	548	65	394	394	74	314	314
12	1804	1804	21	0	0	30	0	0	48	611	611	57	599	599	66	403	403	75	305	305
13	1951	1951	22	0	0	31	0	0	49	660	660	58	650	650	67	412	412	76	296	296
14	2098	2098	23	0	0	32	0	0	50	709	709	59	701	701	68	421	421	77	287	287
15	2245	2245	24	0	0	33	0	0	51	758	758	60	752	752	69	430	430	78	278	278
16	2392	2392	25	0	0	34	0	0	52	807	807	61	803	803	70	439	439	79	269	269
17	2539	2539	26	0	0	35	0	0	53	856	856	62	854	854	71	448	448	80	260	260
18	2686	2686	27	0	0	36	0	0	54	905	905	63	905	905	72	457	457	81	251	251
19	2833	2833	28	0	0	37	0	0	55	954	954	64	956	956	73	466	466	82	242	242
20	2980	2980	29	0	0	38	0	0	56	1003	1003	65	1007	1007	74	475	475	83	233	233
21	3127	3127	30	0	0	39	0	0	57	1052	1052	66	1058	1058	75	484	484	84	224	224
22	3274	3274	31	0	0	40	0	0	58	1101	1101	67	1109	1109	76	493	493	85	215	215
23	3421	3421	32	0	0	41	0	0	59	1150	1150	68	1160	1160	77	502	502	86	206	206
24	3568	3568	33	0	0	42	0	0	60	1199	1199	69	1211	1211	78	511	511	87	197	197
25	3715	3715	34	0	0	43	0	0	61	1248	1248	70	1262	1262	79	520	520	88	188	188
26	3862	3862	35	0	0	44	0	0	62	1297	1297	71	1313	1313	80	529	529	89	179	179
27	4009	4009	36	0	0	45	0	0	63	1346	1346	72	1364	1364	81	538	538	90	170	170
28	4156	4156	37	0	0	46	0	0	64	1389	1389	73	1415	1415	82	547	547	91	161	161
29	4303	4303	38	0	0	47	0	0	65	1412	1412	74	1466	1466	83	556	556	92	152	152
30	4450	4450	39	0	0	48	0	0	66	1439	1439	75	1517	1517	84	565	565	93	143	143
31	4597	4597	40	0	0	49	0	0	67	1462	1462	76	1568	1568	85	574	574	94	134	134
32	4744	4744	41	0	0	50	0	0	68	1485	1485	77	1619	1619	86	583	583	95	125	125
33	4891	4891	42	0	0	51	0	0	69	1508	1508	78	1670	1670	87	592	592	96	116	116
34	5038	5038	43	0	0	52	0	0	70	1531	1531	79	1721	1721	88	601	601	97	107	107
35	5185	5185	44	0	0	53	0	0	71	1554	1554	80	1772	1772	89	610	610	98	98	98
36	5332	5332	45	0	0	54	0	0	72	1577	1577	81	1823	1823	90	619	619	99	89	89
37	5479	5479	46	0	0	55	0	0	73	1600	1600	82	1874	1874	91	628	628	100	80	80
38	5626	5626	47	0	0	56	0	0	74	1623	1623	83	1925	1925	92	637	637	101	71	71
39	5773	5773	48	0	0	57	0	0	75	1646	1646	84	1976	1976	93	646	646	102	62	62
40	5920	5920	49	0	0	58	0	0	76	1669	1669	85	2027	2027	94	655	655	103	53	53
41	6067	6067	50	0	0	59	0	0	77	1692	1692	86	2078	2078	95	664	664	104	44	44
42	6214	6214	51	0	0	60	0	0	78	1715	1715	87	2129	2129	96	673	673	105	35	35
43	6361	6361	52	0	0	61	0	0	79	1738	1738	88	2180	2180	97	682	682	106	26	26
44	6508	6508	53	0	0	62	0	0	80	1761	1761	89	2231	2231	98	691	691	107	17	17
45	6655	6655	54	0	0	63	0	0	81	1784	1784	90	2282	2282	99	700	700	108	8	8
46	6802	6802	55	0	0	64	0	0	82	1807	1807	91	2333	2333	100	709	709	109	0	0
47	6949	6949	56	0	0	65	0	0	83	1830	1830	92	2384	2384	101	718	718	110	0	0
48	7096	7096	57	0	0	66	0	0	84	1853	1853	93	2435	2435	102	727	727	111	0	0
49	7243	7243	58	0	0	67	0	0	85	1876	1876	94	2486	2486	103	736	736	112	0	0
50	7390	7390	59	0	0	68	0	0	86	1899	1899	95	2537	2537	104	745	745	113	0	0
51	7537	7537	60	0	0	69	0	0	87	1922	1922	96	2588	2588	105	754	754	114	0	0
52	7684	7684	61	0	0	70	0	0	88	1945	1945	97	2639	2639	106	763	763	115	0	0
53	7831	7831	62	0	0	71	0	0	89	1968	1968	98	2690	2690	107	772	772	116	0	0
54	7978	7978	63	0	0	72	0	0	90	1991	1991	99	2741	2741	108	781	781	117	0	0
55	8125	8125	64	0	0	73	0	0	91	2014	2014	100	2792	2792	109	790	790	118	0	0
56	8272	8272	65	0	0	74	0	0	92	2037	2037	101	2843	2843	110	799	799	119	0	0
57	8419	8419	66	0	0	75	0	0	93	2060	2060	102	2894	2894	111	808	808	120	0	0
58	8566	8566	67	0	0	76	0	0	94	2083	2083	103	2945	2945	112	817	817	121	0	0
59	8713	8713	68	0	0	77	0	0	95	2106	2106	104	2996	2996	113	826	826	122	0	0
60	8860	8860	69	0	0	78	0	0	96	2129	2129	105	3047	3047	114	835	835	123	0	0
61	9007	9007	70	0	0	79	0	0	97	2152	2152	106	3098	3098	115	844	844	124	0	0
62	9154	9154	71	0	0	80	0	0	98	2175	2175	107	3149	3149	116	853	853	125	0	0
63	9301	9301	72	0	0	81	0	0	99	2198	2198	108	3200	3200	117	862	862	126	0	0
64	9448	9448	73	0	0	82	0	0	100	2221	2221	109	3251	3251	118	871	871	127	0	0
65	9595	9595	74	0	0	83	0	0	101	2244	2244	110	3302	3302	119	880	880	128	0	0
66	9742	9742	75	0	0	84	0	0	102	2267	2267	111	3353	3353	120	889	889	129	0	0
67	9889	9889	76	0	0	85	0	0	103	2290	2290	112	3404	3404	121	898	898	130	0	0
68	10036	10036	77	0	0	86	0	0	104	2313	2313	113	3455	3455	122	907	907	131	0	0
69	10183	10183	78	0	0	87	0	0	105	2336	2336	114	3506	3506	123	916	916	132	0	0
70	10330	10330	79	0	0	88	0	0	106	2359	2359	115	3557	3557	124	925	925	133	0	0
71	10477	10477	80	0	0	89	0	0	107	2382	2382	116	3608	3608	125	934	934	134	0	0
72	10624	10624	81	0	0	90	0	0	108	2405	2405	117	3659	3659	126	943	943	135	0	0
73	10771	10771	82	0	0	91	0	0	109	2428	2428	118	3710	3710	127	952	952	136	0	0
74	10918	10918	83	0	0	92	0	0	11											



Org.

## Crystallographic Data

Large crystals of the *N*-methylindole adduct were obtained by slow crystallisation from ethyl acetate. Suitable crystals for X-ray investigation were obtained by partially dissolving a large crystal with dioxan. Approximate cell parameters were obtained from Weissenberg and precession photographs and were refined by use of a Hilger and Watts four-circle PDP 8 instrument (Y 290—FA 128), before commencement of data collection.

*Crystal Data.*— $C_{15}H_{11}N_5O_6$ ,  $M = 357.3$ , Triclinic  $a = 8.01 \pm 0.01$ ,  $b = 13.20 \pm 0.01$ ,  $c = 7.79 \pm 0.01$ ,  $\alpha = 92.7 \pm 0.2$ ,  $\beta = 107.5 \pm 0.2$ ,  $\gamma = 96.5 \pm 0.2$ ,  $U = 780.2 \text{ \AA}^3$ ,  $D_m = 1.515$  (by flotation),  $Z = 2$ ,  $D_c = 1.520$ . Space group  $P\bar{1}$  ( $C_i^1$ , No. 2). Mo- $K_\alpha$  radiation,  $\lambda = 0.7107 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\mu(\text{Mo-}K_\alpha) = 1.31 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

Data were collected from an approximately rod-shaped crystal ( $0.8 \times 0.6 \text{ mm}$  diam.), mounted about the rod axis ( $c$ ). An  $\omega$ — $2\theta$  scan was used to collect 3376 reflections in the range  $\theta = 0$ — $27^\circ$ . In the range  $\theta = 0$ — $20^\circ$  balanced filters (zirconium oxide—yttrium carbonate) were used; at  $\theta > 20^\circ$  a single zirconium oxide filter was employed.

Each reflection was scanned over  $0.8^\circ$ , counting at intervals of  $0.02^\circ \text{ sec}^{-1}$ , with background counted for 10 sec. on both sides of the scan. A measurement was discarded if the backgrounds differed by more than  $15 \sigma$  of their total count. Of the 3376 reflections counted 2051 had sufficiently equal backgrounds and an intensity  $> 3 \sigma$ .

*Solution and Refinement of the Structure.*—Approximate atomic co-ordinates were generated by a symbolic addition program, developed by Hodder and Prout<sup>17</sup> for the English Electric KDF 9 computer. The computer chooses the origin determining reflections, and then those for which symbols are assigned are chosen one by one as required to continue the phase determination. This programme used all triple products of probability over 0.942 given by the 737 reflections with  $E > 1.1$ . To fix the origin of the unit cell  $0\bar{3}\bar{6}$ ,  $22\bar{1}$ , and  $11\bar{3}$  were given positive signs. The signs of  $6\bar{4}\bar{6}$ ,  $094$ , and  $21\bar{1}$  were represented by the symbols  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  respectively. 381 signs with a probability  $> 0.9975$  were determined. The probability was then lowered to 0.880, and a further 180 signs were determined.

Using these 561 phased  $E$  values, Fourier syntheses were computed for the most probable signs of  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ . The correct solution, with  $A$  and  $C$  positive, and  $B$  negative was found to be the third most probable (ignoring the solution for all three positive). In the correct solution only three phases (all of low probability) were subsequently shown to be incorrect. In the synthesis using these phases 26 large peaks (corresponding to the positions of all the nonhydrogen atoms) were observed.

In the full-matrix least-squares refinement of the trial structure, the quantity minimised was  $\Sigma w(|F_o| - |F_c|)^2$ . Isotropic temperature factors were assumed for all atoms. Scattering curves used were those given in ref. 18. After four cycles of refinement parameter shifts were considerably less than their estimated standard deviations and  $R$  was 0.128. From a difference Fourier map all the hydrogen atom positions were apparent, as well as considerable anisotropic movement in the indole ring. The co-ordinates of all but the *N*-methyl hydrogen atoms were deduced from the molecular geometry.

\* If the difference in backgrounds was  $< 6\sigma$  they were averaged; from 6— $15\sigma$  the first background was used. This relatively loose limit was used because of very pronounced streaking induced by the crystal.

All nonhydrogen atoms were then assigned anisotropic temperature factors and a further six cycles of least-squares refinement were computed with alternating matrix blocking until convergence was achieved; in the two final cycles two matrix blocks were used, one containing all space parameters and the other the  $F_o$  value, scale factor, and all temperature factors. Unit weights were used for  $|F_o| < 2000$ , otherwise the relation  $\sqrt{w} = 2000/|F_o|$  was used.

TABLE 5

Fractional atomic co-ordinates ( $\times 10^5$ ) with standard deviations in parentheses

Atom	$x/a$	$y/b$	$z/c$
O(1)	06535(42)	90023(24)	01858(36)
O(2)	32875(41)	86421(26)	06845(37)
O(3)	59838(35)	88152(24)	87691(36)
O(4)	40911(39)	74606(19)	76075(36)
O(5)	18881(35)	115887(20)	74822(34)
O(6)	07491(37)	118024(19)	46642(36)
N(1)	39844(37)	60669(21)	29688(40)
C(2)	32627(44)	68728(25)	34656(43)
C(3)	13524(45)	65057(25)	33253(49)
C(4)	11678(46)	53798(25)	27172(46)
C(5)	-02229(53)	46100(29)	23713(56)
C(6)	-00064(58)	36157(29)	18048(60)
C(7)	15994(59)	34265(28)	16101(58)
C(8)	30168(52)	41967(27)	19599(52)
C(9)	27705(47)	51673(25)	25201(47)
C(10)	58179(56)	61493(32)	29440(66)
N(11)	41584(36)	77631(20)	39855(37)
C(12)	34007(39)	85885(23)	44050(41)
C(13)	36876(40)	89630(24)	62165(41)
C(14)	31625(40)	98533(24)	67402(41)
C(15)	22145(39)	103950(23)	53834(41)
C(16)	18272(40)	100827(23)	35722(41)
C(17)	24546(38)	92018(23)	31276(37)
N(18)	46647(39)	83598(23)	76468(38)
N(19)	15793(34)	113374(20)	58843(38)
N(20)	21094(41)	89247(21)	11848(36)

TABLE 6

Anisotropic thermal parameters\*

Atom	$U_{11}$	$U_{22}$	$U_{33}$	$2U_{23}$	$2U_{31}$	$2U_{12}$
O(1)	0.08695	0.09222	0.03889	-0.01168	-0.00510	0.05620
O(2)	0.08997	0.11425	0.04973	0.01018	0.07159	0.06852
O(3)	0.05325	0.10128	0.04763	0.03875	0.00148	0.03190
O(4)	0.09010	0.04944	0.06206	0.03604	0.05730	0.06056
O(5)	0.07440	0.05978	0.04734	-0.01666	0.03827	0.05047
O(6)	0.07837	0.05235	0.05815	0.01421	0.03102	0.06792
N(1)	0.04840	0.04136	0.06191	-0.00107	0.05192	0.03207
C(2)	0.04931	0.04365	0.03813	0.00923	0.03727	0.03594
C(3)	0.04538	0.03961	0.05865	0.00108	0.04151	0.02381
C(4)	0.06151	0.04902	0.07067	0.00500	0.05313	0.01271
C(5)	0.07440	0.04557	0.07616	0.00210	0.04800	0.00234
C(6)	0.08256	0.03748	0.07245	-0.00019	0.04796	0.02921
C(7)	0.06489	0.04296	0.06005	0.00428	0.04199	0.03786
C(8)	0.05417	0.03902	0.04868	0.00889	0.04116	0.02645
C(9)	0.05293	0.04128	0.04945	0.00908	0.04172	0.02638
C(10)	0.06486	0.06242	0.10376	-0.01636	0.09893	0.03053
N(11)	0.04731	0.04099	0.04865	-0.00117	0.04554	0.02564
C(12)	0.03378	0.03628	0.03846	-0.00069	0.02952	0.01075
C(13)	0.03634	0.04090	0.03511	0.03196	0.02320	0.01878
C(14)	0.03550	0.04228	0.03460	-0.00420	0.02468	0.01878
C(15)	0.03339	0.03438	0.03786	-0.00198	0.02669	0.01389
C(16)	0.03471	0.03830	0.02686	0.00557	0.02518	0.01177
C(17)	0.03876	0.03913	0.02907	-0.00260	0.02373	0.00903
N(18)	0.06785	0.04235	0.03346	-0.00030	0.02990	0.02006
N(19)	0.04045	0.03922	0.04867	-0.00259	0.03124	0.01913
N(20)	0.05399	0.06100	0.04068	0.02608	0.04546	0.05490

\* In the form:  $\exp[-2\pi^2(U_{11}h^2a^{*2} + U_{22}k^2b^{*2} + U_{33}l^2c^{*2} + 2U_{23}hkb^{*c^*} + 2U_{31}hlc^{*a^*} + 2U_{12}lka^{*b^*})]$ .

<sup>17</sup> O. J. R. Hodder and C. K. Prout, unpublished work.

<sup>18</sup> 'International Tables for X-Ray Crystallography,' vol. III, Kynoch Press, Birmingham, 1962.

The final  $R$  was 0.053, at which point a difference Fourier map showed no peaks or holes  $>0.2e$ .

In Table 4 are compared the observed structure amplitudes with structure factors calculated from the atom positional parameters (Table 5). Anisotropic temperature parameters are shown in Table 6.

Calculations were carried out on an English Electric KDF 9 computer. Isotropic refinement and Fourier synthesis were calculated using 'Novtape', initially developed

by J. S. Rollett *et al.*, with modifications by O. J. R. Hodder. Anisotropic refinement was programmed by G. C. Ford and J. S. Rollett. Calculation of anisotropic root-mean-square displacements was programmed by J. R. Carruthers.

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