

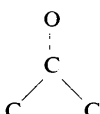
## The X-ray Structure of Bis(tricobalt enneacarbonyl)acetone

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The crystal and molecular structure of a complex with the formula  $[\text{Co}_3(\text{CO})_9\text{C}]_2\text{CO}$  (space group  $P2_12_12_1$ ;  $a = 31.35 \pm 0.13$ ,  $b = 9.87 \pm 0.04$ ,  $c = 9.87 \pm 0.04$  Å;  $Z = 4$ ) has been elucidated through application of a new method for sign determination to the X-ray data on two-dimensional projections. The complex turns out to be bis(tricobalt enneacarbonyl)acetone; the two  $(\text{Co}_3\text{C})$  tetrahedra show seemingly significant differences in the lengths of the Co–C bonds and also in the two central C–C bonds

(1.60 and 1.42 Å). The central  group is strictly planar and is differently oriented with respect

to the two tetrahedra; the distorted tetrahedral coordination around the C atoms departs from threefold symmetry as one of the three Co–C–C angles ( $\sim 150^\circ$ ) strongly exceeds the value of the other two ( $\sim 120^\circ$ ) in order to reduce the intramolecular steric hindrance between the (CO) groups belonging to opposite tetrahedra.

### Introduction

In recent years the synthesis and properties of tricobalt enneacarbonyl methane and of some of its derivatives  $[\text{Co}_3(\text{CO})_9\text{CX}]$  where  $\text{X} = \text{H}$ , halogen, COOR... have been reported (Dent, Duncanson, Guy, Reed & Shaw, 1961; Ercoli, Santambrogio & Tettamanti Casagrande, 1962; Bor, Markó & Markó, 1962). Recently the synthesis and crystal structure of the first example of a bis adduct have been concisely described (Allegra, Mostardini Peronaci & Ercoli, 1966), namely bis(tricobalt enneacarbonyl) acetone (I; Fig. 1). This molecule, whose structural resolution has been performed

through the application of a new method for sign determination (Allegra, 1965) to X-ray data on two two-dimensional crystallographic projections, contains two identical  $(\text{OC})_9\text{Co}_3\text{C}$ – units joined together by a binding CO group. Together with the case of  $\text{Co}_3(\text{CO})_9\text{CCH}_3$  (Sutton & Dahl, 1967), it represents the first example of a detailed structural resolution for molecules containing such units.

It is the purpose of the present paper to discuss in more detail both the approach to sign determination that has been used and the molecular geometry of (I), as derived from the three-dimensional X-ray refinement.

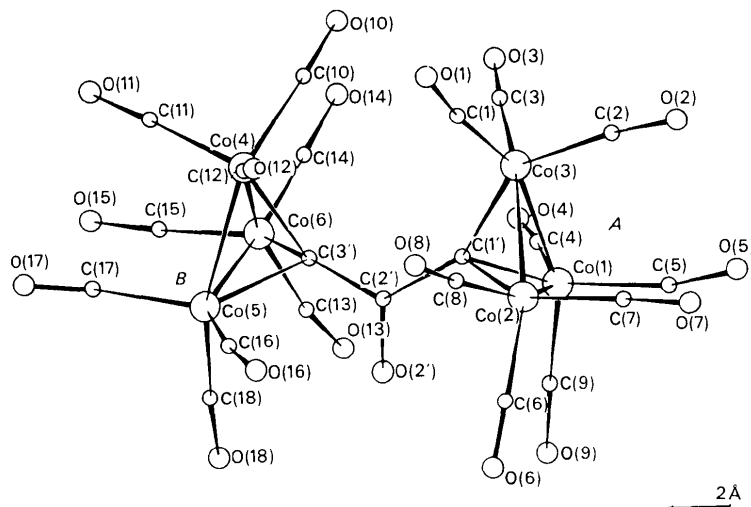


Fig. 1. Molecular conformation of bis(tricobalt enneacarbonyl)acetone, from the X-ray refinement.

## Preliminary data

(I) has been synthesized by warming an anhydrous toluene solution of  $(OC)_9Co_3CBr$  at about  $90^\circ C$ ; it appears as a brown crystalline precipitate, m.p. =  $125^\circ C$

with decomposition, together with other higher-melting products. Good crystals of (I) may be precipitated from a toluene solution (Allegra *et al.*, 1966).

Three-dimensional (*hkl*) intensities were collected by the usual multiple film Weissenberg equi-inclination

Table 1. The 7 most probable sign combinations for the 24 *hk0* and *h0l* base reflexions, and the corresponding  $\Pi$  values

		(hkO) reflexions								
(hk)	(16 7)	(9 6)	(10 4)	(14 3)	(15 1)	(12 6)	(15 5)	(14 5)		
E	2.40	2.03	2.38	2.35	2.14	2.77	2.60	2.38		
1st combination	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-		
2nd combination	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-		
3rd combination	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-		
4th combination	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-		
5th combination	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-		
6th combination	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-		
7th combination	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	-		
(hk)	(18 4)	(18 2)	(5 5)	(6 5)	(30 2)	(31 2)	(27 2)	(1 6)		
E	2.25	1.85	1.80	1.77	2.24	2.19	2.11	1.75		
1st combination	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-		
2nd combination	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-		
3rd combination	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-		
4th combination	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-		
5th combination	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	-		
6th combination	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-		
7th combination	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-		
(hk)	(21 6)	(25 1)	(3 7)	(24 3)	(20 0)	(4 7)	(19 8)	(17 1)	$\Pi$	
E	1.84	1.72	1.63	1.90	1.86	1.65	1.63	1.61		
1st combination	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	255.3	
2nd combination	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	253.3	
3rd combination	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	247.1	
4th combination	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	242.7	
5th combination	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	233.1	
6th combination	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	227.5	
7th combination	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	226.0	
		(hOl) reflexions								
(hl)	(15 4)	(4 5)	(8 4)	(12 5)	(14 1)	(22 1)	(10 6)	(13 5)		
E	2.11	2.28	2.66	2.26	1.97	2.24	2.47	2.31		
1st combination	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+		
2nd combination	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-		
3rd combination	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+		
4th combination	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-		
5th combination	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-		
6th combination	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+		
7th combination	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-		
(hl)	(18 6)	(18 2)	(14 5)	(16 7)	(4 7)	(16 1)	(18 4)	(17 5)		
E	2.71	2.17	1.82	1.92	1.90	1.75	1.81	1.76		
1st combination	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	-		
2nd combination	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+		
3rd combination	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	-		
4th combination	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+		
5th combination	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+		
6th combination	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+		
7th combination	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+		
(hl)	(32 1)	(2 9)	(27 4)	(20 0)	(3 6)	(22 5)	(5 10)	(28 4)	$\Pi$	
E	2.07	2.15	1.78	1.85	1.62	1.62	1.75	1.63		
1st combination	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	248.3	
2nd combination	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	220.3	
3rd combination	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	214.9	
4th combination	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	211.0	
5th combination	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	208.4	
6th combination	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	204.9	
7th combination	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	198.6	

technique, using the Co  $K\alpha$  radiation. The absorption factor for the crystals investigated, which were approximately cylindrical in shape, was estimated to be about  $\mu R = 1.8$ . This has been neglected, and therefore the corresponding effect is included in the average

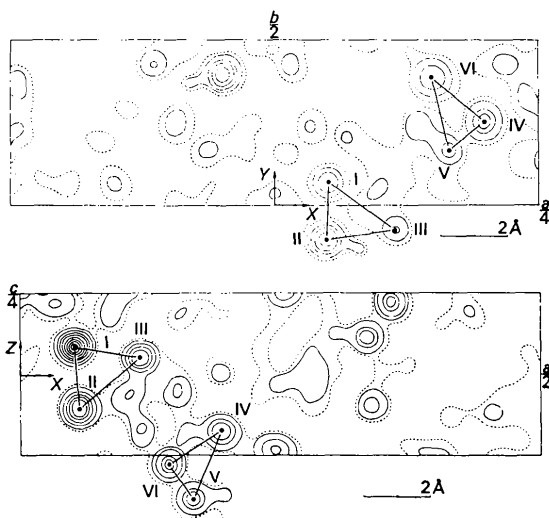


Fig. 2.  $ab$  (above) and  $bc$  (below) electron density projections, obtained from the statistical sign determination. Contours are drawn at arbitrary levels; the symbols I to VI attached to the heaviest peaks correspond to the 6 cobalt atoms (see text).

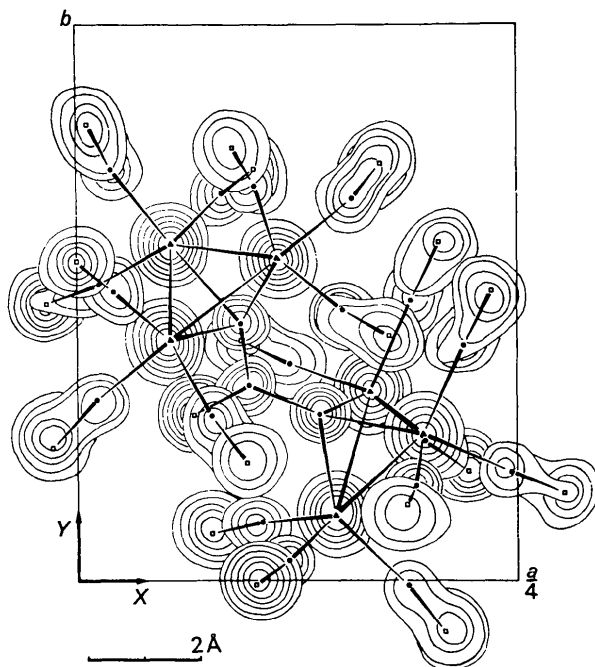


Fig. 3. The final three-dimensional electron density map, as derived from superimposed sections passing through the atomic centres. Contours are drawn at  $2, 4, 6, \dots \text{e.}\text{\AA}^{-3}$  around the C (black circles) and the O (squares) atoms; at  $5, 10, 15, \dots \text{e.}\text{\AA}^{-3}$  around the Co atoms (black triangles).

thermal factor. By visual estimation, 1653 observable intensities were measured, out of 2206 included in the limiting sphere (layers with  $k=0, \dots, 4$  and  $l=0, \dots, 4$ ). The orthorhombic unit cell has the following dimensions:

$$a = 31.35 \pm 0.13; \quad b = 9.87 \pm 0.04; \quad c = 9.87 \pm 0.04 \text{ \AA};$$

$$Z = 4; \quad D_{\text{calc}} (\approx D_{\text{exp}}) = 1.98 \text{ g.cm}^{-3}.$$

The space group is  $P2_12_12_1$ , from the systematic extinction of the odd index reflexions on the reciprocal lattice axes. Therefore, the whole molecule represents the asymmetric unit of the structure.

### Method of solution

We first tried to solve the structure from the  $(ab)$  and  $(ac)$  'sharpened' Patterson projections, but any attempt to identify coherently the 78 independent Co-Co vectors was unsuccessful. The same projections were then investigated from the viewpoint of statistical methods; even if the space group is acentric, they are centrosymmetrical and the projecting cell edges are short enough ( $9.87 \text{ \AA}$  in both cases) as to suggest improbable overlap among Co atoms.

In a paper on the phase problem (Allegra, 1965), a new joint probability distribution of a set of structure factor signs is proposed [expression (10), quoted paper]; it shows analogies with other general expressions, such as those given by Bertaut [1955, expression (III-1)], and also by Naya, Nitta & Oda [1964, expressions (1) and (25)]. Two general formulae of possible practical interest were derived from the proposed probability distribution (Allegra, 1965): expression (18) for the probability of a single sign, and expression (23), which for our purposes can be written as follows [see also expression (25)]:

$$\text{Most probable set of } (s_1 s_2 \dots s_m) \equiv \max \Pi(s_1 s_2 \dots s_m)$$

$$= \max \{ \sum s_i s_j s_k \alpha_{ijk} + \sum s_i s_j s_k s_l \alpha_{ijkl} \}, \quad (1)$$

where  $s_i$  is the sign of the  $i$ th reflexion ( $1 \leq i \leq m$ ), and  $\alpha_{ijk}$  is Woolfson's hyperbolic tangent (Woolfson, 1954) which relates three structure factors whose reciprocal vectors are such that  $\mathbf{H}_i + \mathbf{H}_j + \mathbf{H}_k = 0$ :

$$\alpha_{ijk} = \text{Th} \{ E_i E_j E_k \sigma_3 / \sigma_2^{3/2} \}; \quad (\sigma_n = \sum f_i^n). \quad (2)$$

Here, contrary to the previous paper (Allegra, 1965),  $E_i$ , instead of  $|A_i|$ , denotes the absolute value of a normalized structure factor,  $f_i$  is the scattering factor of the  $i$ th atom at rest, and the sum is extended to all the atoms contained in the unit cell.

The criterion of maximizing an expression, related to the sign probability distribution, with respect to all possible combinations of the signs, has already been suggested by other authors (see, for instance, Cochran & Douglas, 1955). However, expression (1) allows the introduction of a comparatively large number of Sayre triads without increasing too much the number of

signs to be permuted; we have given, in the Appendix, a concise description of the computing programs which perform the maximization of (1).

Remembering that  $\Pi(s_1 \dots s_m)$  stands for the expression in parentheses on the right hand side of (1), the sign combination characterized by the highest  $\Pi$  value (see Table 1) was considered both on the (*ab*) and on the (*ac*) projection; the two combinations proved to be coherent between themselves, as long as the signs of the common  $0k0$  reflexions were correctly related. The corresponding two-dimensional Fourier syntheses (Fig. 2) proved also to be coherent, since a satisfactory correspondence was observed among the  $x$  coordinates of the 6 strongest peaks. Furthermore, examination of the three-dimensional peak coordinates suggested a reasonable pattern of cobalt-to-cobalt intramolecular distances; in fact (see Fig. 2)  $d_{I-II} \approx d_{II-III} \approx d_{III-I} \approx$

$d_{IV-V} \approx d_{V-VI} \approx d_{VI-IV} = 2.50 \pm 0.12 \text{ \AA}$ , *i.e.* a figure close to the Co-Co bond length found in many cobalt clusters (Corradini, 1959; Gardner Sumner, Klug & Alexander, 1964).

Therefore the six peaks were attributed to the structurally independent cobalt atoms; they appeared to be arranged in two sets of three atoms, each set being an approximately equilateral triangle with sides of  $2.50 \text{ \AA}$ , while the two sets were about  $5 \text{ \AA}$  apart. Progressive two-dimensional Fourier syntheses lead to detection of most of the Co-coordinated carbonyl groups; no bridging carbonyl was detected, in accord with infrared data. Evidence for the C atoms belonging to the  $\text{Co}_3\text{C}$  tetrahedra was also found, but some uncertainty remained as to the bridging group between the two tetrahedra. This was finally resolved by the three-dimensional Fourier synthesis (Fig. 3).

Table 2. Final list of the fractional coordinates and thermal factors ( $\text{\AA}^2$ ) and corresponding standard deviations

	$x/a$	$y/b$	$z/c$	$\bar{B}$	$B_{11}$	$B_{22}$	$B_{33}$	$B_{12}$	$B_{13}$	$B_{23}$
CO(1)	0.0526	0.0664	0.0769		5.205	5.621	3.879	0.376	0.228	-0.280
CO(2)	0.0530	-0.1091	-0.1007		4.519	4.468	5.081	-0.202	-0.303	-0.275
CO(3)	0.1149	-0.0827	0.0495		5.275	5.086	4.903	0.029	-0.592	0.605
CO(4)	0.1957	0.2354	-0.1667		5.003	6.086	7.621	-0.326	-0.334	-0.063
CO(5)	0.1660	0.1588	-0.3876		5.570	5.884	5.175	0.005	1.027	-0.296
CO(6)	0.1459	0.3815	-0.2899		5.114	4.445	7.250	0.047	0.910	-0.292
C(1')	0.0913	0.0327	-0.0710	3.09						
C(2')	0.0974	0.1491	-0.1820	3.35						
C(3')	0.1380	0.1999	-0.2201	3.47						
O(2')	0.0649	0.1996	-0.2331	4.47						
C(1)	0.1558	-0.1900	-0.0406	4.52						
C(2)	0.1016	-0.2129	0.1796	7.02						
C(3)	0.1507	0.0135	0.1548	4.93						
C(4)	0.0766	0.2039	0.1676	4.31						
C(5)	0.0208	-0.0224	0.2078	6.02						
C(6)	0.0120	-0.0367	-0.2125	3.71						
C(7)	0.0189	-0.2434	-0.0125	5.56						
C(8)	0.0817	-0.1995	-0.2356	5.46						
C(9)	0.0127	0.1747	0.0120	5.31						
C(10)	0.1915	0.3293	-0.0067	6.56						
C(11)	0.2458	0.3032	-0.2262	7.20						
C(12)	0.2187	0.0747	-0.1037	8.24						
C(13)	0.1039	0.3953	-0.4183	5.38						
C(14)	0.1192	0.4627	-0.1649	6.88						
C(15)	0.1867	0.5076	-0.3489	7.56						
C(16)	0.1891	-0.0056	-0.3941	5.23						
C(17)	0.1974	0.2482	-0.5082	4.47						
C(18)	0.1203	0.1073	-0.4843	5.79						
O(1)	0.1721	-0.2547	-0.1034	7.18						
O(2)	0.0895	-0.2817	0.2500	8.73						
O(3)	0.1778	0.0590	0.2180	9.52						
O(4)	0.0974	0.2881	0.2227	8.69						
O(5)	-0.0001	-0.0759	0.2758	8.30						
O(6)	-0.0165	-0.0011	-0.2635	5.69						
O(7)	0.0066	-0.3243	0.0426	8.90						
O(8)	0.0997	-0.2443	-0.3123	6.74						
O(9)	-0.0142	0.2359	-0.0280	6.13						
O(10)	0.1863	0.3660	0.0865	11.54						
O(11)	0.2754	0.3427	-0.2724	10.72						
O(12)	0.2346	-0.0231	-0.0681	7.36						
O(13)	0.0754	0.4147	-0.4877	6.86						
O(14)	0.1009	0.5061	-0.0599	6.58						
O(15)	0.2074	0.5905	-0.4015	9.48						
O(16)	0.2056	-0.1102	-0.3582	8.77						
O(17)	0.2217	0.3035	-0.5844	7.38						
O(18)	0.0924	0.0672	-0.5250	6.17						

Table 2 (cont.)

	$\sigma(x)/a$	$\sigma(y)/b$	$\sigma(z)/c$	$\sigma(\bar{B})$	$\sigma(B_{11})$	$\sigma(B_{22})$	$\sigma(B_{33})$	$\sigma(B_{12})$	$\sigma(B_{13})$	$\sigma(B_{23})$
CO(1)	0-00013	0-00048	0-00046		0-182	0-199	0-186	0-170	0-165	0-228
CO(2)	0-00013	0-00047	0-00046		0-184	0-185	0-185	0-163	0-165	0-213
CO(3)	0-00013	0-00048	0-00046		0-172	0-200	0-191	0-169	0-161	0-232
CO(4)	0-00017	0-00062	0-00064		0-257	0-279	0-293	0-236	0-236	0-306
CO(5)	0-00014	0-00054	0-00052		0-204	0-232	0-219	0-190	0-190	0-251
CO(6)	0-00014	0-00049	0-00054		0-182	0-200	0-234	0-172	0-186	0-245
C(1')	0-00069	0-00249	0-00256	0-42						
C(2')	0-00078	0-00287	0-00282	0-50						
C(3')	0-00077	0-00273	0-00281	0-47						
O(2')	0-00062	0-00223	0-00231	0-44						
C(4)	0-00085	0-00304	0-00305	0-54						
C(5)	0-00116	0-00421	0-00412	0-84						
C(6)	0-00088	0-00313	0-00318	0-58						
C(7)	0-00112	0-00417	0-00412	0-79						
C(8)	0-00099	0-00357	0-00366	0-67						
C(9)	0-00093	0-00342	0-00336	0-62						
C(10)	0-00134	0-00487	0-00485	1-06						
C(11)	0-00128	0-00451	0-00475	0-96						
C(12)	0-00142	0-00501	0-00500	1-10						
C(13)	0-00096	0-00352	0-00348	0-65						
C(14)	0-00113	0-00401	0-00393	0-79						
C(15)	0-00126	0-00447	0-00445	0-89						
C(16)	0-00096	0-00342	0-00347	0-63						
C(17)	0-00087	0-00331	0-00331	0-57						
C(18)	0-00103	0-00379	0-00364	0-70						
O(1)	0-00081	0-00281	0-00295	0-61						
O(2)	0-00116	0-00426	0-00433	1-03						
O(3)	0-00110	0-00367	0-00383	0-91						
O(4)	0-00104	0-00384	0-00383	0-87						
O(5)	0-00097	0-00301	0-00296	0-65						
O(6)	0-00072	0-00273	0-00266	0-54						
O(7)	0-00091	0-00322	0-00323	0-71						
O(8)	0-00078	0-00282	0-00272	0-58						
O(9)	0-00083	0-00308	0-00299	0-64						
O(10)	0-00119	0-00423	0-00425	1-03						
O(11)	0-00115	0-00413	0-00418	1-00						
O(12)	0-00080	0-00295	0-00286	0-61						
O(13)	0-00082	0-00297	0-00280	0-61						
O(14)	0-00079	0-00289	0-00277	0-57						
O(15)	0-00100	0-00346	0-00349	0-77						
O(16)	0-00092	0-00328	0-00325	0-71						
O(17)	0-00083	0-00301	0-00297	0-63						
O(18)	0-00076	0-00280	0-00267	0-56						

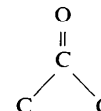
12 cycles of least-squares refinement reduced the disagreement factor to  $R=0.127$  on the 1653 observed reflexions; the block diagonal approximation has been utilized, except in the last two cycles (full matrix) (Immirzi, 1967). With the exception of the cobalt atoms, isotropic thermal factors have been assumed. The independent structural parameters are given in Table 2, together with their standard errors; in Table 3 the full list of observed and calculated structure factors is reported.

### Discussion of the structure

The geometrical parameters of the molecule are shown in Fig. 4 and in Table 4. In Table 5 the average values of the different kinds of bond lengths and angles are compared with those found for the analogous compound  $\text{Co}_3(\text{CO})_9\text{C}_2\text{H}_3$  (Sutton & Dahl, 1967); the differences appear to be insignificant throughout. In the same Table the average standard deviations ( $\sigma$ ), as they

result from the least-squares refinement, are also reported; allowance has been made for the standard errors in the unit-cell parameters. With few exceptions, the single standard deviations do not depart from the

average by more than 10%. The central



group is strictly planar. Of the two  $[\text{CO}]_9\text{Co}_3\text{C}$  groups, one of them (*i.e.* *B* in Fig. 4) does not deviate from threefold symmetry, within experimental error, while the other shows differences in the Co-C(tetrahedral) distances. Another remarkable difference occurs in the orientation of the central planar group with respect to the Co atoms; while its plane is nearly orthogonal to the Co(1)-Co(2) bond for the *A* group, it is virtually parallel to Co(4)-Co(6) of group *B*; the shortest Co-C tetrahedral bond length (1.81 Å) is contained in the

Table 3. List of observed and calculated structure factors (electrons/unit cell)

PH stands for the calculated phase, expressed as a fraction of  $2\pi$ , multiplied by the factor 10000. The asterisk means 'less than'

H	K	L	FO	FC	PH	H	K	L	FO	FC	PH	H	K	L	FO	FC	PH	H	K	L	FO	FC	PH	H	K	L	FO	FC	PH									
0	0	0	*	0	1756	0	30	2	0	54	44	5000	12	5	0	36	35	0	8	8	0	13	8	5000	34	0	1	20	16	7500	11	3	1	36	30	9218		
2	0	0	*	41	93	0	31	2	0	44	17	2500	13	5	0	21	16	2500	9	8	0	9	12	7500	0	1	1	123	128	7500	12	3	1	31	36	4514		
4	0	0	*	111	153	5000	32	2	0	*	5	1	5000	14	5	0	119	117	0	10	8	0	*	5	2	0	1	1	245	255	1072	13	3	1	77	67	2053	
6	0	0	*	60	64	0	33	2	0	19	13	7500	15	5	0	125	119	2500	11	8	0	*	5	4	7500	2	1	1	86	81	5317	14	3	1	36	36	2763	
8	0	0	*	123	124	5000	34	2	0	0	19	20	0	16	5	0	26	12	5000	12	8	0	*	5	8	5000	3	1	1	80	75	8986	15	3	1	101	95	3080
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22	0	0	*	9	6	5000	7	3	0	51	61	7500	23	5	0	5	12	7500	19	8	0	*	40	31	2500	10	1	1	111	104	3366	22	3	1	37	30	2040	
24	0	0	*	47	47	5000	8	3	0	105	115	5000	24	5	0	5	7	5000	20	8	0	*	31	22	0	11	1	168	159	5030	23	3	1	33	25	8400		
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28	0	0	*	47	67	5000	10	3	0	74	6	0	26	5	0	20	17	5000	22	8	0	*	3	2	0	13	1	1	30	33	5232	25	3	1	36	39	8527	
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32	0	0	*	32	25	5000	12	3	0	62	40	0	28	5	0	13	6	5000	24	8	0	*	15	14	7500	15	1	1	42	42	1170	27	3	1	24	25	4738	
34	0	0	*	5	2	0	13	3	0	28	27	7500	29	5	0	*	3	1	2500	2	9	0	*	36	28	5000	16	1	1	53	51	3636	28	3	1	14	16	37
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7	1	0	*	88	82	5000	20	3	0	37	27	0	13	8	0	5	3	7500	9	8	0	*	23	7	5000	23	1	1	28	20	5880	1	4	1	34	35	2454	
8	1	0	*	29	33	5000	21	3	0	31	22	7500	6	8	0	70	62	0	10	9	0	*	4	2	5000	24	1	1	23	25	8515	2	4	1	44	42	2363	
9	1	0	*	5	0	2500	22	3	0	25	9	0	7	8	0	35	32	7500	11	9	0	*	31	17	2500	25	1	1	46	17	7055	3	4	1	44	31	7369	
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12	1	0	*	45	41	0	25	3	0	33	27	7500	10	8	0	24	26	5000	14	9	0	*	7	10	0	28	1	1	21	18	5083	6	4	1	95	61	6278	
13	1	0	*	53	53	7500	26	3	0	23	21	0	11	8	0	62	52	7500	15	9	0	*	30	26	7500	29	1	1	44	35	5554	7	4	1	116	123	4251	
14	1	0	*	44	41	0	27	3	0	2	2	7500	12	8	0	120	102	0	16	9	0	*	3	5	0	30	1	1	17	14	4388	8	4	1	85	83	9500	
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16	1	0	*	79	87	5000	29	3	0	29	28	2500	14	8	0	7	7	0	18	8	0	*	21	16	0	32	1	1	28	20	445	10	4	1	64	64	9601	
17	1	0	*	101	91	7500	30	3	0	10	9	5000	15	8	0	60	60	2500	19	8	0	*	2	7500	33	1	1	10	7	1412	11	4	1	162	140	8899		
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19	1	0	*	81	68	2500	32	3	0	15	11	0	17	8	0	13	15	7500	1	10	0	*	29	18	7500	0	2	1	104	89	5000	13	4	1	70	75	2511	
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21	1	0	*	53	43	2500	0	4	0	31	28	5000	19	8	0	38	26	2500	3	10	0	*	8	9	7500	2	2	1	93	64	3476	15	4	1	33	30	6858	
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23	1	0	*	9	8	2500	2	4	0	18	14	5000	21	8	0	57	55	2500	5	10	0	*	8	7	7500	4	2	1	107	102	2561	17	4	1	45	43	8634	
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26	1	0	*	19	7	0	5	4	0	15	14	7500	24	8	0	13	9	0	8	10	0	*	4	8	0	7	1	1	28	12	2037	20	4	1	38	32	5741	
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28	1	0	*	27	15	0	7	4	0	112	108	7500	26	8	0	14	10	5000	10	10	0	*	14	16	7500	9	2	1	121	106	7655	22	4	1	23	22	6898	
29	1	0	*	25	21	7500	8	4	0																													

Table 3 (cont.)

H	K	L	FO	FC	PH	H	K	L	FO	FC	PH	H	K	L	FO	FC	PH	H	K	L	FO	FC	PH	H	K	L	FO	FC	PH	H	K	L	FO	FC	PH	
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27	5	1	15	14	2137	22	8	1	4	7	9076	11	1	2	52	49	9951	24	3	2	42	44	6792	9	6	2	13	33	1166	11	9	2	9	9	8933	
28	5	1	21	18	7666	23	8	1	10	12	3516	12	1	2	58	21	5794	25	3	2	23	21	274	10	6	2	23	25	8098	12	9	2	9	16	1408	
29	5	1	5	11	8952	0	9	1	8	14	2500	13	1	2	93	101	5895	26	3	2	43	22	4929	11	6	2	37	46	1189	13	9	2	9	9	5784	
30	5	1	4	5	83	1	9	1	21	20	1058	14	1	2	75	72	6006	27	3	2	29	28	51	12	6	2	37	39	837	15	9	2	8	5	487	
0	6	1	73	61	0	2	9	1	8	8	4785	15	1	2	46	76	9973	28	3	2	19	16	9814	13	6	2	38	33	6620	15	9	2	8	11	1037	
1	6	1	31	34	6122	3	9	1	15	13	4612	16	1	2	43	37	326	29	3	2	22	24	9268	14	6	2	24	26	8485	16	9	2	14	13	8400	
2	6	1	76	61	7220	4	9	1	38	33	8678	17	1	2	78	76	5988	30	3	2	23	22	8455	15	2	2	24	25	7420	17	9	2	8	7	4139	
3	6	1	39	35	5781	5	9	1	7	10	9653	18	1	2	49	53	2226	31	3	2	7	4	2554	16	6	2	23	23	6310	18	4	2	15	17	4910	
4	6	1	30	27	4905	6	9	1	41	36	9430	19	1	2	34	39	5008	32	3	2	15	16	4892	17	6	2	24	29	3083	19	10	2	8	5	3000	
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6	6	1	39	33	8647	8	9	1	32	26	3674	21	1	2	36	32	1741	0	4	2	56	65	5000	19	6	2	11	15	2149	2	10	2	8	11	1010	
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11	6	1	37	28	8602	13	9	1	6	6	9186	26	1	2	12	19	4018	5	4	2	92	75	7676	23	6	2	20	19	1839	6	10	2	8	9	5585	
12	6	1	32	40	4541	14	9	1	45	38	5454	27	1	2	32	33	1233	6	4	2	100	100	8281	24	6	2	8	7	4301	8	10	2	7	7	1846	
13	6	1	38	39	9417	15	9	1	5	8	2453	28	1	2	11	5	8815	7	4	2	45	46	7921	25	6	2	8	14	1837	9	10	2	13	15	1239	
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21	6	1	21	21	3035	3	10	1	12	10	7747	1	2	2	115	104	4380	15	4	2	34	40	1437	5	7	2	13	34	5545	4	0	3	85	70	7500	
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23	6	1	17	15	6327	5	10	1	34	31	135	3	2	2	106	85	1126	17	4	2	36	35	8361	7	7	2	33	32	2583	6	0	3	117	108	7500	
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2	7	1	58	49	2628	13	10	1	8	12	5302	11	2	2	40	43	5485	25	4	2	27	45	6332	15	7	2	28	36	2184	14	0	3	35	43	2500	
3	7	1	39	31	774	0	0	2	17	19	0	12	2	2	110	112	3038	26	4	2	11	11	6940	16	7	2	22	20	6398	15	0	3	85	96	2500	
4	7	1	34	31	8214	1	0	2	110	101	5000	13	2	2	104	113	1274	27	4	2	10	14	7937	17	7	2	22	28	2108	16	0	3	46	53	7500	
5	7	1	44	42	2586	2	0	2	109	74	0	14	2	2	36	44	4319	28	4	2	18	28	232	18	7	2	11	18	7899	17	0	3	11	8	7500	
6	7	1	41	34	7744	3	0	2	110	97	5000	15	2	2	65	64	4435	29	4	2	8	7	6017	19	7	2	10	9	8940	18	0	3	21	15	7500	
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8	7	1	8	7	6940	5	0	2	140	144	0	18	2	2	11	6	7488	31	4	2	14	20	791	21	7	2	9	20	9535	20	0	3	29	31	2500	
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12	7	1	35	34	7716	9	0	2	37	41	5000	21	2	2	39	50	3257	35	5	2	137	141	6079	25	7	2	17	22	5671	24	0	3	25	5	2500	
13	7	1	36	30	471	10	0	2	31	17	0	22	2	2	1																					

Table 3 (cont.)

H	K	L	FO	FC	PH	H	K	L	FO	FC	PH	H	K	L	FO	FC	PH	H	K	L	FO	FC	PH	H	K	L	FO	FC	PH	H	K	L	FO	FC	PH	
26	1	3	27	30	7633	7	4	3	59	64	6419	27	6	3	5	7	9965	2	0	4	141	125	0	18	2	4	52	54	2291	6	5	4	28	21	9202	
27	1	3	*	11	7	2700	8	4	3	95	98	9333	0	7	3	21	18	2500	3	0	4	36	30	5060	19	2	4	37	45	4697	7	5	4	40	45	1571
28	1	3	18	15	3346	9	4	3	52	58	8277	1	7	3	25	25	3443	4	0	4	15	9	5000	20	2	4	22	25	4544	8	5	4	71	72	7471	
29	1	3	10	6	7233	10	4	3	78	89	9831	2	7	3	75	79	9649	5	0	4	20	19	5000	21	2	4	24	27	2666	9	5	4	41	40	807	
30	1	3	9	19	6600	11	4	3	36	31	7911	3	7	3	29	21	3248	6	0	4	34	31	5000	22	2	4	51	54	7118	10	5	4	47	51	829	
31	1	3	22	16	2481	12	4	3	21	24	6373	4	7	3	29	31	750	7	0	4	65	43	5000	23	2	4	9	9	1719	11	5	4	49	59	8411	
32	1	3	*	7	7	7435	13	4	3	37	37	9922	5	7	3	33	31	9607	8	0	4	107	109	0	24	2	4	34	41	8038	12	5	4	13	4	5992
33	1	3	10	12	2945	14	4	3	20	17	2154	6	7	3	11	7	1363	9	0	4	26	28	0	25	2	4	1	24	7036	13	5	4	56	61	7901	
0	2	3	27	46	0	15	4	3	11	11	3789	7	7	3	55	56	3233	10	0	4	84	80	0	26	2	4	12	14	8444	14	5	4	48	39	5170	
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5	2	3	89	88	5405	20	4	3	21	23	5115	12	7	3	21	13	6194	15	0	4	99	109	0	31	2	4	5	7	9795	19	5	4	7	4	8517	
6	2	3	116	117	781	21	4	3	11	17	7195	13	7	3	10	4	7572	16	0	4	10	11	5000	30	3	4	42	38	7500	20	5	4	7	5	4689	
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8	2	3	125	128	8934	23	4	3	23	22	3387	15	7	3	20	20	1830	18	0	4	73	76	5000	2	3	4	65	73	3405	22	5	4	30	36	414	
9	2	3	50	54	7824	24	4	3	23	32	3340	16	7	3	19	19	3962	19	0	4	49	50	5000	3	3	4	140	145	5038	23	5	4	24	25	1900	
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15	2	3	31	32	8380	30	4	3	6	7	8152	22	7	3	17	18	8582	25	0	4	10	5	5000	9	3	4	81	95	9853	29	5	4	20	8	5000	
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4	3	3	57	58	990	21	5	3	20	14	9862	19	8	3	14	17	4617	15	1	4	12	5	7845	32	4	4	24	25	0	23	4	4	5	5623		
5	3	3	111	116	6923	22	5	3	19	23	4115	20	8	3	12	13	8802	16	1	4	24	27	3261	1	4											



Table 3 (cont.)

H	K	L	FO	FC	PH	H	K	L	FO	FC	PH	H	K	L	FO	FC	PH	H	K	L	FO	FC	PH	H	K	L	FO	FC	PH						
8	8	4	24	20	775	15	1	5	13	11	4354	5	4	5	23	21	2704	0	2	6	85	81	5000	25	4	5	17	12	4671	0	1	7	11	3	2500
9	8	4	40	40	1175	16	1	5	12	10	3355	6	4	5	18	18	1452	1	2	6	74	21	4214	24	4	6	4	7	14488	1	1	7	11	14	2088
10	8	4	6	9	4228	17	1	5	61	74	5078	7	4	5	28	13	4028	1	0	7	115	112	2864	1	0	7	58	53	2500	2	7	7	34	33	9185
11	8	4	15	16	4454	18	1	5	42	41	2191	8	4	5	43	43	392	1	2	6	19	20	3995	2	0	7	45	58	7550	3	7	7	74	35	3271
12	8	4	15	12	7297	19	1	5	54	49	4537	9	4	5	23	23	7782	4	2	6	34	38	4853	1	0	7	13	11	7500	4	3	7	34	34	7928
13	8	4	21	23	5357	20	1	5	34	35	4850	10	4	5	42	37	490	5	2	6	20	22	8728	4	0	7	40	75	7500	5	3	7	21	27	2725
14	8	4	16	13	8242	21	1	5	24	28	5289	11	4	5	12	9	4515	6	2	6	52	53	7475	5	0	7	26	15	7500	6	1	7	21	21	773
15	8	4	21	17	3894	22	1	5	13	13	5561	12	4	5	41	44	7624	7	2	6	11	13	4354	4	0	7	49	44	7500	7	3	7	21	20	839
16	8	4	17	20	3706	23	1	5	27	21	5976	13	4	5	24	20	8053	8	2	6	50	43	1182	7	0	7	13	11	2500	8	3	7	63	60	1752
17	8	4	10	15	5914	24	1	5	12	13	2515	14	4	5	48	55	6758	9	2	6	46	38	3313	8	0	7	13	11	2500	9	1	7	36	12	3350
18	8	4	6	8	7074	25	1	5	11	14	8227	15	4	5	29	25	2485	10	2	6	36	38	5311	9	0	7	45	39	7500	10	3	7	24	19	4489
19	8	4	8	11	7684	26	1	5	11	14	7020	16	4	5	24	29	2489	11	2	6	21	23	746	10	0	7	13	7	2500	11	1	7	21	8	4500
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1	9	4	6	4	6248	29	1	5	31	25	1158	19	4	5	23	18	8999	14	2	6	26	17	9699	13	0	7	13	5	2500	14	3	7	11	10	149
2	9	4	21	25	7651	30	1	5	16	16	2802	20	4	5	11	13	6709	15	2	6	26	24	9813	14	0	7	28	24	2500	15	3	7	28	20	7747
3	9	4	16	16	10555	0	2	5	23	10	5000	21	4	5	26	23	1905	16	2	6	26	25	6163	15	0	7	36	22	7500	16	3	7	23	19	6237
4	9	4	14	14	7710	1	2	5	19	81	4542	22	4	5	38	43	3373	17	2	6	11	10	615	16	0	7	57	52	2500	17	3	7	10	12	6100
5	9	4	15	12	8044	2	2	5	15	69	7520	23	4	5	10	7	7384	18	2	6	11	15	1954	17	0	7	47	43	2500	18	3	7	10	11	8724
6	9	4	15	15	1676	3	2	5	50	46	3580	24	4	5	18	14	1204	19	2	6	11	12	4774	18	0	7	12	15	7500	19	3	7	17	20	2345
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14	9	4	10	10	1756	11	2	5	78	85	9131	3	0	6	85	79	5000	27	2	6	7	7	2662	26	0	7	20	21	7500	1	4	7	38	18	7446
15	9	4	3	7	9098	12	2	5	63	64	3734	4	0	6	12	12	5000	28	2	6	19	20	9192	1	0	7	13	14	2500	2	4	7	24	13	9417
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1	10	4	8	10	433	14	2	5	20	17	3473	6	0	6	62	64	0	1	3	6	11	23	7678	4	0	7	80	69	5474	4	4	7	24	40	4423
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6	10	4	3	12	1674	19	2	5	11	12	1639	11	0	6	36	36	5000	6	3	6	68	69	1278	7	1	7	13	12	9323	9	4	7	12	13	3178
7	10	4	2	16	9146	20	2	5	29	26	4972	12	0	6	13	5	0	7	3	6	39	32	3481	8	1	7	13	18	2775	10	4	7	28	28	5527
1	0	5	82	70	2500	21	2	5	27	27	6926	13	0	6	61	56	0	8	3	6	11	6	290	9	1	7	34	27	8824	11	4	7	23	19	4615
2	0	5	11	25	7500	22	2	5	10	10	12	0	1	6	21	25	1494	10	1	6	36	39	5773	10	1	7	13	13	1914	12	4	7	21	7	3192
3	0	5	72	69	7500	23	2	5	10	12	3941	15	0	6	45	37	0	10	3	6	36	39	5773	11	1	7	63	56	1214	13	4	7	22	21	3374
4	0	5	143	141	7500	24	2	5	18	6	7760	16	0	6	13	4	0	11	3	6	30	30	7744	12	1	7	13	10	8194	14	4	7	21	28	6083
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11	0	5	25	27	2500	31	2	5	83	88	7500	23	0	6	29	21	5000	18	3	6	11	13	4131	19	1	7	26</								

Table 3 (cont.)

8 1 8	28	20 2758	17 4 8	8	7 8031	17 3 9	5	4 8508
9 1 8	30	21 5167	18 4 8	7	9 3854	3 4 9	23	27 0
10 1 8	13	3 434	19 4 8	12	12 7780	1 4 9	18	22 6130
11 1 8	12	17 8089	20 4 8	4	7 2345	2 4 9	18	15 969
12 1 8	22	6430	1 0 9	12	1 7500	3 4 9	9	7 8258
13 1 8	12	19 4744	2 0 9	57	50 7500	4 4 9	9	6 7821
14 1 8	12	18 3949	3 0 9	20	21 7500	5 4 9	21	21 180
15 1 8	11	2427	4 0 9	41	31 7500	6 4 9	21	24 7905
16 1 8	11	15 452	5 0 9	21	20 7500	7 4 9	17	14 9134
17 1 8	11	9 564	6 0 9	34	28 2500	8 4 9	17	15 1019
18 1 8	10	10 4318	7 0 9	23	15 2500	9 4 9	8	9 9884
19 1 8	30	22 9834	8 0 9	11	4 2500	10 4 9	8	10 4489
20 1 8	25	16 4419	9 0 9	24	23 2500	11 4 9	7	12 3460
21 1 8	21	16 9262	10 0 9	11	6 2500	12 4 9	14	12 4920
22 1 8	7	11 9742	11 0 9	11	7 2500	13 4 9	12	16 9850
23 1 8	7	5764	12 0 9	10	13 7500	14 4 9	11	21 2578
0 2 8	33	39 5000	13 0 9	10	3 2500	15 4 9	13	5 9214
1 2 8	21	12 4765	14 0 9	10	2 7500	0 0 10	21	18 0
2 2 8	30	29 3273	15 0 9	9	4 7500	1 0 10	19	9 5000
3 2 8	47	46 8011	16 0 9	8	11 2500	2 0 10	10	5 0
4 2 8	42	31 1988	17 0 9	16	14 7500	3 0 10	24	21 0
5 2 8	11	22 9758	18 0 9	14	16 2500	4 0 10	21	10 0
6 2 8	41	37 2180	19 0 9	8	1 2500	5 0 10	39	29 0
7 2 8	46	40 2653	0 1 9	45	35 7500	6 0 10	20	14 0
8 2 8	11	2 6832	1 1 9	12	9 4556	7 0 10	9	6 0
9 2 8	24	22 1904	2 1 9	12	8 1821	8 0 10	21	20 9000
10 2 8	20	14 9038	3 1 9	24	22 438	9 0 10	8	5 0
11 2 8	11	18 4090	4 1 9	12	6 291	10 0 10	31	24 5000
12 2 8	10	4 7451	5 1 9	22	19 2022	11 0 10	7	9 5000
13 2 8	10	8 4382	6 1 9	12	19 8553	12 0 10	7	4 0
14 2 8	26	28 8149	7 1 9	11	9 3383	13 0 10	21	18 5000
15 2 8	18	17 7324	8 1 9	42	37 1955	0 1 10	17	13 7500
16 2 8	34	37 7388	9 1 9	11	11 5729	1 1 10	10	4 4891
17 2 8	9	5 2712	10 1 9	11	12 2984	2 1 10	27	23 6425
18 2 8	16	15 5090	11 1 9	11	14 3732	3 1 10	17	18 33
19 2 8	8	4 2843	12 1 9	10	16 4732	4 1 10	14	14 9689
20 2 8	23	19 2441	13 1 9	22	17 8699	5 1 10	28	19 1096
21 2 8	20	23 6754	14 1 9	10	14 5067	6 1 10	23	20 673
22 2 8	6	1 1536	15 1 9	31	26 8348	7 1 10	28	24 2964
23 2 8	4	8 9104	16 1 9	9	7 3761	8 1 10	9	9 2787
0 3 8	20	18 7500	17 1 9	8	12 5924	9 1 10	8	3 3705
1 3 8	46	53 9511	18 1 9	7	5 4246	10 1 10	10	18 2885
2 3 8	20	21 7558	19 1 9	8	10 2810	11 1 10	19	17 9810
3 3 8	11	13 8976	0 2 9	35	17 0	12 1 10	7	10 2837
4 3 8	25	22 124	1 2 9	10	7 4917	13 1 10	4	3 4133
5 3 8	25	28 5011	2 2 9	10	23 9224	0 2 10	8	6 5000
6 3 8	30	29 934	3 2 9	10	10 8088	1 2 10	8	4 6659
7 3 8	28	23 7737	4 2 9	26	21 7097	2 2 10	8	6 884
8 3 8	20	21 1059	5 2 9	32	22 9845	3 2 10	8	17 7371
9 3 8	27	26 5913	6 2 9	26	21 2702	4 2 10	20	20 1687
10 3 8	10	15 3696	7 2 9	36	34 324	5 2 10	8	9 9096
11 3 8	38	40 4598	8 2 9	18	17 3818	6 2 10	7	8 3054
12 3 8	32	34 4011	9 2 9	17	17 1652	7 2 10	18	21 920
13 3 8	10	2 7221	10 2 9	34	30 5803	8 2 10	12	13 4343
14 3 8	10	15 5633	11 2 9	23	21 4933	9 2 10	14	15 2331
15 3 8	9	3 9105	12 2 9	19	22 4584	10 2 10	6	7 3784
16 3 8	8	15 6599	13 2 9	8	9 1919	11 2 10	4	11 2020
17 3 8	24	23 228	14 2 9	14	4 6190	12 2 10	11	19 7482
18 3 8	20	17 4487	15 2 9	8	10 5566	13 2 10	13	6 6189
19 3 8	24	28 4082	16 2 9	18	21 781	0 3 10	7	5 7500
20 3 8	8	8 5981	17 2 9	4	12 8457	1 3 10	7	6 9841
21 3 8	5	8 9882	18 2 9	17	14 9652	2 3 10	7	14 4885
22 3 8	3	19 9120	0 3 9	10	5 7500	3 3 10	7	4 9140
0 4 8	11	8 5000	1 3 9	10	6 9340	4 3 10	7	8 70
1 4 8	11	15 7214	2 3 9	22	22 7199	5 3 10	7	2 1193
2 4 8	11	22 1932	3 3 9	25	25 3725	6 3 10	17	20 9548
3 4 8	11	13 8238	4 3 9	10	12 9424	7 3 10	14	15 5252
4 4 8	27	39 2464	5 3 9	25	25 2149	8 3 10	6	9 908
5 4 8	27	31 9310	6 3 9	17	11 540	9 3 10	5	8 5720
6 4 8	11	13 2643	7 3 9	19	21 2243	10 3 10	5	7 5154
7 4 8	21	13 2041	8 3 9	9	12 2314	11 3 10	3	12 3483
8 4 8	21	14 554	9 3 9	9	8 2424	0 4 10	14	17 5000
9 4 8	41	44 3310	10 3 9	35	40 2346	1 4 10	4	5 9745
10 4 8	10	4 1883	11 3 9	18	18 9826	2 4 10	6	11 2959
11 4 8	20	23 634	12 3 9	8	5 4611	3 4 10	6	5 9403
12 4 8	9	11 6319	13 3 9	17	17 7503	4 4 10	11	5 1327
13 4 8	13	20 5967	14 3 9	13	16 6373	5 4 10	5	12 6256
14 4 8	21	22 7748	15 3 9	29	28 4404	6 4 10	9	13 2490
15 4 8	27	34 4870	16 3 9	8	11 4176	7 4 10	8	6 7998
16 4 8	8	7 8163						

APPENDIX

A sequence of four independent computing programs, written in FORTRAN IV language, covers the mathematical processing of the data; the initial input is represented by the list of structure factors, on an arbitrary scale, while the final output consists of the most probable sign combinations applied to the strongest structure factors, after scale reduction. Up to 30 sign combinations may be obtained, in a format suitable for direct Fourier synthesis processing. The programs are now suitable for any centrosymmetrical space group, both in two and three dimensions.

In the following, a concise description of the four programs is given. More detailed instructions can be sent from the author on request, together with the programs themselves, which are prepared on punched cards.

(I) Evaluation of normalized structure factors

From the  $F'(hkl)$  non-scaled structure factors the  $E(hkl)$  normalized structure factors ( $\bar{E}^2 = 1$ ) are derived by first calculating both the  $K$  scale factor and the  $B$  average temperature factor through a least-squares derivation of Wilson's plot (Wilson, 1942). No correction for possible non-linearity of the plot at low  $\sin \theta$  (Rogers, 1965), has been applied hitherto.  $E(hkl)$  is then obtained from the relationship:

$$E(hkl) = \frac{F'(hkl)}{K \cdot \sigma_2^{1/2} \cdot \exp\left(-B \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\lambda^2}\right)} ; (\sigma_n = \sum f_n^2) \quad (1a)$$

Printing of the results comprises the  $B$  and  $K$  values, and a full list of the reflexions, together with the scaled and the normalized structure factors. The reflexions with  $E > 2E$  (arbitrarily chosen limit) are also punched on cards, in decreasing order of  $E$  values. The progressive index number for each reflexion is also punched.

(II) Search for the  $(H_i, H_j, H_k)$  triads with  $H_i + H_j + H_k = 0$  [ $H_i \equiv (h_i, k_i, l_i)$ ]

All the different Sayre triads of reflexions are selected in this program, subject to the condition that at least two of their  $E$  factors are larger than another proper limit,  ${}^1E (> 2E)$ . Then the  $\alpha_{ijk}$  values are calculated [see expression (2)], and the output is both printed and punched on cards; on the latter the Bragg indices are omitted, and the three reflexions of each triad are only recorded by their corresponding index numbers (see preceding section).

(III) Calculation of the most probable sets of signs of the base reflexions

Either 12, or 18, or 24 base reflexions are chosen among those with highest normalized factors, in decreasing order (they must be in any case  $> {}^1E$ ), following the additional criterion that they must appear in many Sayre groups. The first two base reflexions

approach (Braibanti, Manotti Lanfredi, Tiripicchio & Logiudice, 1969).

The above reported comparison between the e.s.d., either obtained from internal comparison of chemically equivalent molecular parameters or from the average of the values resulting from the least-squares refinement, suggests that the latter values are always lower by an amount of at least 30-50%. Among the factors which may contribute to the observed discrepancy are the influence of the crystal packing, and, perhaps, the neglecting of any anisotropic thermal effect on the light atoms, and the introduction of the weighting scheme derived from an approximate formula given by Cruickshank (1965).

Table 4. Bond lengths and angles

Bond lengths							
Co(1)	Co(2)	2.46 <sub>4</sub>	Å	Co(4)	C(3')	1.92	Å
Co(2)	Co(3)	2.45 <sub>6</sub>		Co(5)	C(3')	1.92	
Co(3)	Co(1)	2.46 <sub>0</sub>		Co(6)	C(3')	1.94	
Co(1)	C(1')	1.93		Co(4)	C(10)	1.84	
Co(2)	C(1')	1.87		C(10)	O(10)	1.00	
Co(3)	C(1')	1.81		Co(4)	C(11)	1.81	
Co(1)	C(4)	1.79		C(11)	O(11)	1.11	
C(4)	O(4)	1.19		Co(4)	C(12)	1.85	
Co(1)	C(5)	1.85		C(12)	O(12)	1.14	
C(5)	O(5)	1.08		Co(5)	C(16)	1.79	
Co(1)	C(9)	1.77		C(16)	O(16)	1.21	
C(9)	O(9)	1.11		Co(5)	O(17)	1.80	
Co(2)	C(6)	1.84		C(17)	O(17)	1.20	
C(6)	O(6)	1.08		Co(5)	C(18)	1.80	
Co(2)	C(7)	1.91		C(18)	O(18)	1.04	
C(7)	O(7)	1.04		Co(6)	C(13)	1.83	
Co(2)	C(8)	1.84		C(13)	O(13)	1.14	
C(8)	O(8)	1.04		Co(6)	C(14)	1.69	
Co(3)	C(1)	1.89		C(14)	O(14)	1.26	
C(1)	O(1)	1.03		Co(6)	C(15)	1.88	
Co(3)	C(2)	1.86		C(15)	O(15)	1.17	
C(2)	O(2)	1.04		C(1')	C(2')	1.60	
Co(3)	C(3)	1.80		C(2')	C(3')	1.42	
C(3)	O(3)	1.15		C(2')	O(2')	1.24	
Co(4)	Co(5)	2.48 <sub>8</sub>					
Co(5)	Co(6)	2.48 <sub>2</sub>					
Co(6)	Co(4)	2.44 <sub>9</sub>					
Bond angles							
Co(1)	Co(2)	Co(3)	60.0°	Co(5)	Co(4)	C(3')	49.5°
Co(2)	Co(3)	Co(1)	60.2	Co(4)	C(3')	C(2')	147.0
Co(3)	Co(1)	Co(2)	59.8	Co(5)	C(3')	C(2')	124.4
Co(3)	Co(1)	C(1')	46.7	Co(6)	C(3')	C(2')	122.4
Co(2)	Co(1)	C(1')	48.5	Co(4)	C(3')	Co(5)	81.0
Co(3)	Co(2)	C(1')	47.0	Co(4)	C(3')	Co(6)	78.9
Co(1)	Co(2)	C(1')	50.6	Co(5)	C(3')	Co(6)	80.2
Co(2)	Co(3)	C(1')	49.1	C(5)	Co(1)	C(4)	103.7
Co(1)	Co(3)	C(1')	50.9	C(5)	Co(1)	C(9)	99.1
Co(3)	C(1')	C(2')	148.8	C(4)	Co(1)	C(9)	91.2
Co(2)	C(1')	C(2')	120.5	C(7)	Co(2)	C(6)	98.7
Co(1)	C(1')	C(2')	118.1	C(7)	Co(2)	C(8)	105.5
Co(3)	C(1')	Co(1)	82.4	C(6)	Co(2)	C(8)	95.5
Co(3)	C(1')	Co(2)	83.9	C(2)	Co(3)	C(3)	96.1
Co(2)	C(1')	Co(1)	81.0	C(2)	Co(3)	C(1)	95.2
C(1')	C(2')	C(3')	122.9	C(3)	Co(3)	C(1)	98.3
C(1')	C(2')	O(2')	118.0	C(5)	Co(1)	Co(3)	102.8
O(2')	C(2')	C(3')	119.1	C(5)	Co(1)	Co(2)	99.6
Co(4)	Co(5)	Co(6)	59.0	C(4)	Co(1)	C(1')	104.2
Co(5)	Co(6)	Co(4)	60.6	C(4)	Co(1)	Co(3)	100.1
Co(6)	Co(4)	Co(5)	60.4	C(9)	Co(1)	C(1')	106.0
Co(4)	Co(5)	C(3')	49.5	C(9)	Co(1)	Co(2)	99.9
Co(6)	Co(5)	C(3')	50.3	C(6)	Co(2)	C(1')	104.6
Co(5)	Co(6)	C(3')	49.5	C(6)	Co(2)	Co(1)	98.6
Co(4)	Co(6)	C(3')	50.2	C(8)	Co(2)	C(1')	99.4
Co(6)	Co(4)	C(3')	50.9	C(8)	Co(2)	Co(3)	95.9
C(7)	Co(2)	Co(1)	99.2	C(17)	Co(5)	Co(6)	87.8

must be linearly independent mod. 2, and they are given two arbitrary signs.

Suppose 24 base reflexions are being considered: the corresponding index numbers are fed into the computer, together with the signs of the first two reflexions. With reference to expression (1), the  $\alpha_{ijk}$  terms are selected, where  $i, j$  and  $k$  all correspond to the base set, and stored in different sections of the computer depending on whether they are all comprised in the group of the first 12 reflexions, or partly in the group 1 to

12, partly in the group 13 to 18, or at least one of them belongs to the group 19 to 24. Following analogous selection criteria, the products  $\alpha_{ijn} \cdot \alpha_{khn}$  are computed, where  $n$  need not belong to the base set. The program then proceeds through three further steps: in the first, only the first 12 reflexions are considered. Accounting for the two previously fixed signs, ten of them are still undetermined: they are combined in all possible ways ( $2^{10}=1024$ ), and for each combination the corresponding  $\Pi(s_i s_j s_k \dots)$  is evaluated. Always

Table 4 (cont.)

C(7)	Co(2)	Co(3)	103.9	C(18)	Co(5)	C(3')	98.8
C(1)	Co(3)	C(1')	108.8	C(18)	Co(5)	Co(6)	104.8
C(1)	Co(3)	Co(2)	101.1	C(13)	Co(6)	C(3')	102.9
C(3)	Co(3)	Co(1)	96.7	C(13)	Co(6)	Co(5)	88.8
C(3)	Co(3)	C(1')	107.6	C(14)	Co(6)	C(3')	96.7
C(2)	Co(3)	Co(1)	99.2	C(14)	Co(6)	Co(4)	103.4
C(2)	Co(3)	Co(2)	99.6	C(15)	Co(6)	Co(4)	96.3
C(10)	Co(4)	C(11)	98.9	C(15)	Co(6)	Co(5)	107.1
C(10)	Co(4)	C(12)	99.8	Co(1)	C(4)	O(4)	171.6
C(11)	Co(4)	C(12)	95.1	Co(1)	C(5)	O(5)	174.1
C(16)	Co(5)	C(17)	101.7	Co(1)	C(9)	O(9)	175.4
C(16)	Co(5)	C(18)	92.7	Co(2)	C(6)	O(6)	168.8
C(17)	Co(5)	C(18)	103.1	Co(2)	C(7)	O(7)	167.8
C(13)	Co(6)	C(14)	96.5	Co(2)	C(8)	O(8)	175.4
C(13)	Co(6)	C(15)	103.1	Co(3)	C(1)	O(1)	166.6
C(14)	Co(6)	C(15)	104.4	Co(3)	C(2)	O(2)	171.6
C(10)	Co(4)	C(3')	105.1	Co(3)	C(3)	O(3)	169.5
C(10)	Co(4)	Co(6)	94.8	Co(4)	C(10)	O(10)	169.7
C(11)	Co(4)	Co(5)	98.8	Co(4)	C(11)	O(11)	174.6
C(11)	Co(4)	Co(6)	100.1	Co(4)	C(12)	O(12)	176.8
C(12)	Co(4)	C(3')	107.7	Co(5)	C(16)	O(16)	160.7
C(12)	Co(4)	Co(5)	100.4	Co(5)	C(17)	O(17)	174.2
C(16)	Co(5)	C(3')	114.3	Co(5)	C(18)	O(18)	169.7
C(16)	Co(5)	Co(4)	99.0	Co(6)	C(13)	O(13)	171.7
C(17)	Co(5)	Co(4)	103.2	Co(6)	C(14)	O(14)	170.4
				Co(6)	C(15)	O(15)	169.2

referring to expression (1), the indices  $i, j, k$  and  $l$  are now included in the set which corresponds to the first 12 base reflexions. Suppose, for the sake of clarity, that the above indices run from 1 to 12, and so on:  $\Pi(s_1 \dots s_{12})$  may be taken as linearly related to the overall probability. Only those sign combinations which correspond to the highest  $\Pi$  values are stored; their total number may be chosen in the range 30 to 60. In the second step each  $(s_1 \dots s_{12})$  combination is tested against the next  $s_{13} \dots s_{18}$  signs; the latter are also permuted in all possible ways, and each time  $\Pi(s_1 \dots s_{18})$  is evaluated in keeping with expression (1), for a total of  $(30 \text{ to } 60) \times 2^6 = 1920 \text{ to } 3840$  sign combinations. The 30 of these with highest  $\Pi$  are stored, and each tested against the  $s_{19} \dots s_{24}$  remaining signs (1920 combinations; third step). Finally, the 30 most probable  $(s_1 \dots s_{24})$  sign combinations are printed and punched

on cards, together with their resulting  $\Pi$  value. The  $\alpha_{ijn}$  terms, where  $n$  does not belong to the base set, are also punched with their  $i, j, n$  indices.

Other kinds of progressive factorization could be devised, for the same purpose of avoiding the permutation of 24 signs in  $2^{22}$  different ways. In fact, a typical figure for the total time of computing, using the above program, is 15 minutes for as many as 100 reflexions with  $E_i > 2E$  and 260 Sayre triads to be used in expression (1) (IBM-7040).

#### (IV) Sign generation for the non-base reflexions

The input to this program consists of the punched cards output of the programs I and III. The signs of the non-base reflexions are determined for each of the basic sign combinations; some of the latter ones, however, can be discarded from the beginning. The prob-

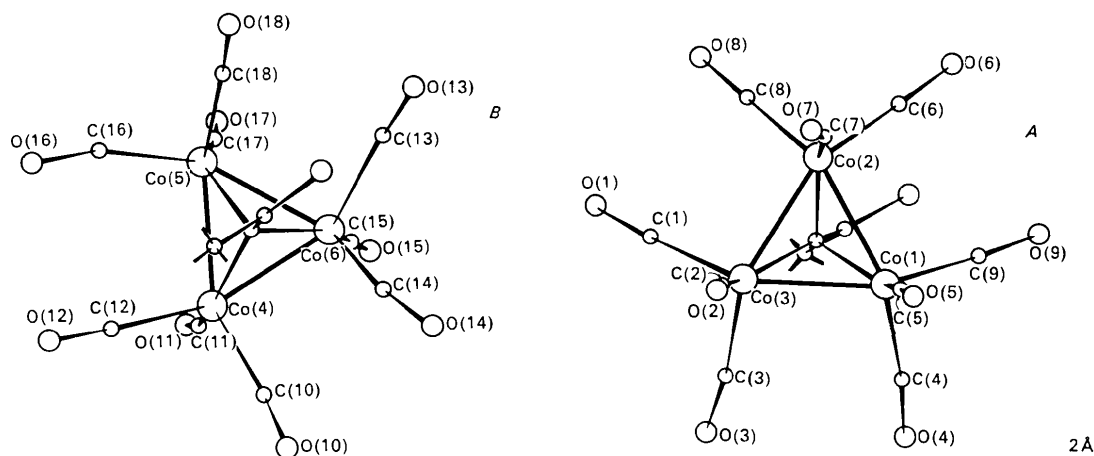


Fig. 4. Conformation of the *A* and *B* tetrahedra (see Fig. 1), viewed perpendicularly to the planes of the cobalt atoms.

Table 5. Average values of bond lengths and angles, compared with those of the analogous  $\text{Co}_3(\text{CO})_9\text{C}_2\text{H}_3$ ,\* and comparisons between the error standard deviations obtained for our compound from internal comparison of the data ( $s$ ) and those resulting from the least-squares refinement ( $\sigma$ )

Symbols of the atoms:  $C_A$  and  $C_E$  are carbonyl C atoms in axial and equatorial position with respect to the  $\text{Co}_3$  triangle;  $C_T$  are tetrahedral atoms.

	Distance, or angle (average value)	Corresponding average values for $\text{Co}_3(\text{CO})_9\text{C}_2\text{H}_3$			Corresponding number of deter- mina- tions	
		$s$	$\sigma$	$s/\sigma$		
Co-Co	2.46 <sub>6</sub> Å	2.46 <sub>3</sub> Å	0.015 Å	0.012 Å	1.32	6
Co- $C_A$ (or Co- $C_E$ )	1.82 <sub>3</sub>	1.80	0.053	0.038	1.39	18
$C_A$ -(or $C_E$ )-O	1.11 <sub>2</sub>	1.10	0.074	0.048	1.54	18
Co- $C_T$	1.89 <sub>4</sub>	1.90	0.050	0.024	2.17	6
$C_T$ -C	1.51	1.53	0.127	0.036	3.53	2
C-O (central group)	1.24	—	—	0.033	—	1
$C_T$ -Co-Co	49.4°	49.4°	1.32°	0.87°	1.52	12
$C_A$ -Co- $C_E$	100.3	102.2	3.72	0.83	4.48	12
$C_E$ -Co- $C_E$	95.7	97.2	3.18	0.93	3.42	6
$C_A$ -(or $C_E$ )-Co-Co (when < 130°)	99.2	98.2	4.49	0.71	6.32	24
$C_E$ -Co- $C_T$	104.7	102.7	4.86	0.75	6.47	12
Co- $C_T$ -Co	81.3	81.1	1.70	0.55	3.09	6
Co-C-O	171.0	175.0	3.76	18.50	0.20	18
$C_T$ -C- $C_T$	122.9	—	—	1.29	—	1
$C_T$ -C-O	118.5	—	1.18	1.23	0.96	2
Co- $C_T$ -C	130.2	131.3	13.64	1.55	8.80	6

\*Sutton & Dahl (1967).

able value of  $s_m$  ( $E_m$  must be  $>^2E$ ) is assumed to be equal to the sign of

$$S_m = \sum_{i,j} s_i s_j \alpha_{ijm},$$

where  $s_i$  and  $s_j$  are the (known) signs of a pair of base reflexions. When all the  $S_m$  are calculated,  $s_m$  is accepted only if  $|S_m|$  exceeds a prefixed value (for instance 0.8). The program output consists of the printed-punched list of the ( $h, k, l$ ) indices, together with the (signed)  $F(hkl)$  scaled structure factors, with a format suitable for direct Fourier synthesis processing.

Less than 5 minutes is required for computing, considering 10 base combinations of 24 signs, and 100 reflexions with  $E >^2E$  and 260 Sayre triads (IBM-7040).

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