

## Refinement of the Crystal and Molecular Structure of Cyclohexylammonium Chloride (Cyclohexylamine Hydrochloride)

BY S. T. RAO\* AND M. SUNDARALINGAM†

*Department of Chemistry, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio 44106 U.S.A.*

(Received 14 January 1969)

The present refinement of the crystal structure of cyclohexylammonium chloride represents an accurate determination of the simplest cyclohexane derivative known to date. Crystals of cyclohexylammonium chloride belong to the orthorhombic space group  $Pca2_1$ , with four molecules in the unit cell of dimensions  $a=9.313 \pm 0.001$ ,  $b=11.442 \pm 0.002$  and  $c=7.554 \pm 0.001$  Å,  $D_m=1.14$  g.cm<sup>-3</sup>,  $D_x=1.13$  g.cm<sup>-3</sup>. Intensities of 615 reflections were measured on a Picker four-circle diffractometer with Ni-filtered Cu radiation. All of the fourteen hydrogen atoms were unambiguously located on a difference electron density map. The structure was refined by full-matrix least-squares to an  $R$  value of 0.039 from 610 observed reflections, excluding five extinguished reflections. The cyclohexane ring is in the chair form with an equatorially substituted ammonium group. The average values of the bond distances, bond angles and the torsion angles in the ring are  $1.523 \pm 0.007$  Å,  $111.3 \pm 0.6^\circ$  and  $55.2 \pm 1.2^\circ$  respectively. The ammonium group is staggered to the ring; it is hydrogen bonded to three neighboring chloride ions and forms the stabilizing force in the crystal lattice. The average  $\overset{+}{\text{N}}\text{-H}\cdots\text{Cl}^-$  hydrogen-bond distance is 3.18 Å.

### Introduction

In this paper is reported the redetermination of the crystal structure of cyclohexylammonium chloride whose structure was originally derived by Shimada, Okaya & Nakamura (1955) with the use of projection data. The difficulty in obtaining adequate single crystals and the possibility of disorder in the crystal have remained obstacles to the solution of the crystal structure of cyclohexane itself by X-ray diffraction techniques. Current interest in the accurate geometry and conformation of cyclohexane and its derivatives prompted

us to carry out this precise X-ray analysis of the simplest cyclohexane derivative known to date.

### Experimental

Crystals of cyclohexylammonium chloride, grown from aqueous ethanol solution, were in the form of plates. The lattice parameters were determined from six reflections with  $2\theta > 60^\circ$  carefully measured on a Picker four-circle diffractometer using nickel-filtered Cu radiation ( $\lambda=1.5418$  Å). The crystal data are given in Table 1. The cell edges  $a$ ,  $b$  are shorter than those of the earlier investigation by about 0.5%, while that of  $c$  is about 2% greater. The crystal was mounted with the  $c$  axis parallel to the  $\phi$  axis of the goniostat and 716 intensity data were scanned with Ni-filtered Cu radiation on a Picker four-circle diffractometer equipped

\* Present address: Department of Biochemistry, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706, U.S.A.

† Presented at the Pittsburgh Diffraction Conference, 6 November, 1968, Paper F7.

Table 1. *Crystallographic data*

	This work Diffractometric	Shimada <i>et al.</i> (1955) Photographic
$a$	$9.313 \pm 0.001$ Å	$9.36 \pm 0.03$ Å
$b$	$11.442 \pm 0.002$	$11.47 \pm 0.03$
$c$	$7.554 \pm 0.001$	$7.41 \pm 0.03$
Crystal system	Orthorhombic	
Systematic absences	$0kl, l = 2n + 1$ $h0l, h = 2n + 1$	
Space group	$Pca2_1$ or $Pcam$ ; $Pca2_1$ confirmed by intensity statistics and structure analysis	
$Z$	4	
$D_x$	1.13 g.cm <sup>-3</sup>	
$D_m$	1.14 g.cm <sup>-3</sup>	

with a scintillation counter and a pulse-height discriminator out to  $2\theta = 134^\circ$ . Inspection of the systematically absent reflections ( $0kl$ ,  $l$  odd;  $h0l$ ,  $h$  odd) indicated that a reflection count is significant if  $I > 1.40(I)$ , where

$$\sigma(I) = [I_{\text{scan}} + I_{\text{bkg}}]^{1/2}.$$

On this criterion, 615 reflections were considered observed, and were used in the structure analysis. The total number of reflections accessible to Cu  $K\alpha$  radiation is about 930. The data were corrected for the Lorentz and polarization factors. The anisotropy of absorption was roughly accounted for by observing the intensity of a reflection at  $\chi = 90^\circ$  as a function of  $\varphi$ . The maximum variation in the intensity was 2%. Absorption corrections were not applied because the crystal used was small,  $0.1 \times 0.25 \text{ mm}^2$  in cross-section and  $0.4 \text{ mm}$  long. The distribution of the intensities (normalized structure amplitudes) showed that the space group is acentric. Therefore, the space group  $Pca2_1$  was assigned and the structure analysis and refinement were carried out on this basis (Shimada *et al.*, 1955).

#### Structure determination and refinement

The structure was redetermined to confirm the results obtained by Shimada *et al.* (1955) who used two-dimensional data.

The  $x$  and  $y$  coordinates of the chloride were found from a gradient-sharpened three-dimensional Patterson diagram (Jacobson, Wunderlich & Lipscomb, 1961) and the  $z$  coordinate, which is arbitrary, was set equal to 0.0. A three-dimensional electron density distribution phased on this atom contained the spurious mirror symmetry. The nitrogen atom could be easily located and a second round of calculation using both the chloride and the nitrogen atoms revealed the entire structure, which was essentially the same as that obtained in the earlier work.

Four cycles of full-matrix least-squares refinement (Busing, Martin & Levy, 1962) using Hughes's (1941) weighting scheme lowered the  $R$  value from 0.350 to 0.104. The quantity minimized in the least-squares refinement was  $\sum w(|F_o| - k|F_c|)^2$ . At this point, a three-dimensional difference electron density map revealed the approximate positions of all the fourteen hydrogen atoms (Fig. 1). The hydrogen atoms were assigned a uniform thermal parameter of  $5 \text{ \AA}^2$  which was held fixed throughout the refinement. An additional three cycles of isotropic least-squares with the same weighting scheme reduced the  $R$  value to 0.064. Further cycles of

refinement were made in which the overall scale factor, positional parameters of the hydrogen atoms and the positional and anisotropic thermal parameters of the heavy atom were varied.

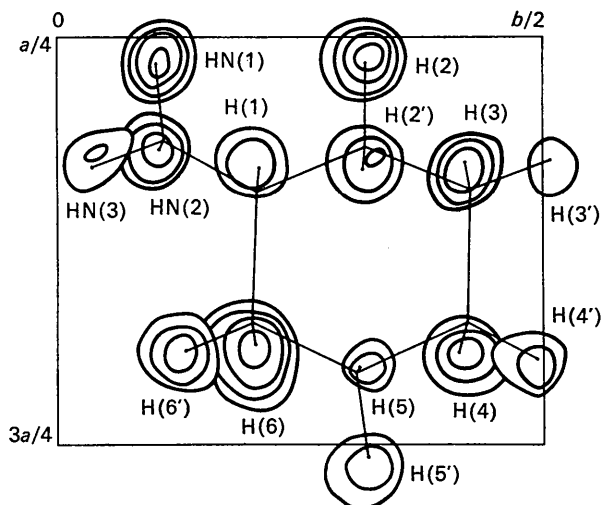


Fig. 1. The difference electron density map showing the hydrogen atoms. Contours are at intervals of  $0.1 \text{ e.}\text{\AA}^{-3}$  starting from  $0.2 \text{ e.}\text{\AA}^{-3}$ .

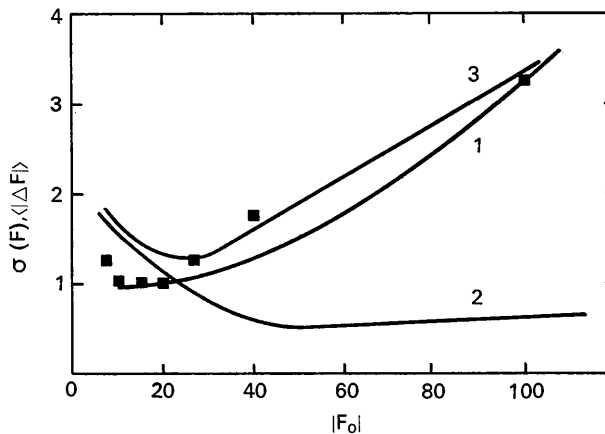


Fig. 2. A plot of the three different error schemes as a function of  $|F|$  used in the refinement. They are (1)  $\sigma_1(F) = [1.1 + |F| + 0.008|F|^2]^{1/2}$ , (2)  $\sigma_2(F) = \frac{F}{2} \cdot \frac{[I+B+0.01(I+B)^2]^{1/2}}{I-B}$ , (3)  $\sigma_3(F) = \sigma_2(F) + 0.027|F|$ . The actual values of  $\langle \Delta |F_o - F_c| \rangle$  are shown by rectangles. Scheme 1 underestimates the errors in the weak reflections while scheme 2 underestimates the errors in the strong reflections. Scheme 3 reflects the proper errors.

Table 2. Some results of the refinement based on the three different weighting schemes

	$\Delta/\delta$ Average shift/standard deviation in positional parameters	$R$	$wR$	$\sqrt{\frac{w(\Delta F^2)}{m-n}}$	Average standard deviation in carbon atom positions	C(4)-C(5)
Scheme 1	0.38	0.042	0.054	1.28	0.006 $\text{\AA}$	1.484 $\text{\AA}$
Scheme 2	0.19	0.041	0.036	2.16	0.005	1.486
Scheme 3	0.16	0.039	0.050	1.02	0.006	1.493

Table 3. *Positional and thermal parameters of the atoms*

Standard deviations are in parentheses.  
The anisotropic temperature factor is of the form:  $\exp [-(\beta_{11}h^2 + \beta_{22}k^2 + \beta_{33}l^2 + 2\beta_{12}hk + 2\beta_{13}hl + 2\beta_{23}kl)]$ .

	$x/a \times 10^4$	$y/b \times 10^4$	$z/c \times 10^4$	$\beta_{11} \times 10^4$	$\beta_{22} \times 10^4$	$\beta_{33} \times 10^4$	$\beta_{12} \times 10^4$	$\beta_{13} \times 10^4$	$\beta_{23} \times 10^4$
C(1)	4404 (5)	2064 (4)	39 (13)	107 (5)	67 (3)	143 (8)	-2 (3)	-2 (12)	1 (9)
C(2)	3834 (6)	3203 (5)	-710 (11)	107 (7)	65 (4)	247 (14)	17 (4)	-13 (8)	3 (6)
C(3)	4460 (7)	4244 (6)	275 (14)	137 (6)	75 (4)	271 (24)	7 (4)	23 (13)	-33 (9)
C(4)	6091 (7)	4210 (5)	276 (11)	139 (7)	69 (4)	222 (20)	-17 (4)	9 (11)	-21 (8)
C(5)	6662 (7)	3075 (6)	951 (12)	121 (8)	87 (5)	242 (14)	-7 (5)	-18 (9)	25 (8)
C(6)	6033 (5)	2029 (4)	-26 (15)	104 (5)	71 (4)	238 (11)	11 (3)	-1 (15)	8 (11)
N	3800 (5)	1058 (4)	-962 (8)	114 (5)	55 (3)	191 (9)	1 (3)	-8 (6)	15 (5)
Cl	455 (1)	1305 (1)	0	107 (1)	72 (1)	164 (2)	-9 (1)	-7 (3)	4 (2)
	$x \times 10^3$	$y \times 10^3$	$z \times 10^3$						
HN(1)*	262 (6)	108 (4)	-78 (9)						
HN(2)	404 (7)	113 (5)	-228 (9)						
HN(3)	415 (6)	32 (6)	-63 (8)						
H(1)	407 (7)	208 (6)	114 (9)						
H(2)	411 (7)	317 (6)	-196 (9)						
H(2')	274 (6)	316 (4)	-73 (9)						
H(3)	430 (7)	425 (6)	141 (10)						
H(3')	405 (6)	497 (5)	-58 (8)						
H(4)	634 (7)	433 (6)	-116 (9)						
H(4')	650 (6)	487 (5)	83 (10)						
H(5)	646 (7)	293 (6)	203 (11)						
H(5')	776 (7)	307 (5)	64 (8)						
H(6)	634 (7)	199 (6)	-133 (10)						
H(6')	635 (6)	133 (5)	36 (9)						

\* All hydrogen atoms are isotropic with  $B=5 \text{ \AA}^2$ .

The final stages of the anisotropic refinement were carried out with a Cruickshank type of weighting scheme (scheme 1), where

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{w}} = \sigma_1(F) = [1.1 + |F| + 0.008|F|^2]^{1/2}.$$

After four cycles, convergence was reached, Table 2. However, it was found that the C(4)-C(5) bond distance was only 1.484 Å, significantly shorter than the remaining endocyclic bonds, which averaged 1.519 ± 0.003 Å. A plot of  $|\Delta F|$  vs.  $|F|$  indicated that the weighting scheme, although satisfactory for medium and strong reflections, underestimated the errors in the weakest group of reflections, Fig. 2. A plot of  $\sigma(F)$ , based on counting statistics and electronic instability of 1% vs.  $|F|$  also shown in Fig. 2. Since scheme 2 does not account for systematic errors due primarily to secondary extinction effects, the errors in the strong reflections are underestimated. Nevertheless, two cycles of refinement were carried out using weighting scheme 2. The results are listed in Table 2. Now scheme 2 was modified to yield scheme 3 which reflects the correct relative error in the data. This was done by adding a linear term in  $|F|$  so as to bring the  $\sigma(F)$  to the same level as  $\langle |\Delta F| \rangle$  for strong reflections.  $\sigma_3(F)$  is given by

$$\sigma_3(F) = \sigma_2(F) + 0.027|F|.$$

Results of the refinement based on scheme 3 are shown in Table 2. It is seen that the  $R$  index and the  $\Delta/\sigma$  value are the lowest for the latter refinement. The parameters obtained from weighting scheme 3 are listed in Table 3, together with the standard deviations estimated from

the diagonal terms of the inverse normal matrix. The analysis of the thermal ellipsoids in terms of the principal axes is given in Table 4. The observed and calculated structure factors are listed in Table 5. A perspective view of the electron density is shown in Fig. 3. An ORTEP plot (Johnson, 1965) of the molecule is shown in Fig. 4.

Table 4. *Analysis of the thermal ellipsoids in terms of the principal axes*

	$i$	$u_i$	$l_i$	$m_i$	$n_i$
C(1)	1	0.216 Å	-0.989	0.150	0.004
	2	0.210	-0.145	-0.954	-0.261
	3	0.203	-0.035	-0.259	0.965
C(2)	1	0.266	0.088	-0.019	-0.996
	2	0.224	0.804	0.592	0.060
	3	0.200	0.588	-0.806	0.067
C(3)	1	0.284	-0.161	0.201	-0.966
	2	0.245	-0.964	-0.241	0.110
	3	0.217	-0.211	0.949	0.233
C(4)	1	0.256	0.545	-0.316	0.778
	2	0.247	0.806	-0.058	-0.589
	3	0.209	0.231	0.947	0.223
C(5)	1	0.268	-0.188	0.346	0.919
	2	0.236	-0.109	0.923	-0.370
	3	0.229	-0.976	-0.169	-0.136
C(6)	1	0.263	-0.006	-0.079	-0.997
	2	0.221	-0.653	-0.755	0.063
	3	0.209	-0.758	0.651	-0.047
N	1	0.237	0.217	-0.158	-0.963
	2	0.224	0.976	0.050	0.211
	3	0.189	0.015	-0.986	0.165
Cl	1	0.225	-0.600	0.656	0.458
	2	0.216	-0.269	0.373	-0.888
	3	0.212	-0.753	-0.656	-0.048



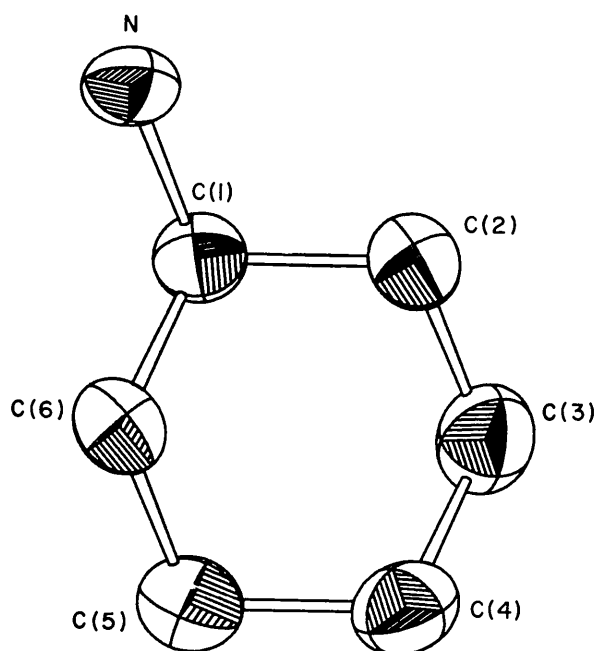


Fig. 4. ORTEP plot of the molecule.

of the hydrogen-bonding scheme involving the amino group. The values corrected for librational motion are given in parentheses in Table 6. It is found that the C(4)–C(5) bond is still short, differing from the remaining ring bonds by about  $2.5\sigma$ , although chemically the C(4)–C(5) bond is similar to the C(3)–C(4) bond. The average corrected values of the endocyclic bond distance, bond angle, and torsional angle are  $1.523 \pm 0.007$  Å,  $111.3 \pm 0.6^\circ$  and  $55.0 \pm 1.2^\circ$ , respectively. The average bond distance and bond angle obtained in the

projection work are  $1.55$  Å and  $110^\circ$  respectively (Shimada *et al.*, 1955). Although the present results are more accurate, the differences between our values and those of Shimada *et al.* (1955) are probably within the

Table 7. Bond lengths and angles involving the hydrogen atoms

Distance		Angle	
C(1)–H(1)	0.89 Å	H(1)–C(1)–N	111°
C(2)–H(2)	0.98	H(1)–C(1)–C(2)	102
C(2)–H(2')	1.02	H(1)–C(1)–C(6)	112
C(3)–H(3)	0.87	H(2)–C(2)–C(1)	104
C(3)–H(3')	1.13	H(2)–C(2)–C(3)	114
C(4)–H(4)	1.12	H(2)–C(2)–H(2')	104
C(4)–H(4')	0.95	H(2')–C(2)–C(1)	108
C(5)–H(5)	0.85	H(2')–C(2)–C(3)	115
C(5)–H(5')	1.05	H(3)–C(3)–C(2)	115
C(6)–H(6)	1.03	H(3)–C(3)–C(4)	100
C(6)–H(6')	0.90	H(3)–C(3)–H(3')	120
N–HN(1)	1.10	H(3)–C(3)–C(2)	100
N–HN(2)	1.02	H(3')–C(3)–C(4)	111
N–HN(3)	0.94	H(4)–C(4)–C(3)	102
		H(4)–C(4)–C(5)	112
		H(4)–C(4)–H(4')	104
		H(4')–C(4)–C(3)	113
		H(4')–C(4)–C(5)	113
		H(5)–C(5)–C(4)	114
		H(5)–C(5)–C(6)	103
		H(5)–C(5)–H(5')	115
		H(5')–C(5)–C(4)	106
		H(5')–C(5)–C(6)	105
		H(6)–C(6)–C(5)	113
		H(6)–C(6)–C(1)	108
		H(6)–C(6)–H(6')	101
		H(6')–C(6)–C(5)	114
		H(6')–C(6)–C(1)	111
		HN(1)–N–C(1)	107
		HN(1)–N–HN(2)	110
		HN(1)–N–HN(3)	109
		HN(2)–N–C(1)	110
		HN(2)–N–HN(3)	105
		HN(3)–N–C(1)	115

Table 6. Bond lengths, bond angles and torsion angles involving the nonhydrogen atoms

Values in parentheses are those corrected for librational motion of the molecule.

Bond length	This work		Shimada <i>et al.</i> (1955) ( $\pm 0.05$ Å)	Bond angle		Shimada <i>et al.</i> (1955) ( $\pm 5^\circ$ )
	This work	$\sigma(l)$		This work	$\sigma(\theta)$	
C(1)–C(2)	1.516 Å	(1.526)	1.55 Å	C(1)–C(2)–C(3)	110.8° (110.7)	0.5° 113°
C(2)–C(3)	1.521	(1.526)	1.55	C(2)–C(3)–C(4)	111.3 (111.1)	0.5 108
C(3)–C(4)	1.520	(1.529)	1.54	C(3)–C(4)–C(5)	112.2 (112.4)	0.5 109
C(4)–C(5)	1.493	(1.502)	1.55	C(4)–C(5)–C(6)	112.4 (112.2)	0.5 110*
C(5)–C(6)	1.523	(1.528)	1.55*	C(5)–C(6)–C(1)	110.4 (110.2)	0.5 111*
C(6)–C(1)	1.518	(1.527)	1.54	C(6)–C(1)–C(2)	111.1 (111.3)	0.5 106*
C(1)–N	1.488	(1.493)	1.45	C(2)–C(1)–N	110.0 (109.9)	0.5 102*
				C(6)–C(1)–N	109.9 (109.7)	0.5 109
				Torsion angle		
				C(5)–C(6)–C(1)–C(2)	56.3° (56.5)	
				C(6)–C(1)–C(2)–C(3)	–57.0 (–57.2)	
				C(1)–C(2)–C(3)–C(4)	54.8 (54.8)	
				C(4)–C(5)–C(6)–C(1)	–54.7 (–54.7)	
				C(2)–C(3)–C(4)–C(5)	–53.3 (–53.5)	
				C(3)–C(4)–C(5)–C(6)	53.5 (53.7)	
				N–C(1)–C(2)–C(3)	–179.0 (–179.0)	
				N–C(1)–C(6)–C(5)	178.4 (178.4)	

\* Values not in agreement with those published.

probable errors of the earlier work. Davis & Hassel (1963) have found, from electron diffraction studies on cyclohexane systems, values which are very similar to those obtained in the present investigation. It is noteworthy that the valency angle is significantly larger than the ideal tetrahedral value of  $109^{\circ}28'$ .

The cyclohexane ring is in the chair form with the amino group equatorially substituted. The average value of the torsional angle in this compound agrees well with the value of  $55.2^{\circ}$  expected for a regular cyclohexane ring with C-C-C valence angles of  $111.3^{\circ}$ . Table 6 shows that the torsional angles around the bonds C(6)-C(1) and C(1)-C(2) involving the substituted atom are approximately equal and are about  $3^{\circ}$  greater than those at the opposite end, involving C(4). The departure of the individual torsional angles from the mean value is such that there is a greater puckering involving the equatorially substituted atom,

while a reduction in puckering occurs at the opposite end.

Drawings showing the crystal packing have already been given in the earlier paper by Shimada *et al.* (1955). The ammonium group has three neighboring chloride ions at characteristic distances of 3.21, 3.14 and 3.20 Å, Table 9. A view of the surroundings of the ammonium group as viewed down the C(1)-N bond is given in Fig. 5. The hydrogen bonds are not all linear, the angles at the hydrogen atoms being 169, 179 and  $168^{\circ}$ . Each  $\text{NH}_3^+$  group is surrounded by three  $\text{Cl}^-$  ions forming a distorted triangular pyramid and *vice versa*. The structure is quite loosely packed as is evident from the low density, and there are no unusually short intermolecular contacts. An interesting comparison of the crystal structures of the higher- and lower-membered alkylamine hydrohalides with those of the alkali halides has been presented by Shimada *et al.* (1955).

Table 8.  $\tau$  and  $\omega$  tensors and their eigenvalues and eigenvectors

Standard deviations are given in parentheses.

$$\tau = (\text{\AA})^2 \begin{bmatrix} 0.046 & 0.002 & 0.004 \\ (0.002) & (0.001) & (0.002) \\ & 0.043 & 0.001 \\ & (0.001) & (0.003) \\ & & 0.047 \\ & & (0.003) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\omega = (\text{deg})^2 \begin{bmatrix} 19.9 & 17.0 & 5.6 \\ (3.8) & (2.4) & (2.6) \\ & 34.2 & 4.2 \\ & (6.2) & (3.4) \\ & & 9.6 \\ & & (2.7) \end{bmatrix}$$

Principal values and components of eigenvectors

$\text{\AA}^2$	$\text{\AA}$	T $l$	$m$	$n$	(deg) <sup>2</sup>	(deg)	$\omega$ $l$	$m$	$n$
0.051	0.23	-0.657	-0.187	-0.730	46.7	6.8	0.554	0.814	0.176
0.043	0.21	-0.341	-0.790	0.509	10.8	3.3	0.523	-0.504	0.617
0.042	0.20	-0.672	0.584	0.455	6.2	2.5	0.647	-0.289	-0.705

Table 9. Hydrogen bond distances and angles

The first atom is in the list given in Table 3 and the second atom is symmetry-related according to the following code:

Atom	Code	Distance	Atom	Angle
N—Cl	I	3.21 Å	C(1)-N—Cl	100.6°
H(1)-Cl	I	2.12	H(1)-N—Cl	7.2
N—Cl	II	3.14	N—H(1)-Cl	169.1
H(2)-Cl	II	2.12	C(1)-N—Cl	109.9
N—Cl	III	3.20	H(2)-N—Cl	0.5
H(3)-Cl	III	2.27	N—H(2)-Cl	179.2
			C(1)-N—Cl	110.9
			H(3)-N—Cl	8.8
			N—H(3)-Cl	167.5

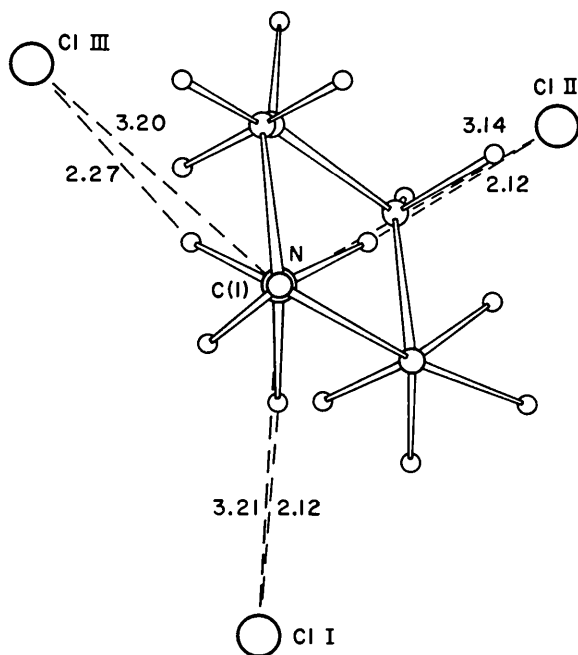


Fig. 5. The surroundings of the  $\text{NH}_3^+$  group as viewed along the bond N-C(1).

We wish to acknowledge support of this work by a grant No. GM-14828 from the National Institutes of Health of the United States Public Health Service and grant No. 15977 from the National Science Foundation.

#### References

- BUSING, W. R., MARTIN, K. O. & LEVY, H. A. (1962). *A Fortran Crystallographic Least Squares Program*. ORNL-TM-305, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Tennessee.
- DAVIS, M. & HASSEL, O. (1963). *Acta Chem. Scand.* **17**, 1181.
- HUGHES, E. (1941). *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.* **63**, 1737.
- International Tables for X-ray Crystallography* (1962). Vol. III. Birmingham: Kynoch Press.
- JACOBSON, R. A., WUNDERLICH, J. A. & LIPSCOMB, W. N. (1961). *Acta Cryst.* **14**, 598.
- JOHNSON, C. K. (1965). *ORTEP, A Fortran Thermal-Ellipsoid Plot Program for Crystal Structure Illustration*. ORNL-3794, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Tennessee.
- SCHOMAKER, V. & TRUEBLOOD, K. N. (1968). *Acta Cryst.* **B24**, 63.
- SHIMADA, A., OKAYA, Y. & NAKAMURA, M. (1955). *Acta Cryst.* **8**, 819.
- STEWART, R. F., DAVIDSON, E. R. & SIMPSON, W. T. (1965). *J. Chem. Phys.* **42**, 3175.

*Acta Cryst.* (1969). **B25**, 2515

## Modifications and Transitions of Solid Oxygen

BY ERWIN M. HÖRL

*Österreichische Studiengesellschaft für Atomenergie, Institut Metallurgie, Reaktorzentrum Seibersdorf, Austria*

(Received 10 February 1969)

Thin films of solid oxygen were investigated by electron diffraction and electron microscopy. New information was obtained about the formation of the modifications of solid oxygen and the transitions between the modifications. In particular, the phase which is formed on helium-cooled substrates by deposition of oxygen gas at a low flow rate was examined.

### Introduction

The author has shown in previous papers (Hörl, 1959, 1962; Hörl & Marton, 1961) how electron diffraction can be applied to problems of crystal structure, crystal growth and crystal faults of solidified permanent gases. The present paper presents a further study of the modifications of solid oxygen with the aim of investigating the transitions between these modifications in thin films.

The technique described in the previous papers (see also Hörl & Marton, 1958) was extended by the use of an electron microscope as diffraction apparatus. A special stage (Hörl, 1968) for cooling specimens with liquid helium was constructed, which also allowed magnetic studies (not discussed in this paper) by the application of a transverse magnetic field. With this stage it

was possible to obtain, in addition to the electron diffraction patterns, electron micrographs of the deposits of interest. Direct observation of the crystals also allowed selected area diffraction.

### Oxygen modifications

Ten years ago there were three known modifications of solid oxygen: an  $\alpha$  modification, stable up to 23.9°K, a  $\beta$  modification stable between 23.9° and 43.6°K and a  $\gamma$  modification stable between 43.6°K and the melting point at 54.4°K. Today we have to add two additional modifications, one (we will call it  $\alpha'$ ) which is formed in the temperature range of the  $\alpha$  phase when oxygen gas is deposited in the form of a very thin film on a cold substrate, and an amorphous phase, which can be ob-