

Apart from the hydrogen bonds, many close van der Waals contacts are found among the molecules within the double layer. The packing of the double layers, on the other hand, is surprisingly loose. The molecules of the neighbouring double layers are separated by a large distance. Only the shortest contacts between the double layers occur for $\text{Br} \cdots \text{C}(29)$ (3.92 Å) and $\text{C}(30) \cdots \text{C}(19)$ (3.92 Å), and large columnar holes are left between the double layers. The holes are filled by the molecules of benzene which plays a role as solvent of crystallization.

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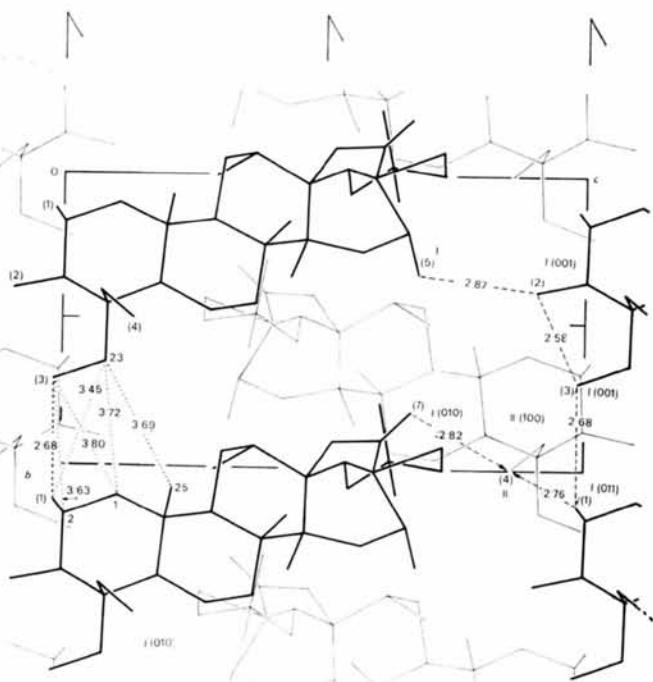


Fig. 6. The crystal structure projected along the a axis. To represent the correct absolute configuration the positive direction of the a axis should be downwards away from the observer. Benzene molecules are omitted for the sake of simplicity. Hydrogen bonds are shown by broken lines.

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The Crystal and Molecular Structure of Verticinone Methyl Bromide*

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The structure of verticinone methyl bromide, $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{43}\text{O}_3\text{N} \cdot \text{CH}_3\text{Br}$, was solved by the heavy-atom method. Anisotropic least-squares refinement proceeded to a final R value of 0.091 for 2450 observed reflexions. The crystals are monoclinic, space group $P2_1$, with two molecules in a unit cell of dimensions: $a = 12.548$, $b = 12.046$, $c = 9.161$ Å, $\beta = 92.07^\circ$. The structure found for verticinone methyl bromide differs from that proposed by Itô for verticinone in that two six-membered rings are *cis*-fused and not *trans*. A configurational inversion at the nitrogen atom probably takes place on formation of the methyl bromide derivative.

Introduction

Verticine is the main alkaloid of *Fritillaria verticillata*

var. *Thunbergii*. As a result of chemical degradation studies Itô, Kato, Shibata & Nozoe (1961, 1963) proposed the structure shown in Fig. 1(a). The stereochemistry at positions C(8), C(9), C(12), C(14), C(16) and C(17) was not unequivocally established but was derived by analogy with the steroid series and from biogenetic considerations.

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In order to confirm the structure Dr Shô Itô suggested that the current investigation be carried out and provided crystals of a heavy atom derivative, verticinone methyl bromide. Its schematic formula, as solved by X-rays, is given in Fig. 1(b). The numbering of the atoms adopted is that of the framework of cevane, which was assumed to be present in verticine.

Experimental

The crystals of verticinone methyl bromide were colourless, tabular rhombs. Under polarized light the longest diagonal of the rhomb is parallel to the extinction direction. The crystals were monoclinic, systematic absences: $0k0$ reflexions with k odd, whence the space group is $P2_1$. The $hk0$ and $h0l$ precession photographs were calibrated by concurrent exposure to the $hk0$ zone of protopine, whose cell dimensions are accurately known (Hall & Ahmed, 1968). The wavelength of the Cu radiation was chosen as $\lambda K\bar{\alpha} = 1.54178 \text{ \AA}$.

Crystal data



$a = 12.548 \pm 0.016$, $b = 12.046 \pm 0.015$, $c = 9.161 \pm 0.007 \text{ \AA}$,
 $\beta = 92.07 \pm 0.04^\circ$, $V = 1383.8 \text{ \AA}^3$, $D_m = 1.28 \text{ g.cm}^{-3}$ (measured by flotation), $D_x = 1.263 \text{ g.cm}^{-3}$, $Z = 2$, space group $P2_1$ (C_2 , No. 4),
 $\mu = 24.82 \text{ cm}^{-1}$, $F(000) = 560$.

The crystal used in this investigation was ground into a cylinder terminated by a hemisphere (diameter 0.22, length 0.30 mm). Three-dimensional intensity data were visually estimated from equi-inclination Weissenberg photographs with the multiple-film technique. Layers from $k=0$ to 9 and $h=0$ to 4 were obtained and the intensity data were scaled by the method of Hamilton, Rollett & Sparks (1965). A total of 2450 independent reflexions were observed out of 2790 accessible reflexions within the Cu sphere. The unobserved reflexions were given an intensity equal to $\frac{2}{3}$ of the mi-

nimum observable intensity. Since μR was small (0.27), the absorption correction factor was almost constant with θ and was included in the scale factor. The correction for secondary extinction was not introduced until the structure had been solved. The X-ray scattering factors were obtained from Cromer & Waber (1965) for C, N, O, Br⁻ and from Stewart, Davidson & Simpson (1965) for H. The real part of the dispersion correction, included in the scattering factor of Br⁻, was taken from Cromer (1965).

Structure determination

A three-dimensional Patterson synthesis was computed and the coordinates of the Br atom were easily deduced from the Harker section. The set of structure factors calculated using the coordinates of the Br alone ($x = 0.159$; $y = 0.250$; $z = 0.120$) had a reliability index R , defined as $\Sigma ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \Sigma |F_o|$, of 0.40.

The Br atom at $y = \frac{1}{4}$ gave false symmetry $P2_1/m$ on the first electron density map but this symmetry was destroyed by the identification of seven carbon atoms. All the non-hydrogen atoms were located after three successive structure factor and Fourier synthesis calculations. The reliability index was then 0.29.

The refinement was carried out using Ahmed's (Ahmed, Hall, Pippy & Huber, 1966) block-diagonal least-squares programs for the IBM/360 system. The coefficients $P1$ and $P2$ of the weighting function $1/w = 1 + [|F_o| - P2]/P1]^2$ were taken as $30e$ and $15e$ respectively, so that $(\Sigma wA^2)/N$ remained constant with $|F_o|$. After eight cycles of refinement with isotropic temperature factors for all atoms, R was brought to 0.16.

A number of the strongest reflexions seemed to suffer from secondary extinction; the plots of the ratio I_c/I_o vs. I_c for the two sets of intensity data, taken with the crystal rotating about the b and c axes, appeared nearly linear, thus indicating that this was indeed the case. The extinction corrections, derived by a least-squares fit to a straight line of I_c/I_o vs. I_c , were applied to each set of the original data. The different layers

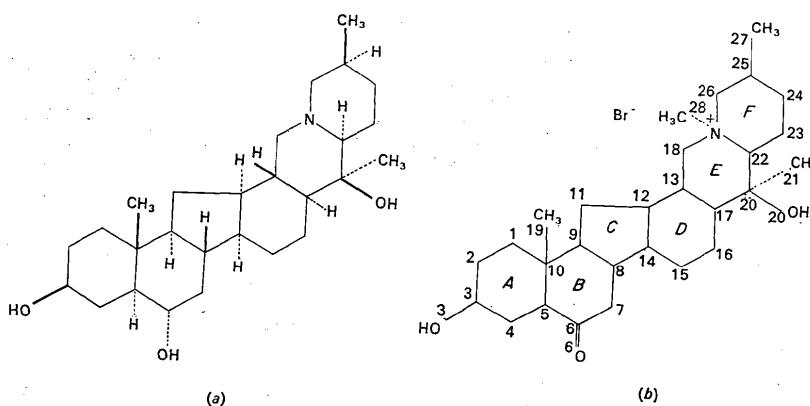


Fig. 1. (a) Proposed structure for verticine. (b) Numbering of the atoms for verticinone methyl bromide.

were then rescaled as above. The corrected $|F_o|$ values, new weighting parameters ($P1=13.5e$ and $P2=10e$), and anisotropic temperature factors were used in six additional refinement cycles. The R value came down to 0.11. Eighteen peaks, with heights varying between 0.3 and 0.7 e. \AA^{-3} were recognized as hydrogen atoms from a difference Fourier synthesis computed at this stage. The coordinates of twenty-two more hydrogen atoms could be calculated from the C positions, assuming a C-H distance of 1.00 \AA and tetrahedral angles, and were also included in the next structure factor calculation. An additional difference electron density map showed the remaining six hydrogen atoms. While the estimated standard deviation of the residual electron density was ± 0.16 e. \AA^{-3} , there remained around the bromine atom some diffraction ripples as high as

e. \AA^{-3} . The hydrogen atoms were included in the final structure factor calculations but their coordinates were not refined. All H atoms were given an isotropic temperature factor of 4.5 \AA^2 . The refinement was ended after two more cycles when the average shifts in the coordinates were less than 0.3σ . The final R value was 0.091. A summary of the agreement between observed and calculated structure amplitudes is given in Table 1, the complete list is shown in Table 2. The atomic coordinates, the anisotropic vibrational parameters and their standard deviations are listed in Table 3. The vibrational parameters are the coefficients U_{ij} for the expression $T=\exp[-2\pi^2(U_{11}a^{*2}h^2\dots+2U_{23}b^{*}c^{*}kl\dots)]$. The coordinates of the hydrogen atoms used in the structure factor calculations are given in Table 4.

Table 1. Agreement summary between the observed and calculated structure factors at the end of the refinement

$ F_o $ ranges	N	$\Sigma F_o $	$\Sigma F_c $	$\Sigma \Delta $	$(\Sigma w\Delta^2)/N$	R
0-10	778	5612	5417	801	1.66	14.3%
10-20	984	14158	13686	1321	2.42	9.3
20-30	392	9528	9341	706	2.41	7.4
30-40	185	6370	6519	371	1.52	5.8
40-50	57	2508	2693	212	2.56	8.5
50-70	38	2202	2442	247	4.19	11.2
70-90	10	773	836	69	2.58	9.0
90-120	6	600	652	51	1.89	8.6

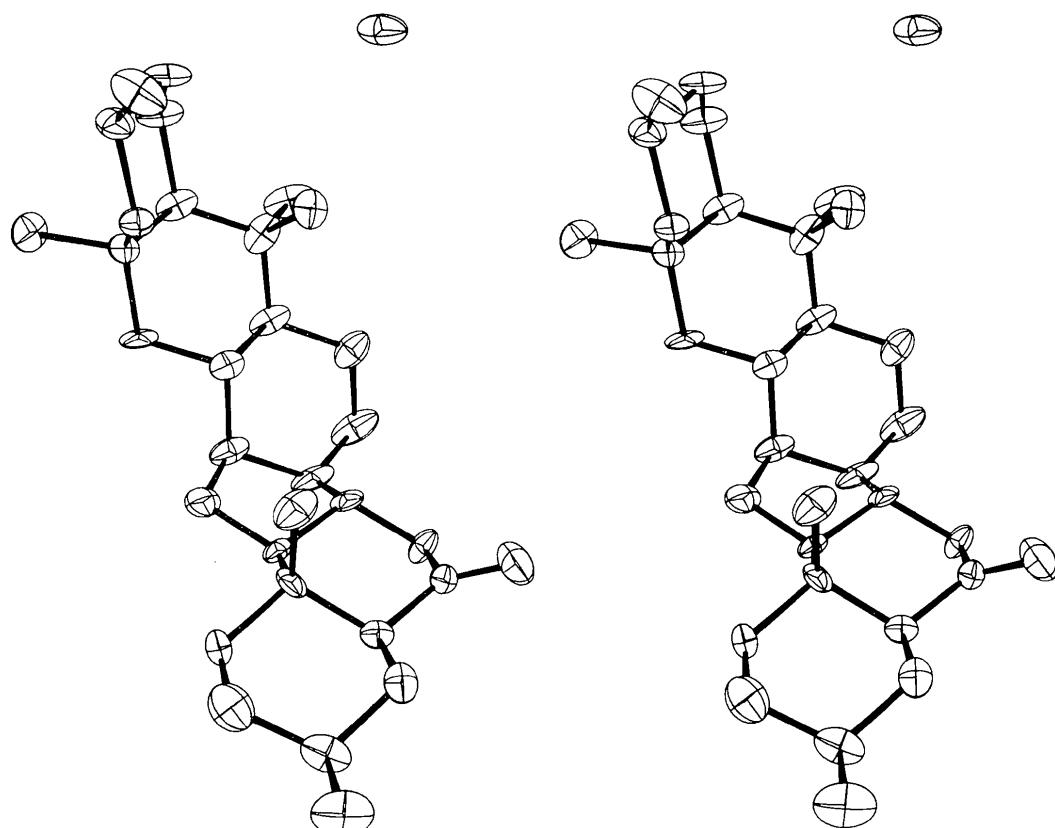


Fig. 2. Stereoscopic pair of drawings showing the structure of verticinone methyl bromide.

Table 2. Observed and calculated structure amplitudes ($\times 10$)

Unobserved reflexions are indicated by an asterisk.

K	FO	FC	K	FO	FC	K	FO	FC	K	FO	FC	K	FO	FC	K	FO	FC	K	FO	FC	K	FO	FC							
H+	C, L=	0	7	180	174	10	254	278	0	154	136	H-	15-, L=	1	0	512	554	1	210	222	9	164	152	1	153	169				
0	8	122	63	11	103	121	12	201	313	1	288	311	1	210	130	1	200	51	1	281	306	H+	10+, L=	4						
2	682	708	9	34*	68	12	60	63	2	281	313	13	66	302	0	254	23	3	468	481	4	103	601	708	H+	7-, L=	3			
4	814	872	11	11	L=	C	14	108	120	13	66	302	1	200	51	1	153	123	1	454	453	0	26*	22	5	39*	329			
6	225	241	15	50*	56	15	19	170	2	65	57	5	161	139	5	115	123	1	357	447	7	84	91	7	272	251				
10	225	194	0	24	27	6	134	146	3	81	84	6	238	263	7	115	117	3	303	308	2	34*	24	9	141	139				
12	150	127	16	149	153	H-	-3,	L=	1	7	110	4	77	80	7	115	117	4	414	455	3	355	388	8	91	94				
14	102	74	2	263	255	0	500	588	9	164	139	2	201	204	9	140	155	2	165	151	1	153	160	10	208	220				
H+	1,	L=	0	4	170	153	1	167	152	H+	0,	L=	2	9	41*	10	H-	11,	L=	2	7	231	223	0	160	150	10	208	220	
5	153	151	3	381	425	H+	-5,	L=	1	0	194	247	0	229	232	9	96	127	1	44	53	13	81	94	H+	-10,	L=	4		
2	1075	1182	6	110	123	7	133	132	4	320	310	0	34*	12	1	107	805	0	619	949	1	108	105	10	167	168	H+	-4,	L=	4
3	898	960	7	133	132	5	18	19	2	201	244	2	34*	53	2	195	70	1	129	129	1	101	99	H+	-4,	L=	4			
4	164	174	9	124*	125	5	35*	34	2	200	194	3	50*	57	2	111	121	1	104	108	H+	8,	L=	3						
6	211	228	7	411	458	3	307	320	4	199	191	3	281	277	4	173	185	12	106	96	5	76	76	0	202	183				
7	304	357	H+	12,	L=	0	8	273	293	4	318	293	5	161	146	5	333	341	1	104	126	1	103	103	1	103	103			
11	120	74	9	137	153	8	201	204	9	164	151	9	201	211	9	164	151	1	153	160	10	208	220							
9	321	338	0	111	107	6	113	83	7	176	197	6	217	223	5	95	95	H+	2,	L=	3	2	204	223	H+	-14,	L=	3		
10	218	195	1	145	155	H+	4,	L=	1	7	197	203	8	112	108	7	158	114	8	69	93	0	246	205	5	123	134			
11	154	154	9	124	125	5	18	19	2	200	194	3	50*	57	2	111	121	1	104	126	1	103	103	1	103	103				
12	146	137	6	150	151	1	404	421	11	225	224	9	111	111	H+	6,	L=	2	12	12	1	104	126	1	103	103				
14	96	89	9	180	182	5	159	156	5	159	156	11	225	224	1	104	126	1	104	126	1	103	103	1	103	103				
15	93	82	7	209	21	4	432	432	15	112	115	14	77	67	0	284	293	1	135	124	9	135	103	5	33*	33				
H+	2,	L=	0	8	77	61	5	536	607	1	167	174	15	60	56	1	363	366	6	147	137	6	347	302	H+	5,	L=	4		
0	677	716	9	146	147	7	418	428	1	107	103	2	201	218	3	52*	114	0	284	293	1	135	124	9	135	103				
1	697	826	H+	13,	L=	0	8	306	323	4	164	155	2	201	218	5	160	155	0	192	253	1	164	155	0	246	205			
2	577	629	0	90	93	10	72	60	2	170	178	2	101	108	2	206	211	6	86	66	0	246	205	1	164	155				
4	107	109	1	93	73	11	124	125	2	206	208	7	63	70	8	310	310	H+	3,	L=	3	2	217	231	2	217	231			
5	589	696	2	73	81	14	92	95	8	86	84	8	152	140	9	64	57	0	235	218	1	164	155	1	164	155				
7	159	172	3	118	116	14	65	61	9	130	112	9	164	155	0	247	247	9	164	155	0	246	205							
9	190	180	5	27	10	H+	-4,	L=	1	0	304	368	H+	-6,	L=	2	1	104	106	0	100	106	0	27*	25					
10	178	161	7	91	95	H+	-4,	L=	1	0	76	50	8	126	119	0	411	393	1	144	146	0	304	368						
11	197	201	8	109	113	0	993	1116	1	265	270	9	193	191	1	430	463	2	92	97	6	193	211	H+	5,	L=	4			
12	195	191	9	109	113	2	170	178	2	101	108	2	206	208	7	63	65	0	196	200	1	164	155	0	246	205				
13	115	115	11	115	115	2	257	518	3	147	101	11	105	103	3	150	154	0	247	250	1	164	155	0	246	205				
14	208	207	0	48	63	3	148	161	4	37*	57	12	113	108	4	238	215	5	103	99	2	231	261	H+	9,	L=	3			
15	44*	46	0	32	38	4	44	46	5	34*	56	1	104	107	4	101	105	5	160	155	6	56	57	0	246	205				
H+	3,	L=	0	2	39	32	6	269	281	7	180	187	13	71	73	7	229	198	6	78	72	4	177	182	H+	12,	L=	2		
0	961	1005	3	52	51	7	169	112	8	109	118	9	131	107	9	173	167	9	63	63	0	246	205	1	164	155				
1	269	237	5	150	154	9	204	187	0	145	140	H+	11,	L=	1	0	304	329	1	164	155	0	246	205						
2	613	720	6	85	87	H+	11,	L=	1	0	145	140	H+	7,	L=	2	0	304	329	H+	13,	L=	3	0	246	205				
3	242	242	7	25	29	H+	5,	L=	1	0	159	145	2	231	268	0	33*	25	0	284	293	1	164	155	H+	12,	L=	4		
4	279	295	5	153	151	H+	-5,	L=	1	0	159	145	2	231	268	0	33*	25	0	284	293	1	164	155	H+	-11,	L=	4		
5	272	276	H+	15,	L=	0	0	292	268	1	134	128	0	304	388	2	231	268	0	33*	25	0	284	293	H+	-5,	L=	4		
6	214	233	2	179	180	0	293	260	2	142	144	5	160	155	2	231	268	0	33*	25	0	284	293	1	164	155				
7	209	209	0	90	93	2	179	180	2	142	144	5	160	155	2	231	268	0	33*	25	0	284	293	1	164	155				
8	354	355	3	133	35	3	388	416	4	57*	21	6	433	441	4	101	105	5	160	155	0	246	205	1	164	155				
9	355	355	4	33*	35	4	370	398	5	160	155	4	351	343	4	101	105	5	160	155	0	246	205	1	164	155				
10	379	369	6	317	334	4	323	320	5	160	155	6	70	65	6	323	320	7	160	155	0	246	205	1	164	155				
11	337	337	7	271	271	5	160	155	8	194	188	7	148	127	8	224	221	9	160	155	0	246	205	1	164	155				
12	131	132	9	249	266	7	167	178	6	85	82	8	217	223	7	167	178	9	160	155	0	246	205	1	164	155				
13	132	132	10	248	268	8	166	174	9	164	155	10	201	204	8	216	221	9	164	155	0	246	205	1	164	155				
14	132	140	0	479	458	11	302	326	0	236	215	12	127	121	0	246	251	1	164	155	0	246	205	1	164	155				
15	171	171	0	93	93	0	524	533	1	156	154	2	206	232	0	71	24*	0	246	251	1	164	155	0	246	205				
16	180	180	1	297	297	5	127	127	2	306	337	1	156	154	2	206	232	0	71	24*	1	164	155	0	246	205				
17	209	218	11	210	187	3	168	172	2	115	150	4	152	141	3	223	222	0	71	24*	1	164	155	0	246	205				
18	285	285	12	210	209	3	168	172	4	152	141	4	152	141	4	152	141	0	71	24*	1	164	155	0	246	205				
19	134	134	13	213	213	3	16																							

Table 2 (cont.)

K	FO	FC	K	FO	FL	K	FO	FC	K	FO	FL	K	FO	FL	K	FO	FC	K	FO	FL	K	FO	FC					
H = -1, L = 5	2	202	154	H = -12, L = 5	6	9	133	146	H = -9, L = 6	8	173	182	2	105	103	7	122	121	3	54	41	1	67	62				
1	149	149	3	149	149	4	149	149	5	149	149	6	9	149	149	7	122	121	8	112	112	2	107	140				
0	389	378	2	188	205	0	44*	4	H = -4, L = 6	0	89	89	4	105	103	7	122	121	5	66	57	3	83	67				
1	354	391	5	289	263	1	56	62	0	58	51	1	171	171	7	122	121	6	6	142	136	5	99	112				
2	235	235	7	108	108	3	30	36	0	58	51	1	171	171	7	122	121	7	50	56	6	6	109					
3	386	388	7	76	71	3	72	79	1	161	161	2	81	72	4	116	118	5	58	65	H = -3, L = 9	6	6	117				
4	265	229	8	113	100	4	52	41	2	151	127	3	131	130	5	111	126	10	73	42	5	106	117					
5	261	191	3	37	37	5	37	37	4	103	103	5	149	149	6	103	103	7	170	166	4	149	149					
6	199	157	7	157	157	0	40*	6	H = -3, L = 6	219	189	5	145	157	2	231	243	0	120	102	7	65	66	H = -7, L = 9	7	50	56	
7	195	155	H = 7, L = 5	8	81	59	5	163	156	6	63	60	3	183	160	2	278	278	0	180	175	1	225	205				
8	182	176	7	155	155	6	76	76	7	90	89	5	145	145	8	170	166	2	244	247	0	180	178					
9	214	117	0	180	188	H = -13, L = 5	7	298	111	8	89	74	5	30	26	0	51*	17	3	166	115	0	83	68	H = 5, L = 10	6	6	114
10	2	144	143	1	103	95	9	125	111	H = 10, L = 6	7	82	24*	65	5	49*	49	2	138	157	4	138	157	1	204	190		
11	0	171	123	2	283	314	2	87	98	11	111	110	0	236	232	10	124	131	7	97	61	4	121	125	H = -6, L = 9	9	59	56
12	496	503	5	33*	2	3	37	30	H = -4, L = 6	1	184	184	4	66	66	8	104	101	9	157	157	0	62	62	H = -5, L = 9	5	59	56
13	312	318	7	65	71	5	57	56	H = -3, L = 6	2	74	46	12	50	59	3	139	139	10	111	111	5	57	60	1	110	114	
14	165	128	8	152	152	0	69	69	H = -2, L = 6	3	110	87	7	85	103	11	60	47	6	91	110	4	83	58	4	83	59	
15	149	149	2	40	26	H = -13, L = 5	5	216	346	0	33*	33	9	98	102	H = -1, L = 8	8	9	162	H = -1, L = 8	0	180	186	5	108	122		
16	213	169	H = -7, L = 5	0	68	63	3	85	53	6	108	116	0	325	314	H = 7, L = 8	8	5	181	186	4	96	103	4	96	103		
17	89	89	7	144	144	1	47	47	5	169	151	9	88	88	2	203	209	H = 8, L = 9	7	111	167	H = -8, L = 9	4	111	151			
18	118	118	0	30*	7	1	47	47	5	200	199	8	58	58	3	88	88	1	244	249	0	180	186					
19	154	155	L = 37	27	3	36	45	6	316	325	3	88	88	0	168	165	2	149	137	1	92	84	H = 0, L = 10	8	53	67		
20	105	104	2	236	375	4	33*	41	7	125	127	3	131	130	2	184	186	3	157	157	0	104	113	0	42*	45		
21	80	80	5	30*	43	6	30	30	H = -4, L = 6	2	74	46	12	50	59	3	139	139	10	111	111	0	104	103				
22	52	57	9	196	178	0	69	69	H = -3, L = 6	3	139	134	4	68*	21	6	181	179	3	157	157	0	104	103				
23	80	80	71	H = 14, L = 5	5	H = 5, L = 6	0	115	117	7	30*	22	6	151	152	5	70	59	0	52*	45	4	36*	15				
24	247	229	8	198	242	1	47	47	5	200	201	4	139	153	8	100	121	7	75	75	0	180	186					
25	1	553	605	9	104	102	2	62	77	H = 1, L = 6	3	111	100	8	100	121	7	75	75	0	177	186	4	54	67			
26	350	339	H = 8, L = 5	H = -14, L = 5	5	214	190	7	40*	45	0	168	141	2	203	209	H = 8, L = 7	8	0	211	217	0	180	186				
27	62	62	0	126	105	0	30*	7	4	316	311	8	69	69	1	133	149	0	200	209	0	36*	5					
28	525	293	0	126	105	0	30*	7	4	316	311	9	50	50	0	168	165	2	149	137	0	56	47					
29	120	120	1	226	239	1	66	59	0	198	237	3	199	170	0	61	62	2	128	129	0	180	186					
30	275	253	2	73	65	2	39*	47	7	67	62	H = 11, L = 6	0	173	157	1	45*	39	3	157	157	3	107	124				
31	86	65	3	104	106	3	41*	63	8	126	110	0	42*	17	2	160	100	5	20	50	3	105	120					
32	160	167	5	243	262	H = 6, L = 6	0	120	120	1	120	120	6	160	149	6	79	72	6	149	149	H = 9, L = 9	4	54	67			
33	310	310	H = 8, L = 5	H = -14, L = 5	5	214	190	7	40*	45	0	168	141	2	203	209	H = -7, L = 8	8	0	211	217	0	180	186				
34	311	282	H = 8, L = 5	H = -14, L = 5	5	214	193	7	40*	45	0	168	141	2	203	209	H = -8, L = 7	8	0	211	217	0	180	186				
35	247	231	0	98	84	6	192	176	5	123	106	H = -11, L = 6	0	174	152	0	164	154	1	249	249	H = -7, L = 10	0	56	47			
36	176	142	1	226	239	1	66	59	0	198	237	3	199	170	0	61	62	2	128	129	0	180	186					
37	245	233	2	73	65	2	39*	47	7	67	62	H = 11, L = 6	0	173	157	1	45*	39	3	157	157	3	107	124				
38	166	145	3	104	106	3	41*	63	8	126	110	0	42*	17	2	160	100	5	20	50	3	105	120					
39	211	182	4	211	227	6	31*	34	9	65	52	H = 12, L = 6	0	174	157	1	45*	39	3	157	157	3	107	124				
40	142	118	5	182	182	9	104	94	2	90	104	5	207	201	4	116	107	5	117	127	7	41	43					
41	148	128	6	193	212	11	115	114	7	76	62	H = 6, L = 6	0	166	149	6	104	101	0	165	176	4	81	91				
42	76	76	7	128	125	12	59	62	8	126	122	H = -3, L = 6	0	164	149	7	75	72	0	164	176	4	81	91				
43	212	182	8	128	125	13	59	62	9	126	122	H = -1, L = 6	0	164	149	7	75	72	0	164	176	4	81	91				
44	129	104	9	128	125	13	59	62	10	126	122	H = -1, L = 6	0	164	149	7	75	72	0	164	176	4	81	91				
45	104	84	10	128	125	13	59	62	11	126	122	H = -1, L = 6	0	164	149	7	75	72	0	164	176	4	81	91				
46	142	122	11	128	125	13	59	62	12	126	122	H = -1, L = 6	0	164	149	7	75	72	0	164	176	4	81	91				
47	122	102	12	128	125	13	59	62	13	126	122	H = -1, L = 6	0	164	149	7	75	72	0	164	176	4	81	91				
48	102	82	13	128	125	13	59	62	14	126	122	H = -1, L = 6	0	164	149	7	75	72	0	164	176	4	81	91				
49	122	102	14	128	125	13	59	62	15	126	122	H = -1, L = 6	0	164	149	7	75	72	0	164	176	4	81	91				
50	102	82	15	128	125	13	59	62	16	126	122	H = -1, L = 6	0	164	149	7	75	72	0	164	176	4	81	91				
51	122	102	16	128	125	13	59	62	17	126	122	H = -1, L = 6	0	164	149	7	75	72	0	164	176	4	81	91				
52	102	82	17	128	125	13	59	62	18	126	122	H = -1, L = 6	0	164	149	7	75	72	0	164	176	4	81	91				
53	122	102	18	128	125	13	59	62	19	126	122	H = -1, L = 6	0	164	149	7	75	72	0	164	176	4	81	91				
54	102	82	19	128	125	13	59	62	20	126	122	H = -1, L = 6	0	164	149	7	75	72	0	164	176	4	81	91				
55	122	102	20	128	125	13	59	62	21	126	122	H = -1, L = 6	0	164	149	7	75	72	0	164	176	4	81	91				
56	102	82	21	128	125	13	59	62	22	126	122</td																	

Table 3. The atomic coordinates, anisotropic vibrational parameters and their standard deviations (all quantities $\times 10^4$)

	x/a	y/b	z/c	U_{11}	U_{22}	U_{33}	$2U_{23}$	$2U_{13}$	$2U_{12}$
Br	8493 (1)	7488 (2)	8924 (1)	618 (6)	546 (7)	329 (4)	172 (12)	-164 (9)	-673 (15)
O(3)	9882 (7)	7242 (6)	-2036 (10)	592 (49)	186 (43)	542 (45)	288 (65)	-373 (76)	68 (75)
O(6)	1763 (8)	6777 (11)	3567 (10)	625 (56)	829 (80)	402 (46)	-550 (100)	-97 (80)	412 (116)
O(20)	7238 (6)	6239 (7)	6072 (8)	389 (38)	290 (44)	399 (39)	120 (67)	55 (61)	191 (72)
N	8323 (6)	5337 (8)	3250 (10)	194 (36)	274 (51)	449 (47)	-359 (79)	36 (64)	159 (70)
C(1)	3343 (8)	5529 (11)	-805 (10)	312 (50)	477 (77)	229 (43)	-189 (88)	184 (74)	-14 (99)
C(2)	2662 (11)	6330 (13)	-1737 (13)	593 (45)	399 (57)	337 (52)	76 (105)	76 (86)	4 (83)
C(3)	1548 (10)	6389 (10)	-1161 (12)	543 (46)	155 (57)	321 (48)	130 (99)	-289 (84)	109 (82)
C(4)	1592 (8)	6714 (10)	434 (12)	366 (52)	204 (54)	389 (52)	-124 (88)	249 (83)	-184 (95)
C(5)	2218 (8)	5833 (9)	1289 (11)	269 (43)	152 (49)	280 (43)	15 (74)	-46 (69)	-54 (80)
C(6)	2202 (8)	5945 (10)	2931 (11)	241 (44)	378 (65)	264 (44)	-130 (83)	131 (71)	-104 (90)
C(7)	2727 (8)	5005 (11)	3793 (11)	194 (39)	459 (73)	308 (45)	310 (94)	155 (69)	39 (90)
C(8)	3885 (7)	4899 (9)	3340 (10)	168 (38)	362 (64)	270 (43)	105 (83)	-20 (65)	-307 (83)
C(9)	3926 (7)	4775 (9)	1658 (11)	130 (35)	174 (50)	380 (48)	-137 (80)	9 (66)	-47 (73)
C(10)	3405 (8)	5758 (9)	832 (10)	364 (50)	249 (57)	196 (39)	-232 (76)	86 (70)	-175 (92)
C(11)	5085 (9)	4458 (11)	1438 (13)	292 (49)	368 (70)	479 (62)	-410 (105)	-59 (89)	88 (100)
C(12)	5535 (8)	3988 (10)	2866 (14)	209 (44)	203 (57)	656 (71)	-70 (103)	-127 (88)	53 (87)
C(13)	6414 (8)	4722 (9)	3603 (12)	243 (43)	143 (50)	434 (58)	41 (83)	-45 (78)	70 (82)
C(14)	4534 (9)	3903 (11)	3840 (16)	231 (47)	210 (62)	859 (92)	-33 (120)	-74 (104)	-246 (93)
C(15)	4800 (10)	3746 (14)	5496 (17)	339 (61)	588 (96)	720 (88)	795 (155)	-61 (111)	-294 (128)
C(16)	5657 (9)	4532 (12)	6090 (14)	321 (53)	517 (85)	468 (64)	405 (115)	154 (94)	-36 (111)
C(17)	6697 (8)	4435 (10)	5214 (14)	225 (42)	204 (57)	575 (67)	406 (98)	-143 (86)	-14 (85)
C(18)	7398 (8)	4613 (9)	2696 (14)	206 (42)	189 (56)	638 (71)	-453 (101)	-38 (88)	-178 (86)
C(19)	3987 (9)	6871 (11)	1107 (15)	292 (50)	284 (65)	593 (71)	110 (108)	93 (94)	-81 (100)
C(20)	7626 (8)	5150 (11)	5868 (12)	313 (48)	370 (68)	414 (54)	573 (102)	70 (82)	143 (100)
C(21)	8001 (11)	4649 (13)	7362 (16)	484 (68)	415 (79)	671 (84)	692 (135)	-438 (124)	-278 (127)
C(22)	8589 (8)	5116 (9)	4911 (13)	246 (44)	169 (52)	543 (62)	329 (96)	-138 (85)	41 (86)
C(23)	9509 (9)	5917 (10)	5350 (15)	265 (47)	212 (56)	586 (63)	175 (98)	-349 (91)	-21 (89)
C(24)	9359 (8)	7135 (9)	4932 (13)	291 (47)	190 (56)	469 (57)	41 (83)	-310 (83)	-189 (82)
C(25)	9011 (8)	7282 (9)	3333 (11)	313 (45)	210 (63)	354 (45)	-75 (77)	12 (72)	-72 (86)
C(26)	8089 (7)	6545 (9)	2897 (10)	194 (38)	233 (56)	280 (43)	44 (75)	-113 (65)	61 (76)
C(27)	8651 (12)	8497 (10)	3019 (13)	634 (75)	163 (56)	416 (57)	94 (92)	-168 (104)	73 (113)
C(28)	9258 (9)	4968 (11)	2324 (15)	331 (53)	266 (66)	661 (75)	-321 (115)	326 (102)	147 (103)

Table 4. Coordinates of hydrogen atoms used in the structure factor calculations

All quantities $\times 10^3$. The hydrogen atoms are referred to the C or O atom to which they are attached.

	x/a	y/b	z/c
O(3)	80	668	-309
O(20)	770	664	691
C(1)	301	490	-116
C(1)	419	541	-87
C(2)	298	706	-170
C(2)	262	607	-273
C(3)	119	569	-127
C(4)	88	676	79
C(4)	194	742	55
C(5)	158	516	102
C(7)	231	448	325
C(7)	245	478	496
C(8)	415	573	354
C(9)	350	412	169
C(11)	534	513	109
C(11)	516	390	71
C(12)	590	317	265
C(13)	621	561	356
C(14)	398	322	336
C(15)	507	290	587
C(15)	416	387	602
C(16)	579	470	728
C(16)	546	546	592
C(17)	693	368	526
C(18)	734	476	152
C(18)	741	385	295
C(19)	423	705	220
C(19)	463	662	60
C(19)	345	744	75
C(21)	829	523	798

Table 4 (cont.)

	x/a	y/b	z/c
C(21)	860	404	719
C(21)	741	431	782
C(22)	889	433	500
C(23)	1014	566	490
C(23)	999	550	587
C(24)	1002	752	511
C(24)	883	753	565
C(25)	961	710	275
C(26)	798	664	172
C(26)	760	657	365
C(27)	897	898	374
C(27)	894	873	200
C(27)	777	857	310
C(28)	984	544	262
C(28)	955	427	228
C(28)	903	514	136

Discussion of the structure

The stereochemical structure found for veticinone methyl bromide is shown in Fig. 2. All the six-membered rings of the skeleton of veticinone methyl bromide were found to have the chair conformation. The ring junctions A-B, B-C, D-E are *trans*-fused while the rings C-D and E-F are *cis*-fused. The *cis*-fusion of the E and F rings constitutes the only difference between the skeleton of veticinone methyl bromide and that suggested for veticine by Itô *et al.* (1963). The stereochemistry of the E and F rings in the two compounds is compared in Fig. 3. A configurational inversion at the

nitrogen atom probably takes place on quaternization, hence the configuration of the methyl bromide derivative is not necessarily that of the original base. On hydrogen bonding and on conformational grounds the *trans*-quinolizidine arrangement appears favoured for verticine.

In agreement with Itô's proposal, the OH groups are found in equatorial position for O(3) and in axial position for O(20). Also two methyl groups, C(19)H₃ and C(21)H₃, are found attached to C(10) and C(20), in axial and equatorial positions respectively. The C(27) methyl group is attached to C(25) in the equatorial position, whereas Itô found from measurements of the chemical shifts by nuclear magnetic resonance that, for verticinone and other verticine derivatives, it was in the axial position. This difference, however, is to be expected on quaternization of the nitrogen atom which changes the *E*-F fusion from *trans* to *cis*. Since the difference in the chemical shifts of a methyl group in the equatorial or axial position is small, and not always a reliable indicator of its configuration, it seemed useful to examine the nuclear magnetic resonance spectrum of verticinone methyl bromide in order to compare it with spectra of compounds with known configuration of the C(27) methyl group.

As is shown in Table 5, the orientation of the C(27) methyl group can be assigned from the chemical shift for compounds with the cevane skeleton. In addition, the value of the chemical shift of the C(28) methyl group is $\delta = 3.23$ p.p.m., thus confirming that this methyl group is attached to the nitrogen atom.

Bond distances and angles

The interatomic distances and angles are summarized in Fig. 4. These distances calculated from the final

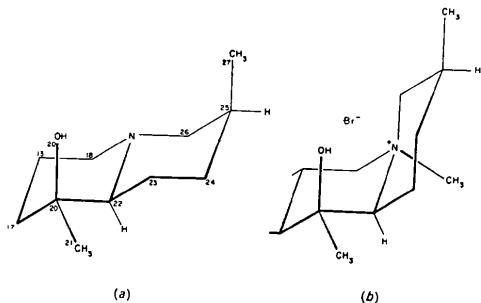


Fig. 3. Comparison of (a) verticine and (b) verticinone methyl bromide.

Table 5. Orientation and chemical shift of the C(27) methyl group for compounds with the cevane skeleton measured at 60 MHz

Compound	Orientation of the C(27) methyl group	Chemical shift δ (p.p.m.)	Reference
Vetricinone methyl bromide*	Equatorial	0.85	This work
Dehydrocevine derivatives†	Equatorial	0.84–0.85	Itô <i>et al.</i> (1964)
Cevine derivatives†	Axial	1.04–1.09	Itô <i>et al.</i> (1964)
Verticine derivatives†	Axial	1.03–1.09	Itô <i>et al.</i> (1963)

* In dimethyl sulphoxide-*d*₆.

† In chloroform-*d*₃.

refined coordinates, by the expression of Ahmed & Cruickshank (1953), are not corrected for thermal motion. The e.s.d.'s of distances between the non-hydrogen atoms are in the range of 0.013 to 0.021 Å, and the angles have standard deviations of about 1°. The average distances in verticinone methyl bromide are compared below with the values given by Sutton (1965).

Bond type	Average distance	Sutton's values
C sp ³ –C sp ³	1.534 Å	1.537 ± 0.005 Å
C sp ³ –C sp ²	1.515	1.506 ± 0.005
C sp ³ –OH	1.440	1.426 ± 0.005

All bond distances are within 2σ of the expected average, with the exception of the C=O bond which is 1.292 Å and is therefore significantly longer than the value of 1.215 Å given by Sutton. The average C sp³–N⁺ sp³ bond length of 1.537 Å is also longer than the average value of 1.478 Å reported by Sutton. The latter, however, seems to be underestimated, as Hamilton, Hamor, Robertson & Sim (1962) give a list of ten alkaloids for which the C sp³–N⁺ sp³ average bond length is 1.52 Å. Using the more reliable bond distances of that list (e.s.d.'s ≤ 0.03 Å) and including the values of 1.54 Å (Przybylska, 1965), 1.55 Å, (Cameron, Cameron & Trotter, 1965) and 1.54 Å, (Nilsson, 1968), an average of 1.527 Å was obtained which agrees well with the mean for C–N bonds in verticinone methyl bromide. It is of interest to note that the C sp³–N⁺ sp³ and C sp³–C sp³ bonds have comparable lengths.

For clarity, the values of the following angles were not indicated in Fig. 4(b): C(8)–N–C(26) = 111.0(±0.8), C(22)–N–C(28) = 110.3(±0.8), C(1)–C(10)–C(9) = 110.5(±0.8), C(5)–C(10)–C(19) = 110.9(±0.9), C(17)–C(20)–C(21) = 108.9(±1.0), O(20)–C(20)–C(22) = 112.7° (±0.9). All rings are somewhat distorted with angles varying from 105.0 to 116.8°. Although C(6)–O(6) is a double bond, ring B retains the chair conformation. The C(5)–C(6)–C(7) angle has a value of 115.5°, halfway between sp² and sp³ bond angles. The angles C(5)–C(6)–O(6) and C(7)–C(6)–O(6) of 122.6 and 121.9° respectively are quite close to the theoretical value of 120°. The angles around the nitrogen atom vary between 103.8 and 113.7° in keeping with the tetrahedral coordination of this atom.

Mean planes

The planes through different groups of atoms of the

THE STRUCTURE OF VERTICINONE METHYL BROMIDE

alkaloid are listed in Table 6. The average deviation of the atoms from the least-squares planes is about 0.03 Å with the exception of C(14) and C(15) which are at 0.19 and -0.12 Å respectively from plane 7. The dihedral angles formed between these planes are shown in Fig. 5. They vary between 122.3° and 137.3° and their average, 130.7°, is slightly larger than the theoretical angle of 125.2°. This flattening of the ring system

has already been observed for a number of steroid molecules (Norton, 1965).

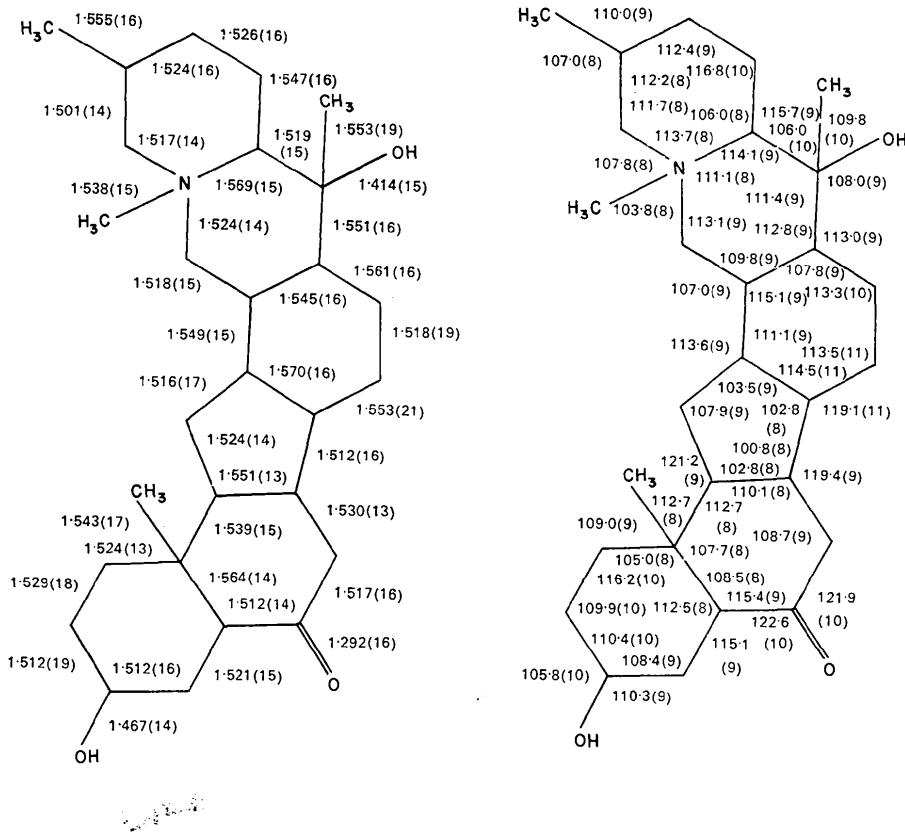
Packing of the molecules

The molecular packing as seen along the *b* and *c* axes is shown in Fig. 6(a) and (b) respectively. The intermolecular contacts less than 4.00 Å between pairs of non-

Table 6. *Planes*

The planes are expressed by $IX + mY + nZ - p = 0$ with XYZ and p in Å. The orthogonal system of axes has $X \parallel \alpha$ -axis, Y in the *a*, *b*-plane, and Z along the *c** axis. All planes defined by more than three atoms were obtained by least-squares.

Plane	Atoms	<i>l</i>	<i>m</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>p</i>
1	C(2), C(3), C(4)	-0.0485	0.9646	-0.2591	7.6029
2	C(1), C(2), C(4), C(5)	-0.6169	-0.7262	-0.3035	-7.1838
3	C(1), C(5), C(6), C(10)	0.0171	0.9903	-0.1376	6.8043
4	C(6), C(7), C(9), C(10)	-0.6369	-0.6362	-0.4355	-7.4353
5	C(7), C(8), C(9)	0.0611	0.9939	-0.0918	5.8754
6	C(8), C(9), C(14)	-0.8316	-0.5554	-0.0044	-7.2523
7	C(9), C(11), C(12), C(14), C(15)	-0.2635	-0.9254	-0.2723	-6.9683
8	C(12), C(13), C(15), C(16)	-0.5855	0.7933	-0.1668	-0.6586
9	C(13), C(16), C(17), C(18)	-0.2063	-0.9613	-0.1827	-7.6977
10	N, C(17), C(18), C(20)	-0.5510	0.8212	-0.1485	-0.8631
11	N, C(20), C(22)	-0.1362	-0.9797	-0.1470	-8.1437
12	N, C(22), C(23)	0.6758	-0.6948	-0.2459	1.7867
13	N, C(23), C(24), C(26)	0.7932	-0.0231	-0.6085	6.2097
14	C(24), C(25), C(26)	0.6476	-0.7175	-0.2565	0.1734

Fig. 4. (a) Bond distances (e.s.d.'s in parentheses $\times 10^3$). (b) Bond angles (e.s.d.'s in parentheses $\times 10$).

hydrogen atoms are listed in Table 7. None of the intermolecular contacts is shorter than 3.30 Å. The *N*-methyl verticinone cations are packed in 'layers' with the cations in two successive 'layers' related to each other by a twofold screw axis. As indicated in Fig. 6, the bromide ion is connected to the cation by an almost linear hydrogen bond. The angle Br...H-O(20) is 172°, the Br...H distance is 2.30 Å and the H-O(20) bond length is 1.07 Å. The bromide ion is also at 3.30 Å



Fig. 5. Dihedral angles between mean planes.

Table 7. Intermolecular contacts shorter than 4.00 Å

From atom	To atom	Average e.s.d.'s: 0.018 Å.	
		Position*	Distance
Br	O	1, +a+c	3.296
	C(26)	1, +c	3.865
	C(27)	1, +c	3.942
	O(3)	2, +c	3.995
	C(18)	2, +c	3.566
	C(23)	1, -a-c	3.377
	C(24)	1, -a-c	3.391
	C(28)	2, +c	3.309
	C(17)	2, -b	3.882
	C(21)	2	3.577
O(6)	C(23)	1, -a	3.476
	C(24)	1, -a	3.336
	C(25)	1, -a	3.506
	C(28)	1, -a	3.959
	C(14)	2	3.907
	C(1)	2, -b+c	4.000
	C(2)	2, -b+c	3.950
	C(3)	2, -b+c	3.881
	C(7)	2, -b	3.897
	C(23)	2, +a-b	3.976
C(28)	C(6)	1, +a	3.899

* First symbol: equivalent positions 1 (x, y, z)

2 ($1-x, \frac{1}{2}+y, 1-z$) .

Second symbol: cell translations.

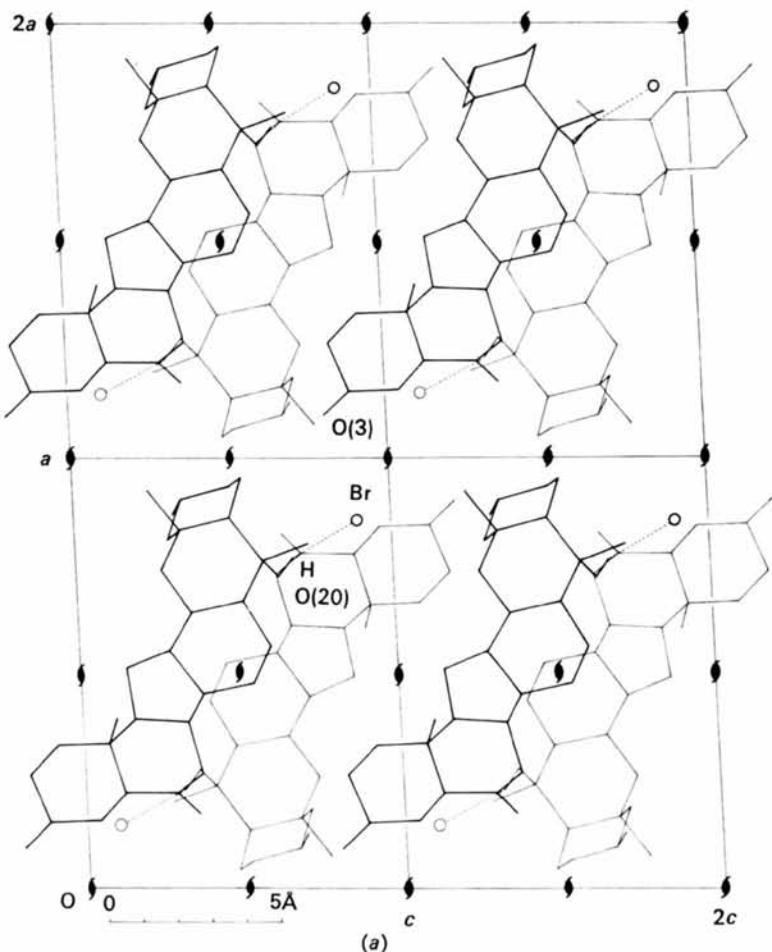


Fig. 6. (a) Molecular packing as seen along the b axis. The circles represent the bromide ion. Hydrogen bonds are shown by broken lines.

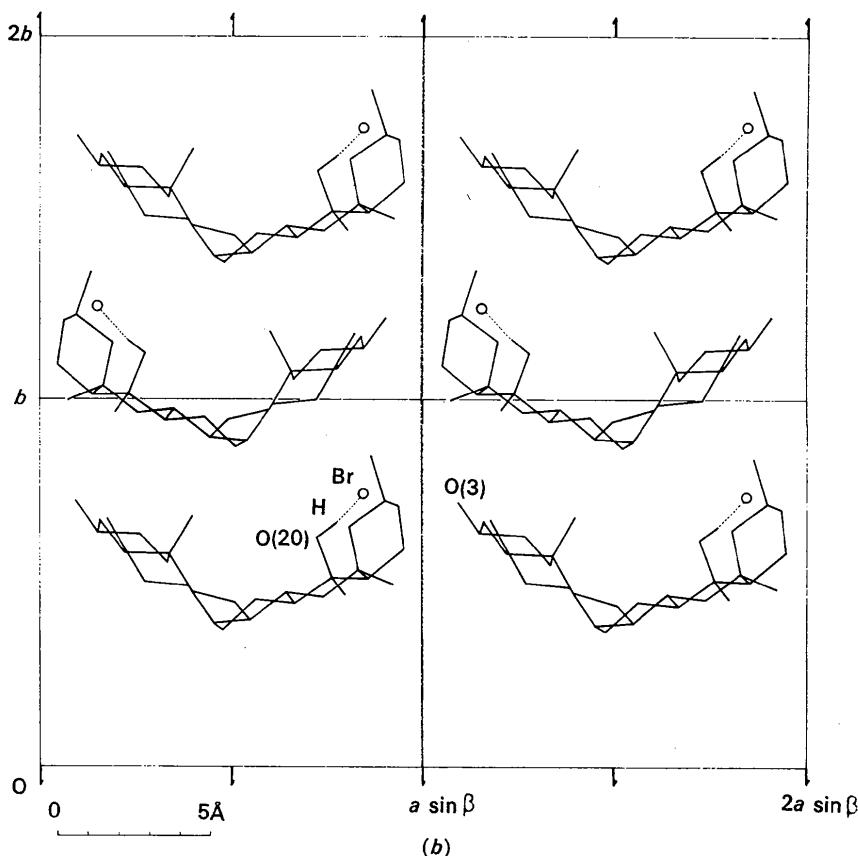


Fig. 6 (cont.) (b) Molecular packing as seen along the c axis. The circles represent the bromine ion. Hydrogen bonds are shown by broken lines.

from the oxygen atom, O(3), of another cation translated by $+a$, $+c$. The difference Fourier synthesis, however, did not show any significant peak between Br and O(3), and the hydrogen attached to O(3) is at 3.62 Å from the bromine atom.

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While this paper was being prepared for publication, a note on the X-ray structure analysis of verticinone methobromide, by Itô, Fukazawa, Okuda and Iitaka (1968) came to our attention. Their results, as reported in the note, agree with ours.

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