

## The Crystal Structure of Strontium Dipicolinate Tetrahydrate, $\text{Sr} \cdot \text{C}_7\text{H}_3\text{NO}_4 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$

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The crystal structure of strontium dipicolinate tetrahydrate has been determined and refined on the basis of data collected by an automatic diffractometer. Crystals are monoclinic, space group  $C2/c$ , with cell dimensions  $a=10.698$ ,  $b=12.827$ ,  $c=8.394$  Å,  $\beta=98.75^\circ$ ; there are four molecules per unit cell. The structure was determined by interpretation of the Patterson function and was refined by least-squares methods to an  $R$  index of 0.044. The dipicolinate ion is coordinated to the strontium ion as a tridentate ligand. The strontium ion is coordinated to eight oxygen atoms and one nitrogen atom. Two of the eight oxygen atoms belong to carboxyl groups of the same dipicolinate ion; two others belong to carboxyl groups of two additional dipicolinate ions; the four remaining oxygen atoms are in water molecules. The structure consists of a continuous ribbon of alternately oriented dipicolinate ions, coordinately bonded to strontium ions. There are four hydrogen bonds per asymmetric unit between carboxyl oxygen atoms and water oxygen atoms. Three of them are between oxygen atoms in the same dipicolinate ribbon. The fourth links two oxygen atoms in adjacent ribbons.

### Introduction

The heat resistance and metabolic dormancy of bacterial spores are thought to rest on, yet undefined, morphological structures in association with the biologically unusual spore component calcium dipicolinate (Ca.DPA) (Murrell, Ohye & Gordon, 1969). Insight as to the role of Ca.DPA has been sought through replacement of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  or  $\text{DPA}^{2-}$  by other metal or ligand ions for sporulation (Slepecky, 1961; Fukuda, Gilvarg & Lewis, 1969) and for Ca.DPA-induced germination (Riemann & Ordal, 1961; Jaye & Ordal, 1965; Lewis, 1969). For example,  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$  substitutes for  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , and 4*H*-pyran-2,6-dicarboxylate (PDC) substitutes for DPA. The presence of a dimeric linkage  $\text{Ca}-\text{O}, \text{O}'-\text{Ca}'$  in the crystals of Ca.DPA.3H<sub>2</sub>O (Strahs & Dickerson, 1968) and the isostructural Ca.PDC.3H<sub>2</sub>O (Palmer & Lee, 1969), and the complete interchangeability of these compounds in sporulation and germination, have led to a hypothesis that Ca.DPA serves as a readily mobilizable structure-locking component of the dormant bacterial spore (Lewis, 1969). A search for similar linkages in active and inactive analogues of Ca.DPA has led to the finding (reported here) of a related polymeric linkage in the crystalline tetrahydrate of the active compound strontium dipicolinate (Sr.DPA.4H<sub>2</sub>O).

### Experimental

Crystals of strontium dipicolinate tetrahydrate were grown from saturated water solutions. The crystals are bipyramids, slightly elongated along  $c$ . The density, measured by suspension in a mixture of benzene and dibromomethane, is  $1.89 \text{ g.cm}^{-3}$ . There are four molecules in the unit cell.

Zero- and upper-level Weissenberg and precession photographs indicated Laue symmetry  $2/m$ . Reflections  $hkl$  were observed only when  $h+k=2n$ , and  $h0l$  reflections were observed only when  $l=2n$ . These restrictions are compatible with either space group  $Cc$  or  $C2/c$ . The structure was successfully solved in  $C2/c$ . The unit-cell dimensions were refined by high-angle  $\theta-2\theta$  scans with a  $1^\circ$  take-off angle. The crystal data are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. *Crystal data*

Sr. $\text{C}_7\text{H}_3\text{NO}_4 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$	F.W. 324.74
Monoclinic	Space group $C2/c$
$a=10.698$ (5) Å	$Z=4$
$b=12.827$ (6)	$F(000)=322.56$
$c=8.394$ (4)	$\rho_m=1.89 \text{ g.cm}^{-3}$
$\beta=98.75$ (1)°	$\rho_c=1.878 \text{ g.cm}^{-3}$
$\lambda \text{ Cu } K\alpha_1=1.54051$ Å	

Intensity data were obtained from a small crystal, measuring about 0.1 mm on a side. A four-circle diffractometer, equipped with a full-circle goniostat and controlled by a time-sharing computer, was used. The Ni-filtered Cu radiation was detected by a scintillation counter equipped with a single-channel pulse-height analyzer. Data were recorded for angles up to  $2\theta=145^\circ$  using the  $\theta-2\theta$  scanning technique. The scan rate was  $1^\circ \text{ min}^{-1}$  (in  $2\theta$ ). Backgrounds were measured  $0.5^\circ$  on each side of the scan limits. The net intensity  $I$  was calculated by the expression  $I=C-(B_1+B_2)(T_c/2T_b)$ , where  $C$  is the total scan count in time  $T_c$ , and  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  are the two backgrounds each counted for  $T_b=10$  sec.

Three standard reflections were measured every 48 reflections; no significant change in their intensities

was noted. 2804 reflections were measured, of which 1135 were independent. Eight reflections had  $I < \sigma(I)$  and were given zero weight in the least-squares refinement of the parameters.

Variances  $\sigma^2(I)$  were calculated from  $\sigma^2(I) = [C + (T_c/2T_b)^2 (B_1 + B_2) + (0.05I)^2]$ , where the factor 0.05 was arbitrarily chosen to accommodate systematic errors. The intensities and their standard devia-

Table 2. Positional and thermal parameters ( $\text{\AA}^2$ )

Standard deviations are in parentheses. Symmetry of the special positions of Sr, N, and C(4) restricts  $B_{12} = B_{23} = 0$ . Anisotropic temperature factor has the form:  $T = \exp[-\frac{1}{4} \sum \sum B_{ij} h_i h_j / (b_i b_j)]$ , where  $h_i$  is the  $i$ th Miller index,  $b_i$  is the  $i$ th reciprocal axis length, and  $i$  and  $j$  are cycled 1 through 3. Isotropic temperature factor has the form:  $T = \exp[-B(\sin \theta/\lambda)^2]$ .

	$10^4x$	$10^4y$	$10^4z$	$B_{11}$	$B_{22}$	$B_{33}$	$B_{12}$	$B_{13}$	$B_{23}$
Sr	0	125.4 (2)	$\frac{1}{2}$	2.48 (2)	1.40 (2)	1.37 (2)	0	-0.00 (1)	0
N	0	2184 (3)	$\frac{1}{2}$	2.1 (1)	1.7 (1)	1.9 (1)	0	0.14 (9)	0
O(1)	1409 (2)	2503 (2)	6553 (3)	5.8 (1)	2.4 (1)	2.22 (9)	-1.06 (9)	-0.85 (9)	-0.36 (8)
O(2)	651 (2)	1087 (2)	5215 (2)	3.63 (8)	1.87 (8)	2.02 (8)	-0.50 (6)	0.04 (7)	-0.03 (6)
O(3)	-2314 (2)	791 (2)	2941 (3)	3.28 (9)	2.4 (1)	2.5 (1)	0.63 (8)	0.20 (7)	0.22 (8)
O(4)	-2073 (2)	-1007 (2)	1226 (3)	3.6 (1)	3.3 (1)	2.25 (9)	-0.24 (8)	0.26 (8)	-0.08 (8)
C(1)	876 (2)	2048 (2)	5324 (3)	2.7 (1)	2.0 (1)	1.9 (1)	-0.22 (8)	0.12 (8)	0.02 (9)
C(2)	436 (2)	2713 (2)	3838 (3)	2.26 (9)	1.8 (1)	2.1 (2)	-0.05 (7)	0.32 (8)	-0.02 (3)
C(3)	474 (3)	3789 (2)	3881 (4)	3.1 (1)	1.8 (1)	2.8 (1)	-0.19 (9)	0.4 (1)	-0.35 (9)
C(4)	0	4338 (4)	$\frac{1}{2}$	3.1 (2)	1.5 (1)	3.3 (2)	0	0.6 (1)	0
H(1)	0	500 (4)	$\frac{1}{2}$	2.9 (16)					
H(2)	86 (4)	422 (4)	489 (6)	3.9 (9)					
H(3)	-253 (5)	122 (4)	253 (6)	4.4 (14)					
H(4)	-234 (4)	84 (4)	394 (6)	3.6 (9)					
H(5)	-254 (4)	-67 (4)	167 (6)	3.6 (9)					
H(6)	-185 (5)	-158 (5)	188 (7)	5.9 (13)					

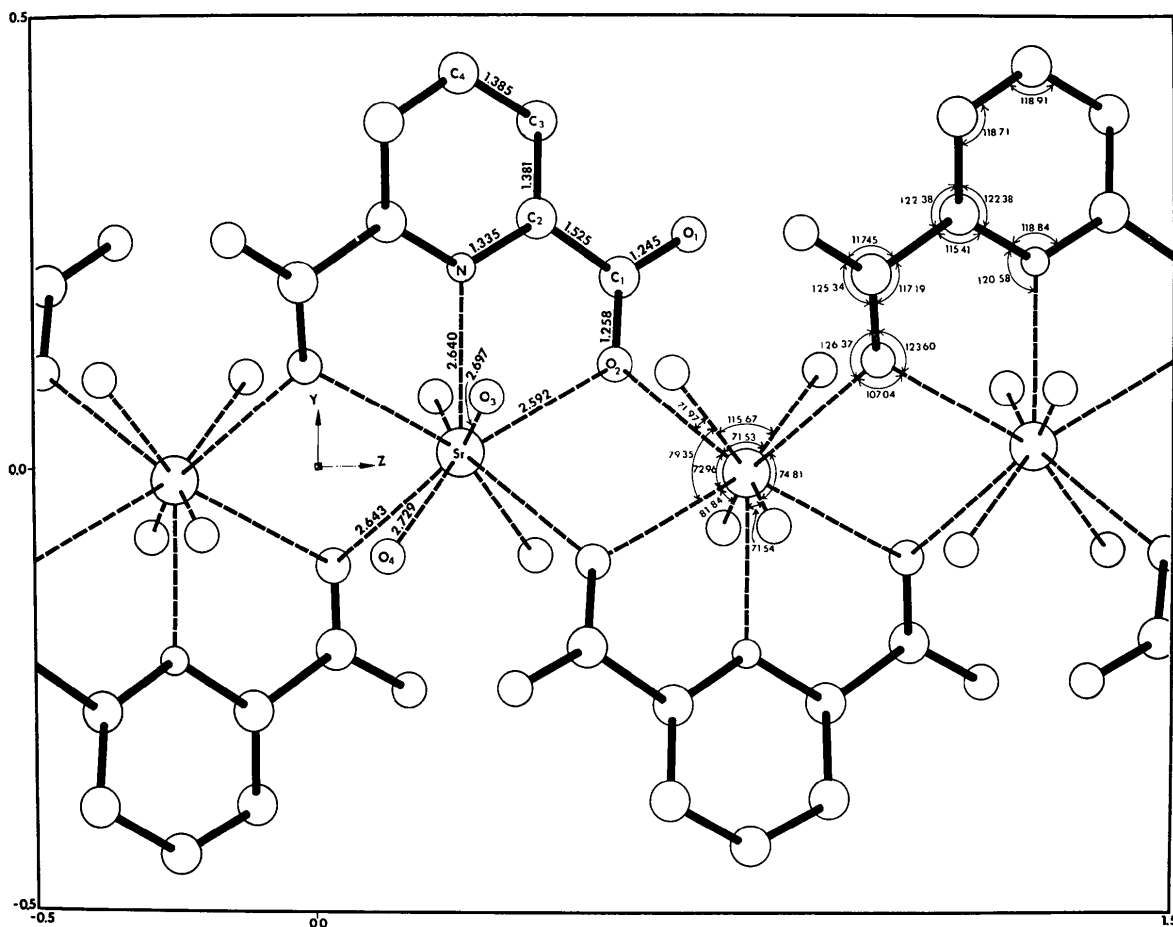


Fig. 1. Projection of structure down a. Sr, N, and C(4) lie on a twofold axis. The numbering of atoms, bond lengths, and bond angles is also shown.



ference map led to the determination of approximate parameters for all six hydrogen atoms. Three additional cycles of least-squares refinement led to an  $R$  index of 0.049.

An inspection of the results revealed that the very intense reflections had  $F_o \ll F_c$ . An extinction correction of the form  $F_{\text{corr}} = \text{SF}[1 + (\text{EF})I]F_o$  (Zachariasen, 1963), where SF is the scale factor, and EF the extinction factor, was applied to the data and led to a significant improvement between calculated and observed structure factors.

An extinction factor of  $6 \times 10^{-7}$  resulted in a final  $R$  index of 0.044.

The effects of using scattering factors for neutral Sr and O versus  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$  and  $\text{O}(2)^-$  were compared and found to be essentially the same. Values listed for positional and thermal parameters and their standard deviations (Table 2), and observed and calculated structure factors (Table 3), were calculated with atomic scattering factors for  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{O}(2)^-$ , and O(1) neutral.

### Discussion of the structure

The numbering system used in this study and the interatomic distances and angles for the heavy atoms are

shown in Fig. 1. Bond distances involving the hydrogen atoms are listed in Table 4. The estimated standard deviations of the distances are 0.003 Å for Sr–O, 0.004 Å for Sr–N, C–N, C–C, & C–O, and 0.10 Å for H–C and H–O bonds; corresponding e.s.d.'s in the angles involving heavy atoms are about 0.10°.

Table 4. Bond distances and angles involving hydrogen atoms

E.s.d.'s are 0.10 Å and 3.0°.			
H(1)–C(4)	0.84 Å	H(1)–C(4)–C(3)	120°
H(2)–C(3)	1.04	H(2)–C(3)–C(4)	117
H(3)–O(3)	0.67	H(2)–C(3)–C(2)	123
H(4)–O(3)	0.84	H(3)–O(3)–H(4)	112
H(5)–O(4)	0.80	H(5)–O(4)–H(6)	106
H(6)–O(4)	0.92		

The dipicolinate ion is coordinated to the strontium ion as a tridentate ligand. The coordination around the strontium ion consists of nine atoms: four carboxyl oxygen atoms, four water oxygen atoms, and nitrogen. The four carboxyl oxygen atoms belong to three dipicolinate ions, and each carboxyl oxygen atom is in turn bonded to two strontium ions. This leads to continuous ribbons composed of oppositely oriented

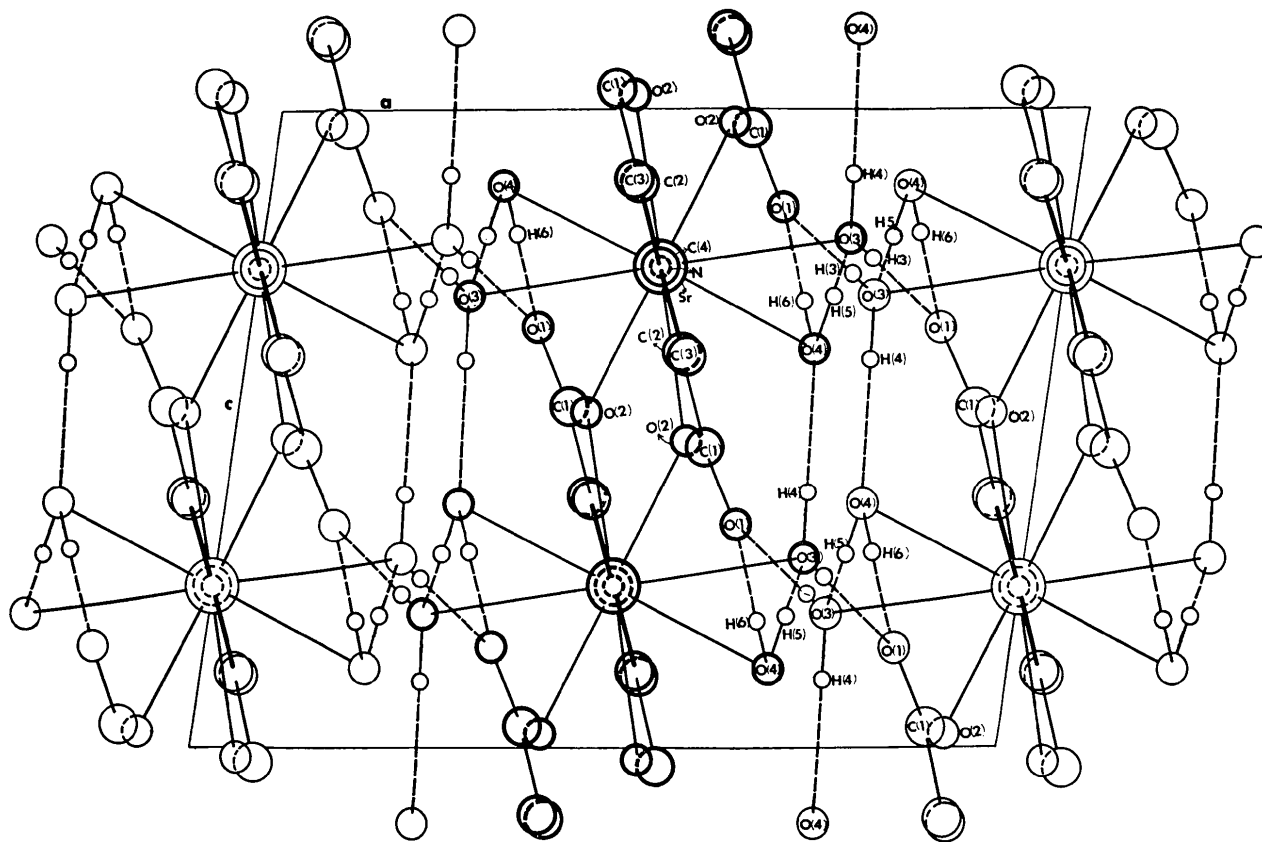


Fig. 2. Projection of structure onto the (101) plane. The six-membered rings are seen edge-on in a direction parallel to the C(2)–C(3) bond. The nitrogen atoms lie directly above (or below) the strontium ions. The atoms shown as thick circles belong to one ribbon of dipicolinate ions. The origin of the unit cell is the upper left-hand corner.

dipicolinate ions bonded together through strontium ions, as shown in Fig. 1. The discrete dimers that occur in Ca.DPA.3H<sub>2</sub>O (Strahs & Dickerson, 1968) are not present in Sr.DPA.4H<sub>2</sub>O.

The dipicolinate ribbons run parallel to the *c* axis; adjacent ribbons in the *a*-axis direction are related by the twofold screw axes parallel to the *b* axis. Consequently, carboxyl groups of adjacent ribbons are bonded to strontium ions translated  $\pm \frac{1}{2}y$  from those shown in Fig. 1. This results in sheets composed of water molecules, carboxyl oxygen atoms, and strontium ions parallel to the *ac* plane. One such sheet is shown edgeon in Fig. 1.

The packing and bonding in strontium dipicolinate are illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2.

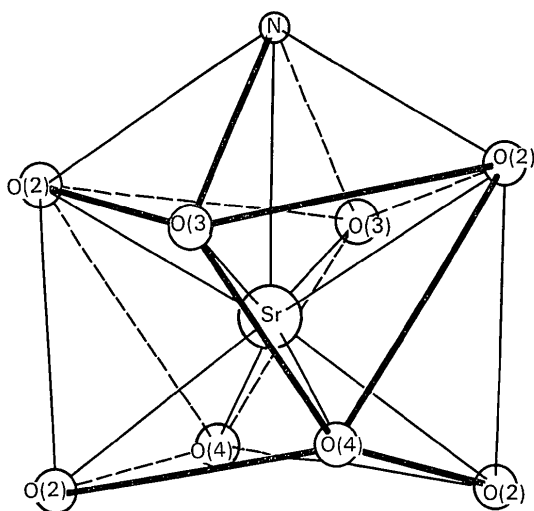


Fig. 3. Packing of nine atoms around the strontium ion to form monocapped square antiprism. O(2) designates carboxyl oxygen atoms; O(3) and O(4) are water oxygen atoms.

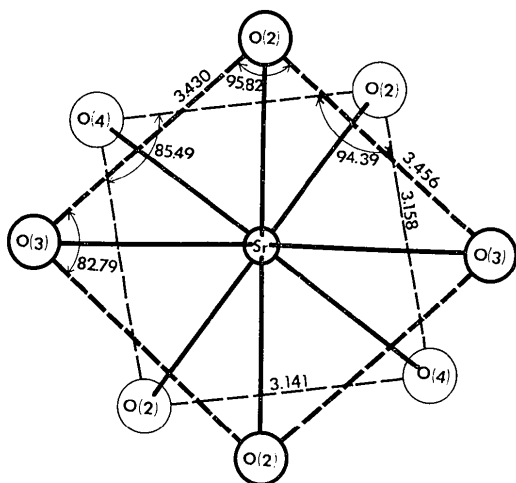


Fig. 4. Arrangement of oxygen atoms around the strontium ion as viewed down the twofold N-Sr axis. The interatomic distances and angles between the oxygen atoms are shown.

The bond distances and angles found for the dipicolinate group agree well with those reported for Ca.DPA.3H<sub>2</sub>O (Strahs & Dickerson, 1968). The nine atoms consisting of the pyridine ring, C(1), C(1') and Sr are coplanar as required by the twofold axis passing through Sr, N, and C(4). The four atoms C(1), C(2), O(1), and O(2) are also coplanar; the out-of-plane distances of these atoms from their least-squares plane are given in Table 5. The dihedral angle between these two planes, *i.e.*, the twist about the C(1)-C(2) bond, is 9.1°.

Table 5. Planarity of the carboxyl group in Sr.DPA.4H<sub>2</sub>O

The values are the out-of-plane distances of atoms of the carboxyl group and C(2) from their least-squares plane. The dihedral angle between the plane of the pyridine ring and the carboxyl group is 9.1°.

C(1)	0.006 Å
C(2)	-0.002
O(1)	-0.002
O(2)	-0.002

Two different Sr-O(2) distances occur in the crystal. The distance between the strontium ion and the carboxyl oxygen atoms of the same dipicolinate ion is slightly shorter (2.592 Å) than the distance between the strontium ion and the two carboxyl oxygen atoms from different dipicolinate ions (2.643 Å). Another manifestation of this is shown by the angle 115.4° for C(1)-C(2)-N. A similar value for this angle (114.9°) was found in Ca.DPA. The approximate equivalence of the C-O bond lengths indicates an ionic structure for the carboxyl group and about 50% double-bond character for the C-O bonds. The nine atoms coordinated to strontium form a distorted, monocapped square antiprism. The arrangement of these nine atoms around the strontium ion is shown in Fig. 3. The interatomic distances and angles between the oxygen atoms of the antiprism are shown in Fig. 4.

There are four hydrogen bonds per asymmetric unit in the crystal. They are shown as dashed lines in Fig. 2. The positions of the hydrogen atoms forming the hydrogen bonds are also shown. The hydrogen-bond distances are given in Table 6, and from their magnitudes it is concluded they are relatively strong.

Table 6. Hydrogen bond distances and angles

	O-O distance	Angle
O(1)-H(3)-O(3)	2.743 Å	165°
O(3)-H(4)-O(4)	2.744	169
O(3)-H(5)-O(4)	2.752	132
O(1)-H(6)-O(4)	2.695	168

Each water molecule is involved in three hydrogen bonds and one coordinate bond to Sr (Fig. 2). Of the four crystallographically distinct hydrogen bonds, one occurs between oxygen atoms of the same antiprism, O(3)-O(4), one between oxygen atoms of adjacent

antiprisms but belonging to the same dipicolinate ribbon, O(3)–O(4), one between O(1) and O(4) where again both oxygen atoms belong to the same dipicolinate ribbon, and one between O(3) and O(1) where the two oxygen atoms belong to adjacent ribbons. This latter hydrogen bond is the only bond between atoms of adjacent dipicolinate ribbons.

Each carboxyl oxygen atom is involved in three bonds. O(2) has two coordinate bonds to strontium ions and a covalent bond to C(1); O(1) is covalently bonded to C(1) and forms hydrogen bonds with two water molecules. The carboxyl oxygen atoms in Ca.DPA.3H<sub>2</sub>O (Strahs & Dickerson, 1968) also form three bonds.

The shortest contact distances between heavy atoms of different molecules are 3.398 Å for C(4)–O(3) and 3.488 Å for C(4)–O(4). All other contact distances are greater than 3.5 Å. The Sr–Sr distance is 4.209 Å.

The anisotropic thermal parameters shown in Table 2 are all quite small, including those for the water oxygen atoms. These values suggest that the heavy atoms are rather firmly bound in the crystal. Although the coordination of the cations in Sr.DPA and Ca.DPA is different in the crystalline state, it is evident that both compounds are capable of forming strong bonds to polar groups. This fact probably accounts for the ability of strontium dipicolinate to replace calcium dipicolinate in certain spores (Slepecky, 1961) with only

a small reduction in heat resistance and metabolic inertness.

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*Acta Cryst.* (1972). **B28**, 228

## Etude Structurale du Violurate de Cuivre, (C<sub>4</sub>O<sub>4</sub>N<sub>3</sub>H<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cu. 4H<sub>2</sub>O

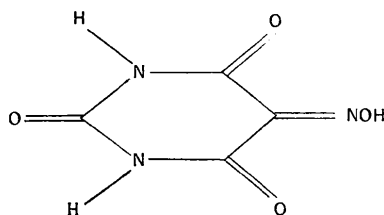
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Copper(II) violurate tetrahydrate crystallizes in the triclinic system, space group  $P\bar{1}$  with one molecule in the unit cell of dimensions  $a = 12.66$ ,  $b = 5.14$ ,  $c = 6.36$  Å,  $\alpha = 102^\circ$ ,  $\beta = 112^\circ$ ,  $\gamma = 93^\circ$ . The violurate anions are almost planar. The copper coordination has been shown to be a distorted octahedron. It consists of two water molecules [O(5) atoms at 2.06 Å] and two oxime nitrogen [N(3) atoms at 1.97 Å] in a planar square configuration and of two more distant neighbours, ketonic oxygen [O(3) atoms at 2.21 Å]. The molecules are linked together by a hydrogen bond network.

L'acide violurique, dont la structure a été déterminée de façon précise (Craven & Mascarenhas, 1964), est représenté par la formule développée suivante:



Cet acide donne des sels très bien cristallisés et de colorations variées pouvant servir à des tests pour l'identification de cations minéraux (van Ligten & van Velthuyzen, 1964).

L'étude structurale de ces composés a été abordée par Gillier (1965) avec le violurate de rubidium et le violurate dihydraté de potassium.

En choisissant des métaux bivalents, il était, en outre, intéressant d'établir le mode de fixation des cations aux anions violurates. Nous avons indiqué antérieurement les configurations moléculaires des violurates de strontium et de cuivre (Hamelin, 1967, 1968).