

The Crystal Structures of 2,2',4,4',6,6'-Hexanitroazobenzene (HNAB), Forms I and II*

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The crystal structures of two polymorphic forms of hexanitroazobenzene, or HNAB, $C_{12}H_4N_8O_{12}$, have been determined by direct methods and refined by analysis of three-dimensional Mo $K\alpha$ intensity data. The unit cell for HNAB, form I, is monoclinic ($a=10.149$, $b=8.263$, $c=10.055$ Å, $\beta=97.29^\circ$), space group $P2_1/c$, with 2 molecules per cell. HNAB, form II, is monoclinic ($a=10.632$, $b=21.869$, $c=7.585$ Å, $\beta=102.56^\circ$), space group $P2_1/a$, with 4 molecules per cell. Least-squares refinement of all positional and thermal parameters (hydrogen atoms isotropic) with 1335/1635 reflections of non-zero weight, gave a final R index of 0.063/0.047 for form I/form II, respectively. Only one of the substituent groups is coplanar with the benzene rings, and both forms display a *trans* configuration. The following ranges of interatomic separations were obtained: C=C, 1.380–1.397/1.357–1.398 Å; C–N(O), 1.472–1.487/1.473–1.490 Å; C–N(N), 1.426/1.430–1.438 Å; N–O, 1.209–1.232/1.197–1.220 Å; N=N, 1.244/1.243 Å for form I/form II respectively.

Introduction

Five crystalline polymorphs of 2,2',4,4',6,6'-hexanitroazobenzene (HNAB) have been identified by hot-stage optical microscopy (McCrone, 1967). Forms I and III are stable from room temperature to 185°C and form II from room temperature to 205°C. The very unstable forms IV and V are formed only from the melt on supercooling during recrystallization. Forms II and III also transform rapidly through the solution phase into form I. Bulk samples of HNAB, regardless of polymorphic forms present, melt at 223°C.

HNAB is extremely complex in its crystallographic behavior as evidenced by the relationships among the various phase transformations. In order to understand some of these relationships and as part of an effort to elucidate fundamental properties of explosives, it has been desirable to determine the crystal structures of several HNAB forms. Efforts to grow single crystals of form III suitable for X-ray measurements are currently underway, and we now report on the crystal structures of HNAB-I and HNAB-II.

Experimental

A sample of hexanitroazobenzene was obtained from the Explosive Component Division of our Laboratories; the compound was prepared by reacting purified picryl chloride with hydrazine and potassium acetate in ethanol followed by acidification with hydrochloric acid. This yield of crude hexanitrohydrazobenzene is subsequently oxidized with nitric acid to give orange-colored crystals of HNAB. About 70% of the crystals from this preparation were form I crystals with the

balance being form II. Larger crystals of the two forms were obtained by recrystallizations from nitromethane and have the morphological characteristics shown in Fig. 1. Equant crystals of form I consisted of 'rhombohedra' with monoclinic symmetry and well developed dipyrmaid $\{111\}$ faces and $\{100\}$ basal pinacoids. Form II consisted of long, obliquely truncated rods with $\{110\}$ prism and $\{001\}$ basal pinacoids. The crystals used for the collection of X-ray data were approximately equi-dimensional and chosen with appropriate dimensions such that absorption corrections (for Mo $K\alpha$, $\mu=1.76$ – 1.82 cm $^{-1}$) would be unnecessary.

Precession and Weissenberg photographs were used to determine preliminary unit-cell dimensions and space-group extinctions and to inspect the diffraction images for satellites. Systematic absences and the symmetry of the reciprocal lattice indicated the space groups to be $P2_1/c$ and $P2_1/a$ for forms I and II, respectively. Cell dimensions for both polymorphs were obtained by least-squares fit of 11 zonal reflections (λ Mo $K\alpha=0.71069$ Å) which were measured on a single-crystal diffractometer at 23°C. Table 1 sum-

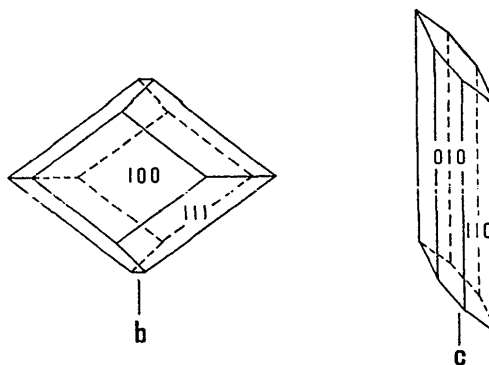


Fig. 1. Perspective drawings of HNAB. Left, form I; right, form II.

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marizes the crystallographic data for forms I and II. The calculated densities agree within a third of a percent with the observed densities as measured by flotation in an aqueous barium perchlorate solution.

Table 1. *Crystallographic data for HNAB**

Form	I	II
Space group	$P2_1/c$	$P2_1/a$
a (Å)	10.149 (4)	10.632 (4)
b	8.263 (3)	21.869 (7)
c	10.055 (4)	7.585 (3)
β (°)	97.29 (4)	102.56 (4)
Cell contents	$2[C_{12}H_4N_8O_{12}]$	$4[C_{12}H_4N_8O_{12}]$
D (g cm ⁻³), calc.	1.795	1.744
obs.	1.799	1.750

* Standard error in parentheses.

The θ - 2θ scan technique with a scintillation detector employing pulse-height discrimination was used to measure the Mo $K\alpha$ intensity data at room temperature. Reflections within a sphere limited by $2\theta = 54^\circ$ (form I) and $2\theta = 42^\circ$ (form II) were measured with a β -filter (Zr). Background radiation was measured at each end of the scan with crystal and counter stationary, and was assumed to be a linear function of 2θ

between these points. Unique sets of 1824 and 1859 reflections were measured for forms I and II respectively; from these sets 489 and 224 reflections were less than 3σ and considered unobserved. $\sigma = \sqrt{(N_{sc} + K^2 N_b)}$, where N_{sc} , N_b and K are the total scan counts, background counts and the time ratio of scan to background, respectively. Intensities were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects to obtain the observed structure amplitudes; no corrections for absorption or extinction were applied. Atomic scattering factors for C, N and O were taken from Table 3.3.1A of *International Tables for X-ray Crystallography* (1962); for hydrogen, the factors of Stewart, Davidson & Simpson (1965) were used.

Determination and refinement of the structures

Each structure was solved by direct methods through the symbolic addition procedure (Karle & Karle, 1966). The data were corrected for vibrational motion and placed on an absolute scale by means of a K curve. Statistical averages for the normalized structure factors and the distribution of E magnitudes favored the centrosymmetric space groups as shown in Table 2. Phases were determined by hand application of the Σ_2

Table 2. *Statistical averages and distribution of $|E|$ for HNAB*

	Experimental		Theoretical	
	Form I	Form II	Centro-symmetric	Noncentro-symmetric
$\langle E \rangle$	0.795	0.778	0.798	0.866
$\langle E ^2 - 1 \rangle$	0.989	1.015	0.968	0.736
$\langle E ^2 \rangle$	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
$ E > 3.0$	0.005	0.006	0.003	0.0001
$ E > 2.0$	0.040	0.046	0.050	0.018
$ E > 1.0$	0.308	0.296	0.320	0.368

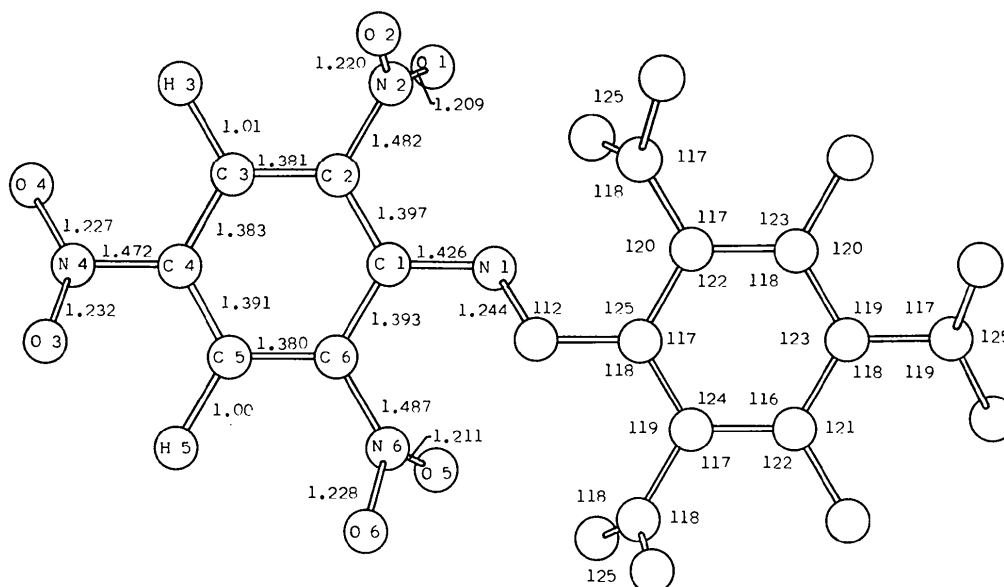


Fig. 2. Bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) in HNAB, form I.

expression where the origin was specified by assigning signs to three linearly independent reflections (Hauptman & Karle, 1953). Other reflections were also specified with letter symbols as shown in Table 3. From the list of 186 values of $|E| > 1.6$ for the form I poly-

Table 3. Initial phase assignments for HNAB

	<i>h</i>	<i>k</i>	<i>l</i>	$ E_{hkl} $	φ_{hkl}
Form I	5	1	$\bar{7}$	4.074	0
	4	7	$\bar{9}$	3.867	0
	2	5	6	2.923	0
	7	5	$\bar{1}$	3.632	<i>a</i>
	8	4	0	3.542	<i>b</i>
Form II	6	9	3	4.191	0
	2	4	1	3.275	0
	3	2	$\bar{2}$	3.106	π
	8	9	2	4.667	<i>a</i>
	2	5	1	3.118	<i>b</i>
	0	5	1	2.947	<i>c</i>

Table 4. Final positional and thermal parameters for HNAB

The standard deviations apply to the rightmost digits of the least-squares parameters. The anisotropic temperature factor is of the form:

$$\exp\left(-\frac{1}{4} \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^3 B_{ij} h_i h_j a_i^* a_j^*\right).$$

(a) Form I

<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	<i>B</i> ₁₁	<i>B</i> ₂₂	<i>B</i> ₃₃	<i>B</i> ₁₂	<i>B</i> ₁₃	<i>B</i> ₂₃	<i>B</i> _{iso}
N 1	0.49915±26	0.46215±34	0.05398±27	1.56±9	2.07±10	1.93±9	-0.09±9	0.17±9	0.07±9
N 2	0.47629±29	0.40025±38	0.39674±29	2.43±11	2.71±12	1.88±10	-0.29±11	0.71±10	-0.71±10
N 4	0.49050±31	0.41320±37	0.41375±32	2.41±12	2.20±12	2.86±13	-0.03±12	-0.79±11	-0.79±11
N 6	0.76979±24	0.40211±37	0.36995±28	1.67±10	1.67±10	2.15±11	0.20±10	0.24±9	-0.37±11
C 1	0.61815±30	0.36867±36	0.14281±30	1.95±11	1.39±12	1.65±11	-0.04±11	0.20±9	0.76±11
C 2	0.60728±31	0.41719±38	0.27766±31	2.10±12	1.70±11	1.74±11	-0.21±12	0.49±10	0.13±11
C 3	0.71188±34	0.36897±42	0.36933±34	2.51±13	2.12±13	2.03±13	-0.10±13	-0.75±11	-0.14±13
C 4	0.43320±31	0.78690±38	0.32142±32	1.89±12	1.71±11	2.17±12	-0.26±12	-0.38±10	-0.11±10
C 5	0.95360±32	0.04762±41	0.10113±34	1.89±12	2.09±12	2.38±12	0.17±12	0.32±11	0.01±12
C 6	0.74527±31	0.39977±38	0.10475±31	1.84±11	1.77±11	1.82±11	0.11±11	0.30±10	0.04±13
O 1	0.41836±31	0.47936±40	0.30611±36	3.01±13	3.77±14	4.43±15	-1.21±13	1.97±11	-1.43±13
O 2	0.43778±31	0.11326±37	0.23902±34	3.70±13	3.16±12	4.39±14	0.79±13	2.33±12	-0.79±12
O 3	0.0426±29	0.19721±44	0.25779±34	2.57±12	4.81±16	4.49±15	-2.71±13	-0.11±11	-0.85±16
O 4	0.93490±31	0.15653±39	0.51376±28	4.07±13	3.39±12	2.46±12	0.33±13	-0.81±12	-0.65±12
O 5	0.71121±27	0.42736±33	0.91249±28	2.84±11	2.71±11	3.04±11	-0.30±11	0.78±10	-1.73±11
C 6	0.94898±37	0.27066±42	0.31373±33	3.70±13	4.76±15	3.30±13	-1.60±14	2.31±13	-0.90±13
H 3	0.7011 ±33	0.2934 ±33	0.4651 ±36						1.37±1
H 5	0.9430 ±33	0.0629 ±31	0.1621 ±32						0.89±1

(b) Form II

C 1	0.80095±37	0.58219±47	0.46792±51	2.44±13	1.93±17	1.53±17	0.17±15	-0.71±15	0.53±15
C 2	0.84033±40	0.57739±44	0.45392±53	3.03±20	1.98±18	2.40±19	-0.31±15	0.13±16	0.26±15
C 3	0.80856±49	0.52275±50	0.37991±57	4.74±24	3.06±21	2.33±20	0.26±19	0.68±19	-0.36±17
C 4	0.72396±43	0.49313±41	0.42821±46	3.95±23	1.61±18	1.83±19	-0.07±16	-0.46±17	-0.37±16
C 5	0.67928±42	0.44062±48	0.58189±58	3.79±21	1.80±19	1.79±21	-0.49±16	-0.13±17	0.65±16
C 6	0.72371±40	0.53949±48	0.50031±53	3.11±20	2.73±19	2.19±19	0.13±16	0.11±18	0.43±16
C11	0.98918±37	0.68847±47	0.92310±52	2.67±18	1.29±15	1.13±18	-0.39±15	0.29±14	-0.11±15
C12	0.92674±37	0.78130±48	0.91994±52	2.62±18	2.26±18	2.11±19	-0.12±15	-0.27±15	0.79±17
C13	0.96435±40	0.40061±49	0.51213±57	3.95±20	1.56±18	1.39±21	0.40±15	0.14±16	0.79±16
C41	0.04475±38	0.79084±49	0.16974±54	2.73±19	2.04±18	2.53±19	-0.47±15	0.16±15	-0.44±15
C51	0.10915±37	0.73767±49	0.20719±52	2.06±18	2.97±20	2.01±18	0.73±16	-0.21±14	0.71±15
C61	0.07967±38	0.69048±48	0.28234±53	2.53±19	1.9±18	2.41±19	0.14±15	0.29±15	0.79±15
N 1	0.84080±31	0.63498±44	0.76174±42	2.93±16	1.77±15	1.87±15	-0.25±13	0.74±13	0.71±12
N 2	0.93297±36	0.61730±47	0.42396±46	4.02±19	3.71±19	2.41±17	-0.55±15	2.14±14	-0.79±14
N 4	0.68029±41	0.42966±47	0.31166±52	5.61±23	2.59±18	3.59±19	-0.49±16	-0.54±17	-0.73±16
N 6	0.87092±40	0.54499±47	0.49310±51	5.36±22	3.23±19	3.61±19	-1.7±17	1.17±17	-0.74±16
N11	0.95856±32	0.46526±44	0.80370±52	2.89±16	1.96±15	1.63±15	-0.23±13	0.67±17	-0.21±13
N21	0.83014±35	0.76535±45	0.72211±47	1.81±19	2.07±16	2.91±17	-0.24±14	-1.03±14	-0.25±13
N41	0.06960±33	0.84075±46	0.30663±49	2.57±16	0.91±17	1.58±18	-0.05±14	0.11±14	-1.15±15
N61	0.14560±35	0.63148±45	0.17502±45	3.84±19	2.64±17	2.41±16	0.77±14	0.51±14	4.76±13
O 1	0.87969±38	0.65940±46	0.33704±55	6.79±21	3.55±17	7.89±24	0.34±15	3.71±19	0.71±17
C 2	0.04590±35	0.60790±47	0.45333±42	4.79±18	9.98±27	5.77±21	-1.10±14	1.19±16	1.79±17
O 3	0.72027±39	0.42545±46	0.17924±47	9.07±24	4.05±18	4.19±18	-1.15±13	0.29±17	-0.77±16
C 4	0.60737±41	0.39399±45	0.36226±50	6.07±26	3.79±16	4.41±16	-0.45±13	0.78±15	-1.19±16
O 5	0.57739±38	0.52268±49	0.37870±53	6.70±22	7.17±24	4.29±22	-0.76±13	3.11±18	-0.74±16
C 6	0.79514±43	0.56495±49	0.98902±46	4.94±20	7.13±26	2.79±18	-1.55±13	1.65±16	-0.23±16
O11	0.86330±33	0.78741±44	0.58257±39	5.94±19	1.42±15	2.75±12	-1.19±14	-0.45±13	0.70±13
O12	0.72810±31	0.78645±41	0.73794±47	3.66±15	6.76±19	6.72±19	1.44±15	-1.47±14	-0.71±12
O13	0.04114±32	0.89264±43	0.25384±45	5.29±19	1.81±13	5.11±14	-0.27±13	-0.74±13	-0.71±13
C41	0.11610±32	0.92878±45	0.46121±44	4.99±17	4.66±17	2.71±14	0.73±14	-0.74±13	-1.23±13
O51	0.25780±29	0.61361±45	0.22500±44	2.98±15	4.02±16	4.67±17	1.71±14	-0.47±13	0.71±13
O61	0.09334±34	0.58495±43	0.07911±46	5.88±20	1.99±14	2.14±18	0.42±13	-0.59±15	-0.74±13
H 3	0.8370 ±33	0.5190 ±36	0.2911 ±37						2.79±9
H 5	0.9209 ±31	0.4656 ±35	0.6124 ±44						1.81±7
H31	0.9149 ±31	0.4937 ±35	0.9951 ±43						1.59±7
H51	0.1652 ±28	0.7332 ±33	0.2901 ±39						0.56±2

morph, 133 were found (34 being either 0 or π and 99 phases in terms of the symbols *a* and *b*). Accordingly, four *E* maps were computed. Only one of these maps resolved the expected molecular features (*a*=0, *b*=0) and the 16 largest peaks selected from this map completely defined the entire heavy-atom molecule. The positions of these peaks were used as input to the least-squares refinement. For the 133 phases assigned consistent with *a* and *b* values of zero, there were no incorrect phases as shown by the final structure.

From the form II data set, 551 values of $|E| > 1.0$ were used in the symbolic addition procedure. Of these, 231 phases were found (57 either 0 or π and 174 phases in terms of the symbols *a*, *b* and *c*). Of the eight *E* maps computed, seven showed a large anomalous peak and only one appeared reasonable in distribution and intensity of peaks. From this map coordinates for 20 of the 32 non-hydrogen atoms were used as input to refinement. Of the 231 phases assigned with *a*=0, *b*=0 and *c*= π , there were two incorrect phases as determined by the final refinement.

The least-squares procedure together with analysis of Fourier syntheses proceeded normally through the process of heavy atoms with isotropic thermal parameters (*B*'s), heavy atoms with anisotropic *B*'s, and finally all atoms with anisotropic *B*'s for heavy atoms and isotropic *B*'s for hydrogens. The full-matrix least-squares program was used throughout the refinement with the exception for form II whenever the storage capabilities were exceeded; in those cases the block-diagonal least-squares routine was employed. All hydrogen atoms were determined by difference Fourier syntheses. The final residual *R* indices (where $R = \frac{\sum |F_o| - |F_c|}{\sum |F_o|}$), omitting less-thans, were 0.063/0.047 for 1335/1635 observed reflections for form I/form II polymorphs, respectively. The parameter shifts in the last cycle of refinement for both forms were all less than two-tenths of the standard deviation. The final least-squares parameters are given in Table 4, and the corresponding values of observed and calculated structure factors are given in Table 5. All numerical calculations were performed on a CDC-6600 computer using the X-RAY 67 or 71 system of crystallographic programs (Stewart, 1971). The program ORTEP (Johnson, 1965) was used for the thermal ellipsoid representations.

Discussion of the structures

Form I

There are two molecules of HNAB in the unit cell with space group $P2_1/c$ so that each molecule lies with its midpoint on a center of symmetry. The molecules possess a *trans* configuration with bond lengths and angles shown in Fig. 2 (no correction for thermal motion). The estimated standard deviations (e.s.d.) of the bond distances are less than 0.005 Å for heavy atoms and 0.03 Å for those involving hydrogen atoms. For bond angles with heavy (H) and light hydrogen atoms

Table 5. Observed and calculated structure factors for HNAB

(a) Form I

Table with multiple columns representing different structure factor components (e.g., L 1500 1500, L 1000 1000, L 1500 1000, L 1000 1500) and rows of numerical data. The table is organized into several vertical sections, each with its own header. The data includes observed values and calculated values for various reflections.

(L), the e.s.d.'s are less than 0.4° for H-H-H, 3° for H-H-L and 4° for L-H-L angles. The average C-C bond length of 1.388, C-N of 1.480 and N-O of 1.221 Å are in good agreement with those reported for other polynitroaromatic compounds (see references quoted by Cady, 1967). The interior angles of the benzene ring at the carbon atoms bearing the nitro-substituents are significantly larger than the remaining angles; this is consistent with the hypothesis of Carter, McPhail & Sim (1966) concerning the effect of electron-withdrawing power on bond geometry.

The least-squares best plane through the benzene ring as determined by the method of Schomaker, Waser, Marsh & Bergman (1959) is

$$-1.749x + 7.856y - 2.352z = -1.559$$

and $\sigma_p = 0.027$ Å. The distances of selected atoms from this plane and angles of twist for the nitro groups are

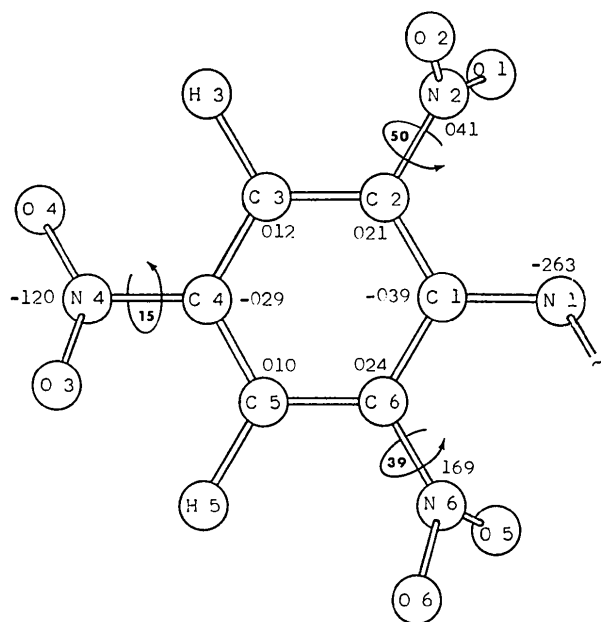
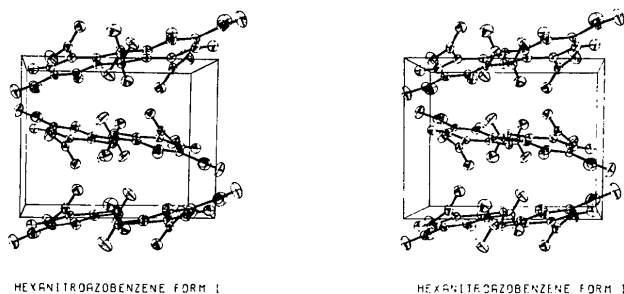


Fig. 3. Deviation of atoms from best plane of benzene ring (in 0.001 Å units) and angles of twist for HNAB, form I.



HEXANITROAZOBENZENE FORM I

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Fig. 4. Stereo pair illustrating the molecular packing in HNAB, form I.

shown in Fig. 3. The *o*-nitro groups are rotated appreciably with respect to the plane through the carbon skeleton which is the result of intramolecular steric hindrance (the contact separations between oxygen atoms are 3.02–3.10 Å). The remaining *p*-nitro group rotation is caused by a near-neighbor contact with an adjacent symmetry-related molecule. The close contact separation of 2.83 Å involves a nitrogen and oxygen atom from each *p*-substituted nitro group. A feature not in common with other azobenzene compounds concerns the azo-nitrogen atom. In HNAB this nitrogen atom is located off the least-squares benzene plane (0.26 Å) towards the direction of the molecular center; the N-C bond forms an angle of 10.4° with the benzene plane. This is not the case in azobenzene and *p*-azotoluene. In those compounds in which no bulky *o*-substitution exists, the corresponding angle is smaller than 1.5° .

As observed in the stereo molecular packing illustration of Fig. 4, the ring carbon atoms are nearly isotropic. The thermal parameters which might be more indicative of anisotropic motion are those for the nitrogen and oxygen atoms of the *p*-nitro substituents (the *o*-nitro substituents are sterically hindered). Although these atoms suggest some motional anisotropy, they are also involved in the 2.83 Å near-neighbor contact with an adjacent molecule involving N(4) and O(4). There does not appear to be any other significant intermolecular interaction in the structure.

Form II

Covalent bond lengths found for the form II polymorph are given in Fig. 5 (no correction for thermal motion) and the bond angles and angles of twist in Fig. 6. Although the estimated standard deviations are the same as those given for form I, they appear to be underestimated. The average C-C bond length of 1.375, C-N of 1.482 and N-O of 1.211 Å are comparable to form I. However, the differences between these averages are probably not real as a consequence of neglect of thermal corrections. The N-O separations are consistently (though not significantly) smaller in form II; this probably results from the thermal motion of the oxygen atoms which is generally larger and more anisotropic in form II. Within the limits of error of the determination, the benzene rings are planar. The equations of the best plane through the rings are:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ring C(1)-C(6); } & -7.156x + 11.90y - 2.599z \\ & = -0.545 \quad (\sigma_p = 0.007 \text{ Å}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ring C(11)-C(61); } & 8.817x + 6.961y - 4.768z \\ & = 9.152 \quad (\sigma_p = 0.011 \text{ Å}) \end{aligned}$$

where x , y and z are fractional coordinates of the monoclinic cell. The distances of selected atoms from the best planes are:

C(1) through C(6); 0.000, 0.009, -0.008, 0.000,
0.008, -0.008 Å
C(11) through C(61); -0.013, 0.004, 0.010, -0.013,
0.002, 0.010 Å
N(1) through N(6); 0.105, 0.117, -0.020, -0.076 Å
N(11) through N(61); -0.041, 0.052, -0.099,
-0.034 Å.

As shown in Fig. 6 one nitro group, O(4)-N(4)-O(3), is twisted only 1° with respect to carbon ring C(1) →

C(6) and is essentially coplanar with the ring. All other substituent groups are substantially rotated out of the benzene planes. Although the two carbon rings of the molecule are not parallel to each other as in form I and are rotated to each other by an angle of 81° , the molecule possesses a *trans* configuration.

A comparison of the geometrical configurations of molecules found in the two polymorphic forms proves interesting. In form I, because of the center of symmetry, the two carbon rings of the molecule are parallel

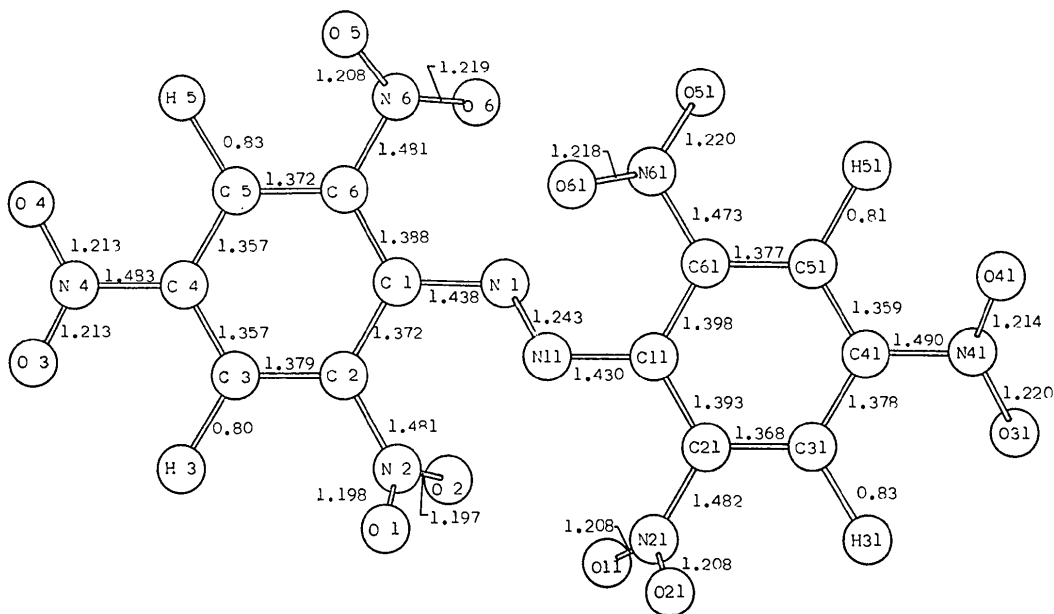


Fig. 5. Bond lengths (Å) in HNAB, form II.

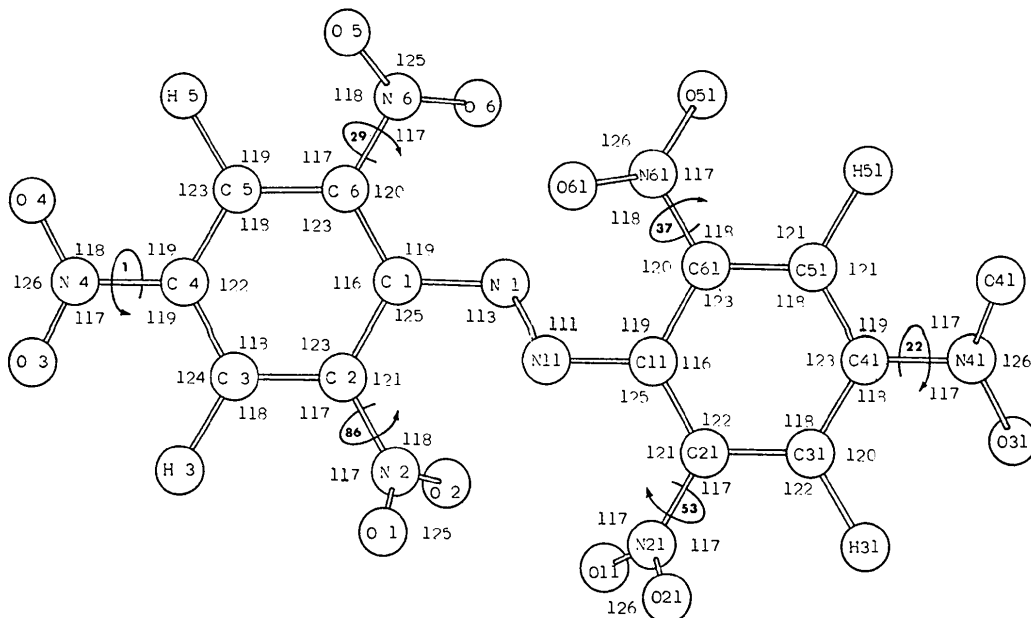


Fig. 6. Bond angles and angles of twist ($^\circ$) in HNAB, form II.

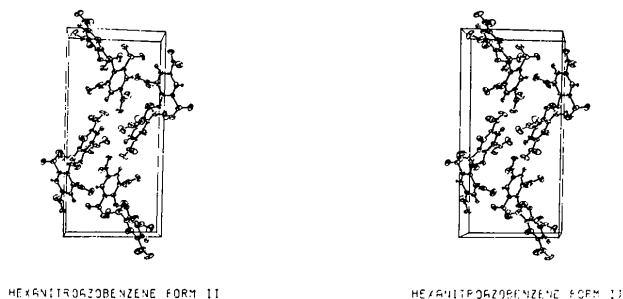


Fig. 7. Stereo pair illustrating the molecular packing in HNAB, form II.

whereas in form II they are rotated to each other by 81° . The center of symmetry in form I demands that the torsion angle about the azo linkage be 180° ; this restriction is removed in form II and the angle becomes 177.5° which indicates a slight twist or strain in the double bond of the azo group. Furthermore, the angles between the carbon ring planes and the azo group (*i.e.*, plane through ring C(1) and C(1)–N=N in form II) are 49.4° and 50.9° for C(1) and C(11), respectively, compared with the single value of 43.2° in form I. These differences in the configurations and particularly the 81° twist of the planes result in less efficient molecular packing and is probably important in yielding the higher-energy less-stable form II polymorph with a lower ($\approx 3\%$) density.

As seen in the stereo molecular packing illustrations of Fig. 7, the angle of rotation of the nitro groups

seems to be dependent primarily upon steric effects. Even though the thermal motion for nitrogen and oxygen atoms is quite large, there appears to be no significant intermolecular interactions in the structure.

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The Crystal Structure of BaCd_{4.43}

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BaCd_{4.43} has a hexagonal sub-cell, space group *P6/mmm*, with lattice constants $a = 10.740(3)$, $c = 10.200(3)$ Å, $\rho_{\text{obs}} = 7.35$ g cm⁻³. The true unit cell appears to be hexagonal with doubled a and c axes. A reasonable solution has been obtained for the sub-cell by the symbolic addition method using photographic data. The sub-cell contains 7 atoms of Ba and 31 of Cd, with one set of cadmium positions partially occupied.

In a previous paper (Bruzzone, 1972) a phase had been reported to exist in the Ba–Cd system with the approximate composition BaCd_{4.5} and a preliminary examination of a single crystal had shown hexagonal symmetry of Laue group *6/mmm*. The purpose of the present work was the determination of the crystal structure of this phase.

Starting with Ba 99.5% pure supplied by Fluka (Switzerland) and Cd 99.999% pure produced by Koch-Light Co. (Great Britain), alloys of the composition BaCd_{4.5} were melted in iron crucibles under argon. After melting, some samples were quenched and some were annealed at 500°C .

Single-crystal techniques confirmed the Laue sym-