

# The Crystal Structure and Absolute Configuration of (–)-*o*-Carboxyphenyl Methyl Sulphoxide

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(–)-*o*-Carboxyphenyl methyl sulphoxide crystallizes in  $P2_12_12_1$  with the cell dimensions  $a=4.841$ ,  $b=11.025$  and  $c=15.809$  Å. The absolute configuration was determined from the anomalous scattering of the sulphur and oxygen atoms. The final  $R$  value for the  $S$ - and  $R$ -configuration is 0.039 and 0.048 respectively for 725 observed reflexions. The molecular geometry is very close to that found in the racemic form of *o*-carboxyphenyl methyl sulphoxide but the quite different packing conditions have caused some differences. In the optically active form, for example, the molecule is almost planar, the carboxyl group is twisted only  $2.6^\circ$  out of the benzene ring while in the racemate the twist of the carboxyl group is  $17.6^\circ$ .

## Introduction

The crystal structures of the racemic forms of *o*-carboxyphenyl methyl sulphoxide and its selenium analogue have recently been determined (Dahlén, 1973). Professor A. Fredga of Uppsala University who synthesized these racemates also resolved the sulphur compound into its optical antipodes, which is not possible for the selenium analogue. A single-crystal determination of the optically active (–)-*o*-carboxyphenyl methyl sulphoxide has been undertaken.

## Experimental

### Crystal data

Molecular formula	$C_8H_8O_3S$ , (–)- <i>o</i> -carboxyphenyl methyl sulphoxide
Orthorhombic	$a=4.841$ (1), $b=11.025$ (3), $c=15.809$ (3) Å
$V$	$843.8$ Å <sup>3</sup>
M.W.	184.21
$Z$	4
$D_c$	$1.450$ g cm <sup>-3</sup>

$D_m$	$1.454$ g cm <sup>-3</sup>
Space group	$P2_12_12_1$ (systematic absences $h00$ with $h=2n+1$ , $0k0$ with $k=2n+1$ , $00l$ with $l=2n+1$ )
Crystal dimensions	$0.06 \times 0.07 \times 0.15$ mm
$\lambda$	$1.54051$ Å (Cu $K\alpha$ radiation)
$\mu$	$30.34$ cm <sup>-1</sup> for Cu $K\alpha$ radiation.

The crystal used for the data collection was mounted along the  $a$  axis, which corresponded to the longest dimension of the crystal. Intensity data were recorded on a Picker FACS I automatic diffractometer using the Vanderbilt disc-oriented system by Dr P. G. Lenhart. Reflexions up to  $2\theta=124^\circ$  were measured in the  $\theta$ - $2\theta$  scan mode with graphite monochromated Cu  $K\alpha$  radiation. The intensities were scanned in 10 steps of 2 s with a scan width of  $0.16^\circ$ . Stationary background counts were taken on both sides of the peak. A set of 814 reflexions were obtained and 89 of these with  $I < 2\sigma(I)$  were considered as unobserved and excluded from the calculations. Data were corrected for the Lorentz and polarization factors, for secondary extinction but not for absorption.

Table 1. Fractional atomic coordinates and thermal parameters with standard deviations

All values (except  $B$ ) have been multiplied by  $10^4$ . The anisotropic temperature factors are in the form

$$\exp[-2\pi^2(h^2a^{*2}U_{11} + k^2b^{*2}U_{22} + l^2c^{*2}U_{33} + 2klb^*c^*U_{23} + 2lha^*c^*U_{31} + 2hka^*b^*U_{12})].$$

(a) Heavy atoms

	$x$	$y$	$z$	$U_{11}$	$U_{22}$	$U_{33}$	$U_{23}$	$U_{31}$	$U_{12}$
S(1)	2665 (2)	1570 (1)	2163 (1)	341 (5)	246 (5)	354 (5)	-12 (5)	-55 (6)	-35 (5)
C(1)	2030 (10)	-414 (4)	1042 (3)	346 (28)	308 (22)	342 (23)	-6 (19)	-47 (23)	19 (22)
C(2)	1214 (10)	766 (4)	1277 (3)	331 (24)	299 (23)	307 (25)	45 (20)	-34 (21)	-62 (23)
C(3)	-683 (11)	1382 (4)	788 (3)	449 (29)	335 (27)	417 (28)	23 (23)	-87 (25)	8 (26)
C(4)	-1760 (14)	869 (5)	63 (4)	693 (42)	550 (34)	530 (34)	41 (29)	-379 (34)	40 (31)
C(5)	-979 (14)	-285 (5)	-170 (4)	718 (41)	600 (35)	408 (30)	-105 (29)	-193 (32)	-47 (35)
C(6)	890 (13)	-919 (5)	306 (3)	618 (36)	395 (28)	376 (27)	-115 (24)	-113 (27)	38 (30)
C(7)	4021 (11)	-1174 (4)	1514 (3)	375 (26)	308 (25)	384 (27)	-30 (22)	9 (24)	-37 (23)
C(8)	526 (13)	969 (5)	2980 (4)	453 (33)	446 (31)	409 (33)	6 (25)	52 (27)	-61 (28)
O(1)	1643 (8)	2859 (3)	2044 (2)	565 (23)	214 (15)	558 (21)	-39 (15)	-199 (21)	19 (15)
O(2)	4956 (8)	-692 (3)	2221 (2)	563 (20)	289 (16)	508 (21)	-77 (16)	-212 (23)	104 (17)
O(3)	4725 (9)	-2176 (3)	1278 (2)	692 (28)	371 (20)	516 (22)	-148 (17)	-118 (23)	141 (21)

Table 1 (*cont.*)

## (b) Hydrogen atoms

	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	<i>B</i> (Å <sup>2</sup> )
H(31)	-1399 (101)	2174 (39)	961 (26)	2.0 (0.9)
H(41)	-2991 (113)	1334 (44)	-298 (35)	4.1 (1.2)
H(51)	-2031 (156)	-679 (55)	-642 (42)	6.5 (1.7)
H(61)	1599 (120)	-1737 (45)	138 (36)	4.9 (1.3)
H(81)	777 (141)	19 (57)	2997 (34)	5.6 (1.5)
H(82)	1059 (177)	1266 (59)	3461 (46)	7.4 (2.0)
H(83)	-1315 (149)	1164 (51)	2897 (40)	5.1 (1.5)
H(24)*	6413 (143)	1383 (55)	2452 (42)	6.9 (1.7)

\* Refers to the oxygen atom O(2).

## Structure determination and refinement

The position of the sulphur was obtained from a sharpened Patterson synthesis and after two rounds of structure-factor calculations and Fourier syntheses all non-hydrogen atoms were located. The *R* index at this stage was 0.24. Positional parameters and isotropic temperature factors were then refined with block-diagonal

and full-matrix least-squares methods. At an *R* index of 0.09 a Fourier difference synthesis was calculated from which all hydrogen atoms could be located. The whole structure was then refined with full-matrix methods varying all positional parameters and anisotropic temperature factors for the non-hydrogen atoms and isotropic factors for the hydrogen atoms. Discrepancies between  $F_{obs}$  and  $F_{calc}$  for the strongest reflexions indicated secondary extinction effects. Corrections according to the formula given by Delaplane & Ibers (1969) were therefore performed.

As it was of interest to establish the absolute configuration, the sulphur and oxygen atoms were corrected for anomalous dispersion with the values given by Cromer & Liberman (1970). The enantiomer chosen from the Fourier synthesis was then refined to a final *R* value of 0.039. The average ratio between shifts and standard deviations at the end of the refinement was 0.01 for the non-hydrogen atoms and 0.04 for the hydrogen atoms. The weighting scheme used in the least-squares refinement was (Mills & Rollett, 1961)

$$w = 1 + [(|F_o| - 5.3|F_{min}|)/3.7|F_{min}|]^2.$$

Atomic scattering factors used for carbon, oxygen and sulphur atoms were those in *International Tables for X-ray Crystallography* (1962) and for hydrogen atoms those of Stewart, Davidson & Simpson (1965). All calculations were performed on a Datasaab D21-PDP15 dual computer with a program system developed at this institute.

## Results and discussion

As the sulphur environment is asymmetric it was of interest to establish the absolute configuration. All indices were therefore changed from *hkl* to  $\bar{h}\bar{k}l$  and a structure-factor calculation based on the latter data set gave an *R* index of 0.048. The enantiomer chosen from the sulphur-phased Fourier synthesis which was shown to have the *S* configuration thus gave a final *R* index of 0.039 while the corresponding *R* value for the *R* enantiomer was 0.048. An application of Hamilton's (1965) generalized *R* index test showed that the *S* configuration agrees better with the experimental data at the 99.999% level of significance. The conclusion that (-)-*o*-carboxyphenyl methyl sulphoxide has the *S* configuration has also been made by Barbieri, Davoli, Moretti, Montanari & Torre (1969) during studies of asymmetric induction in oxidation of optically active esters of *o*-(methylthio)benzoic acid.

The final atomic parameters are given in Table 1. Table 2 gives the observed and calculated structure factors. Interatomic distances and angles are shown in Fig. 1 and with standard deviations in Table 3. The values have not been corrected for thermal motion. The intermolecular distances and angles are very close to those found in the racemic analogue.

In both the optically active form and the racemate there is a short intramolecular contact between S(1)

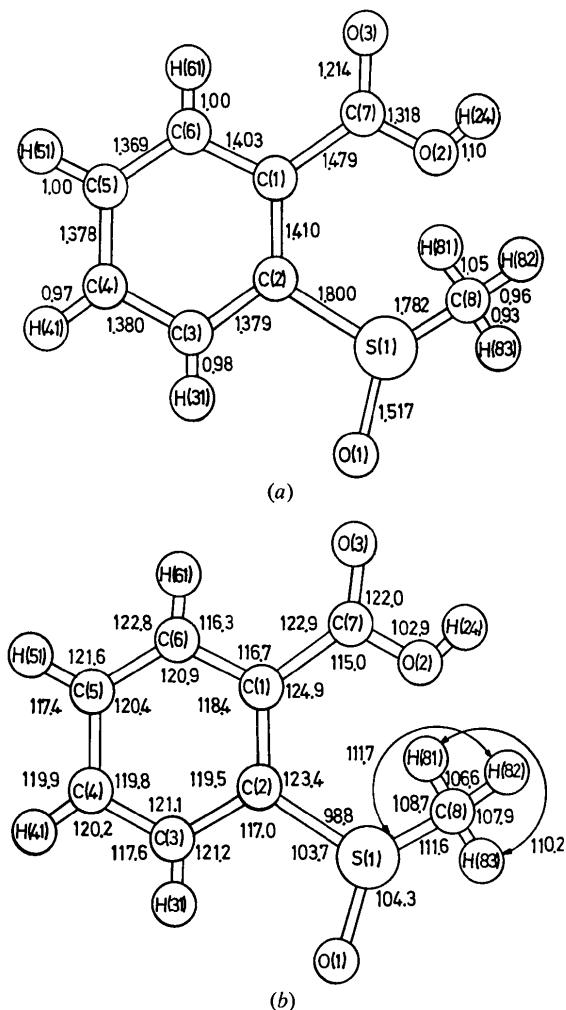


Fig. 1. (a) Bond lengths and (b) angles.

and O(2) which has led to a considerable opening of the angles at C(2), C(1) and C(7). The quite different packing conditions have caused some differences, however, in the molecular geometry of the two molecules. In the racemate the carboxyl group is twisted 17.1° out

of the plane of the benzene ring resulting in a S...O contact of 2.777 Å. The optically active molecule on the other hand is more planar. The equation of the least-squares planes through the benzene ring and the deviations from this plane for all heavier atoms are given in

Table 2. Observed and calculated structure factors (×100)

h	k	l	F <sub>obs</sub>	F <sub>calc</sub>	h	k	l	F <sub>obs</sub>	F <sub>calc</sub>	h	k	l	F <sub>obs</sub>	F <sub>calc</sub>	h	k	l	F <sub>obs</sub>	F <sub>calc</sub>
0	0	2	3395	3395															
0	0	4	4376	4376															
0	0	6	3702	3702															
0	0	8	2273	2273															
0	0	10	3384	3384															
0	0	12	3675	3714															
0	0	14	2926	2998															
0	0	16	1657	1714															
0	0	18	420	474															
0	1	1	357	360															
0	1	3	5928	5928															
0	1	5	764	731															
0	1	7	693	693															
0	1	9	1641	1600															
0	1	11	2049	2049															
0	1	13	2279	2100															
0	1	15	2946	2967															
0	1	17	3528	3580															
0	1	19	4350	4021															
0	1	21	5004	5222															
0	1	23	5142	5009															
0	1	25	4420	4420															
0	1	27	3420	3420															
0	1	29	2613	2613															
0	1	31	2013	2013															
0	1	33	1613	1613															
0	1	35	1471	1471															
0	1	37	1354	1354															
0	1	39	1272	1272															
0	1	41	1230	1230															
0	1	43	1200	1200															
0	1	45	1180	1180															
0	1	47	1170	1170															
0	1	49	1166	1166															
0	1	51	1166	1166															
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0	1	531	1166	1166															
0	1	533	1166	1166															
0	1	535	1166	1166															
0	1																		

Table 3. Bond lengths and angles with their estimated standard deviations

S(1)—C(2)	1.800 (5) Å	C(2)—S(1)—C(8)	98.8 (2)°
S(1)—C(8)	1.782 (6)	C(2)—S(1)—O(1)	103.7 (2)
S(1)—O(1)	1.517 (3)	C(8)—S(1)—O(1)	104.4 (2)
C(1)—C(2)	1.410 (6)	S(1)—C(2)—C(1)	123.4 (4)
C(2)—C(3)	1.379 (7)	S(1)—C(2)—C(3)	117.0 (3)
C(3)—C(4)	1.380 (8)	C(1)—C(2)—C(3)	119.5 (4)
C(4)—C(5)	1.378 (8)	C(2)—C(3)—C(4)	121.1 (5)
C(5)—C(6)	1.369 (9)	C(3)—C(4)—C(5)	119.8 (5)
C(1)—C(6)	1.403 (7)	C(4)—C(5)—C(6)	120.4 (5)
C(1)—C(7)	1.479 (7)	C(1)—C(6)—C(5)	120.9 (5)
C(7)—O(2)	1.318 (6)	C(2)—C(1)—C(6)	118.4 (4)
C(7)—O(3)	1.214 (6)	C(2)—C(1)—C(7)	124.9 (4)
C(3)—H(31)	0.978 (44)	C(6)—C(1)—C(7)	116.7 (4)
C(4)—H(41)	0.972 (54)	C(1)—C(7)—O(2)	115.0 (4)
C(5)—H(51)	1.003 (68)	C(1)—C(7)—O(3)	122.9 (5)
C(6)—H(61)	1.000 (52)	O(2)—C(7)—O(3)	122.0 (5)
C(8)—H(81)	1.055 (63)	C(2)—C(3)—H(31)	121.2 (26)
C(8)—H(82)	0.957 (73)	C(4)—C(3)—H(31)	117.6 (26)
H(8)—H(83)	0.926 (72)	C(3)—C(4)—H(41)	120.2 (31)
O(2)—H(24)	1.101 (65)	C(5)—C(4)—H(41)	119.9 (31)
		C(4)—C(5)—H(51)	117.4 (38)
		C(6)—C(5)—H(51)	121.6 (37)
		C(1)—C(6)—H(61)	116.3 (33)
		C(5)—C(6)—H(61)	122.8 (33)
		S(1)—C(8)—H(81)	108.7 (33)
		S(1)—C(8)—H(82)	111.6 (47)
		S(1)—C(8)—H(83)	111.7 (39)
		H(81)—C(8)—H(82)	106.6 (50)
		H(81)—C(8)—H(83)	110.2 (51)
		H(82)—C(8)—H(83)	107.9 (63)
		C(7)—O(2)—H(24)	102.9 (34)

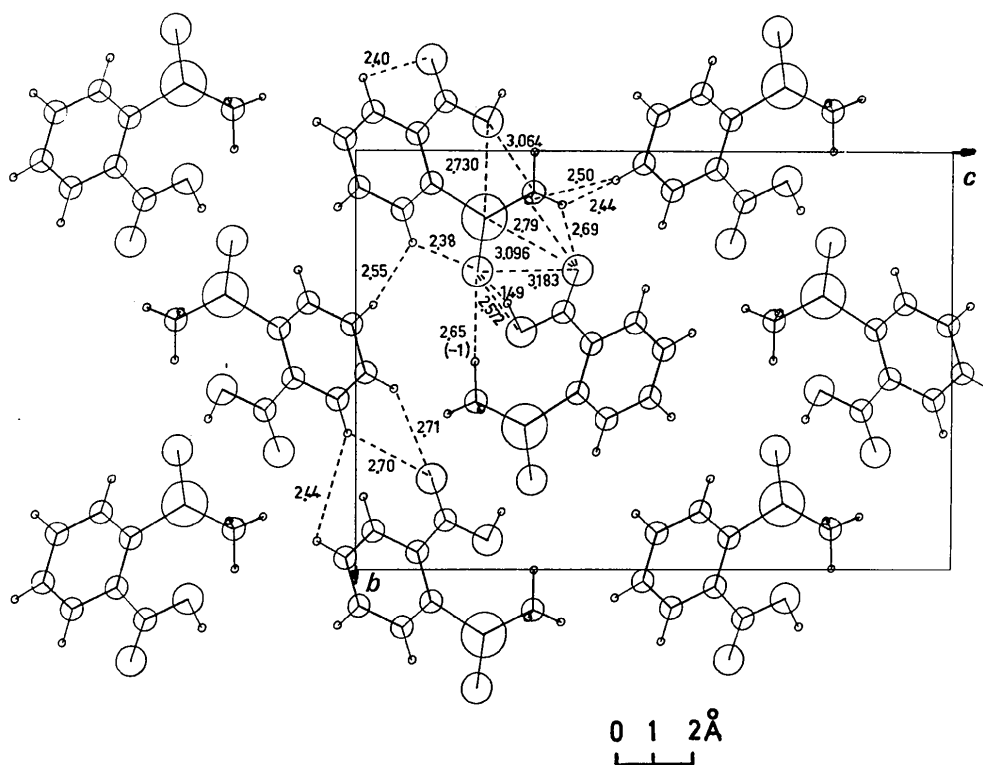
Table 4. The twist of the carboxyl group is only 2.6° which has led to a S...O distance of 2.730 Å. In this case the carboxyl group has no possibility of twisting more as the oxygen atom O(3) is enclosed between the methyl hydrogens H(82) and H(83) in the hydrogen-bonded molecule (see below) and the benzene ring hydrogens H(5) and H(6) in the molecule related by a two-fold screw in the *a* direction. The packing arrangement is shown in Fig. 2, with the closer contacts indicated, and in the stereoscopic drawing in Fig. 3. As in the racemate the molecules are linked together by a hydrogen bond between O(1) and O(2) in the molecule related by a twofold screw axis along *b*. The O(1)...O(2) and the O(1)...H(24) distances are 2.572 and 1.49 Å respectively and the O(1)...H(24)—O(2) angle is 166°.

Table 4. Least-squares plane through the carbon atoms in the benzene ring

The equation, expressed in terms of the crystal axes, is:  
 $0.3556X + 0.4159Y - 0.8370Z + 0.0322 = 0.$

Deviations from the plane

C(1)	-0.001 Å	C(7)	-0.003 Å
C(2)	0.003	O(2)	-0.063
C(3)	-0.006	O(3)	0.029
C(4)	0.005	S(1)	0.114
C(5)	-0.002	O(1)	0.392
C(6)	0.000	C(8)	-1.613

Fig. 2. The molecular packing seen along the *a* axis.

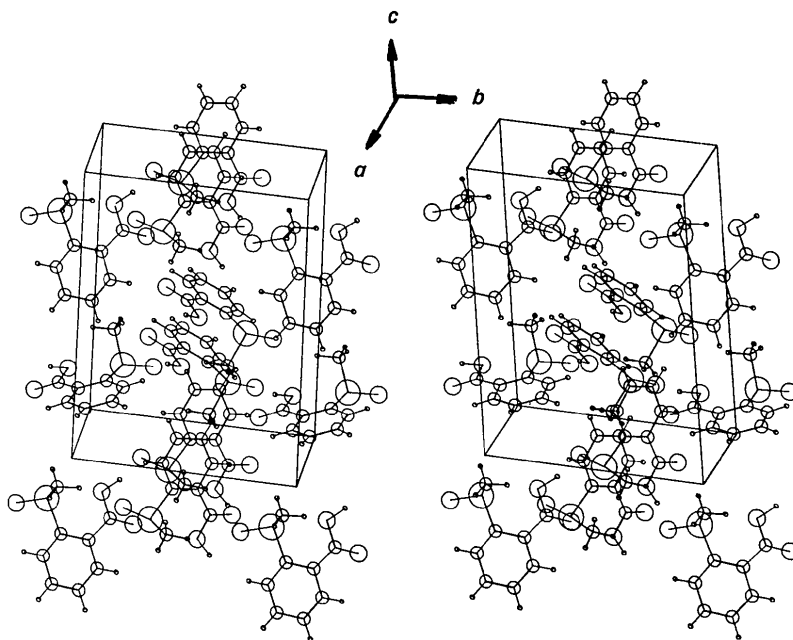


Fig. 3. Stereoscopic view of (-)-*o*-carboxyphenyl methyl sulphoxide.

In the racemate (space group  $P2_1/c$ ) the two enantiomers are packed with the methyl group in one molecule pointing towards the benzene ring in the other and *vice versa*. In the optically active form with only the *S* enantiomer present the packing arrangement is quite different owing to the presence of the additional screw axes in the *a* and *c* directions. The *a* axis is 4.841 Å which, with the tilt of the benzene rings of  $48.5^\circ$  to the (100) plane, gives a benzene-ring separation of 3.63 Å. Benzene rings may pack as close as 3.4 Å (Pauling, 1960) but this is not possible in this case as O(1), which is participating in the hydrogen bond, is in very close contact (2.65 Å) with H(81) in the hydrogen-bonded molecule translated one unit in *a*. Benzene rings are also in contact with perpendicular planes in the *b* direction with a shortest hydrogen-hydrogen distance of 2.55 Å. The packing arrangement in the optically active form is somewhat less effective than in the racemate. The volume per molecule is  $211.0 \text{ \AA}^3$  as compared with  $208.2 \text{ \AA}^3$  in the racemate.

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