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***N*-Methyl-D-normorphinan hydrobromide: erratum.** BY A. D. HARDY\* and F. R. AHMED, *Division of Biological Sciences, National Research Council of Canada, Ottawa, Canada K1A 0R6*

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Crystals of the title compound [*Acta Cryst.* (1975), B31, 2919–2921] are racemates, not a racemic mixture, since they occur in space group *Pna*2<sub>1</sub>.

It was erroneously stated by Hardy & Ahmed (1975) that the title compound forms a racemic mixture. Since the crystals have space group *Pna*2<sub>1</sub>, which includes glide-plane symmetry, the crystals are racemates. Half the molecules in

the unit cell are right-handed and the other half are left-handed.

#### Reference

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HARDY, A. D. & AHMED, F. R. (1975). *Acta Cryst.* B31, 2919–2921.

## Book Reviews

*Works intended for notice in this column should be sent direct to the Book-Review Editor (J. H. Robertson, School of Chemistry, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, England). As far as practicable books will be reviewed in a county different from that of publication.*

**Physics and chemistry of materials with layered structures. Vol. 2. Crystallography and crystal chemistry of materials with layered structures.** Edited by F. A. LÉVY. Pp. vii + 370. Dordrecht, Holland: Reidel, 1976. Price Dfl 105.00, US \$ 39.50.

There are many unsolved problems arising out of studies of the chemistry and physics of materials with layered structures. The niobium and tantalum chalcogenides and organic intercalation compounds have attracted recent attention because of their potential as superconductors. The 'super-ionic' conductors such as  $\beta$ -alumina are layer structures and have been used as solid electrolytes in storage cells for electric vehicle propulsion. However, other compounds such as phyllosilicates are little known and there are many opportunities for new studies particularly of a crystallographic nature.

This volume deals primarily with structural chemistry. There are seven independent contributions with a predominantly crystallographic viewpoint. The coverage of the field is incomplete and the editor indicates that there is to be a further publication on the subject. However, layered binary chalcogenides are well covered with good accounts of intercalation compounds and other ternary phases. The excellent chapter on non-stoichiometry in layered compounds will interest many materials scientists. Great care is

needed in interpreting data on this subject and it is clear that the simple point-defect model is inapplicable. The paucity of data on the phyllosilicates is very apparent from the account of these materials which concentrates on their structure and physicochemical properties.

It is no real surprise to find a chapter on polytypism dealing essentially with the layered cadmium and lead iodide structures as well as some silicates. The origins of polytypism and the role of stacking faults are covered in detail.

In the field of layered structures there is such a vast number of compounds that any account could easily degenerate into a catalogue of literature references. Some of the authors recognized this and successfully handled the problem. The contributions on non-stoichiometry and polytypism are models of excellence in this regard. The uniform attainment of this standard requires an exercise of greater editorial direction than is apparent in this volume. Few would wish to read this book from cover to cover but rather it will serve as an up-to-date source book for those interested specifically in layered structures and also those with general interests in structure and bonding.

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