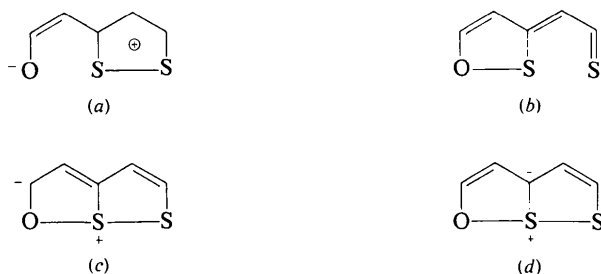


lengths, angles and the numbering of the atoms are shown in Fig. 1.*

Discussion

In the chain of C atoms there is an alternation of long and short distances, characteristic of conjugated systems. The two C—S bond lengths (1.730 and 1.763 Å) are between single- and double-bond values, 1.82 and 1.61 Å (Hordvik & Sletten, 1966). The S—S bond length of 2.100 Å is the generally accepted value for a S—S single bond in a *cis*-planar disulphide group (Hordvik, 1966). On the other hand, the S—O distance (2.415 Å) is shorter than the sum of constant energy radii, 2.58 Å (Huggins, 1953), so that partial bonding between O and S exists; this may be explained by limit formulae such as:

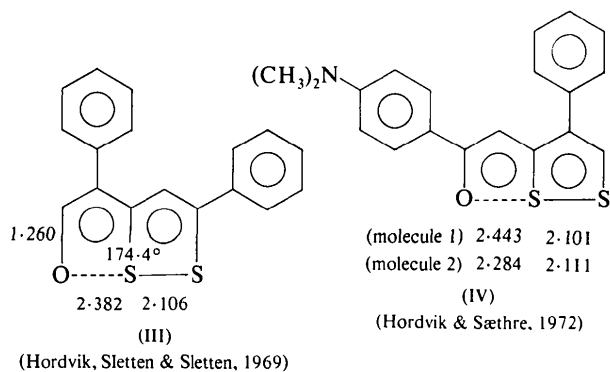


Moreover, the C—O bond (1.255 Å) is significantly longer than the value, 1.22 Å, expected for a double bond (Rabinovich & Schmidt, 1967), so that the molecule apparently tends to adjust itself to attain a S—S—O linear sequence; the \widehat{SSO} angle is 173.5° .

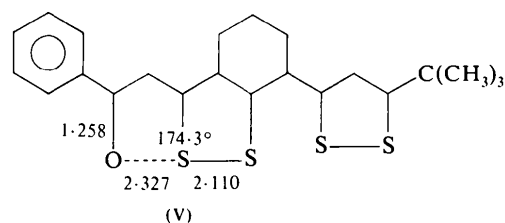
Our structure determination gives another example of the tendency of formally divalent S to be involved in intramolecular contacts (Johnson, Reid & Paul, 1971).

The molecule is nearly planar, the two planes through S(1)S(2)C(1)C(2)C(3)C(4) and O(1)S(1)C(4)C(5)C(6)C(7) are bent by 3.0° .

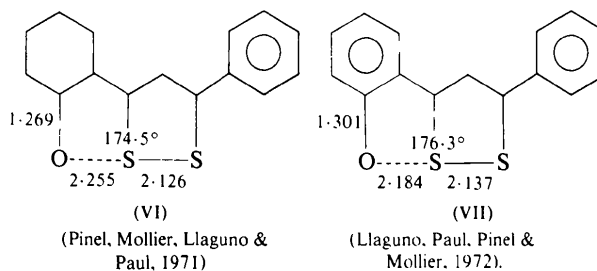
It may be interesting to compare the results of the structure determinations of similar compounds with our results (distances in Å):



* Lists of structure factors and thermal parameters have been deposited with the British Library Lending Division as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 34587 (13 pp.). Copies may be obtained through The Executive Secretary, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England.



(Sletten & Velsvik, 1973)



In all these compounds the S—S bond either has the value of a single bond or is slightly larger, the C—O bond is around the 1.26 Å value (except for the last compound, 1.30 Å), the distance S—O only ranges from 2.443 to 2.184 Å (our value is nearer to the larger value); in fact, there are no substituents in the chain of C atoms to enhance the negative charge of limit formulae (c) and (d).

The crystal packing has no particular feature. All the intermolecular contacts are at normal van der Waals distances.

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