

Acta Cryst. (1982). B38, 1683

6,9-Dimethoxy-2,13-diaza[4]paracyclo[4](3,5)pyridinophane-1,14-dione, C₁₉H₂₁N₃O₄, and 19-Benzyl-16,19-dihydro-2,13-diaza[4]paracyclo[4](3,5)pyridinophane-1,14-dione, C₂₄H₂₅N₃O₂: erratum.

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Abstract

An error of technical editing is corrected. In the title of the paper by van Herk, Goubitz, Overbeek & Stam [*Acta Cryst.* (1982). B38, 490–494] the second compound is described as

a 1,4-dione. It is a 1,14-dione, as indicated in the title of this erratum.

All relevant information is given in the *Abstract*.

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Structure Reports

Volume 46A of *Structure Reports* has recently been published. It covers the literature for metals and inorganic compounds for 1980 (464 pages) and costs 153 Netherlands

guilders for subscribers with standing orders. The full price for individual copies is 180 guilders but personal subscribers may buy a copy for their own use at 90 guilders. Orders for these publications may be placed direct with the publisher, D. Reidel Publishing Company, PO Box 17, 3300 AA Dordrecht, The Netherlands, or with any bookseller. Trade orders should be sent to Reidel.

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 country different from that of publication.

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The architecture of solids. By G. E. BACON. Pp. viii + 140. London: Taylor & Francis, 1981. Price £5.50.

This is No. 58 in the Wykeham Science Series of books, which, according to the cover '... are pitched ... at the level of a student on a first year university course'.

The presentation is orthodox, reminiscent of Pauling's *Nature of the Chemical Bond* or Evans's *Introduction to Crystal Chemistry*, in that it relates atomic structure and electronegativity to crystal structure.

The first chapter is devoted to crystal form and habit. It is debatable whether this was a wise decision in so short a book as this (Pauling and Evans manage quite well without it) but once the decision is made, the exposition should be as clear as possible. Professor Bacon does not introduce morphology by use of face normals (this would overcome the vagaries of face development and allow a straightforward treatment of symmetry) and his treatment is accordingly very hard to follow. It is not helped by an almost complete absence of definitions in the text. There is a *Glossary of Terms* at the back of the book but the reader is not anywhere directed to

it. On p. 21 we are told that an inversion axis '... consists of rotation through 1/nth of a revolution followed by inversion through a centre'. (Inversion is nowhere defined.) The explanation of 'centre of symmetry' in the *Glossary* does not mention inversion and, as it stands, could equally well apply to a plane of symmetry. Neither symmetry elements nor operations are explained and lattice points are not mentioned. There is certainly no shortage of diagrams in this first chapter. Fig. 1.6 illustrating no less than 41 typical crystal forms and occupying two and a half pages. Illustrations of habit abound and there are even photographs of mineral crystals for comparison. Although a crystallographer would spot the connection, the undergraduate reader would be hard put to it to reconcile the drawing of the cubo-octahedron, Fig. 1.4(a), with the photograph, Fig. 1.1(c), meant to exemplify it, since one has four-sided faces and the other does not. The author makes no reference to H. S. Lipson's *Crystals and X-rays* in the same series which covers a certain amount of the same ground much more clearly.

Parts of the text are reasonably well presented and, on the whole, the diagrams are good (especially in the last two chapters on disorder and magnetic structures). However, the book is marred by all too frequent blemishes: unsupportable