achievable but remains larger than 3·0 Å, still far too large to form a stable hydrogen bond.

Using the method of Cremer & Pople (1975), we calculated almost equal phase angles $\varphi_2 = -61\,(7)$ (I) or $-70\,(13)°$ (II) and $\theta_2 = 177·7\,(2)$ (I) or $175·5\,(9)°$ (II), with total puckering amplitudes $Q = 0·563\,(2)$ (I) or $0·56\,(1)$ Å (II) for the sequences C(1')—C(2')—O(3')—C(4')—C(5')—O(5').

The packing in both crystals is partly determined by hydrogen bonds involving atoms of the dioxane and base rings (Table 4 summarizes all the inter-molecular hydrogen bonds) and partly by parallel base-stacking forces. *PLUTO* plots of the crystal packings are shown in Fig. 2. In structure (I), two different stacking patterns are observable: (1) the closest stacking [$d_{mean} = 3·4\,(2)$ Å] is found between pairs of bases related to each other by the twofold axis along *i* [bases *A* and *B* in Fig. 2(a); dihedral angle between the two bases = 10·80 (1)°]; (2) the other pattern [$d_{mean} = 3·6\,(2)$ Å] is found between bases which are related by the twofold axis lying along *a* or *b* [bases *A* and *C* in Fig. 2(a); dihedral angle = 12·86 (1)°]. The stacking patterns for both observations are similar: the rings are only partially overlapped and the carbonyl groups and the ring N atoms often form close contacts with adjacent bases while the C atoms are less involved. In structure (II) only Br(5) is positioned in close contact with the adjacent base and is located above the center of the ring [$d_{mean} = 3·31\,(1)$ Å].

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Structure of the *cis* Isomer of a Six-Membered Phosphorus Phenylhydrazine Ring

BY B. WALLIS, CH. DONATH AND M. MEISEL

Institut für Anorganische Chemie, Rudower Chaussee 5, O-1199 Berlin, Germany

AND J. FUCHS

Institut für Anorganische und Analytische Chemie der Freien Universität Berlin, Fabeckstrasse 34-36, W-1000 Berlin 33, Germany

Abstract. 3,6-Bis(methylthio)-1,4-diphenyl-3,6-dithioxo-1,2,4,5-tetraaza-$3\lambda^5,6\lambda^5$-diphosphorinane crystallizes with two solvent molecules of acetonitrile, $C_{14}H_{18}N_4P_2S_4.2CH_3CN$, $M_r = 514·64$, monoclinic, $C2/c$, $a = 12·1\bar{1}8\,(8)$, $b = 13·452\,(10)$, $c = 15·608\,(4)$ Å, $\beta = 98·22\,(4)°$, $V = 2518$ Å^3, $Z = 4$, $D_x = 1·353$ Mg m^{-3}, $\lambda(\text{Mo } K\alpha) = 0·71069$ Å, $\mu = 4·64$ mm^{-1}, $F(000) = 1072$, $T = 293$ K, $R = 0·038$ for 2513 unique observed reflections with $I \geq 2\sigma(I)$. The molecules of the title compound have point symmetry 2. In accordance with the *cis* stereochemistry of the methylthio substituents the six-membered ring adopts a twist conformation; torsion angles PNNP $+ 67·87\,(3)$, NNPN $-45·81\,(3)$ and NPNN $-19·73\,(1)°$.

Introduction. To extend our knowledge of the preparative potential of py.PS$_2$Cl (1) (py = pyridine), the

$C_{14}H_{18}N_4P_2S_4.2CH_3CN$

reaction of this compound with substituted hydrazines has been studied (Donath, Meisel & Pauli, 1991). According to the general reaction behaviour of (1) with nucleophilic agents (Meisel, Donath & Grunze, 1981) and especially with primary amines (Donath & Meisel, 1987), the formation of phosphorus–nitrogen ring systems should also be expected with hydrazines.

By reaction of (1) with PhNH—NH$_2$ in the presence of NEt$_3$ and following alkylation of the reaction mixture by methyl iodide, the six-membered title compound (2) can be obtained as a minor product after separation by column chromatography.

(2)
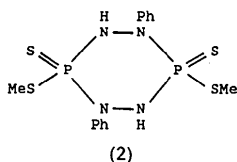
Experimental. Crystals were obtained by recrystallization from MeCN; a prismatic specimen ($0.5 \times 0.4 \times 0.3$ mm) was mounted in a glass capillary. Stoe four-circle diffractometer (ω scan), 39 reflections for refining lattice parameters, empirical absorption correction (min. and max. factors 0.847 and 1.113, respectively) with *DIFABS* (Walker & Stuart, 1983), (sin $\theta_{max})/\lambda = 0.6386$ Å^{-1}, $-18 \leq h \leq 18$, $0 \leq k \leq 22$, $-25 \leq l \leq 25$. Two standard reflections measured every 90 min without any significant variation during data collection, 4617 reflections measured, 2752 unique ($R_{int} = 0.0408$), 239 were considered as unobserved with $I < 2\sigma(I)$. Structure solved by direct methods (*SHELXS*86; Sheldrick, 1986), H atoms located by difference Fourier syntheses, full-matrix least-squares refinement (on F) with anisotropic temperature factors for non-H atoms, isotropic factors for H atoms. Final $R = 0.038$, $wR = 0.031$, weighting scheme $w = 1/\sigma(F_o^2)$, $\Delta/\sigma_{max} = 0.27$, max. electron density in the final difference Fourier map $\leq$ 0.3 e Å^{-3}. Atomic scattering factors from *International Tables for X-ray Crystallography* (1974, Vol. IV). Computer program used: *XTAL*2.4 (Hall & Stewart, 1988).

Discussion. Final atomic coordinates and equivalent isotropic thermal parameters are given in Table 1.* Selected interatomic distances and bond angles are reported in Table 2.

Table 1. *Atomic coordinates ($\times 10^4$) and equivalent isotropic thermal parameters (Å$^2 \times 10^3$)*

$$U_{eq} = (U_{11} + U_{22} + U_{33})/3.$$

	x	y	z	U_{eq}
P(1)	1298.0 (4)	2894.5 (4)	2280.3 (3)	32.2
S(1)	1759.6 (5)	4359.6 (4)	2509.6 (4)	43.7
S(2)	2411.3 (5)	2004.3 (4)	1967.0 (4)	49.1
N(1)	0093 (1)	3036 (1)	1593.6 (9)	34.4
N(2)	0823 (1)	2512 (1)	3162 (1)	35.1
C(1)	3124 (3)	4186 (3)	3114 (3)	70
C(11)	−0016 (2)	3327 (1)	0704 (1)	33
C(12)	0878 (2)	3743 (2)	0374 (1)	41
C(13)	0763 (2)	4001 (2)	−0496 (1)	49
C(14)	−0217 (2)	3851 (2)	−1030 (1)	55
C(15)	−1108 (2)	3458 (2)	0696 (1)	54
C(16)	−1014 (2)	3195 (2)	0169 (1)	45
C(1)A*	4084 (2)	4684 (2)	0810 (2)	61
C(2)A*	4010 (4)	3687 (2)	0452 (3)	76
N(3)A*	4148 (2)	5448 (2)	1082 (2)	96

* Acetonitrile molecule

Table 2. *Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°)*

P(1)—S(1)	2.066 (2)	S(1)—C(1)	1.798 (3)
P(1)—S(2)	1.919 (1)	N(1)—N(2^i)	1.412 (2)
P(1)—N(1)	1.694 (2)	N(1)—(C11)	1.431 (2)
P(1)—N(2)	1.648 (2)		

Phenyl group C—C (mean) 1.38

S(1)—P(1)—S(2)	117.2 (1)	P(1)—N(1)—C(11)	126.6 (1)
S(1)—P(1)—N(1)	100.9 (1)	P(1)—N(1)—N(2^i)	114.3 (1)
S(2)—P(1)—N(1)	118.9 (1)	C(11)—N(1)—N(2^i)	115.6 (1)
S(2)—P(1)—N(2)	111.1 (1)	P(1)—N(2)—N(1^i)	116.8 (1)
S(1)—P(1)—N(2)	105.8 (1)	P(1)—S(1)—C(1)	99.9 (1)

Acetonitrile molecule

C(1)—C(2)	1.450 (4)	C(1)—N(3)	1.111 (4)
N(3)—C(1)—C(2)	179.5 (4)		

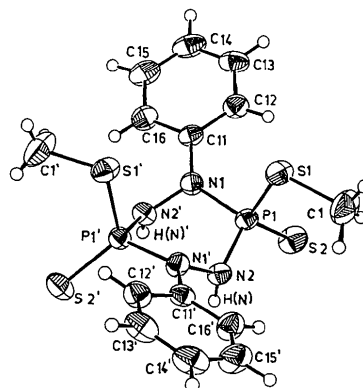Symmetry code: (i) $-x, y, \frac{1}{2} - z$.

Fig. 1. Molecular geometry of the title compound. Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at 50% probability level. The twofold axis is perpendicular to the ring.

Fig. 1 shows the numbering of the atoms and the molecular structure of the title compound. The P$_2$N$_4$ ring has a distorted twist conformation as can be seen by comparison with the respective torsion angles of the ideal twist form of cyclohexane: -70.6
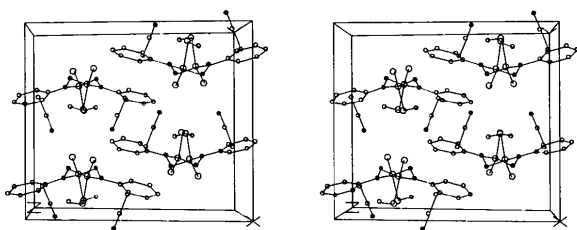
Fig. 2. Arrangement of the molecules (H atoms deleted) in the unit cell, viewed along x. Stereoplot drawn with *CELLGRAPH* (Reck & Kretschmar, 1989).

and two times $+33 \cdot 2°$ (Hendrickson, 1961). The pseudoaxial substituents at the P atoms are arranged in *cis* positions with respect to the P_2N_4 ring. The angle between the planar phenyl ring and the least-squares plane through the P_2N_4 ring is $23 \cdot 6°$.

The unit cell (Fig. 2) contains two pairs of molecules which are symmetry related by a glide plane. The shortest intermolecular distances exist between phenyl groups $[C(12) \cdots C(14^{ii}) \ 3 \cdot 521 \ \text{Å}]$ and between a phenyl group and the methyl group of the acetonitrile molecule $[C(12) \cdots C(2^{iii}) \ 3 \cdot 524 \ \text{Å}]$ $[(ii) \ -x, 1 - y, -z;$ (iii) $\frac{1}{2} - x, \frac{1}{2} - y, -z]$. These distances do not indicate interactions stronger than van der Waals forces.

The comparatively short N—N bond length together with the sum of the bond angles around N(1) $(356 \cdot 5°)$ shows that the bonding state at the N(1) atom tends to sp^2 hybridization. The shortest N—N distance in a phosphorus hydrazine heterocycle $(1.400 \ \text{Å})$ has been found in *cis*-3,6-dithioxo-3,6-diphenoxy-1,2,4,5-tetraaza-$3\lambda^5,6\lambda^5$-diphospha-cyclohexane (Engelhardt & Hartl, 1976), which has an angular sum of $359 \cdot 3°$.

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Structure of 1,2,3,4,5,6-Hexa-*O*-acetyl-D-glucitol (Sorbitol Hexaacetate)

BY JÜRGEN KOPF,* CORNELIA TOPF, MARTINA MORF AND BÄRBEL ZIMMER

Institute of Inorganic and Applied Chemistry, University of Hamburg, Martin-Luther-King-Pl. 6, D-2000 Hamburg 13, Germany

AND PETER KÖLL

Department of Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, University of Oldenburg, Carl-von-Ossietzky-Str. 9–11, D-2900 Oldenburg, Germany

Dedicated to Professor Dr E. Weiß on the occasion of his 65th birthday

Abstract. $C_{18}H_{26}O_{12}$, $M_r = 434 \cdot 40$, monoclinic, $P2_1$, $a = 10 \cdot 253 \ (1)$, $b = 8 \cdot 370 \ (1)$, $c = 12 \cdot 548 \ (1) \ \text{Å}$, $\beta = 95 \cdot 98 \ (5)°$, $V = 1071 \cdot 0 \ (2) \ \text{Å}^3$, $Z = 2$, $D_x = 1 \cdot 347 \ \text{g cm}^{-3}$, $\lambda(\text{Mo } K\alpha_1) = 0 \cdot 709261 \ \text{Å}$, $\mu = 1 \cdot 1 \ \text{cm}^{-1}$, $F(000) = 460$, $T = 293 \ \text{K}$, $R = 0 \cdot 053$ for 1681 observed reflexions. The molecules of the title compound have a planar zigzag carbon-chain conformation which aligns O(2) 1,3-parallel to O(4). The primary O(1) is found in the same O//O relation to O(3).

Introduction. The X-ray structures of many alditols (sugar alcohols) up to a chain length of C_7 have been determined. Generally, planar (zigzag) conformations are expected but in most cases they are found in bent (sickle) carbon-chain conformations in order to avoid unfavorable 1,3-parallel interactions of C and O atoms (designated C//O and O//O). The

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* To whom correspondence should be addressed.