



1,4-diylidene)bispropanedinitrile]; two 2-[4-(cyanoformyl)phenyl]malononitrile ylides {Y<sup>-</sup>: 2-[4-(cyanoformyl)phenyl]propanedinitrile ylide}; one extended 2,2',5,5'-tetrathiafulvalenium derivative [Ext-TTF<sup>2+</sup>; 2,2'-(9,10-anthracenediylidene)-5,5'-dimethyl-4,4'-bis(methylthio)bis(1,3-dithiole) cation] and one water molecule. The Ext-TTF<sup>2+</sup> is not planar; the dihedral angle between the planar anthracene group and the two dithiolium rings is 92°; this dication forms chains of monomers along the *a* axis. The TCNQ and the Y<sup>-</sup> stack along the *b* axis. The inter-planar contact between the TCNQ molecule and the Y<sup>-</sup> anion [3.47 (1) Å] is shorter than the one observed between two Y<sup>-</sup> anions [3.47 (1) Å].

### Comment

The synthesis of the tetrathiafulvalene derivative (1) was achieved starting from phosphonate (2) (Bryce, Moore, Lorcy, Dhindsa & Robert, 1990). Ylide (3) was generated with BuLi and trapped by anthraquinone (1/2 equiv.) to yield (1) (80% yield) (Bryce & Moore, 1988).

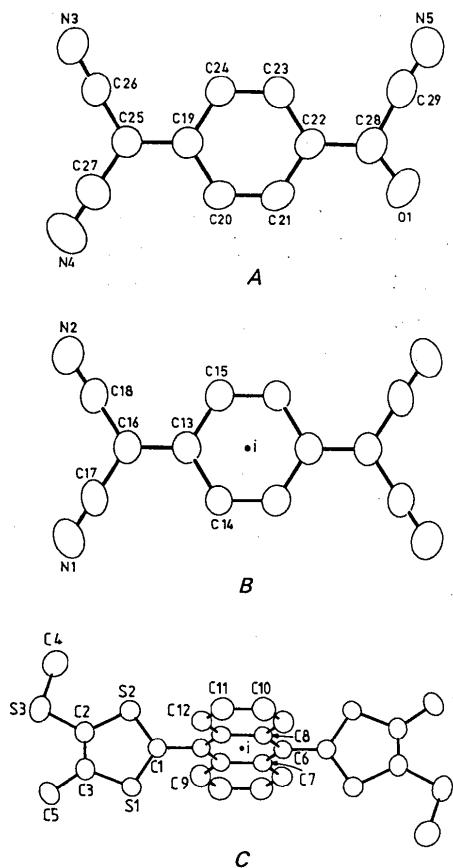
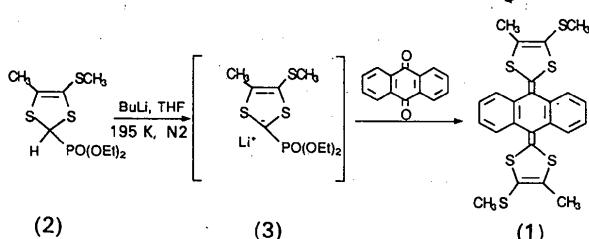


Fig. 1. Constituent molecules, *A* (Y<sup>-</sup>), *B* (TCNQ) and *C* (Ext-TTF<sup>2+</sup>), of the title compound with atom labelling.

The title compound was prepared by mixing hot acetonitrile solutions of 2 mmol TCNQ and 2 mmol of (1). On cooling to room temperature two types of black crystals were obtained (needles and parallelepipeds). A parallelepiped crystal suitable for X-ray structure determination was isolated from this batch.



The mechanism of the formation of Y<sup>-</sup> (See molecule *A*, Fig. 1) from TCNQ<sup>2-</sup> in the presence of oxygen, has been described by Van Duyne and co-workers (Suchanski & Van Duyne, 1976). In fact, the electrochemical behaviour of Ext-TTF (1) is the same

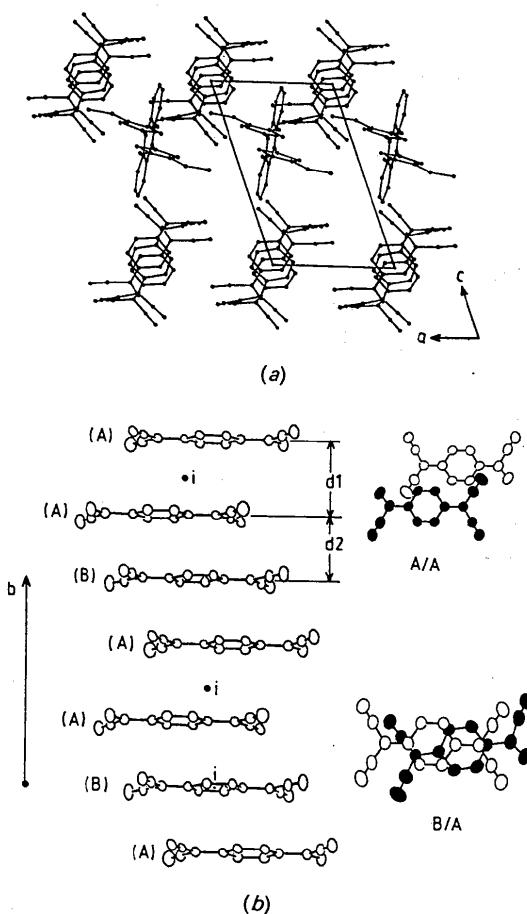


Fig. 2. (a) View of the crystal structure. (b) View of the anionic chains showing the different overlaps and the interplanar contacts [*d*<sub>1</sub> = 3.47 (1), *d*<sub>2</sub> = 3.31 (1) Å].



