

The Crystal Structure of *N*-Phenyl-*N'*-benzoylselenourea*

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The structure of phenylbenzoylselenourea, $C_6H_5 \cdot NH \cdot CSe \cdot NH \cdot CO \cdot C_6H_5$ (I) has been determined by three-dimensional Fourier and least-squares methods. (I) crystallizes in the monoclinic system, space group $P2_1/c$, $a = 13.16$ ($\sigma \sim 0.005$), $b = 5.064$ ($\sigma \sim 0.003$), $c = 19.94$ ($\sigma \sim 0.005$) Å, $\beta = 103.65^\circ$ ($\sigma \sim 0.03^\circ$), with four molecules in the unit cell. The molecule consists of three planar parts: $C_6H_5 \cdot NH \cdot CSe$ (II), the carbonyl group with adjacent N and C (III), and the benzoyl phenyl group (IV). The major deviation from planarity of the molecule is caused by (IV) being twisted $\sim 30^\circ$ out of plane with (III). The crystal is built up of centrosymmetric $Se \cdots H-N$ bonded dimers. Some of the interatomic distances observed are:

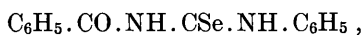
C-Se 1.82, C(at Se)-N (in II) 1.32, C(at Se)-N (in III) 1.40, N-C(phenyl) 1.43, N-C(in III) 1.39, C-C (in III) 1.48, C-O 1.22, O \cdots (H)-N (in II) 2.59, Se \cdots (H)'-N' (in III') 3.83 Å.

$\sigma \sim 0.01$ Å for distances from Se, and ~ 0.015 Å for other distances. The planarity of (II) results in a Se-(H)C distance of only 3.32 Å. (II) is highly strained with angle Se-C-N = 128.8° , angle C-N-C = 133.3° and angle N-C-C = 125.8° .

Introduction

The main purpose of the present investigation was to obtain information about the carbon-selenium double bond. Prior to this study the compounds $O=C=Se$ (Strandberg, Wentink & Hill, 1949) and $S=C=Se$ (Bak, Sloan & Williams, 1950) had been investigated by use of microwave methods. However, it appeared to be of interest to study the C-Se bond in a more typically organic molecule. It was therefore decided to investigate the crystal structure of a compound of the type $RR'C=Se$. Among these one finds that selenourea, and some *N*-substituted selenoureas are quite stable, crystalline compounds which can be synthesized with only moderate difficulty.

Work was first begun on selenourea but, as it turned out, this compound is rather complex crystallographically, with 27 formula units of $(NH_2)_2CSe$ in the trigonal unit cell. For this reason other compounds of this general type were taken into consideration, and when Prof. J. D. McCullough of these laboratories offered a gift of a number of substituted selenoureas this was gratefully accepted. Among the compounds received, *N*-phenyl-*N'*-benzoylselenourea,



was found to be well suited for the present purpose, and the work on selenourea was therefore temporarily discontinued, while work on phenylbenzoylselenourea was started.

Experimental

The sample of *N*-phenyl-*N'*-benzoylselenourea had been prepared according to the procedure given by Douglass (1937). The crystals used in the X-ray study were long, thin, yellow needles grown by evaporation of an alcoholic solution. The crystals were studied partly by ordinary film techniques, and partly with a Picker diffractometer equipped with a General Electric goniostat.

Oscillation and Weissenberg photographs indicated a monoclinic unit cell with the crystallographic *b* axis along the needle axis. Based on the systematic absence of $h0l$ reflexions with *l* odd, and the observation of 020 only of the $0k0$ reflexions, the space group was taken to be $P2_1/c$. The choice of space group was confirmed through the successful determination and refinement of the structure.

Attempts to cut the crystals normal to the needle axis always resulted in a splitting of the ends into a brushlike bundle of thin fibers. The crystals used for intensity measurements were therefore long needles mounted along the *b* axis. The cross section was about 0.05×0.02 mm.

Integrated equi-inclination Weissenberg photographs of the layers $k=0$ through 4 were prepared with Cu $K\alpha$ radiation by use of the multiple-film technique. For the layers with $k=0$ and 1 a nickel filter was used; on higher levels the β reflexions were cut off by the layer line screen. For the purpose of interlayer scaling some 150 reflexions distributed over the five layers recorded were also measured with the diffractometer, using the $2\theta-\theta$ scan method. The reflexions recorded on film were measured with

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a densitometer, except for the weakest ones, about one-quarter of all observed, which were estimated visually by use of a calibrated integrated comparison strip. Altogether 1432 reflexions were recorded. The intensities were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects in the usual way. No absorption corrections were made.

Determination and refinement of the structure

The cell dimensions as determined from angles measured with the diffractometer are

$a = 13.16$ (e.s.d. 0.005), $b = 5.064$ (e.s.d. 0.003),
 $c = 19.94$ (e.s.d. 0.005) Å, $\beta = 103.65^\circ$ (e.s.d. 0.03°).

The density calculated for $Z=4$ is 1.56 g.cm⁻³ while the density measured by flotation is 1.60 g.cm⁻³.

The x and z coordinates for the Se atom were easily derived from a Patterson projection on (010). An electron-density projection calculated by use of the signs of the Se contribution to the structure factors showed all C, N and O atoms well resolved. The (x, z) coordinates found from this projection were refined through one cycle of Fourier refinement and three cycles of two-dimensional least-squares refinement. Individual isotropic temperature coefficients were also refined.

It was noted that on all layers the rows with l odd were systematically considerably weaker than those with l even. This indicates that the Se atoms are located near $y = \frac{1}{4}$ and $y = \frac{3}{4}$. At a stage before all the intensities had been collected, a generalized projection (Cochran & Dyer, 1952) was calculated from the $h2l$ data with l even. The signs used were those calculated for Se at $y = \frac{1}{4}$. Values for $\sigma_{12}(x, z)$ were obtained from a 'calculated' generalized ($h2l$) projection with $y=0$ for all atoms, and the temperature factors from the two-dimensional least-squares refinement. With the aid of a model of the molecule approximate y parameters for the Se, C, N, and O atoms were derived.

The calculations carried out so far did not require a knowledge of the position of the molecule relative

Table 1. *Positional parameters and isotropic temperature coefficients for atoms in one molecule*

(E.s.d. in parentheses)

The e.s.d. for the positional parameters have been multiplied by 10⁴

Atom	x	y	z	B (Å ²)
Se(1)	0.1077 (1)	0.2808 (2)	0.5847 (5)	
C(2)	0.2096 (7)	0.3771 (17)	0.5416 (5)	
N(3)	0.3059 (6)	0.2864 (16)	0.5513 (4)	
C(4)	0.3630 (7)	0.0872 (19)	0.5952 (5)	2.94 (0.16)
C(5)	0.3250 (9)	-0.0692 (23)	0.6406 (6)	4.38 (0.22)
C(6)	0.3916 (10)	-0.2584 (25)	0.6793 (6)	5.29 (0.25)
C(7)	0.4901 (9)	-0.2926 (24)	0.6721 (6)	4.81 (0.23)
C(8)	0.5279 (11)	-0.1365 (28)	0.6253 (7)	5.83 (0.29)
C(9)	0.4632 (9)	0.0529 (24)	0.5876 (6)	4.54 (0.22)
N(10)	0.1818 (6)	0.5676 (15)	0.4897 (4)	
C(11)	0.2410 (9)	0.6517 (19)	0.4443 (5)	
C(12)	0.1880 (7)	0.8354 (19)	0.3893 (5)	3.02 (0.16)
C(13)	0.2188 (9)	0.8229 (23)	0.3270 (6)	4.32 (0.21)
C(14)	0.1765 (9)	0.9909 (24)	0.2741 (6)	4.60 (0.23)
C(15)	0.1011 (9)	1.1731 (24)	0.2814 (6)	4.71 (0.32)
C(16)	0.0688 (9)	1.1817 (22)	0.3427 (5)	4.05 (0.19)
C(17)	0.1127 (7)	1.0136 (20)	0.3966 (5)	3.31 (0.18)
O(18)	0.3295 (6)	0.5724 (17)	0.4485 (4)	

Table 2. *Anisotropic temperature coefficients for the six 'central' atoms*

(E.s.d. in parentheses)

All values have been multiplied by 10⁵

Atom	β_{11}	β_{22}	β_{33}	β_{12}	β_{13}	β_{23}
Se(1)	639 (7)	3850 (60)	228 (3)	312 (36)	334 (7)	417 (22)
C(2)	573 (68)	1247 (389)	207 (25)	37 (229)	147 (64)	-380 (138)
N(3)	546 (52)	2762 (381)	265 (23)	309 (236)	228 (55)	180 (153)
N(10)	607 (58)	2004 (344)	219 (22)	-56 (213)	275 (58)	111 (132)
C(11)	729 (83)	2349 (441)	288 (31)	-552 (286)	392 (83)	68 (174)
O(18)	651 (60)	5570 (434)	445 (30)	941 (251)	638 (69)	1749 (186)

to the twofold screw axis. In order to determine the correct position, a comparison of F_o and F_c for the reflexions ($h2l$) with l odd was made for each of the two possible positions. The result of this test was an R value of about 0.35 for the position chosen for later refinement, whereas the other position gave R close to 0.60 for the reflexions included. As a further

Table 3. *Assumed and observed positional parameters for the hydrogen atoms*

Atom	Assumed			Observed		
	x	y	z	x	y	z
H(23)	—	—	—	0.3575	0.4028	0.5261
H(25)	0.2462	-0.0431	0.6475	0.2404	-0.0396	0.6426
H(26)	0.3633	-0.3794	0.7151	0.3573	-0.3828	0.7200
H(27)	0.5392	-0.4416	0.7021	0.5287	-0.4200	0.7150
H(28)	0.6076	-0.1578	0.6190	0.6024	-0.1532	0.5977
H(29)	0.4919	0.1763	0.5520	—	—	—
H(30)	—	—	—	0.1112	0.6700	0.4923
H(33)	0.2774	0.6847	0.3204	0.2771	0.7112	0.3225
H(34)	0.2013	0.9830	0.2266	0.2029	0.9388	0.2266
H(35)	0.0674	1.3925	0.2389	0.0831	1.2944	0.2395
H(36)	0.0093	1.3209	0.3483	0.0113	1.2540	0.3387
H(37)	0.0883	1.0212	0.4442	0.0903	1.0412	0.4366

Table 4. Observed and calculated structure factors

The data are separated into groups having common values of h and k. The three columns in each group list values of l, 10F_o, and 10F_c, in that order

Table with multiple columns of numerical data, organized into groups by h and k values. Each group contains three columns: l, 10F_o, and 10F_c. The table is dense and covers a wide range of h and k values.

check all the positional parameters, and individual isotropic temperature factors were refined through three least-squares cycles with all observed $h0l$, $h1l$ and $h2l$ reflexions included. The resulting positional parameters gave reasonable interatomic distances, the temperature coefficients were normal, and the R value was 0.13; the structure at this stage was taken to be sufficiently good to serve as initial input for least-squares refinements with the full set of intensity data.

The refinement was carried out in three steps. First all the positional parameters and temperature factors were refined through six least-squares cycles, the first three with isotropic temperature factors for all atoms, and the next three with an anisotropic temperature factor for selenium. Next a three-dimensional difference Fourier synthesis was calculated with all Se, C, N, O atoms subtracted. Except for some negative regions around the selenium position, there was no false detail in the map. Near all the expected hydrogen positions appeared rather convincing maxima, ranging from 0.4 to 0.7 e.Å⁻³.

Positions for the ten phenyl hydrogen atoms were calculated from the positions of the carbon atoms, with an assumed C-H distance of 1.08 Å. The assumed H positions are given in Table 3. (The numbering of the 'heavy' atoms is shown in Fig. 2. The hydrogen atoms are given the numbers of the atoms to which they are attached +20). In the final three least-squares cycles these hydrogen atoms were included in the structure factor calculations with temperature coefficients of 4.5 Å², but no hydrogen parameters were refined. These cycles were carried out with anisotropic temperature factors for the six 'central' atoms Se(1), C(2), N(3), N(10), C(11), and O(18). The shifts in the final cycle were all less than 1/20 of the e.s.d.

In Table 1 are given the final positional parameters and isotropic temperature coefficients, B , together with their e.s.d. values. The temperature coefficients β_{ij} in the anisotropic temperature factors with their e.s.d. values are given in Table 2.

A comparison of observed and calculated structure factors is given in Table 4. The parameters used in the calculation of the F_c 's are those listed in Tables 1 and 2, and the assumed H parameters. The R value is 0.071. As a final check of the structure a three-dimensional difference synthesis was calculated with all 'heavy' atoms subtracted. It shows a negative region with a minimum of about -0.8 e.Å⁻³ near the selenium position, and maxima of 0.4-0.6 e.Å⁻³ near the expected hydrogen positions. From this map the positions of all H atoms except H(29) were derived. The parameters found are listed in Table 3.

Computing procedures

The structure factors and all Fourier summations were calculated by use of a program written for the IBM

7090 computer by P. K. Gantzel and Håkon Hope in these laboratories. The least-squares refinement was carried out by use of ACA Computer program No. 317 (UCLALS-1) written by P. K. Gantzel, R. A. Sparks and K. N. Trueblood for the IBM 7090. This program minimizes the weighted sum of the squares of the quantity $(KF_o - G(F_c))$ by a full matrix routine. K and G are scale factors, G is one of the adjustable parameters. The weighting scheme used was that of Hughes (1941) with $4F_o(\text{min})=32$. The atomic form factors were taken from *International Tables for X-ray Crystallography* (1962); Se from Table 3.3.1B, and C, N, O, H from Table 3.3.1A. For carbon the C (valence) values were used. The f values for each reflexion were obtained by linear interpolation of $1/\sqrt{f}$ values.

The isotropic temperature factors are of the form $\exp(-B \sin^2 \theta/\lambda^2)$, and the anisotropic of the form $\exp[-(h^2\beta_{11} + k^2\beta_{22} + l^2\beta_{33} + hk\beta_{12} + hl\beta_{13} + kl\beta_{23})]$.

The R index is defined by $R = \sum |F_o| - |F_c| / \sum F_o$.

The standard deviations were estimated from the inverse matrix of the normal equations.

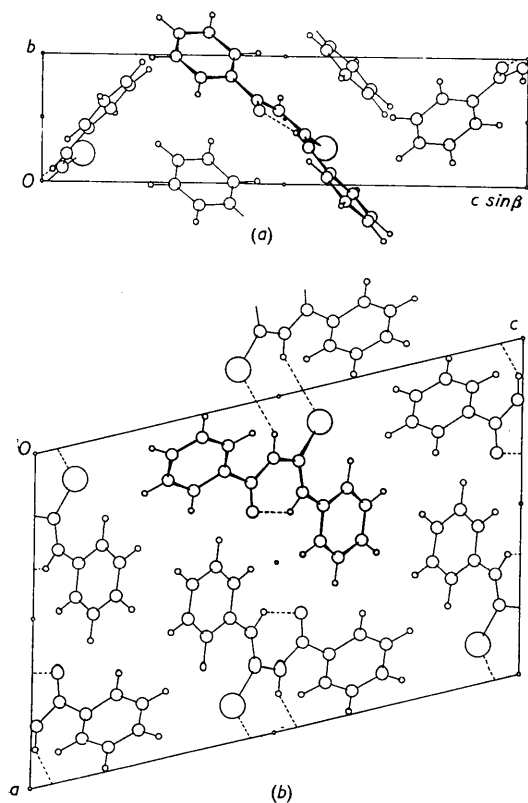
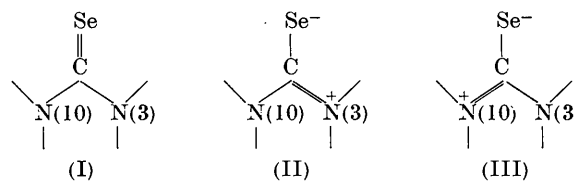


Fig. 1. (a) Projection of the structure along the a axis. Only one layer of molecules, related through the c glide, is shown. The heavily outlined molecule corresponds to the positional parameters given in Table 1. (b) Projection of the structure along the b axis. The assumed hydrogen bonds are indicated by broken lines. For identification of the atoms compare with Fig. 2.

Description of the structure

In Figs. 1(a) and 1(b) are shown two projections of the structure, along the *a* axis and the *b* axis respectively. Bond distances are given in Table 5 and Fig. 2(a), and bond angles in Table 6 and Fig. 2(b). Some dihedral angles are also indicated in Fig. 2(b).



The sum of the covalent bond radii for Se and C is 1.94 Å for the single bond, and 1.74 Å for the

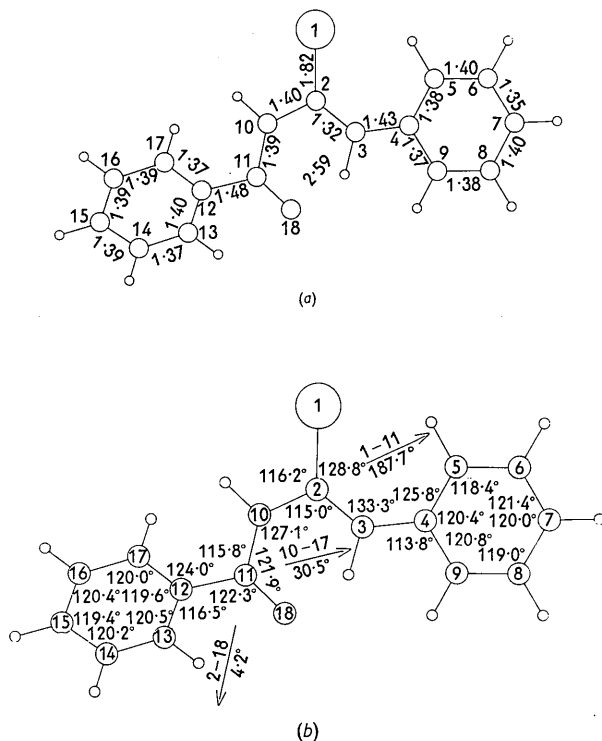


Fig. 2. (a) Interatomic distances in phenylbenzoylselenourea, with indication of the numbering system adopted. 1=Se, 3 and 10=N, 18=O, and the remaining numbered atoms=C. Hydrogen atoms are given the numbers of the atoms to which they are attached +20. The drawing represents a projection of the molecule on the plane defined by atoms 1 through 9. (b) Bond angles, and some dihedral angles. The dihedral angles are given with arrows which indicate the direction of positive rotation in a right-handed reference system.

The molecule consists of three planar portions, of which one is made up of the atoms Se(1) through C(9), the next of N(10), C(11), C(12), O(18), and the last of the phenyl group C(12)–C(17). The parameters defining the three least-squares planes are given in Table 7, together with individual deviations from the planes. It is noted that the major deviation from planarity of the molecule as a whole is caused by the phenyl group C(12)–C(17) being twisted about 31° at the C(11)–C(12) bond.

It seems reasonable to assume that the most important contributions to the actual structure of the central part of the molecule could be represented by the formulae (I), (II), and (III).

Table 5. *Interatomic distances*
(E.s.d. in parentheses)

Atoms	Distance
Se(1)–C(2)	1.82 (0.010) Å
C(2)–N(3)	1.32 (0.013)
N(3)–C(4)	1.43 (0.012)
C(4)–C(5)	1.38 (0.015)
C(5)–C(6)	1.40 (0.017)
C(6)–C(7)	1.35 (0.018)
C(7)–C(8)	1.40 (0.018)
C(8)–C(9)	1.38 (0.018)
C(9)–C(4)	1.37 (0.015)
C(2)–N(10)	1.40 (0.013)
N(10)–C(11)	1.39 (0.014)
C(11)–C(12)	1.48 (0.014)
C(11)–O(18)	1.22 (0.014)
C(12)–C(13)	1.40 (0.014)
C(13)–C(14)	1.37 (0.016)
C(14)–C(15)	1.39 (0.017)
C(15)–C(16)	1.39 (0.016)
C(16)–C(17)	1.39 (0.015)
C(17)–C(12)	1.37 (0.014)
N(3)···O(18)	2.59 (0.012)
N(3)–H(23)	1.11
H(23)···O(18)	1.73
Se(1)···N(10)	3.83 (0.008)
N(10)–H(30)	1.08
Se(1)···H(30)	2.94

Table 6. *Bond angles*
(E.s.d. in parentheses)

Atoms	Angle
Se(1)–C(2)–N(3)	128.8° (0.4°)
Se(1)–C(2)–N(10)	116.2 (0.4)
N(3)–C(2)–N(10)	115.0 (0.6)
C(2)–N(3)–C(4)	133.3 (0.6)
N(3)–C(4)–C(5)	125.8 (0.7)
N(3)–C(4)–C(9)	113.8 (0.7)
C(5)–C(4)–C(9)	120.4 (0.8)
C(4)–C(5)–C(6)	118.4 (0.8)
C(5)–C(6)–C(7)	121.4 (0.8)
C(6)–C(7)–C(8)	120.0 (0.9)
C(7)–C(8)–C(9)	119.0 (0.9)
C(4)–C(9)–C(8)	120.8 (0.8)
C(2)–N(10)–C(11)	127.1 (0.7)
N(10)–C(11)–C(12)	115.8 (0.7)
N(10)–C(11)–O(18)	121.9 (0.7)
C(12)–C(11)–O(18)	122.3 (0.7)
C(11)–C(12)–C(13)	116.5 (0.8)
C(11)–C(12)–C(17)	124.0 (0.8)
C(13)–C(12)–C(17)	119.6 (0.8)
C(12)–C(13)–C(14)	120.5 (0.8)
C(13)–C(14)–C(15)	120.2 (0.8)
C(14)–C(15)–C(16)	119.4 (0.8)
C(15)–C(16)–C(17)	120.4 (0.8)
C(12)–C(17)–C(16)	120.0 (0.7)
C(2)–N(3)–O(18)	88.9 (0.7)
N(3)–O(18)–C(11)	87.0 (0.7)

Table 7. *Least-squares planes and distances from planes*

I. Plane defined by Se(1) through C(9):
 $(0.02537\mathbf{a} + 0.13383\mathbf{b} + 0.03707\mathbf{c}) \cdot \mathbf{r} - 8.8821 = 0$

II. Plane defined by N(10), C(11), C(12), O(18):
 $(0.02734\mathbf{a} + 0.15254\mathbf{b} + 0.03089\mathbf{c}) \cdot \mathbf{r} - 7.9189 = 0$

III. Plane defined by phenyl group C(12)–C(17):
 $(0.05584\mathbf{a} + 0.13311\mathbf{b} + 0.01826\mathbf{c}) \cdot \mathbf{r} - 5.9253 = 0$

Atom	Deviation	from plane
Se(1)	0.006 Å	I
C(2)	-0.018	I
N(3)	0.001	I
C(4)	0.017	I
C(5)	-0.001	I
C(6)	0.000	I
C(7)	-0.006	I
C(8)	-0.008	I
C(9)	0.009	I
N(10)	-0.107	I
N(10)	-0.003	II
C(11)	0.011	II
C(12)	-0.003	II
O(18)	-0.004	II
C(11)	0.044	III
C(12)	0.008	III
C(13)	-0.009	III
C(14)	0.002	III
C(15)	0.006	III
C(16)	-0.007	III
C(17)	0.000	III

double bond. The observed value 1.82 Å for the C–Se bond indicates a considerable contribution from structure (I). Likewise the C(2)–N(3) distance of 1.32 Å indicates a substantial contribution from (II), whereas (III) probably is of less significance.

The unusually short N(3)–H···O(18) hydrogen bond (2.59 Å) is consistent with the assumption of a positive charge placed on the NH group, leading to retraction of much of the H electron. It is suggested that the possibility of the NH group thus being able to form a strong hydrogen bond may be part of the cause for the difference between the bond distances C(2)–N(3) and C(2)–N(10).

Selenium normally does not form hydrogen bonds; however, the rather short Se(1')–H(30)–N(10) distance of 3.83 Å, in a grouping with N(10)–H(30)=1.08 Å, Se(1')–H(30)=2.94 Å, and the angle N(10)–H(30)–Se(1')=140°, is taken to indicate that a hydrogen bond Se···H–N exists, so that phenylbenzoyl-selenourea crystallizes as a centrosymmetric hydrogen-bonded dimer. This increased hydrogen bonding ability is thought to be caused by a partial negative charge on the selenium atom.

A striking feature of the structure is the planarity of the group formed by Se(1), C(2), N(3) and the phenyl group C(4)–C(9). It is interesting to compare this with the structure of acetanilide (Brown & Corbridge, 1954), where the phenyl group is twisted 38° out of plane, to avoid an 'impossibly' close

CH–O contact. All the angles Se(1)–C(2)–N(3), C(2)–N(3)–C(4) and N(3)–C(4)–C(5) are highly strained, but even so a remarkably short distance of 3.32 Å between Se(1) and C(5) is observed, or, based on the assumed H(25) position, a Se(1)–H(25) distance of only 2.55 Å is found. This is over 0.6 Å less than the accepted sum of van der Waals radii. The angle C(2)–Se(1)–H(25) is 83°. To achieve a Se–H distance of about 3 Å by bending the H atom out of plane would require a bending angle of nearly 60°, which is very unlikely. In any event, something quite unusual seems to take place in this region, and the idea of some kind of bond between Se and H(25) comes close. With the estimated standard deviations for bond lengths in mind the irregularities observed in the phenyl groups are not of sufficient magnitude to warrant discussion.

A point of interest is the location of the hydrogen atoms. With the observed H positions, C–H distances were calculated. The average value found is 1.06 Å, with individual values ranging from 0.83 to 1.24 Å. It is evident that even in the presence of an atom as heavy as selenium, hydrogen atoms can be successfully located, provided that sufficient care is exercised when intensity data are collected.

Except for the Se–HN distance, all other intermolecular distances are normal. Some of the shorter intermolecular distances are Se(1') (at $-x, 1-y, 1-z$)–C(17)=3.93, Se(1') (same)–H(36') (at $x, y-1, z$)=3.25, O(18)–H(29') (at $1-x, 1-y, 1-z$)=2.67 Å.

The author considers it a pleasant duty to thank Prof. J. D. McCullough for the gift of a sample of phenylbenzoyl-selenourea, for his steady interest in this study, and for many inspiring discussions.

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