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The Crystal Structure of Deoxyadenosine Monohydrate

BY D. G. WATSON*

Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge, England

and the Department of Biological Structure, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, U.S.A.

AND D. J. SUTOR† AND P. TOLLIN‡

Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge, England

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Deoxyadenosine crystallizes as the monohydrate in the monoclinic space group $P2_1$ with two molecules in a unit cell of dimensions: $a = 16.060 \pm 0.007$, $b = 7.866 \pm 0.003$, $c = 4.700 \pm 0.002$ Å, $\beta = 96^\circ 4' \pm 1'$. Angular coordinates of the plane of the adenine group and atom C(1') of the glycosidic bond were found by integrating the Patterson function, and used in computing a superposition function from which the translational coordinates of the group were determined. The remaining atoms including the hydrogen atoms were located in three-dimensional Fourier syntheses and difference syntheses. The coordinates of the non-hydrogen atoms and the thermal parameters were refined by the full-matrix least-squares method. The final R index is 7.8% and the standard deviations in the bond lengths and angles are about 0.01 Å and 1° respectively.

The bond lengths and angles in the base are closely similar to those in other adenine compounds. In the sugar, the only significant differences between these molecular dimensions and those in other compounds containing D-ribofuranose or 2-deoxy-D-ribofuranose occur in the exocyclic angles at C(3'). The differences are in accordance with steric hindrance between O(2') and O(3') in D-ribofuranose. The adenine group is planar, but the carbon atom of the glycosidic bond is displaced by 0.220 Å from this plane. The sugar ring is puckered with C(3') displaced by 0.552 Å from the plane of the other four ring atoms so that the atom O(3') is 1.970 Å from the plane. The dihedral angle between the sugar and base planes is 70° , and the conformation of the molecule is *anti* with the torsion angle $\varphi_{CN} = -3^\circ$.

The packing in the crystal is determined by hydrogen bonds in which all available groups participate. The outstanding features of the system are infinite chains of N-H...N bonds between bases related by a screw axis, and a distorted trigonal arrangement of O-H...O bonds formed by the water molecule.

Introduction

The molecular structures of biological molecules are thought to be closely related to their physiological functions. Probable structures for the deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) and ribonucleic acid (RNA), which will help explain their essential part in protein synthesis and

genetic replication, are investigated at present by the method of trial and error. The complexity of these molecules necessitates a knowledge of the molecular dimensions and of the conformation of the units comprising them. By imposing restrictions on these factors, a spatial arrangement of the molecule, compatible with the available X-ray data, is sought.

The crystal structures of many pyrimidine and purine bases and a few nucleosides and nucleotides have been published. This work has provided information on not only the molecular configuration of some of the units but also certain fairly characteristic features of the molecular packing which probably help govern the struc-

* Present address: Department of Biological Structure, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, U.S.A.

† Present address: Birkbeck College Crystallography Laboratory, 21 Torrington Square, London W. C. 1, England.

‡ Present address: Physics Department, Queen's College, University of St. Andrews Dundee, Scotland.

ture of DNA itself (Langridge, Marvin, Seeds, Wilson, Hooper, Wilkins & Hamilton, 1960). These are:

(1) Pyrimidine and purine bases exhibit a great tendency to form hydrogen bonds amongst themselves and to pack in parallel planes about 3.5 Å apart.

(2) Other available groups usually participate in hydrogen bonds, and in some cases C-H...O hydrogen bonds are formed (Sutor, 1963).

The nucleosides and nucleotides studied so far are 5'-bromo-5'-deoxythymidine (Huber, 1957), calcium thymidylate (Trueblood, Horn & Luzzati, 1961), a cyclonucleoside (Zussman, 1953), cytidine (Furberg, 1950), cytidylic acid *b* (Alver & Furberg, 1959; Sundaralingam & Jensen, 1963), adenosine 5'-phosphate (Kraut & Jensen, 1963), 5-fluoro-2'-deoxyuridine (Harris & Macintyre, 1964) and 5-iodo-2'-deoxyuridine (Cameraman & Trotter, 1964). Of these, the structures of cytidylic acid *b*, 5-fluoro-2'-deoxyuridine and adenosine 5'-phosphate are the most accurately determined, having standard deviations in bond lengths and angles of the order of or less than 0.01 Å and 1° respectively. The work described here on deoxyadenosine (Fig. 1), one of the two purine nucleosides in DNA, approaches the same accuracy.

Experimental

Dr A. M. Michelson kindly provided us with two habits of crystalline deoxyadenosine monohydrate (C₁₀H₁₃N₅O₃ · H₂O), needles elongated along *c* and plates. Both habits were used in this investigation.

Accurate unit-cell parameters, measured with a diffractometer, are:

$$a = 16.060 \pm 0.007, \quad b = 7.866 \pm 0.003, \\ c = 4.700 \pm 0.002 \text{ \AA} \quad \beta = 96^\circ 4' \pm 1'.$$

The errors quoted are the average deviations from the mean values. The space group is $P2_1(C2_2)$, and the measured density of 1.510 g.cm⁻³ agrees with the calculated value 1.514 g.cm⁻³ for two molecules in the unit cell.

All possible reflexions within the range of Cu *K*α radiation were recorded on equi-inclination Weissenberg photographs (using angles up to 36°) about the *b* and *c* axes, and 10° oscillation photographs about the *a* and *c* axes. The multiple-film technique was used throughout. The intensity of each reflexion was measured visually by comparison with a standard scale, and for the Weissenberg photographs, a correlation factor for the multiple-film technique was calculated for each layer (Bullen, 1953). Where necessary, the measured intensities were corrected for the variation in spot-shape of the reflexions arising from either the non-uniform cross-section of the crystals (Broomhead, 1948), or the combination of the divergent X-ray beam on the crystal and the motion of the film (Phillips, 1954). The former correction was applied to the *hk0* and *h0l* Weissenberg photographs and the latter to all upper level Weissenberg photographs. The few contracted reflexions which could not be corrected by Phil-

lips's method were ignored since other measurements were available. The resulting intensities were converted to *F*² values (Cochran, 1948), and the layer lines were placed on the same arbitrary scale by comparison of common reflexions. Ninety-one per cent of the total number of reflexions within the Cu *K*α sphere were of measurable intensity and, for most of these, there were several independent measurements with an agreement between *F*² values of 15% or better.

Preliminary attempts at structure determination

At the commencement of this work in 1954, the stereochemistry of only one of the nucleosides and nucleotides, cytidine, was known. The size of the deoxyadenosine molecule and the absence of a heavy atom from the structure suggested a direct approach to the problem of structure determination. The method of Cochran & Douglas (1953) was used on EDSAC I to select possible sets of signs for twenty-three of the largest *h0l* unitary

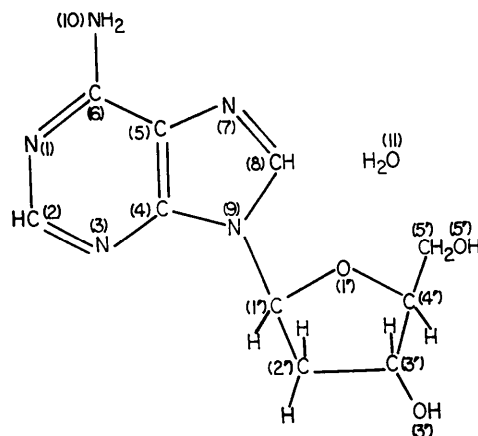


Fig. 1. The chemical constitution of deoxyadenosine monohydrate and the conventional numbering system.

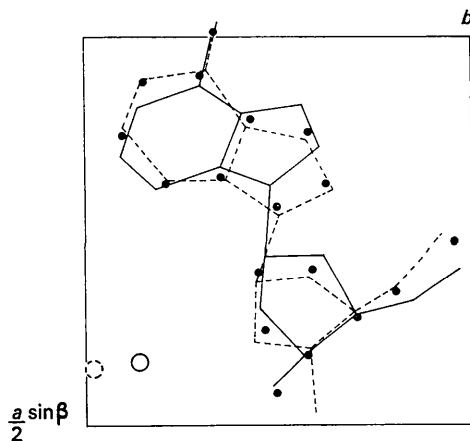


Fig. 2. Comparison of the final *x* and *y* coordinates with two trial structures. Unbroken lines: correct structure. Broken lines: structure obtained from model building (*R* value 20%). Black dots: another trial structure which would not refine and for which the position of the water molecule could not be determined.

structure factors, U_{hol} . Unfortunately, the correct set of signs was not recognized because of the large number of possible solutions produced by the computer, the poor resolution in the $h0l$ electron density projection, and, even allowing for an atom at the origin, the improbable sign distribution in which twenty-one of the twenty-three largest unitary structure factors were positive.

A three-dimensional Patterson series in which the terms were sharpened by the function $\exp(\sin^2 \theta)$ was computed on the Hollerith Tabulator and EDSAC I. Vectors were not clearly resolved, but the probable orientation of the pyrimidine ring was found and used to propose an arrangement of molecules involving a network of hydrogen bonds identical with that described in the discussion. The resulting $hk0$ Fourier series slowly converged to an R index of 20% but could not be further improved in spite of the fact that these trial structures were apparently very close to the correct one. Two of the 'better' $hk0$ projections, one corresponding to the R index of 20%, are compared with the final atomic coordinates in Fig. 2.

Determination of the position of the purine residue

The atoms of the purine residue, which account for about 54% of the scattering by the molecule, and probably atom C(1') of the sugar, should lie approximately in one plane. This plane might be located by the method of Tollin & Cochran (1964).

Sharpened coefficients $|F_s(\mathbf{h})|^2$ were used to compute the function

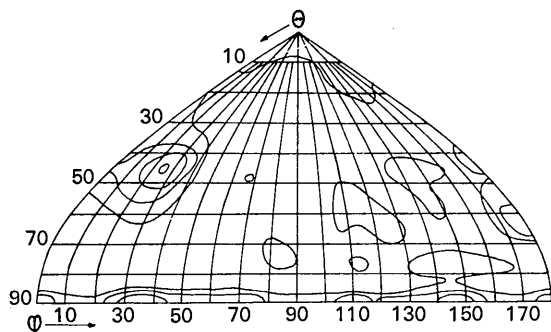


Fig. 3. Plot of $I(\theta, \varphi)$ for $R=5 \text{ \AA}$.

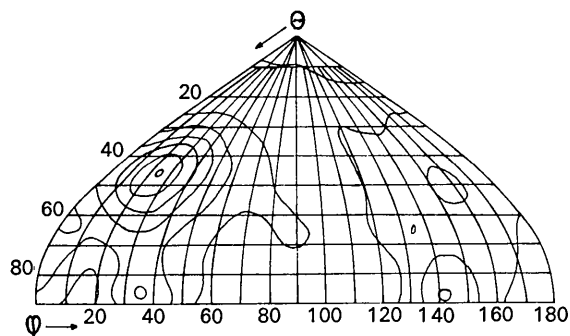


Fig. 4. Plot of $I(\theta, \varphi)$ for $R=2.5 \text{ \AA}$.

$$I(\theta, \varphi) = \sum_{\mathbf{h}} |F_s(\mathbf{h})|^2 J_1(2\pi R S) / 2\pi R S.$$

θ and φ are the spherical polar angles with respect to the axes a^* , b^* and c . R is the radius of the disc and S is the perpendicular distance of the point \mathbf{h} from the normal to the disc.

The results were plotted on a Sanson-Flamsteed Sinusoidal Projection and those for $R=5 \text{ \AA}$, the maximum dimension of the purine residue, are shown in Fig. 3. Apart from the peaks along the line $\theta=90^\circ$, the largest peak corresponds to $\theta=45^\circ$, $\varphi=25^\circ$ and probably represents the intersection of the normal to the purine plane with the sphere. The peaks along $\theta=90^\circ$ may have resulted from the interaction of the disc with origin peaks and large intermolecular vector peaks. Since the c axis is short and the line $\theta=90^\circ$ represents all the normals perpendicular to the c axis, these planes are likely to intersect origin peaks. A second calculation was performed with $R=2.5 \text{ \AA}$ and the resulting map is shown in Fig. 4. The peak at $\theta=45^\circ$, $\varphi=25^\circ$ again appears. However, the absence of all large peaks from the line $\theta=90^\circ$ indicated that they were due to vectors greater than 2.5 \AA in length.

The section through the Patterson function in the plane defined by $\theta=45^\circ$, $\varphi=25^\circ$ was calculated and a theoretical vector set for the purine residue was superimposed and rotated until the best fit was obtained. The angular coordinates of the purine residue were now known, θ and φ defining the orientation of the plane and ψ , the azimuthal angle, defining the orientation of the purine residue within the plane. The position of the purine group will then be completely defined by fixing translational coordinates of one point in it.

Since the space group is $P2_1$, only two coordinates, x and z , are required to define the position of the planar residue. Atom C(8) was arbitrarily placed at the origin and the relative fractional coordinates of the other atoms in the adenine residue were calculated from the angles θ , φ and ψ and the assumed geometry of the group. The sum function (Buerger, 1959) was calculated with these eleven positions as superposition points. This function should contain a set of maxima whose positions (x_1, y_1, z_1) are related by a 2_1 axis to the superposition points (x_0, y_0, z_0) by the equations

$$x_0 + x_1 = 2x \quad (1a)$$

$$y_1 = \frac{1}{2} + y_0 \quad (1b)$$

$$z_0 + z_1 = 2z \quad (1c)$$

For any given atom input at y_0 all possible pairs of peaks at the two levels y_0 and y_1 related by (1b) were considered and the values of (x, z) listed in accordance with equations (1a) and (1c). This process was repeated systematically for each of the input purine atoms. Scrutiny of the total list of (x, z) values showed that eleven pairs of peaks were consistent with equations (1a), (1b) and (1c) for $x=0.144$, $z=0.049$. Thus the position of the 2_1 axis was defined and the absolute coordinates of the eleven atoms could readily be calculated.

Three-dimensional structure factors calculated for the adenine group and atom C(1') of the deoxyribose ring gave an R value of 49%, with $R(hk0) = 50\%$. The coordinates of these eleven atoms were refined by $hk0$ electron density projections and a study of various models met with considerable success (Tollin, 1963). In the process of solution and refinement of the structure, the following atomic scattering factors were used: for oxygen, nitrogen and carbon, those given by Berg-huis, Haanappel, Potters, Loopstra, MacGillavry & Veenendaal (1955); for hydrogen, the values calculated by McWeeny (1951).

Determination of the complete structure

Structure factors calculated for the ten adenine atoms and C(1') of the deoxyribose residue with an over-all temperature factor $B = 3.0 \text{ \AA}^2$ [$R(hkl) = 49\%$] were used to assign phases to the terms satisfying the inequality $0.3|F_o| \geq |F_c|$ for a three-dimensional Fourier synthesis. Inspection of the electron density map indicated the probable positions of four more atoms but, at this stage, no attempt was made to correlate these peak maxima with the chemical structure of deoxyadenosine. Accordingly, in the next structure factor calculation, the atomic scattering factors of these atoms were taken as nitrogen – a 'mean' of those for carbon and oxygen. With an over-all temperature factor $B = 2.7 \text{ \AA}^2$, this second structure factor calculation gave an R value of 37%. A second Fourier synthesis computed from these phase angles yielded the positions of the remaining four atoms of the asymmetric unit (excluding hydrogen atoms). Assignment of the correct atomic scattering factors to all the atoms and calculation of a third set of structure factors resulted in a decrease of R from 37% to 24%.

Refinement of the structure

The structure was refined by least-squares analysis with the Busing & Levy (1959) full-matrix IBM 704

program, and the positions of the hydrogen atoms were located in three-dimensional difference Fourier syntheses. The function minimized by least squares was $\sum w(F_o - F_c)^2$ and the unobserved reflexions were included with one-half the minimum observed structure amplitude. The isotropic temperature factor assigned to any hydrogen atom was in each case 0.5 unit greater than the isotropic B value of the atom to which it is covalently bonded. A single scale factor was included throughout the refinement as an adjustable parameter. The weighting scheme employed was the following:

$$\text{If } |F_o| < 5.3, \sqrt{w} = 1.$$

$$\text{If } |F_o| \geq 5.3, \sqrt{w} = 5.3/|F_o|.$$

Sixteen low-order reflexions for which $|F_o| < |F_c|$ were given zero weight since they were considered to be affected by extinction. These reflexions are 400, 110, 210, 020, $\bar{1}01$, $\bar{2}01$, 101, 201, $\bar{3}11$, 011, 111, $\bar{1}21$, $\bar{2}21$, 021, 121. Refinement of the non-hydrogen atoms was initi-

Table 1. *Positional parameters of non-hydrogen atoms and their estimated standard deviations, in fractional coordinates $\times 10^4$*

	x/a	y/b	z/c
N(1)	9042(4)	-4782(10)	-4005(15)
C(2)	8404(5)	-5202(12)	-2608(19)
N(3)	7994(4)	-4253(09)	-0884(14)
C(4)	8316(4)	-2673(10)	-0655(14)
C(5)	8982(4)	-2040(10)	-2005(16)
C(6)	9359(4)	-3212(11)	-3754(16)
N(7)	9126(4)	-0361(10)	-1308(14)
C(8)	8569(4)	-0000(11)	0437(16)
N(9)	8047(4)	-1321(09)	0837(12)
N(10)	10010(5)	-2811(10)	-5153(18)
C(1')	7271(4)	-1349(11)	2249(14)
C(2')	6516(4)	-1499(10)	0061(16)
C(3')	5878(4)	-0370(11)	1250(14)
C(4')	6434(4)	1041(09)	2659(14)
C(5')	6572(5)	2496(12)	0676(18)
O(1')	7202(3)	0210(08)	3692(10)
O(3')	5494(3)	-1325(08)	3324(13)
O(5')	7012(4)	3795(10)	2373(13)
O(11)	5798(4)	-4589(10)	5132(16)

Table 2. *Thermal parameters of non-hydrogen atoms and their estimated standard deviations*

β , as given here, is defined by $T = \exp \{-10^{-4}(\beta_{11}h^2 + \beta_{22}k^2 + \beta_{33}l^2 + 2\beta_{12}hk + 2\beta_{13}hl + 2\beta_{23}kl)\}$

	β_{11}	β_{22}	β_{33}	β_{12}	β_{13}	β_{23}
N(1)	26(2)	78(10)	465(31)	03(4)	060(7)	-04(15)
C(2)	24(2)	85(12)	515(40)	-10(5)	041(8)	-45(18)
N(3)	19(2)	68(09)	406(29)	-05(4)	043(6)	35(14)
C(4)	14(2)	76(10)	266(26)	06(4)	021(6)	-02(14)
C(5)	17(2)	71(11)	349(30)	07(4)	031(7)	18(14)
C(6)	15(2)	93(12)	356(32)	05(4)	045(7)	11(16)
N(7)	19(2)	86(10)	382(28)	-04(3)	037(6)	06(14)
C(8)	19(2)	84(11)	333(29)	01(4)	024(6)	-07(15)
N(9)	18(2)	74(09)	309(25)	02(4)	027(6)	-04(13)
N(10)	24(2)	88(11)	483(30)	-05(4)	076(6)	-03(15)
C(1')	16(2)	94(11)	248(25)	02(4)	028(6)	03(15)
C(2')	22(2)	81(11)	313(30)	-03(4)	020(7)	-10(15)
C(3')	18(2)	72(10)	295(28)	-04(4)	023(6)	28(14)
C(4')	14(2)	64(10)	313(28)	06(4)	024(6)	14(14)
C(5')	26(2)	75(11)	395(34)	-07(5)	039(7)	19(17)
O(1')	17(2)	92(09)	273(20)	06(3)	017(4)	-33(11)
O(3')	19(2)	82(08)	487(27)	-04(3)	053(6)	38(14)
O(5')	36(2)	92(09)	487(29)	-27(4)	065(7)	-34(14)
O(11)	35(2)	91(10)	672(36)	01(4)	101(8)	39(17)

Table 3. Positional parameters with estimated standard deviations, in fractional coordinates $\times 10^3$, and isotropic thermal parameters for hydrogen atoms

	x/a	y/b	z/c	B
H[C(2)]	824(8)	-643(20)	-297(24)	2.8 Å ²
H[C(8)]	857(7)	104(18)	170(22)	2.1
H[N(10)]	1030(8)	-176(20)	-504(27)	2.7
H'[N(10)]	1024(8)	-386(20)	-591(24)	2.7
H[C(1')]	722(6)	-237(17)	353(22)	1.9
H[C(2')]	629(7)	-261(19)	-041(24)	2.1
H'[C(2')]	674(7)	-110(19)	-175(24)	2.1
H[C(3')]	552(7)	012(18)	-004(22)	2.0
H[C(4')]	606(7)	137(17)	450(32)	1.8
H[C(5')]	688(8)	188(18)	-114(26)	2.5
H'[C(5')]	599(8)	306(19)	036(24)	2.5
H[O(3')]	511(8)	-022(19)	356(23)	2.6
H[O(5')]	729(8)	486(20)	098(25)	3.0
H[O(11)]	564(8)	-374(24)	479(29)	3.5
H'[O(11)]	601(9)	-554(21)	429(29)	3.5

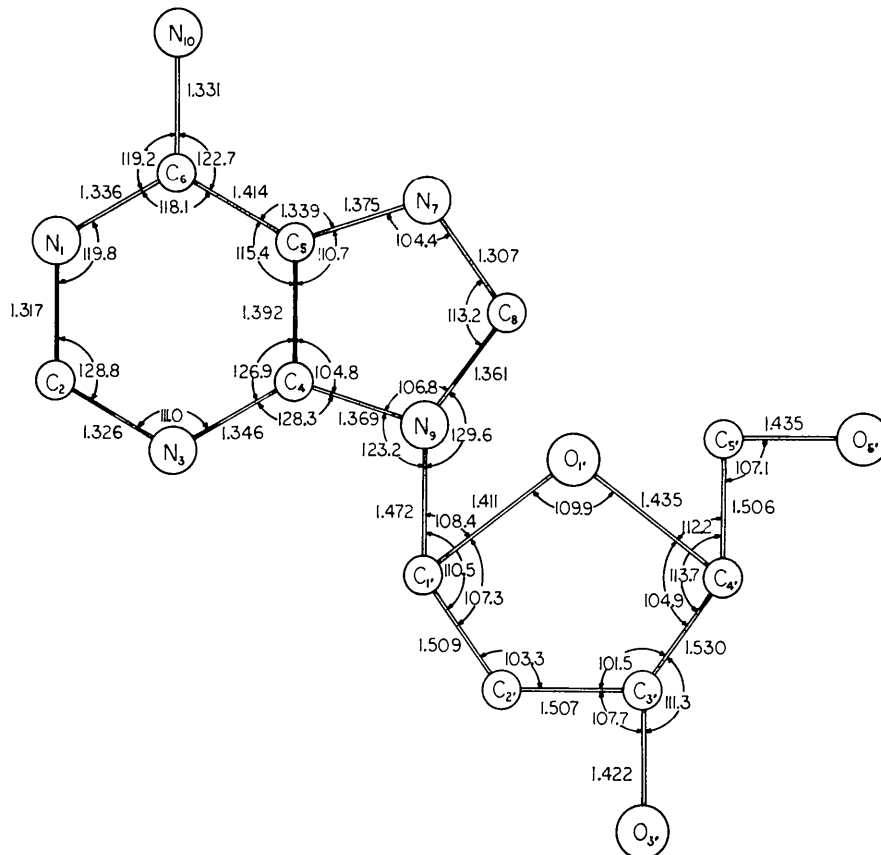
ally performed with isotropic temperature factors and later with anisotropic values. Only at the end of refinement were the hydrogen positional coordinates, determined from difference syntheses, refined by least squares. A final cycle of refinement of the non-hydrogen positional and temperature parameters completed the analysis of the structure.

The final R index, from which the sixteen extinguished reflexions and the unobserved reflexions were excluded, was 7.8%. Inclusion of the unobserved reflex-

ions resulted in $R=9.1\%$. At the final stage the maximum positional parameter shift was 0.0045 Å, corresponding to 0.6σ , and the maximum thermal parameter shift was 0.8σ . The final positional parameters for carbon, nitrogen and oxygen are given in Table 1 and the corresponding anisotropic thermal parameters in Table 2. The positional and thermal parameters of the hydrogen atoms are listed in Table 3.

The estimated standard deviations in the positional parameters of non-hydrogen atoms range from 0.0045 Å to 0.0091 Å with an average of 0.007 Å. Interatomic distances and valence bond angles (not involving hydrogen atoms) are given in Table 4 and Fig. 5. Standard deviations of bond lengths and of bond angles not involving hydrogen atoms range from 0.008–0.001 Å with a mean value of 0.010 Å, and $0.6\text{--}1.2^\circ$ with a mean of 0.8° respectively.

The location of the hydrogen atoms from difference syntheses was quite satisfactory in the sense that peaks occurred where hydrogen atoms were expected either from stereochemical considerations or from the hydrogen-bonding scheme. These peaks varied in height from 0.3–0.6 $e.\text{Å}^{-3}$ with a mean value of $0.5 e.\text{Å}^{-3}$. However, refinement of the hydrogen positional parameters by least squares results in an average estimated standard deviation of 0.13 Å in position. Thus any interatomic distance involving a hydrogen atom has a standard deviation of *ca.* 0.14 Å. Bond angles involv-



ing one or two hydrogen atoms have standard deviations of *ca.* 11° and 25° respectively. Bond distances and angles involving hydrogen atoms are listed in Table 5.

The final three-dimensional electron density distribution is shown in Fig. 6 and the corresponding structure factors are listed in Table 6.

Discussion of the molecular and crystal structure

In comparing the molecular dimensions with other available results, data from X-ray studies of related compounds, proposed models and molecular orbital

calculations are used. A discussion of the base and sugar units comprising deoxyadenosine is given, then the conformation of the molecule as a whole, the thermal vibration and mode of packing are considered.

The adenine residue

The adenine residue is strictly planar. The least-squares plane through the nine atoms of the purine group is given by

$$-0.0716x + 0.0369y - 0.1017z + 1 = 0.$$

where *x*, *y*, *z* refer to orthogonal axes. This plane is identical with that derived from the integration of the

Table 4. *Intramolecular bond distances and valence bond angles with the corresponding standard deviations in parentheses*

N(1)–C(2)	1.317 (0.011) Å	N(9)–C(4)	1.369 (0.010) Å
C(2)–N(3)	1.326 (0.011)	N(9)–C(1')	1.472 (0.009)
N(3)–C(4)	1.346 (0.010)	C(1')–C(2')	1.509 (0.009)
C(4)–C(5)	1.392 (0.010)	C(2')–C(3')	1.507 (0.010)
C(5)–C(6)	1.414 (0.011)	C(3')–C(4')	1.530 (0.010)
C(6)–N(1)	1.336 (0.011)	C(3')–O(3')	1.422 (0.009)
C(6)–N(10)	1.331 (0.011)	C(4')–C(5')	1.506 (0.011)
C(5)–N(7)	1.375 (0.011)	C(4')–O(1')	1.435 (0.008)
N(7)–C(8)	1.307 (0.010)	O(1')–C(1')	1.411 (0.010)
C(8)–N(9)	1.361 (0.011)	C(5')–O(5')	1.435 (0.011)
C(6)–N(1)–C(2)	119.8 (1.0)°	C(4)–N(9)–C(1')	123.2 (0.9)°
N(1)–C(2)–N(3)	128.8 (1.1)	C(8)–N(9)–C(1')	129.6 (1.0)
C(2)–N(3)–C(4)	111.0 (0.9)	N(9)–C(1')–C(2')	110.5 (0.6)
N(3)–C(4)–C(5)	126.9 (1.0)	N(9)–C(1')–O(1')	108.4 (0.7)
C(4)–C(5)–C(6)	115.4 (0.9)	O(1')–C(1')–C(2')	107.3 (0.7)
C(5)–C(6)–N(1)	118.1 (0.9)	C(1')–C(2')–C(3')	103.3 (0.6)
N(1)–C(6)–N(10)	119.2 (1.0)	C(2')–C(3')–C(4')	101.5 (0.6)
C(5)–C(6)–N(10)	122.7 (1.0)	C(3')–C(4')–C(5')	113.7 (0.8)
N(3)–C(4)–N(9)	128.3 (1.0)	C(3')–C(4')–O(1')	104.9 (0.6)
C(6)–C(5)–N(7)	133.9 (1.2)	O(1')–C(4')–C(5')	112.2 (0.7)
C(4)–C(5)–N(7)	110.7 (0.8)	C(2')–C(3')–O(3')	107.7 (0.7)
C(5)–N(7)–C(8)	104.4 (0.7)	O(3')–C(3')–C(4')	111.3 (0.7)
N(7)–C(8)–N(9)	113.2 (0.9)	C(4')–O(1')–C(1')	109.9 (0.7)
C(8)–N(9)–C(4)	106.8 (0.7)	C(4')–C(5')–O(5')	107.1 (0.7)
N(9)–C(4)–C(5)	104.8 (0.7)		

Table 5. *Intramolecular bond distances and valence bond angles involving hydrogen atoms*

C(2)–H[C(2)]	1.0 Å	O(3')–H[O(3')]	1.1 Å
C(8)–H[C(8)]	1.0	C(4')–H[C(4')]	1.1
N(10)–H[N(10)]	0.9	C(5')–H[C(5')]	1.1
N(10)–H'[N(10)]	1.0	C(5')–H'[C(5')]	1.0
C(1')–H[C(1')]	1.0	O(5')–H[O(5')]	1.2
C(2')–H[C(2')]	1.0	O(11)–H[O(11)]	0.7
C(2')–H'[C(2')]	1.0	O(11)–H'[O(11)]	0.9
C(3')–H[C(3')]	0.9		
N(1)–C(2)–H[C(2)]	111°	C(3')–C(2')–H'[C(2')]	116°
N(3)–C(2)–H[C(2)]	120	C(2')–C(3')–H[C(3')]	115
N(7)–C(8)–H[C(8)]	126	O(3')–C(3')–H[C(3')]	114
N(9)–C(8)–H[C(8)]	120	C(4')–C(3')–H[C(3')]	107
C(6)–N(10)–H[N(10)]	126	C(3')–C(4')–H[C(4')]	99
C(6)–N(10)–H'[N(10)]	109	O(1')–C(4')–H[C(4')]	111
H[N(10)]–N(10)–H'[N(10)]	124	C(5')–C(4')–H[C(4')]	115
N(9)–C(1')–H[C(1')]	114	C(4')–C(5')–H[C(5')]	104
O(1')–C(1')–H[C(1')]	113	O(5')–C(5')–H[C(5')]	120
C(2')–C(1')–H[C(1')]	104	H'[C(5')–C(5')–H[C(5')]	122
C(1')–C(2')–H[C(2')]	119	C(4')–C(5')–H'[C(5')]	103
C(3')–C(2')–H[C(2')]	111	O(5')–C(5')–H'[C(5')]	99
H'[C(2')–C(2')–H[C(2')]	104	C(3')–O(3')–H[O(3')]	87
C(1')–C(2')–H'[C(2')]	103	H[O(11)]–O(11)–H'[O(11)]	142

Patterson function. Deviations of the nine atoms from the plane are not significant. The maximum value is 0.019 Å for N(9) and the root mean square deviation is 0.010 Å. Of the substituent atoms, N(10) with a deviation of 0.016 Å is coplanar but C(1') of the glycosidic link is displaced by 0.220 Å corresponding to an angle of about 9° between this bond and the adenine group. Large displacements of C(1') from the plane of the base have also been found in adenosine-5'-phosphate and in the nucleotide-like residue in vitamin B_{12} (Hodgkin, Lindsey, Sparks, Trueblood & White, 1962) where the corresponding values are 0.211 and 0.42 Å. In the pyrimidine nucleosides and nucleotides studied, C(1') is coplanar with the base in cytidine and cytidylic acid *b* (Alver & Furberg, 1959) and 5-iodo-2'-deoxyuridine, and it is displaced by only 0.05 Å in calcium thymidylate. These studies are of limited accuracy but in the recent refinement of cytidylic acid *b* (Sundaralingam & Jensen, 1963) it is indeed observed that C(1') is coplanar with the base. However, in the analysis of 5-fluoro-2'-deoxyuridine it is found that C(1') is significantly displaced from the pyrimidine plane by 0.150 Å.

A quantitative interpretation of the bond lengths in terms of resonance forms is not possible. The large con-

tribution of charged forms necessary to explain the 'short' C(6)-N(10) bond is not compatible with the contribution of those required to account for the bond lengths in the pyrimidine ring. In the pyrimidine and purine systems this exocyclic C-N bond has always been observed to be 'short', as is shown by a comparison of the values cited in Table 7 with 1.43 Å for a C-N bond involving a trigonally hybridized carbon atom. However, the glycosidic bond N(9)-C(1') of length 1.468 Å agrees well with 1.47 Å for a C-N single bond, and with 1.492 Å in adenosine-5'-phosphate, 1.466 Å in calcium thymidylate and 1.476 Å in the refined structure of cytidylic acid *b*. The analogous bonds in 9-methyladenine (Stewart & Jensen, 1964) and 1-methylthymine-9-methyladenine (Hoogsteen, 1963) also compare well with values of 1.468 and 1.453 Å respectively.

The most accurate structure analyses of adenine derivatives available for comparison are adenosine-5'-phosphate, 9-methyladenine and 1-methylthymine-9-methyladenine. Table 8 shows the bond lengths and angles in these three compounds and deoxyadenosine. Within the limits of precision quoted for these studies, various individual differences are probably not significant apart from those for the C(6)-N(1) and N(1)-C(2) bonds. The lengthening of these bonds in adenosine-5'-phosphate is in accordance with N(1) being protonated in this compound.

Pauling & Corey (1956) and Spencer (1959) have used data from known crystal structures to predict molecular dimensions for the units of the nucleic acids and related compounds. More information was available for the latter study and good agreement for pyrimidine rings has been obtained, but the manner of fusion of the five- and six-membered rings and mutual compensation in angular strain complicates the purine system. The bond lengths in the pyrimidine ring of deoxyadenosine agree well with those suggested by Spencer but discrepancies in some of the experimental and predicted bond angles are quite large.

Pullman & Pullman (1958) and Fernandez-Alonso & Sebastian (1960) using molecular orbital calculations have derived bond lengths for the adenine molecule. These values agree with those found here with two exceptions. The former workers report 1.38 Å for the C(6)-N(10) bond which, compared with the values in Table 7, is longer than expected. Fernandez-Alonso & Sebastian quote 1.33 Å for the C(8)-N(9) bond which

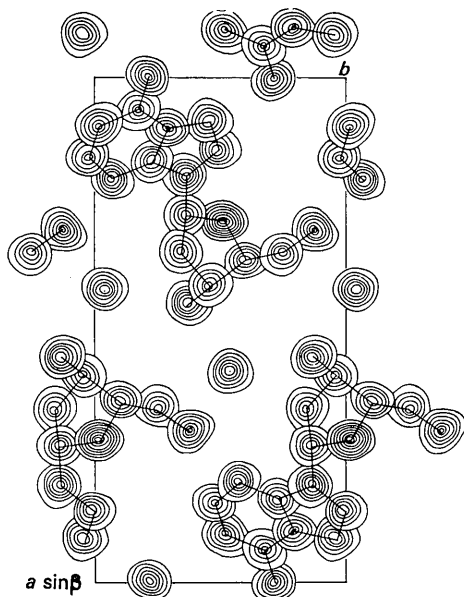


Fig. 6. Composite three-dimensional electron density distribution viewed down the *c* axis.

Table 7. Length of the C-NH₂ bond in some related compounds

Deoxyadenosine	1.331 ± 0.011 Å	
Adenosine-5'-phosphate	1.312 ± 0.013	(Kraut & Jensen, 1963)
Adenine hydrochloride	1.30 ± 0.01	(Cochran, 1951)
9-Methyladenine	1.348 ± 0.009	(Stewart & Jensen, 1964)
1-Methylthymine-9-methyladenine	1.335 ± 0.005	(Hoogsteen, 1963)
Cytosine monohydrate	1.332 ± 0.012	(Jeffrey & Kinoshita, 1963)
Cytosine-5-acetic acid	1.323 ± 0.006	(Marsh, Bierstedt & Eichhorn, 1962)
Cytidylic acid <i>b</i>	1.323 ± 0.006	(Sundaralingam & Jensen, 1963)
Guanine hydrochloride	1.32 ± 0.01	(Broomhead, 1951)
Thiamine hydrochloride	1.316 ± 0.007	(Kraut & Reed, 1962)

is significantly shorter than the values listed in Table 8 apart from that for 9-methyladenine.

The deoxyribose ring

Strain in the furanose ring caused by a planar arrangement of the five atoms and close intramolecular contacts between exocyclic substituents can be relieved by puckering the ring in such a way that C(2') or C(3') is displaced from the plane of the other four atoms by about 0.5 Å (Spencer, 1959). In systems so far studied where the displaced atom carries an oxygen atom, this oxygen atom is brought into or close to this plane. However, in deoxyadenosine C(3') is displaced by 0.552 Å and O(3') by 1.970 Å from the least-squares plane through atoms C(1'), C(2'), C(4') and O(1'). In the 2-deoxyribofuranose system there is no reason to expect preferential puckering of the oxygen atom attached to C(3') toward the plane rather than away from it and one can only assume that the buckling occurs in such a manner as best to fit the special packing considerations such as intermolecular hydrogen bonding.

The equation of the 'best' plane in deoxyadenosine is

$$-0.1063x - 0.0906y + 0.1289z + 1 = 0,$$

where x, y, z are orthogonal coordinates. Deviations of the atoms C(1'), C(2'), C(4') and O(1') from this plane are 0.013, -0.007, 0.008 and -0.013 Å respectively. This plane differs by only 5° from that corresponding to one of the smaller peaks in the map shown in Fig. 3. When planes are calculated for the five ring atoms or for the other four groups of four atoms, the root mean square deviation is between 0.1 and 0.2 Å.

The average length of the C-C bonds is 1.513 Å. All the observed values in deoxyadenosine are smaller, and those for C(1')-C(2') and C(2')-C(3') are significantly smaller, than a C-C bond of 1.54 Å. They support the value of 1.53 Å suggested by Bartell (1959) for the C-C bond in saturated hydrocarbons. The average length of the four C-O bonds, 1.426 Å, is in excellent agreement with the accepted single bond length of 1.43 Å.

Apart from a few exocyclic angles, the bond angles are closely similar to those in 5-fluoro-2'-deoxyuridine, calcium thymidylate, adenosine-5'-phosphate and cytidylic acid *b* (Table 9), and to those predicted by Spencer. The close similarity between bond distances and angles in calcium thymidylate and adenosine-5'-phosphate led Kraut & Jensen (1963) to conclude that there are no differences in the structures of D-ribofuranose.

Table 8. Comparison of bond distances and angles in the adenine group of deoxyadenosine (WST), adenosine-5'-phosphate (KJ), 1-methylthymine-9-methyladenine (H) and 9-methyladenine (SJ)*

	WST	KJ	H	SJ
N(1)-C(2)	1.317 Å	1.368 Å	1.361 Å	1.348 Å
C(2)-N(3)	1.326	1.312	1.304	1.322
N(3)-C(4)	1.346	1.341	1.347	1.338
C(4)-C(5)	1.392	1.403	1.373	1.365
C(5)-C(6)	1.414	1.448	1.406	1.395
C(6)-N(1)	1.336	1.362	1.355	1.348
C(6)-N(10)	1.331	1.312	1.335	1.348
C(5)-N(7)	1.375	1.364	1.381	1.379
N(7)-C(8)	1.307	1.328	1.323	1.311
C(8)-N(9)	1.361	1.398	1.363	1.354
N(9)-C(4)	1.369	1.377	1.389	1.359
†N(9)-C(1')	1.472	1.492	1.453	1.468
C(6)-N(1)-C(2)	119.8°	122.8°	116.8°	119.8°
N(1)-C(2)-N(3)	128.8	125.7	130.9	126.5
C(2)-N(3)-C(4)	111.0	112.3	109.9	112.4
N(3)-C(4)-C(5)	126.9	128.5	127.4	126.6
C(4)-C(5)-C(6)	115.4	115.6	116.9	117.2
C(5)-C(6)-N(1)	118.1	114.7	118.0	117.4
N(10)-C(6)-N(1)	119.2	121.5	119.0	116.9
N(10)-C(6)-C(5)	122.7	123.7	123.0	125.7
N(3)-C(4)-N(9)	128.3	127.4	127.1	128.4
C(6)-C(5)-N(7)	133.9	131.9	132.1	131.6
C(4)-C(5)-N(7)	110.7	112.3	111.0	111.2
C(5)-N(7)-C(8)	104.4	104.7	104.4	104.2
N(7)-C(8)-N(9)	113.2	111.8	112.9	112.0
C(8)-N(9)-C(4)	106.8	107.1	106.2	107.9
N(9)-C(4)-C(5)	104.8	104.1	105.5	104.7
†C(4)-N(9)-C(1')	123.2	123.8	125.6	123.8
†C(8)-N(9)-C(1')	129.6	128.6	128.2	128.3

* H Hoogsteen (1963)
 KJ Kraut & Jensen (1963)
 SJ Sundaralingam & Jensen (1963)
 WST This investigation

† C(1') only applies to WST and KJ; in the case of H and SJ, C(1') is represented by the carbon atom of the methyl substituent, *i.e.*, C(11).

and 2-deoxy-D-ribofuranose. Recent evidence does not support this since angles C(2')-C(3')-O(3') and O(3')-C(3')-C(4') in deoxyadenosine and 5-fluoro-2'-deoxyuridine are significantly smaller than those for adenosine-5'-phosphate. This would suggest steric hindrance between O(2') and O(3') in D-ribofuranose resulting in larger exocyclic angles on C(3') than those in 2-deoxy-D-ribofuranose. In cytidylic acid *b*, O(3') is phosphorylated but a similar increase in exocyclic angles is observed for C(2'), in particular, angles C(1')-C(2')-O(2') and O(2')-C(2')-C(3'). In addition to the relief of steric hindrance, deformation of the exocyclic angles may be a result of hydrogen bond formation.

Conformation of the molecule

The 'best' plane of the sugar residue, *i.e.* the plane through atoms C(1'), C(2'), C(4') and O(1'), makes a dihedral angle of 69° with the adenine plane. This value is similar to those reported for other nucleosides and nucleotides.

As proposed by Donohue & Trueblood (1960), the conformation of the molecule can be described by the torsion angle φ_{CN} defined as the angle formed by the trace of the plane of the base with the projection of the C(1')-O(1') bond of the furanose ring when viewed along the C-N glycosidic bond. Deoxyadenosine is in the *anti* conformation with $\varphi_{CN} = -3^\circ$. All the nucleosides and nucleotides so far studied exist in the *anti* conformation but the angles φ_{CN} vary over a wide range, depending on the particular packing and hydrogen bond requirements.

Anisotropic vibration

The magnitudes and direction cosines of the principal axes of the ellipsoids of thermal vibration of the atoms are given in Table 10. The quantities C_{ia} , C_{ib} and C_{ic} are the cosines of the angles between the *i*th principal axis and the *a*, *b* and *c* axes of the unit cell. The B_i are quoted in Å². If one adopts the criterion for significant anisotropy that at least one of the β_{ij} (Table 2) for the atom should differ by more than 2σ from the value which it would have if the atom were vibrating isotropically with B equal to the mean principal axis B_i , then the thermal vibrations of C(2') are not significantly anisotropic. If, on the other hand, the significance level is set at 3σ , atoms C(4), C(8), C(2'), C(3') and O(1') can be described as having isotropic thermal motion. If, instead of using the mean B_i value, one takes the isotropic B value obtained at the end of the isotropic least-squares analysis, the anisotropic vibrations of all atoms are significant at the 2σ level, whereas those for C(4), C(2') and C(3') are not, at the 3σ level. The direction cosines of the normal to the least-squares plane through the atoms of the purine residue with respect to the unit cell axes *a*, *b* and *c* are approximately -0.53, +0.28 and -0.83 respectively. Inspection of Table 10 shows that, for the adenine residue, all atoms are vibrating with maximum amplitude in a direction approximately normal to the plane of the base. Of the remaining atoms, C(5'), O(3'), O(5') and O(11) have the greatest freedom of movement, which is to be expected for the exocyclic atoms and the water molecule.

Table 9. Comparison of bond distances and angles of the sugar residue in deoxyadenosine (WST), 5-fluoro-2'-deoxyuridine (HM), calcium thymidylate (THL), adenosine-5'-phosphate (KJ) and cytidylic acid *b* (SJ)*

	WST	HM	THL	KJ	SJ
C(1')-C(2')	1.509 Å	1.534 Å	1.527 Å	1.509 Å	1.513 Å
C(2')-C(3')	1.507	1.527	1.550	1.544	1.533
C(3')-C(4')	1.530	1.501	1.491	1.520	1.537
C(4')-C(5')	1.506	1.514	1.526	1.525	1.511
C(4')-O(1')	1.435	1.451	1.441	1.476	1.458
O(1')-C(1')	1.411	1.435	1.438	1.445	1.418
C(2')-O(2')				1.438	1.402
C(3')-O(3')	1.422	1.434	1.409	1.400	1.431
C(5')-O(5')	1.435	1.443	1.472	1.475	1.437
N-C(1')-O(1')	108.4°	107.3°	107.4°	107.2°	107.7°
N-C(1')-C(2')	110.5	113.6	115.0	112.6	112.9
O(1')-C(1')-C(2')	107.3	104.7	107.2	106.7	105.9
C(1')-C(2')-C(3')	103.3	100.4	103.3	101.7	100.8
C(1')-C(2')-O(2')				107.0	114.6
O(2')-C(2')-C(3')				110.0	118.1
C(2')-C(3')-C(4')	101.5	102.1	101.8	99.9	102.2
C(2')-C(3')-O(3')	107.7	108.6	114.3	115.4	108.1
O(3')-C(3')-C(4')	111.3	112.3	113.7	115.5	110.0
C(3')-C(4')-C(5')	113.7	114.6	117.1	119.1	116.0
C(3')-C(4')-O(1')	104.9	106.3	106.7	104.0	104.7
C(5')-C(4')-O(1')	112.2	108.4	107.6	107.9	110.0
C(4')-O(1')-C(1')	109.9	109.2	108.9	108.3	110.3
C(4')-C(5')-O(5')	107.1	106.5	109.4	107.6	113.6

* HM Harris & Macintyre (1964)
 KJ Kraut & Jensen (1963)
 SJ Sundaralingam & Jensen (1963)
 THL Trueblood, Horn & Luzzati (1961)
 WST This investigation

Table 10. *Magnitudes and direction cosines of the principal axes of the thermal vibration ellipsoids*

Atom	Axis <i>i</i>	<i>B_i</i>	<i>C_{ia}</i>	<i>C_{ib}</i>	<i>C_{ic}</i>
N(1)	1	4.82	0.485	0.009	0.819
	2	1.52	-0.812	0.376	0.529
	3	2.00	0.325	0.927	-0.223
C(2)	1	4.93	0.301	-0.261	0.880
	2	1.74	-0.624	-0.781	0.049
	3	2.19	0.721	-0.568	-0.472
N(3)	1	3.98	0.352	0.159	0.880
	2	0.99	-0.713	-0.594	0.447
	3	1.98	0.607	-0.789	-0.159
C(4)	1	1.11	-0.900	0.338	0.369
	2	2.48	0.361	0.224	0.862
	3	1.95	0.245	0.914	-0.347

Table 10 (cont.)

Atom	Axis <i>i</i>	<i>B_i</i>	<i>C_{ia}</i>	<i>C_{ib}</i>	<i>C_{ic}</i>
C(5)	1	3.35	0.345	0.223	0.866
	2	1.26	-0.865	0.448	0.318
	3	1.78	0.356	0.866	-0.387
C(6)	1	0.82	-0.911	0.101	0.493
	2	3.61	0.412	0.184	0.844
	3	2.27	0.017	0.978	-0.210
N(7)	1	3.64	0.373	0.002	0.883
	2	1.39	-0.886	-0.295	0.449
	3	2.20	0.275	-0.955	-0.137
C(8)	1	3.06	0.316	-0.080	0.907
	2	1.68	-0.918	0.225	0.421
	3	2.09	0.239	0.971	-0.023

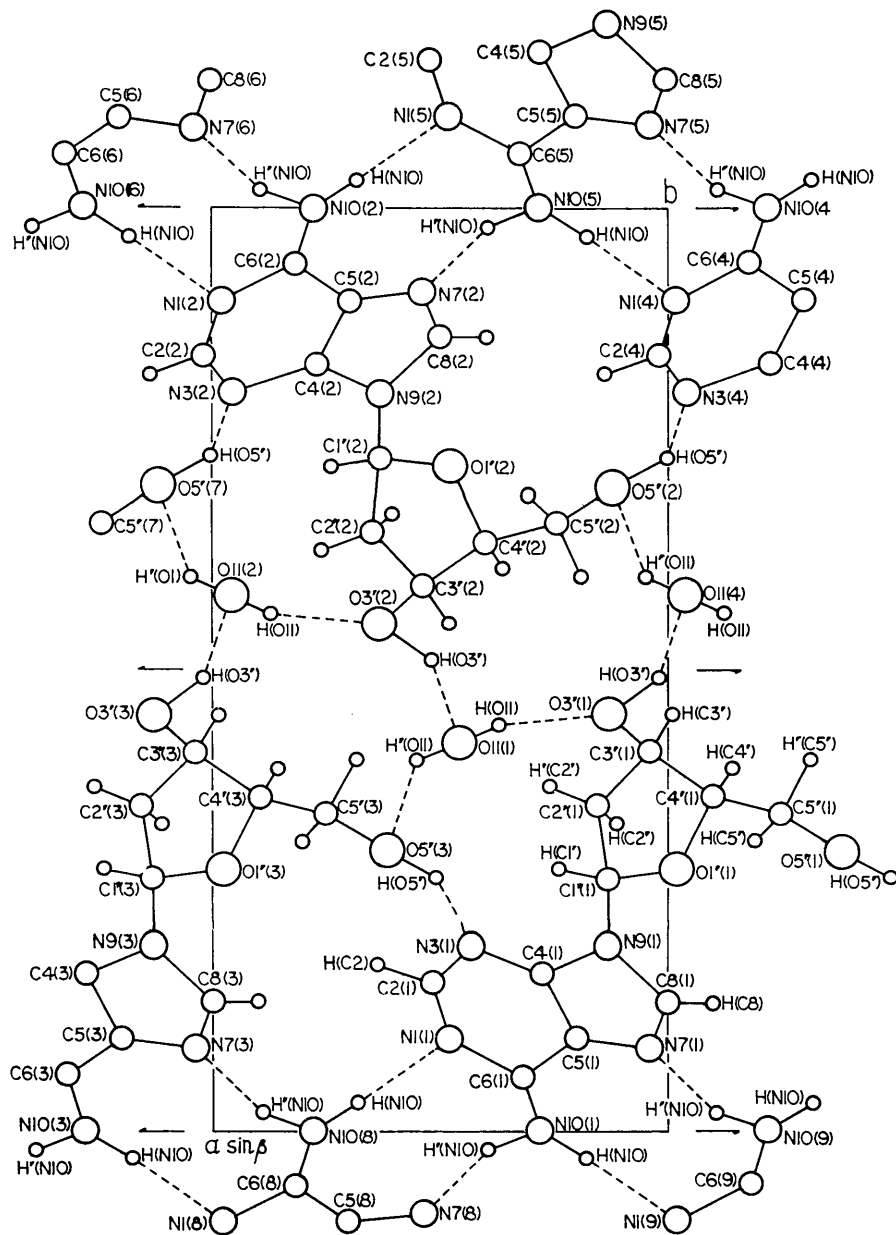
Fig. 7. Molecular packing viewed down the *c* axis.

Table 10 (cont.)						Table 10 (cont.)					
Atom	Axis <i>i</i>	<i>B_i</i>	<i>C_{ia}</i>	<i>C_{ib}</i>	<i>C_{ic}</i>	Atom	Axis <i>i</i>	<i>B_i</i>	<i>C_{ia}</i>	<i>C_{ib}</i>	<i>C_{ic}</i>
N(9)	1	2.93	0.396	-0.011	0.871	C(5')	1	3.90	0.483	0.029	0.819
	2	1.45	-0.873	0.304	0.470		2	1.46	-0.552	-0.766	0.387
	3	1.87	0.283	0.953	-0.141		3	2.42	0.680	-0.643	-0.424
N(10)	1	5.27	0.496	-0.052	0.810	O(1')	1	1.31	-0.772	0.489	0.485
	2	0.97	-0.861	-0.159	0.571		2	2.82	-0.047	-0.682	0.731
	3	2.20	0.112	-0.986	-0.135		3	2.20	-0.634	-0.545	-0.479
C(1')	1	1.13	-0.861	0.051	0.594	O(3')	1	4.75	0.330	0.159	0.890
	2	2.56	0.490	0.352	0.742		2	1.03	-0.829	-0.423	0.452
	3	2.30	-0.137	0.935	-0.311		3	2.17	0.452	-0.892	-0.056
C(2')	1	2.91	0.410	-0.206	0.840	O(5')	1	5.75	0.625	-0.337	0.634
	2	1.93	-0.532	-0.845	0.106		2	1.31	-0.631	-0.750	0.266
	3	2.07	0.740	-0.494	-0.532		3	2.74	0.460	-0.570	-0.726
C(3')	1	2.84	0.282	0.291	0.879	O(11)	1	7.30	0.489	0.098	0.810
	2	1.25	-0.666	-0.627	0.473		2	1.53	-0.780	-0.396	0.565
	3	2.01	0.691	-0.723	-0.056		3	2.33	0.391	-0.913	-0.158
C(4')	1	2.91	0.289	0.206	0.899						
	2	1.10	-0.883	0.435	0.269						
	3	1.63	0.371	0.876	-0.345						

Table 11. *The intermolecular distances less than 4 Å*

The second of the two numbers in parentheses in each case indicates the atomic position as follows:

(1) <i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>	(7) $1-x$, $y-\frac{3}{2}$, $1-z$		
(2) $1-x$, $y-\frac{1}{2}$, $1-z$	(8) $2-x$, $y-\frac{1}{2}$, $-1-z$		
(3) <i>x</i> , $y-1$, <i>z</i>	(9) $2-x$, $y+\frac{1}{2}$, $-1-z$		
(4) $1-x$, $y+\frac{1}{2}$, $1-z$	(10) <i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , $1+z$		
(5) $x-1$, <i>y</i> , $2+z$	(11) <i>x</i> , $y+1$, <i>z</i>		
(6) $x-1$, $y-1$, $2+z$			
N(1)(1)-C(6)(8)	3.944 Å	N(10)(1)-N(10)(9)	3.936 Å
N(1)(1)-N(7)(8)	3.884	C(1')(1)-C(4)(10)	3.720
N(1)(1)-N(10)(8)	2.877	C(1')(1)-C(5)(10)	3.684
C(2)(1)-N(10)(8)	3.518	C(1')(1)-C(6)(10)	3.948
C(2)(1)-C(5')(3)	3.909	C(1')(1)-C(2')(10)	3.988
C(2)(1)-O(5')(3)	3.494	C(1')(1)-O(5')(3)	3.843
N(3)(1)-N(1)(10)	3.508	C(1')(1)-O(11)(1)	3.822
N(3)(1)-C(2)(10)	3.947	C(2')(1)-O(5')(3)	3.916
N(3)(1)-C(6)(10)	3.893	C(2')(1)-O(11)(1)	3.674
N(3)(1)-C(5')(3)	3.556	C(3')(1)-O(11)(1)	3.796
N(3)(1)-O(5')(3)	2.775	C(3')(1)-O(11)(4)	3.388
C(4)(1)-N(1)(10)	3.621	C(4')(1)-C(5')(10)	3.923
C(4)(1)-C(6)(10)	3.515	C(4')(1)-O(11)(4)	3.868
C(4)(1)-N(10)(10)	3.552	C(4')(1)-O(11)(11)	3.803
C(4)(1)-O(5')(3)	3.842	C(5')(1)-O(11)(11)	3.426
C(5)(1)-C(6)(10)	3.970	O(1')(1)-C(4)(10)	3.795
C(5)(1)-N(10)(9)	3.991	O(1')(1)-C(5)(10)	3.765
C(5)(1)-N(10)(10)	3.513	O(1')(1)-N(7)(10)	3.706
C(6)(1)-N(7)(8)	3.919	O(1')(1)-C(8)(10)	3.664
C(6)(1)-N(10)(8)	3.806	O(1')(1)-N(9)(10)	3.689
N(7)(1)-N(10)(9)	3.033	O(1')(1)-C(2')(10)	3.561
N(7)(1)-N(10)(10)	3.637	O(1')(1)-C(5')(10)	3.967
C(8)(1)-C(5)(10)	3.891	O(3')(1)-C(2')(10)	3.412
C(8)(1)-C(6)(10)	3.836	O(3')(1)-C(3')(10)	3.786
C(8)(1)-N(7)(10)	3.899	O(3')(1)-O(11)(1)	2.733
C(8)(1)-N(10)(9)	3.942	O(3')(1)-O(11)(4)	2.649
C(8)(1)-N(10)(10)	3.678	O(5')(1)-O(11)(11)	2.763
N(9)(1)-N(1)(10)	3.876	O(11)(1)-N(3)(10)	3.823
N(9)(1)-C(5)(10)	3.581		
N(9)(1)-N(7)(10)	3.981		
N(9)(1)-N(10)(10)	3.689		
N(9)(1)-C(6)(10)	3.462		

The molecular packing and hydrogen bonding

The tendency of the pyrimidine and purine bases to pack in parallel planes about 3.5 Å apart and their preference for hydrogen bonding among themselves is well exemplified in deoxyadenosine. The packing in the crystal involves direct base linkages between molecules rather than the formation of hydrogen bonds between sugars or water molecules and bases. The mode of packing and hydrogen bonding is displayed in Fig. 7 and the shortest intermolecular contacts not involving hydrogen atoms are listed in Table 11.

In deoxyadenosine there are infinite chains of N-H...N bonds of length 2.88 and 3.03 Å linking each NH₂ group with N(1) and N(7) respectively in the molecules above and below and related to the reference molecule containing the NH₂ group by the screw axis. The bases lie almost in the (201) plane ($d_{201} = 3.86$ Å) and the spacing between parallel adenine groups is 3.67 Å. The water molecule forms three O-H...O bonds, with O(3') in the reference molecule at x, y, z (2.73 Å), O(3') at $1-x, -\frac{1}{2}+y, 1-z$ (2.65 Å) and O(5') at $x, -1+y, z$ (2.76 Å). The atom O(5') also forms a hydrogen bond of length 2.78 Å with N(3) in the molecule at $x, y+1, z$. The angles O(3')(1)-O(11)(1)-O(3')(2), O(3')(2)-O(11)(1)-O(5')(3) and O(5')(3)-O(11)(1)-O(3')(1) are 118.5, 120.3 and 111.9° respectively (see Table 11 for the meaning of numbers in the second parentheses). The atom O(11)(1) is displaced from the plane defined by O(3')(1), O(3')(2) and O(5')(3) by 0.49 Å. Thus the hydrogen bonds formed by the water molecule may be described as distorted trigonal Threefold and almost planar hydrogen-bond coordination of water molecules has been reported in the structures of cytosine monohydrate (Jeffrey & Kinoshita, 1963) and barbituric acid dihydrate (Jeffrey, Ghose & Warwicker, 1961).

In view of the very high standard deviations in distances and angles involving hydrogen atoms, no attempt is made to discuss the deviations from linearity of the hydrogen bonds.

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