

## Crystal and Molecular Structure of *s*-Triphenyltriazine

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The structure of *s*-triphenyltriazine was refined by three-dimensional differential Fourier synthesis. The crystals are monoclinic, space group  $P2_1/c$ , with four molecules in a cell with dimensions:

$$a = 10.94, b = 3.91, c = 35.84 \text{ \AA}; \beta = 90^\circ 38'.$$

The molecule is not planar. The planes passing through the three phenyl groups are tilted by angles of  $7.6^\circ$ ,  $10.9^\circ$  and  $6.9^\circ$  with respect to the plane passing through the triazine ring. The sense of twist of one phenyl group is opposite to that of the other two. The bonds connecting the phenyl groups to the central ring are not exactly in the plane passing through the atoms of the triazine group. The great average length of these bonds ( $1.475 \text{ \AA}$ , with an estimated standard deviation of  $0.007 \text{ \AA}$ ) and the deviation of the molecule from planarity indicate that the phenyl groups are, at least, not completely conjugated with the triazine ring. The geometry of the molecule is compared with that of other compounds which show steric inhibition of resonance.

### Introduction

The crystal and molecular structures of several azines have been investigated in recent years and interesting correlations with their electronic structures have been established. In order to obtain further information on this class of compound and to examine the influence of substituents on the structure as well as on the molecular conformation a study of *s*-triphenyltriazine was undertaken. Preliminary results on the crystal structure were previously reported (Giglio & Ripamonti, 1959). In this paper the results of a detailed three-dimensional analysis are reported. These results allowed us to reach some conclusions not only on the bond angles and bond lengths in the molecule but also on the deviation from planarity due to the tilting of the phenyl groups with respect to the triazine ring. A comparison with the molecular geometry of the isosteric compound 1,3,5-triphenylbenzene (Farag, 1954) appears of particular interest in this respect.

### Experimental

*s*-Triphenyltriazine crystallizes from toluene as transparent well formed monoclinic prisms, elongated along **b**.

From precession photographs taken with Cu  $K\alpha$  radiation the unit cell parameters were found to be

$$a = 10.94, \quad b = 3.91, \quad c = 35.84 \text{ \AA}; \quad \beta = 90^\circ 38'.$$

The space group indicated by the systematic absences is  $P2_1/c$  ( $C_2^5$ ). Four molecules per unit cell give a calculated density of  $1.326 \text{ g.cm}^{-3}$ .

Intensity data were collected with Cu  $K\alpha$  radiation using multiple-film equi-inclination Weissenberg photographs about **b** for layer lines 0 to 2. The zero-layer

about the *a* axis was recorded to provide cross-correlation of the *b*-axis data.

Care was taken to choose crystals having regular shapes (cross-section of about  $0.2 \times 0.2 \text{ mm}$ ).

The number of independent reflexions observed was 1152. The intensities were measured by eye-estimation, corrected for change of spot shape on upper layer equi-inclination photographs (Phillips, 1954) and reduced to structure amplitudes by a data reduction program written for an IBM 1620 computer (Damiani, De Santis, Giglio & Ripamonti, 1962). No corrections were made for absorption and there was no evidence of extinction.

### Structure determination

The structure projected on (010) had been previously determined (Giglio & Ripamonti, 1959). The molecular orientation was deduced by inspection of the section  $h0l$  of the weighted reciprocal lattice, which showed the characteristic Fourier transform of a benzene ring, whereas its location with respect to the origin was established with the aid of a modified Patterson function (Giglio, Liquori & Ripamonti, 1958). The *x* and *z* coordinates were then refined by Fourier synthesis and structure factor calculations until  $R_{h0l}$  was reduced to 0.15. Assuming a planar model with normal bond lengths and bond angles the projection of the molecule on the (100) plane was deduced. The molecule was then moved along the *b* axis until a reasonable *R* index was obtained for the  $0kl$  reflexions. Successive structure factors, Fourier and difference Fourier calculations reduced *R* to 0.20.

The three-dimensional structure factors, calculated with the atomic coordinates thus obtained, gave  $R = 0.29$ . A three-dimensional Fourier synthesis was then computed, with a program written for the IBM 1620





Table 2. Final fractional atomic coordinates and their standard deviations (Å)

	<i>x/a</i>	<i>y/b</i>	<i>z/c</i>	$\sigma(x)$	$\sigma(y)$	$\sigma(z)$
C(1)	-0.1725	0.6726	0.1911	0.0043	0.0065	0.0036
C(2)	-0.1157	0.8267	0.2214	0.0051	0.0074	0.0044
C(3)	-0.1764	0.8794	0.2544	0.0056	0.0078	0.0043
C(4)	-0.2983	0.7825	0.2570	0.0051	0.0081	0.0044
C(5)	-0.3555	0.6305	0.2272	0.0053	0.0077	0.0047
C(6)	-0.2955	0.5713	0.1941	0.0045	0.0073	0.0041
C(7)	-0.1704	0.2790	0.0637	0.0047	0.0066	0.0040
C(8)	-0.2926	0.1638	0.0663	0.0049	0.0081	0.0046
C(9)	-0.3520	0.0435	0.0349	0.0058	0.0082	0.0052
C(10)	-0.2953	0.0339	0.0010	0.0056	0.0084	0.0046
C(11)	-0.1737	0.1412	-0.0017	0.0059	0.0088	0.0048
C(12)	-0.1132	0.2611	0.0296	0.0053	0.0078	0.0046
C(13)	0.2039	0.6374	0.1235	0.0046	0.0064	0.0034
C(14)	0.2679	0.5201	0.0925	0.0050	0.0070	0.0040
C(15)	0.3948	0.5612	0.0920	0.0051	0.0087	0.0045
C(16)	0.4573	0.7120	0.1216	0.0058	0.0084	0.0050
C(17)	0.3930	0.8337	0.1524	0.0056	0.0079	0.0044
C(18)	0.2657	0.7919	0.1535	0.0049	0.0076	0.0043
C(19)	0.0694	0.5875	0.1247	0.0048	0.0068	0.0047
C(20)	-0.1065	0.4094	0.0972	0.0044	0.0068	0.0039
C(21)	-0.1073	0.6001	0.1565	0.0044	0.0069	0.0040
N(1)	0.0151	0.4634	0.0945	0.0037	0.0052	0.0030
N(2)	-0.1698	0.4743	0.1276	0.0039	0.0062	0.0033
N(3)	0.0149	0.6626	0.1564	0.0037	0.0057	0.0030

ules in the crystal is shown in Fig. 3. Intermolecular contacts less than 3.8 Å are given in Table 6.

### Discussion

The geometry of the molecule, which represents the most interesting feature of the structure, was analysed by calculating the equations of the best planes passing through the atoms of the four molecular rings. The least-squares planes, calculated according to Schomaker, Waser, Marsh & Bergman (1959) with the aid

of a program written for an IBM 1620 computer (Damiani *et al.*, 1962), are given in Table 7 together with the distances of the individual atoms from these planes. The best planes were determined with the same weight assigned to all atoms.

The triazine ring and each of the three phenyl rings are almost exactly planar, but they are not coplanar. In fact the planes passing through the atoms of the phenyl groups attached to C(19), C(20) and C(21) are tilted with respect to the plane of the triazine ring at angles of 7.6°, 10.9° and 6.9° respectively, the sense of twist of the first two phenyl groups being opposite to that of the third one. As a further distortion the C(21)-C(1), C(7)-C(20) and C(19)-C(13) bonds are slightly moved out of the triazine plane through -0.7°, 1.5° and -2.2° respectively. In so far as coplanarity is a measure of conjugation it would appear that the phenyl groups are not completely conjugated with the triazine ring. Furthermore the great length of the C(21)-C(1), C(7)-C(20) and C(19)-C(13) bonds provide additional support for the conclusion that the conjugation between the rings is inhibited to some extent.

It is interesting to note that Farag (1954) has found that 1,3,5-triphenylbenzene is not planar in the solid state, the three phenyl groups being tilted with respect to the central ring through angles of 24°, 27° and 34° which are smaller than the average twist angle of 46° found in the vapour phase by means of electron diffraction methods (Bastianssen & Hassel, 1952). The phenyl groups are not twisted in the same sense and the average length of the bonds connecting them to the central ring is 1.50 Å.

Both *s*-triphenyltriazine and 1,3,5-triphenylbenzene in the crystal state lack a ternary symmetry axis perpendicular to the central ring. This may be explained by assuming that the gain in stability of the crystal due

Table 3. Final temperature parameters

Temperature factors are given in the form  $\exp[-(b_{11}h^2 + b_{22}k^2 + b_{33}l^2 + b_{13}hl)]$ .

	$b_{11}$	$b_{22}$	$b_{33}$	$b_{13}$
C(1)	0.0038	0.0880	0.0005	0.0001
C(2)	0.0063	0.0860	0.0006	-0.0001
C(3)	0.0050	0.0900	0.0006	—
C(4)	0.0044	0.0960	0.0006	-0.0001
C(5)	0.0060	0.0887	0.0007	0.0001
C(6)	0.0048	0.0950	0.0006	-0.0001
C(7)	0.0037	0.0830	0.0006	—
C(8)	0.0043	0.0875	0.0007	-0.0001
C(9)	0.0071	0.0870	0.0008	0.0001
C(10)	0.0056	0.0900	0.0006	-0.0001
C(11)	0.0065	0.0900	0.0006	0.0001
C(12)	0.0044	0.0900	0.0006	—
C(13)	0.0041	0.0875	0.0004	—
C(14)	0.0034	0.0880	0.0006	—
C(15)	0.0045	0.0980	0.0007	-0.0001
C(16)	0.0056	0.0930	0.0008	—
C(17)	0.0044	0.0900	0.0007	0.0001
C(18)	0.0043	0.0880	0.0007	0.0001
C(19)	0.0044	0.0890	0.0005	0.0001
C(20)	0.0034	0.0870	0.0006	—
C(21)	0.0046	0.0880	0.0005	0.0001
N(1)	0.0046	0.0900	0.0005	—
N(2)	0.0044	0.0880	0.0005	-0.0001
N(3)	0.0046	0.0870	0.0005	-0.0001

Table 4. *Peak heights and curvatures*Values in parentheses are from  $F_c$  differential synthesis

	$\rho$ (e.Å <sup>-3</sup> )	$-A_{hh}$ (e.Å <sup>-5</sup> )	$-A_{kk}$ (e.Å <sup>-5</sup> )	$-A_{ll}$ (e.Å <sup>-5</sup> )	$A_{hk}$ (e.Å <sup>-5</sup> )	$A_{hl}$ (e.Å <sup>-5</sup> )	$A_{kl}$ (e.Å <sup>-5</sup> )
	obs. calc.	obs. calc.	obs. calc.	obs. calc.	obs. calc.	obs. calc.	obs. calc.
C(1)	7.41 (7.50)	70.0 (70.7)	30.1 (30.3)	67.1 (67.2)	-2.8 (-1.9)	0.0 (-2.6)	-2.1 (-1.3)
C(2)	6.71 (6.67)	58.8 (59.3)	26.7 (27.1)	55.1 (55.1)	-1.4 (-1.1)	2.0 (0.2)	0.5 (0.0)
C(3)	6.47 (6.56)	53.7 (56.1)	25.2 (26.0)	56.8 (57.1)	-2.2 (-2.6)	0.1 (-0.8)	-0.8 (-0.7)
C(4)	6.51 (6.64)	58.5 (59.5)	24.4 (25.3)	55.4 (56.3)	-3.5 (-3.3)	4.5 (0.7)	-0.1 (0.0)
C(5)	6.40 (6.44)	55.9 (54.1)	25.4 (25.9)	51.1 (51.7)	-1.1 (-0.7)	4.0 (2.2)	-0.7 (-0.5)
C(6)	6.95 (6.94)	65.9 (64.7)	27.1 (27.7)	58.8 (58.5)	-0.2 (-1.1)	1.4 (-0.3)	-2.7 (-2.2)
C(7)	7.26 (7.21)	63.2 (64.0)	30.0 (29.8)	60.7 (60.9)	-1.9 (-1.8)	1.0 (0.1)	-0.9 (-0.8)
C(8)	6.69 (6.68)	60.4 (61.0)	24.3 (24.9)	52.8 (53.2)	1.0 (0.6)	1.5 (-0.7)	-0.4 (-0.3)
C(9)	6.20 (6.14)	51.3 (49.7)	23.9 (24.5)	46.2 (46.3)	-1.9 (-2.9)	-0.6 (-0.5)	0.4 (-0.3)
C(10)	6.32 (6.40)	53.7 (54.6)	23.4 (24.0)	52.4 (52.9)	1.0 (0.8)	-1.3 (-0.5)	1.0 (0.0)
C(11)	6.24 (6.22)	50.3 (49.6)	22.4 (22.9)	50.5 (50.2)	-1.8 (-1.3)	3.6 (2.8)	-0.1 (0.0)
C(12)	6.63 (6.58)	55.8 (57.3)	25.2 (25.6)	53.2 (53.3)	1.4 (1.9)	0.4 (-0.4)	-0.3 (-0.1)
C(13)	7.41 (7.48)	64.3 (62.7)	30.7 (31.0)	70.6 (70.7)	1.5 (0.7)	3.2 (2.1)	-3.3 (-2.3)
C(14)	6.79 (6.97)	59.2 (59.8)	28.0 (28.8)	60.1 (60.8)	0.4 (-1.0)	1.2 (-0.3)	-2.0 (-1.8)
C(15)	6.34 (6.58)	58.2 (58.6)	22.7 (24.3)	53.4 (54.3)	0.0 (-0.2)	3.3 (1.2)	-1.1 (-0.5)
C(16)	6.14 (6.24)	51.8 (53.3)	23.4 (24.5)	48.0 (49.1)	3.3 (1.5)	-0.3 (-2.1)	-0.9 (-0.5)
C(17)	6.47 (6.57)	53.1 (53.8)	24.8 (25.8)	54.5 (55.3)	2.9 (1.5)	-0.4 (-0.3)	-2.4 (-2.4)
C(18)	6.62 (6.70)	61.3 (61.9)	25.8 (26.5)	56.6 (56.8)	0.5 (0.0)	-1.9 (-3.3)	-2.9 (-2.5)
C(19)	7.22 (7.17)	61.9 (60.6)	28.9 (29.1)	66.1 (66.6)	-1.2 (-2.1)	-1.7 (-2.7)	-2.1 (-1.2)
C(20)	7.18 (7.19)	67.4 (67.1)	29.1 (29.5)	62.2 (61.8)	-0.7 (-1.4)	0.5 (-0.4)	-2.6 (-2.3)
C(21)	7.14 (7.07)	67.3 (66.0)	28.7 (28.7)	61.3 (60.2)	-1.6 (-1.6)	-3.9 (-5.6)	-2.3 (-1.6)
N(1)	9.07 (8.97)	81.5 (78.9)	38.0 (38.3)	79.9 (79.8)	-0.6 (-1.1)	0.0 (-2.5)	-2.1 (-2.3)
N(2)	8.50 (8.43)	75.9 (75.9)	31.5 (31.6)	72.5 (72.2)	0.7 (0.7)	2.0 (-1.1)	-3.8 (-3.8)
N(3)	8.72 (8.73)	81.4 (78.9)	34.6 (34.8)	80.3 (79.2)	0.4 (-0.3)	2.9 (0.7)	-0.9 (-0.8)

Table 5. *Intramolecular distances (Å) and angles (°) and standard deviations*

C(1)–C(2)	1.38 <sub>3</sub>	C(18)–C(13)	1.40 <sub>1</sub>	C(1)–C(2)–C(3)	121.5	N(1)–C(20)–N(2)	123.6
C(2)–C(3)	1.37 <sub>8</sub>	C(13)–C(19)	1.48 <sub>5</sub>	C(2)–C(3)–C(4)	119.2	N(2)–C(21)–N(3)	124.2
C(3)–C(4)	1.39 <sub>0</sub>	C(7)–C(20)	1.47 <sub>4</sub>	C(3)–C(4)–C(5)	119.8	N(1)–C(19)–N(3)	125.6
C(4)–C(5)	1.36 <sub>8</sub>	C(1)–C(21)	1.46 <sub>5</sub>	C(4)–C(5)–C(6)	121.7	C(19)–N(1)–C(20)	115.6
C(5)–C(6)	1.38 <sub>2</sub>	N(1)–C(19)	1.32 <sub>1</sub>	C(5)–C(6)–C(1)	118.8	C(20)–N(2)–C(21)	116.3
C(6)–C(1)	1.40 <sub>8</sub>	N(1)–C(20)	1.35 <sub>1</sub>	C(6)–C(1)–C(2)	118.9	C(21)–N(3)–C(19)	114.5
C(7)–C(8)	1.41 <sub>5</sub>	N(2)–C(20)	1.32 <sub>2</sub>	C(7)–C(8)–C(9)	119.5	C(2)–C(1)–C(21)	122.0
C(8)–C(9)	1.37 <sub>6</sub>	N(2)–C(21)	1.32 <sub>9</sub>	C(8)–C(9)–C(10)	121.3	C(6)–C(1)–C(21)	119.0
C(9)–C(10)	1.37 <sub>1</sub>	N(3)–C(21)	1.35 <sub>9</sub>	C(9)–C(10)–C(11)	119.5	C(1)–C(21)–N(2)	118.7
C(10)–C(11)	1.39 <sub>9</sub>	N(3)–C(19)	1.32 <sub>2</sub>	C(10)–C(11)–C(12)	119.6	C(1)–C(21)–N(3)	117.1
C(11)–C(12)	1.37 <sub>8</sub>	C(2)–N(3)	2.82 <sub>0</sub>	C(11)–C(12)–C(7)	121.3	C(8)–C(7)–C(20)	119.8
C(12)–C(7)	1.38 <sub>1</sub>	C(6)–N(2)	2.79 <sub>1</sub>	C(12)–C(7)–C(8)	118.7	C(12)–C(7)–C(20)	121.5
C(13)–C(14)	1.39 <sub>7</sub>	C(8)–N(2)	2.83 <sub>6</sub>	C(13)–C(14)–C(15)	118.6	C(7)–C(20)–N(1)	117.0
C(14)–C(15)	1.39 <sub>8</sub>	C(12)–N(1)	2.81 <sub>7</sub>	C(14)–C(15)–C(16)	121.3	C(7)–C(20)–N(2)	119.3
C(15)–C(16)	1.38 <sub>7</sub>	C(14)–N(1)	2.77 <sub>6</sub>	C(15)–C(16)–C(17)	120.0	C(14)–C(13)–C(19)	119.0
C(16)–C(17)	1.39 <sub>9</sub>	C(18)–N(3)	2.79 <sub>3</sub>	C(16)–C(17)–C(18)	119.4	C(18)–C(13)–C(19)	120.3
C(17)–C(18)	1.40 <sub>3</sub>			C(17)–C(18)–C(13)	120.0	C(13)–C(19)–N(1)	117.5
				C(18)–C(13)–C(14)	120.7	C(13)–C(19)–N(3)	116.9

The standard deviations of the bond lengths varied from 0.006 Å to 0.009 Å with an average value of 0.0081 for the C–C bonds within the phenyl groups, 0.007<sub>0</sub> for the C–C bonds connecting the phenyl groups to the triazine ring and 0.006<sub>6</sub> for the C–N bonds. The average standard deviation of the bond angles was 0.5°.

to a presumably better packing, if the molecules had a higher symmetry, would not compensate the higher probability of a random conformation. The molecular structures of *s*-triphenyltriazine and 1,3,5-triphenylbenzene are therefore very similar and the deviation from planarity must be ascribed to steric inhibition of resonance for both the isosteric compounds. The smaller twist angles of the phenyl groups attached to the triazine ring are consistent with the presence of nitrogen atoms, which should imply weaker steric interactions of the *ortho* hydrogen atoms of the phenyl groups with the central ring. However any further comments on the values of twist angles experimentally determined in the solid state must be regarded as very tentative because intermolecular forces may represent an important role in determining the molecular geometry of these compounds. In fact biphenyl (Hargreaves & Hasan Rizvi, 1962) and 2,2'-bipyridyl (Berti-

notti, Liquori & Pirisi, 1956; Merritt & Schroeder, 1956) are planar in the solid phase and there is strong experimental evidence that the two rings of the molecules are mutually inclined in solution and in the vapour phase. An angle of 42° between the planes of the rings is obtained by electron diffraction for biphenyl, where-

Table 6. *Intermolecular contacts less than 3.8 Å*

Roman numerals refer to the molecules:

I	( <i>x</i> , 1 + <i>y</i> , <i>z</i> )		
II	(– <i>x</i> , – <i>y</i> , – <i>z</i> )		
III	(– <i>x</i> , 1 – <i>y</i> , – <i>z</i> )		
IV	(– <i>x</i> , $\frac{1}{2}$ + <i>y</i> , $\frac{1}{2}$ – <i>z</i> )		
V	(1 + <i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i> )		
C(1) ... C(6)I	3.76 Å	C(17) ... C(16)I	3.68 Å
C(2) ... C(1)I	3.53	C(18) ... C(13)I	3.54
C(2) ... C(6)I	3.64	C(18) ... C(14)I	3.59
C(3) ... C(4)I	3.78	C(19) ... N(1)I	3.64
C(3) ... C(5)I	3.66	C(20) ... C(7)I	3.67
C(3) ... C(6)I	3.69	C(20) ... C(8)I	3.74
C(4) ... C(5)I	3.54	C(21) ... N(2)I	3.63
C(7) ... C(8)I	3.71	N(2) ... C(8)I	3.72
C(7) ... C(9)I	3.73	C(12) ... C(11)II	3.66
C(8) ... C(9)I	3.67	C(12) ... C(12)III	3.77
C(11) ... C(10)I	3.74	C(14) ... C(10)III	3.79
C(12) ... C(10)I	3.76	C(14) ... C(11)III	3.65
C(12) ... C(11)I	3.68	C(2) ... C(2)IV	3.78
C(13) ... C(14)I	3.70	C(3) ... C(2)IV	3.74
C(16) ... C(15)I	3.55	C(4) ... C(18)IV	3.79
C(17) ... C(14)I	3.69	C(18) ... C(4)IV	3.75
C(17) ... C(15)I	3.57	C(16) ... C(6)V	3.77

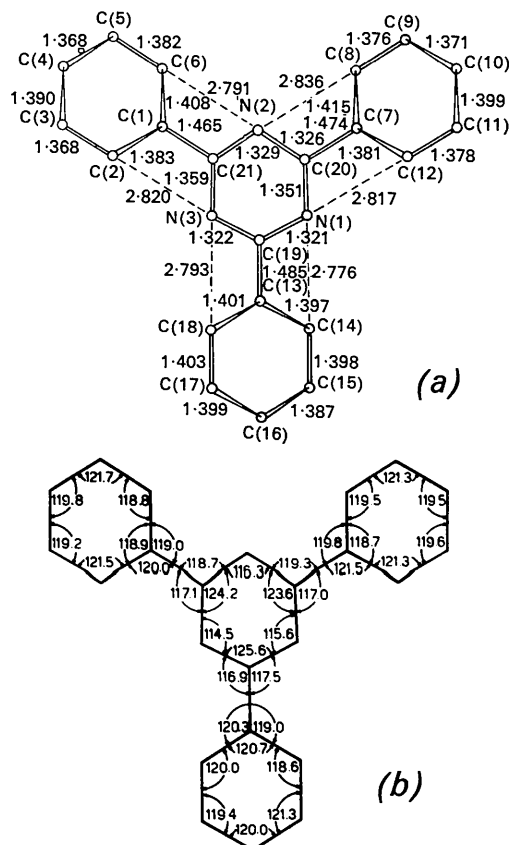


Fig. 2. (a) Intramolecular distances and (b) bond angles in *s*-triphenyltriazine.

as the results for 2,2'-bipyridyl are not conclusive (Almenningen & Bastianssen, 1958). Cumper, Ginnan & Vogel (1962) suggest a value of  $18^\circ$  for the twist angle in 2,2'-bipyridyl on the basis of electric dipole moment in benzene solution. Hargreaves & Hasan Rizvi (1962) attribute the observed differences in the molecular conformation of biphenyl in the vapour and solid state to crystal forces, assuming on the basis of the great length of the bond connecting the two phenyl groups (1.506 Å) that there is no conjugation between the rings. Therefore the planarity of the molecule in the crystal should be essentially determined by intermolecular contacts, which should produce a gain in energy greater than the energy due to steric repulsions between *ortho* hydrogen atoms. In the same way the planarity of 2,2'-bipyridyl in the crystal, where the molecule adopts a *trans* conformation, could be explained. Steric interactions between nitrogen and nearest CH groups of the other ring should be responsible, in this case, for the great length (1.50 Å) of the bond connecting the two rings. Similar intramolecular repulsions are

present in *s*-triphenyltriazine with the exception that in this case each nitrogen atom interacts with two CH groups (from two phenyl rings). The average length of the bonds connecting the phenyl groups to the triazine ring is 1.475 Å, very close to the value of 1.477 Å proposed by Dewar & Schmeising (1959), for an  $sp^2-sp^2$   $\sigma$  bond with no  $\pi$  bonding between two carbon atoms.

However; possible slight differences in hybridization do not account for the degree of conjugation of the rings on the basis of this bond length only. In any case, the molecular geometry of *s*-triphenyltriazine, as compared with 1,3,5-triphenylbenzene, clearly shows that the presence of nitrogen atoms in the central ring is unable to relieve the stress due to steric interactions. It must be noted, of course, that intramolecular contacts between non-bonded atoms are different in the two unstrained molecules because of the differences in molecular parameters of the central rings.

Inspection of intermolecular distances (Table 6) shows that the packing of the molecules is very effici-

Table 7. Equations of the planes referred to the crystallographic axes for the molecule at  $(-x, -\frac{1}{2} + y, \frac{1}{2} - z)$  and distances of atoms from the planes

Deviations from the plane through the triazine ring having equation: $0.1704x + 0.9290y + 0.3265z = 4.5823$						
N(1)	0.001 Å	C(1)	-0.019 Å	C(7)	0.038 Å	
N(2)	-0.001	C(2)	0.080	C(8)	-0.183	
N(3)	0.001	C(3)	-0.000	C(9)	-0.142	
C(19)	-0.002	C(4)	-0.157	C(10)	0.114	
C(20)	0.000	C(5)	-0.253	C(11)	0.309	
C(21)	0.001	C(6)	-0.193	C(12)	0.265	
				C(13)	-0.058 Å	
				C(14)	-0.241	
				C(15)	-0.322	
				C(16)	-0.237	
				C(17)	-0.036	
				C(18)	-0.037	
Deviations from the plane through the phenyl group C(1) ··· C(6) having equation: $0.2873x + 0.8983y + 0.3293z = 4.7932$						
	C(1)	0.000 Å	C(3)	-0.008 Å	C(5)	0.002 Å
	C(2)	0.006	C(4)	0.004	C(6)	-0.004
Deviations from the plane through the phenyl group C(7) ··· C(12) having equation: $0.3164x + 0.9260y + 0.2025z = 2.9467$						
	C(7)	0.009 Å	C(9)	-0.006 Å	C(11)	-0.003 Å
	C(8)	-0.004	C(10)	0.009	C(12)	-0.006
Deviations from the plane through the phenyl group C(13) ··· C(18) having equation: $0.1074x + 0.8922y + 0.4375z = 6.1436$						
	C(13)	0.000 Å	C(15)	0.003 Å	C(17)	0.009 Å
	C(14)	0.001	C(16)	-0.008	C(18)	-0.005

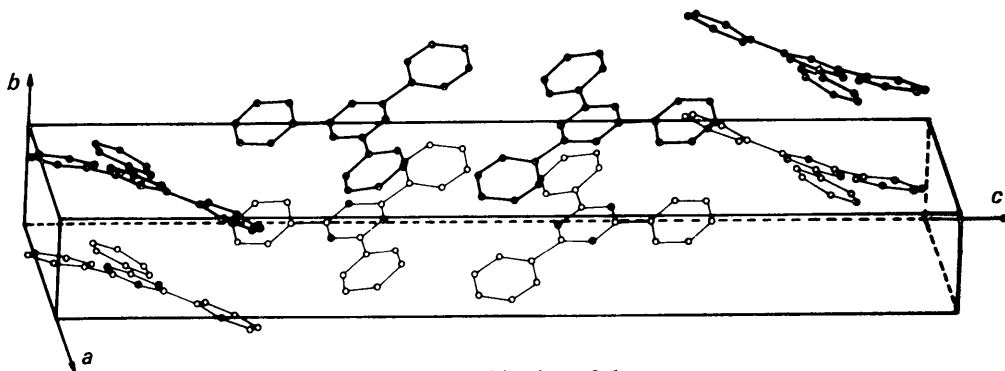


Fig. 3. Clinographic view of the structure.

ent. The shortest intermolecular distance is 3.53 Å and there is a large number of approaches less than 3.80 Å between C atoms of the phenyl rings. This suggests that intermolecular forces cannot be neglected when the extent of the deviation from planarity is considered. As it can be seen from Table 5 and Fig. 3, no significant deviation from the regularity of the phenyl groups can be deduced from the values of the bond angles and lengths.

The average bond length and angle within the phenyl groups are 1.390 Å and 120.0° respectively. The largest deviations from the average bond length are 0.022 Å and 0.019 Å for C(4)–C(5) and C(9)–C(10) respectively. These bonds, however, are at the perimeter of the molecule where the greatest errors caused by rigid body thermal motion should be expected.

The average values of 115.5° and 124.5° for the C–N–C and N–C–N bond angles within the triazine ring are 2.3° larger and 2.3° smaller respectively than the values found by Wheatley (1955) in *s*-triazine. The smallest value of the C–N–C angle further confirms the theoretical prediction made by Hameka & Liquori (1956) on the effect of  $sp^2$  hybridization of the lone-pair electrons of the nitrogen atom on the bond angle. The lengths of C(19)–N(1), C(19)–N(3), C(20)–N(2) and C(21)–N(2) are very close to the value of 1.319 Å observed in non-substituted *s*-triazine, whereas the lengths of 1.351 Å and 1.359 Å of the C(20)–N(1) and C(21)–N(3) bonds are significantly larger, as far as the standard deviations are considered.

The safest conclusion which may be drawn from the above results is that the intramolecular steric repulsions in *s*-triphenyltriazine are responsible for the non-planarity of the molecule and that the extent of distortion allowed by a decreased rigidity of the bonds connecting the phenyl groups to the triazine ring might be influenced by intermolecular contacts.

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