

## The Crystal Structure of Androsterone\*

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Androsterone (5 $\alpha$ -androstane-3 $\alpha$ -ol-17-one, C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) is a steroid hormone crystallizing in space group *P*2<sub>1</sub> with *a*=9.56, *b*=7.90, *c*=11.78 Å, and  $\beta$ =111.36°. Intensity data were collected with a General Electric XRD-5 diffractometer. The structure was solved by machine vector-coincidence techniques, which are discussed in some detail. Refinement was carried out with full-matrix least squares to a final *R* value of 4.0%.

Molecules related by the 2<sub>1</sub> rotation are weakly hydrogen bonded, the hydroxyl of each one being attached to the carbonyl of the next in spiral fashion along the screw axis. The structure shows considerable strain; C-C-C bond angles vary from 99.2° to 120.8°, the greatest distortion being seen in and adjacent to the *D* ring.

### Introduction

Androsterone was the first steroid with male sex hormone activity to be discovered. Its isolation in 1931 by Butenandt, and other aspects of early research in this area, are reviewed by Fieser & Fieser (1959, pp. 503 ff.). Androsterone is actually a metabolic product derived from testosterone, by which it is far surpassed in androgenic activity. The androsterone molecule is of structural interest, however, in that it comes closest among the naturally occurring steroid hormones to representing the completely saturated fundamental steroid nucleus. The conventional structural formula assigned to androsterone is shown in Fig. 1.

X-ray diffraction methods have been important in steroid chemistry since the work of Bernal in 1932 helped to rule out a suggested structure for cholesterol (Klyne, 1957). The first X-ray study of androsterone was made by Bernal & Crowfoot (1936) who determined the space group and unit-cell dimensions of a number of sex hormones. They were also able to deduce correctly the location of the molecules within the unit cell, from consideration of optic axes and the intense reflections. The first complete X-ray structure determination of a steroid was reported by Carlisle & Crowfoot (1945) for cholesteryl iodide. A number of crystal structures of steroids and related compounds have been reported since that time, including: calciferol 4-iodo-5-nitrobenzoate (Crowfoot & Dunitz, 1948), lanostenyl iodoacetate (Fridrichsons & Mathieson, 1953), 7 $\alpha$ -bromocholesteryl chloride (Bürki & Nowacki, 1956), and bromomiroesterol (Taylor, Hodgkin & Rollett, 1960). Most recently, Norton, Kartha & Lu (1963, 1964) have reported the structures of two female sex-hormone derivatives, 4-bromoestrone and 4-bromoestradiol. To date, however, androsterone is

the only steroid for which the crystal structure has been determined without introduction of a bromine or iodine atom. It therefore represents the only case for which accurate bond lengths and angles are available.

### Experimental

A highly purified sample of crystalline androsterone was presented to us by the research division of the Schering Corporation. A more or less isometric crystal was obtained by recrystallization from an evaporating solution in diethyl ether. Its dimensions were approximately 0.19 by 0.21 by 0.13 mm. Unit-cell parameters were measured both by precession photography (assumed mean Cu *K* $\alpha$  wavelength of 1.5418 Å) and with a General Electric XRD-5 diffractometer (assumed Cu *K* $\alpha$ <sub>1</sub> wavelength of 1.54051 Å), and found to be *a*=9.56 ± 0.02, *b*=7.90 ± 0.03, *c*=11.78 ± 0.02 Å,  $\beta$ =111.36° ± 0.03°. The indicated errors are estimated standard deviations obtained by comparing the two sets of results. The crystal density measured by flotation in aqueous potassium iodide solution is 1.164 g.cm<sup>-3</sup>; the density calculated for two C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>30</sub>O<sub>2</sub> molecules per unit cell is 1.163 g.cm<sup>-3</sup>. Systematic absence of 0*k*0 reflections with *k* odd, the optical activity of the molecule, and the measured density of the crystals

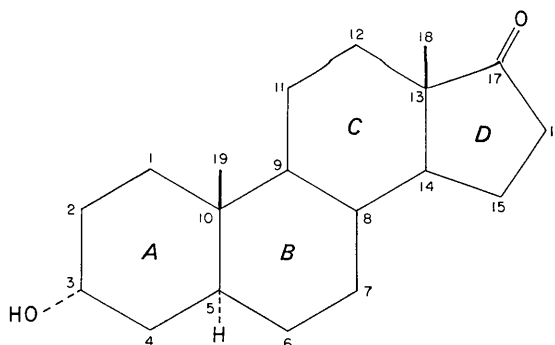


Fig. 1. Conventional structural formula of androsterone.

\* Much of the material contained in this communication has been abstracted from a Ph.D. thesis submitted by D.F.H. to the University of Washington in 1962.

combine to confirm the space group as  $P2_1$ , in agreement with the findings of Bernal & Crowfoot (1936).

Intensity data were collected on the diffractometer with Cu  $K\alpha$  radiation and a  $2\theta$ -scanning technique, with background corrections calculated from the mean of the backgrounds measured on both sides of each peak. A total of 1964 independent reflections were examined, accounting for all reflections within the range of the instrument ( $2\theta \leq 161^\circ$ ). Of these, 358 or 18% showed no visible deflection on the recorder chart and were consequently coded as unobserved. The usual Lorentz and polarization corrections were applied to the data, but not an absorption correction.

### Determination of the structure

One of the principal reasons for selecting androsterone for crystallographic study was that it presented a fairly challenging problem in structure determination. It is non-centrosymmetric and the asymmetric unit contains 21 atoms of approximately equal scattering power. It was hoped that in attempting to solve such a structure by machine vector-coincidence methods we would gain further appreciation of the practical capabilities and limitations of the method for rapid and semi-automatic solution of complex crystal structure. Successful application of machine vector-coincidence to several problems of somewhat similar difficulty have previously been reported from this laboratory. The last two, harunganin (Alden, Stout, Kraut & High, 1964) and myoinositol (Rabinowitz & Kraut, 1964), were centric structures without heavy atoms, containing respectively 34 and 24 light atoms.

Since a reasonable amount of experience has now been accumulated in applying the method, it may be in order to summarize our techniques and conclusions. Similar procedures have been described recently by Hamilton (1965) and by Simpson, Dobrott, & Lipscomb (1965). The superposition functions we calculated are of the type

$$S(\mathbf{u}) = \text{MIN } n \left[ \begin{array}{l} P[\mathbf{u} - G_1(\mathbf{x}_1)], P[\mathbf{u} - G_2(\mathbf{x}_1)], \dots, P[\mathbf{u} - G_r(\mathbf{x}_1)], \\ P[\mathbf{u} - G_1(\mathbf{x}_2)], P[\mathbf{u} - G_2(\mathbf{x}_2)], \dots, P[\mathbf{u} - G_r(\mathbf{x}_2)], \\ \dots \\ P[\mathbf{u} - G_1(\mathbf{x}_s)], P[\mathbf{u} - G_2(\mathbf{x}_s)], \dots, P[\mathbf{u} - G_r(\mathbf{x}_s)] \end{array} \right]$$

In this notation it is implied that the space group contains  $r$  symmetry elements  $G_1 \dots G_r$ , including the identity, and that trial coordinates for  $s$  atoms  $\mathbf{x}_1 \dots \mathbf{x}_s$ , are known. The MIN  $n$  function is constructed by summing, once for each point  $\mathbf{u}$  on some selected grid, the smallest  $n$  of the  $r \cdot s$  Patterson points  $P[\mathbf{u} - G_j(\mathbf{x}_i)]$ . It is clear that if there is, in fact, an atom at  $\mathbf{x}_i$ , then from the general property that the Patterson function tends to give peaks at interatomic vectors, it is to be expected that for all  $j$  the  $P[\mathbf{u} - G_j(\mathbf{x}_i)]$  will tend to be large at precisely those values of  $\mathbf{u}$  where there are other atoms. One can easily show that  $S(\mathbf{u})$  has at least the symmetry of the space group  $G_1 \dots G_r$ . It may be noted

in passing that the MIN  $n$  function provides a useful compromise between the more commonly applied minimum function and sum function. We have found it practical to take  $n$  approximately equal to  $r \cdot s/3$ . Similar superposition functions can also be used to find the initial constellation of  $s$  trial atoms, usually just a pair unless a larger geometrical grouping (such as a benzene ring) is present in a known orientation. Since these functions were not applied to androsterone, however, they will not be discussed further in this communication.

Once the initial atom or two have been found, the coordinates of known atoms are used as input to the next round of calculations and additional atoms are sought in the output map. We have found that an efficient practical procedure for solving crystal structures of the complexity being considered here, whether centric or acentric, and whether or not they contain heavy atoms, is to arrive at the approximate coordinates of most of the atoms (say perhaps two-thirds) by successive applications of machine vector coincidence, and then to locate the rest of the atoms on electron-density maps. Our reason for preferring this particular recipe is simply that vector coincidence turns out in practice to be more powerful for locating new atoms when only a few of them are already known, while electron-density calculations appear to be more powerful after the coordinates of most of the atoms have already been established. Superposition functions exhibit an important property which makes them especially useful in the early stages of structure analysis: If incorrect atom coordinates are introduced at any stage, not only does the corresponding peak in the output fail to appear, but the entire map tends to be obliterated. Electron density maps, on the other hand, generally show anything that has been put into the structure-factor calculation, whether it is actually present in the structure or not.

The first step toward solving the structure of androsterone was, as usual, the calculation of a sharpened, origin-removed Patterson map; intervals of the grid were  $a/40$ ,  $b/40$ , and  $c/50$ . Visual inspection revealed a set of peaks which were consistent with the existence of a pair of atoms with approximate coordinates (0.22, 0.66, 0.30) and (0.22, 0.33, 0.44). These later turned out to be atoms C(14) and C(11). A superposition map based on these two sites contained very obvious pleated sheets of six-membered rings. Unfortunately, the ring systems were indefinitely extended in the  $y$  direction. Ten of the stronger peaks, forming a doubling system later identified as the  $B$  and  $C$  rings, were taken as atom sites for the next round of superposition calculations. Seven new peaks now accounted for the  $A$  ring, the angular methyl carbon atoms C(18) and C(19) and the hydroxyl oxygen atom O(20). Atoms C(17) and O(21) appeared in the next cycle, but the last two atoms - C(15) and C(16) of the  $D$  ring - failed to show up in a final superposition based on the other 19 atoms. However, all 19 input atoms were

returned, confirming that they were probably correct. The two missing atoms were finally revealed in a three-dimensional electron-density synthesis phased on these 19 atoms.

### The refinement

Refinement was carried out entirely by the method of full-matrix least-squares, using the program ORXLS written by Busing & Levy (1959). The program was run on an IBM 709 computer by means of the 704-compatibility program IBIOC2. A weighting scheme similar to that of Hughes (1941) was applied. All measurable reflections were included in the summations. As the program was set up at that time, reflections which were too weak to measure were assigned a minimum observable  $F_o$  but were included in the summations only whenever  $F_c$  exceeded this value. The residual minimized was  $\sum w(F_o - k|F_c|)^2$ . The overall scale factor  $k$  was refined at each cycle.

Atomic scattering factors for carbon and oxygen were taken from Berghuis, Haanappel, Potters, Loopstra, MacGillavry & Veenendaal (1955) and for hydrogen from McWeeny (1951). Refinement followed the usual sequence; the  $R$  index was reduced from 36% to 9.7% after several cycles, the last two of which included anisotropic temperature factors. A difference map calculated at this point revealed 28 of the 30 hydrogen atoms, with peak heights ranging from 0.2 to 0.6  $e.\text{\AA}^{-3}$ . These hydrogen atoms (plus the remaining two, H(44) and H(51), which were placed in sterically reasonable locations) were introduced with an isotropic temperature factor of 4  $\text{\AA}^2$ . The  $R$  value dropped to 7.5%; it was reduced to 5.6% by several additional cycles of refinement of all parameters.

Before a final round of refinement was undertaken, the counter data were reprocessed, and 24% of the reflections were now coded as too weak to observe on the basis of counting statistics, the minimum observable intensity being taken as  $2.3\sigma$ , where  $\sigma$  is the standard deviation of  $F$  estimated from counting statistics. The statistical  $R$ ,  $\sum \sigma(F)/\sum F$ , was 0.028; this figure represents an approximate limit to which  $R$  could be refined if the only errors in  $F_o - |F_c|$  were due to counting statistics. Four of the remaining 1496 reflections were apparently suffering from appreciable secondary extinction and were flagged so as to be omitted from subsequent refinement calculations.

Because of machine-size limitations, the final round of refinement calculations was carried out by adjusting parameters separately in three groups: all positional and thermal parameters of C(1), C(2), C(9), C(10), C(11), C(12), C(13), C(17), C(18), C(19) and O(21) comprised group 1; all parameters for the other ten C and O atoms comprised group 2; and all parameters for hydrogen atoms comprised group 3. Nine refinement cycles were run, adjusting parameters by groups in the sequence 1,2,3,3,3,1,2,1,2. The final  $R$  value was 4.0% calculated over 1492 observed and unextinguished reflections with equal weights. The average

ratio of the last shift in each parameter to the estimated standard deviation of the parameter was 5.5%; the maximum ratio was 28%.

Two final difference maps were calculated as a check on the refinement. The first was computed using non-hydrogen atoms alone and showed 29 of the 30 hydrogen atoms as peaks ranging from 0.2 to 0.6  $e.\text{\AA}^{-3}$ . H(44) was still somewhat dubious as a peak of only 0.15  $e.\text{\AA}^{-3}$ . All hydrogen-atom peaks were close to but not necessarily centered at the least-squares coordinates. Fig. 2 is a composite of sections through the hydrogen atoms in this difference map.

The second difference-Fourier synthesis was based on all atoms, including hydrogen atoms with their final refined parameters. It showed no distinct peaks, and its range of electron density was  $-0.18$  to  $0.15 e.\text{\AA}^{-3}$ .

The final values of the atomic parameters are listed with their estimated standard deviations in Tables 1, 2 and 3. The standard deviations are those output by ORXLS; no correction has been applied for the fact that the parameters were varied in groups. Observed reflection amplitudes and structure factors calculated from these parameters are listed in Table 4.

### Results and discussion

The structure of a single molecule of androsterone is illustrated in Fig. 3; the arrangement of molecules is shown in Fig. 4. Molecules related by the twofold screw axes are weakly hydrogen bonded to one another, the hydroxyl group of one donating a proton to form a hydrogen bond with the carbonyl oxygen atom of the next. The hydrogen bond length, O(20)–O(21'), is 3.04  $\text{\AA}$ , unusually long, and the proton involved is fairly far off the O–O axis, the angle O(21')–O(20)–H(51) being 12.3°.

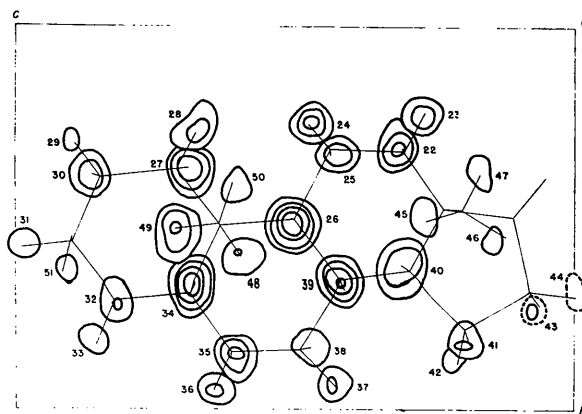


Fig. 2. Composite of sections of difference map showing hydrogen atoms. Contours are at intervals of 0.1  $e.\text{\AA}^{-3}$ , beginning at 0.2; dotted contours are at 0.15. The figure was prepared from a difference synthesis calculated at intervals of 1/40 along  $x$ ; contours were drawn from a section neighboring each atom. The view is a clinographic projection along  $a$  onto the  $b, c$  plane. The line drawing shows the least-squares positions of the atoms.

Covalent bond lengths and angles are given in Tables 5 and 6, and for convenient reference, the C-C and C-O bond lengths are shown schematically in Fig. 5. The C-C bonds range in length from 1.491 Å for C(3)-C(4) to 1.551 Å for C(9)-C(10). The mean C-C bond length among 22 bonds is 1.530 Å, with an r.m.s. deviation of 0.017 Å. The mean e.s.d. for the individual bonds is only 0.006 Å, however. Thus the observed spread is about three times as great as expected if in fact all the bonds were of the same length. Similar analysis of the 29 C-H bond lengths yields an average length of 0.99 Å with an r.m.s. deviation of 0.07 Å and a mean e.s.d. of 0.05 Å. Bond angles, as expected, vary much more widely than bond lengths, the observed r.m.s. deviation amounting to about twelve

times the mean of individual e.s.d.'s. The smallest C-C-C angle is 99.2° at C(14)-C(13)-C(17), and the largest is 120.8° at C(8)-C(14)-C(15).

Appreciable distortion of the molecule is evident in Fig. 4. Especially obvious is the splaying of the angular methyl groups. Although one might have expected

Table 1. *Positional parameters of non-hydrogen atoms, and their estimated standard deviations*

Atom	10 <sup>4</sup> x/a	10 <sup>4</sup> y/b	10 <sup>4</sup> z/c
C(1)	3802 (4)	3831 (4)	7108 (3)
C(2)	4102 (5)	4032 (5)	8470 (3)
C(3)	4857 (4)	5694 (5)	8973 (3)
C(4)	4025 (4)	7154 (4)	8229 (3)
C(5)	3731 (3)	6943 (4)	6867 (2)
C(6)	3005 (4)	8500 (4)	6111 (3)
C(7)	2903 (4)	8327 (4)	4815 (3)
C(8)	2123 (2)	6695 (3)	4205 (2)
C(9)	2838 (2)	5136 (3)	4998 (2)
C(10)	2873 (2)	5293 (3)	6321 (2)
C(11)	2134 (4)	3481 (4)	4366 (2)
C(12)	2166 (4)	3297 (4)	3069 (3)
C(13)	1434 (3)	4816 (4)	2313 (2)
C(14)	2190 (3)	6459 (3)	2946 (2)
C(15)	1586 (4)	7822 (5)	1964 (3)
C(16)	1548 (4)	6899 (6)	805 (3)
C(17)	1658 (3)	5024 (5)	1110 (3)
C(18)	-287 (3)	4852 (6)	1991 (3)
C(19)	1272 (3)	5268 (5)	6347 (3)
O(20)	6369 (3)	5607 (4)	8980 (2)
O(21)	1937 (3)	3943 (5)	523 (2)

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

$\beta$  as given here is defined by:  $T = \exp[-10^{-4}(\beta_{11}h^2 + \beta_{22}k^2 + \beta_{33}l^2 + 2\beta_{12}hk + 2\beta_{13}hl + 2\beta_{23}kl)]$   
 $B_i$  are the thermal parameters reduced to orthogonal axes, in Å<sup>2</sup>.

Atom	$\beta_{11}$	$\beta_{22}$	$\beta_{33}$	$\beta_{12}$	$\beta_{13}$	$\beta_{23}$	$B_1$	$B_2$	$B_3$
C(1)	218 (5)	118 (4)	74 (2)	18 (4)	51 (3)	13 (3)	7.0 (0.2)	3.6 (0.1)	2.7 (0.1)
C(2)	277 (7)	206 (7)	73 (3)	16 (6)	58 (4)	13 (4)	9.0 (0.3)	5.2 (0.2)	3.2 (0.2)
C(3)	233 (6)	212 (7)	72 (2)	41 (5)	39 (3)	-21 (3)	8.5 (0.2)	5.0 (0.2)	3.0 (0.2)
C(4)	176 (4)	174 (6)	88 (3)	28 (4)	46 (3)	-30 (3)	6.4 (0.2)	4.9 (0.1)	2.8 (0.2)
C(5)	112 (3)	117 (4)	79 (2)	11 (3)	31 (2)	-19 (2)	4.4 (0.2)	3.5 (0.1)	2.4 (0.1)
C(6)	171 (4)	97 (4)	109 (3)	11 (3)	41 (3)	-17 (3)	6.1 (0.2)	5.1 (0.1)	2.2 (0.1)
C(7)	167 (4)	102 (4)	101 (3)	-10 (3)	38 (3)	11 (3)	5.8 (0.2)	4.8 (0.1)	2.4 (0.1)
C(8)	93 (2)	107 (4)	81 (2)	5 (3)	30 (2)	13 (2)	4.1 (0.1)	3.0 (0.1)	2.5 (0.1)
C(9)	105 (3)	107 (4)	72 (2)	4 (3)	37 (2)	5 (2)	3.6 (0.1)	3.0 (0.1)	2.6 (0.1)
C(10)	111 (3)	118 (4)	75 (2)	4 (3)	41 (2)	-2 (2)	3.8 (0.1)	3.2 (0.2)	2.8 (0.1)
C(11)	221 (6)	118 (4)	71 (2)	-20 (4)	48 (3)	2 (3)	7.2 (0.2)	3.3 (0.1)	2.8 (0.1)
C(12)	209 (5)	140 (5)	81 (3)	-2 (4)	44 (3)	-13 (3)	6.8 (0.2)	4.2 (0.1)	3.2 (0.1)
C(13)	116 (3)	177 (5)	73 (2)	-13 (3)	37 (2)	4 (3)	4.6 (0.1)	3.7 (0.1)	3.2 (0.2)
C(14)	100 (3)	138 (4)	85 (2)	-5 (3)	35 (2)	17 (2)	4.5 (0.1)	3.3 (0.1)	2.8 (0.1)
C(15)	193 (5)	201 (7)	96 (3)	11 (5)	45 (3)	45 (4)	6.5 (0.2)	6.2 (0.2)	3.2 (0.2)
C(16)	209 (5)	273 (8)	93 (3)	15 (6)	61 (3)	46 (4)	7.7 (0.2)	6.5 (0.2)	3.5 (0.2)
C(17)	117 (3)	264 (7)	75 (2)	9 (4)	36 (2)	12 (4)	6.7 (0.2)	3.7 (0.1)	3.5 (0.2)
C(18)	118 (3)	305 (9)	100 (3)	-9 (5)	40 (3)	-38 (4)	8.4 (0.2)	4.6 (0.2)	3.1 (0.1)
C(19)	146 (4)	213 (6)	117 (3)	-34 (4)	79 (3)	-14 (4)	6.6 (0.1)	5.0 (0.2)	3.0 (0.2)
O(20)	195 (4)	255 (6)	116 (3)	60 (4)	-1 (2)	-24 (3)	10.6 (0.2)	5.3 (0.2)	4.2 (0.1)
O(21)	214 (4)	327 (7)	90 (2)	31 (5)	74 (2)	-7 (3)	8.6 (0.2)	6.5 (0.1)	3.4 (0.2)

Table 3. *Parameters of hydrogen atoms, and their estimated standard deviations*

Atom	10 <sup>3</sup> x/a	10 <sup>3</sup> y/b	10 <sup>3</sup> z/c	Isotropic temperature factor
H(22)	323 (4)	323 (5)	309 (3)	2.5 (0.7) Å <sup>2</sup>
H(23)	168 (4)	227 (6)	267 (4)	3.1 (0.8)
H(24)	258 (3)	259 (4)	476 (3)	1.6 (0.6)
H(25)	107 (4)	340 (5)	436 (3)	2.4 (0.7)
H(26)	390 (3)	510 (4)	506 (3)	1.3 (0.5)
H(27)	483 (4)	376 (5)	689 (3)	2.2 (0.7)
H(28)	324 (4)	282 (5)	679 (3)	2.0 (0.6)
H(29)	490 (5)	312 (6)	897 (4)	4.0 (1.0)
H(30)	318 (4)	393 (5)	865 (3)	2.7 (0.7)
H(31)	498 (5)	588 (6)	989 (4)	3.6 (0.8)
H(32)	296 (5)	720 (6)	831 (4)	3.9 (0.9)
H(33)	455 (5)	829 (7)	854 (4)	5.0 (1.1)
H(34)	468 (4)	677 (6)	680 (4)	2.7 (0.7)
H(35)	194 (4)	868 (5)	615 (3)	2.7 (0.7)
H(36)	353 (4)	949 (6)	651 (4)	3.1 (0.8)
H(37)	237 (5)	937 (6)	427 (4)	3.9 (0.9)
H(38)	378 (4)	831 (5)	473 (3)	2.7 (0.7)
H(39)	108 (3)	682 (4)	412 (2)	0.6 (0.5)
H(40)	326 (4)	631 (5)	310 (4)	2.7 (0.7)
H(41)	54 (4)	822 (5)	191 (3)	2.4 (0.7)
H(42)	222 (5)	878 (7)	213 (4)	4.3 (0.9)
H(43)	251 (5)	721 (6)	64 (4)	4.2 (0.9)
H(44)	50 (7)	700 (12)	-2 (6)	9.1 (1.8)
H(45)	-60 (4)	514 (6)	265 (4)	3.8 (0.8)
H(46)	-88 (6)	556 (10)	124 (5)	7.5 (1.5)
H(47)	-65 (4)	392 (6)	168 (4)	3.8 (0.9)
H(48)	72 (6)	610 (8)	585 (6)	6.5 (1.4)
H(49)	129 (4)	543 (6)	713 (3)	2.9 (0.7)
H(50)	83 (7)	418 (9)	612 (6)	7.5 (1.6)
H(51)	668 (7)	652 (9)	917 (6)	8.1 (1.7)

Table 4. *Observed and calculated structure factors*

Within each group of constant  $h$  and  $k$ , the columns contain from left to right:  $l$ ,  $10F_o$ ,  $10|F_c|$  and the phase angle in millicycles. An asterisk indicates the estimated minimum observable  $10F_o$  for reflections considered too weak to be measured. A letter  $E$  indicates a reflection omitted from the final stages of refinement because of apparent high secondary extinction.

h	k	l	10F <sub>o</sub>	10 F <sub>c</sub>	Phase (m.c.)
0,0,L		1	122	500	0.00
		2	120	500	0.00
		3	118	500	0.00
		4	116	500	0.00
		5	114	500	0.00
		6	112	500	0.00
		7	110	500	0.00
		8	108	500	0.00
		9	106	500	0.00
		10	104	500	0.00
		11	102	500	0.00
		12	100	500	0.00
		13	98	500	0.00
		14	96	500	0.00
		15	94	500	0.00
		16	92	500	0.00
		17	90	500	0.00
		18	88	500	0.00
		19	86	500	0.00
		20	84	500	0.00
		21	82	500	0.00
		22	80	500	0.00
		23	78	500	0.00
		24	76	500	0.00
		25	74	500	0.00
		26	72	500	0.00
		27	70	500	0.00
		28	68	500	0.00
		29	66	500	0.00
		30	64	500	0.00
		31	62	500	0.00
		32	60	500	0.00
		33	58	500	0.00
		34	56	500	0.00
		35	54	500	0.00
		36	52	500	0.00
		37	50	500	0.00
		38	48	500	0.00
		39	46	500	0.00
		40	44	500	0.00
		41	42	500	0.00
		42	40	500	0.00
		43	38	500	0.00
		44	36	500	0.00
		45	34	500	0.00
		46	32	500	0.00
		47	30	500	0.00
		48	28	500	0.00
		49	26	500	0.00
		50	24	500	0.00
		51	22	500	0.00
		52	20	500	0.00
		53	18	500	0.00
		54	16	500	0.00
		55	14	500	0.00
		56	12	500	0.00
		57	10	500	0.00
		58	8	500	0.00
		59	6	500	0.00
		60	4	500	0.00
		61	2	500	0.00
		62	0	500	0.00
		63	0	500	0.00
		64	0	500	0.00
		65	0	500	0.00
		66	0	500	0.00
		67	0	500	0.00
		68	0	500	0.00
		69	0	500	0.00
		70	0	500	0.00
		71	0	500	0.00
		72	0	500	0.00
		73	0	500	0.00
		74	0	500	0.00
		75	0	500	0.00
		76	0	500	0.00
		77	0	500	0.00
		78	0	500	0.00
		79	0	500	0.00
		80	0	500	0.00
		81	0	500	0.00
		82	0	500	0.00
		83	0	500	0.00
		84	0	500	0.00
		85	0	500	0.00
		86	0	500	0.00
		87	0	500	0.00
		88	0	500	0.00
		89	0	500	0.00
		90	0	500	0.00
		91	0	500	0.00
		92	0	500	0.00
		93	0	500	0.00
		94	0	500	0.00
		95	0	500	0.00
		96	0	500	0.00
		97	0	500	0.00
		98	0	500	0.00
		99	0	500	0.00
		100	0	500	0.00

Table 4 (cont.)

11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1	5,5.L 8 8 4 4 3 3 3 3 2 1	187 186 297 297 506 506 695 695 700 700 597 597 230 200 178 178 50 50	19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1	6,6.L 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1	487 487 251 251 36 36 80 80 89 89 89 89 79 79 61 61 20 20	6,7.L 10 10 8 8 8 8 7 7 6 6 5 4 3 2 1	950 950 886 886 290 290 290 290 253 253 198 198 103 103 106 106	7,0.L 11 11 11 11 10 10 9 9 8 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	7,1.L 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14	176 176 180 180 180 180 180 180 180 180 180 180 180 180 180 180 180	7,2.L 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	7,3.L 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13	394 394 201 201 201 201 407 407 407 407 53 53 284 284 284 284 284 284 284	7,4.L 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12	741 741 699 699 946 946 751 751 751 751 301 301 301 301 301 301 301 301	7,5.L 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12	725 725 662 662 662 662 662 662 662 662 662 662 662 662 662 662 662	8,1.L 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14	991 991 991 991 991 991 991 991 991 991 991 991 991 991 991 991 991	8,2.L 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13	20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20	8,3.L 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13	7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7	8,4.L 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	383 383 383 383 383 383 383 383 383 383 383 383 383 383 383 383 383	8,5.L 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12	11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	8,6.L 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	395 395 395 395 395 395 395 395 395 395 395 395 395 395 395 395 395	9,0.L 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13	25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25	9,1.L 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13	748 748 748 748 748 748 748 748 748 748 748 748 748 748 748 748 748	9,2.L 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13	895 895 895 895 895 895 895 895 895 895 895 895 895 895 895 895 895	9,3.L 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12	640 640 640 640 640 640 640 640 640 640 640 640 640 640 640 640 640	10,3.L 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	11,1.L 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17	11,2.L 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	11,3.L 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9	773 773 773 773 773 773 773 773 773 773 773 773 773 773 773 773 773	11,4.L 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7	570 570 570 570 570 570 570 570 570 570 570 570 570 570 570 570 570	12,0.L 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	570 570 570 570 570 570 570 570 570 570 570 570 570 570 570 570 570	12,1.L 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13	13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13	12,2.L 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13	12,3.L 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	11,5.L 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	11,6.L 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11
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the bonds C(10)-C(19) and C(13)-C(18) to be parallel, in fact they diverge by  $14.4^\circ$ . Since the methyl groups are separated by  $4.80 \text{ \AA}$ , or about  $0.80 \text{ \AA}$  more than the normal separation of two such groups in van der Waals contact, it is unlikely that this effect is the result of repulsion between the methyl groups themselves. Apparently it is a consequence of the general deformation of the whole molecule caused by attaching ring D to ring C. (An extensive analysis of the inter-planar angles in androsterone was carried out by Norton & Ohrt (1964), using the atomic coordinates from this investigation.)

The strain in the D ring has interesting effects on the stereochemistry of the keto group. It is instructive to compare the bond lengths and angles found in andro-

sterone with those found in acetone by Swalen & Costain (1959), using microwave spectroscopy:

	Acetone	Androsterone
C=O	$1.215 \text{ \AA}$ (assumed)	$1.189 \pm 0.006 \text{ \AA}$
C-C	$1.515 \pm 0.005 \text{ \AA}$	$1.517 \pm 0.005$ and $1.520 \pm 0.008 \text{ \AA}$
C-C-O	$116^\circ 14' \pm 1^\circ$	$107.8^\circ \pm 0.4^\circ$

The C-CO-C angle in androsterone is much smaller than one would expect at an atom with  $sp^2$  (planar-trigonal) hybridization; indeed, it is smaller than an  $sp^3$  (tetrahedral) angle. It is reasonable to surmise, then, that the  $\sigma$  orbital hybridization at C(17) is not exactly  $sp^2$ . There is evidence for a general dependence of bond

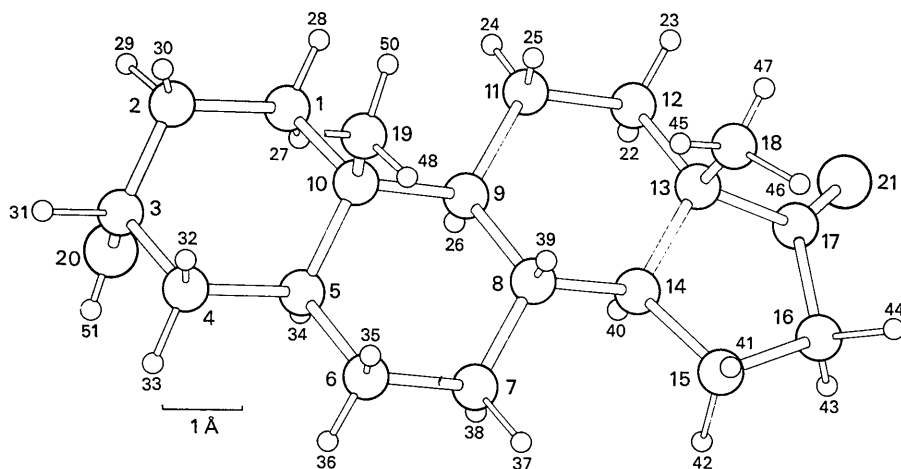


Fig. 3. The androsterone molecule, viewed in an orthographic projection along vector  $2.114a - 1.056b - 0.137c$ . Atom H(49) was omitted for clarity.

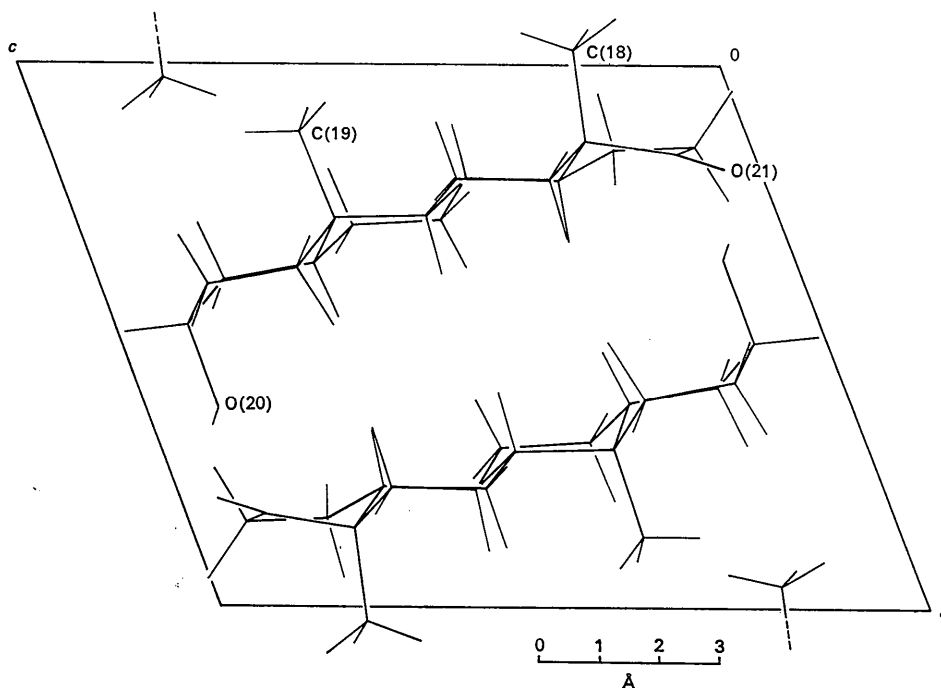


Fig. 4. The unit cell, viewed in an orthographic projection along  $b$ .

length on orbital hybridization; Dewar (1962) shows that bond length decreases linearly with increasing  $s$  character of the bond. Decreasing the C-CO-C angle would presumably cause the orbitals forming the C-C bonds to assume somewhat more  $p$  character (closer to  $sp^3$ ) and hence the C=O bond would assume somewhat more  $s$  character and be shortened. The C(17)-O(21) bond is indeed shorter than the carbonyl bond assumed by Swalen & Costain, and is shorter than the normal C=O bond length of about 1.23 Å for an unconjugated system (*International Tables for*

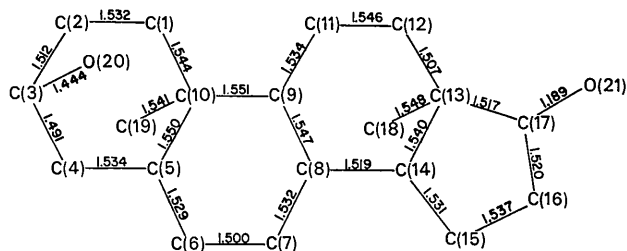


Fig. 5. Schematic representation of the androsterone molecule, showing bond lengths in the molecular skeleton.

Table 5. Bond lengths and their estimated standard deviations

C(1)—C(2)	1.532 (0.005) Å	C(1)—H(27)	1.10 (0.04) Å
C(1)—C(10)	1.544 (0.005)	C(1)—H(28)	0.96 (0.04)
C(2)—C(3)	1.512 (0.007)	C(2)—H(29)	1.06 (0.04)
C(3)—C(4)	1.491 (0.006)	C(2)—H(30)	0.98 (0.04)
C(3)—O(20)	1.444 (0.006)	C(3)—H(31)	1.05 (0.05)
C(4)—C(5)	1.534 (0.005)	C(4)—H(32)	1.06 (0.05)
C(5)—C(6)	1.529 (0.005)	C(4)—H(33)	1.03 (0.05)
C(5)—C(10)	1.550 (0.006)	C(5)—H(34)	0.94 (0.04)
C(6)—C(7)	1.500 (0.006)	C(6)—H(35)	1.05 (0.04)
C(7)—C(8)	1.532 (0.006)	C(6)—H(36)	0.95 (0.04)
C(8)—C(9)	1.547 (0.005)	C(7)—H(37)	1.06 (0.04)
C(8)—C(14)	1.519 (0.005)	C(7)—H(38)	0.88 (0.04)
C(9)—C(10)	1.551 (0.005)	C(8)—H(39)	0.97 (0.03)
C(9)—C(11)	1.534 (0.006)	C(9)—H(26)	0.99 (0.03)
C(10)—C(19)	1.541 (0.005)	C(11)—H(24)	0.87 (0.03)
C(11)—C(12)	1.546 (0.005)	C(11)—H(25)	1.02 (0.04)
C(12)—C(13)	1.507 (0.006)	C(12)—H(22)	1.01 (0.04)
C(13)—C(14)	1.540 (0.006)	C(12)—H(23)	0.97 (0.04)
C(13)—C(17)	1.517 (0.005)	C(14)—H(40)	0.98 (0.04)
C(13)—C(18)	1.548 (0.005)	C(15)—H(41)	1.03 (0.04)
C(14)—C(15)	1.531 (0.005)	C(15)—H(42)	0.94 (0.05)
C(15)—C(16)	1.537 (0.006)	C(16)—H(43)	1.04 (0.05)
C(16)—C(17)	1.520 (0.008)	C(16)—H(44)	1.11 (0.06)
C(17)—O(21)	1.189 (0.006)	C(18)—H(45)	0.96 (0.05)
		C(18)—H(46)	1.03 (0.06)
		C(18)—H(47)	0.84 (0.05)
		C(19)—H(48)	0.91 (0.06)
		C(19)—H(49)	0.93 (0.04)
		C(19)—H(50)	0.96 (0.07)
		O(20)—H(51)	0.78 (0.07)

*X-ray Crystallography*, 1962, p.276). Similarly, Schleyer & Nicholas (1961) found that the frequency of the carbonyl stretching band in unconjugated ketones increases with diminishing C—CO—C angle, implying a decrease in bond length. By the same argument, we would expect the increased *p* character of the C—C bonds to cause them to be lengthened. The difference between these bonds in androsterone and in acetone is not significant, but the effect could be masked by changes in the hybridization at C(13) and C(17). C(13) especially shows departure from tetrahedral conformation; the angle C(14)—C(13)—C(17) is only 99.2°. The conclusion that C(17) does not have exactly *sp*<sup>2</sup> hybridization is consistent with the observation that O(21) lies 0.05 Å out of the plane through C(13), C(17), and C(16). However, the effect is slight; if a plane is fitted to all four atoms the largest atom-to-plane distance is 0.016 Å.

The last three columns of Table 2 show the thermal parameters reduced to principal axes, with standard deviations derived from the standard deviations for the  $\beta_{ij}$ . The principal-axis directions are not given; for all the strongly anisotropic atoms the largest component is approximately normal to a plane through the ring system. It is therefore unlikely that rigid body libration of the whole molecule would be sufficient to have

Table 6. Bond angles and their estimated standard deviations

C(2)—C(1)—C(10)	113.5 (0.3)°	C(2)—C(1)—H(27)	114 (2)°	C(9)—C(11)—H(24)	113 (2)°
C(1)—C(2)—C(3)	112.4 (0.3)	C(2)—C(1)—H(28)	111 (2)	C(9)—C(11)—H(25)	108 (2)
C(2)—C(3)—C(4)	111.5 (0.3)	C(10)—C(1)—H(27)	105 (2)	C(12)—C(11)—H(24)	106 (2)
C(2)—C(3)—O(20)	107.1 (0.4)	C(10)—C(1)—H(28)	106 (2)	C(12)—C(11)—H(25)	112 (2)
C(4)—C(3)—O(20)	111.0 (0.3)	H(27)—C(1)—H(28)	107 (3)	H(24)—C(11)—H(25)	104 (3)
C(3)—C(4)—C(5)	112.7 (0.3)	C(1)—C(2)—H(29)	109 (3)	C(11)—C(12)—H(22)	111 (2)
C(4)—C(5)—C(6)	113.1 (0.3)	C(1)—C(2)—H(30)	112 (2)	C(11)—C(12)—H(23)	112 (3)
C(4)—C(5)—C(10)	113.2 (0.3)	C(3)—C(2)—H(29)	103 (2)	C(13)—C(12)—H(22)	108 (2)
C(6)—C(5)—C(10)	112.1 (0.3)	C(3)—C(2)—H(30)	109 (2)	C(13)—C(12)—H(23)	110 (2)
C(5)—C(6)—C(7)	111.5 (0.3)	H(29)—C(2)—H(30)	110 (4)	H(22)—C(12)—H(23)	106 (4)
C(6)—C(7)—C(8)	113.2 (0.3)	C(2)—C(3)—H(31)	113 (3)	C(8)—C(14)—H(40)	104 (2)
C(7)—C(8)—C(9)	110.8 (0.3)	C(4)—C(3)—H(31)	109 (2)	C(13)—C(14)—H(40)	105 (2)
C(7)—C(8)—C(14)	112.0 (0.3)	O(20)—C(3)—H(31)	105 (3)	C(15)—C(14)—H(40)	108 (2)
C(9)—C(8)—C(14)	109.0 (0.3)	C(3)—C(4)—H(32)	108 (3)	C(14)—C(15)—H(41)	111 (2)
C(8)—C(9)—C(10)	112.7 (0.2)	C(3)—C(4)—H(33)	112 (3)	C(14)—C(15)—H(42)	112 (3)
C(8)—C(9)—C(11)	111.5 (0.3)	C(5)—C(4)—H(32)	106 (2)	C(16)—C(15)—H(41)	113 (2)
C(10)—C(9)—C(11)	113.6 (0.2)	C(5)—C(4)—H(33)	111 (3)	C(16)—C(15)—H(42)	112 (3)
C(1)—C(10)—C(5)	106.2 (0.3)	H(32)—C(4)—H(33)	107 (4)	H(41)—C(15)—H(42)	107 (4)
C(1)—C(10)—C(9)	109.9 (0.3)	C(4)—C(5)—H(34)	107 (2)	C(15)—C(16)—H(43)	108 (3)
C(1)—C(10)—C(19)	109.7 (0.3)	C(6)—C(5)—H(34)	108 (3)	C(15)—C(16)—H(44)	117 (5)
C(5)—C(10)—C(9)	107.4 (0.2)	C(10)—C(5)—H(34)	103 (3)	C(17)—C(16)—H(43)	107 (3)
C(5)—C(10)—C(19)	112.4 (0.3)	C(5)—C(6)—H(35)	109 (2)	C(17)—C(16)—H(44)	104 (5)
C(9)—C(10)—C(19)	111.1 (0.2)	C(5)—C(6)—H(36)	109 (2)	H(43)—C(16)—H(44)	113 (5)
C(9)—C(11)—C(12)	113.4 (0.3)	C(7)—C(6)—H(35)	111 (2)	C(13)—C(18)—H(45)	115 (2)
C(11)—C(12)—C(13)	109.7 (0.3)	C(7)—C(6)—H(36)	113 (3)	C(13)—C(18)—H(46)	115 (4)
C(12)—C(13)—C(14)	110.5 (0.3)	H(35)—C(6)—H(36)	103 (3)	C(13)—C(18)—H(47)	109 (3)
C(12)—C(13)—C(17)	116.4 (0.3)	C(6)—C(7)—H(37)	113 (3)	H(45)—C(18)—H(46)	109 (5)
C(12)—C(13)—C(18)	112.5 (0.3)	C(6)—C(7)—H(38)	114 (2)	H(45)—C(18)—H(47)	112 (4)
C(14)—C(13)—C(17)	99.2 (0.3)	C(8)—C(7)—H(37)	109 (2)	H(46)—C(18)—H(47)	95 (5)
C(14)—C(13)—C(18)	111.9 (0.3)	C(8)—C(7)—H(38)	105 (3)	C(10)—C(19)—H(48)	109 (4)
C(17)—C(13)—C(18)	105.5 (0.2)	H(37)—C(7)—H(38)	102 (4)	C(10)—C(19)—H(49)	111 (2)
C(8)—C(14)—C(13)	113.4 (0.3)	C(7)—C(8)—H(39)	106 (2)	C(10)—C(19)—H(50)	111 (4)
C(8)—C(14)—C(15)	120.8 (0.3)	C(9)—C(8)—H(39)	111 (2)	H(48)—C(19)—H(49)	110 (5)
C(13)—C(14)—C(15)	104.3 (0.3)	C(14)—C(8)—H(39)	108 (2)	H(48)—C(19)—H(50)	112 (5)
C(14)—C(15)—C(16)	102.6 (0.4)	C(8)—C(9)—H(26)	107 (2)	H(49)—C(19)—H(50)	104 (5)
C(15)—C(16)—C(17)	106.0 (0.3)	C(10)—C(9)—H(26)	106 (2)	C(3)—O(20)—H(51)	104 (5)
C(13)—C(17)—C(16)	107.8 (0.3)	C(11)—C(9)—H(26)	105 (2)		
C(13)—C(17)—O(21)	127.1 (0.4)				
C(16)—C(17)—O(21)	125.1 (0.4)				



an important effect on our calculated bond lengths.

The effect of thermal motion of the individual atoms on the bond lengths was estimated by the method of Busing & Levy (1964). The lower-limit correction, corresponding to correlated parallel motion, averaged 0.001 Å and ranged up to 0.003 Å. The upper-limit correction averaged 0.16 and ranged from 0.10 to 0.19 Å. Since no information is available on the joint distribution of thermal motion for atoms in a structure like androsterone, we have not attempted to apply these corrections to the observed bond lengths. If the thermal motion is largely molecular, as seems reasonable in such a rigid molecule, the lower-limit corrections are probably about right. However, it should be emphasized that the ambiguity introduced by thermal effects makes questionable any deductions requiring precise knowledge of bond lengths. For example, the assumption that O(21) is 'riding' on C(17) would indicate that the corrected bond length is 1.215 Å (instead of 1.189 Å) and would invalidate our argument concerning hybridization in the carbonyl group. On the other hand, a parallel assumption that C(18) and C(19) are 'riding' on C(13) and C(10), respectively, would indicate that the methyl C-C bond lengths are actually 1.566 and 1.560 Å, which seems unlikely.

It is interesting to observe that the *B*'s for the hydrogen atoms appear to be considerably smaller than the *B*'s for the atoms to which they are bonded for all except six of the thirty hydrogen atoms in androsterone. The average *B* for 17 atoms having attached hydrogen atoms is 4.7 Å<sup>2</sup>, whereas the average *B* for the 30 hydrogen atoms is only 3.8 Å<sup>2</sup>; and this in spite of the fact that one would expect the hydrogen-atom temperature factors to be larger, not smaller. This phenomenon is general and has been discussed by Jensen & Sundaralingam (1964). It is believed to be the consequence of refining with a scattering factor calculated for non-bonded hydrogen atoms. The correct scattering factor for bonded hydrogen atoms ought to allow for a greater concentration of electron density in the immediate vicinity of the proton.

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