

d'une part pour une liaison simple, d'autre part pour une liaison double assignant à l'atome d'hydrogène une position inverse de celle constatée pour l'acide *N*- α -naphtylchloro-4-phtalamique. L'acide *N*- α -naphtylchloro-4-phtalamique est actif en ce sens qu'il inverse le géotropisme naturel alors que l'acide *N*- α -naphtyltétrahydro-1,2,3,6-phtalamique ne l'est pas. Il convient d'attendre la résolution des structures cristallines d'autres acides arylphtalamiques pour envisager une relation structurale entre ces composés et l'hormone dont ils inhibent le transfert, à savoir l'acide β -indolylacétique dont la structure cristalline a été récemment publiée (Karle, Britts & Gum, 1964).

Les corrections préliminaires ont été effectuées sur machine CDC 3600, les autres calculs étant faits à la

main et les séries de Fourier étudiées au photosommateur (von Eller, 1955, 1965.)

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The Crystal Structure of 5-Nitrouracil Monohydrate

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(Received 28 December 1966)

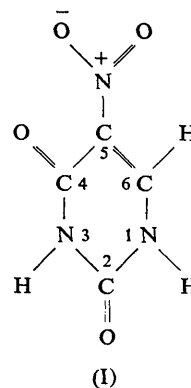
The crystal structure of 5-nitrouracil monohydrate is monoclinic with space group $P2_1/c$. The lattice translations are $a=5.137$, $b=21.956$, $c=9.587$ Å, $\beta=143^\circ 30'$ with four formula units per cell. The structure has been determined from three-dimensional X-ray diffraction data measured in part from integrated Weissenberg photographs and, in part, using a diffractometer. The R value is 6% and the e.s.d.'s in positional parameters for the heavier atoms are about 0.0024 Å. Molecules of 5-nitrouracil are in the 2,4-dioxo tautomeric form. The dihedral angle between the plane of the pyrimidine ring and the nitro group is 4.7° . Both the water and the 5-nitrouracil molecules are linked by hydrogen bonds into sheets, these being separated by 3.05 Å. The water molecule is surrounded by five oxygen atoms and one imine group in an almost coplanar configuration. The water oxygen atom accepts a bent hydrogen bond from the imine group and the two water hydrogen atoms are involved in weak hydrogen bonds with four oxygen acceptor atoms. A hydrogen bond $C(6)H(6)\cdots O$ to a nitro oxygen atom ($H\cdots O$, 2.30 Å) appears to be an important structure-determining factor.

Introduction

Interest in 5-nitrouracil (I)* has centered on its action as an analog for the naturally occurring pyrimidine bases uracil and thymine; e.g. Agren (1954) and Teramoto, Hashida & Mukai (1958) report it to be a bacterial growth inhibitor while Sormova, Melichar & Sorm (1960) report it to be a plant growth stimulant. Sebesta, Bauerova & Sormova (1961) give evidence that 5-nitrouracil is a competitive inhibitor in the enzymatic degradation of uracil by an extract of rat liver.

The crystal structure of 5-nitrouracil monohydrate has been undertaken in order to determine the tautomeric form of the molecule and the nature of the hydrogen bonding.

* In this paper, atoms are numbered according to chemical convention, as in (I). Ring substituent atoms take the number of the corresponding ring atom, except for the nitro oxygen atoms, O(7) and O(8). The water molecule atoms are O(W), H(1, W), H(2, W).



Experimental

The crystal data are given in Table 1. Colorless crystals of prismatic habit were readily grown by slow evaporation of the pale yellow aqueous solution. The crystals slowly effloresce at normal room temperature and

humidity. Some care was needed in selecting and mounting crystals for data collection, since most crystals were found to be twinned or multiply twinned and

very susceptible to slip parallel to the cleavage plane (100).

Table 1. Crystal data for 5-nitrouracil monohydrate, C4H3O4N3.H2O

Monoclinic, M.W. 175.1
a = 5.137 ± 0.005 Å
b = 21.956 ± 0.006
c = 9.587 ± 0.007
Dcalc = 1.81 g.cm-3
Dobs = 1.79 g.cm-3
Z = 4 formula units per cell. Space group P21/c.
Prominent crystal forms: {010}, {011}, {021}, {111}.
Cleavage plane: (100).

The diffracted intensity data for layers h=0 through 4 were recorded on integrated Weissenberg films with Cu Kα radiation and estimated by means of a microdensitometer. The crystal used was elongated along a, with a cross section 0.21 × 0.26 mm. X-ray absorption factors were not applied since these were found to be essentially constant for a given value of h.

The data collection, including the measurement of the reported lattice parameters, was completed with a second crystal of dimensions 0.35 × 0.21 × 0.14 mm

Table 2. Observed and calculated structure factors (× 10) for 5-nitrouracil monohydrate

Asterisks mark unobservably weak reflections.

Table with multiple columns of numerical data representing observed and calculated structure factors for various hkl reflections. Asterisks indicate unobservably weak reflections.

Table 2 (cont.)

13 23	18	21 68	65-	17 122	117-	L = 1 H = 3	13 55	54-	19 72	68-	1 40	37-	15 54	5C-	
14 62	60	22 72	65-	18 184	172-	1 15	19	19	20 21	25-	2 13	5	L = 5 H = 5	L = 5 H = 5	
15 32	33	23 32	40	19 13	14-	2 42	49-	15 12	21 15	18-	3 83	82-	1 23	22-	
16 3*	0-	24 39	36-	20 24	20-	3 12	20-	16 49	44-	L = 4 H = 4	4 116	114-	2 47	47-	
L = 2 H = 2	6	2 64	62	4 4*	0	4 4*	0	17 8	3	4	0 47	44*	4 5	3 22	26-
L = 0 H = 3	1	78	75-	22 33	33	5 10	11-	18 11	11-	1 01	91	6 22	14	4 25	23-
0 137	146-	2 87	84	23 3*	3-	6 40	6-	19 19	17-	2 88	84-	7 141	144	5 39	35
1 44	51	3 22	21-	24 61	69	7 46	36	20 38	75	3 36	30	8 22	20-	6 36	34-
2 4*	13-	4 210	219-	L = 2 H = 3	8	8 27	50-	L = 7 H = 4	4	4*	2	9 17	16-	7 27	18-
3 130	140-	5 110	112	0 21	23-	9 33	24-	1 11	14	5 23	18-	10 22	23-	8 23	23-
4 107	165-	6 141	140-	1 111	106-	10 28	29	2 165	164-	6 4*	3	11 39	51	9 56	52
5 293	314-	7 35	37	2 76	76	11 40	27	3 32	33	7 46	95-	L = 9 H = 5	10 49	47-	47-
6 35	28-	8 116	110-	3 4*	2	12 43	38	4 141	141-	8 20	19-	1 57	53-	11 55	53
7 118	126	9 184	182	4 34	27-	L = 11 H = 4	4	5 33	34-	9 80	84	2 4*	2	12 17	20
8 68	69	10 219	216-	5 28	20	3 80	79-	6 189	175	10 51	44	3 77	73-	13 41	30-
9 4*	13	11 124	124	6 87	85	4 58	56-	7 198	184	11 52	43	4 250	241	14 41	27
10 90	93-	12 104	109	7 59	55	5 17	19-	8 150	145	12 18	13	5 111	104	14 28	27
11 191	206	13 167	171-	8 4*	0	6 23	24-	9 51	47-	13 21	21	6 54	53	L = 4 H = 5	L = 4 H = 5
12 87	91	14 12	8	9 62	59-	7 19	22	10 32	23	14 48	44	7 23	20	0 4*	0-
13 37	36	15 196	192-	10 109	109	8 24	28-	11 88	81	15 10	5-	8 14	9-	1 30	35-
14 84	91	16 19	16	11 76	73	9 26	31	12 105	93-	16 9	8-	9 4*	5-	2 19	26
15 4*	10	17 74	80-	12 36	33-	10 59	63	13 149	137	17 4*	7	10 38	44-	3 25	23-
16 40	44	18 98	102-	13 63	65-	L = 10 H = 4	4	14 44	43	18 3*	2-	11 4*	2-	4 4*	4
17 71	70-	19 105	106	14 23	20-	0 43	41	15 91	104-	19 41	38-	12 17	17	5 16	12
18 22	18	20 30	28	15 81	78	1 51	52	16 12	12-	20 19	18-	13 15	19	6 34	C
19 24	18	21 9	9	16 111	105	2 4*	1	17 46	49-	21 39	38	14 44	54	7 4*	42
20 72	78-	22 28	24	17 163	154	3 99	96	18 4*	4-	L = 8 H = 5	5	8 14	15	8 14	15
21 31	34	23 41	37	18 56	56	4 105	103-	19 74	65-	1 46	46-	0 68	63-	10 25	28-
L = 7 H = 3	24	17	14	19 23	21	5 4*	4-	20 3*	4	2 69	71	1 27	23	10 35	34-
1 28	27-	25 61	60-	20 112	110-	6 31	26-	21 110	107-	3 35	23	2 37	29-	L = 10 H = 6	L = 10 H = 6
2 191	192	L = 4 H = 3	21 99	21 99	97-	7 172	172	L = 6 H = 4	4	4 4*	3*	3 105	101	0 32	35
3 50	44	0 230	211	22 3*	0	8 28	33	0 28	25-	5 43	39	4 86	78-	1 22	23
4 186	188	1 120	210-	23 35	41-	9 19	11-	1 82	76	6 4*	2-	5 187	181-	2 10	16-
5 65	63	2 247	243	L = 1 H = 3	10	23	8	2 45	42-	7 4*	5	6 10	11-	3 50	61
6 238	243-	3 7	4-	1 111	111	11 63	71-	3 144	156	8 66	61	7 94	107	4 72	81-
7 219	220-	4 28	33-	2 107	109	12 25	19	4 110	106	9 118	108-	8 93	87	5 12	4-
8 178	182-	5 38	33	3 63	66-	13 67	62	5 12	10	10 12	15-	9 46	50	6 4*	1
9 38	30	6 34	29	4 4*	4	14 52	49	6 58	58	11 4*	9-	10 78	76-	7 75	8C-
10 46	24	7 44	41	5 3*	32	15 11	107-	7 59	12	8	5-	8 11	10	8 11	10
11 75	79-	8 4*	6	6 30	29	15 21	87-	8 27	25	13 32	26	12 73	76	9 16	18
12 93	85	9 194	181-	7 84	88-	1 82	85	9 5*	0	14 36	30-	13 52	54	10 27	26
13 175	176-	10 22	13	8 120	114	2 10	10	10 91	88	15 10	12-	L = 7 H = 5	L = 9 H = 5	L = 9 H = 5	L = 9 H = 5
14 70	69	11 76	97-	9 89	80-	11 20	12	12 10	22	16 7	11	1 15	4	1 23	24
15 211	224	12 70	71-	10 11	6-	4 293	308-	12 195	186-	17 74	66	2 99	98	2 4*	2-
16 4*	6	13 65	64-	11 37	34	5 112	104-	13 235	209	18 108	103	3 5*	5	3 31	44
17 3*	4*	14 48	48	12 36	32	6 146	134	L = 2 H = 4	4	4*	14	4	4	4 123	137
18 4*	6	15 39	39	13 47	48	7 37	37-	15 80	74	0 4*	2	5 4*	2	5 56	74-
19 89	95	16 23	6	14 37	34-	8 26	10-	16 23	21	1 68	63	6 100	92-	6 54	42-
20 4*	4	17 27	24-	15 31	31	9 21	5	17 31	32	2 13	21-	7 117	117-	7 12	9-
21 125	124	18 12	12	16 13	12	10 12	10	18 10	12	19 4*	14	18	4	18	4
22 35	31-	19 56	58	17 64	65-	11 21	4	19 83	84-	4 10	4	9 47	45	9 9	6
L = 6 H = 3	20	25	13	18 3*	7	12 31	23-	20 36	37	5 14	13-	10 11	0	10 34	32
0 20	16-	21 58	63-	19 53	50	13 24	27-	21 55	49-	6 33	29-	11 65	65-	L = 8 H = 6	L = 8 H = 6
1 130	133	22 49	28	20 56	56	14 12	75-	22 58	57	7 56	4	12 71	69	0 12	19
2 114	116	23 17	4-	L = 0 H = 3	15	24	29-	L = 5 H = 4	8	4*	2-	13 76	80-	1 13	12-
3 251	247	24 80	81-	0 299	310-	16 8	0	1 55	51	9 26	16	14 12	11-	2 15	17
4 192	178-	L = 3 H = 3	1 15	17 3*	4	2 71	61-	10 56	60	15 105	112	3 53	64	3 53	64
5 33	191	2 141	136	2 11	16	3 3*	0	3 45	45	11 26	28-	L = 6 H = 5	4	3 32	38
6 67	64-	2 214	199-	3 65	65	19 24	27	4 91	87	12 17	9	0 29	28	5 80	95
7 101	103-	3 30	24-	4 91	85	L = 8 H = 4	4	5 73	66-	13 23	26	1 31	27-	6 4*	4*
8 57	57	4 13	12	5 13	12	6 144	141	7 15	13	8 6	16	7 4	11	7 4	11
9 44	42-	5 114	103-	6 41	36	1 36	39-	7 4*	5	15 25	27-	3 69	65	8 51	51-
10 90	93-	6 20	11-	7 13	12	2 26	32	8 59	56	16 56	66-	4 52	48-	9 34	4C-
11 8*	6	7 44	36	8 51	56	3 133	133	9 113	111-	L = 1 H = 3	4	5 17	13	10 36	38
12 250	248	8 197	182	9 4*	3	4 151	138	10 120	114	1 60	21*	12 71	69	L = 7 H = 6	L = 7 H = 6
13 303	297-	9 229	209	10 4*	4	5 285	282	11 88	85-	2 58	56-	7 25	25-	1 4*	9-
14 59	53	10 60	55	11 4*	2-	6 40	35	12 54	52	3 35	33	8 11	10-	2 29	46-
15 87	91-	11 10	9	12 16	17-	7 134	132-	13 96	89	4 21	12	9 25	21	3 11	18-
16 19	16	12 26	13	13 4*	7-	8 109	103-	14 24	26-	5 3*	9-	10 64	57	4 24	34-
17 74	70-	13 60	56-	14 4*	5-	9 29	34-	15 128	121	6 35	12-	11 27	22	5 9	8
18 62	71	14 56	59	15 4*	1-	10 116	108	16 4*	12	7 44	31	12 105	102	6 31	41
19 119	120	15 4*	13	16 10	0	11 234	193-	17 40	11	L = 10 H = 5	5	13 114	115-	7 47	45
20 62	65-	16 27	16	17 8	2-	12 105	105-	18 59	58	0 42	38-	14 10	10		

along *a*, *b*, *c*, mounted along *b*, using a manual diffractometer and Cu *Kα* radiation. The intensity data obtained from this crystal were the layers *h*=0, 5 and 6, all reflections (162) found to be unobservably weak in the photographic data, and about 200 randomly selected reflections from layers *h*=1 through 4. The latter were used in scaling the photographic data. The intensity data from the second crystal were corrected for X-ray absorption. A total of 1330 non-symmetry-related reflections were measured, of which 120 were unobservably weak. The latter were estimated as half the minimum observable value.

The determination of the structure

From a consideration of the space group symmetry and the very strong diffracted intensities *h*00, all atoms in this crystal structure must lie close to the plane *x*= $\frac{1}{2}$ (or *x*=0, depending on an arbitrary choice of origin). The phase problem was solved from the three-dimensional sharpened Patterson section *u*=0, by a combination of direct inspection and multiple minimum function techniques.

Since the [*a*] projection of the structure shows complete atomic resolution, the *y* and *z* parameters were

first refined by difference Fourier methods using only the *0k**l* data. The determination of the *x* parameters followed straightforwardly by three-dimensional Fourier methods. At this stage, hydrogen atom positions were found from a difference Fourier synthesis.

Atomic positional and anisotropic thermal parameters for the heavier atoms, together with positional parameters for the hydrogen atoms were refined by a full-matrix least-squares procedure. Standard deviations in the observed structure amplitudes were assumed to be given by

$$\sigma(F) = 0.5 + 0.05|F|$$

The thermal parameters for the hydrogen atoms were assumed to be the same as those of the heavier atoms to which they are covalently bound. The cleavage plane reflections 100 and 200 were omitted from the calculations since they appeared to be severely affected by extinction. After five cycles of least squares, all parameter changes were insignificant. The final *R* value was 0.067 for all reflections and 0.062 omitting unobservably weak reflections.

Observed and calculated structure factors are listed in Table 2. In Table 3 are listed the final values with e.s.d.'s for the parameters of the atoms in the assumed crystal chemical unit. A final difference Fourier syn-

Table 3. Atomic parameters with *e.s.d.*'s for 5-nitrouracil monohydrate

Positional parameters are expressed as fractions of the lattice translations.
Thermal parameters are given by the expression $\exp[-(\beta_{11}h + \beta_{22}k + \beta_{33}l + 2\beta_{12}hk + 2\beta_{13}hl + 2\beta_{23}kl)]$.

	x $\sigma(x)$	y $\sigma(y)$	z $\sigma(z)$	β_{11}	β_{22}	β_{33}	β_{12}	β_{13}	β_{23}
N(1)	0.5246 0.0007	0.12603 0.00010	0.8272 0.0004	0.100 0.003	0.00087 0.00004	0.0210 0.0007	-0.0006 0.0002	0.041 0.001	-0.0005 0.0001
C(2)	0.5215 0.0009	0.06473 0.00011	0.7921 0.0005	0.098 0.003	0.00084 0.00005	0.0220 0.0008	0.0002 0.0003	0.011 0.001	0.0002 0.0001
O(2)	0.5303 0.0009	0.02555 0.00009	0.8829 0.0004	0.216 0.004	0.00092 0.00004	0.0441 0.0009	0.0005 0.0003	0.092 0.002	0.0008 0.0001
N(3)	0.5068 0.0007	0.05250 0.00009	0.6457 0.0004	0.106 0.003	0.00055 0.00004	0.0224 0.0007	-0.0001 0.0002	0.043 0.001	0.0000 0.0001
C(4)	0.5055 0.0008	0.09358 0.00009	0.5366 0.0004	0.076 0.002	0.00065 0.00004	0.0191 0.0007	-0.0003 0.0002	0.033 0.001	0.0000 0.0001
O(4)	0.5078 0.0007	0.07489 0.00008	0.4174 0.0003	0.134 0.003	0.00076 0.00003	0.0289 0.0006	-0.0004 0.0002	0.057 0.001	-0.0003 0.0001
C(5)	0.4995 0.0007	0.15642 0.00010	0.5817 0.0004	0.079 0.003	0.00063 0.00004	0.0181 0.0007	0.0000 0.0002	0.032 0.001	0.0001 0.0001
N(5)	0.4760 0.0007	0.20586 0.00009	0.4753 0.0004	0.096 0.002	0.00067 0.00003	0.0227 0.0007	0.0005 0.0002	0.039 0.001	0.0002 0.0001
O(7)	0.4859 0.0010	0.19544 0.00010	0.3538 0.0005	0.265 0.005	0.00097 0.00004	0.0544 0.0011	0.0012 0.0003	0.114 0.002	0.0010 0.0002
O(8)	0.4432 0.0008	0.25814 0.00008	0.5068 0.0004	0.172 0.003	0.00058 0.00003	0.0357 0.0008	0.0016 0.0003	0.069 0.001	0.0007 0.0001
C(6)	0.5126 0.0008	0.16978 0.00011	0.7256 0.0004	0.078 0.003	0.00074 0.00004	0.0201 0.0007	-0.0003 0.0002	0.033 0.001	-0.0002 0.0001
O(W)	0.5045 0.0007	0.10768 0.00009	0.1118 0.0004	0.126 0.003	0.00109 0.00004	0.0284 0.0007	0.0004 0.0002	0.053 0.001	0.0000 0.0001
H(1)	0.542 0.013	0.135 0.002	0.918 0.007						
H(3)	0.529 0.014	0.015 0.002	0.631 0.007						
H(6)	0.514 0.013	0.211 0.002	0.758 0.007						
H(1, W)	0.511 0.015	0.121 0.002	0.198 0.008						
H(2, W)	0.516 0.015	0.068 0.002	0.115 0.008						

thesis (Fig. 1) shows all the hydrogen atoms but no other significant residual electron density.

Discussion of the structure

(i) The 5-nitrouracil molecule

The nature of the tautomeric form of 5-nitrouracil in solution has been investigated by means of nuclear magnetic resonance (n.m.r.) and ultraviolet spectra. Kokko, Mandell & Goldstein (1962) found no signals in the n.m.r. spectrum of 5-nitrouracil in dimethyl sulf-

oxide solution which could be attributed to the interaction of the imine hydrogen atoms with H(6), from which it was concluded that these imine hydrogen atoms were significantly more labile than is the case for 5-bromouracil or thymine. From the ultraviolet spectrum of 5-nitrouracil in aqueous solution, Brown (1959) deduced that the molecule is predominantly in the 2,4-dioxo form (I). This is the form presently reported as existing in the crystalline monohydrate.

The pyrimidine ring is almost planar with a slight degree of boat configuration (Fig. 2 and Table 4). The atoms of the nitro group and C(5) are coplanar with a dihedral angle of 4.7° between this plane and the best plane through the six ring atoms. It can be seen from Fig. 3 that the thermal molecular motion is predominantly a translational vibration parallel to a^* , the ring normal. The only readily discernible intramolecular feature in thermal behavior is an oscillation of the nitro group about the axis C(5)-N(5). Since a proper estimate of the corrections to interatomic distances arising from anisotropic thermal motion cannot be made, the bond lengths and angles shown in Fig. 4(a) are those calculated directly from the reported positions of the thermal centroids (Table 3). However, Table 5 lists corrected bond lengths for 5-nitrouracil,

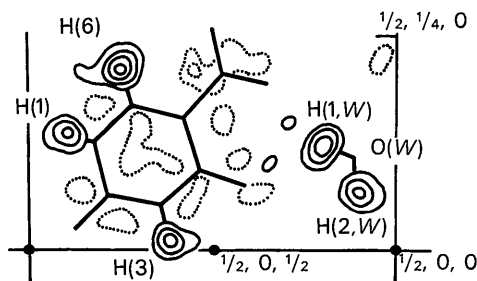


Fig. 1. Final difference Fourier synthesis in the section $x = \frac{1}{2}$, showing the hydrogen atoms. Contours are at intervals of $0.2 \text{ e.}\text{\AA}^{-3}$. The zero contour is omitted and contours of negative electron density are shown dotted.

giving both the minimum possible bond lengths and the bond lengths assuming the 'riding' mode of thermal motion (Busing & Levy, 1964). These corrections have little if any effect on the ring bonds, but suggest that the carbonyl and nitro N-O lengths in Fig.4(a) may be underestimated by as much as 0.02 or 0.03 Å. The standard deviation in the ring bond lengths is estimated to be 0.006 Å and in a bond angle to be 0.4°. The e.s.d. in bond lengths involving hydrogen atoms is 0.06 Å.

Table 4. *Least-squares planes through atomic centers*

The planes $Ax + By + Cz = D$ are referred to the crystallographic axes.

Plane	A	B	C	D
1	0.61491	0.00392	-0.02560	1.45521
2	0.58333	0.07788	0.01161	1.82566

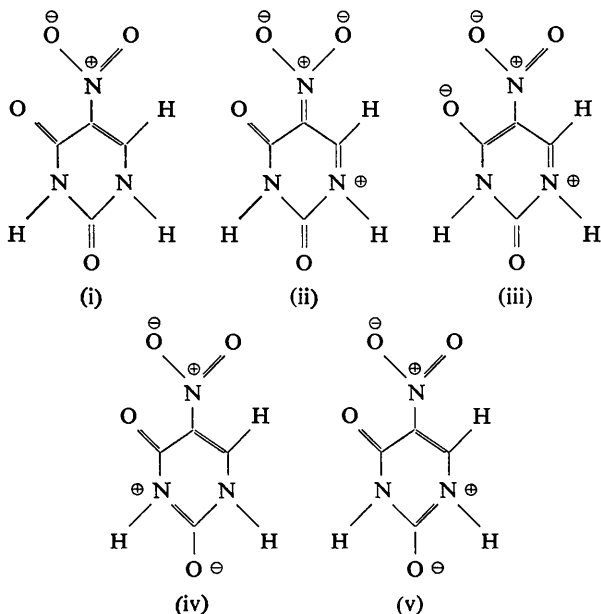
Dihedral angle $(1 \wedge 2) = 4.7^\circ$.

Distances of atoms from the planes*

Atoms forming the plane	Plane 1		Plane 2	
	Plane 1	Plane 2	Plane 1	Plane 2
N(1)	0.008 Å		H(1)	0.029 Å
C(2)	-0.001		O(2)	0.000
N(3)	-0.012		H(3)	0.027
C(4)	0.017		O(4)	0.049
C(5)	-0.011	-0.001 Å	N(5)	-0.054
C(6)	-0.001		O(7)	0.005
N(5)		0.003	O(8)	-0.159
O(7)		-0.001	H(6)	0.049
O(8)		-0.001		

* See also Fig. 2.

The observed bond lengths in 5-nitrouracil are compatible with a valence bond description of the molecule in which contributors (i) and (ii) predominate, with (iii), (iv) and (v) in a minor role.



It may be argued that (i) is favored over all other contributors in having only one formal charge separation, whereas (ii) is favored in view of the established electron attracting character of the nitro group.

Table 5. *Thermal corrections to the bond lengths in 5-nitrouracil*

Column (1) Distance between thermal centroids.
 (2) Minimum possible bond lengths for the reported anisotropic thermal parameters.
 (3) Bond lengths assuming the 'riding' mode of thermal motion.

	(1)	(2)	(3)
N(1)-C(2)	1.384 Å	1.384 Å	1.384 Å
C(2)-O(2)	1.199	1.202	1.222
C(2)-N(3)	1.370	1.370	1.370
N(3)-C(4)	1.377	1.377	1.382
C(4)-O(4)	1.224	1.225	1.236
C(4)-C(5)	1.453	1.453	1.453
C(5)-N(5)	1.427	1.427	1.431
N(5)-O(7)	1.228	1.235	1.263
N(5)-O(8)	1.232	1.234	1.251
C(5)-C(6)	1.358	1.358	1.358
C(6)-N(1)	1.334	1.334	1.335

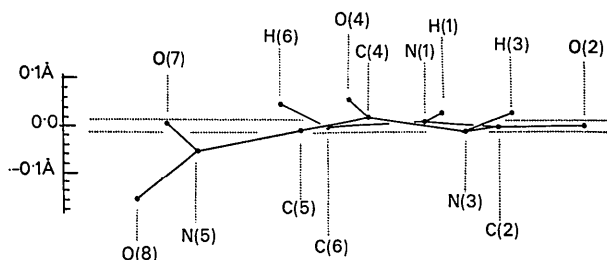


Fig. 2. The conformation of 5-nitrouracil in the monohydrate. Atomic displacements from plane (1) of Table 4 are shown with distance on the vertical scale 15 times that on the horizontal scale. The parallel dotted lines are at distances from plane (1) of three times the e.s.d. in the atomic positional parameters for the heavier atoms.

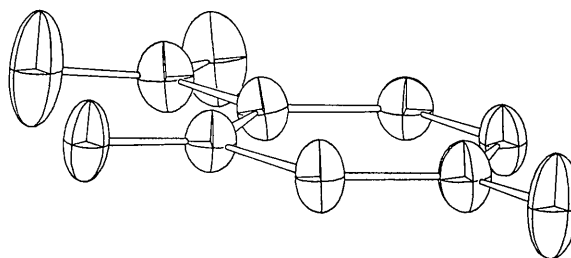


Fig. 3. The ellipsoid representation of atomic thermal parameters for the heavier atoms of the 5-nitrouracil molecule.

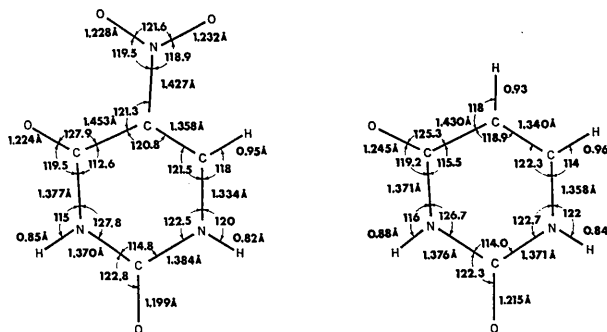


Fig. 4. Bond lengths and angles (uncorrected for thermal motion) in (left) 5-nitrouracil (present work) and (right) uracil (Stewart & Jensen, 1966).

It is of interest to examine the effect which nitro-substitution produces in the pyrimidine ring by comparing the bond lengths and angles for 5-nitrouracil [Fig. 4(a)], with those obtained for uracil [Fig. 4(b)] in a recent accurate X-ray redetermination (Stewart & Jensen, 1966). The e.s.d.'s in bond lengths and angles in the uracil ring are reported to vary between 0.0019 and 0.0026 Å and 0.1 and 0.2° respectively. These data are also uncorrected for the effects of thermal motion. The bond lengths C(4)–C(5), C(5)–C(6), C(6)–N(1), N(1)–C(2) are respectively longer (0.023 Å), longer (0.018 Å), shorter (0.024 Å), longer (0.013 Å) in 5-nitrouracil than in uracil itself, all differences being significant except possibly the last. Bond lengths C(2)–N(3) and N(3)–C(4) are essentially the same in both rings. These differences, except in the bond N(1)–C(2), can be qualitatively explained in terms of the importance of contributor (ii) to the valence structure of 5-nitrouracil and the absence of a corresponding contributor for uracil itself.

The differences in the ring bond angles in the two molecules are small, except for the closing of the angle at C(4) in 5-nitrouracil by 2.9°. This (together with the large angle C(5)–C(4)–O(4) of 127.9°) is probably the result of the intramolecular non-bonded repulsion O(4)···O(7), which has no counterpart in uracil.

Accurate crystal structure analyses have been carried out for the related molecules *N*-methylthymine (Hoogsteen, 1963) and thymine hydrate (Gerdil, 1961). As might be expected, bond lengths in *N*-methylthymine are very similar to those in uracil, but the bond lengths N(1)–C(2), N(3)–C(2) in thymine are shorter (1.355, 1.361 Å) and C(2)–O(2) probably longer (1.234 Å) than

in either of the other structures, or in 5-nitrouracil. Hoogsteen (1963) suggests that these bond length differences are correlated with the strong N(1)···O(2) and N(3)···O(2) intermolecular hydrogen bonds in thymine hydrate. This feature is absent in the other three crystal structures.

The C(5)–N(5) bond length (1.427 Å) is longer than that in anhydrous 5-nitrobarbituric acid (1.407 Å; Bolton, 1963), being in the range of values reported for aromatic nitro compounds in which the nitro group is approximately coplanar with the ring atoms and for which contributors with C=N⁺ such as (ii) can be written. These structures have been tabulated and discussed by Trotter & Mak (1965) and Coppens & Schmidt (1965).

(ii) The water molecule

The water molecule has O–H bond lengths of 0.84 and 0.88 Å and an angle H–O–H of 111°. These are typical values for an X-ray structure analysis.

(iii) The molecular packing and hydrogen bonding

Fig. 5 shows the structure of one hydrogen bonded sheet of 5-nitrouracil and water molecules. Intermolecular distances within a sheet which involve hydrogen atoms are given in Fig. 5. Other important distances and angles are listed in Table 6. Adjacent sheets are separated by a d_{100} spacing of 3.049 Å and are related by the lattice translation **a**. The strongest interactions between adjacent sheets are van der Waals, this being compatible with the observed perfect (100) crystal cleavage. The comparative looseness of the intersheet

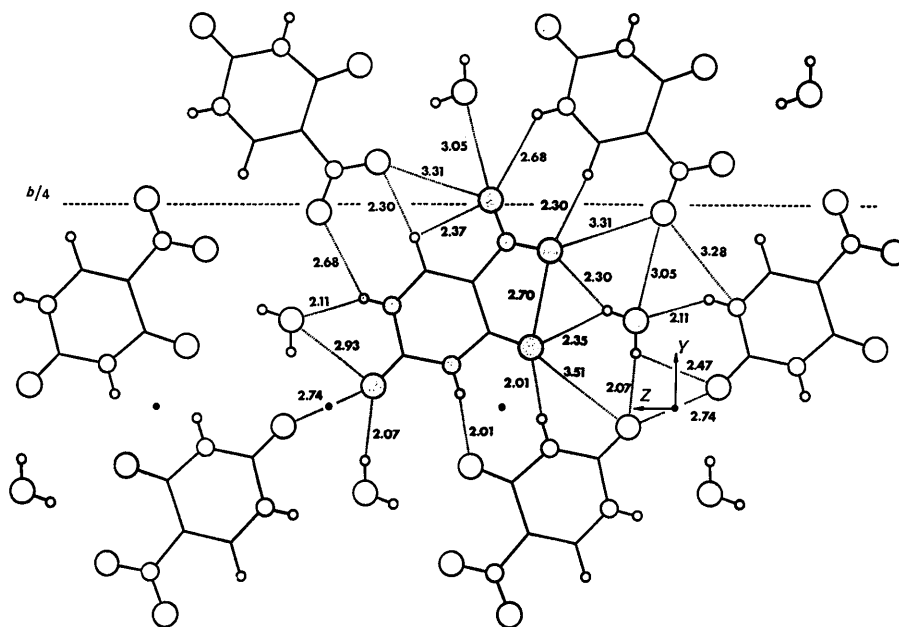


Fig. 5. Molecular packing and hydrogen bonding in 5-nitrouracil monohydrate. The sheet at $x = \frac{1}{2}$ is shown, viewed down a^* . Circles of decreasing radii represent oxygen, nitrogen and hydrogen atoms respectively. The shaded atoms belong to the assumed crystal chemical unit. The distances which are shown involving hydrogen atoms have an e.s.d. of about 0.06 Å. Other distances have e.s.d.'s of about 0.006 Å.

packing near the nitro group oxygen atoms O(7), O(8) [Table 6, (iii)] undoubtedly facilitates the observed intramolecular thermal vibration of these atoms about the C(5)–N(5) axis.

Molecules of 5-nitouracil are hydrogen bonded N(3)H(3)···O(4)' in pairs across crystallographic centers of symmetry. The resulting dimers are further hydrogen bonded through water molecules to form almost coplanar ribbons parallel to *c*. The hydrogen bonding interactions C(6)H(6)···O(7)' with distances C(6)···O(7)' and H(6)···O(7)' of 3.25 and 2.30 Å must be the principal attractive forces responsible for binding these ribbons to form almost coplanar sheets, since the inter-ribbon interactions N(1)H(1)···O(8)' must be very weak with a distance N···O of 3.28 Å and a distance H···O (2.68 Å) comparable to the sum of the van der Waals radii for hydrogen and oxygen (2.6 Å) and with an unfavorable angle N(1)H(1)O(8)' (131°) for hydrogen bonding.

In Fig. 5 it can be seen that the water oxygen atom has five oxygen and one imine nitrogen atom as near neighbours, all these atoms being almost coplanar and

with oxygen atoms at distances from the central atom ranging between 2.92 and 3.03 Å. There are van der Waals contacts between the water oxygen atom and atom C(2) at 3.30 Å on one side of this plane and atoms C(4), C(5) at 3.07, 3.25 Å on the other side [Table 6(iii)]. There is also a short van der Waals distance O(2)···O(2)' of 2.74 Å in the environment of the water molecule, a distance almost the same as that of the intramolecular non-bonded interaction O(4)···O(7), 2.70 Å. The water molecule accepts a bent hydrogen bond N(1)H(1)···O(W) with an angle 153° at H(1) and is donor in hydrogen bonding interactions with four of the five near neighbour oxygen atoms. While the interactions of H(1, W) with O(4) and O(7) [Fig. 5, Table 6(i)] constitute a symmetrical bifurcated hydrogen bond very similar to that described in the crystal structure of violuric acid monohydrate (Craven & Takei, 1964), the interactions of H(2, W) with O(2)' and O(2)'' might be described either as an asymmetrical bifurcated hydrogen bond, or possibly better as one normal hydrogen bond H···O(2)', 2.07 Å; and a short van der Waals interaction H···O(2)'', 2.47 Å.

Table 6. *Intermolecular distances and angles in 5-nitouracil monohydrate*

Distances are not corrected for the effect of thermal motion and thus must be regarded as lower limits. E.s.d.'s in distances between heavier atoms are about 0.006 Å. E.s.d.'s in angles are listed individually.

Atoms not in the crystal chemical unit (as listed in Table 3) are specified by a subscript. The four-digit subscript denotes how the atomic parameters can be derived from the corresponding atom in the crystal chemical unit. The first three digits code a lattice translation, e.g. 564 means a translation of $(5-5)\mathbf{a} + (6-5)\mathbf{b} + (4-5)\mathbf{c}$ or $(\mathbf{b}-\mathbf{c})$. The fourth digit specifies one of the following operations;

- (1) x, y, z (3) $-x, \frac{1}{2}+y, \frac{1}{2}-z$
 (2) $-x, -y, -z$ (4) $x, \frac{1}{2}-y, \frac{1}{2}+z$

(i) Hydrogen bonds (Hydrogen to acceptor atom distances are also shown in Fig. 5)

	<i>d</i>	Angle	$\theta, \sigma(\theta)$
N(1)····O(W) ₅₅₆₁	2.84 Å	N(1) H(1) O(W) ₅₅₆₁	148 (6)°
H(1)····O(W) ₅₅₆₁	2.11	H(1) O(W) H(1, W)	143 (5)
		H(1) O(W) H(2, W)	105 (6)
N(3)····O(4) ₅₅₆₂	2.85	N(3) H(3) O(4) ₅₅₆₂	170 (6)
H(3)····O(4) ₅₅₆₂	2.01	H(3) O(4) ₅₅₆₂ C(4) ₅₅₆₂	119 (2)
C(6)····O(7) ₅₅₅₄	3.25	C(6) H(6) O(7) ₅₅₅₄	171 (5)
H(6)····O(7) ₅₅₅₄	2.30	H(6) O(7) ₅₅₅₄ N(5) ₅₅₅₄	106 (2)
O(W)····O(7)	3.07	O(W) H(1, W) O(7)	154 (6)
H(1, W)····O(7)	2.30	H(1, W) O(7) N(5)	145 (2)
O(W)····O(4)	3.00	O(W) H(1, W) O(4)	135 (6)
H(1, W)····O(4)	2.35	O(4) H(1, W) O(7)	71 (2)
		H(1, W) O(4) C(4)	132 (2)
		H(1, W) O(4) O(7)	54 (2)
		H(1, W) O(7) O(4)	56 (2)
O(W)····O(2) ₅₅₆₂	2.94	O(W) H(2, W) O(2) ₅₅₆₂	171 (6)
H(2, W)····O(2) ₅₅₆₂	2.07	H(2, W) O(2) ₅₅₆₂ C(2) ₅₅₆₂	142 (2)

(ii) Other intermolecular interactions within a sheet such as is shown in Fig. 5.

Distance	<i>d</i>	Angle	$\theta, \sigma(\theta)$
N(1)····O(8) ₅₅₅₄	3.28 Å	N(1) H(1) O(8) ₅₅₅₄	131 (5)°
H(1)····O(8) ₅₅₅₄	2.68	H(1) O(8) ₅₅₅₄ N(5) ₅₅₅₄	130 (2)
O(W)····O(2) ₅₅₄₁	2.92	O(W) H(2, W) O(2) ₅₅₄₁	113 (5)
H(2, W)····O(2) ₅₅₄₁	2.47	H(2, W) O(2) ₅₅₄₁ C(2) ₅₅₄₁	112 (2)
O(2)····O(2) ₅₅₇₂	2.74	C(2) O(2) O(2) ₅₅₇₂	157.9 (0.5)

Table 6 (cont.)

(iii) Interatomic distances from a sheet such as is shown in Fig. 5, and adjacent sheets.

All distances are listed which are within 0.2 Å of the sum of Pauling's (1960) van der Waals radii (C 1.7 Å, N 1.5 Å, O 1.4 Å). These distances are denoted by (v). If there are no such distances from a given atom in the crystal chemical unit (see Table 3, Fig. 5) then the shortest interatomic distance is given. Column (a) lists distances to atoms in the sheet *below* (negative *x*), and column (b) lists distances to atoms in the sheet *above* (positive *x*) the sheet shown in Fig. 5.

(a)		(b)	
N(1)····C(4) ₄₅₅₁	3.50 Å	N(1)····O(W) ₆₅₆₁	3.30 Å
N(1)····O(4) ₄₅₅₁	3.31		
C(2)····O(4) ₄₅₅₁	3.16 (v)	C(2)····O(W) ₆₅₆₁	3.30 (v)
O(2)····C(4) ₄₅₅₁	3.59	O(2)····N(3) ₇₅₇₂	3.45
N(3)····O(W) ₄₅₅₁	3.44	N(3)····O(W) ₆₅₆₁	3.30
C(4)····O(W) ₄₅₅₁	3.07 (v)	C(4)····N(1) ₆₅₅₁	3.50
O(4)····C(2) ₄₅₄₁	3.58	O(4)····C(2) ₆₅₅₁	3.16 (v)
C(5)····O(W) ₄₅₅₁	3.25 (v)	C(5)····O(8) ₆₅₅₄	3.44
N(5)····O(8) ₄₅₄₄	3.26	N(5)····O(8) ₆₅₅₄	3.25
O(7)····N(1) ₄₅₄₁	3.48	O(7)····	< 3.6
O(8)····O(8) ₄₅₄₄	3.15	O(8)····O(8) ₆₅₅₄	3.15
····C(6) ₄₅₄₄	3.45	····N(5) ₆₅₅₄	3.26
C(6)····	> 3.6	C(6)····O(8) ₆₅₅₄	3.45
		····O(W) ₆₅₆₁	3.35
O(W)····C(2) ₄₅₄₁	3.30 (v)	O(W)····C(4) ₆₅₅₁	3.07 (v)
····N(1) ₄₅₄₁	3.30	····C(5) ₆₅₅₁	3.25 (v)
····N(3) ₄₅₄₁	3.30		

While the weak hydrogen bonds in this crystal structure have been categorized as 'bent', 'bifurcated', or even as van der Waals interactions, it cannot be inferred that these represent well defined bond types. The wide variety of hydrogen bonding angles and distances in the water molecule environment suggests that these are all the result of electrostatic interactions, *i.e.* that the water molecule orientation is determined by an electrostatic field dominated by the neighboring oxygen atom lone pair electrons and by the effective positive charge of the N(1)H(1) imine group. A similar point of view has been emphasized by Baur (1965) in reviewing the hydrogen bonding in crystalline hydrates.

The first part of this work was carried out during tenure of a Senior Rothmans Research Fellowship at Sydney University. Research facilities were kindly made available by Dr H.C. Freeman and by a grant from the Rothmans University Endowment Fund. The work was completed with support by a research grant NB-02763 from the U.S. Public Health Service, National Institutes of Health. Computer programs for IBM 1620 and IBM 7090 machines used in this work were written by Drs R. Shiono, S. Chu, R. D. Rosenstein, P. W. R. Corfield (University of Pittsburgh) and C. K. Johnson (Oak Ridge National Lab., Tennessee).

Drs R. F. Stewart and L. H. Jensen are thanked for providing the results of their analysis of uracil in advance of publication.

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