Erratum

Ladder Structure of the Arsenomethane Polymer: A Correction

by **J. J. Daly** and **F. Sanz**
Monsanto Research S. A., Eggbühlstrasse 36, 8050 Zürich

A recent experience with twinned crystals has prompted us to re-examine the structure of the purple arsenomethane polymer [1]. The proposed ladder formulation remains basically unaltered, but the crystals we examined are better described as monoclinic twins, space group *I2/a* (No. 15, standard orientation *C2/c*) with $a = 5.82$, $b = 5.79$, $c = 13.66$ Å, $\beta = 93.0°$; there are eight MeAs units in the cell whose general positions are $(0, 0, 0; \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}) \pm |x, y, z; \frac{1}{2} + x, \bar{y}, z|$. The twins are related by rotation of 180° about the monoclinic *a* axis or by reflection in the monoclinic *ab* plane. Refinement of four parameters in *I2/a* gave a final *R*-factor of 0.063 for 53 *Okl* reflections. The final y and z co-ordinates are As (0.207, 0) and C(0.242, 0.143), essentially unchanged from the values previously given [1]. The x co-ordinates in the space group *I2/a* (origin shift of $a/4$, 0, 0 from *Ima2*) are no longer constrained by symmetry to specific values, so x_{As} may be slightly different from zero while x_C, which must still be close to x_{As}, should be less than 0.09 to ensure that the contact between methyl groups at (x, y, z) and $(\frac{1}{2} - x, \frac{1}{2} - y, \frac{1}{2} - z)$ is greater than 3.4 Å.

A full three-dimensional analysis should clearly be carried out on this novel structure, but we have been unable to find a crystal of sufficiently high quality to justify this course.

REFERENCE

[1] *J. J. Daly & F. Sanz*, Helv. *53*, 1879 (1970).