

The Crystal and Molecular Structure of Ammonium Titanyl Oxalate

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Ammonium titanyl oxalate monohydrate, $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{TiO}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$, is monoclinic with cell parameters $a = 13.473(2)$, $b = 11.329(1)$, $c = 17.646(2)$ Å, $\beta = 126.66(1)^\circ$. The space group is $P2_1/c$ with $Z = 8$, $d_c = 1.808 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ and $d_m = 1.80 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$. The crystal structure was determined from single-crystal diffractometer data and refined by least-squares methods using isotropic thermal parameters. The conventional R factor was 7.0% for 2466 used reflections.

The anions consist of cyclic tetranuclear complexes $[\text{TiO}_{1/2}\text{O}_{1/2}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_2]_4^{8-}$ with $\bar{1}$ symmetry. The titanium atoms are six-coordinated with two bridging oxygen atoms cis to one another and four oxygen atoms of bidentate oxalate groups, together forming a distorted octahedron. The titanium atoms of the tetramer are linked through oxygen atoms at two neighbouring apices of each octahedron. The actual name of the compound should therefore be: ammonium cyclotetra-di- μ -oxo-cis-dioxalatotitanate(IV)tetrahydrate.

The di- μ -oxo-tetratitanium unit is an eight-membered $-\text{O}-\text{Ti}-\text{O}-$ ring with Ti–O distances of successively 1.840(7), 1.785(7) and 1.855(6), 1.788(8) Å, repeated by the centre of symmetry, and the orientation of the atoms suggests the presence of $d\pi-p\pi$ 3-center 2-electron bonds in each Ti–O–Ti set.

The Ti–O distances trans to the bridging oxygen atoms are much longer: 2.060(7), 2.101(7), 2.081(7) and 2.116(7) Å respectively, as is to be expected from the charge displacement due to the $d\pi-p\pi$ bonding. Most O–Ti–O angles in the distorted octahedra differ considerably from 90° .

As was found by difference Fourier synthesis and thermal analysis, half of the crystal water is held very loosely compared to the other half.

Introduction

Crystal structure studies on a number of titanium(IV) complexes or organometallic compounds have shown that most of them are not monomers in the solid state.¹

Well known groups of compounds with tetrameric or dimeric structure are represented by the alkoxides such as $\text{Ti}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4$ ² and by β -diketonates such as $\text{TiO}(\text{acetylacetonate})_2$.³ A common feature of these compounds often appears to be a cyclic $-\text{O}-\text{Ti}-\text{O}-$ ring. Investigations of other, more inorganic, titanium(IV) compounds have not been so numerous. An example of $-\text{Ti}-\text{O}-\text{Ti}-$ chains has been given in the case of $\text{TiOSO}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$.⁴

It has never been clear whether complexes such as $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{TiO}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ also contain such $-\text{Ti}-\text{O}-\text{Ti}-$ chains, or have to be described as dimers or tetramers with oxo- or hydroxo bridging. Also, part of the "crystal water" might – as $-\text{OH}^-$ or H_2O – take part as a ligand, as has been found in the monomeric analog $(\text{NH}_4)_2[\text{VO}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})] \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$.⁵

Infrared spectroscopy had shown anyhow, that the presence of a Ti=O bond is highly improbable, as is the case in most other so-called "titanyl" complexes.¹

In order to obtain more information on the bonding in systems of this kind the crystal structure of $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{TiO}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ was investigated.

Experimental

To obtain single crystals of ammonium titanyl oxalate a direct way was chosen, which started with a cold, hydrolysed but clear solution of TiCl_4 in water (about 0.5M).⁶ In this solution two equivalents of solid oxalic acid were dissolved, after which 4–5 equivalents of ammonia were carefully added. The pH of the, still clear, solution should then be about 1–2. About half the volume of ethanol was then added carefully in the course of several hours without stirring, to get two slightly mixed layers. After standing overnight, colourless crystals of $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{TiO}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ could be isolated in a good yield (80%).

Weissenberg photographs showed the crystals to be monoclinic. This was confirmed by measurements on a Philips PW-1100 four-circle diffractometer (MoK α radiation, $\lambda(K\alpha_1\alpha_2) 0.7107$ Å, graphite monochromator, $\theta-2\theta$ scan method, scintillation counter, pulse height discrimination). Systematic absences found were $h0l$

and $0k0$ with l and $k = 2n + 1$ respectively. This uniquely determined the space group as $P2_1/c$.

Unit cell dimensions were determined at 20°C by means of the diffractometer for each of three crystals from ten averaged values of d (errors given are standard deviations σ): $a = 13.473(2)$, $b = 11.329(1)$, $c = 17.646(2)\text{\AA}$, $\beta = 126.66(1)^\circ$, $V = 2160.6\text{\AA}^3$.

The experimental value of the density $d_m = 1.80(1)\text{ g cm}^{-3}$, obtained pycnometrically in cyclohexane, agreed well with the density $d_c = 1.808\text{ g cm}^{-3}$, calculated for $Z = 8$ molecular units. This value, combined with the space group $P2_1/c$ meant that two independent stoichiometric units had to be expected in the unit cell, either as two monomeric, one dimeric unit, or one half of a tetramer, etc.

Using prismatic crystals (prismatic habit along $[010]$, size about $0.3 \times 0.6\text{ mm}$), intensity data were collected on the diffractometer. The θ - 2θ scan technique was used, with scan angle 1.2° and scan rate $0.042^\circ\text{ sec}^{-1}$.

The receiving aperture was 1° horizontally and vertically. Backgrounds were counted on each side of a peak during half of the scanning time. The mosaic spread was within normal limits. No absorption correction was considered necessary because the linear absorption coefficient μ is 8.8 cm^{-1} for this compound (MoK α radiation).

About 3700 independent intensities in the range $\theta = 3$ – 25° were determined, of which about 1000 reflections with $l \geq 10$ and with weak intensities ($< 0.7\%$ of strongest reflection) were not used. For the 2709 resulting reflections, h , k and l were in the ranges $-14 \leq h \leq 12$, $0 \leq k \leq 13$, $0 \leq l \leq 18$. The data were reduced to F_o values in the usual way by Lorentz and polarization corrections.

Because one of the crystal water molecules Oa had a rather high thermal parameter, it was decided to perform some thermal analysis experiments. Thermogravimetric and differential thermal analysis^{12,13} on a Dupont thermal analyzer 900/951 suggested the disappearance of half of the crystal water below 80°C . Unit cell dimensions were again determined in the three crystals after heating to 70 – 80°C during 12 hours (Table VII). For one of them intensities before and after heat treatment were determined and 834 reflections with $\theta < 25^\circ$ and $-7 \leq h \leq 7$, $0 \leq k \leq 6$, $0 \leq l \leq 7$ were selected for reducing to F_o values and subsequent Fourier synthesis investigation.

Structure Determination and Refinement

The structure was solved simultaneously by Patterson and direct methods. Both procedures gave the same positions for the titanium atoms. The direct methods resulted in a more distinct picture of the titanium and some oxygen atoms. Nine cycles of Fourier synthesis, using 650 strong reflections, were needed to obtain

the positions of all 34 independent non-hydrogen atoms, after which eleven cycles of least-squares refinement of the positions and isotropic temperature factors were applied*. Refinement was continued until all shifts were much less than the standard deviations. In view of the fact that the main purpose of this investigation was the determination of the type of complex units present in this compound, it was decided not to apply refinement with anisotropic thermal parameters, as this would have led to an extraordinary large increase of computing time.

One scale factor was used and four atomic scattering factors of Ti¹⁰, O, N and C¹¹ were applied. Anomalous dispersion and extinction influences were neglected. The function minimized was $\sum w(|F_o| - |F_c|)^2$. The weight for each reflection was $w = 1/\sigma^2$, in which σ was taken as $\sigma = 2S + 0.01 |F_o|$, where S is the standard deviation in F due to counting statistics. Reflections with $I < 2S_I$ in which S_I was the standard deviation in I , due to counting statistics, were treated as unobserved and were not considered in the refinement. The final R values after refinement were: $R = \sum(|F_o| - |F_c|)/\sum |F_o| = 0.070$, $R_w = (\sum w(|F_o| - |F_c|)^2 / \sum w F_o^2)^{1/2} = 0.092$. The number of reflections used was 2466.

A final difference Fourier synthesis did not show any significant peaks higher than 0.7 e/\AA^3 or 1.7% of the strongest peak. Observed and calculated structure factors are listed in Table I. The final positional and isotropic thermal parameters of 34 independent atoms are given in Table II.

For determining least-squares planes through the oxalate groups, the standard deviations of the fractional coordinates of the atoms were not taken into account, but the errors in the equation parameters and distances to the planes were calculated afterwards.

Results and Discussion

The compound turns out to consist of tetranuclear anions $[\text{Ti}_{0.5}\text{O}_{1.5}\text{O}_{1.5}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_2]_4^{8-}$ with eight ammonium and four water groups per anion. Because of the space group $P2_1/c$ half of these are independent, so each of the two tetramers per unit cell has $\bar{1}$ symmetry. Figure 1 gives a stereoscopic view of the unit cell, in which four full tetramers are drawn for clarity.

Half a tetramer, as illustrated¹⁵ in Figure 2, consists of two distorted octahedra of oxygen atoms around the titanium atoms Ti1 and Ti2, which share the bridging atom O5. The $\bar{1}$ antipod of Ti2 shares oxygen atom O6 with Ti1 while the $\bar{1}$ antipod of Ti1 shares

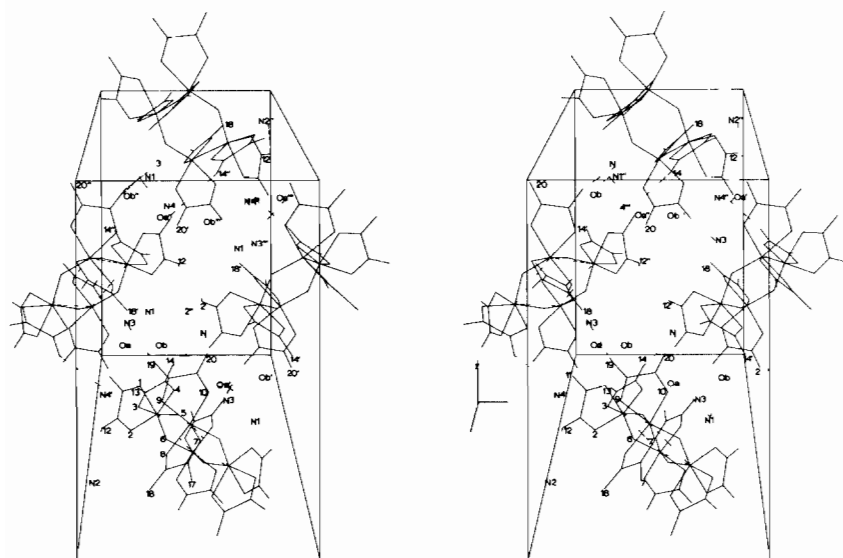
* All computations were performed on a I.B.M. 360/50 using the crystallographic program system of Twente University of Technology⁷, which contains modified versions of MAGIC⁸ and ORFLS⁹.

TABLE I. Observed and calculated structure factors F_o and $|F_c|$.

Table with 48 columns (h, k, l, F_o, PC, h, k, l, F_c, PC, h, k, l, F_o, PC, h, k, l, F_c, PC, h, k, l, F_o, PC, h, k, l, F_c, PC, h, k, l, F_o, PC, h, k, l, F_c, PC, h, k, l, F_o, PC) and 100 rows of numerical data.

TABLE I (Cont)

h	k	l	h ²	k ²	l ²	h ² + k ²	h ² + l ²	k ² + l ²	h ² + k ² + l ²
0	2	5	0	4	25	4	25	29	33
0	3	3	0	9	9	9	18	27	36
0	4	5	0	16	25	16	25	41	50
0	5	5	0	25	25	25	50	50	75
1	2	5	1	4	25	5	26	29	34
1	3	3	1	9	9	10	18	27	37
1	4	5	1	16	25	17	26	41	51
1	5	5	1	25	25	26	50	50	76
2	2	5	4	4	25	8	29	29	37
2	3	3	4	9	9	13	18	27	39
2	4	5	4	16	25	20	29	45	55
2	5	5	4	25	25	29	50	50	79
3	2	3	9	4	9	13	13	17	22
3	3	3	9	9	9	18	18	27	36
3	4	5	9	16	25	25	34	50	60
3	5	5	9	25	25	34	50	50	79
4	2	5	16	4	25	20	29	29	37
4	3	3	16	9	9	25	18	27	39
4	4	5	16	16	25	32	41	57	67
4	5	5	16	25	25	41	50	50	76
5	2	3	25	4	9	29	13	17	22
5	3	3	25	9	9	29	18	27	36
5	4	5	25	16	25	41	34	50	60
5	5	5	25	25	25	50	50	50	76



gs

Figure 1 Stereoscopic view¹⁴ of the unit cell with complete tetramers ammonium and water groups

TABLE II. Non-hydrogen Fractional Atomic Coordinates, Isotropic Temperature Factors and Standard Deviations of the Last Digit (in parentheses).*

	X	Y	Z	B		X	Y	Z	B
Ti1	3963(1)	3261(1)	0177(1)	144(3)	Ti2	6760(1)	4840(1)	1586(1)	141(3)
O1	4498(4)	2411(4)	1427(4)	194(9)	O7	8668(4)	5185(4)	2303(4)	191(9)
O2	5007(4)	1964(4)	0285(4)	221(10)	O8	7224(4)	3733(4)	0972(4)	216(9)
O3	2390(4)	2234(4)	-0523(4)	193(9)	O9	7301(4)	3523(4)	2585(4)	214(10)
O4	2844(4)	4187(4)	0343(4)	205(9)	O10	6882(4)	5706(4)	2610(4)	204(9)
O5	5184(4)	4363(4)	0899(4)	190(9)	O6''''*				
O6	3532(4)	3756(4)	-0943(4)	186(9)	O5				
C1	5245(6)	1537(6)	1700(6)	193(13)	C7	9200(6)	4608(6)	2026(6)	201(13)
C2	5637(6)	1346(7)	1066(6)	247(15)	C8	8347(6)	3680(7)	1266(6)	242(15)
O11	5693(5)	0970(5)	2423(4)	304(11)	O17	10284(5)	4723(5)	2285(4)	297(11)
O12	6493(5)	0669(5)	1295(4)	369(13)	O18	8751(5)	2972(5)	0972(5)	416(13)
C3	1492(6)	2613(6)	-0532(6)	209(14)	C9	7344(6)	3830(7)	3295(6)	223(14)
C4	1792(7)	3726(6)	0036(6)	240(14)	C10	7195(7)	5133(7)	3348(6)	277(15)
O13	0470(5)	2165(5)	-0973(4)	391(13)	O19	7555(5)	3145(5)	3917(4)	364(12)
O14	1089(5)	4126(5)	0197(5)	397(13)	O20	7415(6)	5601(6)	4060(5)	486(15)
N1	1610(6)	2742(6)	2287(5)	378(16)	N3	5731(6)	1884(6)	3982(5)	313(14)
N2	8111(6)	0451(6)	0753(5)	353(15)	N4	1510(6)	6033(6)	1459(5)	356(15)
Oa	0174(7)	1367(8)	0557(6)	778(22)	Ob	3827(5)	3505(5)	2539(4)	341(12)

* Atomic coordinates are $\times 10^4$, thermal parameters $\times 10^2$ (\AA^2); B is the coefficient in the expression $\exp[-B \sin^2 \theta / \lambda^2]$. The prime index (') means the transformation $1-x, 1-y, -z$ of the coordinates x, y, z (centre of symmetry in point $1/2, 1/2, 0$). In general the following indices will be used, in order of increasing z : () x, y, z , (') $1-x, 1/2+y, 1/2-z$, (') $x, 1/2-y, 1/2+z$, (') $1-x, 1-y, 1-z$, which represent the atoms of the halves of the four tetramers that are mainly within the unit cell depicted in Figure 1.

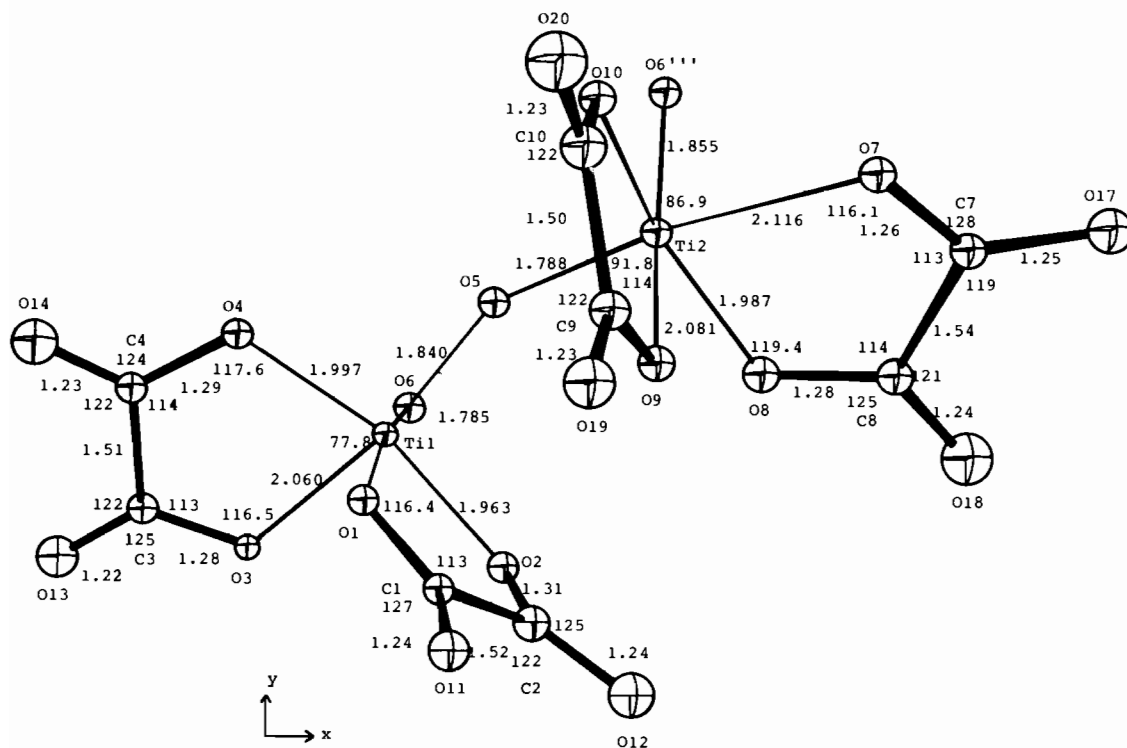
Figure 2. Configuration of the half tetramer, drawn by ORTEP.¹⁵

TABLE III. Bond Lengths (Å) and Bond Angles in the Two Distorted Octahedra and in the –O–Ti–O– Eight-membered Ring.*

Ti1–O1	2.101(7)	Ti2–O7	2.116(7)	O2–Ti1–O3	93.2(3)	O8–Ti2–O9	86.8(3)
Ti1–O2	1.963(7)	Ti2–O8	1.987(7)	O2–Ti1–O4	159.9(12)	O8–Ti2–O10	158.6(12)
Ti1–O3	2.060(7)	Ti2–O9	2.081(7)	O2–Ti1–O5	98.5(3)	O8–Ti2–O6'''	103.2(3)
Ti1–O4	1.997(7)	Ti2–O10	1.975(7)	O2–Ti1–O6	94.8(3)	O8–Ti2–O5	94.2(3)
Ti1–O5	1.840(7)	Ti2–O6'''	1.855(6)	O3–Ti1–O4	77.8(3)	O9–Ti2–O10	77.6(3)
Ti1–O6	1.785(7)	Ti2–O5	1.788(8)	O3–Ti1–O5	166.6(12)	O9–Ti2–O6'''	166.5(12)
O1–Ti1–O2	77.2(3)	O7–Ti2–O8	77.1(3)	O3–Ti1–O6	88.6(3)	O9–Ti2–O5	91.8(3)
O1–Ti1–O3	87.5(3)	O7–Ti2–O9	86.6(3)	O4–Ti1–O5	89.0(3)	O10–Ti2–O6'''	90.3(3)
O1–Ti1–O4	84.4(3)	O7–Ti2–O10	87.3(3)	O4–Ti1–O6	102.9(3)	O10–Ti2–O5	100.8(3)
O1–Ti1–O5	88.8(3)	O7–Ti2–O6'''	86.9(3)	O5–Ti1–O6	96.8(3)	O6'''–Ti2–O5	96.4(3)
O1–Ti1–O6	170.8(12)	O7–Ti2–O5	171.2(12)				
Ti1–Ti2	3.521(2)	Ti1–Ti1'''	5.080(2)	Ti2–Ti1–Ti2'''	85.76(5)	Ti1–Ti2–Ti1'''	94.24(5)
Ti1–Ti2'''	3.411(2)	Ti2–Ti2'''	4.717(2)	Ti1–O5–Ti2	152.1(5)	O6–O5–O6'''	106.6(4)
O5–O6	2.712(9)	O5–O5'''	3.243(9)	Ti1–O6–Ti2'''	139.2(4)	O5–O6–O5'''	73.4(3)
O5–O6'''	2.717(9)	O6–O6'''	4.353(9)				

* The use of standard deviations and of the prime index (') is the same as in Table II.

atom O6''' (the $\bar{1}$ antipod of O6) with Ti2. In this way the anion is a cyclo-tetra-di- μ -oxo-*cis*-dioxalato titanate(IV). It is interesting to note that this structure with an eight-membered ring is novel for Ti(IV) complexes, as such rings in other compounds have different features: in the example of $[\text{Ti}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4]_2$ the octahedra share edges instead of apices, so the bridging oxygen atoms are both two- and three-coordinated. In $[(\pi\text{-C}_5\text{H}_5)\text{TiClO}]_4$ ¹⁶ the eight-membered ring consists of tetrahedra sharing apices.

Bond angles and interatomic distances within the above mentioned octahedra and eight-membered ring are given in Table III. This ring is not planar, but because of the crystallographic symmetry consists of two intersecting planes, one of titanium and one of oxygen atoms. The titanium atoms Ti1 and Ti1''' lie, within experimental error, in the oxygen plane (distances to the plane +0.001 and –0.001 Å respectively).

In the first plane the Ti atoms nearly form a square (see Figure 3) with sides of 3.521(2) and 3.411(2) Å and angles of 85.76(5) and 94.24(5) degrees. The four oxygen atoms practically form a diamond with sides of 2.712(9), 2.717(9) Å and angles of 106.6(4) and 73.4(3) degrees. The angle between the two planes is 20.73°. The oxygen plane is oriented through the other plane in such a way that one diagonal of the diamond is shorter and the other longer than the sides of the square formed by the Ti atoms. The torsion angles of the ring were found to be –92.5, –43.2, +71.1, –127.6, +92.5°, etc., around the bonds O5–Ti1, Ti1–O6, O6–Ti2''', etc. The ring thus shows a peculiar kind of "chair" configuration.

The Ti–O distances in the ring are short: 1.840(7), 1.785(7) and 1.855(6), 1.788(8) Å alternatingly, which suggests a fair amount of $d\pi\text{-}p\pi$ bonding. A model has suggested that three-center two-electron bonds in each of the four Ti–O–Ti sets are quite pos-

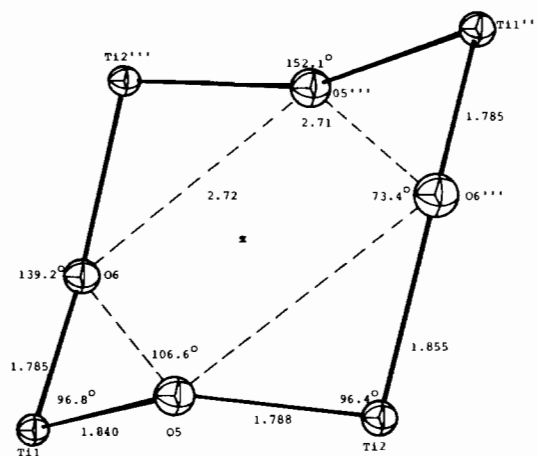


Figure 3. The eight-membered ring of the tetramer.

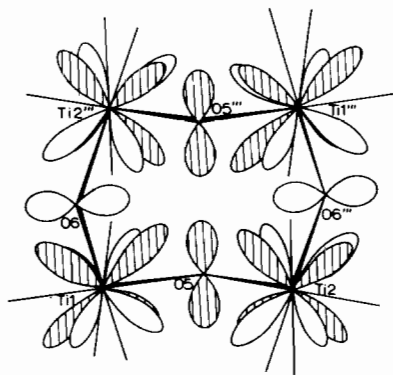


Figure 4. Possible $d\pi\text{-}p\pi$ 3-center 2-electron bonds in Ti–O–Ti sets of the eight-ring (shaded and unshaded areas).

sible. An outline which emphasizes the spatial configuration of the ring and these bonds is given in Figure 4. The angles Ti1–O5–Ti2 and Ti1–O6–Ti2''' are 152.1(5), and 139.2(4) degrees, respectively. In a simplified picture of nonequivalent hybrid orbitals¹⁷ the bridging oxygen atom could then have σ -bonds with two titanium atoms using two $sp^{1.13}$ or $sp^{1.32}$ hybrid orbitals, respectively.

For maximum overlap in the π -molecular orbitals it is to be expected that the O–Ti–O angles in the ring are greater than 90°, as they indeed are: O5–Ti1–O6 96.8(3)° and O6'''–Ti2–O5 96.4(3)°. The unequal Ti–O distances within each O–Ti–O set are due to the orientation of the orbitals, which chooses an optimum in which more perfectly parallel π -orbital pairs alternate with less perfectly parallel pairs. As could also be expected from charge displacement effects, the Ti–O distances *trans* to the bridging oxygen atoms are much longer, 2.060(7), 2.101(7), 2.081(7) and 2.116(7) Å (for the bonds between Ti1 and O3, O1 and between Ti2 and O9, O7 respectively). The magnitude of this *trans* effect within the pairs Ti1–O3, O1 and Ti2–O9, O7 is not directly related to the bond lengths in the ring, but the differences within the opposite pairs are probably too small to give a distinct effect.

The octahedral coordination around the titanium atom is severely distorted. Angles expected to be 90° in a perfect octahedron vary from 77 to 103° and the angles expected to be 180° differ from this by as much as 21°. As could be expected from the unequal shortening of the Ti-bridge oxygen bonds, the distortion is not simply digonal, which is well illustrated by the widely different angles O1–Ti1–O2 of 77.2(3)° and

O3–Ti1–O2 of 93.2(3)°, or its analogs in the other octahedron of 77.1(3)° and 86.8(3)°. The titanium atom is most nearly coplanar with the four oxygen atoms O1, O2, O6 and O4 (sum of equatorial angles 359.3°), in the other octahedron with O7, O8, O5 and O10 (sum of equatorial angles 359.4°).

In Table IV the bond lengths and angles in the four oxalate groups together with some other relevant details are grouped in such a way that another *trans* effect is easily observed. Speaking in general terms a "short" Ti–O distance leads to a "long" O–C distance which in turn leads to a shorter C–terminal O distance. This effect also explains that C1–O11, corresponding to a long Ti1–O1 distance, is longer than C2–O12, corresponding to a short Ti1–O2 distance. However, C4–O14 is longer than C3–O13, but apart from the large standard deviations which make this particular case disputable, this might be caused by hydrogen bonding with NH_4^+ . For comparison of the general trend of distances and angles in these oxalates, two other typical oxalate compounds are included in Table IV; one is ammonium uranyl trioxalate,¹⁸ an example of a metal–oxo oxalate complex in which the oxalate group has approximately the same features but is apparently more symmetric, due to the absence of "opposite" unequal metal–oxygen bonds. The other example is an acidic oxalate¹⁹ in which the oxalate group is even more unsymmetrical than in the titanil oxalate complex, due to the combination of the OH bond and hydrogen bonding to oxalate oxygen atoms. The carbon and oxygen atoms in the acidic oxalate are in a planar arrangement, in contrast to the four oxalate groups in Table IV.

TABLE IV. Bond Lengths (Å) and Angles (deg) in the Four Oxalate Chelates.

n*	C1–O11	C1–O1	Ti–O1	O11–C1–O1	O11–C1–C2	O1–C1–C2	Ti–O1–C1	C1–C2
0	1.241(10)	1.252(10)	2.101	126.8(10)	119.7(10)	113.5(9)	116.4(7)	1.517(14)
2	1.216(12)	1.275(12)	2.060	124.8(10)	121.7(10)	113.4(9)	116.5(7)	1.508(11)
6	1.250(13)	1.264(11)	2.116	127.8(11)	119.3(10)	112.8(9)	116.1(7)	1.544(12)
8	1.231(11)	1.268(11)	2.081	123.9(10)	122.2(10)	113.8(9)	115.3(7)	1.500(12)
a	1.22	1.26		129	119	112		1.56
b	1.257	1.236		127.17	114.40	118.43		1.549
n	C2–O12	C2–O2	Ti–O2	O12–C2–O2	O12–C2–C1	O2–C2–C1	Ti–O2–C2	
0	1.235(12)	1.309(10)	1.963	124.7(10)	122.2(10)	113.2(9)	118.6(7)	
2	1.227(14)	1.288(12)	1.997	124.1(10)	121.7(10)	114.2(9)	117.6(8)	
6	1.243(12)	1.275(12)	1.987	124.7(11)	121.2(10)	114.1(9)	119.4(7)	
8	1.226(12)	1.280(11)	1.975	123.7(10)	122.0(11)	114.2(9)	118.4(8)	
a	1.22	1.26		127	119	115		
b	1.204	1.304		125.29	121.61	113.10		

* Corresponding bonds and angles are grouped together. The headings C1–O11 *etc.* should actually be read as C(1 + n)–O(11 + n) *etc.*, in which the running number n takes four different values for the oxalate groups Ti1–O1, O2; Ti1–O3, O4; Ti2–O7, O8; Ti2–O9, O10. For comparison data of two other more or less asymmetric oxalate groups are added: a, $(NH_4)_4UO_2(C_2O_4)_3$ ¹⁸ and b, $NH_4HC_2O_4 \cdot 1/2H_2O$.¹⁹

TABLE V. Least-squares Planes through the Oxalate Groups.*

Nr. of plane n	A (for 6, 7 atoms respectively)	B	C	D	Σ	Displacements of 6, 7 atoms resp. (Å)						
						Ti	C (1+n)	C (2+n)	O (1+n)	O (2+n)	O (11+n)	O (12+n)
0	-.5158	-.7004	-.4906	5.176	.026		.012	.012	-.091	.078	.070	-.082
	-.5318	-.6703	-.5176	5.269	.026	-.078	.023	.024	-.031	.141	.035	-.115
2	-.1405	-.5563	.8190	2.636	.033		.011	-.005	.091	-.093	-.090	.086
	-.1531	-.5568	.8164	2.664	.034	.023	.008	-.008	.073	-.112	-.080	.096
6	-.2119	-.6643	.7168	3.593	.019		.007	.008	.067	-.075	-.068	.062
	-.2150	-.6633	.7168	3.621	.019	-.006	.008	.009	.072	-.071	-.071	.059
8	-.8876	-.1336	-.4407	8.360	.030		.023	.021	-.100	.079	.068	-.091
	-.8909	-.1346	-.4338	8.351	.031	.014	.021	.019	-.111	.068	.075	-.086

* The equation used is $Ax + By + Cz - D = 0$, where A, B and C are direction cosines and D is the perpendicular distance from the origin to the plane. Σ is the sum of the squares of the deviations of the atoms from the plane. The equation is related to a Cartesian \hat{A} coordinate system with z in the ac-plane and x and y along the a- and b-axis respectively. The approximate standard deviations are: in A-C ± 0.0005 , in D ± 0.004 , in Ti ± 0.002 , C ± 0.009 , O ± 0.006 -0.007.

TABLE VI. Hydrogen Bond Distances (Å) and Angles (deg) of NH_4^+ and H_2O .*

Distance		Angle symbol	Angle	Distance		Angle symbol	Angle
N1-O17 ^a	2.867	17-N-b	110.7	N3-O19	2.903	19-N-11	71.1
N1-Ob	2.878	17-N-a	113.3	N3-O11	2.911	19-N-b	88.9
N1-Oa	2.905	b-N-a	107.6	N3-Ob	2.939	11-N-b	83.7
N2-O20 ^{re}	2.807	20-N-12	123.7	N4-O14	2.905	14-N-14'''	67.7
N2-O12	2.867	20-N-17	133.4	N4-O14'' ^h	2.935	14-N-19	110.1
N2-O17 ^{ic}	2.899	20-N-18	116.0	N4-O19'	2.958	14'''-N-19	104.0
N2-O18	2.941	12-N-17	78.4	(N4-O11')	3.037)		
		12-N-18	95.4	(N4-O13'' ^h)	3.048)		
		17-N-18	99.7				
Oa-N1	2.905	N-O-20	88.1	Ob-O11'	2.858	11-O-N1	119.8
(Oa-O20 rd)	3.023)	N-O-18	62.9	Ob-N1	2.878	11-O-N3	121.5
(Oa-O18 ^a)	3.032)	N-O-19	125.4	Ob-N3	2.939	N1-O-N3	103.6
(Oa-O19'' ^f)	2.990)	20-O-18	150.2				
		20-O-19	139.4				
		18-O-19	64.7				
O11-Ob rd	2.858	b-11-N3	116.7	O14-N4	2.905	N4-14-N4'''	112.3
O11-N3	2.911			O14-N4'' ^h	2.935		
(O11-N4 rd)	3.037)						
O17 ^a -N1	2.867	N1-17-N2	101.6	O18-N2	2.941	N-18-O	64.2
O17 ^a -N2'	2.899			(O18-Oa ^b)	3.032)		
O19-N3	2.903	N3-19-N4	95.4	O20-N2''	2.807	N-20-O	104.6
O19-N4 rd	2.958			(O20-Oa')	3.023)		
(O19-Oa'' ⁸)	2.990)						

* Data of distances and angles between N1-N4, Oa and Ob and oxalate oxygen atoms are given, some of which are repeated for giving the angles at the oxygen atoms. Bonds placed between parentheses are considered less important. Approximate standard deviations are 0.013 Å and 0.5° respectively. The additional indices^{a-h} indicate atoms outside the cell or not "belonging" to the half tetramers within the cell. They represent the following transformations: (a) x-1, y, z, (b) x+1, y, z, (c) 2-x, y-1/2, 1/2-z, (d) 1-x, y-1/2, 1/2-z, (e) x, 1/2-y, z-1/2, (f) x-1, 1/2-y, z-1/2, (g) x+1, 1/2-y, 1/2+z, (h) -x, 1-y, -z.

Planes of best fit through the oxalate groups have been calculated and are given in Table V, with the deviations of the atoms from the planes. It can be concluded that the displacements of the oxygen and titanium atoms are not within the range of experimental errors, so the atomic arrangements are definitely non-planar. If the twist angles of O–C–O parts relative to each other are calculated, they turn out to be 9.1, 9.3, 7.3 and 11.0 degrees for the oxalate groups in the order $n = 0, 2, 6, 8$, respectively.

It is remarkable that the deviations of especially the oxygen atoms (looking through columns) follow a pattern of up and down displacements in such a way that the first plane is somewhat similar to the fourth and the second to the third. In other words the direction of rotation angles of twisting can be defined negative, positive, positive, negative. The effect is not simply a matter of numbering, because the atoms in the columns have the same characteristic of *e.g.* long or normal Ti–O distance. Probably in this way the least steric hindering is achieved.

As could be expected, the oxalate “planes” are nearly perpendicular to each other within one titanium unit: the angles between plane 0 and 2 (defined without Ti) and between 6 and 8 are 86.5 and 92.2° respectively. Plane 2 is nearly parallel with 6 (difference about 9.5°) and the angle between planes 0 and 8 is about 39.6°.

In Table VI hydrogen bond distances between terminal oxalate oxygen atoms and NH_4^+ or H_2O and some angles are given. Some of them have also been designated in Figure 1. There are four independent NH_4^+ ions N1 to N4 and two H_2O groups Oa and Ob. Distances greater than 3.09 Å have not been given in the table, thus the bridging oxygen atoms O5 (distance to nearest atom N3' 3.167 Å) and O6 (to N1'' 3.112, to N3'' 3.129 Å) have not been included.

From the table it can be seen that the NH_4^+ group N1 is the most perfectly surrounded by O17^a and the two water groups. With the other groups bent hydrogen

bonds are apparently prevailing. The shortest distance turns out to be 2.81 Å, for N2–O20''^c; most of them are in the range of 2.86–2.96 Å.

It is interesting to note that within this range some of the terminal oxalate oxygen atoms have bifurcated connections to NH_4^+ and/or H_2O . The forked hydrogen bonds appear to be linked to those oxygen atoms which already have relatively long bond distances to carbon (see also Table IV).

The ammonium groups N1 and N3 act as hydrogen donors towards the water molecules Oa and/or Ob. Ob has a rather strong hydrogen bond to the oxygen atom O11' and weaker bonds to N1 and N3, while Oa, according to Table VI, must be more weakly bonded to its environment.

Because it was just this last water molecule which showed a rather high thermal parameter (Table II), it was decided to compare these features of the hydrogen bonding with some thermal analysis experiments. It was already known^{12,13} that on heating the compound the crystal water leaves in two steps, as is illustrated in Figure 5. The first half disappears quite easily between 30 and 80°C, without disturbing the crystal structure. Determination of unit cell dimensions of crystals heated to 80°C (Table VII) showed that all cell parameters became smaller on heating, resulting in a reduction of cell volume by 1.6%. Crystal species II apparently showed an incomplete removal of the first half of crystal water.

A Fourier synthesis (Figure 6) made by using the differences in structure factors of the same crystal before and after heat treatment showed a strong peak at the place of the water group Oa, and nowhere else. This shows that it is this water molecule Oa, with the high thermal parameter, which is driven out upon heating at 80°C and is thus held to the crystal very loosely compared to the other crystal water group Ob.

Calculation of the endothermic heat effects involved resulted in a value of $\Delta H = 26.8 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ for the second water loss. It was not possible to calculate the

TABLE VII. Variation of Unit cell Dimensions with Dehydration at 80°C, at which Temperature Half of the Crystal Water was Removed.

Crystal specimen	a		b		c		β	
	With H_2O	With $\frac{1}{2} \text{H}_2\text{O}$	With H_2O	With $\frac{1}{2} \text{H}_2\text{O}$	With H_2O	With $\frac{1}{2} \text{H}_2\text{O}$	With H_2O	With $\frac{1}{2} \text{H}_2\text{O}$
I	13.476	13.395	11.329	11.259	17.649	17.478	126.68	126.29
II	13.471	13.429	11.329	11.280	17.643	17.545	126.65	126.47
III	13.473	13.396	11.331	11.267	17.646	17.483	126.66	126.29

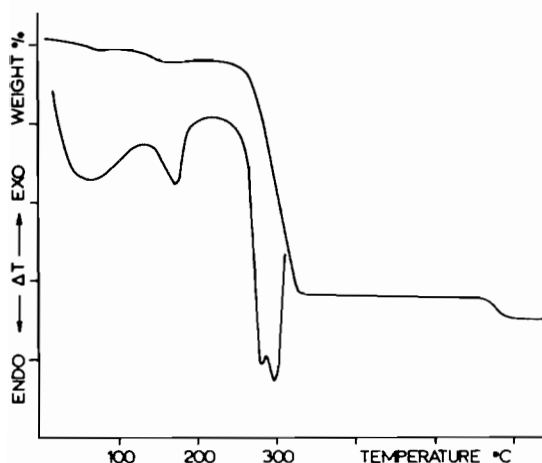


Figure 5. TGA and DTA curves for decomposition of $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{TiO}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$. Heating rate $10^\circ\text{C}/\text{min}$.

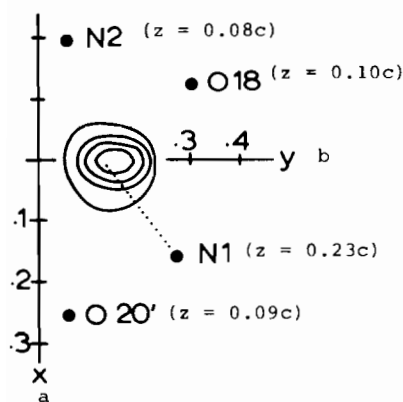


Figure 6. The H_2O group Oa at section $z = 0.05c$ between some neighbouring atoms, as revealed by a difference Fourier synthesis, using structure factors of the same crystal with and without half of the crystal water.

corresponding heat effect for the first water molecule. However, it could be qualitatively deduced from the DTA results that the heat effect was decidedly smaller, which together with the lower decomposition temperature confirms the difference in bond strength with which the two water groups Oa and Ob are held.

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