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The Crystal and Molecular Structure of 3 β -Acetoxy-17 α -hydroxy-16 β -bromo-5 α -pregnan-11,20-dione*

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The crystal structure of 3 β -acetoxy-17 α -hydroxy-16 β -bromo-5 α -pregnan-11,20-dione has been determined by three-dimensional X-ray analysis and refined to a final R value of 0.090. Unit cell constants are $a=11.521$, $b=19.587$, $c=10.390$ Å, space group $P2_12_12_1$. Standard deviations for bond lengths and angles are in the ranges of 0.02–0.03 Å and 1–2° respectively. Neighboring molecules are hydrogen bonded *via* the 11-ketone and 17-hydroxyl groups. Molecular geometry and packing of the molecules are discussed.

Introduction

Many hypotheses may be formulated in an attempt to explain the molecular stacking arrangements of steroids in the crystalline state, such as the presence or absence of heavy atoms, angular methyl groups, side chains, *etc.* (Norton, 1965; Norton & Ohrt, 1966). The present paper presents the first in a series of structure determinations undertaken to augment the information presently available in this area. Three steroids of the 5 α -pregnane series have been selected. Two, 3 β ,17 α -dihydroxy-21-bromo-5 α -pregnan-11,20-dione and 3 β ,17 α -dihydroxy-16 β -bromo-5 α -pregnan-11,20-dione, are isomers, the difference being in the position of attachment of the heavy atom; the third varies in that it has an acetate side chain attached to carbon 3, namely, 3 β -acetoxy-17 α -hydroxy-16 β -bromo-5 α -pregnan-11,20-dione (Fig. 1), the structure of which is herein presented.

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Experimental

Crystals of the steroid were grown from methanol and from 95% ethanol solutions by slow evaporation at room temperature. These solvents provided two different crystal modifications: monoclinic from methanol and orthorhombic from ethanol. Crystal data for the two modifications are:

$$\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{33}\text{O}_5\text{Br}, M = 469.43 \quad \lambda (\text{Cu K}\alpha) = 1.5418 \text{ \AA}$$

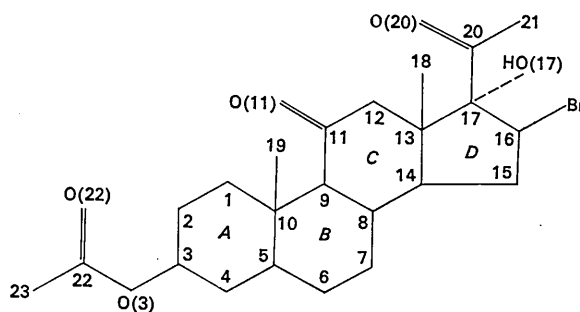


Fig. 1. 3 β -Acetoxy-17 α -hydroxy-16 β -bromo-5 α -pregnan-11,20-dione. Schematic drawing showing the numbering scheme used in the discussion.

Monoclinic modification

Solvent methanol, $a = 7.142 \pm 0.001$, $b = 26.208 \pm 0.008$, $c = 7.088 \pm 0.001$ Å, $\beta = 113.56 \pm 0.02^\circ$, $V_0 = 1216.18$ Å³, $D_m = 1.292 \pm 0.005$ g.cm⁻³, $Z = 2$, $D_c = 1.274$ g.cm⁻³. Space group $P2_1$ (C_2^2 ; no. 4). Thin plates.

Orthorhombic modification

Solvent ethanol, $a = 11.521 \pm 0.003$, $b = 19.587 \pm 0.001$, $c = 10.390 \pm 0.001$ Å, $V_0 = 2344.63$ Å³, $D_m = 1.314 \pm 0.005$ g.cm⁻³, $Z = 4$, $D_c = 1.321$ g.cm⁻³. Space group $P2_12_12_1$ (D_2^2 ; no. 19). Prismatic blocks.

Owing to the more regular nature of the orthorhombic crystals, these were used for the intensity measurements, for which a crystal of dimensions $0.3 \times 0.1 \times 0.05$ mm was selected. Intensity measurements were made with a General Electric single-crystal orienter by the stationary-counter-stationary-crystal method using balanced nickel and cobalt filters (ten seconds count with each filter). A total of 2396 reflections were measured with the use of Cu $K\alpha$ radiation. Approximate absorption corrections were applied and the intensities were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects.

A three-dimensional Patterson synthesis was computed from $|F^2|$ values modified to represent point atoms with thermal motion, and the bromine atom was located from the Harker sections. The positions of the other twenty-eight carbon and oxygen atoms in the asymmetric unit were determined by routine application of the heavy atom method. No attempt was made to locate the hydrogen atoms.

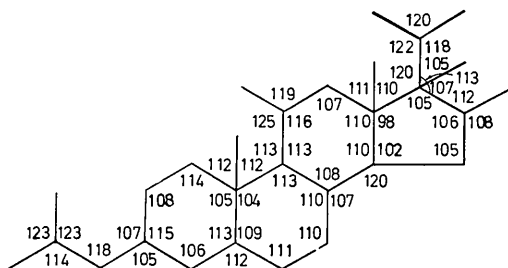
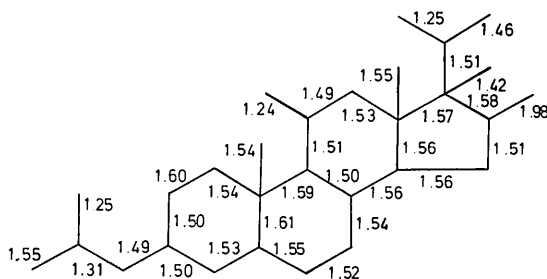


Fig. 2. Interatomic distances and angles. Standard deviations are in the ranges of 0.02 and 0.03 Å and 1–2° respectively.

The positional and thermal parameters of all atoms and the anisotropic thermal parameters of the bromine atom were refined by block-diagonal least squares in which the bromine atom and C(16), to which the bromine atom is bonded, were included in a single enlarged (13 × 13) matrix block to take account of interaction between these two atoms. The refinement converged with an R index (defined as $\sum ||F_o| - |F_c||/|F_o|$) of 0.090 omitting 'unobserved' reflections. During the refinement, the atomic scattering factors used were those given in *International Tables for X-ray Crystallography* (1962) and the bromine scattering factors were corrected for the real part of the anomalous dispersion correction only. The quantity minimized was $\sum w(|F_o| - |F_c|)^2$ where $w^{1/2} = 1$ if $|F_o| \leq 20$ and $w^{1/2} = 20/|F_o|$ if $|F_o| > 20$. The refined parameters are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Positional and vibrational parameters of the atoms

The standard deviations in the last two digits of each number are given in parenthesis.

	x/a	y/b	z/c	$B(\text{iso})$
Br	0.5236 (2)	0.3261 (1)	1.0087 (3)	6.32 (-)*
O(3)	0.4402 (11)	0.9264 (6)	1.0303 (12)	4.72 (27)
O(11)	0.3520 (12)	0.6323 (7)	0.7226 (13)	5.25 (30)
O(17)	0.2183 (10)	0.4350 (6)	1.0094 (14)	4.61 (25)
O(20)	0.3159 (13)	0.3731 (7)	0.7383 (14)	5.32 (30)
O(22)	0.2556 (17)	0.9607 (10)	1.0128 (21)	9.64 (49)
C(1)	0.3472 (18)	0.7581 (9)	0.8765 (18)	4.54 (42)
C(2)	0.3780 (17)	0.8375 (9)	0.8851 (18)	4.25 (40)
C(3)	0.4013 (16)	0.8538 (9)	1.0241 (19)	4.58 (39)
C(4)	0.4979 (17)	0.8133 (9)	1.0839 (19)	4.34 (41)
C(5)	0.4584 (15)	0.7388 (8)	1.0799 (17)	3.52 (34)
C(6)	0.5438 (21)	0.6909 (11)	1.1512 (23)	5.93 (52)
C(7)	0.4965 (17)	0.6184 (9)	1.1600 (20)	4.57 (41)
C(8)	0.4733 (15)	0.5900 (8)	1.0245 (17)	3.66 (32)
C(9)	0.3912 (14)	0.6361 (7)	0.9530 (15)	2.74 (31)
C(10)	0.4403 (16)	0.7111 (8)	0.9351 (17)	3.58 (36)
C(11)	0.3455 (17)	0.6052 (9)	0.8297 (19)	4.17 (39)
C(12)	0.2908 (15)	0.5363 (8)	0.8408 (16)	3.16 (33)
C(13)	0.3795 (16)	0.4896 (9)	0.9065 (17)	3.73 (37)
C(14)	0.4121 (14)	0.5196 (7)	1.0410 (14)	2.92 (32)
C(15)	0.4770 (19)	0.4586 (10)	1.1057 (18)	5.00 (43)
C(16)	0.4107 (19)	0.3959 (10)	1.0657 (20)	4.83 (42)
C(17)	0.3278 (15)	0.4198 (7)	0.9529 (15)	2.88 (33)
C(18)	0.4862 (18)	0.4774 (9)	0.8193 (18)	4.57 (39)
C(19)	0.5532 (18)	0.7122 (10)	0.8563 (19)	4.54 (42)
C(20)	0.3033 (18)	0.3639 (9)	0.8568 (19)	4.44 (41)
C(21)	0.2516 (20)	0.3004 (11)	0.9034 (23)	5.70 (51)
C(22)	0.3608 (19)	0.9738 (10)	1.0249 (21)	5.76 (47)
C(23)	0.4112 (20)	1.0474 (11)	1.0196 (23)	5.89 (47)

* Equivalent $B(\text{iso})$. The anisotropic thermal parameters for the bromine atom in the form $\exp[-\sum(h_i h_j b_{ij} \times 10^{-5})]$ are:

b_{11}	b_{22}	b_{33}	b_{12}	b_{31}	b_{23}
1176 (19)	369 (6)	1635 (28)	262 (10)	-44 (28)	38 (15)

Discussion

The least-squares planes through important regions of the steroid nucleus, distances of atoms from these planes and interplanar angles are given in Table 2 and the interatomic distances and angles are summarized in Fig. 2. The least-squares planes through rings A, B, C, and D are almost parallel [Table 2(c)] and the r.m.s.

Table 2(a). Least-squares planes through the atoms*

Plane	Atoms	<i>l</i>	<i>m</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>p</i>
A1	C(2), C(3), C(4)	0.6558	0.7021	-0.2774	11.823
A2	C(1), C(2), C(4), C(5)	0.8093	-0.1920	-0.5551	-4.700
A3B1	C(1), C(5), C(6), C(10)	0.7406	0.5942	-0.3138	8.956
B2	C(6), C(7), C(9), C(10)	0.7944	-0.3529	-0.4943	-5.698
B3C1	C(7), C(8), C(9), C(11)	0.7724	0.4709	-0.4263	5.051
C2	C(8), C(11), C(12), C(14)	0.7167	-0.4106	-0.5637	-6.855
C3D1	C(12), C(13), C(14), C(15)	0.8164	0.4067	-0.4100	3.512
D2	C(13), C(15), C(16), C(17)	0.7205	-0.3944	-0.5703	-6.067
D3	C(14), C(15), C(16), C(17)	-0.7020	0.0681	0.7090	4.977
A	C(1), C(2), C(3), C(4), C(5), C(10)	0.8487	0.1265	-0.5135	0.825
B	C(5), C(6), C(7), C(8), C(9), C(10)	0.8775	-0.0293	-0.4787	-0.884
C	C(8), C(9), C(11), C(12), C(13), C(14)	0.8055	-0.1069	-0.5829	-3.281
D	C(13), C(14), C(15), C(16), C(17)	0.8061	-0.1925	-0.5596	-3.891
C(1)-C(17)		0.8275	-0.0550	-0.5587	-2.486

* The planes are in the form $lx + my + nz = p$, where x, y, z and p are in Å and x, y and z are referred to the crystal axes with $x||a, y||b$ and $z||c$.

Table 2(b). Distances from the least-squares planes

	A	B	C	D	A2	A3B1	B2	B3C1	C2	C3D1	D2	D3	C(1)-C(17)	
C(1)	-0.23				0.03	-0.03								-0.11
C(2)	0.22				-0.03									0.05
C(3)	-0.25				-0.68									-0.55
C(4)	0.27				0.03									0.07
C(5)	-0.27	-0.28			-0.03	0.03	-0.76							-0.21
C(6)		0.26				-0.03	-0.01							0.24
C(7)		-0.22					0.01	-0.07						-0.18
C(8)		0.23	0.23				0.69	-0.06	0.02					0.42
C(9)		-0.27	-0.19				-0.01	0.08	-0.61					-0.00
C(10)	0.25	0.28			0.74	0.03	0.01							0.49
C(11)			0.19					-0.08	-0.02					0.31
C(12)			-0.24						0.02	-0.09				-0.20
C(13)			0.29	0.30					0.74	0.10	0.06	-0.72		0.32
C(14)			-0.29	-0.29					-0.02	0.07	0.69	0.05		-0.19
C(15)				0.16						-0.08	-0.07	-0.08		0.12
C(16)				0.02							0.10	0.08		-0.21
C(17)				-0.19							-0.10	-0.05		-0.37

deviation of atoms C(1)-C(17) from the least-squares plane through the steroid nucleus is 0.28 Å. The length of the steroid nucleus [C(3)-C(16)] is 8.98 Å. Rings A, B, C, and D are *trans*-fused and rings A, B, and C are chair shaped. Ring D has a distorted half-chair configuration with torsional angles C(14)-C(15)-C(16)-C(17) and C(15)-C(16)-C(17)-C(13) of +13° and +17° respectively.

Table 2(c). Interplanar angles

Plane 1	Plane 2	Angle
A1	A2	123°
A3B1	A2	131
A3B1	B2	122
B3C1	B2	131
B3C1	C2	127
C3D1	C2	130
C3D1	D2	131
C3D1	D3	33
A	B	171
B	C	171
C	D	175
C(1)-C(17)	(100)	146
C(1)-C(17)	(010)	87
C(1)-C(17)	(001)	56

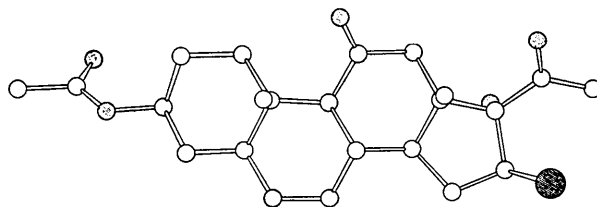
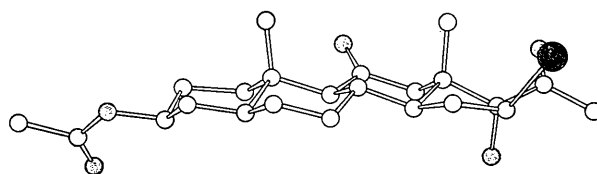


Fig. 3. Perspective views of the molecule. Large shaded circles: Br; small shaded circles: O; open circles: C. The plane of the acetate side chain lies at 55° to that of the A ring and that of the acetyl group at 40° to that of the D ring.

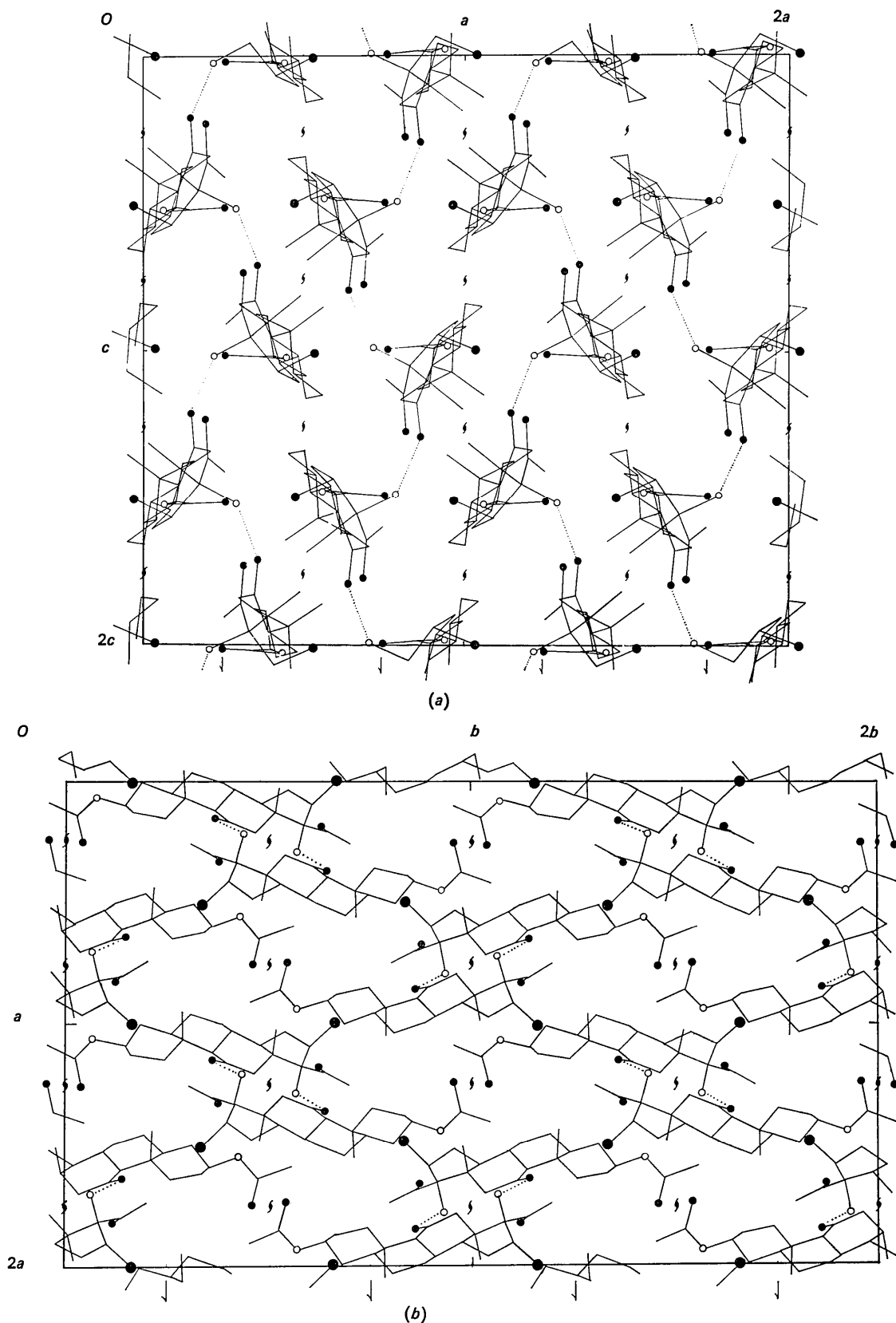


Fig. 4. Projections of four unit cells onto the planes (a) (010), (b) (001). The hydrogen bonding between the 17 α -hydroxyl and the 11-keto oxygen is shown by dotted lines.

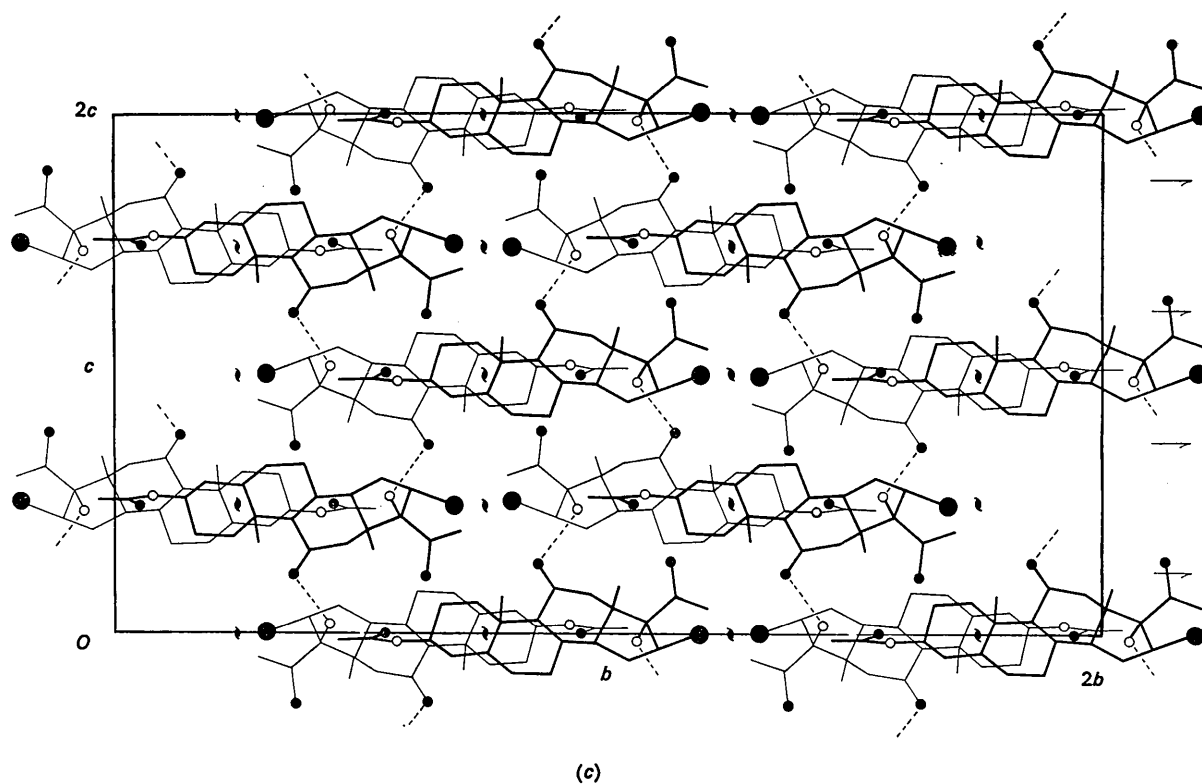


Fig.4 (cont.) (c) Projection of four unit cells onto the plane (100).

Table 3. Intermolecular distances less than 4.0 Å

The equivalent positions are:

1	x	y	z
2	$\frac{1}{2}-x$	\bar{y}	$\frac{1}{2}+z$
3	\bar{x}	$\frac{1}{2}-y$	$\frac{1}{2}-z$

O(20)-C(14) (2/01 $\bar{1}$) means O(20) at equivalent position 1 to [C(14) at equivalent position 2, translated one unit cell in the y direction and one unit cell in the z direction].

	Position	Distance		Position	Distance
O(11)-O(17)	2/01 $\bar{1}$	2.70 Å	C(12)-C(15)	2/01 $\bar{1}$	3.94 Å
O(11)-C(16)	2/01 $\bar{1}$	3.48	C(12)-C(16)	2/01 $\bar{1}$	3.92
O(11)-C(17)	2/01 $\bar{1}$	3.63	C(18)-O(3)	3/1 $\bar{1}$	3.86
O(11)-C(21)	2/01 $\bar{1}$	3.76	O(20)-C(2)	3/1 $\bar{1}$	3.82
C(11)-O(17)	2/01 $\bar{1}$	3.50	O(20)-C(19)	3/1 $\bar{1}$	3.63
C(12)-O(17)	2/01 $\bar{1}$	3.49	C(18)-C(2)	3/1 $\bar{1}$	3.80
O(20)-C(7)	2/01 $\bar{1}$	3.70	C(18)-C(22)	3/1 $\bar{1}$	3.99
O(20)-C(9)	2/0 $\bar{1}$ 1	3.81	C(18)-C(23)	3/1 $\bar{1}$	3.96
O(20)-C(14)	2/01 $\bar{1}$	3.94	C(21)-C(19)	3/1 $\bar{1}$	3.92

The acetate side chain [C(3), O(3), C(22), O(22), and C(23)] is planar but this plane lies at 55° to the plane of the A ring, instead of being perpendicular to it as might be expected (Mathieson, 1965), (see Fig.3). This effect is due to the steric hindrance between the acetate

group of one molecule and the C(18) methyl group of adjacent molecules, which approach each other to within 3.8 Å. The acetyl side chain is planar, lying at 40° to the plane of the D ring and C(13) lies in this plane.

