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# $\mathrm{CuWO}_{4}$, a Distorted Wolframite-Type Structure 

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#### Abstract

The crystal structure of $\mathrm{CuWO}_{4}$, previously reported by the authors to be of a distorted wolframite type, has been refined from single-crystal X-ray diffractometer data. The least-squares procedure including anisotropic thermal parameters resulted in a conventional $R=0.029$. The structure is triclinic, space group $P \overline{1}$, with unit-cell dimensions $a=4.7026( \pm 6), b=5.8389( \pm 7), c=4.8784( \pm 6) ~ \AA, \alpha=$ $91.677( \pm 9), \beta=92.469( \pm 7)$ and $\gamma=82.805( \pm 10)^{\circ}$. The copper atom is surrounded by six oxygen atoms, four of these in an approximately square planar configuration and the remaining two at a longer distance completing an elongated octahedron. The tungsten atom is located within a slightly distorted octahedron but is considerably displaced from its centre. Interatomic distances and angles are given. The refinement gave no evidence for oxygen deficiency and new density measurements have given values which, although still somewhat low, are closer to that expected for stoichiometric composition than was the previously reported value.


## Introduction

In a previous communication from this Institute we reported a preliminary investigation of the crystal structure of copper tungstate, $\mathrm{CuWO}_{4}$, which we found to be a distorted version of the wolframite type (Gebert \& Kihlborg, 1967). Density measurements led us to believe that our samples were strongly oxygen deficient; hence we preferred to give the formula as $\mathrm{CuWO}_{4-x}$. The study was based on photographically recorded X-ray diffraction intensities obtained from a twinned crystal. The relatively poor quality of the data limited the degree of accuracy that could be achieved. The final $R$ value was $0 \cdot 20$.

[^0]When the preliminary investigation had reached a final stage we found an untwinned single crystal of the phase. This paper reports a refinement of the structure based on diffractometer data obtained from this crystal.

## Experimental

The crystal was selected from a sample prepared by heating an equimolar mixture of CuO and $\mathrm{WO}_{3}$ (reagent grade) in an evacuated platinum tube for 4 days at $800^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. The preparation did not appear homogeneous under the microscope; it contained both light yellow, well-developed crystals and ambercoloured pieces with a glassy appearence. Its powder pattern, however, showed only the lines characteristic for $\mathrm{CuWO}_{4-x}$ (Gebert \& Kihlborg, 1967) and singlecrystal photographs revealed that both types of crys-
tal were structurally identical although all species of the clear yellow type that were examined exhibited polysynthetic twinning. The crystals were twinned across (010).

The unit-cell dimensions given in Table 1 were obtained from a powder pattern recorded in a GuinierHägg focusing camera using $\mathrm{Cu} K \alpha_{1}$ radiation and KCl as internal standard ( $a=6 \cdot 2919 \AA$ ). The lattice parameters were refined using a least-squares program written by P.-E. Werner at this Institute. Powder patterns were recorded from several samples prepared but no significant variations in the cell dimensions were observed.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Table 1. Crystallographic data for } \mathrm{CuWO}_{4} \\
& \text { Symmetry: triclinic, space group } P \bar{I} \\
& \text { Unit-cell dimensions: } \\
& a=4.7026( \pm 6) \AA \quad \alpha=91.677( \pm 9)^{\circ} \\
& b=5.8389( \pm 7) \quad \beta=92.469( \pm 7) \\
& c=4.8784( \pm 6) \quad y=82 \cdot 805( \pm 10) \\
& V=132.73 \AA^{3} \\
& Z=2 \\
& \text { Density: } D_{\text {meas }}=7.61-7.65 \mathrm{~g} . \mathrm{cm}^{-3} \\
& D_{\text {calc }}=7.790{\mathrm{~g} . \mathrm{cm}^{-3}}^{-3}
\end{aligned}
$$

A chemical analysis of the phase gave $20.66 \%$ (by weight) copper versus the theoretical $20 \cdot 40 \%$ copper content in $\mathrm{CuWO}_{4}$.

The density of the phase was determined previously by pycnometric measurements and was reported to be $D=7 \cdot 44( \pm 7) \mathrm{g} . \mathrm{cm}^{-3}$. This value is rather low compared with that calculated for $\mathrm{CuWO}_{4}$ (Table 1) and was the main reason for our believing that this phase normally exhibits a considerable oxygen deficiency. New measurements, using a slightly more refined pycnometric technique, have been made on another sample which gave values within the range 7.61$7.65 \mathrm{g.cm}^{-3}$. Although still low compared with the value calculated for $\mathrm{CuWO}_{4}$, the difference is not necessarily significant since systematic errors of this sign and magnitude are sometimes encountered in density determinations on fine powders. Considering the light colour and transparency of the crystals as well as the result of the structure refinement, reported below, we do not believe that the specimen used in our investigation was significantly oxygen deficient. The stoichiometry of $\mathrm{CuWO}_{4}$ under various conditions will be the subject of a separate study at this Institute.

The single-crystal studied was amber-coloured, transparent and roughly prismatic with a length (along a) of 0.22 mm and a maximum cross section of 0.085 mm . It was mounted on a manual diffractometer (General Electric Single Crystal Orienter) and angle settings were made for the 1111 reciprocal lattice points for which $l \geq 0$ and $\sin ^{2} \theta \leq 0.30(d>0.649 \AA)$. The intensities were recorded according to the $\theta-2 \theta$ scan technique using Nb -filtered Mo $K$ radiation.
All intensities for which $I / \sigma(I)<1 \cdot 25$ ( $I=$ net intensity, $\sigma=$ standard deviation based on counting statistics) were rejected which left a set of 998 values for use in the refinement.

## Refinement

The data were corrected for Lorentz and polarization factors and also for the effect of absorption using a local version of the program of Coppens, Leiserowitz \& Rabinovich (1965) modified by O. Olofsson and M. Elfström, University of Uppsala. The total linear absorption coefficient was assumed to be $\mu=539 \cdot 4$ $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$.
Starting from the parameters reported previously (Gebert \& Kihlborg, 1967) the initial least-squares cycles were carried out with use of a block-diagonal matrix program (SFLS, written by S. Åsbrink, Univ. of Stockholm and C.-I. Brändén, University of Uppsala, modified for 1BM 1800 by B. Brandt, University of Stockholm). A full-matrix program ( $L A L S$, a local version of the program UCLALS by Gantzel, Sparks \& Trueblood modified by R. Liminga, J.-O. Lundgren and C.-I. Brändén, University of Uppsala) was used in the final stage.
The HFS atomic scattering factors given by Hanson, Herman, Lea \& Skillman (1964) were used and the complex anomalous dispersion correction calculated by Cromer (1965) was applied to the copper and tungsten values in the last cycles of refinement. The least-squares programs used minimize the function $\sum w\left(\left|F_{o}\right|-\left|F_{c}\right|\right)^{2}$ and the weights were calculated according to the expression suggested by Cruickshank,

$$
w=\left(A+\left|F_{o}\right|+C\left|F_{o}\right|^{2}+D\left|F_{o}\right|^{3}\right)^{-1} .
$$

By inspection of the weight analysis the following values of the constants in this formula were chosen for the last cycles of refinement, $A=113, C=-0 \cdot 130$ and $D=0.0030$. The weight analysis obtained in the final cvcle is given in Table 2.

## Table 2. Weight analysis

$\Delta=\| F_{\text {obs }}\left|-\left|F_{\text {calce }}\right|, \quad w=\right.$ weighting factor, $N=$ number of independent reflexions. The $w \Delta^{2}$ values have been normalized.

| $F_{\text {obs }}$ | $N$ | $w \Delta^{2}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0.0-18.7 | 99 | 1.74 |
| 18.7-27.1 | 100 | $0 \cdot 94$ |
| 27.1- $35 \cdot 4$ | 100 | 0.61 |
| 35.4-42.6 | 100 | 0.73 |
| 42.6-47.9 | 100 | 0.99 |
| 47.9-53.6 | 99 | 1.02 |
| 53.6-61.3 | 100 | 0.95 |
| 61.3-70.8 | 100 | 0.53 |
| 70.8-86.8 | 100 | $0 \cdot 64$ |
| 86.8-151.2 | 100 | 1.86 |
| $\underset{\left(\times 10^{4}\right)}{\sin \theta}$ | $N$ | $w \Delta^{2}$ |
| 0-2553 | 121 | 1.94 |
| 2553-3216 | 111 | 1.37 |
| 3216-3682 | 98 | 0.47 |
| 3682-4052 | 110 | 0.71 |
| 4052-4365 | 91 | $0 \cdot 86$ |
| 4365-4639 | 104 | 0.78 |
| 4639-4883 | 104 | $0 \cdot 85$ |
| 4883-5106 | 88 | 0.63 |
| 5106-5310 | 87 | 1.04 |
| 5310-5500 | 84 | $1 \cdot 10$ |

In the course of the refinement it became evident that the strongest reflexions suffered seriously from extinction since $\left|F_{\text {obs }}\right|$ was consistently smaller than $\left|F_{\text {cale }}\right|$. All data were then corrected for this effect by applying the formula of Zachariasen (Zachariasen, 1963; Zachariasen \& Plettinger, 1965) modified as described by $\AA$ sbrink \& Norrby (1970). The necessary functions were calculated by the absorption correction program ( $\AA$ sbrink \& Werner, 1966) and the empirical constant entering into the calculations was obtained in the usual way from the discrepancies between $F_{\text {obs }}$ and $F_{\text {calc }}$ ( $\AA$ sbrink \& Werner, 1966).

Refinement of the extinction corrected data with anisotropic thermal parameters for all atoms resulted in a final reliability index $R=\Sigma| | F_{o}\left|-\left|F_{c}\right|\right| \Sigma\left|F_{o}\right|=$ $0 \cdot 029$. The final parameters are given in Tables 3 and 4. Observed and calculated structure amplitudes are listed in Table 5.

Table 3. Fractional atomic coordinates for $\mathrm{CuWO}_{4}$
All atoms in point position $2(i)$ of space group $P \overline{1}$. E.s.d.'s are given in brackets.

|  | $\boldsymbol{x}$ | $\boldsymbol{y}$ | $\boldsymbol{z}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | $\boldsymbol{y}$ |  |  |
| Cu | $0.49533(16)$ | $0.65976(13)$ | $0.24481(15)$ |
| W | $0.02106(4)$ | $0.17348(3)$ | $0.25429(4)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)$ | $0.2491(10)$ | $0.3535(8)$ | $0.4245(10)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(2)$ | $0.2145(10)$ | $0.8812(7)$ | $0.4309(9)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(3)$ | $0.7353(10)$ | $0.3803(8)$ | $0.0981(9)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(4)$ | $0.7826(9)$ | $0.9079(8)$ | $0.0533(9)$ |

As mentioned above, there had been some doubt concerning the oxygen content of the phase. Although the isotropic $B$ values obtained in the course of the refinement were normal and did not indicate vacancies on any specific oxygen position - the $B_{\mathrm{O}}$ values were equal within their standard deviations - a few refinement cycles were performed in which an occupancy parameter for each oxygen position was also refined. In this case the program ORFLS by Busing, Martin \& Levy (1962) was used. The positional parameters did not change significantly and the following values were obtained for the occupancy parameters (standard deviations in parentheses): $0.94( \pm 4), 1 \cdot 01( \pm 4)$,
$0.89( \pm 4)$ and $1.03( \pm 4)$ for the oxygen atom positions 1 through 4 . The deviations from unity are hardly significant and cannot be used as a proof for oxygen deficiency. The $B_{0}$ values, which are strongly correlated with the corresponding occupancy parameters (correlation coefficients $0.79-0.82$ ), were much more divergent after this refinement.

## Description

As mentioned above, our preliminary investigation of this crystal structure suggested that it is a distorted version of the wolframite type and this is definitely confirmed by the present refinement.

The wolframite type structure is adopted by a number of tungstates of $A \mathrm{WO}_{4}$ stoichiometry, $A$ being a sufficiently small divalent cation. At least four compounds with this structure have been studied by singlecrystal methods, namely $\mathrm{NiWO}_{4}$ (Keeling, 1957), $\mathrm{CdWO}_{4}$ (Chichagov, Ilyukhin \& Belov, 1966), $\mathrm{MnWO}_{4}$ (Dachs, Stoll \& Weitzel, 1967) and $\mathrm{FeWO}_{4}$ (Ưlkü, 1967). The last structure has been refined from X-ray and neutron diffraction data to a high degree of accuracy and is well suited for a comparison with $\mathrm{CuWO}_{4}$.

The normal wolframite structures are monoclinic, space group $P 2 / c$, with both metal atoms situated on twofold axes. They can be described as a framework of oxygen atoms in an approximately hexagonal closepacking with the cations occupying half of the octahedral sites. Cations of each kind form layers which are interleaved between the oxygen sheets in alternating sequence (Fig.2). Infinite zigzag chains are formed by edge-sharing octahedra containing like cations (Fig.1).

The above description applies also to the $\mathrm{CuWO}_{4}$ structure. The more irregular coordination required by the copper atoms compared with iron, for example (see below), is achieved primarily by a shear (not to be confused with 'crystallographic shear') parallel to b along each copper plane by which the oxygen layers surrounding the copper atoms become slightly displaced with respect to each other. This is evident in Figs. 1 and 2. The displacement destroys the twofold symmetry and is directly reflected in the deviation of the angle $\gamma$ from $90^{\circ}$.

Table 4. Thermal parameters
The $\beta$ values refer to the temperature factor $\exp \left[-\left(h^{2} \beta_{11}+k^{2} \beta_{22}+l^{2} \beta_{33}+2 h k \beta_{12}+2 h l \beta_{13}+2 k l \beta_{23}\right)\right]$.
$R(i), i=1,3$, are the r.m.s. components of thermal displacement (in $\AA$ ) along the principal axes of the ellipsoid of thermal vibration (calculated with the program ORFFE by Busing, Martin \& Levy, 1964). E.s.d.'s in parentheses.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\beta_{11}$ <br> $\left(\times 10^{5}\right)$ | $\beta_{22}$ <br> $\left(\times 10^{5}\right)$ | $\beta_{33}$ <br> $\left(\times 10^{5}\right)$ | $\beta_{12}$ <br> $\left(\times 10^{5}\right)$ | $\beta_{13}$ <br> $\left(\times 10^{5}\right)$ | $\beta_{23}$ <br> $\left(\times 10^{5}\right)$ | $R(1)$ | $R(2)$ | $R(3)$ |
| Cu | $587(27)$ | $429(18)$ | $428(27)$ | $184(17)$ | $-159(22)$ | $-109(18)$ | $0.060(5)$ | $0.066(4)$ | $0 \cdot 110(3)$ |
| W | $452(11)$ | $238(7)$ | $272(10)$ | $26(5)$ | $-79(6)$ | $17(5)$ | $0.051(2)$ | $0.063(1)$ | $0.078(1)$ |
|  | $\left(\times 10^{4}\right)$ | $\left(\times 10^{4}\right)$ | $\left(\times 10^{4}\right)$ | $\left(\times 10^{4}\right)$ | $\left(\times 10^{4}\right)$ | $\left(\times 10^{4}\right)$ |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{O}(1)$ | $85(16)$ | $55(10)$ | $61(14)$ | $-4(10)$ | $-13(12)$ | $-12(10)$ | $0.075(20)$ | $0.093(16)$ | $0.110(17)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(2)$ | $91(16)$ | $34(9)$ | $57(15)$ | $24(10)$ | $2(13)$ | $-88(10)$ | $0.057(24)$ | $0.085(14)$ | $0.116(14)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(3)$ | $85(16)$ | $50(10)$ | $45(14)$ | $19(10)$ | $-4(12)$ | $-8(10)$ | $0.070(19)$ | $0.077(21)$ | $0.117(15)$ |
| $\mathrm{O}(4)$ | $79(15)$ | $60(10)$ | $35(13)$ | $3(10)$ | $0(12)$ | $2(10)$ | $0.065(13)$ | $0.088(15)$ | $0.107(14)$ |

It is evident from Fig. 2 that the pseudo-hexagonal oxygen layers are fairly smooth; the oxygen positions lie within slices which are $0.23_{5} \AA$ thick. In $\mathrm{FeWO}_{4}$ the corresponding value is $0.19 \AA$. The separation of the oxygen layers, defined as the distance between the mean planes, is different across the tungsten and copper layers. The separation of the planes surrounding the tungsten atoms is very nearly the same in $\mathrm{CuWO}_{4}$ and $\mathrm{FeWO}_{4}$, namely $2 \cdot 207$ and $2 \cdot 204 \AA$ respectively, but the difference between the divalent ions gives rise to a small difference in the distances between the planes around these ions; they are 2.523 and $2.458 \AA$ respectively.

## Coordination

Interatomic distances and bond angles are listed in Table 6. When hexavalent tungsten is surrounded by
six oxygen atoms, the coordination is generally irregular. This is seen to be the case also in the present structure. The range for the six $\mathrm{W}-\mathrm{O}$ distances is almost the same as in monoclinic $\mathrm{WO}_{3}$ where it is 1.757-2.162 $\AA$ according to a recent refinement (Kihlborg, to be published). The higher symmetry of $\mathrm{FeWO}_{4}$ makes the W-O distances pairwise equivalent, being $1.792( \pm 5), 1 \cdot 905( \pm 6)$ and $2 \cdot 124( \pm 5) \AA$ according to Ulkü's parameters based on neutron diffraction data. These distances should be compared with the mean values of the two shortest, the two intermediate, and the two longest $\mathrm{W}-\mathrm{O}$ bonds in $\mathrm{CuWO}_{4}$ : $1.788,1.916$ and $2.118 \AA$ respectively. In the threefold symmetrical tungsten coordination in $\mathrm{Cu}_{3} \mathrm{WO}_{6}$ the distances are $1.791( \pm 16)$ and $2.084( \pm 12) \AA($ Gebert \& Kihlborg, 1969). The corresponding mean values of the three shortest and the three longest bonds in $\mathrm{CuWO}_{4}$

Table 5. Observed and calculated structure amplitudes
The column headings are the index $\left.h, 10 \cdot \mid F_{\text {obs }}\right\}$ and $10 \cdot\left|F_{\text {calc }}\right| \cdot$

are 1.807 and $2.075 \AA$. There is thus a close similarity between the W-O bond lengths in these structures despite the difference in symmetry.

The copper coordination is subjected to the JahnTeller distortion typical for divalent copper and which gives rise to a considerable lengthening of two opposite $\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O}$ bonds. The details of the coordination should be evident from Table 6 and Fig.3. The same type of distortion, even more pronounced, is present in CuO . In that case the $\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O}$ distances are $1.9509( \pm 26)$, $1.9608( \pm 13)$ and $2.7840( \pm 37) \AA$, each occurring twice (Åsbrink \& Norrby, 1970). In $\mathrm{CuMoO}_{4}$, of a structure entirely different from the present one (Abrahams, Bernstein \& Jamieson, 1968), two of the three non-equivalent copper atoms have a similar $4+2$ coordination, while the third is five-coordinated. The equatorial $\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O}$ distances around the former atoms range from 1.933 to $1.980 \AA$, with an average of $1.956 \AA$ which is almost exactly the same as in CuO . The corresponding average in $\mathrm{CuWO}_{4}$ is $1.976 \AA$. The long $\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O}$ bonds in $\mathrm{CuMoO}_{4}$ fall within the range $2 \cdot 213-2 \cdot 619 \AA$ with an average of $2 \cdot 312 \AA$, only slightly shorter than in the tungstate. $\mathrm{Cu}_{3} \mathrm{WO}_{6}$ has fivecoordinated copper atoms with the oxygen atoms forming a somewhat distorted trigonal bipyramid (Gebert \& Kihlborg, 1969). Here, the five $\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O}$ distances range from 1.921 to $2.243 \AA$ with a nextnearest oxygen atom not closer than $3 \cdot 10 \AA$.
All oxygen atoms are bonded to three metal atoms in a triangular arrangement. The oxygen atoms lie fairly close to the triangular planes; the distances to these planes are $0.184,0.189,0.140$ and $0.272 \AA$ for the oxygen atoms 1 to 4 respectively.
The deviation from closest packing of the anions is demonstrated by the considerable divergence of the close $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{O}$ distances. There are only 8 or 9 oxygen neighbours within $3 \cdot 0 \AA$ and the twelfth-nearest oxygen atom, completing the coordination sphere, is found at a distance up to $3 \cdot 33 \AA$. With three exceptions, all oxygen atoms are more than $2.67 \AA$ apart. The two shortest O-O separations, 2.411 and $2.507 \AA$, are along those edges in the $\mathrm{WO}_{6}$ octahedron which are shared with equivalent octahedra. Shortening of such edges is a well-known phenomenon in polyhedra around high-valence cations when no electrons are available for direct metal-metal bonding. The effect should be less pronounced in the copper-oxygen polyhedra because of the probably lower charge on the copper atoms. Although the third shortest O-O distance $(2.625 \AA)$ is along one of the shared edges in the $\mathrm{CuO}_{6}$ octahedron, the other shared edge, $\mathrm{O}(1)-\mathrm{O}(1)$, is seen from Table 6 to be considerably longer than normal. This shortening and lengthening of the shared edges can be considered as being mainly an effect of the parallel displacement of the oxygen layers around the copper atoms, mentioned above. In $\mathrm{FeWO}_{4}$ the same shared-edge shortening is observed within the tungsten polyhedra ( $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{O}, 2 \cdot 436 \AA$ ) but is much less pronounced in the $\mathrm{FeO}_{6}$ octahedra where the $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{O}$ distances along
the common edges are $2 \cdot 918 \AA$, insignificantly shorter than the average length of the edges in these octahedra, $2.985 \AA$.


Fig.1. The structure of $\mathrm{CuWO}_{4}$ projected on to the $b c$ plane. Three pseudo-hexagonal oxygen layers are indicated as triangular nets: in the upper part of the Figure two layers surrounding copper atoms (open circles) and in the lower part two layers enclosing tungsten atoms (filled circles). The top layer (full lines) of the upper part continues as the bottom layer (hatched lines) in the lower half of the Figure. For clarity the unit-cell axes have been displaced from the origin which is situated halfway between the two upper left tungsten atoms. The a direction is into the plane of the paper.


Fig.2. The structure of $\mathrm{CuWO}_{4}$ depicted as linked octahedra, viewed along the $c$ axis. Open and filled circles represent copper and tungsten atoms, respectively.

The root-mean-square components of thermal vibrations along the ellipsoid axes are given in Table 4. It is seen that the anisotropy is rather small for the tungsten atoms and hardly significant for the oxygen atoms due to the large standard deviations. The values for the copper atom, however, indicate a thermal ellipsoid of nearly rotational symmetry and with one axis considerably longer than the other two. This long ellipsoid axis is directed approximately perpendicular to the plane of Fig. 3. The vibrational amplitude for the copper atom is thus highest perpendicular to the short $\mathrm{Cu}-\mathrm{O}$ bonds. This is reasonable and was found to be the case also in CuO (Åsbrink \& Norrby, 1970).

The authors are grateful for the continued interest shown by Profcssor A. Magnéli in our studies of copper


Fig. 3. The coordination around ropper projected on to the plane defined by the centres of the oxygen atoms (1a), (2a) and ( $3 a$ ). The values in parentheses are the distances, in $\AA$, of the other atoms above $(+)$ or below $(-)$ this plane.
tungsten oxides. We wish to express appreciation to Mrs E. Hildebrand and Mrs G. Winlöf for collecting the bulk of the diffractometer intensities and for other laboratory assistance. This investigation has been financially supported by the Swedish Natural Science Research Council. Grants for the use of an IBM 360/75 computing system were received from the Computer Division of the Swedish Rationalization Agency (Kungl. Statskontoret). The use of the IBM 1800 machine was made possible by the Tri-Centennial Fund of the Bank of Sweden. One of us (E.G.) expresses appreciation for a grant received from the American-Scandinavian Foundation.

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Table 6. Interatomic distances and bond angles
The Table gives metal-oxygen and metal-metal distances (in $\AA$ ) as well as the bond angles (in degrees) at the metal atoms and the corresponding oxygen-oxygen separation (in $\AA$ ). The standard deviations in the last digit are in brackets.


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# The Structure of 3,4:7,8-Dibenzotricyclo[4.2.0.0 ${ }^{2,5}$ ]octa-3,7-diene 

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#### Abstract

The structure of 3,4:7,8-dibenzotricyclo[4.2.0.02,5]octa-3,7-diene has been studied by single-crystal diffraction techniques. This compound $\left(\mathrm{C}_{16} \mathrm{H}_{12}\right)$ crystallizes in the monoclinic space group $P 2_{1} / c$, with $a=10.716, b=7.706, c=6.719 \AA, \beta=98.37^{\circ}, Z=2$. The structure was determined by the symbolic addition procedure and was refined by block-diagonal least squares methods to a final $R$ value of 0.069 , including hydrogen atoms. The molecule is in the anti configuration, with two planar benzocyclobutene systems on opposite sides of a planar central cyclobutane ring. The bridgehead bond, common to two four-membered rings, is found to be unusually long, $1.593 \AA$.


## Introduction

Since the early fifties, transition metal complexes and complex intermediates have become widely used for producing many organic compounds which would have been difficult or impossible to make otherwise. In producing benzocyclobutadiene and cyclobutadiene (Emerson, Watts \& Pettit, 1965) by such methods many new and interesting compounds have been isolated. Three dimers of benzocyclobutadiene have been so prepared (Emerson et al., 1965; Avram, Dinu \& Nenitzescu, 1959; Cava \& Napier, 1957). Formation of these dimeric products of benzocyclobutadiene is dependent upon different transition metals which act as catalysts. The title compound, hereinafter referred to as DBTCO, is the one of these dimers which was prepared using nickel tetracarbonyl as a catalyst (Avram et al., 1959; Cava \& Napier, 1957). This compound has so far only been isolated in one configuration, which has been shown by Griffin \& Weber (1961) to be anti.

In other systems containing four-membered rings, the ring is in either the planar or the puckered conformation, and often exhibits unusually long carboncarbon bond distances (Adman \& Margulis, 1968). Fusion of other rings to four-membered rings seems to have varying effects on the cyclobutane ring geometry, depending on the nature of the fusing rings (Margulis, 1965; Einstein, Hosszu, Longworth, Rahn \& Wei, 1967; Adman, Gordon \& Jensen, 1968; Camerman, Weinblum \& Nyburg, 1969; Camerman \& Nyburg, 1969; Barnett \& Davis, 1970). The present investigation was undertaken to determine the effect on ring
geometry of fusion of cyclobutane with two highly strained four-membered rings.

## Experimental

Suitable crystals for X-ray studies were obtained by recrystallization of a sample of DBTCO, kindly supplied by Professor R. Pettit, from an aqueous acetone solution. These crystals are clear, light gray bulky plates. The crystal used was approximately $0.068 \times$ $0 \cdot 126 \times 0.194 \mathrm{~mm}$ with [001] parallel to the $\varphi$ axis of the goniometer. All X-ray studies were carried out using a General Electric XRD-5 diffractometer equipped with a single crystal orienter, with $\mathrm{Cu} K \alpha$ radiation, and at ambient room temperature $\left(\sim 21^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$.

Plots of the intensity weighted reciprocal lattice were used to determine the crystal symmetry. Cell constants were obtained from least-squares refinement using 27 independent $2 \theta$ measurements.

## Crystal data

3,4:7,8-Dibenzotricyclo[4.2.0.0 ${ }^{2,5}$ ]octa-3,7-diene, $\mathrm{C}_{16} \mathrm{H}_{12} . \quad a=10.716$ (2),$\quad b=7.706$ (1),$\quad c=6.719$ (1) $\AA$, $\beta=98.37(2)^{\circ}$. Systematic absences: $h 0 l, l=2 n+1$; $0 k 0, k=2 n+1$. Space group: $P 2_{1} / c$ (No. 14). $Z=2$; $F(000)=216 ; \quad V=548.86 \AA^{3} ; \quad \mu=5 \cdot 38(\mathrm{Cu} \mathrm{K} \mathrm{\alpha})$. $\lambda\left(\mathrm{Cu} K \alpha_{\text {mean }}=1.54178, \mathrm{Cu} K \alpha_{1}=1.54050, \mathrm{Cu} K \alpha_{2}=\right.$ $1.5433 \AA$ ).
Three-dimensional single-crystal intensity data were collected by the stationary-crystal stationary-counter method to the limit $2 \theta=130^{\circ}\left(\mathrm{Cu} K \alpha_{1}\right)$, using a balanced nickel-cobalt filter pair. Of the 925 in-


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