

The Crystal Structure of Strontium Dipicolinate Tetrahydrate, Sr. \cdot C₇H₃NO₄.4H₂O

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The crystal structure of strontium dipicolinate tetrahydrate has been determined and refined on the basis of data collected by an automatic diffractometer. Crystals are monoclinic, space group $C2/c$, with cell dimensions $a=10.698$, $b=12.827$, $c=8.394$ Å, $\beta=98.75^\circ$; there are four molecules per unit cell. The structure was determined by interpretation of the Patterson function and was refined by least-squares methods to an R index of 0.044. The dipicolinate ion is coordinated to the strontium ion as a tridentate ligand. The strontium ion is coordinated to eight oxygen atoms and one nitrogen atom. Two of the eight oxygen atoms belong to carboxyl groups of the same dipicolinate ion; two others belong to carboxyl groups of two additional dipicolinate ions; the four remaining oxygen atoms are in water molecules. The structure consists of a continuous ribbon of alternately oriented dipicolinate ions, coordinately bonded to strontium ions. There are four hydrogen bonds per asymmetric unit between carboxyl oxygen atoms and water oxygen atoms. Three of them are between oxygen atoms in the same dipicolinate ribbon. The fourth links two oxygen atoms in adjacent ribbons.

Introduction

The heat resistance and metabolic dormancy of bacterial spores are thought to rest on, yet undefined, morphological structures in association with the biologically unusual spore component calcium dipicolinate (Ca.DPA) (Murrell, Ohye & Gordon, 1969). Insight as to the role of Ca.DPA has been sought through replacement of Ca²⁺ or DPA²⁻ by other metal or ligand ions for sporulation (Slepecky, 1961; Fukuda, Gilvarg & Lewis, 1969) and for Ca.DPA-induced germination (Riemann & Ordal, 1961; Jaye & Ordal, 1965; Lewis, 1969). For example, Sr²⁺ substitutes for Ca²⁺, and 4H-pyran-2,6-dicarboxylate (PDC) substitutes for DPA. The presence of a dimeric linkage Ca-O, O'-Ca' in the crystals of Ca.DPA.3H₂O (Strahs & Dickerson, 1968) and the isostructural Ca.PDC.3H₂O (Palmer & Lee, 1969), and the complete interchangeability of these compounds in sporulation and germination, have led to a hypothesis that Ca.DPA serves as a readily mobilizable structure-locking component of the dormant bacterial spore (Lewis, 1969). A search for similar linkages in active and inactive analogues of Ca.DPA has led to the finding (reported here) of a related polymeric linkage in the crystalline tetrahydrate of the active compound strontium dipicolinate (Sr.DPA.4H₂O).

Experimental

Crystals of strontium dipicolinate tetrahydrate were grown from saturated water solutions. The crystals are bipyramids, slightly elongated along c . The density, measured by suspension in a mixture of benzene and dibromomethane, is 1.89 g.cm⁻³. There are four molecules in the unit cell.

Zero- and upper-level Weissenberg and precession photographs indicated Laue symmetry $2/m$. Reflections hkl were observed only when $h+k=2n$, and $h0l$ reflections were observed only when $l=2n$. These restrictions are compatible with either space group Cc or $C2/c$. The structure was successfully solved in $C2/c$. The unit-cell dimensions were refined by high-angle $\theta-2\theta$ scans with a 1° take-off angle. The crystal data are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. *Crystal data*

Sr.C ₇ H ₃ NO ₄ .4H ₂ O	F.W. 324.74
Monoclinic	Space group $C2/c$
$a=10.698$ (5) Å	$Z=4$
$b=12.827$ (6)	$F(000)=322.56$
$c=8.394$ (4)	$\rho_m=1.89$ g.cm ⁻³
$\beta=98.75$ (1)°	$\rho_c=1.878$ g.cm ⁻³
λ Cu K $\alpha_1=1.54051$ Å	

Intensity data were obtained from a small crystal, measuring about 0.1 mm on a side. A four-circle diffractometer, equipped with a full-circle goniostat and controlled by a time-sharing computer, was used. The Ni-filtered Cu radiation was detected by a scintillation counter equipped with a single-channel pulse-height analyzer. Data were recorded for angles up to $2\theta=145^\circ$ using the $\theta-2\theta$ scanning technique. The scan rate was 1° min⁻¹ (in 2θ). Backgrounds were measured 0.5° on each side of the scan limits. The net intensity I was calculated by the expression $I=C-(B_1+B_2)(T_c/2T_b)$, where C is the total scan count in time T_c , and B_1 and B_2 are the two backgrounds each counted for $T_b=10$ sec.

Three standard reflections were measured every 48 reflections; no significant change in their intensities

was noted. 2804 reflections were measured, of which 1135 were independent. Eight reflections had $I < \sigma(I)$ and were given zero weight in the least-squares refinement of the parameters.

Variances $\sigma^2(I)$ were calculated from $\sigma^2(I) = [C + (T_c/2T_b)^2(B_1 + B_2) + (0.05I)^2]$, where the factor 0.05 was arbitrarily chosen to accommodate systematic errors. The intensities and their standard devia-

Table 2. Positional and thermal parameters (\AA^2)

Standard deviations are in parentheses. Symmetry of the special positions of Sr, N, and C(4) restricts $B_{12} = B_{23} = 0$. Anisotropic temperature factor has the form: $T = \exp[-\frac{1}{2} \sum B_{ij}h_i h_j/(b_i b_j)]$, where h_i is the i th Miller index, b_i is the i th reciprocal axis length, and i and j are cycled 1 through 3. Isotropic temperature factor has the form: $T = \exp[-B(\sin \theta/\lambda)^2]$.

	10^4x	10^4y	10^4z	B_{11}	B_{22}	B_{33}	B_{12}	B_{13}	B_{23}
Sr	0	125.4 (2)	$\frac{1}{4}$	2.48 (2)	1.40 (2)	1.37 (2)	0	-0.00 (1)	0
N	0	2184 (3)	$\frac{1}{4}$	2.1 (1)	1.7 (1)	1.9 (1)	0	0.14 (9)	0
O(1)	1409 (2)	2503 (2)	6553 (3)	5.8 (1)	2.4 (1)	2.22 (9)	-1.06 (9)	-0.85 (9)	-0.36 (8)
O(2)	651 (2)	1087 (2)	5215 (2)	3.63 (8)	1.87 (8)	2.02 (8)	-0.50 (6)	0.04 (7)	-0.03 (6)
O(3)	-2314 (2)	791 (2)	2941 (3)	3.28 (9)	2.4 (1)	2.5 (1)	0.63 (8)	0.20 (7)	0.22 (8)
O(4)	-2073 (2)	-1007 (2)	1226 (3)	3.6 (1)	3.3 (1)	2.25 (9)	-0.24 (8)	0.26 (8)	-0.08 (8)
C(1)	876 (2)	2048 (2)	5324 (3)	2.7 (1)	2.0 (1)	1.9 (1)	-0.22 (8)	0.12 (8)	0.02 (9)
C(2)	436 (2)	2713 (2)	3838 (3)	2.26 (9)	1.8 (1)	2.1 (2)	-0.05 (7)	0.32 (8)	-0.02 (3)
C(3)	474 (3)	3789 (2)	3881 (4)	3.1 (1)	1.8 (1)	2.8 (1)	-0.19 (9)	0.4 (1)	-0.35 (9)
C(4)	0	4338 (4)	$\frac{1}{4}$	3.1 (2)	1.5 (1)	3.3 (2)	0	0.6 (1)	0
H(1)	0	500 (4)	$\frac{1}{4}$	2.9 (16)					
H(2)	86 (4)	422 (4)	489 (6)	3.9 (9)					
H(3)	-253 (5)	122 (4)	253 (6)	4.4 (14)					
H(4)	-234 (4)	84 (4)	394 (6)	3.6 (9)					
H(5)	-254 (4)	-67 (4)	167 (6)	3.6 (9)					
H(6)	-185 (5)	-158 (5)	188 (7)	5.9 (13)					

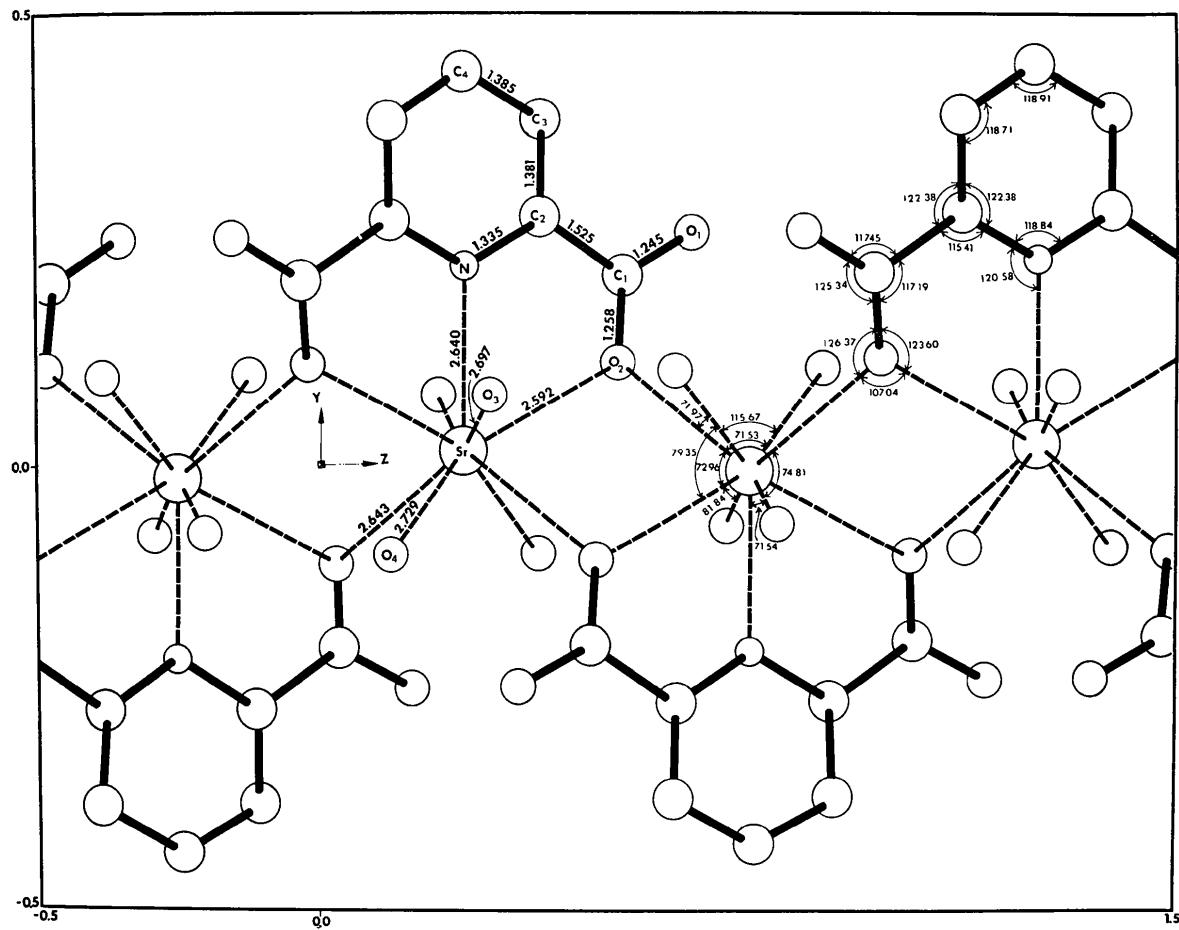


Fig. 1. Projection of structure down \mathbf{a} . Sr, N, and C(4) lie on a twofold axis. The numbering of atoms, bond lengths, and bond angles is also shown.

tions were corrected for Lorentz and polarization factors, but not for absorption ($\mu = 7.54 \text{ cm}^{-1}$).

A full-matrix least-squares program was used which minimizes the function $\sum w(\Delta F)^2 / \sum w F_o^2$; F_o and F_c are the observed and calculated structure factors, $\Delta F = |F_o| - |F_c|$, and w is a weighting factor taken equal to $1/\sigma^2(F)$. The value of $\sigma(F)$ was calculated by the expression $\sigma(F) = F_o - [F_o^2 - \sigma(F_o^2)]^{1/2}$, when $I > \sigma(I)$, and w was set equal to zero when $I \leq \sigma(I)$. The least-squares program accommodates both real and imaginary parts of the dispersion correction.

Scattering factors for all atoms except hydrogen were taken from the tables published by Cromer & Waber (1965). The scattering factors for hydrogen were those published by Stewart, Davidson & Simpson (1965). The real and imaginary dispersion corrections for strontium are -0.73 and 2.0 respectively (Cromer, 1965).

Table 3. Observed and calculated structure factors ($\times 10$) for strontium dipicolinate tetrahydrate
FCA(0, 0, 0) = 3226.

L FOR FCA	3 251 244	-7 258 258	H _x = 2, 6	-2 213 227	7 149 152	-7 162 162	7 18 14	-4 96 97	5 129 126	-5 103 104	-7 105 105	3 107 104	3 87 83	
H _x = 0, 0	4 769 691	-6 111 112	-9 95 97	-11 219 1157	H _x = 3, 11	-6 148 186	8 219 214	-7 129 130	6 200 204	-4 249 227	-6 138 134	4 259 262	H _x = 10, 10	
2 970 708	5 16 10	-5 161 161	-13 123 120	0 248 290	-7 141 142	-6 174 172	H _x = 1, 3	-7 130 131	9 190 191	-3 273 275	-5 180 180	5 103 104	-7 127 127	
4 512 460	6 484 454	-7 131 128	-13 131 128	-6 156 157	-7 136 137	-6 179 178	H _x = 2, 4	-7 119 119	7 151 152	-2 295 295	-6 166 164	5 103 104	-7 127 127	
4 512 460	7 16 10	-5 162 160	-13 170 164	-6 159 159	3 242 570	-6 174 174	H _x = 3, 13	-7 118 118	7 151 152	-2 295 295	-6 166 164	5 103 104	-7 127 127	
8 458 456	8 291 201	-2 190 190	-16 174 174	3 140 140	-6 171 174	-2 201 201	H _x = 2, 7	-7 170 170	6 200 203	0 326 329	-2 135 137	-6 120 118	0 153 153	
10 196 206	9 20 20	-2 192 293	-4 392 366	4 391 371	-3 163 166	-1 167 174	H _x = 3, 9	-6 243 245	7 197 194	0 491 491	1 250 253	-1 70 72	-5 95 92	H _x = 11, 1
H _x = 0, 2	0 280 210	0 280 210	-3 289 289	5 128 121	-7 178 183	0 229 225	-5 156 156	1 226 224	-3 191 179	2 201 200	0 230 226	-4 195 189	-7 32 31	
0 377 333	H _x = 1, 3	1 253 246	-2 590 627	6 241 231	-1 324 335	1 123 131	H _x = 4, 6	-2 240 240	3 121 160	1 170 174	-3 13 13	-6 160 152		
1 113 110	-10 166 174	2 131 212	-2 231 231	6 171 171	-7 172 172	H _x = 5, 7	-2 241 241	3 122 161	1 171 175	-3 10 10	-6 161 153			
1 740 202	-9 162 162	3 160 200	-10 200 550	5 159 159	1 144 105	3 170 163	H _x = 6, 8	-2 360 366	-6 143 147	0 76 78	5 67 67	3 136 136		
3 730 404	8 249 243	1 143 139	1 180 181	9 30 36	2 116 116	1 146 124	H _x = 7, 9	6 214 134	6 210 210	4 185 186	0 129 127	-5 95 96		
4 732 643	-7 244 243	5 36 39	2 506 472	H _x = 3, 3	2 116 116	1 147 124	H _x = 8, 10	6 216 216	4 186 187	1 178 178	-2 197 190			
5 95 86	-6 462 440	6 219 209	3 204 188	-10 216 222	4 111 112	6 161 173	H _x = 9, 11	6 217 161	4 187 188	2 190 195	2 151 146	-1 51 44		
6 454 430	-5 174 174	7 170 168	4 203 193	-10 107 108	4 204 200	7 71 68	H _x = 10, 12	6 218 191	4 188 189	3 131 129	0 179 175			
7 29 21	-5 174 168	H _x = 1, 3	0 138 138	-9 194 194	0 139 139	-9 195 195	H _x = 2, 4	6 219 194	4 189 190	2 180 181	4 189 189			
9 44 81	-2 708 644	-4 43 41	7 108 106	-6 361 354	-5 115 119	1 191 193	H _x = 3, 5	6 220 194	-6 169 166	-6 88 81	H _x = 9, 9	-2 110 109		
10 141 147	-1 103 103	-3 205 209	8 225 225	-2 035 201	-10 102 94	-7 169 169	H _x = 4, 6	6 251 251	6 110 110	-2 231 230	-4 140 135	-4 84 83	4 139 140	
H _x = 0, 4	0 377 426	-2 167 247	9 101 101	-4 179 180	-5 165 165	1 179 176	H _x = 5, 7	-2 173 166	-9 173 166	1 131 141	-1 161 164	-3 105 104	-3 101 101	
0 367 347	1 697 552	-3 166 130	H _x = 2, 8	-7 175 175	1 173 173	-5 165 165	H _x = 6, 8	-2 178 178	3 122 223	0 132 132	-2 180 180	-5 122 122		
1 231 212	2 783 644	-6 193 193	-2 231 231	6 173 173	-7 174 174	H _x = 7, 9	-2 187 187	3 123 224	0 133 133	-2 181 181	-5 121 121			
2 029 152	2 783 644	1 170 170	-7 92 93	-1 185 216	0 103 102	-3 145 152	H _x = 8, 10	-2 190 190	3 124 224	0 134 134	-2 180 180	-5 120 120		
3 162 170	3 211 293	2 227 222	-6 216 212	1 235 248	2 74 74	-1 50 52	H _x = 9, 11	-2 193 213	6 293 206	1 193 195	3 233 233	1 35 39		
4 174 374	5 41 40	3 195 195	-5 133 131	1 235 248	2 74 74	-1 50 52	H _x = 10, 12	3 236 243	6 294 206	2 195 196	3 231 231	-1 37 37		
5 142 137	6 372 351	5 155 139	-3 217 211	2 278 279	3 122 124	0 201 204	H _x = 11, 13	6 240 240	6 295 209	3 196 195	3 230 230	-1 33 35		
6 345 329	7 30 27	5 169 170	-3 356 350	3 39 37	6 242 242	0 202 202	H _x = 12, 14	6 244 244	6 297 209	3 197 197	3 230 230	-1 32 32		
7 25 18	8 293 293	6 167 167	H _x = 1, 3	0 432 461	6 307 297	-9 89 88	H _x = 2, 4	6 251 251	-1 299 314	4 133 140	-1 135 134	0 130 130		
8 229 226	8 53 53	6 167 167	H _x = 1, 3	-2 327 247	5 24 24	3 15 54	H _x = 3, 5	-3 100 112	0 299 314	4 134 140	-1 135 134	0 130 130		
H _x = 21, 21	H _x = 1, 5	-2 40 40	0 432 461	-6 307 297	-9 89 88	H _x = 4, 6	-2 340 452	0 298 305	4 135 140	-1 132 124	-5 150 156			
0 577 547	6 92 62	-1 193 193	3 313 319	7 112 111	-1 139 144	5 155 159	H _x = 5, 7	1 102 99	-1 136 140	-1 122 124	0 99 97	4 146 142		
0 344 315	-3 262 260	0 70 70	2 319 306	8 217 278	0 77 77	6 298 288	H _x = 6, 8	0 248 248	3 134 137	H _x = 7, 9	-3 121 216			
1 421 362	-7 91 92	1 261 262	3 216 216	8 218 278	0 78 78	6 299 289	H _x = 8, 10	0 249 249	3 135 137	H _x = 9, 11	1 121 213			
2 049 207	2 207 204	-6 85 85	H _x = 3, 5	-2 327 249	5 24 24	3 15 54	H _x = 4, 6	-3 100 112	0 299 314	4 135 140	-2 195 190			
3 174 161	-5 226 210	3 260 249	6 296 299	-9 132 132	H _x = 4, 6	-17 142 144	H _x = 5, 7	6 255 254	6 255 254	-15 14	5 27 52			
4 499 453	-5 565 522	H _x = 4, 6	6 228 225	-6 244 244	-10 103 108	6 132 132	H _x = 5, 7	1 15 15	6 254 251	6 178 178	3 199 200	3 86 87		
5 165 155	-3 350 323	-10 220 229	7 88 87	-7 134 133	-4 449 440	-5 298 295	H _x = 6, 8	8 170 170	-5 95 95	4 122 122	2 156 157	0 200 198		
6 365 351	2 564 532	-5 546 532	8 118 125	-6 276 276	-6 404 401	-6 173 173	H _x = 7, 9	6 199 201	H _x = 8, 10	-2 231 312	-1 126 126			
7 182 181	-1 299 296	-6 754 240	H _x = 2, 4	-16 161 161	-6 278 278	-6 174 174	H _x = 3, 5	3 134 136	2 223 221	-1 85 86				
8 152 152	2 207 207	6 164 164	-14 164 164	-6 280 280	-6 175 175	-6 175 175	H _x = 4, 6	3 331 325	0 255 255	3 135 135				
9 111 116	2 207 204	-2 228 219	7 145 153	-3 320 329	0 896 901	-1 161 165	H _x = 5, 7	1 17 17	6 257 257	1 103 104	-2 192 197			
H _x = 0, 8	2 427 684	0 848 865	-6 46 46	-2 602 661	7 247 727	0 275 296	H _x = 1, 3	1 161 161	-1 119 119	-3 143 150	-3 74 75			
0 577 547	3 223 205	3 362 316	-5 333 327	1 381 386	4 341 321	1 212 212	H _x = 2, 4	-7 173 173	6 11 13	1 35 33	-1 144 146			
1 303 270	4 380 342	4 791 705	-3 382 376	0 583 647	5 584 584	2 365 361	H _x = 6, 8	-4 370 400	2 334 343	H _x = 6, 8	0 159 163			
2 250 232	5 335 301	6 648 608	-3 345 342	1 295 293	4 199 199	2 353 347	H _x = 7, 9	6 150 154	5 154 154	4 161 161	-3 122 124			
3 346 377	6 268 268	7 232 222	-2 232 222	2 532 531	H _x = 8, 10	4 197 197	H _x = 9, 11	3 347 347	6 254 254	4 162 162	-3 213 211			
4 356 356	7 256 256	7 256 256	-2 256 256	4 195 195	5 155 155	-5 224 224	H _x = 10, 12	-1 299 309	6 255 255	4 163 163	-3 213 211			
5 172 163	8 201 201	-10 214 214	5 256 262	4 195 195	5 155 155	-5 224 224	H _x = 11, 13	6 255 255	4 162 162	-3 213 211				
6 186 176	9 136 139	-9 11 7	1 701 303	5 65 65	2 210 212	H _x = 12, 14	-1 100 111	1 16 16	6 255 270	-6 265 265	1 103 99			
7 152 149	H _x = 1, 7	-8 161 158	2 110 102	6 441 437	-7 94 94	-6 178 181	H _x = 13, 15	6 265 270	3 134 139	2 235 230	2 180 176			
8 245 248	-2 169 173	-122 122	3 474 450	6 278 278	-5 172 173	3 165 247	H _x = 14, 16	6 266 270	3 135 137	3 15 13	1 135 145			
9 395 407	-7 101 96	5 84 84	5 170 165	3 128 313	3 193 305	-3 170 173	H _x = 15, 17	6 266 270	3 136 136	3 155 155	-3 308 296			
1 165 166	-3 367 356	6 168 511	-6 218 218	3 126 316	3 192 304	-3 170 173	H _x = 16, 18	6 267 267	3 137 137	3 156 156	-3 308 296			
2 117 105	-145 145	-3 309 294	7 131 131	-9 124 124	-2 181 181	4 237 237	H _x = 17, 19	6 268 268	3 138 138	3 157 157	-3 308 296			
3 372 352	-352 331	-2 713 682	H _x = 2, 4	-18 140 140	-3 351 402	0 152 151	5 165 165	H _x = 5, 7	4 261 261	-4 300 319	-1 181 177			
4 309 296	-3 280 260	-6 98 98	6 168 170	-7 140 140	1 705 812	1 105 105	H _x = 6, 8	-5 262 262	2 346 346	3 36 36	-1 186 186			
5 245 245	2 232 206	5 222 206	0 31 31	-1 197 197	6 162 162	1 104 104	H _x = 7, 9	3 273 273	0 283 273	3 112 103				
6 292 285	4 232 206	5 222 206	1 151 151	-9 104 104	6 163 163	1 105 105	H _x = 8, 10	3 274 274	0 284 274	3 112 103				
7 168 174	0 309 335	2 333 313	-3 156 153	-4 176 180	3 288 278	4 168 165	H _x = 9, 11	-2 100 100	3 274 274	3 112 103				
H _x = 0, 12	1 311 294	3 363 322	-2 9 93	-3 244 244	3 284 278	5 176 176	H _x = 10, 12	1 311 294	3 274 274	3 112 103				
1 00 182	2 362 343	1 473 444	-351 341	-2 324 353	5 17 11	H _x = 11, 14	-5 262 262	3 275 275</td						

ference map led to the determination of approximate parameters for all six hydrogen atoms. Three additional cycles of least-squares refinement led to an R index of 0.049.

An inspection of the results revealed that the very intense reflections had $F_o \ll F_c$. An extinction correction of the form $F_{\text{corr}} = SF[1 + (\text{EF})I]F_o$ (Zachariasen, 1963), where SF is the scale factor, and EF the extinction factor, was applied to the data and led to a significant improvement between calculated and observed structure factors.

An extinction factor of 6×10^{-7} resulted in a final R index of 0.044.

The effects of using scattering factors for neutral Sr and O *versus* Sr^{2+} and $\text{O}(2)^-$ were compared and found to be essentially the same. Values listed for positional and thermal parameters and their standard deviations (Table 2), and observed and calculated structure factors (Table 3), were calculated with atomic scattering factors for Sr^{2+} , $\text{O}(2)^-$, and O(1) neutral.

Discussion of the structure

The numbering system used in this study and the interatomic distances and angles for the heavy atoms are

shown in Fig. 1. Bond distances involving the hydrogen atoms are listed in Table 4. The estimated standard deviations of the distances are 0.003 Å for Sr–O, 0.004 Å for Sr–N, C–N, C–C, & C–O, and 0.10 Å for H–C and H–O bonds; corresponding e.s.d.'s in the angles involving heavy atoms are about 0.10°.

Table 4. Bond distances and angles involving hydrogen atoms

E.s.d.'s are 0.10 Å and 3.0°.

H(1)–C(4)	0.84 Å	H(1)–C(4)–C(3)	120°
H(2)–C(3)	1.04	H(2)–C(3)–C(4)	117
H(3)–O(3)	0.67	H(2)–C(3)–C(2)	123
H(4)–O(3)	0.84	H(3)–O(3)–H(4)	112
H(5)–O(4)	0.80	H(5)–O(4)–H(6)	106
H(6)–O(4)	0.92		

The dipicolinate ion is coordinated to the strontium ion as a tridendate ligand. The coordination around the strontium ion consists of nine atoms: four carboxyl oxygen atoms, four water oxygen atoms, and nitrogen. The four carboxyl oxygen atoms belong to three dipicolinate ions, and each carboxyl oxygen atom is in turn bonded to two strontium ions. This leads to continuous ribbons composed of oppositely oriented

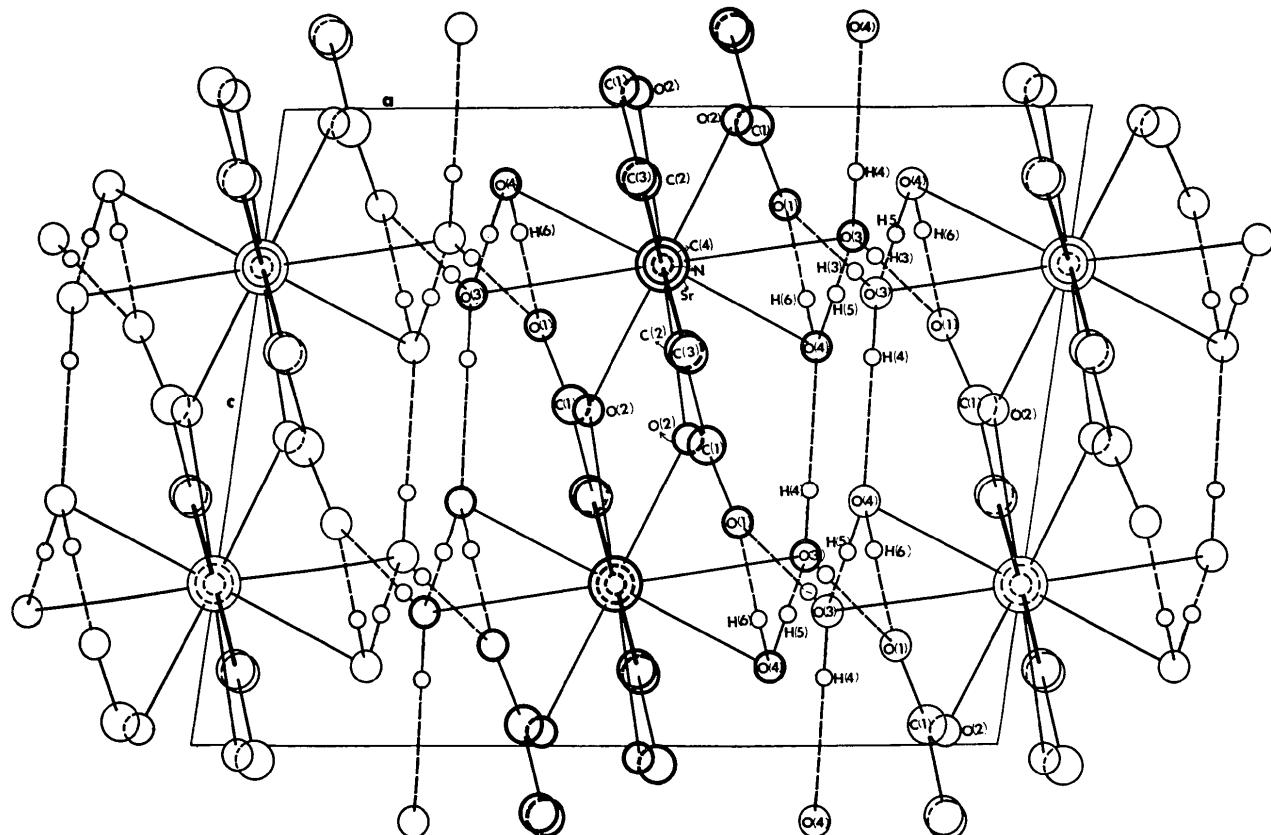


Fig. 2. Projection of structure onto the (101) plane. The six-membered rings are seen edge-on in a direction parallel to the C(2)–C(3) bond. The nitrogen atoms lie directly above (or below) the strontium ions. The atoms shown as thick circles belong to one ribbon of dipicolinate ions. The origin of the unit cell is the upper left-hand corner.

dipicolinate ions bonded together through strontium ions, as shown in Fig. 1. The discrete dimers that occur in Ca.DPA.3H₂O (Strahs & Dickerson, 1968) are not present in Sr.DPA.4H₂O.

The dipicolinate ribbons run parallel to the *c* axis; adjacent ribbons in the *a*-axis direction are related by the twofold screw axes parallel to the *b* axis. Consequently, carboxyl groups of adjacent ribbons are bonded to strontium ions translated $\pm \frac{1}{2}y$ from those shown in Fig. 1. This results in sheets composed of water molecules, carboxyl oxygen atoms, and strontium ions parallel to the *ac* plane. One such sheet is shown edgeon in Fig. 1.

The packing and bonding in strontium dipicolinate are illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2.

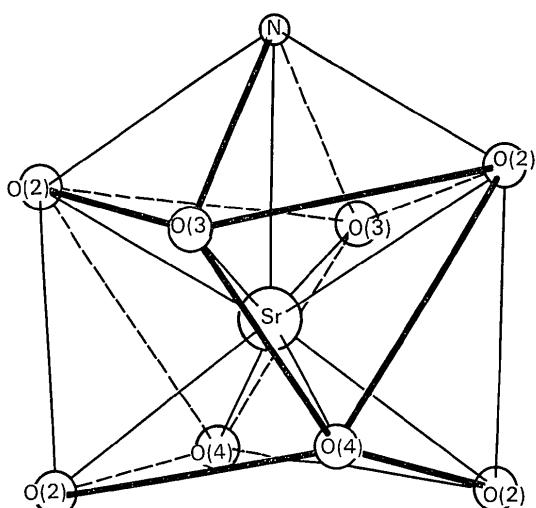


Fig. 3. Packing of nine atoms around the strontium ion to form monocapped square antiprism. O(2) designates carboxyl oxygen atoms; O(3) and O(4) are water oxygen atoms.

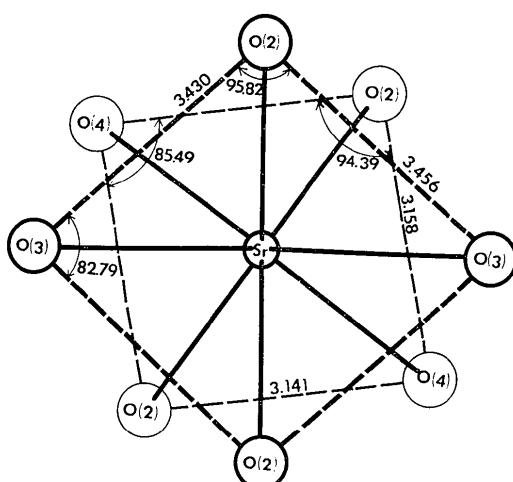


Fig. 4. Arrangement of oxygen atoms around the strontium ion as viewed down the twofold N-Sr axis. The interatomic distances and angles between the oxygen atoms are shown.

The bond distances and angles found for the dipicolinate group agree well with those reported for Ca.DPA.3H₂O (Strahs & Dickerson, 1968). The nine atoms consisting of the pyridine ring, C(1), C(1') and Sr are coplanar as required by the twofold axis passing through Sr, N, and C(4). The four atoms C(1), O(1), and O(2) are also coplanar; the out-of-plane distances of these atoms from their least-squares plane are given in Table 5. The dihedral angle between these two planes, *i.e.*, the twist about the C(1)-C(2) bond, is 9.1°.

Table 5. Planarity of the carboxyl group in Sr.DPA.4H₂O

The values are the out-of-plane distances of atoms of the carboxyl group and C(2) from their least-squares plane. The dihedral angle between the plane of the pyridine ring and the carboxyl group is 9.1°.

C(1)	0.006 Å
C(2)	-0.002
O(1)	-0.002
O(2)	-0.002

Two different Sr-O(2) distances occur in the crystal. The distance between the strontium ion and the carboxyl oxygen atoms of the same dipicolinate ion is slightly shorter (2.592 Å) than the distance between the strontium ion and the two carboxyl oxygen atoms from different dipicolinate ions (2.643 Å). Another manifestation of this is shown by the angle 115.4° for C(1)-C(2)-N. A similar value for this angle (114.9°) was found in Ca.DPA. The approximate equivalence of the C-O bond lengths indicates an ionic structure for the carboxyl group and about 50% double-bond character for the C-O bonds. The nine atoms coordinated to strontium form a distorted, monocapped square antiprism. The arrangement of these nine atoms around the strontium ion is shown in Fig. 3. The interatomic distances and angles between the oxygen atoms of the antiprism are shown in Fig. 4.

There are four hydrogen bonds per asymmetric unit in the crystal. They are shown as dashed lines in Fig. 2. The positions of the hydrogen atoms forming the hydrogen bonds are also shown. The hydrogen-bond distances are given in Table 6, and from their magnitudes it is concluded they are relatively strong.

Table 6. Hydrogen bond distances and angles

	O-O distance	Angle
O(1)-H(3)-O(3)	2.743 Å	165°
O(3)-H(4)-O(4)	2.744	169
O(3)-H(5)-O(4)	2.752	132
O(1)-H(6)-O(4)	2.695	168

Each water molecule is involved in three hydrogen bonds and one coordinate bond to Sr (Fig. 2). Of the four crystallographically distinct hydrogen bonds, one occurs between oxygen atoms of the same antiprism, O(3)-O(4), one between oxygen atoms of adjacent

antiprisms but belonging to the same dipicolinate ribbon, O(3)–O(4), one between O(1) and O(4) where again both oxygen atoms belong to the same dipicolinate ribbon, and one between O(3) and O(1) where the two oxygen atoms belong to adjacent ribbons. This latter hydrogen bond is the only bond between atoms of adjacent dipicolinate ribbons.

Each carboxyl oxygen atom is involved in three bonds. O(2) has two coordinate bonds to strontium ions and a covalent bond to C(1); O(1) is covalently bonded to C(1) and forms hydrogen bonds with two water molecules. The carboxyl oxygen atoms in Ca.DPA.3H₂O (Strahs & Dickerson, 1968) also form three bonds.

The shortest contact distances between heavy atoms of different molecules are 3.398 Å for C(4)–O(3) and 3.488 Å for C(4)–O(4). All other contact distances are greater than 3.5 Å. The Sr–Sr distance is 4.209 Å.

The anisotropic thermal parameters shown in Table 2 are all quite small, including those for the water oxygen atoms. These values suggest that the heavy atoms are rather firmly bound in the crystal. Although the coordination of the cations in Sr.DPA and Ca.DPA is different in the crystalline state, it is evident that both compounds are capable of forming strong bonds to polar groups. This fact probably accounts for the ability of strontium dipicolinate to replace calcium dipicolinate in certain spores (Slepecky, 1961) with only

a small reduction in heat resistance and metabolic inertness.

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Etude Structurale du Violurate de Cuivre, (C₄O₄N₃H₂)₂Cu. 4H₂O

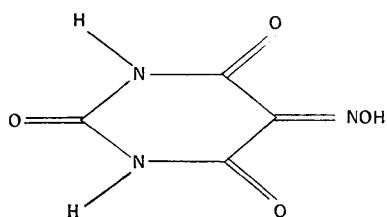
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(Reçu le 3 juillet 1970, revu le 23 Octobre 1970)

Copper(II) violurate tetrahydrate crystallizes in the triclinic system, space group *P*ī with one molecule in the unit cell of dimensions *a*=12.66, *b*=5.14, *c*=6.36 Å, $\alpha=102^\circ$, $\beta=112^\circ$, $\gamma=93^\circ$. The violurate anions are almost planar. The copper coordination has been shown to be a distorted octahedron. It consists of two water molecules [O(5) atoms at 2.06 Å] and two oxime nitrogen [N(3) atoms at 1.97 Å] in a planar square configuration and of two more distant neighbours, ketonic oxygen [O(3) atoms at 2.21 Å]. The molecules are linked together by a hydrogen bond network.

L'acide violurique, dont la structure a été déterminée de façon précise (Craven & Mascarenhas, 1964), est représenté par la formule développée suivante:



Cet acide donne des sels très bien cristallisés et de colorations variées pouvant servir à des tests pour l'identification de cations minéraux (van Ligten & van Velthuyzen, 1964).

L'étude structurale de ces composés a été abordée par Gillier (1965) avec le violurate de rubidium et le violurate dihydraté de potassium.

En choisissant des métaux bivalents, il était, en outre, intéressant d'établir le mode de fixation des cations aux anions violurates. Nous avons indiqué antérieurement les configurations moléculaires des violurates de strontium et de cuivre (Hamelin, 1967, 1968).