

The Crystal Structure of the Arsenite Complex of Dithiothreitol

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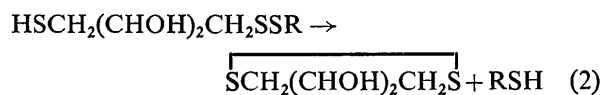
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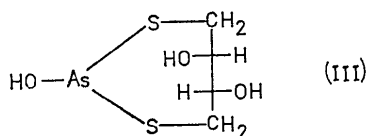
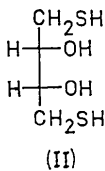
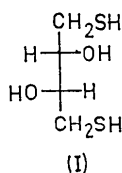
Based on a three-dimensional crystal structure of the arsenite complex of dithiothreitol, the correct formula of this complex has been determined as $C_4H_7O_2S_2As$. The crystals are monoclinic, space group $P2_1/c$ with $a = 8.49$, $b = 9.02$, $c = 9.88$ Å, $\beta = 93^\circ 48'$, and four formula units in the cell. The structure contains a pyramidal arsenic atom, common to three rings. The systematic name, 1-arsa-2,7-dithia-4-hydroxy-8-oxa[3:2:1]bicyclooctane, has been given to this novel cage structure.

Introduction

The dithiols, 1,4-dithiothreitol (I) and 1,4-dithioerythritol (II) (hereafter referred to as DTT and DTE respectively) are capable of reducing disulphides quantitatively to monothiols and of maintaining them in their reduced form (Cleland, 1964). Zahler & Cleland (1968) have used these reagents in the assay of disulphide in proteins by oxidizing them to the corresponding monothiols according to reactions (1) and (2).



Distinction between the monothiols so formed and excess dithiol used as reductant is accomplished by the addition of arsenite, which causes precipitation of stable arsenite complexes of DTT and DTE. Similar complexes also form with arsenite and 1,2-dithioglycerol or 1,3-dithioglycerol. The dissociation constants of the four arsenite complexes indicated the order of stability to be 1,2-dithioglycerol > DTT ~ DTE > 1,3-dithioglycerol.



Zahler & Cleland proposed a seven-membered ring structure (III) for the DTT- and DTE-arsenite complexes. They also inferred a five-membered ring for the arsenite complex of 1,2-dithioglycerol and a six-membered ring for the arsenite complex of 1,3-dithioglycerol. In order to account for the observed variation in stability of these compounds molecular models of these complexes were made. The arsenic and sulphur atoms in these complexes were given two extremes in bonding geometry: those of tetrahedral and octahedral coordination. Ring strain and close non-bonding interactions were not evident in these models. In order to test the correctness of the cyclic structures proposed by Zahler & Cleland, we decided to carry out a crystal-structure determination of the DTT-arsenite complex.

Experimental

The arsenite complex of DTT was prepared by the method of Zahler & Cleland (1968). It was recrystallized by slow evaporation of a 1:1 water-methanol solution to give tabular-shaped crystals, showing the pinacoidal form $\{010\}$. The other well-developed faces on the crystal were not identified.

Preliminary Weissenberg and precession photographs showed the systematic absences $0k0$ with $k = 2n + 1$ and $h0l$ with $l = 2n + 1$, indicating the space group to be $P2_1/c$. Crystal data are given in Table 1. The cell dimensions were determined from 2θ values of the axial reflexions (Hornstra). The β angle was measured

Table 1. Crystal data

Formula	$C_4H_7O_2S_2As$
Morphology	$2/m$
Space group	$P2_1/c$
Cell dimensions	$a = 8.49 \pm 0.01$ Å $b = 9.02 \pm 0.01$ $c = 9.88 \pm 0.01$ $\beta = 93^\circ 48' \pm 10'$
Density	$\rho_{obs} = 1.96$ g.cm $^{-3}$ $\rho_{calc} = 1.99$ g.cm $^{-3}$
Absorption coefficient	$\mu(Mo K\alpha) = 0.518$ mm $^{-1}$
$F(000)$	448 e
Volume	755.25 Å 3

from a precession photograph of the $h0l$ zone. The crystal density was measured by flotation in an aqueous solution of thallium malonate–thallium formate.

Intensity data were collected on a PAILRED diffractometer, using Si-monochromated Mo $K\alpha$ radiation. A crystal of dimensions $0.08 \times 0.10 \times 0.10$ mm was mounted with the c axis parallel to the rotation axis of the diffractometer. The layers $HK0$ to $HK10$ were collected. During this period, no appreciable decomposition was detected by the systematic monitoring of standard reflexions. In all, 1715 unique reflexions were measured, of which 870 satisfied our observed–unobserved criterion of $\Delta I/I < 0.40$, where $\Delta I/I = [(T+B+0.03N^2)^{1/2}]/(T-B)$ and T = total count, N = net count, and B = total background. Reflexions with intensities greater than 2.5σ were considered present. The term $0.03N^2$ is included to account for misalignment errors. The intensity data were collected using an ω scan mode of 1° min^{-1} with an ω scan width of 1.2° for reflexions with $2\theta \leq 16^\circ$, and a scan width of 0.7° for reflexions with $2\theta > 16^\circ$. These scan ranges were increased with higher layers to accommodate the increased spot width. Backgrounds were counted for 24 sec on each side of the reflexions. Reflexions at low 2θ whose spot extension exceeded the scan range were re-collected with a larger ω scan width. The axial reflexions $00l$ were too close to the primary beam or too extended to be measured accurately and so were omitted. No correction for absorption was made due to the small equidimensional crystal size and its low absorption coefficient.

Data reduction was performed with a locally modified University of British Columbia *DATAPREP* program (Trotter) which corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects. An estimation of an overall temperature factor of 2.9 and an overall scale of 2.10 was made using the method of Wilson (1942). Fourier maps and bond distances with estimated standard deviations were calculated using the NRC programs of Ahmed (1967). Refinement on F was done with a locally modified *ORFLS* full-matrix least-squares program (Busing, Martin & Levy, 1962). Form factors, corrected for the real component of anomalous dispersion (Cromer, 1965) were obtained from Cromer & Waber (1965). No corrections for the imaginary component of anomalous dispersion were made. The hydrogen curve was that of Mason & Robertson (1966).

Solution and refinement of the structure

Three unique As–As vectors were identified on a Patterson map computed with coefficients sharpened to point atoms at rest. These vectors gave the location of the arsenic atom at the position defined by the fractional coordinates $x/a=0.119$, $y/b=0.145$, $z/c=0.120$. A heavy-atom Fourier map phased with this arsenic position revealed the locations of all the non-hydrogen atoms in the cell. Structure factors calculated from all non-hydrogen atom positions and an overall tempera-

ture factor of 2.89 resulted in a residual of $R=0.21$ where $R = \sum ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \sum |F_o|$, and $|F_o|$ and $|F_c|$ are the observed and calculated structure amplitudes respectively. These atomic positions were refined by full-matrix least-squares methods, using unit weights for four cycles. The residual dropped from $R=0.21$ to $R=0.10$. The thermal parameters of the non-hydrogen atoms were then refined anisotropically, using unit weights for two cycles, which reduced the residual to 0.069. A difference Fourier map was then calculated, showing the locations of all hydrogen atoms as peaks of 0.65 to 0.40 e. \AA^{-3} .

When isotropic refinement of the hydrogen atoms was attempted, the parameters describing the thermal motion of H(11), H(21), H(31) and H(5) became negative. Therefore, the final isotropic temperature factors of the bound heavy atoms were assigned to their respective hydrogen atoms. Refinement was continued by minimizing the function $\sum W(|F_o| - k|F_c|)^2$, where the weight W was obtained from the expression $W = a^2/[a^2 + (|F_o|/b)^2]$, with $a=8e$ and $b=15e$. This weighting scheme satisfied Cruickshank's (1965) criterion that $\sum W||F_o| - |F_c||^2$ be constant over all ranges of the data. Convergence of the refinement at a residual of $R=0.064$ occurred after two more cycles, at which time all parameter shifts were less than one-tenth their e. s. d. s.

The final atomic fractional coordinates and thermal parameters for non-hydrogen atoms, with e. s. d. s in parentheses, are listed in Tables 2 and 3. Hydrogen-atom fractional coordinates and the assigned temperature factors are listed in Table 4. Observed and calculated structure factors, with unobserved reflexions marked with an asterisk, are listed in Table 5.

Table 2. *Final atomic fractional coordinates*

	x/a	y/b	z/c
As	0.1178 (2)*	0.1431 (1)	0.1250 (1)
S(1)	0.0048 (4)	-0.0049 (4)	0.2727 (4)
S(2)	0.2455 (4)	-0.0231 (5)	0.0030 (3)
O(1)	0.2786 (9)	0.1782 (8)	0.2534 (9)
O(2)	0.4734 (13)	-0.1652 (10)	0.3567 (10)
C(1)	0.1774 (18)	-0.0113 (16)	0.3944 (21)
C(2)	0.3233 (15)	0.0491 (14)	0.3354 (12)
C(3)	0.4183 (14)	-0.0602 (14)	0.2555 (13)
C(4)	0.3262 (17)	-0.1426 (16)	0.1407 (13)

* E. s. d. s given in parentheses refer to the least significant digit of the position.

Description of the structure

The structure proposed by Zahler & Cleland for the complex formed from the reaction of arsenite with DTT is incorrect. The complex can now be given the systematic name 1-arsa-2,7-dithia-4-hydroxy-8-oxa-[3,2,1]bicyclooctane, and it contains a pyramidal arsenic atom common to three heterocyclic rings. The bond distances and interbond angles for this cage structure are listed in Tables 6 and 7, with the atomic designations of the stereoscopic pair drawn in Fig. 1.

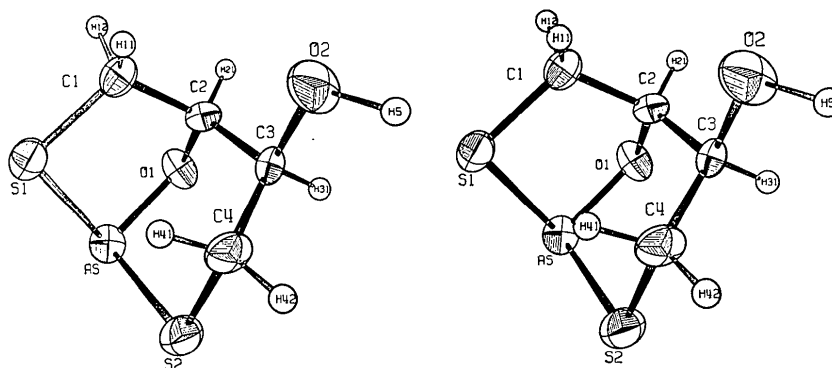


Fig. 1. Stereodiagram of the DTT-arsenite complex.

Table 3. Thermal parameters of non-hydrogen atoms ($\times 10^4$)

The temperature factor is of the form $T_2 = \exp [-(\beta_{11}h^2 + \beta_{22}k^2 + \beta_{33}l^2 + 2\beta_{12}hk + 2\beta_{13}hl + 2\beta_{23}kl)]$ for non-hydrogen atoms.

	β_{11}	β_{22}	β_{33}	β_{12}	β_{13}	β_{23}
As	111 (1)	64 (1)	92 (2)	9 (2)	4 (1)	23 (1)
S(1)	91 (5)	135 (5)	87 (4)	-4 (4)	21 (3)	15 (3)
S(2)	134 (6)	162 (6)	69 (4)	40 (4)	8 (3)	2 (3)
O(1)	99 (12)	59 (10)	100 (10)	-3 (8)	-20 (9)	2 (7)
O(2)	173 (17)	110 (14)	84 (11)	78 (13)	-15 (10)	2 (9)
C(1)	126 (21)	85 (16)	87 (17)	11 (16)	10 (14)	-5 (14)
C(2)	104 (17)	90 (16)	49 (13)	-22 (14)	-16 (11)	-11 (11)
C(3)	68 (15)	79 (16)	78 (14)	-4 (13)	17 (11)	1 (11)
C(4)	150 (21)	97 (15)	80 (15)	39 (19)	10 (13)	-30 (14)

E.s.d.'s in parentheses refer to the least significant digit of the parameter.

The two As-S bonds in the molecule are equal, with distances of 2.237 ± 0.004 and 2.247 ± 0.004 Å. These distances do not significantly differ from the previously reported As-S distances of 2.21 Å in realgar and 2.25 ± 0.02 Å in arsenic trisulphide (Lee & Donohue, 1944). Both of these latter compounds contain pyram-

Table 4. Final positional parameters of hydrogen atoms with their assigned isotropic temperature factors*

	x/a	y/b	z/c	$B(\text{Å}^2)$
H(11)	0.191 (15)†	-0.080 (15)	0.407 (12)	2.5
H(12)	0.171 (13)	0.039 (13)	0.479 (12)	2.5
H(21)	0.375 (15)	0.073 (15)	0.396 (12)	3.0
H(31)	0.480 (12)	-0.013 (12)	0.218 (10)	1.8
H(41)	0.410 (12)	-0.196 (12)	0.109 (11)	2.3
H(42)	0.242 (12)	-0.190 (12)	0.182 (11)	2.3
H(5)	0.557 (17)	-0.190 (17)	0.336 (14)	4.0

* The temperature factor for the hydrogen atoms is in the form:

$$T_H = \exp [-B \sin^2 \theta / \lambda^2].$$

† E.s.d.'s given in parentheses refer to the least significant digit of the parameter.

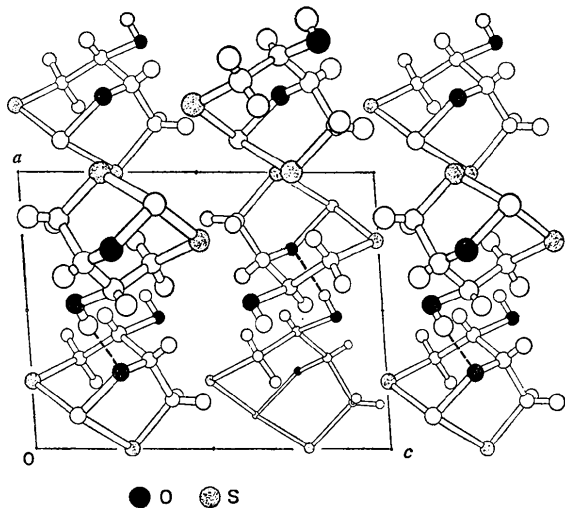


Fig. 2. Projection onto (010). The dashed line indicates the hydrogen bond from O(2) to O(1) of the twofold screw-related molecules.

idal arsenic atoms. The As-O(1) bond length of 1.83 ± 0.01 Å agrees with the value of 1.80 ± 0.02 Å in arsenic trioxide (Hampson & Stosick, 1938).

The bond angles about the arsenic atoms are intermediate between tetrahedral and octahedral values and are probably influenced by ring strain. The S(1)-As-O(1) angle of 89.3° in the five-membered ring is substantially less than the S(2)-As-O(1) and S(1)-As-S(2) angles of 97.1 ± 0.3 and $101.2 \pm 0.1^\circ$ in the six- and seven-membered rings respectively. In arsenic trioxide, which contains a trisubstituted arsenic in a six-membered ring in a chair conformation, the O-As-O angles are $100 \pm 1.5^\circ$. In arsenic trisulphide, with a structure

Table 5. Observed and calculated structure factors (x 10)

An asterisk (*) denotes an unobserved reflexion.

Table with multiple columns of structure factor data, organized by hkl indices (e.g., K 0 L 0, K 0 L 1, etc.) and corresponding observed and calculated values.

atom is contained in both five- and six-membered rings. This suggests that the carbon chain is stretched open, because of ring expansion due to the longer As-S and S-C bonds. The second anomaly is the disagreement between the C(2)-C(3)-O(2) and C(4)-C(3)-O(2) angles: 103.3 ± 1.0 and $109.0 \pm 1.0^\circ$ respectively. The reason for this discrepancy is not apparent.

The bond distances to hydrogen atoms are included for completeness in Table 6. A Hamilton (1965) test showed that inclusion of the hydrogen atoms did improve the calculated model. Bond angles containing hydrogen atoms were approximately tetrahedral but were not considered meaningful because their e.s.d.'s were in general 10% of the calculated values.

An examination of the structure for intermolecular contacts revealed an intermolecular hydrogen bond between the hydroxyl oxygen atom and the bridging oxygen atom of the molecule related by the screw axis at $(\frac{1}{2}, 0, \frac{1}{4})$. The structure is held together in the y direction by an infinite chain of hydrogen bonds joining molecules related by the diad axis. This is shown in the projection diagrams in Figs. 2 and 3. The presence of this hydrogen bond was shown directly by the presence of a peak of 0.5 e. \AA^{-3} in the difference Fourier, as well as indirectly by the short intermolecular contact of $2.81 \pm 0.01 \text{ \AA}$ between O(2) and the bridging oxygen atom [O(1)] of the molecule related by the two-fold screw axis.

Discussion

If the results of this structure determination are applied to the arsenite complexes of the other dithiol compounds examined by Zahler & Cleland, it is possible to propose a plausible bicyclic structure for each of them. These structures are shown in Fig. 4. The arsenite-DTT complex [Fig. 4(c)], as determined in this study, has a five-, six- and seven-membered bicyclic ring structure. The six-membered ring (containing As, S and O as heterocyclic atoms) has a chair conformation with an equatorial hydroxyl group on C(3). A consideration of the similarity of the dissociation constants of arsenite-DTT and arsenite-DTE indicates that a similar bicyclic structure is most probable for the arsenite-DTE complex. This has been shown in Fig. 4(d). The only difference is the epimerization at C(3), with the result that the hydroxyl group on this carbon atom is now axial.

In constructing models for the bicyclic arsenite complexes of 1,2-dithioglycerol and 1,3-dithioglycerol, Fig. 4(a) and (b) respectively, it was found that both of these complexes have a six-membered ring in a boat conformation with the As and C(2) of the carbon chain as the 'bow' and 'stern'. As is evident from the diagrams there is little difference between these two structures. There is one possible explanation for the difference in stabilities of these two compounds. In the 1,3-dithioglycerol complex, the bridging atom between the two five-membered rings is oxygen. The C(2)-O distance of 1.45 \AA is considerably shorter than the C(2)-S dis-

tance of 1.83 \AA . Owing to this large difference, the axial hydrogen atoms on C(1) and C(3) are in very close proximity ($\text{H} \cdots \text{H} \approx 2.1 \text{ \AA}$). This close approach is not evident in the 1,2-dithioglycerol complex, where the corresponding distance is approximately 2.5 \AA . However, it is evident that, in order to derive a satisfactory explanation for the observed variation in stability amongst these several compounds, their three-dimensional structures should be determined.

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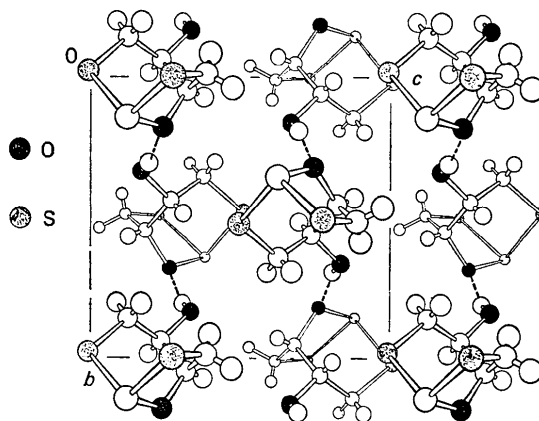


Fig. 3. Projection onto (100). Dashed line as for Fig. 2.

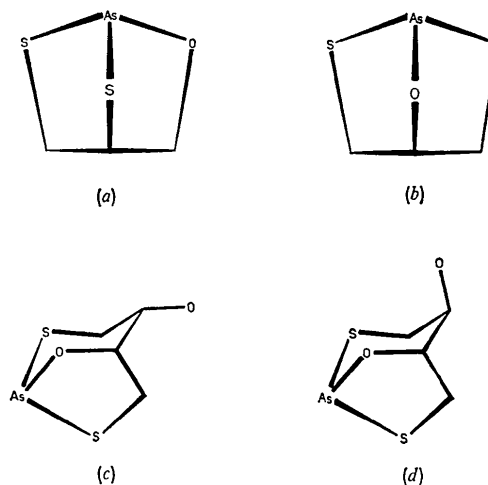


Fig. 4. Proposed arsenite dithiol structures; (a) 1,2-dithioglycerol, (b) 1,3-dithioglycerol, (c) dithioerythritol (by this work), (d) dithioerythritol.

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Refinement of the Crystal Structures of $(C_6H_5)_4AsI_3$ and CsI_3 at $20^\circ C$ and at $-160^\circ C$

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Three-dimensional intensity data have been collected both at room temperature and at $-160^\circ C$ for the triiodides CsI_3 and $(C_6H_5)_4AsI_3$. The present work confirms the conclusion of Tasman & Boswijk [*Acta Cryst.* (1955), **8**, 59] regarding the asymmetry and non-linearity of the I_3^- ion in CsI_3 . The bond lengths in the symmetric I_3^- ions in $(C_6H_5)_4AsI_3$ [2.919 (1) Å] are somewhat longer than the values reported by Mooney-Slater [*Acta Cryst.* (1959), **12**, 187], but are still shorter than the average I-I bond lengths observed for $(C_2H_5)_4NI_3(I)$ and $(C_2H_5)_4NI_3(II)$, 2.935 and 2.936 Å respectively. The I-I bond lengths observed in different triiodides are compared, and the differences are discussed.

Introduction

The configurations of I_3^- ions in different crystals have aroused considerable interest (Brown & Nunn, 1966; Migchelsen & Vos, 1967; Wiebenga & Kracht, 1969). The bond lengths and angles known with reasonable accuracy at the beginning of the present study are given in Table 1(a). The Table shows that for $(C_2H_5)_4NI_7$ the I-I bond length is significantly shorter than the average I-I bond lengths observed for the compounds $(C_2H_5)_4NI_3(I)$ and $(C_2H_5)_4NI_3(II)$. This does not hold for $(C_6H_5)_4AsI_3$ for which the bonds had been reported to be relatively short (Mooney-Slater, 1959; Rundle, 1961). The presence of the short distances in $(C_2H_5)_4NI_7$ at $-195^\circ C$ cannot be attributed to the electrostatic crystal field as for all symmetric I_3^- ions the calculated bond orders are independent of this field (Wiebenga & Kracht, 1969). We have therefore tentatively assumed the presence of the short I-I bonds in $(C_2H_5)_4NI_7$ at $-195^\circ C$ to be due to either a shrinkage of the weak I-I bonds at low temperature or to complex formation (the I_3^- ions have strong interactions with neighbouring I_2 molecules). To get more insight in this problem we have refined the crystal structures of $(C_6H_5)_4AsI_3$,

having symmetric I_3^- ions, and of CsI_3 , having asymmetric I_3^- ions, both at room and at low temperature.

Discussion of the I-I bond lengths

Influence of the temperature

The I-I bond lengths and angles observed in $(C_6H_5)_4AsI_3$ and in CsI_3 at room temperature and at low temperature, are given in Table 1(b). We see that in both compounds the bond lengths at low temperature are equal to those at room temperature, so that it can be concluded that no shrinkage of the bonds occurs at low temperature.

Symmetric I_3^- ions

Comparison of the bond lengths in the different symmetric I_3^- ions in Table 1 shows that there are significant differences between the lengths of the bonds. Values increasing from 2.904 to 2.943 Å are observed when going from $(C_2H_5)_4NI_7$ via $(C_6H_5)_4AsI_3$ and $(C_2H_5)_4NI_3(I)$ (ion A) to $(C_2H_5)_4NI_3(I)$ (ion B). Consideration of the crystal structures shows that both for the I_3^- ion B in $(C_2H_5)_4NI_3(I)$, having the longest I-I distance, and for the I_3^- ion in $(C_2H_5)_4NI_7$, having the