Discussion. This investigation was undertaken as a part of a project to clarify the structure of $Al_2X_7^-$ ions in the solid and liquid state. A linear Al-X-Al bridge gave better correspondence between observed and calculated Raman frequencies for the melt (Rytter *et al.*, 1973). However, a bent bridge was found for solid $Pd_2(C_6H_5)_2(Al_2Cl_7)_2$ and $Te_4(Al_2Cl_7)_2$ (Couch, Lokken & Corbett, 1972), the former with an eclipsed and the latter with a staggered conformation, indicating that environmental effects are important.

The anion in the present structure, shown in Fig. 1, is very similar to the anion in the Te₄(Al₂Cl₇)₂ structure. It is noteworthy that the Al-Br-Al angle (109.3°) is very close to the tetrahedral angle and that the bridging Al-Br distances are about 5% larger than the terminal ones. The Al₂Br₇⁻ ion is staggered with almost C_s symmetry, the main discrepancy being the angle of 14.8° between the planes through the atoms Br(1), Al(1), Br(4) and Br(4), Al(2), Br(7). A stereographic view of the structure is given in Fig. 2. The potassium ion is surrounded by 9 bromine ions in the range 3.3 to 4.0 Å in an irregular way.

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Mescaline Hydrobromide

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Abstract. Mescaline hydrobromide (3,4,5-trimethoxyphenethylamine hydrobromide, $C_{11}H_{18}NO_3Br$), triclinic space group $P\overline{1}$, a=7.4274 (12), b=9.1782 (16), c=11.8979 (9) Å, $\alpha=121.180$ (17), $\beta=104.194$ (18), $\gamma=92.689$ (13)° (20 ± 1 °C), $D_m=1.48$ g cm⁻³, $D_x=$ 1.48 g cm⁻³ (Z=2). The hydrobromide salt was prepared by the method of Heffter [*Ber. dtsch. chem. Ges.* (1898). **31**, 1193–1199] from mescaline sulfate dihydrate

supplied by the L. Light Co. Crystals were grown from aqueous n-butanol.

Introduction. Cell parameters were determined by least-squares refinement from 22 reflections measured on a four-circle Syntex $P\overline{1}$ diffractometer using graphite monochromated Mo K α radiation (0.710688 Å) (Ernst, 1973). A small acicular crystal (elongated along

Table 1. Atomic parameters in fractional coordinates and thermal parameters with e.s.d.'s ($\times 10^4$)

	x	У	Z	β_{11}	β_{22}	β_{33}	β_{12}	β_{13}	β_{23}
Br-	-2340 (2)	-2810(2)	8801 (1)	211 (3)	168 (2)	70 (1)	16 (2)	44 (2)	65 (2)
C(1)	3188 (14)	339 (14)	7018 (12)	88 (20)	136 (21)	80 (15)	35 (16)	23 (14)	75 (15)
C(2)	2874 (15)	-523(13)	5605 (12)	114 (21)	86 (17)	57 (13)	26 (15)	25 (14)	34 (13)
C(3)	2348 (15)	285 (15)	4933 (11)	120 (22)	136 (21)	39 (13)	16 (17)	34 (13)	42 (14)
C(4)	2143 (15)	2081 (15)	5687 (12)	109 (22)	156 (22)	76 (15)	50 (17)	33 (15)	95 (16)
C(5)	2359 (14)	2873 (12)	7061 (11)	122 (21)	45 (15)	61 (13)	22 (14)	48 (14)	19 (12)
C(6)	2921 (14)	2054 (14)	7777 (12)	104 (21)	123 (20)	60 (14)	24 (16)	35 (14)	58 (14)
C(7)	3766 (17)	- 544 (16)	7787 (14)	154 (25)	157 (23)	89 (17)	52 (20)	18 (16)	88 (17)
C(8)	2058 (19)	- 1780 (17)	7625 (14)	213 (31)	156 (24)	84 (17)	53 (22)	42 (18)	73 (17)
C(9)	2250 (19)	-2190 (15)	2750 (14)	218 (31)	104 (21)	74 (16)	46 (21)	60 (18)	4 (15)
C(10)	3175 (21)	3958 (18)	5095 (16)	253 (36)	176 (27)	145 (23)	-3(24)	76 (23)	129 (22)
C(11)	2380 (21)	5482 (17)	9153 (13)	290 (38)	149 (24)	45 (15)	78 (24)	44 (19)	36 (16)
O(3)	2030 (11)	-415 (10)	3544 (8)	152 (18)	138 (15)	44 (9)	32 (13)	38 (10)	27 (10)
O(4)	1585 (11)	2833 (10)	4969 (8)	176 (18)	138 (15)	55 (10)	20 (13)	39 (11)	69 (11)
O(5)	2034 (11)	4526 (10)	7673 (8)	169 (18)	109 (14)	50 (9)	36 (13)	34 (10)	44 (10)
Ν	553 (14)	-803 (13)	8072 (11)	163 (22)	142 (19)	73 (13)	31 (16)	52 (14)	60 (13)

C(1) C(2)C(3)C(4)C(5) C(6)

C(7)C(8) C(9) C(10) C(11)O(3)O(4)O(5) A^{\dagger} В Ĉ D

the c axis) was cleaved from a large crystal. This was used to obtain two-dimensionally integrated Weissenberg photographs of layers hk0 through $hk\overline{10}$ using nickel-filtered copper $K\alpha$ radiation. The crystal was ca. 0.14 mm in cross-section and no absorption corrections were applied [μ (Cu) = 47.4 cm⁻¹]. Film packs of Kodak No-Screen film were used to record the data. The intensities were measured with a Nonius Mark I microdensitometer. In all, 2184 reflections (73% of the data in the copper sphere of reflection) were measured, of which 1499 were significantly more intense than the background. The structure was solved by the heavy atom method. Refinement of positional parameters and anisotropic temperature factors (unit weights assigned to observed reflections) with hydrogen atom positions and isotropic temperature factors included (but not refined) gave a final residual $(R = \sum ||kF_o| - |F_c|| / \sum |kF_o|,$ where k is the scale factor) of 0.081 (all reflections). The reported positions of the hydrogen atoms (Table 2) were obtained from a ΔF map prepared when R =0.09. The calculations were performed with the X-RAY



Fig. 1. Bond lengths of mescaline hydrobromide.



Fig. 2. Bond angles of mescaline hydrobromide.

system of crystallographic programs (Stewart, Kundell & Baldwin, 1970) and the illustrations were prepared with the ORTEP plotting program (Johnson, 1970). The final parameters are given in Tables 1 and 2 and the bond lengths and angles in Figs. 1 and 2. For those

Table 2. Hydrogen atom parameters in fractional coordinates ($\times 10^3$)

A!!	hydrogen	atoms	were	assigned	isotropic	temperature	fac-
			to	rs of 3.0	Ų.		

	x	У	Z
H(2)	304	814	504
H(6)	316	279	887
H(1,7)	399	37	881
H(2,7)	491	873	735
H(1,8)	176	730	655
H(2,8)	217	755	815
H(1,9)	158	686	290
H(2,9)	229	769	169
H(3,9)	316	690	267
H(1,10)	286	435	452
H(2,10)	364	427	603
H(3,10)	423	302	452
H(1,11)	173	456	926
H(2,11)	380	551	942
H(3,11)	199	670	971
H(1,N)	14	990	774
H(2,N)	9	21	923
H(3,N)	- 55	863	818

Table 3. Least-squares planes showing magnitudes of deviations in Å

		I	Plane nur	nber	
	1	2	3	4	5
	0.016* 0.007* 0.015* 0.029* 0.021* 0.002*	0.0*	0.0*	0.0*	0.0*
	0.018	0.0*			0.0*
			0.0*	0.0*	
	0.012 0.001	0.0*	0.0*	0.0*	
	0.022			0.0*	0.0*
	6·988 2·186 - 2·722 - 2·561	7·019 2·051 - 2·641 - 2·455	- 3·241 3·847 6·547 - 7·676	$ \begin{array}{r} 6.930 \\ 2.579 \\ -3.286 \\ -2.635 \\ \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} 1 \cdot 182 \\ - 3 \cdot 020 \\ 10 \cdot 581 \\ - 5 \cdot 828 \end{array} $
	A	ngles betw	een plan	es	
	2	3		4	5
1 2 3	0 ∙9°	81· 81·	5 1	3·1 3·8 81·2	76·5 76·2 56·3
4					19.2

* Denotes atom included in least-squares fit.

† A, B, C and D are coefficients in the equation of a plane: Aa + Bb + Cc + D = 0.

bonds not involving hydrogen atoms, the e.s.d.'s in bond lengths and angles are approximately 0.02 Å and 0.7° , respectively.*

* The structure factors have been deposited with the National Lending Library, England, as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 30090. Copies may be obtained through the Executive Secretary, International Union of Crystallography, 13 White Friars, Chester CH1 1NZ, England. **Discussion.** Mescaline is used extensively as a prototype hallucinogen and psychotomimetic agent. This structure analysis was undertaken to provide information about the solid state conformation of the mescaline molecule. As can be seen from Figs. 3 and 4, the ethyl-ammonium side chain is bent toward the ring. The observed N-C(1) distance of 2.98 Å may be compared to the N-C van der Waals distance of about 3.15 Å and



Fig. 3. Mescaline hydrobromide (50% probability ellipsoids) viewed along the direction of the a axis.



Fig. 4. Arrangement of molecules in the unit cell of mescaline hydrobromide.

to the 2.69 Å distance, which represents the closest approach allowed by rotation about the bonds.

This behavior contrasts with that of the phenethylamines and the phenylisopropylamines previously studied, in which the amine side chain tends to be maximally extended (Bergin, 1971, and references cited therein). Some evidence is thus provided for an attraction (possibly electrostatic) between the NH₃⁺ group and the aromatic ring. The three methoxy groups adopt a configuration similar to that observed in reserpine (Karle & Karle, 1968); *i.e.*, the two outer methoxy groups are approximately coplanar with the benzene ring and the center group is nearly perpendicular to the plane of the ring (Table 3). The N–Br distances of 3.311and 3.314 Å are normal for amine hydrobromides (Wunderlich, 1969).

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SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

Contributions intended for publication under this heading should be expressly so marked; they should not exceed about 1000 words; they should be forwarded in the usual way to the appropriate Co-editor; they will be published as speedily as possible. Publication will be quicker if the contributions are without illustrations.

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A new crystal structure study of Ca(NO₃)₂.4H₂O. By B. RIBAR and V. DIVJAKOVIĆ, Faculty of Science, Physics Department, Novi Sad, Yugoslavia, and R. HERAK and B. PRELESNIK, Boris Kidrič Institute, Belgrade, Yugoslavia

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The unit cell has a=6.277(7), b=9.157(9), c=14.484(10) Å, $\beta=98.6(2)^{\circ}$. The structure contains $Ca_2(H_2O)_8(NO_3)_4$ dimers, joined by hydrogen bonds.

Introduction

The X-ray structure analysis of calcium nitrate tetrahydrate was recently carried out by Leclaire & Monier (1970). The structure was solved in the space group $P2_1/c$ on the basis of photographic data for 680 reflexions, giving a final R value of 0.051. As part of a series of studies of the crystal structures of hydrated nitrates of bivalent metals, we have undertaken an independent X-ray crystal structure analysis of $Ca(NO_3)_2$.4H₂O. From the data for 1194 independent non-zero reflexions in the space group $P2_1/n$, the atomic parameters were derived and a final R index of 0.088 was achieved. Abrahams & Keve (1971) consider that duplicate measurements of the material being studied considerably increase the chances that the crystallographic results reported are indeed typical of that material. Hence, it may be useful to present our results as well, although the data from both determinations are in good agreement.

The colourless, transparent and hygroscopic crystals of $Ca(NO_3)_2.4H_2O$ were prepared by the slow evaporation of the CaO solution in HNO₃ in the presence of P₂O₅. The lattice parameters were determined from Weissenberg *h0l* and *hk*0 photographs, calibrated with a Debyegram of

germanium. The standard deviations were estimated from several film measurements. The crystal data obtained are presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Crystal data for Ca(NO₃)₂.4H₂O

Crystal system	:	Monoclinic
а	6·277 (7) Å	6·268 (6) Å*
b	9.157 (9)	9.116 (9)
с	14.484 (10)	14.830 (10)
β	98·6 (2)°	106·5 (3)°
Ζ	4	4
D _{meas}	1.88 g cm ^{−3}	1.88 g cm ⁻³
D _{calc}	1.90	1.90
Space group	$P2_1/n$	$P2_{1}/c$

* The data of Leclaire & Monier (1970).

Three-dimensional intensity data $(0kl \rightarrow 3kl$ and $h0l \rightarrow h5l$) were collected from two spherical crystals sealed in Lindemann capillaries; integrated multiple films and the equi-inclination Weissenberg technique were used. The